



**Was Major League Baseball's  
1969 expansion supposed to  
take place in 1971?**

**Did You Know...?, Page 7-A**

## Area High School Players To Play College Ball

**Sports, Page 12-A**



# The Star Vindicator Mercury

*The Oldest Business in Meriwether County*

VOL. 149 • NO. 7

MANCHESTER/GREENVILLE, GEORGIA – THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2025

12 PAGES • 1 SECTION • 2 INSERTS • \$1.00



**REMEMBERING DARYUS BRYANT** - During senior night held at Manchester High School last week, football and basketball standout Daryus Bryant was remembered. Bryant would have been a senior on this year's football and basketball teams. Bryant was more than a student athlete, he was well known and loved by the community. He was shot and killed after the school's junior-senior prom in April 2024 just one week before his 17th birthday. He has been truly missed by his family, his friends, members of the school's football and basketball program and the community. His family accepted his basketball jersey signed by his team members, a signed basketball and framed photographs during the ceremony.

## Hogansville Council Meeting Erupts Into Shouting Match

By TODD PIKE

The Hogansville City Council held their first meeting of the new month on

February 3rd, with all council members present.

After the consent agenda was approved, a Citizen Appearance from Mike Johnson was scheduled. Johnson owns a home at 302 Pine Street that had been scheduled to be razed by Platinum Demo & Grading, after he failed to get a permit to bring the building up to code within the allotted 90 day period.

Johnson first questioned why Platinum got the job if they were the only company to make a bid. He asked if there was a "buddy system," and said the minutes of the November 4 meeting did not reflect why one bidder could get the job, which violated the city charter and state law. City Manager Lisa Kelly had said in November that the city sends info about demos to 4-5 companies and Platinum was the only company to give a bid for 302 Pine.

Johnson stated that City Attorney Alex Dixon "seemed to be hell-bent on getting it torn down and made all types of false allegations when we went to court." He claimed he had a problem obtaining a permit within the 90 day period, but one was obtained and posted on the property. After it was posted, he claimed his lawn was ripped up by earth-moving equipment and the water, gas and electric meters were removed, and asked why.

Johnson then turned his attention to open request records and said that Mayor Jake Ayers has a "lack of transparency" with all the properties and businesses he is involved with. "Anybody

that's not doing business with the Ayers brothers, they seem to have a problem getting stuff done here," Johnson said, adding, "It don't look good." He then said it was a ballot year for his position.

"The under-handed stuff that you guys are doing, if no one is in bed with you guys..." was interrupted by the Mayor, who told him he was well past his time and was not being appropriate. He told Johnson he could go through the process for open record requests with the city like everyone else and speak with him privately if he wanted, but his home, and the court order didn't concern the council and was a separate issue. Addressing the mayor, Johnson asked, "are you being charged the same fees that everyone else is being charged?"

Dixon then spoke up, saying, "This is absurd." He continued, "There's a court that has complete control over what happens to your property. This city council doesn't have anything to do with it. There's a very clear, easy process to file an open records request, which you have absolutely failed to even check into." He also said, regarding Johnson's first comments, "You're either lying or you have no idea what you're talking about. The mayor had the ability to take action and vote to have your house torn down in November, and the mayor did not do that. He could have. He didn't vote and that spared your house." Johnson interrupted and Dixon told him to be quiet. "No action was

See HOGANSVILLE, Page 2-A

## Former Talbot Sheriff Arrested In Shiloh Arson Investigation

By JACK BAGLEY

Former Talbot County Sheriff Justin "Jake" Johnson was arrested January 31 by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation on charges connected with the arson fire at his Shiloh home in November of 2023.

Johnson's home on Turkey Roost Lane in Shiloh, in Talbot County, burned on November 6, 2023. An investigation launched by the Georgia Commissioner of Insurance and Fire Safety led to charges being filed against Johnson and two Manchester men, identified

as Jimmy Buchanan, 70, and Wallace Copeland, 62. All three were arrested by the GBI on January 31.

Johnson was charged with first-degree arson, conspiracy to commit a crime and insurance fraud. Buchanan and Copeland were charged with two counts of arson and one count of conspiracy to commit arson. All three were booked into the Harris County Jail following their arrests.

Johnson was defeated in his bid for re-election as Talbot County Sheriff in November by Bobby R. Gates, Jr.



Photos Submitted

**STAR STUDENTS** - Travis Kee (left) of Manchester High School was named STAR Student for Meriwether County on February 4. The Professional Association of Georgia Educators also named Ahimar Hernandez-Cruz (center) as Greenville High STAR Student and Justin Armour (right) of Flint River Academy as that school's STAR Student.

## Kee Named County STAR Student

Submitted to the *Star-Mercury-Vindicator*

Manchester High School senior Travis Kee is named the 2025 PAGE STAR Student. Joanne Britt, Director of Curriculum & Instruction 6-12 for Meriwether County Schools, announced the honor on Tuesday, Feb 4, 2025. Kee selected Dr. Jimmy Black, a CTAE Ag teacher at Manchester High School, as his STAR Teacher. Kee, the son of Summer Bishop of Manchester, earned the recognition for academic achievement and performance on the SAT.

Also recognized were the STAR Students from Greenville High School, Ahimar Hernandez-Cruz, and Flint River Academy, Justin Armour. Ahimar selected Dr. Shemika Jones as his STAR teacher, and Justin selected Mrs. Kathy Perdue.

The PAGE Student Teacher Achievement Recognition (STAR) program is sponsored, administered, and promoted by the Manchester Kiwanis Club, the Professional Association of Georgia Educators (PAGE), and the PAGE Foundation.

Since its inception in 1958, the STAR program has honored nearly 29,500 students and the teachers selected as the most influential to their academic achievement. High school seniors must have the highest score on a single test date on the SAT and be in the top 10 percent or top 10 students of their class based on grade point average to qualify for STAR

nomination. STAR begins each year in participating Georgia high schools when the STAR Student is named and chooses a STAR Teacher to share in this recognition. The students and their teachers are honored by their schools and receive special recognition in their communities from one of the more than 172 statewide civic organizations and businesses that serve as local sponsors of the STAR program. Students then compete for school system recognition as the top STAR Student, and those winners compete for region honors. Region winners contend for the honor of being named State PAGE STAR Student. STAR Teachers continue on with their STAR Students at every level of the program. "We are very proud of Mr. Kee and Dr. Black and the academic excellence they exemplify at Manchester High," said Ms. Britt. PAGE and the PAGE Foundation honor outstanding students and educators and encourage academic excellence through competitive academic programs such as PAGE STAR. The Professional Association of Georgia Educators (PAGE) is a statewide professional association of more than 95,000 educators, administrators, and support personnel. PAGE provides professional learning to enhance competence and confidence, build leadership, and increase student achievement while providing the best in membership, legal services, and legislative support.



Photo Submitted

**LIONS HEAR FROM COO OF GARDENS SPA** - On Tuesday, February 5, the Manchester Lions Club met at 121 Broad Street in Warm Springs. Special guest speaker for the evening was Cedric Standford, Chief Operations Officer at the Spa and Lounge at Callaway Gardens. Standford updated the club on recent developments and future plans for upgrades at the Spa and Lounge and the Gardens. He was introduced by Manchester Lions Club President Allan Moore.



## Meriwether County and Hogansville Community Calendar

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.

Lone Oak City Council meeting, 6:30 pm Monday, March 3. The public is invited to attend.

Hogansville City Council meeting, 7 pm Monday, March 3. The public is invited to attend.

Greenville City Council meeting, 6 pm Tuesday, March 4. The public is invited to attend.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

To have your non-commercial community event listed in the Community Calendar, send the information to [starmercurynews@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## HARVEST TIME MINISTRIES

Rev. Richard and Ginny Nash



## GOSPEL SINGING AT STOVALL BAPTIST CHURCH

14 Hardy Street  
Greenville, GA (Stovall)  
Saturday, February 15  
6 P.M.

**Special Singers:**  
Young Spirit  
of Manchester



Photo By Dexter Williams

**GRAND MARSHAL** - Meriwether County native Glenn Render (center) served as Grand Marshal for the Newnan MLK Parade on February 9. Render is shown with his siblings Tomiko (left) and Francis.

## Meriwether Native Leads Newnan MLK Parade

By DEXTER WILLIAMS

Grand is something that this local resident has always strived to be in life. From driving a Grand Am while in high school to being a "grand"father, Harvey Glenn Render, has taken that title to a new level. Render was chosen to be the 2025 Grand Marshall of the annual Order of Eastern Star No. 483 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade in downtown Newnan on Sunday, February 9. This is their 36th annual event. And how fitting that the event was on Super Bowl Sunday - A Grand Day for football fans.

Render, a native of Gay, was the perfect chose for this honor as he embodies the organization's theme "Mission Possible." The mission that Render has always had was one where happiness abounds. He takes this mission with him daily on his UPS route around Newnan and into the community. Customers on his route look forward to him arriving and chatting daily as he always willing to give good advice along with good laughter. "I get it from my daddy," stated Render. "He was always talking to people, but he also was willing to help anyone out." This was truly

the spirit of Dr. King as well. So, naturally, Render would be the right choice for the Grand Marshall seat.

Render brings his love to the community into everything that he does as he has been with UPS since the mid-1990s and on the downtown Newnan route for the last 15 years. However, Render's community service began from watching his parents serve their community in Gay. He often recalls how his father would go around the neighborhood and provide rides for the local children to church or church outings. Or seeing his mother work in the church. Seeing this, Render complimented it by partnering with some of his friends and co-workers and started a program where they collect bicycles to give to children during the holiday season.

Render, a 1993 graduate of Greenville High School, became a member of the Great Newnan Lodge No. 299 in 2005 and really put that community service component to work as he spearheaded many projects for the lodge to give back to the community such as back to school drives along with feedings. During his time in the masonry, he has served as Worshipful Master and earned the 32 degree rank in both the Scottish

Rite and York Rite Masonry.

While at Greenville High, Render was a member of the football team and baseball team. Participating in sports prepared him for serving others as he was always part of a team trying to reach a common goal. The Newnan community recognized this in Render and in 2023, Newnan Mayor Keith Brady proclaimed that September 12 will be known as "Harvey Glenn Render Day" in Newnan annually.

Render's community service does not stop there as he has a small business, SWWD Barbeque, where you will find them in Newnan with the grill fired up and hot meat coming off. However, he still finds time to fill his passion of sports as he is an avid golfer along with being a fisherman. And if that is not enough, he also enjoys motorcycling along with being a "grand" fan of the Atlanta Falcons and Georgia Bulldogs.

The father of five, with two grandchildren (and a third one on the way), still finds time to spend with his family and would not trade it for the world. Therefore, the "Mission is Possible."

Render is the son of the late Bettie and Harvey Render both formerly of Gay.

## Hogansville Council Meeting Erupts Into Shouting Match

Continued From Page 1-A

taken at the November meeting. The first thing you said when you came in here was false."

Johnson then called Dixon a liar, and told the mayor he didn't appreciate being called a liar. Johnson was again told he could file an open records request and speak to the mayor, but he either had to sit down or leave. He chose to stay and the meeting continued.

In new business, two LG Smart Poles were approved to be installed in the city, one downtown and the other at Lake Jimmy Jackson. They will have EV charging stations, lights, wifi, closed circuit cameras and emergency buttons. A private donor will pay the \$104,000 to have them installed and LG will pay networking fees of \$1,200 per month for the first year.

Citizens were unanimously approved for several committees. Ricky Thrash, Ellen Shellabarger and Carol Smith were reappointed to the Hogansville Planning Commission for two year terms. Wanda Lowe and Mary Ann Neureiter were reappointed for 3 year terms to the Hogansville Historic Preservation Commission, along with first-time appointee Christian Whisnant, leaving one seat vacant. For the Meriwether Joint Development

Authority, John McKibben, George Bailey and Jimmy Russell were reappointed for 1 year terms along with new members Frederick Manley and Jackson Fussell. Lastly, for the Hogansville Development Authority, Jimmy Russell and Robert Leek were appointed, leaving one seat still vacant.

Kelly told of three water issues that arose during the last winter storm, the worst of which occurred after a car hit a fire hydrant on Main Street. She thanked the city workers who braved temperatures in the teens to make the repairs.

The new speed cameras in front of Hogansville Elementary have been installed, but tickets won't be issued until after a 30 day warning period.

Check out [1937royaltheater.org](http://1937royaltheater.org) for upcoming events at the Royal Theater.

At a recent conference of Georgia mayors, city councilmen and city managers, Hogansville was one of three small towns to receive a Visionary Award.

Police Chief Jeffrey Sheppard received a Specialized Instructor Certificate in the area of firearms at the recent Peace Officers Standards and Training Council. Sheppard also gave the following dates for blood drives to be held at the City Annex Building: Friday April 25, Friday July 25 and Friday October 3.



Photo Submitted

**HOGANSVILLE ELEMENTARY SHOUT OUT** - This week's Staff Shout Out is going out to our amazing counselor, Mrs. Britt Wood! She is the perfect combination of calm, supportive, and funny! Whether it's working with students or supporting adults, she always knows just how to make us feel heard, seen, and understood. She brings so much joy and we are incredibly lucky to have her as part of the Greenwave team! Thank you for everything you do and Happy National Counselors Week!

## 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.

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## Meriwether County Deaths and Funerals

### Paul Milner Bulloch

August 22, 1942 - February 3, 2025

Retired Extension Agent

Paul Milner Bulloch, 82, of Woodland, GA, passed away on Monday, February 3, 2025. He was born on August 22, 1942, to Oscar Cyprian Bulloch and Florence Milner Bulloch of Meriwether County.

Paul graduated from Manchester High School in 1960, where he was named "Most Athletic." Upon graduation, he attended the University of Georgia and earned a Bachelor of Science in Forestry. He then served in the U.S. Navy. After his military service, Paul began his career as a surveyor in the Outer Banks of North Carolina. He later furthered his education, earning two master's degrees—one from the University of Georgia and another from Columbus State University. Paul went on to work with the UGA Extension Service in Bibb and Carroll counties. From 1972 until his retirement, he served as the county agent in Talbot County. He was also a member of the Mid-Georgia Cattleman's Association and currently employed with NASDA.

During his tenure with the Extension Service, Paul received numerous awards for his hard work and dedication, including the Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor a county agent can receive. He was a member of both the National Association of County Agents and the National Association of 4-H Agents. Paul was deeply committed to fostering children's love of agriculture and the outdoors. He served in this capacity for over 30 years and, until the very end, was reminded of the lasting impact he had made. Paul wanted to share his knowledge of Georgia peaches and the long legacy of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service members, so he went on to write two books: *The Georgia Peach Story* and *100 Years of the Georgia Cooperative Extension Service*.

Under his leadership, Talbot County 4-H excelled in their exhibits at county fairs. Additionally, Paul served as President of the Talbot County Farm Bureau for several years.

In 1980, Paul asked Pam if she wanted to watch Breakfast at Wimbledon tennis tournament on television. She said yes, and the rest is history. Pam and Paul were married on April 5, 1981. The next 44 years were filled with love and laughter. They enjoyed many summer trips to Panama City Beach with the kids and grandkids, a trip to Hawaii, and several trips to Washington, D.C., over the years. With summer 4-H camps, rafting trips on the Ocmulgee River, 4-H trips to Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Utah, Pennsylvania, Texas, Kentucky, and New York City, and taking 4-Hers to competitions at Rock Eagle, Atlanta, and Chicago, Paul lived a life full of adventure and passion for what he loved. Many of his 4-Hers still called and visited him, letting him know the great impact he has had on their lives. This is a testament to the many lives he has touched throughout the years.

After his retirement, he opened the Old South Farm Museum in Woodland, Georgia. He hosted many school field trips and tours over the years, teaching kids and adults alike the ways of farming and agriculture during the 1800s and 1900s. Every February, he hosted his annual Hog Killing event, where people from all over came to participate and attend workshops, learning to make sausage. He spent his later years with his granddaughters. Whether working around the museum, in the hayfield, or in the cow pasture, he was always teaching them something and instilling in them a love of agriculture and farming that they still cherish to this day. They enjoyed many Sunday afternoons learning to play tennis, bowling at the Institute, and listening to Alabama's greatest hits.

Paul loved the Lord and was baptized at a young age. He hardly ever missed Sunday morning service. He was a faithful member of the Talbotton United Methodist Church and had been since moving to Talbotton in 1972.

Paul loved all things Georgia Bulldogs and Atlanta Braves. He never missed watching a game on Saturday. Paul will be missed by many, but especially by his family who loved him so much. He was always the jokester at family gatherings and kept everybody laughing.

Paul is preceded in death by his father and mother, his two brothers, Oscar T. Bulloch and Larry C. Bulloch, his youngest sister, Eleanor B. Ballew, his nephew, Don Grant, and his mother-in-law, Jean Oliver.

He is survived by his loving wife of 44 years, Pamela Oliver Bulloch; his children, Virginia "Ginny" Bulloch Dunn, Paul M. "Chip" Bulloch Jr. (Sandy), William "Bill" Kelley (Rhonda), and Kayanne Bostwick; his grandchildren, Montana Kelley (Nolan Warmack), Ivy Bostwick (Colin Hendricks), Danielle "Dani" Strickland (Jacob), Hunter Franklin (Austin), Kaiya Dunn, and Stone Bulloch; two great-grandchildren, Elijah Warmack and Jett Warmack; his sister, Lou Ellen Grant (Donnie); brother-in-law Hugh (Carol) Oliver and sister-in-law Pat Oliver Weekly; as well as several nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his best furry companion, Ethel Mae Bulloch.

Funeral service for Paul Bulloch were held 2:00 pm Thursday, February 6, 2025 at the Talbotton United Methodist Church with interment following in the Meriwether Memory Gardens in Manchester, GA. The family received friends from 12:00 - 2:00 pm at the church prior to the service. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Talbotton United Methodist Church or Talbotton Baptist Church.

The Bulloch family is being assisted by Cox Funeral Home 93 Prather Barnes Road Manchester, GA 31816. The family requests that you please sign the online registry and leave condolences for the family on the tribute wall page.

### Dorothy Ann Bunn

November 8, 1936 - February 8, 2025

Worked for Nabisco

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of Dorothy Ann Bunn, who left this world on February 8, 2025, at the age of 88 after bravely battling renal failure for several years. A beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend, Dorothy's warmth, kindness, and unwavering love touched the lives of all who knew her.

Born in The Cove, Woodbury, Georgia, on November 8, 1936 to Robert Brown and Mary G. Brown, Dorothy lived a life filled with compassion, strength, and dedication. She attended Meriwether High School and in 1955, she married the love of her life, William Alton Bunn. Together they built a beautiful life filled with love, laughter, travel, and cherished memories. They shared 65 wonderful years before Alton's passing in April 2020.

Dorothy worked for many years at Nabisco, where her hard work and commitment earned her the respect and admiration of her colleagues. After a fulfilling career, she retired in September 1994, leaving behind cherished friendships and fond memories.

Beyond her career at Nabisco, Dorothy was an accomplished artist with a deep love for oil painting. Her creativity and talent shone through in each brushstroke, capturing the beauty of the world around her. She also had a deep appreciation for music, especially classic country and bluegrass, and loved attending festivals with Alton throughout the years, creating cherished memories and lifelong friendships.

Dorothy found joy in the simple pleasures of life. She loved cooking delicious meals for her family, growing beautiful flowers that brightened her home, and caring for her beloved kitties, who brought her endless companionship and comfort. Her nurturing spirit extended to all living things, and she found great happiness in tending to both her garden and her furry friends. She

## 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](mailto:r.crampton@warmspringsga.gov), by 4:30 pm on Friday, February 12th, 2025.

had great compassion for animals and was a longtime supporter of animal benevolence organizations.

Dorothy's greatest joy in life was her family. She is survived by her children, Larry Bunn (Lynn) of Ringgold, GA and Vicki Matthews (Doug) of Woodbury, GA, two grandchildren, Leslie and Logan Bunn, both of Chattanooga, Tennessee, several cousins, and many nieces and nephews who will forever cherish her memory and carry forward the love she so freely gave. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Alton, her parents, Robert W. Brown and Mary G. Brown, as well as one sister, Lois Jones, and five brothers, Billy, James M, Earl, Cecil, and Edgar Brown.

The graveside funeral service was held on Monday, February 10, 2025 at the Cove Baptist Church Cemetery. The Rev. Will Brown officiating.

Though she is no longer with us in person, her love, wisdom, and creativity will live on in the hearts of those she touched. Rest in peace, Dorothy—you will be deeply missed and forever remembered.

Cox Funeral Home - Manchester, is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be given at [www.coxfh.com](http://www.coxfh.com).

### Pamela Jean Molton Newman

September 17, 1968 - February 4, 2025

Worked for Kroger

Pamela Jean Molton Newman, 56, of Newnan, died Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at her home.

Born in Atlanta, September 17, 1968, she was a daughter of the late Marvin Molton and Lena Elaine Newberry Pruitt. Ms. Newman formerly worker at Kroger, Williams Grocery Store and Marina Wear. She formerly loved going to the Barnesville VFW.

Surviving are her three daughters, Malissia Newman of Newnan, Melinda Newman of Gay and Christiana Danielle Argroves of Newnan; grandchildren, Tristian Mitchell, Trevor Barber and wife Georgia and Jada Barber, all of Newnan, Destiny Neace and Lindsey Neace, both of Gay; great grandchildren, J.J. and Karma; a sister, Kimberly Hayles; and a brother, Henry Molton, both of Gay; several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins also survive.

The family will receive friends Friday, February 7, 2025, from 5:00 PM until 8:00 PM at Haisten McCullough Funeral Home.

Private services will be conducted.

For online condolences please visit [www.haistenmccullough.com](http://www.haistenmccullough.com).

Haisten McCullough Funeral Home, 1155 Everee Inn Road, Griffin is in charge of arrangements.

### Ellen Bowden Oglesby

June 16, 1953 - February 2, 2025

Retired Meriwether County Teacher

Ellen Bowden Oglesby, 71, of Villa Rica, GA formerly of Woodbury, GA died Sunday February 2, 2025, at The Birches at Villa Rica Memory Care.

Ellen was born June 16, 1953, in Newnan, GA the daughter of Hollis and Waverlyn Knight Bowden. She graduated from college with her specialist degree in teaching and taught for over 28 years in the Meriwether County School System prior to her first retirement. She later taught at Flint River Academy for two years and then became a substitute teacher for many years. Ellen was raised in Imlac and attended Jones Chapel as a child and young adult. She later became a longtime member of the Macedonia Baptist Church in Manchester, GA. She was preceded in death by her parents, grandmother Gertrude Gill Knight, sister Diane Stokes, and uncle Robert Harold Bowden and many other close relatives.

Ellen is survived by her daughter Holly (Ricky) Challen and two grandsons Landon and Jett Challen all of Carrollton, GA, her brother Robert (Tracy) Bowden and their two daughters Ashley and Taylor, (Ellen's "Adopted" granddaughters) all of LaGrange, GA, her niece Leslie Stokes of Villa Rica, GA, and numerous cousins including Rosemary (Jimmy) Poulson of Warm Springs, GA, Nancy (Ken) Waller of Baton Rouge, LA and Marie (Larry) Garrett of Woodbury, GA and former husband Lamar Oglesby.

Funeral services for Ms. Oglesby were held at 2:00 pm Friday, February 7, 2025, at Jones Chapel Community Church in Woodbury, GA followed by interment in the Woodbury Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers those that wish may make donations in Ellen Oglesby's memory to the Alzheimer's Association or [alz.org](http://alz.org), or to a charity of your choice.

The family are being assisted by Cox Funeral Home 93 Prather Barnes Road Manchester, GA 31816. Please sign the online registry and leave condolences on the tribute wall page.

**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.

## Warm Springs to Opt Out of HB 581 Exemption

Submitted to the *Star-Mercury-Vindicator*

The Mayor and Council Members of the City of Warm Springs 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 20 at 12:00 p.m., February 24 at 12 p.m. & 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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**Call (706) 846-3188**

## 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 13, 2025

## THE STAR-MERCURY-VINDICATOR

USPS 589-340

### The Georgia Trust for Local News

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Official Legal Organ of the City of Manchester and Meriwether County

## I Still Don't Get All the Silly Hoopla Over Valentine's Day

**Editor's Note:** This is the Valentine's Day column I wrote in 2021, updated. It still applies.

Tomorrow is Valentine's Day, a day for those who are in love to demonstrate that love - mostly by purchasing cards, flowers, candy, and other gifts to shower upon those they deem worthy.

Phooey.

Valentine's Day has never been all that great for me.

Remember back in elementary school, how all the kids in the class would bring Valentine's cards to give to everyone else? I did that, and I always had more than enough.

Good thing, too, because sometimes I was the one who didn't get very many. (It could have had something to do with the fact that I was always the class clown, and the other kids felt I already had enough friends - how little they knew. But I'm just guessing.)

The dissatisfaction with the day continued on into my adult life, and even now in my dotage I'm not all that thrilled about it. Being single for as long as I've been may have a lot to do with that.

Even in my dating life the day has not been worth much. I've had more than my share of Valentine's Days in which I would make it a point to have something nice - nay, something expensive and nice - ready to give whichever young lady I was sweet on, only to have her turn up her nose at it. Valentine's Day cards? I would try the funny cards, the nice cards, the sappy cards - nothing. And it was always one-sided: I'd give a gift, but get nothing in return. Nothing but a cracked heart, that is, and not on paper, either.

And on those occasions where a gift was proffered to me, it would be usually something tacky or overly sentimental or even poisonous.

Not intentionally poisonous, mind you, but I can recall a couple of times I would get nice little boxes of chocolate candy - with strawberries. I am allergic to strawberries, and while I am certain they're wonderful to eat for most people, they're pretty much a "no go" with me. I break out in hives so bad bees come looking for me. In the end, it's not really even worth it.

So, phooey on Valentine's Day.

I don't understand why it's such a great day, anyway, unless you have the candy or greeting card or flower concession somewhere. The whole thing started back in the mists of antiquity as the feast day of one or more fellows called St. Valentine in the Roman Catholic Church.

The first recorded day set aside for St. Valentine was February 14, 496 A.D. It didn't



Jack Bagley

Musings of An Aging Mind

become associated with love and romance for another thousand years, though - which makes one wonder how the day was originally celebrated. The practice of exchanging gifts like cards, candy and flowers began in 18th Century England, and spread throughout the world from there.

We're not even sure which St. Valentine the day is named after, or if it's supposed to be all of them. There were at least two and possibly as many as seven early Christian martyrs named Valentine, each of whom had a path to sainthood. You've got Valentine of Rome, Valentine of Terni, and more fellows named Valentine who could qualify for the honor.

My research into the day turned up an interesting connection to the Romans. They had a rite of purification at this time of year called Lupercalia, but there isn't anything concrete that connects the two. Maybe, like Christmas, it was just the coincidence of a Roman festival and a Christian one and they just got hooked together, or something. The connection to love and such stuff came later, many centuries later.

Now, of course, you can't escape Valentine's Day - the first cards are out right after Christmas for those eager beavers who want to make sure they don't forget. As the day gets closer, it's all you hear about and all you see and all you can deal with. There are Valentines for kids, for grownups, for family members, for friends, for loved ones, for people you don't like (those are the funniest), and probably for your ancestors if you look hard enough. And you can send candy and roses and all that stuff now just by punching a few keys at your computer and handing over your credit card number.

Don't get me wrong, though. For those who are young and in love, Valentine's Day can have great meaning. A nice romantic dinner, exchanging cards, gifting candy and roses, all of this can create some pretty special memories, but when you are in my position, you ...

What? What's this? For me? A card?

Oh, my goodness. How sweet! And a box of candy? Nothing strawberry, right? Thank you so much!

Happy Valentine's Day, everybody. Seriously.

## You Mean I'll Actually Be Able to See Again?

If you are older, then you know how getting old feels. If you are a young person, well, let's just say days become a little more adventurous once you get older, and one day you'll understand that statement.

A wise man once said, "Old is always 15 years older than I am." Obviously he had not reached the point of knowing what old means either.

As you begin to get older, it seems you begin to see things differently - a lot more out of focus, to be exact.

You begin to realize when people talk you are repeating this statement a lot ... "What did you say?"

Working out takes on a whole new meaning. Just taking a short walk gets your heart pumping, you find you are breathing like you just ran a 40-yard dash at full speed, and your bones ache like you have been playing tackles football without pads.

I guess at this point you get the meaning. Getting old is not easy, it is painful and it stinks.

Getting old is not all bad. You do get a few breaks. You begin to get that Social Security money you have been paying in for all those years.

You can join AARP and get a few discounts here and there.

But more importantly, you don't have to hold your tongue anymore. You can speak your mind, or peace, and people always let it go because they think you either have dementia or senility.

Anyway, last week I had cataract surgery on one of my eyes, and I'll be going back in a couple of weeks to have the second eye done. I'm writing this column prior to having the surgery, which I hope will help me see better, and there are many reasons why.

I've always been plagued by astigmatism and at a young age noticed that lights started to appear streaky and haloed. As time went on, lights became blurry, even with glasses, and could appear even more streaky.

As more time went on, I began to notice that seeing to drive at night was becoming a little more difficult. Then, when passing another vehicle, the headlights would blind me to some degree.

As always, an eye examination and new glasses would help with the problem. I also learned to look at the white line on the highway rather than the



John Kuykendall  
Publisher & Editor

to need reading glasses after the surgery.

That kind of confused me since at the present time I can see pretty well close up but distant vision is not good without glasses. However, I learned the change was because of the new lenses that will be in my eyes. Complicated, I know, but it's all good as long I can see, at least good enough to see one of those pesky deer on the side of the highway before I find it with my vehicle.

Eventually, my optometrists informed me glasses were not going to help and I needed cataract surgery. I'm telling you I didn't realize how hard it was to get an appointment to have the surgery, but eventually I did.

So,

and he informed me the cataract surgery was going to

help me see better.

"You mean I'll actually be able to see again?" I asked.

He informed me the sur-

gery would help but then gave me the bad news. I've been diagnosed with macular degeneration, which, over time will also affect the eye site. But, alas and imagine, there are drugs for that.

He also told me I was going

centerline.

That worked for a while, and then I noticed it was hard to see the sides of the highway very well.

Eventually, my optometrists informed me glasses were not going to help and I needed cataract surgery. I'm telling you I didn't realize how hard it was to get an appointment to have the surgery, but eventually I did.

So, I visited with my surgeon and he informed me the cataract surgery was going to help me see better.

"You mean I'll actually be able to see again?" I asked.

He informed me the sur-

gery would help but then gave me the bad news. I've been diagnosed with macular degeneration, which, over time will also affect the eye site. But, alas and imagine, there are drugs for that.

He also told me I was going

Anyway, I'm really looking forward to having the surgeries and hopefully being able to see pretty well again. As for how it turns out? Well, if you see or read my column in the newspaper next month you will know the surgery did okay. If you don't see or read my column, I guess you can figure that one out.

So, I'll see you all, or maybe not, in the newspaper if I can see - and if Georgia Trust for Local News decides they want to keep an old fool like me on the payroll.

Have a great week, everyone, and please try and stay young so your hearing and eyesight stay strong - and you pain factor remains low.

## Valentine's Day is Friday



Andy Kober  
Columnist

ONCE again guys, Valentine's Day is Friday.

The final grains of sand are rapidly dribbling out of the top of the hourglass, but you still have a little time. Or just forget the day at your own risk.

Even if she does not say anything, or act any differently, it is Valentine's Day and know she is looking forward to it. Sweets, candies, flowers, special event - any can work well.

Fridays can be difficult and waiting until Saturday to take her somewhere nice will work provided you let her know ahead of time. If you just ignore Friday she will think you have forgotten, and then you will be deep in the stinky, brown stuff.

Valentine's Day is Friday.

Do not forget because it will cost you a lot more for a long time if you do.

That's my opinion.

Andy Kober can be reached at andykober@hotmail.com

## It's All In Your Head: A Plastics Problem



Kyle Dominy  
New Southern Dad

Back off, Palmolive. Toss your plastic, and you'd soon find you own very little.

But you don't have to look far to find something to worry about, and I'll take our plastic age to, say, any time during the medieval period, or the 1970s. Disco? I don't think so.

Things are faring well in my portion of this seemingly chaotic world. I'll try not to let my plastic-infused head organ dwell on things out of my control. Worry only robs you of time that could be better spent and further clogs up the brain. So, scientists, quit telling me how much plastic is floating around my skull and get back to me when you know how to get it out.

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

Modern science has done it again. We can now estimate how much plastic is in our brains. Scientists can't tell you how it got there or prescribe any method to get rid of it, just tell you that it's there, and that it's most likely bad for you.

What an age to be alive.

Of all the things to happen over the past five years, I'd never expect finding plastic in the human brain to make the list. I'm sure there are several people who would accuse me of having a plastic brain, but never plastic on the brain.

A recently released study from the University of New Mexico found that the average brain contained about 7 grams of microplastics. That's enough to make a standard disposable plastic fork. Talk about recycling. Some brains had more, others less. Dementia patients had the most.

Microplastics have long

been the worry of medical scientists and health nuts. These nanoparticles are the left-behind bits of decomposing plastic goods, and are apparently everywhere, from the depths of the oceans to the meaty bits inside our bodies. How they find their way to our vital organs is still a mystery, but researchers suggest it is by eating, drinking and breathing.

So, by the essentials of daily living. Even if you somehow led a plastic-free life, it's in the air and the water. You can't run and you can't hide from the plastic apocalypse. I suppose that garbage island is still floating around somewhere in the Pacific making matters worse, distributing more and more micro bits into the environment.

I try not to worry about such things, but as a parent it's difficult not to. I don't want my

children to grow up in a world where a fork's worth of plastic in the brain is a common thing, but that cat is out of the bag. I guess in a few years I'll have two forks' worth and won't remember what's going on anyway.

Even *Consumer Reports*, the customer advocate group, suggests ditching most things plastic to combat the spread of these microscopic fearsome flecks. Not to be a conspiracy theorist, but it sounds like a ploy by big dish soap to force us to wash more dishes. Life's too short for dishpan hands.

From the pages of *The Meriwether Vindicator*

February 15, 1985

Commissioners Open Jail Bids At Meeting

The Meriwether County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Wednesday, Feb. 13th and opened bids for the proposed jail project. According to Commissioner Rossia Garrett, all the bids were higher than anticipated, however the low bid of \$1,492,500 from Massee Builders, Inc. in Fitzgerald was tentatively accepted. Garrett said that now the architect and representatives from Massee Builders will confer on the project, and hopefully come up with a plan which would set the cost of construction at around \$1.2 million, trimming over \$250,000 from the proposed cost.

In relation to the project, the Commissioners voted to borrow \$900,000 at 6% interest from the Woodbury Banking Company and place the money in a CD account at the current interest rate until August. This \$900,000 loan must be paid back by December 31st.

News in the area 40 Years Ago - 1985

1985. The county is expecting to receive approximately \$600,000 from recently implemented local option sales tax, which will be used towards payment.

GHS Students Are Arrested In Connection With Burglary

Meriwether County Sheriff Dan Branch reported Wednesday that four juveniles and two adults had been arrested and charged with burglary in connection with the recent break-ins at Greenville High School.

According to the reports from the Sheriff's department, Bobby Lewis Barnes, age 17, and Rick James Parham, age 18, and four juveniles were arrested Tuesday morning and charged with the burglary of Greenville High School.

The report stated that Parham and the four juveniles had been charged with one count of burglary and that Barnes had been charged with two counts of burglary.

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

proudly for the citizens of Manchester and Meriwether County and its goal is to produce quality, profitable, community oriented newspapers that you, our readers, are

proud of. We will reach that goal through hard work, teamwork, loyalty, and a strong dedication toward printing the truth.

USPS 589-340. Periodical postage paid at

Manchester, Georgia, 31816.

FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS call (706) 846-3188 or write to

Circulation Manager, Star-Mercury-Vindicator, P. O. Box</

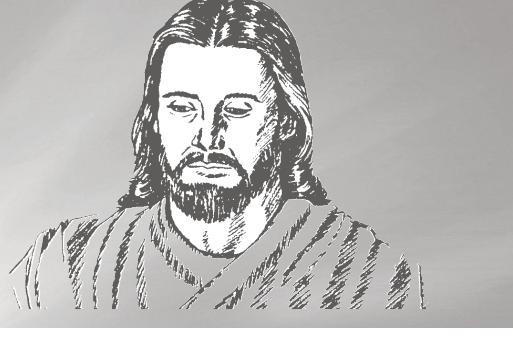
## Church News and Events

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](mailto: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.***



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 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](mailto:harvesttimeom2@gmail.com) or call the Church at 706-400-4158 to our website [www.itsharvesttime.org](http://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](mailto: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 counseling. 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.

### Al-Anon

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

### Bethesda Baptist Church Food Bank

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

### Food Pantry

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

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

The Woodbury Baptist Church Caring & Sharing Food Pantry is open the 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.

### How to Submit News

Submit brief church news items to: [starmercurynews@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## Idiotic Moments

**Rev. Aaron McCollough**  
Columnist



didn't write them, but they are good. I hope they help you:

1. Fear doesn't stop death; it stops life.

2. If it costs you your peace, it's too expensive.

3. People only see the decisions you made, not the choices you had.

4. Never take criticism from someone you wouldn't take advice from.

5. The magic you're looking for is in the work you're avoiding.

6. Ships are safe in the harbor, but that's not what they're built for.

7. Ambition without action turns into anxiety.

8. To live a life most people don't, you must be willing to do what most people won't.

9. You can do anything, but not everything – focus!

10. If you want to make the wrong decision, ask everybody.

11. Those who don't move won't notice their chains.

12. It's okay to live a life most people don't understand.

13. If someone could only see your actions, and not hear your words, what would they say your priorities are?

14. You can't have a new reality with an old mentality.

15. No risk, no story.

If the story and list I shared made you smile and encouraged you, I accomplished my goal with this column.

We're all human, and we all do human things! Our lives are filled with "idiotic moments." We all do things that aren't so smart. Occasionally, we just flat-out blow it! But spiritually speaking, the most idiotic thing anybody can do - is to walk through life looking for Jesus - when all along He is in your hand and ear speaking to you.

- Bro. Aaron

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

### Special Church Announcements

#### Family and Friends Day

To All our Church Families, Friends, Surrounding Church Neighbors and Community, New Arbor Community Church invites you to our Annual Family and Friends Day, Sunday March 2nd at 11:00 a.m. Because of last year and being so well supported, we are again having a Commemorative Balloon Release, for Love ones we have lost and passed on. You do not have to be a member of this church nor does your Love ones have to have been buried at this church. This is a Community Wide Event. Please bring your Inflated Balloons to be release and let's pray and worship and commemorate together. We pray our Families and Friends stay well blessed in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Thank you in advance for your support in making this a memorable day. New Arbor Community Church is located at 1150 Arbor Chapel Road in Warm Springs.

#### 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 Bullock Rd & Roosevelt Hwy at 2904 Judson Bullock 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

# School Board Opting Out Of HB 581 Exemption

Submitted to the S-M-V

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.

The Meriwether County School Board wants our county to understand their decision to opt out of this Bill has not been made lightly. This Bill is confusing, and the language we are

required to use in the public notices only misleads and adds to the confusion. This decision reflects the Board's commitment to protecting the financial stability of the school system and prioritizing the needs of students, staff, and the schools.

The Board supports responsible tax relief; however, failing to opt out of HB 581 would lock the School System into uncertainty regarding its long-term financial future. It is important to note that the decision to opt out of HB 581 does not impact the current local freeze exemption, Georgia's homestead tax exemption, or exemptions for veterans. We are determined to be sensitive to the taxpayer's financial pressures in addition to the needs of our students. Every person on the Boardowns property and pays taxes.

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



Photo Submitted

**HES ACADEMIC BOWL TEAM PLACES SOLID SECOND** - The 2025 Greenwave Academic Bowl Team, coached by Gary Jones & Kasey Sewell, finished the season with a solid 2nd place finish at their final meet hosted by Moreland Elementary. Their cumulative point total from all their meets earned them a 3rd place spot in their division. This advances the team on to the final championship round which is slated to be hosted by Willis Road Elementary on Tuesday, February 25th. During the season, the Greenwaves only dropped one head-to-head round versus Eastside out of Senoia, Georgia. Looking forward, the team is preparing to take on the best of the best by focusing on confidence and teamwork. This year's team consists of: Josie Crews, Nolan Couch, Cameron Bryant, Lucas Pike, Xion Carter, Rayden Towry, Haven Cook, Ainsley Thomas, Sawyer Votis and Journee Kenerley.



## Pre-Arrangement



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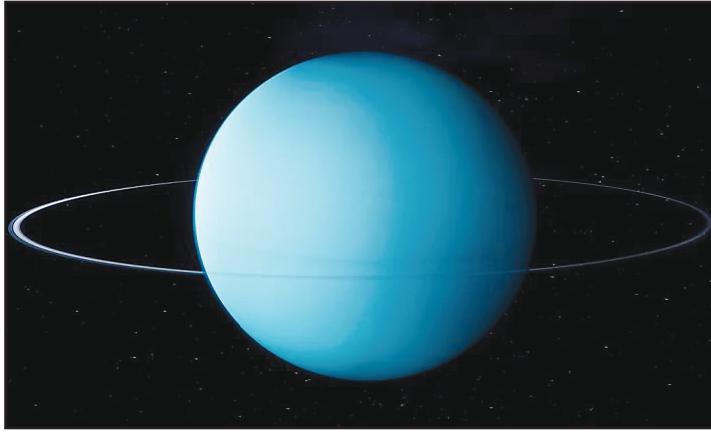
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# FEATURES & CLASSIFIEDS

The Manchester Star-Mercury/Meriwether Vindicator • Thursday, February 13, 2025 • Page 7-A



File Photos  
**RINGS AROUND URANUS** - Though many do not realize it, the planet Uranus also has a ring system. Other than being dark, not much is known about the rings.

## A True Ice World

By ANDY KOBER

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

The seventh planet from the Sun, Uranus is another gas giant, has an ice mantle, and most importantly—is backyard astronomer Ms. Lynn's favorite planet.

Like our other gas giants, Uranus has rings though not nearly as pronounced as Saturn's. Scientists report that Uranus is made up of water, ammonia, and methane. The planet has a bluish cast though difficult to see with the unaided eye.

Ms Lynn notes the ice mantle is not ice in the conventional sense, but rather a dense fluid of water, ammonia and other chemicals.

German-British Astronomer William Herschel discovered Uranus in 1781 though initially thought it to be a comet. In diameter, Uranus is the third largest planet in our Solar System and the fourth largest in mass. Its mass is about 14-1/2 times that of Earth, and physically Uranus is four times the size of Earth.

Uranus also has an axial tilt with a retrograde rotation. Each of the planet's poles has 42 years of continuous sunlight followed by 42 years of continued darkness. It orbits the Sun every 84 Earth years.

Ms Lynn agrees with scientists

## ANDY'S ASTRONOMY

in postulating that Uranus has a rocky solid core with an atmosphere primarily of hydrogen and helium along with carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide.

To date, 28 natural satellites have been discovered orbiting Uranus, including 18 regular moons - 13 inner moons and five major moons: Ariel, Miranda, Oberon, Titania, and Umbriel. There are also 10 irregular moons.

Much about Uranus remains unknown and it has been visited by a single spacecraft and that was *Voyager 2* in 1986.

The name Uranus and how it came about is actually interesting. When pushed to name the planet he had discovered, Herschel's decision was "Georgium Sidus" or George's Star to honor King George III. This did not prove widely popular. Other suggestions included Neptune George III and Neptune Great Britain, which also caused issues. It would be in 1782 the name Uranus would be recommended and adopted, and Ms Lynn considers that to have been a grand idea. Uranus comes from the Greek god of the sky whose name was Uranus.

It is the only planet named for a Greek deity.

**LOOK FOR** the International Space Station.

\* **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.

\* **Friday, Feb. 14**, the space station should be visible for about six minutes beginning at 6:47 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Saturday, Feb. 15**, the space station should be visible for about three minutes beginning at 6:01 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Sunday, Feb. 16**, the space station should be visible for about four minutes beginning at 6:15 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Monday, Feb. 17**, the space station should be visible for about five minutes beginning at 6:29 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Tuesday, Feb. 18**, the space station should be visible for about six minutes beginning at 6:43 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Wednesday, Feb. 19**, the space station should be visible for about seven minutes beginning at 6:57 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Thursday, Feb. 20**, the space station should be visible for about eight minutes beginning at 7:11 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Friday, Feb. 21**, the space station should be visible for about nine minutes beginning at 7:25 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Saturday, Feb. 22**, the space station should be visible for about 10 minutes beginning at 7:39 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Sunday, Feb. 23**, the space station should be visible for about 11 minutes beginning at 7:53 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Monday, Feb. 24**, the space station should be visible for about 12 minutes beginning at 8:07 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Tuesday, Feb. 25**, the space station should be visible for about 13 minutes beginning at 8:21 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Wednesday, Feb. 26**, the space station should be visible for about 14 minutes beginning at 8:35 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Thursday, Feb. 27**, the space station should be visible for about 15 minutes beginning at 8:49 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Friday, Feb. 28**, the space station should be visible for about 16 minutes beginning at 8:53 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Saturday, Feb. 29**, the space station should be visible for about 17 minutes beginning at 8:57 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Sunday, Feb. 30**, the space station should be visible for about 18 minutes beginning at 9:01 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Monday, Feb. 31**, the space station should be visible for about 19 minutes beginning at 9:05 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Tuesday, March 1**, the space station should be visible for about 20 minutes beginning at 9:09 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Wednesday, March 2**, the space station should be visible for about 21 minutes beginning at 9:13 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Thursday, March 3**, the space station should be visible for about 22 minutes beginning at 9:17 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Friday, March 4**, the space station should be visible for about 23 minutes beginning at 9:21 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Saturday, March 5**, the space station should be visible for about 24 minutes beginning at 9:25 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Sunday, March 6**, the space station should be visible for about 25 minutes beginning at 9:29 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Monday, March 7**, the space station should be visible for about 26 minutes beginning at 9:33 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Tuesday, March 8**, the space station should be visible for about 27 minutes beginning at 9:37 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Wednesday, March 9**, the space station should be visible for about 28 minutes beginning at 9:41 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Thursday, March 10**, the space station should be visible for about 29 minutes beginning at 9:45 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Friday, March 11**, the space station should be visible for about 30 minutes beginning at 9:49 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Saturday, March 12**, the space station should be visible for about 31 minutes beginning at 9:53 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Sunday, March 13**, the space station should be visible for about 32 minutes beginning at 9:57 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Monday, March 14**, the space station should be visible for about 33 minutes beginning at 10:01 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Tuesday, March 15**, the space station should be visible for about 34 minutes beginning at 10:05 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Wednesday, March 16**, the space station should be visible for about 35 minutes beginning at 10:09 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Thursday, March 17**, the space station should be visible for about 36 minutes beginning at 10:13 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Friday, March 18**, the space station should be visible for about 37 minutes beginning at 10:17 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Saturday, March 19**, the space station should be visible for about 38 minutes beginning at 10:21 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Sunday, March 20**, the space station should be visible for about 39 minutes beginning at 10:25 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Monday, March 21**, the space station should be visible for about 40 minutes beginning at 10:29 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Tuesday, March 22**, the space station should be visible for about 41 minutes beginning at 10:33 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Wednesday, March 23**, the space station should be visible for about 42 minutes beginning at 10:37 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Thursday, March 24**, the space station should be visible for about 43 minutes beginning at 10:41 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Friday, March 25**, the space station should be visible for about 44 minutes beginning at 10:45 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Saturday, March 26**, the space station should be visible for about 45 minutes beginning at 10:49 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Sunday, March 27**, the space station should be visible for about 46 minutes beginning at 10:53 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Monday, March 28**, the space station should be visible for about 47 minutes beginning at 10:57 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Tuesday, March 29**, the space station should be visible for about 48 minutes beginning at 11:01 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Wednesday, March 30**, the space station should be visible for about 49 minutes beginning at 11:05 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Thursday, March 31**, the space station should be visible for about 50 minutes beginning at 11:09 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Friday, April 1**, the space station should be visible for about 51 minutes beginning at 11:13 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Saturday, April 2**, the space station should be visible for about 52 minutes beginning at 11:17 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Sunday, April 3**, the space station should be visible for about 53 minutes beginning at 11:21 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Monday, April 4**, the space station should be visible for about 54 minutes beginning at 11:25 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Tuesday, April 5**, the space station should be visible for about 55 minutes beginning at 11:29 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Wednesday, April 6**, the space station should be visible for about 56 minutes beginning at 11:33 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Thursday, April 7**, the space station should be visible for about 57 minutes beginning at 11:37 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Friday, April 8**, the space station should be visible for about 58 minutes beginning at 11:41 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Saturday, April 9**, the space station should be visible for about 59 minutes beginning at 11:45 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Sunday, April 10**, the space station should be visible for about 60 minutes beginning at 11:49 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Monday, April 11**, the space station should be visible for about 61 minutes beginning at 11:53 am. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Tuesday, April 12**, the space station should be visible for about 62 minutes beginning at 11:57 am. Look west about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the north-northeast reaching a height of about 26 degrees above the horizon.

\* **Wednesday, April 13**, the space station should be visible for about 63 minutes beginning at 12:01 pm. Look northwest about 10 degrees above the horizon and the space station should appear. It will track to the northeast reaching a height of about 47 degrees above the horizon.

\* <



# PUBLIC NOTICES

**HOW TO PLACE A LEGAL NOTICE**  
**EMAIL:** [starmercurylegals@gmail.com](mailto:starmercurylegals@gmail.com)  
 For information regarding legal notices  
 you may call 706-846-3188 or use the email  
 address above.

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

**COSTS FOR LEGAL NOTICES**  
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**A typing fee will be charged for legal notices 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)

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 Braddy  
 Personal Representative  
 616 McClain Rd.  
 Manchester, GA 31816

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

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, a/k/a 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)

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)

031

NOTICE TO DEBTORS  
 AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA  
 COUNTY OF MERIWETHER

IN RE: ESTATE OF SHARON  
 DARLENE TOWNSEND,  
 DECEASED

All creditors of the estate of Sharon Darlene Townsend, deceased, late of Meriwether County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.

diate payment to me.

This the 5TH of February, 2025.

LISA DARLENE SMITH and  
 LACY ELIZABETH BENCHWICK,  
 Executors  
 of the Last Will and Testament of  
 SHARON  
 DARLENE TOWNSEND  
 c/o Robert Lee Todd IV, Attorney  
 at Law  
 P. O. Box 663, Greenville, GA  
 30222  
 Phone 706-672-4491

(2:13,20,27,3,6)

guardian(s), must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and be filed with this Court no later than fourteen (14) days after this notice is mailed, or ten (10) days after this notice is personally served upon you, or ten (10) days after the second publication of this notice if you are served by publication.

All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or Georgia 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.

NOTE: If a natural guardian files a timely objection to the creation of the temporary guardianship, the Petition will be dismissed. If a natural guardian files an objection to the appointment of the Petitioner(s) as guardian(s), or if a parent who is not a natural guardian files an objection to the Petition, a hearing on the matter shall be held in the Probate Court of Meriwether County, courtroom second floor, address 100 Court Square Greenville, Georgia on (scheduled on a later date). If no objection is filed, the Petition may be granted without a hearing.

J.D. RASNICK  
 JUDGE

HONORABLE SHANNON E  
 NEELY

BY SHANNON NEELY  
 DEPUTY CIVIL CLERK  
 /ASSOCIATE PROBATE JUDGE  
 PO BOX 608  
 GREENVILLE GA 30333  
 (706) 672-4952

(2:6,13,20,27)

033

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF  
 MERIWETHER COUNTY  
 STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF  
 PEGGY RUTH HAMILTON,  
 DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 10597

PETITION FOR LETTERS OF  
 ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: ALL HEIRS & INTERESTED  
 PARTIES, KNOWN AND  
 UNKNOWN  
 and to whom it may concern:

HOMER EUGENE HAMILTON has petitioned for (himself/herself) to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of ABOVE-NAMED DECEASED, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before MARCH 7TH, 2025..

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.

**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

(2:6,13,20,27)

023

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF  
 MERIWETHER COUNTY  
 STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF: EVAN  
 ROBINSON

A MINOR CASE # 10594

014

NOTICE

DATE OF MAILING IF ANY IS:  
 N/A

DATE OF SECOND PUBLICATION,  
 IF ANY, IS FEBRUARY

13TH, 2025

TO: JAMES EDWARD ROBINSON T

VS,

KEVIN WADDELL, EXECUTOR  
 OF THE ESTATE OF ROSIE MAE  
 BROWN; ANTHONY R. BROWN;  
 ALL HEIRS OF ANTHONY R.  
 BROWN; WAYNE LEE BROWN;  
 ALL HEIRS OF WAYNE LEE

You are hereby notified that Anna Marie Stout has filed a Petition seeking to be appointed temporary guardian(s) of the above-named Minor. All objections to the Petition to the appointment of a temporary guardian or the appointment of the Petitioner(s) as temporary

BROWN; LAVENE BROWN/A/K/A  
 GRACE LAVENE BROWN; ALL  
 HEIRS OF LAVENE BROWN  
 A/K/A GRACE LAVENE BROWN;  
 BETTY GILL; ALL HEIRS OF  
 BETTY GILL; GEORGIA  
 DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE;  
 AND ALL RESIDENTS, OCCU-  
 PANTS, TENANTS, LIENHOLD-  
 ERS, CLAIMANTS, AND/OR  
 OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES  
 OF THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS  
 2785 OWENS ROAD  
 WOODBURY, MERIWETHER  
 COUNTY, GEORGIA,  
 RESPONDENTS.

CAFN: 2024-CV-0364

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

TO: Kevin Waddell, Executor of the Estate of Rosie Mae Brown; Anthony R. Brown; all heirs of Anthony R. Brown; all heirs of Wayne Lee Brown; Lavene Brown a/k/a Grace Lavene Brown; all heirs of Lavene Brown a/k/a Grace Lavene Brown; Betty Gill; all heirs of Betty Gill; Georgia Department of Revenue; and all residents, occupants, tenants, lienholders, claimants, and/or other interested parties of the property known as 2785 Owens Road Woodbury, Meriwether County, Georgia.

You are hereby notified that the above-styled action seeking to establish title to the below described property against all the world was filed on the 14th day of January, 2025, in the Superior Court of MERIWETHER County, Georgia, Coweta Judicial Circuit, and that by reason of order for service by publication entered by said court, you are hereby commanded to be and appear at said Court within 30 days of the date of the order for service by publication to answer said petition and file pleadings before the Court.

MAP & PARCEL 153010

All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the Southeast quarter of Land Lot No. 48 of the Eight Land District of Meriwether County, Georgia, and containing 2.20 acres, more or less, as shown on a plat of survey as recorded in Plat Book 14, Page 171, Office of the Clerk of Superior Court, Meriwether County, Georgia. Said plat is by reference incorporated herein in said of this description, including the metes, bounds, courses and distances shown on said plat.

WITNESS the Honorable Judge of said Court.

This 17th day of January, 2025.

/s/ Mitch Key  
 Mitchell T. Key,  
 Attorney for Petitioner

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

ty, 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) (http://www.storageauctions.com) starting on February 7, 2025 and will end at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, February 24, 2025.

Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or Motor vehicles are sold "As Is / Parts Only," no titles or registration.

NAMES, UNITS, CONTENTS:

Bryan Carlisle, Unit 918,  
 Household Goods, Furniture,  
 Boxes

William Dockery, Unit 414,  
 Household Goods, Furniture,  
 Boxes

Melissa Gay, Unit 220,  
 Household Goods, Furniture,  
 Boxes

Pamela Harris, Unit 1006,  
 Household Goods, Furniture,  
 Boxes

Ronald Hill, Unit 117, Household  
 Goods, Furniture, Boxes

Alice Leonard, Unit 802,  
 Household Goods, Furniture,  
 Boxes

Shewanda McCrary, Unit 411,  
 Household Goods, Furniture,  
 Boxes

Robert Myers, Unit 310,  
 Household Goods, Furniture,  
 Boxes

Demelody Terry, Unit 604,  
 Household Goods, Furniture,  
 Boxes

Damonee Walker, Unit 1010,  
 Household Goods, Furniture,  
 Boxes

(2:13,20)

## Trade Name

028

### TRADE NAME

#### STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF MERIWETHER

The undersigned does hereby certify that Charles B. Patterson conducting business as a sole proprietorship in the City of Luthersville, County of Meriwether, in the State of Georgia, under the name Bear Creek Firearms 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.

By: /s/ R. Brian Wooldridge  
 R. Brian Wooldridge  
 As Attorney-in-Fact for Charles L. Moody.

WOOLDRIDGE LAW OFFICES,  
 LLC  
 Attorneys at Law  
 28 Jackson Street  
 Newnan, GA 30263  
 (770) 253-2222

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

(2:6,13,20,27)

025

### Alcohol Sales

026

### ALCOHOL NOTICE

The business NEW SWIG BOT-  
 TLE 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)

## Sale Under Power

Road, said point located 0.15 miles East of the Southwest corner of Grantors 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 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)

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.

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 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)

## Buckner to Address Sierra Club

Submitted to the *Star-Mercury-Vindicator*

The Middle Chattahoochee Group invites everyone to our next meeting Tuesday February 18th at St. Mark's Episcopal Church at 207 N. Greenwood St.

Refreshment and social time begin at 6:30, meeting 7PM to 8PM. Our guest speaker will be Representative Debbie Buckner and Mark Woodall. Their topic will be "Environmental Legislative Updates".

Representative Buckner serves the citizens of House District 137 and serves as a member of the Appropriations Sub Committee on Health, and the Ways and

Means, State Properties and Technology and Infrastructure Innovation committees.

Mark Woodall is the Legislative Chair for the Georgia Chapter of the Sierra Club

The meeting can be attended in person or virtually via ZOOM. For those who can not attend please go to Middle Chattahoochee Group - Events Calendar and register for the Zoom link

You can also connect with us on:  

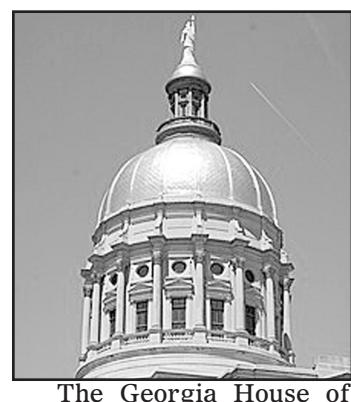
- Facebook - Middle Chattahoochee Group
- GA Sierra Club
- MeetUp
- Email at midchattserraclub@gmail.com

us



Photo Submitted

**CALLAWAY ELEMENTARY KICKS OFF "ONE BOOK, ONE SCHOOL"** - Callaway Elementary recently kicked off a communitywide shared reading event. "One Book, One School," encourages shared reading, incorporates the entire school community, and bridges the home-school connection. Every student and adult in our school received a copy of *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White. Families are encouraged to read together for 20 minutes each night, following the schedule that was shared with the entire school. During the school day, teachers and students participate in collaborative discussions, focus on specific reading strategies, and contribute to a schoolwide display. We can't wait to see what unfolds on the pages of this classic novel.



The Georgia House of

Representatives returned to the State Capitol on Monday, February 3rd to begin the fourth week of the 2025 legislative session. With Monday marking Legislative Day 10, my colleagues and I are now more than a quarter of the way through the 40-day session. Last week, our efforts were focused on fulfilling our constitutional duty to pass a balanced budget. House Bill 67, the Amended Fiscal Year (AFY) 2025 budget, which outlines the state's spending through the end of the current fiscal year, ending June 30, 2025, passed with bipartisan support.

The House's version of the AFY 2025 budget is set by a revised estimate of \$40.5 billion, including \$2.7 billion in surplus funds for a total infusion of \$4.4 billion, which is an increase of 12.2 percent over the original Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 budget.

The House's version of the AFY 2025 budget emphasizes strengthening Georgia's economy while also prioritizing early education, healthcare, higher education, and public safety. One of the most critical areas addressed in the House's version of the amended budget is the urgent need to provide relief and funding for Georgians impacted by Hurricane Helene. Our state's budget remains robust, and I will highlight some of the House's recommendations and how they may impact our state and communities.

\$145 million to be added to the Governor's Emergency Fund to continue funding our state's emergency response efforts to the storms

Georgia Department of Transportation will be protected from the financial impact of the motor fuel tax suspension following Hurricane Helene by redirecting the lost \$98 million into the Capital Construction program, and \$200 million be allocated to routine maintenance for response efforts related to Hurricane Helene, Hurricane Debby, and flooding that took place in November 2024

\$100 million in previously authorized funds through the Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission for relief efforts, along with an additional \$150 million to support disaster relief for farmers and timber producers affected by Hurricane Helene

\$50 million for the Department of Administrative Services' property risk pool to repair state property damaged in Helene's wake.

In support of fire and environmental safety efforts, HB 67 would also direct \$15.7 million to the Georgia Forestry Commission to fund the use of firefighting helicopters and environmental cab tractors

The devastation caused by Hurricane Helene was vast, with countless homes, businesses, and infrastructure left in ruins. Many Georgia families are still struggling to rebuild their lives and property after the storm's destruction, making this funding essential for supporting recovery efforts and restoring state assets.

Following the storms, rural Georgians are facing barriers to accessing quality healthcare and challenges in receiving timely medical care. To resolve this concern, the House's version of the AFY 2025 budget provides \$35.6 million in one-time stabilization grants to support

## Under the Gold Dome

A Report on the 2025 Georgia General Assembly

### State Representative Debbie Buckner

Georgia's rural hospitals in their recovery efforts

\$1.4 million for a \$3,000 salary enhancement for federal eligibility caseworkers, recognizing their hard work and dedication to assisting natural disaster victims

\$10 million in grant funds specifically allocated for relief from Hurricane Helene, further reinforcing the state's commitment to aiding in the recovery of those impacted by the storm

In line with our commitment to supporting rural communities, HB 67 would allocate \$28 million to rural workforce housing through grants and loans. This funding aims to boost rural workforce development by increasing housing availability in these areas

\$20 million in grants for rural site development, which would support local economic growth and help communities create development-ready sites

\$50 million for school security grants, which would provide \$21,635 per school for one-time security expenses. When combined with the \$109 million in base funding, school systems would receive a total of \$68,759 per school in FY 2025

\$3 million is allocated to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) to establish funds for a school risk assessment system

\$7.42 million in new lottery funds for the Department of Early Care and Learning to implement recommendations from the House Early Childhood Education Working Group. These recommendations include raising pay for Pre-K lead teachers and assistant teachers to align lead teacher salaries to the State Board of Education schedule and strengthening the Pre-K workforce

\$160,000 in one-time funding to the Governor's Office of Student Achievement to establish a Regional Crisis Recovery Network in partnership with the Southern Regional Education Board. This network would train counselors and deploy them to provide psychological first aid to students following traumatic events, such as natural disasters or school shootings

One-time \$25 million investment for Mercer School of Medicine, aimed at expanding learning opportunities and training physicians to practice in rural, underserved communities where healthcare needs are most critical

\$25 million investment for Morehouse School of Medicine to support faculty recruitment and retention, modernize the medical curriculum, and expand the pathway and career academy program

\$2 million be allocated to the HOPE Grant program, which would support increased usage and expanded eligibility

\$6 million for HOPE Scholarships, bringing the total appropriation to \$852 million, which would benefit more than 300,000 students across the state

\$22.2 million to the Georgia Department of Human Services to address the growth in foster care and the rising costs associated with that care, and \$1.7 million to fund a special victim's unit within the department, which would be focused on rescuing foster youth from sexual exploitation

\$1 million to the Georgia Department of Veterans



Services to open a sub-acute

unit for veterans with severe mental illness and brain injuries and \$1.5 million to cover rising healthcare costs at veterans nursing homes

The House is also dedicated to addressing the critical needs within Georgia's corrections system, including correctional officers, staff and inmates, which remains a top priority this legislative session.

\$333.6 million for the Georgia Department of Corrections, including:

- \$214 million earmarked for safety, security and technology upgrades

• \$35 million allocated specifically for security technology to combat contraband

- \$50.6 million for inmate healthcare services

- \$15 million for the creation of a state-owned electronic healthcare records system

- \$10.5 million would also be allocated for new body cameras and tasers to enhance the safety of both officers and inmates

- \$7.2 million would be set aside for the Over Watch Logistics Unit to provide continuous surveillance and response coordination

HB 67 now heads to the Senate for consideration, where it will undergo a similar review process. Once the Senate has reviewed the House's version, they may propose changes, and if that happens, the Senate's version of the amended budget will return to the House for further review. If the two chambers cannot reach an agreement, a conference committee will be appointed to resolve any differences between the two versions. Once both chambers can reach an agreement, the final version of the amended budget will be sent to the governor for signature. This same process will be followed for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 budget, which is what we will turn our attention to next.

On Tuesday, we honored firefighters from across the state during the 53rd Firefighters Recognition Day at the State Capitol. Thursday, we celebrated Georgia National Guard Day by presenting Major General Richard Dwayne Wilson with a resolution honoring the dedication and sacrifice of the National Guard's members.

We also recognized the 50th anniversary of Morehouse School of Medicine, presenting President Valerie Montgomery Rice with a resolution honoring the school's outstanding contributions to the community and the entire state.

The Georgia House of Representatives will continue its legislative work on Monday, February 10th as we begin our fifth week of session. With Crossover Day quickly approaching, we're gearing up for a busy period ahead, where bills and resolutions must pass out of their respective chambers. As always, I encourage you to reach out with any questions or concerns about the work being done at the Capitol.

Contact **The Star-Mercury-Vindicator**

E-mail: [starmercurynews@gmail.com](mailto:starmercurynews@gmail.com)

Phone: (706) 846-3188

Mail: P.O. Box 426, Manchester, GA 31816

## How the All-Time Hogansville High Girls Basketball Team Was Chosen

By TODD PIKE

To say finding information about Hogansville High girls basketball teams was difficult some years would be a HUGE understatement. One year, I could find only one short article giving the outcome of a girls game that included individual scoring totals. Other years, I couldn't even find that many! While articles from the mid-70s through the 90s were usually helpful, the 1950s through the early 70s, for the most part, were void of all but the sparsest coverage. The same goes for 1995-96. After the team picture appeared at the beginning of that season, there was not another mention of the team for the entire year.

This lack of coverage, combined with very little information in most old yearbooks, made it difficult to find information and statistics for some players who might have merited inclusion on the All-Time Hogansville High School Girls Basketball Team. This was especially true of the 3 on 3 era that ended in 1969. With that said, I did speak to many former players and several coaches, both

recently and from 2008-2012, when induction ceremonies for the Hogansville High School Sports Hall Of Fame were held. Their memories were very helpful for this project.

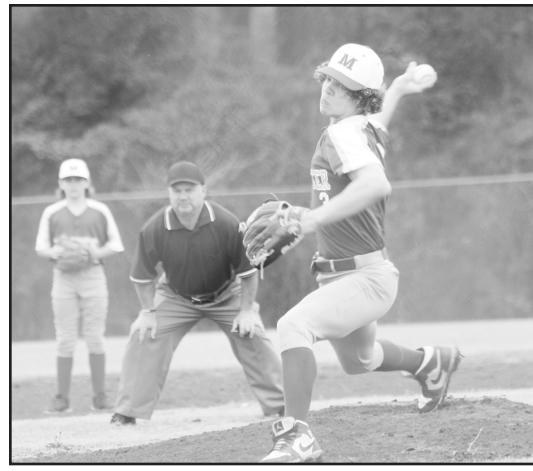
Many years, no Most Valuable Player award was given for girls basketball. While there were All-Christmas Tournament Team selections as early as 1974, it wasn't until 1979 that the LaGrange Daily News began selecting an All-Area team in girls basketball, thirteen years after All-Area teams were chosen for boys. This also prevented more recognition from being bestowed upon players from those years.

With these roadblocks in mind, I used the following criteria to help with my selections for the HHS All-Time Team. All-State honors are most important, followed by being named to the All-State Tournament Team. Next would be All-District, as districts had more teams than regions. All-Region, All-West Georgia, All-Columbus Valley and playing in college were next in importance. LaGrange Daily News All-Area recognition was next, followed by

WTRP Radio All-Area, then All-Sub Region Tournament and All-Christmas Tournament honors. Team MVP awards were next, followed by other team honors. Team accomplishments were also considered, in order from state tournament play, District Titles, Region Titles, Christmas Tournament titles and Region Runner-Up finishes.

I made probably two dozen trips looking up stats for this project. With that said, I know some people will not agree with some of my choices. My purpose is to recognize who I think are the best players, not to upset anyone. Everyone out there is free to name their own team. Next week, I'll name my All-Time Coaching Staff.

*Todd Pike is a correspondent for the Star-Mercy Vindicator and has worked tirelessly to preserve the history of athletics at Hogansville High School. Pike is a resident of Hogansville and a graduate of Hogansville High School. The newspaper would like to thank Todd Pike for his contributions to the Star-Mercy Vindicator and his efforts to preserve history.*



Photographs By Mary Byers

**MANCHESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL BASEBALL BEGINS** - In the top left photograph, Isaiah Dixon threw heat against Chattahoochee County this past Saturday in Cusseta. In the right photograph, Isaiah Gribble hustles in to lob the ball to first base against Chattahoochee County.



Photographs By Mary Byers

**KEEPING ON TOP OF THE GAME** - In the left photograph, Kennon Elder and Isaiah Dixon meet at the mound to reset and encourage each other for the next inning. In the right photograph, after an attempt by Chattahoochee County to pick him off, Kennon Elder slides into home for the Manchester Middle School Blue Devils.



Submitted Photo

**COLLEGE GREEK NIGHT AT GREENVILLE HIGH SCHOOL** - Greenville High School recently hosted a "College Greek Night" where they invited members of the Divine Nine (D9) Greek Letter Organizations out to be recognized during halftime of a basketball game. Each group was recognized with information such as their founding year, location of founding and programs that they facilitate through their organizations. Members of the Divine Nine include Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. (ΑΦΑ), Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. (ΑΚΑ), Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. (ΚΑΨ), Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. (ΩΨΦ), Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. (ΔΣΘ), Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. (ΦΒΣ), Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. (ΖΦΒ), Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. (ΣΓΡ), and Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc. (ΙΦΘ). Each of the organizations serves Meriwether County and the surrounding areas through various service projects and host events in the area. Pictured above are members that were in attendance, (front row l-r, Zeta Phi Beta, Delta Sigma Theta, Kappa Alpha Psi and Alpha Phi Alpha. Delta Sigma Theta was awarded the sorority organization with the most members in attendance while Kappa Alpha Psi was awarded the fraternity organization with the most members in attendance).

## 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 Council Chamber 3636 Whitehouse Parkway, Warm Springs, GA 31830. Dates & Times are Thursday February 20, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. and Monday February 24, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. & 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.

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# Manchester Lady Angel Basketball Team Wins Three in a Row

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

The Manchester High Lady Angel basketball team played hard and was hot as the team earned three straight victories last week. The Lady Angels improved to 8-9 overall and 7-5 in region play with the win.

The team is now waiting to begin tournament play. Although schedules for the region and state tournaments have not been announced at press time, the state tournaments are scheduled to begin on Feb. 18.

## MHS vs. Atlanta Classical

Lady Angel Kaliya Gray, a senior, was hot-handed

against the Atlanta Classical Lady Cavaliers in Atlanta on Wednesday, Feb. 5 and helped the team bring home a 53-47 victory.

Gray was the leading scorer for the Lady Angels putting up 16 points on the night. She was the only Lady Angel to score in double digits.

Senior NyAsia Hunt added nine points for the Lady Angels, freshman Eryianna Stallworth and sophomore Karlecia White scored seven points each, junior Avah Ortiz scored five points, sophomore Jhada Waller added four points and senior Emery warrior scored four points.

## MHS vs. Mt. Zion

The Lady Angels continued the team's winning ways on Friday, Feb. 7 when the Mt. Zion Lady Eagles came calling. It was no contest as the Lady Angels easily defeated the Lady Eagles by a score of 63-19.

Stallworth led the offense charge of the Lady Angels scoring 12 points, Gray added 10 points and senior Rhinna Stroman was the only other Manchester player to score in double digits with 10 points.

Waller added eight points for Manchester, Warrior scored seven points and Ortiz and Hunt added six points



Photo LG Broadcasting

**GETTING READY** - Manchester High Lady Angel, freshman Eryianna Stallworth, prepares to shoot a free throw shot against the Trion Lady Bulldogs this past Saturday. Stallworth scored nine points in the game and the Lady Angels won a close one by a score of 39-36.

each.

## MHS vs. Trion

It was a hard-fought battle when the Trion High Lady Bulldogs visited the Lady Angels in Manchester on Saturday, Feb. 8. The Lady Angels battled to the end and eventually earned a 39-36 victory.

Gray was hot-handed once again putting up 12 points on the night; Stallworth and Hunt scored

nine points each; Waller added four points; Stroman scored two points and White Ortiz and senior Auriyanna Wright scored one point each.

## Something to be proud of

Manchester High Lady Angel sophomore Karlecia White has been named the Region 7 All-Region Defensive Player of the year and the team had

seven players named to or

receive an honorable mention for the All-Region Team.

Senior Kaliya Gray was named to the All-Region First Team.

Senior NyAsia Hunt and freshman Eryianna Stallworth were both named to the Second Team.

Seniors Emery Warrior and Auriyanna White and sophomore Jhada Waller all received honorable mentions.

# Regular Season Ends for Callaway Baseball Teams

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

The Callaway High basketball teams ended regular season this past week and are now waiting for the region and state tournaments to begin.

## CHS Lady Cavaliers

The Lady Cavaliers are boasting a 13-8 overall record and a 7-3 region record after taking two of three games this past week.

On Monday, Feb. 3 the team hosted the Pike County High Lady Pirates and rolled to a 61-12 victory.

The Lady Cavaliers led by a score of 22-2 at the end of the first quarter and by a score of 41-7 at the end of the first half.

Callaway increased the lead to 47-7 in the third quarter rolling to the big win in the fourth quarter.

Sorry, no individual statistics were available for the game.

On Tuesday, Feb. 4, the Lady Cavaliers ended an 11-game winning streak for the Harris County High Lady Tigers by a score of 49-47.

Senior Raniya Mahone and sophomore Shakenya Wortham led the Lady Cavaliers on offense scoring 15 points each. Sophomore Kenzi Howard added eight points and sophomore Aubrey Chelcy scored six points.

On Friday, Feb. 7 the team traveled to Madison to play the Morgan County High Lady Bulldogs and were defeated by a score of 42-35.

The Lady Bulldogs led by a score of 15-7 at the end of the first quarter. The Lady Cavalier offense came to life in the second quarter and outscored the Lady Bulldogs 13-4 to take a slim 20-19 lead.

The score was tied at 25 at the end of the third quarter but the Lady Bulldogs managed to outscore the Lady Cavaliers 17-10 in the fourth quarter to earn a 42-35 victory.

Sorry, no individual statistics were available for the game.

## CHS Cavaliers

The Cavaliers also won two of three games last week.

On Monday, Feb. 3 the team hosted the Pike County



Photo By LG Broadcasting

**READY TO REBOUND** - Callaway seniors Bryceton Sanders (#12) and Trey Buggs (#3) prepare to rebound against Pike County High Pirates in a recent game.

Pirates, a region opponent, and earned a 70-61 victory.

The Cavaliers led by a score of 17-12 at the end of the first quarter and 27-18 as the first half came to a close.

Callaway increased the lead to 50-39 in the third quarter and went on to win by the score of 70-61.

Senior Bryceton Sanders scored 20 points for the Cavaliers and had two rebounds, an assist, two steals and a block. Senior BreShun Hall was the only other Cavalier to score in double digits with 12 points. He also had 10 rebounds and three assists.

Junior Landon Thomas scored eight points for Callaway and had seven rebounds, three steals and two blocks; junior Ahmad Roberts scored six points, had two rebounds, an assist and a steal; sophomore Kaiden James scored six points, had 12 rebounds, six assists, a steal and two blocks; senior Tyson Shells scored six points, had four rebounds, two assists and a block; freshman AJ Williams scored five points, had two rebounds, two assists and a steal; senior Tyren Buggs scored four points, had six rebounds, two assists, a steal and a block; and freshman JaQuinton Williams scored two points, had a rebound, three assists and a steal.

Junior Landon Thomas scored eight points for Callaway and had seven rebounds, three steals and two blocks; junior Ahmad Roberts scored six points, had two rebounds, an assist and a steal; sophomore Kaiden James scored six points, had 12 rebounds, six assists, a steal and two blocks; senior Tyson Shells scored six points, had four rebounds, two assists and a block; freshman AJ Williams scored five points, had two rebounds, two assists and a steal; senior Tyren Buggs scored four points, had six rebounds, two assists, a steal and a block; and freshman JaQuinton Williams scored two points, had a rebound, three assists and a steal.

Senior Nakel Johnson scored eight points and had 10 rebounds; Shells added six points, had four rebounds, three assists and two steals; sophomore Zy Dandy scored four points, had a rebound, an assist and a steal and Buggs added two points, had four rebounds and two assists.

The Cavaliers ended regular season play on Friday, Feb. 7 in Milner against region opponent Morgan County and were defeated by a score of 56-44.

Sorry, no individual statistics were available for the game.

Cavaliers hosted the Harris County High Tigers, a non-region opponent, and rolled to a 76-49 victory.

Sanders led the Cavaliers on offense in the game with 15 points, six rebounds, an assist and two steals. Hall scored 11 points, had three rebounds, two assists, two steals and a block. Williams scored 11 points, had a rebound and two assists. Rounding out the Callaway players scoring in double digits was Thomas with 11 points, five rebounds, a steal and two blocks.

James had a great night on defense. He scored eight points for Callaway and had six rebounds, seven assists, five steals and a block.

Senior Nakel Johnson scored eight points and had 10 rebounds; Shells added six points, had four rebounds, three assists and two steals; sophomore Zy Dandy scored four points, had a rebound, an assist and a steal and Buggs added two points, had four rebounds and two assists.

The Cavaliers ended regular season play on Friday, Feb. 7 in Milner against region opponent Morgan County and were defeated by a score of 56-44.

Sorry, no individual statistics were available for the game.

# GHS Teams Finish Season on Road

Continued from Page 12A

They started the week out on the road visiting the Mt. Zion Eagles on Tuesday, February 4 and came away 71-58 losers. The Patriots played steady in the first quarter as they were down 16-8. The Patriots played better in the second quarter as they kept Mt. Zion within striking distance and were down 32-23 at the half. Marquel Deering carried the Patriots during the quarter as he scored 13 of the team's 15 points for the quarter. The third and fourth quarters proved to be too much for the visitors as the Eagles secured the victory.

Marquel Deering was the leading scorer for the Patriots as he had 21 points, six assists, six rebounds and five steals. Jarvis Simmons had 16 points, nine rebounds and two steals, while Shaun Moreland had 14 points, four assists, four rebounds and three steals.

The Patriots continued their road trip on Friday, February 7 at the Atlanta Classical Academy Cavaliers and ended up losing 69-41. The Patriots started out slow and was behind 18-6 at the end of the first quarter and could only muster nine points in the second quarter and was down 38-15 at the half. The visitors could not match the host's scoring output in the second half and The Cavaliers cruised to the region win.

Simmons led the Patriots in scoring on the night as he had 13 points, along with



Photo By LG Broadcasting

**MAKING PLANS** - Greenville High Patriot Coach Walter Jackson talks strategy with senior Ijshawin Times and junior Marquel Deering during a game last week.

seven rebounds. Ijshawin Times followed with 11 points and five rebounds.

The nightcap to the season had the Patriots on the road playing Elite Scholars Academy Royal Knights on Saturday, February 8 and they came within a basket of winning, 45-44. The Patriots came out competitively and were only down two, 9-7, at the end of the first quarter.

The scoring output slowed in the second quarter and saw the Patriots being down 20-15 at the half. The third quarter found the Patriots tying the game at 30 at the buzzer. The hot shooting continued for the Patriots, however, they could not get over the hump and fell just short of the victory to end their regular season.

Simmons led the Patriot attack with 15 points, nine

rebounds and three blocks. Deering knocked in 13 points to go along with six rebounds, four assists and four steals.

Next up for the Patriots is the region playoffs as they look to extend their season. (Results of their first-round game on Monday, were not available at press time.)

For the season, the Patriots had a few players high in region statistics. Deering was sixth in the region with 16.2 points per game. He was also fifth in the region in steals with 2.4 per game. Elijah Frazier was second in the region in blocks with 2.2 per game. Shaun Moreland averaged a half block per game to put him at ninth in the region. Deering was sixth in the region in double-doubles with one.

# Intent to Opt Out of Homestead Exemption

The City Council of Luthersville intends to opt out of the statewide adjusted base year ad valorem homestead exemption for the City of Luthersville.

All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearing on this matter to be held at the Luthersville Municipal Complex, 104 Wortham Road, Luthersville, GA 30251 on Saturday, February 22, 2025, at 9:00 AM.

Times and places of additional public hearings on this matter are at the Luthersville Municipal Complex on Sunday, February 23, 2025, at 3:00 PM and Monday, February 24, 2025, at 6:00 PM.

# Baseball Season Begins For High School Teams

Continued from Page 12A

results of the game were not available at press time.

The team will host Pepperell on Monday, Feb. 17 and will travel to Valley High in Valley, AL on Tuesday, Feb. 18 and will play at Troup High on Friday, Feb. 21. All of the games will begin at 5:30 p.m.

The Manchester High Blue Devils traveled to Cusseta on Monday to play Chattahoochee County and host Chattahoochee County on Wednesday, but results from the game were not available at press time.

The Blue Devils return several key players this sea-

son including, but not limited to, Christian Whitaker, Kaleb Gay, Gavin Garrett and Jayden Hodo.

On Friday, Feb. 14 the team will travel to Ellaville to play the Schley County High Wildcats at 4 p.m.

On Monday, Feb. 17 the Blue Devils will travel to Butler to play the Taylor County High Vikings at 5:55 p.m.

On Wednesday, Feb. 19 Manchester will host the Taylor County High Vikings at 4 p.m.

On Friday, Feb. 21 the team will again travel to Butler to play the Vikings at 5:55 p.m.

# SPORTS

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## TO THE NEXT LEVEL



**FLINT RIVER ACADEMY PLAYERS SIGN** - Flint River Academy student athletes signed letters of intent last week to play college football. DJ Baums (right), who signed to play at Shorter College. Baums had four receptions for 139-yards and a touchdown and on defense he had 14 tackles for the Wildcats, five quarterback hurries, two tackles for a loss, eight pass deflections and a caused fumble. Quarterback Trent Young (center) signed to play at Andrew College. Young carried the football 62 times for the Wildcats for 477-yards and 10 touchdowns. He was also 19 of 41 passing for 452-yards and six touchdowns. Jamir Muhammad (left) had 22 carries for 160-yards and a touchdown and had three receptions for 59-yards and a touchdown. Defensively he had 26 tackles, one quarterback hurry, two interceptions and seven pass deflections. The players help lead the Wildcats to the state championship game.



**MANCHESTER PLAYERS SIGN** - Manchester High Blue Devil football players (left to right) Zycurious Alford and Tyquevious Johnson both signed letters of intent to play football at Georgia Warhawks. The Georgia Warhawks are a post-graduate football program at Gwinnett Technical College, Lanier Technical College, or Education Solutions. During his playing career at Manchester High, Alford had 116 tackles, two interceptions, caused two fumbles and had a fumble recovery. Johnson played in six games this past season and had 22 tackles and a sack and a fumble recovery. The players help lead the Blue Devils to the state playoffs this past season.

## FRA Teams End Regular Season Play

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

The Flint River Academy (FRA) Wildcat basketball teams will end regular season play this coming week after the Lady Cats fell prey to St. George's last week and the Wildcats won two out of three games.

### FRA Lady Wildcats

The Lady Wildcats fell prey to St. George's in Milner on Friday, Feb. 7 by a score of 58-29.

Sorry, no individual statistics were available for the game.

The Lady Wildcats will end regular season play on Friday, Feb. 14 when the team will host St. George's in Woodbury at 6 p.m.

The Lady Cats are 6-8 overall and 0-2 in region play.

The region tournament and playoff schedule had not been released as of press time.

### FRA Wildcats

The Wildcats took two out of three games this past week.

On Monday, Feb. 3 the

team hosted Oak Mountain Academy and earned a 46-32 victory.

Senior Jamir Muhammad led the Wildcats on offense scoring 19 points, had seven rebounds, two assists and a steal. Junior Cole Riner was the only other player to score in double digits with 14 points, three rebounds and two steals.

Junior Ethan Newman scored six points, had six rebounds, an assist and a steal; senior DJ Baums was a force under the boards scored five points had 13 rebounds, four assists, two steals and six blocks; junior Mason Jones added three points, had one rebound and an assist and freshman Jack Collins scored two points.

On Tuesday, Feb. 4, the Wildcats hosted Lafayette Christian and earned an impressive 60-28 victory.

Muhammad was again the leader on offense for the Wildcats with 26 points, nine rebounds, two assists and five steals. Jones was the only other player to score in double digits with 14 points, three rebounds and two

assists.

Riner added seven points for FRA, had 12 rebounds, an assist and six steals; Baums scored six points, had 10 rebounds, three assists and two blocks; freshman Mitchell Parham scored three points, had two rebounds, an assist and a steal; Newman scored two points, had 10 rebounds, an assist and two steals and freshman Grayson Garrett scored two points, had five rebounds, a steal and a block.

On Friday, Feb. 7 the team traveled to Milner to play St. George's and were defeated by a score of 59-41.

Jones led FRA in scoring with 16 points, an assist and a steal; Baums scored nine points, had 18 rebounds, an assist and three steals; Riner scored eight points, had four rebounds, an assist and a steal; Muhammad scored five points, had eight rebounds and two assists and sophomore Thomas Geldback scored two points.

The Wildcats are boasting an 11-8 overall record and are 3-3 in region play at the present time.

freshman Erlyanna Stallworth was both named to the Second Team.

Seniors Emary Warrior and Auriyanna White and sophomore Jhada Waller all received honorable mentions.

The Flint River Academy Wildcats will not play until March.

The Callaway High Cavaliers played on Thursday, Feb. 6 at Landmark Christian in Fairburn and were defeated

by a score of 1-0. The War Eagles score the lone run in the bottom of the first inning in a game that turned out to be a pitching duel.

The Cavaliers play on Wednesday, Feb. 12 but

See "BASEBALL", Page 11A

## MHS Lady Angels Named to All-Region Team

### Karlecia White Named Region Defensive Player of Year

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

Manchester High Lady Angels sophomore Karlecia White has been named the Region 7 All-Region Defensive Player of the year and the team had

seven players named to or receive an honorable mention for the All-Region Team.

Senior Kaliya Gray was named to the All-Region First Team.

Senior NyAsia Hunt and

freshman Erlyanna Stallworth were both named to the Second Team.

Seniors Emary Warrior and Auriyanna White and sophomore Jhada Waller all received honorable mentions.

## Baseball Season Begins for Area High Schools

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

The high school baseball season is ready to begin.

The Greenville High Patriots will begin action on Feb. 21 in Columbus at Carver High at 5:30 p.m.

The Flint River Academy

Wildcats will not play until March.

The Callaway High Cavaliers played on Thursday, Feb. 6 at Landmark Christian in Fairburn and were defeated

by a score of 1-0. The War Eagles score the lone run in the bottom of the first inning in a game that turned out to be a pitching duel.

The Cavaliers play on Wednesday, Feb. 12 but

See "BASEBALL", Page 11A



Photo LG Broadcasting

**MANCHESTER BLUE DEVILS TAKE TWO OUT OF THREE** - The Manchester High Blue Devils won two of three games last week defeating Atlanta Classical Academy and Trion but falling short against Mt. Zion. The team is boasting an overall record of 16-3 and a region record of 10-2. In the photograph above, Jaedyn Terry (#4) and Trey Jones (#1) wait to make a rebound as L'Ki Prather (#15) prepares to play defense.

## MHS Blue Devils Take Two Wins

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

rebounds and a steal.

Senior Trey Jones scored 12 points, had seven rebounds and two steals.

Junior Brontae Jones scored seven points, nine rebounds and three steals; senior Jhiere Terry scored six points, had 15 rebounds, three steals and three blocks; Junior L'Ki Prather scored five points and had four rebounds; junior Darrius Favors scored four points and had six rebounds and senior Mond Johnson scored four points, had six rebounds and a steal.

**MHS vs. Atlanta Classical**

The Blue Devils had three players to score in double digits against the Atlanta Classical Academy Cavaliers to lift the team to an impressive 80-59 victory in Atlanta on Wednesday, Feb. 5.

The Blue Devils took a 21-15 lead first quarter lead and never looked back. Manchester increased the lead to 47-25 at the end of the first half.

The Cavaliers began a rally in the third quarter and cut the Blue Devil lead to 54-48 but it was all Manchester in the final quarter as the team rolled to an 80-59 victory.

Junior Dre McGhee had a great night on offense scoring 23 points and had eight rebounds and three steals.

Junior Jaedyn Terry scored 19 points, had eight

rebounds and a steal.

Prather scored three points, had three rebounds and a steal.

### MHS vs. Trion

The Blue Devils ended regular season play on Saturday, Feb. 8 with a 73-38 victory over the Trion Bulldogs in Manchester.

Trey Jones paced Manchester on offense with 19 points, had 10 rebounds and two steals; Jaedyn Terry added 16 points and had eight rebounds; McGhee scored 12 points, had six rebounds and four steals; Jhiere Terry scored seven points, had 10 rebounds, a steal and a block.

The Blue Devils finished regular season play with an overall record of 16-3 and a region record of 10-2.

### What's Next?

The Blue Devils will compete in the region tournament but a scheduled was not available at press time. The team is expected to begin state playoff action on Wednesday, Feb. 19.



Photo Dexter Williams

**GIVING INSTRUCTIONS** - Greenville High Lady Patriot Coach Jamison McCrary gives some instructions to his players during a recent game.

## GHS Teams Finish Season on Road

By DEXTER WILLIAMS

The Greenville High Lady Patriots (15-3, 11-1) went 2-1 in their last three region road games of the regular season, and they wrapped up first place in Division II Region 7-A. They played one of their classic games along with one of their worst games of the season before winning big on the last day of the regular season.

Tuesday, February 4 found the Lady Patriots on the road against the Mt. Zion Lady Eagles and they came away 69-36 winners. The first quarter saw the Lady Patriots dominate the game as they jumped to a huge lead, going up 19-4. The charge was led by Catavia Bennett with 11 points. The second quarter saw the lead increase to 39-14. The second half was not better for the host team as Greenville hit for 30 points to their 22 for the victory.

Bennett continued her hot shooting as she netted 26 points, grabbed 8 rebounds, along with 8 steals, and four assists. Jamya Kelley had 16 points, three rebounds, four

assists and four steals. Daliyah Ellison followed with 12 points, six assists, three steals and three rebounds.

The Lady Patriots continued their road show on Friday, February 7, as they traveled to face the Atlanta Classical Academy Lady Cavaliers and came away with their worst showing of the season and suffered their first region defeat, 32-26. Overall, the Lady Patriots played poorly on the offensive end and missed timely and routine shots.

Seeking to put that game behind them, the Lady Patriots dismantled the host Elite Scholars Academy Lady Royal Knights, 77-6, on Saturday, February 8. The win saw the Lady Patriots get contributions from every member of the team.

Next up for the Lady Patriots will be the region playoffs this week where they will be the number one seed. Their match-up will be determined by play early in the week.

Bennett led the region in scoring at 21.1 points per game, followed by Abbott with 11 per game and Ashlyle Kelley was fourth with .5 per game.

The Greenville High Patriots (1-16, 0-12) closed out a disappointing regular season by dropping their last three road region games of the regular season.

See "GHS", Page 11A