



# March is National **KIDNEY** Awareness Month



# Messenger

Volume 48, Issue 10

March 6, 2026

50 cents

7 DAY FORECAST						
Friday March 6	Saturday March 7	Sunday March 8	Monday March 9	Tuesday March 10	Wednesday March 11	Thursday March 12
High: 81 Low: 61	High: 78 Low: 58	High: 72 Low: 56	High: 77 Low: 61	High: 83 Low: 62	High: 83 Low: 51	High: 65 Low: 44

**SPRING FORWARD: DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026**

## Rainbow Monument Company continues legacy

By Kaitlin Hoskins  
News Editor

Rainbow City's oldest business is entering a new chapter as Chris Smith and his wife, Marlee, step into leadership of Rainbow Monument Company following the passing of longtime owner Benny Hood.

For Chris, the transition has come with an unexpected challenge: stepping away from the hands-on work he loves most.

"Being stuck behind a desk is about the worst thing you could do to him," Marlee said. "He'd much rather be out talking to people, working with stone, and seeing the finished monuments than answering phones all day."

For Marlee, the adjustment has been just as significant. Although she has been around the business since she and Chris began dating in 2008, she recently went from being a stay-at-home mother to helping run the company full time.

"I truly had no idea what all went into it," she said. "I went from being a stay-at-home mom to running a business overnight, and that's been a big adjustment."

Even with the leadership change, much about the business remains the same. Benny Hood, known for his strong opinions and deep commitment to quality, ensured Chris was well prepared during the 16 years they worked side by side. While the company continues to evolve, particularly with new technologies, its foundation remains rooted in tradition.

Recent innovations include engraving an AI-generated image onto a monument, something the family says reflects their

willingness to adapt while honoring the craft's history.

"Folks are always coming in with ideas or suggestions, and we listen," Marlee said. "We recently engraved an AI generated photo onto a monument and we are very excited to see where else we can go with that."

The company's history stretches back more than 60 years, growing alongside Rainbow City itself. Chris's grandfather, Denmon Hood, was one of the city's founders and a familiar figure residents relied on for everything from paying water bills to locating water lines.

"He was the person you called when you needed to pay your water bill, find a waterline, borrow a backhoe, or just had a question about gosh near anything," Marlee said. "We are honored to continue one of the many businesses he started. Rainbow City has always shown up for us. And not just as customers, but as neighbors, too. That support has meant a lot, especially through the hard times."

Continuing that legacy is both an honor and a responsibility the family takes seriously.

"This business has been part of Rainbow City for over 60 years, and we've watched the town grow right along with it," Marlee said. "Being able to keep that going is something we're really proud of."

The business is a truly locally owned gem for the area.

"When you call us, you're not getting a machine or a call center. You're getting a member of our family," they said. "Picking out a monument for someone you love



Submitted photo

is already hard enough. We try to make that process as kind and personal as possible."

Beyond monuments, the family remains active in supporting community causes, continuing Benny's longtime support of Shriners Hospitals for Children and contributing to local nonprofits such as the Gadsden Service Guild.

Looking ahead, they hope to eventually open at least one satellite office and

continue reshaping how people view monument work by making conversations about planning and remembrance feel less intimidating. They also remain committed to keeping Rainbow City at the heart of the business.

When asked to sum up the company's commitment to the area, Marlee said it was a "legacy preserved, a community served, and a future built with the same care it's always deserved."

## Gadsden will join state's walking tours

Each year in April, The Alabama Tourism Department hosts the statewide April Walking Tours which gives tourists a free chance to learn historical and interesting facts about Alabama towns. This year, Gadsden joins once again as a participating city.

In the 2025 April Walking Tours, more than 3,300 people participated with 31 towns across the state hosting the tours.

Greater Gadsden Area Tourism, partnered with the Alabama Tourism Department April Walking Tours, will offer free walking tours hosted by a local town resident. The hour-long tours start at 10 a.m. each Saturday on April 4, 11, 18 and 25. This event is sponsored by Greater Gadsden Area Tourism and there is no cost to participate.

Interested patrons should arrive at the back of the Visitors Information Center, located in the Downtown Civic Center at 623 Broad St. Gadsden, AL 35901 by 9:45 a.m. Park and meet at the rear of the building, which is accessible via North 6th St.

Walking tours will head East down Broad Street promptly at 10 a.m. Please dress in casual, weather appropriate clothing with comfortable shoes and feel free to bring your own water. Restroom stops will be available during the walking tour. Tours will continue in a light drizzle but will be cancelled if there is a downpour. Any weather cancellations will be published via Greater Gadsden Area Tourism's facebook page by 9 a.m. on the day of the scheduled tour.

For more information, please contact Greater Gadsden Area Tourism at (256) 549-0351. To make a weekend getaway of it, find restaurants and lodging and other things to do at [www.GreaterGadsden.com](http://www.GreaterGadsden.com).

## ECBOE begins superintendent search

By Karla McArthur  
Correspondent

The Etowah County Board of Education has posted the position of superintendent of schools and will begin a comprehensive search to identify the next leader of the Etowah County School System.

Board members said they are committed to conducting a thoughtful, transparent and thorough search to identify the best candidate and the right fit for students, staff and the community.

Current superintendent Dr. Alan Cosby has announced plans to retire effective Aug. 1, 2026. The board expressed appreciation for Cosby's leadership

during his 16-year tenure and recognized the lasting impact he has made across the school system.

"Dr. Cosby has provided steady and thoughtful leadership to Etowah County Schools for more than 16 years," Board President Jay Freeman said. "He genuinely cares about our students, our teachers and the families who trust us with their children each day. Under his leadership, our schools have stayed focused on doing what matters most — helping students succeed in a safe and supportive environment. He understands that our schools are the heart of our communities, and he has worked hard to strengthen that connection. Dr. Cosby has led with integrity and a servant's heart, always putting

students first. His impact will be felt in our schools and throughout our county for many years to come."

Board members also expressed gratitude for Cosby's service and vision and praised his commitment to student success. They said proactive steps are being taken to ensure a smooth and successful transition as the system prepares for its next chapter of leadership.

The search will be guided by the mission of Etowah County Schools: "Etowah County Schools provide a rigorous, relevant education in a safe, student-centered environment that produces college- and career-ready graduates who contribute responsibly in a global community."

ECBOE - page A2

## Alabama Senate passes bill excluding soda, candy from SNAP benefits

By Anna Barrett  
Alabama Reflector

The Alabama Senate on Tuesday passed a bill that would prohibit food assistance recipients from using their benefits to purchase certain sodas and sugary processed foods.

SB 57, sponsored by Sen. Arthur Orr, R-Decatur, is similar to those approved for 18 other states, including Tennessee and Florida by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Orr said in an interview after the bill passed that its intent is to tackle obesity in children.

"It's primarily about obesity, particularly in the Medicaid program," Orr said. "We're one of the most obese states in the country, particularly among children, and hopefully it might have a small impact."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Alabama ranked fourth in the nation for adult obesity in 2024.

The bill does not change the amount of benefits distributed to Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients. It requires the Alabama Department of Human Resources (DHR) to request a waiver from the USDA to exclude candy and soda from the list of eligible items recipients can purchase with their benefits.

A message seeking comment from DHR was left Tuesday evening.

The waivers, approved by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins and U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Robert F. Kennedy Jr., are part of the Trump administration's Make America Healthy Again initiative.

SNAP - page A2



# NEWS

## ECBOE

- From A1

Key aspects of the system's mission and vision include providing a safe, supportive and student-centered environment; developing graduates who are academically, technologically and socially prepared; embracing the county's vision of "Building the Foundation Today for Tomorrow: Empowering, Challenging, Succeeding"; and fostering strong partnerships among home, community and school. The board said it will seek a superintendent aligned with the system's mission, who values strong leadership, prioritizes student success and safety and shares a clear vision for the future of education in Etowah County. A copy of application instructions can be found at [https://gadsdenmessenger.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/ECBOE\\_superintendent\\_application.pdf](https://gadsdenmessenger.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/ECBOE_superintendent_application.pdf).

## SNAP

- From A1

The Senate adopted two committee amendments, both on a 23-2 vote. The first narrows the definition of soda as "Beverages that list, as the first two ingredients, any combination of: (i) carbonated water; and (ii) sugar, cane sugar, corn syrup, or high fructose corn syrup." The second amendment redefined candy to clarify that items like baked goods, jams and some drink mixes do not fall under the prohibited category. It also requires the Alabama Department of Revenue to keep track of a list of products that are not eligible for purchase. Orr also proposed a floor amendment that he described as a "three strikes" amendment for retailers, allowing them to accidentally permit SNAP recipients to purchase high sugar products three times within one fiscal year before they are fined. The measure passed on a 23-2 vote. "If there are three strikes where you have a retailer violating it, selling using the SNAP card to sell regular soft drinks with the sugar content. Then you get them a second time and get them a third time. Then they can have some fee or fine levied against them," Orr said. The bill passed 23-2 with little discussion. It moves to the House.

## Gadsden State establishes new endowment scholarship thanks to Esta Spector donation

The Gadsden State Cardinal Foundation has announced the establishment of a newly endowed scholarship for students enrolled in the Radiography Program at Gadsden State Community College. The Image Matters Endowed Scholarship was created through a donation from local resident, Esta Spector. The principal gift will remain invested, with annual earnings awarded as scholarships to eligible students.

"This scholarship represents more than financial assistance — it represents opportunity," said Hillary Folsom, director of advancement and alumni relations for the Gadsden State Cardinal Foundation. "For many of our students, especially first-generation college students and returning adult learners, a scholarship can be the deciding factor between putting their education on hold and stepping confidently into their future."

Radiography students at Gadsden State prepare for careers in medical imaging serving hospitals, clinics and health care facilities throughout the region. Many students balance coursework and clinical requirements while managing work and family responsibilities.

First-generation college students often navigate higher education without the benefit of family experience or financial safety nets. Scholarships help ease financial burdens while providing encouragement and validation that academic and career goals are achievable.

For returning adult learners — many of whom are reskilling, changing careers or supporting families — scholarship support can help maintain momentum toward a new professional pathway.

"Investing in students is one of the most meaningful ways we can strengthen our community," Spector said. "I am honored to support radiography students who will go on to serve others in health care settings. I hope this endowment helps remove barriers and open doors."

Endowed scholarships continue generating support



Courtesy of GSCC

Pictured from left, Hillary Folsom, Director of Advancement and Alumni Relations at Gadsden State Community College, and Ms. Esta Spector.

year after year. Unlike one-time gifts, an endowment creates a lasting legacy, ensuring future generations of students benefit from donor generosity.

The Gadsden State Cardinal Foundation advances the mission of the college by securing private support for scholarships, academic programs and capital initiatives. Through the generosity of donors such as Spector, the foundation continues expanding access to education and workforce training opportunities throughout Gadsden and across Alabama.

For more information about the Cardinal Foundation, visit [cardinalfoundation.org](http://cardinalfoundation.org).



### Wastewater Plant Operator

Gadsden Water Works is currently accepting applications for a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator. Must possess and maintain Grade III or IV Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certification from ADEM and a valid Alabama Driver's License. This is a full-time position with excellent benefits, including Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance and State of Alabama Retirement.

Salary range is \$53,400 - \$72,900 per year.

Apply at Gadsden Water Works, 515 Albert Rains Blvd., between the hours of 8:00-4:30p.m. Monday through Friday, or by printing application at <http://www.gadsdenwater.org> and mailing to:

Gadsden Water Works, Attn: Personnel Department, P.O. Box 800, Gadsden, AL 35902. Applications may also be emailed to [jobs@gadsdenwater.org](mailto:jobs@gadsdenwater.org). Deadline for all applications will be Friday, March 13, 2026.

#### EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

Gadsden Water Works does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age and handicapped status in employment or the provision of service.



## WE'RE HIRING

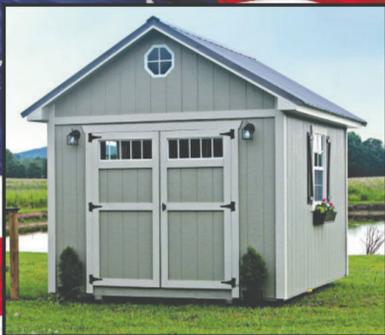
Looking for experienced transportation and logistics professionals. Call today if you are looking for a better direction.

JOIN US

256.305.5421

[suittrans.com](http://suittrans.com)

## All American Building Sales



Rent to Own. No Credit Check.

Call Byron for details  
256-442-1891

701 W. Grand Avenue | Rainbow City AL 35906



### Maintenance Mechanic

Gadsden Water is currently accepting applications for a Maintenance Mechanic. Benefits include Local Government Blue Cross/Blue Shield Insurance, State of Alabama (Tier I) Retirement, paid time off and holidays. Salary will be based on applicable experience. Must possess and maintain a valid Alabama Driver's License.

Performs various repair/maintenance work (e.g., dismantles, overhauls, repairs and reassembles engines; troubleshoots electrical problems; replaces parts; repacks pumps; re-wires electrical panels; etc.). Diagnoses, maintains, and performs mechanical and electrical repair and maintenance on water treatment plant equipment, pumps, engines, motors, generators, controls, and other machinery.

Apply at Gadsden Water, 515 Albert Rains Blvd., between the hours of 8:00-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, or by printing application at <http://www.gadsdenwater.org> and mailing to: Gadsden Water, Attn: Personnel Department, P.O. Box 800, Gadsden, AL 35902. Applications may also be emailed to [jobs@gadsdenwater.org](mailto:jobs@gadsdenwater.org). Deadline to apply is March 13, 2026.

#### EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

Gadsden Water Works does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age and handicapped status in employment or the provision of service.



Owner  
Craig Ford

Owner/Publisher  
Craig Ford  
[info@gadsdenmessenger.com](mailto:info@gadsdenmessenger.com)

News Editor  
Kaitlin Hoskins  
[khoskins@gadsdenmessenger.com](mailto:khoskins@gadsdenmessenger.com)

Legals Editor  
Teri Chupp  
[tchupp@gadsdenmessenger.com](mailto:tchupp@gadsdenmessenger.com)

Features Editor  
Lindsey Frazier  
[lfrazier@gadsdenmessenger.com](mailto:lfrazier@gadsdenmessenger.com)

The Messenger (USPS 011-757) is published weekly on Friday by The New Messenger, L.L.C., 1957 Rainbow Drive, Gadsden, AL, 35901. Periodicals Postage Paid at Gadsden, Alabama 35901. Single copies 50 cents. Annual subscription rate \$30. POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to Post Office Box 858, Gadsden, AL 35902. Phone (256) 547-1049, FAX (256) 547-1011. All stories are compiled from press releases, submissions or assignments. COMMENTS AND OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS NEWSPAPER REPRESENT THE PERSONAL VIEWS OF THE INDIVIDUALS TO WHOM THEY ARE ATTRIBUTED AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE MESSENGER OR THE PUBLISHER. NEITHER THE ADVERTISEMENT NOR THE PUBLISHER IS RESPONSIBLE OR LIABLE FOR MISINFORMATION, MISPRINTS, TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS, ETC., CONTAINED IN THE MESSENGER. THE PUBLISHER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO EDIT ALL CONTENT. NO PART OF THIS PUBLICATION MAY BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE PUBLISHER.



# March is National *KIDNEY* Awareness Month

## What your kidneys actually do and why you should care

I'm thrilled to get the opportunity to write to my community about my favorite organ, the kidney. I am a local nephrologist (that's a kidney doctor!) who has been practicing for over 10 years. The kidneys are one of the most misunderstood organs, because for the most part when they are doing their jobs, you shouldn't even really notice that they are there!

### What Do They Actually Do?

The kidneys are usually present as a pair of bean shaped organs (think kidney beans) that sit on either side of the body towards your back. Your kidneys are responsible for cleaning your blood, and produce urine as a by-product to eliminate waste. They make sure that toxins that could make you sick are removed, medications are cleared out, and electrolytes like potassium and sodium are kept in ranges that keep you feeling healthy. In addition to this function, kidneys produce the hormone that allows your bones to make red blood cells. They also process vitamin D, which helps to keep bones healthy.

### When Things Go Wrong

When kidneys get sick some of these things (toxins, electrolytes) can develop imbalances, even though they still produce normal looking urine. That means that kidneys can develop significant damage before people start to 'feel bad.' Often times that means patients don't get referred to our office until their kidney function is quite poor. Most people are born with two kidneys and can live with only one! Think about those kind souls that donate a kidney to another person – they still live normal 'kidney' lives!

### How We Check Your Kidney Health

We stage kidney disease into 5 functioning stages, with 1 being the earliest and 'best', and 5 being the latest and 'worst'. Your doctor can check your kidney function with two simple tests

1. Blood test: This checks a test called creatinine to determine your glomerular filtration rate (GFR). This tells us how well your kidneys are cleaning your blood.



2. Urine Test: This checks for a protein called albumin. This is also called a UACR. Protein is needed in your body, so you shouldn't lose it in your urine. Its presence can tip off your doctor that you might be experiencing kidney damage.

### Prevention and Hope

Routine visits and checkups with your doctor will ensure that you are screened for kidney trouble and referred to a kidney specialist if needed. We prefer to see patients early on, when we have the ability to

make the biggest positive impact on protecting or saving your kidney function, but we can often help treat patients with kidney disease of all stages. The most common causes of kidney disease are diabetes, heart disease, and high blood pressure. As diabetes has become more prevalent, so has kidney disease. The good news is that we have many more tools available to us now than we did, even since I began training. For example, when I began training, we primarily used one class of medication for

kidney disease in diabetic patients. Now we have 4 different classes of medications and combined they can be very effective at protecting kidney function.

New discoveries and treatments are available for many different types of kidney problems now, and the future is bright. I hope you have found this helpful. Make sure you ask your doctor next time, "How are my kidneys doing?" Let's keep those kidneys happy!

*Submitted by Jim Harms, MD*

## NAC Nephrology Associates, P.C.

KIDNEY & HYPERTENSION SPECIALISTS

# Kidney Care. Close to home.

**Nephrology Associates, P.C.** is a group of dedicated physicians specializing in the comprehensive care of patients with kidney disease and hypertension.

### Office Locations

Alabaster • Anniston • Bessemer  
 Birmingham • Clanton • **Gadsden**  
 Gardendale • Greystone • Jasper  
 Oneonta • Pell City • Trussville  
 Tuscaloosa • Vestavia Hills • Winfield



Roman R. Brantley M.D.



James L. Lewis M.D.



John R. Brouillette M.D.



Jeffrey H. Glaze M.D.



Thomas H. Watson M.D.



William D. Lyndon M.D.



Michael B. Hovater M.D.



Ben R. Broome M.D.



Theodore S. Feely M.D.



James C. Harms M.D.



Nicholas J. Izor M.D.



Katie V. Bean M.D.



Harold E. Giles M.D.



Agata M. Przekwas M.D.



Zachary D. Stello M.D.



Timothy A. Williams M.D.



Phillip N. Madonia M.D.

### Seeing patients in our Gadsden location



Timothy A. Williams M.D.



Theodore S. Feely M.D.



James C. Harms M.D.

405 S. 2nd Street  
 Gadsden, AL 35903

205.226.5900 • nephrologypc.com

# NEWS

## Ban on foreign national contributions to Alabama campaigns headed to Ivey

By Anna Barrett  
Alabama Reflector

The Alabama Senate on Thursday passed a bill that would prohibit foreign nationals from donating to Alabama candidates' campaigns.

HB 214, sponsored by Rep. James Lomax, R-Huntsville, mirrors a federal law and intends to keep foreign influence from Alabama elections. Sen. Dan Roberts, R-Mountain Brook, carried the bill in the Senate.

"Under current federal law, foreign nationals are banned from donating to political candidates and committees. Loopholes in the law have led to mil-

lions of foreign dollars being funneled to influence ballot issue campaigns like constitutional amendment referendums across the United States," Roberts said.

A 2021 analysis by OpenSecrets, a nonprofit organization that gathers data on money used in American politics, found that \$33.5 million in individual political contributions came from foreign agents and lobbyists during the 2020 election despite a federal law prohibiting foreign national involvement. Foreign nationals can hire U.S. citizens to lobby and donate on their behalf, the analysis found.

Roberts did not say if money from foreign nationals had been contrib-

uted to state campaigns.

The bill prohibits foreign nationals from donating "directly or indirectly" to state or local political parties, political action committees, election advertisements or promising to donate to campaigns. Candidates and non-candidate offices are also prohibited from soliciting donations from foreign nationals. Violations of both are Class C felonies, punishable by up to 10 years in prison.

"Currently, Alabama does not have a matching state law. Therefore, state and local prosecutors do not have the ability to pursue instances of criminal foreign influence on our elections," Roberts said.

## Nearly identical school prayer bills pass Alabama House committees

By Andrea Tinker  
Alabama Reflector

Two Alabama House committees Wednesday approved bills that could require school boards to mandate the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance and allow public prayers and the reading of religious texts in schools.

HB 43 and HB 511, both sponsored by Rep. Reed Ingram, R-Pike Road, would cause local school boards to lose up to 25 percent of their state funding for not complying with their provisions.

"A lot of these kids want to be exposed to God or have that opportunity to worship, and this gives them that," Ingram said after the meetings. "They don't have that opportunity at home because their parents may work two or three jobs and work on Sunday."

Current law generally allows school prayer and religious studies outside of school buildings.

HB 43 appeared in the House Education Policy Committee Wednesday; HB 511 was in the House State Government Committee. Both bills were filed with identical language. Ingram said he filed HB 511 after HB 43 stalled in the House Education Policy Committee last week.

"We didn't know if the bill was gonna be dead or not, so leadership advised that it may be safer to go ahead and drop another bill in an abundance of caution," Ingram said during the House State Government meeting.

Both committees amended the bills. The House Education Policy Committee decreased the funding penalty for boards that do not vote on prayer from 25 percent to 12.5 percent. The committee also removed a measure in the bill stating that students would have to sign permission slips to participate in prayer.

A substitute adopted by the House State Government Committee to HB 511 would require schools to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and hold a daily prayer at the start of the school day, though it would not mandate that students participate. The committee substitute also allows prayer to be broadcast throughout the school over the public announcement system.

Rep. Chris Sells, R-Greenville, the chair of the House State Government Committee, said he believes HB 511 is the stronger bill.



Anna Barrett/Alabama Reflector

Rep. Reed Ingram, R-Pike Road, standing in a committee room in the Alabama Statehouse on Feb. 25, 2026, in Montgomery, Alabama. Two bills sponsored by Ingram requiring the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and prayers at the start of the school day advanced out of House committees on Wednesday.

"Every school has to opt in and it's just straight forward. We have a prayer and a pledge every morning and that's it," he said.

Members of the public spoke against the bill.

Stephanie Butler, a resident of Vestavia Hills who is Jewish, said she worried about peer pressure non-Christian students could face.

"Social pressure is real, students who will walk out are singled out or labeled as outsiders," Butler said. "My own two children have encountered this pressure as early as elementary school with weekly Bible study being held in the cafeteria during breakfast and with the Gideons' visit to hand out Bibles in fifth grade."

Rep. Marilyn Lands, D-Huntsville, also had concerns about children being ostracized.

"I know we would all agree that public schools function best when all students feel equally welcome and accepted and I'm not sure this bill advances that," she said. "I know that's the desire of all of us. I do think this makes students feel left out."

Ingram said he doesn't believe the bill will cause harm to students who aren't Christian.

"It doesn't say we've got to talk about Jesus," Ingram said. "It's non-de-

nominational and if it's a Jewish school then that's what they're going to go by."

Other Democrats on the committees expressed concerns about the legislation.

Rep. Barbara Drummond, D-Mobile, had concerns about funding being stripped from schools even after an amendment was added to decrease the funding loss to schools and only apply it to administrative costs, "because that's a part of our kids that somebody's got to work with them," she said during the House Education Policy meeting.

House Minority Leader Anthony Daniels, D-Huntsville, also had concerns with the bill's language for penalizing schools by taking away funding because of the needs of different school systems.

"Some of our systems are already barely making it, and I know the needs-based funding really helped, but you still have systems out there that have a good level of poverty as well as students with special needs and others," he said.

Sells said it's up in the air which version of the bill will be put on the House calendar.

"We might bring it up in (the Republican) caucus and discuss it, who knows? We have two routes going forward," he said.

## Local free tax filing help available

Free tax preparation and electronic filing services are available through a partnership between the IRS and the Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), which serves Etowah, Cherokee and DeKalb counties. The VITA and TCE programs are designed to assist low- to moderate-income taxpayers and senior citizens who may not be able to afford professional tax preparation. Trained and IRS-certified volunteers prepare straightforward federal and state returns at no cost.

RSVP and the IRS have partnered to offer these programs since 1990 in Etowah and Cherokee County. All volunteers are trained and certified before beginning tax preparation.

Free tax preparation services are offered at multiple locations across the three counties. In Etowah County, assistance is available at the Etowah County Courthouse, Room 221, located at 800 Forrest Ave. in Gadsden, Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; the Hokes Bluff Library at 3310 Alford Bend Road on Mondays from noon to 4 p.m.; the Jane Phillips Community Center at 115 Case Ave. in Attalla on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; the Rainbow City Community Center at 3702 Rainbow Drive on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; the George Wallace Senior Center in Glencoe on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and the East Gadsden Community Center at 921 Wil-

son St. on select Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Additional services are available at the Centre Administration Building, located at 260 Cedar Bluff Road in Centre, on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; the Sardis City Library on select Wednesdays from noon to 4 p.m.; the Walnut Grove Senior Center at 5151 Walnut Grove Road on select Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; the Ft. Payne Council on Aging at 600 Tyler Ave. SE in Ft. Payne on Thursdays from 8 a.m. to noon by appointment; and the Moon Lake Library at 4607 Alabama Highway 117 in Mentone on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. by appointment.

Taxpayers using the free service should bring a photo ID, Social Security cards for everyone listed on the return, birth dates, a copy of last year's tax return, income documents such as W-2s and 1099s, information on any cash income received, daycare payment details if applicable, and bank routing and account numbers for direct deposit.

RSVP is a federally sponsored program through AmeriCorps and is supported locally by the Etowah County Commission. Its mission is to improve lives, strengthen communities and promote civic engagement through volunteer service.

For more information, residents may contact RSVP at 256-549-8147.

HOPPERS  
BRIDE  
SCREAM 7

HOPPERS

JESSE BUCKLEY CHRISTIAN BALE

HERE COMES THE BRIDE!

ONLY IN THEATERS MARCH 6

SCREAM 7

Give the gift of entertainment



**G'S TREE SERVICE, LLC. & EXCAVATION**

**GAGE BRYANT**  
256-458-9653  
Licensed & Insured

**Nana's Attic Consignment Shop**

256-546-9281 - 429 Ewing Avenue North Gadsden, AL. 35901

**Nana's Attic**

Women's and Children's shoes, jewelry and clothing, including name brands. Also, a variety of household items and collectibles. For all your spring and summer needs!

**Tuesday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

# LIFESTYLE

## ‘Because every woman’s soul is unique’



Tabitha Bozeman

It is March, and Women’s History Month — one of my favorites. I love to review some of my favorite quotes by women I have obsessively read, and revisit their work. Along the way, I remember words that have inspired me and why they did, sharing them as I raise my girls, and a son who is going to be a “girl dad.” Three of the earliest literary quotes that grabbed my imagination and ignited a sense of determination and wonder about being a woman in this world are from Louisa May Alcott, Charlotte Bronte, and Virginia Woolf.

My mother read Little Women to us when I was probably about 10 years old, and I read it so many times on my own that I knew if she tried to skip any pages. I had entire passages memorized, and the March sisters captured my imagination as they

dealt with bullies at school, mean adults, difficult family members, and all the painful parts of growing up. Alcott gave me this quote: “Women, they have minds, and they have souls, as well as just hearts. And they’ve got ambition, and they’ve got talent, as well as just beauty. I’m so sick of people saying that love is all a woman is fit for.” This quote gave me permission to grow into a full person, not bound by gender expectations, but free to fulfill those expectations while also challenging them if I chose to do so.

The first time I read Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte, I was in high school. I (of course) fell in love with the setting, the suspense, and the tragic love story. However, it was the sheer will and determination of the main character to unapologetically craft a life and world of her own that really burrowed into my soul. She wanted to love and be loved for who she was, including her mind. Bronte gave me this quote: “I am no bird; and no net ensnares me: I am a free human being with an independent will.” Birds are one of my favorite creatures, and I love to watch them flying outside, listen to them singing and calling to one another. I think of this quote often when I am outside.

In college, I read the essay “A Room of

One’s Own” by Virginia Woolf, as well as several of her novels. Virginia Woolf argued for equal access for women to education, libraries, time, space of their own, and opportunity to create. She gave me this quote: “Lock up your libraries if you like; but there is no gate, no lock, no bolt that you can set upon the freedom of my mind.” The freedom of my mind has been one of my most prized possessions.

I have read the writing of many, many women. I have discovered quotes and passages, stories and poems that have broken my heart, as well as healed it. I have been reminded of the strength of the women around me and of my own power by these writers. They have shared their lives, their loves, their disappointments and their hopes for the future. In doing so, they have encouraged, warned, educated, uplifted, and supported my own journey. In return, I have been able to support and encourage other women in my life.

In a powerful poem, Nikita Gill reminds us to teach our daughters, the younger women coming up behind us, to love themselves, to champion themselves, and not to give up their power — and to teach them by showing them that we love, champion, and challenge ourselves. To remember that we are crafting our own lives, each day, ex-

perience by experience:

“Tell your daughters how you love your body. Tell them how they must love theirs. Tell them to be proud of every bit of themselves—from their tiger stripes to the soft flesh of their thighs, whether there is a little of them or a lot, whether freckles cover their face or not, whether their curves are plentiful or slim, whether their hair is thick, curly, straight, long or short.

Tell them how they inherited their ancestors, souls in their smiles, that their eyes carry countries that breathed life into history, that the swing of their hips does not determine their destiny.

Tell them never to listen when bodies are critiqued. Tell them every woman’s body is beautiful because every woman’s soul is unique.”

This March, may we all remember the women who have impacted our lives, encouraged us, and shown us how to craft lives of meaning, growing into complete and full individuals, our minds free, our ambition and talent part of our beauty, and passing on these lessons and reminders to the women around us.

Tabitha Bozeman is an instructor at GSCC. Email at [tabithabozean@gmail.com](mailto:tabithabozean@gmail.com).

## When a tornado watch is issued, your library is ready

As we move into the heart of severe weather season in Gadsden and across Alabama, I want to make sure our community knows something important: the Gadsden Public Library serves as the designated downtown public shelter when inclement weather approaches.

In partnership with the Etowah County Emergency Management Agency and following alerts from the National Weather Service, the library opens its basement shelter whenever a tornado watch is issued for Gadsden and Etowah County.

Let me be clear about what that means. When the National Weather Service issues a tornado watch — whether at 2:00 in the afternoon during our regular business hours or at 2:00 in the morning when the library is normally closed — the library shelter will open and remain open until the “all clear” has been given.

Our priority is simple: providing a safe place for anyone who needs one.

The library building was constructed in 1964 and was designed with reinforced concrete and structural steel. Our basement level provides substantial protection from severe weather events. The shelter area has been reviewed and approved by both the Etowah County EMA and the American Red Cross. While no structure can promise

absolute immunity from extreme weather, our basement shelter offers one of the most secure public locations in downtown Gadsden.

If you live in an older home without a basement, in a mobile home, in an upstairs apartment, or if you simply feel safer in a reinforced public facility during severe weather, please know that you are welcome.

The trigger for opening is a tornado watch for Gadsden and Etowah County.

Many people are familiar with the difference between a watch and a warning, but it is worth reviewing:

- Tornado Watch – Conditions are favorable for tornadoes to develop.
- Tornado Warning – A tornado has been sighted or indicated by radar.

Because watches often precede warnings — and because severe weather in Alabama can develop rapidly — our policy is to open at the watch stage so residents are not scrambling at the last minute. The shelter will remain open until the National Weather Service cancels the watch and the EMA gives the all clear.

If severe weather is expected to last several hours, please bring: water, snacks, necessary medications, phone charger, essential personal items. If the weather event

is projected to be brief, a short stay may be all that is needed. But Alabama weather has taught us that preparation is always wise.

We understand that pets are family members, and we will not ask you to leave them behind. However, for everyone’s safety:

- Dogs must be on a leash or crated.
- Cats must be crated.

These requirements are for the protection of the animals and for the comfort and safety of all shelter occupants. Please also bring any food or supplies your pet may need.

Libraries are more than buildings filled with books. They are community anchors. In good weather, we provide education, internet access, meeting space, children’s programming, and lifelong learning opportunities. In bad weather, we provide shelter.

As Library Director, I consider it a solemn responsibility that when the sirens sound and skies darken, our doors will open. I encourage every downtown resident to remember this location. Share the information with neighbors, especially those who may live alone or lack reliable transportation. Preparation and communication save lives.

The next time severe weather appears in the forecast and a tornado watch is is-



sued, you won’t have to wonder where to go. Your library will be open. And we will be ready.

Craig Scott is the library director of the Gadsden Public Library and a past president of the Alabama Library Association (ALLA). Visit Gadsden Public Library at 254 South College Street in downtown Gadsden next to the U.S. Post Office or Gadsden Public Library Genealogy Branch at 2700 West Meighan Boulevard in Alabama City on the corner of Meighan and Wall Street. Call the College Street branch at 256-549-4699 or call the Genealogy branch 256-549-4688. For more information visit [www.gadsdenlibrary.org](http://www.gadsdenlibrary.org).

**Jeff Bynum**  
Professional Auctioneer

Specializing in  
Automobile - Livestock - Real Estate

**256-441-9917**

[jeffbynum333@gmail.com](mailto:jeffbynum333@gmail.com)  
P.O. Box 1  
Attalla, AL 35954

Become an  
**ADULT  
FOSTER  
CARE  
Provider**

“Love Never Ages”

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF  
**HUMAN  
RESOURCES**

1-800-458-7214  
[dhr.alabama.gov/AFC](http://dhr.alabama.gov/AFC)

**radius recycling**  
Strength. Sustainability. Success.

**CASH PAID  
FOR SCRAP METAL**

SCRAP IRON | COPPER | BRASS | ALUMINUM |  
STAINLESS STEEL | ALUMINUM CANS

CONTAINER SERVICE AVAILABLE  
FULL SERVICE SCRAP METAL YARD

**HIGHEST PRICES PAID**

[www.radiusrecycling.com](http://www.radiusrecycling.com)  
**256-538-7891**  
1-800-289-2857  
1007 9th Street SW | Attalla, Alabama

**5TH ANNUAL AUTISM SPECTRUM CONFERENCE**  
“TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE”

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026**  
THE VENUE AT COOSA LANDING  
201 GEORGE WALLACE DRIVE  
GADSDEN, AL 35903

**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!**

**THIS IS A PUBLIC EVENT**

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO SUPPORT AUTISM AWARENESS.  
CME & CEU’S ARE ALSO GRANTED TO VARIOUS  
PROFESSIONAL FOR ATTENDING. CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR  
MORE INFORMATION.

PLEASE GO TO [ASDOFGADSDEN.ORG](http://ASDOFGADSDEN.ORG) OR FOLLOW THE  
QR CODE TO REGISTER!

[INFO@ASDOFGADSDEN.ORG](mailto:INFO@ASDOFGADSDEN.ORG) | 256.441.3333

**ELECT**

**JEFF  
BYNUM**

**ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 4**

**A CHANGE for the  
NEXT GENERATION!**

For questions about my campaign, or my ideas for  
the future of **DISTRICT 4**, please call me: 256-441-9917.

PAID FOR BY JEFF BYNUM, ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 4

# DEVOTIONALS

## The deaf dog discipleship



*Memoir Musings*

Sandra Bost

I said something terrible to my deaf dog the other day.

Kar, as he was called when we adopted him almost a decade ago, can't hear the world around him—no warnings, no praise, no "I love you" drifting into his ears. And yet, he moves through life with a steady sweetness—sometimes annoyance—that softens everyone who encounters him. Literally. Every. One.

He is loyal, (mostly) gentle, and so persistently devoted that sometimes it borders on ridiculous.

And still...on that day, frustration got the best of me. He was underfoot, I was in a hurry, and headed to grab the dustpan for the tidy pile I had just swept, when he panicked. He caught a glimpse of that tall, stiff-spined, bristly monster he's convinced is plotting his demise and darted past me—right through my pile, scattering little white hairs and grass everywhere. I'll give you three guesses as to the origin of the fur and grass.

Without thought, the words just flew out of my mouth like I say them everyday—which I don't, since I was raised to reserve this particular word for the devil.

"I hate you." Not just once, but three times. He didn't hear it. But I heard it. And Holy Spirit heard it, too.

Immediately, the weight of those words settled on me. Because, while Kar couldn't hear my voice—he saw my posture—he felt my frustration.

The thought occurred to me: How many times has God watched me behave as ridiculous as Kar? How many times have I misunderstood, wandered aimlessly, bolted in the wrong direction out of fear? And yet, in my ridiculousness, I have been met with grace, patience, gentleness, and unshakable devotion.

After the broom-incident chaos settled, Kar did what Kar always does: he wandered back to me. Nudging my heart with his big, brown eyes—while whacking my leg with his long white tail. He forgave me in his little dog-way. And I couldn't help but feel the gentle conviction of it all.

If Kar, who hears none of my apologies, can still see me as a safe, good person—how much more should I trust Jesus, who has never been impatient with me. He has never looked at me with animosity, or spoken a harsh word to me. How much more should I lean into the One who meets all my wanderings, panics,

and wrong turns with unchanging patience and love?

Kar's sweetness—his loyalty, his eagerness, his ridiculous devotion—became a mirror. A quiet reminder that I am the one who panics at imagined foes. I am the one who tramples the tidy things. I am the one who gets life wrong in a hurry. And yet, Psalm 103:8-14 reminds me that Jesus continues to respond with generous, relentless, undeserved Love.

"The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love... He does not treat us as our sins deserve... He knows how we are formed, He remembers that we are dust" (NIV).

The more I pondered it all, the more I realized that Kar wasn't just a dog at that moment. He was a teacher—a furry, bulldog shaped, professor—wagging his tail at me. And just like that—in spite of my frustration, Kar's forgiveness and God's whisper of grace—this Psalm of Sandra I wrote years ago, came back to mind.

A Psalm of Sandra when she ponders the ways of the deaf dog, Kar.

All day, he keeps watch through the window and longs for our return; I want to long for Your return as resolutely. You are Faithful. (Jehovah)

When we return, he notices, and greets us with ridiculous excitement; I want to lavish You with ridiculous praise and affection. You are worthy. (El Shaddai, Jehovah Nissi)

When we give him direction, his eyes are fixed on us and he obeys; I want to fix my eyes on You and obey Your commands. You are Sovereign. (Elohim, Adonai)

When he is hungry, or has a need, he trusts us to care for him; I want to trust You with every care and every need. You are a Good Father. (Jehovah Jireh)

When we are home, he stays by our sides and comes to us for friendship and comfort; I want to be as devoted to You. You are my Friend and my Peace. (Jehovah Shalom)

Oh! Great God! When I ponder the ways of this beautifully ridiculous deaf dog, my heart longs to love you with such enthusiasm and faithfulness. Help me, Abba, to have the nature of Kar in all of my ways.

Selah!  
Let every small, ordinary moment—even the ones full of dust piles and tangled emotions—become a reminder of the extraordinary goodness of God. He is faithful in our failures, gentle in our fears, and steady in His love.

Let's be like Kar today—ridiculous in the best way—trusting fully, loving freely, and curling up close to the Father who is endlessly faithful.

Connect with Bost on social media platforms by searching for "Sandra Mullins Bost."

## 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men'

Imagine if your entire life could be changed by just two words.

When Jesus walked along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, He saw fishermen going about their normal routines. They were working, casting nets, focused on the responsibilities of the day. Jesus did not give them a long speech or a detailed explanation of what the future would look like. He simply spoke two words that would change everything.

"Follow me."

Those words carried the power to redirect their careers, reshape their priorities, and transform their futures. At that moment, ordinary fishermen were invited into an extraordinary purpose.

Many of us make our relationship with Jesus more complicated than it needs to be. We think we have to understand ev-

erything first. We want answers to every question. We want a clear plan and a guarantee of how things will turn out. So we analyze, evaluate, and sometimes hesitate.

But discipleship does not begin when we have everything figured out. Discipleship begins when we stop evaluating Jesus and simply start following Him.

The fishermen did not ask for a business plan. They did not ask how it would all work or what challenges might come. They heard the call and responded.

Jesus is still speaking those same words today. He is calling ordinary people—people with jobs, responsibilities, questions, and imperfections. He is not asking you to be perfect or to have every detail of your life in order. He is simply inviting you to follow Him.

And that invitation meets you exactly where you are. In your workplace. In your family. In your everyday life. When you respond, Jesus begins to shape your purpose and use your life in ways you never imagined.

Matthew 4:19 And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

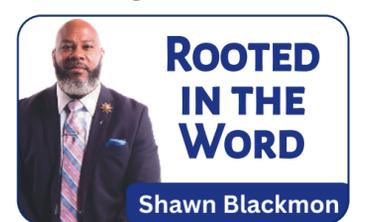
Two simple words.

A life changing call.

The question is whether we are willing to respond.

**Walk in grace. Stand in truth. Live blessed.**

Pastor Shawn Blackmon serves as the Lead Pastor of UNITY Church in Attalla, Alabama, where his preaching is real, relevant and rooted in the un-



**ROOTED IN THE WORD**

Shawn Blackmon

changing Word of God. Beyond the pulpit, he serves as CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Alabama, leading life-changing mentoring initiatives that empower young people across five counties. His leadership bridges the gap between the Church and the community, inspiring collaboration, compassion and lasting transformation.

# Your Weekly Devotionals

**Messenger**



This page is made possible by the sponsors listed below.

### BEANS & GREENS

Southern Buffet Cooking



Open Wednesday - Saturday  
10:30 AM - 8 PM  
Open Sunday  
10:30 AM - 3 PM  
Closed Monday and Tuesday

**256-492-3267**

10294 Centre Rd. Gadsden, AL. 35903

### BLACKSTONE

PUB & EATERY

PIZZA KITCHEN



Open at 11 a.m.  
7 days a week!

**256-543-7473**

Located at  
525 Broad Street  
Downtown Gadsden

blackstonepubandeatery.com

### Giant JOHNSON'S Food

HOME OWNED & OPERATED

THREE ETOWAH COUNTY LOCATIONS

<b>East Gadsden</b> Meighan Blvd. & Piedmont Cut-Off <b>256-492-2244</b>	<b>Attalla</b> Corner of Hwy 77 & Hwy 11 <b>256-538-7412</b>	<b>Gadsden</b> Corner of 6th & Walnut St. <b>256-547-2528</b>
--	--	---

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**

**NEW LOCATION IN SOUTHSIDE COMING SOON!**

### RICK'S

Discount Drugs of Attalla

DRIVE THRU WINDOW

Open:

Mon. - Fri: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Sat. 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**256-538-5850**

At the Corner of Hwy 77 & Hwy 11 in Attalla inside Johnson's Giant Foods



116 Industrial Drive, Steele, AL 35987

**256-438-8070**

"The Lord is my Light and my Salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

- Psalm 27:1

### FAMILY SAVINGS credit union

WHERE YOUR MONEY GROWS WITH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

2 Locations to Serve You!

**MAIN OFFICE**  
711 E. Meighan Blvd., Gadsden, AL 35903  
256-543-9530

**RAINBOW CITY**  
3003 2nd Street, Rainbow City, 35901  
256-413-0900

**888-311-3728**

[www.familysavingscu.com](http://www.familysavingscu.com)

Federally Insured by NCUA

# OBITUARIES



**William (Bill) Haynes III**

**RAINSVILLE** - Mr. William (Bill) Haynes III age 82 of Rainsville, AL formerly of Gadsden passed away on Thursday, February 26, 2026. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2026 at 3:00PM in Rainsville Funeral Home Chapel. Rainsville Funeral Home, Inc. directing, www.rainsvillefuneralhome.com.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, March 14 from 2pm-3pm.

Survivors, Wife: Gail Haynes, Sons: Will Haynes, Clint Haynes, Stepson: Joshua (Kristen) Gaskin, Sisters: Pat (Bill) Murton, Helen (Vance) Moore, Mother-in-law: Mary Baugh, Sisters-in-law: Jackie Baugh, Martha Crosby, Beckie (Freddy) Johnson, Teresa (Michael) Dukes, & Annette Combs, Grandchildren: Karlie Haynes, Jordan (Maija) Filer, Jacob & Jocelyn Gaskin, Tyler, Ellie & Luke Haynes

Preceded in Death, Parents: Bill & Ruth Haynes, Father-in-law: Ben Baugh.

A very special thank you to Carolyn Day for all her help.

The family request no flowers.



**Karen Morrison Jones**

Karen Morrison Jones passed away peacefully and danced her way to heaven on March 2, 2026, with her husband, daughters and dearest loved ones at her bedside. Her final days were filled with the purest love from her family and friends. She was 70 years young, but lived a full and vibrant life. She was born on January 17, 1956 in Sacramento, California, where her father was stationed in the Air Force. They lived in the sunny city of Sacramento for a brief period before moving back to Alabama - just long enough to instill in her a love of sunshine that she carried throughout the rest of her life. She grew up in Gadsden, AL with her parents and her younger brother, Tommy. She was fortunate to meet the love of her life at the young age of 14 and married her husband, Mark at 18 years old, just after she graduated from Gadsden High School with the class of 1974. They began their life together while both attending Auburn University. She cherished the two years she spent studying at Auburn, and even more so, living there. She and Mark raised their daughters tailgating and attending Auburn games each year and both daughters went on to attend college at Auburn - it will always be considered a second home. After Mark graduated they both moved back to Gadsden to work for the family business, G.W. Jones Enterprises, alongside Mark's brother Brent and his wife JoAnn, where Karen quickly became an integral part of the business operations.

While running the family business, Karen and Mark built their first home in Rainbow City, AL where

they raised their two daughters, along with goats, horses and many other beloved family pets. Her daughters were raised learning how to feed baby goats by the bottle, her oldest daughter, Jessica, helped raise and show horses, and they were even able to witness the birth of many foals. Karen was a natural in the garden as well as in the kitchen and was cooking farm to table meals long before that became a trend. Most would say you haven't lived until you've had one of her salads or her famous guacamole. Her secret ingredient was love and she put it into every meal she made. She inspired that same love for cooking in her youngest daughter, Kathryn and also her granddaughter, Raegan, so that legacy will indeed live on.

In 2010 Mark and Karen started building their dream home on the bay in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida, eventually moving there full time to enjoy life with their daughters and grandchildren. In every chapter of life they have been blessed with the most genuine of friendships - childhood turned lifetime friends, as well as friendships built in Florida - all of which will live on through Mark and the family.

Karen wore many hats and was full of talents - some that she rarely ever spoke of. Artist, personal trainer, yoga and spin instructor at Fitness Plus, cajon player, gardener, gourmet cook - just to name a few. She loved the sunshine and being outdoors and wanted nothing to do with cold weather, unless of course she was out west surrounded by the mountains and ski slopes - in her element. Wife, mother, sister, aunt, grandmother, friend - she took pride in all of these roles. Her love was unmatched and if you were lucky enough to have it, then you were lucky enough. Her love of music was a big part of her life and she will be remembered for always having the best moves on the dance floor. Perhaps, though, the most extraordinary love in her life was the love she and Mark shared. Married for 51 years, the love story that they shared is one you don't come across often and is a big part of the legacy she leaves behind to all those who have been fortunate enough to witness it. The love, devotion and care extended by Mark during her hard fought battle with dementia was truly one of the greatest examples of love to ever witness - a sliver of a silver lining through such a difficult time.

She is survived by her husband of 51 years, Mark Jones; her daughters, Jessica (Randy) Rintala and Kathryn (Michael) Lyons; mother, Beverly Morrison; brother, Tommy (Jennifer) Morrison, nephew, Quinn Morrison and her five grandchildren; Ava, Raegan, Rachel, Rhett and Julia.

Karen is also survived by many extended family members including brother and sister-in-law, Brent and JoAnn Jones, cousins, nieces and nephews, as well as step-grandson, Hunter (Katie) Lyons and great granddaughter, Lillian.

She is preceded in death by her father, Quentis (Sonny) Morrison, as well as many other beloved family members and dear friends. May they all rejoice together in Heaven.

The family would like to extend their deepest gratitude to Karen's caregivers, Michelle Barrow and Marla Meure. The care and comfort that they have provided in the last year to both Karen and Mark and the entire family will never be forgotten. They will always be considered family. A special thanks also goes to the team with Emerald Coast Hospice, who will always come highly recommended by our family.

The family will be planning a celebration of life in the coming weeks and

details will be shared at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Dwightfest, LLC - a Santa Rosa Beach non-profit organization created to give back to the local artists, musicians, and service workers that provide the music, art and community that Karen so dearly loved.



**Betty Johnston**

**ATTALLA** - Betty Amos Johnston, a beloved resident of Attalla, Alabama, passed away peacefully on February 13, 2026. She was a devoted wife, loving mother, and faithful member of her community, known for her warm spirit, strong work ethic and deep faith.

She is survived by her loving son, Bentley H. Johnston, and daughter in law, Martha P. Johnston.

Betty dedicated much of her professional life to serving others through her work. She was employed at Stewart Drugs in Attalla, Alabama, for well over 20 years, where she formed lasting connections with customers and colleagues. Later, she worked at Brown's Shoe Store in Gadsden, Alabama, continuing her commitment to helpful, friendly service.

A lifelong person of faith, Betty was a cherished member of First Baptist Church of Attalla, Alabama, where her presence and kindness touched many lives.

While her loss deeply saddens those who knew and loved her, we find comfort in knowing she is now in a better place, free from pain and reunited with loved ones, watching over us all. The family extends special thanks to Southern Care New Beacon Hospice for their compassionate care, with particular gratitude to Savannah.

Betty will be remembered for her vibrant, outgoing personality, her genuine delight in meeting new people, and her remarkable ability to make everyone she encountered feel like an old friend, she truly never met a stranger. May her memory be a blessing and a source of peace.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations to your favorite charity in Betty's name or to her cherished church, First Baptist Church of Attalla.

A visitation for Betty Amos Johnston, 87, of Attalla was held Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at Glencoe Hokes Bluff Funeral Home. A private graveside service followed the visitation.



**Garyon "Gary" Harp**

Garyon "Gary" Harp departed this life on February 17, 2026 at the age of 75.

It is with deep love and solemn hearts that we announce the passing of Garyon "Gary" Harp, who departed this life on February 17, 2026, at the age of 75.

Born on June 19, 1950 in Gadsden, AL to the late Carlton Harp, Jr. and Lula Mae Harp, Garyon Harp, lived a life marked by resilience, complexity, strength,

and growth. He was a man who carried both burdens and wisdom, and whose journey reflected perseverance through life's many challenges.

Garyon Harp proudly served his country in the United States Army, during the Vietnam era, stationed in Berlin, Germany. His service was a reflection of his courage and commitment, and it remained an important part of his life story. Soon after, he attended college where he received an Associate's Degree in Mathematics.

He was also a gifted carpenter, able to build and create with his hands in ways that spoke louder than words. Without formal training, he crafted furniture and projects that stand today as lasting reminders of his talent, patience, and quiet brilliance.

He was a devoted Deacon of the Galilee Baptist Church in Gadsden, Alabama, where he was also a member, who enjoyed spending Sunday mornings with his late mother. He attended his home church as a child where his great uncle, Rev. E.L. Gary was the pastor.

Beyond his skills and service, Garyon, was a man of soul. He found joy in music, especially the sounds of funk and elastic R&B, along with playing the piano at a young age. He loved good home cooked sou food, family moments, playing chess, watching westerns, action movies and Marvel. He also enjoyed the simple comforts of home and nature. He spent many days enjoying the beautiful sun and watching nature, as he sat outside.

Those who knew him understood that his life was not without hardship. Yet even through struggle, he remained present in his own way, and his life leaves behind lessons of endurance, humanity, and reflection.

He is preceded in death by his parents Lula Mae 'Gary' Watters (Ed Watters) and Carlton L. Harp, Jr., his dad; his grandparents: Jessie B. Gary and Tom Gary, along with Fannie Johnson and Carlton L. Harp, Sr.; his many aunts and uncles, including Magdalene and Deacon Wiley Turner, Elizabeth Sutton and Rev. Jimmy Horton, along with many cherished family members and cousins.

He is survived by his aunt, Betty Horton; his brother, Carlton Harp III (Wanda Harp); children, Councilwoman Angela Renee Pratts (Derrick S. Pratts, Sr.); Garon D. Johnson (Antwanette Hill); grandchildren, Tyré Macon Julie McDonald, DeChé Pratts, and Derrick Pratts Jr.; great-grandchildren, Jeremiah McDonald, Jace Macon Journie Macon, and J'anna Macon; nephews and neice, Carlton Harp IV, Catrice Harp, and Carlton Harp V. Along with many cousins and friends, including significant other, Lucy Johnson; lifelong best friend, James Macon; life-long friend, Paulette Macon; and helpful family friend, Endell Wood.

They will carry forward his memory, his stories, and the impact he made on their lives. Though he is no longer with us physically, his spirit lives on in the lives he touched, the things he built, and the love that remains. The family asks that he be remembered not only for the struggles he faced, but for the strength he showed, the service he gave, and the life he lived.

**Charles Abney**

Charles Abney passed away on February 27, 2026, at the age of 84.

**Clark Hudson Wilson**

**SARDIS** - Clark Hudson Wilson, age 83, of Sardis, passed away on February 26, 2026 at Marshall Medical Center South.

He was survived by his

wife; Charlotte Wilson, sons; Michael (Leann) Wilson, Macon (Amanda) Wilson and chosen son; Tracey "Tadpole" (Amy) Wilder, grandchildren; Ivy (Jon) Holland, Aiden & Bristol Wilson, Jaylea (Koby) Addison, Juliana Allen, and ViviAnne Allen, great-grandchildren; Kagan, Ryland & Adaleigh Holland.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Woodie & Jessie Wilson, sisters; Glenda Wood and Ruth Story.

His Funeral Service will be at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 01, 2026 at Sardis Baptist Church. The family will receive friends from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. before the service. He will be laid to rest at Sardis Baptist Cemetery following the service. Bro. Mike Goforth and Bro. Welton Brooks will be officiating. The Pallbearers will be Joey Patterson, Axton Whitten, Darrick Baugh, Shane Haygood, Tim Stonicher and Jason Holland, Jeremy Stonicher. Honorary Pallbearers will be Roger Stonicher, Arthur Aldridge, Tommy Baugh, Gerald Smith, Fred Steward and Dale Johnson.



**Floyd West Sr.**

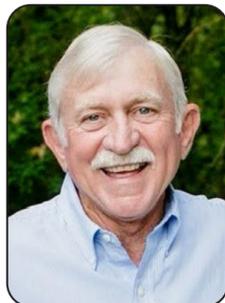
Floyd Christopher West Sr. passed away on February 24, 2026, at the age of 74. Born on March 1, 1951, Floyd was a resident of Oxford, Mississippi.

Floyd attended Norris High School and graduated from Etowah High School in 1969. He attended Antioch United Methodist Church in Attalla, AL.

Floyd was preceded in death by his parents, Nellie G. Johnson-West and Jessie James West Jr.; Siblings, Alford D. West and Thelma West-Nelson.

Floyd is survived by his children, daughter, Trevia West; sons, Floyd C. "Chris" (Aundrea) West Jr., Fredrick "Fred" (Jennifer) West, William "Grass" (Christina) Caldwell; siblings, Alice West, Jessie J. West Jr., Halton D. West, Barbara West-Chatman, Carrie West-Cataldo, Eric E. West Sr, Arlene West; 12 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren; special friends, William "Bo" Graves, Briton Childs, and Herbert Graves Sr.

A Memorial Service will be on Saturday, March 7, 2026 at 3:30 pm at Morgan Funeral Chapel with Pastor Joey Gregory officiating. Visitation will be prior to the service from 2 until 3:30pm.



**Kevin Charles Brown**

**REECE CITY** - Kevin Charles Brown, 74, of Reece City passed away in his home surrounded by his loving family on February 24, 2026. He was born on September 16, 1951, to Ernest (Jack) and Elizabeth (Betty) Brown. He attended St. James Catholic School and graduated from Emma Sansom High School in 1969. He went on to earn degrees from Jacksonville State University, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and the University of Alabama.

Kevin began his teaching career at Hokes Bluff Elementary School, where he taught P.E., then transferred to Hokes Bluff Middle School as a PE teacher and assistant principal. Finally, he retired as the principal at Whitesboro Elementary School.

Left to remember his love and kindness are his wife of 52 years, Cathy Countryman Brown; his daughters, Kasey (Bubba) Roberts and Emily (Kyle) Battles; his grandchildren, Reese Battles, Madelyn Roberts, Reed Battles, Baylee Roberts, and Jack Roberts; his sister Patricia (David) Herrod, and brother Terry (Dollie) Brown. He is preceded in death by his parents and brother, Jeff Brown.

Known as Paw Paw by so many, he was a loving husband, father, grandfather, friend, and teacher. His love for the Lord was evident in his actions and words. Kevin touched the lives of so many people through his giving heart and kind soul. We were all blessed to have known him.

Visitation will be held at St. James Catholic Church on Friday, March 6, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Following that will be a memorial mass at 2:00 p.m. A graveside service will be held at Crestwood Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Vincent de Paul Society and Catholic Center of Concern.

Special thanks to Father Jose Chacko and our St. James Catholic Church family, Dr. Maury Minton, Dr. James Markert and team, Dr. Lewis Nabors, all the Neuro Intensive Care team at UAB, Centerwell, Gentiva, Nakita Kerksey, Renithia Cleveland, and Norva Wood.



**Helen Waldrop**

**GADSDEN** - A celebration of life service for Helen Phillips Waldrop, 84 of Gadsden was held Monday, March 2, 2026 at Glencoe Hokes Bluff Funeral Home with Pastor George Chastain and Rolan Waldrop officiating the service. Burial followed the service at Liberty Methodist Church Cemetery.

After a 13-year battle with cancer, Ms. Waldrop passed away on February 25, 2026 at her home surrounded by her devoted daughters. She faced cancer with the heart of a lion and a warrior's spirit.

She is preceded in death by her husband of 20 years Charles W. Waldrop, her beloved sons, Mark and Carl Waldrop, her grandsons, Dustin Waldrop and Justin and Jared Hopkins, her great grandson, Carl Dustin Waldrop, her parents, Alanzo and Lola Phillips and her brothers, James and Jack Spurgeon and Morris Phillips.

Helen leaves to honor her memory her precious daughters, Terri (David) Waldrop Nance and Sylvia Waldrop Hopkins, her granddaughters, Heather Johnson, Carla (Josh) Green, Lynsay Morales, Denise (Casey) Reaves, and Mindy McCain, her grandsons, Rolan (Harmony) Waldrop and Daniel (Martha) Nance, 14 great grandchildren, four great grandchildren, and her sisters, Imogene Wallace, Barbara Ledbetter and Sue Dalton, her chosen daughter, Tiffany Bone and her chosen granddaughter, Destiny Anderson, her chosen sister, Yvonne Moody and her

# OBITUARIES

closest friend, Lanis Shriver.

Helen June Phillips Waldrop was born at the foot hills of Lookout Mountain on Black Creek to Alonzo and Lola Mae Phillips. She loved spending her time gardening, going shopping with her daughters and cooking for her family. The thing she loved most to do was simply spend time with her family. She loved her family dearly.

Pallbearers will be family and friends.

The family would like to extend a sincere thanks to Dr. Charles A Leath III of UAB OBGYN Oncology for his compassion to our Mom, and for his dedication to the fight against cancer and the family would also like to give a special thanks to her friends of Holly Park for their love and support through the years.



**Sandra Kearley Miller**

**EVERGREEN** - Sandra Kearley Miller, age 72, of Evergreen, Alabama, passed away peacefully on February 26, 2026.

A graveside service was held at Crestwood Cemetery on March 3, 2026.

Sandra had a deep love for life's simple joys. She especially enjoyed traveling—particularly trips to the beach—where she found peace and happiness. She had a passion for growing beautiful flowers, caring for her beloved pets, and cheering on her favorite team as a devoted University of Alabama fan. Sandra also delighted in preparing holiday meals, bringing family and friends together around her table with warmth and generosity.

A dedicated educator for many years, Sandra graduated from the University of Alabama with her teaching degree and poured her heart into her work. She loved her students as if they were her own children, leaving a lasting impact on countless young lives. After retiring, she made her home in Evergreen, Alabama, where she spent her remaining years surrounded by the community she cherished.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ray Miller, and her parents, Carl and Prudie Kearley.

She is survived by her brothers, Alvin Kearley and Greg Kearley; her stepson, Chris Miller; and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins who will forever treasure her memory.

The family extends their heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Mark Roberts and his wonderful staff, the compassionate nurses at UAB, and Compass Hospice for their exceptional care and support.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Big Oak Boys and Girls Ranch or to a charitable organization of your choice.



**Mary Helen Nelson**

**RAINBOW CITY** - Private Graveside Service for Mary Helen Nelson, 86, of Hokes Bluff was held Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at Rainbow Memorial Gardens with Pastor Harold Epperson officiating the service.

Ms. Nelson passed away on February 26, 2026 at her home.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Bobby D. Nelson, her parents, Fred and Ailene Barnes, her sister, Ruth White, and her brother, Joe Barnes.

Left to cherish the memory of Ms. Nelson is her loving son, Sean Nelson, her sister, Judy Smith (Deon) and several nieces and nephews.

Ms. Nelson was a member of New Liberty Baptist Church. She was a proud graduate of Emma Sansom High School. Ms. Nelson worked and retired as an operator for Bell South. She enjoyed spending her time cooking, traveling and decorating.

Pallbearers were family and friends. The family would like to offer a special thank you to Audrey and Linda for the care and compassion showed to Ms. Nelson while she was in their care.

to her grandchildren who are also gifted musicians as well.

Shirley was a humble woman and later in life chose to live a simpler, quieter, more peaceful life.

Shirley was preceded in death by her parents and her son, Griffin Hatcher, Sr.

She leaves to cherish her memory her children, Lolisa Francina Hatcher, Ruby Irisana Hatcher, Delyne Victor Hatcher, Sonny Darrel Hatcher (Charnell) and Solomon Lee Hatcher (Danielle); Daughter-in-law, Nina; her grandchildren, Audreanna, Griffin Jr., Symone, Kyleigh, Lakeisha, April, Latonya, Baret, and Chloe; numerous great grandchildren; and her siblings, Patricia Palmore-Williams, Larry Palmore (Jearline), Robert Palmore (Stephanie), Jimmy Robertson, Johnny Robertson (Teresa), and Tony Robertson.

In addition to these loved ones, she is survived by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and close associates.

Graveside Service and Interment: 1:00 PM on Saturday, March 7, 2026, Lincoln Hill Cemetery - 408 Miller Ave Gadsden, AL 35903

Please remember her family in your prayers.



**Tristan Terry Green**

**JACKSONVILLE** - A celebration of life service will be 11:00 AM Saturday, March 7, 2026, at New Bethel Baptist Church, 245 Green Leaf Street SW Jacksonville, AL 36265, for Tristan Terry Green, age 24 of Jacksonville, who passed away February 25, 2026.

Tristan graduated from Pleasant Valley High School and took three years of welding class. He worked for Tape Craft for four years. He was a hard-working man that loved his family and friends. He really enjoyed playing games online with his friends.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Serena Sue Green, Pawpaw, Danny Miller.

Left to cherish the memories of Tristan are his dad, Terry Green, sister, Autumn Couch (Justin), Mamaw, Carolyn Miller, Nana, Martha Hughes, great-grandmother, Mary Inez Bowen, aunts, Amanda, Lori, Trish, Alyssa, and best friend, Ray.



**Keith Orem Matthews**

Funeral services for Keith Orem Matthews were held Friday, February 27, 2026 at Glencoe-Hokes Bluff Funeral Home with Rev. Joey Jones officiating the services. Burial followed at New Bethel Cemetery.

Keith Matthews, beloved father, Pappy, brother, and friend, passed peacefully from this life, surrounded by the love of his family. He was born in Baltimore, Maryland, and raised in West Virginia before later making his home in Alabama. Keith carried the warmth, grit, and authenticity of his roots with him everywhere he went. Keith dedicated many

years to serving others as a pastor, guiding and comforting countless people with his steady faith and gentle spirit. He also spent a significant part of his life working alongside his family building homes — pouring his strength, skill, and heart into creating places where others could grow and thrive.

Outside of work, Keith was happiest under the open sky. He loved kayaking, hiking, biking, and camping, and he never missed an opportunity to soak in the peace of the great outdoors. But above everything else, the moments he treasured most were those spent with his family. Being a dad and Pappy was the role he cherished with all his heart.

Keith was preceded in death by his parents Ralph and Catherine Matthews, and a dear lifelong friend Kristen Zeigler. He leaves behind his children Heather Matthews, Jeremy Matthews (Katie), Olivia Foreman (Rachelle) and Roxy Matthews; his grandchildren Audrey Bowen, Haley Busic (Silas), Joshua Bowen, Dylan Devotie, Skylar Morris, Maddux Friend and Harper Foreman; his great-grandson Ezra Cagle; his siblings Julie Bryant (Steve), Doug Matthews (Kim), Cindy Beard (Tony), Tracy Colvin (Moe), Kevin Matthews (Victoria), and an abundance of nieces and nephews who loved him deeply. His legacy of kindness, strength, and quiet joy lives on in each of them.

Keith will be remembered for his steady presence, his devotion to God and family, humor, and the way he found beauty in simple moments. He will be deeply missed and forever loved.

Family wants to extend a special thank you to Pro-Health Hospice.



**Mary Jo Walls**

**RAINBOW CITY** - Mary Jo Walls, born on October 27, 1957, in Alabama, passed away on February 23, 2026, at the age of 68. She was a resident of Rainbow City, Alabama.

Visitation was held at Morgan Funeral Chapel and Crematory, located at 625 Gilbert Ferry Rd SE, Attalla, AL, 35954, on February 27, 2026.

**Shanda Wyatt**

**HUNTSVILLE** - With heartfelt sympathy, we announce the earthly transition of Shanda Wyatt of Huntsville, formerly of Gadsden, who traded time for eternity on Thursday, February 19, 2026 at the age of 55.



**Michael Joseph Laws**

**ATTALLA** - Michael Joseph Laws, 64, of Attalla passed away on Saturday, February 14, 2026 at Riverview Regional Medical Center.

He is preceded in death by his father, Joseph Laws.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife and best friend, Phyllis Pruitt; daugh-

ter, Emily Laws (Chris Skinner); mother of his child, Suzanne Laws; grandchildren, Parker and Cooper Skinner, Alexis Deal, Kelcie Deal, Makayla Deal, Mackenzie Deal, and Tyler Hyland; 6 great-grandchildren; mother, Edna Blair; brothers, Randy Laws, Carl Laws, Kevin Laws, and Stephen Laws; close friends, Kevin Humphrey, Keith Ramsey, and Houston Ramer.

Michael was an expert arborist. He could look at a tree from the ground up and tell you exactly how he is going to take it down. He loved his grandchildren and he will be dearly missed.



**Raymond Adam Cruz**

**ATTALLA** - Raymond Adam Cruz, born on December 28, 1933, in Attalla, passed away on February 22, 2026, at the age of 92. Raymond was a resident of Attalla, Alabama.

A visitation and Memorial Mass took place at St. James Catholic Church, located at 622 Chestnut Street, Gadsden, AL 35901, on February 27, 2026.



**Thomas Strong**

Thomas Strong was born January 24, 1938 in Etowah County to the late Booker T. Strong and Laura Will Strong.

Thomas Loved Fishing as one of his main hobbies.

He is survived by his loving wife Lorraine Strong of 35 years of marriage.

**Rebecca "Becky" Glass**

Rebecca "Becky" Glass passed away peacefully at the age of 85, leaving behind

a legacy of love, strength, and kindness that will forever live on in the hearts of those who knew her.

Becky was a devoted mother, grandmother, sister, and friend. She had a generous heart and always put others before herself. Her unwavering faith and resilience carried her through life's challenges, and she remained a steady source of encouragement and comfort to those she loved.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Tom and Annie Morris; her husband, Jim Glass; her son, Jamie; her sisters, Tommie Edwards and Judy McKee; her brothers, Jake and Pap Morris; and her grandson, Brian Tate.

She is survived by her children: Janelle and Phillip Harrell; Melinda and Dale Cordell; Michelle and Harry Kennon; Rosie and Daren Cordell; James Glass, Hope Glass. Chosen children: Dana and Eric Hernandez; and Tony and Mona Bowers; Mike and Pam Northcutt.

Becky was a proud grandmother to Tyler and Savannah Glass, Leslie Tate, Tamiracle Kennon, Seth Glass, Kennedy Smith, Daniel Evans, Brandy and Matt Carnes, Donna Crow. Chosen Grandchildren; Kim and Johnny Delawder and Kristy and Mel Densmore, Clint and Lauren Annie Billingsley. She was also blessed with great-grandchildren: Lucas, Callie, Harper, and Becca Glass, Madison and Wesley Tate, Bentley Smith, Charley Glass, and Dakota, Charlie, and Elle Evans, Rayven Grady, Bayli Works, Andrew and Adison Carnes.

She is also survived by her sisters and brothers, along with many cherished nieces and nephews.

Becky was a faithful member of Calvary Baptist Church for over 30 years, where she was a dedicated member and employee.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to ACG Hospice, especially Amy and Sarah and Hokes Bluff Family Medicine for the amazing love and care shown to our mom and family during this time.

Her love, faith, and gentle spirit will be deeply missed but never forgotten.

**Walter Alexander Roe**

**GADSDEN** - Walter Alexander "Alex" Roe passed away on February 23, 2026, at the age of 69. Born June 4, 1956, Alex was a resident of Gadsden, Alabama.

Visitation was held at Collier - Butler Funeral Home on Friday, February 27, 2026 followed by a funeral service. He was laid to rest at Lebanon Cemetery.

## Vehicle Title Problem? We have a Solution!

Unclaimed/Abandoned Vehicles, Mobile Homes & Surety Bonds

### JSE:Alabama's Vehicle Title Recovery Service!

We can help with most Titled Vehicles in Alabama, including Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, RV's & Trailers. Stop in, by phone or online!

Free Phone Consultation  
Call 1-256-850-0527  
www.JSEAL.com



Proudly Family Owned —

Now in its Next Generation.

256-442-6360

www.rainbowmonument.com



# SPORTS

## Scores

**Feb. 27**  
**Baseball**  
 Model (Rome, GA) 12, Hokes Bluff 2  
 Moody 3, Southside 1  
 Bob Jones 12, Westbrook Christian 0  
**Softball**  
 Glencoe 13, Wellborn 9  
 Wetumpka 3, Southside 1  
**Girls Soccer**  
 Gadsden City 7, Hokes Bluff 0  
 Southside 7, Hokes Bluff 0  
**Boys Soccer**  
 Gadsden City 6, Coosa Christian 1  
**Feb. 28**  
**Baseball**  
 Gadsden City 7, Boaz 4  
 Gadsden City 8, Gardendale 3  
 Sardis 13, Glencoe 0  
 Oneonta 7, Sardis 3  
 Southside 10, Muscle Shoals 0  
 Pell City 10, Southside 6  
 Douglas 14, Coosa Christian 2  
 Westbrook Christian 11, Gainesville (GA) 7  
**Boys Soccer**  
 Hokes Bluff 7, Glencoe 0  
 Southside 12, Hokes Bluff 2  
 Hokes Bluff 2, Coosa Christian 1  
 Coosa Christian 5, Westbrook Christian 0  
**Girls Soccer**  
 Westbrook Christian 6, Hokes Bluff 0  
 Westbrook Christian 1, Southside 0  
**Softball**  
 Thompson 11, Southside 5  
 Southside 8, T.R. Miller (Brewton, AL) 6  
 Gadsden City 9, Pleasant Grove 8  
 Gadsden City 10, Clay-Chalkville 3  
**March 2**  
**Baseball**  
 Gadsden City 2, Pinson Valley 0  
 Haralson County (Tallapoosa, GA) 10, Glencoe 1  
 Cleburne County 9, Glencoe 8  
 Vestavia Hills 7, Westbrook Christian 3  
**Boys Soccer**  
 Hokes Bluff 4, Etowah 3  
**Girls Soccer**  
 Hokes Bluff 2, Etowah 1  
 Southside 3, Pell City 0  
**Softball**  
 Ashville 10, Hokes Bluff 0  
 Gadsden City 19, Talladega 9  
 Brewer (Somerville, AL) 3, West End 2 (extra innings)  
 Ragland 16, Westbrook 11  
**March 3**  
**Girls Basketball**  
 Mobile Christian 55, Glencoe 42  
**Baseball**  
 Coosa Christian 7, Gaylesville 1  
 West End 11, Ragland 5  
 Westbrook Christian 8, Jacksonville 2  
**Boys Soccer**  
 Gadsden City 1, Oxford 0  
**Softball**  
 Hokes Bluff 6, Pleasant Valley 5  
 Southside 6, Etowah 5  
 Gaston 12, Gadsden City 8  
 West End 10, Sardis 0  
 Westbrook 15, Talladega 0

**College Sports**  
**Feb. 27**  
**Softball**  
 Gadsden State 20, East Mississippi Community College 0  
 Gadsden State 10, East Mississippi Community College 3  
**Feb. 28**  
**Baseball**  
 East Mississippi Community College 6, Gadsden State 0  
 East Mississippi Community College 13, Gadsden State 1  
**March 1**  
**Baseball**  
 Gadsden State 5, East Mississippi Community College 4  
**March 2**  
**Men's basketball**  
 Shelton State Community College 87, GSCC 57  
**Women's basketball**  
 Shelton State Community College 80, GSCC 43  
**March 3**  
**Softball**  
 Gadsden State 5, East Mississippi Community College 3  
 Gadsden State 5, East Mississippi Community College 0

## Glencoe girls fall in final four game

Glencoe fell to Mobile Christian in the final four game of the Alabama basketball championship on Tuesday, March 3. The final score was 55-42. With their win, Mobile Christian advances to Friday's Class 3A state finals and will face Saint James at 12:15 p.m.

Glencoe (22-9), coached by Blake Badgett, was led by Kinlee Montgomery. She had 17 points, six rebounds, three assists, one blocked shot and was 4-for-4 at the foul line. She also sank three 3-pointers. Payton Gray added eight points.

Badgett knows his team fought hard on Tuesday.

"No matter what, there was going to be an ending this week," said Badgett. "This group has fought. At one point we were down 20 and we got it down to 7. They have a lot of guts about them, and I know that will play into their lives outside of the game."

Montgomery is taking the loss in stride and is planning next year's do-over game.



David Holtsford| AHSSA

Glencoe's Kinlee Montgomery scores a basket in the 3A semifinals Tuesday as Mobile Christian's Hadley Kelly moves into position to defend.

"We know we can make it to the spot, so next season we'll just keep fighting," Montgomery said. Despite the loss, Badgett

is proud of what the team did and how they have represented Glencoe.

"Representing the community well is important to

us because you can't make it here without them," Badgett said. "These girls have done something that will be remembered for

a long time, and this is a family that will never go away. We're all about representing our school and class and character."



Submitted photo

## Glencoe girls fall in final four game

By Lindsey Frazier  
 Features Editor

Gadsden High School's girls and boys soccer teams brought home the championship titles at the Etowah County Soccer Tournament on Friday and Saturday, defeating the defending champions, the Southside Panthers, who had won the tournament the past two years.

"I'm proud of both teams and their hard work," Samantha Corker, head coach of the boys varsity team, said.

The Lady Titans defeated Westbrook Christian 3-1, Hokes Bluff 7-0 and Southside 2-0. Throughout the tournament, the Lady Titans scored 12 goals with nine assists and recorded 11 saves. Caroline Frederick scored three goals, Fiyin Oguntoyo scored five, and Evy Johnson, Helen

Lancaster and Eleanor Simmons each scored one.

Miriam Rasool, Ellen Hill, Lancaster, Kaitlyn Calloway, Jazzy Bentley, Raegan Brooks and Frederick each recorded an assist, while Emily Sollie had two. Ella Jennings recorded nine saves in goal and Carter Roberts had two.

The Titans defeated Westbrook Christian 2-0, Coosa Christian 6-1 and Southside 2-1. The Titans finished the tournament with nine

goals, seven assists and 14 saves.

Juan Antonio, Andres Felix, Byron Felix, Pablo Infante, Isaac Lopez, Shalom Sekaya and Ozwaldo Tomas each scored one goal, while Larsen Wancique scored two. Andres Felix, Lopez, Byron Felix, David Perkins and Diego Marroquin each recorded an assist, while Cedric Wancique had two. Adriana Fernandez recorded four saves in goal and Jessai Lopez had 10.

## Schedules

**Baseball**  
**March 7**  
 Gadsden City vs. Ashville, doubleheader at 11 a.m.  
**March 9**  
 West End at J.B. Pennington, 4:30 p.m.  
**March 10**  
 Gadsden City at Sylacauga, 4:30 p.m.  
 Hokes Bluff at Sardis, 4:30 p.m.  
 Hokes Bluff Middle School at Jacksonville, 4:30 p.m.  
**March 12**  
 Gadsden City at Pinson Valley, 4 p.m.  
**Golf**  
**March 7**  
 Gadsden City boys (Top 5) - Twin Bridges Kick-Off Classic, 9 a.m.  
**March 10**  
 Gadsden City girls (Top 4) - Twin Bridges Kick-Off Classic, 11 a.m.  
**March 12**  
 Gadsden City vs. Oxford/Clay Central at Cider Ridge/Oxford, 3:30 p.m.  
**Soccer**  
**March 7**  
 Southside at Sylacauga, 10 a.m.  
 Southside vs. Crossville at Sylacauga, 3:15 p.m.  
**March 9**  
 Gadsden City vs. Fort Payne at Gadsden City, 5 p.m.  
**March 10**  
 Gadsden City vs. Fort Payne at Gadsden City, 5 p.m.  
**March 12**

Gadsden City at Douglas, 5 p.m.  
**March 12-14**  
 City of Champions Tournament at Gadsden.  
**Softball**  
**March 6**  
 Southside at Oak Mountain, 7 p.m.  
 Westbrook Tournament at Sand Mountain.  
**March 9**  
 Gadsden City vs. Gaston, 4:30 p.m.  
 Southside at Cherokee County, 5 p.m.  
**March 10**  
 Gadsden City vs. Fort Payne, 4:30 p.m.  
 Gaston at Cedar Bluff, 5:30 p.m.  
 Hokes Bluff at Etowah, 4:30 p.m.  
 West End at Cleveland, 5 p.m.  
**March 12**  
 Gadsden City vs. Westbrook, 5 p.m.  
 Hokes Bluff vs. Piedmont, 4:30 p.m.  
**Tennis**  
**March 10**  
 Gadsden City vs. Trussville, 3 p.m.  
 Sardis at Cherokee County.  
**March 12**  
 Gadsden City vs. Donoho, 3:30 p.m.  
 Sardis vs. Springville.  
**Track**  
**March 9**  
 Gadsden City Meet No. 2 at Gadsden City, 4 p.m.  
**March 12**  
 Gadsden City Meet No. 3 at Gadsden City, 4 p.m.

## COLLEGE SPORTS

**Softball**  
**March 6**  
 Gadsden State at Northwest Mississippi Community College, 1 p.m.  
 Gadsden State vs. Mississippi Delta Community College at Gadsden State, 3 p.m.  
**Baseball**

**March 7**  
 Gadsden State vs. Snead State Community College, 1 p.m.  
 Gadsden State vs. Snead State Community College, 3:30 p.m.  
**March 12**  
 Gadsden State vs. Northwest-Shoals Community College, 2 p.m.  
**Men's Tennis**

**March 7**  
 Gadsden State vs. Cophiah-Lincoln Community College at Bevill State Community College, 10 a.m.  
**March 8**  
 Gadsden State vs. Marion Military Institute, 1 p.m.  
**March 9**  
 Gadsden State vs. Bevill State Community College, 1 p.m.

# Coin Show

Presented by  
**The Gadsden-Rainbow City Coin Club**

## THE 63RD ANNUAL NORTHEAST ALABAMA SPRING COIN SHOW

**Friday & Saturday**  
**March 27th & 28th**

**At The Venue at Coosa Landing**  
 201 George Wallace Dr.  
 Gadsden, AL 35903

**9:00 AM until 4:00 PM each day.**

- ★ Free Parking and Admission
- ★ Gold & Silver Coins, Currency & Bullion
- ★ Free Appraisals

**Contacts:**  
 Frank Thomas 256-490-3375  
 Blaine Smith 256-405-5183  
 Bill Daniel 256-454-3898  
 Harold Jennings 205-353-1328



persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

February 20, 27, and March 6, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Kevin Edward Silvey was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/23/2026 to the Estate of Terry B. Silvey, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

February 20, 27, and March 6, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Leigh Hunt was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/23/2026 over the Estate of Mark DeWayne Steapleton, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

February 20, 27, and March 6, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Ray R. Solley was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/27/2026 to the Estate of Doris S. Chapman, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

February 20, 27, and March 6, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Kendall Willmore was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/27/2026 over the Estate of Mark Hanback, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

February 20, 27, and March 6, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Jadea Smith Chandler was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/27/2026 over the Estate of Louie Benson Walls, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

February 20, 27, and March 6, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Valery Keith Alford was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/28/2026 to the Estate of Mary D. Alford, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

February 20, 27, and March 6, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Bobby Barron and Lynn Barron was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 02/04/2026 to the Estate of Patricia Faye Barron, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

February 20, 27, and March 6, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Anna Stevens was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 04/25/2025 to the Estate of Steven Thomas Stevens, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

February 27, March 6, and 13, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Jamie Anderson was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 02/02/2026 over the Estate of Reba June Conner, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

February 27, March 6, and 13, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Victoria Hollar was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 02/02/2026 over the Estate of Carolyn Garbe, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

February 27, March 6, and 13, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Sheila Diane McCarthy was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 02/09/2026 to the Estate of Jerry M. Foster A/K/A Jerry Mack Foster, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

February 27, March 6, and 13, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Melton Pascal Terrell was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 02/11/2026 to the Estate of Melton G. Terrell, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

February 27, March 6, and 13, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Timothy Gerald McCarver and Brain Scott McCarver was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 02/12/2026 to the Estate of Thomas Gerald McCarver, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

February 27, March 6, and 13, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Sonia O'Hair was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 01/14/2026 to the Estate of Geraldine O'Hair, 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

March 6, 13, and 20, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

James Chadwick Bankston was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 02/03/2026 over the Estate of James Lamar Bankston, 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

March 6, 13, and 20, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Brenda Wright was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 02/04/2026 over the Estate of Clarence Todd Wright 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

March 6, 13, and 20, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Cade Matthew Guest and Spencer Guest was/were appointed Co-Personal Representative(s) on 02/05/2026 to the Estate of John Matthew Guest, 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

March 6, 13, and 20, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Harold E. Powell was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 02/05/2026 to the Estate of Frankie Janelle G. Powell, 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

March 6, 13, and 20, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Chris D. Smith was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 02/17/2026 over the Estate of Benny Denson Hood, 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

March 6, 13, and 20, 2026

#### NOTICE OF ESTATE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MICHAEL JEAN ABNEY, DECEASED

CASE NO: 2025-00803

A Petition for Summary Distribution of the Estate of MICHAEL JEAN ABNEY, Deceased, having been submitted to the Honorable Scott W. Hassell, Judge of Probate, by Petitioners, Callie Abney Nolan and Michael Cody Abney on the 29th day of December, 2025; Notice is hereby given that all persons contesting said Petition shall file a response thereto with the Judge of Probate, Etowah County, P.O. Box 187, Gadsden, AL 35902, within 30 days of the date of this publication.

Done this the 31th day of December, 2025

Scott W. Hassell  
JUDGE OF PROBATE

March 6, 2026

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF ELLA JEAN STEELE DECEASED.

Case No.: 2025-00636

TO: WILLIAM THACKER; whereabouts unknown

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that there has been filed in this Court an instrument purporting to be in the Last Will and Testament of Ella Jean Steele, deceased, and a petition in writing and under oath praying for the admission to probate and record in this Court of said instrument as the true Last Will and Testament of the decedent. You are FURTHER NOTIFIED to be in and appear before this Court on the 1st day of April, 2026 at 10:00 a.m., when said petition will be heard and to show cause, if any you may have, why the instrument filed with said petition and purporting to be the Last Will and Testament of Ella Jean Steele, deceased, should not be admitted to probate and recorded in this Court as the true Last Will and Testament of said decedent.

DONE THIS THE 25th DAY OF February, 2026

Scott W. Hassell  
JUDGE OF PROBATE

February 27, March 6, 13, and 20, 2026

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE

COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: WALTER ALLEN, ALLEGED INCAPACITATED

Case #: 2026-31

TO: Malcolm Allen and Diretha Allen, whose whereabouts are unknown

Please take notice that a PETITION FOR LETTERS OF CONSERVATORSHIP of the above referenced incapacitated individual was filed in the Office of the Judge of Probate, and further, that the 23rd day of MARCH 2026 at 2:30 p.m. was appointed a day and time for hearing on said Petition, thereof at which time you may appear and support and/or contest the Petition, if you so choose.

DONE THIS THE 13TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026.

Scott Hassell  
Judge of Probate

February 20, 27, and March 6, 2026

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: JERRY LEE BIGGS, ALLEGED INCAPACITATED

Case #: 2026-122

TO: Any unknown family, whose whereabouts are unknown

Please take notice that a PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP AND CONSERVATORSHIP of the above referenced incapacitated individual was filed in the Office of the Judge of Probate, and further, that the 31ST day of MARCH 2026 at 1:00 pm. was appointed a day and time for hearing on said Petition, thereof at which time you may appear and support and/or contest the Petition, if you so choose.

DONE THIS THE 19TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026

Scott W. Hassell  
PROBATE JUDGE

February 27, March 6, and 13, 2026

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: REAGAN PIERCE, INCAPACITATED

Case #: 2025-590

TO: Any interested party

Please take notice that a PETITION TO SELL REAL PROPERTY belonging to the above referenced incapacitated individual was filed in the Office of the Judge of Probate, and further, that the 1st day of APRIL 2026 at 1:30p.m. was appointed a day and time for hearing on said Petition, thereof at which time you may appear and support and/or contest the Petition, if you so choose.

DONE THIS THE 24TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2026.

Scott W. Hassell  
PROBATE JUDGE

February 27, March 6 and 13, 2026

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

Notice to: Sheena Jones, whose whereabouts are unknown Haley Jones, whose whereabouts are unknown

You will take notice that a Petition for Letters of Guardianship for the person of Phyllis L. Jones and a Petition for Letters of Conservatorship over the estate of Phyllis L. Jones was filed by Gadsden Regional Medical Center on the 25th day of FEBRUARY 2026. A hearing on the Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Petition for Letters of Conservatorship is set on the 1st day of APRIL 2026, at 2:30 p.m., in the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama, 800 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35901.

DONE THIS THE 24TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2026.

Scott W. Hassell  
PROBATE JUDGE

February 27, March 6 and 13, 2026

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

Notice to: Sheena Jones, whose whereabouts are unknown Haley Jones, whose whereabouts are unknown

You will take notice that a Petition for Letters of Guardianship for the person of Phyllis L. Jones and a Petition for Letters of Conservatorship over the estate of Phyllis L. Jones was filed by Gadsden Regional Medical Center on the 25th day of FEBRUARY 2026. A hearing on the Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Petition for Letters of Conservatorship is set on the 1st day of APRIL 2026, at 2:30 p.m., in the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama, 800 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35901.

DONE THIS THE 25th DAY OF February, 2026

Scott W. Hassell  
JUDGE OF PROBATE

February 27, March 6, 13, and 20, 2026

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE

Judge of Probate

February 27, March 6, and 13, 2026

#### NOTICE OF PETITION FOR RULE NISI

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

Case No.: DR-23-90007.02  
Austin Eubanks v. Avrie Cebrian

TO: Austin Eubanks, whose whereabouts are unknown and who cannot be served after reasonable diligence.

You are hereby notified that a Petition for Rule Nisi has been filed against you in the Circuit Court of Etowah County, Alabama, Domestic Relations Division, in the above-styled action. Please be advised that should you intend to contest these proceedings, you must file a written response within 30 days of the date of the last publication herein with Paul R. Roberts II, Attorney for Defendant, at the address shown below, and with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Etowah County, Alabama, 801 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden, AL 35901.

Failure to respond within the time allowed by law may result in a judgment being entered against you.

CODY D. ROBINSON, CIRCUIT JUDGE  
CASSANDRA JOHNSON, CIRCUIT COURT CLERK

Name and address of attorney:  
Paul R. Roberts II  
P.O. Box 1459  
Gadsden, AL 35903  
(256) 543-8710

March 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2026

#### NOTICE OF PETITION FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE THE MATTER OF R.S.B., MINOR CHILD

To: Garrett Wadsworth

You are hereby given notice that a petition has been filed by the Etowah County Department of Human Resources requesting that your parental rights be terminated to R.S.B. born 10/30/2013 to VEOLETTA BUTLER. You are hereby given notice that you are required to file an Answer with the clerk of the Juvenile Court of Etowah County, Alabama and with the Petitioner's attorney, Sheri W. Stallings, Assistant Attorney General, STATE OF ALABAMA DEPT. OF HUMAN RESOURCES 220 West Main Street, within fourteen (14) days of the date of the last publication of this notice or a default judgement can be entered against you.

A hearing on the Petition for Final Settlement will be held before the Calhoun County Probate Judge, on the 9th day of April, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard. Any interested person, including the above-named heir, may appear at the hearing and file written objections to the Petition for Final Settlement. Failure to appear or object may result in the Court granting the requested relief and closing the Estate without further notice. This notice is published pursuant to law to notify Lester Ledlow, whose current address is unknown and cannot be ascertained after diligent search and inquiry.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Petitioner, Lori Horne, has filed a Petition for Final Settlement in the above-referenced estate proceeding.

The Petition for Final Settlement requests that the Court approve the final accounting of the administration of the Estate, authorize payment of any remaining expenses, approve distribution of the remaining assets to the persons entitled thereto, discharge the Personal Representative from further duties, and close the Estate.

A hearing on the Petition for Final Settlement will be held before the Calhoun County Probate Judge, on the 9th day of April, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard. Any interested person, including the above-named heir, may appear at the hearing and file written objections to the Petition for Final Settlement. Failure to appear or object may result in the Court granting the requested relief and closing the Estate without further notice. This notice is published pursuant to law to notify Lester Ledlow, whose current address is unknown and cannot be ascertained after diligent search and inquiry.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Petitioner, Lori Horne, has filed a Petition for Final Settlement in the above-referenced estate proceeding.

The Petition for Final Settlement requests that the Court approve the final accounting of the administration of the Estate, authorize payment of any remaining expenses, approve distribution of the remaining assets to the persons entitled thereto, discharge the Personal Representative from further duties, and close the Estate.

A hearing on the Petition for Final Settlement will be held before the Calhoun County Probate Judge, on the 9th day of April, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard. Any interested person, including the above-named heir, may appear at the hearing and file written objections to the Petition for Final Settlement. Failure to appear or object may result in the Court granting the requested relief and closing the Estate without further notice. This notice is published pursuant to law to notify Lester Ledlow, whose current address is unknown and cannot be ascertained after diligent search and inquiry.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Petitioner, Lori Horne, has filed a Petition for Final Settlement in the above-referenced estate proceeding.

The Petition for Final Settlement requests that the Court approve the final accounting of the administration of the Estate, authorize payment of any remaining expenses, approve distribution of the remaining assets to the persons entitled thereto, discharge the Personal Representative from further duties, and close the Estate.

A hearing on the Petition for Final Settlement will be held before the Calhoun County Probate Judge, on the 9th day of April, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard. Any interested person, including the above-named heir, may appear at the hearing and file written objections to the Petition for Final Settlement. Failure to appear or object may result in the Court granting the requested relief and closing the Estate without further notice. This notice is published pursuant to law to notify Lester Ledlow, whose current address is unknown and cannot be ascertained after diligent search and inquiry.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Petitioner, Lori Horne, has filed a Petition for Final Settlement in the above-referenced estate proceeding.

The Petition for Final Settlement requests that the Court approve the final accounting of the administration of the Estate, authorize payment of any remaining expenses, approve distribution of the remaining assets to the persons entitled thereto, discharge the Personal Representative from further duties, and close the Estate.

A hearing on the Petition for Final Settlement will be held before the Calhoun County Probate Judge, on the 9th day of April, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard. Any interested person, including the above-named heir, may appear at the hearing and file written objections to the Petition for Final Settlement. Failure to appear or object may result in the Court granting the requested relief and closing the Estate without further notice. This notice is published pursuant to law to notify Lester Ledlow, whose current address is unknown and cannot be ascertained after diligent search and inquiry.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Petitioner, Lori Horne, has filed a Petition for Final Settlement in the above-referenced estate proceeding.

The Petition for Final Settlement requests that the Court approve the final accounting of the administration of the Estate, authorize payment of any remaining expenses, approve distribution of the remaining assets to the persons entitled thereto, discharge the Personal Representative from further duties, and close the Estate.

A hearing on the Petition for Final Settlement will be held before the Calhoun County Probate Judge, on the 9th day of April, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard. Any interested person, including the above-named heir, may appear at the hearing and file written objections to the Petition for Final Settlement. Failure to appear or object may result in the Court granting the requested relief and closing the Estate without further notice. This notice is published pursuant to law to notify Lester Ledlow, whose current address is unknown and cannot be ascertained after diligent search and inquiry.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Petitioner, Lori Horne, has filed a Petition for Final Settlement in the above-referenced estate proceeding.

The Petition for Final Settlement requests that the Court approve the final accounting of the administration of the Estate, authorize payment of any remaining expenses, approve distribution of the remaining assets to the persons entitled thereto, discharge the Personal Representative from further duties, and close the Estate.

A hearing on the Petition for Final Settlement will be held before the Calhoun County Probate Judge, on the 9th day of April, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard. Any interested person, including the above-named heir, may appear at the hearing and file written objections to the Petition for Final Settlement. Failure to appear or object may result in the Court granting the requested relief and closing the Estate without further notice. This notice is published pursuant to law to notify Lester Ledlow, whose current address is unknown and cannot be ascertained after diligent search and inquiry.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Petitioner, Lori Horne, has filed a Petition for Final Settlement in the above-referenced estate proceeding.

The Petition for Final Settlement requests that the Court approve the final accounting of the administration of the Estate, authorize payment of any remaining expenses, approve distribution of the remaining assets to the persons entitled thereto, discharge the Personal Representative from further duties, and close the Estate.

A hearing on the Petition for Final Settlement will be held before the Calhoun County Probate Judge, on the 9th day of April, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard. Any interested person, including the above-named heir, may appear at the hearing and file written objections to the Petition for Final Settlement. Failure to appear or object may result in the Court granting the requested relief and closing the Estate without further notice. This notice is published pursuant to law to notify Lester Ledlow, whose current address is unknown and cannot be ascertained after diligent search and inquiry.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Petitioner, Lori Horne, has filed a Petition for Final Settlement in the above-referenced estate proceeding.

The Petition for Final Settlement requests that the Court approve the final accounting of the administration of the Estate, authorize payment of any remaining expenses, approve distribution of the remaining assets to the persons entitled thereto, discharge the Personal Representative from further duties, and close the Estate.

A hearing on the Petition for Final Settlement will be held before the Calhoun County Probate Judge, on the 9th day of April, 20

after a Judgment by Default may be rendered against them. This the 3rd day of March, 2026

Cassandra Johnson  
Circuit Court Clerk

David Livingston  
247 S 8th St,  
Gadsden, AL 35901

March 6, 13, 20, and 27,  
2026

#### ADVERTISEMENT FOR NOTICE OF COMPLETION

FORM OF ADVERTISEMENT FOR COMPLETION LEGAL NOTICE In accordance with Chapter 1, Title 39, Code of Alabama, 1975, notice is hereby given that Alabama Grading & Excavation, LLC, has completed the Micro-Milling and Resurfacing on SR-291, Project No: STPAA-0291 (501) Etowah County located at SR-291, AL for the Alabama Department of Transportation, Owner(s), 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 Alabama Department of Transportation, North Region - Guntersville Area, PO Box 550, Guntersville, AL 35976.

February 27, March 6,  
13, and 20, 2026

#### LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with Chapter 1, Title 39, Code of Alabama, 1975, notice is hereby given that Hudak Construction Co., Inc., Contractor, has completed the Contract for Renovation of "Structural Repairs at the Gadsden Museum of Art Project Contract, City of Gadsden Bid Request No. 3613" at 515 Broad Street, Gadsden, AL 35901 for the State of Alabama and the City of Gadsden, 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 Williamson, City of Gadsden Engineering Department, 90 Broad Street, Gadsden, AL 35901

Hudak  
Construction Co., Inc.  
400 W. Meighan Blvd.  
Gadsden, AL 35901

March 6, 13, 20, and 27,  
2026

#### ORDINANCE NO. O-03-26

Authorizing Conveyance of Certain Property

Whereas the City of Gadsden owns property located on Glendale Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama, more particularly described as follows:

Lot 8, Block 3, Glendale subdivision to East Gadsden, according to the map thereof recorded in Plat Book E, Page 53, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama. (Pro No. 30547) (PPIN 42853)

Whereas, Darrell K. Green has offered to pay \$2,750.00 for the property; Now, Therefore, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. This real property is not needed for any municipal or public purpose.

2. The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute a deed to and in favor of Darrell K. Green for the sum of Two Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy and 00/100 Dollars (\$2,750.00).

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on February 24, 2026.

Iva Nelson, City Clerk

March 6, 2026

#### LEGAL NOTICE

The following storage units will be auctioned on March 11, 2026 beginning at 10:00 A.M. on the business premises of Southtowne Mini Warehouses, Southtowne is located at 199 Woodland Drive, off of Steele Station Road in Rainbow City, AL. 356906.

Marcia Hardney  
Unit 24C & 170

Tammy Delia

Unit 165

Jacqueline Looney  
Unit 326

Kenneth Maltbie, Jr.  
Unit 336

Sonya Atchison  
Unit 361

Janis Poleate  
Unit 407

Brian Labor  
Unit 720

Nicholas Branson  
Unit 734

Chris Patterson  
Unit 775

Steve Powell  
Unit 788

Frankie Pollard  
Unit 792

Justin Self  
Unit 805

Suzanne Moon  
Unit 818

Btyan Charlton  
Unit 830

Lauri Price  
Unit 28-1B

Ligaya Ferguson  
Unit 34-1A

Sherrie Rector  
Unit 48-7

Lisa Rydel  
Unit 5A-8,9

Clyde Williams  
Unit 80-1

Latona Garrett  
Unit 15-10

Suzanna Rager  
Unit 48-16

Alonna Baswell  
Unit 53-11

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

February 27 and March  
6, 2026

#### LEGAL NOTICE

The following units will be auctioned or otherwise disposed of on March 19, 2026 beginning at 9:00 a.m. on the premises of Stock It N Lock It Mini Storage located at 3403 Rainbow Parkway, Rainbow City, AL. 35906.

Yolanda Burroughs  
Unit 14-A

Wes Gwin  
Unit 95-D, 159-F, and  
503-L

Maurice Jones  
Unit 4111

Kneely Pack  
Unit 342L

Dana Loconto  
Unit 2341

Tavia Cyphers  
Unit 476N

Justin Wade  
Unit 213-H

Stock It N Lock It Mini Storage  
3403 Rainbow Parkway  
Rainbow City, AL. 35906

March 6 and 13, 2026

#### NOTICE OF VEHICLE POSSESSION

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will proceed to take possession of the following described abandoned vehicle(s) on April 3, 2026

2011 Ford Ranger White  
VIN: 1FTKR4EE9B9A30991

2007 Cadillac DTS  
White  
VIN: 1G6KD57Y97U232544

1999 Lincoln Town Car  
Black  
VIN: 1LNHM-81W6XY659796

2018 Chevrolet Equinox  
Orange  
VIN: 2GNAXJEV9J6185854

2013 Nissan Pathfinder  
Black  
VIN: 5N1ARZM7DC6Z9878

2008 Kia Sportage Red  
VIN: KNDJF724187526877

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

February 27 and March  
6, 2026

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION OF ABANDONED VEHICLES

Please take NOTICE that Thacker Towing will offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the following abandoned motor vehicle 2016 Hyundai Veloster

Vin# KMHTC6AD-7GU297999 The public auction will be held at Thacker Towing 927 5th Ave NE Attalla AL 35954 at 10:00am on 4/10/2026 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.

March 6 and 13, 2026

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION OF ABANDONED VEHICLES

Please take NOTICE that Thacker Towing will offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the following abandoned motor vehicle 2003 Chevy Tahoe Vin # 1GNCE13Z73J276064 The public auction will be held at Thacker Towing 927 5th Ave NE Attalla AL 35954 at 10:00am on 4/10/2026 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.

March 6 and 13, 2026

#### NOTICE OF VEHICLE POSSESSION

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will proceed to take possession of the following described abandoned vehicle(s) on April 13, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

1994 Ford Mustang  
White  
VIN: 1FAL-P4446RF143404

UNI AUTOMOTIVE  
GROUP, LLC  
2501 3rd Street SW  
Attalla AL. 35954  
256-538-6600

March 6 and 13, 2026

#### NOTICE OF VEHICLE POSSESSION

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will proceed to take possession of the following described abandoned vehicle(s) on April 16, 2026.

2005 Dodge Caravan  
Blue  
VIN: 1D4G-P45R75B318320

UNI AUTOMOTIVE  
GROUP, LLC  
2501 3rd Street SW  
Attalla AL. 35954  
256-538-6600

March 6 and 13, 2026

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION OF ABANDONED VEHICLES

Please take NOTICE that Matt's Towing will offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the following abandoned motor vehicle 2020 Dodge Charger. Vin #2C3CDX-BG4LH144630 The public auction will be held at Matt's Towing 927 B 5th Ave NE Attalla AL 35954 at 10:00am on 4/24/2026

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.

March 6 and 13, 2026

#### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

STATE OF ALABAMA,  
COUNTY OF ETOWAH

NOTICE is hereby given that a bill substantially as follows will be introduced in the 2026 Regular Session of the Legislature of Alabama and application for its passage and enactment will be made:

A BILL TO BE  
ENTITLED AN ACT

Relating to Etowah County; to extend the number of continuous days that lodging must be supplied before the lodging tax no longer applies; and to make nonsubstantive, technical revisions to update existing code language to current style.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 45-28-91.02, Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows: §45-28-91.02

(1) Beginning October 1, 2046, 2026, the first four hundred ninety-one thousand dollars (\$491,000) of the annual proceeds of any lodging

tax due Etowah County pursuant to Section 45-28-243, Section 45-28-243.01, or any other lodging tax payable to the county shall be paid into the county treasury to be distributed to the Etowah County Tourism Board established by this part to be used to carry out the purposes of this part. The remaining portion of the proceeds shall be distributed to the Etowah County Mega Sports Complex Authority

(2) Notwithstanding any provision of Section 45-28-243 or Section 45-28-243.01, the lodging taxes levied by Section 45-28-243 and Section 45-28-243.01 shall not apply to rooms, lodgings, or accommodations supplied for a period of 30 180 continuous days or more in any place."

Section 2. This act shall become effective on October 1, 2026.

February 27, March 6  
and 13, 2026

#### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

STATE OF ALABAMA,  
COUNTY OF ETOWAH

NOTICE is hereby given that a bill substantially as follows will be introduced in the 2026 Regular Session of the Legislature of Alabama and application for its passage and enactment will be made:

A BILL TO BE  
ENTITLED AN ACT

Relating to Etowah County; to amend Section 45-28-243, Code of Alabama 1975; to increase the amount of time necessary for accommodations supplied to be exempt from privilege and license tax in the county.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 45-28-243 of the Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows: "§45-28-243

(a) In Etowah County, there is hereby levied and imposed, in addition to all other taxes of every kind now imposed by law, a privilege or license tax upon every person, firm, or corporation engaging in the business of renting or furnishing any room or rooms, lodging, or accommodations to transients in any hotel, motel, inn, tourist camp, tourist cabin, or any other place in which rooms, lodgings, or accommodations are regularly furnished to transients for a consideration, in an amount of two percent of the charge for such room, rooms, lodgings, or accommodations, including the charge for use or rental of personal property and services furnished in such the room. There is exempted from the tax levied under this section any taxes on rentals or services under Division 1, commencing with Section 40-23-1, of Article 1, Chapter 23, Title 40. The tax shall not apply to rooms, lodgings, or accommodations supplied for a period of 30 180 continuous days or more in any place.

(b) Municipal privilege license taxes which are levied and collected by the application of a flat percentage rate on gross sales or gross receipts from sales, and which are passed on directly by the licensee-seller to the purchaser-consumer or user shall be excluded from gross sales or gross receipts, as the case may be, in the computation of the tax herein levied in this section.

(c) The tax herein levied in this section shall be collected in the same manner as the state lodgings tax as provided in Chapter 26, Title 40; and shall be additional thereto; and the net proceeds thereof of the tax shall be payable to the county general fund for the purposes of promoting tourism and beautification. Such The funds shall be used as follows: Fifty percent for the support and promotion of tourism and fifty 50 percent for the support and promotion of beautification and ecology as determined by the resolutions of the Clean and Beautiful Community Commission and the Gadsden-Etowah County Tourism Board. The State Department

of Revenue shall promulgate such adopt rules and regulations and provide such forms and instructions as are necessary to implement this section." Section 2. This act shall become effective on October 1, 2026.

February 27, March 6,  
and 13, 2026

#### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

STATE OF ALABAMA,  
COUNTY OF ETOWAH

NOTICE is hereby given that a bill substantially as follows will be introduced in the 2026 Regular Session of the Legislature of Alabama and application for its passage and enactment will be made:

A BILL TO BE  
ENTITLED AN ACT

Relating to Etowah County; to amend Section 45-28-121, Code of Alabama 1975, to provide further for the membership of the personnel board.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 45-28-121 of the Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows: "§45-28-121

(a) In Etowah County, there is hereby created and established a personnel department for the government and control of all employees and appointees holding positions in the classified service, as defined in Section 45-28-121.03.

(b)(1) The personnel department shall consist of a personnel board and a personnel director. The personnel board shall consist of five members. Three members shall be appointed for a term of six years each as follows: One to be appointed by

a. Upon the term of the member who is a joint appointee of the judge of probate judge and the sheriff of the county; one to be expiring on September 30, 2028, one member appointed by the judge of probate.

b. Upon the term of the member appointed by the county commission; and one to be appointed as expiring on September 30, 2030, one member appointed by the county commission upon the recommendation of the county engineer.

c. Upon the term of the member who is a joint appointee of the county tax assessor and the county tax collector; however, the terms for the above three named initial appointees shall be staggered. For the first appointments the joint appointee of the probate judge and the sheriff of the county shall be for two years; the first appointee by the county commission shall be for a term of four years; and the first joint appointee by the county tax assessor and county tax collector shall be for six years. The other two members of the board shall be appointed for one year terms. One of the additional members shall be appointed annually expiring on September 30, 2026, one member appointed by the revenue commissioner.

d. Upon the term of the member appointed by the President of the Etowah County Chamber of Commerce; and one member shall be appointed annually expiring on September 30, 2026, one member appointed by the county commission upon the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.

e. Upon the term of the member appointed by the President of the Etowah County Labor Council expiring on September 30, 2026, one member appointed by the President of the Northeast Alabama Labor Council.

(2) Subsequent terms on the board shall be for four years and shall begin on October 1.

(c) The members of the board shall be qualified electors of the county. No person shall be appointed to the board who holds any salaried public office or employment with the county, nor shall any member, while a member of the

board or for a period of one year after he or she has ceased to be a member, be eligible for appointment to any salaried office or employment in the service of the county or any county elective office.

(d) For regular meetings of the board or special hearings or meetings of the board relating to a pending disciplinary action, each member shall receive sixty dollars (\$60) per diem, not to exceed one hundred eighty dollars (\$180) per month paid from the county treasury, and the chair shall receive seventy-five dollars (\$75) per diem, not to exceed two hundred twenty-five dollars (\$225) per month paid from the county treasury."

Section 2. This act shall become effective on July 1, 2026.

February 27, March 6,  
and 13, 2026

#### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

STATE OF ALABAMA,  
COUNTY OF ETOWAH

NOTICE is hereby given that a bill substantially as follows will be introduced in the 2026 Regular Session of the Legislature of Alabama and application for its passage and enactment will be made:

A BILL TO BE  
ENTITLED AN ACT

Relating to Etowah County; to repeal Sections 45-28-120, 45-28-140, 45-28-160, and 45-28-220, Code of Alabama 1975, as obsolete.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) Section 45-28-120, Code of Alabama 1975, requiring Etowah County to pay health insurance premiums, is repealed.

(b) Section 45-28-140, Code of Alabama 1975, authorizing the county commission, by resolution, to allow certain charitable and volunteer organizations to have equipment repaired and to purchase gasoline or motor fuel from the county at cost, is repealed.

(c) Section 45-28-160, Code of Alabama 1975, authorizing any county officer or person designated to draw warrants or checks on the county treasury to use mechanical or facsimile devices for signatures on warrants or checks, is repealed.

(d) Section 45-28-220, Code of Alabama 1975, requiring every applicant for a license to hold a public concert or other event to have written prior approval from the Etowah County Commission two weeks before the date of the event, is repealed.

Section 2. This act shall become effective on October 1, 2026.

February 27, March 6,  
and 13, 2026

#### NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

March 6, 2026

City of Gadsden  
CDBG Program Office  
90 Broad Street  
Gadsden, AL 35901  
256-549-4532

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Gadsden.

REQUEST FOR  
RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about Friday, March 27, 2026, the City of Gadsden will submit a request to the Department of Housing and Development (HUD) for the release of Community Development Block Grant funds, as authorized by Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, Public Law 93-383, as amended 42 U.S.C. § 5301 et seq. and pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 4321, et seq., to undertake The proposed project includes the acquisition of 3.56 acres by the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) from

the Starnes Park Housing Development property. No construction or ground disturbance will occur during the acquisition; however, ALDOT proposes to construct a portion of the East Gadsden Connector on the acres acquired from the housing development. This project will utilize State of Alabama DOT funding only and will not utilize any HUD CDBG funding. FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT The City of Gadsden has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the City of Gadsden CDBG Program Office located at 90 Broad Street, Gadsden, AL 35901. The file will be made available electronically, upon request, by contacting Angie Reaves at areaves@cityofgadsden.com.

PUBLIC COMMENTS Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Gadsden CDBG Program Office located at 90 Broad Street, Gadsden, AL 35901. All comments received by Thursday, March 26, 2026 will be considered by the City of Gadsden prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION The City of Gadsden certifies to HUD/Alabama that its Certifying Officer consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's Alabama approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Gadsden to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of Gadsden's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Gadsden; (b) the City of Gadsden has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to HUD/State of Alabama Office of Community Planning and Development The Plaza, 417 20th Street, North, Suite 700, Birmingham, AL 35203. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Craig Ford  
City of Gadsden Mayor/  
Certifying Officer  
90 Broad Street, Gadsden, AL 35901  
256-549-4646  
bperkins@cityofgadsden.com

March 6, 2026

# CLASSIFIEDS

**SERVICES**

**APPLIANCE REPAIR:** Prompt local service available for appliance repair. Wash-er/Dryer, Dishwasher, Refrigerator, Stove/Oven and all major appliances. Certified, Insured techs. Satisfaction guaranteed. Call to schedule your appointment now! 1-877-441-0132

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

**BEAUTIFUL BATH UPDATES** in as little as ONE DAY! Superior quality bath and shower systems at **AFFORDABLE PRICES!** Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Call Now! 1-833-770-0326

**WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION:** A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals dry out the wet area and do repairs to protect your family and your home's value! If you have water in your home that needs to be dried, Call 24/7: 1-833-879-1371 Have zip code of service location ready when you call!

**We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS!** No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-877-385-7131

**Consumer Cellular** - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-844-358-5270

**HEALTH/BEAUTY**

**ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS!** Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-833-650-7885

**Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS!** A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 1-833-641-6606

**FOR SALE**

**FIREARMS AUCTION LIVE, ONLINE & PHONE BIDDING** March 14th @ 10am Military, Modern, Sporting & Classic Firearms www.mon-troseauction.com 478-376-4559 Greensboro, GA GAL2006

**AFFORDABLE TV & INTERNET.** If you are overpaying for your service, call now for a free quote and see how much you can save! 1-833-641-6672

**NEED NEW FLOORING?** Call today to schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 1-833-641-6567

No more cleaning out gutters. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is the most advanced gutter protection for your home, backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-833-683-2005 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Plus get 20% off! Seniors and military save an additional 10%. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase\* Call 1-877-323-5516 to-day to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

**DENTAL INSURANCE** from Physicians Mutual

**Insurance Company.** Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-877-817-4697 www.dental50plus.com/Alabama #6258

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed

to last a life-time! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-833-955-3163

**AUTOMOTIVE**

**GOT AN UNWANTED CAR???** DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC HEARTS. Fast free pick up. Patriotic Hearts' programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 1-833-426-0193

ness. Call 24/7: 1-833-426-0193

Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-877-724-3049 today!

## SURPLUS ITEMS

**Gadsden State Community College will now be selling all Surplus items on Govdeals.com.**

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

### FREE MAMMOGRAMS AND PAP TESTS

with FREE CANCER TREATMENT AVAILABLE TO ELIGIBLE WOMEN

- Breast Cancer Screenings 40-64 yrs old
- Cervical Cancer Screenings 21-64 yrs old

**DON'T DELAY DO IT FOR YOURSELF DO IT FOR YOUR FAMILY**

For a referral or more information go to: [www.alabamapublichealth.gov/bandc](http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/bandc) scan the QR Code below, or contact the hotline: 1-877-252-3324



## STOP Elder Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation

Submit a report to the Alabama Department of Human Resources Adult Protective Services Division

1-800-458-7214  
aps@dhr.alabama.gov



Become an **ADULT FOSTER CARE Provider**

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES  
1-800-458-7214  
dhr.alabama.gov/AFC



"Love Never Ages"



**we have life insurance. so you can enjoy all of life's moments. simple human sense.**



1957 Rainbow Drive, Gadsden AL  
256-413-7611  
cfordinsurance.com



# DEALS For DAYS

FRIDAY & SATURDAY MARCH 6-7

OVER \$104 IN SAVINGS

**FOOD CITY**

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

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

**COUPON EFFECTIVE MARCH 6 - MARCH 7**

**INSTANT DIGITAL COUPON SAVINGS**  
LOAD TO YOUR VALUCARD AT FOODCITY.COM OR ON THE FOOD CITY MOBILE APP. CLIP ONCE AND USE UP TO 3 TIMES IN ONE TRANSACTION.



**Ground Chuck Roll**  
Certified Angus Beef, 3 Lb.

ValuCard Price.....14.99  
Digital Coupon.....3.00

**FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON 11.99** With Card

USE 3X

**IN THE Bakery**



Selected Varieties  
**Goldminer Bread** 3.99 With Card

24 Oz.

**LIMIT 4 TOTAL ITEMS**



Selected Varieties  
**Coca-Cola Products** 4.25 With Card

6 Pk., 16.9 Oz. Btl.

When you buy 4 in the same transaction, Lesser quantities are \$3.99 each. Limit 1 transaction (4 total items). Discount applied as a coupon. Customer pays sales tax.

**IN THE PRODUCE Dept.**

**DIETITIAN'S PICK**



5 LB. BAG  
**California Peelz Mandarins** 6.99 With Card

5 Lb.

**IN THE PRODUCE Dept.**

**DIETITIAN'S PICK**



Basket & Bushel  
**Jumbo Baker Potatoes** 4.99 With Card

8 Lb.



Sliced, Hometown Original  
**Smithfield Bacon** 6.99 With Card

22 Oz.

**SAUSAGE BISCUITS**



Selected Varieties  
**Swaggerty's Biscuits** 4.99 With Card

12 SNACK SIZE SANDWICHES  
16.3-19.2 Oz.

**LIMIT 4 EACH**



Selected Varieties, Food Club Chunk White or Shredded Chicken (10-12.5 Oz.) or  
**Duke's Mayonnaise** 2.99 With Card

30 Oz.

**IN THE Bakery**



Baked Fresh In-Store  
**Chocolate Chip Cookies** 3.99 With Card

Dozen

**LIMIT 4 EACH**



Frozen, Selected Varieties  
Uncrustables (4 Ct.) or  
**Eggo Waffles** 2/\$5 With Card

8.4-14.8 Oz.

**LIMIT 4**



Selected Varieties  
**Betty Crocker Fruit Snacks** 2/\$5 With Card

6-10 Ct.

**LIMIT 4**



Selected Varieties  
**Coffee mate Creamer** 2.99 With Card

28-32 Oz.

**LIMIT 4 EACH**



Selected Varieties  
Klondike Ice Cream Bars (4-6 Ct.) or  
**Breyers Ice Cream** 2.99 With Card

48 Oz.

**LIMIT 4 EACH**



Frozen, Selected Varieties  
Hungry-Man Dinners (14-16 Oz.) or  
**Lean Cuisine Dinners** 2/\$5 With Card

5.25-11.5 Oz.

**LIMIT 4 EACH**



Frozen, Selected Varieties, Healthy Choice Power Bowls (9-9.75 Oz.), Marie Callender's Pot Pie (10 Oz.) or  
**Dolly Parton Entrees** 2/\$5 With Card

11-12 Oz.

**LIMIT 3**



Selected Varieties  
**Funables Fruit Snacks** 3/\$5 With Card

10 Ct.

**LIMIT 3 EACH**



Selected Varieties  
Tostitos White Corn Tortilla Chips, Tostitos Original Nacho Cheese Tortilla Chips, Tostitos Original Cheese Puffs, Tostitos LASSIC Tortilla Puffs  
**Terry's Snacks** 3/\$5 With Card

7.5-13 Oz.

**LIMIT 4 EACH**



Selected Varieties, Frito-Lay Multi-Pack Chips (8-12 Ct.) or Frozen  
**Food Club Chicken** 4.99 With Card

26-32 Oz.

**LIMIT 2**



Value Size  
**Coffee mate Powder** 4.99 With Card

35.3 Oz.

**LIMIT 4 EACH**



Selected Varieties, New York Texas Toast (10.5-11.25 Oz.), Crescents, Cinnamon Rolls or  
**Pillsbury Grands! Biscuits** 2/\$5 With Card

8 Ct.

**LIMIT 2 TOTAL ITEMS**



Selected Varieties  
**POWERADE** 4.99 With Card

8 Pk., 20 Oz. Btl.

When you buy 2 in the same transaction. Lesser quantities are 6.99 each. Limit 1 transaction (2 total items). Discount applied as a coupon. Customer pays sales tax.

**LIMIT 8**



Selected Varieties  
**Chicken of the Sea Tuna** 88¢ With Card

2.5 Oz. Pouch or 5 Oz. Can

**LIMIT 4 EACH**



Selected Varieties, Food Club Fruit Bowls (4 Pk.), General Mills Cereal Bars (8 Ct.) or  
**Nature Valley Granola Bars** 1.99 With Card

12 Ct.

**LIMIT 2**



Selected Varieties  
**Food Club Shredded Cheese** 5.99 With Card

32 Oz.

**LIMIT 6**



Selected Varieties  
**Little Debbie Snack Cakes** 2.19 With Card

9.8-16.2 Oz.

**LIMIT 4**



Selected Varieties  
**Hartz 3XL Dog Pads** 19.99 With Card

30 Ct.

**LIMIT 2 EACH**



Selected Varieties, Persil Discs (32-42 Ct.) or  
**Persil Liquid Laundry Detergent** 11.99 With Card

100 Oz.

**COUPON EFFECTIVE MARCH 6 - MARCH 7**

**INSTANT DIGITAL COUPON SAVINGS**  
LOAD TO YOUR VALUCARD AT FOODCITY.COM OR ON THE FOOD CITY MOBILE APP. CLIP ONCE AND USE UP TO 3 TIMES IN ONE TRANSACTION.



**Dietz & Watson Black Forest Ham**  
Selected Varieties, Per Lb.

ValuCard Price.....10.99  
Digital Coupon.....3.00

**FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON 7.99** With Card

USE 5 LBS.

**COUPON EFFECTIVE MARCH 6 - MARCH 7**

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



Frozen, Selected Varieties,  
Morey's Fish (8-10 Oz.) or  
**SeaPak Shrimp**

ValuCard Price.....6.99  
Digital Coupon.....2.00

**FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON 4.99** With Card

USE 4X EACH

Items and prices are specifically intended to apply locally where issue originates. BOGOs are sold at 1/2 price if single item is purchased. We reserve the right to limit quantities and to correct printed errors. No sales to dealers or competitors. Quantity rights reserved. ©2026 KVA-T Food Stores, Inc. Food City is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**951 Rainbow Drive Gadsden, AL 35901**

SALE DATES: FRI., MARCH 6 - SAT., MARCH 7, 2026  
www.foodcity.com  
f @FoodCity