

The Houston Home Journal

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Wednesday, January 7, 2026



On New Year's Eve, the City of Perry came together to bring in 2026 in a huge way at their annual Buzzard Drop event. See more scenes on page 2A and hhjonline.com.

Shooting in Watson Blvd. McDonald's parking lot leaves couple injured

*By OWEN JONES
HHJ Staff Writer
owen@hhjonline.com*

WARNER ROBINS — A shooting at a local McDonald's left a married couple injured Sunday evening.

According to a media release, around 6 p.m. on Jan. 4, officers of the Warner Robins Police Department responded to shots fired at the McDonald's at 1869 Watson Boulevard.

Officers then found victims James and Dyketa Brown, who both had minor injuries from glass shattering after their vehicle was shot in the drive-through line.

The release said an unknown Black male was seen walking through the parking lot and shot into the vehicle several times, then fled.

This incident is still under investigation. Anyone with information related is encouraged to contact Det. Robert Broussard at (478) 302-5380 or the Macon Regional Crimestoppers at 1-877-68CRIME.



One arrested after shots fired on New Year's Day

*By BRIEANNA SMITH
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WARNER ROBINS — Law enforcement is investigating a shooting that took place in Warner Robins on New Year's Day.

Around 3:20 a.m. on Jan. 1, officers responded to a report of gunfire in the 600 block of Kelly Street, according to a press release.

Two 27-year-old individu-

als were inside their home when shots were fired from outside, resulting in property damage from a stray bullet.

The investigation determined that a verbal dispute among a group of young adults escalated to gunfire.

Police identified 18-year-old Romeo Ford as a suspect, recovered the firearm involved, and arrested him for aggravated assault.

Anyone with additional information is encouraged to contact the Warner Robins Police Department's Criminal Investigations Division at (478) 302-5380 or Macon Regional Crimestoppers at 1-877-68CRIME.



PERIODICAL

Death under investigation after child suffers illness

*By OWEN JONES
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WARNER ROBINS — A five-year-old girl died Christmas Day after being admitted into Emory Healthcare Warner Robins for an illness, according to a Houston County Coroner's Office Media Release.

See ILLNESS page 7A



The Houston Home Journal's top 10 stories of 2025

The news that drew the most attention in 2025 often reflected moments of tragedy, accountability and community across Middle Georgia. As 2026 begins, we're revisiting the Houston Home Journal's most-read stories last year, offering a snapshot of the events that had the greatest impact on readers.

10) 'Robins Air Force Base employee indicted in federal court - April 5 edition

A former Robins Air Force Base employee was indicted by the United States District Court in Macon for exposing himself

to a coworker in public in early March.

According to an indictment, on July 7, 2024, Stacy Wood committed a "lewd exposure of a sexual organ" in a coworker's cubicle.

Wood was indicted for

one count of public indecency on March 19, 2025, and received a sentence of one year of probation in early July.

9) Houston County elementary teacher named finalist for 2026 Georgia Teacher of the Year

April 2 edition
Jade Thomas, Houston County School District's Teacher of the Year, became a top 10 finalist for the 2026 Georgia Teacher of the Year in March.

See REVIEW page 3A

Word of the Day

How much better to get wisdom than gold, to get insight rather than silver! — Proverbs 16:16 (NKJV)

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THE INSIDE

More scenes from the 2025 Perry New Year's Eve Buzzard Drop, photos by Brieanna Smith



Attention, newlyweds!

Submissions are open for our 2026
Southern Bride magazine cover contest!

The winner will be on the 2026 Southern Bride
magazine's cover and be featured inside. The
runner-up will also be featured.

Any bride who got married in 2025 and is a resident
of the Middle Georgia area is eligible to enter.

Submit a high-quality wedding photo, along with you
and your partner's full names, address, wedding date,
wedding location and venue, photographer's name,
jeweler's name and contact information (phone
number & email) to brieanna@hhjonline.com.

Voting will start January 19th on hhjonline.com and
end at noon on January 30th. The winner will be
announced January 30th.

Winners must be available for a phone interview
between January 31st and February 5th.

Submission deadline: January 18th



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CALENDAR

Perry High School Class of 1976 Bi-Centennial Reunion Weekend

Theme: "Celebrating 50 Years of Achievement and Excellence"

Panthers of '76—It's Time to Celebrate! Join us for a once-in-a-lifetime celebration of our 50-Year Reunion!

Reunion Weekend: September 11–13, 2026

Events All Weekend

RSVP by March 31, 2026

Payment Due by May 29, 2026

For more information Contact Regina Ford at 478-987-0257 or email perryhighschool76@gmail.com and visit the Reunion Social Media Page Perry High School Class of 76 Reunion News.

Trinity UMC Blood Drive

It's time to make a New Year's Resolution to save a life by donating blood! Every drop counts!

Trinity United Methodist Church will be hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive Monday, January 12, from noon to 6 p.m.

Sign up at www.redcrossblood.org to secure your spot and maximize staffing to limit wait times.

Organizer Debbie Crenshaw has organized over 25 years of drives and does a fantastic job of making sure every donor also takes home a gift! For this drive, the Red Cross is also including everyone an opportunity to win tickets to the Super Bowl.

Location: 129 S. Houston Road, Warner Robins, 31088; parking in the rear.

Community Calendar Email your information to:

brieanna@hhjonline.com

Houston Home Journal

478-987-1823

1210 Washington St. Perry

OBITUARIES

Wilhemina Melba Wallace

It is with deep love and heartfelt sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and sister, Wilhemina Melba Wallace, who passed peacefully at her home on the afternoon of Friday, January 2, 2026.

Melba was born on August 16, 1934, in Pitts, Georgia, to the late Leo Mozart Holley and Elizabeth Louisiana Martin Holley. During her high school years, she moved to Jacksonville, Florida, where she graduated from Robert E. Lee High School. On June 6, 1953, she married the love of her life, James Austin Wallace, in Folkston, Georgia. Together, they began a remarkable journey that would span more than seven decades.

As a proud military wife, Melba embraced a life of adventure, supporting James throughout his military career as they and their four sons traveled across the country. Some of her fondest memories were made on the road, exploring new places together in their Winnebago. Along the way,



Melba built a dedicated career in Civil Service, serving in Ohio, Newfoundland, California, and Georgia, before retiring from Robins Air Force Base.

Melba found joy in the simple pleasures of life—playing the piano, traveling, and camping with her family. Her quiet strength, devotion to family, and gentle spirit touched all who knew her.

In addition to her parents, Melba was preceded in death by her beloved son, Dwain Marcus Wallace.

She leaves behind a legacy of love and cherished memories, lovingly carried on by her devoted husband of 73 years, James Austin Wallace; her sons, James Austin Wallace, Jr., Dexter Lynn Wallace

(Judy) of Covington, and Dwight Anthony Wallace of Raleigh, North Carolina; her grandchildren, James Austin Wallace III, Tiffany Whittington, Donnie Wallace, Ashley Wallace, Austin Wallace, Amber Stallings, Haley Rybarczyk, and Brett Wallace; her twelve great-grandchildren; and her brother, Randall Melvin Holley of Jacksonville, Florida.

Melba will be deeply missed and forever remembered for the love she shared, the life she built, and the family she held so dear.

Melba's family will receive friends at McCullough Funeral Home on Friday, January 9, 2026, from 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. at McCullough Funeral Home. A funeral service will immediately follow at 2:00 p.m. in the chapel of McCullough Funeral Home with Reverend Jeff Cleghorn officiating. Following the service, Melba will be laid to rest in Magnolia Park Cemetery.

Go to www.mcculloughfh.com to sign the Online Registry for the family. McCullough Funeral Home and Crematory has the privilege of being entrusted with these arrangements.

LIVE MUSIC

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

FORSYTH

• Open Mic: The Den - 8pm

WARNER ROBINS

• Darin Curtis & Chin Lee:

Barberitos - 7-10pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

WARNER ROBINS

• Lance Rodriguez: Pub 96 -

7:30pm

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

FORSYTH

• Noah Guthrie: The Den -

8-11pm

WARNER ROBINS

• Anny Loudin: Pub 96 -

5:30-8:30pm

• Bruce Brookshire &

Rob Walker:

VFW - 6:30-9:30pm

• Kaleigh Courson: Pub 96 -

9:30pm

MACON

• Catfish Willy:

VFW Post 658 -

7:30-10:30pm

• Tres Hombres: 20's Pub -

9pm

• Fall Line Rambler:

Grant's Lounge - 9pm

• NyteByrd: Hummingbird -

9:30pm

• Jackson Tanner Trio:

Vice Bar - 10pm

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

FORSYTH

• Matt Pippin: The Den -

8-11pm

PERRY

• The Music Side of Town

MACON

• Catfish Willy:

American Legion

Post 3, Macon, GA,

Joseph N. Neel Jr. - 7-10pm

• Charlie Starr:

Capitol Theatre - 8pm

• Blair Crimmins and

The Hookers:

Grant's Lounge - 9pm

• The Music Side of Town

Blues Band:

Ocmulgee Brewpub

HAWKINSVILLE

• Powersville Opry -

390 Perry Hwy:

--> House Band -

4:15-6:45pm

--> Guest Band - 7-9pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

WARNER ROBINS

• Lance Rodriguez: Pub 96 -

4:30pm

MACON

• Open Mic/Jam Session:

Grant's Lounge - 9pm

Emory hospitals ring in 2026 with first New Year's Day babies



Courtesy: Emory Hospital

Left-Right: baby girl Naomi, baby girl Blakely, baby boy Taylor, baby boy Zaylon.

Special to The Journal

ATLANTA—With the arrival of the new year, Emory Healthcare is celebrating the first babies born in 2026 at four of its hospitals.

The first baby to arrive was baby girl Naomi, born exactly at 12:00 a.m. on Jan. 1 at Emory Decatur Hospital. She weighed 7 pounds, 0.9 ounces and was 19 inches long. Naomi, named by her grandmother, was due on Dec. 31, but waited one more day to make her appearance.

She is the first child born to mom Morgan. The family could not believe Naomi was born as soon as the New Year's ball dropped.

At 2:06 a.m., baby girl Blakely was born at Emory Hospital Warner Robins.

Blakely weighed 6 pounds, 6 ounces and was 18 inches in length. She arrived a little earlier than her expected due date. Mom Ashley and dad Brandon are so excited to welcome her to their growing family, where she will have six siblings to watch over her.

A short time later at 3:21 a.m., baby boy Taylor made his New Year's Day debut at Emory Johns Creek Hospital. He weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and was 19.5 inches long. Mom Shameese, who is a labor and delivery nurse at Emory, and

dad Taylor say they started the new year off right with baby Taylor's early arrival. He is the couple's first child.

At Emory University Hospital Midtown, baby boy Zaylon made his introduction into the world at 7:36 a.m. Zaylon weighed 7 pounds, 5.5 ounces and was 20.5 inches long. He was born earlier than his expected due date. Mom Synethia and family are thrilled to welcome him and say Zaylon now shares a birthday with his cousin.

Happy birthday to all babies born on Jan. 1, 2026, and congratulations to the parents and families of these new bundles of joy.

Police said they worked together on the investigation. Mayor LaRhonda Patrick stated that hate has no place in the city.

4) One man dead after fatal car crash in Hawkinsville - May 17 edition

A man died in May after being struck by a Jeep Compass in Hawkinsville.

The crash happened on Grovania Road, where a 39-year-old man who was working nearby was hit.

He was pronounced dead at the scene.

3) Warner Robins family goes all out on Halloween for a good cause - Oct. 25 edition

Brandon Carter and his family in the Woodlands Subdivision of Warner Robins put a lot of effort into decorating their house for Halloween.

Carter got the idea to decorate his own house after he helped others with their Halloween decorations.

Now, the display draws visitors and supports a good cause. The family collects donations for the Wounded Warriors Project.

2) Warner Robins woman missing after vehicle was found in North Georgia - Web exclusive

The Warner Robins Police Department asked the community for help finding a

local woman who went missing in October.

Police said she was last seen when she dropped her husband off at work in Byron and had not been seen or heard from since. Her car was later found in Commerce.

Comments on the department's Facebook post reported that the woman had been found safe.

1) Fitzgerald Man dead after Galleria Mall stand-off - Aug. 13 edition

A standoff in the Galleria Mall parking lot in August left one person dead and another injured.

Police arrived early in the morning to investigate a tractor-trailer, which they believed was driven by someone involved in a domestic

dispute.

The truck's driver, Michael Dwayne Bell of Fitzgerald, shot at officers and wounded

one. Bell was found dead in the vehicle. This was the second officer-involved shooting that week.

DPH | HOUSTON COUNTY Health Department

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VIEWPOINTS

The Houston Home Journal

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Our Goal

The Houston Home Journal is published for the citizens of Houston and surrounding counties by a division of The Georgia Trust for Local News. Our 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 towards printing the truth.

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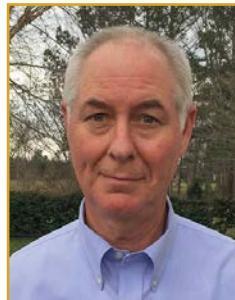
There are three ways to submit a Letter to the Editor: Email it to brianna@hhjonline.com, mail it to Houston Home Journal at 1210 Washington St., Perry, GA 31069, or drop it off at the same location between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number (the last two not to be printed). The newspaper reserves the right to edit or reject letters for reasons of grammar, punctuation, taste and brevity.

P.O. Box 1910
1210 Washington Street, Perry, GA 31069
478-987-1823

The 2026 wish list

GUEST COLUMNIST

NEIL JOINER



Here's my wish list for 2026, plus I'll share a secret for helping some wishes come true.

I wish for a cure for male pattern baldness. That idea came right off the top of my head. I just need some seed money.

I wish for a vaccine for lying politicians. Lying would result in Pinocchio-style noses, their length in proportion to exaggeration. Perhaps long noses in our nation's capital might point them toward honest debate. "I'd like to teach the world to sing." Coke had a delightful advertising jingle which included those lyrics. I'm a mediocre singer, but I'd like to post some songs online which I wrote years ago. Our triplets enjoyed them for a while so perhaps other children would too.

"I've got some friends I'd like to see again." That wish is from the theme song of a television series Then Came Bronson. Michael Parks, the motorcycle-riding star of the show, was a hero to many teenage boys during my youth. That tune has been stuck in my head for decades. Sometimes I sing it while meandering down country roads in my truck.

I wish to become as good a man as my dog believes I am. Harriet's opinion is no doubt influenced by regular walks and treats. Even without rewards though, dogs give mankind more credit than we deserve.

I wish to rid the woods we love of nandinas, cherry laurel, palmetto, briar vines, and kudzu. We've made some progress but have a long way to go. We won't conquer them in 2026, but wishing doesn't have to be limited by reality. Hopefully the list will remind me of wishes I can work on.

I wish to put in a shallow well with a hand pump in

those same woods. I've been planning this for a while. Maybe I'll get past the planning and have fresh water at our picnic site.

I wish Charlie Brown would kick the football through the uprights. Lucy has tricked him too many times by pulling it away. The kid deserves a chance, as do all children.

I wish people on news shows would stop habitually responding to questions by first saying, "That's a great question." There are occasional queries which deserve compliments, but not routinely. It's fine to ask, "Do you believe the snow will impact travel?" but it doesn't rise to the level of journalistic greatness.

I wish Netflix would offer G or PG rated versions of movies and other fare. Otherwise decent shows which include crude language could be cleaned up with dubbed lines. I've suggested this to Netflix before. My letter must have gotten lost.

While we're on that subject, I wish influential people would stop using vulgar expressions. Entertainers, athletes, coaches, and even Presidents have gravitated toward conversational vulgarity. Some of the most prominent of today's leaders are setting poor examples for the leaders of tomorrow.

I'm not out of wishes, but I am out of space, so here's my first and second place.

I'd like to teach the world to sing, and I've got some friends I'd like to see again.

Work is the secret to helping some wishes come true, so make your own list and let's see how we do.

Two more wishes before I close, though last perhaps the best. Happy New Year to you all. May our wishes which are worthy all be blessed.

Kidnapping dictators

THE LAW MAN

JIM ROCKEFELLER



Dear Readers, Nicolás Maduro is locked up, facing a Southern District of New York Indictment for being a drug trafficker. A murderous drug kingpin is facing justice and a corrupt president is deposed. Good riddance.

We have been down this road before. In 1989, we captured Gen. Manuel Noriega because of a drug trafficking indictment out of Miami. Panama was freed from a murderous autocrat; he was convicted and imprisoned.

There are significant policy and legal differences. Policy-wise, national interests were more tangible with Panama. The Canal Zone is a major shipping route, built and depended on by us. Ensuring the free flow of commerce and a "friendly" nation policing it mattered.

With Noriega, President George Herbert Walker Bush telegraphed his plans. He consulted with Congress, he notified our allies and he

built a clear case for protecting national and commercial interests. Servicemen had been assaulted (one killed) by the Panama Defense Force. South and Central American leaders unsuccessfully tried to negotiate Noriega's surrender. Noriega had survived two (2) internal coup d'etats, after fraudulently holding on to power, having weak internal political support.

President Bush acted under his inherent authority as our Commander-in-Chief; he did not seek advance authorization from Congress for his invasion of Panama. The Panamanian

Parliament had even issued a declaration of war against us. Then-Assistant Attorney General William P. Barr authored an Office of Legal Counsel (OLC) opinion supportive of his authority.

In the process of our invasion, Noriega was deposed, and a successor was sworn in as President. Our military was searching for a criminal fugitive and ex-President. And, after Noriega was captured, Congress passed a supportive resolution approving the invasion.

The situation is dissimilar to Maduro. Panama

has 1/10th the population of Venezuela, which is roughly twice the landmass of California. With Venezuela, there is no evidence that our commercial interests are in danger. Unlike Panama, we have very few trade interests with Venezuela. The same is true for the lives of American citizens; none have been threatened or killed.

If anything, Venezuela's spiral is a regional disruption. Some 10% of the Venezuelan population has fled to Colombia, creating a disruptive crisis for President Petro's regime.

Maduro's impact on drugs on our shores is unlike Noriega's direct involvement with the flow of narcotics into Miami. The Trump Administration has unsuccessfully tried to rally support. No evidence has been presented that fentanyl, or really any drugs, are being trafficked through Venezuela — fentanyl is manufactured in China and

See ROCKEFELLER page 5A

"SIDE EFFECTS"

Jim Balleto 2026
Houston Home Journal

"Truthfully...I really Hate It When My Big Pharma Ads Are Interrupted By Football Play-Offs !!"



Yes, we need more auditors

COLUMNIST

CHARLIE HARPER



Career day in elementary school was a bit awkward. I was accustomed to blank stares from folks, kids and adults alike, when I responded to what my father did for a living. I could recite that he was "the Assistant Regional Audit Director for Health and Human Services." For much of my childhood I had no idea what that title meant either.

I can recall my Dad trying to explain it to my sixth grade class. "I'm an auditor." More blank stares.

Other parents had more relatable jobs. We, of course, living in Fayette County, had a Delta pilot. I'm pretty sure we had a fireman. My Mom was a nurse. Dad did his best to explain his role.

Adults always had an easier time mis-understanding what Dad did. "An auditor? With the Federal Government? I always file my taxes on time!"

No, he wasn't "that" kind of auditor. He focused on government agencies, internally, for 22 years.

Dad switched his major to accounting when an injury cut his football career short. He went to work for the U.S.

Government right out of college.

In those days, those younger and single got sent on longer travel assignments. Dad got to spend about 6 months each in Alaska, then Hawaii, then Puerto Rico, with a significant amount of time traveling within the Pacific Northwest, auditing local Authorities receiving money from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Alaska was his favorite.

By the time I came along, he was doing much shorter trips and only when necessary. I can recall him spending quite a bit of time going back and forth to Columbia South Carolina. He was the Government's expert witness in a prosecution of someone

who had been misappropriating funds.

In later years, I recall a few stories about that trial and a couple of others. He was fully familiar with the role of someone who had to bring the receipts, literally, to show malfeasance.

He was also well versed in the arts of defense attorneys who would try to obfuscate the issue and/or throw him off his game. He looked at that as a challenge just as much as he did when he had suited up to football. He understood the importance of game day.

Those he worked with were a close knit group. My middle name is from his boss who had become a father figure after his own dad had died. One of them was

an "uncle". I am honored to have known quite a few of them.

I miss being taken to dinners when they got together to reminisce and tell old war stories. To a person, they were honorable. They defended the government's money as if it were their own, because it was. They understood that stealing from the government was stealing from us.

Dad loved his job until he didn't. The last few years were challenging.

Expectations and workloads increased. The tools to do the job became more scarce. Competence in those newly hired was lacking, but those folks got promoted just the same. All those factors and more increased stress levels.

One of those in Dad's inner circle had a breakdown. Others had severe medical issues. Dad ultimately decided instead of trying to hang in eight more years to reach retirement that life was too short. He spent the next decade owning a hardware store.

See HARPER page 7A

LIFESTYLE & FAITH

Helping 'the least of these'

Our community is blessed to have numerous ministries that do their level best to offer help to the hurting in our area. I am hesitant to try and name these organizations, for fear of leaving worthy ones out; but allow me to name a few that are worthy of recognition.

First, Perry Volunteer Outreach offers aid to Perry and South Houston County residents in need of emergency financial assistance for housing, utilities, or medical needs.

Let me also mention the godly folks from Thee Lord's Table. This is a faith-based ministry hosted by volunteers from several local churches that prepares and serves quality meals on the first and third Friday of every month. At noon on those Fridays, they offer a warm nutritious meal to anyone in need, served at the fellowship hall of Memorial Heights Baptist Church, located at 521 General Courtney Hodges Boulevard.

Loaves and Fishes is another local ministry worthy of support. They are an interfaith food bank that offers free food to the hungry in our community.

Re-New is an area used thrift store which provides low-cost goods and clothing. The hard-working ladies from WROC (Women Reaching our Community) have built and installed a couple "kindness cupboards" in Perry that offers free goods and supplies to those in need.

These and several other ministries can and should be applauded for their tireless labors for Christ and this community. Each of these groups strive to help "the least of these" by serving as the hands and feet of Jesus to the less-fortunate. I encourage you to pray and, if possible, financially support any (or all) of these ministries.

Yet, if you will allow, I would also ask for the prayers and support for a ministry that I also hold in high regard. For the last ten years or so, it has been

COLUMNIST

PASTOR LEWIS KIGER



my great privilege to work alongside pastors from our community through the Perry Ministerial Association. The "PMA" is a group of local church leaders who meet monthly to pray, discuss and determine how best to serve our community and those traveling through the area.

Rarely a day goes by that someone is not knocking at the doors of our churches asking for help. As a matter of fact, it seems like you can't even pump gas in town anymore without someone asking for a handout. Often it is difficult to know what to do when we as individuals, ministries, or churches, are approached by someone asking for some kind of assistance.

Thankfully, the PMA provides a structured system to provide relief for stranded travelers, whatever their situation. In cooperation with local law enforcement, the PMA provides hot meals, shelter and help with fuel expense for transients in need. To do so, we work directly with the Perry Police Department by providing food, gas, and hotel vouchers.

If you (or your church/business) are approached by someone from out of town, who is asking for your financial assistance, you can direct them to the Perry Police Department. There, the PPD requires those asking for assistance to fill out a simple form so that they have a written record of requests. Our local law enforcement officers have been educated how to help these individuals through this voucher program.

In addition to this program, the PMA has recently been able to do several other

good deeds in our community. Thanks to the generosity of a local group of godly ladies, called the "Sweet Peas," we were able to purchase eye-glasses for children in need at Morningside Elementary School. Dear readers, believe me ... there are kids right here in our community who need our help. The last couple of years, the PMA has also provided shoes for our local schools, and socks, t-shirts, and other goods for inmates at the Houston County Detention Center.

However, the only way the PMA or any of these other ministries can carry out their needed work, is through the charitable donations of residents, businesses, and churches. Hence, would you consider personally supporting these good causes, or encouraging your business or church to do so?

Not to lather you with too much guilt, but I will ask you to remember the words of Jesus from Matthew 25:40 ..."Truly, truly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me."

Inarguably, everything has gotten way more expensive the last few years, so money may be tight. Yet, if it is financially viable, please consider donating to one of these fine ministries and support worthy causes in this community. If you cannot give, but you are a Christian, you can pray ... and prayer is just as needed.

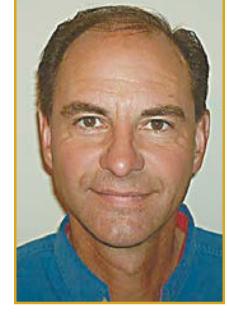
Should you choose to support the PMA, please send a check to:

Perry Ministerial Association
PO Box 1426
Perry, GA 31069

January gardening checklist - Part 2

LET'S GARDEN

TIM LEWIS



As we saw last week, even in the doldrums of winter, there are quite a few garden tasks to tackle. Herewith are some more of these to consider this month in this brand new year.

Here in middle Georgia, colorful annuals can still be planted even if the weather is cold. Flowering cool-season annuals make an immediate impact in a bare landscape. Plant dianthus, pansies, violas, snapdragons, ornamental kale, and parsley.

All of these prefer a sunny spot. Plant on a sunny day when the soil is more likely to be warm, and water the plants immediately. Purchase larger plants, those in 3-inch or larger pots. Plants in smaller pots will stop blooming as they try to establish roots. It is best not to install "six-pack" plants. They are too small to survive and thrive in the cold.

Don't worry if pansy leaves look dreadful in the cold morning hours; they will recover by noon as moisture fills their leaves. Pansies protect themselves during cold weather by wilting their leaves.

Remove faded blooms from plants periodically. This procedure, called deadheading, is especially important for pansies and violas. These produce many more flowers if deadheaded on a regular basis.

You vegetable gardeners know that soil preparation is critical to the success of your garden. A thorough tilling of the soil is necessary each year to break up clumps of soil and old root balls. If the garden has not been cultivated for a few years, weeds and insects will have built up in the soil. Consider tilling garden

beds now. This will expose to the cold any potentially harmful overwintering pests and weed seeds. It will also loosen compacted soil, improving air and water flow for plant roots.

It is that time of year when some gardeners dream of establishing their own fruit orchards. Before you do, be aware of some very important requirements for fruit trees. In order for a plant to produce fruit, the flowers must be pollinated. Some fruit trees are self-fruitful (self-pollinating).

This means that pollen from a single plant is sufficient to pollinate the flowers on it. Other fruit trees are partially self-fruitful or even self-incompatible. Follow these general pollination guidelines when deciding whether you need one or more of each.

• Apple: plant at least two different varieties

• Blueberry: plant at least two different varieties

• Bunch grapes: self-fruitful

• Fig: self-fruitful

• Muscadine grapes: plant at least two different varieties; one must be self-fruitful

• Peach: self-fruitful

• Pear: most are self-fruitful

• Plum: plant at least two different varieties

• Raspberry and blackberry: self-fruitful

Fig bushes that have

become too large for their

space can be severely pruned now.

• Cut main branches by one-third to one-half their length

• Cut back older, less productive branches to encourage new, fruit-bearing growth

• Remove suckers from the base, any branches growing inward, and any crossing branches

• Cut back to a bud or smaller branch, avoiding long, bare stubs that invite decay

• Be aggressive. Figs can tolerate heavy pruning. Don't be afraid to cut back significantly to promote vigor

Severe winter pruning removes old fig wood, meaning you'll likely lose the early summer breba crop and have fewer main crop figs until the new wood matures. Expect lots of new, juvenile growth, which is what produces the main fig crop in the fall. Severe winter pruning keeps the bush smaller and sturdier and easier to manage.

I trust this checklist will aid you in your gardening exploits this month.

Tim Lewis is a Georgia Green Industry Association Certified Plant Professional, gardening writer, and former Perry High School horticulture instructor. He can be reached at (478)954-1507 or timlewis1@windstream.net.

to justify sanctions, given the invasion of Ukraine and China's saber-rattling concerning Taiwan.

At home, politics aside, the question is Congress's role in our invasion of Venezuela. Article I, Section 8, of our Constitution vests war powers in Congress to "declare war, raise and support armies, maintain a navy, and make rules for the armed forces." Yes, a President commands our war-making infrastructure, but it is financed and authorized by Congress.

Other Presidents have been less reckless. On December 8, 1941, Franklin Delano Roosevelt spoke of "a date which will live in infamy," in a joint address before Congress after Pearl Harbor was bombed the day before by Japan. He did not just react; he asked for authority to enter the Allies' side in World War II. In 2001, President George W. Bush asked for a resolution from Congress to invade

Afghanistan and Iraq. A decade later, President Obama relied on this same authorization to assassinate Osama bin Laden.

President Trump has none of this support. He has not made the case to the American people; he does not even have an OLC memo, and he most certainly does not have the support of the American people and Congress.

Snatching Maduro, a murderous sitting President of a country, may feel like the right thing, but it is illegal both under international law and our Constitution.

Warren Robins attorney Jim Rockefeller is the former Chief Assistant District Attorney for Houston County, and a former Assistant State Attorney in Miami. Owner of Rockefeller Law Center, Jim has been in private practice since 2000. E-mail your comments or confidential legal questions to ajr@rockefellerlawcenter.com.

ness (use cautiously if you have high blood pressure), acetaminophen or ibuprofen for pain and low fever, and menthol lozenges for throat relief. Chicken soup isn't just comforting—some studies suggest it has mild anti-inflammatory properties.

For seniors, always check with a healthcare provider before combining remedies with existing medications. Seek medical care if symptoms last longer than two weeks, include high fever, severe headache, shortness of breath, or if you have chronic conditions that could lead to complications.

The best approach, of course, is prevention. Start with thorough handwashing—20 seconds with soap and water, especially after public outings or before eating. Minimize face-touching

and carry hand sanitizer for convenience. Support your immune system through a balanced diet rich in fruits, vegetables, zinc, and vitamin D (consider supplements if sunlight exposure is limited). Moderate exercise, adequate sleep (7-9 hours nightly), and stress management all contribute to resilience.

Get vaccinated against influenza annually, as the flu can mimic or worsen a cold. In crowded settings or during outbreaks, wearing a mask and improving room ventilation can reduce risk. If you're feeling unwell, stay home to protect others.

My current bout with this cold has reinforced these lessons firsthand. I'll recover soon with rest and patience, and I hope this information helps you avoid a similar inconvenience.

Staying healthy allows us to enjoy our golden years fully—take good care, and here's to a sniffle-free winter ahead.

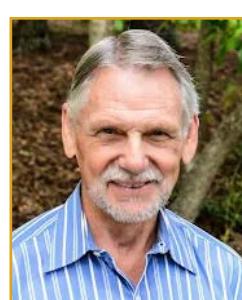
This is Bill back again. Thanks for reading All About Seniors, see you next week!

PS... If you haven't yet tried AI, it is very simple to use, and still free! For the one I use, just Google "GROK AI" and you'll be on your way. It's never too late to get started!

Bill Milby is a Director of Visiting Angels® of Central Georgia, a non-medical, living assistance service for seniors. If you have questions or comments about this column you can reach him at william.mercylink@gmail.com or search for us at <https://www.facebook.com/VisitingAngelsofCentralGA>

ALL ABOUT SENIORS

BILL MILBY



winter cold this season. It's a humbling experience and a reminder that these common illnesses can catch up with anyone, no matter how careful we are. Rather than complain, I'll share what I've learned about winter colds: their causes, effective management, and practical prevention strategies.

What causes these persistent winter colds? Primarily, they are viral infections of the upper respiratory tract. Rhinoviruses account for most cases, though more than 200 viruses can trigger symptoms. Transmission occurs through respiratory droplets from coughing or sneezing, direct contact like handshakes, or touching contaminated surfaces and then your eyes, nose, or mouth.

Cold weather itself doesn't cause colds, but seasonal factors increase their frequency. We tend to gather indoors more during winter, in closer proximity, which aids viral spread. Dry air prolongs virus survival outside the body and dries nasal mucous membranes, impairing their ability to trap pathogens.

Rhinoviruses also replicate optimally at the cooler temperatures found in the nasal passages. Emerging research indicates that inhaling cold air can briefly reduce the nose's innate immune defenses, such as extracellular vesicles that neutralize viruses.

Treatment focuses on comfort and support, since colds are self-limiting and resolve in 7-10 days for most people. Rest is essential—give your body time to recover. Hydration helps thin mucus and soothe irritated tissues; opt for warm fluids like herbal tea, broth, or water. A humidifier or vaporizer can add moisture to dry indoor air. Over-the-counter options include decongestants for stuffy

noses and antihistamines for itchy eyes. Pain relievers like acetaminophen or ibuprofen can help with aches and pains. Cough suppressants and expectorants can ease chest congestion. Gargling with salt water can relieve sore throats.

For seniors, always check with a healthcare provider before combining remedies with existing medications.

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The best approach,

ENTERTAINMENT

Did You Know...^{...} by Jack Bagley

How many different shows named 'College Bowl' have aired in the U.S.?

The New Year is more than a week old at this point, so the time has come to ask - how are your resolutions holding up?

Are you still keeping them? Or did you (as I do) just say "the heck with it" and give up on them?

Whichever you do, I am certain it's the right thing for you, and you're going to be fantastic at keeping them - or not keeping them, as the case may be.

I did keep one resolution - to bring you the finest in trivial stuff every week, and I'm going to keep doing it. So here's this week's selection of trivial stuff. Enjoy.

Did you know ...

... the nastiest place in your office may not be where you think it is? The average office keyboard harbors 3,295 germs per square inch. By comparison, the average office toilet seat has just 48 germs per square inch. (I have a line here, but it would close the show.)

... the Great Fire of 1666 in London began in a bakery?

Thomas Farriner (1620-1670) was a baker to the household of King Charles II (1630-1685) and supplied the bread for the Royal Navy during the Anglo-Dutch War. The blaze, which ended up destroying most of London, started in Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane on September 2, 1666, and was not extinguished until September 6. Almost 70,000 of the city's 80,000 homes were destroyed. Surprisingly, Farriner was not blamed for the fire, though it started in his bakery shop. A French watchman named Robert Hubert (1640-1666) gave a false confession to throwing a fire grenade into Farriner's bakery starting the blaze, which Farriner agreed to.

Hubert was executed in October of that year, almost certainly an innocent man, as he was not even in London when the fire broke out. Historians now believe that the Great Fire was started accidentally. (That's a pretty hot story there.)

... you may have heard a scoop? If you're wondering,

a scoop is the sound that silk makes when it moves. Most likely, you've heard one if you were at a dance where formal ball gowns were being worn. That's the sound the ball gown makes. (Silky, isn't it?)

... a Major League pitcher had the same number of career wins as he had career hits? Warren Spahn (1921-2003) played 21 seasons in the Majors, for the Boston/Milwaukee Braves, New York Mets, and San Francisco Giants. During his career, Spahn chalked up 363 career wins - and 363 career hits. It gets even more precise: Spahn won 356 games for the Braves, four for the Mets, and three for the Giants. He had 356 hits for the Braves, four for the Mets, and three for the Giants. (You have to admire the synchronicity of all that.)

... actor Michael J. Fox's middle name doesn't begin with a J? Fox (born 1981), who starred in the Back to the Future movies as well as some classic television, was born Michael Andrew Fox.

He chose "J" as his professional middle initial as an homage to character actor Michael J. Pollard (1939-2019).

... more than one program called College Bowl existed on American television? Most readers would be somewhat familiar with the G.E. College Bowl, a weekly game show pitting teams of students from colleges and universities against each other in some rather difficult quizzes. The show ran intermittently from 1953 to 1970 on CBS and NBC, hosted by Allen Ludden (1917-1981) and later by Robert Earle (1926-2019). But before that, College Bowl was a one-season musical program from 1950 to 1951, starring Chico Marx (1887-1961), one of the Marx Brothers. This show was set in a soda fountain, supposedly owned by Marx, next to a college campus and featured singers who came in, sat around, told jokes, and belted out tunes. The breakout star from the show was Andy Williams (1927-2012). (I get the musical aspects and

all, but ... Chico Marx? Sure, he was great at the piano, but I just don't see it.)

... the symbol for the planet Pluto has a double meaning? Made up of the interlocking letters "P" and "L," the symbol is not only the first two letters of the planet, but also the initials of astronomer Percival Lowell (1855-1916). Lowell initiated the search for a planet beyond the orbit of Neptune and created an observatory in Arizona that is named for him. While working at the Lowell Observatory in 1930, Dr. Clyde Tombaugh (1906-1997) took the photographs that confirmed the existence - and official discovery - of Pluto. (And I still think Pluto should be reclassified as a planet.)

... minnows have teeth in their throats? (Well, they have to have them somewhere, don't they?)

... the first movie ever created solely with computer-generated imagery (CGI) was released in 1995? Toy Story had more than 800,000 hours of mathematical equations

used in the creation of the computer film. That equates to more than a week of computer time for every second of the film on screen. (And you thought it was easy.)

... the umpire at a baseball game has the power to eject anyone from the game? Not just players or managers, but anyone. On June 26, 1985, at a minor league baseball game in Clearwater, Florida, the stadium organist played "Three Blind Mice" following a call by umpire Kevin O'Connor (born 1964). O'Connor was not amused, and ejected the organist, Wilbur Snapp (1920-2003), from the press box. Snapp spent the rest of the game in the stands making balloon mice for kids. Additional trivia note: O'Connor would go on to have a ten-year career as a Major League umpire and then became umpire evaluator for MLB. Snapp's was the only ejection in O'Connor's entire career. (Yer outta here!)

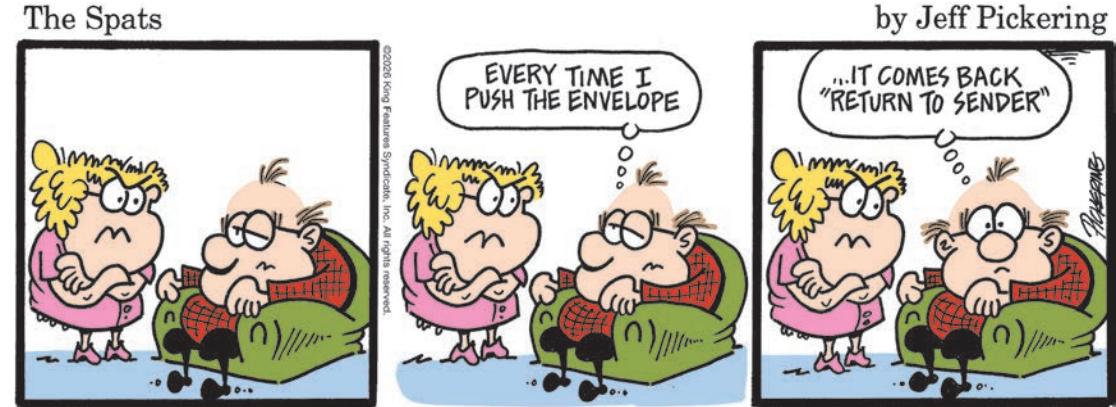
Now ... you know!

by Jeff Pickering

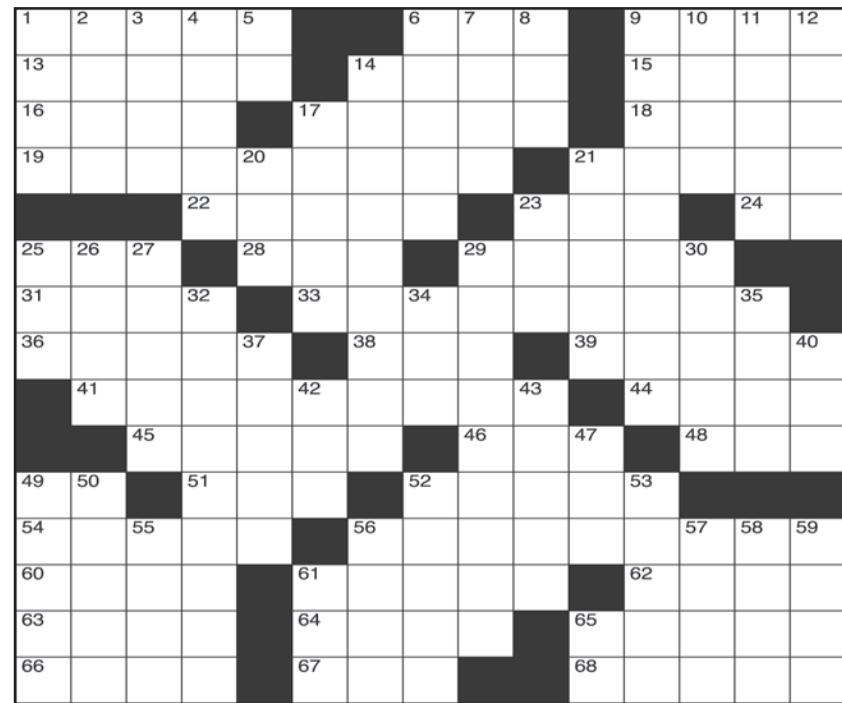
Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps



CROSSWORD 1-7-26



CLUES ACROSS

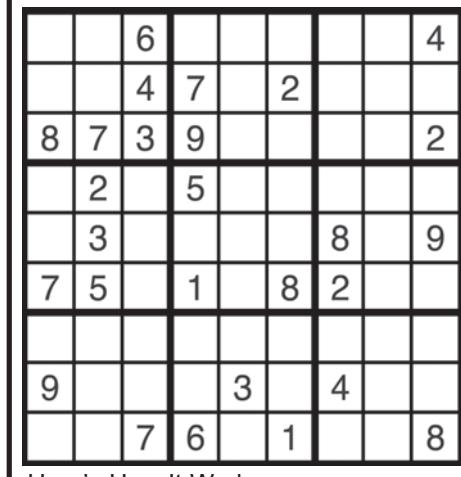
1. Lakes
6. Electromotive force
9. Invests in little enterprises
13. Longtime Utah Jazz coach
14. Small sailboat
15. Actor Idris
16. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
17. System that detects objects under water
18. Harsh, grating noise
19. Steward
21. A fencing sword
22. Infections
23. Actress Ryan
24. Sodium
25. Swedish castle
28. A lump of slime
29. African antelope
31. Insurance providers
33. Choosy
36. Ringworm
38. Unpolished
39. Drenches
41. Pant style
44. Son of Noah
45. Spiritual being
46. Upton Sinclair novel
48. Journalist Tarbell
49. Popular sports highlight show
51. Born of
52. Rich tapestry
54. S. China seaport
56. State of being unclothed
60. Surrounded by
61. Residue
62. Away from wind

63. Dried-up
64. Visionary
65. A very large body of water
66. Garden tools
67. Screen type
68. Ancient Scandinavian poet

CLUES DOWN

1. Millisecond
2. Spanish city
3. A sudden very loud sound
4. "The Indiana Jones of beer"
5. Tin
6. Sea eagles
7. Volcanic crater
8. Type of coat
9. Women's apartments in Ottoman palace
10. Divulge a secret
11. Norwegian playwright
12. "It's a Wonderful Life" director
14. Poisonous perennial plant
17. 18-year astronomical period
20. Clothes
21. Places to sit
23. Family of regulator genes
25. New York ballplayer
26. Impressive in size or scope
27. Jacques ___, French biologist
29. One from the Big Apple
30. Genus of woolly lemurs

SUDOKU

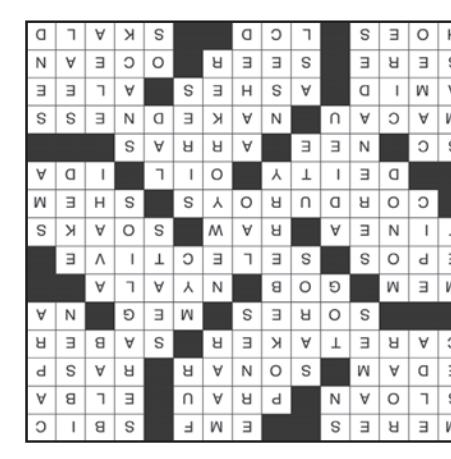


Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!



Sudoku answer featured above.
Crossword answer featured to the left.

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Houston Circuit District Attorney releases 2025 year-end report

By DISTRICT ATTORNEY
ERIC Z. EDWARDS

For the past several years, the District Attorney's Office for the Houston Judicial Circuit has provided year-end case statistics to our local media—a tradition we are proud to continue as we close the first year of my term as District Attorney. In keeping with my commitment to transparency in government, and because the men and women of this office achieved exceptional results for the people of Houston County in 2025, those accomplishments deserve to be highlighted.

Our office is comprised of 15 attorneys—myself and 14 Assistant District Attorneys—along with four investigators, six victim advocates, and nine administrative professionals. As a State Constitutional office, some positions are funded by the State of Georgia, though the majority are funded by Houston County. We began 2025 fully staffed and ended the year fully staffed as well—an achievement I am especially proud of given the well-documented prosecutor shortages across Georgia and the nation.

We did experience turnover for positive reasons. One ADA was appointed to elected office by Governor Kemp, and another was recruited by the Attorney General's Office to lead human trafficking prosecutions in central Georgia.

Both positions were filled quickly, without disruption or backlog to any caseload. I would put the team of attorneys serving in this office up against any in the State, any day of the week.

In 2025, our office closed 4,689 cases across the Superior Court of Houston County and the Juvenile Court of Houston County—the two courts in which we operate. Those closures included 12 homicide cases, 82 serious violent felony cases, 44 felony sex cases, and 129 felony family violence cases. This represents an increase of 784 case closures over 2024 (3,905 cases), or a 20.1% year-over-year increase—the highest number of cases closed in any year since this office began publishing statistics.

By comparison, our office opened 3,644 cases in 2025, meaning we closed 1,045 more cases than we opened. One of my administration's core goals has been reducing the time between arrest and case resolution—bringing justice to victims while evidence is still fresh and cases are strongest. By substantially reducing overall caseloads, we have positioned our prosecutors for earlier trial settings and more efficient case resolution going forward. The benefits of this work will be felt even more clearly in 2026.

A significant factor contributing to this increase in productivity was the addition of a fourth Superior Court Judge,



effective January 1, 2025. This resulted in eight additional felony criminal trial weeks compared to 2024. While this expansion placed increased demands on our prosecutors, the greatest burden was borne by our administrative staff and victim advocates, many of whom were required to support multiple courtrooms simultaneously. Thanks to the dedication of every member of this office, we experienced zero interruptions in courtroom operations throughout the year.

As a result of the expanded trial calendar, our office tried 28 felony jury trials in 2025—an increase over prior years. While the vast majority of convictions will always be obtained through guilty

pleas, the increased availability of jury trials played a critical role in resolving cases efficiently and appropriately. As noted in my media releases throughout the year, trial results in 2025 included eight life sentences for murder or rape and multiple decades-long sentences for offenses ranging from drug distribution to identity theft.

Our victim advocacy team once again set a record in 2025, documenting 69,227 victim contacts—up from the prior record of 61,987 set in 2024. These professionals are the unsung heroes of any prosecutor's office, and especially ours, ensuring compliance with victim notification laws and providing consistent

support to those impacted by crime.

Additional highlights from 2025 include:

- Completion of the largest physical renovation of our office space since the Houston County Courthouse was built, which displaced our attorneys into shared space for the first two months of the year—without any disruption to courtroom services.

- Senior Assistant District Attorney Mike Smith being named the statewide Assistant District Attorney of the Year for mid-sized offices at the Prosecuting Attorneys Council's annual Summer Conference.

- Accomplishing all of the above without accepting any new grant funding during the year.

Serving the people of Houston County as their District Attorney has been a career-long goal of mine after spending years in this office as an Assistant District Attorney. I could not have asked for a better first year than what my staff delivered in 2025. Serving this office and our community is the highest professional honor I could imagine, and I look forward to continuing these positive trends into 2026.

A first-class prosecutor's office is essential to any community committed to the rule of law and public safety. Thanks to the dedication and professionalism of the men and women who work here every day, that is exactly what Houston County has.

Warner Robins man arrested after multi-county chase in December

By CAROLINE WEATHERSBY
Georgia Trust for Local News

A high speed pursuit in Twiggs and Houston counties last month led to the arrest of a convicted sex offender.

Tytrez Marshall of Warner Robins was identified as the driver and arrested on several charges including traffic violations observed during the chase and active warrants.

On Dec. 12, members of the Twiggs County Sheriff's Office were patrolling on GA 96 as a part of its High Visibility Enforcement for the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Campaign.

Officials say at about 2:34 p.m., Deputy Alexia Marks was traveling on Hwy 96 when she noticed a black Dodge Challenger traveling well over the speed limit in the oppo-

site direction. The deputy made a speed check on the vehicle and found the Challenger was traveling 96 mph in a 55 mph zone. While passing Marks, the driver sped up to 114 mph.

Deputy Marks turned around to attempt a traffic stop, but the vehicle continued without any sign of pulling over. The TSCO then began a pursuit of the vehicle that would last for several miles, eventually traveling into Houston County, where the Houston County Sheriff's Office joined in on the pursuit.

While in Warner Robins, the challenger slowed and crashed into a vehicle at the intersection of Pleasant Hill Road and Pattie Drive. No major injuries were reported.

Law enforcement quickly surrounded the Challenger, and a female passenger exited from the

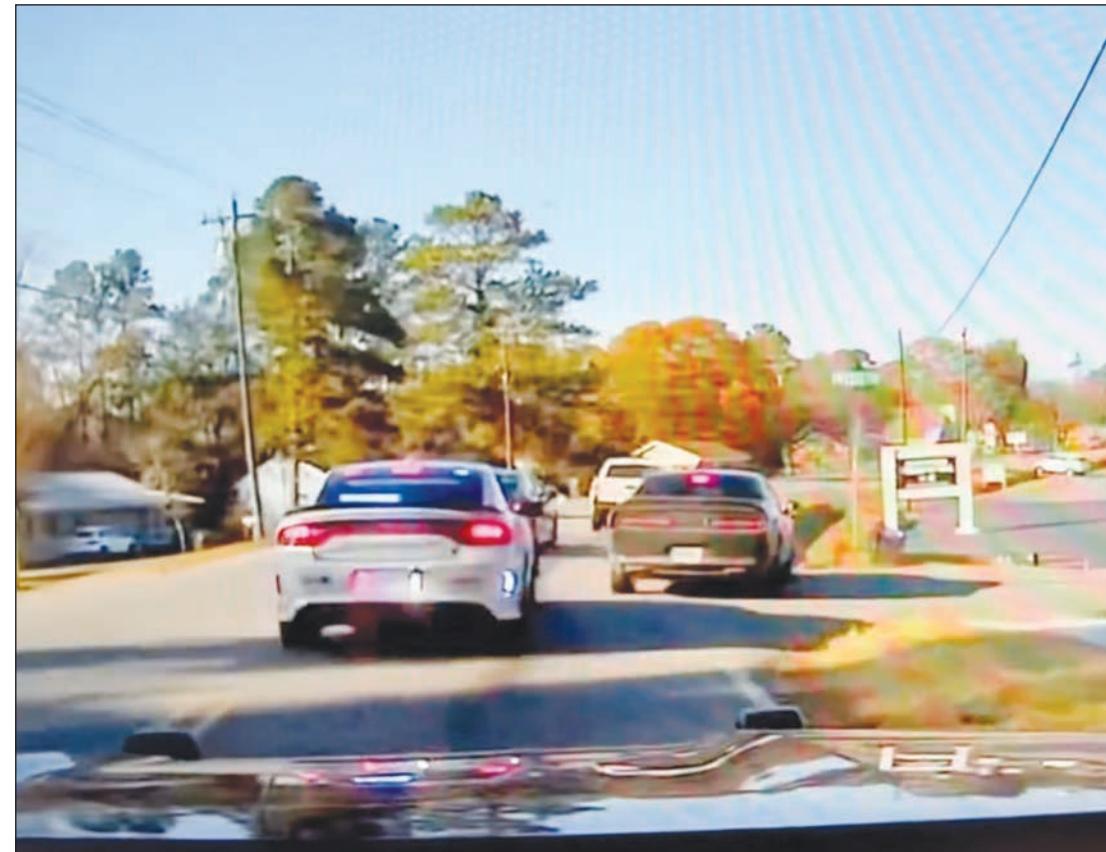


Courtesy: TSCO's Facebook page
Tytrez Marshall was arrested for multiple traffic violations and active warrants after fleeing from law enforcement in Twiggs and Houston counties.

passenger side door.

According to officials, Tytrez Marshall, who was still in the driver's seat, held a box cutter to his throat and cut his neck. He indicated he did not want to go to prison.

Another passenger struggled with him inside



of the vehicle, attempting to get the weapon away from Marshall. Deputies intervened and Marshall was secured without any further harm to himself.

Officials say the cut to Marshall's throat was not life threatening, however, due to the wreck, Marshall was transported to a Houston County hospital to be cleared before he was taken to jail.

Marshall was taken into custody on several traffic violations and for warrants active in nearby counties. Marshall had multiple felony warrants for his arrest in Bibb and Dodge counties on charges of failure to register as a sex offender and violation of probation.

According to the TSCO,

Marshall will face his charges in Bibb and Dodge Counties before returning to Twiggs and Houston to face his traffic violations charges. In Twiggs, he faces charges of felony fleeing, speeding, reckless driving and failure to maintain insurance.

The two passengers in the vehicle were released on the scene without charges.

Marshall is currently being held at the Bibb County Jail.

In a post made to social media, a TSCO official wrote, "Mr. Marshall made several bad decisions, please rethink should you decide to break the law. Do not involve innocent lives in your thoughtless decisions. If you choose

to make these potentially fatal mistakes... you will be arrested and taken straight to jail."

Chief Deputy Buddy Long warns drivers to be careful when on the roads and to always be aware of other vehicles, even when you have the right of way.

"A thing I always tell my family is when you're driving, it's like you're driving for two people. You're driving for yourself and you got to constantly be watching for what other people are doing," he said. "You come up to a four way, you come up to a red light, and when it turns green, always look. You never know, the person coming on the other side may not be paying attention."

HARPER

From page 4A

When Dad left the government's employment in the early 1980's, the public was still capable of being outraged over spending scandals. Those my age or older can remember news stories about \$600 hammers and \$7,000 coffee pots. The backlash was real, even if the cost accounting was just sloppiness.

By the time I did a stint in a government contracting role about two decades ago, a procurement scandal involving tens of millions in documented fraud, waste, and abuse could barely get anyone's attention. I know this, because I spent almost two years

trying to escalate the problem within proper channels. It was viewed as just the cost of doing business.

A couple of budget cycles ago, one of the priorities was to give the IRS enough additional funds equivalent to the cost of hiring 87,000 additional auditors. The stated goal was to make sure the right amount of money was being taken from us to

give to the government.

The American people are now coming to the realization that systematic fraud has been occurring throughout the federal government. Those who have spent careers believing the "Defense Industrial Complex" is the only place money can go

to be misdirected into private profits are enduring a huge wakeup call as to the size and scope of where our tax money is actually spent. It appears states are not just complicit, but actively engaged in the theft.

If we were to actually add 87,000 federal employees anywhere, I would agree that they should be auditors – just not those on the side of collecting the funds. The

American people need to have assurance that when their hard-earned tax dollars are paid, they go to where they were intended and achieve promised results. We need more competent and honorable people on the inside, doing that job again.

ILLNESS

The release said the child had become ill and was taken to Emory Healthcare Warner Robins Emergency Room by her parents around 7 p.m. that evening. The child

passed away a short time after arriving.

The Coroner's Office said the identity of the child will not be released. The death is being investigated by the Houston County Coroner's Office, along with the Houston County Sheriff's Office.

Juvenile Division. "An autopsy is being conducted at the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Crime Lab to determine the cause and manner of death," the release said. No further information has been released at this time.

Legals

Legal Advertising Information

Legal advertisements are published each Wednesday in The Houston Home Journal newspaper, the designated legal organ of Houston County and the City of Perry, City of Warner Robins and City of Centerville. For information concerning rates, please contact the Houston Home Journal at (478)-987-1823. Notices cancelled after noon on Thursday will be billed for insertion in that edition.

Legal ads may be sent via email to hhjlegals@gmail.com. Many legal notices are charged at the rate of \$15.00 per 100 words or a portion thereof for each insertion for the first four insertions. Some specific types of ads, such as divorce, articles of incorporation, articles of merger, petition to adopt, name changes and DUI notices have fees set based on the number of times the notice is inserted. All rates are set by the Georgia General Assembly. For cost, every word shall be counted as one word including words such as: the, of, etc. Numbers shall be counted as one word.

Service & Construction Bids

25-1973
Request for Qualifications: General Contractors and HVAC Companies
 Middle GA. Community Action Agency is issuing a Request for Qualifications for HVAC/General Contractor Vendors for its Weatherization Program.
 Work may be minimal to extensive and include: clean/tune/repair/replace HVAC unit, duct seal/repair/replace, install kitchen/bath exhaust fan, water heater wrap/replace, attic & floor insulation, air sealing, diagnostic testing, etc.
 Please contact Jennifer Saunders at 478-922-4464 Ext 1134 or jennifer@mgcaa.org for more information. MGCAA encourages M/WBE & Labor Surplus Firms to apply. Applications must be received no later than January 26th, 2026. Late submissions may not be considered.

53692 1/7-1/28

INVITATION FOR BIDS

SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY
 The Georgia Department of Transportation through its agent, Booker Real Estate Services, LLC, will receive sealed bids to purchase the following properties.
 Houston County PM# 4675 = GEP-153-011
 Approximately 0.352-acre residential tract located at the east side of SR 127 and on the south side of Hillary Drive, in Houston County. Parcel has frontage along SR 127 and Hillary Drive; Offered at \$121,57.00.
 Bids must be submitted on Bid Proposal Form issued by the Georgia Department of Transportation and available only through Booker Real Estate Services, LLC, 515 East Taylor Street, Suite B, Griffin, GA 30223
 The Department of Transportation reserves the right to reject any and all bids. For more information or to obtain a Bid Package, contact Harvey P. Booker at 770-227-5838 or harveybooker@bellsouth.net and refer to the appropriate PM #.

53794 1/7-1/24

Debtors & Creditors Notice

25-1916
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
 STATE OF GEORGIA
 COUNTY OF HOUSTON
 IN RE: Shirley Oliver
 All creditors of the Estate of Shirley Oliver, deceased, late of Houston County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

December 16, 2025

Harry Oliver, Executor

103 Cedar Ct.

Warner Robins, GA 31088

53107 12/24/25-1/14/26

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
 STATE OF GEORGIA
 COUNTY OF HOUSTON
 IN RE: ESTATE OF ETTA REBECCA STUCKEY, DECEASED.

All creditors of the Estate of Ettie Rebecca Stuckey, deceased, of Houston County are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 22nd day of December, 2025.

William Donald Stuckey, Sr. Executor of the Last Will and Testament of Ettie Rebecca Stuckey, Deceased

P.O. Box 89

Perry, Georgia 31069

53439 12/31/25-1/21/26

25-1951

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA
 COUNTY OF HOUSTON
 IN RE: ESTATE OF ETTA REBECCA STUCKEY, DECEASED.

All creditors of the Estate of Ettie Rebecca Stuckey, deceased, of Houston County are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

December 9, 2025

Craig Williams

Executor of the Will

of Martha Geraine Williams

109 Jane Drive

Warner Robins, GA 31093

Robert T. Tugle, III

Daniel, Lawson, Tuggle & Jeries, LLP

Post Office Box 89

Perry, Georgia 31069

52923 12/17/25-1/7/26

25-1940

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA
 COUNTY OF HOUSTON
 IN RE: MARTHA GERAINE WILLIAMS

All creditors of the Estate of Martha Geraine Williams, deceased, late of Houston County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

December 9, 2025

Craig Williams

Executor of the Will

of Martha Geraine Williams

109 Jane Drive

Warner Robins, GA 31093

Robert T. Tugle, III

Daniel, Lawson, Tuggle & Jeries, LLP

Post Office Box 89

Perry, Georgia 31069

53328 12/31/25-1/21/26

25-1956

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA
 COUNTY OF HOUSTON
 IN RE: SARA BARFIELD HERRON

All creditors of the Estate of Sara Barfield Herron, deceased, late of Houston County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

December 22, 2025

Kay Herron

Administrator with Will Annexed

Estate of Sara Barfield Herron

200 White Columns Drive

Kathleen, GA 31047

Robert R. Lawson

Daniel, Lawson, Tuggle & Jeries, LLP

Post Office Box 89

Perry, Georgia 31069

53497 12/31/25-1/21/26

25-1884 GEORGIA, HOUSTON COUNTY NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

All creditors of the Estate of VIRGINIA ANN GREGORY, deceased, of Houston County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment.

This 8th day of December 2025.

Suzanne Paige Gregory, Executrix

c/o Rebecca C. Moody

MOODY & ASSOCIATES LAW OFFICE, LLC

P.O. Box 422

Perry, GA 31069

478-988-0238

52858 12/17/25-1/7/26

25-1936

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA
 COUNTY OF HOUSTON
 IN RE: BERTHA ALEAN JUMP, DECEASED

All creditors of the estate of Bertha Alean Jump, deceased, late of Houston County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

Roy Howard Jump and Kathleen Jump Armstrong are the Co-Executors of the estate of Bertha Alean Jump, Edwin S. Varner, Jr., Attorney at Law, 1719 Russell Pkwy., Bldg. 200, Warner Robins, GA 31088, (478) 922-3010.

53316 12/24/25-1/14/26

25-1904

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF HOUSTON

IN RE: Estate of Rose Ann Stubbs
 All creditors of the Estate of Rose Ann Stubbs, deceased, late of Houston County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.

Kristin Little
 106 Ashley Court
 Warner Robins, Georgia 31093
 Shirley R. Watson Attorney at Law
 1520 Watson Blvd
 Warner Robins, Georgia 31093
 (478) 328-7464

53032 12/24/25-1/14/26

25-1909

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA
 COUNTY OF HOUSTON
 IN RE: DEREK ANTON VARGA

All creditors of the Estate of Derek Anton Varga, deceased, late of Houston County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

December 15, 2025
 Dennis Michael Varga
 Executors of the Will
 Of Derek Anton Varga
 155 Morris Lane
 Grants Pass, Oregon 97527
 Robert T. Tugle, III
 Daniel, Lawson, Tuggle & Jeries, LLP
 Post Office Box 89
 Perry, Georgia 31069

53091 12/24/25-1/14/26

25-1912

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

IN RE: ERNEST WENDELL POPE.
 All creditors of the estate of Ernest Wendell Pope, late of Houston County, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

December 15, 2025
 Dennis Michael Varga
 Executors of the Will
 Of Derek Anton Varga
 155 Morris Lane
 Grants Pass, Oregon 97527
 Robert T. Tugle, III
 Daniel, Lawson, Tuggle & Jeries, LLP
 Post Office Box 89
 Perry, Georgia 31069

53091 12/24/25-1/14/26

25-1919

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

IN RE: ERNEST WENDELL POPE.
 All creditors of the estate of Ernest Wendell Pope, late of Houston County, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

December 15, 2025
 Dennis Michael Varga
 Executors of the Will
 Of Ernest Wendell Pope
 1900B Northside Crossing
 Macon, GA 31210
 478-471-9900

53099 12/24/25-1/14/26

25-1929

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

IN RE: CATHERINE D. MORRIS, deceased, of Houston County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment this 15th day of December 2025 to Erica Pope-Share, c/o Attorney:

Tim J. Thompson,
 1900B Northside Crossing,
 Macon, GA 31210,
 478-471-9900.

53099 12/24/25-1/14/26

25-1930

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

IN RE: CATHERINE D. MORRIS, deceased, of Houston County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment this 15th day of December 2025 to Erica Pope-Share, c/o Attorney:

Tim J. Thompson,
 1900B Northside Crossing,
 Macon, GA 31210,
 478-471-9900.

53099 12/24/25-1/14/26

25-1937

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

IN RE: ALVIN SOLOMON COLEMAN, deceased, of Houston County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

December 17, 2025
 Tara Tourville, Esq.
 Attorney for Estate of
 Alvin Solomon Coleman
 446 S. Houston Lake Road
 Warner Robins, GA 31088
 (478) 333-6502

53498 12/31/25-1/21/26

25-1940

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

IN RE: BRUCE EDWARD Rountree (also referred to as Bruce Edward Rountree)
 Estate NO. 2025-ES-245

All creditors of the estate of Bruce Edward Rountree late of El Paso County, Colorado, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

December 15, 2025
 Sarah H. Sullivan
 Benjamin David Hilderbrand, II
 Executors of the Will
 Of Benjamin David Hilderbrand
 104 Buckingham Pt.

state, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: Fay Servicing, LLC, 425 S. Financial Place, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60605, 800-495-7166. 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 Chasperf Felton, Joanna Felton and Estate of Felton or a tenant or tenants and said property is more commonly known as **303 Woodhaven Road, Centererville, GA 31028**. 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. U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Indenture Trustee of CIM Trust 2023-R2 as Attorney in Fact for

Chasperf Felton, Joanna Felton
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 137 OF THE FIFTH LAND DISTRICT OF HOUSTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT 9, BLOCK "I", SECTION NO. 2 OF A SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS HIDDEN VALLEY, ACCORDING TO A PLAT OF SURVEY OF SAID SUBDIVISION PREPARED BY JOHN J. BROXTON, SURVEYOR, DATED MAY 16, 1983, A COPY OF WHICH IS OF RECORD IN MAP BOOK 25, PAGE 297, CLERK'S OFFICE, HOUSTON SUPERIOR COURT, SAID PLAT AND THE RECORD-ED COPY THEREOF ARE HEREBY MADE A PART OF THIS DESCRIPTION BY REFERENCE THERETO.

THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS CONVEYED SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE COVENANTS AS CONTAINED IN INSTRUMENT OF RECORD IN DEED BOOK 471, PAGES 214-218, CLERK'S OFFICE, HOUSTON SUPERIOR COURT; ALSO, SUBJECT TO AN EASMENT FOR DRAINAGE AND UTILITY PURPOSES OVER, UPON AND ACROSS THE WESTERLY TEN (10) FEET OF SUBJECT PROPERTY AS SHOWN ON THE AFORESAID RECORDED PLAT OF SURVEY.
MR / MA February 3, 2026
Our file no. 25-18921GA-FT18
25-18921GA

53634 1/7-1/28

25-1918 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER GEORGIA, HOUSTON COUNTY

By virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from PAULA A TRIBUE to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS INC. AS GRANTEE, AS NOMINEE FOR GUARANTEED RATE, INC., dated July 21, 2022, recorded August 10, 2022, in Deed Book 9805, Page 184, Houston County, Georgia Records, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$250,000.00), with interest thereon as provided for therein, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned and transferred to Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the Houston County Courthouse, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in February, 2026, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 121 OF THE TENTH (10TH) LAND DISTRICT OF HOUSTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT 38, PHASE NO. 1 OF THE SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS WOODEN EAGLE PLANTATION, ACCORDING TO A PLAT OF SURVEY, PREPARED BY WADDLE & COMPANY, CERTIFIED BY THEODORE W. WADDLE, JR., GEORGIA REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR NO. 2139, DATED SEPTEMBER 30, 2005, A COPY OF WHICH IS OF RECORD IN PLAT BOOK 65, PAGES 86-87, CLERK'S OFFICE, HOUSTON SUPERIOR COURT, SAID PLAT AND THE RECORD THEREOF ARE INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE FOR ALL PURPOSES.

THIS CONVEYANCE AND THE WARRANTIES HEREINAFTER CONTAINED ARE MADE SUBJECT TO ANY AND ALL RESTRICTIONS, EASEMENTS, COVENANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY AFFECTING SAID DESCRIBED PROPERTY IN ADDITION TO RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS, AS CONTAINED IN INSTRUMENT OF RECORD IN DEED BOOK 9421 PAGES 171-196, CLERKS OFFICE HOUSTON SUPERIOR COURT.

Said property may more commonly be known as **141 Sadie Heights Blvd, Perry, GA 31069**. The debt secured by said Security Deed 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 (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).

The individual or entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the loan is New American Funding, 8201 North FM 620, Suite 120, Austin, TX 78726 800-893-5304.

Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis

without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The sale will also be subject to the following items which may affect the title: a) zoning ordinances; b) matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; c) any outstanding ad valorem taxes, including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable; d) special assessments; e) the right of redemption of any taxing authority; f) all outstanding liens for public utilities which constitute liens upon said property; g) all restrictive covenants, easements, rights-of-way and any other matters of record superior to said Security Deed. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owners and party in possession of the property are Dana Sapp, Edward Ross Oliver and/or tenant(s). 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.

New American Funding, LLC as Attorney-in-Fact for

Edward Ross Oliver Contact:

Padgett Law Group: 6267 Old Water Oak Road, Suite 203, Tallahassee, FL 32312; (850) 422-2520

25-012935

Ad Run Dates: 01/07/2026, 01/14/2026, 01/21/2026, 01/28/2026

53636 1/7-1/28

25-1955 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER, HOUSTON COUNTY

Pursuant to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Robert L. Nunn, III to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Freedom Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns dated 4/15/2015 and recorded in Deed Book 6849 Page 4 Houston County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by PHH Mortgage Corporation, conveying the aforesaid property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$78,945.00, 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 Houston County, Georgia (or such other area as designated by Order of the Superior Court of said county), within the legal hours of sale on February 3, 2026 (being the first Tuesday of said month unless said date falls on a Federal Holiday, in which case being the first Wednesday of said month), the following described property: The following described property: All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lot 128 of the Fifth (5th) Land District of Houston County, Georgia, being known and designated as Lot 5, Block "C", Section No. 1, of a Subdivision known as Briarwood, according to a plat of survey prepared by Story Surveying Company, certified by Robert L. Story, Georgia Registered Land Surveyor No. 1853, dated June 6, 1978, a copy of which is of record in Plat Book 21, Page 148, Clerk's Office, Houston Superior Court. Said plat and the recorded copy thereof are hereby made a part of this description by reference thereto for all purposes.

MR / KR February 3, 2026

Our file no. 22-07776GA-FT18

22-07776GA

53644 1/7-1/28

25-1966 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER, HOUSTON COUNTY

Pursuant to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Kerde Hilary Evans to Sunmark Community Bank dated 5/12/2017 and recorded in Deed Book 7511 Page 121 and modified at Deed Book 8014Page 91 Houston County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by Ameris Bank, conveying the aforesaid property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$424,000.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door of Houston County, Georgia (or such other area as designated by Order of the Superior Court of said county), within the legal hours of sale on February 3, 2026 (being the first Tuesday of said month unless said date falls on a Federal Holiday, in which case being the first Wednesday of said month), the following described property: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 73 OF THE

Arbors Subdivision, Section 3, according to a plat of survey of record in Plat Book 67, Pages 37-38, Clerk's Office, Houston Superior Court. Said plat and the recorded copy thereof are incorporated by reference for all purposes.

Padgett Law Group: 6267 Old Water Oak Road, Suite 203, Tallahassee, FL 32312; (850) 422-2520

25-009140-2

Ad Run Dates: 01/07/2026, 01/14/2026, 01/21/2026, 01/28/2026

rlselaw.com/property-listing

53637 1/7-1/28

EXHIBIT "A"

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 73 OF THE

Arbors Subdivision, Section 3, according to a plat of survey of record in Plat Book 67, Pages 37-38, Clerk's Office, Houston Superior Court. Said plat and the recorded copy thereof are incorporated by reference for all purposes.

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25-009140-2

Ad Run Dates: 01/07/2026, 01/14/2026, 01/21/2026, 01/28/2026

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53637 1/7-1/28

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25-009140-2

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rlselaw.com/property-listing

53637 1/7-1/28

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25-009140-2

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53637 1/7-1/28

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25-009140-2

Ad Run Dates: 01/07/2026, 01/14/2026, 01/21/2026, 01/28/2026

rlselaw.com/property-listing

53637 1/7-1/28

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Padgett Law Group: 6267 Old Water Oak Road, Suite 203, Tallahassee, FL 32312; (850) 422-2520

25-009140-2

Ad Run Dates: 01/07/2026, 01/14/2026, 01/21/2026, 01/28/2026

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53637 1/7-1/28

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25-009140-2

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rlselaw.com/property-listing

53637 1/7-1/28

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Padgett Law Group: 6267 Old Water Oak Road, Suite 203, Tallahassee, FL 32312; (850) 422-2520

25-009140-2

Ad Run Dates: 01/07/2026, 01/14/2026, 01/21/2026, 01/28/2026

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53637 1/7-1/28

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Padgett Law Group: 6267 Old Water Oak Road, Suite 203, Tallahassee, FL 32312; (850) 422-2520

25-009140-2

the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said Deed, to-wit:
Land Situated in the County of Houston in the State of GA
ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 226 OF THE TENTH LAND DISTRICT OF HOUSTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT 2, BLOCK "A", SECTION NO. 1, PHASE NO. 2, SOUTH OAKS SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO A PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED BY BROXTON & ASSOCIATES, DATED NOVEMBER 15, 1979, AND RECORDED IN MAP BOOK 22, PAGE 293, CLERK'S OFFICE, HOUSTON SUPERIOR COURT. SAID PLAT AND THE RECORDED COPY THEREOF ARE HEREBY MADE A PART OF THIS DESCRIPTION BY REFERENCE THERETO FOR ALL PURPOSES.

Commonly known as: 115 Feagin Mill Rd, Warner Robins, GA 31088-6203

Said property is known as **115 Feagin Mill Road, Warner Robins, GA 31088**, together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any.

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

The proceeds of said sale will be applied to the payment of said indebtedness and all expenses of said sale as provided in said Deed, and the balance, if any, will be distributed as provided by law.

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

The property is or may be in the possession of Peter D. Miller and Cathy H. Miller, successor in interest or tenant(s).

Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc. as Attorney-in-Fact for Peter D. Miller AND Cathy H. Miller

File no. 25-083515

LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP*
Attorneys and Counselors at Law
211 Perimeter Center Parkway, N.E.,
Suite 130

Atlanta, GA 30346

(770) 220-2535

<https://www.logs.com/>

*THE LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

53384 12/31/25-1/28/26

25-1818
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA
HOUSTON COUNTY

WHEREAS, Jessica Walker, as borrower(s), executed a SECURITY DEED to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC., Lender which was dated 11/21/2022, and recorded on 12/1/2022, in Instrument No.: Deed Book 9929, Page 151-171, securing the payment of a Note in the amount of \$207,000.00 in Houston 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 2/3/2026 sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door of the Houston County Courthouse, 201 N. Perry Parkway, Perry, Georgia 31069 of Houston, the following described property situated in Houston County, Georgia, to wit:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 184 OF THE TENTH LAND DISTRICT, HOUSTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT 94, WALKER'S GROVE SUBDIVISION, PHASE 3-A, ACCORDING TO A PLAT OF SURVEY RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 51, PAGE 109, CLERK'S OFFICE, HOUSTON SUPERIOR COURT. SAID PLAT AND THE RECORDED COPY THEREOF ARE INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE FOR ALL PURPOSES.

Tax Parcel ID: 00080D 094000

Being real property commonly known as **102 GROVE LANE KATHLEEN, GA 31047**

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

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

Except to the extent that the Holder may bind and obligate Mortgagors to warrant title to the Property under the terms of the Security Deed, conveyance of the Property shall be made without any representations or warranties whatsoever, express or implied. All sales are "as is", "where is".

The entire purchase price is due and payable at the conclusion of the auction in the form of certified funds. Insufficient funds will not be accepted. Amounts received in excess of the winning bid will be refunded to the successful purchaser. This property is being sold with express reservation that the sale is subject to confirmation by lender or Substitute Trustee.

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

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

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

Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Jessica Walker

Attorney Contact:

Miller, George & Suggs, PLLC

3000 Langford Road, Building 100

Peachtree Corners, GA 30071

Phone: 404-793-1447

Fax: 404-738-1558

TS # 25-37756

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

53391 12/10/25-1/28/26

25-1975

TS # 2025-19493-GA

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
Georgia, Houston County Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed given by Edward James Osborne and Tracey Osborne, as joint tenants with survivorship and not as tenants in common to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Grantor, as nominee for Freedom Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns, dated 3/3/2021, and recorded on 3/16/2021, in Instrument No.: 016412890022, Deed Book 9055, Page 191, Houston County, Georgia records, as last assigned to Freedom Mortgage Corporation by assignment recorded on 2/5/2025 in Instrument No.: Deed Book 10604, Page 53, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$249,158.00, with interest thereon as provided for therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door of Houston County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on 2/3/2026, the following described property:

All That Tract Or Parcel Of Land Sitate, Lying And Being In Land Lot 255 Of The Tenth Land District, Houston County, Georgia, Being Known And Designated As Lot 3, Block "E", Section No. 2, Phase No. 2, Windsor Forest Subdivision, According To A Plat Of Survey Of Record In Plat Book 27, Page 52, Clerk's Office, Houston Superior Court. Said Plat And The Recorded Copy Thereof Are Incorporated By Reference For All Purposes.

Said property is commonly known as **115 Feagin Mill Road, Warner Robins, GA 31088**, together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any.

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

The proceeds of said sale will be applied to the payment of said indebtedness and all expenses of said sale as provided in said Deed, and the balance, if any, will be distributed as provided by law.

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

The property is or may be in the possession of Peter D. Miller and Cathy H. Miller, successor in interest or tenant(s).

Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc. as Attorney-in-Fact for Peter D. Miller AND Cathy H. Miller

File no. 25-083515

LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP*

Attorneys and Counselors at Law

211 Perimeter Center Parkway, N.E.,

Suite 130

Atlanta, GA 30346

(770) 220-2535

<https://www.logs.com/>

*THE LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

53384 12/31/25-1/28/26

25-1975

TS # 2025-19493-GA

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

Georgia, Houston County Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed given by Edward James Osborne and Tracey Osborne, as joint tenants with survivorship and not as tenants in common to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Grantor, as nominee for Freedom Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns, dated 3/3/2021, and recorded on 3/16/2021, in Instrument No.: 016412890022, Deed Book 9055, Page 191, Houston County, Georgia records, as last assigned to Freedom Mortgage Corporation by assignment recorded on 2/5/2025 in Instrument No.: Deed Book 10604, Page 53, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$249,158.00, with interest thereon as provided for therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door of Houston County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on 2/3/2026, the following described property:

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

The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due 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 for in the Note and 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, whether or not now due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not now due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, li

Year: 2019
Model: Jetta
Vehicle ID #: 3VWCB7BU2KM224674
Vehicle License #: SIG8762
State: GA

Vehicle Make: Ford
Year: 2002
Model: Mustang
Vehicle ID #: 1FAFP40452F117238 Vehicle
License #: SKJ0050
State: GA

Vehicle Make: Honda
Year: 2010
Model: Accord
Vehicle ID #: 1HGCP2F77AA125082
Vehicle License #: PPFF8847
State: GA

Vehicle Make: Chevrolet
Year: 2004
Model: Blazer
Vehicle ID #: 1GNC81X64K145267
Vehicle License #: SJT7119
State: GA

Vehicle Make: Ford
Year: 2002
Model: Crown Victoria
Vehicle ID #: 2FAFP7W142X111730
Vehicle License #: NO TAG
State:

Vehicle Make: Chevrolet
Year: 2018
Model: Traverse
Vehicle ID #: 1GNERFKW6JJ219600
Vehicle License #: CWZ5819
State: GA

Vehicle Make: Chevrolet
Year: 2001
Model: Cavalier
Vehicle ID #: 1G1JC124717246482
Vehicle License #: SHN9983
State: GA

Vehicle Make: BMW
Year: 2003
Model: 330i
Vehicle ID #: WBAEV53413KM32511
Vehicle License #: SDT6481
State: GA

Vehicle Make: Honda
Year: 2001
Model: Civic
Vehicle ID #: 1HGES16541L077657
Vehicle License #: SJ11637
State: GA

Vehicle Make: Dodge
Year: 2017
Model: Challenger
Vehicle ID #: 2C3CDXH2H525021
Vehicle License #: DAS7741
State: GA

List additional vehicles as necessary.

Anyone with an ownership interest in any of these vehicles should contact the following business immediately:
Business Name: Kitchens Towing
Address: 1233 Watson Blvd.
Warner Robins, GA 31093
Telephone #: 478-923-5483
53809 1/7/14

25-1974
AUCTION
(Perry Self Storage):
NOTICE OF SALE: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT PERRY SELF STORAGE (518 GENERAL COURTYARD HODGES BLVD. PERRY, GA 31069) INTENDS TO SELL THE PERSONAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED BELOW TO ENFORCE A LIEN ON SAID PROPERTY PURSUANT TO THE GEORGIA CODE SECTIONS 10-4-210 TO 10-4-215. The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive bidding on Tuesday, January 20th, 2026, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. online at www.StorageTreasures.com, property found in the following units:

Gray, James – **Unit 129**
Various Household Goods

Johnson, Bobby – **Unit 142**
Various Household Goods

Askev, Tavaris – **Unit 144**
Various Household Goods

Manning, Dorothy – **Unit 167**
Various Household Goods

Lancaster, Crystal – **Unit 180**
Various Household Goods

Lancaster, Crystal – **Unit 181**
Various Household Goods

Hadden, Ericka – **Unit 222**
Various Household Goods

Goldwire, Veronica – **Unit 233**
Various Household Goods

Tenants have the right to redeem prior to sale. You can reach us at 478-218-2674.
53695 1/7

25-1915
**IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF
HOUSTON COUNTY
IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA**

IN THE INTEREST OF:
C. M., SEX M, AGE 17, DOB 10/11/2008,
CASE #2501714

CHILD UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, SHAMICA MONLYN (mother); ANY UNKNOWN PUTATIVE FATHER, AND ANYONE ELSE CLAIMING A PARENTAL INTEREST IN THE ABOVE CHILD

You are notified that a Petition for a Finding of Dependency with Temporary Custody Placed with the Paternal Aunt was filed against you in said court on 12/11/25, an Order for Service by Publication was entered on 12/15/25

YOU ARE COMMANDED AND REQUIRED TO BE AND APPEAR before Houston County Juvenile Court, held at Houston County Juvenile Court, Warner Robins, Georgia on 03/11/26 at 8:30 o'clock a.m. for a hearing following service by publication. Serve an answer on Petitioner's Attorney, James E. Patterson, P. O. Box 1006, Forsyth, Georgia 31029. You may obtain a copy of the petition by contacting Houston County Juvenile Court Clerk.

WITNESS the Honorable Judges of this court, this 15th day of December, 2025.

CHRISTINA HARPER, DEPUTY CLERK
HOUSTON CO. JUVENILE COURT

53103 12/24/25-1/14/26

Name Changes

25-1970
**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF HOUSTON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA**

In Re: Victoria Gabriella Porter
Minor Child(ren)
Civil Action File No. 2025V132274L
**NOTICE OF PETITION
TO CHANGE NAME**

GEORGIA, HOUSTON COUNTY
Notice is hereby given that Alfred B. Wesby, the undersigned, filed this petition to the Superior Court of Houston County, Georgia on the 16th day of April, 2025, praying for a change in the name of minor child(ren) from Victoria Gabriella Porter to Victoria Gabriella Wesby. Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in said Court and to file objections to such name change. Objections must be filed with said Court within 30 days of the filing of said petition. This 16th day of April, 2025.

Alfred B. Wesby
Petitioner pro se
53640 1/7-1/28

25-1950
**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF HOUSTON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA**

In Re: Kaylee Elizabeth Barclay
Civil Action File No. 2025V0133395
**NOTICE OF PETITION
TO CHANGE NAME**

GEORGIA, HOUSTON COUNTY
Notice is hereby given that Kaylee Elizabeth Barclay, the undersigned, filed his petition to the Superior Court of Houston County, Georgia on the 8 day of December, 2025, praying for a change in the name of petitioner from Kaylee Elizabeth Barclay to Kaylee Elizabeth Handson. Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in said Court and to file objections to such name change. Objections must be filed with said Court within 30 days of the filing of said petition. This 8 day of December, 2025.

Kaylee Elizabeth Barclay
Petitioner
53433 12/31/25-1/21/26

25-1969
**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF HOUSTON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA**

In Re: Tawine Dante Summers
Civil Action File No. 2025V0133386
**NOTICE OF PETITION
TO CHANGE NAME**

GEORGIA, HOUSTON COUNTY
Notice is hereby given that Tawine Dante Summers, the undersigned, filed his petition to the Superior Court of Houston County, Georgia on the 4th day of December, 2025, praying for a change in the name of petitioner from Tawine Dante Summers to Ghost Dante Summers. Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in said Court and to file objections to such name change. Objections must be filed with said Court within 30 days of the filing of said petition. This 4th day of December, 2025.

Tawine Dante Summers
Petitioner
53639 1/7-1/28

25-1907
**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF HOUSTON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA**

In Re: Allison Luana Embree
Civil Action File No. 2025V0133372
**NOTICE OF PETITION
TO CHANGE NAME**

GEORGIA, HOUSTON COUNTY
Notice is hereby given that Allison Luana Embree, the undersigned, filed his petition to the Superior Court of Houston County, Georgia on the 25 day of November, 2025, praying for a change in the name of petitioner from Allison Luana Embree to Allison Luana Waller. Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in said Court and to file objections to such name change. Objections must be filed with said Court within 30 days of the filing of said petition. This 25 day of November, 2025.

Allison Embree
Petitioner
53076 12/24/25-1/14/26

25-1971
**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
HOUSTON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA**

In Re: Jessica Brooke Lanehart to change her name

Civil Action File No. 2025V0133438
**NOTICE OF PETITION
TO CHANGE NAME**

GEORGIA, HOUSTON COUNTY
Notice is hereby given that Jessica Brooke Lanehart, the undersigned, filed his petition to the Superior Court of Houston County, Georgia on the 16th day of December, 2025, praying for a change in the name of petitioner from Jessica Brooke Lanehart to Scottie Brook Lanehart. Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in said Court and to file objections to such name change. Objections must be filed with said Court within 30 days of the filing of said petition. This 16th day of December, 2025.

Jessica Brooke Lanehart
Petitioner
53642 1/7-1/28

Public Hearings

25-1983
LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Houston County Board of Zoning & Appeals will hold a public hearing on January 26, 2026 at the hour of 5:30 p.m. at the Houston County Annex Building in Warner Robins, Georgia for the purpose of hearing objections, if any, to a Special Exception, as provided by the terms of the Houston County Zoning Resolution.

The Houston County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on February 3, 2026 at the hour of 9:00 a.m. at the County Courthouse, Houston County, Perry, Georgia for the purpose of hearing objections, if any, to the regulations of the Zoning Ordinance of said county as to a Special Exception on the following real estate:

Property Description

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 43 of the 11th Land District of Houston County, Georgia, Lot 147, Section 1 of Forestbrook Subdivision, Consisting of 0.24 Acres and better known as the property of Courtney Coley.

Property is located at 209 Misty Valley Lane.

All parties at interest and citizens shall have the opportunity to be heard at said time and place relative to petition filed by Courtney Coley.

Houston County Board of Zoning & Appeals

By: Chairman, John Trussell
Attest: Secretary, Timothy E. Andrews

53802 1/7-1/28

25-1982
LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Houston County Board of Zoning & Appeals will hold a public hearing on January 26, 2026 at the hour of 5:30 p.m. at the Houston County Annex Building in Warner Robins, Georgia for the purpose of hearing objections, if any, to a Special Exception, as provided by the terms of the Houston County Zoning Resolution.

The Houston County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on February 3, 2026 at the hour of 9:00 a.m. at the County Courthouse, Houston County, Perry, Georgia for the purpose of hearing objections, if any, to the regulations of the Zoning Ordinance of said county as to a Special Exception on the following real estate:

Property Description

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 35 of the 9th Land District of Houston County, Georgia, Tract "A" and "B" as shown on a plat of survey for Christopher D. Bixler, Consisting of 2.14 Acres and better known as the property of Chris and Crystal Bixler.

Property is located at 3750 Valley Drive.

All parties at interest and citizens shall have the opportunity to be heard at said time and place relative to petition filed by Chris and Crystal Bixler.

Houston County Board of Zoning & Appeals

By: Chairman, John Trussell
Attest: Secretary, Timothy E. Andrews

53799 1/7-1/14

25-1982

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Houston County Board of Zoning & Appeals will hold a public hearing on January 26, 2026 at the hour of 5:30 p.m. at the Houston County Annex Building in Warner Robins, Georgia for the purpose of hearing objections, if any, to a Special Exception, as provided by the terms of the Houston County Zoning Resolution.

The Houston County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on February 3, 2026 at the hour of 9:00 a.m. at the County Courthouse, Houston County, Perry, Georgia for the purpose of hearing objections, if any, to the regulations of the Zoning Ordinance of said county as to a Special Exception on the following real estate:

Property Description

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 55 of the 11th Land District of Houston County, Georgia, Lot 114, Phase 2 of Harley Farms Subdivision, Consisting of 0.22 Acres and better known as the property of Dashonna Brown.

Property is located at 616 Samantha Brooke Way.

All parties at interest and citizens shall have the opportunity to be heard at said time and place relative to petition filed by Dashonna Brown.

Houston County Board of Zoning & Appeals

By: Chairman, John Trussell
Attest: Secretary, Timothy E. Andrews

53801 1/7-1/14

25-1981

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Houston County Board of Zoning & Appeals will hold a public hearing on January 26, 2026 at the hour of 5:30 p.m. at the Houston County Annex Building in Warner Robins, Georgia for the purpose of hearing objections, if any, to a Special Exception, as provided by the terms of the Houston County Zoning Resolution.

The Houston County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on February 3, 2026 at the hour of 9:00 a.m. at the County Courthouse, Houston County, Perry, Georgia for the purpose of hearing objections, if any, to the regulations of the Zoning Ordinance of said county as to a Special Exception on the following real estate:

Property Description

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 104 of the 11th Land District of Houston County, Georgia, Lot 20, Block "H", Section 2 of The Farm at Riverbend Subdivision, Consisting of 0.76 Acres and better known as the property of Jana Blanton.

Property is located at 3025 Chattooga Way. All parties at interest and citizens shall have the opportunity to be heard at said time and place relative to petition filed by Jana Blanton.

Houston County Board of Zoning & Appeals

By: Chairman, John Trussell
Attest: Secretary, Timothy E. Andrews

53800 1/7-1/14

25-1984

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Houston County Board of Zoning & Appeals will hold a public hearing on January 26, 2026 at the hour of 5:30 p.m. at the Houston County Annex Building in Warner Robins, Georgia for the purpose of hearing objections, if any, to a Special Exception, as provided by the terms of the Houston County Zoning Resolution.

The Houston County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on February 3, 2026 at the hour of 9:00 a.m. at the County Courthouse, Houston County, Perry, Georgia for the purpose of hearing objections, if any, to the regulations of the Zoning Ordinance of said county as to a Special Exception on the following real estate:

Property Description

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 14 of the 11th Land District of Houston County, Georgia, Lot 17, Block "C", Section 2 of Kings Crossing Subdivision, Consisting of 0.95 Acres and better known as the property of Donna Crick.

Property is located at 118 Huntington Place.

All parties at interest and citizens shall have the opportunity to be heard at said time and place relative to petition filed by Donna Crick.

Houston County Board of Zoning & Appeals

Northside Basketball

Thomas County Central's game-winning three fails to connect as Eagles win 10th game and first in region play

By CLAY BROWN
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WARNER ROBINS — Northside (10-3) held on to win their first region game despite Thomas County Central's (8-5) 13-point comeback and last-second three-point attempt from Quincy Anderson that bounced off of the back rim as time expired.

The Eagles nearly fumbled a game they had almost complete control of early, but head coach Buck Harris will take his wins when he can get them.

"We gave up a three right at the end to Eric Love [III]. He's the [head of the] snake. You got to cut the head off the snake," Harris said on Love's shot to bring it within one. "He shoots an airball the possession before, but then we leave him. We gotta sit in his lap [and] let somebody else take that shot."

"But collectively to get a win, first region win at home, we're headed in the right direction," he continued. "We got a tough one tomorrow going over to HoCo, so hopefully these guys get some rest and I can come up with some kind of game plan to keep it competitive."

The shot Harris referenced was Love's wide open three-pointer with 8.7 seconds left on the clock. Kaylon Harris rebounded Love's airball three the possession before and hit one of two free throws to make it a two possession game with 15.8 seconds to go.

But the three-point

make cut the lead to 70-69. Kingston Allen only made one of his two free throws afterwards, so it was a two-point game and Thomas County Central's ball. Quincy Anderson's three from the top of the key hit the back of the rim as the buzzer sounded and Northside survived.

Nobody would've anticipated such a close finish after witnessing the first two quarters.

Vontrez Quainton nailed two first-quarter triples as the Eagles got a comfortable 21-14 lead at the end of the first that they (almost) doubled in the second.

The Yellow Jackets didn't have an answer for Elijah Patmon especially when Anderson and Rodney Dunbar were off the floor.

Patmon muscled his way to a team-high 16 points. He posted up but also caught several passes leading him to the rim as Thomas County Central fronted him in hopes of denying the ball. The Eagles also found a lot of success driving to the basket.

But the Yellow Jackets picked up the pace in the second half and erased a 13-point deficit in part due to their three-quarter court press. They forced turnovers and got easy opportunities in transition as well as kept Northside away from the basket.

"They went to a 1-2-2 three-quarter court [press] and we act like we never seen it before," Harris said. "We practice against it every day. But the dif-



Northside's Kaylon Harris (white) tries to hold on to the ball while two Yellow Jackets reach in to rip it from him.

ference is [Thomas County Central is] longer, they're more athletic, and we got a little timid, a little shaky."

Anderson was often in the front of that press and getting his hands on passes between two Eagles bringing the ball up.

The Yellow Jackets trapped on the sidelines and made everything else

difficult, and not only did it take time off of the shot clock, it generated plenty of turnovers.

"I'm preaching, 'Fake a pass, make a pass,'" Harris said. "Get them up in the air then let's go by. But we [were] just going back and forth instead of looking up the sideline and looking opposite [where] we got

guys open. We'll watch film and we'll get better from this. But hats off to TCC. They changed the tempo of the game and got back in it."

Thomas County Central put on a 14-2 run in the last 4:20 of the third before taking a tie into the final period of play.

UP NEXT

Northside will take on their first county opponent in the region as they head downtown to Houston County on Saturday, Jan. 3 at 4 p.m.

Thomas County Central will head back to Thomasville to play Coffee on Saturday, Jan. 3 at 4:30 p.m.



Vontrez Quainton (white) continued his shooting streak from behind the arc, making two in the first quarter and three in total against Thomas County Central.



Northside and Thomas County Central big men Elijah Patmon (white) and Jack Taylor (gold) go at each other in the paint during their region opener.

Houston County boys hoping to capture elusive region championship as favorites in Region 2-5A

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Houston County boys basketball under head coach Buddy Bivins has improved every year since he arrived in 2022, but a region championship has eluded them to this point.

His first year they were 14-14 and 5-5 in Region 1-6A, in the same realm as Veterans but not close to 28-4 Lee County and 20-7 Tift County.

A couple more wins went their way in 2023-24 as

they reached a 15-12 overall mark and 7-3 in the region, their first winning region record since 2006-07. They made it to the region championship game against Lee County, but fell at the buzzer in a heartbreaking 45-44 final. That was the Bears' 12th straight loss to the Trojans.

They finally broke that streak in 2025 with a 50-48 home win as Braden Moore's buzzer-beater left his hands milliseconds too late, but they went on to lose the last regular season

game and the region championship as Lee County once again claimed the crown.

HoCo isn't used to region success. From 2011 through 2016 they didn't even win a region game, and in the MaxPreps era (2005 on) they only have two winning region records — those were both the first two years recorded on the site.

But 2025-26 feels different. If not just because Lee County lost eight seniors and are 6-7 at the time of

writing.

Morehead State commit Malik Gillespie is in his senior season, and every time you look up his counterpart Josh Jackson has 20 points.

They are supremely athletic and have three players 6-foot-4 and above, including two that are 6-foot-7, Braylin Mills and Mahkel Stephens.

They've beaten teams like Putnam County and Southwest-Macon and if they fix some things like consistent rebounding

effort they could be scary against the best.

The Bears took care of Northside 79-63 in their first region game, and while it wasn't a perfect game it solidified the thought in many that HoCo are the favorites in Region 2-5A.

But Bivins doesn't want his players to look too ahead in the future or take

much stock in what people think the first couple of days in January.

"It's always good to get the first one. Start on a good note," Bivins said.

The region is wide open, and I've told them before, a lot of people look at us as the favorite, but we can't look ahead. Yeah we've been there the last two years, but we haven't got [the region championship] so we just got to keep going with the process, try to keep getting better every day."

"Hopefully by the time we get down to February we're good, but we can't look ahead and we have to stay where we at and keep working."

Lady Eagles overcome early deficit to beat Thomas County Central in first region game



Clay Brown/HHJ

Lady Eagles senior Taylor Johnson (23) rises up for a mid-range jumper against Thomas County Central, a 46-42 victory for Northside in the region opener.

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WARNER ROBINS — Early three-pointers put Northside (10-3) in an early hole on Friday but the Lady Eagles climbed out and edged the Thomas County Central Lady Yellow Jackets (6-6) 46-42.

It wasn't a quick start but Thomas County Central made timely triples throughout the first quarter to help them to a seven-point lead by the end of it. But the biggest contributing factor to that was their pressure on Taylor Johnson.

Lady Eagles' head coach ChoRhonda Gwaltney-

Harris has relied on Johnson as her offensive hub for the past two years, and it seemed that the Lady Jackets built their entire defensive game plan around that as many teams do.

They did their best to deny her the ball, especially in the post. If she did break free and was able to get possession the pressure was unrelenting. Multiple defenders converged on her and were always trying to poke the ball loose. But it wasn't anything the Lady Eagles haven't seen before.

"That's what most people want to do if you watch us play," Gwaltney-Harris said. "What we're gonna do is we're gonna just play...

we're gonna figure it out... She's our leading scorer on the team and that's our focal point. But the rest of us can get going too. We had some people make some big shots tonight."

As the game went on Northside got more comfortable in their offense and got a couple of other players to chip away. They used the attention on Johnson to free up other players.

By halftime Northside completed a 9-2 run to trail 25-21, holding Thomas County Central to seven points in the second period.

The Lady Eagles' defensive effort ramped up in the second half and all but completely shut down the



Clay Brown/HHJ

Lady Yellow Jackets guard Nia Hayes (4) finished with a game-high 23 points in Thomas County Central's 46-42 loss to Northside in the region opener. Hayes accounted for 54% of her team's points in the game.

Lady Jackets.

They contested every pass, every rebound and doubled ball handlers consistently. There was no easy action for Thomas County Central, and even though some fouls resulted from the aggressiveness, it was the reason they flipped the script in the final two quarters.

"Defensively is where our strong point [is]. Tonight, that's what came out and that's what won us the game is defense," Gwaltney-Harris said.

But she did recognize their offensive shortcomings, too.

"We struggle scoring. We got to get better on the

offensive end," she said. "Running plays and being able to take care of the basketball. I mean that's our downfall. If we ever get to the point where we can take care of the basketball, we're going to make life trouble for a lot of people."

Johnson swung the ball to Brynli Burch on the right wing for her second three-pointer to take Northside's first lead since the opening period with 1:26 left in the third.

They didn't run away with it from there, though. Turnovers snowballed a little going into the fourth and the fouls put Thomas County Central in the bonus for the remaining 3:13 of

the game. After Jazmine Burgess' corner three grew the Lady Eagles' lead to 11, the Lady Jackets' Nia Hayes hit one of her own with 49 seconds left to make it a two-point game.

Jazmyne Brown drilled both of her free throws in the final seconds of the game, sealing Northside's first region victory and putting them one shy of their total from 2024-25.

UP NEXT

Northside will play Houston County down the road on Saturday, Jan. 3 at 3 p.m.

Thomas County Central will return home to play Coffee on Saturday, Jan. 3 at 3 p.m.

Lady Bears lose first region game 67-9 to Northside

By CLAY BROWN
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WARNER ROBINS — The region schedule has begun for Houston County (0-13, 0-1 Region 2-5A) but they're still looking for their first victory of the season after a 67-9 loss to Northside (11-3, 2-0 Region) at home on Saturday.

A tough Lady Eagles defense made it hard for the Lady Bears to do anything offensively, even advance the ball past half court.

HoCo was held to their season-low in points

because they simply didn't have many offensive possessions.

Northside ran a full court press and were quick to tie up the Lady Bears and force a jump ball at every opportunity. If they didn't do that they forced a turnover by poking the ball free or stealing a pass. They also stayed on the offensive glass, giving them extra opportunities to score even if HoCo managed a stop.

Defensively the Lady Bears were able to hold the Lady Eagles to eight points through the first five minutes of the game, but after

that the floodgates opened. Northside doubled their lead in less than a minute before ending the first quarter with a 19-4 advantage that soon ballooned into 39-7 by halftime.

HoCo scored two points in the second half, part of Sameena Khan's team-high six.

UP NEXT

The Lady Bears will host Thomas County Central on Friday, Jan. 9 at 6 p.m.

Northside will travel to Lee County on Tuesday, Jan. 6 at 6 p.m. to wrap up their short two-game road spurt.

Northside's Buck Harris waiting for his true point guard to emerge



Clay Brown/HHJ

With Northside facing some injuries, junior guard Donovan Lockett (2) got the nod to start in the Eagles' region opener against Thomas County Central.

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If there's one thing that Northside boys basketball coach Buck Harris has made known, it's that playing point guard under him is hard.

Lots of people throw around "point guard," but not many truly know what that means.

There's "guards" and then there's "point guards." Those lines can be blurred, especially in high school when they all do truly seem the same, but it's not for Harris, who has high expectations for his point guards.

"They got to be an extension of me. I need them to be a coach on the floor. They got to be a leader," Harris said. "I tell them all the time, point guards got to be a-holes. But I don't have

[that] I have nice kids. I don't have a kid that can go to somebody and say man we got to get this rebound and lead from that standpoint."

That doesn't mean the players he has don't exhibit any of the qualities he needs.

"Eventually I'll get there, I'll get that type of kid. But they have to be vocal...they got to be Ford tough. I got some kids that are Ford tough, but the other stuff's got to come," Harris said.

One player Harris has entrusted with a lot of ball handling duties in junior Donovan Lockett.

Lockett is 5-foot-8 with a smaller build but is quick and is a more secure ball handler than a lot of high school guards.

He does pretty well under pressure and is able to drib-

ble out of trouble. He can also push the pace without losing control. He's not particularly vocal, but like Harris said, the other qualities have to come for players like Lockett.

"Donovan, he's a gamer," Harris said. "He's just struggled early because he was lacking some confidence. This summer he proved to me that's he's capable of carrying a team, he has to just get more locked in. More focused on being a point guard and knowing how to be a distributor, but he can guard. He can get to the basket, shoot, I have full confidence in him."

"He hadn't been good early on in the season, but I've been showing him that I have confidence in him... and letting him know that I believe in him. He's gonna be good for us," Harris said.



Clay Brown/HHJ

Olivia Buffone (13) fights for a rebound against Northside's Jazmyne Brown (blue) during HoCo's loss in the region opener.

Houston County starts hopeful region championship campaign with win against Northside

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WARNER ROBINS — The Houston County boys look like the favorite in Region 2-5A, and they started their region schedule with a 79-63 win against Northside at home on Saturday.

The Bears (10-4, 1-1 Region 2-5A) have had several close battles with Lee County in recent years, but the region championship has remained elusive.

In what's considered a pretty wide open region with the fall of the Trojans, taking care of the Eagles

(10-4, 1-1 Region) was an important first step in a hopeful championship season.

HoCo's superior length and athleticism had them in control of the game early, though Northside didn't go away quietly.

With 3:26 left in the first quarter the Bears led 10-2. They guarded the perimeter well, poking a few balls loose to get out in the fast break while also contesting any outside shots.

"That's been the message all week. We had to pick up our defensive intensity, glad to see they responded," HoCo coach Buddy

Bivins said. "Still was a little spotty here and there. We didn't stop penetration like I wanted to, and we still gave up too many second-chance points. But that defensive effort was there, just got to clean up little small things here and there."

Malik Gillespie nailed a couple of long jumpers to help HoCo chug along to a 15-point lead with 5:02 to play until the break.

But it wasn't a perfect performance. The rebounding effort wasn't always good and there were some fouls that resulted from chasing blocks rather than



Clay Brown/HHJ

Malik Gillespie (center) celebrated scoring 1000 career points on Saturday, Jan. 3 against Northside. The senior is committed to play basketball at Morehead State University after high school.

contesting shots.

But the Bears still led 40-26 at halftime and had a firm grasp of the game between their big rotation and quick perimeter defenders.

The pace quickened in the second half on both sides as they hoped to get behind the respective defenses and they saw mixed results.

HoCo was able to adjust quicker if Northside did get back and find another way to score, but the Eagles resorted to a lot of

three-pointers and avoided getting to the paint as they have before.

Northside did make one final push in the fourth with an 11-4 run, but Gillespie's windmill dunk put that to rest and the lead back to 20 points. It took that long for HoCo to really and truly put the game away, something Bivins doesn't think should have happened.

"We relaxed. I've coached against [Northside] coach Buck [Harris] for a while now, he's going to always

preach to them to play hard. They're never going to stop playing hard," Bivins said. "I told them at halftime, don't relax, they're not going to quit. We just got to keep focused for a full 32 [minutes]."

UP NEXT

HoCo will host Thomas County Central for their second region game on Friday, Jan. 9 at 7:30 p.m.

Northside will hit the road to Lee County on Tuesday, Jan. 6 at 7:30 p.m.



Northside junior Jaydin Howell (12) follows through on a three-pointer from the top of the key during the Eagles region loss to Houston County.

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