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SPORTS, 1B

ATHENS BANNER-HERALD

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Beyond nostalgia

Athens VHS Fest marks a milestone for physical media fans

Andrew Shearer Athens Banner-Herald | USA TODAY NETWORK

What began as a backyard gathering for tape collectors has grown into one of Athens’ most distinctive celebrations of film, music and physical media. • Now in its fifth year, Athens VHS Fest returns on Sunday, Oct. 11 with a vendor market and performances at Creature Comforts Brewing Co., 271 West Hancock Ave., from 1 to 7 p.m. A free screening of the 1994 zombie comedy “Cemetery Man” will take place across the street at Ciné, 234 W Hancock Ave., at 5 p.m. as a bonus feature.

See VHS FEST, Page 2A

ABOVE: VHS Fest co-founder Brad Staples holds a homemade promotional videocassette in his office in Athens on Sept. 29. PROVIDED BY ANDREW SHEARER

RIGHT: A selection of crafts, art prints and VHS tapes from the Jaguardini booth at the 2025 VHS Fest in Athens at Creature Comforts Brewery. PROVIDED BY VHS FEST



PROBATE JUDGE

Leaders join effort to approve amendment

Wayne Ford

Athens Banner-Herald
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Council of Probate Court Judges of Georgia recently issued a statement from its Atlanta office providing the names of about 70 Georgians in leadership positions who are supporting an amendment on the Nov. 3 election ballot that provides for nonpartisan elections for probate judges.

The statement notes that judges serving on the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Superior Courts, and state courts all run in nonpartisan elections, but this is not the case for probate judges.

“This proposal is not a Democrat or Republican idea,” the statement reads. “It received overwhelming bipartisan support in the Georgia General Assembly,” where it passed the House by a 147-20 vote and the Senate by a 46-0 vote.

Probate judges handle wills, estates, marriage licenses, and other issues, and

See PROBATE, Page 2A

ACLU blasts Trump immigration policy

Michael Loria

USA TODAY

The American Civil Liberties Union released a report on Oct. 6 slamming President Donald Trump’s mass deportation agenda.

“In the past 20 months, the Trump administration has taken hundreds of actions to consolidate the president’s grip on power, execute a radical redefining of who belongs in America, and enact the largest rollback of civil rights and liberties in recent history,” the ACLU report said. “Deportations have provided a pretext, a distraction, and a legal justification all at once, as the administration attacks our individual constitutional rights – impacting all Americans.”

The ACLU is a civil rights organization founded to defend rights enshrined in the United States Constitution.

The new 139-page report outlines 76 steps it says Trump has taken to fundamentally undermine American

See IMMIGRATION, Page 2A

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