



Area players compete for Division I programs

SPORTS, 1B

Savannah Morning News.

TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2026 | SAVANNAHNOW.COM

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Juneteenth at Telfair honors Gullah Geechee heritage



AT TOP: Jamal Touré, the “African Spirit”, performs a libation ceremony during the 19th Juneteenth Celebration on June 13 at the Telfair Museums. **ABOVE LEFT:** Queen Quet, Chiefess of the Gullah Geechee Nation, claps as the procession ends in the gallery at the Telfair Academy during the 19th Juneteenth Celebration on June 13. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Vaughnette Goode-Walker dances on the steps of the Jepson Center during the 19th Juneteenth Celebration on June 13. PHOTOS BY RICHARD BURKHART/SAVANNAH MORNING NEWS

ON OUR RADAR

HSF’s 2026 Endangered Places list seeks sites

Nominations open for historic ‘places in peril’

Evan Lasseter
Savannah Morning News
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation releases a “places in peril” list each year highlighting historic properties around the state at risk of being lost.

The Historic Savannah Foundation runs a local initiative in the same mold, and nominations for the 2026 list are now open. This installment of On Our Radar details the initiative and provides steps on how to nominate endangered properties.

Additionally, the City of Savannah is releasing a report on a key downtown initiative next week. Follow here to learn about the initiative and event details.

If you have neighborhood updates, organization events, or news tips you think could be of service to Savannahians, send them to elasseter@usatodayco.com. Also reach out if there are stories here you would like to know more about. Deadline for the On Our Radar series will be the end of day each Friday.

HSF endangered places nominations open

HSF’s Endangered Places list launched last year, and now the program is back for its second year, HSF announced in a press release.

The initiative advocates for sites in Savannah threatened by demolition, neglect, inappropriate development or insensitive public policy. The inaugural list included sites such as LePageville Cemetery and Nicholsonboro Baptist Church.

The endangered places list also seeks to raise awareness about the at-risk properties, provide helpful resources and grow community engagement in local preservation efforts, the press release said.

“Historic preservation is not just about saving buildings,” said

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Two rich rivals, one GOP ticket in Georgia showdown

Ty Tagami
CAPITOL BEAT NEWS SERVICE

ATLANTA — Lt. Gov. Burt Jones and entrepreneur Rick Jackson have a few things in common.

Both are wealthy, but one is wealthier. Both say they are aligned with President Donald Trump, though Trump has endorsed only one of them.

Both are Republicans and want to become the GOP nominee for governor.

Yet only one can win the runoff on Tuesday.

Republicans will make their choice after a bruising election campaign that

cost the candidates tens of millions of dollars in advertising.

Both candidates have aired ads that allege the other is corrupt, another thing they have in common.

They share similar policy priorities, too.

Here is what they have said about the issues when queried at public events in recent months.

Jones, Jackson say they want to cut taxes

Jackson said during an Atlanta Press Club debate in April that he

would cut the state income tax in half and freeze property taxes.

Jones had advocated for eliminating the income tax, a goal that proved elusive during this year’s legislative session, when lawmakers approved more modest rate cuts.

Also, the Senate, which Jones leads, balked at the House’s goal of abolishing the property tax, agreeing instead only to an inflation-based cap on homestead value increases.

“Special interests pressured Burt. He did what was best for them and not you,” Rep. Brent Cox, R-Dawsonville, says in a new attack ad by the Jackson

campaign.

Jones said at a Georgia Association of Manufacturers’ gubernatorial forum in April that he would continue trying to cut the income tax if he were to become governor.

“I’d like to see us go to zero,” he said.

Jones, Jackson hold similar views on the environment

Asked about environmental regulations at the manufacturers’ forum, Jones said, “We’re regulated way too

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Kemp posts Burt Jones endorsement for GA governor

Miguel Legoas

Savannah Morning News
USA TODAY NETWORK

Brian Kemp has less than a year left as governor of Georgia. Now, he's made it clear who he wants to succeed him.

In a few Sunday evening posts shared to his various social media accounts, Kemp threw his wholehearted endorsement behind Burt Jones as the lieutenant governor gets ready to face healthcare CEO Rick Jackson in this week's runoff election.

"Burt Jones has been a strong, trusted ally in those victories for the people of our state," Kemp wrote. "The hardest part about being governor is making decisions that aren't always popular or easy. I've worked alongside Burt for nearly fifteen years and I'm confident that he will always put hardworking Georgians first."

Jones expressed his thanks for Kemp in multiple social media posts of his own, calling it an honor and expressing his gratitude for working alongside the governor.

"It's time we come together as a party, finish strong on Tuesday, and look to November and keep fighting for all the principles, freedoms and values that make Georgia the best state in the nation," Jones wrote.

Jones has also been endorsed by



Gov. Brian Kemp shakes hands with Burt Jones after being introduced at a press conference on Nov. 7, 2022 in Atlanta. Kemp endorsed Jones who is seeking the Republican nomination for governor.

ELIJAH NOUVELAGE/
GETTY IMAGES

Who is leading in GA governor race?

An InsiderAdvantage poll released Sunday before the endorsement put Jackson ahead for the Republican nomination with 49% versus Jones with 46%. The platform said an updated poll will be released Monday.

Two other polls were released in late May by JMC Analytics and Quantus Insights. The former went to Jackson leading by two points while the latter went to Jones leading by two points.

When is the GA primary election in 2026?

The Georgia primary runoff is 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 16. If there's a line of people at your poll after 7 p.m., the poll will stay open to allow them to vote.

Where are polls for GA runoff election 2026?

Georgians can look at all of their relevant voting info, including a sample ballot and where your poll is, at mvp.sos.ga.gov/s/.

Miguel Legoas is a Deep South Connect Team Reporter for USA Today. Find him on Instagram @miguellegoas and email at mlegoas@gannett.com.

President Donald Trump, with the campaign posting several videos of Trump praising Jones as well.

Keisha Lance Bottoms reaction to Kemp endorsement for governor

Whoever wins the Republican nomination will face Democratic nominee and former Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms. Shortly after Kemp's announcement, her spokesperson

TaNisha Cameron released a statement:

"We're ready to take on and defeat whichever Trump wannabe comes out of this divisive Republican primary. Burt Jones and Rick Jackson are running to enrich themselves as they refuse to fight for Georgians facing rising costs and threats to their health care. As governor, Keisha will focus on bringing down costs, expanding Medicaid, and investing in education."

Radar

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Historic Savannah Foundation Director of Preservation and Historic Properties Kaylee Johnson. "It's also about bringing awareness and protection to endangered places that are associated with memory, identity and stories that communities cannot afford to lose. This program strives to do just that."

To be eligible, properties must fit the following criteria:

- Sites must be at least 50 years old and have local importance in terms of architectural, cultural and/or historic significance.
- Sites could be of significance in relation to notable people, events or

activities associated with a broad pattern of history.

- Sites do not have to be listed in a historic district to be eligible.
- Sites must be subject to a serious threat to their existence or historical, architectural and/or archaeological integrity.
- There must be a demonstrable level of community commitment and support for the preservation of the nominated site.

HSF's nomination form includes questions such as why is the site significant, if its associated with notable people, events or activities related to a "broad pattern of history, and why the property is at risk.

Photos of the property and its current condition are also part of the form. Nominations can be made online

through HSF's website.

through HSF's website.

City to unveil report on MLK corridor initiative

The City of Savannah is welcoming residents to an event highlighting its Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Corridor initiative.

The initiative, launched in the beginning of 2025, is aimed at developing a comprehensive strategy to revitalize the corridor. Savannah's Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, formerly known as West Broad Street, was once the city's premier district for Black business.

City staff will present findings of a report outlining priority projects, implementation partners and funding sources for efforts to improve the vi-

talinity of the corridor.

Residents, business owners and other community stakeholders will be able to review the plan's recommendations and provide feedback on the initiative, the city's press release said.

Here is what to know if you plan to go:

What: Martin Luther King, Jr., Boulevard Celebration Corridor Initiative event

When: Wednesday, June 17, 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Where: Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum, 460 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Savannah.

Evan Lassetter is the City of Savannah and Chatham County government reporter for the Savannah Morning News. You can reach him at ELassetter@savannahnow.com.



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