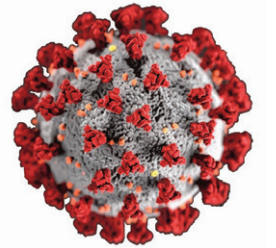


# douglas county Sentinel

Tuesday, October 20, 2020

\$2



**COVID-19 IN DOUGLAS**  
3,948 — confirmed cases  
71 — confirmed deaths  
\* Statistics from Georgia  
DPH current as of Monday.

**INSIDE TODAY'S SENTINEL**



Cancer survivor Judy Robinson is featured in the third of four Purposefully Pink sections running each Tuesday in October for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Turn to Page A5 to read Robinson's story.

## BOE to purchase GreyStone building

### Multi-purpose facility to be built on site of current central office

BY RON DANIEL  
MANAGING EDITOR

The Douglas County Board of Education voted Monday night to purchase the GreyStone Power headquarters on Veterans Memorial Highway in Douglasville.

The school system plans to relocate its central office

to the GreyStone site. GreyStone is building a new headquarters on 194 acres at the corner of Highway 92 and Ridge Road in Paulding County and plans to move in early next year.

"This is a win-win for GreyStone, the school system and the community," Douglas County Schools Superintendent Trent North said. "The current central office on Highway 5 has served the school system well for many years, but we need to bring our departments together under one roof and provide a healthy work environment for our employees. Purchasing the GreyStone building helps us and helps the community by keeping a landmark building in Douglasville occupied and maintained."

The BOE is paying \$12.5 million for the GreyStone building, which North said is a \$1 million less than the \$13.5 million it appraised for. The school system will pay GreyStone for the building over 15 years as part of a lease-purchase agreement, North said.

North said the school system started discussing the building with GreyStone in 2015, two years before he was appointed

SEE BOE/PAGE A9

Billy Spiess presents Angie Stephens of the Douglas County Tag Office with a framed commemorative license plate from 1970 when the county celebrated its 100th birthday. The county celebrated 150 years on Saturday with a virtual program due to the pandemic.

Special to the Sentinel



## Spiess donates license plate from Douglas County's 100th birthday

SPECIAL TO THE SENTINEL

Douglas County celebrated its 150th birthday Saturday with a virtual program put on by the county government due to the pandemic.

Back in 1970, when the county turned 100, commemorative license plates were among the items produced.

Billy Spiess, a 1983 graduate of Douglas County High, said his dad bought one of those tags and put it on

the family pickup.

"That tag made it to several family vehicles and then ended up in the garage on a shelf," said Spiess, who now runs a local insurance business.

When Billy turned 16, he put the tag on his vehicle for a time. And then it wound up on a garage shelf again.

When he read the county was turning 150 years old, Spiess said he had

the idea to donate the 50-year-old tag to the county tag office.

Spiess said a good friend from high school, Angie Stephens, has worked for the county tag office for more than 30 years. So, Spiess said he called Stephens and she agreed it would be a great item to have on display at the tag office.

Spiess presented the framed tag during a small ceremony on Friday.

## Alexander tops national average on ACT

BY RON DANIEL  
MANAGING EDITOR

Alexander High School students in the Class of 2020 topped the national average on the ACT, according to data released last week by the Georgia Department of Education.

Alexander students averaged a composite score of 20.7 on the college admissions test, a tenth of a percentage point above the national average of 20.6.

At the district level, students from Douglas County's high schools who graduated this year averaged a 19.4 on the test.

In addition to Alexander, composite scores for Douglas County's other four high schools were: Chapel Hill with a composite average of 20.3; Douglas County High with an average of 19.7; New Manchester with an average of 17.6; and Lithia Springs with an average of 16.7.

All scores are based on 2020 high school graduates who took the ACT at some time from grades 10 to 12, according to the state DOE.

Georgia's average composite score for the class of 2020

SEE ACT/PAGE A3

## Rep. Bruce being investigated for handing out snacks to voters

BY MICHAEL O'HEARN  
FOR THE SENTINEL

An investigation has been launched by the Georgia Secretary of State's Office into District 61 state Rep. Roger Bruce, who was photographed last week handing out snacks to voters waiting in line outside

the county courthouse. Bruce, D-Atlanta, is the head of Douglas County's eight-member state delegation. He was photographed at the courthouse last Tuesday wearing a "State Representative Roger Bruce" shirt and passing out snacks to voters along-

side Douglas County Commissioner Tarenia Carthan.

Bruce's district includes Fulton, Douglas and Cobb counties. He is running unopposed in next month's general election and has been in office since 2003.

The incident caused an uproar on social media due to the state law against candidates campaigning within 150 feet of a polling place or within 25 feet of any voter standing in line to vote.

SEE BRUCE/PAGE A3



Special to the Sentinel

District 61 state Rep. Roger Bruce hands out snacks to voters while wearing a polo shirt with his name on it last week. The Georgia Secretary of State's Office confirmed it is investigating whether Bruce violated state elections law.



Copyright ©2020 Douglas Co. Sentinel

The Douglas County Sentinel  
• 8501 Bowden Street, Douglasville, Ga. 30134  
• Open for business Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. 770-942-6571

www.douglascountysentinel.com

CIRCULATION

To subscribe or report a delivery problem: 770-214-2285

INSIDE

Abby ..... A4 Deaths..... A3  
Astrology..... A4 Public Records..... A2  
Classifieds..... A7-8 Sports ..... A11  
Comics..... A4



High 77 Low 59  
Sunny  
For details, see page A2