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The Clinch County News

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131st YEAR, ISSUE 34 © 2026 The Clinch County News

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

HOMERVILLE, GEORGIA

8 PAGES, ONE SECTION

Bargains, Coupons & Deals
INSIDE with these sales papers:

DOLLAR GENERAL

Dunham's SPORTS

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

What's going on in your community

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.

Back to School Rally set for July 24th

The Homerville Police Department Back to School Rally will be held on Friday, July 24, from 10 am to 3 pm, or until supplies last. We are grateful and willing to pick up the donations. Please call Homerville Police Department to schedule date and time for pick up. 912-487-5306.

VBS at Brown's Chapel AME starts July 21

Please join Brown's Chapel AME Church for Vacation Bible School. Tuesday, July 21 through Thursday, July 23. VBS will start at 4:30 pm to 7 pm. Brown's Chapel AME is located at 111 Wilson Street in Homerville.

Regional plan update available online

The local Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) 2023-2027 Regional plan update for the Southern Georgia Workforce Development Area #18/Region #11 is available for review online at <https://www.sgrc.us/workforce.html>

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.

Coastal Pines offering adult education classes

Coastal Pines Technical College is offering adult education classes on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday (10 a.m.-3 p.m.) and Wednesday (10 a.m.-1 p.m.). New student orientation is every Monday and Tuesday, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Location is Clinch County Public Library. Adult Education Instructor is Heather King-Wilson.

LOCAL MATTERS



Judged a newspaper of General Excellence 2025

Follow us on:



GBI investigating local woman's death

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation is investigating the death of a local woman.

On Sunday morning, at 5:31 a.m., Summer Adams, 29, was found lying down in

the street unresponsive in the 500 block of West Plant Avenue in Homerville. According to the Homerville Police Department report, emergency medical services were provided, but Adams

did not respond, and was pronounced deceased.

Homerville Police Chief Keith Jackson said the GBI was called in to conduct the investigation into the death. He said the investi-

gation is ongoing.

A GoFundMe account has been created online to help pay for funeral expenses for Adams, who was the mother of several children.

Mr. Red Smith – 97 Years of Living

By Judi Daugharty
Contributing Writer

Recently I met an interesting, wise, old gentleman, Mr. William "Red" Smith. He had just celebrated his birthday; his mind was sharp, he had an easy smile and a gentle demeanor. He sat regally in his lazyboy, while I enjoyed asking him questions about his lengthy life. Conversing with him was a pleasure.

He was born June 2, 1929, at his home in Argyle, Georgia, one of 8 siblings from the same mother and father. I asked about his childhood; he said his family was both busy and happy. He added that he remembered a Christmas, when all the children received one gift, a little red wagon, and it was put to good use. He never felt that they didn't have enough, because his life was good, and it was all he knew.

Mr Red's father was a farmer; he had many mouths to feed, and Red was expected to help at home. He was a student first at Midway School, and then at Clinch County High School. He remembers a unique daily routine - rise early, eat breakfast, connect the horse to the plow, and begin working a field. He watched carefully for the school bus to go by his house on its way to other farms in the county. That meant he had exactly the right amount of time to set the plow aside, put up the horse, run inside and wash up, and be ready for the bus, when it came back by his house. He never missed a



Pictured above is Red Smith at his home during his interview. Below is Red and his wife Betty Lou during his days with the service.



day of school! Like all the students at the time, he graduated after the 11th grade.

Soon after graduation, he moved into Homerville and worked at the Suwannee Store for Mr E M Montgomery, whom he deeply admired. About that time he became interested in girls, who would frequent the store. After seeing a photo of him in his

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CMH becomes first South Georgia hospital to earn designation

Clinch Memorial Hospital has achieved a historic milestone in pediatric emergency care, earning designation as a Level III Pediatric Readiness Center through the Georgia Department of Public Health. The achievement makes Clinch Memorial the first Critical Access Hospital in Georgia, the first hospital south of Macon, and the first hospital participating in the Kids Alliance for Better Care (KidsABC) Rural Emergency Department Collaborative to receive the designation.

"This designation represents much more than a certification on the wall," said Angela Handley, Chief Executive Officer of Clinch Memorial Hospital. "It is not the finish line: it is a milestone in our ongoing journey to enhance and expand healthcare services for the families of Clinch County. This achievement highlights our commitment to ensuring children receive high-quality emergency care close to home, and we remain focused on continuously improving and growing the services available to our community."

The designation follows years of investment in pediatric preparedness, staff training, specialized equipment, and quality improvement initiatives. Through participation in the KidsABC Rural Emergency Department Collaborative, a partnership between Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Mercer University School of Medicine, and the Georgia Rural Health Innovation Center, Clinch Memorial strengthened its pediatric emergency care capabilities and became the first hospital in the collaborative to successfully complete every element of the National Pediatric Readiness Project Checklist.

Rather than viewing completion of the national checklist as the finish line, hospital leadership and clinical staff chose to pursue Georgia's Pediatric Readiness Center Certification. Additional policy development, staff education, and investments in pediatric-specific equipment, supported by the Clinch Memorial Foundation, enabled the hospital to meet the state's rigorous standards for a Level III

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County Commission OKs cutting down trees around Homerville Airport

By Ben Murray
Staff Writer

The Homerville Airport has had its classification demoted due to trees around the airport. At Monday's meeting of the Clinch County Board of Commissioners approved removing 185 trees on county land so that the airport can get its classification back and be eligible for grants.

Dan Galvin spoke to commissioners about the matter at the meeting, telling them the trees need to be cut for the airport to gets Class II classification back.

Galvin also spoke to there needing

to be a resolution and zoning by-laws approved because the last time they were updated was in 1988. There is no resolution for the airport and one needs to be approved or the city and county could lose any grant money they might receive for fixing roads. The City of Homerville would need to approve the resolution and any zoning by-laws, since they own the airport.

In other action from the meeting, the commissioners:

- Approved the agenda for the July 6 meeting.
- Approved the minutes from the May 4 meeting.

City Cemetery running out of room

By Ben Murray
Staff Writer

Pine Forest Cemetery is about to run out of room.

"We are out of space at the cemetery," was the opening statement made by Glynn King when addressing the Homerville City Council at their meeting held on Thursday, July 9.

King and W.G. Smith spoke to the council about the problem of running out of spaces for graves at Pine Forest Cemetery in Homerville. According to King, there are 11 available grave sites available.

Mayor Tom Kennedy and the council discussed with King and Smith clearing land the city owns behind the cemetery going towards the recreation park, which would allow the creation of 824 grave sites in 10 by 10 lots.

The council also discussed raising the price of the grave sites once created, as well as only allowing headstones to be put down and not slabs or other installations. No action was taken at this meeting until the city can take a look at the land and decide what they need to do to expand the cemetery.

In other action from the meeting, the council:

- Approved the agenda for the July 9 meeting.
- Approved the minutes for the June 18 meeting.
- Approved changing the language in the community event form to say that one only needs the approval from the city council and won't need approval from city manager, city clerk, or police chief. Also a list of vendors will need to be submitted at least a week before the event. Arthur Perry Smith voted against the motion, because there was incorrect pricing for renting the Depot. Mayor Kennedy told Smith that they could change that language as well and for him to bring it up at the next meeting.
- Approved a bid for mowing in the city and the cemetery from Top Branch Tree Services LLC for an overall cost of \$3,700.
- Was appraised of 10 applications for the vacant open Main Street Manager position.
- Heard from Dan Galvin concerning the Homerville Airport. Galvin said the city needed to adopt a resolution for the airport, that needs to be adopted before July of 2027. Galvin said the Clinch County government has agreed to take down the trees on property in the county that are keeping the airport from getting a higher classification, and the city should only have around 60 trees to take down.