

County OKs special exception for manufactured home

BY RAY LIGHTNER
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The Spalding County Board of Commissioners approved a special exception to allow a manufactured home on Parham Road.

William and Beverly Claxton asked to put a manufactured home on 17.575 acres at 64 Parham Road. A special exception from the Spalding County Board of Commissioners is required to do so in a AR-1 (agricultural residential) zoning district.

Staff recommended denial, because within a half-mile radius

there is an established general trend toward conventional home construction, with seven manufactured homes on Parham Road, and 11 manufactured homes of the 73 parcels in that half-mile radius while 48 are site built, and 14 undeveloped lots. The largest undeveloped lot is a former landfill which will never be redeveloped, Beverly Paxton noted.

William Paxton said most of Parham Road residents are family and there were no objections. The 2,300-square foot home, costing \$138,000, he said, "meets the standards in the AR-1 district, with the 6/12

roof pitch and permanent foundation."

He questioned the "trend" saying there have been zero homes built in that area in the past 10 years and only six in the last 16 years.

"If nothing's been put in in 10 years it's not a trend," Paxton said.

Community Development Director Chad Jacobs said the recommendation is only based on the what the code states.

"I'm bound by what the ordinance says," Jacobs said.

Patrick Shivers, of Birdie Road,

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UGA-Griffin holds dedication ceremony



THOMAS HOEFER/DAILY NEWS

A dedication ceremony took place Monday at the University of Georgia-Griffin campus for the new Food Product Innovation and Commercialization Center. Featuring numerous speakers — among them UGA President Jere Morehead, State Representative David Knight and Griffin-Spalding Development Authority Chairman Chuck Copeland — the event concluded with a symbolic ribbon-cutting before guests were invited to tour the facility.

No Starbucks coming to Griffin summit

BY KAREN
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A freestanding store scheduled to open at the North Griffin center.

The new store is a freestanding Starbucks.

The two Starbucks at Kroger and Ingles in Griffin will remain.

"The kiosks in stores won't be closed," said dall Ridley, marketing manager for Halpern Enterprises.

The building project faces initial challenges, said Ridley.

First, Starbucks requested permits called for a parking center to which meant a number of issues had to be secured.

The site is also in a row, which requires fitting the new store into an existing parking lot on three sides to be removed, Ridley explained.

Finally, the project involves relocating a Bank of America branch that was in the site.

"Starbucks is one of the largest retailers and a number of store locations have unique requirements due to their specific needs," Halpern vice president Jeff Proff said in a press release. "Our skill set to meet these very challenging requirements is what Starbucks is looking for."

Headquartered in Griffin, Halpern Enterprises owns several properties in Georgia and South Carolina and