

Congressional Candidate Kandiss Taylor Holds Long Meet & Greet

By **MITTIE VAUGHAN**
Editor And Publisher

Congressional candidate Kandiss Taylor points out that she is the only candidate from rural Georgia when she spoke at a Meet & Greet in Ludowici. "Savannah has held this seat for 35 years," she said of the First District Congressional seat.

If elected to the U.S. House of Representatives Kandass Taylor plans to in-

roduce some legislation that would prohibit foreign governments from lobbying Congress.

She also would write a bill that would impose term limits. "They want to stay," she said. Because incumbents have the ability to raise more funds than their opponents, incumbents don't ever leave, she said, unless they seek higher office.

"It's not meant to be for-

ever," she said.

She said one of the big issues in this race is "affordability."

People talk about that issue more than any other, she said.

"If you could get rid of fraud, if you could get fraud out of government, I don't think we would have a deficit."

She said that fraud is so pervasive. "That's why they

got rid of Elon Musk," she said.

Others seeking the position of First District Congressman include Pat Farrell, a county commissioner; Brian Montgomery, an Army ranger; Khrista Penn, a Navy nurse; Jim Kingston, son of former Congressman Jack Kingston; and Eugene Yu, who is originally from South Korea.

Born and reared in Appling County and educated at

Georgia Southern University and Regent University, Dr. Kandiss Taylor has dedicated over 22 years as an educator, including teacher, counselor and administrator.

She is a wife and mother of three and says that her faith motivates her unwavering commitment to secure the country's borders and to champion parental rights, mental health and honest, smaller government.



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INSIDE: Wayne Memorial Ribbon Cut

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Eye On

Long
By MITTIE VAUGHAN
Editor And Publisher

There is a budget freeze underway by the Long County Board Of Commissioners until February 15, County Manager Richardson reported at the Long County Board Of Commissioners meeting last Monday.

The county is expected to save around \$10,000 per year in fuel and maintenance of vehicles by not allowing county employees to take home their vehicles, according to County Manager Shane Richardson.

A bulk fuel point will be initiated in Long County to save funds. At present the county purchases fuel from local gas stations.

County Manager Shane Richardson said that the current payroll for the county is \$4,760,000 per year, and he proposes a reduction to \$5,280,000.

County Manager Richardson said during a public hearing on the budget that the county's trash collection program should have an independent operation and maintenance (O&M) account. He said it needs to be an enterprise account.

Supt. Heath Crane announced that the wrestling team was named state runners-up. "We are proud of our girls," he said during Thursday's Long County Board Of Education meeting. The team was featured on the front page of *The Long County Press* recently.



STAR Student & Teacher Recognized

The Long County Chamber of Commerce hosted a reception in honor of the STAR Student and STAR Teacher, shown with school board representatives, Supt. Crane and staff.

SPECIAL PHOTO TO THE PRESS

Ludowici To Get 114 Apts.

John Kuhanec reported that he will be building 114 apartments in Ludowici in coming weeks.

The \$16.5 million project in Ludowici will

be located past Walker Elementary School campus, according to Kuhanec, who reported that the loan closing was scheduled last week.

He said that the

project originally was to have been 120 apartments, but the site finally was approved with only 114 apartments.

"It was delayed by the engineering.,

Judge Stewart Elected To Post

ATLANTA – Judge Jay Stewart of the Atlantic Judicial Circuit Superior Court has been elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Council of Superior Court Judges of Georgia. His term, along with those of Council President Judge Dustin Hightower (West Georgia Judicial Circuit), and President-Elect Judge Paige Reese Whitaker (Atlanta Judicial Circuit), runs through April 30, 2027.

Judge Jay Stewart was elected Superior Court Judge of the Atlantic Judicial Circuit on November 7, 2006. After graduating from Pinewood Christian Academy in 1981, Judge Stewart attended Georgia Southern College (now University), obtaining a Bachelor of Science in Adult Education in 1986. He received his Juris Doctor from Mer-

cer Law School in May 1991 and was admitted to the State Bar of Georgia in May of 1991.

After graduating from law school, Judge Stewart entered the private practice of law, where he maintained a general practice. From 2001 through 2006, Judge Stewart was a partner in the law firm of Brown, Rountree & Stewart in Statesboro, Georgia. Since January 1, 2007, Judge Stewart has served as a Superior

JUDCourt Judge of the Atlantic Judicial Circuit, which is comprised of Evans, Tattnall, Bryan, Long, Liberty and McIntosh Counties.

Judge Stewart is a graduate of the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada. He is a member of the State Bar of Georgia, member and past president of the Atlantic Judicial Circuit Bar Association, and a member of the Council of Superior Court Judges. Judge Stewart served on the Board of Governors at Pinewood Christian Academy from 1992 until 2005.

From 2023 to 2025, Judge Stewart served as the Administrative Judge of the First Judicial Administrative District, where he represented the interests of Superior Court Judges throughout the twenty-two-county district.



JUDGE STEWART

STAR Student/STAR Teacher Recognized At Long Co. Hi

The PAGE Student Teacher Achievement Recognition (STAR) program, now in its 68th year, is sponsored, administered, and promoted by the Professional Association of Georgia Educators (PAGE) and the PAGE Foundation.

Derek Yavier Lorenzo Alvarez has been named Long County High School STAR Student. He chose his Spanish teacher, Litza Vazquez-Hendrix, who taught him Spanish. The STAR Program is sponsored locally by the Long County Chamber of Commerce.

They were recognized last Thursday at a reception at Long County High School.

Since its creation, the STAR program has honored nearly 30,500 students and the teachers they have selected as having had the most influence on their academic achievement. To obtain the 2026 STAR nomination, graduating 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.

STAR begins each year in participating high schools throughout Georgia 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 170 statewide civic organizations and businesses that serve as local sponsors of the STAR program. Students then compete for school system titles, and those winners compete for region honors. Region Winners compete for the honor of being named State PAGE STAR Student. STAR Teachers continue on with their STAR Students at every level of the program.

The Professional Association of Georgia Educators honors outstanding students and educators, and encourages academic excellence through competitive programs such as PAGE STAR, the PAGE Academic Bowl for Middle Grades, and the PAGE Georgia Academic Decathlon.

Jeff Mobley Appointed

Jeff Mobley of Liberty County was appointed on November 12, 2025 to the Coastal Soil and Water Conservation District. He will serve the Conservation District for a two year term.

Supervisor Mobley is a lifelong resident of Liberty Co. He grew up working in the dairy business with his family for over 20 years. Later on he was a retail business owner in Hinesville before retiring. From a young age, he has always enjoyed spending time outdoors, including hunting, fishing, farming, and spending time with family.

The Coastal Soil and Water Conservation District is a unit of state government that directs natural resource management programs in Chatham, Bryan, Long, Liberty and McIntosh Counties. The District works with farmers, landowners, homeowners, and with other units of government to educate and actively promote programs and practices that support the conservation, and use and development of soil, water, and related resources. More information can be found at gacd.us/coastal-georgia.

Church Page

Faith Motivation Behold The Man

BY BROTHER DAVID (JAKE) JACOBS



We can learn so much about everyday life and the circumstances we are faced with by simply reading and studying Scripture of the holy Bible. There are many views on internet as to whom Jesus was. This information of doubt has made disbelief to run wild. Jesus Christ is still the only Begotten Son of God no matter what people say. A person's doubt cannot change that! What they believe does not change anything except their own perspective. Roman 3:3-4, "For what if some did not believe? Shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged."

From the natural point of view Jesus Christ was a just a man. He was a normal human being just like the family He was born to and had human beings friends like His peers. With every aspects He was His step-father's son. Joseph, His step-father, was a carpenter by trade so we can assume He learned to be a carpenter. At the age of 12 He astonished the doctors. Luke 2:42-47, "And when He (Jesus) was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast.

And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and His mother knew not of it. But they, supposing Him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought Him among their kinfolk and acquaintance. And when they found Him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking Him. And it came to pass, that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking Him were astonished at His understanding and answers."

Jesus is our example. Even though He was one hundred percent God He was one hundred percent man. 1 Peter 2:21, "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow His steps:" We can only try walking in Jesus footsteps. It is a daily walk! Jesus is speaking in Luke 9:23, "And He said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me." The Apostle Paul tells us in Philippians 3:14, "I press toward the mark for the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." It is the goal of every believer to be like

Jesus! The only way to do that is to be filled with the Spirit of God that He will use them to do good deeds.

But in order for us to be convinced Jesus is Lord of lords and King of kings is to realize the only good operating through us is the Holy Ghost revealing Jesus through us we have to experience a change in our thinking! Mathew 5:16, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." John 1:4, "In Him was life; and the life was the light of men." Proverbs 20:27, The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly."

In contrast to Pilate declaration to 'Behold the man,' the centurion who stood guard at the cross when Jesus was crucified declared in Mathew 27:54, "Now when the centurion, and they that were with Him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, 'Truly this was the Son of God.'"

Are you willing to confess Him as your Saviour and Lord or do you see Jesus as just a man? One day your eyes will be opened! What then?

Bible Lesson God Would Make War On Amalek

As the people of Israel were on their way to the promised land after leaving Egypt after the crossing of the Red Sea, they were attacked by Amalek. Amalek was the grandson of Esau; Esau's son Eliphaz fathered Amalek of his concubine Timna, as Genesis 36:12 tells us.

"And Timna was concubine to Eliphaz Esau's son; and she bare to Eliphaz Amalek: these were the sons of Adah Esau's wife."

Exodus 17:8-13 tells of this attack which was unprovoked and very brutal. They attacked the stragglers and ripped up mothers who were pregnant, according to Samuel the prophet.

"Then came Amalek, and fought with Israel in Rephidim.

"And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek: to morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand.

"So Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amalek: and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill.

"And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed.

"But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.

"And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword."

Because the attack was unprovoked and very cruel, God promised he would utterly destroy Amalek, as Exodus 17:14-16 tells us.

"And the LORD said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.

"And Moses built an altar, and called the name of it Jehovahnissi:

"For he said, Because the LORD hath sworn that the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation."

King Saul was told by Sauuel the prophet that God had told him to utterly destroy Amalek, as 1 Samuel 15:1-3 tells us.

"Samuel also said unto Saul, The LORD sent me to anoint thee to be king over his people, over Israel: now therefore hearken thou unto the voice of the words of the LORD.

"Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I remember that which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid wait for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt.

"Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly de-

stroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass."

The battle and its aftermath are recorded in 1 Samuel 15:4-33.

"And Saul gathered the people together, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah.

"And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and laid wait in the valley.

"And Saul said unto the Kenites, Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them: for ye shewed kindness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt. So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites.

"And Saul smote the Amalekites from Havilah until thou comest to Shur, that is over against Egypt.

"And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.

"But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them: but every thing that was vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.

"Then came the word of the LORD unto Samuel, saying,

"It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the LORD all night.

"And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, Saul came to Carmel, and, behold, he set him up a place, and is gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal.

"And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed be thou of the LORD: I have performed the commandment of the LORD.

"And Samuel said, What meaneth then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?

"And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.

"Then Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will tell thee what the LORD hath said to me this night. And he said unto him, Say on.

"And Samuel said, When thou wast little in thine own sight, wast thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and the LORD anointed thee king over Israel?"

"And the LORD sent thee on a journey, and said, Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed.

"Wherefore then didst thou not obey the voice of the LORD, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst evil in the sight of the LORD?"

"And Saul said unto Samuel, Yea, I have obeyed the voice of the LORD, and have gone the way which the LORD sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

"But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God in Gilgal.

"And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

"For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

"And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice.

"Now therefore, I pray thee, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD.

"And Samuel said unto Saul, I will not return with thee: for thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD hath rejected thee from being king over Israel.

"And as Samuel turned about to go away, he laid hold upon the skirt of his mantle, and it rent.

"And Samuel said unto him, The LORD hath rent the kingdom of Israel from thee this day, and hath given it to a neighbour of thine, that is better than thou.

"And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor repent: for he is not a man, that he should repent.

"Then he said, I have sinned: yet honour me now, I pray thee, before the elders of my people, and before Israel, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD thy God.

Samuel had to kill Agag. "And Samuel said, As thy sword hath made women childless, so shall thy mother be childless among women. And Samuel hewed Agag in pieces before the LORD. in Gilgal."

Because of Saul's disobedience, the prophet Samuel had to kill Agag, the king of Amalek. And God was so displeased with Saul that he repented that he had made him king.

Pastor's Viewpoint

By CHARLES (BUDDY) WHATLEY

Pastor's viewpoint from Matthew 1.23-25 was written by Charles 'Buddy' Whatley, a retired pastor serving Dawson Street Methodist Church in Thomasville, GA.

Did you ever wonder what it means when they say it's 250, but the "real feel" temperature is 140? Does the weatherman simply walk outside knowing it's 25 degrees and say, "Well, it feels like 140 to me!" That's what I thought until I found the science behind the "wind chill!" (Valid for temperatures 30 to 500.)

$WCT = 35.74 + 0.6215 \times T - 35.75 \times V^{0.16} + 0.4275 \times T \times V^{0.16}$ is the formula used by the National Weather Service to calculate the Wind Chill Temperature (WCT) in Fahrenheit... T is the actual temperature of the air and V is the wind speed in miles per hour. It seems moving air blows away the thin layer of warm air covering your skin; the temperature of

the air doesn't change, but your perception of that temperature does change. Just step behind a wall out of the wind and you'll know all you need to know!

All this talk of "wind chill" came up during a study of Jesus' birth. Maybe you remember Matthew 1:23-25 AMP, "BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD AND GIVE BIRTH TO A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL"—which, when translated, means, "GOD WITH US." [24] Then Joseph awoke from his sleep and did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him, and he took Mary [to his home] as his wife, [25] but he kept her a virgin until she had given birth to a Son [her firstborn child]; and he named Him Jesus (The LORD is salvation)."

The Assyrians, Babylonians, Phoenicians, Egyptians, Persians, Greeks, and Romans all believed in many gods,

however, among all those gods, there is not a single "god of hope" and that might be the god we most need. Then one night early in the first century, hope was born in a manger in Bethlehem... and there is a hidden message in verse 23. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah saying the baby will be called Immanuel meaning "God with us!" But the angel clearly tells Mary and Joseph to name him Jesus, and we might wonder why there are two names. But Immanuel is not a name; it is a descriptive term. The baby named Jesus, meaning "God saves," is described as Immanuel, meaning "God with us!"

Suddenly, God is no longer a matter of perception; it's a matter of presence. Immanuel came to live among us, and Jesus came to sacrifice his life for our sins. And maybe we should do what he did by giving people a reason to hope?

Editorial Page

Do We Want A Landfill Or A Data Center?

Republic Services, the waste management firm that operates the Broadhurst Landfill and other facilities, reportedly has placed a \$5 million option on the property in Brantley County owned by Brantley County Development Partners LLC.

The site already has been approved by the Environmental Protection Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for a landfill. The permit was approved several years ago.

It is unclear why Brantley County Development Partners LLC is entertaining a sale of the property, unless it is partly because of the opposition from Brantley County government and the neighbors of the site at Waynesville.

The site is near the Satilla River. It is prone to flooding during rainy periods.

Opposition to a landfill on the site hinges on the fact that the site is near the Satilla River, that it is located above an aquifer recharge area of the Floridan Aquifer and that it is located between the Waynesville Primary School and Atkinson Elementary School.

The Brantley County Board Of Commissioners has been fighting in court the firm in

a futile effort to legally challenge the siting of a landfill on the site. But the county's legal challenges have proved fruitless.

Now another firm has expressed an interest in buying the site for \$25 million to locate a data center in Brantley County.

Many local residents are unaware that they could have either a landfill or a data center on the site. At this point, those are the only two firms that are expressing an interest in the nearly 2,700 acre site.

While landfill companies point to the fact that a liner would be placed under the mountains of garbage, there is no guarantee that the liner would last forever. And all of south Georgia and north Florida depend on water from the Floridan Aquifer.

We endorse the data center and encourage our county officials to proceed with getting in place the necessary ordinance to allow a special exception for a data center to be built in Brantley County.

If we have a choice of only two options for the land, it seems to be a no-brainer to select the option that would pose the least danger to the environment. --MKV

Pressing Issues: Signs of the Times Building The First Issue Of The Press

By MITTIE VAUGHAN
Editor And Publisher



I spent my first weeks that February of 1980 visiting merchants and gathering news in a community that I had only visited previously, usually with my Daddy, who was in the insurance business and traveled all over southeast Georgia.

As I was getting acquainted with people in the community I was also looking for news.

The Patterson City Council was one of the main events I covered during that first month. As I recall, they held a regular meeting and a called meeting during that period of time.

Mrs. Bagley and I started the newspaper without an office and without any equipment. We rented the equipment after hours at *The Alma Times*, where Mrs. Bagley worked, and we paid John Graham, the owner of *The Alma Times*, \$100 a week for the use of his equipment after his normal business hours.

I would type my news, my column and the editorial on a typewriter and then take it to Alma to Mrs. Bagley, who then would type it into the CompuGraphic machine.

The CompuGraphic machine was the forerunner of a computer. It used photographic paper that was placed in a lightproof cylinder on the side of the machine. What the typist typed into the computer then would come out into a light-proof box, where it would be rolled up on a spindle.

The paper in this box then had to be run through a chemical bath. After it was run through the chemical bath, it was hung up to dry. After it had dried, the paper then would be waxed on the back side so that it would adhere to a layout sheet.

After all of the layout sheets had been designed, they would be transported to the printer, where a huge camera the size of the newspaper page would be used to shoot an image of the sheet. Each page of the newspaper had to be made into a negative, which then would be placed in the platemaker that made the plate to be placed on the press.

I made the headlines on a different CompuGraphic machine than the one that Mrs. Bagley used. The one she used was for typing news articles, and the one I used was for making headlines and advertisements. It used a narrow paper that similarly run through a chemical bath and hung up to dry.

It was a laborious process. Every headline came out in a stream of paper that had to be cut apart and placed on the page, and ad design was particularly difficult. Each line of type had to be cut and positioned on the layout sheet. Hopefully, the size of the font I chose would fit the space when designing an advertisement. I was learning by doing, to a great extent.

I had worked at The Alma

Times previously, but it had been a couple of years. John Graham had sold his newspaper and then had to foreclose on the owner, who was unable to get the support he needed to publish a newspaper in Alma.

Mrs. Bagley had agreed to do the typesetting of the articles I wrote and to do the billing.

I was to do the news coverage, the writing, the ad sales, the ad design, and the design of the newspaper. After building the newspaper, I would then be responsible for transporting it to the printer where I would wait at least an hour or so while it was printed.—unless there was someone ahead of me at the printer.

Then I would have to transport the newspaper back to Pierce County and deliver to the stores and to the Patterson Post Office.

That first issue of the newspaper took a good bit of effort. I don't recall how many trips I made to Alma during that first two weeks, but it was a considerable number.

I was living at the Vaughan home place on the other side of Jamestown in Ware County at the time so the trip was about 20 miles each way. Then it was another 20 miles—or close to it—to Patterson.

Our goal was to publish the first issue of the *Pierce County Press* on February 21, 1980.

A Dehydrated Fish

Matthew 4: 18-20 “And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. And they straightway left their nets, and followed him.”

“He's like a fish out of water!” That's a saying we've heard describing a person that was out of place and at times, obviously so.

Fish need water but so do humans. The earth's surface is seventy-one percent covered with water. That water makes us the blue planet which is a color at times associated with life. We are told to drink certain amounts of water every

day.

The National Academy of Science tells us to drink 3.7 liters of water per day for men; that's about one gallon. Women are advised to drink about 2.7 liters. Margie said I should drink eight glasses of water each day. I said “Fine, what's the smallest glass we have?”

A urologist once told me to drink water with lemon every day for kidney health. I took that advice and have had no kidney problems since. I'm told kidney stone pain is equivalent to child birth. If that were true, the world population would probably be much less than eight billion!

The plant life in the oceans produces over half of the earth's oxygen. Some estimate that number may be as

high as eighty percent. Definitions and descriptions vary as to exactly what seaweed includes. Phytoplankton, kelp, and algal plankton are usually included and produce tremendous amounts of our oxygen.

Scuba-diving off the Florida Keys, I noticed the tremendous amount of plant life under the surface. Coral appears as a rock-like material but it is actually alive.

When shrimping on Mosquito Lagoon by the Kennedy Space Center, our underwater lights became constantly entangled with seaweed. Plant life under the seas, considering the salinity of the water, is surprising but is there in abundance.

We know the earth's atmospheric movements cir-

culate the produced oxygen, making it possible for us to breathe anywhere on the earth (Ecclesiastes 1: 6).

God had the essential components for the production of life at creation (Genesis 1: 1-3). A combining of carbon based matter (the earth), light and water result in the production of chlorophyll from which a by-product is oxygen.

God not only is the first and greatest recycler (Ecclesiastes 1: 7), He is also the Great Reciprocater. Humans and other animals breathe in oxygen and exhale carbon dioxide. Plant life uses the carbon to produce more oxygen.

Any way we carve this up, water is essential for life on earth. A “fish out of water” is a cliché referring to someone

feeling awkward, uncomfortable or struggling. Eventually that fish will succumb to its lack of oxygen. Gills were not designed to function out of water.

How many of us have priorities in our lives other than studying our Bibles or spending time with God in prayer and meditation?

Yes, we are those dehydrated fish! Is it time to re-evaluate our lives and more specifically, our priorities? The church is obviously failing to evangelize and the world is suffering because of that failure.

Van Yandell is a retired Industrial Arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and missionary, from Fredonia, Kentucky.

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

Report From Our Nation's Capitol

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



Patients v. Profit

If your prescription drug costs are too high, thank a pharmacy benefit manager (PBM). If you've ever lost access to your local pharmacist, thank a PBM. If you've ever been denied a medication that was prescribed by your doctor, thank a PBM. During my four decades as a pharmacist, ten years in the Georgia state legislature, and now in my 12th year serving in Congress, I have been consistently battling the PBM mafia, which steals health and hope from patients nationwide just to make a quick buck.

They do this by inflating prescription drug costs, forcing pharmacy closures, and blocking access to life-saving medications. Fortunately, I am proud to say that this week we finally made progress to hold these middlemen accountable by adding transparency to the system, eliminating perverse incentives to keep drug costs high, and creating certainty for pharmacists. I was proud to stand beside President Trump as he signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026, into law, which included the first major reform to PBMs in decades that will make our health care system more accessible and affordable for patients nationwide. The PBM mafia has officially been put on notice.

These reforms are desperately needed and are being celebrated by patients and pharmacists nationwide, because Americans are paying more in premiums, more out-of-pocket, and more at the pharmacy counter—while, at the same time, seeing fewer choices and more restrictions on their care.

This administration is laser-focused on bringing relief to patients at the pharmacy counter, and the results speak for themselves. In the same week that he secured generational health care reform, he also launched TrumpRx, a transformational new website that will help patients secure deep discounts for certain prescription medications.

If you haven't checked it out already, I encourage you to do so here: <https://trumpRx.gov/>

Under this President and unified Republican leadership, we are getting more done to fix our broken health care system in one week than other administrations did in their entire term.

Let's be clear: We are only seeing this kind of progress because of President Trump. There's a reason it's happening under his watch and not Biden's. Biden bailed out insurance companies; Trump is empowering patients.

Biden put illegal immigrants on taxpayer-funded health care. President Trump is kicking them off.

Biden and his liberal friends—like Senator Jon Ossoff—support the Un-Affordable Care Act, which skyrocketed health care premiums, is ripe with waste, fraud, and abuse, and benefits Big Insurance more than hardworking Americans.

I agree with President Trump that we should be sending money to the patients, not Big Insurance. That way, we promote competition, which is the best way to make prescription drugs affordable again.

We had some big wins this week, but it's just the beginning. There is more to be done, but I am glad to report to patients and pharmacists nationwide that help and relief are on the way.

From Our Nation's Capitol
CDXCXLXI

Monday, February 2, 2026:
After taking the red eye flight from

Los Angeles on Friday night-Saturday morning, I was live on Fox News as we discussed the situation with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Minnesota and the Department of Justice's (DOJ) investigation into Fulton County's 2020 election materials. Saturday night, I attended the 34th annual Weekend for Wildlife charity event sponsored by the Georgia Natural Resources Foundation. This great event, held on Sea Island in Glynn County, raised over \$17 million for conserving Georgia's non-game wildlife. Yesterday, I was honored to worship at First Baptist Church (FBC) Douglas, located in Coffee County in Southeast Georgia. FBC Douglas boasts a vibrant congregation led by Senior Pastor Dr. Don Hattaway, and their mission is to demonstrate the love of God by making disciples throughout the area. Founded in 1858, the City of Douglas was named for Senator Stephen A. Douglas and is home to South Georgia State College. Coffee County was created in 1854 and named for General John Coffee. Last night, I was honored to attend the Habitat for Humanity Hunt Ball on St. Simons Island, a fundraiser for the group that's mission is to build affordable homes, revitalize neighborhoods and empower families through homeownership. I'm up early this morning and live on Mornings with Maria on Fox Business as we discuss ICE in Minnesota, this week's vote on the appropriations package and the storming of Churches in Minnesota by protestors. Afterwards, I have a radio interview with my good friend, Scott Ryfun with Straight Talk radio as we discuss news of the day. Next, I head to Savannah for my flight back to Washington and, once at the Savannah airport, I have a live interview on Fox News with Bill Hemmer to discuss ICE in Minnesota, the appropriations vote and other news of the day. Once back in Washington, I have a call with our Chief of Staff and others on our team to discuss the appropriations bill we will be voting on tomorrow before heading to an Energy and Commerce (E&C) Committee member meeting to discuss our priorities for the next few months. Once back in our office, I meet with our communications staff followed by a meeting with our scheduling staff. After a meeting with our legislative staff, I head to our weekly Whip Team meeting and afterwards head to the House Chamber for our first vote series of the week. Remaining in the Chamber afterwards, I pay tribute to my former Georgia State House colleague, Bill Hembree, who passed recently, before heading off Capitol Hill for a meeting with the Republican Main Street Caucus (RMSC) where our guest speaker is Air Force Secretary Troy Meink.

Tuesday, February 3, 2026: I'm back on the airwaves this morning as I join Newsmax for a live interview where we discuss the upcoming Appropriations bill vote as well as the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act. Next, I head to a Meet the Administration series where we hear from Small Business Administrator Kelly Loeffler and then head to our weekly GOP Conference meeting. Afterwards, I head to the Hart Building on the Senate side of the Capitol where I speak to the Council of Insurance Agents and Brokers. Once back on the House side, I head to an E&C Oversight and Investigations (O&I) Subcommittee

hearing on Medicare and Medicaid Fraud before heading to a meeting with the CEO of United Airlines and then to the House Chamber for our first vote series of the day. After a meeting with the Republican Governance Group (RG2), I head back to our office where I meet with Sam Whitaker, the CEO/Founder of Mural Health. Next I head back to the House Chamber for our second and final vote series of the day where we pass the Consolidated Appropriations Bill of 2026, assuring the federal government will stay open for at least two more weeks. Once back in our office, I meet with the Georgia Independent College Association (GICA) before heading to the White House where I am honored to join President Trump and members of Congress in the signing ceremony of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2026.

Wednesday, February 4, 2026: A big part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2026 was the healthcare reforms I was able to get added to the bill addressing Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBM), telehealth, and maternal mortality. This morning, I join Sen. Marsha Blackburn (R-T) and others as we hold a press conference in the Capitol Visitors Center (CVC) to announce the passing of this much needed PBM reform. Once back in our office, I meet with the Commercial Real Estate Development Association (NAIOP) before heading to an E&C Telecom Subcommittee hearing on FirstNet. Next, I meet with Georgia Narcotics Officers Association, followed by the CEO of Versant, then with Circuit Judges from Georgia, before heading to the House Chamber, where I pay tribute to Judge Ronnie Fender from Cook County who has retired, pharmacists throughout the country, the Scottish Rite, and Savannah Country Day School teacher Bill Eswine, who is retiring. Once back in our office, I meet with the Director of the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) before meeting with a group to discuss microplastics. Next, I head to the Cannon Caucus Room in Longworth where I join the World Interfaith Harmony group and afterwards head to the Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions (CRES) forum roundtable to discuss unleashing energy dominance. After heading to the House Chamber for votes and to pay tribute to Paul Brown on his retirement from the FBI. Next, I join in on our all staff conference call followed by a virtual call with our district staff and then I have a live interview with One America News (OAN) to discuss PBM reform. After filming this week's edition of Buddy's Briefing, I head off Capitol Hill where I attend the Washington Press Club Foundation Annual Congressional Meeting.

Thursday, February 5, 2026: I'm up early and off Capitol Hill this morning as I attend the 74th National Prayer Breakfast and welcome as my guests, Lucas and Thea Ramirez from my home church, Wesley Church at Frederica. After a great time of fellowship together, I head back to our office and Lucas and Thea join me as we visit and then they pray for me. Next, I meet with a group of Iranian Americans from Georgia to discuss the Freedom Act before heading to the airport and flying to Atlanta. Once in Atlanta, I have a meeting with a constituent who lives in Brunswick and Atlanta

Friday, February 6, 2026: This morning, I enjoy meeting with rep-

Flu Shots Encouraged

BRUNSWICK, Georgia: January 30, 2024 – As this year's hard-hitting flu season continues to make headlines across the country, with more than 19 million cases, 250,000 hospitalizations and 10,000 deaths reported since October 2025 by

the CDC in early January, Southeast Georgia Health System health care professionals are encouraging everyone to get the flu vaccine and protect themselves from the spread of the virus.

“Virtually every major health organization worldwide recommends the annual seasonal influenza vaccination as the best way to protect people against the flu,” says Sarah Blackstock, AGACNP-BC, a board-certified nurse practitioner at Southeast Georgia Physician Associates-Infectious Disease.

Blackstock adds, “Because it takes about two weeks for antibodies to develop after vaccination, getting vaccinated early in the flu season provides the best protection. However, the flu can continue

to spread through April and sometimes even later. So, while getting vaccinated earlier in the season is better, with flu activity still at record high levels, if you haven't already gotten a flu vaccination, it's not too late.”

Steven F. Mosher, MD, a board-certified physician also with Southeast Georgia Physician Associates-Infectious Disease and Medical Director of Disease Management for Southeast Georgia Health System, explains that a new vaccine is developed each year based on research indicating which viruses are likely to be most common in the upcoming season. “Some years the vaccine matches the variant better than other years. However, despite this year's vaccine not being a perfect match for the sub-clade K variant making up the majority of flu cases this year, data shows that those who are vaccinated experience lower risks of severe complications from the flu, including hospitalization and death.”

SGHS Celebrates Black History Month

BRUNSWICK, Georgia: February 6, 2026 – In honor of Black History Month, Southeast Georgia Health System invites the community to two evenings of music, movement and spoken word designed to celebrate Black history, heritage and culture. These free, family-friendly events are open to the public and highlight the power of the arts to educate, inspire and bring people together.

Each program will feature live performances showcasing soul-stirring songs, expressive dance and heartfelt poetry that honor the stories, contributions and lasting impact of Black Americans. Through creative expression, attendees will experience moments of joy, reflection and connection while recognizing the importance of diversity, inclusion and community.

The first performance

Congressman Carter (Continued)

representatives from McDonalds in Atlanta to learn more of their franchising model. Afterwards, I head to Milledgeville in Baldwin County in Central Georgia, where I meet with some healthcare professionals before heading to Georgia Military College (GMC) where I have a great tour and visit. This public, state-chartered institution offers associate degrees and pathways to

will take place on Thursday, Feb. 26, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Linda S. Pinson Conference Center on the Brunswick Campus, 2415 Parkwood Drive. A second performance will follow on Friday, Feb. 27, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Health System's Camden Campus Conference Center, 2000 Dan Proctor Drive in St. Marys. Guests are welcome to attend the performance that best fits their schedule.

Admission is free; however, RSVPs are requested to ensure adequate seating. To reserve a seat, please call 855-ASK-SGHS (855-275-7447).

Southeast Georgia Health System hosts these celebrations as part of its ongoing commitment to fostering an inclusive environment for team members, patients and the communities it serves.

bachelor's degrees with a military cadet program. The campus also has a school for grades K-12. Afterwards, I head to Darien in McIntosh County where I attend the Altie Awards and Chamber Gala at the beautiful Oaks on the River. The Altie Awards are an annual affair held where business leaders and others are recognized by the Chamber for their accomplishments.

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Obituaries

Valerie Kaye Gosseck

Valerie Kaye Gosseck, 65, passed away Saturday, January 31, 2026, in Hinesville. Born in Ada, OH, she lived most of her life in Liberty and Long Counties and retired as Human Resources Manager from Walmart after 35 years of service. Valerie was an adrenaline junkie who enjoyed new challenges and experiences with her two children including skydiving on her 50th birthday, kickboxing, parasailing, hang gliding, and held a private pilot's license. She was a 2-time breast cancer survivor coming 30 years apart in addition to surviving clavicle cancer. She had a fighting spirit about herself and, even at her lowest points, held onto her fighting spirit showing grit and determination. Sports was a favorite pastime shared with her husband, including fishing the Canoochee River. She was of the Church of God faith and was preceded in death by her father, Arlen Lenhart.

Survivors are her husband of 47 years, Mike Gosseck of Ludowici; daughter, Sydney Walden (Andrew) of Ludowici; son, Hunter Gosseck (Sheree) of Jesup; mother, Sheron Lenhart of Adairsville; sisters, Jocelyn Chapman of Ludowici, and Brandi Stewart (Michael) of Ryder; brother, Chris Lenhart of Armada, MI; grandchildren, Dalen Gosseck, Ava Gosseck, Lighton Durham, and Truitt Walden; several nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life Service was held on Friday, February 6, at 12 PM at Howard Funeral Home. The family received visitors at the funeral home. Remembrances are suggested to American Cancer Society (cancer.org) or St. Jude (stjude.org). Family and friends may sign the online register at www.howardfuneralga.com. Arrangements were under the direction of Howard Funeral Home of Ludowici.

**OBITUARIES ARE FREE
IN THIS NEWSPAPER**
More obituaries elsewhere
in this week's issue.

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Calendar & Business Directory

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE	2 MLK DAY	3 v	4	5	6	7
8 ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE	9	10 Ludowici City Council 9 a.m. Long County BOE 4:30 P.M.	11	12 Long Millage rate public hearing 9 a.m. Long County public hearing on millage 6	13	14

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.

Family Connections may be reached at Ludowici-Long County Family Connection, 50 Martin Luther King Jr., SW Ludowici, GA 31316 or by calling (912) 977-2721.



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. The public is invited to all meetings of the authority.

Brad Day is executive director of the Long County Development Authority.

Long P&Z Board Meeting Third Monday

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

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 to attend the meetings, which begin at 6 p.m.

A Nugget from the Word of God

Jesus Warned About Hell

Jesus often spoke of the hereafter, and often in warning. Luke 12 contains one such warning. In Luke 12:4-5, Jesus said, "...do not be afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do.

"Fear him, which after he hath killed, hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, fear Him."

We all will die, and after that the judgment, as Hebrews 9:27-28 tells us.

"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

"So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation."

Most of us are so focused on this life, the here and now, that we seldom consider the hereafter. But we must remember that this life is only temporary. The hereafter is eternal, and forever is a long time.

If we reject Christ in this life, we will spend eternity in hell.

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
(912) 545-2262 | |

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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) 276-8751

The Long County Press

Phone: (912) 256-7990

E-mail: pressexpress@bellsouth.net

Mittie Vaughan
Editor and Publisher

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Legal Notices

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER STATE OF GEORGIA LONG COUNTY WHEREAS, William Kenneth Nichols, as borrower(s), executed a SECURITY DEED TO Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Equity Prime Mortgage LLC, Lender which was dated 7/11/2024, and recorded on 7/16/2024, as Instrument No. D2024002043, in Book 552, Page 937, securing the payment of a Note in the amount of \$342,000.00 in Long County, Georgia Register of Deeds. NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable as provided in said Security Deed by the Holder, and by virtue of the power of sale and authority vested in it, will on 5/5/2026 sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash Before the Courthouse door of the Long County Courthouse, 75 E Academy St, Ludowici, Georgia 31316 of Long, the following described property situated in Long County, Georgia, to wit: TRACT ONE: ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE 24TH G. M. LAND DISTRICT OF LONG COUNTY, GEORGIA, CONTAINING EIGHT AND FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOUR THOUSANDTHS (8.474) ACRES, MORE OR LESS, BEING BOUND ON THE NORTH BY LANDS NOW OR FORMERLY OF JAMES D. HALL AND ELIVIRA B. HALL; EAST BY RIGHT OF WAY OF WHITE ROAD; SOUTH BY LANDS, NOW OR FORMERLY OF PAUL B. KREBS, JR; AND ON THE WEST AND NORTHWEST BY CHANNEL OF DOCTORS CREEK. SAID PARCEL OF LAND HAS SUCH METES, BOUNDS, AND LOCATION AS SHOWN ON A PLAT THEREOF PREPARED BY A.G. WELTS JR, G.R.L.S.# 1656, DATED DECEMBER 14, 1988, END RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 13, FOLIO 223, LONG COUNTY DEED OF RECORDS. SAID PROPERTY IS ALSO IDENTIFIED AS BEING A PART OF WHAT IS LOCALLY KNOWN AS THE OW JESSE BREWER HOUSE PLACE, FOR A FURTHER DESCRIPTION OF SAID PROPERTY, REFERENCE IS HEREBY MADE TO THE AFORESAID PLAT AND RECORD THEREOF. THIS BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED FRONT MARCUS STEVEN FARMER TO JAMES 10. HALL AND ELVIRA HALL BY WARRANTY DEED WITH JOINT RIGHTS OF SURVIVORSHIP DATED SEPTEMBER 6, 2000 AND RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT, LONG COUNTY, GEORGIA, IN DEED BOOK 191, PAGE 79. TRACT TWO: ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND BY LYING AND BEING IN THE 24TH G.M LAND DISTRICT OF LONG COUNTY, GEORGIA, CONTAINING EIGHT AND EIGHT HUNDRED NINETY-FOUR THOUSANDTHS. (8.894) ACRES, MORE OR LESS, BEING BOUND ON THE NORTH LANDS, NOW OR FORMERLY OF JIMMY HOME; EAST BY LANDS NOW OR FORMERLY OF PAUL B. KREBS JR.; AND ON THE WEST AND

NORTHWEST BY THE CHANNEL OF DOCTORS CREEK. SAID PARCEL OF LAND HAS SUCH METES, BOUNDS, AND CHANNEL AS SHOWN ON A PLAT THEREOF PREPARED BY AG WELLS JR., G.R.L.S.# 1656, DATED DECEMBER 14, 1988, AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 13, FOLIO 224, LONG COUNTY DEED OF RECORDS. SAID PROPERTY IS ALSO IDENTIFIED AS BEING: A PART OF WHAT IS LOCALLY KNOWN AS THE OLD. JESSE BREWER HOUSE PLACE. FOR FURTHER DESCRIPTION OF SAID PROPERTY, REFERENCE IS HERBY MADE TO THE AFORESAID PLAT AND THE RECORDS THEREOF. Tax Parcel ID: 065-009-015 Being real property commonly known as **523 WHITE RD SE LUDOWICI, GA 31316** The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the debt and all expenses of this sale including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). Said sale will be made subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: All restrictive covenants, easements and rights-of-way appearing of record, if any; all zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all outstanding or unpaid bills and assessments for street improvements, curbing, garbage, water, sewage and public utilities which may be liens upon said property; and any outstanding taxes, assessments and other liens superior to the security deed being foreclosed hereby. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the above-described property is in the possession of the borrower and/or other persons with the consent and acquiescence of the borrower. Except to the extent that the Holder may bind and obligate Mortgagors to warrant title to the Property under the terms of the Security Deed, conveyance of the Property shall be made without any representations or warranties whatsoever, express or implied. All sales are "as is", "where is". The entire purchase price is due and payable at the conclusion of the auction in the form of certified funds. Insufficient funds will not be accepted. Amounts received in excess of the winning bid will be refunded to the successful purchaser. This property is being sold with express reservation that the sale is subject to confirmation by lender or Substitute Trustee. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the name, address and telephone number of the person or entity who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend, or modify all terms of the above-described mortgage is as follows: Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, 500 N. State College Blvd., Suite 1300 Orange, CA 92868, Telephone No.: 800-561-4567 The foregoing notwithstanding, nothing in O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require Equity Prime Mortgage LLC to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the Security Deed described herein. Equity Prime Mortgage LLC as Attorney in Fact for William Kenneth Nichols Attorney

Contact: Tromberg, Miller, Morris & Partners, PLLC 3000 Langford Road, Building 100 Peachtree Corners, GA 30071 Phone: 404-793-1447 Fax: 404-738-1558 TS # 25-37212 THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE

2/12/2026,	2/19/2026,
2/26/2026,	3/05/2026,
3/12/2026,	3/19/2026,
3/26/2026,	4/02/2026,
4/9/2026,	4/16/2026,
4/23/2026,	4/30/2026

PPLLC 946

More "Eye"

Sheriff Craig Nobles reported that inmates have been cutting the grass at the Courthouse. "I've cut it myself," he added.

Code Office Director Jeffrey Laymon said that his office handles 26-30 inspections per day. He said that the inspections usually are handled on a same-day basis, but with the cut in staff there would be no more same-day inspections. He added, "I've generated \$119,000 in fines."

Obituaries

Jimmie Allen Gibson

Jammie Allen Gibson, 43, passed away on Saturday, January 31, 2026. Born at Ft. Stewart, he lived in Midway and Long County all his life. He worked alongside his brother in home repair and was an avid outdoorsman. He grew up camping with his family, often fishing and crabbing at the coast, along with his hunting trips. He was a Christian and attended A New Beginning Church, and was preceded in death by his mother, Mary Ann Marsh.

Survivors are his wife, Heather Heffley Gibson of Glennville; daughters, Kaitlynn Massey (Michael) of Ft. Meade, MD, Brooklyn and Leah; son, Michael Adkins of Glennville; father, Patrick Ysbrand

(Cindy) of Hinesville; sisters, Melissa Ysbrand of Hinesville and Brittany Gurganus; brothers, William Ysbrand of Hinesville, Keith Ysbrand (Sky) of Glennville, Carlton Whigham (Amanda) of Garfield, Rickie Gibson of MS, and Shane Gurganus of FL; mother-in-law, Linda Heffley of Ft. Meade, MD; grandchildren, Nikolai, Gabriella, and Michael; several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held on Friday, February 6, at 4 p.m. at Howard Funeral Home with Pastors Tom and Libby Gardner officiating. Visitation was one hour prior to services at the funeral home Family and friends may sign the online register at www.howardfuneralga.com.

Beth Watford Waters

Lillia Elizabeth "Beth" Watford Waters, 74, of Screven, Georgia, passed away on Thursday, February 5, 2026. A long-time native of both Long and Wayne County, Beth was of the Baptist faith. She attended Camden County High School and was a graduate of Armstrong State University obtaining her degree in Dental Hygiene. She spent many years working as a hygienist, a career she truly enjoyed. After her retirement, Beth generously devoted her time to the Wayne Service Center. She also discovered a love for the arts, especially painting and creating stained glass. She delighted in sharing her creative talents with friends and neighbors throughout Wayne County. Photography was another favorite pastime, allowing her to capture beautiful pictures of nature as well as countless images of her beloved grandchildren. Beth's love of nature led to her involvement in numerous community organizations, including serving on the Board of the Satilla Riverkeepers, along with

several other local groups dedicated to preserving the natural beauty of the area. She was preceded in death by her parents, Robert Lee Watford, Jr. and Betty Russell; her brothers, Tom and Bobby Watford; and her former husband, Gene Roach.

Survivors include her husband, Derby Waters of Screven; her daughter, Kelsi Wildes of Port Wentworth; her son, Cliff (Emily) Wildes of Statesboro; sisters, Janet Watford and Dedi (Jack) Bailey of Ludowici, and Misty Watford Day of Jesup; brothers, Billy (Laura) Watford of Jesup and John (Sherry) Watford of Fredericksburg, Virginia; and her cherished grandchildren, Julianne Smith, Ashton Nolen, Ford Wildes, Wynn Wildes, and Jon Joseph Douglas.

Visitation was 4 to 5 p.m. Sunday, February 8, at Rinehart Funeral Home. Memorials are requested to Satilla River Keepers, P.O. Box 817, Nahunta, GA 31553. Rinehart and Sons Funeral Home of Jesup was in charge of arrangements.

Obituaries

Sandra Lynette Parker

Darien – Sandra Lynette Waters Parker, 85, passed away on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, under the care of Hospice of the Golden Isles in Brunswick. She was born to Raymond Wallace Waters, Sr. and Gladys Pearl Kenner Waters on March 3, 1940, in Brunswick, GA. She was the eldest of seven children. She lived in Darien, GA (the Ridge) for over 57 years. She attended Darien High where she played on the school's basketball team. She was voted most athletic and best all-around by her classmates. She graduated in 1958, serving as Vice President of her class and graduating with the most prestigious honor as Valedictorian. She retired from the State of Georgia after 22 years in Human Resources with Department of Family and Children Services and returned after one year of retirement to a part time position as bookkeeper with the McIntosh County Chamber of Commerce where she was employed

for over 13 years up until hospitalization weeks prior to her death. She was a member of Crescent Baptist Church for over 70 years where she held many titles including Sunday School teacher, pianist, and treasurer. Her hobbies included cooking, crocheting, cutting grass, fishing, spending time with grands and great-grandchildren, and in her younger years she was an avid deer hunter. She was preceded in death by her parents, and two brothers, Raymond "Buzzy" Waters, Jr., and Daniel Waters.

Survivors are her daughter, Misty Thomas (John) of Crescent; sons, Heath Mixon (Kimberly) and Gerald Mixon both of Darien; sisters, Sherri Peavy (Doug) of Shellman Bluff, Debbie Lee

Claudia Defan

Claudia Defan, 61, passed away on Wednesday, February 4, 2026, at her home under the care of her family and hospice. Born in Yap, Micronesia, she lived there most of her life, and in Long County for the past 3 years. She was a homemaker and a loving wife, mother and grandmother who also enjoyed gardening and cooking for her family. A devout Roman Catholic, she was dedicated to her Lord and her faith, and was preceded in death by her daughter, Grace.

Survivors are her husband, Dominic Defan;

of Tifton, and Ramona Hanlin (Jim) of Mt. Storm, WV; brother, David Waters of Midway; step-daughters, Brenda Boyer (Chris) of Aiken, SC, Becky Blocker (Edward) of Bainbridge, GA; grandchildren, John Bradley "Brad" Thomas, Jr. (Jesi) of Hahira, GA, Bryan Mixon (Emily) of Darien, Malorie Thomas of Crescent, Miles Mixon (Leah) of Rincon, Sydney Mixon, Tucker Mixon, and Zach Mixon of Ft. Myers, FL; step-grandchildren, Daniel Owen, Summer Schroder (Myles), Dillon Blocker, and Nic Blocker (Amber); great-grandchildren, AnnMarie Thomas, John Bradley "Tripp" Thomas III, Urijah Mixon, Maverick Mixon, Eli Mixon, Lillie Mixon, Indiana (Indi) Mixon, Finnick (Finn) Mixon, with her 9th, Sutton Trucke on the way; step-great-grandchildren, Tenley Schroder, Briley Schroder, and Karley Schroder; numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Funeral service was Saturday, February 7, at 2 p.m. at Crescent Baptist Church with Bro. Justin Ellis officiating. Visitation was one hour prior at the church. Burial followed in the church cemetery. Active pallbearers were Brad Thomas, Bryan Mixon, Tucker Mixon, Zack Mixon, Miles Mixon, and Buzz Saunds. Honorary pallbearers were her Crescent Baptist Church Sunday School class. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Crescent Baptist Church or Hospice of the Golden Isles. Family and friends may sign the online register at www.howardfuneralga.com. Arrangements were under the direction of Howard Funeral Home of Ludowici.

daughters, Grace (Kodep) and Sophia (Dylan); sons, Robert (Mary), Ezekiel, and Jeremiah; several siblings in Micronesia, along with 3 grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Service and burial will be in Micronesia at a later date.

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

Arrangements are under the direction of Howard Funeral Home of Ludowici

Local News

Eye On



Long
By MITTIE VAUGHAN
Editor And Publisher

Tina Beecher Skipper was arrested last week on felony Theft by Taking charges and booked into the Pierce County Jail due to Long County's not having an operational jail. She was released on a \$50,000 property bond the following day

The Long County Board Of Commissioners is expected to amend its FY26 budget to \$19,433,278.

A payment to All Green, the county's waste collection service provider, is due in the amount of \$500,000.

Three tan notes to the Bank of Ludowici are due by Long County February 28. The county has borrowed three Tax Allocation Notes from Ludowici Bank, including two for \$500,000 and another for \$352,000.

County Manager Richardson plans to begin the FY27 budget planning process in March of this year.

The fire fee the Long County Board Of Commissioners implemented was to have generated \$2 million in revenue. But the actual amount collected is \$933,000, according to County Manager Richardson.

Sheriff Craig Nobles said during a recent town hall meeting that running fire trucks to medical calls is putting

BOP Officer Ashley Brown Pleads Guilty To Accepting Bribes, Money Laundering

BRUNSWICK, GA: Former BOP Officer pleaded guilty in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Georgia to bribery and money laundering charges related to a prison contraband trafficking conspiracy operating in Federal Correctional Institution – Jesup in the spring and summer of 2022.

Ashley Brown, 36, of Hinesville, GA, a former Bureau of Prisons Corrections Officer, pleaded guilty in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Georgia to 24 counts of Public Official Accepting a Bribe and 16 counts of Laundering of Monetary Instruments for her role in a prison contraband trafficking conspiracy that operated within Federal Correctional Institution – Jesup (FCI Jesup) in the spring and summer of 2022. Brown was the final defendant to plead guilty in the case of United States v. Ashley Brown et. al., which originally charged Brown and 7 current or former inmates of FCI Jesup with drug trafficking, money laundering, and attempted possession of contraband charges. All charged individuals have now been adjudicated guilty for their respective roles in the offense.

“In collaboration with our law enforcement partners, we are committed to protecting the integrity of our nation’s prison system from those who would exploit them for profit,” said U.S. Attorney Heap for the Southern District of Georgia.

As described in court documents and testimony, Brown accepted bribes sent to her by individuals closely associated with FCI Jesup inmates through the financial transaction service Cash App utilizing three accounts bearing the fictitious names “Bonnie Bonnie,” “Clyde Clyde,” and “Honey Honey.” In total, Brown received over \$80,000 in bribes in exchange for allowing contraband such as methamphetamine, K2, cell phones, postage stamps, and cigarettes into FCI Jesup against her duties as a correctional officer. Brown then transferred the ill-gotten funds to her personal Cash App account to obscure the source and ownership of the funds.

Investigators with the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General identified numerous inmates providing money to Brown through Cash App records. Following the investigation, the Department of Justice brought charges against the following individuals, all of whom pleaded guilty to the listed charges, and were sentenced to the listed sentence (if sentence has been imposed).

Ashley Brown – 24 Counts of Public Official Accepting a Bribe, 16 Counts of Laundering Monetary Instruments – Awaiting Sentencing

Navarus “Tez” Bryant - 24 Counts of Bribing a Public Official, 24 Counts of Laundering Monetary Instruments – Awaiting Sentencing

Adrian “Abe” Sims - 1 Count of Pos-

session of Contraband by a Prisoner – Awaiting Sentencing

Eric Reyes – Attempting to Possess Contraband in Prison – 3 years’ probation

Larry Andrews – Attempting to Possess Contraband in Prison – 5 years’ probation

Demarcus Bell – Attempting to Possess Contraband in Prison – 1 month imprisonment consecutive to current sentence

Quinton Davis – Attempting to Possess Contraband in Prison – 1 month imprisonment consecutive to current sentence

Joshua Whigan – Attempting to Possess Contraband in Prison – 1 month imprisonment consecutive to current sentence

“Brown violated her sworn duty as a Correctional Officer by allowing drugs and other contraband into FCI Jesup, putting inmates and her fellow correctional officers at risk,” stated Eric Fehlman, Special Agent in Charge of the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General Southeast Region. “The Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General is committed to bringing to justice any Correctional Officer that violates their oath and smuggles contraband into federal prisons.”

The case was investigated by the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General and prosecuted for the United States by Assistant United States Attorneys Bradley R. Thompson and Ryan E. Bondura.

instead of sending paramedics.

Obituaries

Mary Worth

Mary Williams Hendry Owen Worth, 97, passed away Sunday, February 1, 2026, at her home under the care of her family and Hospice of South Georgia. Mary was born into a large, loving family of grandparents, her mother, aunts, uncles, and a cousin close in age, Walter. After graduating from Valdosta State Women’s College, Mary married Captain Amos Ryder Worth and began her career as a homemaker. Mary and Amos had four children together: Thomas, Elizabeth, William, and Helen. Amos’ Army career took them to many places (where she easily made friends), including Texas, New York, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Germany, and finally back to Georgia. She made dinner every weeknight, and everyone had a seat at her table. She made sure good books were in her house, took her children to art museums, and always brought her family back to Ludowici for visits.

Mary went back to school and became an art teacher and involved herself in refugee work in the Atlanta area. An avid supporter of the Civil Rights Movement, she took her family on Martin Luther King Jr.’s funeral march. After moving back to her family home in Ludowici, Georgia, Mary joined Citizens for Safe Progress, to prevent the construction of a landfill. This landfill had the potential to receive garbage from literally anywhere in the world. Every time anyone in Long County drinks a glass of clean water, they can thank Mary & Amos and their friends from Citizens for Safe Progress.

Mary made sure her mother, Mary Owen, and beloved aunt Helen Coxon, could spend all of their last years in their own home in Ludowici, which

was affectionately known to their grandchildren as “Georgia”. They took care of her as children, and she did an exemplary job of caring for them. Mary lived at Magnolia Manor in Richmond Hill, Georgia and attended St. Anne’s Catholic Church for fourteen years. For the last year, she lived at At Home Senior Living in Jesup, Georgia. She recently moved home to Ludowici. She leaves behind many friends in all the places. She was preceded in death by her husband of 49 years, Amos Ryder Worth.

She is survived by her children and their spouses, Thomas Worth (Marsha), Elizabeth Lake (Bob), William Worth (Mary), and Helen Ordway (Mark); grandchildren, Katharine Worth, Deborah Telep (Rick), Rachel Chapman (Jereme), John Lake (Chenieve), Thomas Lake (Sara), David Lake (Samantha), Mary Elizabeth Cawthon (Aubrey), William Lake, Christiana Worth (Rusty), Caroline Worth (Kory), James Worth (Carolina), Olivia Larson (Job), Isabella Ordway (Greg), Isaac Ordway (Cat), David Orway, and Jane-Claire Ordway; great-grandchildren, Lars, Soren, Amos, Betsy, Rosie, Lily, Liam, Izze, Juniper, Carson, Jonathan, Diana, Ryder, Starr, Birdie Mae, River, Camila, Clara, Georgia, Charles, and Ingrid.

Graveside service were Tuesday, February 3, at 2 p.m. at Walthourville Cemetery. Active pallbearers were Aubrey Cawthon, John Lake, Jereme Chapman, David Lake, Thomas Lake, and William Lake. Family and friends may sign the online register at www.howardfuneralga.com.

Arrangements were under the direction of Howard Funeral Home of Ludowici.

More “Eye On Long”

a lot of wear and tear on the vehicles. He suggested sending paramedics

in pickup trucks. “Some of these calls need to go to the hospital,” he said,



Ribbon-cutting Hosted At Wayne Memorial Hospital

Kids Alliance for Better Care sy Wayne Memorial Hospital’s Emergency Department as part of Pediatric Emergency Care Project held a ribbon-ctting last week.

SPECIAL PHOTO TO THE PRESS