



CAPPED, 4A

BP: No oil leaking into Gulf

Covington, Georgia
50 Cents

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Powerful meeting



Snapping Shoals holds 72nd event

By Crystal Tatum
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CONYERS — The free fans handed out by Snapping Shoals EMC at its 72nd annual meeting Thursday came in handy, as temperatures soared into the mid-90s, with the humidity making it feel even hotter.

Despite the heat, there were lots of smiling faces behind those flapping fans. The event, held at the Georgia International Horse Park in Conyers, included music, food and activities for children, along with the famous yellow Snapping Shoals buckets filled with goodies.

"I never knew so many people came to an event such as this. Next year, I'm going to bring my grandkids," said Betty Clark of Conyers, who was attending her first meeting.

Paula Baumann of Covington came with a friend; it was her second meeting in 23 years as a Snapping Shoals member.

"I'm enjoying the atmosphere, the music and the people," she said.

All told, 1,599 members registered. Snapping Shoals spokeswoman Leigh-Anne Burgess said that doesn't include spouses, children and others who might have tagged along. At least double



Above, Stuart Mead of Conyers gives a big grin as he picks up his yellow bucket of goodies from Snapping Shoals employees at the EMC's annual meeting held at the Georgia International Horse Park in Conyers on Thursday. Top, Nearly 1,600 people registered for the event. Here, the crowd awaits the beginning of the meeting.

Staff Photos: Erin Evans

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Newborn, Porterdale join forces on railroad

By Crystal Tatum
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NEWBORN — The town of Newborn and city of Porterdale have entered into a memorandum of understanding to explore the possibility of purchasing approximately 14 miles of the Norfolk Southern rail line, and officials are hoping their counterparts in Oxford and Mansfield will do the same.

Newborn Mayor Roger Sheridan is coordinating the effort between local municipalities in hopes of getting federal grant money to convert the rail line into a trail system transferred from Newton County to another entity, possibly the contingent of municipalities.

"The grant has to go to some organization. Originally, Covington was planning on doing it, and the county, but the county has not voted and Covington voted against it. My board decided maybe we ought to do something," Sheridan said.

Newborn sent a letter of interest to Norfolk Southern in May with the hope of

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Study: GPC has made local impact

By Michelle Floyd
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COVINGTON — The Board of Regents has recognized Georgia Perimeter College for making an economic impact on the region.

A recent economic impact study released by the board of the University System of Georgia showed that the college provided 4,954 jobs that resulted in more than half a billion dollars in total annual economic impact in the last fiscal year.

"We are proud of our contributions to the local and state economies, especially during these tough economic times," said GPC President Dr. Anthony S. Tricoli in a press release. "Our ability to become a vital factor in the state's economy can be directly attributed to GPC's commitment to offering an outstanding education that is relevant, affordable and accessible. With a GPC education, students can start here and go anywhere."

As the third-largest institution in the

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Meadows finishes as Snapping Shoals CEO

By Jay Jones
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CONYERS — As reliable as flipping a light switch, Snapping Shoals Electric Membership Corp. President and CEO Randall Meadows has gone to work at the local utility for 46 years.

Today, following Snapping

Shoals' annual members meeting, which was held Thursday, will be his last day on the job.

The 66-year-old Covington native will retire and be succeeded by Brad Thomas, Snapping Shoals senior vice president of engineering and operations.

Meadows began at Snapping Shoals in 1964 as a power advisor, similar to customer service rep, who helped

customers with questions and advice on power usage.

When he began his career, Snapping Shoals had 6,500 member customers. He leaves work today after watching the member-owned utility grow to 92,000 members.

Meadows said back then he did a little bit of everything.

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Randall Meadows



Brad Thomas

Woman charged with prescription forgery for second time

By Barbara Knowles
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COVINGTON — A Newton County woman has been arrested for a second time in little more than a month in connection with prescription forgery, according to the Covington Police Department.

Marjoree Renee Broxton, 26, of 770 Starsville Road,

was charged with forgery in the first degree in connection with an alleged attempt to obtain the drug Tramadol by presenting a false prescription on June 7 at a Kroger pharmacy. On July 9, the CPD was notified Braxton was again attempting to illegally obtain Tramadol from the Medicine Shoppe, located at 2155 Pace St., where she was arrested again.

According to a CPD inci-

dent report, the pharmacist at the Medicine Shoppe notified the CPD that a female had called in a prescription for 200 Tramadol HCL 50-mg tablets and that she was on her way to pick up the prescription.

"He stated that a female named Jennifer had called it in and told him she was calling in the prescription for her friend and stated that Marjorie Broxton would pick it

up," the report states, adding that the pharmacist immediately called the physician the woman said prescribed the drug who told him he had not given authorization for it.

The pharmacist next called other pharmacies in town and found that Broxton had been arrested at the Kroger pharmacy for a similar attempt in June.

CPD officers were waiting nearby when Broxton

showed up at the Medicine Shoppe to pick up the drugs.

"As I approached the store, I observed a female leaving in a truck that matched the description they had given. I then stopped the vehicle in the parking lot and made contact with the driver Jeff Broxton. I then asked the passenger for her ID to verify she was indeed Marjorie Broxton. I then asked Broxton to step out of the vehicle and

told her to step to the rear of the vehicle," the report states. "I then advised Broxton why she had been stopped. Broxton then became nervous and was visibly shaking. She then stated, 'I had a prescription this time. I would not do it a second time.'"

The report states that Broxton went on to tell the officer that she had gone to the

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WEATHER



Partly sunny. Highs in upper 80s. Lows in the lower 70s. Light winds. More weather, 2A

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