



RE-ELECT Coach Walter Brown FOR CITY COUNCIL

Proven Experience, Proven Leadership

Vote December 02, 2025

Some Accomplishments: • Loft Apartments on 9th Street
• Pine View Trace Apartments • Sidewalks on W. Union Street
• Reorganization of Tyson Foods to House of Raeford Farms
• New Homes on East Pine Street

Future Projects: • Motels and Restaurants on I-75 • More Factories and Stores • More Jobs

• 20 Yrs of dedicated services as City Council Member & 8 Yrs as Mayor Pro-Tem
• 100 Hours of Municipal Training for Elected Officials
• Economic Development • Taxation • Municipal Finance • Ethics • Conflict Resolution
• Small Town Redevelopment • Municipal Law • Law Enforcement Service

*Paid for political ad.

The News Observer

The Vienna News and The Unadilla Observer

The Legal Organ of Dooly County; serving Byromville, Dooling, Lilly, Pinehurst, Unadilla and Vienna.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2025

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County Notified of City of Vienna of Roseburg Parcels



Pictured left to right: Family and Consumer Sciences Agent Destiny Phillips, County Extension Director Bill Starr and Southwest District Extension Director Andrea Scarrow.

By Tim Franzén
News Observer Reporter

The City of Vienna notified county officials of that municipality's annexation of two former Roseburg parcels or a total of three tracts into the city including Roseburg Road. County Administrator Steve Sanders reported, "They are taking over the upkeep maintenance of Roseburg Road pending the Department of Community Affairs review to make sure the city has followed all the steps."

County Attorney Bert Gregory stated that will go, "To the regional commission who will make sure that the regional impact is considered for the annexation and go through the processes."

The Third District fire station water well has "collapsed," according to Mr. Sanders who said, "So we're going to have to drill a new well, so that's going to be an expense for them." He also discussed an issue at the pump house for the well at the Dooly High fire station that needs re-roofing.

The Georgia Department of Transportation had identified the Bowen Road Bridge at

Sandy Mount Creek as in need of replacement as part of their Local Bridge Replacement Program. GDOT is requesting a commitment from the county government of \$50,000. Dooly County requested that GDOT waive that \$50,000 fee, however GDOT denied the request to waive the fee. Mr. Steve Sanders notified GDOT, "That we would reluctantly find \$50,000 to keep the \$5 million dollar investment from the state, so it is back in the works to be done probably in the next fiscal year."

Waste Management per its agreement with Dooly County will be increasing (per a 4.8% adjustment based on the consumer price index) their monthly rates effective January 1, 2026. The county agreed to apply any CPI adjustments to the franchise fee.

Mr. Sanders also provided an update on the search for a county administrator, "I announced my plans to retire May 1, we posted the job and received 44 resumes. The county is in the process of reviewing them and narrowing them down. Hopefully we'll have something to announce at the next meeting or

so." The new Family and Consumer Sciences Agent Destiny Phillips who started in her new position Oct. 15 was introduced by County Extension Director Bill Starr.

Southwest District Extension Director Andrea Scarrow spoke to commissioners about the status of the funding for the FACS agent in Dooly County, "That position was originally partly grant funded and helped us get the ball rolling. That grant is still in existence, but I made the decision to not to refill that position with grant dollars, but to use 'hard cold state cash' to help you fill it. So we can keep it permanently and keep Destiny in a secure job on state funds, regardless of what the grant does. Destiny comes to us with a lot of experience in helping nutrition having worked at our state Family and Consumer Sciences office and doing a lot of community outreach already. We did face a bit of a 'hiccup' this summer not knowing if that grant with just federal dollars would be renewed for us."

She also discussed the Dooly

ROSEBURG PARCELS
CONTINUED PG 5A

Pinehurst City Tax Notices Have Been Mailed Out

By Tim Franzén
News Observer Reporter

Mayor Connie Christmas announced during her report that, "The 2025 city tax notices have been mailed out and are due at the end of the month. We had to have some extra water samples because we have two locations every month that have to be tested. There are four all over the city and then they rotate. One of those was the Dooly K-8 school and the tests were performed the week after they had been on Fall break. Because of the water sitting in the pipes, it caused some bad results."

So, we just had to re-test those and they were fine. We had extra expenses because those monthly water samples had to be conducted as well as the gas mileage. October 27, the City of Pinehurst was approved for a credit card at the bank instead of a debit card because of the security issues due to fraudulent

charges, etc. and problems with the debit card.

We'll be getting a credit card. The auditors have started working on the end of the year audit and since we weren't sure whether we would be meeting in December. We have new computers in the office installed by Mr. Chris Flynn."

The council approved the purchase of five additional chairs for city hall at a cost of around \$250. The Dooly Retired Educators Association is having a Gala dinner January 10 at 6:00 p.m. with the DCHS band providing the entertainment. It will be held at Dooly County K-8 Academy. Officials OK'd the purchase of a full-page Ad totaling \$100 to be placed in the program.

The council also gave a green-light to an increase to the Christmas bonus amounts for City Clerk Jackie Chaney, Mr. Willie Young, Mr. Jimmy Lucas and Mr. Jon Mason due to the fact

that the council will not be meeting during December.

The Fall Festival was a success and the firefighters cooked 300 hotdogs during the event. Five groups or individuals agreed to sponsor the painting of the fire hydrants in the city. The city has ordered a new Nativity scene that should be completed and ready for display in time for the holidays. Christ Chapel Unadilla's Food Pantry will be Saturday, Nov. 22 from 10:00 a.m.-Noon.

Christmas in the Park with the assistance of the Dooly County Sheriff's Office, Pinehurst Fire Department and Pinehurst Baptist Church has been tentatively set for Sunday, Dec. 21.

It was announced at the meeting that Christmas decorating around town will begin in the near future and that the council agreed to reschedule their first meeting of the New Year to Thursday, January 8.

ELECTION RESULTS Runoff Necessary in Vienna Council Race

By Tim Franzén

News Observer Reporter

The City of Vienna Council race resulted in a runoff election to be held Tuesday, Dec. 4 between Incumbent Councilman Walter F. Brown with 135 votes or 28.36% and Babette L. Lewis who garnered 120 votes and 25.21%. Angela Childs had 113, Shatarra Lundy-65 and Jaroskey Bullard had 43 in his bid to win a spot on the council. Incumbent Councilman John Thomas Mathis was unopposed in his race picking up 362 or 100% of the votes.

In Byromville, Incumbent Councilwoman Conselioh Clayton with 31 votes or 45.59% was defeated for re-election by Clay Vaughan who had 37 votes or 54.41%. Incumbent Mayor Keith Lamberth was unopposed with 54 or 100% of the votes along with Incumbent council members Suzette Grantham and Thomas Bragg with both picking up 50 votes.

ELECTION RESULTS
CONTINUED PG 3A

Traffic Stop Leads to Drug Arrest

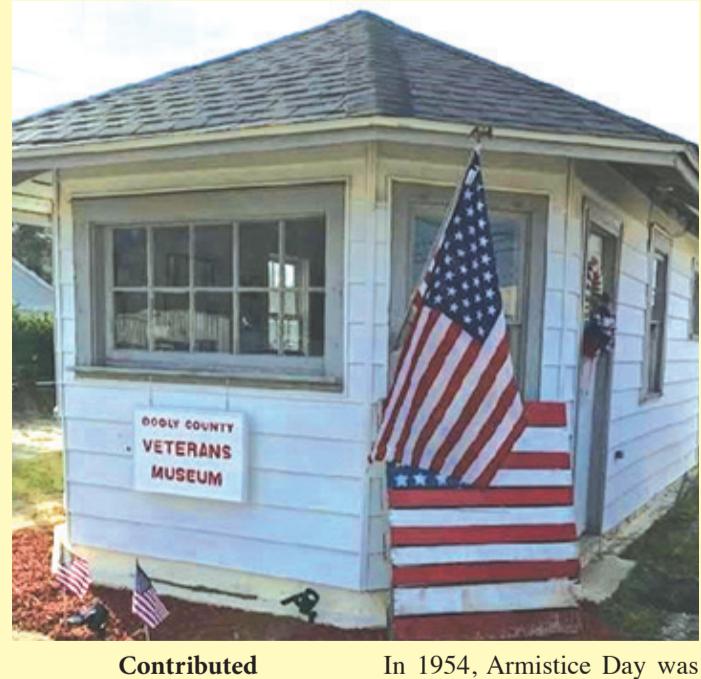
By Crisp County Sheriff's Office

A Crisp County Sheriff's Office deputy attempted to stop a silver SUV Friday, Oct. 31 after observing it speeding and failing to stop at multiple intersections. The driver refused to yield, leading deputies on a short pursuit through several city streets before stopping near West 3rd Avenue. Deputies detained a 30-year-old male from Pitts, Ga. identified as Larry Lindsey and located approximately 29 grams of suspected methamphetamine, suspected

MDMA (Ecstasy), and a nitrous oxide tank inside the vehicle.

Additional drug-related items and ammunition were also recovered. Lindsey was arrested and transported to the Crisp County Jail, where he faces the following charges: Trafficking in cocaine, marijuana, or methamphetamine, Possession of Schedule I Controlled Substance (MDMA) and Sale, Distribution, or Possession of Dangerous Drugs. The Georgia State Patrol and the Mid-South Narcotics Task Force assisted in this ongoing investigation.

Local Club Honors Veterans



Contributed

In 1954, Armistice Day was changed to Veterans Day in the United States to honor veterans of all branches of military service. Just a reminder that when the United States flag is posted outside the building, the Veterans Museum is open. Vienna Woman's Club members will provide tours on military holidays.

A private tour can be arranged by calling 229-347-0834.

Smoke Masters BBQ Named Grand Champion at the 2025 Big Pig Jig®



Story and photo by
Memphis Barbecue Network

Congratulations to Smoke Masters BBQ on being named Grand Champion in the Pulled Pork category at the 2025 Big Pig Jig® in Vienna, Ga. This is a highly respected and competitive event and earning top honors reflects the team's dedication, skill, and exceptional craftsmanship.

We commend the hard work, consistency, and professionalism demonstrated throughout the competition by the 108 teams that competed in this MBN 2025 Event. Dooly County Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Rhonda Lamb said, "Congratulations to all our amazing teams, especially to all that walked the hallowed stage, we are so proud of you and

all that competed. I know you poured your heart and soul into this and I realize just how much dedication and hard work goes into this competition.

Thank you for being the best part of the Big Pig Jig® I'll see you on the stage in 2026."

In Pulled Pork professional division, Smoke Masters BBQ was followed by Off the Chain at number two, Rustic Que, number three, Florida Boys-four, Blue Smoke-number five, Heavy Metal Hogz at number six, Late for supper-seven, local team Reed Nut Smokers at number eight, Fat Side up-nine, and Southern Hogs who finished in 10th place.

In the Whole Hog professional Division, it was Sweet Butcher Shop who finished in first place followed by Real-licious Q ,

Moonlight Smokers, Rescue Smokers, Bubba Grills, Rollin Kolbz Competition BBQ Team, Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, Shark Bite BBQ, Bad Rooster BBQ and Southern Hogs at number 10.

In the Ribs professional division, it was Off the Chain finishing in first place followed by local team Union Street BBQ in second, the Georgia Bulldogs-number three, Free Smokes BBQ, number four, Bad Rooster BBQ-number five, Sweet Meat Butcher Shop at the number six position, Jaw Dropers BBQ-number seven, Flaming Hogs-number eight, Mudd Hogg-number nine and Flyin' Butt's Bar-B-Que finishing in 10th place.

Dooly County Health Department Serves Our Community



By RN and County Nurse Manager Cyndi Mercer

The Dooly County Health Department serves our community in a wide variety of ways. Our Services Include: Women's Health, Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (BCCP), Family Planning, Child Health, Adult Health and Lab Services, Blood Pressure Screenings,

Immunizations for the Whole Family, Sexual Health Screenings, Tuberculosis Screenings and Treatment, WIC Nutritional Services and so much more.

Give us a call or stop by to see us. We're always ready to care for our people. You don't have to live in Dooly County to visit. We welcome everyone. Come meet the team that cares at 204

West Union Street, Vienna, Ga.

For more information, call 229-268-4725 Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Closed daily from 12:00 Noon -1:00 p.m. for lunch and on all state holidays. Walk-ins are always welcome. We'll never put a barrier between you and your health.

DREA Holds November Meeting

Contributed

The November meeting of the Dooly Retired Educators Association focused on Crime Prevention, featuring Officer Javarise "Jay" Terry as the guest speaker who discussed the importance of avoiding scams, particularly during the holiday season.

Officer Terry, a 2013 graduate of Americus High School has a passion for serving through law enforcement. His experience in law enforcement includes serving in Dawson, Americus, and Vienna. He is currently Commander of Road Patrol with the VPD appointed by Chief Castonio Lucas to revamp the police department for the citizens of Vienna, Ga.



Dooly County Library Open House to Become, "A Yearly Event"



The Dooly County Recreation Department Cheerleaders entertained the crowd during the open house.

By Library Manager
Jill Kloberdanz

We had so much fun at the Dooly County Library Open House that we've decided to make it a yearly event. The community came out to make this the most perfect day in the library world. The Dooly County Recreation Department's cheerleaders entertained the crowd. Refreshments were provided by The Dooly County Retired Educators, Dooly County Kiwanis, and St. Paul Chapel.

The Dooly County STEM bus was here offering educational games and there was also Story time offered by Al Willis. Kylie Garrard, family and communications engagement specialist commented, "The Dooly County STEM Bus was excited to participate in the Dooly County Library's open house event!

Students enjoyed a variety of hands-on activities, from building with LEGOs to challenging themselves with strategy games. It was wonderful to see so many young kids engaged and having fun while learning. We're grateful for the opportunity to support our community and look forward to more events like this in the future."

Contact Dooly County Library at 1200 East Union Street in Vienna at 229-268-4687 or on the web at lbrls.org/dooly-county.



Pictured left to right are members of the DREA: Audrey Outlaw, Connie Christmas, Minnie Harper and Betty Bryant.



Photo By Tim Franzén
Refreshments were provided by the DREA, Dooly County Kiwanis and St. Paul Chapel.

DCCA Honored at REI Fall Summit South



Dr. Monica Kearse, DCSS CEO CCA/CTAE Director

Contributed

The Dooly College and Career Academy was honored at the Rural Education and Innovation Fall Summit-South for its innovative use of a \$50K Workforce Preparedness Grant (GA Cham-

ber/GaDOE).

Our students who were recognized had the chance to attend a week-long summer camp focused on high-demand jobs including: AI Drone programming for Agriculture/AV, AI Robotics

Photo Contributed

with Mercer University's Dr. Choi, Manufacturing training and OSHA 10 certification at CGTC and Enhanced welding pathway with new equipment.

DCSS Observes Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month



#bobcatswearteal

BOBCATS WEAR TEAL for CAROLYN
November 20, 2025



Ovarian Cancer Awareness

Contributed

The Dooly County School System will observe Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month this November by honoring the legacy of Ms. Carolyn Brooks. We invite the entire school community to participate in 'Bobcats Wear Teal for Carolyn' Day Thursday, November 20.

Ms. Brooks, our cherished former DCHS Assistant Principal and DCSS CEO CCA/CTAE Director would have celebrated her birthday on November 27. We encourage everyone to wear teal in remembrance of her extraordinary life and to raise awareness for ovarian cancer.

ELECTION RESULTS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Paula Faye Coleman won with 31 votes or 79.49% defeating Theresa Granville-Wyatt who had eight votes or 20.51% of the votes. City Councilman Alonzo Daniels, the Incumbent, won back his seat with 69.23% or 27 votes defeating Sylvester Granville Sr. with 30.77% and 12 votes cast. Robert W. Royal who was unopposed also won a council seat Lilly.

In Unadilla, all three of the Incumbent City Council mem-

bers were re-elected with Justin Bridges picking up 225 votes or 23.91% of the votes cast followed by Meredith Lester who had 204 votes or 21.68% with Incumbent Lurry Brown winning back his council seat with 128 votes or 13.60% of the votes cast. Trella Chelle Adams picked up 105 votes, while Stanton Chaney had 102, Bobbie L. Williams-91 and Larry Spivey garnered 86 votes in his race to win a council seat.

DO YOU NEED TO ADVERTISE?

Email our sales rep,
Phyllis Keaton at
phyllis.keaton@yahoo.com
or call her at (229)938-6253

Dooly County Community CALENDAR

email: thenewsobservereditor@gmail.com

Nov. 23 Byromville Baptist Church Community Thanksgiving Service

Let's gather together to praise God and thank Him for all His many and wonderful blessings at a community **Thanksgiving service** to be held at Byromville Baptist Church at 713 Patterson Street, Sunday, Nov. 23 at 6:00 p.m.

CCU November Food Pantry

Christ Chapel Unadilla will hold its November Food Pantry from 10:00 a.m. until 12 Noon Saturday, November 22 at the church 400 Jeannette Street in Unadilla. Volunteer arrival is 9:30 a.m. For more information, call 478-627-9352 or email: christchapelunadilla@gmail.com.

Bingo Night in Byromville

Enjoy Bingo Game night on the second Thursday of every month starting at 6:00 p.m. in the Byromville Municipal Complex. This is for individuals 55 and older. Free entry-fellowship-games and prizes.

Town of Dooling Meeting

The Town of Dooling-Town Meeting will now be held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month starting at 6:00p.m. (Except for the months of July & Dec, when no meeting will be held.) If you plan to bring an issue to the board, please contact the



Mayor in writing a week before the town meeting to be placed on the agenda.

Dooly County Library

1200 East Union St., Vienna
Mon. - Thurs. 9AM-6PM
Fri. 9:30A.M. - 4P.M.

Closed Saturday

Thursdays - COLOR & CHAT. Color books and colored pencils will be provided or you can bring your own. For more information contact Jill Kloberdanz, library manager library at 229-268-4687.

The Elizabeth Harris Library

Unadilla Location:

Tues-Thurs 8:30AM-6PM
Friday 9AM-4PM

Saturday 9AM-12PM Noon

Byromville Location:

Tues-Thurs 2:30PM-5:30PM

"An Hour of Encouragement"

Pastor Dean and the New Poplar Spring Baptist Church would like for you to join us every Wednesday night @7pm for "An Hour of Encouragement" on our Conference Call line. Please dial (253) 993-3761. (TFN)

Bethlehem Baptist Church

Worship With Us Each & Every Sunday. Worship starts at 11:00am. Bible Study on each Sunday at 5:00pm. Jerry Jamal Sanders, Sr., Pastor. (TFN)

Fruits of Vienna Is November Vienna Business of the Month

By Janet Joiner

The Vienna Game Changers selected Fruits of Vienna Bed and Breakfast as the November Vienna Business of the Month. Located in Vienna, Ga. right on Highway 41, this B and B is designed to offer guests a warm and welcoming experience and also a place for private lunch-dinner gatherings. Wake up to the aroma of freshly baked bread and enjoy homemade breakfasts prepared from scratch, all in a relaxing atmosphere where every detail is personalized for your comfort. Our motto, "Relax, Recharge and Savor," truly reflects our mission to provide not just a bed for the night, but an experience filled with ambiance, personal touches, and heartfelt hospitality.

In addition to our comfortable rooms, you can enjoy delicious dinners by request, making each stay extra special.

Daybreak Pregnancy Care Benefit Gospel Concert



Contributed

There will be a benefit Gospel Concert at Pinecrest Baptist Church 1007 East Nineteenth Avenue in Cordele, Ga. for Daybreak Pregnancy Resource Center Saturday, November 15 from

North-South Ga. United Methodist Churches Can Apply for Spark Funds

Contributed

The North and South Georgia Annual Conferences are offering spark funds to United Methodist churches in the Georgia Area to boost or launch the hunger ministry in your local church or community. The application is simple, and is available through November 30, the season of Thanksgiving. South Georgia Conference churches may apply for the \$500 spark funds now.

Learn more about the process

For the upcoming Holidays, including Thanksgiving and Christmas, we are offering a special arrangement: book a three-night stay and receive a 25% discount. We're also happy to host your Christmas lunches, catering needs, dinners, or gatherings for book clubs, garden clubs, Bible study groups, coffee groups, friends' parties, and family celebrations. Whatever your group, we would love to help you create memorable moments during the Holy season.

To reserve your spot or inquire about catering, just email els@fruitsofvienna.com and let us know how we can make your visit perfect. If you have any questions or special requests, please feel free to reach out. We're here to help. Thank you so much for considering us for your next gathering. We can't wait to welcome you and make your stay unforgettable.

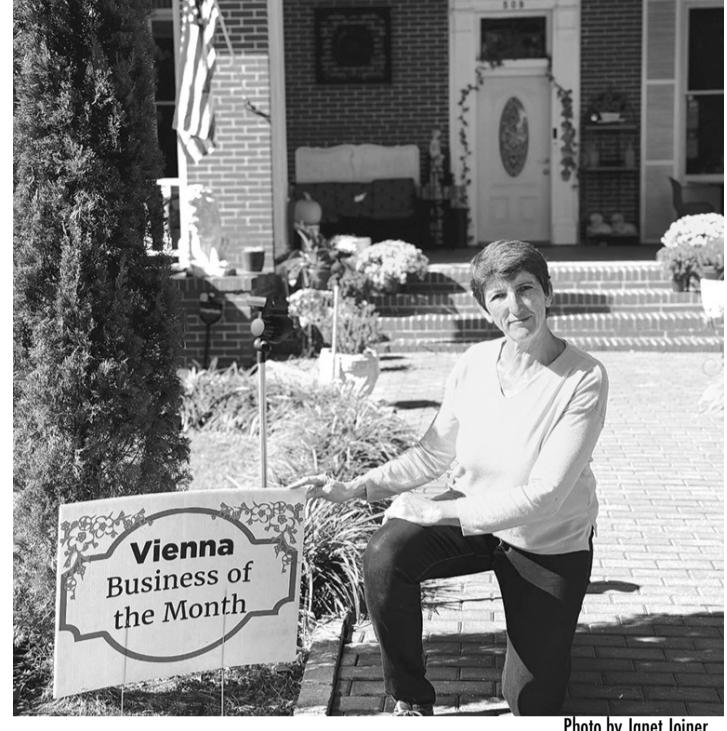


Photo by Janet Joiner

Byromville Baptist Church Youth Sunday School Class

Contributed

The Youth Sunday School Class is making fleece blankets for 4 Angels Nursing Home residents for Christmas. They are asking for donations of fleece fabric in two-yard increments.

If you are unsure what to purchase, they will accept monetary donations that will be used to purchase the fabric. The Donation deadline is Nov. 31. For more information, contact Ansley at 229-947-9122.

GRAND JURY PRESENTMENTS OCTOBER TERM, 2025 DOOLY SUPERIOR COURT

To the Honorable T. Christopher Hughes, Judge of the Superior Court for the Cordele Judicial Circuit:

The Grand Jury empaneled for the October Term, 2025, Dooly Superior Court, was sworn in on November 3, 2025 at approximately 9:00 a.m.

The Grand Jury's organization consisted of Stephanie Langley, Foreperson, Sheena Jones, Clerk and Lyndon Childs as Bailiff.

The Grand Jury wishes to thank Judge Christopher Hughes for his helpful and informative charge and District Attorney Bradford L. Rigby and Heather Calhoun for their assistance.

We, the Grand Jury, considered 23 bills of indictments and returned 23 true bills.

The Grand Jury recommends that these presentments be published in the official newspaper of Dooly County, Georgia, and that such paper be paid the usual fee for publication.

Stephanie Langley, Foreperson
Sheena Jones, Clerk

The above and foregoing general presentments having been returned and read in Open Court, it is Ordered that they be received, spread upon the minutes of this court and published as recommended.

In Open Court, this 3 day of November, 2025.

Judge T. Christopher Hughes, Judge Superior Courts, Cordele Judicial Circuit

Bradford L. Rigby, District Attorney

CHURCH DIRECTORY Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

Athens Hill Baptist Church

Vienna, GA 229-268-4883

AOH Church of God

Vienna, GA 229-268-1903

Bakersfield Baptist Church

Vienna, GA

Bay Point CME

Byromville, GA

Bethel Baptist Church

Vienna, GA 229-268-2848

Bethlehem Baptist Church

Byromville, GA 229-433-2102

Big Poplar Baptist Church

Unadilla, GA

Brown Chapel Baptist Church

Unadilla, GA 478-627-9466

Byromville Baptist Church

Byromville, GA 229-433-2505

Byromville Methodist Church

Byromville, GA 229-321-9292

Camp Creek Baptist Church

Unadilla, GA 478-627-3929

Evergreen Baptist Church

Vienna, GA 229-268-1994

Faith Baptist Church

Vienna, GA 229-268-2798

Forest Chapel Baptist Church

Unadilla, GA 478-645-3476

Harmony Baptist Church

Unadilla, GA

Healing and Deliverance Church

Unadilla, GA

Liberty Baptist Church

Pinehurst, GA 229-645-3584

Lilly Baptist Church

Lilly, GA

Macedonia Baptist Church

Vienna, GA 229-268-1582

Little Poplar Baptist Church

Byromville, GA

Living Water Baptist Church

Unadilla, GA

Mars Hill Baptist Church

Vienna, GA 229-268-6795

Midway Independent Methodist

Vienna, GA 229-268-8745

NAPA Brooks Auto Parts

229-268-2700

313 W. Union St., Vienna

Open Through Lunch

Eddie Conner, Manager

THE CITIZENS AGENCY

"Dependable Insurance"

121 N. 3rd Street

P.O. Box 486

Vienna, GA 31092

229-268-2800

Vienna, GA

Evergreen Baptist Church

Pinehurst, GA 229-645-3476

Faith Baptist Church

Vienna, GA 229-268-2798

Forest Chapel Baptist Church

Unadilla, GA 478-645-3476

Harmony Baptist Church

Unadilla, GA

Healing and Deliverance Church

Unadilla, GA

Liberty Baptist Church

Pinehurst, GA 229-645-3584

Lilly Baptist Church

Lilly, GA

Macedonia Baptist Church

Vienna, GA 229-268-1582

Little Poplar Baptist Church

Byromville, GA

Living Water Baptist Church

Unadilla, GA

Mars Hill Baptist Church

Vienna, GA 229-268-6795

Pleasant Hill Freewill Baptist

Church

Vienna, GA 229-268-8745

Midway Independent Methodist

Vienna, GA 229-268-8745



In The Garden With GEORGIA HORTICULTURE FACTS

Horticulture is a significant and expanding component of agriculture in Georgia. This industry represents the production, processing, and marketing of vegetables, fruits, nuts, trees, flowers, and shrubs. Horticulture also includes such service trades as florist shops, landscaping services, and garden centers.

The development of horticultural products has a long history, beginning with the first settlers that came to Georgia. The first colonists depended upon locally grown produce and selected seeds from plants that yielded well. Seeds of vegetable, apple, melon, corn, and squash varieties were handed down generation to generation, shared between families, and maintained. This practice extended through the 1950s, making the culture of vegetables and fruits a staple activity for most rural Georgia families. Many of these original lines, now known as heritage or heirloom varieties, are still grown by gardeners interested in history or are maintained in breeding programs geared toward developing plants tolerant of Georgia's climate.

Floriculture, or the science of growing flowers, has had an interesting history since the beginning of the 1800s. During the Victorian era, flower-

ing houseplants, indoor terrariums, and extensive perennial gardens became popular. Use of bedding plants such as marigolds became widespread in the late 1940s, after World War II (1941-45). In the 1970s, as interest in the environment grew, houseplants again achieved phenomenal popularity. By the mid-1980s the use of pansies for winter color became so extensive in Atlanta, and later statewide, that it nearly doubled the incomes of most greenhouse owners. Another trend is a return of the use of perennials, and the market now has more than 1,200 cultivars to choose from.

The diversity of horticultural products grown in our state is extensive, given its varied climates and soil types. The cool valleys of the north Georgia mountains are excellent for apples, cabbage, sweet corn, and muscadine grapes. The long growing season and warm sandy soils of the Coastal Plain in the southern part of the state are ideal for most vegetables and fruits, including tomatoes, peppers, watermelons, and squash. The central Piedmont's sloping hills and clay soils are good for in-ground production of ornamental trees and shrubs and for the production of peaches.

Let's be proud of our state's horticultural heritage. Honor and appreciate our Georgia horticulturists!

Tim Lewis is a Georgia Green Industry Association Certified Plant Professional, gardening writer, and former Perry High School horticulture instructor. He can be reached at (478)954-1507 or timlewis1@windstream.net.

ners, but go to your room and pray in secret to your heavenly Father." He then uttered the Lord's Prayer, which has served as the model prayer to this day.

Jesus warned: "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth...But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy... where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Jesus urged us not to worry: "Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?" Jesus issued this

chilling admonition: "wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it." Jesus warned: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."

Matthew 7: 29 states that "Jesus taught as one having great authority."

Regarding prayer, Jesus emphasized that we "Pray not as the Pharisees do on street cor-



Parables To Ponder THE GREATEST SERMON EVER PREACHED

Columnist

The "Sermon on the Mount" is considered the greatest sermon ever preached. Its name was derived from Matthew 5:1-2 which states: "Now when Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on a mountainside and sat down...and began to teach them." Saint Augustine wrote that the Sermon on the Mount sets the "perfect standard" for Christian living.

This "Manifesto of the Master" covers 19 major topics, comprises 111 verses, and encompasses 2400 words. Therein is a recitation of the Beatitudes, discourses on Murder, Adultery, and Divorce and exhortations on Love your enemies, Go the second mile, Do not judge, and Refrain from worry. Inscribed on my Grandmother Powell's grave stone are these encouraging words: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." This beatitude fittingly describes the hope of her God-ly life.

Jesus added a new dimension to murder, saying that "whoever is angry with his brother without just cause

shall be in danger of hell fire." Regarding adultery, Jesus said, "Anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart." Jesus judged man's inner thoughts--hatred being the precursor to murder and lust as the prompter for adultery. On the subject of divorce, all a man had to do in ancient times was to present a letter of dismissal to his wife in the presence of two witnesses and she stood divorced. But Jesus restricted the grounds for divorce, saying, "Anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, makes her the victim of adultery, and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery." Jesus also reversed the "eye for an eye, and tooth for a tooth" mentality, declaring, "If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other cheek also." He then commanded: "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

Regarding prayer, Jesus emphasized that we "Pray not as the Pharisees do on street cor-

ners, but go to your room and pray in secret to your heavenly Father." He then uttered the Lord's Prayer, which has served as the model prayer to this day.

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Deadline for legal submission is Friday Noon prior to First publication.
Email word document to editor@ganewobserver.com

LEGALS

Please enter "LEGAL NOTICE" in the email subject headline. Please be sure to have your contact information listed. Most legal notices run \$15 per 100 words per publication. Plus a \$10 affidavit fee.

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The River Valley Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging, 710 Front Avenue, Suite A, Columbus, Georgia 31901 is requesting proposals from potential applicants for a contract and/or contracts to provide Evidence Based Programs in the following counties: Chattahoochee, Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Harris, Macon, Marion, Muscogee, Quitman, Randolph, Schley, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taylor, and Webster.

Evidence Based Programs include, but are not limited to: Matter of Balance, Chronic Disease Self-Management, and Diabetes Self-Management.

All applicants must complete a Request for Proposal (bid packet) to be considered. Proposals may be submitted for one or more services to begin July 1, 2026 and concluding June 30, 2027. A one-year contract will be awarded, beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 containing a contingency clause permitting renewal for each year of the remaining contract based upon satisfactory performance.

Request for Proposal (bid packets) will be available on the River Valley Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging website under Public Notices (<https://rivervalleyrc.org/public-notices/>) Monday, November 10, 2025. Point of contact: Naomi Masuoka.

A bidder's conference will be held on Monday, November 17, 2025 at 1:00pm until 2:00pm at River Valley Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging at 710 Front Ave., Suite A, Columbus, GA 31901.

A Unit Cost Methodology Training will also be held on Monday, November 17, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. at River Valley Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging at 710 Front Ave., Suite A, Columbus, GA 31901.

Completed RFPs will be received until Thursday, December 18, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. at River Valley Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging at 710 Front Avenue, Suite A, Columbus, GA 31901. No applications will be accepted after the deadline.

Proposers will be notified in writing of the RFP decision no later than January 20, 2026. Contract is contingent upon River Valley Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging receiving funds from the Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services.

The River Valley Regional Commis-

sion is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to a policy of non-discrimination in its operation.

11/13/2025
0752-VNO (#1531)

NOTICE OF HEARING

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on November 17, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., in the Dooly County Courthouse in Vienna, Georgia, the Superior Court of Dooly County will hear the case of STATE OF GEORGIA vs. DOOLY COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY and JP UNADILLA, LLC, the same being a proceeding to confirm and validate the Dooly County Industrial Development Authority Taxable Revenue Bonds (JP Unadilla, LLC Project), Series 2025 in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$11,000,000 (the "Bonds"), proposed to be issued by the Dooly County Industrial Development Authority (the "Issuer") in order to encourage and promote the expansion and development of industrial and commercial facilities in Dooly County, Georgia (the "County") and to reduce unemployment within the boundaries of the County, for the purpose of financing, in whole or in part, the cost of acquiring, constructing, installing and equipping a "project" in Dooly County, Georgia, including the acquisition, construction and installation of land, improvements to be constructed thereon and related building fixtures, machinery and equipment (the "Project"). The Project is to be leased by the Issuer to JP Unadilla, LLC (the "Company") for use as a travel plaza and an undertaking under the Revenue Bond Law, all in accordance with the terms of a resolution (the "Bond Resolution") adopted by the Issuer, and the Exhibits thereto. In such proceeding, the Court will also (a) hear and determine the validity of instruments relating to and providing security for the Bonds including the Bond Resolution, an Indenture of Trust, a Lease Agreement, a Bond Purchase Agreement, a Guaranty Agreement, a Deed to Secure Debt, Assignment of Rents and Leases and Security Agreement, a Home Office Payment Agreement and an Memorandum of Understanding, as described in the Petition and Complaint; and (b) hear and determine such other questions of law and fact pertaining to the right of the Issuer to issue the Bonds and to provide the security therefor.

The Bonds shall be special and limited obligations of the Issuer, pay-

able solely from funds provided by the Company and shall not be payable from taxes or other public funds and NO PERFORMANCE AUDIT OR PERFORMANCE REVIEW (AS SUCH TERMS ARE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 38-82-100 OF THE OFFICIAL CODE OF GEORGIA ANNOTATED) WILL BE CONDUCTED WITH RESPECT TO THE EXPENDITURE OF BOND PROCEEDS.

Any citizen of the State of Georgia residing in Dooly County, Georgia, or any other person wherever residing who has a right to object, may intervene and become a party to these proceedings.

Rosa Childs, Clerk, Superior Court
Dooly County, Georgia
11/6, 11/13, 2025
0751-VNO

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There will be two public hearings relating to aging services that are provided by the River Valley Regional Commission / Area Agency on Aging. These public hearings will be conducted in person on the following dates/times. The Columbus meeting will be virtual also using the information below on Microsoft Teams.

Thursday, November 13, 2025 from 10:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. – River Valley Regional Commission/Area Agency on Aging- 710 Front Ave, Suite A, Columbus, GA

Thursday, November 20, 2025 from 10:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. – Reginald Barry, Jr. Senior Center, 115 E. 24th Ave. Cordele, GA

Meeting ID: 260 575 105 516 4
Passcode: zF67LU3u

Dial in by phone
+1 762-233-1078,,396799547# United States, Augusta

Find a local number

Phone conference ID: 396 799 547#

The public hearings offer opportunities for interested persons to discuss aging services and programs within the following sixteen counties: Chatahoochee, Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Harris, Macon, Marion, Muscogee, Quitman, Randolph, Schley, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taylor and Webster.

Services include: Information and Assistance/Referral, Intake and Screening, Congregate and Home-Delivered Meals, Elderly and Disabled Waiver Program, Wellness and Prevention Programs, Caregiving Programs, Options Counseling, etc.

For more information call Klia Barrow, Asst. AAA Director 706-256-2936 or

1-800-615-4379.

Programs and services are funded through the Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services and River Valley RC/AAA including federal, state and local funds.

10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 2025
0748-VNO (PH- Notice FY27 AAA #1526)

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER, DOOLY COUNTY

Pursuant to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by **Douglas H Wilkes** to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for American Advisors Group, its successors and assigns, dated 12/8/2020 and recorded in Deed Book 625 Page 249 Dooly County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by Carrington Mortgage Services LLC, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$255,000.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door of Dooly County, Georgia (or such other area as designated by Order of the Superior Court of said county), within the legal hours of sale on December 2, 2025 (being the first Tuesday of said month unless said date falls on a Federal Holiday, in which case being the first Wednesday of said month), the following described property:

PARCEL 1: ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OF LAND CONTAINING 5.20 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, LYING IN AND BEING A PART OF LOTS OF LAND NOS. 53 AND 56 IN THE NINTH LAND DISTRICT OF DOOLY COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND FURTHER BEING DESCRIBED AND SHOWN AS TRACT NO. 3 ON THAT CERTAIN PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED FOR DOUGLAS H. WILKES BY EARL D. RAINES, GEORGIA REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR NO. 1512, DATED AUGUST 2, 1995, A COPY OF SAID PLAT OF SURVEY BEING RECORDED IN CLERK'S OFFICE, DOOLY SUPERIOR COURT, IN ITS PLAT RECORD 9, AT PAGE 49, SAID PLAT OF SURVEY AND THE RECORDATION THEREOF BEING BY REFERENCE INCORPORATED HEREIN FOR A MORE COMPLETE DESCRIPTION.

PARCEL 2: ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OF LAND CONTAINING 5.03 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, LYING IN AND BEING A PART OF LOTS OF LAND NOS. 53 AND 56 IN THE NINTH LAND DISTRICT OF DOOLY COUNTY, GEORGIA, FRONTING ON ITS NORTHWESTERLY SIDE COUNTY ROAD NO. 92 AND FURTHER BEING DESCRIBED AND SHOWN AS THAT 4.07 ACRE TRACT ON THAT CERTAIN PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED FOR JAMES A. BRAXTON BY EARL D. RAINES, GEORGIA REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR NO. 1512 DATED NOVEMBER 23, 1991, A COPY OF SAID OF SURVEY BEING RECORDED IN CLERK'S OFFICE, DOOLY SUPERIOR COURT IN ITS PLAT RECORD 10, PAGE 53, SAID PLAT AND RECORDATION THEREOF BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN FOR MORE COMPLETE DESCRIPTION.

The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).

OR LESS, LYING IN AND BEING A PART OF LOTS OF LAND NOS. 53 AND 56 IN THE NINTH LAND DISTRICT OF DOOLY COUNTY, GEORGIA, FRONTING ON PART OF ITS NORTHWESTERLY SIDE COUNTY ROAD NO. 92 AND FURTHER BEING DESCRIBED AND SHOWN AS TRACT NO. 2 ON THAT CERTAIN PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED FOR DOUGLAS H. WILKES BY EARL D. RAINES, GEORGIA REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR NO. 1512, DATED AUGUST 2, 1995, A COPY OF SAID PLAT OF SURVEY AND THE RECORDATION THEREOF BEING BY REFERENCE INCORPORATED HEREIN FOR A MORE COMPLETE DESCRIPTION.

The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).

Said property is commonly known as 99 Lamar Rd, Vienna, GA 31092 together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said

property, if any.

To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party (or parties) in possession of the subject property is (are): Shirley B. Wilkes or tenant or tenants.

CeLink is the entity or individual designated, who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage. CeLink 3900 Capital City Blvd Lansing MI 48906 CeLink Loss Mitigation Department P.O. Box 40724 Lansing, MI 48901-7924 Phone: 866-446-0026 Note, however, that such entity or individual is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan. Said property will be sold subject to: (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) unpaid water or sewage bills that constitute a lien against the property whether due and payable or not yet due and payable and which may not be of record, (c) the right of redemption of any taxing authority, (d) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (e) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above. The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and non-judicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided immediately above. Carrington Mortgage Services LLC as agent and Attorney in Fact for Douglas H Wilkes Aldridge Pite, LLP, Six Piedmont Center, 3525 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 700, Atlanta, Georgia 30305, (404) 994-7400. 1823-826A

THIS LAW FIRM MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

1823-826A

11/06, 11/13, 11/20, 11/27, 2025

0750-VNO (1823-826A)

Second Annual DCHS Battle of the Bands

Contributed

The Golden Sound of the South Presents the Second Annual DCHS Battle of the Bands this Saturday, Nov. 15 at the Dooly County High School Football Stadium. Gates open at 4:30 p.m. Get your tickets now at the high school.

You won't want to miss this

2025 REACH Scholars Announced

Contributed

Dooly County Middle School is proud to announce our newest REACH Scholars for 2025: Chloe Law, Carlos Argueta-Ceren, Brianna Mantok, Dontavious Grimes and Janesa Gauthier. REACH (Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen) is a needs-based mentorship and scholarship program that supports students from middle school through college. Scholars are paired with a mentor and an academic coach throughout high school and must maintain good behavior,

grades, and attendance to successfully complete the program.

These exceptional students earned this honor through a competitive process that included: Demonstrating academic promise, Maintaining a strong GPA, receiving recommendations from educators and participating in a formal interview with a selection committee. Upon successful high school graduation, REACH Scholars are awarded a \$10,000 scholarship (\$2,500 per year for up to four years) that can be used at any HOPE-eligible college in

The DCSS is excited to share that Dooly County K-8 Academy was recognized recently as a Rural Literacy Leader at the South Georgia Rural Education Initiative Summit.

Our Sixth graders achieved an outstanding 17.3 point gain in literacy, a testament to the hard work, dedication, and perseverance of our amazing students and our exceptional team of educators. Here's to celebrating success and continuing to reach new heights together.

RURAL HIGHLIGHTS

Rural Literacy Leaders

- Brantley County: Hoboken Elementary, 92.5% proficient in fifth grade
- Dooly County Middle: 17.3-point gain in sixth grade
- Early County Elementary: 18.4-point gain in fourth grade
- Marion County Middle/High: 16-point gain in sixth grade
- Pelham Elementary: 21.3-point gain in third grade



Chloe Law



Janesa Gauthier



Carlos Argueta-Ceren

Dontavious Grimes



Brianna Mantok

FA Students Learn Importance of Farmers



Contributed

Friends Angie Burton and Robin Peavy from Dooly Farm Bureau stopped by Fullington Academy recently for some

hands-on "Thank a Farmer" fun. Our students learned just how important farmers are to our community from the food on our tables to the clothes we wear. A huge thank-you to Dooly Farm Bureau for teaching, inspiring, and pouring into our Trojans. We loved every minute.

ROSEBURG PARCELS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

County 4-H Leader position that is currently unfilled and, "To elevate this position just one step closer to an agent position to what we call a 4-H educator that requires a bachelor's degree. It allows us to offer a little better salary. The starting salary for Quad's position (program assistant) has now moved up to \$36,000. This would be elevated to \$40,000 and allows us to seek a candidate with a bachelor's degree with a high level of independence working not as a para-professional, but as a professional. There is a high level of expectation, responsibility, independent working, and a higher level of compensation. There is a path there for that individual to move toward an agent position one day." The increase would be from \$14,813 plus benefits to \$17,500 including benefits with a target

date of February 1 to fill the job. Following discussion, commissioners agreed to advertise for the position of 4-H Educator.

Three new hires at the public works department were introduced to the board by Director Rodney Hair including David Blaha-roadside-mowing-equipment operator, Johnny Kenrick-motor grader and Shane Collier-equipment operator-truck driver. Commissioners approved the appointment of Ms. Dianne Mathis to the Dooly County Board of Assessors from District four replacing Lorrye Borden whose term expires at the end of the year and to re-appoint Mr. Gene Roney from District five on that board. Ms. Gwendolyn Ford, Mr. Wayne Wilkin and Mr. Earl Clark were approved to serve another term on the Dooly County Board of Elections and Registration.

Mr. Henry Bellew, Mr. Sylvester Granville and Mr. Mack Jordan were all re-appointed to serve on the Dooly County Planning Commission. Mr. Michael Daniels, Sr. was also tapped to serve another term on the Dooly County Recreation Board.

In other news:

- Windstream is transferring its assets in Dooly County's Public Right-of-Way to Kenetic ABS GA LLC.
- The County will observe the following holidays in the coming months including Thanksgiving Day-Thursday, Nov. 27, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day-Dec. 24 and Dec. 25 and New Years Day-January 1. The board also agreed to reschedule the meetings in January to Thursdays, January 8 and January 22.

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Dooly Attends Class A DII Region 4 Basketball Media Day

By Athletic Director
Brandon Dawkins

Class A DII Region 4 held its annual Region Basketball Media Day last Thursday, Nov. 6 at Brewton-Parker College's PCU Gym. Dooly County joined fellow region schools Telfair County, Hawkinsville, Treutlen, Wheeler, Montgomery County, and Wilcox County for an exciting opportunity for our Varsity Girls and Boys Basketball teams to engage with the media and fellowship with other student-athletes and coaches.

Dooly County was proudly represented by Athletic Director Brandon Dawkins, Girls Head Coach Eliza Bryant, Boys Head Coach Shannon Sallette, and student-athletes Ja'Kayla



Hooks, Cherish Sutton, Aleesia Taylor, Ken Lucas, and Ja'mari Buckles.

Our coaches and athletes took

questions from media members about their expectations, goals, and outlook for the upcoming season, highlighting their com-

mitment to excellence both on and off the court.

A huge thank you goes out to Coach Boatright and Coach

Madison from Montgomery County for organizing this fantastic event, Mrs. Galbreath for her valuable assistance, and to

Hibbett's and Coca-Cola for their generous sponsorship and support.

Lady Bobcats Lose 'Double Dip' in Flag Football

By Tim Franzén
News Observer Reporter

Dooly County dropped a pair of flag football games at 'The Grove' last Thursday losing to Warner Robins 13-7 and to the Peach County Lady Trojans 31-0. The Lady Bobcats are led by Cherish Sutton, Ja'Kayla

DCHS Scrimmage Basketball

Contributed

Dooly County High School will host two scrimmage games versus Fullington Academy this Friday, Nov. 14 in the DCHS gym. The Lady Trojans will play the Lady Bobcats at 5:00 p.m. followed by the Trojans boys versus Dooly County at 7:30 p.m.



Photo by Bonnie Hauesler
Fullington's Aidan Hill Trojans Quarterback Blake Hendrickson with Luke Campbell providing the block.

By Head Coach
Mike Ashley

Last Friday, we headed to Vidalia to take on the number two team in the state. We got off to a really good start on defense, so I thought we might have a chance. We got the ball on our first offensive possession and we ran the ball down the field,

but we had a fumble deep in their territory.

Later in the quarter, we had some coverage breakdowns that gave them a couple of easy scores. We went in at halftime and made some adjustments, but I could tell some of them were starting to doubt themselves. Blake Hendrickson had



Photo by Bonnie Hauesler
Quarterback Blake Hendrickson with Luke Campbell providing the blocking protection.

Photo by Bonnie Hauesler

a rough night because our line just didn't get it done. We ended up losing 69-12. However, Blake did throw two touchdowns and one of those was to Eli Ashley who had several catches on the night. Augie Harris ran the ball better than ever and Aidan Hill ran it hard, but at the end they were just

too much for us. I'm proud we made it past the first round, but disappointed because my guys are struggling to finish. It's been the same way for two years and that's what we're fighting to overcome. We have a great group returning next season and our seniors will definitely be missed.

Lady Trojans Basketball Pre-Season Report

"Looking to get that three-peat in region-return to the Final Four and maybe return to the state championship game."

By Head Coach Van Bailey

I'm looking forward to this 2025-2026 basketball season at Fullington Academy. We're coming off a great season of winning our second in a row region championship, making it to the Final Four again for the fourth straight time. A successful year last season and we've got some big shoes to fill. We lost four starters-seniors. We're returning two seniors that started that kind-a took turns starting in Rylee Reed and Izzy Ross-I'm excited for their senior year.

Also, Aubrie Pope and McKinley Causey, our other two seniors looking to lead this team to keep what we've had going the last few years going.

I think these four ladies are going to be great leaders and looking forward to their senior year. As far as the team our motto is, with most teams looking at who we have lost, we are looking at who we are. I'm excited to see what this team can do. We had a very good summer and I learned a lot about the team and the direction I wanted to take. I think the pre-season since we started working a little less than a month ago we started practice and it's been very challenging in practice.

We pushed the girls very hard and they have responded. Probably the hardest pre-season since I've been back in my last five years. Just the workouts and the strategies and the things that we're working on to bring these ladies around. I think we will definitely have some growing pains along the way, but I think when it really counts, when we get into January and of course February into the re-

gion and state tournaments, I think we will be where we want to be and we will surprise a lot of teams at that time.

We've got 16 girls who have come out from eighth grader up to the seniors. This team is probably going to be more of a 'running gun' defensive full court press type team. We're going to try to get teams to play 'ugly' and take advantage of turnovers and get some quick buckets. I think this is kind-a the makeup of this team and there's definitely a lot of heart and desire, hard work in these girls. We start off this season with a pre-season scrimmage coming up this Friday at Dooly County. We'll start at five o'clock there in Vienna.

We will be missing a couple of girls, but it will be a good challenge just for us to see where we are pre-season before we get into our regular season. We open up on the road Tuesday, Nov. 18 at Twigs Academy and then we come home to play the Wonder Five Centennial Tip-Off Basketball Tournament that we're doing for the centennial year of basketball in Dooly County where we'll play Trinity Thursday, Nov. 20 and TiftArea on Friday, Nov. 21 to get the season started.

I'm excited and looking forward to the year, getting started to see what we can be and we're looking to get that three-peat in region and return to the Final Four and maybe return to the state championship game. Again, those are our goals and of course defend our home turf there at Fullington. They've been working hard and I know they want to get on the floor and see where we are.

Trojans Shine at Forest City: Fullington Academy Clay Target Team Brings Home Multiple Top Finishes

Contributed

Savannah, Ga. — The Fullington Academy Trojans made an outstanding showing at the Georgia Independent School Association (GISA) AA State Clay Target Championship held October 30 through November 1 at the Forest City Gun Club in Savannah. Competing against 20 schools from across the state, our Trojans once again proved that hard work, dedication, and sportsmanship pay off in a big way.

I couldn't be prouder of how our team represented Fullington Academy both on and off the field. Out of a deep and talented field, our shooters delivered an exceptional performance, earning multiple top-ten finishes and a strong fourth Place High Overall (HOA) Team finish, a remarkable achievement for our program.

Leading the charge was Fisher Neal, who had an incredible weekend, securing Third Place in Sporting Clays, Sixth Place in Skeet, Sixth Place in Trap, and Third Place in Male HOA. His consistency and composure across all three disciplines also earned him a coveted spot on



The team members are: Fisher Neal, Mason Scarborough, Eli Handley, McKinley Causey, Ben Murphy, Tori Langford, Grady Wiggins, Brooklin Cromer (not pictured), John Wilson Floyd (not pictured), and Luke Little (not pictured).

the All-State Team, a well-deserved recognition for his talent and dedication.

Our female shooters also made their mark. McKinley Causey took Eighth Place in Female Sporting, while Tori Langford earned Eighth Place in Female Trap, both contributing valuable points toward our team's overall standing.

Their focus and determination highlight the bright future of our program. Competing at Forest City Gun

Club, one of the most challenging and respected venues in the Southeast, tested every athlete's skill and grit. The weather conditions changed daily, keeping our shooters on their toes, but the Trojans stayed consistent, focused, and positive throughout the event.

As their coach, I'm honored to watch these student-athletes grow, not just in their marksmanship but in leadership, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

Each competitor represented Fullington Academy with class, and their success speaks volumes about their work ethic and the support from our families, school, and community. We're closing out the 2025 season with pride and gratitude, already looking ahead to next year's goals. Congratulations again to our entire team for an outstanding State Championship performance. Go Trojans!

The Wonder Five Centennial Tip-Off Basketball Tournament

Contributed



Vienna has always been home to greatness and it all started with The Wonder Five (Varsity players). Join us at Fullington Academy Thursday and Friday November 20-21 as we celebrate 100 years of basketball excellence, honoring our past and cheering on the Trojans of today.

Let's fill the stands and make history all over again. The Lady Trojans play Trinity Nov. 20 at 6:30 p.m. and the Fullington boys will take on Rock Springs immediately following at 8:00 p.m. Nov. 21, the Lady Trojans play TiftArea at 3:30 p.m. with the FA boys taking on Trinity at 8:00 p.m.

DCRD Basketball Signups

Contributed

Basketball signups are now open and will end December 1. You can sign up online at <https://doolycountyga.com/recreation-signup-forms/> or come by the office at Williams Gym 216 East Ninth Street in Vienna. For more information, contact the office at 229-268-9176. Five and Six year old co-ed, 7-14 girls and boys must be that age as of September 1, 2025.