

WARRIOR WRESTLERS EXCEL AT HOLIDAY TOURNAMENT



Second grade students send Christmas greetings and wish lists for Santa



WHITE COUNTY NEWS

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Thursday, December 21, 2023

STR stress prompts legal representation

County OKs six more rentals, commissioner questions motives for using lawyer

by Noah Johnson White County News

The White County Board of Commissioners approved six more short-term rentals, including a controversial application where a lawyer got involved due to the taxing nature of the process.

The application – for Jeremy

and Nora Warner at 0 Deer Trail in Cleveland – was controversial when it was heard at the White County Planning Commission as multiple neighbors expressed opposition to the rezoning request.

A few of the same concerned neighbors that attended the planning commission meetings also attended the board meeting, showing their opposition again.

Jeremy and Nora Warner each spoke at previous planning commission meetings, but after Nora left the last planning commission meeting in tears, they decided

to hire an attorney to represent them. The Warners hired Quentin Carr to represent them.

Carr was representing another applicant at the same meeting.

Carr refuted the planning commissions' reasoning for recommending denial, citing letters of support that the Warners received.

"There was a denial last week

for recommendation. It was stated that was because it didn't fit within the community, but I don't know how we can say that when we have letters from the community and a majority that says they want to allow it," Carr said.

He also addressed the cove-

See STR Page 3A



Faith Gill checks out a My Little Pony toy as Deputy and School Resource Officer Josh Smith gives her a ride in the cart. (Photo/Noah Johnson)

Playing Santa

Shop-with-a-Cop lets 39 kids buy gifts

by Noah Johnson White County News

It was another successful Shop-with-a-Cop program this year as Family Connection held the event on Dec. 14 and 15.

Participating law enforcement agencies were the White County Sheriff's Office, Cleveland Police Department, Helen Police Department and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

Mark Griffin of Family Connection said that Community support helped fund the program.

Kids got the opportunity to shop around Walmart for new clothes, toys, games and other items. Griffin asked that purchases for each child be split between clothes and "fun stuff" like toys, games and more.

Family Connection worked with South Enotah Child Advocacy Center, Walmart in Cleveland,

See SHOP Page 7A

County finds its new elections head

by Samantha Sinclair White County News

White County has a new elections supervisor, and the county ended up not needing to look far for the right person.

County Manager Billy Pittard announced Friday that Amie Veater was assuming the position immediately.

Veater has been working in the White County Elections and Registrations Office since Nov. 20, when she

took over for Derek LaPerriere as chief registrar.

"We're just excited to have her," Board of Elections Chair Louise Nix said. "She came to us very qualified."



Veater

Veater previously served as administrative technician and deputy registrar for Forsyth County. Nix said her experience could be seen as she worked on Helen's runoff election earlier

See ELECTION Page 12A

Drought weakens

by Noah Johnson White County News

The recent rainfall has weakened the current drought in the county, but only slightly. White County has been in a drought for several weeks now, and each week the drought has intensified. The most recent drought map provided by the National Drought Mitigation Center indicated that the county is still in a drought, but its intensity level has dropped.

On Dec. 5, the majority of the county was designated as D2 severe and the northern portion was designated as D3 extreme. The most recent data released

on Thursday, Dec. 14 shows that the majority of the county has improved to D1 moderate while the northern portion improved to D2 severe.

Bill Kinsland, weather reporter and official National Weather Service Co-op Observer for Sautee provided new data on the water sources in White County, which have not changed much since last week.

"I think the best we can say is that there has been slight improvement," Kinsland said.

Even after the county experienced rainfall, the surface and ground water levels are below

See DROUGHT Page 12A

New statue honors families of fallen

by Samantha Sinclair White County News

The monument in Freedom Park with the names of those lost in wars since World War I now has a companion monument honoring the family members left behind.

Northeast Georgia Veterans Society dedicated the Families of the Fallen statue Saturday morning.

The bronze statue shows a soldier kneeling as he presents a folded American flag. It faces the White County Veterans Memorial.

The statue was donated by the society and the Frederick Russell Killmon Foundation.

Ron Webb, president of the Northeast Georgia Veterans Society, said the statue may be unique in the United States.

"I have lived all over this country



Terri Crumley brushes her hand over the side of the White County War Memorial where her brother's name is etched as the new Families of the Fallen monument faces the memorial.

by virtue of my military and FBI career," Webb said. "And I have never seen a memorial to specific families of fallen military heroes."

See FALLEN Page 6A

Hill remembered as 'Great American'

See full obituary on Page 9A.

by Samantha Sinclair White County News

Ronald Guy Hill, U.S. Army veteran and community leader, passed away Sunday, a day after his final gift to the county was dedicated.

Hill was 89 years old. He had Stage 4 pancreatic cancer.

Many of the statues honoring heroes in White County had Hill as the driving force behind them, including the White County

Veterans Memorial in Freedom Park, the life-size statue of Private Rondall H. Glaze in Helen Veterans Park, and the new Families of the Fallen Monument in Freedom Park.

His daughter shared on Saturday that he did get to visit the park prior to the ceremony and see the bronze statue of the soldier kneeling and presenting a folded American flag that he designed and worked hard to bring to the county in his final months.

Longtime Helen city

See HILL Page 6A

Table with 2 columns: INDEX and 3 SECTIONS, 32 PAGES. Rows include Public Safety, Deaths, Editorial, Mountain Life, Faith, Sports, Classifieds, and Legals.

Table with 2 columns: DEATHS and James 'Jimmy' Darrell Dean, 73. Lists names of deceased individuals and their ages.

Table with 2 columns: WEATHER and Rainfall as of 12-20-23. Shows rainfall totals and normal YTD values.



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**AROUND TOWN**

**News office closed Christmas, New Year's Day**

The White County News office will be closed on Christmas Day. As a result, we will have early advertising deadlines for the Dec. 28 and Jan. 4 editions. The deadline for legals, classifieds and display advertising is 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 21 for the Dec. 28 edition. The deadline for legals, classifieds and display advertising is 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 28 for the Jan. 4 edition.

**Cleveland, Helen to hold ceremonies**

Both Cleveland and Helen will hold swearing in ceremonies for elected officials. Cleveland will have its swearing in ceremony and reception for the mayor and city council members of Wards 1 and 2 at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 21 at First Baptist Church in Cleveland. Helen will have a called meeting at 10 a.m. on Jan. 2 to swear in its two new commissioners.

**Trash pickup notice**

As Christmas falls on a Monday, the City of Helen's garbage company, FC Sanitations, will pick trash up on Tuesday, Dec. 26. New Year's Day also falls on Monday, but his is not a holiday for them. For details, call Helen City Hall at 706-878-2733.

**County, city offices closed**

White County administrative offices will be closed Monday, Dec. 25 and Tuesday, Dec. 26 for the Christmas holiday. City of Cleveland offices will be closed starting 1:45 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 21 for the Christmas holiday and will reopen 8 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 26.

**See Community Calendar on 10A for more local events**

**PUBLIC MEETINGS**

The following public meetings are for Dec. 21 - Jan. 25:

**Cleveland City Council**

2 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 21, Called Meeting at First Baptist Church, 25 Church St. in Cleveland.

**White County Planning Commission**

6 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 27, Called Meeting and Public Hearing at the White County Senior Center located at 1239 Helen Highway in Cleveland.

**White County Board of Elections and Registration**

9 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 2, Regular Meeting at the Community and Economic Development meeting room, 1241 Helen Highway in Cleveland.

**Helen City Commission**

10 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 2, Called Meeting at Helen City Hall, 25 Alpenrosen Strasse in Helen.

**White County Planning Commission**

6 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 2, Regular Meeting at the White County Senior Center located at 1239 Helen Highway in Cleveland.

**Cleveland City Council**

6:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 8, Regular Meeting at Cleveland Police Department, 342 Campbell St. in Cleveland.

**Helen City Commission**

10 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 16, Meeting at Helen City Hall, 25 Alpenrosen Strasse in Helen.

**Cleveland City Council**

6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 16, Called Meeting at Cleveland Police Department, 342 Campbell St. in Cleveland.

**White County Board of Education**

8 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 23, Regular Meeting at the White County Board of Education Offices, Board Room, 136 Warriors Path in Cleveland.

**ARRESTS**

The following is a list of names most recently entered at the White County Sheriff's Office.

**Offenses listed are charges only. All listed are innocent until proven guilty.**

**Dec. 12**

■ Michael Steven Bennett, 35, Cartersville, theft by deception. (WCSO)  
 ■ John Stanley Burton, 46, Cleveland, simple battery-fva. (WCSO)  
 ■ Brandy Marie Rankin, 42, Cleveland, contempt of child support court order. (WCSO)

**Dec. 13**

■ Amanda Ann Broosky, 36, Cleveland, hold for prison. (WCSO)  
 ■ Jack Raymond Brooks, 33, Helen, time to serve. (WCSO)  
 ■ Ashton Blake Dove, 18, Cleveland, bench warrant; possession of Schedule I controlled substance. (WCSO)  
 ■ Jennifer Heidi Goblish, 53, Dunwoody, battery-fv.

**BLOTTER**

**Dec. 12**

■ Deputies received a call in reference to a domestic dispute at a residence near Highway 255. The complainant stated that her husband had been drinking and took her phone and vehicle and left the residence after an altercation. Deputies attempted to locate the vehicle and as they were doing so the complainant called and said her husband returned and another altercation was occurring. The deputies went back to the residence and placed the aggressor under arrest for simple battery-family violence. (WCSO)

**Dec. 13**

■ A deputy responded a residence near Highway 115 in reference to a domestic dispute. The deputy met with the victim and the offender who said the argument was over money. The victim stated that she went to throw a pillow out of the house when the offender grabbed it and pushed her to the ground. The offender stated that he did grab the pillow but that the victim fell on her own. No marks were observed on the victim and both individuals were separated. (WCSO)

**Dec. 14**

■ Deputies initiated a traffic stop on Highway 129 for a vehicle with no tail lights. GCIC confirmed that the vehicle had suspended registration. Upon further investigation, the deputy confirmed that the driver had a warrant out of Hall County. The driver was arrested and turned over to the Hall County Sheriff's Office. (WCSO)  
 ■ Officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Highway 115/Campbell Street. One vehicle was turning onto Campbell Street when a vehicle turning off Campbell Street hit the vehicle turning, causing it to roll over onto its passenger side. The vehicle turning off Campbell Street fled the scene. Minor injuries were reported. The vehicle was damaged and then towed. (CPD)

**Dec. 16**

■ Deputies responded to the area of Bean Creek Road in reference to a 911 hang up call. The caller stated that he was being kidnapped. The phone call ended when he was near the Habersham County line. White County Dispatch pinged the phone and the

(HPD)  
 ■ Buddy Lee Holcomb, 39, Cleveland, hold for Flowery Branch. (WCSO)  
 ■ Steven Brian Jones, 34, probation violation. (WCSO)  
 ■ Charles Oneal Michael Young, 25, Dacula, bench warrant; possession of marijuana; purchase, possession, manufacture, distribution or sale of marijuana. (WCSO)

**Dec. 14**

■ Mikayla Claudette Elliot, 22, Lawrenceville, battery; criminal trespass. (HPD)

**Dec. 15**

■ Scott Anthony Gerin, 45, Cornelia, hold for Habersham. (HSCO)  
 ■ Elizandro Lopez Gomez, 22, Rossville, DUI; failure to maintain lane; driving while unlicensed. (CPD)  
 ■ Kenneth Bradley Kirkland, 31, Carnesville, hold for Habersham. (HSCO)  
 ■ Matthew Austin Macneil, 23, Clarkesville, hold

for Habersham. (HSCO)  
 ■ Luther Newell Mize, 40, Clarkesville, probation violation. (WCSO)  
 ■ Jordan Alyson Montoya, 31, Alpharetta, battery-fv. (WCSO)  
 ■ Bruce Edward Morgan, 51, Tecula, probation violation. (WCSO)  
 ■ Michael Martellus Peters, 30, hold for Habersham. (HSCO)  
 ■ Charles Frederick Randolph, 44, Cleveland, probation violation. (WCSO)  
 ■ Eric Edward Thompson, 40, Clarkesville, hold for Habersham. (HSCO)

**Dec. 16**

■ Corey Randolph Gable Jr., 30, Elberton, driving while license suspended or revoked. (WCSO)  
 ■ Mitchel Dean Gentry, 30, Murrayville, driving while unlicensed. (CPD)

**Dec. 17**

■ Cameron Blake Spence, 23, Cleveland, DUI; reckless driving; too fast for conditions; failure to maintain lane; seatbelt

violation; open container. (WCSO)  
 ■ Keith Haroldan Wilson, 41, Cleveland, reckless driving. (CPD)

**Dec. 18**

■ Cody Lee Fendley, 38, Cleveland, statement of charge; fleeing or attempting to elude police; criminal trespass; aggravated assault; terroristic threats and acts. (WCSO)  
 ■ Ian Jeffery Fischer, 18, Cleveland, 2 counts entering an automobile; criminal damage to property in the second degree. (CPD)  
 ■ Kimberley Marie Matthews, 43, Cleveland, statement of charge. (WCSO)  
 ■ Ismael Godines Najar, 25, Blairsville, possession of marijuana; driving while license suspended or revoked; DUI; tail lights or lens required; failure to maintain lane. (WCSO)  
 ■ Justin Philip Reynolds, 42, Buford, probation violation. (WCSO)  
 ■ Tarin Marie Webb, 35, Cornelia, bench warrant. (WCSO)

initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle and discovered that the driver had a suspended license out of S.C. The driver was arrested and transported to the White County Detention Center. (WCSO)

**Dec. 17**

■ A deputy met with a complainant at the White County Sheriff's Of-

fice who stated she was a guardian of 10-year-old juvenile. She stated that last weekend the mother of the juvenile allowed the child to smoke a marijuana product. (WCSO)



**Thank You... for your service to our country.**

If you know of member of the military who is currently serving his or her country in the United States or overseas, please submit their name and address information to the *White County News*.

Call 706-865-4718, email [publisher@whitecountynews.net](mailto:publisher@whitecountynews.net) or come by our office on the square in Cleveland.

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**God Bless Our Military & Their Families**

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- For emergencies always call 911**
- |  |  |
|--|--|
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| <b>Cleveland Police Department</b><br>(non-emergency) 706-865-2111   | <b>Helen Fire Department</b><br>(non-emergency) 706-878-3676 |
| <b>Helen Police Department</b><br>(non-emergency) 706-878-2722       | <b>White County Animal Control</b><br>706-219-7881           |
| <b>White County Public Safety</b><br>(non-emergency) 706-865-9500    | <b>Report Child Abuse</b><br>855-422-4453                    |
| <b>White County Fire Services</b><br>(non-emergency) 706-865-3855    | <b>Report Elderly/Disabled Abuse</b><br>866-552-4464         |

**CRISIS ASSISTANCE**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Circle of Hope</b> (Domestic Violence)<br>706-776-4673 | <b>National Suicide Prevention</b><br>800-273-8255      |
| <b>Rape Response</b><br>800-721-1999                      | <b>Georgia Crisis &amp; Access Line</b><br>800-715-4225 |
| <b>Georgia Poison Control Center</b><br>800-222-1222      | <b>Crisis Text Line</b><br>741741                       |

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**Corrections:** It is our policy to correct errors of fact that appear in our news stories. If you are aware of an error, please contact us.



Representatives from local organizations and Community Thrift Store gather for the presentation of grants Dec. 15, including (front row) Anna Waddell of Family Promise, employee Lacey Coker, employee Jackie McDaniel, volunteer Gail Smith, volunteer Carol Dobson, employee Joy Bailey, (back row) Board Chair Kim Sosebee of Community Thrift Store, Laura Cormier of Caring and Sharing, Jerry Brackett of the White County Food Pantry and Gene White of the Helping Hands Clinic. (Photo/Noah Johnson)

## Thrift store gives to four nonprofits

by Noah Johnson  
White County News

The Community Thrift Store in Cleveland gave out four grants to local organizations on Thursday, Dec. 14. Board Chair Kim Sosebee presented grants to Caring and Sharing, Family Promise, the Helping Hands Clinic and the White County Food Pantry.

A representative of each organization as well as volunteers and employees of Community Thrift Store were in attendance. It was the final grant presentation of the year. Sosebee was grateful for each organization and the work they do.

"We appreciate everything ya'll do," Sosebee said. Since it opened in Summer 2004, the store has given \$1,591,000 to local organizations that support families in need. In 2023, the store raised \$44,000.

The store supports grants through the sale of items donated to the store. Community Thrift Store is located at 1160 East Kyle Street in Cleveland.



## Spreading cheer

Lousia and Ted Videki stand with the toys collected at their third annual Christmas fundraiser at Creekstone Winery on Wednesday, Dec. 13. The toys, along with the hundreds in cash donations collected, were donations for Family Promise of White and Habersham Counties. Guests were treated to a free glass of wine with their donation, and children enjoyed visits with Santa and cookies from Mrs. Claus. (Photo/Samantha Sinclair)

## Schools app is live

by Samantha Sinclair  
White County News

There's now an app for White County Schools, too.

Although the app is live and available to download, Director of School Improvement Cindy Free said, staff is previewing it right now to make sure it has everything needed.

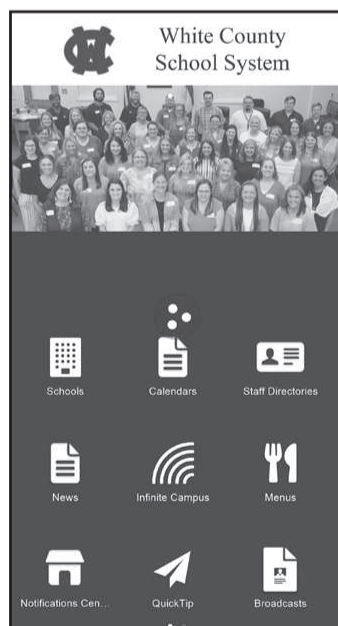
Free reported on the app's progress at the White County Board of Education meeting on Dec. 12.

She said the official launch for the app is planned for next month.

The app is for the entire community, not just parents and staff. Users are able to subscribe to as many or few schools as they'd like, but by default everyone is subscribed to the White County Board of Education.

Alerts, like school closings for inclement weather, will be available through the app.

The app is integrated with the website, providing everything from calendars to board meeting agendas that's already on the school



The White County Schools app is available to preview.

system's websites. "Everything that is on the website... updates to the app," Free said.

"We do love that it integrates so we don't have to worry about it lagging or not being up to date," Superintendent Laurie Burkett said.

The app is available in both the Apple Store and in the Google Play Store.

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# Board OKs price tag for HS reno

by Samantha Sinclair  
White County News

The White County Board of Education approved the guaranteed maximum price of \$3.16 million for the renovation project for White County High School.

At the board's meeting Dec. 12, Assistant Superintendent Scott Justus presented the amount prepared by Charles Black Construction, the construction manager for the project. The board approved the amount at their Dec. 14 meeting.

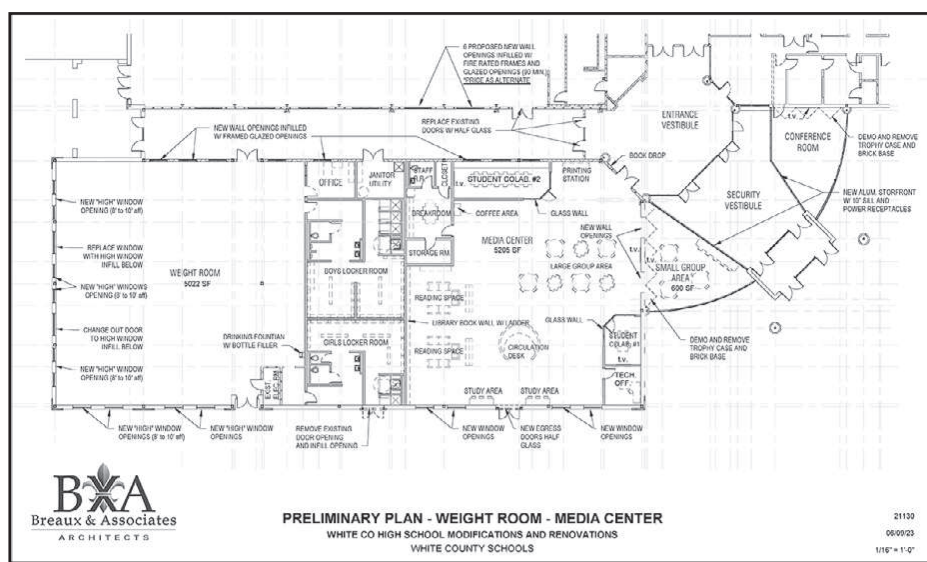
The renovation project will transform the space being vacated by the theater and band programs into a new library and weight room.

Both programs are moving into the new Performing Arts Center, once it's complete and there's time to move.

"We're very, very close," Justus told the board on Dec. 12.

He noted he's been hesitant on providing a move-in date, and shared they are now experiencing a delay in rigging for the theater.

The rigging installation delay is



The preliminary plans for the renovations were presented to the White County Board of Education last month.

shutting down getting anything else completed around the stage, including the installation of seating.

He added the school cannot get a certificate of occupancy until the rigging is up.

"Charles Black is devastated as well," Justus said.

He's been told spring break may be

possible for move-in, but said he was previously told January or February for move-in.

The board also approved on Dec. 14 spending \$7,320 in Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, or ESPLOST, funds for the move into the Performing Arts Center.

## Teachers to get \$1K Christmas bonus

by Matthew Osborne  
CNI News Service

Gov. Brian Kemp announced Monday that teachers and educational support staff members across the state, along with an additional 112,000 state employees, will receive a \$1,000 bonus at Christmas-time.

Sen. Bo Hatchett (R-Cornelia) stood with Kemp as he made the announcement Monday, that will include \$45,000 for every public school in the state to spend on safety measures.

"I'm honored to join Governor Kemp in securing additional funds for school safety and providing extra support for our hardworking educators and state employees," Hatchett said. "Our aim is crystal clear — to make Georgia's schools the safest and most secure in the entire country. Every child deserves the chance to learn and grow without

any concerns about safety. This proposal is a significant step towards achieving that goal. Moreover, this reaffirms our commitment to supporting and empowering our teachers, who are shaping the future of our state, and our state employees, who play a vital role in our community's welfare."

Kemp said the gift of appreciation will arrive during the holiday season.

"Throughout the pandemic, a summer of unrest, and the unprecedented challenges of the last several years, our state employees have worked hard, taken on additional challenges, remained committed to serving their fellow Georgians, and become more streamlined so we can remain the best state for opportunity," Kemp said.

Kemp's amended FY 2024 budget submitted to the General Assembly in January will include approximately \$330

million for the one-time pay supplements, including \$202 million for K-12 teachers and school support staff. The budget will also include more than \$100 million for the safety enhancements.

"This additional investment in school safety will benefit every part of the state," Kemp said.

The announcement came as a surprise on the first day of Christmas break for White County Schools. Dr. Laurie Burkett, superintendent, said the system is awaiting more details from the state Department of Education, including when the allocations will come in and how to disperse it. She knew a majority of the funding would come from the state.

"I think it's fantastic," Burkett said. "Our people deserve whatever we can get them."

Assistant Superintendent Scott Justus said the safety

teams at each school and principals will help guide the how to best use the \$45,000 for safety measures.

"White County Schools' number one priority will always be to keep our students, staff, and community safe when on our campuses," Justus said.

In 2019, White County Schools used a \$30,000 grant for security from the Governor's office to upgrade lock systems and add electronic doors at all the schools. A \$50,000 grant awarded earlier this year for security is being used as needed, and being used in the process of upgrading camera systems throughout the district, Justus said.

"I am proud to stand among Georgia's leaders who prioritize the educators selflessly shaping our next generation," Hatchett said.

Editor Samantha Sinclair contributed to this report.

## STR

nants in the subdivision saying that there was no language put in the documents that excluded short-term rentals.

Commissioner Terry Goodger said he understands the community's frustration but that he thinks they have a problem with short-term rentals in general, not the particular property.

Commissioner Edwin Nix addressed the letters of support he received from neighbors saying he has known some of them for years.

"They're good people. I mean, they're very good people. I'll have to take into consideration with their signature a little bit from just knowing them," Nix said.

"If they didn't like this, I know these people, they'll tell you they didn't like it and they'll tell you in a heartbeat that they didn't like it," Nix added.

Nix agreed that the

Warners took the necessary steps to comply but took issue with an attorney representing them rather than themselves.

"When people bring attorneys in here, it makes me think that there's ulterior motives. So, I would have thought a lot more had you presented this yourself," Nix said.

Carr responded to Nix saying that he came into the process late and the Warners decided to use him because of the events at the previous planning commission meeting where Nora Warner left in tears after her application was recommended for denial.

The application ultimately was approved by a four to one vote with Commissioner Lyn Holcomb in opposition.

The other applications approved were for SBC Properties LLC (Shawn Hammond) at 83 Elrod Road in Helen; Quentin Carr on behalf of Neal and

Sally Berry at 176 Laurel Ridge Road in Cleveland; Jennifer Whaley at 223 Ralph Vandiver Road in Sautee Nacoochee; Steven and Kathy Schmidt on behalf of Ukani Group Incorporated at 43 Thornblade Trail in Cleveland; and Mike and Heather Shramek at 2734 Town Creek Road in Cleveland.

The applications for Hammond, Whaley, Schmidt and Shramek were all approved by a unanimous vote.

The application for Carr on behalf of the Berrys was approved on a four to one vote with Commissioner Craig Bryant in opposition.

There was also an application for Colin Morris at 538 Highway 356 in Helen but he was not present at the meeting. Community

and Economic Director John Sell spoke with Morris over the phone and Morris stated he thought the meeting was in the evening. He asked to table the application for a later date which was unanimously approved by the board.

In other business, the commission unanimously approved a contract with HEC Construction LLC to install new concrete pads for the batting cages at Yonah Preserve Ballfields. According to the request, the cages are currently unusable after rain and both recreation teams and travel tournament teams use them. The construction will cost the county \$21,154 which will be funded through the 2020 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, or SPLOST.

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### CITY OF CLEVELAND, GEORGIA SEALED BID SALE SALE OF REAL ESTATE (MIN. BID \$1,000,000.00)

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Cleveland invites members of the general public to submit sealed bid proposals for consideration to purchase certain real property in accordance with O.C.G.A. 36-37-6 (a).

Sealed bids will be accepted by the City of Cleveland in the office of the City Clerk, 85 South Main Street, Cleveland, GA 30528 or mailed to City of Cleveland, Attn: City Clerk, 85 South Main Street, Cleveland, GA 30528 until, but no later than, 4:30 p.m. on January 26, 2024 for the following property:

White County Tax Map: C01E.044A  
Land Lot Number 39 of the 2nd Land District, White County, Georgia  
Plat reference: Plat Book 15, Page 252, Office of Clerk, Superior Court  
Zoning: Commercial  
Deed reference: Deed Book 6-A, pages 97-98, Office of Clerk, Superior Court

Bids must be submitted in the manner prescribed in the "Instruction to Bidders" included with this packet, accompanied by a cashier's check, certified check, or money order made payable to the City of Cleveland, in the amount of 3% of the bid as a deposit. The successful bidder's deposit will be applied toward the purchase price. All others will be returned. Closing shall occur within sixty (60) days after approval of the sale.

The City of Cleveland reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The property is being sold "as is." For further information, contact City Administrator Kevin Harris at 85 South Main Street, Cleveland GA 30528; (706) 865-2017.

All bids must be submitted on the Bid Proposal Form before the stated deadline for consideration. Bids will be opened in a public format on January 26, 2024 at 5 p.m. at 85 South Main Street, Cleveland, GA 30528 in the Office of the City Clerk.

For more information, please visit [www.cityofclevelandga.org](http://www.cityofclevelandga.org).

### NOTICE OF MEETINGS FOR THE HELEN CITY COMMISSION FOR 2024

Notice is hereby given that the 2024 Regular Meetings of the Helen City Commission will be conducted on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission Chambers located at Helen City Hall, 25 Alpenrosen Strasse, Helen, Georgia. The meetings will commence at 10:00 a.m. and continue until the business at hand has been completed. If need necessitates, a called second meeting would be conducted after proper notification to the local legal organ and posted at Helen City Hall.

The following will be the dates for the 2024 Meetings:  
January 16, February 20, March 19, April 16,  
May 21, June 18, July 16, August 20, September 17,  
October 15, November 19, December 17.