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Drugs and money found in uncommon place during routine traffic stop



On January 22, 2018, Deputy Patrick Paquette conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle occupied by Carlos Iglesias, 35, of Goose Creek, S.C. and Alfonso Perez-Vargas 26, of North Charleston, S.C.

Following his investigation, Deputy Paquette conducted a search of the vehicle and

located two disguised "safes" which contained narcotics. One of the safes was disguised as a can of Pringles and the other a can of Monster Energy Drink. A large amount of money was also recovered. Both subjects were subsequently arrested and charged with various narcotics possessions charges for

methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana.

These safes are sold under the premise of allowing homeowners to store money or other valuables safely. This discovery is relatively uncommon because they are often overlooked during a search.

Travis Tritt coming to Greensboro



JUST ANNOUNCED Join us for a special evening with CMA & Grammy award-winning country artist, Travis Tritt, on Sat., March 17 at Festival Hall, Greensboro, GA! Experience this rare opportunity featuring the

multi-platinum artist in an intimate solo-acoustic setting where his powerful voice and his guitar are the subject of the spotlight.

General Admission seating tickets go on sale this Friday, February 2 at 10AM and will be

available for purchase online at freshtix.com or by phone at 678-701-6114.

Visit Lake Oconee Lake Oconee News, Lake Country 94.7 & 102.3, and The Herald Journal for information.

Attorneys Boswell and Windham win wrongful foreclosure case before jury

Local lawyers E.J. "J" Boswell and Ben Windham tried a jury trial before a Greene County jury January 22 through January 25, 2018 against Mike's Furniture Barn, Inc., Michael G. Miller and Richard Plymale. The case brought on behalf of Mr. Boswell and Mr. Windham's client consisted of claims for wrongful foreclosure, negligent and intentional infliction of emotional distress, attorney's fees and punitive damages. The Plaintiff alleged that Mike's Furniture Barn, Inc. and its agents wrongfully foreclosed upon the Plaintiff's home on a \$1,954.00 loan. The loan was made in 2002 to catch up the Plaintiff's real estate taxes on her home. Despite believing she had paid the loan back, Boswell and Windham's client never received a notice that she still owed money and that interest was accruing at 23% until 2015. In October 2016 Mike's Furniture Barn and its agents foreclosed upon Boswell and Windham's client. The Defendants also attempted to evict Boswell and Windham's client. Despite being shown that



Attorneys Ben Windham and J Boswell

they wrongfully foreclosed, the Defendants engaged in a year and a half of litigation, all the way to the Georgia Court of Appeals and back and refused to take responsibility for their actions. On Thursday, January 25, 2018,

a Greene County jury awarded the Plaintiff \$15,000.00 dollars in damages, \$45,000.00 dollars in attorney's fees and \$100,000.00 dollars in punitive damages against the Defendants for their conduct.

2017 was warmest year ever for Georgia

AP — A new report shows that 2017 was the warmest year on record for Georgia.

The annual average statewide temperature for 2017 was tied with 2016 for the warmest on record with 65.8 degrees (18.8 Celsius) as the average mean temperature, Georgia state climatologist Bill Murphey said.

Atlanta broke records throughout the entire year, as it had the third warmest winter and spring on record, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported. For the city, 2016 and 2012 were the No.1 and No. 2 warmest years, respectively.

"Recall how dry it was in Georgia, especially during the

fall and winter La Niña event of 2016, with all the north Georgia wildfire activity," he said. "In fact annual average temperatures for 2016 for Atlanta were the warmest on record...The annual average statewide temperature for 2017 was tied with 2016 for the warmest on record."

Hidden jewel of Greensboro, Donna Chester - seamstress and clothes designer

Submitted by Jane Dail Roper



Each morning before the sun comes up, a light comes on behind the house located at the corner of Main Street and Third Avenue. Creative ideas are already swirling in the head of Donna Chester as she opens the door to her sewing and design studio. As she looks around at the smooth texture of the long L shape countertops that she designed to hold her four sewing machines, a surge of excitement moves from her heart right down to her hands. Soon she will be pushing a piece of fabric under the bobbing needle to make her first stitch of the day.

"This is my place of joy where God guides my mind and hands!", Donna exclaims. Her work space is one of order and harmony. Brightly colored spools of thread hang on one wall and 20 wooden slots by the door hold the pants, shirts, dresses and other alterations waiting to be picked up. On the back wall are hung the wedding and prom gowns that await her skilled hands for

altering and reconfiguring.

Donna chuckles when she tells the story of one challenging prom gown that needed to be let out quite a bit. "At first I didn't know how I was going to let out a dress that had not one inch of extra material at the side seams of the bodice. Finally I had to tell the young woman, 'You give me and the Lord a chance!'" By the next morning, she had the solution. The extra width of the skirt would allow her to cut off three inches from the right and left sides which she then sewed onto the sides to allow more room in the bodice. With a final sewing of the original lace over the remodeling site, no one could ever see where she joined the pieces of fabric together.

On another day, a woman brought in a \$600 prom dress that looked great at the store but, later felt all wrong when she put it on. This one was truly a big challenge because Donna knew the only way that she would be able to reconfigure this gown to a

slimmer mermaid look was to cut the gown in half and start over.

"Right before I put my scissors on that gown, I said, 'Ok, God, you got to go into this with me!' A week later when that lady put on that prom dress, I knew when I saw the tears in that woman's eyes, that my prayer was answered!"

With each story she told me, I could hear the thrill in her voice and see the brightness in her luminous smile that revealed how much she loved her work. Every customer that came in that day was met with that same enthusiasm and delight, for Ms. Donna has been sewing for herself and others for over 40 years. Her inspiration came from her grandmother who raised her. In the afternoons she was mesmerized by her grandmother's foot pressing down upon the treadle that caused the needle to bob up and down across the fabric.

"I knew then...like a light bulb turning on in my head that I wanted to sew for a living." By the time she was 20, Donna was working at Siloam Industries sewing carpenter jeans. After a long 8 hour day, she would come home in the evenings to her small sewing machine where she would make her own dresses, skirts, blouses, suits and slacks. Soon her friends were asking her to create clothes for them.

Today, men and women continue to seek her out. Outside of her shop, her sign says it all - "Magic Needles - Alterations and Much, Much More." The photos on her phone vividly show what

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