

Judge Tossed Out The Indictment Against a Byron Police Officer Involving a Case Where Cop Allegedly Shot Suspect

Contributed

Judge Connie Williford issued the order on last Wednesday, tossing out the indictment against Byron Police Officer James Carroll, accused of shooting a man outside of a McDonald's while on duty back in October 2023. *More on this story to come in next weeks issue.*

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The Cup of Blue Celebrates 5th Year

By Zoe Hammond
News Editor

BYRON, Ga. – The Cup of Blue has returned to Byron for its fifth year of remembrance. On Saturday, April 26, from 6 to 8:30 p.m., North Peach Park was filled with joy and sorrow as law enforcement and their families celebrated and remembered those they had lost. It's an opportunity to give back, raise awareness, and show appreciation for those who protect and serve.

The Cup of Blue is an annual celebration and memorial created by Tess and Dan Rebman. Its goal is to honor law enforcement and remember the officers who have passed, whether in the line of duty or not.

The Cup of Blue provides free food, giveaways, live music, and fireworks for all law enforcement officers and their families. Law enforcement officers and their families, who registered at the entrance, were able to get a meal ticket and get a free meal at any of the various food trucks that were present such as ABC Catering, Nanny's Stuff, Bel-Air Potato Bar N'more, Ricky's Taco Shop, and many others.

Towards the beginning of the event, those who had previously lost a loved one, who was in law enforcement, were able to step forward and say their name and the date of their death.

The evening consisted of live music by His Way Ministries from Church in the Orchard as well as multiple giveaways and speakers. The speakers ranged from law enforcement to family members of law enforcement officers speaking of their experiences as well as remembering those they had lost.

The giveaways, which are primarily for law enforcement officers or their spouses, ranged from gift baskets to a variety of guns ranging from pistols, shotguns, and rifles. Most of these items were from the various sponsors of Cup of Blue.

Tess and Dan thanked those who attended and were happy to see new and returning officers at the Cup of Blue. The Cup of Blue was inspired by a story the Rebmans' late son, South Caroli-



Photos by Zoe Hammond
The Cup of Blue in Byron, GA.

na Highway Patrol (SCHP) State Trooper Keith Rebman, used to tell.

Officer Keith Rebman was helping with evacuation efforts in Charleston, South Carolina during Hurricane Matthew. During the evacuation, a woman stopped her vehicle and brought him a cup of coffee. That single act of kindness stuck with Keith, as he recounted the tale multiple times.

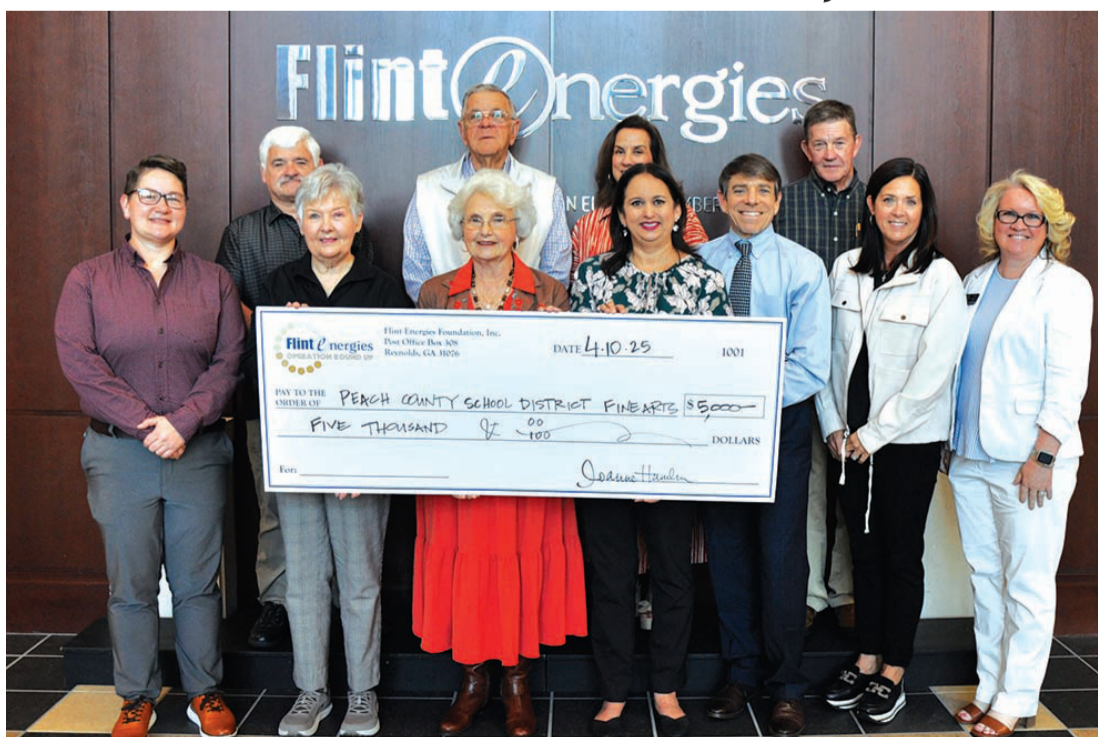
One year later, on Oct. 24, 2017, Keith was tragically killed in an accident. A pickup truck going 65 miles per hour crashed into Officer Rebman's parked patrol car. He later passed away while in the hospital.

Tess wanted to find a way to channel her grief into encouraging others and she was inspired to do something to lift other law enforcement officers. At first, it was small gifts to local officers, something to brighten their day; but, as time went on she wanted to do more. She and Dan started inviting local law enforcement to their home in Marshallville,

CUP OF BLUE CONTINUED PG 2A



Flint Energies Foundation grant funds Peach County School District Fine Arts \$5,000



By Flint Energies

The Flint Energies Foundation granted Peach County School District Fine Arts \$5,000. The

requested funds will be used to assist with the funds needed to purchase new band uniforms.

Peach County School District

FINE ARTS CONTINUED PG 2A

Dawson News acquired by Georgia Trust for Local News Printer's Ink Flowed In Long-Time Newspaperman's Veins

By Carlton Fletcher
carlton.fletcher@albany-herald.com

DAWSON -- As Tommy Rountree shared stories from his career at The Dawson News, a career that's just shy of 50 years, a thought occurred.

"This is home; 139 West Lee Street in Dawson, Georgia, has been my home for my entire life," Rountree said, allowing just a hint of melancholy to color his words. "I grew up in this building; I've spent a lot of time here since I was a little boy."

"It's going to feel strange to wake up on Monday morning and not come to this building," Rountree bid his "other home" goodbye last week, turning the

reins of the newspaper that had been an integral part of his family's life for the past 79 years over to DuBose Porter, the executive director of The Georgia Trust for Local News, which began publication of the News this week. Utilizing reporters affiliated with

DAWSON NEWS ACQUIRED CONTINUED PG 2A



CUP OF BLUE

CONTINUED FROM 1A

twice a year, for an Eat-and-Skeet.

After Tess joined the Church in the Orchard, she voiced her dream of having a picnic in the park where they could serve local law enforcement and their families a nice lunch and the community helped make it hap-

pen.

The Cup of Blue event celebrates the brave men and women who make up our law enforcement community and their families who stand by them. This event is all about giving back, raising awareness, and showing our appreciation for those who

protect and serve.

The Cup of Blue is a non-profit 501c(3) and can be found on its website or Facebook page under the same name. They can be reached by email at CupOf-Blue21@gmail.com.



Images from The Cup of Blue in Byron, GA.

Photos by Zoe Hammond



FINE ARTS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Fine Arts representative, Cathy Heller, stated, "The Peach County High School Band would like to purchase new uniforms to replace the old, damaged uniforms. The band has been fundraising for about four years, but has not raised enough money to purchase new uniforms."

The Flint Energies Foundation provides grants to local non-profits such as this one using money donated by Flint Energies Consumer-members through Operation Round Up*. The electric cooperative's Members contribute \$175,000 annually to the Flint Energies Foundation, which supports worthy causes

in the 17 counties it serves. Operation Round Up is a way for participating Members to support multiple charitable organizations by simply allowing Flint Energies to round up their bills to the nearest dollar. Donations to Operation Round Up, which average only about \$6 per year per member, are tax deductible. About 40% of Flint's Membership participates in Operation Round Up, but that percentage continues to decline. If you are a Flint Energies Consumer-member and wish to contribute, you can sign up at www.flintenergies.com/ORU or by calling 1.800.342.3616.

The Flint Energies Foundation, a state-chartered, non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization, disburses all contributions to approved projects; Member contributions are not used for administration costs. Foundation Board members include Chair Joanne Hamlin, Lizella; Vice Chair Eloise Doty, Butler; Secretary Connie McCutchen, Midland; Treasurer John Luppino, Warner Robins; Gina Fink, Fort Valley; Charles Harrison, Grovania; Pat Bartness, Warner Robins; Traci Kemp, Warner Robins; Betty Chase, Oglethorpe; Roger Sinyard, Mauk; and Ian Russell, Fort Valley.

DAWSON NEWS ACQUIRED

CONTINUED FROM 1A



The Georgia Trust -- primarily from The Albany Herald -- and other local contributors, The Georgia Trust will continue operations of the newspaper that had become synonymous with the Rountree family for the better part of a century.

"I knew DuBose Porter's history in the newspaper business, and I knew about the Georgia Trust," the now former editor/publisher of the Dawson paper said. "I think this is a perfect fit for our little newspaper. DuBose has a love for the newspaper business; he has a passion for it. I knew that he, working through The Trust would be a good outcome for our community. It's important for a community like ours to have a weekly newspaper."

Porter praised the Rountree family for the work they've done in establishing The Dawson News as a key part of this small community some 25 miles west of Albany.

"Tommy Rountree, his dad (Carl) and his family are among Georgia's great newspaper folk," Porter said. "We are honored that the family has the trust and confidence in the Georgia Trust for Local News to carry forward this legacy publication for Dawson and Terrell County."

"We are a community newspaper company, and The Dawson News fits in our mission. We look forward to serving the people here and recording their history."

The Dawson News will be

the 20th newspaper under the Georgia Trust for Local News.

Tommy Rountree started his full-time tenure at The News in 1976, after deciding he really wasn't cut out for that certified public accounting degree he'd been working on for the better part of three years before realizing the printer's ink of The News, which his father had bought on Feb. 1, 1946, was too deeply imbedded in his bloodstream.

"I went to Valdosta State (College) for two years thinking I wanted to be a CPA," Rountree said. "When I transferred to the University of Georgia, I still planned to get a degree in accounting. My dad had a heart attack, and when I came home that summer, I spent the whole season working with him. That's when I got a complete feel for the business."

"Dad never pressured me or my siblings (brother Don and sister Anita) to work at the paper, but when I went back to school, I changed my major to journalism."

When Tommy Rountree graduated, he returned home to Dawson and started working with his dad at The News. Carl Rountree passed away in 1985, and the passing of the torch to Tommy was seamless.

"Working at a weekly paper is different from larger papers; you have to do it all," Rountree said. "Over the years, I've sold ads, wrote stories, picked up the mail, swept up ... whatever had

to be done. You can't be specialized at a weekly paper. But I wouldn't trade it for the world. I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to subscribers, advertisers and the community for their support and readership over the decades."

"The people of Dawson have been so kind over the years; this is just a great community. It's a wonderful place; it's home."

Now Rountree's days won't be filled with all of the chores required to publish a newspaper. He'll spend more time with wife of almost 30 years, Judy, do a little more hunting and fishing, and enjoy his family.

"I have a fishing partner, and a couple of times a year we take a weekend and go fishing, from Thursday to Saturday and then come home on Sunday," he said. "I called him up and let him know of my plans to retire in an ideal way. I told him we needed to change the days of our fishing trip, and he asked, 'What day?' I said, 'Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday ...' He said, 'You can't do that, you've got to ... Oh.'"

"Yes, this is going to be a big change for me because this newspaper business has become my life. I spent more time here than I did anywhere else, and that includes my 'other home.' I love being a part of this community and telling its stories. But I have no regrets. I'm leaving things in good hands."

City of Warner Robins, GA NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW OF PROPOSED FY 2026 GENERAL FUND BUDGET AND FY 2026 BUDGET HEARINGS

The City of Warner Robins will make available for public review at the City Clerk's Office, located at City Hall, 700 Watson Blvd., the Proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 General Fund Budget. This document can be viewed beginning Friday, May 16, 2025 during the hours of 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. The Proposed FY 2026 General Fund Budget can also be viewed on the City's website, which can be found at www.wrga.gov.

Public Hearings on the Proposed FY 2026 General Fund Budget will be held on the following dates and times: **Monday, June 16, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. and Monday, June 30, 2025 at 12:00 p.m.** All hearings will be located in the Council Chambers, City Hall. All citizens wishing to comment on the Proposed FY 2026 General Fund Budget are invited to attend these public hearings.

City Clerk
City of Warner Robins

! FRAUD ALERT !

From Byron Police Department

The Warner Robins Police Department is alerting the public to a money scam with fake Special Agent identifications. Victims nationwide, which now include Warner Robins, have received phone calls from scam-

mers asking for money to "resolve" fraudulent activity with their financial accounts. While on the phone with the victim, the suspects have advised victims that they are Special Agents and may send the victim a photograph like the one in this post. Multiple law enforce-

ment agencies nationwide have received similar reports with the same "agent" photograph with a different name below it.

If you receive a call like this, hang up, don't become a victim, and file a police report.

Police Beat

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

The information below is provided by local law enforcement agencies, who are solely responsible for the accuracy of the information. These reports are published for information purposes only. Publication of an arrest or citation report is not evidence of a crime. All persons named in the reports are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. Some minor violations that do not threaten public safety are not included.

Byron Arrests/Citations

Cain, Dedrick Maurice, 51, Byron, GA: Theft By Receiving Stolen Property - Misdemeanor, Giving False Name, Address, Or Birthdate To Law Enforcement Officer, Removing Or Affixing License Plate With Intent To Conceal Or Misrepresent, Wanted Out Of Bartow And Henry Co

Fort Valley Arrests/Citations

Davis, Dequincey Jabre, 32, Perry, GA: Marijuana-Possess Less Than 1 Oz., Tag Light Required, Willful Obstruction Of Law Enforcement Officers - Misdemeanor, Possession Of Drug Related Objects

Ezell, Steven Tramaine, 37, Fort Valley, GA: Battery, Criminal Trespass

Goodwin, Teyyah, 20, Fort Valley, GA: Affray (Fighting)

Sharber, Desmick Shontell, 33, Fort Valley, GA: Fleeing Or Attempting To Elude Police Officer, Receipt, Possession Or Transfer Of Firearm By Convicted Felon Or Felony First Offender, Willful Obstruction Of Law Enforcement Officers - Misdemeanor

Thomas, Katasha Necoria, 33, Fort Valley, GA: Disorderly Conduct, Obstructing Or Hindering Law Enforcement Officers, Criminal Trespass, Theft By Deception - Misdemeanor

Watkins, Lashandra Keanna, 34, Perry, GA: Probation Violation (When Probation Terms Are Altered) - Misdemeanor

Peach County Sheriff's Office

Arrests/Citations

Barnhart, Danielle Marie, 47, Byron, GA: Possession Of A Schedule I Controlled Substance

Bennett, Carlos Aaron, 48, Fort Valley, GA: Parole Violation

Bivines, Wontazious Wrentiez, 34, Fort Valley, GA: Here For Court

Gooden, Andrielle Saleha, 26, Fort Valley, GA: Driving Under Influence Less Safe, Failure To Maintain Lane, Obstructing Or Hindering Law Enforcement Officers, Criminal Damage To Property - 1st Degree, Driving While License Suspended

Gray, Ke'von Mikal, 18, Fort Valley, GA: Marijuana-Possess Less Than 1 Oz.

Hargrove, James Michael, 42, Warner Robins, GA: Battery

Hillsman, Terrance Jarmise, 43, Macon, Ga: Here For Court

Hunt, Danny Lee, 64, Macon, GA: Hold For Jones County

Mathis, Gregsaceah, 26, Reynolds, GA: Failure To Appear - Misdemeanor

Outlaw, Fallon Ivana Storm, 21, Macon, GA: Tail Lights / Tag Lights Lenses Required, Driving While License Suspended Or Revoked (Misdemeanor)

Postell, Marcus Dee Marcus, 24, Warner Robins, GA: Probation Violation (When Probation Terms Are Altered) - Misdemeanor

Rumph, Carl Michael, 65, Fort Valley, GA: Probation Violation (When Probation Terms Are Altered) - Felony

Salto Villaseñor, Santiago, 25, Louisville, KY: Speeding In Excess Of Maximum Limits (State Speed And Zone Limits), Possession Of Open Alcohol Container, Driving Under Influence Drugs/Alcohol, Driving While License Suspended

Shine, Kenterrio Marquez, 37, MACON, GA:

Snyder, Jeremy Fay, 40, Byron, GA: Possession Of A Schedule I Controlled Substance

Van Buren, Jennifer Leah, 38, Byron, GA: Speeding In Excess Of Maximum Limits (State Speed And Zone Limits), Driving While License Suspended Or Revoked (Misdemeanor), Obscured Or Missing License Plate

GA State Patrol Perry Arrests

Joshua B, 29, Cleveland, TN: Driving Under The Influence - Alcohol, Failure To Maintain Lane

Carrillo, Roman Cupido, 30, Warner Robins, GA: Expired Or No Drivers License, Speeding In Excess Of Maximum Limits (State Speed And Zone Limits)

Peach County Community CALENDAR

email: news@theleadertribune.com



PUBLIC NOTICE

Byron 1 and Byron 2 will be Combining Precincts and become Byron 1 for all registered voters for Byron.

The precinct will still be at 401 Main St. Byron, Ga, 31088 at the Byron Municipal Complex.

Trojan Nation TD Club

The time is drawing near when the 2024 football season starts. The Trojan Nationa Touchdown Club is selling reserved parking for the upcoming season at a cost of \$125.00. This includes the four regular season home games plus any playoff game that We host. This offer is good as long as spaces are available. You can contact Nate Danielly at 478-957-1141 for more information.

American Legion Meetings

Veterans, consider joining the American Legion Frederick Withoft Post 76 in Peach County, GA. We are an organization of Veterans supporting Veterans and the local community.

Regular Post Meetings are held on the Third Thursday of Every Month, Social Hour with American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, and Guests at 1700 (5:00pm) followed by the Meeting Start at 1800 (6:00pm) at 1212 Peach Parkway, Fort Valley, GA 31030.

We can be reached at our Facebook Page (American Legion Post 76 - Peach County GA) or via e-mail (legionpost76pcga@gmail.com).

All Veterans and Spouses are encouraged to participate.

ATTENTION: Veterans

Veterans who would like to get together for brotherhood, please meet for dinner at Mi Ranchito at 311-A Vineville St, Fort Valley, GA on 12 August 2023 at 6:30 p.m./1830. Please RSVP to Ernest Cooling by emailing ecooling79@gmail.com. If further information is needed, please call me at (478) 955-8850.

Fort Valley Downtown Development Authority - Board Meeting

The Fort Valley Downtown Development Authority meets 1st Tuesday every month at 6pm, located at Troutman House Conference Room, 201 Oakland Heights Parkway, Fort Valley, GA 31030. Visit our website for more information: <http://fortvalleymainstreet.org>

Peach County Board of Commissioners Work Sessions

The Peach County Board of Commissioners holds Work Sessions* on the first Tuesday of each month at 5pm in Commission Chambers located at 213 Persons Street in Fort Valley.

Regular Meetings* are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm in Commission Chambers located at 213 Persons Street in Fort Valley.

The Board also conducts Public Hearings to consider zoning requests at 6:30pm during regularly scheduled monthly meetings.

*Scheduling may differ due to holidays and unforeseen circumstances. Prior notice will be given. Visit our website for more information: <https://www.peachcounty.net/board-of-commissioners.cfm>

FT. Valley Utility Commission

500 Anthoine St, Fort Valley. The Commission doors are open to customers from 8:00am - 5:00pm.

Public Work Session Meeting first Monday of every month at 4 p.m.

Regular Meeting every second Monday of each month at 6 p.m.

Kiwanis Club of Fort Valley

The Kiwanis Club of Fort Valley meets 1st & 3rd Thursdays every month, noon at Kay Center in Fort Valley. Kiwanis is a civic group focused on helping children, and community service. Each week, members and guests enjoy lunch and a guest speaker who addresses a topic of local, state and sometimes even global interest. Come see what Kiwanis is all about and join one of America's oldest service organizations. See the Kiwanis Club of Fort Valley Facebook page for more information. (TFN)

Peach Public Libraries Board Of Trustees

THOMAS PUBLIC LIBRARY, FORT VALLEY, GA

Peach Public Libraries Board of Trustees meets the second Thursday of February, April, June, August, October, and December at 5:15pm in the Meeting Room at Thomas Public Library, Fort Valley, unless otherwise specified.

Middle Georgia Art Association

www.middlegeorgiaart.org
MGAA Gallery, 2330 Ingleside Ave., in Ingleside Village. Gallery Hrs: Tues-Fri 12-5pm. Sat 12-3pm. 478-744-9557 Email: middlegeorgiaart@bellsouth.net Free and open to the public!

Peach County Historical Society meeting

Meets 4th Tuesday each month at 6:00pm. If anyone has school annuals of the past the Historical Society would like to have them. Donations welcome. Contact: Lrgiles77@gmail.com

Fort Valley Historic Preservation

The Fort Valley Historic Preservation Commission Board meeting is held on the second Mondays of the month at 6pm, located at the Troutman House 201 Oakland Heights Pkwy, Fort Valley, Ga 31030.

Peach County Retired Educators Association

The Peach County Retired Educators Association will meet on the first Monday of each month at 2pm. The meeting will be held at Trinity Baptist Church 507 State University Drive. For further info. please contact Dr. Quintin Green (478)951-1911.

Currently Accepting

Applications for 2025-2026 Year! 2025-2026 FORT VALLEY HEAD START

700 Spruce St, Ft. Valley, GA 31030. (478)825-8584. Ages 3 -5. Required Documentation: Proof of birth, Social Security Card, Immunization 3231, Medicarid/Insurance card, Proof of income/SNAP, SSI, TANF, Well child check, Dental exam, Ga public health 3300, Verification of income & housing. www.mgcaa.org

First Step Learning Center Early Head Start

Now Enrolling Infants 6 Weeks Old to Under 36 Months. Call Now to Set up an Appointment. Enrollment Based on Eligibility. Call (478)825-0509, 406 Carver Dr., Fort Valley. First Step Learning Center Early Head Start in Partnership With Fort Valley State University.

Byron AL-ANON Family Group

Byron Al-Anon meets on Monday mornings at 11 a.m. in the Old Byron School, next to the Byron Municipal Complex. Al-Anon Family Groups are a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience, strength and hope in order to solve their common problems. Newcomers are always welcome. Contact Debbie Harrelson 478-714-9393.

Compassionate Friends Middle Georgia Chapter

We are a national nonprofit organization dedicated to helping bereaved parents by providing highly personal comfort, hope and support to every family experiencing the death of a child, a brother, sister or a grandchild and helping others to better assist the grieving family. We need not walk alone.

Byron meeting: 4th Thursday of every month. 7-9pm. Byron Baptist Church 100 W White Rd, Byron, Ga 21008.

Macon meeting location for TCF: Rock Springs Church, 6601 Zebulon Rd, Macon, GA.

Please contact Chapter Leaders for more information: Karla Chidester - 478-954-4592, or Teresa Tompkins - 478-319-3526, or visit www.compassionatefriends.org.

Addiction Counseling

Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family. Call today for free screenings or referrals. 800-431-1754

Byron Lions Club

The club meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month, the first Thursday of the month at Uncorked Event Center (behind Georgia Bobs) at 6:00PM, and the third Thursday of the month at 9:00 AM at Denny's. Anyone interested in participating is heartily invited to join us. For more information, please contact Lion Marlene Humphry at 478-918-3666, email at mhumphry@cox.net

Byron Rotary Club

Meets every Wednesday at 8:00am at Denny's.

Byron Main Street DDA/CVB

Byron Main Street/ DDA/CVB meetings are the 1st Mondays of each month at 5:00 p.m., at Denny's. The CVB meetings are usually held the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Byron Welcome Center at 5:00p.m.

Byron Tax Office

Opened Tuesday & Thursday 8:30am-5:00pm. Closed 12-1:00pm at the Byron Municipal Complex. All official regular meetings are in the Council Chamber at the Byron Municipal Complex, 401 Main Street, Byron, GA.

Call or Text 478-955-1999



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Has NEW EMAIL Addresses!

Our email names are the same, EXCEPT for the ".net" is NOW ".com"

News Submissions: news@theleadertribune.com

Legal Notice Submissions: legals@theleadertribune.com

Editor: editor@theleadertribune.com

Advertisements: sales@theleadertribune.com

Billing/Books: books@theleadertribune.com

Publisher: Judy@theleadertribune.com

NEW

NARCONON New Life Retreat Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation and Education

Contributed

Prescription drugs have been an on-going problem for some time. There are many types of prescriptions people seek over the internet but they really cannot be sure what they are getting. Now people are buying pills over the dark web and Facebook hoping they are buying Xanax or Oxycontin but are really buying Fentanyl. And they are paying for it with their lives.

With Fentanyl being potent and cheap, people are getting addicted easily. Yet for those who don't know what they're buying, Fentanyl is 50-100 times more potent than heroin and morphine and is much cheaper. Dealers are cutting their drugs and are pressing pills to look as if they are Xanax but are really Fentanyl. If someone has never taken Fentanyl, the risk of overdose is extremely high.

Some signs to look for when someone is overdosing on Fentanyl:

- Extreme sleepiness
- Blue tint to lips and nails
- Dangerously slowed or stopped breathing
- Very low blood pressure
- Weak muscles
- Profoundly slowed heart-beat
- Loss of consciousness
- Confusion
- Dizziness

If your loved one is overdosing, it is important you stay with them and make sure they get the medical attention they need. Fentanyl is extremely dangerous and is killing people throughout the US, whether or not they know what they took.

Reach out for help before it's too late. We help people seeking treatment from all over the US, and we can help you.

To read more on the subject, visit:
<https://www.narcononnewliferetreat.org/blog/deadly-fake-prescription-drugs.html>

Contact: Alina Snowden
Narconon New Life Retreat
35059 Bend Rd Denham Springs, LA 70706
1-800-431-1754

All over the US, there is a major problem with fake prescription drugs. People think they are buying one drug when they are actually buying Fentanyl. Fentanyl is an extremely powerful opioid that can kill with even the smallest dose. These deadly pills are purchased on the dark web or over Facebook. Purchasing anything illegal over the internet comes at a high price that can cost your life.

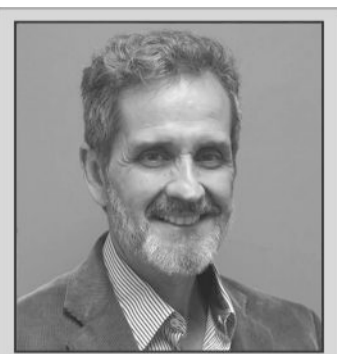
If you or a loved one are struggling with addiction, please seek help before it is too late. We can help you overcome addiction and get your life back on track.

To learn more about deadly fake prescription drugs visit:
<https://www.narcononnewliferetreat.org/blog/deadly-fake-prescription-drugs.html>

ADDITION SCREENINGS
Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family by offering free screenings. If you need advice, you can call us for a free screening or referral.

1 (800) 431-1754

How Protein Builds New Muscle



WADE YODER
LT COLUMNIST

After we make a muscle or group of muscles work harder than they are used to, small microfibers in our muscles break. If overdone or overtrained, our muscles can become too broken down and in this state of disrepair could lead to injury if we

do not give it adequate recovery time before doing the same exercises or activities again. When these muscles are not fully recovered, they are also weaker—thus putting more pressure on tendons and ligaments when you train to soon again because of the surrounding muscle not being as supportive.

There are 3 things that help strengthen, tone and build muscle:

1. breaking down of muscle tissue,
2. a balanced diet,
3. deep rest and recovery.

Our muscle is made up of protein, but when worked hard can break down small muscle fibers into amino acids that we can burn as energy. Pretty much the reverse of this happens

when we eat protein. Our dietary protein breaks down into amino acids, that your body will absorb and use to rebuild broken down muscle/ protein which is in effect building new muscle that is built back stronger then it was before.

I like to think of the proteins that we eat as being a process where our body takes the protein and converts it into amino acid patch paint to make muscular repairs throughout the body. Once this amino patch paint adheres onto the broken-down muscle, it becomes new muscle helping us to create a younger muscle environment that is toned and stronger.

One of my favorite sources of protein is the egg. Other good sources of protein come from

a variety of meats, (fish, chicken, occasional red meat) and dairy along with cholesterol lowering protein foods such as beans, lentils, nuts and seeds. With protein being the building block for new muscle, we need to make sure the protein we eat is quality material!

New muscle means younger muscle and the action of toning this muscle helps strengthen bones while at the same time shaping the body, toning the body, and bringing back mobility as we get older that we thought was a disappearing act...

Isn't it awesome that we can do a remodeling of our body, health and mobility no matter what our age?

Are We Turning Our Laws Into Political Suggestions?

Charlie Harper
Guest Columnist

A lot of folks are changing jerseys these days. Yes, we just finished the NFL draft where a lot of Georgia Bulldogs are now going to somewhat customarily start wearing Philadelphia Eagles jerseys and one will uncustomarily wear that of the Atlanta Falcons. No, this won't be a column about Shedeur Sanders. You're welcome.

No, the jerseys we'll deal with today are of the political variety. In our modern era of virtues and vibes, slogans that represent our "deeply held values" are discarded and or traded on an as needed basis. Today's prized ensemble can become "that old thing" as soon as circumstances warrant.

The jersey of the moment bears the slogan "no one is above the law". It was the top seller for fans of the blue team for the past four years. Whether it was about the indefensible acts committed on January 6th 2021, an ill-advised phone call with Georgia's Secretary of State, or the stated value of the value of Mar A Lago on loan paperwork, any transgression – real or perceived – was black and white justification for those wearing blue jerseys to prosecute and ideally imprison the former and once again President. "No one is above the law."

The premise is a good one. In our system, we're all supposed to be equal when standing before our justice system. From the most powerful to the least among us, the laws, their enforcement, and any proposed punishment are supposed to apply equally to all.

There was a time where most of us believed that. Hyper-partisans tend to demonstrate the fallibility of our universal truths. Losing or gaining power is often a lot more important than virtuous concepts.

The blue jerseys got a bit uncomfortable bearing these slogans about the time whomever controlled President Biden's autopen issued a record number of Presidential acts of clemency, including pre-emptive pardons for his family and bureaucrats like Dr. Anthony Fauci. Some of the red team briefly claimed the slogans for their own team, only to have President Trump begin issuing pardons almost as randomly.

We've now learned that the Department of Justice is probing New York State Attorney General Leticia James for mortgage fraud. Yes, this is the prosecutor who went to the mat to put President Trump in jail over his documented valuation for his home. She may have filed false documents with respect to her residence in New York as well

as claiming that a home she co-owns in Virginia would be her primary residence.

Her attorney must have looked at the recently discarded red jerseys from the President's recent New York trial when he claimed "improper political retribution" as the motivation for the potential charges. Many wearing the red jerseys would certainly plead guilty to schadenfreude over the turn of events here.

The jersey slogan swaps aren't just limited to justification or rebuke of prosecutions, however. The views on how the executive branch should view rulings from the judicial branch also seem to have changed mid-January of this year.

Those wearing the blue jerseys are currently looking to the judicial branch again as the place to thwart President Trump, but rather than looking across jurisdictions for friendly prosecutors, this time their hopes are hanging on rulings from judges. They're constantly placing the rulings of district court judges' constitutional powers above those granted to the executive branch, daring the President and his team to "defy norms".

Ultimately, both sides are keenly aware the Supreme Court will have to decide many of these issues of constitutional power. As is custom, neither side will

be fully happy with the rulings.

Getting a clear directive from the Supreme Court is often like asking your parents for permission. Sometimes it's best to just go about your business and ask for forgiveness later if things get out of hand, than go and get a permanent decree setting boundaries on your future activities. Teams wearing both colors' jerseys would be best to heed that advice.

That said, those from the most progressive units of the blue team will contend with the former advice from their future standard bearer Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez who just two years ago was urging the Biden Administration to ignore Supreme Court rulings. Let's also recall her home state Senator Chuck Schumer's campaign to completely delegitimize the Supreme Court during that same time period. Again, past slogans of deeply held beliefs, quickly discarded when no longer needed.

We are a country of laws. When we discard them for political expediency, we may win the battle of the day, but we're all becoming complicit in losing the war for freedom and equal justice. Our judicial branch deserves to be treated with more respect than just as a vehicle to air our political slogans of the day.

Georgia's Promise Scholarship is already changing lives

By Athan Clark, Communications Manager, Georgia Public Policy Foundation

It turns out \$6,500 goes a long way — especially when you give it to parents instead of bureaucrats.

Georgia promised families more control over their children's education — and it delivered. Thousands of families have already signed up for the new program, which gives eligible students \$6,500 to use for private school tuition, tutoring, therapy or other education-related needs. And this is just the beginning — with more application windows ahead this year and funding already in place for up to 22,000 students, the interest is undeniable.

This wasn't supposed to happen, at least not if you believed the critics.

Opponents of the program claimed that \$6,500 wouldn't make a difference — but try telling that to the thousands of Georgia parents who have eagerly applied to pursue better-fitting educational options for their children.

Far from falling flat, the Promise Scholarship launch has already outpaced the first-year results of many other states. In fact, national data show that almost all statewide choice

programs begin with less than 1% participation. Georgia has already surpassed that mark, and the program isn't even fully ramped up yet.

Some critics point out that even 22,000 students would be only a small fraction of the total student population. But they ignore a crucial truth: Slow, steady growth is by design. A phased rollout lets administrators fine-tune the system, support families and ensure every dollar is well spent. Rushing to full capacity on day one may have been irresponsible. Georgia chose the smarter path — and it's paying off.

That's not to say there weren't hiccups. The state's initial list of eligible "low-performing" public schools had to be pulled back for data verification, leaving parents temporarily confused about their eligibility. But the delay was short-lived — and ultimately meaningless. Parents applied anyway once the confusion was cleared up. The fundamentals of the program held strong. And Georgia's families made it clear they're eager for alternatives.

They also don't have to worry about whether the money would be there. Despite early hesitation from some lawmakers, the General Assembly ulti-

mately approved full funding: \$141 million, enough for 22,000 scholarships in the 2025–26 school year.

It's no coincidence this rollout was so effective. In the last couple months, the Foundation didn't sit back and hope for the best. We mobilized. We reached out to parents directly, sending over 2 million emails and 150,000 text messages, and our digital campaign reached 465,000 people. This effort translated into applications from families who might never have heard of the program otherwise.

Awareness is the biggest challenge in year one of any new choice program — and we met that challenge head-on.

Still, if Georgia wants to keep building on this success, it needs to focus on three key areas in year two:

Outreach: Despite strong early numbers, many eligible families still haven't heard about the Promise Scholarship — or don't know how to apply. That must change. Supporters need to work with schools, churches, community groups, and nonprofits to spread the word and simplify the application process.

Legislation: Lawmakers may need to fine-tune the law. That includes removing unnecessary

red tape that makes it harder for private schools and service providers to participate. If eligibility requirements are too narrow, they should be revisited. And if demand continues to rise, the current 1% budget cap may need to be lifted in the future.

Administration: State officials did an admirable job standing up a new program quickly. Now's the time to build a smoother system: finalize the eligible school list earlier and ensure families get the help they need every step of the way.

These aren't flashy reforms — but they're the kind that will keep this program growing year after year.

And let's not forget the heart of the matter: this program is changing lives. Thousands of Georgia kids — many from underserved communities — are finally getting access to an education that works for them. That means better schools, tutors, therapies or learning environments that were once out of reach.

And if you are an eligible family still seeking to apply for this program for the 2025-26 school year, there will be plenty of room for signups when the next application windows open in June and September.

The Leader Tribune

A division of the Georgia Trust for Local News

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OUR GOALS

The Leader Tribune is published proudly for the citizens of Fort Valley, Byron & the surrounding area and its goal is to produce quality, profitable, community oriented newspapers that you, our readers, are proud of. We will reach that goal through hard work, teamwork, loyalty, and a strong dedication toward printing the truth.

HOW TO SUBMIT LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We encourage readers to submit letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 350 words and must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. All letters printed in The Leader Tribune will appear with the writer's name and hometown — we do not publish anonymous letters. The newspaper reserves the right to edit or reject letters for reasons of grammar, punctuation, taste and brevity. Letter writers are asked to submit no more than two letters per person per month. We cannot guarantee that a letter will be printed on a specific date. The Leader Tribune prefers that letters be typed. Letters to the editor are published in the order they are received as space permits. There are three ways to submit a letter to the editor

E-mail it to news@theleadertribune.net, mail it to The Leader Tribune at 109 Anderson Ave, Fort Valley, GA 31030, or drop it off at 109 Anderson Ave in Fort Valley— Monday through Friday.

OUR POLICIES

Signed letters to the editor welcomed. Please include address and phone number. Liability for an error will not exceed the cost of space occupied by the error. We cannot be responsible for return of pictures or material unless stamped, return addressed envelope is included.

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109 Anderson Ave., PO Box 1060
Fort Valley, GA 31030

Growing Tomatoes



JEFF COOK
EXTENSION AGENT

Hopefully if you are starting from seed you already planted them in a sunny indoor location. You will need anywhere from 4-6 weeks to have transplants that can be moved outside to the garden. Be sure to harden off indoor grown transplants by gradually introducing them to more and more sunlight each day. Tomatoes can be set out from mid March up to May, but if you want fall tomatoes you will need to set transplants out in July.

Soil sampling prior to planting is the best way to know exactly what you will need for your tomatoes and other garden crops. Tomatoes do best in

soil that is well drained and has good organic matter. The pH of site should be between 6.0-6.8. Liming to increase pH will also add calcium and magnesium to the soil. If your pH is good but you need more calcium you can apply gypsum (landplaster) at the rate of 1lb per 100 square feet.

Tomatoes require moderate fertility to maximize yields. Start with a complete fertilizer incorporated into the beds. 10-10-10 will work fine. You might want to also add a starter solution once the transplants are in the ground. This would be something like 5-10-5. These starter solutions help promote root growth without causing excessive vegetative growth above ground. Once you have fruit that are about the size of a quarter you should make another fertilizer application. All that you need at this time is about 0.1 lb of nitrogen per 100 square feet. That would be 1 pound of 10-10-10 or less than 1/2 lb of 34-0-0. In sandy soils tomatoes can benefit from an application of epsom salts which will supply sulfur and magnesium.

Tomatoes require 1-2 inches of water per week depending

on rainfall. Uniformity in soil moisture (not too wet and not too dry) is critical to help reduce blossom end rot (BER) on tomatoes. I know that everyone has had tomatoes that turn black on the blossom end and eventually completely rot. This is called blossom end rot (BER) and it is due to a calcium deficiency. However, it can occur in soils with plenty of calcium. The main problem is water. This physiological disorder is associated with a low concentration of calcium in the fruit. Blossom-end rot is also induced more often when there is drought stress followed by excessive soil moisture; these fluctuations reduce uptake and movement of available calcium. To avoid this problem, maintain good soil moisture and remember that a plant that is full of tomatoes will require more water than a plant without any fruit.

There is a lot more on tomatoes, but that is all the room that I have for the week. Come by the office and pick up a tomato pamphlet or contact me at mackiv@uga.edu, or 478-862-5496, 478-825-6466 for additional information.

National Trust for Local News Names Tom Wiley as CEO

By Brian Connolly
Connolly Studios

brian@connollystudios.com
Appointment of proven industry leader marks next chapter for non-profit redefining the future of local news

The National Trust for Local News has named Tom Wiley, a visionary local news executive who is currently president and publisher of The Buffalo News, as its CEO.

Wiley has decades of hands-on experience in local news, where he is renowned for leading digital transformation in news organizations ranging from the St. Louis Post-Dispatch to the Middletown Press. Those he's led have flourished as providers of quality local journalism, distinguishing themselves across the industry in digital revenue and audience growth.

"Local news has been my life and career for 30 years, and I know firsthand what a breakthrough the National Trust is for our field," Wiley said. "The discipline and scalability of a commercial operator with the mission and investment resources of a non-profit - we have all the right ingredients, and if we move fast we can build a vastly better future for local news in America."

The National Trust is a non-profit news organization and the primary source of local news for six million people in Maine, Georgia, and Colorado. It has a unique business model, using philanthropy to invest in local newspapers but relying on earned revenue from subscriptions, advertising, events, and more to sustain them. Its goal is to harness local newspapers to build a more resilient, equitable, and vibrant future for local news, nationwide.

"Tom Wiley is a creative, results-oriented leader who loves local journalism and has a track record of building the audiences that sustain it," said Jim Brady, Vice President of Journalism at Knight Foundation. Knight Foundation is among the National Trust's largest and longest-standing funders, and

Brady and Wiley worked together for four years at Digital First Media. "I have no doubt that the combination of Tom's skills with the Trust's unique model will have a profound impact on local news."

Beginning with his first job selling advertising for the Lansing State Journal in Michigan, Wiley has spent his entire career in local news. He has earned a reputation as a relentlessly innovative operator, from developing proprietary advertising-technology software to building a data-centric sales strategy that extols the value of news audiences. He prioritizes community connectivity and civic engagement - and ensures his newsrooms do the same.

"Local news is a hard business, but it isn't complicated," Wiley said. "Journalism that audiences value is our mission and our business model. I am excited to help our newsrooms produce even more great local journalism, and help our sellers and marketers build a strong business around it."

Wiley's tenure begins May 12, when he'll launch a whirlwind tour of communities the National Trust serves in Maine, Colorado, and Georgia. He will continue to live in Buffalo, the city that he and his wife Julie recently convinced their three adult children to all call home once again. Wiley attended high school and college in East Lansing, Michigan. After high school he trained as a racecar driver in France and eventually raced in the F2000 Series - a piece of Wiley's personal story that instantly rings true to those who know him. He's fond of telling colleagues that what works in racing also works in transforming media: you have to go fast and push limits.

Another part of the National Trust's transition is a change in board leadership. Keith Mestrich, who has served on the board since October 2023, was elected chair at its March meeting. He replaces Marc Hand, who co-founded the organization and has been its board chair since 2021. Mestrich is a financial services executive and labor

leader who served as the CFO of Service Employees International Union and is known for leading the remarkable turnaround of Amalgamated Bank. He lives in rural Maine.

"I read the journalism of our Maine Trust for Local News every single day," Mestrich said. "Our work has an impact on my own life and I know what good local journalism means for our democracy. I am deeply honored to take on the role of chair and partner with our fantastic new CEO."

The board also recently added two new members: Danielle Bozarth, a senior partner at McKinsey & Company who delivered the National Trust's Colorado publications as a teenager, and Nicco Mele, a serial entrepreneur and former director of the Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy.

Wiley is the second CEO of the National Trust since its founding in 2021, succeeding co-founder Elizabeth Hansen Shapiro who resigned in January. His appointment comes during a period of rapid change for the organization, including a major digital transformation of its Maine business. The National Trust recently concluded its most successful fundraising quarter in history. Last week, it acquired the Dawson County News in rural Georgia, while its Portland Press Herald - alongside FRONTLINE and Maine Public - was nominated for the George Foster Peabody Award for public service.

"I have invested in the National Trust because I believe in the model," said Simone Cox, who is the co-founder of CalMatters, a National Trust board member, and one of the organization's newest major donors. "Tom is the right leader to deliver on its promise."

About the National Trust for Local News

Founded in 2021, the National Trust for Local News is a community-rooted, nationally-scaled nonprofit building a more equitable future for local journalism. Today the organization is the primary source of local news for six million people in Maine, Colorado, and Georgia. The National Trust's publications are cornerstones of community - they tell the truth, hold power to account, contextualize global issues, and chronicle all realms of local life from food to sports. Its mission is to renew civic life by rebuilding local news.

For more information about the National Trust, its journalism, its supporters, and its mission, please visit www.national-trustforlocalnews.org.



CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

email: news@theleadertribune.com

A NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
Thursday, May 1, 2025

Join us on Thursday, May 1st, 2025, at 12:00pm for a community wide event!
Peach County Courthouse Steps, 205 West Church Street, Fort Valley, GA 31030.

BAHA'I COMMUNITY OF PEACH COUNTY

The Baha'i Community of Peach County warmly invites you to participate in an interfaith devotional and discussion (via Zoom) on the second Wednesday of each month, 8:00 - 9:00pm, in order to build stronger bonds of friendship among the diverse citizens of our county. There are no rituals at the gathering, no one individual has any special role, and contributions are not solicited or accepted. If interested, please email us at peachcobahais@gmail.com, and we'll send you an invitation. (TFN)

COME PRAISE THE LORD OVER ZOOM

Sundays 10am - 12noon.
Wednesday nights 7pm-8:30pm.
Meeting# 2059432744
Code 7Sb6h8
Host James Manning (Elder)

CHRISTIAN FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH

"Connecting People to Christ"
Rev. Bobby J. Roberson, Pastor
478-822-9897. 1735 Hwy 341 North, Fort Valley, GA 31030

FORT VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH
301 W. Church Street
(478)825-2762

Join us each Sunday at 10:55AM for Christian fellowship and a spirit-lead service with our pastor, Rev. Herb Flanders. Sunday School for all ages begins at 9:45AM. Nursery is available for infants and younger children.

FT VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (behind Courthouse)

Come & worship in a casual atmosphere at **5:00pm each Sunday**. Our weekly pastor will be the Rev. Dr. Bryan Whitfield, a Presbyterian minister who also teaches at Mercer University. For any interested, we will have weekly **Sunday School Bible Study starting at 4:00pm** in the room off the sanctuary. Come and join us for an exciting summer. Brenda Rackley 478-283-1356.

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

2560 Willow Lake Road, Fort Valley, GA 31030.
BIBLE STUDY
Please dial in for Bible Study each Tuesday at 6:30pm. Number 646-876-9923, your meeting ID is 783-154-6108#, your participant ID is #. You are in the meeting. Dial in 3 to 4

minutes before 6:30pm.

GRACE HOUSE COMMUNITY FOODBANK

Open Tuesdays and Thursdays. 9:00am - 12:00pm. Located behind Fort Valley Court House, 203 Central Ave., Fort Valley. Phone: 478-825-2562 (TFN)

GREATER FAITH BABIES MINISTRIES

1000 Tulip Drive, Fort Valley.
Sunday School at 8:30am
Morning Worship at 10:00am
Wednesday: Free Fellowship Meal at 6pm
60 Minutes Bible Study from 7:00pm -8:00pm Come and fellowship with us!

HOSTING ANGLICAN INQUIRERS' CLASS

Led by Father Matt Harlow
Learn the basics of the Christian Faith while enjoying a meal and fellowship.

We will cover theology, history, liturgy, and more!
To register contact Fr Matt at harlowmatthew@gmail.com
<https://www.middlegaanglican.org>

THE LIGHTHOUSE CHURCH OF FORT VALLEY

Looking for a church? Pastor Tony Wood invites you to come visit us. Bring the kids for Children's Church!
Sunday School at 9:30. Sunday Worship at 10:30.

SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH located at 309 Central Avenue, Fort Valley, GA 31030. The Rev. Harriette Simmons Ballard. Services every Sunday at 9:00am with Coffee Hour following in Robinson Hall.

ST. JULIANA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

804 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. Phone:(478) 825-7127
Sat., 7:00pm Spanish Mass
Sun., 9:00am English Mass;
11:00 am Spanish Mass
Weekday Mass: Tues., - Thurs. 6:30pm
Confessions: Thurs., 6:00pm; Sat. 6:30pm; Sun. 10:30am
Adoration: Thurs., 7:00pm; Sat. 8-9am; Sun. 6:00pm

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1000 State University Drive across from the first entrance to FVSU.
We hold morning prayer services, at 10:15am Sundays. Eucharist (Communion) is on second Sundays at 11am.
Please donate to our Little Free Pantry on Charlesvoix St. behind the church (or take food if you are in need). For more info, go to our Facebook page or contact

BAHA'I FAITH

"The world of humanity has two wings - one is woman and the other is man. Not until both wings are equally developed can the bird fly."

Baha'u'llah

For more information
peachcobahais@gmail.com
www.bahai.us

Anna Holloway 478-397-4678 and leave a text message.

SAINT PETER AME CHURCH
502 State University Drive, Fort Valley GA 31030

Join us for a rewarding Worship Experience at "The Rock" each **Sunday at 10:00AM**. Our pastor is **Rev. Anthony Dixon**. You may also join us via **YouTube and Facebook**. **Weekly Bible Study every Wednesday at 7:00p.m.**
Bianca Ballard (478)825-8452.

SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH OF FORT VALLEY

1101 East Church St, Fort Valley, GA 31030
Please join us as we continue to seek to save them that are lost! Our weekly schedule is:
Sunday School at 10:00 A.M.
Sunday Worship at 11:15 A.M.
Bible Study at 7:00 P.M. - Tuesdays
To contact us, please leave a message at (478) 825-7581 or send email to secretary@shilohbaptistfortvalley.org or write us at the above post office box.

TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH
505 State University Drive, Fort Valley, Georgia 31030

Trinity Baptist Church welcomes you to join us in holy worship service each Sunday morning at 11:00 am. Sunday School is scheduled at 9:30 am. and Bible Study at 7:00 pm. on Wednesday, currently on Zoom. (Contact us at the above number for Zoom access information.)
Also, we invite the participation of children in our Godly Girls and Champs Ministries. Godly Girls, ages 8-15, meets Wednesday at 5 pm; Champs on Thursday at 6 pm. in Church Annex. Transportation is available. We look forward to having you join us soon!
For additional information, call 478-825-7349.

USHERS TEMPLE CME CHURCH

411 Railroad Street, Fort Valley, GA 31030. 478-825-5106.
Join us each Sunday morning with Rev. Tawanna B. Harris at 9:30am for Sunday School followed at 11:00am with holy worship service. You may also join us remotely via Facebook Live. Bible Study held each Wednesday at 6:00pm.

National Day of Prayer

By Peach County Government/Facebook
Join us Thursday, May 1st as

we gather on the Peach County Courthouse steps for the National Day of Prayer. The initial

gathering will begin with a brief 15-minute time of prayer and reflection as we unite in support of our community, leaders, and nation.

After the courthouse gathering, small groups will visit the police station, fire station, and city hall to pray for our first responders and public servants. We'll then come together for refreshments and fellowship at either Fort Valley Methodist Church or First Baptist Church.

We're inviting local ministers to lead throughout the event and encourage everyone to come out and lift up our county, state, and country in prayer. Let's stand together in unity and faith.

Meditate and pray.

A National Day of Prayer

Join us on Thursday, May 1st, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. for a community-wide event!

Beginning:
Peach County Courthouse Steps
205 West Church Street
Fort Valley, Georgia 31030



SAVE \$350 when you transform your patio into an outdoor oasis.



- Instant shade—at the touch of a button.
- Enjoy more quality time with family and friends.
- Up to 10-Year Limited Warranty.

Call 1-877-740-0337 now to SAVE \$350 TODAY!

America's #1 Awning!

Report finds Atlanta-area air pollution worsening

By Dave Williams
Bureau Chief

Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA - Metro Atlanta suffers the third-worst levels of ozone pollution, otherwise known as smog, in the Southeast, according to a study released Wednesday by the American Lung Association.

The group's annual "State of the Air" report also ranks the Atlanta region fourth-worst in the Southeast for particle pollution, known colloquially as soot.

The new report measured air quality across the country from 2021 through 2023. It found that

nearly half of the U.S. population live in areas with unhealthy levels of air pollution.

"Unfortunately, too many people in the Atlanta metro area are living with unhealthy levels of ozone and particle pollution," said Danna Thompson, advocacy director for the lung association in Georgia. "This air pollution is a threat to human health at every stage of life - increasing the risk of premature birth and low birth-weight babies ... causing or worsening lung and heart disease, (and) shortening lives."

The lung association urged Georgians to support the work of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which is being hit with budget cuts by the Trump administration.

"Without EPA staff and programs, Georgians won't know what's in the air they're breathing, and efforts to clean up air pollution will be undone," Thompson said.

The new report also ranked the Augusta area fourth-worst in the Southeast for soot, although the study also found that part of Georgia to be among the cleanest in the nation for smog.

Smog is worsening in the Savannah area, according to the report, dropping from "A" to "B."

Georgia 400/I-285 interchange moving down bottleneck rankings

By Dave Williams
Bureau Chief

Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA - The recently completed multi-year overhaul of Georgia 400 at Interstate 285 is starting to pay off.

The heavily trafficked interchange has moved down the American Transportation Research Institute's rankings from the nation's ninth-worst freight traffic bottleneck to 29th, Georgia Commissioner of Transportation Russell McMurry told members of the State Transportation Board Thursday. Peak-hour speeds at the interchange have increased by 12 miles per hour, he said.

"We're moving in the trajectory we want to move in," he said.

The Georgia Department of Transportation has been working since 2016 on an ambitious plan to improve major highway corridors across the state to ease the flow of freight. The Georgia 400/I-285 interchange is the first to be completed, although crews are still working to add toll lanes along 400 in Fulton and Forsyth counties.

McMurry said work is well underway on improvements to the interchange of I-20 and I-285 east of Atlanta, while a planned overhaul of the I-20/I-285 interchange west of Atlanta is about to enter construction. The DOT

also is converting reversible toll lanes along I-75 south of Atlanta into non-reversible lanes, the commissioner said.

"We're working toward solutions on many of these," McMurry said. "It takes time to get there."

Subscribe Today!
478-825-2432

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Fort Valley Utility Commission Water System

Our water system violated a drinking water requirement. Even though this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct these actions.

*We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring

are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During the compliance period of 9/1/2024 to 9/30/2024, we did not complete all monitoring or testing for Total Coliform and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time. *

What should I do?
There is nothing you need to do at this time
What is being done?

A deadline for sampling has been established to prevent any missed future samples, even in the event of unforeseen circumstances such as mechanical failures or inclement weather.

For more information, please contact:

Jennifer Lumley, Operation Manager for Water/Wastewater
500 Anthoine Street Fort Valley, GA 31030
478-825-7701 x288



Prepared Date: April 2025
Water System ID#2250001

2024 Annual Water Quality Report

The Fort Valley Utility Commission is committed to providing customers with a safe, healthy, and reliable supply of high-quality drinking water. Our water is tested with sophisticated equipment and an advanced procedure multiple times a day. This report details the safety of our water along with the standard parameters. As health scientists learn more about our environment and the effects of substances on human health, new standards will continue to be set for drinking water. The Commission continues to add new technology to meet and exceed new standards. All water sources pass over the surface of the land or through the ground. The water dissolves naturally occurring minerals and materials and can pick up substances relating to the presence of animals, or from human activity. Substances that may be present in source water:

- **Biological** – may come from human, agriculture, or wildlife sources.
- **Inorganic** – can be natural, from storm run-off, or from industrial or domestic wastewater discharges.
- **Pesticides and herbicides** – may come from agriculture, storm run-off or residential use.
- **Organic chemicals** – may come from industrial or domestic processes, storm run-off, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive materials** – can be naturally occurring or the result of mining or other human activity.

To ensure tap water is safe to drink, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the number of certain substances in water provided by public water systems.

Where does our water come from?

The Fort Valley Utility Commission gets water from the Tuscaloosa aquifer, which is approximately 500 feet below the surface. This aquifer has, so far, provided the city with a safe and dependable supply of water even in the driest years. For information on the Well-Head Protection Plan, contact the Utility Commission's Water Plant at (478)825-5482 or Clay Walker at (478)825-7701 ext. 228.

Treatment Process:

Utility Commission water is disinfected with chlorine to make it biologically safe. The pH is adjusted by adding lime slurry. Fluoride is added to help protect dental health. Phosphate is added to enhance corrosion control.

What is in our water?

More than 7,500 tests are conducted annually at the Fort Valley Utility Commission's Drinking Water Lab. These tests monitor tap water for micro-organisms, minerals, and organic substances that could cause disease or other adverse health effects. Testing is done for contaminants, including coliform bacteria, metals, nitrates, and pesticides. The water distribution system is tested on a regular basis.

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact the system's business office.

Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate ways to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

2024 CCR Supplemental Lead and Copper CCR information for GA225001 Fort Valley Water System

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants(both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Fort Valley is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point and time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead material within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter certified by an American National Standard Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking and cooking. And making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipe for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, please contact the Fort Valley Utility Commission Water Plant at (478) 825-5482.

Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

The Service Line Inventory (SLI) is a requirement under the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) to help water systems identify and replace lead service lines. It mandates that all public water systems develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials to assess the presence of lead and protect public health. The inventory will support proactive lead reduction efforts and ensure compliance with regulatory requirements to minimize lead exposure in drinking water. The lead service line inventory can be accessed on the Fort Valley Utility Commission website at <https://www.fvutil.com/news>.

Lead and Copper

Definitions:

- **Action Level Goal (ALG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Analyte	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	Range		Units	Violation
				Low	High		
Lead	9/30/2022	0	15	0	24	ppb	No
Copper	9/30/2022	1.3	1.3	0	2.8	ppm	No

To access all individual Lead Tap Sample results for GA225001 Fort Valley visit the Drinking Water Watch website at <https://gadinkingwater.net>. Click on the "Review Consumer Confidence Data" tool.

Water Quality Test Results

- **Definitions:** The following table contains scientific terms and measures, some which may require explanation.
- **Avg:** Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples
- **Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:** The highest of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **Level 1 Assessment:** A level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify why total coliform bacteria have been found in the water system.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **Level 2 Assessment:** A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
- **Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL:** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG:** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **n/a:** not applicable.
- **mrem:** millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
- **ppb:** micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
- **ppm:** milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
- **Treatment Technique or TT:** A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminants in drinking water.

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of levels detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely source of contamination
Chlorine	2024	1	1-1	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes
haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2024	1	0-9.6	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-Product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2024	3	0-33.6	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of levels detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
fluoride	2024	0.7	0.7-.07	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2024	1	0.57-0.88	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of levels detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228	2024	1.16	0-1.16	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	2024	5.05	3.68-5.05	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

Additional Testing and Research

The EPA has required the Utility Commission and hundreds of U.S. water systems to participate in a major testing program called the Information Collection Rule (ICR). The ICR is intended to provide EPA information about the occurrence of chemical by-products used in disinfecting, plus information about disease-causing pathogens (microorganisms). The data on how public water supply systems control the chemical by-products and pathogens will be used to revise drinking water standards.

Additional Information Sources:

Web sites with information about water quality: www.epa.gov/ow www.awwa.org www.gaeed.org www.amwa.net

Please join us in making our decisions.

We encourage and invite public interest and participation in the decision-making that affects drinking water. The Utility Commission holds regularly scheduled meetings at 6:00 p.m. on the second Monday of every month. The meetings are open to the public and are held at 500 Anthoine St.

The Fort Valley Utility Commission business office is open daily except for weekends and holidays. Lobby hours are from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Customer Service telephone number is (478) 825-7701, option 3.

The Drinking Water Quality Lab, and emergency after hours, telephone number is (478) 825-5482.

Utility Commission Positions Announcement

Fast Paced and Progressive Public Power Utility
Providing services in the areas of Electric, Water, Wastewater, Telecom, and Gas
Seeks an Experienced, Highly Motivated, and Creative Team Members

Lineman Apprentice

MINIMAL QUALIFICATIONS

- High school diploma or equivalent.
- Must possess and maintain a valid Georgia driver's license.
- Commercial drivers license (CDL) license required within 6 months of employment.
- Possess demonstrable skills and be a team player.
- Possess good reading, verbal and written communication skills.
- Possess the ability to interface with customers and internal personnel.

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Operate trenching machine to dig power line ditches or hydraulic derrick to set and align poles. Operate back hoe and/or hoist or bucket. Makes up and installs downguys.
- Pull conductor off reels and places in ditches or installs to poles according to specified directions. Provides for proper conductor sag. Frames and installs on the ground or on pads or poles various assemblies such as transformers, lightening arrestors, cut-off switches, etc.
- Under close supervision works on hot lines up to 13,000 volts. Places protective insulation on lines and wears appropriate safety equipment following detailed established safety procedures.
- Trained in all types of single phase and three phase transformer installation. Must gain knowledge of all distribution switching, sectionalizing and fusing.
- May install electric services and meter; splice broken conductors, resagging broken lines and install security lights.
- Periodically attend training sessions to stay proficient in such subjects as safety training, first aid and CPR training, live line training, equipment training, etc.
- Operate all department equipment.
- Responsible for tools and equipment assigned; sees that the tools/equipment are properly maintained and that the required repairs are properly reported.
- Must have a phone and be available for "on call" duty, special trouble calls and overtime as necessary.
- As a public employee, responsible for maintaining good relations with the public served.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

If interested, please send resume to: hrmanager@fvutil.com

Legals

Legal Advertising Information

Legal advertisements are published each Wednesday in The Leader Tribune newspaper, the designated legal organ of Peach County and the City of Fort Valley, City of Byron.

For information concerning billing, please contact The Leader Tribune at (478)-825-2432. Notices cancelled after 12:00 Noon on Friday will be billed for insertion in that edition.

NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE

Please take notice **Byron Self Storage located at 107 W White Rd/107 W.E. Green Jr Pkwy/500 GA-49, Byron, GA 31008**, intends to hold a public sale to sell the property stored in the following units stored at the Facility. The public sale to the highest bidder will occur as an online auction via www.storage-treasures.com on 5/20/25 at 12:00 PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods, furnishings and garage essentials.

Traci Tafel unit #209; Dexter Payne unit #288; Bernard Wallace unit #C425; Ronald Grace unit #E092.

All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.
4/30, 5/7, 2025
3398 (2251)

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF PEACH COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF **Tabitha Fields, Petitioner**

Civil Action Case Number 25-V-0155

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF ADULT

Tabitha Fields filed a petition in the Peach County Superior Court on April 16, 2025, to change the name from: Tabitha Shae Fields to Lilith Evangeline Fields.

Any interested party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within 30 days after the Petition was filed.

This April 14, 2025.
4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14, 2025
3396

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF PEACH COUNTY OF STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF GREGORY LEON WILLIAMS, DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 2025-ADM-7082

PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: **Leroy Williams, Jr. Christopher Lott, James E. Lott, Jr., Latoya Moffett, London Moore, Najah Moore, Cheryl Lewis**

Michael L. Chidester has petitioned to be appointed Administrator(s) of the estate of Gregory Leon Williams, 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 objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before May 16, 2025.

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

Kim Wilson, Judge of the Probate Court

By: Katrina Corbin, Chief Clerk of the Probate Court

205 Church Street, Fort Valley, GA 31030

478-825-2213

4/16, 4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 2025

3388

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF PEACH COUNTY OF STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF MARY ELLEN SPEER MCNEAL, DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 2025-ADM-7081

PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO ANY AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES and to whom it may concern: MITCHELL H. REDD has petitioned for MITCHELL H. REDD to be appointed administrator of the estate of MARY ELLEN SPEER MCNEAL, deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. Section 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before May 9, 2025.

BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before May 9, 2025.

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BY: KATRINA CORBIN, Clerk of the Probate Court

P.O. BOX 327, Fort Valley, GA 31030

478-825-2313

4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14, 2025

3393

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF PEACH COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

CIVIL ACTION NO 25-V-0099

IN RE: MARIA Z. COOK

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

GEORGIA, PEACH COUNTY

Notice is hereby given that Maria Z. Cook, whose birth given name was Mary Rosado, the undersigned, filed her petition to the Superior Court of Peach County, Georgia on the 13th day of March 2025, praying for a change in the name of petition from Mary Rosado to Maria Zoriado Osorio on the petitioner's birth certificate.

Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in said Court and to file objections to such name change. Objections must be filed with said Court within 30 days of the filing of said petition.

This 13th day of March 2025.

4/30, 5/7, 5/14, 5/21, 2025

3399

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF PEACH COUNTY OF STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF SUSAN LANDRESS, DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 2025-ADM-7083

PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO ANY AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES and to whom it may concern: SAVANNAH JANE MCCAY has petitioned for SAVANNAH JANE MCCAY to be appointed administrator of the estate of SUSAN LANDRESS, deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. Section 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before May 9, 2025.

BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.

KIM WILSON, Judge of the Probate Court

By: Katrina Corbin, Clerk of the Probate Court

P.O. BOX 327, Fort Valley, GA 31030

478-825-2313

4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14, 2025

3390

NOTICE TO FORECLOSE RIGHT TO REDEEM TO PEACH COLONY COMPANY, INC AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES TAKE NOTICE THAT:

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

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 75, Fifth Land District, Peach County, Georgia, known and designated as Lots 1 and 2, Block F, Phase 7, Sherwood Forrest Subdivision according to a plat of survey dated March 21, 1988, made by Thomas W. Futral III, G.R.L.S. No. 1202, a copy of said plat having been recorded in Plat Book 16, Page 24, Clerk's Office of the Superior Court, Peach County, Georgia. Reference is hereby being made to the recorded copy of said plat for descriptive and all other purposes.

Sherwood Forrest Subdivision is a private real estate development and all lots are subject to the easements, zoning regulations and restrictive covenants applying to each section of the subdivision as it is developed.

As described in Deed Book 168, Page 745. Further described as Map & Parcel 064G112.

will expire and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 16th day of June, 2025. The tax deed to which this notice relates is dated February 6, 2024 and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Peach County, Georgia, in Deed Book 717, Page 843. **The property may be redeemed at any time before the 16th day of June, 2025, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address:**

Kim H. Stroup

James-Bates-Brannan-Groover-LLP

PO Box 4283

Macon GA 31208-4283

(478)749-9929

Please be governed accordingly,

4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14, 2025

3395 (54376.0033)

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF PEACH

IN RE: ESTATE OF RUTH G. GILES

All creditors of the estate of Ruth G. Giles, late of Peach County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

This 21 day of March, 2025

James Reese Giles, Executor of Ruth G. Giles, deceased

1984 Peach Parkway

Fort Valley, GA 31030

4/16, 4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 2025

3368

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE UNDER POWER

PEACH COUNTY, GEORGIA

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by **Billy Brown, Sr. and Teisha Brown** to Beneficial Mortgage Co of Georgia dated August 21, 2007 and recorded on August 24, 2007 in Deed Book 389, Page 175, Peach County, Georgia Records, and later assigned to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of Cabana Series V Trust by Assignment of Security Deed recorded on June 1, 2022 in Deed Book 678, Page 117, Peach County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of One Hundred Sixty Thousand Six Hundred Forty-Five And 44/100 Dollars (\$160,645.44), with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Peach County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on May 6, 2025 the following described property:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF PEACH AND IN THE CITY OF FORT VALLEY THEREIN, BEING SHOWN ON A PLAT OF SURVEY OF THE PROPERTY OF BARBARA B. AND JOHN R. HARRIS, JR., PREPARED BY THOMAS W. FUTRAL, III, REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR NO. 1202, AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGE 167, CLERK'S OFFICE, PEACH SUPERIOR COURT, TO WHICH REFERENCE IS MADE FOR ALL PURPOSES. SAID TRACT OF LAND IS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE WESTERN MARGIN OF WESTVIEW DRIVE WHICH POINT IS NORTH 1 DEG. 00 MIN. WEST A DISTANCE OF 480 FEET FROM THE INTERSECTION OF THE WESTERN MARGIN OF WESTVIEW DRIVE AND THE NORTHERN RIGHT OF WAY MARGIN OF THE SOUTHERN RAILROAD AND FROM SAID POINT OR PLACE OF BEGINNING, THENCE NORTH 1 DEG. 00 MIN. WEST A DISTANCE OF 123.5 FEET TO A POINT AT THE SOUTHEASTERN INTERSECTION OF WESTVIEW DRIVE AND TULIP DRIVE; THENCE ALONG THE SOUTHERN EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF TULIP DRIVE SOUTH 88 DEG. 09 MIN. EAST A DISTANCE OF 191.24 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE SOUTH 1 DEG. 00 MIN. EAST A DISTANCE OF 114.10 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEG. 00 MIN. WEST A DISTANCE OF 191.00 FEET TO THE POINT OR PLACE OF BEGINNING.

Tax ID #: F06C-148

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

Your mortgage servicer, SN Servicing Corporation, as servicer for U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of Cabana Series V Trust, can be contacted at 800-603-0836 or by writing to 323 Fifth Street, Eureka, CA 95501, to discuss possible alternatives to avoid foreclosure.

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.

To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the parties in possession of the property are Billy Brown, Sr. and Teisha Brown or tenant(s); and said property is more commonly known as **618 Westview Drive, Fort Valley, GA 31030**.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy

Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed.

U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of Cabana Series V Trust as Attorney in Fact for Billy Brown, Sr. and Teisha Brown

McMichael Taylor Gray, LLC

3550 Engineering Drive, Suite 260 Peachtree Corners, GA 30092

404-474-7149

MTG File No.: GA2025-00138

04/09/2025, 04/16/2025, 04/23/2025, 04/30/2025

3381 (BCNS 250563)

LEGAL NOTICE

A public hearing, with public comment heard, will be held by the Peach County Planning Commission on a zoning map amendment request for +/- 3.805 acres known as **tax parcel number 064B 009 located at 2415 N Hwy 49 Byron, GA**. The request is to rezone the parcel from R-AG (Agricultural residential district) to M-1 (Wholesale and light industrial district).

The hearing will be in the Public Meeting Room of the Board of Commissioner's Office located at 213 Persons Street in Fort Valley on May 15th, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. Recommendation from the Planning Commission will be presented to the Board of Commissioners on June 10th, 2025 at 6:30 pm during the regularly scheduled monthly meeting. The re-zoning application for this parcel is on file and available for review. All interested parties are encouraged to attend.

4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 2025

3386

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF PEACH COUNTY OF STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF DIANE C. THOMPSON, DECEASED

ESTATE NO: 2025-ADM-7042

PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: **Amanda Nichole Hicks, Jodi Lynn Hulings, Jessica Hicks, Jarrett Hicks, Jason Hoyt Hicks and to whom it may concern:**

JIMMY L. COOK has petitioned for JIMMY L. COOK to be appointed administrator of the estate of DIANE C. THOMPSON, deceased of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before MAY 09, 2025.

BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.

Kim Wilson, Judge of the Probate Court

By: Katrina Corbin, Clerk of the Probate Court

205 West Church Street, Fort Valley, GA 31030

478-825-2313

4/16, 4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 2025

3383

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION STATE OF GEORGIA/COUNTY OF PEACH

TO: 1) Estate of Ulysses Adam Oates a/k/a Ulysses Adams Oates, deceased, 2) Unknown Heirs and Assigns of Estate of Ulysses Adam Oates a/k/a Ulysses Adams Oates, deceased, 3) Peach County Tax Commissioner, 4) City of Fort Valley, Georgia, 5) all Tenants/Residents/Occupants, 6) All Persons Known or Unknown who may claim an interest in property known as **Sunset Circle, Fort Valley, Georgia 31030**

TAKE NOTICE THAT: The right to redeem **Sunset Circle, Fort Valley, Georgia 31030 (Tax Parcel 008D 042)**, as follows, to wit:

All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying in the State of Georgia, County of Peach, 8th Land District and in Land Lot No. 28 therein being known and identified as Tract No. 4 on a certain plat partially entitled, "Property of V. Talmadge Spillers," made by Thomas W. Futral, III, Georgia Registered Surveyor, dated June 15, 1971, and recorded in Plat Book 9, Page 60, Clerk's Office Peach Superior Court, Georgia, which plat is incorporated herein and made a part hereof for a more complete and accurate description of said herein described property. According to said plat said Tract No. 4 contains 1.510 acres, more or less.

As described in Deed Book 54, Page 333. Further described as Map & Parcel 008D042.

Will expire and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 13th day of June, 2025, or 30 days from service of notice.

The tax deed to which this notice relates is dated the 6th day of February, and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Peach County, Georgia, in Deed Book 717, Page 865.

The property may be redeemed at any time before the 13th day of June, 2025, or 30 days from service of notice, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: David A. Basil, LLC, 301 Bradley Street, Suite B-7, Carrollton, Georgia, 30117.

Please be governed accordingly,

04/16/2025, 04/23/2025, 04/30/2025, 05/07/2025

3384 (97185)

LEGALS
CONTINUED FROM 7A

above-described mortgage is as follows: Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, 1600 S. Douglass Road, Suite 200 A Anaheim, CA 92806, Telephone No.: 800-561-4567

The foregoing notwithstanding, nothing in O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the Security Deed described herein. Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Jennifer Marie Hermans Attorney Contact: Miller, George & Suggs, PLLC 3000 Langford Road, Building 100 Peachtree Corners, GA 30071 Phone: 404-793-1447 Fax: 404-738-1558 TS #25-33349 THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. A-4839404
04/09/2025, 04/16/2025, 04/23/2025, 04/30/2025, 05/07/2025, 05/14/2025, 05/21/2025, 05/28/2025, 3378 (ASAP# 4839404)

VEHICLES
PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to OCGA 40-11-19 **Evans Towing Services** states that the following vehicles have been declared abandoned and will be sold at public sale on **5-16-2025 from 10AM to 2PM at 750 Dunbar Rd, Byron GA.**

2018 Dodge Grand Caravan
2C4RDGEG7JR345575

2000 Honda Accord
JHMCG5672Y032841

2004 Toyota Camry
4T1BE32KX4U799354

4/30, 5/7, 2025

3397

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE UNDER POWER PEACH COUNTY, GEORGIA THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Tatjana Mendez to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Southeast Mortgage of Georgia, Inc. dated December 22, 2021 and recorded on January 11, 2022 in Deed Book 668, Page 52, Peach County, Georgia Records, and later assigned to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee for LB-Ranch Series V Trust by Assignment of Security Deed recorded on November 5, 2024 in Deed Book 733, Page 406, Peach County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of Two Hundred Seventeen Thousand Seventy And 00/100 Dollars (\$217,070.00), with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Peach County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on May 6, 2025 the following described property:

All that tract or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in Land Lot 11, Fifth Land District, Peach County, Georgia, being known and designated as Lot 123, Hawks Ridge Subdivision, Phase 2, according to a plat of survey of record in Plat Book 29, Page 107, Clerk's Office, Peach Superior Court. Said plat and the recorded copy thereof are incorporated by reference for all purposes.

Subject to all easements, ordinances, covenants, conditions, restrictions and rights of way of record, if any.

Address under current system of numbering: **170 Hawks Ridge Trace,**

Byron, Georgia.

Tax ID #: **052A 318**

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

Your mortgage servicer, SN Servicing Corporation, as servicer for U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee for LB-Ranch Series V Trust, can be contacted at 800-603-0836 or by writing to 323 5th Fifth Street, Eureka, CA 95501, to discuss possible alternatives to avoid foreclosure.

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.

To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the parties in possession of the property are Tatjana Mendez or tenant(s); and said property is more commonly known as **170 Hawks Ridge Trace, Byron, GA 31008.**

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

U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee for LB-Ranch Series V Trust as Attorney in Fact for Tatjana Mendez

McMichael Taylor Gray, LLC
3550 Engineering Drive, Suite 260
Peachtree Corners, GA 30092
404-474-7149
MTG File No.: GA2024-01084
04/09/2025, 04/16/2025, 04/23/2025, 04/30/2025
3380 (BCNS 250561)

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

Under power of sale contained in a security deed from **Mable C. Rayford to Exchange Bank** dated March 24, 2006, recorded in Deed Book 349, page 859, Clerk's Office, Peach Superior Court, said security deed securing a Note, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door at Fort Valley, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in May, 2025, the property described as follows:

All that tract or parcel of land lying, situate, and being in Peach County, Georgia, and in the City of Fort Valley, and being all of Lot 57 and the Southwest part of Lot 75 of the T.A. Parham Subdivision and being more particularly described as follows: To find the point of beginning commence at the point of intersection of the Southeast right-of-way line of Beech Street and the North right-of-way line of Spruce Street and run thence in a Northeasterly direction along the Southeast right-of-way line of said Beech Street a distance of 140 feet to the point of beginning. From said point of beginning run thence in a Northeasterly direction along the Southeast right-of-way line of said Beech Street a distance of 60.0 feet to a point; thence run in a Southeasterly direction on a line perpendicular to said Beech Street a distance of 177.9 feet to a point located on the North right-of-way line of said Spruce Street; thence run in a Westerly direction along the North right-of-way line of said Spruce Street a distance of 83.4 feet to a point; thence run in

a Northwesterly direction on a line perpendicular to said Beech Street a distance of 123.0 feet to a point located on the Southeast right-of-way line of said Beech Street and the point of beginning.

Said property being further described as all that tract or parcel of land lying, situate and being in Peach County, Georgia, and in the City of Fort Valley, and being known and designated as Lot 57-A according to a plat prepared by Sommers J. Gostin, Registered Professional Engineer No. 3547, dated March 1963, and recorded in Plat Book 7, page 42, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Peach County, Georgia. Said Lot 57-A having the metes, bounds, size, shape and dimensions as shown on the aforesaid plat, which plat is made a part hereof by reference for a more definite description.

Street Address: 603 Spruce St., Fort Valley, GA

Tax Parcel Number: F05F-167

The note is declared due because of non-payment. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, including attorney's fees.

To the best knowledge of the undersigned the property is in the possession of Mable C. Rayford and it will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes and/or assessments and any easements or restrictions of record, having priority over this security deed.

Exchange Bank as attorney in fact for Mable C. Rayford
Ian M. McMullen
McMullen Law Firm, LLC

54 Marshall Road

Milledgeville, GA 31061
4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30, 2025
3374

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF PEACH

The Last Will and Testament of SUSAN MARIE TOWERS having been Probated in Solemn Fonn and Letters Testamentary, having been issued to JEFFREY G. TOWERS and CARISSA E. TOWERS this is to cite all creditors of said estate to make their demands known to us and all debtors of said estate to make immediate payment to us.

THIS 4TH day of APRIL, 2025. JEFFREY G. TOWERS and CARISSA E. TOWERS, as Co-Executors C/O Robert J. Aromatorio Collins & Aromatorio, P.C. GA Bar No. 023708

P.O. Box 250
Byron, Georgia 31008
478-956-3071
4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14, 2025
3392

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF PEACH IN RE: ESTATE OF JOSEPH A. MANSFIELD, DECEASED

All Debtors and Creditors of the Estate of Joseph A. Mansfield, deceased, late of Peach County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to the law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to David Venable, David Venable, Attorney at Law, P.C.

This the 31st day of March, 2024. David Venable, Attorney At Law, P.C. 87 Broad Street P.O. Box 750 Hawkinsville, Georgia 31036 (478)783-2825 4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30, 2025 3379

City of Fort Valley Celebrated Georgia Cities Week



Special to The Leader Tribune

The City of Fort Valley, in celebration of Georgia Cities Week, held a Wednesday Eats at City Hall on April 23, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Citizens were able

to come get a meal from ABC Catering, which included a stuffed chicken breast over garlic mashed potatoes or risotto rice, sauteed broccoli over garlic mashed potatoes or risotto rice, and garlic butter steak bites over garlic mashed potatoes

with some additions available such as vegetables, shrimp, or a parmesan crust. They also had homemade lemonade with additional flavors such as peach, strawberry, or mango.

Coffee and Doughnuts Meet n' Greet

Special to The Leader Tribune

In celebration of Georgia Cities Week, the City of Fort Valley held a Coffee and Doughnuts Meet n' Greet on Tuesday, April 22 from 8:30 to 10 a.m. at City Hall. Citizens of Fort Valley would have an opportunity to chat with their mayor and city council members while enjoying coffee and doughnuts.



Georgia Supreme Court Considers Legal Restrictions On Gun Carry For Adults Under 21

By Ty Tagami
Staff Writer

Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA - Nearly 200 years of legal precedent should not apply to a 20-year-old man who wants to carry a gun, his lawyer argued before the Georgia Supreme Court on Tuesday.

Thomas Stephens, who turns 21 next year, was denied a license to carry a handgun in public when he applied for one in Lumpkin County. He sued, and his case made it to the high court, which heard arguments by his lawyer and by the state attorney general's office. The state contends in a legal brief that the restrictions on adults under age 21 are "baked into the Georgia Constitution."

Stephens' lawsuit goes to the heart of one of the most contentious issues in America today: how to interpret gun rights under the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. It says, "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." An introductory phrase has been a complicating factor,

saying that a "well regulated Militia" is needed to secure a free state.

Georgia's constitution elaborates by saying that the legislature "shall have power to prescribe the manner in which arms may be borne."

A lawyer from Attorney General Chris Carr's office argued that the state's age-based limitations date back to the Civil War era, when he said those under 21 were not subject to militia service.

"The court should stick with the analysis that it's applied for 180 years," said Zachary A. Mullinax, an assistant attorney general. "I don't think that there is any historical evidence that an 18-year-old had the right to carry a handgun in public."

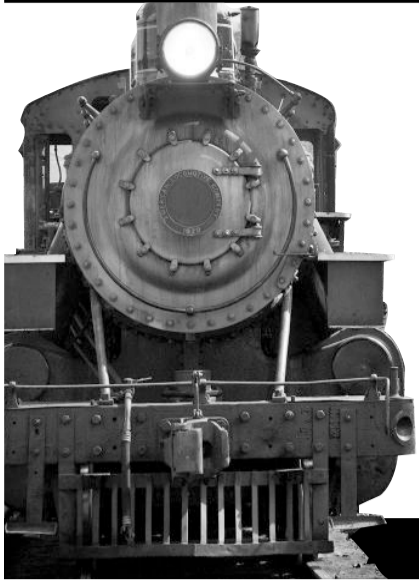
But Stephens' lawyer made the case that Georgia's restrictions are rooted in a time before courts began applying a higher standard on government intrusion into personal liberties.

The state Supreme Court has based its decisions on a "reasonable" exercise of govern-

ment power to limit access to guns, said John R. Monroe, the Dawsonville attorney representing Stephens.

That was before the World War II era, when the U.S. Supreme Court first developed a higher standard of "strict scrutiny" and began requiring that burdens on fundamental rights be justified by a "compelling" state interest, Monroe said. "Strict scrutiny should be applied to this case because it's a fundamental right for people to keep and bear arms."

It's unclear how the state's high court will rule. The justices peppered both lawyers with questions, although Justice Andrew A. Pinson told Monroe early in the hearing that he had an "uphill battle" to make his case. That is due to the history of Georgia's restrictions on gun rights, Pinson said, "which we've said arguably is now baked into our constitutional language given that it was enacted and then we ratified new constitutions with that same language."



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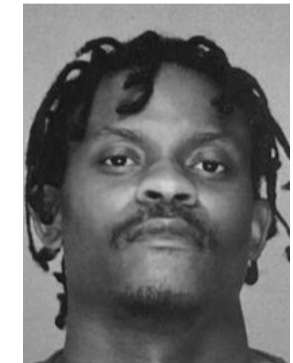
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Saunders, Daryl E., b/m, age 32, 5'10 @ 180lbs. Wanted by Houston County Office for Battery- Family Violence.



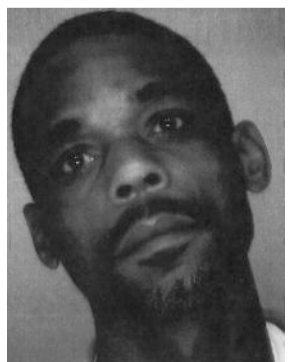
Young, Joshua J., w/m, age 32, 5'8 @ 220lbs. Wanted by the Houston County Sheriff's Office for Failure to Register as a Sex Offender.



Chappell Jr., Derrick D., age 32, b/m, 5'10 @ 140. lbs. Wanted by the Peach County Sheriff's Office for Sup. Ct. VOP - Aggravated Animal Cruelty and Obstruction of Law Enforcement Officers.



Green, Sherlonda., age 43, b/f, 5'9 @ 234. lbs. Wanted by the Houston County Sheriff's Office for Theft by Shoplifting.



Redding, Thomas D., b/m, age 30, 6'1 @ 185. lbs. Wanted by the U.S. Marshal's T.F.O. & the Bibb County Sheriff's Office for Terroristic Threats - F/V, Theft by Taking - Auto, Crim. Trespass -F/V, and Simple Battery - F/V.

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Peach County Trojans Dominate West Hall in GHSA AAA Playoff Opener

By Chris McKenzie
Sports Reporter

FORT VALLEY, GA – In front of a packed house at the Trojans Athletic Complex, the Peach County Trojans baseball team delivered a statement win in the first round of the GHSA AAA playoffs, defeating West Hall 8-1 in the first game of a doubleheader.

From the first pitch, the energy in Fort Valley was electric—and the Trojans fed off of it. Jackson Peavy turned in a masterful performance on the mound, racking up 13 strikeouts and setting the tone for a dominant defensive showing. Peach County's defense retired the Spartans in order in the first inning, putting the home crowd on their feet early.

Zion Hudson wasted no time igniting the offense. After reaching base, Hudson stole second and third with ease before being driven home by DJ

Hudson to give the Trojans a quick 1-0 lead. It was a sign of things to come, as the Trojans' aggressive baserunning and timely hitting kept West Hall on its heels all game.

In the second inning, Kade Thompson added to the fireworks with a hard-hit ball down the third base line that couldn't be handled, eventually crossing home plate after stealing both second and third. Wyatt Blanton followed with a solid single to left field to bring Thompson in, extending the lead.

By the end of the third, Peach County was up 4-0, and they never looked back. The fourth inning mirrored the earlier momentum—stifling defense backed by consistent offense. The Trojans added two more runs, all while holding West Hall hitless through four.

West Hall managed their first two hits of the game in the fifth, but Peavy and the Trojans defense held firm, refusing to surrender a run. Peavy returned in

the sixth with a fire in his eyes, striking out the side and electrifying the home crowd once more.

The Trojans' offense responded by pouring on two more insurance runs in the bottom of the sixth, bringing the final score to 8-1. The game wrapped up in fitting fashion: Peavy delivering a final strikeout and leaping with joy as his teammates rushed the field.

Peach County finished the first game with a whopping 12 stolen bases, showcasing their aggressive style and athleticism.

The Peach County High School Trojans punched their ticket to the second round of the GHSA AAA playoffs with an emphatic 13-3 victory over the West Hall Spartans on Friday, completing a sweep of the doubleheader in Fort Valley.

In the second game of the series, the Trojans wasted no time asserting their dominance. Coming out firing on all

cylinders in the opening frame, Peach County plated five runs to jump ahead early. Nick Hardee provided the spark with a two-run double that set the tone for the rest of the game.

West Hall, however, refused to back down in the first inning, responding with three runs of their own while showcasing some aggressive base running with several stolen bases to keep the game competitive. But the Spartans' momentum was short-lived.

By the third inning, the Trojans decided to turn up the heat. A six-run explosion in the bottom of the third effectively put the game out of reach. Peach County's aggressive approach on the base paths paid dividends, as they tallied seven stolen bases in the inning alone. The highlight of the offensive surge came when Scout Willingham crushed a two-run home run over the fence, electrifying the home crowd and extending the Trojans' lead.

As the West Hall faithful began to thin out, Peach County continued to pile on, adding two more insurance runs in the fifth inning. Pitcher DJ Hudson sealed the deal in dominant fashion, striking out the final batter to secure the 13-3 victory and the series sweep.

The Trojans celebrated on the field after clinching their spot in the next round of the playoffs, where they will face in-region rival Bainbridge High School. The second-round matchup is set for Thursday, May 01 at 4 p.m. at the Trojan Athletic Complex in Fort Valley, where another doubleheader will determine who advances further in the GHSA AAA playoffs.

With their offense firing on all fronts and solid pitching performances throughout the series, the Trojans will look to keep their momentum rolling as they continue their postseason journey.

Peach County Track and Field Teams Excel at Region Championships

By Chris McKenzie
Sports Reporter

FORT VALLEY, GA – Peach County High School's Track and Field teams delivered an outstanding performance at the 2025 Region Championships, earning second place overall for both the boys' and girls' teams.

Several athletes stood out with individual region titles, securing their spots at the State Sectionals.

Jackson Warlick led the way, winning the 1600m — setting a new school record — and also capturing victories in the 3200m and as part of the 4x800m relay team.

Ashton Barton sprinted to a win in the 100m and contributed to the championship 4x100m relay team alongside Chris Scott, Ethan Johnson, and Edarius Davis.

Distance runners Jalen Hillman, Ashton Barton, and Cameron Holcomb teamed up with Warlick to take the 4x800m re-

lay title.

Brandon Michael soared to victory in the high jump, and Aydriana Jackson dominated in the 800m and 1600m on the girls' side.

In the field events, Telana Brown added a region championship in the pole vault.

Region Runner-Ups also qualified for State Sectionals.

Aydriana Jackson finished second in the 400m — potentially setting another school record — and contributed to the girls' 4x800m relay team alongside Aniyah Wimbush, Elandra Reese, and Jadiayah Ross.

The boys' 4x200m relay team (Cedrick Chalk, Ethan Johnson, Chris Scott, Edarius Davis) earned runner-up honors as well, with Brandon Michael and Kelly Blackmon placing second in the triple jump.

A large number of Trojans also punched their tickets to the State Sectionals, showcasing the

team's depth and balance across events:

- Telana Brown – 100m Hurdles
- Aldezo Brown – 110m High Hurdles
- Anice Brown – 300m Hurdles, Pole Vault
- Brandon Michael – Long Jump
- Uzzhia Rumph – Long Jump, Triple Jump
- Telayah Marable – Long Jump
- Edarius Davis – Pole Vault, 200m
- Zelma Williams – Pole Vault
- E'Yohnna Davis – High Jump, 4x100m Relay
- Davia Colbert, Tamori Hollingshed, Alasia Jones – 4x100m Relay

Peach County's athletes now set their sights on the State Sectionals, aiming to continue their winning ways and bring home even more hardware.

Fort Valley State Men's Volleyball Team Heads to NCAA Championship for Second Straight Year

By Chris McKenzie
Sports Reporter

Fort Valley State University's men's volleyball team is making history once again, earning a spot in the 2025 National Collegiate Men's Volleyball Championship Tournament. Seeded eighth, the Wildcats are set to take on the tournament's top seed, powerhouse Long Beach State University, in the opening round on Thursday May 8th in Columbus, Ohio.

This marks the second consecutive year that Fort Valley State has punched its ticket to the championship rounds — a remarkable achievement for a



program that continues to grow its national profile. Under the leadership of head coach [Larry Wrather], the Wildcats have built a reputation for resilience, athleticism, and teamwork.

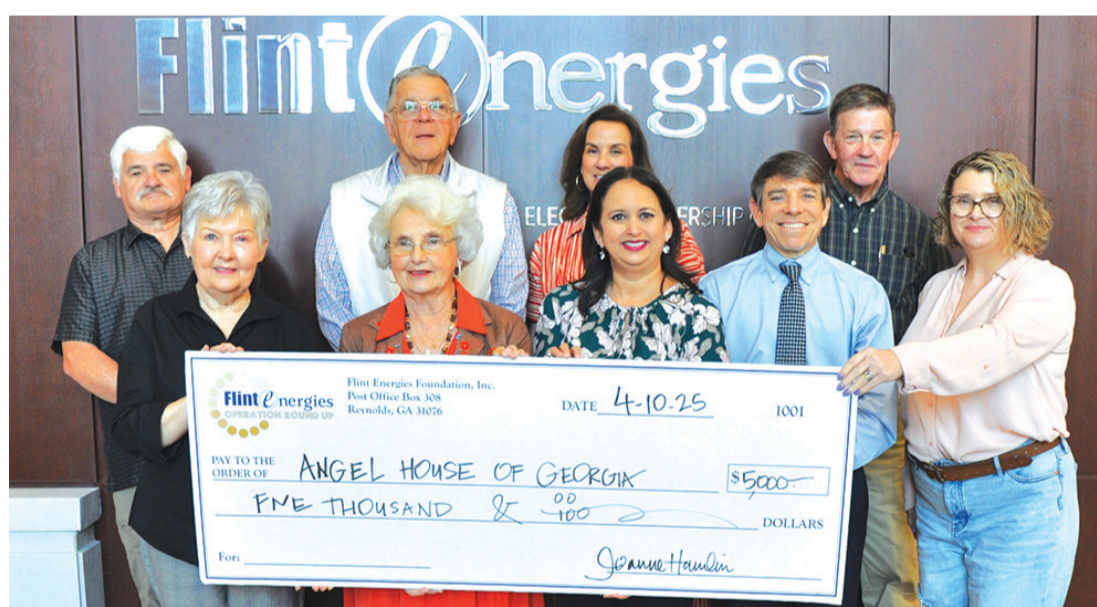
Their opponent, Long Beach State, enters the tournament with a dominant record and a

tradition of volleyball excellence. Yet the Wildcats are undeterred, embracing the underdog role as they head into what promises to be an electrifying matchup.

Fort Valley State's participation in back-to-back championship tournaments signals a turning point for the program, which continues to raise its standards and expectations on the national stage.

The Wildcats will take the court against Long Beach State on Thursday, May 8, 2025, at the Covelli Center in Columbus, Ohio. First serve is scheduled for 5 p.m.

Flint Energies Foundation grant funds Angel House of Georgia \$5,000



By Flint Energies

The Flint Energies Foundation granted Angel House of Georgia \$5,000. The requested funds will be used to sponsor several women in the program for a few weeks.

Angel House of Georgia representative, Brooke Boyette, stated, "The Angel House is a long-term residential recovery assistance program for women. In most cases, women in recovery are housed up to 12 months after being released from prison until they are able to obtain a job and get back on their feet. This grant will sponsor the initial four weeks of fees for several women from our service territory."

The Flint Energies Foundation provides grants to local

non-profits such as this one using money donated by Flint Energies Consumer-members through Operation Round Up*.

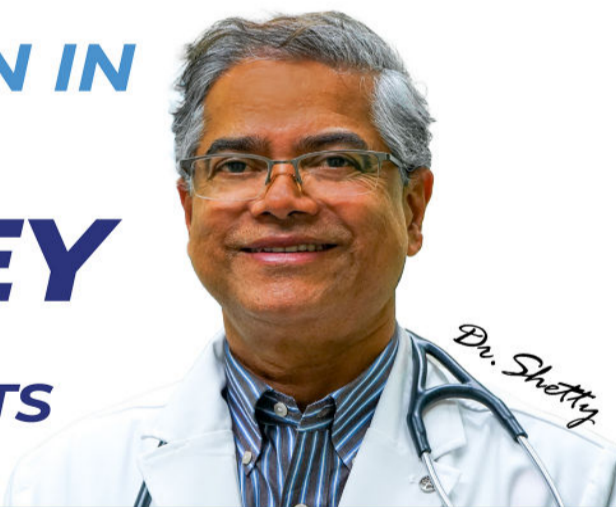
The electric cooperative's Members contribute \$175,000 annually to the Flint Energies Foundation, which supports worthy causes in the 17 counties it serves. Operation Round Up is a way for participating Members to support multiple charitable organizations by simply allowing Flint Energies to round up their bills to the nearest dollar. Donations to Operation Round Up, which average only about \$6 per year per member, are tax deductible. About 40% of Flint's Membership participates in Operation Round Up, but that percentage continues to decline. If you are a Flint Energies

Consumer-member and wish to contribute, you can sign up at www.flintenergies.com/ORU or by calling 1.800.342.3616.

The Flint Energies Foundation, a state-chartered, non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization, disburses all contributions to approved projects; Member contributions are not used for administration costs. Foundation Board members include Chair Joanne Hamlin, Lizella; Vice Chair Eloise Doty, Butler; Secretary Connie McCutchen, Midland; Treasurer John Lupino, Warner Robins; Gina Fink, Fort Valley; Charles Harrison, Grovania; Pat Bartness, Warner Robins; Traci Kemp, Warner Robins; Betty Chase, Oglethorpe; Roger Sinyard, Mauk; and Ian Russell, Fort Valley.



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We are excited to announce that Business, Membership Sponsorship, and Premier Parking Passes for the Trojan Nation Touchdown Club are now available for purchasing!

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We have a big goal this year, and it's going to take the Peach County Community to help us accomplish it. Please consider supporting the Trojan Nation Touchdown Club of Peach for the 2025 Football Season. Don't miss out on the opportunity to be part of the Trojan Nation! Join the Touchdown Club or reserve your spot today! Important Information: Touchdown Club will not be handling the Handicap parking spaces this year. They will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis and are excluded from the Premier Parking Passes.

For more information or to secure your membership, visit <https://www.trojannationtouchdownclub.org>, or contact us today at peachtrojannation@gmail.com. Go Trojans!