



Did one of the most popular television programs of the 1960s happen because of a Broadway play?
Did You Know ...? Page 7-A

Back-to-School Bash
and Area Sports
Sports, Page 10-A



The Star Vindicator

Mercury

The Oldest Business in Meriwether County

starmercuryvindicator.com VOL . 150 • NO. 30 MANCHESTER/GREENVILLE, GEORGIA – THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2026 10 PAGES • 1 SECTION • 2 INSERTS • \$1.00



Photo By Victoria Kirkpatrick

COMMISSIONERS HONOR FOOTBALL CHAMPS - The Meriwether County Commission recognized the County Recreation 9-and-under Eagles football team for winning the CTYSA Super Bowl championship.

Commissioners Vote to Close Road

By VICTORIA KIRKPATRICK and JACK BAGLEY

The Meriwether County Commission voted at the July 13 meeting to close Hoss Bowden Road, also known as Pony Farm Road.

The discussion regarding the road closure had been ongoing for several weeks. The road and nearby bridge were deemed unusable and determined to have no substantial public use. Commission Chairman Emmett Collins suggested the county clean up the

brush, which had not been cleared in over 25 years, but the County Attorney said that since the vote to close the road had already been taken, he questioned the idea of spending county money to clear it. Collins withdrew the suggestion following the Attorney's comment. No property owners along the road appeared to oppose the request, and the closure was granted.

The Board discussed approving a fireworks service agreement with Southern Sky, LLC, for the 2027 Lake Meriwether Fireworks celebration, but in the end only voted to confirm the date of July 2, 2027 for the show. The Commissioners will continue discussions regarding vendors and costs, though an upper limit of \$25,000 was proposed.

A request from County Clerk Allyson Stephens to approve an agreement with River Mill Data Management for confidential document destruction was approved at a cost of \$900 per year.

In other business, the Meriwether County Commissioners:

- Read a proclamation recognizing the county's 9-and-under Recreation football team for winning the CTYSA Super Bowl football championship;
- Approved a request from Rodney Landrum for a hardship variance to allow placement of a smaller home than allowed on his property on Cove Road;

- Approved a request from Zohar Jassani for selling and serving alcohol at the S.K. Riverside Inn and S.K. Riverside Inn Convenience Store on River Cove Road;
- Appointed Gregg Brandner to the District 2 seat on the Airport Authority;
- Approved CivicPlus Accessibility and Media Services and Sole Source Procurement;

• Awarded the 2026 Meriwether County LMIG Phase II for 3.5 miles on Alvaton Road to C.W. Matthews for a low bid of \$899,726;

• Approved withdrawal from an awarded cybersecurity grant of \$200,000 because the details listed a specific vendor and county requirements call for competitive bidding, and because the county would not be able to meet the project deadline;

- Approved an Airport Assignment and Assumption agreement required by the Georgia Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration resolving historical documentation issues concerning Roosevelt Memorial Airport ownership; and
- Tabled to the July 28 meeting a request from the Tax Assessor's office to "Reclassify Position/In-house Commercial Revaluation."

The next regular meeting of the Meriwether County Commission will be Tuesday, July 28, at 6 p.m.

Warm Springs Council Approves New Servers

By JACK BAGLEY

The Warm Springs City Council approved expenditures for new servers for City Hall and the Police Department at their July 13 meeting.

The brief meeting saw approval of \$2,367 for a new server from Ace Computers for the Police Department, and of \$3,866 for a new server for City Hall.

The Council approved an encroachment agreement with the United Methodist

Church.

An agenda item with Burns Construction Services for repair to the walkway cover was tabled to the August meeting in order to put the work out for bids.

Council approved work on the metal awnings at the two entry doors to the Police Department as a part of the ongoing remodeling.

The next regular meeting of the Warm Springs City Council is set for Monday, August 10, at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Louisiana Man Arrested in I-85 Road Rage Shooting

By JACK BAGLEY

A Louisiana man was arrested last week after he fired multiple shots at vehicles traveling on Interstate 85 near Hogansville.

According to reports, the first incident took place Monday, July 13, around 11:35 a.m. when a man identified as Kyle Sylvester, Jr., of Louisiana, allegedly fired shots at another vehicle traveling northbound near Exit 28 on I-85. Another driver was injured by the gunshots and was taken for treatment to an area hospital.

Then the following day, Coweta County 911 reached out to Troup County 911 to inform them of a call they had received from a man claiming another person had fired gunshots

at his car while he was traveling on I-85. That driver, who was not injured, followed the shooter until the suspect vehicle turned off onto Highway 29 near Grantville.

Grantville Police began a search for the suspect's car, and were soon joined by Hogansville Police and Troup County Sheriff's Deputies. Hogansville officers conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle inside the city limits and took Sylvester into custody without incident. Investigators determined that Sylvester was the shooter involved in both road rage incidents.

Sylvester was transported to the Troup County Jail to face charges connected with the shootings. Further information on the incidents was not available at press deadline.



Photo Submitted

MANCHESTER CITY MANAGER SPEAKS TO LIONS - On Tuesday, July 7th, the Manchester Lions Club had its regular meeting at 121 Broad Street in Warm Springs. Special guest speaker for the evening was Manchester City Manager Mark Pulliam (right in photo). Pulliam updated the club about current events in the city and future developments. The program was arranged by Manchester Lion Allan Moore.

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



SGT. MOHAMMED SALINI

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 murder 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

See MANCHESTER, Page 2-A

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.



Contact the Star-Mercury-Vindicator at
starmercurynews@gmail.com
or by calling (706) 846-3188

Meriwether County and Hogansville Community Calendar

- Woodbury City Council** meeting, 6 pm Monday, July 27. The public is invited to attend.
- Meriwether County Commission** meeting, 6 pm Tuesday, July 28. The public is invited to attend.
- Lone Oak City Council** meeting, 6:30 pm Monday, August 3. The public is invited to attend.
- Hogansville City Council** meeting, 7 pm Monday, August 3. The public is invited to attend.
- Greenville City Council** meeting, 6 pm Tuesday, August 4. The public is invited to attend.
- Meriwether County Water & Sewerage Authority** meeting, 4:30 pm Thursday, August 6. The public is invited to attend.
- Meriwether County Industrial Development Authority** meeting, 4 pm Monday, August 10. The public is invited to attend.
- Meriwether County Commission** meeting, 6 pm Monday, August 10. The public is invited to attend.
- Warm Springs City Council** meeting, 6:30 pm Monday, August 10. The public is invited to attend.
- Luthersville City Council** meeting, 6 pm Tuesday, August 11. The public is invited to attend.
- Readers are urged to call ahead and confirm that events listed here are still being held.*

To have your non-commercial community event listed in the Community Calendar, send the information to starmercurynews@gmail.com. To be included, the event must be taking place in Hogansville or Meriwether County. The deadline is each Monday at noon. Calendar events are subject to change.

Manchester Council Names Salihi New City Marshal

Continued From Page 1-A

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 consid-

ered 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 educat-

ing 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.



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TUESDAY, AUGUST 4 - 7 PM NIGHTLY

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Concord Baptist Church is located at
801 Chalybeate Springs Road
In Woodland, GA

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF TERRELL STREET RESURFACING AND WATER LINE REPLACEMENT FOR THE CITY OF GREENVILLE

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Greenville, Georgia at Greenville City Hall 101 North Depot Street, Greenville, Georgia 30222 until 3:00 p.m. local time, Tuesday, July 21, 2026 at which time and place they will be publically opened and read. No submitted bid may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for receipt of bids for a period of sixty (60) days.

The work to be done consists of furnishing at materials, equipment and labor for construction of:

- Approximately 1,000 linear feet of pavement repair by full depth reclamation and installation of approximately 700 linear feet of 6-inch water line, all work complete with appurtenances, including traffic control, striping, and erosion control.

Time allotted for construction is 90 consecutive calendar days for substantial completion and 120 days for final completion.

Proposals for the complete work in one general contract shall be made on the proposal form provided ad shall contain prices in words and figures for the work bid on.

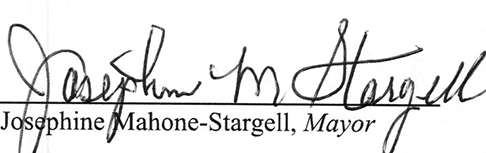
All proposals shall be accompanied by a Bid Bond drawn in favor of the City of Greenville, Georgia, in the amount of at least 5% of the lump sum bid for the complete work; such Bid Bond representing that the Bidder, if awarded the contract, will promptly enter into a contract and furnish Performance bond and Payment Bond as provided by law and approved by the Attorney for the City of Greenville, Georgi. Each bond shall be equal to 100% of the contract amount. The Bid Bond shall be forfeited to the City of Greenville, Georgia as liquidated damages if the Bidder fails to execute the contract and provide Performance and Payment Bonds within 10 day after being notified that he has been award the contract.

Drawings and Specifications are open to public inspection at the office of the City of Greenville, Georgia and the offices of Turnipseed Engineers in Atlanta and Augusta, Georgia.

Plans and specifications must be obtained at <https://turnipseed.com/current-projects/ut-for-bid/>. One (1) digital copy of the plans and specifications and (1) printed copy of specifications (bid book) will be provided upon receipt of \$200. Upon request, one (1) printed full or reduced size set of drawings is available at no additional charge.

The owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and two waive informalities.

CITY OF GREENVILLE, GEORGIA

By: 
Josephine Mahone-Stargell, Mayor

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14 Chevy Express Van 2500, White,	\$7,900
19 Chevy Equinox, White,	\$7,900
17 Honda Accord, Maroon,	\$9,800
17 Ford F-150, Crew Cab, White,	\$15,400
10 Ford F-150, Ext. Cab, White,	\$6,400
13 Ford F-150, Crew Cab, White,	\$8,400
18 Kia Forte, Maroon,	\$5,900
21 GMC Sierra, Crew Cab, 4x4, Diesel, Silver,	\$24,900
16 Honda CRV, Blue,	\$9,800
23 Chevy Malibu, Blue,	\$10,400
23 Chevy Malibu, White,	\$10,400
18 Honda Civic, Gray,	\$9,400
20 Chevy Equinox, Gray,	\$8,900
19 Jeep Cherokee, Maroon,	\$7,400
17 Ford F-350, Service Body, White,	\$13,400
17 Ford Expedition, Black,	\$7,900
18 Chevy Equinox, Silver,	\$7,900
20 Ford Fusion, Blue,	\$7,900
16 Honda CRV, Maroon,	\$9,800
21 Honda Accord, Black,	\$12,900
18 Chevy Equinox, Black,	\$7,900
19 Chevy Colorado, Ext. Cab, White,	\$10,800
15 Jeep Renegade, Black,	\$6,400
15 Ford F-150, Crew Cab, 4x4, Blue,	\$14,400
17 Ford Explorer, Blue,	\$7,900
18 Jeep Renegade, Gray,	\$7,900

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Opening Dates for Area Schools

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

It's almost time for the school year to begin in Meriwether and Troup Counties.

Meriwether County schools will open on Friday, July 31. Troup County schools will open on Aug. 7.

Below are some key calendar items for the school systems.

Meriwether County schools will observe the following holidays this year:

- On Sept. 7 the schools will be closed for Labor Day.
- October break is scheduled for Oct. 12 through Oct. 16.
- Thanksgiving holidays are scheduled for Nov. 23 through Nov. 27.
- Christmas break will be observed starting on Dec. 21 through Jan. 1, 2027.
- Monday, Jan. 18 schools will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. day.
- Winter break will be observed from Feb. 15 through Feb. 19.
- Spring break will be held from Apr. 5 through Apr. 9.
- The last day of school will be Wednesday, May 26.

Troup County schools will observe the following holidays this year:

- On Sept. 7 the schools will be closed for Labor Day.
- October break is scheduled to begin on Oct. 12.
- Thanksgiving holidays are scheduled for Nov. 23 through Nov. 27.
- Christmas break will be observed starting on Dec. 21 through Jan. 1, 2027.
- Jan. 4 will be a teacher planning and student holiday.
- Monday, Jan. 18 schools will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. day.
- Feb. 12 will be a teacher planning and student holiday.
- Feb. 15 schools will be closed for President's Day.
- Mar. 12 will be a teacher planning and student holiday.
- Mar. 15 staff and student holiday.
- Spring break will be held from Apr. 5 through Apr. 9.
- The last day of school will be Wednesday, May 26.
- Callaway High will hold graduation ceremonies on May 28.



We'll be there, so you can be there, too.

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Your time is valuable and you can't be everywhere. Just remember, when we are there you are there too. Why, you may ask? It's simple...

LOCAL MATTERS

JOB OPENING

MERIWETHER COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY PRESIDENT

SUMMARY: This position consists of responsible executive level duties in coordinating economic development programs within the county, including those related to loan assistance, federal grants, business expansion and retention. This person must be able to conduct special research and analysis related to economic development. General direction is received from the Meriwether County Industrial Development Authority Board of Directors.

Prefers a degree from a college or university in Public or Business Administration or related field.

Complete job description upon request by calling 706/672-3464. Interested candidates may forward resume to: Meriwether County Industrial Development Authority, 17234 Roosevelt Highway, Building B, Greenville, Ga. 30222. Resume's may be emailed to J.Fryer@meriwethercountygga.gov by August 14, 2026.



Submitted Photo

CHAMBER BUSINESS OF THE YEAR - Congratulations to Meriwether Site Solutions, recently recognized as the Business Member of the Year by the Meriwether County Chamber of Commerce. Under the leadership of President and CEO, Daniel McCoy, their vision is to deliver reliable, high-integrity solutions that make the site development process seamless for their clients. They have over two hundred employees and are now one of the top ten largest employers in Meriwether County. The company has garnered an impressive reputation, not only for the work they do, but also for their recognition of the importance of giving back to the community. This is a young and growing company that has quickly established itself with an impressive reputation, strong community orientation and a belief in establishing a culture that mirrors their values. Shown in photo from L to R: Adrienne Tickle (GA Power), Daniel McCoy (MSS) and Carolyn McKinley (Meriwether Chamber).



Submitted Photo

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD - Congratulations to JohnPaul and Beth Phillips, recently recognized with the Community Leadership award by the Meriwether County Chamber of Commerce. JohnPaul and Beth are licensed real estate agents and continue to be visible and committed partners to the work they do with their clients. They both love to help others navigate the complex world of real estate to help you buy a home, sell a home, or envision your future on a new piece of property. We have noted numerous quotes on social media from clients praising them for their real estate knowledge, customer orientation, professionalism and efficiency. They are prolific users of social media, so it is easy to see the breath of their geographic range, the diversity of properties they know and show and the difference they make in the lives of so many. They are visibly active throughout the community in their service to others, including in their church, in literacy events, on mission trips and supporting and promoting other businesses. They serve as true testaments to the generosity of spirit, for which we could all strive. Shown in photo from L to R: JohnPaul Phillips, Beth Phillips and Adrienne Tickle (Ga Power).

State Retirees Association to Meet

Submitted to the *S-M-V*

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 counties. 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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PASTOR: BRYAN GETER



DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Patricia Jean “Pat” Lowman

April 24, 1940 - July 15, 2026
Waverly Hall City Council Member

Patricia Jean "Pat" Lowman, 86, of Waverly Hall, Georgia, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, July 15, 2026.

Born on April 24, 1940, in Manchester, Georgia, Pat was the daughter of the late Willie Gordan Harris and Frances Hancock Harris. She grew up in Meriwether County, graduated from Manchester High School, and later attended Phillips Business College in Columbus, Georgia. Shortly after completing her education, she met the love of her life, Bobby Lowman. The two were married for 60 years and made their home in Waverly Hall, where they built a life centered on family, faith, and service to their community.

For 20 years, Pat served as the office manager for Hayward Pritchett Distributor Inc./Pritchett's Chainsaw and Small Engine Repair in Waverly Hall. While she enjoyed her career, her greatest passion was serving the town she loved.

Her dedication to Waverly Hall spanned more than four decades. She played an instrumental role in numerous community improvement projects, including the 1977 Governor's Project Competition; the Paint Up, Clean Up, Fix Up, Beautify Waverly Hall campaign; and the "Up with Waverly Hall" Committee, which led the renovation of the Government/Arts Building dedicated to Jim Stretch on October 9, 1994. That building now serves as Waverly Hall's City Hall and Police Department.

As councilwoman for public safety for 40 years, Pat helped guide the growth and stability of the Waverly Hall Police Department and was instrumental in establishing the city's new Fire Department building. She also faithfully served as Mayor Pro Tem from 1996 to 2003 and again from 2017 to 2025. Her steady leadership, unwavering commitment, and genuine love for her community helped shape Waverly Hall through decades of growth and change.

In recognition of her extraordinary service, the City of Waverly Hall honored Pat on February 22, 2026, proclaiming the day as Patricia Lowman Day in celebration of her forty years of distinguished public service.

Pat was known for her spirited personality, infectious sense of humor, and generous heart. She loved her family deeply and treasured every moment spent with them. A devoted member of the First United Methodist Church of Waverly Hall, she faithfully served on the Board of Trustees and taught Sunday School for many years. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Bobby Lowman, and her niece, Allison Morgan Cline.

She leaves behind to cherish her memory her daughter, Laurie Ann Lowman of Waverly Hall; grandsons, Andrew (Jessica) McPherson of Shiloh, Adam McPherson of Columbus, and Allen McPherson of Shiloh; great-grandchildren, Hailey, Harley, Hazley, Elleigh Ann, and Lilly McPherson, all of Shiloh; great-great-granddaughter, Leilah McPherson of Shiloh; sisters, Geraldine Morgan of Manchester and Mary Jane (Robert) Koon of Shiloh; nieces, Cindy (Mark) Stephens of Ellerslie, Stacy (Keith) Haralson of Pine Mountain Valley, and Brenda (Tim) Brown of Griffin, Georgia; nephew, Greg Lowman of Milton, Florida; along with several beloved great-nieces and great-nephews. The family gratefully acknowledges the attendance of Mayor Michael Harris; Mayor Pro Tem Geraldine Boddie; Council Members Tara Barbee, Gregg Fischer, Rob Miley, and Brian Wallace; Police Chief Jason Durham, Fire Chief Alex Lawski, City Clerk Pam Nelms, and city attorney, Dennis P. McPherson, whose presence honors Pat's decades of faithful service to the Town of Waverly Hall.

A celebration of Pat's life will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 23, 2026, at the Waverly Hall Methodist Church. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment will follow at Waverly Hall Cemetery.

The family requests that memorial donations be made to the Refuge Church Building Fund, Refuge Church, 150 Pine Street, Waverly Hall, GA.

Pat's legacy will live on in the community she faithfully served, the family she dearly loved, and the countless lives she touched through her kindness, leadership, and unwavering dedication to Waverly Hall. She will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who knew her.

Cox Funeral Home of Manchester is honored to serve the Lowman family.

***Editor's Note:** Death and funeral notices must be received by 12 noon on Monday prior to run date. and should be sent to the newspaper by a funeral home only. We will run family-placed notices; call our office for details.*

Contact the *Star-Mercury-Vindicator*

E-mail: starmercurynews@gmail.com
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CITY OF WOODLAND, GEORGIA INVITATION TO BID SIDEWALK DEMOLITION AND REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The City of Woodland, Georgia, is accepting bids from qualified and properly licensed contractors for the demolition and replacement of sidewalks located within the public rights-of-way at the following locations:

- 1. State Route/Highway 36:** Beginning at the intersection of Highway 36 and 6th Avenue and continuing to the intersection of Highway 36 and 8th Avenue.
- 2. Manchester Highway:** Beginning at the intersection of Manchester Highway and West Main Street and continuing to the intersection of Manchester Highway and West Pleasant Hill Street.

The scope of work includes, but is not limited to:

- Obtaining all required permits and approvals, including any permits or approvals required by the Georgia Department of Transportation;
- Removal and demolition of the existing sidewalks;
- Hauling and lawful disposal of all demolition debris;
- Grading, compaction, and base preparation;
- Installation and finishing of new concrete sidewalks;
- Installation of ADA-compliant curb ramps;
- Restoration and cleanup of all disturbed areas; and
- Traffic and pedestrian control necessary to complete the work safely.

All work must comply with applicable federal, state, and local requirements, Georgia Department of Transportation standards, and current Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility standards.

Contractors must provide proof of all required licenses, general liability insurance, workers' compensation insurance, and any other documentation requested by the City. Each bidder is responsible for inspecting the project locations and verifying all measurements, quantities, site conditions, and permitting requirements before submitting a bid.

Bids may be delivered during regular business hours or mailed to:

City of Woodland
Attn: City Clerk
PO Box 187
49 E Main St
Woodland, GA 31836

Delivered or mailed bids must clearly state "SIDEWALK DEMOLITION AND REPLACEMENT BID" on the outside of the envelope.

Bids may be submitted by email to the City Clerk at cityofwoodland2014@gmail.com. All bids must be received no later than 4:30 PM on Friday, July 31, 2026. Bids received after the stated deadline will not be considered. The City of Woodland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

If you have questions, please contact the City Clerk at cityofwoodland2014@gmail.com or (706)674-2200, during the regular business hours of Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM and Wednesday 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

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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



Andy Kober

Columnist

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

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

One Foot in the Grave: When It's Your Turn to Go, You Got to Go

Back when I was a young man, just a boy really, I was terrified of getting on an airplane.

I still don't like flying, but who does? There is nothing natural about cramming people into a metal tube and then sending said tube 600 mph at 30,000 feet. And that's after strangers rummage through your luggage and your dignity is destroyed by standing in long lines and being poked and prodded in security.

Still beats walking though.

When it was time to board my first cross-country flight, my parents sat me down and tried to assure me that everything would be OK; that statistically speaking, flying is safer than riding in an automobile; and lastly, I should never fear death, because the good Lord wasn't going to call me home until it was my turn.

I wasn't worried about my time to go, the young me quipped, I was more concerned about if it was somebody else's. Surviving a plane crash seems worse than dying in one.

You often hear people use phrases like "halfway dead," or "near death." Those colloquialisms, when you think about it, don't really make sense, because we're always a hair breadth away from dying and you never know when your number is going to come up. My paternal grandmother, when asked how she was doing,

always said she had one foot in the grave and the other on a banana peel.

Truer words are hardly ever spoken.

Famed Greek playwright Aeschylus died when an eagle dropped a tortoise on his head. The wordsmith, considered the founder of tragedy, stared death in the face numerous times in his life. He survived the Battle of Marathon, helping drive the Persian invaders from Athens. Later he was accused of spilling the secrets of a cult he belonged to on stage and escaped the clutches of an angry, blood-thirsty mob.

This guy was like a cat with nine lives. He surely didn't expect to go by wayward airborne reptile. Something's going to kill you, am I right?

I recently read a report outlining a new study showing the dangers of sitting down. Sitting for 30 minutes at a time, apparently, is just as bad for our collective health as smoking used to be. It has taken me about 45 minutes to string these words together, so now I'm at a higher risk of cancer. I hope it hasn't taken you that long to read it. If so, get up and walk around a little bit.

If you focus on death, you'll quickly consume your life with worry. If you start looking for ways to die, you will find many. Dying is easy. It's the living that



Kyle Dominy

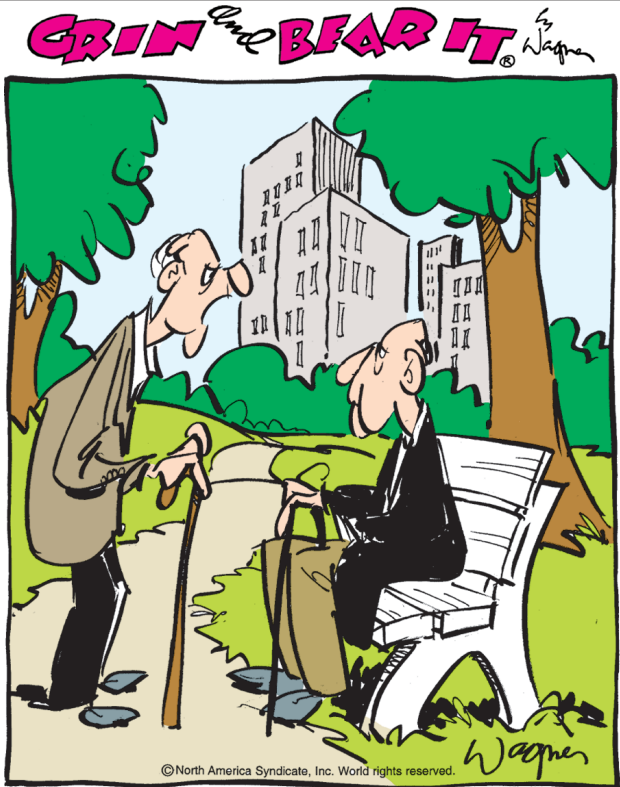
New Southern Dad

gets hard sometimes.

Next time you find your-

self scared of dying, just remember we all have one foot on a banana peel and that we're not going to go until it's our time to go. But look out for falling turtles..

You can reach Kyle Dominy at: k.l.dominy@gmail.com or write to 115 South Jefferson St. Dublin, Ga. 31021



"I could have been a bigger success than you could have been!"

THE MANCHESTER STAR-MERCURY/MERIWETHER VINDICATOR is published weekly by The Georgia Trust for Local News at 3051 Roosevelt Highway, Manchester, Georgia 31816. *The Star-Mercury-Vindicator* is published proudly for the citizens of Manchester and Meriwether 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.

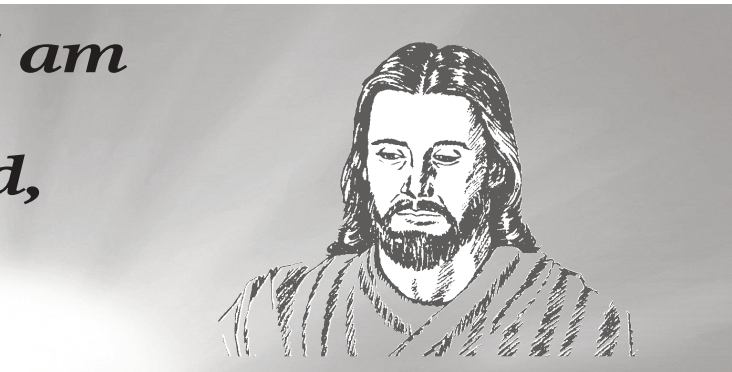
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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to P. O. Box 426, Manchester, Georgia 31816.

Send your church announcements to *The Manchester Star-Mercury/Meriwether Vindicator*
Deadline is noon Monday of the week in which you want the item to run. Items received after deadline will be in next week's newspaper.
E-mail your items to: jack@starmercuryvindicator.com. Items are only accepted via e-mail. Sorry, no .pdf files accepted.
Dated events are listed in chronological order; regular ongoing events and announcements are listed after the dated events.

*Don't be afraid, for I am
with you.
Don't be discouraged,
for I am your God.*



Special Church Announcements

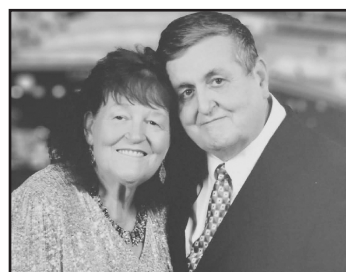
Men's Breakfast

Victory Temple Worship Center will hold its Men's Breakfast Saturday July 25 at 8:00 A.M. at Smitty's Restaurant in Woodbury. For More Information call Pastor Richard Nash at 478-998-2996.

Ongoing Church Announcements

Fishing for Youth

Fishing For Youth of America was founded by Richard and Ginny Nash in memory of Richard's mother and father. The program provides fishing supplies for our youth. It is the hope of FFYA to encourage our youth to fish and do other wholesome activities and to stay away from drugs, guns, gangs and violence.



If we can get our youth to appreciate the outdoors they make better young people. If you know of a child or grandchild that could benefit from this program we

would love to hear from you. It's also a program that benefits children that would otherwise not get anything for Christmas. If anyone would like to support this cause you can give in Honor or in Memory of someone. For more information on how you can be a part of this much needed outreach you may call Richard 478-998-2996.

Invited to Services

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, located at the intersection of Judson Bulloch Rd & Roosevelt Hwy at 2904 Judson Bulloch Rd, Warm Springs, GA 31830. All are invited to celebrate the Mass with our community & officiated by our pastor Father Timothy Gadziala every Sunday at 2 p.m.

First Methodist Manchester Food Pantry

The First Methodist Church, located at 206 Broad Street, Manchester announces a Food Pantry for the community each third Wednesday of the month. The food pantry is located in the fellowship hall. Times are 10:00am - noon.

Faith Baptist Church Services

Faith Baptist Church - We are located at 11844 Whitehouse Pkwy. Woodbury, GA 30293. Come join with us for Sunday School at 10 a.m. and Sunday worship 11 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study at 6 p.m. Pastor David Dodgen. Phone (706) 333-5999. Follow us on Facebook - Faith Baptist Church-Woodbury.

New Arbor Community Church Services

New Arbor Community Church (Formerly known as Arbor Chapel U.M.C.) located on 1150 Arbor Chapel Road, Warm Springs, GA. (Stovall Community) invites everyone to attend regular worship services on First and Third Sunday at 11:00 A.M. Phone Number: 706-663-4113. Matt. 18:20 "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Rev. Jimmy Hardnett, Jr. Pastor.

Trinity CME In-Person Services

Trinity CME Church in the Durand Community Sunday Services will be in person on the first and fourth Sundays, and by telephone conference on the second and third Sundays. The telephone conference number is 720-843-2834 and Passcode is 6398632. Masks are required for in-person service along with social distancing. Rev. William Spratling, Pastor.

Church of Christ at Greentown Heights

The Church of Christ at Greentown Heights is open to worshippers of all ages and backgrounds. We are committed to the teachings of Christ and to spread His message. Feel free to visit one of our services at 407 Roger Brawner Avenue, Manchester, GA. Bible Classes are Wednesdays at 11:00 am and 7:00 pm. Classes are held for all ages at 7:00 pm. Sunday:



Photo Submitted

HOGANSVILLE FBC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - Camp "Light the Way" Vacation Bible School was held at First Baptist Church, Hogansville on July 12 - July 16 with family night on the 17th. There were classes for ages 3 years through the 8th grade and for adults, and we had big crowds every night. The theme, Lighting the Way, showed us that God's path for our lives is always better than our own and we should share that good news. The week was busy, exciting, and a blessing to all.

Sunday School classes for all ages begin at 9:45 am; Worship Service at 11:00 am. We also offer in home Bible studies and free bible correspondence classes. For more information contact Brother Joey Waller at 706-846-2792 or 706-441-0181.

Youth/Children Services Weekly

The Anointed Remnant-Church, Columbus Georgia has resume In-Person worship service in the circle of Warm Springs and Blackmon Road each Sunday. Located next to Flat Rock Park. We also, have Wednesday's night bible study. Worship service starts at 11:00 am on Sundays and 6:30 pm on Wednesdays. POC: 706-325-5769.

Food Ministry at Dorcas Ministry

The Dorcas Ministry is a food ministry housed in the First Baptist Church of Warm Springs. The ministry serves those who live in this county or nearby and need temporary food. Proof of identity and address is required. Volunteers are at the church on the third Wednesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and other community information, such as job opportunities, is shared, as well. At this time the pantry needs personal products such as deodorant, toilet paper, etc. and most canned fruit, meats and vegetables (except corn and green beans). Organizers are also looking for additional volunteers.

Souls for Christ

Souls for Christ Church, located at 444 Todd Road in Greenville, invites you to join us every 2nd and 4th service at 11:00 a.m. Bible Study Tuesday at 6 p.m. Evangelist Sue Ann Reid.

Arise Ministry Podcast

Be sure to tune in to the Arise Ministry Pod Cast from Hogansville First Baptist Church which airs a new program every Sunday at 5:30PM. Gary Blanks, Randy Brady, Kevin Folds, Bill Dollar, and occasional guests talk about life in recovery. They talk about serious issues with humor, empathy, and joy, and it will be well worth your time to listen. The podcasts may be found on Facebook, Spotify, or YouTube.

Transportation for Friendship Missionary

The Transportation Ministry for Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Woodland will be picking up people who would love to come to our church service! The service will be available every Sunday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Masks and social distancing are required. Contact Clarence Leonard at (706) 427-3443 or Scott Hope at (706) 573-8231.

Feed My Sheep

The Grace Of Christ Ministries, at 3894 Hwy 85 Manchester, Ga 31816, invites you to worship with them. ORDER OF SERVICE: Sunday: Bible Teaching, 10:30am; Worship Service 11:00am. Founder/Bishop: Bishop Dr. Eric Johnson. Contact Number: 678-622-1458. Blessed by the Best!

Pentecostal Services

The Pentecostals of Woodbury welcome you to come and worship with us each Sunday at 10 AM at 500 Flat Shoals Rd in Woodbury, Georgia. For more information contact Pastor Philip Murray at 706-957-3230.

Caring & Sharing Food Pantry

The Woodbury Baptist Church Caring & Sharing Food Pantry is open the first and third Thursday of each month from 10:00am to 2:00pm. The church is located at 106 Dromedary Street, Woodbury, Georgia, 30293. Pantry is across the street from the front of the church.

Good Neighbor

If you are in need of clothing, shoes, kitchen items, we have 2 baby mattresses, sheets and a few comforters and more. You can call Shirley at 706-457-3937 or text her what you are in need of - your size, or your childrens sizes. We will pull it and call you when you can come by and pick your items up at the door. If you have questions contact Shirley at 706-457-



Photo Submitted

BAILEY GUEST AT HOGANSVILLE FBC - On July 19 First Baptist Church, Hogansville was pleased to welcome Rev. George Bailey and the congregation from White Oak Grove Baptist Church to worship with us at our morning service. Rev. Bailey's message focused on Jesus as the Light of the World and how important it is to walk in the Light. Also, the White Oak Grove choir blessed us with special music. We always look forward to our joint worship service every year. Rev. Bailey and our Pastor Greg Morris swap pulpits twice a year, and both congregations enjoy the fellowship.

3937.

Alcoholics Anonymous

If you or a loved one needs help with a drinking problem, Alcoholics Anonymous can help. There are meetings available throughout Meriwether County. Sunday, 7 p.m., Jones Chapel in Imlac; Monday, 6:30 p.m., Greenville Baptist Church, Greenville; Tuesday, 7 p.m., Jones Chapel, Imlac; Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Community Chapel, Pine Mountain.

Bethesda Baptist Church Food Bank

Bethesda Baptist Food Bank in Ellerslie is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Our ministry priority is to help those in need in our surrounding communities with food, prayer and encouragement.

Food Pantry

Luthersville Baptist Church Food Pantry is open to distribute food in a driveup fashion every Tuesday at 30 Park Street Luthersville, Ga. To receive food everyone needs to be there by between 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Bonnetta's Cupboard Food Pantry is open on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from noon until 1:00 pm at Greenville Methodist Church, 502 N. Talbotton Street, Greenville, GA.

The Woodbury Baptist Church Caring & Sharing Food Pantry is open the first and third Thursday of each month from 10:00 am til 2:00 pm. The church is located at 106 Dromedary Street, Woodbury, Georgia 30293. Pantry is at the rear entrance of the church.

Church Food Pantry Open to Public

Luthersville Baptist Church Food Pantry, 30 Park Street, Luthersville, Ga. is open every Tuesday. To receive food everyone needs to be signed in by 10:00 a.m.

How to Submit News

Submit brief church news items to: starmercurynews@gmail.com by noon Monday. Items **must** be e-mailed; faxed, mailed, or hand-delivered items are no longer accepted.

Items are **only** accepted via e-mail.

Items should pertain to special events, not routine services.

We Lead From Where We Are

"Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb." Exodus 3:1.

For those of you who have been reading my ramblings for any length of time, you have often heard me say that it never ceases to amaze me how I can hear a scripture I've heard all my life and suddenly receive a new revelation from it. Such is the case with the passage of scripture you just read. Regarding Moses becoming a shepherd, I wouldn't venture a guess as to how many times I've read or heard this scripture, taught it or heard it taught, or preached it and heard it preached. Today, a simple passing comment from a preacher friend of mine took me down an entirely different road. All he said was, "Moses led the flock to the backside of the desert."

Here's the thought that popped into my mind: "Why did Moses lead the flock to the backside of the desert?" I thought the answer God gave me was quite profound. He led them to the backside of the desert because, mentally, physically, Spiritually, and for the sake of this column, metaphorically speaking, that's where he was! He was not in a good place! And what consumes someone determines/dictates where they go, and where they lead others. I once heard my preacher friend, Greg Brown, say, "The sheep won't go where the shepherd hasn't been." And that's true! But let me refine his statement a little and say, generally speaking, "The sheep will only go where they are led, and we can only lead them from the place where we are, good or bad."

Moses was in a bad place mentally. How many times do you suppose the cinema of remembrance played over and over again? He knew he was destined for greatness. He was pulled from the river, raised in Pharaoh's house, and groomed to be the leader of Egypt. Yet, in his mind, in a moment of anger, he had thrown it all away when he killed the Egyptian who was attacking a Hebrew slave. Therefore, he led the sheep from a position of mental instability.



Rev. Aaron
McCollough
Columnist

Moses was in a bad place physically. And let me quickly add that often, when we allow ourselves to get into a bad place mentally, it often leads us to a bad place physically. Moses had known all the amenities of being raised in Pharaoh's house, where his every need and desire was met. Now, his nobility, his needs, and his desires have been replaced by the searing heat of the desert and a bunch of stinking sheep! Therefore, he led the sheep from a physically challenging position.

Moses was in a bad place Spiritually. He had heard of this Deliverer God of Israel. However, he had not experienced Him. Consequently, without a personal experience with God, he was leading the only thing he was qualified to lead - a bunch of sheep on the backside of the desert! Oh! But all this would change when he encountered God through a bush that was on fire yet not consumed, and that was fluent in Hebrew! And the Voice told him to take off his shoes because he was on holy ground!

Moses led the sheep to the backside of the desert because he was broken mentally, physically, and Spiritually. But because God brought him through his brokenness and gave him a personal encounter with him, Moses became qualified to go into another desert of sorts and lead God's children out of captivity! Again, we lead from where we are!

I foresee a full sermon coming from this!

- Bro. Aaron

Rev. Aaron McCollough is the retired Associational Missionary for the Troup Baptist Association, which serves Harris, Meriwether, and Troup Counties, Georgia. You may correspond with him at: freshfire@mindspring.com. Follow him on Facebook at Fresh Fire Ministries, Hogansville, Georgia.

Georgia Trust Acquires Two Historic Newspapers

Submitted to the *Star-Mercury-Vindicator*

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, under-

scoring 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."

Eagle Scout Project at Lake Meriwether

By VICTORIA KIRKPATRICK

The Lake Meriwether Board met on July 15 and discussed an Eagle Scout project that was, as the board put it, making waves.

The ongoing initiative will create fishing habitat structures in the lake, and is designed to improve the lake ecosystem and to enhance fishing opportunities for years to come. The project leader was not able to give his planned presentation, so the presentation was rescheduled to the August board meeting. The community will be able to learn more about the conservation effort of the Eagle Scout project at the August meeting as well.

The Board heard updates on repair work for the restroom area, and learned that repairs on the showers have been completed. The contractor will return to install the remaining toilets after components needed to finish the job are acquired. One toilet in the main building is also awaiting final replacement parts, and after the main building work is finished all restroom repairs will be complete.

Attendance at this year's Fourth of July event was smaller than the record turnout, and the Board was told that attendees gravitated toward the food trucks and other vendors.



Plans are underway for a car show at a community event planned for October 10. The day was chosen to avoid conflict with local football games.

Discussion was held regarding next year's July 4 celebration, holding it on Friday, July 2 in order to make the festivities more convenient and to maximize attendance. The date would give families more time and more chances to join the festivities.

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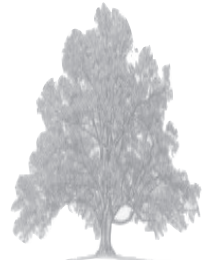
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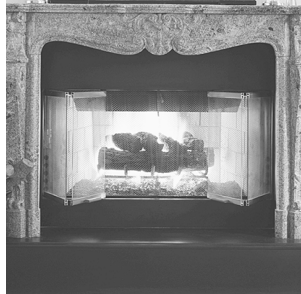
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FEATURES & CLASSIFIEDS

The Manchester Star-Mercury/Meriwether Vindicator • Thursday, July 23, 2026 • Page 7-A

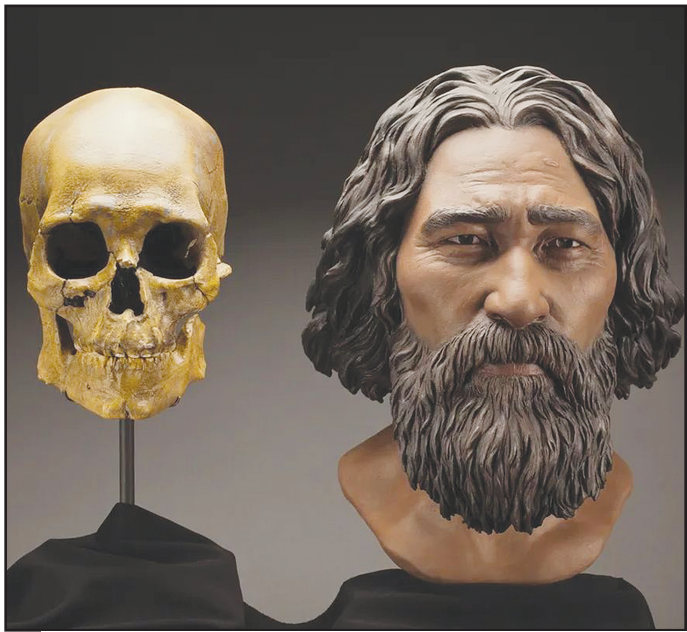


Photo from Public Domain
KENNEWICK MAN - Anyone recognize Kennewick Man? Probably not as his skeleton dates to between 8,400 and 8,700 years ago. His nearly complete skeleton was found by college students this week in 1962. The discovery in the Pacific Northwest changed many theories about ancient peoples 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.

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 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.

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 home-made 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 setting 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!



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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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

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and any matters of record including, but not limited to, those superior to the Security Deed first set out above. Said property will be sold on an “as-is” basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. Prospective bidders must perform their own due diligence. M&T Bank is the holder of the Security Deed to the property in accordance with OCGA 44-14-162.2. The entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: M&T Bank, One Fountain Plaza, Buffalo, NY 14203, 800-724-1633. Note, however, that such entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan. Upon information and belief, **said property is more commonly known as 489 Cove Rd, Woodbury, GA 30293.** Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description, the legal description shall control. ATTENTION ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS: On March 1, 2026, the data collection and reporting requirements under the U.S. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) new Anti-Money Laundering Rule (the Rule), found at 89 FR 70258, went into effect. The Rule applies to certain residential real estate sale transactions (including some that go beyond the typical one-to-four family residence) where the transfer is to a legal entity or trust, and which includes cash purchases, private financing or financing provided by an institution not subject to a federal Anti-Money Laundering or Suspicion Activity Report requirement. If applicable, as part of this Rule, buyers and sellers are required to provide additional information and documentation about themselves, their legal entities, and/or the source of funds used in the reportable transaction. The collection of this information and documentation is required to comply with the Rule’s federal reporting requirements, if applicable.” This notice is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. You are encouraged to consult with your own independent legal counsel if you have questions about how the FinCEN Anti-Money Laundering Rule affects your transaction and whether your transaction is reportable. “The Rule is the subject of ongoing litigation in several jurisdictions. We suggest that you seek your own legal counsel if you have questions about the status of the Rule and its applicability to your sale, if any. The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed, and (3) to confirmation that the successful bidder has timely provided all information required for reporting under the Rule, 89 FR 70258, if applicable. M&T Bank as Attorney in Fact for Rigoberto Estrada Nava and Jessica Estrada McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP 1544 Old Alabama Rd Roswell, GA 30076 www.foreclosurehotline.net JK/August 4, 2026 **EXHIBIT “A”** ALL THAT TRACT or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot No. One Hundred Twenty Seven (127) in the 9th Land District of Meriwether County, Georgia, containing 2.061 acres, and being more particularly described with all its improvements thereon, in a Plat of Survey entitled “James Brown, Jr.”, and recorded in Plat Book 24, Page 269, deed records of the Clerk of Superior Court, Meriwether County, Georgia, such plat being referenced herein for a more complete description of the metes and bounds thereof. **JK August 4, 2026** **Our file no. 22-09175GA** **(7,9, 16, 23, 30)**

26-167

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF MERIWETHER

To:

1. All persons known or unknown who may claim an interest in property known as 0 Trigville Street; Resident/Tenant/Occupant; Unknown Heirs of Leroy Copeland; Barbara Copeland; Norman Lee Copeland; Connie Joann Banks; Tamika Menyon Copeland; City of Manchester; Meriwether County, Georgia; State of Georgia. Take notice that: Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 48-4-45 and 48-4-46, the right to redeem the following described property, to wit: Property Location: 0 Trigville Street Map Reference No./Parcel No.: MA05 051 will expire and be forever foreclosed and barred on July 27, 2026. The tax deed to which this notice relates is dated May 06, 2025 and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Meriwether County, Georgia, in Deed Book 1082, Page 543. The property may be redeemed at any time before the close of business on the aforementioned barment date, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provid-

ed by law to Windlass Rest, LLC at the offices of Jett Law Group, LLC at 2987 Clairmont Road, Suite 350, Atlanta, GA 30329. **(7,2, 9, 16, 23)**

26-150

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

GEORGIA, MERIWETHER COUNTY

By virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from GEORGE HUGH HILL, JR. and REBECCA HILL to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS INC. AS GRANTEE, AS NOMINEE FOR CARDINAL FINANCIAL COMPANY, dated December 20, 2018, recorded December 31, 2018, in Book 901, Page 515, Meriwether County, Georgia Records, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of Eighty-Eight Thousand Thirteen and 00/100 dollars (\$88,013.00), with interest thereon as provided for therein, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned and transferred to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as trustee of Stanwich Mortgage Loan Trust F, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the Meriwether County Courthouse, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in August, 2026, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 212 OF THE ELEVENTH LAND DISTRICT OF MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND CONTAINING 6.65 ACRES, AND BOUND NOW OR FORMERLY, AS FOLLOWS: NORTH BY AN UNNAMED COUNTY PUBLIC ROAD; SOUTHEAST BY JAMES MONTGOMERY ROAD; AND SOUTHWEST BY FORREST ROAD, SAID PROPERTY IS SOMEWHAT IN THE SHAPE OF A TRIANGLE AND IS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS ACCORDING TO A PLAT PREPARED BY JOHN N. CLARK, R.S. ON OCTOBER 17, 1988 SAID PLAT IS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 13, PAGE 105, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA. SAID PLAT IS HEREBY REFERRED TO FOR A MORE COMPLETE DESCRIPTION AND BY REFERENCE INCORPORATED HEREIN. Said legal description being controlling, however the property is more commonly known as **2888 FOREST ROAD, GREENVILLE, GA 30222.** The indebtedness secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of default under the terms of said Security Deed. The indebtedness remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same, all expenses of the sale, including attorneys fees (notice to collect same having been given) and all other payments provided for under the terms of the Security Deed. 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: 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; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all zoning ordinances; assessments; liens; encumbrances; restrictions; covenants, and any other matters of record superior to said Security Deed. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owner and party in possession of the property is GEORGE HUGH HILL , JR., REBECCA HILL, or tenants(s). The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed, and (3) purchaser s tendering to Rubin Lublin, LLC, anti-money laundering information as required pursuant to the FinCEN Real Estate Report Rule. Failure to provide information, could result in rescission of the sale. The entity having full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the loan (although not required by law to do so) is: Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, Loss Mitigation Dept., 500 N. State College Blvd. Suites 1030, 1300 and 1400, Orange, CA 92868, Telephone Number: 800-561-4567. Nothing in O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require a secured creditor to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage instrument. WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, AS TRUSTEE OF STANWICH MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST F as Attorney in Fact for GEORGE HUGH HILL , JR., REBECCA HILL THE BELOW LAW FIRM MAY BE HELD TO BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, UNDER FEDERAL LAW. IF SO, ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Attorney Contact: Rubin Lublin, LLC 3145 Avalon Ridge Place, Suite 100, Peachtree Corners, GA 30071 Telephone Number: (877) 813-0992 Case No. CMS-22-04754-10 **(6,11, 7,9, 16, 23, 30)**

26-166

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF MERIWETHER

Pursuant to the power of sale contained in the Security Deed executed by TERRIC PARKS to RENASANT BANK in the original principal amount of \$260,000.00 dated October 7, 2021, and recorded in Deed Book 985 , Page 371, Meriwether County records, the undersigned will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, before the Courthouse door in said County, or at such other place as lawfully designated, within the legal hours of sale, on 8/4/2026, the property in said Security Deed and described as follows: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 52 OF THE 11TH DISTRICT, MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING KNOWN AS LOT 62, PARK PINES SUBDIVISION, AS PER PLAT OF SAME OF RECORD AT PLAT BOOK 22, PAGES 70 THRU 72, MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA RECORDS. SAID PLAT IS SPECIFICALLY INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE AND MADE A PART HEREOF FOR A MORE COMPLETE AND ACCURATE LEGAL DESCRIPTION. **Said property being known as: 131 PARK PINE CIR, GRANTVILLE, GA 30220** To the best of the undersigned’s knowledge, the party or parties in possession of said property is/are TERRIC PARKS or tenants(s). The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due and payable because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as provided for in the Note and said Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of sale, including attorney’s fees (notice of intent to collect attorney’s fees having been given). Said property will be sold subject to the following: (1) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not yet due and payable); (2) the right of redemption of any taxing authority; (3) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property; and (4) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above. Said sale will be conducted subject to the following: (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. The name, address, and telephone number of the individual or entity who has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage is as follows: Onity Mortgage Corporation f/k/a PHH Mortgage Corporation 1661 Worthington Road, Suite 100 West Palm Beach, FL 33409 800-887-4420 25-340504 - DIR Note that pursuant to O.C.G.A. 44-14-162.2, the above individual or entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage. THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. RENASANT BANK, as Attorney-in-Fact for TERRIC PARKS Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC 13010 Morris Rd., Suite 450 Alpharetta, GA 30004 Phone: 470-321-7112 Firm File No. 25-340504 **(7,2, 9, 16, 23, 30)**

General Legals

26-183

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF MERIWETHER COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

VEX FALEY, Petitioner, vs. Jesus W. Solis; all heirs of Jesus W. Solis and any and all residents, occupants, tenants, lienholders, claimants, and/or other interested parties of the property known as **514 Indianola Drive, Manchester, Meriwether County, Georgia 31816.** You are hereby notified that the above-styled action seeking to establish title to the below described property against all the world was filed on the 28th day of May, 2026 , in the Superior Court of Meriwether County, Georgia, Coweta Judicial Circuit, and that by reason of order for service by publication entered by said court, you are hereby commanded to be and appear at said Court within 30 days of the date of the order for service by publication to answer said petition and file pleadings before the Court. Map and Parcel: MA11022 ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE WEST HALF OF LAND LOT 245, 2ND (GILL) DISTRICT OF MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND BEING ALL OF LOT 9 AND THE NORTHERN 50 FEET OF LOT 8 IN BLOCK 1 AS PER MAP AND PLAN OF JOHN-SONTOWN, A SUBDIVISION OF BUILDING LOTS IN THE NORTHWEST SECTION OF THE CITY OF MANCHESTER, AS SHOWN ON A PLAT OF SAID SUB-

DIVISION RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1 PAGE 44, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN A DEED OF RECORD IN DEED BOOK 973, PAGE 319, AFORESAID RECORDS. WITNESS the Honorable EMORY PALMER, Judge of said Court. This 30th day of June, 2026 . /s/ Mitchell T. Key Mitchell T. Key, Attorney for Petitioner vs. Jesus W. Solis; all heirs of Jesus W. Solis and any and all residents, occupants, tenants, lienholders, claimants, and/or other interested parties of the property known as 514 Indianola Drive, Manchester, Meriwether County, Georgia 31816 , Respondents.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

TO: Jesus W. Solis; all heirs of Jesus W. Solis ; and all residents, occupants, tenants, lienholders, claimants, and/or other interested parties of the property known as 514 Indianola Drive, Manchester, Meriwether County, Georgia 31816 . You are hereby notified that the above-styled action seeking to establish title to the below described property against all the world was filed on the 28th day of May, 2026 , in the Superior Court of Meriwether County, Georgia, Coweta Judicial Circuit, and that by reason of order for service by publication entered by said court, you are hereby commanded to be and appear at said Court within 30 days of the date of the order for service by publication to answer said petition and file pleadings before the Court. Map and Parcel: MA11022 ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE WEST HALF OF LAND LOT 245, 2ND (GILL) DISTRICT OF MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND BEING ALL OF LOT 9 AND THE NORTHERN 50 FEET OF LOT 8 IN BLOCK 1 AS PER MAP AND PLAN OF JOHN-SONTOWN, A SUBDIVISION OF BUILDING LOTS IN THE NORTHWEST SECTION OF THE CITY OF MANCHESTER, AS SHOWN ON A PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1 PAGE 44, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN A DEED OF RECORD IN DEED BOOK 973, PAGE 319, AFORESAID RECORDS. WITNESS the Honorable EMORY PALMER, Judge of said Court. This 30th day of June, 2026 . /s/ Mitchell T. Key Mitchell T. Key, Attorney for Petitioner **(7,9, 16, 23, 30)**

26-184

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF MERIWETHER COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

ENRICO DEAN, Petitioner, vs. BERLE BURSE; ALL HEIRS OF BERLE BURSE; and all residents, occupants, tenants, lienholders, claimants, and/or other interested parties of the property known as Trammell Bottom Road, Hogansville, Georgia. You are hereby notified that the above-styled action seeking to establish title to the below described property against all the world was filed on the day of May, 2026, in the Superior Court of MERIWETHER County, Georgia, Coweta Judicial Circuit, and that by reason of order for service by publication entered by said court, you are hereby commanded to be and appear at said Court within 30 days of the date of the order for service by publication to answer said petition and file pleadings before the Court. Map and Parcel No. 050006018 ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOTS 175 AND 178, 11th DISTRICT, MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY SHOWN AND DELINEATED AS LOT 17 OF FOX HOLLOW SUBDIVISION ON A PLAT BEING RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 13, PAGE 207, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA. THE ABOVE REFERENCED PLAT IS HEREBY MADE A PART OF THIS DESCRIPTION BY THIS REFERENCE. WITNESS the Honorable EMORY PALMER Judge of said Court. **This 30th day of June, 2026.** /s/ Mitchell T. Key Mitchell T. Key, Attorney for Petitioner **(7,9, 16, 23, 30)**

Probate Notices

26-176

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF MERIWETHER COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF ANNA MARIE DENURE, DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 10784

PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: ALL HEIRS & INTERESTED PARTIES, KNOWN AND UNKNOWN and to whom it may concern: SHANNON LEE DENURE has petitioned for himself/herself/themselves to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of ABOVE-NAMED 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 3RD, 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 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. **Hon. J.D. Rasnick Judge of the Probate Court By: Shannon Neely Clerk of the Probate Court PO BOX 608 Greenville, GA 30222 706-672-4952 option 2 (7,9, 16, 23, 30)**

26-175

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF MERIWETHER COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF VIOLAR HOLMES, DECEASED

ESTATE NO.10783

PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: ALL HEIRS & INTERESTED PARTIES, KNOWN AND UNKNOWN and to whom it may concern: BETTY JOCHILDS has petitioned for (himself/herself) to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of ABOVE-NAMED 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 **JULY 27TH, 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 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. **Hon. J.D. Rasnick, Judge of the Probate Court By: Shannon Neely Clerk of the Probate Court PO BOX 608 Greenville, GA 30222 706-672-4952 option 2 (7,2, 9, 16, 23)**

26-193

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF MERIWETHER COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: LEROY SYLVESTER GODFREY, DECEASED

ESTATE NO. : 10794

NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR S SUPPORT

The petition of JAMEANIA RANSOM for a year’s support from the estate of the above named deceased, for decedent’s (surviving spouse) (and) (minor child(ren)), having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any they have, on or before **AUGUST 17TH , 2026**, 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 on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. 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. **J.D. RASNICK Judge of the Probate Court By: Shannon Neely Clerk of the Probate Court PO BOX 608 Greenville, GA 30222 706-672-4952 option 2 (7,23, 30, 86, 13)**

P.O. Box 608 Greenville, GA 30222 706-672-4952 (7,23, 30, 86, 13)

26-177

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF MERIWETHER COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: DAVID E. WEAVER, DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 10785

NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR S SUPPORT

The petition of CINDY WEAVER for a year’s support from the estate of the above named deceased, for decedent’s (surviving spouse) (and) (minor child(ren)), having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any they have, on or before **AUGUST 3RD, 2026**, 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 on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. 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 (held on TBD in the probate court of the above-named county, courtroom, 100 Court Square, Greenville, GA 30222 **scheduled at a later date.** If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing. **J.D. Rasnick Judge of the Probate Court By: Shannon Neely Clerk of the Probate Court P.O. Box 608 Greenville, GA 30222 706-672-4952 (7,9, 16, 23, 30)**

26-192

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF MERIWETHER COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: FLOYD HARRIS, DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 10793

NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR S SUPPORT

The petition of MARY ELIZABETH HARRIS for a year’s support from the estate of the above named deceased, for decedent’s (surviving spouse) (and) (minor child(ren)), having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any they have, on or before **AUGUST 17TH, 2026**, 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 on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. 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 (held on TBD in the probate court of the above-named county, courtroom 100 Court Square, Greenville, GA 30222 **scheduled at a later date.** If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing. **J.D. Rasnick Judge of the Probate Court By: Shannon Neely Clerk of the Probate Court P.O. Box 608 Greenville, GA 30222 706-672-4952 (7,23, 30, 86, 13)**

26-191

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF MERIWETHER COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF ERNEST BOATWRIGHT, DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 10792

PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: ALL HEIRS & INTERESTED PARTIES, KNOWN AND UNKNOWN and to whom it may concern: DONNA FAYE SMITH has petitioned for himself/herself/themselves to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of ABOVE-NAMED 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 17TH , 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 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. **Hon. J.D. Rasnick Judge of the Probate Court By: Shannon Neely Clerk of the Probate Court PO BOX 608 Greenville, GA 30222 706-672-4952 option 2 (7,23, 30, 86, 13)**

SPORTS

The Manchester Star-Mercury/Meriwether Vindicator • Thursday, July 23, 2026 • Page 10-A



Photo By LG Broadcasting

GETTING READY - The Callaway Cavaliers football team hosted Upson-Lee, Sumter County, Marion County and Harris County on Tuesday, July 14 to help in preparation for the upcoming season. Three new coaches have joined the staff including tight end coach Tyler pritchett, safety coach Tristan Dozier and wide receiver coach Roman Jones.

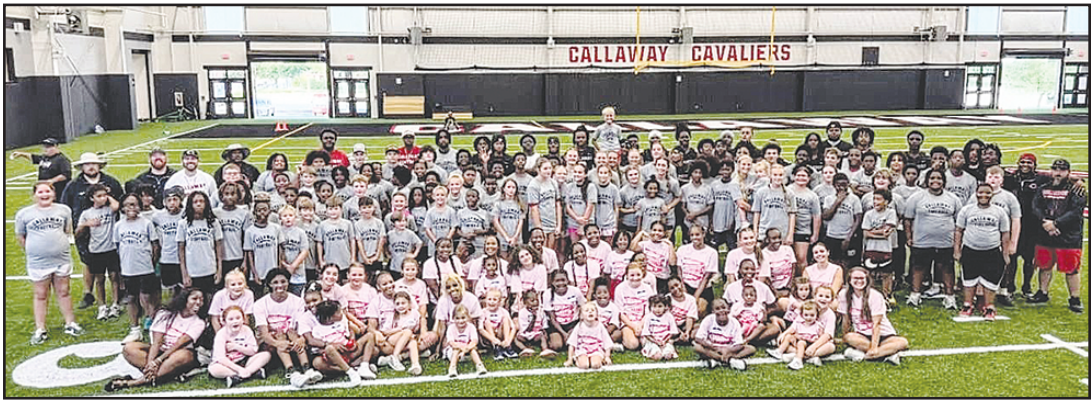


Photo By LG Broadcasting



CAMP AT CALLAWAY - Callaway High held a youth football and cheerleading camp this past Saturday. Participants are shown in the top photograph. In the bottom photograph, Callaway Athletic Director and Head Football Coach Pete Wiggins addresses some of the participants during the camp. The turnout for the camp was tremendous and gave the youth a learning opportunity.



Photo By LG Broadcasting

HARD AT WORK TO RAISE FUNDS - The Manchester High cheerleaders were hard at work this past weekend. The cheerleaders held a car wash at the school to raise funds to support the squad during the upcoming season. Donations were accepted by the squad for washing the vehicles.



Photo By Mary Byers

TAKING TO THE AIR - A member of The Huddle team spikes the volleyball against the Macedonia Baptist Church team during youth action at the Manchester Recreation Department on Tuesday, July 14.



Photos By Mary Byers

HARD AT WORK - In the left photograph, Sadie Roberson of the Macedonia team makes a serve against The Lord team. In the right photograph, The Huddle team goes all in, battling neck-to-neck with the Macedonia team in youth volleyball action at Manchester Parks and Recreation Department on Tuesday, July 14.

Back-To-School Bash Saturday

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

Manchester Parks and Recreation and the Huddle Youth Center is hosting a back-to-school bash on Saturday, July 25 from 11 a.m.

to 1 p.m.

The event will be held at the Manchester Recreation Center located at 121 Perry Street.

There will be plenty of fun and give aways with school

supplies, games, vendors on site, Kona Ice and food trucks.

Come out and support our students and teachers and they get ready to kick off the school year.

Movie on the Lawn Scheduled for August 1

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

The DB2 Foundation will hold a Movie on the Lawn night on Saturday, Aug. 1 at the Manchester Recreation Center.

The movie will begin at

7:30 p.m. Admission is \$2 and you will receive DB2 Foundation wristband.

Elementary and middle school kids must be accompanied by an adult.

Food vendors are welcome to be at the event. If you

are interested please contact the DB2 Foundation.

Be sure to bring your lawn chairs and blankets and the entire family to enjoy a night under the stars.

Parking is free and this is a family-friendly event.

Recreation Summer of Champions Camp Marks 16 Years of Building Memories

Submitted to SMV

Laughter, teamwork, and friendly competition filled the week as Manchester Parks & Recreation and The Huddle Youth Center hosted the 16th annual Summer of Champions Camp July 13-17.

For sixteen years, the camp has provided local youth with an opportunity to stay active, make new friends, and create lasting memories during the summer. This year's campers enjoyed a different theme each day, making every morning something to look forward to.

The week began with Sports Day, where campers participated in a variety of athletic competitions that emphasized teamwork, sportsmanship, and having fun. Field Day followed on Wednesday with campers encouraged to work together while enjoying some healthy competition.

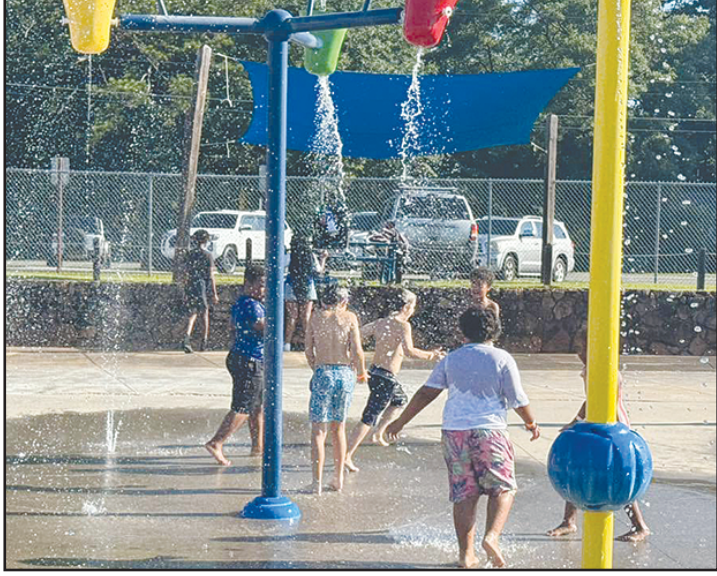
One of the biggest highlights of the week was Color Battle Day, where campers were covered in colorful paint bombs and slime, creating plenty of laughter and unforgettable moments.

Friday's Water Day brought the camp to an exciting close. Campers cooled off at the Manchester splash pad before heading to a giant slip-and-slide. The event was made even more special thanks to the Manchester Fire Department B Shift, who supplied the water to keep everyone cool throughout the festivities.

"We want every child to leave camp with great memories and new friendships," said a Manchester Parks & Recreation staff member. "Watching the campers laugh, encourage one another, and simply enjoy being kids reminds us why this camp has been such an important tradition for the past sixteen years."

The celebration concluded with cake and cupcakes as campers, staff, and volunteers gathered to recognize the camp's 16th anniversary. The sweet treats were the perfect ending to a week filled with smiles, new friendships, and memorable experiences.

The Huddle Youth Center



Submitted Photo

SO MUCH TO ENJOY - Manchester Parks and Recreation and The Huddle Youth Center hosted a summer camp July 13-17. It was a week filled with laughter, teamwork and friend competition.

expressed their appreciation to the volunteers, community partners, parents, Manchester Parks & Recreation and the Manchester Fire Department B Shift for helping make another successful Summer of Champions Camp possible.

As another year comes to a close, the tradition continues to grow, providing area youth with a safe, positive environment where they can learn, play, compete, and build friendships that last well beyond the summer.

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**.

WILSON AUTO & BUILDING SUPPLY

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Talbotton, GA 31827
706-665-8669

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