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The Leader Tribune

Peach County's Newspaper

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 08, 2025

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Fort Valley Shooting leaves One Dead, Two Injured



Photos Contributed

FVPD had the road taped off for the crime scene in Downtown Fort Valley, GA.

By Zoe Hammond
News Editor

FORT VALLEY, Ga. – Two men were injured and another man was killed during a shooting in Fort Valley on Thursday, Oct. 2, according to Peach County Coroner Kerry Rooks.

According to Rooks, the shooting took place on East Main Street around 7:00 p.m. Thursday evening.

The deceased victim was identified as Willie Mangham III, a man in his late 40s. He was shot at the Main Event, a business on East Main Street. Mangham's son, one of the injured individuals, was taken to the hospital to treat non-life-threatening injuries. He was shot in the hand.

This case remains under active investigation. The Leader Tribune will provide updates as they become available.

Peach County School Superintendent Retires, Interim Superintendent Appointed



Photo Contributed

Peach County Schools Superintendent Dr. Lionel Brown retiring.

By Zoe Hammond
News Editor

PEACH COUNTY, Ga. – Peach County Schools Superintendent Dr. Lionel Brown has decided to retire, according to a

press release from Peach County Schools.

"We would like to share that Superintendent Dr. Lionel Brown has chosen to retire after a long and dedicated career

Arrests Made in FVSU Marching Band Hazing Case

By Zoe Hammond
News Editor

FORT VALLEY, Ga. – Arrests have been made after hazing allegations were made against the Fort Valley State University's marching band, according to the university. The Blue Machine Marching Band has been put on an indefinite suspension following the hazing allegations.

Due to the hazing allegations, the marching band did not perform at homecoming this season.

The university says that the criminal investigation by the Fort Valley Police Department has concluded and enough evidence was found to support charges against the suspects. Some students have been arrested.

ed. "We understand the seriousness of this situation and the im-



top priority is the safety and well-being of all our students and the entire Wildcat community."

The Fort Valley State University Police Department passed the case over to the Fort Valley Police Department, who handled the investigation from there.

According to the FVPD, the two suspects have been identified as Arika Tolbert, 21, and Jaya Williams, 19.

FVSU is conducting an independent administrative investigation in accordance with FVSU policy, USG policy and the Stop Campus Hazing Act. They plan to provide additional updates as necessary as the internal investigation progresses.

pact it has on our community, particularly during Homecoming season," the university said. "Our

FVPD Arrests 14-Year-Old in Connection to Vehicle Break-Ins



Photos by FVPD

of vehicle break-ins that occurred on Martin Luther King Jr. Drive at Spruce Street area.

By Zoe Hammond
News Editor

FORT VALLEY, Ga. – A 14-year-old was arrested for his connection with a string of vehicle break-ins that occurred Tuesday, September 30, around Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and Spruce Street, according to the Fort Valley Police Department.

According to a press release, officers who were patrolling the area discovered shattered glass from several vehicles in the neighborhood. During their investigation, the officers located a trail of stolen property which led them to a male juvenile who was attempting to flee the area.

The Fort Valley Police Department's K-9 unit was deployed and successfully tracked down the suspect, leading to the juvenile's arrest. After further investigation, officers determined that six vehicles had their windows shattered and were unlawfully entered. Personal items were stolen from each vehicle.

The juvenile suspect is currently facing multiple charges, including six counts of entering automobiles with intent to commit theft and 4 counts of financial card theft.

The FVPD says the stolen property was recovered during the arrest and is being returned to the victims.

"These arrests underscore our department's commitment to addressing crimes that impact

the safety and peace of mind of our residents," Chief DJ Flores said. "I appreciate the diligent work of our officers in bringing this investigation to a successful outcome."

The FVPD would like to remind residents to remain proactive in preventing vehicle break-ins by locking car doors, securing valuables out of sight, and reporting suspicious activity immediately.

This case remains under active investigation, and additional charges may be forthcoming. Anyone with information related to these incidents is encouraged to contact the Fort Valley Police Department at (478) 825-3383.

ective Director of Secondary Options for Houston County Schools.

Brown began his teaching career as a teacher and coach at Warner Robins High School back in 1994. He later became an assistant principal at Perry High School for five years before he joined Veterans High School as its inaugural principal in 2009. Brown's overall work within

**DR. BROWN
CONTINUED PG 2A**



Battle of Byron Chairman Named one of Georgia's 40 Under 40



By PCSS

We are Peach County Proud of Austin Simar!

Austin Simar, Peach County High School Class of 2023, was nominated and selected as one of Georgia's 40 Under 40!

Georgia Trend Magazine hosts the 40 Under 40, an annual recognition where nominations are submitted from all across the state. Out of all the nominations, only 40 people under the age of 40 are chosen to represent Georgia's most influential young leaders.

Austin states, "I am truly honored to be named one of Georgia's most influential young leaders of 2025, and I look forward to continuing the work that brought me here."

The October edition of Georgia Trend Magazine will be released soon, featuring the article.

AUSTIN SIMAR, 21

Executive Assistant to the County Administrator
Peach County Commissioners Office
BYRON

Thanks to Austin Simar, the Battle of Byron blazes on. The zany small-town festival, centered around over-the-top competitions like tug-of-war and bed races, raises money for nonprofits and anchors the Peach County municipality's spring calendar. It ended its initial 38-year run in 2017, but due to Simar's efforts while he was still a senior in high school, the battle resumed in 2023 and is going strong. Simar works as executive assistant to Peach County's administrator and makes no secret of aspiring to public office. "The older I get the more I realize you should work every position on the way up," he says. That's clearly part of the reason behind his extensive community activism: He serves on 15 municipal and private boards and committees – many rooted in local history. *—BD*



FVSU Nursing Program Earns Accreditation from ACEN

ByFVSU

Fort Valley, GA – September 26, 2025 – Fort Valley State University's Department of Nursing announces that its Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program has received official accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). This milestone marks a historic moment for FVSU, expanding access to quality nursing education and strengthening the pipeline of nurses prepared to serve rural and underserved communities across Georgia and the nation.

The program completed its initial accreditation site visit February 11–13, 2025, and successfully met all standards set forth by the accrediting body. In its report, ACEN highlighted the program's innovative collaboration with the FVSU Cooperative Extension and Mobile Health Unit, which provides students with non-traditional clinical and service opportunities in rural communities. These experiences give nursing students a broader worldview of healthcare disparities and prepare them to make meaningful impacts in underserved areas.

"This accreditation not only validates the quality of our program, but it also fulfills a promise to our students and our community," said dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Eyuaem Abebe, Ph.D. "By producing highly skilled nurses, we are addressing Georgia's critical nursing shortage, while opening new doors of opportunity for our students. I am incredibly proud of Dr. Greene and her team for achieving this milestone and grateful to FVSU's visionary leadership and our partners who share our vision for healthier communities."

partners who share our vision for healthier communities."

FVSU's BSN program was approved by the University System of Georgia Board of Regents in 2021 and welcomed its inaugural class in Fall 2023. The program is housed in the newly renovated Meyers Hall, featuring simulation rooms, skills labs and modern classroom spaces. Investments from Atrium Health Navicent, Phoebe Putney Health System and Kaiser Permanente have further strengthened the program by expanding clinical training opportunities, simulation access and career pathways for graduates.

"Achieving accreditation is the result of hard work, perseverance and faith," said Lawanda Greene, DNP, founding director of the nursing program. "I am deeply grateful to our faculty, staff, students and the FVSU community for their support and dedication. This recognition affirms our commitment to preparing competent, compassionate nurses who will transform healthcare, particularly in rural and underserved communities."

Interest in the program continues to grow, with 49 current students enrolled in the BSN program and more than 328 students pursuing pre-nursing, reflecting strong demand for nursing education at FVSU. Applications are now open and the deadline to apply is January 31, 2026. Visit www.FVSU.edu/Nursing for more information.

DR. BROWN

CONTINUED FROM 1A

the Peach County School System earned him the Marvin E. Lewis Sr. Trailblazer Award from the Georgia School Superintendents Association in April 2025. According to a release from Peach County Schools, the award is given to a superintendent who "served as a minority or underrepresented superintendent in a school district in the State of Georgia."

"I'm incredibly humbled and honored to represent the Lewis family and GSSA. This is not just recognition. It is a responsibility I carry with deep gratitude and pride," Brown said in the release. "To

my beautiful wife, Danielle, and our family, thank you for standing by me with love, patience, and unwavering support through every chapter of this journey. To my Peach County family: our central office team, principals, teachers, students, and board members, thank you for believing in me and walking alongside me. Your support means more than words can say. This honor is ours. Let's continue the work together."

The Peach County Board of Education has appointed Assistant Superintendent Dr. Jesse Davis as the Interim Superintendent, according to an additional press release from

Peach County Schools.

"Dr. Davis has served as Assistant Superintendent for the past two years and brings extensive experience along with strong professional connections at both the state and national levels," the release said. "His background and access to key resources position him well to lead the district during this transition period."

According to the following press release, the board will begin developing a process and timeline for selecting a permanent superintendent in the coming weeks.

**WE
ACCEPT
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Email:

news@theleadertribune.com

Peach County Republican Party

October 21

Guest Speaker:

Kelvin King
Candidate for
Secretary of State

Introduction by Janelle King



Refreshments - 6:00
Meeting - 6:30


Harmony Community Church 3085 Housers Mill Rd Byron


paid political advertisement

SECTION 00100 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

- Sealed Bids:** Sealed bids for construction of the project entitled **Forsyth Street Pipe Replacement** will be received until 2:00 PM, Thursday October 30th, 2025, 500 Anthoine Street, Fort Valley, GA 31030 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read. No bid may be withdrawn after the closing time for the receipt of bids for a period of sixty (60) days.
- Work To Be Done:** The Work to be completed for the **Forsyth Street Pipe Replacement** is described briefly as follows:

This project consist of installing 8" pipe in the road on Forsyth St. along with 16 service transfers. Work will include approx.. 100 LF of jack & Bore, 3 complete fire hydrants, curb & gutter replacement, cut & cap ex. Waterline, etc., traffic control, erosion control, and other miscellaneous work.
- Plans, Specifications and Contract Documents:** Complete digital specifications and contract documents are available at www.QuestCDN.com. You may view the digital documents for free by entering the Quest project number **9907833** on the website's project search page. The fee to download the digital documents is \$200 (**non-refundable**) payable through the website. A bidder's proposal will not be considered by the Owner unless the Bidder is on record with Quest/ESG Engineering, Inc. as having purchased and received complete Bidding Documents. Please contact QuestCDN customer support at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in membership registration, downloading and working with digital project information. Copies of Bidding Documents may be obtained from ESG Engineering- contact Rachael Crowell at rcrowell@esgengineering.com to procure Bidding Documents and to be added to the Bidder's List (required to bid on project). Digital documents will be provided at no charge and hard copies will be provided upon non-reimbursable payment of \$200.
- Contractor License:** Any Contractor submitting a bid must be licensed by the State of Georgia. See Instructions to Bidders for additional bidding requirements.
- Bonds:** Bids shall be accompanied by a bid bond or certified cashier's check in an amount not less than 5% of the base bid. All bonds shall be by a surety company licensed in Georgia with an "A" minimum rating of performance and a financial strength of at least five (5) times the contract price as listed in the most current publication of "Best's Key Rating Guide Property Liability". Performance and Payment Bonds, each in an amount equal to 100% of the contract price shall be required of the successful bidder if contract is awarded. Each Bond shall be accompanied by a "Power of Attorney" authorizing the attorney-in-fact to bind the surety and certified to include the date of the bond.
- Funding:** This project is funded by the Fort Valley Commission Fund.
- Reservation of Rights:** Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, including without limitation, the rights to reject any or all nonconforming, nonresponsive, unbalanced or conditional Bids and to reject the Bid of any Bidder if Owner believes that it would not be in the best interest of the Project to make an award to that Bidder, whether because the Bid is not responsive or the Bidder is unqualified or of doubtful financial ability or fails to meet any other pertinent standard or criteria established by the Owner.





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Police Beat

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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

Armstrong, Rodney Renard, 30, Macon, GA: Illegal Possession Of Controlled Substance, Window Tint Violation, DUI, Failure To Maintain A Single Lane, Open Container

Grimes, Luther Devon, 38, Byron, GA: Probation Violation (When Probation Terms Are Altered) - Misdemeanor

Hampton, Jawun Tyree, 26, Fort Valley, GA: Driving With Suspended License, Window Tint Violation

Isabel-Martinez, Carmelina, 47, Warner Robins, GA: Improper Left Or Right Turn, Driving Across Private Property To Avoid An Intersection, Driving Without A License

Jordan, Rodney Toriano, 29, Bonaire, GA: Move Over Law, DUI - Combo Any Combination Of A1/A2/A3

Kinlocke, Latasha Keiara, 33, Snellville, GA: Marijuana Possession, Driving With Suspended License, Taillights / Taillight Lenses Required

McCloud, Jehad Trayvor, 36, Byron, GA: Illegal Possession Of Controlled Substance

Merrell, Marquies Lamar, 35, Warner Robins, GA: Failure To Appear

Moore, Tyraah Amir, 34, Warner Robins, GA: Driving With Suspended License, Window Tint Violation

Nieto, Esmeralda, 24, Byron, GA: Driving With Suspended License

Partain, Leonard Roseman, 64, Byron, GA: Failure To Yield Right Of Way To Vehicle, Dui / Alcohol/ Less Safe

Rouse, Trevakeo Marquez, 34, Macon, GA: Possession Of Firearm By Convicted Felon

Smith, Christopher Nicolas, 29, Byron, GA: Aggravated Assault

Stubbs, Atari Anwar, 45, Macon, GA: Driving With Suspended License, Failure To Dim Headlights, Headlight Requirements

Trammell-Clark, Kwajaline Patrice, 46, Fort Valley, GA: Passing School Bus - Loading/ Unloading, Driving With Suspended License

Walker, Kuneka Shilanda, 36, Marietta, GA: Driving With Suspended License, No Tag Or Expired Registration

Fort Valley Arrests/Citations

Brown, Jacori Cayden, 19, Lizella, GA: Possession Of Firearm Or Knife During Commission Of Or Attempt To Commit Certain Felonies, Illegal Possession Of Controlled Substance

Brown, Tyrone, 56, Montezuma, GA: Failure To Appear - Felony, Probation Violation (When Probation Terms Are Altered) - Misdemeanor

Carson, Kameron, 17, Fort Valley, GA: Entering Automobile Or Other Motor Vehicle With Intent To Commit Theft Or Felony, Possession Of Tools For Commission Of A Crime

Maxwell, Aljhalon Ethan, 19, Macon, GA: Possession Of Firearm Or Knife During Commission Of Or Attempt To Commit Certain Felonies, Possession Of A Schedule I Or II Controlled Substance With Intent To Distribute

Nattingham, Gary, 17, Fort Valley, GA: Entering Automobile Or Other Motor Vehicle With Intent To Commit Theft Or Felony, Possession Of Tools For Commission Of A Crime

Redding, Otis Chad, 47, Fort Valley, GA: Battery

Thomas, Kamarion Maurice, 17, Fort Valley, GA: Entering Automobile Or Other Motor Vehicle With Intent To Commit Theft Or Felony, Possession Of Tools For Commission Of A Crime

Tolbert, Arika Kristine, 21, Forest Park, GA: Hazing Students, Hazing Students

Williams, Jaya Trinity, 19, Hephzibah, GA: Hazing Students, Hazing Students

Williams, Jorge, 27, Columbus, GA: Failure To Appear - Felony

Peach County Sheriff's Office Arrests/Citations

Alexander, Kaden Charles, 21, Fayetteville, GA: Theft By Receiving Stolen Property-Felony

Daniels, Rodnerick Dernard, 42, Fort Valley, GA: Criminal Attempt To Commit A Felony

Dumas, Jaylan Dionte, 25, Warner Robins, GA: Obstructing Or Hindering Law Enforcement Officers, Window Tint Violation

Gabriel Vazquez, Virgilio, 38, Fort Valley, GA: Trafficking Of Persons For Labor Or Sexual Servitude, Trafficking Of Persons For Labor Or Sexual Servitude

Griggs, Lakita Treenee, 42, Fort Valley, GA: Battery - Family Violence (1st Offense) Misd

Hernandez Gomez, Napoleon, 38, Fort Valley, GA: Child Molestation, Rape, Trafficking Of Persons For Labor Or Sexual Servitude

Hightower, Taylor Grey, 35, Albany, GA: Theft By Taking - Misdemeanor

Hillman, Marvin, 42, Mcrae-Helena, GA: Here For Court

Jarvis, Jamar Rashad, 44, Warner Robins, GA: Driving While License Suspended, Giving False Name, Address, Or Birthdate To Law Enforcement Officer

McGhee, Samuel Andrew, 37, Fort Valley, GA: Driving Under Influence Drugs/Alcohol, Brake Light/Turn Signal Violation

Rich, Thomas Trisstan, 27, Fort Valley, GA: Illegal Possession Of Controlled Substance, Crossing State/County Guard Lines With Weapons, Intoxicants, Drugs Without Consent, Possession And Use Of Drug Related Objects, Crossing State/County Guard Lines With Weapons, Intoxicants, Drugs Without Consent, Marijuana-Possess Less Than 1 Oz.

Rumph, Antonio Domonique, 38, Fort Valley, GA: Battery - Family Violence (1st Offense) Misd

Rumph, Beonika Jatiea, 34, Fort Valley, GA: Disorderly Conduct, Simple Battery

Smith, Zyon Joshia, 19, Macon, GA: Possession With Intent To Distribute, Possession Of Firearm Or Knife During Commission Of Or Attempt To Commit Certain Felonies, Tail Lights / Tag Lights Lenses Required, Possession Of A Schedule I Controlled Substance, Possession Of A Schedule II Controlled Substance

Watson, Aalikan, 22, Fort Valley, GA: Probation Violation (When Probation Terms Are Altered) - Misdemeanor

GA State Patrol Arrests

Velasco Landeros, Claudia Tejada, 48, Fort Valley, GA: Expired Or No Drivers License, Failure To Yield Right Of Way To Vehicle

Crawford County

Sheriff's Office Arrests

Coker, Randall Kenneth, 36, Byron, GA: Here For Court

Peach County Community CALENDAR

email: news@theleadertribune.com

Community Voices

EUREKA'S CORNER PRESENTS

OCTOBER 10TH @ 7 PM

Meet the Candidates

Join us to learn about your local candidates and their vision for the community. Have an opportunity to ask questions.

CONTACT: ULRICA JONES
drulrica@gmail.com

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CITY OF FORT VALLEY MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETINGS

LOCATION: CITY HALL
204 W. CHURCH ST
FORT VALLEY, GA 31030

COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, October 9, 2025
Time: 9:00 A.M.
Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 840 9831 8947
Passcode: 131156

WORK SESSION MEETING
Tuesday, October 14, 2025
Time: 6:00 P.M.
Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 868 5684 0868
Passcode: 596915

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, October 16, 2025
Time: 6:30 P.M.
Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 832 3961 1418
Passcode: 930714

The Battle of Byron Festival Board of Directors Meeting

The Battle of Byron Festival Board of Directors meet every Third Thursday of the Month at the Old Byron Train Depot at 6:30 P.M.

Trojan Nation TD Club

The Trojan Nation Touchdown Club is selling reserved parking for the upcoming season at a cost of \$75.00. 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 Withoff 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 REGULAR MEETING

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, Medicaid/ 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.

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Discussing Domestic Violence, Raising Awareness & Support



ZOE HAMMOND

News Editor

Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) is a national campaign held in October to raise awareness about domestic violence, support survivors, and advocate for its prevention.

I know that domestic violence is a tough topic, but we need to talk about it. There has been a recent and concerning increase in domestic disputes across Georgia. No one ever deserves to experience abuse. It's important to remember that abuse can happen to anyone.

It's important to remember that anyone can be abusive and that women are just as capable of being abusive as men. I want to make this as clear-cut as possible; treating women who abuse men as funny isn't helping anyone. Abuse isn't funny.

The first step in realizing whether you or someone you know is in an abusive situation is recognizing abuse. Think about how you are being treated and how you treat your partner. Remember, when one person scares, hurts, or continually puts down the other person, it's abuse.

Look over the following questions;

Does your partner...

- Embarrass or make fun of you in front of your friends or family?

- Put down your accomplishments or goals?

- Make you feel like you are unable to make decisions?

- Discourage you from spending time with others, particularly friends, family members, or peers?

- Show extreme jealousy of your friends or time spent away from them?

- Insult your parenting or threaten to harm or take away your children or pets?

- Use intimidation or threats to gain compliance?

- Pressure you to have sex or

perform sexual acts you're not comfortable with?

- Pressure you to use drugs or alcohol?

- Use drugs or alcohol as an excuse for saying hurtful things or abusing you?

- Treat you roughly - grab, push, pinch, shove, or hit you?

- Call you several times a night or show up to make sure you are where you said you would be?

- Prevent you from doing things you want?

- Control finances in the household without discussion, such as taking your money or refusing to provide money for necessary expenses?

- Destroy your belongings or your home?

- Try to keep you from leaving after a fight or leave you somewhere after a fight to "teach you a lesson"?

- Blame you for how they feel or act?

- Make you feel like there "is no way out" of the relationship?

Do you...

- Sometimes feel scared of how your partner will act?

- Constantly make excuses to other people for your partner's behavior?

- Believe that you can help your partner change if only you changed something about yourself?

- Try not to do anything that would cause conflict or make your partner angry?

- Feel like no matter what you do, your partner will never be happy with you?

- Always do what your partner wants you to do instead of what you want?

- Stay with your partner because you are afraid of what your partner would do if you broke up?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, it's abuse.

The National Domestic Violence Hotline explains that abuse isn't only physical; it involves the use of physical violence, or threats of it, to maintain power over an individual. It's also emotional abuse, which includes non-physical behaviors that are meant to control, isolate, or frighten someone. There is also sexual abuse, which is when a partner controls the physical and sexual intimacy in a relationship. It's also financial abuse, which is when an abusive

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONTINUED PG 6A

Are You at Risk for Breast Cancer?



WADE YODER
LT COLUMNIST

Of course you are, if you have breast tissue (that is made up of glands, lobes, lobules, lymph vessels, lymph nodes etc.) then you are predisposed to cells potentially getting misshaped and then multiplying if not stopped. It's really nothing to get overly concerned about, since our body is constantly fixing things that are getting out of whack without us even knowing it. Each area of our body comes with its own system of cleansing, detoxification and repair mechanisms, so we should be looking for ways to strengthen that instead of constantly checking these areas to see if something is wrong with them.

Pre-cancer cells are a lot like someone being predisposed to potentially having a wreck because of being on the highway, but we're not going to spend a lot of time worrying about it or not driving our vehicle because of it are we? A wreck can be because of us not driving our vehicle carefully or it can be because of things out of our own control such as another driver and

weather. Either way, highway statistics should primarily encourage us to drive our vehicles safely, and to make sure we use standard preventive measures (that help our vehicle operate better) such as proper maintenance of breaks and tires. We should not be constantly subjecting our vehicles to checkups by mechanics; especially ones that we do not personally know, or we just may have a mechanic created vehicle problem.

We should not let ourselves be victimized by fear mongering when a doctor or oncologist tells us that we have pre-cancer cells, this is much like saying that due to the conditions of the highway you're traveling on your vehicle is pre-wreck. When you know the conditions on a highway are hazardous, you will try to take a different route and drive proactively and defensively to decrease your chances of having a wreck, right? Shouldn't our first priority be to change out any negative lifestyle habits for positive ones for our body as well? When we do this, our body can oft times create the right drugs and physiological processes (by itself) to shrink and annihilate cancer.

The month of October is breast cancer awareness month and is one of the biggest months of free advertising for the cancer industry, because of the fear and stress it creates. It probably causes more people to get unnecessary breast exams, mammograms and biopsies than any other time of the year. The ironic thing is mammography

testing uses radiation and radiation damages DNA and damaged DNA is where most cancer begins.

"If you already have a cancer, in addition to being painful, the crushing compression the breast undergoes during a mammogram can cause the cancer to spread. Doctors are taught that once a lump is found, you don't press it, not even during an examination because you will cause the cancer cells to spread. With mammograms, you won't know if there is a breast cancer until after you've read the scan, you've already compressed the breast, and perhaps broken the cancerous capsule, which will cause the cancer to spread." ~ Dr. Russell Blaylock, Neurosurgeon and founder of the Blaylock Reports

If we would spend more time trying to figure out how to make our body parts feel good and healthy instead of trying to find out what might be wrong with them with diagnostics, prodding, biopsies and then the ensuing cancer treatments (that have been proven to cause other forms of cancer themselves later down the road), we would probably have much less new cancer cases, and an improvement in other aspects of health as well.

The cancer industry knows what causes cancer and probably knows a lot about the dietary and lifestyle habits that will shrink and kill cancer, but the problem lies in that they cannot put a patent on nature or healthy lifestyle habits. One

thing you can rest assured of is that for the ones at the top of most of these fundraisers and activities, it's not about finding a cure for cancer but much rather a way to find a breakthrough medication to manage it over the newly attained customer's lifetime. And yes, they do raise awareness, but isn't that how a business gains new customers? And yes, large portions of these fundraisers go to fund pharmaceutical research for creating new drugs. When pharmaceutical companies already make billions of dollars, why don't they fund their own research in creating for profit drugs?

Let's put at least 75% of our cancer awareness energy into finding a minimum of 10 dietary and lifestyle habits that will make our joints, tendons, ligaments, skin, muscles, digestive track, lymphatic system, brain, and other vital organs and systems feel better. And in the case of breast cancer, we should look for ways that we can make them feel better in such things as the environment they're continually exposed to as well as a good blood supply and lymphatic flow through the breast area.

Looking for a cure while ignoring the causes is like continually looking for ways to dry a floor while ignoring the leak and refusing to turn off the spigot.

After all it is the things that hurt our body parts in a continuous aggravating way that cause cancer.

The Economy Is Strong So Where Is The Worry?

Charlie Harper

In a world that too often seems to have gone mad, where can one look for advice? How about none other than the face of Mad magazine, Alfred E. Newman: "What, me worry?"

The kids today probably won't get that reference. Too many of us also don't get economic statistics and what they mean in our daily lives either. This despite the fact that knowingly or unknowingly, they affect not only the decisions we make today, but the economic conditions we live with tomorrow.

Instead of spilling out a few hundred words of economic garble, let's boil it down to one word here. We'll deal with "worry."

The stock market has bounced off the April lows quite strongly, when tariff threats tanked the market and subsequent easing of threats and new trade deals provided a bit more security and clarity for investors. For stocks, the decision whether they go up or down is often boiled down to fear versus greed. Fear is just Wall Street's word for worry.

The long term trend in stocks has been almost universally upward since the great financial crisis, save for a break during Covid and a smaller downtrend when the Federal Reserve began hiking interest rates to deal

with the inflation that excess Covid era stimulus pushed into the system. That inflation didn't just push up the prices of our gas and our groceries. Most asset classes - stocks, commodities, houses, etc. - also have higher values today too.

This has led to a bit of a divide between Wall Street and Main Street. The real divide, as it usually is when we speak of economic class warfare, isn't between the streets one identifies with. It's between who owns things and who doesn't.

Main Street middle class folks who owned their homes and have a 401K have prospered along with Wall Street for the past couple of decades. It's the renters who might be fully employed yet have credit card balances and live paycheck to paycheck who have begun to feel left behind.

Stimulus checks are welcomed, and sometimes even demanded, by the folks in that latter category. Who, after all, doesn't like free money?

The problem here is that their money is spent for temporary necessities. It eventually ends up in the hands of those in the first class as rent, interest, or an investment return to those who own things. This is, in fact, how the rich (and the middle class) get richer.

Meanwhile, when too much money is created at once, price levels adjust to the reduced value of newly printed dollars. Thus, those things which are owned cost more because each dollar is worth less. Those who don't own things see the gap between themselves and the rich folks get bigger, and bigger. Their worries about falling even further behind grow.

For them, some of their worries are easing. A recent Morgan Stanley survey shows the number of consumers listing inflation as their top economic worry is now at the lowest level since 2022 - when the most recent inflation spike started. It's still the top concern cited by more than half of respondents, but the fact that it is declining rapidly is actually a good sign.

The decline in the perception of future inflation is actually part of solving inflation. People act today based on what they think the future will be. When they fear prices going up, they buy more today to beat the price increase, pulling forward demand and keeping prices high. When they don't fear increases or expect decreases, they wait. This reduces demand and ultimately, price increases.

So we're almost done with worry, right? Oh no. This is economics. We call it "the dismal

science" for a reason.

Often the trade-off for lower inflation is higher unemployment. While parts of the economy are so hot they might be a bubble - big tech, data centers, anything that can generate electricity - other parts of the economy look to be softening. Even within technology companies, the tech itself is making companies more efficient that they need fewer employees to do the same job.

The Federal Reserve has what is called a "dual mandate". They're to fight inflation and keep prices stable. They are expected at the same time to keep conditions favorable to stable employment. These mandates, as noted above, are in direct conflict with each other.

The Federal Reserve has made great progress on inflation by keeping interest rates high. It's now their time to worry. They can either finish the job on inflation, or they can shore up the cost of investment and job creation by lowering interest rates.

They worry they may get it wrong, either way. Those who haven't enjoyed the run up in housing and stock prices worry they'll either have to pay even more for groceries, or they won't have a paycheck to use to purchase them. Dismal science, indeed.

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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.

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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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Georgia's Growing Doctor Shortage Demands New Solutions

By Chris Denson, GA Public Policy Foundation

Georgia's doctor shortage is large, and growing larger. Facing that fact is crucial if policymakers are to address the problem. So is rejecting the pervasive inclination to continue building our physician workforce "the way we've always done it."

Here's how bad the situation is. With about 28,000 practicing physicians serving more than 11 million people, Georgia's physician-to-patient ratio is 23% worse than the national average. And yet, just to maintain even that poor ratio, our state must add more than 8,000 physicians—including 2,100 in primary care alone—within the next five years. Worse still, as the overall population grows and ages, and as more physi-

cians reach retirement age, that need could grow.

The Georgia Public Policy Foundation has been sounding this alarm for years. Most recently, we testified before a House study committee on how other states utilize various healthcare professionals to supplement access to physicians in underserved areas.

It's not as if lawmakers have ignored the problem. In recent years, the state has taken steps to expand opportunities for physician training. In addition to the University of Georgia Medical School, scheduled to welcome its first class in fall 2026, the state legislature added \$20 million to last year's budget for new graduate medical education (GME) programs at hospitals south of State Route

540, the "Fall Line Freeway" that runs from Columbus to Augusta. This year's budget includes \$3 million for 150 new residency slots in primary care medicine.

The state also submitted a proposal in June for \$2.5 billion in total funds from the federal government for new GME slots. According to the Department of Community Health, this new Directed Payment Program will "require providers to invest significant funding from this revenue in programs such as creating new graduate medical education slots, achieving higher retention rates of Georgia-trained physicians and expanding OBGYN services throughout the state."

However, even with these efforts, we must acknowledge that

it still takes on average seven years of education and training before a primary care physician is fully licensed and can begin treating patients independently. If that is Georgia's only avenue for providing more primary healthcare, it will not be able to keep up with retirements and other changes in the workforce.

Across the country, we see that states are utilizing five other types of healthcare providers to help address their own physician shortages: internationally licensed physicians (ILPs), graduate assistant physicians, pharmacists, nurse practitioners and physician assistants.

ILPs are foreign-trained physicians who are currently

DOCTOR SHORTAGE CONTINUED PG 5A

Will There Be Marriage in Heaven?



BILLY POWELL
Parables to Ponder
COLUMNIST

The Sadducees, who did not believe in the resurrection, came to Jesus to entrap him with a question. “Teacher,” they said, “Moses told us that if a man dies without having children, his brother must marry the widow and have children for him. Now there were seven brothers among us. The first one married and died, and since he had no children, he left his wife to his brother. The same thing happened to the second and third brother, right on down to the seventh. Finally, the woman died. Now then, at the resurrection, whose wife will she be of the seven, since all of them were married to her?” Jesus replied, “You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God. At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven.”

God invented marriage. He gave Eve to Adam as a helper and soulmate, saying, “It is not good that man should be alone...be fruitful and multiply.” One of God’s primary purposes in the institution of marriage was to perpetuate the human race. In heaven, there will be no reason to procreate. Since heaven is an abode of eternal bliss, it is reasonable to assume that a grieving spouse will be reunited with his/her departed loved one in heaven. Nothing, including death, can separate true love, for it endures forever, beyond the grave. Jesus reinforced the institution of marriage when He declared: “God made them male and female... and the two shall become one flesh... What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder.” Therefore, God can be trusted to ensure that the relationship we enjoyed in marriage on earth will continue in heaven. Should the surviving widow or widower remarry, again, we must defer to God to provide the perfect conjugal arrangement in heaven.

What if a person arrives in heaven and learns that his or her spouse is not there? Some say the memory of that spouse will be erased from the mind of the heaven dweller. This explanation is illogical. If a lifetime of remembrances were deleted from one’s memory, that per-

son would no longer be the same person who existed on earth. Others reason that God’s presence in heaven will be so overwhelming that one’s thoughts of missing a loved one will regress to insignificance as he or she becomes caught up in worshipping the Creator and partaking in the glories of the celestial paradise. The doctrine of Purgatory provides a plausible solution. If a departed spouse is sent to Purgatory for a temporary period of cleansing prior to admission to heaven, then the loved one already in heaven would understand and eagerly await the arrival of the spouse who is paying his or her dues in Purgatory. In the hereafter, Almighty God, the creator and sustainer of life, will work this out.

In concluding his response to the Sadducees, Jesus uttered a heart-warming statement of hope regarding the life beyond. It involved Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, all of whom had died centuries earlier. Jesus stated, “God is not God of the dead, but of the living”—meaning that these deceased patriarchs were very much alive with God in his eternal paradise. Regarding heaven’s glory, God’s word states that “eye has not seen, nor ear heard...the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”

Controlling Nematodes in the Home Garden



JEFF COOK
EXTENSION AGENT

and reproduce in plant roots. In doing so they cause serious damage and reduce the plants ability to get nutrients and water to the aboveground portion.

Once you determine that you have a problem you need to decide on a course of action. Your first option is to move away. Not move away from the area, but move away from that site. Nematodes do not move quickly or great distances so moving your garden to a clean site is a possibility. Most nematode movement in soil is done by us. When we move soil around we move nematodes with it.

If you have limited space to garden, crop rotation is important. Planting non-host plants or vegetables can also help reduce the buildup of nematodes in the garden. Another option is to grow resistant vegetables. There are several vegetable varieties that are resistant and can be used in soils with high nematode populations. This will usually be indicated on the label or packaging. For example you may find a tomato with a label reading VFN. This means it is resistant to verticillium wilt, fusarium wilt and nematodes.

There are several cool season crops like ryegrass, broccoli, and cauliflower that will help reduce nematode populations. You may also want to try canola or mustard as a green manure

to help reduce nematodes. To do this you would simply plant these crops now and turn them under in the spring.

A summer tactic would be to leave the area out of vegetables and continually till the spot during the hot dry summer. Doing some sort of tillage on a 10 – 14 day interval can bring nematodes to the surface which will cause them to dry out and die. When using this method, it is important to keep weeds out because they can serve as a host to the nematodes you are trying to kill. There are other plants like sesame and jointvetch that have been shown to reduce nematode populations.

Get out there and start inspecting the roots of this summer’s crops before they are completely dead. In doing so you can check for nematodes and remove roots in the ground to support overwintering nematodes. Whatever you do, don’t move those roots to another part of your garden. That could easily spread the nematodes to new areas.

Nematode control in gardens won’t happen quickly so you will need to continue with whatever tactic you choose for the life of the garden. Contact us if you have questions or comments. 478-862-5496, 478-825-6466 or mackiv@uga.edu



CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

email: news@theleadertribune.com

ANNUAL REVIVAL SERVICES

The Davis Chape AME Church family cordially invites you & your church family to our annual Revival Services, beginning Wed., Oct. 1, through Fri., Oct 3, 2025. The services will begin at 7pm each night. Rev. David D. Towns of Reynolds, GA and the Pastor of Welcome Home Baptist Church of Butler, GA and Rocky Mount Baptist Church of Reynolds, GA will be the guest speaker. You are welcome any night you wish to attend, however we ask you & your church family be our special guest on any night your heart desires.

HOMECOMING SERVICE

We will observe our annual Homecoming on Sun., Oct 5, 2025 at 11am along with our regular worship services. Rev. Norris Harris will bring the message and dinner will be served.

BAHA’I COMMUNITY OF PEACH COUNTY

The Baha’i Community of Peach County warmly invites you to an interfaith devotional and discussion via Zoom on the second Wednesday of each month, 7:00 - 8:00pm. The purpose of the gathering is to build friendship and unity. No contributions are solicited or accepted. If you’re interested, email us at peachcobahais@gmail.com, and we’ll send you an invitation!

COME PRAISE THE LORD OVER ZOOM

Sundays 10am - 12noon. Wednesday nights 7pm-8:30pm. Meeting# 2059432744 Code 75b6h8 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.

BAHA’I FAITH

“So powerful is the light of unity that it can illuminate the whole earth.”

Baha’u’llah

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

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 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.

DOCTOR SHORTAGE

CONTINUED FROM 4A

licensed to practice in another country and are in good standing. Today, these physicians must complete a multiyear residency before they are allowed to practice in Georgia, in which they compete against domestic medical school graduates for a finite number of spots.

Eighteen states currently provide foreign physicians a non-traditional pathway to practice, including Tennessee, Florida and North Carolina. Yet, legislation allowing them to practice under a supervised provisional license in place of the traditional residency program failed to make it out of the Georgia Senate in 2024 and 2025.

Graduate assistant physicians are medical school graduates

who fail to match as residents, but can practice in what is essentially a preceptorship under physician supervision for a set period, typically one or two years, while they wait to reapply for residency programs. Twelve states currently have a version of this program, including Alabama, Florida and Tennessee, and all of them require these graduate assistant physicians to practice in a rural or underserved area.

Nurse practitioners (NPs) are allowed to treat patients without physician supervision in 28 states and the District of Columbia, while physician assistants (PAs) are allowed to practice independently in eight states. Of note, bills that expand the “scope

of practice” of these healthcare providers remain some of the more politically contentious.

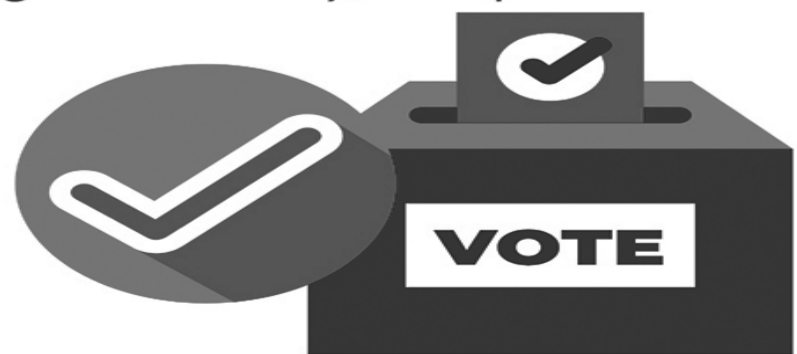
Utilizing pharmacists to the full scope of their training through a “standard of care” model is a quickly evolving concept at the state level that recognizes their presence in many rural communities. Currently, five states allow pharmacists full authority in the areas of drug administration, laboratory testing and independent prescribing.

While Georgia works to directly address its physician shortages, other states are providing a guideline for ways to increase access to primary care throughout underserved communities.

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Georgia's version of Medicaid had high overhead, federal report finds

By Ty Tagami
Bureau Chief
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — A federal review of Georgia's unique implementation of Medicaid found that two-thirds of the money went to administrative overhead rather than to medical assistance.

The report from the U.S. Government Accountability Office also found that more than half of the \$80 million spent on the program since 2021 went to contractors who helped the state overhaul its eligibility and enrollment systems.

Georgia's Pathways to Coverage demonstration project needed the overhaul because of the state's work requirement. All applicants must prove they spent 80 hours working, attending college or doing community service during the month before applying.

They must continue those activities to stay insured.

A law passed by Congress this year makes other states impose similar work requirements.

The new GAO review was requested by four Democrats in the U.S. Senate, including Georgia Sens. Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossoff. They oppose the work requirements.

Warnock's office released the report Thursday.

In a briefing with reporters, a Warnock staffer criticized the lower-than-advertised program enrollment. There were about 7,500 Georgians insured by Pathways in May, the review said, far below the 25,000 Georgia had projected for the first year.

"This program is here to kick people off their health insurance," said the Warnock staffer, who asked not to be identified.

The Pathways program technically started in 2021, but it did not get off the ground until 2023.

That pause likely drove up administrative costs, said the

review.

Georgia's Republican governor, Brian Kemp, blames the administration of former President Joe Biden, a Democrat, for that pause. Kemp's office said the Biden administration "put up roadblocks at every turn" to stop Pathways.

"Democrats like Senators Ossoff and Warnock are trying to rewrite history after four years of inaction and blame the State for costs associated with their own stonewalling," Kemp's office said in an emailed statement.

Georgia is applying to extend the program another five years. The state estimates it can enroll at least 18,000 in the first year of extension, increasing that to more than 30,000 by year five.

The federal government has budgeted \$400 million for administrative costs to implement the same kind of work requirements in states across the country.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

CONTINUED FROM 4A

partner extends their power and control into your financial situation.

According to the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, many people who have experienced domestic and gender-based violence either don't know who to turn to or have had bad experiences when they've reached out for help. Your willingness to help can be important to a victim's safety planning efforts.

Here are some tips to help you help someone else.

- Initiate a conversation in private, and when you have enough time to talk at length, but if they want to.

- Let go of any expectations you have that there is a "quick fix". Not doing anything may very well be the safest thing they can do at any given time.

- Challenge false attitudes and beliefs that you may have about domestic and gender-based violence.

- Believe victims and let them know that you do. If you know the person who has or is abusing them, it may be hard to believe that they are capable of abuse, but remember that abusers typically act differently in public than they do in private.

- Listen to what they tell you. Avoid judgments and giving advice. They will let you know what they need.

- Refer them to a service provider who can provide necessary medical attention, counseling or emotional support, safety planning, housing, and discuss

their options.

- Build on their strengths. Point out the ways they developed to cope, solve problems, and how they've shown courage and determination.

- Validate feelings. It is common for victims to have conflicting feelings - love and fear, guilt and anger, hope and sadness. Let them know that these feelings are normal.

- Avoid victim-blaming. Tell the victim that the abuse is not their fault.

- Take it seriously. If you are concerned about their safety, tell them you are concerned without judgment by simply saying, "Your situation sounds dangerous, and I'm concerned about your safety."

- Offer help. Offer specific forms of help and information, such as providing childcare, driving them to appointments, or assisting with pets.

- Give them control. Abuse and assault take control away from victims. Support their decisions about who to tell, what steps to take, and what types of support

they need. Additionally, asking before offering physical support, such as hugs, and being upfront about what support you can and cannot provide allows them to take control of their safety and next steps.

- Support and respect their decisions. Remember that there are risks with every decision a victim makes, and there is no one way an individual must react to abuse or assault. If you really want to be helpful, be patient and respect their decisions, even if you don't agree with them.

No one deserves to experience abuse of any kind - for any reason.

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic abuse, there are people who can help. Without help, the abuse will continue. The National Domestic Violence Hotline offers a chat option on its website, as well as a phone number you can call at 1-800-799-7233 and a texting service, which can be reached by texting "START" to 88788.

Can It Possibly Be That Time Of Year Again?

Contributed

As hot as the temperature has been, the calendar says it is almost October! And you know what that means—the holidays are not far behind. Nothing will make your home or business more beautiful than one or more poinsettias to brighten your home or porch. The Byron Lions Club is again making it easy for you to celebrate the season and provides us with another way to raise money to help us serve others.

We are selling two sizes and five colors again this year. The 6"pot contains 4-6 bracts and

costs \$15 each. The 8 pot contains 10-14 bracts and is \$20 each. Both sizes come in red, white, pink, marble (white with veining) or jingle bells (red with veining) please note! No price increase!

The order must be sent to the nursery no later than November 1! We hope to arrange delivery the first week of December, so you can enjoy them longer. Also, if your church would like to order them for advent Sunday, they should be here by then.

Because of issues two years ago, we have returned to our regular supplier, whose quality

has always been excellent.

This year we are affording you two delivery options. We can arrange to deliver them to you as we have always done in the past, or we have pickup available. All orders are preordered and prepaid. (there may be some exceptions) you can pick up your poinsettias at the Byron Depot On Heritage Street on the day they are delivered) your choice of delivery or pickup is required in advance so we can properly distribute the plants.

Contact any Byron Lions Club Member or Lion Marlene Humphry, 478 918-3666. Thank you for your support.

Awareness + Education = Understanding + Help

Contributed by Byron Lions Club

The statistics on mental health are overwhelming. The lack of understanding is great. Knowledge is strength. Lions around the world are joining together in the month of October to present programs or other service projects on Mental Health and Well-Being.

Lions International President, A. P. Singh from India has challenged the Lions to Lead to Serve and to Serve to Lead. He has rallied us to make our communities aware of this Global Challenge, and to find ways to serve our local communities.

On Thursday October 16 the Byron Lions Club invites you to join us for an evening of education, information, fellowship and food.

The event will be held at Uncorked Event Center, 144 Cane River Drive, Byron. (Next to Georgia Bob's) starting at 6:30 PM. The evening will feature speakers in many mental health areas—depression, anxiety, addiction, suicide and more. We have three speakers who will provide information, share handouts and answer your questions. Light refreshments will be served. We will also share information about the Lions Club, and how you can help us put our motto—WE SERVE into action

Due to limited seating (and fire marshal laws) we ask that you reserve a place in advance. Call Lion Marlene Humphry at 478 918-3666 to save your seat and ask any questions you might have.

Public Notice

Opportunity for Public Hearing for Section 5307 Capital Projects and Operating Assistance for the Peach County Transit Department under the Federal Transit Administration.

Notice is hereby given affording an opportunity for a public hearing for the purpose of coordination of Section 5307 for public transportation services assisted with Federal sources and financial assistance is being sought from the Federal Transit Administration. The proposed project application is for Section 5307 capital assistance and operating assistance for FY 2027.

Under Section 5307 a capital request for federal dollars in the amount of \$ 0.00, for express purchase of:

List proposed capital requests (i.e.: transit coaches w/wheelchair lifts, training & education, in-ground bus lift, office furniture, fare box & related items, security & surveillance, maintenance tools/equipment, preventative maintenance and other associated capital items).

The capital funding requested will be federal assistance in the amount of \$ 0.00 (80% Federal); State assistance in the amount of \$ 0.00 (10% match); and local assistance \$ 0.00 (10% match).

Operating assistance from the Federal Transit Administration will be in the amount of \$ 157,500.00 (50%) toward the cost of transit operations with \$ 157,500.00 (50% local match).

This proposed project is consistent with the areas Long Range Plan and conforms to joint Metropolitan Planning Regulations issued by FTA and FHWA. No persons, families or businesses will be displaced by this project. This project is in conformance with the comprehensive land use and transportation planning in this area.

The Peach County BOC is affording an opportunity for interested persons, agencies, private transportation providers, human service organizations or transit operators representing the employment-related transportation needs of welfare recipients and low-income individuals to respond with respect to social, economic, and environmental aspects of the project. A copy of the grant application is available for public inspection in the office of the Peach County BOC (i.e., Transit Department) at 213 Pearson Street Fort Valley, Georgia 31030 (address)

Any person interested in a public hearing being held should submit a written request by 11/8/25 (allow 30 days for request) to the Peach County BOC at 213 Pearson Street Fort Valley, Georgia 31030 (agency address), to the attention of Matt Ingram (contact name).

Public Notice

Peach County is applying for funding assistance under Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5311 of the Federal Transit Act pertaining to rural areas.

Peach County will offer general public transportation to all citizens of Peach County for any worthwhile purpose, including but not limited to shopping, medical treatment, social services, and other purposes.

Peach County solicits private sector input and participation to assure that private for-profit transportation operators have a fair and timely opportunity to participate in the development of this program.

Peach County also solicits comments and concerns from the general population on local rural public transportation services.

Peach County also solicits comments and concerns from the elderly, low-income, and disabled population and their representatives to assure that issues relating to the disabled are addressed in the service design proposed during the planning process.

Interested persons are invited to request that a public hearing be held to discuss the services being offered or development of the application.

Written comments, requests for a public hearing and/or written notice of intent by private for-profit transportation operators to provide or participate in any or all of the above services should be submitted no later than fifteen (15) days from the date of this publication to:

Commission Chairman/Mayor/Chief Executive of Applicant Organization: Martin H. Moseley Jr., BOC Chairman

Address/City/State/Zip Code of Applicant: 213 Persons Street Fort Valley, GA 31030

Phone Number of Applicant: 478-825-2535

If no response is received within the fifteen (15) days, Peach County will proceed with the application to the Georgia Department of Transportation.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation. Includes publication details for Fort Valley Leader Tribune, ownership information, and circulation statistics for October 2025.

Legals

Legal Advertisements

E-Mail: legals@theleadertribune.com

E-Mail Attachments: Word Text Format

Legal Fax: 478-825-4130

AD DEADLINES: Friday's at 12:00 Noon

Information concerning legals call: 478-825-2432

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.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF PEACH COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA ESTATE NO. 2025-PRO-7148 IN RE: ESTATE OF DERRICK RANSOM, DECEASED NOTICE

IN RE: The Petition to Probate Will (and Codicil(s)) in Solemn Form 111 the above-referenced estate having been duly filed.

TO: TYLER RANSOM

This is to notify you to file objection, if there is any, to the petition to probate will in solemn form, in this Court on or before OCTOBER 8, 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
9/17, 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 2025
3548

VEHICLES - NOTICE OF SALE

Underwood's Towing, Inc will sell the following court ordered vehicles to the highest bidder on Saturday, October 18, 2025 at 10:00 AM at the office of Underwood's Towing, Inc, 210 New Dunbar Road, Byron, GA 31008. There is a \$25.00 paperwork fee for each vehicle sold.

- 1992 BUICK ROADMASTER 1G4B-N537XNR427149
- 2014 INTERNATIONAL BUS 5WEX-WSKK1EH774173
- 2011 HYUNDAI SONATA 5NPE-C4ABXBH239923
- 2013 ACURA RDX 5J8TB4H-32DL003128
- 1997 HONDA ACCORD 1HGCD-5601VA205075
- 2004 TOYOTA CAMRY 4T1BE32K74U379146
- 2015 FORD FIESTA 3FADP4B-J2FM126009
- 2013 FORD FUSION 3FA6P0HR3DR346015
- 2004 TOYOTA SIENNA 5TDZA22C74S158927
- 2014 SUBARU FORESTER JF2S-JAEC5EH522356
- 2007 CHRYSLER SEBRING 1C3L-C56R97N527169
- 2005 TOYOTA CAMRY 4T1BE32K95U079173
- 2000 CADILLAC CTS 1G6D-D67V280177366
- 2014 MERCEDES CLA WDD5-J4EB6N039540
- 2011 CHEVROLET CRUZE 1G1PH5596B7243010
- 10/08, 10/15, 2025
3563

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF PEACH COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA IN RE: ESTATE OF CATHERINE L. TARVER, DECEASED ESTATE NO. 2025-ADM-7159 PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: ANY AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES and to whom it may concern:

WILLIAM TARVER III has petitioned for WILLIAM TARVER III to be appointed administrator of the estate of CATHERINE L. TARVER, 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 OCTOBER 22, 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 our 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
10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 2025
50268

GEORGIA, PEACH COUNTY NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

All creditors of the Estate of **Pamela Hamer Schulke**, deceased, of Peach County, Georgia, are hereby notified

to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate required to make immediate payment.

This 16th day of September 2025. Duane Alan Schulke, Administrator c/o Rebecca C. Moody, Esq. MOODY AND ASSOCIATES LAW FIRM, LLC P.O. Box 422 Perry, GA 31069 478-988-0238 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 2025 3555

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER GEORGIA, PEACH COUNTY

Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Deitric A Crockett to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Synovus Mortgage Corp., its successors and assigns dated July 18, 2016, recorded in Deed Book 549, Page 48, Peach County, Georgia Records, and as modified by that certain Loan Modification Agreement recorded in Deed Book 724, Page 770, Peach County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment recorded in Deed Book 597, Page 625, Peach County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of TWO HUNDRED TWENTY THOUSAND AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$220,000.00), 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, or at such place as may be lawfully designated as an alternative, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in November, 2025, the following described property:

SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF

The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 13-1-11 having been given).

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and any matters of record including, but not limited to, those superior to the Security Deed first set out above. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned.

Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC is the holder of the Security Deed to the property in accordance with OCGA § 44-14-162.2.

The entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: M&T Bank, One Fountain Plaza, Buffalo, NY 14203, 800-724-1633.

Note, however, that such entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan.

To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Deitric A Crockett or a tenant or tenants and said property is more commonly known as **251 Peregrine Dr, Byron, GA 31008**. Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description the legal description will control.

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.

Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Deitric A Crockett
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
1544 Old Alabama Rd
Roswell, GA 30076
www.foreclosurehotline.net
EXHIBIT "A"

All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lot 148 of the Sixth Land District of Peach County, Georgia, being known and designated as Lot 13, Section 1 of Falcon Crest Subdivision as more particularly shown on a plat of survey dated May 10, 2006, filed of record in Plat Book 25, Page 165, Clerk's Office, Peach Superior Court. MR / JD November 4, 2025 Our file no. 23-13377GA-FT5 23-13377GA 09/24, 10/01, 10/08, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29/2025 3547 (23-13377GA)

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER STATE OF GEORGIA PEACH COUNTY

WHEREAS, Augustus Gilmore,

IV, as borrower(s), executed a SECURITY DEED to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as Nominee for Primary Residential Mortgage, Inc., Lender which was dated 3/25/2010, and recorded on 4/8/2010, in Instrument No.: , Deed Book 439, Page 160, securing the payment of a Note in the amount of \$177,959.00 in Peach County, Georgia Register of Deeds. NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable as provided in said Security Deed by the Holder, and by virtue of the power of sale and authority vested in it, will on 12/2/2025 sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash During the legal hours of sale before the door of the courthouse of Peach County, Georgia of Peach, the following described property situated in Peach County, Georgia, to wit:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND TYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 45 OF THE 5TH DISTRICT, PEACH COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING LOT 67 OF CUMBERLAND SHORES SUBDIVISION, SECTION NO. 3, PHASE NO. 1, AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 26, PAGE 150, PEACH COUNTY, GEORGIA RECORDS, WHICH RECORDED PLAT IS INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE AND MADE A PART OF THIS DESCRIPTION.

Tax Parcel ID: 053B181

Being real property commonly known as **222 CUMBERLAND DRIVE, BYRON, GA 31008**

The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the debt and all expenses of this sale including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).

Said sale will be made subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: All restrictive covenants, easements and rights-of-way appearing of record, if any; all zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all outstanding or unpaid bills and assessments for street improvements, curbing, garbage, water, sewage and public utilities which may be liens upon said property; and any outstanding taxes, assessments and other liens superior to the security deed being foreclosed hereby. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the above-described property is in the possession of the borrower and/or other persons with the consent and acquiescence of the borrower.

Except to the extent that the Holder may bind and obligate Mortgagees to warrant title to the Property under the terms of the Security Deed, conveyance of the Property shall be made without any representations or warranties whatsoever, express or implied. All sales are "as is", "where is". The entire purchase price is due and payable at the conclusion of the auction in the form of certified funds. Insufficient funds will not be accepted. Amounts received in excess of the winning bid will be refunded to the successful purchaser. This property is being sold with express reservation that the sale is subject to confirmation by lender or Substitute Trustee.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the name, address and telephone number of the person or entity who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend, or modify all terms of the above-described mortgage is as follows:

Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, 1600 South Douglass Road, Suite 200-A Anaheim, CA 92806, Telephone No.: 800-561-4567

The foregoing notwithstanding, nothing in O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the Security Deed described herein.

Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Augustus Gilmore, IV
Attorney Contact:
Miller, George & Suggs, PLLC
3000 Langford Road, Building 100
Peacree Corners, GA 30071
Phone: 404-793-1447
Fax: 404-738-1558
TS # 25-34106

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 11/26, 2025
3566 (25-34106)

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

All creditors of the Estate of **Paul R. Bowers, deceased late of Peach County**, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment. Harold Grady Walsh, Executor c/o Becky Wilcox Attorney At Law P.O. Box 303 Byron, GA 31008

of times the notice is inserted. All rates are set by the Georgia General Assembly.

For billing purposes, every word shall be counted as one word including words such as; the, of, a, etc. Grouped numbers shall be counted as one word.

The deadline for foreclosure notices and tax sales for disposal is Thursday the week before the first publication.

Incorporation Notice - These are notices concerning a business which is to be incorporated with the office located in Peach County. Related incorporation notices can include an intent to dissolve a corporation, a name change of the corporation and mergers of a corporation. These notices typically run two weeks at a cost of \$40.00.

Driving Under the Influence - State law requires publication of a picture and a brief notice of anyone convicted in Peach County of a third Driving Under the Influence charge. The fines and related matters of settlement are included. The fee for these

10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 2025 3560

ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE

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

1999 FORD MOTOR HOME 3FCNF53S3XJA17687

The vehicle is currently located at 210 New Dunbar Rd., Byron, GA 31008. Anyone with an ownership interest in this vehicle should contact the following business immediately: UNDERWOOD'S TOWING, INC. 210 NEW DUNBAR RD., BYRON, GA 31008 TELEPHONE# 478-935-3778 10/1, 10/8, 2025 3561

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF PEACH COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA IN RE: Estate of KRISTINA OMAN DOLES, Deceased ESTATE NO. 2025-ADM-7115 NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

RE: ESTATE OF KRISTINA OMAN DOLES

All creditors of the Estate of Kristina Oman Doles, deceased, late of Peach County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment to me.

This 2nd day of October, 2025. Tara Tourville, Esq. Attorney for Estate of Kristina Oman Doles
446 S. Houston Lake Road
Warner Robins, GA 31088
(478)333-6502
10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 2025
50269

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF PEACH NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

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

By virtue of the power of sale contained in that certain Security Deed from **VE Lakeview LP**, to Walker & Dunlop, LLC dated September 24, 2021 filed for record October 5, 2021, and recorded in Deed Book 660, at Page 415 Peach County, Georgia Records, and last assigned to Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, by Assignment of Security Deed recorded on October 5, 2021, in Deed Book 660 at Page 440, Peach County, Georgia Records, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note dated September 24, 2021 in the original principal sum of Two Million Five Hundred Sixty-Four Thousand and 00/100 (\$2,564,000.00), with interest from date at the rate stated in said Note on the unpaid balance until paid, there will be sold before the Courthouse door at Peach County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on November 04, 2025, the property described on Exhibit "A" attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference. The debt has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, non-payment of the monthly installments on said loan. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, including attorney's fees.

The individual or entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation. Please understand that the secured creditor is not required to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage instrument. Said property will be sold "as-is" without any representation, warranty, or recourse against the above-named creditor or the undersigned, and subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes and/or assessments, and all easements and restrictions of record, if any, having priority over this Security Deed.

To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owner and party in possession of the property is **VE Lakeview LP**, and/or tenant(s).

Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, as Attorney-in-Fact for **VE Lakeview LP**, by its Attorney-in-Fact Attorney Contact: Quintairo, Prieto, Wood & Boyer, P.A. 365 Northridge Rd, Suite 230 Atlanta, GA 30350 Email: GA.foreclosure@pqwblaw.com

EXHIBIT A
ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 203 OF THE 9TH DISTRICT OF PEACH COUNTY, GEORGIA AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS. BEGINNING AT A CONCRETE MONUMENT LOCATED ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE RIGHT OF

WAY OF FAGAN CIRCLE (40 FOOT RIGHT OF WAY) SOUTH 01° 21' EAST, 1,161.43 FEET ALONG THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF FAGAN CIRCLE FROM THE POINT OF INTERSECTION OF THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF SPRUCE STREET THENCE NORTH 88° 36' EAST ALONG THE SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF PROPERTY NOW OR FORMERLY OWNED BY MARCUS L. HICKSON, JR. AND MARCUS L. HICKSON, III, 900.00 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT: THENCE SOUTH 1° 21' EAST ALONG THE WESTERN BOUNDARY OF PROPERTY NOW OR FORMERLY OWNED BY MARCUS L. HICKSON, JR. AND MARCUS L. HICKSON, III, A DISTANCE OF 970.00 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT: THENCE SOUTH 88° 36' WEST ALONG THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF PROPERTY NOW OR FORMERLY OWNED BY MARCUS L. HICKSON, JR. AND MARCUS L. HICKSON, III, AND HOUSING AUTHORITY OF FORT VALLEY, 410.00 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT. THENCE NORTH 01° 21' WEST ALONG THE EASTERN BOUNDARY OF PROPERTY NOW OR FORMERLY OWNED BY COLLEGE SQUARE ASSOCIATES, A DISTANCE OF 711.19 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT: THENCE SOUTH 88° 36' WEST ALONG THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF PROPERTY NOW OR FORMERLY OWNED BY COLLEGE SQUARE ASSOCIATES, 490.00 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF FAGAN CIRCLE: THENCE NORTH 01° 21' WEST 258.81 FEET ALONG THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF FAGAN CIRCLE TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; SAID TRACT CONTAINING 12.041 ACRES ACCORDING TO PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED FOR LAKEVIEW APARTMENTS BY MORRISON J. SIMMS & ASSOCIATES, DATED JULY 12, 1971. LESS AND EXCEPT ANY PORTION OF THE PROPERTY SET FORTH ABOVE CONTAINED WITH THAT CERTAIN QUITCLAIM DEED FROM LAKEVIEW ASSOCIATES, A GEORGIA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP TO MAYOR & COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT VALLEY, GEORGIA, AND THE SUCCESSORS IN OFFICE, DATED OCTOBER 31, 1979, FILED DECEMBER 21, 1979 AND RECORDED DEED BOOK 52, PAGE 359 RECORDS OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF PEACH COUNTY, GEORGIA.

TOGETHER WITH EASEMENT RIGHTS AND BENEFITS CREATED BY AND PURSUANT TO THAT CERTAIN GENERAL UTILITY EASEMENT FOR NATURAL GAS AND WATER LINES BY AND BETWEEN COLLEGE SQUARE ASSOCIATES, A GEORGIA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP AND LAKEVIEW ASSOCIATES, A GEORGIA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, DATED DECEMBER 23, 1971 AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 9, PAGE 401, RECORDS OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF PEACH COUNTY, GEORGIA.

THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED PROPERTY ALSO BEING FURTHER DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 203 OF THE 9TH DISTRICT OF PEACH COUNTY, GEORGIA. BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT AN IRON PIN LOCATED ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF EDWARD STREET (40 FOOT RIGHT OF WAY) SOUTH 01° 21' EAST 1,221.43 FEET ALONG THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF FAGAN CIRCLE FROM THE POINT OF INTERSECTION OF THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF EDWARD STREET AND THE SOUTHERN SIDE OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF SPRUCE STREET; THENCE NORTH 88° 36' 00" EAST. 200.00 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE NORTH 01° 21' 00" WEST. 10.00 FEET TO A POINT THENCE NORTH 88° 36' 00" EAST. 700.00 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE SOUTH 01.21 EAST A DISTANCE OF 920.00 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT THENCE SOUTH 88° 36' WEST. 410.00 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT; THENCE NORTH 01° 21' WEST ALONG THE EASTERN BOUNDARY NOW OF FORMERLY OWNED BY COLLEGE SQUARE ASSOCIATES, A DISTANCE OF 711.19 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT; THENCE SOUTH 88° 36' WEST ALONG THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF PROPERTY NOW OF FORMERLY OWNED BY COLLEGE SQUARE ASSOCIATES, 490.00 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF EDWARD STREET; THENCE NORTH 01° 21' WEST 198.81 FEET ALONG THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF EDWARD STREET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; SAID TRACT CONTAINING

10.962 ACRES 477.517 SQUARE FEET.

10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 2025 50157 (GA 9353-25) NOS

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF PEACH IN RE: ESTATE OF CREASEY MAE RUMPH

All creditors of the Estate of Creasey Mae Rumph, deceased, late of Peach County, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.

Kenneth Rumph
3024 Lawhorne Road
Thomasville, Georgia 31757
Shirley R. Watson
Attorney at Law
1520 Watson Blvd
Warner Robins, Georgia 31093
478-328-7464
9/17, 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 2025
3546

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF PEACH COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA IN THE INTEREST OF:

C.B., SEX: F AGE: 16 DOB:04/2009 CASE # 111-2025-J-078 Child(ren) Under the Age of 18 TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, CIERRA DAVIS, CHARLES HAND; ANY UNKNOWN PUTATIVE FATHER(S), AND ANYONE ELSE CLAIMING A PARENTAL INTEREST IN THE ABOVE CHILD

You are notified that a Dependency Petition was filed against you in said court on 08/21/25, an Order for Service by Publication was entered on 8/20/25.

YOU ARE COMMANDED AND REQUIRED TO BE AND APPEAR before Peach County Juvenile Court, held at Peach County Courthouse, Ft. Valley, Georgia on 10/28/25 at 9:00 o'clock a.m., and on 2/10/26 for a judicial review hearing. Serve an answer on Petitioner's Attorney, James E. Patterson, P. O. Box 1006, Forsyth, Georgia 31029. You may obtain a copy of the petition by contacting Peach County Juvenile Court Clerk.

WITNESS the Honorable Judges of this court, this 11th day of September, 2025.

Kelly Hawkins, CLERK, PEACH COUNTY PEACH COURT
9/17, 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 2025
3551

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS STATE OF GEORGIA PEACH COUNTY

IN RE: **DIANA MARY KELSAY**

All creditors of the estate of **Diana Mary Kelsay**, late of PEACH COUNTY, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

THIS 16th day of September 2025
Angela C. Earls
Administrator for Diana Mary Kelsay
242 Eli Way Drive
Byron, GA 31008
9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 2025
3556

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF PEACH COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA IN RE: ESTATE OF GUDRUN WEIS PELLETIER, DECEASED ESTATE NO. 2024-PRO-7023 IN RE: PETITION FOR DISCHARGE OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

TO: ANY AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES and all singular the heirs of said decedent, the beneficiaries under the will, and to whom it may concern:

This is to notify you to file an objection, if there is any, to the above-referenced petition, in this Court on or before October 22, 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 W. Church St, Fort Valley, GA 31030
478-825-2313
10/01, 10/08, 2025
49947

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF PEACH COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA IN RE: ESTATE OF MICHAEL DEAN BOYKIN, DECEASED

LEGALS

CONTINUED FROM 7A

ESTATE NO. 2025-ADM-7164 PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO ANY AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES and to whom it may concern:

GINGER LEE-WOOD BOYKIN has petitioned for GINGER LEE-WOOD BOYKIN to be appointed administrator of the estate of MICHAEL DEAN BOYKIN, 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 OCTOBER 22, 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 our 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
10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 2025
3564

AUCTION – PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE OF SALE. Notice is hereby given that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien on said property pursuant to the Georgia Code Sections 10-4-210 to 10-4-215. The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive bidding on Thursday, October 16, 2025, at 10:00am online at www.storage-treasures.com, property found in the following units:

Unit B17 Cornelius Cooks, II Household Items
Unity A27 Maurice L. Mathis Household Items
Unity D04 Chandra Plant Household Items

Tenants have the right to redeem prior to sale.
PEACH MINI STORAGE
10/8, 10/15, 2025
3567

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

All creditors of DAVID LAWHORN, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment. This 8th day of September, 2025.

Ms. Hilda M. Lawhorn
507 Chamlee Drive
Fort Valley, GA 31030
BRADLEY G. PYLES
Attorney for Executor
Post Office Box 1797
Macon, GA 31202-1797
(478)745-1651
9/17, 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 2025
3542

GEORGIA, PEACH COUNTY NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

ITORS

All creditors of the Estate of Michelle Padraigin Brennan, Estate No. 2025-PRO-7149, deceased, late of Peach County, Georgia are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate required to make immediate payment to me.

This 9th day of September 2025.
Annette Elenor Brennan, as Executor of the
Estate of Michelle Padraigin Brennan
702 North Street
Fort Valley, Georgia 31030
Corrie E. Hall
Adams, Hemingway, Wilson & Rutledge, LLC
544 Mulberry Street, Suite 1000
Post Office Box 1956
Macon, Georgia 31202
9/17, 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 2025
3550

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS GEORGIA, PEACH COUNTY

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

This 10th day of September, 2025.
RICHARD MARSH
102 Brittwood Court
Warner Robins, Georgia 31088
EXECUTOR OF FRAN LEE DAVIS
9/17, 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 2025
3545

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

All creditors of the estate of Samuel David Jackson late of Peach County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment. This 29th day of September, 2025
Name: William D. Carter, Jr.
Title: Attorney for Estate
Address: 45 Technology Parkway S, Ste. 240, Peachtree Corners, GA 30092
10/08/2025, 10/15/2025, 10/22/2025, 10/29/2025
3565 (116056)

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF PEACH
IN RE: ESTATE OF BETTY L. RUSSELL

All creditors of the Estate of Betty L. Russell, deceased, late of Peach County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

Donna Kay Collins Chance is the Executrix of the Estate of Betty L. Russell. D. Lee Peacock, Attorney at Law, 1719 Russell Pkwy., Bldg. 200, Warner Robins, GA 31088, (478)922-3010.
9/17, 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 2025
3553

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF PEACH

IN RE: Estate of Jerome Rumph
All creditors of the Estate of Jerome Rumph, deceased, late of Peach County, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
Kenneth Rumph
3024 Lawhorne Road
Thomasville, Georgia 31757
Shirley R. Watson
Attorney at Law

1520 Watson Blvd
Warner Robins, Georgia 31093
(478)328-7464
9/17, 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 2025
3552

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CRAWFORD COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA IN THE MATTER OF:

J.B., SEX M, AGE 7, DOB 02/2018, CASE #039-25J-014
C. B., SEX M, AGE 3, DOB 06/2020, CASE #039-25J-015
K.B., SEX M, AGE 7, DOB 09/2016, CASE #039-25J-016
L.B., SEX F, AGE 10, DOB 03/2013, CASE #039-25J-017
B.M., SEX F, AGE 14, DOB 10/2009, CASE #039-25J-018
M.M., SEX F, AGE 15, DOB 05/2008, CASE #039-25J-019
S.M., SEX F, AGE 13, DOB 12/2010, CASE #039-25J-020
CHILD UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE
NOTICE OF SUMMONS

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, JAQUINTON CARTER, RYAN MCGHEE, AND ANY OTHER PARTY CLAIMING TO HAVE A PARENTAL INTEREST IN SAID MINOR CHILD BORN TO TARA BOHANNON.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that the above styled action seeking the termination of the parental rights of the parents of the named child was filed against you in said Court on 10/11/25, by reason of an Order for Service by Publication entered by the Court on 9/29/25;

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED AND REQUIRED to appear before the Juvenile Court of Crawford County, Georgia, in Knoxville, Georgia, on the 6th day of November, 2025 at 9:00 o'clock a.m. for a status hearing (attorney appointment only) and on the 4th day of December, 2025 at 9:00 o'clock a.m. The second hearing is for the purpose of determining whether your parental rights should be terminated. The effect of an order terminating parental rights under O.C.G.A. Section 15-11-284 is without limit as to duration and terminates all the parent's rights and obligations with respect to the child and all rights and obligations of the child to the parent arising from the parental relationship, including rights of inheritance. The parent whose rights are terminated is not thereafter entitled to notice of proceedings for the adoption of the child by another, nor has the parent any right to object to the adoption or otherwise to participate in the proceedings.

A copy of the petition may be obtained by the parents from the Clerk of the Juvenile Court at Crawford County Courthouse, Knoxville, Georgia, during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:30 o'clock am until 5:00 o'clock p.m. exclusive of holidays. A free copy shall be available to the parent. Upon request, the copy will be mailed to the requester - parents or alleged parents only. The child is in the present physical custody of the Petitioner, the Crawford County Department of Family and Children Services.

The general nature of the allegations is termination of the parental rights.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that while responsive pleadings are not mandatory, they are permissible and you are encouraged to file with the Clerk of this Court and serve upon Petitioner's attorney, James E. Patterson, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 1006, Forsyth, Georgia 31029-1006 an answer or other responsive pleading within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for service by publication.

WITNESS THE HONORABLE Judge of said Juvenile Court.

This 1st day of October, 2025.
Ryan Johnson, CLERK, JUVENILE COURT OF CRAWFORD COUNTY, GEORGIA
10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 2025
50267

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER, PEACH COUNTY

Pursuant to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Alicia N Edwards to United States of America, acting through the Rural Housing Service or successor agency, United States Department of Agriculture dated 6/18/2008 and recorded in Deed Book 407 Page 3 Peach County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by United States of America, acting through the Rural Housing Service or successor agency, United States Department of Agriculture, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$82,400.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door of Peach County, Georgia (or such other area as designated by Order of the Superior Court of said county), within the legal hours of sale on November 4, 2025 (being the first Tuesday of said month unless said date falls on a Federal Holiday, in which case being the first Wednesday of said month), the following described property:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 77 OF THE FIFTH (5TH) LAND DISTRICT OF PEACH COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT 3, BLOCK "D", E.M. CLAPP PROPERTY SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO A PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION OF RECORD IN PLAT BOOK 21, PAGE 252, CLERK'S OFFICE, PEACH SUPERIOR COURT. SAID PLAT AND THE RECORD THEREOF ARE INCORPORATED HEREIN FOR ANY AND ALL PURPOSES. SUBJECT TO ANY AND ALL EASEMENTS, RESTRICTIONS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND COVENANTS OF RECORD. PROPERTY NOW KNOWN AS 79 N CAMP DRIVE ACCORDING TO THE PRESENT SYSTEM FOR NUMBERING IMPROVEMENTS.

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

Said property is commonly known as 79 North Camp Drive, Byron, GA 31008 together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party (or parties) in possession of the subject property is (are): Alicia N Edwards or tenant or tenants.

Dawson's Management - USDA is the entity or individual designated, who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage. Dawson's Management - USDA Jeff Hines US Department of Agriculture P.O. Box 790170 St. Louis, MO 63179-0170 (800) 414-1226 Note, however, that such entity or individual is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan. Said property will be sold subject to: (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes

which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) unpaid water or sewage bills that constitute a lien against the property whether due and payable or not yet due and payable and which may not be of record, (c) the right of redemption of any taxing authority, (d) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (e) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above. The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and non-judicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided immediately above. United States of America, acting through the Rural Housing Service or successor agency, United States Department of Agriculture as agent and Attorney in Fact for Alicia N Edwards Aldridge Pite, LLP, Six Piedmont Center, 3525 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 700, Atlanta, Georgia 30305, (404) 994-7400, 1000-21275A

THIS LAW FIRM MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
1000-21275A
10/08/2025, 10/15/2025, 10/22/2025, 10/29/2025
3563 (1000-21275A)

APPLICATION TO REGISTER A BUSINESS TO BE CONDUCTED UNDER TRADE NAME, PARTNER-SHIP OR OTHERS STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF PEACH

The undersigned does hereby certify that FAITH FIRST ENTERPRISES LLC, conducting a business as BUCK COMMANDER PROPERTIES in the City of Fort Valley, County of Peach in the state of Georgia, under the name of BUCK COMMANDER PROPERTIES and that the nature of the business is Real Estate Brokerage and that the names and addresses of the persons, firms or partnership owning and caring on said trade or business are
Cory Paulk, 103 Windward Way, Canton, MS 39046.
Stuart Warren, 812 Steels Pt, Madison MS 39110.

This 4 day of September, 2025
10/1, 10/8, 2025
3562

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF PEACH COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA IN RE: ESTATE OF LUCY M STACEY, DECEASED ESTATE NO. 2025-ADM-7151 PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO ANY AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES and to whom it may concern:
REBECCA LYNN ROBINSON has petitioned for REBECCA LYNN ROBINSON to be appointed administrator of the estate of LUCY M STACEY, 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 OCTOBER 01, 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 our 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
9/17, 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 2025
3541

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF PEACH COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA IN RE: ESTATE OF GEORGE STEPHEN SMITH, DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 2025-PRO-7163
NOTICE
IN RE: The Petition to Probate Will (and Codicil(s)) in Solemn Form in the above referenced estate having been duly filed.

TO: BRANT SMITH This is to notify you to file an objection, if there is any, to the petition to probate will in solemn form, in this Court on or before October 22, 2025.

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

Kim Wilson, Judge of the Probate Court
Katrina Corbin, Chief Clerk of the Probate Court
205 West Church Street
Fort Valley, Georgia 31030
478-825-2313
10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 2025
49948

DEBTORS AND CREDITORS STATE OF GEORGIA PEACH COUNTY

All persons having claims against Duren E. Bell and his estate are required to present the same to the undersigned, properly itemized and proven, within the time required by law. And all persons indebted to said deceased, or his estate, are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 2nd day of October, 2025.
David Bell, executor
Attorney: Patrick C.. Smith, Jr.
349 Margie Drive, Ste. 120
Warner Robins, GA 31088
Estate of: Duren E. Bell
10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 2025
3570

Georgia lawmakers look for ways keep social media from harming children

By Ty Tagami
Bureau Chief
Capitol Beat News Service

In a rare bipartisan act to protect children, Georgia legislators adopted a law last year that regulated social media companies.

But the industry sued and, for now, has sidelined the prohibition on advertising to children. The law also required platforms to obtain parental consent when minors sign up for service.

The age verification mandate forces everyone to share identifying information to prove their age, placing what a federal judge called "severe burdens" on adults, leading to her decision in June to issue a preliminary injunction against enforcement.

Georgia Attorney General Chris Carr has appealed the decision. His office said he is helping to defend similar laws in other states, including Texas, Florida and Ohio.

The platforms are fighting a tide of legislation as states react to congressional inaction. Stories about heedless harm in the pursuit of advertising dollars have galvanized parents and politicians.

Georgia lawmakers have not given up. They have been meeting over the summer to consider other ways to rein in social media.

"I don't think we can wait for the federal government to do this for us," said Sen. Sally Harrell, D-Atlanta, who has been leading a study committee looking for another approach. "So, we're going to do it."

The industry has made itself a target for lawmakers across the political spectrum.

The state law that was sidelined in federal court was a top priority for Lt. Gov. Burt Jones, the Republican who leads the GOP-dominated Senate and, like Carr, is running for governor in next year's GOP primary.

Jones and his allies picked Democrat Harrell to lead the bipartisan study committee on the impact of social media on children.

She and fellow senators recently heard from parents whose children had died by suicide after social media exposure.

Industry insiders such as Ravi Iyer, a technologist and academic psychologist at the University of Southern California, who led data science, research, and product teams at Facebook, have been educating Georgia lawmakers.

At a hearing this week, he described internal company documents that suggest platform designers knew their algorithms were harmful but deployed them anyway.

The documents, referenced in a lawsuit against Meta by New Mexico Attorney General Raúl Torrez, describe how Meta undercounted harmful content and experiences reported on its platforms, including bullying and harassment.

Iyer did the math using the leaked statistics. "That is millions and millions of kids," he said.

Pete Furlong, a researcher with the Center for Humane Technology, said in the hearing that numerous whistleblower complaints indicate Meta has "abundant" research showing its algorithmic feeds harm kids and adults but that the company is not taking clear steps to address it.

"They could make it better," he said.

"It's their business incentives that drive them to design these products in this way."

After conservative activist Charlie Kirk was shot dead in Utah last week, the state's Republican governor said social media companies were addicting Americans to outrage and hate. Gov. Spencer Cox called technology companies "conflict entrepreneurs."

It may be a cultural turning point that opens a window for successful legislation. But Georgia's senators are wading into a legal thicket. Social media companies are sheltered by a foundational 1996 federal law that established the legal framework for the internet. Known as Section 230, the law immunizes platforms from liability for hosting users' content.

Instead of choosing which content to promote like a typical publisher, internet platforms use algorithms to drive feeds that are tailored to each user to increase their engagement — and their value to advertisers.

The companies monitor users' behavior on their platforms to inform the kind of custom results that frustrate critics such as Cox.

Lawmakers in California targeted this practice.

The Age-Appropriate Design Code Act regulates how platforms allow minors to use personalized recommendation algorithms.

NetChoice, the same industry group that sidelined Georgia's law on First Amendment grounds, also filed a federal suit in California. A district judge ruled against the law, but the state appealed and earlier this month the federal appeals court there ruled partially

in the state's favor.

"It upheld the addictive feeds regulation," said Matt Lawrence, a law professor at Emory University who is an expert on addiction law and has been following tech industry lawsuits.

It remains unclear to what extent courts elsewhere in the country will define algorithms as protected speech though.

Other states are targeting age verification. The U.S. Supreme Court recently upheld a law that does that in Texas.

The high court's decision in June was about minors accessing websites with sexually explicit content rather than social media platforms.

Even so, Eric Segall, a federal courts and constitutional law professor at Georgia State University, said it suggests a shift in the court's thinking.

Under Chief Justice John Roberts, the nation's top court has prioritized the First Amendment, Segall said.

But in recent years, parent rights have become a growing priority for conservatives, and the Texas decision may reflect that, he said. If there is a recalibration, it could create an opening for laws like Georgia's that target social media.

"There's a big movement out there for parents' rights to control their children and that's going to affect how judges view these laws," Segall said. "As long as it's a parent consent law, not a ban law, it's much more likely to be upheld."

But pendulums swing and the window for regulation could close. After all, the platforms have made themselves indispensable to people across the globe.

Last week, a government crackdown on social media in Nepal inspired deadly riots among the youth.

Any attempts to blunt the power of algorithms to make them less invasive will also dull their utility, said Noah Giansiracusa, a mathematician and author of the book "Robin Hood Math: Take Control of the Algorithms That Run Your Life."

"We don't want to make these powerful systems that help us worse," he said. Like many who have watched the attempts to regulate social media unfold, he drew an analogy to the battles against the automobile industry for seatbelts, airbags and cleaner emissions.

Cars pollute and kill, he said, yet we need them.

"We want to make them better, but we don't want to ban them," he said. "So, that's where we are with social media, except we don't really know how to make them safer, and we have all these free speech issues."

Lawrence, the Emory professor, said lawmakers will have to keep trying and see what sticks.

Harrell said she and her committee will focus on algorithm design and age verification. They are also turning to future tech.

An explosive report by Reuters in August said an internal Meta policy document permitted provocative chatbot behavior on topics including sex, race and celebrities.

Harrell's committee will hear about artificial intelligence when it meets Oct. 8.

"Be prepared for an intense meeting," Harrell said, "because what's happening with AI is a little overwhelming."

Fulton District Attorney Fani Willis said to agree to testify to Republican-led committee

By Ty Tagami
Bureau Chief

Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis will finally testify to a special committee of the Georgia Senate after rebuffing their demands for more than a year, the committee's leader said Friday.

After refusing to appear last year and fighting a committee subpoena in court, Willis will comply with a new subpoena to be issued by the Senate Special Committee on Investigations to appear on Nov. 13, said its chairman, Sen. Bill Cowsert, R-Athens.

It will be an opportunity for Republican lawmakers to ask her about the election interference case she brought against

President Donald Trump and his allies.

Cowsert said she agreed to testify to a limited scope of questioning that he could not disclose.

Willis' office did not immediately respond to a message seeking comment.

Republicans have been vilifying Willis ever since she pursued the case, but Cowsert said his committee members want neither to persecute nor humiliate her.

They just want her advice on legislation to regulate prosecutorial misconduct, he said.

Willis was dislodged from her Trump prosecution after the state Supreme Court declined in September to consider her appeal of a Georgia Court of Appeals order disqualifying

her from prosecuting conspiracy charges against Trump and eight others.

The appeals court had found an appearance of impropriety in her romantic relationship with Nathan Wade, a special prosecutor she had assigned to the case.

Republicans have raised questions about her use of taxpayer dollars in hiring him.

"She can't continue to create this impression that the laws don't apply to her — that she's being an obstructionist," Cowsert said.

Sen. Harold Jones, II, D-Augusta, one of two Democrats on the eight-member committee, welcomed Willis' testimony. It will be an opportunity to give her side of the story, said Jones, who is the Senate minority lead-

er.

Despite her agreement to testify, the state Supreme Court will still hear oral arguments Nov. 4 in the dispute over the original subpoena, Cowsert said.

Cowsert's committee also got an update from a new commission established by the General Assembly to investigate allegations of prosecutorial misconduct.

Investigators with the Prosecuting Attorneys Qualifications Commission have considered 36 complaints filed in 2024 and 86 so far this year. None merited promotion to a hearing panel, said Ian Heap, the commission executive director.

The details of cases are not public unless they merit formal charges, so Heap could not answer Cowsert's question about whether the commission had considered allegations against Willis.

Cowsert said after the hearing that he merely wanted to know if her Nov. 13 testimony to his committee might be constrained by concerns about self-incrimination connected with any commission investigation.

Cowsert said Heap's report on the escalation in the number of complaints — there were only seven in 2023 — was new information to him. He wondered whether it indicated many pros-

ecutors were misbehaving and the public now has a vehicle to complain — or whether the complaints were merely frivolous.

Jones focused on Heap's disclosure that all the complaints so far were deemed meritless and on the relevance of the law that created the commission.

"I think that kind of shows that the law was not needed," he said.

This article is available through a partnership with Capitol Beat News Service, a project of the Georgia Press Association's non-profit, tax-exempt Educational Foundation.

Environmental, community activists seek tighter restrictions on data centers

By Dave Williams
Bureau Chief

Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA - Environmental advocates and community activists Tuesday supported a proposal to add data centers to the list of large development projects subject to state review.

But they also called for the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) to lower the threshold for projects that fall under the agency's definition of "developments of regional impact" (DRIs).

The DCA is proposing new rules that would create a category of DRIs called "technological facility" to include data centers, as well as two other new categories for solar power generating facilities such as solar farms as well as truck stops.

The DCA acted after officials from regional planning commissions across the state asked the agency to add data centers to its DRI rules to help guide local governments in processing developers' applications for the growing number of data centers springing up in Georgia. Data

centers use massive amounts of electricity and water, prompting worries that they will suck up finite resources.

Some local governments have responded to the wave of data centers by restricting them or banning them outright. The Atlanta City Council voted in June to prohibit data centers from setting up in some neighborhoods and require developers to seek a special-use permit for construction.

In May, the Coweta County Commission approved a moratorium on data centers after a developer proposed Project Sail, a massive 13-building data center on more than 800 acres along U.S. 27 near Newnan.

"We need some type of protection at the state level," Wanda Mosley, a community organizer from the city of South Fulton, said Tuesday during a public hearing on the new rules hosted by the DCA.

The proposed rules would require developers of data centers to disclose information about each project's energy and water needs.

In cities and suburbs, the rules

would apply to data centers covering more than 300,000 square feet. Data centers in rural areas would not come under the rules unless they cover more than 500,000 square feet.

But on Tuesday, Amy Sharma, who chairs the nonprofit Georgia Water Coalition's data center committee, suggested the DCA lower the threshold of data center projects that would fall under the new rules to those that cover more than 250,000 square feet, regardless of whether they're in cities, suburbs, or rural communities.

Others who spoke during Tuesday's public hearing complained that data centers generate a lot of noise in the neighborhoods where they're sited, create few local jobs, and result in permanent rezonings that remove land from agricultural use.

Data center supporters have countered that they produce valuable property tax revenue, particularly in rural communities with inadequate tax bases.

The DCA is accepting public comment on the proposed rules through Friday. The agency's board will vote on them Nov. 20.

Georgia maintains momentum with company expansions

By Ty Tagami
Staff Writer

Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — It was another boom year for Georgia, as businesses continued flocking to the state, burnishing its record as the No. 1 place to do business.

A record-breaking \$26.3 billion flowed into the Peach State for the fiscal year that ended June 30, as companies expanded or established new locations. That is according to the office of Gov. Brian Kemp, which said the growth will translate to 23,300 new private-sector jobs over the next few years.

Area Development magazine has consistently ranked Georgia as the top state for business.

Kemp credited the state Department of Economic Development with fostering an attractive business environment. The state has supplied over \$18 million to help rural communities prepare new industrial sites through its Rural Site Development Initiative, Kemp's office said. There are now more than 70 certified sites.

Kemp said the effort "will pay off for generations."

Company expansions at existing locations were the major driver, with 77% of the growth occurring outside metro Atlanta. But the 10-county Atlanta region remains a business hub, hosting major companies such as Duracell and Mercedes-Benz.

International investment was a major reason for the continued growth, with more than 6,500 jobs coming from expan-

sions or new locations at companies from countries such as the Republic of Korea, Japan, and Canada.

State lawmakers pledged to continue collaborating with the Kemp administration, crediting the state's ports, railways, energy systems and other infrastructure — and higher education.

"We continue to invest in workforce programs to ensure a steady talent pipeline with our existing industry partners," Lt. Gov. Burt Jones said. "These investments and initiatives will ensure we have a workforce that is growing and able to meet skillsets for jobs of today and tomorrow."

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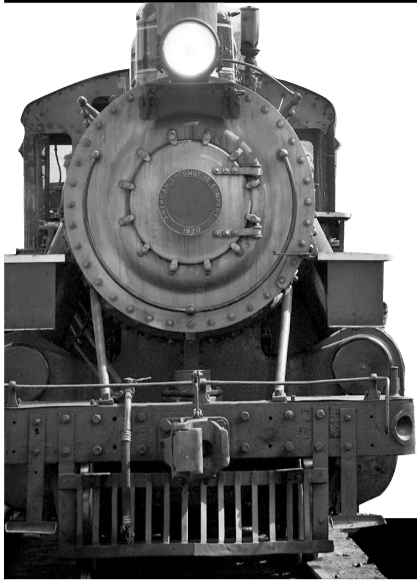
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City of Byron

Notice of Current Tax Digest and Five-Year History of Levy In Compliance With O.C.G.A. 48-5-32

The City of Byron hereby announces that the millage rate will be set at 9.0 mills at a meeting to be held in the Council Chamber on October 16, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. and the following information is provided for the 2025 Tax Digest, along with the history of the tax digest for the preceding five years.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Real & Personal	214,980,886	225,775,568	272,227,984	316,716,606	335,474,840	365,355,575
Public Utilities	3,442,256	3,623,910	3,761,386	3,731,764	4,432,070	4,736,792
Motor Vehicles	2,493,510	4,249,990	4,491,540	4,568,830	4,391,150	3,777,310
Mobile Homes	273,383	202,649	269,165	580,071	215,702	203,514
Timber - 100%	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heavy Duty Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gross Digest	221,190,035	233,852,117	280,750,075	325,597,271	344,513,762	374,073,191
Less M & O Exemptions	9,150,776	10,929,089	14,458,689	18,073,913	23,277,760	16,417,460
Net M & O Digest	212,039,259	222,923,028	266,291,386	307,523,358	321,236,002	357,655,731
Gross M & O Millage	10	10	10	10	10	10
Less Rollbacks	1	1	1	1	1	1
Net M & O Millage	9	9	9	9	9	9
Net Taxes Levied	1,908,353.00	2,006,307.00	2,396,622.00	2,767,710.00	2,891,124.00	3,218,902.00
Total Dollar Increase/(Decrease)	48,466.00	97,954.00	390,315.00	371,088.00	123,414.00	327,778.00
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Pastoral Search Committee
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#20 Chase Mangham ran the ball for a Trojans first down.

Photo by Tourris Leary, Sports Photographer



Coach Westbrook speaks to the future Trojans.

Photo by Tourris Leary, Sports Photographer



Photo by Tourris Leary, Sports Photographer
Coach Jackson and Coach Wright observed the scoreboard after the final play.

Wildcats Fall to Central State 18-14 in Homecoming Heartbreaker

By Chris McKenzie
Sports Reporter

Fort Valley, GA. — In front of a packed Wildcat Stadium crowd of more than 8,000 fans, the Fort Valley State University Wildcats came up just short in a thrilling Homecoming match-up, falling 18-14 to the Central State University Marauders on Saturday afternoon.

The atmosphere was electric from start to finish. Current students, alumni, and members of the Fort Valley community filled the stands in a sea of blue and gold, ready to cheer on their Wildcats in one of the most anticipated games of the season.

FVSU started strong, striking first on their opening drive. Quarterback Ja'que Hart connected with Paul Burkly for a 13-yard touchdown pass, capping a six-play, 35-yard drive to give the Wildcats a 7-0 lead with 10:44 left in the first quarter. After Central State answered with a short touchdown run from Jaden Bossie, Hart wasted little time responding — hitting J.T. Pendleton for a spectacular 70-yard touchdown late in the first quarter to push the lead to 14-6.

However, the momentum began to shift before halftime. With under four minutes to play in the second quarter, Central

State's Domonique Davis II intercepted a pass in the end zone and returned it for a touchdown, trimming the Wildcat lead to 14-12.

Fort Valley State's offense continued to move the ball through the air — Hart finished 8-of-16 passing for 115 yards and two touchdowns — but key mistakes and missed opportunities proved costly. The turning point came in the third quarter when



a blocked field goal attempt was scooped up and returned 78 yards by Traviyon Searcy for a Central State touchdown, giving the Marauders their first lead of the game at 18-14.

Despite several late chances, the Wildcats couldn't find the end zone again.

Pendleton led all receivers with 4 catches for 78 yards and a touchdown, while Chad Turner added 48 yards on 5 receptions. On the ground, Alexander Wilson paced FVSU with 26 rushing yards on six carries, while the Wildcat defense kept Central State's offense contained for much of the afternoon.

The loss drops Fort Valley State to 1-4 on the season.

The Wildcats will look to bounce back on the road next Saturday as they continue SIAC play against Benedict College.

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Byron Middle School Lady Eagles Capture Macon Softball League Championship

By Chris McKenzie
Sports Reporter

The Byron Middle School Lady Eagles soared to victory in commanding style, capturing the Macon Softball League Championship with a 12-0 shutout win over Miller Middle School. The championship triumph capped off a remarkable season for the Lady Eagles, who showcased teamwork, determination, and pure dominance from the first pitch to the final out.

From the opening inning, Byron Middle made their championship intentions clear. The Lady Eagles' bats came alive early, stringing together timely hits and smart base running to jump out to a lead that Miller Middle could never recover from. On the defensive side, the Lady Eagles were impenetrable — led by stellar pitching and airtight fielding that kept Miller scoreless throughout the game.

The victory not only secured the championship title but also highlighted the growth and spirit of the Byron Middle School softball program. Players and fans alike celebrated the win as a proud moment for the school and the community.

With their 12-0 victory, the Lady Eagles cemented their place at the top of the Macon Softball League — champions through and through.



Photo Contributed
Byron Middle softball team hoisting championship trophy

Peach County Trojans Stay Perfect with 52-20 Win Over Dougherty

By Chris McKenzie
Sports Reporter

Fort Valley, GA – The Peach County Trojans continued their dominant season Friday night with a 52-20 victory over the Dougherty County Trojans in Fort Valley. The win keeps Peach County undefeated at 7-0, as they prepare to host Bainbridge next Friday.

The game began with Peach County receiving the opening kickoff and looking to establish their passing game. Quarterback Caiden Ivory connected on several short passes to find his rhythm, but the opening drive stalled on fourth down. Dougherty struck first with a touchdown pass that slipped behind the Peach secondary. The extra point was blocked, and Dougherty led 6-0 with 9:09 left in the first quarter.

Peach County responded immediately. Ashton

Barton took the ensuing kickoff all the way for a touchdown. After the extra point, Peach led 7-6 with 8:55 left in the quarter. On the Trojans' next possession, Barton broke loose for a 60-yard rushing touchdown, pushing the Peach County lead to 14-6 with 7:09 left in the first.

Dougherty began to find success on the ground but was stopped when Denim Williams intercepted a pass in the end zone to end the drive. Early in the second quarter, Peach's defense forced a long fourth down after a big sack by Jalen Ellerbee. On the ensuing punt, Zion Hudson returned it for a touchdown to give Peach a 21-6 lead with 8:34 left before halftime.

Peach County's run game continued to control the pace, setting up a field goal to extend the lead to 24-6 with 2:41 left in the second quarter. Dougherty put together a strong two-minute drive to cut the deficit to 24-13, but Peach quickly answered.

Hudson scored on a rushing touchdown to push the lead to 31-13 with 36 seconds left in the half. Dougherty managed one last big play, connecting on a long touchdown pass as time expired to make it 31-20 at halftime.

The second half belonged entirely to Peach County. The defense allowed no points after the break and forced a key turnover on Dougherty's opening drive of the half when Bryson Hughley came up with an interception. The Peach offense capitalized on the turnover with another Barton rushing touchdown to make it 38-20 with 8:42 left in the third quarter.

Moments later, Zion Ellison scored on a rushing touchdown to extend the lead to 45-20. Barton capped off his outstanding night with another rushing touchdown late in the third quarter to make it 52-20 with 1:11 remaining. With a running clock in the fourth quarter, Peach closed out

the win in dominant fashion.

The Trojans finished with 488 total yards of offense — 345 on the ground and 143 through the air. Barton led the way with 247 rushing yards on 17 carries and three touchdowns, along with his kickoff return for a score. Ivory completed 11 of 26 passes for 143 yards. Ellison added 61 rushing yards and a touchdown, while Hudson contributed both a rushing and punt return touchdown.

Defensively, Williams and Hughley each had an interception, and Ellerbee's sack helped set up a special teams touchdown in the second quarter.

With another complete team performance, the Peach County Trojans continue to look like one of the top teams in Georgia high school football this season.

Peach County now sits at 7-0 and will host the Bainbridge Bearcats on Friday, October 17, in Fort Valley.

Peach County JV Trojans Earn Hard-Fought 30-22 Win Over Jones County, Display True Sportsmanship in Emotional Moment

By Chris McKenzie
Sports Reporter

FORT VALLEY, Ga. – The Peach County Junior Varsity Trojans battled their way to a 30-22 victory over the Jones County Greyhounds in a thrilling matchup that showcased both athletic competition and genuine compassion.

The game was filled with big plays and strong performances on both sides of the ball. Peach County's offense found its rhythm early, while the defense made key stops late in the contest to secure the win.

The Trojans' energy and focus were evident from the opening kickoff as they built momentum and held off a determined Greyhounds squad throughout the game.

However, the defining moment of the night came midway through the game when a Jones County player went down with an injury that required medical attention. As EMS personnel made their way onto the field, both teams came together — players and coaches alike — surrounding the injured athlete in a powerful display of unity and support.

The entire stadium fell silent as the player

was carefully loaded into the ambulance. In that moment, the competition took a backseat to what truly matters — humanity, empathy, and respect for one another.

When play resumed, both teams competed with heart and purpose, honoring the spirit of the game and the sportsmanship that defines high school athletics.

With the 30-22 victory, the Peach County JV Trojans continue to build confidence and momentum for the season ahead, but their biggest win of the night came in the way they represented their school and community — with heart, respect, and sportsmanship.

REGION 1-AAA WEEK 8 ROUND-UP

By Victor Kulkosky
Retired Sports Guy

Last Week's Games

Peach Co. 52, Dougherty 20
Westover 26, Bainbridge 7
Cairo 48, Leon (Fla.) 7
Monroe OFF

Next Week's Games

Cairo @ Monroe; Bainbridge, Dougherty, Peach Co., and Westover OFF

News: Jay Walls is out at Bainbridge, replaced by Mike Harville. Walls took over last year, following the Bearcats' run of four straight region titles. He couldn't follow that excellent form. In 2024, the Bearcats lost nine in a row to start, only pulling out a win in the last game of

the season. This year, Bainbridge is 0-7, showing some minor improvements. Walls departed after a 35-6 loss to Cairo. His record is 1-17.

With only a week to prepare, Harville couldn't do much, but the Bearcats did limit Westover to 26 points in last week's loss, compared to 40 last year. But Bainbridge's scoring dropped from 37 points to six. At this point, Harville can likely only slow down the bleeding and plan for reviving a team that won five region titles and a state title under Jeff Littleton from 2013 to 2023.

Week 8 offered no surprises in Region 1-3A. The PC Trojans continued their high-scoring

trend with a 52-20 win over the Dougherty Trojans. They're averaging 37 ppg through seven games. As they did last year, Westover followed their loss to the Peach County Trojans with a win over Bainbridge, scored fewer points and gave up fewer points. Cairo visited the Sunshine State and cast a dark cloud over Leon High School with a 48-7 beat-down, adding 13 points to last year's 35-7 win. Monroe had the week off.

This week is light for region play. Both Trojans (Peach Co. and Dougherty) are off. Bainbridge and Westover are also off, leaving Cairo and Monroe to play in Albany.

Our Trojans are scheduled to play Bainbridge, Cairo, and Monroe down the home stretch, with the October 24 game in Cairo likely the biggest challenge. Your script for the rest of the season: FIRE IT UP, PC, FIRE IT UP!!!

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Pre-Registration (includes t-shirt):
Adult \$25 | *Youth \$10 | Group Registration (Team of 5) \$100
On-site Registration: Adult \$30 | *Youth \$15 | Group Registration (Team of 5) \$125

REGISTER NOW WWW.A10TIONFOUNDATION.ORG

A10TION FOUNDATION CENTER | 1000 Tulip Drive | Fort Valley, GA 31030




2nd ANNUAL PEACH COUNTY SLAM DUNK

NOV. 8TH, 2025
4PM-8PM
\$50 PER TEAM

CORNHOLE OPEN TOURNAMENT

Peach County High School Gym | 3665 Peach Pkwy | Fort Valley, GA



A Fundraiser to benefit Peach County Boys & Girls Basketball Team

Exclusive prizes for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place | Raffle Drawing | Special Guests

REGISTER NOW!

