

ched to the 10th District in run for reelection, reported raising \$25,565 during the period. He spent \$14,357 and had \$30,791 cash on hand. Two years ago, Jones raised more than \$500,000.

Two of Jones' opponents, state Sen. Don Johnson, D-Royston, and Republican Ralph T. Hodgins of Hall, had about \$49,000 remaining in their campaign treasuries. Johnson, chairman of the state Senate Appropriations Committee, spent \$50,131 during the period and raised \$6,515.

In the 2nd District, Rep. Charles Hatcher of Albany raised \$37,385 during the period, spending \$18,175. He reported \$225,358 cash on hand. Reports were not available for his two opponents, Mason lawyer Lenny Edwards and former Air Force officer Philip Whigham.

DeKalb District Attorney Robert Wilson said Tuesday

he had raised \$25,565 and an equal amount in pledges for his 10th District campaign. His opponent, Sen. Cathy Steenbolz, D-Jacksonville, reported raising \$19,665 during the period with \$6,316 in cash on hand. Former Rockdale County Commissioner Richard Johnson collected \$227,743 more than any 4th District candidate during the first quarter. About \$200,000 of that was in a personal loan.

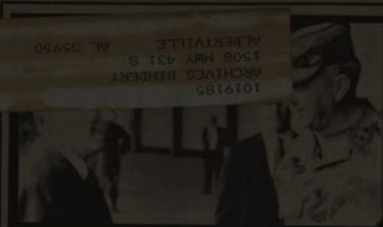
State Rep. John Linder, R-Atlanta, collected \$63,143 during the quarter. House DeKalb GOP Chairman Joe Miller reported \$81,000.

State Rep. Emory Nickselberger, R-Stone Mountain, said he had \$4,000 in contributions and \$30,000 in cash during the quarter. Sen. Tom Phillips, R-Liberty, said he raised \$2,490 before the start of the legislative session.



Planning a wedding

1B



WGC grad led in Gulf

2A



A 'peak' at Earth Day Magazine

Sunday
April 19, 1992

TIMES-GEORGIAN

Preserving the past—recording the present—preparing for the future

Volume 121, Number 95

901 Hays Mill Road, Carrollton GA 30117

Two sections—One dollar

Today's headlines

Upcoming court session includes murder case: 3A

Reward goes up to solve Robinson murder: 5A

Civitan Awareness Week arrives: 3A

Good news for local business people: 9A

WGC gridders on target in spring workouts: 10A

Organ donation fields joy in time of tragedy: 4B

Carrollton student loves Japan, but not octopus: 6B

Today's smile

Tonia Martin, WGC/Atlanta, is smiling because "I'm in a cool place and I enjoy the people I work with."

Today's quote

"Middle-income housing doesn't exist in Carroll County except in predominately white neighborhoods."

Ken Childs
County Commissioner

Today's weather



A 30 percent chance of thundershowers and a high in the low to mid 80s.

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Weddings.....7B

Miss your paper? We have you covered! If you miss a copy, please call 834-6431 between 7 and 11 a.m. for prompt delivery.

'Bumps along the way' to racial harmony

By Melody Bacas

Times-Georgian Senior Reporter

Majority-minority election districts could follow the way of the dinosaurs if the civil rights movement achieves its full goal of harmony between the races.

But local black leaders differ on when, and if, that will ever



AT ISSUE: Majority-minority districts

happen. The question of redistricting

and creating majority-minority districts came into the spotlight

this year after local legislators held public hearings on changing Carroll County's commission and school board lines. Members of the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) said they objected to the proposed plans because

none offered a district with a majority black population. The last plan gave a 47 percent black population to District 1, which was created as the minority district as part of a 1988 lawsuit settlement with

See LINES, page 5A

Murdered 3-year-old girl laid to rest

By Mark Griggs Jr.

Times-Georgian Staff Writer

Carroll County residents filed a funeral home chapel Saturday afternoon to mourn a child many of them did not know.

The Rev. Farrell Drummond of Carrollton's First Methodist Church said he and the other pastors conducting the service "want you to know our hearts are touched."

Amber Gail Bennett, who died Tuesday night of apparent child abuse, was put to rest in a plot in the city cemetery following the 2 p.m. service at Almon Funeral Home.

In leading the mourners in prayer, the Rev. John Autry of Carrollton First Baptist addressed the disbelief felt in the community at the way the girl died.

"Heavenly father, we are gathered together today not to have all of our questions answered, for that is not possible," he said. "We are here to pay tribute to a precious little girl."

He also addressed the outrage that has been directed toward the girl's mother, Christina Elaine Boyer, who is charged in the child's death, along with her boyfriend, David Paul Herrin.

Autry said God is a god of love and compassion and forgiving "and we do know that hatred and bitterness have no place in a Christian life."

He also said in the prayer that mourners should find comfort in knowing that Amber is with Him.

Boyer attended the service at the chapel, where she was kept from view behind a screen, but did not attend the burial.

The child was buried here because her maternal grandmother, Joan Resch, could not afford to have the body flown to her native Columbus, Ohio. Resch did attend the funeral, though, along with another unidentified relative.

The casket, tomb, vault and other items needed for the funeral were donated by individuals and local businesses.

"Bless everyone who has wanted to do something. There were



so many," Autry said during his prayer.

Some cash donations have also been made, and any donations in excess of what was needed for the funeral will be donated to the Carroll County Council on Child Abuse.

The Rev. Geron Crawford of Villa Rica First Methodist addressed the effect the girl's death has had on the community.

"This community will never be the same. Therefore, we celebrate the life of Amber Gail Bennett," he said.

He said the death has created a "heavy canopy of darkness" felt by the community. He said people in the community are affected by the events that affected the girl's life and cannot separate themselves from those events.

"Something happened to this little child. I felt it, you felt it, the community feels it," Crawford said.

Above, members of the Carroll County Sheriff's Department and representatives from the Carrollton Police Department carry Amber Gail Bennett's casket to the gravesite in yesterday's funeral services at the city cemetery. Shown, from left, are Deputy E. C. Culver, Deputy Dean Akers, Lt. Dennis Sanders, and officer Tracy Lambert.

At right, a toy Easter bunny is placed on top of a wreath at the gravesite.

Dean Akers and Clay Culver of the Carroll County Sheriff's Department and Dennis Sanders and Tracy Lambert of the Carrollton Police Department served as pallbearers.



West Georgia to dedicate Cole Stadium Tuesday

During the spring of 1991, Woodfin Cole made a major financial contribution toward the renovation and expansion of West Georgia College's baseball stadium. A few weeks later, WGC's director of plant operations Bob Towles told Mr. Cole

that when his crew was finished with the project, the stadium would be the finest of its kind in the Gulf South Conference and "something you will be proud to have your father's name on."

Mr. Cole passed away unexpectedly last summer. His presence will be greatly missed

when dedication ceremonies for Grady Woodfin Cole Stadium are held Tuesday, April 21, at 6:40 p.m. prior to the West Georgia-Columbus College game.

However, if the rave reviews

the WGC Braves' new stadium has been getting from local citizens and visitors are any indication, Tuesday has more than earned his pledge to the late Mr. Cole.

"Coaches of opposing teams who have visited us this spring

have said that our stadium and field are easily the best of anywhere they have played." Braves head coach David Fowler said recently. "And you can't believe the kind of recruiting

See COLE, page 11A

LAST DAY

50% Off

styles as well as casual handbags in leather and more. Reg. 7.00

Boys' Ties
3.49 to 7.99

Andhurst ties in assorted colors and patterns for sizes 4-7 and 8-20. Reg. 5.00 to 11.00.

Boys' Shorts Sets
26.99

Eton shorts suits with crested jacket, shirt with tie, and striped shorts, for sizes 4-7. Reg. 36.00.

Men's Haggard Casual Slacks
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Haggard and Gallery by Haggard poly/cotton poplin slacks in basic and fashion colors, sizes 32-42. Reg. 30.00 to 35.00.

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Save on regular priced poly/wool suits from our own Meeting Street collection. Values to 295.00.

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A select group of cotton and poly/cotton short or long sleeve dress shirts from Andhurst, Arrow and Saddlebred in assorted solids and fancies.

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Poly/wool year-round weight blazers available in navy, black, plum or teal, sizes 38-48.

10.99

sportshirts in plaids, for 20. Reg.

leather off-white.

for those Reg.

Pleidooi

Christina Boyer zit sinds 1992 een levenslange straf uit voor moord op haar dochtertje. Maar is ze wel schuldig? De Nederlandse fotograaf Jan Banning ziet in haar een casestudy van een heel systeem.

Op 14 april 1992 vertrekt de Amerikaanse Christina Boyer iets na de middag naar een kennis. Ze laat haar dochter Amber (3) achter bij David, haar nieuwe vriend. Wanneer ze 's avonds thuiskomt, treft ze een stervende Amber aan in haar bedje. Het kind is bont en blauw geslagen. Een dag later wordt Boyer gearresteerd op verdenking van moord. Tweënhalf jaar later wordt ze veroordeeld tot levenslang.

Dat is het gevolg van een zogenoemde *plea bargain*, een schikking waarbij je in ruil voor een bekentenis een lichtere straf krijgt. Omdat haar pro-Deoadvocaat weinig doet en Boyer niet helder kan denken door de emoties, tekent ze de schikking. Zo geeft ze het recht op om haar onschuld te bewijzen.

In 2013 maakt de Nederlandse fotograaf Jan Banning portretten in de Pulaski-gevangenis in Georgia, waar Boyer verblijft. Er ontstaat een intensieve correspondentie tussen de twee, en Banning begint de zaak te onderzoeken. Hij legt de bewijslast en verklaringen omtrent Ambers hoofdwonden voor aan Belgische en Nederlandse experts – en die lijken in het voordeel van Boyer te spreken.

Banning vertelt via Boyer over het kaduke Amerikaanse strafrechtelijke systeem. Pro-Deoadvocaten zijn vaak niet goed genoeg of te drukbezet. Amber overleed in een jaar waarin rechters verkozen werden, wat mogelijk leidde tot rechterlijke profileringsdrang. Bovendien is de Board of Pardons and Paroles, die beslist over voorwaardelijke invrijheidsstelling, zwaar onderbe-mand.

Boyer kan in theorie vrijkomen via zo'n voorwaarde-lijke invrijheidsstelling, maar haar verzoeken daartoe, negen intussen, werden allemaal afgewezen.

Gunther Truijen

Het oordeel: de zaak Christina Boyer is uitgegeven bij Schilt, 204 pagina's.





David over 14 april 1992, de fatale dag: 'Amber had diarree, maar ze klaagde niet. Ze at tussendoortjes, keek naar tekenfilms en werd slaperig. Er leek niets met haar aan de hand. Ik legde haar rond vier uur in bed voor een dutje. Rond halfvijf ging ik naar binnen en probeerde haar wakker te maken. Ik begon haar te reanimeren. Gelukkig reed Christina toen de oprit op.' (De foto is een reconstructie door Jan Banning, 2019.)

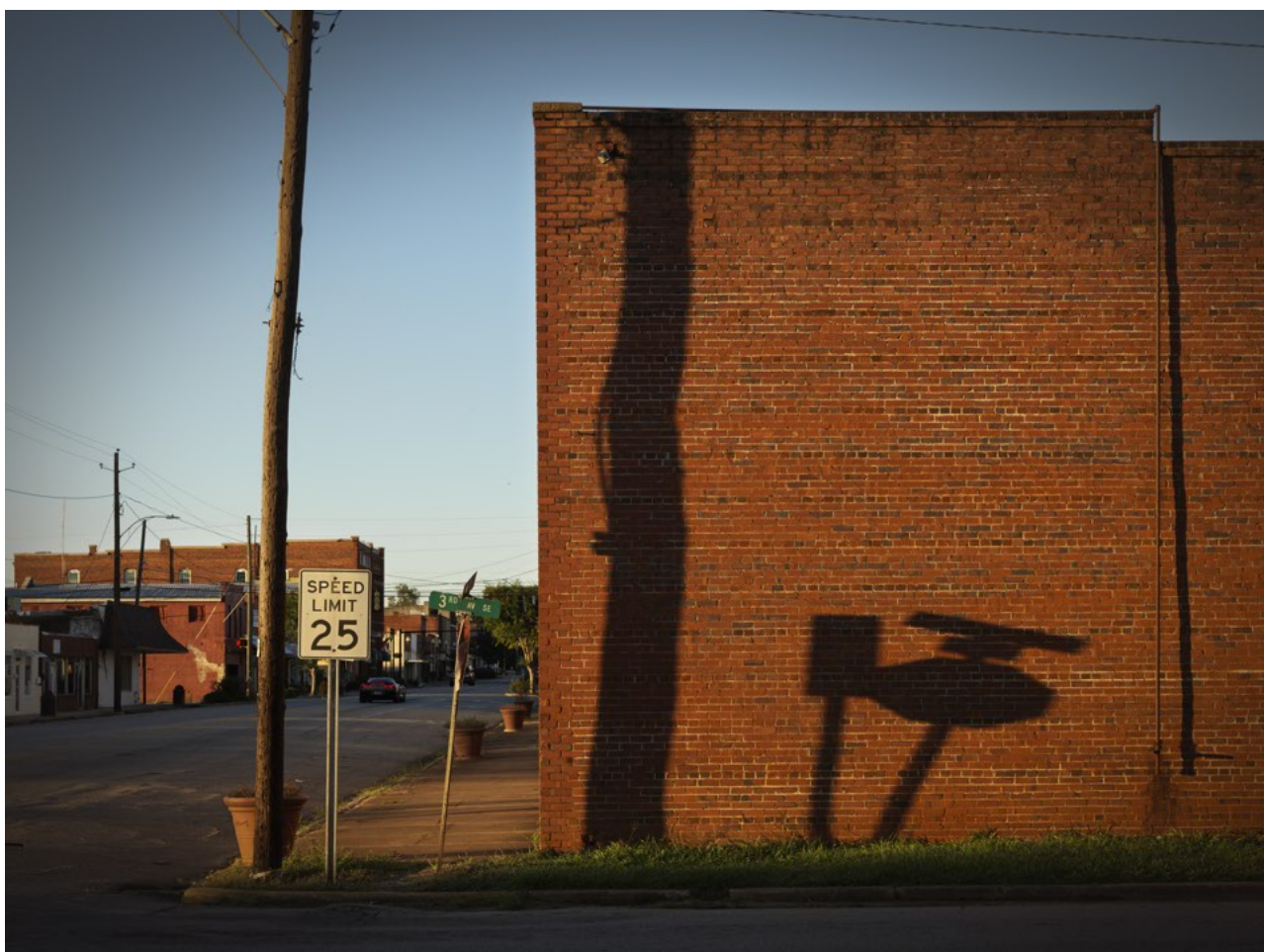


In april 1992 werd Christina Boyer gearresteerd en naar de Carroll County Jail gebracht.
(Foto uit 2019.)

In de dagen voor haar dood was Amber een paar keer alleen met David. Als Christina terugkwam, had haar dochter telkens bulten, schrammen en schaafwonden. Volgens David zou ze elke keer gevallen zijn. Ze leek er weinig last van te hebben, net zomin als van de val van haar driewielertje.
(De foto is een reconstructie door Jan Banning, 2018.)



Christina Boyer:
'Die schaduwen,
dat ben ik. Een
beetje scheef,
een beetje uit
vorm, altijd
een beetje
uit het lood.
Dat was mijn
eerste gedachte
toen ik de foto
zag.'



Christina Boyer:
'Het roze lint
doet me aan
Amber denken,
alsof het daar is
vastgebonden
ter nagedach-
tenis aan haar.
Ze droeg zo vaak
roze.'





Christina Boyer op Kerstmis 1995, in de gevangenis.



Amber in 1991, op haar laatste kerstfeest.