

# No qualifiers for Woodbine elections

## Cason, Martin to defend Brunswick commission seats

By **LARRY HOBBS**  
and **GORDON JACKSON**  
The Brunswick News

What if you scheduled an election and nobody wanted to run? That's the question the city of Woodbine was trying to answer after the end of qualifying for city council Friday afternoon.

Woodbine Mayor Steve Parrott and councilman Rob Baird both qualified to run for another term earlier this week. They are unopposed.

Incumbent councilman Randy Borderon, however, did not file the paperwork and the \$90 fee for his seat before the 4:30 p.m. deadline.

Nobody else did either. City Clerk Lynn Courson said she is not certain if the city has enough time to schedule another qualifying period before the Nov.

3 elections. She said the city will check with election officials to determine what to do.

### Kingsland

Attracting candidates was not an issue in Kingsland.

The Kingsland mayor's race got more crowded by the end of qualifying Friday. Scott Alexander and Mark Mounsey, son of the late Kingsland City Council member Don Mounsey, filed the paperwork and paid the fee to run for the office held by incumbent Ken Smith.

Former councilman Alex Blount resigned earlier this week to also challenge Smith for the mayor's seat.

Councilman Grayson Day was unopposed for another four-year term, but incumbent councilman Jim McClain will face two challengers, Kenneth B. Smith and Brett Mounsey, another son of the

late city councilman.

### Brunswick

With less than two hours remaining to qualify for the Brunswick City Commission election, incumbent Commissioner John Cason appeared Friday at the Glynn County Board of Elections and filed to defend his North Ward commission seat.

Cason was the last candidate to enter the Brunswick City Commission race as qualifying closed Friday.

The race will feature two challengers vying to unseat Julie Martin in Brunswick's South Ward, while Cason faces competition from Zack Lyde for the North Ward.

"I want my constituents to know that I have qualified for the Brunswick City Commission," Cason said Friday afternoon. "I'm happy to tell you that I'm feeling

very very good right now, and I'm very high on the city of Brunswick. I particularly look forward to continuing the good work this commission has achieved thus far, and to hopefully serve another four years."

In the South Ward, Linda Mincey and Valerie Scriven have filed to run against Martin.

The four-year terms pay \$10,000 annually, plus a \$3,000 per year car allowance.

Voting for the two ward races is open to all registered Brunswick voters.

Brunswick voters also will decide Nov. 3 whether to grant city officials the authority to exercise urban revitalization efforts as granted through the state's Redevelopment Powers Act.

A countywide referendum on the 1 percent special purpose local option sales tax for the Glynn County Board of Education also will be on the city ballot.

# Scores: Georgia's overall averages increase

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reading category, where local high schoolers averaged 483. The state average was 490.

Broken down by schools, the 157 Brunswick High School test-takers averaged 461 in critical reading, 464 in math, and 440 in writing.

At Glynn Academy, the 234 test-takers averaged 498 in critical reading, 485 in math and 473 in writing.

County school officials noted they were still processing scores and would likely have feedback this week regarding this year's

averages compared to previous years.

In surrounding counties, similar averages were seen. In Camden County, Camden County High School had 307 students take the college entrance exam. The average score was 492 in critical reading, 483 in math and 469 in writing.

Fifty-nine students at McIntosh County's McIntosh County Academy saw score averages of 424 in critical reading, 425 in math and 424 in writing.

Georgia students overall raised the state's averages by five points, although nationally, the average

declined by 7 percent. State reading scores averaged 490, up two points from last year. Writing averages increased by three points, to 475, and math scores stayed the same as last year, at 485.

This year, 76.9 percent of the state's eligible students — 72,898 — took the SAT.

Though Georgia schools still have work to do to better prepare students for the exam and careers after graduation, state school superintendent Richard Woods said he is nonetheless impressed with student scores.

"I'm encouraged by these score increases because they signal that

more students may be prepared for college-level work," Woods said. "As we continue to realign the focus of the Georgia Department of Education and pursue child-focused, classroom-centered policies, I believe we will see continued increases in SAT scores and other key indicators."

The exam, administered by the College Board, is considered an indicator of college preparedness. Each category is worth 800 points. A perfect score is 2400.

• **Reporter Anna Hall** writes about education and other local topics. Contact her at [ahall@thebrunswicknews.com](mailto:ahall@thebrunswicknews.com).

# Gas: Prices low for Labor Day

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will be cheaper to fill up, and it will be busy."

As much was clearly playing out Friday at the Parker's gas station and convenience store at the west end of the F.J. Torras Causeway.

"It's busy, almost too busy to even talk," store manager Crystal Brooks said.

Outside the store, resident James Dozier filled his pick-up to the max with gas. A Golden Isles resident, Dozier is a pilot flying out of the Jacksonville Airport. With a long commute each

way, the cost of gas plays a big factor into his regular budgeting measures. Anytime prices start to plunge, Dozier is happy.

"It's nice to have a relief from worrying about how high gas costs will go," Dozier said. "The lower, the better. I hope to see this last for a long, long time. I know it encourages me to get out and get around more."

Healy said lower gas costs will mean more people on the road. That's great news for local economies, but it opens the door for more car accidents and vehicle-related injuries.

This weekend, Healy advises

drivers to use caution behind the wheel.

"More people will be traveling, will be taking day and overnight trips," Healy said. "That's great to know, but it also means drivers need to be more vigilant on the road. Be careful, never drink and drive, and be patient. More cars will cause more congestion, so plan ahead. Be prepared and be ready for more crowded roadways."

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# Spy: Russian ship is capable of disrupting communications

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Leonov, a Vishnya class intelligence gathering ship built in 1988, and Nikolay Chiker, an ocean-going tug built in 1989 accompanying the spy ship, were spotted off the coast near Kings Bay.

The Leonov was designed for

signals and communications intelligence gathering through an array of ship-borne sensors and is equipped with two 30-millimeter guns and anti-aircraft missiles.

Officials at Kings Bay did not return calls Friday for comment.

During past incidents where Russian ships have operated in the

region, Navy officials said there is nothing they can do because the Russian ship is operating in international waters.

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## ODDBrief Missing comma makes certain records off-limits

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — In the end, the Tennessee Attorney General says the argument all comes down to the lack of a comma.

Attorney General Herbert Slatery issued an Aug. 25 opinion that says a city council cannot request the results of a Tennessee Bureau of Investigation report because of a law that says such records should be released "only in compliance with a subpoena or an order of a court of record," according to

media reports.

Slatery said the lack of a comma after the word "subpoena," means that either a subpoena or an order must come from a court. If there were a comma present, the opinion said, then "of a court of record" would only apply to "order."


— Associated Press



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and tell her they are from me.  
Tell her I love her and miss her.  
and when she turns to smile,  
place a kiss upon her cheek,  
and hold her for awhile.  
Because remembering her is easy,  
I do it every day.  
But there is an ache within my heart  
that will never go away.*

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