TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY, November 11-12, 2025

RN-T.com

Weather: Sunny. High near 64. Low 38. B6

Dean files suit against GHC

Defendants typically have 21 days to respond

By Adam Carey

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The dean of students at Georgia Highlands College filed a lawsuit against the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia and Georgia Highlands College in district court.

Michelle Lockett-Lewis, who is listed on the website of Georgia Highlands College as the assistant vice president of student success and dean of students, filed

Defendants in federal lawsuits typically have 21 days from filing to respond.

The lawsuit was assigned to Judge William M. Ray II in the Northern District Court of Georgia.

In the lawsuit, Lockett-Lewis alleges she was the

"Defendant violated Dr. Lockett-Lewis's rights under Section 1981 on the basis of her

disparate treatment than her white colleagues.

race (African American Black) by retaliating against for engaging in protected activities including by, among other things, placing her on an indefinite administrative leave, stripping her of her teaching responsibilities, and ginning up a sham investigation designed to defame her and besmirch her good name," the lawsuit states.

Lockett-Lewis makes numerous claims victim of racial discrimination and suffered from in the lawsuit, starting with her hiring

process and including an unfair housing situation regarding members of the women's basketball team. Allegations of sexual misconduct by faculty and staff and sexual harassment claims against a department chair are also part of the filing.

Lockett-Lewis also claims she has been placed on indefinite administrative leave, stripping her of her teaching responsibilities and has been unlawfully retaliated against because of the allegations she uncovered.

SEE GHC, A3



The Rome Floyd Honor Guard marches down Broad Street in the annual Veterans Day Parade Tuesday.

Community gathers to celebrate Veterans Day

By Adam Carey and Rachel Hartdegen as they cheered on veterans participating ACarey@RN-T.com, RHartdegen@RN-T.com

undreds of people across Rome and Floyd County took time Tuesday to celebrate those who have served in the military and the sacrifices they made for the country.

While the city held a Veterans Day parade downtown, schools in the area and local organizations also had their own celebrations.

At the parade on Broad Street, spectators braved a blustery November day to watch veterans process down the street.

The parade started at Synovus Bank, with the Rome-Floyd Fire Department Honor Guard leading the procession, along with Grand Marshal Master Sgt. Bill Sunrich, U.S. Army (ret.). Sunrich was a member of the Special Forces, a Vietnam veteran and a Purple Heart recipient.

With temperatures at near 40 degrees, spectators sipped hot chocolate and coffee

in the parade. Included in the Tuesday celebration was Roy Lee Gilreath Sr., 99, who was driven in a truck by his son Roy Gilreath Jr., who is also a veteran.

Gilreath Sr., who turns 100 next week, is a World War II veteran who served in the U.S. Navy and drove an LST landing craft on D-Day, shuttling men and equipment between ship and shore.

the Exchange Club of Rome, who thanked local retirement homes for arranging vans Elementary School's Veterans Day celebration Tuesday. to transport residents for the parade.

ALTO PARK ELEMENTARY'S VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION

On the other side of town, Alto Park Elementary School's gymnasium quickly filled up as students and their families gathered to celebrate Veterans Day.

SEE VETERANS, A2





The parade was organized by Bill King of A daughter takes a moment to knight her father with the rose he was given to thank him for his service at Alto Park



Comics, Puzzles

Dear Abby

Members of the American Legion Grady Mabry Post 506 participate in Rome's annual Veterans Day Parade. Left: The Armuchee High School Marching Band proceeds down Broad Street Tuesday.

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Calendar

Rome OKs \$1.5M refund to the state

♦ The payments, from transit funds, settle the issue of tripper bus service for city schools.

By Mo Burge MBurge@RN-T.com

After years of negotiations, the city of Rome has agreed to a nearly \$1.5 million payback plan to the state for the now defunct Transit Tripper service, which used federal funds to bus Rome City Schools students.

The city was first notified by the Federal Transit Ad-

ministration in 2019 that the bus service provided to the school system for decades was not in compliance with the grant rules. Since then, City

Sammy

Rich

Manager Sammy Rich said during a Rome City Commission caucus meeting, a "flurry of activity" has taken place to find relief — but the city was left with no other options.

"It was a tumultuous time," Rich said. "We were told a lot of things and we had a lot of reasons to have a lot of angst and concern."

SEE ROME, A3

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LOCAL MATTERS



TODAY'S YOUNG ARTIST Gabriel Mazumder, a BCEMS sixth grader

Email artwork to HKoon@RN-T.com. Include the student's ne, grade and school. Visit RN-T.com to see Today's Young Artist monthly galleries.

Puzzle solutions Classified NO OBITUARIES: Funeral homes submitted no obituaries for today's edition

A6

Weather

TV Listings

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