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The Leader Tribune

Peach County's Newspaper

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Multiple People Arrested After Two-Day Child Sex Abuse Sting, According to Byron Police



Photo Contributed
BALL, JOSHUA



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BOYKINS, MALIK



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COOPER, DERRICK



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DEVEREUX, ANTWAN



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HOLLIS, YOHANNE



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VANCE, AMARION



Photo Contributed
WILLIAMS, MYKEL

Zoe Hammond
News Editor

BYRON, Ga. – Twelve people were arrested after a child sex abuse sting, according to a press release from the Byron Police Department.

The two-day operation, dubbed Operation Not Here, ran between Thursday, Oct. 2, and Friday, Oct. 3, and specifically targeted child predators.

The Peach County Sheriff's Office and the Byron Police Department created accounts on multiple internet platforms posing as male and female children and then arrested those attempting to commit sex acts with them, according to the press release.

During the sting, they arrested multiple people, mainly from Houston County

and the Macon-Bibb area; however, one of those arrested was from Spartanburg, S.C.

Those arrested include:

- Dennis Jacques, 65, of Lizella
- Antwan Devereux, 32, of Macon
- Avery Simmons, 32, of Rincon
- Shedrick Smith, 33, of Warner Robins
- Mikel Williams, 44, of Warner Robins
- Timothy Newman, 49, of Milledgeville
- Yohannes Hollis, 29, of Perry
- Joshua Ball, 36, of Dry Branch
- Eddie Torres, 24, of Spartanburg, South Carolina
- Derrick Cooper, 33, of Macon
- Malik Boykins, 29, of Perry
- Amarion Vance, 19, of Warner Robins

According to the release, all 12 individuals were charged with Obscene Internet

Contact with a Child and Use of a Computer Service to Seduce, Solicit, Lure or Entice a Child to Commit an Illegal Act. They say more charges may be forthcoming as the investigations continue on all of these individuals.

The Byron Police Department and Peach County Sheriff's Office partnered with Covenant Rescue Group, a 501(c)(3) organization, which trained the police officers and helped in the investigation. They're an organization that helps fight human trafficking.

"The citizens of Peach County and law enforcement in Peach County will not tolerate this activity," the police department said in a statement. "Combining our resources and working with the Covenant Rescue Group enables our departments

to be proactive in protecting our citizens and more importantly our children."

Sheriff Shannon said that the Peach County Sheriff's Office and the Byron Police Department will continue to work in collaboration to fight crime in Peach County.

Chief Cannon says that this operation was a success, not only because of the two agencies working together, but also because the agencies could not have done it without the expertise of the Covenant Rescue Group.

Byron Chief of Police Wesley Cannon explained in an interview that his department is working to be proactive against crime, especially in the case of the sexual exploitation of children.

**CHILD SEX ABUSE STING
CONTINUED PG 8A**

FVSU Football's Head Coach, 9 Players Suspended Over Homecoming Fight



Photo Contributed
Altercation between teams broke out at game.

Zoe Hammond
News Editor

FORT VALLEY, Ga. – Fort Valley State University's head football coach and multiple players were suspended Monday, Oct. 6, due to a fight that broke out with FVSU's homecoming opponent, Central State University, according to a press release from the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

According to the press release, a fight broke out between multiple players after the game on Saturday evening. As a result,

the conference suspended the head coaches and multiple players.

"Acts of unsportsmanlike conduct have no place in intercollegiate athletics or within the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference," SIAC Commissioner Anthony Holloman said in a press release. "I am extremely disappointed that this event has overshadowed what was otherwise a very competitive football game."

In total, 20 student-athletes, nine from Fort Valley State and

11 from Central State, were suspended by the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. Both head coaches, Marlon Watson for FVSU and Tony Carter for Central State, were also suspended for one game.

According to the press release, the conference's investigation found that both Fort Valley State and Central State University violated the league's code of ethics and engaged in unsportsmanlike behavior.

Both schools were fined by the conference, but it was not disclosed how much each college is required to pay.

Fort Valley State University lost the close game, 18-14.

Fort Valley State University also released a statement, saying that the players' conduct does not align with the "values of sportsmanship, integrity and respect" that the university expects of its athletes.

"We extend our sincere apologies to the Fort Valley State University community, as well as CSU, their student-athletes, coaches and fans. The actions that took place do not reflect the values of sportsmanship, integrity and respect that we uphold as an institution, athletic program and conference," the university said. "We do not condone behavior that falls short of these standards, and we are

taking the necessary steps to ensure that our student-athletes understand the importance of

**PLAYERS SUSPENDED
CONTINUED PG 12A**

Teenager Falls 40 Feet Through Roof of Byron Business, According to Byron Police

Zoe Hammond
News Editor

BYRON, Ga. – A 14-year-old male fell through the roof of a business on 224 South Hwy 49 in Byron on Friday, Oct. 10, according to the Byron Fire Department.

The fire department stated that they received the call at approximately 7:56 a.m. Friday morning. According to Byron Chief of Police Wesley Cannon, the 14-year-old fell 40 feet through the roof.

The teenager was unresponsive, and CPR was started. When EMS arrived, he was breathing. He was airlifted to Arthur Blank Hospital in Atlanta. The 14-year-old's current condition is unknown.

The business, United Defense, had contracted a company to do some work on its building. Their

general contractor, MGM Roofing of Lizella, had subcontracted ALV Roofing & Construction to do work on the building's roof.

A family member of the teenager was at the site with the subcontractor. They do not know how or why the teenager ended up on the roof.

The Byron Police Department is investigating the incident.

This is a developing story. The Leader Tribune will provide updates as information becomes available.



Meet the Candidate: *Shakeena B. Reeves*



ELECT 

Shakeena B. Reeves for Mayor City of Fort Valley

"A City of Redemption, Progression, and Pride"

As someone who loves Fort Valley deeply, my goal is to guide our city toward a **safer, stronger, and more united future.**

My leadership is anchored in **loving my neighbor as I love myself**, which means listening, engaging, and collaborating with residents, council, and community leaders to create meaningful progress.

*paid for political ad

Contributed

Candidate for Mayor — City of Fort Valley, GA

Campaign Tagline: "A City of Redemption, Progression, and Pride"

1. What are the most pressing issues in Fort Valley, and how do you plan to address them?

Fort Valley faces several critical challenges that require thoughtful, collaborative solutions. **Public safety** is a top priority because every resident deserves to feel secure in their homes and neighborhoods. I plan to focus on building stronger connections between residents and law enforcement, supporting community policing programs, and ensuring our safety systems are responsive and effective. I also want to engage partners like the Peach County Sheriff's Office and FVSU Police to collaborate on proactive measures, including neighborhood watch initiatives, traffic safety programs, and community education campaigns.

Our **youth** are another central concern. Children and teenagers need access to safe spaces, mentorship, recreational activities, and opportunities to explore arts, STEM, and leadership programs. I want to see Fort Valley develop structured programs that allow our young people to thrive, grow confidence, and prepare for the workforce. Collaborating with schools, churches, and community nonprofits is essential to creating a supportive ecosystem for their success.

Access to healthy food remains a challenge in many areas. I aim to explore opportunities to attract an additional grocery store while supporting neighborhood-based initiatives that increase access to fresh produce and affordable, nutritious options. This not only improves health outcomes but also strengthens local economic activity.

Downtown revitalization is also a pressing issue. Strength-

ening the Development Authority, modernizing Code and Building Departments, and strategically addressing abandoned or blighted buildings are critical steps to creating a vibrant, welcoming city center. I also envision an **Arts and Culture Center** as a hub for recreation, education, and creativity for families and youth, helping to instill a sense of pride and connection to Fort Valley.

Finally, our **financial systems** need attention. Completing accurate audits, refining internal processes, and making fiscal management more effective ensures city operations are sustainable. Thoughtful budgeting and system improvements create a foundation for long-term growth while reducing unnecessary burdens on taxpayers.

2. How do you plan to engage residents and community leaders to address their concerns?

Community engagement is a cornerstone of my approach. I prioritize **listening first**, understanding concerns, and collaborating on solutions that reflect the voices of residents. This includes hosting regular **town halls, neighborhood listening sessions, and youth roundtables**, where residents and community leaders can openly share ideas and feedback. I also place a strong emphasis on **collaboration with the City Council**, recognizing that any sustainable progress requires teamwork and mutual support. By creating consistent channels for communication, ensuring that feedback informs decisions, and fostering relationships with community stakeholders, I hope to cultivate a culture of **shared ownership and empowerment** in Fort Valley.

3. If elected, what steps would you take to promote economic growth in the downtown area?

Downtown Fort Valley is a key economic engine and a symbol of community pride. Promoting

growth requires a **holistic approach**:

- **Support current business owners:** Understand their 2-5 year goals and find ways for the city to facilitate success, from infrastructure improvements to permit support.

- **Attract new investment:** Market the city as a vibrant, opportunity-rich area for small businesses, restaurants, and service providers.

- **Address blight:** With the City Council, implement a blight tax and other measures to ensure vacant or abandoned buildings are revitalized rather than used as storage.

- **Cultural enrichment:** Establish an Arts and Culture Center that serves as a recreation hub, a family resource center, and a creative learning space to bring people downtown and foster community pride.

By combining **strategic infrastructure**, policy improvements, and community partnerships, we can create a downtown environment that encourages business growth, tourism, and local engagement.

4. What is your history of involvement in local civic or volunteer activities?

I have been actively involved in Fort Valley and Peach County since moving here. I serve on the **Fort Valley Planning and Zoning Board**, where I advocate for responsible development policies that prioritize public health and safety — particularly in avoiding environmental and zoning hazards like the Woolfolk Chemical contamination. Additionally, I substitute teach in the **Peach County School System**, providing mentorship and support to students during critical stages of their development. I also volunteer with local youth programs and church ministries, engage with Fort Valley State University students

**CANDIDATE - REEVES
CONTINUED PG 11A**

Meet the Candidate: *Alton Howard*

Contributed

1. To you, what are the most pressing issues in the City of Fort Valley and, if elected, how do you plan to address them?

The most pressing issues to me are public safety, homelessness, and economic growth/development.

Public safety is critical; therefore, we must address the shortage of officers and officer qualifications. To do so, we can ensure salaries and benefits are competitive with surrounding departments. We also need increased police presence within the community to rebuild trust with citizens they are sworn to serve.

Homelessness is an ongoing issue within the city. To address this issue, we can advocate for and support policies that will bring affordable housing, transitional, or emergency shelters.

Economic growth and development are essential for sustaining the community of Fort Valley. A key strategy involves working closely with the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), which follows the proven "Main Street Four-Point Approach." By collaborating with the DDA, the city can ensure that this organization is provided with the necessary resources to successfully implement its plans for downtown revitalization.

Attracting and retaining businesses is another important focus. Offering incentives to businesses that serve the needs

of the community will help foster economic stability and growth. In addition, it is vital to hold current downtown building owners accountable for maintaining their properties and complying with local codes and ordinances. This approach will help create a more welcoming and vibrant downtown area, benefiting residents and visitors alike.

2. How do you plan to engage with residents and community leaders to address their concerns and make certain that their voices are heard?

My plan to engage with residents and community leaders is to work with other elected officials so that we can hold community forums/town halls outside of regular council meetings to give citizens opportunities to address concerns, create opportunities to share in decision-making, and receive direct feedback from elected officials.

3. If elected, what steps would you take to help promote economic growth in the downtown area of the City of Fort Valley?

As stated above, I aim to work with other elected officials and community leaders to promote collaboration with the DDA to help revitalize the downtown area and preserve the rich history of the city of Fort Valley. Our rich history has the potential to make our

city a stop-through and not a drive-through.

4. What is your history of involvement in local civic or volunteer activities?

I am a member of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), Middle Georgia, Regional Joint Development Authority, Peach County Recreation Advisory Board, Former Executive Director of Feed-center Outreach, Fort Valley Lions Club, and Fort Valley Planning and Zoning Appeals Board.

5. What skills and experience do you possess that you believe would be most beneficial to the Fort Valley City Council?

My experience serving on other boards and organizations requires me to possess certain qualifications. A great council member must be able to put the community's interests before any personal bias or special interests while remaining emotionally mature enough to stay calm and respectful during disagreements. Being honest, fair, and maintaining integrity is essential to building public trust. Also taking accountability for actions and decisions by accepting responsibility and remaining transparent with the public and fellow council members.



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**INTEGRITY,
LEADERSHIP
and GROWTH.**

Elections Are on the Horizon, Make Your Voice Heard



ZOE HAMMOND

News Editor

Election season is almost upon us, and every year comes the usual slew of phrases that roughly culminate into "I didn't vote, because my vote won't/doesn't matter." Nothing could be further from the truth. Your vote matters, regardless of whether it is a local, state, or federal election.

There are numerous reasons as to why one should vote, not only in presidential elections but also in state and local elections.

First and foremost, it's a right that most did not have when this country was founded, and many have fought tooth and nail for that right. Even today, with people being legally allowed to vote, many hurdles make it nearly impossible to do so. National Geographic lists examples such as "reducing polling locations in predominantly African American or Lantinx neighborhoods, or only having polling stations open during business hours, when many disenfranchised populations are working and unable to take time off."

Numerous hurdles are being used to prevent certain groups from participating in voting. The best way to end these underhanded tactics is by standing against them and voting them out of office.

Another reason to utilize your right to vote is that voting gives you the ability to create positive change for your community and determine a better quality of life for you and your family. When it comes to voicing concerns in your community, voting is a way to make sure those concerns are heard. The decision to vote can sway an election, from voting for some-

one who doesn't have the best interests of the community at heart to someone who does.

Not voting can lead to no or negative changes. If you don't vote, others will make the decisions for you.

Elections will impact your everyday life and family. Elections determine numerous aspects of local communities.

The Asian American and Pacific Islander Vote (APIAVote) lists some of these impacts: "How much resources will your local schools get? Will the city and county government repair the potholes on the road to your house? Will public transportation services be expanded? How much access to healthcare will you receive? How much job security and pay equity will you have? What are the policies around crime prevention and gun safety? What will immigration law look like? All these decisions are determined by the people voted into office at the local, state, and federal levels of government. Voting and encouraging others to vote means standing up for the issues you care about by electing the people who have your best interests at heart... Voting gives a stake in your community."

Your tax dollars are going to be spent, and everyone pays taxes. Members of communities should have a say in where the money goes and how it is spent.

By electing city council members, county commissioners, governors, state legislators, all the way to members of Congress and the President, your vote can affect how tax dollars are allocated and what projects will benefit from local, state, and federal funding.

It's vital to vote for those elected officials who stand up for the values you believe in and will do their best to improve the community. It is the right of every American citizen - who is eligible to vote - to be able to cast their ballot.

Never doubt that your vote is powerful, but it must be exercised to remain so. Your vote is your voice. And it matters.

Breast Environment



WADE YODER
LT COLUMNIST

Our health is like a plant; our daily habits and environment is its soil...

One of the first things we should change when we have a body part or parts that are in pain (or if we want to prevent future pain or disease) is the lifestyle habits they're planted in. It is through our habits that both the good and bad things happening in our body get fed. This shouldn't scare us; this should excite us!

Example of good treatment: if we have a plant that is in a shaded area that doesn't get much sun, the dirt isn't very good, and we forget to water it, just imagine what would happen if we planted it in nutrient rich soil out front where it gets plenty of sunshine and plenty of attention. We would see this plant shed the old withered diseased leaves and begin to grow new ones, reflective of the simple changes in treatment it is getting.

Example of bad treatment: if we leave the same plant where it was and simply snip off, burn off, or use chemicals to get rid of the affected leaves and continue to forget to give it water and nutrients on a daily basis, wouldn't we be ignoring what is actually causing the problem in the first place?

One of the greatest contributors to cancerous mutations is ionizing radiation, and other forms of aggravation to a body part or organ, yet we radiate, press, probe, biopsy, cut and poison these areas of the body as a solution to a body part that is already hurting. Shouldn't we first try changing the environment and the soil we are planted in to see if this might shrink the problem into a non-issue?

What causes good breast cells to go bad: most of the cells of our body divide rapidly and this is no exception for breast tissue especially throughout the younger years. When the instructions for the new generation of cells gets corrupted and the built in mechanisms of the breast cells do not correct this, it can grow into something we later diagnosis as cancer. Radiation and carcinogens from our environment and food can change the structure of the DNA in our cells and when these cells replicate, they build cells that are not in synch with the others. If these corrupted breast cells break out of the area containing them (from compression or en-

zymatic breakdown of the wall) they can go to other areas of the body and grow corrupted breast tissue in that area.

Oddities in current early detection: mammograms expose the breast tissue and heart area to ionizing radiation, and though it is used to detect cancer, ionizing radiation can also cause cancer (through damaging the DNA of cells). When DNA gives a corrupted signal (recipe for the next cell generation) it can yield an unusual lump in that spot.

Note: "no-compression" mammograms such as the Konig Vera Breast CT are gaining in popularity and seems to at least alleviate concerns of discomfort, or concerns about cancer compression. What I haven't been able to get clarity on, is why the FDA only has it approved for diagnostic purposes and not for screening.

Thermography for early detection: if oncology is going for early and safe detection, why is thermography not pushed more? Thermography can detect unusual activity much earlier in the breasts than mammography and uses infrared imaging (which is safe) and does not use ionizing radiation.

"Our medical care system is rewarding doctors much more for ordering and reading scans than for talking to a patient."

"Radiation exposure from these scans is not inconsequential and can lead to later cancers." ~ Dr. Len Lichtenfeld Deputy chief

medical officer for the national office of the American Cancer Society.

Creating a better Breast environment: the skin care products and deodorants we used around the breast area and under our arms should be screened for toxicities. We should also be careful what detergents we use on material that is in constant contact with our skin (doing an extra rinse cycle can help as well). Replace processed food and drinks with unprocessed ones, and avoid additives, chemicals and drugs that can potentially be hormone disruptors that can in-turn become drivers of breast and other cancers. Vitamin D (also a hormone) is considered healthy for breasts, as it plays a role in various bodily functions, including cell growth, regulation, and immune function. Vitamin D is fat soluble and stored in fat tissue, so it seems it would make sense to get a little sunshine (to increase production of Vitamin D) in this area when you're able. Stimulate breast tissue for circulation of blood and lymph fluid flow.

When we eliminate bad habits and adapt healthy lifestyle habits that make our body feel better, we change the soil our health is planted in. Our body can then grow healthier cells and strengthen its fight in suppressing and eliminating the bad cells that try to take root in us!

History Closes One Chapter And Opens Another

Charlie Harper
Columnist

"Historic" has become an overused word, cheapening its meaning. It is too often invoked by journalists to apply to an unaccomplished political candidate, anointing them with the hopes and dreams of their promises. It's a way to project future success upon their present, often vacuous, ambitions.

October 13th, 2025 will be regarded as an actual historic day. It's the inverse of the modern version of the term. It will mark the triumph of action over the negative predictions of "experts" and the paired chiding from media who selected them to tell us what we must accept from their world view.

Even as recently as last week, we had major news outlets citing Hamas' aggression as a war that Israel started. CNN stated "It's been two years since Israel launched its war in Gaza and life in the enclave has never been harder." Even The Wall Street Journal chose passive voice to hide blame, stating that hostage Yarden Bibas' wife Shiri and their two young children "died in captivity". Reminding the world they were brutally murdered in cold blood was just a bridge too far.

Two years and six days after Iran's proxies paraglided into

a music festival and set off the most savagely brutal attack on a western nation this century, the remaining twenty living hostages held by Hamas have been freed. The day itself is only bittersweet.

The costs to get here - from the horrors of that initial attack to the unfortunate yet necessary human costs of war - are staggering. The price of peace will also be great.

Rebuilding is expensive. Buildings and humanitarian aid cost a lot. Trust often costs even more.

The currency of the peace deal forged by President Trump and his unlikely team of Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner and guided by the multi-titled Secretary of State Marco Rubio is trust, in a group that has yet to demonstrate they deserve, much less have earned it. That trust is girded in part by hope, and part by necessity. Wars after all are expensive, well beyond the monetary costs.

Thus, as we celebrate for the families who are now re-united - both those families with hostages as well as those with soldiers who can now return from the battlefield, we must approach the next steps to come with our eyes wide open. We must never forget that the paragliders from October 7th were

not just attacking Israel, but that their brutality was a strike upon the West in total.

Let us not forget those who directly suffered that day. But let us also be stone cold soberly aware of what happened within hours across the U.S. and Europe. "Spontaneous" protests to "Free Palestine" occurred in major U.S. and European cities. Well-funded encampments sprang up on college campuses, with the "students" somehow arriving with matching tents and organized talking points.

They were coming for all western democracies. They had a lot of help.

Our major media outlets began quoting Hamas' mouthpiece Health Ministry as if they were delivering objective facts. Our President's official spokesperson responded to questions about attacks on Jewish students and citizens with concerns about Islamophobia.

We've learned a lot about our institutions and ourselves over the past two years and six days. We've redefined "Nazi" as someone from the opposite party who says things we don't like.

We've learned that in far too many circles antisemitism is not only acceptable but celebrated as long as you pretend the hatred is about "Israel" even when the slight or attack is based solely

on a person being Jewish. And we've learned too many of our institutions - government, academic, and media - pretend not to notice these things while overtly contributing to the problem.

So this week is historic both as an end to a war but the beginning of an unwritten chapter. We must work together to author the passages with hope and optimism, but with our eyes wide open to the wolves in sheep's clothing who live among us. We cannot ignore those who demanded "ceasefire now" are not the ones celebrating.

We've had two years and six days to fully understand what they wanted. It wasn't October 13th. It was the continued march from October 7th to the destruction of Israel, and then on to the rest of the West.

As children, we learned to end our jubilant stories with "and they lived happily ever after". As adults, we understand the difference between a momentary achievement and the continuity of life. No pain is ever permanent; no victory is ever final.

October 13th was a historic day. What becomes of it is up to us, as we are the ones to author this history.

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OUR GOALS

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

HOW TO SUBMIT LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We encourage readers to submit letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 350 words and must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. All letters printed in The Leader Tribune will appear with the writer's name and hometown - we do not publish anonymous letters. The newspaper reserves the right to edit or reject letters for reasons of grammar, punctuation, taste and brevity. Letter writers are asked to submit no more than two letters per person per month. We cannot guarantee that a letter will be printed on a specific date. The Leader Tribune prefers that letters be typed. Letters to the editor are published in the order they are received as space permits. There are three ways to submit a letter to the editor
E-mail it to news@theleadertribune.net, mail it to The Leader Tribune at 109 Anderson Ave, Fort Valley, GA 31030, or drop it off at 109 Anderson Ave in Fort Valley - Monday through Friday.

OUR POLICIES

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Iowa's Taxpayer Relief Fund can help Georgia taxpayers

By John Hendrickson & Chris Denson, GA Public Policy Foundation

Georgia has made progress in recent years on lowering its income tax rate. The current 5.19% flat tax rate is scheduled to be lowered to 4.99% using revenue triggers. In order to become even more economically competitive in the region and to allow taxpayers to keep more of their hard-earned income, policymakers must not become complacent.

Lt. Gov. Burt Jones recently established the Georgia Senate Committee on Eliminating Georgia's Income Tax, which is studying how to further lower the income tax and place it on a path toward getting rid of it completely. If the objective is lowering the rate even further, then extending the revenue triggers for future rate reduc-

tion is a possibility.

Revenue triggers, if designed correctly, serve as a prudent means to lower tax rates. However, policymakers could also borrow an idea from Iowa. Iowa, which was a leader in the state "flat tax revolution," has since lowered the income tax by almost 60% thanks to the leadership of Gov. Kim Reynolds and the state legislature. A state that once had a progressive multi-rate income tax with a top rate of 8.98%, now has a 3.8% flat tax rate.

This achievement was the direct result of conservative budgeting and the creation of the Taxpayer Relief Fund.

The Taxpayer Relief Fund originated in 2011 as the Taxpayer Trust Fund, which the legislature created to capture excess revenue for the purpose of income tax relief. Lawmakers

believed it would ensure surplus tax collections ended up back in the pockets of taxpayers, not used for more state-level spending. The fund was originally capped at \$60 million, and Iowans received credits on their state tax returns each year there was a balance.

A 2018 tax reform measure renamed the Taxpayer Trust Fund as the Taxpayer Relief Fund, removed the \$60 million cap, and ended the automatic return of excess revenue to taxpayers. Instead, the legislature is now tasked with returning those dollars through tax relief measures.

Tax dollars only flow into the Taxpayer Relief Fund after the state's Cash Reserve Fund and Economic Emergency Fund (Iowa's "rainy day funds") are both filled to their statutory requirements. The Taxpayer Relief

Fund has consequently grown from \$8.4 million in fiscal year 2018 to \$3.6 billion in fiscal year 2026, thanks to Iowa's conservative budgeting.

Unfortunately, such large balances create temptation for additional government spending. Recently, some Iowa policymakers have even suggested "raiding" the Taxpayer Relief Fund to send property tax rebate checks back to taxpayers.

This is one weakness with Iowa's Taxpayer Relief Fund - it is not protected from legislators who would like to utilize the dollars for something other than income tax relief. This is an important lesson for Georgia policymakers.

With its \$3.6 billion balance, the fund is an attractive target

**TAXPAYERS
CONTINUED PG 5A**

The Anthropic Principal and Goldilocks Zone



BILLY POWELL
Parables to Ponder
COLUMNIST

The adjective “anthropic” relates to the existence of human beings. Principle means “law.” Thus, the Anthropic Principle is the Law of Human Existence. The Goldilocks zone is an area in space in which a planet is just the right distance from its home star so that its surface is neither too hot nor too cold. If the earth were closer to the sun, we would burn up; if further, we would freeze to death. The conditions are just right on earth so that liquid water remains on its surface without either freezing or evaporating. While the earth resides in the habitable zone, the planet Venus roasts in a runaway greenhouse effect and Mars exists as a frozen, arid world.

In January 2015, the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics announced its astronomers had found eight new planets beyond our solar system in the Goldilocks zone. These

planets are orbiting at an optimal distance from their parent star. Thus, the existence of liquid water is possible on their surfaces. The two most Earth-like planets are designated as Kepler-438b and Kepler-442b. Both planets orbit red dwarf stars that are smaller and cooler than our Sun. Kepler-438b circles its star every 35 days, while Kepler-442b completes one orbit every 112 days.

Here on earth, our existence depends on numerous cosmological constants whose numerical values must reside within a narrow range. If a single variable were off, even slightly, the human race could not exist. Consider the microcosmic world of the atom. Protons are positively charged subatomic particles. They combine with non-charged neutrons to form the nucleus of every atom. Circling the nucleus are negatively charged electrons which are held in orbit by the electromagnetic field created by the protons. Protons are 1,836 times larger than electrons. Were they larger or smaller, the atom would not exist, neither would we.

It is not happenstance that the earth is tilted at exactly 23.5 degrees to control its seasons. Were the sun closer we would burn up. If it were further away, we would freeze to death. The other planets in our solar sys-

tem are either too cold or too hot to support life. It is not an accident that earth’s atmosphere contains exactly the right proportions of gases to sustain human life: oxygen-78 percent, hydrogen-21 percent, argon and other gases-1 percent. Neither is it a chance occurrence that the earth’s gravity is calibrated at a precise setting to keep us from flying off into outer space. To sustain life, the average temperature on earth is 57 degrees Fahrenheit. The earth hangs in space, spinning on its axis like a top and moving through space at a speed of 66,600 miles per hour. The earth’s orbit around the sun is 595 million miles. It traverses the sun in 365 days, 6 hours, 9 minutes, and 9.54 seconds. The earth is gravitationally pulled along with the sun as the sun travels around the center of the Milky Way Galaxy. One complete trip takes 200 million years.

To say that the cosmological factors that govern our earth and the macrocosmic universe are mere happenstance is foolhardy. The fine-tuning of the earth and the clockwork movement of the heavenly bodies bespeak of a Supreme Intelligence, a transcendental Mastermind whose name is God. Job 26:7 reveals how God placed the earth in the Goldilocks Zone: “God hung the earth upon nothing.”

‘Ask the Pastor’

Has the Church been awakened?



WAYNE LENDERMAN
Lead Pastor of Church in the Orchard
COLUMNIST

I believe we are seeing an awakening, a move of God. First let’s look at the word Awakening and what it means. An awakening is a spiritual stirring — when hearts that were cold or distracted are suddenly sensitive again to the presence of God. It’s not just emotional excitement; it’s a spiritual awareness returning. People begin to hunger for righteousness, repentance, and the presence of the Holy Spirit. The “Church” has been silent in many areas for too long and the events in the past several weeks has open the eyes of many people.

Ephesians 5:14 — “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” The Church is not dead by any means however I do believe

many of the churches today have gotten complacent and comfortable. I have said this in the past and I do believe we are living in the last “Hours” and in the last days God said He would pour out His spirit, not a revival but a move of God. We are seeing a move of God in our church and in our community. People are hungry for the truth; we have seen a huge increase in young people. From students from Fort Valley State University to young married couples.

This generation is looking, reaching out, and asking for the church to be real. What are the signs of a real move of God? A “move of God” means God is actively revealing Himself — not in theory, but in power. You’ll know it’s a move of God when you see: Conviction of sin and genuine repentance. Restoration of relationships and unity among believers, renewed hunger for the Word of God. Miracles and answered prayers that point to His glory, boldness in witnessing and compassion for the lost. These are not human-driven revivals — they are Holy Spirit ignited moments where God’s presence reshapes lives and communities. And this is exactly what we are see-

ing, cultural and racial barriers are being broken right here in Peach County, and I believe it is just the beginning. I do not believe we are seeing a revival but a “Move of God.” We need to stop living in the past, saying things like I remember the times when my mom and dad would take us to the tent revivals. God is wanting to do a new thing, and He is looking for a willing heart. I believe this move, this awakening, in our young people is a result of people who are saying God do a new thing.

Habakkuk 3:2 — “Lord, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds. Repeat them in our day, in our time make them known.” God awakens His people not just to make them feel His presence, but to send them out empowered by it. A move of God is when heaven touches earth — when ordinary people experience the extraordinary presence of God, and communities are transformed from the inside out. In conclusion the enemy thought he silenced one voice but in reality, he has awakened a number of believers, in the thousands, and what we are seeing in our community and in the world is as Mighty Awakening.



CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

email: news@theleadertribune.com

OCT 26 23RD CHURCH ANNIVERSARY & FALL FESTIVAL

Free food, hayrides, game truck, bingo, face painting, prayer & more. October 26, at 2pm. 103 Avera Dr., Fort Valley.

FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION AT ST. PETER A.M.E. CHURCH ANNEX

Food Pantry Distribution at St. Peter A.M.E. Church Annex, 502 State University Drive, Fort Valley, GA.

Fourth Thursday of each month (January-October) and third Thursday of November and December. Call (478) 825-8452 for details.

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 7Sb6h8 Host James Manning (Elder)

CHRISTIAN FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH

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

FORT VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH

301 W. Church Street (478)825-2762 Join us each Sunday at 10:55AM for Christian fellowship and a spirit-lead service with our pastor, Rev. Herb Flanders. Sunday School for all ages begins at 9:45AM. Nursery is available for infants and younger children.

FT VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (behind Courthouse)

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

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

2560 Willow Lake Road, Fort Valley, GA 31030. BIBLE STUDY

Please dial in for Bible Study each Tuesday at 6:30pm. Number 646-876-9923, your meeting ID is 783-154-6108#, your participant ID is #. You are in the meeting. Dial in 3 to 4 minutes before 6:30pm.

GRACE HOUSE COMMUNITY FOODBANK

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

GREATER FAITH BABIES MINISTRIES

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

HOSTING ANGLICAN INQUIRERS’ CLASS

Led by Father Matt Harlow Learn the basics of the Christian Faith while enjoying a meal and fellowship. We will cover theology, history, liturgy, and more! To register contact Fr Matt at harlowmatthew@gmail.com https://www.middlegaanglican.org

THE LIGHTHOUSE CHURCH OF FORT VALLEY

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

SAINT ANDREW’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

ST. JULIANA’S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

ST. LUKE’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

BAHA’I FAITH

“The gift of God to this enlightened age is the knowledge of the oneness of mankind and of the fundamental oneness of religion”

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

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.

Free Food Drive Thru October 30

Contributed

Food Distribution Event this Thursday, October 30, 2025 from 11am to 2pm at the Matthews-Scipio Impace Center Inc., 1000 Tulip Drive, Fort Valley, GA 31030. Inconjunction with Middle Ga Food Bank

POLICE BEAT

CONTINUED FROM 3A

To Commit Theft Or Felony, Entering Automobile Or Other Motor Vehicle With Intent To Commit Theft Or Felony, Entering Automobile Or Other Motor Vehicle With Intent To Commit Theft Or Felony, Entering Automobile Or Other Motor Vehicle With Intent To Commit Theft Or Felony,

Stancil , Belinda Diann, 42, Perry, GA: Probation Violation (When Probation Terms Are Altered) - Felony

GA State Patrol Arrests

Pierce, Leland Darvell, 36, Macon, GA: Speeding In Excess Of Maximum Limits (State Speed And Zone Limits), Driving While License Suspended



Advertising should be a Marathon, NOT a Sprint. If you wait until you “need” it, it may be too late. Like many things, the best results come from long term commitment.

Call today to find out how The Leader Tribune can put your business in front of the pack! 478-825-2432 or email us at sales@theleadertribune.com

TAXPAYERS

CONTINUED FROM 4A

for those who advocate for increased state spending, subsidies for local governments, or property tax “buy downs.” Some of these proposals have already been introduced. Constitutional protection would honor the fund’s original purpose and safeguard taxpayer dollars from being diverted to new spending programs.

The Taxpayer Relief Fund is effective, especially when it is combined with conservative budgeting. That is why it must

be protected in order to ensure that those dollars are returned to taxpayers in the form of income tax relief. Otherwise, a large balance encourages the temptation to use it for additional government spending.

At the same time, the Taxpayer Relief Fund should not be viewed as a cushion for the budget during economic downturns.

The benefits of creating a Taxpayer Relief Fund are substantial. Just as in Iowa, any surplus

dollars could be dedicated to the Fund and be used to lower the income tax rate. A Taxpayer Relief Fund could work in conjunction with a revenue trigger, or by itself in returning the surplus collection of tax dollars back to taxpayers by lowering rates.

Creating a Taxpayer Relief Fund is one way to help ensure future rate reduction and place Georgia on the right fiscal path to ultimately achieve the goal of eliminating the income tax.

The 5th Annual
Byron Middle/Byron Elementary

TRUNK OR TREAT

Thursday, October 23, 2025
5 - 7 pm-PRIZES FOR THE TOP 3 TRUNKS-
Meet local First Responders
from our community!FOOD
TRUCKSTRICK
OR
TREATING

GAMES

MUSIC

PERFORMANCES
BY:

BMS CHEER

BMS & BES

CHORUS

BMS BAND

Parking Lot Behind Byron Middle School
(Back Parking Lot Entrance to North Peach Park)
201 Linda Drive ~ Byron, GA 31008Can 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 + HelpContributed 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 com-

munities 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.

More Than A Hundred
Thousand Georgians Could Be
Directly Affected By ShutdownBy Ty Tagami
Bureau Chief

Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — The federal government shut down as of 12:01 a.m., and it could affect the income of about 111,000 Georgia employees.

Many will not get paid, causing an economic loss that could reverberate through communities.

But the Georgia Department of Labor said Friday that the estimated 110,900 federal workers who could be furloughed may

be eligible to collect state unemployment benefits.

"Furloughed employees are considered job-attached and are not required to search for work for six weeks," the agency said.

There is a catch: under a 2019 federal law, the agency notes, furloughed employees will receive back pay when funding is restored. So, any money they collected from the state must be repaid.

The federal government can deduct unemployment benefits from their back pay or reimburse the state directly, so ap-

plicants must report gross earnings when requesting payments.

Affected employees can apply online but must show a W2 form or pay stub in person if the federal government fails to report the information to the state, which is common during shutdowns. Applicants can take their documents to any Georgia Dept of Labor Career Center.

For information and claim forms, enter "dol.georgia.gov" and "federal government shutdown" into an online search query.

Ribbon cutting marks grand
opening of Cold Vegetable
Processing Facility

Photos by FVSU

Students and Ryan Golphin officially cut the ribbon for the grand opening of Fort Valley State University's Cold Vegetable Processing Center.

By FVSU

Excitement and expectation filled the cool October air for the official ribbon cutting and grand opening of the new Fort Valley State University (FVSU) Cold Vegetable Processing Facility.

Nearly 75 alumni, elected officials, students, faculty and staff witnessed the ribbon cutting and walked inside the 5,520 square foot building for a short tour and demonstration of its use.

The facility houses equipment for shelling, washing, grading, chopping, slicing and packaging of fresh vegetables. The equipment can handle large quantities of produce in an efficient and safe manner inside an air conditioned and well lighted facility.

Ryan Golphin, who oversees operations for the facility, is one of many who helped to bring the operation to fruition. After a visit to a similar site housed at Alcorn State University, Golphin said he was able to envision the same idea for FVSU's campus.

"I'm very excited about this facility. It also provides our stu-

dents an edge, especially those that are majoring in agriculture, to gain hands-on experience," Golphin said. He also shared the importance of helping farmers create value added products and obtaining Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) certification, a training offered by FVSU to help farmers prepare their produce for grocers.

Furthermore, Golphin said the facility can handle leafy greens such as collards, kale and cabbage, as well as peas like black-eyed peas and purple hull peas. He said this is helpful to farmers due to prices and equipment.

"Small farmers can't always afford top of the line equipment, so we have it here for them. Storage has also been an issue for small farmers. We have storage here to include walk-in coolers and freezers which can help," Golphin said.

In addition to farmers, community groups also see opportunities with the FVSU Cold Vegetable Processing Facility.

Mike Morrison, food procurement manager with the

Middle Georgia Community Food Bank, shared how he could find use for the facility.

"This here is going to be a tremendous help," Morrison said, referencing distribution of fresh produce to soup kitchens, food pantries and churches. "This can help us get more food out to the needy."

Mark Latimore Jr., PhD, associate dean for FVSU's Cooperative Extension Program, said this is another way to engage and provide services to our community.

"We want to help farmers build markets and help them make more money," Latimore said. Furthermore, he said this provides an opportunity to grow more produce on campus to supply to Sodexo, the food service provider for FVSU's cafeteria. It also allows students to receive specialized training beyond the classroom.

The FVSU Cold Vegetable Food Processing Facility will release their prices for processing soon. For more information about the facility call (478) 825-6296.

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.

ESG Engineering, LLC.

00100 - 1

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.

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

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: Quintarios, Prieto, Wood & Boyer, P.A.

365 Northridge Rd, Suite 230
Atlanta, GA 30350
Email: GA.foreclosure@qpwwlaw.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 FAGAN CIRCLE AND THE SOUTHERN 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 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 PROPERLY 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 ALONG THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF EDWARD STREET; THENCE SOUTH 01° 21' WEST 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

GEORGIA, PEACH COUNTY NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

All creditors of the Estate of **James Everett Scales, Jr.**, 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 7th day of October, 2025.
Charles Edward Scales, Executor
c/o Rebecca C. Moody, Esq.
MOODY AND ASSOCIATES LAW FIRM, LLC
P.O. Box 422
Perry, GA 31069
478-988-0238
10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 11/1, 2025
3571

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

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

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF PEACH COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA CASE NUMBER 25-V-0390 IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF: MAC ANGELYN SIMS, PETITIONER NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF ADULT

Mac Angelyn Sims filed a petition in the Peach County Superior Court on October 9, 2025, to change the name from: Mac Angelyn Sims to Angelyn Brantley Sims. Any interested party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within 30 days after the petition was filed. This 9th day of October, 2025.
10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 11/5, 2025
3572

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 4T1BE32K74UJ379146
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 WDDS-J4EB6N039540
2011 CHEVROLET CRUZE 1G1PH5S96B7243010
10/08, 10/15, 2025
3563

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

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)

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
All creditors of the estate of **RALPH TED WILLIAMS** 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 15th day of October, 2025
Name: Theresa Williams
Title: Administrator
Address: 103 Madrid Street, Apt 15; Warner Robbins, GA 31093
10/15/2025, 10/22/2025, 10/29/2025, 11/05/2025
3568 (116228)

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

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

ads is \$25 each. These ads run one time and typically come from the Peach County State Court or the Municipal Court of incorporated cities.
Juvenile Matters - This broad category can include notices such as adoption, custody, juvenile court actions and contemporary custody. These matters frequently run from two to four times, depending on the order. Some of these issues come from the Peach County Juvenile Court, others from the Peach County Probate Court.
Domestic Matters - These include notices for change of name and for divorce. When one of the parties cannot be located locally. Both of these items run four times.
Notice of Sale or Foreclosure Notice - These notices typically run the four Wednesdays prior to the first Tuesday of the month when the sales are held at the Peach County Courthouse in Fort Valley. The fee for these notices is \$15 per 100 words per insertion.
Publisher's Affidavit fee is \$10.

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 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

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

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 Eii Way Drive
Byron, GA 31008
9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 2025
3556

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 of intent to collect attorney's fees 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.

LEGALS CONTINUED 8A

LEGALS

CONTINUED FROM 7A

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 Douglas 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
Peachtree 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)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF PEACH COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF MICHAEL DEAN BOYKIN, DECEASED

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
50268

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 pro-

bate 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

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)

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 10/1/25, 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

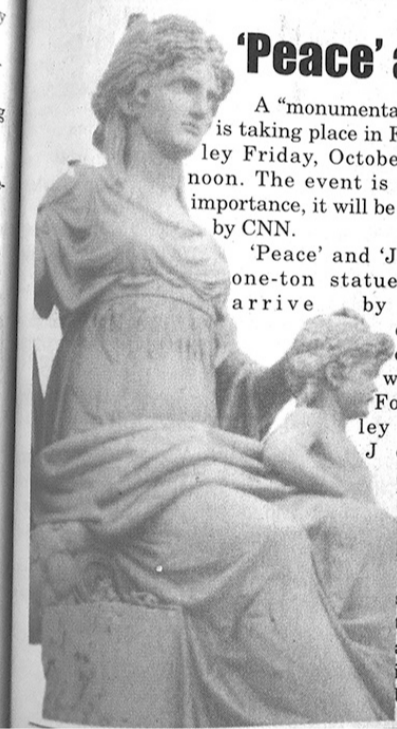
From the Archives: 2005: 'Peace' and 'Justice' to arrive by carriage

In other business, the board unanimously accepted Daniel's recommendation to set the millage rate at 9.446.

The Peach County Board of Education and

vious fiscal years. Even with a rise in property values, the city actually will take in \$3,337 less in taxes this

everything the city might want to do, but the budget provided a good balance between that and what is possible.



'Peace' and 'Justice' to arrive by carriage

A "monumental" event is taking place in Fort Valley Friday, October 14 at noon. The event is of such importance, it will be covered by CNN.

'Peace' and 'Justice,' one-ton statues, will arrive by horse-drawn caisson with Fort Valley Mayor John Stumbo at the helm. The sculptures arrived in the U.S.

from Scotland in Savannah and embarked on "A Monumental Journey" across the state. The seated bronze sculptures are by internationally-renowned sculptor Alexander Stoddart of Scotland. Sponsored by the National Monuments Foundation Inc. and the Coca-Cola Company, these world-class works of art are making their way across Georgia to their final destination and dedication at the site of The Millennium Gate at Atlantic Station in mid-town Atlanta.

The Millennium Gate, featuring a total of six classically designed bronze sculptures, will be the largest national monument of its kind to be constructed since the Jefferson Memorial.

The City of Fort Valley will hold a local celebration at the bandstand downtown beginning at noon. Stumbo's office is sponsoring a barbecue for school children and the public with a welcoming ceremony. The high school band will play and the mayor will drive the caisson through downtown Fort Valley. The caisson will be in Macon October 13 and, once leaving Fort Valley, will head to Athens, making stops there and in Watkinsville, Pine Mountain, LaGrange, Rome and Atlanta, getting to its final destination on October 27.

Mayor Stumbo encourages you to participate in the welcoming ceremony for this "monumental" and historical journey, noon downtown at the bandstand.

From the Archives of The Leader Tribune

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AAA: Speeding Hits Just as Hard as Drunk Driving

By AAA

ATLANTA (September 30, 2025) — Speeding may not feel reckless, but AAA warns it's just as deadly as drunk driving. Through its bold new campaign, "Crashes Hit Different," AAA aims to change public perception and highlight the real consequences of excessive speed.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), drunk driving accounted for 30 percent of traffic fatalities, while speeding was responsible for 29 percent. These nearly identical figures demonstrate how speeding is just as lethal on our roads as driving under the influence, and yet, it often receives far less

public attention.

"Drunk driving is universally condemned, and rightly so," said Montrae Waiters, spokeswoman for AAA-The Auto Club Group. "Yet despite posing similar risks, speeding remains socially acceptable. That's a dangerous double standard. It's time we treat speeding with the same urgency and accountability as impaired driving. Both are equally deadly, and just as preventable."

Speeding vs. Drunk Driving: The Risks Are Alarmingly Similar

- Impaired reaction time and heightened crash risk
- Preventable injuries and fatalities
- Drunk driving carries stig-

ma—speeding, not so much

New AAA Survey: Georgia Drivers Are Speeding... and Know the Risks

- 74% admitted driving over the speed limit
- Yet 71% of them blamed "keeping up with traffic," and 27% said "a few mph over doesn't count"
- 87% agreed speeding increases the chances of severe injury or death

Speeding shortens reaction time, increases crash force, and contributes to 40,000 traffic deaths each year nationwide.

AAA's Call to Action: Make Speeding as Unacceptable as Drunk Driving

AAA urges drivers, lawmakers, and communities to em-

Fort Valley DDA FAÇADE GRANT PROGRAM

The Fort Valley DDA Façade Grant Program supports exterior commercial improvements in the downtown district. It encourages preservation, restoration, and visible beautification efforts.

Eligibility Criteria

- Commercial property owners and tenants (with owner's written approval)
- Property must be within the Fort Valley DDA District
- Current on all taxes, licensing, and zoning compliance
- Priority for historic/significant buildings or blighted structures

Eligible Projects

- Exterior painting (must submit color samples and or choice from color palette)
- Masonry cleaning/repainting
- Signage installation/restoration
- Window/door repair or replacement
- Awnings/canopies
- Exterior lighting
- ADA-compliant entries
- Permanent landscaping/planters

Ineligible Expenses

- Roof work, interior renovations, temporary items, or labor by owner/relatives
- New construction or unrelated operational costs

Program Process

1. Pre-Application consultation
2. Submit application with supporting documents
3. Receive written approval
4. Complete work within 180 days
5. Submit reimbursement form and materials

Register Now:

Fort Valley Main Street & DDA Office

CHILD SEX ABUSE STING

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Cannon explained that while he could not go into the tactics and platforms used at this time, he was able to disclose that all twelve of the arrests took place at the same location. He stated that the location of the "meet-ups" was quite difficult to get to, so the likelihood of someone stumbling upon the operations was slim to none.

Cannon also explained that when officers were talking to these individuals on the social media platforms, it was

made perfectly clear multiple times that the person they were talking to was a minor.

Chief Cannon had some advice for parents: be transparent with your children about their safety and the dangers out there. He also encouraged parents to learn about the dangers of sex trafficking, especially when it comes to runaways.

Cannon stated that it is important to know what your children are doing and who they are talking to, especially those in

the age range of 12 to 15.

Cannon had a message to the individuals involved in these kinds of activities.

"My message to the people involved in this kind of activity — you are not safe in Byron and Peach County. We will be proactive. We will deter you, find you, and arrest you," Cannon said. "We are going to continue so that Byron and Peach County remain a great and safe place to live."

brace a cultural shift.

Here's how we start:

- Follow posted speed limits and self-monitor speed
- Eliminate distractions behind the wheel
- Buckle up—seatbelts save lives
- Never drive impaired by alcohol or drugs

"Speeding is dangerous, preventable, and devastating," added Waiters. "Slowing down means fewer crashes, fewer tragic headlines, and fewer broken hearts."

About the Survey

The AAA Consumer Pulse™ Survey was conducted online among residents living in Georgia from July 11 – 14, 2025. A total of 400 residents completed the survey. Survey results asked for all respondents have a maximum margin of error of ± 4.9% points. Responses are weighted by age and gender to ensure a reliable and accurate representation of the adult population (18+) in Georgia.

About AAA - The Auto Club Group

The Auto Club Group (ACG) is the second largest AAA club

in North America with more than 13 million members across 14 U.S. states and two U.S. territories. ACG and its affiliates provide members with roadside assistance, insurance products, financial services, travel offerings, and more. ACG belongs to the national AAA federation with more than 65 million members in the United States and Canada. AAA's mission is to protect and advance freedom of mobility and improve traffic safety. For more information, get the AAA Mobile app, visit AAA.com, and follow us on social media.

Homecoming Hype: Undefeated Peach County Trojans Ready for Battle Against Bainbridge

Chris McKenzie
Sports Reporter

FORT VALLEY, Ga. — The lights will shine bright this Friday night in THE VALLEY as the Peach County Trojans return from their bye week for one of the most anticipated games of the season — Homecoming 2025. The Trojans, sitting undefeated at 7-0, will defend their home turf

against the Bainbridge Bearcats (0-7) in a match-up set to kick off at 7:30 p.m. at Trojan Stadium.

Last season, Peach County dominated Bainbridge in a 45-14 victory, and this year's squad looks even more complete on both sides of the ball. The Trojan defense has been nothing short of elite — flying to the football, forcing turnovers, and shutting down opposing offenses week after week. On the other side, the offense and special

teams have continued to be the spark that ignites the team's energy and momentum.

Head Coach Marquis Westbrook has kept the team focused through their hot start, emphasizing one key message: compete at a high level every day. Even with the excitement of homecoming week buzzing around campus and the community, the Trojans know there's still work to be done. As the Trojans look to extend their perfect re-

cord, fans are encouraged to pack Trojan Stadium and make it an unforgettable night. The energy, the pride, and the tradition of Peach County football will be on full display as the team looks to keep their undefeated season alive.

It's Homecoming in the Valley — where legends are made, the lights never dim, and the Trojans play for each other.

Lady Trojans Finish Strong, Set for State Playoffs

Chris McKenzie
Sports Reporter

FORT VALLEY, GA — The Peach County Lady Trojans have wrapped up an impressive regular season, finishing with an overall record of 17-13 and a solid 8-2 mark in region play. Their only region setbacks came at the hands of a talented Cairo squad, but those close contests showcased just how competitive this Lady Trojans team has been all season long.

Now, Peach County is turning its focus to the AAA State

Playoffs, where they've earned the No. 15 seed in the bracket. The Lady Trojans will open the first round at home against the No. 18-seeded Dawson County Lady Tigers, a matchup that promises plenty of excitement for fans in Fort Valley.

The Lady Trojans' success this season has been powered by a balanced lineup and strong leadership from their upperclassmen. The offense has consistently produced runs, while the defense and pitching have come up big in key moments.

With home-field advantage in the opening round, the Lady Trojans are looking to ride their momentum and advance deeper into the postseason.

First pitch between Peach County and Dawson County is scheduled for Wednesday, October 15 in Fort Valley at 5:00pm. Fans are encouraged to pack the stands and support the Lady Trojans as they look to make a statement in the state playoffs.

Fort Valley State falls to Benedict 14-7 in Defensive Battle

Chris McKenzie
Sports Reporter

The Fort Valley State University Wildcats dropped another close contest on Saturday afternoon, falling to Benedict College 14-7 in a tough SIAC matchup. The loss moves the Wildcats to 1-5 overall and 1-3 in conference play.

Benedict struck first and wasted no time doing so. On the opening kickoff, Jaxon Williams returned the ball 88 yards for a touchdown to give the Tigers a 7-0 lead just 12 seconds into the game. The early special teams miscue put the Wildcats in an early hole they would spend the rest of the afternoon trying to climb out of.

Fort Valley State responded midway through the second quarter with its best drive of the game. Quarterback Don Hudson led the Wildcats on a nine-play, 93-yard march that ended with a 46-yard touchdown pass

to J.T. Pendleton. Kicker Kyle Keese added the extra point to even the score at 7-7 with 5:20 left before halftime.

The Wildcats' defense continued to battle throughout the afternoon, keeping Benedict's offense contained for much of the game. However, the Tigers broke through again late in the third quarter when Darius Ocean connected with Jaxon Williams for a 29-yard touchdown pass, giving Benedict a 14-7 lead with 3:50 remaining in the period. That score proved to be the difference, as the Wildcats were unable to capitalize on several late opportunities.

Hudson finished the day completing 8 of 19 passes for 123 yards and a touchdown. Backup quarterback Jai'que Hart went 2 of 10 for 21 yards and an interception. Pendleton led the receiving corps with two catches for 51 yards and a touchdown, while Myles Smith

added three receptions for 33 yards. On the ground, Demetri Simmons was the team's leading rusher with 27 yards on five carries.

Defensively, Fort Valley State put together another strong performance. Ezekiel Theodoris led the way with eight total tackles, while Omarion LaRoach had five stops, including 2.5 tackles for loss and one sack. Alphonso Harris also recorded a sack, and Kion Threalkill broke up two passes. Despite the defense's effort, the early kickoff return and a single big play in the second half were enough to tilt the outcome in Benedict's favor.

Fort Valley State will look to bounce back next weekend when they face Savannah State University on Saturday, October 18, at 3 p.m. The game will be played at Laney Memorial Stadium in Augusta, Georgia.

Fort Valley Middle School FB Game



Photo by Tourris Leary, Sports Photographer
(above) #36 Elijah Barnes got his eyes on the quarterback to get a huge tackle for loss.
(below) #10 Eli Gulley made a great block.



Georgia begins COVID-19 vaccination

By Ty Tagami
Bureau Chief

Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Local health departments are giving COVID-19 shots while supplies last, with more vaccine expected to arrive next week.

The Georgia Department of Public Health began vaccinating after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued new COVID-19 immunization recommendations Monday.

The CDC is recommending that most adults get vaccinated, especially those 65 and older and those who have never been vaccinated. Parents of children at least 6 months old should discuss vaccination with a healthcare provider, the federal agency said.

No prescription is required, but local health department nurses or other providers will counsel patients on the risks and benefits of vaccination, the Department of Public Health said.

Most major insurance companies will cover the cost of immunization, but the state is advising people to check with their insurers. Vaccination is covered by Medicare and Medicaid.

Local health departments can assist those without insurance, the state said.

Preview: Peach County vs. Bainbridge

By Victor Kulkosky
Retired Sports Guy

Bainbridge Bearcats, 10-17-2025, Home

Home: Bainbridge **Head Coach:** Mike Harville, 0-1, 1st season

Overall Record: 550-517-42 (.516), 110 seasons, since 1913

Last Year: 1-9/1-4

This Year: 0-7/0-2

Region Titles: 9 **State Titles:** 2

2025 Classification: 1-3

PC vs. Team: 1-1 **Last Game:** PC 45, B 14, 10-18-2024

The nine seasons from 2015 to 2023 were the best in the history of the Bainbridge Bearcats football. They won five region titles — four in a row from 2020-

2023 — and one state title. It took a century to win the school's other four region crowns and one state crown. That probably explains the impatience of the powers that be at Bainbridge, who sacked second-year Head Coach Jay Walls with four games left in the regular season.

Walls replaced Jeff Littleton, who is tied for the longest tenure at Bearcats' Head Coach at 11 seasons, and the best record, 91-46, with five region titles and one state title. Littleton moved to Tift County, a 6A team, where he was 5-12 as of last week. It's odd: Walls came to Bainbridge from Tift Co., where he posted a modest 44-34 record, with a 2006 region title and a run to the semifinals. He was unable to match his previous results at

Bainbridge.

According to the Bainbridge Post-Searchlight, Interim Head Coach Mike Harville is well-acquainted with the Bearcats. He was on Littleton's staff for nine years, so he coached some of this year's juniors and seniors. He also coached at Brantley County, Ga. Military College, Baldwin, and Lee County.

The history between Bainbridge and Peach County is brief. The Trojans won, 45-14, last year, and the Bearcats won, 10-2, in 1991. With one game and an off week under his belt, can Harville make the next chapter of PC vs. Bainbridge more exciting? We shall see this Friday, at our place.

FIRE IT UP, PC!!!

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September Work-Based Learning Student of the Month



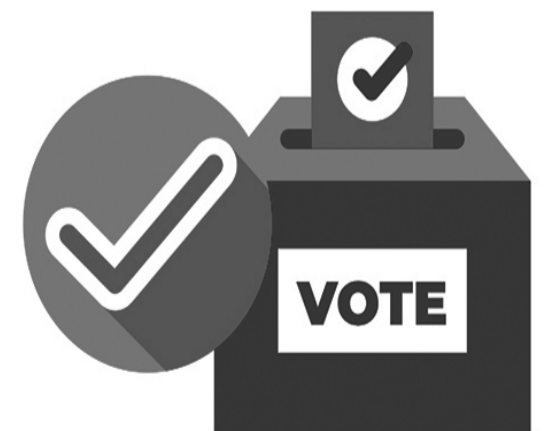
By Peach County Schools
CTAE

Congratulations to the September Work-Based Learning Student of the Month, Jessica Peterson.

Jessica is a 12th grade student in the Certified Nursing Assistant pathway at Peach County High School. Jessica works at Five Points Pharmacy in Fort Valley and does a great job!

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902 Campus Drive
Fort Valley, Georgia 31030

Visit Our Website!

peachcounty.gov/board-of-elections

By Peach County Government

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The Peach County Board of Elections & Registration is here to help you with all your voting needs. Whether you need to check your voter registration, confirm your polling location, or review the list of precincts,

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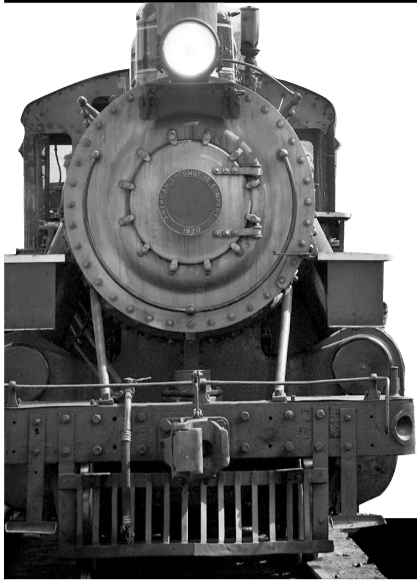
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HELP WANTED

PASTORAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church is presently seeking a Full-Time Pastor.

Opening Date: September 15, 2025
Closing Date: October 15, 2025

INCOMPLETE PACKAGES WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED. Applicants must provide the following information:

1. Biography
 2. Cover Letter
 3. Current Resume
 4. Copy of Education Transcripts
 5. Copy of Ministerial License of Ordination, Verification of Theology Training/Degree
 6. Three (3) Letters of Recommendation
 7. Prior to Interview, Certified Background/Criminal History
- If interested, you may submit the Candidate Package to:

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
c/o Brother James Crocker, Chairperson
Pastoral Search Committee
P.O. Box 1014
Fort Valley, GA 31030

For the Pastor Job Description, you may visit the church website at fbcwillowlakeroad.com.

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STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS FOR THE WEEK 10/12/25

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Fort Valley Lions Club Receives New Plusoptix Vision Screener

Contributed

The Fort Valley Lions Club recently celebrated the arrival of a new Plusoptix Vision Screener with an official unboxing event. The advanced screening device will enhance the Club's ongoing efforts to promote eye health and early detection of vision problems among local students.

The new screener will be used to conduct vision screenings in Fort Valley and Crawford County schools, allowing Lions Club volunteers to identify children who may need further eye exams or corrective lenses. Early detection is a key part of preventing long-term vision

issues and supporting student success in the classroom.

Lions Club President Martha McAfee expressed appreciation for the support that made the purchase possible, noting that the device represents an important investment in the community's children. She especially thanked corporate sponsors – Blue Bird and Flint Energies Foundations, State Farm – Paul Capista, SunMark Bank, Pride LLC, Southeast Municipal Solutions, ESG Engineering, and Attorney Charles Jones.

"This new Plusoptix screener will help us reach more students, more efficiently," said McAfee. "Clear vision is critical

for learning, and we're proud to do our part to ensure every child has that opportunity."

The Fort Valley Lions Club's vision screenings are part of the organization's broader mission of sight conservation and community service, continuing a legacy of service that aligns with Lions Clubs International's global commitment to improving eye health and serving others.

For more information about upcoming screenings or to learn how to get involved with the Fort Valley Lions Club, visit the Club's Facebook page.



FREE Event October 16

- Movie Premier "Operation: Aunties"

Contributed

An allblk Original film, "Operation: Aunties". Free to the public this October 16th at 7pm. At the Matthews-Scippio Impact Center, 1000 Tulip Drive, Fort Valley, GA 31030.

A Human Trafficking Awareness Movie Premier. Meet and Greet: Maurice Johnson "Beyond the Gates" and question persuade refer training at 6pm.



CANDIDATE - REEVES

CONTINUED FROM 1A

as a mentor, and have participated in national environmental justice initiatives. These experiences give me a unique perspective on policy, community needs, and practical solutions.

5. What skills and experience would be most beneficial to the Fort Valley City Council?

I bring a combination of strategic, analytical, and community-focused leadership:

- **Education & Recognition:** Cum Laude graduate of Fort Valley State University with a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Economics, recipient of the Agricultural Department Award.

- **Professional Experience:**

USDA State Economist (direct hire) and USDA Future Leader in Agriculture; extensive experience in environmental justice, data analysis, and policy evaluation.

- **Community Leadership:** Substitute teacher, Planning and Zoning Board member, mentor, and nonprofit volunteer with a focus on youth, equity, and sustainability.

- **Collaboration & Teamwork:** Skilled at building consensus, working with diverse stakeholders, and translating complex policy into actionable outcomes.

These experiences equip me to work effectively with council members, community leaders, and residents to implement poli-

cies that strengthen Fort Valley's safety, economic vitality, and overall quality of life.

Closing Statement

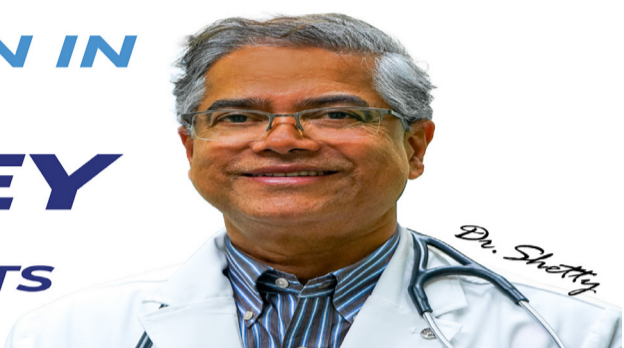
Fort Valley has incredible potential — from its youth to its businesses to its cultural and educational assets. By focusing on **public safety, opportunities for children, access to healthy food, downtown revitalization, and financial stewardship**, we can foster a city of **redemption, progression, and pride**. My approach is grounded in listening, collaboration, and shared responsibility, and I look forward to working with council and residents to move our city forward.



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Meet the Candidate: Jeffery Lundy

Contributed

1. To you, what are the most pressing issues in the city of Fort valley and, if elected, how do you plan to address them?

Answer: Several pressing issues comes to mind with this

question, the audits, safety within the city and communities and staffing. When I came into the office of the mayor in 2022, the city was behind on the audits for five years, the crime rate was up, and the police department only had 14 officers. Under my adminis-

tration as mayor, I emphasized the importance of getting the audits in compliance with state law for the city to receive state funding. We were challenged with having to find a firm to do the audits because the firm the city was using for years had staffing changes. Currently,

we are working on year 2023, which will be completed soon. I will continue to promote safety within our city and community by increasing officer presence, citizens engagements and supporting opportunities for the youth and adults. As mayor, I will continue to support our

administration staff, HR department in the hiring of qualified personnel. I will continue to reach out to our government partners, Middle Georgia Regional Commission, and the Georgia Municipal Association for the hiring of department for assistance in the hiring of department heads.

meeting with investors who want to invest in our GREAT city.

4. What is your history of involvement in local civic or volunteer activities?

Answer: I volunteered at the recreation department for 10 years, I volunteered at the Hunt Educational and Cultural Center for 5 years, I founded the Fort Valley Youth Organization (FVYO) which is no longer in operation, I am the founder of the Brothers of the F.A.S.T. (fathers and Son Together) mentor project, I was on the enrichment staff for 10 years at FVSU, NYSP (National Youth Summer Program), I served on the IHOPE board of Directors as the VP for 3 years and I serve as the Pastor of Love and Kindness Ministry.

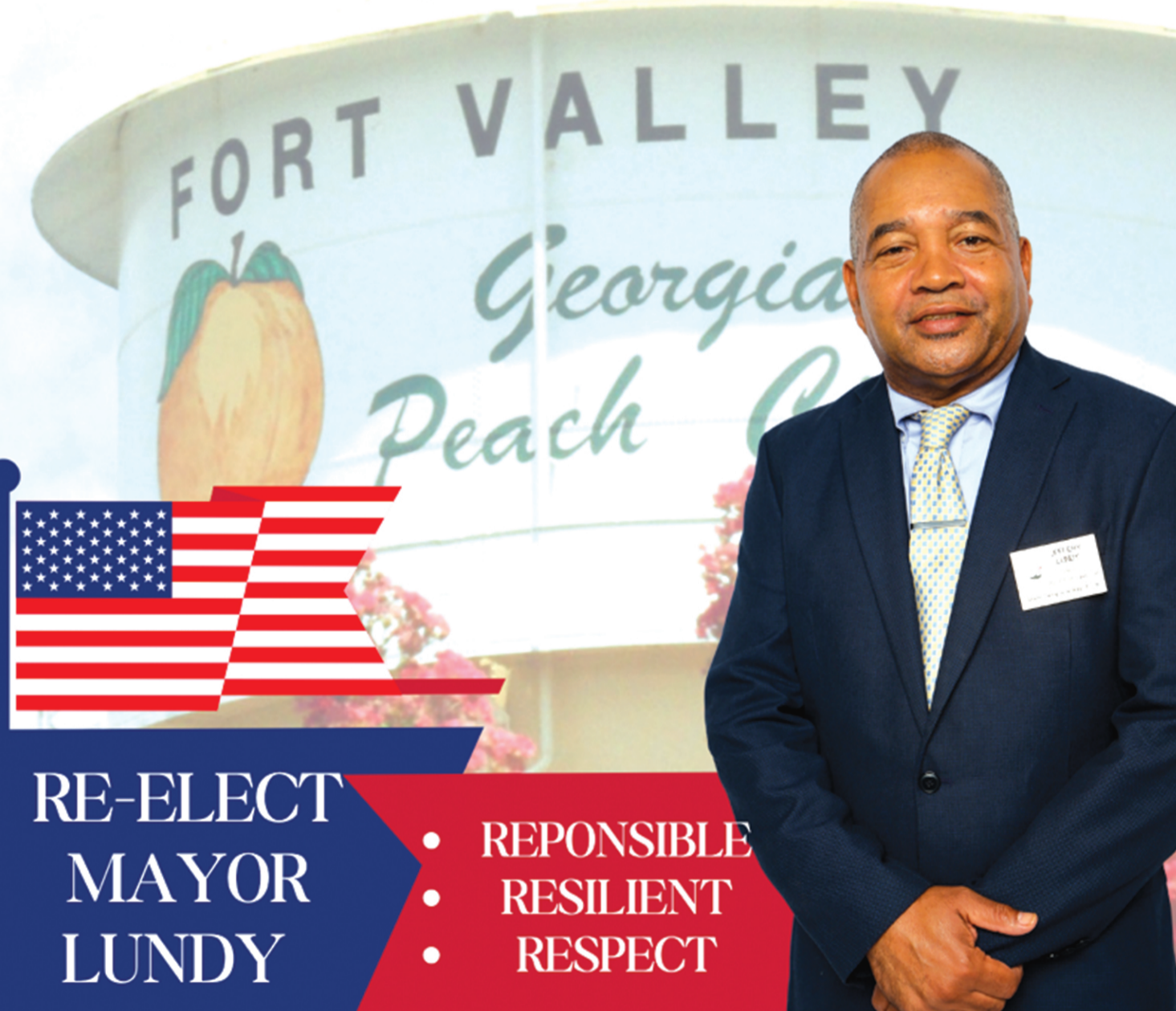
5. What Skills and experience do you possess that you believe would be most beneficial to the Fort Valley City Council?

Answer: I love this city and the people. I operate in fairness and truth. I encourage unity amongst the city council members. I lead with integrity and respect to all. I gained life lived experiences as a retired law enforcement officer with 30 years of service. I am a military veteran, which gave me opportunities to travel to other countries and experience cultural differences. I am family oriented built on a strong foundation of love and respect. I am always open to learning from others, for no one knows everything. These traits and attributes build my character and makes me a better servant for the citizens of Fort valley.

3. If elected, what steps would you take to help promote economic growth in the downtown area of the city of Fort Valley?

Answer: As mayor, I will continue to foster and build relationships with the Downtown Development Authority, business owners, and stakeholders. I will continue to promote our downtown and the look of downtown by holding businesses accountable for the safety and the upkeep of their property by supporting Code enforcement. I will continue to support the City Master Plan for downtown development by

MAKING A DIFFERENCE FORT VALLEY



Cleaning Up The City of Fort Valley

By The City of Fort Valley

On the way to making Fort Valley a cleaner place with Demolitions at 105 Pearson Mill and 514, 524, 526 and 230 Cliett St. It's been a long day for the City of Fort Valley Firemen, Public Works employees that was on the scene, and me. Again, thanks for all the support. Please be patient the next few days while the guys from Public Works continue to remove the debris from the demolition from Code Enforcement Officer.



524 & 526 Cliett Street before demolition.

Photo Contributed



105 Pearson Mill before and after demolition.

Photos Contributed



230 Cliett Street before demolition.

Photo Contributed

State tax revenues rise in September

By Ty Tagami
Bureau Chief

Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA – Georgia's net tax collections rose by 1.9% last month compared to September of last year, the state Department of Revenue reported Tuesday.

The state collected \$3.27 billion in September, up \$60.3 million over the same month a year ago.

Monthly individual income tax receipts rose 3.2% over September 2024 as tax refunds fell 16.2% and withholding payments rose 1.7%.

Other categories were up too, the sales and use tax by 2.9% and the corporate income tax by 7.6%. Motor fuel taxes gained 1.8% and tag and title fees rose 20.8%.

The title ad valorem tax, a small category that brought in \$71.7 million for the month, fell 8.5% compared to a year ago.

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

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On-site Registration: Adult \$30 | *Youth \$15 | Group Registration (Team of 5) \$125

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

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PLAYERS SUSPENDED

CONTINUED FROM 1A

representing the University with Wildcat pride and professionalism on and off the field. We remain committed to learning from this experience and reinforcing the principles that define what it means to be a Wildcat."

The Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference stated its plan to continue to implement policies to prevent similar fights from breaking out. They also stated that they will continue to enforce "a zero-tolerance policy" regarding any unsportsmanlike behavior.

These suspensions and fines come right after the suspension of the Blue Machine Marching Band, right before Homecoming Week, over hazing allegations, which led to the arrest of two people.