

# 2025 SALUTE TO THE GRADUATES

## THE TALBOTTON NEW ERA

Serving the people of Talbot County since 1879

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CEHS 2025 Valedictorian  
Za'Kyia Terry



CEHS 2025 Salutatorian  
Annatasia Grier

### Graduation Safety Protocols Announced

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

Central Elementary-High School (CEHS) has announced the safety protocols for the 2025 commencement exercises and baccalaureate service.

The baccalaureate service is scheduled to be held on Monday and the school has planned graduation services from Saturday, May 24 in the school's gym.

The commencement ceremony will begin promptly at 10 a.m. Doors to the gym will be opened

at 9 a.m. Guests will not be allowed to enter the gym after the doors have been closed so be sure to arrive before 10 a.m. No one will be allowed to enter or exit the gym after 10 a.m. until the graduation ceremony has ended. Please note that all guests (including infants and children) must have a ticket to enter the gym.

The school issued the following notice about safety protocols for the events.

In order for CEHS to ensure all guests are mind-

ful of the following safety procedures/protocols for graduation ceremonies and are asked to obey the protocols.

There will be no balloons, bags, purses or noise-makers allowed in the ceremonial space.

All guests will be subjected to security clearings/searches via metal detectors.

The school is asking all guests to arrive early enough to allow ample time for security procedures to be followed.

### Youth Fishing Rodeo Saturday

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

The Talbot County Board of Commissioners will sponsor its annual Youth Fishing Rodeo this Saturday, May 24.

The fun will begin at 8 a.m. and end at noon at Talbot County Park Pond located at 170 Park Street in Talbotton.

Anglers must be 4-16 years of age by May 24 to participate.

There will be a limit of 10 fish per child.

Registration is open on a first come first serve basis. Registration will close when the number of anglers has been filled. The entire family is welcome, but only registered children may fish.

For more information you may call Peter Nolan at 706-570-0904.

The application is available at the Talbot County



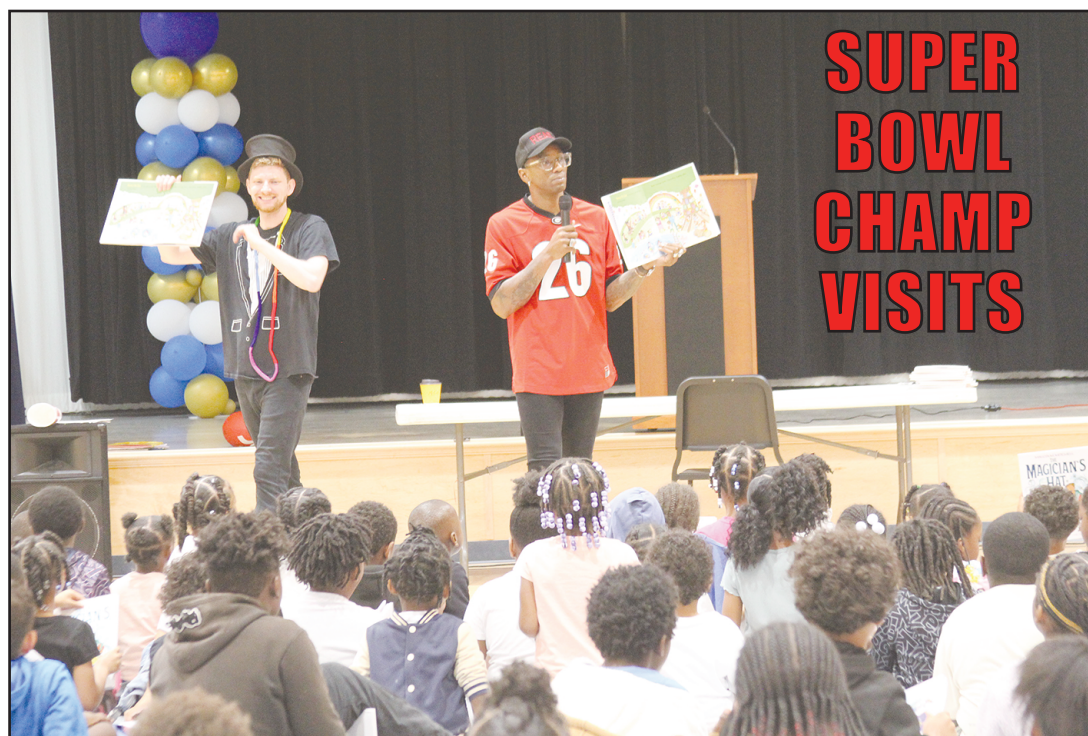
The Youth Fishing Rodeo is open to anglers between the ages of 4 and 16. There will be a limit of 10 fish per child. Registration is open on a first come, first served basis. Applications for the event are available at the Talbot County Commissioner's Office in Talbotton.

Board of Commissioner's Office at located at 35 W. Madison Street in Talbotton.



Photo By John Kuykendall

**STORM LEAVES DAMAGE BEHIND** - A storm with heavy rain and high winds struck Meriwether, Talbot, Troup and Harris counties Saturday night and left some damage in its wake. Homes lost power due to the storm and trees were uprooted. In the photograph above, a tree fell over power lines in Manchester.



**SUPER BOWL CHAMP VISITS**



Photos By Keniece Adams

**SUPER BOWL CHAMP PROMOTES READING AT CEHS** - Former Super Bowl Champion Malcolm Mitchell visited Central Elementary-High School recently to promote reading. Each student was presented with a copy of Mitchell's book titled "The Magician's Hat".

### Super Bowl Champion Visits Central Elementary

Submitted to NEW ERA

Cheers, magic, and motivation filled the halls of Central Elementary School as students welcomed Super Bowl Champion and literacy advocate Malcolm Mitchell for a special Reading Rally event recently.

Sponsored by the Share the Magic Foundation and Chattahoochee-Flint RESA, the event was designed to spark a lifelong love of reading in students.

Each elementary student received a free copy of The Magician's Hat, a children's book authored by Mitchell himself. The story encourages children to unlock their potential through reading—an idea Mitchell personally

championed during his visit.

A native of Valdosta, Mitchell shared his powerful journey from football fields to bookshelves. As a high school standout, he was named an Under Armour All-American and later became one of the University of Georgia's top 10 all-time receivers. After earning a degree in Communication Studies in 2015, Mitchell was drafted by the New England Patriots and helped lead the team to victory in Super Bowl LI.

Now, through his Share the Magic Foundation, Mitchell travels the country promoting literacy and encouraging children to embrace the magic of reading. During his visit to Central Elementary, he spoke

about how books changed his life and opened doors beyond the football field.

"Reading can take you anywhere," Mitchell told the excited students. "It's the key to success in school, in life, and in chasing your dreams."

To add to the excitement, students were also treated to a live performance by a guest magician, bringing The Magician's Hat to life in a fun and interactive way.

The Reading Rally left students inspired and eager to turn the pages of their new books. Central Elementary School is grateful to the Share the Magic Foundation and Chatt-Flint RESA for making this enriching event possible.

### Early Voting Begins for Special Primary Election

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

Early voting for the June 17 Public Service Commission Special Primary Election will begin on Tuesday, May 27 and end on Friday, June 13.

Early Voting will be held at the Talbot County Board of Elections and Registration Office located at 1761 Geneva Highway in Talbotton.

According to Elections Supervisor Sharita Trice, Early Voting may be done in person between the hours of

9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on the following dates:

- Tuesday, May 27 through Friday, May 30;
- Saturday, May 31;
- Monday, June 2 through Friday, June 6;
- Saturday, June 7;
- and Monday, June 9 through Friday, June 13.

You can check your voter registration status online by logging into "My Voter Page" [www.mvp.sos.ga.gov](http://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov) or contact our office 706-665-8270 or email [elections-registration@talbotcountyga.org](mailto:elections-registration@talbotcountyga.org).

### Deadlines for the Talbotton New Era

Please note the *Talbotton New Era* are as follows:  
**News, sports, obituaries, feature material, and church announcements:** Noon on Monday of the week the item is to run.

**Advertisements other than legal ads:** 5:00 p.m. on Monday of the week the item is to run.

**Legal advertisements:** Noon on Friday of the week before the item is to run. This includes all "pulls" or cancellations of legal ads.

Thank you for your cooperation.



# Things to Do In and Around Talbot County

## Prayer Meeting

There will be a prayer to kick-off the 2025 Combined Revival at Oak Grove Baptist Church on June 8 at 7 p.m.

## Combined Revival

Come experience Jesus with us at the 2025 Combined Revival at New Salem Baptist Church June 9 through June 13 at 7 p.m. nightly.

## Gospel Singing

Please join Evans Chapel in Woodland on Saturday, May 31 at 6 p.m., for some inspirational gospel music and congregational singing. We will be hosting The Kingdom Express! We love to host gospel groups that everyone enjoys and hope you'll come join us in this old-time tradition. Light refreshments. Everyone welcome and encouraged to attend. Evans Chapel is located at 3436 Chalybeate Springs Road in Woodland.

## Scholarship Banquet

The Talbot County Schools Alumni Association will hold a Scholarship Banquet on June 7, 2025 at the Doubletree Hotel located at 5351 Sidney Simon Boulevard in Columbus. Pierre Coffey, EdD will be the guest speaker. Donation is \$75 per person. For tickets mail a check or money order c/o Leitica Cook, 264 North Epps Road, Waverly Hall, GA 31831. Please make checks payable to TCSAA. Electronic payment may be made at Cashapp: \$talbotcsaa2024. Deadline is May 10, 2025. For information contact Leticia Cook at (706) 3260099.

## Free Produce

Geneva Baptist Church will be giving away free produce to everyone every Thursday at 9:30 a.m. Produce will be given away while supplies last from FTV Food Bank.

## New Life Services

New Life Community Church invites everyone to fellowship with the church family on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. The church is located at 9108 GA HWY 85 in Waverly Hall at the City Hall building. Rev. Desmond Thornton and associate pastor Rev. Solomon Terry presiding.

## Church Pickup

Friendship Baptist Church located in Woodland is offering a Transportation Ministry free to any person who would like to attend the church. The transportation service will be available every Sunday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. For more information please contact Clarence Leonard at 706-427-3443 or Scott Hope at 706-573-8231. A mask is advised and social distancing is required.

## Let Us Help You

Christ the King's Outreach Ministry welcomes Harris and Talbot County residents in need of short-term assistance with groceries, utility bills and rental payments. Our office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Appointments can be made at (706) 663-0090.

## Clothing Center

New Beginnings Outreach

Ministry of Woodland has a special clothing center. All items are from community donations. We also have household items, baby accessories and furniture. EVERYTHING IS FREE. For more information contact Bro. Richard Crawl at 706-977-5469 or Pastor Searcy at 706-601-6776.

## Free to Needy

Pastor William Searcy of The New Beginnings Church of Woodland announces that their Outreach Ministry's Center will be open two days a week from nine to five on Monday and Friday. This will be the last week. EVERYTHING IS FREE. They have clothing, miscellaneous items, including furniture. Remember, this is FREE to the public. Call 706-601-6776.

## Change of Service

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

## Help for Elderly

The River Valley Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging is ready to help senior citizens. If any senior citizen in the Talbot County Region have problems or need help, please call Woodland Mayor and Board Member of River Valley Regional at 706-256-2900 or 706-256-2928 or Katie Howard at 706-256-2910.

## Food Talk Series

UGA Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program is offering free virtual and in-person classes with a series of sessions featuring meals in minutes called "Food Talk." If you are interested or if you have any questions, please contact Erica Chaney at 706-665-2397 or Erica.Chaney@uga.edu. You can also visit the Talbot County Extension Office at 401 S. Washington Ave. in Talbotton.

## How to Submit Items

The Talbotton New Era gladly prints items of interest for the community as well as local church news. Please observe the following procedures when submitting items. To contact The Talbotton New Era call (706) 846-3188 or email starmercuryjohn@gmail.com.

The deadline for items for the community and church events section must be received by 12 noon on Monday, prior to run date to be printed in that week's issue.

Items received after the Monday deadline will not appear until the following week. Please do not send items more than once. Items will continue to be printed in the newspaper until the event is over.

Sorry no flyers, items written in all capital letters or sent as pdf files are accepted.

Please email items as an attached Word document or as email body copy. Jpegs, pdfs, etc. can not be used by the newspaper for news copy.

Do not indent or double space between paragraphs and sentences.

Please do not use 2025 or

spell out months of the year, simply use Sept. 10.

Do not use times in this manner 5:00, please use 5 p.m.

Photographs can only be

accepted in jpeg format and as an attachment to an email. Please do not attached them to Word documents.

Please note the newspaper

reserves the right to edit or reject any submission.

Thank you for your support of the New Era newspaper and the Talbot County community.



Submitted By Pres Hall

**CARTER EARNS MASTER'S OF SCIENCE IN NURSING** - Shakiyah Carter, the proud daughter of Rose "Pooh" Carter and Jerdine Carter Epps, earned her Master's of Science in Nursing. A milestone has been reached in the healthcare community. Shakiyah, known as Peaches, proudly graduates with Master's of Science in Nursing. Her dedication, perseverance, and passion for patient care has led her to this significant achievement, marking the era of a brighter future. Congratulations. This is just the beginning, Shakiyah. Job well done.



**Have movies about a popular comic strip character not been made since 1990 because of an actor's anger?**



By JACK BAGLEY  
didyouknowcolumn@gmail.com

Take a deep breath. Smell that? It's summer in the air, coming in just a few short weeks.

Yes, I truly believe that we can smell summer approaching. What does summer smell like, you ask? To each of us, it's different.

For me, it's fresh-cut grass, hot dogs, and the smell of a baseball field. That's summer in a nutshell.

(Nutshell, how appropriate. I'm a nut.) Another thing that you can tell is approaching is trivia. How? You're here, aren't you?

Let's dive into this week's hand-sorted selection of information!

**Did you know ...**  
... a California town actually has a thousand times more dead people in it than live people? The town of Colma, California, has a population of about 1,500 people. It also has seventeen cemeteries, and the total number of people interred there is estimated to be 1.5 million. That's one thousand times more dead people in Colma than live people. (Living it up has a new meaning in Colma, doesn't it?)

... you may suffer from rhinotillexomania? I kind of hope that you don't, however. Rhinotillexomania is a phrase that means a person is obsessive about picking their nose. (As for what level would be obsessive, I think I'll let you figure that one out.)

... a well-known writer was the teacher of another well-known writer? H.G. Wells (1866-1946), author of classics such as *War of the Worlds*, *The Invisible Man* and *The Time Machine*, was a science teacher at London's Henley House School from 1889 to 1890, one of several teaching positions he held. During that time, one of his students was A.A. Milne (1882-1956), who wrote the children's classic *Winnie the Pooh*. (The best teaching the best.)

... a 1972 television program muted the microphone of a live singer? On February 16, 1972, *The Mike Douglas Show* had as its guests John Lennon (1940-1980), his wife Yoko Ono (born 1933), and singer Chuck Berry (1926-2017). During the performance of the song "Memphis, Tennessee," Ono began to perform her trademark scream into her microphone, while Lennon and Berry were performing. Sound engineers immediately muted Ono's microphone, and viewers at home saw her mouth moving but didn't hear her. For his own part, Berry's eyes widened in shock when Ono began her screaming; Lennon had not told him in advance of her particular way of performing. (If you've ever heard her, you'd understand.)

... a popular comic character hasn't been featured in movies since 1990 because of an actor's anger? In 1990, Warren Beatty (born 1937) starred in *Dick Tracy*, a movie based on the popular comic strip detective created by Chester Gould (1900-1985), which won three Academy Awards™ - for Art Direction, Makeup, and Original Song. For whatever

reasons, however, the movie did not do the business expected, and the studios involved - Walt Disney Studios and Touchstone Pictures - would not let Beatty make a sequel, even though he owned the film and television rights to the character. They even tried to use the character in a television show without Beatty, and that steamed the actor something big. Since then, Beatty has used a loophole in his contract to enact a kind of petty revenge. From time to time, Beatty releases a 20-minute television "special" in which he appears as Tracy, complaining about the way he was treated. They're pretty much unwatchable, but they do serve to keep the film rights to *Dick Tracy* with Beatty, and no one else can use the character for anything. (I've heard of carrying a grudge, but this is ridiculous.)

... whitening your teeth can actually weaken them? Most dentists I know will vehemently disagree with this, but the natural color of a human being's teeth is a light yellow. These are the stronger teeth; whitening them removes outside layers of enamel and actually weakens teeth. (Remember the jingle? "You'll wonder where the yellow went ...")

... Pinocchio cannot say "my nose will grow now"? It's a classic paradox. Pinocchio's nose only grows when he tells a lie. But if he says his nose will grow, that would be a true statement - thus, the nose does not grow. (Short-circuits his brain, too, I'm told.)

... one of the first company-wide pay raises given was done for a base purpose? When Henry Ford (1863-1947) doubled the pay of his workers in 1914, from \$2.50 per day to \$5 per day, he only did it to decrease employee turnover rates. His total work force that year was 14,000, but to keep the jobs filled he'd had to hire 52,000 men. New workers on the auto assembly line needed a long training period and many would quit, forcing the production line to slow down. Doubling salaries kept the turnover rate low.

... a famous scene in a classic movie is tied to three other classic movies? During the filming of *Gone With the Wind* in 1939, the script called for depicting the burning of the city of Atlanta. To achieve the effect, the filmmakers burned the old sets from three classics - 1933's *King Kong*, 1936's *The Last of the Mohicans*, and 1936's *Little Lord Fauntleroy*. (Hot information indeed.)

... a Texas university has a statue that pokes fun at a rival? On the campus of Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas, stands a statue of humorist Will Rogers (1879-1935). Rogers is astride his horse Soapsuds in a casting of the famous photo, "Into the Sunset." The rear end of the horse points directly toward College Station, Texas, home of rival school Texas A&M. (Which tells you what Rogers thought of Texas A&M.)

... the average American eats an amount of fat equivalent to one whole stick of butter every day? (I'm way above average once again.)

Now ... you know!

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**ADVANCE VOTING NOTICE**

Voters may vote early in person beginning on May 27, 2025.  
\*First day moved to Tuesday, May 27, 2025 due to Monday's observed state holiday. (Memorial Day)

Advance Voting will begin May 27, 2025 - June 13, 2025 at the Board of Elections Office located at 1761 Geneva Highway, Talbotton, GA. 31827.

Listed below are the dates and times.

Tuesday, May 27, 2025 - Friday, May 30, 2025	9:00AM - 5:00PM
Saturday, May 31, 2025	9:00AM - 5:00PM
Monday, June 2, 2025 - Friday, June 6, 2025	9:00AM - 5:00PM
Saturday, June 7, 2025	9:00AM - 5:00PM
Monday, June 9, 2025 - Friday, June 13, 2025	9:00AM - 5:00PM

You can check your voter registration status online by logging into "My Voter Page" www.mvp.sos.ga.gov or contact our office 706-665-8270 or email elections-registration@talbotcountyga.org.

Sharita Trice, Chairperson  
Elections Supervisor  
Talbot County Board of Elections and Registration

**Contact The Talbotton New Era by calling (706) 846-3188 or emailing starmercuryjohn@gmail.com**

# Opinions & Ideas

PAGE 3-A - THE TALBOTTON NEW ERA - THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025

## THE TALBOTTON NEW ERA

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### The Georgia Trust for Local News

DuBose Porter, Executive Director  
Caleb Slinkard, Executive Editor

Pam Burney, General Manager

JOHN KUYKENDALL  
PUBLISHER/EDITOR

JACK BAGLEY  
LAYOUT EDITOR

BRYAN GETER  
ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE

Phone (706) 846-3188  
starmercuryjohn@gmail.com  
P. O. Box 426  
Manchester, GA 31816  
Official Legal Organ of Talbot County.

## The New Pope, Leo XIV, Is From My Home Town

The world was astonished a couple of weeks ago when Cardinal Robert Prevost was elected Supreme Pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church, and who chose the name Pope Leo XIV.

His name wasn't on anyone's short list (so far as I know) and his election - one of the fastest in Church history - caught most by total surprise.

Why the surprise?

Well, for one, he is American. As in North America. As in the United States of America.

Yes, the new Pope is one of us.

I need to say, in full disclosure, that I am not a member of the Catholic church. My upbringing was Lutheran, and these days I consider myself a Baptist. But I have always marveled at the way the Catholics conduct their services, and the first time I set foot in a cathedral - as a little boy in Chicago - remains in my memory almost 60 years later.

Pope Leo XIV may have also set foot in the same cathedral, as he is a native of my home town.

Yes, Leo XIV is from Chicago.

It is true that he performed most of his religious work in Peru, and I understand him to be a naturalized citizen of that country. However, his roots go back to the same city on Lake Michigan that my roots go back to, and that means a lot, even to a non-Catholic like me.

Admit it ... your bingo card for 2025 did not have an American being elected Pope, did it? I know mine didn't.

The world reaction was overwhelmingly positive, but the reaction from Chicagoans was classic. If you haven't seen any of them, I will offer a few right here, and please note that I do this with great love and respect for Leo and for the Church.

I also find most of them very, very funny. I hope you do, too.

One wag said that with his election, canonical law now applies to putting ketchup on hot dogs. (For the uninitiated, that's something a true Chicagoan does not do.)

The suggestion was made that Chicago-style deep dish pizza would become part of Communion. (I admit that I don't find that one particularly amusing, but I do love me some of that pizza.)

A second Chicago pizza fan said that now, at last, Rome will have good pizza.

A fan of the Chicago Bears noted that the city produced a Pope before it could



Jack Bagley

Musings of An Aging Mind

produce a quarterback who throws 4,000 yards.

Another Bears fan, recalling the classic *Saturday Night Live* skits about Bears fans, simply said, "DaPope." (If you know, you know.)

One irreverent Bears fan even posted His Holiness' photo with a caption reading, "God bless everyone in the world - except Green Bay."

Both the Cubs and the White Sox claimed His Holiness as a fan, but the Pope's brother said that Leo is, unequivocally, a supporter of the Southsiders. Yes, His Holiness is really a fan of the White Sox. (I wonder what his opinion of last season was?)

Side note - it's actually a good thing that he isn't a Cubs fan. Cubs fans hate the Cardinals. (Get it?)

A Sox fan even posted his idea of a Vatican City Connect White Sox jersey, with "Chicago" across the front, the Sox logo on the lower left, and the emblem of the Vatican in the upper right. All in proper papal colors, of course.

The sign in front of The Wiener's Circle, a hot dog stand in the city, now reads, "*Canes nostros ipse comedit.*" That's Latin for, "He has eaten our hot dogs."

Another fan of classic Chicago cuisine asked how soon the city can send a shipment of Italian beef to the Vatican.

The Pope is a graduate of Villanova University, and the folks around Philadelphia have also been getting into the memes. One fan of their basketball team insists that Villanova now has an "in" to win the championship this year.

And politics got into the act as well, with one person saying it's good that the Church chose an American as pontiff. It'll get around the tariffs.

All kidding aside, I am thrilled that Pope Leo XIV was elected. From my limited research, he seems to be a true man of God and the right choice for the largest Christian denomination on Earth. The fact that he's from Chicago is just the icing on the cake.

God bless Leo XIV, and everyone in the world.

Yes, including Green Bay.

## Advice to Graduates, Remember the Turtle

Congratulations to the 2025 graduates! You have reached a milestone in your life and have achieved a true gift that will keep on giving. You have endured much, worked hard and succeeded and are to be commended. It is important to remember that this glorious achievement marks the end of one journey and is the stepping-stone for another.

Hopefully this column will say something worthwhile to each graduate. Over the years I've written many columns offering advice to the graduates. That advice has always been relatively the same. It is important to the graduate that you "never stop learning, never stop achieving and never stop dreaming."

While the message was virtually the same in each column, it has always been delivered in a different manner. But one of the columns, "always remember the turtle," is my favorite. So, here we go.

A turtle is a very interesting creature and we can learn a great deal by observing its habits and its design.

I've always thought it ironic that while we don't pay much attention to a turtle, it is probably among one of the most amazing creatures God placed on the Earth.

The first thing we observe

about the creature is how slowly it moves from one location to another. It does not matter that the turtle moves slowly, what is important is that it gets to where it's going.

I would imagine a short distance presents a challenge for the turtle, but it doesn't allow the distance, or the obstacles in its path, to deter it from making the journey.

The turtle just begins walking, no matter how long the journey, and keeps moving until it arrives at its destination.

One of the most important things I've learned in life is that great things are usually accomplished by realizing where we want to be and slowly, with great determination, taking the steps one at a time to get there, much like the turtle.

Another interesting thing about a turtle is that it adapts so well to its surroundings. For instance, the turtle is at home in the water or on the land. Even if a turtle has the unfortunate circumstances of being a pet and is living in an aquarium, it still adapts. The creature, like all of God's living creatures, has the will to survive and makes the best of the environment it is in.

Versatility is another important part of life. Like the turtle we have to be able to



John Kuykendall  
Publisher & Editor

adapt to changes and make the best out of what life presents to us. Like the turtle, we must be able to realize that we can survive any situation and be willing to change (adapt) to make the best of any situation.

To be successful, we cannot become complacent with whom, or what, we are because who and what we are must change with life. So, versatility is an important part of life and the success you will have in life.

The most important thing to remember about a turtle however is that before he can take the first step in a journey it must stick its head out of its shell.

Before the turtle can move it has to have enough courage to start pushing its head out of its shell and the neck comes with it. Simply put, the turtle is actually sticking its neck out.

That one gesture by the turtle tells it all as far as I'm concerned. It says the turtle has made a decision it's going to

move forward. When the turtle sticks its neck out it is making the first of many steps in a slow and methodical journey. Once it takes that first step it just keeps on pushing no matter how tough the going is.

So, my advice to the 2025 graduates is a simply one... always remember the turtle.

Now that you are beginning a new journey in your life, and you are now and officially a grown up, before you take that first step, do like the turtle and decide where you want to be.

Once that decision is made, stick your neck out and begin moving forward.

If one thing about you new journey is certain, there are going to be times you will face challenges in your life. Rather than allowing those challenges to dictate to you what is going to happen, do like the turtle. Don't hide in a shell, stick your neck out, take that important step forward and go out and meet the challenges head-on. If you do that, just like the turtle, you will slowly get to where you want to be and all those dreams will come true.

Best of luck to each of you and remember... "There is nothing in life that a good attitude, determination, hard work and prayer cannot overcome."

## We're Not That Stupid

Former Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation James Comey must believe that we are all a bunch of idiots.

As reported several days ago and continuing as this is being written, Comey claims to have been walking along a beach and innocently came upon a grouping of sea shells that spelled out 8647. Seeing this he, once again innocently, took a picture and posted it to social media.

The response was immediate with supporters and non-supporters of President Donald Trump taking exception to the calling for the assassination of the President, especially by a scholarly former government official.

The number "47" has been and continues to be used in referencing Trump as he is the 47th President of the United States, and the 45th as well. Referring to presidents by the number is not new but came into widespread use in differentiating between former President George H.W. Bush (41) and President George W. Bush (43).

Usage of the number "86" is a bit more interesting. It has been a slang expression for

some time and has enjoyed quite a few meanings, especially in the restaurant business meaning to quit serving a customer alcoholic beverages. But history suggests that various criminal organizations used the number to mean killing someone, and that has become associated with the number 86.

Comey has since denied knowing that "86" had a meaning to kill someone and removed the social media post. We should have a lot of concerns with his explanation.

THIS entire situation is packed with coincidences with astronomically high odds of ever happening.

We are expected to believe that an unknown person gathered sea shells and used them to write 8647 and then left. No pictures, nothing posted on social media, just simply nothing. Then Comey just happens along and spots the shells before they can be disturbed by ocean water, a person, or creature that wanders by,

Comey is supposed to be a smart person having earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Chicago Law School, subsequently serving



Andy Kober  
Columnist

in various governmental positions including United States Deputy Attorney General and Director of the FBI, yet in all of his vast experience in the law and the criminal element, Comey remained completely unaware of the meaning regarding the use of 86.

If those coincidences are not enough, here is another one - this was apparently not the first time Comey posted a sea shell message on social media. In 2024 on a beach, perhaps the same beach, we are to believe that an unknown person painted a sea shell blue with the words "Vote Harris". We are further to believe that Comey innocently came upon this sea shell and ... you guessed it ... he took a picture of it and posted it to social media.

It is amazing how many people can walk along a beach and never find a message written in sea shells, yet it happens to Comey twice in the space of two years, with both messages being political and both being anti-Trump. And remember it was Trump who fired Comey from the position of Director of the FBI.

ONE might believe in the occasional coincidence but Comey's interaction with sea shells offering political messages remaining undisturbed until he accidentally stumbled upon them stretches belief well beyond believability.

The philosophical principle known as Occam's Razor suggests that when multiple explanations exist for a phenomenon, the simplest explanation is usually the most accurate.

One can legitimately postulate that both of Comey's interactions with sea shells were staged and now he is trying to deal with the repercussions.

That's my opinion.

Andy Kober can be reached at [andykober@hotmail.com](mailto:andykober@hotmail.com)

## \* Soldier's Ultimate Sacrifice - Life \*

**Greetings and blessings!** On this Memorial Day weekend, many will do everything but respectfully remember and honor those who paid the ultimate sacrifice. They didn't forget us; they served, they fought and they died that we might live, in the land of the free. In all sincerity, I say to the family; be as proud of your courageous soldier as they were proud to serve. Their incredible unwavering sacrifice is immeasurable. In fact, they incredibly served with honor, dignity, valor, leadership and distinction. Their courageous service exemplifies heroism, resilience and perseverance. As said in **2 Timothy**, your soldier, "*Fought a good fight, and kept the course*" and we are so very proud of them. However, I'm an ex-combat Vietnam War Veteran, and now a writer. In fact, this column always touches deep with emotions as my mind flashes back. You see, I've been there, and I've done that but praise God, He held

me, He kept me and He didn't let go. And for that I'm eternal grateful to my Maker, so I proudly write to tell my fellow soldiers stories. Unbelievably, it has been more than 50 years since I was in Vietnam and on Memorial Day, it always seems like yesterday. I was just literally a young man, 19 years old, 12,000 miles away from home, scared, lost and confused. But when duty called, and reality set in, in the jungles, I fought like any other man. Also do know, some soldiers lives wasn't taken in war by the enemy, they gave it (sacrificed it) to save another, fellow soldiers. "*What greater love, that one lay down his life for another.*" (**John 15:13**) And today, more than 20 soldiers a day, too many commits suicide from war related issues, such as PTSD.

More so, I would love to share this special heartfelt prayer that blessed me; Title "*A Prayer for Our Veterans.*" It reads, "*Oh God, Our Heavenly Father, You have*



Pres Hall  
Columnist

*blessed us with brave men and women who are willing to defend our freedom. May Your protection and grace surround them each day. Let Your healing hand be upon those who suffer wounds and injuries. May those who have made the ultimate sacrifice rest forever in Your Holy Presence. Comfort the families who mourn and are left to remember the precious lives of their loved ones. Help us to honor and support them. Let us ever be mindful of each sacrifice made on behalf of the American people by our sons, daughters, husbands, wives, mothers, fathers, and*



*friends. AMEN!"* So then, please remember always as I remind you again that "*Freedom is not free.*" It comes with an immeasurable price and a huge sacrifice." And more so that "*All gave some, some gave all.*" So then, perhaps you too can give or serve in some way to make an impact and difference in someone else's life! However, I proudly salute my fallen comrades! And we certainly thank God and remember all for their selfless service and sacrifice. **Praise God!**

THE TALBOTTON NEW ERA is published weekly by The Georgia Trust for Local News at 3051 Roosevelt Highway, Manchester, Georgia 31816. *The Talbotton New Era* is published proudly for the citizens of Talbot County and its goal is to produce quality, profitable, community oriented newspapers that you, our readers, are proud of. We will reach that goal through hard work, teamwork, loyalty, and a strong dedication toward printing the truth.

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## Bible Thought of the Week

"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

John 15:13

# On Knowing When to Dig a Hole

I'm pretty good at digging holes, both literally and figuratively. I know how to sling a shovel to move some earth around, but I don't know when to shut my mouth in a delicate situation. That's why I sometimes miss the isolation that sometimes accompanies physical labor. But I'm 40 now, getting too old for continual heavy lifting, and more realistically have been confined to a desk in a windowless dungeon for too long.



**Kyle Dominy**  
New Southern Dad

My bones have begun to creak and snap with movement. They've also gained magic powers over the years. My left knee can predict the weather. The elbow on my right side can discern the outcome of elections. I have a wonderful skeleton.

Back in my days of regular shovel swinging, I helped install an irrigation system at a luxury home in a neighborhood I could never hope to afford to live, especially not with an honest job like scooping dirt from the ground. After all the pipes and wires were properly situated, the mundane task of covering the trenches began. To our dismay there was not enough dirt to go around.

This is when I began to understand the lore behind digging with the sign of the moon. Our trenches had obviously been dug on a new moon.

The owner of this fine home, of course, was not happy to see trench lines across their front lawn. The only thing that could be done was bring in more dirt. Which had to be moved across the property via wheelbarrow and shoveled out along the rows and packed down level to the surface. It was a terrible time that made a young me dream of a desk job, of being slouched over a computer in a windowless dungeon all day. Life is a funny thing.

The job ran over budget and beyond schedule, no surprise. Which made everyone irate, especially the owner of the small landscaping firm, who had to deal with

the angry client and moody workers ready to move on from a nightmare of a job.

There is no scientific evidence to back up the claim that the phase of the moon has an impact on the amount of dirt that comes out of a hole. I can't honestly say I've ever paid any attention to the almanac before embarking on a dig, but I've been on both sides of the issue, having excavated pits that can seemingly never be refilled and dug holes that produced an overabundance of soil. It's just further proof that God has a sense of humor.

Digging in the dirt has been on my mind because a friend recently had his mailbox destroyed by a car deviating off course due to a stray dog. Guess who he asked to help install the new one? I could say I'll check with the moon before stabbing at the ground with a shovel, but it's not going to matter.

We'll be setting that sucker in a whole lot of concrete.

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



## May Is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

Submitted by DPH

Although the teen birth rate in the United States has declined in recent years, it is still higher than many other countries. More than 140,000 babies were born to teens between the ages of 15 and 19 in 2023, according to Congress.gov.

Vulnerable youth, those in the child welfare system and juvenile justice system, and homeless youth continue to see high birth rates. "We're fortunate that the birth rates for teens have declined, but we still have a lot of work to do," said Katrisha Williams, Adolescent Health & Youth Development Coordinator for the West Central Health District. "We encourage teens to talk to us, and other trusted people in their lives, to get correct information on birth control and sex, so they can make good choices to prevent pregnancy."

There are several methods of birth control for teens:

- Condoms
- Birth control pills
- Long-acting reversible methods
- IUDs, patch or implant

Pregnancy and birth are significant contributors to high school dropout rates among girls. Approximately 90% of women who do not give birth during adolescence graduate from high school, but only about half of teen mothers receive a high school diploma by the time they are 22 years old.

And parents play a role as well. It's true that teens want to talk to their parents about relationships and sex. Parents can also help their teens understand what constitutes a healthy relationship. Research shows that teens who talk with their parents about sex, relationships, birth control, and pregnancy:

- Begin to have sex at later age.
- Use condoms and birth control more often if they do have sex.
- Have better communication with romantic partners.
- Have sex less often.

The West Central Health District works closely with school districts, faith-based organizations, community-based organizations, the judicial system, and summer camps to provide a safe space for teens to learn about healthy relationships and preventing risky behaviors. Abstinence counseling is also an important part of the services provided. All appointments are confidential for reproductive health services. Other services offered are pregnancy testing, STD evaluation, Healthy Lifestyle counseling, HIV counseling and testing, and referrals for various health issues. All teens, males and females through age 18, with some form of identification may be seen. Immunizations (Hepatitis A & B and HPV) are available also.

For more information on programs for teens, and to find your local health department, visit [www.westcentral-healthdistrict.com](http://www.westcentral-healthdistrict.com), or call 833-337-1749.



## For The Services You Need!

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File Photo

**MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE SCHEDULED IN MANCHESTER** - A special Memorial Day event has been planned in the City of Manchester to honor American service men and women who fell in the line of duty. The event will be held at the Manchester Mill located at 117 Callaway Street on Monday, May 26 at 11 a.m. The Memorial Day tribute will be sponsored by the Rotary Club of Meriwether County, the Kiwanis Club, the Lions Club, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs. The event is open to the public, and a reception will be held immediately following the ceremony.

## The "Lighter Side" of the News

### Caring for a Cub

Workers at a California wildlife center donned bear costumes to feed and care for a 2-month-old black bear cub.

The San Diego Humane Society said the cub, the youngest bear to ever be a patient at the Ramona Wildlife Center, was found wandering solo at the Los Padres National Forest on April 12 and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife was unable to locate its mother to facilitate a reunion.

"He arrived weak and underweight, but thanks to round-the-clock feedings, expert medical care and some serious bear-y good dedication from our Project Wildlife team, he's now stable and thriving," the humane society said on social media. The post included a video of the bear being cared for by team members in bear costumes. The center said the employees "mimic maternal behaviors and keep the bear from bonding with humans."

The goal is to eventually return the bear to the wild once it is old enough to survive on its own.

"If another orphaned cub enters care elsewhere in

California, CDFW may try to pair them to help keep them wild and avoid human imprinting," officials wrote.

### No Joke

A Detroit man said he initially thought he was being pranked when he discovered he had won a lottery prize of \$25,000 a year for life.

Micale Garland told Michigan Lottery officials he bought his ticket for the April 28 Lucky for Life drawing online.

"I have been playing Lucky For Life for a few years and I always buy my tickets online," Garland said. "When I saw the email from the lottery about claiming a prize, I logged into my account and thought I was being pranked when I saw my account balance. It wasn't until I called the lottery and confirmed the prize with them that I believed I'd really won. It still feels like I'm living in a dream!"

Garland said some of his winnings will go toward taking a trip and the rest will go into savings.

### The Naked Truth

A South Carolina resort says it already has a record

161 people signed up to run an annual 5k race with an unusual twist: it's clothing-optional.

The Carolina Foothills Resort, a nudist resort in Spartanburg County, said this year's Buck Creek Streak 5k already has a record high number of people registered for the June 14 race.

"You can go anywhere and do a 5k, but you can't go anywhere and run a 5k naked," Tom Crowder, who sits on the resort's board of directors, told The Post and Courier newspaper. "If you go to the turkey trot and drop your drawers, you're probably gonna be arrested."

This year's race offers an option to "go the extra mile" and run 7.3k in honor of race founder Mike Ward, who died at the age of 73 in 2017. People who register for the 7.3k will also be eligible to win the 5k, organizers said.

"A lot of people will come here for the first time during the 5k, which to me is pretty bold to come here for the first time and have that many people around," Crowder said. "But a lot of people will come back after that first visit because they'll have such a great time."

# NEW ERA PUBLIC NOTICES

## HOW TO PLACE A LEGAL NOTICE

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

## DEADLINES FOR LEGAL NOTICES

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

## COSTS FOR LEGAL NOTICES

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

### Debtors & Creditors Notice

### Probate Notices

25-047

25-041  
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS  
TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA

IN RE: JOSEPH WILEY CUNNINGHAM

All creditors of the Estate of JOSEPH WILEY CUNNINGHAM late of Talbot County are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all person indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

This 24th day of April 2025.  
THE CYNTHIA A CUNNINGHAM  
5444 COLUMBUS HWY.  
BOX SPRINGS, GA. 31801

Administrator (s) of the Estate of JOSEPH WILEY CUNNINGHAM Deceased

(5:1, 8, 15, 22)

25-049  
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TALBOT COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF LESTER BENJAMIN WHITEHEAD, DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 2025-P-19  
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

SHIRLEY WHITEHEAD has petitioned to be appointed Administrator(s) of the estate LESTER BENJAMIN WHITEHEAD deceased, of said County. (The Petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said Petition should not be granted. All objections to the Petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before JUNE 9, 2025.

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

SHATARA POWELL  
Judge of the Probate Court  
By: DENISE M GRIER  
Chief Clerk of Probate Court  
PO BOX 157  
TALBOTTON, GA 31827  
706-665-8866

(5:15, 22, 29, 6:5)

25-048  
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS  
TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF CHRISTOPHER NEAL, DECEASED

All creditors of the Estate of CHRISTOPHER NEAL, late of Talbot County are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all person indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

This 7th day of May 2025.  
KATHY SUE NEAL  
112 MAXWELL RD.  
TALBOTTON, GEORGIA 31827

Administrator (s) of the Estate of CHRISTOPHER NEAL, Deceased

(5:15, 22, 29, 6:5)

25-045  
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS  
TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF DEBORAH LORRAINE BUNKLEY

All creditors of the Estate of DEBORAH LORRAINE BUNKLEY, late of Talbot County are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all person indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

This 2nd day of May 2025.  
Ebbin J. Bunkley  
115 Dozier Street  
Talbotton, Georgia 31827

Mailing Address: P.O. Box  
Talbotton, Georgia 31827  
Administrator (s) of the Estate of DEBORAH LORRAINE BUNKLEY Deceased

(5:8, 15, 22, 29)

25-042  
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TALBOT COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF PAUL M. BULLOCH, DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 2023-P-21  
NOTICE OF PETITION

TO FILE FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT  
The petition of PAMELA O. BULLOCH, for a year's support from the estate PAUL M. BULLOCH, deceased, for decedent's (surviving spouse) (and) (minor child(ren)), having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any they have, on or before JUNE 2, 2025, why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact Probate Court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be (scheduled at a later date). If no objections are filed the petition may be granted without a hearing.

SHATARA POWELL  
Judge of the Probate Court  
By: DENISE GRIER  
Clerk of the Probate Court  
PO BOX 157  
TALBOTTON, GA 31827  
706-665-8866

(5:8, 15, 22, 29)

25-047  
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TALBOT COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF PAUL M. BULLOCH, SR. DECEASED

ESTATE NUMBER: 2025-P-13  
NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

The petition of PAMELA OLIVER BULLOCH, for a year's support from the estate of PAUL M. BULLOCH, SR. deceased, for decedent's (surviving spouse) having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any they have, on or before JUNE 9, 2025, why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed the petition may be granted without a hearing.

SHATARA POWELL  
Judge of the Probate Court  
By: SHATARA POWELL  
Judge of the Probate Court  
PO BOX 157  
TALBOTTON, GA 31827  
706-665-8866

(5:15, 22, 29, 6:5)

25-043  
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TALBOT COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF MILEAGE LEE HESTER, DECEASED

PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: Whom It May Concern:  
GARY DEAN HESTER has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of MILEAGE LEE HESTER, Deceased, of said County. The Petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261. All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said Petition should not be granted. All objections to the Petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before June 3, 2025. BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the Petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a Notary Public or before a Probate Court Clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact Probate Court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the Petition may be granted without a hearing.

/s/ Shatara Powell  
Shatara Powell  
Judge of Probate Court  
26 S Washington Avenue  
Talbotton, GA 31827  
By: /s/ Denise Grier  
Clerk of the Probate Court  
26 S Washington Avenue  
Talbotton, GA 31827

(5:8, 15, 22, 29)

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## GARAGE/YARD AND ESTATE SALES

MANCHESTER SENIOR Center will hold a Yard Sale on Saturday, June 7, from 8 am to 2 pm. The sale will be at 121 Perry Street in Manchester. All proceeds will go towards the Manchester Senior Center Program. 06:05

25-044  
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS  
TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA

In Re: The Estate of MELVIN D. LAMB  
All creditors of the Estate of MELVIN D. LAMB, late of Talbot County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

This 2nd day of April, 2025.  
JOY L. LAMB  
690 Oak Grove Road  
Talbotton, Georgia 31827  
Administer of the estate of MELVIN D. LAMB, Deceased

(5:8, 15, 22, 29)

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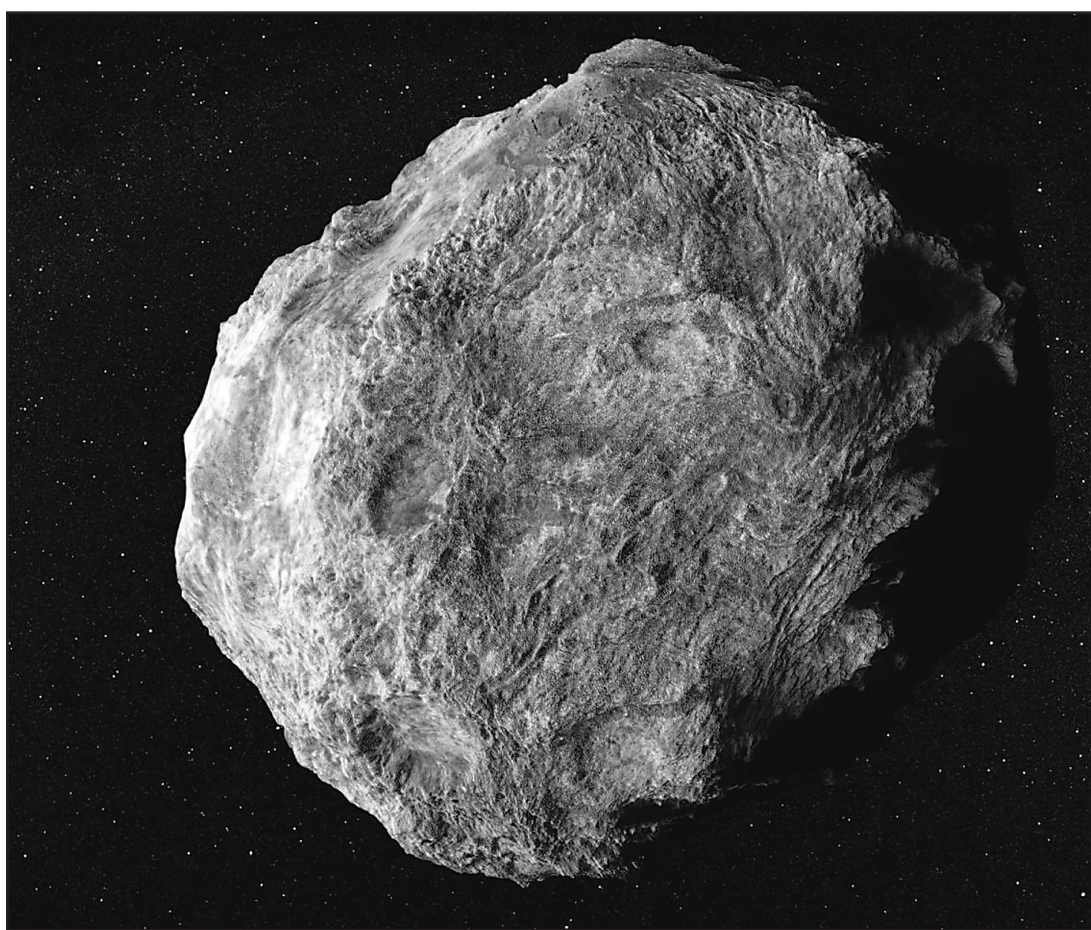


Photo Courtesy NASA

**SMALL BODY, BIG RESULTS** - Three asteroids that pose a potential threat to Earth are roughly 1/2-mile in diameter or less. While an impact from such an asteroid would be unlikely to cause an extinction level event, it would likely result in catastrophic death and destruction in a regional area. Finding these threats is why NASA agencies continuously scan space to provide a warning in time to deflect the orbit of such an asteroid.

## Looking for Three Small Asteroids

By ANDY KOBER

The threat of an asteroid striking the Earth is very real.

Operated by a section of NASA, the Sentry program continuously conducts analyses of projected future orbits of Near Earth Asteroids that could pose such a threat. Among those are five candidates whose orbits are not only carefully watched, but their orbits constantly updated as well. Those five asteroids are: 1) 101955 Bennu or 1999 RQ36, 2) 29075 or 1950 DA, 3) 2023 TL4, 4) 2007 FT3, and 5) 1979 XB.

This column has previously noted Bennu and 1950 DA, and now we look at the remaining three.

2023 TL4, which does not yet carry a name, was just discovered in 2023. It is about a 1/4-mile in rough diameter with a mass of an estimated 47 million tons. Limited information about the asteroid was gathered over a period of 11 days in October 2023 before 2023 TL4 continued its lonely trek in space. It is coming back though and astronomers report it has a 1 in 181,000 chance of striking Earth in October 2119, which provides time for the scientific community and space agencies time make an effort at shifting the orbit of 2023 TL4 if such is needed.

A lost asteroid, 2007 FT3,



is also cause for concern. It has not been spotted by astronomers since 2007, but based on the orbit observed it is forecast to pass close to Earth in March 2030, with a 1 in 10 million chance of hitting our planet.

Like 2023 TL4, 2007 FT3 is about a 1/4-mile in rough diameter, and damage estimates would be similar.

The final asteroid in the group is 1979 XB. It was first spotted in December 1979, and has not been seen again.

Asteroid 1979 XB is a bit larger, about a 1/2-mile in rough diameter and based on observations made in 1979, could come close to Earth in December 2113. Damage estimates from a strike are significantly greater than a strike from 2023 TL4 or 2007 FT3, but not an extinction level catastrophe.

A scenario of any one of these three asteroids slamming into the Earth would not cause a widespread extinction event, but it could cause an alarming amount of regional death and destruction, not to mention impacts to the climate.

NASA's Sentry program and CNEOS programs are constantly scanning space

for threats to Earth.

The night of May 26, the Moon will be in New Moon phase. Provided skies are clear, the lack of reflected light from the Moon could provide an excellent opportunity to view the stars and planets overhead.

Exceptionally bright or long-lasting meteors that flash across the sky are often referred to as fireballs.

On Saturday, May. 17, 13 people saw a fireball that appeared over Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

The fireball was first reported at 8:55 pm by a skywatcher in Holly Springs, NC. It was seen as far north as the Tennessee-Kentucky state line, as far east as Holly Springs, NC, as far south as Savannah, GA, and as far west as Lyons, GA. The fireball appeared to be moving from east to west and described as having a very long tail of burning debris.

There were no reports of the fireball making any sound but one skywatcher witnessed it explode into smaller fragments.

Anyone seeing a fireball is urged to report the sighting to <https://amsmeteors.org>

# This Week in History

## 1923 - Actor James Arness is Born

By ANDY KOBER

Here is what happened this week in American History.

• **May 21.** On this day in 1934, the city of Oskaloosa, Iowa, fingerprinted all of its citizens, the first municipality to do so. There is no record of any other US city requiring such action.

• **May 22.** In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson begins the Great Society programs, an effort to eliminate poverty, reduce racial injustice, and expand social welfare. While advancements were made in dealing with racial injustice, poverty has never been eliminated and social welfare expenditures grew astronomically with little to nothing accomplished. Economist Thomas Sowell largely blames Great Society initiatives on destruction of the black nuclear family with high incidents of single mother families leading to poorer outcomes for black children.

• **May 23.** Today in 2013, a semi-truck struck an overhead beam on the I-5 Interstate bridge spanning the Skagit River between Mount Vernon and Burlington, Washington. That section of the bridge collapses causing two vehicles to fall into the river. The three people in the two cars were quickly rescued.

• **May 24.** On this day in 1626, America is not yet a country when Peter Minuit, a native of Germany, working on behalf of the Dutch West India Company, purchases Manhattan Island from the Lenape tribe of Native Americans. Manhattan then becomes known as New Amsterdam, home of New Netherland. In 1664, the English take over and rename the area New York.

• **May 25.** In 1933, *The Three Little Pigs* cartoon, produced by The Walt Disney Company, premieres at Radio City Music Hall in New York.



File Photo

**STEELY EYES OF THE LAW** - James Arness, known as Marshal Matt Dillon of Dodge City in the popular television series *Gunslinger*, was born this week in 1923. Fans of the television show will remember that Arness often had a pronounced limp. The limp was real, caused by serious injuries Arness received during the Battle of Anzio in World War II.

The cartoon proves a huge financial hit and wins the 1934 Academy Award for Best Animated Short Film. The film features a song that has gone down in uniquely American History, "Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?"

• **May 26.** Today in 1923, James King Arness is born in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The family name had actually been Aurness, but was changed by his grandfather. Aurness served in the US Army and suffered severe injuries during the Battle of Anzio, suffering from those injuries the rest of his life. While working in radio, Aurness made his way to Hollywood determined to work in films. It would be RKO that changed his last name to

Arness. He was featured in a number of genres but found his place in westerns and it would be John Wayne who recommended Arness for the role of Marshal Matt Dillon in the hit television series *Gunslinger* which aired for 20 seasons with 635 episodes. After *Gunslinger* ended, Arness performed in other roles featuring western or frontier themes. Arness died in June 2011, at the age of 88.

• **May 27.** On this day in 1927, the Ford Motor Company officially stops production of the Ford Model T, and begins retooling plants to manufacture the Ford Model A. The Ford Model T was produced over a period of 19 years with over 15 million being sold.

### Did You Know This About Ice Cream?

Ice cream is a wildly popular dessert, with an estimated 15.4 billion liters of ice cream consumed each year around the world, according to the World Atlas. New Zealand consumes more ice cream than any other country, followed by the United States. When it comes to ice cream flavors, the International Dairy Foods Association says vanilla is still America's favorite flavor, followed by the others of the "Big Three": chocolate and strawberry. Butter pecan and cookie dough round out the top five flavors in the United States. Forty-six countries choose vanilla over other options according to research conducted by Premier Inn.

## FDR State Park Offering Fun Programs

By ANDY KOBER

F.D. Roosevelt State Park is hosting family friendly events including:

• **Saturday, May 24, 1 pm.** Cool Pool Summer Splash Celebration. Enjoy music, games, and pool side activities for the entire family. Local DJ playing summer favorites. Pool opens at 11 am. Regular pool admission. Refreshments available at additional cost.

• **Saturday, May 31, 7:30 am.** Sunrise Yoga on the Mountain. Alignment-based yoga practice with instructor Monique French. Fee of \$10 per person. Bring a mat. Meet at the stone amphitheater next to the park office. Plan to arrive by 7:15. Restrooms open at 8 am. Class held weather permitting.

For more information about programs at the state park, call 706-663-4858. A \$5 parking fee applies to most of the programs.

FD Roosevelt State Park is located in Pine Mountain.



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## CITY OF WOODLAND LEGAL NOTICE

**Attention Woodland Residents:** The City of Woodland strives to ensure our community remains safe, clean, and welcoming for everyone! We urge all residents and property owners to take the time to inspect and clean up their properties. This includes, but is not limited to:

- **Removal of junk, debris, and inoperable vehicles.**
- **Mowing overgrown vegetation (grass, weeds, bushes, and trees).**
- **Proper storage of trash.**
- **Repairing or removing unsafe or dilapidated structures.**
- **Maintaining general upkeep to avoid blight conditions.**

Your cooperation helps Woodland stay vibrant!

The **City of Woodland** officially has a **Code Enforcement Officer** who will conduct inspections and issue notices to properties not in compliance. Noncompliance may result in penalties as outlined in city regulations.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact:  
**Woodland City Hall - 49 E Main St. - Woodland, GA 31836**  
**(706)674-2200 - [cityofwoodland2014@gmail.com](mailto:cityofwoodland2014@gmail.com)**

*The Woodland City Council thanks you for your attention. Together, we make Woodland shine!*