

THE
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Submitted Photo

EXCELLENCE CELEBRATED - The Talbotton Police Department held the first annual Public Safety banquet on July 11 to acknowledge and celebrate excellence.

Talbotton Celebrates Excellence
At First Annual Public Safety Event

Submitted to *NEW ERA*

On July 11 the City of Talbotton hosted its inaugural Public Safety Banquet.

The event was held at 12 East Madison Street, bringing together city leadership, law enforcement, and community members to honor the dedicated professionals who serve the city. The evening recognized outstanding performance across the department and announced key supervisory advancements.

Chief James Biggs and Major Smart Web presided over the ceremony, emphasizing the department's commitment to excellence and the high standards of professional conduct maintained by the force.

Honoring Departmental Excellence

The banquet highlighted the exceptional contributions of both sworn officers and civilian staff who ensure the safety and administrative efficiency of Talbotton.

- James Fennell - Recipient of the 2026 Officer of the Year Award.

- Aitiana Marshall - Recipient of the 2026 Support Staff of the Year Award.

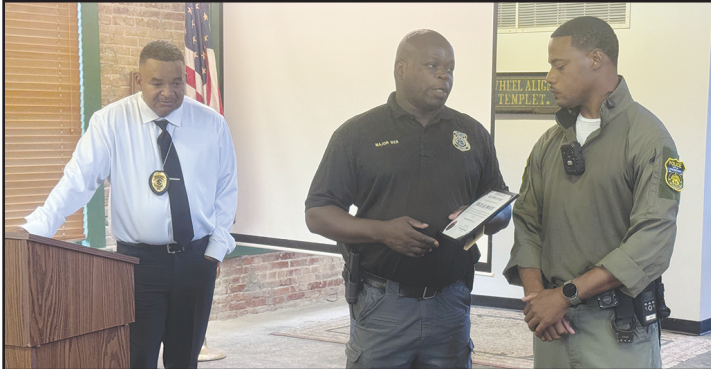
Leading the Way: Supervisory Promotions

In a pivotal moment for the department's future, Chief Biggs announced the promotion of two veteran members to critical leadership roles. These promotions reflect the leadership, technical proficiency, and dedication these individuals have demonstrated throughout their careers.

- James Fennell - Promoted to the rank of Captain.

- Michael Bostic - Promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.

"The strength of our department lies in the character of those who serve,"



stated Chief Biggs. "Tonight, we celebrate the individual achievements that drive our continued growth as a modern, professional organization."

A Community Effort

The department extends its deepest gratitude to the Mayor and City Council for their steadfast support of the Talbotton Police Department. Their commitment to public safety pro-

vides the foundation for the department's success and the community's well-being.

About the Talbotton Police Department: The Talbotton Police Department, located at 15 South Washington Ave, Talbotton, GA 31827, is committed to providing modern, professional public safety services while fostering community trust and transparency.

CEHS Open House July 30

Monday, Aug. 3rd First Day of Class

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

The Talbot County School System will hold open house at Central Elementary- High School (CEHS) on Thursday, July 30.

Open house will be held from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The open house gives families, students and staff an opportunity to get to know each other in a welcoming, interactive environment.

It provides parents and

students the opportunity to ask questions, get to know the teachers, staff and administrators and an overview of academic and program information.

Opening day for the 2026-2027 school year will be Monday, Aug. 3 and the bell time for classes will be at 7:30 a.m. and the last bell will be at 3:30 p.m.

A copy of this year's school calendar is available on the school's website at <http://www.talbot.k12.ga.us>.

Qualifying for Geneva Election Begins July 28

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

The City of Geneva has announced a special election will be held to filled the unexpired terms of two at-large seats on the city council.

The city has scheduled the election to be in conjunction with the Nov. 3 General Election.

Qualifying for the special election will be held at Geneva City Hall located at 301 Schoolhouse Road in Geneva beginning at 11:30 a.m. on July 28, 29, and 30 and ending at 5 p.m. each day.

The qualifying fee for the council seats is set at \$9 and must be paid at the time of qualifying.

Candidates must reside within the city limits of Geneva, be a registered voter, and have no felony convictions involving moral turpitude.

Individuals who wish to vote in the election but are not registered to vote may register at city hall through Oct. 5.

Advance/Early voting will be held Oct. 13 through Oct. 30.

Vote To Decide SPLOST Tax Fate

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

When Talbot County voters go to the polls on Nov. 3, they will be asked to pass a one percent Special Purpose Local Option Sales and Use Tax, which is actually an extension of the current sales tax already being collected.

Qualified voters will be asked to vote for or against a one percent (1%) county special purpose local option sales and use tax (the "SPLOST") shall be imposed and continued on all sales and uses in the County for a period of six (6) years.

The tax is expected to raise approximately \$5,900,000 for the purpose of funding capital outlay projects to include road, street, and bridge purposes, including related transportation infrastructure improvements and capital outlay projects concerning volunteer fire departments.

Also the funds will help with acquisition, construction, renovation, equipping and installation of capital outlay projects concerning an emergency management service ("EMS") facility or building and capital outlay projects concerning the renovation, improving, and equipping of the existing park facilities of the County;

- Acquisition, construction, renovation, equipping and installation of capital outlay projects concerning water meter upgrades in the City of Talbotton; acquisition, construction, renovation, equipping and installation of capital outlay projects concerning the expansion, improvements, and renovations of

City Hall in the City of Talbotton; acquisition, construction, equipping and installation of capital outlay projects consisting of parks and recreational facilities, as well as improvements and renovations to existing parks recreational facilities located in the City of Talbotton; acquisition, construction, installation, expansion, repair, and improvement of capital outlay projects concerning sidewalks in the City of Talbotton.

- Acquisition, construction, renovation, equipping and installation of capital outlay projects concerning water and sewer in the City of Woodland; acquisition, construction, equipping and installation of capital outlay projects consisting of parks and recreational facilities, as well as improvements and renovations to existing parks recreational facilities in the City of Woodland; acquisition, construction, renovation, equipping and installation of capital outlay projects concerning the expansion, improvements, and renovations of City Hall in the City of Woodland.

- Acquisition, construction, renovation equipping and installation of capital outlay projects concerning water and sewer in Junction City; acquisition, construction, renovation, equipping, improving, and installation of capital outlay projects concerning parks and recreational facilities in Junction City; capital outlay projects concerning the paving, resurfacing, repair, reconstruction, and improvement of municipal streets and related infrastructure in Junction City; the

acquisition, construction, installation, expansion, repair, and improvement of sidewalks, pedestrian pathways, crosswalks, streetscape and gateway improvements, and related infrastructure within Junction City;

- Acquisition, construction, renovation, equipping and installation of capital outlay projects concerning water and sewer in the City of Geneva; capital outlay projects concerning citywide beautification and improvements including landscaping, planting of trees and grass, irrigation systems, lighting, signage, public spaces, sidewalks, and related infrastructure in the City of Geneva; acquisition, installation, construction, and equipping of an electronic bulletin board (electronic message sign), together with all necessary foundations, utility connections, software, hardware, signage, and related infrastructure in the City of Geneva.

- Acquisition, installation, construction and equipping of capital outlay projects concerning roads and bridges purposes in the City of Manchester; acquisition, installation, construction and equipping of capital outlay projects concerning water and sewer in the City of Manchester; acquisition, installation, construction and equipping of capital outlay projects concerning public safety in the City of Manchester.

SPLOST collections do help in reducing property taxes for citizens. It is important to note this will not increase sales tax.

Qualifying For BOE Seat Begins

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

Qualifying dates have been set to fin the unexpired term of Nikki Waller, the District 4 representative on the Talbot County Board of Education, according to Elections Supervisor Sharita Trice.

The special election for the District 4 seat will be held in conjunction with the General Election scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 3.

The Advance Voting location is 1761 Geneva Highway in Talbotton and will be open from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. beginning Oct. 13.

The polling location will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

If a runoff is needed the runoff election will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 1.

Qualifying for the Special Election will be held at the Talbot County Board

of Elections and Registration office located at 1761 Geneva Highway in Talbotton beginning on Monday, July 27 and Tuesday, July 28 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily and end on Wednesday, July 29 between the hours of 9 a.m. until 12 noon.

The qualifying fee for the seat is \$282 and must be paid by check or money order. Checks need to be made payable to Talbot County Board of Elections. The Election and Registration office will not accept cash for the qualifying fee.

Candidates wishing to seek the District 4 seat must be a registered voter in Talbot County, been a resident of District 4 for at least one year prior to the election date and must not have been convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude.

Advanced/Early Voting

will be conducted for the special election beginning on Tuesday, Oct. 13 and ending on Friday, Oct. 30 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. There will be two Saturday voting days scheduled for Oct. 17 and Oct. 24 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Absentee ballot applications are available online at sos.ga.gov and at "My Voter Page Georgia" (<https://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov>).

Registered voters can also call the Talbot County Elections office at 706-665-8270 to request that an application be mailed to your home. Ballots will be mailed starting Oct. 5.

All District 4 residents who are not registered to vote, and desire to vote in the Special Election, must register by Oct. 5.



Photo and information By Pres Hall

STILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION - In the City of Talbotton the railroad overhead bridge, down Gorman Street, in the community called "The Bottom," is still under construction and making noticeable progress. After two decades, or perhaps even more, its closer than ever before to being completed. Once completed, it will be a beautiful sight for the city and for people to see. Yes, a state of the art project.

Back to School Event Saturday

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

A back to school community event has been planned for Saturday, July 25.

The event will begin at 12 noon at the Talbotton Fire

Station and Major Smart Web of the Talbotton Police Department participating.

The event is open to all children and parents. There will be hotdogs, chips, cold drinks, juice and water avail-

able for the event.

The event is being sponsored by Willie Leonard, District 1 Board of Education member Julia A. Leonard and members of the community.



Did You Know...by Jack Bagley

Did one of the most popular television programs of the 1960s happen because of a Broadway play?

By JACK BAGLEY
didyounowcolumn@gmail.com

I know what you must be thinking. "How in the world does this guy come up with different trivia each week?" That's got to be it.

Well, if you are indeed thinking that, then I just made the best guess I'll ever make. And I'll answer it: I have a storehouse of trivia that may last into the 22nd Century, or beyond! I've already mined it; each week I polish up a few nuggets and leave them here for you to enjoy.

That's my story, and I'm sticking to it. Now, enjoy this week's collection!

Did you know ...

... a British gymnast survived a four-story fall thanks to his skills? Steven Jehu (born 1987), a gymnast from Exeter, England, fell from the fourth floor of a hotel in Slovenia in 2004. Somehow, Jehu had the presence of mind to go into a somersault during the fall, and he landed – almost fifty feet below – on his feet, suffering only a broken ankle. Doctors who set the ankle later said Jehu would have died had he not instinctively gone into his gymnastic training. (Good training beats just about everything else!)

... the "I'm Feeling Lucky" feature on the Google™ search page actually costs the company money? Estimates are that Google loses \$110 million in ad revenue per year when people use that feature to avoid advertising in their searches. (So when you're feeling lucky, Google isn't.)

... in the popular video game, "Super Mario Brothers," the character of Mario the Plumber does not use his head to get bonus points from blocks? He uses his hand, which – if you freeze-frame the game – you can see above his head. It's his left hand, by the way. *Additional trivia note:* The bushes in the background of the game are just re-renditions of the clouds in the sky, re-colored green. (You always wondered about that, didn't you?)

... one of the most popular television shows of the 1960s indirectly happened because of a Broadway play? In 1965, ABC tried hard to acquire the rights to the character of Superman, in order to make a new series, but those rights were tied up in a not-too-successful Broadway musical titled *It's a Bird, It's a Plane, It's Superman*. So the network then tried to get the rights to *Dick Tracy*, but creator Chester Gould (1900-1985) was already negotiating with NBC. Finally acquiring the rights to *Batman* from DC Comics, the network hired producer William Dozier (1908-1991) to make the show happen, and happen it did. Airing twice a week during its first two seasons, *Batman* demolished the competition with its lampooning of the entire superhero genre. (To the Bat-poles, Robin!)

... television can be a very bad influence? Yeah, you needed me to tell you that. But consider this: when the television series *Breaking Bad* finished its run, police agencies through-

out the country noted a sharp uptick in the popularity of crystal methamphetamine, the drug created by the show's central character Walter White, played by Bryan Cranston (born 1956). Manufacturers of the illegal substance actually dyed their drug blue in an effort to resemble the drug shown in the series. (I've heard of emulating your heroes, but this is ridiculous.)

... a singer's vegetarianism caused a popular parody artist to not perform one of his songs? When "Weird Al" Yankovic (born 1959) wanted to do a parody version of the Wings song "Live and Let Die," he asked permission from the composer, Sir Paul McCartney (born 1942). McCartney did not object to the parody, but he did object to Yankovic's change of the title line to "chicken pot pie." McCartney is a vegetarian, and did not want his work to be used to promote the eating of meat. Yankovic tried to work around the restriction but could not come up with a suitable substitute, so the parody was scrapped. (Now that I would have liked to hear.)

... no firm consensus exists on what a popular McDonald's™ character is supposed to be? Beginning in 1971, advertisements for the restaurant chain began using a cast of characters in "McDonaldland," which were ads aimed primarily at children. Most of the characters – Ronald McDonald™, Mayor McCheese™, the Hamburglar™, etc. – are pretty obvious, but for decades, there's been disagreement over what The Grimace™ is supposed to be. The purple, teardrop-shaped character doesn't look like anything living on Earth, but it's supposedly a living milkshake. At least, that's what some think. Others, however, maintain the Grimace is a taste bud. (Having never seen either a purple milkshake or a purple taste bud, I can't offer an opinion – well, I can, but I'm not allowed to say stuff like that here.)

... a man once went to a great length to prove the afterlife is real? He killed himself. In 1921, Thomas Lynn Bradford (1872-1921), a spiritualist, decided once and for all to prove there is an afterlife. He got in touch with another spiritualist, Ruth Doran (1877-1938), and made an agreement to prove the existence of the afterlife. On the agreed-upon date, Bradford went into his Detroit apartment, sealed it, blew out the pilot light on his gas stove, and turned on the gas. He died ... but Doran said she never received any messages from him. (I have a line here, but it would close the show.)

... the average person in the United States eats about 100 pounds of sugar a year? Sugar currently represents about 50% of a person's daily carbohydrate intake for the day. Amazingly, just a century ago, the average American (whoever that is) only ate around 10 pounds of sugar per year. Scientists say that ideally, only about 10% of a person's diet should come from sugar. (How sweet!)

Now ... you know!

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This Week in History

1962: Skull of Kennewick Man is Found

By ANDY KOBER

Here is what happened this week in American History.

• **July 23.** On this day in 1972, the *Landsat 1* satellite is launched into space. This was the first satellite to investigate Earth resources, notably agricultural and forestry resources, geology, hydrology, oceanography, environmental pollution and more. *Landsat 1* was a polar-orbiting satellite, meaning it orbited Earth over or very near the poles. The satellite's mission was scheduled to last five years, five months, and 14 days. It was deactivated in January 1978 but during its service transmitted over 100,000 images of about 75 percent of Earth's surface. It was responsible for discovering a small, uninhabited island off the Canadian east coast that was subsequently named Landsat Island. *Landsat 1* remains in a decaying orbit and will eventually return to Earth.

• **July 24.** In 1998, at 3:40 pm Russell Weston enters the US Capitol building and is directed toward a metal detector. The detector alarms and Weston is asked to pass through it a second time. Instead, he draws a handgun and begins shooting. Capitol Police Officer Jacob Chestnut is struck in the back of his head and killed. Weston then shoots at Officer Douglas McMillan who was getting a wheelchair for a visitor. McMillan is injured but shoots at Weston who runs through a doorway, turns into a corridor, and bursts into an office. Detective John Gibson is in that room along with office staff. Hearing the gunshots, he had staff members hide under their desks. As Weston enters the office, he shoots Gibson in the chest. Despite being mortally wounded, Gibson manages to shoot Weston four times. Weston survived and was declared mentally incompetent to stand trial, suffering from paranoid schizophrenia. He remains in psychiatric care.

• **July 25.** Today in 1609, the British sailing ship *Sea Venture* is heading toward Virginia with 200 passengers looking to settle in the New World. *Sea Venture*, the flagship of a seven-ship fleet, had sailed from Plymouth, England, six weeks earlier. Just days before arriving in Jamestown, the fleet was struck by a tropical storm or hurricane and scattered. At least one ship sank. *Sea Venture* began taking on water. It would be the morning of Aug. 3 that land was spotted. Slowly sinking, the ship was run ashore on the island of Bermuda with the survivors establishing a new colony on the island.

• **July 26.** On this day in 1944, Betty Gray Mabry is born in Durham, NC. She develops an interest in music at a young age and begins writing songs at the age of 12. She eventually moves to New York where she works as a model and becomes a singer, which becomes a career. Because of her risqué lyrics and dance moves, she never achieves major stardom but does develop a cult following. She would marry jazz musician Miles Davis, becoming Betty Davis, with the marriage lasting only a year. She dies in 2022 of cancer.

• **July 27.** In 1817, it is during the Seminole Wars and Negro Fort is largely occupied by escaped slaves. Located about 15 miles north of what is

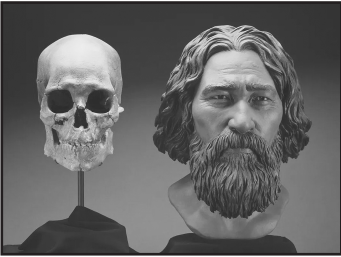


Photo from Public Domain

KENNEWICK MAN - Anyone recognize Kennewick Man? Probably not as his skeleton dates to between 8,400 and 8,700 years ago. His nearly complete skeleton was found by college students this week in 1962. The discovery in the Pacific Northwest changed many theories about ancient peoples in that area and it has been determined that Kennewick Man was related to Native Americans in that area during that time frame. Shown is Kennewick Man's skull and what he might have looked like.

now Apalachicola, FL, the fort had been built by the British during the war of 1812 to support an attack on the US from the south. To support the attack, the British recruited Creek and Seminole Indians along with escaped slaves. That attack never happened but the fort, mostly a wooden stockade, remained becoming what was described as the "largest concentration" of escaped slaves in the area. The existence of this community became a concern for the US. Then ships carrying supplies for the nearby Fort Scott were fired upon by those in Negro Fort. During the fight that followed a "hot cannon ball" from a gunboat landed in the Negro Fort magazine resulting in a huge explosion

destroying the fort and killing most of those inside. It is reported the Creek Indians recovered 2,500 muskets, 50 carbines, 400 pistols, and 500 swords from the ruins. The action became known as Battle of Negro Fort, thought it is also called Battle of Prospect Bluff and Battle of African Fort. Historical markers note the location of Negro Fort.

• **July 28.** Today in 1962, college students Will Thomas and David Deacy are at the Columbia River near Kennewick, WA, to watch a hydroplane race. Thomas is wading in the water when his foot strikes something hard. That something is a human skull. They take the skull to a Kennewick police officer and a subsequent search of the area finds more human bones – nearly a complete skeleton. Forensic study determines the bones are 8,400 to nearly 8,700 years old and he becomes known as the Kennewick Man. DNA tests have shown that Kennewick Man was related to his contemporary Native Americans in the Northwest.

• **July 29.** On this day in 1962, Scott Rechsteiner is born in Bay City, MI. He follows older brother, Rick, to the University of Michigan becoming a notable amateur wrestler. Rechsteiner also follows his brother into professional wrestling, adopting the name Scott Steiner, and enjoys an incredible career becoming known as "Big Poppa Pump" along the way.

ADDENDUM – *The Revolutionary War continues but with no significant battles until August. The Korean War continues with many small skirmishes.*

PUBLIC NOTICE

Request for Bids
Rock Church Road Project

The Town of Junction City is requesting bids for **paving the recently completed culvert portion of Rock Church Road**. Please contact **Gary Byrd, City Attorney at 706-628-5511**, to review engineering specifications. Sealed bids should be submitted to Mr. Byrd's office, **103 N. College St., PO Box 119, Hamilton, Georgia 31811, no later than noon on August 3, 2026**. Said bids will be opened at **7:00pm that day at City Hall, Junction City**.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Former students who received Special Education services during the **2020–2021 school year** are hereby notified that their Special Education records are scheduled to be destroyed (shredded) in accordance with state and federal record retention guidelines.

If you wish to obtain a copy of your records before they are destroyed, please contact the school district office **no later than August 13, 2026**.

For additional information or to request records, please contact:

**Talbot County Schools
Central Elementary-High School
(706) 665-8577 ext.204
omarshal@talbot.k12.ga.us
945 N. Washington Ave. Talbotton Ga 31827**

After the deadline, all remaining records eligible for destruction will be permanently shredded and will no longer be available.

Study Continues on Earth 2.0

By ANDY KOBER

A planet discovered 11 years ago, that is very similar to Earth, continues being studied.

It was in July 2015 the Kepler Space Telescope discovered a planet 1,800 light-years from Earth that has been loosely called Earth 2.0 or Earth's Cousin, though the actual name is Kepler-452b.

The discovery of Kepler 452b caused shockwaves in the astronomy and scientific communities with some of the experts saying the planet did not exist. Since then more evidence has substantiated the claim.

A super-Earth exoplanet found in the Cygnus constellation, Kepler 452b is orbiting its parent star, Kepler 452, in what has been defined as the "habitable zone" for life as we know it.

Kepler 452b has a mass about three times that of Earth with a radius of 1.6 times that of Earth. The planet orbits its star in about 385 days, just days longer than Earth's orbit.

Today's technology cannot determine if life exists on Kepler 452b and the speed of current spacecraft would require a travel time of 30 million years to reach the planet.

It will be up to future generations to ascertain if Kepler 45b is another Earth.

AS NOTED last week, July has been an interesting time for space exploration.

Our esteemed backyard astronomer, Ms. Lynn, reminds that it was in July 1995, the Comet Hale-Bopp



was discovered.

Hale-Bopp was discovered almost simultaneously by two people in separate places.

Alan Hale was tracking comets from his home in Cloudcroft, New Mexico, and discovered the comet. Meanwhile, Thomas Bopp was using a homemade Dobsonian telescope at Vekol Ranch near Stanfield, Arizona, and spotted the same comet. Both men reported their findings which were subsequently confirmed and the comet carries both their names.

Hale-Bopp is a long-period comet and was visible to the unaided eye for 18 months in 1997. It should return to the inner Solar System about the year 4385.

EARLY METEORS from the Perseids Meteor Shower have already been reported flashing across the night sky. The frequency of meteors will increase slightly until peak activity forecast for the overnight hours of Aug. 12-13. During peak activity, the Perseids Meteor Shower could produce 30-50 meteors per hour. The best viewing time will be prior to dawn Aug. 13. The Perseids Meteor Shower is known to produce meteors with long, bright trails mixed with some fireballs.

If skies are clear this could be a great meteor shower to watch. Those with an action camera should consider set-

ting up the camera pointing at the sky to capture peak activity.

METEORS CAN flash across the sky anytime, day or night, and they are spotted quite often. Particularly bright meteors are often referred to as fireballs.

On July 12, a fireball was reported by 10 people across Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Mississippi. The fireball was first reported at 8:45 pm Central Time by a skywatcher in Pace, FL. It was seen as far north and east as Atlanta, GA, as far south as New Orleans, and as far west as Holden, LA. The fireball appeared to travel from the west-southwest to the east-northeast.

None of the skywatchers reported hearing noise associated with the fireball but one reported seeing it fragment into pieces. A video of the fireball was captured by a camera mounted in a car.

Anyone seeing a fireball is urged to report the sighting to <https://amsmeteors.org>

Going outside and looking at the night sky can be fun and educational for the entire family.

There are a number of free apps available to help identify stars and constellations, and some of the apps will show satellites.

Happy skywatching!

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Trying to Be An Easy-Going Kind of Guy

As silly as this may sound, I have tried to live my entire life according to the following (admittedly odd) belief:

One is allotted only a certain number of times in one's life to get angry. After one uses them up, one then dies.

That's a big reason why I do not get very angry very often.

Getting angry really doesn't do much good. It causes stress, makes other people uncomfortable at best, and when you're all done being angry, nothing really changes.

So why bother? Let me give you an example of how I handle things that might make other people start gnawing at a rug somewhere.

A couple of weeks ago, as a part of my continuing recovery from last year's heart attack, I had an appointment in Griffin for a CT scan on my neck. My cardiologist wanted to make sure I didn't have anything building up in there that might block blood supply to the brain, since I had reported being dizzy and light-headed from time to time.

I arranged to get off work early that Friday so I could make the one-hour-plus drive from Manchester to Griffin. I left the office about 12:45 for my 2:30 appointment, for which I needed to arrive about a half-hour early.

No problem. The GPS in my car took me on the unfamiliar journey. Well, it wasn't all unfamiliar - once I got past Woodbury I was going into *terra incognita*, places where I had never been before, so I was glad my car was equipped with GPS.

I don't know if you've ever driven from Manchester to Griffin, but it's some very pretty countryside out there.

Anyway, I made it to the medical park in plenty of time, went inside, and checked in.

I had already taken care of the majority of the paperwork online before the visit, so there wasn't a whole heck of a lot I had to do at the check-in desk. After getting my wristband I sat down in the waiting area to wait (which is what you do when you're in a waiting area).

When they called my name (I still look around for my father every time I hear someone say, "Mr. Bagley," because that was his name - mine's Jack), I followed a very nice nurse into a room where I was instructed to sit in a reclining chair.

The nurse and I chatted about many different things as she prepared all the needles and tubes and tapes and things that she would be



Jack Bagley
Musings of An Aging Mind

working with for the CT scan, for which a dye would be injected into my bloodstream. As she worked and we talked, she checked her computer and saw my latest labs had something called eGFR measured at a level of 33. (Since the "doctor" before my name is in education, not medicine, I had no real idea of what she was talking about, but I nodded and went along with it.)

The nurse frowned a bit and said that number was low, as they looked for a number around 50. It's supposed to be linked to kidney function, and mine took a hit with the heart attack. So to be sure, she drew some blood and they did a fresh test.

This time the number came back at 29.

The nurse and the technician who'd be performing the CT scan said that their policy was that the bottom line for the test was a 30, and I was at 29. There was no way they could conduct the CT scan, and they were very sorry ... but maybe an ultrasound could be done (elsewhere) to check my carotid arteries.

I digested that information and said, "So you're telling me that I drove an hour and change to get here for nothing, right?"

They both nodded and again apologized. I think they were waiting for me to get angry. Many people in that situation, who like me needed that particular test and weren't going to have it, would have done so.

I didn't. After a moment, I said, "Well, life happens."

The nurse and the technician looked at each other, then back at me.

"Look, I can't complain. I got off work a couple of hours early, I had a nice drive through some pretty countryside, and I get to go home with nothing more than one needle jab into my arm. All in all, it's not a bad day."

The technician said, "I wish more people who come in here had your attitude."

It wasn't worth getting upset. What if I had made a scene? Well, as soon as I was finished, I would still be going home without having had the test.

It just wasn't worth wasting one of my allotted angries.

Let's Keep Sportsmanship in Mind This Season

In small towns and rural counties, high school and youth sports are a big deal. The competitions are normally attended well and cheers from the crowd can help motivate the competitors on the field.

When all is said and done and the game comes to an end what could be the most important thing for players and fans that happened during the event?

To answer that I will refer back to a quote by sportswriter Grantland Rice: "It's not whether you win or lose, it's how you play the game."

Let's face it, winning does matter. It matters if the coach wants to keep his or her job, it matters if the players are going to advance to a higher level, and it matters to the fans.

While Rice had the right idea about the game there was one important ingredient he missed in the quote... "Sportsmanship."

As high sports begin this fall, high school coaches and athletic directors have been involved in preseason meetings to emphasize the expectations, needs of the program and more.

As a coach, among the fundamental values for competition that is discussed a great deal are being academically sound, displaying sportsmanship and good behavior and displaying good character both on and off the field of competition. It is the job of a coach

to not just coach the game, but provide life lessons to help young men and women become sound in character, teaching them how to obtain goals, work ethic, over coming adversity, setting goals and about making sacrifices along the way. All of this is going into preparing the student athlete to not only become better on the field, but become productive individuals as an adult.

While coaches are working with the players, they are also responsible for maintaining the sound traditions of the sport, minimizing the risk of injury to players and more. Encouraging sportsmanship, while many may not know it, is a big part of a coach's responsibilities. Part of the playing rules for the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) has, on the first page of its rules, includes a statement "each athlete is responsible for exercising caution and good sportsmanship."

An emphasis on good conduct on the playing field or court, sportsmanship has been defined as those qualities of behavior that are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. More so than preparing students to play sports or another activity at the next level, one of the significant goals of education-based high school sports and activities is helping the student athletes in these programs to become responsible



John Kuykendall
Publisher & Editor

citizens.

And in today's online world dominated by hand-held devices, that goal has become more challenging. Now, messages to students in high school sports and other activities about sportsmanship must be communicated before they hit the practice field or court because one inappropriate post, tweet or message could alter their lives forever.

In today's digital age, student athletes, coaches and even fans need to be aware that their character and respect for others should be the same whether at a sporting event or posting things online. It is important to be aware that words and behavior displayed on social media can have a lasting impact. It is important to realize that the way respect is shown on the field of competition that same respect should be exercised on social media.

There are at the very minimum certain characteristics of good sportsmanship that should be followed by coaches, student athletes, parents and fans. Always give respect to others, show compassion for

others, be responsible individuals and always show courage.

Also, it is important to remember the fans as part of this equation.

High school athletic contests bring residents of area communities together. The strengths and weaknesses of their favorite team is carefully evaluated, so is every play made during the event.

For any sport, the athletes have been practicing, working hard, being committed and dreaming of the time on the field. Coaches have been putting in long hours and working hard to prepare the athletes for the competition on the field and teaching life skills.

Let's not forget, all those athletes on that playing field are between the ages of 15 and 18. They are not paid professionals. They play because they love the sport.

As this year's fall sport season gets underway for our student athletes, let's remember all the hard work, dedication and commitment they have given. Let's also remember the players on the other side of the field of play have done the same. Let's all show good sportsmanship everyone on the field of competition this season and encourage them as needed.

Fans, let's cheer loud and remember to encourage good sportsmanship and foster an atmosphere of respect for both teams.

1984 Has Arrived

I was a high school student when first reading George Orwell's 1984 and never thought I would see it happening - but I have.

Published in 1949, Orwell gave us a glimpse into a future where Big Brother oversees all with people constantly under surveillance, bombarded with propaganda, and manipulations of truth.

That future has arrived, not in a way that would have drawn critical attention, but slowly creeping into our lives and when it was noticed we were repeatedly that it was good for us and made us safer.

Long ago the business community began installing cameras inside their places of business. This was to reduce theft as images of thieves and their actions were recorded and provided to law enforcement for prosecution. The public was okay with this because those surveillance systems were responsible for getting bad people arrested and off the streets - at least until some liberal judge turns them back loose on society.

Fast forward to now and the cameras and security systems

have become incredibly sophisticated with facial recognition capability. Private businesses have expanded their surveillance systems to include recording what goes on outside of their businesses, on sidewalks and in parking lots. Add to this all the governmental agencies that now have surveillance systems - always watching and always recording.

And that is not all. Camera-based surveillance systems have become so inexpensive that an increasing number of people are using them in their homes. These are constantly recording not only who or what approaches the home, but also who or what is passing by on the road or street.

It has gotten to the point that when leaving home a person's total activities might be recorded until they return home and go inside. That might not be completely true in some places but it is getting uncomfortably close.

THE NEXT phase of this Orwellian situation are the Flock cameras found along highways, constantly recording your travels. Once again, they



Andy Kober
Columnist

are promoted as helping catch criminals - and they do, but they are also recording and storing information about the travels of law-abiding people as well.

We are told this information is deleted after a certain period of time, though such has been called into question. Even if it is, at that point the damage has been done because we are constantly hearing about law enforcement officials misusing these recordings. Officers have lost their jobs, maybe even facing criminal charges regarding misusing the information, but when Flock officials finally realize that a law enforcement official has misused the information, serious damage or loss of life might have already occurred.

This is not to suggest that any of you should take matters

into your own hands and damage any of the Flock cameras as people have done and continue doing. Know that while Flock does not prosecute officers who misuse the information their cameras gather, they will most certainly go after you for damaging their cameras. So will the law enforcement agency that authorized their use.

WHEN it comes to Flock, or school zone cameras, there is something you can do and that is at the ballot box.

There are already political hopefuls that are promising that if elected they will work to abolish Flock and school zone camera systems.

If you don't like these camera systems watching you all the time don't damage them, instead vote the people who approved them out of office and vote for people who will get rid of them.

That is the best way to handle the situation.

That's my opinion.

Andy Kober can be reached by email at andykober@hotmail.com

America's High Profile Segregationist Hypocrite
White Masters and Black Women Slaves

Greetings and blessings! Once again, on our nation's 250th birthday month of July, I respectfully continue to appreciate, celebrate, and most importantly to educate. Looking back, recently we shared, "The Untold Factual Truth Behind Juneteenth/What To The Slave Is The Fourth Of July? By Fredrick Douglas; The Statue Of Lady Liberty; and The Forgotten Slaves Hands That Built The White House."

In fact, all of these are significant history that we should know about our nation and its founders that are being celebrated. Unfortunately, too little is mentioned about slaves, especially the female slaves and their slave masters. However, I have found it to be quite interesting and very hypocritical as too many are saying one thing and doing another. But let's be perfectly clear, I do love my country, America, and took a

sworn oath to protect and defend. But nevertheless, it's essential to know the rest of the story.

Thomas Jefferson declared that "All men are created equal" but his past has created a contradiction of the man that was upheld as "The founding father." Thomas Jefferson kept hundreds of slaves and have more than 5,000 living descendants. He fathered at least six children with enslaved woman Sally Hemings. DNA evidence has confirmed this lineage, and Hemings' descendant are primarily Black. Historically, these descendants faced exclusion and discrimination within Jefferson family. However, some of the families are now working to bridge the historical divide. Furthermore, there was Strom Thurmond, he was called, "America's Most Dangerous Hypocrite." He served as a U.S. Senator



Pres Hall
Columnist

for a half century, 49 years to be exact. He also ran as a presidential candidate. And would you know, his hypocritical platform was, "Segregation Forever." He fought tirelessly to keep Black American from being able to vote. Interestingly, Essie Mae Washington was the eldest black child of Senator Thurmond that he fathered by Carrie Bulter, a 16-year-old Black maid in his household. The Senators paid for her college and



everything she wanted to keep her consoled. Finally at the age of 87, after Thurmond death, Essie Mae announced to the world who she was, and the rest is history. It didn't just happen then, it's still happening now, some openly and some in the dark. "What done in the dark, will come to the light.", God sees all! I've shared a series of racial stories, hopefully it will make the necessary difference in the way we see each other!

THE TALBOTTON NEW ERA is published weekly by The Georgia Trust for Local News at 3051 Roosevelt Highway, Manchester, Georgia 31816. The Talbotton New Era is published proudly for the citizens of Talbot County and its goal is to produce quality, profitable, community oriented newspapers that you, our readers, are proud of. We will reach that goal through hard work, teamwork, loyalty, and a strong dedication toward printing the truth.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to P. O. Box 426, Manchester, Georgia 31816.

"Let your eyes look straight ahead, and your eyelids look right befoe you." Proverbs 4:25

Georgia Trust Acquires Two More Historic Newspapers

From Staff Reports

The Georgia Trust for Local News today purchased *The Macon Telegraph* and *The Columbus Ledger-Enquirer* in a landmark transaction that puts two storied papers under local control and nonprofit ownership.

The Telegraph has operated as a journalistic mainstay in Middle Georgia for 200 years and has a legacy of community-changing investigative journalism, including a Pulitzer Prize for specialized reporting. *The Ledger-Enquirer* has long been Columbus' leading news source and has twice won the Pulitzer Prize for public service. For both papers, this is the first change of ownership in 20 years.

The Georgia Trust is a subsidiary of the National Trust for Local News, a nonprofit that acquires, stabilizes and revitalizes news organizations across the country. Thanks to support from local funders in Macon and Columbus, these vital civic institutions will benefit from the National Trust's model for sustaining trusted sources of local news.

Including today's acquisitions from McClatchy Media, the Georgia Trust now operates 21 local newspapers and digital platforms across Middle, West and South Georgia – covering a geography of more than one million people. That includes an expanded presence in Macon, where it currently operates *The Macon Melody*, plus expansion into Columbus, the state's second-largest city. The Columbus coverage area includes the western part of the state and eastern sections of Alabama.

The purchase of these newspapers from one of the country's largest media companies marks a new phase of growth for the entire National Trust, which also operates state trusts in Maine and Colorado.

"This is a great day for local news in Georgia," said Tom Wiley, CEO of the National Trust for Local News. "These vital community assets will not only be preserved, but also reinvigorated and strengthened for a vibrant future."

To mark the acquisition, the Georgia Trust will temporarily remove *The Ledger-Enquirer's* and *The Telegraph's* digital paywalls to welcome all members of the community to connect with these publications.

Financial Support & News Operations

The National Trust's growth model leverages catalytic philanthropic investment to accelerate local publishers' ability to drive earned revenue from subscriptions, advertising, events and other emerging sources.

In 2024, with a \$5 million grant from Knight Foundation, the National Trust for Local News launched a startup community newsroom, *The Macon Melody*. The community journalism produced by Georgia Trust reporters in Macon quickly established The Melody as a vital local resource and partner in Middle Georgia. Knight Foundation's support strengthened the infrastructure that makes today's acquisitions possible.

Another steadfast supporter of the Georgia Trust is the Peyton Anderson Foundation. To honor the legacy of Peyton T. Anderson, Jr., former owner and publisher of *The Telegraph*, the Peyton Anderson Foundation is providing funding for the acquisition of *The Telegraph*.

The Melody and *The Telegraph* will bring their strengths together into a single news source. Operating as *The Telegraph*, this combined publication will blend the scale, domain authority and subscriber base of *The Telegraph* with the community-first voice, local relationships and entrepreneurial muscle of *The Melody*. Later this summer, *The Melody* will become a section within *The Telegraph* highlighting the people, places and moments that are the rhythm of Macon. *The Telegraph* newsroom will be housed in Mercer University's Reg Murphy Center for Collaborative Journalism.

Funding for the acquisition of *The Ledger-Enquirer* in Columbus was provided by a grant from The Local News and Information Fund at the Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley. Through the Community Foundation, more than a dozen individuals and community stakeholders contributed to the fund's support of *The Ledger-Enquirer* acquisition, underscor-

ing the enthusiastic local support for the newspaper's future under nonprofit ownership.

The Ledger-Enquirer newsroom will move to a space on Broadway, in Columbus' central business district. The space is rented from CSU Properties, the charitable arm that manages real estate holdings for the benefit of Columbus State University. CSU and the Georgia Trust for Local News are in talks to bolster collaboration that will allow students to gain hands-on experience at the publication.

Restoring Local Leadership

The acquisition comes on the heels of the Georgia Trust for Local News' hiring of a new executive director, Cynthia DuBose, who started in her role on June 1.

While the National Trust provides the capital and runway to transform local newsrooms into modern enterprises, the state trusts ensure each newsroom relies on local management driving on-the-ground operations – a role DuBose is leading in tandem with Georgia Trust newsrooms throughout the state.

"What makes this historic transaction especially exciting is the groundswell of national, statewide and community-based financial support to enable these storied publications' shift to nonprofit ownership and local management," DuBose said. "Under the Georgia Trust's stewardship, these publications will recapture their role in civic leadership, and ensure a strong commitment to hyper-local coverage and enhanced community engagement."

Stories Needed for Special Section

From Staff Reports

This newspaper is needing stories and photographs from local police departments, fire departments and all other emergency services for the upcoming special edition that will bring attention to the 25th anniversary of the

9/11 terrorist attack and our local heroes.

The newspaper would like to have photographs and information about local heroes who have gone above and beyond the line of duty and need to be recognized for his or her heroic acts.

Please email story

information on a word document or as email body copy. Photographs must be received as jpegs.

If you have questions or would like to submit information about a local hero, you may call John at (706) 846-3188 or email him at john@starmercuryvindicator.com.

GSRA to Meet Monday, July 27 in Woodbury

Submitted to *NEW ERA*

The Tri-County Chapter of the Georgia State Retirees Association (GSRA) will hold its quarterly meeting at Doodlum's Barbeque and Fruit Stand located at 18600 Main Street, Woodbury, GA 30293 on Monday, July 27, 2026, at 11:30 AM. Lunch can be purchased individually. The Tri-County Chapter includes retirees from Meriwether, Harris, Troup, Talbot, Upson, and Pike coun-

ties. Scheduled speaker will be a local pharmacist to report on medication interactions and other items of interest for retirees. Also much information from our legislative liaison. Join your fellow retirees and prospective retirees for this informative meeting.

For more information, contact Joy Evans at 706-656-0046 or Kay Garrett at 706-846-3422 or Kathy Clements at 706-655-2390. GSRA is an organization established and

maintained by state retirees for state retirees. We advocate for retirees as well as active employees and keep you informed about any changes or impacts to your retirement benefits through monthly newsletters, media sites, annual statewide meetings, legislative liaison team, action alerts, and local chapters with regular meetings. Join your fellow retirees and prospective retirees and help us help you. Website – www.mygsra.com

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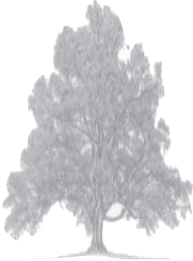
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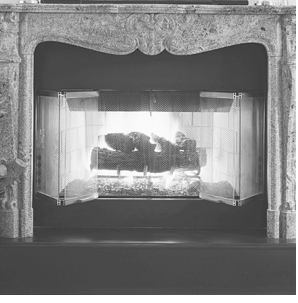
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NEW ERA PUBLIC NOTICES

HOW TO PLACE A LEGAL NOTICE

EMAIL: starmercurylegals@gmail.comnFor information regarding legal notices you may call 478-987-1823 or use the email address above.

DEADLINES FOR LEGAL NOTICES

Noon on Friday prior to run date. If legal notice is past deadline a late fee will be charged. First affidavit is at no cost. There is a charge for each additional affidavit.

COSTS FOR LEGAL NOTICES

\$15 per 100 words times weeks published. A typing fee will be charged for legals not on a Word document or in regular email body copy. Cost depends on words in legal notice.

Debtors & Creditors Notice

26-060
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA
IN RE: THE ESTATE OF DAVID DANIEL DOBARZYNSKI
All creditors of the Estate of DAVID DANIEL DOBARZYNSKI late of Talbot County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all person(s) indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.
This 14TH day of JULY 2026.
WALTER DOBARZYNSKI
13617 ELLENDALE DR.
CHANTILLY, VA 20151
Executor(s) of the Estate of DAVID DANIEL DOBARZYNSKI, Deceased
(7:23, 30, 8:6, 13)

26-058
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF JAMES ALLEN LACKEY, JR.
All creditors of the Estate of JAMES ALLEN LACKEY, JR. late of Talbot County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all person(s) indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.
This 1 ST day of JULY 2026.
JAMES LACKEY III
5903 RUSH CREEK HWY.
WOODLAND, GA 31836
Executor(s) of the Estate of JAMES ALLEN LACKEY, JR, Deceased
(7:9, 16, 23, 30)

Foreclosures

26-056
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA
TALBOT COUNTY
Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by, Lucy E. Rosario, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for JFQ Lending, LLC, its successors and assigns, dated 10/27/2022, and recorded on 11/10/2022, in Book 493, Page 100, Talbot County, Georgia Records, as last assigned to as last assignment to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC by assignment recorded 4/2/2026 as Instrument No. in book 00515, Page 0236, conveying the after described property securing the payment of a Note in the amount of \$246,235.00 with interest thereon as set forth therein.
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 9/1/2026 sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash: During the legal hours of sale before the door of the courthouse of Talbot County, Georgia., the following described property situated in Talbot County, Georgia, to wit:
ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT NO. 3 OF THE 17TH LAND DISTRICT OF TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS TRACT 1, CONTAINING 5.939 ACRES

OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, AS DEPICTED ON A PLAT FOR OSCAR SNELLING RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK G, PAGE 427, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA, TO WHICH SPECIFIC REFERENCE IS HEREBY MADE AND SAID PLAT IS INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE TO SHOW THE METES AND BOUNDS OF SAID PROPERTY.
Tax Parcel ID: 007-58-18G
Being real property commonly known as 240 TANK RD BOX SPRINGS, GA 31801
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 1) confirmation and audit of the status of the loan by the holder of the security deed, 2) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, 3) procedures for rescission of sale under O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, whereby the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided above.
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, 500 N. State College Blvd., Suites 1030, 1300 & 1400 Orange, CA 92868, 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. Please be advised that the trustee may

require entity or trust bidders at this trustee's sale to provide information, documentation and/or certification of the vesting instructions and the data required to be reported pursuant to FinCEN regulations effective for transfers of residential real property to covered transferees on or after March 1, 2026. The required information must be provided to the trustee before a deed under power will be issued for covered transfers. The Buyer may be required to pay charges associated with the gathering and reporting of information to FinCEN. Additional information regarding these regulations and the required transferee information and certifications can be found at:
https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/08/29/2024-19198/anti-money-laundering-regulations-for-residential-real-estate-transfers and https://www.fincen.gov/re-faqs#D.5
Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Lucy E. Rosario For Foreclosure sale information please contact Vylla Solutions, LLC, P.O. Box 3309, Anaheim, California 92803, Phone: (888) 313-1969 TS # 26-40989

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
(7:2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 8:6, 13, 20, 27)

Probate Notices

26-059
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF TALBOT COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF MILDRED STANFORD, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 2026-P-17
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE
TO: JAMES SAMUEL REYNOLDS, III, BETTY R. FOLK, SHANNA REYNOLDS
SIMPSON and to whom it may concern: Cathy L. Tibbits has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the Estate of Mildred Stanford, deceased, of said county. The Petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261. All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before August 10, 2026.
BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the Petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a Notary Public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the Petition may be granted without a hearing.
Shatara Powell
Judge of the Probate Court
PO Box 157
Talbotton, GA 31827
(7:9, 16, 23, 20)

ANSWER:

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

Answers To This Week's Crossword Puzzle

- SOLUTIONS ACROSS**

 - 1. HEAR
 - 5. POSES
 - 10. BASS
 - 14. ELBA
 - 15. IRANI
 - 16. ARTY
 - 17. REIN
 - 18. CARAT
 - 19. SAUL
 - 20. RABID
 - 22. TOM
 - 23. RABBI
 - 24. DAREDEVIL
 - 27. ACE
 - 30. RAD
 - 31. LIB
 - 32. REM
 - 35. RABBET
 - 37. PEA
 - 38. SEMI
 - 39. BIBBS
 - 40. RED
 - 41. SEAMS
 - 42. OREL
 - 43. RUG
 - 44. ROAMED
 - 45. ROD
 - 46. TAT
 - 47. SEN
- SOLUTIONS DOWN**

 - 1. HERR
 - 2. ELEA
 - 3. ABIB
 - 4. RANID
 - 5. PIC
 - 6. ORATED
 - 7. SAROD
 - 8. ENAMELED
 - 9. SIT
 - 10. BASAL
 - 11. ARAB
 - 12. STUB
 - 13. SYLI
 - 21. DARES
- 23. RIB
 - 25. RAT
 - 26. VIA
 - 27. ARBOR
 - 28. CAIRO
 - 29. EBBED
 - 32. REAMS
 - 33. EMMER
 - 34. MISDO
 - 36. BBL
 - 37. PEG
 - 38. SEA
 - 40. RUTABAGA
 - 41. SONES
 - 43. RAP
 - 44. RET
 - 46. TEA
 - 47. SATEEN
 - 49. SIBIU
 - 50. RALLY
 - 51. SABIN
 - 52. RCMP
 - 53. ALAE
 - 54. BURR
 - 57. BABE
 - 58. ERIC
 - 59. RISK
 - 61. PAP
 - 62. ATE

I SPY
Answers

46345123



FIND THE FOUR DIFFERENCES IN PHOTOS

(1) Hanging stuffed animal; (2) Words missing on balloon; (3) Duck in pool; (4) Missing strap on woman.

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CITY OF Greenville Police Department needs officers to serve, protect and lead. Apply today. Applications may be obtained at the Greenville Police Department or at Greenville City Hall. Applications will be accepted until positions are filled. RTFN

HELP WANTED - The Manchester Housing Authority of Manchester, Georgia is now accepting applications/resumes for the position of a part-time Maintenance Mechanic. The incumbent must be able to perform a variety of skilled, journeyman-level, maintenance tasks in connection with repairs to and maintenance of buildings, grounds, and equipment. Work involves knowledge and skill in areas of plumbing, electricity, carpentry, masonry, refrigeration, HVAC repair, painting, and minor drywall work required. Individual will operate simple hand tools and small-motorized equipment such as stripping machines. Individual must have the ability to move or carry up to 70 pounds with or without the assistance of a hand truck or additional persons. Individual will be responsible for supervising part-time personnel and working with and/or assisting the activities of other contractors, performing annual and preventative maintenance inspections of units and buildings and other special projects. The individual in this position may be required to work under hazardous conditions such as heat, cold, dust, dirt, and small-restricted areas. This position requires possession of a valid Georgia Driver's

license and applicant must be able to be placed under our fidelity bond and to be covered under insurance policies of the Housing Authority. High school diploma or GED is required, a criminal history, and drug screening will be done before hire. Applications/Resumes will be accepted until job is filled. Applications and job description may be picked up at the Manchester Housing Authority at Manchester GA or call 706-846-9428. Mrs. Felicia Warren. 07:23

WANTED: STOCK/Loader. Contact Christi between 8 am and 1 pm Mon-Fri. 706-672-1888. 07:23

MACEDONIA BAPTIST Church in Manchester is hiring a Ministry Assistant/Church Secretary. Seeking a spirit-filled, motivated Christian to join our ministry team. Qualifications: Faith - a growing relationship with Jesus Christ; Experience - office/administrative background; Skills - strong communication and interpersonal skills; Software - knowledge of MS Word and Excel. Part-time, 20 hours per week; \$14,000 - \$17,000 per year. Apply by August 9, 2026. Macedonia Baptist Church is at 280 Wrightsville Road in Manchester. 08:06

IT'S YOUR
RIGHT
TO KNOW!

Legal Notices are published weekly in
The Talbotton New Era
and may also be found online at...
www.GeorgiaPublicNotice.com

THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES AND GAMES

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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!

CROSSWORD PUZZLE OF THE WEEK

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20				21		22				23				
			24		25				26					
27	28	29		30				31				32	33	34
35			36				37				38			
39						40					41			
42					43				44					
45				46				47				48		
			49				50				51			
52	53	54				55				56		57	58	59
60						61				62		63		
64						65					66			
67						68					69			

CLUES ACROSS

1. Listen to

5. Presents

10. A type of guitar

14. Actor Idris

15. A citizen of Iran

16. Pretentiously artistic

17. Harness

18. Diamond weight measurement

19. "Better Call ____"

20. Fervent support

22. Male cat

23. Jewish spiritual leader

24. Disposed to venture or take risks

27. A way to nail

30. Cool!

31. Women's ____ movement

32. "Losing My Religion" rockers

35. Step-shaped recess

37. A princess can detect it

38. Tractor-trailer

39. Leslie and Leon are two

40. Color at the end of the spectrum

41. Lines where fabrics are sewn

42. Dodgers great Hershiser

43. Floor covering

44. Traveled aimlessly

45. Rocker Stewart

46. Body art

47. Congressman (abbr.)

48. No seats available

49. Breaks apart

52. Hand gesture

55. Ballplayer's tool

56. Sword

60. Baseball team

61. Upper bract of floret of grass

63. Italian Seaport

64. Mars crater

65. Tube on a shoelace

66. U. of Miami mascot

67. South American nation

68. Video game series "Max ____"

69. Upper body part

23. Body part

25. Tell on

26. By way of

27. Shady green alcove

28. Egyptian city

29. ____ and flowed

32. Widens a hole

33. Eurasian wheat

34. Act incorrectly

36. "Be back later"

37. Al Bundy's wife

38. Ocean

40. Large root eaten as a vegetable

41. Units of subjective loudness

43. Music genre

44. A way to drench

46. Popular hot beverage

47. Silk-like cotton fabric

49. Rumanian city

50. Come back

51. Vaccine developer

52. Canadian law enforcers

53. Wings

54. Observational comedian Bill

57. Small fry

58. ____ Clapton, musician

59. Take a chance

61. Semi-liquid food for babies

62. Consumed food

CLUES DOWN

1. German courtesy title

2. Ancient Greek personification of mercy

3. Jewish calendar month

4. Family of long-legged frogs

5. Photo

6. Delivered a speech

7. Lute used in Indian music

8. Decorated

9. Cease to stand

10. The bottom layer

11. Member of a Semitic people

12. Part of a ticket

13. Defunct monetary unit

21. Challenges

Answers to this week's puzzles can be found on Page 6-A.

NOTICE

TALBOT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 4

QUALIFICATION DATES AND FEES

FOR THE NOVEMBER 3, 2026, GENERAL SPECIAL ELECTION

Qualification dates for the 2026 General Special Election have been set for **July 27, 2026, through July 29, 2026.**

Individuals wishing to qualify may do so at the **Talbot County Board of Elections office from 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M., July 27, 2026 through July 28, 2026, and 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon on July 29, 2026.**

Board of Education District 4 - \$282.00

Qualifying fees must be paid by check or money order-cash will not be accepted. Checks and money orders should be made payable to "The Talbot County Board of Elections."

All candidates must meet the following guidelines:

• Be a registered voter in Talbot County

• Be a resident of Talbot County District 4 for at least one year prior to the election.

• Must NOT have been convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude.

For additional information, contact the **Talbot County Board of Elections office at 706-665-8270.**

Sharita Trice

Chairperson

Talbot County Election Supervisor

KID'S KORNER

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

I Spy

Talbot County School District

Child Find

In accordance with IDEA regulations, the Talbot County School District seeks to ensure that all children with **disabilities (ages 3-21)** within its jurisdiction are being served. Child Find is a federally established comprehensive system designed to ensure that each child, regardless of disability, has access to a free and appropriate public education. The purpose of Child Find is to locate, identify, and evaluate children from 3 to 21 years of age who may have a developmental delay or other disabilities and provide appropriate services. Talbot County School District offers Special Education services to eligible students (ages 3 through 21) enrolled in the county schools, those who may be homeschooled, or enrolled in private schools and preschools, including religious schools. All referrals are confidential, and services are provided at no cost to the family. If you know a child who may have a problem with learning, speech, vision, or hearing, or who has physical or health impairments, please notify:

Mr. James Short, Director of Federal Programs/Special Education

Mr. Clayton Teat, Special Education Assistant Director

Talbot County School District

Phone Number: 706-665-8528

jshort@talbot.k12.ga.us

cteat@talbot.k12.ga.us

Fax Number: 706-665-3620

GOSPEL SINGING

Featuring...

EVEN YOU MINISTRIES

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CREEKSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

1589 Stovall Road • LaGrange, GA • Under the Pavillion

Come and enjoy a night of gospel singing and fellowship.

PASTOR: BRYAN GETER

CALL FOR SPECIAL ELECTION

TALBOT COUNTY BOARD OF

EDUCATION DISTRICT 4

Notice is hereby given that, in accordance with O.C.G.A S 21-2-540, a Special Election shall be held to fill the unexpired term for Board of Education Member Nikki Waller - District 4.

The Special Election will be held in conjunction with the General Election, Tuesday, November 3, 2026. **The Advance Voting location is 1761 Geneva Highway will be open from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. beginning Oct. 13, 2026.** The Polling Location will be open from 7am- 7pm. Should a runoff be required, such runoff election will be held on Tuesday, December 1, 2026.

Qualifying for the Special Election will be held at the **Talbot County Board of Elections & Registration office at 1761 Geneva Highway Talbotton, GA 31827, beginning Monday, July 27, 2026 through Tuesday, July 28, 2026, 9 a.m.until 4 p.m. daily to Wednesday, July 29, 2026, 9 a.m. until 12:00 Noon.**

Office

Board of Education District 4

Fee

\$282.00

Qualifying fees must be paid by check or money order – cash will not be accepted. Checks and money orders should be made payable to “The Talbot County Board of Elections”.

All candidates must meet the following guidelines:

• Be a registered voter in Talbot County

• Be a resident of Talbot County District 4 for at least one year prior to the Election

• Must NOT have been convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude.

Advanced/Early Voting will be conducted **Tuesday, October 13, 2026 through Friday, October 30, 2026, 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. and two Saturday voting days, October 17, 2026 and October 24, 2026 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m.**

Absentee ballot applications are available online at sos.ga.gov and at “My Voter Page Georgia” (<https://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov>).

You can also call the Talbot County Elections office at 706-665-8270 to request that an application be mailed to you. Ballots will be mailed starting October 5, 2026.

All District 4 residents who are not registered to vote and desire to vote in the Special Election must register by October 5, 2026.

This the 9th day of July 2026

Sharita Trice

Elections Supervisor

Talbot County Board of Elections & Registration

Manchester Council Names Salihi New City Marshal

By MARY BYERS

Manchester’s monthly city council meeting took place in the Community Building on July 14th. The move from City Hall to the Community Building took place to accommodate for more seating for citizens to attend the meetings. As requested in previous meetings, the department heads were present to give reports to start the July meeting.

Senior Services director Kimla Anderson started the meeting with an invitation to the Senior Center’s first Bingo Night Fundraiser. This event will take place July 24th from 6-9 p.m. Those planning to attend are asked to R.S.V.P. so get an accurate headcount in preparation for the fundraiser.

Manchester Police Dept. reported that they are continuing to check off their list as far as the Police Excellency Program, including some of their credentials already being approved. The Manchester Police Dept. plan on hiring three new officers in the future which will also tie into the Police Excellency Award. These officers will be required to undergo the same courses to achieve police excellency after being hired. Manchester Police Dept. offered their thanks for the cooperation and assistance from the directors of Manchester’s Housing Authority, Meriwether County Sheriff’s Dept., and the G.B.I. following the mur-



SGT. MOHAMMED SALINI

der of Frederious Smith.

Sam Summers, head of Manchester’s Utilities Dept., stated that the city had five water tanks assessed last month and reports indicate that they are in good shape. Collier Davis Rd. is waiting for speed limit signs before it can be opened. Summers gave high praise of Crawford Grading on their work. The lead service line inventory has been a hot topic in Manchester for years now with the findings of ninety-six galvanized lines. Manchester will be the first municipal city in the state of Georgia to have applied with G.E.F.A. and follow through with replacing them. The city will be looked at as the model for replacement of such pipelines. The list for pothole repairs is still being looked into and repaired accordingly. Please report any new concerns to be added to the list.

The Manchester Recreation Dept. finished up their summer soccer clinic with thirty-five attendees. Volleyball is still ongoing with several youth teams and

the final game will be July 21st. The Huddle and Manchester Recreation also teamed up to host the Summer of Champions Camp this past week.

Chief Ben Williams reported that the Manchester Fire Dept. is currently working on obtaining their medical first responders license to serve the needs of citizens better until E.M.S. arrive. The new fire engines should be available and ready to serve Manchester at the end of July. Remodeling of the fire station is still in the works. They are currently looking at the paperwork and architectural aspects of the remodel.

The Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (G.I.C.H.) Resolution was adopted allowing the city to form a team for the task. G.I.C.H. is a collaborative exploration of economic development in the area which will help when applying for grants. G.I.C.H. also assists in helping address needs such as housing in the area, maintenance and improvement, and the quality of life in the area. The Manchester Housing Team will be made up of members from different areas of the city. Members being considered are as follows but not limited to Superintendent Dr. Robert Griffin, C.E.O. and President of F&M Bank Allen Parham, Heather Carter from the Manchester Development Authority, Mayor Pro-Tem Quardez

Warrior, Delisha Hodo with Habitat for Humanity, Sandy Garret, Felisha Warren of the Housing Authority and Mayor Mark Trimble with the Land Bank Authority.

The amendment of the Fire Marshal Ordinance was adopted. The goal of this was to clarify the role and tasks of the Fire Marshal.

In old business, it was mentioned previously by council member Danny Wadsworth that the Manchester Wine and Spirits store seemed to be closed. Upon further investigation, it was found that the store was closed following the proprietor having a surgery.

City Manager Mark Pullium requested that the city council set up a Georgia Fund One Account to gain interest on funds. The motion was approved.

With the recent stepping down of Manchester’s City Marshal last month, the city began seeking a replacement. After much consideration, the job was offered to Sergeant Mohammed Salihi. Salihi was named Officer of the Year in 2025 and is considered to be a man of high character.

“Thank you for the opportunity to serve,” stated Salihi. “It is my hope to set new standards for the position.”

Salihi already has ideas for improving the role of City Marshal including accommodating a new vehicle which will cost the city less money, a class A uniform to maintain professionalism, and an effort to gain community trust in helping and educating citizens. Salihi also stated that he will have a weed-eater in his vehicle to help with the less fortunate to maintain their lawns, stating that “serving means to help.”

It was approved by the mayor and council that the previous vehicle for the City Marshal be traded in to exchange it for a Dodge Durango.

Mayor Mark Trimble compared the city to when track runners are lining up. As the runner prepare, they hear “ready, set, go!” Mayor Trimble stated that Manchester is “getting ready.” He stated that they had to study and analyze problems and laws in preparation. Plans matter to change a city, and you cannot plan without knowledge. He mentioned the Maye’s Way water tank being cleaned, recalling the images of the soot within it and the holes in the top. He applauded the progress being made. The Mayor thanked the Manchester Development Authority for their contribution of the stage that now sits in front of the Manchester Mill. He also thanked the volunteers who came out and assisted in getting it built in time for the July 2nd Celebration.

Councilman Jason Smith echoed that greatness comes from help and working together. He showed excitement for the future of the City Marshal, noting that we can all learn from the mistakes of the past. Smith reminded citizens that their input is valued and that they are elected to represent the citizens of Manchester.

Mayor Pro-Tem Quardez Warrior commended the work that went into the July 2nd Celebration, including the vendors and workers who helped to make it happen. Warrior extended his thoughts and prayers to the family of Fred Smith, the twenty-two year old father and son who was killed July

12th. Warrior stated that Smith was a “well-intended individual.” He also challenged the community to embrace the young people and be more involved and accountable. We should know where our children are, who are they with, who influences them, and remind them to put the guns down.

The City Manager also commended the display of fireworks at the Independence Day Celebration. Pullium stated that seventy-five percent of the firework donations were collected by Chief Ben Williams. He offered gratitude to those who volunteered to help the event and those who came to clean up after.

The City Attorney let it be known that there will be a court hearing regarding bond validations on Aug. 10th at 9 a.m with Meriwether County Superior Court. He requested that a member from the city of Manchester needs to attend as it is necessary to validate the bonds. City Manager Mark Pullium offered to go on behalf of the city.

Several events are being held in Manchester as the summer comes to a close:

- Manchester Recreation and The Huddle Back to School Bash will be on July 25th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Calvary Baptist Church in Manchester is also hosting a back-to-school event July 25th from 11-3 p.m.
- Manchester Housing Authority will host their Back-to-School-Bash Aug. 1st from 1-4 p.m.
- The President’s Theater will have the Turkey Creek Gospel playing live July 25th starting at 7 p.m.

Not Much Rain in the Forecast This Week

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

Editor’s Note: This is a weather forecast and the weather is subject to change. Please make sure to check for weather updates. This forecast taken from the Weather World’s extended forecast.



There is not much rain in the forecast for the upcoming week but the temperatures will continue to be hot, according to Weather World.

Here is what Weather World is forecasting weather wise for the Talbot County area for the upcoming week.

Thursday, July 23: Weather World is predicting the skies to be sunny today with only a 17% chance of rain in the forecast. It will be hot with the high temperature expected to reach about 97 degrees and the low temperature around 76 degrees. Winds will reach speeds of about 10 miles per hour (mph) and will be coming out of the West Northwest.

Friday, July 24: The hot weather will continue with the high temperature expected to reach about 97 degrees and the low temperature around 72 degrees. Skies will be sunny with some clouds. There is a 57% of showers and winds are expected to reach about six mph and will be coming out of the East.

Saturday, July 25: The threat of rain will loom again today with a 57% chance of

the wet stuff being predicted under sunny skies. The high temperature is expected to reach about 94 degrees and the low temperature is expected to be around 72 degrees. Winds will be mild, around eight mph and will be coming out of the West Northwest.

Sunday, July 26: There is a 78% chance of rain today under cloudy skies. The high temperature is expected to reach around 90 degrees today and the low temperature around 73 degrees. Winds are expected to reach speeds of about 10 mph and will be coming out of the West Southwest.

Monday, July 27: Expect partly cloudy skies today with a 58% chance of rain. Finally, the high temperature is expected to be below 90 and should reach about 89 degrees. The low temperature will be around 72 degrees. Winds are expected to reach speeds of about six mph and will be coming out of the East Southeast.

Tuesday, July 28: The temperature will remain below 90 degrees, but just

below with the high temperature expected to reach about 89 degrees and the low temperature is expected to be around 77 degrees. There is a 69% chance of showers today. Winds are expected to reach speeds of about six mph and will be coming out of the South Southwest.

Wednesday, July 29: It’s going to be hot today. The high temperature is expected to reach about 101 degrees and the low temperature is expected to be around 76 degrees. The skies will be partly cloudy and there is a 57% chance of rain. Winds are expected to reach speeds for about 13 mph and will be coming out of the West.

Thursday, July 30: If you though Wednesday was hot, today’s high temperature is expected to reach about 105 degrees and the low temperature is expected to be 80 degrees. The skies will be sunny and with only a 2% chance of rain being predicted. There will be a breeze to help a bit. Winds are expected to reach speeds of 13 mph and will be coming out of the West Northwest.

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ELECTION NOTICE
TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF
TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the **3rd day of November, 2026**, an election will be held at the regular polling places in all the election districts of Talbot County, Georgia (“the County”), at which time will be submitted to the qualified voters of the county for their determination the question of whether a **one percent (1%) county special purpose local option sales and use tax (the “SPLOST”)** shall be imposed and continued on all sales and uses in the County for a period of six (6) years for the raising of approximately \$5,900,000.00 for the purpose of funding capital outlay projects (“the Projects”) in the form of the ballot set forth below.

The ballots to be used at such referendum shall have written or printed thereon substantially the following:

()Yes

()No

Shall a special one percent sales and use tax be imposed in Talbot County for a period of time not to exceed six (6) years and for the raising of an estimated amount of \$5,900,000.00 for the following purposes: (1) Road, street, and bridge purposes, including related transportation infrastructure improvements; capital outlay projects concerning volunteer fire departments;

Acquisition, construction, renovation, equipping and installation of capital outlay projects concerning an emergency management service (“EMS”) facility or building; and capital outlay projects concerning the renovation, improving, and equipping of the existing park facilities of the County; (2) Acquisition, construction, renovation, equipping and installation of capital outlay projects concerning water meter upgrades in the City of Talbotton; acquisition, construction, renovation, equipping and installation of capital outlay projects concerning the expansion, improvements, and renovations of City Hall in the City of Talbotton; acquisition, construction, equipping and installation of capital outlay projects consisting of parks and recreational facilities, as well as improvements and renovations to existing parks recreational facilities located in the City of Talbotton; acquisition, construction, installation, expansion, repair, and improvement of capital outlay projects concerning sidewalks in the City of Talbotton; (3) Acquisition, construction, renovation, equipping and installation of capital outlay projects concerning water and sewer in the City of Woodland; acquisition, construction, equipping and installation of capital outlay projects consisting of parks and recreational facilities, as well as improvements and renovations to existing parks recreational facilities in the City of Woodland; acquisition, construction, renovation, equipping and installation of capital outlay projects concerning the expansion, improvements, and renovations of City Hall in the City of Woodland; (4) Acquisition, construction, renovation equipping and installation of capital outlay projects concerning water and sewer in Junction City; Acquisition, construction, renovation, equipping, improving, and installation of capital outlay projects concerning parks and recreational facilities in Junction City; capital outlay projects concerning the paving, resurfacing, repair, reconstruction, and improvement of municipal streets and related infrastructure in Junction City; the acquisition, construction, installation, expansion, repair, and improvement of sidewalks, pedestrian pathways, crosswalks, streetscape and gateway improvements, and related infrastructure within Junction City; (5) Acquisition, construction, renovation, equipping and installation of capital outlay projects concerning water and sewer in the City of Geneva; capital outlay projects concerning citywide beautification and improvements including landscaping, planting of trees and grass, irrigation systems, lighting, signage, public spaces, sidewalks, and related infrastructure in the City of Geneva; acquisition, installation, construction, and equipping of an electronic bulletin board (electronic message sign), together with all necessary foundations, utility connections, software, hardware, signage, and related infrastructure in the City of Geneva; (6) Acquisition, installation, construction and equipping of capital outlay projects concerning roads and bridges purposes in the City of Manchester; acquisition, installation, construction and equipping of capital outlay projects concerning water and sewer in the City of Manchester; acquisition, installation, construction and equipping of capital outlay projects concerning public safety in the City of Manchester.