

LOCAL

A developer has proposed plans for a \$219 million dollar, 65 acre mixed use project called Big Poplar II that would bring retail, hotels and a 13 acre amusement space to the Poplar Rd/Newnan Crossing area. The area is already zoned for large scale commercial use due to a previous project that was proposed in 2023. The developer has requested that the central part of the site be rezoned for outdoor amusement which triggered a Development impact study. Rezoning hearings will not begin until after the study is complete.

A California-based developer is seeking to rezone more than 20 acres at 459 Jefferson St. in Newnan to build a 140-unit rental townhome community. Plans call for duplex- and triplex-style townhomes of about 1,500 square feet, with rents projected at \$2,250 to \$2,450. If the development gets a recommendation from the Planning Commission, hearings for rezoning should occur in November. I don't think this helps our affordable housing problem.

DPG's Voter Protection team is recruiting poll watchers for this Fall's Public Service Commission and Municipal Elections! The training deadline is October 21 for Election Day poll watchers, so if you are able, please sign up to volunteer as soon as possible!

The next No Kings protest will take place on October 18. Save the date. If you are on the fence and feel like it doesn't matter, peaceful protest matters more now than ever.

Finally in the continuation of the frosty the conman saga..

Members of the Georgia GOP state committee have issued a letter to the Chair of the state GOP demanding that charges be brought, and a trial to be held to for the removal of Brant Frost V, Katie Frost and Krista Frost from their positions within the GOP at all levels. The Frost Ponzi scheme has now stretched across 38 states. Also, a federal receiver is asking a judge to approve the auction of assets tied to the Frost family, including the former Greenville Street office building and several cars. I believe the office building would be a great location for Coweta democratic headquarters.

I usually don't spend much time on national issues, but I would just like to speak to everyone here who wore the uniform of our military. While I didn't serve myself, I did spend nine years working as a contractor on various army bases both in the US and in Germany supporting our army aviators with helicopter flight training. I worked with some excellent soldiers who, especially in Germany, welcomed us into the military community. No one who served or currently serves, deserves the disrespect shown by Trump and Hegsheth in their disgusting show earlier this week. Moving on to state issues:

STATE

If Congress fails to renew the enhanced premium tax credits that 1.4 million Georgians rely on to afford their health insurance which are set to expire at the end of the year, premiums will undoubtedly skyrocket for nearly 13% of Georgia residents. Governor Kemp refused to allocate money from the state budget to cover the potential cuts despite the state having a nearly \$17 billion dollar surplus.

Four more rural Georgia hospitals are at high risk of closing or reducing critical services. This doesn't just affect healthcare. When a rural hospital closes, countless hardworking medical professionals lose their jobs and may be forced to move away in search of other employment. Suddenly, emergency care and other health services are much further away or even out of reach from residents. Local pharmacies, diners, and other businesses are affected by the population and income loss. And as more and more hospitals close, rural residents are forced to travel counties away to get the care they need. In emergency situations, this can be the difference between life and death.

In next year's governors' race, State Rep. Ruwa Romman declared her candidacy, making her the first Muslim woman to run for this office in Georgia. She recently launched a statewide campaign called Project 159 with the goal of recruiting organizers and volunteers in every Georgia county. Also, former Republican Lt. Gov. Geoff Duncan is running as a Democrat. On the Republican side, Secretary of State Brad Raffensberger announced his intentions to run. ~~to compete he will have to fully embrace Trump and his toxic policies~~

Private schools in 102 Georgia cities received \$5.4 million in state voucher funds this fall with most of the money going to educational organizations predominantly affiliated with Christian churches. Another \$1.7 million — went to 153 companies, including Amazon, that sell school supplies such as computers, tablets and books. After failing in 2023, enough Republican holdouts signed on to pass the bill with the minimum 91 votes necessary.

For those who want more information on the Public Service commission race, there is a candidate forum on Saturday, Oct 11 at noon at 249 Kenwood Rd. in Fayetteville.

- The last date to register to vote in the municipal and PSC elections is October 6. Early voting begins on October 14. Please go to the Georgia My Voter Page to check your registration. You wouldn't want to find out you were purged from the voter rolls once it's too late.