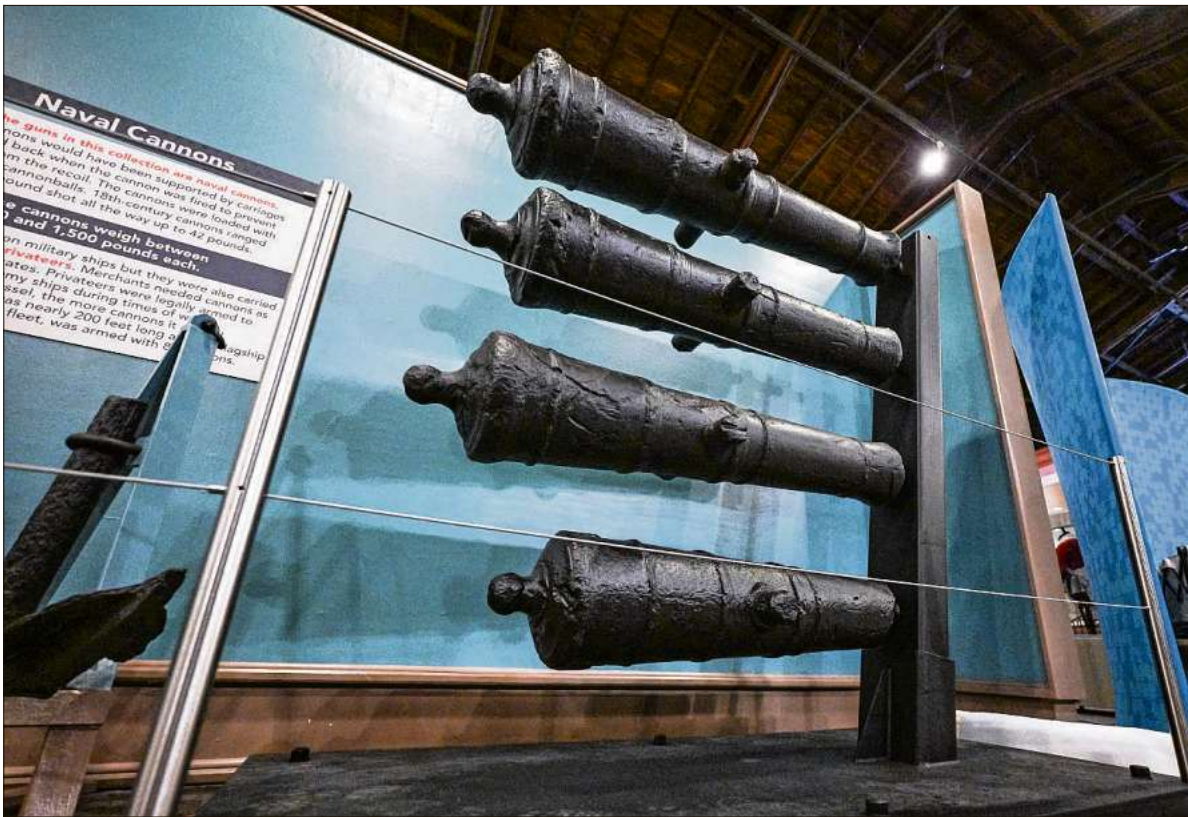


Cannons buried in Savannah River tell big Revolutionary War story



Four of the 17 restored Revolutionary War-era cannons found in the Savannah River during a dredging project in 2021 are on display at the Savannah History Museum. SARAH PEACOCK FOR THE AJC

Five years ago, 19 cannons were discovered along the Savannah River bottom. The ships they were aboard shaped a crucial chapter of the American Revolution, historians say.

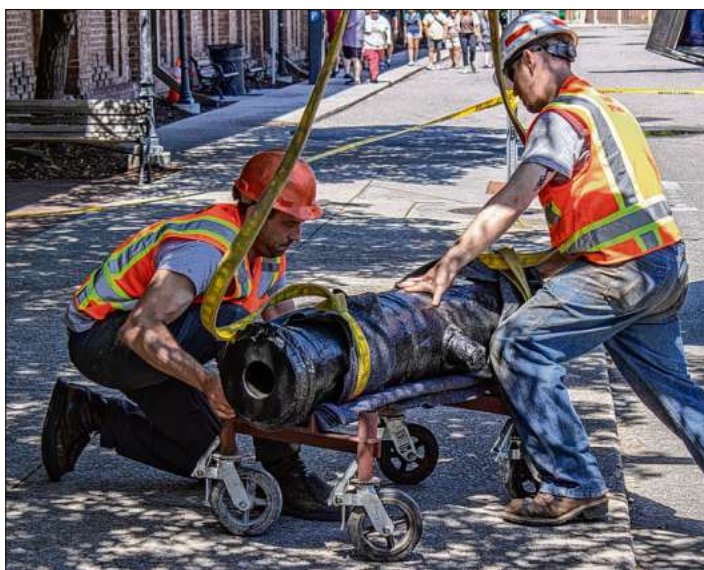
By Adam Van Brimmer
adam.vanbrimmer@ajc.com

SAVANNAH
Cannon thunder often echoes in this coastal Georgia city, both from historic forts turned tourist attractions and from artillery training exercise fields at nearby Fort Stewart, home to the U.S. Army's 3rd Infantry Division.

Cannon talk is also reverberating in the run-up to Independence Day and the 250th anniversary of America's founding. A collection of 19 cannons believed to have been aboard two British troop transport ships sunk during the Revolutionary War will go on display this week at the Savannah History Museum.

The guns, many still loaded, were discovered in 2021 during a dredging project on the Savannah River just east of the city's downtown. Encrusted with barnacles and centuries of other underwater growth, the cannons underwent a three-year restoration process at a Texas A&M lab and returned to Georgia in early June to be the centerpiece of the "Loyalists & Liberty" exhibit. The exhibit opens Thursday afternoon

Cannons continued on A6



Workers prep one of the cannons recovered from the Savannah River in 2021 for installation in the Savannah History Museum's new "Loyalists & Liberty" exhibit. COURTESY OF COASTAL HERITAGE SOCIETY

IF YOU GO

"Loyalists & Liberty: Savannah in the American Revolution" 9 a.m.-4 p.m., every day except major holidays. Opening reception at 4 p.m. Thursday. \$8-\$12. Savannah History Museum, 303 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Savannah 31401. 912-651-6825. chsgeorgia.org

High Court upholds birthright citizenship

Trump's executive order violated 14th Amendment, majority explains.

By Abbie VanSickle
c.2026 The New York Times

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court on Tuesday struck down President Donald Trump's executive order limiting birthright citizenship, reaffirming the long-held principle that the Constitution guarantees that nearly all children born on U.S. soil are citizens.

The ruling, which was 6-3 to strike down the president's executive order, was a blow to a policy long pursued by Trump to prevent babies born to immigrants lacking permanent legal status and temporary foreign residents from automatically becoming Americans.

Chief Justice John Roberts, writing for the majority, explained that Trump's executive order violated the 14th Amendment of the Constitution. Children born in the United States to undocumented parents or to parents temporarily in the country, he wrote, are citizens at birth.

Citizenship continued on A8



House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La., said the ruling on birthright citizenship would result in "serious challenges going forward" that the United States would need to find a way to address. ERIC LEE/NYT

MORE SUPREME COURT COVERAGE INSIDE

- » Supreme Court upholds state-level transgender sports bans, A2
- » Georgia native Lisa Cook and why the Fed governor gets to stay on the job, A3

Groups in state cheer birthright citizenship ruling

Analysts say a ruling in favor of the Trump administration could have upended Georgia's economy.

By Tamar Hallerman, Brooke Leigh Howard and Jason Armesto
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Georgia-based immigrant advocacy organizations and their allies sighed in relief Tuesday after the U.S. Supreme Court rejected an attempt from the Trump administration to end the country's long-standing guarantee of birthright citizenship.

But some raised concerns about the future given how narrowly the case was decided.

In the decision, written by Chief Justice John Roberts, the divided court determined that an executive order signed by President Donald Trump on the first day of his second term was unconstitutional. The order had declared that children born in the U.S. to parents who are undocumented or in the country legally but temporarily were not American citizens.

Trump had sought to topple a long-standing legal precedent, stretching back to the ratification of the 14th Amendment of the Constitution after the Civil War, of granting automatic citizenship to almost every baby born in the country — regardless of the immigration status of his or her parents.

Reaction continued on A8

New Georgia laws set to take effect today

Inside: Highlights of the new state laws, A6



Literacy overhaul



Penny rounding



State horse



Paid maternal leave

A law restricting cellphone use in schools is among the more than 350 bills that passed in this year's legislative session that will impact Georgians.

By Cassidy Alexander, Riley Bunch and David Wickert
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Some students going back to school in August can kiss their cellphones goodbye during the day, thanks to one of the hundreds of new laws going into effect in Georgia today.

Students in kindergarten through eighth grade will be subject to a "bell-to-bell" ban on cellphones, smart watches and other personal electronic devices. Next

year, high school students will be subject to the same restrictions.

Though the K-8 ban has a July 1 start date, many Georgia school districts got a head start by implementing creative storage solutions or policies designed to keep devices out of sight.

And teachers are glad for it: Recent research shows that teachers strongly support the bans, saying students are more focused without the distraction of their cellphones.

New laws continued on A6

TODAY'S TOP STORIES INSIDE



GEORGIA & THE SOUTH, A4
'Toy Story' sports cars sold to help kids in need

Porsche Cars North America, headquartered in Atlanta, says the anonymous buyer of the Woody, Buzz and Jessie cars will donate \$1 million to three nonprofits.



WORLD CUP, B1
English fans come to Atlanta — hopeful

England hasn't won a World Cup since 1966. Its fans are similar to Atlanta sports fans: They know heartbreak, disappointment and a lack of hardware all too well.



BRAVES, B1
Want to see the Braves' future? Head to Rome.

The franchise's direction could be shaped by several players who set up for the Emperors. In fact, half of Baseball America's Top 10 Braves prospects play for Rome.



LIVING, C2
Peachtree Expo is just around the corner

The Peachtree Health & Fitness Expo presented by Publix takes place Thursday and Friday at Lenox Square. Learn what you can expect ahead of the world's largest 10K.



YOUR DAILY DELIVERY
In your inbox every time — rain or shine!

Use this link to sign up to get the AJC ePaper delivered to your email inbox promptly every morning.
[AJC.com/signup-epaper](https://ajc.com/signup-epaper)

INDEX