

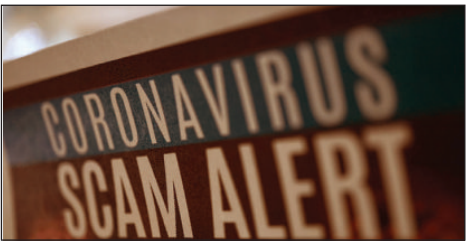
# Pandemic prompts more deliveries, more scammers

COVID-19 has prompted a change in the way Americans interact with commerce, specifically allowing Georgians to track everything from gifts to groceries from a warehouse anywhere in the world to their own front porch, all while maintaining social distance.

The Better Business Bureau of North Atlanta is seeing scam numbers increase as deliveries do, and spokeswoman Dot-tie Callina said scammers are getting creative. While some actually want the physical things you've purchased, others are just looking for your personal information.

One newer and more crafty tricks is the false delivery sticker. Callina said you'll find a realistic "We Missed You" delivery sticker from what appears to be a delivery company you use, with information on how to organize your delivery. But, not so fast.

"They indicate they're having challenges delivering to you, they ask you to call a particular phone number - and I'm doing air quotes with that - to reschedule you're delivery," said Callina. If you call, the scammers



will ask for all kinds of personal information, and the package is a fake.

Similarly, a text or email message might come up with a short link asking you how to get a package you ordered delivered. It will say it is Amazon, UPS, FedEx or another carrier or company you know and use. Callina said don't click that link!

"It's going to ask for personal information, and/or it's going to download malware onto your phone, your computer, whatever. It's a way for criminals to obtain personal information because it's the scope of information criminals have, all they need is your last name and your email address and they can hack into your email, possibly your

bank, credit card, you don't know how far this can go."

Callina said the easiest way to avoid a personal information scan regarding online shopping or any kind of delivery is to reject whatever link, message, or note pops up, and go straight to the source. If it said Amazon, go direct to Amazon and check on your deliveries to confirm if the message or note is true.

While we typically see porch pirates during the holidays, Callina says they've been just as active during the pandemic. With many people working from home, Callina said the pirates are working more quickly.

"If you're going to have any item delivered that's very valuable, be sure that you're home to get that delivery," said Callina. "Or, have it delivered somewhere so someone else can accept the delivery for you."

Creating a team of your neighbors can make times like these a little easier. She said if you have a good neighbor, ask them to check for packages, keep an eye out for unusual people going door to door, or watch for following cars if they hear the delivery truck. And, return the favor when you're able.

Lastly, Callina said if someone in your neighborhood seems suspicious, or you get a weird note, you can contact police and ask them to take a look.

If you need assistance call the Donalsonville Police Department at (229) 524-2175, the Seminole County Sheriff's Office at (229) 524-5115 or dial 911.

## Dr. Henry is now on duty at home

**← DR. HENRY from Page 1**  
**How did you end up going into medicine?**

I remember my mom helping me with a simple kindergarten homework assignment that asked, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" My response was "a doctor." And it was from that moment that I remember this being spoken into my life regularly by my family members. Some of my friends from college still remind me to this day how their first memory of me was when I introduced myself, whether it was in class or social settings, I always shared that I had aspirations to go to medical school. I was that kid who drove around on campus with a Georgia car tag which read, 'DRHENRY'. My parents have never let me waiver from changing my career goals even though I tried to change it several times.



Dr. De'smond M. Henry

**What does it mean to you to be practicing in the area where you grew up?**

I'm truly honored to be able to return to Donalsonville and practice here. I look forward to learning from the nurses, medical staff and my partners, Dr. Henderson and Dr. Lenz. I chose to come back to this community in hopes to make a positive difference. I am excited to serve a community that helped in shaping me as a young person. I want to be an inspiration to my generation and younger generations that we can pursue dreams, achieve goals and find a way to share our gifts and talents in communities like Donalsonville. I am very grateful for this opportunity; this community has made me feel welcomed since returning. So I sincerely want to say, Thank you Donalsonville for allowing me to serve you!

**What advice do you have for Seminole County High School students considering medical school?**

I remember sitting in a full lecture hall for General Chemistry during the first semester of my Freshman year at Columbus State University. The professor said "Half of you won't be here past midterms and less than half of you will successfully pass this class." Although that was a scary statement coming from a professor, I was determined that would not be my narrative. I remember complaining to my grandmother, the late Classie Henry, about how hard some of my college classes were and I wanted to change career paths. She responded to me with a simple statement, "You can be anything you want to be." My grandmother's words would always resonate with me when I faced challenges and difficult situations from under grad to medical school and residency. So my advice would be never give up when you face challenges, don't take on other's false narratives for your life, be persistent and open minded. And when you are faced with difficult situations, don't be afraid to ask or seek help and guidance from professors, mentors and other professionals who have been where you are trying to go. You can't figure out the road through medical school by yourself.

**What do you do outside of work for fun?**

I'm an avid car enthusiast. I enjoy reading car magazines, I'm a member of several online car forums and I'm a member of Porsche Club of America. I try to attend club events if my schedule allows it and I also visit the Porsche Experience Center in Atlanta frequently. Aside from cars. I enjoy traveling, social events and spending time with family and friends.

**What advice do you have for women expecting during this pandemic?**

I encourage all pregnant women to wear a mask when out in public, practice social distancing, wash their hands frequently and limit contact with others as much as possible. It is important to maintain an adequate supply of resources such as medications and keep all prenatal appointments. Following these instructions are crucial to limiting their exposure to COVID-19 and optimizing their health. Although the overall risk to pregnant women remains low, the current data does show pregnant women who are obese, from specific ethnic groups such as African-American and Hispanic, are at an increased risk of severe illness if they contract COVID-19. So everyone, please practice safety at all costs.

## Three new COVID-19 cases reported in schools

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every day and doing temperature checks before students enter the buildings. The school system reports the positive case numbers to the local and state health department each Friday.

The school system continues to ask all parents to stress to their children the importance of wearing masks when social distancing is not possible. This includes always wearing a mask on the bus, during class changes, and in the hallways.

Superintendent Mark Earnest commented, "We continue to ask that you stress the importance of hand washing and keeping



hands away from their faces. We have made every effort to reduce the exposure of our teachers and students but are asking you to help us and do your part by working with your children. Also, it is important to screen your children daily before sending them to school. If they are not feeling well or have a fever, please do not send them to school."

Superintendent Earnest said that unless positive COVID-19 numbers continue to increase the school system plans to continue with its detailed plan for in-person instruction.

#MaskUpGA

Thank you for doing your part in helping to stop the spread of COVID-19

Please continue to ...  
Wash and sanitize hands regularly.  
Wear a mask in public.  
And practice Social Distancing  
Be six-feet-apart smart!

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