



Did two of television's early stars dislike each other so much that they torpedoed their own proposed series?

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Area High School Basketball Coverage

Sports, Page 10-A



The Star Vindicator Mercury

The Oldest Business in Meriwether County

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CALLAWAY LADY CAVALIERS WIN THREE IN A ROW - The Callaway High Lady Cavalier basketball team won three games last week. The season is winding down with all the area teams completing regular season play this week and are looking to begin the region and state playoff games soon. See Sports Page 10A.

Payroll Delayed By Bank for Meriwether School District

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

Employees of the Meriwether County School System had their payroll checks delayed but processed as quickly as possible after the issue was discovered, according to a statement released by Colony Bank on Friday, Jan. 31.

Superintendent Dr.

Robert Griffin confirmed on Friday employees of the system had not received paychecks as normally scheduled due to an internal error by the bank used by the school system.

"We understand the important of timely paychecks being received on time by our employees," Dr. Griffin said. "We worked with our bank to resolve the issue as quickly as possible to get the employees paid. We want to thank our employees for being patient while the issues is being resolved."

Colony Bank, who serves the school system, issued a statement on Friday stating the bank "apologized for the delay that temporarily impacted some payments and direct deposits scheduled for Jan. 31."

The bank noted that as soon as the issue became aware it acted immediately to begin processing payments and did so throughout the day on Friday.

"We understand how important payday is and regret any inconvenience this may have caused," Colony Bank said in a release to media. "Most importantly, please rest assured that your funds have remained secure at all times. Thank you for your patience and trust."

Photo By LG Broadcasting

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Photo Submitted

ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE - Kudos to Quanshala Dean and Andrew Davis for winning the 9-week attendance challenge by showing up to school every single day! Their commitment to being present and ready to learn was outstanding and set a great example for their classmates. Pictured with Quanshala and Andrew is social worker Natisha Evans.

Woodbury Council Approves Quote for Zoning Map Work

By JACK BAGLEY

The Woodbury City Council took the first step toward restoring a zoning ordinance to the city by approving a bid from Canvas Planning Group to look at the city's previous zoning ordinance and bring it up to date.

When representatives of Triple C Property Management came before the Council last year to seek zoning approval for Woodbury Village, Mayor Ronnie Garrett noted that the city's zoning ordinance, passed in 2019, was invalid. A proper zoning map for the city had not been created and the ordinance was not enforceable.

The city has been working to rectify the issue, hav-

ing ordered a six-month moratorium on zoning requests, three months of which are now past. The Council sought bids for revising the city's ordinance, and Canvas Planning Group was the low bidder at \$15,000 to look at the 2002 ordinance, revise it to bring it up to date, and produce a legal zoning map.

The Council also approved the preliminary plat for the Woodbury Village development. The Council members discussed the plat and the number of phases that will be used in the development of Woodbury Village.

The next regular meeting of the Woodbury City Council will be Monday, February 24, at 6 p.m. at City Hall.

Two Manchester Men Arrested In Talbot Arson Investigation

By JACK BAGLEY

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation has arrested two Manchester men in connection with a November 6, 2023 incident in Talbot County.

According to published reports, Jimmy Buchanan, 70, and Wallace Copeland, 62, both of Manchester, were arrested January 31 by the GBI on two counts of arson and one count of conspiracy to commit arson. The arrests followed an investigation launched by the Georgia Commissioner of Insurance and Fire

Safety into a house fire in Shiloh, in Talbot County.

Information on the blaze was not immediately available. Buchanan and Copeland were booked into the Harris County Jail on the charges.

Aiding the GBI in the investigation were the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance and Fire Safety, Manchester Police, Meriwether County Sheriff's Deputies, and Harris County Sheriff's Deputies. Officials said the investigation into the incident is ongoing and additional charges are expected.



Photo Submitted

SPELLING BEE WINNERS - Meriwether County Schools held the annual Spelling Bee on January 29, 2025, bringing together some of the district's brightest spellers. Students from Mountain View Elementary, Unity Elementary, Greenville Middle School, and Manchester Middle School showcased their hard work, determination, and vocabulary skills in an exciting competition. We are proud to congratulate our Runner-Up, Aubreyonta Lockhart from Greenville Middle School, and our 2025 MCSS Spelling Bee Champion, Chloe Gates from Manchester Middle School! Their dedication and perseverance were evident throughout the competition, and we commend all participants for their outstanding efforts. A special thank you to our teachers, administrators, and families for supporting these students on their journey to success. We look forward to seeing Chloe represent Meriwether County Schools at the next level of competition!

Commission Votes to Repair Melvin Harris, Stovall Roads

By JACK BAGLEY

The Meriwether County Commission voted at its January 28 meeting to apply LMIG funding to work on Melvin Harris and Stovall Roads, which were judged to be the worst roads in the county.

During the discussion, Commissioner Bryan Threadgill told the other members that last year his district did not receive any LMIG funding, and asked that at least one road in District 4 be considered for work this year. Threadgill said that up until last year, the Commissioners had demonstrated what he called "respect" to divide LMIG funding so that each district received a share for road work. Commissioner Gene King said that instead of looking at districts that did or did not get anything, the county should be showing which are the most traveled roads with the most damage, and those should be prioritized no matter which district they are in.

Chairman Adam Worsley asked which roads in the county are in the worst shape, and the listing prepared by the county showed that Melvin Harris Road - which stretches across Districts 3, 4 and 5 - and Stovall Road in the northern part of the county. Following more discussion, especially including possible traffic counts on some roads, the Commissioners voted to approve submitting Melvin Harris and Stovall Roads for work.

The Commissioners voted to table the approval of bids received for countywide aerial flight, a process in which any construction done would be noticed whether permits had been acquired or not. Two bids for the flights were received - one from Sanborn Geospatial for \$88,630.21, and one from Eagle View for \$193,585. The Eagle View bid included two flights over the three years of the contract, along with what was called a change option, which would alert if something had been built on property that had not been there

before. Sanborn offered only one flight and the change option, but at an additional price. Staff recommended going with Eagle View for the second flight and change option, but the Commissioners voted to table the question until representatives from Eagle View could come to a meeting and present their services to the board.

In other business, the Meriwether County Commission:

- Appointed Chuck Bell to the District 1 seat on the Lake Meriwether Advisory Board;
- Appointed Mike Womack to the Zoning Board of Appeals;
- Appointed Allen Parham to the Joint Development Authority of Coweta, Fayette and Meriwether Counties;
- Approved a bid from Rubio and Sons Interiors not to exceed \$430,000 for buildout on the county elections office;
- Approved the banking and financial services signature card for 2025;
- Approved a bid not to exceed \$40,000 from Bethesda Appraisal Services for residential cost tables;
- Approved re-advertising for bids for commercial revaluation;
- Tabled to February 10 a decision on Cane Creek Bridge after the single bid received came in higher than budget and learning from CSX Railroad that new requirements must be completed;
- Approved acceptance of grant agreements from ACCG GCIP for interns for Planning and Zoning and Probate Court;
- Approved an intergovernmental agreement with the city of Manchester for animal control services; and
- Approved the employment contract for County Administrator John Gorton, effective January 9.

The next regular meeting of the Meriwether County Commission will be Monday, February 10, at 6 p.m.



Meriwether County and Hogansville Community Calendar

Meriwether County Industrial Development Authority meeting, 4 pm Monday, February 10. The public is invited to attend.

Meriwether County Commission meeting, 6 pm Monday, February 10. The public is invited to attend.

Warm Springs City Council meeting, 6:30 pm Monday, February 10. The public is invited to attend.

Luthersville City Council meeting, 6 pm Tuesday, February 11. The public is invited to attend.

Manchester City Council meeting, 6 pm Tuesday, February 11. The public is invited to attend.

Meriwether County Board of Education meeting, 6 pm Tuesday, February 11. The public is invited to attend.

Lake Meriwether Board meeting, 7 pm Tuesday, February 11. The public is invited to attend.

Hogansville City Council meeting, 7 pm Monday, February 17. The public is invited to attend.

Manchester Development Authority meeting, 9 am Thursday, February 20. The public is invited to attend.

Greenville City Council work session, 5 pm Thursday, February 20. The public is invited to attend.

Woodbury City Council meeting, 6 pm Monday, February 24. The public is invited to attend.

Meriwether County Commission meeting, 6 pm Tuesday, February 25. The public is invited to attend.

Readers are urged to call ahead and confirm that events listed here are still being held.

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

Warm Springs to Opt Out of House Bill 581 Exemptions

Submitted to the S-M-V

The Mayor and Council Members voted to Opt-Out of GA HB 581 the statewide adjusted base year ad valorem homestead exemption for the City of Warm Springs GA. As part of the process, the mayor and council will hold three public hearings at City Hall in Council Chambers located at 3636 Whitehouse Parkway Warm Springs, GA 31830 on February 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., February 20 at 12:00 p.m. and February 24 at 6:00 p.m.

Georgia House Bill 581 took effect on January 1, 2025, and introduced a statewide floating homestead exemption that caps the annual increase in home values for tax purposes. The exemption impacts property taxes for cities, counties, and school

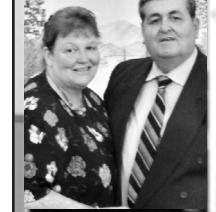
districts. HB 581 allows cities, counties, and school districts to opt out of the property tax cap.

While this was designed to provide property tax relief, the legislation could result in significant funding restrictions for municipalities potentially impacting public safety, city programs, and staff retention. Opting out of this exemption will allow the mayor and the council to continue to make financial decisions that align with our principles and needs of the City of Warm Springs community. Residents may address the Mayor and Council Members at three public hearings.

It is important to also note to our community residents that the decision to Opt-Out will not affect any existing exemptions for the City of Warm Springs residents.

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Photo Submitted

HOGANSVILLE ELEMENTARY STUDENTS OF MONTH - Congratulations to our Students of the Month for January! Kindergarten: Kyrie Tigner, Raleigh LeMay, Westin Powell, Jazmin Benitez, Yeimmy Quiroz Juarez (not pictured); 1st Grade: Eva Pinney, Brayden Hunsinger, Kyden Banks, Gracie Hickman, Amelia Hall; 2nd Grade: Joselyn Champion, Liam Anderson, Cooper Stroud, Mason Gates; 3rd Grade: Camden Swope, James Baxley, KyShawn Prather; 4th Grade: Braelyn Wilson, Journee Kenerley, Rinoa Mann; 5th Grade: Lucas Pike, Jordyn Garrett, Morgan Cato.

President Theatre Announces Its 2025 Concert Schedule

Submitted to the S-M-V

The President Theatre in Manchester has announced its 2025 concert schedule.

The Gold Standard Band will bring its high energy mix of 60s and 70s classic Soul, Motown and Carolina Beach music to Manchester on March 1st.

The Brotherhood, a Doobie Brothers Tribute Band will take the stage on May 17th. The Brotherhood is dedicated to capturing the essence of the legendary Georgia band and emulating their authentic concert experience.

The GlowBand will return on June 7th with their famous "Tribute to the Eagles & Friends" show. The GlowBand's note perfect renditions of Eagles classic tunes

are well known throughout North Georgia.

Turkey Creek Gospel sold out the house in 2024, and they will return to the President Theatre on July 19th with their renditions of Bluegrass Gospel classics.

The Return will wrap up the 2025 concert season on August 23rd with their Beetles Tribute Show. The Beetles launched the British invasion of American popular music in 1964, and the band is considered one of the most influential acts of the time. The Return will perform songs from every part of the band's record setting career.

All concerts begin at 7 p.m., and tickets are \$25 each. Tickets will be available through the President Theatre web site.



Photo Submitted

HES SHOUT OUT - This week's Shout Out is going out to our PreK team! Just this week, we had a visitor from the state come and visit our PreK classrooms. While we always get to see the awesome things happening in PreK, it's fun to hear from others! Our State PreK Specialist said, "While in the classroom today the specialist observed centers, large group Phonological Awareness and small groups. All teachers and children communicated with calm voices and positive language. Teachers were observed responding to children's needs quickly. Children freely participated in conversations. Teachers were patient when redirecting and students responded well. Fantastic job setting expectations and establishing solid routines." We want to shout them out and say thank you for all that they do for our PreK students! #greenwaveprekawesome



Flint Energies Grants Libraries \$50,000

Submitted to the S-M-V

ed by Flint Energies Consumer-members through Operation Round Up®. The electric cooperative's Members contribute \$175,000 annually to the Flint Energies Foundation, which supports worthy causes in the 17 counties it serves. Operation Round Up is a way for participating Members to support multiple charitable organizations by simply allowing Flint Energies to round up their bills to the nearest dollar. Donations to Operation Round Up, which average only about \$6 per year per member, are tax deductible. About 40% of Flint's Membership participates in Operation Round Up, but that percentage continues to decline. If you are a Flint Energies Consumer-member and wish to contribute, you can sign up at www.flintenergies.com/ORU or by calling 1.800.342.3616.

Bill Tripp represented Pine Mountain Regional Library, Houston County Public Library, Peach Public Library, Middle Georgia Regional Library, and Lake Blackshear Regional Library, all of which are part of the Public Information Network for Electronic Services System (PINES). Mr. Tripp stated, "PINES allows cardholders free access to books and other materials in nearly 300 library branches and affiliated service outlets throughout the state. The demand for digital e-books and audiobooks available through the Georgia Download Destination (GADD) has increased exponentially, with over 194,000 pending hold requests for certain titles. The average wait for the e-books and audiobooks is 52 days. These funds will assist with purchasing digital copies of e-books and audiobooks for use by the public library users in the Georgia Download Destination (GADD)."

The Flint Energies Foundation, a state-chartered, non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization, disburses all contributions to approved projects; Member contributions are not used for administration costs. Foundation Board members include Chair Joanne Hamlin, Lizella; Vice Chair Eloise Doty, Butler; Secretary Connie McCutchen, Midland; Treasurer John Lippino, Warner Robins; Gina Fink, Fort Valley; Charles Harrison, Grovania; Pat Bartness, Warner Robins; Traci Kemp, Warner Robins; Betty Chase, Oglethorpe; Roger Sinyard, Mauk; and Ian Russell, Fort Valley.

Meriwether County to Opt Out of HB 581 Exemption

Submitted to the S-M-V

County Board of Commissioners. "The statewide exemption under H.B. 581 ties taxable home values to inflation, which could lead to higher taxes over time. Our existing floating exemption ensures affordability and stability for Meriwether County residents."

Three public hearings will be held to provide information and gather feedback from residents:

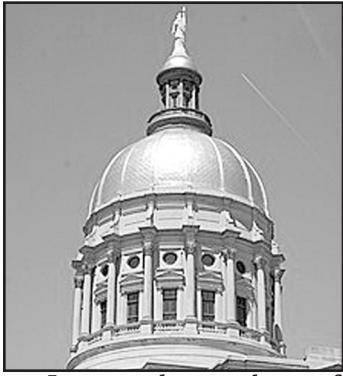
- February 3, 2025, at 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
- February 11, 2025, at 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
- February 18, 2025, at 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

All hearings will take place at the Meriwether County Board of Commissioners Office, 17234 Roosevelt Highway, Building B, Greenville, GA 30222.

Residents are encouraged to attend these hearings to learn more about the exemptions and ask questions. For additional information, visit www.meriwethercountyga.gov.

INTENT TO OPT OUT OF HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

The Meriwether County Board of Education intends to opt out of the statewide adjusted base year ad valorem homestead exemption for the Meriwether County School District. All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearing on this matter to be held at the Meriwether County Board of Education on Friday, January 31, 2025, at 8 AM. Times and places of additional public hearings on this matter are at the Meriwether County Board of Education on Monday, February 10, 2025, at 11 AM and Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 6 PM.



Under the Gold Dome

A Report on the 2025 Georgia General Assembly

State Representative Debbie Buckner



Last week, members of the Georgia House of Representatives returned to the State Capitol following a winter storm that impacted much of the southern part of the state. One of our primary responsibilities this week was to hear from Chief Justice Michael Boggs of the Georgia Supreme Court as he delivered his State of the Judiciary address to a joint session of the House and Senate in the House Chamber. House Appropriations Subcommittees and full House committees also began to meet.

On Monday, we began the week with a moment of reflection and remembrance, honoring the millions of innocent lives lost during the Holocaust. Through the adoption of House Resolution 50, which designates January 27, 2025, as International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the House reaffirmed our commitment to ensuring that such atrocities are never forgotten. Monday also marked the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, which served as a poignant reminder of the resilience of humanity in the face of unimaginable suffering.

Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs addressed the House and Senate on Tuesday and began his State of the Judiciary address by emphasizing the rise in public confidence in state courts, noting that more than half of Americans now give positive ratings to their state judicial systems. He also highlighted that Georgia courts are proactively examining the impact of generative artificial intelligence (AI) on our legal system and have formed a committee to assess their findings and discover what challenges or opportunities could come from the use of AI in the judicial system. He emphasized the positive work being done to improve outcomes for veterans in our state's criminal justice system.

The chief justice also reported that in recent years, attacks and threats targeting Georgia's courts, including those aimed at judges, have been on the rise. He highlighted a statistic from the United States Marshals Service, which revealed that threats against federal judges have nearly tripled over the past decade. In

response to this escalating trend, Chief Justice Boggs proposed a series of upgrades to physical security measures, alongside comprehensive training initiatives designed to ensure that security situations are not only effectively managed but also prevented.

In addition to hearing the State of the Judiciary address, the pace of our legislative work certainly picked up as the House Appropriations Subcommittees continued meeting to review the sections of the Amended Fiscal Year (AFY) 2025 budget. Each subcommittee carefully examines a specific section of Governor Kemp's budget proposals, eventually passing sections of the budgets from their respective subcommittees. Each budget section will then be presented to the full House Appropriations Committee, where members will collaborate to form one unified budget before the budget bill moves on to the House Rules Committee for further consideration and scheduling of a full vote on the House floor.

In addition, several full House committees have started meeting to discuss various bills assigned to them based on policy area. Once a bill passes out of its respective committee, it moves to the Rules Committee before being added to the House calendar for a vote by the whole House. After passing the House, the bill follows a similar process in the Senate, where it may be amended. If there are differences between the House and Senate versions, a conference committee is appointed to resolve them, and the final version then returns to both chambers for a final vote. If approved, it is sent to Gov. Kemp for either his signature or veto. This is the process we follow for all legislation, including the AFY 2025 and FY 2026 budgets.

Also, last week, my colleagues and I gathered in the House Chamber for a special event for the unveiling of former Dean of the House Calvin Smyre's official portrait at the Georgia State Capitol, celebrating his remarkable 48-year career in the Georgia House of Representatives. Smyre, the longest-serving member in the state's history, is only the seventh African American to have such a dis-

tinction. The ceremony was attended by former Georgia governors, lieutenant governors, a United States congressman, friends, family and colleagues—many of whom spoke of Dean Smyre's contributions to Georgia's political landscape. Former Governor Roy Barnes and former Governor Sonny Perdue were among those present for the event, and former Governor Joe Frank Harris also shared a heartfelt letter read during the event. Dean Smyre's legacy will now be immortalized at the State Capitol for future generations to admire.

We also took time to celebrate Lunar New Year at the Capitol, a significant cultural holiday observed by many across Asia. Lunar New Year marks the start of a new year based on the lunar calendar.

Finally, to end our week, we stood for a moment of silence to remember the victims of the tragic mid-air collision that took place at Reagan Washington National Airport, and, among the victims were two individuals with ties to Georgia. Sam Lilley, the first officer aboard Flight 5342, was a graduate of Richmond Hill High School in Bryan County and Georgia Southern University. Ryan O'Hara, a 2014 graduate of Parkview High School in Lilburn, was serving as a Blackhawk helicopter Crew Chief. The House mourns this profound loss, and our thoughts and prayers are with all of the victims and their families.

We will return to the State Capitol on Monday, February 3rd for our fourth week of session. My colleagues and I will continue to consider legislation that best serves Georgians, and I will be sure to update you about our legislative work. As we continue through the session, I hope that you will reach out with your questions or concerns regarding legislation and the issues that are significant to you and your family.

The Board's decision reflects a steadfast dedication to the future of Meriwether County's students and the long-term prosperity of the county.

While keeping the school taxes flat through local actions, we have increased teacher salaries to be more competitive, expanded student support for success, updated our curriculum, significantly increased school safety, given our teachers more training, and eliminated our debt thus allowing the School Board to issue bonds in 2024 for the purpose of improving school facilities. The School Board has a consistent record of responsible use of our taxing authority and will continue the same common-sense approach. We will continue to be careful managers of your money and ask that you continue to place your trust in us rather than politicians who do not live, work, and learn in Meriwether County.

The Board supports responsible tax relief; however, failing to opt out of HB 581 would lock the School System



Photo Submitted

HES FEATURES YOUNG GEORGIA WRITERS - Hogansville Elementary is pleased to announce the school-wide winners of this year's Young Georgia Author's writing competition. Sponsored by the Georgia RESA Network and Georgia Language Arts Supervisors, this competition encourages students to develop excellence in writing by providing a platform to recognize and celebrate their success. The following winning students will have their writing submitted for judging on the system level and if chosen as a winner, their writing will move on to the regional level with the opportunity to eventually be judged against all of the regional winners across the state within their respective grade levels. Hogansville winners include: Gwen Holloway (3rd grade), Ainsley Thomas (4th Grade), & Adelaide Reyes (5th Grade) Congratulations to the awesome Greenwave students!

Deaths and Funerals

Junior Ray Cobb

April 17, 1943 - January 30, 2025
Retired from Vulcan Materials

Mr. Junior Ray Cobb, 81, of Greenville, passed away Thursday, January 30, 2025, at his home. Born April 17, 1943, in Randolph County Alabama, Mr. Cobb was the son of the late Albert and Bessie Waldrop Cobb. He attended Rocky Mount Baptist Church and retired from Vulcan Materials in Red Oak as a superintendent. Mr. Cobb loved his very large family and loved farming, gardening and canning, grilling and cooking, camping, fishing, and cruising.

Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Ellen White Cobb; his children, Tammy Cape (Jeff), Sam Cobb (Pam), Penny Mitchell (William), Bessie Frazier (Doug), Anthony Cobb (Daron), and Nodja Williamson (Marcus); brother, Gay Cobb; grandchildren, Stephanie (Chris), Jaba (Melinda), Hope (Charles), Michael (Makia), Telina (KC), Kayla (Brandon), Dustin (Shanan), Noelle (Danny), Tresden, Shannon (Pierre), Alexis, Alyssa (Justin), Alena (Jeric), Sammy, Austin (Hannah), Lacy, Chase, Megan (Nathan), and Aaron; 38 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren. In addition to his parents, Mr. Cobb was preceded in death by his granddaughter, Misty Cobb; great-grandson, Parker Anderson; seven sisters; and five brothers.

The funeral service was 2:00 p.m. Saturday, February 1, in the Chapel of Claude A. McKibben and Sons Funeral Home in Hogansville. Pastor Wayne Settle and Pastor Donny Shelton officiated and interment was in Luthersville Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at www.mckibbenfuneralhome.com
Claude A. McKibben and Sons Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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

The "Lighter Side" of the News

Police and animal rescue officers in Missouri came to the rescue of a woman who became stranded in a kayak after saving a dog that fell through the ice on a frozen lake.

The Holts Summit Police Department said on social media that an officer and an animal control officer responded to a report of a dog that fell through the ice of a frozen lake near Dogwood Drive and Summertree Lane.

"Upon arrival, officers discovered that a brave Good Samaritan had taken a kayak onto the frozen lake in an attempt to save the dog," the post said. "While the dog had been successfully rescued, the female in the kayak became stuck on the ice, unable to safely return to shore."

The officers used a water rescue throw bag to reach the woman and tow her kayak back to shore.

"Thankfully, both the dog and the female were unharmed," police wrote.

OFFICER NEEDED

The City of Warm Springs is now accepting applications for **Police Chief position**. The **Police Chief** will serve as the head of the Warm Springs Police Department, responsible for overseeing all police operations, ensuring the safety and security of the community, and maintaining public order. This is a working-chief position which requires the Chief to be actively engaged in day-to-day policing activities, emergency on-call, as well as administrative and leadership responsibilities.

Job Type: Full-time/Salaried

Pay: Starting at \$48,000.00 per year

Interested candidates should submit a resume, cover letter, and three (3) professional references to r.crampton@warmspringsga.gov, by 4:30 pm on Friday, February 12th, 2025.

INTENT TO OPT OUT OF HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

The City Council of Woodbury intends to opt out of the statewide adjusted base year ad valorem homestead exemption for the City of Woodbury. All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearing on this matter to be held at **Woodbury Municipal Complex** on **February 6th, 2025, from 6 pm - 7 pm**. Times and places of additional public hearings on this matter are at **Woodbury Municipal Complex** **February 13th, 2025 and February 24th, 2025 from 6 pm - 7 pm**.

Opinions & Ideas

PAGE 4-A - THE MANCHESTER STAR-MERCURY/MERIWETHER VINDICATOR - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2025

THE STAR-MERCURY-VINDICATOR

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Knowing What to Do In Snow Sometimes Pays Off

The snow and ice that descended upon us on January 21 brought some memories back to this old transplanted Chicagoan.

Being from the upper Midwest, of course, I am fully versed in what to do when the snow comes. In fact, many of my friends were quick to say, "You're from Chicago! You know what to do!"

I certainly do.

I go inside where it's warm and I stay off the roads.

Not because I can't handle the chill or the driving, no indeed. But at my age, I do feel the cold a little more intensely, and as for driving - while I may know how to drive in snow and ice, most of the people around me on the roads don't, and I have no desire to meet any of them by accident.

The only real problem I had with the most recent snow and ice came when I got to the office Thursday afternoon, once the roads were drivable. I managed to get into the parking lot (where there was still standing ice) with no issues, but when I started to get out of the car, my foot skidded on the black ice.

That caught my attention right away, as falling on ice at my age (and at my weight) would have definitely made it a very, very bad day.

Yes, I know what to do in that kind of weather.

The snow did make the world seem much more beautiful, though I would imagine many folks here in the South wouldn't share that view. Having had snow almost every winter of my first twelve years, however, I find it makes the landscape gorgeous in a way I cannot explain with words.

Our little brush with the North Pole did bring back some fond memories of snowfall when I was a child. I know I've shared some of this with you before, but it seems appropriate to go over it once again.

The farthest back I can remember clearly enjoying snow was the first of two blizzards which hit Chicago in the early months of 1967. In January of that year, a polar air mass came into the city and, coming across Lake Michigan, brought some seriously heavy snowfall. I don't have the actual figures handy to me at the moment, but if memory serves, we received somewhere between 30 and 36 inches of snow in a 24-hour period.

It was one of the few times schools in Chicago were closed due to snow, as the roads became impassable very quickly and our teachers couldn't get to school. We lived in the neighborhood and walked to school each day, so it wouldn't have been much



Jack Bagley

Musings of An Aging Mind

of an issue for us kids, but if the teachers couldn't get there, what was the point of going?

Hearing that the schools were closed, my brother and I decided to get bundled up and go outside to enjoy the snowfall. While we were getting into our snow togs, the city snowplow came down our street, and by the time we got outside, there was a pile of snow some six or seven feet high in front of our house.

Snow, I might add, that had not yet been touched by booted feet. My brother and I made short work of that, let me assure you.

Getting together with the neighborhood kids, we had our snowball fights, built our snowmen, made snow angels, and did all the other things kids do when the white stuff falls from the sky.

Another blizzard hit the city in April of that year, but because things had warmed up somewhat, the roads weren't impassable and we got the joy of walking to school in two feet of snow. Do you know how much snow you can get in a pair of galoshes if you really try? I found out.

Another snowfall of fond memory came in the winter of 1973. The family had moved to Georgia by then and we were living in Columbus, and on a Friday morning it started to snow rather heavily. I was in ninth grade at Spencer High, and as we watched the flakes descending, the intercom crackled with the news that the schools were being shut down so the buses could get kids home.

Some of you may remember the 1973 snowstorm. It was a great time for me and my siblings, and I still have somewhere a picture of my sister in the back yard throwing a snowball the size of a bowling ball up into the air, with a delighted smile on her face.

The winter after I started working here at the newspaper also saw a significant snow event - the last big one in this area before January 21, in fact. I drove in to work from Pine Mountain, a 20-minute drive that took two hours, and my boss met me at the door wondering if I'd lost my mind.

Nope. I knew what to do.

Get inside, get warm, and try to stay off the roads as much as possible.

I Wanted To But Common Sense Said, "Don't Do It!"

I have to admit the snow that fell across Georgia recently was a beautiful sight that brought back some old memories, as well as a reminder that I'm getting really, really old.

My last few memories about snow that happened when I was a young man were really good ones, and when the snow fell recently I wanted to make more memories, but common sense kicked in and I'll explain that statement a little later in this column.

One of my favorite memories about snow was the last chance I had to spend with my grandmother. Telling my age, I was 15 then and it was 1973 and I'll never forget it for many reasons.

We lived on a farm in Harris County and I would rise early everyday before school to feed the animals and livestock and do other chores around the farm before leaving for school. That morning was extremely cold and the wind was strong.

Back in the day, there were no text messages or quick ways to find out about the weather, or if schools were closing, etc. The only way you had to find out was by the radio or television. By the time I had finished my morning chores and returned to the house,

breakfast was ready and I was certainly ready for it.

"There won't be any school today," my grandmother told me.

I was a little shocked and happy at the same time until she announced the second part of her news.

"There is a winter storm coming and I'm glad school has been cancelled because we have to get the animals and plants ready," she said.

Before I finished breakfast snow had started to fall and so had the direction from my grandmother to get things ready.

"Make sure the cows are stalled in the barn, put the hogs and piglets in shelter, make sure the hen house is closed and blah, blah, blah..." honestly I kind of stopped listening at that point.

Needless to say the snow kept coming. If memory serves me correctly, and I believe it does, some areas of West Central Georgia received about 20 inches of snow during that storm, and I know that Harris County received over a foot of the white stuff.

You could forget going anywhere, but that didn't bother us much because we had everything we needed right there at that old farm-



John Kuykendall
Publisher & Editor

men, tossing some snowballs and just enjoying that white blanket of snow. I would always ask my grandmother to go out with me to enjoy it and she always had the same answer, "No, not taking a chance," she would say.

"A chance of what?" I would always ask and she would always give me the same answer. Back then I thought she just didn't want to go out in the cold, but let's fast forward to the recent snow.

I really wanted to get out there, and make some snow memories, but common sense kicked it and I couldn't help but realize how real Granny's concerns were.

In October I fell and cracked my pelvis, hip and femur. To say that was painful would be an understatement, and to even consider taking a chance of falling again is a big NO, NO for me.

I guess the old cliché, "the older you get the wiser you get" may be true. I kind of think it's more than that. I think that old saying should be changed to say, "the older you get the more pain becomes a reality and you get smart enough not to take a chance at getting hurt." So, maybe I'm not wiser - just more receptive to pain.

So Much Happening in So Little Time

Whether one agrees with him or not, President Donald Trump is making things happen.

Backing up a bit, as Joe Biden's final hours of serving as President of the United States were winding down, he offered one final blow. This came as in the form of a slew of last-minute pardons including one for the esteemed Dr. Anthony Fauci.

As I sit in my desk chair gazing out the window watching cows graze in the neighboring pasture, I cannot help but wonder why Fauci needed a pardon.

For those of you who do not remember, Fauci was the leading advocate for all the draconian measures taken during the Covid pandemic. He helped bring a roaring economy to a standstill and factored into the results of the 2020 Presidential Election.

Is it possible that Fauci misled the American public regarding covid? Did he politicize the pandemic to influence the outcome of a presidential election? Perhaps, in time, the truth will be known.

As for Biden, like some of you toward the end of his tenure I actually began to feel sorry for him.

Old and infirm with mental

faculties fading, he was teetering along the edge of a different reality. Many of us have watched older family members mentally slip away from reality. For our family members this was likely kept personal and private, shared with family and carefully chosen close friends.

For Biden, there was no privacy as the entire world watched. Worse, he was abandoned by those he trusted, including coworkers and those he had deemed friends.

What a sad ending that will be such a significant part of his legacy.

AT THIS writing, Donald Trump has been president for less than two weeks, but has things happening at a rapid pace.

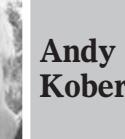
As he promised while on the campaign trail, Trump immediately began tackling the issue of illegal immigration. The arrests of illegal immigrants with criminal records continues at a feverish pace as immigration officials have been given the mandate, and support, to get that job done.

Trump closed Biden's open door policy for illegal immigrants. It has been reported that during the last week Biden was

in office, there was contact with over 20,000 migrants per day seeking to cross the border - that was per day. The first week Trump was in office that total dropped to less than 7,300 migrants the entire week. Apparently, word is getting around the previously open door is now closed.

Illegal immigration was listed as one of the most important issues by voters during last year's Presidential Election, and right or wrong, Trump is addressing the issue. There is a method for legal immigration and it has worked for a very long time.

Another related issue concerned crimes committed by illegal aliens and Trump quickly signed the Laken Riley Act into law. Laken Riley was a 22-



Andy Kober

Columnist

year old nursing student at the University of Georgia. She was murdered by an illegal immigrant who had been arrested regarding previous incidents in both New York and Georgia, but never detained by Biden's Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency, or ICE.

In a nutshell, the Laken Riley Act requires ICE to detain illegal immigrants arrested for certain crimes, and to deport them when arrested for harming others, or assaulting a police officer.

CONCERN over illegal immigration was not the only issue that carried Donald Trump back into the White House by overwhelming margins in both the popular vote and Electoral College, but it would prove to be one of the most pressing.

Trump has been addressing other issues of concern, including DEI initiatives, but will soon have to begin making good on other campaign promises - namely tax reform - that mean a lot to many Americans or he could risk losing some of his most staunch supporters.

That's my opinion.

Andy Kober can be reached at andykober@hotmail.com

Two Short Dad Notes: Know-It-Alls and Messy Rooms

Go ahead and give me an award. You're looking at the parent of the century here. I'll be accepting handshakes until my arm is sore and pats on the back until I'm black and blue because my kids apparently know everything. I've passed on every piece of known wisdom in the universe to their still developing head bones and brain meat.

At least that's how they act when I'm talking to them.

It seems every word that slips from between my beautiful teeth is met with eye rolls or a sarcastically delivered "I know." They're not even teenagers yet. I have a lot to look forward to. I've never been prone to violence, but I'm beginning to see the plus side.

Even if I spit out blatantly false information, my offspring will not only accept it but act as if they knew it before

I did. Yet somehow, when I call them out, I'm the bad guy. In hindsight that's probably not my best parenting move.

Though it is frustrating arguing with a couple of figurative brick walls, it is difficult to be mad at them. It wasn't that long ago that I was young enough to know everything and had the confidence to tout my superior knowledge to my parents and any authority figure within ear shot. Payback is a cruel mistress.

So, I guess you can say they learned it from me. I just hope they learn better sooner than I did.

During a conversation with a group of fellow parents regarding the cleanliness and neatness of our children's rooms one of the mothers posed the question: "Why does it matter? Let their rooms be



Kyle Dominy

New Southern Dad

Yes, some are benign of themselves, but if allowed to gain mass they will eventually affect something else. Other growths can be malignant, causing immediate harm and spread easily to other parts of the body.

The bedroom of an average house is only so big. That pile of laundry will eventually breach the door. Toys and books will begin to make their way to other rooms, until you end up on one of those hoarding television shows and your estranged relatives are trashing your belongings.

Maybe that's a bit of a stretch, but I've never been able to handle messes.

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

History at Our Fingertips ... The "Wayback Machine"

News in the area 40 Years Ago - 1985

From the pages of *The Meriwether Vindicator*

February 8, 1985

Bray Introduces Two Redistricting Bills

Rep. Claude Bray, Jr., introduced two bills Tuesday that will change the way school board members and county commissioners are elected in Meriwether County.

The bills call for boundary redistricting, to provide for five voting districts in Meriwether to serve for school board and county commission elections. The decision to introduce legislation providing for new voting districts was made as a result of court challenges lodged by the "Voter Education Program." The suits were filed so as to include every county in the state.

Meriwether County Commissioners have previously been elected at-large, however there were already existing voting districts for school board elections. These will be changed, and will be the same as those drafted for commission elections.

Bray said drafting the district boundaries was "a difficult job" because each district had to comply with the federal one-man, one-vote rule, and at least one district had to have a 65 percent black population. A second district has a 50 percent black population he said.

A special election of school board members in which the recently drafted voting districts will be used will be held in May.

Man Arrested For Rape In Luthersville Early On Sunday

Meriwether County Sheriff Dan Branch reported Monday afternoon that a 28 year old man had been arrested and charged with rape early Sunday morning, Feb. 3.

According to the report from Sheriff Branch, Robert Brown of Luthersville, was arrested early Sunday morning at her home at approximately 8:30 p.m. Saturday evening.

THE MANCHESTER STAR-MERCURY/MERIWETHER

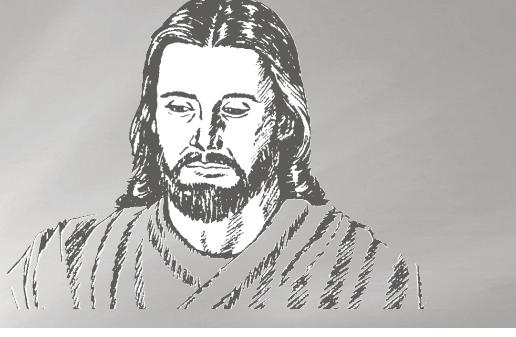
VINDICATOR is published weekly by The Georgia Trust for Local News at 3051 Roosevelt Highway, Manchester, Georgia 31816. The Star-Mercy-Vindicator is published proudly for the citizens of Manchester and Meriwether County and its goal is to produce quality, profitable, community oriented newspapers that you, our readers, are proud of. We will reach that goal through hard work, teamwork, loyalty, and a strong dedication toward printing the truth.

USPS 589-340. Periodical postage paid at Manchester, Georgia, 31816.

Church News and Events

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

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



Hope at (706) 573-8231.

Harvest Time Clothing and Shoes

Harvest Time Community Baptist Church offers Free clothing and shoes to needed Families in the Harris, Troup, Coweta, and Meriwether Counties. If you know of a needed family in your area, please call Mrs. Geneva Blackmon at 706-400-4158. Our service area has expanded since 2017, and we now need volunteers to help distribute clothing in each area. For more info, please email the church at harvesttimeom2@gmail.com or call the Church at 706-400-4158 to our website www.itsharvesttime.org. Harvest Time Community Baptist Church is located 6710 Whitesville Rd, West Point, Ga. Phone 706-400-4158. W. "Bill" Blackmon, Pastor.

Change in Service Time

Valley Grove Baptist Church, Manchester (Tax), will have services on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am until further notice. Safeguards are in place to insure social distancing and masks are required. Hand sanitizer will also be available for use. All are welcome to attend.

Feed My Sheep

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

Harvest Time Outreach Shoe Drive

Pine Mountain Church Need Your Help! Harvest Time Community Baptist Church launches a State-wide shoe Drive by committing to collecting 25,000 pairs of new or slightly worn shoes for developing nations. It's hard to believe that an estimated 600 million pairs of shoes go into America's landfills. The bulk of these shoes can still be worn. The slightly worn or new shoes that Harvest Time Community Baptist Church collect will be kept from landfills and will help others in developing countries. Can you collect or donate 25 pairs of shoes and help? With many people doing a small thing we can achieve great results. Remember, if you can't collect 25, every pair counts. For more info or pickup in your area, please call Ms. Geneva Blackmon, Outreach Ministry Director at 706-400-4158 or email us at harvesttimeom2@gmail.com

Harvest Time Bible Study

Harvest Time Community Baptist Community Church Bible study has been changed from Monday to Wednesday evening at 6:00pm.. This Bible study is open to the whole family. Our Sunday morning service starts with Sunday school at 10:30am and morning worship at 11:00am. Everyone is invited. Harvest Time Community Baptist Church is located 6710 Whitesville Rd, West Point, Ga.

Pentecostal Services

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

Services Offered

Harvest Time Community Baptist Church now offers: Free counselling to veterans, Veterans benefits reference help, Free clothings to veterans and needed families, and Free family counselling. Call the Church at 706-400-4158 for more information and an Appointment. Bill Blackmon, MABC, Pastor. Harvest Time Community Baptist Church is located 6710 Whitesville Rd, West Point, Ga.

Caring & Sharing Food Pantry

The Woodbury Baptist Church Caring & Sharing Food Pantry is open the third Thursday of each month from 1:00 pm til 3:00 pm. The church is located at 106 Dromedary Street, Woodbury, Georgia 30293. Pantry is at the rear entrance of the church.

Good Neighbor

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

Alcoholics Anonymous

If you or a loved one needs help with a drinking problem, Alcoholics Anonymous can help. There are meetings available throughout Meriwether County. Sunday 7:30PM Jones Chapel - Imlac, GA; Monday 8PM Greenville Baptist Church - Greenville, GA; Tuesday 7:30PM Jones Chapel - Imlac, GA; Thursday 8PM First Baptist Church - Pine Mountain, GA.

AI-Anon

Are you troubled by someone's drinking? AI-Anon can help! Local meetings are held Sundays at 7:30 p.m. at Jones Chapel Church in Imlac.

How to Submit News

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

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

Items should pertain to special events, not routine services.

All items received are subject to standard editing for context and grammar.

Sorry, **no flyers accepted, no PUB documents, and no .pdf files.**

February Faith Poem

Cardboard Boxes

It's hard to live the Christian life
when these wall are before my face
these walls of worry, doubt and fear
that hinders me from running this race.

It seems this wall is made of rock
not a glimpse of sun shines through
is there any way I can rid this wall
that keeps me from seeing you.

You say, just push them over
they're cardboard boxes, that is all
it's hard to believe I failed to see
one shove and they all would fall.

Help me always to remember
the choice is mine, there is a way

I can rid that wall of darkness
by throwing aside the boxes today.

-- Gloria Beach

The Point of Critical Decision

Writers note: Today's column marks a personal milestone in my writing ministry. This is the 700th column I have written. And for those of you who are regular readers of my ramblings, you will have many stars in your heavenly crown for your longsuffering! I thank you for your faithfulness, encouragement, and prayers. Brother Aaron



the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." Aaron's interpretation: Get in - or get out! Go, or no go.

Joshua began his dissertation with a history lesson regarding all God had done for them. He knows that he will soon be passing off the scene, and they will have to decide for themselves how the ending of their story will read. Please make no mistake; their decisions will determine how their story ends. So will ours!

There are several things I want to remind us of today:

1: We won't be able to live and minister in a world of constant change unless there is a changeless core within us! "Go or no go?" 2: A divine sense of who we are will determine what we do. "Go or no go?" 3: God has not called us to live someone else's mission or ministry. "Go or no go?" 4: The gifts and calling of God are without repentance. He doesn't call you - and change His mind. "Go or no go?"

Fifty years and eight months ago, Marianne and I reached a point of critical decision. My preacher brother looked at both of us and asked, "Do you promise to love, cherish, etc.?" There it was, the point of critical decision: "Go or no go?" In a life blown by the whirlwinds of change, I promise you that sometimes the only thing that has sustained us has been the changeless core of the love between us and the foundation of faith in God that we stand upon.

The Children of Israel were really consistent at being inconsistent! However, in Joshua 24:15, God uses Joshua to call them out. He brought them to a point of critical decision. He is requiring them to become consistent, one way or the other. As James 1:8 states, "A double minded man is unstable in all his ways." Joshua told them, "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or

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

Special Church Announcements

Gospel Music Singing

Evans Chapel's Gospel Music Singing nights will start up again on Saturday, March 29th, at 6 p.m. We love to host gospel groups that everyone enjoys and hope you'll come join us in this old-time tradition. Light refreshments. Everyone welcome and encouraged to attend. Evans Chapel is located at 3436 Chalybeate Springs Road in Woodland.

Ongoing Church Announcements

Invited to Services

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

First Methodist Manchester Food Pantry

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

Faith Baptist Church Services

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

New Arbor Community Church Services

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

Mt. Sinai Church Announces New Pastor

The Mt. Sinai C.M. E. Church is announcing our new pastor: Rev. John Pollard and our new worship service time. Our services will be held every second and third Sunday at 11a.m. We welcome you to join us to be motivated and encouraged by our pastor and the members of the Mt. Sinai C.M. E. Church. If there are questions or concerns please contact Barbara B. Russell at (404) 242-6421.

Trinity CME In-Person Services

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

Church of Christ at Greentown Heights

The Church of Christ at Greentown Heights is open to worshippers of all ages and backgrounds. We are committed to the teachings of Christ and to spread His message. Feel free to visit one of our services at 407 Roger Brawner Avenue, Manchester, GA. Bible Classes are Wednesdays at 11:00 am and 7:00 pm. Classes are held for all ages at 7:00 pm. Sunday: Sunday School classes for all ages begin at 9:45 am; Worship Service at 11:00 am. We also offer in home Bible studies and free bible correspondence classes. For more information contact Brother Joey Waller at 706-846-2792 or 706-441-0181.

Warm Springs United Methodist Services

Warm Springs United Methodist Church - Sunday Worship 10am. Just ordinary people doing the best we can to worship & serve an extraordinary God. We don't have all the answers, but we know someone who does. We are a traditional progressive church where ALL people are welcome.

Youth/Children Services Weekly

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

Souls for Christ

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

Arise Ministry Podcast

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

Transportation for Friendship Missionary Church

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



Photo Submitted
LAFAYETTE 200TH ANNIVERSARY EXHIBIT COMING TO LONE OAK - In 2024-2025, the nation is celebrating the 200th anniversary of the Marquis de Lafayette's return to the United States in celebration of 50 years of independence. A museum exhibit recognizing anniversary will be on display in the fellowship building at Allen-Lee Memorial United Methodist Church, 4720 Lone Oak Rd. in Lone Oak. Admission is free. Hours for the exhibit will be Sunday, Feb. 16, 2-5 p.m.; and Monday-Wednesday, Feb. 17-19, 1-6 p.m. Allen-Lee's fellowship building is fully handicapped accessible and has handicapped accessible restrooms. For information on group tours, call Winston Skinner at 404-788-3257. For more information on the 200th anniversary celebration visit <https://lafayette200.org/>

100 Years Ago: February 1925

Submitted to the S-M-V

The month of February has been home to many historical events over the years. Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in February 1925.

After a severe depletion of his country's potato crop due to heavy rainfall the previous summer and fall, Irish President W.T. Cosgrave appeals to the United States for food aid on February 1.

The small town of Nome, Alaska, is saved from a developing diphtheria epidemic on February 2 upon conclusion of The Serum Run. The run was a transport of diphtheria antitoxin via dog sled that involved 20 mushers and roughly 150 sled dogs. The final leg of the run is led by Gunnar Kaasen

and his lead sled dog, Balto, who becomes a canine celebrity as a result of the undertaking.

Sears, Roebuck, & Co. opens its first department store at its headquarters in Chicago on February 2. The retailer had previously been a catalog-only operation.

William Burke Miller interviews trapped cave explorer Floyd Collins on February 3. Collins was trapped in a cave in Kentucky on January 30, and Miller was small enough to climb into an opening in the cave and conduct an interview while hanging upside down. Miller ultimately won a Pulitzer Prize for his coverage of the incident, which unfortunately ended with Collins' death on February 13.

Ten people are arrested in Russia on February 5 as part of a plot to assassinate revolutionary and Soviet politician Grigory Zinoviev.

World heavyweight boxing champion Jack Dempsey marries actress Estelle Taylor on February 7 in San Diego. The two starred alongside one another on screen and on stage, but ultimately divorced in 1931.

The film *The Lost World* premieres at the Astor Theatre in New York City on February 8. The film is the first production to include special effects.

Turkish politician Halit Karsilan is shot by fellow politico Ali Çetinkaya during a fight at the Grand National Assembly of Turkey on February 9. Karsilan dies from injuries sustained during the skirmish on February 14.

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 Noon on Friday prior to run date.
 If legal notice is past deadline a late fee will be
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 charge for each additional affidavit.

COSTS FOR LEGAL NOTICES
\$10 per 100 words times weeks published.
 A typing fee will be charged for legal not
 on a Word document or in regular email body
 copy. Cost depends on words in legal notice.

Debtors and Creditors

012

STATE OF GEORGIA
 COUNTY OF MERIWETHER

NOTICE TO DEBTORS
 AND CREDITORS

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
 DOROTHY HIXON ELLISON

All creditors of the Estate of **Dorothy Hixon Ellison** are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned, according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.

This 6th day of January, 2025.

Estate of Dorothy Hixon Ellison

c/o Janice Clatt
 Personal Representative
 130 W. Pier Way
 Fayetteville, GA 30214

(1:23,30,2:6,13)

IN RE: PETITION FOR
 DISCHARGE OF PERSONAL
 REPRESENTATIVE

TO: TO WHOM IT MAY
 CONCERN:

This is to notify you to file objection, if there is any, to the above-referenced petition, in this Court on or before **FEBRUARY 3RD, 2025**.

BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be **scheduled at a later date**. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.

HON. J.D. RASNICK
 JUDGE OF THE PROBATE
 COURT

BY: SHANNON NEELY
 CLERK OF THE PROBATE
 COURT

PO BOX 608
 GREENVILLE, GA 30222
 706-672-4952

(1:16,23,30,2:6)

013

STATE OF GEORGIA
 COUNTY OF MERIWETHER

NOTICE TO DEBTORS
 AND CREDITORS

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF HIRAM
 ERNEST BRADY, SR

All creditors of the estate of **Hiram Ernest Brady, Sr.** are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned, according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.

This 8th day of January, 2025.

Estate of Hiram Ernest Brady, Sr.

c/o Aubrey Keith Brady
 Personal Representative
 616 McClain Rd.
 Manchester, GA 31816

(1:23,30,2:6,13)

WILL OF BRENDA LOUISE
 HOWARD, DECEASED

IN RE: ESTATE OF
 CLAIRE CATHERINE GORDON,
 DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that on the day of **January 9, 2025** a Letter of Administration in respect to the Estate or Will of **Brenda Louise Howard** who died on November 4, 2022, address 427 RD Plaza Drive, Greenville, Georgia 30222 were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court of Meriwether County, Georgia. All persons having claims against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed on **February 15, 2025** otherwise their claims will be forever barred **(2) two months from the date of the first publication (or posting)**, as the case may be of this notice. Contact Person: Juanita Harrell, Executor of Last Will Address: P.O. Box 2912, LaGrange, Georgia 30241, Telephone: 706-884-1092.

Email: Juanita 44444@gmail.com.
 (1:16,23,30,2:6)

019

STATE OF GEORGIA
 COUNTY OF MERIWETHER

ESTATE OF RUSSELL SCOTT
 BARTLETT

NOTICE TO DEBTORS
 AND CREDITORS

All creditors of the Estate of **RUSSELL SCOTT BARTLETT**, alate of Meriwether County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render an account of their demands to the undersigned, and all debtors are required to make immediate payment.

This the 17 day of January, 2025.

Tina Garrett Bartlett
 Administrator of the Estate of
 RUSSELL SCOTT BARTLETT
 614 Shirey Road
 Manchester, Georgia 31816

(1:30,2:6,13,20)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
 MERIWETHER COUNTY
 STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: TOMMY LAMAR
 MCRAE,
 DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 10595

NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE
 FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

The petition of **CHONG MCRAE** for a year's support from the estate of the above named deceased, for decedent's surviving spouse, having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any they have, on or before **FEBRUARY 28TH, 2025**, why said petition should not be granted.

All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be **scheduled at a later date**. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.

J.D. RASNICK
 JUDGE OF THE PROBATE
 COURT

BY: SHANNON NEELY
 CLERK OF THE PROBATE
 COURT

PO BOX 608
 GREENVILLE, GA 30222
 (706) 672-4952

(2:6,13,20,27)

021

STATE OF GEORGIA
 COUNTY OF MERIWETHER

NOTICE TO DEBTORS
 AND CREDITORS

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF DOUGLAS LAMAR MARTIN

All creditors of the Estate of **DOUGLAS LAMAR MARTIN** are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned, according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.

This 27th day of January, 2025.

Estate of Douglas Lamar Martin

Dennis Martin,
 Personal Representative
 c/o Trammell Sams, LLC
 P.O. Box 109
 Luthersville, GA 30251

(2:6,13,20,27)

Probate Court

009

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
 MERIWETHER COUNTY
 STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF
 CLAIRE CATHERINE GORDON,
 DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 10195

NOTICE
 [For discharge solely from office]

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
 MERIWETHER COUNTY
 STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
 MERIWETHER COUNTY
 STATE OF GEORGIA

PUBLIC NOTICES

Trade Name

028

TRADE NAME

STATE OF GEORGIA
 COUNTY OF MERIWETHER

The undersigned does hereby certify that **Charles Patterson** conducting business as **Bear Creek Firearms, LLC** in the City of Luthersville in the State of Georgia, under the name **Bear Creek Firearms, LLC** and that the nature of the business is to buy and sell firearms and that the names and addresses of the person, firms or partnership owning and carrying on said trade or business are: **Charles Patterson, 1627 Bear Creek Road, Luthersville, GA 30251**.

Files in Meriwether County
 Superior Court Office this 31 day
 of January, 2025
 Kyemeshia Gibson, Clerk

(2:6,13)

Storage Unit Sales

020

PUBLIC NOTICE

Johnny's Self Storage located at 442 Mountain View Circle, Woodbury, GA 30293 will hold an online public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Georgia Self Storage Facility Act, Georgia Code section 10-4-210 to 10-4-215. The auction will be held on website: www.storageauctions.com (<http://www.storageauctions.com>) beginning on February 4, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. and will end at 5:00 p.m. on February 18, 2025.

Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from the sale at anytime.

Registered or Motor vehicles are sold "As Is / Parts Only", no titles or registration. Each unit contains the following unless otherwise noted:

HOUSEHOLD GOODS,
 FURNITURE, BOXES

NAMES & UNIT #'S:
 DANIELLE JANSON, UNIT 53,
 302

(1:30,2:6)

Sale Under Power

024

STATE OF GEORGIA
 COUNTY OF MERIWETHER

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

Because of a default in the payment of the indebtedness secured by a Deed to Secure Debt executed by **Maietta Simpson** to **Charles L. Moody** dated August 31, 2023, and recorded in Deed Book 01036, Page 0047, Meriwether County Records, securing a Note dated August 31, 2023 in the original principal amount of \$146,000.00, the holder thereof pursuant to said Deed and Note thereby secured has declared the entire amount of said indebtedness due and payable and pursuant to the power of sale contained in said Deed, will on the **first Tuesday, March 4, 2025**, during the legal hours of sale, before the Courthouse door in said County unless an alternate sale location, has been designated by Order of the Superior Court Judge in the County of the scheduled sale, sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door for cash, the property described in said Deed, to wit:

The following described real estate, situated in the County of Meriwether and State of Georgia, to wit: All that tract or parcel of land lying and being located in Land Lot 97 of the 7th District of Meriwether County, Georgia, containing 1.07 acres, and being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the North right of way of Stovall-Greenville Road, said point located 0.15 miles East of the Southwest corner of Grantor's property; thence running North 16 degrees 10 min. West along a fence line for a distance of 181.0 feet to a point; thence running North 75 degrees 30 min. East for a distance of 265.0 feet to a point; thence running South 20 degrees 00 min. East for a distance of 165.0 feet to the North right of way of Stovall-Greenville Road to a point; thence running South 72 degrees 02 min. West along said right of way for a distance of 276.0 feet to the point of beginning. Land Lot 97 of the 7th District.

Beginning at a point on the North right of way of Stovall-Greenville Road, said point located 0.15 miles East of the Southwest corner of Grantor's property; thence running North 16 degrees 10 min. West along a fence line for a distance of 181.0 feet to a point; thence running North 75 degrees 30 min. East for a distance of 265.0 feet to a point; thence running South 20 degrees 00 min. East for a distance of 165.0 feet to the North right of way of Stovall-Greenville Road to a point; thence running South 72 degrees 02 min. West along said right of way for a distance of 276.0 feet to the point of beginning. Land Lot 97 of the 7th District.

Being the same property conveyed by Fee Simple Deed from James Henry and Tommie Frank Henry and Dorothy Walker to Willie L. Woods and Carolyn Boyd, dated 09/09/1983 recorded on 10/12/1983 in Book 201 Page 18 in Meriwether County Records, State of GA. Tax ID #: 038 005

The debt secured by said Security

Alcohol Sales

026

ALCOHOL NOTICE

The business **NEW SWIG BOTLE SHOPPE, INC. D/B/A PEACH STATE SPIRITS, INC.** located at 64 North Main, Street, Luthersville, GA 30251 will be selling beer, wine and liquor. The licensee will be **JO HOWOON**, whose address is 500 7th Street, West Point, GA 31833-1616.

(2:6,13)

Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).

Your mortgage servicer, SN Servicing Corporation, as servicer for U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee for LB-Ranch Series V Trust, can be contacted at 800-603-0836 or by writing to 323 5th Street Eureka, CA 95501, to discuss possible alternatives to avoid foreclosure.

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

To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the parties in possession of the property are **Estate of Willie L. Woods and Carolyn Boyd or tenant(s)**; and said property is more commonly known as **7656 Stovall Road, Greenville, GA 30222**.

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

U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee for LB-Ranch Series V Trust as Attorney in Fact for Willie L. Woods and Carolyn Boyd
McMichael Taylor Gray, LLC
3550 Engineering Drive, Suite 260
Peachtree Corners, GA 30092
404-474-7149
MTG File No.: GA2025-01219

(2:6,13,20,27)

030
**NOTICE OF SALE
UNDER POWER**
**STATE OF GEORGIA,
COUNTY OF PIKE**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the power of sale contained in an unrecorded Real Estate Installment Sale Contract executed and delivered on December 23, 2017, by **TIMOTHY P. COLE and BRITTANY G. DOANE** to Reliance Realty Holdings, LLC, as **Grantee**, and by virtue of default in payment in indebtedness therein mentioned, which has made the aforesaid power of sale operative and effective, the undersigned, Reliance Realty Holdings, LLC, as **Attorney in fact** for **TIMOTHY P. COLE and BRITTANY G. DOANE** will sell at public outcry before the Courthouse door in Meriwether County, Georgia, on the **first Tuesday in March, 2025**, during the legal hours of sale, to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said Security Deed to-wit:

Tall that tract or parcel of land containing 3.52 acres, more or less, lying and being in Landlot 42 of the 10th Land District of Meriwether County, Georgia, and being more particularly shown and designated as **LOT 4 – 3.52+- ACRES** according to that certain plat of survey entitled "Final Plat of Panther Creek Farms", dated August 12, 1998, prepared by Steve J. Reeves, Georgia Registered Professional Land Surveyor #2765, a copy of which said plat is recorded in Plat Book 17, Page 273, Clerk's Office, Superior Court, Meriwether County, Georgia, and which said plat, together with the metes, bounds, courses and distances as shown thereon with respect to the said 3.52+- acres, is by this reference incorporated herein in aid of this description as fully as if copied at length herein.

Also conveyed with the above-described real property is that particular Manufactured Home Serial

#GMHGA6340102039AB. Said home has been permanently attached to the subject property and the title has been officially retired as evidence by the Certificate of Permanent Location recorded at Deed Book 630, page 286, Meriwether County Superior Court Clerk's Office.

Notice of the initiation of proceedings to exercise the power of sale in the Deed to Secure Debt hereinabove referenced has been given and of grantees intention to collect attorney's fees in connection herewith as required by law.

The note executed on December 23, 2017, by **TIMOTHY P. COLE and BRITTANY G. DOANE** as Grantor, to Reliance Realty Holdings, LLC as **Grantee**, and secured by said Real Estate Installment Sale Contract, is now in default and the said Reliance Realty Holdings, LLC does so elect that said indebtedness, with principal and interest, become due and payable at once.

The said property shall be sold subject to all outstanding taxes and assessments against said property.

The proceeds from said sale shall be distributed as follows:

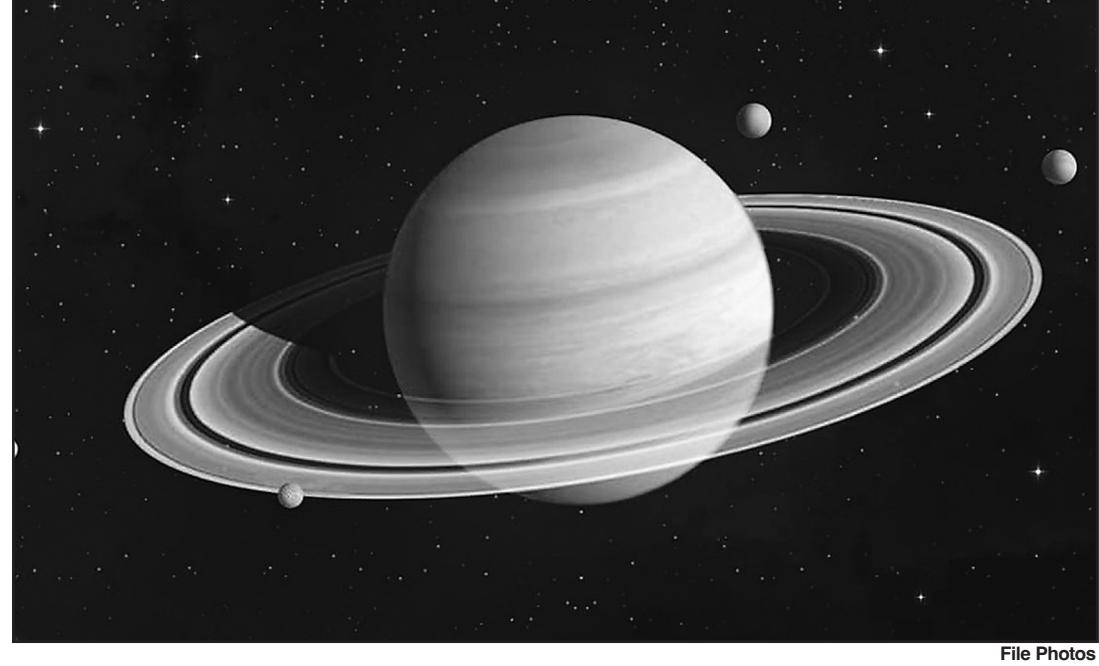
1. to pay the expense of said sale;
2. to pay all indebtedness secured by said Real Estate Installment Sale Contract;
3. to pay attorneys fees; and
4. to distribute any excess proceeds as provided by law.

This 31st day of January, 2025.

**Reliance Realty Holdings, LLC
As Attorney in Fact for
TIMOTHY P. COLE and
BRITTANY G. DOANE**

**David G. Brisendine, III
Attorney at Law
P. O. Box 632
Zebulon, GA 30295
Phone (770)567-3080**

(2:6,13,20,27)



RINGS OF SATURN - The second-largest planet in our Solar System, Saturn, is known for its proliferation of rings and moons. A gas giant, hurricanes and storms have been spotted on the planet.

The Ringed World

By ANDY KOBER

As the journey in our Solar System continues, the next planet is Saturn

The sixth planet from the Sun, Saturn has been among the most interesting planets due largely in part to its notable rings.

Like its planetary neighbor Jupiter, Saturn is a gas giant. It has a radius about nine times the size of Earth but has a mass exceeding 95 times that of Earth. It is almost as large as Jupiter, but has less than a third of Jupiter's mass. While Earth orbits the Sun once a year, it takes Saturn over 29 years to make such an orbit.

Saturn is covered by layers of metallic hydrogen, liquid hydrogen and liquid helium with traces elements of propane, methane, ammonia and other elements. No definitive surface has been discovered but it is believed the planet has a solid rock core. It is extremely hot at the core, with the planet radiating about 2-1/2 times more energy than it receives from the Sun.

Interestingly, Saturn has clouds composed of water along with water droplets in a section of the atmosphere. There are winds on Saturn that can exceed 1,000 miles per hour. Great White Spots, or storms, periodically form. There are also hurricanes on Saturn and eyewall clouds have been spotted.

The most notable features of Saturn include moons and rings.

There are at least 146 known moons orbiting Saturn with 63 having formal names. There are over 100 more irregular moons larg-

ANDY'S ASTRONOMY

er than two miles in diameter. Then are more, uncounted, that are classified as moonlets because of their diminutive size. The largest of Saturn's moons are Titan and Rhea, and more on them in a future column that will include Enceladus as well.

Saturn has the most notable ring system in our Solar System. The rings begin at a distance of about 4,300 miles from the planet and extend outward to a distance of about 50,000 miles. Some of the rings are very small – only about 32 feet. The rings are composed almost entirely of ice crystals and found primarily around the planet's equator.

The rings are not visible with the unaided eye, but some can be seen with a decent telescope. In 1610, Galileo would be the first person to observe the rings with a telescope though they were not known to be actual rings at the time. There are many theories regarding how and why Saturn's rings formed, but no conclusive evidence to support any of the theories.

Four spacecraft have flown past Saturn and investigated the rings with *Pioneer 11* discovering a previously unknown ring. *Voyager 2* and *Cassini* discovered unknown ringlets.

As with other planets, Saturn was named after a Roman god – Saturn was the god of wealth and agriculture. The day of the week, Saturday, actually comes

from the name Saturn's Day, which was the seventh day of the week in the Roman calendar.

LOOK for the International Space Station.

* **Monday, Feb. 10**, the space station should be visible for about six minutes beginning at 6:47 am. Look south about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the east-northeast reaching a height of about 24 degrees above the horizon.

* **Tuesday, Feb. 11**, the space station should be visible for about three minutes beginning at 6:00 am. Look south-southeast about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear.

It will track to the east reaching a height of about 13 degrees above the horizon.

* **Wednesday, Feb. 12**, the space station should be visible for about seven minutes beginning at 6:46 am. Look southwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 87 degrees above the horizon.

* **Thursday, Feb. 13**, the space station should be visible for about five minutes beginning at 5:59 am. Look south-southwest about 20 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the east-northeast reaching a height of about 44 degrees above the horizon.

K Did You Know?



Did two of television's early stars dislike each other so much that they torpedoed their own proposed series?

By JACK BAGLEY
didyouknowcolumn@gmail.com

And now it's February.

In addition to the events you will normally find this month - Black History Month, Valentine's Day, President's Day, and whatever else might be in there somewhere - there is one day that means the entire world to me.

It's the day pitchers and catchers report to spring training to begin the 2025 baseball season. Yes, we're getting close to the start of the sport I love!

Of course, I also love trivia, so let me share some of that love with you right now.

Did you know ...

... moderate drinking can boost your IQ? Japanese research shows that drinking alcoholic beverages in moderation has a beneficial effect on the IQ, or Intelligence Quotient, in most individuals. (And of course, if you take it to the extreme, you lower your IQ.)

... for a 20-year period, ten percent of U.S. electric power was generated – indirectly – by Russia? From 1993 to 2013, following the Cold War, the United States purchased five hundred tons of weapons-grade uranium from Russia. That uranium was converted into nuclear fuel, and was resold to commercial power plants. (Shocking, I tell you.)

... the average North Korean child is much shorter than the average South Korean child? A 7-year-old from the North is, on average, three inches shorter than his or her counterpart from the South. The primary reason is nutrition; North Koreans do not get as much nutritious food as their South Korean relatives.

... oranges are not a naturally occurring food? The sweet fruits best enjoyed cold are actually human-created hybrids of tangerines and pomelos, or "Chinese grapefruit." Oranges were created and originally grown in southeastern Asia – and in the climate there, they were green. Their skin and fruit only turn orange in warmer climates. Additional trivia note: the color orange is named after the fruit, not the other way around. (Orange you glad you read that one?)

... Fort Knox once held more than just gold reserves? During the period of the Cold War, from 1945 to 1991, a vast cache of morphine was also kept at the facility. The idea was, should a nuclear holocaust happen, the government wanted to make sure there was enough pain medication in a stockpile to take care of the people. (Determining which people would be taken care of, I leave up to you.)

... the term "gmail" has not always meant Google's e-mail service? Prior to the launch of the e-mail service by Google, "gmail" was the name of a free e-mail service offered by the website of *Garfield*, the comic strip cat. (One lasagna to go, please.)

... two stars of early television disliked each other so much they torpedoed their own proposed series? From 1951 to 1957, *I Love*

Lucy featured William Frawley (1887-1966) and Vivian Vance (1909-1979) as the couple Fred and Ethel Mertz. Though the two gave wonderful performances, they had a serious dislike for each other, with Vance resenting having to play the frumpy wife of a man 22 years older than she was. Frawley himself made numerous disparaging comments about Vance as well, and when the couple were offered a spinoff series from show creator Lucille Ball (1911-1989), they both declined. Additional trivia note: when Frawley died of a heart attack in 1966, Vance was having dinner with her husband at a restaurant. As they got the word, Vance is alleged to have shouted, "Champagne for everybody!" (Lucy was who everybody loved, anyway.)

... ladies of the evening in ancient Greece had a rather unique way of advertising their, um, services? The ladies would wear sandals with the words "follow me" imprinted in them, and their footprints would be an advertisement of what it was that they did. (Thanks to Mason for the tip!) ... a classic magic word had another reason for being coined? "Abracadabra," the supposedly magic word used by illusionists in performing a trick, was originally coined in the second century AD. It was noted in a book called *Liber Medicinalis* by Serenus Sammonicus (?-212 AD), physician to the Roman Emperor Caracalla (188 AD-217 AD), as being prescribed for sufferers of malaria to have the word engraved on an amulet in the shape of a triangle. Sammonicus thought the amulet would have the power to make lethal diseases go away – as if by magic. (If it didn't, the emperor had a way to make the physician go away, as if by magic.)

... an actress won a role on a hit television show by not being honest about her age? When producers of *That '70s Show* were casting the role of Jackie, actress Mila Kunis (born 1983) auditioned. The producers were looking for an 18-year-old, but Kunis at the time of her audition was only 14. Kunis told the producers she "would be 18," but did not say when – and she got the part. The producers did eventually find out her correct age, but they let her keep the role, as she was (in their words) the "perfect fit" for it. (Hey, whatever works, right?) ... the city of Duluth, Minnesota, has made it illegal for animals to sleep in a bakery? (Where do they get fresh milk, then?) ... dinosaurs lived on all continents, including Antarctica? There's one little caveat, though – when the dinosaurs were active, most of the land mass of Earth was contained in a single continent called Pangaea. The land mass divided into the now-familiar seven continents over the hundreds of millions of years since the dinosaurs died off. (We call that single continent Pangaea. There's no record of what the dinosaurs called it.)

Now ... you know!

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MISCELLANEOUS

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Full and Part Time

STRINGERS NEEDED - This newspaper is seeking individuals who can cover meetings, and/or sporting events and more. Excellent opportunity for high school student. For more information about e-mail to starmercuryjohn@gmail.com. RTFN

HELP WANTED. Certified Police Officers' Position - City of Greenville. The City of Greenville has openings for two full Post Certified Police Officer. Applications are available at Greenville City Hall, 100 N. Depot St., Greenville, GA. You may submit a resume by email: chief@greenville-police.com. Application will be accepted until the position is filled. For addi-

tional information, contact Chief of Police @ 706 672-4211. The City of Greenville is an Equal Opportunity Employer. RTFN

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NOON MONDAY.**

To place a classified advertisement simply
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starmercurynews@gmail.com

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Call (706) 846-3188

Callaway Lady Cavaliers Take Three, Cavaliers Win Two

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

The Callaway High Lady Cavaliers won three games this past week to improve to 11-7 overall and 6-2 in region play and Cavaliers took two out of three games this past week to improve to 5-14 overall and 5-3 in region play.

Callaway Lady Cavaliers

The Lady Cavaliers defeated region opponents Rutland, Westside and Jackson this past week.

On Tuesday, Jan. 28 the team host Rutland and rolled to an impressive 60-31 victory.

Rutland drew first blood to take a 2-0 lead before Callaway's Raniya Mahone returned the favor to tie the score. Rutland then made the score 5-2 with a three point shot and Lady Cavalier Shakenya Wortham returned the favor to tie the score again and after that, the Lady Cavaliers began to take control.

Callaway held on to a slim 13-10 lead at the end of the first quarter but extended the lead to 25-16 by the end of the first half.

The Lady Cavaliers were leading by a score of 44-22 as the third quarter came to a close and rolled to an impressive 60-32 victory.

Senior Raniya Mahone led the Lady Cavaliers on offense with 16 points, sophomore Shakenya Wortham was the only other Lady Cavalier to score in double digits with 12 points; sophomore Je'Niah Whitehead scored seven points; sophomore Kenzli Howard, senior Tra'niya Mitchell and sophomore Layla Elkins scored five points each; senior Aniyah McFarland scored four points and sophomore Aubrey Chelcy, freshman Alexis Adams and freshman Alasia Sewell scored two points each.

On Thursday, Jan. 30, the Lady Cavaliers hosted the Westside Lady Seminoles and won by a slim 35-33 score.

The Lady Cavaliers took a 10-6 first quarter lead and led by a score of 19-17 as the first half came to a close. Callaway held onto a slim 25-23 lead at the end of the third quarter and held on to win the game by a score of 35-33.

Mitchell and McFarland led the Lady Cavaliers in scoring with eight points each, Mahone scored seven points, and Chelcy scored six points. McFarland had six steals and Chelcy had 11 rebounds in the contest.

On Friday, Jan. 31, the Lady Cavaliers traveled to Jackson to play the Lady Red

Devils and earned a 48-32 victory.

The Lady Cavaliers led by a score of 13-7 at the end of the first quarter and never looked back.

Mahone paced the Lady Cavaliers scoring 15 points and pulling down 11 rebounds for a double-double. Chelcy was the only other Lady Cavalier to score in double digits with 10 points on the night. She also had five rebounds and three steals.

Callaway Cavaliers

On Tuesday, Jan. 28 the Cavaliers hosted the Rutland Hurricanes and earned a 52-39 victory.

The Cavaliers led by a score of 14-4 at the end of the first quarter but the Hurricanes battled back in the second quarter to cut the Cavalier lead to one point, 19-18.

The Cavaliers led by a score of 35-30 when the third quarter came to a close but took control in the fourth quarter out scoring the Hurricanes 17-9 to earn the 52-39 victory.

Freshman A.J. Williams led the Cavaliers in scoring with 12 points, had six rebounds, an assist and a steal; sophomore Kaiden James scored 10 points, had four rebounds, four assists,



Photo By LG Broadcasting

CALLAWAY LADY CAVALIERS AMONG TOP TEAMS IN REGION - The Callaway High Lady Cavaliers are among the top three teams in Region 2 and are playing good basketball as the regular season begins to wind down.

five steals and two blocks; junior Tyson Shells scored 10 points, had five rebounds, an assist and a steal; senior Tyren Buggs added six points, had three rebounds and an assist; senior Nakel Johnson added four points, had five rebounds and a steal; senior Bryceton Sanders scored four points, had four rebounds, four assists and four steals; junior Landon Thomas scored four points, had seven rebounds and a block and senior BreShun Hall scored two points, had seven rebounds, two assists and two steals.

On Thursday, Jan. 30 the team hosted the Westside Seminoles and lost a heart-breaker by a score of 46-38. The Cavaliers led by a score of 11-3 when the first quarter came to a close and led by a score of 32-27 at the end of the first half.

after leading early in the game.

The Cavaliers led the Seminoles by a score of 11-9 at the end of the first quarter but trailed by a score of 27-17 at the end of the first half.

The Seminoles held onto a 34-24 lead as the third quarter came to a close. The Cavaliers tried to rally in the fourth quarter but could not overcome the deficit and were upended by the score of 46-38.

Sorry, no individual statistics were available for the game.

On Friday, Jan. 31, the Cavaliers traveled to Jackson to play the Red Devils and rolled to a 70-53 victory.

The Cavaliers led by a

score of 11-3 when the first quarter came to a close and led by a score of 32-27 at the end of the first half.

The Cavaliers pretty much closed the door on the Red Devils in the third quarter leading by a score of 53-36 and went on to win by a score of 70-53.

Sorry, no individual statistics were available for the game.

Up Next for the Teams

On Friday, Feb. 7 the teams will finish regular season play in Madison against region opponent Madison County. The Lady Cavaliers will take to the court at 6 p.m. and the Cavaliers will play at 7:30 p.m.

Very Busy Week for Greenville High School Basketball Teams

Continued from Page 10A

seven rebounds as well.

The homestanding Greenville High Patriots (1-11, 0-7) faced off against their county and region rival Manchester Blue Devils and came away losers, 90-57, on January 28. The Patriots came out and played the visiting Blue Devils close early and was only down two, 9-7. However, the visiting Blue Devils went on a 13-2 run to close out the quarter and upped their lead to 22-9 at the start of the second quarter. Trey Jones led the way as he hit for six points in the quarter. The second quarter was not too kind to the host Patriots as their defense allowed Manchester to increase their lead to 41-28 at the break.

The second half saw the Patriots never get any closer than 16 points and Manchester cruised to the victory, 90-57.

Marquel Deering was the leading scorer for the Patriots as he had 13 points, five assists and three rebounds and Jarvis Simmons had 13 points.

Manchester had five players in double figures led by Trey Jones with 17 points, followed by Jhiere Terry with 15 points and 18 rebounds, Breonte Jones with 13 points, Dre McGhee with 12 and Darrius Favors with 11.

GHS Splits Region Games

The Greenville High Lady Patriots (12-2, 8-0) are dominating Region 7-A, Division II as they plastered the visiting Mt. Zion Lady Eagles, 60-23, on January 30. This was their eighth straight home win on the season. In the makeup region game from earlier in the season, the Lady Patriots took the flight out of the visiting Lady Eagles as they built an insurmountable lead in the first half as they were up 29-0 before Mt. Zion scored a basket at the 3:40 mark of the second quarter. Greenville was up 35-9 at the half. The first half saw the Lady Patriots hit many key baskets and gather steals to provide their half-time lead.

The third quarter found the Lady Patriots drop 22 more points to the visitors' eight to be ahead 57-17, going into the fourth quarter. The Lady Patriots were outscored 6-3 in the fourth quarter to provide the final margin of victory.

Catavia Bennett continued her dominating season as she hit for 21 points, grabbed 10 rebounds, had five steals and dished out four assists. This was her 14th straight game with at least 10 points. Also contributing to the victory was Daliyah Ellison with 15 points, five steals and a team-leading five assists, while Jamya Kelley had 12 points. Shanti Mims and

Rhianna Abbott each had a team-leading eight rebounds and Abbott had three blocks.

For the game, the Lady Patriots completely dominated the visiting Lady Eagles as they had 42 rebounds, 21 steals, 20 assists and six blocks.

The Greenville High Patriots (1-12, 0-8) dropped another region contest against the visiting Mt. Zion Eagles, 73-54, on January 30. The Patriots again started out slowly as they were down by eight points twice in the first quarter before Mt. Zion pushed their lead to nine at the end of the first quarter, 20-11.

They slowly closed the gap to just 3, 6-3, before Trion went inside-outside on the host Patriots and jumped their lead to 12, 23-11, by the end of the quarter.

The second quarter did not fare much better for the Patriots as they only scored five points in the quarter while Trion scored 13 to take a 20-point lead into half-

time, 36-16.

The third quarter found the host Patriots battling back and going on a run to start the quarter and cut the lead to 10, 45-35, with a little over 3 minutes to go in the quarter. However, Trion pushed back and was ahead by 14, 51-37, at the end of the quarter.

The fourth quarter was played evenly, as both teams scored nine points apiece and Trion secured the region victory.

The Patriots were led by Marquel Deering, with 21

points (on 9 of 10 shooting), four rebounds and two steals, while Shaun Moreland had 10 points, two steals and one block.

Next up for the Patriots will be the final two region road games - Friday, February 7 against Atlanta Classical Academy at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, February 8 against Elite Scholars Academy at 4 p.m. (The results of the road region game against Mt. Zion-Carrollton on Tuesday was not available at press time.)

City of Warm Springs intends to Opt-Out of Georgia House Bill 581

The City of Warm Springs intends to Opt-Out of the statewide adjusted base year ad valorem homestead exemption for the City of Warm Springs GA. All concerned Citizens are invited to the public hearing on this matter to be held at **The City of Warm Springs City Hall at 3636 Whitehouse Parkway Warm Springs, GA 31830 on February 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.** Times and Places of additional public hearings on this matter are at **The City of Warm Springs City Hall 3636 Whitehouse Parkway Warm Springs, GA 31830 are Thursday February 20, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. and Monday February 24, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.**

Residents are encouraged to attend these hearings to learn more about the exemption and ask questions.

For more information, please call 706-655-9096.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING INTENT TO OPT OUT OF HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

The Meriwether County Board of Commissioners intends to opt out of the statewide adjusted base year ad valorem homestead exemption for Meriwether County.

All concerned citizens are invited to a Public Hearing on this matter to be held at:

**Meriwether County Board of Commissioners
17234 Roosevelt Highway, Building B
Greenville, GA 30222
Monday, February 3, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

Additional Public Hearings on this matter will be held at:

**Meriwether County Board of Commissioners
17234 Roosevelt Highway, Building B
Greenville, GA 30222
Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

This notice is issued in compliance with O.C.G.A. § 48-5-44.2(i). For more information, please visit our website at www.meriwethercountyga.gov

SPORTS

The Manchester Star-Mercury/Meriwether Vindicator • Thursday, February 6, 2025 • Page 10-A

Regular Season Winding Down for MHS

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

The Manchester High Lady Angels improved to 6-8 and 5-4 in region play and the Blue Devils are 14-2 overall and 8-1 in region play after last week. The teams will complete regular season play this week.

Lady Angels vs. Greenville

On Tuesday, Jan. 28, the Lady Angels traveled to Greenville to play the Greenville High Lady Patriots and were defeated by a score of 68-41.

Senior Rhinna Storman led the Lady Angels in scoring with nine points, senior NyAsia Hunt added eight points, senior Auriyanna Wright scored six points, senior Emery Warrior scored five points, sophomore Karlecia Whit and senior Kaliya Gray scored four points each and junior Avah Ortiz scored two points.

Greenville junior Ca'Tavia Bennett put on an offensive clinic scoring 23 points in the game, sophomore Jamya Kelley scored 16 points, junior Daliyah Ellison scored 11 points, senior Za'Nariah Williams scored 10 points, freshman Chloe Thomas scored six points and senior Rihanna Abbott scored two points.

Blue Devils vs. Greenville

The Blue Devils also traveled to Greenville to play the Greenville High Patriots and earned a 90-57 victory.

The Blue Devils took an early lead and led by a score of 22-9 at the end of the first quarter and 41-28 by the end of the first half.

The Blue Devils led by a score of 67-45 by the end of the third quarter.

Senior Trey Jones led the Blue Devils on offense with 17 points. Senior Jhiere Terry scored 15 points; junior Brontae Jones scored 13 points, junior Dre McGhee scored 12 points and junior Darrius Favors rounded out the players scoring in double digits with 11 points.

Blue Devil junior Jazyion Denson added eight points, junior L'Ki Prather scored five points, senior Zy'Terrius Gray scored three points, junior Jaedyn Terry scored two points and

senior Mond Johnson scored two points.

Greenville junior Marquel Derring and sophomore Jarvis Simmons led the Patriots on offense scoring 13 points each.

Senior Nicholas Hurley added eight points for the Patriots, freshman Shaun Moreland, senior Ijshawan Times, and senior Elijah Frazier all scored six points each, and junior Kamarion Sanders scored five points.

Lady Angels vs. Bowdon

The Lady Angels had a difficult time against the Bowdon High Red Devils on Wednesday, Jan. 29 falling to Bowdon by a score of 52-33.

Senior Rhinna Storman led the Lady Angels in scoring with nine points, sophomore Jhada Waller scored seven points, seniors Kaliya Gray and Emery Warrior added five points each, freshman Eriyanna Stallworth scored four points and senior NyAsia Hunt scored one point.

Blue Devils vs. Bowdon

The Blue Devils host the Bowdon High Red Devils on Wednesday, Jan. 29 and earned a 68-59 victory.

Junior Jaedyn Terry paced the Blue Devils on offense scoring 19 points, senior Trey Jones scored 14 points, senior Jhiere Terry scored 10 points, junior Brontae Jones added nine points, junior Dre McGhee scored eight points and juniors L'Ki Prather and Darrius Favors scored three points each.

Lady Angels vs. Elite Scholars

On Friday, Jan. 31, the Lady Angels traveled to Jonesboro to play Elite Scholars Academy and earned a 47-27 victory.

Senior Kaliya Gray led the team in scoring with 11 points, sophomore Karlecia White scored 10 points, senior AyAsia Hunt added nine points, freshman Eriyanna Stallworth scored seven points, junior Avah Ortiz and senior Emery Warrior scored three points each and senior Auriyanna Wright and sophomore Jhada Walker scored two points each.

Blue Devils vs. Elite Scholars

The Blue Devils traveled to Jonesboro on Saturday, Jan. 31 to play Elite Scholars Academy and earned a 58-47 victory.

Senior Trey Jones led the Manchester offense with 13 points, senior Jhiere Terry added 12 points and junior Jaedyn Terry rounded out the Blue Devils scoring in double digits with 10 points.

Junior Dre McGhee scored nine points for Manchester, junior L'Ki Prather scored seven points and junior Darrius Favors and senior Mond Johnson scored one point each.

Lady Angels vs. Trion

On Saturday, Feb. 1 the Lady Angels hosted Trion and won in a hard-fought battle by a score of 34-32.

Senior Kaliya Gray led the Lady Angels in scoring with eight points, freshman Eriyanna Stallworth scored seven points, senior Rhinna Storman added six points; seniors NyAsia Hunt and Emery Warrior each scored two points and senior Auriyanna Wright scored one point.

Blue Devils vs. Trion

On Saturday, Feb. 1 the Blue Devils traveled to Trion and returned home after a 75-61 victory with senior Jhiere Terry having an incredible outing.

Terry scored 20 points in the contest, pulled down 17 rebounds and had two blocks in the game; junior Jaedyn Terry scored 12 points and had 10 rebounds and junior Dre McGhee rounded out the Blue Devil players scoring in double digits with 11 points and four rebounds.

Senior Trey Jones and junior Brontae Jones came through for Manchester with seven points each and senior Zy'Terrius Gray scored one point.

Up Next for the Teams

On Friday, Feb. 7 the Manchester teams will host Mt. Zion with the Lady Angels tipping off at 6 p.m. and the Blue Devils at 7:30 p.m. The teams will complete regular season play on Saturday, Feb. 8 by hosting Trion. The Lady Angels will play at 3:30 p.m. and the Blue Devils taking to the court at 5 p.m.

Regular Season Ends This Week for FRA

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

The Flint River Academy Lady Wildcats are 6-7 overall and 0-1 in region play after falling to Windsor last week and the Wildcats are 9-7 overall and 2-2 in region play. The teams will complete regular season play this week.

Lady Wildcats

On Saturday, Feb. 1, the Lady Wildcats traveled to Macon to play the Windsor Academy Lady Knights and were defeated by a score of 80-40.

Senior Abby Carroll led the Lady Wildcats in scoring with 13 points, a rebound and four steals; sophomore Reagan Riner scored seven points, had two rebounds, two assists, two steals and a block; sophomore Khole Mask scored six points, had six rebounds and a steal; junior Kennedy Goldston scored six points, had a rebound, three assists and two steals; junior Kinsley Martin scored six points, had two assists and two steals and sophomore Mylie Meadows scored two points.

FRA Wildcats

The FRA Wildcats played three games recently.

On Tuesday, Jan. 28 the team host LaGrange Academy and earned a 43-40 victory.

Senior D.J. Baums paced the Wildcats on offense scoring 15 points, had 11 rebounds and two assists; junior Cole Riner scored 12 points, had 10 rebounds, two assists and a steal; junior Ethan Newman scored five points, had five rebounds, an assist and a steal; freshman Grayson

Garrett scored five points, had two rebounds and an assist; junior Mason Jones scored three points had three rebounds and three assists and freshman Jack Collins scored two points and had three rebounds.

Up Next for the Teams

On Friday, Feb. 7 the teams will finish regular season play in Macon against St. George's. The Lady Wildcats will tipoff at 6 p.m. and the Wildcats will take to the court at 7:30 p.m.

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Photo By Dexter Williams

MANCHESTER AND GREENVILLE PLAY-In the top photograph, Greenville High Lady Patriot Jamya Kelley prepares to shoot a free throw against the Manchester Lady Angels in Manchester last week. In the photograph at left, Manchester High Blue Devils Trey Jones battles the Greenville High Patriot defense. The Lady Patriots defeated the Lady Angels while the Blue Devils defeated the Patriots.

Busy Week for Greenville High Teams

By DEXTER WILLIAMS

er region contest against the visiting Trion Bulldogs, one would think that the Lady Patriots would have a drop off in play, however, they did not as they took their game to a higher level and were down 6-0 after two treys from Trion. They slowly closed the gap to just 3, 6-3, before Trion went inside-outside on the host Patriots and jumped their lead to 12, 23-11, by the end of the quarter. The second quarter did not fare much better for the Patriots as they only scored five points in the quarter while Trion scored 13 to take a 20-point lead into halftime, 36-16.

The third quarter found the host Patriots battling back and going on a run to start the quarter and cut the lead to 10, 45-35, with a little over 3 minutes to go in the quarter. However, Trion pushed back and was ahead by 14, 51-37, at the end of the quarter. The fourth quarter was played evenly, as both teams scored nine points apiece and Trion secured the region victory.

The Patriots were led by Marquel Deering, with 21 points (on 9 of 10 shooting), four rebounds and two steals, while Shaun Moreland had 10 points, two steals and one block.

GHS Splits With County Rival

The Greenville High Lady Patriots (11-2, 7-0) did not let their recent road trip get them down as they downed their county rival and region foe, Manchester High Lady Angels, 68-41, on January 28. After a long road trip over the weekend to take

on region rival Trion Lady Bulldogs, one would think that the Lady Patriots would have a drop off in play, however, they did not as they took their game to a higher level and were down 6-0 after two treys from Trion. They slowly closed the gap to just 3, 6-3, before Trion went inside-outside on the host Patriots and jumped their lead to 12, 23-11, by the end of the quarter. The second quarter did not fare much better for the Patriots as they only scored five points in the quarter while Trion scored 13 to take a 20-point lead into halftime, 36-16.

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