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# Messenger

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50 cents

## City stops certain new businesses Council unanimously approves 12-month moratorium

By **Kaitlin Hoskins**  
News Editor

On Tuesday, the Gadsden City Council voted to approve a moratorium halting some businesses from coming to the city limits.

The 12-month moratorium was proposed by Gadsden Mayor Craig Ford and will apply to "certain new" business licenses — including mattress stores, car washes, check cashing and payday loan stores, oil change shops, storage units, vape shops, tobacco stores and off-premise beer and liquor stores.

The moratorium is a step toward bringing new industry partners to the city, according to Ford.

"We will have different types of commercial industries interested in locating here, but they want to know if we have a moratorium in place to prevent these certain business types from building next

to them," Ford said. "We want to recruit new industry and new restaurants to the area, and this will help us. They want to locate here but want to know what's coming right next to them, and this will help us assure them."

The council discussed the moratorium during their work session on Tuesday, April 7 and decided to bring it up as an item of new business during the regular council meeting.

"We have something — and I have to be careful not to violate anything I've signed — but we have something wanting to come, and basically, they want a guarantee that they will not have these businesses next to them," Ford said Tuesday. "So, that's why I am asking us to address this today. We have some nice restaurants that want to be here. We want them here."

District 3 Councilman Larry Avery asked Ford if this moratorium will impact any business license applications

currently filed, but Ford stated that there were no current applications for those business types in the city.

"My only concern is just, on the con side, is just the risk of overreaching from a legal perspective," Avery said.

Avery also spoke about a moratorium that was placed on the entertainment district and Ford said that one has expired and that he wants to put it back in place.

"We've had a moratorium like this before," Ford said. "This one will apply to the entire city limits, though. We have been oversaturated with these businesses. I don't want it to seem like I am anti-business, but I want the right type of businesses that will bring in revenue and improve things for the citizens of Gadsden."

When the council reconvened the regular meeting, they voted unanimously to approve the moratorium resolution. District 5 Councilman Jason Wilson was not present for the vote.

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Gadsden begins Phase 5 of the sports complex with ribbon cutting.

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Gadsden City High School hosts track meet for local elementary schools.

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GRMC collects 2,800 jars of peanut butter for Jars of Love event.

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Eli Suther, of Southside, was awarded a scholarship by the PBCI.

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## GMS Scholars recognized by council

On Tuesday, April 7, 2026, the Gadsden City Council and Gadsden Mayor Craig Ford welcomed the Gadsden Middle School Scholars Bowl Team to the regular council meeting at City Hall. Ford then recognized the team, their coaches and the parents of the team members for their hard work and achievements. The team captured a state championship victory and has earned an opportunity to compete at the national championship in Chicago in May. Photo by Michael Rodgers/City of Gadsden.

## House approves sugary ban for SNAP

By **Andrea Tinker**  
Alabama Reflector

The Alabama House of Representatives Wednesday passed a bill that would prohibit Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients from purchasing certain sugary products with their benefits.

SB 57, sponsored by Sen. Arthur Orr, R-Decatur, would prohibit SNAP beneficiaries from buying candy, sodas and energy drinks with their benefits. The bill does not change the amount of money allotted to the recipients and requires the Alabama

Department of Human Resources (DHR) to request a waiver from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to exclude the products from the list of eligible items.

"If they're gonna spend their money, their \$500 or whatever their money may be, and they can't buy soft drinks, maybe they'll supplement it with sweet potatoes and bananas and fruits and vegetables," Rep. Reed Ingram, R-Pike Road, said after the bill passed.

The bill passed on a party-line vote of 75-27.

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## The search for Anne Golightly

*Editor's Note: This article was submitted to The Messenger by Bill O'Connell, the husband to Denise Pastore O'Connell mentioned below. This article details the journey of the O'Connells in finding a long-lost friend from childhood. This article breaks from our usual style and writing, but we believe it to be a wonderful story for our readers, and thus, have included it in our publication.*

By **Bill O'Connell**  
Special to The Messenger

For at least the hundredth time in our 40-year marriage, Denise Pastore O'Connell brought up the name of childhood friend Anne Golightly, whom Denise met when they were both 10 years

old.

In 1968, Denise Pastore and friend Debbie Deml were riding bicycles around their neighborhood in Plainfield, Illinois, 50 miles southwest of Chicago. Every time Denise and Debbie passed a neighbor's home, a young girl whom they'd never met would wave at them and holler in a distinctive Southern drawl, "Hey, Y'all! ... Hey, Y'all!"

Denise and Debbie were so intrigued by this girl's uncommon accent that they stopped and said, "Hello!" From that point on, Denise, Debbie and Anne became inseparable for one month every summer for the next four years.

"The three of us were together every day — from the moment we woke up until dusk when we had to go home,"

Denise says. "We were 'The Three Musketeers' and I remember Debbie and I eagerly awaiting Anne's arrival every summer. I've never forgotten Anne."

It has been 54 years since Denise and Debbie have talked to Anne Golightly. The three girls were in the presence of one another for a total of only four months, but Denise cherishes memories of those idyllic summer days.

After listening to Denise reminisce about Anne once again, I decided to try to reunite these childhood buddies. I did not tell Denise because — if successful — she would receive one of the best surprise gifts of her life.

See Anne - Page A3



**Little Caesars**



# NEWS

## GRMC collects over 2,800 jars for food bank

To help address hunger in our community, and in celebration of National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day on April 2, Gadsden Regional Medical Center has donated more than 2,800 jars of peanut butter to the Etowah Community Food Bank.

All of that peanut butter was donated by Gadsden Regional's employees, medical staff members, board members, and community partners during the recent Jars of Love Peanut Butter Drive.

Key community partners included Altrusa International of Etowah County, Campers Unlimited, Candie Factory Bakery, Darden Rehabilitation, East Gadsden Baptist Church, Emblem Credit Union, Etowah Chamber, Family Savings Credit Union, Family Success Center, Gadsden City High School Beta Club, Inteva Products, Johnson's Giant Food, MAXimizing Mental Health, Modern Woodmen, Morrison Healthcare, Ohana Auto Repair, Osborn Foodservice, Peoples Bank of Alabama, ProHealth Home Health & Hospice, Three Notch Group, & WOW Discount Foods.

According to United Way of Etowah County, approximately 17 percent of adults and over 22 percent of children experience food insecurity in Etowah County which results in a struggle to put

food on the table. The Jars of Love Peanut Butter Drive was launched three years ago to help support individuals who are facing food insecurity, which is a social determinant of health.

"Food insecurity has a significant impact on a person's overall health and wellbeing," said Michael Hall, Chief Executive Officer. "Through our Jars of Love Peanut Butter Drive each year, we are working to help fight hunger in our community. Our employees and generous community partners really stepped up to be sure we could stock the shelves at our partnering food bank here in Etowah County."

Peanut butter is one of the most requested items for food banks because it is highly nutritious and has a long shelf life. Unfortunately, many food banks in America report it is also one of the least donated food items. Other foods commonly needed most by food banks include cereal, individual packs of oatmeal and grits, macaroni and cheese, chunky soups, canned chicken, ham, or tuna, rice, and instant potatoes.

"We are so thankful to be the recipient from this year's Jars of Love Peanut Butter Drive that Gadsden Regional Medical Center and the community have partnered



Submitted photo

with us on," said Marie Johnson, Executive Director of the Etowah County Food Bank. "This generous donation from their staff and local businesses will help support multiple partner agencies including Salvation Army, Etowah Baptist Mission Center, and Catholic Center of Concern. We purchase food for these partners and

also provide them food from all food drives."

Additional donations can be coordinated directly through the Etowah Community Food Bank by contacting Marie Johnson, Executive Director, at 256-504-2568 or emailing etowahfoodbank@gmail.com.

## Legislature approves to \$3.7 billion budget

By Anna Barrett  
Alabama Reflector

The Alabama Senate on Wednesday sent a \$3.7 billion 2027 General Fund budget Gov. Kay Ivey.

SB 146, sponsored by Sen. Greg Albritton, R-Atmore, is an \$8.1 million (0.2 percent) increase over the current year's budget, and about \$49 million more than Gov. Kay Ivey's recommendation. The relatively small increase reflects concerns about state revenues over the coming year, with several state agencies getting the same allocations they are budgeted to receive this year.

The General Fund provides funding for most non-education state agencies and programs.

The Senate concurred 20-0 with House changes that included slight increases for the departments of Human Resources (DHR) and Mental Health (ADMH) and the Airport Development Grant Program. Most state agencies are otherwise level-funded.

Those include Alabama Medicaid Agency is also level-funded at \$1.18 billion for the year. There are about 1.1 million Alabamians enrolled in Medicaid, about half of whom are children.

The Department of Corrections

will receive \$868 million for the year, about \$500,000 more than the current year's budget.

Corrections and Medicaid receive most of the money from the General Fund budget.

The budget also includes \$16 million for a 2 percent pay raise for state employees and \$18 million for the State Employees Insurance Board to offset the rising healthcare costs.

Currently, the state pays \$1,025 per member per month, but due to rising health costs, CEO of the State Employees Insurance Board (SEIB) in September requested a \$150 increase per member per month. Lawmakers had expressed doubts about their ability to honor that request, but were able to in the final version.

The House passed the budget 104-0 on April 1. A message seeking comment from Gov. Kay Ivey was left Wednesday afternoon.

DHR received a \$735,000 increase and ADMH got a \$325,000 increase over the Senate version of the budget. The Airport Development Grant Program, which includes Cullman Regional Airport, and district attorneys each received a \$2 million increase from what the Senate passed.

DHR, ADMH and the Alabama Department of Corrections have



Anna Barrett/Alabama Reflector

Sen. Greg Albritton, R-Atmore, walking across the floor of the Alabama Senate on April 1, 2026, in Montgomery, Alabama. The Senate on Wednesday concurred with House changes to the fiscal year 2027 General Fund budget, sending it to Gov. Kay Ivey.

conditional appropriations under the budget, meaning the money will not be released unless it becomes available or unless certain conditions are met.

For the DOC, \$40 million of its \$867.9 million allocation will be withheld unless 90 percent of the new Elmore County facility is completed and the utility infrastructure of the Escambia County facility is completed by Oct. 1.

The first quarter of DHR's \$148.4 million will only be released if the department lowers the state's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) error rate to 6 percent by Oct. 1, or develops a plan to cover the cost of federal funding cuts. For fiscal year 2024, Alabama's error rate was 8.32 percent, under the national average of 10.93 percent, according to the U.S. Department

of Agriculture. In January, the error rate was around 9 percent.

The last two quarterly installments of ADMH's collective \$42 million for existing Crisis Diversion and Rural Crisis Care centers will not be administered until the department reports the status of the programs to the general fund budget chairs, the Director of Finance and the Legislative Fiscal Officer.

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# NEWS

## Anne Golightly

- From A1

I only knew that Anne grew up as an only child in Gadsden, and that the two girls' birthdays were exactly one month apart in 1958: Denise's on Sept. 9 and Anne's on Oct. 9.

Out of the Starting Gate  
I knew it was going to be a longshot to find Anne, especially if she had married. I started the journey by making Internet searches that did not produce meaningful results. One website provided records for women with the last name of Golightly, but none possessed a birth year of 1958. One woman's birth year was close — 1957 — and a photo showed her smiling and waving. I wondered: "Is this a sign?" But her profile made it clear she was a Northern girl.

I tried Facebook searches, and one promising hit included a photo of an Anne Golightly who looked to be in her mid-60s and excelled at public speaking. I figured a public speaker would not be shy about shouting, "Hey, Y'all! ... Hey, Y'all!" to total strangers as a 10-year-old. But Golightly is this Anne's married name.

I asked Alabamian Ian Golightly if he was familiar with Anne Golightly, and he responded, "I am not, but I will ask my Uncle Ralph."

I felt optimistic when Ian informed me that his uncle said he might know an Anne Golightly. Ian said his uncle would contact me.

Four days later, I hadn't heard from Ralph, so I sent a message to him, but I did not receive a response.

I discovered a comprehensive website that provides information on high school graduates across the country, including Gadsden High, which lists Anne Golightly as a member of the class of 1977! But clicking on her link did not produce results. No profile. No picture. No luck.

### Without a Compass

Two weeks into this journey, I was ready to give up, so I told Denise that I was in the process of tracking down Anne Golightly, and that my search was at a standstill. Denise's eyes lit up like they always do when the subject is Anne, so I knew there would be no turning back.

I contacted Catherine Theadrell, administrator of the Welcome to Gadsden website, and she provided an obituary for Lucille Golightly, who never married and died at age 86 in 2007.

The details had Gadsden and Golightly written all over it: The name Golightly is listed 11 times; the obituary appears in The Gadsden Times; visitation was at Collier-Butler Funeral Home in Gadsden; and Lucille was buried in Gadsden's Crestwood Cemetery. But I could not confirm any connections to Anne Golightly.

I moved on to the Gold Tiger Club, a website for Gadsden High graduates who have celebrated their 50th class reunions. Anne Golightly's 1977 class was a year shy of joining this club, but I figured visiting the site was worth a try.

I sent a message to Gold Tiger Club administrator Marie Johnson. I told her I was trying to locate Anne Golightly, a Gadsden High graduate whose 50th reunion will be next year. Marie had contacted Kent Back, whom she said went to school with Anne and has friends who keep in touch with her! Marie

said she would keep me posted.

In the meantime, I was thrown a curveball: Anne is not a 1977 Gadsden High graduate! A deeper search revealed that Anne is a 1977 graduate of Westminster Christian School (now Westbrook Christian School) in neighboring Rainbow City. Since Anne attended a public grammar school and had friends who went to Gadsden High, someone must have inadvertently added her name to the GHS class list.

### A Turning Point

This is where Gold Tiger Club's Marie Johnson did a countless number of searches for Anne. Amid a bombardment of names and faces that surfaced over three days, Marie came across a hopeful lead. Marie is not sure how that critical moment came about, but that is understandable when plunging into social media. Research can become an obsession bordering on addiction. But no matter how Marie got there, she came up with a connection between the last names "Golightly" and "Faucett."

Marie's search for "Faucett" produced an Anne Faucett. When Marie called up her Facebook page, it revealed that she and Anne had mutual friends — a surefire indication that Anne Faucett is the former Anne Golightly!

### Treading Lightly

Marie Johnson had found Anne Golightly Faucett, but rather than sending a cold-call message to her, she decided to seek a person in Anne's life who would have an open door to telling Anne about Denise's wish for a reunion.

Marie scrolled through Anne's posts and found a message from Anne to Rachel Faucett Vernon, Anne's daughter! Marie sent a message to Rachel, explaining why she is trying to contact her mother, and Rachel said she would inform her mom of Denise's desire to reconnect.

Rachel gave her mom's phone number to Marie and Marie's phone number to her mom. The next morning, Marie called to say she had received a call from Anne and that she was ecstatic about reconnecting with Denise!

Marie gave my phone number to Anne, and said I should expect a call the next day. Three-and-a-half weeks into this journey, Anne — an only child who longed for siblings and whose parents divorced when she was young but stayed active in her life — called! I approached Denise and mouthed the words: "It's Anne!" Denise experienced a combination of anticipation (her longtime dream finally being realized) and trepidation (her inner-child wondering, "Will Anne still like me?").

When Denise uttered "Anne," the one-syllable word emerged as a cracked whisper and tears welled up in her eyes. The friendship between these two women — who met as 10-year-olds and are now 67 — didn't skip a beat in a wide-ranging 45-minute conversation.

Anne, who now resides in Piedmont, approximately 30 miles from Gadsden, shared treasured memories of her trips to Illinois and being part of "The Three Musketeers."

"Oh, my gosh, Denise! I remember your beautiful family. I remember the house rules



Art by Ali Cormier

and everyone taking their shoes off at the back door.

"We had so much fun. It was the best of times, like an episode from 'The Wonder Years.' I just enjoyed being with y'all and going into friends' homes and riding bicycles.

"I was always thankful for those days. I remember walking to get root beer floats and staying outside all day. I was able to see families intact and happy. Your neighborhood's moms were at home. My mom had to work."

### A Whole New World

Anne's mother being at work during Anne's summer breaks, is the reason Anne came to Illinois four years in a row. Mrs. Whitten, a family friend whom Anne referred to as her "Third Grandma," would travel to Plainfield — accompanied by Anne — to visit her daughter.

Experiencing the joy of large families on her trips to Illinois intensified Anne's disappointment in not having siblings. As an adult, Anne married Johnny Faucett and made up for her childhood dream by giving birth to seven children! And, unlike her mother, Anne became a stay-at-home mom.

"I knew when I grew up, I wanted kids, not one child, and I wanted to stay home. And God was very good to me. I found a wonderful husband who had the same dream."

### Five Decades Later

retailers will have three opportunities to not be fined, penalized or punished for the accidental acceptance of ineligible SNAP items.

House Democrats raised concerns about unintended consequences the bill could have by only targeting SNAP recipients.

"It seems as though we're trying to keep our kids healthy, we're trying to teach good eating habits, but at the same time, we're discriminating," Rep. Peblin Warren, D-Tuskegee, said during debate. "We're not worried at all about the children as a whole. We're only concerned about the children getting SNAP [benefits]. That to me defeats the whole purpose of trying to help children."

Rep. Napoleon Bracy, D-Prichard, said the bill could make some families and children

The next chapter in this remarkable odyssey will be a get-together between Anne and Denise when the Faucetts and the O'Connells meet for the first time in Alabama. A reunion sometime in May is in the planning stages. It is hoped that Debbie Deml Cutts, the third member of "The Three Musketeers," can also make it to the reunion. Like Denise, Debbie cherishes memories of "The Three Musketeer" days.

"The three of us would put on backyard plays. I remember one play in which we used an old TV cabinet that transported neighborhood kids back in time! We had a lot of good, clean fun, but at times we could be naughty little girls. Mrs. Whitten found cigarettes in her daughter's home, and we begged Denise's older sister to say the cigarettes were hers and that we were hiding them for her. She got us off the hook!"

*Author's Note: Tracking down Anne was an intensive and expansive search, but it was worth every moment — the anticipation, the elation and even the frustration that accompanies a needle-in-a-haystack endeavor. This goal would not have been reached without the help of Marie Johnson. I got the ball rolling by bursting out of the starting blocks, but it was tenacious Marie who carried the baton across the finish line or, in this case, the re-starting line!*

## SNAP ban - From A1

According to the USDA, 22 other states — including Hawaii, South Carolina, Texas and Florida — have introduced similar legislation to prohibit the purchase of soda and candy with SNAP benefits and have had their waivers approved by the department.

Ingram, who carried the bill, said the legislation was aimed at tackling Alabama's high obesity rate.

"They can still buy a diet drink or a drink that doesn't have the first two ingredients as sugar or high fructose corn syrup," he said after the bill passed. "We're one of the worst states as far as health is concerned and obe-

sity in the Union."

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

Northwell Health, a non-profit health care network in New York, reported in February that inflation has driven the price of fresh produce up making it harder for low-income families to afford healthier options. According to the article, because of the rising grocery costs, Americans are more likely to choose processed foods that have longer shelf life and are cheaper than fresh food.

Under the legislation, if the waiver requested by DHR is rejected, the department will submit a waiver annually to the USA until it is accepted. If the waiver is approved,

feel less than because they aren't allowed to purchase treats to celebrate accomplishments.

"And you have a situation where the kids have been working hard in school, they're making straight A's, they come home [and say] 'Look mom, I made the honor roll' and they're excited about it and they might not be able to go out and do something special for the kids on the level that one of us may be able to do for our kids," he said.

Later on Wednesday, Orr moved to send the bill to a conference committee to discuss the changes. The committee is scheduled to meet Thursday morning. The result of that meeting was not known at the time of this publication's print deadline.

# MONTHLY EVENTS

APRIL 14

Riley Green and Friends Acoustic Concert @ The AMP 7 to 9 p.m.

APRIL 16

Unplugged night with Damon Johnson @ The Pitman Theatre 6 p.m.

APRIL 18

5th Annual Autism Spectrum Conference The Venue at Coosa Landing 7:30 am - 3:30 p.m.

APRIL 19

Last day of the Spring Lantern Festival @ Noccoalula Falls

APRIL 25

North East Alabama Genealogical Swap Meet 2026 Annual Seminar Gadsden Downtown Civic Center 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

APRIL 19

Voices of the Past Historic Walk at Old Harmony Cemetery @ 2 p.m. and Rainbow City Community Center @ 3:30 p.m.

APRIL 23

New Event Pavilion at Noccoalula Falls (Beside Chapel) - April 23, 2026 @ 10 a.m.

APRIL 24

City-wide Clean Up & Arbor Day from 8 a.m. to noon

APRIL 24

River Rocks Landing Weekend Bazaar Friday, 3 - 8 p.m., Saturday (8 a.m. - 8 p.m.) and Sunday (8 a.m. - 3 p.m.) Every weekend until October.

The AMP is kicking off on April 25th with Pandora's Box Aerosmith Tribute doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m.

# NEWS

## GSCC host preview day

Gadsden State Community College will host its annual Preview Days this April, offering prospective students and their families an opportunity to experience campus life, explore academic programs and connect with faculty and staff.

Preview Days will take place at multiple Gadsden State campuses:

- April 9 — Ayers Campus (Past)
- April 22 — Valley Street Campus
- April 28 — Wallace Drive/East Broad Campus (Gadsden)

Each event is designed to give attendees a firsthand look at what it means to be a Gadsden State Cardinal.

Participants will tour campus facilities, learn about hands-on programs, meet instructors and staff, and engage with current students.

“Preview Days are one of the best ways for prospective students to see themselves here,” said Cody Beck, Director of Enrollment Services. “From the moment they step on campus, they can begin to picture their future. Every student’s path is different, whether that means transferring to a university, starting a career, or building new skills. Our goal is to make that first step as welcoming, informative, and exciting as possible.”

Attendees will have the opportunity to explore a wide range of programs, including academic transfer pathways, career technical education and workforce development offerings, and health science education. Representatives from admissions, financial aid, and student services will also be available to answer questions and assist with the next steps in the enrollment process.

Preview Days are free to attend, but registration is encouraged.

To register or learn more, visit: [www.gadsdenstate.edu/preview-days](http://www.gadsdenstate.edu/preview-days)

## Pancake Day returns Saturday

The Rainbow City Lions Club will hold its annual Pancake Day on Saturday, April 11, 2026, at the Rainbow City Community Center, 3702 Rainbow Drive. The event runs from 6 a.m. to noon and features all-you-can-eat pancakes,

sausage, biscuits and gravy, along with milk, juice or coffee. Tickets are \$7 in advance or at the door, and children six and under eat free. Carry-out will be available, and diabetic syrup will be provided.

## Magical ‘Puffs’ comes to life on Ritz stage

Not everyone is meant to save the world. Some of us are just trying to get by.

That’s the idea behind “Puffs,” a play being performed by the Theatre of Gadsden’s Innovation Youth Theatre.

The show will be performed April 10-12 at the Historic Ritz Theatre.

The 2015 play written by Matt Cox documents “Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic.” If that’s not a giveaway to the background of the play, then you may be one of the four or so people who have no familiarity with the series of blockbuster books or films about a certain boy wizard.

The Puffs are members of one of the four houses at that wizard’s school, but one not as well-known, so to speak.

While a spoof of the well-known series, “Puffs” tells a familiar story about getting on in the world when the spotlight is falling elsewhere.

For the director, Grace Kelly, it’s her third time directing this particular show. The cast of 30 includes actors aged 11 to 20.

“It’s really hard to make it boring,” Kelly said. “It’s very funny, and you have kids who have never done anything in theatre, so it’s good for kids



that aren’t as experienced on stage but want to be included.”

Hannah Erwin plays Megan, who she says is a “very complicated character.”

“She wants to be different from the rest of the Puffs,” Erwin said. “At the end of the story, she realizes she’s a Puff, and she’s all right with that.”

Erwin said she enjoys the rapid-fire energy of the play, and its overall message of “being true to yourself, which I think anybody can get.”

Ally Townsend, who plays Sally Perks, said her character is “very goofy, but means well.” For her, the play shows a different side of a more familiar story, but in a way that most audiences can find relatable. “There’s so much that happens,” she said. “I’m doing something all the time.”

There’s also the character of Cedric, played by Noah Kelly. If you don’t know what happens to Cedric in the book series, then you need to get out more. But needless to say, his presence in the story is a big part of the action.

“He’s a very fun character,” Noah Kelly said. “He’s tries very hard. He wants to help people. He’s got a good heart.”

Noah said it’s his second time to play Cedric, and he’d like to reach further and get more laughs.

Grace Kelly said that, while the Puffs may not be seen as “important” as the school’s other houses, its members “feel everything as intensely.” And sometimes that can be the best place to be.

For more information and tickets, visit the website [www.theatreofgadsden.org](http://www.theatreofgadsden.org).

## State extends time victims can file claims

By Ralph Chapoco  
Alabama Reflector

The Alabama Legislature Tuesday gave final approval to a bill extending the deadline for crime victims to file a claim with the Alabama Crime Victims Compensation Commission.

HB 255, sponsored by Rep. Russell Bedsole, R-Alabaster, increases the time for victims of violent crimes to apply for compensation for injuries and suffering from one year to two years after the incident.

“What today shows, the Legislature of the state of Alabama does want to care and invest in the victims of our state by expanding this time period from one year to two years to apply for these funds,” Bedsole said shortly after the Senate passed the bill. “It sends a clear message to citizens and to the victims of our state.”

A similar version of the bill passed the House in 2025 but stalled in the Senate.

Everette Johnson, executive director of the Alabama Crime Victims Compensation Commission (ACVCC), said the agency is “ecstatic.”

“This is something we have been working on for a little over a year now, trying to get the increase in the application process,” he said. “We are hoping this will be able to benefit more victims that, based on their trauma or their lack of knowledge about our agency, they have more time now to complete the application and get it back to us.”

Darlene Hutchinson Biehl, one of the ACVCC board members, said she was excited.

“These dollars can be such a lifeline for crime victims,” she said.

“And I found that out in the 1980s when I was first a crime victim, and filed, and got a few hundred dollars that was able to keep me in college.”

ACVCC has seen significant changes over the past four years. In 2023, crime victims and their families protested at ACVCC offices over application backlogs that had some victims waiting months or years for help. The waits were driven by a lack of staffing, which was also driven by declining revenues from fines and fees, the commission’s major sources of revenue at the time.

The Legislature in 2023 began directly appropriating money to the commission, which helped cut the backlog. Lawmakers have approved another \$1.6 million to ACVCC in the coming year.

The bill now goes to Gov. Kay Ivey for signature.



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# EDUCATION

## GSCC PTK earns top honors at regional convention

The Rho Rho Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at Gadsden State Community College earned multiple awards and recognitions during the Alabama Regional PTK Convention held March 6 and 7 at Coastal Alabama Community College in Fairhope.

The chapter was recognized as a Five-Star Chapter and received the designation of Continued Excellence Chapter, highlighting its sustained commitment to academic achievement, leadership and service.

In addition, Rho Rho members submitted entries for several Hallmark Awards and were honored with the Chapter Advisor Team Award. Vanessa Cochran, a new advisor for the chapter, was named a recipient of the Paragon Award for New Advisors, one of PTK's highest honors recognizing outstanding leadership and dedication.

The chapter's Honors in Action project received top distinction, earning awards for Most Distinguished Theme and Overall Project. PTK's Honors in Action program encourages undergraduate research by combining scholarly exploration with service-based solutions to real-world challenges.

Rho Rho's project focused on the impact of art on mental health, exploring how creative expression can support emotional well-being and strengthen communities.



Submitted photo

Through the project, students gained hands-on experience in research, collaboration and community engagement.

"Our students continue to demonstrate what is possible when academic excellence and service come together," said Melissa Davis, PTK Advisor. "These recognitions reflect their hard work, creativity and commitment to making a meaningful difference."

The chapter was also named the fourth overall finalist chapter in the Alabama region, placing it among the top

PTK chapters in the state.

Phi Theta Kappa is the premier honor society recognizing academic achievement among students at associate degree-granting colleges and helping them grow as scholars and leaders.

For more information about Phi Theta Kappa at Gadsden State, visit [www.gadsdenstate.edu](http://www.gadsdenstate.edu).

## GSCC celebrates Community College Month with events

GSCC celebrates Community College Month with April events across campuses

Gadsden State Community College will celebrate Community College Month throughout April with a full calendar of events highlighting student success, campus life and the college's impact on the region.

Community College Month is a time to recognize the impact community colleges have on students, the workforce and local communities.

Community members, students, alumni and partners are invited to take part in events across all campuses throughout the month.

April 2026 Community College Month Highlights

**April 11**  
Baseball Games 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

**April 14**  
Honors Day, Ayers Campus, 2 p.m.

**April 15**  
Honors Day, Wallace Drive Campus, 2 p.m.  
Phi Theta Kappa Induction, 5 p.m.

**April 16**  
NC3 Signing Day, Ayers and Gadsden, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Baseball Games 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.  
Evening of Fine Arts, 6 p.m.

Valley Street Campus Clean-Up Day (Construction Tech), 10 a.m.

**April 17**  
Health Sciences Mass Casualty Simulation  
Welding Contest, 9 a.m.  
Pop-Up Poetry Workshop

**April 18**  
Women's Self Defense Class (GSPD), 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Softball Games 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

**April 20**  
SkillsUSA Competition Week begins

**April 21**  
Athletic Spirit Day with Game Day Live (all day)  
Ayers G-Day  
Choir Tour Begins

Valley Street Campus Clean-Up Day (LPN), 10 a.m.

**April 22**  
Preview Day, Valley Street Campus  
Administrative Professionals Day  
Cardinal Arts Journal Workshop, 4 p.m.

**April 23**  
Baseball Games 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.  
GSCC Film Festival

**April 25**

Softball Games 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

**April 26**

Baseball

**April 27**

Valley Street Campus Clean-Up Day (Dental Assisting), 10 a.m.

Surgical Technology Ribbon Cutting and Open House (Ayers), 5 p.m.

State of the College (Ayers), 6 p.m.

**April 28**

Preview Day, Wallace Drive and East Broad Campuses  
CoMeT Signing Day, 5:45 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**April 30**

Gadsden Sports Park Ribbon Cutting, 11:30 a.m.  
Athletic Alumni Recognition, 12 p.m.

Baseball Games 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.  
Softball Games 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.

FAME Signing Day, 5:45 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Showband Blueprint Ball Performance, 7 p.m.  
Cardinal Arts Journal Annual Poetry Reading

All dates and times are subject to change, and additional events may be added. Updates will be shared on Gadsden State's social media channels and at [www.gadsdenstate.edu/CCM](http://www.gadsdenstate.edu/CCM).

## Local youth earns scholarship



Eli Suther, student at Southside, was awarded a scholarship by the Poarch Band of Creek Indians (PBCI) for his participation in Alabama's livestock industry on Sunday, March 22 at a ceremony held in coordination with the Southeastern Livestock Exposition (SLE) Rodeo. Left to right PBCI Member and Perdido River Farms Director John English; Eli Suther; and SLE President-Elect Galen Grace. Submitted photo.

## Local student elected Phi Kappa Phi

Calhoun Alyssa of Southside, Alabama, was recently elected to membership into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society, at Auburn University at Montgomery.

Alyssa is among approximately 20,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 300 campuses in the United States and its territories. Its mission is to "cultivate a community that celebrates and advances the love of learning."

About Phi Kappa Phi  
Founded in 1897, Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Membership is by invitation only to juniors, seniors and graduate students. Faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction also qualify. The Society's mission is to "cultivate a community that celebrates and advances the love of learning." For more information, visit [www.PhiKappaPhi.org](http://www.PhiKappaPhi.org).

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# EDUCATION

## Etowah County BOE recognizes “outstanding” contributions

Etowah County Board of Education recognized the Support Personnel of the Year for their contributions to the schools and community at the board meeting on Wednesday. The following individuals were recognized: Jeff Lacks, Custodian, Carlisle Elementary; Tana Williams, Secretary/Bookkeeper, Duck Springs Elementary; Melissa Christopher, System-Wide Paraprofessional, Gaston Elementary; Tanya Huffstutler, Child Nutrition Manager, Gaston High; Dian Mintz, Paraprofessional, Glencoe Elementary; Laura Langdale, Special Education Paraprofessional, Glencoe Middle; Shea Shaneyfelt, Child Nutrition Manager, Glencoe High; Shakira Leonard, School Nurse, Highland Elementary; Alma “Buddy” Robertson, PreSchool Paraprofessional, Hokes Bluff Elementary; Heather Stephens, School Nurse, Hokes Bluff Middle; Wendy Stidham, Child Nutrition Worker, Hokes Bluff High; Crystal Campbell, Secretary/Bookkeeper, Ivalee Elementary; Judy Shirley, Instructional Aide, John S. Jones Elementary; Joy Blakenship, Secretary, Rainbow Middle; Misty Jerry, Secretary, Sardis Middle; Ashley Meitzen-Derr, School Nurse, Sardis High; David Clough, Bus Driver, Southside Elementary; Tina Coffey, Bookkeeper, Southside High; Tammy Blakely, Pre-K Auxiliary Teacher, West End Elementary; Jalen Byers, Special Education Paraprofessional, West End High; Melinda Cornelius, PreK Auxiliary Teacher, Whitesboro Elementary; Lauri Dixon, Child Nutrition Accountant, Central Office, Child Nutrition Department; and Will Mintz - Bus Mechanic, Transportation. A special thank you to Clarie Bowen (left middle picture on right) from Emblem Credit Union for presenting the Overall Support Personnel of the Year Award to Jeff Lacks 9 middle), Custodian at Carlisle Elementary.



Students recognized who achieved an impressive score of 30 or higher on the ACT. Names in no order. Miley Beaird, Cooper Gomez, Isabella Miller, Brayden Howard, Caden Howard, Janelle Ford Ryan Nail, Tanner Griggs, Hannah Westcott, Cy Bush, Cora Lee Clontz, Trek Gardner, Asher Lang and Jarrin Vaughn.



The ECBOE board recognized the Sardis Middle School Robotics Teams for their outstanding performance at the Muratics FallFest VEX IQ Robotics Competition and the Winter BDR Mix & Match VEX IQ Robotics Competition. Sardis girls placed first in Muratics Fall Fest and the boys placed third at Winter BDR Mix & Match VEX IQ Robotics Competition. Photos courtesy of Kim Reed.



Russ McGlaughn, Tyler Vincent, Landon Garrard and Will McGlaughn were recognized for the 2026 ASCA Class 6A/7A Junior Varsity State Champions from Southside High

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# LIFESTYLE

## Poetry is ‘emotion recollected in tranquility’



Tabitha Bozeman

April is one of my favorite months because it is Poetry Month. This is the month I enjoy revisiting favorite poems, discovering new-to-me poets, and pondering exactly what makes poetry poetry. Many writers and readers have tried to define poetry. My favorite classic definition is from Wordsworth who said poetry is “emotion recollected in tranquility.” Rita Dove said “poetry is language at its most distilled and most powerful.” Frost said it is “what gets lost in translation.” Many other descriptions of it include the emotions, peace, and stillness poetry both needs to be created and can gift to readers.

However, finding a moment of stillness and quiet is a tall order most of the time

in today’s world. Tranquility? Even more elusive. The internet defines tranquility as “a state of peace, calm, and quiet, characterized by the absence of noise, stress, agitation, or disturbance.” In this noisy, busy, frenetic world where we often do not have 5 minutes of waking time to ourselves, is it even realistic to ask people to write or read poetry? Is poetry still relevant today?

Ethan Hawke recorded a video a few years ago, describing when people need art like poetry, saying that when we experience the huge emotions of the human experience, when we are broken open, at that moment art becomes not just a luxury but a necessity. In another place, Wordsworth describes poetry as the “spontaneous outflow of powerful feelings.” Poetry as both a container for emotion and as a way to process emotion seems to be a fairly consistent characteristic of how many define it. However, actually reading poetry can feel inaccessible and unnecessary for many readers because it often feels unfamiliar and can require turning down the noise around us and in our minds to really process what we are reading. This can feel daunting in the midst of our busyness. However, T.S. Eliot

reminds us that “poetry can communicate before it is understood.” Much like a song that gets stuck in your head, lines of poetry can find their way back into your mind when you least expect it, and many times when you most need them.

As much as I appreciate Wordsworth’s definition of poetry, I think it is misleading to assume tranquility must come before poetry. Instead, I think poetry is a way to create and nurture tranquility in our daily lives. Poetry is sometimes a snapshot of a moment, an emotion, an experience. It can be many stanzas, or only a couple of lines. A phrase might be all it takes to slow us down long enough to more fully consider a moment before it passes. Yes, sometimes we can only write and think clearly about something after some time has passed. After all, hindsight can be 20/20. But, other times it is the act of writing, choosing the best word, crafting the image that forces us to breathe, that creates a moment of tranquility. Maybe tranquility is more than just the absence of noise and stress. Maybe it is also the presence of meaning. If so, the poetry is a necessary component of and tool for creating our own little pockets of

tranquility and peace in this crazy world. Creativity, tranquility, peace, hope—these things are needed more than ever, even if we can’t come to a full stop very often.

For Emily Dickinson, “dwell[ing] in possibility” was one of the best parts of poetry, and the most hopeful, so I will leave you with this piece that has always been a favorite of mine: “Hope” is the thing with feathers - That perches in the soul - And sings the tune without the words - And never stops - at all -And sweetest - in the Gale - is heard -And sore must be the storm -That could abash the little Bird That kept so many warm -I’ve heard it in the chilliest land -And on the strangest Sea -Yet - never - in Extremity, It asked a crumb - of me.”

This month, I encourage you to google some poetry. See if you can discover a snippet of verse that sticks with you. Find a stanza that describes a feeling you’ve never put into words. Read a poem that fills you with emotion. Poetry can create pauses in our lives and invite us to entertain possibilities and hope.

Tabitha Bozeman is an instructor at GSSC. Email at tabithabozean@gmail.com.



Carrie Halladay

Hi! I’m Carrie Halladay, a licensed professional counselor. Like most of us, I have experienced painful grief, dealt with family conflict and had to learn to juggle the stresses of marriage, a career and parenting. Through therapy, I learned to manage life and relationships, and I wanted to share that knowledge with others.

I opened my practice, Halladay Counseling, in 2003. My hope is to normalize mental health and make it simple, practical and something we can talk about without judgment. I’m writing this column in hopes of raising awareness about mental health. Mental health challenges are something every single one of us has, whether we talk about them or not. Some days, we feel good. Other days, we’re all over the place. Most of the time, it’s somewhere in between. That’s normal.

## Normalizing mental health awareness

Growing up, most of us were raised to believe that if you struggled with “mental health” it meant you were weak, or that something was wrong with you. But the truth is, stress, anxiety and sadness are part of being human.

Emotions are biological messages from our bodies letting us know something is not right in our world. When you’re irritable, exhausted, anxious or just not feeling like yourself, it’s not a personal failure, it’s information. It’s your mind and body trying to get your attention.

We don’t question taking care of our physical health. If we’re sick, we rest. When we sneeze excessively in the Spring, we take allergy medication. If you break a bone, you go to the Doctor. Our mental health deserves that same kind of care.

Normalizing mental health means we stop acting like we’re supposed to have it all together all the time. It means we can say, “I’m struggling right now,” without feeling embarrassed or weak. It means asking for help — whether that’s talking to someone you trust, making changes in your routine or going to therapy. You don’t have to be in crisis to deserve support. You

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don’t need to wait until everything falls apart to start caring for your mental health. Life can be tough at times. Relationships can be complicated. Loss happens. Change is unavoidable. Of course, it impacts us. It’s not about being perfect. It’s about being honest and learning how to take care of yourself along the way.

Carrie Halladay is a Licensed Professional Counselor and the owner of Halladay Counseling in Gadsden. She earned

her Master of Science in Counseling from Jacksonville State University in 2002. She has extensive experience working in the areas of violence against women, sexual assault crisis response, and trauma related care. Carrie specializes in helping individuals navigate adversity and emotional challenges using evidence based approaches, including Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT).

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# DEVOTIONALS

## Ol' Slewfoot, the science and the savior



Resurrection Sunday was last week. We didn't get to be with all of our children, but we celebrated with my daddy and our daughter's family. His fiancée had access to a bunny costume, so while she was planning the surprise, Popa sat the great-grandbabies down to talk about Jesus.

He started with the question, "What do we celebrate today?" To which he was promptly met with, "It's the day Jesus arose!" He prodded a little deeper, and to his delight, his 3, 5, and 6 year old great-grandbabies had all of the answers. They were eager to tell him that Jesus died for the bad stuff we have all done.

At the end of the story, Popa was able to encourage his little crowns (see Proverbs 17:6) to let Jesus be their Boss and live their lives in a way that lets their Light shine for Him.

As we were preparing to leave, though, I was talking to our daughter about how wonderful it was that her babies know the resurrection story so well. Her response gave me lots to ponder and something to write about.

For background, she and her husband serve on the worship team and in the children's de-

partment at their church. As such, they are there nearly every time the doors are opened. On top of that, they have homeschooled Big and Middle with a Bible based curriculum.

While we were talking about how much the kids know about the Bible, my girl shared a concern: maybe it's too much. She described the eye-rolls and reluctant sighs that come periodically during Sunday School and bedtime Bible stories. She wondered if it was possible to push the Good news so much that it could lose its impact.

Immediately, my defenses went up. I have walked with Jesus long enough to recognize the doubt and guilt that the Accuser loves to stir up in a mother's heart. I quickly spouted off all of the scriptures I could think of about training up our children, namely Deuteronomy 6:7 which says: "Impress [the commandments] on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up" (NIV). Literally everywhere. At all times. I also remembered Romans 10:17 that talks about how Faith grows in hearts and minds when we hear the Word of God.

On top of that, I tried to encourage her with the simple Truth that the most important job we have as parents is to make sure that our children come to know Jesus in a real, personal way, and that part of that is living out the scriptures daily. Taking our children to church—where they hear the wonderful news of Jesus, see His Love in action through others, and grow alongside friends who love Him—is one way we live out the scriptures

as parents. However, perhaps the most important way is by living out the grace and commandments of Jesus transparently in our home, showing them that our Faith is just as real in the living room as it is in the sanctuary.

She knows all of those things. Does all of those things. It was just that little moment of doubt that "Ol' Slewfoot" (as my childhood pastor used to call him) opportunistically dropped in her mind on a difficult day. To push back against that whisper (that feels like a shout when you are in the throws of mothering little ones), I went home and started digging deeper into why it matters so much that we "bombard" our kids with gospel-centered teaching while they are little, because doubt always shrinks when it's met with Truth.

The only Truth needed, of course, is because God said it. But in this information-overload-of-a-world in which my kids are raising their kids, I love how our God is so omnipotent and thoughtful—knowing that on our difficult days, we might need to see He has authority over every discipline. He is the Master Architect of the sciences that we are only just beginning to decode. So when we see science align with Scripture, it isn't "proof" of God's Word; it's simply a witness to the brilliance of His design.

Science calls children "meaning-making Machines" (Gopnik, The Philosophical Baby), and research shows their worldview is locked in before they hit puberty (Barna, Raising Spiritual Champions). But, I call it God's brilliant design—He wired the prefrontal cortex of a 5-year-old to be a sponge

for Truth so that, when raised in Jesus, the world's noise doesn't get the first word.

There is also current research in epigenetics that suggests that "hearing and hearing" can lead to biological embedding where a child's environment actually influences how their genes are expressed in response to stress later in life. This emphasizes the importance of "hearing the Word of God" in a gospel-centered environment. God really is omnipotent over biology!

When I asked Gemini to give me examples of the importance of "teaching children scripture daily" I was bombarded with so. Much. information. There are studies after studies that support what God told our forefathers to do in Deuteronomy: integrate Faith into everyday moments—all day.

I believe God because He is God. But I'm grateful He made the world in such a way that even the 'facts' have to bow to His Truth. It's a great way to quiet that Ol' Slewfoot doubt by showing my girl (and mommas everywhere) that the Creator of her children's prefrontal cortex is also the Shepherd of their souls. She may feel like she's just "bombarding" them with noise on the hard days, but God is using that Holy noise to build a fortress.

So, let the kids roll their eyes, Friends, but whatever you do—keep teaching! The God who designed the mind has already guaranteed the resurrection Power of His Word!

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

## The tomb is still empty

Easter is not just a celebration. It is the moment that changed everything.

Early Sunday morning, before the sun came up, women walked toward the tomb expecting death. They carried spices, sorrow, and the weight of what they had seen on Friday. As far as they knew, it was over. The cross had spoken. The stone had been rolled in place. The grave had been sealed.

But God was not finished.

The tomb was closed, but heaven was still moving. The stone was heavy, but it was not heavier than God's power. Guards were standing watch, but they could not stop what God had already set in motion. Before anyone could roll the stone away, Jesus had already risen.

And that truth still speaks today. Anytime it looks like it is over, God is still working.

Those women showed up not knowing how the stone would be moved. They came

anyway. And what they discovered was this. The problem they were worried about had already been handled. Before you lose sleep over your situation, God has already gone ahead of you. Before you figure out how you are going to move what feels impossible, God has already made a way.

Then the angel spoke, "Do not be afraid." And a few moments later, Jesus Himself said the same thing, "Do not be afraid."

The resurrection was not just a miracle. It was a message.

Fear does not have the final word. Death tried to speak, but Jesus got up.

Darkness tried to win, but Jesus got up.

The grave tried to hold Him, but early Sunday morning, He got up with all power in His hands. And if He has all power, then that changes everything about how we live.

That means He has power over death. Power over hell. Power over the grave. And

power over whatever you are facing right now.

If He has all power, then your situation does not control you. Your struggle does not define you. That pressure, that diagnosis, that fear does not have the final say. God does.

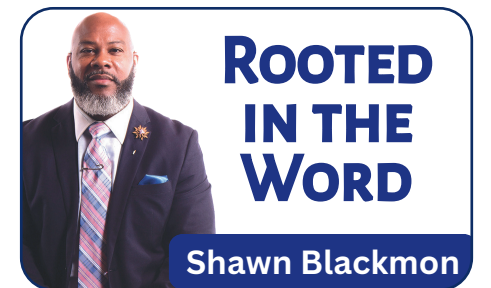
Scripture tells us to be strong and courageous, not because life is easy, but because God is with us. And Easter gives us the reason we can live that way. Our courage is not based on what we feel. It is based on what Jesus has already done.

Because He got up, you can get up. Your faith can get up. Your purpose can get up.

Your future can get up.

So this week, do not let fear dictate your steps. Do not let your problems speak louder than God's promises. When life feels overwhelming, remind yourself of this simple truth.

The tomb is still empty. The stone is still



rolled away. And Jesus is still alive. And because of that, you can walk in courage.

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 unchanging 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.

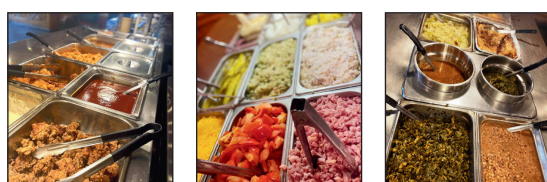
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# OBITUARIES



**Martha Beacham Odell**

Mrs. Odell cherished her family above all else. She loved spending time with her children and grandchildren, cooking, shopping, watching her grandchildren play sports, going to the beach, and going to the movies. She also loved her fur babies. She had a huge heart and she had a special bond with her sisters, brothers, nieces and nephews whom she loved dearly and loved spending time with. She was a great wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Narvel "Pete" Odell, and her parents, Barney and Florence Beacham.

She is survived by her children: James (Brad) Odell, Janet (Brian) Smith, and Jason (Jamie) Odell; her grandchildren: Samantha (Dale) McKay, Mallary (Ben) Duncan, and Alexandria (Tyler) Goodwin; and her great-grandchildren: Bailey McKay, Jayden McKay, and Brooklyn Duncan. She also leaves behind a host of extended family members and dear friends.

The family would like to extend special thanks to the Southside First Responders for their care and support.



**Michael Loren Brown**

**GADSDEN** - It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Michael (Mike) Loren Brown, a devoted husband, father, grandfather, veteran, and respected businessman, who passed away at his home, surrounded by family, on April 1.

Mike lived a life defined by strength, dedication, and unwavering integrity. He was a 1963 graduate of Gadsden High School and a proud Green Beret in the U.S. Army Special Forces, earning his Airborne wings, a testament to his strength and determination. He built his life through grit and perseverance and never did anything halfway.

Following his service, Mike returned home to Gadsden, where he continued a proud family legacy as a second generation business owner. As the owner of Gadsden Auto Parts, and the son of Jesse Loren Brown, founder of Brown's Shoe Store on Broad Street, he built a life rooted in hard work, determination, and doing things the right way. Integrity was not just something he believed in, it was how he lived every day.

He had a passion for anything that moved fast, including cars, boats, and motorcycles, and anything with an engine that could push the limits. That same love for speed was matched by his deep love for the ocean, boating, and being on the water. One of his greatest joys was sharing that love with his daughter, Ashley, as well as his granddaughters, who brought out his softer side and were a constant source of joy.

We take comfort in knowing he is now at peace, united with his sons, and in the

presence of the Lord.

He was preceded in death by his two sons, Dr. James (Jim) Brown and Joseph Brown, his brothers, Jerry Brown and Stanley Brown, and his parents, Jesse Loren Brown and Sara Frances (Owen) Brown.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife of 44 years, Pamela Morgan Brown, his children, Ashley Loren Brown Jamison (Glen) and Lance Young (Teena), his grandchildren, Brooklyn Young, Ella Mathews, Hollis Jamison, Trinity Brown, Noah Brown, Harrison Brown, and Preston Brown, his brothers in law, Randall Charles Morgan (Annette) and Keith Morgan, his nieces and nephews, along with a host of friends and all who knew and loved him.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to ACG Hospice, especially Mason, and to the team at Grandview Medical Center, especially Dr. Hull, Fisher, and the team at Alabama Cardiovascular Group, for their compassionate care.



**Regina Long Beard**

**GADSDEN** - Regina Long Beard, 86, of Gadsden, Alabama, passed away peacefully at her home on March 27, surrounded by her loved ones.

Born on June 20, 1939, in Gadsden, Regina was the daughter of the late Ester and Grace Long. She spent her life rooted in the community she loved and will be remembered for her gentle spirit, strength, and deep love for her family. She was a devoted employee of South Central Bell/BellSouth for 30 years, during which she built lasting friendships and took great pride in her work. Outside of work, she was a faithful member of Riverbend Baptist Church, where her faith was central to her life.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Ray Beard, and her brother, Dewayne Long.

She is survived by her son, Patrick Cash (Jennifer); her granddaughter, Heather Carter (Logan); her cherished great-grandchildren, James, Meera, and Jack; her dear friend, Walt Alexander; and her brothers, Milburn Long (Anna) and Dennis Long (Gail). Sister-in-law, Margaret Long.

The family would like to extend a very special thank you to Faye Payne and Joy Flenord for the loving kindness and care they provided, and to Morgan Brock, RN, for her compassion and dedicated care.

Regina's warmth, kindness, selflessness, and gentle spirit will be deeply missed by all who were fortunate enough to know her.

**Danny Keller**

**WEST GADSDEN** - Announces the passing of Mr. Danny J. Keller, 79, of Gadsden, Passed away Saturday, March 28, at Riverview Regional Medical Center. Mr. Keller is survived by his family.

We ask that you please keep this family in your heart and prayers during their bereavement.

**Gesna Littlefield**

**GADSDEN** - A life so beautifully lived deserves to be beautifully remembered. Please join us in mourning the passing of Mrs. Gesna Bennette Hughes Littlefield,

of Gadsden, AL who traded time for eternity on Friday, April 3, at the age of 91. We ask that you please keep her family and friends in your thoughts and prayers.

Service to be announced.

**Edward Hunter**

**GADSDEN** - It is with heartfelt sympathy that we announce the passing of Edward Hunter of Gadsden, AL, who transitioned on Friday, April 3, at the age of 71. We ask that you keep his family and friends in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Service to be announced.

**Herylan Hamby**

**GADSDEN** Herylan Hamby, age 96 passed away peacefully on April 1. Visitation will be held at Crestwood Funeral Home on Monday, April 6, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., with a graveside service to follow at 2:00 p.m. in the adjoining cemetery.

Mrs. Hamby was born and raised in Alabama. She graduated from Gadsden High School in 1948 and married the love of her life, Daniel R. Hamby Jr., in 1956. They shared 56 devoted years of marriage until his passing in 2012. Herylan deeply loved her family and her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

She was a longtime member of College Heights Baptist Church, where she faithfully served in the nursery and taught Sunday school for many years. Later, she and her husband became members of Paden Baptist Church, where she continued her service by leading a ladies' exercise class.

Herylan found great joy in cooking, gardening, and spending time with her beloved family.

She is survived by her son, Wesley R. (Karen) Hamby; her daughter, Deana S. (Brandon) Rogers; and her cherished grandchildren, Joshua Hamby, Rebekah McCary, Dani Rogers, and Mason Rogers.

Pallbearers will be members of her family.

The family extends their heartfelt gratitude to Gadsden Health and Rehab and Enhabit Hospice for their compassionate care.

**Mary Wise**

**GADSDEN** - With heartfelt sympathy, we announce the earthly transition of Mary Elizabeth McCain Wise of Gadsden, who traded mortal for immortality on Thursday, March 26, at the age of 81.

Mary Elizabeth McCain Wise was born on February 18, 1945, to Roosevelt McCain, Sr. and Catherine Barlington McCain in Etowah County, Alabama. She was the oldest of four children.

Mary accepted Christ at an early age and attended Morning Star Baptist Church. She later became a pioneer member of Fellowship Baptist Church. In her early years, she faithfully served as a member of the junior choir. She later served as an Assistant Sunday School Teacher and Superintendent of Sunday School. She was also a member of the Missionary Society.

Mary was a 1963 graduate of Carver High School, where she was crowned Miss Carver of her graduating class, as well as Miss Homecoming. She was the first Miss Carver to participate in the Gadsden, Alabama Annual Christmas Parade in 1963.

Mary was a 1966 graduate of Good Samaritan Catholic Hospital School of Nursing in Selma, Alabama.

Mary was employed at Gadsden Regional Medical Center, formerly known as Baptist Memorial, for 36 years. She retired due to health issues.

Mary was united in holy matrimony to George Wise, and to this union one child was born, Robin Michelle Wise.

Mary was a caregiver to the sick not only through her profession, but also to others in the community. She was truly a Florence Nightingale nurse.

Mary was most passionate about her faith, family, friends, charity, cooking, and flowers. She enjoyed watching television and would often share memorable quotes from various movies.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents; her brother, Roosevelt McCain, Jr.; her sister, Glenda McCain McCloud; her one and only son, Orlando Lavoy Wise, and a host of aunts, uncles, and cousins whom she loved dearly.

Those left to cherish her memory include her daughter, Robin Michelle Wise Isom of Gadsden, Alabama; her sister, Cathy McCain (Michael) Goggins of Gadsden, Alabama; her special niece, who was like a granddaughter, Ashleigh Patrice Goggins; her sister-in-law, Jerrell Green; her brother-in-law, Lavon McCloud; her chosen sons, Charlie Ethridge and Aundra Jamison; her chosen daughters, Renea Hicks and Yolanda Moragne; her special cousin, Robert "Chuck" McCloud Sr.; her special friends, Eva Wansley Miller, Yvonne Williams, Joan Cox, Gwendolyn Parker Pearson, Linda Mallory Horton, and Bernice Johnson; her special caregivers, Elizabeth Gunn and Sharon King; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

**Vernon Ray Wofford**

Mr. Vernon Ray Wofford, age 85, of Alabama, passed away on March 27. He was born on March 31, 1940, in Whitesboro, Alabama.

Vernon was a proud graduate of Sardis High School, Class of 1958. On May 26, 1963, he married the love of his life, Priscilla Nadine Hampton Wofford, with whom he shared 52 wonderful years of marriage. Vernon honorably served his country in the United States Army Reserve for six years, earning the distinction of Specialist 5 and Sharpshooter.

He dedicated 32 years of his professional life to the Goodyear plant in Gadsden, where he served as an Area Manager. His hard work and excellence earned him recognition as a member of the Top Ten Club, placing him among the top-performing employees.

Vernon had a deep love for family and was especially fond of his many nieces and nephews. He enjoyed traveling, with favorite destinations including Branson, Missouri, and Gatlinburg/Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Vernon and Priscilla also gave back to their community by volunteering for several years at the Etowah Baptist Mission in Alabama City.

Vernon enjoyed watching sports and was a supporter of Alabama football and shared a friendly rivalry with his daughter, Melissa, who cheered for the opposing team. He will be remembered for his warm personality, strong work ethic, and love for those around him.

Vernon was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Priscilla N. Hampton Wofford; his father, Lloyd Wilburn Wofford; and his mother, Bessie Arizona (Gaskin) Wofford.

He is survived by his son, Wade H. Wofford; his daughter, Melissa A. Wofford; his sister, Martha A. Jones; his brother, James W. Wofford (Judy); as well as many cherished nieces and nephews. He also leaves behind his loyal canine companion, Peanut.

Pallbearers will be Chad Sneed, Chuck Hampton, Dan Hampton, Anthony Wofford, Jeff Allen, and Ronnie Langley. Honorary pallbearer is Jack Hampton, Sr.

The family wishes to extend special thanks to Three

sea Epps, Neal Kidd, Bart Buchanan, Southern Care New Beacon Hospice, and the Gadsden Fire and Police Departments for their care and support.

A visitation was held on Monday, April 6.



**Jack Lee Roberts**

**GADSDEN** - Jack Lee Roberts, a faithful servant, devoted community leader, and beloved family man, passed away on April 3, at the age of 84.

Jack was born to Maxine and Leonard Roberts on August 14, 1941. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother Thomas Roberts.

Jack played basketball on scholarship at Walker Junior College for two years and then served briefly in the United States Army. Jack graduated with a degree in electrical engineering from Auburn University in 1965.

He accepted a position with Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company in Akron, Ohio. With Goodyear, Jack helped build plants in Jamaica, Northern Ireland, Brazil, and Fayetteville, North Carolina, before settling with his family in Gadsden for the remainder of his career. Jack retired as the manager of engineering at Goodyear in 2000. After he retired from Goodyear, he worked with Max Staffing for another five years.

Throughout his life, Jack exemplified a deep commitment to serving others and strengthening his community. He was a respected member of the Gadsden Civil Service Board, where his integrity and leadership left a lasting impact. He was also an active member and past President of the Kiwanis Club, striving to make our community a better place.

His heart for mentorship and faith was especially evident in his dedicated service with Way of the Cross ministries and in his role as a Sunday School teacher. He served with distinction as Chairman of the Board at Central United Methodist Church and was a longtime member of the Board of YoungLife Gadsden.

Jack was a faithful member of Meadow Brook Church. He loved his Sunday School class and always read the Sunday School lesson ahead of time. He and Barbara were also active in the Open Hands ministry at Meadow Brook.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Barbara Russell Roberts; brother Leonard Roberts (Kay); sons Lee Roberts (Kara), Andrew Roberts (Kathy), and Stan Roberts (Alex); and his grandchildren Linton Roberts, Anderson Roberts, Anne Roberts, Everett Roberts, John Hiller Roberts, William Roberts, Hastings Roberts, and Manning Roberts.

A celebration of life was held at 11:00 on Tuesday, April 7th, at Meadow Brook Church.

**Herylan Hamby**

**GADSDEN** - Herylan Hamby, age 96, of Gadsden, passed away peacefully on April 1. Visitation was held at Crestwood Funeral Home on Monday, April 6.

Mrs. Hamby was born and raised in Alabama. She graduated from Gadsden High School in 1948 and married the love of her life, Daniel R. Hamby Jr., in 1956. They shared 56 devoted years of marriage until his passing in 2012. Herylan deeply loved her family and her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

She was a longtime member of College Heights Baptist Church, where she faithfully served in the nursery and taught Sunday school for many years. Later, she and her husband became members of Paden Baptist Church, where she continued her service by leading a ladies' exercise class.

Herylan found great joy in cooking, gardening, and spending time with her beloved family.

She is survived by her son, Wesley R. (Karen) Hamby; her daughter, Deana S. (Brandon) Rogers; and her cherished grandchildren, Joshua Hamby, Rebekah McCary, Dani Rogers, and Mason Rogers.

The family extends their heartfelt gratitude to Gadsden Health and Rehab and Enhabit Hospice for their compassionate care.



**Miranda Skelton**

Miranda Skelton passed on April 2, at the age of 46. A visitation was held on April 7, at Morgan Funeral Chapel and burial at Noble Hill Cemetery.

**Marie Evelyn Barksdale**

**GADSDEN** - Marie Evelyn Hill Barksdale passed away peacefully on April 1.

She is survived by her husband of 71 years, Billy Barksdale, her two sons Randy (Linda) Barksdale, Mike (Robin) Barksdale and daughter, Karen (Bruce) Naler, grandchildren; Melanie Barksdale, Jason (Krystale) Barksdale, Kyle Barksdale, Kelsie (Dylan) Hylier and five great-grandchildren, sister-in-law; Joyce Wheeler, brother; Clifford (Lynetta) Hill, and sister; Alice Clanton.

She is preceded in death by her father; Gus Hill and mother; Bessie Finley Hill, brothers; Robert, Hoyt, Billy Hill, and sisters; Ruth Partane and Bertha Phillips.

She was a lifelong resident of Duck Springs, AL and a life long member of Kyuka Baptist Church. She loved cooking, flower gardening and she loved her family and was the heart of her home. Her kind smile and gentle spirit will be greatly missed. Her faith in her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, got her through her difficult times and with that, we find peace knowing she is held in his loving arms.

A graveside service was held on Friday, April 3.



**Robert Vansant**

**BIRMINGHAM** - formally of Gadsden, passed away Sunday, March 29. Mr. Vanzant is survived by his family. We ask that you please keep this family in your heart and prayers during their time of bereavement.

Mr. Robert Vanzant was a wonderful husband, father figure and mentor to local young men. He was known for protecting and providing for his family and would go to the earths end to do so.

He was preceded in

death by his parents Mrs. Charles and Mr. Homer Vanzant, grandmothers Mrs. Christine Vanzant and Mrs. McCain, grandfathers Mr. Willie D. Vanzant and Mr. McCain. His brothers Alvin, Ronnie, Shelly and Benjamin Vanzant and sister Mrs. Margaret V. High.

He leaves to cherish loving memories, his dear wife Mrs. Paula English-Vanzant, sister Paula V. Moreland, five children Desmond (Katherine) Reed, Jerome L. Reed, Jaywanna (Antonio) Reed, Jilwanna (James) Lucas and Brittany Clayborn, 19 grandkids, 5 great grandkids and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

Funeral Services will be 3:00 pm Saturday, April 4, 2026. In the Chapel of West Gadsden Funeral Home. Internment Lincoln Hill Memorial Park. Rev. Dr. Grady E. Robinson, Jr., Eulogist. Service was held on Saturday, April 4.

at the Fellowship Baptist Church, 807 Ave C. Gadsden, Al 35901. Rev. Scottie Rice, Pastor.



**Wanda McDill**

**ATTALLA** - A visitation for Wanda Buice McDill will be held, Sunday, April 19, from 2:00-4:00 PM at Glencoe Hokes Bluff Funeral Home.

Wanda Buice McDill of Attalla, passed away peacefully at a local hospital on Thursday, April 3, at the age of 78. Wanda was born in Gadsden, AL to the late Bill and Dollie Buice on March 11, 1948. She was a graduate of Emma Sansom High School, Class of 1966. She is preceded in death by her husband Billy and infant sister Sybil.

Wanda and Billy's home was always filled with laughter and open arms. Family, friends and neighbors knew they were welcome at any time. Their children inherited their joyous spirit, tenacity, and generosity.

Wanda was a wiz with numbers and worked throughout her life as a bookkeeper, property manager, and tax preparer. She was lovingly called "Miss Wanda" by the many friends, neighbors, and co-workers that had the pleasure of knowing her. Wanda was employed for many years by Attalla City schools as a bus driver, and later retired as transportation secretary. She was always fond of her many elementary school passengers and made sure each 5th grader received a \$2 bill when they moved on. She often volunteered to drive the bus for field trips, athletic events, and band trips. She was valued and respected by everyone who knew her.

Wanda was a wonderful mom, teaching her kids the value of hard work and resilience. She supported all their endeavors by volunteering countless hours working concessions and providing team support. She was very proud of the successes and accomplishments of her adult children. Christmas was her favorite holiday. She and Billy always made sure everyone knew the magic of the season. She loved hosting family gatherings, always including Michael's dad, Paul, in the celebrations. Wanda showered her immediate and extended family members with thoughtful gifts. She was always first to decorate the tree and carefully wrap the many presents. Her favorite pastime was attending the band performances and athletic events of her grandsons. She adored Ryan and JC and loved being their Nana.

Wanda never met a stranger and was a steadfast loyal supporter of her family. She faced numerous health challenges and hardships, but never let anything keep her down. She was especially grateful to PeeWee and Regina Harris for their love, support, and positive influence on her grandson JC. Her unwavering spirit and generosity will be deeply missed.

Wanda leaves behind her children, Michael Garmany, Danny (Deanna) McDill and Amy (Owen) Walton; grandchildren Cody (Ashley) Hopper, Crystal (John) Dunston, Ryan McDill, and JC Garmany; and great-grandchildren, Marley, Chase, Brian, Carson, and Gage. She is also survived by her sister-in-law Barbara Montejo, whom she considered a second daughter, and Barbara's children Jordan (Judy) and Dylan; niece Norma Williams, nephew Allen Hughes; uncle Herbert Buice; several cousins; and her loving sister, Alice Bircheat, with whom she shared a special bond. They spoke multiple times a day

sharing secrets, pastimes, and the kind of closeness only sisters understand. Her son Michael will miss her presence tremendously, as they shared a home and almost every meal together.

The family would like to thank the staff of the MICU at Gadsden Regional Hospital for their excellent care and support, also Rick's pharmacy for their many years of service.

A gathering of friends and family will be held on April 19th from 2:00-4:00 pm at Glencoe-Hokes Bluff Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Wanda's memory to the Southside Panther Band Boosters and Etowah Blue Devil Athletic Programs.

Wanda's and Billy's ashes will be laid to rest in a family plot at Old Harmony Cemetery.

**Nellie Marie Rountree**

Nellie Marie Rountree, age 85, passed away peacefully on April 4. A graveside service was held at Crestwood Cemetery on April 8, at 2:00 p.m., with Josh Hutt officiating.

Nellie was a devoted, family-oriented woman and a loving mother and grandmother whose presence brought warmth and strength to those around her.

She is survived by her daughter, Shirley Reaves; her son, Darrell (Tammy) Rountree; her brother, Robert (Tammy) Lipscomb; 12 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and 4 great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, C.D. "Shorty" Rountree; her daughters, Darlene Parker and Sandra Heath; her son, Keith Rountree; and her parents, Robert and Minnie Lipscomb.



**Monica Laura Hamilton**

**GADSDEN** - Monica Laura Hamilton passed away April 2, at Gadsden Regional Medical Center.

Monica is survived by her children, Amanda Holcomb (Areona Vinson), Alan Holcomb (Shay Teague), Ashley Holcomb (Joseph Johnson), and Allison Holcomb (Sebastian Harrison), grandchildren, Elijah Holcomb, Maverick Holcomb, Jaxson Holcomb, Asher Johnson, Brynneleigh, Everleigh, and Emory Harrison, mother, Judy Roebuck, siblings, Joshua and Christina, special child, Mario Cervantes, father to the children, Gary Holcomb, several nieces and nephews.

She was a great mother and grandmother who will be greatly missed. She loved music, being outside smelling the flowers and listening for the birds.

**Elizabeth Gail Thompson**

**RAINBOW CITY** - Mrs. Elizabeth Gail Thompson, age 85 of Rainbow City, went peacefully home to be with the Lord on April 5. Per Gail's request, there will be no service.

Gail worked most of her life as a bookkeeper for several businesses in Gadsden, Alabama and Atlanta, Georgia. Gail, lovingly referred to as Nana, was an avid Auburn Tiger fan. If Auburn football was playing on TV, she was watching, and if it was playing on the radio, she was listening. She was always decked out in her orange and blue with her hat on. She also enjoyed watching old Western movies and shows. She said it reminded her of her childhood. She loved to read and prior to losing her sight, she always had a book in her hands. Her family loved her cooking, especially her chicken, dressing, and potato salad. They would line up around

the table just to get the first scoop.

Gail is preceded in death by her parents, Clifford and Verna Mae Swindall; husband Charles Ray Thompson; brothers Floyd and Edward Swindall; sisters-in-law Joyce, Pat, and Peggy Swindall.

Gail is survived by her son Tommie (Susie) Carr; grandsons T.J. (Lauren) Carr, Kylor (Destiny) Carr; great grand twins Colter and Cordelia Carr; sister Barbara Lecroy; brother Allen Swindall; and many nieces and nephews.

Special thanks to oak Landing Assisted Living, Northside Health and Rehab, ACG Hospice, Lisa Greenwood, Lou Jean Lincoln, and the many, many prayers that have gone out on behalf of Mom and our family.

**Johnnie Fay Williams**

**ATTALLA** - Johnnie Fay Williams passed on March 31, at the age of 87. Born June 30, 1938, in Alabama, she was a resident of Attalla, Alabama.

Johnnie was a homemaker, she sat with people, went to church, and helped with her great grandchildren. She took special care of her family and her husband's parents till they passed.

She is preceded in death by her parents, CT and Willie May Sims; husband, Carlton Walker; daughter, Janet Williams; sisters, Loritta, Murtle, Effie, and brother, Ray Sr.

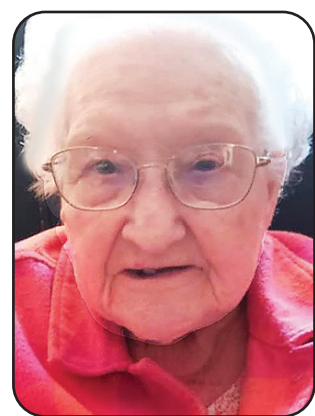
Survived by her daughter, Judy Williams Frazier; grandchildren, Jennifer Bussey (Kayden and Mason), Ashley Bussey (Jacob, Aaron, and Izabelle), Josh Bussey (Spouse and seven Children), Shanna and Kristin Knox, and twenty-one great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Ashley Bussey, Joshua Bussey, Jacob Bussey, Aaron Bussey, Huns Sims, and Jamison Wise.

Honorary Pallbearer, Aaron Bussey.

The family would like to extend a special thanks to Riverview Regional Hospital, and her hospice worker, and all the nurses and Doctors who cared for her, Junior Kelly, and Izzy Harden.

Visitation will be held on Monday, April 13, from 12:00-2:00 p.m., followed by a chapel service at Collier-Butler Funeral Home at 2:00 p.m. Burial will follow at Youngs Chapel Cemetery.



**Mildred Ruth Atkins**

Mildred Ruth Atkins passed away peacefully at home on Monday, April 6, surrounded by the family she loved. She was 99 years old and a lifelong member of East Gadsden Baptist Church. Funeral service will be held at Crestwood Funeral Home on Saturday, April 11, at 12 p.m. with a visitation starting at 10 a.m. until time of service.

She is survived by her daughter, Sondra Atkins Nunnally (Larry), and her son, Jackie Ray Atkins (Glenda); seven grandchildren, Kevin Nunnally (Marianne), Brandi Atkins Benefield (Scott), Amy Atkins Stephens, James Atkins (Lori), Paige Atkins Amos (Jay), Christian Atkins Scotz (Angelica), and Jarron Taylor Atkins (Brittany); ten great-grandchildren, Kara, Kyle, Courtney Atkins Elsea (Eddie), Christopher Wimpee, Jake, Nate, Baylor, Melody, Jackson, and Baron; and three great-great-grandchildren, Jacob, Jordan, and Coraline.

She was preceded in death by her husband of more than 50 years, J.C. "Buck" Atkins; her sons Gerald Michael Atkins (and his wife Rhonda) and Gary Don Atkins; and her grand-daughter

Kristie Michelle Nunnally. The family extends heartfelt thanks to Amedisys Home Health and Mountain Cove Assisted Living for their devoted care, and to family friend Kenneth Hester, whose open door and generous spirit were a true comfort in Mildred's final months.



**Sabrina Ann Pitts**

**ATTALLA** - Funeral Service for Sabrina Ann Pitts, 54 of Attalla will be Friday, April 10, at 2:00 at Glencoe Hokes Bluff Funeral Home with Brother Billy Tidwell officiating the service. Burial will follow the service at New Harmony Baptist Church Cemetery. The family will receive friends at the funeral home the day of the service from

1:00 PM until time of the service.

Sabrina passed away on April 6, at her home.

She is preceded in death by her father, Billy Ray Greer.

Left to cherish her memory is her long-time partner, James McMullins, her children, Regina Teel (Joshua Holloway), Steven Pitts (Shannon), her stepson, Garrette Duncan, her mother, Wanda Greer, her brother, Christopher Greer (Alysha) and a host of nieces and nephews.

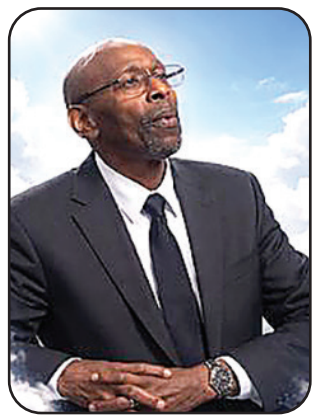
Sabrina loved to cook and being surrounded by her family. She was a hard worker who was always willing to help anyone. She absolutely loved Alabama Football.

Pallbearers will be Joshua Holloway, Steven Pitts, Chris Greer, Colton Greer, Erick Sole and Garrette Duncan.

Honorary Pallbearers will be Clifford Gladden and Dustin Gladden.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that a donation be made to St. Jude Hospital in Sabrina's name.

The family would like to give a special thank you to Attalla Fire Department Station One and Two and the Attalla Police Department.



**Carl "Tweet" Jackson**

**GADSDEN** - Carl "Tweet" Jackson passed away Monday, March 30 at his Residence. Mr. Jackson is survived by his wife. We ask that you please keep this family in your heart and prayers during their time of bereavement.

Mr. Carl Stephen Jackson was born on September 10, 1954 to the late Ms. Bessie Mae Jackson Watts in Gadsden, Alabama. He was affectionately known as "Tweet," and was educated in the Gadsden City School System and dedicated 24 years of service to the City of Gadsden before his health began to decline.

Tweet found great joy in the simple pleasures of life. He loved being surrounded by family and friends, shooting pool, fishing, and watching sports. A passionate fan, he especially enjoyed cheering on the Alabama Crimson Tide, the Dallas Cowboys, and the Los Angeles Lakers. Whether celebrating a win or debating a game, Tweet's enthusiasm was unmatched—he cheered and smiled as if he were their number one fan.

Known for his strong work ethic and ability to fix things, Tweet remained a source of strength even as his health declined. From his bed, he continued to offer advice, share laughter, and make game predictions. He showed those around him that strength is not only physical, it is found in perseverance, courage, and spirit. He carried all three with grace, leaving behind a powerful legacy of resilience, hard work, and deep love for his family.

Tweet was the fifth of six children. He was preceded in death by his mother, Bessie Mae Watts; two sisters, Barbara Jackson and Linda Jackson; two brothers, Percy Jackson and William Watts; two uncles, Jim Smith and Jessie Smith; one aunt, Rosetta Smith; his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Willie James Benson and Maggie Lee Benson; and five sisters-in-law, Sally Malone, Jeanette Benson, Pricilla Woods, Beatrice Ellis, and Willie Mae Starr.

Tweet departed this life on March 30. He leaves to cherish his memory, a loving and devoted wife of 48 years, Joyce Jackson, son Derreus (Tiffany) Jackson, two granddaughters India Lee and Jayla Jackson, all of Gadsden, AL; sister Virginia Jackson, Gadsden, AL; three brothers-in-law, Willie James (Brenda) Benson, Akron, OH, Jimmie Lee (Ava) Benson, Douglasville, GA, Eddie Ellis, Gadsden, AL; sister-in-law Miranda Edwards, Gadsden, AL; special friends, David Carlisle, Ned Carlisle, Georgia and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Funeral Services will be 1:00pm Saturday, April 11.

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 Saturday, April 25, 2026  
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# SPORTS

## Gadsden starts phase 5 at sports park

The City of Gadsden broke ground on the latest phase of the Gadsden Sports Park on Thursday as the city continues to improve its premier sports facility.

The new addition, Phase 5 of the overall complex, will include a baseball/softball field, four additional pickleball courts, seating areas with fire pits overlooking the Coosa River, and parking improvements.

"I grew up in this neighborhood, and I'm thrilled to see kids down here playing and to see this Sports Park develop into the facility we have today," Mayor Craig Ford said. "There are a lot of people who have helped us reach this point, including former Mayor Sherman Guyton and his administration for having this vision, the great partnership we've got with Gadsden State Community College, and our employees who work long hours for events."

"Also, none of this would be possible without the current City Council, and we all work well together to make projects like this a success," Ford said. "I haven't seen anyone else that has a riverfront facility like this one, and I'm looking forward to continued expansions."

Previous phases of development at the Gadsden Sports Park have improved recreation opportunities for people of all ages.

The park includes a large soccer field with a flexible configuration from full-size regulation down to youth field sizes, new and renovat-



Photos by Michael Rodgers/City of Gadsden

The City of Gadsden broke ground on phase 5 of the sports complex on April 2.

ed baseball / softball fields with a renovated press box, a Champions Field and playground that are fully accessible to those with special needs, pickleball courts, a walking trail and more.

Because the Sports Park is a collaboration between the City of Gadsden and Gadsden State, it is

also home to the Cardinals' baseball and softball complex.

"Phase 5 represents a continued partnership and commitment to making this a premier destination," said Tonya Latham, Gadsden's District 1 City Council member. "It emphasizes the commitment of our mayor and our city

officials to improving the quality of life in our city for our residents.

"It also means an increased economic impact as we bring in more events, tournaments and visitors," she said.

Phase 5 of the complex is expected to be completed in October.

### Local Schedules

#### High School

##### Baseball

April 10  
GCHS vs. Boaz  
at GCHS at 4:30 p.m.

April 14  
GCHS vs. Southside  
at 4:30 p.m.

Hokes Bluff at  
Piedmont  
at 4:30

April 16  
GCHS vs.  
Southside  
at 4:30 p.m.

Golf  
April 13  
Gadsden City vs.  
Ashville/Springville  
Boys at Twin Bridges  
at 2:30 p.m.

Soccer  
April 10  
GCHS vs.  
Guntersville  
at 5 p.m.

April 13  
GCHS vs.  
Ft. Payne  
at 5 p.m.  
Boys JV: 6:30

Hokes Bluff at  
Cherokee County  
at 5 p.m.

April 14  
GCHS vs.  
Ft. Payne  
at Boy JV 5 p.m.  
Boys V: 7 p.m.  
April 16

GCHS vs.  
Southside  
at 5:30 p.m.

Softball  
April 13  
GCHS vs.  
Clay- Chalkville  
at 4:30 p.m.

Hokes Bluff vs. Sand  
Rock at 4:30 p.m.

West End vs. Brewer  
at 6 p.m.

April 14  
GCHS vs. Southside  
at 4:30 p.m.

Gaston at  
Sand Rock HS  
at 5:30 p.m.

Hokes Bluff at  
Oneonta at 5 p.m.

West End vs.  
Glencoe  
at 5 p.m.

April 16  
GCHS vs.  
Guntersville  
at 4:30 p.m.

West End vs.  
Cleveland  
at 5 p.m.

Tennis  
April 13  
AHSAA Sectional  
Tournament

Track  
April 16  
Gadsden City Meet # 7  
at 4 p.m.

April 18  
Gadsden City at  
Trussville Invitational  
at 8 a.m.



### Recent Scores

#### HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Baseball  
April 4  
GCHS 4,  
Austin/Pelham 3

GCHS 9,  
Pelham 2

Sardis 22,  
Crossville 0

April 7  
GCHS 9,  
Ohatsee 1

Hokes Bluff 2,  
Westbrook 13

Gaston 4,  
Sand Rock 3

Sardis 18,  
Crossville 0

Boys Soccer  
April 6  
Hokes Bluff 1,  
Springville 8

April 7  
Coosa 10,  
St. Bernard Prep 0

Westbrook 0,  
Sylacauga 4

Girls Soccer  
April 6  
Glencoe 5,  
Susan Moore 2

April 7  
Hokes Bluff 0,  
New Hope 1

Westbrook 1,  
Sylacauga 0

Softball  
April 6  
GCHS 14,  
Guntersville 16

Glencoe 9,  
Cedar Bluff 7

Southside 14,  
Sardis 4

April 7  
Hokes Bluff 6,  
Etowah 1

West End 10,  
Sand Rock 2

Westbrook 9,  
Clay-Chalkville 8

GCHS 14,  
Talladega 12

Southside 6,  
Cherokee County 5

Sardis 1,  
Boaz 15

Gaston 22,  
Asbury 2

#### COLLEGE SPORTS

Men's Baseball  
April 4  
Gadsden State

Community College 15,  
Wallace State  
Community College  
Hanceville 6

Gadsden State  
Community College 13  
Wallace State

Community College  
Hanceville 17

Women's Softball  
April 4  
Gadsden State  
Community College 6,  
Wallace State

Community College  
Hanceville 6

Gadsden State  
Community  
College 0, Wallace State  
Community College vs.  
Hanceville 8

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# SPORTS

## Gadsden City elementary schools track and field competitions

Seven Gadsden City elementary schools met at GCHS to compete for a spot in the state competitions. Girls and boys competed across nine events: 50 meter dash, 100 meter dash, 200 meter dash, 400 meter dash, 800 meter dash, 4x100 meter relay, long jump and softball throw. Each school lined the track erupting with cheers as teammates ran past. Family members, principals and teachers joined the students on the field from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. watching the young athletes compete for a shot at the championship.



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# LEGALSALES

## NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Larry Rollins and Audrey Rollins, husband and wife, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Novastar Mortgage, Inc., its successors and assigns, on May 25, 2005, said mortgage being recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, on July 5, 2005, as Document Number M-2005-2770; WHEREAS, the aforesaid deed of trust was subsequently modified on September 12, 2007, and said modification being recorded on December 3, 2007, as Document Number 3284474. The Bank of New York Mellon, f/k/a The Bank of New York Mellon, f/k/a The Bank of New York as successor in interest to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. as Trustee for NovaStar Mortgage Funding Trust, Series 2005-2, NovaStar Home Equity Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2005-2, the current holder, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Etowah County Courthouse, in Gadsden, Alabama, on April 15, 2026, during the legal hours of sale, the following described real estate, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

Lots Numbers 1 and 2 in Block Number 40 in First Addition Bellevue Highlands, as surveyed and platted by Totten & Woodruff, Civil Engineers, according to the map thereof as recorded in Plat Book "B", Pages 286 to 290, inclusive, Probate Office, Etowah County, lying and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama.

More commonly known as: 317 Mitchell Blvd, Gadsden, AL 35904 This Property will be sold on an "as is, where is" basis, without warranty or recourse, expressed or implied as to title, use and/or enjoyment and will be sold subject to the right of redemption of all parties entitled thereto. Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as part of the foreclosure process. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expense of foreclosure. The successful bidder must tender certified funds by noon the next business day to Law Office of Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. Certified funds must be in the form of a wire transfer, bank or credit union's cashier's check, or bank official check payable to Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. reserves the right to award the bid to the next highest bidder should the highest bidder fail to timely tender the total amount due. If sale is voided, Mortgagee/Transferee shall return the bid amount to the successful purchaser and the Mortgagee/Transferee shall not be liable to the purchase for any damages. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the purchaser at the sale shall be only entitled to a return of the deposit and bid amount, if paid. The Mortgagee/Transferee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and indebtedness secured by the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or

cancellation.

Important Notice to Potential Bidders: Federal law administered by the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network ("FinCEN"), a bureau of the U.S. Department of the Treasury, requires certain residential real estate transactions to be reported to the federal government. If you are the winning bidder at auction, you may be required to provide identifying information about yourself and, if applicable, any entity or trust purchasing the property. This information is required by federal law and must be provided to complete the sale. Failure to provide required information after the sale may delay or prevent issuance of the foreclosure deed.

The Bank of New York Mellon, f/k/a The Bank of New York as successor in interest to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. as Trustee for NovaStar Mortgage Funding Trust, Series 2005-2, NovaStar Home Equity Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2005-2 ("Transferee")

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

March 27, April 3, and 10, 2026

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF ALABAMA COUNTY OF ETOWAH Default having been made of the terms of the loan documents secured by that certain mortgage executed by Shannon A Thomas, a single woman, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns dated September 19, 2014; said mortgage being recorded on September 25, 2014 as Instrument No. 3407787 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment recorded in Deed Book 2025, Page 3602689 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama.

The undersigned, Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Etowah County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on May 27, 2026 the following property, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

Commence at the Southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) in Section Thirty Four (34), Township Eleven (11) South, Range Three (3) East of Huntsville Meridian, Etowah County, Alabama and run a tie line South 03 degrees 30 minutes 08 seconds East, along said R/W, 224.90 feet to the point of beginning of the property herein described; thence from said point of beginning run North 52 degrees 08 minutes 08 seconds East, along said R/W, 353.10 feet to an existing pinch pipe; thence run North 01 degree 19 minutes 32 seconds West, leaving said R/W 482.05 feet to a point in the South line of the lands described in Deed Book 1167, Page 873, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama; thence run South 89 degrees 38 minutes 41 seconds West (North 89 degrees 29 minutes 00 seconds West Deed), 53.00 feet

along the South line of said Deed Book and Page to the Southwest corner thereof; thence run North 88 degrees 07 minutes 08 seconds West, 255.97 feet to a point; thence run South 03 degrees 30 minutes 00 seconds East, 708.03 feet to the point of beginning. Said property being a portion of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) and the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) in Section Thirty Four (34), Township Eleven (11) South, Range Three (3) East, Etowah County, Alabama.

Said property is commonly known as 6266 Walnut Grove Rd, Altoona, AL 35952.

Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description, the legal description will control.

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

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

ATTENTION ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS: On March 1, 2026, the data collection and reporting requirements under the U.S. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) new Anti-Money Laundering Rule (the "Rule"), went into effect. The Rule applies to certain residential real estate sale transactions (including nonjudicial foreclosures) where the transfer is to a legal entity or trust, and which includes cash purchases, private financing or financing provided by an institution not subject to a federal Anti-Money Laundering or Suspicion Activity Report requirement. As part of this Rule, purchasers and sellers are required to provide additional information and documentation about themselves, their legal entities, and the source of funds used in the reportable transaction, if applicable.\* The collection of this information and documentation is required to comply with the Rule's federal reporting requirements, if applicable. This notice is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. You are encouraged to consult with your own independent legal counsel if you have questions about how the FinCEN Anti-Money Laundering Rule affects your transaction and whether your transaction is reportable.

\* The Rule is the subject of ongoing litigation

in several jurisdictions. We suggest that you seek your own legal counsel if you have questions about the status of the Rule and its applicability to your sale, if any.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Mortgage, and (3) to confirmation that the successful bidder has timely provided all information required for reporting under the Rule, 89 FR 70258, if applicable.

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC as holder of said mortgage  
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP  
505 20th Street N, Suite 1775  
Birmingham, AL 35203  
Telephone: (205) 216-4238  
FT21@mcCalla.com  
File No. 26-08125AL  
www.foreclosure hotline.net  
The Messenger  
03/27/2026, 04/03/2026, 04/10/2026  
26-08125AL

March 27, April 3, and 10, 2026

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

WHEREAS, default has been made in the terms of the mortgage executed on the 20th day of January, 2023, by Paradise Land, LLC, as mortgagor, in favor of ILS Lending, LLC, as mortgagee, as recorded in the Probate Office of Etowah County, Alabama as Instrument #3552084, and said default continuing, the mortgagee or its assignees, under power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at auction for cash to the highest bidder on the steps of the Etowah County Courthouse in Etowah, Alabama, during legal hours of sale on the 1st day of May, 2026, the following described real estate embraced in said mortgage, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

TRACT ONE: Commence at the NE Corner of the SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 27, Township 10 South, Range 4 East and run South 884.85 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence continue along said line 190.0 feet; thence 90 degrees 05'55" right and run 690.71 feet to the center of a 60' Right of Way; thence North 90 degrees 26'39" East and run North along the center of said Right of Way 190.0 feet; thence 90 degrees 33'19" right and run East 692.22 feet to the Point of Beginning.

TRACT TWO: Commence at a capped 1/2" rebar (LS#21183) marking the Southeast corner of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 27, Township 10 South, Range 4 East, thence North 89 degrees 53'39" West 1331.57 feet along the South line of said forty to a 1" iron pipe on the Northwest right of way of Little Cove Road (40' RW) marking the Southwest corner of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 27, Township 10 South, Range 4 East, said point being the point of beginning, thence North 00 degrees 25'31" East 1438.02 feet to a capped 1/2" rebar (LS#21183), thence South 26 degrees 07'41" East 1279.02 feet to a capped 1/2" rebar (LS#21183) on the Northwest right of way of Little Cove Road (40' RW), thence run Southwesterly along said right of way the following bearings and distances: South 61 degrees 00'01" West 163.41 feet, South 61 degrees 40'22" West 311.84 feet, South 66 degrees 07'21" West 92.32 feet, South 70 degrees 48'32" West 76.33 feet to the point of beginning. AND

TRACT THREE: Commence at a capped 1/2" rebar (LS#21183) marking the Southeast corner of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 27, Township 10 South, Range 4 East, thence North 89 degrees 53'39" West 1331.57 feet along the South line of said forty to a 1" Iron pipe on the Northwest right of way of Little Cove Road (40' R/W) marking the Southwest corner of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 27, Township 10 South, Range 4 East, thence North 00 degrees 25'31" East 1438.02 feet to a capped 1/2" rebar (LS#21183), said point being the Point of Beginning, thence continue North 00 degrees 25'31" East 2556.16 feet to a capped 1/2" rebar (LS#21183) marking the Northwest corner of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 27, Township 10 South, Range 4 East, thence South 89 degrees 34'06" East 560.19 feet along the North line of said forty to a capped 1/2" rebar (LS#21183), thence South 00 degrees 25'31" West 2332.62 feet to a capped 1/2" rebar (LS#21183), thence South 68 degrees 40'33" West 603.12 feet to the Point of Beginning. Together with a non-exclusive 60' access easement, 30' each side of the below described line: Commence at a capped 1/2" rebar (LS#21183) marking the Southeast corner of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 27, Township 10 South, Range 4 East, thence North 89 degrees 53'39" West 1331.57 feet along the South line of said forty to a 1" iron pipe on the Northwest right of way of Little Cove Road (40' R/W) marking the Southwest corner of the NE 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 27, Township 10 South, Range 4 East, thence North 00 degrees 25'31" East 1438.02 feet to a capped 1/2" rebar (LS#21183), thence North 68 degrees 40'33" East 603.12 feet to a capped 1/2" rebar (LS#21183) and the Point of Beginning of said easement, thence South 40 degrees 16'28" East 211.96 feet, South 08 degrees 12'13" East 226.46 feet, South 35 degrees 39'40" East 431.65 feet, South 59 degrees 17'25" East 128.20 feet, South 35 degrees 32'16" East 134.04 feet, South 19 degrees 11'08" East 107.51 feet to a point on the Northwest right of way of Little Cove Road (40' R/W) and the end of said easement.

TRACT FOUR: Commence at the NE corner of the SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 27, Township 10 South, Range 4 East, and run South along the East line of said quarter-quarter of 974.85 feet; to the Point of Beginning; thence continue along said course 190.0 feet; thence 90 degrees 04'00" right and run West 689.18 feet to the center of a 60' right of way; thence 89 degrees 26'26" right and run North along the center of said right of way 190.0 feet; thence 90 degrees 33'21" right and run 690.71 feet to the point of beginning. Subject to existing right of ways for public roads, utility lines, easements and restrictions of record if any.

TRACT FIVE: The North 1/2 of Lot 89 of "The Cove Subdivision" being part of the SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 27, Township 10 South, Range 4 East, Etowah County, Alabama, more particularly described as follows: From the NE corner of said SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 27, Township 10 South, Range 4 East, thence South 1164.85 feet more or less to a 5/8" rebar and the Point of Beginning; thence South 90.14 feet; thence S 89 degrees 22'25" W 687.89 feet to a point in the center of a 60 foot wide right of way; thence N 00 degrees 46'17" W 98.81 feet along the

center of said right of way; thence South 89 degrees 54'17" East 689.18 feet to the Point of Beginning. Subject to existing right of ways for public roads, utility lines, easements and restrictions of record if any.

TRACT SIX: The S 1/2 of Lot 89 of "The Cove Subdivision" being part of the SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 27, Township 10 South, Range 4 East, Etowah County, Alabama, more particularly described as follows: From the Northeast corner of said SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 27, run South 1254.85 feet to the Point of Beginning, thence South 89 degrees 20' West, 688.43 feet to the center of a 60 feet right of way; thence S 00 degrees 27'35" East along center of said right of way, 98.81 feet; thence N 88 degrees 35'55" East, 687.80 feet; thence North 90 feet to the Point of Beginning. Subject to existing right of ways for public roads, utility lines, easements and restrictions of record if any.

TRACT SEVEN: Commence at the NE corner of the SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 27, Township 10 South, Range 4 East and run South along the East line thereof for 1324.85 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence continue along said line 63.7 feet; thence 72 degrees 06'18" right and run Southwesterly 751.96 feet to the center of 60 foot right of way; thence 91 degrees 31'25" right and run Northwesterly along the center of said R.O.W. 260.0 feet; thence 90 degrees 00' right and run Easterly 105.2 feet; thence 14 degrees 18'03" right and run East 687.8 feet to the Point of Beginning. Subject to existing right of ways for public roads, utility lines, easements and restrictions of record if any.

The address being 0000 Kerri Lane, Boaz, AL 35956  
Parcels Nos: 05-08-27-0-000-005.049; 05-08-27-0-000-001.001; 05-08-27-0-000-005.012; 05-08-27-0-000-005.019; 05-08-27-0-000-005.018  
Said sale is made for the purpose of foreclosure of said mortgage, paying the mortgage debt, the costs and expenses of foreclosure, including a reasonable attorney's fee.

THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON AN "AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS, SUBJECT TO ANY EASEMENTS, ENCUMBRANCES, AND EXCEPTIONS REFLECTED IN THE MORTGAGE AND THOSE CONTAINED IN THE RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF THE JUDGE OF PROBATE OF THE COUNTY WHERE THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS SITUATED. THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD WITHOUT WARRANTY OR RECOURSE, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED AS TO TITLE, USE AND/OR ENJOYMENT AND WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION OF ALL PARTIES ENTITLED THERETO. THE PARCELS MAY BE SOLD AS ONE OR SEPARATELY. ALABAMA LAW GIVES SOME PERSONS WHO HAVE AN INTEREST IN PROPERTY THE RIGHT TO REDEEM THE PROPERTY UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES. PROGRAMS MAY ALSO EXIST THAT HELP PERSONS AVOID OR DELAY THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS. AN ATTORNEY SHOULD BE CONSULTED TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THESE RIGHTS AND PROGRAMS AS A PART OF THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS. The Mortgagee or its assignees reserve the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness

secured by the real estate.

This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation. Contact Jason Knowles at the phone number shown below prior to attendance at sale.

/s/ Jason Knowles  
Jason Knowles  
Knowles & Sullivan, LLC  
Attorneys for Auctioneer  
413 Broad Street  
Gadsden, Alabama 35901  
Ph: (256) 547-7200  
Email: jason@kkslawgroup.com

April 3, 10, and 17, 2026

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF ALABAMA, COUNTY OF ETOWAH Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage and security agreement executed by BOBBIE J. DAVIS on the 21st day of September 2000, to CMH HOMES, INC. DBA CLAYTON HOMES, recorded in Book 2000, Page 266, as corrected and re-recorded in Book 2000 at Page 270, in the office of the Probate Judge of Etowah County, Alabama; and, said mortgage having been subsequently assigned to VANDERBILT MORTGAGE AND FINANCE, INC., by Assignment recorded in said office in Misc. Book 2025, Page 3599906; VANDERBILT MORTGAGE AND FINANCE, INC., as Mortgagee, by reason of such default having declared all of the indebtedness secured by said mortgage and security agreement due and payable and such default continuing, notice is hereby given that, acting under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and security agreement, and as authorized by Section 7-9A-604(a)(2) of the Code of Alabama of 1975 as amended, VANDERBILT MORTGAGE AND FINANCE, INC., as Mortgagee, will sell at public outcry, for cash to the highest bidder, in front of the Courthouse door, in the City of Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale on April 30, 2026, the following described real property situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

Lot 12 in Abercrombie Addition, according to the map thereof recorded in Plat Book B, Page 46, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama (Pro. No. 30133); together with the hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging and all fixtures now attached to and used in connection with the premises herein described.

This property will be sold on an "as is, where is" basis, subject to any easements, encumbrances, and exceptions reflected in the mortgage and those contained in the records of the office of the Judge of Probate of the county where the above-described property is situated. This property will be sold without warranty or recourse, expressed or implied as to title, use and/or enjoyment and will be sold subject to the right of redemption of all parties entitled thereto.

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

Said sale will be made subject to any existing Federal Tax Lien, if any, and/or Special Assessments, if any, which might adversely affect the title to the subject

property.

Said sale will be made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by the above-described mortgage, and the proceeds thereof will be applied as provided by the terms of the said mortgage. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation; contact Margery Oglesby at the phone number shown below prior to attending the sale.

Lori C. Baird  
Attorney for Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc.  
**ROSEN HARWOOD, P.A.**  
2200 Jack Warner Pkwy Ste 200  
P.O. Box 2727  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35403  
(205) 344-5000

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

State of Alabama, Etowah County

Whereas, of the default having been made in the payment of indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Booker T. Taylor, to WinSouth Credit Union, on July 25, 2013, said mortgage being recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County as Document Number 3389357 on July 30, 2013 and the undersigned, by reason of such default, having declared the entire remaining indebtedness secured by said mortgage to be immediately due and payable, and said mortgage subject to foreclosure, and such default continuing, notice is hereby given, that acting under the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the undersigned, WinSouth Credit Union, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash in front of the courthouse door in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale on May 7, 2026, the following described real estate situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

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

Commonly known as 150 Paden Road, East Gadsden, AL 35903

Said sale will be made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. This Property will be sold on an "as is, where is" basis, subject to any easements, encumbrances, and exceptions reflected in the mortgage and those contained in the records of the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County. This property will be sold without warranty or recourse, expressed or implied as to title, use and/or enjoyment and will be sold subject to the rights of redemption by those parties entitled to redeem under the laws of the State of Alabama.

Winsouth Credit Union  
BY: /s Jay E. Stover  
JAY E. STOVER,  
ITS ATTORNEY  
301 Broad Street  
Gadsden, Alabama  
35901  
Phone (256) 546-9205

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Marty Woods and Craig Woods were/were appointed Co-Personal Representative(s) on 02/05/2026 to the Estate of Lillie Prater, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months

will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Carole Denise McDonough was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 02/10/2026 over the Estate of Randall Dale McDonough, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Melton P. Terrell was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 02/11/2026 to the Estate of Janie 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

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Charles C. Cassell, Jr. was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 02/13/2026 to the Estate of Martha Gail Cassell, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Jeffery Owen Freeman was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 02/19/2026 over the Estate of Carolyn Eileen Thacker, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Suzanne Perry was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 02/20/2026 over the Estate of Alma Elizabeth Perry, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Christopher Edwards Christian was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 02/20/2026 to the Estate of Norma Carolyn B. Christian, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Saratha Grigsby was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 03/04/2026 to the Estate of Raymond M. Grigsby, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Brandon Franklin was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 03/05/2026 to the Estate of Tammy (Tammy) Waters Walden, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Shelby Lynn Bragg was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 03/10/2026 to the Estate of Tracey Smith Curtis, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Kathy Renee Bowen was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 03/16/2026 to the Estate of Peggy Elaine Blackmon Bown, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Harvey Granade Little was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 03/17/2026 to the Estate of Frances Smith Little, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Stephen W. Johnson was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 03/17/2026 to the Estate of Autrey Monroe Johnson, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### FILE CLAIMS

Crystal D. Blackmon was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 03/27/2026 to the Estate of Paula D. Moore, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: LINDA BLOCKER, ALLEGED INCAPACITATED.  
Case #: 2026-93

TO: Cameron Lackey and any unknown family, whose whereabouts are unknown

Please take notice that a PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP & CONSERVATORSHIP of the above referenced incapacitated individual was filed in the Office of the Judge of Probate, and further, that the 28th day of APRIL 2024 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 MARCH 2026

Scott Hassell  
PROBATE JUDGE

March 27, April 3 and 10, 2026

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: DOROTHY ANN BALL, ALLEGED INCAPACITATED  
Case #: 2026-22

TO: Christy Brown, Jessica Brown and James Brown and any unknown family, whose whereabouts are unknown

Please take notice that a PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP & CONSERVATORSHIP of the above referenced incapacitated individual was filed in the Office of the Judge of Probate, and further, that the 5 day of MAY 2026 at 2:00 P.m. was appointed a day and time for hearing on said Petition, thereof at which time you may appear and support and/or contest the Petition, if you so choose.  
DONE THIS THE 30TH DAY OF MARCH 2026

Scott W. Hassell  
PROBATE JUDGE

April 3, 10, and 17, 2026

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: LYNDA "LYN" WALKER JORDAN, ALLEGED INCAPACITATED

Case #: 2026-133

TO: Courtney Jordan Combs and any unknown family, whose whereabouts are unknown

Please take notice that a PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP & CONSERVATORSHIP of the above referenced incapacitated individual was filed in the Office of the Judge of Probate, and further, that the 12TH day of MAY 2026 at 1:30 p.m. was appointed a day and time for hearing on said Petition, thereof at which time you may appear and support and/or contest the Petition, if you so choose.  
DONE THIS THE 2ND DAY OF APRIL 2026

Scott Hassell  
PROBATE JUDGE

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: GLENN DAVID TURNER, ALLEGED INCAPACITATED

Case #: 2026-135

TO: Any unknown family, whose whereabouts are unknown

Please take notice that a PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP & CONSERVATORSHIP of the above referenced incapacitated individual was filed in the Office of the Judge of Probate, and further, that the 12th day of MAY 2026 at 1:00 p.m. was appointed a day and time for hearing on said Petition, thereof at which time you may appear and support and/or contest the Petition, if you so choose.

DONE THIS THE 6 TH DAY OF APRIL 2026

Scott W. Hassell  
PROBATE JUDGE

April 10, 17, and 24, 2026

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF EDWARD F. PULLEN, DECEASED.  
Case No.: S-5489

TO: Mary Haddix; whereabouts unknown

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that there has been filed in this Court a Petition for Final Settlement of the Estate of Edward F. Pullen, deceased.

You are FURTHER NOTIFIED to be in and appear before this Court on the 10th day of June, 2026 at 10:00 a.m., when said petition will be heard and to show cause, if any you may have, why the said Petition for Final Settlement of the Estate of Edward F. Pullen, deceased, should not be granted.  
DONE THIS THE 6th DAY OF APRIL 2026.

Scott W. Hassell  
JUDGE OF PROBATE

April 10, 17, and 24,

2026

#### LEGAL PUBLICATION NOTICE

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

STREET ADDRESS: 5425 Gilmer Lane, Rainbow City, Alabama 35906

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Lots Number Thirty-three (33) and Thirty-four (34) in Canoe Creek Paradise Subdivision, as that appears of record in Plat Book "H", page 22, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama.

PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 20-04-17-0-001-029.000; PPIN 57817

INTERESTED PARTIES: Christy R. Stargel, Frances E. Greene, deceased, Faye B. Greene, deceased, Jo Diane Grantland, Linda Scott, Paul Greene, Daniel Green, Patrick Greene, deceased

Any and all other unknown heirs, claimants or interested parties claiming any right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the real estate described herein.

All persons interested in said property are hereby notified that if the unsafe or dangerous condition is not remedied by demolition of said building on said property within 45 days of April 7, 2026, the demolition will be accomplished by the City and the cost thereof assessed against said property. In the meantime, it is ordered that said building and said property be and remain vacated.

A public hearing as provided for by Section 8(a) set forth in Ordinance No. 565 will be held on this matter in the Council Chambers at the Rainbow City Hall, 3700 Rainbow Drive, Rainbow City, Alabama, on June 8, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

Anyone interested in the status of these proceedings should inquire with the Rainbow City Clerk at (256) 413-1217 or at 3700 Rainbow Drive, Rainbow City, Alabama.

April 10, 17, 24, and May 1, 2026

#### PUBLICATION NOTICE

IN THE PROBATE COURT ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF GLENDA GAIL TINGLE, DECEASED.

CASE NO: 2026-00152

TO: Kenneth Swafford, Michael Swafford, and all unknown heirs of Glenda Gail Tingle

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that there has been filed in this Court an instrument purporting to be the Last Will and Testament of Glenda Gail Tingle, 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 said decedent.

You are FURTHER NOTIFIED to be and appear before this Court on the 12th day of May, 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 Glenda Gail Tingle, deceased, should not be admitted to probate and recorded in this Court as the true Last Will and Testament of said decedent.

This the 26th day of March 2026

Judge of Probate, Scott W. Hassell

April 3, 10, and 17, 2026

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

Notice to: Unknown family members, whose whereabouts are unknown

You will take notice that a Petition for Letters of Guardianship for the person of Eida Summerlin and a Petition for Letters of Conservatorship over the estate of Eida Summerlin was filed by Gadsden Regional Medical Center on the 19th day of MARCH 2026.

A hearing on the Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Petition for Letters of Conservatorship is set on the 28th day of APRIL 2026, at 2:00 p.m., in the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama, 800 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35901.

Scott W. Hassell  
Judge of Probate

March 27, April 3 and 10, 2026

#### NOTICE OF COMPLAINT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

Luis A. Erazo, Plaintiff V. Frances Longmire, Defendants

Case No.: CV-2026-002

Comes now the Plaintiff, Luis A. Erazo, and alleges as follows:

Plaintiff, a resident of Etowah County, Alabama, acquired the property's tax liens from Alabama State, which consisted of liens for tax years 2020, 2001, 2022, and 2023, and subsequently purchased tax liens for tax years 2024 at a tax sale held on May 1, 2025.

The property is described in prior tax sale certificates under varying legal descriptions, but is presently described in county records as follows:

T/L-2020, 2021-2022-2023, 2024 County LT 2 BLK 9 LIDDELL ADD PLAT A-216 GADSDEN SEC 4 TWP 12S R 6E. The property is located in Etowah County, Alabama.

The property was sold by the Tax Collector of Etowah County for non-payment of ad valorem taxes and purchased by Plaintiff, who holds tax sale certificates for tax years 2020 through 2024.  
Tax Year 2020: book 2022, Page 387  
Tax Year 2021: book 2022, Page 388  
Tax Year 2022: book 2023, Page 2406  
Tax Year 2023: book 2022, Page 382  
Tax Year 2024: book 2024, Page 1696

More than three (4) years have passed since the date of the tax sale, and the statutory right of redemption under Ala. Code § 40-10-120 has expired.

Plaintiff gave notice to all parties entitled to redeem, including: Frances Longmire OCT 10, 2025 - Etowah County Revenue Commissioner (via Tax Collector); Mail sent OCT 10, 2025.

No party has redeemed the property within the statutory period, and Plaintiff now seeks to foreclosure any remaining rights of redemption.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully request this Honorable Court to: A. Enter a judgment foreclosing all rights of redemption of the Defendants and any persons claiming through them; B. Vest fee simple title to the above-described property in Plaintiff, free and clear of all rights of redemption. C. Direct the Circuit Clerk to execute and deliver a deed conveying the property to plaintiff, D. Grant such further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

This notice will be published for 4 consecutive weeks starting on March 27, April 3, 10, and 17, 2026.

The property will be sold at public outcry to the highest and best bid-

der for cash at the door of the Etowah County Courthouse on April 22, 2026

This order is hereby and approved Dated this February 5, 2026.

Cassandra Johnson  
Circuit Court Clerk

March 27, April 3, 10, and 17, 2026

#### NOTICE OF CONDEMNATION-FORFEITURE ACTION

STATE OF ALABAMA, EX REL: GADSDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT STREET CRIMES/NARCOTICS UNIT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

CIVIL DIVISION  
CASE NO:  
CV-26-900141-CDR

PLAINTIFF VS.  
\$3,610.00 U.S. Currency

2008 GMC Yukon  
VIN:  
1GKFK13048J149625

2018 Chevrolet Impala  
VIN:  
2G1165S30F9113641

Hi-Point JHP  
SN: X4386335

American Tactical Omni Hybrid  
SN: NS344647

American Tactical Alpha Maxx  
SN: NX078287

Ruger Prescott  
SN: 09497180

DEFENDANTS  
In Re: Sedric Barnard Dukas

Lien-Holder  
Kenneth Duane Ball  
Etowah Used Cars, LLC  
200 5th Ave. NE  
Attalla, AL. 35954

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

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has filed its complaint in the above-described action seeking condemnation, forfeiture, and ultimate disposition of the above-described currency, vehicles and firearms. You are hereby notified that you must answer said Complaint by the 20th day of May 2026. Failure to file such answer shall result in your loss of any claimed owner's or other interest in said property.

DONE this the 19th day of March, 2026

Cassandra Johnson,  
Circuit Clerk  
Etowah County, Alabama

March 27, April 3, 10, and 17, 2026

#### NOTICE OF COMPLAINT TO FORECLOSE THE RIGHT TO REDEEM AND TO QUIET TITLE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY ALABAMA

CV-2026-900135

DONALD BERKEY and JUANITA BERKEY, PLAINTIFFS, v. WILLIAM TAYLOR, CITY OF GADSDEN, STATE OF ALABAMA, TYLER LEE HUGHES and those fictitious defendants whose identities and whereabouts are unknown, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in the lands described herein

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

The subject property is described as follows: Lot 6, Block 2 of the

Goodwater Heights Addition as recorded in Plat Book B, Page 279 as recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate, Etowah County, Alabama.

The address of the subject property is 2200 Clayton Avenue, Gadsden, AL 35904. The PIN for the subject property is 18928.

Done the 20th day of March, 2026.

/s/ SONNIE J. STEEN  
CIRCUIT JUDGE

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

March 27, April 3, 10,  
and 17, 2026

**NOTICE OF SERVICE  
BY PUBLICATION  
AND NOTICE OF  
HEARING ON  
PETITION FOR FINAL  
SETTLEMENT**

IN THE CIRCUIT  
COURT OF ETOWAH  
COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF  
THE ESTATE OF CIVIL  
ACTION NO.:  
EMMA PRUITT  
ARIETA, DECEASED

CV-2018-900661

TO: ANY UNKNOWN HEIRS OF EMMA PRUITT ARIETA, DECEASED, AND ANY OTHER PERSONS CLAIMING ANY INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF EMMA PRUITT ARIETA, DECEASED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY UNKNOWN HEIRS OF LOLA BELLE PRUITT O'SHIELDS, JAMES OTIS MARKER, JEFFERSON DAVIS MARKER, CURTIS HOLLOWAY MARKER, PAUL ANDREW MARKER A/K/A ANDY PAUL MARKER OR JEROME EDISON MARKER.

Please take notice that a Petition for Final Settlement has been filed in the above-styled matter concerning the Estate of Emma Pruitt Arieta, deceased, pending in the Circuit Court of Etowah County, Alabama.

An Affidavit having been filed stating that despite diligent efforts the names and/or addresses of certain heirs of the Estate cannot be determined, service upon such unknown heirs is being made by publication pursuant to Order of the Court.

Any unknown heirs, or any person claiming an interest in the Estate of Emma Pruitt Arieta, are hereby notified that a hearing on the Petition for Final Settlement has been set by the Court for the 30th day of April, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., in the Circuit Court of Etowah County, Alabama, at the courthouse in Gadsden, Alabama.

All persons claiming to be heirs or otherwise having any interest in the Estate are required to appear and file any objections to the Petition for Final Settlement on or before the date of the hearing, or be forever barred from asserting such claims.

DONE this the 24th day  
March 2026.

Cassandra Johnson  
Clerk of the Circuit  
Court  
Etowah County, Alabama

Torbert and Torbert, PA  
1024 Forrest Avenue  
Gadsden, Alabama  
35901  
256-547-7551

March 27, April 3, 10,  
and 17, 2026

**NOTICE OF FINAL  
HEARING BY  
PUBLICATION**

IN THE CIRCUIT  
COURT OF ETOWAH  
COUNTY, ALABAMA

GADSDEN LAND  
BANK AUTHORITY, a  
Public Corporation,  
Plaintiff,  
v.

CIVIL ACTION  
NO.: CV-2026-00014

BARBARA MANJANG,  
f/k/a BARBARA LYNCH;  
ETOWAH COUNTY,  
ALABAMA; ; that parcel  
of real property located  
at 115 North 16th  
Street, Gadsden, Alabama  
35901 and having  
a legal description of:  
Lot Number Four (4)  
in Mandy Thaxton  
addition to Gadsden,  
Etowah County, Alabama,  
a map or plat pf

said addition being recorded in Plat Book "E", page 55, in the Office of the Probate Judge of Etowah County, Alabama, said lot lying and being situated in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama. Subject to any easements and restrictions of record, and known as Parcel ID No. 15-06-14-1-000-158.000; PPIN: 43502; and any and all other unknown heirs, claimants or interested parties claiming any right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the real estate described herein, Defendants.

TO BARBARA MANJANG f/k/a BARBARA LYNCH; ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA; and any and all other unknown heirs, claimants or interested parties claiming any right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the real estate described herein,

TAKE NOTICE that on March 4, 2026, the Gadsden Land Bank Authority filed the above-styled Complaint and the record reflects recorded notice of a pending quiet title and foreclosure action in the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama concerning the rights and/or interests in the following real property:

Lot Number Four (4) in Mandy Thaxton addition to Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama, a map or plat pf said addition being recorded in Plat Book "E", page 55, in the Office of the Probate Judge of Etowah County, Alabama, said lot lying and being situated in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama.

Property Address: 115 N. 16th Street, Gadsden, AL 35901

ANY PERSON WITH A PROPERTY INTEREST IN THE ABOVE PROPERTY IS HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THEY MAY LOSE SUCH INTEREST, IF ANY, AS A RESULT OF THE ABOVE-REFERENCED QUIET TITLE AND FORECLOSURE ACTION. The final hearing on this quiet title and foreclosure action is hereby set for May 20, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. in Judge George Day's Courtroom, Etowah County Courthouse, 801 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35901. The judgment of the Court may result in title to the property vesting in the Gadsden Land Bank Authority. Any person who proves to the Court's satisfaction a right to redeem the property pursuant to Alabama Code §§ 40-10-73 (1975) et seq. or Alabama Code §§ 40-10-83 (1975) et seq. may redeem the property pursuant to those statutes within five (5) days after the appropriate Order on Final Hearing is issued. FAILURE TO REDEEM THE PROPERTY AND PRESENT PROOF OF REDEMPTION TO THE CIRCUIT COURT WITHIN THE 5-DAY PERIOD MAY RESULT IN A LOSS OF THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION.

The address of the Gadsden Land Bank Authority is City Hall, 90 Broad Street, Gadsden, Alabama 35901. The Gadsden Land Bank Authority may be contacted care of Erin Patterson, City of Gadsden, at (256) 549-4553.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the undersigned Clerk of Court that publication of this notice be made once a week for three consecutive weeks in the Gadsden Messenger, a newspaper of general circulation in Etowah County, Alabama, and that all persons to whom this notice is addressed and any and all persons claiming any title to, interest in, or lien or encumbrance on the above-described land or any part thereof are hereby directed to plead, answer or otherwise respond to the Complaint in this cause before the hearing date or a judgment by default may be rendered against them if being intended that this notice shall be used to perfect service against all parties who cannot be personally served with a copy of the Complaint.

Dated this 23rd day of March, 2026.

Cassandra Johnson,  
Circuit Clerk

J. Lance Smith  
Turnbach, Warren,  
Rice, Frederick &  
Smith, P.C.  
200 Chestnut Street,  
Suite A  
Gadsden, AL 35901  
Phone: (256) 543-3664  
Fax (256) 543-3674

March 27, April 3, and  
10, 2026

**NOTICE OF FINAL  
HEARING BY  
PUBLICATION**

IN THE CIRCUIT  
COURT OF ETOWAH  
COUNTY, ALABAMA

GADSDEN LAND  
BANK AUTHORITY, a  
Public Corporation,  
Plaintiff,  
v.

CIVIL ACTION  
NO.: CV-2026-00013

FRANK ROBERTS, if  
alive whereabouts unknown, if deceased, the  
heirs and creditors of  
Frank Roberts, whose  
names, addresses and  
ages are unknown;  
EUCLID ANDERSON,  
deceased; JEAN  
PARKER ANDERSON,  
deceased; APRIL  
BEDWELL STONE, as  
the Personal Representative  
of the Estate of Jean  
Parker Anderson;  
APRIL BEDWELL  
STONE, individually;  
EDWARD KEVIN  
STONE; RONNY  
ANDERSON LIDDELL;  
ETOWAH COUNTY,  
ALABAMA; Lot Number  
67 in Wild Acres Unit  
Number 3, according to  
the map or plat thereof  
as the same appears of  
record in the office of  
the Judge of Probate  
of Etowah County, Alabama,  
and being subject to  
restrictions recorded in  
Misc. Book "53", page  
325, Probate Office of  
Etowah County, Alabama,  
said lot lying and  
being situated in Gadsden,  
Etowah County, Alabama,  
and any and all other  
unknown heirs, claimants  
or interested parties  
claiming any right,  
title, estate, lien, or  
interest in the real estate  
described herein,

TO FRANK ROBERTS;  
EUCLID ANDERSON;  
JEAN PARKER ANDERSON;  
APRIL BEDWELL STONE, as the  
Personal Representative of the ESTATE OF  
JEAN PARKER ANDERSON; APRIL  
BEDWELL STONE; EDWARD KEVIN  
STONE; RONNY ANDERSON LIDDELL;  
ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA; Lot  
Number 67 in Wild Acres Unit  
Number 3, according to the map or  
plat thereof as the same appears of  
record in the office of the Judge of  
Probate of Etowah County, Alabama,  
and being subject to restrictions  
recorded in Misc. Book "53", page  
325, Probate Office of Etowah  
County, Alabama, said lot lying and  
being situated in Gadsden, Etowah  
County, Alabama. Subject to any  
easements and restrictions of record,  
and known as Parcel ID No. 15-08-28-0-001-376.000 PPIN: 46332; and any and all other unknown heirs, claimants or interested parties claiming any right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the real estate described herein, Defendants.

TO FRANK ROBERTS;  
EUCLID ANDERSON;  
JEAN PARKER ANDERSON;  
APRIL BEDWELL STONE, as the  
Personal Representative of the ESTATE OF  
JEAN PARKER ANDERSON; APRIL  
BEDWELL STONE; EDWARD KEVIN  
STONE; RONNY ANDERSON LIDDELL;  
ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA; and  
any and all other unknown heirs,  
claimants or interested parties  
claiming any right, title, estate, lien,  
or interest in the real estate  
described herein,

TO FRANK ROBERTS;  
EUCLID ANDERSON;  
JEAN PARKER ANDERSON;  
APRIL BEDWELL STONE, as the  
Personal Representative of the ESTATE OF  
JEAN PARKER ANDERSON; APRIL  
BEDWELL STONE; EDWARD KEVIN  
STONE; RONNY ANDERSON LIDDELL;  
ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA; and  
any and all other unknown heirs,  
claimants or interested parties  
claiming any right, title, estate, lien,  
or interest in the real estate  
described herein,

TAKE NOTICE that on March 4, 2026, the Gadsden Land Bank Authority filed the above-styled Complaint and the record reflects recorded notice of a pending quiet title and foreclosure action in the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama concerning the rights and/or interests in the following real property: Lot Number 67 in Wild Acres Unit Number 3, according to the map or plat thereof as the same appears of record in the office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, and being subject to restrictions recorded in Misc. Book "53", page 325, Probate Office of Etowah County, Alabama

Property Address: 0  
Greenbriar Road,  
Gadsden, AL 35901

ANY PERSON WITH A PROPERTY INTEREST IN THE ABOVE PROPERTY IS HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THEY MAY LOSE SUCH INTEREST, IF ANY, AS A RESULT OF THE ABOVE-REFERENCED QUIET TITLE AND FORECLOSURE ACTION. The final hearing on this quiet title and foreclosure action is hereby set for May 12, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. in Judge Brynn Crain's Courtroom, Etowah County Courthouse, 801 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden,

Alabama 35901. The judgment of the Court may result in title to the property vesting in the Gadsden Land Bank Authority. Any person who proves to the Court's satisfaction a right to redeem the property pursuant to Alabama Code §§ 40-10-73 (1975) et seq. or Alabama Code §§ 40-10-83 (1975) et seq. may redeem the property pursuant to those statutes within five (5) days after the appropriate Order on Final Hearing is issued. FAILURE TO REDEEM THE PROPERTY AND PRESENT PROOF OF REDEMPTION TO THE CIRCUIT COURT WITHIN THE 5-DAY PERIOD MAY RESULT IN A LOSS OF THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION.

The address of the Gadsden Land Bank Authority is City Hall, 90 Broad Street, Gadsden, Alabama 35901. The Gadsden Land Bank Authority may be contacted care of Erin Patterson, City of Gadsden, at (256) 549-4553.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the undersigned Clerk of Court that publication of this notice be made once a week for three consecutive weeks in the Gadsden Messenger, a newspaper of general circulation in Etowah County, Alabama, and that all persons to whom this notice is addressed and any and all persons claiming any title to, interest in, or lien or encumbrance on the above-described land or any part thereof are hereby directed to plead, answer or otherwise respond to the Complaint in this cause before the hearing date or a judgment by default may be rendered against them if being intended that this notice shall be used to perfect service against all parties who cannot be personally served with a copy of the Complaint.

Dated this the 23rd day  
of March, 2026.

Cassandra Johnson,  
Circuit Clerk  
J. Lance Smith  
Turnbach, Warren,  
Rice, Frederick &  
Smith, P.C.  
200 Chestnut Street,  
Suite  
Gadsden, AL 35901  
Phone: (256) 543-3664  
Fax: (256) 543-3674

March 27, April 3, and  
10, 2026

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC  
HEARING**

The Attalla Board of Adjustments will hold a public hearing on Thursday, April 16, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Attalla City Hall located at 612 4th Street NW, Attalla, AL 35954. The following items will be considered:

A variance requested and filed by Duane Ball to construct a house on the lot at 111 Preston Avenue, Attalla, AL 35954. The lot is zoned R-1 (Single Family Residential). The request will include a variance on the lot size, width and building setback.

A variance requested and file by Charles and Renee Bellew to allow residential units at 416 4th Street NW, Attalla, AL 35954. The property is zoned B-2 (Central Business)

Mandy Cash  
City Clerk

April 3 and 10, 2026

**JOB COMPLETION**

In accordance with Chapter 1, Title 39, Code of Alabama, 1975, Bob Smith Construction, Inc. Hereby gives written notice of the completion of a contract with the Etowah County Commission, for the Interior Renovations to the Etowah County Road Maintenance Facility and has made request for final settlement of said Contract. This notice is to appear for four consecutive weeks beginning March 20, 2026 and ending April 10, 2026. All persons having any claim for labor, materials or otherwise in connection with this project should immediately notify Thomas M. McElrath, Architect, 717 Merit Springs Road, Gadsden, AL 35901 during this period.

March 20, 27, April 3,  
and 10, 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 Adams Park Area (Phase 1) Drainage Improvement Project in Gadsden, AL for the City of Gadsden, 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 The City of Gadsden, 90 Broad Street, Gadsden, AL 35901.

March 27, April 3, 10,  
and 17, 2026

**NOTICE OF  
COMPLETION**

HST Utility has completed its work on the Water Meter Replacement Project for the Water Works Board of Attalla. Any person having a claim against the project or the contractor should notify Canyon Engineering, LLC, P.O. Box 680021, Fort Payne, AL, 35968 no later than 5/1/2026.

April 10, 17, 24, and  
May 1, 2026

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC  
AUCTION OF  
ABANDONED  
VEHICLES**

Please take NOTICE that the Kelton Wrecker LLC will offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the following abandoned motor vehicles:

2018 NISSAN ALTIMA  
VIN:  
1N4AL3AP4JC247441

2002 KIA SPORTAGE  
VIN: KND-  
JB723725143757

2015 JEEP GRAND  
CHEROKEE  
VIN: 1C4RJFBM-  
3FC243767

2015  
NISSAN JUKE  
VIN:  
JN8AF5MR8FT509160

The public auction will be held at Kelton Wrecker LLC located at 1625 Forrest Ave Gadsden AL 35901 at 8:00 AM on 05/23/2026. The seller shall have a right to reject any bid that is unreasonably low and may postpone the public auction until another time and place. In addition, the seller expressly reserves the right to bid and purchase at the public auction.

April 10 and 17, 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 05/16/2026 at 8:00 am.

2005 Ford F-150  
VIN: 1FTPX-  
14595NA54106

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

April 10 and 17, 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 May 15, 2026.

2012 KIA OPTIMA  
VIN: 5XX-  
GN4A74CG060126

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

April 10 and 17, 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 2006 Cadillac DTS. Vin#1G6K-D5976U132143 The public auction will be held at Matt's Towing 927 B 5th Ave NE Attalla AL 35954 at 10:00am on 5/22/2026

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.

April 10 and 17, 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 Lexus NX 300. Vin#JTJGAR-BZ1L2171437 The public auction will be held at Matt's Towing 927 B 5th Ave NE Attalla AL 35954 at 10:00am on 5/22/2026

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.

April 10 and 17, 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 May 15, 2026.

2012 TOYOTA  
COROLLA  
VIN:  
2T1BU4EE3CC865838

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

April 10 and 17, 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 May 15, 2026.

2007 DODGE CARA-  
VAN 1D4G-  
P24R07B141201

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

April 10 and 17, 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 May 20, 2026.

2015 Nissan Pathfinder  
VIN: 5N1AR2MN-  
0FC654527

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

April 10 and 17, 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 May 23, 2026.

2005 Pontiac G6  
VIN:  
1G2ZG528754179788

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

April 10 and 17, 2026

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC  
AUCTION OF  
ABANDONED  
VEHICLES**

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will proceed to take possession of the following described abandoned vehicle(s) on May 12, 2026.

2008 Chevrolet  
Silverado VIN#2G-  
CEK190081255997

Vehicle sale location  
is 617 SHORTER AVE  
ATTALLA, AL 35954

April 10 and 17, 2026

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**PROPOSED  
AMENDED 2024 &  
2025 ANNUAL  
ACTION PLANS  
REALLOCATION OF  
CDBG**

**PUBLICATION DATE:  
THURSDAY, APRIL 16,  
2026**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS  
DUE BY: MONDAY,  
MAY 18, 2026 – 4:00  
P.M.**

The City of Gadsden will solicit comments on the reallocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funds. The City is proposing to reallocate a total of \$146,222.18 unexpended CDBG funds from housing rehabilitation - \$112,603.55; Administration and Planning - \$27,191.33 and Breakaway Ministries - \$2,921.50 and Etowah Food Bank from \$3,505.80. CDBG funding will be reallocated to Street & Infrastructure Improvements - \$139,794.88, James M. Barrie Center - \$3,213.65 and Family Success Center - \$3,213.65 eligible CDBG activities. The public comment period will be open from Thursday, April 16, 2026 through Monday, May 18, 2026. The City of Gadsden will hold a Public Review Meeting to solicit comments on the reallocation of Community Development Block Grant funds at the City of Gadsden, 90 Broad Street, Gadsden, AL 35901 at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, April 23, 2026.

Those who may wish to provide comments on the CDBG reallocation may email the City's Community Development Department at areaves@cityofgadsden.com or send written correspondence to the City of Gadsden's Community Development Department at the address above until Thursday, May 18, 2026. The table below identifies the project details for reallocated funding and proposed project details reallocating those funds for rapid implementation for the CDBG program.

GRANT  
CDBG - PROGRAM  
YEAR - 2024 - PROPOSED TRANSFER FROM: Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Fund - PROPOSED CHANGE - \$(112,603.55)

GRANT  
CDBG - PROGRAM  
YEAR - 2024 - PROPOSED TRANSFER FROM: CDBG Administration & Planning - PROPOSED CHANGE - \$(27,191.33)

GRANT  
CDBG - PROGRAM  
YEAR - 2025 - PROPOSED TRANSFER FROM: Breakaway Ministries Public Services - PROPOSED CHANGE - \$(2,921.50)

GRANT  
CDBG - PROGRAM  
YEAR - 2025 - PROPOSED TRANSFER FROM: Etowah Food Bank - Public Services - PROPOSED CHANGE - \$(3,505.80)  
Total Reallocated Funds: \$(146,222.18)

GRANT  
CDBG - PROGRAM  
YEAR - 2025 - PROPOSED REALLOCATED FUNDS TO: James M Barrie Center Public Services - PROPOSED CHANGE - \$3,213.65  
GRANT  
CDBG - PROGRAM  
YEAR - 2025 - PROPOSED REALLOCATED FUNDS TO: Family Success Center Public Services - PROPOSED CHANGE - \$3,213.65  
Total Reallocated Funds - \$146,222.18

GRANT  
CDBG - PROGRAM  
YEAR - 2025 - PROPOSED REALLOCATED FUNDS TO: James M Barrie Center Public Services - PROPOSED CHANGE - \$3,213.65  
GRANT  
CDBG - PROGRAM  
YEAR - 2025 - PROPOSED REALLOCATED FUNDS TO: Family Success Center Public Services - PROPOSED CHANGE - \$3,213.65  
Total Reallocated Funds - \$146,222.18

No displacement will occur as a result of the activities described herein. Should displacement occur, the City of Gadsden implements the provisions as required by CFR 570.606 (Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance). The City of Gadsden does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission of, access to, or treatment of, or employment, the programs and activities described herein. An interpreter is available upon request to assist persons with limited English proficiency. Any requests for reasonable accommodation required by an individual to fully participate in any open meetings, programs, or activities of the City of Gadsden's CDBG Office at

256-549-4537 or via email at areaves@cityofgadsden.com.

April 10, 2026

**AVISO PÚBLICO**

**PROPUESTA DE PLANES DE ACCIÓN ANUALES ENMENDADOS PARA 2024 & 2025 REASIGNACIÓN DE FONDOS CDBG**

**FECHA DE PUBLICACIÓN: JUEVES, 16 DE ABRIL DE 2026 FECHA LÍMITE PARA COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS: LUNES, 18 DE MAYO DE 2026 - 4:00 P. M.**

La Ciudad de Gadsden solicitará comentarios sobre la reasignación de fondos del programa de Subvenciones en Bloque para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG, por sus siglas en inglés). La Ciudad propone reasignar un total de \$146,222.18 en fondos CDBG no gastados, provenientes de las siguientes partidas: Rehabilitación de Viviendas (\$112,603.55); Administración y Planificación (\$27,191.33); Breakaway Ministries (\$2,921.50); y el Banco de Alimentos de

Etowah (\$3,505.80). Los fondos CDBG se reasignarán a las siguientes actividades elegibles: Mejoras en Calles e Infraestructura (\$139,794.88); el Centro James M. Barrie (\$3,213.65); y el Centro para el Éxito Familiar (\$3,213.65). El periodo de comentarios públicos estará abierto desde el jueves 16 de abril de 2026 hasta el lunes 18 de mayo de 2026. La Ciudad de Gadsden celebrará una Reunión Pública de Revisión para solicitar comentarios sobre la reasignación de los fondos de la Subvención en Bloque para el Desarrollo Comunitario; dicha reunión tendrá lugar en las instalaciones de la Ciudad de Gadsden, ubicadas en 90 Broad Street, Gadsden, AL 35901, a las 10:00 a. m. del jueves 23 de abril de 2026.

Aquellos que deseen formular comentarios sobre la reasignación de los fondos CDBG pueden enviar un correo electrónico al Departamento de Desarrollo Comunitario de la Ciudad a la dirección areaves@cityofgadsden.com, o enviar correspondencia por escrito al Departamen-

to de Desarrollo Comunitario de la Ciudad de Gadsden a la dirección indicada anteriormente, hasta el jueves 18 de mayo de 2026. La tabla que figura a continuación detalla los proyectos correspondientes a los fondos reasignados, así como las propuestas de proyectos para la reasignación de dichos fondos con miras a su rápida implementación en el marco del programa CDBG.

**CONCEDER CDBG - Año del programa - 2024 - Transferencia propuesta desde: Fondo Rotatorio de Préstamos para la Rehabilitación - Cambio propuesto - \$ (112,603.55)**

**CONCEDER CDBG - Año del programa - 2024 - Transferencia propuesta desde: Administración y planificación del CDBG - Cambio propuesto - \$ (27,191.33)**

**CONCEDER CDBG - Año del programa - 2025 - Transferencia propuesta desde: Breakaway Ministries Public Services - Cambio propuesto - \$ (2,921.50)**

**CONCEDER CDBG - Año del programa - 2025 - Transferencia propuesta desde: Etowah Food Bank - Public Services - Cambio propuesto - \$(3,505.80)**  
Total Reallocated Funds - \$(146,222.18)

**CONCEDER CDBG - Año del programa - 2024 - Fondos propuestos para reasignar a: Mejoras en calles e infraestructuras - Cambio propuesto - \$139,794.88**

**CONCEDER CDBG - Año del programa - 2025 - Fondos propuestos para reasignar a: James M Barrie Center Public Services - Cambio propuesto - \$ 3,213.65**

**CONCEDER CDBG - Año del programa - 2025 - Fondos propuestos para reasignar a: Family Success Center Public Services - Cambio propuesto - \$ 3,213.65**  
Total Reallocated Funds - \$146,222.18

No se producirá ningún desplazamiento como resultado de las actividades aquí descritas. En caso de que ocurra un desplazamiento,

la Ciudad de Gadsden implementará las disposiciones exigidas por el CFR 570.606 (Asistencia Residencial contra el Desplazamiento y para la Reubicación). La Ciudad de Gadsden no discrimina por motivos de discapacidad en la admisión, el acceso, el trato o el empleo relacionados con los programas y actividades aquí descritos. Hay un intérprete disponible, previa solicitud, para asistir a las personas con dominio limitado del inglés. Cualquier solicitud de adaptación razonable que un individuo requiera para participar plenamente en las reuniones, programas o actividades abiertos de la Oficina del CDBG de la Ciudad de Gadsden puede realizarse llamando al 256-549-4537 o enviando un correo electrónico a areaves@cityofgadsden.com.

10 de abril de 2026

**LEGAL ZONING NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that on April 22, 2026 at 4:00 p.m., the Planning Commission of the City of Gadsden will hold a regularly scheduled public hearing in

the Council Chamber at City Hall, First Floor, 90 Broad Street to give all persons who desire an opportunity to be heard, in opposition to or in favor of, the following requests:

"A request to rezone the following described properties from TR, Traditional Residential District to NC, Neighborhood Central. (Property address being 1016 Forrest Avenue).

Lot 4, 6, 7 and 9 in Block 5 of Gadsden Land and Improvement Addition to Gadsden, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book "A", Page 23 in the Probate Office of Etowah County, Alabama.

Final Plat for a proposed Re-Division of property described below: (Property address being 2839 Cambron Street and Central Avenue).

Lots 72 and 73, in Block 2, in Meadow Grove Subdivision, as recorded in Plat Book "C", Page 395, in the Probate Office of Etowah County, Alabama.

Lots, 1, 4, and 5, in block 1, in the Meadow Grove Subdivision, Gadsden, according to

the map on plat thereof made by T.L. Simmons, surveyor, on 20th of July, 1944 as the same appears of record in the offices of the judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama and lying and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama.

And also, Lots numbered 2 and 3 in block 1 in Meadow Grove Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book "C", Page 395, in the Probate Office of Etowah County, Alabama, and lying and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama.

April 10, 2026

# CLASSIFIEDS

**SERVICE**

**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!

**APPLIANCE REPAIR:** Prompt local service available for appliance repair. Washer/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 Ala-SCAN 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

**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

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**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

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**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

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.

**CEMETERY LOTS FOR SALE**

**Crestwood Cemetery**

**Garden of Church Block 26C**

**4 Lots Available Together Ideal for family plots**

**APPRAISED VALUE: \$18,000**

**SELLING: \$15,000 (OBO)**

**Don't miss this opportunity to secure a premium location at a reduced price**

**Serious Inquiries Only**

**205-370-0583**

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alabamapublichealth.gov/imm



**FREE MAMMOGRAMS AND PAP TESTS**

with FREE CANCER TREATMENT AVAILABLE TO ELIGIBLE WOMEN

- Breast Cancer Screenings 40-64 yrs old
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**DON'T DELAY DO IT FOR YOURSELF DO IT FOR YOUR FAMILY**

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



**EARLY DETECTION**



**STOP**

**Elder Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation**

Contact DHR to Make a Report

1-800-458-7214

aps@dhr.alabama.gov



**YARD SALE COMING UP?**

**Don't miss out on shoppers! Advertise your sale with us at a low price and get great local coverage. More readers = more customers at your sale!**

**Contact us today to get started! 256-547-1049**

# DEALS For DAYS

APRIL 10 - APRIL 11

## FOOD CITY

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

SEE THE WEEKLY AD AT [FOODCITY.COM](http://FOODCITY.COM)

OVER \$146 IN SAVINGS

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

**Buy 3 SAVE MORE**

**shortcuts**

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

**1.99** With Card

When you buy 3 in the same transaction. Lesser quantities are 2.99 each. Discount applied as a coupon. Customer pays sales tax.

Food City Fresh  
**Whole Boneless Pork Loin**  
Per Lb.

**1.49** With Card

IN THE MEAT Dept.

Sliced, Hometown Original  
**Smithfield Bacon**  
22 Oz.

**6.99** With Card

**LIMIT 2**

Selected Varieties  
**Coca-Cola Products**  
24 Pk., 12 Oz. Cans

**11.99** With Card

California Grown  
**Peelz Mandarin Oranges**  
3 Lb.

**3.99** With Card

DIETITIAN'S PICK  
IN THE PRODUCE Dept.

**LIMIT 4 EACH**

Selected Varieties, Mini Croissants (18 Ct.) or  
**Palmetto Pimento Cheese**  
20 Oz.

**5.00** With Card

**LIMIT 10**

Selected Varieties  
**Food Club Chunk Light Tuna**  
5 Oz.

**79¢** With Card

DIETITIAN'S PICK

**LIMIT 4**

Frozen, Selected Varieties,  
Eggo Protein Waffles (12.3 Oz.) or  
**Eggo Family Size Waffles**  
24 Ct.

**4.99** With Card

Made Fresh In-Store, Mustard Potato Salad, Macaroni Salad or  
**Cole Slaw**  
Per Lb.

**2.99** With Card

IN THE Deli

Baked Fresh In-Store  
**Chocolate Chip Cookies**  
Dozen

**3.99** With Card

IN THE Bakery

**LIMIT 2**

Frozen, Selected Varieties  
**Stouffer's Family Size Meals**  
31-40 Oz.

**7.99** With Card

**LIMIT 4**

Frozen, Selected Varieties  
**Wild Mike's Ultimate Pizza**  
36.3-38.8 Oz.

**4.99** With Card

**LIMIT 2**

Selected Varieties  
**M&M's Sharing Size Candy**  
7.4-10.05 Oz.

**4.99** With Card

**LIMIT 3**

**Food Club Drinking Water**  
32 Pk., 16.9 Oz. Btls.

**3/\$10** With Card

**LIMIT 4**

Selected Varieties  
**Gatorade**  
28 Oz.

**4/\$5** With Card

**LIMIT 10**

Frozen, Selected Varieties  
**Smart Ones Entrees**  
6.49-11.5 Oz.

**5/\$10** With Card

**LIMIT 4**

Frozen, Selected Varieties  
**Tyson Chicken**  
16-28 Oz.

**5.99** With Card

**LIMIT 2**

**JFG Special Blend Coffee**  
30.6 Oz.

**8.99** With Card

**LIMIT 4**

Selected Varieties  
**Propel Water**  
6 Pk., 16.9 Oz. Btls.

**3.99** With Card

**LIMIT 4**

Selected Varieties  
**Food Club oil**  
40-48 Oz.

**2.99** With Card

**LIMIT 4**

Selected Varieties  
**Old El Paso Dinner Kit**  
8.4-12.5 Oz.

**2/\$5** With Card

**LIMIT 4**

Selected Varieties  
**Food Club Sour Cream**  
24 Oz.

**2/\$5** With Card

**LIMIT 4**

Selected Varieties, Frozen Pillsbury Toaster Strudel or  
**Toaster Scrambles**  
7.2-12 Oz.

**2/\$5** With Card

**LIMIT 4**

Selected Varieties  
**Lance Crackers**  
10 Pk.

**2/\$5** With Card

**LIMIT 4 EACH**

Selected Varieties, Coffee Mate Natural Bliss (32 Oz.), Starbucks Sweet Creams (24 Oz.) or  
**Starbucks Coffee Creamer**  
28 Oz.

**3.99** With Card

**LIMIT 6**

Selected Varieties  
**Celsius**  
12 Oz.

**3/\$5** With Card

**LIMIT 6**

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

**3.29** With Card

**LIMIT 4**

Selected Varieties, Scent Boosters (24 Oz.), Power Paks (24 Ct.) or  
**Arm & Hammer Laundry Detergent**  
45.5-50 Oz.

**2/\$7** With Card

**COUPON EFFECTIVE APRIL 10 - APRIL 11**

**INSTANT DIGITAL COUPON SAVINGS**  
LOAD TO YOUR VALUCARD AT [FOODCITY.COM](http://FOODCITY.COM) OR ON THE FOOD CITY MOBILE APP.  
CLIP ONCE AND USE UP TO 2X IN ONE TRANSACTION.

**LIMIT 10 LBS.**

**Boston Butt**  
Food City Fresh,  
Whole In-Bag, Per Lb.

ValuCard Price.....1.99  
Digital Coupon.....-0.50

**USE 2X**

MUST PURCHASE MINIMUM ONE POUND

**FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON 1.49** With Card

**COUPON EFFECTIVE APRIL 10 - APRIL 11**

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

Selected Varieties,  
Bath Tissue (12 Mega Rolls) or  
**Simply Done Paper Towels**  
6 Double Rolls

ValuCard Price.....7.99  
Digital Coupon.....-2.99

**USE 4X**

**FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON 5.00** With Card

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951 Rainbow Drive Gadsden, AL 35901

SALE DATES: FRI., APRIL 10 - SAT., APRIL 11, 2026

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