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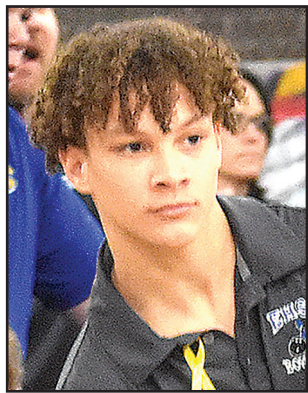
Messenger

Volume 46, Issue 45

January 31, 2025

50 cents

7 DAY FORECAST						
Friday Jan. 31	Saturday Feb. 1	Sunday Feb. 2	Monday Feb. 3	Tuesday Feb. 4	Wednesday Feb. 5	Thursday Feb. 6
High: 44 Low: 19	High: 49 Low: 29	High: 48 Low: 37	High: 52 Low: 34	High: 57 Low: 35	High: 59 Low: 40	High: 56 Low: 37



Page 1B

The Etowah and Southside boys bowling teams had an impressive showing at the AHSSA North Regional Tournament earlier this week.

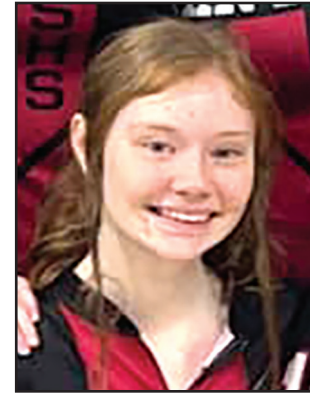
Photo by Chris McCarthy



Page 1B

Coosa Christian senior Clete O'Bryant was recognized at the Alabama Sports Writers Association Mr. Football banquet earlier this week in Montgomery.

Photo by Chris McCarthy



Page 1B

The Southside girls bowling team started off the postseason in style earlier this week in Trussville.

Photo by Chris McCarthy

Gadsden Middle student wins county spelling bee

By Chris McCarthy
Publisher

William Jones took home the top honor at the Etowah County Spelling Bee on Tuesday, Jan. 28 at Southside High School.

In the event's 10th round, the Gadsden Middle School eighth grader gave the correct spelling of "tabulate" to win the first place trophy out of a field of 30 competitors.

Rainbow Middle seventh grader Phoenix Ramsey took second place, while St. James eighth grader Zikora Obiora-Akubue came in third. Jones' sponsor was Amanda Wall, Ramsey's sponsor was Staci Edmondson and Obiora-Akubue's sponsor was Alicia Sullivan.

Dr. Charles Hill was the pronouncer and Barry Bottoms, Jo Cash and Tiffany Scott served as judges. Elementary Curriculum Director Julie Talton made the introductions.

Etowah County Schools Superintendent Dr. Alana Cosby and Emblem Credit Union representative Claire Bowen presented the trophies to the top three finishers.

Joining Jones, Ramsey and Obiora-

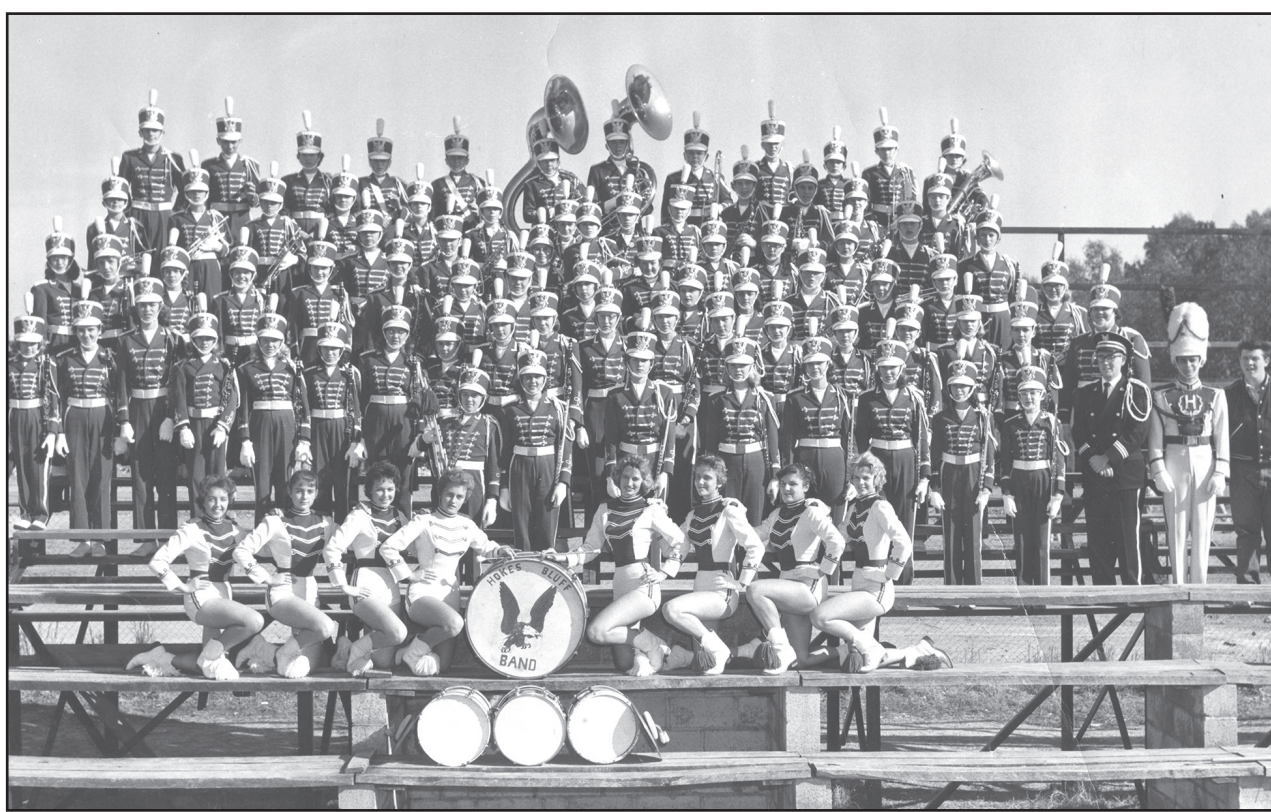
Akubue in the spelling bee were Atala Elementary fifth grader Brylee Clifton (sponsored by Jasmine Mitchell); C.A. Donehoo fourth grader Jourmye Timmons (sponsored by Celeste Back); Carlisle Elementary fifth grader Tanner Vice (sponsored by Hope Harris); Emma Sansom Middle seventh grader MaKenzie Spears (sponsored by Staci Simmons); Etowah Middle sixth grader Layla Willoughby (sponsored by GaQuila Loveberry); Eura Brown Elementary fifth grader Dhruv Patel (sponsored by Anna Tow); Gaston Elementary fifth grader Jett Austin (sponsored by Heather Carroll); Geroge Floyd Elementary fifth grader Azaria Morris (sponsored by Brandi Bennett); Glencoe Middle eighth grader Marie Giles (sponsored by Andrea Janss); Hokes Bluff Elementary third grader Magnus Pentecost (sponsored by Heather Hannah); Hokes Bluff Middle sixth grader Addison Stephens (sponsored by Melissa Tucker); Holy Comforter Episcopal seventh grader Willay Sayles (sponsored by April Parkus); Ivalee Elementary fifth grader Levi Hutchens (sponsored by Katie Ortiz); John Jones Elementary fifth grader

Zoe Milwood (sponsored by Sheri Snow); Oscar Adams Elementary fifth grader Messifa Laby (sponsored by Amber Buchanan); R.A. Mitchell Elementary fourth grader Bryson Bonner (sponsored by Casey Fant); Ray Thompson Elementary fifth grader Hudson Daniels (sponsored by Latara Woods); Sardis Middle sixth grader Reese Battles (sponsored by Savanna Striplin); Southside Elementary fourth grader Ella Mae Turner (sponsored by Kim Lankford); W.E. Striplin Elementary fifth grader Gabriel Hill (sponsored by Amy Smith); Walnut Park Elementary third grader DeMaurian Wills (sponsored by April Adcock); West End Elementary fourth grader Jacob Payne (sponsored by Lisa Powell); West End High seventh grader Katherine Rodriguez (sponsored by Teddy Couch); Westbrook Christian Elementary sixth grader Emma Taylor (sponsored by Beth Blisard); Westbrook Christian Middle eighth grader Avana Nguyen (sponsored by Beth Blisard); and Whitesboro Elementary fifth grader Presley Burgess (sponsored by Ashley Handley).



Chris McCarthy/Messenger

Pictured, from left: William Jones, Gadsden Middle, first place; Phoenix Ramsey, Rainbow Middle, second place; Zikora Obiora-Akubue, St. James Catholic School, third place.



Submitted photo

Hokes Bluff Eagle's 65-year band reunion will be held in the cafeteria of Hokes Bluff High School on Saturday, February 1. On Feb. 1, 1959, the first band director, Rod Ferguson, began his career.

Hokes Bluff band to hold reunion

Hokes Bluff Eagle's 65-year band reunion will be held in the cafeteria of Hokes Bluff High School on Saturday, February 1, from 2 to 5 p.m.

On Feb. 1, 1959, the first band director, Rod Ferguson, began his career, according to John Paul Campbell, event organizer

and former band director. Campbell said it was only fitting to have the event on Feb. 1, the day it all began.

The event is open to anyone who has ever been associated with the band.

"We are hoping people from every decade are able to be there," Campbell said. "This is not just for band

members; it's for anyone who has ever been a part of the band and everyone who has ever supported them."

Bus drivers, parents, teachers and friends all are welcome, Campbell said.

There will be light refreshments and video interviews with former directors and staff. No reservation is

needed and the event is free to all.

"There is a lot to appreciate about the history of how we got here and what it takes to keep going," Campbell said.

For more information, email jon.paul.campbell@gmail.com or visit their Facebook page.

Local students shine at YMCA YIG workshop

Over 250 students from across the state, including several from the Gadsden area, recently gathered for the annual Junior High Youth in Government (YIG) bill writing workshop in Montgomery.

The event introduces young leaders to engage in the legislative process, develop public speaking skills and collaborate on real-world issues. Among the participants were students from the YMCA of the Coosa Valley, who demonstrated leadership and civic engagement by proposing thoughtful and impactful bills.

The Gadsden delegation was made up of students from Emma Sansom, Gadsden, Litchfield and Etowah middle schools and accompanied by Judge Nikki Tinker and YMCA of the Coosa Valley CEO, Heidi Darbo. Students tackled key societal concerns, presenting bills on homelessness, school safety and the potential benefits of starting school one hour later. Another bill focused on allowing students with ADHD to chew gum in class, citing research suggesting that this small accommodation could improve focus and reduce stress. These proposals reflected the students' commitment to finding practical solutions for challenges facing their peers and communities. The YMCA students also attended an exclusive meet and greet with state house leaders and had their photos taken on the house floor. They enjoyed hearing from some of Gadsden Mayor Craig Ford's friends, who made sure to pass on their well wishes to Gadsden.

"Our community should be very proud of the students who represented Gadsden in Montgomery," said YMCA of the Coosa Valley CEO Heidi Darbo. "Most of them had no idea what they had signed up for, and within minutes of the start of the conference, I noticed our students were lined up to run for officer positions and debate on the floor. I would challenge every school in our region to join in this amazing program. We are also able to serve homeschool groups and private schools."

YMCA - page 3A



OBITUARIES



Dr. Roderick DeWayne Watts

Dr. Roderick DeWayne Watts, 60, of Gadsden, passed away on Monday, January 27, 2025. Dr. Watts is survived by his wife Gloria Watts & Family. We ask that you keep this family in your hearts and prayers during their time of bereavement.

Dr. Roderick DeWayne Watts, known by most as Wayne, was the youngest son born to Roger and Dr. Roberta Watts in Gadsden, AL, on October 4, 1964. He departed this life peacefully on January 27, 2025.

Dr. Roderick D. Watts was a Certified Natural Health Professional (CNHP). He graduated from Litchfield High School, after which he attended and graduated from Tuskegee University. He also graduated from Trinity School of Natural Health and Loomis Institute of Digestive Health in Madison, Wisconsin.

A few of his memberships and affiliations included The Bethesda Christian Center where he was a member. The Etowah County Dept. of Human Resources as Vice Chair, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., Sigma P. Phi Fraternity, Kappa Kappa Psi Honorary Band Fraternity and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association. His most treasured affiliation at the time of his passing was serving on the Board of Trustees for Alabama A&M University, not only as a trustee but as President Pro Tempora.

He will be remembered as an exceptional loving son, husband, father, brother and he was a servant of God. He was always expanding his knowledge in many areas and used his knowledge and connections to touch the lives of numerous people. He loved helping and serving others.

He leaves to cherish his memories his loving parents Roger and Roberta Watts, a loving wife Gloria Watts, son Christian Watts and daughter Andrea Jemison; a loving brother Roger Watts, Jr.; Brother in law Robert

(Carrie) Jones; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and individuals adopted in love; he also leaves a legacy of devoted friends, which were considered as family.

Public Visitation will take place from 4 pm - 6 pm on Friday January 31, 2025, at West Gadsden Funeral Home.

Funeral Services will be held at 12 Noon on Saturday, February 1, 2025 at Antioch Family Life Center.

Eulogist: Rev. Carl Moore
Arrangements under the direction of West Gadsden Funeral Home

Charles William "Bill" Glover

DEMOPOLIS - Charles William (Bill) Glover, aged 84, of Demopolis, Alabama, passed away peacefully on January 21 surrounded by family. He was born on December 17, 1940 in Akron, Ohio, and lived a full, rich life centered around love, family and community.

Bill was a father to his two children, Gwen Glover Ford (Craig Ford, Jr.) and Michael Charles Warr (Kara Warr), and a grandfather to six grandchildren, Jon Craig Ford, Jr., Wells Ford Dhionis (Alex Dhionis), Macon Warr, Hill Warr, Michael Warr, Jr., and Jude Warr. His home was always filled with laughter, wisdom and the warmth of a kind and generous heart.

Bill dedicated much of his life to Gulf States Paper Mill, the military, and owned a variety of businesses before retiring. His most treasured time was at his church, First Baptist Church of Demopolis, teaching and participating with his Sunday School class. He was known for his strong work ethic, loyalty and a gentle spirit that touched everyone who knew him. Whether through his hands-on help or simply his words of advice, he was a pillar of support for all who sought his guidance.

In addition to his family, Bill enjoyed hunting, fishing, professional darts and building things. He could build anything and was great with his hands. He lived with a quiet dignity, finding joy in the simple moments, and always taking time to appreciate the Bible. He read and studied his Bible daily.

Bill is preceded in death by his mother, Lucille H. Glover and his father, William Charles Glover. He also had a sister, Joan Heffernan (Bill Heffernan). He leaves behind a legacy of

love, strength and kindness that will continue to inspire his family for generations to come.

A service to honor Bill's life was held on January 25, 2024 in Demopolis, Alabama, at First Baptist Demopolis at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Hospice and the construction fund for the new gym at First Baptist Demopolis.

Bill will be deeply missed but forever remembered by all who had the privilege to know him.

May he rest in peace.

Donna Rita Elliott

GADSDEN - Donna Rita Elliott, age 78, of Gadsden, Alabama passed away on Saturday, January 25, 2025.

A visitation for Donna will be held Saturday, February 1, 2025 from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM at Collier-Butler Funeral & Cremation Services, 824 Rainbow Drive, Gadsden, Alabama 35901. Following the visitation will be a graveside service at 2:30 PM at Crestwood Cemetery, 2209 E Broad St, Gadsden, Alabama.



Howard Earl Steakley

GADSDEN - Howard Earl Steakley, age 76, of Gadsden, Alabama passed away on Monday, January 27, 2025.

A visitation for Howard will be held Saturday, February 1, 2025 from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM at Collier-Butler Funeral Home, 824 Rainbow Drive, Gadsden, AL 35901, followed by a funeral service at 2:00 PM.

Daniel Ross Callahan

GADSDEN - Daniel Ross Callahan, 40, of Gadsden, AL, passed away on Wednesday January 22nd, 2025. He is survived by his mother, Paula Ford, brother, Thomas Callahan, uncles and aunts, Steven and Kim Hodes, Eric Siege, his great uncle Yale Garry, Joan

Garry, Cousins, Stewart, Nathan, and Phillip Siegel, Esme Green, Adria Garry, Jacob Hodes and many friends.

The family will hold a private service at a later date.

Myrtice Inez Lumpkin (McNair)

Myrtice Inez Lumpkin (McNair) passed away peacefully in her home on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 86 years old. Funeral services will be held at Crestwood Funeral Home on Friday, January 31 at 11:00 with burial to follow at 1:00 at Crestwood Cemetery. Crestwood Funeral will direct service. Myrtice Inez Lumpkin was born on January 7, 1939 and lived most of her life in Glencoe, Alabama. She was a devoted wife for over fifty years to her husband, Courtney "Foots" Lumpkin. She was a loving mother to five, grandmother to ten, and great-grandmother to many great-grandchildren. She was a dedicated employee of Belk Department Store for 27 years before her retirement. Myrtice enjoyed spending time with her family, reading, and was always ready for a trip to the beach in Gulf Shores, Alabama. She will be remembered for her loving spirit and devotion to her family. Her legacy of love, kindness, and generosity will live on in the hearts of all who knew her. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Courtney "Foots" Lumpkin; and son Barry Lumpkin.

She is survived by her sons Courtney Lumpkin (Diane), Ray Lumpkin (Tracy), and Mike Lumpkin (Becky); daughter, Debbie Echols (Clyde); sister, Pat Nipper (Jack); nieces, Jamie Keenum, Jaqueline Nipper, and Jennifer Scott; grandchildren, Cassie Newcomb (Lloyd), Katie Dunn (James), Aaron Echols (Hannah), Trey Lumpkin (Tiffany), Brittany Lumpkin, Taylor Lumpkin, Hannah Lumpkin, Bree Lumpkin, Sam Lumpkin, and a host of great grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Ray Lumpkin, Mike Lumpkin, Courtney Lumpkin, Taylor Lumpkin, Clyde Echols, and James Dunn.

The family would like to thank the nurses and employees of Pro Health. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to: The Alzheimer's and Dementia Research Association.

Susan K Wiemann

GADSDEN - Susan K Wiemann, age 75, of Gadsden, Alabama passed away on Thursday, January 23, 2025.

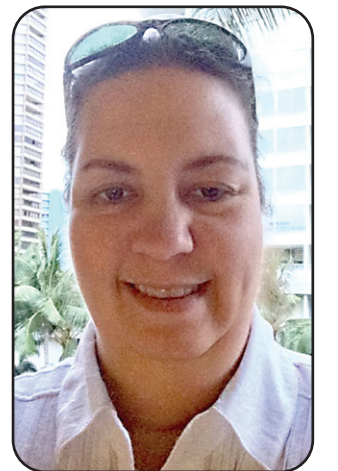
Susan had a sense of humor and the things in life she loved the most were; her daughter, her dogs, Sabbin and KK and Alabama Football! She was a nurse for many years and will be missed by her family and friends.

Susan was preceded in death by her parents, Hansford and Mildred Conwill; her beloved daughter, Tricia Wiemann Womack.

Susan is survived by her sister, Betty "Boop" Bearden; niece, Cassie Cozadd (Kevin and Austin); and special friends.

for all of their loving care and kindness during his illness.

The family will receive friends from 10 a.m. until the time of the service Saturday at Fairview Baptist Church.



Mary Oliver

ATTALLA - Mary Oliver was born April 24, 1966 and passed away Saturday, January 25th, 2025, after a long illness.

Visitation will be Saturday, February 1, 2025 from 12 until 2 pm at Morgan Funeral Chapel.

She is preceded in death by her mother, Martha, her father, Billy, her grandparents and several aunts and uncles.

She is survived by her sister Suzy, nephew Major, and niece Katie.

She was born in Abilene, Texas to Martha Polk Oliver and Billy Oliver. She grew up in Attalla, Alabama, graduating from Etowah High School. She attended Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama, and after graduation she moved to Japan and served two years as a missionary, before becoming a full time English teacher for an all girls school in Japan. She always said those 12 years were some of her best, and she loved her time there. When she moved back to the states she settled in Hawaii and spent 12 years there, where she embraced the aloha spirit, and loved being by the ocean, before eventually settling back in Attalla. She worked several years at Mountain View Hospital, where she made many good friends.

She adopted a beautiful cat named Yamachan several years ago, and loved and took such great care of her. Yamachan was so important to her and her love for the cat showed in everything she did. Her sister is adopting Yamachan, giving her a good peaceful life in her senior years.

Dr. H. Wayne Milam

GADSDEN - Celebration of Life will be held at 12 pm Saturday, February 1st, 2025, at Fairview Baptist Church, for Dr. H. Wayne Milam, age 74, of Gadsden, who died on Sunday, January 26th, 2025. Rev. Gary Williams will officiate. Burial will be at Red Hill Cemetery. Village Chapel Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Wayne was a devoted husband, brother, father, grandfather, and soon-to-be great-grandfather. He had a heart for ministry and sharing his faith with others. Wayne was a member at Fairview Baptist Church, and he served as a Christian marriage and family counselor and pastor. He was also a local entrepreneur. He was preceded in death by his wife, S. Dianne Milam.

Mr. Milam is survived by his sons, Adam (Shelley) Milam, Luke (Naomi) Milam, and Aaron (Hayley) Milam; grandchildren, Ethan Milam, Adeline (Josiah) Schmitz, Noel Milam, John Henry Milam, Justus Milam, Lydia Milam, Gracie Milam, Abigail Milam, and Jacob Milam; and soon-to-be great-grandchild, Rhema.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Luke and Naomi Milam's Children's Bible Ministries at www.continuetogive.com/reachthekids.

Pallbearers will be Adam Milam, Luke Milam, Aaron Milam, Ethan Milam, Justus Milam, and Josiah Schmitz.

Honorary pallbearers are Spencer Steward, John Henry Milam, and Jacob Milam. Special thanks to Wayne's church family and friends

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NEWS

DGI participating in AL Spark

Downtown Gadsden, Inc. recently announced its implementation of AL Spark, an exciting initiative of Main Street Alabama, supported by the Small Business Administration.

AL Spark is designed to energize emerging and growing businesses in designated Main Street Alabama communities across the state. By empowering locally directed business development, this new marketing grant program is dedicated to igniting the potential of small businesses and entrepreneurs in the state, ensuring that Alabama communities thrive while maintaining their unique character.

AL Spark serves Downtown Gadsden, Inc. through three key programs: Livewire (business

development), Illuminate (marketing grants) and Bright Ideas (business pitch competition).

Livewire offers essential business development and training resources while equipping local entrepreneurs with the tools they need to thrive. Illuminate provides valuable business marketing grants, ensuring local businesses shine bright in the marketplace. Bright Ideas encourages innovation through a dynamic business pitch competition, fostering creativity and collaboration among community members.

Local businesses Alabama Gift Company, Back Forty Beer Company, King's Olive Oil, Mater's Pizza and The Stone Market completed the program's online marketing courses

and will receive an AL Spark Illuminate marketing grant of \$1000, thanks to the resources provided by Main Street Alabama and the Small Business Administration.

"We are absolutely thrilled to introduce AL Spark, Igniting Main Street Alabama's Small Businesses and Entrepreneurs," said Main Street Alabama President and State Coordinator Mary Helmer Wirth. "This vibrant new initiative is dedicated to igniting the potential of small businesses and entrepreneurs in Alabama. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Small Business Administration for the grant, which enables us to uplift small businesses in our designated cities and foster a vibrant local economy."

Pet of the Week



Saben

Are you in the market for a love bug? We have the one for you! Saben is between eight months and one year old. He is very gentle and dainty, plus he does well with others. The only flaw with this sweet guy is he thinks he's a child that can be held, hugged and pampered all day, every day. If you want Saben to be your valentine, please come meet her. For more information on Saben or other animals available for adoption at Gadsden's Humane Society and Pet Rescue Center, call 256-442-1347.



Submitted photos

LEFT: Gadsden Pelvic Rehab owner and physical therapist Jazma Dobbins (left) works with Carol Bowlin in the YMCA Rock Steady Boxing program. RIGHT: Gadsden Pelvic Rehab owner and physical therapist Jazma Dobbins (center) works with Frank Burns (right) and Kim Nguyen in the YMCA Rock Steady Boxing program.

YMCA bringing back Rock Steady

By Chris McCarthy
Publisher

The YMCA of the Coosa Valley, in partnership with Gadsden Pelvic Rehab and the United Way of Etowah County, recently restarted Rock Steady Boxing for seniors battling Parkinson's disease.

This dynamic program is designed to help participants strengthen their bodies, improve balance and enhance coordination through fun, non-contact boxing workouts.

"Rock Steady Boxing is like a punch to Parkinson's," said Jazma Dobbins, owner and physical therapist at Pelvic Rehab. "It gives participants the tools to keep moving forward and live a more active life."

Rock Steady Boxing sessions take place at Pelvic Rehab located at 2425 Lumley Road in Rainbow City every Tuesday and Friday at 12 p.m. The program provides a unique blend of fitness, focus and community support, empowering individuals to stay active, gain confidence and push

back against the effects of Parkinson's disease.

"The strength of our YMCA has been held up by community leaders and partners for over a century," said YMCA of the Coosa Valley CEO Heidi Darbo. "Finding ways to meet the specific needs of our community today requires out of the box thinking with a strategic mindset and plan. Working with Jazma and her team has been incredibly fun, and it aligns with our goal to provide high quality sustainable programs that allow us to continue our mission, which is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build, healthy spirit, mind and body for all."

To ensure accessibility for all, the YMCA of the Coosa Valley offers scholarships for those in need. Pelvic Rehab will host an open house on Friday, January 28 at 1 p.m. Interested individuals are encouraged to attend the event to learn more about the program and see it in action.

For more information or sign up for a program, visit ymcacoosa.com.



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Submitted photo

Several local students recently participated in the YMCA Junior High Youth in Government workshop in Montgomery. Pictured are Judge Nikki Tinker, Layla Mitchell, Leah Tinker, Nia Maye, Nima Maye, Zimariya Britton, Royal McClinnon, Konnor Morsiette, Aiden Adams, Kingston Hall and YMCA of the Coosa Valley CEO Heidi Darbo.

YMCA Youth in Government - From 1A

Local students participating in the workshop were Aiden Adams, Layla Mitchell and Leah Tinker from Emma Sansom Middle; Kingston Hall from Etowah Middle; Konnor Morsiette, Zimariya Britton and Royal McClinnon from Gadsden Middle; and Nia Maye and Nima Maye from Litchfield Middle. Nima Maye earned the Outstanding Statesman Award.

Offered by YMCAs nationwide, Youth in Government programs provide students with a hands-on experience in governance. The YMCA of the Coosa Valley has had a long history of participating in Youth in Government, which has developed many local leaders in the Coosa Valley region. The goal of the trip was for these local students to have the opportunity to participate in the high school programs at a state and national level. These programs include Youth Legislature, Youth Judicial, Council on National Affairs and Christian Values Conference. Through these programs, delivered by the

Greater Montgomery YMCA, students learn debate and collaboration, they gain confidence, improve their communication skills and develop a deeper understanding of civic responsibility. The friendships and network developed will follow the students through their career and have lasting benefits to their success.

For the students, this experience was about more than just proposing legislation - it was about making a difference. By addressing pressing issues and advocating for meaningful change, they demonstrated the power of youth voices in shaping the future. As these young leaders return home, they carry with them not only new skills but a sense of empowerment, ready to make an even greater impact in their communities.

Visit ymcacoosa.com or e-mail ceymcacoosavalley@gmail.com for more details.

Submitted by Heidi Darbo



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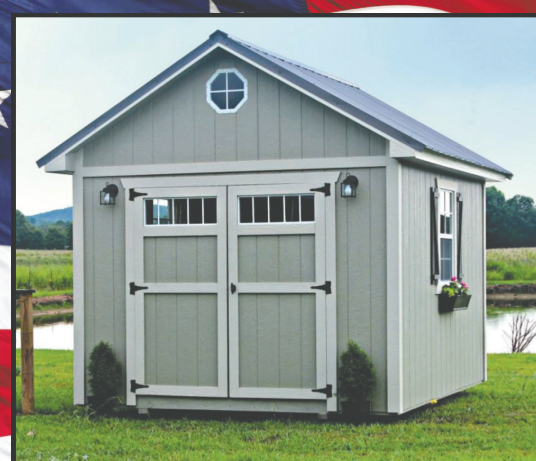
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Slaten named to GSCC cabinet

Gadsden State Community College's Dean of Financial and Administrative Services Jessica Slaten is the newest member of the school's Executive Cabinet. Slaten, who has been a part of the Gadsden State family for over 27 years, steps into the role after serving as the Director of Financial Services since 2022.

In her new role, Slaten will continue to provide strategic leadership in directing and coordinating the college's financial operations, including managing investments, auxiliary services and business services.

As dean, Slaten will oversee all financial functions at Gadsden State, ensuring a system of internal accounting and administrative controls is maintained while interpreting and implementing policies and procedures. She said her primary goals include developing and delivering training on financial policies and procedures for budget end users, providing further cross-training for the Financial Services staff and offering ongoing professional development to help the team grow stronger and more cohesive.

"I started my career as an entry-level accountant at Gadsden State in 1998, and I knew right away that God placed me right where I needed to be," she said. "I've seen the college evolve over the years, and I'm grateful for the opportunities I've had to grow alongside it. As dean, I'm excited to continue building on our team's strengths and helping Gadsden State fulfill its mission by ensuring that our financial services are aligned with the needs of our students and the institution."



JESSICA SLATEN

Beginning in 1998, Slaten has held several roles in the college's financial services, including an accountant on the Ayers Campus, restricted funds accountant and financial manager and director of financial services. She earned her Bachelor of Science in 1996 and Master of Business Administration in 2000 from Jacksonville State University. In 2008, Slaten graduated from the University of Kentucky's College Business Management Institute.

Slaten is deeply committed to supporting student success at Gadsden State, recognizing the vital role financial services play in creating a positive student experience.

"By offering high-quality and accessible services like payment options, the cafeteria, vending and the bookstore, we can contribute to a satisfying educational experience for all of our students."

As part of her ongoing commitment to collaboration, Slaten plans to work

closely with departments such as Student Services and Plant Operations to ensure that the college's financial policies are aligned with student needs and institutional goals. She also intends to enhance financial training and stay ahead of changes to purchasing policies.

"Working in financial services within higher education is incredibly rewarding," said Slaten. "It's about seeing the direct impact our work has on the institution's success, and most importantly, on our students' experiences. Whether it's completing large projects like transitioning to a new ERP system or preparing for an annual audit, every task ultimately strengthens the college and serves our students."

Slaten said her leadership style emphasizes team collaboration, transparency and professional growth.

"As the first female appointed to this position, I want to build on the excellent foundation laid by the men who served as dean before me," she said. "Together, we can continue to elevate the Financial Services Department and maintain the respect and trust we've earned with our internal and external stakeholders."

A lifelong resident of Etowah County, Slaten is married to her husband of 27 years, Lee Slaten. The couple resides in Glencoe and are active members of First Baptist Church of Hokes Bluff, where Jessica teaches an adult small group and leads Bible studies for the Women's Ministry. She has served on the United Way allocation panel for 17 years and is a current member of The Bridge's Board of Directors.

Local students make UA honors lists

A number of area students were recently named to the University of Alabama's President and Dean's lists for the 2024 fall semester.

Selected to the President's List with an academic record of 4.0 (all A's) were A.K. Ashley,

Stinson Cooper, Brindlee Denney, Sara Catherine Freeman, Sara Griffith, Trinity Harris, Ian McClan-toc, Alex Moland, Shay Ragland, Elle Sims, Ann Sullivan, Anchi Tran, Claire Tumlin, Ansley Wil-

born and Jamaya Kelley of Gadsden; Mary-Grace Hand and Mia Jenne of Glencoe; Bailee Blackwell of Hokes Bluff; Sara Beck, Chloe Davis, Daniel Dennis, Sydney Hughes and Allison McLaughn of Rainbow City; and Emma Long, Anna Parker and Chloe Smedley of Southside.

Named to the Dean's List with an academic record of 3.5 or above were Kameron Baba, Sean Bearden, Michael Connally, Betsy Howard,

Nia Jones, Jacob Kelley, Riley Kerr, Kaylee King, Bella Lee, Riley Millican, Cori Nelson, Kate Powers, Jayden Ragland, Mary Rickles, William Roberts, Abby Schomburg, Liana Shah and Andrew Warren of Gadsden; Hunter Millirons of Glencoe; John Wetzel of Hokes Bluff; Brandon Ayala Soltero, Isaiah Bolin, Harry Glenn, Jovi Marble, Lauren McCoy, Lauren Patterson and Rachel Smith of Rainbow City; and Abigail Owens of Southside.

Students named to Snead Dean's List

Several local students were recently named to the Snead State Community College Dean's List for the Fall 2024 semester. Students must hold a minimum of 3.50-3.99 grade point average and be enrolled in 12 or more hours of regular

college level courses to be eligible for the Dean's List.

Altoona: Haylie Sky Duncan, Brookelynn Michelle Frachiseur, Elijah Lee Golden, Emma Cate Greer, Maycee Annalee Holland, Hunter Brian Long, Sean Moore, Isaac Kolby Pounds,

Abby Simmons, Skylar Mason Yancey

Ashville: Walker Griffith.

Attalla: Jayden Leana Ledbetter, Maria Pueblito Powell, Lukas Hayden Snead, Harlee M. Vincent

Gallant: Matelyn Elaine

Battles

Hokes Bluff: Hayden Layne Wolfe

Rainbow City: Estrella Aurora Pantoja and Haley Danielle Powers

Sardis: Jalen Eason

Southside: Kathryn Grace Webb

Students make UA Director's List

Several area high school students were recently named to the University of Alabama Early Director's List for obtaining a 3.6 or higher

GPA for the fall 2024 term. Local students included Wil Chadwick, Lilah Seawright and Lexie Seawright from Westbrook Christian;

Taylor Dortch, Alyssa Rhodes and Megan Salazar from Southside; and Lilly Troncale from Gadsden City High School.

Local students make Ole Miss Honors Roll

Five Gadsden residents were recently named to the University of Mississippi's fall semester Chancellor's Honor Roll, which is reserved for students who earn a semester GPA of 3.75-4.00.

Making the honor roll were Allison Haller in the Man-

agement program, Evelyn Millican in the Allied Health Studies program, Lillian Powers in the General Business program, Emma Stough in the B.S. in Pharmaceutical Sciences program and Sophia Trombley in the International Studies program.

Area students make Snead President's List

Several area students were recently named to the Snead State Community College President's List for the Fall 2024 semester. To be eligible for the President's List, a student must maintain a perfect grade

point average of a 4.0 (all A's) and be enrolled for 12 or more credit hours of regular college-level courses.

Altoona: James Garrett Wayne Box, Isabell Nicole Ezekiel, Kaitlyn Harmon, Kaitlyn Reese Hill, Jasmine

LeAnn Lopez, Kasey Caroline Muir, Meghan Nicole Rivera, Ragan Whitehead Lola Jewell Wood

Attalla: Jessica Amanda Boyer, Eder Emmanuel Cruz-Lopez, Bradley Nathaniel Gray, Michelle

Leigh Hill

Gadsden: Langley Renee Driskell, Eli Benjamin Edge, Aaron Jackson Hayes, Raymond L. Woodget

Gallant: Brittany Davis
Rainbow City: Jack Stephen Kilgo

Students make Wallace-Hanceville lists

Several area students were recently named to the President's List. And Dean's List for the fall semester at Wallace State Community College in Hanceville. To earn a spot on the Wallace State President's List, students must maintain a perfect 4.0 GPA for the semester while taking a course load of 12 or more hours. Placement on the Dean's List is awarded to students maintaining a 3.5 GPA or higher while also taking a course load of at least 12 hours.

Making the President's List were Shakia Byers and Gabriel Castellanos of Gadsden, Jillian Batie of Glencoe,

Dylan Russell of Rainbow City and Mallory Brooks of Southside.

Named to the Dean's List were Marybella Blood and Bree McCallister of Gadsden and Sarah Peek of Hokes Bluff.



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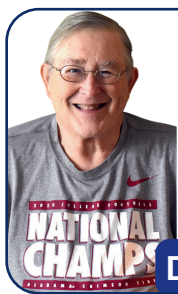
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LIFESTYLE

The demise of *The Magnolia* and downtown horse trading



Looking at the History

Danny Crowover

In May 1883, the steamer *Magnolia*, widely considered as the finest boat ever to ply the Coosa River, was declared unfit for further service. Badly damaged when it sank near Cedar Bluff, the boat was stripped of its machinery and the hull was used for a barge, which eventually sank in Hokes Bluff and went down with a large amount of pig iron on board.

Harvey Elliott, whose grandfather and father owned the boat, displayed *The Magnolia's* bell and the whistle on his farm in Little Wills Valley located near Reece City.

The Magnolia, which was operational for about 12 years, featured a sharp prow, or model bow, and two smokestacks. It contained several state rooms, a lounge and a parlor. As a result, it performed a good deal of passenger business.

The boat also carried the U.S. Mail and handled a good deal of freight, including cotton. *The Magnolia* made it through the first government lock shortly it was completed below Greensport in St. Clair County.

In June of 1880, a notice was issued that a horse swappers convention would be held in the front of the Etowah County Courthouse in Gadsden. The notice read, "All horse swappers, mule traders, equine fanciers, donkey dealers, steer drivers, etc., are invited."

Built in 1870, the courthouse sat back where the annex once stood. Part of the front of the building was used for hitching posts. On the day of the convention, day traders swarmed into downtown with their swapping stock, with many using Broad Street to exhibit their animals.



Courtesy of Danny Crowover

Gadsden was supposedly a dry town at that particular time, so the horse traders patronized both Bob Barton's blind tiger, or speakeasy, located on North Third Street, as well as two floating blind tigers on the

Coosa River. When the saloons returned, the swapping ground was moved to the north side of Chestnut Street between Fourth and Fifth streets.

View your bed as a springboard rather than a destination



Memoir Musings

Sandra Bost

I was listening to talk radio the other day when I heard someone say, "My dad always woke us up by saying, 'Get up! More people die in bed than anywhere else.'" After I laughed, my thoughts started swirling. I had never heard that quote before, so I looked it up. W.C. Fields is given credit for that old adage, but what he actually said was, "Beds are dangerous. More people die in bed than anywhere else." A quick detour down the list of Fields' top 25 quotes reminded me of what a funny man he was. His birthday was January 29 so Happy Birthday, sir!

At first glance, W.C. Fields' words seem like a humorous take on the obvious fact that everyone eventually passes away, often in their sleep. But if you dig a little deeper, there's a nugget of wisdom that's

worth considering. It's a reminder that life is precious and that we shouldn't spend too much of it between the sheets.

Sure, we all love a good nap or a restful night's sleep. But if we're spending too much time in bed, we might be missing out on the vibrant experiences that life has to offer. In a metaphorical sense, beds can represent comfort zones or routines that we cling to out of fear or laziness. They're safe, warm and familiar, but they can also keep us from exploring new opportunities.

I just turned 53 years old. My husband and I have been looking at life through golden lenses for several years now, which has led us to question everything about how we want to spend the years we have left. We haven't figured it all out, but as we pray and dream, simplicity is what calls to us. We've even shopped on Facebook Marketplace for an older motor home to potentially live in. As such, we have experienced the joy (and sadness) of meeting lots of people from Arkansas to Tennessee who are just like us in longing for simplicity but have come to a quick end in their pursuit. Many of their stories go like this: "We bought our RV when we retired so that we could travel together, but my wife got sick, so we have to sell it. We thought

we would have more time." It is a sobering thought, more time.

Life has a funny way of throwing us curveballs when we least expect it. We can plan and dream all we want, but if we don't take action today, we might find ourselves regretting it tomorrow. It's like that trip you've always wanted to take or that hobby you've been meaning to start. Each day is a fresh chance to make something happen, and we owe it to ourselves to seize those moments while we can.

The idea of not "sleeping your life away" ties neatly into Proverbs 27:1, which says, "Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring." It's a powerful reminder that tomorrow isn't guaranteed, and putting things off because we're too comfortable or complacent can lead to missed opportunities.

I'm not saying we should ditch our beds entirely and start living like a hyperactive squirrel. Rest is important, and our beds play a crucial role in helping us recharge. But there's a balance to be struck between rest and action. We need to ensure that we're not hiding from life under our cozy covers.

Think of your bed as a launchpad rather than a destination. Use it to rest and rejuvenate, but then springboard into your day with energy and enthusiasm. By stepping out of our comfort zones and embracing life's adventures, we open ourselves up to a world of possibilities. We meet new people, discover new passions and create memories that we'll cherish forever. It's these experiences that truly enrich our lives and give us stories to tell.

So, the next time you find yourself lying in bed while scrolling through your phone or daydreaming about the future, remember W.C. Fields' cheeky wisdom. Ask yourself what you might be missing out on by staying in bed, and challenge yourself to get up and explore what the world has to offer. And always remember that YOU have something to offer, too.

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 children's story that explores the concept of family through the lens of love and adoption. Visit www.sandramullinsbost.com for more information.

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Do you remember when...?

When I was a little girl, Gadsden looked a lot different than it does now. I like to think about all the ways I've seen it change through the years, in a "wow, things have really changed and it is cool I've gotten to watch it happen" kind of way. I think that is one of the best parts of coming back to your childhood hometown and creating a life there.

My girls will often roll their eyes and recite the things I point out in unison with me — to let me know I am boring them. But I will most likely continue to point things out because I want them to be observant and have similar memories once they are my age.

I remember when Noccalula Falls was a wide-open space, without fences around the outer boundaries. Back then, there was a fenced-in area with a big buck and several deer. I loved watching those deer. I also loved seeing the lion when I was little. Today, the park may have more fencing, but I love seeing all the work that has gone into updating and adding value to it. We are really blessed to have such a gorgeous natural space in our city, and our family has always loved visiting the animals, riding the train and playing in the playground.

That playground is another major improvement. When I was a little girl, it was

full of death traps. The one trap that friends and I laugh about the most was the stand up merry-go-round that had small foot platforms to step onto, tiny handles at shoulder height to grab and a slightly hollowed out space to press your belly against. Once everyone else was in position, one kid would start running and then hop on and we'd all close our eyes tight and hang on for dear life.

Another popular playground attraction back then was the wooden wheel. It was large enough for several children — and teens — to climb into then run in like hamsters. Some of us would run to turn it, others would stand with arms and legs spread out, propping themselves against the centrifugal force. Eventually, someone would trip and fall, tumbling around like a sock in a dryer, and we'd all fall. It was always fun until someone broke an arm or leg or was elbowed in the eye.

Shortly after our high school class had senior pictures made at the Falls, both of those rides were removed and new playground equipment was installed. As a teenager, I thought that was sad. As a mom, I'm grateful for safer options on the playground, and I have enjoyed the beauty that the improvements have given us in the park.

Last week, I drove all the way down For-

rest Avenue for the first time in a while. It reminded me of how much has changed there, too, since I was a little girl. When I was about 8, my dad would sometimes take my sister and me to the flea market on Forrest Avenue, a block or two down from the Forrest Cemetery. She and I would look around at all the treasures that each stall, table or vehicle offered, and often came home with a prize. One vivid memory I have from those trips is of the sunrise shining through bottles of Watkins flavorings, turning the contents into what looked like sparkling red, green or yellow jewels.

That road was also home to the Humane Society when I was young. I remember going to pet the animals and even bringing home a pet a few times. That building is gone now, and that space is used for something else entirely, but when I drive past, I am amazed by how our brains can overlay what we see in the present with what we remember from the past.

Yesterday, I missed my turn and drove down South 11th Street. When I realized my mistake, I turned around at the bird walk, and then drove down one of the roads in the historic district. I was not in a hurry, and the girls and I found our way back to where I was supposed to be. As I pointed out the playground we used to walk to when



I was little, the house where I took ballet for many years and other places that have changed in the past few decades, I decided I need to meander through town with the girls more often so they will have these "I remember when..." moments one day, too.

We have so many beautiful spaces in Gadsden, but I forget that one of the best ways to experience them is to occasionally choose a different route. I'd love to hear what changes in our lovely city you've most enjoyed over the years. What's your most recent "I remember when..." moment?

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 workshoping 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 tabithaboze@gmail.com.



Choosing healthy beverages

Choosing healthy beverages for children and adolescents is just as important as choosing healthy foods, as it impacts everything from oral health to chronic disease risk. That's why leading health and nutrition organizations developed new healthy beverage recommendations for families with children ages 5-18.

These evidence-based recommendations were created as part of a collaboration by experts at the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Heart Association, which were brought together by Healthy Eating Research (HER) with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

To make choosing healthy beverages easier for families, the organizations created these three categories:

Beverages to drink

These beverages are recommended as part of a healthy diet because they provide essential nutrients such as vitamins and minerals and don't contain added sugars.

- Plain drinking water is still the best option to keep kids healthy and hydrated. It's also often the most accessible and affordable.

- Plain, pasteurized milk is another healthy option because it provides important nutrients that growing kids and teens need.

Beverages to limit

- 100 percent fruit and vegetable juice can be part of a healthy diet, but daily consumption should be limited. Whole fruits and vegetables are generally better choices because they provide dietary fiber, contributing to a feeling of fullness.

- Plant-based milk alternatives like oat milk and almond milk should be limited because they are not nutritionally equivalent to cow's milk, which provides essential nutrients that kids need to grow up healthy. Many also contain added sugars and non-sugar sweeteners, which are harmful to kids' health. If your child is allergic to dairy milk or has a dietary restriction, talk to your doctor or registered dietitian

about finding the plant-based milk alternative that is best for your child.

- Flavored milks, like chocolate milk and strawberry milk, should be limited because they contain high amounts of added sugars and non-sugar sweeteners. If your child does not like drinking plain milk, it's best to consider other foods from the dairy group (like unsweetened yogurt) before offering flavored milk.

Beverages to avoid

These beverages are not recommended as part of a healthy diet because they offer no nutritional value and have ingredients that can be harmful to kids and teens.

- Sugar-sweetened beverages, such as sports drinks, sodas, fruit drinks, fruitades, aguas frescas and sweetened waters are high in added sugars, which can put children at risk for dental cavities, and diet-related diseases like type 2 diabetes and obesity.

- Drinks with non-sugar sweeteners, such as aspartame, stevia and monk fruit, should also be avoided. Just because a drink is advertised as sugar-free doesn't mean it's healthier. In fact, new research shows non-sugar sweeteners may not help control body weight and may increase the risk of diet-related chronic diseases such as type 2 diabetes and heart disease.

- Drinks with caffeine or other stimulants like taurine should be avoided. These include energy drinks, energy shots, coffee, and tea. Evidence suggests that there is no safe amount of caffeine consumption for children under 18 and that even small amounts can lead to poor sleep quality, increased blood pressure, and depressive moods and anxiety.

You can learn more about healthy drinks at healthyeatingresearch.org.

"We all want our kids to grow up healthy, and research shows that what kids and teens drink is an important part of a balanced diet, not just what they eat," said Megan Elsener Lott, MPH, RDN, deputy director of HER.

Content courtesy of Statepoint Media.

The Messenger's COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Submit events by email to khoskins@gadsdenmessenger.com.

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 are Platinum for \$1,000, Gold for \$750 and Silver for \$500. The event includes music, food and a raffle. Costumes are encouraged. To purchase tickets or for more information, call 256-546-5079.

cheon on Thursday, Feb. 6 at Southside Community Center located at 2142 Ala. Hwy. 77, Southside, AL, 35907. Activities begin at 12 p.m. with a meet and greet social time before the meeting and luncheon at 12.30. Those new to the area (four years or less) wishing more information, please visit <https://www.gadsdengreeters.wixsite.com/thegreeters>. The GGG is not affiliated with any denomination. All newcomers are welcome.

east Alabama Genealogical Society, is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursdays for anyone interested in family history research. A history and research group meets on Thursdays at 9 a.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate. The library contains genealogical information and family files from all areas of Alabama, Georgia, North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and other states. The library contains a large collection of military records and Native American research records. For more information, email neagslib@comcast.net.

February 6

Greater Gadsden Greeters, a women's social club, will hold its monthly lun-

Ongoing

Nichols Memorial Library, home of the North-

THE MESSENGER'S PICK FOR EVENT OF THE WEEK

Adopt Your Valentine Event

Feb. 1-15: The Gadsden Humane Society and Pet Rescue Center is hosting a Valentine's Day adoption drive between February 1 - 15. Adoption fees are \$50, which includes spay/neuter, vaccines and microchips. To see available animals, visit hsprac.com.

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DEVOTIONALS

Four creatures small and wise



The Book of Proverbs is often referred to as “the book of wisdom.” Filled with Biblical insights, Proverbs addresses questions about values, moral behavior, the meaning of human life and righteous conduct. King Solomon, recognized as the wisest, wealthiest and most powerful man in history, authored 29 of the 31 chapters in this book. Chapter 30 was written by a man named Agur, whose name means “collector,” while chapter 31 was penned by King Lemuel.

In Proverbs 30, Agur shares a collection of wise sayings. In verses 24-28, he illustrates wisdom by using four of the smallest creatures on earth. These animals and the lessons they convey about wisdom remain relevant even today.

Proverbs 30:24-28 (Passion Translation) says, “The earth has four creatures that are very small but very wise: the feeble ant has little strength yet look how it diligently gathers its food in the summer to last throughout the winter. The delicate rock-

badger is not all that strong, yet look how it makes a secure home, nestled in the rocks. The locusts have no king to lead them, yet they cooperate as they move forward by bands. And the small lizard is easy to catch as it clings to the walls with its hands, yet it can be found inside a king’s palace.”

In Proverbs 30, Agur’s treasure of wise sayings reveals profound truths. In verses 24-28, he highlights four of the smallest creatures on earth as remarkable illustrations of wisdom. These tiny beings, timeless in their lessons, inspire us to appreciate the profound simplicity of nature’s teachings. The lessons Agur shares from these creatures is still applicable for us today. Let’s look at each one.

The ant. This creature, although extremely small and with little strength, stores up its food in the summer in preparation for winter. The ant prepares ahead and works today for tomorrow. How should we be preparing spiritually, emotionally, financially and physically for the seasons ahead? Wisdom is working today in preparation for tomorrow.

The Rock Badger. This creature is a bit larger than a prairie dog, about the size of a groundhog. They are usually gray, the color of the rocks, which makes them very hard to see when they are sunning on a rock. When predators come, the rock badger runs into the crack or hole of a rock for protection. One thing about rock badgers is that they know where their security lies.

A rock badger knows that when it wanders away from the rock, it becomes vulnerable to the enemy. Is our security in the Lord or in things of this world? Wisdom is daily placing my security in the Lord and letting Him be my protection.

The locust. This creature is not very powerful alone. However, the locust knows that its power comes from being in community with other locusts. When that occurs, they are able to topple kingdoms (Revelation 9). Are we engaged and active with a community of believers? Wisdom is realizing our need for community and being active within that community.

The lizard. This creature “is easy to catch, yet it can be found inside a king’s palace.” Lizards are small, slippery and not the most beautiful of creatures, yet they can be found in the presence of the king. Although there is an incongruity to this picture, the lizard represents grace. Grace is often incongruous or out of place. Where do we need to have more grace towards a person or a situation? Wisdom is seeing others through the lenses of God’s grace.

Lord, we ask You to help us learn and apply the lessons on wisdom that we have learned from the ant, rock badger, locust and lizard. Thank You for these truths that never change!

If you would like continued prayer, feel free to email me at tonif77@gmail.com. I would love to pray for you!

Bible Verse of the Week



“**Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**”

- Matthew 22:37-39
King James Version



Verse for Kids

“**But woe unto you that are rich! For ye have received your consolation. Woe unto you that are full! For ye shall hunger. Woe unto you that laugh now! For ye shall mourn and weep. Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! For so did their fathers to the false prophets. But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you.**”

- Luke 6:24-28
King James Version

The highest of all ceremony

I recently watched a video highlighting the pomp and precision of The Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia. With awe, I witnessed the carefully choreographed process by which the soldier and his weapon are inspected at the changeout. Every item of the soldier’s uniform is examined - every crease must be to perfection and every hem must look impeccable. The soldier must be fit to be presentable at all times and at the very highest level, and his weapon is examined from every angle and wiped with white gloves on every surface. Not a speck of dust is allowed. Why?

There is one unknown World War I soldier buried at Arlington National Cemetery, but the significance of this memorial is so much more profound than just the one unidentified soldier. There have been so very many soldiers lost to war, and because of the horrors of war, there are many unknown dead soldiers. Though the tomb is specifically reserved for only one unknown soldier, this special place represents all those who have been lost and not properly mourned. Since this place represents so much, it is treated with the upmost reverence, including a posted guard who stands at the ready, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year, in order to honor that fallen brother and encourage all visitors to never forget. But I ask again, why?

It is human nature to attach ceremony to everything we deem important. It can be as silly as singing Happy Birthday with a huge sombrero on one’s head at a local restaurant or as grand as the opening ceremonies at the Olympics.

Meaningful events are always adorned

with ritual. At school graduations, we don our caps and gowns, receive our diplomas and ceremoniously move our tassels. Things are much more grandiose at weddings, where so much meaning stands behind the symbolism of the white dress, the father handing over a bride, the exchange of rings and vows to God being witnessed by the priest and attested to by the public. Or consider the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation with the water, holy oil, candles and promises made.

From funerals to football games, there is absolutely nothing that we value deeply that we do not adorn with ceremony - parades, holidays, Quinceaneras, Christmas caroling, and the list goes on and on.

And then comes The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, “the source and the summit of our faith.” Is it not proper that the highest of all ceremonies and the fullness of all rituals be reserved for our great God and Savior Jesus Christ? In this most grand and glorious procession, every piece and part of the process is immaculate. The priests, deacons and altar Servers don their ornate apparel. Candles are lit, incense is burned, and the people stand at attention. The altar is set with gold-plated sacred vessels containing the bread and wine that will soon become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

The prayers, the creed, the glorias, the songs and the sermons flow like refreshing springs to bring dead hearts back to life in this most precious of the celebratory gatherings. The Mass includes much pomp and circumstance as we build up to the great “Amen” right before Heaven touches earth in remembrance of the “once for all” sacrifice that redefined all of history. The Saints bear witness to eternity, stepping into time



when “whosoever may come” and partake of the Bread of Life.

For this ceremony, priests train for a decade or more and deacons for at least half that time. Students attend Catechetical training for multiple years, and adult converts complete a nine-month course. All this is done just to arrive to this grand pinnacle of human ceremony that connects mankind so intimately with the Divine.

Why? Because of The One who sets captives free, opens blind eyes, touches lepers and seeks and saves the lost down to the last sheep. It is The One who faced every enemy and bound the strongman and plundered his goods. It is He who took our sins and nailed them to His cross, cancelling our debt and triumphing over every evil (Colossians 2:13-15). It is He, the One and Only, Whom we love, Whom we serve and to Whom we ascribe the highest of all ceremony!

Brian Cook is a Cropwell native and a graduate of Pell City High School and Gadsden State Community College and studied music and history at Jacksonville State. His book “The Devotion to Christ” can be found on Amazon. He is available for speaking and teaching engagements and may be contacted at thedtc@protonmail.com or thedevotiontochrist@gmail.com.

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IN THE Deli

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Mega Pack Oscar Mayer Bacon

8.99 With Card

22 Oz.

Basket & Bushel Blueberries

2/\$5 With Card

Pint

Buy 2 SAVE MORE

Kay's Ice Cream Novelties

1.99 With Card

6 Ct.

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Coca-Cola Products

3.50 With Card

6 Pk., 16.9 Oz. Btls.

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Spiral Sliced Food Club Ham Half

99¢ With Card

Per Lb.

DIETITIAN'S PICK

Basket & Bushel Idaho Potatoes

2/\$5 With Card

5 Lb.

LIMIT 10

POWERADE

10/\$10 With Card

28 Oz.

LIMIT 4

Food Club Deli-Style Cheese

1.88 With Card

6-8 Oz.

LIMIT 4 EACH

Kellogg's Eggo Waffles

1.99 With Card

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7.99 With Card

24 Pk., 12 Oz. Cans

LIMIT 2

Maxwell House Wake Up Roast

6.99 With Card

28.4 Oz.

LIMIT 4 EACH

Utz Cheese Balls

5.99 With Card

23 Oz.

Selected Varieties Pringles Snack Stacks (12 Ct.) or

LIMIT 2

Outshine Frozen Fruit Bars

4.99 With Card

6-12 Ct.

LIMIT 2 EACH

Misty Mountain Spring Water

4.99 With Card

24 Pk., 16.9 Oz. Btls.

LIMIT 4 EACH

Hot Pockets

2/\$5 With Card

9 Oz.

Frozen, Selected Varieties, Crav'n Flavor Corn Dogs (6 Ct.), Bagel Bites (7 Oz.) or

LIMIT 8

Food Club Chicken Breast

4/\$5 With Card

5 Oz.

98% Fat Free

LIMIT 4

Country Crock

3.99 With Card

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Selected Varieties

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LIMIT 12

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7 Oz.

Frozen, Selected Varieties

LIMIT 4 EACH

Mayfield Ice Cream

2/\$5 With Card

9.8-15.1 Oz. or Pint

Selected Varieties Better Oats Oatmeal (9.8-15.1 Oz.) or

LIMIT 4 EACH

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3.99 With Card

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SPORTS

Roundups & Rundowns

Boys basketball

Ronan McFadden's three-point basket at the buzzer gave Hokes Bluff a 57-54 victory over Southside on Tuesday, Jan. 28 at HBHS.

The Panthers jumped out to a 13-6 lead at the end of the first quarter and led 24-15 at halftime. Southside stretched its advantage to 14 points in the fourth period before the Eagles rallied for the win.

McFadden was 4-for-5 from the three-point line on way to a team-high 14 points. Noah Johnson and Bryce Whitaker each scored 13 points, while Anderson Morgan contributed eight points, five assists, five steals, four rebounds and three deflections. Logan Carr chipped in five points.

Cayden Reason and Mason Stephens each scored 16 points for Southside, followed by Drew Clark with 10 and Cameron Flowers with five. Stephens pulled down seven rebounds, while Reason grabbed five.

Coosa Christian finished out the regular season with a 68-54 win over Pleasant Valley on Tuesday, Jan. 28 in Jacksonville. Kylen Johnson with paced the Conquerors (18-7) with 33 points, while J'Alan Terry knocked down four 3-point baskets.

Titus Jones scored 26 points and Brady Carden added 21 in Westbrook Christian's 72-60 victory over Sardis on Tuesday, Jan. 28 in Rainbow City. Carden had 12 rebounds, five steals and three assists. Also for the Warriors (10-12, 3-3), Brodey Wood had nine points and three rebounds, Bo Kilgo had five points and four assists and Case Burton had five rebounds.

Five players scored in double figures in Glencoe's 83-66 win over Ashville on Tuesday, Jan. 28 at AHS. Wade Segrest paced the Yellow Jackets (21-6) with 17 points, followed by Grant Smith with 16, Davis Honeycutt and Jayden Patton with 13 each and Bryce Borntrager with 12. For the Bulldogs, J.B. Potter finished with 18 points, followed by Dalton Rice-Thompson with nine, Jamon Williams and Brandon Farmer with eight each and Maise Thompson with seven.

Girls basketball

Gadsden City defeated Class 6A No. 3 Hartselle, 42-40, on Monday, Jan. 27. For the Lady Titans, Madison Tinker scored 13 points, while Naomi Wise finished with a double-double of 12 points and 11 rebounds.

Gadsden City finished with a 21-0 advantage in points off turnovers in a 44-26 win over Southside in Class 6A, Area 14 action on Friday, Jan. 24 at SHS. Destiny Whiteside and Naomi Wise each scored 13 points for the Lady Titans, while Madison Tinker added six. Zoey McKinney paced the Lady Panthers with 10 points, while Hannah Westcott had six points.

Hokes Bluff lost to Sand Rock, 53-47, on Thursday, Jan. 23. For the Lady Eagles, Addison Simmons finished with 17 points and six rebounds, Pressely Wall scored nine points, while Mazely Ball contributed seven points and seven rebounds and Emma Doss chipped in six points and five rebounds.

Locals have strong showings at bowling regionals



Chris McCarthy/Messenger

Pictured is Southside's Cora Clontz competing in the 2024 AHSAA state bowling tournament

By Chris McCarthy
Publisher

The defending Class 1A-5A state champion Southside High girls bowling team kicked off the Class 6A/7A postseason in dominant fashion on Wednesday, Jan. 29 in Trussville.

At the AHSAA North Regional Tournament at Spare Times Bowling Center, the Lady Panthers (17-1) defeated Shades Valley, 1,240 to 1,037, in the opening round before dispatching previously undefeated American Christian, 1,288 to 1,094, in the winner's bracket semifinals.

Southside's Cora Clontz bowled traditional game rounds of 206 and 199 to record the best series total in her division with 401 pins. Also for the Lady Panthers, Brayleigh Peppes finished her two-match series with a 363 total, good for second best for 6A/7A division. Keira Phillips placed fourth with a 352 score.

Clontz (206, 185), Peppes (199) and Phillips (185) also had the top four single game scores.

Southside faced unbeaten James Clemens (16-0) in the Class 6A/7A semifinals on Thursday. The winner will earn the No. 1 seed from the North for next week's double elimination duals competition at the state tournament at the Bowlero Bowling Center in Mobile.

The Southside and Etowah boys bowling

teams also made their presence felt at the regional tournament.

Competing in the traditional format, the Panthers and Blue Devils won their quarterfinals and semifinal games to qualify for the championship round on Thursday. In Class 6A/7A, Southside (24-2) will face James Clemens, while Etowah meets John Carroll Catholic in Class 1A-5A. The winner will qualify as the North No. 1 seed for next week's AHSAA State Bowling Tournament at the Bowlero Bowling Center in Mobile.

The Panthers opened with a 1,679 to 1,368 quarterfinal victory over Mountain Brook, followed by a 1,595 to 1,497 win over Tuscaloosa County in the semifinals. Southside's Clay had the top two-game traditional series with 503 pins, rolling a 276 and 227.

Following Clay for the Panthers in combined games was Alex Norris at 428 and Brady Ellis at 403. Clay finished first in single game scoring at 276. Ellis and Norris rolled respective games of 228 and 217.

Etowah (14-0) bested Clements, 1,507 to 1,379 in the opening round, then beat Scottsboro, 1,403 to 1,314, in the semifinals.

E.J. Teal, who had a 453 two-game series with a 259 high game for the Blue Devils, the second-best score of the day. Ben Beitel rolled a 202 game for Etowah.

Coosa's O'Bryant recognized

By Chris McCarthy
Publisher

Clete O'Bryant closed out his high school football career with a final addition to his already-crowded trophy shelf.

The Coosa Christian senior was recognized as one of three finalists for the 2024 Class 2A Lineman of the Year finalist at the Alabama Sports Writers Association's Mr. Football banquet on Tuesday, Jan. 28 in Montgomery.

In nine games this past season at linebacker, O'Bryant finished with 125 tackles, including 25 for a loss, while helping Coosa Christian post a 9-1 record on the field. He recorded his 500th career tackles this past season for 13th on the AHSAA all-time career tackle list. O'Bryant was named to the ASWA first-team Class 2A All-State first team and was selected as the Player of the Year for the All-Messenger football team.

"It was an honor being there with so many great players," said O'Bryant. "Playing football for [Coosa Christian] not only helped be become a better player but a better man and a better person. Honestly, I'd don't know where I'd be without Coosa football and the school. They've done so much for me and all the other players."

O'Bryant, who was also a finalist for the Lineman of the Year award following

the 2023 season, is the first player from Etowah County nominated for the Back or Lineman of the Year award since Gaston's Demont Buice in 2009.

"Clete's like another coach on the field," said Mark O'Bryant, Clete's dad and Coosa Christian head football coach. "He understands what we're doing on both offense and defense as well as our coaches do. As far as leadership goes, Clete doesn't like to be too vocal and kind of does his own thing. But if he doesn't like the way one of the other kids is playing, he'll get his point across."

Saraland quarterback K.J. Lacey was named the 2024 Mr. Football winner. Despite missing two games due to injury, he completed 62 percent of his passes in 2024 for 3,042 yards and 40 touchdowns in leading the Spartans to a third straight Class 6A championship game.

Joining Lacey on the ASWA Super All-State team, which features the state's top 12 players regardless of school's classification, were Alvin Henderson of Elba, Landon Duckworth and E.J. Crowell of Jackson, Na'eem Offord and Jourdin Crawford of Parker, Anqun Fegans and Trent Seaborn of Thompson, Tae Diamond of Cherokee County, Cam Phinizee of Russellville, Preston Lancaster of Tuscaloosa Academy and Gunner Rivers of St. Michael Catholic.

Coosa - page 2B



Courtesy of Average Joe's Sports Talk

Coosa Christian senior Clete O'Bryant was recognized as a Class 2A Lineman of the Year finalist on Tuesday, Jan. 28 in Montgomery.



Photo courtesy of Alex Chaney

The 2024 All-Etowah County Schools volleyball team was recognized during the recent Etowah County Schools Basketball Tournament in Sardis City. Members of the team were Vada Willmore (MVP), Emersyn Greer and Jordyn Knight from Sardis; Alli Jo Amos, Kinlee Montgomery and Evelyn Nowak from Glencoe; Addi Mashburn and Chloe Mayo from West End; Rylann Shaw and Hannah Westcott from Southside; Addison Simmons from Hokes Bluff; and Alexis Ponce from Gaston. Coach of the Year was Leslie Gilmer of Sardis.



Courtesy of Average Joe's Sports Talk

Gadsden City's Raegan Brooks (far left) Maria Francisco (right) mark a Collinsville player during the third annual Referee Training Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 25 at The Sportsplex at Rainbow City.



Chris McCarthy/Messenger
Gadsden City's Devin Barksdale (4) attempts a three-point basket during the Titans' 61-48 victory in boys basketball on Tuesday, Jan. 28 at GCHS.



Photo courtesy of Alex Chaney

The 2024 All-Etowah County Schools cheerleading team was recognized during the recent Etowah County Schools Basketball Tournament in Sardis City. Members of the team are Kaitlin Thacker and Alexis Ponce from Gaston; Cadi Rae Harper and Kailyn Aulsbrook from Glencoe; Lexi Carter and Blakley Smith from Hokes Bluff; Bailey Edwards and Addie Watwood from Sardis; Addison Claire Hassell and Macy Barron from Southside; and Brooklyn Self and Jessica Garrard from West End.



Courtesy of Average Joe's Sports Talk

Coosa Christian's Lino Hartmann advances the ball during the third annual Referee Training Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 25 at The Sportsplex at Rainbow City.



Courtesy of Average Joe's Sports Talk

Southside High's Trek Gardner (right) battles for possession during the third annual Referee Training Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 25 in Rainbow City.



Courtesy of Average Joe's Sports Talk

Southside High's Joel Herrera advances the ball during the third annual Referee Training Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 25 at The Sportsplex at Rainbow City.



Courtesy of Average Joe's Sports Talk

Gadsden City's Parker Davies (right) attempts to move past a Collinsville defender during the third annual Referee Training Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 25 at The Sportsplex at Rainbow City.

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Local Sports Schedule

High School Basketball

Friday, Jan. 31

Class 6A, Area 14 girls tournament at Fort Payne
6 p.m. - Gadsden City vs. Southside

Saturday, Feb. 1

Class 5A, Area 13 girls tournament at Sardis
5 p.m. - Sardis vs. Crossville
6:30 p.m. - Boaz vs. Douglas

Class 6A, Area 14 boys tournament at Gadsden City
6 p.m. - Southside vs. Fort Payne

Monday, Feb. 3

Class 6A, Area 14 girls tournament at Fort Payne
6 p.m. - Fort Payne vs. Gadsden City/ Southside winner

Tuesday, Feb. 4

Class 5A, Area 13 girls area tournament
6:30 p.m. - championship

Class 6A, Area 14 boys tournament at Gadsden City
6 p.m. - Gadsden City vs. Southside/Fort Payne winner

Thursday, Feb. 6

Subregional playoffs

Wrestling

Thursday, Feb. 6

Jan. 31 - Feb. 6

North sectionals at Briningham

Bowling

Monday-Tuesday, Feb. 3-4

AHSAA state tournament at Mobile

Indoor Track

Friday-Saturday (Jan. 31-Feb. 1)

AHSAA state meet at Birmingham

College Basketball

Monday, Feb. 3

Gadsden State at Lawson State

Thursday, Feb. 6

Lawson State at Gadsden State

ASWA basketball poll

Released January 30

Girls

Class 7A

- Hillcrest-Tuscaloosa
- Vestavia Hills
- Hoover
- Bob Jones
- Auburn
- Daphne
- Foley
- Albertville
- Hewitt-Trussville
- Central-Phenix City

Class 6A

- Park Crossing
- Hazel Green
- McGill-Toolen Catholic
- Hartselle
- Mountain Brook
- Chelsea
- Fort Payne
- Homewood
- Mortimer Jordan
- Oxford

Class 5A

- Ramsay
- Scottsboro
- Wenonah
- Moody
- West Point
- Priceville
- St. Paul's Episcopal
- Selma
- Sardis
- Jacksonville

Class 4A

- Trinity
- Madison Academy
- Deshler
- Good Hope
- Pleasant Grove
- Plainview
- Prattville Christian
- St. Michael Catholic
- Geneva
- Montgomery Catholic

Class 3A

- Lauderdale County
- St. James
- Midfield
- T.R. Miller
- Mars Hill Bible
- Hale County
- Vinemont
- Holly Pond
- Locust Fork
- Glencoe

Class 2A

- Decatur Heritage
- Cold Springs
- Sand Rock
- Lanett
- Abbeville
- Sulligent
- Pisgah
- Belgreen
- North Sand Mountain
- Winston County

Class 1A

- Spring Garden
- Ider
- Winterboro
- Kinston
- R.C. Hatch
- Elba
- Marion County
- Keith
- McIntosh
- Waterloo

Boys

Class 7A

- Hoover
- Central-Phenix City
- Huntsville
- Dothan
- Fairhope
- Austin
- Vestavia Hills
- Enterprise
- Hillcrest-Tuscaloosa
- Baker

Class 6A

- Huffman
- Mountain Brook
- Oxford
- Pinson Valley
- Cullman
- Paul Bryant
- Clay-Chalkville
- Buckhorn
- Homewood
- Minor

Class 5A

- Ramsay
- Williamson
- Selma
- East Limestone
- Wenonah
- LeFlore
- Charles Henderson
- Guntersville
- Leeds
- Carroll-Ozark

Class 4A

- Fairfield
- Plainview
- BTW-Tuskegee
- Madison Academy
- Alexandria
- Good Hope
- Jackson
- Anniston
- Brooks
- Fayette County

Class 3A

- Midfield
- Montgomery Academy
- Hale County
- Lee-Scott
- Houston Academy
- Glenwood
- Piedmont
- Mars Hill Bible
- Wilcox Central
- Glencoe

Class 2A

- Providence Christian
- Abbeville
- Tuscaloosa Academy
- Section
- Decatur Heritage
- Red Bay
- North Sand Mountain
- G.W. Long
- Pisgah
- Gaston

Class 1A

- Spring Garden
- Georgiana
- Oakwood
- Skyline
- Florala
- Pleasant Home
- Hubbertville
- Brantley
- R.C. Hatch
- Maplesville

Coosa Christian senior recognized - from 1B

ASWA Back of the Year winners were Anquon Fegans of Thompson in Class 7A, K.J. Lacey of Saraland in 6A, Cam Phinizee of Russellville in Class 5A, Landon Duckworth of Jackson in Class 4A, Kady Mitchell of Houston Academy in Class 3A, Preston Lancaster of Tuscaloosa Academy in Class 2A and Alvin Henderson of Elba in Class 1A.

ASWA Linemen of the Year winners were Jared Smith of Thompson in Class 7A, Jourdin Crawford of Parker in Class 6A, Jabarius Garr of Vigor in Class 5A, Tae Dia-

mond of Cherokee County in Class 4A, Tucker Wilks of Fyffe in Class 3A, J.J. Faulk of Highland Home in Class 2A and Hayes Farrell of Donoho in Class 1A.

Previously named Coaches of the Year were Chip English of Hoover in Class 7A, Tim Vakakes of Spain Park in Class 6A, Kirk Johnson of Catholic-Montgomery in Class 5A, Drew Phillips of West Morgan in Class 4A, Darrell Higgins of Mars Hill Bible in Class 3A, Caleb Simmons of Winston County in Class 2A and Shenan Motley of Wadley in Class 1A.



Submitted photo

Coosa Christian senior Clete O'Bryant (pictured second from left) and his family gather for a photo following the Alabama Sports Writers Association's Mr. Football banquet on Tuesday, Jan. 28 in Montgomery. Pictured with O'Bryant are dad Mark, sister Catie and mom Mindy.



Chris McCarthy/Messenger

Gadsden City's Kai Franklin (left) drives to the basket as Plainview's Trey Rutledge pursues during the Titans' 61-48 victory in boys basketball on Tuesday, Jan. 28 at GCHS.



Photo courtesy of Alex Chaney

Hokes Bluff's Ronan McFadden hits a last-second three-point basket in the Eagles' 57-54 victory over Southside on Tuesday, Jan. 28 at HBHS.



Photo courtesy of Alex Chaney

Etowah County Schools Superintendent Dr. Alan Cosby (right) presents Hokes Bluff head football coach Mike Robertson with the 2024 All-Etowah County Schools co-Coach of the Year award during the recent Etowah County Schools Basketball Tournament in Sardis City.



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Courtesy of Average Joe's Sports Talk

Southside's Camryn Thompson negotiates through traffic during the third annual Referee Training Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 25 at The Sportsplex at Rainbow City.



Courtesy of Average Joe's Sports Talk

Gadsden City's Miriam Rasool advances the ball during the third annual Referee Training Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 25 at The Sportsplex at Rainbow City.



Courtesy of Average Joe's Sports Talk

Gadsden City's Reagan Broks (right) fights off a Collinsville player during the third annual Referee Training Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 25.



Courtesy of Average Joe's Sports Talk

Coosa Christian's T.J. Brewster (far right) heads the ball during the third annual Referee Training Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 25 at The Sportsplex at Rainbow City.

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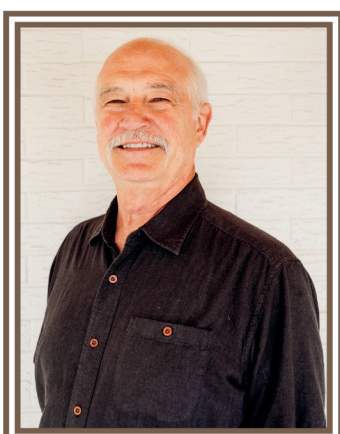
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LEGALS

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Kelly D. Bryan, a single woman, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for GMAC Mortgage, LLC, its successors and assigns, on September 15, 2008, said mortgage being recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, on September 29, 2008 as Document Number 3301880. PHH Mortgage Corporation, successor by merger to Ocwen Loan Servicing, LLC, 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 March 19, 2025, during the legal hours of sale, the following described real estate, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF THE SOUTH-EAST 1/4 OF SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE 6 EAST; THENCE NORTH 88 DEGREES 21 MINUTES 05 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID 1/4, ADJUSTANCE OF 384.53 FEET TO AN IRON PIN, SAID PIN BEING THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE HEREIN DESCRIBED PARCEL; THENCE CONTINUE NORTH 88 DEGREES 21 MINUTES 05 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 117.81 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 55 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 211.85 FEET TO AN IRON PIN ON THE NORTH RIGHT OF WAY OF DUCK SPRINGS ROAD; THENCE NORTH 68 DEGREES 19 MINUTES 27 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE NORTH RIGHT OF WAY OF SAID ROAD, A DISTANCE OF 126.89 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 55 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 161.59 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PARCEL. SAID PARCEL CONTAINS 0.50 ACRES MORE OR LESS AND IS A PARCEL OF LAND DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 1305, PAGE 753, RECORDED IN THE JUDGE OF PROBATE OFFICE, ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA.

More commonly known as: 6595 Duck Springs Road, Attalla, AL 35954. This Property will be sold on "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 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. PHH Mortgage Corporation, successor by merger to Ocwen Loan Servicing, LLC ("Transferee")

Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C.
244 Inverness Center Drive
Birmingham, AL 35242
Phone: (801) 355-2886

January 17, 24, and 31, 2025

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Vicki Todd, unmarried, originally in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Homecomings Financial Network, Inc., on April 2, 2002, said mortgage recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, in Document Number: M-2002-1632; the undersigned Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as Trustee for Residential Asset Mortgage Products, Inc., Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass Through Certificates, Series 2004-SL4, 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 26, 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 A of Finney's Rearrangement of Lots Number One (1), and Three (3), Block Number Twenty-One (21), Gadsden Land and Improvement Company, as the same appears of record in Plat Book J, Page 73, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama, and lying and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama. Property street address for informational purposes: 808 South 11th Street, 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 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 deed 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. Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as Trustee for Residential Asset Mortgage Products, Inc., Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass Through Certificates, Series 2004-SL4, ("Transferee") Tiffany

BY: /s Jay E. Stover
JAY E. STOVER, ITS ATTORNEY 301 Broad Street
Gadsden, Alabama 35901
Phone (205) 546-9205

January 31, 2025, February 7, and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Tara Maddox Langdale was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 11/22/2024 to the Estate of David Jackson Maddox, 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
January 24, 31, and February 7, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Virginia Chance was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 12/09/2024 to the Estate of Randall Joe Chance, 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
January 24, 31, and February 7, 2025

& Bosco, P.A., 2501 20th Place South, Suite 300, Homewood, AL 35223
www.tblaw.com TB File Number: 25-00005-PH-AL

January 17, 24, and 31, 2025

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

STATE OF ALABAMA, COUNTY OF ETOWAH

Whereas, default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Booker T. Taylor, to WinSouth Credit Union, on July 25, 2013, said mortgage, being recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County as Document Number 3389357 on July 30, 2013, and the undersigned, by reason of such default, having declared the entire remaining indebtedness secured by said mortgage to be immediately due and payable, and said mortgage subject to foreclosure, and such default continuing, notice is hereby given, that acting under the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the undersigned, WinSouth Credit Union, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash in front of the courthouse door in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale on March 4, 2025, the following described real estate situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

The South 145 feet of the West 225 feet of Lot Number Four (4), and the North 35 feet of Lot Number Five (5) in Block Number One (1) of Second Addition of Paden Farm Subdivision, as recorded in Plat Book "C", "C", Page 275, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama, less and except that part of Lot 5, Block 1, more particularly described as follows: The North 5 feet of the East 200 feet of Lot Five (5) in Block One (1) of the Second Addition of Paden Farm Subdivision according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book "C", Page 275, in the Probate Office, and lying and being in Etowah County, Alabama. Commonly known as 150w Paden Road, East Gadsden, AL 35903

Said sale will be made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. 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 Etowah County. This property will be sold without warranty or recourse, expressed or implied as to title, use and/or use and/or enjoyment and will be sold subject to the rights of redemption by those parties entitled to redeem under the laws of the State of Alabama. Winsouth Credit Union

BY: /s Jay E. Stover
JAY E. STOVER, ITS ATTORNEY 301 Broad Street
Gadsden, Alabama 35901
Phone (205) 546-9205

January 31, 2025, February 7, and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Tara Maddox Langdale was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 11/22/2024 to the Estate of David Jackson Maddox, 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
January 24, 31, and February 7, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Virginia Chance was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 12/09/2024 to the Estate of Randall Joe Chance, 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
January 24, 31, and February 7, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Kenneth Lee Godfrey was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 12/16/2024 to the Estate of John E. Godfrey, 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
January 24, 31, and February 7, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

David Atley, III was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 12/20/2024 over the Estate of Bertha Lee Atley-Clowney, 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
January 24, 31, and February 7, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Heather Arp Bellaw was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/03/2025 to the Estate of Dean Jerome Arp, 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
January 24, 31, and February 7, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Robert Andrew Beck was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/06/2025 over the Estate of Sharon Ann Freeman Beck, 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
January 24, 31, and February 7, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Bennett D. Tucker, Jr., Amanda Tucker Cabaniss and Traci Tucker Dewar was/were appointed Co-Personal Representative(s) on 01/09/2025 to the Estate of Bennett D. Rucker, Sr., 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
January 24, 31, and February 7, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Heath Watkins was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 05/31/2024 to the Estate of Carolyn Sue Dial, 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

January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

James Matthew Turner was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/17/2025 to the Estate of Cynthia Dover Turner, 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

January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Phillip Heath Troiani was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/13/2025 to the Estate of Paul James Troiani, 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

January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Jacob Millican, Esq. was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 11/20/2024 to the Estate of Delores Runyan Frazier, 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
January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Bradley Sewell was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/08/2025 to the Estate of Barney Jerry Sewell, 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
January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Kathy R. Holland was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/09/2025 to the Estate of Rickey R. Holland, 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
January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Charles A. Bryant and Cynthia D. Crawford was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/07/2025 to the Estate of Charles Edward Bryant, 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
January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Timothy Gene Kitchens was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/14/2024 over the Estate of Ginger Denise Norton, 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
January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Kristi Bohannon was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/18/2024 to the Estate of Carole Cornell, 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
January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Kimberly Dawn Hester Rigsby was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 12/04/2024 over the Estate of Denise Carol Geer, 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
January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Maria B. Perry was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 12/04/2024 over the Estate of Johnnie Frank Perry, 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
January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

William Bryan Stone, II was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 12/06/2024 to the Estate of Ann C. Stone, a/k/a Eugenia Ann Stone, 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
January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Richard E. Govignon was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 12/13/2024 to the Estate of Richard Govignon, 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
January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Raley L. Wiggins was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 12/13/2024 over the Estate of Elecia Diane Reeves, 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
January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Nancy Ramey Hunt and Donna Ramey Nicholson was/were appointed Co-Personal Representative(s) on 12/11/2024 to the Estate of Francis Y. Ramey, a/k/a Mary Frances Ramey, 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
January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Charlott Annett Rothstein Keys was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 12/13/2024 over the Estate of Daniel Frederick Keys, 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
January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Joe Gamberi was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 12/23/2024 to the Estate of Robert Allen Bruton, 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
January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Stacey Gary was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 12/27/2024 over the Estate of Emma Faye Gary, 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

January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Christopher William Richardson and Jennifer Lynn Richardson was/were appointed Co-Personal Representative(s) on 12/30/2024 to the Estate of Mark Dewayne Richardson, 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
January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

FILE CLAIMS

Cheryl R. Midgley was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/08/2025 to the Estate

of Charles S. Midgley, 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
January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: SHIRLEY KIMBLE, ALLEGED INCAPACITATED

Case #: 2025-28
TO: Christina Green 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 26th day of FEBRUARY 2025 at 1:00 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 15TH DAY OF JANUARY 2025

Scott Hassell
PROBATE JUDGE

January 17, 24, and 31, 2025

NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: GREGORY ARMSTRONG, ALLEGED INCAPACITATED
Case #: 2025-19

TO: 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 18 day of FEBRUARY 2025 at 2:00 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 9TH DAY OF JANUARY 2025

Scott Hassell
PROBATE JUDGE

January 17, 24, and 31, 2025

NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: NATHAN M. CHADWICK, ALLEGED INCAPACITATED

Case #: 2024-453

TO: Tera Hollis 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 24 day of FEBRUARY 2025 at 1:30 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 17TH DAY OF JANUARY 2025

Scott W. Hassell
PROBATE JUDGE

January 24, 31, and February 7, 2025

NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: JOHNNY STEVEN MOORE, INCAPACITATED
Case #: 2024-400

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 24th day of FEBRUARY 2025 at 1:00 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 28TH DAY OF JANUARY 2025.

Scott Hassell PROBATE JUDGE

January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: BOBBY J. MCCAIN, INCAPACITATED Case #: S-3778

TO: 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 5th day of MARCH 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 27TH DAY OF JANUARY 2025

Scott Hassell PROBATE JUDGE

January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: KAREN FAYE WILLIAMS TUCKER, INCAPACITATED Case #: I-282

TO: Any unknown family

Please take notice that a MOTION TO AMEND LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP of the above referenced incapacitated individual was filed in the Office of the Judge of Probate, and further, that the 25TH day of FEBRUARY 2025 1:00 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 28TH DAY OF JANUARY 2025

Scott W. Hassell PROBATE JUDGE

January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

NOTICE OF ESTATE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF SAMUEL DALE SIMS, DECEASED CASE NO: 2025-00037

A Petition for Summary Distribution of the Estate of SAMUEL DALE SIMS, Deceased, having been submitted to the Honorable Scott W. Hassell, Judge of Probate, by Petitioners, Keri Leigh Monroe, on the 17th day of January, 2025; Notice is hereby given that all persons contesting said Petition shall file a response thereto with the Judge of Probate, Etowah County, within 30 days of the date of this publication.

Done this the 27th day of January 2025.

Scott W. Hassell JUDGE OF PROBATE

January 31, 2025

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP AND PETITION FOR LETTERS OF CONSERVATORSHIP

Notice to: Unknown family members, whose whereabouts are unknown

You will take notice that a Petition for Letters of Guardianship for the person of Brenna Gilbert and a Petition for Letters of Conservatorship over the estate of Brenna Gilbert was filed by Gadsden Regional Medical Center on the 24TH day of JANUARY 2025.

A hearing on the Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Petition for Letters of Conservatorship is set on the 24th day of FEBRUARY 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

January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP AND PETITION FOR LETTERS OF CONSERVATORSHIP

Notice to: John Babbino, whose whereabouts are unknown

You will take notice that a Petition for Letters of Guardianship for the person of Stephen J. Babbino and a Petition for Letters of Conservatorship over the estate of Stephen J. Babbino was filed by Gadsden Regional Medical Center on the 27TH day of JANUARY 2025.

A hearing on the Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Petition for Letters of Conservatorship is set on the 5th day of MARCH 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

January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP AND PETITION FOR LETTERS OF CONSERVATORSHIP

Notice to: Donna Chi, whose last known address is 2715 Pleasant Valley Road, Apt. 4, Atlanta, AL 35954 Theresa Ducote, whose whereabouts are unknown

A hearing on the Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Petition for Letters of Conservatorship is set on the 5th day of MARCH 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

January 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

NOTICE OF CONDEMNATION-FORFEITURE ACTION

STATE OF ALABAMA, ex rel: Etowah County Drug Enforcement Unit,

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO: CV-24-117-CDR

PLAINTIFF VS. \$928.00 U.S. Currency

DEFENDANTS In Re: Tracie Lynn Wiggs

TO ANY PERSON, CORPORATION OR OTHER ENTITY CLAIMING AN OWNER'S BONA FIDE INTEREST IN THE HEREINABOVE DESCRIBED CURRENCY:

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has filed its complaint in the above-described action seeking condemnation, forfeiture, and ultimate disposition of the above-described currency. You are hereby notified that you must answer said Complaint by the 14th day of February 2025. Failure to file such answer shall result in your loss of any claimed owner's or other interest in said currency.

DONE this the 19th day of December, 2024.

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk Etowah County, Alabama

January 10, 17, 24, and 31, 2025

NOTICE OF CONDEMNATION-FORFEITURE ACTION

STATE OF ALABAMA, ex rel: Etowah County Drug Enforcement Unit,

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO: CV-24-117-CDR

PLAINTIFF VS. \$1,178.00 U.S. Currency

DEFENDANTS In Re: Tarance Adolph Smothers

TO ANY PERSON, CORPORATION OR OTHER ENTITY CLAIMING AN OWNER'S BONA FIDE INTEREST IN THE HEREINABOVE DESCRIBED CURRENCY:

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has filed its complaint in the above-described action seeking condemnation, forfeiture, and ultimate disposition of the above-described property and currency. You are hereby notified that you must answer said Complaint by the 14th day of February 2025. Failure to file such answer shall result in your loss of any claimed owner's or other interest in said currency.

DONE this the 13th day of January, 2025.

CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO: CV-24-900464-SJS

PLAINTIFF VS. \$4,350.00 U.S. Currency

DEFENDANTS In Re: Wade L Riley Benefield

TO ANY PERSON, CORPORATION OR OTHER ENTITY CLAIMING AN OWNER'S BONA FIDE INTEREST IN THE HEREINABOVE DESCRIBED CURRENCY:

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has filed its complaint in the above-described action seeking condemnation, forfeiture, and ultimate disposition of the above-described property and currency. You are hereby notified that you must answer said Complaint by the 14th day of February 2025. Failure to file such answer shall result in your loss of any claimed owner's or other interest in said currency.

DONE this the 19th day of December, 2024.

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk Etowah County, Alabama

January 10, 17, 24, and 31, 2025

NOTICE OF CONDEMNATION-FORFEITURE ACTION

STATE OF ALABAMA, ex rel: Etowah County Drug Enforcement Unit,

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO: CV-24-107-SJS

PLAINTIFF VS. \$1,178.00 U.S. Currency

DEFENDANTS In Re: Tarance Adolph Smothers

TO ANY PERSON, CORPORATION OR OTHER ENTITY CLAIMING AN OWNER'S BONA FIDE INTEREST IN THE HEREINABOVE DESCRIBED CURRENCY:

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has filed its complaint in the above-described action seeking condemnation, forfeiture, and ultimate disposition of the above-described property and currency. You are hereby notified that you must answer said Complaint by the 14th day of February 2025. Failure to file such answer shall result in your loss of any claimed owner's or other interest in said currency.

DONE this the 19th day of December, 2024.

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk Etowah County, Alabama

January 10, 17, 24, and 31, 2025

NOTICE OF CONDEMNATION-FORFEITURE ACTION

STATE OF ALABAMA, ex rel: Gadsden Police Department Street Crime Unit,

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO: CV-24-900596-WBO

PLAINTIFF VS. \$977.52 U.S. Currency

DEFENDANTS In Re: Mahmood Albusasi Address Unknown

Property Sized From: 1101 West Meighan Boulevard Gadsden, AL. 35901

TO ANY PERSON, CORPORATION OR OTHER ENTITY CLAIMING AN OWNER'S BONA FIDE INTEREST IN THE HEREINABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY AND CURRENCY:

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has filed its complaint in the above-described action seeking condemnation, forfeiture, and ultimate disposition of the above-described property and currency. You are hereby notified that you must answer said Complaint by the 27th day of March 2025. Failure to file such answer shall result in your loss of any claimed owner's or other interest in said currency.

DONE this the 16th day of January 2025.

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk Etowah County, Alabama

January 24, 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

NOTICE OF CONDEMNATION-FORFEITURE ACTION

STATE OF ALABAMA, ex rel: Gadsden Police Department Street Crime Unit,

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO: CV-24-900424-BTC

PLAINTIFF VS. \$946.00 U.S. CURRENCY Mp25.25 Auto SN#1817218

DEFENDANTS In Re: ELIJAH BYNUM 1209 Monte Vista Drive Gadsden, AL. 35901

Property Seized From: 1229 Franklin Street Gadsden, AL. 35904

TO ANY PERSON, CORPORATION OR OTHER ENTITY CLAIMING AN OWNER'S BONA FIDE INTEREST IN THE HEREINABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY:

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has filed its complaint in the above-described action seeking condemnation, forfeiture, and ultimate disposition of the above-described property and currency. You are hereby notified that you must answer said Complaint by the 25th day of March 2025. Failure to file such answer shall result in your loss of any claimed owner's or other interest in said currency.

DONE this the 23rd day of January 2025

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk Etowah County, Alabama

January 24, 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

January 17, 24, 31, and February 7, 2025

NOTICE OF CONDEMNATION-FORFEITURE ACTION

STATE OF ALABAMA, ex rel: Gadsden Police Department Street Crime Unit,

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO: CV-24-900422-SJS

PLAINTIFF VS. 12 Gambling Device \$10,240.00 U.S. Currency

DEFENDANTS In Re: Michael Cook 316 Goldenrod Avenue Gadsden, AL. 35901

Property Sized From: 211 S. 4th Street Gadsden, AL. 35901

TO ANY PERSON, CORPORATION OR OTHER ENTITY CLAIMING AN OWNER'S BONA FIDE INTEREST IN THE HEREINABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY AND CURRENCY:

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has filed its complaint in the above-described action seeking condemnation, forfeiture, and ultimate disposition of the above-described property and currency. You are hereby notified that you must answer said Complaint by the 14th day of March 2025. Failure to file such answer shall result in your loss of any claimed owner's or other interest in said currency.

DONE this the 9th day of January 2025.

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk Etowah County, Alabama

January 17, 24, 31, and February 7, 2025

NOTICE OF CONDEMNATION-FORFEITURE ACTION

STATE OF ALABAMA, ex rel: Gadsden Police Department Street Crime Unit,

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA CIVIL DIVISION

CASE NO: CV-24-900424-CDR

PLAINTIFF VS. 2 Gambling Device

DEFENDANTS In Re: Sanjay Patel Address Unknown

Property Sized From: 232 West Meighan Boulevard Gadsden, AL. 35901

TO ANY PERSON, CORPORATION OR OTHER ENTITY CLAIMING AN OWNER'S BONA FIDE INTEREST IN THE HEREINABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY:

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has filed its complaint in the above-described action seeking condemnation, forfeiture, and ultimate disposition of the above-described property. You are hereby notified that you must answer said Complaint by the 15th day of March 2025. Failure to file such answer shall result in your loss of any claimed owner's or other interest in said currency.

DONE this the 15th day of January 2025.

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk Etowah County, Alabama

January 24, 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

NOTICE OF CONDEMNATION-FORFEITURE ACTION

STATE OF ALABAMA, ex rel: Etowah County Drug Enforcement Unit,

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO: CV-24-900424-BTC

PLAINTIFF VS. 10 GAMBLING DEVICES \$946.00 U.S. CURRENCY Mp25.25 Auto SN#1817218

DEFENDANTS In Re: ELIJAH BYNUM 1209 Monte Vista Drive Gadsden, AL. 35901

Property Seized From: 1229 Franklin Street Gadsden, AL. 35904

TO ANY PERSON, CORPORATION OR OTHER ENTITY CLAIMING AN OWNER'S BONA FIDE INTEREST IN THE HEREINABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY:

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has filed its complaint in the above-described action seeking condemnation, forfeiture, and ultimate disposition of the above-described property and currency. You are hereby notified that you must answer said Complaint by the 25th day of March 2025. Failure to file such answer shall result in your loss of any claimed owner's or other interest in said currency.

DONE this the 23rd day of January 2025

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk Etowah County, Alabama

January 24, 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

213 E. Broad Street Gadsden, AL. 35903

TO ANY PERSON, CORPORATION OR OTHER ENTITY CLAIMING AN OWNER'S BONA FIDE INTEREST IN THE HEREINABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY AND CURRENCY:

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has filed its complaint in the above-described action seeking condemnation, forfeiture, and ultimate disposition of the above-described property and currency. You are hereby notified that you must answer said Complaint by the 15th day of March 2025. Failure to file such answer shall result in your loss of any claimed owner's or other interest in said currency.

DONE this the 15th day of January 2025.

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk Etowah County, Alabama

January 24, 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

NOTICE OF CONDEMNATION-FORFEITURE ACTION

STATE OF ALABAMA, ex rel: Gadsden Police Department Street Crime Unit,

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA CIVIL DIVISION

CASE NO: CV-24-900424-CDR

PLAINTIFF VS. 2 Gambling Device

DEFENDANTS In Re: Sanjay Patel Address Unknown

Property Sized From: 232 West Meighan Boulevard Gadsden, AL. 35901

TO ANY PERSON, CORPORATION OR OTHER ENTITY CLAIMING AN OWNER'S BONA FIDE INTEREST IN THE HEREINABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY:

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has filed its complaint in the above-described action seeking condemnation, forfeiture, and ultimate disposition of the above-described property. You are hereby notified that you must answer said Complaint by the 15th day of March 2025. Failure to file such answer shall result in your loss of any claimed owner's or other interest in said currency.

DONE this the 15th day of January 2025.

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk Etowah County, Alabama

January 24, 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

NOTICE OF CONDEMNATION-FORFEITURE ACTION

STATE OF ALABAMA, ex rel: Etowah County Drug Enforcement Unit,

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO: CV-24-900424-BTC

PLAINTIFF VS. 10 GAMBLING DEVICES \$946.00 U.S. CURRENCY Mp25.25 Auto SN#1817218

DEFENDANTS In Re: ELIJAH BYNUM 1209 Monte Vista Drive Gadsden, AL. 35901

Property Seized From: 1229 Franklin Street Gadsden, AL. 35904

TO ANY PERSON, CORPORATION OR OTHER ENTITY CLAIMING AN OWNER'S BONA FIDE INTEREST IN THE HEREINABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY:

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has filed its complaint in the above-described action seeking condemnation, forfeiture, and ultimate disposition of the above-described property and currency. You are hereby notified that you must answer said Complaint by the 25th day of March 2025. Failure to file such answer shall result in your loss of any claimed owner's or other interest in said currency.

DONE this the 23rd day of January 2025

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk Etowah County, Alabama

January 24, 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

January 31, February 7, 14, and 21, 2025

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

Case No.: CV-2024-900248

Crook, Carl, Plaintiffs, VS Martin, Quincia, Martin, D'Andrea, Defendants.

Quincia Martin who may claim an interest in the property located at 726 Sunnysdale Drive, Gadsden, AL. 35901, must file an Answer with the Clerk of the Court within 30 days of the last date of this notice of thereafter a judgement by Default may be rendered against them.

David C. Livingston Attorney for Plaintiff P.O. Box 161 Gadsden, AL. 35901 (256)546-9300

January 24, 31, February 7, and 14, 2025

NOTICE OF CIVIL ACTION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

CASE NO. CV-2024-900413.00

Baldwin Sally, A. Plaintiff V. Morgan, Anita Defendant

Upon consideration of the Motion and Affidavit for Service upon the Defendant, Anita Morgan by publication, and it appearing to the Court that the Defendant is avoiding service and/or cannot be personally served at 3398 Green Valley Road, Southside, AL. 35907, the Motion for Services by Publication is hereby GRANTED.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Plaintiff counsel shall provide a Notice of Civil Action to The Messenger, a Newspaper of General Circulation in Etowah County, giving notice to the Defendant of this Ejectment Action. Said Notice shall be published once a week for four consecutive weeks in THE MESSENGER, a newspaper of General Circulation in Etowah County, Alabama.

DONE this 22nd day of January, 2025

Sonny J. Steen Circuit Judge

DAVID LIVINGSTON Attorney for Plaintiff P.O. Box 1621 Gadsden, AL. 35902 (256)546-9300

January 24, 31, February 7 and 14, 2025

NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

In The Matter of the Adoption Petition of BRANDON SCOTT WILDER CASE NO.: 2025-00001

TO: Bradley Watts Address Unknown

Please take notice that a petition for adoption of a child born to Brooke Eilen Perry, a.k.a Brooke Perry Wilder, has been filed in said Court by the Petitioner(s) named above. The minor child's date of birth is March 30, 2011. 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 con-test 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: Shannon L. Millican 255 South 8th Street Gadsden, AL 35901

Given under my hand this the 2nd day of January 2025.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

January 31, February 7, 14, and 21, 2025

NOTICE OF DAY SET FOR HEARING ON THE PETITION FOR PROBATE

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA: Section 1. This act shall only apply to Etowah County. Section 2. (a) The Etowah County Drug Enforcement Unit shall keep and maintain a record of all abandoned and stolen personal property recovered by the drug enforcement unit. These records shall state the description of the property, the date of recovery of the property, and the serial or other identifying number of the property. If the property is a firearm, the records shall state the description of the firearm, the date of recovery of the firearm, and the serial or other identifying number, if any. The records shall be open to public inspection at all reasonable times. (b) All abandoned or stolen property recovered by the drug enforcement unit shall be stored in a suitable place to protect the property from deterioration. Section 3. (a)(1) As often as necessary, the Etowah County Drug Enforcement Unit may sell at public auction, including an Internet auction, to the highest bidder all abandoned or stolen personal property that have been recovered by the drug enforcement unit and have remained unclaimed by the rightful owner for a period of not less than six months. (2) If the abandoned or stolen property is a firearm, the person holding the auction must hold a federal firearm license issued by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), and all sales involving a firearm shall meet the firearm transfer requirements of federal law. (b) Prior to the auction, the Etowah County Drug Enforcement Unit shall give notice by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in Etowah County once a week for two successive weeks or by posting notice in a conspicuous place at the Etowah County Courthouse for a period of at least 20 days. The notice shall contain the place, date, and time of each auction and a general description of items of personal property to be sold at the auction. (c) Notwithstanding subsection (b), if the abandoned or stolen personal property is of a perishable nature and reasonable attempts to locate and identify the owner of the property are not successful, the property may be sold at once without notice. (d) The drug enforcement unit shall attempt to obtain the best possible price for the property. Section 4. (a) Prior to the sale of abandoned or stolen property under this

act, the owner of the property may claim the property at any time by submitting sufficient proof of ownership as determined by the Etowah County Drug Enforcement Unit. (b) The drug enforcement unit may require the owner to pay a pro rata share of the costs, if any, of publication of notice of the sale of the property. Section 5. (a) If abandoned or stolen property is sold under this act, the proceeds of the sale shall be held in a separate account for a period of six months for the owner. (b) During the six-month period described in subsection (a), upon demand by the owner and submission of sufficient proof of ownership, the drug enforcement unit shall pay to the owner the proceeds of the sale, less any cost of recovery, storage, maintenance, and sale of the property. (c) If the proceeds are not claimed within six months, after deducting and paying all expenses incurred in the recovery, storage, maintenance, and sale of the property, the net proceeds shall be paid to the Drug Enforcement Forfeiture Account in the county treasury. The funds in the account may be expended based on vouchers submitted to the county and shall be used solely for law enforcement purposes. The receipts and expenditures of funds shall be audited by the Examiners of Public Accounts. Section 6. If abandoned or stolen property is sold at public auction, as provided in this act, the Etowah County Drug Enforcement Unit shall make a notation in the storage record of the sale and the amount received for the property. The person making the sale may reject any and all bids if the amount bid is unreasonably low and may continue the sale, from time to time, at his or her discretion. Section 7. Notwithstanding any other provision of this act to the contrary, any abandoned or stolen firearm that has been obtained by the Etowah County Drug Enforcement Unit and that has been unclaimed for a period of six or more months, as provided in this act, may be used by the drug enforcement unit at its discretion for law enforcement purposes or, if unlawful or not safe for use, in the discretion of the drug enforcement unit, destroyed. Section 8. This act applies to any abandoned or stolen property held on or after the effective date of this act. Section 9. This act shall become effective on October 1, 2025.

February 7, 2025

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals, in duplicate, from Qualified General Contractors will be received by The St. Clair County Board of Education at the board office 410 Roy Dr., Ashville, AL 35953 until 10:30am CST, Friday, February 14, 2025 for Reroofing of Ashville High School: at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read. A cashier's check or bid bond payable to St. Clair County Board of Education in an amount not less than five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, but in no event more than \$10,000, must accompany the bidder's proposal. Performance and Payment Bonds and evidence of insurance required in the bid documents will be required at the signing of the Contract. Drawings and specifications may be examined at the office of B. Craig Lipscomb, Architect, 442 Chestnut Street, Gadsden, AL 35901 and digitally upon request. Digital construction documents are available at no cost to the general contractor. Hard copy sets may be obtained at cost of printing, reproduction, handling, and distribution. Only general contractors who have been approved to bid, pursuant to prequalification procedures, attended the mandatory pre-bid conference and have demonstrated the ability to provide 24/7/365 service, have a primary office (construction functional, not a storefront) within a 60 mile radius of the jobsite and met Div 1 specifications and criteria established by the Owner will be eligible to bid for the Project. Bids must be submitted on proposal forms furnished by the Architect or copies thereof. Prequalification packages are due at the office of the Architect by 12pm CST on Monday, February 3, 2025. Utilize AIA Document A305 and include any additional requirements in specifications. Original paper copy required. B. Craig Lipscomb, Architect, 442 Chestnut Street, Gadsden, AL 35901. It is the General Contractor's responsibility to confirm delivery. A mandatory pre-bid conference shall be held on Friday, February 7, 2025 at 9am CST at the campus of Ashville High School in the front parking lot. 33215 US 231, Ashville, AL 35953. All bidders bidding in amounts exceeding that established by the State Licensing Board for General Contractors must be licensed under the provi-

sions of Title 34, Chapter 8, Code of Alabama, 1975, and must show evidence of license before bidding or bid will not be received or considered by the Architect; the bidder shall show such evidence by clearly displaying his or her current license number on the outside of the sealed envelope in which the proposal is delivered. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive technical errors if, in the Owner's judgment, the best interests of the Owner will thereby be promoted. St. Clair County Board of Education (Awarding Authority)

B. Craig Lipscomb, Architect, 256-390-5657, craig@bclarch.com (Architect)

NOTE: For projects exceeding \$50,000, this notice must be run once a week for three successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or counties in which the project, or any part of the project, is to be performed. If the project involves an estimated amount exceeding \$500,000, this notice must also run at least once in three newspapers of general circulation throughout the state. Proof of publication is required.

January 17, 24, and 31, 2025

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

PROJECT: Right of Way Mowing of Highway 431, 11 and Cleveland Avenue

OWNER: The City of Attalla, Alabama

The City is requesting separate sealed bids for the Right of Way Mowing of Highway 431, 11, and Cleveland Avenue. The bids will be received at the City Hall of Attalla at 612 4th Street NW, Attalla, AL, 35954 until 9:00 A.M. CDST on Thursday February 13, 2025 in the Council Chambers and then at said place publicly opened and read aloud. The Contract Documents may be examined or a copy may be obtained at the Attalla City Hall. Please contact Jason Nicholson at 256-441-9200 or jnicholson@attallacity.org for obtaining the Contract Documents. The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any or all bids, and to award the contract to the lowest and responsible bidder. No bidder may withdraw his bid within 60 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

THE CITY OF ATTALLA BY: Larry Means, Mayor

January 24, 31, and February 7, 2025

ADVERTISEMENT FOR COMPLETION PORTABLE ICE-SKATING RINK

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 Portable Ice-Skating Rink project no. 3563, and has made request for final settlement of said Contract. This notice is to appear for four consecutive weeks, beginning Friday January 31, 2025 and ending on Friday February 21, 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 Phone 205-655-9006

January 31, February 7, 14 and 21, 2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Adjustments will hold a public hearing on Monday, February 3, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council chambers of Attalla City Hall located at 612 4th Street NW, Attalla, AL 35954. The following items will be considered: Variance requested and filed by Mike Patterson to consider reducing the minimum required lot size in a residential area. Street Address of subject property is 1101 and 1103 Stewart Avenue, Attalla, AL 35954

City of Attalla 612 4th Street NW, Attalla, AL. 35954

January 24 and 31, 2025

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that the Content of the following storage buildings will be SOLD by Off Campus Storage on February 7, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at 474 George Wallace Drive, Gadsden, AL. 35903

Samaiyah Bufford #60 Antwon Powell #70

Off Campus Storage 474 George Wallace Drive Gadsden, AL. 35903

January 24 and 31, 2025

LEGAL NOTICE

The following units will be auctioned or otherwise disposed of on February 6, 2025 beginning at 9:00 a.m. on the premises of STOCK IT & LOCK IT Mini Storage located at 3403 Rainbow Parkway, Rainbow City, AL. 35906.

Barron Medical Group Unit Number 340-L

Johnson Dylan Unit Number 413-I

Shawntez Cash Unit Number 195-G

Kaisy Cate Unit Number 412-I

Mandy Coley Unit Number 480-N

Susan Vaughn Unit Number 20-A

Stock it and Lock it 3403 Rainbow Parkway Rainbow City, AL. 35906

January 24 and 31, 2025

NOTICE OF VEHICLE POSSESSION

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will proceed to take possession of the following described abandoned vehicle(s) on February 28, 2025.

2003 Dodge Ram Truck VIN: 3DC13G800445

Parker Motor Company 256-504-8588

January 24 and 31, 2025

LEGAL NOTICE

The following storage units will be auctioned on 2/12/2025 beginning at 10:00 a.m. on the business premises of Southtowne Mini Warehouses. Southtowne is located at 199 Woodland Drive, off of Steele Station Road in Rainbow City, Alabama.

Marcia Hardney - Unit 24C and 170

Jacob Graham - Unit 171

Laken Varner - Unit 730

Dewayne Harden - Unit N1

Shane Smith - Unit 419

Taylor Pattollo - Unit 535

Brook Tuck - Unit 802

Bonnie Michelle - Unit 750

John Kennon - Unit 553

Pinky Prewitt - Unit 569 and 618

Richard Pettys - Unit 579

Kristie Bell - Unit 585

Maegan Garrard - Unit 614

Lisa Rydel - Unit 5A-8 and 5A-9

Holly Troup - Unit 38-11

Tarameka Ash - Unit 733

Southtowne Mini Warehouses 199 Woodland Drive Rainbow City, AL. 35906

January 31 and February 7, 2025

NOTICE OF VEHICLE POSSESSION

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will proceed to take possession of the following described abandoned vehicle(s) on March 5, 2025

2017 Buick Regal VIN: 2G4GL5EX9H9196140

2006 Chevy Silverado VIN: 1GCEK14T46Z129499

A&J Towing, LLC. 4975 Hopper Road Altoona, AL. 35952

January 31 and February 7, 2025

NOTICE OF VEHICLE POSSESSION

In accordance with the Alabama Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, Alabama Code Sections 32-13-1 through 32-13-8 notice is hereby given to the owners, lienholders, and other interested parties. The following motor vehicles will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder at 9:00 a.m., March 7, 2025 at Team One Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram of Gadsden, Gadsden, Alabama. Seller reserves the right to reject any bid and the right to bid.

2013 Dodge Dart VIN: 1C3CDFBH9DD111107

January 31 and February 7, 2025

NOTICE OF VEHICLE POSSESSION

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will proceed to take possession of the following described abandoned vehicle(s) on March 5, 2025

2011 Hyundai Sonata VIN: 5NPEB4AC2B4082609

Timothy Watson 305 12th Avenue SW Attalla, AL. 35954

January 31 and February 7, 2025

CLASSIFIEDS

SERVICE

SELLING a RV, Tractor or Golf Cart? ADVERTISE STATEWIDE or by region in over 100 Newspapers, reaching over 1 million readers each week! Run your ad in our Classified Network for just \$210 per week! Make one call to this newspaper (participating Ala-SCAN newspaper) or call 1-800-264-7043 to find out how easy it is to advertise statewide!

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LONG DISTANCE MOVING: Call today for a FREE QUOTE from America's Most Trusted

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WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION: A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals dry out the wet area and do repairs to protect your family and your home's value! If you have water in your home that needs to be dried, Call 24/7: 1-877-727-2344 Have zip code of service location ready when you call!

MEDICARE PLANS HAVE CHANGED!!! Make sure your plan will meet your needs in 2025. Our licensed agents can review the changes, address your needs and make sure you aren't overpaying! For a free quote, Call now! 1-877-730-0711

EDUCATION

ATTENTION ACTIVE Duty & Military Veterans! Begin a new career and earn your Degree at CTI! Online Computer & Medical training available for

Veterans & Families! To learn more, call 866-475-1014 (M-F 8am-6pm ET).

HEALTH/BEAUTY

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-855-405-8647 Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 1-855-405-9791

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Call LeafGuard and say goodbye to gutter cleaning for good. No cleaning. No leaking. No water damage. No more ladder accidents. Get LeafGuard today and be protected for life. FREE estimate. Financing available. 20% off total purchase (Restrictions may apply.) Call 1-844-679-2490

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Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction!

Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-877-724-3049 today!

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waiving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 3/30/25.) Call 1-877-205-0836

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-833-955-3163

ATTENTION HOME-OWNERS Needing Siding, Window or Roofs. We are opening a branch office and will be using these homes for advertising. SAVE HUNDREDS. 100% Financing* SR/ Military discounts. \$1000 OFF with this ad. ENDS SOON *wac 800-350-0591

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New agent in the area and would like your business with estates and listings in the following areas:
Etowah County, Cherokee County, Calhoun County, St. Clair County, Blount County, Marshall County, Jefferson County and surrounding areas.

SURPLUS ITEMS
Gadsden State Community College will now be selling all Surplus items on Govdeals.com. Anyone interested in purchasing can go to Govdeals.com, register as a bidder, type in Gadsden State Community College in the search engine and view all the items we have for sale. All items are sold As is.

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Courtesy of Average Joe's Sports Talk

Coosa Christian's Levi Cook runs into a pair of defenders during the third annual Referee Training Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 25 at The Sportsplex at Rainbow City.



Courtesy of Average Joe's Sports Talk

Gadsden City's Ella Jennings (right) makes a save during the third annual Referee Training Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 25 at The Sportsplex at Rainbow City.



Courtesy of Average Joe's Sports Talk

Gadsden City's Soleil Nuno (left) protects the ball from a Collinsville player during the third annual Referee Training Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 25.



Courtesy of Average Joe's Sports Talk

Southside High's Cooper Yancey (22) battles a defender during the third annual Referee Training Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 25 in Rainbow City.

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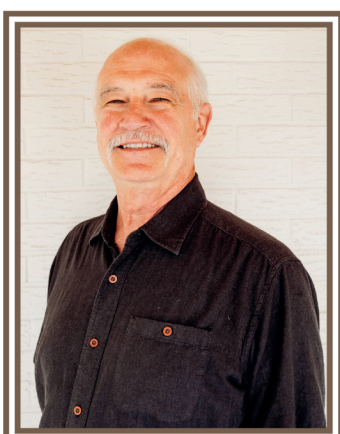
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