



**INSIDE: Christmas Issue
Will Be Featured
Next Week...**



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An informed people will make the right decisions.

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Eye On

Long
By MITTIE VAUGHAN
Editor And Publisher

Supt. Heath Crane said that, with the transient population, teachers are doing an awesome job in Long County schools. His remarks were echoed by Board Vice Chairman Wingate, who presided over the November meeting.

Long County Board Of Commissioners is not increasing the millage rate this year. Public hearings on the millage are being held on December 15 and 16. The last one will be held before the Long County Board Of Commissioners work session.

Despite the reassessment, the Long County Board Of Commissioners is not planning to roll back the millage rate. Therefore, they had to advertise the millage as a tax increase, which requires three public hearings.

Shane Richardson has been selected as the new county manager. He will take over the position on January 2. Although he is presently working in South Carolina, he has worked previously in Georgia and therefore is familiar with Georgia law and the makeup of Georgia agencies and with officials in Georgia, according to former County Manager Chuck Scragg, interviewed on his last day on the job by the Press.

A reassessment of local properties was held in recent months. Former County Manager Chuck Scragg stated that a reassessment was last held in 2007. Scragg's last day as



REACH SCHOLARS HONORED AT LONG COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICE WEDNESDAY MORNING

**REACH
Scholars
Recognized**

Long County Middle School students who will receive a \$10,000 scholarship when they graduate were recognized during a ceremony at the Long County Board of Education office Wednesday. On hand with Supt Heath Crane are (not in order) Kayden Crooks, Lauryn Downs, Yulianna Garcia, Iveyonah Moody, Harven Orick, Nico Santiago, Mason Smiley, Saiauro Tiapula and Francisco Vela. PHOTO BY M. VAUGHAN

REACH Scholars Recognized

By MITTIE VAUGHAN
Editor And Publisher

REACH Scholars, who will receive a \$10,000 when they graduate from high school, were recognized at the Long County Board of Education office Wednesday morning.

The REACH signing ceremony recognized nine students, who were selected based on their scholastic achievement, attendance and good behavior. The nine students each will receive a mentor, who will work with them during their school career to ensure that they stay on track for graduation.

The nine students include Kayden Crooks, Lauryn Downs, Yuli-

anna Garcia, Iveyonah Moody, Harven Orick, Nico Santiago, Masen Smiley, Saiauro Tiapula and Francisco Vela.

Supt. Heath Crane recognized the students at the ceremony. Welcome was given by Dr. Patricia Krumnow, who also introduced guest speaker Henry Blair, a teacher at Long County High School who also is a motivational speaker. He graduated from Bob Jones University and did undergraduate work at West Georgia College, where he is to receive his diploma this week. Blair, a Long County High School graduate, told the youngsters that "your problem is not as big as you think."

He encouraged the students to "make hard things look easy."

Supt. Crane told the students, "This is your break to take you where you want to go."

Supt. Crane said the program would not be possible without the sponsors, who contributed \$1,000 each. The State of Georgia pays the other \$9,000 of the scholarship.

Sponsors included A New Beginning Church represented by Secretary Dallas Parker, Adysyn Araujo, Compass Worship Center, ESS and Greater Historical Elem Missionary Baptist Church.



LCHS TEACHER HENRY BLAIR ADDRESSES REACH SCHOLARS WEDNESDAY

Press Briefs

Christmas In Park Set Dec. 13

The Long County Recreation Department Events Committee is proud to host its 4th Annual Christmas in the Park—and it's going to be bigger, brighter, and merrier than ever!, according to a spokesperson.

"Mark your calendars and join us for a day of holiday cheer you won't want to miss," said Long County Recreation Department Events Committee Members Michelle Chambless, Tammy Goober, Lynette Futch, Brandi Castano and Chris Rollins.

The event will be held Saturday, December 13, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 59 Rec Park Road Ludowici GA 31316

"If you are interested in becoming a vendor, please fill out the google doc linked below. There is a \$20 vendor fee. (The vendor fee will be waived for all non profit informational booths, vendors hosting a free game/activity, and all school affiliated sports teams/booster club),"

said committee members.

Deadline to register is Monday December 8, at 5 p.m.. After this time, no vendors will be accepted. "Please keep in mind your application will not be marked as complete until we receive your fee," said a committee member.

Cash or check (made out to Long County Recreation) taken to the Rec park during normal business hours are acceptable for payment. Cash app \$LynetteFutch or venmo @Lynette-Futch (all payments will receive a receipt).

"We are looking forward to celebrating this holiday season with you," said the Long County Recreation Department Events Committee,

**PRESS
DEADLINE
IS TUESDAY
AT 12 NOON**

Church Page

Faith Motivation Disappointments

BY BROTHER DAVID (JAKE) JACOBS



Have our efforts to make life better for our children caused them to be weak? Is it not the struggles what makes us strong? I grew up on a farm taking care of farm animals. When they are born you could not help them get up or walk you would cripple them for life. They had to learn for themselves. The growth period is trial and error.

We were taught to learn about life from watching animals. They have a God-given instinct. Their mothers know when to wean their children. The birds know when to kick their young out of the nest. The young have to learn to defend for themselves searching for food and fighting to survive. We can learn a lot watching them. They even know their predators. Have we humans became too smart for our own survival?

The truth is we have got lazy. Billy Graham said in 1997, "I was taught that laziness was one of the worst evils, and that there was dignity and honor in labor."

John Donne said in 1629 in the Sermon Preached Before King Charles 1 said, "An idle body is a disease in a

state; an idle soul is a monster in a man." We will all have good days and bad days; that is a given. How we handle or cope with the bad days will determine how long it takes our character to grow. Even God in His Word does not guarantee us all good days! But, He does promise us He will be with us through the storms. Matthew 28:20, "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

Hebrews 13:5, "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for He hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Sometimes we all feel God is so far away. It is in the valley where we learn to trust God! It is there our soul is restored. Jesus is called the lily of the valley in Song of Solomon 2:1, "I am the rose of Sharon, and the lily of the valley." Anybody can shout on top of the mountain but character grows from learning to shout in the valley!

We all are just a piece of coal trying to make gold. But diamonds are

made from coal being pressured. When God tries us in the fire under pressure of circumstances, do we fold from being weak when He is trying to make us strong. Remember, the last fruit of the spirit listed in Galatians 5:23 is temperance. That's the hardest to character grow because it's hard to control the tongue. In other words to keep the ole mouth shut!

Inner strength comes from a deep rooted faith in Jesus Christ. The Words of Jesus in Red in most Bibles should be read every day. They are so powerful in faith building you will be surprised how strong you become only when tested. I've done funerals all over Georgia and in begin with this challenge. Write what I'm going to tell you down in your mind or soul now because you will need it eventually. Your faith in Jesus Christ is the glue that will hold your life together in good time and bad times. And you will go through bad times, it's a given. You will need this inner strength to get you through!

I am Bro Jake and together we can make a difference with God's Help!

Bible Lesson The Coming Day Of The Lord

Jesus' return is often called "the day of the Lord," and so many look forward to that day. But the prophet Amos warned that it would be a day that would not be one of gladness but of gloominess.

Other of the prophets wrote of the coming "day of the Lord," including the prophet

In addition to the prophecies in the Old Testament books, Jesus himself told of his second coming, as recorded in Matthew 24:29-31.

"Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

"And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

"And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

Jesus expounded further on this coming day in Matthew 24:36-44.

"But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.

"But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

"For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,

"And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

"Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

"Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

"Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.

"But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.

"Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

Jesus also is quoted in Luke 17:24-37 of his telling of the day of the Lord.

"For as the lightning, that lighteneth out of the one part under heaven, shineth unto the other part

under heaven; so shall also the Son of man be in his day.

"But first must he suffer many things, and be rejected of this generation.

"And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.

"They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.

"Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded;

"But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all.

"Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

"In that day, he which shall be upon the housetop, and his stuff in the house, let him not come down to take it away: and he that is in the field, let him likewise not return back.

"Remember Lot's wife.

"Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it.

"I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left.

"Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

"Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

"And they answered and said unto him, Where, Lord? And he said unto them, Wheresoever the body is, thither will the eagles be gathered together.

The Apostle Peter wrote in II Peter 3:3-13 of the day of the Lord, as follows:

"Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

"And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

"For this they willfully are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

"Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

"But the heavens and the earth, which are now,

by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

"But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

"But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

"Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

"Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

"Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness."

The Apostle Paul also wrote of the second coming of Christ in I Corinthians 15:49-53, as follows:

"And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

"Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

"For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality."

So those who meet Christ in the air will get immortal bodies as they rise to meet him.

The Day of the Lord is mentioned throughout the writings of the prophets, and Jesus himself also spoke about his second coming.

That day is a day that Christians look forward to, while those who do not know Christ know that they will meet with judgment instead of blessings.

Pastor's Viewpoint

By CHARLES (BUDDY) WHATLEY

Pastor's viewpoint is written by Charles 'Buddy' Whatley, a retired Methodist pastor serving Dawson Street Methodist Church in Thomasville, Georgia.

We're about to begin a journey through the life of Jesus by taking a look at the eight seasons and 229 events of his life laid out across four gospels and into the book of Acts. If you put all that together, it's about 80 pages and some of it was duplicated by the gospel writers who copied from each other. If you consider the duplicated pages, you'll be left with only 20 pages and 13 of those tell the story of the last week of his life... a third of those 13 tell about what happened on Tuesday, meaning we know more about that one day than any other day in his life. But before we talk about the end of his life, let's go back to the beginning... to the Christmas story, and that begins, not with Jesus, but with John the Baptist! (InteractivelifeofJesus.com)

It actually begins with an elderly couple named Zechariah and Elizabeth who were descendants of Aaron. So you won't be surprised to learn that Zechariah was a priest and Elizabeth was a godly wife. They'd obeyed and served God all their lives and all they'd asked in return was a child. But Elizabeth was infertile and now they were far too old to have a child, so they'd lost hope in their long unanswered prayer.

Then one day, while Zechariah was serving in the temple, the angel Gabriel appeared beside the altar of incense (representing prayer) and told him in Luke 1:1-13, "[13] Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John." Zechariah did not laugh, as so often happens, but neither did he believe the angel. The promise from the angel described a child who would do great things for God and be filled with the Holy Spirit even in

his mother's womb. He would change the world by changing people, restoring families, making the disobedient obedient, and laying down a path for the coming Messiah.

But Zechariah (meaning "God has remembered") couldn't get past the idea that an old man and his infertile old wife would bear a child. It didn't make sense to a man who had common sense. It was a crazy idea to a man who was not crazy. It was an impossible promise to a man who'd dreamed of having a child all his life... but it was simply too late. Luke 1:18 records Zechariah's words, "How can I be sure of this? I am an old man, and my wife is well along in years."

Maybe one of your unanswered prayers has run out of time and you've given up hope. Most Advent devotionals include this story of Zechariah and Elizabeth to illustrate hope... a mixture of expectation, resilience, and perseverance!

Editorial Page

It Didn't Fly, Again!!!

A proposal to build a perimeter road around Waycross was met with strong opposition. It didn't fly, again!!!

Such a proposal was made several years ago to alleviate traffic congestion around the City of Waycross and to route truck traffic around the city, and it was met by strong opposition from the residents of neighborhoods that would be affected.

The same thing happened this time, although it was different neighborhoods that were affected. Residents of subdivisions near the Okefenokee Golf & Country Club were absolutely incensed that anyone would suggest a truck route right through their neighborhood.

And they were not any less upset than residents along County Line Road in Brantley County. That is a quiet neighborhood, and the residents there did not want a truck route, a bypass, a perimeter road, or whatever anyone would call it coming through their quiet, peaceful neighborhood.

Most folks in Jamestown didn't want it coming through their neighborhood either. The route that was proposed would have meant widening Ternest Road and building a bridge across the Satilla River to Hacklebarney Road.

No one wanted it, or at least no one who spoke during the Ware County Commission meeting wanted it. Actually it was not a public hearing where anyone was supposed to speak. But someone forgot to remove the requests to speak sheets from the table that contained the agenda, and many signed up to speak and then questioned why they weren't allowed to speak.

The fact that the meeting didn't really get started until quite a while after residents showed up with signs that read, "No bypass" also upset the crowd many of which, at one juncture, stood out in the hallway leading to the meeting room.

There were no seats to accommodate such a big crowd, and residents standing out in the hallway were told that there was no place for them to sit and no way for them to enter the meeting room that was at least several people deep all the way around three sides of the room.

Finally, the people in the hallway were allowed to seat themselves on the floor in the semi-circle where the representatives of the three counties and their legislative delegation were seated.

When County Commissioner Randy Davison from Brantley said he had heard no one who was in favor and County Manager Joey Cason said that the county commission in Brantley would not be voting for something that was opposed by residents, there was applause.

There also was applause when a Ware County commissioner said he could not vote for something that was not supported by the people of his county.

Some of Pierce County's delegation have expressed the same opinion; they will not vote for something that is opposed by so many residents. Whether there is any possibility of resurrecting the idea of a perimeter road is unlikely; given the sentiment of the people of the three communities, it is very doubtful.

It looks as if the idea of a perimeter road simply will not fly!

--MKV

Pressing Issues: Signs of the Times Telemarketers Keep On Keeping On

By MITTIE VAUGHAN
Editor And Publisher



For the past two months, almost everyone who is over 65 has received numerous telephone calls from companies wanting them to sign up for some type of health care coverage. The firms involved must have hired 2500 telemarketers to call these unsuspecting seniors. There were 20-30 calls a day to the same person; I know because I was one of them getting the calls. It bordered on harassment. I answered the phone, "PressExpress," as I usually do. When there was a pause, I knew it was a telemarketer. I'd say, "Press Express, can I help you," two or three times before hanging up, stating, "I guess not."

They probably were speechless because they were not expecting to reach a business line but a personal line. I have all of my calls forwarded to my cell phone; therefore, I answer the telephone the same, day and night and night and day.

I got a call Thursday night at 9:09 p.m. I got another Saturday night at nearly 10 p.m.

The calls--10, 15 or 20 a day--started on October 1. Every se-

nior citizen who was not on the "do not call" list and probably some who were, started getting these calls all hours of the day. They announced that President Trump had started a new program. I didn't stay on the line long enough to learn what it was all about, but those of my friends who did said that they wanted to sign everyone up for some type of Medicare program.

It was absolutely disgusting the number of calls coming in all day long.

And I was trying to work in between answering the phone. I have never done the "do not call" thing, and I answer all of my telephone calls because I never know when a customer is calling about his or her newspaper or about placing an advertisement in the newspaper or calling with a church announcement or some other news item.

The calls about my Google listing still were coming in this week, but the calls from the Medicaid providers ceased since December 2 was the deadline for "open enrollment."

I listened to the spiel from Google once. The lady wanted me to update my Google listing because she said that my customers wouldn't be able to find my office. She wanted me to pay \$169 to have my Google listing updated for The Brantley County Express.

Since I have offices in four different counties, I thought that it would be rather expensive to have all of my offices listed on Google. And most everyone already is listed on Google. Why is my address not correct if all of the other offices in the county are?

It simply didn't make good sense to me to pay \$169 to have directions to my office updated on Google. Why was I the only listing on there that was not correct, and why should I have to pay for them to get it right? It's a service they provide, right?

Most of us are relieved that "open enrollment" ended this week. Now maybe we won't be getting up to 100 calls a week asking us to sign up for something they claim would be good for us.

Balanced Budget Amendment?

Former Ohio Governor John Kasich has called on President Donald Trump to use his national influence to help advance a long-stalled Balanced Budget Amendment, saying the nation is approaching a tipping point that threatens long-term economic stability. Kasich also sent President Trump a letter urging him to champion this effort and help move the country toward sustainable fiscal health.

Kasich warns that the nation's \$38 trillion debt is accelerating toward a level that endangers the financial future of every American family. He says that only bold, visible leadership, especially from someone with Trump's following, can break through decades of political inaction and focus the country on the need for fiscal discipline.

"With a single, clear call for action, Donald Trump could revive this long-stalled effort," Kasich writes. "He could help ac-

celerate an Amendment that has been debated for generations and push Washington to finally face the fiscal reality it keeps trying to ignore."

Kasich detailed these concerns in a new Substack column titled "A Gift America Desperately Needs," where he outlines why he believes a constitutional requirement to balance the federal budget is essential to safeguarding America's long-term economic strength.

Kasich proposes that Trump champion what could be called "the Trump Amendment," a constitutional requirement that the federal government balance its budget, just as 49 out of 50 states do and as every American household must.

He notes that 28 states have already passed Article V resolutions calling for a Balanced Budget Amendment, demonstrating strong bipartisan support. He believes the correct pathway to this

goal is for Congress to propose an Amendment which passes each chamber with a two-thirds majority that would then be ratified by three-fourths of the states.

"Americans deserve better than endless dysfunction and reckless spending," Kasich writes. "A Balanced Budget Amendment is more than bookkeeping. It is a moral imperative."

Kasich, who chaired the U.S. House Budget Committee during the 1990s, notes that the government previously balanced the budget through bipartisan cooperation and that it can be done again with the right leadership.

"Supporting this Amendment would be a gift to America," Kasich writes. "A gift to future generations. And for anyone willing to champion it, it could be an enduring legacy that strengthens the country long after today's political battles have faded."

Signed Letters To The Editor Are Always Welcome In This Newspaper.

Report From Our Nation's Capitol

By **BUDDY CARTER**
U.S. Representative



Obama(Doesn't)Care

A nonpartisan watchdog this week uncovered rampant waste, fraud, and abuse in Obamacare: approving fake applicants, subsidizing dead enrollees, and one social security number with more than 125 different insurance policies tied to it.

You mean to tell me that a bloated government program that Democrats designed to give money directly to big insurance companies doesn't have proper guardrails in place?

Color me shocked.

This groundbreaking new report found that fake identities, dead people, and improper use of Social Security numbers flooded the system, all while enriching big insurance companies and worsening health care plans for Americans. In fact, 100 percent of fake applicants were approved as recently as late 2024, and 90 percent of fake applicants continue to receive coverage in 2025. To create this report, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) created 20 fake identities. Every single one of them got approved for coverage, costing taxpayers more than \$12,300 a month.

Imagine you're a college president, and your school accepted and then gave grants to thousands of fake or ineligible applicants in a single year. What would happen? You'd ruin your schools' reputation, revenue would be low, and you'd lose your job, if the school survived at all.

Why is the federal government held to a different standard than everyone else? It shouldn't be this way.

In addition, big insurance companies received roughly \$94 million for providing coverage to 58,000 dead people, including at least 7,000 who died before their coverage even began. Where I come from, that's called theft, and folks need to be held accountable for stealing taxpayer dollars.

Somehow, it gets worse. The report also found that a single Social Security number was used to receive over 71 years of taxpayer-subsidized insurance across over 125 different insurance policies in 2023 alone. This means that there was no process in place to make sure the same social security number wasn't receiving more than one government-funded health care policy. Talk about a basic oversight!

Still, the fraud continues. Hundreds of thousands of consumers were enrolled in Obamacare plans without their consent, meaning they didn't even know they had health insurance from the government. Bad actors falsified documents, leading to 275,000 complaints in just eight months of people being enrolled without their knowledge – and those are just the people who noticed. This means, once again, big insurance companies were pocketing federal dollars without paying out medical claims for a single doctor visit, prescription, or medical service.

Once again, that is theft, and it must be fixed.

If you think that this has nothing to do with you, think again. As the report notes, these widespread mistakes, oversights, and displays of incompetence result in wasteful federal spending for people, including illegal immigrants, who never should have been on the program in the first place. This doesn't just hurt the government's bottom line – is also leads to patients suffering from higher health care costs and denied

claims or delayed care when their providers struggle to verify which insurance is valid due to these fraud schemes.

Democrats broke health care when they passed Obamacare, the UnAffordable Care Act, and they don't care about the hundreds of thousands of people they've harmed in the process. Even with this report and the clear-as-day numbers pointing to the fact that Obamacare has made health care more expensive, politicians like Jon Ossoff want to keep throwing your hard-earned dollars at a system designed not just to fail, but to fail you.

It's insanity, and it must be stopped. We need competition in the marketplace and to empower patients, not big insurance companies. I applaud President Trump for drawing attention to this issue as we work toward a health care system that provides all Americans with affordable, accessible, and quality care.

From our nation's Capitol

Monday, December 1, 2025: Last week, I was honored to attend the Rock Springs Church at their Macon campus, a satellite location of a large, multi-campus Congregational Methodist church based in Milner, Georgia, that was founded in 1852. Under the leadership of Senior Pastor Dr. Bennie Tate, the church has grown dramatically, from just a few dozen people to thousands across several campuses. I was also honored to speak to the Coastal Republican Women at their monthly meeting at the Brunswick Country Club, record a podcast on the Chairman's Countdown discussing America's Generic Drug Shortage, have two live Fox News Interviews, and a live Fox Business interview. After flying back to Washington this morning, I head straight to the House Chamber, where I manage the floor during debate on H.R. 1262, the Mikaela Naylor Give Kids a Chance Act of 2025, and speak in support of the bill that will invest in research and development of cures and treatments for children with rare diseases, including cancer. Afterwards, I head to an Energy and Commerce (E&C) member briefing on electricity prices before heading to our office for a series of meetings with staff, including our communications team, legislative team, and scheduling team. Next, I head to our weekly Whip Team meeting before heading to the House Chamber for our first vote series of the day. Because the government shutdown kept us away from Washington for so long, I have a backlog of tributes for people and organizations in our state and have reserved time in the House Chamber after votes to get caught up. In all, I make 17 different presentations of tribute that are listed below.

Tuesday, December 2, 2025: My morning begins with our weekly GOP Conference meeting, where we discuss the schedule for this week and the remainder of the year. Once back in our office, I join in on our all-staff conference call before meeting with Bob Meeder, the President and CEO of Meeder Investment Management, to discuss tax legislation currently before the Ways and Means committee. Afterwards, I head to the Cannon Caucus Room, where I participate in the conservative Republican Study Committee (RSC) Media Row and have six interviews with various media outlets to discuss news of the day. Afterwards, I head to the airport and fly to

Atlanta for a meeting.

Wednesday, December 3, 2025: I'm up early and back at the airport this morning as I fly back to Washington and head straight to a markup in the E&C Committee that lasts over 6 hours and includes a bill that I am the sponsor of, the American Broadband Deployment Act of 2025, that will cut red tape and speed up broadband deployment. Between votes during the markup, I have meetings in the hallway with the Georgia Beverage Association to discuss ingredient scrutiny and keeping food restrictions out of the SNAP program, and Bend Biosciences and Georgia Life Science to discuss the pharmaceutical supply chain and quality standards of ex-US products coming into the country. Once back in our office, I meet with the Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC) as they present me with their American Patriot Award for 2025. Next, I meet with the CEO of EuroAPI, David Seignolle, to discuss manufacturing more active pharmaceutical ingredients (API) in the U.S., and afterwards join in on a GOP Doctors' Caucus conference call to discuss healthcare proposals. After welcoming a group of constituents from Savannah to our office, I head to the House Chamber for our first vote series of the day and, afterwards, pay tribute to Sam Asbury and the Fight Against Suicide Charity, started by students at the University of Georgia. Next, I head off Capitol Hill to a Conservative Climate Foundation reception before heading to a Southern Company reception.

Thursday, December 4, 2025: After heading off Capitol Hill for an early morning meeting, I head to an E&C member meeting to discuss our agenda for the upcoming weeks. Next, I head to the House Chamber for our final vote series of the week and afterwards pay tribute to the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force in Pooler for being named Best Museum in the 2025 Best of Georgia Awards. Once back in our office, I film this week's edition of Buddy's Briefing, a video message and a couple of reels before heading off Capitol Hill again for another meeting. After a training session with our communications consultant and staff, I head to the airport for my return trip home to the district.

Friday, December 5, 2025: I wake up in Savannah in Chatham County this morning and am delighted to be able to join my Band of Brothers bible study in Garden City, where we are blessed to hear a great message from our leader, Rev. Kenny Grant. Afterwards, I head to downtown Savannah, where I have a meeting with a constituent before heading to our Savannah district office, where I have a conference call with local Savannah firefighters and Greene County Fire Chief Rodney Wiggins to discuss potential legislation. Next, I meet with newly elected Richmond Hill Mayor Kristi Cox, who has done an outstanding job as Mayor Pro Tem, and I'm sure will continue her great work as Mayor. Richmond Hill is one of the fastest-growing cities in Georgia and will certainly continue to thrive under Mayor Cox's leadership. After a meeting with a constituent to discuss vaccines, I have a conference call with our Chief of Staff and District Director to discuss office issues. Next, I have a meeting with an area physician to discuss Medicaid and healthcare issues before heading to

Prepared To Save A Life: Critical Role Of Athletic Trainers In Local Schools

BRUNSWICK, – On April 28, 2025, Hunter Gantos, ATC, was in the right place at the right time. As a Certified Athletic Trainer, Gantos kept a watchful eye on young athletes during Brunswick High School spring football practices. From her usual spot on the sidelines, she stood ready to help if anyone became injured or ill. What happened next was something no one saw coming.

Coach Thomas Tedder, Brunswick High School's defensive coordinator was only 53 years old when he collapsed on the field that day. As Head Coach Garrett Grady called 9-1-1, Gantos sprang into action, sprinting over to Coach Tedder. "He was having a seizure. He looked dead," Gantos recalls. As soon as the seizure passed, Gantos used an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to restart Coach Tedder's heart. The AED delivers an electric shock to restore heart rhythm. After restarting the coach's heart, Gantos performed CPR to keep his heart beating until paramedics arrived. Even after they arrived, she continued to help paramedics until they could transport the fallen coach to the hospital.

"Athletic trainers practice so much; it's nice knowing you have the skills. When it happened, I went on auto pilot. I just thought, 'I have to save him.'"

Ready for Any Emergency

Coach Tedder's high blood pressure led to him experiencing what is known as sudden cardiac death. Although he was taking medication, it wasn't properly regulating his blood pressure. "I remember being at practice, then waking up two weeks later in the hospital. Had Hunter not been there, I would not be having this conversation," Tedder says.

Paul Trumbull, PT, MBA, director of Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine Services at Southeast Georgia Health System, agrees. "Athletic trainers are licensed and certified by the state of Georgia.

Congressman Carter

Jesup in Wayne County, where I visit Great Southern Wood Preserving, where they manufacture YellaWood brand of pressure-treated pine products, used for outdoor building projects like decks and fences. After a great

visit, I head to Valdosta in Lowndes County, where I attend the State Championship semi-final football game between the Valdosta Wildcats and Buford Wolves.

They're well equipped to handle any emergency, from sports injuries to heat illness to lightning strikes to concussion management. Each athletic trainer has an Emergency Action Plan specific to the sport and the school they're working with. As part of that plan, they make safety plans and recommendations."

Board-certified orthopaedic surgeon, Beau Sasser, MD, serves as the Medical Director of the Sports Medicine Program and oversees the athletic trainer program supporting schools in Glynn, McIntosh and Brantley counties. The program currently employs seven full-time certified athletic trainers and plans to add two more soon.

Safety on the Sidelines

Coach Tedder's experience demonstrates that athletic trainers like Gantos can prevent tragedy. "Having a certified athletic trainer on campus is essential for any school," Trumbull says. Coach Tedder puts it more strongly. "If you don't have a certified athletic trainer and an AED machine at your school, shame on you."

After two years of working on the sidelines of Brunswick High School sporting events, Gantos moved over to Glynn Academy. She remains close to the Brunswick High School community. "As much as I'm grateful I saved his life, I'm so glad Coach Tedder kept fighting for his life. My relationship with Coach Tedder and Coach Grady has forever changed. There's so much love there."

For Coach Tedder, the feeling is mutual. He honors Gantos and her life-saving act by taking good care of his health. "My (blood pressure) numbers are good. I'm exercising and watching my diet. For me to come back from that event, there's something God still needs me to do."

To learn about the Southeast Georgia Health System Sports Medicine program, persons may visit sghs.org/sports-medicine.

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Letter-Writer Commends Long County Sheriff's Office

Dear Editor,

On Monday, Dec.8, Long County Sheriff Nobles and three other officers stopped to help us out-of-towners get our scooter loaded back onto our camper at the railroad tracks.

They could not have

been nicer and saved us time and exertion beyond our means.

They represented your county well, and we are so grateful!

- Russ and Cindy Jackson, Youngsville, NC

Michael Flowers Passes

Michael Flowers, 61, passed away on Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at his home. Born in Atlanta, he grew up in Long County, where he lived most of his life. He retired after 40 years of service from the Georgia National Guard and MATES, attaining the rank of MSG. While activated with the National Guard, he served tours in the Republic of Georgia, Iraq, and Afghanistan in support of Operation Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He enjoyed spending time with his family, particularly his daughter and grandchildren, and was an excellent cook. He was known for his grilling and Low Country Boils. He was preceded in death by his parents, Larry and Mary Lynn Flowers.

ers (Aaron Combs); sisters, Marlene Flowers of Jesup and Jeanette Ray (Tommy) of Glennville; brother, Mark Flowers (Lisa) of Waynesboro; grandchildren, Marissa Flowers, Jacob Hamilton, IV, Aubrey Hamilton, and Layne Combs; a great-granddaughter, Ivy Hitch; and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation was held on Sunday, December 7, from 3-5 p.m. at Howard Funeral Home Chapel. A committal service was be on Monday, December 8, at 10 a.m. at the Georgia Veterans Cemetery in Glennville.

Family and friends may sign the online register at www.howardfuneralga.com.

Arrangements were under the direction of Howard Funeral Home of Ludowici

Survivors are his daughter, Amber Flow-

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 57 NW Oak Street FAX: 912-545-2064
 Ludowici, Georgia 31316 howardfuneralhome@gmail.com

Calendar & Business Directory

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
16 ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE	17	18 Long County BOE 4:30 p.m. Long County Commission, 6 p.m.	19	20	21	22
23 ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE	24	25	26	27	28	29

Local News

Commissioners Meet First Tuesday

The Long County Board Of Commissioners meet each first Tuesday of the month for the regular meeting of the commission.

The county commission meeting is held at 6 p.m. .

The public is invited to attend and may call the commission office to get on the agenda of the meeting, according to The meeting will be held at 6 p.m., beginning with the October meeting.

Ludowici Council Meets 2nd Tuesday

The regularly scheduled council meeting is held the second Tuesday of each month at the Ludowici City Hall.

The Ludowici Council usually meets at 9 a.m. in the meeting room-courtroom at Ludowici City Hall.

The public is invited, according to Mayor Jim Fuller,

Family Connections Meeting Set 3rd Wednesday

The Ludowici-Long County Family Connection meeting is held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m.

the contact person for the Family Connection Collaborative. Kathy Simmons may be reached at Ludowici-Long County Family Connection, 50 Martin Luther King Jr., SW Ludowici, GA 31316 or by calling (912) 977-2721.

Kathy Simmons is



Calendar Of Events



LCDA Meets Fourth Tuesday Of Month

The Long County Development Authority meets the Tuesday of each month.

Meetings begin at 6 p.m. Brad Day is executive director of the Long County Development Authority.

The public is invited to all meetings of the authority.

Long P&Z Board Meeting Third Monday

The Long County Planning & Zoning Board meets the Monday of each month.

The Long County Board to attend the meetings, which begin at 6 p.m. The meeting previously was held on the second Tuesday of each month but has been changed, according to staff at the Long County Commission office.

The public is invited

A Nugget from the Word of God

The Sign of Jonah

When Jesus was asked by the religious leaders of his day for a sign, he told them that no sign would be given them but the sign of the prophet Jonah, as recorded in Matthew 12:39-40.

“But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas:

“For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale’s belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.”

They already had been given signs. There were healed lepers who had come to them with requests for them to perform the ritual required for a leper to be cleansed. They had seen a man with a withered hand restored right before their eyes. They no doubt had heard of many others of his miracles.

Jesus’ sign to them was his resurrection from the dead. After three days in the grave, Jesus arose on the day after the Sabbath, what we know as Sunday.

That is the reason most Christian churches observe Sunday as their sabbath, or day of rest. They honor the day Jesus rose from the dead, a tradition that began with the early church.

Church Directory

Beard’s Creek Primitive Baptist Church
60 Beard’s Creek Road
Glennville • (912) 654-4040

First Methodist Church
Church Street—Ludowici

Beulah #1 Baptist Church
13549 Highway 196
(912) 654-1811

Grace Missionary Baptist Church
136 Grace Baptist Church
Road-Ludowici
(912) 654-1004

Calvary Baptist Church
Ludowici, GA

Jones Creek Baptist Church
Jones Creek Loop—Ludowici
(912) 545-2437

Compass Worship Center
Highway 84—Ludowici, GA

Little Rock Missionary Baptist Church
Ga Hwy. 196—Glennville
(912) 654-9413

Elem Missionary Baptist Church
1991 Cecil Nobles Hwy.
Ludowici, GA • (912) 545-2230

Ludowici First Baptist Church
Cecil Nobles Hwy.-Ludowici, GA

Elim Baptist Church
Elim Church Road—Ludowici

St. Phillip’s Missionary Baptist Church
147 Boundary St.—Ludowici,
(912) 545-9915

Faith Baptist Church
McDonald Street—Ludowici

If your church is not listed, please call The Long County Press at (912) 256-7990 or e-mail pressexpress@bellsouth.net to have it added.

First Hispanic Baptist Church
Rte. 3 Box 165, Ludowici, GA
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Long Board of Education Is 2nd Tuesday

The Long County Board of Education meets on the second Tuesday of each month, a change in meeting date. The meeting begins at 4:30 p.m., at the Long County Board of Education Office, located on Academy Street in Ludowici..

Upcoming Events:

E-mail to pressandexpress@gmail.com, or mail to P.O. Box 1228, Ludowici, GA.

or those wishing to report events may call (912) 256-7990

The Long County Press

Phone: (912) 256-7990

E-mail: pressexpress@bellsouth.net

Mittie Vaughan

Editor and Publisher

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State & Area News

Eye On



SEGA

By MITTIE VAUGHAN
Editor And Publisher

The Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) was awarded \$2,862,037 from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS). These competitive grants are provided to DPH from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and administered through GOHS. "This long-standing, unique partnership between Highway Safety and Public Health helps promote a safer Georgia," said Kathleen E. Toomey, M.D., M.P.H., commissioner of the Georgia Department of Public Health. "This programmatic support has made a difference for Georgians and continues to save lives and prevent injuries."

In honor of World AIDS Day, the Coastal Health District will host three special events throughout December to raise awareness about HIV, promote prevention, and support community health. Events include an AIDS awareness gathering in Savannah and two free HIV testing events: one in Savannah and one in Brunswick.

Hands-on learning at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (ABAC) has reached a new level. Recently, ABAC cut the ribbon on the state-of-the-art Valley Irrigation DATA Farm Building, providing students and faculty access to the latest technology for cultivating crops and preparing for future careers.

Republican Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger applauded the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit for vacating a lower-court ruling and restoring proper legal standards in the ongoing litigation over Georgia's Election Integrity Act, also known as SB 202. The Court held that the lower court used the wrong legal standard when it enjoined part of Georgia's gift-ban rule - an election-day safeguard that prevents influence and interference near polling locations. The Eleventh Circuit directed the lower court to apply the Supreme Court's required framework before taking any further action.

Drones Pose Threat To Prison Security

By TYTAGAMI
Bureau Chief, Capitol
Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Drones powerful enough to lift a human have become a routine tool for delivering contraband in Georgia prisons.

At a hearing Monday about the budget for prisons, Tyrone Oliver, the commissioner for the state Department of Corrections, said drones have been used to drop drugs laced with fentanyl and other goods, including power saws made by the company Dremel.

"We've confiscated drones that are large enough to lift 225 pounds," he said. "We had one earlier today that can lift about 80 pounds or 90 pounds."

He said the pilots pay people who live near prisons thousands of dollars to borrow their driveways to stage the flights.

Other methods for

delivering contraband were more time-honored, such as moving it with the help of prison staff or through the mail, delivering it during inmate visitations or tossing product over fences and walls.

Matthew Wolfe, who leads the agency's Office of Professional Standards, said couriers wrap tape around bundles, forming them into football-sized packages shaped for throwing.

He said enforcement against contraband had led to the arrests of 48 prison staff in fiscal year 2025, which ended in July. There were also 120 inmates charged and 362 civilians arrested, many in connection with drone flights, he said.

"Civilian involvement remains the most common threat vector, with throwovers and drone drops continuing to be the primary method used to infiltrate our institutions," Wolfe said.

Holiday Deliveries Coming To Some Homes By Air, Without 'Ho, Ho, Ho'

By TYTAGAMI
Bureau Chief, Capitol
Beat News Service

ATLANTA — They will not be dropping packages down your chimney, but unmanned air couriers will be able to deliver to your lawn in time for Christmas, if you live near one of six Walmart Supercenters in the suburbs that ring Atlanta.

Walmart announced the new service with partner Wing on Wednesday. In addition to metro Atlanta, the two will be rolling out drone deliveries in Charlotte, Houston, Orlando and Tampa.

They say they plan to reach a hundred stores in a year, after piloting the service at 18 locations in Dallas-Fort Worth.

"The popularity of drone delivery in DFW is a testament not just to

its convenience, but to the way this technology quickly becomes a part of everyday life," Wing CEO Adam Woodworth said in a statement.

The partnership is billing this as the first commercial drone delivery service in metro Atlanta. Yet illegal air deliveries are already commonplace to certain shady customers in Georgia. On Monday, state corrections officials lamented at a legislative hearing how drones had become a security threat, routinely penetrating the airspace over prisons to deliver contraband to inmates.

And driverless Waymo cars are already an everyday sight in Atlanta, where they have been delivering people to destinations since the summer.

But the new pilotless

Clinch County Bridge Project Approved

The Georgia Department of Transportation (Georgia DOT) has awarded 22 new contracts for construction projects across the state as part of their October 2025 bidding process.

One was for a TIA-funded project in the Southern Georgia region. It is:

- Clinch County: this project will replace the two-lane Homerville Bypass/CR 194 bridge and its approaches at

The prisons have tried defensive measures, such as retrofitting windows so that drones can no longer deliver to outstretched hands. But Oliver said that has not stopped rooftop drops from high in the sky.

The prisons have tried to track offenders, but they must capture them on the ground, in person. They cannot just shoot the drones out of the sky, or disable them in some other way, even when they fly over a prison.

That is because the aircraft are protected by federal law.

"The technology is out there. We just don't have the authority, the legal authority, to be able to do it," Oliver told Rep. Danny Mathis, R-Cochran, a member of the House panel.

"I hate that your hands are tied," Mathis said. "That's what bothers me the most. This is just insane."

air shipping promises to give Christmas procrastinators who live within delivery range another chance to buy last-minute stocking stuffers, plus seasonal essentials such as wrapping paper and ingredients for holiday meals.

Wing says its 12-pound, white and yellow drones can range up to six miles at a cruising speed of 60 mph, delivering packages in five minutes. Besides quicker delivery, the company says communities stand to benefit when fewer packages move by road: less traffic would be a gift to everyone.

The six Georgia Walmart locations with drones will be in Conyers, Dallas, Hiram, Loganville, McDonough and Woodstock. (Check your address eligibility at wing.com/walmart).

Woodyard Creek. The contract was awarded to Griffin Grading & Concrete, LLC of Cordele for \$2.08 million. The project is expected to be completed in the early spring of 2027.

Press Briefs

Riverkeeper Seeks Help

A ruling on October 8 granted an injunction, thus halting construction of 60 commercial chicken houses on the banks of the Satilla River.

However, the work isn't over yet, according to the Satilla Riverkeeper. The Satilla Riverkeeper is urging counties within the watershed to adopt ordinances that would prevent poultry houses from being built near our rivers and streams. Clean water is essential for life; it is our duty to protect our water

resources for generations to come.

"We ask that you reach out to your local government officials and voice your concerns," said a spokesperson for the Satilla Riverkeeper.

"To simplify the process, we have created a 1-click email campaign on our website, just visit our site and enter your information and a letter will be sent on your behalf to local representatives voicing your concern," said the spokesperson.

Lawmakers Want Lottery Change

By TYTAGAMI
Bureau Chief, Capitol
Beat News Service

ATLANTA — A record number enrolled in Georgia's public colleges and universities this fall as the state's lottery continued to produce a windfall for academic scholarships, but a bipartisan legislative committee thinks too many students are still being left behind.

More than 2 million have received a HOPE Scholarship since the public lottery that funds them was established three decades ago.

To qualify, they had to graduate high school with at least a 3.0 grade point average. They also had to maintain their GPA in college to keep the money.

Many have slipped below that line, especially students from lower-income families. They must work while they take classes, leaving less time for studies. When they lose HOPE, they fall further behind, often failing to improve their grades enough to recover the scholarship. Many then drop out.

So, a state Senate committee adopted bipartisan recommendations this week calling for Georgia to provide financial aid based on need and not just merit, like 48 other states.

"This is about affordability and about opening doors," said Sen. Nan Orrock, D-Atlanta, who led the study committee that concluded its work Tuesday.

Republicans joined Democrats to unanimously approve the final recommendations. Their report, released Wednesday, said Georgia should adopt a \$126 million need-based financial aid program that could be funded from \$1.7 billion in Georgia Lottery Corporation reserves.

Converting the recommendations into law could

be a tough sell though.

Some are dubious about need-based financial aid, dimming prospects for such a measure in a General Assembly dominated by conservatives.

For instance, the Selig Center for Economic Growth, a business think tank at the University of Georgia, wrote in a 2019 report that need-based financial aid "sometimes has been cast negatively as a social welfare program."

It said the state could face a shortage of skilled labor if nothing changes. A growing pool of highly skilled workers attracts employers that offer more skilled jobs, in a "virtuous cycle" of growth that the state should promote by spending more on financial aid, said the Selig Center report, which was co-authored by former UGA president Charles B. Knapp.

"Whatever views are held on this matter, the reality is that without a need-based financial aid program, Georgia is leaving potential economic growth on the table and shortchanging its citizens," said the report, which was cited by Orrock's committee.

But the HOPE Scholarship has produced a treasured legacy, and many lawmakers could be wary of drawing from its foundation in lottery funding.

On Monday, the day before Orrock's committee approved its recommendations, Gov. Brian Kemp lauded HOPE, noting that more than 2.25 million students had received one of the scholarships in the past three decades. The announcement came as the Lottery Corp. surpassed \$30 billion raised since its start, a portion of the proceeds paying for both pre-kindergarten and college.

Eye On



Long

By MITTIE VAUGHAN
Editor And Publisher

county manager was Friday.

The Long County Board Of Commissioners has a full slate of officers with the election of Benji Strickland as District 5 commissioner. That position had been vacant for some months since the resignation of Robert Parker.

Commissioners include Chairman James Craft, District 3; Gerald Blocker, District 1; John Reddish, District 2; Jeremy Hal District 4; and Benji Strickland, District 5.

Several people spoke during public participation at the Long County Board of Commissioners' meeting in opposition to various rezoning requests.

The Long County Board of Commissioners voted to allow county staff to have half a day Wednesday, Christmas Eve

County Manager Chuck Scragg reported that the TAN loan will be repaid when tax revenue begins to be collected later this year.

A number of appeals on taxes have been made in Long County. The deadline to appeal was December 11.

The Georgia Department of Corrections is not interested in leasing the Long County Prison, which has only 100 beds. They are looking for 1,000 bed facilities, according to Chuck Scragg, who reported on his last week in office. Scragg's last day on the job was last Friday. He said the county should be able to open the jail next year after tax revenue begins to be collected.

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LONG
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER
POWER

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained with that certain Security Deed dated August 23, 2023, from Kevin Hixon to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Flagstar Bank, N.A., recorded on August 31, 2023 in Deed Book 538 at Page 494 Long County, Georgia records, having been last sold, assigned, transferred and conveyed to Nationstar Mortgage LLC by Assignment and said Security Deed having been given to secure a note dated August 23, 2023, in the amount of \$245,364.00, and said Note being in default, the undersigned will sell at public outcry during the legal hours of sale before the door of the courthouse of Long County, Georgia, on January 6, 2026 the following described real property (hereinafter referred to as the "Property"):

ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT, TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE LYING AND BEING IN THE 1756TH G.M. DISTRICT OF LONG COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT NO. 4, RAY ESTATES, PHASE 2, AS SHOWN AND REPRESENTED ON THAT CERTAIN PLAT OF SURVEY MADE AND PREPARED BY JOHN O. PARKER, GEORGIA REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR NO. 1850, BEARING A DATE OF MARCH 11, 2022, AND BEING RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2022, PAGE 119, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF LONG COUNTY, GEORGIA, SAID PLAT BY SPECIFIC REFERENCE IS INCORPORATED HEREIN FOR DESCRIPTIVE AND ALL OTHER PURPOSES. SAID LOT OF LAND BEING BOUNDED, NOW OR FORMERLY, AS FOLLOWS: NORTHERLY BY LANDS OF CLIFTON RAY; EASTERLY BY LOT NO. 5; SOUTHERLY BY RYE PATCH ROAD 80' R/W; AND WESTERLY BY LOT NO. 3, ALL AS SHOWN ON THE ABOVE REFERRED TO PLAT OF SURVEY.

The debt secured by the Security Deed and evidenced by the Note has been, and is hereby, declared due and payable because of, among other possible events of default,

failure to make the payments as required by the terms of the Note. The debt remaining is in default and this sale will be made for the purposes of paying the Security Deed, accrued interest, and all expenses of the sale, including attorneys' fees. Notice of intention to collect attorneys' fees has been given as provided by law. To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, the person(s) in possession of the property is/are Kevin Hixon.

The property, being commonly known as **5915 Rye Patch Rd, Ludowici, GA, 31316** in Long County, will be sold as the property of Kevin Hixon, subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien and not yet due and payable), any matters affecting title to the property which would be disclosed by accurate survey and inspection thereof, and all assessments, liens, encumbrances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record to the Security Deed.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the name, address and telephone number of the individual or entity who shall have the full authority to negotiate, amend or modify all terms of the above-described mortgage is as follows: Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper, 8950 Cypress Waters Blvd, Coppell, TX 75019, 888-480-2432. The foregoing notwithstanding, nothing in O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2 shall require the secured creditor to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the mortgage instrument.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under U.S. Bankruptcy code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. Albertelli Law Attorney for Nationstar Mortgage LLC as Attorney in Fact for Kevin Hixon 100 Galleria Parkway, Suite 1000

Atlanta, GA 30339
Phone: (770) 373-4242
THIS FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
- 25-005172
12/5, 12/12, 12/19, 12/26, 1/2 PNA

Notice of Sale Under Power.

State of Georgia,
County of LONG.

Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Deed to Secure Debt given by DARIN M RIVERS to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS GRANTEE, AS NOMINEE FOR PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, dated 06/14/2023, and Recorded on 06/14/2023 as Book No. 534 and Page No. 1431 1446, LONG County, Georgia records, as last assigned to PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC (the Secured Creditor), by assignment, conveying the after described property to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of \$357,000.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the LONG County Courthouse within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in January, 2026, the following described property: ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT, TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE 1756TH G.M. DISTRICT OF LONG COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT NO. 22, BRIARCREST SUBDIVISION, PHASE 2, AS SHOWN AND REPRESENTED ON THAT CERTAIN PLAT OF SURVEY MADE AND PREPARED BY JOE P. DAVIS, GEORGIA REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR NO. 1436, BEARING A SURVEY DATE OF AUGUST 17, 2013, AND A PLAT DATE OF OCTOBER 24, 2013, AND BEING RECORDED IN PLAT CABINET A 13, SLIDE 1B, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF LONG COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND AS ALSO SHOWN UPON A PLAT DATED DECEMBER 26, 2011, PREPARED BY JOHN O. PARKER, GEORGIA REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR NO. 1850, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 23, PAGES 51 54, AFORESAID RECORDS. FOR A MORE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION OF SAID LOT CONVEYED HEREIN, REFERENCE IS MADE TO SAID PLATS WHICH ARE INCORPORATED HEREIN AND MADE A PART HEREOF BY SPECIFIC REFER-

ENCE. SAID PROPERTY IS PRESENTLY KNOWN AS 355 BRIARCREST DR. NE, LUDOWICI, GA 31316. The debt secured by said Deed to Secure Debt 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 Deed to Secure Debt. Because the debt remains in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Deed to Secure Debt and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC holds the duly endorsed Note and is the current assignee of the Security Deed to the property. PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, acting on behalf of and, as necessary, in consultation with PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC (the current investor on the loan), is the entity with the full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the loan. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44 14 162.2, PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC may be contacted at: PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, 3043 TOWNSGATE ROAD, SUITE 200, WESTLAKE VILLAGE, CA 91361, 866 549 3583. Please note that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44 14 162.2, the secured creditor is not required to amend or modify the terms of the loan. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party/parties in possession of the subject property known as 355 BRIARCREST DR NE, LUDOWICI, GEORGIA 31316 is/are: DARIN M RIVERS or tenant/tenants. Said property will be sold subject to (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (c) all matters of record superior to the Deed to Secure Debt first set out above, including, but not limited to, assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, easements, restrictions, covenants, etc. The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final

confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9 13 172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and nonjudicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided in the preceding paragraph. PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC as Attorney in Fact for DARIN M RIVERS. THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 00000010652428 BARRETT DAFFIN FRAPPIER TURNER & ENGEL, LLP 4004 Belt Line Road, Suite 100 Addison, Texas 75001 Telephone: (972) 341 5398.
12/12, 12/19, 12/26, 1/2

Scragg Gives Update

County Manager Chuck Scragg at his last meeting of the Long County Board of Commissioners reported that the Long County has been able to pay some of its arrearage from insurance premium tax.

He also reported that the courthouse roof has been repaired, along with repairs to the DFCS Building and the Recreation Department facilities damaged by recent storms.

The moratorium on rezoning has been lifted, he said, and the county has approved its budget. The county also has revamped the P&Z Board.

The FLOST was approved, he said, in his last report to the commission before his resignation became effective.

Dr. Lindsey Rowley M.D. INTERNAL MEDICINE

Dr. Rowley is a compassionate physician specializing in internal medicine. She is skilled in the diagnosis and treatment of adult chronic conditions, including diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, lung conditions, arthritis, and other persistent concerns. She is experienced in treating common illnesses and infections. Her focus is patient-centered, with a special interest in primary care and preventive medicine.

Dr. Rowley received her medical degree from Mercer University and completed her residency at the University of Florida Health Shands Hospital. She attained a bachelor's degree from the University of Georgia. Dr. Rowley is a native of Wayne County and looks forward to caring for the community.



INTERNAL MEDICINE

Welcoming
New Patients

PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT

Wayne Memorial
& St. Joseph's/Candler
Physician Associates

OFFICE LOCATION:
930 South First St.
Jesup, Georgia
(912) 559-6836



Supt. Heath Crane Speaks At Event

Miss Iveyonah Moody listens as Supt. Heath Crane tells about the sponsors of the \$10,000 scholarships that the nine students will receive if they graduate from high school. The state pays \$9,000 of the scholarship, and \$1,000 for each of the scholarships is paid by local sponsors.

PHOTO BY MITTIE VAUGHAN