



THEATRE OF GADSDEN PRESENTS

ONE WEEKEND ONLY!

Miracle on 34th Street

DECEMBER 13-15 | RITZ THEATRE | TICKETS ON SALE

Messenger

Volume 46, Issue 50

December 13, 2024

50 cents

7 DAY FORECAST						
Friday Dec. 13	Saturday Dec. 14	Sunday Dec. 15	Monday Dec. 16	Tuesday Dec. 17	Wednesday Dec. 18	Thursday Dec. 19
High: 58 Low: 37	High: 57 Low: 44	High: 59 Low: 47	High: 67 Low: 52	High: 61 Low: 39	High: 63 Low: 42	High: 57 Low: 36



Page 1B

Southside senior Camren Thompson recently signed a soccer scholarship with UAB.

Photo by Chris McCarthy



Page 1B

Gadsden State mens head basketball coach Deddrick Tarver has the Cardinals off to an impressive start to the season.

Photo by Chris McCarthy



Page 1B

Southside senior Jamin Brown recently signed a football scholarship with Duke University.

Photo by Chris McCarthy



Courtesy of City of Gadsden

A couple enjoys a stroll through Nocalula Falls Park during the annual Christmas at the Falls event. The Falls are decorated with millions of Christmas Lights every Christmas.

Christmas at the Falls named one of America's top attractions

The City of Gadsden's Christmas at the Falls at Nocalula Falls Park has been named one of the Top 100 Most Popular Christmas Light Displays in America.

Mixbook conducted a survey of 3,000 families, and Christmas at the Falls — in addition to being the top Christmas attraction in North Alabama — placed 95th in the country in their list of America's 150 Most

Magical Christmas Light Displays.

"We are blessed to be able to steward and preserve the beautiful Nocalula Falls Park and Campground," said Mayor Craig Ford. "The beautiful Christmas light displays are the result of months of work and preparation by the park's talented staff, led Brandon Stephens, who oversees setup of the lights, and Park Director Christina Richardson. They make

magic out of thin air and create lifelong memories for everyone who visits Christmas at the Falls."

Christmas at the Falls features millions of lights throughout Nocalula Falls Park, a mile-long train ride that offers a view of the displays, activities like visits from Santa, a brand new animal barn and petting zoo facility and more.

Christmas at the Falls - page 4A

BBB issues holiday shopping alert

The holiday season brings an increase in online shopping and package deliveries, creating opportunities for scammers and package thieves to target busy consumers. The Better Business Bureau (BBB) urges shoppers to stay alert to delivery scams and take precautions to prevent package theft, commonly known as "porch piracy."

Delivery scams often involve fake text messages or emails claiming issues with your package. Scammers impersonate delivery drivers or companies like USPS, FedEx, or UPS, asking residents to click links or share personal information to "resolve" delivery issues.

Common delivery scam tactics include:

- * Phishing texts and calls: Residents may receive a text such as, "The USPS package has arrived at the warehouse and cannot be delivered due to incomplete address information. Please confirm your address here: [fake link]." Clicking these links can lead to malware or stolen personal information.

- * Fake delivery driver messages. A scammer may pose as a driver, saying, "Hi! I'm Tony from FedEx, trying to find your house. Please call me." Calling back may lead to requests for sensitive details such as address or credit card information.

- * Delivery fee scams. Scammers may ask you to pay a small fee to reschedule delivery, only to steal your credit card details.

Ways to avoid delivery scams include:

- * Tracking deliveries. Keep a list of what you've ordered and expected delivery dates. Scammers rely on confusion about your packages.

BBB holiday alert - page 4A

Salvation Army kicks off virtual collections

As the local community counts down the final days to the Christmas holiday, The Salvation Army asks residents to help make a difference by contributing to the organization's Virtual Red Kettle campaign. With the goal of meeting growing needs and spreading holiday cheer to families and individuals facing hardships, the virtual red kettle offers a convenient way for everyone to support life-changing programs and services.

"This holiday season, the need is greater than ever," said Major James Edmonds, local commanding officer of The Salvation Army. "Many in our community continue to face significant challenges, and our work is only possible because of the generosity of people who care. The Virtual Red Kettle allows everyone to get involved, whether near or far, in making a meaningful impact."

Donors can visit the Salvation Army's online platform to make secure contributions from the comfort of their homes. Every dollar donated through the Virtual Red Kettle stays within the local community, helping to provide essentials like food, clothing, shelter and Christmas gifts for those in need.

"With this digital option, even if you don't see a kettle on the street corner or at your local store, you can still support our mission to do the most good," said Edmonds. "We're asking everyone to spread the word, set up their own virtual kettles and rally friends and family to join this season of giving."

The Salvation Army's services extend far beyond the holidays, helping vulnerable populations year-round. Contributions to the Virtual Red Kettle will ensure that The Salvation Army can continue to serve those in need, helping to build a stronger and safer community.

"We are incredibly grateful for the support of our community," said Edmonds. "Every donation, no matter the amount, brings us one step closer to bringing hope and joy to families who need it most."

To donate to The Salvation Army's Virtual Red Kettle or set up a kettle to support the cause, please call 256-546-4673.

Rocking around the Christmas tree



Courtesy of City of Gadsden

Gadsden State Show Choir performs at the Gadsden Tree Lighting on Dec. 6 at 90 Walnut Street near Christmas On The Coosa. The tree lighting ceremony took place at a new location this year and with a new tree, too.



Little Caesars



HOT-N-READY PIZZA



OBITUARIES



Gary Hood Miller

HOKES BLUFF - The Memorial Service for Mr. Gary Hood "Butch" Miller, 84, of Hokes Bluff will be held, Sunday, December 15, 2024 at 3:00 P.M. at Glencoe Hokes Bluff Funeral Home with Rev. Scott Hassell officiating the service. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 2:00 until time of the service.

Mr. Miller passed away Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at Riverview Regional Medical Center surrounded by his family.

He is preceded in death by his parents, James Hood and Irene Prater Miller, and his sister, Mary Ann McKisick.

Left to cherish the memory of Mr. Miller is his loving wife of 58 years, Barbara Thrasher Miller, his daughter, Kendall Miller Waddell, his son, James "Benjie" Miller, his grandchildren, Courtney Maloy (Tanner), Cade Waddell, Austin Turner (Kalleigh) and Arabella Miller, his great grandchildren, Nora and Emersyn Maloy, his brother James Benny Miller (Dianne), his Aunt, Jerrie Fuhrman, his chosen daughter, Mary Miller and his chosen sons, Brian Rochelle and Tony Waddell and a host of nieces and nephews.

Mr. Miller was a member of Immanuel Baptist Church, a member of the Hokes Bluff Masonic Lodge #470 and The Gadsden Shriners Club. He was a 1959 graduate of Hokes Bluff High School. Mr. Miller served his Country for six years in the United States Army National Guard. He worked as a machinist for Gulf State Steel and Republic Steel until it closed and relocated to Panama City, Florida. He then went to work for Merrick until he retired in 2019.

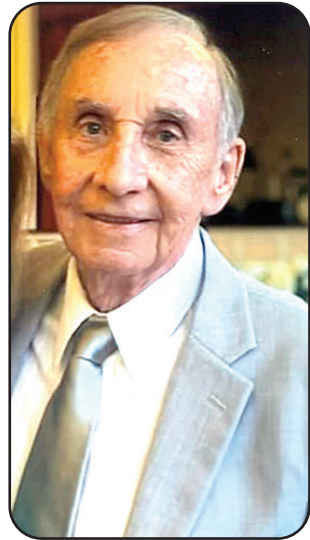
In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to the American Heart Association.

The family would like to offer a special thank you to Riverview Regional Medical Center and Enhabit

Home Health and Hospice for their wonderful care and support.

Online condolences may be left to the family at: gh-funeralhome.com.

Glencoe Hokes Bluff Funeral Home



Robert Bruton

GADSDEN - Robert Bruton, 92 left his earthly home and entered his heavenly home on December 9, 2024.

Robert was a member of Higher Ground Baptist Church on Fairview Road, Gadsden, AL.

Visitation will be held at Morgan Funeral Chapel on Friday December 13, 2024 from 11 am-12:30 pm. A graveside service will follow at Rainbow Memorial Gardens, Officiated by Rev. James O Wallace.

Robert was an avid Bowler for many years; he earned his pilot license and enjoyed flying airplanes for the Civil Air Patrol. He also loved Alabama Football.

Robert served in the United States Navy.

Robert was born in Tishomingo, MS, and grew up in Haleyville, AL. He worked at the Republic Steel for 42 years.

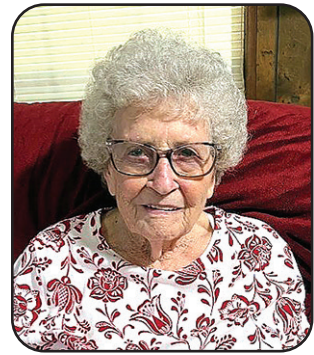
Robert was preceded in death by his parents, Franklin and Eula Bruton; sisters, Betty Sue Bull (J.C. Bull) and Frankie R Hyatt (Harlon).

Robert is survived by his wife of 16 years Mavis Marie Bruton; children, William Alan Bruton (Elizabeth), Robert Scott Bruton (Sherrie), Donna Kaye Gamberi (Joe); grandchildren, Blake Gamberi (Jessica), Laura Smith (Jared), Suzanne Dombroski (Garrett), Landon Bruton (Natalie), Syd Bruton, Anna Katherine Bruton, and 4 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Landon Bruton, Todd Barton, Bobby Bull, David Smith, Randall Croft, and Jeff

Shields. Honorary pallbearers will be members of Higher Ground Baptist Church.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Higher Ground Building Fund, 2955 Fairview Road, Gadsden, AL, 35904.



Margie Dillard Dunn

BIRMINGHAM - Margie Inez Dillard Dunn, age 92, of Birmingham, AL, passed away on December 9, 2024.

Friends were invited to gather for Visitation at Morgan Funeral Chapel in Attalla, AL, on Thursday, December 12, 2024. Mrs. Dunn will lie in state at Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church on Friday, December 13, 2024, from 12:00 pm until the time of the funeral service at 1:00 pm. Interment will follow at Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery. Rev. Gary Smith, Rev. Blaine Burbanks, and Adam Collier.

Inez was born to Thomas Theodore and Mamie Lee Dillard on July 2, 1932, on Chandler Mountain in Steele, AL. She married her husband, Elvin Lee Dunn Jr. on February 4, 1951. They eventually settled in Birmingham, AL where they raised three daughters. She spent her life as a homemaker where she cared for her grandkids while their parents worked. Inez was saved on a Tuesday at 16 years old. She was a member at Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church.

Preceded in death by her husband, Elvin Lee Dunn Jr.; parents, Thomas Theodore and Mamie Lee Dillard; siblings, Mary Elizabeth, John Lavaughn, Emma Wilasue, Thomas Eugene, Walter William, and Troy Truman; and grandson, Ian Willmon.

Inez is survived by her children, Donna Lynn (Sidney) Pearman, Barbara Ann (Michael) Culbertson, and Lavonda Gayle Dunn (Neal) Cummings; grandchildren, Christopher (Casssey) Pearman, Sindy (Chris) Patton,

Amy (Mike) Stevens, Jacob Pearman, Brooks (Kim) Willmon, Chace (Kelly) Willmon, Zachary (Katlyn) Cummings, Kynslee (Noah) Lewis and Landunn (Shelby) Cummings; and great grandchildren, Christian Christman, Lindsey Davis, Lindsey Stevens, Madyson Willmon, Chevy Patton, Brently Willmon, Madeline Stevens, Braelyn Willmon, Brynzee Willmon, Natalee Stevens, Mayson Pearman, and Bryson Willmon; 6 great-great grandchildren; siblings, Marilyn Reneman, Ivadean Giorodano, and Joyce Tripp; sister in law, Wanda Dunn; along with a host of nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers are Zachary Cummings, Chris Pearman, Landunn Cummings, Noah Lewis, Chace Willmon, Brently Willmon, and Mike Stevens.

Honorary pallbearers are Howard Dunn, Lonnie Dunn and Stephen Dunn.

The family would like to extend special thanks to UAB Palliative Care Unit for the special care given to our precious Mom and MawMaw.

Sharon Freeman Beck

GADSDEN - Funeral services will be held at 12 p.m. Saturday, December 14, 2024, at Village Chapel for Sharon Ann Freeman Beck, 62, of Gadsden, who passed away on Friday, December 6, 2024. She will be laid to rest at Fairview Baptist Church in Gadsden, where she was a devoted member.

Sharon was born in Gadsden, AL, on January 13, 1962, to Billy and Patsy Freeman. She graduated from Etowah High School in 1980, then received a Bachelor of Arts in English from The University of Alabama. She was a journalist for The Messenger and The Gadsden Times before The LORD called her to the field of nursing. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Jacksonville State University, then went on to earn both a master's and doctorate in nursing. She served her community by working as a nurse practitioner at American Family Care in Gadsden, AL, which she felt was her higher calling. Her goal was not only to help the sick, but to also teach patients to be their own advocate in healthcare. She also adored animals, especially cats. Sharon routinely went out of her way to feed stray animals - including possums and raccoons - and would even rescue

turtles she saw on the street. She was deeply loved and will be sorely missed by her friends and family.

Sharon was preceded in death by Holland "Hollie" Beck; Billy Freeman, Sr.; Patsy Panell Freeman; Robert Beck, Jr.; and William "Will" Freeman.

Left to cherish her memory are R. Andrew "Drew" Beck; Victoria Beck; Billy Freeman, Jr.; John Freeman; Charles "Charley" Freeman; Brittany Freeman; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

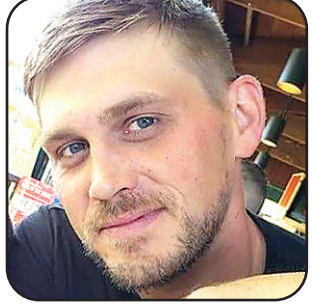
Special thanks to American Family Care in Gadsden, the St. Clair County District Attorney's Office, Village Chapel, and Fairview Baptist Church.

The family will receive visitors from 11 am to 12 pm on Saturday, December 14, 2024, at Village Chapel.

Janice Denise Collier

ATTALLA - Janice Denise Collier, age 70, of Attalla, Alabama passed away on Tuesday, December 10, 2024.

A visitation for Janice will be held Saturday, December 14, 2024 from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM, followed by a funeral service at 2:00 PM.



Jeffery Collins

ALTOONA - Jeffery Collins, 38, of Altoona, AL passed away Sunday December 9, 2024.

Jeffery was a loving husband to his high school sweetheart Andrea of 22 years together and 17 years in marriage. Together they have two wonderful children Logan and Jax that Jeffery most dearly loved.

When he was not working, Jeffery enjoyed nature, the outdoors, spending time with his children and wife, and tinkering with various projects.

Jeffery leaves behind his wife Andrea and his two sons Jax (12) and Logan (9). His grandfather Jerry Collins of Howelton, AL, mother Tammy (Chris) Martin, brothers Isaiah McWhorter, Lucas Newsome, Christopher Anderson, and sister Jessica Newsome. Aunts Sherry (Matthew) Logan, Lisa (Walter) Potapowicz. His in-laws Tommy & Martha Gibbs, Joey Gibbs, and Brad (Laura) Gibbs.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother Carolyn Smith Collins.

The family and close friends will have a private ceremony at a future date.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made at The Exchange Bank of Alabama to a Memorial Fund in honor of Jeffery to help the family cover funeral expenses and bills.

William Robert Logan

GADSDEN - William Robert Logan, age 77, of Gadsden, Alabama passed away on Monday, December 9, 2024.

In the care of Collier-Butler Funeral Home

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aps@dhr.alabama.gov

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NEWS

GSCC to host commencement ceremony

Gadsden State Community College's Commencement Ceremony will be at 6 p.m. Dec. 19 in the Richard Lindsey Arena at Gadsden State Cherokee. The event will recognize students who completed program requirements at any of the college's campuses for the summer and fall semesters.

Featured commencement speakers are Gadsden State students April Davis, Bridget Parker and Jhaylan Alona Redwine.

Davis, a native of Lagrange, Ga., is receiving an associate in applied science in salon and spa management.

She is currently a part-time instructor for Gadsden State's esthetics program.

Parker is receiving an associate in science in accounting. The Weaver resident attends the Ayers Campus. After graduation, she plans to transfer to a four-year university to earn a bachelor's degree in accounting with the goal of becoming a certified public accountant.

Rome, Ga., resident Jhaylan Alona Redwine will receive an associate in registered nursing. The Gadsden State Cherokee student plans to work in the Critical Care Unit at Advent Health

Redmond following graduation. Redwine has plans to continue studying to become a nurse practitioner.

Dr. Kathy Murphy, president of Gadsden State Community College, will preside over the ceremony. She will award credentials to the candidates presented by Dr. Farrah Hayes, dean of academic programs and services, Dr. Joey Battles, dean of health sciences, and Alan Smith, dean of workforce development. Pamela Johnson, dean of institutional effectiveness, grants and special projects, will serve as the commencement grand marshal.

Bingo benefit coming to Back Forty Beer

Back Forty Beer Company is hosting a bingo benefit night on Wednesday, Dec. 18 from 6 – 8 p.m.

The proceeds raised will go to benefit the Gadsden Humane Society and Pet Rescue Center (HSPRAC).

The price to enter the game is \$5 per card, but it is requested that participants pay in cash only.

Back Forty is located at 200 N. 6th St. in downtown Gadsden.

For more information about HSPRAC, visit <https://hsprac.com/> or call 256-442-1347.

Pet of the Week



Malik

Meet Malik, a 3-year-old, very well-behaved mixed-breed male. He has been at the shelter for over a month now and is eagerly awaiting his forever home. Malik is a fun friend to have. For more information on Malik or other animals available for adoption at Gadsden's Humane Society and Pet Rescue Center, call 256-442-1347.

Address initiative enhances campus safety

Gadsden State Community College has implemented an initiative that will make significant improvements in campus safety and accessibility.

"Every building on each of Gadsden State's five campuses will now have its own physical address," said Jay Freeman, chief of the Gadsden State Police and Safety Department. "This initiative will include physical address

signs that will be installed on each building in the near future."

The physical addresses are now reflected on maps available on the Gadsden State website to ensure clear and precise location information for students, employees and visitors.

"The addresses and building signs will be vital tools for first responders," he said. "The initiative enhances their ability

to locate buildings quickly during emergencies. The signs will also provide clear directional assistance for people navigating our campuses."

Freeman said the initiative is a collaborative effort between his department and Gadsden State's Capital Projects and Operations Department.

"The Capital Projects and Operations Department under the leader-

ship of Cory Carter has truly been committed to this project," he said. "We look forward to the positive impact on our campuses and the community's safety and well-being. We appreciate the support and collaboration as we move forward with this initiative."

To access Gadsden State campus maps, visit <https://www.gadsdenstate.edu/about-us/campuses.cms>.

Ronnie Watkins Ford rewards GCHS teacher



Blake Hall, a ninth grade teacher at Gadsden City High School, won the Ronnie Watkins Ford Teacher Influencer Award. Hall is also a Titan football coach.

The award was part of a social media contest. To vote for their favorite teacher, people were asked to follow the Ronnie Watkins Ford Facebook page, tag the teacher they wanted to win, like their comment nominating a teacher and ask their friends to like the comment as well. The comment/nomination that earned the most likes won.

The contest was open from Nov. 22 – 28. The prize was a check for \$500.

Ronnie Watkins General Manager Jacob Vanderford presented the check to Hall.

"Thank you, Mr. Hall, for being such a positive influence in our community," the company said in a post on Facebook. "We appreciate you!"

Hall (right) is pictured with Vanderford (left) and his large \$500 check.

County development applications due Jan. 31

The deadline to turn in applications for Etowah County Community Development Committee Districts 28, 29 and 30 is Wednesday, January 31, 2025. A notice will be posted to announce the meetings once they have

been scheduled. Applications turned in before the deadline will be considered for funding. Applications are available through the Etowah County Commission office located at 800 Forrest Avenue, Suite 113, Gadsden, AL,

35901. The office is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. For an application or for more information, e-mail kbates@etowahcounty.org, sfranklin@etowahcounty.org or calling 256-549-5300.



Submitted photo

Runaway mail truck in Attalla stopped safely

An U.S. Postal Service employee is safe after a malfunction led to their mail truck being unable to stop near a busy downtown intersection.

On Monday, Dec. 9, officers received an emergency call from the driver whose vehicle was speeding toward a busy downtown intersection, according to the Attalla Police Department.

Thanks to Attalla Deputy Police Chief Ryan Condy, the vehicle was stopped without major damage to it or injuries to the driver. Condy pulled his

truck in front of the runaway mail truck. He then slowly tapped the brakes, acting as a rolling roadblock.

According to the Attalla Police Department, additional officers were able to pull the driver out of the vehicle and turn it off without further incident.

"A heartfelt thank you to the police department for your dedication, professionalism and unwavering commitment to protecting our community," Police Chief Doug Jordan told WVTM.

Salvation Army seeks donors for annual Angel Tree program

As the Christmas holiday approaches, the local chapter of the Salvation Army is urging residents to make a difference in the lives of forgotten angels - children and seniors in need - by participating in its annual Angel Tree program, which has long provided an opportunity for individuals, families, and groups to spread holiday joy to those who might otherwise go without gifts. However, each year, some of these angels remain without sponsors, highlighting the need for the community's renewed commitment.

"The spirit of Christmas is about giving, and through the Angel Tree program, we ensure that even the most vulnerable members of our community - our children and seniors - can feel the love and warmth of the season," said Major Jim Edmonds of The Salvation Army. "Our goal is to have no angel left behind this year. We invite everyone to open their hearts and adopt an angel, making their holiday truly special."

At certain locations, participants can select an angel from local Angel Trees that contain details about a child's or senior's specific wish list and needs. Donors are then asked to shop for gifts based on the provided information and return them to the designated drop-off point.

Despite the outpouring of generosity in past years, some angels have gone unadopted, especially seniors who may be without family support. This year, The Salvation Army is calling for a unified effort to ensure that no one is forgotten.

"It is heartbreaking to see names left on the Angel Tree as Christmas approaches," said Edmonds. "Sponsoring an angel is more than just giving a gift; it's about giving hope, connection and a sense of belonging to someone who needs it most."

For more information on how to participate in The Salvation Army's Angel Tree program or to donate, please call 256-546-4673.

Call 256-546-4673 for more information or to donate to Salvation Army's Angel Tree.

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'Miracle on 34th Street' comes to The Ritz stage for holiday season

Downtown Manhattan may seem an unlikely location for a Yuletide marvel, but Theatre of Gadsden might just make you believe.

A special one-weekend performance of Miracle on 34th Street will take place at the Ritz Theatre at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13 and Saturday, Dec. 14, as well as 2 p.m. performances on Saturday, Dec. 14 and Sunday, Dec. 15.

Tickets are \$13 to \$20 and can be found at www.theatreofgadsden.org.

The play, based on the 1947 film, follows the story of a last-minute substitute Santa in the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade and his effect on the city and a little girl.

It is somewhat familiar territory for Nica Hodge, the play's director, who shepherded her first production this time last year, with A Christmas Carol.

"I fell in love with the idea, the representation of believing," she said. "Last year, with 'A Christmas Carol,' I was so into keeping the historic setting of the book, the set pieces, the props. I think this time, I'm enjoying the comedy. This is a lot lighter."

Bart Gunter, who plays Kris Kringle, is usually a character actor. But he's the center of the plot in the play. He said he hopes to portray the humility and selflessness that one associates with Santa.

"The show feels good," he said. "It's about the spirit of the season and giving yourself to others. Christmas isn't just an ordinary day. It's a day when we should put others before ourselves."

Kris is defended by Fred, played by Joe Fuselli, a theatre teacher at Gadsden State Community College. Fuselli has played Stanley Kowalski and highly dramatic roles, but he is a fan of feel-good entertainment like Miracle.

"There's something extremely satisfying about seeing smiling kids and happy parents," he said.

The show's signature line – "Faith is believing things when common sense tells you not to" – has meant a lot to Melissa Crow, who plays Doris, the director of the parade. Doris has learned the hard way to guard her heart, yet her encounter with Mr. Kringle helps her open up to the possibilities of life. It's a theme that

extends far beyond the season, she said.

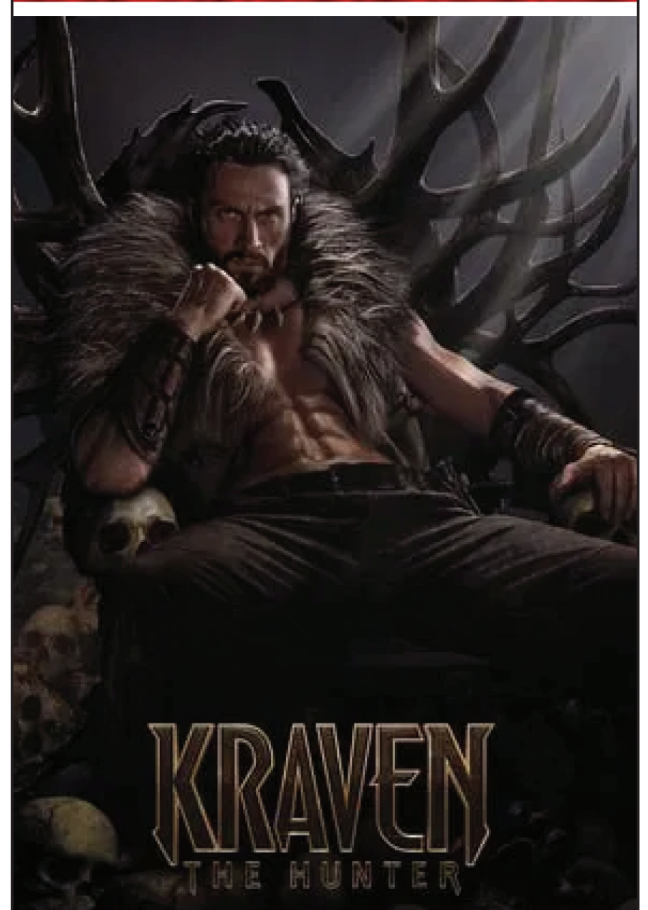
"I had difficulty connecting with Doris' character," Crow said. "She's complex. She's gone through a divorce. She's closed herself off from future relationships. Even though it's about Christmas, that was the last thing I connected it to. It is more about the personal growth of the characters on stage."

The show will benefit two charities. Theatre of Gadsden is partnering with the Rozzy Foundation to collect toys for patients at Children's of Alabama. Attendees are encouraged to bring new toys valued \$10 or more to any performance of Miracle on 34th Street.

In addition, proceeds from the theatre's "Split the Pot" raffles will benefit #TeamEazy, named for cast member Easton Taylor, who was diagnosed with Childhood Leukemia in July of 2023.

Easton will be making his debut in the show, performing alongside his mother. You can find out more at www.gofundme.com/f/TeamEazy.

Contributed by Theatre of Gadsden



Operation Christmas Child underway

Area volunteers are celebrating the collection of gift-filled shoeboxes that will send a message of joy to children around the world.

Thousands of volunteers contributed to Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, by packing shoeboxes filled with fun toys, school supplies and personal care items. The global Christmas project will deliver these gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 100 countries, including many who are suffering from war, poverty, disease and disaster. Each shoebox is an opportunity to share the message of the Gospel and bring hope to

children in need around the world.

Although drop-off locations have closed for the season, there is still time to share hope and love with children overseas by packing a gift-filled shoebox online. Shoeboxes built online go to some of the hardest-to-reach areas in the world. Those who prefer the convenience of online shopping can browse samaritanpurse.org/buildonline to select gifts matched to a child's specific age and gender, then finish packing the virtual shoebox by adding a photo and personal note of encouragement.

For more information, visit samaritanpurse.org/occ.

Visit samaritanpurse.org/occ to get more information about Operation Christmas Child and shoebox donations.

BBB issues holiday shopping alert

- From 1A

* Avoiding clicking unsolicited links: Delivery companies will not request personal information through texts or emails.

Verifying communications. If you receive a suspicious message, contact the company using official customer service channels.

Paying with credit cards. Using a credit card provides added fraud protection.

Protecting against package theft. Porch piracy is a common holiday threat, with thieves targeting homes

where packages are visible and accessible. According to a recent study, package thieves stole over \$18 billion in merchandise last year.

Tips to deter porch pirates include:

- * Not leaving packages unattended. Schedule deliveries for when you'll be home or ask a neighbor to collect them.
- * Shipping to secure locations. Consider shipping packages to stores, pickup locker or post office boxes.
- * Using security cameras. Install cameras or video doorbells and dis-

play signage that your home is under surveillance.

* Requiring signatures. Opt for signature-required deliveries to ensure items are not left unattended.

* Setting notifications. Use delivery tracking services and apps to monitor your packages' arrival in real-time.

If a package is stolen, report the theft to the local police department and the delivery company. Also, check with delivery service for insurance options or reimbursement policies.

Christmas at the Falls on top 150 list

- From 1A



Courtesy of City of Gadsden

The Noccoalula Falls Park souvenir shop is the starting point for visitors of the annual Christmas at the Falls event.

"We also must recognize every park visitor because their cost of admission always goes right back into enhancing the park for future visitors to enjoy," Mayor Ford added.

Proceeds from Christmas at the Falls are re-invested into the park and fund improvement projects like the \$11 million renovation currently underway at the Noccoalula Falls Park Campground.

During an average season, more than 150,000 people come from around Alabama and across the Southeast to enjoy the light displays.

While Christmas at the Falls is Gadsden's marquee Christmas event, the city's newest attraction is Christmas on the Coosa.

Christmas on the Coosa, located downtown next to Moragne Park, features ice skating on real ice, food and drink vendors, regular musical entertainment, a spectacular view of the city's new Christmas tree that stands more than 50 feet tall, and more.

Tickets to Christmas at the Falls are available at noccoalulafallspark.com or cityofgadsden.com. Ticket options also include a combo ticket, allowing everyone to save money when visiting both Christmas at the Falls and Christmas on the Coosa.



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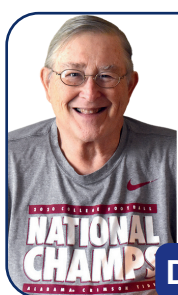
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PREMIERE CINEMAS

LIFESTYLE

Church row, blind tigers and downtown wagon yards



Looking at the History

Danny Crowover

For years many Gadsden residents expressed the opinion that Chestnut Street should have been named Church Street due to the many churches located on that road.

First Methodist was located at the corner of Fifth Street, First Presbyterian between

Fifth and Sixth streets, St. James Catholic Church at the corner of Seventh Street; the Jewish synagogue at the corner of Eighth Street and the Episcopal Church of Holy Comforter at the corner of Ninth Street.

Before any of these churches were built, Chestnut Street was actually called Church Street. That name appears on old maps of the city, and the name "Church" was still the designation on the west half of the thoroughfare up to the late 1880s, when the road was renamed Chestnut Street due to the chestnut trees found along the way.

Bob Leath, Bill Thornton and Gus Wise were retired police officers in the 1940s and often spoke about their experiences with a blind tiger, or speakeasy, that operated in

North Gadsden in the 1880s when Etowah County first went dry. This particular tiger was operated by an unknown person who had a little store house with no lights. Nobody was ever seen on the premises.

Customers went to the front door, pulled out a drawer that had been fixed in the middle panel, deposited their money and closed said drawer. In a few seconds, the customer pulled a bottle of corn liquor.

Around 1894, the City of Gadsden rented a large brick livery stable on South Fourth Street and announced that the property would be converted into a free wagon yard. Three comfortable sleeping rooms were to be furnished, electric lights were to be strung all over the building and plenty of

water was to be provided. Fifty stalls were to be prepared for the stock of farmers coming to Gadsden to trade.

C.M. Baugh donated a cooking stove, and coal and wood were donated by local merchants. The site was once occupied by the McCleskey Brothers.

The idea was for the wagon yard to shelter farmers and their stock while the farmers and their families came to trade. Those who lived more than 15 miles from the city had to spend the night since the country roads were pretty much impassible. Many of the farmers drove oxen, which moved slowly.

Contact Danny Crowover at dkcrown@bellsouth.net.

Of unfounded rumours and last-minute wedding cakes



Memoir Musings

Sandra Bost

As the infamous redlight scene was coming to an end, the one where the sporty bachelor won the hand of the fair maid, Rickey asked Cricket when the next holiday would be. Thanksgiving was right around the corner, so their wedding was set for the day after Thanksgiving.

The clipping of their engagement announcement from a local paper was short and sweet. In three paragraphs, one half of a sentence provided information on the 19-year-old bride-to-be: "The bride-elect attended Haley Turner Private School." The other three sentences of the last paragraph list the accomplishments of the groom elect.

Not to take away from Rickey's achievements, but they are in stark contrast to Cricket's accomplishments. Rickey graduated high school, attended college and played in the Georgia National Guard Band. Cricket, on the other hand, never graduated high school. The sad reality of the unwritten would lurk in the corners of her mind and cast shadows that would fill her with shame and regret throughout her

life. The couple planned to have a simple church wedding. Things were coming together, and they could hardly wait. It wasn't until a few weeks after the engagement that the rumor mill caught up to them.

It seemed that a close family member had told people that this was a "shotgun" wedding. When Cricket heard this, she was devastated. Who would do such a thing? Nevertheless, the two clung to one another and decided to let the rumor work itself out.

At last, the glorious day arrived. Even though she had borrowed her friend's wedding dress, Cricket looked like a vision in the floor-length Empire gown of bridal satin. According to the newspaper article describing the wedding, the gown featured "a round neckline, pointed wrist-length sleeves and a chapel-length train." Cricket also wore a shoulder-length veil that fell from a pearl tiara. She had never looked more lovely, and for once in her life, she felt like a beautiful princess.

As the crowd began to gather in the little chapel of Piney Grove Baptist Church and the time drew nearer to the 7 p.m. start of the service, the bride took her place behind closed doors at the back of the sanctuary. 7 p.m. came and went, and the attendants began to whisper. Cricket began to wonder what was going on.

The entourage looked nervously about. Finally, someone broke the silence to say, "Rickey is not here."

"What do you mean, he isn't here?" Cricket demanded.

"Nobody has seen him," another person responded. "He and his brother have not arrived yet."

The mother of the bride began to console her, but Cricket's mind was racing with shadowy thoughts. The shotgun rumor came to the forefront. Worst-case scenarios and shame began to drown out every bit of Cricket's sound reasoning.

Finally, just before a rush of tears fell from Cricket's beautiful brown eyes, the chapel doors flung open, and Rickey and his brother hurried in. He paused quickly to grab Cricket's hand in reassurance before running down the aisle to stand by the minister.

The ceremony wedding turned out to be beautiful, a holy moment etched forever in elegant photographs. As the groom kissed his bride and the husband and wife were presented before the congregation, Cricket took a flower from her bouquet and offered it to her new mother-in-law. Unable to believe that any woman was good enough for her son, mother-in-law refused the bride's gift. Thankfully, Cricket's father-in-law graciously took the flower before the guests noticed the snub.

As the bride and groom walked down the chapel aisle toward their future, Cricket asked her husband why he had been late.

"Someone cancelled our cake, so Bubba and I made one for us," he whispered.

It was at that moment that the bride's heart was at peace. With full assurance,

Cricket knew that any man who would bake and decorate a wedding cake for her would surely offer her the world. No matter how unworthy she may feel at times, Cricket knew she would be loved.

The couple honeymooned in Gatlinburg, Tenn., before coming home to Columbus, Ga. Legend has it that when the unnamed soldier - Rickey's best friend and Cricket's former fiancé - returned from military deployment, he met and married a sweet young lady.

Early in the happy couples' lives, they could be found sharing meals and playing cards together. In spite of rumors and cancelled plans, it seemed they all lived happily ever after.

Sandra Mullins Bost, a Nationally Board Certified Teacher, has worked with Attalla City Schools, Coosa Christian, and St. Clair County Schools in her 17-year career in education. She currently teaches special education with Alabama Virtual Academy. Bost recently published her first book, "Real Sisters: A Sisters' First Story of Adoption," a heart-warming children's story that explores the concept of family through the lens of love and adoption. Sandra and her husband of 30 years, Jeff, live with their deaf dog and have two married children who have blessed them with five adorable grandchildren. When she is not teaching, Bost enjoys time with her family, riding her motorcycle and sipping coffee while porch-sitting to the happy sounds of nature. Visit www.sandramullinsbost.com for more information.



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Life is about the “tried-to-dos”

This week, we lost an incredible poet. Nikki Giovanni passed away at the age of 81 on December 9. During her life and writing career, she wrote poetry for adults and children, nonfiction essays on many topics and won numerous awards, including a Caldecott award, multiple Woman of the Year awards, was the first recipient of the Rosa Parks Woman of Courage Award, received the Woman of Power Legacy award and many more accolades.

What those who loved her work will remember, though, is not necessarily the names of her awards, but the words and feelings and encouragement she shared through her work that allow us to know we are not alone. That is really what I think writing is all about. We read to learn and be entertained, but deep down we all want to know we are not alone in our thoughts and feelings and experiences.

Hopefully, each of us have someone in our lives who lets us know we are not alone — even when we just want to be

alone. If we are lucky, we have more than one person who reminds us that we are not alone. This season is one where I am acutely aware of those people in my life now, and when I miss those who are no longer with me, and it never fails to remind me not to take the people in my life for granted, for the seasons spent with them are often shorter than we ever expect.

My husband’s favorite by Giovanni is her spoken word piece “The World is Not a Pleasant Place to Be,” and I think it sums up this hyper-awareness of how significant those in our lives are. She says: “The world is not a pleasant place/ to be without/ someone.”

Right now, in this season, my “someone” is my grown child, three nearly grown children, my husband and many other family members and friends. I am incredibly blessed with those who make life a pleasant place to be. Recognizing this makes me feel for those who may not feel the world is pleasant or have someone with them in this season. When I’ve

been in similar seasons, books, stories and poetry have helped fill in the spaces, and I’m grateful to and for them.

I was gifted a lovely, autographed copy of Giovanni’s poetry a few years ago for my birthday by one of “my people”. When I found out this week that Giovanni’s season with us had drawn to an end, I pulled out my books of hers and read through them again. I already know and love and teach her work, but this read-through was different.

In her poetry, over and over again, Giovanni reminds us to see and appreciate the little moments, the big memories and the entire cast of characters in our lives who help us become and know who we are. She reminds us to figure out who we are by saying: “If you don’t understand yourself, you don’t understand anybody else,” and that “Some say we are responsible for those we love. Others know we are responsible for those who love us.” We might not always hit the mark with those around us, but we can try. After all, she says, “I really don’t



think life is about the I-could-have-beens. Life is only about the I-tried-to-do. I don’t mind the failure, but I can’t imagine that I’d forgive myself if I didn’t try.”

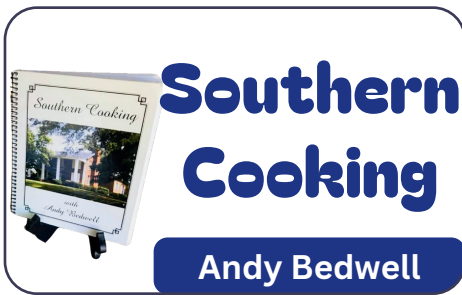
Take this season to reflect on the “tried-to-dos” and those you tried to do them for.

Tabitha Bozeman teaches English at Gadsden State Community College, is the editor-in-chief of the Cardinal Arts Journal and is a published writer and poet. She is also the founder of Riverside Writers, a local workshop group for writers. The opinions expressed are her own and do not represent any organization she is a part of. She may be reached at tabithabozean@gmail.com.



Andy’s Cranberry Lemon Nut Cookie, Mother’s Hummingbird Cake

Deck the halls with boughs of holly. And while you’re at it, why not deck the cookies and candies with boughs of holly, too. Christmas inspires us to entertain. Whether you’re hosting an open house, a luncheon, or a potluck at the church, every occasion deserves a special ending. When I was baking for friends, my most frequently requested Southern dessert was my mother’s Hummingbird Cake.



- Andy’s Cranberry Lemon Nut Cookie**
- 1 cup salted butter
 - 1 cup sugar
 - 2 tablespoons milk
 - 1 teaspoon lemon flavoring
 - 2 ½ cups all purpose flour
 - ½ cup dried cranberries
 - ½ cup finely chopped pecans
- Glaze:**
- 1 cup powdered sugar
 - 1 teaspoon lemon juice
 - 1-2 tablespoons of milk

- 1 ½ cups Crisco oil
 - 1 ½ teaspoons vanilla
 - 1 (8-ounce) can crushed pineapple, undrained
 - 1 cup chopped pecans
 - 2 cups mashed bananas
- Icing:**
- 8-ounce cream cheese
 - 1 box powdered sugar
 - 9-ounce Cool Whip
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla
 - 1 cup chopped nuts

Cream butter with sugar until fluffy. (use a mixer) Add milk and vanilla and beat until smooth. Stir in the rest of the ingredients. Shape into one log and refrigerate. Cover and chill for one-two hours. Slice and bake at 350 degrees for 10 minutes or until slightly brown. Stir the glaze until you can barely stir. Add what you need. A little of everything may be needed to make it really thick. It needs to dry hard on the cookie. Before it dries completely, sprinkle a little of crushed pecans and add a couple of dried cranberries on top.

Andy’s Note: This is a new cookie for me this Christmas and I dearly loved experimenting with different recipes. Instead of my regular chocolate chip cookies or peanut butter cookies, I like to bake what I call a Christmas cookie with nuts and fruits.

- Mother’s Hummingbird Cake**
- 3 cups cake flour
 - 2 cups sugar
 - 1 teaspoon salt
 - 1 teaspoon soda
 - 3 eggs, beaten

Combine all dry ingredients. Add eggs and oil. Stir until dry ingredients are moistened. Mix this cake by hand, not a mixer. Bake at 350 degrees in three greased and floured cake pans for 25-30 minutes. Test with a toothpick. Mix cream cheese, sugar, and vanilla together. After it is mixed well, fold in pecans and Cool Whip.

Andy’s Note: This is one of the easiest cakes to bake for it to be so wonderful. Mother baked this for years and then I took up where she left off. I had a friend that gave this cake as Christmas gifts every year to the people with whom she worked. What is so great about this cake is that the flavor improves after being frozen. When I was at one of my cookbook signings, a man asked me if I had that “bird cake” recipe in my cookbook. I nearly fell out laughing!

Happy holiday baking to you all!
Andy
“Southern Cooking with Andy Bedwell” can be purchased at the Messenger on Rainbow Drive.

THE MESSENGER’S PICK FOR EVENT OF THE WEEK

Miracle on 34th Street hosted by TOG

DECEMBER 13 – 15: See “Miracle on 34th Street” hosted by Theatre of Gadsden at the Ritz Theatre. Show times are Friday, Dec. 6 at 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 8 at 2 p.m., Friday, Dec. 13 at 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 15 at 2 p.m. Tickets prices vary between \$13-\$20. For more information, call 256-547-7469.



Submit events by email to khoskins@gadsdenmessenger.com.

December 13 – 15
See “Miracle on 34th Street” hosted by Theatre of Gadsden at the Ritz Theatre. Show times are Friday, December 13 at 7 p.m., Saturday, December 14 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, December 15 at 2 p.m. Tickets prices vary between \$13-\$20. For more information, call 256-547-7469.

December 13 – Jan. 2
The American Red Cross is sponsoring several blood drives during the holiday season. Local drives will be held Friday, Dec. 13 and Friday, Dec. 27 from 1 - 6 p.m. at Gadsden Mall-Premiere Cinemas located at 1001 Rainbow Drive; Monday, Dec. 30 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., at the Rainbow City Municipal Complex located at 3700 Rainbow Drive; and Tuesday, Jan. 2 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Gadsden Public Library located at 254 South College Street.

December 13 – Jan. 4
Christmas at The Falls will run through Jan. 4. The exhibit will be closed from December 24 -25. Come see millions of Christmas lights! Tickets are on sale now. Call 256-549-4663 or visit NoccalulaFallsPark.com

Get ready for the 2nd Annual Christmas on the Coosa ice-skating experience. The ice rink is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The ice rink near Moragne Park will close for the season on Jan. 4. For more information, call Janet Tarrance at 256-549 4658 or Valerie Galbreath at

256-549-4643.
December 14
Join the City of Southside for the Southside Christmas Village from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event will take place at Southside City Hall. The event is free to attend. There will be food trucks and arts and crafts vendors. If you would like to be an arts and craft vendor, register at cityofsouthside.recedesk.com.

Join Imagination Place for the annual Snacks with Santa event from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The free event will be held at 501 Broad Street in Gadsden. Children can visit with Santa while enjoying free snacks provided by Downtown Gadsden, Inc. Parents are welcome to take pictures. Visiting with Santa and the snacks are free thanks to Downtown Gadsden, Inc. All Hardin Center members and those purchasing regular admission may stay and enjoy Let it Snow and Imagination Place.

December 18
William Lee Golden and the Golden are set to perform A Country Christmas at the Venue at Coosa Landing on Wednesday, December 18 at 7 p.m. Ticket prices vary.

December 31
Countdown to noon to celebrate the New Year at a child-appropriate time in Imagination Place. Enjoy noisemakers, a balloon drop and snacks. Free for members, included with admission for non-members.

February 1

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Etowah County will host Mardi Gras 2025 on Feb. 1 from 6 to 9 p.m. at 210 on the Tracks in downtown Gadsden. Individual tickets are \$50 each. Sponsorship level is free to attend. There will be food trucks and arts and crafts vendors. If you would like to be an arts and craft vendor, register at cityofsouthside.recedesk.com.

Ongoing
The Veterans Oral History Project at the U.S. Library of Congress collects, preserves and makes accessible first-hand recollections of U.S. military veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans to better understand what they saw, did and felt during their service. The Library would like to collect the personal stories and recollections of local military veterans. On October 31 and November 1, 7 and 8, RSVP of Etowah County and the Gadsden Public Library will conduct 30-minute interviews with local military veterans at the Etowah County Courthouse Probate Courtroom (Suite 102). To reserve an appointment, call 256-549-8147 by October 25.

Zumba classes will be held Monday nights at 6 p.m. at the Southside Community Center. The cost is \$5 a class, but those buying five classes get the sixth class free.

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DEVOTIONALS

Even in the darkness, we are not alone



The holiday season has arrived and with it comes a tapestry of joy, woven with vibrant lights and decorations that twinkle like stars, all accompanied by the comforting warmth of time spent with family and friends.

Yet, for many individuals, this time of celebration can cast a shadow, bringing forth feelings of grief, uncertainty or a profound sense of being adrift in life. When confronted with such darkness, my instinct is to find ways to brighten the gloom. However, I've come to understand that there is a purpose hidden within the shadows. Though the journey through darkness is seldom inviting, it serves as a divine path for our growth and a more profound understanding of God.

Have you ever found yourself in a remote location where the nearest city lights are but a distant glow? In the embrace of night, the enveloping darkness reveals an astonishing canvas of stars, each one gleaming like a diamond against the deep, velvety sky. Although I have not often experienced this breathtaking sight, I do remember it left an indelible mark on my heart, igniting a yearning to return to those secluded places.

You truly cannot appreciate the brilliance of light until you've stood in the presence of darkness. Similarly, life often necessitates navigating through our own shadows to fully embrace and recognize the radiant light of God.

May you discover profound shalom in the comforting truth that even in the most trying and shadowy seasons of life, you are never truly alone. God walks beside you, enveloping you with His presence throughout every moment of darkness. Even when the night seems impenetrable and heavy, remember that to God, the darkness does not keep His presence from you. He is still there even in those darkest moments.

As you navigate the burdensome weight of despair and uncertainty, may the brilliant light of our Lord pierce through and illuminate your path. His light is a beacon that cannot be extinguished by the shadows that surround you (John 1:5). Trust and be assured that His light will break through the cloud of darkness, and when it does, it will shine even more gloriously, revealing its beauty in stark contrast to the shadows that came before.

Even during moments when life feels heavy and uncertain, may you be enveloped in a profound sense of unwavering trust in God's ever-present spirit. Let your heart find its steadfast anchor in the divine truth that God is the illuminating light piercing through the darkness, guiding your path with His boundless love. As you navigate through this season of challenges, do your best to keep your focus on the Lord, knowing that He is using this time to draw you even closer to Him and He is walking with

you in these shadowy moments.

This holiday season, may your faith be revitalized, deepening your trust in God's promises. Remember that the darkness you face now is merely temporary, for the light of Christ remains close at hand, offering you hope, serenity and the unshakeable assurance of His eternal love. Let this be a time of reflection, renewal and the warm embrace of faith as you journey forward.

Psalm 139: 11-12 says, "Surely the darkness will hide me, and the light become night around me, even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you."

Psalm 18:28 says, "You, Lord, keep my lamp burning; my God turns my darkness into light."

Psalm 27:1 says, "The Lord is my light and my salvation - whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life - of whom shall I be afraid?"

John 8:12, "When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

John 1:5 says, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

Lord, in this holiday season, be with those who may encounter more darkness than light. May they know that You are with them and may they sense Your presence. Lead them to the light, Your light, for You are the only true light!

If you would like continued prayer, feel free to email me at tonij77@gmail.com. I would love to pray for you!

Bible Verse of the Week



“**He openeth also their ear to discipline, and commandeth that they return from iniquity. If they obey and serve him, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures. But if they obey not, they shall perish by the sword, and they shall die without knowledge.**”

- Job 36:10-12
King James Version



“**Verse for Kids**
And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.”

- Genesis 2:8-9
King James Version

Balancing the sadness of life with the hope of heaven

A couple of animated children's films released years ago really took me by surprise, as both very were thoughtful and meaningful. While watching "UP" and "Inside Out," I realized as a father that they were very good for my children.

"UP" dealt with serious grief like infertility or the death of a soulmate in a very truthful way. If you have not already done so, I encourage you to watch this movie, even though it's a "kids" movie. The film make you cry, but don't worry, you will laugh even more.

For this article, however, I'd like to focus on "Inside Out," which brings to life the emotions of a child growing up. As you watch the film, you get to see the emotions themselves as characters. The main character and the dominant emotion of the child is "Joy." The journey of the story of the film is the havoc created within the group of emotions as the child grows and experiences difficult change that causes the other emotions like "Fear," "Anger" and "Sadness" to flare. The movie is both touching and hilarious but gets very heavy at times.

Spoiler alert: in the end, "Sadness" is the dominant emotion of an adult. I found this very compelling, and it registered deeply within me that this was true. Why? Am I just sad all the time?

Ecclesiastes 7:2 has always resonated with me. It says, "It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting, for this is the end of man and the living should take it to heart." I like to summarize this verse with, "Better to

go to funerals than parties, because one tells you the truth and the other one tells you a lie." The older I get, the more this verse makes sense. Not because I want to be sad and think about death all the time, but rather because I want to live life with grounded perspective and not childish naïveté. Jesus said, "The truth shall set you free" (John 8:32). But how?

First, what causes sadness? If I had to pick two things, I would say that we are sad because of loss and disappointment. When we lose something, or worse, someone, there is a real experience of sadness. When we live with disappointment, in whatever category of life, there again is a real experience of sadness. With deficiency, there is sadness, and when sin entered the world and our lives, there is real loss and disappointment. In Romans 8, Paul says that creation itself "groans" in anticipation of being made whole again (verse 22). He goes on in to describe how we "groan" as well (verse 23) as we await "the adoption, the redemption of our body," that great and glorious "hope" (verse 24) when we will finally experience the absence of loss and disappointment and will be "glorified" (verse 30) with Him in heaven.

But for now, there is a baseline of sadness, yet even this "works for our good" (verse 28). How so? Back to the "funerals are better than parties" thing. There is a party coming, a real and true celebration, a time of joy and fullness that will not in any way be hindered by loss or disappointment. A party to be held in a place



so wonderful, that nothing and no one will be allowed to diminish it. But that is heaven, not here, and to pretend that it is "here and now" would be naïve indeed. Here on Earth is more like a funeral, yet for a Christian, funerals are not hopeless (1 Thessalonians 4:13).

Rather, funerals teach and remind us that "It is given unto man once to die, then comes the judgement" (Hebrews 9:27). But take heart, as this backdrop of death and judgement for the Christian is buoyed up by hope in Christ (Hebrews 9:28). From this hope comes the Catholic practice called *Memento Mori*, meaning "remember your death." This practice of prayer helps the Christian balance the sadness of life with the hope of heaven. One truly outweighs the other.

Brian Cook is a Cropwell native and a graduate of Pell City High School and Gadsden State Community College. He is active in the Catechetical training of children and adults. His book "The Devotion to Christ" can be found on Amazon. Brian may be contacted at thedtc@protonmail.com or thedevotiontochrist@gmail.com.

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SPORTS

Rundowns & Roundups

Boys basketball
Coosa Christian improved to 3-0 on the season with an 80-10 victory over Cullman Christian on Tuesday, Dec. 10 in Gadsden. D.J. Mackey paced the Conquerors with 14 points, followed by Kylen Johnson, Jaxon Peek and L.J. Mostella with 11 each; Jaylen Jones and Grayson Malone with 10 each, Eli Motes and J'Alan Terry with five each and Samuel Reeves with three.

Titus Jones finished with 19 points, six rebounds, four steals and four assists and Bo Kilgo contributed 15 points, four rebounds and four assists in Westbrook Christian's 66-58 Class 3A Area 12 win over Ohatchee on Tuesday, Dec. 10. Also for the Warriors (4-2, 1-0), Brodey Wood had nine points, five rebounds and three assists; Brady Carden had five points, eight rebounds and two assists and Maximus Jones had four points, four rebounds, three assists and two steals.

Glencoe improved to 9-3 on the season with a 69-62 victory over Alexandria on Tuesday, Dec. 10. Garrett Morgan paced the Yellow Jackets with 18 points, followed by Jayden Patton with 15, Wade Segrest with 13, Grant Smith with 11 and Bryce Borntrager with nine.

Noah Johnson and Logan Carr each scored 13 points to lead Hokes Bluff to a 59-54 victory over Gaston on Tuesday, Dec. 10. Both Johnson and Carr knocked down three 3-point baskets, with Johnson adding seven deflections and three steals. Bryce Whitaker added 12 points, while Drew McCarver finished with eight points and five rebounds. Ronan McFadden chipped in seven points, while Anderson Morgan contributed four points and six assists. Devon Green paced the Bulldogs with a double-double of 19 points and 13 rebounds. Mica Merriman and Kodie Bogle both scored 15 points, with Bogle grabbing four rebounds and Merriman distributing three assists.

Grant Smith scored a game-high 23 points to lead Glencoe to a 48-42 win over Southside on Monday, Dec. 9. Davis Honeycutt added 13 points for the Yellow Jackets, while Jayden Patton and Bryce Borntrager both added four. Cayden Reason paced the Panthers with 14 points, followed by Mason Stephens with 12 and Drew Clark with 11.

Girls basketball
Karleigh Sheffield and Naomi Wise each scored 16 points in Gadsden City's 46-33 victory over Pell City on Tuesday, Dec. 10. Sheffield shot 55 percent (5-for-9) from the field while adding four rebounds, four assists, four deflections and three steals. Wise grabbed six rebounds, while Destiny Whiteside contributed four rebounds, four assists, four deflections and four steals.

Southside High seniors heading to next level



Chris McCarthy/Messenger

Seven Southside seniors signed college athletic scholarships on Dec. 4 in the school auditorium. Pictured, sitting from left: Hayes Cosby, Southern Union, soccer; Corbin Driskell, Marion Military, baseball; Justin Lovoy, Snead State, golf; Caleb Gallagher, Freed Harde- man, track and field. Standing, from left: Jamin Brown, Duke University, football; McCade Wright, Jacksonville State, football; Camren Thompson, UAB, soccer.

By Chris McCarthy
Publisher

Seven Southside High seniors recently reaped the benefits of their academic and athletic achievements.

Hayes Cosby, Corbin Driskell, Justin Lovoy, Caleb Gallagher, Jamin Brown, McCade Wright, and Camren Thompson signed college scholarships on Dec. 4 in the school auditorium.

"This is an exciting day for our student-athletes, for our athletic program and our school," said SHS baseball coach Shane Chappell. "As coaches, we strive to win games, but at the end of the day, our job is to put our students in the best possible position to be successful later in life."

Jamin Brown, Duke University, football

Brown, who also considered offers from Vanderbilt and Georgia Tech, will enroll in the 2025 spring semester at Duke.

"Academics has definitely been the most important part of school for me, because at the end of the day, football always ends at some point," said Brown, who plans on studying engineering. "Every time I visited [Duke], I just loved the place, and eventually I couldn't see myself going anywhere else."

Brown, who transferred in from Glencoe prior to his sophomore year, appreciated the help provided by current head football coach Ben Stewart and former head coach Miles Holcomb. Stewart replaced Holcomb as the beginning of 2024.

"Coach Holcomb was the first person to ever tell me that I could go play Power 5 football. He was also there when I got my first-ever scholarship offer. I've learned so much about football in general from Coach Stewart. It meant a lot that he was so personable with me and showed me

how to look at football from a greater point of view, and I really respect him for that. Both coaches changed my life and inspired me for the future."

This past season, Brown graded out at 93 percent with 71 pancake blocks and 51 nasty blocks as the Panthers went 6-5, finished second in the region and made the state playoffs for the fifth consecutive year. He will compete in the Alabama/Mississippi All-Star Game on Saturday, Dec. 14 in Mobile. Brown made the ASWA Class 5A All-State second team in 2023 and was selected to the 2023 All-Messenger first team.

"This year was not only my first year as a head coach; it was my first year to be involved with someone as smart as Jamin," said Stewart. "He's probably the smartest football player I've ever been around. Not only that, he's been able to lead not only the other offensive lineman but the quarterbacks, running backs and receivers. That's the reason that Jamin will compete for a starting position at Duke next year. Going to Duke is an opportunity that most people don't get, and nobody deserves it more than him. Do I think that Jamin has the ability to play in the NFL one day? I sure do. He has the size, the ability, the smarts and work ethic to make that happen."

McCade Wright, Jacksonville State, football

This past season, Wright finished with 58 tackles, including seven for a loss and seven sacks. He also caught a touchdown pass in Southside's victory over Gadsden City in Week 8.

"My dream growing up was to play college ball, and I did it, so it's an amazing feeling," said Wright, who plans on studying business finance. "I like how the [JSU football] program is constantly improving, and they have a really good fan base."

Southside seniors - page 2B

Cardinals flying high out of gate

By Chris McCarthy
Publisher

When asked to identify the primary reason for his team's string start to the season, Gadsden State men's head basketball coach Deddric Tarver pointed to the mindset of the 2024-25 Cardinals.

"We're playing with a sense of urgency every time we go out there," said Tarver, who is in his ninth year at Gadsden State, eighth as the head coach. "Every guy is playing like it's his last game. We're also moving a lot better and making decisions more quickly. Both our offense and defense are definitely at a higher level than last year."

The Cardinals are currently 11-1 and sit atop the Alabama Community College Conference Division I standings. Gadsden State's lone setback was a 95-84 loss to Snead State on Nov. 18.

Last season, Gadsden State finished second in the conference standings with a 9-5 record (21-10 overall). The Cardinals lost to Wallace-Hanceville in the ACCC Tournament semifinals.

One area that Tarver identified as an issue with the 2023-24 team was the lack of a deep rotation, and he feels that problem has been addressed with four returning starters along with capable backups.

"Depth was our biggest problem last year," he said. "We didn't have a lot of it, which hurt us in a few close games. This season we have two guys at every position who can play major minutes."

For proof, look no further than the postgame scoresheet, where at least four and sometimes five Gadsden State players finish in double figures. The Cardinals currently are second in the ACCC in scoring at 90.2 points per game.

"We're pretty spread out, which makes it hard for the other team to defend. A lot of that has to do with rebounding. When you're rebounding well, you're able to get the ball out and run with it."

Cardinals flying high - page 3B



Chris McCarthy/Messenger

Gadsden State's Mekhi Fitts (23) looks to move past Enterprise State's Justin Miles during the Cardinals' 84-59 win in mens basketball on Wednesday, Dec. 11 at Beck Gymnasium.



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Southside High School seniors sign college scholarships - from 1B

Wright verbally committed to UAB earlier this year before signing with JSU.

"I don't think Jacksonville State realizes what they're getting in McCade," said Stewart. "I told (JSU head football coach) Rich Rodriguez that McCade is the caliber of player who can go to a Power 5 school, so he had better treat him right."

"McCade and I were kind of in the same boat this season, because this was my first year as a head coach and it was basically McCade's first year of playing high school football. Seeing him come back from a fractured back was an amazing thing to witness. That's not the easiest thing to recover from, and he could have whined and complained about it, but that never happened, not one time. He went back and forth about where he wanted to go to (college), and I told him that whatever would be best for him and his family would be the right decision. I've never met a young man of his age who knows what he wants to do and knows what he has to do to get there."

Camren Thompson, UAB, soccer

Thompson is a true local product in club soccer, having come up through the Rainbow City-based Coosa and Rush leagues before transferring to Alabama FC out of Birmingham.

"I'm very excited to have the opportunity to compete at the level, and I can't wait to see how I'll do at UAB," said Thompson, who is considering studying kinesiology. "If I can just make an impact during my freshman year, I'll be happy. I've always wanted play at the highest level I could, and playing Division I soccer is a dream come true."

This past season, Thompson scored 54 goals and had 15 assists while helping the Panthers to a 25-3-1 record, a final regular season ranking of No. 1 in the Class 5A coaches' poll and the program's first-ever berth in the Final Four in Huntsville. Southside also won the first-ever Etowah County Soccer Tournament and Rainbow City Classic Tournament. Thompson was named to the Super All-State first team and Class 5A All-State first team in 2023 and 2024 and was selected Player of the Year of the All-Gadsden Area Team. He is a two-time All-Area MVP. In July, he was named MVP after finishing with two goals and an assist in the North's 4-1 victory in the North/South All-Star boys soccer match. Thompson currently has 84 goals for his varsity career while helping the Panthers go 67-4.

"I've had some great players in my 37 years as a coach, including several who have signed college scholarships, and Camren is the best soccer player I've ever coached," said SHS boys soccer coach Randy Vice. "This is an outstanding young man who I've coached over the last seven years at one level or another. Camren's not just a great player; he's a great person and a great student who carries a 4.5 GPA."

Considering that Southside lost to Guntersville by a 1-0 score in the 2024 state semifinals, the 2025 goal for Thompson and his teammates is nothing less than a state championship.

"I know that we can do it," he said. "We're going to be strong and physical, and we'll be able to play with the top tier teams that some people say are better us. I'm ready to go out there and dominate this year."

Hayes Cosby, Southern Union, soccer

Cosby's career record at Southside is 45-8-2, including 12 shutouts. He has allowed only 38 goals during his varsity career while making 210 saves. He was selected to the All-Greater Gadsden Area team in both 2023 and 2024 and made the Class 5A All-State first team in 2024. With Cosby in goal, Southside has won three straight area

championships and made it to the Elite Eight three consecutive seasons, including an appearance in the Final Four in 2024.

"Just being able to continue playing the sport I love at the next level is a huge blessing," said Cosby, who will focus on general studies in order to get in his core classes. "I like [Southern Union's] campus, which is close to home, and it's close to Auburn. [Southern Union] has good coaches and good players who can challenge me to be a better player. I also know that [Southern Union soccer] Coach [Taylor] Jones would be able to develop me."

Cosby career as a goalkeeper began as a 10-year-old after he volunteered for the position during a Coosa League girls' game.

"I played well, and then I played a game [in goal] for the boys team," he said. "I ended up loving being in there. Taking away someone's chance to score is very empowering, and it's fun to make a save that no one thinks you can make. You also have to be totally mentally focused, which gets you into the flow of the game."

Cosby is also a member of the school's varsity basketball team.

"Hayes is one of the best goalkeepers, if not the best goalkeeper, I've ever coached," said Vice. "I've coached soccer for 37 years, so that tells you something. You don't accomplish what this program has over the past three years without having a goalkeeper who can play, and Hayes can play. This young man has played soccer at one level or another since the seventh grade, and he's done an outstanding job for us at Southside. He also has a 4.5 GPA, which is the most important part."

Like Thompson, Cosby sees the 2025 Panthers as a top contender for the state championship.

"It's going to be a challenge being in 6A and it's a tough area with Gadsden City and Fort Payne, but we'll be ready for that."

Caleb Gallagher, Freed Hardeman, track and field

Gallagher's promising 2024 season was cut short after he suffered a fractured hip in April.

"I've been working extremely hard for this [scholarship], so it feels great," said Gallagher. "It's been good to get back up and running, so I'm excited for this season. I can't wait to see what the future holds."

The multi-talented Gallagher competes in four events for the Panthers - the long jump, triple jump, 110-meter hurdles and 300-meter hurdles. At the Etowah County Schools Meet this past April, he was named MVP after winning all four of his events - the 110-meter hurdles, the 300-meter hurdles, the long jump and the triple jump. It was the program's seventh consecutive county title, not counting the canceled COVID-19 season of 2020.

"Caleb is very deserving of this, because he dedicated himself to track and field," said SHS track and field coach Ray Cargill. "He's been in the program for six years, so he started at a young age." "For me, his transformation has been remarkable. In my eyes, Caleb is an all-star, because not only can he do any [event], he excels at it. For an example, last year he said he'd try the 110-meter hurdles, and he ended up setting the school record in that event. That will always be something that he can go back to. I know that Caleb will do extraordinary things at Freed Hardeman, and we wish him nothing but the best."

Gallagher already had a strong connection to Freed Hardeman, as his parents are both graduates of the school.

"They also have the major I wanted, the ministry, as well as a really good track and field team. I also love the campus."

Justin Lovoy, Snead State, golf

This past season, Lovoy finished first place at the Class 5A Section 3 Tournament and qualified for state. In July, he competed in the North/South All-State golf match, in which he and partner Cam Mahalthey of Huntersville tied St. Paul's Will Conwell and Smiths Station's Ben Halvstad to help the North team produce a 39-33 victory. Lovoy has won numerous tournaments, including the Greater Gadsden.

"I'm really looking forward to kicking off my collegiate career," said Lovoy, who plans on majoring in business. "I've been playing competitive golf for 11 years, so I've been doing it since I was six years old. Its definitely been a goal to play at the next level, and I want to take it as far as I can go."

According to SHS golf coach Jake Nichols, Lovoy's stroke average this past season was below 74.

"I'm very proud of Justin for his accomplishment of getting to play at the next level," said Nichols. "I remember him as a skinny seventh grader who could barely reach some of the par-4's that we had to play. I knew from watching him play for the first time that he was an extremely talented young man. The feel and the touch that he had was uncommon for anyone at that age. His speed and power caught up to that as he grew, and there's not a shot he needs on a golf course that he can't hit. He's been a leader for our program who is always willing to help anyone on the team. But the one thing that I'll remember about Justin is how much he loves what he does. I've never seen Justin go through a practice round where it felt like work, and that's a testament to how he approaches everything that he does."

Lovoy will have some familiar faces on the Parson roster with 2024 Southside graduate Jake Kilgo and 2024 Westbrook Christian graduate Eli Edge.

"With [Snead States'] plans for me and they way they treated me, I just felt that it was the best place for me," said Lovoy. "But I've been blessed to play for such a great high school. Coach Nichols is a great coach who taught me a lot."

Corbin Driskell, Marion Military, baseball

"Not many people get this opportunity, so I'm blessed to be able to play at the next level," said Driskell, who plans on studying physical therapy. "Compared to the others places I was looking at, [Marion] gave me a lot more freedom, scholarship-wise. They also said that I could go in there and be a Day 1 starter type of guy. I wanted to go somewhere where I could play right away and get better instead of watching from the bench."

Playing at pitcher, catcher and first base last season, Driskell finished with a .333 batting average, 35 hits, 32 RBI, 10 runs and 18 walks while helping the Panthers go 20-18 and reach the second round of the Class 5A state playoffs.

This past summer, Driskell was an assistant coach for the Coosa 12U All Stars, which won a second straight Alabama state championship and qualified for the Little League World Series Southeast Region Tournament.

"I've had the privilege of coaching Corbin for years," said Chappell. "We brought him up to junior varsity as an eighth grader and has been a full-time starter the past three years. He's had a great career here, and he has all the makings to put up some big numbers this year. I think what sets Corbin apart is who he is as a person. He works hard every day and love his teammates and is willing to give back. The good thing about being at Southside High School is that we have a lot of young men and women like Corbin who do the right things and set good examples and are a pleasure to coach."

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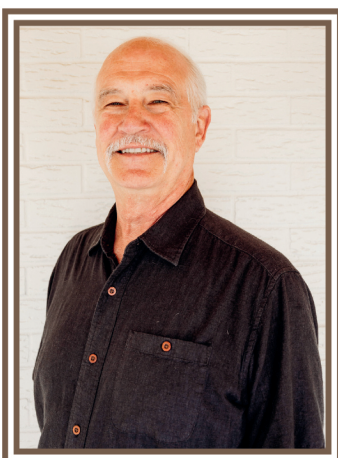
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Local Sports Schedule

Dec. 13 - Dec. 19

High School Basketball

Friday, Dec. 13
 Southside at Gadsden City
 Glencoe at Westbrook
 Weaver at Ashville
 Cullman Christian at West End
 Boaz at Sardis
 Coosa Christian at Brindlee Mtn.
 Gaston at Sand Rock

Saturday, Dec. 14
 Coosa Christian at West End
 GCHS boys at Oxford Tournament
 Glencoe vs. Boaz at Snead State
 Sardis vs. Arab at Snead State

Monday, Dec. 16
 Fort Payne girls at Etowah
 Clay-Cahilville boys at Etowah
 Gadsden City at Huffman
 Coosa Christian at Sand Rock
 Hokes Bluff at Oneonta
 Southside girls at Ider

Tuesday, Dec. 17

Sardis at Glencoe
 Ragland at West End
 Piedmont at Westbrook
 Boaz boys at Southside
 Gaston at Cedar Bluff

Thursday, Dec. 19
 Etowah at Westbrook
 Hartselle at Gadsden City
 Ragland at Coosa Christian
 Lincoln at Glencoe
 New Hope boys at Sardis
 Oneonta at Ashville
 Hokes Bluff boys at
 Collinsville Christmas Tournament

Wrestling

Friday/Saturday, Dec. 13-14
 West End at Weaver Tournament
 Southside at Temple Tournament

Tuesday, Dec. 17
 Gadsden City, Southside
 at Walter Wellborn quad match
 West End at Cherokee County

Thursday, Dec. 19
 West End at Hartselle dual meet

Bowling

All home matches played at
 The Alley at the Gadsden Mall

Monday, Dec. 16
 Etowah at Coosa Christian
 Southside at Huffman

Tuesday, Dec. 17
 Etowah at Moody

Wednesday, Dec. 18
 Southside at Gadsden City

Thursday, Dec. 19
 Moody at Etowah

College

Womens Basketball

Saturday, Dec. 14
 Gadsden State at Pellissippi State

Mens Basketball

Saturday, Dec. 14
 Gadsden State at Pellissippi State

Monday, Dec. 16
 Gadsden State at Beville State

Gadsden City grad sets NFL career mark

2015 Gadsden City High School graduate and current NFL receiver Darnell Mooney recently set a career high in receiving yardage. Playing for the Atlanta Falcons, Mooney (pictured at right) had six receptions for 149 yards in Atlanta's 42-21 loss to Minnesota on Sunday, Dec. 8. Mooney's previous career high was 126 yards while he was a member of the Chicago Bears in 2022.

Mooney had 37 receptions for 697 yards and nine touchdowns in his senior year of 2015 at GCHS. He was named to the ASWA All-State first team and the All-Messenger first team following the season. As a junior, he helped the 2014 Titans go 10-3 and reach the semifinal round of the Class 7A state playoffs.

In four years at Tulane University, Mooney caught



Courtesy of NFL

154 passes for 2,572 yards and 19 touchdowns. His best statistical season was his junior year as he totaled 48 receptions for 993 yards with eight touchdowns.



Gadsden State's Tyla Tatum (15) fights for a rebound during the Lady Cardinals' 58-55 loss to Chattanooga (Tenn.) State in womens basketball on Wednesday, Dec. 11 at Beck Gymnasium.

AHSAA announces 2025 Hall of Fame

Twelve major contributors to prep athletics in Alabama have been selected for induction into the Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame in the Class of 2025. The induction will take place on March 10 in Montgomery.

The Class of 2025 includes administrators, coaches, a contributor, and one selection from the "old timer" category. A total of 60 nominations were submitted by member schools and other organizations.

Individuals selected were football coach Brent Hubbert; volleyball coaches Melanie Donahoo and Tanya Broadway; basketball coaches Emanuel 'Tubb' Bell, now deceased; Robert Burdette; Renard Davis; and Floyd Mathews, Jr.; baseball coach Matt Cimo; tennis coach Meridy Lyle Jones; administrator Steve Bailey; and contributor Drew Ferguson, now deceased. Selected from the Old Timers Division was coach/administrator Hadley Provience, also deceased.

The Alabama High School Athletic Directors & Coaches Association, the coaches' wing of the AHSAA, oversees the Hall of Fame. A selection committee comprised of coaches, administrators and media representatives made the selections. The hall of fame first class was inducted in 1991. These 12 new inductees will push the total enshrined into the Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame to 414.

"We thank the committee for their willingness to take on the difficult task of selecting this year's inductees," said AHSADCA Lawrence Director. "We appreciate all the member schools who submitted their respective nominees. The nominees have dedicated their lives to help promote and support education-based athletics. We can't thank them enough for their service and sacrifice."

Sardis High School girls basketball at 9-2

Sardis improved to 9-2 overall and 1-0 in Class 5A, Area 12 with a 69-42 victory over Douglas on Friday, Dec. 6. The Lady Lions led 16-5 after one period, 35-20 at halftime and 58-32 after three quarters. Sardis force 33 turnovers, including 21 steals.

For the Lady Lions, Mya Glass (pictured below) scored 15 points, followed by Emily Zavala with 14. Delaney Lee had 11 points and five steals, Jacee Holcomb had nine points and nine rebounds, Mollie Brock scored seven points and Jordyn Knight contributed six points and five steals.

"We did a great job defensively in this game," said Sardis head coach Heath Cullom. "Mya Glass had huge game, and Emily was big for us in coming off the bench and giving us

a much-needed spark to close out the half. She made some big shots and had three deflections and three steals in the second quarter." (Submitted photo)



Cardinals flying high out of the gate - from 1B

The Cardinals are first in the conference in both offensive and defensive rebounds, resulting in very few one-and-done possessions while limiting the opposition's chances.

"Last week against Wallace-Selma, I think we held them to one-shot possessions 82 percent of the time," said Tarver. "If you can do that on a consistent basis, you're giving yourself a good chance to win."

Tarver provided a logical explanation as to why the Cardinals currently lead the league in field goal percentage at 51.2 percent.

"We're not taking a lot of three-pointers; we're taking the best available shot, so we've been settling for the high-percentage two-point [field goal]. But as we get down to conference play next month, we'll be taking more [three-point] attempts, because those games will be a lot tighter."

Sophomore forward Mehki Fitts is currently first in the conference in rebounding at 10.2 per game and seventh in scoring at 14.6.

"Mehki is bringing a lot to the table for us this year, starting with experience," said Traver. "He started 25 games for us last year and started every game so far this season. He's a double-double machine who already is getting a ton of four-year offers."

"Mehki comes from Cornerstone Christian out of Birmingham, and no one wanted to give him a chance (in college) because it was a private school. When I was recruiting him, I told him and his family that one year with me would put him where he was supposed to be, and now he's there."

Sophomore point guard Shannon Jones is fourth in the conference in assists at 4.8 per game.

"Shannon is doing a great job of breaking the press and distributing the ball," said Traver. "He's the Patrick Mahomes of our team. Last year he played more off the ball than at the one spot, and he's adapted to the change and opened up the door to our offense."

Conference play begins Thursday, Jan. 8 at Lawson State. The Cardinals' conference competition also includes Wallace-Hanceville, Calhoun, Coastal Alabama South, Bishop State, Southern Union and Shelton State.

"Two things we need to work on during the [Christmas] break is free throw shooting and zone defense," said Traver. "The North Division games will be tight and slow-paced, so we might need to sit back in a zone to rest some guys. Pretty much all the conference games come down to two or three possessions, and we want to make sure that we're physically and mentally ready for that challenge."

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STATE OF ALABAMA COUNTY OF ETOWAH Default having been made of the terms of the loan documents secured by that certain mortgage executed by Ryan Yates, A Single Man to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Rocket Mortgage, LLC, FKA Quicken Loans, LLC, its successors and assigns dated January 15, 2022; said mortgage being recorded on January 21, 2022, as Instrument No. 3534227 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC in Instrument 3578625 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, ALABAMA.

The undersigned, Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Etowah County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on the 15th day of January, 2025 the following property, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit: Lot One (1) in Block Five (5) of the Metropolitan Subdivision Unit Two (2), Gadsden, Alabama, as the same appears of record in Plat Book "G", Page 249, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama. Said property is commonly known as 306 S 8th St, Gadsden, AL 35901. Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description the legal description will control. Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, all outstanding liens for public utilities which constitute liens upon the property, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, easements, rights-of-way, zoning ordinances, restrictions, special assessments, covenants, the statutory right of redemption pursuant to Alabama law, and any matters of record including, but not limited to, those superior to said Mortgage first set out above. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The successful bidder must present certified funds in the amount of the winning bid at the time and place of sale.

Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process. The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Mortgage.

ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC FKA/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC as holder of said mortgage McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC 505 20th Street North, Suite 1775 Birmingham, AL 35203 (205) 216-4238 FT21@mccalla.com File No. 24-06487AL www.foreclosurehotline.net

December 6, 13, and 20, 2024

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Thomas Bone and wife, Virginia Bone, to Homecomings

Financial Network, Inc., on April 29, 1999, said mortgage being recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, on May 7, 1999 at Book 1999, at Page 127, as Document Number M-1999-1956. The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, National Association fka The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A., as successor to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as Trustee for Residential Asset Mortgage Products, Inc., Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates Series 2006-RP1, the current holder, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Etowah County Courthouse, in Gadsden, Alabama, on January 15, 2025, during the legal hours of sale, the following described real estate, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

Commence at the Southwest corner of the SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4, Section 36, T-12-S, R-6-East of Huntsville Meridian and run N 89 degrees 10 minutes 00 seconds East along the South line thereof, 1324.20 feet to a point in the South line of Canterbury Estates, as recorded in Plat Book "H", Page 136, Etowah County Probate Office; thence run N 01 degrees 30 minutes 00 seconds West, leaving said South line and parallel with the West line of said subdivision, 480.00 feet to a point; thence run North 89 degrees 10 minutes 00 seconds East 369.89 feet to an existing 3/8 inch rebar; thence run North 16 degrees 50 minutes 15 seconds West 81.53 feet to the point of beginning of the property described herein; thence run North 16 degrees 50 minutes 16 seconds West 101.52 feet to a point; thence run North 78 degrees 18 minutes 02 seconds East 212.62 feet to the West R/W line of Meadowood Road (40' R/W); thence run South 17 degrees 39 minutes 59 seconds East along said R/W, 123.38 feet to a point; thence run South 84 degrees 00 minutes 07 seconds West, leaving said R/W 217.43 feet to the point of beginning. Said property being a portion of the SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4, Section 36, T-12-S, R-6-E, Etowah County, Alabama and contains 0.55 acre (more or less).

More commonly known as: 428 Meadowood Rd, a/k/a 428 Meadowood Road, Gadsden, AL 35901 This Property will be sold on an "as is, where is" basis, without warranty or recourse, expressed or implied as to title, use and/or enjoyment and will be sold subject to the right of redemption of all parties entitled thereto. Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expense of foreclosure. The successful bidder must tender certified funds by noon the next business day to Law Office of Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. Certified funds must be in the form of a wire transfer, bank or credit union's cashier's check, or bank official check payable to Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. reserves the right to award the bid to the next highest bidder should the highest bidder fail to timely tender the total amount due. If sale is voided, Mortgagee/Transferee shall return the bid amount to the successful purchaser and the Mortgagee/Transferee shall not be liable to the purchaser for any damages. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the purchaser at the sale shall be only entitled to a return of the deposit and bid amount, if paid. The Mortgagee/Transferee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of

sale and indebtedness secured by the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation. The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, National Association fka The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A., as successor to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as Trustee for Residential Asset Mortgage Products, Inc., Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates Series 2006-RP1 ("Transferee") Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. 244 Inverness Center Drive Birmingham, AL 35242 Phone: (801) 355-2886

December 6, 13, and 20, 2024

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF ALABAMA, COUNTY OF ETOWAH

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage and security agreement executed by CHRIS MARCUS ADAMS and STEPHANIE ADAMS, a married couple, on the 28th day of October 2013, to 21ST MORTGAGE CORPORATION, as recorded in Instrument Number 3395531 in the office of the Probate Judge of Etowah County, Alabama; 21ST MORTGAGE CORPORATION, as Mortgagee, as Mortgagee, by reason of such default having declared all of the indebtedness secured by said mortgage and security agreement due and payable and such default continuing, notice is hereby given that, acting under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and security agreement, and as authorized by Section 7-9A-604(a)(2) of the Code of Alabama of 1975 as amended, 21ST MORTGAGE CORPORATION, as Mortgagee, will sell at public outcry, for cash to the highest bidder, in front of the Courthouse door, in the City of Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale on January 8, 2025, the following described real and personal property situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

To reach the point of beginning: Commence at the NW corner of the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 17, Township 11 South, Range 8 East and thence run South along the West boundary line of said forty a distance of 510.00 feet to the point of beginning; thence from said point of beginning deflect left 90 deg. 23 min. and run a distance of 593.24 feet to a point; thence deflect 90 deg. 00 min. right and run South a distance of 483.23 feet to a point; thence deflect right 90 deg. 00 min. and run West a distance of 596.61 feet to a point in the centerline of Croft Ferry Road; thence deflect right 63 deg. 21 min. and run in a direct line along the centerline of Croft Ferry Road a distance of 544.25 feet to a point; thence deflect right so as to form an interior angle of 63 deg. 21 min. and run East a distance of 247.92 feet to the point of beginning, said tract embracing a portion of the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 18 and the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 17, all in Township 11 South, Range 8 East of the Huntsville Meridian in Etowah County, Alabama, containing 7.65 acres more or less.

INCLUDING a security interest in one (1) 2012 River Birch manufactured home, Serial No. RB11AL16719AB; together with the hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging and all fixtures now attached to and used in connection with the premises herein described.

This property will be sold on an "as is, where is" basis, subject to any easements, encumbrances, and exceptions reflected in the mortgage and those contained in the records of the office of the Judge of Probate of the county where the above-described property is situated. This property will be sold without warranty or recourse, expressed or implied as to title, use and/or enjoyment and will be sold subject to the right of redemption of all parties entitled thereto.

Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process. Said sale will be made subject to any existing Federal Tax Lien, if any, and/or Special Assessments, if any, which might adversely affect the title to the subject property. Said sale will be made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by the above-described mortgage, and the proceeds thereof will be applied as provided by the terms of the said mortgage. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation; contact Margery Oglesby at the phone number shown below prior to attending the sale. Kristofor D. Sodergren Attorney for 21st Mortgage Corporation ROSEN HARWOOD, P.A. 2200 Jack Warner Pkwy Ste 200 P.O. Box 2727 Tuscaloosa, AL 35403 (205) 344-5000

December 6, 13, and 20, 2024

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF ALABAMA, COUNTY OF ETOWAH

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Brianna Ashley Heard, an unmarried woman and Justin Lee Saxon, an unmarried man, originally in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns, on April 11, 2023, said mortgage recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, in Instrument Number: 3556113 with Scrivener's Affidavit recorded 11/21/2024 in Instrument Number 3583884; the undersigned Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, as Mortgagee/Transferee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Courthouse at Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama, on February 12, 2025, during the legal hours of sale, all of its rights, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

Lot Number Four (4) in Block Number One (1) of the Foxwood Addition, according to the map thereof recorded in Plat Book "F", Page 3, in the Probate Office of Etowah County, Alabama, and lying and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama. Property street address for informational purposes: 3616 W Meighan Blvd, Gadsden, AL 35904. THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON AN "AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS, WITHOUT WARRANTY OR RECOURSE, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED AS TO TITLE, USE AND/OR ENJOYMENT AND WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION OF ALL PARTIES ENTITLED THERETO. Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. The successful bidder must tender a non-refundable deposit of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) in certified funds made payable to Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. at the time and place of the sale. The balance of the purchase price plus any debt recording costs and transfer taxes must be paid in certified funds by noon the next business day at the Law Office of Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. at the address indicated below. Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. reserves the right to

award the bid to the next highest bidder should the highest bidder fail to timely tender the total amount due. The Mortgagee/Transferee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation. Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, ("Transferee") Tiffany & Bosco, P.A., 2501 20th Place South, Suite 300, Homewood, AL 35223 www.tlawn.com TB File Number: 24-09075-MT-AL 12/06/2024, 12/13/2024, 12/20/2024

December 6, 13, and 20, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

Charlie Edmondson was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 09/18/2024 over the Estate of Amy Lowe McAfee, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

Rachael Gilliland was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/30/2024 to the Estate of Sunny Eliza Waller, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

num-ber shown below prior to attendance at sale. NOTICE TO NEWSPAPER: THE MESSENGER Please run once a week for three consecutive weeks

/s/ Jason Knowles Jason Knowles Attorney for Mortgagee, Leanne Moore Knowles & Sullivan, LLC 413 Broad Street Gadsden, Alabama 35901 (256) 547-7200

December 13, 20, and 27, 2024

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by mortgage executed by Barry G. Green and wife, Brittany Gail Valentine to Tyrone Davis and wife, Mary E. Davis dated March 1, 2024 and filed for record in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, in Instrument Number 3570461; the undersigned mortgage owner, Tyrone Davis and wife, Mary E. Davis, has elected to declare the entire indebtedness secured by said mortgage due and payable as provided in the terms of said mortgage, and acting under and by virtue of the power and authority given by said mortgage, will on the 7th day of January, 2025, during the legal hours of sale, sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash in front of the courthouse door, City of GADSDEN, ETOWAH County, Alabama, the following described real estate situated in ETOWAH County, Alabama, to-wit:

Parcel One: The South Half of Lot Number One (1) in Block Number Three (3) in the Gibbs and Cambron Resurvey of Lots 14 and 15 of the Clayton Addition Number One (1) to Alabama City, according to map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book A, Pages 320 and 321, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama, together with all improvements located thereon. Parcel Two: Lot Number Two (2) in Block Number Three (3) of the Gibbs and Cambron Resurvey of Lots Number 14 and 15 of the Clayton Plat Number One (1), as shown by Book of Town Plats A, Pages 320 and 321, and being in Gadsden (formerly Alabama City), Etowah County, Alabama, together with all improvements located thereon. Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process. The proceeds of said sale will be used, expended and applied in accordance with the terms of said mortgage.

TYRONE DAVIS and MARY E. DAVIS Mortgage Owner COPELAND LAW, LLC Attorneys for owner 816 Chestnut Street Gadsden, AL 35901 P:256-546-9500 F:256-546-9598

December 13, 20, and 27, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

James O'Conner was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/10/2024 to the Estate of George A. Williams, Jr., deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

James O'Conner was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/24/2024 to the Estate of Myra K. Crockett, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

James O'Conner was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 11/13/2024 to the Estate of Barbara H. Burgess, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

James O'Conner was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 11/13/2024 to the Estate of Myra K. Crockett, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

James O'Conner was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 11/13/2024 to the Estate of Myra K. Crockett, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

Larry Wayne Thomas was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/30/2024 to the Estate of Murdies Thomas, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

Timothy Wayne Freeman was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 11/04/2024 to the Estate of Sherrie Bradford Freeman, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

Joan Marie Lonnergan Cook was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 08/29/2024 to the Estate of Amelia T. Lonnergan, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

Bobby Joe Lance was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/24/2024 over the Estate of Alice Rosella Lance, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

Terry Dean Tumlin was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/22/2024 to the Estate of Martha Lee Tumlin, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

Terry Dean Tumlin was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/22/2024 to the Estate of Martha Lee Tumlin, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

Terry Dean Tumlin was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/22/2024 to the Estate of Martha Lee Tumlin, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

Terry Dean Tumlin was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/22/2024 to the Estate of Martha Lee Tumlin, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

Terry Dean Tumlin was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/22/2024 to the Estate of Martha Lee Tumlin, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

Terry Dean Tumlin was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/22/2024 to the Estate of Martha Lee Tumlin, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

Terry Dean Tumlin was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/22/2024 to the Estate of Martha Lee Tumlin, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

Terry Dean Tumlin was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/22/2024 to the Estate of Martha Lee Tumlin, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

Terry Dean Tumlin was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/22/2024 to the Estate of Martha Lee Tumlin, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

Terry Dean Tumlin was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/22/2024 to the Estate of Martha Lee Tumlin, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

FILE CLAIMS

Terry Dean Tumlin was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/22/2024 to the Estate of Martha Lee Tumlin, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

November 29, December 6, and 13, 2024

six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell
Judge of Probate

November 29,
December 6, and 13,
2024

FILE CLAIMS

Robert Allen Johnson was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/25/2024 to the Estate of Robert Willis Johnson, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell
Judge of Probate

November 29,
December 6, and 13,
2024

NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: JEAN YONKERS, INCAPACITATED
Case #: S-10325

TO: Any interested party

Please take notice that a PETITION FOR THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY belonging to the above referenced incapacitated individual was filed in the Office of the Judge of Probate, and further, that the 8th day of JANUARY 2025 at 2:30 p.m. was appointed a day and time for hearing on said Petition, thereof at which time you may appear and support and/or contest the Petition, if you so choose.

DONE THIS THE 25TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2024.

Scott Hassell
PROBATE JUDGE

December 6, 13, and 20,
2024

NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF LUCILLE L. CROSS, DECEASED.
Case No.: 2023-00071

TO: Todd Scott Key, Christopher Key, Jessica Holland Maffei, and Tomas Gray Townsend WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN

Please take notice that a Petition for Final Settlement was filed in the Office of the Judge of Probate, Etowah County, Alabama and further, that the 5th day of FEBRUARY, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. was appointed a day and time for hearing on said Petition, thereof at which time you may appear and support and/or contest the Petition, if you so choose.

DONE THIS THE 11th DAY OF December, 2024.

Scott W. Hassell
JUDGE OF PROBATE

December 13, 20, and 27,
2024

NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: MARY CHARLOTTE GRAVES, ALLEGED INCAPACITATED
Case #: 2024-737

TO: Robert Garry Bell and any unknown family Please take notice that a PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP & CONSERVATORSHIP of the above referenced incapacitated individual was filed in the Office of the Judge of Probate, and further, that the 6th day of JANUARY 2025 at 1:30 m. was appointed a day and time for hearing on said Petition, thereof at which time you may appear and support and/or contest the Petition, if you so choose.

DONE THIS THE 11th DAY OF DECEMBER 2024

Scott Hassell
PROBATE JUDGE

December 13, 20, and 27,
2024

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP AND LETTERS OF CONSERVATORSHIP

Notice to: Any unknown family members, whose whereabouts are unknown

You will take notice that

a Petition for Letters of Guardianship for the person of Diane T. Gladden and a Petition for Letters of Conservatorship over the estate of Diane T. Gladden was filed by Gadsden Regional Medical Center on the 21ST day of NOVEMBER 2024.

A hearing on the Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Petition for Letters of Conservatorship is set on the 14th day of JANUARY 2025, at 1:30 p.m. in the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama, 800 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35901.

Scott W. Hassell
Judge of Probate

November 29,
December 6 and 13, 2024

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR GUARDIANSHIP AND PETITION FOR LETTERS OF CONSERVATORSHIP

Notice to: Any unknown family members, whose whereabouts are unknown

You will take notice that a Petition for Letters of Guardianship for the person of Mary Nolan and a Petition for Letters of Conservatorship over the estate of Mary Nolan was filed by Gadsden Regional Medical Center on the 21ST day of NOVEMBER 2024.

A hearing on the Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Petition for Letters of Conservatorship is set on the 14th day of JANUARY 2025, at 2:00 p.m., in the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama, 800 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35901.

Scott W. Hassell
Judge of Probate

November 29,
December 6, and 13,
2024

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR GUARDIANSHIP AND PETITION FOR LETTERS OF CONSERVATORSHIP

Notice to: Kerry Gazaway, whose whereabouts are unknown Any unknown family members, whose whereabouts are unknown

You will take notice that a Petition for Letters of Guardianship for the person of Judy Gazaway and a Petition for Letters of Conservatorship over the estate of Judy Gazaway was filed by Gadsden Regional Medical Center on the 22 day of NOVEMBER 2024. A hearing on the Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Petition for Letters of Conservatorship is set on the 14 day of JANUARY 2025, at 2:30 p.m., in the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama, 800 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35901.

Scott W. Hassell
Judge of Probate

December 6, 13, and 20,
2024

NOTICE OF ADOPTION HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

CASE NO.: 2024-00608

IN RE: THE ADOPTION PETITION OF JIMMY HORTON AND LAURA HORTON

To: UNKNOWN FATHER WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN

You are hereby notified that a Petition for Adoption of a minor child born to SONYA DELORIS HORTON on MARCH 29, 2019, was filed on SEPTEMBER 9, 2024. Please be advised that if you intend to contest the same you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication with the Attorney for Petitioners whose name and address is listed below and with the Clerk of the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama P.O. Box 187, Gadsden, AL 35902.

Attorney for Petitioner(s): John Floyd, Esq., 808 Chestnut Street Gadsden, AL 35901

Done this the 15th day of November, 2024.

Scott W. Hassell
JUDGE OF PROBATE

November 22, 29,
December 6 and 13, 2024

NOTICE OF

HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

In The Matter of the Adoption Petition of LETITIA KING LUCAS
CASE NO.: 2024-00573
CASE NO.: 2024-00574

TO: UNKNOWN FATHER
Address unknown.

Please take notice that a petition for adoption of children born to Mitonese Monique Lucas has been filed in said Court by the Petitioner(s) named above. The minor children's date of births are December 14, 2007 and October 27, 2006. As a notified party, you may appear in the adoption proceeding to contest or support the attached petition. Please be advised that if you intend to contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of service of this notice with counsel for said Petitioner, whose name and address are as shown below and with the Clerk of the Probate Court at the following address: P.O. Box 187, Gadsden, AL 35902. If you fail to respond within thirty (30) days and appear at the hearing, the Court may construe that failure as an implied consent to the adoption and waiver of a right to appear and of further notice of the adoption proceedings. If the adoption is approved, your parental rights, if any, will be considered terminated.

Attorney for Petitioner: Gerald Maxwell, Esquire 821 Tuscaloosa Avenue Gadsden, AL 35901

Given under my hand this the 22 day of November 2024.

Scott W. Hassell
JUDGE OF PROBATE

November 29,
December 6, 13, and 20,
2024

NOTICE OF ADOPTION HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

CASE NO.: 2024-00609

IN RE: THE ADOPTION PETITION OF JIMMY HORTON AND LAURA HORTON

To: UNKNOWN FATHER WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN

You are hereby notified that a Petition for Adoption of a minor child born to SONYA DELORIS HORTON on MARCH 23, 2018, was filed on SEPTEMBER 9, 2024. Please be advised that if you intend to contest the same you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication with the Attorney for Petitioners whose name and address is listed below and with the Clerk of the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama P.O. Box 187, Gadsden, AL 35902.

Attorney for Petitioner(s): John Floyd, Esq., 808 Chestnut Street Gadsden, AL 35901

Done this the 15th day of November, 2024.

Scott W. Hassell
JUDGE OF PROBATE

November 22, 29,
December 6 and 13, 2024

NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

CASE NO.: 2024-00330

IN RE: MINOR NAME CHANGE

To: DEANGELO MARBURY OR UNKNOWN FATHER WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN

You are hereby notified that a Petition for Name Change of a minor child born to SHANIYIA RIGSBY on NOVEMBER 9, 2020, was filed on MAY 30, 2024. Please be advised that if you intend to contest the same you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication with the Attorney for Petitioners whose name and address is listed below and with the Clerk of the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama P.O. Box 187, Gadsden, AL 35902. Attorney for Petitioner(s): Jennifer Tombrillo, Esq., 2169 Clearbrook Road Hoover, AL 35226

Done this the 14th day of November, 2024.

Scott W. Hassell

JUDGE OF PROBATE

November 22, 29,
December 6 and 13, 2024

NOTICE OF FINAL HEARING BY PUBLICATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA GADSDEN LAND BANK AUTHORITY, a Public Corporation, Plaintiff, v.

CIVIL ACTION NO.: CV-2024-0127

KEITH PETERS, deceased, his unknown heirs and successors; GLENN PETERS; HEATHER PETERS; JUDY MOYER; SIGNA ADCOCK; ALMA LEE LYLES; JACLYN SPRAYBERRY; ELIJAH SPRAY-BERRY CAROL HUCKABY; ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA; CITY OF GADSDEN; that parcel of real property located at 1 Perkins Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35904 and having a legal description of: Lot 139, Parcel #4 Cone Mills Corporation, Dwight Division, according to map or plat thereof as recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, in Plat Book "F", Pages 51-65, lying and being in Gadsden, (Formerly Alabama City) Etowah County, Alabama, together with all improvements located thereon, and known as Parcel ID No. 10-09-31-4-000-188.000; PPIN: 19051; and any and all other unknown heirs, claimants or interested parties claiming any right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the real estate described herein, Defendants.

TO KEITH PETERS, deceased, his unknown heirs and successors; GLENN PETERS; HEATHER PETERS; JUDY MOYER; SIGNA ADCOCK; ALMA LEE LYLES; ELIJAH SPRAYBERRY; CAROL HUCKABY; ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA; CITY OF GADSDEN; and any and all other unknown heirs, claimants or interested parties claiming any right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the real estate described herein, TAKE NOTICE that on November 14, 2024, the Gadsden Land Bank Authority filed the above-styled Complaint and the record reflects recorded notice of a pending quiet title and foreclosure action in the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama concerning the rights and/or interests in the following real property: Lot 139, Parcel #4 Cone Mills Corporation, Dwight Division, according to map or plat thereof as recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, in Plat Book "F", Pages 51-65, lying and being in Gadsden, (Formerly Alabama City) Etowah County, Alabama. Property Address: 1Perkins Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35904

ANY PERSON WITH A PROPERTY INTEREST IN THE ABOVE PROPERTY IS HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THEY MAY LOSE SUCH INTEREST, IF ANY, AS A RESULT OF THE ABOVE-REFERENCED QUIET TITLE AND FORECLOSURE ACTION. The final hearing on this quiet title and foreclosure action is hereby set for February 3, 2025 at 2:30 p.m. in Judge Sonny Steen's Courtroom, Etowah County Courthouse, 801 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35901. The judgment of the Court may result in title to the property vesting in the Gadsden Land Bank Authority. Any person who proves to the Court's satisfaction a right to redeem the property pursuant to Alabama Code §§ 40-10-73 (1975) et seq. or Alabama Code §§ 40-10-83 (1975) et seq. may redeem the property pursuant to those statutes within five (5) days after the appropriate Order on Final Hearing is issued. FAILURE TO REDEEM THE PROPERTY AND PRESENT PROOF OF REDEMPTION TO THE CIRCUIT COURT WITHIN THE 5-DAY PERIOD MAY RESULT IN A LOSS OF THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION.

The address of the Gadsden Land Bank Authority is City Hall, 90 Broad Street, Gadsden, Alabama 35901. The Gadsden Land Bank Authority may be contacted care of Erin Patterson, City of Gadsden, at (256) 549-4553. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the undersigned Clerk of Court that publication of this notice be made once a week for three consecutive weeks in the Gadsden Messenger, a newspaper of general circulation in Etowah

County, Alabama, and that all persons to whom this notice is addressed and any and all persons claiming any title to, interest in, or lien or encumbrance on the above-described land or any part thereof are hereby directed to plead, answer or otherwise respond to the Complaint in this cause before the hearing date or a judgment by default may be rendered against them if being intended that this notice shall be used to perfect service against all parties who cannot be personally served with a copy of the Complaint. Dated this 3rd day of December, 2024.

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk

J. Lance Smith
Tumbach, Warren, Rice, Frederick & Smith, P.C.
200 Chestnut Street, Suite A
Gadsden, AL 35901
Phone: (256) 543-3664
Facsimile: (256) 543-3674
LSmith@twlegal.us

December 6, 13, and 20,
2024

NOTICE OF FINAL HEARING BY PUBLICATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

GADSDEN LAND BANK AUTHORITY, a Public Corporation, Plaintiff, v.

CIVIL ACTION NO.: CV-2024-0130

JOHN LARRY WILLIS; ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA; CITY OF GADSDEN; that parcel of real property located at 1012 7TH Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35901 and having a legal description of: The East 30 feet of Lot 13, and the West 10 feet of Lot 15, in Block Number 18, of the Gadsden Land and Improvement Companies Kyle Addition to the City of Gadsden, as recorded in Book "A", Page 74 and 75, Probate office, Etowah County, Alabama, together with all improvements located thereon, and known as Parcel ID 15-03-05-04-000-178.000; PPIN: 37196; and any and all other unknown heirs, claimants or interested parties claiming any right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the real estate described herein, Defendants.

TO JOHN LARRY WILLIS; ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA; CITY OF GADSDEN; and any and all other unknown heirs, claimants or interested parties claiming any right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the real estate described herein, TAKE NOTICE that on November 14, 2024, the Gadsden Land Bank Authority filed the above-styled Complaint and the record reflects recorded notice of a pending quiet title and foreclosure action in the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama concerning the rights and/or interests in the following real property: The East 30 feet of Lot 13, and the West 10 feet of Lot 15, in Block Number 18, of the Gadsden Land and Improvement Companies Kyle Addition to the City of Gadsden, as recorded in Book "A", Page 74 and 75, Probate office, Etowah County, Alabama. Property Address: 1012 7th Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35901

ANY PERSON WITH A PROPERTY INTEREST IN THE ABOVE PROPERTY IS HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THEY MAY LOSE SUCH INTEREST, IF ANY, AS A RESULT OF THE ABOVE-REFERENCED QUIET TITLE AND FORECLOSURE ACTION. The final hearing on this quiet title and foreclosure action is hereby set for February 3, 2025 at 2:30 p.m. in Judge Sonny Steen's Courtroom, Etowah County Courthouse, 801 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35901. The judgment of the Court may result in title to the property vesting in the Gadsden Land Bank Authority. Any person who proves to the Court's satisfaction a right to redeem the property pursuant to Alabama Code §§ 40-10-73 (1975) et seq. or Alabama Code §§ 40-10-83 (1975) et seq. may redeem the property pursuant to those statutes within five (5) days after the appropriate Order on Final Hearing is issued. FAILURE TO REDEEM THE PROPERTY AND PRESENT PROOF OF REDEMPTION TO THE CIRCUIT COURT WITHIN THE 5-DAY PERIOD MAY RESULT IN A LOSS OF THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION.

The address of the Gadsden Land Bank Authority is City Hall, 90 Broad Street, Gadsden, Alabama 35901. The Gadsden Land Bank Authority may be contacted care of Erin Patterson, City of Gadsden, at (256) 549-4553. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the undersigned Clerk of Court that publication of this notice be made once a week for three consecutive weeks in the Gadsden Messenger, a newspaper of general circulation in Etowah

County, Alabama, and that all persons to whom this notice is addressed and any and all persons claiming any title to, interest in, or lien or encumbrance on the above-described land or any part thereof are hereby directed to plead, answer or otherwise respond to the Complaint in this cause before the hearing date or a judgment by default may be rendered against them if being intended that this notice shall be used to perfect service against all parties who cannot be personally served with a copy of the Complaint. Dated this 3rd day of December, 2024.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the undersigned Clerk of Court that publication of this notice be made once a week for three consecutive weeks in the Gadsden Messenger, a newspaper of general circulation in Etowah County, Alabama, and that all persons to whom this notice is addressed and any and all persons claiming any title to, interest in, or lien or encumbrance on the above-described land or any part thereof are hereby directed to plead, answer or otherwise respond to the Complaint in this cause before the hearing date or a judgment by default may be rendered against them if being intended that this notice shall be used to perfect service against all parties who cannot be personally served with a copy of the Complaint.

Dated this the 3rd day of December, 2024.

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk

J. Lance Smith
Tumbach, Warren, Rice, Frederick & Smith, P.C.
200 Chestnut Street, Suite A
Gadsden, AL 35901
Phone: (256) 543-3664
Facsimile: (256) 543-3674
LSmith@twlegal.us

December 6, 13, and 20,
2024

ORDINANCE NO. O-54-24

Amending Fiscal Year 2025 Budget

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, that Ordinance No. O-44-24 (Fiscal Year 2025 Budget) is further amended by transferring \$20,000 from the Fire Tax Fund Balance to account #106-8000-421.70-30 (Other Equipment). The funds will be used to purchase furniture for Fire Station #5. Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on December 3, 2024.

Iva Nelson, City Clerk
December 13, 2024

ORDINANCE NO. O-55-24

Amending City Code Chapter 2 - Administration ARTICLE VI. - BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows: Section 1. Chapter 2 Article VI of the Gadsden City Code is amended to add the following section:

Sec. 2-254. Arbor Board.

(a) Established. There is hereby created and established a board to be known as the Arbor Board.

(b) Membership. The Arbor board shall consist of 12 members to serve terms of three years each, with each term expiring on December 31. Seven appointments shall be made by the city council and five appointments by the mayor; all of which shall be approved by the council. If any vacancy occurs, it shall be filled by appointment by the mayor with approval by the council for the unexpired term. The members shall annually elect one of their members as chairperson and such other officers as they deem necessary. Members shall be residents of the city, employed by a business located within the city, or an owner of property within the city.

(c) Meetings. The board shall hold regular meetings at such time and place as it may from time to time determine. A thorough record of all meetings of the board shall be kept by the secretary. All meetings of the board shall be open to the public.

(d) Compensation of members. The members of the board shall serve without compensation.

(e) Cooperation by other officials. Every board, department, employee and agency of the city is hereby authorized and directed to cooperate with the arbor board in promoting the orderly and attractive operation

of premises and facilities under city jurisdiction and in providing for the beautification of the city as a whole.

(f) Finances. The city council shall appropriate such funds which it may deem necessary for the reasonable expenses of the board. No such funds shall be expended without the prior approval of the mayor.

(g) Powers. The arbor board shall have the following powers:

- (1) Encourage the initiation and execution by governmental agencies, civic clubs and associations, merchants and property owners' associations of programs to improve the arbor canopy and enhance the cleanliness and beautification of the city and its environs.
- (2) Counsel with governmental agencies, private individuals, businesses and organizations regarding cleanliness and beautification of the city.
- (3) Counsel with nurseries, garden shops, landscaping establishments, garden clubs and private developers on a voluntary basis to encourage a comprehensive, coordinated program for beautification of private and public premises within the city.
- (4) Study and report from time to time on all such matters and perform such additional duties as the city council or mayor may direct.
- (5) Assist an Arborist with projects in support of the City's arbors and any portions of the City's Strategic Plan relating to arbors and beautification
- (6) Ensure annual renewal of the City's Arbor City USA status by assisting in Arbor Day celebrations and completion of annual program paperwork

Section 2. The provisions of this ordinance shall be effective upon publication. Section 3. The sections, subsections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this ordinance are severable. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause and phrase of this ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid by a valid judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall not affect the validity of any other section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause and phrase of this ordinance. The city council declares that it is its intent that it would have enacted this ordinance without such invalid or unconstitutional provisions. Section 4. The provisions of this ordinance repeal any prior ordinance or provision of the Gadsden City Code to the extent of any conflict. Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on December 3, 2024.

Iva Nelson, City Clerk
December 13, 2024

NOTICE OF COMPLETION

Civil Contractors, LLC P. O. Box 1210 Pinson, Alabama 35126, has completed the water line installation for The Reece City Water Department, also known as DWSRF PROJECT NO. FS010480-02 Contract no.1 CONTRACT NO. RC24 123. If anyone has any claims or concerns pertaining to this project should contact Utility Engineering Consultants, LLC at 130 Southwest Drive Suite 100 Homewood, Alabama 35209 or 205-951-3838. This notice will run 3 consecutive weeks. SEWER WATER DRAINAGE CIVIL CONTRACTORS, LLC P.O. Box 1210 Pinson, AL 35126 205-617-2692

December 6, 13, and 20,
2024

ADVERTISEMENT FOR COMPLETION

New Building for Noccalula Falls Animal Habitat In accordance with Chapter 1, Title 39, Code of Alabama, 1975, Bob Smith Construction, Inc. hereby gives written notice of the completion of a contract with the City of Gadsden, Alabama, for the New Building for Noccalula Falls Animal Habitat, project no. 3513, and has made re-request for final settlement of said Contract. This notice is to appear for four consecutive weeks, beginning December 13, 2024 and ending on January 3, 2025. All persons having any claim for labor, materials or otherwise in connection with this project should immediately notify Heath

Williamson, Architect for City of Gadsden, P.O. Box 267, Gadsden, AL 35902-0267 during this period.

Bob Smith Construction, Inc. 8076 US Highway 11, Springville, AL. 35146 205-655-9006

December 13, 20, 27, 2024 and January 3, 2025

LEGAL NOTICE

The following units will be auctioned or otherwise disposed of on December 13, 2024, on the premises of Attalla Self Storage located at Attalla Self Storage 704 Jones St SE, Attalla, AL 35954

Jennifer Parham Unit D10

Attalla Self Storage 704 Jones St SE Attalla, AL 35954

December 6 and 13, 2024

NOTICE OF VEHICLE POSSESSION

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will proceed to take possession of the following described abandoned vehicle(s) on January 17, 2025.

2005 Chevrolet Silverado VIN# 1GCEK19B65Z245141

UNI AUTOMOTIVE GROUP 2075 HWY 77 ATTALLA AL 35954 256-538-6600

December 6 and 13, 2024

NOTICE OF VEHICLE POSSESSION

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will proceed to take possession of the following described abandoned vehicle(s) on January 17, 2025.

2023 Toyota Camry VIN: 4T1K61AK2PU086066

Thacker Towing & Recovery 927 5th Avenue NE Attalla, AL 35954 (256) 546-9994

December 6 and 13, 2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION OF ABANDONED VEHICLES

Please take NOTICE that Matt's Towing will offer for sale at public auction to the highest bid-der for cash the following abandoned motor vehicle 1994 Toyota Camry VIN#4T1S K12E8RU415991 The public auction will be held at Matt's Towing 927 5th Ave NE Attalla AL 35954 at 10:00am on 01/25/2025 The Seller shall have a right to reject any bid that is unreasonably low. The seller expressly reserves the right to bid and purchase at the public auc-tion.

December 13 and 20, 2024

LEGAL NOTICE

THE BOARD OF REGISTRARS OF ETOWAH COUNTY HEREBY CERTIFIES THAT THE FOLLOWING LIST CONTAINS THE NAMES OF THOSE PERSONS DUE TO BE REMOVED FROM THE COUNTY VOTER REGISTRATION LIST DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF FEBRUARY 2025 PURSUANT TO THE NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT OF 1993 AND THE ALABAMA STATEWIDE VOTER FILE MAINTENANCE PROCESS, ALABAMA CODE §17-4-30.

IF YOUR NAME APPEARS ON THIS LIST, YOU ARE ADVISED TO IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE ETOWAH COUNTY BOARD OF REGISTRARS FOR INFORMATION ABOUT UPDATING YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION RECORD. YOUR UPDATED VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN JANUARY 31, 2025.

IF YOUR NAME APPEARS ON THIS LIST AND YOU DO NOT UPDATE YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION BY THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON JANUARY 31, 2025, YOUR NAME WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE COUNTY VOTER REGISTRATION LIST. IF YOUR NAME IS REMOVED FROM THE COUNTY VOTER REGISTRATION LIST, YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO REGISTER TO VOTE TO PARTICIPATE IN FUTURE ELECTIONS.

1ST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ATTALLA

ABERNATHY, MARY

JANE AGUILAR, DESTINY ALEXANDRA

AGUILAR, MARIO NIKITA LEE JR

ANDRES, ANTONIO

BOLEY, TIMOTHY LEE

BROWN, GINA M

CHAPMAN, JEREMY RAY

COMPTON, JUSTIN HEATH

COMPTON, KEATON DAVIS

COMPTON, KEVIN CRAIG

DENNIS, BETTY JEAN

DOWNEY, TESSA LEIGH

EPPERSON, DAVID RYAN

EWING, GARY DAVID

GOODSON, CEDRIC RICARDO

GRAVES, SHARDA' ABIJAH LAMARAE

GREEN, DARRELL KEITH

GREEN, MARSHA LEE

HALL, TAYLOR MORGAN

HELMS, STEPHEN PAUL

HERNANDEZ, MARIA LISA

ISOM, KURTDEZ D.L.

KELLEY, MICHAEL J

KONKOL, ILA-ANN WILLETT

KRETER, RACHEL ANNE

LETT, JASMINE NICOLE

LIGHT, ASHLEY ANN

MADDOX, ZACHARY D

MARTIN, CARLA RICE

MIDDLETON, JEAN

MORGAN, DONALD RAFAEL

MORRIS, ELIZABETH BRIANA

MUHAMMAD, DARRELL JEROME

PAGE, STEVEN DAVID WYATT

PALMER, DANIEL M

SMITH, JOYCE M

VAUGHN, DAINAH D

WHITMORE, LAURA

WILSON, TERRY WARNETTE

WYNN, TENA ELLISON

DANGERFIELD STACI LATONJA

ALTOONA FIRE DEPT

FEARS, ROBERT LEE

HOWARD, JOSHUA WAYNE

LEISER, CARLOS LEON

SMITH, JASON HOWARD

SMITH, JOHN DANIEL JR

THOMPSON, RACHEL DENICE

VAUGHN, CHERRY MORRIS

WILEMON, KENNY WYATT I

ATTALLA RECREATION CENTER

BABIN, PERRY JOSEPH

BEDWELL, JENNIFER DELYNN

BLEVINS, ROBERT SHANE

BOHANNON, JAMES DANIEL JR

BOWEN, MOLLY KATHLEEN

BROWN, APRIL DAWN

BYNUM, JEFFERY HUNTER

COKER, CAYLEB M

DAVIS, CHRISTINA NOELLE

DOBBINS, CHARLES JOSEPH

DOYLE, SHERRY DARLENE

EVANS, VINCENT THOMAS

FINDLEY, MARY V

FLORES, ALAN

FOSTER, SHANNON LYNN

GARRETT, ROBERT CRAIG

GOODEN, ANGEL MARIE

GREGORY, TERI LYNN

HUGHES, RUTH M

HURSEY, JESSICA ANN

JETT, TERESA A

JONES, JESSE W

JONES, SHERRY B

KEELING, ASTI-MARIE PASSIONIQUE

LANDGRAF, GARY JOSEPH II

LEE, ESTER L

LOVE, ZECORA SHANTEL'

MASSEY, WILLIAM A

MCCLENDON, AUBREY MICHAEL

MCCLENDON, SANDRA KAYE

MEALER, CORA MARCELLA

MEANS, ANDRUW JASON

MILLER, TONYA, DAWN

MOON-LAUFFER, BRANDY NICOLE

NOOJIN, BREANNA MARIE

ORTIZ, JUSTIN M

RAMOS, JOSEPHINE

ROBINSON, JACOBY

SMITH LISA, MARJORIE

SMITH, SARA DURST

SUCIU, KEVIN ALLEN

THOMAS, DEANNA MICHELLE

THOMAS, MICHAEL ANTHONY II

TILLER, CAMERON TRACY

TRAMMELL, MACHELL

WAGNER, CHERYL S

WISE, DONALD J

WISE, MYRNA NANETTE

WOODS, CATHERINE M

WORKS, JONATHAN DAVID

CARVER COMMUNITY CENTER

ADAM JACQUELINE LYNN

ADAMS, KIRSTIE K

ALI, MARQUIRE CHANTEL

AVERETTE, ALEXZANDRIA

BAKER, BRANDON EVANN

BAKER, G A M B R I E L ROSS JR

BALL, TRACY L

BARCLAY, SHARON LETRICIA

BATTLES, KAREN

BATTLES, SCOTT

BIRDSONG, JERIKA T

BOWENS, MARCUM XAVIER

BRADFORD, DENISE TERAY

BRITTON, DONOERY ODESSEY

BROWN, CHRIS MINCKEY

BRYANT, ANNIE MAE

BURNETT, SHELISSA ROCHELLE

BUSTION, DAVID INGI JR

CAMPBELL, DEVONTE QUINTEZ

CAMPBELL, NYEKA FAYE

CANNON, WHITNEY DARNEANA

CARTER, DE'MARCUS JAMES

CARTER, HOWARD L

CARTER, JEWEL TAKEYSHIA

CHAMBERS, DE'ANDRE MARTZE

COLEMAN, PAUL EDWARD

COLVILLE, FREDERICK W

COOPER, MICHAEL CORDELL

CRAWFORD, SHARLINE DENISE

CROOK, SHAKARELA

DANIELS, SABRINA ELIZABETH

DAVIS, JULIE DIANE

DERAMUS, KAMARIA

DRAKE, ANNIE L

DUSSARD, NATASHA A

ELAM, HELEN D

FIELDS, GRADY T

FINCH, MEAGAN DONYA MILLER

FREEMAN, ASIA PATRICE

GELPI, YUSMANI

GLOVER, TAUREIAN MARQUES-VAWUENGHKE

GOSHA, JA' QUAN, ZAQUEZ

GRAY, DEVON

GRAYSON, JOHN LEE JR

GUZMAN, JOSE OSBALDO

HALL, CORNELIUS CORDAI I

HANDY, FARID SR

HANEY, AUDREY BYRD

HARRIS, ANDREA P

HARRISON, COYAL III

HARVEY, JASMINE NICOLE

HASTINGS, SPARKEL SHANAE

HEARNE, BRIANNA DARSHAY

HERRING, DEXTER SR

HICKERSON, SALLY MONIQUE

HILL, ALEXUS CHADE

HOLIFIELD, JUSTIN EARL

HOWARD, LYANNE SHIANE

HOWELL, ERICA NAYADA

HUDSON, NEHEMIAH D

HUNNICUTT, CAREY BREANA

JACKSON, NICOLA VERNELL

JACOBS, ERNEST LEE

JOHNSON, ANTONIO EDWORN

JOHNSON, LAURIE L

JOHNSON, MARCUS DEWAYNE

JORDAN, JOHN DAVID

JORDAN, KATHERINE M

KIRKLAND, HEATH

KNOWLES, ROBERT KEITH

LAY, ROBERT J JR

LEDBETTER, THOMAS S

LEVINE, HORACE

LONG, TINA

LOUGHIN, JAMES M

LUCAS, ASHLEY NICOLE

MARBURY, MORAYMA F

MARKS, VANNICE MANUEL

MARTIN, DERRICK H

MASSEY, BELINDA MICHELLE

MAXWELL, PATRICK JERMAINE

MAYFIELD, TIARA C

MCCALL, JESSICA EVETT

J

PATTERSON, MONICA MAE

PEEPLER, JOHNIKA CELECE

POGUE, GERALD KEITH

POOLE, LINDSAY ALEXANDRA

RANSOM, REUBEN D

RICHEY, OCTAVIUS J

ROGERS, KAREN IONA

RUDOLPH, PARIS DENAGE

SCRUGGS, CASSIE MARIE

SERRANO, KIMBERLY YULONDA

SHEPARD, SHEREE

SIMS, KEISHA

SIMS, SABRINA

SIMS, TIM

SMITH, FRANK GORDON

SULLIVAN, HALI IMAN

SWAIN, MIESHA LEKETIA

SWEENEY, LAQUARIUS A

TAYLOR, KEITH L

TAYLOR, SHAWN MICHAEL

TENNANT, SOPHIA ELIZABETH

VAUGHN-MILLER, GENEVELYN A

WALKER, MARCUS LASHAWN

WASHINGTON, THEODORE DOUGLAS

WILLIAM, CEDRIC

WILLIAMS, JEVELLE J

WILLIAMS, RODNEY ROMERO

WILSON, NIKKI LACHELE

WOODS, JANUS HARPER

WOODS, MAURICE

WRIGHT, DARRELL LAMAR

ZIRKELBACH, STEVEN L

CAVE SPRINGS COMMUNITY CENTER

ADAMS, MARY ELIZABETH

BLOUNT, RAVEN A

BONDS, CLIFTON RYAN

CERVANTES, FIDEL

CERVANTES, TINIKA

DRAKE, LASHANDA RACHEAL

ELLIS, HEATHER LACOLE

FLORES, ALEXANDRA

GULSBY, VIRGINIA A

HATMAKER, JAMES DUANE

KELLEY, RHONDA SUE

MALAC, ASHLEY NICOLE

MCKEE, ALICE SHERRYLENE

MENAB, JEWEL KYLEIGH

MILLER, R, ANDY SCOTT

MOON, WILLIAM O

RAMIREZ, RENEE DIANE

SMITH, LISA MICHELLE

STEWART, CAROLYN WALLACE

WHITESIDE, JEVON ARAIMOS

WHITMAN, TIMOTHY BRENT

WOMACK, CHRISTOPHER TYLER

DOWNTOWN CIVIC CENTER

ASHLEY, ELIZABETH

AVERY, GREGGORY NEAL

BANKS, JUAN LEE

BARTLETT, CHARLES DAVID

BERRY, KELLY LYNN

BOOKER, THERESA DIANE

BROOKS, MICHELLE EVONE

BROWN, CHERYL LYONS

BROWN, NATHAN DANIEL

KEITH	SEXTON,VERNE THOMAS	SPEARS, WILLIAM HORACE 111	CONNOR, CLINTON BRYANT	RAMESHBHAI	ADCOCK, EUGENE KEN JR	CHECKLEY, MATTHEW ALLAN
STEWART, JONATHAN WAYNE	SMITH, SHARRI CHIVON	TUMLIN, MEREDITH MYNATT	CONNOR, JAMES MATTHEW	PATEL, MAYABEN V	MATTINGLY, PAUL ALLEN	CHESSER, DAVID KYLE
ST.JOHN, BRANDON REID	STANDLEY, BEANITA DABNEY	TURNER, VICTORIA LYNN	CRISMAN, BRIAN	PATEL, RAMESHBHAI	MOORE, TROY	CONN, JOAN M
TERRELL, BRENT MCAE	STEPHENS, MATTHEW THOMAS	WILLIAMS, JACORY DAJUAN	CROCKER, GEORGE THOMAS	PERKINS, JERRY ALLEN	PETTUS, REMINGTON BRET	DAVIS, JEREMY L AMAR
WHITE, ISABELLA ROSE JR	STOWE, JANE ANN	WOODS, DABRICKA LEANN	DAVIS, JONATHAN AARON	PETERSON, AUDRAE ELIZABETH	RAGAN, ALEXANDRA MARIE	DAVIS, KATHERINE JEAN
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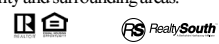
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6 Pk., 16.9 Oz. Btls.

3.99 With Card

Selected Varieties. When you buy 4 in the same transaction. Lesser quantities are 6.99 each. Limit 1 transaction (4 total items). Discount applied as a coupon. Customer pays sales tax.

DIETITIAN'S PICK



Whole Pork Tenderloin
Per Lb.

2.99 With Card

DIETITIAN'S PICK SLICED Free

SAUSAGE



Swaggerty's Sausage Patties
30 Ct.

7.99 With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH



Kellogg's Pop-Tarts
8 Ct.

1.99 With Card

Selected Varieties, Celestial Seasonings Tea (18-20 Ct.), Rice Krispies Treats (8 Ct.) or

LIMIT 2



Folgers Coffee
22.6-30.5 Oz.

8.99 With Card

Selected Varieties

DIETITIAN'S PICK



Russet Potatoes
10 Lb.

2.99 With Card

DIETITIAN'S PICK

Buy 3 SAVE MORE



Made Fresh In-Store Snack Cups
Each

3/\$5 With Card

When you buy 3 in the same transaction. Lesser quantities are 2.50 each. Discount applied as a coupon. Customer pays sales tax.

LIMIT 4



International Delight Coffee Creamer
32 Oz.

3.49 With Card

Selected Varieties

LIMIT 4



Food Club Coffee
12 Ct.

2.99 With Card

Selected Varieties

Black Label Bacon
12 Oz.

3.99 With Card

Selected Varieties

Mustard Potato Salad
Per Lb.

2.99 With Card

Deli Fresh, Cole Slaw or

LIMIT 6 EACH



Mott's Apple Juice
64 Oz.

3/\$5 With Card

Selected Varieties, Pringles (4.9-5.57 Oz.) or

LIMIT 4 EACH



Hungry Jack Pancake Mix
64 Oz.

1.99 With Card

Selected Varieties, Hungry Jack Pancake Mix (28-32 Oz.), Syrup (24-27.6 Oz.) or

LIMIT 4 EACH



Betty Crocker Cake Mix
12-16.3 Oz.

4/\$5 With Card

Selected Varieties, Frosting, Brownie or

LIMIT 4 EACH



Food Club Butter
16 Oz.

3.99 With Card

Selected Varieties, Country Crock (45 Oz.), Country Crock Plant Butter (10.5 Oz.) or

Buy 4 SAVE MORE



Food Club Fruit
14.5-15.25 Oz.

4/\$5 With Card

Selected Varieties. When you buy 4 in the same transaction. Lesser quantities are 1.79 each. Limit 2 transactions (8 total items). Discount applied as a coupon. Customer pays sales tax.

LIMIT 4 EACH



DiGiorno Pizza
24.6-29.3 Oz.

4.99 With Card

Frozen, Foster Farms Chicken Nuggets (33.6 Oz.), Selected Varieties, SeaPak Seafood (9-20 Oz.) or

LIMIT 4



Swanson Broth
32 Oz.

1.79 With Card

Selected Varieties

Buy 2 SAVE MORE



Allens Green Beans
28 Oz.

1.99 With Card

Selected Varieties. When you buy 2 in the same transaction. Lesser quantities are 2.49 each. Limit 2 transactions (4 total items). Discount applied as a coupon. Customer pays sales tax.

LIMIT 4 EACH



Cheez-It Crackers
5.75-12.4 Oz.

2.49 With Card

Selected Varieties, Zesta Saltines (16 Oz.), Kellogg's Toasteds (8-8.7 Oz.) or

LIMIT 4 EACH



Perdue Chicken
15-26 Oz.

6.99 With Card

Frozen, Selected Varieties, Foster Farm Corn Dogs (2.9-3.42-7 Oz.), Simply Smart or Air Fryer Ready

LIMIT 4



Sister Schubert's Yeast Rolls
20 Ct.

5.99 With Card

Frozen, Selected Varieties

Buy 3 SAVE MORE



Little Debbie Snack Cakes
9.08-13.1 Oz.

1.88 With Card

Selected Varieties. When you buy 3 in the same transaction. Lesser quantities are 2.79 each. Limit 2 transactions (6 total items). Discount applied as a coupon. Customer pays sales tax.

COUPON EFFECTIVE DEC. 13 - DEC. 14

INSTANT DIGITAL COUPON SAVINGS
LOAD TO YOUR VALUCARD AT FOODCITY.COM OR ON THE FOOD CITY MOBILE APP.

Save \$15
when you buy \$50 in select gift cards



Offer valid 12/13-12/14/24. Offer valid on select gift cards pictured. Limit one promotion, per customer and must be a single transaction. Card selection varies by store. See gift cards for details, terms, conditions, and (if applicable) fees. Gift cards shown are not sponsors or co-sponsors of this promotion. All trademarks are property of their respective owners. Excludes merchant tender gift cards, Visa, Mastercard and American Express gift cards, prepaid wireless, phone cards, and reloadable prepaid products. 129438_1024

COUPON EFFECTIVE DEC. 13 - DEC. 14

INSTANT DIGITAL COUPON SAVINGS
LOAD TO YOUR VALUCARD AT FOODCITY.COM OR ON THE FOOD CITY MOBILE APP.



Festive Turkey Breast
Per Lb.

ValuCard Price.....1.49
Digital Coupon.....-0.50

FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON
99¢ With Card

USE 2X

COUPON EFFECTIVE DEC. 13 - DEC. 14

INSTANT DIGITAL COUPON SAVINGS
LOAD TO YOUR VALUCARD AT FOODCITY.COM OR ON THE FOOD CITY MOBILE APP.



RC Zero Products
12 Pk., 12 Oz. Cans

ValuCard Price.....4.99
Digital Coupon.....-2.00

FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON
2.99 With Card

USE 2X

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SALE DATES: FRI., DECEMBER 13 - SAT., DECEMBER 14, 2024
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