

# The Clinch County News

We give the skinny so you can chew the fat

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131st YEAR, ISSUE 22 © 2026 The Clinch County News

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

HOMERVILLE, GEORGIA

8 PAGES, ONE SECTION

**Bargains, Coupons & Deals**  
INSIDE with these sales papers:



## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

What's going on in your community

### Property tax bills will be delayed for 2025

Property tax bills for 2025 are delayed this year due to the property revaluation process. They will possibly be sent out toward the end of January. Once they are sent, the due date will be no less than 60 days later, according to the tax commission office.

### St. Paul's to hold Men's Day Jan. 25th

St. Paul's Missionary Baptist Church will be having Men's Day on Sunday, January 25, at 10 a.m. Speaker will be Bishop Terrance Latimore of Waycross. Everyone is invited to attend the service.

### FMB sponsoring trips to NY, Amish Country

Farmers and Merchants Bank is sponsoring trips to Niagara Falls USA & Buffalo, June 6-14, 2026 and to Shipshewana, Indiana, Amish Country, October 11-16, 2026. Come join the fun and travel with the Farmers and Merchants Bank group to Niagara Falls USA & Buffalo for 9 days and 8 nights, 14 meals and tours of Niagara Falls, USA (No Passport), Cruise on the "Maid of the Mist" and Erie Canal, drive through wine country & tour Buffalo. Amish Country trip is for 6 days and 5 nights, 8 meals and tour Amish Homestead, see the show "Love Comes Softly", visit MENNO-HOF, the Amish & Mennonite Story, a wagon tour and visit DAS Dutchman & Downtown Shipshewana. If you are interested, contact Jo Ann Tomlinson at tomlinson.joann@gmail.com or 912-487-8664.

### Narcotics Anonymous meetings beind held

Clinch Memorial Hospital is hosting Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings every Thursday at 7 p.m. These meetings offer a supportive environment for individuals seeking recovery and community connection. Any interested is encouraged to attend.

### Tuesday Night Talks at Clinch Memorial

Join Clinch Memorial Hospital on the first Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. for our Tuesday Night Talks series. Each session features a guest speaker with professional experience on a prevalent health topic relevant to our community. A light supper is provided, and all are welcome to attend.



## Panthers dunk Lanier on the road

The Clinch County Panthers defeated Lanier County on the road Friday in Lakeland, as Jakyri Posley had 28 points and two dunks against the Bulldogs – Photo by Joy Sumner Photography.

**READ ALL ABOUT IT ON PAGE 8**

## Clinch County High grad visits Poland as part of fellowship

A Clinch County High graduate recently visited Poland as part of a prestigious fellowship.

Charles J. "Jake" Lankford was one of 43 high school educators from across the United States who completed a trip through Poland as part of the 2025 Auschwitz Legacy Fellowship — the flagship program of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial Foundation (ABMF). These teachers engaged in seven intensive days of historical exploration, reflection, and preparation — from the streets of Warsaw and Kraków to three deeply immersive days at the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum.

Lankford is the Social Studies department chair at Toco Creek High School in St. Johns County, Fla. He teaches World, Holocaust and African-American history.

Each year, selected U.S.-based educators participate in a fully funded study trip to Poland, including a multi-day visit to Warsaw, Krakow, and the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum — a life-changing experience that enriches their classrooms and communities.

The Auschwitz Legacy Fellowship is the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial Foundation's signature educational program, designed to

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Jake Lankford



Pictured above, from left, are Sam Shaw and Lydia Cone of Farmers and Merchants Bank, and Angela Handley (CEO) and Madison Pope (CFO) of Clinch Memorial Hospital.

## Hospital receives \$125,000 contribution from FMB

Farmers and Merchants Bank recently contributed \$125,000 to Clinch Memorial Hospital through the Georgia HEART Rural Hospital Tax Credit, underscoring the company's commitment to strengthening access to high-quality health care for residents of Clinch County and the surrounding communities.

The Georgia HEART (Helping Enhance Access to Rural Treatment) Hospital Program administers the state's Rural Hospital Tax Credit, which allows individuals and businesses to redirect their Georgia income tax liability to support eligible rural hospitals.

"We are honored to invest in the health of our community by supporting Clinch Memorial Hospital through the HEART tax credit program," said Sam Shaw, Sr. Market Executive, Farmers and Merchants Bank. "It is important that high-quality healthcare remains accessible for residents of our region and we encourage other businesses to join us

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## Duncan Lutz promoted to position on UGA baseball staff

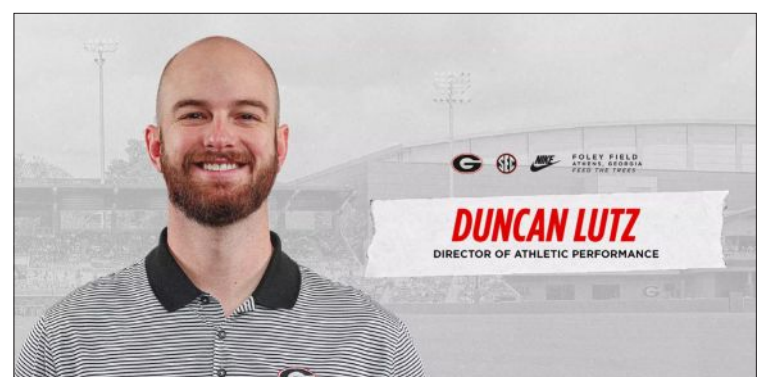
A former Clinch County High pitcher was recently promoted on the University of Georgia baseball staff.

Last week, UGA baseball announced that Duncan Lutz has been named director of sports performance for the Bulldog baseball program.

Lutz, a 2019 Clinch County High graduate, has been involved in Division I baseball for the past seven years. A five-year letterman as a pitcher at Georgia State,

the 6-5, 230-pound right-hander received a bachelor's degree in exercise science in 2023 with a 4.0 Grade Point Average (GPA). He posted nine straight semesters on the President's List (4.0 GPA) and was named the Outstanding Exercise Science Student of the Year at GSU. He earned a Master of Science degree in kinesiology from the University of Georgia in 2025.

The 25-year-old Lutz will be responsible for overseeing



Duncan Lutz is a 2019 Clinch County High graduate.

the training program of the baseball team with an emphasis on strength, power, speed, and long-term health. He utilizes biomechanics,

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## LOCAL MATTERS



Judged a newspaper of General Excellence 2024

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