

GORDON Gazette

Weekend, March 27, 2021

www.gordongazettega.com

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Calhoun-Gordon County's #1 Source for News

GSP continues to investigate Thursday I-75 wreck

Brandi Owczarz
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The Georgia State Patrol continues their investigation into a serious crash involving a tractor trailer on Thursday morning on I-75 in Gordon County.

The wreck occurred at the bridge at Exit 312 Thursday morning.

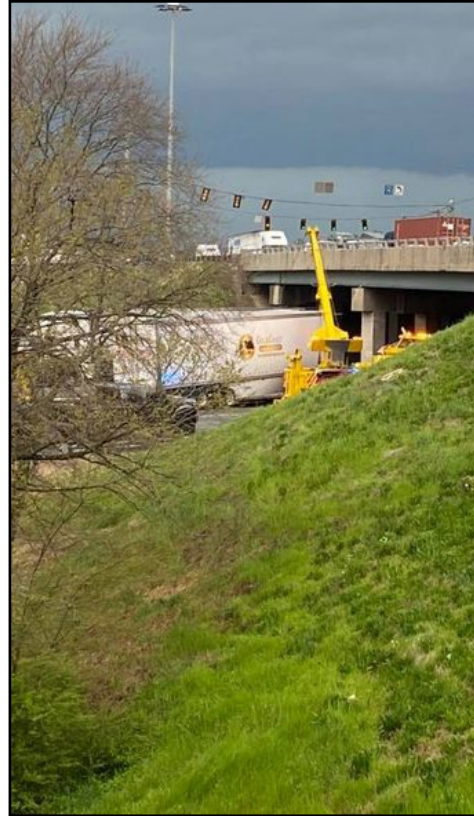
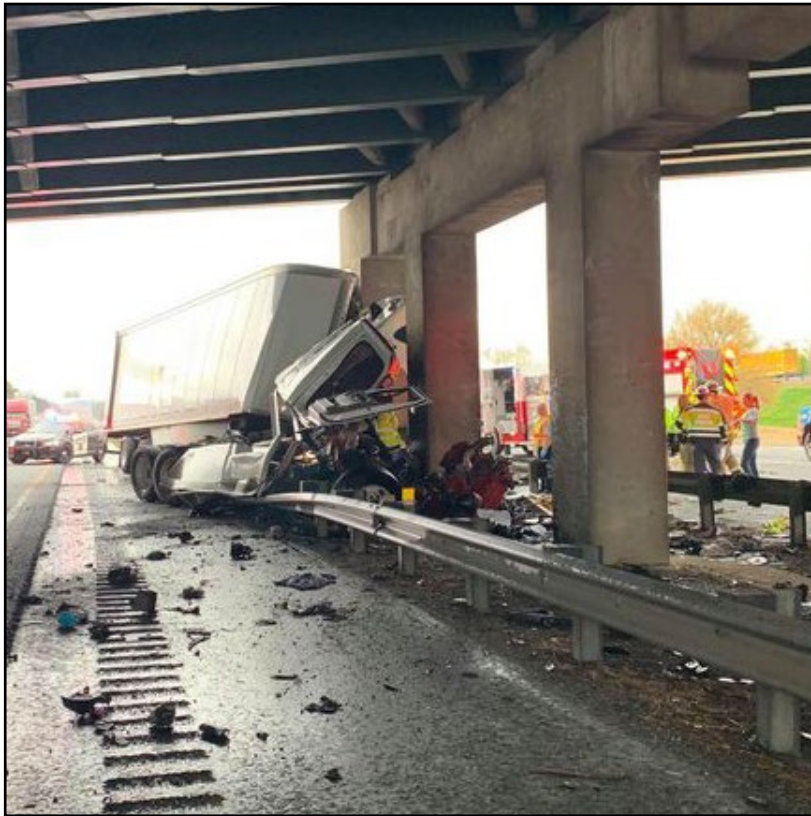
The GSP told the Gordon Gazette that a tractor trailer was traveling north on I-75 North and for reasons unknown, traveled off the left edge of the roadway striking the guardrail facing. The tractor trailer then struck the bridge support of GA 53 with its front end area.

According to the

preliminary report from the GSP, there were four occupants in the vehicle. Two juveniles were transported to local hospitals and their condition is critical at this time. The driver is a 46-year-old male from Spring, Texas. The driver and another adult occupant suffered from serious to critical injuries.

The crash caused all northbound lanes of I-75 to be closed and one southbound lane to be closed, while traffic was back up in both directions for miles for hours while clean-up took place.

.Contributed Photos by Gordon Gazette readers.



WEEKLY COMMUNITY COVID REPORT: Gordon case numbers continue downward trend

Brandi Owczarz
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In COVID-19 reporting by both school systems on Friday, March 26, both systems took a drastic dip in COVID cases, a good sign as community cases reported were also lower.

Gordon County Schools' active COVID-19 cases among all of their schools were at NO active cases in numbers reported on Friday. Last week, GCS had 4 active cases reported; the week prior, the system reported 11 active cases.

Gordon County Schools' reporting is slightly different than



the City school system. Gordon County Schools' weekly numbers, reported each Friday afternoon, show the new cases of COVID-19 for the week, plus any previous cases that are

still active. You can find those numbers on their website at <https://www.gcbe.org/domain/5112> Calhoun City Schools

See COVID, page 8A

DWTS 2021 introduces 6th dance couple - Kaylan Gaines and Addison Baker

CONTRIBUTED

You're invited to United Way of Gordon County's 10th and final presentation of Calhoun's Dancing with the Stars presented by Mohawk Industries, Calhoun-Gordon Community Foundation, and Morning Pointe of Calhoun. The record-setting fundraiser will close with an April 16 finale at the Calhoun Performing Arts Center at 7:00 p.m. A dress rehearsal is scheduled

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Georgia DOL reminds claimants to reapply when benefit year ends.

HEALTH 7A



The American Heart Association discusses the ugly truth about vaping.

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Storms flood many roads; flood warnings in effect through Monday, March 29



A Gordon Gazette reader sent in these photos of Ryo Mountain Road in Fairmount on Thursday evening.

Brandi Owczarz
staff@gordongazettega.com

Gordon County and surrounding areas were rocked by storms throughout the afternoon and evening on Thursday, March 25, and the heavy rains that were a part of the system moving through created flash

flooding on roads As of Friay evening, there were a handful of river flood warnings in effect for the area until Monday, March 29.

Gordon County E-911 Director Debbie Vance said that Thursday's night shift took 279 calls; an average night consists of 90-100 calls. Seven of

those calls on Thursday night were for rescues of vehicles that were stuck in flood waters.

There were no reports of injuries during the storms; some apartments and homes did take on a minor amount of

See STORMS, page 8A

Grace Church holding food box giveaway today

Grace Church, located at 401 Peters Street in Calhoun, will giving away FREE food boxes TODAY, Saturday, March 27, from 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. The public is invited to pick up a box until 12 p.m. today.

Samantha Lusk & Associates Realty holding Egg Hunt event Monday



Samantha Lusk & Associates Realty will be holding an Eggstravaganza Egg Hunt this Monday, March 29 from 5 - 7 p.m. at their office at 204 North River Street in Calhoun. The Egg Hunt begins at at 6 p.m. There will be photos with the Easter Bunny, Goody Baskets (while supplies) last and a prize egg.

Second Front

Georgia Department of Labor Reminds Claimants to Reapply When Benefit Year Ends

GDOL

Atlanta, GA – After 53 weeks of the pandemic, many Georgians are reaching the end of the normally allotted time period for receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimants who filed an individual claim and have reached the end of their benefit year should file a new claim to continue receiving payments. A benefit year is the 52-week period beginning on the Sunday of the week a new claim is filed. Once this time period expires, claimants must reapply for benefits reporting any additional work history, including temporary, part-time, self-employment, or W-2 work. Once the new regular UI claim is processed, claimants who are unable to establish a valid regular UI

claim will be placed back into the appropriate federal CARES Act program for benefits to continue. If a claimant’s employer is filing an employer filed claim on his/her behalf and he/she reaches the end of the 52-week period, the benefit year will renew the following week when the employer requests a weekly payment for the employee. Information on benefit year ending dates can be found on the GDOL website at <https://dol.georgia.gov/blog-post/benefit-year-end-by-dates>.

“We are now seeing claimants who have received payments for more than 52 weeks who are reapplying for UI benefits,” said Commissioner Butler. “We will continue to issue payments while also working to transition claimants into the almost 222,000 jobs available on

Employ Georgia.” Today, 221,907 job listings are online at <https://bit.ly/36EA2vk> for Georgians to access. These listings could include multiple positions for each job indicating a much higher number of jobs available. The GDOL offers online resources for finding a job, building a resume, and assisting with other reemployment needs. Resources for reemployment assistance along with information on filing an unemployment claim and details on how employers can file partial claims can be found on the agency’s webpage at <https://bit.ly/2ZudL0c>.

Last week, the GDOL dispersed over \$304 million UI benefits including regular UI, Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC), Pandemic Unemployment

Assistance (PUA), Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC), State Extended Benefits (SEB), and Lost Wages Assistance (LWA) supplements. Since March 21, 2020, the GDOL has issued payments totaling \$19,948,643,020.

Since the beginning of the pandemic in March of last year, the GDOL has processed 4,547,688 regular UI initial claims, more than the combined last nine years prior to the pandemic (4.0 million). Last week, regular UI initial claims totaled 24,789, up 89 over the week. Additionally, the agency currently has 326,613 active PUA claims.

The sectors with the most weekly regular UI

initial claims processed included Accommodation and Food Services, 6,535, Administrative and Support Services, 2,720, Manufacturing, 2,706, Retail Trade, 1,811, and Health Care, 1,618.

The number of initial claims filed throughout the United States for the week ending March 20 was 684,000, a decrease of 97,000 from the previous week’s revised level of 781,000.

UI benefits are taxable income and 1099-G tax forms are issued in accordance with federal law to report payments and all taxes withheld during each tax year. If you received a 1099-G tax form and did not file a UI claim yourself

or your employer did not file one on your behalf, you may be the victim of UI fraud and should report the incident on the GDOL website at <https://www.dol.state.ga.us/public/uiben/fraud/reportType>. Select Report 1099 ID Theft at the bottom and follow the instructions. If you received a 1099-G tax form and returned the benefits or wish to return the benefits, please see detailed instructions on next steps at <https://dol.georgia.gov/blog/form-1099-g-tax-information>. For more information on jobs and current labor force date, visit the Georgia Labor Force Market Explorer at <https://bit.ly/3aylPjd> to view a comprehensive report.

Registration now open for virtual event aimed at helping adult learners complete a college degree

FREE WEBINAR
ADULT LEARNER
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Join us on Facebook Live @usg.ecampus
THURSDAY, APRIL 1ST | 7PM

Discover your
GOAL
Georgia Opportunities for Adult Learners



GEORGIA HIGHLANDS
COLLEGE

Whether it’s the first step or the first step back on a college campus, Georgia Highlands College (GHC) is working to ensure adult learners have all the tools and flexibility they need to earn a college degree.

Adult learners are students who have typically been out of high school for five years or longer and may have a family and/or work full time.

GHC has joined the Adult Learning Consortium from Complete College Georgia to help students like this finish a college degree.

A virtual event (via Facebook Live), titled

the Adult Learner Open House will be held on Thursday, April 1, at 7 PM. You can register for the event online.

This event will provide adult learners with instructions on how to get back in school and finish their degree, apply for financial aid, review options for paying for college and learning how to engage in online learning.

“Financial issues, job schedule changes or increased responsibilities at work, family issues, childcare issues and sickness of an individual or their family member are common reasons for students to pause and stop working toward their degree,” GHC Coordinator for Veteran Affairs Amy

Wise said. “This event will help those students discover what options they have available to start or re-enroll at GHC and while emphasizing the overall importance of earning a college degree.”

Currently, several University System of Georgia institutions form the Adult Learning Consortium. This consortium is designed to assist in improving adult learner-focused services, programs and outreach to Georgia adult learners who are interested in completing college.

You can register for the virtual information event online now. Additional sessions will be held on June 1 and July 1.

DID YOU KNOW THE E-EDITION ARCHIVES ARE ONLINE...FOR FREE VIEWING?

GORDON GAZETTE E-EDITION FREE ARCHIVES

See the archives at: GordonGazetteGa.com/back-issues

Hamilton Physician Group

Calhoun Campus

Michelle Little, DO
Family Medicine

Jennifer Smith, FNP-C
Family Medicine

Justin Hare, DO
Neurosurgery and Spine

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See news happening?

Call 770-547-1044 or email staff@gordongazettega.com

Obituaries
March 27, 2021

Deborah Bearden

Mrs. Deborah Evans Bearden, age 69, of Resaca, departed this life Monday, March 22, 2021, at Erlanger Hospital in Chattanooga, Tenn.



Deborah was born Sept. 13, 1951 a daughter of the late, Walter Vernon and Anna Deaver Evans. She was also preceded in death by her husband Winfred Bearden who died, July 15, 2020; a son, Donald Bearden; father-in-law, J.C. Bearden; and mother-in-law and step-father-in-law, Mertes and Bobby Baine.

Deborah was a 1969 graduate of Valley Point High School and Dalton Vocational Tech where she received her L.P.N. license and worked in health care most of her working life.

She is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law, Britany and John Kersey of Waycross, and Kelly and Jimmy Cardin of Resaca; grandchildren, Charity Bailey, Evan Kersey, Gabriel Quinones, Michael Kersey and Spencer Cardin; sister and brother-in-law, Frances and Kenneth Tate of Cohutta; brothers and sisters-in-law, Gary and Beverly Evans of Cohutta, Dewayne and Tina Evans of Rocky Face, and Phillip and Erica Evans of Chickamauga; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Charles and Beneta Bearden of Chatsworth.

Services to celebrate the life of Mrs. Deborah Evans Bearden will be held Saturday, March 27, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. noon, at Ponders Melrose Chapel with Brother Larry Hamilton, Pastor Edwin Puckett and Brother John Kersey officiating.

She will be laid to rest at the Crane Eater Community Cemetery in Calhoun, Georgia, with Brad Hall, Chris Wiley, Chris Bearden, Scott Bearden, Dennis Henry and Michael Evans honored to serve as pallbearers.

The family received friends at Ponders Melrose Chapel from 5:00 o'clock p.m. until 8:00 o'clock p.m. Friday and after 10:00 o'clock a.m. Saturday until the service hour.

Due to the national health crisis and the Covid-19 virus, masks must be worn properly at all times and social distancing must be observed when visiting the funeral home.

Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.pondersfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements will be announced by Ponders Melrose Chapel, 138 Melrose Drive Dalton, GA 30721, and 706-226-4002.



Edward “Eddie” Champion, Jr.

Mr. Edward Lee “Eddie” Champion, Jr., age 61, of Fairmount, departed this life Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at Floyd Medical Center. Eddie was born Aug. 25, 1959 in Fulton County, Georgia.



He was preceded in death by his mother, Vivian Fuller Whitley and his father and step-mother, Edward Lee and Betty Champion, Sr.

Eddie was a 1977 graduate of Fairmount High School and was the owner of KC’s Corner Restaurant in Fairmount for many years.

He is survived by his wife, Karen Evans Champion of the residence; daughter and son-in-law, Hannah and Nick Forrette of Fairmount; god daughter and her daughter, Mandey Crook and Mia Sims all of Fairmount; brothers and sisters-in-law, Jeff and Rebecca Champion, Walter McKinney all of Fairmount, Rusty Whitley of Texas; sisters and brothers-in-law, Melba and Dell Richmond of Conway, S.C., Sheila Balde, Sherry Townsend both of Fairmount, Shirley and Nick Johnson of Oakman, Sissy Bartlett of Canyon, Texas; uncle and aunts, Von Champion, Billy Champion, Jack and Gail Champion, Joe Champion, Bryant Seabrook, Melba Bagwell and Norman and Gene Head; mother-in-law, Edith Evans of Fairmount; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Beverly and Randy Cox, Tina Silvers of Fairmount, Greg and Melody Evans of Talking Rock; a number of nieces, nephews and many cousins.

The family received friends at Ponders Fairmount Chapel (2566 Hwy. 411, Fairmount, GA) from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Friday, March 26, 2021 followed by a private graveside service at 5:00 p.m. at Johnson Cemetery. Paul Warmack, Nick Forrette, Clay Townsend, Jeff Champion, Gregory Champion, Naythan Champion, Tucker Warmack, Dustin Patterson and Chaplin Brookshire were honored to serve as pallbearers.

Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.pondersfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements by, Ponders Fairmount Chapel 2566 Hwy 411 Fairmount GA 30139 706-337-3784 www.selectedindependentfuneralhomes.org and www.ogr.org



Kimberly Evans

Kimberly Darlene Evans, age 58 of White, Ga., passed away on Wednesday, March 24, 2021.



Kimberly was born on April 9, 1962 in Knoxville, Tenn., daughter of the late Fred and Betty Goddard. She was a member of New Beginning Baptist Church.

Kimberly is survived by her husband, Chuck Byrd

of White; two sons, Ryan Evans and his wife Amanda of White and Tyler Evans and his wife Micheala of Adairsville; daughter, Tosha Huskins and her husband Camron of Cartersville; sister, Tonya Mangrum of Wheeler, Texas; and seven grandchildren, Nevan Huskins, Brant Huskins, Hayden Huskins, Amberleigh Evans, McKinley Evans, Callie Evans, and Memphis Evans.

Funeral Services will be conducted on Saturday, March 27, 2021 at 11 a.m. at New Beginning Baptist Church with Reverend Michael Matthews officiating. Burial will follow in White United Methodist Cemetery.

The family will receive friends an hour prior to the funeral.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial contributions be made toward final expenses.

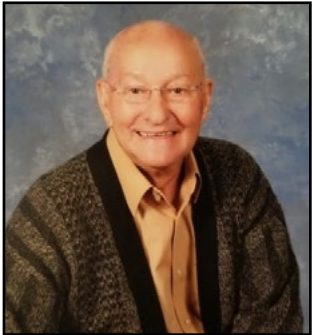
You may leave the family online condolences at www.thomasfuneralhomecalhoun.com

Thomas Funeral Home has proudly been entrusted with the care of Kimberly Darlene Evans.



James Farrell

Mr. James Edward Farrell, 81, of Resaca, died Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at his residence.



James was born in Gordon County on June 19, 1939, son of the late Edward and Rosetta Ray Farrell. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a daughter, Kimberly Slaughter; three brothers, Charles, Gene and Leon Farrell; two sisters, Betty Watson and Ginger Davis.

He was employed by Bancorp for 47 years, was a graduate of Calhoun High School and a faithful member of New Town Baptist Church where he served as a Sunday School Teacher and Royal Ambassador Leader.

Survivors include his wife, Irene Cross Farrell, to whom he was married for 48 years; sons, Kevin (Katrina) Farrell and Scott Wingate; daughters, Gayle Boyd, Tammy (Ray) Tallent; grandchildren, Anthony Robinson, Mika Caldwell, Sarah Hill, Ethan Farrell, Dennis Farrell, Dustin Moore and Wesley Patterson; 14 great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild; sister, Callie Ruth Chastain; several nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A service to celebrate the life of James Edward Farrell will be held Sunday, March 28, 2021 at 3 p.m. from the Chapel of Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home with Rev. Walter Hare officiating. Burial will follow in the Haven of Rest Memorial Park. The family will receive friends prior to the funeral service on Sunday between the hours of 1 – 3 p.m. Pallbearers serving will include Ethan Farrell, Mathew Farrell, Wesley Patterson, Anthony Robinson, Chris Caldwell and Dawson Caldwell.

The Farrell family, along with the Brannon family and staff, remind anyone in attendance to keep in mind the current guidelines and restrictions set forth by the Center of Disease Control as it pertains to social gatherings including social distancing, gathering limits, and face mask.

Online condolences may be expressed and the guest register signed at www.maxbrannonandsons.com.

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the family of James Edward Farrell of Resaca.



Normazell Henderson

Ms. Normazell Patterson Henderson, of Sugar Valley, went to be with her Lord and Savior on March 24, 2021. Normazell was born on June 24, 1945 in Copperhill, Tenn. She was preceded in death by her parents, Woodrow Patterson and Ethie Patterson Hughes; stepfather, Frank Hughes; brothers, JE, Leroy, Carol and Row Patterson; sisters, Betty and Willa Mae; daughter, Rosella Henderson, son George Henderson and son-in-Jaw Ken Bennett.



Ms. Henderson is survived by her son, Fabian Henderson of Sugar Valley; daughters Angie Bennett of Resaca and Frankie & Michael Shipman of Cohutta; four granddaughters, Kendra and Brianna Bennett, Abby Shipman and Brooke Bowling; four great grandchildren, Grae Henderson, Raylee, Easton and Gabe Bowling; three nephews, Billy, Donnie and Kenny Patterson; special friends whom she loved as her own, Joey, Jenifer and Isaac Henderson, Damon and Maria Henderson and boys, Roman, Ethan, Joshua, Malachi, Elijah, and Cole.

The family received friends on Friday, March 26, 2021 from 4 – 8 p.m. at Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home.

The funeral will be conducted on Saturday, March 27, 2021 at 11 a.m. from the Chapel of Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home with Rev. Joey Henderson and Rev. Damon Henderson officiating. Pallbearers are Michael Shipman, Eddie Cloer, Donnie Patterson, Kenny Patterson, Billy Patterson, and Colby Wilson. Burial will follow in Mobile Baptist Church Cemetery in McCaysville, Ga.

To leave condolences and sign the online guest book please go to, www.maxbrannonandsons.com

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the family of Ms. Normazell Patterson Henderson.



C.M. Higgins

C.M. Higgins, age 83, of Calhoun, passed away on Monday, March 22, 2021 at his residence.

C.M. was born on Sept. 27, 1937 in Whitfield County, son of the late Chester Higgins and Minnie Smith Higgins. In addition to his parents, C.M. was also preceded in death by: one son, Len Shadrick; and two brothers, Edward Higgins and John Higgins.

He was a member of Way of the Cross Baptist Church and attended Calvary Baptist Church. Prior to retirement, he was employed by the City of Calhoun where he worked as caretaker for the city cemeteries for over 40 years. He enjoyed fishing in his spare time. C.M. was loved and will be missed by many.

C.M. is survived by: his wife, Mary Frances Smith Higgins of Calhoun; three daughters, Charlotte Higgins of Calhoun, Shelia Dyer and her husband Wayne of Chatsworth, and Debra Shadrick of Calhoun; three sons, Jerry Higgins and his wife Kathy of Calhoun, Randy Higgins of Calhoun, and David Shadrick and his wife Isabella of Calhoun; three sisters, Betty Jackson of Calhoun, Mary Lee Black of Calhoun, and Shirley Kirby of Calhoun; thirteen grandchildren; and twenty one great-grandchildren.

Funeral Services were conducted on Friday, March 26, 2021 at 2 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church with Reverend Donnie Mattila officiating. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery.

The family received friends on Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 10 a.m. until the funeral hour at 2 p.m. on Friday, March 26, 2021 at Calvary Baptist Church.

You may leave the family online condolences at www.thomasfuneralhomecalhoun.com

Thomas Funeral Home has proudly been entrusted with the care of C.M. Higgins.



George Quinn

Mr. George Leroy Quinn, 80, of Dalton, died Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at Hamilton Medical Center in Dalton.



Mr. Quinn was born in Gordon County on June 2, 1940, son of the late Mark and Ethel Scott Quinn. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two sisters, Lois Quinn and Jean Densmore; two brothers; C.L. Quinn and Ford Quinn.

He was employed with Morgan Corporation in Rydal prior to his retirement.

Survivors include his wife, Judy Quinn of Dalton; two daughters, Audra Quinn of Ranger and Courtney (Trent) Davidson of San Antonio, Texas; son, Lee Quinn of Pensacola, Fla.; stepdaughter, Pam Burnette of Rockwood, TN., and stepson, Wayne (Cathy) Warner of Knoxville, Tenn.; grandchildren, Whitney Skidmore, Turner Davidson, Michael Davidson; great-Grandchildren, Kyllie Freeman, Joslyn Harvey, Caiden Warner, Aameriah Crow; great-great-grandchild Klay Thunquist; step grandchildren, Lyndsey Beard, David Warner; sister-in-law, Viola Quinn. Several nieces, nephews and other relatives also survive.

Funeral service for Mr. George Leroy Quinn will be held Saturday, March 27 at 4 p.m. from the chapel of Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home with Rev. Tim Sanford and Rev. Ryan Sanford officiating. Interment will follow in Fidelle Cemetery. Pallbearers serving will include Eddie Mauldin, Danny Dickinson, Ed Dickinson and David Crow.

The family of George Leroy Quinn received friends Friday, March 26 at Max Brannon & Sons Funeral Home between the hours of 5 – 8 p.m.

The Brannon Family and Staff remind anyone in attendance to keep in mind the current guidelines and restrictions set forth by the C.D.C. as it pertains to social gatherings, including social distancing, gathering limits, and face masks.

Online condolences may be expressed, and the family register signed at www.maxbrannonandsons.com.

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the family of George Leroy Quinn, 80, of Dalton.



Help for the Hurting

-The Life Choice Hospice Bereavement Support Group will be meeting the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The support group is open to anyone in the community who would like to attend. The office and support group are located at 189 Professional Court, Suite 300, Calhoun. For Information, contact Jennifer at 706-602-9001.

-The Northwest Georgia Parkinson Disease Association, Inc., is offering a monthly support group for persons living with Parkinson Disease, their caregivers, family and friends. The support group will meet at Gordon Hospital; Conference Room A. For any questions about the support group and future meetings, call James Trussell at 706-235- 3164 or 706-346-5678.

-Families Anonymous is a 12-step program, for those concerned about drug abuse and behavior problems of a relative or friend. Completely anonymous, non professional, and non religious. No dues, no fees. Not connected with any hospital or agency. Located on Red Bud Road in plaza below Fitness First, next to Calhoun Counseling Center (Dr. Bledsoe’s office). Meeting every Thursday 7 - 8 p.m. Call 770-548-7849 for more information.

-Bondage Breakers- Breaking the chains of addiction one soul at a time. Every Thursday night at 7 p.m. at Crane Eater Community Church, located at 3168 Red Bud Rd Calhoun, GA 30701.

Education

GNTC partners with Junior Achievement to launch storefront at JA Discovery Center of Greater Dalton

GNTC

On March 24, 2021, Georgia Northwestern Technical College (GNTC) held a ribbon cutting ceremony to showcase the college's new storefront housed inside the Junior Achievement (JA) Discovery Center of Greater Dalton. The storefront is a partnership with JA of Georgia, and their efforts to bring relevance, authenticity and application into everyday learning to energize students around academics and their future possibilities.

GNTC's storefront will support the development and implementation of JA BizTown® and JA Finance Park®, programs that will impact 13,500 northwest Georgia middle school students annually.

The facility is the fourth JA Discovery Center in Georgia and is located on the new Hammond Creek Middle School campus. In partnership with the business and school communities, JA BizTown® and JA Finance Park® have impacted more than 400,000 students across the state in the past seven years.

"We are thrilled to be able to deepen our impact in northwest Georgia with this state-of-the-art center," said John Hancock, JA of Georgia president and CEO. "This project is a testament to the commitment the business and education communities in Dalton have to ensuring the next generation is prepared for their futures."

The 15,000-square foot hybrid space will combine both JA BizTown® and JA Finance Park® to offer an experiential simulation to middle school students from Dalton Public Schools, Calhoun City Schools, Gordon County Schools, Murray County Schools and Whitfield County Schools.

JA BizTown® creates a comprehensive experience where students are able to interact within a simulated economy and take on the challenge of fueling a business. Students not only discover the intricacies of being a professional and member of the community, but

also realize the abundance of opportunities available within their city.

JA Finance Park® provides students the rare opportunity to experience their personal financial futures first-hand. Students participate in an immersive simulation that enables them to develop skills to successfully navigate today's complex economic environment and discover how decisions today can impact tomorrow.

With the opening of this facility, more than 100,000 students will participate in JA Finance Park® and JA BizTown® annually. This type of 360-degree, hands-on learning has led to 97% of teachers noting that participation in these programs helped their students understand the importance of setting real-world long-term goals.

Junior Achievement of Georgia is dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their future and make educated academic and economic choices. JA learning solutions are delivered by corporate and community volunteers, and provide relevant, hands-on experiences to students from kindergarten through high school. JA of Georgia offers multiple programs, including in-class programs, 3DE

by Junior Achievement, JA BizTown® and JA Finance Park®, all of which focus on entrepreneurship, personal financial literacy and workforce readiness. JA of Georgia serves more than 175,000 students annually statewide, including 13,000 in the Dalton area. JA of Georgia's headquarters is in Atlanta with regional offices in Dalton, Gainesville and Savannah. For more information, visit georgia.ja.org.

Georgia Northwestern Technical College provides quality workforce education to the citizens of northwest Georgia. Students have the opportunity to earn an associate degree, diploma or a certificate in business, health, industrial or public service career paths. This past year, 11,820 people benefited from GNTC's credit and noncredit programs. GNTC has an annual credit enrollment of 8,591 students and an additional enrollment of 3,229 people through adult education, continuing education, business and industry training and Georgia Quick Start. For more information about GNTC, visit us at www.GNTC.edu. GNTC is a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia and an Equal Opportunity Institution.



On March 24, 2021, Georgia Northwestern Technical College held a ribbon cutting ceremony to display the college's new storefront housed inside the Junior Achievement (JA) Discovery Center of Greater Dalton. From left to right: Sherrie Patterson, chair of GNTC Foundation Board of Trustee, GNTC President Dr. Heidi Popham, Dr. Michele Taylor, chair of GNTC's Board of Directors and Anna Adamson, Junior Achievement of Georgia director of development for northwest Georgia.



The inside of Georgia Northwestern Technical College's storefront located inside of the Junior Achievement Discovery Center of Greater Dalton.

March 30th - April 10th

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CAPITOL BEAT NEWS: Georgia election bill signing draws federal lawsuit, lawmaker arrest

BEAU EVANS
Capitol Beat News Service

The speedy passage and signing of controversial Republican-brought legislation overhauling Georgia mail-in and early voting has drawn a federal lawsuit and the arrest of a Democratic state lawmaker.

The sweeping 98-page bill hashed out by top Republicans in the General Assembly cleared both chambers Thursday afternoon and quickly gained Gov. Brian Kemp’s signature in an early-evening ceremony held behind closed doors at the state Capitol.

That decision led to the arrest of Rep. Park Cannon, D-Atlanta, by Capitol police officers for knocking on the door to Kemp’s office, an episode that was caught on video and widely circulated on social media. She faces felony charges on charges of disrupting legislative proceedings and violence toward police.

Park’s arrest, which prompted swift condemnation from Democratic leaders and supporters, came as opponents of the omnibus bill readied a lawsuit aimed at blocking

the election changes on grounds they would violate federal voting-rights law and the U.S. Constitution.

The lawsuit, filed by several Democrat-aligned voting groups including the New Georgia Project and Black Voters Matter Fund, echoes criticism from opponents who have argued the bill’s passage would result in curbing election turnout in Black and low-income communities.

“Collectively, these challenged provisions not only impose severe and unconstitutional restrictions on the voting rights of all Georgians, but they also disparately impact Black voters and effectively deny them an equal opportunity to participate in the electoral process and elect candidates of their choice,” the lawsuit claims.

Among dozens of changes, the bill requires stricter voter ID rules for mail-in ballots, bans people from handing out food and drink to voters waiting in line outside polling places and halts absentee ballot applications from being accepted within 11 days of an election.

It also allows state officials to take over county election boards

for poor performance, which Democratic leaders and voting-rights advocates argue could give Republicans a back-door way to influence local election operations in many counties.

Additionally, the bill requires local election officials to hold two Saturdays of early voting and give counties the option to hold poll hours on two Sundays, marking expanded hours that Republican leaders say will give Georgians more access to the polls.

Republican state leaders have dismissed accusations the bill, sponsored by Sen. Max Burns, R-Sylvania, would reduce voter access or benefit their party’s ticket in Georgia. They have insisted the election changes aim to shore up voter confidence after the 2020 elections spurred unfounded fraud claims.

Kemp, who signed the bill about an hour after its final General Assembly passage, batted back at Democrats’ attempts to cast the bill as a form of voter suppression akin to discriminatory tactics of the Jim Crow era.

“Contrary to the hyper-partisan rhetoric ... the facts are this new law will expand voting access in the Peach State,” Kemp said in



a video speech shortly after signing the bill.

“Georgians will no doubt soon be overwhelmed with fancy TV ads, mailers and radio spots attacking this common-sense election reform measure. ... The truth is ensuring the integrity of the ballot box is not partisan [but] it’s about protecting the very foundation of who we are as Georgians and Americans.”

The governor’s speech was interrupted briefly by the arrest of Park, a Black lawmaker who drew comparisons to civil rights movement heroes the late Congressman John Lewis and Martin Luther King Jr. as officers forced her out of the Capitol and booked her into the Fulton County Jail. She was released hours later.

Many observers and critics including highlighted the irony of a Black lawmaker being arrested over a bill that has been slammed as an echo of old segregationist laws and practices in the state.

“While Kemp signed the most restrictive voter suppression bill seen since Jim Crow, authorities outside unjustly arrested a Black legislator and charged her with two felonies,” the Democratic Party of Georgia said on Twitter. “This is the civil-rights fight of our generation.”

Meanwhile, Republican officials in Georgia and outside the state mustered to defend the election bill against the lawsuit filed in the Atlanta-based U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia.

Ronna McDaniel, chairwoman of the Republican National Committee, slammed Democrats’ “false narrative” on the election bill and said her organization “look[s] forward to defending this law in court.”

“Democrats can lie and spin about the bill all they want, but the real question should be: ‘Why are Democrats so terrified of a transparent and secure election process?’ ” McDaniel said in a statement.

CAPITOL BEAT NEWS: Georgia House passes expansion of special-needs scholarships program

DAVE WILLIAMS
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA – A controversial bill expanding a state-funded school voucher program created in 2007 has cleared the Georgia House of Representatives by the barest of margins.

House lawmakers passed the legislation 91-71 late Friday, largely along party lines. To gain passage in the House, bills must receive the support of a minimum of 91 of the chamber’s 180 members.

The bill, which already had squeezed through the Senate by one vote more than the minimum required, would expand a state program that allows special-needs student in Georgia to receive state-funded scholarships to attend private schools.

The legislation would grow the 13-year-old program by increasing the number of conditions that would qualify a student for a scholarship. Conditions not listed in the 2007 bill

include attention deficit disorder, dyslexia, cerebral palsy, cancer and drug or alcohol abuse.

The bill also would ease restrictions requiring students to have attended a public school the year before enrolling in the program.

“Public schools are doing a good job,” Rep. Will Wade, R-Dawsonville, pictured right, who carried the bill in the House, said at the start of a lengthy debate on the bill. “[But] our responsibility in this state is to ensure that every child has a chance for a quality education.”

As was the case back in 2007, House Democrats attacked the bill as a back-door attempt to put Georgia on the path toward a broader voucher program that would divert tax dollars from public schools.

“We cannot disinvest in our public schools,” said Rep. David Dreyer, D-Atlanta. “That’s what this bill does, remove resources.”

Rep. Winfred Dukes, D-Albany, said the bill’s impact would be felt

particularly in rural Georgia, where private schools are in short supply.

“How does this bill help people in rural Georgia?” he asked. “We don’t have these facilities for our kids to go to.”

Wade denied Democrats’ charges that the bill was aimed at legalizing a broader voucher program for all students.

“This is not a slippery slope,” he said. “This is to help those students who are currently looking for a small option that isn’t available [in public schools].”

“I know many families whose lives have been transformed by this program, and many more would be if they eligible,” added Rep. Wes Cantrell, R-Woodstock.

Not all House Republicans were convinced. Eleven ended up voting against the bill, while three Democrats voted for it.

Because of changes the House made to the bill, it must return to the Senate to gain final passage.



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The Ugly Truth About Vaping

Anyone who says vaping is safe is just blowing smoke

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

Vaping is becoming an increasing epidemic among teens. In 2018, e-cigarette use nearly doubled in high school students.

What is vaping?

Vaping is the act of inhaling and exhaling the aerosol, often referred to as vapor, which is produced by an e-cigarette or similar device. The term is used because e-cigarettes do not produce tobacco smoke, but rather an aerosol, often mistaken for water vapor, that actually consists of fine particles. Many of these particles contain varying amounts of toxic chemicals, which have been linked to heart and respiratory diseases and cancer.

What is an e-cigarette?

Electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) are battery-powered devices that can deliver nicotine and flavorings to the user in the form of an aerosol. Most have a battery, a heating element, and a place to hold a liquid or nicotine salts. Flavors that make e-cigarettes so appealing can

have toxic effects themselves, although they are GRAS (generally regarded as safe) when ingested in food or drinks.

Why are e-cigarettes unsafe for kids, teens and young adults?

Nicotine can harm the developing adolescent brain

E-cigarettes contain nicotine

Nicotine addiction that occurs with e-cigarette use may lead to transition to use of combustible tobacco products

Addiction itself, whether to nicotine or other drugs, can drive undesirable behaviors

What do e-cigarettes look like?

E-cigarettes come in a wide variety of shapes and sizes; mini (often called cig-a-like), mid-size, vape pens, vape pod systems like JUUL, e-hookahs, e-cigars, advanced personal vaporizers or mods; even ones shaped to look like pens and USB drives.

What Is JUUL?

JUUL is a rapidly growing type of e-cigarette that became available in the US in 2015. It now accounts for about 72 percent of the market share of vaping products in the United

States.

JUUL is particularly appealing to adolescents and young adults because it has a slim design shaped like a USB flash drive (which makes it easier to hide).

It comes in different colors, and a wide variety of flavors, including many that appeal to kids.

JUUL does not emit large smoke clouds, making it optimal for discreet use.

Not only is nicotine high in JUUL pods, it is present in a benzoic acid salt rather than a free base which increases the rate of nicotine delivery and decreases the harsh sensation in the mouth and throat.

The JUUL nicotine refill pods contain as much nicotine as a pack of 20 regular cigarettes. Average pod length varies but can last up to 200 puffs.

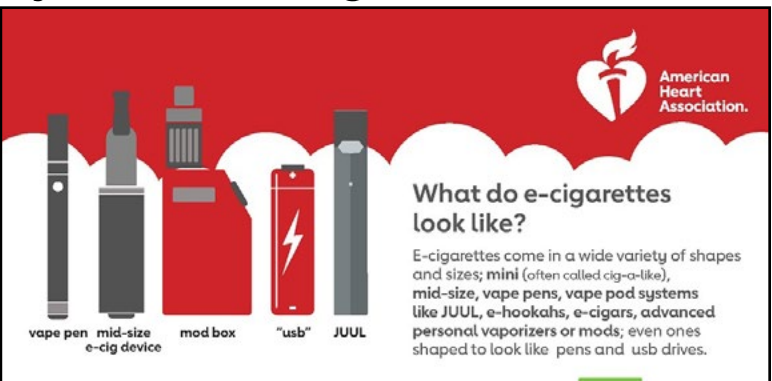
What can parents do?

Do not use any tobacco products

Talk with your kids about the dangers of smoking and the importance of avoiding any tobacco use (conventional cigarettes or e-cigarettes)

Educate your kids that e-cigarettes contain nicotine, a HIGHLY addictive substance

Advocate for




What do e-cigarettes look like?

E-cigarettes come in a wide variety of shapes and sizes; mini (often called cig-a-like), mid-size, vape pens, vape pod systems like JUUL, e-hookahs, e-cigars, advanced personal vaporizers or mods; even ones shaped to look like pens and usb drives.

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The JUUL nicotine refill ("pods") contain as much nicotine as a pack of 20 regular cigarettes. Average pod length varies but can last up to 200 puffs.

What can parents do?

- Do not use any tobacco products
- Talk with your kids about the dangers of smoking and the importance of avoiding any tobacco use (conventional cigarettes or e-cigarettes)
- Educate your kids that e-cigarettes contain nicotine, a HIGHLY addictive substance
- Advocate for comprehensive tobacco prevention policies (that include e-cigarettes)

Noting this unprecedented spike in e-cigarette use in youth, in December 2018, the US Surgeon General issued an advisory for parents, teachers and health professionals about the negative health consequences of e-cigarettes in kids.

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Help for the Hurting

-The Life Choice Hospice Bereavement Support Group will be meeting the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The support group is open to anyone in the community who would like to attend. The office and support group are located at 189 Professional Court, Suite 300, Calhoun. For Information, contact Jennifer at 706-602-9001.

-The Northwest Georgia Parkinson Disease Association, Inc., is offering a monthly support group for persons living with Parkinson Disease, their caregivers, family and friends. The support group will meet at Gordon Hospital; Conference Room A. For any questions about the support group and future meetings, call James Trussell at 706-235- 3164 or 706-346-5678.

-Families Anonymous is a 12-step program, for those concerned about drug abuse and behavior problems of a relative or friend. Completely anonymous, non professional, and non religious. No dues, no fees. Not connected with any hospital or agency. Located on Red Bud Road in plaza below Fitness First, next to Calhoun Counseling Center (Dr. Bledsoe's office). Meeting every Thursday 7 - 8 p.m. Call 770-548-7849 for more information.

-Bondage Breakers- Breaking the chains of addiction one soul at a time. Every Thursday night at 7 p.m. at Crane Eater Community Church, located at 3168 Red Bud Rd Calhoun, GA 30701.

-The Georgia Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association is sponsoring a monthly support group at Morning Pointe Assisted Living, 660 Jolly Road, on the third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. For more information or directions, call Mary Braden at 770-548-4683 or Karen Parrott at 706-346-5220.

For more information about dementia and Alzheimer's disease, call 800-272-3900 or visit www.alz.org/georgia.

-Special Care Plus, a free one-on-one consultation program, offers education and information to primary caregivers of persons with dementia. Any primary caregiver who is caring for a loved one with dementia in the home is eligible to receive this program. To learn more about the Special Care Plus program, call 800-272-3900.

-Want to make a difference in the community? Tapestry Hospice is seeking volunteers to provide companionship to our patients, read books, make crafts, garden, light house cleaning, administrative work, etc.

If you're interested contact Megan at megan.guthrie@tapestryhospice.com

-The Alzheimer's Association's Caring Closet was created to help offset the high cost of incontinent products and give the families support they often desperately need. If you would like to visit the nearest Closet, call the chapter office to receive a flier with locations and hours. Morning Pointe in Calhoun has a Caring Closet; call Mary Braden at 706-629-0777.

-Community volunteers are needed at Countryside Hospice Care, where the mission is to promote comfort and dignity at the end of life. The agency covers 26 Northwest Georgia counties between three offices in LaFayette, Rome, and Newnan. If you would like to participate in this rewarding program, call 706-638-7651 or 1-800-660-7381.

-Discovering Hope, an autism support group for Northwest Georgia, meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Friendship Baptist Church, Rocky Face. For more information, call Connie Post at 706-673-7765 or www.discoveringhope.us.

-Caring Connection is a telephone support group especially for caregivers of loved ones with Alzheimer's who cannot leave their homes because of care responsibilities. This support group is as close as the phone. Call 706-275-0819 or 1-800-272-3900 and ask to be enrolled in Caring Connection.

-Grief Recovery Group for those who have lost loved ones and friends, receive support and guidance with the Four Tasks of Grieving. Cost is Free. Second Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. at Harris Radiation Therapy Center at Gordon Hospital. For more information or to RSVP, please call 706.879.5850.

-The Compassionate Friends of Dalton and N.W. Georgia is part of a worldwide effort that has helped many families cope with the loss of a child and to honor our children's memory. The Compassionate Friends meets on the third Thursday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. at Evangelical Methodist Church (in the "Gathering Place" building), 1035 Abutment Road, Dalton (on the hill behind the old Lowe's off Walnut Avenue). For more information, call Dawn at 706-277-3312 or 706-264-4458 or e-mail dawnsisson@msn.com.

-SING (Surviving Infidelity Necessary to your Growth) has formed here. If you are experiencing difficulty in marriage and are looking for ways to survive,

then you should come and be part of these meetings designed to help, encourage, and solve issues in a marriage that can lead to a promising future ahead for the entire family. For more information, call Iroka Moore at 706-629-2880.

-United Hospice is seeking volunteers who can help others through companionship, reading, sharing, and other small tasks. Give the gift of caring and enjoy the privilege of sharing in your local area. Call Dan Hogan at 706-602-9546 or 800-867-7976.

-Looking for a 12-step meeting for men and women? At "Road to Recovery," recognizing Jesus Christ as our higher power, they take the 12 steps and compare how they are taken from scripture and how to apply them to our lives to experience true freedom from the bondages of addiction. The meetings are free and open to the public at World Harvest Church locations in Cherokee and Gordon counties. For more information, call 706-602-1919. The Calhoun church is located at 2335 Red Bud Road. The meetings here are every Monday and Thursday at 7 p.m.

-A 12-step-meeting for Overeaters Anonymous is held at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 901 W. Emory St, Dalton on Thursdays at 6 p.m. Call Nan at 706-695-9008 or Stephanie at 706-847-8125 for more information.

-Caring for a loved one who is suffering from late-stage cancer is certainly one of life's hardest experiences. But you do not have to go through this alone. The Harris Radiation Therapy Center at Gordon Hospital provides a place for you to meet each month with others who understand what you are going through during this difficult time. Strength for Caring, a support group for caregivers of patients with advanced stages of cancer meets on the second Tuesday of each month from 2-3 p.m. at the Harris Radiation Therapy Center at Gordon Hospital, 1035 Red Bud Road. For more information, please call 706-879-5853.

-Dealing with a cancer diagnosis is difficult for everyone involved – the patient and their loved ones. But you are not alone. The Harris Radiation Therapy Center at Gordon Hospital, 1035 Red Bud Road, hosts a Support Group for cancer patients, survivors, and caregivers on the third Wednesday of each month from noon until 1 p.m. Lunch is served. For more information and to RSVP, please call 706-879-5853. We offer a hand to hold and an ear to listen as you go through this difficult time.



THE EASIEST PLACE (FOR KIDS) To Get Alcohol IS NEXT TO THE MILK

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Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

COVID

From page 1A

reported new cases of COVID-19 this week was 1 new case, down 2 new cases from last week. There were 1 new case among students (1 at Calhoun High School), and no new cases among staff members.

Calhoun City Schools post the new case numbers each Friday afternoon, and includes the previous week's numbers separately on their website at <https://www.calhounschoools.org/summer-resources/ccsd-covid-19-case-status-reportnew-page/ccs-covid-19-weekly-status-report>

Both school systems have adopted strict cleaning procedures and are following the health and safety guidelines set forth by the CDC concerning social distancing. Students and staff who have tested positive for COVID-19 or who have recently had

DWTS

From page 1A

for Thursday, April 15 with tickets sold at a discounted rate. This year's show will feature a combination of adult and student dance teams as they compete to raise funds for United Way of Gordon County.

"I have had the pleasure of working with the Dancing with the Stars (DWTS) Committee to help execute one show and plan two others since I joined United Way," said Latour. "The tenth year of Dancing with the Stars is a blend of everything accomplished in the past decade," she continued. "This may be our last dance, but the future is bright indeed!"

Latour went on to thank the DWTS Planning Committee – Andy Baxter, Kristy Brown, Jennie Coker, Bekah Kirby, Amy Parker, and Michelle Frix Ward – for their hard work over the years. She also thanked all the sponsors, especially Mohawk Industries, which has been the premier sponsor all along and has been joined by two others this year.

"Mohawk has been proud to serve as the title sponsor of Dancing with the Stars since the event's inception," said Robert Webb, Senior Director of Public Affairs and Corporate Communications with Mohawk Industries. "For a decade, the dancers have entertained audiences and raised over a million dollars to support the important work of United Way's partner agencies. We salute all the individuals who have shared their talents to make this such a successful fundraising event year after year."

The finale will include several special features, but the dancers will be the stars of the show. The ten teams, listed alphabetically by the female partner's first name, are Abby Crowe and Ben Bingham; Aubry Dorsey and Isaac Nance; Carly Curtis and Skylar Benham; Carson Glaze and Grant Glaze; Joy Nudd and Garrett Nudd; Kaylen Gaines and Addison Baker; Lily Stephens and Nate Stockman; Megan Wright and Christian Lewis; Raven Pasley and Ian King; and Suzanne Roberts with Tony Pyle.

Kaylan Gaines and Addison Baker will appear as Couple Six, and the third of the student dance teams competing. Gaines is the daughter of Jon Gaines and Kendra Stepp. Her stepmother is Laura Gaines. She attends Gordon Central High School and is a member of the National Honor Society.

Gaines is actively involved with her high school's performing arts programs. She was a One Act State Champ in 2019-2020, and a One Act All-Star Cast Member the same year. Gaines is a three-time Region One Act Champion and won second place for Girls' Solo in the 2020 Region Literary. She is President of the Tri-M Music Honor Society and a member of the International Thespian Society.

Gaines was first runner-up in the recent Distinguished Young Woman Contest and first-

STORMS

From page 1A

water due to all the rain. Debris in the roads and downed trees were also commonly reported.

None of the rivers in the area had crested at press time, and were expecting to rise. The Oostanaula River is under a flood warning until Monday; at 8:15 p.m. Friday, the stage was 23.7 feet and ising. The river is expected to crest at 26.8 feet on Saturday afternoon.

Oothcalooga Creek near Calhoun is also under a flood warning; it was already over the 18 feet flood stage at 18.6 feet at 9 p.m. on Friday.

The flood stage for the Coosawatee is 22 feet, and at 9 p.m. Friday was at 24.7 feet and rising.

Additional rain is expected over the weekend; there's a 52 percent chance today and a 70 percent chance of rain on Sunday.



close contact with a person with COVID-19 at either school system cannot return to school until they meet the Department of Public Health's Return to School Guidance After COVID-19 Illness or Exposure.

Numbers of new COVID19 cases in Calhoun-Gordon County lowered significantly again this week, a trend that's been seen in the community the past month. New cases reported this week are 60 since last Saturday, with no new deaths contributed to the virus reported this week. Last week, 55 new cases were reported in the community.

At press time Saturday morning, March 27, 2021, Gordon County has had 6,334 confirmed cases of COVID-19 since the pandemic began –up 60 cases since the same time last week. COVID-19 related deaths remain at 96. The Department of Public Health also reports 10 probable deaths from COVID. There have been 318 hospitalizations in Gordon County due to COVID-19 since March, up 9 hospitalizations since last week.

place winner in its Talent and Interview Category. She is a student at Dancers Workshop.

Gaines will dance with Addison Baker, who also is a student at Gordon Central High School. Addison is the son of Adam and Jennifer Baker. He attends Antioch Baptist Church, where he volunteers to run audio and live-streaming services.

Baker is involved with Chorus and Theatre. He is a two-time Region One Act Champion, a 2019 One Act State Champion, and a 2020 Literary Boys Solo Runner-up. He works at Tek Stil Concepts, a flooring store in Chatsworth, Georgia.

First and second-place winners will be identified in two categories – Judges' Choice and People's Choice – for both the student and adult teams. People's Choice winners are determined based on their fundraising successes. Judges' Choice winners are determined based on the scores the contest judges give their dance performances. The adult teams winning in those categories will receive trophies and bragging rights. The student teams

The COVID-19 statistics for Gordon's neighboring counties since the beginning of the pandemic as of Saturday morning are:

- Bartow County...10,781 cases, 198 deaths, 14 probable deaths and 777 hospitalizations;
- Floyd County... 9,737 cases, 172 deaths, 35 probable deaths and 837 hospitalizations;
- Whitfield County...14,484 cases, 220 deaths, 13 probable deaths and 719 hospitalizations.

The State of Georgia this week has had 847,805 cases of COVID-19 since the pandemic began, with 16,417 deaths, 2,432 probable deaths and 58,407 hospitalizations.


County EMA Director Courtney Taylor reminds the public to continue to wash hands often, cover your cough and practice social distancing.

For further information and numbers such as demographics for Georgia and totals all counties please visit: <https://dph.georgia.gov/>

winning in those categories will receive trophies, bragging rights, and college scholarships. Each student on the first-place team in each category will receive a \$1,000 scholarship and each student on the second-place team will receive a \$750 scholarship. A panel of judges will be assembled from field professionals outside Gordon County.

Tickets for both shows go on sale to the public at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 27th. Tickets for the Thursday Night Dress Rehearsal Show are \$10 for general admission. Seats are first come first serve for the Thursday night Dress Rehearsal. Tickets will be sold online only. Tickets for the Friday Night Finale are \$30 with reserved seating, only available online. No tickets will be sold at the door.

United Way of Gordon County is a local 501(c)(3) non-profit organization serving the Gordon County area. The mission of United Way of Gordon County is to Change Lives, Connect Community, and Challenge Donors to LIVE UNITED.



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