

Early Voting Ends...from Page 1A

Under judicial order, masks are being required.

People who are uncomfortable voting in a mask may head to the polls on Election Day, as currently, facial coverings are not being required to vote at precincts, though this is subject to change depending on the COVID-19 situation. There's also the option of mailing an absentee ballot.

Additionally, poll workers are following COVID-19 best practices by regularly sanitizing equipment, and the Union County Government is supplying masks at the courthouse for people who don't have them, as well as hand sanitizer.

The election features two runoff races that were undecided in the June 9 General Primary, one Republican and one Democratic, to decide the respective party nominees for the office of U.S. Representative in the 117th Congress from the 9th Congressional District.

On the Republican side is the contest between Matt

Gurtler and Andrew Clyde, while the Democratic ticket features Devin Pandey and Brooke Siskin. Whoever wins their respective party nomination on Aug. 11 will square off against the other party nominee in the Nov. 3 General Election.

Since this is a primary runoff, voters who participated in the June 9 election must vote with the same political party. People who selected nonpartisan ballots during the primary, as well as individuals who did not vote in the primary, must choose a party to vote in the runoff.

Election Day will be Tuesday, Aug. 11, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and that day, voters should report to one of the 11 pre-assigned Union County voting precincts: Ivy Log, Dooly, Gum Log, Blairsville, Pat Colwell, Trackrock, Coosa, Jones Creek, Owl Town, Choestoe and Suches.

Voters are not required to bring their mailed precinct cards, but they must show a valid photo ID to vote.

Registered voters who will be at least 18 years of age by Election Day are eligible to vote during early voting, though July 13 was the registration deadline for voters looking to participate in the Aug. 11 election.

People may request mail-in absentee ballots or inquire about their absentee status by visiting the Secretary of State's Office website at sos.ga.gov, calling the local Registrar's Office at 706-439-6016, or swinging by the office at 65 Courthouse Street.

For the rest of the year, absentee ballots will be automatically mailed to voters who informed the Registrar's Office they were elderly or disabled on a previous application, though all others need to apply for mail-in absentee ballots on a per-election basis.

People wanting to fill out their absentee ballots/applications and drop them off in person to the Registrar's Office can do so at the courthouse up to 7 p.m. on Aug. 11. There is also a drop box affixed to the wall outside the upper courthouse entrance for convenience.

An absentee ballot/application must be submitted by the voter requesting one, except for a disabled person, who may have a relative by blood or marriage return his or her absentee ballot/application.

Those who receive an absentee ballot by mail but decide to vote in person will need to have their absentee ballot canceled at time of voting.

Voters can access.mvp.sos.ga.gov ahead of the election for information on voter registration status, mail-in application and ballot status, poll location, registration information on file with the county office, sample ballots and more.

It should be noted that voters are not allowed to display campaign-related materials at polling places where promoted candidates appear on ballots. For example, for the Nov. 3 election, voters will not be allowed to enter polling places wearing clothing promoting Donald Trump or Joe Biden for president.

GA 60 Crash...from Page 1A



Responding to the scene alongside GSP that evening were the Union County Fire Department, Union County Sheriff's Office, Union County Coroner's Office,

Mountain View Funeral Home and Tanner's Towing & Recovery.

Tragically, two other people died in motor vehicle accidents Aug. 1 on the Fannin County side of Georgia 60, according to GSP: Elvin Wright, 80, of Copperhill, Tennessee, and Rebekah Grace Dutrow, 37, of Mineral Bluff.

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