

COSBY GUILTY

Jury convicts actor on charges involving drugs, sexual assault

Nation, 4B

FRIDAY

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BETTING ON BAKER

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Dougherty seeks restraining order against DCH

By TERRY LEWIS
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ALBANY — Dougherty County fired another salvo at the Georgia Department of Community Health on Wednesday, petitioning Fulton County Superior Court for a temporary restraining order in regard to the proposed Lee County Medical Center.

The injunction petitions that Lee County halt all construc-

tion work on the planned site for the 60-bed facility until the court rules on a petition filed April 19. The county is asking for an expedited decision of the temporary restraining order petition.

Robert Rozier, the attorney representing Dougherty County, filed suit against the DCH, DCH Commissioner Frank Berry and Executive Director of Heath Planning Rachel King. The petition

asks for declaratory judgment and a writ on mandamus that a “DCH regulation that lacks any authority and seeks mandamus to compel the commissioner to enforce the certificate of need laws as enacted by the General Assembly.”

Cornell Law School states that “a writ of mandamus is an order from a court to an inferior government official



An artist's rendering of the proposed Lee County Medical Center. Dougherty County is continuing its opposition against the proposed hospital, filing a motion for a temporary restraining order to halt work on the planned site for the facility. (File Photo)

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Albany Technical College GOAL 2018 winner Julianna Matthews, left, ATC President Anthony Parker and 2018 Rick Perkins Award winner Lashea Dancer shared a historic milestone in ATC history recently. The two women have been selected as state finalists in their respective competitions. — a first for Albany Tech. (Special Photo)

Leading ladies

Student, teacher make history for women at ATC

FROM STAFF REPORTS
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ALBANY — For the first time in Albany Technical College history, the Georgia Occupational Award of Leadership student and Rick Perkins Teacher of the Year from ATC have been selected as state finalists in their respective competitions.

Carpentry student Julianna Matthews and General Education instructor Lashea Dancer

have set a historic milestone for Albany Technical College with this accomplishment.

“We are very proud that Ms. Matthews and Ms. Dancer have represented Albany Tech so well,” said Albany Technical College President Anthony O. Parker. “To be named one of the top nine instructors and top nine students in the state is an honor and is very indicative of their hard work.”

Matthews has been selected as one of nine state finalists in

the GOAL State Competition, and Dancer was named one of nine state finalists in the Technical College System of Georgia’s Rick Perkins Award for Excellence in Technical Instruction Competition during the 2018 Leadership Summit at the Grand Hyatt Atlanta Hotel in Buckhead.

Matthews, a Lee County resident, will graduate from the Carpentry Program in December and plans to pursue an associate degree from Albany

Tech. Dancer has served as a Psychology Instructor at Albany Tech since 2013 and was named Program Chair of the department in 2017. She is a native of Bainbridge.

Overall state winners will be announced Wednesday night in Buckhead. State winners in both the GOAL and Rick Perkins competitions will serve as official spokespersons for technical education in Georgia for the upcoming year.

Albany to mark Day of Prayer

By JON GOSA
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ALBANY — The National Day of Prayer, set for Thursday, is being recognized in Albany by at least one church participating in the national movement.

Porterfield Memorial United Methodist at 2200 Dawson Road is sponsoring a “Watch and Pray Albany movement” beginning at 6 p.m.

“Members of our church, and others, have been praying for each of the individual streets in Albany since December of this past year, lifting up the residents of those streets and hoping to see a decrease in crime in our city,” Porterfield member Cary Stoudenmire said. “On Thursday, May 3 (The National Day of Prayer), we plan to extend that movement by inviting all members of our community to join us in surrounding Lake Loretta in a show of love and support for Albany.”

“We will have music, including singing by Jodi Mann, whose recent Facebook comment inspired this event and prayer led by various members of the community,” Stoudenmire said. “The plan will include a broadcast by MIX-107, who will be on-site for the event. Overflow parking will be available at Porterfield and Covenant Presbyterian (Church) if needed, and we hope it will be needed.”

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Porterfield Memorial United Methodist Church is hosting a community prayer event at Lake Loretta at 6 p.m. on Thursday. (Special Photo)

Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle makes campaign stop, visits 4C Academy

Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle, who is running for governor on the Republican ticket, talks to supporters at the Commodore Conyers College and Career Academy. (Staff Photo: Terry Lewis)



By TERRY LEWIS
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ALBANY — Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle, the presumptive GOP leader in the race to replace outgoing Gov. Nathan Deal, made a campaign stop in Albany earlier this week at the Commodore Conyers College and Career Academy. Fitting, since he helped launch the college and career academy concept 11 years ago.

Two weeks ago, State School Superintendent Richard Woods, during his own visit to the 4C Academy, said the state may have made a mistake more than a decade ago

when they pushed for every student to graduate then get a degree from a four-year institution.

“Well, as you know, I created the college and career academy network in 2007,” Cagle said. “The reason I did that is because fundamentally not every kid needs to go off to college and get a four-year liberal arts degree. We need to have education better aligned to the workforce needs of local industry and give kids choices to find out early what they want to do in life. So this is why the college and career academies have been so unbelievably successful.

“Remember right here in Albany there is a waiting list for this college and career academy. This is a value-added proposition. A student can come out of this college and career academy prepared to be a dental hygienist making \$40,000 a year or a radiological technician also making \$40,000 a year. That’s versus a normal high school diploma at \$16,000 a year.”

Cagle said schools like the 4CA are creating environments where kids are fighting to get in rather than fighting to get out.

“The real beauty is that industry is buying into this

as well because these kids are their future workers.”

The lieutenant governor often bills himself as the education candidate and has said on many occasions that were it not for education, he would not be where he is today — on the cusp of being Georgia’s next governor.

“Having been raised in a single-wide trailer by a single mother, I was not supposed to be lieutenant governor,” Cagle said. “But my public school education allowed me to transcend challenging circumstances and realize incredible

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QUOTE OF THE DAY
 “Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.”
 — Will Rogers, humorist, actor (1879-1935)

CORRECTION
 This newspaper is committed to publishing fair and accurate information. Errors should be brought to the attention of Interim Editor Carlton Fletcher at (229) 888-9360. Corrections or clarifications will appear in this space.

Partly cloudy
 75°
 52°
 Elizabeth B., second grade, Lee Co. Primary