

# The Clinch County News

We give the skinny so you can chew the fat

**\$1**  
with tax at the newstand

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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 to be delayed for 2025

Property tax bills for 2025 are delayed this year due to the property reevaluation 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.

### Citrus workshop to be held February 17

A "Strategies for Citrus Production Workshop" will be held Tuesday, February 17, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Lowndes County Extension Office in Valdosta. Lunch will be provided. To register: call 229-333-5185 or email dawsonj01@fvsu.edu.

### 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.

### 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.

### Narcotics Anonymous meetings beind held

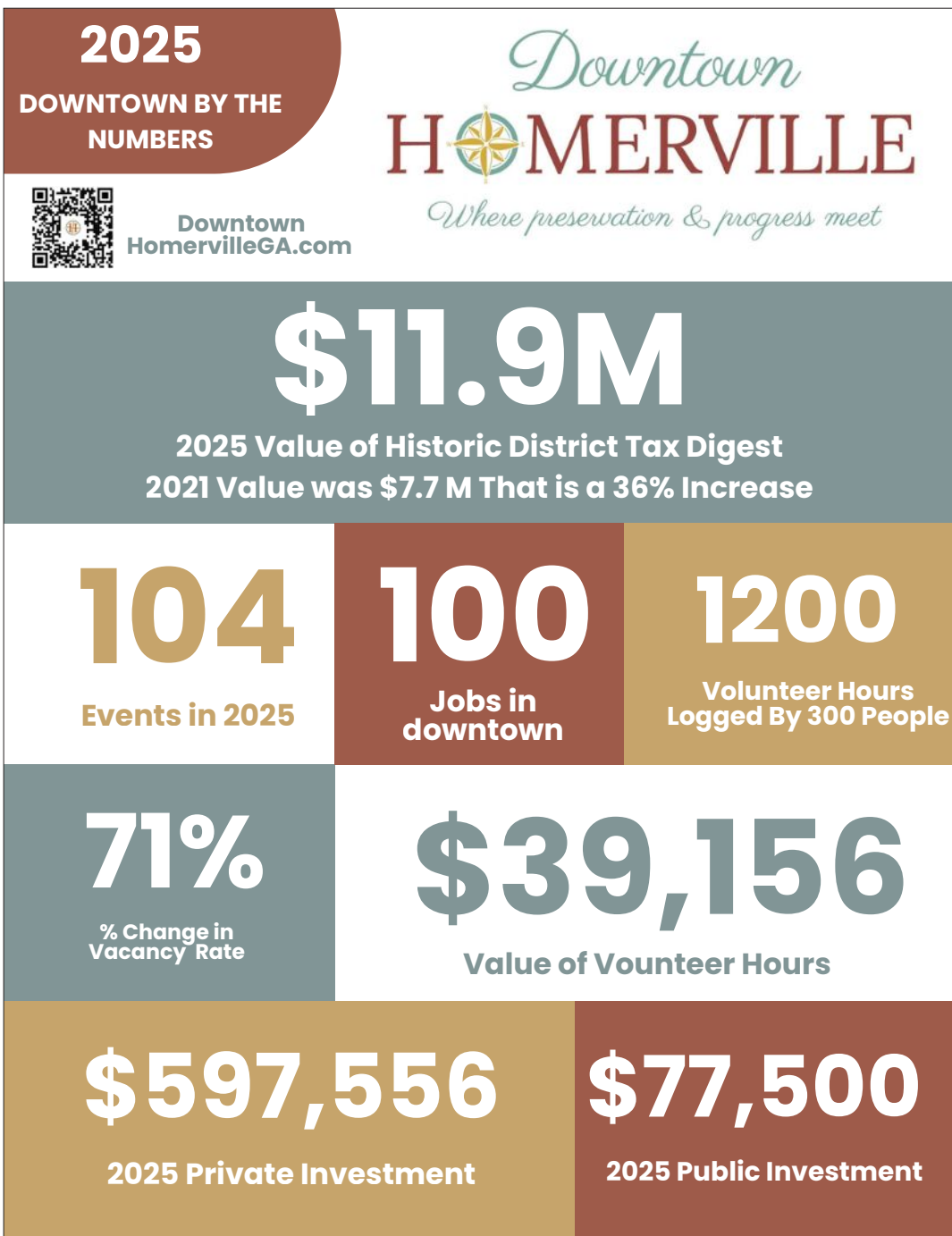
Clinch Memorial Hospital is hosting Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings every Thursday at 7 p.m. These meetings offer a supportive environment for individuals seeking recovery and community connection. Any interested is encouraged to attend.

## LOCAL MATTERS



Judged a newspaper of General Excellence 2025

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Above are some of the figures from the Homerville Main Street Program's 2025 report.

## Report shows growth of downtown Homerville

The tax digest for Downtown Homerville has nearly doubled in the past four years.

The Homerville Main Street Program recently released their annual report for 2025, showing great investment and progress in the downtown district in 2025, and over the past four years.

At the heart of that progress is growth in the downtown historic district's value. In 2025, the district's tax digest reached

\$11.9 million, up from \$7.7 million in 2021, representing an increase of approximately 55 percent over four years. In 2021, the City of Homerville was approved for Rural Zone designation, which provides tax credits for renovating properties in the downtown district, and the for the jobs created. The Homerville Downtown Development Authority has also utilized its Master Plan to provide a blueprint for  
*(Continued on Page 3)*

## County OKs moratorium on solar farms, data centers

By Ben Murray  
Staff Writer

No solar farms or data centers will be popping up in Clinch County any time soon.

At the Clinch County Board of Commissioners' regular monthly meeting on Monday, February 2, they approved six-month moratoriums on solar farms and data centers in the county.

These moratoriums will allow the commission six months to draft an ordinance for how the county would handle any potential data centers or solar farms wanting to come into the county, or the expansion of currently existing data centers.

In other action from the meeting, the commissioners:

- Approved the 2026 agreement for consultant services with Atlas Technical Consultants LLC.

- Approved solicitation of bids for grounds maintenance.

- Approved introducing an act in the Georgia General Assembly to rename and dedicate the bridge over Camp Creek on Route 168 as the "Edna Sirmans Sessoms Bridge" upon the request of Herbert and JoAnn Tomlinson.

## Goodman named Legislator of the Year by State Fire Service

Clinch County's Russ Goodman was recently named the Legislator of the Year by the Georgia Fire Service.

Goodman, the 8th District State Senator from Cogdell, accepted the award at the state capital last week from State Fire Marshal Craig Landolt and Deputy State Fire Marshal Keith Newbern of Lakeland.

"I was humbled that our state firefighters chose to give me their legislator of the year award," said Goodman. "I'll always be an advocate for these great American heroes who run towards danger when others are running from it in the effort to save the lives and property of our fellow Georgians."



State Senator Russ Goodman (center) accepts the Georgia Fire Service Legislator of the Year award from Deputy State Fire Marshal Keith Newbern (left) and State Fire Marshal Craig Landolt.