

THE TALBOTTON NEW ERA

Serving the people of Talbot County since 1879

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THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2026

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Submitted Photo

FORMER SUPERINTENDENT CATRETT HONORED - The Central Elementary-High School sports complex has been named the Dr. James “Jack” Franklin Catrett, III Sport Complex in his honor. Catrett served the school system as superintendent for almost 14 years before retiring. Pictured left to right are: current Superintendent Jonathan Taylor, Dorothy Bass, Joy Andrews, Keniece Adams, Martha Catrett, Dr. Jack Catrett, Brenda Walker, and Cynthia Epps.

Sports Complex Named in Honor Of Retired Superintendent Catrett

By VICTORIA KIRKPATRICK

On Tuesday, Apr. 21 the Talbot Board of Education, Central Elementary-High School administration and staff dedicated the sports complex located on Tyler Street to former superintendent Dr. Jack Catrett.

Their sports complex was named the Dr. James “Jack” Franklin Catrett, III Complex to honor Dr. Jack Catrett, for his 13 years of hard work and dedication to the students and community of Talbot County and its school district.

The Talbot County Board of Education members, Central Elementary-High School administration and staff and other associates shared fond memories shared by them with Catrett and praised his hard work and dedication.

When he first came to the Talbot School District he raised the graduation rate from below 20% to a astonishing 84.5% - 96% graduation rate.

Students and staff shared their love for him and praised him for his commitment to the school system and its stu-

dents. Many thanked him for his demonstrated act of kindness and leadership provided and noted the sport complex is a place where character, team work and pride would be built and where the community would benefit there for many years to come.

The sports complex was one of many accomplishments by Dr. Catrett during his tenure with the School District.

This was the School System’s, and community’s, way of saying thank you Dr. Jack Catrett.

Community Input Sought By Schools

Submitted to NEW ERA

The Talbot County School District is launching a strategic planning process and is seeking input from citizens, staff, parents, students, and civic leaders.

“Community feedback will play a vital role in shaping a plan that reflects the priorities and aspirations of the district and its stakeholders,” said Superintendent Jonathan Taylor.

There will be two opportunities for the community to share input. The first will be an in-person planning session

What: Planning Session
When: Thursday, April 30
Time: 4 to 6 p.m.
Place: CEHS Cafeteria

scheduled for Thursday, Apr. 30 from 4 to 6 p.m. in the CEHS Cafeteria. Citizens, staff, parents, and students are invited to participate in a group discussion focused on identifying priorities and opportunities for the future of the district.

For those unable to attend the in-person meeting, an online survey will also be available. A link to the sur-

vey will be posted on the district website, www.talbot.k12.ga.us, the day following the meeting.

All community input gathered through both opportunities will be reviewed by a planning team composed of school staff and community members. This team will use the feedback to help develop the district’s vision, mission, beliefs, and strategic goals.

“It is critical to have as many voices at the table as possible so that our strategic plan will truly represent all of our district’s stakeholders,” Taylor said.

Health Department Event Set for May 2

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

The Talbot County Health Department is holding a “Spring into Good Health” event on Saturday, May 2 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The event will offer free services for the families of Talbot County. Some of the

free services will include:

- Blood pressure checks
 - HIV Testing
 - Immunization Information
- There will also be free information about family and community resources to include:
- WIC services
 - the Children First

Program

- Talbot County Fire Departments and more.

There will also be free wellness bags for participants and free hot dogs.

The Talbot County Health Department is located at 1073 Woodland Highway in Talbotton.



Photo Submitted

CORONER SPEAKS TO LIONS - The Talbotton Police Department is very active in the community and always willing to take the time to help. Officer Ornella Moses, (pictured above) is shown speaking to young female students about the importance of not succumbing to peer pressure. The Talbotton Police Department would like to thank you Robin Stevenson with the Talbot County Recreation Department for inviting an officer to speak to the youth at the Recreation Center.

Early Voting Ends on Friday, May 15

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

The Talbot County Board of Elections and Registration has announced that the Early Voting hours have changed for the May 19 General Primary/Non-Partisan Election.

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

Early Voting began on Monday, Apr. 27 and will end on Friday, May 15.

The Early Voting dates and times are as follows:

Monday, Apr. 27 through Friday, May 1 from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Saturday, May 2 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Monday, May 4 through Friday, May 8 from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Saturday, May 9 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Monday, May 11 through Friday, May 15 from 8:30

a.m. until 5 p.m.

Absentee By Mail ballot applications can be requested via e-mail to: elections-registration@talbotcounty-ga.org and online at

mvp.sos.ga.gov. Ballots can also be picked up at the Board of Elections & Registration office or by calling 706 665-8270 to request an application.



Photo Submitted

REPRESENTING CENTRAL HIGH FFA - Central High School was proudly represented at the 98th Georgia FFA State Convention in Macon by students (pictured left to right) Khynedi Willis, Jhi'Mez Hillis, and Darruana Leonard, who attended as official delegates. As delegates, these students participated in this important statewide event, helping shape the future of FFA while gaining valuable leadership experience and connecting with fellow members from across the state. They were accompanied by their advisor, Ja'Meisha Williams, whose continued dedication and guidance help empower our students on their leadership journey. Central High School is proud of these students for representing our school and community with excellence at this prestigious event.

A Word About New Era Deadlines

The normal deadlines for items for the *Talbotton New Era* are:

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.

These are *firm* deadlines. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

CEHS to Hold Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

Central Elementary-High School (CEHS) has announced dates and times for Pre-K and Kindergarten registration for students who are new to the system.

The last registration date will be May 13 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The following items will be needed to register a student for Pre-K: a birth cer-

What: Registration for Pre-K and Kindergarten
When: Wednesday, May 13
Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

tificate; ear, eye and dental records; a Social Security card; an immunization certificate; a picture ID; proof of residency (utility bill); proof of income and proof

of insurance (medicaid, private insurance, Peachcare or Wellcare).

To register a student for Kindergarten the following items will be needed: a birth certificate; ear, eye and dental records; a Social Security card; and an immunization certificate.

Please note that all documents are required to register a child.

CEHS Does Well in Regional Track Meet

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

Members of the Central Elementary-High School track team traveled to Albany last week to compete in the Region 6-D2 regional track meet held at Hugh Mills Stadium and both teams finished in the top 10.

Below are the results for the team and the individuals who participated at the meet:

Brannon Bussey

First place in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 15.73, third place in the boy’s high jump competition with a jump of 5-6 and third place in the boy’s long jump competition with a jump of 20-1.5.

Darruana Leonard



Second place in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 19.56.

Madison Daniel

Third place in the girl’s shot put competition with a throw



of 26.7. Overall, the Central boys collected 30 points and finished in seventh place and the girls collected 21 points and finished is sixth place.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE OF THE NEW ERA



Jamie Huff Appointed To Committee



CEHS Track & Field team advances to Sectionals



2026 Lawn & Garden Special Section



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Things to Do In and Around Talbot County This Week

Pastor Anniversary

Mt. Airy Baptist Church will be celebrating the 17th Pastoral Anniversary of Rev. Cleo and Lady Patricia Smith on May 3. The guest speakers for the event will be Rev. Brent Terry for the 11:30 a.m. service and Rev. Bruce Alford for the 2 p.m. service. Everyone is invited to come

out and help honor rev. Cleo and Lady Patricia Smith.

BOC to Meet

The Talbot County Board of Commissioners will meet on Monday, May 4 at 6 p.m. for its regular scheduled monthly meeting. The meeting will be held at the Commissioner's Office

located at 35 West Madison Street in Talbotton.

Homecoming

Evans Chapel located at 3436 Chalybeate Springs Road in Woodland will hold homecoming service on May 3. Guest speaker for the event will be Rev. Henry Wilson Kendrick, Jr. and

special music will be provided by Power. Fellowship will follow the singing and there will be a great meal afterward.

Revival Services

You are invited to revival services at Bethlehem Baptist Church located at 1080 Bethlehem Church Road in Pine Mountain Valley on Wednesday, May 13 through Saturday, May 17. Service will begin each night at 6:30 p.m. Evangelist Ron Coram will bring the word and David and Susie McMillan will lead the music. A nursery will be provided each night. On Sunday, join the church family as they celebrate homecoming beginning at 10:30 a.m. followed by dinner on the grounds.

Alumni Banquet

The Talbot County Schools Alumni Association Scholarship Banquet will be held on Saturday June 13 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Double Tree by Hilton located at 5351 Sidney Simons Blvd; in Columbus. The cost of the event is \$75 per person. This year's quest speaker will be Dr. Terrance Ferguson from the TV Show Critter Fixer (class of 1987). You may pay by Cash App: \$talbotcsaa2024 or pay by mail and please make checks or money orders payable to Talbot County Schools Alumni Association and send to P.O. Box 364 Talbotton, Ga 31827. If you have any questions please contact Leticia Cook at 706.326.0099.

Outreach Program

Fishing For Youth of America was founded in memory of Richard Nash's mother and father. The program provides fishing supplies for our youth. It is the hope of FFYA to encourage our youth to fish and do other wholesome activities and to stay away from drugs, guns, gangs and violence. If we can get our youth to appreciate the outdoors they make better young people. If you know of a child or grandchild that could benefit from this program we would love to hear from you. It's also a program that benefits children that would otherwise not get anything for Christmas. If anyone would like to support this cause you can give in Honor or in Memory of someone. For more information on how you can be a part of this much needed outreach you may call Richard 478-998-2996.

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 GAHWY 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.

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.

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 and do what the church can to help. Christ the King's Outreach Ministry office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Appointments can be made by calling the Ministry 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.

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 has problems or needs help with utility bills or more, 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.

How to Submit Items

The Talbotton New Era gladly prints items of interest for the community as well as local church news and events by non-profit organizations. Please note the deadline for items for the community and church events section of the newspaper 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 items sent as pdf files are accepted. Please email items as an attached on a Word document or as email body copy. Jpegs, pdfs, etc. can not be used by the newspaper for news copy. Please 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. Such photographs do not work well. Please note the newspaper reserves the right to edit or reject any submission to the newspaper.

TALBOT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA FY 2026 LMIG FOR ROADWAY RESURFACING ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

PART 1 GENERAL

1.01. COMPETITIVE COST SEALED BIDS

Sealed Bids for the construction of the **FY 2026 LMIG for Roadway Resurfacing** will be received, by **Talbot County Board of Commissioners, at 35 West Madison Street, Talbotton, GA 31827, until 11:15 AM, Friday, May 29, 2026**, local time, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. No bid may be withdrawn after the closing time for receipt of bids for a period of sixty (60) days.

1.02. CONTRACTOR LICENSE

Any Contractor submitting a bid must be a pre-qualified Georgia Department of Transportation Contractor. License numbers must be written on the face of the bid envelope. No bid will be opened unless the license number is clearly shown. See Instructions to Bidders for additional bidding requirements.

1.03. SCOPE OF WORK

The work to be done shall consist of furnishing all labor, materials and equipment necessary to construct the proposed **FY 2026 LMIG for Roadway Resurfacing** as shown on the construction drawings. In general, construction consists of resurfacing, patching, full depth reclamation, and striping of approximately 3.10 miles of roadway (9 locations) and all associated measures for the complete project. Time allotted for completion of work is **120** consecutive calendar days to substantial completion. Work shall be complete and ready for contract close-out with **134** consecutive calendar days. All work shall be completed in accordance with the specifications. The work will be awarded in **one (1) Contract**.

1.04. PLANS AND BIDDING DOCUMENTS

Copies of Bidding Documents for bidding purposes can be obtained from Watkins & Associates, L.L.C., 1606 Whiddon Mill Road, Tifton, Georgia 31793, Phone: (229) 388-8823, (Office of the Engineer) upon payment of \$300.00 for each set (non-refundable). Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Talbot County Board of Commissioners, located at 35 West Madison Street, Talbotton, GA 31827 or at Watkins & Associates, LLC on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 8 A.M. and 5 P.M. Upon request and receipt of the document payment indicated above, Watkins & Associates, LLC will transmit the Bidding Documents via delivery service. The date that the Bidding Documents are transmitted will be considered the prospective Bidder's date of receipt of the Bidding Documents. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Engineer. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Office of the Engineer.

1.05. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

Plan holders list, addenda and bid results are available at www.watkinseng.com.

1.06. PREQUALIFICATION OF BIDDERS

Prequalification may be required of Bidders prior to the award of contract. At the Owner's request, detailed written evidence such as financial data, bonding capacity, previous experience, present commitments, and other such data may be necessary to assist Owner in determining Contractor's qualifications shall be provided per the Instructions to Bidders contained in the contract documents.

1.07. BONDS

All bid forms must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified cashier's check in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount bid. All bonds shall be by a surety company licensed in Georgia with "A" minimum rating performance and financial strength of at least five (5) times the contract price as listed in the most current publication of "Best's Key Rating Guide Property Liability". The successful bidder, if awarded the Contract, will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Payment Bond, each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the Contract amount. All bonds must appear on the Treasury Department's most current Circular 570 Listing. Each Bond shall be accompanied by a "Power of Attorney" authorizing the attorney-in-fact to bind the surety and certified to include the date of the bond.

1.08. PERMITS

All anticipated federal, state, or local permits required for the project have been applied for and are expected to be approved prior to issuance of the Notice to Proceed.

1.09. GEORGIA SECURITY AND IMMIGRATION COMPLIANCE ACT AFFIDAVIT

All qualifying Contractors and Subcontractors performing work with the **Talbot County Board of Commissioners** must register and participate in the federal work authorization program commonly known as E-Verify, or any subsequent replacement program, to verify the work eligibility information of new employees. In order for a Bid to be considered, it is mandatory that the Bidder's Affidavit of Compliance with O.C.G.A. §13-10-91 be completed and submitted with the Bid.

1.10. FUNDING SOURCES

Any Contract or Contracts awarded under this Advertisement for Bids will be funded by a grant from the Georgia Department of Transportation and Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant (LMIG) and local funds.

1.11. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, including without limitation, the rights to reject any or all nonconforming, nonresponsive, unbalanced, or conditional Bids and to reject the Bid of any Bidder if Owner believes that it would not be in the best interest of the Project to make an award to that Bidder, whether because the Bid is not responsive or the Bidder is unqualified or of doubtful financial ability or fails to meet any other pertinent standard or criteria established by the Owner. Owner reserves the right to waive informalities and to re-advertise.

Owner: Talbot County Board of Commissioners
By: Carol Ison
Title: County Manager
Date: April 30, 2026
May 14, 2026

SPORTS TIME

WORD SEARCH

O A C H H B V H D P N B H E E L F O N
 B M G Y Q I Q E P O E M I T R E V O Y
 O V S H P G F A I T O P G H U P L A L
 E P T T F E U T D D O D L A G I V Q M
 S A V E N S I Q A G G L M A G H L S H
 N H G S D T C E T E D F I L G S Q I I
 P D E U E T T O P G D O F F E N S E R
 A T U P E V N T R Y M N A L S O Y E M
 F T M R R R O E O E R C R H T I M T Y
 N O N T A S N F N U B Y V G I P U A L
 C U D G L N A U D O R O B D L M Q M T
 V N U L F R C I R E P N A A M A I M R
 Q O I H P U E E Q H M P A R C H O A O
 G R N L Y T F U B S T O O M D C N E P
 D O V O E E I F G F V S N C E U M T H
 T S F L R P V I C T O R Y I G N V G Y
 A R H E M F I T N E S S B F S P T O O
 U T E E A V G N I N I A R T U R I C A
 A I N R S T A D I U M V L E N L Q T T
 C T Y H I R O S T E R D A V I A C E C

WORDS

- ATHLETE
- CHAMPIONSHIP
- COACH
- COMPETITION
- DEFENSE
- DRILLS
- ENDURANCE
- EQUIPMENT
- FITNESS
- HALFTIME
- LEAGUE
- MVP
- OFFENSE
- OPPONENT
- OVERTIME
- REFEREE
- ROSTER
- SCOREBOARD
- STADIUM
- TEAMMATE
- TOURNAMENT
- TRAINING
- TROPHY
- VICTORY

Word Search answers can be found on Page 8-A.

Chief of Police – Town of Pine Mountain

The Town of Pine Mountain, Georgia is seeking a highly qualified police professional for the position of Chief of Police. This position focuses on the administrative, professional, and managerial duties attendant to planning and directing the operation of the Police Department including, but not limited to, Patrol, Criminal Investigations, and Communications.

Qualified candidates should have education, training, and experience commensurate with the position. Successful applicants must possess demonstrated leadership skills; demonstrated ability to maintain positive professional relationships both internally and with external constituencies; demonstrated skills in building and maintaining positive community relations; extensive experience in police management, knowledge of laws, ordinances, and policies – specifically those related to municipal law enforcement; experience with budget development and management; development and administration of policies and procedures. Among other requirements, the successful candidate must complete 60 hours of state-mandated new chief's school; must be 21 years of age or older; must have no record of any felony convictions; must have a valid State of Georgia driver's license; a satisfactory Motor Vehicle Record; and pass a pre-employment physical examination including drug screening.

Please mail or hand-deliver resumes to:

Town of Pine Mountain
Attn: Mary Ruth Mullins, Mayor
PO Box 8
Pine Mountain, Georgia 31822

Application must be received on or before May 22, 2026

Did You Know... by Jack Bagley

Was the execution of a British villain botched, but gone through with anyway?



By JACK BAGLEY
didyouknowcolumn@gmail.com

May day! May day!
No, I'm not signaling distress. I'm simply noting that this week we move on to the fifth month of the year, and the first day is - you guessed it - May day.

Later in the month we get Cinco de Mayo (5th), Mother's Day (10th), and Memorial Day (25th). Busy month, eh?

Of course, every week there's this silly trivia column thing that you find in the newspaper, so if the upcoming holiday events aren't exactly causing you to have tingles of excitement, perhaps the trivia will. I kind of hope so, anyway.
Enjoy!

Did you know ...

... the star of a classic monster movie had to be lied to in order for her to accept the role? While pre-production of 1933's iconic *King Kong* was underway, director Merian Cooper (1893-1973) convinced actress Fay Wray (1907-2004) to star in the film by promising her "the tallest, darkest leading man in Hollywood." Wray was convinced she'd be paired with someone like Cary Grant (1904-1986) but when she arrived on the set, Cooper pointed to the giant ape and said it was the "tallest, darkest leading man in Hollywood." (Well, he wasn't exactly wrong, you know.)

... a popular children's literature character debuted under a different name in the United Kingdom? When the first book in the *Curious George* series by H.A. Rey (1898-1977) came out in the U.K. in 1941, the mischievous monkey was renamed Zozo. Why? Because it was felt there was a level of disrespect with the monkey sharing the name of the country's King, George VI (1895-1952). (I doubt His Majesty really would have minded.)

... the Viking Age lasted a bit over 275 years? Historians say the Viking Age - the period of time during which Scandinavian seafarers roamed the coastlines of Europe, plundering and conquering - began about 790 AD. It came to an end in 1066, when William I (1028-1087), Duke of Normandy, was crowned King of England. (I'm not sure why a French nobleman taking over England ended the Viking age, but there you are.)

... a liquid exists which can be breathed? Called perflourohexane, animals submerged in the liquid are able to survive without drowning. The liquid has sufficient oxygen in it for respiration to continue, but research is still going on concerning its use with humans beyond temporary "partial liquid ventilation." The liquid is used to treat burn victims, whose lungs can be filled with perflourohexane while burned lung tissue heals. Pulmonary edema has been shown to be suppressed by the liquid, scientists say. (I think I saw that in a movie.)

... one of England's most celebrated bad men had his execution botched - but they

went ahead with it anyway? Guy Fawkes (1570-1606) was sentenced to death for his role in the Gunpowder Plot, an attempt to blow up Parliament and assassinate King James I (1566-1625). Fawkes was, in fact, sentenced to be hung, drawn, and quartered - a particularly painful and messy way to die. But Fawkes got the last word, escaping from the guards and jumping from the gallows. He managed to break his neck on landing, but the executioners decided to do their jobs anyway. They couldn't do the hanging, of course, but they did do the drawing and quartering, cutting Fawkes' corpse into four pieces and sending them to the four corners of the kingdom as a warning not to do stuff like he did. (I guess it worked - it hasn't happened since.)

... alcohol was available by prescription during Prohibition? During the period from 1920-1933, the manufacture, sale or consumption of alcohol was forbidden under the terms of the Eighteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. But the U.S. Department of the Treasury authorized physicians to write prescriptions for "medicinal" alcohol. While Prohibition was the law of the land, doctors would advise their patients to take doses of booze to stave off a number of ailments, including cancer, indigestion, and depression. (Clever. Very, very clever.)

... a woman once claimed that her chicken laid eggs prophesying the end of the world? In 1806, Mary Bateman (1768-1809) of Yorkshire, England, who was a con artist of the first order, said her chicken laid eggs with words written on them telling of the coming apocalypse. She charged people a penny to see the three eggs, but when the hen was taken away, no more message-laden eggs were laid. Turns out the hen laid normal eggs, Bateman would write the messages on the shells, and then stuff them back into the bird to be laid once again. Bateman would meet her end after being convicted of poisoning several people and being hanged. (Ugh.)

... a Major League Baseball pitcher has a record that may never be broken? Jon Garland (born 1979) was pitching for the Arizona Diamondbacks in 2009 when, on August 29, he defeated the Los Angeles Dodgers in L.A. During that series, the Diamondbacks traded Garland to the Dodgers, and he was notified of the trade during a game. On September 3, the Dodgers started Garland against the Diamondbacks, and he pitched a win against his old teammates. Garland is thus the only pitcher in MLB history to win a game for one team and then win one for the team he defeated in the same week. (Sandy Koufax, eat your heart out.)

... poison oak is not oak? Nor is poison ivy a form of ivy. Both are members of the cashew family. (I'll stick to just plain cashews, if you don't mind.)

Now ... you know!
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TIME OUTDOORS - Increasing time spent outdoors enjoying nature can positively affect mood and mental health. Generally speaking, outdoor enthusiasts tend to be happier overall. The American Psychological Association says spending time in nature is linked to both cognitive benefits and improvements in mood, mental health and emotional well-being. Both green spaces and blue (aquatic) spaces benefit overall well-being. Several years ago, the University of Derby in the United Kingdom conducted a study titled, "The 30 Days Wild." The study encouraged people to do something wild once a day for 30 days. Participants shared that their connection to nature and doing things in nature created a significant increase in happiness and health. People who spend more time outside can experience greater self-esteem, less stress, increased memory retention, and more positive body image. Natural environments also lower activity in the rumination area of the brain, decreasing negative, repetitive thoughts. Also, those who are outside more tend to be engaging in physical activities, and exercise directly correlates to better mental health.

**TALBOT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA
FY 2025 LMIG SAP – SAFETY ACTION PLAN
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

PART 1 GENERAL

1.01. COMPETITIVE COST SEALED BIDS

Sealed Bids for the construction of the **FY 2025 LMIG SAP – Safety Action Plan** will be received, by **Talbot County Board of Commissioners, at 35 West Madison Street, Talbotton, GA 31827, until 11:00 AM, Friday, May 29, 2026**, local time, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. No bid may be withdrawn after the closing time for receipt of bids for a period of sixty (60) days.

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1.03. SCOPE OF WORK

The work to be done shall consist of furnishing all labor, materials and equipment necessary to construct the proposed **FY 2025 LMIG SAP – Safety Action Plan** as shown on the construction drawings. In general, construction consists of striping and signage of approximately ± 49 miles of County Roadway and all associated measures for the complete project. Time allotted for completion of work is **120** consecutive calendar days to substantial completion. Work shall be complete and ready for contract close-out with **134** consecutive calendar days. All work shall be completed in accordance with the specifications. The work will be awarded in **one (1) Contract**.

1.04. PLANS AND BIDDING DOCUMENTS

Copies of Bidding Documents for bidding purposes can be obtained from Watkins & Associates, L.L.C., 1606 Whiddon Mill Road, Tifton, Georgia 31793, Phone: (229) 388-8823. (Office of the Engineer) upon payment of \$300.00 for each set (non-refundable). Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Talbot County Board of Commissioners, located at 35 West Madison Street, Talbotton, GA 31827 or at Watkins & Associates, LLC on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 8 A.M. and 5 P.M. Upon request and receipt of the document payment indicated above, Watkins & Associates, LLC will transmit the Bidding Documents via delivery service. The date that the Bidding Documents are transmitted will be considered the prospective Bidder's date of receipt of the Bidding Documents. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Engineer. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Office of the Engineer.

1.05. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

Plan holders list, addenda and bid results are available at www.watkinseng.com.

1.06. PREQUALIFICATION OF BIDDERS

Prequalification may be required of Bidders prior to the award of contract. At the Owner's request, detailed written evidence such as financial data, bonding capacity, previous experience, present commitments, and other such data may be necessary to assist Owner in determining Contractor's qualifications shall be provided per the Instructions to Bidders contained in the contract documents.

1.07. BONDS

All bid forms must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified cashier's check in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount bid. All bonds shall be by a surety company licensed in Georgia with "A" minimum rating performance and financial strength of at least five (5) times the contract price as listed in the most current publication of "Best's Key Rating Guide Property Liability". The successful bidder, if awarded the Contract, will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Payment Bond, each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the Contract amount. All bonds must appear on the Treasury Department's most current Circular 570 Listing. Each Bond shall be accompanied by a "Power of Attorney" authorizing the attorney-in-fact to bind the surety and certified to include the date of the bond.

1.08. PERMITS

All anticipated federal, state, or local permits required for the project have been applied for and are expected to be approved prior to issuance of the Notice to Proceed.

1.09. GEORGIA SECURITY AND IMMIGRATION COMPLIANCE ACT AFFIDAVIT

All qualifying Contractors and Subcontractors performing work with the **Talbot County Board of Commissioners** must register and participate in the federal work authorization program commonly known as E-Verify, or any subsequent replacement program, to verify the work eligibility information of new employees. In order for a Bid to be considered, it is mandatory that the Bidder's Affidavit of Compliance with O.C.G.A. §13-10-91 be completed and submitted with the Bid.

1.10. FUNDING SOURCES

Any Contract or Contracts awarded under this Advertisement for Bids will be funded by a grant from the Georgia Department of Transportation and Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant (LMIG).

1.11. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, including without limitation, the rights to reject any or all nonconforming, nonresponsive, unbalanced, or conditional Bids and to reject the Bid of any Bidder if Owner believes that it would not be in the best interest of the Project to make an award to that Bidder, whether because the Bid is not responsive or the Bidder is unqualified or of doubtful financial ability or fails to meet any other pertinent standard or criteria established by the Owner. Owner reserves the right to waive informalities and to re-advertise.

Owner: Talbot County Board of Commissioners
By: Carol Ison
Title: County Manager
Date: April 30, 2026
May 14, 2026

Talbot County's Youth Fishing Rodeo 2026 Registration Form

Sponsored by Talbot County Board of Commissioners

When: Saturday, May 2nd, 2026 Time: 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

Where: Talbot County Park Pond, 170 Park Street, Talbotton, Ga. 31827.

Anglers must be 4-16 years of age by May 2nd, 2026. Limit of 10 Fish per Child.

Registration is open on a first come first serve basis. Registration will close when full. The entire family is welcome, but only registered children may fish.

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

Young Angler's Information. Please fill out separate form for each child fishing

Name of Child: _____ Age: _____

(Circle One) Male/ Female *Anglers must be 4-16 of age by May 2nd, 2026

Will this be your first time fishing? (Circle One) Yes / No

All children must be accompanied and Supervised by an Adult.

Parent/Guardian: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature & Waiver: _____ Date: _____

THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A WAIVER OF ALL LEGAL RIGHTS AT EVENT

"The Limit of Fish Taken the day of the Rodeo will be 10 Fish per Child"

THE TALBOTTON NEW ERA

USPS 532-880

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Official Legal Organ of Talbot County.

Grief is Weird

Any one who has lost someone or dealt with grief in some form or another, can verify that grief and the process of grief, makes no sense. There are thousands of books and podcasts on grief and how to deal with it. They talk about the 5 stages of grief; denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance. They talk about allowing yourself to feel, to deal with it "healthily", to pick yourself up and keep moving. Although all of these are designed to help, the truth is there is no right or wrong way to deal, there is no set manual to get through the process of grief, it makes no sense, just when you think you have a handle on it and your on the other side of it, grief comes barreling through the front door and decides to stay for a little while, because when it comes down to it, grief is weird.

When you lose someone close to you like a parent, or a significant other you're just expected to keep functioning like your entire world hasn't just been destroyed. Suddenly you have been thrown on this new road trip, that you didn't voluntarily sign up for, you weren't given time to pack, you have no idea where you're going, no one has handed you any directions or information, but you are expected to start on this new trip right away, and everyone is watching. The one person you need to ask questions to so you can figure out what you are doing, is the one person you can't. Grief does things to you, it mixes you up. You no longer feel like you can make a basic decision. Every moment that you've taken for granted suddenly becomes a moment of pain. The good things are sad because they are not here. The bad things are worse because the rock you would have leaned on is gone. Every new moment and milestone is filled with happiness and

sadness at the same time.

When my mom died in 2023 I heard the favorite line of "time heals all wounds". I always hated that saying because the pain may cease and the wound may heal, but it's still there. It still hurts, there's still a scar. This year I learned that first hand. April 16 marked 3 years since I lost my mom and I thought I was doing good. I knew it was coming up and I was prepared. I figured it'd be 3 years, this year shouldn't be any harder than before. But this year my mind and emotions decided to throw me into all 5 stages of grief in one day. Most days I can talk about my mom and laugh and smile with very few tears, but this year I couldn't even think about her completely breaking down. I was angry because she will never get to meet her great grandbaby who carries her name. I was sad because she was missing so much and she deserved more time. I found myself feeling like I did the day I got the call. I was angry because how dare grief bring up emotions I thought I had dealt with, how dare grief make me feel the pain that I never want to feel ever again. But that is the most evil thing about grief, you never actually get over it. It just changes. You laugh when you think of them, big moments are still happy, life keeps moving forward and so do you, but there's always that underlying sadness. But there is only sadness because what came before was so great.

Elizabeth
Graves

Guest Columnist

Data Centers Raise Concerns About Water

It seems that Georgia is becoming the place that data centers are looking to locate to. While there are benefits to the centers, there are also some cons and one of those issues could be water.

According to the Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI), the tapping into fresh water sources by the centers could put nearby communities at risk.

According to an article released by the EESI in June 2025, a medium-sized data center can consume up to roughly 110 million gallons of water per year for cooling purposes, equivalent to the annual water usage of approximately 1,000 households. Larger data centers can each "drink" up to 5 million gallons per day, or about 1.8 billion annually, usage equivalent to a town of 10,000 to 50,000 people.

Together, the nation's 5,426 data centers consume billions of gallons of water annually. One report estimated that U.S. data centers consume 449 million gallons of water per day and 163.7 billion gallons annually (as of 2021). A 2016 report found that fewer than one-third of data center operators track water consumption. Water consumption is expected to continue increasing as data

centers grow in number, size, and complexity.

Now that Georgia is on the map for the centers, citizens are concerned about the water usage and the affect it might have on the water sources.

In March, the city of Griffin agreed to supply treated water to the city of Hampton with a maximum amount of up to 5 million gallons of water per day. Part of that supply was for a new data center. The agreement calls for the water to be provided in a phased manner. For the first three years, Griffin would only supply 750,000 gallons per day.

The primary water source for the city of Griffin is the Flint River, the Dr. Brant D. Keller Water Treatment Plant and Reservoir near Molena. The Flint River separates Pike and Meriwether counties and that becomes a concern for some of the residents of Meriwether County.

According to a story printed in the *Pike County Journal* newspaper in March, Gordon Rogers of the Flint Riverkeeper says the organization is keeping an eye on the Hampton project and Griffin's permits to withdraw water from the reservoirs and the Flint River.

The story quoted Rogers



John
Kuykendall
Publisher &
Editor

as saying, "It is the Riverkeeper's, and other conservationists' job to keep an eye on the drought aspect of this water usage. We've never seen all of the upper Flint utilities operate at the top end of their permits during a drought. That's never happened because they haven't yet approached the top end of what they're legally allowed to withdraw."

He did express concerns about the discharge of water and was quoted in the story as saying, "The owner of the water system - which is essentially the citizens - need to be conscious of how big those permits are and how much water is being shipped away. That is their future. Their permits will likely never get any larger. And, on the discharge end, part of conservation is making sure that when people are done with the water, it's treated to a suitable quality - and then returned to the system, whether it's a creek that connects to the river or

to the river itself. There's going to be some evaporation at a data center as it cools the operation which is what the water is used for," he said. "We need the water to be clean and available for citizens. If it is being put back into system upstream of where it was taken out - and in this case it would be - then that's not such a bad thing. If the water is clean it can actually be beneficial. But that's a big if. It's got to be clean."

The story also noted that Rogers said there are several additional data centers being proposed east of Highway 41 that would like not be return to the Flint River.

According to my research, Georgia does experience drought and historically such droughts have caused measurable reductions in surface water, groundwater and soil moisture and that impacts agriculture, municipal supplies and ecosystems.

It is true that Georgia needs industry and jobs but we must also be mindful of the future of our children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and so on. If data centers are going to be a part of the future of Georgia, we need to make sure our water sources are protected.

Some Never Survive Being Young

Twenty-two year old Kayley Boda is dying.

Like too many young people, Boda started vaping at a young age, she was 15 and had experimented with smoking. Vaping is supposed to be a safe alternative to smoking. The peer pressure and slick advertising campaigns convince young people that it is the trendy, sophisticated thing to do.

Generations ago, the same peer pressure and slick advertising convinced young people that smoking was harmless. Every guy wanted to be the Marlboro Man on his horse, young women flocked to Virginia Slims because "you've come a long way baby", and many looked for those cigarettes that were "a silly millimeter longer". The results were mouth, throat, lung and other cancers that killed too many while they were still young.

So it is with Boda and she is paying a terrible price.

In a very recent interview, Boda not only admitted starting vaping at just 15, but engaged in "heavy vaping" on a "regular basis".

There were early warning signs regarding health issues.

Boda was about 20 when she developed a rash over most of her body. With health care professionals not sure what was causing the rash, she was treated for shingles, chicken pox, and scabies.

A few months later, Boda began coughing up dark brown mucus with "grainy bits" in it. Doctors diagnosed scars from pneumonia or other infection. This was followed by coughing up bright red blood. An X-ray of her chest revealed a darkened area on her right lung. Stage 1 lung cancer that was later upgraded to Stage 3.

Lung cancer in those under 25 is "extremely rare" according to the National Center for Biotechnology Information but she had it and underwent surgery to remove part of that lung followed by chemotherapy.

"I had a terrible reaction to it (chemo)," Boda related. "I couldn't lift my head up. I was throwing up blood. I was urinating blood. I couldn't eat. I couldn't sleep."

In early February this year, Boda was pronounced cancer free. Then, in a cruel twist just weeks later, Boda was told the cancer had returned in the pleural lining



Andy
Kober
Columnist

of her lungs. That is a thin, two-layered membrane that lines the lungs and chest cavity. She has been given just 18 months to live.

BECAUSE vapes and vaping is still relatively new, there are no long-term studies on the health impacts. But the American Cancer Society notes that vaping produces an aerosol that contains tiny particles of chemicals known to be harmful, causing serious health problems such as cancer. ACS also reports that vapes, or e-cigarettes, contain nicotine - also found in cigarettes - which is an extremely addictive substance.

While we have to stop short of blaming vaping on Boda's cancer, she does not and is using her remaining time to urge others to stop vaping.

"My symptoms started a few months after I started disposable vapes, and there's no lung cancer in my family," she said. "I haven't vaped for three months, I've made my partner stop, I've made my mom stop, I'm urging all my friends to stop. Stay off the vapes," she continued, "because they will catch up with you."

AT some point, all of us were young and dumb. We drove too fast, took unnecessary risks, and did things we should not have done to look cool or more mature. Somehow we managed to survive. But there were always those that did not.

I have never met Kayley Boda, only seeing photos of her as a young teen and then in a hospital bed, dying of cancer.

Being told at 22, that you are unlikely to live to 24 is horrible.

Perhaps her tragic story just might encourage teens and young adults to stop vaping.

Let us hope so. That's my opinion.

Andy Kober can be reached by email at andykober@hotmail.com

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LOCAL MATTERS

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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* South Georgia Historic and Horrific Wildfires *

Greetings and blessings!

Today I'm overly concerned, disturbed and heavily saddened as I watched the South Georgia Wildfires news for the past days. It has been more than a week since wildfire has ripped, destroyed and ravished everything in its path. I've seen it in the other parts of the country but not in Georgia. These unprecedented and unpredictable fires in Clinch and Brantley Counties, Hwy 82 have caused severe, devastating damage in more ways than one. Unfortunately, more than 120 homes, including other structures, and vehicles have been burned to the ground. Unbelievable, but so, more than 50 thousand acres torched as the fires were reported, doubled last night. These blazing fires are fueled by leftover debris from Hurricane Helene. One dealership alone, lost more than 300 vehicles but grateful and thankful to God, as of now only one life, a firefighter, and we pray for his family. Understandably these courageous, relentless firefighters are exhausted yet



Pres
Hall
Columnist

giving it their all but regretfully, Georgia Forestry sees no end in sight. So, please stop, take a minute or perhaps more and imagine us being in this predicament. And do remember, it's as close as next door. One lady said, she heard a rapid knock at the door followed by a scream to get out now, like right now with no place to go! Of course, our GA governor has declared emergency in 91 or Georgia counties. Since Saturday, the firefighters have responded to more than 15 brand new fires. And too, the wildfire is moving faster than the combined fighters from various locations, while many is on the way from North Georgia. It's believed



that the fire originated in Clinch County from a party balloon sparked from a power line and another from a welder.

So then, as Georgians, I'm requesting prayers, which is great, because God hears and He answers. But yet still, we have a solemn duty as Georgian to help our neighbors. Thankfully, many in the safe zones have opened their homes, churches, school facilities to help shelter/house and feed those that are burnt out, evacuated and in need. Meanwhile, I sincerely asked that we take

this situation very seriously as we lay down tonight in our nice shelter with comfortable beds. Say a fervent prayer for those many, who in minutes of fire, lost everything with no place to call their own to lay their head. Prayers are sufficient, but our support and love is much needed as well! It's time now if ever, to apply and exercise the "Golden Rule," "Do Unto Other As You Would Want Them To Do To You! (Luke 6:31). In doing so, that will make the necessary difference in this critical time. "WE are our brother's keeper."

"For we live by faith and not by sight." 2 Corinthians 5:7

The "Lighter Side" of the News



Courtesy United Press International

Something You Don't See Every Day

A lobster fishing boat off the coast of Cape Cod landed an extremely rare split-color lobster, which officials said is considered a 1 in 50 million catch.

The Wellfleet Shellfish Company said the fishing vessel Timothy Michael discovered the lobster with rare half-and-half coloring on April 16.

The company decided to donate the lobster to the Woods Hole Science Aquarium, where it will live out the rest of its life and be viewable by the public.

The lobster is currently in the care of the Marine Biological Laboratory of NOAA Fisheries in Woods Hole, Mass., until renovations at the aquarium are finished.

"Split lobsters like this are extraordinarily rare -- caused by unique genetic variations that create their striking half-and-half coloring," Wellfleet said on social media.

Follow That Bird

Nashville's Metro Animal Care and Control division had an unusual visitor on Thursday - Picasso the emu.

Picasso escaped her enclosure at home in Mt. Juliet, a suburb of Nashville. She was found about a mile from home. She was only on the loose for a few hours.

Animal control officers were able to find

and corral Picasso into a trailer they renovated for her needs, according to MACC spokesperson Matt Peters.

"The owner reached out to us right away. We talked with them. The emu's very well taken care of at home. [It] turned out the latch just gave way on the gate," Peters told WKRN on Friday.

Picasso's owner said they will pick her up on Saturday with a trailer.

The MACC staff has been bringing her fruits and vegetables to try to make her comfortable during her stay.

It's legal to have a pet emu in Tennessee, but they require a lot of care and maintenance, MACC said.

"If you're going to adopt something, whether it's a dog or a cat or even if it's something like an emu, definitely do your research ahead of time," Peters advised. "Talk to everybody in your family who's going to be working with it, because taking in a pet is not something you can do part-time."

Happy Birthday, Indeed

The company decided to donate the lobster to the Woods Hole Science Aquarium, where it will live out the rest of its life and be viewable by the public.

The lobster is currently in the care of the Marine Biological Laboratory of NOAA Fisheries in Woods Hole, Mass., until renovations at the aquarium are finished.

"Split lobsters like this are extraordinarily rare -- caused by unique genetic variations that create their striking half-and-half coloring," Wellfleet said on social media.

"My family's Easter party happened to be on my birthday this year, so at the party, my sister gave me a lottery ticket as a birthday gift," the player said. "On my way home, I stopped at the store, scratched the barcode, and scanned the ticket. I got a message to file a claim at the lottery office, so I scratched the ticket when I got home to see what I'd won. I was so shocked and excited when I saw the \$500,000 win! I called my sister to tell her the news, and she was just as excited as I was."

The man's sister bought the \$5 Money Rush ticket from the Kroger store on North Main Street in Frankensmuth.

The winner said he will save his prize money for retirement.

Compelled By the Lord

Rev. Aaron McCollough
Columnist



Marianne) and offered me a position on his church staff. I was flattered, honored, and even intrigued by his offer. I told him I would consider it and pray about it. Marianne and I even went so far as to attend his church and observe. And honestly, I was tempted to accept his offer. Marianne and I prayed about this for about a month. A week or so ago, as we were driving to church, I looked at her and asked how she honestly felt about the opportunity he had presented us. She began speaking about all the positives. Then her voice faded. She looked across the truck at me and said, "... but I just don't feel compelled to go." Immediately, my spirit agreed with hers. On paper, everything was a perfect fit; it all made sense, and it would have been fun! The only thing missing was the compelling of the Holy Spirit to go. Today, as I told the young pastor that we would not be accepting his offer, I told him that if I came without being compelled by the Lord, it would be a big mistake. It would be a problem for me, for him, and his church.

There are two great truths to be learned from the column today. First,

when the Lord compels us to do something, anything, it doesn't matter what it is, and we obey, then despite our rough, gruff, miserable, sinful, failure of a life, there is literally nothing we cannot accomplish. The compelling driving force of the Holy Spirit of God will empower and sustain us in any endeavor. Secondly, anything we attempt to do for the Lord that He has not compelled us to do is doomed to failure. And the sad part is that there will be a massive wake created by our failure that will not only engulf and hurt us but will also engulf and hurt the very ones we are trying to help.

I close the column today with this: Why are you doing what you do for the Lord? Are you being compelled by Him to do it? If you are, great! Keep on doing it. However, if He isn't compelling you to do it, then stop it! It's just that simple! Really, it's just that simple! "Compelled by the Lord." Quite a thought, isn't it?

- Bro. Aaron

Reverend Aaron McCollough is the retired Associational Missionary for the Troup Baptist Association, which serves Harris, Meriwether, and Troup Counties, Georgia. You may correspond with him by emailing: freshfire@mindspring.com Follow him on Facebook at Fresh Fire Ministries, Hogansville, Georgia.

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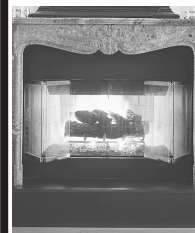
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HOW TO PLACE A LEGAL NOTICE

EMAIL: starmercurylegals@gmail.com

For information regarding legal notices you may call 478-987-1823 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

\$15 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

26-043
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
 TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA
 IN RE: ESTATE OF VERNON JERRY JERNIGAN
 All creditors of the Estate of VERNON JERRY JERNIGAN late of Talbot County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all person(s) indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.
This 21st day of APRIL, 2026.
KIMBERLY VERA
 3032 PATRIOT LN.
 FREDERICKSBURG, VA 22408
 Executor(s) of the Estate of VERNON JERRY JERNIGAN, Deceased
 (4:30, 5:7, 14, 21)

26-034
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
 TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA
 IN RE: ESTATE OF JOHNNIE REE JACKSON
 All creditors of the Estate of JOHNNIE REE JACKSON late of Talbot County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all person(s) indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.
This 7TH day of APRIL, 2026.

OLLIE JACKSON
 191 WAVERLY HALL RD.
 BOX SPRINGS, GA 31801
 Executor(s) of the Estate of JOHNNIE REE JACKSON Deceased
 (4:16, 23, 30, 5:7)

26-033
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
 TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA
 IN RE: ESTATE OF CLEVELAND HOWARD JR.
 All creditors of the Estate of CLEVELAND HOWARD JR. late of Talbot County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all person(s) indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.
This 2ND day of APRIL, 2026.
DARLENE HOWARD
 405 TEAL ROAD
 BOX SPRINGS, GA 31801
 Executor(s) of the Estate of CLEVELAND HOWARD JR., Deceased
 (4:16, 23, 30, 5:7)

26-035
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
 GEORGIA, TALBOT COUNTY
 All creditors of the Estate of SHIRLEY L. PARKS, late of said County, are hereby notified to render their demands, according to law, to the undersigned, and all parties indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This 8th day of April, 2026.
ROYCE H. PARKS, as Executor of the Last Will and Testament of SHIRLEY L. PARKS, deceased.

Posey, Moye & Cartledge, LLC
 #1-D Bradley Park Court
 Columbus, Georgia 31904
 (4:16, 23, 30, 5:7)

26-038
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
 TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA
 IN RE: ESTATE OF JAMES E. MITCHELL
 All creditors of the Estate of JAMES E. MITCHELL late of Talbot County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all person(s) indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.
This 9TH day of APRIL, 2026.
MARGARET NELSON
 300 CHARTER BLVD
 MACON, GA 31210
 Executor(s) of the Estate of JAMES E. MITCHELL, Deceased
 (4:16, 23, 30, 5:7)

26-036
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
 TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA
 IN RE: ESTATE OF JAMES E. MITCHELL
 All creditors of the Estate of JAMES E. MITCHELL late of Talbot County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all person(s) indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.
This 9TH day of APRIL, 2026.
MARGARET NELSON
 300 CHARTER BLVD
 MACON, GA 31210
 Executor(s) of the Estate of JAMES E. MITCHELL, Deceased
 (4:16, 23, 30, 5:7)

26-037
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
 TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA
 IN RE: ESTATE OF JAMES E. MITCHELL
 All creditors of the Estate of JAMES E. MITCHELL late of Talbot County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all person(s) indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.
This 9TH day of APRIL, 2026.
MARGARET NELSON
 300 CHARTER BLVD
 MACON, GA 31210
 Executor(s) of the Estate of JAMES E. MITCHELL, Deceased
 (4:16, 23, 30, 5:7)

26-041
FORECLOSURE NOTICE
 RIGHT TO REDEEM NOTICE
 Take notice that:
 The right to redeem the following described property, to wit:

Burnam. Willie J & Lavern Estate and all that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 14303. 5th Land District consisting of 4.48 acres, more or less being Lot 5, Block C. This property is located in Talbot County, Georgia and will expire and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 21st day of May 2026.
 The tax deed to which this notice relates is dated the 1st of November 2022 and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Talbot County, Georgia, in Deed Book 495 at page 81. The property may be redeemed at any time before the 21st day of May 2026 by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: P.O. Box 83, Box Springs, Georgia 31801.
 (4:23, 30, 5:7, 14)

General Legals
 26-037
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF TALBOT COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IRENE ELLBECK, MARY BROWN, SHIRLEY METCALF-RICHETTI v.
 Estate of Ocie Mae Barker, Alfred L. Jackson Estate, Morris Jackson Estate, Dorothy J. Barker, Donell McFarland, Mary D. McFarland, Joyce King, Jeffery L. Howard, Ronald O. Howard, Vivian L. Howard, Tevin M. Howard, and all persons known or unknown who might claim adversely to Plaintiff's title to 9.68 acres, Land Lot 31, 17th Land District, Talbot County, Georgia

Civil Action File No. 2026-CV-015
PETITION QUIET TITLE

TO: Estate of Ocie Mae Barker, Alfred L. Jackson Estate, Morris Jackson Estate, Dorothy J. Barker, Donell McFarland, Mary D. McFarland, Joyce King, Jeffery L. Howard, Ronald O. Howard, Vivian L. Howard, Tevin M. Howard, and all persons known or unknown who might claim adversely to Plaintiff's title to 9.68 acres, Land Lot 31, 17th Land District, Talbot County, Georgia, including all adjoining landowners.
 You are hereby notified that the above-styled action seeking to establish title to the below described property against all the world was filed on the 9th day of February, 2026, in the Superior Court of Talbot County, Georgia, Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit, and that by reason or order for service by publication entered by said Court on the 27th day of February, 2026, you are hereby commanded to be and appear at said court within 30 days of the date of the order for service by publication to answer said petition and file pleadings before the court.
 ALL that tract or parcel of land lying in Land Lot 31, 17th Land District, Talbot County, Georgia containing 9.68 acres according to a plat dated February 29, 2024, recorded Plat Book 254, Page 334, Talbot County records. Said plat is incorporated herein by reference.
WITNESS the Honorable Judges Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit, Judge of said court.
This the 30th day of March, 2026.

Clerk of Court
 Talbot County Superior Court
 Gary Ellis Byrd, LLC
 Attorney at Law
 P.O. Box 119
 Hamilton, GA 31811
 706 628-5511
 (4:16, 23, 30, 5:7)

26-036
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF TALBOT COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

KEITH M. FLEMING AND LINDA N. FLEMING v.
 Estate of James H. Emfinger, Jan T. Cole f/k/a Jan T. Emfinger, Justin Thompson, James T. Wright, Donna Strong a/k/a Donna Wright, Teresa Crayton, CitiBank, N.A., Asset Acceptance, LLC, and all persons known or unknown who might claim adversely to Plaintiff's title to 0.376 acres, Land Lot 175, 2nd Land District, Talbot County, Georgia

Civil Action File No. 2026-CV-089
PETITION TO QUIET TITLE
 TO: Estate of James H. Emfinger, Jan

T. Cole f/k/a Jan T. Emfinger, Justin Thompson, James T. Wright, Donna Strong a/k/a Donna Wright, Teresa Crayton, CitiBank, N.A., Asset Acceptance, LLC, and all persons known or unknown who might claim adversely to Plaintiff's title to 0.376 acres, Land Lot 175, 2nd Land District, Talbot County, Georgia, including all adjoining landowners.
 You are hereby notified that the above-styled action seeking to establish title to the below described property against all the world was filed on the 4th day of November, 2025, in the Superior Court of Talbot County, Georgia, Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit, and that by reason or order for service by publication entered by said Court on the 27th day of February, 2026, you are hereby commanded to be and appear at said court within 30 days of the date of the order for service by publication to answer said petition and file pleadings before the court.
 ALL that tract or parcel of land being 0.376 acres on a survey titled Boundary Retracement for Ryan Taylor Wright dated June 29, 2020, recorded Plat Book 254, Page 159, Talbot County records. Said plat is incorporated herein by reference.
WITNESS the Honorable Judges Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit, Judge of said court.
This the 30th day of March, 2026.

Clerk of Court
 Talbot County Superior Court
 Gary Ellis Byrd, LLC
 Attorney at Law
 P.O. Box 119
 Hamilton, GA 31811
 706 628-5511
 (4:16, 23, 30, 5:7)

26-042
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF TALBOT COUNTY GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION VS.
0.104 acres of land; and certain easement rights; and Heirs of Jessie Pearl Dillingham; Johnny C. Johnson; Heirs of Rhuburl Dillingham; David Carter; Kimberly Carter; and Tax Commissioner of Talbot County, individually

DOCKET NO. 2025-CV-069
NOTICE OF SUMMONS

TO: DAVID CARTER, HEIRS OF RHUBURL DILLINGHAM and HEIRS OF JESSIE PEARL DILLINGHAM, Respondents/Condemnees
 You are hereby notified that the above-styled action seeking Condemnation was filed against you in said Court on August 22, 2025, and that by reason of an Order for Service of Summons by Publication entered by the Court on March 23, 2026, you are hereby commanded and required to file with the Clerk of said Court and serve upon Catherine B. Baity, Condemnor/Petitioner's Attorney, whose address is P.O. Drawer 671, Thomaston, GA 30286, an answer to the Condemnation Petition within sixty (60) days of the date of the Order for Service by Publication.
 Witness the Honorable John T. Martin, Judge of said Court.
 Given under the hand and seal of said Court, this the 15th day of April, 2026.
 PENNY DILLINGHAM-MAHONE, Clerk of the Superior Court of Talbot County
 (4:23, 30, 5:7, 14)

Probate Notices
 26-030
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TALBOT COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
 IN RE: ESTATE OF ELESTER DILLINGHAM, DECEASED
 ESTATE NO. 2018-P-011
PETITION FOR SUCCESSOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

DORIS A. WILLIS & WALTER J. WILLIS has petitioned to be appointed Successor Administrator(s) of the estate of ELESTER DILLINGHAM 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 **MAY 4, 2026.**
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: NI LEJA WILLIAMS
 Clerk of the Probate Court

PO BOX 157
 TALBOTTON, GA 31827
 706-665-8866
 (49, 16, 23, 30)

26-040
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TALBOT COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF DOUGLAS JOHNSON, SR., DECEASED
 ESTATE NO. 2026-P-19

NOTICE
 IN RE: The Petition to Probate Will (and Codicil(s)) in Solemn Form in the above referenced estate having been duly filed.
TO: ELAINE JOHNSON, WENDELL JOHNSON and DOUGLAS BROWN JR.
 This is to notify you to file objection, if there is any, to the petition to probate

will in solemn form, in this Court on or before **MAY 11, 2026.**
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
 Ni Leja Williams
 By: Clerk of the Probate Court
 PO Box 157
 Talbotton, GA 31827
 706-665-8866
 (4:16, 23, 30, 5:7)

All the Things I Used to Worry About

I like to think that I am a calm, relaxed person. No matter what life throws my way, I want to believe that, and I certainly do try, I can roll with the punches, as they say, and not let anything get me down.

Well, I have been lying to myself. While sometimes I handle the stress and uncertainty of life with the composure of a well-practiced monk or the most stoic of philosophers, clinging to the words of the old hymn, "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow," most of the time I am worried about something. In fact, you can call me a worry-wart.

Even as a kid I could always find something to fret about, and like most worries, they never came to pass. I shudder to think of the hours wasted, staring into space or lying awake at night on time wasted thinking about things that really did not matter.

Now, as an adult facing the real struggles of life, like the rising cost of living; making sure my own children are taken care of; and trying to figure out the source of that new strange noise my car is making, it's fun to remember the things that worried younger me.

Here are some of them: *Quicksand:* The world was allegedly full of this natural boobytrap, and there wasn't a children's



Kyle Dominy
 New Southern Dad

book, cartoon or video game that didn't have the protagonist struggling to pull themselves free from a patch of quicksand. If you didn't act fast, a body could be sucked into the earth and never seen again, leaving only a hat comically floating on the surface.

Quicksand can occur in the United States, but typically only on beaches and coastal wetlands. While I've been stuck in the mud, walking or driving too close to a body of water, I've never seen or heard a credible account of quicksand.

Mad cow disease: In the early 1990s you could not turn on the news or pick up a newspaper without seeing something this strange ailment killing cows. As it turns out, if you feed a cow food made from other cows, which used to be a common practice, it could develop bovine spongiform encephalopathy, a deadly degenerative infection of the central nervous system.

The BSE crisis was mostly a European problem, but the effects were

felt worldwide as people became afraid of eating possibly tainted beef. This, and the undercover reports on unsanitary conditions of meat processing and packing plants that were popular at the time, forced my parents to convince me that every hamburger set before me was fully cooked and safe for consumption. I wasn't the only person with that fear though. Remember when the Texas beef industry sued Oprah?

The hole in the ozone: Another fear established by sensational reports and children's programming. We should all be fried to a crisp by now thanks to Styrofoam coolers and hairspray releasing chemicals into the atmosphere that eat away at the Earth's natural barrier, the ozone layer, against the sun's harmful rays.

Captain Planet had me convinced that we were all doomed, but the ozone is on the mend and now the World Meteorological Organization predicts the ozone will be whole again in 40 years. As long as people don't go back to 80s hairstyles.

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

CLASSIFIEDS

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR SALE - AVON. Call Ginny 770-696-7548 or visit www.youravon.com/ginnynash RTFN

HAY FOR Sale; square bales and round rolls. Track hoe & track loader work: clearing, grading, driveways, pads, lake repairs, food plots. Call Jeff at 706-812-6906. RTFN

HELP WANTED Full and Part Time

STRINGERS NEEDED - This newspaper is seeking individuals who can cover meetings, and/or sporting events and more. Excellent opportunity for high school student. For more information about e-mail to starmercuryjohn@gmail.com. RTFN

YARD/ESTATE SALES

HUGE YARD Sale! 4 Days - 4/30 through 5/3. 8 am to 5 pm. Household, coins, sports cards, fabric, crafts, outdoor decor, furniture, pictures, books. 1559 Durand Hwy, Warm Springs 04:30

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You can reach 28,800 readers weekly when you advertise in this Features and Classifieds page.

Classifieds are \$12 for the first 25 words and .25 cents for each additional word. The advertisement will appear in *The Manchester Star-Mercury/Meriwether Vindicator*, *The Harris County Journal*, and *The Talbotton New Era*, covering four counties. Please do not send in classifieds more than a week before the time you want the ad to run. We are not responsible for missed ads if sent in too early. starmercurynews@gmail.com

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE is NOON MONDAY.
 To place a classified advertisement simply call: 706-846-3188 or e-mail starmercurynews@gmail.com

This Week in History



Photo from Public Domain

LONELY VIGIL - This replica cannon overlooks the St. Johns River in Florida. It is a part of the reconstructed Fort Caroline, the site of a Spanish Army massacring French soldiers and civilians, and later the Spanish being massacred by French soldiers.

1568 - French Forces Attack Spanish Fort San Mateo

By ANDY KOBER

Here is what happened this week in American History.

- **Apr. 30.** On this day in 1789, George Washington takes the oath of office becoming the first President of the United States. This memorable event takes place on the balcony of Federal Hall on Wall Street in New York City.

- **May 1.** In 1951, the Chinese Fifth Phase offensive is faltering. South Korean ROK, UN and US forces have retreated as far as 35 miles in some places in an effort to consolidate defenses. To this point, US forces have suffered 314 killed and 1,600 wounded, but the Chinese have suffered at least 13,000 killed, nearly 24,000 injured and about 250 captured. UN reports indicate that over 75,000 Chinese Peoples Volunteer Army have been killed in the fighting. Around Seoul, ROK, UN and US forces send reconnaissance units three to five miles northward and they are not finding any significant Chinese or North Korean forces. This leads to further advances with Allied units pushing northward 10 miles and more. The Chinese and North Korean forces encountered were small groups and quickly overwhelmed.

- **May 2.** Today in 2011, Osama bin Laden, who was responsible for the terrorists' attacks on September 11, 2001, is killed. The 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment "Night Stalkers" with 79 SEALs with a Belgian Malinois raid his compound at Abbottabad, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, in Pakistan. His body was flown to the aircraft carrier Carl Vinson and he was buried at sea.

- **May 3.** On this day in 1568, America is not yet a country when French soldiers attack the Spanish fort, San Mateo, located along the banks of the St. Johns River in Florida. Spanish soldiers surviving the battle are slaughtered. This bloodthirsty action was because three years earlier Spanish soldiers

out of St. Augustine had attacked the French Fort Carolina located in nearly the same spot. There were an estimated 200 to 250 French in Fort Caroline and they were massacred with only about 50 women and children surviving to be taken as prisoners and possibly enslaved. The Spanish destroyed Fort Caroline and constructed a new fort named San Mateo. After the French attack, San Mateo was rebuilt only to be abandoned a year later. Today, the National Park Service maintains a near full-scale model of Fort Caroline in the vicinity of where the original fort was located.

- **May 4.** In 1886, a peaceful worker's strike seeking eight-hour workdays is taking place in Chicago. Police officers are attempting to disperse the crowd when someone throws a homemade bomb among the officers. One of the officers is killed. The remaining officers begin shooting into the crowd. The melee will result in the deaths of 15 people and 70 injuries. Over 100 arrests will be made. Four people will be hanged as a result though the person throwing the bomb is never identified.

- **May 5.** Today in 1981, Danielle Christine Fishel Karp is born in Mesa, Arizona, with her family moving to California while she was an infant. She is "discovered" while performing in a community theater at only 10 years old. She performs voiceovers and works in commercials before appearing in "Full House" and "Harry and the Hendersons" followed by a recurring role in "Boy Meets World". She dropped the Karp name and today enjoys considerable success as an actress and director.

- **May 6.** On this day in 1877, Chief Crazy Horse, war leader of the Lakota Oglala band of Native Americans surrenders to US troops in Nebraska. A legend of the Old West, he fought against the encroachment of whites on what had been Native American lands and to preserve the Lakota traditions.

Planets of Battlestar Galactica

By ANDY KOBER

In 1979, just three years after *Space 1999* was cancelled, the original *Battlestar Galactica* premiered.

This was a very high-budget production that began with a premier movie and phased into a television series.

The story had humans spread across 12 "colonies" located in the far reaches of space with those planets drawing their names from the 12 constellations visible from Earth. Under the guise of peace talks to end a long war, the colonies are attacked by artificial intelligent humanoid robots with the goal of exterminating the human species. Also attacked are the colonies' 12 battlestars, capital warships, also unprepared for the sneak attack. Perceived similarity to the attack on Pearl Harbor is understandable.

As with any such action there are always survivors. There are some on each colony, or planet, and those lucky enough to find a functional ship head into space, led by the Battlestar *Galactica*, the only battlestar known to have survived.

The premier movie received high ratings as did the initial episodes, but then the quality dropped, the writing and storylines were not as good, and the ratings dropped. The series was cancelled after just 24 episodes. Still, the original *Battlestar Galactica* generated and continues to enjoy quite a cult following.

During those 24 episodes, viewers were introduced to



a number of planets, starting with the 12 colonies. Those were Aerilon, Aquaria, Canceron, Caprica, Gemenon, Leonis, Libran, Picon, Sagittaron, Scorpia, Tauron, and Virgon. Of those, only one is actually a planet. The planet Leonis, or 83 Leonis Bb, was discovered in January 2005, by the California and Carnegie Planet Search Team. It is located about 59 light-years away in the constellation Leo. It is about 1-1/2 times the size of Neptune. Not much else is yet known about Leonis.

AFTER this column updated the status of *Pioneer 10* last week, *Voyager 1* was in the news.

Having been traveling through space for 50 years, *Voyager 1* is still alive.

Last week NASA reported that some of *Voyager's* instruments are being shut-down to conserve power allowing other instruments to continue functioning and send data on gas, dust, and radiation to Earth. *Voyager 1* is powered by a generator that turns heat from decaying plutonium into electricity.

Voyager 1 is currently about 15.8 billion miles from Earth. It is in interstellar space and heading toward the edge of our Solar System.

KEEP your eyes on the sky for passing fireballs.

Meteors can flash across the sky anytime, day or night, with extraordinarily bright meteors often referred to as fireballs --- and they are spotted quite often.

On Wednesday, Apr. 22, 30 people across Arizona, Illinois, Indiana, and Missouri reported seeing a fireball.

The fireball was first reported at 9:29 pm Central Time by a skywatcher in Springfield, IL. The fireball was seen as far north as Hopedale, IL, as far east as Loogootee, IN, as far south as Paragould, AR, and as far west as Columbia, MO. The fireball appeared to be travelling from southwest to northeast.

None of the skywatchers reported hearing noise made by the fireball but 13 witnessed it fragment into smaller pieces.

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

We will continue researching planets found in science fiction soon. In the meantime going outside and looking at the sky, especially the night sky, can be fun and educational for the entire family.

There are a number of free apps available to help identify stars and constellations, and some of the apps will show satellites.

Happy skywatching!



Weekend Rain Expected For Talbot County Area

By JOHN KUYKENDALL

Editor's Note: This is a weather forecast and is subject to change. Please make sure to check for weather updates. This forecast taken from the Weather World extended forecast.

This week the Weather Man says that the Talbot County area can expect rain beginning on Friday and ending on Sunday. The weather will be warm and sunny for the next few days but rain is expected to return late in the week.

Here is what Weather World is predicting for the upcoming week.

Today Weather World is predicting showers with an 85% chance of rain. The high temperature is expected to reach around 81 degrees and the low temperature should be around 62 degrees. Winds are expected to reach speeds of about nine miles per hour and will be coming out of the West Northwest.

On Friday, May 1, the showers are expected to continue with an 83% chance of rain being predicted. The temperature is going to be much cooler with the high expected to be around 67 degrees and the low around only about 54 degrees. Winds are expected to reach speeds of about 11 miles per hour and coming out of the East Northeast.

Saturday, May 2, Weather World says rain will continue to fall with an 83% chance of the wet stuff. The temperatures will remain a little cooler with the high temperature expected to be around 70 degrees and the low temperature is expected to be around 52 degrees. The temperatures will feel cooler however, because the winds are expected to reach speeds of about 15 miles per hour and will be coming out of the South Southwest.

On Sunday, May 3, the skies are expected to be sunny again and the high temperature is expected to be around 70 degrees with the low temperature expected to be around 46 degrees. Winds are expected to reach speeds of about 10 miles per hour and will be coming out of the Northwest.

On Monday, May 4, the skies are expected to remain sunny with the high temperature reaching about 74 degrees and the low temperature is expected to be around 48 degrees. Winds speeds are expected not to be as strong reaching around six miles per hour and coming out of the Southeast.

For Tuesday, May 5, Weather World says the skies

will remain sunny with the high temperature rising a little and expected to reach about 79 degrees. The low temperature is expected to be around 54 degrees. Winds are expected to reach speeds of about seven miles per hour and will be coming out of the Southwest.

On Wednesday, May 6 the skies are expected to remain sunny and the temperatures are expected to rise. The high temperature for the day is expected to be around 85 degrees and the low temperature is expected to be around 58 degrees. Winds will make it feel a little cooler and are expected to reach the speed of about 11 miles per hour and will be coming out of the West Southwest.

On Thursday, May 7, Weather World says the rain is expected to return with an 86% chance of showers being predicted. The temperatures are expected to get cooler again with the high temperature expected to only reach about 68 degrees and the low temperature is expected to reach around 64 degrees. The winds will be strong and Weather World is predicting wind speeds to be around nine miles per hour and coming out of the West Southwest.

Autos For Sale Wide Variety To Choose From

- 22 Nissan Altima, Gray, \$8,900
- 19 Jeep Cherokee, Maroon, \$7,400
- 17 Ford F-350, Service Body, White, \$13,400
- 17 Ford Expedition, Black, \$7,900
- 12 Dodge Ram, Crew Cab, Red, \$8,600
- 18 Chevy Equinox, Silver, \$7,900
- 09 Chevy Colorado, Ext. Cab, White, \$5,900
- 17 Jeep Renegade, Silver, \$6,400
- 20 Ford Fusion, Blue, \$7,900
- 18 Honda Accord, Black, \$11,900
- 18 Dodge Journey, Red, \$7,400
- 21 Chrysler Voyager Van, White, \$6,900
- 21 Ford Ranger, Crew Cab, Black, \$11,900
- 16 Honda CRV, Maroon, \$9,800
- 18 Honda Civic, Black, \$8,900
- 21 Honda Accord, Black, \$12,900
- 14 Ford F-150, Ext. Cab, 4x4, Gray, \$12,900
- 20 Toyota Camry, Blue, \$12,900
- 11 GMC Canyon, Ext. Cab, White, \$6,400
- 18 Chevy Equinox, Black, \$7,900
- 22 Nissan Altima, White, \$10,400
- 18 Chevy Tahoe, Silver, \$13,900
- 19 Chevy Colorado, Ext. Cab, White, \$10,800
- 15 Jeep Renegade, Black, \$6,400
- 15 Ford F-150, Crew Cab, 4x4, Blue, \$14,400
- 17 Ford Explorer, Blue, \$7,900
- 17 Ford F-150, Ext. Cab, Silver, \$13,900
- 13 Ford F-150, 4x4, Crew Cab, Blue, \$12,400
- 18 Jeep Renegade, Gray, \$7,900
- 16 Honda CRV, Blue, \$10,600

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Ministry Special Offer: King James Version Bible with Name Imprinted and Bible Cover for a donation of \$50 or more to our ministry... We will put you on our mailing list. Call Ginny (770) 696-7548 for more information

Join Us For Homecoming on May 3rd at

EVANS CHAPEL

Guest Pastor: Reverend Henry Wilson Kendrick, Jr.
Music will be provided by: Power
Fellowship will follow the music giving you time to reconnect with old friends and enjoy a great meal.
Homecoming will begin at 11 a.m.
Evans Chapel is located at 3436 Chalybeate Springs Road in Woodland



5 POLICE CARS FOR SALE

The Talbotton Police Department is offering five vehicles for immediate sale. All vehicles will be sold as is and are located at the Talbotton Volunteer Fire Department.

CEHS Track & Field Athletes Advance to Sectionals

Submitted to *NEW ERA*

The Central Elementary-High School track and field team delivered an impressive showing at the Region Track Competition, with three student-athletes earning top finishes and qualifying for the sectional meet.

Leading the way was Brannon Bussey, who captured first place in the 110 Meter Hurdles, while

also earning second place in High Jump and 3rd place in Long Jump. Bussey's outstanding all-around performance highlighted his versatility and athleticism across multiple events.

Darriuna Leonard also had a strong showing, finishing second place in the 100 Meter Hurdles to secure a spot in the next round of competition.

In the field events, Madison Daniel earned third place in Shot Put, adding another sectional quali-

fier for the Hawks.

All three athletes will advance to the Sectional Track Meet on Saturday, May 2, in Warrenton, where they will compete for an opportunity to move on to the state championships.

The Central Elementary-High School community congratulates these student-athletes on their accomplishments and wishes them continued success at sectionals.



Photo By Darriuna Leonard
BUSSEY DOES WELL IN COMPETITION - Central Elementary-High School's (CEHS) Brannon Bussey captured a first place in the region track meet held last week in the 110-meter hurdles, took second place in the boys high jump competition and third place in the boys long jump. Darriuna Leonard also earned a second place finish in the 100 meter hurdles. The track team is now preparing to participate in the sectionals in Warrenton.

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to sports.

M H T L E E

--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Helmet

This Week's Word Search Answers

C O A C H H B V H D P N B H E E L F O N
 N B M G Y Q I Q E P O E M I T R E V O Y
 L O V S H P G F A I T O P G H U P L A L
 P E P T T F E U T D D O D L A G I V Q M
 E S A V E N S I Q A G G L M A G H L S H
 O N H G S D T C E T E D F I L G S Q I I
 P P D E U E T T O P G D O F F E N S E R
 D A T U P E V N T R Y M N A L S O Y E M
 V F T M R R R O E O E R C R H T I M T Y
 S N O N T A S N F N U B Y V G I P U A L
 H C U D G L N A U D O R O B D L M Q M T
 A V N U L F R C T R E P N A A M A I M R O
 L Q O I H P U E E Q H M P A R C H O A E P
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 T O O V O E E I F G F V S N C E U M T H
 I T S F L R P V I C T O R Y I G N V G Y
 M A R H E M E I T N E S S B F S P T O O
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 R C T Y H I R O S T E R D A V I A C E C

PUZZLES WILL BE PRINTED WHEN SPACE IS AVAILABLE - Members of the Talbot County Senior Center has requested the New Era have word puzzles in each issue. The newspaper will try to accommodate the request however, please note that puzzles can only be printed when space is available.

Talbot Tax Commissioner Appointed To Financial Oversight Committee

By PRES HALL

Congratulations and Praise God! Our very own, Talbot County lifetime native Mr. Jamie L. Huff is indeed making God, family, friends and the Talbot county citizens very proud.

Just recently, the Georgia Association of Tax Officials (GATO) selected Jamie L. Huff, Talbot County Tax Commissioner, to serve on the organization's District 9 Financial Oversight Committee. This appointment highlights Huff's long-standing commitment to responsible fiscal (financial) management and professional excellence in local government.

Huff has served as Talbot County's Tax Commissioner since May 2015 after the regretful loss of his dad, Mr. William Huff who served the county well as Tax Commissioner.

In fact, Jamie is literally carrying on the legacy, which both earned the reputation for transparency, innovation, and strong community engagement.

In addition to Jamie's work in Talbot County, he has also served diligently for several years as GATO's District 9 Leader, representing Harris, Troup, Upson, Talbot, and Meriwether counties. In that particular role, Huff has coordinated training, shared best prac-



Photo Submitted

TALBOT COUNTY TAX COMMISSIONER RECEIVES APPOINTMENT - Talbot County Tax Commissioner Jamie Huff has been appointed to Financial Oversight Committee for District 9 by the Georgia Association of Tax Officials (GATO).

and strengthened collaboration among tax officials across the region.

Huff said, "I'm honored, grateful, yet humbled to continue serving the wonderful citizens of Talbot County and

our neighboring counties through this new role,"

Further saying, "Financial oversight is essential to maintaining public trust, and I'm respectfully committed to ensuring that taxpayer dollars are handled with the highest level of integrity."

However, GATO provides education, legislative advocacy, and professional development for tax commissioners and staff statewide. Huff's appointment to the Financial Oversight Committee reflects both his experience and his ongoing dedication to strengthening and ultimately perfect the Georgia's tax administration systems.

Jamie esteemed hope and plans are to continue to strongly challenge his ability and efforts to make a much needed difference in not only Talbot County but to all he has been sworn to serve! Jamie, God has greater plans for you! (Read Jeremiah 29:11), yes of course, to continue to succeed, climb higher, serve and bless others! Thank You Lord for your servant, Mr. Jamie L. Huff!

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



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