



# Messenger

Volume 47, Issue 09

February 28, 2025

50 cents

## 7 DAY FORECAST

<b>Friday</b> Feb. 28  High: 69 Low: 43	<b>Saturday</b> Mar. 1  High: 68 Low: 30	<b>Sunday</b> Mar. 2  High: 54 Low: 30	<b>Monday</b> Mar. 3  High: 64 Low: 46	<b>Tuesday</b> Mar. 4  High: 73 Low: 54	<b>Wednesday</b> Mar. 5  High: 65 Low: 37	<b>Thursday</b> Mar. 6  High: 56 Low: 33
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### Page 1B

Glencoe High School boys fell to Montgomery Academy at the state semifinals in Birmingham on February 25.

Photo courtesy of AHSSA



### Page 2B

Southside's Colin Futral dominated in recent wrestling matches held at Gadsden City High School and at Southside High School.

Submitted photo



### Page 1B

Sardis girls JV team finishes undefeated in Etowah County Tournament championship.

Submitted photo

## Southside schools get better emergency radio tech

The City of Southside's Police and Fire Departments recently announced the completion of a project that they say is "essential to the safety and security of the students in Southside Elementary School and Southside High School."

For years, the radios that first responders use inside of the schools could not communicate outside of the buildings. This was discovered during training exercises and actual emergencies where communications were ineffective. School Resource

Officers would have to call multiple times and move close to exterior windows to call for medics or other assistance during emergencies. After some research, a solution was found that has greatly improved emergency communication.

Bidirectional Amplifiers (BDA) were installed in each school building. A BDA is a combination of a radio repeater and a distributed antenna system that ensures the signal is strong throughout the interior of the school buildings.

This project was a collaborative effort between the City of Southside and the Etowah County Board of Education, with each organization sharing the cost of equipment and installation. The equipment was installed by BearCom from Birmingham over a period of 10 days. The BDAs will function for all responding agencies that are on the Alabama Interoperable Radio System (AIRS), which serves a large portion of the state.

"The mayor and city council of the City

of Southside, along with the Etowah County Board of Education, have demonstrated an outstanding model of positive collaboration and cooperation," a statement from the Southside Police Department stated. "This partnership has proven to be invaluable in fostering a safe environment for both students and first responders. We extend our sincere gratitude for their unwavering commitment to working together and finding solutions that prioritize the well-being of our community."

## Striplin teacher named ambassador to federal program



JANIE BROWNING

The Afterschool Alliance announced Thursday, Feb. 20, that it has selected Janie Browning, 21st Century Program Director/Federal Programs at the Gadsden City Schools, to serve as a 2025 Afterschool Ambassador - one of only 15 leaders in the country chosen for the honor this year.

Afterschool Ambassadors continue working with local afterschool programs while serving

a one-year Afterschool Ambassador term during which they engage with community leaders and policy makers to organize events and in other ways grow support for the afterschool and summer learning programs that students and families rely on.

"We are absolutely delighted that Janie Browning will serve as a 2025 Afterschool Ambassador for the Afterschool Alliance," said Jodi Grant, Afterschool Alliance executive director. "This is going to be a pivotal year when we simply must continue the progress in making afterschool and summer learning programs available to more students, even as federal education spending is under scrutiny. We intend to continue spreading the word that afterschool programs are a wise, essential investment because they keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, and give parents peace of mind that their children are safe and supervised after the school day ends. Browning is exactly the kind of champion we need."

"I am honored to work with the Afterschool Alliance to elevate awareness and support for afterschool and summer learning programs this year," said Browning. "As both an educator and a parent who has relied on these programs, I've seen firsthand the vital role afterschool plays—not just for students, but for families and entire communities. Afterschool matters because it provides a safe space for students to grow, explore, and discover their potential. It matters to parents who need a trusted place for their children while they work. And most importantly, it matters to the students we serve, offering them opportunities, mentorship, and the extra support they need to succeed. I am incredibly proud to be part of the afterschool movement and to serve as a 2025 Afterschool Ambassador."

Browning is a kindergarten teacher at Striplin Elementary School. Gadsden City Schools' afterschool programs serve over 1,100 students each day across 12 sites, providing a safe, engaging, and enriching environment beyond the school day. Its programs offer a wide range of opportunities, including music camps where students create and produce their own music videos, STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) activities that spark innovation, homework help that reinforces academic success, and clubs such as chess and robotics that build critical thinking skills. Students also participate in sports camps, career readiness programs, and leadership development activities.

Through strong partnerships, the programs ensure students have access to mentorship, hands-on learning, and real-world experiences. Afterschool in Gadsden City is more than just a program—it's a vital support system that empowers students, strengthens families, and enriches the community.

Afterschool Ambassador- page 3A



Lindsey Frazier/Messenger

Pharmacies, like Super Bee Pharmacy pictured above, are championing two state senate bills aimed at reducing drug costs.

## Local pharmacies raise awareness for rising drug costs by walking out

By Lindsey Frazier & Kaitlin Hoskins

Local pharmacies joined forces with about 100 others across the state for a staged walkout on Tuesday, Feb. 25, to raise awareness of patient access and Pharmacy Benefits Managers (PBMs) reform.

Pharmacists and their employees closed their doors and headed to Montgomery to meet and speak with representatives about the struggles they are facing, according to Hodges. Legislatures are working to combine two bills, Senate Bill 93 and Senate Bill 99, to push back against third-party negotiators between pharmacies and the manufacturer of the drugs. According to Senate Bill 93, the third-party negotiators, also known as PBMs, determine the amount pharmacies are reimbursed for dispensing the prescriptions.

Pharmacists like Abby Hodges, a third generation pharmacist at Super Bee Pharmacy in Rainbow City, dimmed the lights at the pharmacy and displayed a black wreath and black balloons to raise awareness about the unfair practices of companies such as these.

"I don't think I'm wrong to say that every independent pharmacy in town participated in some form or fashion," Hodges said. "I know Rick's closed. I know that us, Southside and Gadsden City did a similar thing with the wreath and turning out the light."

State Senator Andrew Jones for Alabama District 10 sponsored Senate Bill 93 and said local pharmacists in Etowah County brought the issue to his attention.

"Our pharmacies need to be paid a fair pay to cover their costs," Jones said. "No business can stay open if they charge the same amount for an item that they pay for it, much less if they are charging less than what they paid for it."

State Representative Mack Butler said he was shocked to learn about some of the practices of the PBMs such as issuing non-disclosure agreements in their contracts with pharmacies about their drug costs.

"My dad's pharmacist said he has to pay \$40 under his cost," Butler said. "It's so devastating, even [President Donald] Trump is talking about it. Everyone doesn't get reimbursed the same amount. And the independent pharmacies, not every prescription, but a number of prescriptions, they're being reimbursed below their cost."

Some of the benefit managers, such as CVS Caremark, own pharmacies determining their own prices of drugs and the prices for other pharmacies, including local pharmacies like Super Bee.

"My dad started this business 53 years ago," said Debbie Adams, Abby's mom and Super Bee Pharmacy owner. "My brother and my sister were pharmacists as well. They have both passed away, and my dad a cou-

ple years ago too, but we want to continue his legacy."

Adams said they are a part of the community, and they want to continue serving the community

"They have been wonderful to support us," Adams said. "And we want to continue supporting the community."

The Alabama Pharmacy Association (APA) hosted a lunch on the South Lawn at the State Capital to raise awareness of their cause.

"I think it's fabulous," said Ginger Barron, pharmacist at Cornerstone Family Pharmacy. "There were over 170 pharmacists at the APA lunch, that's not including legislation. It was pretty phenomenal to speak with local leaders."

Last year, Barron said the issue was brought up but was never presented to legislators. The pharmacists have momentum this year, according to Butler, he believes they have made a difference with all the information they have spread over the last year.

The Alliance of Alabama Healthcare Consumers announced its opposition to Senate Bill 93 and Senate Bill 99, claiming both measures would impose an additional \$10.64 dispensing fee on every prescription filled in the state. According to AAHC, the new fee would result in an estimated annual increase of \$900 per person or \$3,600 per family in prescription costs.

Pharmacy Walk-Out- page 8A





# OBITUARIES



**Georgia Sanders**

**GADSDEN** - Ms. Georgia Sanders, 96, of Gadsden, passed away on Thursday, February 20, 2025. She is survived by her loving family. We ask that you keep this family in your hearts and prayers during their time of bereavement.

Georgia Ann Sanders was born on March 8, 1928, to the late George Sanders and Annie Barker Andrews in Selma, Alabama. Georgia was the tenth of eleven children.

At an early age, Georgia accepted Christ as her personal Lord and Savior and became a member of Galilee Baptist Church under the leadership of Reverend E.W. Jarrett, Reverend Dr. G.E. Robinson Sr. and Pastor Grover Robinson.

Georgia received her education at the Mount Zion Potter Station in Selma, AL.

Georgia was an entrepreneur. She owned a hot pit BBQ stand on Broad Street to the left of Goodson Church. The best sandwiches in town..... served with lettuce, tomatoes, pickles and a special sauce. She sold out daily! She called it Georgia's Café. She retired from Spring Valley, also known as Koch's in the mid 80's.

She later moved to Detroit with her son Phillip and became the best biscuit maker at McDonald's in Detroit.

After coming back to her hometown she "hung up her hat" to enjoy the rest of her days with her beloved family. Thank you to our matriarch.

Georgia was an amazing mother, grandmother, and friend. As the Proverbs 31 woman she was; it was her passion to lead everyone to Christ. Grandmother was a woman of wisdom and a strong believer in "treating people the way you want to be treated." (Matthew 7:12) Grandmother was fair but never a push over. She was fearless in her belief to stand up for herself as well as others. To know our "ANGEL" was to love her.

Georgia peacefully closed her eyes to eternal rest on

Thursday, February 20, 2025, at Riverview Regional Medical Center surrounded by her loving family.

She was preceded in death by: her loving parents, George Sanders and Annie Barker Andrews; children Roger J. Flambo Sr., George E. Flambo, Diane Flambo-Roden, Edna Sanders-Ray; her grandchildren Rodney Rhoden, Stanley Flambo Jr., Jamychal Howard, and Curtis Buggs; her siblings, Chatman Barker, Mattie Bell Moore, Fred Moore, Hattie Moore, Mary Frances Moore, Dotree Sanders, Turner Sanders, George Sanders, Jake Sanders, and Annie D. Sanders. Grandmother was the last of her family descent.

Blessed memories will always be cherished by her beloved children: Phillip Franklin, Aaron (Janice) Flambo, Stanley J. Flambo, Marshal Ann Flambo and Roger Flambo Jr.; 17 grandchildren, Frederick, Pashenia, Darlene (Ronald), Rena, Randy (Tia), Niecy (Nick), Kyle, Tiros, Michael, Shawn, Rena, Tina (Wilbert), Trena, Dott (Edward), Rachel (Ray), Stephen and Thaddeus; 51 great grandchildren; special nephew, Eugene Albert and a host of other relatives and friends.

Public viewing will be Friday, February 28, 2025 from 11am-6pm.

Funeral services will be Saturday, March 1, 2025 at 1:00pm at the Galilee Baptist Church. Eulogist: Pastor Grover Robinson. Interment: Lincoln Hill Memorial Park.

*West Gadsden Funeral Home*



**Dorothy Helen Snow**

**HOKES BLUFF** - Dorothy Helen "Dot" Snow, age 86, of Hokes Bluff, AL went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday, February 25, 2025. A funeral service will be held at 2:00 pm on Friday, February 28, 2025, at Collier-Butler Funeral Home. Rev. Larry Garrard and Rev. David Bankson will officiate. Burial will follow at Crestwood Cemetery in

Gadsden, AL.

Dorothy was born in Gadsden, AL on March 30, 1938. She was a graduate of Gadsden High School. She married her sweetheart, Bobby Snow, on January 19, 1957. Dot loved to cook and she took great joy in feeding people. Her cakes were fantastic, all made from scratch. Her most requested creations were her 3-layer chocolate cake with "gritty" icing and her German chocolate cake. They were amazing! Dot was also an excellent seamstress. She loved to sew and could make anything. If she didn't have a pattern, she would make her own. Dot was a faithful member of College Heights Baptist Church and loved her church family. Most of all, she was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. She loved us beyond measure. She lived out her faith by being a shining example of commitment and by serving others.

Dot was preceded in death by her parents, Jodie and Danah Rutledge; siblings, Katherine Daniels, Hazel Stephens, Harold (Jean) Rutledge, Margaret Batchelor, Betty (Paul) Smith, and Lela Bankson.

She is survived by her loving husband of 68 years, Bobby Snow; sons, Terry (Lynn) Snow and Tony (Donice) Snow; grandchildren, Rebekah Hogsed and Katelyn (Blake) Stinson; great grandchildren, Tenley Hogsed, Taelyn Hogsed, and Vayda Stinson; sister, Mildred Marchman; special nephew, Larry Garrard; and many nieces, nephews, great nieces, and great nephews whom she loved dearly.

Pallbearers will be Wayne Snow, Jimmy Snow, Jodie Marchman, Marv Snow, Marty Snow, and David Bankson.

Honorary pallbearer will be Jim Runner.

Our family would like to extend a special thanks to mom's caregivers who have become special friends, Lindsey Gray, Donna Richey, Brandy and Mark Williams, and Michelle Cosper.

The family will accept friends from 12:30 pm until the hour of the service at the funeral home on Friday.

## Candace G. Harty

**GADSDEN** - Prestige Memorial Funeral Home & Crematory sadly announces the passing of Ms. Candace G. Harty, age 62, of Gadsden, AL, who traded mortal

for immortality on Tuesday, February 25, 2025. She is survived by her loving family. We ask that you please keep The Harty family and those families that may be going through the same lifted in prayer. Final care and arrangements have been entrusted to Prestige Memorial Funeral Home & Crematory, "Where the name is synonymous with service." Service details are pending.



**Patricia McClain**

**ATTALLA** - Patricia McClain of Attalla, AL born February 9, 1935, passed away at her home surrounded by her children on Sunday, February 23.

A graveside service for Patricia will be held at Forest Cemetery on Friday, February 28, 2025, at 1:00 PM.

Chase Dowdy will officiate.

Patricia was a founding member of Stowers Hill Baptist Church, where she loved teaching Sunday school, singing in the choir, and cooking countless meals for every occasion.

She retired from Attalla City Schools, where she was everyone's favorite lunchroom lady.

Many knew her through her passion for running and cycling. She started running at age 56, competing in races across the southeast. When her running days were over you could find her riding her bicycle near and far. She was never afraid to do hard things. She inspired those around her to do the same. The world is a better place because she was in it.

Patricia was preceded in death by her precious parents, Odell and Lorraine Buffington; her beloved husband of 66 years, Earl McClain.

Patricia is survived by her children, Paul (Lisa) McClain, David (Regina) McClain, James Michael (Mary Jo) McClain, Elizabeth (Mark) Wilson, and John (Terri) McClain; she was also loved by a host of grandchildren and great-

grandchildren.

The family would like to express their gratitude to Mary Conley with Heaven's Helpers. Her expert care, kindness and love will never be forgotten. They would also like to thank the staff of Gentiva Hospice, especially Ashley Edwards, RN.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Stowers Hill Baptist Church- 407 9th Avenue SW Attalla, AL 35954.



**Rachel Faye Abel**

**ATTALLA** - Rachel Faye (Hill) Abel, age 81, of Attalla, Alabama passed away on Monday, February 24, 2025.

A graveside for Rachel will be held Saturday, March 1, 2025 at 2:00 PM at Hokes Bluff Cemetery.

## Brenda Diane Martin

Brenda Diane Martin was born on June 29, 1947, and after a lived life full of love, laughter, challenges and resilience, she championed incredible achievements through many endeavors and efforts; least of which was her professional career starting in Germany in 1982 pursuing next level accomplishments through Ft. McClellan and finally retiring from Anniston Army Depot in 2008. She was a social butterfly and orchestrated our most memorable Family reunion in 2017. This probably stemmed from her successes early in life, like when she competed in home coming, a beauty pageant, placing 2nd at Wellborn High in 1961, not bad for a bootlegger's daughter. Unfortunately, her life's journey ended, and she has been called home. She is survived by 3 sons, (Matthew J Martin II, Kevin Dewayne Martin, and Barry Allen Martin,) 2 granddaughters, 1 grandson, 2 great granddaughters and 1 great grandson.

Pallbearers will be Matthew Martin, Kevin Martin, Barry Martin, Greg Waugh, Tim Martin, Nick Martin

Honorary pallbearers will be Robert Ray Waugh, Wil-

lie Young Waugh, Frankie Lee Waugh

ALT Pallbearers will be David Clark, Herbie Murphy, Alan Whisenant. The family will receive friends at the Forestlawn Mausoleum Chapel Saturday from 12 pm until the time of service.

## Norman L. Shurbutt

**SOUTHSIDE** - Funeral service will be 1 PM Saturday, March 1, 2025, at Glencoe-Hokes Bluff Funeral Home for Norman Lewis Shurbutt, age 85, of Southside, who went home to be with his Lord and Savior on February 25, 2025. Pastor Joe Dismuke will officiate the service. Burial will follow at Crestwood Cemetery with Military Honors. Family will receive friends from 12 PM until time-of-service Saturday at the funeral home.

Mr. Shurbutt was preceded in death by his wife: Brenda Lay Shurbutt; parents: Charlie and Maude Shurbutt; brothers: Bobby Joe, Jerry T, Jimmy, and Donald Shurbutt; sister: Ruth Noah.

He is survived by his daughters: Dawn Hardeman and Dena (Jeremy) Cobb; grandchildren: Grant Hardeman, Maggie Cobb, and Noah Cobb; special niece: Missy Shurbutt Hall; a host of Nieces and nephews.

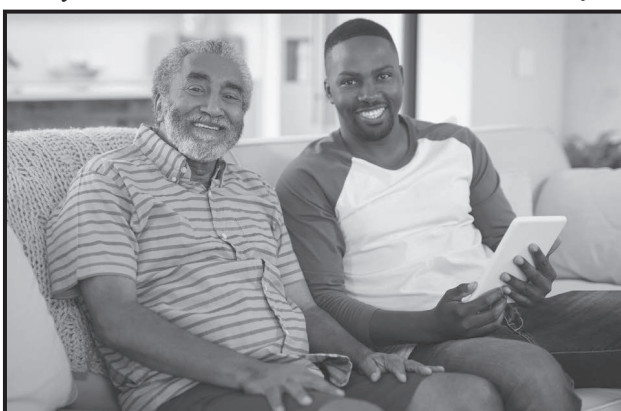
Mr. Shurbutt was a member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Alexandria and he graduated from Alexandria High School, he also attended Gadsden State Community College and the University of Alabama. He served 25 years in the Army National Guard. He retired from Goodyear and the Anniston Army Depot. He served 25 years in the Glencoe Volunteer Fire Department. He was also a member of the Southside Jacks Coffee Club. He loved farming and tractors. He was a former member of the Glencoe Jaycees and the Gadsden Antique Car Club.

Pallbearers will be Jack Lay, Johnny Lay, Chris Hardeman, Jeremy Cobb, Noah Cobb, and Grant Hardeman.

## Vergie Fulenwider

Vergie Ann (Gaylor) Fulenwider, age 84, of Altoona, Alabama passed away on Saturday, February 22, 2025. Vergie will be laid to rest in Samuel's Chapel Cemetery, 393 Samuel's Chapel Rd, Altoona, AL 35952.

Pallbearers will be Robert Ray Waugh, Wil-



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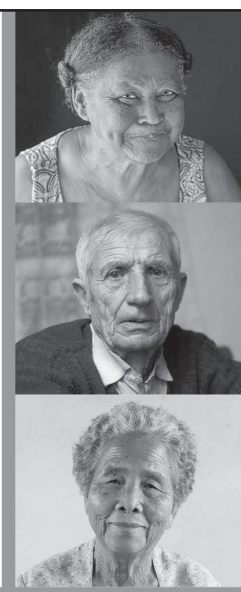


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ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF  
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RESOURCES**

**Owner  
Craig Ford**

**Owner/Publisher  
Craig Ford**  
info@gadsdenmessenger.com

**News Editor  
Kaitlin Hoskins**  
khoskins@gadsdenmessenger.com

**Legals Editor  
Teri Chupp**  
tchupp@gadsdenmessenger.com

**Features Editor  
Lindsay Frazier**  
lfrazier@gadsdenmessenger.com

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# NEWS

## FSCU packs 50,000 meal kits on Random Acts of Kindness Day

In honor of National Random Acts of Kindness Day, Family Savings Credit Union partnered with The Outreach Program and United Way of East Central Alabama to pack 50,000 meal kits for local food pantries. The event, held at the Venue in Gadsden, saw every Family Savings employee roll up their sleeves for a day dedicated to community service.

Nearly 300 employees across every branch dedicated approximately two hours to assembling macaroni and oatmeal meal kits

— each kit containing all the ingredients needed to prepare a complete, hearty meal. After the packing session, teams personally delivered the kits to food pantries in thirteen counties across the communities the credit union serves, ensuring that essential meals reached those in need.

“It’s incredible to see our families come together and make such a significant impact on our communities,” said Danny Varnon, president and CEO of Family Savings. “Service is at the core of who we

are, and today’s event truly exemplified that commitment. Every employee’s dedication and teamwork helped us achieve this remarkable milestone, and it reinforces our belief in the power of working together to create lasting change.”

“The initiative, one of the largest community service efforts undertaken by Family Savings, highlighted not only the operational capability of the organization but also its deep-rooted commitment to making a tangible

difference,” a statement on the event stated. “The spirit of servitude was palpable as employees worked side by side, demonstrating that when a community comes together under a common goal, extraordinary outcomes are possible.”

Family Savings CU is a not-for-profit financial institution serving Northwest Georgia and Northeast Alabama with over 75,000 members and \$1.020 billion in assets. Anyone who lives, works, worships or attends school

in Etowah, Marshall, Dekalb, Jackson, Cherokee, Calhoun, Cleburne, Madison, Blount, Morgan, Cullman, Talladega, St. Clair counties or lives or works in Bartow, Catoosa, Chattahoochee, Dade, Floyd, Gordon, Haralson, Paulding, Polk, Carroll, Cherokee, Cobb, Douglas, Murray, Whitfield and Walker counties are eligible for membership. Please contact FSCU for additional information at 888-311-3728 or visit on the web at [www.family-savingscu.com](http://www.family-savingscu.com).



## Afterschool Ambassador

- From 1A

Each Ambassador will organize a major event for Lights On Afterschool, the Afterschool Alliance’s annual rally for afterschool. Most of the thousands of local Lights On Afterschool events will be on or around Thursday, Oct. 23, 2025.

- The 2025 Afterschool Ambassadors are:
- Alabama, Gadsden: Janie Browning, Gadsden City Schools
  - Alaska, Palmer: Tyler Healy, Youth 360
  - Louisiana, Shreveport: Victoria Morris, Volunteers of America LightHouse Program
  - Michigan, Detroit: Curtis Blackwell, Sound Mind Sound Body Foundation
  - Minnesota, Minneapolis: Clayton “Clyde” Quarles, Minneapolis Youth Congress
  - Nebraska, Omaha: Nicole Everingham, Collective for Youth
  - New Hampshire, Stratham: Melissa Goerbig, Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire
  - Nevada, Las Vegas: Linda Johnson-McClinton, Enriching Explorations in Engineering
  - New York, Brooklyn: Ghiles Jackson, After-School All-Stars
  - New York, Buffalo: Talisa King, YWCA Western New York
  - South Carolina, Charleston: Lauren Herterich, Kids on Point
  - South Carolina, Irmo: Julius Scott, School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties
  - South Dakota, Rapid City: Malachi Nelson, 21st Century CFS South Middle Club Hub
  - Virginia, Richmond: Jeanine Turner, Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Richmond
  - Wisconsin, Rhinelander: Abbie Cline,

YMCA of the Northwoods

A public opinion survey released in February found that 85 percent of voters say they want their newly elected leaders to provide more funds for afterschool programs, including 92 percent of Democrats, 81 percent of Independents, 77 percent of Republicans, and 77 percent of people who voted for President Trump. The unmet need is great. Some 24.7 million U.S. children not in an afterschool program would be enrolled, if a program were available to them, according to a survey of nearly 1,500 parents commissioned by the Afterschool Alliance in 2022. That is the highest number ever recorded.

Unmet demand for afterschool programs is significantly higher among Latino and Black children (at 60 percent and 54 percent respectively) than among children overall (49 percent). Cost is the top barrier to enroll, cited by 57 percent of parents as a reason for not enrolling their child. Ninety percent of parents rate the quality of the program their child attends as excellent (51 percent) or very good (39 percent).

A large and powerful body of evidence demonstrates improvements in grades, school attendance, behavior and more among children who participate in afterschool programs. Researchers have also found that students in afterschool programs are more engaged in school and excited about learning and develop critical work and life skills such as problem solving, teamwork, and communications.

The Afterschool Alliance is a nonprofit public awareness and advocacy organization working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs.

Courtesy of Alabama Political Reporter

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Purchase at HSPRAC at 4200 Brooke Ave. or King's Olive Oil on Broad St. in Gadsden

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# TRIO programs at GSCC celebrated for empowering students, veterans

Underrepresented groups at Gadsden State Community College receive valuable support from TRIO programs created to eliminate barriers to higher education. The federal programs are funded through Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and are designed to help students overcome challenges, such as economic hardship, educational deficits and social obstacles. The programs will be celebrated and recognized on National TRIO Day on Feb. 22.

"TRIO programs are an essential part of Gadsden State's commitment to increasing college access and graduation rates for those who need it most," said Pam Johnson, dean of Institutional Effectiveness, Grants and Programs.

Gadsden State receives federal funds to support the five TRIO programs – Student Support Services, Upward Bound, Veterans Upward Bound, Educational Talent Search and the Cheaha Educational Opportunity Center. The programs serve individuals ranging from middle school students to veterans.

"Through these programs, Gadsden State has helped thousands of students achieve their academic dreams, no matter their background or life circumstances," Johnson said. "These programs are integral in making higher education assessable and attainable for those who may not otherwise have the resources or support to succeed."

Student Support Services serves

600 Gadsden State students who are first-generation, low-income and/or disabled. The program offers an array of services, including tutoring, academic advising and career counseling.

"Everything SSS does is designed to help students navigate their collegiate experience," she said. "Our goal is to provide a comfortable and supportive environment where all students can thrive. We are proud to ensure that these students have every opportunity to succeed."

The Upward Bound program offers college preparatory support for low-income, first-generation high school students. Serving 78 students in Etowah County and 50 students in Calhoun County, the program provides tutoring, mentoring and college admissions assistance.

"Upward Bound is about building confidence to enroll in college after high school and giving students the tools they need to succeed in college and beyond," Johnson said.

Gadsden State's Veterans Upward Bound serves 125 veterans across 12 counties in Alabama. The program helps veterans prepare for college by providing free services, such as academic tutoring, test preparation and college and career counseling.

"Our veterans have already served their country, and now it's our turn to serve them," she said. "VUB ensures they have the academic support and resources they need to achieve their career goals and succeed in higher

education."

Educational Talent Search is offered on the Wallace Drive and Ayers campuses. The program assists middle and high school students in grades 6-12 in succeeding academically in preparation for college. ETS staff focus on increasing graduation rates, college enrollment and post-secondary completion.

"ETS prepares students for high school graduation and sets them up for lifelong success," Johnson said.

The Cheaha Educational Opportunity Center supports adult students seeking a high school equivalency diploma and planning to enroll in post-secondary education. The EOC serves 850 students in Calhoun, Cherokee, Cleburne and Etowah counties.

"The EOC is dedicated to helping individuals who may have thought college was out of reach," Johnson said. "It provides them with the tools to complete their high school education and pursue their dreams of higher education. In a lot of cases, the EOC breaks the cycle of poverty for many families in our community."

Johnson said she is proud that Gadsden State has programs that help a variety of student groups achieve their goals.

"TRIO programs are empowering people to succeed," she said. "They are making a lasting impact on students' lives and shaping the future of higher education in our region."

For more information, visit [www.gadsdenstate.edu/trio](http://www.gadsdenstate.edu/trio).

# CFNEA President Jennifer Maddox retiring

After 13 years of dedicated service to the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama, President & CEO Jennifer S. Maddox announced her decision to retire, effective February 14, 2025. Jennifer has been instrumental in shaping CFNEA's growth and success, leading it through numerous milestones and establishing a legacy of excellence.

During her tenure, Maddox has overseen key strategic initiatives that have significantly expanded the CFNEA's footprint in Northeast Alabama, leading to the Community Foundation becoming Northeast Alabama's Philanthropic Partner. Maddox has also built a dynamic leadership team that fosters a culture of innovation, integrity, and community engagement.

"I am incredibly proud of everything we have achieved together, and I have full confidence that the future of CFNEA is as bright as ever," Maddox said. "As I take this next step, I look forward to seeing the Community Foundation thrive under new

leadership."

CFNEA's Board of Trustees will initiate a comprehensive search for the next president & CEO and is committed to ensuring a seamless transition.

"The Board and I want to express our deepest gratitude to Jennifer Maddox for her exceptional leadership," said Anthony Cook, chair of the Board of Trustees. "Jennifer's vision and commitment have been a driving force behind CFNEA's growth and success, and we are thankful for the remarkable impact she has had on the organization, its employees, and its stakeholders."

He added that Maddox's career should be celebrated and that the foundation is planning a retirement party.

"We are planning an event to celebrate the astounding accomplishments of a true visionary," he said. "Jennifer has been an amazing friend to me personally and the northeast Alabama communities. She has achieved so much as our CEO, and I look forward to celebrating her alongside Commu-

nity Foundation donors, partners, and colleagues."

The Community Foundation focuses on effective donor philanthropy, impactful grant-making, and collaborative community partnerships. With a strong leadership team, CFNEA is well-positioned to build on its successes and continue to achieve positive change through the generosity of donors now and for generations to come.

### About the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama

The Community Foundation uses donor gifts to grow funds that benefit the community forever. Each year, the Community Foundation awards \$2-3 million in grants and scholarships throughout the nine counties it serves in Northeast Alabama. We make philanthropic dreams come true. Our mission is to achieve positive change through the generosity of donors, now and for generations to come. Learn more about the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama at [cfnea.org](http://cfnea.org).

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## Graduations

### Congratulations!



Casey Carter, daughter of Tara George Wright, earned a Master's in Science, Community Engaged Medicine from Furman University on May 4, 2024. - Love Aunt Susie (S Frog)

## Graduations

### Congratulations!



Tara George Wright, daughter of Gloria Jean McGee and the late Waymond McGee, earned a Doctorate of Education from University of Miami on December 12, 2024. - Love Aunt Susie (S Frog)

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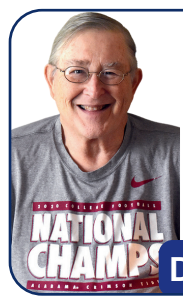
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# LIFESTYLE

## The Vagabond - Mike the mule and the annoying Yankees



**Looking at the History**

**Danny Crowover**

General W.L. Sibert (pictured at far right), who was the designer and builder of the Panama Canal and one of the greatest engineers of all time, used to tell a story of his family's experience during the Civil War about running off stock when a detachment of Union soldiers raided in Little Wills Valley.

Sibert's father, Major W.J. Sibert, served in the Confederate Army from the beginning to the close of the war and was not at home when the raiders came.

All of the stock had been rushed off to the mountains except a two-year-old mule named Mike, an ornery cuss that had never been bridled up to until that time. When anybody approached Mike's stable, he backed up against the door and began kicking.

When the unsuspecting Yankees started to take Mike in tow, he was ready for them. Mike kicked so much and so furiously that one of the Union men remarked, "Let that damned little old mule alone; we don't want him anyway."

Mike became locally famous because of this stunt and was recognized as a

"soldier" by the Little Wills community. When the dinner horn blew, Mike stopped dead in his tracks and would not budge forward or backward until the gear was stripped from him.

One day at around 9 a.m., several fox hunters were crossing the Sibert's farm when one of them blew a horn for the dogs. Mike stopped and refused to move, as he knew a dinner horn when he heard one. He was taken to his stable, fed a second breakfast and returned to work.

That was five-year old W.L. Sibert's first contact with the United States Army, in which he was to distinguish himself in the later years.

Contact *The Vagabond* at [dkcrown@bellsouth.net](mailto:dkcrown@bellsouth.net).



## Dropping cynicism and living joyfully, even in February



*Memoir Musings*

**Sandra Bost**

Is it just me or is February crazy? It's like an emotional carb crash that lasts a whole month. The delirium and rush of the holiday season takes its toll, and it leaves me breathless and maybe a little less joyful.

I was talking with my daughter the other day. She is a busy young mom of three children under five. She home-schools, works one day a week, sings on the praise team at her church and never fails to show up for family and friends. She is also in the middle of a year-long renovation.

My girl is busy, and it has taken its toll. She shared about the effect that this particular season of life was having on her. She said that she could feel cynicism creeping in. It reminded me of something I had written years ago.

I found the journal entitled "Good-

bye Cynicism." I wrote it nearly eight years earlier to the day of the conversation with my girl, on February 19, 2017. It made me wonder if we were the only ones feeling fed-up in February.

I thought I would share a little snippet from that journal to provide some hope.

As many of you, I have lived long enough on this earth to experience a fair amount of the tragedies this world has to offer. I've buried a parent and a sibling. I have lost a child to miscarriage, carried the listless body of my 9-month-old baby boy into an emergency room (in the Middle East), and learned to give him shots and check his blood sugar. I have lost friends to drugs, disease and domestic violence. I've driven friends to rehab, only to watch them succumb to their drug addictions. I've parented little boys and girls who have stories that are too horrific to post. I have stared deeply into the dry eyes of starving children in Africa and supported their feverish heads as they slept in my arms. I have mourned with friends who have buried their children, too many times to count. The list goes on.

This is not an exhaustive "Tale of Tragedies," and it's certainly not meant to draw pity or prize. It is simply a reflection. Throughout my life, I have tried to maintain a positive attitude. Some have

called me, "happy-go-lucky," as if I have somehow managed to escape the world unscathed. I have even been told, "Life is just easy for you."

I rarely speak about these "tragedies," mostly because I do have hope in God's plan, partly because I know the power of perspective, and partly because people expect me to smile. However, I would be untruthful if I said that these experiences have left me untainted. I have allowed thoughts of the "hopeless" state of this world to roll around in my mind. I have heard my own voice confess negativity and have felt a shift in my heart — a shift toward cynicism.

Cynicism is synonymous with ugly words like, "doubt, distrust, mistrust, disbelief." Where did that word come from? Nothing about it sounds pretty, or remotely like Jesus. How could I have allowed it to (attempt) to cast even a shadow on the Great Light of Christ within me? I don't know. It happened slowly, blow by blow, hurt by hurt, tear by tear. Maybe it has for you, too.

Life is hard. Experiences do change you. No one gets off easy. Life is hard, but we were never meant to navigate it on our own. God the Father sent Jesus to make a way to Him. Through Jesus, He has given us access to His presence to strengthen and fill us with joy. He sent

His Holy Spirit to guide and comfort. He gave us the gift of His Word to train and counsel. He placed us among others in His body to encourage us, weep with us and rejoice with us. Life is hard, but God is good. Life is hard, but He gives us permission to come to Him and trade our heavy, hard things for His easy grace. Life is hard, but it is possible, because Jesus overcame the world. Life is hard and it is impossible without Jesus.

Weary Sojourners, we are not alone in this. We have Him. He is enough. But He has also given us each other. So, let's put cynicism to rest. Throw off the facades, grab each other's hands and run this difficult race called life, together. None of us have it together. None of us are "okay." We need each other. Let us Love each other deeply, authentically, completely.

Let us live joyfully, even in February.

*Sandra Mullins Bost currently teaches special education with Alabama Virtual Academy. Bost recently published her first book, "Real Sisters: A Sisters' First Story of Adoption," a children's story that explores the concept of family through the lens of love and adoption. When she is not teaching, Bost enjoys time with her family and sipping coffee while listening to the happy sounds of nature. Visit [www.sandramullinsbost.com](http://www.sandramullinsbost.com) for more information.*

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# Blossom by blossom



As I left home this morning, I glanced over at a bush by the front walkway and saw what I at first thought was scribbling in metallic marker on a leaf. Completely lost as to why one of my children (I assumed) had decided to write on a random leaf, I stopped and examined it more closely and realized what I was looking at were actually trails from a couple of slugs (pictured right). The designs crisscrossed in looping patterns, once in a silvery sheen, and one golden. The leaf looked intentionally decorated, and I pointed it out to my husband so he could enjoy it with me.

Further down the sidewalk, I noticed my daffodils that were so pitiful in the freeze last week had perked up and even put out a few more blooms. I love seeing those bright yellow smiles bobbing on their green stems. Right below them, I saw the first dandelions of the year. I do not consider dandelions weeds because I dry the flowers for teas, and we often eat the leaves in salads. One of my favorite memories of my youngest daughter is when she stood at the back yard and surveyed the spring blooms one year, then said in her little four-year-old voice "Mama! Our yard is full of salad!"

As I backed out of my drive, I looked over and saw my hellebores, or Lenten roses, had also survived the cold and were blooming. They are so beautiful! The first time I saw these flowers, we were on a family trip to Chimney Rock, NC, and I saw these incredible green flowers that I immediately fell in love. A couple of years later, my dear friend Carol gifted me some without even knowing I loved them. When they bloomed right before last week's snow flurries, I suddenly realized that winter is over!

"Blossom by blossom the spring begins," as 19th century English poet Algernon Charles Swinburne tells us.

Spring is a time for flowers, and baby birds learning to sing. It is when trees begin to send out new leaves, and when gardens are planned and planted. This year, I have decided to do some container gardening —

something I haven't done the last few years. I have planned several tomato varieties, some peppers, cucumbers and an assortment of herbs. I also found some interesting videos about growing miniature containers of microgreens on my kitchen windowsill that I cannot wait to try.

Microgreens are new to me! I have had bean sprouts, and love them on sandwiches, but I'd not had microgreens before. It turns out, there are A LOT of them. A quick internet search gave me many possibilities, including beets, chard, quinoa, spinach, chives, garlic, leeks, onions, carrots, celery, dill, fennel, chicory, endive, lettuce, radicchio, arugula, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, radish, watercress, beans, peas, chickpeas, lentils and herbs. Unfortunately, my kitchen windowsill is only wide enough for maybe seven or eight of these options. They are an exciting new indoor project, though, in part because they are so good for you. Microgreens can help fight cancer, lower blood pressure and cholesterol and even support a healthy gut biome. But they will also look so pretty growing in the window. Sign me up.

Spring is also when the sun begins rising a little earlier and sets a little later. I love hearing all of the birds singing early in the mornings, and the girls and I enjoy afternoon walks when the weather is nice. I also appreciate feeling like I have a little more time between leaving work in the afternoons and going to bed at night. It feels like the clock slows down just a little in the spring.

Tolstoy said that Spring is for making plans, and that is exactly what I have been doing the past few days. I have made lists of plans for things I'd like to do around the house, in the yard, with my family and even in my classes. I have a list of office plants to re-pot, closets to declutter and friends to visit. I want to walk the birdwalk, go to the botanical gardens, read in my hammock, and visit the Falls. I am loving every minute of this season because, as Marcus Tullius Cicero said, "If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need."

*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.*



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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's 5-year Consolidated Plan for Fiscal Years 2025-2029 and the 2025 Action Plan begin June 1, 2025. Please use the QR code(s) to take the survey. You may submit any further comments to [areaves@cityofgadsden.com](mailto:areaves@cityofgadsden.com) or [rmoffatt@cityofgadsden.com](mailto:rmoffatt@cityofgadsden.com).

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# DEVOTIONALS

## We all need encouragement to keep fighting



In battle, we all need encouragement at times to keep fighting and not give up. We seek a glimmer of hope or some sign that victory is possible. Personally, I have found Psalm 86 to be a powerful source of comfort when facing challenges. It serves as a reminder that, because God is on my side, I will never have to face my battles alone.

David wrote Psalm 86 while confronting dreadful enemies. Although we do not know the specific context or timing of this psalm, it is clear that it is his heartfelt prayer to God regarding those adversaries. As you read this psalm, you will see a man who, despite his desperation and feelings of inadequacy in the face of danger, puts his faith in God. David recognized that the Lord is ultimately the only one who can provide him with the strength and hope he needs to confront his enemies and the

battles ahead.

When reading Psalm 86, one will find at least 15 requests from David and although some of them are repetitive, overall, the requests can be broken down into four sections.

**1. David's cry for God to hear and act on his behalf – Psalm 86:1-7.**

Throughout these verses we see David, asking God to “hear my prayer,” “answer me, for I need your help,” “protect me,” “save me,” and “be merciful to me.” At the same time David calls out to God to act on his behalf, he then turns around and claims God’s faithfulness. Psalm 86:5, 7 says, “O Lord, you are so good, so ready to forgive, so full of unfailing love for all who ask for your help.” David knew that God’s promises and covenant are secure and that truth was his hope to stand on.

**2. David's deliberate request of praise as he declares God as the only true God – Psalm 86:8-10.**

David declares God as the Lord of the all nations in verse 9, which says, “All the nations you made will come and bow before you, Lord; they will praise your holy name.” Make no mistake, there is only one God, and His name is Jesus and in the end all people and nations will bow before Him. No one can take that away, for God is the only true God!

**3. David asks for God to teach him**

**and unite his heart to fear God so that he can glorify Him forever – Psalm 86:11-13.**

David wanted to always keep a healthy awe and respect for God and His character. Psalm 86:11 is a beautiful prayer to pray for our own hearts towards God. “Teach me your ways, O Lord, that I may live according to your truth! Grant me purity of heart, so that I may honor you.”

**4. David appeals to God's mercy and grace to deliver him – Psalm 86:14-17.**

No matter how much David’s enemies boast of their own threat and violence towards him, David kept his eyes on the Lord’s faithfulness which had guided and saved him all his life. David wanted his deliverance to be a testimony to the nations that Jehovah alone was God and He alone should receive all the glory!

Lord, we thank you that when we are faced with battles in our own lives, we can look to you for our hope and encouragement during those times. Thank you that you are the One and Only true God and that one day all nations will bow before You, alone! You alone are my deliverer, my redeemer, and my only hope! We love you, Lord!

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

### Bible Verse of the Week



“**The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.**”

- Numbers 6:24-26  
King James Version



### Verse for Kids

“**When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the Lord will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them. I will open rivers in high places, and fountains in the midst of the valleys: I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.**”

- Isaiah 41:13  
King James Version

## There is no pattern when it comes to God

There is a rather dark practice criminals use called “patterning.” You’ve probably seen it in crime shows or movies. You pick a target and patiently pattern them. You watch your target’s behavior; where they go, what they do, when they go and on what days. The criminal is seeking vulnerabilities. When are they home? When are they not? When do they take back roads or side streets? Are they often in crowds? Are they often alone? The criminal is thinking, “when can I accomplish my goal with the least amount of interference?” Like a predator stalking prey.

The good guys do it too. When police are trying to catch a criminal, they do the same things. Seeking to set a trap, they follow, investigate, look for clues and finally pounce when the opportunity presents itself. And parents too. In seeking to protect children they monitor, schedule, plan ahead, watch their back, stay in contact and even shadow them if necessary. Working to stop a predator, the good guys are diligent to ensure their kids or the public, don’t become prey.

And if we are not careful, we pattern God. Yes, like selfish criminals, we may be guilty at times of trying to take advantage of God.

Thus, the hideous nature of the “prosperity gospel”, the so called “name it and claim it” philosophy. It is an attempt to claim from God what is not rightfully ours. It is He that owns the world and everything in it (Psalm 50:12). It is He who has no need, ever. But we, in our desperate need, may long to receive from God what we don’t deserve, without first giving Him what He does deserve. It is He that willingly gave His life for us as a sacrifice for sin. And it is He also that calls us to reciprocate with

the sacrifice our lives in surrender and service to God and man. But to demand from God His life, as a mere garnish of blessing upon ours, is spiritually criminal behavior indeed.

But there is a more innocent way we may try to pattern God. Like me you may have read the various miracle stories in the New Testament and tried to “figure out the code”. You may have thought, “this man was healed of his debilitating disease (Mark 1:40-42), why not me?” Or maybe you have thought, like I did once, “why was this paralyzed man healed and able to walk again (Luke 5:24-25), and not my friend Steve?” Maybe in desperate grief you have wondered, “why was this child raised from the dead (Mark 5:41-42), and not mine?” Or thought, “why was Zacchaeus and Matthew delivered from greed but not the Rich Young Ruler? Why was Nicodemus and Paul repentant but not the rest of the Pharisees? Why was John the Baptist beheaded, but John the Apostle got to die of old age? Is there a pattern? Can we figure out the code and put God in a position to always get what we want?

Of course, the answer is no. There is no pattern, there is something so much more impressive... a Person. There is no “name it”, no, there is however “asking in Jesus Name”. And what are we to ask for? Merit of the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13), the promise of real reward (2 Corinthians 1:22). We get to ask for more of Him! More of Him in our lives, more of Him in our heart, more of Him in our home, more of Him in our children, more of Him in His world. There is no “claim it”, no, there is however “pressing on to lay hold” of “the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:12-14).



More for His cross, more for His crown, more for Him.

But maybe there is a pattern after all. Everything good is His, and we are invited in. His Father, His Spirit, His home in heaven, His Church, His plan, His mother, His saints. And yes, His healing and His blessing according to His will. He offers us everything we could ever want... Himself. And we are named (Isaiah 43:1) and claimed (1 Corinthians 6:20) by Him.

*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 thedc@protonmail.com or thedevotiontochrist@gmail.com.*

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# K9 Sonya to get donation of body armor

Etowah County Sheriff's Office K9 Sonya will receive a bullet and stab protective vest thanks to a charitable donation from non-profit organization Vested

K9 Sonya's vest will be embroidered with the sentiment "Gifted by M. West". Delivery is expected within ten weeks. Vested Interest in K9s, Inc., established in 2009, is a 501(c)(3) charity whose mission is to provide bullet and stab protective vests and other assistance to dogs of law enforcement and related agencies throughout the United States.

This potentially lifesaving body

armor for four-legged K9 officers is U.S. made, custom fitted and National Institute of Justice (NIJ) certified. Since its inception, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. has provided over 5,882 vests valued at \$6.9 million to K9s in all 50 states made possible by both private and corporate donations.

The program is open to U.S. dogs at least 20 months old and actively employed and certified with law enforcement or related agencies. K9s with expired vests are also eligible to participate. There are an estimated 30,000 law enforcement K9s throughout the United States.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. accepts tax-deductible contributions in any amount, though a single donation of \$1,050 will sponsor one vest. Each vest has a value of \$1800, weighs an average of 4-5 lbs. and comes with a five-year warranty.

For more information, or to learn about volunteer opportunities, please call 508-824-6978.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. provides information, lists events, and accepts donations at [www.vik9s.org](http://www.vik9s.org), or you may mail your contribution to P.O. Box 9, East Taunton, MA 02718.

# RVSP offering help on tax returns

RSVP 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 2023 tax return and all W2 and 1099 forms. The program is sponsored by RSVP 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Pharmacy Walk-Out

- From 1A



Lindsey Frazier/Messenger

Super Bee Pharmacy in Rainbow City is just one of many local pharmacies who participated in a walk-out or black-out in support of Senate Bills 93 and 99 on Tuesday, Feb. 25.

Jones said the opposition's claims that costs will be passed on to consumers is a "total fabrication" and a "scare tactic."

"The bill specifically prohibits the costs being passed to consumers," Jones said.

He also mentioned that the pharmacies have "gag clauses" used against them, courtesy of the PBMs.

"These PBMs prohibit pharmacies from telling their customers that the PBMs are responsible for rising

costs," Jones said.

A pharmacist who spoke to The Messenger under the promise of anonymity said the PBMs do not allow pharmacists to tell customers anything negative about them. They gave an example of them not being able to stock a certain medicine because they were filling prescriptions for it at a loss, but they had to tell customers that they could not get more of the medicine instead of saying they could not afford to stock it.

Jones said those "gag clauses" would be illegal under the proposed bills and that the "multi-billion-dollar PBMs can afford to pay pharmacies fairly."

According to Jones, just over 160 "mom and pop" pharmacies have closed in Alabama in last five years.

"Think about how much you need your local pharmacy," Jones said. "Who is going to open their store in the middle of the night to help you get medication for a loved one?"

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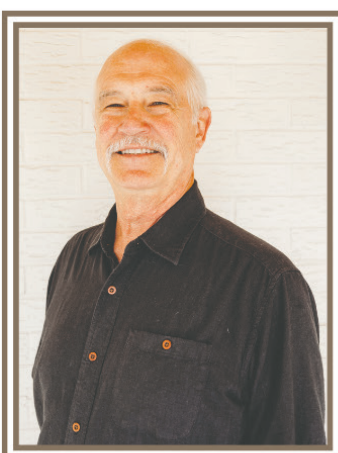
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# SPORTS

## Junior Varsity Lions finish season undefeated

By Druw Giamalva  
The Sand Mountain Reporter

The Sardis JV Lady Lions finished off an impressive year under head coach Dylan Bolding, as they completed their season going 29-0 and winning the Etowah County Tournament championship.

"This team is full of competitors and that's what makes them reach their goals. They are there when the gym doors are open consistently and have a vision of where they want their group to be in the future. We are excited to see what the future looks like for them. All of these players have an important role and will have some shoes to fill once they get to varsity, but they are the right group to continue to improve the program," Bolding said.

The Lady Lions had several leaders, as Lyla Willmore was the leading scorer with 384 total points this season. Marissa Bozarth was second behind Willmore with 221 total points. Ansley Wallace finished with 217 total points.

"These three players were our top three scorers. Lyla played a key role in our success by getting to the rim and being a consistent scorer for us. Ansley Wallace is our post player who can step out and play as a guard if needed, and she was able to score for us down low. Marissa Bozarth shot it well for us from the 3-point line, but she's also another player who can get to the rim."

Other leaders for the Lady Lions were Macie Cullom, Ava Garrard, Judsyn Greer, Sierra Bozarth, Addisyn Bayne, Madi Lumpkin and Anna Wallace.

Bolding said, "Macie Cullom, who played point guard for us all year, did a great job facilitating the offense and shot 40% from the 3-point line. Ava Garrard played a big factor in our success. She's one of those role players who always knows what to do and defended the opposing team's best player most nights. She's always going to rebound every shot and give her teammates the best opportunity to score."

"Judsyn Greer was a spark for us in a lot of games. She came off the bench most games and was able to score for us. We had several different players contribute throughout the year to make this team reach their goals. Sierra Bozarth rebounded it well for us and Addisyn Bayne was a good defender for us."

"Madi Lumpkin came off the bench and gave us some good minutes as well. Anna Wallace suffered an ankle injury during volleyball but was able to come back and help



Submitted photo

The Sardis junior varsity girls basketball team won the Etowah County Tournament championship. The Lady Lions hosted the 2025 tournament. Team members are, front row, from left, Ava Garrard, Marissa Bozarth, Macie Cullom and Lyla Willmore. Back row, from left, assistant coach Heath Cullom, Sierra Bozarth, Anna Wallace, Madi Lumpkin, Addison Bayne, Ansley Wallace, Judsyn Greer and head coach Dylan Bolding.

the team late in the season."

In the Etowah County Tournament championship, the Lady Lions defeated Southside 47-24 behind double-digit performances from Willmore and Cullom. Willmore finished with a team-high 18 points and Cullom finished with 13 points. Marissa Bozarth added eight points and Sierra Bozarth and Ansley Wallace each scored six points.

"The first quarter was a slow start for us," Bolding said. "We trailed 10-4 after the first quarter. We were getting the

right looks but just couldn't finish around the rim.

"We finally found some rhythm in the second quarter to gain the lead at halftime 20-17. After the third, we led 30-22 and then ended the game with a big fourth quarter, outscoring Southside 17-2 in the fourth."

The Lady Lions saw four players named to the All-County Tournament team. Willmore was named All-County MVP, and Marissa Bozarth, Sierra Bozarth and Cullom joined her on the All-County Tournament team.

## Titans come up short in AHSAA Final Four contest

By Josh Bean  
For the AHSAA

Gadsden City's first trip to the state semifinals ended just shy of a victory.

Paul W. Bryant High School boys' basketball coach Shon Peck-Love called timeout with less than a minute to go and his team trailing by one in the Stampede's Class 6A State Basketball Championships semifinal battle with Gadsden City Wednesday at the BJCC Legacy Arena.

Peck-Love had watched the Stampede's double-digit lead evaporate as Gadsden City made five 3-pointers in the final 6:03. However, the veteran coach knew his team held a tremendous size advantage with 6-foot-5 senior King Larkin and 6-foot-8 sophomore Ty'Javian Byrd.

With time running out, Peck-Love drew up a play to get the ball to Larkin, who scored the game-winner on a power move along the baseline. Larkin said he felt anxiety walking out of the huddle, knowing the play called for him to make a game-winning play.

"I said, 'Just throw it up and good luck,'" he said. "I knew it was going in."

Larkin finished with 21 points and 11 rebounds, and Byrd added eight points and four

blocked shots. Javian Williams filled the stat sheet with eight points, three assists and two steals.

The Stampede (26-7) advances to play Pinson Valley in Saturday's championship game. Pinson Valley defeated McGill-Toolen 56-37 in Wednesday's other semifinal.

Paul W. Bryant seemed to break open a close game in the opening minutes of the fourth quarter as Larkin's three-point play with 7:03 to go staked the Stampede to a 39-

28 lead.

The Stampede's zone defense neutralized Gadsden City and forced the Titans (22-12) to settle for jump shots.

"They stagnated us a lot with their zone," Gadsden City coach Raphael Graves said.

Gadsden City's Devin Barksdale hit a 3-pointer with 6:03 to go to make it 39-33. The Titans' Keshawn Curry made two more 3-pointers, and Jedidiah Wynn added another. Barksdale's 3-pointer with 1:19 left gave the Titans a 49-48 lead.

Larkin then scored the go-ahead bucket, and the teams traded possessions until Gadsden City called timeout after a Barksdale steal with 11.4 seconds to go.

On the final possession, the Stampede double-teamed Barksdale, who fired a crosscourt pass to Wynn, whose 3-pointer rimmed out.

Peck-Love referred to Barksdale when he said his instructions for the last play were to let "anybody but him" take the final shot.

Paul W. Bryant out-rebounded the Titans 29-14 and made 15-of-20 free throws. Gadsden City went to the line only once. Larkin made 9-of-13 free throws.

"The difference in the game was the free throws," Graves said.

The Stampede advance to the championship round for the first time since back-to-back appearances in 2017 and 2018, when they won 2017 title and finished runner-up in 2018. Gadsden City was making its first trip to the state semifinals and was chasing its first basketball state title. Barksdale led Gadsden City with 13 points, and Curry added 11 points and four rebounds. Kai Frankin and Jakobi Sharp scored eight points each.

Titans - page 2B



AHSAA PHOTO | David Holtsford

Montgomery Academy's Skyler Stovall (22) lays in two of his 17 points against Glencoe in the Class 3A boys' semifinals at Legacy Arena Tuesday.

## Glencoe boys fall in Class 3A boys' State Semifinals

By Josh Bean  
For the AHSAA

Montgomery Academy built a double-digit lead in the first quarter and powered past Glencoe 84-49 in Tuesday's AHSAA Class 3A State Boys' Championship semifinals at the BJCC's Legacy Arena.

The Eagles (33-2), coached by Jeremy Arant and featuring a starting lineup with four players at 6-foot-4 or taller, outrebounded Glencoe 45-17, constantly limiting the Yellow Jackets to one shot and creating extra possessions with 19 offensive boards.

"If you can't out-rebound a team, it's going to be tough to beat them," Glencoe coach Ryan Chambless said. "It just wasn't our day."

Glencoe boys fall in Class 3A boys' State Semifinals - page 2B

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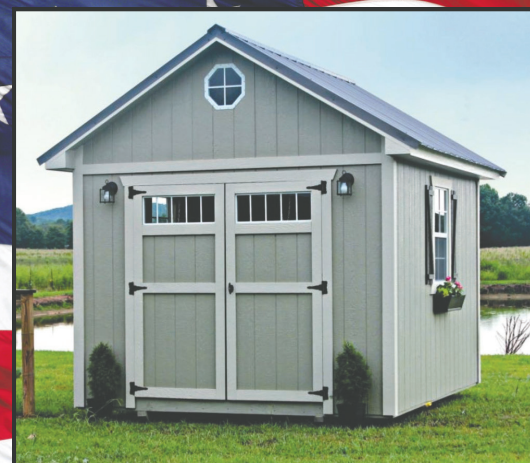
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# Local Sports Schedule

# Friday, Feb. 28 - Friday, Mar. 7

## High School Baseball

**Friday, Feb. 28**  
 Southside at Hokes Bluff 4:30 p.m.  
 West End at Coosa 6:30 p.m.  
 Westbrook at Gadsden City 4:30 p.m.  
**Saturday, March 1**  
 Southside VS Florence Central High School at Southside 11 a.m.  
 Hokes Bluff at Southside 4 p.m.  
 Etowah VS Briarwood Christian School at Home 4:30 p.m.  
 West End VS Falkville at home 12 p.m.  
**Monday, March 3**  
 Gadsden City VS Moody High School at Home 4:30 p.m.  
 Glencoe VS Southside at home 4:30 p.m.  
 West End VS Hokes Bluff at home 4:30 p.m.  
**Tuesday, March 4**  
 Glencoe at Cherokee County High School  
 West End VS Gaston at Home  
 Westbrook at Sardis  
**Thursday, March 6**  
 Gadsden City at St. Clair County High School  
 Glencoe at White Plains  
 Hokes Bluff VS Sardis at home  
**Friday, March 7**  
 Westbrook at Troy University Tournament

## Softball

**Friday, Feb. 28**  
 West End at Glencoe Invitational  
**Saturday, March 1**  
 Gadsden City Softball at Gaylesville 12 p.m.  
 West End - Glencoe Invitation  
**Monday, March 3**  
 Westbrook at Gadsden City 4:30 p.m.  
**Tuesday, March 4**  
 Gadsden City VS Westbrook Christian School at Home 4:30 p.m.  
 Etowah Softball VS Saint Clair County High School at Home 4:30 p.m.  
 Glencoe Softball VS Hokes Bluff at home 4:30 p.m.  
 West End Softball at Locust Fork 5 p.m.  
**Thursday, March 6**  
 Gadsden City at Hokes Bluff  
 Southside VS Etowah High School at Home  
 Glencoe at Boaz  
 West End VS Victory Christian at home  
 Westbrook VS Guntersville at Home

**Friday, March 7**  
 Gadsden City VS Westbrook Round Robin at Sand Mountain Park in Albertville  
 Glencoe VS Alexandria at home  
 Westbrook Softball Tournament

## Tennis

**Saturday, March 1**  
 Sardis at Russellville  
**Monday, March 3**  
 Gadsden City Boys at Douglas  
 Gadsden City Girls at Douglas  
 Sardis VS Cullman High School at Home  
**Tuesday, March 4**  
 Sardis VS Guntersville at Home  
**Thursday, March 6**  
 Gadsden City Boys at Home  
 Gadsden City Girls at Home  
 Sardis at Springville Youth Rec Complex  
**Friday, March 7**  
 Westbrook at Decatur Heritage

## Golf

**Monday, March 3**  
 Westbrook VS Etowah at Twin bridges 3 p.m.  
**Tuesday, March 4**  
 Westbrook VS Ashville at Silver Lakes 3 p.m.

## Soccer

**Friday, Feb. 28**  
 Gadsden City Boys  
 Etowah County Tournament at Etowah Mega Sportsplex (RBC)  
 Southside Boys VS Geraldine High School at Home 5 p.m.  
 Westbrook Boys VS Etowah at RBC Complex - County Tournament 5 p.m.  
 Westbrook Girls VS Glencoe RBC Complex - County Tournament 7 p.m.  
**Saturday, March 1**  
 Gadsden City Boys  
 Gadsden City Girls  
 Etowah County Tournament at Etowah Mega Sportsplex (RBC)  
 Southside Boys VS Coosa Christian at Home 9 a.m.  
 Southside Boys VS Glencoe High School at Home 1 p.m.  
 Southside Boys VS Etowah High School at home 5 p.m.

Westbrook Soccer Boys VS Gadsden City at RBC Complex - County Tournament 9 a.m.  
 Westbrook Soccer Girls VS Gadsden City RBC Complex - County Tournament 3 p.m.

## Monday, March 3

Etowah Boys VS Arab High School at home 5 p.m.  
**Tuesday, March 4**  
 Southside Girls VS Douglas High School at Home 7 p.m.  
**Wednesday, March 5**  
 Southside Boys at Gardendale 7 p.m.  
**Thursday, March 6**  
 Gadsden City Girls VS Albertville High School  
 Gadsden City Boys VS Albertville High School  
 Southside Girls Soccer VS Ft. Payne High at home  
 Etowah Boys Soccer at New Hope  
 Westbrook Boys Soccer at Lincoln  
 Westbrook Girls Soccer at Lincoln  
**Friday, March 7**  
 Westbrook Boys VS Springville at home  
 Westbrook Girls VS Springville at home

## Track & Field

**Friday, Feb. 28**  
 Gadsden City Boys at Home 4 p.m.  
 Gadsden City Girls Track at Home 4 p.m.  
**Friday, March 7**  
 Gadsden City Boys Track at home  
 Gadsden City Girls Track at home

## College Basketball

**Saturday, March 1**  
 GSCC at Home VS Rend Lake College at Gadsden Sports Complex on Meighan Blvd. 1 - 4 p.m. (Double Header)

## Tennis

**Sunday, March 2**  
 GSCC at Wallace State-Hanceville 2 p.m.  
**Friday, March 7**  
 GSCC VS Coastal Alabama - South at Albertville

## Baseball

**Thursday, March 6**  
 GSCC at Wallace State (Double Header)

## Softball

**Thursday, March 6**  
 GSCC VS Wallace State (Double Header)



## Southside wrestler Colin Futral takes down competitors at recent matches

Southside's Colin Futral battles Clay-Chalkville's Quentin Lois at Gadsden City High School on January 24, 2025. Futral lost this match but won a match against Fultondale High School's Anthony Hicks. Futral also won a match on January 21 against Fort Payne's Collin Wilson. (Photo by Avrie Dunnington)

## Titans come up short in Final Four Contest - from 1B

Championship games in Classes 2A, 3A and 4A are scheduled for Friday, Feb. 28, and the state tournament concludes on Saturday, March 1 with title games in Classes 5A, 6A and 7A.

All championship games will be live streamed over the NFHS Network and televised live over the Alabama Public Television network with WOTM TV producing the contests. All semifinal games are being live streamed over the NFHS Network as well.

The AHSAA Radio Network is airing live broadcasts of all semifinal and championship games over its radio and internet audio network.

## Glencoe boys fall in Class 3A - from 1B

Montgomery Academy advances to Friday's championship game against Mars Hill Bible (24-8), which defeated Houston Academy 63-51 in Tuesday's other state semifinal. It's only the second time in Montgomery Academy history for a boys' basketball team to advance to the championship round. The Eagles were beaten by Sumter County in the 2004 Class 3A title game.

"We didn't come this far to lose," Montgomery Academy's Skyler Stovall said. "We're going to go after it. We've got to play hard and play how we play and stay unselfish, and we've got to get it done." Braden Gordon scored 17 points and grabbed six rebounds, Stovall added 17 points, four rebounds and four assists, and Jarrett Friendly chipped in 16 points and six rebounds. Brewer Welch dished out seven assists, and DJ Vinson led the Eagles with nine rebounds. Cade Segars scored 11 points, and Mason Ellis managed six points, seven rebounds and five assists.

Garret Morgan led Glencoe (25-8) with 20 points, and Wade Segrest added 18 points. The Yellow Jackets became the first boys' team from Etowah County to play in the state

tournament since 2005. "We're very happy we made it here," Morgan said.

Montgomery Academy built a double-digit lead before the end of the first quarter and steadily pulled away throughout the game.

"Our guys have really bought into defense and guarding as a team," Arant said. "That's been the dif-

ference this season. ... At times, it feels like there's six or seven of them out there."

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# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## Attalla Water Works Board

### January-December 2024

**Is my water safe?**

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) drinking water health standards. Your Local Water officials vigilantly safeguard its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standards. We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water treatment facility and well field are located just outside the city limits on Highway 77 at the old "Lake RHEA" site. We have four deep wells; they can produce 1905 gallons per minute. The Attalla Water Works Board routinely completes a water storage facility inspection plan and utilizes a Bacteriological Monitoring Plan and a Cross Connection Policy is in place to insure good safe drinking water for our customers. Chlorine is added to the water as disinfectant and the required residual is maintained to protect your drinking water from any possible outside contaminants. We have a Source Water Protection Plan available for review that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

If you have any questions concerning this report or your water utility, please call Brett Roberts at 256-538-2816. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings held on the second and fourth Monday of each month at The Water Works Board Office, 509 Fourth Street NW, Attalla, Alabama, 35954 beginning at 4:00 PM.

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Parker Ray Wain

Betty Billingsley

Jeff Bailey – *Vice Chairman*  
Bobby Bryant

Attalla Water Works Board routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2024. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

**PLAIN LANGUAGE DEFINITION**

- Not Required (NR) – Laboratory analysis not required due to waiver granted by the Environmental Protection Agency for the State of Alabama.
- Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in 10,000,000,000.
- Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/l) - one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.
- Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
- Millirems per year (mrem/yr) - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
- Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
- Variances & Exemptions (V&E) - State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
- Action Level – (AL) the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- Treatment Technique (TT) - (mandatory language) A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Maximum Contaminant Level - (mandatory language) The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - (mandatory language) The "Goal"(MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal or MRDLG – The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or MRDL – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- T.O.N – Threshold odor number.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water run-off, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water run-off, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or ADEM requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

### Table of Primary Contaminants

At high levels some primary contaminants are known to pose a health risks to humans. This table provides a quick glance of any primary contaminant detections.

CONTAMINANT	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED	CONTAMINANT	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED
<b>Bacteriological</b>			Endothall(ppb)	100	ND
Total Coliform Bacteria	< 5%	ND	Endrin(ppb)	2	ND
Turbidity	TT	0.06	Epichlorohydrin	TT	ND
Fecal Coliform & E. coli	0	ND	Ethylbenzene(ppb)	700	ND
<b>Radiological</b>			Ethylene dibromide(ppt)	50	ND
Beta/phonon emitters (mrem/yr)	4	ND	Glyphosate(ppb)	700	ND
Alpha emitters (pci/l)	15	1.70	Haloacetic Acids(ppb)	60	23.53
Combined radium (pci/l)	5	ND	Heptachlor(ppt)	400	ND
Uranium(pci/l)	30	ND	Heptachlor epoxide(ppt)	200	ND
<b>Inorganic</b>			Hexachlorobenzene(ppb)	1	ND
Antimony (ppb)	6	ND	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene(ppm)	50	ND
Arsenic (ppb)	10	ND	Lindane(ppt)	200	ND
Asbestos (MFL)	7	ND	Methoxychlor(ppb)	40	ND
Barium (ppm)	2	0.07	Oxamyl   Vydate (ppb)	200	ND
Beryllium (ppb)	4	ND	Pentachlorophenol(ppb)	1	ND
Bromate(ppb)	10	ND	Picloram(ppb)	500	ND
Cadmium (ppb)	5	ND	PCBs(ppt)	500	ND
Chloramines(ppm)	4	ND	Simazine(ppb)	4	ND
Chlorine(ppm)	4	1.60	Styrene(ppb)	100	ND
Chlorine dioxide(ppb)	800	ND	Tetrachloroethylene(ppb)	5	ND
Chlotite(ppm)	1	ND	Toluene(ppm)	1	ND
Chromium (ppb)	100	ND	TOC	TT	0.77
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3	0.14	TTHM(ppb)	80	30.50
Cyanide (ppb)	200	ND	Toxaphene(ppb)	3	ND
Fluoride (ppm)	4	ND	2,4,5-TP (Silvex)(ppb)	50	ND
Lead (ppb)	AL=15	ND	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene(ppb)	70	ND
Mercury (ppb)	2	ND	1,1,1-Trichloroethane(ppb)	200	ND
Nickel (ppm)	0.1	ND	1,1,2-Trichloroethane(ppb)	5	ND
Nitrate (ppm)	10	0.67	Trichloroethylenet(ppb)	5	ND
Nitrite (ppm)	1	ND	Vinyl Chloride(ppb)	2	ND
Total Nitrate & Nitrite	10	0.34	Xylenes(ppm)	10	ND
Selenium(ppb)	50	ND			
Thallium(ppb)	2	ND			
<b>Organic Chemicals</b>					
Acrylamide	TT	ND			
Alachlor(ppb)	2	ND			
Atrazine(ppb)	3	ND			
Benzene(ppbv)	5	ND			
Benzo(a)pyrene[PHAs](ppt)	200	ND			
Carbofuran(ppb)	40	ND			
Carbon Tetrachloride(ppb)	5	ND			
Chlordane(ppb)	2	ND			
Chlorobenzene(ppb)	100	ND			
2,4-D	70	ND			
Dalapon(ppb)	200	ND			
Dibromochloropropane(ppt)	200	ND			
0-Dichlorobenzene(ppb)	600	ND			
p-Dichlorobenzene(ppb)	75	ND			
1,2-Dichloroethane(ppb)	5	ND			
1,1-Dichloroethylene(ppb)	7	ND			
Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene(ppb)	70	ND			
trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene(ppb)	100	ND			
Dichloromethane(ppb)	5	ND			
1,2-Dichloropropane(ppb)	5	ND			
Di-(2-ethylhexyl)adipate(ppb)	400	ND			
Di-(2-ethylhexyl)phthalates(ppb)	6	ND			
Dinoseb(ppb)	7	ND			
Dioxin[2,3,7,8-TCDD](ppq)	30	ND			
Diquat(ppb)	20	ND			



# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## Attalla Water Works Board

### January-December 2024

continued

### Table of Detected Drinking Water Contaminants

CONTAMINANT	MCLG	MCL	Range		Amount Detected		Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Bacteriological Contaminants</b>							
<b>January - December 2024</b>							
Turbidity	0	TT			0.06	NTU	Soil runoff
Alpha emitters	0	15	0	-	ND	1.70	pCi/L
Barium	2	2	ND	-	0.07	0.07	ppm
Chlorine	MRDLG 4	MRDL 4	1.0	-	2.20	1.60	ppm
Copper	1.3	AL=1.3				0.59	ppm
Lead	0	AL=15				ND	ppb
Nitrate (as N)	10	10	0.67	-	0.67	0.67	ppm
Total Nitrate & Nitrite	10	10	ND	-	ND	0.34	ppm
Turbidity	N/A	TT				0.10	NTU
<b>Organic Contaminants</b>							
<b>January - December 2024</b>							
Haloacetic Acids (HAAS)	N/A	60	12.00	-	48.00	23.53	ppb
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	N/A	TT	ND	-	0.89	0.38	ppm
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	0	80	17.00	-	54.00	30.50	ppb
<b>Secondary Contaminants</b>							
<b>January - December 2024</b>							
Chloride	N/A	250	7.03	-	7.03	7.03	ppm
Color	N/A	15	0.43	-	1.97	0.87	PCU
Copper	N/A	1	ND	-	0.48	0.48	ppm
Iron	N/A	0.3	0.01	-	0.03	0.01	ppm
Magnesium	N/A	0.05	9.20	-	9.20	9.20	ppm
Sulfate	N/A	250	9.10	-	9.10	9.10	ppm
Total Dissolved Solids	N/A	500	157.00	-	168.00	162.5	ppm
<b>Special Contaminants</b>							
<b>January - December 2024</b>							
Calcium	N/A	N/A	44.70	-	44.70	44.70	ppm
Carbon Dioxide	N/A	N/A	11.43	-	19.81	16.74	ppm
Manganese	N/A	N/A	ND	-	0.01	0.01	ppm
pH	N/A	N/A	7.33	-	7.53	7.45	SU
Sodium	N/A	N/A	7.50	-	7.50	7.50	ppm
Specific Conductance	N/A	<500	365.00	-	365.00	365.00	umhos
Sulfate	N/A	N/A	9.10	-	9.10	9.10	ppm
Temperature	N/A	N/A	12.55	-	21.38	17.54	°C
Total Alkalinity	N/A	N/A	145.61	-	167.97	156.84	ppm
Total Hardness (as CaCO3) (2018)	N/A	N/A	164.00	-	164.00	164.003	ppm
Cryptosporidium/Giardia	0.0	0.0	ND	-	ND	ND	Cysts/L
<b>Unregulated Contaminants</b>							
<b>January - December 2024</b>							
Bromodichloromethane	N/A	N/A	3.30	-	9.70	5.33	ppb
Chloroform	N/A	N/A	11.0	-	43.0	23.75	ppb
Dibromochloromethane	N/A	N/A	ND	-	2.90	1.42	ppb
Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAs)	N/A	N/A	ND	-	N/D	N/D	ppb

### GENERAL INFORMATION

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

As you can see by the tables, our system had no violations of allowable limits of contaminants in drinking water. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material, and it can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activities.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. People who are immuno-compromised such as cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy, organ transplant recipients, HIV/AIDS positive or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. People at risk should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA (Environmental Protection Agency)/CDC (Center of Disease Control) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline. All Drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Attalla Water Works Board is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Based on a study conducted by ADEM with the approval of the EPA a statewide waiver for the monitoring of asbestos and dioxin was issued. Thus monitoring for these contaminants was not required.

We at the Attalla Water Works Board work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

**For more information contact:**

Brett Roberts  
 Attalla Water Works Board  
 256-538-2816



# LEGALS

## 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 % SE 1/4 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

## NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, on August 10, 2007, a certain Mortgage was executed by Thomas E. Pylant and wife, Mary K. Pylant as mortgagor(s) in favor of Financial Freedom Senior Funding Corporation, a subsidiary of IndyMac Bank, F.S.B. as mortgagee, and was recorded on August 20, 2007, as Instrument Number 3277636 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, State of AL; and

WHEREAS, the Mortgage was insured by the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (the Secretary) pursuant to the National Housing Act for the purpose of providing single family housing; and

WHEREAS, the Mortgage is now owned by the Secretary, pursuant to an assignment dated February 2, 2021 and recorded on February 9, 2021, as Instrument Number 3515954 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, State of AL; and

WHEREAS, a default has been made in the covenants and conditions of the Mortgage in that the payment due on the death of the borrower(s), was not made and remains wholly unpaid as of the date of this notice, and no payment has been made sufficient to restore the loan to currency; and WHEREAS, the entire amount delinquent as of February 4, 2025 is \$161,816.89 and WHEREAS, by virtue of this default, the Secretary has declared the entire amount of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgage Deed to be immediately due and payable;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to powers vested in me by the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1994, 12 U.S.C. 3751 et seq., by 24 CFR part 27, subpart B, and by the Secretary's designation of me as Foreclosure Commissioner, notice is hereby given that on March 21, 2025 during the legal hours of sale, all real and personal property at or used in connection with the following described premises ("Property") will be sold

at public auction to the highest bidder:

LOTS NUMBER FIFTY-TWO (52) AND FIFTY-THREE (53) OF LARRYDALE SUBDIVISION TO GLENCOE, ALABAMA, PLUS SUCH PORTION OF LOT SIXTY (60) OF SAID LARRYDALE SUBDIVISION AS IS DESCRIBED BY COMMENCING AT A POINT WHERE THE WESTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT SIXTY (60) INTERSECTS THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF LOT FIFTY-THREE (53) 160 FEET TO A POINT IN THE EASTERLY LINE OF LOT SIXTY (60), THENCE IN A NORTHERLY DIRECTION ALONG THE EXTENSION OR PRODUCTION OF THE SAID SOUTHERLY LINE OF LOT FIFTY-THREE (53) 160 FEET TO A POINT WHERE SAID EASTERLY LINE OF LOT SIXTY (60) INTERSECTS THE EXTENSION OR PRODUCTION OF THE NORTHERLY LINE OF LOT FIFTY-TWO (52), THENCE IN A WESTERLY DIRECTION ALONG SAID EXTENSION OR PRODUCTION OF THE NORTHERLY LINE OF LOT FIFTY-TWO (52) 123 FEET TO A POINT WHERE SAID LINE INTERSECTS THE WESTERLY LINE OF LOT SIXTY (60) THENCE SOUTHERLY ALONG THE SAID WESTERLY LINE OF LOT SIXTY (60) 200 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; ALL OF SAID LOTS AND PORTION OF LOT BEING IN THE LARRYDALE SUBDIVISION TO GLENCOE, ALABAMA, AS SHOWN BY THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK "F", PAGE 323 IN THE PROBATE OFFICE, ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

Commonly known as: 1118 Larrydale Dr, Gadsden, AL 35905

This sale will take place at the Etowah County Courthouse. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development estimated bid will be \$163,690.39.

There will be no proration of taxes, rents or other income or liabilities, except that the purchaser will pay, at or before closing, his prorata share of any real estate taxes that have been paid by the Secretary to the date of the foreclosure sale.

When making their bids, all bidders except the Secretary must submit a deposit totaling \$16,369.04 (10% of the Secretary's bid) in the form of a certified check or cashier's check made out to the Secretary of HUD. A deposit need not accompany each oral bid. If the successful bid is oral, a deposit of \$16,369.04 must be presented before the bidding is closed. THE DEPOSIT IS NON-REFUNDABLE. The remainder of the purchase price must be delivered within 30 days of the sale or at such other time as the Secretary may determine for good cause shown, time being of the essence. This amount, like the bid deposits, must be delivered in the form of a certified or cashier's check. If the Secretary is the highest bidder, he need not pay the bid amount in cash. The successful bidder will pay all conveying fees, all real estate and other taxes that are due on or after the delivery date of the remainder of the payment and all other costs associated with the transfer of title. At the conclusion of the sale, the deposits of the unsuccessful bidders will be returned to them.

The Secretary may grant an extension of time within which to deliver the remainder of the payment. All extensions will be for 15-day increments for a fee of \$500.00, paid in advance. The extension fee shall be in the form of a certified or cashier's check made payable to the Secretary of HUD.

If the high bidder closes the sale prior to the expiration of any extension period, the unused portion of the extension fee shall be applied toward the amount due.

If the high bidder is unable to close the sale within the required period, or within any extensions of time granted by the Secretary, the high bidder may be required to forfeit the cash deposit or, at the election of the foreclosure commissioner after consultation with the HUD representative, will be liable to HUD for any costs incurred as a result of such failure. The Commissioner may, at the direction of the HUD representative, offer the property to the second highest bidder for an amount equal to the highest price offered by that bidder.

There is no right of redemption, or right of possession based upon a right of redemption, in the mortgagor or others subsequent to a foreclosure completed pursuant to the Act. Therefore, the Foreclosure Commissioner will issue a Deed to the purchaser(s) upon receipt of the entire purchase price in accordance with the terms of the sale as provided herein. HUD does not guarantee that the property will be vacant.

The scheduled foreclosure sale shall be cancelled or adjourned if it is established, by documented written application of the mortgagor to the Foreclosure Commissioner not less than 3 days before the date of sale, or otherwise, that the default or defaults upon which the foreclosure is based did not exist at the time of service of this notice of default and foreclosure sale, or all amounts due under the mortgage agreement are tendered to the Foreclosure Commissioner, in the form of a certified or cashier's check payable to the Secretary of HUD, before public auction of the property is completed.

The amount that must be paid if the mortgage is to be reinstated prior to the scheduled sale is based upon the nature of the breach, this loan is not subject to reinstatement. A total payoff is required to cancel the foreclosure sale or the breach must be otherwise cured. A description of the default is as follows: FAILURE TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL BALANCE AND ANY OUTSTANDING FEES, COSTS, AND INTEREST WHICH BECAME ALL DUE AND PAYABLE BASED UPON THE DEATH OF ALL MORTGAGORS.

Tender of payment by certified or cashier's check or application for cancellation of the foreclosure sale shall be submitted to the address of the Foreclosure Commissioner provided below.

Dated this 10th day of February, 2025

Michael Lindsey  
Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C.  
Foreclosure Commissioner  
244 Inverness Center Drive  
Birmingham, AL 35242  
Phone: (801) 355-2886  
HWM File: AL22954

February 28, March 7 and 14, 2025

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF ALABAMA COUNTY OF ETOWAH

Default having been made of the terms of the loan documents secured by that certain mortgage executed by Holly Jennifer Smith, An Unmarried Person to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. dated February 19, 2019; said mortgage being recorded on February 26, 2019, as Instrument No. 3480201 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust 2022-RP3 in Instrument 3545063 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, ALABAMA. The undersigned, Citi-

group Mortgage Loan Trust 2022-RP3, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Etowah County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on the 1st day of April, 2025 the following property, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit: Commencing at the Northeast corner of Fractional Section 32; thence run North 89' 00' West, along the north line of said section, a distance of 316 feet to the westerly margin of the old Boaz-Attalla road; thence deflect left and run along said westerly margin South 22' 24' East a distance of 100 feet to a pipe set at the point of beginning of the property herein described; thence continue along said westerly margin South 22' 24' East a distance of 142.5 feet to a point; thence leaving said westerly margin, run South 76' 43' West a distance of 277 feet to a pipe; thence run North 02' 33' West a distance of 196.5 feet to a pipe; thence run South 87' 42' East a distance of 229.5 feet to the point of beginning and lying and being in Fraction A (the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4) of Section 32, Township 10 South, Range 5 East in Etowah County, Alabama.

Said property is commonly known as 40 Billy Smith Dr, Boaz, AL 35956.

Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description the legal description will control. Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, all outstanding liens for public utilities which constitute liens upon the property, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, easements, rights-of-way, zoning ordinances, restrictions, special assessments, covenants, the statutory right of redemption pursuant to Alabama law, and any matters of record including, but not limited to, those superior to said Mortgage first set out above. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The successful bidder must present certified funds in the amount of the winning bid at the time and place of sale.

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

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Mortgage.

CITIGROUP MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2022-RP3 as holder of said mortgage  
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP  
505 20th Street North, Suite 1775  
Birmingham, AL 35203  
(205) 216-4238  
FT21@mccalla.com  
File No. 24-05815AL  
www.foreclosurehotline.net

February 28, March 7 and 14, 2025

## MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Paige I Hartmann, mar-

ried and Christopher Troy Davenport, husband and wife, originally in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Guild Mortgage Company LLC, on March 21, 2022, said mortgage recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, in Instrument Number: 3537483; the undersigned Guild Mortgage Company LLC, as Mortgagee/Transferee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Courthouse at Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama, on April 9, 2025, during the legal hours of sale, all of its rights, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit: Lot Number Ten (10), in Edwards Addition to Southside, according to map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book "H", Page 128, Probate Office, Etowah County and lying and being in Southside, Etowah County, Alabama.. Property street address for informational purposes: 1571 Lee Street, Gadsden, AL 35907. THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON AN "AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS, WITHOUT WARRANTY OR RECOURSE, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED AS TO TITLE, USE AND/OR ENJOYMENT AND WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION OF ALL PARTIES ENTITLED THERETO. Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. The successful bidder must tender a non-refundable deposit of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) in certified funds made payable to Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. at the time and place of the sale. The balance of the purchase price plus any deed recording costs and transfer taxes must be paid in certified funds by noon the next business day at the Law Office of Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. at the address indicated below. Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. reserves the right to award the bid to the next highest bidder should the highest bidder fail to timely tender the total amount due. The Mortgagee/Transferee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation. Guild Mortgage Company LLC, ("Transferee") Tiffany & Bosco, P.A., 2501 20th Place South, Suite 300, Homewood, AL 35223 www.tblaw.com TB File Number: 25-00668-GM-AL

Said property is commonly known as 40 Billy Smith Dr, Boaz, AL 35956.

Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description the legal description will control. Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, all outstanding liens for public utilities which constitute liens upon the property, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, easements, rights-of-way, zoning ordinances, restrictions, special assessments, covenants, the statutory right of redemption pursuant to Alabama law, and any matters of record including, but not limited to, those superior to said Mortgage first set out above. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The successful bidder must present certified funds in the amount of the winning bid at the time and place of sale.

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

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Mortgage.

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 per-

sons 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 Estate 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

## 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

## 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 HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: DONNA SULLIVAN, ALLEGED INCAPACITATED Case #: 2025-119

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 1st day of APRIL 2025 at 2:00 p.m. was appointed a day and time for hearing on said Petition, thereof at which time you may appear and support and/or contest the Petition, if you so choose.

DONE THIS THE 26TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025.

Scott Hassell PROBATE JUDGE

February 28, March 7, and 14, 2025

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT AND DISCHARGE ON ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

The Matter of the Estate of BARBARA STEED, deceased CASE NO. 2024 - 00103

NOTICE TO: Angela Dale Hilton, aka Angela Matthews, aka Angela Knighten, aka Angela Hicks, and all other next of kin and other interested parties

Please take notice that a Petition for Final Settlement and Discharge has been filed in said Court by Alan Knighten, Petitioner, and that the 30th day of April 2025, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. has been set for hearing on the same in the Probate Judge's Courtroom in the Etowah County Courthouse in Gadsden, Alabama. Please be advised that if you intend to contest the said Petition, you must file a written response with the Probate Court, send a copy of your response to counsel for Petitioner, and appear at the above hearing.

Dated this 17th day of February 2025.

Jason Knowles Knowles & Sullivan, LLC Attorneys for Petitioner 413 Broad Street Gadsden, Alabama 35901 Phone: 256-547-7200

February 21, 28, and March 7, 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 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 Fred Reynolds and a Petition for Letters of Conservatorship over the estate of Fred Reynolds was filed by Gadsden Regional Medical Center on the 14TH day of FEBRUARY 2025.

A hearing on the Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Petition for Letters of Conservatorship is set on the 31ST 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 21, 28, and March 7, 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 STOWER'S Complaint for Breach of Contract and Negligence and other relief by CHRISTIAN FORD, or thereafter, a Judgment 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 PUBLICATION

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF GARY WAYNE MIZELL, DECEASED. Case No.: S-11667

Notice to: All creditors, heirs or distributees and all other person interested in the Estate of GARY WAYNE MIZELL, deceased:

You will hereby take notice that JOSHUA CALEB GRINDBERG, as Personal Representative of the Estate of GARY WAYNE MIZELL, filed a Report of Insolvency of said Estate on the 13th day of February 2025.

You are hereby notified that a hearing on the Petitioner's Report of Insolvency will be held at my office in the Etowah County Courthouse, on the 7th day of April, 2025, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. when the Report of Insolvency will be considered, and you may show cause, if any, why the Report of Insolvency should be denied.

This the 14th day of February 2025

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

February 21, 28, and March 7, 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

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

Case No.: 2024-00689

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 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 Parrish 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

NOTICE OF COMPLAINT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

KATHY LEE, PLAINTIFF VS

CASE NO.: CV-2025-900021

SAMMY HERRON, ET AL., DEFENDANTS

The Defendants, Sammy Herron, Estella Herron, and Cicero Curry, whose whereabouts are unknown, and any other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in the lands described below, must answer Plaintiff's Complaint filed in the above referenced court and case number within thirty (30) days of the completion of the publication of thereafter a judgment of default may be rendered against you in the above-styled case.

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 COMPLAINT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY ALABAMA

TAMMY CHILDRESS, PLAINTIFF V. CV - 2025-900075

RAYMOND HASHBARGER and BETTY HASHBARGER, ET AL., DEFENDANTS

The Defendants, whose whereabouts are unknown, and any other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in the lands described below, must answer Plaintiff's Complaint filed in the above referenced court and case number within thirty (30) days of the completion of the publication or thereafter a judgment of default may be rendered against you in the above-styled case.

The subject property is described as follows:

To reach a point of beginning for the herein-after described parcel of land, commence at the Southeast corner of the SE1/4 of the SE1/4, thence run South 88 degrees 00' West, along the South line thereof, 30.08 feet to a point in the West line of Turner Road (60' RW); thence run North 02 degrees 14' East, along said West line, parallel with the east line of said SE1/4 of SE1/4, 1150.15 feet to a point; thence run South 84 degrees 20' West, 308.25 feet to a point which is the point of beginning of the parcel of land herein described; thence from said point of beginning, continue South 84 degrees 20' West 180.00 feet to the Southeast corner of a parcel of land described in Deed Book 1381, Page 407, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama; thence run North 02 degrees 14' East along the east line thereof, 259.10 feet to the northeast corner of said 1381-407 Parcel, being in the South line of Rocky Ford Road (80'RW); thence run South 89 degrees 44' East, along said South

line, 178.40 feet to a point; thence run South 02 degrees 14' West, 240.47 feet to the point of beginning, and embracing portions of the E1/2 of aforesaid SE1/4, in Section 7, Township 12 South, Range 8 East of Huntsville Meridian, in Etowah County, Alabama.

Done the 10th day of February 2025

/s/ Jason Knowles Jason Knowles, Attorney for Plaintiff Knowles & Sullivan, LLC 413 Broad Street Gadsden, AL 35901 256-547-7200

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

LEGAL NOTICE

In the Juvenile Court of Etowah County, Alabama Case # JU-25-16.01

Publication Notice to: Laura Ann Dial.

A Complaint has been filed in this court to terminate your parental rights as to N.D. (DOB 4/26/20), a minor child. You must file an answer to the Complaint within 14 days of perfection of service by publication. Your answer is to be filed in the Juvenile Court of Etowah County, Alabama, 801 Forrest Ave. Gadsden, AL, 35901.

Done this the 19th day of February 2025.

Cassandra Johnson Circuit Court Clerk.

Williams, King & Associates 2100 Club Drive, Suite 150 Gadsden, AL 35901 256-442-0201

February 21, 28, March 7, 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

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-24-900421-GCD

PLAINTIFF VS. 10 GAMBLING DEVICES \$1,159.00 U.S. CURRENCY

DEFENDANTS In Re: Unknown

Property Seized From: 2515 Sansom Avenue 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 28th day of April 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 26th day of February 2025

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk Etowah County, Alabama

February 28, March 7, 14, and 21, 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-24-900423-GCD

PLAINTIFF VS. 20 GAMBLING DEVICES \$3,978.00 U.S. CURRENCY

DEFENDANTS In Re: Unknown

Property Seized From: 928 Spruce 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 28th day of April 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 26th day of February 2025

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk Etowah County, Alabama

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

PUBLIC HEARING

The City Council of the City of Rainbow City, Alabama, will hold a public hearing on Monday, March 17, 2025, at 5:00 p.m., at the Rainbow City Municipal Building located at 3700 Rainbow Drive, to consider the adoption of a resolution authorizing an Economic Development Agreement with Choice Fabricators, Inc. located 3155 Steele Station Road in Rainbow City, Alabama. This exist-

ing business proposes having a capital investment of \$12,500,000 to upgrade the facility and purchase 2 automated stamping presses. These upgrades will increase the need for new employees, payroll, property and sales tax. The owner has requested financial assistance from the City of Rainbow City to make this proposed project feasible. The City of Rainbow City proposes to abate all state and local noneducational property taxes and all construction related transaction taxes, except those local construction related transaction taxes levied for educational purposes or for capital improvements for education. The Company has requested that the abatement of state and local noneducational property taxes be extended for a period of 5 years pursuant to the Tax Incentive Reform Act of 1992. This project is estimated to be completed by December 31, 2025. The city represents and warrants to the Company that it has the power under the constitution and laws, and amendment 772, of the State of Alabama to grant this incentive. You are invited to be present at the public hearing and express your opinion on the proposed agreement and whether it serves a valid and sufficient public purpose. The City of Rainbow is committed to making meetings accessible to all. If you need accommodation, please contact Beth Lee at least 24 hours before the meeting.

Joe Taylor, Mayor Beth Lee, City Clerk

February 28, 2025

JOB COMPLETION

Vulcan Materials Asphalt & Construction, LLC hereby gives notice of completion for Project: ATRP 2-28-2020-223 in Etowah County, Alabama. This notice will appear for three consecutive weeks beginning on February 28, 2025, and ending on March 14, 2025. All claims should be filed at Vulcan Materials Asphalt & Construction, LLC., P.O. Box 1890, Gadsden, Alabama, 35902 during this period.

February 28, March 7 and 14, 2025

LEGAL NOTICE

The following storage units will be auctioned on March 10, 2025 beginning at 10:00 A.M. on the premises of Dixie Mini Storage Auction, located at 429 4TH ST SW, Attalla, AL 35954

Amanda Chapman #385

April Burleson #26, #29, #380, #486

Brian Keith Baker/Sara Kiker #462

Charles J Owens #74, #285

Ed Grinfeld #73

Elizabeth Pruitt #467

Jason A Copeland #443

Jess Evans #88

Ladonna Price #115

Lisa Kline #263

Michael Parker #324

Regena Harris #295

Sarah Maton #170

Tina Gamble #10

Whitney S Boggs #501

Dixie Mini Storage 429 4th Street S.W. Attalla, AL 35954 Phone (256)538-2203

February 28 and March 7, 2025

LEGAL NOTICE

The following storage units will be auctioned on 3/12/2025 beginning at 10:00 a.m. on the business premises of Southtowne Mini Warehouses. Southtowne is located at 199 Woodland Drive, off of Steele Station Road in Rainbow City, Alabama.

Roosevelt Johnson Unit 49



Chris Crittenden  
Unit 185  
  
Janis Poleate  
Unit 407  
  
Fatima Bibb  
Unit 512

Chris Kennedy  
Unit 576

Angela Nelson  
Unit 13-11

Dazaree Turner  
Unit 52-22

Regina Collins  
Unit 724

Lisa Turk  
Unit 184 & 533

Jo Ann Collins  
Unit 339 & 578

David Contris  
Unit 436

Carl Talmage  
Unit 564

Lauri Price  
Unit 28-1B

Latonya Rutledge  
Unit 211-32

Mark Price  
53-6 & 53-8

Suzanne Baret  
Unit 740

Southtowne Mini Ware-  
houses  
199 Woodland Drive  
Rainbow City, AL. 35906

February 28 and March  
7, 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 2020 Nissan Versa vin# 3N1C-N8EV0LL835074 The public auction will be held at Matt's Towing 927 B 5th Ave NE Attalla AL 35954 at 10:00am on 04/07/2025. 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 21 and 28,  
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 at 8:00 A.M.

2016 Buick Regal  
VIN:  
2G4GS5GX5G9208833

Tommy Tows  
1912 3rd Street  
Attalla, AL. 35954  
(256) 490-3715

February 21 and 28,  
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 9, 2025.

2002 Mercury Grand  
Marquis  
VIN  
2MEFM-  
74W22X640820

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

February 21 and 28,  
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 11, 2025.

2010 Jeep Grand Cher-  
okee  
VIN: 1J4PS4GK-  
7AC117916

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

February 21 and 28,  
2025

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC  
AUCTION OF ABAN-  
DONED 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 2020 Nissan Versa vin# 3N1C-N8EV0LL835074 The public auction will be held at Matt's Towing 927 B 5th Ave NE Attalla AL 35954 at 10:00am on 04/07/2025 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 21 and 28,  
2025

**NOTICE TO  
CONTRACTORS**

Sealed proposals will be received by the City Clerk, City of Gadsden, Alabama, at the City Hall, 90 Broad Street, Room 411, Gadsden, Alabama until 2:00

P.M., Tuesday, March 25, 2025, for the TWIN BRIDGES GOLF CLUB SAND BUNKER RENOVATIONS, Bid Request No.3596, located in the City of Gadsden, Alabama.

Bids submitted prior to the bid opening by mail shall be directed to "City Clerk, P.O. Box 267, Gadsden, Alabama 35902-0267" or in person delivered to the office of the City Clerk, Room 401, City Hall, 90 Broad Street, Gadsden, Alabama.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the above time and place. Specifications and contract documents are open to the public for inspection at the City Hall. Electronic (pdf) specifications and contract documents can be distributed at no cost. All bidders must be registered with the City of Gadsden Engineering Department in order to submit a bid. Bids received from unregistered bidders will be rejected.

The bidder shall file with his bid either a cashier's check drawn on an Alabama bank, payable to the City of Gadsden, Alabama, or a bid bond executed by a surety company duly authorized and qualified to make such bonds in Alabama, in an amount equal to the lesser of five percent (5%) of the bid or ten thousand (\$10,000).

The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any and all bids.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish and pay for the satisfactory Performance and Payment Bond or Bond in the amount required by Section 39-1-1(a), Code of Alabama 1975, and evidence of insurance as required by the bid documents within ten (10) days after being notified that he has been awarded the contract.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within sixty (60) days after the actual date of the opening thereof. The bidder must comply with all requirements of the public works bid law Section 39-2-1 et seq., Code of Alabama 1975.

Any bidder, whether a resident or non-resident of the State of Alabama, must comply with all applicable provisions of Section 34-8-1, et. seq., Code of Alabama, 1975, including requirements for licensing as a general contractor and the ne-

cessity to show evidence of license before the bid will be considered by the awarding authority. A current license number must be included on the bid.

This is a tax-exempt contract.

Bidders must comply with the President's Nos. 11246 and 11375 which prohibit discrimination in employment regarding race, creed, color, sex, or national origin. Bidders must also comply with Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, and Section III of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, 12 U.S.C. 1701u.

By signing this contract, the contracting parties affirm, for the duration of the agreement, that they will not violate federal immigration law or knowingly employ, hire for employment, or continue to employ an unauthorized alien within the state of Alabama. Furthermore, a contracting party found to be in violation of this provision shall be deemed in breach of the agreement and shall be responsible for all damages resulting therefrom.

Bidders must certify that they do not and will not maintain or provide for their employees any facilities that are segregated on a basis of race, creed, color, sex, or national origin. Bidders must also certify they will make facilities handicap accessible to the extent required by law.

THE CITY GADSDEN, ALABAMA  
Craig Ford, Mayor  
Iva Nelson, City Clerk

February 28, 2025

**A BILL TO BE  
ENTITLED AN ACT**

Relating to Etowah County and the Mega Sports Complex Authority; to amend Section 45-28-220.03, Code of Alabama 1975, to immediately transfer all fiduciary responsibility relating to the authority to the City of Rainbow City; and to provide for the dissolution of the authority upon the full payment of certain outstanding debt.  
BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:  
Section 1. Section 45-28-220.03 of the Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:  
"§45-28-220.03

(a) This section shall only apply in Etowah County. (b) The Etowah County Mega Sports Complex Authority is created. (c)(1) Immediately after October 1, 2022, the terms of the members serving on the authority shall end. Thereafter, the authority shall consist of the following members: a. Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph 1., one member appointed by each member of the local legislative delegation with initial terms expiring as follows: 1. House District 29, expiring November 10, 2022. The initial appointment occurring after October 1, 2022, shall be made by the Director of the Etowah County Tourism Board. Subsequent appointments to this position shall be made by the legislative member representing House District 29. 2. House District 28, expiring November 10, 2023. 3. House District 30, expiring November 10, 2024. 4. Senate District 10, expiring November 10, 2025. b. The President of the Etowah County Chamber of Commerce, or his or her designee. c. The Director of the Etowah County Tourism Board, or his or her designee. d. One member appointed by the governing body of the City of Rainbow City, for an initial term expiring November 10, 2024. (2) Upon completion of the initial staggered terms, subsequent appointments of non ex-officio members shall be made in the same manner for terms of four years. (3) A member shall be removed from the authority after failing to attend three consecutive properly noticed regular meetings of the authority, or more than half of the properly noticed regular meetings, during a calendar year. The members of the authority shall meet at least quarterly and minutes of the meetings of the authority shall be posted on a website operated by the authority or on a social media website of the authority, or both, within 30 days after the meeting date. A vacancy on the authority for any reason shall be filled by appointment by the original appointing authority for the unexpired term. (4) Except for the Director of the Etowah County Tourism Board, no member of the authority may also serve as a member of the Etowah County Tourism Board. (d) The authority shall evaluate the development of a sports com-

plex for Etowah County for implementation and administration by the authority. The evaluation shall include, but is not limited to, the following considerations and issues: (1) The feasibility of a mega sports complex for the county. (2) What should be included in such a complex. (3) The location of such a complex. (4) The cost associated with acquiring and maintaining such a complex. (5) Possible funding sources for such a complex. (e) After its evaluation, the authority may initiate the development and management of a public mega sports complex in the county. (f)(d) The authority, subject to subsections (e) and (h), shall also have the following powers and duties: (1) To acquire or lease real property for the development of sports or other recreational facilities and related improvements for public purposes. (2) To make, enter into, and execute contracts, agreements, or other instruments necessary to accomplish the purposes of this section. (3) To establish and appoint committees and hire staff which it deems necessary for the carrying out of its functions. (4) To accept and receive any and all donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services, and to receive, utilize, and dispose of it. (5) To perform other functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve the purposes of this section. (e) Commencing on October 1, 2025, all fiduciary responsibility and duties relating to the authority shall be vested in the City of Rainbow City. All revenue of the authority including, but not limited to, tax revenues received pursuant to Section 45-28-220.03, shall be transmitted to the appropriate designated division of the city and all fiscal distributions, liabilities, and obligations of the authority shall be the responsibility of the city, provided that collected and received revenue is sufficient to satisfy the liabilities and obligations of the authority. The designated division shall have unfettered access to all accounts held by the authority on October 1, 2025, which accounts shall remain separate and distinct from all other accounts held by the city. (g)(f) All T.V.A. in-lieu-of-taxes payments to Etowah County retained by the county and not transferred to the

City of Sardis pursuant to Section 40-28-2 shall be distributed to the Etowah County Mega Sports Complex Authority to be used for the financing and operation of a mega sports complex as provided by the City of Rainbow City pursuant to subsection (e). (h)(g)(1) Any additional funds received by the authority from any state or county tax revenue shall be applied first toward the payment of existing debts. (2) Immediately upon the full payment of all debts in existence as of October 1, 2022, all revenues referenced in subsection (g) (f) of this section and subdivision (4) of Section 45-28-91.02(1) shall be held in the county treasury until otherwise directed by unanimous consent of the members of the legislative delegation. (h) On or before June 1, 2024, and immediately upon the full payment of all debts in existence on October 1, 2022, the terms of the members then serving on the authority pursuant to subsection (c) shall end, and the authority shall be dissolved. At that time, the City of Rainbow City shall perform all duties of the authority as provided in subsection (d) and all existing debts, liabilities, and assets of the authority including, but not limited to, real property, buildings, equipment, and other assets, shall transfer to the City of Rainbow City. (i) A comprehensive financial audit of the authority shall be performed immediately after October 1, 2022, annually for the immediately succeeding two years, and every two years thereafter. The audit shall be performed by a licensed independent certified public accountant chosen by the authority from a list of three auditing firms nominated by the governing body of the City of Rainbow City. A copy of each audit performed shall be submitted to the Chief Examiner of the Department of Examiners of Public Accounts and each appointing authority within 30 days after completion.

Immediately upon dissolution of the authority, the comprehensive financial audits shall cease."

Section 2. This act shall become effective on October 1, 2025.

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

# CLASSIFIEDS

**SERVICES**

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

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

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FRIDAY & SATURDAY  
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Over \$120 in savings!

**FOOD CITY**

Limit 1 transaction per item per ValuCard per day. Discount taken as a coupon. Customer pays sales tax.

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**DIETITIAN'S PICK**

Super Sweet  
**Cosmic Crisp Apples**  
Per Lb.

**1.49** With Card

**IN THE MEAT Dept.**

Previously Frozen  
**Baby Back Pork Ribs**  
Per Lb.

**2.99** With Card

Selected Varieties, Links  
**Eckrich Smoked Sausage**  
12-14 Oz.

**2/\$5** With Card

Buy 4 SAVE MORE

Selected Varieties  
**Pepsi Products**  
6 Pk., 16.9 Oz. Btls.

**3.25** With Card

Limit 4 TOTAL ITEMS

When you buy 4 in the same transaction. Lesser quantities are 5.99 each. Limit 1 transaction (4 total items). Discount applied as a coupon. Customer pays sales tax.

Buy 3 SAVE MORE

**DIETITIAN'S PICK**

Made Fresh In-Store  
**Snack Cups**  
Each

**3/\$5** With Card

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

Selected Varieties  
**Jimmy Dean Bacon**  
12 Oz.

**3.99** With Card

Limit 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Zesta Saltine Crackers (16 Oz.), Keebler Sandwich Crackers (8 Ct.) or  
**Pringles Party Stack**  
6.84-7.16 Oz.

**2/\$5** With Card

Buy 2 SAVE MORE

**DIETITIAN'S PICK**

Selected Varieties  
**Allen's Green Beans**  
28 Oz.

**1.99** With Card

Limit 4 TOTAL ITEMS

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

**IN THE Bakery**

Bakery Fresh  
**Apple Fritters or Long Johns**  
4 Ct.

**3.99** With Card

From the Deli, Coleslaw or  
**Mustard Potato Salad**  
Per Lb.

**2.99** With Card

Buy 3 SAVE MORE

Selected Varieties, Crescents, Cinnamon Rolls or  
**Pillsbury Grands! Biscuits**  
8 Ct.

**1.99** With Card

Limit 3 TOTAL ITEMS

When you buy 3 in the same transaction. Lesser quantities are 2.99 each. Limit 1 transaction (3 total items). Discount applied as a coupon. Customer pays sales tax.

Buy 2 SAVE MORE

Selected Varieties, Terry's Potato Chips (7.75-8 Oz.), Gardetto's Snack Mix (8-8.6 Oz.), Chex Mix or Bugles  
**Chex Mix or Bugles**  
7.5-8.75 Oz.

**1.99** With Card

Limit 4 TOTAL ITEMS

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

Limit 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Ritz Toasted Chips (7.1-8.1 Oz.) or  
**Ritz Crackers**  
8.8-13.7 Oz.

**1.99** With Card

Limit 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Nature Valley Granola Bars (5-6 Ct.) or  
**Betty Crocker Fruit Snacks**  
6-10 Ct.

**1.99** With Card

Limit 6

Wild Caught, Alaskan  
**Chicken of the Sea Pink Salmon**  
14.75 Oz.

**2.99** With Card

**DIETITIAN'S PICK**

Limit 4

Selected Varieties, Baken-ets, Chester's Puffcorn or Fries,  
**Santitas or Munchos**  
3.25-11 Oz.

**2/\$5** With Card

Limit 4

Selected Varieties  
**Misty Mountain Spring Water**  
24 Pk., 16.9 Oz. Btls.

**4.99** With Card

Limit 4

Selected Varieties,  
**Dot's Pretzels**  
16 Oz.

**4.99** With Card

Limit 4

Frozen, Selected Varieties  
**Stouffer's Meals**  
8.25-12.62 Oz.

**2/\$5** With Card

Limit 4

Frozen, Selected Varieties  
**Eggo Waffles**  
8.4-14.8 Oz.

**2/\$5** With Card

Limit 3

Selected Varieties  
**POWERADE**  
8 Pk., 20 Oz. Btls.

**4.99** With Card

Limit 2

**JFG Bonus Blend Coffee**  
30.6 Oz.

**6.99** With Card

Limit 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Taste of the Country Jam (12 Oz.), Simply Hash Browns (20 Oz.) or  
**Florida's Natural Orange Juice**  
52 Oz.

**2.99** With Card

Limit 4

Frozen, Selected Varieties  
**Pillsbury Grands! Biscuits**  
18-25 Oz.

**2.99** With Card

Limit 6

Selected Varieties  
**Progresso Soup**  
16-19 Oz.

**3/\$5** With Card

Limit 4

Selected Varieties  
**Little Debbie Big Pack Snack Cakes**  
12.67-31.78 Oz.

**2.99** With Card

Limit 4

Selected Varieties  
**Kellogg's Giant Cereal**  
23-29.5 Oz.

**3.99** With Card

Limit 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Little Hugs (20 Pk.) or  
**Country Crock**  
45 Oz.

**3.99** With Card

**COUPON EFFECTIVE FEB 28 - MAR 1**

**INSTANT DIGITAL COUPON SAVINGS**  
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Frozen  
**Festive Turkey Breast**  
Per Lb.

ValuCard Price.....2.99  
Digital Coupon.....1.70

**FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON 1.29** With Card

USE 2X

**COUPON EFFECTIVE FEB 28 - MAR 1**

**INSTANT DIGITAL COUPON SAVINGS**  
LOAD TO YOUR VALUCARD AT FOODCITY.COM OR ON THE FOOD CITY MOBILE APP. CLIP ONCE AND USE UP TO 4X IN ONE TRANSACTION.

Selected Varieties  
**Sprite Products**  
12 Pk., 12 Oz. Cans

ValuCard Price.....5.99  
Digital Coupon.....1.00

**FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON 4.99** With Card

USE 4X

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