Messenger 1998

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50 cents



Saturday May 10 High: 66 Low: 56 Sunday May 11 High: 72 Low: 60 7 DAY FORECAST

Monday
May 12

High: 71
Low: 59

Tuesday May 13 High: 74 Low: 58

Wednesday May 14 High: 81 Low: 63

Thursday May 15 High: 86 Low: 66

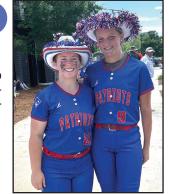




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The Blue Devils fell to Deshler 2-0 in their bestof-three Class 4A semifinals matchup at Etowah.

Photo by Mark Kelly



Page 1B

West End Lady Patriots swept away their competition, avoiding elimination each time to advance and keep their championship hopes alive

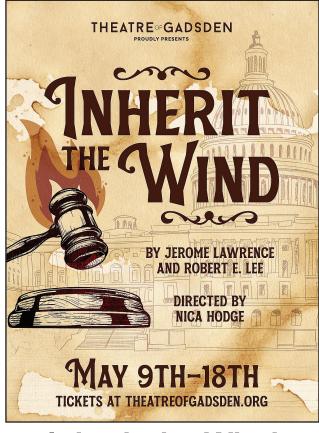
Photo by Mark Kelly



Page 1B

The AHSAA held the Class 4A-7A Outdoor Track & Field State Championships in Gulf Shores last weekend.

Photo by Alex Chaney



Inherit the Wind comes to life this weekend at TOG

Theatre of Gadsden's latest production is one of America's great courtroom dramas, where the trial of a man becomes one of ideas.

Inherit the Wind will be performed May 9-11 and 16-18. Shows on Fridays and Saturdays will take place at 7 p.m., while the Sunday shows will be at 2 p.m., all at the Ritz Theatre, 310 Wall St. in downtown Alabama City. Tickets are \$13 to \$20.

It's been an even century since the events of the celebrated Scopes "Monkey" trial in Dayton, Tenn., where school-teacher John T. Scopes was tried for teaching evolution in public schools.

The play, written by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee (not the general), is based on that trial, but isn't an exact portrayal of the historical event. For starters, the real Scopes never spent a night in jail, and the people of Dayton didn't hang Scopes in effigy but welcomed the media circus that accompanied the trial.

Inherit the Wind- page 5A

Gadsden PD Records Division to move to Municipal Court

The Gadsden Police Department's Records Division is relocating to the Gadsden Municipal Court Complex, 1511 Campbell Ave., starting Monday, May 12, 2025.

Members of the public will need to visit the new location to obtain a crash or incident report. The Records Division maintains paper and electronic records as officers investigate incidents, records criminal offenses, and documents traffic accidents.

"The Gadsden Police Department looks forward to serving the public more efficiently in their new space," stated a press release from the City of Gadsden.

This move will streamline services, allow easier access to documents, and provide assistance in one centralized location.

Teachers of the year named

Jefferson's announced recently that Ashlyn Cagle and Allison Heald have been named the first-ever Jefferson's Gadsden Teacher of the Year and Jefferson's Rainbow City Teacher of the Year.

Cagle teaches pre-K through fourth grade special education at Glencoe Elementary School, and Heald teaches agriscience at Southside High School, where she is an FFA advisor.

Cagle and Heald were chosen from a competitive pool of nominations submitted by students and community members.

The contest, launched in honor of National Teachers' Day, May 6, aims to recognize one of the area's many deserving educators. Jefferson's selected Cagle and Heald as Teachers of the Year for the consistency with which they've poured their care, knowledge and energy into their students' lives.

"Mrs. Cagle's nominators spoke of her big heart, and her uncanny ability to be a constant soothing presence," said Jefferson's president Brandon Graham. "Dr. Heald's nominators spoke of her tremendous commitment to her community — including building beds for children in need and directing backpack and animal shelter drives. Both of these teachers clearly love their communities, and are loved in return. We're honored to recognize Mrs. Cagle and Dr. Heald for their dedication and contribution to their communities."

Each teacher will receive a \$500 gift card to Jefferson's, and their achievement will be commemorated with a "Jefferson's Teacher of the Year" plaque for all restaurant patrons to see.

"Special education holds a very special place in my heart, particularly teaching social-emotional skills — a true passion of mine," Cagle said in a statement. "My passion for teaching stems from a lifelong commitment to supporting individuals with diverse learning needs. I am grateful every day for the opportunity to love, teach, and watch each individual child grow at Glencoe Elementery."

"It is such an honor to serve as an FFA advisor," Dr. Heald said. "And being trusted by families to carry students on trips to new places. FFA has given us countless experiences, and we have already made enough memories together to last a lifetime. I am so incredibly grateful

This year is the pilot run for the Jefferson's Teacher of the Year award, launched as a sister program to Jefferson's Coach of the Year award, which runs in the fall. The teachers' initiative was open to teachers working with students of any age, and candidates could be nominated by students, parents and guardians of students, school officials or other community members.





Submitted photos

TOP: Ashlyn Cagle and her family pose for a photo. BOTTOM: Dr. Allison Heald, pictured above, amd Cagle won Teachers of the Year from Jefferson's.

Governor Ivey recognizes Lung Cancer Awareness Week with proclamation

This week is Lung Cancer Action Week, and the American Lung Association is raising awareness of lung cancer and encouraging Alabama residents to take action to help end the disease. Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in Alabama. Lung cancer screening saves lives by detecting the disease at an earlier stage when it's more likely to be curable.

The annual Lung Cancer Action Week and Turquoise Takeover celebration (May 5-11) unites America to stand together to end lung cancer. Each year, the American Lung Association turns the nation turquoise—the signature color of LUNG FORCE—by illuminating buildings

and landmarks across the country, encouraging the public to wear turquoise and share their support on social media and highlighting the stories of those impacted by lung cancer

to inspire hope and save lives.

In commemoration, Alabama
Governor Kay Ivey issued a proclamation recognizing Lung Cancer
Action Week and urging residents
to learn more about lung cancer
and lifesaving lung cancer screening. According to the proclamation,
"Alabama consistently ranks among
the states with the highest lung cancer incidence and mortality rates,
highlighting the urgent need for expanded access to prevention, early
detection and treatment resources."

"This year, more than 4,000 Alabamans will be diagnosed with lung cancer. But there is hope. Thanks to advancements in early detection, treatment and research, the five-year survival rate has improved by 44 percent over the past decade," said Ashley Lyerly senior director of advocacy at the Lung Association. "Raising awareness and funds for lung cancer research is more important than ever and we encourage our community to get involved in Turquoise Takeover."

The American Lung Association shares six actions people can take this week to help in efforts to end lung cancer:

Lung Cancer- page 5A







OBITUARIES



Dennis Burton Sr.

ALTOONA - Dennis Burton Sr., 91, of Altoona, passed away on May 4, 2025. Born on April 11, 1934. Dennis dedicated his life to his family, work, and community.

Dennis worked for Goodyear on the second shift for 15 years before embarking on a fulfilling career as a cattle farmer and later working with an excavating company. He served on the Altoona City Council and was a member of the Altoona Volunteer Fire Department. He was also the proud founder of Burton's Food, which he operated for 50 years, leaving a lasting legacy in his community.

Dennis is preceded in death by his parents, Ernest and Willie Mae Burton; son, Dennis Ray Burton Jr.; wife, Patsy Burton; sisters, Barbara House and Helen Kidder; and brother, Harold Burton.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Linda Campbell Burton; his son, Steve Burton; his grandchildren, Jennifer Burton, Jeremy Burton, and Emily (Austin) Byrd; and his great-grandchildren, Ella Burton, Lani Burton, River Burton, Bryce Burton, and Laken Burton. Additionally, he leaves behind his daughter-in-law, Mary Burton; his sister-inlaw, Ila Burton; and many other loving relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held at 3:00 p.m. on May 2025, at Morgan Funeral Chapel, with visitation from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Chapel. Burial followed at Altoona-Walnut Grove Cemetery. Clergy Clay Spears and Harvey Beck officiated the services.

Pallbearers included Jacob Graul, Jamie Grant, Perry Gibbs, Austin Byrd, Paul Keener, and Steve Campbell. Honorary pallbearers included Jerry Foster, Ronnie Blanton, Jim Turnbach, Barry Maddox, Scotty Maddox, Jimmy Butts, and Dennis Coffelt.

The family wishes to express their heartfelt grati- at 1:00 pm on Wednesday, tude to Jim Turnbach, Keena April 30, 2025, at Collier-Mashburn, Sherry Camp- Butler Funeral Home. Rev. bell, Dr. Andrew, and Dr. Roy Daugherty officiated. nounced at a later date.

wavering support and kind-

Dennis's memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him. Morgan Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Jake Barnes Sutherlin

GADSDEN - Jake Barnes Sutherlin, 70, of Gadsden, Alabama, passed away on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, surrounded by his loved ones. A private family service celebrating his life will be held at a later date.

Jake was a graduate of Emma Sansom High School. He was an artist who hand-painted signs for Coca-Cola and later Buffalo Rock, but he enjoyed painting anything. He collected memorabilia of Alabama football, Oakland Raiders and drag racing items. In his spare time, he enjoyed fishing and spending time with his family, but especially with his grandchildren.

Jake is preceded in death by his mother, Mary Elizabeth Barnes Sutherlin; father, Trebert James Sutherlin, Sr.; and brother, Trebert James "Jimmy" Sutherlin,

Jake is survived by his daughters Teri Chupp (Ron) and Keri Buchmann (Jason); and grandchildren, Anderson Kate "Andi" Chupp, Elijah James, Bo Ryan and Izzy Lee Buchmann.

The family would like to express their thanks for the wonderful care given by RRMC ICU and Enhabit Hospice.

We ask that you please keep the family in your hearts and prayers during their time of bereavement.



Gary Eugene Silvey

GADSDEN - Gary Eugene Silvey, age 80, of Gadsden, AL passed away on Friday, April 25, 2025. A funeral service was held

Debora Reiland for their un- Burial with military honors followed at New Bethel Cemetery in Hokes, Bluff,

> Mr. Silvey was a graduate of Gadsden High School as well as the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He was a veteran of the United States Navy. Gary served as a Hospital Corpsman and Surgical Technologist on the USS Coral Sea. He was a man of faith and attended College Heights Baptist Church.

Mr. Silvey as preceded in death by his mother, Doris Willingham; father, Gene Silvey; sister, Linda Nunn; and stepson, Rory Patrick Cothran.

He is survived by his wife, Kathy Silvey; sons, Martin Silvey, Charles Silvey, and Michael Silvey; stepsons, (Shelley) Cothran, (Brandi) Cothran; dearly loved grandchildren; sister, Pamela McKee; and chosen daughter, Deanna Jackson.

The family wishes to express special thanks to Angie Pate, CRNP, Dr. Lauren Lowery, M.D., 7TH floor nurses at Gadsden Regional Medical Center, and Amedisys Home Health Hospice.



Iris White Slaton

GADSDEN Kathy White Slaton, 75, of Gadsden, AL, passed away peacefully on Friday, May

enly She was preceded in Raymond Corley Slaton, passed in September 2023.

Kathy is survived by her brother, Bobby G. White; sisters, Wanda White (Kenneth) Proctor and Tina White (Bill) Malone; daughter, Traci L. Slaton of Birmingham, AL; granddaughter, Avery Slaton(Kyle) Bartl: numerous nieces and nephews; and sisters-in-law, Donna Slaton Smith and Cheryl Slaton Whited, her caregiver.

Services will be an-

Charles "Derrick"

BLUFF HOKES Charles "Derrick" Morrison, age 41, of Hokes Bluff, Alabama passed away peacefully on May 3, 2025 at UAB Hospital surrounded by his family. He was a devoted son, brother, husband, father, and friend.

Morrison

He is preceded in death by his father, Ralph C. Morrison; and grand-parents, Rayford "Mac" McCain and Nannie W. McCain.

He is survived by his wife, Enola Morrison; children. Colton (Hannah) Morrison, Peyton Morrison, Baylor Morrison, Kinsey Vaughn, and Khloe Morrison; mother, Dina Morrison East; sister, Olivia "Lulu" (Matt) Gwin; nephew, Cade (Lexie) Gwin; great-nephew, Houston Cade Gwin; and a host of aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Derrick enjoyed watching his children play sports, deep-sea fishing, cruises, bowling, family time, and making others laugh. He also enjoyed spending time with the VFW Veterans playing pool, cards and talking with them. He loved playing cards with his family and friends. He was an avid Florida State Seminole Fan and enjoyed watching all sports with family and friends. He was a dedicated 3rd generation employee for Vulcan Materials Corporation since 2001. Derrick graduated from Hokes Bluff High School in 2001.

Special thanks to Dr. Sasha Still, Dr. Megan Gray and all the staff at UAB.

A celebration of life service will be held 6 pm Friday, May 9, 2025 at Glencoe bers include his sister in- Jo Aultman, Charles Jones Kathy loved her family Rev. Mark Gidley and Rev. extensive care of him during White Jr. and Nina Mayben Flowers will be accepted White; son, Woody Leigh or Donations in Derrick's Slaton. Kathy's husband, name can be made to VFW Post 2760 in Gadsden.

> Honorary pallbearers will be the veterans at VFW Post 2760 and the Vulcan Materials family.

Rebecca Crider

GADSDEN - Mrs. Rebecca Crider, 75, of Gadsden, passed away on Tuesday, April 29, 2025. She is survived by her loving fam-

On April 29, 2025, Rebecca Crider gained her wings arms of Jesus.

She was a lifelong resident of Gadsden, AL.

graduated from She Emma Sansom High School in 1968.

She loved roller-skating, where she met the love of her life, Jerry Crider. They were happily married for 55 vears.

She loved music, movies and playing cards.

She is survived by her loving husband, Jerry Crider; daughters, Valerie (Barry) Hubbard and Vanessa Martin; grandchildren, Chasity Martin (Jeffery Evans), Derrica (Matt) Bruce, Dalton Hubbard and Kaydence Baker; sisters-in-law, Becky McHenry and Alenka Smith; dozens of nieces & nephews; 15 great grandkids and too many chosen children, grandchildren to count.

We would especially like to thank the wonderful staff from Compassus. She called them family.

Memorial Services was held at 2 pm on Saturday, May 3, 2025 at First Baptist Church of Southside.

We ask that you keep this family in your hearts and prayers during their time of bereavement.

Charles Edward Sims

GLENCOE - Funeral services will be 12 pm, Friday May 9,2025, at Crestwood Chapel, for Mr. Charles E. Sims, 95, born on October 10, 1929, in Glencoe, Alabama, who passed away on Friday, May 2.

Charles was preceded in death by the love of his life, Florence Sims, and his only daughter, Janet Kennedy.

Hokes Bluff Funeral Home. law, Lola Beasley, who took and Chris Morgan. elle; and son-in-law, Boykin Kennedy.

> travel across the country and love. to the Asia-Pacific, creating retelling to anyone who was Aveanna Hospice. interested.

After his service in the Navy, he served three years

and entered Heaven in the in the Marine Reserves and worked at Goodyear in Gadsden, Alabama, until his retirement.

An avid lover of Alabama football and the Atlanta Braves, he could be found in front of the television, enjoying these teams during their respective seasons.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home Friday from 11 am until the time of service.

Oz Robert Lipscomb

HOKES BLUFF - Oz Robert Lipscomb, 58 days old, from Hokes Bluff, Al went to heaven on May 3, 2025 in the arms of his parents and sister, surrounded by family.

Celebration of life service was held at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, May 7, 2025 at Cross Creek Community Church with Rev. Chris Walker officiating. The family received friends from 4:30 pm until time of

Oz is preceded in death by his grandfathers, Robert Morgan and Tom Fus; greatgrandparents, Bob Aultman, Grover Morgan, AC and Betty Lipscomb, and Peggy Jones.

Oz is survived by his parents, Randy and Bethany Lipscomb; sister, Rubie; grandparents, David and Rhonda Lipscomb, Vicki Fus, Fran Morgan; aunts and uncles, Andrew and Lindsey Morgan, Jeff and Hannah England, Blake and Jordan Lipscomb, Kevin Lipscomb, Justin and Nikki Terrell; cousins, Anderson, Brody, and Greyson Morgan, Caroline and Alexis England, Anderson and Aly Lipscomb, Emmalynn and Ellis Surviving family mem- Terrell; great-grandparents,

Oz means strength and Chris Walker will be offici- his final years; his grand- courage. Oz was a fighter death by her parents, Roy E. ating the service. The fam-children, Shannon Hill and from the day he was born. White and Angella Calhoun ily will receive friends from Charles Boykin Kennedy; He spent the first 3 weeks White; siblings, Roy E. 4 pm until time of service. his great grandsons, Matt on his life in the NICU and and Nathan Hill, both of on March 25, 2025 he got whom he loved very much; to finally come home. Oz great-great-grandchil- was a wonderful baby. He dren, Nathan Jr. and No- loved being held and being outside. He got to go to his sister's softball games, He was extremely proud cousins' baseball and socof his service in the United cer games, Auburn baseball States Navy, serving for game, church, stay in hotels, four years during the Ko- attended family gatherings, rean War. The military pro- and restaurants. Oz's life vided him the opportunity to was short but a life full of

Special thanks to UAB memories that he enjoyed NICU, Dr. Jason Ayres,











OBITUARIES

Timothy "Timmy" **Bradford Sharpton**

CENTRE - Home-Going Service was held May 6, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. at Harvest of Hope Fellowship, for Timothy "Timmy" Bradford Sharpton, age 57, of Centre, AL, who left this earth for his heavenly home on May Guthery, officiated. Burial remembered by those who followed at Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church.

ited his Momma's dimples which were beautifully deep, and his smile was contagious. Timmy's heart and soul were filled with the purest of love for others. He remember your name. For Timmy, being the center of curve ball several years ago strongest man, our family and others has ever known. A few more of his favorite things would include, drinking coffee, going riding in the car with loud music and windows down, watching Gaither Gospel Music videos on his tablet, with hands raised in praise, and Alabama Crimson Tide. Although our hearts are broken, we take comfort in knowing that Timmy is in the arms of his Jesus and has a new body free of pain and suffering. Timmy is preceded in

death by his parents, Patricia Vickery Sharpton, Henry B. Sharpton, and Judy Pollard; grandparents, Austin and Bonnie Vickery, Grover and Della Sharpton; special aunts and uncles, Royce and Virginia Washburn, Gloria Vickery, Glenda Barnett, and Donnie Vickery.

Gadsden; Kimberly Davis Meridianville; (Russell), nieces. Madison Pelkey, Mallory Graham, Kendall Davis, Bethany Davis; nephew, Tyler Davis; Special Uncle, James Vickery, and several very special cousins, that have been more like siblings to Timmy.

A Very Special Thank You to: Station One and all staff, departments and caregivers of Cherokee County Health and Rehab Center; Jennifer Cambron, Madison Bone, Angela Edge, Sandra Bone, Megan Williams, Sara Penland, Brenda Jones, Jodi Ogle and Cynthia Wheeler; and Harvest of Hope Fellowship.

Sindy G. Whittaker

GADSDEN - West Gadsden- Announces the passing of Mrs. Sindy G. Whittaker, 59, of Gadsden, passed away Saturday, May 3, 2025 at Riverview Regional Medical Center.

Ms. Sindy Gave Whittaker was born on January 9, 1966, to Mr. Hazen Lyon and Mrs. Mabel Lyon in

Beach City, Ohio. She grew touched forever. up there and attended Fairless High School in Brewster, Ohio. She loved nature; enjoying trips to the beach, going camping, the mountains, and fishing just to name a few. But most of all, Sindy loved getting to spend time with her grandkids and watching them grow. Her 2. 2025. Reverend Wendell undeniable love for God and Prophitt, and Chaplain Jon sweet spirit will always be

She was preceded in death Timmy loved life! He by her father Hazen Lyon; loved Jesus. Timmy inher- mother Mabel Lyon; and her true love, Mr. Wayne Cam-

were graced to know her.

She leaves to cherish her precious memories, daughters Heather (William, Sr.) Fadule, Stacy (David never met a stranger, and if Lloyd) Whitehead, Shanhe met you, he would always non (Billy) Hill and Dana (Andy) Morgan; her grandchildren Jezzica Fadule, attention, was the grandest Jeimy Fadule, William Fadevent ever. Life threw him a ule Jr., Avery Fadule, Mya Fadule, Kira Fadule, Lyla and he had been sick on and Fadule, Michelle Fadule, off. Timmy truly, was the Brayden Burt, Aaron Burt, Alexis Burt, Monika Brewster, Hunter Brewster, Declan Morgan, Griffin Morgan and Adalyn Morgan; great grandchildren Jacelynn Jennings and Jazmin Jennings; a host of other relatives and friends.

> Funeral Services were held at 12:00 Noon, Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at The Bethany Baptist Church (3993 Shoal Creek Road, Ashville, Al.) With burial in the Bethany Church Cemetery and Bro. Michael Sanderson, officiating.

Mickey F. Granger

GADSDEN - With heart-Mickey F. Granger of Gads- #27 F & AM. His most reden, who traded time for cent accomplishment was 2025 at the age of 59.

He is survived by sisters, held Thursday, May 8 at Ad-Pamela Campbell (Tommy), ams-Buggs Funeral Service ~ Etowah Chapel.

Michael Zeigler

GADSDEN - With heartfelt sympathy, we announce the earthly transition of Michael Zeigler of Gadsden, who traded time for eternity of Monday, May 5, 2025 at the age of 73.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, May 17, at 1 p.m. at Adams-Buggs Funeral Service ~ Etowah Chapel.

Koa Keys Ndong

Baby Koa Keys Ndong passed away May 3, 2025 at 3:22 a.m. at UAB hospital.

Koa is the son of Cesar Ndong and Brittany Hardman. After 15 hours of labor Koa arrived May 2, 2025 at 10:07 p.m. weighing 3lbs and 2 ounces and placed into the loving arms of his parents. He is also the little brother to Ava Hardman.

Though Koa was with his parents for a brief moment that's all the time needed to change the lives of those he

Our family is forever changed and grateful to have spent this brief but incredibly meaningful time with Koa.

Heartfelt thanks to the Nurses Staff and UAB NICU Team.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Lighthouse Baptist Church in Attalla AL and to the trisomy18.org

Graveside service May 10, 2025 at 10:00 Crestwood.

Jeffrey Corbin

GADSDEN - Bowing in humble submission to the will of God and what he has allowed, we the officers and staff of Adams-Buggs Funeral Service, Inc. announce the earthly transition of our dearly beloved Jeffrey Elwood Corbin of Gadsden, who went from labor to reward on Thursday, May 1, 2025 at the age of 57. A great father, son, brother, uncle, nephew, cousin, friend and laborer in each of his fields, Jeffrey left an immeasurable impact on all of our lives and we solicit all honest heartfelt prayers for all of us.

Jeffrey Elwood Corbin was born on January 13, 1968 to Janetta Kimball and Oscar Lee Ferguson in Gadsden, Alabama. He was later adopted by William Harrison Corbin.

Jeffrey confessed Christ at an early age at Shiloh Baptist Church under the pastorage of Rev. J. E. Merriweather. Jeffrey was very active in his younger days and was also a Mason in the felt sympathy, we announce Fraternal Order of the Mathe earthly transition of sonic Gethsemane Lodge on April 12, 2025 under the Thornton.

Jeffrey graduated from Emma Sansom High School with the class of 1986 and loved all of their reunions and class outings.

Jeffrey began work as a young teenager with Adams Funeral Home under the tutelage of Otis Adams, Sr. and later with Wellman & Sons Funeral Home under the tutelage of Clayton B. Wellman. Both men instilled a wealth on knowledge and hard work ethic that carried Jeffrey through life. In his adult years Jeffrey worked for other various companies such as Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company and CXS Railroad. Jeffrey was most recognized for being a bus driver whether it was for Woods Transportation, Kelton Tours and Gadsden State Community College.

Jeffrey's final careers where the last thirteen years with Gadsden Water Works & Sewer and the last fourteen years to his first love in the funeral industry with Adams-Buggs Service, where he was the Scappy to our Doo, the Robin to Jared's Batman, the Lil' Silvey (Rebecca), Jeff Sil-Mac to Daddy Mac (Fred vey, Billy Morris (Amber),

her chicken salad when no one else could.

ing, fishing, hunting, riding grandchildren; motorcycles and having a goodtime. He was also a fan of the Boston Celtics, Dallas Cowboys and the University of Alabama "Roll Tide".

If he could do all of the above while picking up a crack, his day was truly made. With such a short stature, as some called him "Stump" he made an immeasurable impact on all the lives he touched. He was the go-to man for whatever you could imagine even the drey loved working outside latest "what really had happened was" or "listen to

Jeffrey traded a life of uncertainty for a life of joy forever more on Thursday, May 1, 2025. He's in that Big Mansion in the sky fighting with his brother Norman "Joey" Harkness over his grandmother, Minnie "Muh" E. Kimball's Lemon pies, while making sure his grandfather, Elwood Kimball has everything he needed. His father, William Harrison Corbin and were there waiting him too. His nephew Jamal Johnson also greeted him.

Jeffrey leaves back so many happy and fond memories with his daughter, Kiana A. Corbin, Birmingham, AL; mother, Jeanetta (Norman) Harkness, Sr., Gadsden, AL; siblings, Kayla Coleman (Alfonza) Williams, Gadsden, AL, Anna Leach Johnson, Huntsville, AL, Austin (Dom) Ferguson, Hazel Green, AL, Angenetta Boley, Gadsden, AL; nieces, Kambria, Jada, Keara, and K'Lee, Nova Lee, and Minnie Lee; eternity on Monday, May 5, being ordained as a Deacon nephews, Kamron, Eric and True Lee; great nieces and A visitation service was pastorage of Rev. Alando nephews; stepfather, James Coleman, Middletown, OH; birthfather, Oscar Lee Ferguson, Huntsville, AL; stepson, Jerrell Harris, Atlanta, GA; aunts, Barbara (John) Revere, Dayton, OH, Sandra K. (Thomas) Graham and Sherral K. (Billy) Johnson, both of Gadsden, AL; 1st cousins, Cedric, Kenton, Chris, Shawn, Lil Tom, Errin, Gregory and JayJay and a host of other cousins, relatives and many dear friends too numerous to name.

Janice Alford

GADSDEN - A celebration of life for Audrey Janice Alford, age 85 of Gadsden was held 11 am Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at Glencoe Hokes Bluff Funeral Home.

Ms. Alford passed away on Thursday, May 1, 2025 at her home.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Roy and Alma Alford; daughter, Janice Turner "Sissy"; and several brothers and sisters.

Left to cherish her mem-Funeral ory are her daughter, Renea (Mike) Matthews; Raymond Silvey, Mark

Tucker and Sybil Chapman; brother, Judson Alford; 20 Jeffrey enjoyed drag rac- grandchildren; 17 greatgreathost of nieces and nephews.

Alford was of the Baptist Faith. She is a 1957 graduate of Gaston High School. She graduated college at Gadsden State Community business associates degree. Audrey got her waste management certification from Rainsville and retired from Bruni said. Keystone as a waste management supervisor. She was an avid gardener. Auin the yard and enjoyed sitting on her porch; she will be so deeply missed.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude's Children Hospital.

Christie Leigh Pogue

GADSDEN - Ms. Christy Leigh Pogue, 54, of Gadsden, AL, passed away on Saturday, May 3, 2025.

She is Survived by her loving family.

We ask that you please keep this family in your hearts and prayers during their time of bereavement. Services to be announced.



Pope Francis

Pope Francis died on Easter Monday, April 21, 2025, at the age of 88 at his residence in the Vatican's Casa Santa Marta.

At 9:45 AM, Cardinal Kevin Farrell, Camerlengo of the Holy Roman Church, announced the death of Pope Francis from the Casa Santa Marta with these words: "Dearest brothers and

sisters, with deep sorrow I must announce the death of our Holy Father Francis. At 7:35 this morning, the Bishop of Rome, Francis, returned to the house of the Father. His entire life was dedicated to the service of the Lord and of His Church. He taught us to live the values of the Gospel with fidelity, courage, and universal love, especially in favor of the poorest and most marginalized. With immense gratitude for his example as a true disciple of the Lord Jesus, we commend the soul of Pope Francis to the infinite merciful love of the One and Triune God."

The Director of the Holy See Press Office, Matteo Bruni, told journalists later on Monday that the late

McFee), and Mrs. Jennie's Donald Silvey and Joe Mor- Pope's body could be transfavorite son that could get ris (Lisa); sisters, Carolyn ferred to St. Peter's Basilica on Wednesday morning, so that the faithful may pray before his mortal remains.

"The translation of the great-grandchildren; and a Holy Father's mortal remains to the Vatican Basilica, for the veneration of all the faithful, may take place on the morning of Wednesday, April 23, 2025, according to the arrangements that body and sharing a wise College where she got her shall be determined and communicated tomorrow, following the first Congregation of the Cardinals," Mr.

The rite of the certification of death and placement in the coffin took place on Monday evening at 8:00 PM in the chapel on the ground floor of the late Pope's residence in the Casa Santa Marta.

During the rite, the declaration of death was read aloud. The act was validated by Cardinal Farrell, and the ceremony lasted just under an hour.

Seals were placed on the papal apartment on the third floor of the Apostolic Palace and on the apartment on the second floor of the Casa Santa Marta, where Pope Francis lived.

Born Jorge Mario Bergoglio; 17 December 1936 21 April 2025) Pope Francis was head of the Catholic Church and sovereign of the Vatican City State from 13 March 2013 until his death on 21 April 2025. He was the first pope to be a Jesuit, the first Latin American, the first from the Southern Hemisphere, and the first born or raised outside Europe since the 8th-century Syrian pope Gregory III. Born in Buenos Aires, Ar-

gentina, to a family of Italian origin, Bergoglio was inspired to join the Jesuits in 1958 after recovering from a severe illness. He was ordained a Catholic priest in 1969, and from 1973 to 1979 he was the Jesuit provincial superior in Argentina. He became the archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1998 and was created a cardinal in 2001 by Pope John Paul II. Following the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI on 28 February 2013, a papal conclave elected Bergoglio as his successor on 13 March.

He chose Francis as his papal name in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi.

Throughout his papacy, Francis was noted for his humility, emphasis on God's mercy, international visibility, commitment to interreligious dialogue, and concern for the poor, migrants, and refugees. Francis believed the Catholic Church should demonstrate more inclusivity to LGBTQ people. Francis made women full members of dicasteries in the Roman Curia. Francis convened the Synod on Synodality, which was described as the culmination of his papacy and the most important event in the Catholic Church since the Second Vatican Council.

He made his last public appearance the day before his death, on Easter Sunday.



Northeast Orthopedic Sports Clinic, Spine & Physical Therapy









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NEWS

Glass blowers wow crowds at cancelled First Friday



wner, Freddie Blanche, and stemware specialist, Gage Nobles, from Muffinjaw Designs brought glassblowing to Gadsden for the, unfortunately, cancelled First Friday on May 2. Still, it didn't stop them from demonstrating some glass crafting techniques in front of the Gadsden Museum of Art.

By Lindsey Frazier

Features Editor

Before the rain started, Blanche demonstrated the process of twirling the glass around to create a glass pull flower. Muffin-

jaw, located at 610 St. Anthony Street in Mobile, hosts Demos and Drinks, Teen Glass Class and Blow Your Own classes where participants can observe and interact at their studio.

The museum displayed an array of glassware hand-crafted by the team at Muffinjaw Designs Functional and Decorative Glass Art. The display included glass flowers, mushrooms, cups, vases and plates in beautiful, vibrant colors for purchase.

For more information, visit www.muffinjawdesigns.com or check out their Facebook and Instagram accounts.

Photos by Lindsey Frazier/Messenger





GSCC students named to All-Alabama Academic Team

Two members of Phi The-said he enjoyed his time at ta Kappa Honor Society at the PTK convention as well Gadsden State Community as his time as the leader of College have earned accolades for outstanding academic achievement as well as college and community service. Collins Davis and Chase Lopas were selected for the Phi Theta Kappa All-Alabama Academic Team.

All-Alabama Academic Team members are nominated by faculty and reviewed by a selection committee. To be eligible, students must have a 3.25 minimum GPA, complete at least 12 hours at the nominating college cal field. I am now driven to and be involved in campus activities. Each community college in Alabama nominates two students for the team. Davis and Lopas each has excelled as a tutor in the received \$1,000 for earning the award.

Davis, a native of Southside, will receive an associ- English language acquisiate degree in general studies from Gadsden State in May.

"I'm glad that I made the decision to enroll at Gads-den State," said Davis, who started at Gadsden State as a dual enrollment student. "I chose Gadsden State because I knew it would open doors for me to achieve my goals and aspirations."

Davis said it was a surreal and joyful experience when he was recognized as a member of the All-Alabama Academic Team.

"Being named one of the top students in the state was a huge honor," he said. "Receiving this award gave me a sense of accomplishment for the hard work I put in this year towards my academics and my career goals. It was a huge honor to be recognized for such a prestigious achievement."

Davis, who serves as president of the Rho Rho Chapter of PTK, recently attended PTK Catalyst, an annual convention for PTK. At the convention, he was recognized as a 2025 Coca-Cola Academic Team Bronze Scholar. He was humbled by the award and

Gadsden State's chapter.

"The experience had been incredibly inspiring," he said.

Lopas of Gadsden earned a GED after being homeschooled. He said he was listless with little ambition at the time he completed high school requirements.

"I did not have goals, dreams or aspirations," he said. "But, after enrolling at Gadsden State, I fell in love with the psychologisucceed in that field by my fear of living that blasé life once again.

At Gadsden State, Lopas Cardinal Tutoring Center and worked with 18 international students with their tion. He was honored with

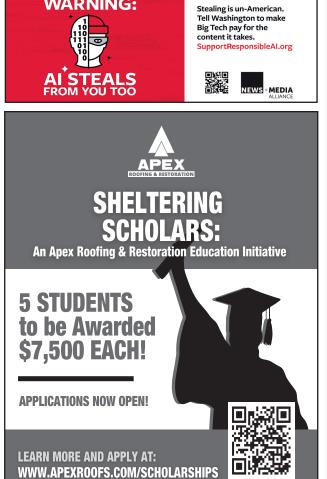
WARNING:

the Student of Distinction Award and was also published in the Cardinal Arts

Journal. In May, Lopas will earn an associate degree in general studies from Gadsden State with plans to transfer to the Leiden, Netherlands, campus of Webster University, the only institution in the Netherlands to of-American-accredited degrees. He plans to earn bachelor's and master's degrees in psychological

counseling. "College has given me the necessary knowledge I need in the realm of psychology," he said. "It also gives me the opportunity to connect and network with other individuals with the same mindset as myself.'

For more information about PTK and other student activities, visit www. GadsdenState.edu.





Opinion

Grocery tax bill's passage will improve life for every Alabamian

The Alabama Senate voted 34-0 Tuesday for HB 386 by Rep. Danny Garrett, R-Trussville, a bill that will reduce the state sales tax on groceries from 3 percent to 2 percent beginning on Sept. 1 and give cities and counties more flexibility to reduce local grocery taxes if they choose. The Alabama House quickly concurred in the Senate's changes, meaning the bill now will go to Gov. Kay Ivey.

Alabama Arise executive director Robyn Hyden released the following statement Tuesday in response:

"Reducing the grocery tax will make it easier for every Alabamian to make ends meet, especially in this time of persistently high food prices. Alabama Arise is thrilled to see the widespread, bipartisan support for reducing the state sales tax on groceries. And we urge Gov. Kay Ivey to sign this bill into law

"The state grocery tax reduction from 4 percent to 3 percent in 2023 was an essential first step toward tax justice in Alabama, and this year's bill continues that momentum. The grocery tax drives many families deeper into poverty, and Arise remains committed to the goal of eliminating it entirely.

"Arise members from every corner of our state have advocated relentlessly for decades for Alabama to untax groceries. Our work will continue until the state grocery tax is in the dustbin of history where it belongs.

"Arise appreciates Rep. Danny Garrett and Sens. Arthur Orr and Andrew Jones for guiding HB 386 through the Legislature. We're thankful for the unanimous legislative support on this bill this year. And we're grateful for former Rep. John Knight, former Sen. Hank Sanders, Reps. Laura Hall, Penni McClammy and Mary Moore, and so many other legislators whose determined work over so many years laid the groundwork for this prog-

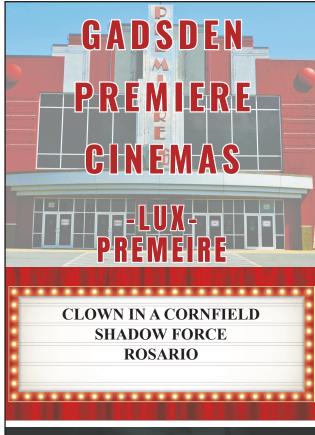
What should happen next

"Reducing the grocery tax benefits every Alabamian. And it is an important step toward righting the wrongs of our state's upside-down tax system, which forces Alabamians with low and moderate incomes to pay a higher share of their incomes in state and local taxes than the wealthiest households.

"It is important to ensure grocery tax elimination doesn't harm our children's education in the long term. Education Trust Fund revenues are strong enough for now to reduce the grocery tax without causing severe harm to school funding. But history tells us that times of strong revenues don't last forever. Lawmakers must work together to agree to a solution to untax groceries sustainably and responsibly.

"Arise is open to numerous ideas for replacement revenue, and we will continue working with the state's Joint Study Commission on Grocery Taxation to find a path forward. We continue to support our longstanding proposal to replace grocery tax revenue by capping or ending the state income tax deduction for federal income tax payments. Alabama is the only state to allow this full deduction, which overwhelmingly benefits the wealthiest households. Closing this skewed loophole would protect funding for public schools and ensure Alabama can afford to end the state sales tax on groceries forever."

Alabama Arise is a statewide, member-led nonprofit organization advancing public policies to improve the lives of Alabamians who are marginalized by poverty. Arise's membership includes faith-based, community, nonprofit and civic groups, grassroots leaders and individuals from across Alabama.











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research commitment by 140 percent. Through education, advocacy and research, LUNG FORCE is working to ensure that fewer people are diagnosed and those living with the disease live longer.

Lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer deaths, with someone diagnosed approximately every two minutes in the U.S. Thankfully, survival rates have significantly increased, aided by improved early detection through screening and more than 65 new FDA-approved treatments since 2016.

To learn more and get involved during Lung Cancer Action Week and Turquoise Takeover, visit LUNG-FORCE.org.

Inherit the Wind - From 1A

But Inherit the Wind's main action comes from the courtroom clash of titans – the presidential candidate Matthew Harriliam Jennings Bryan, and the defense attorney Hen- one case. ry Drummond, fashioned after Clarence Darrow.

Along the way, the play investigates everything from free speech and education, to religion, public conscience and celebrity.

The play is directed by Nica Hodge, assisted by David Jones.

Forrest Hinton, a former lawyer, plays Brady, an unsuccessful threetime presidential candidate who rolls into the fictional town of Hillsboro to press the case against

evolution. He's a formidable American figure, but time has seemingly passed him by. As Hinton said, he's been shaped by son Brady, based on Wil- his failures, and Brady puts all his chips on this

"I think would simplify it and say he's the villain of the piece," Hinton said. "But a villain never thinks he's a villain. If you look at William Jennings Bryan, in terms of the progressive movement, he was a pretty heroic figure in terms of women's rights (and) child labor. I see him as somewhat of an admirable figure, but his pride is his fatal flaw. He's a career politician, and he sees himself as rid-

ing this media event back into power."

Billy Jenkins, as Drummond, puts Brady on the witness stand in one of the play's climactic scenes. He also has to face off against the unrelenting hostility of the Hillsboro courtroom. While the play examines the role of religion in civic life, Jenkins said, it's always respect-

"There are times when I get caught up in the dialogue and want to say more, but I have to stick to the script," he said. "The argumentative side comes easily to me. Seeing the whole town against me sort of eggs me on, lights a fire under me. There's so much great dialogue that you can use it in real life if you're arguing with

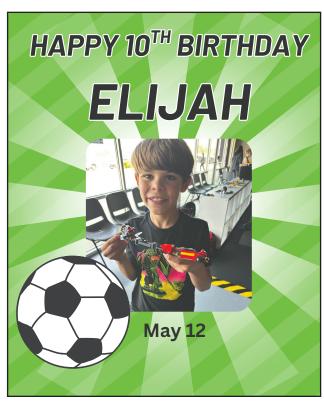
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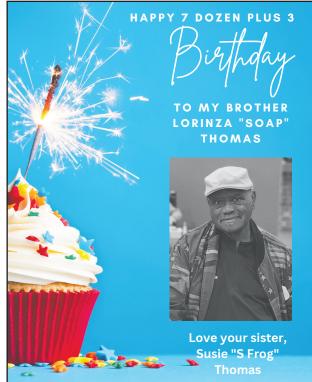
Mary Beth Butler, a newcomer to TOG, plays Rachel, a character who is in love with the teacher, Bert Cates, but is the daughter of the pastor, Rev. Brown. Her character serves as a bridge between the two sides in the play. She was familiar with Inherit the Wind because it was a favorite of her aunt, a paralegal.

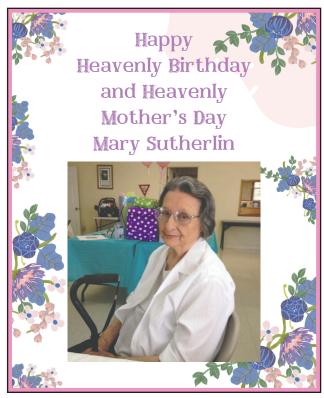
"It's important that I not make a caricature of her,' she said. "I have traditional and non-traditional family members, and it's important to show both sides."

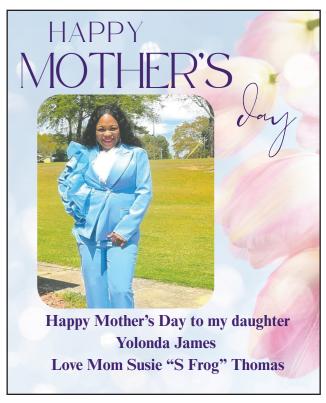
For more information, visit www.theatreofgadsden.org.

Contributed by Theatre of Gadsden









LIESTYLE

The Vagabond: Car works formed in 1899

Back in the spring of 1899 Captain J.M. Elliott, Jr., startled the industrial world with the announcement that he had formed the Southern Car & Foundry Company which would take over the railroad car building plants at Gadsden and Anniston, and at Memphis and Lenoir City, Tenn., and that the combined capacity would be 50 cars daily.

He was to be president and Gadsden was to be the headquarters of the trust. The concern was to have a capital of \$2,000,000. It was reportedly backed by the L.& N., the N.C. and St. L. And the Southern Railroads. Each road was to own \$500,000 of the capital stock.

It was also announced that passenger coach shops would be added at one or more

of the cities involved. Captain Elliott toyed with the idea for several years of building a pressed steel car plant in Gadsden.

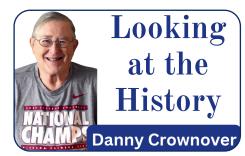
This giant company, one of the largest ever organized in the south, was the direct result of an offer made Captain Elliott to join a nationwide trust of the kind and to shut down his plant at Gadsden. He indignantly refused and went to work to form a trust of his own.

W.G. Brockway, an experienced banker of Gadsden was his chief aid in organizing the company and became its treasurer. By his action he controlled all of the car building plants in the south except one small one in Birmingham. The one at Anniston was once the largest in the world of its kind, the old U.S. Rolling Stock Company.

One of the first orders received by the company was for 5,000 car wheels which were to be made at Gadsden. In fact, the local plant was to make all the wheels for the Lenoir City and Anniston plants. Work had started on repairs on the old wheel foundry here and the one shipped from Bluffton was placed in operation.

The indications were that all of the plants would be kept in operation for a long spell and everything looked mighty good for Gadsden, the headquarters city.

Then came the panic of the 1890s and the big car building concern was thrown into bankruptcy. The result was that the southern railroad bought the local plant through a holding company under the name of the Gadsden Car Works. For years it was oper-



ated as a repair shop and was rated as one of the big industries here.

Some years later it was destroyed by fire and was never rebuilt.

Contact The Vagabond at dkcrown@bellsouth.net.

Sock-feet, Saudi tea and the peace of God



Have you ever gotten yourself into a situation that felt impossible? Twenty-four years ago, my husband and I, along with our five-year-old daughter and 21-monthold son did just that. We had joined our friend, an ex-member of the South-African Special Forces, and his wife and 22-monthold to see the mountain in Northern Saudi Arabia that archaeologists believe to be the true Mt. Sinai from the Bible.

The problem was, unbeknownst to us, this location also housed a top-secret Saudi military base. So, when we were spotted driving toward the backside of the mountain we were met with resistance. A Saudi guard stopped our vehicles and told us to leave. As we were trying to leave, however, something caused two heavily armed guards to chase us through the desert be-

fore we pulled over. That's when we were told that we had to come with them.

Reluctantly, but with little choice, we filed in between the two armed trucks. Lots of praying commenced as we steadily meandered through the sand to an unknown destination. About 20 minutes into our trek, a massive, sand colored structure came into view. In true Saudi style there was a 10-foot wall around the perimeter. The trucks pulled up to the gate and motioned for our guys to join them. I hugged my man, and the other couple embraced, as well, not knowing what to expect or if we would ever see each other again. As the guys were walking toward the gate, our friend whispered to my husband, "If this goes sideways, you take that guy and I'll handle the other." My friend and her daughter joined us in our vehicle, to pray.

Almost 25 years have passed, so to remember exactly what we prayed would be a spectacular stunt. However, I do know that we called on the power and favor of The Most High God to forgive us if we had made a foolish trip. We asked God to bring our husbands back to us and lead us safely home. Nevertheless, we did not make some futile bargain with Him about how we would never get ourselves into a situation like this if He would just get us home.

Maybe we knew ourselves a little too well, and that He would see right through that.

I can't say how many minutes passed. I am sure it felt like an eternity. I just know that through tears, we looked up to see both of our guys walking back to us. My husband flung the door open and asked for our camera. I fumbled around the car and passed it to him with shaky hands. He gave it to the guard, who proceeded to look through our pictures. Satisfied that we were not spies, he gave it back and shook my husband's hand with both of his. His angry face softened into a smile as he waved us all goodbye.

"What was that all about?" my friend asked, grabbing her things. "We'll talk about it in a minute," her husband said, embracing his baby girl. "Let's get out of here"

Once we were on our way with the sandy-colored military compound growing smaller in our rearview mirrors, our husbands divulged the details of the day. It seems that as they were led into the gate they were greeted by 10+ Uzi-clad, scowling Saudi men. The space opened up into a large courtyard, of sorts, between a massive structure of connected buildings. Right in the center was an extensive, ornate carpet set for afternoon "shay." (Saudi tea)

The guards motioned for our guys to follow them toward the rug. Just as they were approaching, my husband whispered to our friend, "Take your shoes off." Immediately, both guys were sock-footed stepping onto the woolen masterpiece woven in vibrant colors, steeped in Saudi tradition.

My husband said that the moment they took off their shoes, the atmosphere shifted. In Saudi culture, removing your shoes before entering a home or mosque is a sign of reverence for sacred spaces. The men offered our guys tea and asked them through broken English and gestures if they had taken pictures of the mountain. Since I was the photographer, my husband was able to answer honestly that he had not. After a small chat and a cup of Saudi tea, our guys were led back to us, and we were sent on our way. And so we left.

As we drove away, after chiding him for drinking tea while we anguished in prayer, I asked my husband what made him think to take off their shoes. Without pause, he said, "God."

Thank You, Jesus, for leading in peace, even in impossible situations.

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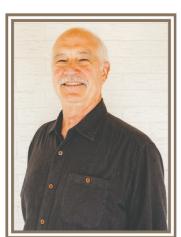
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LESTY

Sometimes it's all about showing up



This week, I gave comprehensive finals to my own students, and as I watched them writing their exams I thought about my own past experiences with comprehensive finals. One thing I have always remembered someone telling me years ago, and that I remind my students and my kids, is that all the studying in the world cannot prepare you for the curve balls life (and finals) throw your way. So, I tell them, show up, pay attention, learn from others' experiences, and study all you can then relax knowing you did your best.

One experience etched into my memory is from my own comprehensive graduate exams when I was a student at UAB. I'd studied for months, knowing I was expected to be able to competently discuss literature that spanned hundreds of years and multiple con-

tinents. I wouldn't know what the topics or writing prompts were until I walked into the exam. This made studying too far ahead of time a challenge, but I did my best to begin reviewing.

During this same time, I was working full time as an executive assistant, mothering a three-year-old, and driving to Birmingham several days a week to attend classes as a fulltime grad student. A couple of months before my exams, I also found out I was pregnant with my second baby; on top of driving to Birmingham for school, I was also driving there for doctor's visits. I was healthy, the baby was healthy and my son was healthy, but it was an exhausting and stressful time. I'd known since I was a little girl that I wanted to be an English instructor, and I was determined to complete my degree.

Once my committee was assembled, the scope of my exams was narrowed somewhat and my studying began in earnest. Then, just days from taking the biggest test of my academic career, I realized something was very, very wrong. A few hours later, on a Friday afternoon, I was told I'd lost the baby and would need a D&C on the next Monday to avoid sepsis. I was devastated. All the studying, preparing, parenting and previous expe-

When the day came to take my graduate exams, I walked into the classroom where I was prepared to spend at least six hours alone, furiously writing my comprehensive exams. It had been three days since my surgery, and I had to be dropped off in Birmingham because I could not drive on my own yet. I'd shown up, but I was still taking medication to manage the post-op pain. I will never forget sitting in that room alone, staring at the page with my exam prompts on it, listening to the fluorescent lights buzz overhead. How was I supposed to pass this exam in this condition? I could barely make it a few minutes without bursting into tears, and I definitely could not remember everything I'd spent so many hours studying. I'd been in school for years, driven thousands of miles and studied for months to take this one exam. Was it going to be for nothing?

As the lights buzzed, I sat there, tears streaming down my face, and considered my options: I could take the exam in the shape I was in; I could throw myself on the mercy of my committee and ask to reschedule; I could walk away. All I could do in that moment was the best I could do. I wiped my face, took a

riences I'd had could not have prepared me deep breath, and got busy writing. It wasn't a perfect exam, but I showed up.

This week, I watched as my students worked through their final exams in my class. Some of them finished in less than a half hour. Some took the full two hours allotted. Some were anxious, some were confident. Some chatted with me on their way out of the classroom, others all but bolted. But, for the

final exam they all had one thing in common: they had shown up.

I thought about my girls who are early in their academic journeys, learning from one another, parents, teachers and peers how to best go about studying and being students. There will be times they study until they are exhausted and still don't do well on an exam. There will be times they don't study much at all and knock it out of the ballpark. But I hope they always remember that no matter surprises they cannot control, they can show up.

Emerson reminds us, we cannot study for everything in life, but we can give everything our best shot: "Life is a series of surprises and . . .] a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood."

Tabitha Bozeman is an instructor at GSCC. Email at tabithabozeman@gmail.com.



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DEVOTIONALS

God is the great I Am



We are living in unsettling and unusual times. Each day brings uncertainty about what to expect next. In such times, it's easy to feel discouraged and lose sight of what truly matters in life. It is during these moments of uncertainty that we must cling to the Lord above all else, keeping our focus on the One who is steady and unchanging.

The Bible presents hundreds of names and attributes of God. From the first book. Genesis (15:1), to the last book, Revelation (22:16), and throughout many texts in between, God reveals Himself as "I am." In Exodus (3:14), God discloses His name to Moses as "I AM WHO I AM," which can also be interpreted as "I shall be who I shall be." This revelation signifies God's eternal nature and His unchang-

If you find yourself grappling with feelings of discouragement, overwhelmed by the uncertainties that lie ahead, or hesitant about your next steps, I wholeheartedly invite you to take a moment to read the powerful list below. It beautifully articulates the essence of who our God is and the profound ways He cares for His children. For each remark-

able statement about God's character, you will discover a corresponding Scripture that resonates deeply with that truth. Remember, for every need you encounter, God is able to support you for He is the great "I AM" for every need we may have.

He is the I AM for our needs. He is Abba Father when we need fathering. He is acceptance when we feel unwanted. He is adequacy for our inadequacy.

He is all-sufficient in our hardest situations. He is the Amen, the true witness. He is the Answer for our uncertainty and questions. He is the Author of faith for our unbelief or doubt.

He is the Bread of Life for our spiritual hunger. He is the Burden-bearer when we are heavy laden. He is before all things. He is cleansing for our defilement and shame.

He is closer than a brother when we are lonely. He is our Comforter who wipes away tears in our grief and sorrows. He is our Defender when we are under attack. He is our Deliverer from our bondage or captivity.

He is our Door-opener when it looks like there's no way out. He is our sure Foundation when we're insecure. He is our Faithful Friend when friends fail us. He is Fullness when we're empty. He is God of love when we feel unloved

and need a hug. He is God who is there when we feel alone or abandoned. He is our Guide and the Way when we're confused and need direction. He is grace when we're too hard on ourselves or others.

He is our Healer for woundedness, rejection, and sickness. He is Hope when we are discouraged and want to quit. He is Humility for our pride. He is Joy when we are depressed.

He is our Keeper and Protector when we are vulnerable. He is the Lifter of our heads when we feel weighed down. He is long-suffering, slow to anger when we have blown it again. He is Mercy for criticism and unkindness. He is Mighty God, our strength for our weakness or temptation.

He is Never-failing, always the same when we are fickle and faithless. He is Overcoming victory for defeat and depression. He is the Plumb Line to stand against the world's situational ethics. He is the Prince of peace when we are stressed, worried, and confused.

He is the Provider for every financial need. He is the Quieter of the storm for afflictions without and struggles within. He is Reconciliation for breaches in relationships. He is Rest when we're tired.

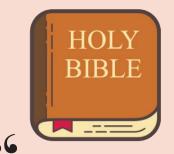
He is the Restorer of our souls when we're bruised and beaten down. He is the Reviver, living water when we are depleted and thirsty. He is Satisfaction when we've tried everything and come up empty. He is the Song, our praise when we're joyless and heavy of heart.

He is the Spirit of the Lord when we need to be set free. He is our Strength when we're weak. He is Truth for the world's warped opinions. He is True Riches when we're tempted to covet the world's wealth. He is Vengeance when we are angry and wronged. He is Wisdom for our hard choices.

He alone is the Word of eternal life!

If you would like continued prayer, feel free to email me at tonif77@gmail.com.

Bible Verse of the Week



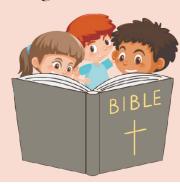
But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

- 1 Corinthians 2:9-10 **King James Version**

Verse for Kids

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

-2 Chronicles 7:14 King James Version



The Pope shall be a fisher of men

As the whole world watches the Conclave that will elect our next Pope (starting May 7), it is providential that the Gospel reading from Sunday, May 4, (John 21:1-19) gives such a blunt breakdown of the faith journey of the first Church "Papa", Saint Peter. The stories within Scripture are very helpful for understanding the Papacy, and Peter's example along with the clear teaching of Jesus allows us to look forward to the Conclave with hope. But not hope in a Pope, hope in God.

Remember that Andrew, Peter's brother and a disciple of John the Baptist, brought Peter to meet Jesus after hearing John's testimony that Jesus was the "Lamb of God". In John 1:42 we see that from the beginning Jesus renames Simon as Cephas, or Peter, which means "A Stone" or "Rock". This renaming, and teaching is formalized in Matthew 16:15-19. But rather than focus on the biblical legitimacy of the Papacy, let's look rather at the person that became that first "Servant of the Servants of

So, where did Jesus find Peter? Fishing. Fishing like men. Luke 5:1-11 tells us the story of the first "miraculous catch of fish". Jesus gave Peter, and those with him, an undeniable sign, and that beloved fisherman's heart was won for God. It's touching to watch Peter come to grips with the power of Jesus and his own complete lack of power. It was Peter who had "toiled all night and caught nothing". Defeated and exhausted He comes face to face with Majesty, and his focus shifts entirely. Seeing Jesus clearly forces Peter to see himself clearly, and his sin is undeniable. I love the honest words of Peter, skipping over what we may often see as the miracle, Peter experiences "the miracle" of repentance. And Jesus, being a Savior, doesn't cast out the sinner, He catches him. It is Jesus Who had gone fishing for the fishermen. And it is Jesus Who had caught the hearts of the ones who would become "fishers of men". And as we see here, and all through the Gospels, Peter is their leader. And Peter, like us, and like every Pope, is far from perfect.

After an extended time of victory in Jesus, we know very well that Peter denies Jesus in the end. And this is even after Jesus' warning that, "whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father" (Matthew 10:33). But after this horrible night of denial, and a day of fearful hiding, on that glorious first Easter, Jesus reveals Himself risen and victorious to His beloved friends (John 20). Peter's faith in Jesus, like Thomas touching the scars, was restored. But Peter's faith in himself was not. Lost and confused and disappointed in himself says, "I am going fishing" (John 21:3). This may be the lowest point in Peter's life. Seeing himself once again as just a "sinful man", he goes all the way back to the beginning. He "backslides" all the way back to the place where he was before Christ.

Sound familiar? Many of us, if not most, if not all of us, have fallen back into some form of sin as if "we were never saved". Beloved, Proverbs 26:11 always a fearful prospect, "As a dog returns to its vomit, so a fool re-



peats his folly". And yes, even our first Pope was a fool when relying on his own strength alone. Only with Christ beside Him, and by His Holy Spirit within him, was he equipped to lead. So, where did Jesus find Peter? Fishing. And Jesus leads by example by forgiving Peter's three denials (John 21:15-19) and reminding him of spiritual math, "seventy times seven times" (Matthew 18:22). Jesus went fishing once again for the hearts of those who would be His "fishers of men". Same miracle, same Lord, same for you and me. Our first Pope knew it well.

And so, our prayer is that the next Pope, though imperfect, will be above all else a 'fisher of men" who knows forgiveness intimately. A "Papa" who can lead the whole world, through repentance to faith and obedience, to the only One worthy of worship.

Brian Cook converted to Catholicism in April 2021. He is available for speaking and teaching engagements in any parish, church, or group setting. He may be contacted at thedtc@protonmail.com or thedevotiontochrist@gmail.com.

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SPORTS

Etowah falls to Deshler in AHSSA playoffs

By Mark Kelly Special to The Messenger

Geoffrey Chaucer once said, "All good things come to an end." On Wednesday, that applied to Etowah baseball.

The Blue Devils fell to Deshler 2-0 in their best-of-three Class 4A semi-finals matchup at Etowah.

Game 1 resembled the Blue Devils' recent run of success,

which saw them win 18 of 21 heading into Wednesday. Baylor Morrison's (1-3, RBI) clutch two-out single in the bottom of the third, scored courtesy runner Owen Barnard (ran for Jaxen Morgan (0-1, BB), giving Etowah a 1-0 lead.

Starting pitcher Damon Devine (6.1 IP, 4 H, 2 R, 8 K, 2 BB) entered with an eight-game win streak, posting a 1.06 WHIP, 1.52 ERA, and 9.6 K per 9 in those starts.

Devine cruised through four innings, allowing two hits and one walk while striking out seven.

However, Devine allowed his first home run since March 1 when the Tigers' Jay Murner sent a 1-1 offering over the wall. Deshler broke the tie in the top of the inning, and further heartbreak ensued when Bennett Reeves (2-3, 2B) was

score: Deshler 2, Etowah 1 Game 1 set the momentum for Game 2, as the Tigers scored three runs off Jameson Scissum (4.2 IP, 6 H, 6 R, 3

ER, 7 K, 2 BB). Etowah hit the ball hard all game, but the ball couldn't avoid Deshler's fielders.

Etowah's best scoring opportunity came in the top of the fifth when, with two outs, Mendoza (1-2, BB) walked and pinch-hitter Avery Haynes (1-1) singled, but pinch-hitter Troy Gaddis's line drive was hit directly at the Tigers centerfielder.



Photo by Mark Kelly/Special to The Messenger

Etowah falls - page 2B Etowah players and coaches console each other after loss to Deshler in semi-final matchup.

Photo by Mark Kelly/Special to The Messenger West End's Bella Faulkner and Emma Franklin pose for a photo after the Lady Patriots' historic win Tues-

Patriots advances to state in historic day

By Mark Kelly Special to The Messenger

In Class 2A, the West End Lady Patriots swept away their competition, avoiding elimination each time to advance and keep their championship hopes alive.

Tuesday culminated with an 8-1 victory and sweet revenge against Pleasant Valley, who made Tuesday possible with their 6-3 win over West End Mon-

"I'm so proud of our girls; they showed amazing heart and courage all day," West End Head Coach Rick Wat-

West End combined to outscore Sand Rock (8-4), North Sand Moun-

Liddy Falkner (4-4, 2 R, 2 RBI) capped a magnificent day at the plate in the Lady Patriots third win of the day, an 8-1 triumph over Pleasant Valley.

Falkner combined to go 10-12 (.833) with seven runs scored and five RBI on the day, including a two-run double in the fourth to break the game open against Pleasant Valley.

"I'm very proud and happy with our team effort today," Falkner said.

Kennedi Nix wasn't far behind Falkner in offensive production, collecting seven hits and driving in nine runs on Tuesday.

"I'm excited to see how far we can go doing the best we can," Nix said. Brayley King (7 IP, 9 H 4 R, 3 K.

BB) earned the win against Sand Rock, tain (15-1), and Pleasant Valley (8-1) followed by dominating performances from Emma Franklin in the Lady Patri- Pisgah awaits at 9 a.m. on May 12.

ots final two games.

Franklin combined to throw 12 innings, allowing seven hits, two runs (one earned), striking out six, and walking four.

In their performance against North Sand Mountain, The West End Lady Patriots offense exploded for 15 runs and 16 hits in a mercy-rule victory. King (2-4, 3 R, RBI), Falkner (3-4,

3 R, 2 RBI), Bella Falkner (2-4, 2 2B, 4 RBI), Nix (3-4, 4 RBI) and Kayla Dixon (2-3, 2 R, 2B, RBI) collected multi-hit games for West End, while every starter hit safely.

Franklin (5 IP, 2 H, R, 0 K, BB) shut down North Sand Mountain's offense, allowing just two hits and one unearned run.

West End advances to state where

Westbrook golf advances to 15th consecutive championship

By Sam Johnson Special to The Messenger

The Westbrook Christian Boys Golf Team has advanced to their 15th consecutive State Championship appearance. The Warriors shot an impressive school record 290 total to finish second in the 4A North Substate golf tournament at Blackberry Trail Golf Course in Florence.

The Warriors were led by a pair of senior college-signees. Senior JD Berndt (Jackson State Signee) fired a -3 69 to lead the Warriors. Senior Cove McHugh (Snead State Signee) finished with a -1 71. Freshman Max Carr posted his best score of the season with a +2 74. Sophomore Jackson Robbins also posted his best score of the season at +4

"I'm so proud of this group of kids," Coach McHugh said.

Westbrook golf - page 2B





Submitted photos

JD Berndt, pictured left above, and Cove McHugh pictured right above, helped Westbrook's boys golf team to its 15th consecutive state championship. Both golfers have recently signed on with colleges.

Local teams compete at AHSSA track & field state championship







Photos by Alex Chaney/Special to The Messenger

By Mark Kelly Special to The Messenger

The AHSAA held the Class 4A-7A Outdoor Track & Field State Championships in Gulf Shores over the weekend. Here's how some of the local schools fared.

Ashville

Freshman Allie Cone finished second in the Girl's 1600m (5:22.49) and third in the 800m (2:23.39), setting a personal record in the 800m.

Freshman Maddie Sanders finished second in the Girl's Discus Throw (118-04, 36.07m), setting a personal record.

The Girl's 4x800m Relay finished second (10:06.33), setting a team record.

Etowah

Senior Cito liams finished fifth (43-00.25/13.11m) in the Boy's Triple Jump and Freshman Brylee Watts (16-05.75/5.02m) set a personal record finishing sixth in the Girl's Long Jump.

Hokes Bluff Conner Wellingham set

personal records, finishing second in Boys Discus (44.02m) and Javelin (49.53m).

Track - page 2B

Photo courtesy of Gadsden State Community College Athletics

Gadsden State pitcher Raeden Sumner delivers a pitch in Thursday's match up against Coastal. The Cardinals are currently 38-13 and tied with Shelton State Community College for the best overall conference

GSCC baseball earns No. 2 seed in **ACCC Division I Regional Tournament**

Gadsden State Community College's baseball team is heading to the Alabama Community College Conference Division I Regional Tournament as the No. 2 seed. They will open tournament play at 1 p.m. Friday, May 9 at Choccolocco Park in Oxford and will face the winner of the Coastal Alabama-South vs. Chattahoochee Valley game.

The Cardinals are currently 38-13 and tied with Shelton State Community College for the best overall conference record in the regular season. This marks a dramatic turnaround from 2024 when the team finished its first season back with a 13-37 record after the program was reinstated following its 2011 disbandment.

Head Coach Blake Lewis said the turnaround reflects the growth, maturity and resilience of his players.

"To go from losing 37 games last year to winning 38 this year is a testament to how hard these guys have worked," he said. "We have more players with college experience now omore infielder Aaron Wallace of jockjive.com.

and it shows. They've grown close together with one another and have been extremely coachable all year. Working together as a team is our key strength as we go into the tournament.'

The Cardinals' strong performance this year has not gone unnoticed. Gadsden State is now receiving votes in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I Top 25 national rankings. Lewis said this is a major accomplishment for a program still in the rebuilding stage.

"Team chemistry has been huge this season," he said. "They play for each other and support each other like no other time this year. They are truly bonded together and are ready for the conference tournament."

Two standout players have been key to the Cardinals' offensive firepower. Sophomore outfielder Jayden Roberts of Tuscaloosa leads the team and is tied for the conference lead with 15 home runs, and sophHueytown leads both the team and the ACCC with a .432 batting aver-

age.

"Jayden's power at the plate has been a difference-maker in tight games, and Aaron's consistency and leadership have anchored our lineup all year," Lewis said. "Both of them embody the competitive spirit and work ethic we strive for in our baseball program.'

The winner of the ACCC Regional Tournament will advance to a bestof-three series against the winner of the NJCAA Louisiana Region XXIII Tournament, which will be held at Choccolocco Park May 16-18. The winner of that series will earn a spot in the NJCAA Division I World Series in Grand Junction, Colo.

Admission to the ACCC Regional Tournament is \$15 per day, or a tournament pass can be purchased for \$50. Parking is \$5 a day. All games will be web streamed live on the ACCC Sports Network at www.

Etowah falls - From 1B

Deshler put the game away with three more runs in the fifth. Cash Hayes's (0-2, BB) leadoff walk in the top of the sixth was the Blue Devils last baserunner, as Jacob Alexander (7 IP, 3 H, 0 R, 3 K, 2 BB) recorded the three-hit shutout—final score: Deshler 6, Etowah 0.

The mood was somber after the game as players, coaches, parents, relatives and fans tried to console one another.

"I'm proud of our seniors and grateful for the season we had. We showed character and strength all season. We trust in God's plan and give Him the glory for both the good and the bad," Etowah Head Coach Blake Bone said.

Devine summed up the team's mood after the game. "It's hard to swallow a pill like this. We had the team to do it but just got beat," the senior said.

Track & field

Southside

Rylann Shaw finished third in the Girl's Javelin (124-05/37.92m).

Gadsden City

Zylan Gibson set a personal record and finished third in the Boy's 100m (10.75)

Nyla Franklin set a personal record and finished second in the Girl's High Jump (5-04.00/1.63m).

- From 1B

The Girl's 4x100 Relay finished second (48.48). Sardis

Canyon McGee finished 17th in the Boy's High (5-08.00/1.73m)Richard Escarment finished 16th (135-07/41.33m) in the Boy's Javelin and Freshman Madi Lumpkin finished 18th in the Girl's Triple Jump (30-10.00/9.40m).

Westbrook golf - From 1B

"They played their guts out today. Cove and JD being seniors just decided that they were going to do whatever they had to do to keep the consecutive state championship streak alive. Then Max Carr and Jackson Robbins played lights out today. I can't leave out our 5th score today Brodie Abernathy because he played phenomenal also shooting a +6 78. His score didn't count in the total scoring but 78 is solid. 290 is a school record. I'm just speechless but I have to give credit to Haleyville for shooting -6 282 to win today. That's crazy and Brooks High School shot 292 to finish third. I haven't seen all the scores from across the state but if there was a tougher Substate in Alabama I'm glad we weren't in it.'

Westbrook will compete in the state golf tournament at Oxmoor Valley in Birmingham Monday, May 12 and Tuesday, May 13.









gadsdenmessenger.com May 9, 2025/3B

May 20, 2025 – (Special Election) SCHOOL TAX ABSENTEE VOTING

Qualified voters can apply for an absentee ballot that can be cast by mail, commercial carrier or in-person at the Absentee Election Manager's Office, if he or she makes application in writing not less than five days prior to the election and meets one of the following requirements:

A voter may cast an absentee ballot if he or she:

- EXPECTS TO BE ABSENT FROM THE COUNTY on election day
- IS ILL OR HAS A PHYSICAL DISABILITY that prevents a voter's personal appearance at their polling precinct
- IS PHYSICALLY INCAPACITATED AND WILL NOT BE ABLE TO VOTE IN PERSON BECAUSE THEY CANNOT ACCESS THEIR ASSIGNED POLLING PLACE DUE TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING DISABILITIES (neurological, musculoskeletal, respiratory (including speech organs), cardiovascular, or other life-altering disorder that affects his or her ability to perform manual tasks, stand for any length of time, walk unassisted, see, hear or speak) AND: (a) HE OR SHE IS AN ELDERLY VOTER AGED 65 OR OLDER; OR (b) HE OR SHE IS A VOTER WITH A DISABILITY
- IS A REGISTERED ALABAMA VOTER LIVING OUTSIDE THE COUNTY, such as a member of the armed forces, a voter employed outside the United States, a college student, or a spouse or child of such a person
- IS AN APPOINTED ELECTION OFFICER OR POLL WATCHER at a polling place other than his or her regular polling place
- EXPECTS TO WORK A REQUIRED SHIFT, 10-HOURS OR MORE, that coincides with polling hours
- IS A CAREGIVER for a family member to the second degree of kinship by affinity or consanguinity and the family member is confined to his or her home
- IS CURRENTLY INCARCERATED in prison or jail and has not been convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude

If an absentee ballot application is delivered by U.S. mail or by commercial carrier to the Absentee Election Manager Office, the application must be received by the by the 7th day prior to the election. If the absentee ballot application is delivered in-person (by the voter only) to the Absentee Election Manager, it must be received by the 5th day prior to the election.

Pursuant to Title 17-9-30, Code of Alabama, absentee ballot applications must now be accompanied by a copy of current, valid photo identification or voter ID, unless the voter is exempt from this identification requirement. Failing to provide the identification will result in your ballot becoming a provisional ballot.

Emergency Absentee Applications

- A qualified voter requiring emergency medical treatment by a licensed physician within (5) days before an election. The application must be signed by the physician and returned to the Absentee Election Manager.
- A voter with a business emergency is required to apply and vote in-person at the Absentee Election Manager's Office. The voter shall sign and swear to an affidavit acknowledging that he or she was not aware of the business emergency (5) days prior to the election.
- A caregiver for a person who requires emergency treatment by a licensed physician (the voter must deliver the application by hand to the Absentee Election Manager no later than (5) days prior to the election).
- A family member to the second degree of kinship by affinity or consanguinity died within (5) days prior to the election (the voter must deliver the application by hand to the Absentee Election Manager no later than the day prior to the election).

Applications for absentee voting are available at any of the following locations:

- Absentee Election Manager's Office (Etowah County Circuit Clerk/Absentee Election Manager, Cassandra Johnson, 801 Forrest Ave., Suite 202, Gadsden, AL 35901),
- Secretary of State's web page: alabamavotes.gov
- Etowah County Alabama Circuit Clerk's Office web page: etowah.alacourt.gov
- United States Armed Forces members, including spouses, should contact their Commanding Officer for an application or may go online: fvap.gov

Each application must be mailed separately - Multiple applications cannot be mailed in the same envelope, even if the voters live at the same address.

Completed absentee applications must provide the Alabama residence where the voter is registered to vote, even if the ballot is to be mailed to another address where the applicant voter regularly receives mail. If you have moved and have not updated your polling place you should contact the local Board of Registrars and update your address prior to applying for an absentee ballot.

A completed application must be returned by the voter in-person or sent by mail or commercial carrier. **No one, not even a family member, can return another person's application.**

The absentee election manager may not give any person access to completed and filed applications for absentee ballots. This information is not a matter of public record. It should be considered privileged information just the same as voter registration applications. The absentee election manager shall forward absentee ballots by U.S. Mail to the applicant's residence address or upon written request of the voter, to the address where the voter regularly receives mail or by handing the ballot to the voter in person or, in the case of medical emergency voting, to his or her designee in-person.

VOTERS MUST COMPLETE ALL THE INFORMATION ON THE AFFIDAVIT OF THE ABSENTEE VOTER ENVELOPE.

IF THE VOTERS AFFIDAVIT IS NOT SIGNED (OR MARKED), AND IF THE AFFIDAVIT IS NOT WITNESSED BY TWO WITNESSES 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER OR BY A NOTARY PUBLIC OR OTHER OFFICER AUTHORIZED TO ACKNOWLEDGE OATHS, PRIOR TO BEING DELIVERED OR MAILED TO THE ABSENTEE ELECTION MANAGER, THE BALLOT WILL NOT BE COUNTED.

IMPORTANT DEADLINE DATES

- Wednesday March 26, 2025 Absentee voting begins.
- Monday April 28, 2025 State Holiday (Absentee Election Office closed)
 Monday Moy 5, 2025 Lest day to register to Vote on undate your voter re
- Monday May 5, 2025 Last day to register to Vote or update your voter registration in-person with Board of Registrars or online with Secretary of State Office.
- Tuesday May 13, 2025 Last day for absentee applications to be received by mail or commercial carrier.
- Thursday May 15, 2025 Last day voters can return in-person, his or her regular absentee application to the Absentee Election Office.
- Monday May 19, 2025 Last day a voter may hand-deliver his or her absentee ballot to the AEM. No one, not even a family member, can return another person's ballot, (except a medical emergency voter named designee).
- TUESDAY, May 20, 2025 ELECTION DAY (Polls open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)

Mailed ballots must be received by mail no later than noon this date.

Voted medical emergency ballots delivered by the voter's designee, must be received no later than noon today.

EMERGENCY VOTING – May 15-16, 2025 and May 19, 2025

(Business Emergency and Medical Emergency for voter & caregiver only)
CONTACT ABSENTEE ELECTION OFFICE IMMEDIATELY FOR INFORMATION

For more information about absentee voting, please visit Alabama Secretary of State alabamavotes.gov or the Etowah County Circuit Clerk's Office website etowah.alacourt.gov.

LEGALS

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 Jemichael Bene Whisenant And Jamila Whisenant Husband And Wife to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Renasant Bank, its successors and assigns dated April 13, 2021; said mortgage being recorded on April 14, 2021, as Instrument No. 3519247 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Renasant Bank in Instrument 3539136 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, ALABAMA.

The undersigned, Renasant Bank, 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 4th day of June, 2025 the following property, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

A lot or parcel of land described as beginning at the southeast corner of Lot Number 17 and from thence run in a northerly direction and along the east line of said lot a distance of 90 feet to the southeast corner of that certain lot conveyed by Frederick B. Carson and wife, Edna Line Carson, to Nola B. Line by deed dated January 7, 1959, and recorded in Book 749, 445, Probate Office, Etowah County, thence in a westerly direction parallel with the north line of Peachtree Street and along the south line of said line lot to a point in the west line of said Lot Number 16; thence in a southerly direction and along the west line of said Lot Number 16 to the southwest corner thereof; thence in an easterly direction and along the south line of Lots Number 16 and 17 to the point of beginning; said description embracing portions of Lots Numbers Sixteen (16) and Seventeen (17) in Block Number (5) of the M.K. Foster Heirs' Addition to Gadsden, according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book "A", Page 314, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama, and lying and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Ala-

Said property is commonly known as 323 Haralson Ave, Gads-

den, AL 35901. Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description the legal description will control. Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, all outstanding liens for public utilities which constitute liens upon the property, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, ments, rights-of-way, zoning ordinances, restrictions, special assessments, covenants, the statutory right of pursuant redemption 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 "asis" 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 persons some 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 pro-

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. RENASANT BANK as holder of said mort-

McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP 505 20th Street North, Suite 1775 Birmingham, AL 35203 (205) 216-4238 T21@mccalla.com File No. 25-06869AL www.foreclosurehotline.net

April 25, May 2 and 9,2025

NOTICE OF **FORECLOSURE**

having been made in

the terms of the mort-

default

WHEREAS,

gage and real estate note, executed on the day of March, 022, by STANLEY STROUP, AN UN-MARRIED MAN (now deceased) as Mortgagor, in favor of FORT MCCLELLAN CREDIT UNION, as Mortgagee, original mortgage recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of ETOWAH County, Alabama, Inst. #3536962 (recorded March 11th, 2022) and said default continuing, the Mortgagee, under power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry, to the highest bidder for cash, on the courthouse steps preceding the main entrance to the ETOWAH COUN-COURT-HOUSE, located in GADSDEN, AL, during the legal hours of sale (11am -4pm, central standard time), on the 16th day of June, 2025 all of its rights, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate, situated in ETOWAH County, Alabama, with a legal description of: Commence at the Southeast corner of the SW 1/4 of the SE 1/4, Section 33, Township 12 South, Range 6 East and run Northerly along the East line of the SW 1/4 of the SE 1/4 a distance of 627.24 feet; thence deflect 92 degrees 04 minutes left and run a distance of 42.62 feet; thence deflect 84 degrees 41 minutes right and run a distance of 186.04 feet; thence deflect 50 degrees 34 minutes left and run Northwesterly along the Southwesterly right-of-way line of an existing public road a distance of 264.0 feet to the point of beginning. From said point of beginning continue Northwesterly-along Southwesterly right-of-way line of said public road a distance of 134.0 feet; thence deflect 90 degrees 00 minutes left and run a distance of 190.0 feet; thence deflect 90 degrees 00 minutes left and run a distance of 134.0 feet; thence deflect 90 degrees 00 minutes left and run a distance of 190.0 feet to the point of begin-

Said parcel of land being a portion of the SW 1/4 of the SE 1/4, Section 33, Township 12 South, Range 6 East, lying and being in Southside, Etowah County, Alabama and containing 0.58 acres, more or less.

With a physical address of: 802 Lasseter Road, Gadsden, AL 35907 (Etowah County, AL) This property will be sold on an "as is, where is" basis, subject to any easements, encum-brances, and exceptions contained in the records of the Office of the Judge of Probate

of the County where the above-described property, or a substantial and material part thereof, is situated. This property will be sold without warranty or recourse, expressed or implied as to title, use and/or enjoyment and will be sold subject to the right of redemption of all parties entitled thereto. This sale is made for the purpose of foreclosing said mortgage and paying the mortgage debt, together with the costs and expenses associated with conducting said foreclosure, and including reasonable attorney's fees.

Mortgagee reserves the right to bid on the subject property, and to credit its purchase price against the indebtedness secured by this property, together with the costs and expenses associated with . conducting said foreclosure, and including reasonable attorney's fees. Said mortgage is a first mortgage and is not junior to another mortgage of record. Said sale is subject to any unpaid taxes or assessments owed as of the date of foreclosure, whether or not of

Ryan E. Morgan, Esq., Attorney for Mortgagee Kudulis, Reisinger, & Price, LLC P.O. Box 653, Birming-

record.

ham, AL 35201 (205) 263-2798; rmorgan@krpfirm.com The foregoing notice

will be published once a week for three consecutive weeks in The Gadsden Messenger, pursuant to Ala. Code § 35-10-13

May 2, 9, and 16, 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 Jeffery B Gibson, an unmarried man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Hamilton Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns dated July 27, 2017; said mortgage recorded on being August 3, 2017 as Instrument No. 3454429, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Nationstar Mortgage LLC D/B/A Mr. Cooper by assignment recorded as Instrument No. 3493610, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Ala-

The undersigned, Nationstar Mortgage LLC, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Etowah County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on May 29, 2025 the following property, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit: Lots Number Seven (7) and Eight (8) in Block

Number Two (2) Ellison Second Addition as recorded in Plat Book B, page 243, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama, and lying and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Ala-

Said property is commonly known as 2936 E Highland St, Altoona, AL 35952.

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, 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 "asis" 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 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 pro-

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. NATIONSTĂR MORT-GAGE LLC

gage McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP 505 20th Street N, Suite 1775 Birmingham, AL 35203

as holder of said mort-

FT21@mccalla.com File No. 25-06879AL www.foreclosurehotline.net 25-06879AL

Telephone: (205) 216-

May 2, 9, and 16, 2025

NOTICE OF **FORECLOSURE** SALE

Default having been

made in the payment

of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Phillip Derick Nixon, unmarried man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Southern Home Mortgage Corp., its successors and assigns, on October 23, 2019, said mortgage being recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, on October 30, 2019, as Document Number 3492737. Freedom Mortgage Corporation, the current holder, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Etowah County Courthouse, in Gadsden, Alabama, on May 29, 2025, during the legal hours of sale, the following described real estate, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit: A part of the NE 1/4 of

the SE 1/4 of Section 12, Township 10 South, Range 5 East of the Huntsville Meridian, Etowah County, Alabama, more particularly described as beginning at a point on the Southern right of way of Hooper Drive that is South 90°00'00" East, 471.42 feet and South 00°44'18" East, 205.52 feet from the Northwest corner of the NE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of said Sec-

tion 12; thence from the point of beginning and leaving right of way South 00°22'30" East a distance of 352.86 feet to a point; thence South 89°33'33" West a distance of 210.00 feet to a point; thence North 00°21'40" West a distance of 393.94 feet to a point on the Southern right of way of Hooper Drive; thence along said right of way South 79°22'00" East a distance of 213.85 feet to the point of beginning; also a non-exclusive easement for ingress and egress

as described in Deed

Book 1981, page 51, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama. More commonly known

as: 179 Hooper Drive,

Boaz, AL 35956

This Property will be sold on as "as is, where is" basis, without warranty or recourse, expressed or implied as to title, use and/ or enjoyment and will be sold subject to the right of redemption of all parties entitled thereto. Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as part of the foreclosure process. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expense of foreclosure. The successful bidder must tender certified funds by noon the next business day to Law Office of Halliday, Watkins & Mann, Certified funds must be in the form of

a wire transfer, bank or credit union's cashier's check, or bank official check payable to Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. Halliday, Watkins celation. & Mann, P.C. reserves the right to award the bid to the next highest bidder should the highest bidder fail to timely tender the total amount due. If sale is voided, Mortgagee/ Transferee shall return the bid amount to the purchaser successful and the Mortgagee/ Transferee shall not be liable to the purchase for any damages. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the purchas-

er at the sale shall be only entitled to a return Stewart E. Burns, Esq., of the deposit and bid amount, if paid. The Mortgagee/Transferee reserves the right to

bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit is purchase price against the expenses of sale and indebtedness secured by the

real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation. Freedom Mortgage Corporation ("Transfer-

Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. 244 Inverness Center Drive Birmingham, AL 35242

Phone: (801) 355-2886 May 2, 9, and 16, 2025

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

SALE Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Julio Guevara, and wife, Caritian Ortiz, and Delmar Cruz Calvo, and wife Anita Francisco Garcia, in favor of Haytham Mobayed, dated May 3, 2021, said mortgage being recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, on May 2021, as Document Number 3520231; the undersigned, Haytham Mobayed, as mortgagee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Etowah County Courthouse, Alabama, on June 20, 2025, during the legal hours of sale (11:00 AM - 4:00 PM), all its right, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

County,

35901

Lot Numbers Twenty-two (22) and Twenty-three (23) in Block Number Twelve (12) in the Interurban Land Company's First Addition to Gadsden, according to the map thereof recorded in Plat Book "B", Page 206, Probate Office, Etowah Alabama, and lying and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama. Address: 1206 Etowah Avenue, Gadsden, AL

Tax parcel #: 15-03-05-2-000-023.000

PROPERTY

THIS

WILL BE SOLD ON AN "AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS, SUBJECT TO ANY EASEMENTS, ENCUMBRANCES, **EXCEPTIONS** REFLECTED IN THE MORTGAGE AND THOSE CONTAINED IN THE RECORDS OF THE OFFICE THE JUDGE OF PROBATE OF THE COUNTY WERE THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS SIT-UATED. THE PROP-ERTY WILL BE SOLD WITH-OUT WARRAN-TY OR RECOURSE, EXPRESS OR IM-TO THE PLIED AS TITLE, USE AND/OR **ENJOYMENT** AND WILL BE SOLD SUB-JECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION OF ALL PARTIES ENTI-TLED THERETO. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. The mortgagee/transferee reserves the right to bid for and to purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the sale of the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or can-

Alabama law gives some persons 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 pro-

Attorney for Mortgagee Burns Garner Law Firm Gadsden, AL 35901 Ph. 256-547-5466; stewart@burnsgarner.

May 9, 16, and 23, 2025

FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been

made in the payment

of the indebtedness

described in and se-

cured by that certain mortgage executed by KEANNA SHANESS HOGG, an unmarried woman, as Mortgagor(s) to Lakewood Properties & Development LLC, as Mortgagee, dated the 6th day of June, 2024, and recorded in Instrument No. 3575218 et seq. of the records in the Office of the Judge of Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama; said default continuing, notice is hereby given that the undersigned will, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage sell at public outcry for cash to the highest bidder during legal hours of sale, on the 6th day of June, 2025, in the city of Gadsden, at the front door of the Court House of Etowah County, Alabama, the following described real property situated in the County of Etowah, State of Alabama, to-

Parcel One: Lot Number One (1) in block number three (3), Baker addition, as recorded in Plat book "D", Page 225, Probate office, Etowah County, Alabama, and lying and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Ala-

Parcel two: Begin at the Northeast corner of lot number one (1), Block number (3), Baker addition, as recorded in Plat book "D" Page 225, Probate office, Etowah County, Alabama, thence west and along the north line of said lot, 140 feet to the northwest corner thereof; thence deflect 90 degrees to the right a distance of five (5) feet; thence deflect 90 degrees to the right a distance of 140 feet; thence deflect 90 degrees to the right a distance of five (5) feet to the point of beginning and embracing a portion of the annulled part of Albany Ave. in the city of Gadsden.

ADDRESS: 201 New York Ave. Gadsden, Al 35903 If a discrepancy aris-

es in the property address, then the legal description above and recorded in the probate court of Etowah County shall be sufficient.

This property will be sold on an "as is, where is" basis, subject to any easements, encumbrances, reservations and exceptions reflected in the mortgage and/ or those contained in the records of the office of the Judge of Probate of the county where the above-described property is situated. This property will be sold without warranty or recourse, expressed or implied as to title, use and/or enjoyment and will be sold subject to the right of redemption of all parties entitled thereto. Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure pro-

Said sale will be made for the purpose of paying said indebtedness and the expenses incident to this sale, including a reasonable attorney's fee, and the other purposes set out in said mortgage. The sale will be conducted subject to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and also to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the Mortgagee. LAKEWŎOD PROPER-TY & DEVELOPMENT

cess.

LLC MORTGAGE Holder of said Mortgage Wesley B. Garmon rep-

resentative on behalf of Lakewood Properties & Development, LLC. Post Office Box 742 Gadsden, Alabama 35901 (256) 504-5970

May 9, 16, and 23,

FILE **CLAIMS**

Janice Causey Groover was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 04/03/2025 over the Estate of Craig Alan Groover, Probate deceased, Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

April 25, May 2, and 9, 2025

FILE **CLAIMS**

Alexander Manuel appointed was/were Personal Representative(s) on 04/08/2025 to the Estate of Deanna Bridgeland, 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

April 25, May 2, and 9,

FILE **CLAIMS**

Rebecca Annette Steakley was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 04/08/2025 to the Estate of Howard Earl Steakley, 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

April 25, May 2, and 9, 2025

> FILE **CLAIMS**

Johna Underwood was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 04/08/2025 over the Estate of Jamie Wayne Hooks, 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

April 25, May 2, and 9,

FILE **CLAIMS**

James R. Reaves was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 03/28/2025 over the Estate of Linda Sue Whitten, 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

April 25, May 2, and 9, 2025

FILE **CLAIMS**

Antonin Dvorak Watson was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 03/28/2025 over the Estate of Marynette Watson, 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

April 25, May 2, and 9, 2025

FILE **CLAIMS**

Kenneth Mark Budlong was/were appointed Personal Representaappointed tive(s) on 04/07/2025 to the Estate of Maureen Huntley Budlong, 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

April 25, May 2, and 9,

FILE CLAIMS

Margie Brooks Hamby was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 04/10/2025 to the Estate of Richard Dean Hamby, 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

April 25, May 2, and 9, 2025

FILE **CLAIMS**

Tammy George was/ were appointed Per-Representasonal tive(s) on 04/15/2025 to the Estate of Bobbie Joe Fickle, 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

April 25, May 2, and 9, 2025

FILE **CLAIMS**

Jeremy D. McDonald was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 04/15/2025 to the Estate of Debra Buice McDonald A/K/A Debra Louise McDonald, 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

April 25, May 2, and 9, 2025

FILE **CLAIMS**

Jonathan Burson was/ were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 04/10/2025 to the Estate of Susan Pettit Burson Alexander, 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

April 25, May 2, and 9,

FILE **CLAIMS**

Cassie Cozadd was/ were appointed Per-Representasonal tive(s) on 04/04/2025 over the Estate of Susan K. Wiemann, 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

April 25, May 2, and 9, 2025

FILE **CLAIMS**

Kyu Tae Yon was/were appointed Person-Representative(s) on 04/02/2025 to the Estate of Ok Yon, 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

May 9, 16, and 23,

FILE **CLAIMS**

Kaci Stewart Bowen was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 04/22/2025 to the Estate of Char-Stewart, lene ceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Al-abama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

May 9, 16, and 23, 2025

FILE **CLAIMS**

Charles Randall Parham was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 04/21/2025 to the Estate of Charles Clayton Parham, 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

May 9, 16, and 23, 2025

FILE **CLAIMS**

Pamela Ann Mayfield Charlton was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 04/21/2025 to the Estate of Kimberly Sue Mayfield, deceased. Court Probate Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

May 9, 16, and 23, 2025

FILE **CLAIMS**

Amanda Leighanne Randall was/were Personappointed Representative(s) on 04/11/2025 to the Estate of James Lee Thompson, deceased, Court Probate of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

May 9, 16, and 23, 2025

FILE **CLAIMS**

Charles Alan Braswell appointed was/were Personal Representative(s) on 11/21/2024 to the Estate of Mary Nell Braswell, 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

May 9, 16, and 23, 2025

NOTICE **HEARING**

THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: BURTON, LEGED INCAPACITAT-

Case #: 2025-128

TO: Any interested par-

Please take notice that a PETITION TO APPROVE THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY belonging to the above referenced incapacitated individual was filed in the Office of the Judge of Probate, and further, that the 11th day of JUNE 2025 at 1:00 P.m. was appointed a day and time for hearing on said Petition, thereof at which time you may appear and support and/or contest the Petition, if

DONE THIS THE 24TH DAY OF APRIL 2025.

Scott Hassell PROBATE JUDGE

you so choose.

May 2, 9, and 16, 2025

NOTICE OF **HEARING**

THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF:

JOHN EDGAR OS-MAN, III, Case #: 2025-264 ALLEGED INCAPACI-TATED

TO: Stephanie Moser, Jamie Daniels and any unknown family

Please take notice that a PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARD-IANSHIP, CONSERVA-TORSHIP, PROTEC-TIVE PLACEMENT AND/OR SERVICES of the above referenced incapacitated individual was filed in the Office of the Judge of Pro-bate, and further, that the 18TH day of JUNE 2025 at 1:00 p.m. was appointed a day and time for hearing on said Petition, thereof at which time you may appear and support and/ or contest the Petition,

DONE THIS THE 7TH DAY OF MAY 2025

Scott Hassell PROBATE JUDGE

if you so choose.

May 9, 16, and 23,

NOTICE **ACTION**

IN THE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

Judy Young, Plaintiff Dewayne Gabriel

Young, Defendant

Case Number: NO. DR-17-900264.01

Gabriel Dewayne Young, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer Plaintiff's Complaint within 30 days from the date of the last publication or thereafter a judgment by default may be rendered against him in Case No. DR-17-900264.01, Circuit Court of Etowah Coun-

Cassandra Johnson Clerk of the Circuit Clerk of Etowah Coun-

ty, Alabama April 18, 25, May 2 and

9, 2025 NOTICE **HEARING**

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

In The Matter of the Adoption Petition of DEAN SHOARS and JENNI-FER DIANE SHOARS

CASE NO.: 2024-00245

TO: DAVID PRUITT Address unknown

Please take notice that a petition for adoption of a child born to Jordan Shane Kirk, mother and Gregory Michael Pruitt, father, has been filed in said Court by the Petitioner(s) named above. The minor child's date of birth is December 6, 2012. As a notified party, you may appear in the adoption proceeding to object or support the petition.

Given under my hand this the 23rd day of April, 2025.

JUDGE OF PROBATE April 25, May 2, 9, and

Scott W. Hassell

16, 2025

NOTICE MICHAEL BYRD

PUBLICATION

ADDRESS: **GRANT** KNOWN

CASE NO.: DV-2024-900848 District Court of Etowah County, AL

DUSTIN

QUICK

DUSTIN **GRANT** QUICK, Defendant, the must answer Complaint filed by MI-CHAEL BYRD, Plaintiff, within 14 days from the last date of publication, case number CV-2023-900080, filed in the District Court of Etowah County, by seeking relief by the 15th day after the last date of publication or thereafter a judgment of default may be rendered against him in the Dis-

County, Alabama. Dated April 23, 2025

Jacob A. Millican Attorney at Law 827 Chestnut Street Gadsden, AL 35901 (256) 547-3221

April 25, May 2, 9, and 16, 2025

ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

WILLIAMS JESSE, Plaintiff

Case No.: CV-2023-900097.00 CHILDS GREG LA-VONE, STEWART DA-VID ÁNTIONE, WIL-LIAMS ISRAEL WILLIAMS RUDOLPH ET AL, Defendants

Plaintiff having filed his affidavit, and having satisfied the requirements of Ala. R. Civ. P. 4.3, the Court hereby grants Plaintiff's Motion for Service by Publication on Defendant David Antione Stewart. It is, therefore, ordered that notice as provided by law be published once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in The Messenger, a newspaper of general circulation in Etowah County, Ala-

DONE this 23rdday of December, 2024. /s/ GEORGE C. DAY. JR. CIRCUIT JUDGE

CIRCUIT Pierce & Pierce Attor neys, PLLC 807 Chestnut Street, Gadsden, AL 35901 toll free: (844) 357-3211 local/txt: (256) 399-9470

> April 18, 25, May 2 and 9, 2025

LEGAL NOTICE

In the Circuit Court of

Etowah County, Alabama Case # CV-19-900097 Drum v. King, et al Publication Notice to: James L. Jenkins, Laura Jenkins, Chrissie Jenkins. Petition has been filed in this in regards to your interest, if any, in the property located at 6560 Scenic Highway, Gadsden, AL 35904. You must file an answer to the Petition within 30 days of perfection of service by publication or face judgement by default. Your answer is to be filed in the Circuit Court of Etowah County, Alabama 801 Forrest Ave. Gadsden, AL 35901. Done this 2nd day of May, 2025. Cassandra Johnson COURT CLERK. Phillip W. Williams, Jr., Esq. Attorney for the Plaintiff, 2100 Club Dr., Ste. 150, Gadsden, AL 35901 (256) 442-0201.

May 9, 16, 23, and 30, 2025

PUBLICATION NOTICE

THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, A municipal corporation

Plaintiff, CASE NO. 2025-00246

HATTIE MAE TARY-LOR, possibly known as HATTIE MAE TRAY-LOR, deceased; MI-CHAEL A. TRAYLOR, an individual; BECKY NORDGREN, Etowah County Tax Collector; and any and all other unknown heirs, claimants or interested parties claiming any right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the real estate described herein, Defendants. Defendants.

NOTICE TO: UN-HEIRS, NOTICE TO: ROSA **KNOWN** CLAIMANTS, AND/OR INTERESTED PAR-OTHER

UN-

You are here notified the City of Gadsden, by and through their attorney, J. Lance Smith, Esquire has filed a complaint in writing seeking to condemn for the uses and purposes set forth in said complaint that certain real property located in the County of Etowah, State of Alabama, and described as follows:

LEGAL DESCRIPTION - TRACT 3 T.C.E.

A TEMPORARY CON-

STRUCTION EASE-MENT CONTAINING 0.005 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, BEING A PORTION OF THE trict Court of Etowah PROPERTY IDENTI-FIED BY CURRENT TAX PARCEL NUMBER 1503051000037.000, AND LYING IN THE NORTHEAST QUAR-TER OF THE NORTH-EAST QUARTER OF SECTION 05, TOWN-SHIP 12 SOUTH, RANGE 06 EAST, HUNTSVILLE MERID-IAN, CITY OF GADS-DEN, ETOWAH COUN-TY, ALABAMA, AND **BEING MORE PARTIC-**ULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT THE

THE WEST RIGHT-OF-

INTERSECTION

WAY OF TUSCALOO-SA COURT AND THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF JACKSON-VILLE STREET, BE-ING THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 4 OF THE IKE TRAM-MELL AND BROTH-ERS ADDITION, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK A, PAGE 65, IN THE PROBATE OF-FICE OF ETOWAH COUNTY; THENCE COUNTY; THENCE LEAVING SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY TUSCALOOSA COURT N43°01'16"E FOR 165.03 FEET TO THE POINT OF BE-GINNING; THENCE S80°25'09"E **FOR** 6.03 FEET; **THENCE** N14°17'34"E **FOR** 0.70 FEET; **THENCE** N15°35'30"E **FOR** 48.98 FEET; THENCE N78°47'29"W **FOR** 6.02 FEET; THENCE S15°34'24"W 49.85 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGIN-NING.

Please be advised that you have thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication to file an answer or other response with the Clerk of the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama, P.O. Box 187, Gadsden, AL 35902 and the attorney for the plaintiff J. Lance Smith, 200 Chestnut Street, Suite A, P.O. Box 129, Gadsden, AL 35902.

You are further notified that the hearing of said complaint has been set by this Court for June 30, 2025 at 2:00, at which time you may appear and answer said complaint or file objections thereto if you so desire.

If the application to condemn is granted by the Court, a Commissioner's hearing will be scheduled within 30 days thereafter to determine damages which may be due the defendants. For information on the date and time of such hearing, please contact the Probate Court during regular business hours at 256-549-5375.

This the 1st day of day of May 2025.

Scott W. Hassell PROBATE JUDGE

May 9, 16, 23, and 30, 2025

PUBLICATION NOTICE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, A municipal corporation Plaintiff,

WILLIE JOHNSON, deceased; TOM JOHN-SON, deceased; ANNIE MAE JOHNSON, deceased; LARRY JOHN-SON, an individual; ROSA LEE FULLER, an individual; BECKY NORDGREN, Etowah County Tax Collector; and any and all other unknown heirs, claimants or interested parties claiming any right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the real estate described herein,

CASE NO.: 2025-00253

LEE FULLER AND ANY UNKNOWN

CLAIMANTS, AND/OR INTERESTED PAR-TIES ADDRESS:

KNOWN You are here notified

the City of Gadsden, by and through their attorney, J. Lance Smith, Esquire has filed a complaint in writing seeking to condemn for the uses and purposes set forth in said complaint that certain real property located in the County of Etowah, State of Alabama, and described as follows: LEGAL DESCRIPTION - TRACT 18

PERMANENT

P.D.E.

DRAINAGE EASE-MENT CONTAINING 0.01 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, BEING A PORTION OF LOT 21 OF CUMMINS ADDI-TION, AS RECORD-ED IN PLAT BOOK A, PAGE 269, IN THE PROBATE OF-OF ETOWAH COUNTY, CUMMINS ADDITION, IDENTIFIED BY CUR-RENT TAX PARCEL 1502042000145.000, LYING IN THE NORTH-WEST QUARTER OF NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 04, TOWNSHIP 12 SOUTH, RANGE 06 HUNTSVILLE MERIDIAN, CITY OF GADSDEN, ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY SCRIBED AS FOL-LOWS:

COMMENCE ΑT CRIMPED TOP PIPE AT THE NORTH RIGHT-OF- WAY OF TUSCALOOSA ENUE, BEING SOUTHWEST COR-NER OF LOT 21 OF COR-CUMMINS ADDITION, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK A, PAGE 269, IN THE PROBATE OFFICE OF ETOWAH COUNTY; THENCE ALONG SAID NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY TUSCALOOSA AVE-NUE \$67°40'07"E FOR 10.08 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGIN-NING; THENCE LEAV-ING SAID NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY TUSCALOOSA NUE N44°31'41"E FOR 76.52 FEET; THENCE S08°04'21"W FOR 16.83 FEET; THENCE \$44°31'41"W FOR 59.06 FEET POINT AT THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY TUSCALOOSA AVE-NUE: THENCE ALONG SAID NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF CALOOSA **AVENUE** N66°53'51"W FOR 10.74 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGIN-NING.

A TEMPORARY CON-STRUCTION EASE-CONTAINING MENT 0.009 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, BEING A PORTION OF LOT 21 OF CUMMINS ADDI-TION, AS RECORD-ED IN PLAT BOOK A, PAGE 269, IN THE PROBATE OFFICE OF ETOWAH COUN-TY, CUMMINS ADDI-TIÓN, AND IDENTI-FIED BY TAX PARCEL 1502042000145.000, LYING IN THE NORTH-WEST QUARTER OF NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SEC-TION 04, TOWNSHIP 12 SOUTH, RANGE 06 EAST, HUNTSVILLE MERIDIAN, CITY OF GADSDEN, ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DE-SCRIBED AS FOL-LOWS: COMMENCE AT

CRIMPED TOP PIPE AT THE NORTH RIGHT-OF- WAY OF TUSCALOOSA ENUE, BEING THE SOUTHWEST COR-NER OF LOT 21 OF CUMMINS ADDITION, AS RECORDED PLAT BOOK A, PAGE 269, IN THE PROBATE OFFICE OF ETOWAH THENCE COUNTY; ALONG SAID NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY TUSCALOOSA AVE-NUE S67°52'06"E FOR 4.69 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGIN-NING; THENCE LEAV-SAID NORTH ING RIGHT-OF-WAY TUSCALOOSA AVE-NUE N44°31'41"E FOR 85.31 FEET; THENCE S08°04'21"W FOR 8.41 FEET; THENCE S44°31'41"W FOR TO A 76.52 FEET POINT AT THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF TUSCALOOSA AVE-NUE; THENCE ALONG SAID NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF TUS-CALOOSA **AVENUE** N67°29'42"W FOR 5.39 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

Please be advised that

you have thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication to file an answer or other response with the Clerk of the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama, P.O. Box 187, Gadsden, AL 35902 and the attorney for the plaintiff J. Lance Smith, 200 Chestnut Street, Suite A, P.O. Box 129, Gadsden, AL 35902.

You are further notified that the hearing of said complaint has been set by this Court for June 30, 2025 at 2:00, at which time you may appear and answer said complaint or file objections thereto if you so

If the application to condemn is granted by the Court, a Commissioners' hearing will be scheduled within 30 days thereafter to determine damages which may be due the defendants. For information on the date and time of such hearing, please contact the Probate Court during regular business hours at 256-549-5375.

This the 1st day of May 2025.

Scott W. Hassell PROBATE JUDGE

May 9, 16, 23, and 30,

NOTICE OF

COMPLAINT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH

COUNTY ALABAMA CARLA GREEN

PLAINTIFF CASE NO.: CV-2025-

900222.00 HEIRS OF LOLA MAE HAYES, whose identities and whereabouts are unknown and

Lots 18 and 19, in Block 2, of Glenn Addition, as recorded in Plat Book "B", Page 0, in the Probate Office of Etowah County, Alabama. and

Fictitious Defendants A-D, whose identities and whereabouts are unknown, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in the lands described herein, 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: Lots 18 and 19, in Block 2, of Glenn Addition, as recorded in Plat Book "B" Page o, in the Probate Office of Etowah County, Alabama. (922

AL 35954) Done this the 5th day of May 2025

First Street NE, Attalla,

Cassandra Johnson, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Etowah County

May 9, 16, 23, and 30, 2025

NOTICE OF CONDEMNATION **FORFEITURE ACTION**

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

THE CIRCUIT

COUNTY, ALABAMA CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO: CV-25-

COURT OF ETOWAH

900110-CDR **PLAINTIFF** \$2,525.00 U.S.

Currency

DEFENDANTS In Re: Deandre Malek Ash

ANY PERSON CORPORATION OR OTHER ENTITY CLAIMING AN OWN-ER'S BONA FIDE INTEREST IN THE HEREINABOVE SCRIBED CURREN-

of Alabama has filed its complaint in the above-described action seeking condemnation, forfeiture, and ultimate disposition of the

WHEREAS, the State

05-09-25 Legals.indd 2

DONE this the 7th day of April 2025

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk Etowah County, Alabama

April 18, 25, May 2 and 9. 2025

NOTICE OF **COMPLAINT FOR BILL TO QUIET TITLE**

CIRCUIT THE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA GREEN, DARRELL Plaintiff,

CV-2024-900079.00 C. D. HOOKS or ficti-

tious defendants, A-Z, including any Persons claiming any future, contingent.

revisionary remainder, or other interest in the below-described property or who may claim an interest in such, and

A Parcel of land described as: T/S-2018-277 (C/S 31-19-0210) SE 50 LT 3 BLK 29 ORIGINAL ATTALLA SURVEY PLAT A-226-3-12-5 T/S 1999-7. T/S 2002-302, D-2006-3247083 T/S 2011-24 (RED-5-13-13) TAX PARCEL NO. 16-02-03-1-000-117.00

The Defendants, C.D. HOOKS, and/or their heirs or devisees, and any other individual who may claim an interest in the aforementioned property, whose whereabouts are unknown.

must answer the Bill to Quiet Title filed by GREEN DARRELL within thirty (30) days of the

completion of the publication or thereafter a judgment of default may be rendered against you in the aforementioned case. Done the 28th day of April 2025

Cassandra Johnson Etowah County Circuit Court Check

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

May 2, 9, 16, and 23, 2025

SERVICE BY **PUBLICATION**

THE CIRCULT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

Stone Kelton, Plaintiff,

Case No.: DR-2025-900099.00 Hallmark Brooke, Defendant

Hallmark. Brooke whereabouts whose are unknown, must answer the complaint of Kelton Stone, 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 Case No.: DR-25- 900099.00 Circuit Court of Etowah County, Alabama.

DONE this 1st day of May 2025.

Cassandra Johnson CIRCUIT CLERK

DANI V. BONE & SAM D. BONE ATTORNEYS AT LAW 1031 Forrest Ave Gadsden, AL 35901 (256) 547-1005

May 9, 16, 23, and 30, 2025

LEGAL **PUBLICATION** NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Rainbow City, Al-Appropriate abama's Municipal Official, pursuant to Ordinance No. 565, has made a finding that a building located on the following described property is a dangerous building because it is unsafe to the extent that it is a public nuisance and is subject to demolition:

STREET ADDRESS: 113 Turman Street. Rainbow City, AL 35906 LEGAL **DESCRIP-**TION:

Lot Number Eight (8) in Westminster Estates. according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book "I", Page 64, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama.

PARCEL IDENTIFICA-TION NUMBER: 15-09-30-0-001-110.000

INTERESTED PAR-TIES: Gerald Dekoff Yenkey Steven Contris

Alabama Department of Revenue Any and all other unknown heirs, claimants or interested parties claiming any right, title, estate, lien, or interest

in the real estate de-

scribed herein.

All persons interested in said property are hereby notified that if the unsafe or dangerous condition is not remedied by demolition of said building on said property within 45 days of April 21, 2025, the demolition will be accomplished by the City and the cost thereof assessed against said property. In the meantime, it is ordered that said building and said property be and remain vacated.

public hearing as provided for by Section 8(a) set forth in Ordinance No. 565 will be held on this matter in the Council Chambers at the Rainbow City Hall, 3700 Rainbow Drive, Rainbow City, Alabama, on June 23, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. Anyone interested in the status of these proceedings should inguire with the Rainbow City Clerk at (256) 413-1217 or at 3700 Rainbow Drive, Rainbow City, Alabama.

April 25, May 2, 9, and 16. 2025

NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

TYLER MONTANA JUL PRESCOTT V. COR-RIE ELLIS BURKS. Case No. CV-2024-900178, was filed in the Circuit Court of Etowah County, Alabama on May 1, 2024, seeking to quiet title in rem to the property with an address of 125 Mary Gadsden 35901 and described

at the

as follows:

Commence

Northeast corner of the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4), thence South 89 degrees 30 minutes 00 seconds West and along the North line of said quarter a distance of 1801.03 feet to a point said point being the point of beginning, thence continue South 89 degrees 30 minutes 00 seconds West and along said North line a distance of 397.02 feet. Thence South 37 degrees 13 minutes 23 seconds East a distance of 843. 76 feet to a point in the North line of Mary Lane, thence North 53 degrees 50 minutes 24 seconds East and along said North line a distance of 318.26 feet, thence North 37 degrees 13 minutes 23 seconds West and leaving said North line a distance of 612.27 feet to the point of beginning, said lands containing 5.32 acres more or less and being a part of the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of Section 9, Township 11 South, Range 7 East, said lands being sub-

CORRIE ELLIS MIRACLE BURKS. REIGN DOCKERY, and all persons claiming present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion or other interest in said lands or any portion thereof, claiming any title thereto or the lien thereon: You are hereby notified that the above-styled action was filed against you on May 1, 2024, and that you are hereby commanded to plead. answer or otherwise respond to the complaint within 30 days from last publication, the 9th day of May, 2025, or thereafter suffer judgment in rem to be rendered against you because this notice shall be used to perfect service against all parties who are not personally served with a copy of the complaint. Your response must be filed with Etowah County Circuit Clerk, 801 Forest Avenue, Gadsden,

AL 35901 and served

upon Plaintiff's attor-

Sylvion Moss,

ney,

ject to any rights of way

of roadways or ease-

ments thereon.

2100 First Ave. N., Ste. 500, Birmingham, AL 35203, phone number (205) 328-9445.

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk

/s/Bryant T. Crain

9, 2025

Circuit Judge

STATE OF ALABAMA **DEPARTMENT OF** REVENUE COLLECTION **SERVICES DIVISION**

April 18, 25, May 2 and

INVITATION FOR BIDS FOR THE SALE OF **PROPERTY** LOCATED IN ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 40-29-23(b), Code of Alabama 1975, that the Alabama Department of Revenue is accepting sealed bids for the sale of the following real properties described below, acquired as a result of a Sheriff's Sale. Sealed bids shall be submitted online at: https://www. ebuy.alabama.gov, until the closing date and time of 11:59 p.m., Friday, May 30, 2025, at which time all bids will be opened and read in the Collection Services Division. Bids will not be accepted after the above stated date and time.

Brief Description of property offered:

H/S BASE YEAR BEG NE COR SE 1/4TH SW 1/4TH W 434.35 TO N ROW OF PILGRIMS REST RD THE SE 472.9 ALONG ROW TH N 169.55 TO POB LY-ING IN SE 1/4 SW 1/4 10-13-6

1987 vv.__ 85,1574-167, 199. 1693-313, WILL, 1523-2013-25 D2000-1034 D-2000-1981, D-1015-3413417 (ROS).

The property is located at or near 4490 Pilgrims Rest Rd, Southside, AL 35907; Parcel Identification Number: 21-02-10-0-001-069.000: as described in Sheriff's Deed Instrument# 3567094.

The parcels are being offered "as is" and "where is" without recourse against the State of Alahama Department of Revenue. It is the responsibility of the bidder to inspect the property conditions before submitting a bid by driveby only, without trespassing on the property in any manner. Bidders must agree to all terms listed online before submitting bid. If you wish to bid on this property, please complete the Sealed Bid Form online.

The minimum bid for this parcel is \$35,000.

EACH bid submitted online must be accompanied by an EFT bid deposit payment of ten percent (10%) of the total amount of the bid. Any bid submitted without payment of the bid deposit will not be considered. The deposits of unsuccessful bidders will be returned following the bid closing date.

NO BID SHALL BE RECEIVED FOR ANY REASON ANY TIME AFTER THE ADVER-TISED DEADLINE. IT SHALL BE THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BIDDER TO EN-SURE ACTUAL RE-CEIPT OF THE BID BY THE COLLECTION SERVICES DIVISION PRIOR TO THE AD-VERTISED DEADLINE.

The Alabama Department of Revenue reserves the right to withdraw the property from sale at any time and the right to reject any or all

For more information about the sale contact: Alabama Department of Revenue Collection Services DivisionSealed Bid Sale P. O. Box 327820 Montgomery,

36132-7820 Telephone: (334) 242-

May 2, 9, and 16, 2025 **ADVERTISEMENT OF COMPLETION**

LEGAL NOTICE

accordance with Chapter 1, Title 39, Code of Alabama. 1975, notice is hereby given that Bob Smith Construction, Inc., has completed the Contract for Construction of A NEW CONCESSION STAND and TOURNA-

MENT OFFICE BUILD-

ING for the GADSDEN SPORTS COMPLEX 1001 George Wallace Gadsden Bid Request 3541 in Gadsden, AL for the City of Gadsden, Alabama, 90 Broad Street, Gads-

den, Alabama, Owner, and have made request for final settlement of said Contract. All persons having any claim portation. for labor, materials, or otherwise in connection with this project should

immediately notify: Thomas M. McElrath, Architect, 717 Merit Springs Road, Gadsden, Alabama 35901.

8076 US Highway 11, S Springville, AL 35146

tion. Inc

Bob Smith Construc-

Drive.

April 18, 25, May 2 and 9, 2025

ADVERTISEMENT OF **COMPLETION LEGAL** NOTICE

accordance with In Chapter 1, Title 39, Alabama, of Code 1975, notice is hereby given that Bob Smith Construction, Inc., has completed the Contract for Construction SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION TIPPING FLOOR RE-PAIR 111 Burnsway Drive Gadsden Bid Request 3566 In Gadsden, AL. for the

City of Gadsden, Alabama, 90 Broad Street, Gadsden. Alabama. Owner, and have made request for final settlement of said Contract. All persons having any claim for labor, materials, or otherwise in connection with this project should immediately notify Heath Williams, City of

Department Bob Smith Construction, Inc. 8076 US Highway 11, Springville, AL 35146

Gadsden Engineering

April 18, 25, May 2 and 9, 2025

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS STATE PROJECT NO. ATRP2-28-2024-235 ETOWAH COUNTY, **ALABAMA**

Sealed bids will be received by the Director of Transportation at the office of the Alahama Department of Mont-Transportation, gomery, Alabama until 10:00 AM on May 30, 2025 and at that time publicly opened for constructing the Intersection Improvements (Acceleration and Turn Lane Extensions) and Traffic Signal Installations on SR-1 (US-431) at Green Valley Road in Glencoe. Length 0.350 The total amount of un-

completed work under

contract to a contractor must not exceed the amount of his or her qualification certificate. The Entire Project Shall Be Completed In Fifty (50) Working Days. Á 3.00% DBE Contract Obligation Is Required. A Bidding Proposal may be purchased for \$5.00. Plans may be purchased for \$16.00 per set. Plans and Proposals are available at the Alabama Department of Transportation, 1409 Coliseum Boulevard, Room E-108, Montgomery, AL 36110. should be Checks made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation. Plans and Proposals will be mailed only upon receipt of remittance. No refunds will be made.

Cashier's check or bid bond for 5% of bid (maximum - \$50,000.00) made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation must accompany each bid as evidence of good faith. The bracket range is shown only to provide general financial information to contractors and bonding compaconcerning the nies complexity project's and size. This Bracket should not be used in preparing a bid, nor will this bracket have any bearing on the decision to award this contract. The Bracket Esti-mate On This Project

Is From \$868,218 To \$1,061,155. and Specifi-Plans cations are on file in

Room E-108 of the Alabama Department of Transportation at Montgomery, Alabama 36110. In accordance with the rules and regulations of The Alabama Department of Transpor-

tation, proposals will be

issued only to preguali-

fied contractors or their

authorized representatives, upon requests that are received before 10 AM., on the day previous to the day of opening of bids.

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

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

The right to reject any or all bids is reserved. JOHN R COOPER Transportation Director

May 9, 16, and 23, 2025

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS **FEDERAL AID PROJECT** NO. STPSU-2819(250) **ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA**

Sealed bids will be received by the Director of Transportation at the office of the Alabama Department of Transportation, Montgomery, Alabama until 10:00 AM on May 30, 2025 and at that time publicly opened for constructing the Roadway Improvements (Drainage, Pavement, Resurfacing, and Traffic Stripe) on 4th Street Northwest from the junction of SR-1 (US-431) to the junction of 4th Avenue North in Attalla. Length 0.343 mi.

The total amount of un-

completed work under contract to a contractor must not exceed the amount of his or her qualification certificate. The Entire Project Shall Be Completed In Eighty (80) Working Days. A 2.00% DBE Contract Obligation Is Required. A Bidding Proposal may be purchased for \$5.00. Plans may be nurchased for \$18.00 per set. Plans and Proposals are available at the Alabama Department of Transportation, 1409 Coliseum Bou-levard, Room E-108, Montgomery, AL 36110. Checks should be made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation. Plans and Proposals will be mailed only upon receipt of remittance. No refunds will be made.

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

Cashier's check or bid bond for 5% of bid (maximum - \$50,000.00) made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation must accompany each bid as evidence of good faith. The bracket range is shown only to provide general financial information to contractors and bonding companies concerning the complexity project's and size. This Bracket should not be used in preparing a bid, nor will this bracket have any bearing on the decision to award this contract. The Bracket Estimate On This Project Is From \$1,394,436 To \$1,704.311

The proposed work shall be performed in conformity with the rules and regulations for carrying out the Federal Highway Act. Plans and Specifications are on file in Room E-108 of the Alabama Department of Transportation at Montgomery, Alabama 36110. In accordance with the

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

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

in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 2000D TO U.S.C. 2000D-4 and Title 49

code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of The Secretary, Part 21, nondiscrimination in federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such act. hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered pursuant to this into advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race. color, religion, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award. The right to reject any or all bids is reserved.

JOHN R. COOPER Transportation Director

May 9, 16, and 23, 2025

NOTICE TO **CONTRACTORS FEDERAL AID** PROJECT NO. RP-STPAA-MR22(902) & NH-MR22(903) **ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA**

Sealed bids will be received by the Director of Transportation at the office of the Alabama Department of Transportation, Montgomery Alabama until 10:00 AM on May 30, 2025 and at that time publicly opened for constructing the Traffic Signal and Operation Equipment Installation on SR-1, SR-25, SR-77, SR-291, SR-759, I-59, and I-759.

The total amount of uncompleted work under contract to a contractor must not exceed the amount of his or her qualification certificate. The Entire Project Shall Be Completed In Five Hundred Forty (540)

Working Days.

A Bidding Proposal may be purchased for \$5.00. Plans may be purchased for \$90.00 per set. Plans and Proposals are available at the Alahama Denart. ment of Transportation. 1409 Coliseum Boulevard, Room E-108, Montgomery, AL 36110. Checks should made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation. Plans and Proposals will be mailed only upon receipt of remittance. No refunds will be made.

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

Cashier's check or bid bond for 5% of bid (maximum - \$50,000.00) made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation must accompany each bid as evidence of good faith. The bracket range is shown only to provide general financial information to contractors and bonding companies concerning the project's complexity and size. This Bracket should not be used in preparing a bid, nor will this bracket have any bearing on the decision to award this contract. The Bracket Estimate On This Project Is From \$9,595,436 To \$11,727,755.

proposed work The shall be performed in with the conformity rules and regulations for carrying out the Federal Highway Act. Specifi-Plans and cations are on file in Room E-108 of the Alabama Department of Transportation at Montgomery, Alabama 36110. In accordance with the

rules and regulations of The Alabama Department of Transportation, proposals will be issued only to prequalified contractors or their authorized representatives, upon requests that are received be-fore 10 AM., on the day previous to the day of opening of bids. The bidder's proposal must be submitted on

the complete original proposal furnished him or her by the Alabama Department of Transportation. The Alabama Depart-

ment of Transportation.

in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Štat.

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

JOHN R. COOPER Transportation Director

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City Clerk, City of Gadsden, Alabama, at City Hall, 90 Broad Street, Room 411, Gadsden, Alabama until 2:00 PM, Tuesday, June 3, 2025, for the 2025 Disaster Debris Removal On-Call Contract, Bid Request No. 3600. Bids received after the dead-line will not be considered.

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, Citv Hall, 90 Broad Street, Gadsden, Alabama

The bid request number 3600, bid title, and bid opening date must appear on the outside of the sealed envelope.

Bids must be in compliance with the specifications referred to and signed in full. By submitting a bid, bidder acknowledges that they have read and understand all of the hid packet require-ments.

Bids will be publicly

opened and read at the above time and place. Specifications open to the public for inspection at the Fngineering Department. A digital copy (pdf) of the bid packet may be obtained at no cost by contacting the City of Gadsden Engineering Department either by phone: (256)-549-4520 x 0, or email: hwilliamson@cityofgadsden. com. 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 right to reject any or all bids and to disregard any minor irregularities is reserved by the owner.

THE CITY GADSDEN, **ALABAMA** CRAIG FORD, Mayor Iva Nelson, City Clerk

May 9, 2025

ADVERTISEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION **BIDS**

INTERIOR RENOVA-TIONS to the ETOWAH COUNTY ROAD MAIN-TENANCE FACILITY for the Etowah County Commission Gadsden, Alabama Etowah County

No.: FY 2025-14 Sealed proposals will

be received by the Etowah County Commission, Gadsden, Alabama, at the Etowah County Courthouse, 800 Forrest Avenue, in the County Commis-Meeting Room, sion until 2:00 p.m.., Thursday, May 29th, for Interior Renovations to the Etowah County Road Maintenance Facility located at 333 Nassau Street (Intersection of Fifth St. and Tuscaloosa Ave.), Gadsden, Alabama. Bids submitted prior

to the bid opening by mail shall be directed to Etowah County Commission, 800 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden. Alabama 35901 or in person delivered to the offices of the Etowah Commission, County Gadsden, Alabama. Bids will be publicly

05-09-25 Legals.indd 3 5/8/25 1:58 PM

opened and read at the above time and place. The bidder shall file with his bid either a cashier's check drawn on an Alabama bank, payable to the Etowah County Commission, 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). Bid Documents are open to the public for inspection at the Etowah County Commission Offices, 800 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama; Alabama AGC / ISQFT Plan Room; McGraw Hill Con-struction; and Construct Connect. Electronic copies of Bid Documents may be obtained from the Architect upon request of same by email. The same process is applicable to subcontractors and vendors. No printed hard copies of bid documents will be issued. Requests for Bid Documents should be submitted to tom@ tmmarchitect.com. order to submit a bid, all General Contractor bidders must use the procedures above to procure Bid Documents and having done so, will be placed on the Architect's Official Bidders List. Bids received from bidders who obtained Bid Documents through any other method and are not on the Architect's Official Bid List will not be accepted or opened. General Contractors

who obtain bid docu-

ments and wish to with-

draw from the Official

Bidders List must do

so in writing to the Architect prior to the bid

date. Thomas M. McEl-

rath, Architect, makes

no quarantee of bid documents obtained by

Contractors and Ven-

dors from sources oth-

er than the issued doc-

uments provided by the

Architect. Contractors

and Vendors who base

their pricing from bid

documents obtained

otherwise, either in part

or whole, do so at their own risk.

Mandatory Attendance Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at 10:00 Thursday, May a.m., 22, 2025 at the Project Site. All General Contractor Bidders expecting to submit a bid shall have a knowledgeable representative at this meeting.

Scope of Work includes, but is not limited to, interior renovations of an existing +/- 5,000 s.f. P.E.M.B. facility to include placement of a new concrete topping slab, construction of new interior wood stud and drywall partitions, ceilings, LVT flooring, painting, casework cabinetry, new P.E.M.B. liner panels, new electrical lighting, power and auxiliary service, new HVAC, new plumbing, hollow metal frames, wood doors and hardware 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 Pay-ment Bond Performance 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.

Bids must be submitted on proposal forms furnished by the Architect or copies thereof. No bid-der 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 necessity 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 submission envelope. Bid submissions that do not show the G.C. License number on the outside of

the sealed bid will not be opened. THIS IS A **EMPT 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. 170lu.

By signing this contract, the contracting parties affirm, for the duration of the agreement, that will not violate they federal immigration law or knowingly employ, hire for employment, or continue to employ an unauthorized alien within the state of Alabama. Furthermore, contracting 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.

The successful bidder will provide proof of enrollment in the Federal E-Verify Program and in compliance with the Beason-Hammon Act (Act 2011-535). 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

ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION 800 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 256-549-5300 THOMAS M. McEL- RATH, ARCHITECT. Merit Springs 717 Road, Gadsden, AL 35901 256-490-8244

May 9, 16, and 23, 2025

NOTICE OF **PUBLIC HEARING**

The Board of Adjustments will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 12, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council chambers of Attalla City Hall located at 612 4th Street NW, Attalla, AL 35954. The following items will be considered:

Variance requested and filed by David Griffin to consider operation of a business at the property located at 319 Marion Street, SE, Attalla, AL 35954. The property is currently zone R-1.

May 2, and May 9, 2025

LEGAL NOTICE

The following storage unit will be disposed of May 22, 2025 on the business premises of Huff's Mini Storage. Huff's Mini Storage is located at 608 Gilbert Ferry Road, Attalla, AL.

Angela Battles Unit 12

Huff's Mini Storage 608 Gilbert Ferry Road Attalla, AL. 35954.

April 25, May 2, 9, and 16, 2025

LEGAL **NOTICE**

The following storage unties will be auctioned on 5/14/2025 beginning at 10:00 a.m. on the business premises of Southtowne Mini South-Warehouses. towne is located at 199 Woodland Drive, off of Steele Station Road in Rainbow City, Ala-

John Kennon - Unit 553

Melanie Kennedy

Unit 573

Richard Pettys Unit 559 and 599

Kristie Bell - Unit 585

Vonetta Byers - Unit

Thomas Stickland Unit 28-3B

Joseph Giamalva Unit 34-12

Lawanda Hester

Unit 37-21 and 592 Holly Troup - Unit 38-11

Latonya Rutledge Unit 211-32

Shannon Nix - Unit 53-

David Chastain Unit 829 and 832

Southtowne Mini Warehouses 199 Woodland Drive Rainbow City, 35906

May 2 and 9, 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 2004 Ford f150 vin#1FTRX-12W04NC34903 The public auction will be held at Matt's Towing 927 B 5th Ave NE Attalla AL 35954 at 10:00am on 06/16/2025. Seller shall have a right to reject any bid that is unreasonably low. The seller expressly re-

May 2 and 9, 2025

public auction.

NOTICE OF **PUBLIC AUCTION OF ABANDONED VEHICLES**

serves the right to bid

and purchase at the

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 2017 Ford Mustang vin#-1FA6P8TH6H5343115 The public auction will be held at Matt's Towing 927 5th Ave NE Attalla AL 35954 at 10:00am on 06/19/2025. Seller shall have a right to reject any bid that is unreasonably low. The seller expressly reserves the right to bid

May 2 and 9, 2025

NOTICE OF **VEHICLE POSSESSION**

and purchase at the public auction.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned proceed to take possession of the following described abandoned vehicle(s) on 6/13/2025 at 8:00 am

Toyota Camry **XSE** 4T1K61AK-1MU445919

Tommy Tows 1912 3rd Street Attalla, AL. 35954

(256) 490-3715 May 2 and 9, 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 6/27/2025 at 8:00 am

2021 Toyota Corolla S 2T1BU4EE1CC788600

Tommy Tows 1912 3rd Street Attalla, AL. 35954

May 9 and 16, 2025

(256) 490-3715

NOTICE OF VEHICLE POSSESSION

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will proceed to take possession of fol-lowing described abandoned vehicle(s) on July 4, 2025.

2010 Ford Fusion 3FAHP0JA9AR347503 2012 Nissan Altima 1N4AL2AP9CN408528

2001 Lexus GS 300

JT8BD69S710126389 2007 Jeep Grand Cher-

okee 1J8GR48K67C652379

2005 Hyundai Santa Fe KM8S-

Thacker Towing 927 5th Avenue NE Attalla, AL 35954

C13E95U029151

(256) 504-1605

May 9 and 16, 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 1997 Nissan P/U vin#1N6SD16SX-VC351142 The public auction will be held at 109 N 26TH ST, GADS-DEN, AL 35901 at 10:00am on 06/11/2025 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.

May 9 and 16, 2025

JASSIFIE

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