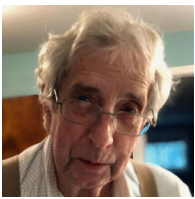


OBITUARIES

JASPER, GA



William Harvey Duke

Mr. William Harvey Duke, age 86, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, March 10, 2026. Funeral Services will be held at 3pm on Wednesday, March 18, 2026 in the chapel of West Cobb Funeral Home and Crematory in Marietta with Scott McAllister officiating. The family will receive friends from 1pm until 3pm prior to the ceremony at the funeral home.

A native of Atlanta, Mr. Duke lived in Jasper, GA for the last 20 years. He worked as a diesel mechanic and truck driver in the trucking and transportation industry for 45 years, including employment with Old Dominion Truck Line. He also enjoyed fishing, flying kites, and riding motorcycles.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Carol Ann Duke; 3 children, William Kenneth (Dawn) Duke, Cartersville, GA, Phillip Edward (Margaret Mary) Duke, Dallas, GA, and Jon (Heather) Duke, Kennesaw, GA; 4 grandchildren, Taren, Joseph, Mary and Victoria.

“Infuse your life with action. Don’t wait for it to happen. Make your own future. Make your own hope. Make your own love. And whatever your beliefs, honor your creator, not by passively waiting for grace to come down from upon high, but by doing what you can to make grace happen ... yourself, right now, right down here on Earth.”

— Bradley Whitford

JONESBORO, GA



Mrs. Amy R. (Owens) Powell

Amy R. Powell, aged 69, peacefully transitioned to her eternal home of rest on Tuesday, March 3, 2026. She was born on December 3, 1956, in Chattanooga, TN, to the late James Lewis and Mary Doris Owens.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 44 years, Donald R. Powell, her mama, Mary Doris Devine; her father, James Lewis Owens, Sr.; her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur L. Owens, Alice Harvell and Ernest J. Davis; her brothers, James Lewis Owens, Jr. and Wilbert Owens.

Amy is survived by her three daughters, Demetri Powell, Dana (Daryl) Powell Baker, and Monique Powell; two granddaughters, Courtney Bostic and Darah Baker; two sisters, Jacqueline Davis and Ernestine (Berle) Williams; two brothers, Calvin Owens and William (Shari) Owens; and a host of loved ones, including nieces, nephews, and dear friends.

I AM NOT THERE

Do not stand by my grave and weep, for I am not there, I do not sleep. I am a thousand winds that blow. I am diamonds that glint on snow. I am the sunlight on ripened grain. I am the gentle autumn rain. When you awaken in the morning hush I am the swift uplifting rush of butterflies in joyous flight. I am the soft stars that shine at night. Do not stand at my grave and cry. I am not there. I did not die.

— Author Unknown

CHATTANOOGA, TN



Mrs. Dianne Parker (McGraw) Parker

Dianne Marie Parker, 75, of Lineville, AL, peacefully passed away from ALS early in the morning on March 12, 2026, at Hospice Care Center in Chattanooga, TN. She was born Dianne Marie McGraw in Lineville, AL, on March 6, 1951, the fifth child of the late Joseph Walker McGraw and Myrtice Marie McGraw (Lashley). She was preceded in death by her father, Joseph Walker McGraw; her mother, Myrtice Marie McGraw; her sister, Dorothy “Dot” McGraw Lancaster; and her brothers, Leonard Pearce McGraw, Joe Neal McGraw, and James Walker McGraw. Dianne grew up in Lineville, AL, on her family’s farm. It was there that she spent her childhood learning the value of hard work, the importance of family, and a love for the Lord. She came to saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ early in life. In her high school years, she met her future husband, Charles Lee Parker. She graduated from Lineville High School in 1969 and began working as an assistant for a county office in Lineville.

Charles proposed by mailing an engagement ring to Dianne’s office in Lineville, AL, from Scottsdale, AZ, where he was stationed with the Air Force at the time. The couple married on January 25, 1970, and moved to Arizona for the remainder of Charles’ deployment. During this time, Dianne and Charles shared many adventures before eventually moving back to Lineville, AL, and later to Forest Park, GA. Dianne became a mother on August 30, 1974, with the birth of her son, Brian Lee Parker, and again on July 23, 1976, with the birth of her daughter, Lisa Marie Parker. In 1991, the family built a house in Jonesboro, GA, where Dianne and Charles spent many years. During this time, Dianne lovingly raised her family, worked diligently in her career, and was selflessly involved in her church. When not working and focusing on her career, Dianne loved her plants and cultivating her iris she got from

her mom many years earlier. Dianne always loved to exercise. She was often seen walking many miles throughout her neighborhood with friends. Dianne became “Nana” in April 1999 with the birth of her first granddaughter, Haley Peshera Parker. Later, she received the best 50th birthday gift: a second granddaughter, Ashley Marie Parker. She was thrilled with becoming a great grandmother in March 2024. Dianne worked in many roles throughout her life, including a county assistant in Lineville, Executive Assistant at Porter-Cable, and Senior Executive Administrative Assistant at Chick-fil-A; however, being “Nana” was her favorite job. Dianne was a member of Jonesboro First Baptist Church for many years, as well as Henry Baptist Church and Heatherwood Baptist Church. Later, she and her husband moved to Griffin, GA, and Sharpsburg, GA, for a short time before relocating to Chattanooga, TN, where she spent the remainder of her days. The funeral will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. EST at Heatherwood Baptist Church, 721 Shenandoah Blvd., Newnan, GA 30265, with Pastor Joel Smelley Jr. officiating. A visitation will be held immediately preceding the service at 1:00 p.m. EST at Heatherwood Baptist Church. A family graveside burial gathering will be held on Friday, March 20, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. CST in Lineville, AL. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the ALS Association or the Alzheimer’s Association.

Condolences may be expressed to McKoon Funeral Home & Cremation through their website at www.mckoon.com. Dianne is survived by her husband of 56 years, Charles Lee Parker; her son, Brian Lee Parker, and his wife, Stephanie Peshera Parker (Goss); and her daughter, Lisa Marie Parker. She is also survived by her granddaughters: Haley Peshera Caldwell (Parker) and her husband, Conner Seth Caldwell, and their son, Rowan Cole Caldwell; and Ashley Marie Robertson (Parker) and her husband, Nathan Douglas Robertson. Dianne will be remembered for her steadfast faith, her love for her family, and the joy she found in being “Nana.”

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory (770) 253-4580

Words, however kind, can’t mend your heartache, but those who care and share your loss wish you comfort and peace of mind. May you find strength in the love of family and in the warm embrace of friends.

— Author Unknown

FORUM

From A1

of these government agencies had led to the kinds of problems and experiences we have all experienced today,” he said.

Blair said the backlogged immigration system has to be reimagined into a system that works, adding that the current administration “terrorizes communities and that breaks down trust.”

“We seem to find money for DHS (Department of Homeland Security), for ICE, for endless wars but we don’t seem to have the money for public investment for infrastructure, for child care, for education,” he said.

Kimes said immigration needs to be done with humanity and dignity.

“What has this country become?” she said. “We are all immigrants — we are all from somewhere else.”

Candidates also fielded questions about Clayton County not getting its share of property and jet fuel taxes from Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, their leadership styles, increasing transparency and accountability in Congress, their plans to help Southern Regional Medical Center with professional and financial development, their plans to address the maternal mortality rate for Black

women and how they would address and support access to education and economic opportunities and what steps should Congress take to protect voting rights while also addressing concerns about elections security.

When asked about term limits, each candidate said they support Congressional term limits.



— The complete forum is available on video at <https://boxcast.tv/view/13th-congressional-district-of-georgia-candidate-forum-f8jfg-z3gijpgk1uyf7ra>.

— For more information on Blair’s campaign, visit <https://www.evertonblair.com/>.

— For more information on Chavez’s campaign, visit <https://jonathanchavezforcongress.com/>.

— For more information on Blair’s campaign, visit <https://www.jasmine4ga.com/>.

— For more information on Fauntleroy’s campaign, visit <https://www.drjefforddistrict13.org/>.

— For more information on Jones’ campaign, visit <https://www.emanueljonesforcongress.com/>.

— For more information on Kimes’ campaign, visit <https://drheavenlyforgeorgia.com/>.

— For more information on Lester’s campaign, visit <https://joenlesterforcongress.com/>.

YUNG JOC

From A1

influence has been a staple in Atlanta culture for nearly two decades.

He first rose to national fame with his 2006 Grammy-nominated hit “It’s Goin’ Down” and debut album New Joc City, followed by chart-topping singles including “I know U See It,” “Bottle Poppin’,” and featured on T-Pain’s “Buy You a Drink.”

“I’m honored and elated to be part of what the College Park Skyhawks are building for the city,” said Yung Joc. “I helped tip off this season during schedule release, so being invited back to close it out at halftime means a lot. Atlanta continues to

show love to me, and I’ll always show it right back to the city.”

Deeply committed to his hometown, Joc hosts the annual Southside Day community initiative, which has provided more than 2,000 laptops and tablets to students across metro Atlanta.

He also partners with Next Level Boys Academy to support Next Level Hustlenomics, a mentorship and workforce development program for young men.

In recognition of his cultural and civic impact, Yung Joc has received a Resolution from the state of Georgia and a city of Atlanta proclamation honoring him as an ATL legend.



For tickets, visit cpskyhawks.com/tickets.

COLLEGE

From A1

This renovated building will serve as a launchpad for students who aspire to careers in health care, many of whom are the first in their families to attend college. By investing in modern learning environments, we are investing directly in their futures,” he said. “Our healthcare partners have been instrumental in shaping this vision. Hospitals and health systems throughout the region rely on Clayton State graduates, and this renovation strengthens our ability to work together to prepare the next generation of health care leaders.”

The first floor will include redesigned the two-story open atrium space to be closed for the nurse program, with skilled lab stations and about

15 skills beds. There will also be five stations that will be closed rooms with state-of-the-art equipment and sliding glass doors, according to Whitney Shaw, Director of Interiors at Jericho Design Group, LLC. “Also, we have two debrief rooms, so after some labs, students and faculty can discuss their performance,” she said. “As in a real-life healthcare setting, we do have exam rooms. We have two classrooms on the first floor, with capacities ranging from 30 to 70 students. This is very important, as having dental hygiene and nursing in one building provides that flexibility.”

The second floor will mostly feature faculty space.

“With the growth of the programs in one building, we need a flexible space with touchdown workstations so that faculty can have a place in the building and be there with their students and staff,” Shaw said. “We also have the dean’s suite, which houses our executive dean, administrative staff, and all the program chairs.”

On the third floor, former classrooms will house the entire dental hygiene suite, expanding its cohort from 10 to about 22 dental operatories.

“Finally, to make this building an all-in-one College of Health learning and study space, we have included a student center on the first floor, which will provide an area for students to stay in the building and have a snack from vending machines,” Shaw said. “It’s an area for students to study, sit, and relax, so they don’t have to travel anywhere else around campus when they have downtime between classes.”

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Agency:	The City of Forest Park
Website:	https://www.forestparkga.gov/finance/page/bids-rfps Online submissions ONLY via OpenGov
Project Number:	2026-RFP-024
Project Name:	Grant Administration and Management Services
Pre-Proposal Conference:	N/A
Due Date & Time:	Monday, 4/13/2026 – 2:00 PM
Location:	Virtual Microsoft Teams https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/28408014208094?p=aZ96FEuRPmtLRKbUhd
Procurement Contact:	Talisa Adams, Procurement Manager

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Mayor and Council will review the variance and conditional use permit application listed below during their Work Session on Monday, April 6, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. The meeting will be held in the Court Chambers of the Jonesboro City Center, located at 1859 City Center Way, Jonesboro, GA 30236. A public hearing to consider these items will be held on Monday, April 13, 2026, at the same location and time.

Alcohol License 26-ALC-001
Council to discuss Alcohol Beverage Package License Application #26-ALC-001 to pour beer, wine & distilled spirits at 7955 Tara Boulevard, Jonesboro, Georgia 30236. The legal business name is Sugar Bush Bar & Grill Sports Bar. Irene Wahju has requested to be the License Representative.

VARIANCE 26-VAR-001
Max Kovtoun and David McKenney requests a Variance for properties located at 262 and 294 South Main Street (Parcels # 06032A B002, 06032A B002Z, 06032A B003, & 06032A B006), Jonesboro, Georgia 30236 within the MX (Mixed Use) District and the G (Gateway South District). The properties consist of 29.14 +/- acres. The request seeks approval of a variance to encroach upon the required stream buffer to allow for the proposed development.

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