

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 6

November 2022



# THE PARLIAMENARY INQUIRER

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY THE SENATE  
PRESS OFFICE

## A CONVERSATION WITH ROY BARNES

GEORGIA'S 80TH GOVERNOR

HOW GEORGIA GIVES THANKS  
A REPORT ON THANKSGIVING  
TRADITIONS IN OUR STATE

## REMEMBERING HOUSE SPEAKER DAVID RALSTON

73RD SPEAKER OF THE GEORGIA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

# THE PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRER

A Monthly Newsletter by The Senate Press Office



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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### Features

1.....	<i>The Last One of Us</i> <i>A Profile of Georgia's 80th Governor, Roy Barnes</i>
6.....	<i>"Senate Giving"</i> <i>Giving Thanks and Honoring a</i> <i>Georgia Senate Legacy, Kathleen Cominski</i>
8.....	<i>How Georgia Gives Thanks</i> <i>A report on Thanksgiving Traditions in the Senate</i>

### Commentary

12.....	<i>A Moment In Time</i> <i>November in Georgia History</i>
---------	---

### Isn't It True?

14.....	<i>She Was Once The Goddess of Freedom</i> <i>History on Miss Freedom</i>
---------	--

### Events Under the Gold Dome

15.....	<i>Snapshots of Events that happened at</i> <i>the Capitol</i>
---------	---

### Adjournment

18.....	<i>Crossword Puzzle</i> <i>The Hopper: Upcoming Events</i>
---------	---



# THE LAST ONE OF US

## *A Profile of Roy Barnes*

BY: KEENAN ROGERS, SENIOR BROADCAST SPECIALIST

As he lay ill, Herman Talmadge, former Governor and Senator, asked Roy Barnes to stay a minute. Barnes had gone to say his goodbyes to his longtime friend with George Dardin, Abit Massey, and Hugh Gillis the weekend before Barnes was to be sworn in as Georgia's 80th Governor. As the rest got up to leave, Talmadge looked at Barnes and in a weak but sure voice said "Ya'll go on, Roy stay here," as Barnes inched close, Talmadge said "no one will probably show up, but I want you and Sam [Nunn] to do my funeral," "What do you mean no one will show up?" replied Barnes "Oh, I been gone," Talmadge said wearily. "Believe me, you'll have a big enough crowd," Barnes assured him. Then, Talmadge looked at him and said, "I want to tell you one other thing too, you're the last one of us. It'll all be a new day. A whole new change, but you'll do a good job."



Senator, Representative, Chairman, Governor.

Just a few titles to describe one of the giants in Georgia's political history. But Roy Barnes is much more than those titles. Barnes' own story turns out to be as fascinating as his accolades. It all started back in 1929 at the Barnes family store. Locals would come for miles to vote at the courthouse by the store and then visit the Barnes' where his father and uncle would make small talk about the election. Barnes quickly learned the valuable lesson of Retail Politics, a phrase he would coin and use for his entire career. This sparked his interest in politics and, when he was 25 years old, he decided to run for



Photo Courtesy of the Digital Library of Georgia

Senate District 33 (then centered around the City of Mableton) against the incumbent Jack Henderson. Barnes and his wife, Marie Dobbs, would knock on doors every day from 4:00pm till dark, putting their retail politics skills to the test and their boots on the ground. "I quickly learned to be done by dinner time because folks sure don't appreciate you interrupting their meal," said Barnes. Undeterred, he would group his routes by families, taking one side of the street while Marie Dobbs took the other, hoping to catch the Lockheed workers coming home from the 3:30 shift. To this day, Barnes still remembers every detail about the conversations he had. "We were down in Fair Oaks and this old fellow was sitting on the front



Photo Courtesy of the Digital Library of Georgia

porch of his house and he had a swing and a pair of overalls on, so I bounced on his porch and said, “Roy Barnes, I’m running for the State Senate and I need your vote.” The man replied, “well I never had anybody come to my house, so I’ll vote for you,” Barnes expressed his gratitude and continued down the street. The next day he came back to the same neighborhood, but he forgot where he stopped. After a few houses he ended up knocking on that same man’s door who promptly told him, “now you know son, I already told you yesterday I’ll vote for you. You don’t have to come back every night.” Forty eight years later Barnes tells this story like it happened yesterday. Forty eight years of pressing the flesh and showing Georgia that greatness lies in character. This was on full display when his opponent, Jack Henderson, suddenly passed away in an automobile accident. Barnes went around the entire district taking down his signs for a week as a sign of respect, and when Henderson’s son ended up running against him, Barnes beat him to win his first Senate seat at the age of 26, making him the youngest member serving in the Senate at the time.

In 1974, the year Barnes was elected, the Senate was in the midst of a shake-up. Fresh off Watergate, the people of Georgia were adamantly anti-incumbent, leading to 19 freshman senators elected that year including Barnes. Barnes quickly learned how merciless and sometimes combative politics could be, especially being the youngest senator. “Culver Kidd called me a Page for two years,” he said reminiscing on his first term. He, Pierre Howard, and Paul Coverdale quickly formed a bond, being amongst the younger senators in the chamber, and with youth comes some mischief. One day the Senate was creating another board to regulate and Barnes had had enough. He believed that the government did not need another board to regulate. Senator Franklin Sutton from Norman Park, who shared Barnes’ frustration, called him over and they came up with a plan to write a floor substitute.

Barnes and Franklin decided to create a substitute to regulate “The State Board of Crooks and Criminals.” If you had ever committed a felony, then you were up for regulation. The board was composed of a man who committed only felonies, a man who strictly committed misdemeanors, and it wouldn’t be complete without having folks grandfathered in. So, Barnes wrote a provision stating that any member of the General Assembly was automatically grandfathered onto the board. Stifling his laughter, he submitted the finalized substitute to Hamilton McWhorter, the Secretary of the Senate, who immediately



had to hide his amusement upon reading it. Zell Miller, the Lieutenant Governor at the time, did not approve of such a childish act, saying the floor substitute was “out of order,” calling Barnes and Franklin up to reprimand the two pranksters.

Now we can't talk about Barnes without mentioning Zell Miller. Another giant in Georgia's political footprint, Miller was Barnes' Lieutenant Governor for 16 years and their relationship was full of ups and downs. Miller was famous for his fiery demeanor that Barnes had to reign in at times.



Photo Courtesy of the Digital Library of Georgia

One year, during the annual duel of the budget, the Senate voted not to accept the House's budget. This sent the capitol to a standstill, and Speaker Tom Murphy into a fit of rage. “I knew the duty that I had and I voted with my Lieutenant Governor,” said Barnes when explaining the reason why he voted no. As soon as it happened, Bill Lee, the chairman of the rules committee at the time, came over and vehemently told Barnes “Murphy wants to see you.” The moment Barnes walked into the green door meeting, Speaker Murphy stood up and slammed his hand on the table voicing his extreme displeasure. Barnes had gone to law school with Speaker Murphy's son, Mike, and had become good friends with the Murphy family. The two often leaned on each other for guidance and counsel, however, Barnes also knew he had to support Miller as well.

Barnes told Murphy to calm down, give him some time and he would take care of things. Upon adjournment Barnes went down to Miller's office and told him that he needed to fix this. Miller paused and looked at Barnes for a moment before exclaiming “Murphy sent you over here?” Barnes could not catch a break. The budget ended up passing thanks to a last-minute caucus meeting but who knows what would have happened if Barnes had not told two of the most powerful men in Georgia to “Calm down.”

As Barnes political career grew, so did his reputation. Known for his level head and deft negotiation skills, Barnes was appointed Chairman of the prestigious Judiciary Committee by Zell Miller. Governor Joe Frank Harris saw promise in the young Barnes and announced his appointment as one of his floor leaders. Barnes met with Governor Harris every morning to discuss the day's business, and one morning Governor Harris looked at Barnes and said, “You know, you can do this job,” confirming the thoughts Barnes had secretly been having himself...but more on that later.

By 1977, the General Assembly was tasked with rewriting the state's constitution. Enter 29-year-old Roy Barnes. He was appointed Chairman of the Select Committee on Constitutional Revision. The rallying cry of the committee focused on “brevity, clarity, and flexibility.” In the years leading up to the Constitution being finalized in 1983, Barnes was spending so much time at the Capitol that he was concerned he was not going to be able to make a living. In addition to the Constitution rewrite, Barnes was also in the midst of Georgia's Code Revision. He was burning the candle at both ends, but he knew his work would be the foundation for the future of Georgia.

One of Barnes' primary focuses was to secure the non-partisan election of judges, as well as having the Bill of Rights as Article One. Barnes believed that the rights of the people are superior to any branch of government, which is why it is the very first article a person sees upon viewing Georgia's Constitution.

"I won't say it's perfect," stated Barnes "but it's a big improvement over the '45 constitution."

Zell Miller knew he and Roy Barnes were on a collision course. Two bright, driven, political veterans who wanted the keys to the governor's mansion. "Zell would tell me he knew before I did, that we would be running for Governor one day," Barnes recalled. He lost to Miller in the democratic gubernatorial primary in 1990, but that did not deter Barnes. To this day he maintains that losing is simply the cost of doing business, "one weekend I was out on the street and a man came up to me asking me how I felt after losing so badly, and I told him I was glad that anyone voted for me in the first place!" After the loss, Barnes was out of politics for two years, but someone of his caliber couldn't stay away for too long. He got the itch to go back in 1992, running to serve as the House Representative for the newly drawn District 33.

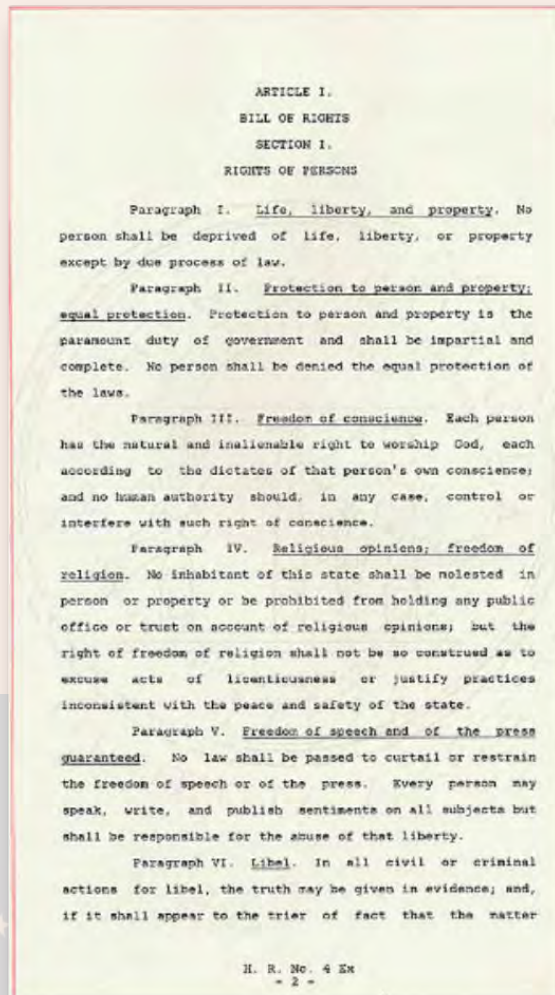


Photo Courtesy of the Digital Library of Georgia

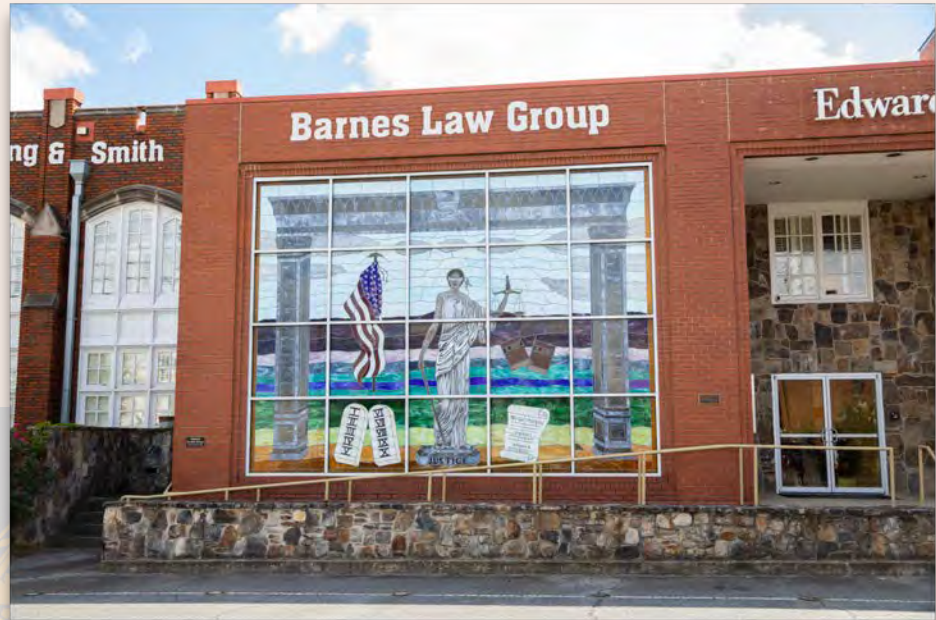
During his six year tenure as a House Rep, Barnes quickly rose in the ranks. He was appointed Vice Chair of the Judiciary Committee and was appointed to the Rules Committee. He absorbed everything and anything, adding supporters and allies to his cache with the plans to run for Governor again. Finally, in 1998 after winning 53% of the vote, Barnes was sworn in as the 80th Governor of Georgia.



Dubbed "King Roy," Barnes was often viewed as a master politician. "It wasn't exactly my first choice of names, but if your hide isn't thick enough then you're in the wrong business," said Barnes. After being in the game for over 20 years, he knew how to steer the ship in the direction he wanted, much to the dismay of some people, hence the name "King Roy." But Barnes will tell you he could not have done it on his own. A maven conversationalist, Barnes was never far from a friend. Some people call it "The Six Degrees of Separation," but Barnes can call it three degrees with confidence. Barnes knew everyone and everyone knew him. For example, Hamilton Jordan, the Chief of Staff under President Carter. Barnes knew Hamilton having worked in the Georgia political circle for years, but Barnes also knew Hamilton's Uncle Bob Jordan, who he appointed as Chief Justice on the Georgia Supreme Court.

In addition to that, Barnes appointed Bob's nephew as a judge in Pickens County. But we're not done yet, Hamilton Jordan's nephew is Lawton Jordan, who married Jen Jordan, who practiced law with Barnes for several years before running to serve in the Georgia Senate. Even 20 something years later, Barnes' network still extends to the General Assembly, proving how connected and politically active Barnes still is. Now no one gets out of politics without making a few enemies, but Barnes had way more friends than enemies, including Hamilton Jordan who stated "I'd put Barnes up against any Governor in America."

Ninety-three years later the Barnes family store is still standing, being run by his great nephew. Proof that good things last in this world and their legacy lasts even longer. Governor Barnes was always focused on legacy, not his legacy but Georgia's legacy. He wanted to do everything he could to make sure the seeds were planted for Georgians to sow a better future when he was gone. In 2001, Governor Barnes was working on an education bill that was getting stalled due some rural democrats not agreeing to it fiscally. So he joined them for their morning caucus meeting to



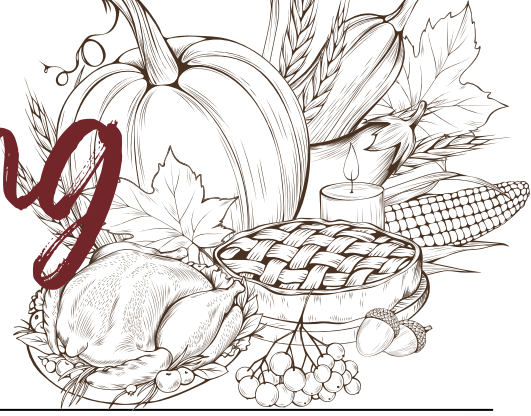
Barnes Law Group in Marietta where Barnes still practices

explain how important this bill was and what it would mean for Georgia. Among those attending the meeting was a Representative brought along her newborn child. Governor Barnes gently picked up her child, looked at each member and said "you see this right here? This is what we need to talk about, this child right here. Quit worrying about things that don't matter, paint the broad strokes with a vision." In his 30-year political career, Barnes has always had a clear vision. A vision of leaving Georgia better than he found it, a vision that many of us are better off for. Politics can be viewed as a self-serving business at times, yet Barnes was anything but. And it's never more prominent than when Barnes shares his best piece of advice with political newcomers "Don't worry about the next election, worry about the next generation."



Photo Pictured Left  
Roy Barnes circa 1993  
Photo Courtesy of the Digital Library of Georgia

# Senate Giving



## GIVING THANKS AND HONORING A GEORGIA SENATE LEGACY, KATHLEEN COMINSKI

By Rachel Moore, Communications Specialist

Holidays are unique. They are a chance for families to reunite after many months and are an opportunity for children to revel in excitement and hope as they anxiously await for Santa to pay a visit on Christmas morning. Holidays are a chance to remember. Remember the good times and the bad, to relive happy memories or tell stories from years past. Holidays also provide chances to remember loved ones. To remember those who are no longer with us. At the heart of all these chances lies family. Family is what makes all these moments matter. What is unique about family is that it holds many meanings. Whether it's blood relatives or close friends, or even those who don't fall within the four walls of your home, the diversity of the meaning of family embodies the true spirit of the holidays. No other family represents that spirit and diversity like the Senate Family. While they may not be related to you, in a way, over time, the people you work with come to be a family, a "work family," perhaps.

Because isn't it true that you spend most of your time with them? Especially during those 40 legislative days. Because you spend so much time with your work family, it is important to take a moment to give thanks to each other, to be appreciative of one another and to remember the good times and the bad. On November 16th, the Senate Family did just that by sharing a meal, telling stories and remembering one of their own, Kathleen Cominski.



Kathleen Cominski was a dedicated public servant and an extremely valued member of the Senate Family. For 32 years, Kathleen served in numerous roles within the Senate, most recently as legislative assistant to Sen. Blake Tillery (R – Vidalia) in the Senate Appropriations Office. Kathleen had a way of bringing joy to everyone she came in contact with. Most importantly, she brought joy to her grandchildren and opened her doors and arms to those without a home. Kathleen had an enormous passion for caring for her "kids" and "foster kids." Her heart didn't know the difference between the two and she loved them all the same. The holidays are meant to bring joy and excitement to children of all ages. But sadly, not every child will be so blessed to feel that joy and excitement on Christmas morning. It is imperative for the Senate to remember those children and give them that feeling of Christmas joy, just as Kathleen would have done. This year, the Senate Family felt it was right to dedicate the Senate-Giving Toys for Foster Children Drive in Kathleen's honor.



Pictured Above:  
Sen. Blake Tillery  
(R - Vidalia)



Pictured Right:  
Sen. Michael 'Doc'  
Rhett  
(D - Marietta)



The drive is sponsored by Sen. Blake Tillery (R – Vidalia) and Sen. Michael Rhett (D – Marietta). These toy drives are an opportunity for all members of the Senate Family to give back to communities in need and bring hope and Christmas spirit to families across Georgia. The Senate has partnered with the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services to donate \$5,000 in toys, cash, and gift cards for families who may be less fortunate than others. Every child deserves to experience that feeling of excitement waking up on Christmas morning and Kathleen knew this well. “Oftentimes she would drive across the state to make sure gifts would make it to children by Christmas morning,” said Sen. Tillery. “I am so appreciative of the Senate Family for taking up the mantle Kathleen left concerning foster children and providing them with some sense of normalcy, hope, and a reminder that they are loved at Christmas time. She would be warmed by your support of this endeavor.”



While this year's toy drives are dedicated in loving memory of our dear friend, colleague, and family member Kathleen Cominski, it is the Senate's hope and intention to make Senate-Giving Toys for Foster Children an annual event where members of the Senate come together as one family and share their love with Georgia's foster children.

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## **BELOW ARE THE VARIOUS WAYS THE SENATE OFFICES CAN PARTICIPATE IN CLARK'S CHRISTMAS KIDS 2022.**

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- 1) Toy Drive** - The donor can collect toys and drop off at CLOB 318. Each child will receive a minimum of three toys for Christmas but with additional toy donations, children will receive more toys.
- 2) Volunteer** - (<https://x.gldn.io/e/qaCkhoBJBub>) We will need volunteers at DFCS Warehouse to help sort, arrange and organize toys for each child and county or region. We will be having two in-person events at a local Walmart.
- 3) Clark's Christmas Kids Website** - ([www.clarkschristmaskids.com](http://www.clarkschristmaskids.com)) The donor can select toys based on the child's county, gender or age. Toys can be purchased on this website and no further actions are needed.
- 4) Monetary Donation** - (<https://dfcs.georgia.gov/about-us/Clarks-Christmas-Kids>) - The donor can donate by check, money order, gift cards or cash. All donations will go to the purchase of toys.

# HOW GEORGIA GIVES THANKS

## A REPORT ON THANKSGIVING TRADITIONS

By: Sydney Horwitz, Communications Associate

Thanksgiving - a time of family, parades, football and more. Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on the year prior and share what you're thankful about over the aroma of turkey, green beans and pumpkin pie. However you choose to celebrate this momentous fall holiday, there is no denying that we do things a little differently down here in Georgia.

Thanksgiving in Georgia shines above the rest, obviously due to delicious southern delicacies and one of the greatest state rivalries of the year: the annual football game between the University of Georgia and Georgia Tech. The Senate Press Office has done a deep-dive on all things traditional for Thanksgiving in Georgia, along with getting a word from our Senators to get a unique look on how they spend the holiday.

Thanksgiving that we know today and celebrate on the fourth Thursday of November each year was born in Warm Springs, Georgia in 1939. Prior to this, the United States celebrated the holiday on the last Thursday of November, as declared by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who frequented Warm Springs during his holiday festivities, was troubled by the fact that in 1939 Thanksgiving fell on the last day of November, thus shortening the Christmas shopping season. In order to boost the economy, much to a large public outcry, President Roosevelt moved Thanksgiving to the second to last Thursday in November with a Presidential Proclamation.

From 1939 to 1941, the nation was at a bit of an impasse. Thirty two states issued similar proclamations to move Thanksgiving to the second to last Thursday of the month, while 16 states refused to acknowledge the change. During this time, President Roosevelt and a portion of the country would celebrate the holiday on the second to last Thursday of the month, followed by the other portion celebrating a week later.



President Eisenhower carves a turkey on Thanksgiving with his wife Mamie and Bernard Montgomery, circa 1954  
Photo Courtesy of the Digital Library of Georgia

To end the confusion once and for all, Congress decided to determine a fixed-date for Thanksgiving. On October 6, 1941, the House of Representatives passed a joint resolution that stated that the last Thursday in November would be the official day of Thanksgiving. This was amended by the Senate, as they established Thanksgiving to be the fourth Thursday, taking into account the years where Thanksgiving has five Thursdays. The amendment passed in the House and then was signed by President Roosevelt on December 26, 1941, leading to us celebrating the holiday on the day we know and love.

Thanksgiving is centered around food: something that Georgia knows best. The most popular Thanksgiving food in Georgia is, in no surprise, mac and cheese. While the cheesy pasta dish is a classic across the United States, we have a little more of a cause to love this southern delicacy. The dairy industry accounts for \$297 million in revenue for the state, representing 2.4% of our total agriculture industry. It only makes sense for Georgians and a majority of the U.S. to love dairy and this dish too. Explore more to know what other southern dishes reign supreme in Georgia.



Collard Green Mac and Cheese Courtesy of Georgia Grown

In lieu of dinner rolls, buttermilk biscuits or cornbread can be found as a carbey side at many dining room tables. Corn is plentiful down here in the south, representing 2.9% of our top Georgia agricultural industry. It is a given that we would incorporate this vital grain into our bread, stuffing, green bean casseroles, and more.

Ambrosia salad and southern greens are a staple across all corners. Dressing, or as others call it: stuffing, is moist and is often made from cornbread as well. Poultry is a huge industry in our state, contributing \$3 billion to our economy and representing 24.1% of our agriculture industry. Our influx of poultry has led to the Frankenstein creation of a Turducken being served as a main course.



Scan the QR Code above to find the full recipe for Georgia Grown's Collard Green Mac and Cheese!

The combination of a chicken placed inside a duck which is then placed inside a turkey is not an uncommon thing to find on many Thanksgiving tables across Georgia. Turkey is also commonly deep-fried and served, a traditional Southern affair. Other classics include the obvious desserts of apple pie, bread pudding, pecan pie, and blueberry cobbler. Pecans and blueberry are very present in our sweets, as they are some of the top crops for the state. It has become second-nature to use what we grow into food that represents love, togetherness, and family.

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## THE SENATE PRESS OFFICE HAS CHIMED IN ON THEIR FAVORITE FOODS FOR THE 24TH OF NOVEMBER

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Andrew Allison: Carrot soufflé

Rachel Moore: My mom's mac and cheese and carrot cake

Sydney Horwitz: Chocolate chess pie from one of my favorite restaurants at home: Angus Barn in Raleigh, North Carolina

Keenan Rogers: Mashed potatoes

Lexi Juliani: Homemade Apple pie

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The rivalry has continued to build through each and every game since, as the Bulldogs and Yellowjackets have played one another annually since 1925, excluding 2020. The game has served as the regular season closer for both schools since 1941, making it a staple for the classic Thanksgiving standoff.

The 116th meeting of the Georgia schools took place on November 26th in Athens. The #1 ranked Georgia Bulldogs are on a eight game win streak against Georgia Tech, last losing to the Yellowjackets in 2016 in Athens.

This was the first season of current UGA coach, Kirby Smart. Since then, Smart and his team has continued to dominate the Yellowjackets, beating them in 2021 by a score of 41 - 0. The Dawgs have continually overpowered their opponent in the rivalry, as Georgia Tech has not won a home game at Bobby Dodd Stadium in this match up since 1999. Today, the Dawgs currently hold the winning record in the rivalry overall, with 70 wins, 39 loses, and 5 ties since 1893. Georgia Tech has remained a steady competitor with 41 wins overall.

There is nothing more Georgian than the matchup between Georgia and Georgia Tech every Thanksgiving. Dubbed the “Clean, Old-Fashioned Hate” rivalry, the teams began going head-to-head in 1893. The “Clean, Old-Fashioned Hate” had to be put on hold from 1917 - 1924, due to a dispute between the universities regarding a UGA parade float that ridiculed GA Tech for playing football during WWI.



Georgia Bulldogs Quarterback Stetson Bennett (13) passes the ball against the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets during the first quarter at Sanford Stadium. November 24, 2022.

Photo Courtesy of The University of Georgia

Thanksgiving is truly a time to spend with your loved ones. The members of the Georgia State Senate have reflected on what this holiday means to them and how each of them uniquely celebrates. Continue reading to see what traditions our Senators have.

**Sen. Brian Strickland (R - McDonough):** "My favorite dish is my grandmother's recipe for dressing that my mom now makes for our family. Thanksgiving was a big deal for my mom's parents before they passed. My grandmother would get both of her ovens going and would make sure everyone had what they wanted by even cooking two versions of her dressing: one with onions and one without."

"On my wife's side of the family, we have a tradition of gathering for a full day event on her family's farm with other family members and close friends that make this an annual tradition. My mother-in-law is known to randomly invite folks she meets that may not have a place to go on Thanksgiving so we never know who will show up."

**Sen. Sally Harrell (D - Atlanta):** "I kick-off my Thanksgiving cooking each year with my grandmother's corn pudding. My grandmother was born in 1894 to a world of horses and buggies -- yet her recipe uses modern canned corn. She must have seen so many changes during her life."

"I developed an innovative way of oven-baking this corn custard, because it needs what's called a water bath surrounding it to keep the edges from burning. When my kids were little, they filled their plates with nothing but corn pudding and yeast rolls."

"Fortunately, their tastes have expanded since then, as has their willingness to embrace so many varied experiences in the world -- which is what every parent wants, right?"

From all of us at the Senate Press Office, we wish you a happy Thanksgiving and that you are able to take time to celebrate with the ones you love.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sydney Horwitz is a native of Raleigh, NC. Sydney holds a Bachelors in Political Science and a Minor in Communications from UGA. She has been with the Senate Press Office since October 2022.



Sen. Sally Harrell's (D- Atlanta) Corn Pudding  
Grandmother's Corn Pudding



# A MOMENT IN TIME

## NOVEMBER IN GEORGIA HISTORY

### THE 39TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

In November of 1976, Georgia native Jimmy Carter was victorious over incumbent Gerald R. Ford in the race for President of the United States, earning 51% of the popular vote to Ford's 48%. President-Elect Carter was sworn into office as the 39th President of the United States on January 20, 1977.

Born on October 1, 1924 in the small rural town of Plains, Georgia, located on the outskirts of Americus, Jimmy Carter has dedicated his life to serving not only the people of Georgia but the entire nation. As a member of the Democratic Party, Carter served in the Georgia State Senate from 1963-1967, representing the then Senate District 14. On January 12, 1971, Carter was sworn in as Georgia's 76th Governor and in November of 1976, Carter became the first Georgian to be elected President of the United States.



Photo Courtesy of the Digital Library of Georgia

### THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GEORGIA LOTTERY



Photo Courtesy of the Georgia Lottery

In November of 1992, voters approved the Georgia Lottery to be instated, creating more funding for Georgia's education system. Since 1992, the Georgia Lottery has provided \$25.3 billion to educational funding. The Lottery was incredibly successful from the start, as the purchases per a person averaged at \$164.81, setting a new national record. It surpassed the previous record of \$128 from Florida in 1988, making the Georgia Lottery the most successful start-up state lottery ever.

The proceeds from the Georgia Lottery go towards funding for tuition grants and scholarships at eligible Georgia colleges, universities and technical colleges. It has paved the way for over 2 million Georgia students to attend college with a HOPE scholarship. Additionally, funding from the Georgia Lottery goes towards Georgia's Prekindergarten Program, allowing for 1.6 million four-year old's to attend school.



# A MOMENT IN TIME

## NOVEMBER IN GEORGIA HISTORY

### CONGRESSMAN ANDREW YOUNG JR. ELECTED TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

In November of 1972, Andrew Young, a lifelong human rights activist, businessman, and politician, was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. Representing Georgia's Fifth District Young was the first African American elected to Congress from Georgia since Reconstruction.

Following his time in the House of Representatives, Andrew Young was appointed to be the United State's Ambassador to the United Nations in 1977 before becoming the Mayor of Atlanta in 1981. Today, the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies is shaping the minds of students at Georgia State University. Young was also named a Georgia Trustee in 2012, an honor given by the Georgia Historical Society along with former Governor Nathan Deal.



Photo Courtesy of the Digital Library of Georgia

### CONSTRUCTION BEGAN ON THE GEORGIA STATE CAPITOL

The city of Atlanta broke ground on the new state capitol building in November of 1884. This followed the 1877 decision to move the state's capitol from Milledgeville to Atlanta. The lawmakers were able to obtain the \$1 million in funding for the building in September of 1883.

The construction of the capitol took almost four and a half years, finishing the project on March 20, 1889. The keys were delivered to then Governor John B. Gordon. On July 4th, the capitol that we know today was officially dedicated and ready to be used for law making.

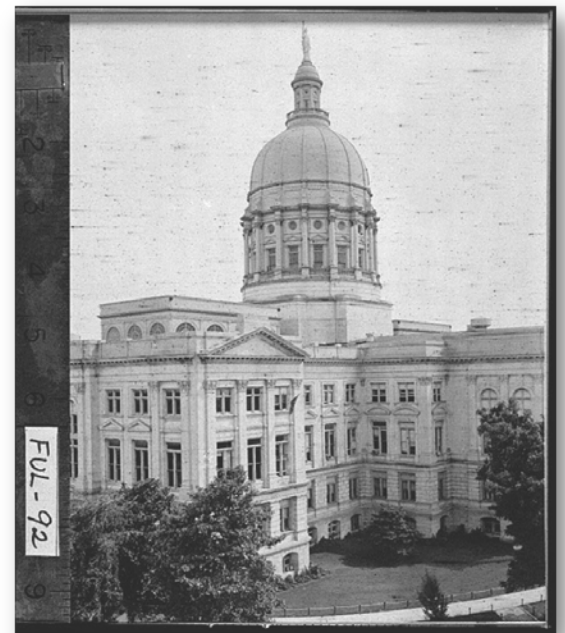


Photo Courtesy of the Digital Library of Georgia

# ISN'T IT TRUE?

## SHE WAS ONCE "THE GODDESS OF LIBERTY"

Don't be mistaken, she's not the Statue of Liberty but rather a statue that embodies freedom for Georgians. What many people may not know is that *Miss Freedom* was originally known by a different name, *Goddess of Liberty*.

While today she is known as *Miss Freedom*, *Goddess of Liberty* has adorned the Gold Dome of the Georgia State Capitol since the construction of the state house was complete in 1889. Commissioned in 1888, records suggest that the architectural firm employed for her construction, ordered the statue from W.H. Mullins Manufacturing Company in Salem, Ohio.

Standing over 26 feet tall and weighing nearly 1600 pounds, Miss Freedom is a hollow copper statue painted with a white finish. She holds a torch in her right hand and a sword in her left. The torch functions as a mercury-vapor lamp, initially intended to constantly illuminate the Atlanta skyline. However, the torch remained unlit until it was reconstructed in 1959.

The liberty cap she wears is like those worn by ex-slaves or freedmen in ancient Rome. During the French Revolution, patriots wore the liberty cap as a symbol of freedom from a repressive government.

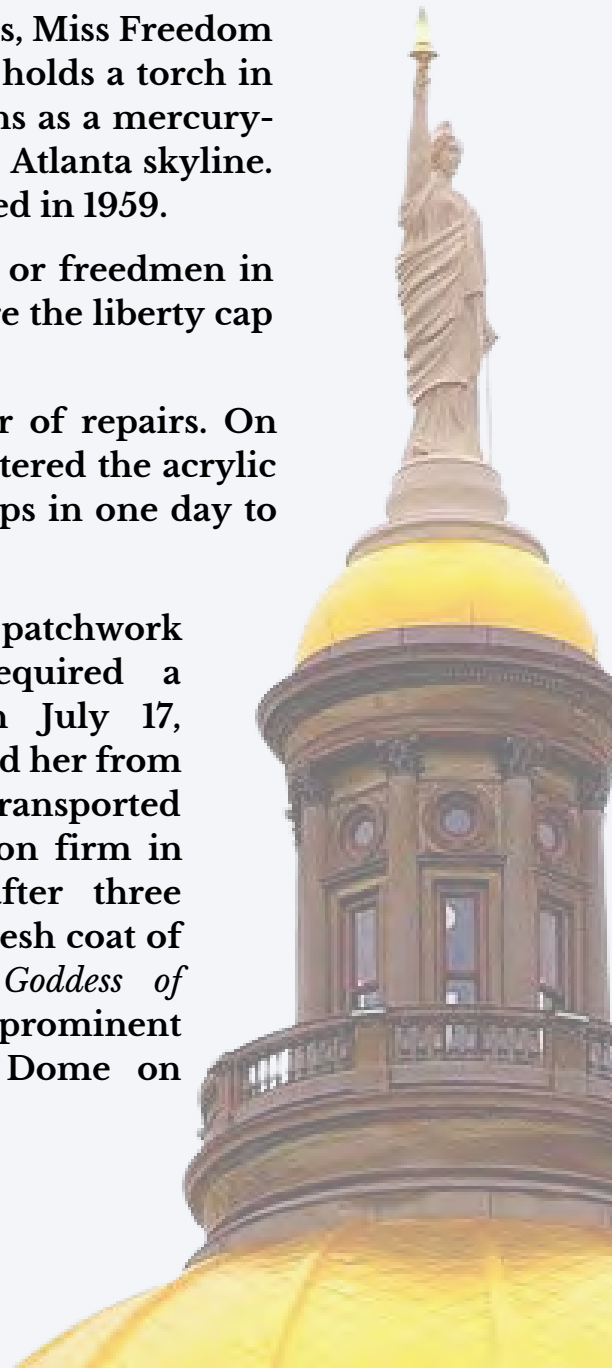
Over the years, Miss Freedom has undergone a number of repairs. On August 23, 1965, lightning struck the Gold Dome and shattered the acrylic flame. To repair the flame, workers flew 12 helicopter trips in one day to install replacement sheeting and a new lightbulb.



After over a century of patchwork repair, *Miss Freedom* required a complete makeover. On July 17, 2004, a helicopter removed her from the Gold Dome. She was transported to a sheet metal restoration firm in Toronto, Canada and after three months of repairs and a fresh coat of paint, *Miss Freedom* or *Goddess of Liberty* returned to her prominent position atop the Gold Dome on December 7, 2004.

Construction Worker Holds Arm of 'Miss Freedom' During Repairs, 1958

Photo Courtesy of the Digital Library of Georgia



# EVENTS UNDER THE GOLD DOME

*Each month, the Capitol hosts a wide range of events. Here are snapshots of a few events that took place this month*

## REMEMBERING HOUSE SPEAKER DAVID RALSTON

On November 16, 2022, the Georgia General Assembly lost a true leader of the legislature, **House Speaker David Ralston**.

Born March 14, 1954 in Ellijay, Georgia, Speaker Ralston began his career as an attorney practicing in Blue Ridge, Georgia. Speaker Ralston graduated from North Georgia College and State University and earned a Juris Doctorate from the University of Georgia School of Law.

From 1992 to 1998, Speaker Ralston entered the world of Georgia politics serving as a member of the Georgia State Senate and, in 2002, he was elected to the Georgia House of Representatives, representing House District 7 in Blue Ridge, encompassing Fannin and Gilmer counties as well as parts of Dawson County. In 2010, Speaker Ralston was elected to serve as the 73rd Speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives, the first Speaker from North Georgia in more than 150 years. Speaker Ralston was the longest-serving House Speaker in the history of the Georgia General Assembly since Speaker Tom Murphy.

Speaker Ralston embodied in every way what it meant to be a dedicated public servant and a devoted leader throughout his tenure as Speaker of the House. He was a man of great integrity and wisdom, a constant force of leadership and honesty under the Gold Dome. Speaker Ralston was an ally, a colleague and a friend to many and never faltered in prioritizing the people of Georgia.



House Speaker David Ralston will be immeasurably missed. His life and legacy will leave a lasting impression on not only the Georgia General Assembly but the entire state of Georgia.

Photos Courtesy of Georgia Senate Press Office

# EVENTS UNDER THE GOLD DOME

Each month, the Capitol hosts a wide range of events. Here are snapshots of a few events that took place this month

## NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

On November 11th, the ten senator-elects arrived at the Georgia Senate Chamber for their orientation. The new members were able to hear from members of the Senate such as Lt. Governor-elect, **Burt Jones**, Secretary of the Senate **David Cook**, and other legislative staff. The senators-elect were also able to draw for seniority. We are excited to see all that they do come January!



The Senators-elect hearing from Secretary of the Senate, David Cook, at orientation.

## NATIVE AMERICAN PEACE TREE CEREMONY



Sen. Jeff Mullis (R - Chickamauga), Rep. Matt Hatchett (R - Dublin), Rep. Katie Dempsey (R - Rome) by the Georgia red cedar tree

On November 10th, Senators **Jeff Mullis** (R - Chickamauga), along with Representatives **Matt Hatchett** (R - Dublin), and **Katie Dempsey** (R - Rome), held a Native American Peace Tree Ceremony at Liberty Plaza. The ceremony symbolized the sacred bond between the Georgia government and the Native Americans. The ceremony was a result of Senate Resolution 504, which recognized the key role that Native American Tribes have had in the foundation of Georgia. The ceremony included music, singing and the planting of a Georgia red cedar tree, also known as the Peace Tree, on capitol grounds.

## STUDY COMMITTEES MEET

The **Senate Study Committee on Food Delivery Apps** had its final meeting on November 1st to adopt the final committee report. The committee, chaired by **Elena Parent** (D - Atlanta), passed unanimously.

The Joint Study Committee on the Electrification of Transportation convened at the Georgia Department of Transportation to hear from relevant stakeholders. Co-Chairman **Sen. Steve Gooch** (R - Dahunega) and **Rep. Rick Jasperse** (R - Jasper) held their final meeting on November 30 to consider the final recommendations of the committee.

The Senate Study Committee on the Creation of a Georgia Cybersecurity Force met at the Georgia Cyber Center in Augusta on November 3rd. Chaired by **Senator Jason Anaviarte** (R - Dallas), the committee heard from panels of experienced professionals in the field of cybersecurity.

The Senate Study Committee on Unsheltered Homelessness met on November 9th to hear public testimony and gain further insight from those who have experienced unsheltered homelessness. **Chairman Carden Summers** (R - Cordele) was joined by **Sen. Mike Dugan** (R - Carrollton), **Sen. Randy Robertson** (R - Cataula), **Sen. Kim Jackson** (D - Stone Mountain), and **Sen. Gail Davenport** (D - Jonesboro) in hearing testimony.

The Senate Study Committee on Development Authorities and Downtown Development Authorities, **Chaired by Sen. Max Burns** (R - Sylvania), and the Senate Study Committee on People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and Waiver Plan Access. Co-Chaired by **Sen. John Albers** (R - Roswell) and **Sen. Sally Harrell** (D - Atlanta), also have continued to meet throughout the month.



The Senate Study Committee on the Creation of a Georgia Cybersecurity Force at their meeting in Augusta, Georgia.

# EVENTS UNDER THE GOLD DOME

Each month, the Capitol hosts a wide range of events. Here are snapshots of a few events that took place this month

## VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

On November 9, members of the United States Armed Forces were joined by numerous Senators and Representatives alongside **Governor Brian Kemp** and **First Lady Marty Kemp** to honor and commend Georgia's service men and women for their dedicated service to the nation in recognition of Veterans Day in Georgia on November 11, 2022.



## THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, AND HOMELAND SECURITY HONOR A HERO



On November 3, The Senate Committee on Veterans, Military, and Homeland Security honored U.S. Navy Admiral Alvin "Bull" Hosley for his dedicated service to the United States Armed Forces. **Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick** (R - Marietta), Chair of the Senate Committee on Veterans, Military, and Homeland Security, was joined by **Sen. Tonya Anderson** (D - Lithonia), **Sen. Bruce Thompson** (R - White), **Sen. Matt Brass** (R - Newnan), **Sen. Michael Rhett** (D - Marietta), **Sen. Ed Harbison** (D - Columbus), and current service members in the United States Armed Forces in presenting Admiral Hosley with a Senate Resolution, honoring and thanking him for his valiant service to our nation.



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65					66						67			

**ACROSS**

- 1 Opposite of a base
- 5 Blue cartoon character
- 10 Darkens, as in a light
- 14 Scottish hillside
- 15 Mario's dinosaur
- 16 At the drop of \_\_
- 17 Crimson Tide, to fans
- 18 Some other time
- 19 Infamous Roman emperor
- 20 Shorten
- 22 Othello's betrayer
- 23 \_\_-Wan Kenobi
- 24 Used a stun gun on
- 26 Squishy chairs for college kids
- 31 Zilch
- 32 Subsists (on)
- 33 Chris of "Jurassic World"
- 35 King of France
- 38 "Trinity" & "Exodus" author
- 39 Personal histories
- 40 Prom dress

41 Stephen of "V for Vendetta"

- 42 Bridal path
- 43 Poisonous
- 44 Arch city: Abbr.
- 45 One who agrees
- 47 High school math class, informally
- 51 It means "bad"
- 52 "\_\_ & Stitch"
- 53 Like some cleaners
- 59 Affirm
- 60 Natives of the Emerald Isle
- 61 Workplace safety org.
- 62 Campbell of "Scream"
- 63 Bert's buddy
- 64 Narrow opening
- 65 "\_\_ bien!"
- 66 Assessed
- 67 Lots and lots

**DOWN**

- 1 "Dancing Queen" group
- 2 Chesapeake Bay catch
- 3 Metrical foot
- 4 Close friends and kin
- 5 Poet Plath
- 6 Easter Island statues

- 7 Davis Cup org.
- 8 Doc from the 33rd
- 9 Aggressive stingers
- 10 Actor Day-Lewis
- 11 Do you hear what \_\_\_\_
- 12 Blue-haired Simpson
- 13 Got up
- 21 It \_\_\_\_ and flows
- 25 Take a load off
- 26 Obscure
- 27 Where 60-Across live
- 28 Nike rival
- 29 College transcript nos.
- 30 "r u 4 real?"
- 34 To \_\_ (exactly)
- 35 Classic theater

- name
- 36 Toddler's boo-boo
- 37 Rise: Abbr.
- 39 Plundering person
- 40 Kicker's target
- 42 One \_\_ time
- 43 Russian ruler

- 44 Gets the ball between the 40-Downs
- 46 Entertained
- 47 Botanical specimen
- 48 Amazon, Danube, or Thames
- 49 Raised: Fr.
- 50 Barton of the Red Cross
- 54 Mardi Gras follower
- 55 Ballet bend
- 56 Scandinavian capital
- 57 Knee neighbor
- 58 Chows down

Scan the QR code below to solve the puzzle virtually on Crossshare:



**ABOUT THE CONSTRUCTOR**

Lexi Juliani hails from Marietta, GA, but currently calls Cherokee County home. She has a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from Reinhardt University, and has been with the Senate Press Office since 2021. Lexi developed a love for the NYT Crossword during her time on "Crew" in the Secretary of the Senate's Office during the 2021 Legislative Session.



**THE HOPPER**

Upcoming Events

- **December 8, 2022**
  - Interstate Cooperation: Subcommittee on Property Owner Associations
  - Location: 450 CAP @ 2:00 p.m.
- **December 13, 2022**
  - Senate Study Committee on the Creation of a Georgia Cybersecurity Force
  - Location: 450 CAP @ 10:00 a.m.
- **December 14, 2022**
  - Veterans, Military, & Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Veteran Nursing Homes
  - Location: 307 CLOB @ 10:00 a.m.
- **December 14, 2022**
  - Senate Study Committee on People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
  - Location: 450 CAP @ 10:00 a.m.
- **December 15, 2022**
  - Senate Study Committee on Excellence, Innovation, and Technology at Historically Black Colleges and Universities
  - Location: 450 CAP @ 10:00 a.m.
- **December 17, 2022**
  - Retirement Subcommittee on Retirement Benefits for School Personnel and Legislators
  - Location: Columbus Public Library, 3000 Macon Rd., Columbus, GA 31906 @ 10:00 a.m.