

HAPPY  
Valentine's Day



# Messenger

Volume 46, Issue 45

February 14, 2025

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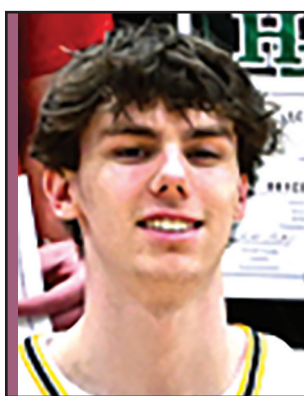
7 DAY FORECAST						
Friday Feb. 14	Saturday Feb. 15	Sunday Feb. 16	Monday Feb. 17	Tuesday Feb. 18	Wednesday Feb. 19	Thursday Feb. 20
High: 59 Low: 43	High: 64 Low: 52	High: 55 Low: 25	High: 46 Low: 24	High: 55 Low: 33	High: 40 Low: 22	High: 37 Low: 20



## Page 2B

Westbrook's Eric Kirkpatrick recently signed a college football scholarship.

Photo by Chris McCarthy



## Page 1B

The Glencoe boys basketball team advanced to the Northeast Regional Tournament championship game.

Photo by Alex Chaney



## Page 1B

The Gadsden City girls basketball team qualified for the regional tournament for the first time in several years.

Photo by Chris McCarthy

## YMCA Father-Daughter Dance back for 17th year

The YMCA of the Coosa Valley's 17th annual Father-Daughter Dance will be held on Sunday, Feb. 16 at 5:30 p.m. at The Venue at Coosa Landing located at 201 George Wallace Drive.

The event includes a kid-friendly menu with a dessert bar, professional DJ, a professional photographer and a Daddy Dance Contest.

The importance of the father-daughter dance lies not only in its ability to create lasting memories but also in its emotional and psychological benefits. A father-daughter dance is a cherished tradition that plays a significant role in strengthening the bond between a father and his daughter. The event serves as a powerful gesture of love, guidance and support. In an era where family dynamics continue to evolve, the father-daughter dance stands as a time-

less symbol of the special relationship between a father and his daughter.

This traditional event also reinforces the role of fathers in their daughters' lives. In many cultures, fathers are seen as protectors and providers, and the YMCA's father-daughter dance can serve as a reflection of that protective love. The dance signifies the commitment a father makes to his daughter, promising to support her emotionally, mentally and physically throughout her life.

In the U.S., nearly 40 percent of families are blended. One in four children grow up without a father in the home. About 14 percent of homes have a stepfather present. The percentage of adoptive fathers is around 2 to 4 percent, with the number even lower for adoptive girls.

The YMCA's father-daughter dance is

a beautiful tradition that often symbolizes the deep love and bond between a father and his daughter. For adoptive fathers and their daughters, the event takes on an even deeper meaning. It is not just a celebration of their relationship; it is a reaffirmation of the love, commitment and unique bond that adoption creates. The adoptive father-daughter dance signifies the formation of a new family, one built on love, choice, and a mutual desire to build a life together. It holds an important place in their shared history and helps lay the foundation for a lasting relationship.

The dance is a symbol of a father's choice, demonstrating the depth of the father's commitment to his daughter, regardless of biology. It's a moment where both the father and daughter acknowledge that their connection is based on love and

a shared desire to build a future together.

This moment, especially for adopted daughters, can be incredibly powerful. It helps to reinforce the idea that they are loved not because they "had to be" but because they are chosen. For the daughter, the dance is a moment to feel seen, heard and truly part of something bigger than herself. As she sways with her dad, his arms are a symbol of security and protection.

Fathers, do not miss this opportunity to show your daughter how much you love and care for her. Do not miss this opportunity to make some of the fondest memories that will impact your daughter and be cherished by her for a lifetime.

For more information about the Father-Daughter Dance and other YMCA events, visit [ymcacoosa.com](http://ymcacoosa.com).

YMCA Father-Daughter - page 3A



## Glencoe Library receives donation

The Xi Alpha Pi and Torchbearer Gamma chapters recently met at the Glencoe Public Library for a combined meeting as well as to shower the library with several needed items, including paper towels, tissues, Handi-Wrap bags, trash can liners, bottled water, Swiffer wipes, disinfectant spray, cups, plastic containers, wet wipes, coloring books and crayons. The chapters also presented the library with a \$135 check to be used for items not purchased. This was one of many service projects done by the chapters. Several chapter members volunteer at the library. Pictured, from left: Torchbearer Gamma President Becky Shivers, Xi Alpha Pi President Nell Minton, Glencoe Public Library librarian Dale Henry. (Submitted photo)

## RVSP offering help on tax returns

RVSP of Etowah County is offering free income tax preparation for 2024 federal tax return forms. Please bring photo ID, Social Security card, a copy of the 2023 tax return and all W2 and 1099 forms. The program is sponsored by RVSP of Etowah County, the Etowah County Commission and the IRS.

Tax assistance will be available at the following locations. For more information, call 256-549-8147.

RVSP tax help - page 3A

## GSCC to present Oscar Wilde classic

The Gadsden State Community College Theatre Department will present Oscar Wilde's timeless comedy, "The Importance of Being Earnest" at the Black Box Theatre in Meadows Hall. The production will run for two weekends on March 6-8 and March 13-15. Showtime is 7:30 p.m. each night as well as 2 p.m. matinees on Saturdays.

First performed in 1895, the play is widely considered Wilde's most brilliant and enduring work. It is an exploration of identity, love and social expectations and follows the lives of two young men, Jake Worthing and Algernon Moncrieff. These men adopt false identities in order to escape the burdens of their respectable lives.

"This show is perhaps the most enduring comedy of manners ever written," said Joe Fuselli, the play's director and GSCC theatre instructor. "It is certainly my favorite. The dialogue is sharp and witty. The characters are eccentric and exaggerated, making them equally as fun to play as they are to watch. I have

absolutely no doubt that the audiences will love this one."

The production features a cast of Gadsden State students and local actors. The show features two different casts performing on alternating nights, which gives the audience the opportunity to see different interpretations of the iconic characters.

"Our department has grown rapidly over the past few years, and I only have so many opportunities to give my acting students a chance to perform," Fuselli said. "The students are always my first priority, and they need experience to truly learn."

Cast 1 members include Jonas Abernathy as Algernon, Ian Anthony as Jack, Lucas Gamblin as Lane, Carolyn Humphrey as Gwendolyn, Heather Ross as Lady Bracknell, Afton Yarnell as Cecily, Buffy Bailey as Miss Prism, Ryan Kelly as the Reverend Chasuble and Nolan Fletcher as Merriman.

Cast 2 members include Jake Rhinehart as Algernon, Eric Wilkerson as Jack, Josh Kimbril as Lane, Diana Alhegazen as Gwendolyn,

Lilly Barber as Lady Bracknell, Addie Jenkins as Cecily,

Eliza Hardy as Miss Prism, Darius Spears as the Reverend Chasuble and Phoenix Rich as Merriman.

"Each cast will bring its own dynamic and that is a learning tool," Fuselli said. "I want my actors to see how different interpretations of the same character can still work so long as they balance with the choices of their fellow castmates. If at all possible, I would encourage people to watch both casts."

Fuselli said that he and the cast are excited to also present "The Importance of Being Earnest" to local schools in addition to community performances.

"For many students, 'Earnest' is required reading," he said. "I believe it will be a very enriching experience to see the play actually on its feet."

Tickets are \$8 for the general public and \$5 for students and Gadsden State employees. Tickets may be purchased at the door or online at [www.gadsdenstate.edu/FineArts](http://www.gadsdenstate.edu/FineArts).



Photo courtesy of Gadsden State Community College

Cast members of Gadsden State's 2024 Spring play "The Glass Menagerie" perform in a dress rehearsal in March 2024. The theatre department will soon put on "The Importance of Being Earnest" by Oscar Wilde.



# OBITUARIES



**Benilda "Mo"  
Fernandez Kelley**

Benilda "Mo" Fernandez Kelley, beloved mother, friend, and devoted member of her community, passed away on February 8, 2025, at the age of 85.

Born on December 8, 1939, in the Philippines, Benilda embraced life with an adventurous spirit, a kind heart, and an unwavering love for family, friends, and faith.

Benilda dedicated her career to helping others as a Medical Technologist and Blood Bank Supervisor at Riverview Regional Medical Center. Her commitment to her profession reflected her deep sense of responsibility and care for those in need.

A devout Catholic, Benilda was an active member of St. James Catholic Church, where she participated in the Sodality and was a lector and found strength in her faith. She was also deeply involved in her community, serving as a member of the Maharlika Filipino-American Association, the Tawannah Lion's Club, and the Hokes Bluff Seniors and Friends, where she proudly served as past president.

Benilda had a deep passion for gardening, earning the title of Master Gardener. She found joy in nurturing plants, much like she nurtured the people around her. She also had an adventurous side—always eager to explore new places, try new restaurants, dance at parties, karaoke, and spend time with her daughter and best friend, Nola. Her independent and active spirit made her a constant source of joy, laughter, and warmth for those around her.

Her great sense of humor and love for life were evident in everything she did, whether she was shopping for clothes and purses, cheering on her daughter, Nola, as she played pickleball, or simply enjoying a meal together and spending time together. She adored her cat, Mollie, and found happiness in the simple

pleasures of companionship and connection.

Above all, Benilda was a strong, loving mother, wife, and friend. She cherished her daughter, family, and friends both here and in the Philippines, always showing generosity, kindness, and an open heart to those who needed it. She was truly loved by so many and will be deeply missed.

We will honor and celebrate Benilda's life on Friday, February 21, 2025 at St. James Catholic Church, 622 Chestnut Street, Gadsden, Alabama. Visitation will be at 12:30 P.M. and the funeral mass at 1:00 P.M., officiated by Father Jose B. Chacko, followed by her inurnment at the St. James Catholic Church Columbarium. There will be a meal following the mass at the church in Seaton Hall.

Benilda is preceded in death by her husband, Marvin Henry Kelley, her parents, Angela and Fernando Fernandez, and her sister, Ninfa Fernandez Umadhay.

She is survived by her devoted daughter, Nola Jane Kelley, special friends, Celinia Sturm, Agnes Bentley, Alice Mercado, Froilina Estrada, Maloy Helms, Fay Johnson, and Susan Wilkes; and a host of many loving family members and friends both here in the U.S. and in her beloved Philippines.

Special thanks to the nurses and staff of the CCU, CCU Step-Down, and Southern Care New Beacon Hospice at Riverview Regional Medical Center for their care and sensitivity during her stay.

Benilda's legacy of love, laughter, and resilience will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

**Ronald E.  
"Gabby" Hays**

**GADSDEN** - Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, February 14, 2025, at Village Chapel for Ronald E. "Gabby" Hays, 85, of Gadsden, who died Monday, February 10, 2025. Butch McDonald will officiate. Burial will follow at Forrest Cemetery.

Ronald was a 1958 graduate of Emma Sansom High School. He then worked at Republic Steel/Gulf State Steel from 1958 until its closure in 2000. He enjoyed bass fishing and fellowship with family and friends at his lot in Leesburg, and hunting where he was a member of Nocalula Hunting Club for 45 years. He was also a good poker player and practical

joker, but never let on to being either.

Ronald was preceded in death by his parents, Hyatt and Lurleen Hays; sister and brother-in-law, Joan and Leonard Bullock; and grandson, Jacob Royal.

He is survived by his wife, Carolyn Jo Hays; son, Ronald Wayne "Bass" Hays; daughter, Lynn (Scott) Royal; grandchildren, Corey (Josh) Portillo, McKenzie Taylor Hays, Kristin Tanner Hays, Kasie (Brad) Robertson, Kameron (Clint) Stephens, Karly Toliver Royal, and Micah (Reina) Fritz; great-grandchildren, Payton, Cameron, Terry, Levi, Niko, Sara, Kai, Paxton, Colt, Axle, Sammie Jo, and Scottie Rae.

Pallbearers will be Josh Portillo, Clint Stephens, Brad Robertson, Reino Fritz, Lance Watkins, Jerry Rogers, and Justin Gilliland. Honorary pallbearers are Ronald Jean Holliday and the Nocalula Hunting Club.

Special thanks to the nurses and doctors in the Emergency Room and ICU at Riverview Regional Medical Center.

The family will receive friends from 12 p.m. until 1 p.m. Friday at Village Chapel.

**Evelyn Carolyn  
Parrish**

**GADSDEN** - Funeral will be at 1 p.m. Sunday, February 16th, 2025 at Crestwood Funeral Home for Carolyn Parrish, age 88, located at 2209 E Broad Street Gadsden, AL 35903.

Carolyn passed away peacefully in her sleep on Saturday February 8. Jordan Self will officiate. Burial will immediately follow chapel service. Crestwood Funeral Home is in charge.

Carolyn is preceded in death by her late beloved husband, Stanley Parrish. She was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother, always putting the needs of her loved ones first. From a young age, Carolyn surrendered her life to Christ and always treated others with the love, grace, and kindness modeled in her faith. She was a cherished member of the Gadsden community and a faithful member of Falls Mountain Church for more than 40 years. Carolyn was a long-standing member of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and served as treasurer many of those years. She served a long, fulfilling career in the Gadsden City School system.

She also sat on the board at Emblem Credit Union (Formerly Alabama Teacher's Credit Union) for several decades, and served some years as president. The immediate and extended families are deeply mourned by Carolyn's loss but find assurance in knowing that she is at peace, without suffering, seated at the right hand of our savior.

Carolyn is survived by her son, Steven Parrish (Lisa), Grandchildren, Joshua Parrish (Haley), Samantha Frost (Tyler), Haley Crawley (Sharard), Tyler Cason (Lisa), and 9 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Joshua Parrish, Sharard Crawley, Joseph Atchley, Tyler Frost.

Honorary Pallbearers are Steven Parrish, Kenneth Atchley, and Isaac Parrish.

Special thanks to the nurses at Southern Hospice Care and all the staff at Cherokee County Health and Rehabilitation center.

Visitation will be from 11AM to 1PM on Sunday 2/16/2025 with service starting at 1PM.

**Judy E. Fitts**

**GADSDEN** - Judy E. Fitts, age 72, of Gadsden, Alabama passed away on Wednesday, February 5, 2025.

A celebration of life will be held at Circle of Life Church from 2pm to 5pm, on Saturday, February 15, 2025.

Judy was preceded in death by her daughter, Toni Thomas; husband, Frank, along with her mother and father.

Judy is survived by her son, Bubba; grandchildren, Destiny and Jeff, Austin and Kaitlyn, Adam Thomas, Rebecca and Jacob; great grandchildren, Aubree, Kade, Auora, Zoey, and Karter.

Special thanks is given to Brittany and Jamie with Southern Care New Beacon.

**James Garry Grier**

**RAINBOW CITY** - James Garry Grier, 73, of Rainbow City, Alabama, passed away peacefully at home on February 5, 2025, after battling an illness.

Garry was born on September 15, 1951, in Gadsden, Alabama. He graduated from Gadsden High School in 1969, where he was a member of the Tiger Band. He went on to graduate from the National Aviation Academy in St. Petersburg, Florida, in 1972, fulfilling

his dream of becoming a pilot. Garry later returned to Gadsden, where he worked as an advertising executive and a pilot for the Gadsden Times. In 1978, he joined his father's jewelry business, Grier Jewelers, founded in 1941. Over time, he became the owner and president, working there for 30 years. The business was built on honesty and integrity, and he valued both his employees and customers. He was an American Gem Society (AGS) Registered Jeweler and a Graduate Gemologist with the Gemological Institute of America (GIA).

Garry volunteered on his church's production team and served as a deacon. He was also a licensed ham radio operator (KE4WPL). In his free time, Garry enjoyed watching Alabama football and World War II movies, and loved grilling for family gatherings. Known for his joy, kindness, humility, and willingness to help others, Garry was a loving husband, dad, Pop-Pop, and Brother. He was deeply loved by those who knew him and will be greatly missed.

He is survived by daughter, Lindsey Gage (Asa); son, Joseph Grier; niece, Leslie Varney (Jon); grandchildren, Gabriel (Kathleen), Landon, Madeline, and Collin; great-granddaughter, Lucina; brother, Marvin Grier (Julie); and many other relatives and friends.

Garry is preceded in death by parents, Gladys Tidwell Grier and James Cleveland Grier; wife, Cindy Chilton Grier.

The family expresses gratitude to the staff at Enhabit Hospice of Rainbow City for their compassionate care and exceptional support.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, February 15, 2025, at 11:00 AM at Crestwood Memorial Funeral Home, followed by the funeral service at 1:00 PM.

**Kathleen Joan  
Sizemore Taylor**

Kathleen Joan Sizemore Taylor, age 85, passed away on February 6, 2024. The family will have a private memorial service with brother Anthony Copeland officiating.

Mrs. Taylor was a member of Immanuel Baptist Church. She worked in healthcare for years at Gadsden Baptist Memorial Hospital, Holy Name of Jesus Hospital, St. Lukes Nurs-

ing Home of Birmingham, AL, and several private duty nursing.

She is survived by her son Doug Taylor of McLean, VA, daughter Cindy Taylor of Gadsden, AL, and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins

She is preceded in death by her husband Charles D. Taylor, parents Fred and Carrie Sizemore, sisters Burma Robinson, Robbie Bradford, Evelyn Logan, Margaret Brown, Junita Harp, Nona Loconto, Jean Morris, EllaRee Shartton, brothers Dwight (Dude) Sizemore, Bill Sizemore and Frank Sizemore

The family would like to express a special thanks to the nurses and staff of Gadsden Health and Rehab and Dr. Reiland.

**Gwynell Tyler  
Richardson**

**GADSDEN** - Gwynell Tyler Richardson, age 85, of Gadsden, Alabama passed away on Tuesday, February 4, 2025.

Born on June 24th, 1939, Gwynell lived a life marked by quiet dedication to her family and appreciation of nature.

Gwynell is survived by her husband Charles R. Richardson, her daughter Julie McMeekin; grandchildren Chris Christian and Wendi (Sean) Busenlener; brother David (Debra) Tyler; and her 3 great-grandsons, Sam Christian, Patrick and Christian Busenlener. And a host of nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents Reuben and Viola Tyler. Sisters Elizabeth Wood, Delores Hollis and Hayd Tyler.

A lover of plants and flowers, Gwynell found peace in tending those.

A private service will be held February 9th at Collier Butler Funeral Home in accordance with her wishes. She will be sorely missed.

**Steven Ladon Mullins**

**GADSDEN** - Steven L. Mullins, age 54, of Gadsden, AL, passed away on Sunday, February 9, 2025. A funeral service will be held at 2:00 pm on Friday, February 14, 2025, at Collier-Butler Funeral Home. Rev. Newman Voss will officiate. The family will accept friends on Thursday, February 13, 2025, from 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm at the funeral home for visitation.



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# NEWS

## Gadsden State generates \$270 million in economic impact

According to the latest Economic Impact Study for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 by Lightcast, a global leader in labor market analytics, Gadsden State Community College generated \$270.5 million in total added income for the regional economy. That amount is equal to approximately 2.3 percent of the total gross regional product of Gadsden State's service area.

**Key Areas of Impact:**

- Operations spending impact (\$42.5 million) – Payroll and benefits to support day-to-day operations.
- Construction spending impact (\$7.9 million) – GSCC invests in capital projects, facility maintenance and growth to meet educational needs.
- Student spending impact (\$2.5 million) – Expenditures of relocated and retained students in the region.
- Alumni impact (\$217.6 million) – Thousands of former students are employed in the GSCC service area.

"At Gadsden State, we believe education is the foundation of a thriving community," said Dr. Kathy Mur-

phy, President of GSCC. "These numbers reflect our commitment not just to academic excellence but to the well-being and prosperity of the communities we serve. Every student success story translates into a stronger workforce and a more vibrant local economy."

The total impact of \$270.5 million is equivalent to supporting 4,415 jobs. For perspective, this means that one out of every 36 jobs in the Gadsden State service area is supported by the activities of the community college and its students.

"Our mission extends beyond the classroom," Murphy said. "We are dedicated to fostering innovation, supporting local businesses and enhancing the quality of life throughout the region. This report highlights the value of investing in education—an investment that yields measurable, long-term benefits for everyone."

For more information on Gadsden State Community College and its programs, please visit gadsdenstate.edu.



## RVSP offering help- From 1A

**East Gadsden**  
The East Gadsden Community Center (921 Wilson Street) from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Feb. 1 and 15; March 1, 15 and 29 and April 12

**Glencoe**  
The George Wallace Senior Center (407 Hollingsworth Park Lane) from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Tuesdays and Fridays through April 11

**Rainbow City**  
The Rainbow City Community Center (3702 Rainbow Drive) from 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Wednesdays and Thursdays through April 11

**Attalla**  
Carnes Rec Center (102 Case Avenue) from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays through April 15.

**Downtown Gadsden**  
Etowah County Courthouse, second floor, Room 221, from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., Monday-Fridays through April 15.

**Hokes Bluff**  
Hokes Bluff Public Library (3310 Alford Bend Road) from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., every Monday through April 14.

**Walnut Grove**  
Walnut Grove Public Library (5151 Walnut Grove Road) from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Feb. 5 and 19, March 5 and 19, April 2.

**Sardis**  
Sardis City Public Library (1310 Church Street) from 1 - 5 p.m. on Feb. 12 and 26, March 12 and 26 and April 9.

## Gadsden Amnesty Day set for March 12

The City of Gadsden is offering an Amnesty Court Day on Wednesday, March 12 from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. The court office will remain open through lunch. The amnesty program provides an opportunity for those with certain municipal court charges to clear their cases without concern of being physically arrested.

Amnesty is offered to all individuals

who have received traffic, misdemeanors, failed to appear, owe fines, has a warrant and any pending charges. On Amnesty Day, Judge Welch will accept one half of the amount that is owed to the court, which must be paid in full that day, and the court will remit the balance owed. Anyone wishing to take advantage of this program may do so by appearing in court on

March 12. Only cases that have been previously adjudicated are eligible for this promotion. Pre-Trial Diversion cases are not eligible for Amnesty Day. Typically, the cases eligible for consideration for amnesty are failure to appear in court and defendants who owe fines and fees.

For more information, call the court office at 256-549-4595.

## The Surgery Clinic is first in Etowah County to offer nonsurgical treatment for skin cancer

SkinCure Oncology, the world leader in providing a comprehensive model for the delivery of Image-Guided Superficial Radiation Therapy (Image-Guided SRT), the most advanced nonsurgical treatment for common skin cancer, recently announced its availability in Etowah County.

"Almost 1,500 individuals in Etowah County are expected to be diagnosed with nonmelanoma skin cancer this year, and it is absolutely essential for them to have information on all available treatment options, both surgical and nonsurgical, so they can make informed decisions

about their care," said Charles Newman, M.D., of The Surgery Clinic, LLC. "Image-Guided SRT, the most exciting technological innovation in dermatology today, is the new standard of care for early stage non-melanoma skin cancer. We call it the GentleCure experience, and we are proud to be the first in Etowah County to offer it."

The Surgery Clinic, LLC in Gadsden is the first medical practice in the county to offer the GentleCure experience.

Image-Guided SRT is the only treatment for nonmelanoma skin cancer (basal and squamous cell

carcinoma) that uses ultrasound imaging to help clinicians direct low-level x-rays to targeted areas of the skin, killing cancer cells with none of the side effects common to traditional Mohs surgery. A study published in the journal Oncology and Therapy showed that Image-Guided SRT produces a 99.3 percent cure rate for early-stage nonmelanoma, making it just as effective as surgical treatment. Other research, published in the journal "Clinical and Translational Radiation Oncology", reported that recurrence rates with Image-Guided SRT are superior to those associ-

ated with Mohs surgery.

"Patients everywhere should have the choice of curing their nonmelanoma skin cancer without surgery," said Kerwin Brandt, Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago-based company.

Learn more about SkinCure Oncology at SkinCure-Oncology.com and visit GentleCure.com for helpful consumer and patient information.

## YMCA Father-Daughter Dance - From 1A

The following is the testimony of an adoptive daughter and her dad.

Joseph and Emma Owens have been attending the Coosa Valley YMCA's Father-Daughter Dance since she was born. Emma is now 10 and looking forward to another special time with her dad.

**Questions for Emma:**

**What does it feel like to have your dad choose to embrace you in this special moment through the dance?**

It is special because we get to have a night that is just me and daddy.

**How does dancing with your dad at this event help you feel about your place in your family?**

I feel loved and I get to have my daddy's full attention on me and not my little brother.

**What memories from the father-daughter dance do you hold onto, and how do they shape the way you view love and relationships?**

Shopping for a dress, my mommy fixing my hair and makeup and dancing with my friends and my daddy. My daddy is a gentleman and opens the door for me and carries me to the car when my shoes hurt my feet. It makes me feel loved to go to the dance with my daddy.

**Questions for Joseph:**

**Knowing the journey you've shared together, what emotions do you experience when you hold Emma during the father-daughter dance?**

I feel joy, happiness, blessed and extremely grateful. I remember the nights I prayed for God to allow me to become a father, and I often thank Him that He chose me to be Emma Grace's dad.

**How does the father-daughter dance symbolize the promise you've made to your daughter, especially in**

**terms of love and support?**

The father-daughter dance allows me to focus on Emma for that night. We get to lay aside the busyness of life - the practices, rehearsals and lessons - and allows me to give her my full attention for a few hours. She gets to dress up and I get to show her how a man should treat her.

**What do you hope Emma takes away from the experience of dancing with you, both in the moment and for the future?**

More than anything, I hope Emma takes away happy memories. I hope that she looks back on these dances and remembers how much I love her and how happy she makes me. I hope she draws confidence for herself and (hopefully many years from now) chooses a husband who exemplifies the same qualities and level of care and love that I have for her.

**How many years have you attended the YMCA Father-Daughter Dance, and what is your favorite**

**memory?**

We've gone to the event every year of Emma's life. We started attending the dance when my wife served on the YMCA board of Directors and Emma was just a baby. My favorite memory is a tradition that we share. Just before it is time for us to leave for the dance, I will go outside and get her flowers. I will then knock on our front door and Emma Grace opens it for the big reveal of her dress and her hairstyle. She does a spin, we take pictures and we go to the dance together.

Fathers, do not miss this opportunity to create lifelong memories with your daughter. Show her how much you love and cherish her by taking her to the dance. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit ymcaacoosa.com/father-daughter dance or e-mail infoymcaacoosavalley@gmail.com.

*Submitted by Mike Hammonds, CVO, YMCA of the Coosa Valley*



## Bal'd'or Club honors nine debutantes

The Bal d' Or Club honored nine young ladies by presenting them at the club's 63rd Annual Ball on Saturday, December 28, 2024, at the Gadsden Country Club. Photography was provided by Jessica Trammell of Gadsden.

The Bal d'Or Club was pleased to welcome into membership Ms. Sydney Boatner, Mrs. Wells Dhionis, Mrs. Kris Elliott, Mrs. Leslie Jackson, Mrs. Sydney Murray and Mrs. Brooke Wilkerson.

The evening's festivities were coordinated by the Bal d'Or Board of Governors, which includes Mrs. Amy Gladden, Chairman; Mrs. Catherine Martin, Vice Chairman; Mrs. Alie Causey, Secretary; Mrs. Kelly Kemp, Treasurer; Mrs. Barbara Condra, Publicity Chairman; Mrs. Kirkland Back-Cunningham, Invitations Chairman; Mrs. Mary Lynn Shadix, Food and Beverage Chairman; Ms. Jody Sizemore, Decorations Chairman; Mrs. Kristen Greer, Music Chairman; Mrs. Jenny Stacy, Parliamentarian; Mrs. Deana Williams, Past President.

The nine debutantes were presented wearing traditional long white dresses and gloves, a compliment to the black tuxedos worn by their fathers and escorts. Each presentee carried a delicate calla lily tied with a gold ribbon. Musical entertainment was provided by Lucky Town.

Anna Catherine Edwards is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Edwin Edwards. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Michael Nunn of Gadsden and Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Lee Edwards of Birmingham. Miss Edwards attends the University of Alabama where she is a marketing major and recently completed an internship with Venture Marketing. She is a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. She is also a member of the University of Alabama's B+ Foundation which brings awareness to childhood cancer. Escorting Miss Edwards were Mr. William Edwin Edwards, Mr. William Bledsoe Kemp V, and Mr. Andrew James Warren all of Gadsden.

Ann Sutherland Elliott is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rolling Elliott and the granddaughter of Mrs. Judi Loveman the late Mr. Barry Loveman of Gadsden and Mr. and Mrs. John Elliott of Mountain Brook. Currently a student at Auburn University, she is pursuing a major in Speech and Language Pathology, with a minor in Human Development and Family Studies. A dedicated volunteer, Miss Elliott served as a Finance Staff Director for Auburn University Dance Marathon and is an active mentor for Project Uplift. She also contributes her time to the CARES Humane Society. Additionally, she is a member of the National Speech and Hearing Association, further demonstrating her commitment to both her academic and community endeavors. Escorting Miss Elliott were Mr. John Douglas Fry of Brookhaven, GA, Mr. Tyler A. Walker of Daphne, AL, and Mr. Garner Lee Wilkerson of Mountain Brook.

Anna Clare Goodwin is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James David Goodwin, III. She is the granddaughter of Mrs. Clyde

Henry Porter, Jr. and Mrs. James David Goodwin, Jr. all of Gadsden. Miss Goodwin attends Auburn University where she is a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority. Miss Goodwin is pursuing a degree in Apparel Merchandising with a business minor. She is a Young Life leader serving on the Opelika Middle School WyldLife team. Clare also serves as a WyldLife mentor, fundraising manager, and social media manager. She is the owner of a small business clare.g.art. Clare is a member of First Baptist, Gadsden and attends Auburn Community Church. Escorting Miss Goodwin were Mr. Harrison Charles Holley of Mountain Brook, Mr. Evans Charles Sizemore and Mr. Wesley Cole Patterson of Gadsden.

Ella Kate Howard is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Dayton Howard. She is the granddaughter of Mrs. Katherine Kinsey Lackey, Mr. Robert Coleman Howard, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles Morris Ligan, all of Gadsden. Miss Howard attends the University of Alabama where she is a Civil Engineering major and works cooperatively with the University of Alabama Construction Administration. She is a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority, where she serves actively in philanthropic and sisterhood events. She is also a part of the Associated Builders and Contractors, UA American Society of Civil Engineers, and the Executive Committee of the Society of Women Engineers. Miss Howard is active in her community and participates in weekly outreach events at Holy Spirit Catholic Middle School, Reformed University Fellowship's Servant Team, and is a member of Rainbow Presbyterian Church. Escorting Miss Howard were Mr. Paul Clinton Bruce of Guntersville, Mr. Patrick Joseph Koury of Gadsden, and Mr. Samuel Anderson Roberts of Gadsden.

Ann Winston Morano is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hunter Spencer Morano, of Birmingham. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Clarence Inzer III, of Gadsden, and Mrs. James Francis Morano, Jr., and the late Mr. Morano, of Richmond, Virginia, and the great-granddaughter of Mrs. James Clarence Inzer, Jr., and the late Mr. Inzer, of Gadsden. Miss Morano is an Advanced Honors graduate of Mountain Brook High School and attends Auburn University, where she has been named to the Dean's List for the College of Sciences and Mathematics. Within this college, she is pursuing a major in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences and a minor in Business. She is an active member of Kappa Delta Sorority, where she serves as Reference Head of Recruitment, Parliamentarian, Guard of Arms, and Homecoming Chairman. She is also involved in the Beat Bama Food Drive and campaigning each year on platforms for Miss Homecoming. Escorting Miss Morano are Mr. Hunter Spencer Morano, Jr., Mr. Douglas Edward Coltharp, Jr., and Mr. Caldwell Allen McCraney, all of Birmingham.

Hartley Elizabeth Reynolds is the daughter of Mr.

and Mrs. Jerald Scott Reynolds. She is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Jerald Howard Reynolds of Gadsden, the late Mr. Larry Joe Gordon and Mrs. Sheila Gordon. Miss Reynolds attends Belmont University where she is pursuing a Commercial Music degree in the College of Music and Performing Arts. She is part of the Global Honors Program which included a semester attending Queens College in Belfast, Northern Ireland. She has been named to the Dean's list and has served as a School of Music Ambassador. She is a member of Belmont's Bluegrass performing ensemble, Alpha Gamma Delta sorority, and Reformed University Fellowship's leadership team. Escorting Miss Reynolds were Mr. Tanner Atlas Rice of Gadsden, Mr. Everett Hastings Roberts of Gadsden and Mr. Nathanael Isaac Starzl of Gadsden.

Grace Kelly Rhea is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Andrew Rhea. She is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Frost Rhea and Mr. and Mrs. James Howard Dial of Gadsden. Miss Rhea attends Auburn University where she has been named to the Dean's List and is majoring in Communication while double minoring in Public Relations and Political Science. She is an active member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority, where she participates in philanthropic events and activities throughout the year. Miss Rhea is a member of Women in Business and Pi Lambda Sigma Pre-Law Honor Society, and she recently accepted an internship with the Auburn Chamber of Commerce for the Spring of 2025. Escorting Miss Rhea were Mr. William Henry Roberts, Mr. Kyle Andrew Haney, and Mr. Talon Jayce Suther of Gadsden.

Amelia Grace Ryan is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Daniel Ryan Sr. She is granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Davis Mitchell of Birmingham and Mr. Donald John Ryan of Wetumpka and Ms. Patricia Jackmyer Ryan of Pittsburgh, PA. Miss Ryan attends The University of Alabama where she is a kinesiology major



**TOP ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: Anna Catherine Edwards, Ann Sutherland Elliott, Anna Clare Goodwin, Ella Kate Howard. MIDDLE ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: Ann Winston Morano, Hartley Elizabeth Reynolds, Grace Kelly Rhea, Amelia Grace Ryan. BOTTOM ROW: Brooke Haylie Seawright. (Submitted photos)**

with a concentration in exercise science and currently works at Tuscaloosa Rehabilitation and Hand Center assisting occupational therapists and physical therapists in providing therapeutic services to patients. She is a member of the Zeta Chapter of Kappa Delta where she serves with the rush team and actively supports Prevent Child Abuse America and Girl Scouts of America. Locally, the Zeta Chapter of Kappa Delta supports Crossing Points and Child Abuse Prevention Services - Tuscaloosa. She also is a member of The University of Alabama's B+ Foundation, Pre-Occupational Therapy Society, Kinesiology Society, and AL's Pals. Escorting Miss Ryan were Mr. Donald Daniel Ryan Jr, Mr. Jackson Tate Sparks, and Mr. Matthew Gray Skelton all of Gadsden.

Brooke Haylie Seawright is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Scott Seawright. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Charles Smith of Gadsden, Mrs. Pamala Diane Stewart of Attalla, and Mr. Ronald David Seawright of Fort Payne. Miss Seawright attends The University of Alabama where she is a Finance and Management double major and a Real Estate state minor. She is a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. Escorting Miss Seawright is Mr. Jonathan Robert Birdsong of Gallatin, Tn, Mr. Jon Cannon Cook of Gadsden, and Mr. Jacob Andrew Kelly of Gadsden.

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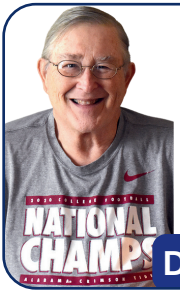
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# LIFESTYLE

## Gadsden's industrial progress was rapid



### Looking at the History

Danny Crowover

In the 1950s, a Gadsden's Industry Day was observed. It was an eye-opener to folks who were not fully informed as to what is being made by local factories.

The plants were open to inspection on Industry Day, and many of them took advantage of the opportunity. The object was to educate the people as to what Alabama is doing and to emphasize the slogan, "What Alabama Makes, Makes Alabama."

The Vagabond could not help but return to the past for comparison, for the second industrial city of Alabama manufactured

very little goods of any kind back in day. When the Alabama Press Association met in Gadsden in 1879, the newspaper publishers and editors were taken to Nocalula Falls to visit and inspect the town's first industry, which was the hat making plant of Allen Gaylor and his family. The Gaylors made wool and fur hats, and the newspapermen were told that they were going to be shown what the locals referred to as The Hattery.

At that time, John Flynn and William Hagen were putting Gadsden's first iron foundry into operation under the name of the Gadsden Foundry Company. That plant evolved into the area's first pipe shop.

The old Coosa Furnace, which was blown in during 1882, was the first local plant to make pig iron. The Elliott Car Works was established in 1887. The Dwight Manufacturing Company built its giant textile mill in 1895, while the steel mills, which eventually employed around 6,000 people, began building in 1903.

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company built its huge plant in East Gadsden 1929. In 1950, the local plant became the second largest of the Goodyear organization, turning out 20,000 tires, 30,000 tubes and 200,000 heels and soles daily.

The A & J Stove Foundry was the first of its kind in this area and was one of the most modern in the country. The Agricola Furnace Company was one of the largest of its kind in the nation, as was the Benjamin Kahn textile mills in Attalla, Kahn turned out rugs known all over the world. The Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Company was also one of the largest of its kind in the country.

Gadsden also had smaller textile, iron, clay and woodworking mills that were among the state's best. The Birmingham Slag Company's Gadsden plant was a big producer of building materials.

The AAA Corporation featured a ceramics plant that was constantly growing. The great Allis-Chalmers Corporation built

a large tractor plant in East Gadsden that made mechanical cotton pickers.

The Gadsden Concrete Pipe Company manufactured concrete pipe for the region, while the Queen City Furniture Company sold its products all over the southeast. The Owen Iron Works turned out all sorts of castings and pipe fittings. The Rainbow Mattress Company maintained a substantial business for 30 years.

The Sand Mountain Fertilizer Company operated an immense plant in Attalla. The Nuform Battery Company did good business. The Jackson Concrete Company was organized in 1910.

The General Cabinet & Supply Company was located at the U.S. Army base at Camp Sibert.

All this progress was a far reach during the days when Gadsden featured not much more than a water powered grist mill, a wool carder and a tannery.

Contact Danny Crowover at [dkcrow@bellsouth.net](mailto:dkcrow@bellsouth.net).

## The depression of the broken and the joy of the redeemed



### Memoir Musings

Sandra Bost

A few weeks ago, my granddaughter told me about her favorite lava lamp, a glorious globe filled with pink and purple blobs of glittery wax set on a pretty tie-dyed pedestal that glowed warmly in her room. It reminded me of Momma.

If you were to ask those folks who knew my momma to describe her in one word, I think most would say "joy." She had a way of lighting up a room and drawing laughter from a crowd. She loved to be the center of attention, and nothing gave her more joy than dotting over a family member or friend. Her public life was filled with warm hugs, caring conversations and non-stop jokes. Her private life, however, was a cycle of joy and despair.

Over the course of her life, Momma would find herself either on a mountaintop

or in a valley. There were very few days where her mind and emotions would let her rest on level ground. It was not for lack of knowledge of where to find still waters and green pastures, for her heart was set on the Good Shepherd. But the rollercoaster that accompanies manic depression was a force to be reckoned with.

When I think about Momma's life, it is no wonder that she found herself with a season pass to the Emotional Rollercoaster. The list of offenses is long. It could have been the trauma she suffered from an abusive incident in childhood, the uncertainties of growing up with a World War II veteran with PTSD or the constant fight for approval because of a learning disability. It was a lot. I've often tried and failed to unravel the threads to see if I could figure out which came first - life trauma or depression. What I can do is observe the way Momma dealt with it and share the lessons learned.

My daughter recently attended a conference for foster and adoptive moms. It was led by an inspiring and transparent woman who shares the "both/and" of raising children who belong to both a first family and a foster family. Sometimes we try to make everything black or white and look for solid answers in "if/then" scenarios. Clearly, life

is messier than that.

The Bible is the only constant source for "if/thens" that we can be certain of. Verses such as 2 Chronicles 7:14, which tells us, "If my people...will pray and turn from their wicked ways.... then I will hear from Heaven and heal their land," give idealists like me hope that life will follow rules. However, I have lived long enough to know that is not the case. Even if we as individuals follow the rules (but who does perfectly, anyway?), the choices of those in our lives who do not follow the rules have consequences that affect us all.

My mother's life was an example of how the choices of others - wicked men, countries at war, unkind teachers - caused consequences that would wreck a young girl's mind and shatter her heart. The choices of others shaped her self-image, which potentially became the gasoline that fueled her depression.

Obviously, I am not a psychologist. I am just the daughter of a girl who lived in the "both/and" world. I saw the struggles that wreaked havoc on my mother behind closed doors, and I watched her push all of that down in public in order to pour her love into the hearts of the ones whose longing eyes called to the deepest parts of her hurt.

As a young adult, I found myself living in a constant struggle to judge my mother for all of the private battles that affected me as a child and throw out any of the good that she brought to the world. Praise Jesus, He was patient with me in showing me how foolish that was, because now I can see how all creation wrapped in human skin lives in this balance between the way things are and the way they should be. We live in the depression of the broken and in the joy of the redeemed. Both things are present at the same time, swirling like my granddaughter's favorite lava lamp - dark colored wax mixed with sparkling glitter, heating and cooling, creating an illuminating dance of the "both/and."

Be encouraged today! Life is wonderful, because it is filled with the "both" and the "and."

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 enjoys time with her family and sipping coffee while porch-sitting to the happy sounds of nature. Visit [www.sandramullins-bost.com](http://www.sandramullins-bost.com) for more information.

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# The many different Valentines

This week, my husband and I spent some time with our youngest daughter making watercolor Valentines for her classmates. It was simple and relaxing as we sat and chatted with her and quite literally watched paint dry. I asked her what she's learned about Valentine's Day this year, and she shared a few things. That conversation got my curiosity piqued and I decided to see how much I have forgotten about the holiday in the past year by doing some research on it myself.

I've always assumed it was a Saint Valentine thing, and although it is, there are many other possible origins for the holiday — and innumerable "firsts" that are pretty interesting. So, I thought I'd share them with you, Dear Reader.

I've always heard about Saint Valentine, but apparently there were at least three. One was a Roman priest who was killed for defying the emperor's ban on marriage ceremonies. Another was a bishop who was also killed by the emperor, and a third legend tells of a man named Valentine who was imprisoned and fell in love with the jailer's daughter. The story says that he sent her a letter and signed it "Your Valentine." The idea of for-

bidden or hidden love is the impetus behind Valentine messages — ironic since these messages are proclaimed everywhere now on Valentine's Day.

However, the public displays of affection make more sense in light of another interesting fact: before Valentine's Day was officially created, there was a celebration of fertility called Lupercalia with a history steeped in its own mythology involving Roman gods.

Eventually, in the Middle Ages, Valentine's Day was officially celebrated on February 14 because that was thought to be when mating season began for birds. Eventually, the Roman gods had to make room for the Greek god of love, Cupid, who underwent his own transformation from hunky man-god into the chubby-cheeked baby cherub we think of now.

All of these origin stories have contributed to what we celebrate today when we give friends and loved ones tokens of our affection.

One of the oldest Valentine's letters was written in 1415 by Charles, Duke of Orleans. He sent a letter expressing his love to his wife while he was imprisoned in the tower

of London. These notes became popular throughout Europe, and during the Victorian era a new genre of Valentine's notes developed: Vinegar Valentines. These were snarky rebuffs, mocking missives and generally sarcastic little notes that were given out to those who dared show unwanted affection. I feel like I know many middle school and high school students who would enjoy putting their own spins on these Valentines.

Today, Valentine's Day is celebrated all over the world, with unique versions of gifts and Valentine's messages seen in the United States, Mexico, Canada, France, the United Kingdom and Australia. It is most definitely celebrated at our local Walmart, where I watched pallet after pallet of beautiful roses being wheeled in one morning earlier this week. They were beautiful, and I smiled as I watched several men of various ages perusing the bouquets, each searching for the perfect blooms to gift a loved one. I have received flowers many times from my husband, but my favorite gift is now our yearly Valentine's Day tradition: he gifts me a specially curated and themed playlist (originally, a CD each year) each February. I'm looking



forward to seeing what he came up with this year — and maybe sneaking a couple of chocolates from the candy I bought for our kids.

No matter where you spend this Valentine's Day, or with whom, may you have a beautiful day, treat yourself to something special and remember that no matter the kind, "where there is love, there is life."

*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 workshopping 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 tabithabozeaman@gmail.com.*



## Strawberry Valentine's Day treats

### Strawberry Brownies

#### Ingredients

##### Strawberry Puree

- 1 lb. fresh or frozen strawberries
- 1/4 cup (50 g.) granulated sugar
- 1/2 tsp. pure vanilla extract
- Zest and juice from 1 lemon
- Kosher salt

##### Brownie Batter

- 10 Tbsp. unsalted butter, cut into 1/2" pieces
- 6 oz. (170 g.) white chocolate melts
- 1 large egg
- 1 large egg yolk
- 1 1/4 cups (250 g.) granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup freeze-dried strawberries, crushed into powder (optional)
- 1 cup (140 g.) strawberry puree
- 1 tsp. pure vanilla extract
- 2 cups (240 g.) all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp. kosher salt
- 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- Pink gel food coloring

##### Strawberry Ganache

- 8 oz. (240 g.) white chocolate melts
- 2/3 cup heavy cream
- 4 to 5 fresh strawberries, thinly sliced (optional)
- Freeze-dried strawberries, crushed into powder, for serving (optional)

#### Directions

In a medium saucepan over medium heat, cook strawberries, sugar, vanilla, and lemon juice, stirring occasionally, until strawberries begin to break down and sugar dissolves, 3 to 4 minutes. Continue to simmer, stirring occasionally, until mixture is slightly thickened and resembles strawberry jam, 12 to 15 minutes. Stir in lemon zest and a pinch of salt. Remove from heat.

Transfer to a standard blender (or use an immersion blender) and puree until smooth. Let cool.

Arrange a rack in lower third of oven; preheat to 325°. Line a 9" square baking pan with parchment.

In a medium heatproof bowl, microwave butter and chocolate melts in 30-second increments, stirring between each, until melted and smooth, about 90 seconds total.

In the large bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the whisk attachment, beat egg, egg yolk, sugar, and freeze-dried strawberries (if using) on medium-high speed until pale and fluffy. Beat in vanilla and 1 cup (140 g.) strawberry puree; reserve remaining puree. Gradually beat in melted chocolate until smooth.

Switch to the paddle attachment. Sift in flour, salt, and baking powder and beat on medium-low speed until just combined. Add food coloring, a few drops at a time, and beat until desired color is reached, being careful not to over mix. Pour batter into prepared pan.

Bake brownies until lightly browned around the edges and a tester inserted into the center comes out clean, 35 to 40 minutes. Let cool.

In a medium heatproof bowl, microwave chocolate melts and cream in 30-second increments, stirring between each, until melted and smooth, about 2 minutes total.

Stir in 1/4 cup strawberry puree. Let cool. Spread ganache on top of cooled brownies. Top with strawberry slices and crushed freeze-dried strawberries (if using).

### Chocolate Covered Strawberries

#### Ingredients

- 1 pt. fresh strawberries
- 2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- 2 Tbsp. coconut oil

#### Directions

Rinse strawberries and thoroughly pat dry with paper towels.

In a small heatproof bowl, microwave chips and oil in 30-second increments, stirring in between, until melted and smooth, about 1 minute total.

Dip strawberries into chocolate and arrange on a large parchment-lined sheet.

Refrigerate until chocolate is set, about 30 minutes.

### THE MESSENGER'S PICK FOR EVENT OF THE WEEK

## Adopt Your Valentine Event

**Feb. 14-15:** The Gadsden Humane Society and Pet Rescue Center is hosting a Valentine's Day adoption drive between February 14-15. Adoption fees are \$50, which includes spay/neuter, vaccines and microchips. To see available animals, visit [hsprac.com](http://hsprac.com).

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### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS City of Gadsden, Alabama Community Development Block Grant Program Fiscal Years 2025-2029

The primary objective of the Community Development Block Grant Program is to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low-moderate income persons.

The City of Gadsden will hold a public hearing to discuss the preparation of the City's 5-year Consolidated plan for fiscal years 2025-2029, the 2025 Action Plan and to allow citizens an opportunity to participate in the Plans that begin June 1, 2025. The Community Development Department will also provide information concerning fair housing at the meeting. The public hearings will be held on the following dates:

**February 20, 2025**    **The Venue at Coosa Landing**    **10:00 a.m.**  
**February 20, 2025**    **The Venue at Coosa Landing**    **1:00 p.m.**

Please use the QR code to take the survey. Your input will guide how federal funds are used to improve our community. All comments must be submitted at one of the public hearings or to the Community Development Department Room 310, City Hall or at [aravaes@cityofgadsden.com](mailto:aravaes@cityofgadsden.com); [rmoffatt@cityofgadsden.com](mailto:rmoffatt@cityofgadsden.com).



**YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED!**

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#### We want to hear from YOU!

Share your thoughts to help us create a 5-year plan to improve neighborhoods, support residents, and ensure fair access to housing. Your input will guide how federal funds are used to improve our community.

Attend a meeting and take the survey today and make a difference!

#### ATTEND A MEETING

GENERAL PUBLIC MEETING  
FEB 20 @ 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM

The Venue at Coosa Landing  
99 East Chestnut Street  
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Meeting Rooms A&B

#### TAKE THE SURVEY



(256) 549-4647  
Ruth Moffatt, Interim Director, Community Development  
[rmoffatt@cityofgadsden.com](mailto:rmoffatt@cityofgadsden.com)



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¡Asista a una reunión y responda la encuesta hoy y marque la diferencia!

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# DEVOTIONALS

## The importance of building wisely



Can you think of a time when you started something with excellence, but by the end of your project, your heart wasn't "all in" and you knew that you were not giving your best effort?

There is a great story about an elderly carpenter who was ready to retire. He told his employer/contractor of his plans to leave the house-building business and live a more leisurely life in enjoying his extended family with his wife.

The contractor was sorry to see his good worker go and asked if he could build just one more house as a personal favor.

The carpenter agreed, but in time it was easy to see that his heart was not in his work. He started resorting to shoddy workmanship and used inferior materials. It was an unfortunate way to end a dedicated career. Once the carpenter finished his work the employer came to

inspect the house. He handed the front door key to the carpenter. "This is your house, my gift to you," he said. The carpenter was shocked! If only he had known that he was building his own house, he would have done it all so differently.

So it is with us. We build our own lives, a day at a time, often putting less than our best into the building. Then, with a shock, we realize we that we must live in the house we built. If we could do it over, we would do it much differently. Remember that we are all carpenters, and each day we are hammering a nail, placing a board or erecting a wall.

The following Scripture reminds us how to build wisely.

**God is your builder.** Psalm 127:1 says, "Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it. Unless the Lord guards the city, the watchman keeps awake in vain." We must submit our plans, our dreams and our goals to the Lord and make sure that they are aligned with His plans for us. Otherwise, our labor and all we do will be futile, fruitless and unsuccessful.

**Seek God's wisdom.** Proverbs 24:3 says, "By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established." When seeking advice, would you say you have two or three godly people in

your life that you could turn to when seeking wisdom in a situation? If not, begin to pray and asked God to bring someone like this in your life. God especially loves it when we come to Him and seek wisdom. We can never ask for too much, and when we ask, He will give us direction and understanding with every nail we hammer and every board we place.

**Always give God all the glory.** Hebrews 3:4 says, "For every house has a builder, but the one who built everything is God." May we always remember that without our Heavenly Father, we would have nothing and be worth nothing. He is the Divine builder of all good things, and we should never forget to give Him all the praise and honor He deserves.

Our attitudes and the choices we make today build the "house" we live in tomorrow, so build wisely!

Thank you, Jesus, for being the master builder. Today we commit our lives, our dreams and our homes to you. We know that it is never too late to rebuild, so today we ask for wisdom as we continue to grow and build. Thank you for all your blessings in our lives, and we give you all the honor and glory!

If you would like continued prayer, feel free to email me at [tonif77@gmail.com](mailto:tonif77@gmail.com). I would love to pray for you!

## Bible Verse of the Week



**"A false witness shall perish: but the man that heareth speaketh constantly. A wicked man hardeneth his face: but as for the upright, he directeth his way. There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against the Lord."**

- Proverbs 21:28-30 King James Version



## Verse for Kids

**"I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. My meditation of him shall be sweet: I will be glad in the Lord."**

- Psalms 104:33-34 King James Version

## Saints are just sinners who fall down and get up

Bob Carlisle, the infamous singer/songwriter of "Butterfly Kisses," has another song entitled "We Fall Down." Set in times past, the song tells an old tale of a poor merchant toiling daily to get his product to the market. The lyrics include, "Cursing every step of the way, he bore a heavy load to the market 10 miles away, the journey took its toll, and every day he passed a monastery's high cathedral walls, and it made his life seem meaningless and small, and he wondered how it would be to live in such a place, to be warm, well fed and at peace; to shut the world away. So, when he saw a priest who walked for once beyond the iron gate, he asked, 'Tell me of your life inside that place.' The priest replied, 'We fall down, we get up, we fall down, we get up, we fall down, we get up, and the saints are just the sinners who fall down and get up.'"

The song goes on to describe the utter disappointment the merchant felt. His fantasy was shattered. He had believed that living in a monastery and being a priest meant that you were automatically living a holy life and being blessed by God with the comforts of life. But the priest instead acknowledged that the struggle for personal holiness was ongoing. Then, as the song continues, hope wells up in the heart of the merchant as he realized that the priest found "God's grace to be enough" to keep getting back up. And in that, there is hope "for the rest of us."

It's not a perfect analogy, but it serves as a good picture of the importance of acknowledging that the struggle against sin is real in every phase of life. For many of us, we have a testimony that doesn't always play well in a Christian commercial, per se.

Have you ever heard a "perfect" testimony? An example might be, "I was drug addicted and I got arrested for crimes of theft to support my addiction. Then I got arrested again. While sitting in a jail cell, a visiting preacher explained that through sin, I was in a spiritual prison cell awaiting execution, but that through Christ, I could be set free from my sin and my spiritual prison cell, because He would pay the penalty for my sin and set me free. So, I trusted in Christ and was baptized, and since that day I have never felt the pull of addiction again."

The reason I call it a "perfect" testimony is that there is a clear before and after that seemed so crisp that all the "grey" areas disappeared. Upon hearing such a testimony, I would always think, "Man, my journey is a whole lot messier than that!"

I got saved when I was 8 years old, I fell into major sin in junior high, I repented in high school, I fell back into major sin, I repented in college, I walked strong with God, I struggled with addiction, I repented and fell on and off, I went to Confession, I converted to Catholicism, I walk strong with God, I fall, I repent, I go to Confession, I fall, I walk strong, I fall, I go to Confession....see what I mean? It's messy. How about you?

The amazing thing about grace is that it never runs dry. If we repent and confess, we are forgiven "70 times 7 times," meaning, of course, "every time." Not one time - every time. Through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, the blood sacrifice of "The Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world," the fountain of grace for everyone who ever live cannot be exhausted. The only real question is of whether we will continue to come to that fountain or not. Because "We fall



down, we get up."

The "falling down" part is almost inevitable. But the "getting back up" part is the real point of urgency, isn't it? Have you lost hope in yourself like I have on several occasions? Is it time to go to Confession and continue your testimony?

Maybe Rocky Balboa said it best in his final film: "Nobody's gonna hit as hard as life. But it ain't about how hard ya hit. It's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward."

Take heart, Beloved, for God is for you.

Keep moving forward.

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. He and his wife Hope have five children. A self-described "on-again, off-again bi-vocational part-time" Protestant minister for almost 20 years, Brian converted to Catholicism in April 2021. They attend Saint James Catholic Church in Gadsden. With no formal training (Acts 4:13), Brian is active in the Catechetical training of children and adults. His book "The Devotion to Christ" can be found on Amazon. He is available for speaking and teaching engagements in any parish, church, or group setting. He may be contacted at [thedtc@protonmail.com](mailto:thedtc@protonmail.com) or [thedevotiontochrist@gmail.com](mailto:thedevotiontochrist@gmail.com).

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# SPORTS

## Rundowns & Roundups

### Mens basketball

Gadsden State fell to Wallace State-Hanceville, 100-86, in Alabama Community College Conference action on Monday, Feb. 10 in Hanceville. Demareon Baldwin paced the Cardinals (16-8, 3-5) with 24 points, followed by Giovanni Nannucci and Mekhi Fitts with 14 each, Keshawn Watkins with Keishawn Morris with nine each and Shannon Jones and Braden Duckworth with six each. Fitts pulled down 14 rebounds, while Baldwin, Nannucci, Jones and Watkins each grabbed five. Morris dealt out four assists.

Six players scored in double figures in Gadsden State's 98-85 victory over Alabama Community College Conference rival Lawson State on Feb. 6 at Beck Gymnasium. Mekhi Fitts led the way with a double-double of 21 points and 16 rebounds, while Shannon Jones, Keshawn Watkins and Demareon Baldwin all scored 14 points. Baldwin shot 88 percent (7-for-8) from the field. Jones added five rebounds, five assists and three steals, while Watkins and Baldwin grabbed seven and four rebounds, respectively. Giovanni Nannucci was a perfect 7-for-7 at the free throw line on the way to 12 points, while Cristian Willis chipped in 10 points.

### Womens basketball

Lawson State edged Gadsden State, 62-60, in Alabama Community College Conference action on Feb. 6 at Beck Gymnasium. Two players notched a double-double for the Lady Cardinals (9-12, 1-7) - Kamoriah Gaines with 11 points and 16 rebounds and Kyla Torok with 14 points and 11 boards. Tyla Tatum scored 11 points, followed by Jaxon Sizemore with 10. C'nyah Mullens added nine points, while Khaleyah Jones chipped in five.

### College softball

Gadsden State split a doubleheader at Cleveland State on Saturday, Feb. 8, winning 17-7 in game 1 and losing 5-4 in game 2.

In the opener, the Lady Cardinals (3-7) trailed 6-5 before outscoring the Lady Cougars 12-1 over the final two innings.

At the plate for Gadsden State, Hartlie Rice went 2-for-3 with a home run, a double, four RBI and two runs scored; Madison Allen went 1-for-3 with a home run, three RBI and three runs scored; Abby Payne went 2-for-4 with a double, three RBI and two runs scored; Tennifer Johnson went 2-for-4 with a double, an RBI and three runs scored; Ava Ramsey went 2-for-4 with a double and two runs scored; Chloe Gattis had a hit, an RBI and two runs scored; Kennadi Duncan had a hit, an RBI and a run scored; Lanie Williams had two hits; and Ally Croy had a hit and a run scored.

Kirby Wisner went the distance on the mound for the win, scattering 10 hits, four earned runs and six walks with one strikeout.

In the nightcap, Payne and Williams each went 2-for-4 with a home run, two doubles, two RBI and a run scored. Gattis and Rice both went 2-for-4, while Johnson had a hit and a run scored.

Aubrey Kerst took the loss on the mound, allowing seven hits, five earned runs while fanning seven. She did not issue a walk.

## Glencoe flattens Fyffe in regional semifinals

By Chris McCarthy  
Publisher

For the first time since the 2002 season, the Glencoe boys basketball team made it to the Elite Eight in postseason play.

The Yellow Jackets (24-7) saved their best for last against Fyffe in the Class 3A Northeast Regional semifinals on Wednesday, Feb. 12. Entering the fourth quarter with a four-point lead, Glencoe outscored the Red Devils 27 to 19 over the final eight minutes on the way to a 75-63 victory at Jacksonville State.

The Yellow Jackets will play Piedmont for the regional championship on Tuesday, Feb. 18 at 10:45 p.m.

After Brady Willingham's three-point basket 45 seconds into the fourth quarter trimmed the Glencoe lead to 52-49, the Yellow Jackets embarked on a 16-0 run that featured eight points from Jayden Patton, who ended up scoring 10 of his 21 points during the final period.

The Red Devils (18-14) failed to mount a comeback following the Yellow Jackets' scoring spurt, never getting within 12 points the rest of the way.

Glencoe wound up with a 14-0 advantage in second-chance points during the fourth quarter and 23 to 6 margin overall. The Yellow Jackets also had a 15 to 6 edge in points off turnovers.

"I think we did a good job of playing with the lead for most of the game and protecting the ball," said Glencoe head coach Ryan Chambless. "Except for late in the game, we also did a good job at the free throw line (Glencoe shot 54 percent to Piedmont's 57 percent). We also did a good job of rebounding while keeping [Fyffe] to a lot of one-shot possessions. Fyffe's a pretty big team, but I thought we matched up pretty well with them."

Also for Glencoe, Garrett Morgan had 20 points, seven rebounds and four assists. Wade Segrest added 11 points, while Grant Smith contributed a double-double of 13 points and 12 rebounds.

"I thought we did a good job of keeping (Piedmont's Cooper Cox) in check, but (Isaac Slaton) played really well," said Chambless.

Slaton and Cox finished with 24 and 15 points, respectively.

The Yellow Jackets know Piedmont all too well, having played the Bulldogs three times this season. Glencoe lost the first two games, 73-71 and 72-68, before posting a 63-56 victory in the area tournament championship.

"If you want to go anywhere in the playoffs, you have to be challenged on a regular basis," said Chambless. "We've played a really tough schedule all year long, which prepared us for games like this one and the game against [Piedmont]. It will come down scoring and guarding and making a few more plays that they do."



Photo courtesy of Alex Chaney

Glencoe's Garrett Morgan splits a pair of Fyffe defenders on the way to a layup during the Yellow Jackets' 75-63 victory in the Class 3A Northeast Regional basketball semifinals on Wednesday, Feb. 12 at Jacksonville State.



Chris McCarthy/Messenger

Gadsden City's Naomi Wise (32) drives to the basket as Shades Valley's Zoey Little defends during the Lady Titans' 46-26 victory in the Class 6A subregional basketball playoffs on Friday, Feb. 7 at GCHS.

## Lady Titans back in regional tournament

By Chris McCarthy  
Publisher

For the first time since the 2020-21 season, the Gadsden City High girls basketball team will pay a mid-February visit to Jacksonville State University.

The Lady Titans (17-15) earned a berth in the North Regional Tournament with a 46-26 victory over Shades Valley on Feb. 7 in the Class 6A subregional round. GCHS will face Mountain Brook in the regional semifinals on Monday, Feb. 17 at 12 p.m. at Pete Mathews Coliseum.

"We knew that [Shades Valley] was a team that does a lot of switching on defense, and we had to adjust and try to get into the gaps," said GCHS head coach Jay Tinker. "We wanted to get a lead and make [Shades Valley] spread out to defend our guards. We knew that with Naomi inside, our guards could penetrate and cause some problems for [Shades Valley]."

Ahead 18-12 at halftime, the Gadsden City defense stiffened in the second half and held the Lady Mounties scoreless over the first five and a half minutes of the third quarter. In the meantime, six points from eighth grade center Naomi Wise and respective three-point baskets by Destiny Whiteside, Madison Tinker and Karleigh Sheffield helped stake GCHS to a 33-17 advantage at the start of the final period.

"Naomi has been doing that for us all season long," said Tinker. "She's pretty much averaging a double-double, and that's saying something for an eighth grader. She's one of our most physical players on the floor every night, and she has a very bright future."

Shades Valley never got within striking distance the rest of the way. Wise added six more points during the final frame, and GCHS went 7-for-8 at the free throw line down the stretch to punch the Lady Titans' ticket to JSU.

Lady Titans - page 3B



Chris McCarthy/Messenger

Coosa Christian's D.J. Mackey (left) attempts a shot as Winterboro's Kaden Jones defends during the Conquerors' loss in the Class 1A subregional playoffs on Saturday, Feb. 8. See page 3B for article.

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# Westbrook senior signs scholarship

By Chris McCarthy  
Publisher

Eric Fitzpatrick recently found his home away from home.

The Westbrook Christian senior signed a football scholarship with Murray State University on Wednesday, Feb. 5. "It feels like a true blessing for me and my family, and I've worked really hard for a long time to get to this point," said Kirkpatrick, who transferred from Sardis prior to his sophomore season. "When I visited the campus, it felt a lot like home. The coaching staff showed me that they truly wanted me there, and I instantly fell in love with the place."

This past season, the Murray State football team went 1-11 overall and 0-8 in the Missouri Valley Conference.

Kirkpatrick, who plans on majoring in physical therapy, pointed to the guidance of Westbrook head football coach Steve Smith as a major factor in getting a scholarship.

"He taught me that playing at the next level wasn't going to be easy, and he motivated all of us to keep pushing ourselves until we got to that certain point where we needed to be at. He taught us not to give up and to always work together as a team. I think we set a bar that hopefully the younger guys will reach and then go higher."

Kirkpatrick helped the 2024 Warriors post the program's first winning season in four years at 6-4. Westbrook finished two games out of the state playoffs while competing in Class 3A, Region 6.

Smith believes that Kirkpatrick's best football lies in



Chris McCarthy/Messenger

Westbrook Christian senior Eric Fitzpatrick signed a football scholarship with Murray State on Wednesday, Feb. 6. Pictured, from left: mom Mindy, Eric, dad James.

front of him.

"We had some games this year when we really dominated up front, and Eric was a big part of that," he said. "Obviously Eric's size is a factor, because you don't often get 6'4, 230-pound offensive lineman. He improved immensely from his 10<sup>th</sup> grade year through his 12<sup>th</sup> grade year. Eric had times when he was a dominant player and

had other times where he needed to work on a few things, and I think Murray State will see his potential and be able to work with him on those things. He's just a 17-year old kid, so he has a lot of room to grow and develop. If he continues to work, I think Eric will have a chance to develop into a really good college lineman."

# Eddy Norris named head coach of Gadsden State women's basketball

Eddy Norris was recently named women's head basketball coach at Gadsden State. With 34 years of experience coaching at the collegiate and high school levels, Norris brings a wealth of knowledge and passion to the team.

"I've been blessed," he said. "It's been 34 successful years of coaching, and I'm very proud of that."

Norris has a long-standing commitment to developing student-athletes both on and off the court.

"I want to help develop skills for people so they can do great things for themselves," he said. "As coaches, we want to inspire others to do great things. We want them to be the best that they can be."

Norris' playing and coaching career spans multiple sports and levels of competition with several athletic accomplishments. A 1982 graduate of Sand Rock High School, he was a standout in football, basketball, baseball and track for the Wildcats. Norris' basketball honors include All State first team, All-Region 6 first team, Area 12 Most Valuable Player, Cherokee County MVP and three-time selection to the All Area and All County teams. He was a participant in the AHSAA Alabama North/South All-Star game in 1982.

On the basketball court, Norris ranks in the Top 10 in four rebounding categories in Alabama state high school history, including most rebounds in a season (21 rebounds per game, second overall), most rebounds in a single game (31 points, third overall), most rebounds in a season (567, seventh overall), and most rebounds in a career (1,318, ninth overall).

As a football player, Norris was named All-Region 6 MVP and All-Area 12 Offensive MVP and was a two-time member of the All Area and All-Cherokee County teams. After high school, Norris played basketball at Snead State Community College, where he served as team captain,

before finishing his playing career at the University of Montevallo, where he was named Team MVP and earned the Neal Shirley Award for the Most Outstanding Student-Athlete in 1986.

After graduation, Norris coached for three years at the University of Montevallo before enrolling at the University of Mississippi to pursue a doctorate in education. In 1990, Norris returned to Sand Rock High School and had a successful coaching career that spanned two decades. In 2010, he took the assistant coaching position at Albertville High School.

In 2015, Norris moved to Tuscaloosa when his son Riley committed to play basketball at the University of Alabama. Riley played 136 games for Crimson Tide, the most ever by a UA basketball player. During that time, Norris served as a part-time basketball coach at American Christian Academy for three years. His daughter Jordan was also a successful student-athlete, having played for the Jacksonville State University. Norris counts his own children among the many athletes he has coached throughout his career.

"I have been very proud of my children's achievements and the successes of many of those I have coached," he said. "I've helped a lot of men and women to get college scholarships and beyond."

In 2023, Norris returned to northeast Alabama to coach basketball at Coosa Christian School, where he led junior high, junior varsity and varsity boys' basketball teams.

In addition to coaching basketball, Norris has coached youth soccer, winning five state championships. In all, he has earned 1,127 career wins across various sports as a coach.

Eddy Norris - page 10B



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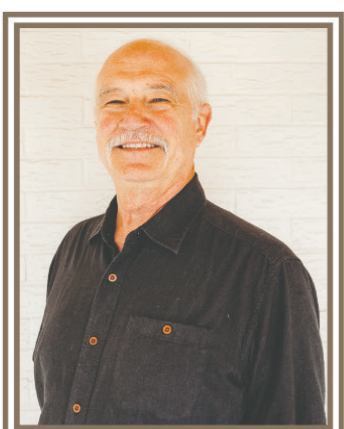
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# Free throw woes doom Conquerors in 1A sub regionals

By Chris McCarthy  
Publisher

Coosa Christian boys basketball coach Rocky Peek did not hesitate when asked to identify the main reason why Winterboro is heading to the Northeast Regional Tournament and his Conquerors are not.

“You shoot 34 percent from the free throw line, you don’t give yourself a very good opportunity to win,” he pointed out.

Indeed, Coosa’s 8-for-23 performance at the foul line was ultimately responsible for the Conquerors’ 60-56 loss in the Class 1A subregional playoffs on Saturday, Feb. 8 in Gadsden.

Coosa’s struggle at the charity stripe was especially glaring in the fourth quarter, during which the Conquerors went from being 15 points down with five minutes remaining to just seven points behind with 2:37 on the clock.

Jhovi Cole’s basket at the 5:01 mark of the fourth put the Bulldogs up 52-37, but that turned out to be the last field goal of the game for Winterboro.

Coosa answered Cole’s score with a 13-4 run that closed the gap to six points. But the Conquerors failed to cash in at the free throw line, making only three of nine foul shot attempts over a two-minute span.

“We made some good defensive stops, but we just couldn’t finish at the line,” said Peek. “That’s all it was.”

J’Allen Terry and Samuel Reeves knocked down respective three-pointers to keep Coosa within five points, and Kylen Johnson sank all three of his attempts after being fouled on a 3-point try, but Ja’montae O’Neal’s foul shot with 4.6 seconds left made it a two-possession game and effectively wrapped up the victory for the Alpine squad.

Johnson paced Coosa with 22 points, followed by Reeves with nine, Terry with eight and D.J. Mackey with five.

Kamari Burse scored 20 points for the Bulldogs, while Cole added 16 and Kaden Jones chipped in 13.

“I just told our kids that we’ll use this experience as fuel for next year,” said Peek. “The things you learn from adversity always makes you stronger. Most of these guys are ninth and 10th graders, so we should be strong for another 20-win season and make it to JSU.”



Chris McCarthy/Messenger

Coosa Christian’s J’Allen Terry (right) attempts a shot as Winterboro’s Kaden Jones defends during the Conquerors’ loss in the Class 1A subregional basketball playoffs on Saturday, Feb. 8 in Gadsden.

# Hokes Bluff, Glencoe, GCHS win; Lady Eagles, Conquerors, Warriors come up short at subregionals

By Chris McCarthy  
Publisher

Hokes Bluff defeated Cherokee County, 53-38, in the Class 4A subregional playoffs on Saturday, Feb. 8 at HBHS.

The Eagles advanced to the Northeast Regional Tournament, where they faced Madison Academy in a semifinal game on Thursday, Feb. 13 at Jacksonville State.

The regional championship game is set for Wednesday, Feb. 19 at 2:15 p.m.

Against Cherokee County, Hokes Bluff led 13-8 after one period, 29-20 at halftime and 51-30 after three quarters.

Bryce Whitaker paced Hokes Bluff with 19 points, followed by Logan Carr with 14, Anderson Morgan and Noah Johnson with eight each and Drew McCarver with five. Carr and Johnson each pulled down five rebounds, while Anderson and McCarver both grabbed four. Anderson and Johnson distributed eight and five assists, respectively.

Sparked by a 25-point performance from Wade Segrest, Glencoe posted a 69-41 victory over Saks in the Class 3A subregionals on Saturday, Feb. 8 at GHS.

Also for the Yellow Jackets, Jayden Patton and Grant Smith each scored 10 points, followed by Garrett Morgan with eight and

Jalen Hunter with seven.

Gadsden City edged Shades Valley, 65-62 in the Class 6A subregional playoffs on Saturday, Feb. 8 at GCHS.

The Titans (20-11) face Huffman in the Northeast Regional Tournament semifinals on Monday, Feb. 17 at 12 p.m. at Jacksonville State.

The regional championship is set for Thursday, Feb. 20 at 2:15 p.m.

In other area subregional games, Gaston lost to Pisgah, 70-62.

Hokes Bluff fell to Alexandria, 48-37, in the Class 3A girls subregional playoffs on Friday, Feb. 7 at HBHS.

The Lady Eagles led 17-13 after one period and 24-20 at halftime before the Lady Valley Cubs took a 37-29 lead after three quarters.

For Hokes Bluff, Pressely Wall finished with 12 points and four rebounds, while Mazely Ball had 11 points and eight boards. Emma Doss scored seven points, while Addison Simmons contributed three points, eight rebounds, three steals and three deflections.

In other local girls subregional action, Coosa Christian lost to Winterboro, 66-16; Westbrook Christian came up short against Saks, 39-35; and Sardis fell to Arab, 65-55.



Photo courtesy of Alex Chaney

Hokes Bluff’s Drew McCarver (left) blocks a shot attempt by Cherokee County’s Keyshawn Woods during the Eagles’ 53-38 victory in the Class 4A subregional playoffs on Saturday, Feb. 8 at HBHS.

# AHSAA approves sites for Super 7

The Alabama High School Athletic Association Central Board of Control recently approved a four-year plan presented by AHSAA Executive Director Heath Harmon for the Super 7 State Football Championships. The sites will be Birmingham’s Protective Stadium and Mobile’s Hancock Whitney Stadium on the campus of the University of South Alabama. The plan calls for the 2025 and 2027 Super 7 to be at Birmingham and the 2026 and 2028 Super 7 Championships to be at Mobile.

“I want to thank all the cities that showed interest in hosting our Super 7 football championships in the coming years,” said Harmon.

The central board also heard a report and approved the budget presented by Knight-Eady’s Daniel Smith concerning the upcoming 2025 state basketball championships. The CBOC approved the addition of

certified athletic trainer Brandon Sheppard to the AHSAA Medical Advisory Board.

In other action, the board heard appeals from North Jackson High School and the Autauga County Board of Education and upheld the original rulings handed down by the AHSAA; approved 2024 region and state volleyball, cross country and swimming financial reports from CFO Amy Gullledge; reviewed a football playoff comparison financial report for the first four rounds; heard a report from Harmon concerning the NFHS Winter Executive Directors meeting he recently attended; authorized the AHSAA to work with the Alabama State Department of Education concerning the ALSDE Option B Diploma students can pursue; was updated about the legislative proposal process currently underway; and heard an update concerning the AHSAA winter sports.

# Lady Titans - from 1B

Wise finished with 16 points, followed by Whiteside with 11, Tinker and Sheffield with seven each and Jac’kiera Woods with six.

The first half was a low-scoring affair with both teams playing tight defense. Gadsden City emerged from the first quarter with a 7-3 lead, and Woods’ 3-pointer at the 2:37 mark of the second period provided GCHS with a double-digit lead before the Lady Mounties pulled within 18-12 at half-time.

“I know our record doesn’t show it because we just got over.500 tonight, but these girls worked really hard to get to this point,” said Tinker.

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# LEGALS

## 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 150 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

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF ALABAMA, COUNTY OF ETOWAH

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT default has occurred in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by MARK BLACKWELL and CANDI BLACKWELL dated December 14, 2012, to originally in favor of LIBERTY BANK, recorded on December 21, 2012 in Instrument Number 3378409 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, and which Mortgage was modified by that certain Modification of Mortgage dated March 27, 2020 executed by MARK BLACKWELL and CANDI BLACKWELL, as Mortgagors, to LIBERTY BANK, as Mortgagee, recorded on April 9, 2020 in Instrument Number 3500587 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, and which was duly assigned by LIBERTY BANK to DRY GROUND INVESTMENTS, LLC on

December 5, 2024, recorded on December 5, 2024 in Instrument Number 3584449 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama. Because of said default, the undersigned Mortgagee under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in the mortgage as amended and assigned, DRY GROUND INVESTMENTS, LLC, as mortgagee/assignee will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash in front of the courthouse door of the Etowah County Courthouse at Gadsden, Alabama, on the 25th day of February 2025, during the legal hours of sale, the following described real estate located in ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA, to wit:

Beginning at the Southeast Corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 10 South, Range 5 East, Etowah County, Alabama; thence North 89 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West along the South line of said Northwest Quarter for a distance of 770.00 feet to a point on the East right of way line of Leeth Gap Road; thence North 27 degrees 58 minutes 07 seconds West along said East right of way line for a distance of 135.10 feet to a point of the South right of way line of Sardis Road; thence North 79 degrees 26 minutes 19 seconds East along said South right of way line for a distance of 250.00 feet; thence continuing along said South right of way line the following: North 71 degrees 39 minutes East for a distance of 150.00 feet; thence North 63 degrees 12 minutes East for a distance of 200.00 feet; thence North 50 degrees 58 minutes 50 seconds East for a distance of 287.32 feet; thence leaving said South right of way line South 02 degrees 30 minutes 43 seconds East for a distance of 464.47 feet to the point of beginning; said parcel containing 4.7 acres more or less and lying in the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 10 South, Range 5 East, Etowah County, Alabama; According to the survey prepared by Donald R. Jarrells PLS/AL, Reg. No. 9979 dated December 14, 2000.

The property address, which is for information purposes only, is 4110 Sardis Road, Boaz, Alabama 35956. This property will be sold on an "as is, where is" basis, subject to any easements, encumbrances, mineral rights, if any, and exceptions reflected in the mortgage as amended and assigned and those contained in the records of the Office of the Judge of Probate of the County where the above-described property is situated, without warranty or recourse, express or implied as to title, use and/or enjoyment and will be sold subject to the right of redemption of all parties entitled thereto.

Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process.

The successful bidder must tender a non-refundable deposit of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) in certified funds made payable to DRY GROUND INVESTMENTS, LLC 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 McLaughlin & Edmondson, LLC at the address indicated below. McLaughlin & Edmondson, LLC reserves the right to award the bid to the next highest bidder should the highest bidder fail to timely tender the total amount due.

Jonathon W. Horton  
Sheriff, Etowah County

February 14, 21 and 28, 2025

al 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.

RODNEY L. EDMONDSON  
McLaughlin & Edmondson, LLC  
Attorneys and Auctioneer for DRY GROUND INVESTMENTS, LLC, Mortgagee/Assignee  
North Main Street  
Arab, AL 35016  
(256) 931-2520

February 7, 14, and 21, 2025

## NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a Writ of Execution issued out of the State of Alabama, Department of Revenue of Montgomery County, Alabama, and to me directed whereby I am commanded to make the amount of judgment (\$98,651.74 plus daily interest) recently obtained against Marty Naylor in favor of State of Alabama, Department of Revenue out of the good, chattels, lands and tenements of the said Marty Naylor.

I have levied on the following property, to-wit: H/S BASE YEAR-LT 149.5x291.6 LYING IN SW ¼ SE 14 5-10-6 1385-441, D-1977-1552, D-2011-335124, D-2011-3358221  
Parcel 03-03-05-0-000-034.000 PPIN 001287  
Property Address 171 Underwood Road, Boaz, AL 35956

\*\*ALL PROPERTY SOLD SUBJECT TO ANY/ALL MORTGAGES, TAXES, LIENS, EASEMENTS, AND/OR ENCUMBRANCES. WILL BE SOLD "AS IS WHERE IS". PURCHASER PAYS COST OF ADVERTISING AND OTHER LAWFUL CHARGES AND FEES.

Therefore, according to said command, I shall expose for sale at public auction, all the right, title and interest of the above Marty Naylor in and to the above-described property, on the 3rd day of March 2025, during the legal hours of sale, at the Courthouse in Etowah County, Alabama. The sale is scheduled for 11:00 A. M.

Jonathon W. Horton  
Sheriff, Etowah County

February 14, 21 and 28, 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 Fra-

zier, 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 Rigby 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

## 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. Tucker, 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

February 7, 14 and 21, 2025

## FILE CLAIMS

Betty Ruth White was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 1/23/2025 over the Estate of William E. White, 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

February 14, 21, and 28, 2025

## FILE CLAIMS

LaShonda Lynn Dobbins was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 1/22/2025 to the Estate of Willie Vernard Dobbins, 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

February 14, 21, and 28, 2025

## FILE CLAIMS

Lisa Holcombe Hester was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 1/28/2025 to the Estate of Charles R. Holcombe, 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

February 14, 21, and 28, 2025

## FILE CLAIMS

Louis Kemp was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 11/22/2024 to the Estate of Estella Mae Wilson, 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

February 14, 21, and 28, 2025

## FILE CLAIMS

Jacob Millican was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 1/31/2025 to the Estate of Roxie Janet Smith, 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

February 14, 21, and 28, 2025

## FILE CLAIMS

Jacob Millican was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 1/31/2025 over the Estate of Judy Marie Gill, 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

February 14, 21, and 28, 2025

## FILE CLAIMS

Karen Heath Entekin and Randy Shane Heath was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 02/06/2025 to the Es-

tate of Gail R. Heath, 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

February 14, 21, and 28, 2025

## FILE CLAIMS

Lisa Keeton Williams was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/23/2025 to the Estate of Betty Keeton, 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

February 14, 21, and 28, 2025

## FILE CLAIMS

Jonathan Mark Atchley was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/28/2025 to the Estate of Charles Edward Atchley, 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

February 14, 21, and 28, 2025

## FILE CLAIMS

Jamie Bridges Walden was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 10/25/2024 over the Estate of Kathy Lee Bridges, 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

February 14, 21, and 28, 2025

## FILE CLAIMS

Regina Phillips was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/17/2025 to the Estate of Ronald Dutton, 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

February 14, 21, and 28, 2025

## FILE CLAIMS

Kimberly Lynn Boyd was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/28/2025 to the Estate of Trina Marie Sweet, 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

February 14, 21, and 28, 2025

## FILE CLAIMS

Nica Lea Hodge was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/28/2025 to the Estate of Donna Lou Fish, 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

February 14, 21, and 28, 2025

## FILE CLAIMS

Gregory Tyler Reeves was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/21/2025 over the Estate of Gregory Lamar 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

February 14, 21, and 28, 2025

## FILE CLAIMS

Richard Allen Bard was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/27/2025 to the Estate of William Jimmy Copeland, 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

February 14, 21, and 28, 2025

**FILE CLAIMS**

Billy W. Green was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/22/2025 to the Estate of Sandra G. Boyd, 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

February 14, 21, and 28, 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 HEARING**

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: PRICE K. EATMAN, INCAPACITATED

Case #: 2024-227

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 19th day of MARCH 2025 at 1:30p.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 31ST DAY OF JANUARY 2025.

Scott Hassell  
PROBATE JUDGE

February 7, 14, and 21, 2025

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF MYRA K. CROCKETT, DECEASED.

Case No.: 2024-00626

TO: ANY INTERESTED PARTY

Please take notice that a Petition to Approve Sale of Real Property was filed in the Office of the Judge of Probate, Etowah County, Alabama and further, that the 31st day of MARCH, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. was appointed a day and time for hearing on said Petition, thereof at which time you may appear and support and/or contest the Petition, if you so choose.

DONE THIS THE 31st DAY OF January 2025

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

February 7, 14, and 21, 2025

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF EDWARD BYNUM, DECEASED.

Case No.: S-12247

TO: ANY INTERESTED PARTY

Please take notice that a Motion to Compel Final Settlement was filed in the Office of the Judge of Probate, Etowah County, Alabama and further, that the 4th day of MARCH, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. was appointed a day and time for hearing on said Petition, thereof at which time you may appear and support and/or contest the Petition, if you so choose.

DONE THIS THE 24th DAY OF JANUARY 2025

SCOTT W. HASSELL  
JUDGE OF PROBATE

February 7, 14, and 21, 2025

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: MITCHELL G. CHILDERS, Case #: 2025-68 ALLEGED INCAPACITATED

TO: Layla Matthews 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 17 day of MARCH 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 12TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025

Scott Hassell  
PROBATE JUDGE

February 14, 21, and 28, 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 further, that the 31st 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, Attalla, AL 35954 Theresa Ducote, whose whereabouts are unknown

You will take notice that a Petition for Letters of Guardianship for the person of Leeann M. Burch and a Petition for Letters of Conservatorship over the estate of Leeann M. Burch 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 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 PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP AND PETITION FOR LETTERS OF CONSERVATORSHIP**

Notice to: Ben Pike, whose whereabouts are unknown

You will take notice that a Petition for Letters of Guardianship for the person of Gregory Lee Pike and a Petition for Letters of Conservatorship over the estate of Gregory Lee Pike was filed by Gadsden Regional Medical Center on the 31ST day of JANUARY, 2025.

A hearing on the Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Petition for Letters of Conservatorship is set on the 18th 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

February 7, 14 and 21, 2025

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

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

You will take notice that a Petition for Letters of Guardianship for the person of Edna Brotman and a Petition for Letters of Conservatorship over the estate of Edna Brotman was filed by Gadsden Regional Medical Center on

the 12th day of FEBRUARY 2025.

A hearing on the Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Petition for Letters of Conservatorship is set on the 18TH day of MARCH 2025, at 2:30 p.m., in the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama, 800 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35901.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

February 14, 21, and 28, 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. 2 Gambling Device \$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-CDR

PLAINTIFF VS. 12 Gambling Device \$4,886.00 U.S. Currency

DEFENDANTS In Re: James Elliott 285 Yancey Drive Hokes Bluff, AL. 35903

In Re: John Turner 216 Casey Drive Gadsden, AL. 35903

Property Sized From: 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 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 Sunnydale 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.

Cassandra Johnson Circuit Court Clerk 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 PUBLICATION**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

RUSSELL EDWARDS, PLAINTIFF, VS. CASE NO.: CV-2024-900277

CASEY RYAN SHERRELL, DEFENDANT.

CASEY RYAN SHERRELL is hereby notified that Russell Edwards, has filed a Complaint in the Circuit Court for Etowah County, Alabama. The style of said action being identified as CV-2024-900277. The above named person, entities and all other persons or entities, known or unknown, are hereby notified that they must file an answer to said complaint in the identified civil action on or before or thereafter, a judgment by default may be rendered against them in said Civil Action No. CV-2024-900277.

Dated: 1/30/25

Cassandra Johnson, Clerk, Etowah County Circuit Court

F. Michael Haney Attorney for Plaintiff 235 Broad Street Gadsden, Alabama 35901 (256) 546-1656

February 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2025

**PUBLICATION NOTICE**

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

DANNY STOWERS, VS CASE NO: DV-24-900834 CHRISTIAN FORD

NOTICE OF BREACH OF CONTRACT AND NEGLIGENCE ACTION CHRISTIAN FORD'S whereabouts are unknown, must answer DANNY STOWERS' Complaint for Breach of Contract and Negligence and other relief by CHRISTIAN FORD, or thereafter, a Judgement by Default may be rendered against Christian Ford in Case No: DV-24-900834, Circuit Court of Etowah County, Alabama.

Dated: February 4, 2025

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk

Clark Hall Attorney for the Plaintiff 750 Forrest Avenue Gadsden, AL. 35901 (256)549-4357

February 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2025

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

In The Matter of the Adoption Petition of DONALD RAY BACON And JUDY DARNELL BACON

CASE NO.: 2024-00689

TO: CAIN PHILLIPS AND/OR ANY UNKNOWN FATHER Address unknown.

Please take notice that a petition for adoption of a child born to Christin R. Gulleddge has been filed in said Court by the Petitioner(s) named above. The minor child's date of birth is September 6, 2019. As a notified party, you may appear in the adoption proceeding to contest or support the attached petition. Please be advised that if you intend to contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of service of this notice with counsel for said Petitioner, whose name and address are as shown below and with the Clerk of the Probate Court at the following address: P.O. Box 187, Gadsden, AL. 35902. If you fail to respond within thirty (30) days and appear at the hearing, the Court may construe that failure as an implied consent to the adoption and waiver of a right to appear and of further notice of the adoption proceedings. If the adoption is approved, your parental rights, if any, will be considered terminated.

Attorney for Petitioner: Savannah Lane Long P.O. Box 8241 Gadsden, AL 35902 256-312-9553

Given under my hand this the 29th day of January 2025.

Scott W. Hassell JUDGE OF PROBATE

February 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2025

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

IN THE MATTER OF THE Adoption Petition of JOSEA DANIEL CABRERA FLORES

CASE NO.: 2024-00044

TO: UNKNOWN FATHER Address unknown.

Please take notice that a petition for adoption of a child born to Joanna Ramos Cabrera has been filed in said Court by the Petitioner(s) named above. The minor child's date of birth is June 20, 2010. As a notified party, you may appear in the adoption proceeding to contest or support the attached petition. Please be advised that if you intend to contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of service of this notice with counsel for said Petitioner, whose name and address are as shown below and with the Clerk of the Probate Court at the following address: P.O. Box 187, Gadsden, AL. 35902. If you fail to respond within thirty (30) days and appear at the hearing, the Court may construe that failure as an implied consent to the adoption and waiver of a right to appear and of further notice of the adoption proceedings. If the adoption is approved, your parental rights, if any, will be considered terminated.

Attorney for Petitioner: Tammy Parris 945 Chestnut Street Gadsden, AL 35901 Phone 256-547-9222

Given under my hand this the 7th day of February, 2025

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

February 14, 21, 28, and March 7, 2025

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

In The Matter of the Adoption Petition of JOSEA DANIEL CABRERA FLORES

CASE NO.: 2024-00044

TO: UNKNOWN FATHER Address unknown.

Please take notice that a petition for adoption of a child born to Joanna Ramos Cabrera has been filed in said Court by the Petitioner(s) named above. The minor child's date of birth is June 20, 2010. As a notified party, you may appear in the adoption proceeding to contest or support the attached petition. Please be advised that if you intend to contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of service of this notice with counsel for said Petitioner, whose name and address are as shown below and with the Clerk of the Probate Court at the following address: P.O. Box 187, Gadsden, AL. 35902. If you fail to respond within thirty (30) days and appear at the hearing, the Court may construe that failure as an implied consent to the adoption and waiver of a right to appear and of further notice of the adoption proceedings. If the adoption is approved, your parental rights, if any, will be considered terminated.

Attorney for Petitioner: Tammy Parris 945 Chestnut Street Gadsden, AL 35901 Phone 256-547-9

The subject property is described as follows:  
LOT 1, BLOCK A, HIGHLAND PARK ADDITION, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK "B", PAGE 164, IN THE PROBATE OFFICE OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA.

Done the 30th day of January, 2025.

Cassandra Johnson  
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Etowah County

Jason Knowles,  
Knowles & Sullivan, LLC  
413 Broad Street  
Gadsden, AL 35901  
256-547-7200

February 7, 14, 21, and 28, 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 Ellen 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 contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of service of this notice with counsel for said Petitioner, whose name and address are as shown below and with the Clerk of the Probate Court at the following address: P.O. Box 187, Gadsden, AL 35902. If you fail to respond within thirty (30) days and appear at the hearing, the Court may construe that failure as an implied consent to the adoption and waiver of a right to appear and of further notice of the adoption proceedings. If the adoption is approved, your parental rights, if any, will be considered terminated.

Attorney for Petitioner:  
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 COMPLAINT FOR BILL TO QUIET TITLE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

DONALD BERKEY and  
JUANITA BERKEY,  
Plaintiff,

vs.

CV-2025-900032

A PARCEL OF LAND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

Lot Number Nineteen (19) in Block Number Eight (8) in the Woodlawn Addition, according to the map thereof recorded in Plat Book "A", Page 15, Probate Office, and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama.

DELORES ANN VAUGHN, RANDOLPH WELLS and ALMA WELLS, INCLUDING

ANY HEIRS OR DEVICES OF THE SAME AND THOSE WHOSE ADDRESSES ARE UNKNOWN AND ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES, including any persons claiming any present interest therein and including any person claiming any future, contingent, reversionary, remainder, or other interest therein, who may claim any interest in the above described property, Defendants.

The Defendants, Delores Ann Vaughn, Randolph Wells and Alma Wells and/or their heirs or next of kin, and any other individuals who may claim an interest in the aforementioned property, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the Bill to Quiet Title filed by Donald and Juanita Berkey, within thirty (30) days of the completion of the publication or thereafter a judgment of default may be rendered against you in the aforementioned

case.

Done the 23rd day of January, 2025.

CASSANDRA JOHNSON  
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Etowah County

Joshua B. Sullivan  
Knowles & Sullivan, LLC  
413 Broad Street  
Gadsden, Alabama  
35901  
Phone (256)547-7200  
Fax (256)467-6322

January 24, 31,  
February 7 and 14, 2025

#### NOTICE OF CIVIL ACTION TO QUIET TITLE TO REAL PROPERTY

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

Paul Skelton, Plaintiff,

v.

Civil Action no.  
CV-2024-900380

A tract of land described as Lot Numbers Twenty-two (22) to Thirty-three (33), both inclusive, in Block Number One (1), and Lots Numbers Six (6), Seven (7), Nine (9), Ten (10), Eleven (11), and Twelve (12), in Block Number Two (2), in Skelton's Rearrangement of Lots Numbers 26, 27 and 28, in Block Twenty-five (25), of Cloverdale Subdivision, according to map of said Rearrangement recorded in Plat Book "D", page 23, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama, and lying and being in Attalla, Etowah County, Alabama, Nell Skelton, the unknown heirs of Nell Skelton, if any, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said property, Defendants, are hereby notified that Paul Skelton, Plaintiff, has filed in the Circuit Court of Etowah County, Alabama, a complaint for quiet title and other relief. The style of said action being identified as CV- 2024-900380. The above named person, entities and all other persons or entities, known or unknown, are hereby notified that they must file an answer to said complaint in the identified civil action on or before 3/31/2025, or thereafter, a judgment by default may be rendered against them in said Civil Action CV-2024-900380.

Done this 3rd day of January 2025

CASSANDRA JOHNSON,  
CLERK OF COURT

Attorney for the Plaintiff  
Elizabeth P. Haney,  
PO Drawer 287  
Gadsden, AL 35902

February 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2025

#### NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

TOSUBER BARROW, SR., whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the complaint of Tamara Barrow, by answering a divorce and other relief, thirty (30) days from the date of the last publication or thereafter a judgment of default may be rendered against him in Civil Action No.: DR-25-900022 Circuit Court of Etowah County, Alabama.

Dated February 3, 2025

Cassandra Johnson  
CIRCUIT CLERK

John D. Floyd, Attorney for Plaintiff  
808 Chestnut Street  
Gadsden, AL 35901  
(256)547-6328

February 14, 21, 28, and March 7, 2025

#### ADVERTISEMENT FOR 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 TO CONTRACTORS Federal Aid Project No. STPSU-2819(252) ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

Sealed bids will be received by the Director of Transportation at the office of the Alabama Department of Transportation, Montgomery, Alabama until 10:00 AM on February 28, 2025 and at that time publicly opened for constructing the Widening, Resurfacing, and Traffic Stripe on Black Creek Parkway from the junction of Willis Creek Road to the junction of 11th Street in Gadsden. Length 0.566 mi.

The total amount of uncompleted work under contract to a contractor must not exceed the amount of his or her qualification certificate. The Entire Project Shall Be Completed In Thirty-five (35) Working Days. A 5.00% DBE Contract Obligation Is Required.

A Bidding Proposal may be purchased for \$5.00. Plans may be purchased for \$17.00 per set. Plans and Proposals are available at the Alabama Department of Transportation, 1409 Coliseum Boulevard, Room E-108, Montgomery, AL 36110. Checks should be made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation. Plans and Proposals will be mailed only upon receipt of remittance. No refunds will be made.

Minimum wage rates for this project have been pre-determined by the Secretary of Labor and are set forth in the advertised specifications. This project is subject to the contract work hours and Safety Standards Act and its implementing regulations.

Cashier's check or bid bond for 5% of bid (maximum - \$50,000.00) made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation must accompany each bid as evidence of good faith.

The bracket range is shown only to provide general financial information to contractors and bonding companies concerning the project's complexity and size. This Bracket should not be used in preparing a bid, nor will this bracket have any bearing on the decision to award this contract.

The Bracket Estimate On This Project Is From \$682,493 To \$834,159.

The proposed work shall be performed in conformity with the rules and regulations for carrying out the Federal Highway Act.

Plans and Specifications are on file in Room E-108 of the Alabama Department of Transportation at Montgomery, Alabama 36110.

In accordance with the rules and regulations of The Alabama Department of Transportation, proposals will be issued only to prequalified contractors or their authorized representatives, upon requests that are received before 10 AM., on the day previous to the day of opening of bids.

The bidder's proposal must be submitted on the complete original proposal furnished him or her by the Alabama Department of Transportation.

The Alabama Department of Transportation, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000D TO 2000D-4 and Title 49 code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of The Secretary, Part 21, nondiscrimination in federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The right to reject any or all bids is reserved.

JOHN R. COOPER  
Transportation Director

February 7, 14, and 21, 2025

#### NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS STATE PROJECT NO. ATRP2-28-2023-418 ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

Sealed bids will be received by the Director of Transportation at the office of the Alabama Department of Transportation, Montgomery, Alabama until 10:00 AM on February 28, 2025 and at that time publicly opened for constructing the Micro-Milling, Resurfacing, and Traffic Stripe on Church Street from the junction of SR-77 to the junction of SR-25 (US-411) to include Traffic Signal Installations at various locations in Rainbow City. Length 0.357 mi.

The total amount of uncompleted work under contract to a contractor must not exceed the amount of his or her qualification certificate.

The Entire Project Shall Be Completed In One Hundred Twenty (120) Working Days. A 0.50% DBE Contract Obligation Is Required.

A Bidding Proposal may be purchased for \$5.00. Plans may be purchased for \$12.00 per set. Plans and Proposals are available at the Alabama Department of Transportation, 1409 Coliseum Boulevard, Room E-108, Montgomery, AL 36110. Checks should be made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation. Plans and Proposals will be mailed only upon receipt of remittance. No refunds will be made.

Cashier's check or bid bond for 5% of bid (maximum - \$50,000.00) made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation must accompany each bid as evidence of good faith.

The bracket range is shown only to provide general financial information to contractors and bonding companies concerning the project's complexity and size. This Bracket should not be used in preparing a bid, nor will this bracket have any bearing on the decision to award this contract.

The Bracket Estimate On This Project Is From \$1,119,291 To \$1,368,022.

Plans and Specifications are on file in Room E-108 of the Alabama Department of Transportation at Montgomery, Alabama 36110.

In accordance with the rules and regulations of The Alabama Department of Transportation, proposals will be issued only to prequalified contractors or their authorized representatives, upon requests that are received before 10 AM., on the day previous to the day of opening of bids.

The bidder's proposal must be submitted on the complete original proposal furnished him or her by the Alabama Department of Transportation.

Section 34-8-8. Code of Alabama 1975 as amended states in part as follows: '... it will be necessary for him or her to show evidence of license before his or her bid is considered.' Further, Section 34-8-8. Code of Alabama 1975 as amended also states in part as follows: 'All Owners, Architects, and engineers receiving bids pursuant to this chapter shall require the person, firm, or corporation to include his or her current license number on the bid.'

The right to reject any or all bids is reserved.

JOHN R. COOPER  
Transportation Director

February 7, 14, and 21, 2025

#### ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

#### NOTICE OF UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (UST) CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS PUBLIC NOTICE - 201

Etowah County

Ms. Linda Mayo, 121 Johnson Drive, Piedmont, Alabama is required by ADEM to implement a Corrective Action Plan for remediation of soil and/or groundwater which has resulted from a release

from an underground storage tank located at Stop N Shop, 11205 Rocky Ford Road, Piedmont, Alabama. The site is identified as Facility I.D. Number 16203-055-013996 and Incident Number UST92-09-18. The proposed remediation methods include shallow soil excavation and insitu chemical oxidation using Klozur.

Copies of the Corrective Action Plan for Stop N Shop are available for public inspection electronically via http://adem.alabama.gov/newsEvents/publicNotices.cnt and at the following location Monday - Friday (except legal holidays), 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. A nominal fee for copying and/or mailing may be charged. Arrangements for copying should be made in advance.

Russell A. Kelly, Chief Permits and Services Division  
ADEM  
1400 Coliseum Blvd.  
[Mailing address: PO Box 301463; Zip 36130-1463] Montgomery, Alabama 36110-2400  
(334) 271-7714  
permitsmail@adem.alabama.gov

Persons wishing to comment may do so, in writing or by email, to the Department's named contact above within 15 days following the publication date of this notice. Any person wishing to provide additional information regarding the Corrective Action Plan may do so.

A written request for a public meeting may also be filed within that 15-day period and must state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the meeting.

Notice is hereby given this 18th day of February, 2025, by authority of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.

Lance R. LeFleur  
Director

Nondiscrimination Statement: The Department does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in the administration of its programs.

February 14, 2025

#### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

WATER WORKS AND SEWER BOARD OF THE TOWN OF SARDIS CITY 860 CHURCH STREET SARDIS CITY, AL 35956

Separate sealed BIDS for the cleaning and grubbing and relocation of approximately 1,260 LF 3" or 6" PVC water main, 80 LF of 8" or 10" road bore and case, gate valves, service connections and related appurtenances will be received by the Water Works and Sewer Board of the Town of Sardis City at the office of the Water Works and Sewer Board of the Town of Sardis City, 860 Church Street, Sardis City, AL 35956 until 2:00 P.M., CST, Tuesday, March 4, 2025, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud. The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be examined at the following locations:

Water Works and Sewer Board of the Town of Sardis City, Sardis City, AL  
Ladd Environmental Consultants, Inc., Fort Payne, AL  
Construct Connect Plan Room, 1-800-364-2059  
Dodge Data & Analytics Plan Room  
The Blue Book Plan Room

Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be obtained at the office of Ladd Environmental Consultants, Inc., located at P. O. Box 680869 (Zip 35968-1609), 1207 Chitwood Avenue, SE, Fort Payne, Alabama 35967-4822. (Phone: 256-845-5315) upon payment of a plan deposit of \$100.00 for each set and includes a digital copy upon request. Alternatively, digital only copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be obtained for a non-refundable fee of \$20.00 from the stated office.

Unsuccessful bidders will be refunded 100% of the plan deposit for one set returned to the Engineer, in reusable condition, within 10 days after the bid opening. Additional sets obtained shall be refunded 50% of the plan deposit.

All non-bidders, sub-contractors, vendors or dealers shall be refunded 50% of the plan deposit

for each set returned to the Engineer, in reusable condition, within 10 days after the bid opening. The plan deposit amount as indicated above is in accordance with Alabama Act No. 97-225 relating to the competitive bid laws for public works.

All Bidders must comply with the requirements of the State Licensing Board for General Contractors (Latest Edition) and with the Alabama Act No. 97-225 (Title 39, Code of Alabama, 1975 as amended) relating to competitive bid laws for public works.

All Bidders must be properly licensed in accordance with the requirements of the State Licensing Board for General Contractors (Chapter 8, Title 34, Code of Alabama, 1975 or latest). This project is subject to the Build America, Buy America Act, enacted as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The domestic content procurement preference requires that all iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in covered infrastructure projects are produced in the United States.

OWNER: WATER WORKS AND SEWER BOARD OF THE TOWN OF SARDIS CITY  
Lloyd Richey, Chairman  
Dated, February 11, 2025

February 14, 2025

#### LEGAL ZONING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on Thursday, February 27, 2025 at 8:30 a.m., the Board of Adjustment of the City of Gadsden will hold a public hearing in the City Council Chamber, First Floor, at City Hall, 90 Broad Street, Gadsden, Alabama to give all persons who desire an opportunity to be heard in opposition to or in favor of the following request:

"A request for Special Exception to operate a Child Day Care located inside a home. The Property is Zoned R-1, Single Family Residence on the following described property:

For a point of beginning, start at the Northeast Corner of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Southeast

Quarter (SE 114) and from thence run in a Southerly direction and along the East line thereof a distance of 317 feet to a point in the present South line of Hoke Street; thence in a Westerly direction and along the present South line of Hoke Street a distance of 374.7 feet, which is the point of beginning, and from said

point of beginning run in a Southerly direction and at right angles to the present South line of Hoke Street a distance of 200 feet; thence in a Westerly direction and parallel with the present South line of Hoke Street a distance of 60 feet; thence in a Northerly direction, at right angles to Hoke Street, a distance of

200 feet to the present South line of Hoke Street; thence Easterly and along the present South line of Hoke Street a distance of 60 feet to the point of beginning, and being a part of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Southeast Quarter (SE 1/4) in Section Twelve (12), Township Twelve (12) South of Range Six (6) East of Huntsville Meridian in Etowah County, Alabama, and being subject to the restrictions mentioned in the deed from Joe Rhea and wife, Bessie Rhea, to Virginia B. Altham, dated February 19, 1945, and recorded in Deed Record "6-Y", Page 346, in the Office of the Judge of Probate

of Etowah County, Alabama. (Property Address being 1405 Hoke Street)

February 7 and 14, 2025

#### LEGAL ZONING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on the day of February 26, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. the Planning Commission of the City of Gadsden will hold a regularly scheduled public hearing in the Council Chamber at City Hall, First Floor, 90 Broad Street to give all persons who desire an opportunity to be heard, in opposition to or in favor of, the following requests:

"A request for planning approval of rezoning property from an R-1, Single Family Residence to a I-1, Light Industrial District

on the property described below:

Lots 1, 2, and 3 of the Page's Rearrangement of Lot 2, Block 8, Ewing Addition, as recorded in Plat Book "E", Page 21, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama, and lying and being in the City of Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama. Vacant Lot (Property address being 140 Ewing Avenue)

February 14, 2025

#### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CITY OF ATTALLA

THE CITY OF ATTALLA WILL HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS TO DISCUSS THE REMEDIES FOR NUISANCE/ ABATEMENT CASES THAT WILL COME BEFORE THE ATTALLA CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17 AT 5:00 P.M. LOCATED AT 612 4TH STREET NW. ATTALLA, ALABAMA. THE FOLLOWING ADDRESSES WILL BE DISCUSSED.

702 9th Ave. SW  
506 5th Ave NW  
513 McElroy St. SE  
105 Hughes Ave

City of Attalla  
612 4TH STREET NW.  
Attalla, AL. 35954

February 14, 2025

#### NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that the Contents of the following storage buildings will be SOLD by Off Campus Storage on February 28, 2025, at 10:00 A.M. at 474 George Wallace Drive, Gadsden, AL. 35903

Peggy Caldwell #39  
Francesca Rodgers #119  
Evelt Rember #67

Off Campus Storage  
George Wallace Drive  
Gadsden, AL. 358903

February 14 and 21, 2025

#### NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that the Contents of the following storage buildings will be SOLD/AUCTIONED by Southside Storage on March 1, 2025, at 10:00 am at 1476 Hwy77, Southside, AL.

Todd Bates U3  
Gary Bailey U55  
Donald Davie U101

February 14, 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 6, 2025

2015 Nissan Rouge  
VIN: JN8AS5M  
V3FW759253

2013 GMC Sierra  
VIN: 1GTN1TEXXD153237

1993 Jeep Wrangler  
VIN: 1J4FY19P6PP209196

2012 Ford Focus  
VIN: 1FAHP3F26CL402591

2010 Chev Traverse  
VIN: 1GNLRFED-  
6AS122277

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

February 7 and 14, 2025

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION OF ABANDONED VEHICLES

Please take NOTICE that Matt's Towing will offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the following abandoned motor vehicle 2010 Toyota Corolla vin# JTDBU4EE9AJ072304 The public auction will be held at Matt's Towing 927 B 5th Ave NE Attalla AL 35954 at 10:00am on 03/25/2025. The Seller shall have a right to reject any bid that is unreasonably low. The seller expressly reserves the right to bid and purchase at the public auction.

February 7 and 14, 2025

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION OF ABANDONED VEHICLES

Please take NOTICE that Matt's Towing will offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the following abandoned motor vehicle 2002 Toyota 4Runner vin# JT3GN86RX20254830 The public auction will be held at Matt's Towing 927 B 5th Ave NE Attalla AL 35954 at 10:00am on 04/02/2025. The Seller

shall have a right to reject any bid that is unreasonably low. The seller expressly reserves the right to bid and purchase at the public auction.

February 14 and 21, 2025

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION OF ABANDONED VEHICLES**

Please take NOTICE that Matt's Towing will offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the following abandoned motor vehicle 2009 Pontiac G5 vin# 1G2AS18H097177302 The public auction will be held at Matt's Towing 927 B 5th Ave NE Attalla AL 35954 at 10:00am on 04/01/2025 The Seller shall have a right to reject any bid that is unreasonably low. The seller expressly reserves the right to bid and purchase at the public auction.

February 14 and 21, 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 April 4, 2025.

2003 Ford Mustang VIN: 1FAFP42R73F407023

2015 Ford Mustang VIN: 1FA6P8TH1F5372583

2001 Ford Econoline VIN: 1FBSS31L-91HA57916

2006 Dodge Stratus VIN: 1B3EL46X6N150865

2007 Chevrolet Uplander VIN: 1GNDV33177D212039

2005 BMW 745 VIN: WBAGN63565DS56666

2006 Chevrolet Trailblazer VIN: 1GNDS13S562158496

2006 Honda Odyssey VIN: 5FNRL38756B070959

2006 Pontiac Grand Prix VIN: 2G2WP552061115082

2000 Honda Accord VIN: 1HGCG554XYA042314

Thacker Towing 927 5th Ave NE Attalla, AL 35954 (256) 504-1605

February 14 and 21, 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 21, 2025

2014 FORD FOCUS VIN: 1FADP-3K21EL251537

1998 FORD F150 VIN: 1FTZX-1720WNB69401

2006 GMC YUKON XL VIN: 1GKEC-16Z86J147098

2004 LINCOLN TOWN CAR VIN: 1LNHM-83W54Y627835

1988 HONDA ACCORD VIN: 1HG-CA6162JA045454

1995 NISSAN TRUCK VIN: 1N6SD16S3SC424962

2008 TOYOTA CAMRY VIN: 4T1BK-46KX8U570753

2002 HONDA ACCORD VIN: 1HGC-G56722A042551

2006 CADILLAC ESCALADE VIN: 1GYEK63N26R156873

ER Towing 1733 Forrest Ave Gadsden, AL 35901 (256)547-1549

February 14 and 21, 2025

**RESOLUTION NO. R-30-25**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

Whereas, the Building Official has determined that a structure located at 935 S. 11TH STREET in District 5 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as: Lot Number 18 In Block Number 8 in Woodland Addition, according to the map thereof recorded in Plat Book "A", Page 15, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama.

Tax Parcel ID: 15-03-08-

1-000-037.000 PIN# 39867

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the City Code, notice of a public hearing has been given to The Estate of STANLEY W. SIMMONS, 935 S. 11TH STREET, GADSDEN, ALA-BAMA 35901, personal representative of the Estate is LAVANN SIMMONS. Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

- 1. The Council finds that the structure constitutes a nuisance in violation of the City Code and should be abated.
2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing or repairing said structure and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the City Code.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. R-31-25**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

Whereas, the Building Official has determined that a structure located at 1018 PEACHTREE STREET in District 5 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as: A lot or parcel of land described as beginning at the South line of Peachtree Avenue or Street, at a point which is 100 feet West of the Intersection of the South line of Peachtree Avenue or Street, with the Wet line of Oak Street and from thence run South and parallel with the West line of Oak Street a distance of 110 feet; thence West and parallel with the South line of Peachtree Avenue or Street a distance of 40 feet to the East side of the Alley; thence North and along the East side of the alley a distance of 110 feet to the South side of said Peachtree Avenue or Street; thence East and along the South side of said Avenue or Street a distance of 40 feet to the point of beginning. Said description embracing the West 40 feet of Lots #21 and #22, as deeded, or the West 40 feet of Lots #23 and #24, as platted, and the West 40 feet to the North 10 feet of Lot #20, as deeded, or the West 40 feet to the North 10 feet of Lot #22, as platted, all in Block #9 of the Woodlawn Addition according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book A, Page 15, Probate office, Etowah County, Alabama, lying and being in Gadsden, Alabama, Etowah County

Tax Parcel ID: 15-03-08-1-000-025.000 PPIN: 39853

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the City Code, notice of a public hearing has been given to MARISOL CHAVEZ & OSCAR NARCISO, 1526 NEEDMORE ROAD, ALBERTVILLE, ALABAMA 35950, 1018 PEACHTREE STREET, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901, Subject to that certain mortgage in favor of DONALD RAY PERKINS & JOHNNA PERKINS, 1526 NEEDMORE ROAD, ALBERTVILLE, ALABAMA 35950.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:
1. The Council finds that the structure constitutes a nuisance in violation of the City Code and should be abated.
2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing or repairing said structure and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the City Code.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. R-32-25**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

Whereas, the Building Official has determined that a structure located at 1013 SLUSSER AVENUE in District 2 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as: Lot Number 9 in Block Number 32 in Garden City Residential Subdivision Number 1, according to the map thereof

as recorded in Plat Book "C" page 408 and 409, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama.

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the City Code, notice of a public hearing has been given to GUMERCINDO BERDUO FLORENCIO, 1013 SLUSSER AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35903, T C ENTERPRISES, LLC, 120 NORTH 5TH STREET, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:
1. The Council finds that the structure constitutes a nuisance in violation of the City Code and should be abated.
2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing or repairing said structure and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the City Code.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. R-33-25**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 1811 EMANUEL AVENUE in District 6 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LTS 78-81 BLK 2 MEADOWGROVE SUB PLAT C-395 7-12-6

Tax ID#: 15-03-07-3-000-241.000 PIN# 39280

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given CHRISTY OLIVE, 1811 EMANUEL AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35904, 1811 EMANUEL STREET, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35904, KEDRICK THOMAS, 1811 EMANUEL STREET, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35904.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:
1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.
2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. R-34-25**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 921 WISTERIA LANE in District 2 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

N 90 LT 5 BLK 3 BROOKLINE SUB PLAT D-141 35-11-6

Tax ID#: 10-07-35-4-000-075.000 PIN# 15375

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to JAVIER IBARRA, 2200 HILL AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35904.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:
1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.
2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. R-35-25**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

Whereas, the Building Of-

ficial has determined that a structure located at 1031 S. 12TH STREET in District 5 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as: Parcel III: A lot or parcel of land beginning in the NE corner of the SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4, Section 8, Township 12 South, Range 6 East of the Huntsville Meridian, Etowah County, Alabama, running back 283 feet West of North line of said quarter, then turns South and runs parallel to the West line a distance of 105 feet to a point and then runs East a distance of 283 feet to a point and then North a distance of 105 feet to the beginning point; being a lot 105 feet wide and 283 feet long and being located in the above said quarter in Etowah County, Alabama.

TAX PARCEL ID: 15-03-08-1-000-366.000 PIN# 40235

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the City Code, notice of a public hearing has been given to MILTON CHAPMAN, 803 SLACK STREET, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901, 1031 S. 12TH STREET, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901. Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:
1. The Council finds that the structure constitutes a nuisance in violation of the City Code and should be abated.
2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing or repairing said structure and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the City Code.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. R-36-25**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

Whereas, the Building Official has determined that a structure located at 1 CENTRAL ALLEY (COMMERCIAL BUILDING) in District 6 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

Lots 49 and 50 in Parcel 7 as shown on the map of property of Cone Mills Corporation, Dwight Division, as recorded in Plat Book "F", Pages 51-65, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama, lying and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama.

TAX PARCEL ID: 15-03-06-2-000-211.000 PIN# 38089

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the City Code, notice of a public hearing has been given to CHARLES WEATHINGTON, 956 CROFT FERRY ROAD E., GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35903, 1 CENTRAL ALLEY AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:
1. The Council finds that the structure constitutes a nuisance in violation of the City Code and should be abated.
2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing or repairing said structure and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the City Code.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. R-37-25**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

Whereas, the Building Official has determined that a structure located at 2509 EWING AVENUE in District 2 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as: Lot 25 of Hooks Lake Addition, according to map recorded in Plat Book "B", Pages 294 and 295, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama, and lying and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama.

TAX PARCEL ID: 10-07-25-2-000-041.000 PIN# 14073

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the City Code, notice of a public hearing has been given to DALENCOURT PROPERTY HOLDINGS, LLC c/o PHILLIP WILLIAMS, 2100 CLUB DRIVE, SUITE 150, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901, 2601 EWING AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901-9457, TONYA SCHAEKEL & ET ALS, 2529 EWING AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901.

Whereas, as required by the City Code, notice of a public hearing has been given to CLIFFORD E. BARFIELD, 2023 McCLAIN CIRCLE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901, VIRGINIA & husb CLIFFORD E. BARFIELD, 2023 McCLAIN CIRCLE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the structure constitutes a nuisance in violation of the City Code and should be abated.
2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing or repairing said structure and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the City Code.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. R-38-25**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

Whereas, the Building Official has determined that a structure located at 2515 EWING AVENUE in District 2 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as: Lot 26 of Hooks Lake Addition, according to map recorded in Plat Book "B", Pages 294 and 295, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama, and lying and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama.

TAX PARCEL ID: 10-07-25-2-000-042.000 PIN# 14074

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the City Code, notice of a public hearing has been given to GITONGA ERIC BEEK, 400 GRESHAM PARK DRIVE, SUITE 115, MARIETTA, GEORGIA 30062, 2515 EWING AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901, with possible rights of redemption to CLIFFORD BARFIELD, 2023 McCLAIN CIRCLE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901, DAVID SEAN WHITEMAN, P.O. BOX 4111, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35904.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the structure constitutes a nuisance in violation of the City Code and should be abated.
2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing or repairing said structure and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the City Code.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. R-41-25**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

Whereas, the Building Official has determined that a structure located at 1009 STATE STREET in District 2 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

Lot #20, Block #11, Good-year Park, according to the map thereof recorded in Plat Book C, Pages 84-85, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama, and lying and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama.

TAX PARCEL ID: 15-01-11-1-000-296.000 PIN# 30275

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the City Code, notice of a public hearing has been given to MATTIE BELLE, LLC, 216 GAULT AVENUE NORTH, FORT PAYNE, ALABAMA 35987, 3022 GREENHILL BOULEVARD N.W., FORT PAYNE, ALABAMA 35968-3027.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the structure constitutes a nuisance in violation of the City Code and should be abated.
2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing or repairing said structure and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the City Code.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. R-42-25**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

Whereas, the Building Official has determined that a structure located at 1621 VAN BUREN AVENUE in District 5 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as: Lot Number Fourteen (14) in Block Number Forty (40) in Gadsden Realty Company's South Gadsden Addition to Gadsden, according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book "B", Page 314, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama and lying and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama.

abate the nuisance by removing or repairing said structure and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the City Code.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. R-40-25**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

Whereas, the Building Official has determined that a structure located at 1856 HALL STREET in District 5 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

Lots numbered Nineteen and Twenty in Block "B" of the Gadsden Realty Company Subdivision as recorded in Probate Office Etowah Co. Ala. In Map Book "C", Page 171, and all in Etowah County, Alabama, saving and excepting all that land sold to the Alabama Gas Co., which said deed is recorded in deed record "6-H", Page 33, in the Office of Judge of Probate, Etowah County, Alabama.

TAX PARCEL ID: 15-04-17-0-001-072.000 PIN# 40481

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the City Code, notice of a public hearing has been given to The Estate of BOSTON GREENHAW, 399 MACHEN ROAD, ASHVILLE, ALABAMA 35953, 1856 HALL STREET, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35904, potential heirs, VANN GREENHAW, 416 MADISON CIRCLE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35904, NICKIE GREENHAW, and WILLIAM GREENHAW, VANN N GREENHAW & ET ALS AND NICKIE D. GREENHAW AND WILLIAM K. GREENHAW, 399 MACHEN ROAD, ASHVILLE, ALABAMA 35953.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the structure constitutes a nuisance in violation of the City Code and should be abated.
2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing or repairing said structure and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the City Code.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. R-43-25**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 2714 S. 11TH STREET in District 6 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LTS 1-2 J.O. RHODES REARR PART BLKS 6-7 PHILLIPS CO FARM ADD #1 PLAT D-159 LYING GOV'T LT 1 18-12-6

Tax ID#: 15-04-18-0-001-062.000 PIN# 40636

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to JULIA YATER & GRACE BIRSKY, 2714 S. 11TH STREET, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35904-4552.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:
1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.
2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. R-44-25**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 1816 ALASKA STREET in District 1 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LT 21 BLK 19 GLENWOOD SUB PLAT B-265 23-12-6

Tax ID#: 15-06-23-1-000-019.000 PIN# 44819

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given CHRIS WAGNER, FRITREUTER STREET 23, 21680 STADE, GERMANY, 23 FRITREUTER STREET, STADE, DE 21680. Now, Therefore, BE IT

RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

February 14, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. R-45-25

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 2331 FORREST AVENUE in District 6 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LT 15 BLK 25 ALFORDS 2ND ADD PLAT A-308 6-12-6

Tax ID#: 15-03-06-1-000-223.000 PIN#: 37788

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to NOEL D AVILA & ETALS (MARIAG ZAVALA Y CABRERA & ALONDA D ZAVALA), 2331 FORREST AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35904.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows: 1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated. 2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

February 14, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. R-46-25

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 403 FOREST ROAD aka 403 FOREST ROAD in District 4 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LOTS 6,7,8 BLK 1 OAK HILL DIV OF COUNTRY CLUB DIST PLAT E-75 GADSDEN 28-12-6

Tax ID#: 15-08-28-0-001-196.000 PIN#: 46062

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to DEANNA STATION, 403 FOREST ROAD, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows: 1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated. 2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

February 14, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. R-47-25

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 996 HOOKS LAKE ROAD in District 2 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LT 4 BLK 1 TIMBERLANE ADD PLAT G-265 35-11-6

Tax ID#: 10-07-35-1-000-036.001 PIN#: 14935

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to LISA

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

February 14, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. R-48-25

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 32 LAKE-FRONT AVENUE in District 6 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LT 95 CONE MILLS PARCEL #5 PLAT F-59 31-11-6

Tax ID#: 10-09-31-4-000-230.000 PIN#: 19095

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to PHIL-LIP FARMER, 411 BRYAN STREET, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35904.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows: 1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated. 2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

February 14, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. R-49-25

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 34 LAKE-FRONT AVENUE in District 6 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

WELLS, 996 HOOKS LAKE ROAD, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901. Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

February 14, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. R-50-25

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 808 MILLER AVENUE in District 1 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LT 6 & S1/2 LT 5 BLK 9 LINCORN HTS REARR OF MILLIE MILLER SUB PLAT F-19 GADSDEN SEC 14 TWP 12S R 6E

Tax ID#: 15-06-14-4-000-038.000 PIN#: 44575

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to JAMES & GEORGIAANN WOODS, 808 MILLER AVENUE,

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows: 1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated. 2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

February 14, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. R-51-25

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 808 MILLER AVENUE in District 1 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LT 6 & S1/2 LT 5 BLK 9 LINCORN HTS REARR OF MILLIE MILLER SUB PLAT F-19 GADSDEN SEC 14 TWP 12S R 6E

Tax ID#: 15-06-14-4-000-038.000 PIN#: 44575

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to JAMES & GEORGIAANN WOODS, 808 MILLER AVENUE,

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows: 1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated. 2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

February 14, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. R-52-25

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 808 MILLER AVENUE in District 1 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LT 6 & S1/2 LT 5 BLK 9 LINCORN HTS REARR OF MILLIE MILLER SUB PLAT F-19 GADSDEN SEC 14 TWP 12S R 6E

Tax ID#: 15-06-14-4-000-038.000 PIN#: 44575

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to JAMES & GEORGIAANN WOODS, 808 MILLER AVENUE,

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows: 1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated. 2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

February 14, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. R-53-25

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 808 MILLER AVENUE in District 1 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LT 6 & S1/2 LT 5 BLK 9 LINCORN HTS REARR OF MILLIE MILLER SUB PLAT F-19 GADSDEN SEC 14 TWP 12S R 6E

Tax ID#: 15-06-14-4-000-038.000 PIN#: 44575

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to JAMES & GEORGIAANN WOODS, 808 MILLER AVENUE,

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows: 1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated. 2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

February 14, 2025

GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35903. Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

February 14, 2025

ORDINANCE NO. O-01-25

Amending Fiscal Year 2025 Budget

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, that Ordinance No. O-44-24 (Fiscal Year 2025 Budget) is further amended by transferring \$288,000 from account #160-0000-254.20-00 (Economic Development Fund Balance) into account #160-3000-465.70-40 (Land), for the purpose of purchasing 221 Broad Street.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

February 14, 2025

ORDINANCE NO. O-02-25

Amending Chapter 74, Article X, Section 74-291 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Gadsden, Alabama

WHEREAS, in 1999 (O-61-99) the City of Gadsden last amended the lodging tax rate; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gadsden desires to impose an additional \$5.00 per night privilege or license surcharge on campground rentals; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 74, Article X, Section 74-291 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Gadsden is amended by adding the following:

ARTICLE X. - LODGING TAX. Sec. 74-291-Levy of tax. (c) There is hereby levied and imposed, in addition to all other taxes of every kind now imposed by law, a privilege or license surcharge upon every person engaging or continuing in this city in the business of renting or furnishing any tourist camp, tourist cabin, place or space for tent camping, place or space provided for a motor home, travel trailer, self-propelled camper or house car, truck camper, or similar recreational vehicle commonly known as a R.V. are regularly furnished to transients for a consideration, in an amount of five dollars (\$5.00) per night per accommodations. There is exempted from the surcharge levied under this section any rentals or services taxed under Division 1, commencing with Section 40-23-1, of Article 1, Chapter 23, Title 4. The surcharge shall not apply to rooms, lodgings, or accommodations supplied for a period of thirty (30) continuous days or more in any place.

Section 2. The section, subsections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this ordinance are severable. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause and phrase of this ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid by a valid judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall not affect the validity of any other section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause and phrase of this ordinance. The city council declares that it is its intent that it would have enacted this ordinance without such invalid or unconstitutional provisions.

Section 3. The provisions of this ordinance repeal any prior ordinance or provision of the Gadsden City Code to the extent of any conflict.

Section 4. This ordinance shall become effective on May 1, 2025.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

February 14, 2025

ORDINANCE NO. O-03-25

Amending Fiscal Year 2025 Budget

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, that Ordinance No. O-44-24 (Fiscal Year 2025 Budget) is further amended by transferring \$400,000 from the Opioid Settlement Fund Balance to accounts:

001-8500-422.30-40 Clothing Supplies \$41,602

001-8500-422.60-15 Dues & Subscriptions \$2,128

001-8500-422.60-25 Training & Travel \$68,000

001-8500-422.70-25 Computer Equipment \$38,270

001-8500-422.10-05 Full-Time Employees \$171,000

001-8500-422.15-05 Social Security \$2,480

001-8500-422.15-10 State Retirement \$33,567

001-8500-422.15-20 Health & Life Ins. \$30,913

001-8500-422.15-25 Uniform Allowance \$5,200

001-8500-422.15-30 Workmen's Compensation \$6,840

The funds will be used for hiring of additional officers and associated expenditures.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

February 14, 2025

ORDINANCE NO. O-03-25

Amending Fiscal Year 2025 Budget

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, that Ordinance No. O-44-24 (Fiscal Year 2025 Budget) is further amended by transferring \$400,000 from the Opioid Settlement Fund Balance to accounts:

001-8500-422.30-40 Clothing Supplies \$41,602

001-8500-422.60-15 Dues & Subscriptions \$2,128

001-8500-422.60-25 Training & Travel \$68,000

001-8500-422.70-25 Computer Equipment \$38,270

001-8500-422.10-05 Full-Time Employees \$171,000

001-8500-422.15-05 Social Security \$2,480

001-8500-422.15-10 State Retirement \$33,567

001-8500-422.15-20 Health & Life Ins. \$30,913

001-8500-422.15-25 Uniform Allowance \$5,200

001-8500-422.15-30 Workmen's Compensation \$6,840

The funds will be used for hiring of additional officers and associated expenditures.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

February 14, 2025

ORDINANCE NO. O-04-25

Amending Section 74-62 of the City of Gadsden Code of Ordinances

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

Section 74-62 of the City of Gadsden Code of Ordinances is amended to read as follows:

Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the meaning set forth below:

Business means any commercial or industrial activity or any enterprise, trade, profession, occupation, or livelihood, whether or not carried on for gain or profit, and whether or not engaged in as a principal or as an independent contractor, which is engaged in, or caused to be engaged in, within the city.

Business license means an annual license issued by the city for the privilege of doing any kind of business, trade, profession, or any other activity in the city which document is required to be conspicuously posted or displayed except to the extent the taxpayer's business license tax or other financial information is listed thereon.

Business license remittance form means any business license return, renewal reminder notice, or other writing on which the taxpayer calculates the business license tax liability for all or part of the license year and remits the amount so calculated with the form.

Clinic means a facility in which a physician or dentist or a group of physicians, dentists and allied professional assistants are associated for the purpose of carrying on their profession; the clinic may include a dental or medical laboratory and may provide minor surgical procedures but it shall not include inpatient care or operating rooms for major surgery.

Department or department of revenue means the Alabama Department of Revenue, as created under Code of Ala. § 40-2-1 et seq.

Designee means an agent or employee of the city (including the city license officer) authorized to administer or collect the city's business license taxes, which may include another taxing jurisdiction, the department of revenue, or a private auditing or collecting firm as defined in Code of Ala. § 40-2A-3.

Gross receipts mean the measure of any and all receipts of a business, including intercompany book transfers, from whatever source derived, to the maximum extent permitted by applicable laws and constitutional provisions, to be used in calculating the amount due for a business license, provided, however, that:

(1) Gross receipts shall not include any of the following taxes collected by the business on behalf of any taxing jurisdiction or the federal government: All taxes which are

imposed on the ultimate consumer, collected by the taxpayer and remitted by or on behalf of the taxpayer to the taxing authority, whether state, local or federal, including utility gross receipts levied pursuant to Code of Ala., tit. 40, ch. 21, art. 3; license taxes levied pursuant to Code of Ala., tit. 40, ch. 21, art. 2; or reimbursements to professional employer organizations of federal, state or local payroll taxes or unemployment insurance contributions; but no other deductions or exclusions from gross receipts shall be allowed except as provided in this chapter.

(2) A different basis for calculating the business license may be used by the city with respect to certain categories of taxpayers as prescribed in Code of Ala. § 11-51-90(b).

(3) For a utility or other entity described in Code of Ala. § 11-51-129, gross receipts shall be limited to the gross receipts derived from the retail furnishing of utility services within the city during the preceding year that are taxed under Code of Ala. tit. 40, ch. 21, art. 3, except that nothing herein shall affect any existing contract or agreement between a municipality and a utility or other entity. The gross receipts derived from the furnishing of utility services shall not be subject to further business license taxation by the city.

(4) Gross receipts shall not include dividends or other distributions received by a corporation, or proceeds from borrowing, the sale of a capital asset, the repayment of the principal portion of a loan, the issuance of stock or other equity investments, or capital contributions, or the undistributed earnings of subsidiary entities.

(5) Value of Goods Produced is defined as beginning inventory plus purchases less ending inventory, also known as Cost of Goods Sold (COGS). Calculation is based on the corresponding calendar year defined by the City of Gadsden license year.

Hospital means an institution that provides medical, surgical, or psychiatric care and treatment for the sick and injured, including accommodations for 24 hours or longer.

License form means any business license application form, renewal reminder notice, business license remittance form, or business license return, by whatever name called.

License officer or city license officer means the city employee charged by the city with the primary responsibility of administering the city's business license tax ordinance and matters related thereto.

The director of revenue and the employees of the city revenue department under the supervisions of the director are charged with these responsibilities.

License year means the calendar year.

Municipality means any town or city in Alabama that levies a business license tax from time to time. The term shall also include the town's or city's police jurisdiction, where the business license tax is levied in the police jurisdiction.

Other terms mean other capitalized or specialized terms used in this chapter, and not defined above, shall have the same meanings ascribed to them in Code of Ala. § 40-2A-3, unless the context therein otherwise specifies.

Outpatient care center means a freestanding facility which provides specific medical, surgical or psychiatric treatment for ambulatory patients on an outpatient basis, rather than by admission to a hospital or other health care facility and does not involve a stay of more than 24 hours.

Person means any individual, association, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company, corporation, or other entity of any kind, except for any nonprofit corporation formed under the laws of Alabama which is operated to enable municipalities that become members of such nonprofit corporation to finance or refinance capital projects and related undertakings, on a cooperative basis, and whose board of directors or other governing body consists primarily of elected officials of the city.

Taxing jurisdiction means any municipality that levies a business license tax, whether or not a business license tax is levied within its police jurisdiction, or the department of revenue acting as agent on

behalf of a municipality pursuant to Code of Ala. §§ 11-51-180 et seq., as the context requires.

Taxpayer means any person subject to or liable under this chapter for any business license tax; any person required to file a return with respect to, or pay or remit the business license tax levied under this chapter or to report any information or value to the city; or any person required to obtain, or who holds any interest in, any business license issued by the city; or any person that may be affected by any act or refusal to act by the city under this chapter, or to keep any information required by this chapter.

U.S.C. means the applicable title and section of the United States Code, as amended from time to time.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk

February 14, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. R-45-25

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 2331 FORREST AVENUE in District 6 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LT 15 BLK 25 ALFORDS 2ND ADD PLAT A-308 6-12-6

Tax ID#: 15-03-06-1-000-223.000 PIN#: 37788

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to NOEL D AVILA & ETALS (MARIAG ZAVALA Y CABRERA & ALONDA D ZAVALA), 2331 FORREST AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35904.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows: 1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated. 2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 4, 2025. Iva Nelson, City Clerk



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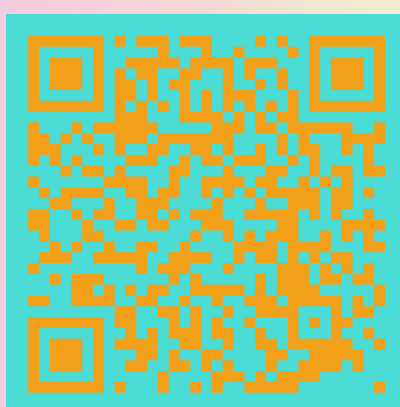
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**Saturday, March 8**  
**9 a.m.**

**Wilson Park, 313 Nancy Carrol Ave., Glencoe**

# Gadsden State accepting nominations for athletic hall of fame

Gadsden State Community College Athletics is currently accepting nominations for its inaugural class of inductees into the newly established Gadsden State Athletic Hall of Fame, which seeks to honor athletes, coaches, teams and contributors who have made significant contributions to Gadsden State Athletics over the years.

"We are thrilled to launch the Gadsden State Athletic Hall of Fame to honor the accomplishments of our fellow Cardinals and to reinforce our strong tradition and rich history in athletics," said GSCC Athletic Director and head baseball coach Blake Lewis.

The selection process will be handled by a committee under the direction of Lewis and will consist of five Gadsden State employees, a community representative, a Cardinal Foundation designee and an active head coach from the college.

To be eligible for consideration based on athletic achievements, nominees must have participated in at least two years of varsity-level competition at one of the fol-

lowing institutions: Gadsden State Community College, Gadsden State Junior College, Ayers State Technical College, Alabama School of Trades, Alabama Technical College or Gadsden State Technical Institute.

Additionally, nominees must have left the college with a degree or a minimum 2.0 GPA and must have not been dismissed for disciplinary reasons. Nominees must have completed their eligibility five or more years ago.

"We are looking to honor those who have represented Gadsden State with excellence," Lewis said. "The hall of fame is about past performances and the positive impact these individuals have had on our college and community."

Nominees who have contributed to Gadsden State Athletics in a non-athletic capacity, such as coaches, administrators or long-time supporters, can be eligible for induction under the Meritorious Service category. These nominees must have had a significant impact on Gadsden State athletics for at least 10 years.

Athletic teams are also eligible for induction as a unit, provided it has been 10 years since the team's competitive season.

Teams can be recognized without prohibiting the induction of individual members who were part of that team. In addition, deceased contributors to Gadsden State athletics may be considered for posthumous induction.

Those selected for the Gadsden State Athletic Hall of Fame will be inducted on Aug. 14.

No fewer than three and no more than eight inductees will be elected each year.

"We believe this is a perfect opportunity to celebrate the legacy of Gadsden State athletics, from individual accomplishments to team successes to those who have made a lasting impact on our programs," said Lewis. "We are so excited about the inaugural class to our hall of fame."

Nominations will be accepted through May 15. Visit GoCardinals.gadsdenstate.edu or contact blewis@gadsdenstate.edu.

## Norris named head coach of GSCC womens basketball - from page 2B

Norris' appointment as the new head coach of the Lady Cardinals followed the resignation of Marty Dixon in December due to personal reasons. Dixon, who had previously coached the Lady Cardinals from 2015 to 2019 and again in 2023, asked Norris to join the team as an assistant coach to help turn the program around. After Dixon's departure, Norris took on the head coach role while still juggling assistant coaching responsibilities. He said he is committed to guiding Gadsden State to-

ward success.

"It's not about me," Norris said. "It's about the team. We want to turn this program into a competitive program. That's our mission. We are united as a team. It's more 'we' than 'me.' I'm very team focused. I want our young ladies to play well for each other. We expect them to do their best. It's required each day, and we hold them accountable. As a result, they will be happy with what they have accomplished."

As part of his long-term plan for the

program, Norris is focusing on recruiting, which he believes is the lifeblood of any successful team. Six student-athletes recently visited Gadsden State.

"Recruiting is the first step," Norris said. "The next step is getting them to compete successfully for Gadsden State."

To support the team's development, Gadsden State cross country coach Jackson Millander has volunteered as an assistant coach.

"Jackson has been a huge asset," Nor-

ris said. "He and Ashton Moody, our team manager, have both really stepped up to help."

As the Lady Cardinals continue their journey under Norris' leadership, he is committed to building a strong and unified team.

"We need continuity," he said. "Once a good system is in place with a good team playing for one another, we'll accomplish a lot. We are in the building phase to get there. I know we can do it."



Submitted photo

The Gadsden Middle School eighth grade basketball team recently completed an undefeated season with a 17-0 record. Pictured, sitting: head coach Sam Smith. Standing, from left: JaCoby Byers, Terrence Green, Jr., Cameron Huff, Trey Wingfield, Javarrio Thomas, Jr., Tristin Scott, David Pugh, Samuel Robinson, Bryant Gilchrist, Isaiah Dunn, Jatari Parker, Amare Hughley, JehLei Whiteside, Latwain Cotton, Thomas Gladden.



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