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The Clinch County News

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Wednesday, June 24, 2026

HOMERVILLE, GEORGIA

8 PAGES, ONE SECTION

Bargains, Coupons & Deals
INSIDE with these sales papers:

Dunham's
SPORTS

DOLLAR
GENERAL

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

What's going on in your community

Local students make VSU Dean's List

Valdosta State University recently announced its 2026 Spring Dean's List. To qualify for Dean's List at VSU, students must achieve a semester grade point average of 3.50 or higher on nine or more semester hours with an institutional grade point average of 3.00 or higher. Those named to the Dean's List from Clinch County include: Wyatt Beverly from Homerville, William Bennett of Homerville, Kylie Hatton of Homerville, Ziontay Harris of Homerville, and Nathalie Arevalo of Homerville.

Library Board to meet on July 9th

The Clinch County Public Library Board will meet on Thursday, July 9, at the Clinch County Public Library. The meeting time is 4 p.m. For further information, please call 912-287-4982.

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.

LOCAL MATTERS



Judged a newspaper of General Excellence 2025

Follow us on:



Two Panthers named All-State for baseball

Two Clinch County Panther baseball players were honored for their 2026 seasons by being named All-State by the Georgia Dugout Club.

Sophomore Dane Brown and junior Tate Denmark both were chosen as All-State. Brown was a first-team All-State choice as an infielder, and Denmark a third-team choice as an infielder.

Here are all the Georgia Dugout Club All-State choices:

First Team

Pitchers: Alex Contreiras, Lanier County; Hudson Coronati, Baconton Charter; Grant Gano, Lanier County; Bren-

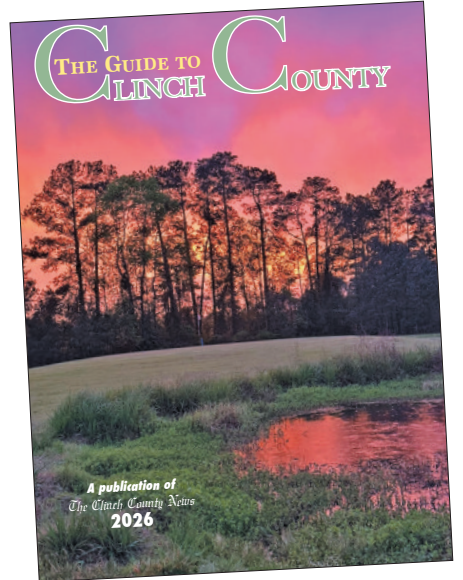
nen McGowen, Seminole County; Logan Plymel, Claxton; Bryson Thompson, ECI; Catcher: Knox Isreal, Mount Zion-Carroll; Infielders: Deacon McDuffie, Wilcox County; Sam Mobbs, Trion; Talen Tarbox, Lanier County; Griffin Thomas, Charlton County; Outfielders: Tuff Boddiford, ECI; Dane Brown, Clinch County; Evan Burton, Lake Oconee Academy; Designated Hitter: Cayden Hunter, Taylor County; Utility: Thomas Cook, Miller County; Jon Harris, Funderburke, Lake Oconee Academy

Second Team

Pitchers: Owen Carmichael, Wilcox County;

Deacon Harper, Wilcox County; Brogan Hunter, Taylor County; Jimmy Ivey, Telfair County; Jud Underwood, ECI; Chance Wombles, Johnson County; Catcher: Cayson Griffin, Lanier County; Infielders: Andrew Harkins, Washington Wilkes; Dru Johnson, Miller County; Oscar Lloyd, Schley County; Caelan Vernon, Metter; Outfielders: Bo Bloodworth, Wilcox County; Talon McKinney, Wilcox County; Dayton Prater, Crawford County; Designated Hitter: Berkley Perkins, Bowdon; Utility: Jonas Wigley, Bowdon; Peyton Reeves, (Continued on Page 3)

INSIDE:



The Guide to Clinch County

Inside this week's episode is our annual Guide to Clinch County - everything you need to know our government, resources, and Clinch County's vital information.

BOE approves changes to handbooks

By Ben Murray
Staff Writer

The Clinch County Board of Education approved changes made to the student and faculty handbooks for all system schools at their meeting held on Thursday, June 18.

In the updated handbooks, changes include updating the definition for bullying to specifically include cyberbullying. The new handbooks also include information about the anonymous alerts app that can be downloaded by faculty and students that will allow them to report issues like bullying, weapons, or threats in compliance with House Bill 262.

The high school handbook also removed archery club from the list of clubs, and the class for emergency medical responders. This class was offered through the pathway program.

In other action from the meeting, held at Patterson Hall, the board:

- Approved the agenda for the June 18 meeting.
- Approved the minutes for the May 28 called meeting and the May 28 regular meeting.
- Approved Kyra Denmark (CCMS Parapro), Veronica Ayscue (CCES Parapro), Leigh Ann Steedley (CCES Parapro), Savannah Murray (CCES Special Education Parapro) as new

(Continued on Page 3)



Pizza Hut re-opening next week

The Clinch County Chamber of Commerce will hold a Ribbon Cutting and Soft Opening on Monday, June 29 at 3 p.m. for the return of Pizza Hut to Homerville. Pizza Hut invites the community to to stop by and meet the new team before the restaurant's official Grand Opening on June 30. The take-out restaurant is located at 548 North Church Street next to Piggly Wiggly.

Clinch County voters back Jones, Kennedy in runoff

Clinch County voters delivered decisive victories to Burt Jones for governor and John F. Kennedy for lieutenant governor in Georgia's June 16 primary runoff election, although statewide Republican voters chose different nominees in both races.

According to unofficial results from all five Clinch County precincts, Mike Collins easily carried the county in the Republican runoff for U.S. Senate, receiving 402 votes (77.46%) to 117 votes (22.54%) for Derek Dooley. Collins also won statewide, capturing the Republican nomination with 55.54 percent of the vote compared to Dooley's 44.46 percent.

In the closely watched Republican runoff for governor, Clinch County voters overwhelmingly supported Burt Jones, who received 443 votes (81.58%), while Rick Jackson garnered 100 votes (18.42%). Statewide voters, however, favored Jackson, who won the nomination with 52.65 percent of the vote to Jones' 47.35 percent.

A similar split occurred in the Republican race for lieutenant governor. Clinch County voters backed John F. Kennedy by a margin of 365 votes (68.74%) to 166 votes (31.26%) for Greg Dolezal. Statewide, Dolezal pre-

ailed, winning the nomination with 54.20 percent of the vote compared to Kennedy's 45.80 percent.

Democratic voters in Clinch County selected Josh McLaurin in the lieutenant governor runoff. McLaurin received 26 votes (55.32%), while Nabilah Parkes received 21 votes (44.68%).

In the Republican runoff for secretary of state, Clinch County voters supported Tim Fleming, who received 339 votes (70.33%) to 143 votes (29.67%) for Vernon Jones. Fleming also won statewide and secured the Republican nomination.

Democratic voters in Clinch County chose Penny Brown Reynolds in the secretary of state runoff, giving her 28 votes (57.14%) compared to 21 votes (42.86%) for Dana Barrett. Reynolds was also victorious statewide.

In the Democratic runoff for commissioner of insurance, Keisha Sean Waites carried Clinch County with 34 votes (70.83%), while DeAndre Mathis received 14 votes (29.17%). Waites likewise won the statewide contest.

The county diverged from the statewide outcome in the Republican runoff for state school superintendent.

Clinch County voters favored challenger Fred "Bubba" Longgrear, who received 297 votes (58.24%), while incumbent Richard Woods received 213 votes (41.76%). Statewide voters re-elected Woods as the Republican nominee, giving him approximately 61.75 percent of the vote compared to Longgrear's 38.25 percent.

The Democratic runoff for commissioner of labor ended in an unusual tie in Clinch County, with Nikki Porcher and Michelle Michi Sanchez each receiving 23 votes, splitting the vote at 50 percent apiece. Statewide, Porcher won the Democratic nomination.

In the Republican runoff for Public Service Commission District 5, Clinch County voters favored Bobby Mehan, who received 242 votes (54.14%), while Josh Tolbert received 205 votes (45.86%). Statewide voters chose Tolbert, who won the nomination with 56.30 percent of the vote compared to Mehan's 43.70 percent.

Clinch County voters generally aligned with statewide Republicans in the U.S. Senate and secretary of state contests, but differed significantly from statewide voters in the governor, lieutenant governor, state school superintendent and Public Service Commission races.