

## Inside this week

Animal shelter  
receives grant  
...Page 10

GNCC coming to  
Aonia  
...Page 10

Stephen Albertson  
presents Rotary Intern  
...Page 3

# The News-Reporter

Serving Wilkes County since 1896

75¢ per copy  
sales tax included

GEORGIA PRESS ASSOCIATION

www.news-reporter.com

Vol. CIV, No. 10 Washington, Georgia • Publication No. 387-580 • 10 Pages • Thursday, March 10, 2022



(l-r) Janet Parker, Andy Anderson, Maceo Mahoney, William deGolian, Amber Poole, Nathaniel Cullars, Charles Wagner, and Bridget Venable cut the ribbon at the new Dollar General

## Washington's second Dollar General opens

Submitted by  
**JANET PARKER**  
Economic Development Director

The Washington City Council was on hand Saturday as Dollar General hosted their grand opening community celebration at its new location at 110 North Mercer in Washington on Saturday, March 5. The event began at 8 a.m. and included a ribbon-cutting ceremony with Mayor deGolian, Councilmen Nathaniel Cullars, Maceo Mahoney, Andy Anderson, Charles Wagner, district manager Amber Poole and Store Manager Bridget Venable. The Company also provided complimentary \$10 gift cards to the first 50 adult customers and DG tote bags with product sam-

ples to the first 100 customers. "Dollar General is excited to open our newest location in Wilkes County and celebrate the grand opening with the Washington community," said Amber Poole, Dollar General's district manager of operations in Washington. "As part of our mission of serving others, we believe the addition of each new store represents positive economic impact through the creation of new and local jobs, the ability for customers to save time and money on household essentials, the generation of tax revenue for the City and the ability for local nonprofits, schools and libraries to apply for literacy grants from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation. We look forward to being a strong business partner

and good neighbor as we provide a convenient location to help Washington residents stretch their budgets." To commemorate the grand opening, Dollar General, in partnership with Kelloggs, also donated 100 new books to Washington Wilkes Elementary School. The store has created approximately 6-10 new career opportunities in Washington, depending on the individual needs of the store. Anyone interested in joining one of America's fastest-growing retailers with competitive wages and benefits, world-class training and development and the ability to further their career through their growing organization may apply for available positions online at [www.dollargeneral.com/careers](http://www.dollargeneral.com/careers).



Joshua Walton

## Alleged gunman arrested

By **MICHAEL BOWEN**  
Publisher

Alleged gunman Joshua Walton was apprehended by law enforcement Tuesday, March 8. After nine days at large, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the U.S. Marshal's service, accompanied by the Wilkes County Sheriff's Of-

fice, arrested Walton without a struggle, according to Chief Investigator Thomas Bailey. Walton is presently being held at the Wilkes County jail pending his bond hearing. According to a press release from the GBI last week, Walton was wanted for charges resulting from a shootout at Citgo February 28 that he was allegedly involved in.



Photo by MICHAEL BOWEN

Tiger baseball player Robert Hunt steals home plate from the visiting Blue Devils

## Tigers smoke GSIC but fall to the Elbert County Blue Devils

The Tigers varsity baseball team beat the Georgia School for Innovation and the Classics 10-0, but lost to Elbert County 17-1 in their double-header Saturday, March 5. The first game of the day was against the Georgia School for Innovation and the Classics. The Tigers leapt to an early lead, scoring six runs at the bottom of the

first inning. With Nathan Durham on the mound, the second inning saw a stalemate for both teams, at least until the third inning. Trace Callaway batted in the first run of the third inning. A pop fly to the outfield allowed Desmond Cofer to score as well. Nathan Durham batted in the last run of the third inning, advancing the Tigers' lead to 9-0. The Tigers drove the final

nail into GSIC's coffin with an RBI at the bottom of the fourth. With a score of 10-0, the Tigers soundly whipped their opponents. But victory truly has no favorites. When the Tigers took to the field against the Elbert County Blue Devils, the first inning must have seemed to last an eternity. Morgan Shedd started on the

Continued on page 9

Daylight saving time is here once again. This Sunday, March 13, clocks will be set ahead at 2 a.m. and everyone will lose one hour of sleep.

Some people love it – others hate it. The concept of daylight saving time has always been an issue. It was first started in 1918 as a wartime measure. Contrary to popular belief, it was not for the farmers to have more time to work in the fields. Americans hated it so much that the law was later revoked. It was reinstated in 1942 as another wartime measure, and the necessity of it ended in 1945. It was brought back again in 1966 with the enactment of the Uniform Time Act as an attempt to standardize daylight saving time. (DST)

The Uniform Time Act of 1966 commanded that daylight saving time start across the nation on the last Sunday of April and end on the last Sunday of October. Proponents of daylight saving usually state that most people would prefer an increase in daylight hours after the normal 9-5 workday. They have also stated that DST decreases energy consumption, however the real effect on overall energy use has been and continues to be disputed. Rather than rural interests, it has been urban entities such as retail outlets and recreational businesses that benefit from the change. Over the years, the starting and ending dates have been adjusted several times.

In recent years, changing clocks forward and backward is also a reminder to change the batteries in smoke detectors. Many fire departments encourage people to change the batteries in their smoke detectors when they change their clocks because daylight saving time provides a convenient reminder. A working smoke detector more than doubles a person's chances of surviving a home fire.

More than 90 percent of homes in the United States have smoke detectors, but one-third are estimated to have dead or missing batteries.

While battery-operated units have a built-in device that chirps when batteries get low, signaling the need for replacement, common wisdom dictates not waiting until that point. Batteries should be replaced twice a year, once in the spring and once in the fall.

When you change your batteries, be sure to dust the unit, making sure that the sensor is lint free. The button test ensures that the batteries are working. However, it doesn't tell you whether the detector is operating properly. To find out, put two or three lighted matches together and then blow out the flame, holding the matches so that the smoke wafts up toward the unit.

After a period of 10 years, a smoke detector has endured more than 87,000 hours of continuous operation, during which time the internal sensors have probably become contaminated with dust, dirt, and air pollutant residues. If your alarm or detector is more than 10 years old, consider replacing it. Your family and your home are certainly important enough to do a little maintenance.