



Regular season ends
for GHS basketball

◆ SEE SPORTS 1B

Local teen wins children's
book writing contest

◆ SEE 2A



Your hometown newspaper devoted to the progress of Gilmer County

Times Courier

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Olympic speed skater has Ellijay ties

By Mark Millican
Times-Courier

Don VanLandingham of Ellijay is on pins and needles during the current fortnight of the Winter Olympics. His granddaughter, Corinne ‘Corie’ Stoddard, is on skates as a world class short-track speedskater competing on the American team.

It’s a given that the Olympics are intensively competitive as athletes vie to earn a gold, silver or bronze medal. However, with contestants tightly bunched together, short track is risky — Stoddard fell during her first Winter Olympics four years ago and suffered a broken nose.

“A lot of times there are crashes and stuff going on during the racing, so it can be pretty hazardous,” said

VanLandingham, a retired forensic accountant and book author. He told the story of how his daughter Vicki and her husband Paul, helped shepherd Corie along the way. The couple are now in Milano Cortina, Italy, to watch their daughter’s quest for a medal.

“She’s been competing since age 7 in Tacoma, Wash., beginning with in-line skating (also known as rollerblading),” he said. “Tacoma is a real hot spot for that, but when she discovered that it was not an event in the Olympics she decided she would switch to ice when she was about 11. For her senior year in high school, her parents allowed her to transfer to Salt Lake City, Utah, where she was

Skater continued on 2A



TeamUSA.com photo

Corinne Stoddard celebrates qualifying for the Olympics at the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials in short-track speedskating on Dec. 19, 2021, in Salt Lake City, Utah. She is the granddaughter of Don VanLandingham of Ellijay.

Winter wonderland delights youngsters

Gilmer kids experience snow for first time



Photos submitted by Austin Davis

Tate Davis, right, and his father Austin Davis, left, enjoy a snowfall in Gilmer County.

By Jackson Elliott
Reporter

Adults often see only cold, inconvenience, delay and danger when snow falls in the mountains.

But kids can see a world of beauty.

“It’s an amazing experience when they’re that little,” local father Austin Davis said. “You’re leading them on to everything that’s new to them. And they always associate those experiences with their parents.

The snowstorm on Saturday, Jan. 31 was the perfect chance for Austin Davis to introduce his 17-month-old son, Tate Davis, to snow.

This winter was his first time seeing snow.

To celebrate the weather, Austin Davis took his son out to experience it.

Youngster continued on 3A

Habitat for Humanity and students build house at Georgia Capitol

By Jackson Elliott
Times-Courier

Event raises awareness of charity’s work

Somewhere in DeKalb County, Georgia, a family will eventually move into a house built in front of the state capitol building.

But it won’t be in the same location.

This house owes its unusual journey to a special Habitat for Humanity event.

“To be there with all of the other volunteers from across the state is an experience that will be a memory for these students and myself,” Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Anita Hardy said. “That

will never be taken away.”

On Tuesday, Feb. 3, Habitat for Humanity volunteers from chapters across the state joined together to build a house.

The delegation from Gilmer County included Gilmer High School (GHS) students from GHS construction class and audio, video, technology and film class; GHS teachers Robert Ferguson and BJ Chancey; Gilmer County Commissioner, Karleen Ferguson and Habitat for Humanity

President and CEO Donna Lusk.

“I’m thankful to these high school students and their support,” Hardy said.

The construction students worked on building the house, while audio and visual arts students

The building had two purposes. The first was to provide a home for the family who would eventually own it.

The second was to

Habitat continued on 2A



Contributed photos

Habitat for Humanity volunteers and leaders work to build a house in front of the Georgia State Capitol. Shown from left are, front, Gilmer County Commissioner, Karleen Ferguson, Clint Carver, Johnathan Johnson, Alivia Richards, Jesse McElreath, Cole Bolinger, Kyle Gee and Habitat for Humanity Georgia President and CEO Donna Lusk; and, back, Audio, Video, Technology and Film teacher Robert Ferguson and Construction teacher BJ Chancey.

Gilmer charities help the needy in freezing temperatures

By Jackson Elliott
Reporter

Cold can be dangerous for those with nowhere to go

During weeks of icy temperatures, the vulnerable among us need help.

That’s why Gilmer County residents step up to help their neighbors.

“Some people live in areas where it might be tough for them to get off their street because of ice,” Gilmer Community Food Pantry (GCFP) Director Adam Pilkinton said of food pantry visitors.

Cold weather often causes vehicle issues, too.

“There are people whose cars don’t do as well in cold weather,” Pilkinton said. “Sometimes they get stuck at the pantry, and we do the best we can to get them back up and running.”

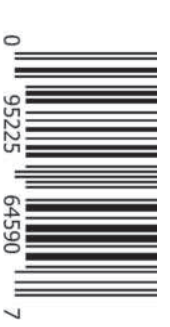
Many food pantry clients have old or used cars that

do poorly in icy weather. One time, Pilkinton met a food pantry client who drove a car from 1974.

For some people, cold temperatures can be a big emergency.

That’s why the Gilmer County Warming Center

Charities continued on 3A



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Gilmer Animal Shelter Pet of the Week

◆ SEE 8A

Local teen wins children’s book writing contest

Author says writing for kids is an “interesting challenge”



17-year-old Lucas Watson, left, receives a \$1,000 check from Craddock Center Executive Director Kirk Cameron, right.

By Jackson Elliott
Times-Courier

Can a crab named Clarence learn to cooperate from a sponge named Saul?

The only way to find out is reading “Clarence the Crab,” the winner of a children’s book writing competition hosted by The Craddock Center said.

“I wanted to challenge myself with something new,” said the book’s writer, Gilmer County 17-year-old Lucas Watson.

For his achievement, Watson received a \$1,000 prize from The Craddock Center, a nonprofit dedicated to giving children educational and cultural programs for children.

“I was blown away by the quality of the graphics,” Craddock Center Executive Director Kirk Cameron said while giving Watson his prize. “It’s a wonderful story about friendship.”

On the surface, writing a 17-page children’s book sounds easy. One simple sentence per page, an engaging plot and illustrations.

As part of his creative process, Watson read old children’s books to understand what kids enjoy in a book. He found that even as a teenager, the old books encouraged him toward exploration and curiosity.

“Children are more curious than you think,” Watson said.

But creating simplicity is a challenging and complex art.

With just 16 pages, every writing choice had to make a good story for kids.

“It forced me to be very purposeful with my words,” he said. “A lot of what I wrote initially, I cut.”

Clarence the Crab’s

writing and illustrations are all Watson’s original work.

The illustrations are all oil pastel paint. As he worked on the book, his skill with painting grew.

“By the end, I felt comfortable with the materials,” he said.

Making the book took Watson two weeks. When it was done, he shared the book with his young cousin.

“She’s kind of shy, so I didn’t really get that many words,” Watson said. “But she seemed to be interested.”

Watson plans to save the prize money for college. He hopes to attend Georgia State University.

Watson hopes to publish the book soon.

“I really enjoyed the process of making it,” Watson said of the book. “I could definitely see myself writing another children’s book.”



Shown from left are Gilmer High School Construction teacher BJ Chancey, Alivia Richards, Clint Carver and Cole Bolinger.

Habitat
Continued from 1A

remind Georgia legislators and leaders of Habitat for Humanity’s work.

“We’re all different from the Atlanta Metro area,” Hardy said of communities across the state. “So to bring that all together into one place for one day is pretty powerful.”

Decisions made by Georgia’s leaders on tax policy, rules, regulations and more can have tremendous impacts on nonprofits like Habitat for Humanity.

“We want to bring awareness to our representatives and senators,” Hardy said. “They impact policies that help keep our homes affordable.”

Habitat for Humanity’s mission is to build affordable



A drone shot shows the Georgia Capitol Building and the house Habitat for Humanity volunteers built.

houses for everyone. In their program, families partner to build a home alongside Habitat for Humanity. Then, the families pay an affordable mortgage on the home.

While at the Capitol, Gilmer students and volunteers met Gilmer County’s state Representative Johnny Chastain, Gov. Brian Kemp and Georgia First Lady Marty Kemp.

“They had the opportunity to meet them, interview them and just chat and have conversations with them,” Hardy said.

Events like this one remind Habitat for Hu-

manity volunteers of their shared mission. Although the volunteers came from across Georgia, they were able to work together to build the house.

“We’re understanding what it means to give of oneself to help another,” Hardy said.

Skater
Continued from 1A

housed in the same facility as the other U.S. Olympic skaters.”

VanLandingham said Corie was “just glad to be there” during her first Olympics in China in 2022, but now “she’s determined she wants to really compete.”

Stoddard is a three-time world medalist in short track speedskating, according to the teamusa.com website. Other sources note she is ranked number two in the world in the sport; several videos of Stoddard giving interviews can be found online. She will be competing in five races at Milano Cortina: the 500-meter, 1,000-meter, 1,500-meter and two relay races — a mixed relay with two-men and two-women teams and an all-women relay.

“The difference between long-track and short-track is that in long-track you race against the clock and in short-track you race against each other,” VanLandingham explained. “In the Olympics there will be quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals, and then finals–A (first- and second-place finishers from the semis) and finals–B (third- and fourth-place finishers).”

The women’s short-track schedule includes several races on the days of Feb. 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20.

Although he’s not traveling to Italy, VanLandingham attended one of Corie’s races in Montreal in 2017, and also the World Cup races in Salt Lake City after the 2022 Olympic Games.

“She’s had a lot of success this year,” he pointed out. “Last year in the fall she was on the podium nine times — four times as the second-place finisher and the rest of those times as the third-place finisher. She did not finish in first place last year, but the year before she finished in first place one time. She races against the very best the world has to offer, and because she was on the podium so many times they now rank her number two in the world. And that’s not just her granddaddy talking — you can look it up on the internet!”

Corie Stoddard will finish her college education — she has two years of college under her belt and wants to one day own her own business — after finishing her racing career.

“I train about four to five hours a day, six days a week,” she responded in an email from Milano Cortina. “We are tapering right now for the games. I’ve had some health struggles that impacted my training, I think that’s what has impacted me the most. I’ve always been a competitive person with a drive to be the best at everything I do, so I think that’s what motivates me during competitions.”

While Paul and Vicki Stoddard are in Italy cheering on Corie, they’ll undoubtedly know Don and his wife, Linda VanLandingham, will also be pulling for her right here in Ellijay.

“I’ve been looking forward to this for four years!” VanLandingham said.

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Photos submitted by Austin Davis

Tate Davis, a 17-month old boy, experiences snow for the first time.

Youngster Continued from 1A

He dressed Tate up in warm snow clothes, and they went outside.

 “He just wanted to run around in it,” he said.

 “I took him outside in the snow and he just wanted to run around in it. It was all fun and games until he fell and he felt the coldness on his hands.”

 Austin Davis remembers his son shaking his hands trying to get the snow off.

 The adventure had its fun parts too. He pulled his son around on a boogie board.

 “That got a smile,” he said.

 Even if Tate Davis doesn’t talk much yet, it was clear he loved the snow adventure with his father.

 “I cherish every moment of it,” Austin Davis said.

Georgia tax cut plan makes first \$100K of a family’s income tax-free

By Mark Niesse

Capitol Beat News Source

Georgians would get an income tax cut — or avoid paying the tax entirely — under a proposal unveiled by Republican Senate leaders.

 The cost would be paid in large part by eliminating or reducing a variety of tax breaks, including for data centers, low-income housing and yachts.

 The plan, revealed Monday, Feb. 9, calls for a dramatic increase in the amount of income exempt from taxation, to \$50,000 for individuals and \$100,000 for married couples. The state’s current standard deduction is \$12,000 for individuals and \$24,000 for couples.

 Meanwhile, Georgia’s state income tax rate would drop from 5.19 percent to 4.99 percent

 “Families in the middle class right now are having a hard time paying for gas, groceries, childcare,” said Senate Appropriations Chairman Blake Tillery, R-Vidalia. “What the Senate’s plan does instead is completely eliminates their income tax

liability for families making less than \$100,000.”

 Families earning more than \$100,000 would save an estimated \$5,000 in income taxes, Tillery said.

 The proposal cleared its first hurdle Monday by passing the Senate Finance Committee.

 The income tax legislation, Senate Bill 476, is lawmakers’ latest attempt to prioritize affordability and cost of living.

 Other bills are seeking to eliminate local property taxes and cap increases in assessed property values by preventing them from rising more quickly than the inflation rate.

 Legislators are targeting a series of tax breaks to raise over \$1 billion to help fund the income tax reduction.

 Those tax breaks currently benefit data centers, businesses headquartered in Georgia affordable housing projects, small businesses in rural areas, life insurance companies, personal protective equipment manufacturers, medical equipment manufacturers, low-emission vehicles, cigarette exporters, boat owners and more.

 Senate Minority Leader Harold Jones II, D-Augusta, said he supports eliminating state income taxes for families making less than \$100,000, but said many Georgians would pay the price if other taxes have to be raised to make up for loss of government funding.

 He said some of the tax breaks that would be reduced, such as the affordable housing credit, would harm residents more than lower income taxes would help.

 “The problem with the bill is very simple: It’s going to create tax hikes. It’s going to create job loss,” Jones said. “This bill decimates the middle class. It really has severe consequences.”

 A government accounting of the legislation’s costs hasn’t yet been completed.

 In addition to SB 476, Tillery also introduced an alternate proposal that focuses on reducing the income tax rate without eliminating tax breaks.

 That measure, Senate Bill 477, would lower the income tax rate to 4.99 percent starting this tax year, followed by reductions to 3.99 percent by 2028. The bill would also increase the standard deduction to \$16,000 for individuals and \$32,000 for married couples.

Charities Continued from 1A

provides people in need a place to stay, co-chair Rachel Tarr said.

 When the snowstorm hit Saturday, Jan. 31, there weren’t many more people than usual at the shelter.

 “We had five regulars, and maybe one or two drop-ins,” she said.

 Some people living in Gilmer lack enough shelter to stay warm in these temperatures. For them, the Gilmer County Warming Center is a necessity.

 When the weather gets bad enough, volunteers make sure everyone at the warming center can have a safe place to stay even if they must remain during the day. The center also provides food.

 “The volunteers who started on Friday night stayed throughout the weekend, Tarr said.

 Sometimes, volunteers at the center buy visitors movie tickets so they can stay somewhere heated during the day.

If anyone needs a warm place to stay, the Gilmer County Warming Center is located at Gilmer County Civic Center, 1561 South Main Street in Ellijay, and opens at 5 p.m. Its entrance is located on the same side of the building as the pickleball courts.

 The center is open any night when temperatures drop below freezing for most of the night,

 Those in need of more information or who want to volunteer can call Tarr at 770-316-4934 or her co-chair Jackie Watson at 404-909-3275.

 The state of Georgia also has a Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

 This federally funded program is administered



Jackson Elliott/Reporter

Nita Wasik, right, and co-chair Jackie Watson prepare the Gilmer County Warming Center for cold temperatures Friday, Feb. 6.

through Georgia Community Action Agencies. It helps pay heating bills for low-income households.

 Seniors and those who are medically homebound are eligible for assistance starting the first workday of December each year.

 Others can apply for assistance through this program starting on the first workday of January.

 Legal immigrants and citizens who earn at or below 60 percent of Georgia’s median income and who have full responsibility for their home’s primary heating source energy bills can apply.

 This program has limited amounts of funding, distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

 Those in need can learn more at dfcs.georgia.gov/services/low-income-home-energy-assistance-program-liheap.

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Our View

Local candidate announcements

Qualifying for the county election starts Monday, March 2. The primary will be held Tuesday, June 16. Election Day for the county offices will be on the same day as the state and federal elections, Tuesday Nov. 3.

County offices up for election this year include Gilmer County commission chair, post 2 commissioner and two school board seats.

At the *Times-Courier*, we welcome our local candidates for office to introduce themselves to the voters through the newspaper with a brief announcement.

Once a candidate for local office has signed up and paid their fee to run for local office, they are eligible to submit a brief announcement to us consisting of a picture and some information.

We ask candidates to wait to submit their announcements until they have qualified because we want them to be committed to running, not just dipping their toe in the water.

The submission should include the candidate's name and the office for which they are running.

Optional information which can be included is introducing their family, education and work history, how long they have been a resident of Gilmer County and a brief statement about why the candidate is seeking the office or, if re-election, possible accomplishments they have made while in office.

We would encourage the candidates to stick to information about themselves. Any attacks or mentions of opponents will be edited from the announcement. They also will be edited for length and grammar.

Also, please remember we are offering this as a public service, it is not a campaign ad.

We do offer campaign ads for the candidates to expound on their accomplishments and achievements for the voters.

Announcements will be printed on a first-come, first-serve basis.

To the candidates, thanks for throwing your hat in the ring to serve the public and good luck.

While we are on the subject, inevitably, during election season, we receive some letters to the editor which seek to use our free speech forum to advertise their support of a candidate.

So there is no confusion, we do not accept letters to the editor which endorse or campaign against a candidate for local, state or federal office.

At the *Times-Courier*, we do accept letters to the editor about issues which affect the people of Gilmer County at the local, state and federal level.

We will make final determinations on any letters only after reading them. We make no commitment to publish any letter sight unseen. As always, letters are subject to editing for good taste, grammar, punctuation and content.

Letters may be emailed to publisher@timescourier.com or mailed or dropped by our office. Please include a name, address and phone number. These will be used for verification purposes.

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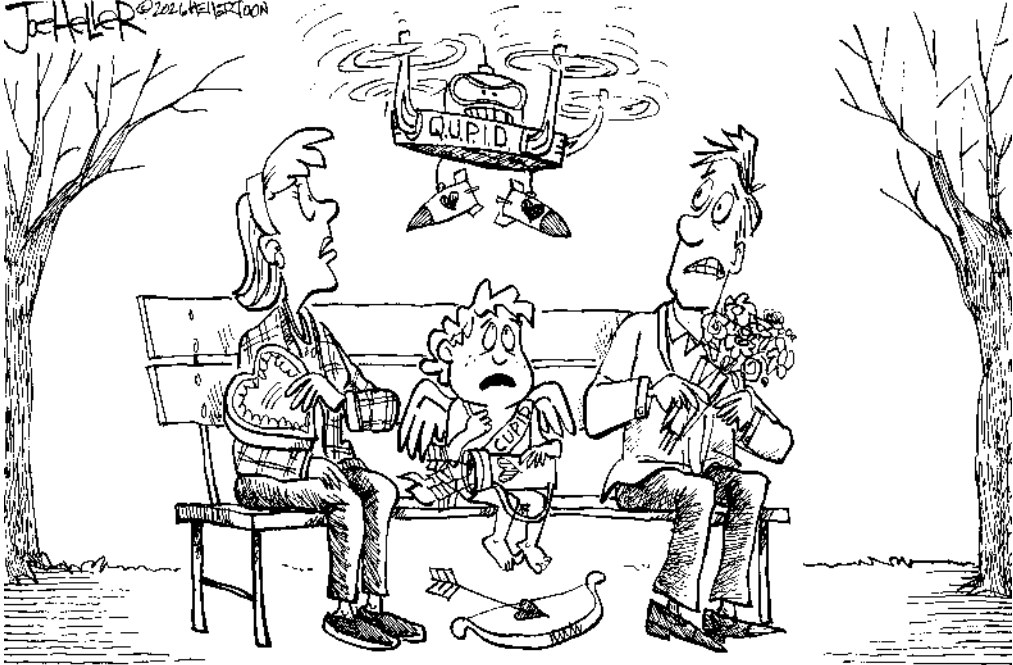
Our Mission: The *Times-Courier* is published with pride for the people of Gilmer and adjoining counties by Community Newspapers Inc., Athens, Ga. We believe that strong newspapers build strong communities. "News-papers get things done!" Our primary goal is to publish distinguished and profitable community-oriented newspapers. This mission will be accomplished through the teamwork of professionals dedicated to truth, integrity, loyalty, quality and hard work.



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Their View

Valentine's Day can be tricky

Valentine's Day is just around the corner, so, guys, what are you going to do for your beloved wife on Feb. 14th?

I have asked myself that question every February for 59 years, so obviously I have experience. I have learned things through trial and error.

In offering advice, though, I will address only married men. The only thing I learned in dating was: "Typing your love letters is not very romantic."

If you're thinking of a gift for Valentine's, keep this in mind:

Most women, I believe — my mother was an exception — do not want something useful, like a new frying pan or a floor polisher (which I admit to giving my wife our first Christmas together).

If you're into poetry and art, you might write your own verse for a lovely card on which you have designed a beautiful red heart and perhaps that half-clothed baby with a bow and arrow at the ready.

If your wife is overemotional, check out scripture in the Song of Solomon. But be careful. For example:

"Your neck is like a tower of ivory/Your eyes like pools in Heshbon/By the gate of Bath-Rabbim/Your nose is like the tower of Lebanon/Looking toward Damascus."

Remember, fellows, old King Solomon had 700 royal wives — not to mention 300 concubines — so if he offended one of them, he still had 699 left. You probably have only one, so think carefully before describing your wife's neck or her nose as resembling a tower of something.

Over the years, I have written numerous poems for my wife: for Valentine's Day, her

birthday, Christmas, Thanksgiving. I probably should write one for Labor Day, because she's still working and earning money.

I always stay away from really mushy poetry, such as: Your eyes are like a shimmering pool/Your lips are like cherries/Your smile makes a young man drool/Your cheeks are like raspberries.

If I wrote those syrupy words with my unsteady hand and presented them to my wife at breakfast, she would throw up in her Cheerios and blueberries. Besides a nice, appreciative poem, a simple "I love you" will suffice after decades of marriage.

Another idea: Your wife might like to go out for dinner for Valentine's. I noticed that 218 Waffle House locations in 22 states will go all out to decorate and enhance the dining experience for couples on Feb. 14th. There may be a participating Waffle House near you. Reservations are required.

I have found, however, that celebrating Valentine's Day is less stressful when I have done little loving things all through the year, such as:

Opening those child-proof caps on my wife's medicine jars; cooking nice suppers (no offense, Waffle House) and then cleaning up; finally replacing that light bulb that burned out during the pandemic; telling her she's beautiful, because she really is (don't wait for Valentine's Day).

I hope I have been helpful, guys. If not, you might buy her flowers or one of those heart-shaped boxes of unrecognizable candy.

Phil Hudgins is a retired senior editor with Community Newspapers Inc., the parent company of the Times-Courier.



PHIL HUDGINS
Community
Newspapers Inc.

Their View

Their first Valentine's Day was 80 years ago

The year 1946 was historic for Marjorie Vines and Dink NeSmith. Some of their memorable milestones were:

- ◆ Post-World War II romantic reunion
- ◆ Married on Feb. 3
- ◆ Wedding dance: Bing Crosby's "I Truly Love You"
- ◆ First Valentine's Day celebration together
- ◆ Dec. 2, an early Christmas present

There are so many stories that "live" within our family, long after the deaths of our parents. Since Valentine's Day is near, I'll pick this one. And the best place to start is at the beginning.

Side by side, the two families lived in Putney, south of Albany in southwest Georgia. Between them, there were nine children and one radio. No one complained about the lack of television, video games, computers or the internet. None of the children imagined such modern-day possibilities any more than a man walking on the moon.

That's why the blended band of Great Depression Era children were in the yard and up a tree playing. The limbs were shaking with laughter until the youngest girl dropped her doll. When its porcelain face shattered on the hard Dougherty dirt, the curly-headed 6-year-old started to boo-hoo.

Scrambling down, eight kids were pelted with drops of tears. All of the playmates vanished except one. An 8-year-old boy helped his grieving neighbor to the ground. Patting her shoulder, he said, "Please don't cry. One day, I will get you a baby doll even prettier than this one."

Before long, the train whistle blew, calling the boy's father to another railroad job on the other side of the state. Seven years slipped by. The little girl's father decided to

take a trip to see their old neighbors, who then lived in Jesup. With his wife and children — packed into their Packard — they were surprised to see an older but familiar face greeting them on the Cherry Street curb. The carhop was startled to see them, too.

When the white-jacketed teenager attached the refreshment tray to the car, he noticed the curly-headed girl wasn't little anymore. Nor was she crying. She was a beautiful young woman with sparkling blue eyes. And she was smiling.

The chance encounter made an impression. Another five years rolled by, and a handsome Army private appeared in Panama City, Fla., where his old Putney neighbors owned a beachside motel. Before he left for the South Pacific, he had to say what he had been

thinking to the girl who once dropped her doll. He looked into her azure eyes and said, "I love you."

The private was the first to correspond from the Philippines, asking, "Why don't you write to a lonely soldier?" A handwritten romance flowed back and forth. By the end of World War II, love letters filled shoe boxes in her parents' home on Ichauway Plantation, where Howell and Essie Vines operated the country store for Robert W. Woodruff, president of the Coca-Cola Company.

As 1945 drew to a close, the young woman was washing dishes and looking out the window when she saw someone kicking up Baker County dust in the lane leading to the store. Closer and closer he came, until she could see it was a soldier.

By the time the corporal got to the edge of the front porch, Margie sailed into Dink's eager arms. And that's where she remained



DINK NESMITH
Community
Newspapers, Inc.

Their View

The snow and ice heroes

Driving along Big Creek Road afforded a grand view of the snow-covered Rich Mountain Range, with only white splotches remaining in the shaded ditches and passing woods. Many local folks believe we "dodged a bullet" with the ice storm of two weekends ago, and with the projected snowfall of the next weekend falling flat. While many were disappointed with the latter — including my wife — it was a sigh of relief for those of us who sometimes have to travel through it on work days.

So when I crossed the Cartecay River bridge — where an old Indian fish trap in a V-shape can still be seen by glancing upstream — my trepidation increased after hopping off the shortcut onto Roy Road. Now the mountains were less majestic but closer, yet still white. In minutes I would be trying to navigate Old Bucktown Road to get to my third property inspection of the day, and my light two-wheel drive Ranger pickup would attempt to ply the snow-and-ice coated two-laner that snakes under the shaded back side of a ridge.

Last year about this time, the snowfall had been heavier and a thick crust of frozen snow blanketed Old Bucktown. Fortunately, I was driving Teresa's heavier Sequoiah SUV, but still crept along without four-wheel drive. When the pavement ran out, I had to hike the rest of the way to Frosty Mountain.

Perhaps no better usage could be made of the Apostle Paul's "pray without ceasing" admonition than driving on an icy backroad with the scant traction of rubber tires, and having no cell phone coverage just adds to the adventure. Out here, you don't call for help — you just walk to the nearest house and ask to use a land-line. My limited knowledge of driving on the white stuff, borne out by experience, is that getting overconfident and increasing speed is the last thing you should do.

Last week, with the temperature climbing above freezing in mid-afternoon, some areas of the road had gotten a bit slushy, and other vehicles had provided a track. Since my inspections had been delayed due to the cold, I wasn't only praying that my tires would stay adhered to the surface, but that the underfooting wouldn't refreeze before I got out.

I drove just past the end of the pavement and saw it was no use to go further since the road began to climb and turn. Backing into the turnout of a field where turkey hunters would love to hang out, I loaded my laptop into a day pack and slung it on over heavy outerwear. The ascending half-mile trek in and inspection would come first, then I'd upload the rain data out of a collection gauge on the walk out.

Around 200 yards from my destination, I heard a motor. It was getting colder, and about the time I was pulling a watch cap down over my baseball hat the Jeep slowed to a stop beside me. "You just out hiking?" the male driver asked. After learning my mission, he offered a lift on the way to his property that was also on the cul-de-sac. He thanked me for what I was doing, and I told him I would be OK getting back out. That was a rosy projection since I had to side walk and slide back down the mountain.

Back on the gravel road, a pickup driver stopped to ask if my truck had broken down. Again I explained, and then his rear wheels began to slide as he tried to move forward. I walked behind and pushed on the tailgate (he probably would have eventually gotten traction anyway), but he waved and said "Thank you, buddy!" as he pulled away.

On the ride back into town, I thought of how people are willing to help each other during the harsh conditions of winter, and especially those who venture into the teeth of the storms, or their aftermath, as part of their jobs. They include first responders of all types, and utility linemen and those who cut out a path for them with chain saws in slippery conditions. I can't think of anything colder than working with your hands up in a bucket with the wind buffeting you and dropping the wind chill to 0 degrees — just so we can have power.

And let's not forget the wrecker-truck drivers who are probably up most of the night during storms, willing to go help people who got caught out (or were advised not to go out, but did anyway). Tell me it's



MARK MILLICAN
Raconteur

First continued on 5A

Heroes continued on 5A

Heroes

Continued from 4A

not risky to purposely slide into a ditch with a tow cable in hand and a multi-ton wrecker idling just above you on an icy road.

We talk of heroes a good bit in our culture and what constitutes one. Next time you

behold the stark beauty of a snow-covered mountain, think of those who go out fast and first when it's the worst. They're not just weekday warriors.

Mark Millican is the retired news editor of the Times-Courier, and author of Wild, But True, Stories of the Outdoors. He can be reached at trail_blazer@ellijay.com.



First

Continued from 4A

for 52 years. (Feb. 3 would have been their 80th anniversary.)

On Dec. 2, 1946 — 23 days before Christmas — there was a knock outside Room 321 in Ritch-Leaphart Hospital on Cherry Street. The door swung open. The visitor was holding a bundle in his arms.

“Margie,” Dink said, “do you remember the time when you dropped your doll and cried? And do you remember I promised you that one day I would get you an even prettier baby doll? Well, here she is — our daughter, Sandy.”

Dink NeSmith is co-owner of Community Newspapers, Inc., publisher of more than two dozen newspapers in Georgia, Florida and North Carolina.

Their View

Here’s to good health and a lot of good food

Okay, it looks like I may live to fight another day. I just got a clean bill of health from my latest checkup at the request of my insurance company. All systems are go. Physically, all the numbers were good. Mentally, I was required to draw a clock with the hands at 10 o’clock and given three words to remember and recite back later. Not exactly Mensa stuff but I aced it. Thank goodness it wasn’t trigonometry, or we might not be having this conversation.

I am grateful to have made it this far and assuming I don’t step in front of a bus or forget to pull the ripcord should I go skydiving, I intend to keep on living to the hilt.

I have walked this earth a long time. My older brother even longer. We agree that we inherited parents with good genes. Both lived into their 80s. There may be other reasons, as well. I would cite clean living as one, but then God might zap me with a bolt of lightning for telling such a whopper and that would shoot my chances of a long life. Of course, my brother could make such a claim and get away with it. God always did like my brother better.

The fact that my ticker is ticking away and my arteries aren’t clogged up with fat is somewhat of a wonder, given my fondness for all foods Southern. It’s the way I grew up. My momma was the quintessential Southern cook, meaning that in our house, lard was one of the basic food groups. She fried everything — steak, pork, chicken, okra, green tomatoes — to a crisp. If it got in the skillet, it was going to get itself fried. Even the cornbread got a dose of lard. Oh, and no need for saltshakers. Momma salted the food as it was frying.

I read somewhere that lard, a polite name for pig fat, is making a culinary comeback and is not considered as unhealthy as it once was thought to be, if used in moderation. Using lard in moderation was not an option in Momma’s kitchen. And somehow, we seem to have survived the experience.

It may be because we always had sweet tea with our supper. (A note to émigrés from above the Mason-You-Know-What Line: In the South, we don’t eat dinner in the evening. We eat supper.) Sweet tea, another

specialty of my mother’s creation. With spoonfuls of tea in a pitcher, filled with boiling water and a tablespoon inside the pitcher to keep it from shattering, Momma would pour in a heaping cup of sugar. What better way to wash down copious amounts of fried chicken, fried okra, fried green tomatoes and cornbread than with sweet tea loaded with lots of refined sugar. No wonder my brother and I enjoy good health. Southern cooking is the secret.

When I began to court the young lady destined to become The Beloved Woman Who Shared My Name, on occasion I would be invited to her house for Sunday dinner. (A note to émigrés from above the Mason-You-Know-What Line: In the South, we eat dinner at lunch.) Her mother was from Scotland and grew up in New Jersey and as much as I would come to love my future mother-in-law and to thank God for allowing me to

marry well above my paygrade, it wasn’t because of the Sunday dinners. To call the meals bland would be kind. Everything was boiled, broiled or baked. I don’t think I ever saw a tub of lard there. I learned that you were expected to season to your own taste and sweet tea wasn’t even an option. A novel concept for this Southern boy.

Truth in advertising requires me to confess that over the years of our marriage I adapted and learned to season my food to my taste and even managed to consume unsweet tea, although I missed Momma’s sweet tea. I still do.

Shakespeare observed that the past is prologue. That phrase has a lot of interpretations. I take it to mean that things can be even better going forward. At least, that’s my intention. It starts with a good health report, garnished with good memories and an appreciation that every day is a gift not to be wasted.

In the meantime, it’s back to work. There are columns to be written and reactions to be received. I can’t do it without you. Here’s to your good health. Salud!

You can reach Dick Yarbrough at dick@dickyarbrough.com; at P.O. Box 725373, Atlanta, Georgia 31139 or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/dickyarb



DICK YARBROUGH
Columnist



Bill capping annual property tax increases advances through Senate

By MARK NIESSE

CAPITOL BEAT NEWS SOURCE

Georgia homeowners’ property values couldn’t rise faster than the inflation rate, putting a brake on annual property tax increases.

This is according to a bill that passed the state Senate on Tuesday, Feb. 3.

Property taxes pay for most local services, including schools.

The property tax cap legislation is moving quickly through the General Assembly this year as lawmakers prioritize affordability and cost of living. Proposals to cut income taxes or reduce property taxes entirely are also pending.

The bill would eliminate a part of state law that allowed school systems and local governments to continue levying taxes on property values that increase more than the inflation rate. Property taxes are based on assessed home values and local tax rates.

About 71 percent of Georgia’s 180 school systems opted out of the cap last year, along with 29 percent of city and county governments. Voters approved the tax limit in 2024.

If the bill is approved, homeowners whose properties rise in value would save

money on their taxes, while local school systems and governments would lose that tax revenue.

“We had seen property taxes being increased on homeowners by double digits,” said state Sen. Chuck Hufstetler, R-Rome, who sponsored Senate Bill 382. “We’ve heard from homeowners who say they can’t afford a massive increase in their own taxes.”

Opponents of the bill said it reduces education funding and falls short of providing real relief to struggling families.

State Sen. Derek Mallow, D-Savannah, said state legislators should raise the minimum wage, eliminate tax breaks for big businesses and help the homeless.

“If we truly wanted to help the least of these among us, we have the power through a budget to appropriate it and do something about it if we were serious about it. Now the question becomes, where does our moral compass actually lie?” Mallow said.

The bill cleared the Senate on a 31-19 vote, with one Democrat, state Sen. Jaha Howard, D-Smyrna, crossing party lines to vote with Republicans in the majority. SB 382 will next be considered by the state House.

Childhood sexual abuse victims couldn’t be silenced under Georgia bill

By MARK NIESSE

CAPITOL BEAT NEWS SOURCE

A bill that would free victims of childhood sexual abuse to speak out after winning court settlements advanced at the Georgia Capitol.

The House Judiciary Committee voted unanimously Monday, Feb. 9, to approve a measure that would prohibit nondisclosure agreements as a condition of settling lawsuits against abusers.

The bill, called Trey’s Law, is named for Trey Carlock, who was sexually abused at a Kanakuk Kamps as a boy in Missouri along with other victims. He settled a lawsuit against Kanakuk, but a nondisclosure agreement prevented him from talking about it.

“There was never justice or true accountability. Nobody was fired or held accountable as a result of this abuse,” Carlock’s sister, Elizabeth Phillips, told representatives Monday. “He died by suicide in 2019 because he wasn’t allowed to have a voice.”

State Rep. Soo Hong, R-Lawrenceville, said Georgia needs to continue being a leader against human trafficking and abuse.

“These NDAs ... force victims to choose between compensation and their voice,” Hong said. “The purpose of this law is to ensure that survivors can speak openly about the abuse they suffered, help expose abusers and negligent institutions, and prevent harmful secrecy in future cases.”

Under House Bill 1187,

any settlement agreements that conceal the details of a claim of childhood sexual abuse would become unenforceable.

Identifying information about victims of childhood sexual abuse would remain confidential.

Four other states have passed versions of Trey’s Law: California, Missouri, Tennessee and Texas.

Gov. Brian Kemp said during his State of the State address last month that Trey’s Law is a priority of First Lady Marty Kemp and the Georgians for Refuge, Action, Compassion, and Education Commission, which was created to combat human trafficking.

The bill could soon advance to a vote in the full state House of Representatives.

Bill that could send librarians to jail debated

By TY TAGAMI

CAPITOL BEAT NEWS SOURCE

Legislation to strip librarians of their criminal immunity from a law that makes it illegal to give “harmful” books and other content to minors is moving quickly through the Georgia General Assembly.

It passed a House committee in a partisan vote Friday, Feb.6.

Conservatives and religious advocates have been pushing for years to revoke the librarian exemption from a 1980s obscenity law that makes it a crime to knowingly give a minor a visual, written or recorded work depicting sex or sexuality in a way that offends the “prevailing standards” of a community.

The Senate legislation that passed one of the state House’s judiciary committees Friday would subject librarians in public libraries, schools and colleges to prosecution for violating that law.

Previously, Senate Bill 74 sought to remove the librarian shield entirely.

But amendments added Friday would only take it from librarians who fail to comply with their library or school board decisions concerning complaints about books and other materials.

“If the librarian follows what the governing board says, then that’s it, the end,” said Rep. Soo Hong, R-Lawrenceville, who based her amendment off wording suggested by a West Georgia library director at a previous hearing.

The bill passed 6-5 along party lines, with Democrats opposed.

Critics have long contended that the move to strip librarians of their legal protection is part of a strategy to scrub libraries of books about sexuality and gender orientation. SB 74 relies on a section of state law that includes sexual conduct as content considered to be harmful to minors. The law’s definition of sexual conduct includes “acts of masturbation, homosexuality, sexual intercourse ...”

Rep. Shea Roberts, D-Atlanta, argued that SB 74, in conjunction with that existing definition, would lead to the banning of books “where two boys are holding hands.”

Rep. Rob Leverett, R-Elberton, disagreed with her interpretation. “It’s talking about

sexual contact, contact involving, you know, our privates,” he said.

Leverett also disagreed with Rep. Esther Panitch, D-Sandy Springs, who predicted that the bill, should it become law, would effectively become a book “ban” by encouraging extreme caution among library boards.

They would become “censorship boards,” she said.

“When the choice is between keeping a challenged book on the shelf or exposing your libraries to prosecution, the book will lose every time,” Panitch said, adding that one arrest and mugshot of a librarian who defended a controversial book would cause every library in the state to remove it.

Giving harmful material to a minor is a misdemeanor of “a high and aggravated nature,” punishable by up to 12 months in jail and a fine of up to \$5,000.

Leverett said the legislation was not a ban because it would only require moving certain books to age-restricted parts of libraries.

“That’s a great difference,” he said. “I would agree with you if we were talking about burning them or taking them out of the library altogether.”

At a prior hearing this week, a member of the public commented against the measure by observing that a book for children had been attacked because it named male and female genitalia.

A Republican lawmaker shot back: “is it the librarian’s responsibility to teach my children what a vagina and a penis is?”

The lawmaker, Rep. Charlice Byrd, R-Woodstock, said a parent should decide when to expose their child to such information.

The next stop for SB 74 will be the House Rules committee, which gets to decide whether to put the measure to a vote by the full House.

The bill has already passed the Senate, in a party-line vote last year, the first year of this biennial session.

Should the House pass it with the new amendments, the Senate would need to agree to the changes before it would move to the governor’s desk.

The main sponsor of the legislation, Sen. Max Burns, R-Sylvania, told the House committee members Friday that he supported their changes.

Dorothy Sharon Totherow Dooley

Dorothy Sharon Totherow Dooley, 85, of Perry, Fla., formerly of Ellijay, passed away peacefully Saturday, Feb. 7, 2026.

She was born June 7, 1940, in Ellijay, to the late Grady Totherow and the late Thelma Holloway Totherow. She was a member of Flat Creek Baptist Church in Ellijay, where her faith was an important part of her life. For more than 30 years, she proudly owned and operated Magic Touch Hair Salon, serving many families and forming friendships that extended far beyond the salon chair. She was a true people person who enjoyed listening, laughing and making others feel welcome.

She was an enthusiastic Georgia Bulldogs football fan and loved cheering on her team each season. She found peace and happiness in the outdoors, especially while fishing and scalloping, planting and tending to her flowers and taking long walks. A world traveler at heart, she embraced new experiences and cherished the memories she made along the way. Her love for life, family and community will be remembered by all who knew her.



In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by husbands, Orman “Straw” Strawbridge and George “Tom” Dooley; son, James “Slugger” Strawbridge; three brothers, Reed Totherow, Ray Totherow and Kenneth Totherow; two sisters, Marlene Hensley and Madelin Henderson; and son-in-law, Kelly Robertson.

She is survived by daughters and son-in-law, Pam Robertson, of Possum Kingdom, Texas, and Debra (David) Dickenson, of Marietta; brother and sister-in-law, Douglas (Josie) Totherow, of Point, Texas; sister, Louise Arthur, of Point, Texas; half brothers, Ike Totherow and Mike Totherow; half sisters, Trudy, Darlene and Carol; daughter-in-law, Beth Strawbridge, of Ellijay; nine grandchildren, James (Jennifer) Worley, Mary

Dickenson, Elisha (Troy) Roberson, Beth Kyle, Leah (Rich) Webster, Chris (Tiffany) Robertson, Justin (Julia) Robertson, Megan O’Neal, and Haley Strawbridge; numerous great-grandchildren; one great-great grandchild; and nieces and nephews also survive.

Funeral service to honor her life will be held Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2026, at 2 p.m. from the chapel of Bernhardt Funeral Home with the Rev. Glenn Arnold officiating. Graveside interment will follow in the Flat Creek Baptist Church Cemetery. The following gentlemen will be serving as pallbearers: Steve Totherow, David Totherow, Thomas Totherow, Troy Roberson, Rich Webster, Jim Hensley and Alan Henderson.

The family will be receiving friends at the funeral home Wednesday, Feb. 11, from 10 a.m. until the service hour of 2 p.m.

The family respectfully asks that no food be brought to the funeral home. Flowers will be accepted or in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society in her memory.

Carole Lynn Hamm Wright

Carole Lynn Hamm Wright, 77, of Ellijay, passed away Saturday, July 26, 2025, at the Oaks of Ellijay.

She was born Aug. 24, 1947, to the late Thomas Haygood Hamm and Kittie Constance Bass Hamm. She was a homemaker and of the Baptist faith. She had a deep love for cooking, cherished her family dearly and found great joy in traveling. She is preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her two sons, Greg Wright, of Talking Rock, and Jeff Wright, of Ellijay; two grandchildren and



their spouses, Austin (Jill) Wright and Daisy (Brandon) Luther; two great-grandchildren, Anniston Wright and River Luther, and a host of

friends at the Oaks of Ellijay and others also survive.

A joint memorial service honoring the lives of Carole Wright and Jeff Wright was held Sunday, Feb. 8, 2026, at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Bernhardt Funeral Home with the Rev. John Reece officiating. A private graveside service followed at Yukon Cemetery.

The family would like to thank the Oaks of Ellijay Assisted Living and Compassus Hospice for their exceptional care of her.

Bernhardt Funeral Home of Ellijay was entrusted with these arrangements.

Jeffrey “Jeff” Franklin Wright

Jeffrey “Jeff” Franklin Wright, 58, of Ellijay, passed away peacefully Sunday, Oct. 19, 2025, at the Oaks of Ellijay.

He was born Oct. 3, 1967, in Gainesville, to Franklin “Frank” Bunyon Wright and the late Carole Hamm Wright.

He was known for his kind heart, inquisitive spirit and unmistakable sense of style. He lived a life filled with compassion, curiosity and grace.

He worked as a salesman for Taylor Construction and was of the Baptist faith. He loved to travel, read and explore new ideas. He had an insatiable curiosity and a lifelong love of learning. He also enjoyed shopping for name-brand clothing — especially Ralph Lauren — and always carried himself with confidence and flair. Deeply committed to giving back, he



volunteered with Faith, Hope and Charity in Ellijay — a cause close to his heart and one he supported with great love and dedication. Above all, he loved his family. They were the center of his world and the greatest joy of his life.

He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him. He is preceded in death by his mother, Carole Wright.

He is survived by father, Frank Wright, of Talking Rock; brother, Greg (Jill)

Wright, of Talking Rock; nephew, Austin (Jill) Wright, of Ellijay; niece, Daisy (Brandon) Luther, of Jasper; great nieces, Anniston Wright and River Luther; and cousins, Whitney Wright, the Rev. John Reece, David Reece and Jennifer Futch.

A joint memorial service honoring the lives of Carole Wright and Jeff Wright was held Sunday, Feb. 8, 2026, at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Bernhardt Funeral Home with the Rev. John Reece officiating. A private graveside service followed at Yukon Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Shepherd Center in his name.

The family would like to extend their appreciation to the Oaks of Ellijay and Compassus Hospice for their exceptional care.

Bernhardt Funeral Home of Ellijay was entrusted with these arrangements.

Idell G. Teasley

Idell G. Teasley, 84, of Ellijay, passed away peacefully Sunday, Feb. 8, 2026.

She was born Feb. 11, 1941, in Gilmer County, to the late Ross Garrett and Kitty Margaret Ray. A devoted member of Northcutt Baptist Church, she found great comfort and fellowship in her faith and church family.

She dedicated many years of service as a certified nursing assistant with North Georgia Medical Center, where she was known for her compassionate spirit and genuine care for others. Above all, she deeply cherished her family and held them close to her heart.

Her kindness, faith and loving nature will be fondly remembered by all who



knew her.

In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, Melvin D. Teasley; son, Lanny Teasley; brothers, Paul Garrett, Robert Garret and Edward Garrett; and sister, Sarah Roper.

She is survived by sons and daughters in-law, Lee (Janet) Teasley and Lance (Rhonda) Teasley; daughter and son in-law, Lynn (Jim)

Bixby; eight grandchildren, Mary Saunders, April Evitts, Shaun Kilgore, Josh Teasley, Brett Teasley, Mackenzie Teasley, Didi Bixby and Brittany Bixby; and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, Feb. 11, at 4 p.m. from the chapel of Bernhardt Funeral Home with the Rev. Emuel Sanford officiating.

Interment will follow in the Northcutt Baptist Church Cemetery. The following gentlemen will be serving as pallbearers, Lee Teasley, Lance Teasley, Dylan Bramlett, Joseph Saunders, O.C. Garcia, Jim Bixby and Allen White.

Bernhardt Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.



Mark Edmund Needham

Mark Edmund Needham, 77, of Ellijay, passed away Sunday, Feb. 1, 2026, at Northside Hospital Cherokee.

He was born Jan. 15, 1949, in Lewiston, Maine, to the late Donald Omar Needham and Flora Needham of Mechanic Falls, Maine.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Catherine Painter Needham, of Ellijay; daughter, Pamela Needham Hatfield (Brandon), of Canton; brothers, Gary Needham and Hank Cook (Kelly), all of Canton; sister, Deborah Needham; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by sister, Linda Cochran and brother, Vernon Needham.

He attended Pickens High School. He earned an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice from Reinhardt College and a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Brenau College, graduating cum laude.

He served in the United States Army from 1966 to



1972. His service included two tours in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division, 1st Brigade, 3rd Battalion, 506th Infantry, Bravo Company, and with the 95th Military Police. He attained the rank of sergeant and was awarded two Purple Hearts.

Following military service, he worked in law enforcement with the Cary Police Department, Cherokee County Sheriff’s Department and Pickens County Sheriff’s Department.

He spent 25 years with the Cobb County Police Department, serving as corporal, detective and internal affairs investigator. During his tenure, he served as president

of Kermit Sanders Lodge 13 (Fraternal Order of Police) and president of the Georgia Auto Theft Intelligence Council. He retired from Cobb County Police in 2006.

After retirement, he worked as an educator with the Cobb County Board of Education. From 2006 to 2016, he taught criminal justice at Sprayberry High School and Harrison High School. He retired from teaching in 2016.

Mausoleum services were held at 2 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 4, at Cherokee Memorial Gardens, Canton, in the chapel with the Rev. Billy Dotson officiating. Military rites were rendered by the U.S. Army, with the entombment following. Pallbearers were Herman Painter, Jerry Painter, Larry Mulkey, Brian Hatfield, Brandon Hatfield and Nathan Painter.

Donations be made to the American Cancer Society.

Bernhardt Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Helen Lorene (Simmons) Sutton

Helen Lorene (Simmons) Sutton, 90, of Ellijay, passed away Saturday, Jan. 31, 2026, at Piedmont Mountainside Hospital.

She was born May 16, 1935, to the late John Henry Simmons and Winifred Nell Reece Simmons. A woman of faith and dedication, she was a longtime member of Pleasant Valley Baptist Church and the Order of the Eastern Star, Ellijay Chapter #340. She retired after many years of service from Panorama Orchards, Ingles and Piggly Wiggly. She is preceded in death by her parents; brother, Johnny Simmons; sister, Mary Sue Davis; daughter, Janice Stokes; and husband, Carl Sutton.

She is survived by her loving children, Cathy Meder and husband, Robert, of Kennesaw, Melissa Mullins, of Talking Rock and Al-



vin Sutton and wife, Pat, of Chatsworth. She also leaves behind her cherished grandchildren: Major General David Sanford and wife, Rhonda, Ali Herring and husband Ryan, Brandice Whitechurch and husband Mark, Daniel Sutton and wife Jenily, Ashley Lackey and husband, Michael, Hope Bridges, and Jonathan Mullins and wife, Alaska. She is also survived by her beloved great-grandchildren: Alexander, Joshua and Justin Sanford, Lily, Luke and Olivia Herring,

Jadon and Caleb Whitechurch, Makai and Mali Scalf, Mason Bridges and Aurora Mullins; and sister, Betty Jo Perry.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, 2026, at Mount Vernon Baptist Church, with the Rev. Bryan Hensley, the Rev. Jamie Kerr and the Rev. Joey Patterson officiating. Makai Scalf, Dewayne Bridges, Mason Bridges, Jadon Whitechurch, Caleb Whitechurch, Curtis Davis, Luke Herring, Adam Teague and Jeremy Sellers served as pallbearers. Eastern Star graveside rites were conducted by the Order of the Eastern Star, Ellijay Chapter #340.

Interment followed in the Mount Vernon Baptist Church Cemetery.

Logan Funeral Home and Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Elizabeth Allen Clark

Elizabeth Allen Clark, 56, of Ellijay, passed away Thursday, Feb. 5, 2026.

She was born June 13, 1969, in Atlanta, to the late Joel Anthony “Tony” Allen and Marian Scroggins Allen. She was a faithful member of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, where her love for the Lord was evident in the way she lived her life — with kindness, humility and grace.

She worked for many years at ETC, where she greatly cherished her co-workers and the encouragement, friendship and support they provided her throughout the years. She valued those relationships deeply and considered her co-workers an extension of her family.

She loved her family with her whole heart and found great joy in spending time with those she loved most. She also had a special place in her heart for animals and was known for her compassion and gentle care toward them.



She was exceptionally intelligent and dedicated to her education, earning a bachelor’s degree in accounting. Her strong work ethic, sharp mind and determination were evident in all she pursued.

Above all, she will be remembered for her faith, her loving heart and her quiet strength. She touched the lives of many and will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Survivors include her loving husband, Jesse Clark, III; sons and daughters in-laws, Roger David Newton (Gilnei Martins), Patrick Gregory Allen Newton (Miranda Newton), Andrew Robert

Newton; daughters and son in-law, Michaela Newton Gooch (Austin Gooch) and Lauren Elizabeth Newton; sister, Michelle Allen; grandchildren, Joel Allen Newton, Brayliegh Sue Newton and Liam James Newton; nieces and spouse, Megan Allen Berl and (James Berl).

Funeral services were held Monday, Feb. 9, at 2 p.m. from the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church with the Rev. Norman Gibbs, III, and the Rev. David Nicholson officiating.

Pallbearers serving the family were Robby Newton, Gilnei Martins, Austin Gooch, Travis Geniti, James Berl and David Gooch. Honorary pallbearers were Joel Allen Newton and Liam James Newton.

Interment followed in the church cemetery.

Donations may be sent to Homeward Bound Pet Rescue in her memory.

Bernhardt Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Marilyn Jane Dover Peloquin

Marilyn Jane Dover Peloquin, 71, of Cleveland, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2026.

She was born April 28, 1954, to the late Carl and Margaret Dover. She worked as a teacher for White County School System for 33 years and loved gardening. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Nelson “Dennis” Peloquin.

Survivors include her son, Nelson Peloquin Jr.; grandson, Nelson Peloquin III; granddaughter, Karah Pelo-



quin; daughter-in-law, Rene O’Brien; sisters-in-law, Kim Thompson and Michelle Fasoli; nephews, Robb Billue and Chris Billue; cousins,

Charlotte Poindexter, Sarah Jo Poindexter, Trudy Adams and Leanne Cochran.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Monday, Feb. 9, 2026, at the chapel of Barrett Funeral Home with Robb Billue officiating. A livestream of the service can be viewed at: <https://youtube.com/live/isc5AbnU-g0?feature=share>

To share a memory or to leave an online condolence for the family, please visit barrettfh.com

Barrett Funeral Home of Cleveland was in charge of the arrangements.

Sue J. Humphrey

Sue J. Humphrey, 90, of Morganton, passed away Thursday, Feb. 5, 2026, surrounded by her family.

She was born July 26, 1935, in Ellijay, to the late Frank W. Jarrett and the late Thelma Ray Jarrett. She worked for many years as an accounting clerk with Georgia Power.

Known in the community as “Mama Sue,” she enjoyed reading to children at the local school and never met a stranger. She loved her family deeply, especially her grandchildren, and could often be found at their sporting events cheering them on. She enjoyed watching the Atlanta Braves and was a member of Morganton Baptist Church.

She was also well-known for telling you exactly how it is, a trait that made people smile, kept everyone honest and was part of what made her so memorable to those who knew her.

Along with her parents, she is preceded in death by



husband, S.G. Humphrey, Jr.; son, Mark Holland Humphrey; siblings, Myrta Ann (Jim) Taylor and Anna Lou (Estus) Wilson; brother-in-law, James Holloway; niece, Mary Taylor Shamock; and nephew, Steve Taylor.

She is survived by children, David (Terry) Humphrey and Lee (Anita) Humphrey; grandchildren, Ryan (Haley) Humphrey, Lindsey (Jack) Roper and Holland Humphrey; great-grandchildren, Noah Humphrey, Eli Humphrey and Gracie Sue Roper; sister, Judy Holloway; and niece, Nancy Kubiak.

Funeral services were

held Monday, Feb. 9, 2026, at 12 p.m. from the chapel of Akins-Cobb in Blue Ridge with William Rodgers officiating. Music was provided by Jeanette Rismiller and Greg Norton.

Interment followed the service in the Northcutt Baptist Church Cemetery with the following gentlemen serving as pallbearers: Ryan Humphrey, Jack Roper, Kyle Panter, Robert Pickelsimer, Jordan Nazerian and Gary Luoma. Serving as honorary escort was: Roger Wiley, Larry Williams, Ray Cobb and Kenny Ainsworth.

Although flowers are a thoughtful tribute, her family wishes donations be made to Georgia Mountains Hospice at <https://georgiamountainshospice.org>

Condolences may be sent to the family online at akin-scobb.com.

Akins-Cobb Funerals and Cremations of Blue Ridge was in charge of arrangements.

Donna Lee Hutchinson

Donna Lee Hutchinson, 79, of Ellijay, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2026.

She was born Dec. 5, 1946, in Jacksonville, Fla., the daughter of the late Joseph Duncan and Larue Bartlett Duncan. She was a devoted registered nurse who took great pride in her work and truly loved caring for others. Nursing was more than a profession to Donna — it was a calling, and she served her patients with compassion, patience and genuine kindness.

She loved the Lord and lived her life guided by faith. Her caring spirit extended beyond her profession, as she



was always willing to help those in need and offer comfort to others. She will be remembered for her gentle heart, selflessness, and unwavering devotion to those she loved. Alongside her late husband, she spent three meaningful years serving at

Christ Church in Jerusalem, an experience that deeply reflected her faith and commitment to service.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, William H. Hutchinson, Jr.

She is survived by daughter, Abigail Paige Hutchinson (Matthew), of Ellijay; sister, Barbara (Lyn) Lopez; sister-in-law, Alice Saunders; as well as several nieces and nephews.

A joint memorial service celebrating the lives of Donna and her husband will be held at a later date.

Bernhardt Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Showing love to local heroes

Between the Super Bowl and Olympics, there have been a lot of people with massive biceps and amazing physical ability staring intently out of my television screen lately. While hearing others talk about watching their athleticism, I have heard the word “hero” tossed about casually.

While I do not deny that the athletes’ feats fall in line with part of Merriam-Webster’s definition of the word — namely the part that reads, “a person admired for achievements” — I do not think their accomplishments fully capture the meaning of the term. Being good at something and subsequently being lauded on television is certainly not the whole story of what makes a hero.

This train of thought made me think about an instance that occurred years ago when I was leading a Bible study for middle



Wander Often, Wonder Always
Whimsey Crouch Sherrill

school girls. During one session, we spent a few minutes at the beginning of the lesson talking about heroes. As an icebreaker, each of the students shared about someone she looked up to who filled that role.

While most mentioned a relative, one girl brought up a popular pop star. When I asked why that was her choice, the girl pointed out that the singer was

“classy” and a good dresser. It was all I could do not to groan outwardly as well as inwardly.

Looking back, I am reminded that her reasoning was not just a line of thought that a young teen would follow. Don’t we all have a tendency to use words like hero and celebrity interchangeably? They are not synonyms, however.

This is not to say that pop stars, athletes and people on the silver screen cannot be heroic, but we must not mistake the pomp surrounding them for the only definition of the word.

Oftentimes, true heroism does not come along with flash and grandeur. Instead, it is found far from the spotlight.

I was reminded of this once while on a road trip in Wyoming. My family’s explorations brought us to a

Heroes continued on 8A

Gilmer County Arrest Report

The following people were booked through the Gilmer County Detention Center by local, state and federal law enforcement officials. Those whose names appear with charges should be presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

Feb. 2
Jonah Andrew Kilpatrick, 21, criminal trespass; disorderly conduct; pedestrian under the influence

Jacinto Reynoso Pascual, 45, endangering a child by driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs; failure to drive within single lane

Gerardo Chavero Ruiz, 40, two counts aggravated

stalking; misdemeanor sexual battery

James Steven Smith, 41, disorderly conduct; misdemeanor driving without a valid license; reckless driving

Feb. 3
Gregory Austin Watson, 36, felony failure to appear for fingerprintable charge

Thomas Adam Woods, 34, neglect to a disabled adult, elder person, resident of long-term care facility

Feb. 4
Eric Michael Bohannon, 39, deposit account fraud (bad checks) out of state bank; felony, third degree forgery; printing, executing, negotiating checks, drafts,

etc. knowing information is incorrect; theft by receiving stolen property

Christopher Pete Meissner, 31, DUI/alcohol; open container in vehicle; speeding

Feb. 5
Steven Craig Meides, 46, aggravated child molestation

Kyna Charisse Richards, 54, felony terroristic threats and acts

Feb. 6
Ricardo Castillo Mendoza, 38, misdemeanor driving without a valid license

Feb. 7
Traci Leigh Hamby, 50, criminal trespass;



Hollyann Rogers.



Gary Wilder.

Gilmer Arts says, ‘thank you’

Gilmer Arts

A bravo for everyone involved with Gilmer Arts.

Saturday evening the Playhouse was host to volunteers (artists, actors, musicians, front of the house help, set builders, board members, etc.), as well as members, sponsors of and donors to the Gilmer Arts and Heritage organization for the annual ‘thank you’ party.

Between sets of music several program leaders spoke briefly about their programs and how much Gilmer Arts supporters mean to us.

HollyAnn Rogers, artistic theater director, introduced the play season, encouraged patrons to get their season tickets at discount and spoke about the volunteers who work with Mike Dunham on the fabulous sets which are now being built.

Ron Bradford, chair of the new technology committee, explained the

challenges and solutions the committee have with their collective experience in lights, sound and digital signage, and the many improvements that have been made to the Playhouse this past year.

He, with Bill Szarowicz, announced the upcoming Murder Mystery Evening coming April 18, and invited those who want to participate in the production to come to a meeting on Feb. 9.

Pam Burns, executive director, spoke to patrons about how much Gilmer Arts impacts the community as an arts center. She mentioned that Savannah Plumley became one of our drama camp participants in 2019, painting details on a set in subsequent years, and has gone on to illustrate two books for Nan Flickinger, a local author.

Gary and Pam also spoke for Jeff Shaw, literary chair who missed due to illness, sharing that the links for the second regional authors’

anthology, which will be launched soon. Pam encouraged patrons to grab their copies of the first edition at the Gilmer Arts gift shop.

President Gary Wilder and Treasurer Randy Simpson spoke of the changing times, the changing sands of the grants world and how Gilmer Arts funds programs into the future. Wilder shared with the audience that he had signed the contract to list the gallery at 207 Dalton St. for sale, as the organization, with ownership of three buildings, has become “asset rich but cash-flow poor.”

This decision came from the board after months of research, digging deep into the finances and assessing what the strategic plans need to look like going into the future.

The evening ended with the drawing for a set of season tickets, won by Nancy Sauls, a great actress, and was followed by “Purple Rain,” the closing song by the band.

KofC Safe Choice Donation



Contributed photo

Grand Knight Gene Fober, of the Ellijay Good Samaritan Catholic Church Knights of Columbus Council #14181, presented a quarterly donation to Safe Choice Pregnancy Center Director Rhenda Booth.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Northwest Georgia Area Agency on Aging will hold a Public Hearing on February 24, 2026. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss waiver requests for the Area Agency on Aging to provide services directly for services within the 15-county Northwest Georgia service area for which no proposals were received.

Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 10:00 am
Northwest Georgia Regional Commission
1 Jackson Hill Drive
Rome, GA 30161

All interested persons are invited to attend. Written comments may be submitted no later than one week prior to the meeting. Send to:

Lynne Reeves, AAA Director
Northwest Georgia Regional Commission
P.O. Box 1798
Rome GA 30162
or via email at lreeves@nwgrc.org

For further information, contact Lynne Reeves, Area Agency on Aging Director, at 706-295-6485.

MEETING NOTICE

JOINT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF GILMER AND PICKENS COUNTIES

The Joint Development Authority of Gilmer and Pickens Counties will hold four regular meetings on the following dates for 2026.

February 18, 2026 at 11 a.m. at Amicalola EMC in Jasper

May 20, 2026 at 11 a.m. at CORE in Ellijay

August 19, 2026 at 11 a.m. at Amicalola EMC in Jasper

November 18, 2026 at 11 a.m. at CORE in Ellijay

Scenic photo of the week



Dewell Sanford sent in this photo of cows in the pasture in the morning mist. Do you have an original scenic color photo of Gilmer County that you would like to have published? Email photo along with name, phone number and photo location to online@timescourier.com.

Heroes

Continued from 7A

tiny town of 222 people on the eastern edge of the state. We were there to visit Fort Laramie National Historic Site, which commemorates a trading center and military outpost that was along the Oregon Trail. We attended an evening program at the site at which the historic buildings were illuminated with lanterns. As part of the event, the park had advertised that there was a special dinner for visitors in the nearby town, which was also called Fort Laramie.

When we walked through the doors of the community center for the meal, however, it was obvious that we were

the only nonlocals present and that it was not a park service organized (or even attended) event. Kids raced back and forth at one end of the gymnasium while at the other adults chatted amiably around a smattering of folding tables. We immediately got the sense that everybody there knew each other, and we were the outsiders. That is not to say though that we were not greeted warmly by smiling faces and our choice of a hearty dinner from crocks of chicken noodle soup and chili. It was a bit surprising though, and we felt a bit out of place.

The park site billed the dinner as an extension of its evening program, but once

we got our food and found a seat, we realized that it was actually a gathering focused on recognizing members of the county’s volunteer fire department for their years of service.

The final fireman to receive a resounding round of applause was marking his 40th year of service. His colleagues talked about how during all those years in which he had consistently been there for his small community he had responded to fires and car accidents, helped people in blizzards, seen rising flood waters, navigated smoky trails and seen things that should never be spoken of again.

As I joined in the standing ovation as the honoree came

forward, I realized that I was glad we came to the dinner after all. I no longer felt like an outsider because I could understand and relate to what was happening.

The man being honored reminded me of so many other people that I have encountered in my life who may be unsung heroes on a large stage but have had a huge impact on their corner of the world. With that in mind, it was a pleasure to join in the celebration of one man’s endurance, patience and “a tiny bit of stubbornness” that had helped him to serve his community for four decades.

There was no jumbotron highlighting his lifetime of service, starstruck fans

fawning around him or commentators heaping on lavish praise, but that did not diminish his steadfast commitment to his community or his willingness to dive into any and every situation to help others in need.

There are quiet heroes like that all across this country and right here in our own town. They are the ones who give selflessly of themselves day in and day out to keep the heartbeat of communities going. You can find them in uniform, behind a school desk, volunteering, organizing donations and offering their neighbors help, shoulders to cry on and a hand up in difficult times.

It can be easy to allow

these local heroes to be overshadowed by those stars that constantly parade across our television and computer screens, but we should not become complacent about recognizing and appreciating their impact on our lives.

This is an appropriate train of thought to consider this week as we celebrate Valentine’s Day. As you let those you care about know how much you admire them, why not spread a little love to the everyday heroes who are all around you as well. Now is a perfect time to let them know how much you appreciate them.

Whitney Sherrill is a freelance writer and can be reached at whitney.sherrill7@gmail.com.

Pet of the Week



Homer and Wilbur are the Gilmer County Animal Shelter pets of the Week. They are a bonded pair of 10-month-old lovebugs who are searching for a ‘forever’ home together. These two have enormous hearts, thrive on attention and are happiest curled up close as cuddly companions. Their adoption fee is \$50 for the pair which includes spay/neuter, vaccines and microchips. To meet Homer and Wilbur, please visit the Gilmer County Animal Shelter at 4152 Highway 52E or call 706-635-2166 to set up an appointment.



Georgia Mountains Hospice

Gilmer County Queen Nominee
Sarah West



I NEED YOUR VOTES!

(\$100.00 equals 100 votes)

Votes must be received Friday February, 13 by 11:59 p.m.

- Mail votes to Georgia Mountains Hospice, 70 Caring Way, Jasper, GA 30143
- Go to the website – <https://mardigrasinthemountains.org> – go to *Gilmer Queen Nominee* to vote.
- Scan QR code, or
- Call Georgia Mountains Hospice office at 706-253-4100 or 800-692-7199.

For questions concerning the event contact Gina Pendley at numbers above or Gpendley200@ellijay.com.



Georgia Mountains Hospice

Gilmer County King Nominee
Todd Gearhart



I NEED YOUR VOTES!

(\$100.00 equals 100 votes)

Votes must be received Friday February, 13 by 11:59 p.m.

- Mail votes to Georgia Mountains Hospice, 70 Caring Way, Jasper, GA 30143
- Go to the website – <https://mardigrasinthemountains.org> – go to *Gilmer King Nominee* to vote.
- Scan QR code, or
- Call Georgia Mountains Hospice office at 706-253-4100 or 800-692-7199.

For questions concerning the event contact Gina Pendley at numbers above or Gpendley200@ellijay.com.

Jones, Callihan, Chancey voted all-state

By Robbie Bills
Times-Courier

Three Gilmer High football players have been recognized for their standout play on the gridiron.

Earning a spot on the Georgia Athletic Coaches Association's all-state north squad are senior lineman offensive Sam Jones, ju-

nior linebacker Douglas Callihan and junior running back Peyton Chancey.

"I'm very excited for our team and for these individuals. It's a great honor for our kids," said head coach Paul Standard. "With the GACA, the all-state team was voted on by the eight region champion coaches in Class 3A. I'm just very happy for our guys."

Jones was a four-year starter on the offen-

sive line for GHS and this marks his second all-state selection in a row. He anchored a line that paved the way for 3,189 rushing yards, 41 touchdowns and 29 points per game.

Callihan is a three-year starter and he also earned all-state honors as a sophomore. The led the Bobcats in total tackles (79) and sacks (5.5). He broke up four passes,

returned an interception for a touchdown, forced a fumble and recovered one. Following the season, he was named the region's co-defensive player of the year.

Three-year starter Chancey was the team's top ground gainer. He played 10 games with a knee injury and ran for 1,065 yards and 22 touchdowns. He had a game-high 209 yards at Fannin to begin the season.

Bobcats win region

By Robbie Bills
Times-Courier

The Gilmer Bobcats are the best wrestling team in the region yet again.

GHS was at Heritage High School last Tuesday for the Region 7-3A traditional tournament and won the event for the 22nd time in 23 seasons. Six individual champions led the way for the Bobcats, who out-paced runner-up Heritage, 226-211.5.

"The kids do exactly what I ask every single time," said head coach Caleb Waddell. "Everything that we have put into place or seen that we need to fix,



132-pound region champion Manny Velasquez

they fix and they don't do it again. They just go to war and are willing to go to war no matter who is on the other side of the line. It is so special to be a part of."

Individual Bobcat champions included Deyson Lopez (106 pounds), Manny Velasquez (132), Adolfo Bautista (144), Braelyn Nelson (150), Dawson Richard

(157) and Denny Ramirez (285).

"They're at an elite level right now and they made everybody know that they're at an elite level," Waddell said.

"They just went out there and they did their job. They're the leaders and they were seeded first for a reason and they made a point. It

was awesome. I don't even have words hardly because everything that we've worked on, they've adjusted. They just go 100 percent effort through every scenario."

Lopez went 2-0 and won in the finals, 12-5. Velasquez posted the same record with wins of 11-0 and 16-1.

Region continued on 10B



Heavyweight region champion Denny Ramirez



106-pound region champion Dyson Lopez



144-pound region champion Adolfo Bautista



150-pound region champion Braelyn Nelson



157-pound region champion Dawson Richard

3 Lady Cats heading to state

By Robbie Bills
Times-Courier

The Gilmer Lady Cats returned from area as the No. 2 wrestling squad.

GHS made its way to the University of North Georgia last Wednesday for the Area 6 traditional tournament. Thirty teams were in attendance, and host Lumpkin County took first over the Cats, 260.6-157.

Abelinda Tercero made it to the finals at 135 pounds with a bye and a major decision. She lost 4-0 to Lumpkin's Nora Garbuzovas for second place.

Erica Velasquez (120, 5-1 record), Juana Tercero (190, 3-1) and Erika Tercero (235, 3-1) were victorious in the



Robbie Bills/Sports Editor
Senior Chelsey Griggs snags a rebound while Mak Taylor and Paula Robertson help defend the post.

Lady Cats drop 2 region games

By Robbie Bills
Times-Courier

The Gilmer Lady Cats found themselves on the losing end of a pair of region basketball games.

GHS was at Heritage (20-4) last Tuesday. The Generals got revenge after the Cats won their first meeting of the season. Gilmer took a three-point lead into the break after a low-scoring first half. The Cats struggled to get shots to fall in the third and never recovered in a 49-37 loss.

Northwest Whitfield (14-8) was in town Friday for senior night. It was an even game through three quarters, but the Bruins built a lead in the fourth and went on to win, 64-51.

"We got out to a strong start. I felt pretty good about our game plan and our energy to start the game, especially defensively," head coach David Dowse said of the Heritage game.

"That third quarter was bad. Chelsey (Griggs) picked up an early foul and had to sit a bit, and then they went on a run,

Lady Cats continued on 11B

Wrestling continued on 11B

Calendar of Events

The deadline to submit items for the Calendar of Events is noon Friday. Items received after that time will run the following week if possible. Calendar items may be subject to editing. Email all calendar items to calendar@timescourier.com.

Feb. 13
UGA Extension Gilmer County is hosting a Master Gardener Extension volunteer training. Those interested will need to pick up and fill out an application by Feb. 13. Training will be on Tuesdays starting April 7 and will continue through May. Visit the Extension office for more information: 28 Southside Church St, Ellijay.

Feb. 14
Faith Hope and Charity will remain open till 4 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 14. Our plan is to remain open on the second Saturday of each month till 4 p.m., allowing our customers that extra shopping time needed on the weekend. Our normal shopping hours are till 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

Feb. 16
The Benton MacKaye Trail Association leads a moderate 6-mile hike from Unicoi State Park Lodge to Helen and return. For more information contact Ralph Collinson, hike leader: rcollinson@bmta.org

Feb.19
There will be a free food distribution Thursday, Feb. 19, 3–5 p.m. at Cross Road Christian Fellowship, 9155 Hwy 52 E, Ellijay.

Feb. 20
The Benton MacKaye Trail Association leads a moderate 4.5-mile hike along Bald River Falls in the

winter. Meet at the Cherokee Skyway Visitor Center. Hike is open to dogs. Dinner in Tellico Plains is available. Hike leaders, Rick and Brenda Harris (and Nahme, our dog). Contact: Email: rharris@BMTA.org.

Feb. 21
Gilmer County Genealogical Society will meet Saturday, Feb. 21, at 2 p.m. in the lower level of the Gilmer County Library. “Potter’s Fields and Poor-houses” will be presented by speaker/presenter Christopher Feldt, veteran, artist, writer, researcher, poet, composer and history buff.

Feb. 24
The Northwest Georgia Area Agency on Aging will hold its quarterly meeting Tuesday, Feb. 24, at the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission conference room located at 1 Jackson Hill Drive, Rome, GA 30161. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. and is open to the public.

Feb. 25
Gilmer County Tax Commissioner’s Office will be closed on Feb. 25, from 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Ongoing events
Hello from the Ellijay Amateur Radio Society, Gilmer County’s ham radio club based in Ellijay. We do many forms of communications including emergency. We also have a lot of fun chatting with folks around the world. We conduct club meetings at the Gilmer County Library on the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Let us introduce you to the world of ham radio. For more information

call Kenny at 681-268-7026 and check us out at w4hhh.org. Hope to see you there!
The Pieceful Mountain Quilt Guild meets each month on the third Thursday at the Blue Ridge Methodist Church, located at 235 Orvin Lance Rd. The meeting begins at 6 p.m., and you can arrive after 5:30 p.m. The church is located behind the Blue Ridge Post Office. Call Jennie Priven 706-781-8495 for more information.

The Ellijay Lions Club is proud to be part of Lions Clubs International—the world’s largest and most active service organization! We’re your friends and neighbors coming together to serve our community, have fun, and make a lasting impact both locally and around the world. Join us at one of our dinner meetings on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 6 p.m. and see what we’re all about!

Kids Ferst, the Gilmer County chapter of Ferst Readers, meets the third Friday of each month at 10 a.m. at the Gilmer County Library. Come join us in our mission to get books into the hands of all children under the age of 5 in Gilmer County.

Apple Country Quilt and Sew group with “show and tell” too, meets the second Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m. at Hope Lutheran Church, 3295 S. Old Hwy, 5, Ellijay. Visitors are welcome.

Tabor House History Museum is closed for the winter and will reopen in mid-March. Private tours are available for groups of six or more. Email us at

Events continued on 3B



Contributed photo

Alex Williams negotiates the Amadahy Trail at Carters Lake.

Mountain Bike Capital news

By Tim Pond

No matter the terrain you ride or the type of bicycle, biking offers many, many benefits.

Health and fitness, in my opinion, are the great secondary benefit ... the first is people.

I have met so many interesting people associated with the sport. Committed parents and coaches of school riders, those who build and maintain the trails, members of the

many official groups and sponsors of cycling in Georgia, and, especially, those who compose the “core” of the local riders of Gilmer County have all amused, inspired and educated me. Among these is my friend Alexandria Williams.

Alex makes her home in the Woodstock/Holly Springs area but grew up in Asheville, N.C. After high school, she attended and graduated from Oglethorpe Univer-

sity where she majored in psychology. Alex is now a successful consultant and executive advisor.

Like myself, who started as a hiker before cycling, Alex began as a trail runner. She and a couple of good friends ran together frequently. They called the trail runs “therapy sessions.” One of the great things about sharing nature with someone is the opportunity to open your-

Bike continued on 9B

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CONVENIENTLY LOCATED

165 Blue Ridge Overlook
Blue Ridge, GA 30513
(706) 946-4647

80 Cinema Drive
Ellijay, GA 30540
(706) 635-6898

Potter’s fields and poorhouses

Gilmer County Genealogical Society

At the next meeting of the Gilmer County Genealogical Society, local historian and researcher Christopher Feldt will share his knowledge of a history many in the community are not aware ... the potter’s fields and what happens to the poor when they die.

The presentation will be held at the Gilmer County Library, lower level, on Saturday, Feb. 21, at 2 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

A potter’s field is a piece of ground reserved as a burying place for friendless paupers, unknown persons and criminals. In many cases, poorhouses were accompanied by these graveyards. Cherokee, Pickens and Gilmer counties were no exception. Due to the tireless pursuits of local history lovers and the invention of Ground Penetrating Radar, many of the unmarked graves have begun to be found. For

example, in 2024 there were 67 unmarked graves found in Ellijay on a land lot that once housed a church in the 1800s.

This is that story. The story of the forgotten. The forgotten in our area, in our state, and across the United States beginning with the colonists.

A description from the *Atlanta Constitution* in 1949 describes a typical occupant of the Fulton County potter’s field graveyard:

“He was just a tired and dirty old man who failed to rouse and move along when patrolmen on the morning watch flashed their lights over the alleyway where he sprawled. His worldly goods consisted of 17 cents, a streetcar token, a crumpled pack of half-smoked cigarettes, and the unwashed clothes on his back. The coroner’s verdict was “acute poisoning — drinking denatured alcohol.”

They never learned his name, although his wizened old body lay in the Grady Hospital morgue

for six days while reluctant undertakers and welfare workers attempted to trace relatives, friends ... anybody who would shoulder the burden of his burial. Because no one came forward, he is lying today with others of his derelict legion — the friendless, the suicides, the unwanted — in Atlanta’s potter’s field. There was no funeral service beforehand. There were neither mourners nor flowers at the graveside.

Christopher Feldt is a published poet, writer, researcher, artist, composer, father, veteran and history buff. He is a regular contributor to the *Pickens Progress* and also chronicles his work on his website northgeorgiahistory.com.

This presentation is sponsored by the Gilmer County Genealogical Society and given during the society’s monthly meeting. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Visit gcgsi.org to learn more about the society and how to join.



Christopher Feldt

Events

Continued from 2B

gilmerhistorymuseum@gmail.com to set up a tour, or to discuss volunteer opportunities.

Ellijay Sit and Knit, Crochet, etc., meets every Thursday at the Gilmer County Library from 4-6 p.m. They welcome all stitchers including cross-stitch, embroidery, quilting, sewing, needlepoint, macrame, anything goes.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Cocaine Anonymous (CA), Narcotics Anonymous (NA), Al-Anon and Rise Above Recovery meetings are held through the week at multiple locations. AA meetings are held Sunday at 11 a.m. at Gilmer Arts (closed discussion), Monday, noon, at Cartecay United Methodist Church; Tuesday, 8 p.m., Covenant Community, Wednesday, 6 p.m. Gilmer Arts (Closed, Book Study), Thursday, at 11 a.m. Covenant Community, Friday, 6 p.m. Gilmer Arts (closed 12 and 12 Study) and Saturday, 8 p.m. Covenant Community. Al-Anon meets Tuesday at 8 p.m. at Covenant Community, CA meets Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Isaiah House and Celebrate Recover meets Friday at 6:45 p.m. at Orchard Church. Last Saturday of the Month is birthday dinner at 7 p.m.

Al-Anon-Cherry Log Heart-to-Heart AFG meets every Thursday, 12:30-1:30 p.m., at Cherry Log Christian Church. In person only. Newcomers, friends and observers welcome. No fees or dues. Details at ga-al-anon.org.

Celebrate Recovery group meetings are held at the Orchard Church every Friday night. Dinner served from 5:45-6:30 p.m. Large group begins at 7 p.m.

Codependents Anonymous, a self-help group offering a 12-step recovery program, meets Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m., at Rivers of Peace, 166 Josh Hall Road, Suite 4, Blue Ridge. All are welcome.

Gilmer County Republican Party meets at 6 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at El Rey Azteca Mexican Restaurant, 177 Highland Xing. Public is welcome. For more information, contact Chairman@gilmer.gop or call 706-663-3832.

Gilmer County Democrats hold our monthly business meetings on the second Monday of each month at the Mountain Light Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellijay at 6:30 p.m. All Democrats and others interested in

preservation of democracy are welcome to attend. For more details, contact us at gilmergadems@gmail.com or leave a voice message at 706-276-4477.

Apple Country Quilt Guild meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, 10:30 a.m., at Hope Lutheran Church. Join us to quilt, for show and tell and friendship. Visitors welcome.

Keep Gilmer Beautiful Advisory Board meetings are typically held at 10 a.m. the fourth Friday of every month. Time and location occasionally changes. See calendar at KeepGilmerBeautiful.org for more details about our meetings and Adopt-a-Road program. We welcome all citizens who are passionate about keeping our community beautiful! For details, contact Susan Green at Gilmer County Public Works, 706-635-4589 or sgreen@gilmercounty-ga.gov.

Gilmer Chamber board meetings are held at 8 a.m. the first Thursday of every month at CORE.

Faith, Hope and Charity is an all-volunteer organization. Through the donations of our community, we return 75 cents out of every dollar sold to our community through grants, financial assistance, college scholarships and more. It is only possible with the help of volunteers! Call 706-669-7251 for details about volunteering.

The Gilmer Community Food Pantry is an all-volunteer organization. Through donations and our volunteers, hundreds of families receive nutritious food, school children receive meals, the senior center receives food and our clients pets receive pet food each month. For details on volunteering, call 706-273-3663. If you need food assistance, we’re open every Wednesday, 9 a.m.-12:45 p.m., at 5273 Highway 52 E. To receive food, one must be a Gilmer resident with photo ID and meet U.S. government income guidelines.

TAG (The Artists Guild at Gilmer Arts) meets every third Monday at 10:30 a.m. At each meeting, there will be a speaker or activity for artists and of interest to artists.

Awake America Prayer Meeting held the fourth Thursday of every month, 11:59 a.m. - 1 p.m., at the Civic Center, 1561 South Main Street.

Cancer Support Group meets at Cherry Log Christian Church the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 2 p.m. Gilmer

County GOP meets the third Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m., at the Gilmer County Library. For more details, join our Facebook page.

A support group for those caring for a loved one suffering with dementia is ongoing at Cherry Log Christian Church. This group is a great way to gather support and find a tribe of folks on a similar journey. Learn from others, share with others and be part of a community that understands what you’re going through. The meeting is on the second Thursday of each month, 2 p.m., at Cherry Log Christian Church, 1149 Cherry Log Street.

Gilmer County Optimist Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month from 12–1 p.m. at the George Link Jr. Gilmer Arts Playhouse. In addition, we host a social after-hours gathering on the third Wednesday of each month. Join us as we lead meaningful projects and events that support local youth. For details: gilmeroptimistclub@gmail.com.

Friends of Harrison Park volunteers meet the second Tuesday of each month, noon, at Harrison Hall. We work to increase awareness and use of Harrison Park and improve the park’s infrastructure. Join us for one hour meetings each month to help us fulfill our mission and enjoy what this wonderful park offers our community. For details: 404-713-5641.

Rotary Club of Gilmer County meets the second

and fourth Mondays of each month at Harrison Hall, 180 S. Dalton Street, Ellijay, with lunch at noon.

Acoustic Blends has free, local music from 6-9 p.m. every third Friday of the month at the Gilmer Arts Playhouse. Come hear our very talented local musicians as they perform. Donations welcome for the benefit of Gilmer Arts. For details, see the Facebook page Acoustic Blends — Gilmer Arts Live Music.

Apple Ridge Woodturners meet the second Thursday of each month, 6 p.m., at the Ellijay Senior Center, 111 N. Gilmer St. For more information contact Keith Rueckert, 706-635-5412.

Kiwanis Club of Gilmer County meets the first and third Thursdays of each month at Double L Restaurant. Lunch at 11:30 a.m. with an interesting speaker to follow at noon. For details: 706-889-6078.

Gilmer Learning Center offers instruction including prep for GED and other tests, and reading skill development. Located at 30 Southside Church Street. Call or text 706-669-6611 or email gilmerlearningcenter@ellijay.com for further information and to make an intake appointment.

Friends of Gilmer Animal Shelter (FOGAS) meet the first Tuesday of every month, 10 a.m., at the Gilmer County Library meeting room, first floor, 268, Calvin Jackson Drive. We encourage everyone to come and join FOGAS members and

participate in our events. For details: Sylvia Harris, 609-442-5557 or 706-273-2005.

Liberty Group Ellijay meets at noon the first Wednesday of each month at Double L Restaurant. All are welcome. We have discussions and speakers concerning our Constitution and how it applies to current events. For details: Jack Smith, 770-378-8068 or jackjoy1151@gmail.com

Captain James Kell Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution meets the third Thursday of the

month, 10 a.m., August-May. For details: kellregistrar@gmail.com.

Nancy Harts Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy meets the second Friday of each month, 1 p.m., September-May. For details, contact bmm@ellijay.com.

North Georgia Duplicated Bridge Club (ACBL), an active bridge club with growing membership meets Wednesdays at noon. We welcome new members of all skill levels. Join us for fun and fellowship. For more information call Richard Byers, 678-570-4875.

Faith Presbyterian Church, located at 1349 Blue Bird Road, Mineral Bluff, is seeking a part-time sexton/custodian responsible for cleaning, maintenance, event support, and security duties to help our church run smoothly and reflect our spirit of service and hospitality. Those interested in applying should e-mail office@faithpresbyterianusa.org or call the church office at 706.374.5912 for a more extensive position description.

This week’s Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10
11				12		13			14		
15						16			17		
	18				19	20			21		
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25	26	27	28	29							
30							31				
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					38	39	40		41	42	
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		45	46								
47	48				49			50	51	52	53
55					56				57		58
59					60				61		
62					63				64		

CLUES ACROSS

1. Breezed through
5. Consumer protection agency
8. Criminal syndicate
11. Moves back from
13. Satisfaction
14. Feel concern or interest
15. Monetary units
16. Congressman (abbr.)
17. Israeli city
18. Restaurants
20. 2,000 lbs.
21. Grandmother
22. North, South and Central
25. In an early way
30. Foes
31. Social networking platform
32. Early term for basketball player
33. Another name for sesame plant
38. Disallow
41. Provide greater detail
43. Inaccessible
45. Evoke emotions
47. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
49. Celtic punk rockers
50. A fencing sword
55. Actor Idris
56. Affirmative (slang)
57. Afflicted in mind or body
59. One point north of northeast
60. Born of
61. Social media hand gesture
62. Hong Kong food stall
__ pai dong
63. Opposite of beginning
64. Email function

CLUES DOWN

1. Sign language
2. Fashionable
3. Borough in Helsinki
4. Inability to hear
5. More quickly
6. An idea accepted as a demonstrable truth
7. Shrewdly
8. Rooney and Kate are two
9. Mediterranean port
12. Midway between south and southeast
14. Town in Galilee
19. Satisfy
23. Mice genus
24. Brass instrument
25. Chest muscle (slang)
26. Transmits genetic information from DNA
27. Records electric currents generated by the brain
28. Woman (French)
29. Short route aircraft
34. Pitching statistic
35. Pointed end of a pen
36. Popular sports league
37. Body part
39. Inoffensive
40. Yellowish cotton cloth
41. Feline
42. Does not tell the truth
44. Seduced
45. Spiritual leader
46. Abba __, Israeli politician
47. Repair
48. Olive genus
51. Swiss river
52. Prejudice
53. C. European river
54. Keep under control
58. Father

Q	N	Ξ	S		Q	N	Ξ		I	V	Q
V	I	B	V	H		Ξ	Ξ	N		N	B
Q	Ξ	Γ	I	V		Ξ	Ξ	Λ	V	B	Γ
	H	Ξ	B	V	S		W	X	Q	B	V
						Ξ	I	V	N	O	Ξ
Ξ	Γ	B	V	Γ		Ξ	Λ	V	N	N	
Λ	Ξ	I	B	V	Γ	Q		N	V	B	
Ξ	N	N	Ξ	B				H	Ξ	Q	V
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B	O	W			Q	Λ	Ξ		Q	Ξ	V

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

- FEB. 8 — Seth Green, Actor (52)
FEB. 9 — Tom Hiddleston, Actor (45)
FEB. 10 — Elizabeth Banks, Actress (52)
FEB. 11 — Khalid, Singer (28)
- FEB. 12 — Josh Brolin, Actor (58)
FEB. 13 — Kelly Hu, Actress (58)
FEB. 14 — Cadel Evans, Athlete (49)

Newspapers

Back in August, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* (AJC) announced that its last print edition was going to be Dec. 31, 2025. Now, only a digital format is available. The late celebrated, yet controversial, editor and publisher of the *Constitution* Ralph McGill must have shifted in his grave when the announcement was made.

It is understandable why the AJC is doing what it is doing. After all, according to the newspaper’s own figures, circulation fell from 94,000 in 2020 to 40,000 in 2025. Nevertheless, the move is sad, especially for us dinosaurs who enjoy spreading out a broadsheet in our hands. Many of you will remember when newspapers were a source of unity for a city, in the AJC’s case a region. It was the place you went to find out what happened the day before, who had died, what the weather was going to be, how the stock market had performed and who was getting married. In addition, there was Ann Landers to solve your marital problems, Emily Post to explain proper etiquette and Billy Graham to help with spiritual problems. More than that, there were comics to make you laugh and think; radio and television logs to keep you from missing your favorite show, classified ads if you needed a job, yardman or car and, of course, the sports pages. In most cases, news stories stuck to the facts. Opinions were reserved



Thoughts for Everyday Living

*The Rev. Victor H. Morgan
St. Luke's Episcopal Church*

for the editorial pages. Editorials found there were thoughtful and influential. They were discussed and at times elicited responses, some not too praiseworthy. For example, it was not uncommon for the aforementioned Ralph McGill, following an editorial urging fair treatment for Atlanta’s black population, to receive hostile anonymous phone calls. In many cases, the person on the line would ask for “Rastus” McGill (Rastus was a name associated with black people at the time). Demonstrating his humor, McGill named his very vocal terrier Rastus. When such a call came in, he would lay the receiver on the floor and let Rastus take over. In decrying the demise of print editions of big-city newspapers, it is worth noting that this is not the first time there has been a sea-surge change in how information is dissimilated. The printing press itself was once new

and revolutionary. It was to 15th century what the internet was to the 20th century. One of the changes it brought about was that ordinary people could now possess their own copy of the Bible, which brought about a change in the religious and social landscape. British historian Aiden Nichols has written: “The bonds of the social covenant in England have been made under God and in light of the Gospel.” What about us today? What should our response be to changing technology and ways? First, it is OK on occasion to wax nostalgic, as I have just been doing, but we mustn’t get stuck in this rut. As Christians in previous centuries took advantage of the mediums available to them, so must we today. Technology and modes of operation may change and will change but our Lord’s command to make disciples of all nations has not changed. “Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace; tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release” remains our watchword as we march into an uncharted future. *LORD, we beseech thee to keep thy household the Church in continual godliness; that through thy protection it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given to serve thee in good works, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Collect for the 22nd Sunday after Trinity, Book of Common Prayer.)*

Gavin, a lifelong friend

From the oven, I pulled out a peach cobbler that bubbled and popped beautifully. Outside, Spring had come calling to resurrect what Winter had lulled to sleep. The trees and shrubs were a lovely green and almost in full growth. I took off my apron and watched two birds flittering outside the window, communicating in their unique way. This was a few years ago, but I remember it all so clearly. I should have been happy and content, but my heart was burdened and the heavy hand of grief squeezed it like a giant vice. It was hard to breathe. And the tears? They had come forth like a rushing waterfall for days then left me so dry that no amount of water would hydrate my mouth. Our good friend, Gavin MacLeod, had died. He, who had an abundance of enthusiastic love for Jesus, America, his friends and family. Gavin was one of several people who put an arm around my shoulders and helped guide me through the world of Hollywood television, which was as unfamiliar to this mountain girl as Paris was to the American boys who helped liberate Paris in World War II. The moment he slung open the door of their condo in Palm Springs, bellowed out a welcome, then gathered me up with his massive arms, I knew I had found a lifelong friend. Tink knew Gavin, of course, from playing Murray on “The Mary Tyler Moore Show.” Whenever possible, the young Tink, who would go with his father



Ronda Rich

and stepmother, Mary, to the Radford lot for the Friday night filming. While it’s rare for a television actor to have more than one hit show in his career, Gavin went on to play Captain Stubing on “The Love Boat” for nine seasons. “I was so blessed,” he thundered whenever recalling the opportunity to be a part of two memorable television series. The sound of the peach cobbler had quieted when the phone next to the stove rang. “I’ll get it,” I hollered up to Tink. “Hello, Ronda?” The timid, soft voice of Patti, Gavin’s wife, tumbled over the thousands of miles from the California desert, to our mountains. We chatted a bit, the lumps in our throats making conversation difficult. Finally, Patti pulled herself together and asked for our address so she could send an invitation to the funeral. Then, she drew up her strength and asked, “It would mean so much to me if John (Tink) would speak at the service. Do you think it’s possible?” “He would LOVE it!” I replied enthusiastically. Tink does not like to be noticed. John Tinker is ‘umble as mountain people say. When

he heard that I had obligated him, he turned white. He protested. He fretted. But, when all was said and done, he was powerfully wonderful. Gavin cried a lot. His heart was so tender that, whether the story was good or sad, he cried. At the funeral, his best friend, Pat Boone, told how they and their wives had gone to see the movie, “Saving Private Ryan.” When the credits rolled, Gavin jumped to his feet, applauding and sobbing like a baby. Once, at lunch in Palm Springs, Tink said, “Tell Gavin and Patti about your Uncle Oscar and Aunt Fairy.” Halfway through the story, Gavin’s shirt was soaked with tears. When he heard the triumphant end, he put his face in his hands, crying harder. How could you not love a man like that? Boone told a remarkable story of Patti’s solid faith. Gavin, some 25 years before, had left Patti. “She firmly believed he would come home. She got down on her knees every day and prayed,” Pat paused dramatically, looking at the audience. “Five years after he left, the door bell rang. When Patti answered the door, there stood Gavin. ‘I’ve come home’.” With complete composure, Patti replied, “Your dinner is waiting.” Since Gavin wasn’t there, I cried for him. *Ronda Rich is the best-selling author of St. Simons Island: A Stella Bankwell Mystery. Visit www.rondarich.com to sign up for her free newsletter.*

The moral center we stand on

Not long ago, a cashier handed me back too much change. It wasn’t a dramatic moment. No one else noticed. I could have slipped the bills into my pocket and walked out without consequence. Most of us know how that moment feels. Something inside pauses. A voice — quiet but firm — asks what kind of person we are when no one is watching. That voice is conscience. And it matters. But it also raises a deeper question: why does it matter? We live in a time when moral language is everywhere. We speak easily about values, justice and compassion. Yet many people feel uncertain about what those words actually require of them — especially when doing the right thing costs something. Cost might mean



Thoughts for Everyday Living

*Rabbi Yonatan Ariel
Hambourger, Chabad of
Rural Georgia*

losing a sale by telling the truth, standing by a neighbor when gossip would be easier, refusing a shortcut at work that everyone else seems to take or keeping your word when breaking it would never be discovered.

Those moments are rarely public. But they are decisive. Conscience is a precious human faculty. It alerts us when something feels wrong and nudges us toward what feels right. But conscience alone is fragile. It can be shaped by habit, dulled by convenience or trained to justify what we already want to do. If feeling strongly were enough to determine right and wrong, then morality would shift with emotion, pressure or circumstance. We see this every day. One person feels justified in cutting corners because “everyone does it.” Another feels morally certain about a position today and equally certain of its opposite a few years later. When moral judgment rests only on feeling, it bends easily to self-interest. What feels right becomes whatever costs the least in the moment. A moral center is some-

thing deeper. It is the conviction that there truly is a way things ought to be — not because we feel it intensely, but because right and wrong are anchored in something steadier than emotion or convenience. They are rooted in memory, in tradition, in truths carried and tested across generations — truths meant to outlast our moods and protect us when pressure rises. In the Torah’s understanding, morality is not a human invention. It flows from a foundational claim: that the world was created by G-d, and that moral truth reflects his will rather than human preference. Because life has a creator, life has inherent dignity. Because creation has purpose, right and wrong are not negotiable. Honesty, restraint, justice and compassion are not cultural fashions; they are obligations woven into the fabric of existence itself. This understanding is not

unique to Judaism. The Torah and the Christian scriptures share this conviction: that goodness is real because it comes from G-d, and that human beings are accountable not only to one another, but to him. Across generations of scripture, morality is presented not as sentiment, but as responsibility. Most people already sense this. Something in us recoils when the vulnerable are exploited, when strength is used to dominate rather than protect, when promises are broken without remorse. That reaction is more than social conditioning. It is a recognition — sometimes faint, sometimes forceful — that goodness is binding, even when it is inconvenient. The Torah teaches that the Jewish people were entrusted with a particular responsibility in this moral landscape: not to own truth, but to preserve and transmit it; not to claim superiority, but to testify that moral

clarity comes from G-d and therefore stands above time, culture and power. This calling was never meant to erase differences between faiths, but to remind the world that morality does not begin with us and does not end with us. A moral center does not suppress individuality. It clarifies it. It shifts the guiding question from, “What do I feel like doing?” to “What is the honest and right thing to do here?” It strengthens conscience by anchoring it to something that does not move when convenience whispers or pressure mounts. You don’t have to have every answer or sign on to every doctrine to begin. The first step is simpler — and more demanding: recognizing that goodness is real, that it comes from G-d and that our choices matter because of that truth. Most of us already feel that pull. The question is whether we are willing to stand by it.

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GILMER COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. SUCV2026000048
VICTOR GENE AYERS, Petitioner,
vs.

ALL AND ONLY THAT PARCEL OF LAND DESIGNATED AS GILMER COUNTY, GEORGIA TAX PARCEL 3052B 030, BEING LOT 1249 OF EAGLE'S MOUNTAIN RESORT SUBDIVISION, AND TAX PARCEL 3067M 045, BEING LOT 730, BEAVER LAKE ESTATES SUBDIVISION, AND TAX PARCEL 3067N 012, BEING LOT 674, BEAVER LAKE ESTATES SUBDIVISION, AND BEING FURTHER DESCRIBED ON THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"

vs. FLINT TIMBER LP, AGSOUTH FARM CREDIT, ACA, and COOSAWATTEE RIVER RESORT ASSOCIATION, INC.

ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CLAIM OR MIGHT CLAIM ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S TITLE IN THE ABOVE REFERENCED PROPERTY, Respondents.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
TO: FLINT TIMBER LP, AGSOUTH FARM CREDIT, ACA, COOSAWATTEE RIVER RESORT ASSOCIATION, INC., AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CLAIM OR MIGHT CLAIM ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S TITLE

You are hereby notified that the above-styled action seeking to establish title to the below-described property against FLINT TIMBER LP, AGSOUTH FARM CREDIT, ACA, COOSAWATTEE RIVER RESORT ASSOCIATION, INC., AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CLAIM OR MIGHT CLAIM ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S TITLE was filed in the Superior Court of Gilmer County, Georgia, Appalachian Judicial Circuit and that by reason of order for service by publication, you are hereby commanded to be and appear at said court within thirty (30) days of the date of the order for service by publication to answer said petition and file pleadings before the Court.

All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3052B 030, lying and being in Land Lots 147 & 148 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 0.74 acre, more or less, being Lot 1249, Unit 21, Eagle's Mountain Resort Subdivision, shown in Plat Book 13, Page 18, described in Deed Book 1234, Page 401, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Fugue Drive.

All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3067M 045, lying and being in Land Lot 138 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot 730, Beaver Lake Estates Subdivision, Phase Four, Unit VII, shown in Plat Book 9, Page 39, described in Deed Book 862, Page 205, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Riverview Drive.

Amy Johnson, Gilmer County Clerk of Superior Court
Prepared by:
P. Andrew Lowman
Attorney for Petitioner
12 North Main Street, Jasper, GA 30143
706-253-7701
Feb 4-25. 898785

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GILMER COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. SUCV2026000027
JON WITSCHY, Petitioner,
vs.

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN THE 11TH DISTRICT, 2ND SECTION OF GILMER COUNTY, GEORGIA AND A PART OF LAND LOTS 147, 148, 177 AND 178 AND DESIGNATED AS LOT 10 OF EAGLE'S MOUNTAIN RESORT UNIT I, AS SHOWN IN PLAT BOOK 11, PAGE 284, BEING FURTHER DESCRIBED ON THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"

LEGAL NOTICES

HERS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF BEVERLY J. PANGLE, A/K/A BEVERLY JOAN LIVELY, ARTHUR S. PANGLE, A/K/A ARTHUR STEPHEN PANGLE, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF ARTHUR STEPHEN PANGLE, JOEY PANGLE, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF JOEY PANGLE, CHRISTINA LIVELY, JUSTIN LIVELY, VIRGINIA PANGLE, and ARTHUR JOSE PANGLE

vs. ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CLAIM OR MIGHT CLAIM ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S TITLE IN THE ABOVE REFERENCED PROPERTY, Respondents.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
TO: BEVERLY J. PANGLE, A/K/A BEVERLY JOAN LIVELY, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF BEVERLY J. PANGLE, A/K/A BEVERLY JOAN LIVELY, ARTHUR S. PANGLE, A/K/A ARTHUR STEPHEN PANGLE, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF ARTHUR STEPHEN PANGLE, JOEY PANGLE, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF JOEY PANGLE, CHRISTINA LIVELY, JUSTIN LIVELY, VIRGINIA PANGLE, ARTHUR JOSE PANGLE, AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CLAIM OR MIGHT CLAIM ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S TITLE

You are hereby notified that the above styled action seeking to establish title to the below described property against BEVERLY J. PANGLE, A/K/A BEVERLY JOAN LIVELY, ARTHUR S. PANGLE, A/K/A ARTHUR STEPHEN PANGLE, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF ARTHUR STEPHEN PANGLE, JOEY PANGLE, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF JOEY PANGLE, CHRISTINA LIVELY, JUSTIN LIVELY, VIRGINIA PANGLE, ARTHUR JOSE PANGLE, AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CLAIM OR MIGHT CLAIM ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S TITLE was filed in the Superior Court of Gilmer County, Georgia, Appalachian Judicial Circuit, and that by reason of order for service by publication you are hereby commanded to be and appear at said court within thirty (30) days of the date of the order for service by publication to answer said petition and file pleadings before the Court.

All that tract or parcel of land lying in the 11th District, 2nd Section of Gilmer County, Georgia and a part of Land Lots 147, 148, 177 and 178 and designated as Lot 10 of Eagle's Mountain Resort Unit I, as shown on survey of Burns L. Jeffries, RLS #2036, dated March 30, 1984 and recorded in Plat Book 11, Page 284, Gilmer County Records to which reference is hereby made for a more complete metes and bounds description as provided by Section 44-2-28 Official Code of Ga. Ann. (29-423 Ga. Code Ann.).

Amy Johnson, Gilmer County Clerk of Superior Court
Prepared by:
P. Andrew Lowman
Attorney for Petitioner
12 North Main Street, Jasper, GA 30143
706-253-7701
Feb 4-25. 898777

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GILMER COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. SUCV2026000037
SHELIA MARIE ORTON, Plaintiff,
vs.

JIMMY SCOTT ORTON, Defendant.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
TO: JIMMY SCOTT ORTON

You are hereby notified that a COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE was filed against you in the Superior Court of Gilmer County, Georgia, Appalachian Judicial Circuit, and that by reason of order for service by publication you are hereby commanded to be and appear at said court within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for service by publication to answer said Complaint and file pleadings before the Court.

Amy Johnson, Clerk, Superior Court of Gilmer County
Prepared by:
P. Andrew Lowman
Attorney for Petitioner
12 North Main Street, Jasper, GA 30143
706-253-7701
Feb 4-25. 898779

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GILMER COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. SUCV2026000037
SHELIA MARIE ORTON, Plaintiff,
vs.

JIMMY SCOTT ORTON, Defendant.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
TO: JIMMY SCOTT ORTON

You are hereby notified that a COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE was filed against you in the Superior Court of Gilmer County, Georgia, Appalachian Judicial Circuit, and that by reason of order for service by publication you are hereby commanded to be and appear at said court within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for service by publication to answer said Complaint and file pleadings before the Court.

Amy Johnson, Clerk, Superior Court of Gilmer County
Prepared by:
P. Andrew Lowman
Attorney for Petitioner
12 North Main Street, Jasper, GA 30143
706-253-7701
Feb 4-25. 898779

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GILMER COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. SUCV2026000043
AYLLU, LLC, Petitioner,
vs.

ALL AND ONLY THAT PARCEL OF LAND DESIGNATED AS TAX PARCEL 3051U 046, LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOTS 69, 70, 76 & 77 OF THE 11TH LAND DISTRICT, 2ND SECTION, GILMER COUNTY, GEORGIA, CONTAINING 1.06 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, BEING LOT 3746, UNIT 102, EAGLE MOUNTAIN RESORT SUBDIVISION, SHOWN IN PLAT BOOK 17, PAGE 224-C, DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 2171, PAGE 335, BEING FURTHER DESCRIBED ON THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A", LOCATED ON FALCON DRIVE

vs. BRIDGETTE HUNTER, DAVIS V. ENTREKIN, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF DAVIS V. ENTREKIN, LORETTA S. ENTREKIN, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF LORETTA S. ENTREKIN, PAMELA L. ENTREKIN MAYNARD, and COOSAWATTEE RIVER RESORT ASSOCIATION, INC.

vs. ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CLAIM OR MIGHT CLAIM ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S TITLE IN THE ABOVE REFERENCED PROPERTY, Respondents.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
TO: BRIDGETTE HUNTER, DAVIS V. ENTREKIN, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF DAVIS V. ENTREKIN, LORETTA S. ENTREKIN, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF LORETTA S. ENTREKIN, PAMELA L. ENTREKIN MAYNARD, COOSAWATTEE RIVER RESORT ASSOCIATION, INC., AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CLAIM OR MIGHT CLAIM ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S TITLE

You are hereby notified that the above styled action seeking to establish title to the below described property against BRIDGETTE HUNTER, DAVIS V. ENTREKIN, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF DAVIS V. ENTREKIN, LORETTA S. ENTREKIN, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF LORETTA S. ENTREKIN, PAMELA L. ENTREKIN MAYNARD, COOSAWATTEE RIVER RESORT ASSOCIATION, INC., AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CLAIM OR MIGHT CLAIM ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S TITLE was filed in the Superior Court of Gilmer County, Georgia, Appalachian Judicial Circuit, and that by reason of order for service by publication you are hereby commanded to be and appear at said court within thirty (30) days of the date of the order for service by publication to answer said petition and file pleadings before the Court.

All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3051U 046, lying and being in Land Lots 69, 70, 76 & 77 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 1.06 acres, more or less, being Lot 3746, Unit 102, Eagle Mountain Resort Subdivision, shown in Plat Book 17, Page 224-C, described in Deed Book 2171, Page 335, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Falcon Drive.

Amy E. Johnson, Gilmer County Clerk of Superior Court
Prepared by:
P. Andrew Lowman
Attorney for Petitioner
12 North Main Street, Jasper, GA 30143
706-253-7701
Feb 4-25. 898781

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GILMER COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. SUCV2026000045
JAMES ROBERT WORLEY, JR., Petitioner,
vs.

ALL AND ONLY THAT PARCEL OF LAND DESIGNATED AS TAX PARCEL 3021 078, LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOTS 283 & 284 OF THE 25TH LAND DISTRICT, 2ND SECTION, GILMER COUNTY, GEORGIA, CONTAINING 4.74 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, BEING TRACTS 1 & 2, SHOWN IN PLAT BOOK 23, PAGE 19, DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 368, PAGE 346, BEING FURTHER DESCRIBED ON THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A". KNOWN AS S. AUDREY DRIVE

vs. DESSIE P. DOTSON, A/K/A DESSIE MAE PANKEY DOTSON, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF DESSIE MAE PANKEY DOTSON, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF DESSIE MAE PANKEY DOTSON, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF SARAH RIDDLE DOTSON, JAMES MARK DOTSON, SUSAN PUCKETT, DIANNE FRAZIER, HERBS AND ASSIGNS OF ROBERT L. DOTSON, SR., THE ESTATE OF ROBERT L. DOTSON, SR., HERBS AND ASSIGNS OF DAVID DOTSON, THE ESTATE OF DAVID DOTSON, HERBS AND ASSIGNS OF RAYMOND DOTSON, THE ESTATE OF RAYMOND DOTSON, VIOLET NANCY DOTSON PARHAM, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF VIOLET NANCY DOTSON PARHAM, CARL SHAMUEL PARHAM, JERRY EDWARDS, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF JERRY EDWARDS, OZELL WATKINS DOTSON MOSS, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF OZELL WATKINS DOTSON MOSS, JUDY A. WILKISON, WILLIAM MICHAEL WATKINS, JANICE RUTH MULLINS, VIRGINIA SUE BECKHAM, KENNETH RAY WATKINS, SR., HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF KENNETH RAY WATKINS, SR., KENNETH RAY WATKINS, JR., KELLI WATKINS LEATH, BRANDON WATKINS, TYLER LESTER WATKINS, LUCILLE THOMAS, WAYMOND G. DOTSON, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF WAYMOND G. DOTSON, JANE KELLEY DOTSON, DANIEL WADE DOTSON, JEREMY W. DOTSON, MELISSA GAINES, KELLY DOTSON PEPPERS, GLENN DOTSON, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF GLENN DOTSON, ANGELA JOHNSON, ALICE M. GARY, AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CLAIM OR MIGHT CLAIM ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S TITLE was filed in the Superior Court of Gilmer County, Georgia, Appalachian Judicial Circuit, and that by reason of order for service by publication you are hereby commanded to be and appear at said court within thirty (30) days of the date of the order for service by publication to answer said petition and file pleadings before the Court.

All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3051U 046, lying and being in Land Lots 69, 70, 76 & 77 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 1.06 acres, more or less, being Lot 3746, Unit 102, Eagle Mountain Resort Subdivision, shown in Plat Book 17, Page 224-C, described in Deed Book 2171, Page 335, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Falcon Drive.

Amy E. Johnson, Gilmer County Clerk of Superior Court
Prepared by:
P. Andrew Lowman
Attorney for Petitioner
12 North Main Street, Jasper, GA 30143
706-253-7701
Feb 4-25. 898781

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GILMER COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. SUCV2026000045
JAMES ROBERT WORLEY, JR., Petitioner,
vs.

ALL AND ONLY THAT PARCEL OF LAND DESIGNATED AS TAX PARCEL 3021 078, LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOTS 283 & 284 OF THE 25TH LAND DISTRICT, 2ND SECTION, GILMER COUNTY, GEORGIA, CONTAINING 4.74 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, BEING TRACTS 1 & 2, SHOWN IN PLAT BOOK 23, PAGE 19, DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 368, PAGE 346, BEING FURTHER DESCRIBED ON THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A". KNOWN AS S. AUDREY DRIVE

vs. DESSIE P. DOTSON, A/K/A DESSIE MAE PANKEY DOTSON, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF DESSIE MAE PANKEY DOTSON, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF DESSIE MAE PANKEY DOTSON, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF SARAH RIDDLE DOTSON, JAMES MARK DOTSON, SUSAN PUCKETT, DIANNE FRAZIER, HERBS AND ASSIGNS OF ROBERT L. DOTSON, SR., THE ESTATE OF ROBERT L. DOTSON, SR., HERBS AND ASSIGNS OF DAVID DOTSON, THE ESTATE OF DAVID DOTSON, HERBS AND ASSIGNS OF RAYMOND DOTSON, THE ESTATE OF RAYMOND DOTSON, VIOLET NANCY DOTSON PARHAM, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF VIOLET NANCY DOTSON PARHAM, CARL SHAMUEL PARHAM, JERRY EDWARDS, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF JERRY EDWARDS, OZELL WATKINS DOTSON MOSS, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF OZELL WATKINS DOTSON MOSS, JUDY A. WILKISON, WILLIAM MICHAEL WATKINS, JANICE RUTH MULLINS, VIRGINIA SUE BECKHAM, KENNETH RAY WATKINS, SR., HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF KENNETH RAY WATKINS, SR., KENNETH RAY WATKINS, JR., KELLI WATKINS LEATH, BRANDON WATKINS, TYLER LESTER WATKINS, LUCILLE THOMAS, WAYMOND G. DOTSON, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF WAYMOND G. DOTSON, JANE KELLEY DOTSON, DANIEL WADE DOTSON, JEREMY W. DOTSON, MELISSA GAINES, KELLY DOTSON PEPPERS, GLENN DOTSON, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF GLENN DOTSON, ANGELA JOHNSON, and ALICE M. GARY

vs. ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CLAIM OR MIGHT CLAIM ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S TITLE IN THE ABOVE REFERENCED PROPERTY, Respondents.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
TO: BRIDGETTE HUNTER, DAVIS V. ENTREKIN, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF DAVIS V. ENTREKIN, LORETTA S. ENTREKIN, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF LORETTA S. ENTREKIN, PAMELA L. ENTREKIN MAYNARD, COOSAWATTEE RIVER RESORT ASSOCIATION, INC., AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CLAIM OR MIGHT CLAIM ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S TITLE

You are hereby notified that the above styled action seeking to establish title to the below described property against BRIDGETTE HUNTER, DAVIS V. ENTREKIN, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF DAVIS V. ENTREKIN, LORETTA S. ENTREKIN, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF LORETTA S. ENTREKIN, PAMELA L. ENTREKIN MAYNARD, COOSAWATTEE RIVER RESORT ASSOCIATION, INC., AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CLAIM OR MIGHT CLAIM ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S TITLE was filed in the Superior Court of Gilmer County, Georgia, Appalachian Judicial Circuit, and that by reason of order for service by publication you are hereby commanded to be and appear at said court within thirty (30) days of the date of the order for service by publication to answer said petition and file pleadings before the Court.

All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3051U 046, lying and being in Land Lots 69, 70, 76 & 77 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 1.06 acres, more or less, being Lot 3746, Unit 102, Eagle Mountain Resort Subdivision, shown in Plat Book 17, Page 224-C, described in Deed Book 2171, Page 335, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Falcon Drive.

Amy E. Johnson, Gilmer County Clerk of Superior Court
Prepared by:
P. Andrew Lowman
Attorney for Petitioner
12 North Main Street, Jasper, GA 30143
706-253-7701
Feb 4-25. 898781

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GILMER COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. SUCV2026000045
JAMES ROBERT WORLEY, JR., Petitioner,
vs.

ALL AND ONLY THAT PARCEL OF LAND DESIGNATED AS TAX PARCEL 3021 078, LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOTS 283 & 284 OF THE 25TH LAND DISTRICT, 2ND SECTION, GILMER COUNTY, GEORGIA, CONTAINING 4.74 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, BEING TRACTS 1 & 2, SHOWN IN PLAT BOOK 23, PAGE 19, DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 368, PAGE 346, BEING FURTHER DESCRIBED ON THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A". KNOWN AS S. AUDREY DRIVE

vs. DESSIE P. DOTSON, A/K/A DESSIE MAE PANKEY DOTSON, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF DESSIE MAE PANKEY DOTSON, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF DESSIE MAE PANKEY DOTSON, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF SARAH RIDDLE DOTSON, JAMES MARK DOTSON, SUSAN PUCKETT, DIANNE FRAZIER, HERBS AND ASSIGNS OF ROBERT L. DOTSON, SR., THE ESTATE OF ROBERT L. DOTSON, SR., HERBS AND ASSIGNS OF DAVID DOTSON, THE ESTATE OF DAVID DOTSON, HERBS AND ASSIGNS OF RAYMOND DOTSON, THE ESTATE OF RAYMOND DOTSON, VIOLET NANCY DOTSON PARHAM, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF VIOLET NANCY DOTSON PARHAM, CARL SHAMUEL PARHAM, JERRY EDWARDS, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF JERRY EDWARDS, OZELL WATKINS DOTSON MOSS, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF OZELL WATKINS DOTSON MOSS, JUDY A. WILKISON, WILLIAM MICHAEL WATKINS, JANICE RUTH MULLINS, VIRGINIA SUE BECKHAM, KENNETH RAY WATKINS, SR., HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF KENNETH RAY WATKINS, SR., KENNETH RAY WATKINS, JR., KELLI WATKINS LEATH, BRANDON WATKINS, TYLER LESTER WATKINS, LUCILLE THOMAS, WAYMOND G. DOTSON, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF WAYMOND G. DOTSON, JANE KELLEY DOTSON, DANIEL WADE DOTSON, JEREMY W. DOTSON, MELISSA GAINES, KELLY DOTSON PEPPERS, GLENN DOTSON, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF GLENN DOTSON, ANGELA JOHNSON, and ALICE M. GARY

vs. ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CLAIM OR MIGHT CLAIM ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S TITLE IN THE ABOVE REFERENCED PROPERTY, Respondents.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
TO: BRIDGETTE HUNTER, DAVIS V. ENTREKIN, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF DAVIS V. ENTREKIN, LORETTA S. ENTREKIN, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF LORETTA S. ENTREKIN, PAMELA L. ENTREKIN MAYNARD, COOSAWATTEE RIVER RESORT ASSOCIATION, INC., AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CLAIM OR MIGHT CLAIM ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S TITLE

You are hereby notified that the above styled action seeking to establish title to the below described property against BRIDGETTE HUNTER, DAVIS V. ENTREKIN, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF DAVIS V. ENTREKIN, LORETTA S. ENTREKIN, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF LORETTA S. ENTREKIN, PAMELA L. ENTREKIN MAYNARD, COOSAWATTEE RIVER RESORT ASSOCIATION, INC., AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CLAIM OR MIGHT CLAIM ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S TITLE was filed in the Superior Court of Gilmer County, Georgia, Appalachian Judicial Circuit, and that by reason of order for service by publication you are hereby commanded to be and appear at said court within thirty (30) days of the date of the order for service by publication to answer said petition and file pleadings before the Court.

All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3051U 046, lying and being in Land Lots 69, 70, 76 & 77 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 1.06 acres, more or less, being Lot 3746, Unit 102, Eagle Mountain Resort Subdivision, shown in Plat Book 17, Page 224-C, described in Deed Book 2171, Page 335, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Falcon Drive.

Amy E. Johnson, Gilmer County Clerk of Superior Court
Prepared by:
P. Andrew Lowman
Attorney for Petitioner
12 North Main Street, Jasper, GA 30143
706-253-7701
Feb 4-25. 898781

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GILMER COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. SUCV2026000027
JON WITSCHY, Petitioner,
vs.

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN THE 11TH DISTRICT, 2ND SECTION OF GILMER COUNTY, GEORGIA AND A PART OF LAND LOTS 147, 148, 177 AND 178 AND DESIGNATED AS LOT 10 OF EAGLE'S MOUNTAIN RESORT UNIT I, AS SHOWN IN PLAT BOOK 11, PAGE 284, BEING FURTHER DESCRIBED ON THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"

LEGAL NOTICES

ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CLAIM OR MIGHT CLAIM ADVERSELY TO PETITIONER'S TITLE IN THE ABOVE REFERENCED PROPERTY, Respondents.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
TO: DESSIE P. DOTSON, A/K/A DESSIE MAE PANKEY DOTSON, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF DESSIE MAE PANKEY DOTSON, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF DESSIE MAE PANKEY DOTSON, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF SARAH RIDDLE DOTSON, JAMES MARK DOTSON, SUSAN PUCKETT, DIANNE FRAZIER, HERBS AND ASSIGNS OF ROBERT L. DOTSON, SR., THE ESTATE OF ROBERT L. DOTSON, SR., HERBS AND ASSIGNS OF DAVID DOTSON, THE ESTATE OF DAVID DOTSON, HERBS AND ASSIGNS OF RAYMOND DOTSON, THE ESTATE OF RAYMOND DOTSON, VIOLET NANCY DOTSON PARHAM, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF VIOLET NANCY DOTSON PARHAM, CARL SHAMUEL PARHAM, JERRY EDWARDS, HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF JERRY EDWARDS, OZELL WATKINS DOTSON MOSS, HER HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF OZELL WATKINS DOTSON MOSS, JUDY A. WILKISON, WILLIAM MICHAEL WATKINS, JANICE RUTH MULLINS, VIRGINIA SUE BECKHAM, KENNETH RAY WATKINS, SR., HIS HERBS AND ASSIGNS, THE ESTATE OF KENNETH RAY WATKINS, SR., KENNETH RAY WATKINS, JR., KELLI WATKINS LEATH, BRANDON

GILMER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION /
GILMER COUNTY BOARD of LAND USE APPEALS
PUBLIC HEARING
LAND USE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT
Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 5 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Gilmer County Planning Commission / Gilmer County Board of Land Use Appeals will be called to order at 5 p.m. on March 19, 2026 and will be held at the Gilmer County Jury Assembly Room, 1 Broad Street, Ellijay, Georgia. All matters properly noticed for hearing or otherwise identified pursuant to the published agenda, including public hearings concerning amendments to the land use ordinance, may be considered and duly acted upon by the Board of Land Use Appeals at any time thereafter, or may be otherwise rescheduled for consideration, hearing or further action at the discretion of the Board of Land Use Appeals. Meeting agendas shall be available to the public not less than twenty-four hours in advance of the regular meeting at the Gilmer County Department of Planning & Zoning, 1 Broad Street, Suite 002, Ellijay, Georgia, and will be posted at the location of the meeting as set forth above.

Pursuant to Section 62-339 of the Gilmer County Land Use and Development Ordinance, the Gilmer County Board of Land Use Appeals will hold a public hearing on Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 5 p.m. in the Gilmer County Jury Assembly Room in Ellijay, Georgia. The purpose of the public hearing is to hear public comment concerning an application to amend the Gilmer County Land Use Ordinance as follows:

Old Business

Two Applications Tabled from February Public Hearings

Consideration of Application to Amend Gilmer County Land Use Ordinance (Rezoning / Conditional Use Request(s))

Applicant Name – Juan Exposito
Owner Name – Juan Exposito Revocable Trust
Owner Address – 1645 SW 4th Ave., Boca Raton, FL 33432
Property Location – 0 Oak Hill Road, Ellijay, Ga. 30540
Map and Parcel Number – 3024-010
Size of Property – 213.97 acres
Current Land Use Classification – A-1 (Agricultural)
Proposed Land Use Classification – R-1 (Residential Low Density)
Proposed Use of Property – Combine with 3024-011E and create The Preserve at Carters Lake Subdivision

Applicant Name – Juan Exposito
Owner Name – Juan Exposito Revocable Trust
Owner Address – 1645 SW 4th Ave., Boca Raton, FL 33432
Property Location – 0 Oak Hill Road, Ellijay, Ga. 30540
Map and Parcel Number – 3024-015
Size of Property – 11.11 acres
Current Land Use Classification – A-1 (Agricultural)
Proposed Land Use Classification – R-1 (Residential Low Density)
Proposed Use of Property – Combine with 3024-011E & 3024-011E and create The Preserve at Carters Lake Subdivision

New Business

Consideration of Application to Amend Gilmer County Land Use Ordinance (Variance Request)

Applicant Name – Juan Lopez
Owner Name – Lopez Home Builders, LLC
Owner Address – 137 Geneva Road, Canton, Ga. 30114
Property Location – 1883 Newport Drive, Ellijay, Ga. 30540
Map and Parcel Number – 3051A-040

Size of Property – 0.90 acres
Current Land Use Classification – R-2 (Residential High Density)
Proposed Use of Property – Build 1222+ Sq. Ft. Residence
Variance Requested – 4.1’ Variance to the 35’ Front Setback

Consideration of Application to Amend Gilmer County Land Use Ordinance (Rezoning / Conditional Use Request(s))

Applicant Name – Richard Otero
Owner Name – Richard Otero
Owner Address – 2020 NE 120 Road, North Miami, FL 33181
Property Location – 86 Harold Pritchett Road, Ellijay, Ga. 30540
Map and Parcel Number – 3065-123E
Size of Property – 19.7 acres (13.15-acre portion ONLY)
Current Land Use Classification – A-1 (Agricultural)
Proposed Land Use Classification – C-1 (Commercial)
Proposed Use of Property – Lease to Commercial Vendor

Applicant Name – Jose Espina
Owner Name – Jose Espina
Owner Address – 4451 Hwy. 52 East, Ellijay, Ga. 30536
Property Location – 4453 Hwy. 52 East, Ellijay, Ga. 30536
Map and Parcel Number – 3098-004
Size of Property – 12.46 acres (1.50-acre portion ONLY)
Current Land Use Classification – A-1 (Agricultural)
Proposed Land Use Classification – R-1 (Residential Low Density)
Proposed Use of Property – Split out rental home – have ability to build 2nd residence on remaining acreage

Applicant Name – David C. Weaver
Owner Name – David C. Weaver
Owner Address – 289 Northcutt Road, Ellijay, Ga. 30540
Property Location – 0 Northcutt Road, Ellijay, Ga. 30540
Map and Parcel Number – 3079-077D
Size of Property – 16.44 acres (1.50-acre portion ONLY)
Current Land Use Classification – A-1 (Agricultural)
Proposed Land Use Classification – R-1 (Residential Low Density)
Proposed Use of Property – Split out parcel for Grandson to Build Home on

Applicant Name – Linsey May
Owner Name – Linsey & Amanda May
Owner Address – 580 Old Tails Creek Road, Ellijay, Ga. 30540
Property Location – 0 Old Tails Creek Road, Ellijay, Ga. 30540
Map and Parcel Number – 3065-141
Size of Property – 43.44 acres (1.84-acre portion ONLY)
Current Land Use Classification – A-1 (Agricultural)
Proposed Land Use Classification – R-1 (Residential Low Density)
Proposed Use of Property – Split out and sell

Applicant Name – Anita Caston
Owner Name – Mary Anita & Howard C. Caston
Owner Address – 3165 Tails Creek Church Road, Ellijay, Ga. 30540
Property Location – 3165 Tails Creek Church Road, Ellijay, Ga. 30540
Map and Parcel Number – 3004A-004
Size of Property – 9.44 acres (4.367-acre portion ONLY)
Current Land Use Classification – A-1 (Agricultural)
Proposed Land Use Classification – R-1 (Residential Low Density)
Proposed Use of Property – Split out and sell

Applicant Name – Makayla Allen
Owner Name – Charles and Makayla Allen
Owner Address – 364 Luke Quarles Road, Ellijay, Ga. 30540
Property Location – 0 Old Hwy 5 South, Ellijay, Ga. 30540
Map and Parcel Number – 3056-008
Size of Property – 29.27 acres (1.55-acre portion ONLY)
Current Land Use Classification – A-1 (Agricultural)
Proposed Land Use Classification – R-1 (Residential Low Density)
Proposed Use of Property – Split out and sell

Pursuant to Section 62-340 of the Gilmer County Land Use and Development Ordinance, “Whenever a map amendment or an application for conditional use is proposed, the land development officer shall cause to have posted in a conspicuous place on said property one or more sign(s), the size of which may be prescribed by resolution of the county board of commissioners and each of which shall contain information as to the proposed change and the date, time and location of the public hearing before the public hearing body.”

Agenda is subject to change.

LEGAL NOTICES

Land Lot 103 of the 7th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 1.54 acres, more or less, being Tract 3 described in Deed Book 2116, Page 342, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Laurel Ridge Road. Respondents,
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
TO: JERRY MILLER and all persons unknown who claim or might claim adversely to all and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3118 029, lying and being in Land Lot 103 of the 7th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 1.54 acres, more or less, being Tract 3 described in Deed Book 2116, Page 342, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Laurel Ridge Road.
By order of publication dated January 27, 2026, you are hereby notified that on the 15th of December, 2025, the above named petitioner filed suit against you seeking to quiet title to certain real property located in Gilmer County.
You are hereby required to file with the Clerk of the Superior Court and serve upon petitioners attorney at the following address and email address:
Clifford S. Lancy
15 North Avenue, Ellijay, Georgia 30540
clancyoffice@gmail.com
a written answer within 60 days of the date of the publication order.
Witness the Honorable Mary E. Priest, Judge of this Superior Court.
This 3rd day of February, 2026.
/s/Abby Padgett, Deputy Clerk
Deputy Clerk Superior Court
Gilmer County, Georgia
Feb 11-Mar 4, 899224

NOTICE OF INTENT TO VOLUNTARILY DISSOLVE A CORPORATION
Notice is given that a notice of intent to dissolve TerraTory Development Consultants, Inc., a Georgia corporation with its registered office at P.O. Box 130, East Ellijay GA 30539, has been delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Business Corporation Code.
Feb 4-11, 898751

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, GILMER COUNTY
By virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from SHAWNAN DALE TOWNSEND to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Rocket Mortgage, LLC, its successors and assigns., dated August 17, 2023, recorded August 22, 2023, in Deed Book 02622, Page 00242, Gilmer County, Georgia Records, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of Two Hundred Forty-Four Thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$244,000.00), with interest thereon as provided for therein, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned and transferred to Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the Gilmer County Courthouse, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in March, 2026, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property:
TAX ID NUMBER(S): 3126 041 LAND SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF GILMER IN THE STATE OF GA ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOTS 187 AND 188 OF THE 6TH DISTRICT AND 2ND SECTION OF GILMER COUNTY, GEORGIA, CONTAINING: 8.7 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN BY PLAT OF THE SAME MADE BY A. J. DAVIS, SR., COUNTY SURVEYOR, DATED APRIL 1967, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 192, GILMER COUNTY, GEORGIA RECORDS, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT AN IRON PIN LOCATED ON THE NORTHERN SIDE OF THE COUNTY ROAD, SAID IRON PIN BEING LOCATED 207 FEET SOUTH 59 DEGREES 45 MINUTES EAST FROM A ROCK CORNER LOCATED ON THE ORIGINAL WEST LINE OF LAND LOT 188 AND RUNNING THENCE NORTH 59 DEGREES 45 MINUTES WEST TO THE ORIGINAL WEST LINE OF LAND LOT 188 AT A ROCK CORNER; THENCE SOUTH 40 DEGREES WEST 78.7 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 40 DEGREES WEST 232 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE SOUTH 43 DEGREES WEST 109.5 FEET TO AN IRON PIN LOCATED ON THE NORTHEASTERN SIDE OF AN OLD ROAD; THENCE NORTH 48 DEGREES 30 MINUTES WEST ALONG SAID OLD ROAD 58 FEET NORTH TO A POINT; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID ROAD NORTH 57 DEGREES WEST 123.5 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID ROAD NORTH 29 DEGREES WEST 47 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID ROAD NORTH 10 DEGREES WEST 53 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID ROAD NORTH 3 DEGREES EAST 245 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE NORTH 53 DEGREES EAST 431 FEET TO THE CENTER OF A BRANCH AT AN IRON PIN; THENCE ALONG THE CENTER OF SAID BRANCH, CROSSING THE ORIGINAL EAST LINE OF LAND LOT 187 AND FOLLOWING THE CURVATURES OF SAID BRANCH A DISTANCE OF 524.5 FEET TO A POPLAR TREE; THENCE EAST 154 FEET TO AN IRON PIN ON THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE PUBLIC ROAD; THENCE ALONG THE WESTERN AND NORTHWESTERN SIDE OF PUBLIC ROAD A DISTANCE OF 627 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO AN IRON PIN AT THE POINT OF BEGINNING, LESS AND EXCEPT THAT PORTION OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY HERETOFORE CONVEYED TO HENRY H. LEMMON BY WARRANTY DEED FROM CLOVIS L. CRUMBLEY, DATED JULY 19, 1973, RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 59, PAGE 651, GILMER COUNTY, GEORGIA RECORDS, CONTAINING 2 ACRES IN LAND LOT 187 OF THE 6TH DISTRICT AND 2ND SECTION OF GILMER COUNTY, GEORGIA, COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 2411 RACKLEY RD, ELLIJAY, GA 30536-6385
Said legal description being controlling, however the property is more commonly known as 2411 RACKLEY RD, ELLIJAY, GA 30536-6385.
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 SHAWNAN DALE TOWNSEND, or tenants(s). The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed.
The entity having full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the loan (although not required by law to do so) is: Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC, Loss Mitigation Dept., 635 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI 48226, Telephone Number: (800) 508-0944. 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.
ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC as Attorney in Fact for SHAWNAN DALE TOWNSEND
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: Ruben Lublin, LLC
3145 Avalon Ridge Place, Suite 100, Peachtree Corners, GA 30071
Telephone Number: (877) 813-0992 Case No. QKN-20510318-13
Ad Run Dates: 02/04/2026, 02/11/2026, 02/18/2026, 02/25/2026
rslaw.com/property-listing
Feb 4-25, 897759

Map/Parcel Number: 3092 041 MH
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Carns, Kimberly Wright; 8644 M/H / 2018 14X60 Trumh
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Property Description: MOBILE HOME ONLY: Gilmer County, Georgia, Map# 3092 041 MH / Acct# PB-8644, being a 2019, 14X60, TRMH, 36TR514602AH19 Mobile Home, MFG ID# CWP043331TN, located at 1845 Whitepath Road.
Years Due: 2024M-2025M
File #: 33
Map/Parcel Number: 3160 A 032A MH
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Coots, Sonny; 3312 M/H / 1972 12X56 Unknown
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Property Description: MOBILE HOME ONLY: Gilmer County, Georgia, Map# 3160 A 032A MH / Acct# PB-3312, being a 1972, 12x56 mobile home, located at 32 Old Parker Way.
Years Due: 2024M-2025M

GILMER COUNTY MARCH 2026 TAX SALE
SHERIFF'S SALE
REBECCA MARSHALL
EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF GILMER
Under and by virtue of certain tax Fi.Fa.'s issued by the **Tax Commissioner of Gilmer County, Georgia, in favor of the State of Georgia and the County of Gilmer** against the following named persons and the property as described immediately below their respective name(s).
There will be sold for cash or certified funds at public outcry, **before the Courthouse door, near the Flagpole, in Ellijay, Gilmer County, Georgia,** between the legal hours of sale, on the **first Tuesday in March 2026**, the same being **March 3, 2026**. The following property will be sold **between the legal hours of sale, 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM**. The below listed and described properties, or as much thereof as will satisfy the Gilmer County Tax Execution, Paving Assessments, and or, Garbage Fees Execution, on the respective individual and property. The properties hereinafter described have been levied on as the property of the persons whose names immediately precede the property description. Each of the respective parcels of property are located in **Gilmer County, State of Georgia**. The years for which said Fi.Fa.'s are issued and levied are stated below the name of the owner in each case.
This is a buyer beware sale and all property will be sold as is. The Tax Commissioner makes no warranty, neither expressed nor implied, as to title, and all properties are subject to all recorded covenants, easements, and right of ways. Properties are sold under the power of a tax sale deed with specific rights of redemption.
Each defendant and tenant in possession, if applicable, has been notified of levy time and place of sale. Purchaser shall pay for title, all transfer cost, all fees, advertising cost and recording fees. At the discretion of the Tax Commissioner's office, payment will be required within two (2) hours after the completion of the tax sale. In the event a bid is not properly paid, the property shall be **re-offered at 2:00 PM on the day of the sale.**
File #: 3
Map/Parcel Number: 3012B 029
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Clove Properties LLC; 3012B 029 / Lt1662 Talking Rock Crk
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 1681/13
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3012B 029, lying and being in Land Lot 82 & 99 of the 24th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 1.15 acres, more or less, being Lot 1662, Talking Rock Creek Subdivision, Unit 42, shown in Plat Book 25, Page 93, described in Deed Book 1681, Page 13 in Gordon County, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Hunter Drive.
Years Due: 2018-2024
File #: 8
Map/Parcel Number: 3036 074D
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Price, Tammi Lynn Trust; 3036 074D /
Current Property Owner: Price, Patrick W, as Trustee of the Trust f/b/o Tammi Lynn Price created u/w dated April 27, 1972, Beatrice Dobbins, deceased
Reference Deed: 1309/17
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3036 074D, lying and being in Land Lot 293 the 25th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County Georgia, being a portion of Tracts 2 & 3, described in Deed Book 1309, Page 17, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, known as 509 Crossroads Church Road.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 10
Map/Parcel Number: 3036 080
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Price, Tammi Lynn Trust; 3036 080 /
Current Property Owner: Patrick W Price, as Trustee of the Trust f/b/o Tammi Lynn Price created u/w dated April 27, 1972, Beatrice Dobbins, deceased
Reference Deed: 1309/17
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3036 080, lying and being in Land Lot 293 of the 25th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County Georgia, being a portion of the property shown in Plat Book 25, Page 67, a portion of Tract One described in Deed Book 1309, Page 17, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, known as 168 Crossroads Lane.
Years Due: 2024
File #: 11
Map/Parcel Number: 3036D 074

DELINQUENT TAXES

GILMER COUNTY MARCH 2026
MOBILE HOME TAX SALE
SHERIFF'S SALE
REBECCA MARSHALL
EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF GILMER
Under and by virtue of certain tax Fi.Fa.'s issued by the **Tax Commissioner of Gilmer County, Georgia, in favor of the State of Georgia and County of Gilmer**, against the following named persons and the personal property as described immediately below their respective name(s).
There will be sold for cash or certified funds at public outcry, **before the Courthouse door, next to the Flagpole, in Ellijay, Gilmer County, Georgia,** between the legal hours of sale, on the **first Tuesday in March 2026**, the same being **March 3, 2026**.
The following personal property will be sold between the legal hours of sale, 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM. The personal property listed below and described will be sold. The personal property hereinafter described has been levied on as the personal property of the persons whose names immediately proceed the personal property description. The respective property is located in **Gilmer County, State of Georgia**. The years for which said Fi.Fa.'s are issued and levied are stated below the name of the owner in each case.
This is a buyer beware sale and all property will be sold as is. The County makes no warranty, neither expressed nor implied, as to title.

DELINQUENT TAXES

Personal Property is sold with no right of redemption.
Each defendant and tenant in possession, if applicable, has been notified of levy time and place of sale. Purchaser shall pay for title, all transfer cost, all taxes, advertising cost and recording fees. At the discretion of the Tax Commissioner's office, payment will be required within two (2) hours after the completion of the tax sale. In the event a bid is not properly paid, the property shall be **re-offered at 2:00 PM on the day of the sale.**
File #: 7
Map/Parcel Number: 3035 G 009 MH
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Atkins, Johnny, Estate; 7214 M/H / 1967 14X56 Elkona (SGL/Multi)
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Property Description: MOBILE HOME ONLY: Gilmer County, Georgia, Map# 3035 G 009 MH / Acct# PB-7214, being a 1967, 14X56, Elkona Homes Mobile Home, located at 333 Gunstock Creek Road.
Years Due: 2024M-2025M
File #: 13
Map/Parcel Number: 3041 C 030 MH
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Atkins, Johnny, Estate; 7304 M/H / 1994 16X68 Broadmore Classic
Current Property Owner: Atkins, Shirley J & Atkins, Johnny M
Property Description: MOBILE HOME ONLY: Gilmer County, Georgia, Map# 3041 C 030 MH / Acct# PB-7304, being a 1994, 16x88, Fleetwood Broadmore Classic Mobile Home, MFG ID# GAFLP07A29090BM, located at 116 Wildcat Lane.
Years Due: 2024M-2025M
File #: 15
Map/Parcel Number: 3053 019 MH
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Walters, Lori Estate; 849 M/H / 1998 16X76 Southern
Current Property Owner: Walters, Charles L
Property Description: MOBILE HOME ONLY: Gilmer County, Georgia, Acct# PB-849, being a 1998, 16x76, Homes of Merit, Southern Mobile Home, MFG ID# H850470G, located at 21 Rose Trail.
Years Due: 2018M-2025M
File #: 16
Map/Parcel Number: 3054 046C MH
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Becerra, Lucia; 8414 M/H / 1988 14X48 Peach State
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Property Description: MOBILE HOME ONLY: Gilmer County, Georgia, Map# 3054 046C MH / Acct# PB-8414, being a 1988, 12X52, Peach State Homes Mobile Home, MFG ID# PSHGA120821001, located at 471 Sunlight Road.
Years Due: 2023M-2025M
File #: 23
Map/Parcel Number: 3079 D 019A MH
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Callihan, (EBeatrice Callihan Beatrice Estate; 8288 M/H / 1999 16X76 Mirage
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Property Description: MOBILE HOME ONLY: Gilmer County, Georgia, Map# 3079 D 019A MH / Acct# PB-8288, being a 1999, 16X76, Horton Homes Inc Mobile Home, MFG ID# H208565G, located at 769 Pen Drive.
Years Due: 2024M-2025M
File #: 25
Map/Parcel Number: 3085 B 027A MH
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Garrett, Mary (aka Mary Elizabeth); 5958 M/H / 1995 28X56 Legacy (SGL/Multi)
Current Property Owner: Garrett, Mary Elizabeth & Randall
Property Description: MOBILE HOME ONLY: Gilmer County, Georgia, Map# 3085 B 027A MH / Acct# PB-5958, being a 1996, 28x56, L303, Mobile Home, MFG ID# HL51938AAL & MFG ID# HL51938B8AL, located at 5 Greenfern Trail.
Years Due: 2024M-2025M
File #: 27
Map/Parcel Number: 3092 041 MH
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Carns, Kimberly Wright; 8644 M/H / 2018 14X60 Trumh
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Property Description: MOBILE HOME ONLY: Gilmer County, Georgia, Map# 3092 041 MH / Acct# PB-8644, being a 2019, 14X60, TRMH, 36TR514602AH19 Mobile Home, MFG ID# CWP043331TN, located at 1845 Whitepath Road.
Years Due: 2024M-2025M
File #: 33
Map/Parcel Number: 3160 A 032A MH
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Coots, Sonny; 3312 M/H / 1972 12X56 Unknown
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Property Description: MOBILE HOME ONLY: Gilmer County, Georgia, Map# 3160 A 032A MH / Acct# PB-3312, being a 1972, 12x56 mobile home, located at 32 Old Parker Way.
Years Due: 2024M-2025M

Bike

Continued from 2B

self up, unwind and unpack.

It was during a trip to enjoy the outdoors at Park City, Utah, with her best friend that she saw people taking mountain bikes up the lifts and riding down the hills and trails. She remembers thinking to herself, “That looks pretty cool.” Arriving back home to Georgia she got her first bike and began to ride the Blankets Creek and Rope Mill trails she used to run; that was 2015.

By 2022, Alex was committed to becoming “better.” Funny how the things we love the most always inspire us to improve. It was this desire to become a better all-around rider that led her to begin participating in the group rides sponsored by Cartecay Bike Shop. It was through these rides, meeting folks on the trails, and the quality of service and knowledge of the local shop that friendships began that are still important to her today.

When asked about her favorite aspects of riding she said the first is “it is good for the soul.” Alex is a person of integrity and deep faith who finds riding a place/opportunity to recenter.

The second is “the camaraderie.” “There is a core group of people who are like family. They come from all kinds of different backgrounds but everyone treats each other with

kindness and respect. It’s good to be a part of something so affirming.”

Alex’s interest in mountain biking has taken her riding in Oregon, Washington, Arizona, North Carolina, Ireland, Montana, New Hampshire. (Dude.)

As to what makes North Georgia special she echoed what many have told me, “There is a great variety of trails here. My favorite being Bear Creek. Bear Creek is trusty. You can ride it in all conditions and know what you are going to get.”

The sponsored ride this week was Amadahy at Carters Lake. I rode these trails for the first time and found them to be the most beautiful I have ridden. The ride is not too difficult for a beginner like me and I want to thank the group for taking me under their wings and giving me grace. We stopped several times to take in the sights and just enjoy each other’s company. Good times.

Would you like to join in on the fun? Rides meet up at the bike shop on main street Saturdays at 10 o’clock and go to the trails from there. Remember to check the website for more information.

Have you got any current mountain biking trail conditions to report? timpond1960@gmail.com

Thanks to all of you who continue to make Ellijay special. Blessings and happy cycling y’all.

Things I missed from SHOT and the current ice age

Because I was very curious about this, I did some intensive research. (I Googled it.) With all of this wonderful weather we seem to be having, (it is snowing like the Dickens as I write this to you), I was curious if we could be in the middle of an Ice Age.

Turns out that we are.

Just so you know scientists that keep track of such things say we are still in the Pleistocene Ice Age.

Not to worry, the scientists say this age has only been going on for over two and a half million years or so. So I figure this will end any time now and we will thaw out at least by the middle of April.

As usual, you may be thinking what has this got to do with a column that is supposed to be focused on hunting and fishing and guns and the outdoors. Well, I am glad you asked. I would like for it to warm up enough to get rid of most of this confounded ice and snow. (As most of you would.) I would like to take one of my .22 rifles



The Trail Less Traveled
Larry Case

and the Cur dog Abby for a little hike in the woods and tree a few squirrels.

While we are out there we can look for some turkey sign, think about the upcoming spring season, and maybe even find antler shed. I mean, that is not asking too much is it? Oh well, it is supposed to warm up a little next week so we shall see.

Now, to the business at hand. Last week some of you reminded me that I was a little stingy on naming some things to tell you about from my trip to Las Vegas and SHOT. Well, I must confess I was, and I will try to make it

up by going over some of the guns and gun-related products I saw while at the SHOT Show.

Glenfield rifles. Many of you will remember Glenfield firearms, and, no doubt, some of you have a Glenfield .22 rifle or .30/30 lever-gun stashed in a closet somewhere. From the mid-1960s to the early 1980s, Marlin (Sturm, Ruger and Company) made thousands of .22 rimfires, .30/30 lever-actions and other guns with the Glenfield name. These guns were moderately priced and were often sold in store chains like Montgomery Ward and J.C. Penny.

Glenfield firearms were made (and still are) by Marlin, which assured a level of quality even at the moderate prices. Middle class America loved these guns and bought them with a passion. The Model 60 .22 rifle was one of the most popular selling rifles of its time. (I would like to see all the squirrels piled up that have been taken with a Model 60.)

Now, Marlin is bringing out the Glenfield line again and is starting with the Model A bolt action rifle. Those of you that are familiar with Marlin rifles will note a definite resemblance to the Ruger American rifle which has been a best-seller for Ruger for over a decade.

The Ruger American is now manufactured in a Generation II series, and some may say the new Model A Glenfield rifle is very similar to where the old models of the Ruger American rifle left off. This, I am saying, is good. The new Glenfield line of rifles appears to be very close to the old model Ruger Americans, just not quite as “fancy.” With an MSRP of \$529, you probably better check it out.

Larry Case is a retired conservation officer (game warden) with the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources. He enjoys hearing from readers at larryocase3@gmail.com, and writes a blog on his website at gunsandcornbread.com.

DELINQUENT TAXES

Defendant(s) in Fifi: By His Grace LLC; 3036D 074 / Lt 74 Lake LeCroy At High River
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 2290/176
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3036D 074, lying and being in Land Lot 73 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 1.45 acres, more or less, being Lot 74, Lake LeCroy at High River (Rka Mountaintown Heights), shown in Plat Book 18, Page 296A, described in Deed Book 2290, Page 176, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Hope Court.
Years Due: 2023-2024

File #: 21
Map/Parcel Number: 3036K 043
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Grant Nicola & Bey Paul; 3036K 043 / LT 43 High River Ph 2
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 2307/399
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3036K 043, lying and being in Land Lot 296 of the 25th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 3.76 acres, more or less, being Lot 43, High River Subdivision, Phase 2, Eagle Watch, shown in Plat Book 65, Page 246, described in Deed Book 2307, Page 399, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Fovridge Court.
Years Due: 2023-2024

File #: 23
Map/Parcel Number: 3036K 118
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Trejo Nayeli; 3036K 118 / LT 118 High River Ph 4
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 2474/57
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3036K 118, lying and being in Land Lots 109 & 144 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 3.45 acres, more or less, being Lot 118, High River Subdivision, Phase 4, Mountaintown Crossing, shown in Plat Book 66, Page 192, described in Deed Book 2474, Page 57, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on High River Road.
Years Due: 2023-2024

File #: 26
Map/Parcel Number: 3037G 024
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Hardy, Alfred H III (aka Alfred Harris Hardy III); 3037G 024 / LT 1352 Ph 23 Eagle Mtn
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 1935/142
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3037G 024, lying and being in Land Lots 143, 144, 145, and 146 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot 1352, Unit XXIII, Eagle’s Mountain Resort, shown in Plat Book 13, Page 59, described in Deed Book 1935, Page 142, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference.

Years Due: 2019-2024
File #: 33
Map/Parcel Number: 3051R 060
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Merrick, Coy & Jessica; 3051R 060 / LT 3502R Eagle Mtn PH 99
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 2314/452
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3051R 060, lying and being in Land Lot 103 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 1.68 acres, more or less, being Lot 3502-R, Eagle’s Mountain Resort Subdivision, Unit 99, shown in Plat Book 56, Page 88, described in Deed Book 2314, Page 452, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Newport Drive.
Years Due: 2023-2024

File #: 34
Map/Parcel Number: 3051T 047
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Melson, Alan; 3051T 047 / Lt 3671 Eagle Mtn Ph 101
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 1860/479
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3051T 047, lying and being in Land Lots 76, 77, 104 & 105 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 0.91 acre, more or less, being Lot 3671, Eagle’s Mountain Resort, Unit 101, shown in Plat Book 17, Page 112B, described in Deed Book 1860, Page 479, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Hickory Lane.
Years Due: 2018-2024

File #: 38
Map/Parcel Number: 3052A C 002
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Hutcheson, Samuel B (Brent) Estate; 3052A C 002 / LT C516 Eagle Mtn PH 74
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 1994/232
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3052A C 002, lying and being in Land Lot 113 of the 11th Land District, Section 2, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot C-516, Eagle’s Mountain Resort, Unit 74, shown in Plat Book 14, Page 244, described in Deed Book 1994, Page 232, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, known as 260 26th Street.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 40
Map/Parcel Number: 3052A B 010
Defendant(s) in Fifi: TBBS Real Estate Investment Inc & Cosawattree River Association; 3052A B 010 / LT 2355 Eagle Mtn Ph 72
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 2021/164; 1694/461; 1411/138
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3052A B 010, lying and being in Land Lot 104 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 0.67 acre, more or less, being Lot 2355, Eagle’s Mountain Resort, Unit 72, shown in Plat Book 14, Page 234, described in Deed

DELINQUENT TAXES

Book 1411, Page 338, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Faraday Drive.
Years Due: 2018N-2024
File #: 41
Map/Parcel Number: 3052A E 009
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Lugo, Alberto; 3052A E 009 / LT C544 Eagle Mtn PH 76
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 2564/233
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3052A E 009, lying and being in Land Lot 113 of the 11th Land District, Section 2, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot C-544, Eagle’s Mountain Resort, Unit 76, shown in Plat Book 14, Page 256A, described in Deed Book 2564, Page 233, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, known as 33 27th Street.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 44
Map/Parcel Number: 3052A O 005
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Callas, George M (Michael); 3052A O 005 / LT C620 Eagle Mtn Ph 89
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 1983/248
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3052A O 005, lying and being in Land Lot 112 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot C-620, Eagle’s Mountain Resort Subdivision, Unit 89, shown in Plat Book 15, Page 199, described in Deed Book 1983, Page 248, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on 32nd Street.
Years Due: 2023-2024

File #: 45
Map/Parcel Number: 3052A O 006
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Callas, George M (Michael); 3052A O 006 / LT C621 Eagle Mtn Ph 89
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 1983/248
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3052A O 006, lying and being in Land Lot 112 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot C-621, Eagle’s Mountain Resort Subdivision, Unit 89, shown in Plat Book 15, Page 199, described in Deed Book 1983, Page 248, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, known as 68 32nd Street.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 46
Map/Parcel Number: 3052A Q 005
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Jastrzemski, Mary M; 3052A Q 005 / LT 2817 Eagle Mtn PH 91
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 1590/372
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3052A Q 005, lying and being in Land Lot 113 of the 11th Land District, Section 2, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing .65 acres, more or less, being Lot 2817, Eagle’s Mountain Resort, Unit 91, shown in Plat Book 15, Page 245C, described in Deed Book 1590, Page 372, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Monarch Drive.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 53
Map/Parcel Number: 3052O 009
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Smith, Hollis & Culver, Carolyn & Burnham, Rhonda L; 3052O 009 / LT C197 Eagle Mtn PH 53
Current Property Owner: Burnham, Rhonda L
Reference Deed: 2592/241
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3052O 009, lying and being in the 11th Land District, Section 2, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot C-197, Eagle’s Mountain Resort, Unit 53, shown in Plat Book 14, Page 78A, described in Deed Book 2592, Page 241, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, known as 274 9th Street.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 54
Map/Parcel Number: 3052O 024
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Marlowe, Sherree; 3052O 024 / LT C212 Eagle Mtn PH 53
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 2552/477
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3052O 024, lying and being in Land Lot 113 of the 11th Land District, Section 2, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot C-212, Eagle’s Mountain Resort Subdivision, Unit 53, shown in Plat Book 14, Page 78B, described in Deed Book 2552, Page 477, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, known as 32 10th Street.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 60
Map/Parcel Number: 3053J 006
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Collett, Harold V & Collett, Simone J; 3053J 006 / LT 316 Beaver Forest Ph 10
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 265/127
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3053J 006, lying and being in Land Lot 175 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot 316, Beaver Forest Subdivision, Unit 10, shown in Plat Book 10, Page 64, described in Deed Book 265, Page 127, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Willow Drive.
Years Due: 2017-2024
File #: 61
Map/Parcel Number: 3053K 021
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Neives, Jocelyn N (Nicole) & McReynolds, Roderick Martin Jr; 3053K 021 / Lt 342 Beaver Forest Ph 11
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 2382/286
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3053K 021, lying and being in Land Lot 175 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot 342, Beaver Forest

DELINQUENT TAXES

Subdivision, Unit 11, shown in Plat Book 10, Page 158, described in Deed Book 2382, Page 286, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Brunton Circle.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 62
Map/Parcel Number: 3053P 040
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Harper, James A & Rhonda F; 3053P 040 / Lt 636 Beaver Forest Ph 16
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 1605/477
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3053P 040, lying and being in Land Lot 185 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot 636, Beaver Forest Subdivision, Unit 16, shown in Plat Book 10, Page 198, described in Deed Book 1605, Page 477, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Cadet Court.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 65
Map/Parcel Number: 3053Y 072
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Moore, Gregory; 3053Y 072 / LT 1190 Beaver Forest Ph 26
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 2398/328
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3053Y 072, lying and being in Land Lot 177 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot 1190, Beaver Forest Subdivision, Unit XXVI, shown in Plat Book 11, Page 3, described in Deed Book 2398, Page 328, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Spalding Circle.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 66
Map/Parcel Number: 3053Z 002
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Fowler-Bennett LLC; 3053Z 002 / LT 960 Beaver Forest Ph 22
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 1290/119
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3053Z 002, lying and being in a portion of Land Lot 185 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot 960, Beaver Forest Subdivision, Unit XXII, shown in Plat Book 10, Page 269, described in Deed Book 1290, Page 119, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Halo Court.
Years Due: 2018-2024
File #: 72
Map/Parcel Number: 3063 017A
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Coor, Wymberley T; 3063 017A
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 2241/119
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3063 017A, lying and being in Land Lot 282 of the 10th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 2.0 acres, more or less, shown in Plat Book 42, Page 100, described in Deed Book 2241, Page 119, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, known as 651 New Hope Road.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 74
Map/Parcel Number: 3065 007
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Mathews, Tiffany & Brian; 3065 007 /
Current Property Owner: Mathews, Brian & Chesney Jade
Reference Deed: 1671/226; 2776/131
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3065 007, lying and being in Land Lot 7 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 0.95 acre, more or less, shown in Plat Book 45, Page 293, described in Deed Book 2776, Page 131, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, known as 1490 Roberts Ridge Road.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 77
Map/Parcel Number: 3067 026A
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Gilmer Parts, Inc; 3067 026A /
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 1582/143
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3067 026A, lying and being in Land Lot 136 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 1 acre, more or less, shown in Plat Book 31, Page 129, described in Deed Book 1582, Page 143, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, known as 2197 South Main Street.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 79
Map/Parcel Number: 3067H 017
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Grandmas Rocks LLC; 3067H 017 / LT 453 Ph 4 Beaver Lake
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 1952/478
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3067H 017, lying and being in Land Lot 138 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot 453, Beaver Lake Estates, Phase IV, Unit I, shown in Plat Book 8, Page 213, described in Deed Book 1952, Page 478, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Cherokee Court.
Years Due: 2022-2024
File #: 82
Map/Parcel Number: 3067O 002
Defendant(s) in Fifi: MGD RR2 LLC; 3067O 002 / Lt 763 Beaver Lake Ph 4
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 1688/78
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3067O 002, lying and being in Land Lot 138 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot 763, Beaver Lake Estates Subdivision, Phase 4, Unit VIII, shown in Plat Book 9, Page 82, described in Deed Book 1688, Page 78, the description contained therein being incorporated herein

DELINQUENT TAXES

by this reference, located on Riparian Way.
Years Due: 2021-2024
File #: 83
Map/Parcel Number: 3067O 003
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Degarmo Jr Curtiss D; 3067O 003 / LT 764 Beaver Lake Ph 4
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 2586/364
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3067O 003, lying and being in Land Lot 138 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 0.40 acre, more or less, being Lot 764, Beaver Lake Estates, Phase 4, Unit 8, shown in Plat Book 72, Page 63, described in Deed Book 2586, Page 364, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Riparian Way.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 85
Map/Parcel Number: 3067S 095
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Grasso, Robert; 3067S 095 / LT 236 Beaver Bend PH 4
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 1588/152
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3067S 095, lying and being in Land Lot 116 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot 236, Beaver Bend Subdivision, Unit IV, shown in Plat Book 9, Page 175 A-C (B), described in Deed Book 1588, Page 152, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Cherokee Drive.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 86
Map/Parcel Number: 3067W 056
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Champagne, Don E & Debra R & Zhang, Peng; 3067W 056 / Lt 404 Beaver Bend Ph 8
Current Property Owner: Zhang, Peng
Reference Deed: 2636/307
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3067W 056, lying and being in Land Lot 115 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot 404, Beaver Bend Subdivision, Unit 8, shown in Plat Book 10, Page 88, described in Deed Book 2636, Page 307, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Crown Court.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 87
Map/Parcel Number: 3067Y 010
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Warren, Thomas D (David); 3067Y 010 / LT 460 Beaver Bend Ph 10
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 2336/307; 1951/14
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3067Y 010, lying and being in Land Lot 115 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot 460, Beaver Bend Subdivision, Unit 10, shown in Plat Book 10, Page 115, described in Deed Book 2336, Page 307, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Navaho Way.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 88
Map/Parcel Number: 3067Y 033
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Restrepo, Maria R & Nuno, Jorge Carmona; 3067Y 033 / Lt 483 Beaver Bend Ph 10
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 2495/322
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3067Y 033, lying and being in Land Lot 115 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot 483, Beaver Bend Subdivision, Unit 10, shown in Plat Book 10, Page 115, described in Deed Book 2495, Page 322, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Diaz Court.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 90
Map/Parcel Number: 3067Z 015
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Crandell (Crandall), Ralph A & Candi G Crandall; 3067Z 015 / Lt 518 Beaver Bend Ph 11
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 788/44; 114/135
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3067Z 015, lying and being in Land Lot 115, 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, being Lot 518, Beaver Bend Subdivision, Unit 11, shown in Plat Book 10, Page 126, described therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Dapple Lane.
Years Due: 2018-2024
File #: 102
Map/Parcel Number: 3086 015
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Edmondson, Johnna L; 3086 015 / East Pt Tr 3
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 1133/92
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3086 015, lying and being in Land Lot 313 of the 11th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 5.0 acres, more or less, being a portion of Tract 3, shown in Plat Book 17, Page 204, a portion of the property described in Deed Book 1133, Page 92, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, known as 214 Alpine Farm Road.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 103
Map/Parcel Number: 3086 015E
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Edmondson, Johnna L; 3086 015E / TR 5
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 1133/92
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3086 015E, lying and being in Land Lot 313 of the 11th Land District, Section 2, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 10 acres, more or less, being Lot 5, shown in Plat Book 17, Page 204, described in Deed Book 1133, Page 92, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, known as

DELINQUENT TAXES

414 Alpine Farm Road.
Years Due: 2024
File #: 104
Map/Parcel Number: 3086J 002
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Danoski, Philip M; Robbins, Crystal D & Jason; 3086J 002 / LT 2 Ravencruff Ridge
Current Property Owner: Dankoski, Philip M
Reference Deed: 2610/495
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3086J 002, lying and being in Land Lot 179 of the 12th Land District, Section 2, Gilmer County, Georgia, containing 6.11 acres, more or less, being Tract 2, Ravencruff Ridge Subdivision, shown in Plat Book 39, Page 255, described in Deed Book 2610, Page 495, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, located on Ravencruff Road.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 105
Map/Parcel Number: 3089 009E
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Wright, Amanda S; 3089 009E / Tr 5
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 126/8; 2142/408
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3089 009E, lying and being in Land Lot 54 of the 10th Land District, 2nd Section, Gilmer County, Georgia, shown in Deed Book 2142, Page 411, described in Deed Book 2142, Page 408, the description contained therein being incorporated by this reference, known as 364 John Waters Road.
Years Due: 2023-2024
File #: 111
Map/Parcel Number: 3095G 060
Defendant(s) in Fifi: Frady Bunch LLC; 3095G 060 / LT J257 Walnut Mtn
Current Property Owner: Same as Defendant(s) in Fifi
Reference Deed: 1381/423
Property Description: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 3095G 060, lying

Bruins pull away from Bobcats in fourth

By Robbie Bills
Times-Courier

The Gilmer Bobcats are set to wrap up the regular basketball season.

GHS was on the court for two region games last week and hit the road versus Heritage (16-6) Tuesday. The Generals' hot shooting night put Gilmer in a 23-point hole at the half. HHS added to its lead over the final two quarters for a 75-43 win.

The Cats hosted Northwest Whitfield (14-7) for senior night Friday, and Gilmer made it a game for three quarters. The score was tied entering the fourth, where the Bruins pulled away to win, 68-58.

GHS made 30 percent of its shots versus Heritage, and the Generals had a much better night at 59 percent. Gilmer's best quarter came in the first as A.J. Callihan, Preston McVey and Keegen Bryant all scored.

"Heritage is playing well and they're No. 2 in the region because I think they obviously have some good pieces," said head coach Sean Glaze. "They play well together and defend well and take care of their boards. I thought that we opened up relatively well, defending and running some stuff and having a little bit of discipline."

HHS entered the second quarter with a 20-13 advantage. Seven Generals scored over the eight-minute span while the Cats were limited to six points and trailed 42-19 at the half.

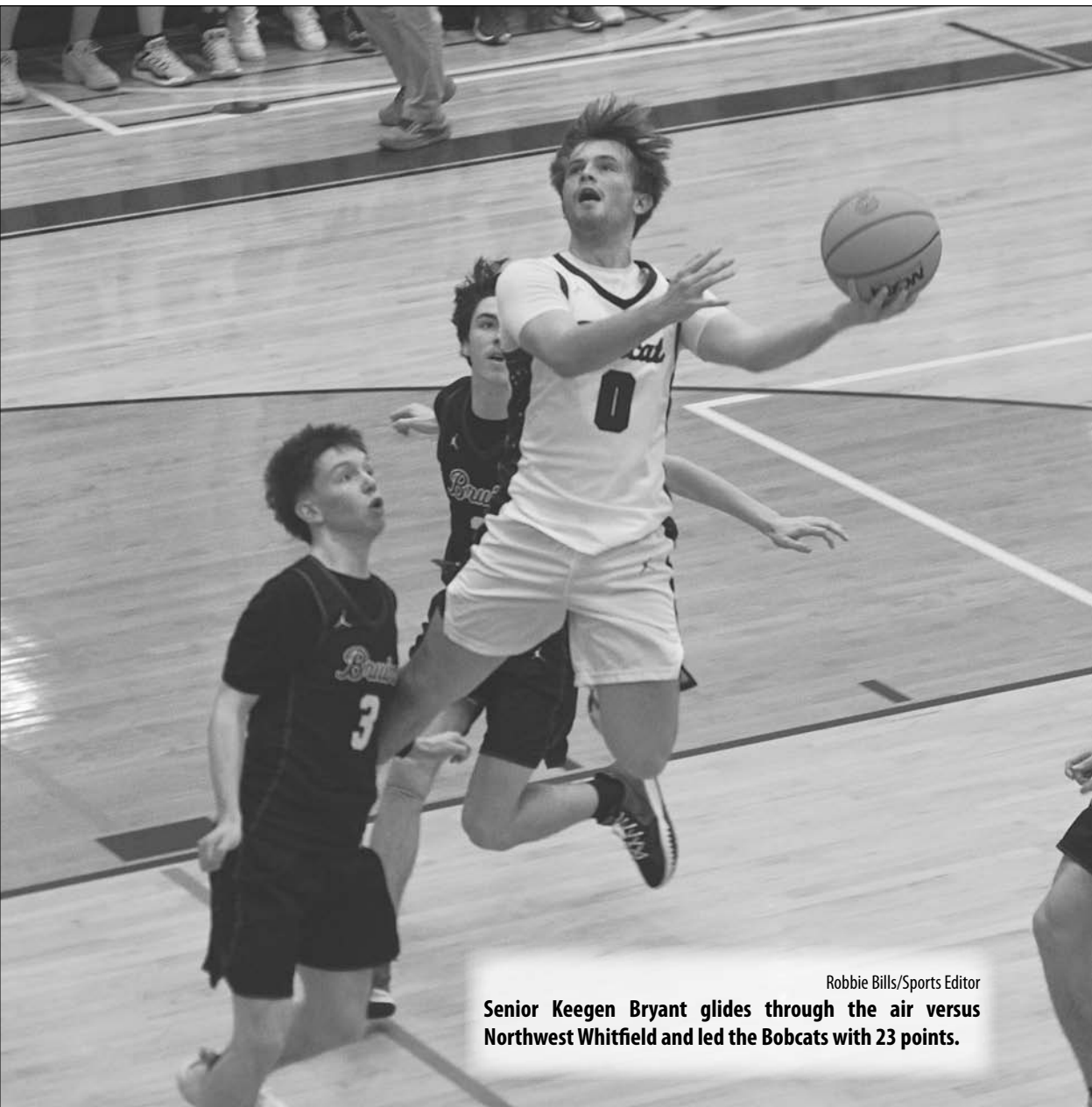
McVey scored six of his team-high 16 points in the third. GHS was unable to find much offense elsewhere, and the Cats fell behind 60-30 with a quarter to play.

Heritage continued to make shots to extend its margin of victory.

McVey also had seven rebounds, and Callihan and Bryant scored seven and six, respectively. Bryant added six rebounds and three assists.

"Down the stretch towards the end of the game, as we had some other kids on the court, I thought we did a nice job of working to have some good offensive possessions," Glaze said. "Specifically in the second quarter, but honestly throughout the game, there's still effort, but that attention to detail is something we're still working to appreciate."

GHS (42 percent) shot the ball better against Northwest (57 percent). The Cats cashed in 21 points following 24 NHS turnovers. Bryant led the way with 23 points, and he hit a three pointer in the first quarter along with



Robbie Bills/Sports Editor
Senior Keegen Bryant glides through the air versus Northwest Whitfield and led the Bobcats with 23 points.

Bobcats continued on 11B

GHS celebrates seniors

Gilmer High School

Gilmer High School recognized senior winter athletes last Friday. This week the *Times-Courier* will print photos and information of six swimmers and a dance team member. Basketball seniors will appear in a future edition.

Dance team member Lillian Seay was escorted by parents Kelly and Glen Seay. She plans on attending the Georgia Institute of Technology to major in public policy. After graduation she plans to go to law school to one day be a judge.

Swimmer Kanyon Connel was escorted

by parents Cole and Bobbie Connel. Plans after high school are to attend Dalton State for radiology.

Yana Jones was escorted by parents Heidi and Jason Jones. After high school she plans to attend the University of North Georgia to obtain a degree in international affairs to pursue a career in international law.

Elizabeth Kucera was escorted by her parents Keith and Pam Kucera. After high school she will attend Jacksonville State University majoring in exercise science and

Seniors continued on 11B



Lillian Seay



Kanyon Connel



Yana Jones



Elizabeth Kucera



Aiden St. John

Region

Continued from 1B

Bautista was 3-0 and claimed his title with an 18-11 finals victory. Nelson finished 2-0 and took his title with a technical fall, 22-8. Richard did not give up a point with wins of 3-0 and 15-0. Ramirez's title was paved with victories of 3-0 and 13-2.

Madden Hopkins (190, 1-1 record) secured a runner-up finish. Bo Cronic (165, 3-1) placed third, and fourth-place finishers

included Liandro Diaz (113, 2-2), Hunter Newhart (138, 2-2) and Daniel Escobar (120, 2-2).

All of the aforementioned wrestlers qualified for sectionals by placing in the top four of their respective weight classes.

Jacob Watson (215, 2-1) placed fifth for GHS, and Eddie Alonzo (126, 0-2) took the mat as well.

Behind Gilmer and Heritage in the final standings were LaFayette (151.5), Ridgeland (145), Calhoun (137.5), Northwest (134.5) and Adairsville (76).

The region tournament was postponed

three days because of inclement weather. Gilmer had a quick turnaround for Saturday's Class 3A B Sectional, where half of the classification's teams convened at Cherokee Bluff High School.

Each weight class consisted of 16 wrestlers. A top-eight placement was needed to advance to the state tournament, and eight Bobcats will continue their season.

Lopez continued his season as the No. 106-pounder. He was undefeated at sectionals with a decision and a major before a 10-3 decision in the finals.

Cronic (3-1) was a runner-up and was in-

jured in the semifinals, forcing him to forfeit his last match. Ramirez outscored opponents by a total of 16-0 but lost in the finals, 2-1. Bautista (5-1), Nelson (5-1) and Richard (4-1) all won the consolation finals for third, and Velasquez (3-2) was fourth.

Newhart (3-2) finished ninth and Diaz (2-3) placed 10th, while Escobar and Hopkins posted 0-2 and 1-3 records, respectively.

The Bobcats will head to the Clayton County Convocation Center Wednesday and Thursday for the traditional state tournament.

Seniors

Continued from 10B

wellness.

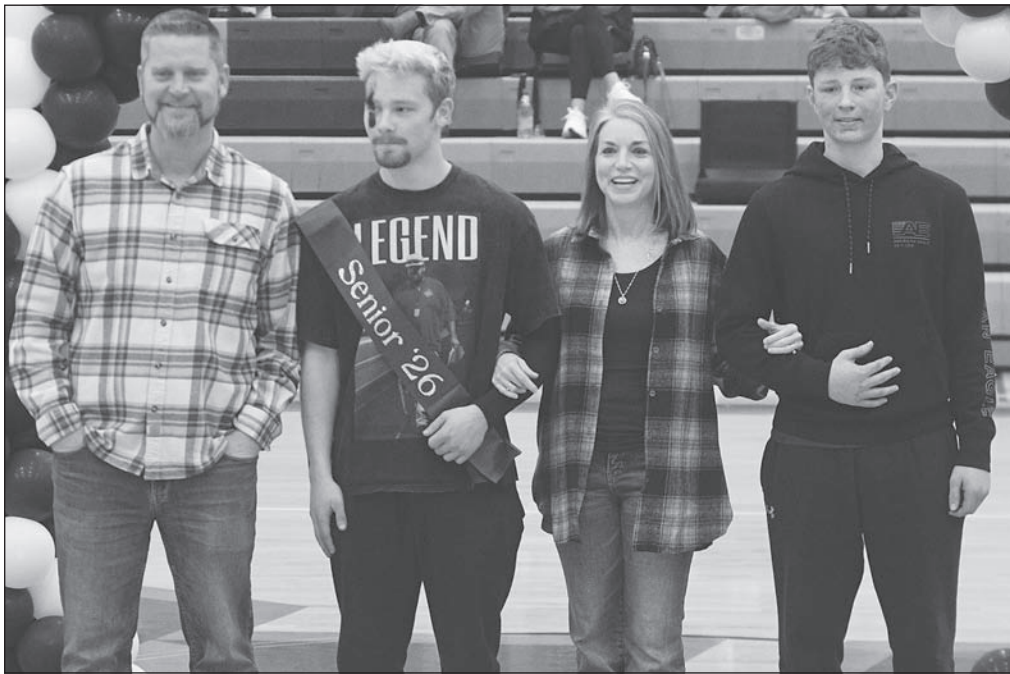
Evan May was escorted by dad John May. She will attend the UNG in the fall.

Cheyne Smith was escorted by parents Scott and Jen Smith and brother Reece. After high school he plans to attend the UNG to study kinesiology for physical therapy.

Aidan St. John was escorted by parents Brittany and Anthony St. John. He looks forward to joining Elite Lineman School after graduation.



Evan May



Cheyne Smith

Lady Cats

Continued from 1B

and we just never really bounced back. They're a very good defensive team. It comes down to you — you've got to be able to execute because they're going to plug up the paint and they're not going to let you get to the rim on the drive. You're going to have to take two hard dribbles and kick it, and do some of those things."

Freshman Mak Taylor was the lone Lady Cat in double figures with 15 points, which included four three-pointers. Overall, it was a rough shooting night for the Cats at 27 percent, while HHS made 51 percent of its attempts.

The Cats were ahead 9-6 after the first and 20-17 at halftime.

The Generals tied the score at 23-23 late in the third and outpaced GHS 17-5 in the quarter. Once they took the lead, it would not be relinquished. The Cats were down 34-25 to begin the fourth, where the Generals extended their margin of victory to 12 points.

Jace Sanderson scored seven, Griggs added six, Paula Robertson had five, and Bree Burnette finished with four. Griggs was the top rebounder with eight.

"When they went on a little run and got up a few, I think we kind of panicked and got out of the mindset that we needed to execute an offense," Dowse said. "People are just trying to make individual plays, and it just didn't happen for us. But credit to them — they're good. They're a good team that plays very, very well together, especially defensively."

GHS defeated Northwest by 24 points the first time they faced each other last month, but the Bruins did not go quietly Friday.

Sanderson scored 13, while Griggs and Robertson contributed 12 and 11, respectively. NHS opened a 10-5 lead, which GHS trimmed to 15-12 by the end of the first.

The teams traded three points to begin the second, and Robertson and Sanderson added points in the post. Points were traded evenly for much of the quarter, and a Griggs basket with 1:30 before halftime moved Gilmer ahead, 29-28.

GHS entered the third quarter with a 31-30 edge. Gilmer made five threes in the first half but only hit one more over the third and fourth quarters.

Sanderson and Robertson both scored four points to start the third. GHS did most of its damage from the free-throw line and only made one shot from the field over the final 5:45 of the quarter.

NHS led 48-45 with eight minutes to play, and shots stopped falling for the Cats. GHS made 2-of-10 attempts in the fourth, which NHS began with five straight points. The Bruins led by as much as 16 points en route to their upset win.

"We gave up 64 points, which is the most they've scored all season," Dowse said. "We scored 51 and that's not great, but we should win games if we score that much and play defense like we've been playing."

Taylor grabbed five rebounds, and Robertson and Griggs had four each.

Gilmer is 14-9 overall and 8-3 versus region opponents. The Cats traveled to LaFayette (16-9) at press deadline.

Bobcats

Continued from 10B

Mason West. Callihan and McVey added points, and the Bruins led 14-13 after the first.

Bryant had success driving to the basket for layups and fouls in the second. NHS maintained its lead for a 25-24 half-time edge.

Callihan, Bryant and Andrew Chastain drained

three pointers in the third while McVey provided four more points in the post.

With the score even at 45-all to start the fourth, GHS continued to have success from outside. Bryant, Chastain and Callihan all made another three. However, Gilmer only made two more shots from the field.

NHS went on a 9-3 run with four minutes

left to open a 56-48 lead. GHS never got closer than six points, and the Bruins went on to win by 10.

Chastain, McVey and Callihan all scored 10 points apiece, and Bryant dished four assists.

GHS is 7-16 overall and 3-8 in the region. The Cats wrapped up the regular season at press deadline versus LaFayette (14-9).

Wrestling

Continued from 1B

consolation finals for third place. Glady Lopez (130, 2-2) and LucyAnn McArthur (145, 3-2) both secured fourth place to qualify for sectionals along with their aforementioned teammates.

Salma Gonzalez (120, 2-2) and Estephany Becerra (140, 3-2) placed fifth, while Alicia Tercero (125, 2-3) was sixth. Also taking the mat for the Cats were Allison Hernandez (115, 2-2), Jamie Sebastian (170, 2-2) and Jessica Lucas (155, 0-2).

Cherokee (129 points), Central Carroll (111) and Dawson County (83)

rounded out the top five in the team standings.

GHS was at Central Gwinnett Friday for sectionals, and three Lady Cats placed high enough to make it to state.

Abelinda Tercero won two matches before a rematch from region. This time, Garbuzova secured a 4-3 decision. Erika Tercero went 3-1 to place third. Juana Tercero (2-2) finished fourth and was Gilmer's final state qualifier.

McArthur (2-2) was fifth, Velasquez (1-3) placed sixth, and Lopez (0-2) took the mat for two matches.

Gilmer will make its way to the Clayton County Convocation Center Friday and Saturday for the traditional state tournament.

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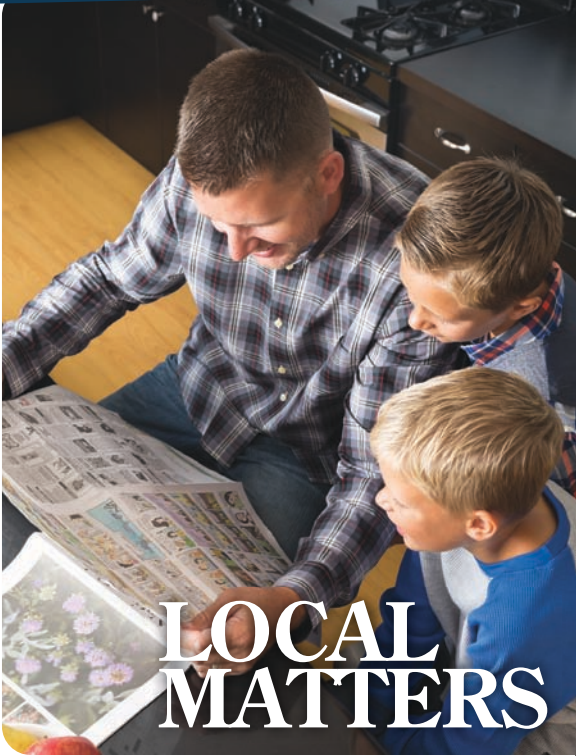
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Tracing Our Revolutionary Heritage: William McLeod 1761-1857

OBITUARY.

Another Soldier of the Revolution gone to rest.

Died, at his late residence, in Fannin county, Ga., on the 3d day of January, 1856, after an illness of fourteen days, WILLIAM MCLEOD, in the 75th year of his age. He was born in Scotland, 15th August, 1761, emigrated to America in 1772, took up arms in defence of his country at the early age of 16, and struggled hard in the American cause for liberty, under the command of Generals Greene and Davidson, and was at the Battles of Briar Creek, Eutaw Springs and Catawba Ford, where the brave General Davidson fell. He lived a pious, exemplary life, admired by all his acquaintances, was an acceptable member of the Presbyterian church for 73 years, and died in the full triumphs of the Christian faith. Thus quietly his spirit passed from this (and we trust) to a higher and nobler world, leaving behind eight children, together with a large circle of warm and faithful friends to mourn their sad loss through life, in this world of trouble and vale of tears.

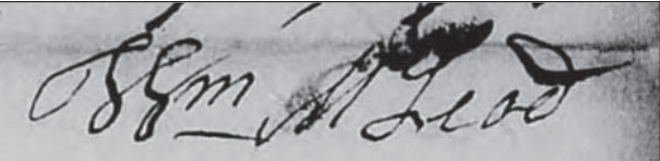
By long experience have I known
Thy sovereign power to save;
At thy command I venture down,
Securely to the grave.

When I lie buried deep in dust,
My flesh shall be thy care;
These withering limbs with thee I trust,
To raise them strong and fair.

A FRIEND.

Contributed photo

Augusta Weekly Chronicle, 5 Mar 1856, microfilm at UGA.



Contributed photo

Signature Wm McLeod, pension application, Fold3, p9

North Carolina, No. 23638
Georgia.

William M. McLeod

of Macon Co. in the State of N. Carolina

who was a Private in the company commanded by Captain Crawford of the Regt. commanded by _____ in the N. Carolina Troops, time for 10 months

Enrolled on the Roll of North Carolina at the rate of 33 Dollars 33 Cents per annum to commence on the 1st day of March, 1831.

Contributed photo

Transfer of pension from NC to GA; \$33.33; Ancestry

By Rebecca Holt Amerson
Captain James Kell Chapter, NSDAR

His obituary in the newspaper began with “Another soldier of the Revolution gone to rest...” William McLeod came from Scotland as a young man, shortly before the war began. North Carolina was the first colony to vote for independence in April 1776. He would soon join the fight and the North Carolina Line under Brigadier General Griffith Rutherford.

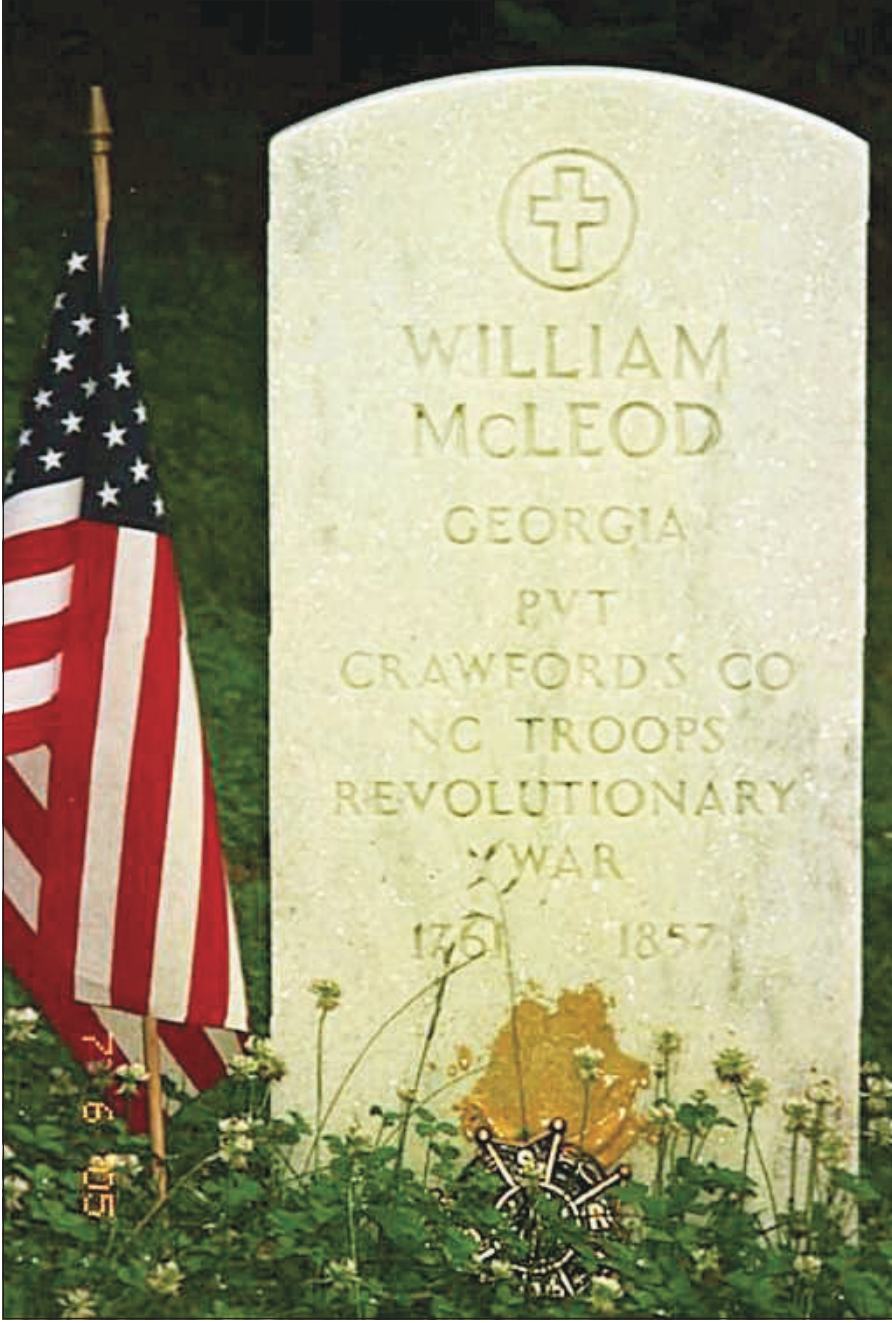
In his first tour, young Pvt. McLeod enlisted with the militia regiment of Major Lewis and Captain William Wilson in November 1778, serving for seven months. By the end of 1778 the British had captured Savannah, marking the start of the Southern Campaign. In the first campaign “I marched through Charlotte in NC and Camden SC to within ten miles of Charleston in the same State thence westward to Purrysburg ten miles above Savannah GA & up & down the Savannah River.” This march would have been over 300 miles.

Two most important battles in Georgia took place during this time – Kettle Creek in February and Brier Creek in March 1779.

McLeod’s second enlistment was June-October 1781 with General Nathanael Greene and Colonel Francois de Malmady. “We rendezvoused at Salisbury NC and marched thence to Charlotte thence to Camden SC thence across the Wateree River on to the Congaree River at the High Hills near Waynesboro where we joined General Greene” at Eutaw Springs, a trip of about 200 miles. During the battle, “Colonels Light Horse Harry Lee and William Washington were on our right & left.”

The American force attacked the British on Sept. 8, 1781, and captured around 500 British soldiers early in the Battle of Eutaw Springs. Eventually Greene had to retreat in what was one of the final battles in South Carolina. The British would fall back to Charleston and in only a month, the British would surrender at Yorktown.

McLeod “returned with prisoners to Rowan thence into Virginia on the North side of Dan River 25 miles where we were relieved & returned to



Sugar Hill Cemetery, near Skeenah Creek Mill, Fannin County.

the Shallow Ford on the Yadkin River where we were discharged.”

William McLeod was counted in the first national census of 1790 in Iredell County, N.C. By the 1830 Census, William had moved with his family to Macon County, N.C., where he made his first application as a soldier of the Revolution for a pension. He had served approximately a year and would receive an annual pension of \$33.33.

By 1850, William, age 93, was living with his wife Catharine, next door to the families of his sons Ebenezer and Mason and his daughter Sophia Braw-

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