

The Clinch County News

We give the skinny so you can chew the fat

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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

Juneteenth celebration on June 19th

A Juneteenth celebration will be held at John Cooper Memorial Park on Reddick Street in Pea Ridge, on Friday, June 19 from 4:30 pm to 7 pm. For more information, contact the housing authority, or Tracy Thomas at 912-520-9566.

Class of 1976 has reunion set for July 21

Join us for the 50-year reunion of the Clinch County High School Class of 1976, on Tuesday, July 21. The event will be held at the Homerville Station #11 Depot beginning at 2 pm. Event will cost \$100 per person, and you must RSVP by Saturday, June 20. For more information, call Charles Cooper 229-548-2587.

First Responders dinner on June 28

The New Gospel Tabernacle Church invites all local first responders to a special First Responders Sunday Dinner on Sunday, June 28, from noon to 1:00 p.m. at 59 Virginia Avenue. Community members and local businesses who would like to sponsor the event or donate a dish are encouraged to participate. For more information or to make a donation, please call 912-487-3440.

Manor Community Baptist hosting VBS

Manor Community Baptist Church will be hosting Vacation Bible School on Saturday, June 27 from 12 pm to 4 pm. Lunch will be served. All children are invited to join us.

VBS at New Gospel Tabernacle July 29-31

The New Gospel Tabernacle will be having Vacation Bible School for children ages 4-14 from July 29-31 from 9 a.m. - noon daily. Registration is now open. All children are welcome to join us. To register or for more information, please call 912-487-3440.

Men's fellowship fish fry in Manor

Manor Community Baptist Church will be hosting a men's fellowship fish fry on Saturday, June 20 at 4:30 pm. Come and join us.

LOCAL MATTERS

Judged a newspaper of General Excellence 2025

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No fireworks this year in Homerville for July 4

By Ben Murray
Staff Writer

There will be no fireworks for Homerville on July 4th this year.

The Homerville City Council voted to wait until next year to try and secure fireworks for a July 4th celebration at Thursday's regular monthly meeting of the council. The portal set up by the state government to get permission to shoot fireworks is currently not operational, city officials said at the meeting. City Manager Samantha Rittenhouse told

council members that the city has been attempting to get approval from the state since February.

The only other way for the city to get approved for fireworks is to get the approval from the company that will be firing off the fireworks, which the city is being told will not be until the end of July or the beginning of August.

The council voted to not wait that long this year and try again for next year.

In other action from the meeting the council:

- Approved the agenda

for the June 11 meeting.

- Approved the minutes from the May 21 meeting.

- Reviewed and approved bid packets for mowing in the city.

- Heard from City Manager Samantha Rittenhouse about LMIG money being used to pave Gillican Circle.

- Discussed Budget Public Hearing set for June 18 at 5:00 PM and adoption of budget at 6:00 PM.

- Approved an event at Pea Ridge Park on July 5 from 3-9 p.m. Mayor Tom Kennedy had to break a tie on the vote with Amanda

Webb and James McBride voting for the event and Willie Hardee and Arthur Smith voting against.

- Councilwoman Amanda Webb asked about the new sign at the cemetery, and when it will be finished. Rittenhouse said the company putting the sign up was the office that morning, and it should be finished either this week or next week.

- Heard from Mayor Kennedy about Homeville Main Street Manager Laura Nipper resigning to take a position with the Boys & Girls Club.



Nails by Fara owner Fara Sirmans is joined by family, friends, and chamber officials at their grand opening and ribbon cutting on June 7th.

Nails by Far celebrates Grand Opening

The Clinch County Chamber of Commerce joined community members on Sunday, June 7, to celebrate the grand opening and ribbon cutting of Nails by Fara, Clinch County's newest nail salon.

Located at 21 East Dame Avenue (next to Subway), Nails by Fara offers a full range of professional nail services, including manicures, nail enhancements, and the latest nail trends. The new business is owned and operated by Fara Sirmans, who recently returned to Clinch County to open her doors to clients throughout Clinch County and the surrounding area.

Friends, family, customers, and Chamber

representatives gathered for the ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially welcome the business to the community. The event marked an exciting milestone for both the owner and the local business community.

Nails by Fara is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and welcomes both new and returning clients. The salon provides a variety of services designed to help customers look and feel their best in a welcoming and professional environment.

The Chamber of Commerce congratulates Fara on the successful opening and wishes her continued growth and success in the years ahead.

News wins GPA awards

For the 31st year in a row, the Clinch County News has been recognized for excellence in journalism at the Georgia Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest.

Friday at the Jekyll Island Club, The News received three awards for work done in 2025. The News won 1st place in Special Sports Section for the "Panther Preview," a 3rd place award for Editorial Page, and an advertising award for Special Section (also the "Panther Preview"). The News was competing in the division with the most competition, of small weekly newspapers.

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Let's Talk Local

Merle Norman - Where beauty means community in the heart of Homerville

(Editor's Note: This feature is the latest in a series by Homerville Main Street about Downtown Homerville's small businesses.)

In every small town, there are businesses that become more than just places to shop—they become part of the community's story. In downtown Homerville, one of those businesses is Merle Norman Homerville, located at 17 East Plant Avenue.

Since opening its doors in 2016, the business has provided beauty products, self-care services, and personalized customer experiences to residents throughout the area. In 2026, the business entered an exciting new chapter when longtime employee Marcy Guess became the owner.

For Guess, the transition was a natural one. Having spent years serving customers and building relation-

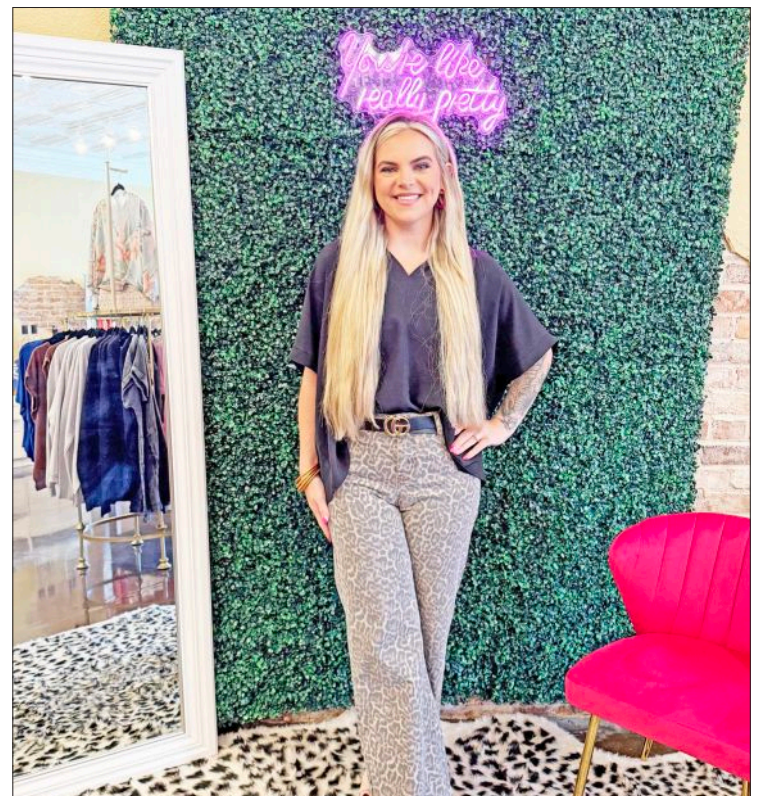
ships within the business, she stepped into ownership with a clear vision: creating a welcoming space where everyone feels beautiful, confident, and cared for.

"I wanted to provide affordable items and help everyone feel beautiful in their own skin," Guess said.

Today, Merle Norman Homerville offers much more than cosmetics. Customers can enjoy facials, spray tans, makeovers, beauty consultations, and a carefully selected variety of retail and fashion items. The goal is to provide a complete beauty and self-care experience under one roof.

Whether someone is stopping by for a favorite lipstick, a relaxing facial, or simply a little encouragement, Guess hopes each customer leaves feeling better than when they arrived.

One of the most rewarding parts of becoming a business owner has been the support she has received



Marcy Guess is the new owner of Merle Norman in downtown Homerville.

from the community.

"The support the community has shown me has been my proudest moment since opening," she shared.

Among the store's most popular products is the Lip Pencil Plus, a dual-ended lipstick and liner

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