



Messenger

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50 cents

Etowah County prepares before the storm

By Lindsey Frazier
Features Editor

Emergency responders from across Etowah County spent Tuesday learning how to better predict, respond to and communicate tornado threats during an all-day preparedness course.

The course, funded by FEMA and taught by the National Disaster Preparedness Training Center at the University of Hawai'i, covered current tornado science, the identification of potential weather threats and the development of response plans for tornado emergencies.

For instructors Robert Goldhammer and James Purpura, the message was simple: preparation saves lives.



Lindsey Frazier/Messenger

Etowah County EMA hosts training class for tornado preparedness at Etowah County Courthouse on Tuesday.

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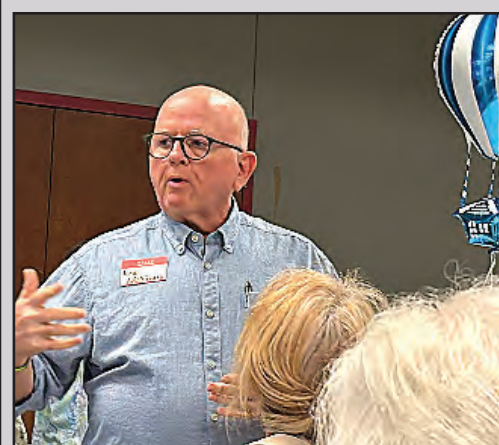


INSIDE THIS EDITION



Matthew Monson has been selected as the new principal of Gadsden City High School.

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Democratic congressional nominee Lee McInnis hosted a public town hall meeting Thursday evening in St. Clair County.

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Glencoe Public Library celebrates America's 250th anniversary with community event

By Karla McArthur
Reporter

The Glencoe Public Library welcomed families, community leaders and local children for a patriotic celebration honoring America's 250th birthday, highlighting the nation's history, freedoms and civic values.

Hosted by library director Mrs. Dale Henry, the event brought together Glencoe Mayor Chris Hare, Police Chief Kenon McKenzie, members of the Glencoe Fire Department, City Hall staff and library volunteers.

Henry thanked those in attendance for supporting the celebration and helping make the event a success.

Under the direction of Michael Peterson, the Glencoe High School Band opened the program with the national an-



Karla McArthur/Messenger

them, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Hare. Dr. Craig Reynolds, pastor of North Glencoe Baptist Church, delivered the opening prayer.

Police Chief McKenzie read The ABCs of the United States aloud to the families, encouraging children to learn more about the nation's history and heritage.

Following the program, the library provided snacks, patriotic coloring sheets and small American flags for attendees.

According to organizers, the celebration was designed to commemorate America's 250th birthday while educating children and community members about the rights, freedoms and responsibilities enjoyed by citizens of the United States.

Glencoe was designated as "The City of Patriotism" by the Alabama State Legislature, a distinction that reflects the community's longstanding commitment to honoring the nation's history and values.

Gadsden to hold Slide the City bash



The City of Gadsden is holding one last party before the end of summer by transforming a downtown street with the huge Slide the City event on July 25-26, 2026.

"We just finished up a fantastic Fourth of July celebration with Freedom Fest, but we're not done yet," said Mayor Craig Ford. "This Back-to-School bash is one of the most unique events Gadsden has ever seen. We want everyone to come out and have a good time at Slide the City before summer is over."

Slide the City will fea-

ture a massive 1,000-foot-long Slip 'n Slide-style water party experience downtown on S. 3rd St. near Riverview Regional Medical Center.

Similar events have been popular summertime attractions across the country in cities like Kansas City, Nashville, Fort Worth, Washington DC, Chicago, Boston, the Jersey Shore, and here in Alabama in Huntsville and Vestavia Hills.

This is a unique opportunity for Gadsden residents and visitors to experience the excitement right here at home.

CDC tracking cases of parasite found in produce and untreated water

By Kaitlin Hoskins
News Editor

Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is monitoring over 100 cases of cyclosporiasis, a disease caused by the microscopic parasite named Cyclospora.

According to CDC, several species of the parasite cause cyclosporiasis, a disease characterized by gastric distress and severe diarrhea. The disease can also cause loss of appetite, weight loss, cramping, nausea, fatigue, low-grade fever and other flu-like symptoms.

The disease is classified as "notifiable" and "reportable" in 47 states. The parasite is linked to produce and untreated water, but there is not a precise contamination point that CDC can point to as the cause for recent rise in cases.

Cyclospora is not a new issue. CDC has tracked the parasite since it officially became a nationally notifiable disease in January of 1999. Cases usually increase in the spring and summer months. According to CDC, the cyclosporiasis season is considered to be from May 1 to August 31. So far this year, 145 cases

have been reported across 17 states, including neighboring states of Georgia and Tennessee.

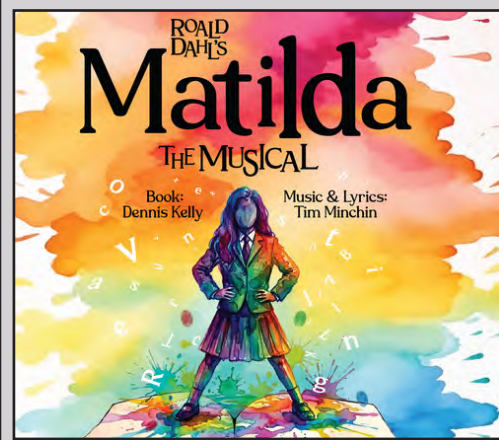
Individuals usually begin to experience symptoms as early as two days or as late as two weeks after consuming contaminated food or water. CDC says that symptoms can last anywhere from a few days to a month or longer.

Experts with CDC recommend thoroughly washing all produce, especially leafy greens. Be sure to wash hands with soap and water before and after handling or preparing raw fruits and vegetables.

They also recommend sanitizing cutting boards after using them to prepare cut fruit and vegetables. It is also recommended that peeled, cut or cooked fruits and vegetables be refrigerated as soon as possible, preferably within two hours of preparation.

When travelling to areas where water may be unsafe, exercise caution and avoid drinking water potentially contaminated with human or animal waste or feces.

For more information on cyclosporiasis or CDC's monitoring of the cases, visit cdc.gov/cyclosporiasis.



See Matilda the Musical at Gadsden State's Wallace Hall next weekend.

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A Montgomery judge dismissed a lawsuit challenging U.S. Sen. Tommy Tuberville's ability to run for governor.

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NEWS

OBITUARY



Elaine "Skeeter" Brannon

Elaine "Skeeter" Brannon left her Earthly home Sunday, June 28, 2026, leaving behind family and friends that will miss her dearly. Elaine was born August 18, 1948, to M. E. and Virginia Whisenant. She was raised in the "country" way of life such as her mom making her clothes, country cooking, picking cotton with her memaw, and sometimes getting to ride to town. Those things were such simple pleasures and memories she often talked about.

You never had to question where you stood with Elaine; she spoke her mind, had a sharp tongue and was quick witted, but she also had a very soft side too.

Elaine graduated from Etowah High School. Later graduated from Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Nursing School in 1969. Skeeter was passionate about being a nurse. Skeeter's work family at Holy Name Riverview GRMC meant the world to her; she loved them all. Her open-heart team was the one she always cherished. Shirley Nall, RN, has been her best friend and sister for over 50 years. Shirely and Skeeter did so many fun things together; they were both master gardeners of AL, made stained glass pic-

tures, and sewing.

Skeeter's passion was gardening whether it was a flower or a vegetable, she would nurture it, and it would thrive. The best days for her were when she and Mike would galivant somewhere to buy plants (day lilies), eat some good food, go home to relax in the garden flower beds. She loved animals and cherished many pets over the years; she was an avid reader and has been known to get caught at a redlight reading due to her being so emersed in her book that she just had to find out what happened next. She traveled to many states on vacation and was known to bring back plants smuggled out of national forests.

Family was her first love, and she is survived by her husband of almost 56 years, Mike Brannon; her daughter, Angela Brannon; her grandchildren that were her pride and joy, Ashley Bennett (Jared) and Brandon Bennett (Kristen); Brad Bennett her favorite son-in-law; nieces and nephews, Brandi Tramel, Nick Whisenant, Hayley Whisenant, and Michael Whisenant; and sister-in-law, Pam Whienant.

She is preceded in death by her father, M.E. "Buddy" Whisenant; mother, Jenny Mae Whisenant; and brother, Eddy Whisenant.

A memorial visitation will be 12:00 pm Thursday, July 16, 2026, at First Baptist Gallant in Gallant, AL. A special thank you to the staff at Oak Tree Assisted Living for taking care of Elaine the last years of her life and loving her.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Smithville Summer Reading Program at Smithville Baptist Church in Smithville, MS or The Alabama Master Gardeners.

Longest Yard Sale returns

Each year, bargain hunters, yard sale connoisseurs, collectors and treasure seekers make their way through northeastern Alabama for the biggest yard sale shopping spree in the world. The World's Longest Yard Sale, a once-a-year, 690-mile shopping trip also known as the 127 Yard Sale, takes place August 6-9, 2026, and along with shopping, treasure hunting, and bargaining, there is plenty of sightseeing to do along the North Alabama stretch that begins in Gadsden, Alabama and travels along the Lookout Mountain Parkway through Fort Payne, Alabama and into Chattanooga, Tenn.

The World's Longest Yard Sale offers everything from antiques, collectibles, furniture and dishware to fresh local produce and homemade jams and jellies as well as food vendors and live entertainment. The annual event is also known as the 127 Yard Sale and many shoppers begin at the southernmost start point in Gadsden, taking the scenic Lookout

Mountain Parkway to Chattanooga and following Highway 127 all the way north through six states to Addison, Mich. For a list of single locations and/or small areas with a minimum of 25 vendors each in Alabama, visit <http://www.127yardsale.com/major-vendor-stops#alabama>. Visit <http://www.127yardsale.com/route-map/directions-through-georgia-and-alabama> for turn-by-turn directions through the Alabama section.

Created to get travelers off the interstate and into towns and communities located off the beaten path, the World's Longest Yard Sale takes visitors on a shopping excursion through some of the country's most scenic areas. The 93-mile Lookout Mountain Parkway has been touted "A Must See" by Reader's Digest, National Geographic and Southern Living magazines, providing a beautiful backdrop to the thousands of roadside sales.

Along with four days of shopping, visitors can experience a slice of real

Americana, true southern hospitality, a variety of locally owned restaurants and accommodations and a world of nature, including majestic waterfalls, canyons, scenic brow vistas, unique towns and villages, state and national parks and preserves. Visit <https://visitlookoutmountain.com/visit/> to plan a trip around the World's Longest Yard Sale event.

Vendors are typically up and running by 8 a.m. and operate until late in the evening each day of the event. While some vendors may accept credit cards, cash is the preferred method of payment. Shoppers are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes, insect repellent and sunscreen and to bring snacks, plenty of water and a sense of adventure. For lodging information, directions, road closures and more information, visit <https://visitlookoutmountain.com/worlds-longest-yard-sale/> or call DeKalb Tourism at 888.805.4740 or Greater Gadsden Area Tourism at 888.565.0411.

New guidance highlights benefits of hormone replacement therapy

It's no secret that menopause can come with disruptive symptoms that affect a woman's daily life, long-term health and overall well-being. New insights and updated medical guidance are helping reshape the conversation around Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT), dispelling outdated fears and helping women make more informed decisions about their health.

Hormone Replacement Therapy is designed to supplement declining levels of estrogen and progesterone during perimenopause and menopause. As hormone levels drop, women may experience symptoms such as hot flashes, night sweats, mood swings, insomnia and vaginal dryness. HRT works by restoring some of the lost estrogen, helping women feel more like themselves again and improving their quality of life.

For years, however, concerns about HRT were

shaped by research from a 2002 Women's Health Initiative study that raised concerns about HRT contributing to an increased risk of cancer and heart disease. Thanks to more advanced research, experts now agree that much of the fear surrounding HRT was based on outdated or misinterpreted data, and many healthy women under age 60 or within 10 years of menopause can safely use HRT under medical supervision.

Recent regulatory updates have also reflected this evolving understanding, with calls from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to revise longstanding boxed warning labels, the FDA's most prominent warnings, so they better reflect current evidence.

According to OB/GYN Xavier Smith, M.D., with Women's Health Partners, women do not need to wait until their periods have fully stopped to begin therapy.

"The decision to use HRT is highly individual and should be made in consultation with a qualified healthcare provider," Dr. Smith explains.

Women may consider HRT when symptoms become disruptive or begin interfering with daily life. Key times include during perimenopause or menopause, typically ages 45-55, when symptoms such as hot flashes or sleep disturbances appear; within 10 years of menopause or before age 60, when therapy is considered safest and most effective; and in cases of early or premature menopause, before ages 40-45, where HRT plays a critical role in protecting bone health and preventing osteoporosis.

While many women recognize HRT for its ability to relieve symptoms, fewer are aware of its broader health benefits. Estrogen plays a vital role in metabolic and cardiovascular health. Its decline can increase the risk of insulin

resistance, visceral fat gain, cardiovascular disease and Type 2 diabetes. Research shows that when started at the right time, HRT can improve insulin sensitivity, slow the progression of atherosclerosis (hardening of the arteries) and may reduce the risk of coronary heart disease by up to one-third.

"Women today have more options than ever before," said Mark Manning, M.D., OB/GYN with Women's Health Partners. "With newer research clarifying the benefits, HRT is once again emerging as a valuable tool for helping women navigate menopause with confidence."

Women experiencing symptoms of perimenopause or menopause are encouraged to speak openly with their healthcare providers. Together, they can weigh the benefits and risks of HRT and determine the best path forward.

Learn more at bit.ly/GadsdenOBGYN.

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Owner/Publisher
Craig Ford
info@gadsdenmessenger.com



SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

News Editor
Kaitlin Hoskins
khoskins@gadsdenmessenger.com

Legals Editor
Teri Chupp
tcchupp@gadsdenmessenger.com

Features Editor
Lindsey Frazier
lfrazier@gadsdenmessenger.com

Reporter
Karla McArthur
kmcarthur@gadsdenmessenger.com

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NEWS

EMA - From A1

“Don’t be scared, be aware,” Goldhammer said. Seated around tables with paper packets and weather maps, first responders analyzed radar imagery and forecast models from Tennessee’s December 2023 tornado outbreak, working together to predict where storms would develop and how they would move.

Living in Alabama means tornadoes are a familiar threat. According to the National Weather Service, Alabama recorded 73 tornado events in 2025, including more than 20 during March and May. So far this year, the state has experienced 44 tornado events.

While meteorologists can identify atmospheric conditions favorable for tornadoes, those conditions do not always produce one. Likewise, some tornadoes develop with little warning.

Purpura said tornadoes require four key ingredients: shear, lift, instability and moisture, known by the acronym SLIM. When those conditions come together, rotating thunderstorms capable of producing tornadoes can develop.

Much of Tuesday’s training focused on how weather information moves from national forecasters to local officials.

Once storms begin to develop, National Weather Service meteorologists monitor radar, satellite imagery and computer forecast models, comparing current conditions with past weather events to determine whether

severe weather is likely. Local forecasting offices, including the Birmingham office, which serves Etowah County, are responsible for issuing tornado warnings when a tornado has been confirmed by radar or trained weather spotters.

Despite advances in technology, Goldhammer said forecasting tornadoes remains an inexact science. “Tornado science is an art,” he said.

Tornado safety recommendations have changed over time as meteorologists have learned more about storm behavior, according to Goldhammer. He said two persistent myths are that motorists should seek shelter beneath highway overpasses and homeowners should open their windows to equalize pressure.

Instead, he said people who cannot safely reach a sturdy building should remain in their vehicles with their seat belts fastened and duck below the window line, while homeowners should keep windows closed and seek shelter in an interior room on the lowest floor.

Continuing education helps first responders adapt as forecasting technology and tornado research continue to evolve, ensuring communities receive the most up-to-date guidance before severe weather strikes, Goldhammer said.

The instructors encouraged residents to have multiple ways to receive weather warnings, identify a safe shelter before storms arrive and keep an emergency kit stocked with essentials.

Before
 Know your safe space
 Know where to meet
 Pack emergency kit
 Practice your emergency drill
 Designate an out of state contact person

During a Watch
 Listen for updates
 Review your emergency plan
 Be ready for immediate action

Emergency Kit Supplies

Three days of food and water	Candles
Sturdy pair of shoes	First aid kit
Flashlight	Cell phone charger
Helmet	Portable battery bank
Cash, small bills	Battery-powered/crank weather radio
Medications	Whistle

During a tornado
 Seek immediate shelter
 Protect your head
 Get to the lowest spot

After the Tornado
 Call 911
 Wait for first responders
 Get out of damaged building
 Don't move severely injured
 Keep an eye on the weather

Arthroscopic Knee Surgery offers minimally invasive solution for joint pain and injury

With an estimated 700,000 to one million knee-specific operations performed in the United States each year, arthroscopic knee surgery has transformed the treatment of joint injuries, providing patients with a minimally invasive option that supports faster recovery and improved outcomes. This advanced surgical technique allows orthopedic specialists, including those at Gadsden Regional Medical Center, to diagnose and treat a wide range of knee conditions with precision, while minimizing disruption to surrounding tissues. Knee arthroscopy involves the use of a small camera, known as an arthroscope, which is inserted into the knee joint through a tiny incision. The camera projects high-definition images onto a screen, enabling surgeons to guide specialized instruments through additional small incisions to repair or remove damaged tissue. This approach is commonly used to treat ligament tears (including ACL, PCL, MCL, and LCL injuries), meniscus tears, patellar instability, and certain forms of knee arthritis. According to William “Bill” Haller, MD, & Elizabeth Giles, PA, with Gadsden Physician Clinics’ Orthopedic Specialists clinic, “Because the procedure is minimally invasive, patients typically experience less pain, reduced scarring, and a lower risk of complications compared to traditional open surgery. Most arthroscopic knee procedures are performed on an outpatient basis, allowing patients to return home the same day.” Prior to

surgery, patients may be advised to temporarily stop certain medications and avoid eating for a specified period. Depending on individual needs, anesthesia options may include regional anesthesia or general anesthesia. During the procedure, the surgical team stabilizes the knee, makes small incisions, and uses sterile fluid to expand the joint for better visibility. Damaged tissue is then repaired or removed using specialized tools. “Recovery following knee arthroscopy focuses on managing swelling and restoring mobility. Patients are typically advised to follow the RICE method – rest, ice, compression, and elevation – during the initial healing phase. Some patients may need crutches or a knee brace temporarily, and physical therapy plays a critical role in rebuilding strength, flexibility, and range of motion,” explains Dr. Haller. Most patients can return to normal daily activities within six to eight weeks, although recovery times vary depending on the severity of the injury and the specific procedure performed. High-impact activities may require a longer rehabilitation period. While arthroscopic knee surgery offers many benefits, it is not without risks. Potential complications, though rare, may include infection, blood clots, bleeding, nerve injury, or postoperative stiffness. In some cases, surgery may contribute to long-term joint wear, such as osteoarthritis. For this reason, healthcare providers carefully evaluate each patient to determine

whether surgery is the most appropriate option. Non-surgical treatments – including physical therapy, bracing, and activity modification – may be recommended in certain cases. Emerging therapies, such as platelet-rich plasma (PRP) and regenerative medicine techniques, are also being explored as alternatives or complements to surgery. As technology and surgical techniques continue to advance, arthroscopic procedures are becoming increasingly effective in helping patients regain mobility and reduce pain. Patients experiencing persistent knee discomfort, instability, or limited function are encouraged to seek evaluation from an orthopedic specialist. To learn more about orthopedic surgical options or to schedule an appointment, please visit Gadsden Regional Medical Center at bit.ly/GRMCOOrtho. About Gadsden Regional Medical Center is a 346-bed acute care hospital with inpatient and outpatient care. We are accredited by the Joint Commission and have recognized programs in cardiology, pulmonology, sleep medicine, and stroke services. We believe in the power of people to create great care. We’re nearly 2,000 healthcare professionals strong, and we work hard every day to be a place of healing, caring and connection for patients and families in the Etowah County area. Sources: 1. Cleveland Clinic 2. Johns Hopkins Medicine 3. American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons

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Assessment of Interest in Establishing a Restoration Advisory Board for the Former Camp Sibert

U.S. ARMY **US Army Corps of Engineers**

During World War II, the Army acquired 37,035 acres in Etowah and St. Clair Counties for what became known as Camp Sibert. The Army’s training included basic military operations, the use of chemical weapons, and decontamination procedures. Following the war, the government deeded the airfield to the City of Gadsden, and it is now Northeast Alabama Regional Airport. The rest of land is now mostly privately owned.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is responsible for evaluating, and if necessary, remediating Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) properties such as the former Camp Sibert. We have ongoing restoration activities occurring at the Camp Sibert FUDS Property.

It is important for the public to have an opportunity to participate in the restoration process, so we are assessing interest in establishing a Restoration Advisory Board. These boards generally include people from the community and government who review and comment on plans and technical documents related to environmental studies and restoration activities. Members serve as voluntary liaisons between the community and USACE and receive no compensation.

If establishment of a Restoration Advisory Board for the Camp Sibert FUDS property interests you, please call 912.625.3640 or email CESAS-FUDS@usace.army.mil by July 30, 2026.

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EDUCATION

Monson named principal of Gadsden City High School

By Karla McArthur Reporter

Matthew Monson has been selected as the new principal of Gadsden City High School and said he is eager to begin the 2026-27 school year focused on building relationships, supporting students and staff, and continuing the school's positive momentum.

A native of Tallassee, Monson earned bachelor's degrees in history and secondary education from Auburn University in 2006. He later completed a master's degree in educational leadership in 2011 and an Education Specialist degree in instructional leadership in 2018.

Monson began his career in education in 2006 as a seventh-grade social science teacher and coach in the Madison City School System. From 2009 to 2013, he taught eighth-grade world history and coached football in Tallassee City Schools and at Montgomery Catholic Preparatory School.

He entered school administration in 2013 as assistant principal at Montgomery Catholic before serving as principal of the school's Holy Spirit Campus. He later served as principal at Loveless Academic Magnet Program (LAMP) High School in Montgomery Public Schools before moving to D.A. Smith Middle School in Ozark City Schools. Most recently, Monson served as director of maintenance and operations for Ozark City Schools.

Although he enjoyed his central office role, Monson said he missed the daily interaction with teachers, staff and students that comes with leading a school.

Monson said he was drawn

to Gadsden City Schools while looking for opportunities for professional growth. Although he did not grow up in Gadsden, he became familiar with the city while coaching, bringing his girls' golf team to the Twin Bridges Tournament, and visiting family members who lived in the area.

"Gadsden catches me as a progressive community that appreciates its history and maintains a quaint, small-town feel while also moving forward and embracing innovation," Monson said.

Monson said the community has welcomed him warmly and that he looks forward to fostering growth that extends beyond the school.

"I told Mr. Blackwell, you're either getting better or you're not ... you're living or dying," Monson said. "You have to decide where you're going to be on that scale."

Monson said he made it clear to Superintendent Keith Blackwell and the hiring committee that Gadsden was where he wanted to be.

"I sought out this opportunity and feel that my skills and experience can help the students, the school and ultimately the community," he said.

He said he wants Gadsden City High School to "be who we say we are" by building on the positive momentum already in place while bringing fresh ideas and maximizing the school's potential.

Monson said he is especially excited about returning to a school environment and interacting with students every day.

"I want to see our kids every day in every way," he said.

His immediate priorities include filling staffing needs and

establishing a strong vision and mission for the 2026-27 school year.

"I'm looking forward to getting the faculty and staff back into the building and having that first introductory meeting," Monson said.

Coming from a family of educators, Monson said he understands the significance of his new position and embraces the responsibility that comes with it.

"I love the idea that I'm in a position where I can help positively impact the lives of kids," he said. "If that means I need to stand in front of the city council or meet with the mayor, I'll go wherever, whenever, taking the message that this is GCHS; this is what we're about; these are my kids, and I'm going to love them and be right there with them."

Monson said his ultimate goal is to prepare students to succeed beyond high school.

"I'm not always going to make the popular decision, but I will make the right decisions," he said.

He also pledged to maintain an open-door policy for parents and community members.

"It's not my school; it's our school," Monson said. "I welcome the chance to answer questions."

Monson said parents entrust the school with their children each day, and he is committed to treating every student with the same care and respect he would his own.

He credited his parents, his wife of more than 18 years, Mandy, and their children for supporting him throughout his career.

Monson also expressed appreciation to Blackwell, the Gadsden



Submitted photo

Matthew Monson (pictured above) has been selected as the new principal of Gadsden City High School.

City Board of Education and the hiring committee for the opportunity.

"Mr. Blackwell said he wants a

leader who will do what is right by the kids at GCHS," Monson said. "My intention is to do just that."

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EDUCATION

Public Service Announcement

ECBOE announces free meal policy

The Etowah County School System today announced its policy for free and reduced-price meals for children served in schools under the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program. For School Year 2026-2027 the Etowah County School System will continue participation in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). No further action is required of you. This USDA provision allows your child(ren) to participate in the school meal programs without having to pay a fee or submit a meal application.

CEP is a key provision of the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010, which allows schools and school districts in low-income areas to eliminate school meal applications and serve breakfast and lunch at no charge to all enrolled students. CEP gives food service professionals more time to focus on preparing nutritious meals that their students will enjoy and gives students more time to eat those meals by cutting down on time spent in the lunch line. More importantly, by offering all students a nutritious breakfast and lunch at no cost, CEP helps ensure more students come to class well-nourished and ready to learn.

Children need healthy meals to learn. The Etowah County School

System offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast and lunch meals will follow the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) guidelines for healthy school meals, so please encourage students to participate. "In the operation of child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age or disability."

Parents or guardians who need further information may contact Laura Parker, Child Nutrition Program Director by calling (256)549-7560.

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Denzel Taylor named to the ETSU spring 2026 dean's list

Denzel Taylor, of Gadsden, was named to the East Tennessee State University spring 2026 dean's list.

Taylor is among more than 4,250 students named to the spring 2026 dean's list.

To receive this honor, undergraduate students must pass a minimum of 12 credits (excluding audits, incompletes, repeats and pass/fail) with no grade below B- in any course taken, and a grade point average of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.

East Tennessee State University was founded in 1911

with a singular mission: to improve the quality of life for people in the region and beyond. Through its world-class health sciences programs and interprofessional approach to health care education, ETSU is a highly respected leader in rural health research and practices. The university also boasts nationally ranked programs in the arts, technology, computing, and media studies. ETSU serves approximately 14,000 students each year and is ranked among the top 10 percent of colleges in the nation for students graduating with the least amount of debt.

Madison Baker of Gadsden graduates from Northwest Mississippi College

Madison Baker of Gadsden graduates with Associate of Arts from Northwest College officials announced in their Spring 2026 com-

mencement. Northwest Mississippi Community College officials announced that graduates have been

awarded degrees and certificates for the Spring 2026 semester. Degrees were officially conferred by Dr.

Michael Heindl, Northwest president, on May 8, during the college's 120th Commencement.

Alabama's back-to-school sales tax holiday set for July 17-19, 2026

Alabama families can save money on back-to-school essentials during the state's 21st annual Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday, which begins at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, July 17, and runs through midnight on Sunday, July 19, 2026.

During this three-day tax holiday, shoppers can purchase certain school supplies, computers, books and clothing free of Alabama's 4% state sales or use tax. In addition, more than 300 cities and counties across Alabama are waiving their local sales taxes, giving families even greater savings. To find out if your community is participating, check the 2026 Participating Cities and Counties list.

This year's holiday includes expanded exemption limits, allowing consumers to save more than ever before. During the 2025 legislative session, the Alabama Retail Association advocated for legislation to modernize Alabama's sales tax holidays by increasing the dollar thresholds and indexing them to the Consumer Price Index. That legislation was approved by the Legislature, resulting in higher exemption limits for 2026.

New Exemption Limits for 2026 Include: \$156 or less per item of clothing or footwear (previously \$100), \$78 or less per item for certain school supplies (previously \$50),

\$1,173 or less on single purchase of computers/equipment (previously \$750) and \$47 or less on any book and \$78 or less on textbooks (previously \$30).

"The expanded exemption limits make this year's tax holiday even more valuable for Alabama families," said Rick Brown, president of the Alabama Retail Association. "These changes help consumers purchase the items they need for the new school year while also supporting Alabama retailers in their local communities."

Local retailers echo that sentiment, saying the weekend has become one of the busiest shopping events of the year. "The sales tax holiday has become very important to us over the years," said Mark Anderson, owner of Eagle Eye Outfitters. "Families plan for it, and with the increased exemption limits, they'll have even more opportunities to save on the clothing, shoes and school supplies they need. It's a win for shoppers and for retailers across Alabama."

Although the sales tax holiday is designed to help families prepare for the school year, any consumer can take advantage of the savings. A wide range of qualifying items, including diapers, printer ink, flash drives and art supplies, are exempt during the holiday, making it a great opportunity for everyone to save.

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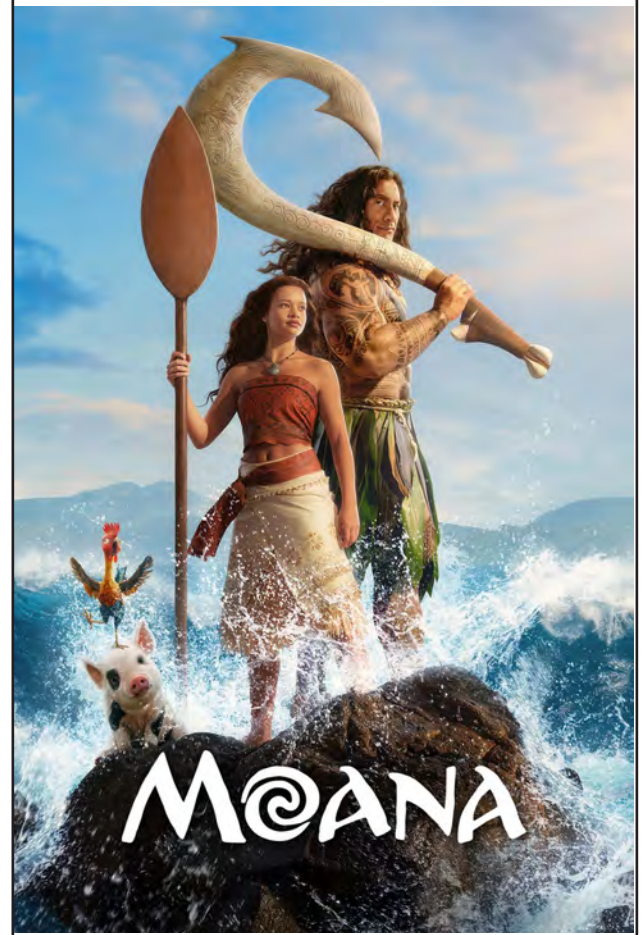
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GOVERNMENT

Tommy Tuberville residency lawsuit dismissed by Montgomery judge

Montgomery Circuit Judge Brooke Reid said she lacked jurisdiction to rule in the case but said that did not prevent a higher court from doing so.

**By Anna Barrett
Alabama Reflector**

A Montgomery County Circuit judge on Thursday dismissed a lawsuit challenging U.S. Sen. Tommy Tuberville's ability to run for governor in Alabama, citing a lack of jurisdiction.

Montgomery County Circuit Judge Brooke Reid wrote in the 7-page order that there is "no Alabama case directly on point" addressing the lawsuit's call for a "quo warranto" hearing on allegations that the senator has not met the Alabama Constitution's seven-year residency require-

ment to run for governor.

"There are, however, numerous constitutional provisions and statutes that must be given due consideration by the court," she wrote.

The order does not address the merits of the case. Reid wrote that while her court lacked the authority to move forward with a quo warranto lawsuit, meaning "by what authority," the law does not prevent that at a higher court. She said during a hearing on the case on June 29 that she expects the Alabama Supreme Court to make the final decision on the case.

"This court has wrestled at length with the narrow issue of whether quo warranto may be utilized to challenge the constitutional eligibility of a certified nominee prior to the general election. Indeed, there is no Alabama case expressly endorsing or rejecting the use of quo warranto to challenge eligibility of a certified nominee prior to the general election," she wrote.

"While this court lacks authority to extend the application of quo warranto to a certified nominee, that does not imply that it should not be extended in this case, nor that the plaintiffs are estopped altogether from seeking court resolution of Constitutional eligibility to hold office."

The lawsuit, filed on behalf of two plaintiffs, alleges that Tuberville, who has long faced residency questions, has not lived in Alabama for seven years, which is required to run for governor. It cites many media findings, like a homestead exemption on an Auburn home that Tuberville was not added to until mid-2024 despite claiming he moved back to the state in 2018, and a 2023 Florida drivers license.

Tuberville has denied the allegations, saying he established residency in Auburn in 2018.

Attorneys at the June 29 hearing argued for nearly three hours on whether or not Reid had jurisdiction over the matter.

The plaintiffs had not appealed the order as of late Thursday morning. Attorney Barry Ragsdale, who represents the plaintiffs, said in a statement that he expected the case to be decided by the Alabama Supreme Court.

"The public, and voters in particular, need to ask themselves why Sen. Tuberville is so afraid of having this case proceed in court. If he really was constitutionally eligible for Alabama's highest office, he should be ready, willing and able to prove that in court, instead of cowardly relying on legal technicalities to avoid scrutiny of where he lives," he said. "We are confident that, if given a fair opportunity to present that evidence in court, we could easily establish that Tuberville is lying about where he lives and is ineligible to serve as Governor."

A message seeking comment from Joe Espy, one of Tuberville's attorneys, was left Thursday morning.

GADSDEN

Aaron announces candidacy for Council District 5

Linda Riggins Aaron has announced her candidacy for the Gadsden City Council District 5 seat, pledging to focus on neighborhood safety, economic development and improved communication between city government and residents.

A lifelong Gadsden resident, Aaron said she has lived in the city for more than 55 years. She is a graduate of Gadsden High School and Gadsden State Community College, where she earned a degree in business administration. Aaron retired from the Gadsden Board of Education and is a military widow, mother of five and

grandmother of seven.

Aaron said she decided to seek public office after hearing concerns from residents who feel their voices have not been heard.

"I am running because District 5 deserves responsive leadership that listens, shows up and gets results," Aaron said.

Among her priorities, Aaron said she would work with law enforcement, neighborhood watch groups and community organizations to strengthen public safety while advocating for improvements to neighborhood infrastructure. She said repairing streetlights, addressing dangerous

intersections, maintaining vacant properties, clearing overgrown lots and removing hazardous trees are essential to creating safer neighborhoods.

Aaron also said she supports economic development by encouraging small business growth, attracting investment and expanding workforce training and employment opportunities for residents.

In addition, Aaron said she would advocate for expanded youth programs, mentorship opportunities and educational resources while working to improve access to services, transportation and information for senior citi-

zens.

Aaron said she also wants to improve transparency and communication between city officials and residents.

"The government works best when it is transparent, accountable and accessible," she said. "I will be a councilwoman who listens, communicates openly and remains available to the people I serve."

Aaron said her campaign is centered on serving families, seniors, business owners and young people throughout District 5. The Gadsden municipal election is scheduled for Aug. 25.



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Danny R. Sparks, M.D. Dierick R. Sparks, M.D. Glenn Lee Wilson, M.D.

GOVERNMENT

Johnson seeks City Council District 1 seat

Businessman Russell Johnson says he hopes to bring the same work ethic and leadership that earned him recognition in the business community to the Gadsden City Council.

Johnson, a candidate for the District 1 seat on the Gadsden City Council, said his experience building a successful business has prepared him to help guide continued growth in the city.

Johnson, who spent years operating the Albertville Wendy's restaurant, said he transformed one of the company's oldest locations through focused management, advertising and customer service. Those efforts earned the restaurant the Small Business of

the Year award in 2023.

A retiree who has lived in East Gadsden for the past 20 years, Johnson said he is committed to conducting a positive campaign regardless of the election's outcome.

"My idea is simple — run a clean campaign regardless of the outcome," Johnson said.

If elected, Johnson said he plans to use the same dedication that contributed to his business success to serve the residents of District 1.

"Gadsden is on a roll," Johnson said. "I want to be there, watching it very closely."

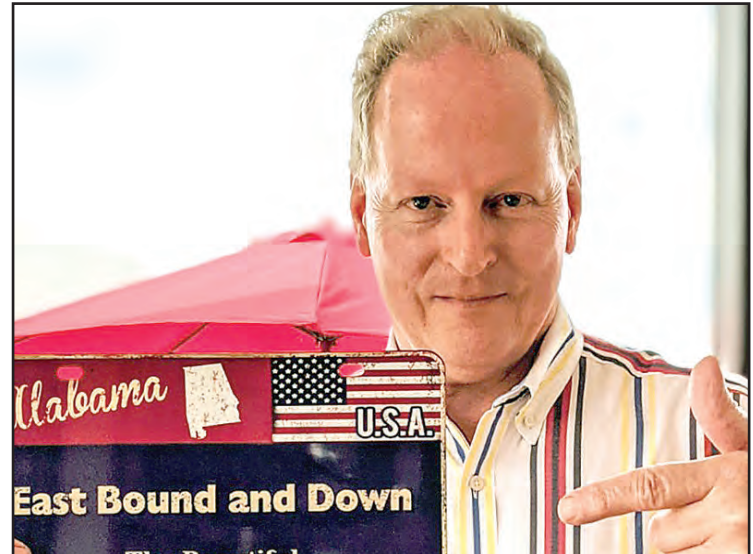
Johnson pointed to several ongoing and planned developments

that he believes will strengthen the city's economy, including the Gadsden Eastern Connector, continued investment by Minth Group Manufacturing, construction of the Gadsden Athletic Center and the planned Coosa Harbor development.

He said he wants to help ensure District 1 benefits from the city's economic growth and future investment opportunities.

Johnson said his business experience and leadership skills would enable him to contribute to the city's continued progress if elected.

More information about Johnson and his campaign is available on his Facebook page.



Democratic nominee McInnis hosts town hall

Democratic congressional nominee Lee McInnis hosted a public town hall meeting Thursday evening in St. Clair County, inviting residents from across Alabama's 3rd Congressional District to discuss issues and participate in the political process ahead of the November general election.

The event was held from 6 to 8 p.m. at 1000 Bruce Etheredge Parkway. According to organizers, the meeting was open to all constituents of the district regardless of political affiliation. The town hall also featured two Democratic candidates for the Alabama House of Representatives and one Democratic candidate for the Alabama State Board of Education.

McInnis is the Democratic nominee seeking to represent Alabama's 3rd Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. The seat is currently held by Republican U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers of Saks, who has represented the district since first being elected to Congress in 2002.

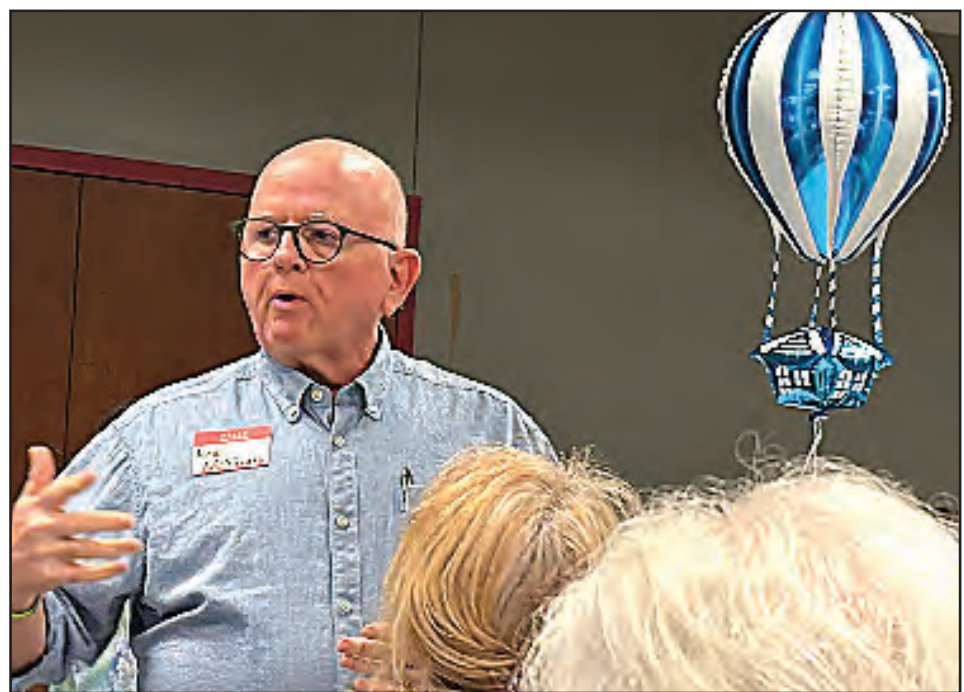
Rogers currently serves as chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, one of the chamber's key committees. During his congressional tenure, Rogers has focused on issues including national defense, military readiness and support for military installations such as Anniston Army Depot.

Alabama's 3rd Congressional District covers much of east-central Alabama and includes all or portions of several counties, including Calhoun, Chambers, Cherokee, Clay, Cleburne, Lee, Randolph, Russell, St. Clair and Talladega counties, along with portions of Elmore and Coosa counties. The district includes communities such as Anniston, Gadsden, Opelika, Auburn and Talladega.

The district has historically favored Republican candidates in federal elections. Rogers has represented the district since 2003 and has won re-election in each subsequent election cycle.

McInnis said the town hall was intended to encourage civic participation and provide voters with an opportunity to engage with candidates.

"To me, the greatest way to celebrate the birth of this nation is exactly what we're doing — participating in the democratic process," McInnis said. "On the other side of so many Fourth of July celebrations, I have been thinking a lot about how our forebears fought for this democracy, and how it is now our turn to carry that struggle forward. Every time you go to a town hall, put up a yard sign or wear a statement T-shirt, you are defending our democracy. So, this Thursday, embrace your democratic heritage, exercise



Submitted photo

your right to free expression, and demand to be heard."

The November 3, 2026 election will de-

termine who represents Alabama's 3rd Congressional District in the U.S. House for the next term.

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LIFESTYLE

Your Community CALENDAR

Recurring Events

Gadsden Farmers Market

- Where: Mort Glosser Amphitheater, 90 Walnut Street, Gadsden
- When: Friday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Glencoe Farmers Market

- Where: Glencoe Police Department | 201 Chastain Boulevard West, Glencoe
- When: Thursdays through September from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Hokes Bluff Farmers Market

- Where: Hokes Bluff City Hall | 3301 Alford Bend Road, Hokes Bluff
- When: Monday from 7 to 11 a.m.

Attalla Farmers Market

- Where: 3rd Street Northwest & 5th Ave. Northwest, Attalla
- When: Thursday through Aug. 13 from 7 to 11 a.m.

Rainbow City Community Market

- Where: Rainbow City Hall | 3700 Rainbow Drive, Gadsden
- When: Monday and Wednesday from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Useless Trivia at Back Forty

- Where: Back Forty
- When: Thursday at 7 p.m.

Bingo Night at Pique Nique

- Where: 1 River Road, Gadsden
- When: Friday at 7 p.m.

Bingo Night AJs Neighborhood Bar and Grill

- Where: 1582 Highway 77, Southside
- When: Monday at 6:30 p.m.

Open Mic Night at Blackstone Pub

- Where: 525 Broad Street, Gadsden
- When: Wednesday 7 to 10 p.m.

Monthly

Music Trivia Night at Baja Rainbow City

- Name that Tune Trivia hosted by Jason Bozeman
- Where: Baja California
 - When: Second Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m.

Taste of the Town Food Truck Festival

- Where: Southside City Hall | 2255 Alabama 77, Southside
- When: Second Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m.

Third Thirsty Thursday at the Stone Market

- Where: 120 Chestnut Street, Gadsden
- When: Third Thursday of the month from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Music & Lyrics: Tim Minchin

Director: Nica Hodge

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Saturday, August 1st, 2026

125+ TABLES

July 10 Disney's Frozen Hosted by Alabama Repertory Theatre

- Where: Gadsden City High School, Gadsden, AL.
- When: 7 p.m.

July 11 Market on Lumley

- Where: 159 Lumley Rd, Rainbow City, AL.
- When: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

July 11 Downtown Attalla Summer Cash Grab

- Where: 5th Ave NW & 4th St NW, Attalla, AL.
- When: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

July 16 Diamond Art Club

- Where: Gadsden Public Library | 254 South College Street, Gadsden, AL.
- When: 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

July 18 Southside FFA Students 4th Farmers Market

- Where: Barney Hood Stadium, 2764 School Drive, Southside, AL.
- When: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

July 18 Knights of Columbus Christmas in July Market

- Where: St. James Catholic Church, 622 Chestnut Street, Gadsden, AL.
- When: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

July 24 Mark Trammell Quartet Homecoming

- Where: The Church at Wills Creek, 2730 Wills Creek Road, Gadsden, AL.
- When: 7 p.m.

July 25 Drifters HDRC Wheels for Meals Ride

- Where: 536 Perman Lake Road, Rainbow City, AL.
- When: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

July 30 Gadsden-Etowah Business Expo

- Where: The Venue at Coosa Landing | 201 George Wallace Drive, Gadsden, AL.
- When: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

August 01 Bluff Blast

- Where: The Bluff Amphitheatre and Campground, 1820 US-278, Hokes Bluff, AL.
- When: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

August 1 The Tyn Tymes Annual Party 2026

- Where: Mary G. Hardin Center for Cultural Arts | 501 Broad St, Gadsden, AL.
- When: 6 p.m.

August 6 World's Longest Yard Sale

- Where: Nocalula Falls Park | 1500 Nocalula Road, Gadsden, AL.
- When: 7 a.m.

Ground Breakings, Ribbon Cuttings & Grand Openings

July 16 Always in Scrubs Ribbon Cutting

- Where: 712 Chastain Boulevard Glencoe AL.
- When: 2 p.m.

July 16 Three Notch Group Ribbon Cutting

- Where: 515 Locust Street Gadsden AL.
- When: 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

July 28 McDonalds Rainbow Plaza Ground Breaking

- Where: Rainbow Plaza, Rainbow City, AL.
- When: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

July 31 Rural King Ribbon Cutting

- Where: 280 N. 3rd Street, Gadsden, AL.
- When: 10 a.m.

August 5 Coosa Riverkeeper Ribbon Cutting

- Where: 3426 Rainbow Parkway, Rainbow City, AL.
- When: 12 p.m.

August 7 Ohana Auto Repair Ribbon Cutting

- Where: Rainbow Plaza, Rainbow City, AL.
- When: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

August 7 Gadsden Sports Park Tennis Courts Ground Breaking

- Where: Gadsden Sports Park (behind Gadsden State Community College, Gadsden, AL.
- When: 9 a.m.

ETOWAH CHAMBER

Local Ribbon Cuttings & Groundbreaking Events

Scan to see what's opening and breaking ground in our community.

LIFESTYLE

Looking back — one yearbook at a time

One of the most enjoyable resources available through the Gadsden Public Library isn't a new bestseller or the latest technology—it's a collection of old high school yearbooks that allows us to take a trip back in time.

Have you ever wondered what your parents or grandparents looked like in high school? Maybe you'd like to find an old classmate, a favorite teacher, or relive your own school days. Our searchable digital yearbook collection makes it easier than ever.

The Gadsden Public Library has digitized a growing collection of local high school yearbooks and made them available online at gadsdenlibrary.org/searchable-yearbooks. Best of all, these yearbooks are fully searchable by name. Simply enter a person's name, and if it appears in one of the digitized yearbooks, you'll be taken directly to the page where it appears. There's no need to flip through hundreds of pages

looking for a familiar face.

Our online collection currently includes yearbooks from several local schools, including Gadsden High School, Emma Sansom High School, Etowah High School, Litchfield High School, and Hokes Bluff High School. Whether you're researching family history, preparing for a class reunion, or simply taking a nostalgic walk down memory lane, these yearbooks are an incredible community resource.

Of course, our collection doesn't stop there.

The Gadsden Public Library also houses many additional yearbooks that have not yet been digitized. These are available for public use at our Alabama City Genealogy Branch, located at 2700 West Meighan Boulevard, Gadsden, Alabama 35904. Our genealogy staff welcomes visitors who are researching local history, tracing family roots, or searching for school memories from years gone by.

Genealogy research is about much more than birth certificates and census records. Yearbooks often preserve details that can't be found anywhere else—photographs, clubs, sports teams, school organizations, handwritten messages, and snapshots of everyday life in our community. They help tell the story of Gadsden and Etowah County through the faces and experiences of the people who lived here.

If you need assistance using the online collection or locating a particular yearbook, our knowledgeable genealogy staff is always happy to help. You can reach the Alabama City Genealogy Branch by calling 256-549-4688.

Whether you're reconnecting with your past, introducing your children to your high school days, or conducting serious genealogical research, we invite you to explore this remarkable collection. You never know what memories—or familiar faces—you may discover.



Welcome to the Library

Craig Scott

Happy searching!

Gadsden Public Library: 254 South College Street, downtown Gadsden (next to the U.S. Post Office). Phone: 256-549-4699. Genealogy Branch: 2700 West Meighan Boulevard, Alabama City (next to the Ritz Theater at the corner of West Meighan and Wall Street). Phone: 256-549-4688

Craig Scott is the director for the GPL.



Mindful Moment

Carrie Halladay

We live in a culture that celebrates productivity. From an early age, many of us learn that hard work is a virtue and that success comes from staying busy. There is certainly truth in that idea. Effort matters. Discipline matters. Persistence matters. Yet somewhere along the way, many people begin to believe that rest is the enemy of productivity rather than an essential part of it.

As a result, rest often gets a bad reputation.

If we are not accomplishing something, checking items off a to-do list or moving toward a goal, we may feel guilty. We tell ourselves we should be doing more. We should be working harder. We should be using every available minute wisely. Rest

begins to feel like something that must be earned rather than something that is necessary.

For many people, this mindset becomes a way of life.

They push through exhaustion. They ignore signs of stress. They stay busy from morning until night and convince themselves they will slow down later. The problem is that later often never arrives. There is always another task to complete, another responsibility to manage or another demand competing for attention.

Eventually, the body and mind begin to send signals that something is wrong.

Fatigue increases. Focus becomes more difficult. Small frustrations feel bigger than they should. People become irritable, emotionally drained or overwhelmed by tasks they once handled with ease. Some experience headaches, difficulty sleeping or a sense of burnout that seems to appear out of nowhere.

In reality, these symptoms rarely come out of nowhere. They are often the result of running on empty for too long.

The truth is that rest is not the opposite of productivity. Rest is part of productivity.

Think about any machine, vehicle or piece of equipment. Regular maintenance is required for it to function properly. Ignoring maintenance may allow it to keep operating for a while, but eventually performance declines. The same principle applies to human beings. We were not designed to function at full speed indefinitely.

Research consistently shows that rest plays an important role in both physical and mental health. Our brains use periods of downtime to process information, regulate emotions and recover from stress. Rest improves concentration, decision-making and creativity. It helps us function more effectively when we return to our responsibilities.

Rest does not necessarily mean spending an entire day on the couch. It can take many forms. For some people, rest means taking a walk outside. For others, it may involve reading a book, sitting quietly on the porch, spending time with family or simply allowing themselves a few moments with-

out obligations. The specific activity matters less than the opportunity to step away from constant demands.

One of the greatest challenges people face is not finding time to rest. It is giving themselves permission to do so without guilt.

Many people believe that slowing down means they are falling behind. In reality, constantly pushing harder is often what causes people to struggle. Sustainable progress requires balance. Just as work has its place, so does rest.

The next time you find yourself feeling guilty for taking a break, remember this: rest is not laziness. It is maintenance. And without regular maintenance, even the strongest systems eventually wear down.

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.



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DEVOTIONALS



ROOTED IN THE WORD

Shawn Blackmon

Have you ever started something with excitement, only to quit when it became difficult? Most of us have.

A new diet. A gym membership. A new job. A ministry. A relationship. We begin with enthusiasm, but when the excitement fades and the sacrifice begin, commitment is tested. The truth is, there's a big difference between being interested and being committed. Interest shows up when it's convenient. Commitment keeps showing up when it's hard.

In Luke 9, several men told Jesus they wanted to follow Him. On the surface, it

Commitment keeps showing up

sounded like a wonderful decision. But Jesus looked beyond their words and into their hearts. He knew they were interested, but He was looking for something deeper.

He was looking for commitment. One man wanted comfort before commitment. Another wanted to delay obedience until a more convenient time. A third wanted to keep looking back at what he was leaving behind. Jesus' response reminds us that following Him has never been about convenience. It's about surrender.

Many people want the blessings of Christ without the cost of discipleship. We want the resurrection, but not the cross. We want victory, but not sacrifice. We want God to move us forward while we keep glancing over our shoulder at the past. But you can't move forward while constantly looking backward. You can't fully embrace what God is calling you to if you're still holding on to what He's calling you out of.

Maybe you're looking back at a failed relationship. Maybe you're looking back at a mistake you've made. Maybe you're looking back at hurt, disappointment, or regret. The past can become so familiar that we begin to romanticize what God has already delivered us from. Jesus isn't asking us to pretend the past never happened. He's asking us not to live there. God has too much ahead of you for you to spend your life staring behind you.

Following Jesus requires forward faith. It means trusting Him even when the road is uncertain. It means obeying when it's uncomfortable. It means believing His future is greater than your past.

So today, make a decision. Stop looking back. Stop delaying. Stop settling for being merely interested. Go all in. Because the greatest things God has prepared for you will never be found in yesterday. They're waiting for you on the road ahead.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for calling me to something greater than my past. Give me the courage to let go of what is behind me and the faith to follow wherever You lead. Help me choose commitment over convenience and obedience over delay. Keep my eyes fixed on You and strengthen me to never turn back. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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.

From the passive to the participating

We just celebrated our nation's 250th birthday, so I circled back to this article I wrote last July 1 that had to do with the history of America and my half-hearted approach to studying history. I asked Gemini to help me relate it to a spiritual precept, and I think AI touched a Divine tenet, so I decided to go with it.

I have never been much of a history student. I made it through the high school quadrifecta of social studies classes in the 80s because I was good at memorizing facts, and knew how to research and write reports (without Google or AI, mind you). However, I wasn't interested enough to apply myself to really learn much of what I was reporting on.

My favorite history class in high school was World History because I had Coach M. Every sophomore looked forward to his class, since we knew that it only took one comment to derail the whole Ming dynasty in favor of a colorful rendition of a story from Coach's glory days on the football field.

If I close my eyes, I can still see him with his feet kicked up on his desk, keys in hand, mining for ear wax like it's gold. His booming voice captivating us all, even as we dodge the flying wax balls being flicked across the room.

I do remember one lesson on the rise of Islam where I raised my hand to (incorrectly) name the city to which Muslims made a

yearly pilgrimage. I think I must have said, "Medina." I will never forget Coach pointing his waxy key at me as he shouted, "It's Mecca, Baby! Mecca, Mecca, Mecca."

In college I took World History at Southern Union to protect my bleeding, Auburn GPA, and avoid the large classes that wreaked havoc on my ADHD-brain. Sadly, I can't recall my professor's name, even though she was the one who lit the spark in my affinity for world history by spinning tales—of kings and queens that I'd never heard of—with the same gusto as Coach M telling about his glory days. I remember the whole class being completely hooked, leaning in to catch every juicy detail about the movers and shakers of our pre-modern world—without having to dodge a single wax ball.

After college, with a healthy curiosity of world events, my husband and I had the opportunity to live abroad in the Middle East—ironically in Saudi Arabia, home to Mecca and Medina. Suddenly, standing on the red-sand, ancient ruins of Jerash, Jordan and the like, I found myself regretting that I had not paid more attention in school. I realized that I made passing grades by memorizing facts just to get by, but I had failed to let the deeper meanings stick.

That got me thinking about how often we treat our faith the same way. Do we read scripture just to check a box, and memorize the points of a Sunday sermon without let-

ting it disrupt or shape our lives?

This struggle with "head knowledge" isn't a modern phenomenon born out of short attention spans or the digital age. It's an ancient human tendency. In fact, it is the exact same disconnect the Apostle James was trying to dismantle when he wrote his letter to the early church.

He knew how easy it was for believers to sit in a gathering, nod along to Truth, and leave entirely unchanged. That's why he delivered a wake-up call in James 1:22. As usual, I love the vivid way The Message paraphrases verses 22-24: "Don't fool yourself into thinking that you are a listener when you are anything but, letting the Word go in one ear and out the other. Act on what you hear! Those who hear and don't act are like those who glance in the mirror, walk away, and two minutes later have no idea who they are, or what they look like."

Those early Christians had the same heart-level temptation we face today: to listen to the Truth without living it out. The challenge for us today is to stop acting like spiritual reporters.

A reporter's job is simply to gather data, write down the facts, and pass them along to an audience without ever letting the story personally change them. But God isn't looking for a news anchor to read the script; He is looking for an eye-witness who lives the Truth.

Our job is to move past simply know-



Memoir Musings

Sandra Bost

ing about God by transitioning from passive observers to active participants in our faith. It requires us to open Scripture—not to check a box or memorize trivia for a spiritual passing grade—but to get to know Jesus.

The more we know Jesus, the more we will love Him. The more we love Him, the more we will obey Him. And it is the obedience to Christ that will begin to transform us by shifting our identity and rewiring our desires.

Faith was never meant to be like my 10th-grade history class, where we passively nod along, memorize the minimum to get by, and hope we don't get called on. James 1:22 calls us to let the Truth of who God is change the person we see in the mirror. It is a call to stop simply reading and reporting ancient history, and finally start walking out the reality—one obedient step at a time.

This week, may we trade the role of passive history student for that of the participating disciple. May we bear witness of the Love of Jesus with a transformed life.

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

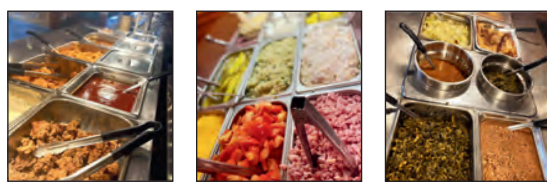
Your Weekly Devotionals



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MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Dustin McCay, a married man, originally in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Guild Mortgage Company LLC, its successors and assigns, on April 20, 2023, said mortgage recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, in Instrument Number 3556836; the undersigned Guild Mortgage Company LLC, as Mortgagee/Transferee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Courthouse at Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama, on September 2, 2026, during the legal hours of sale, all of its rights, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit: For a Point of Beginning: Commence at the Northeast corner of Lot Number One (1), Block Five (5), Ewing Addition to Gadsden, according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book "B", Page 396, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama, and thence run in a Westerly direction and along the North boundary line of said Lot Number One (1) a distance of 72.00 feet to a point marked in said line; thence run in a Southerly direction in a straight line a distance of 110.00 feet to a point marked in the South boundary line of said Lot Number One (1); thence run Southeasterly along the Southerly line of said Lot Number One (1) a distance of 42.00 feet to the Southeast corner of said lot; thence run Northeasterly and along the East boundary line of said Lot Number One (1) a distance of 123.30 feet to the Point of Beginning and being portion of said Lot Number One (1), lying and being in Etowah County, Alabama. Property street address for informational purposes: 302 Elmore St, Gadsden, AL 35901. 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 THERE-TO. Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. The successful bidder must tender certified funds in the amount of the winning bid made payable to Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. at the time and place of the sale. The sale will be conducted subject to: (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, (2) final confirmation with the Mortgagee/Transferee, and if applicable, (3) collection of purchaser information needed to comply with the reporting requirements under the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network's Residential Real Estate Reporting Rule (31 C.F.R. Part 1031) and reimbursement of any fees and expenses incurred as a result of the collection of such information. The Mortgagee/Transferee and Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. shall not be liable for any damages whatsoever. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the purchaser at the sale shall be only entitled to a return of the bid amount. The

Mortgagee/Transferee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation. Guild Mortgage Company LLC, ("Transferee") Tiffany & Bosco, P.A., 2501 20th Place South, Suite 300, Homewood, AL 35223 www.tblaw.com TB File Number: 26-08666-GM-AL

June 26, July 3, and 10, 2026

FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness described in and secured by that certain mortgage executed by Charles C. Mickle and Tonya Mickle to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., (MERS) acting solely as nominee for Lender, MortgageAmerica, Inc. and successors and assigns dated October 1, 2008, and Recorded in Instrument Number 3302907 of the records in the Office of the Judge of Probate, Etowah County, Alabama, which said mortgage was subsequently assigned to Arvest Central Mortgage Company by instrument recorded in Instrument No.: 3446867 in said Probate Court records; notice is hereby given that the undersigned as mortgagee will under power of sale contained in said mortgage, sell at public outcry for cash to the highest bidder, during legal hours of sale on the July 27, 2026, at the front door entrance of the Courthouse of Etowah County, Alabama, 800 Forest Ave Gadsden, Alabama 35901, the following described real property in the County of Etowah, State of Alabama, being the same property described in the above referred to mortgage: ALL THAT PART OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 2, TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE 4 EAST, ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING AT A POINT WHICH IS LOCATED NORTH 00 DEGREES 44 MINUTES WEST 667.5 FEET FROM THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 2; THENCE FROM THE POINT OF BEGINNING SOUTH 89 DEGREES 53 MINUTES WEST A DISTANCE OF 1320.0 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 44 MINUTES WEST 667.5 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. LESS AND EXCEPT: COMMENCING AT AN 1/2 INCH PIPE FOUND AT THE PURPORTED SE CORNER OF SECTION 2, TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE 4 EAST OF THE HUNTSVILLE MERIDIAN, ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 48 MINUTES 04 SECONDS WEST (NORTH 00 DEGREES 44 MINUTES WESTDEED RECORD) 667.50 FEET TO A 1/2 INCH PIPE FOUND, THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING FOR THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED; THENCE FROM THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING AND ALONG AN EXISTING FENCE LINE, SOUTH 89 DEGREES 53 MINUTES WEST 230.59 FEET TO A NAIL FOUND IN THE CENTERLINE OF SHADY GROVE ROAD; THENCE ALONG THE CENTERLINE OF SAID SHADY GROVE ROAD THE FOLLOWING COURSES: NORTH 32 DEGREES 52 MINUTES 06 SECONDS EAST 55.58 FEET NORTH 28 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 16 SECONDS EAST 40.90 FEET NORTH 27 DEGREES

55 MINUTES 52 SECONDS EAST 44.49 FEET NORTH 21 DEGREES 40 MINUTES 30 SECONDS EAST 56.90 FEET NORTH 19 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 18 SECONDS EAST 253.71 FEET NORTH 20 DEGREES 58 MINUTES 26 SECONDS EAST 78.94 FEET AND NORTH 18 DEGREES 22 MINUTES 54 SECONDS EAST 64.74 FEET TO A NAIL FOUND AT A POINT THAT IS SOUTH 00 DEGREES 48 MINUTES 04 SECONDS EAST (SOUTH 00 DEGREES 44 MINUTES EAST-DEED RECORD) 117.47 FEET FROM AN 1 INCH SOLID ROD FOUND ON THE NORTHWESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF SHADY GROVE ROAD; THENCE LEAVING SAID CENTERLINE, SOUTH 00 DEGREES 48 MINUTES 04 SECONDS EAST (SOUTH 00 DEGREES 44 MINUTES EAST-DEED RECORD) 549.41 FEET ALONG AN EXISTING FENCE LINE TO THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING FOR THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED; SAID LANDS CONTAINING 1.31 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AND LYING AND BEING IN ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA. ALABAMA LAW GIVES SOME PERSONS WHO HAVE AN INTEREST IN PROPERTY THE RIGHT TO REDEEM THE PROPERTY UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES. PROGRAMS MAY ALSO EXIST THAT HELP PERSONS AVOID OR DELAY THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS. AN ATTORNEY SHOULD BE CONSULTED TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THESE RIGHTS AND PROGRAMS AS A PART OF THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS. This 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 the probate 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. In accordance with regulations promulgated by the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network ("FinCEN") of the United States Department of the Treasury regarding certain non-financed transfers of residential real property to legal entities and trusts, the purchaser at the foreclosure sale may be required to provide identifying and beneficial ownership information necessary to permit compliance with applicable federal reporting requirements. No deed shall be prepared, delivered, or recorded until all required purchaser information, including beneficial ownership information (if applicable), has been timely provided in form and substance satisfactory to the foreclosing mortgagee (or its designee) and any required federal real estate report has been submitted and accepted through FinCEN's electronic filing system. The failure of any high bidder to timely provide required information, or pay the purchase price and close this sale, shall, at the option of the Mortgagee, be cause for rejection of the bid, and if the bid is rejected, Mortgagee shall have the option of making the sale to the next highest bidder who is able, capable and willing to comply with the terms thereof. Said sale is made for the purpose of paying the said indebtedness and the expenses incident to this sale, including a reasonable attorney's fee. The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy

Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the mortgagee.

Arvest Bank, Successor in Interest by Merger to Arvest Central Mortgage Company Mortgagee William S. McFadden McFadden, Rouse & Bender, LLC 718 Downtowner Blvd. Mobile, AL 36609

July 3, 10, and 17, 2026

NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, on October 17, 2012, a certain Mortgage was executed by Terrence O. Jones and Patricia E. Jones, husband and wife, as mortgagor(s), in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for One Reverse Mortgage, LLC, its successors and assigns as mortgagee, and was recorded on October 30, 2012, as Instrument Number 3375809 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, State of AL; and WHEREAS, the Mortgage was insured by the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (the Secretary) pursuant to the National Housing Act for the purpose of providing single family housing; and WHEREAS, the Mortgage is now owned by the Secretary, pursuant to an assignment dated June 27, 2019 and recorded on December 2, 2019, as Instrument Number 3494181 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, State of AL; and WHEREAS, a default has been made in the covenants and conditions of the Mortgage in that the payment due upon the move out of the borrower(s), was not made and remains wholly unpaid as of the date of this notice, and no payment has been made sufficient to restore the loan to currency; and WHEREAS, the entire amount delinquent as of June 1, 2026 is \$181,518.24 and WHEREAS, by virtue of this default, the Secretary has declared the entire amount of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgage Deed to be immediately due and payable; NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to powers vested in me by the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1994, 12 U.S.C. 3751 et seq., by 24 CFR part 27, subpart B, and by the Secretary's designation of me as Foreclosure Commissioner, notice is hereby given that on July 24, 2026 during the legal hours of sale, all real and personal property at or used in connection with the following described premises ("Property") will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder: To describe a lot or parcel of land commence at the Northwest corner of the Southeast 1/4-Southeast 1/4, Section 17, Township 10 South, Range 7 East, thence run East and along the North line of said Forty a distance of 660.05 feet to a point, thence deflect to the right so as to form an interior angle of 90 degrees 13 minutes 20 seconds and run a distance of 1306.33 feet to a point, thence deflect 0 degrees 01 minutes 40 seconds to the right and run a distance of 139.4 feet to a point, said point being the point of beginning of the lands herein described, thence continue to run in a straight and direct line a distance of 260.0 feet to a point on the Northerly side of a public road, thence deflect to the right so as to form an interior angle of 116 degrees 34 minutes and run along a tangent to said right-of-way line a distance of 145.58 feet to a point; thence deflect 89 degrees 04 minutes to the right from said tangent and run along the Easterly right-of-way line of a 60.0 feet public street a distance of 367.84 feet to a point; thence deflect to the right so as to form an interior

angle of 62 degrees 16 minutes 40 seconds and run a distance of 300.02 feet to the point of beginning. Lying in and being a portion of NE1/4 - NE 1/4, Section 20, Township 10 South, Range 7 East, Etowah County, Alabama, and containing 1.5 acres, more or less, subject to any easements or restrictions of record Commonly known as: 40 Champion Dr., Gadsden, AL 35904 This sale will take place at the Etowah County Courthouse. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development estimated bid will be \$183,145.84. There will be no proration of taxes, rents or other income or liabilities, except that the purchaser will pay, at or before closing, his prorata share of any real estate taxes that have been paid by the Secretary to the date of the foreclosure sale. When making their bids, all bidders except the Secretary must submit a deposit totaling \$18,314.58 (10% of the Secretary's bid) in the form of a certified check or cashier's check made out to the Secretary of HUD. A deposit need not accompany each oral bid. If the successful bid is oral, a deposit of \$18,314.58 must be presented before the bidding is closed. THE DEPOSIT IS NONRE-FUNDABLE. The remainder of the purchase price must be delivered within 30 days of the sale or at such other time as the Secretary may determine for good cause shown, time being of the essence. This amount, like the bid deposits, must be delivered in the form of a certified or cashier's check. If the Secretary is the highest bidder, he need not pay the bid amount in cash. The successful bidder will pay all conveying fees, all real estate and other taxes that are due on or after the delivery date of the remainder of the payment and all other costs associated with the transfer of title. At the conclusion of the sale, the deposits of the unsuccessful bidders will be returned to them. The Secretary may grant an extension of time within which to deliver the remainder of the payment. All extensions will be for 15-day increments for a fee of \$500.00, paid in advance. The extension fee shall be in the form of a certified or cashier's check made payable to the Secretary of HUD. If the high bidder closes the sale prior to the expiration of any extension period, the unused portion of the extension fee shall be applied toward the amount due. If the high bidder is unable to close the sale within the required period, or within any extensions of time granted by the Secretary, the high bidder may be required to forfeit the cash deposit or, at the election of the foreclosure commissioner after consultation with the HUD representative, will be liable to HUD for any costs incurred as a result of such failure. The Commissioner may, at the direction of the HUD representative, offer the property to the second highest bidder for an amount equal to the highest price offered by that bidder. There is no right of redemption, or right of possession based upon a right of redemption, in the mortgagor or others subsequent to a foreclosure completed pursuant to the Act. Therefore, the Foreclosure Commissioner will issue a Deed to the purchaser(s) upon receipt of the entire purchase price in accordance with the terms of the sale as provided herein. HUD does not guarantee that the property will be vacant. The scheduled foreclosure sale shall be cancelled or adjourned if it is established, by documented written application of the mortgagor to the Foreclosure Commissioner not less than 3 days before the date of sale, or otherwise, that the default or defaults upon which the foreclosure is based did not exist at the time of

service of this notice of default and foreclosure sale, or all amounts due under the mortgage agreement are tendered to the Foreclosure Commissioner, in the form of a certified or cashier's check payable to the Secretary of HUD, before public auction of the property is completed. The amount that must be paid if the mortgage is to be reinstated prior to the scheduled sale is based upon the nature of the breach, this loan is not subject to reinstatement. A total payoff is required to cancel the foreclosure sale or the breach must be otherwise cured. A description of the default is as follows: FAILURE TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL BALANCE AND ANY OUTSTANDING FEES, COSTS, AND INTEREST WHICH BECAME ALL DUE AND PAYABLE BASED UPON THE MOVE OUT BY ALL MORTGAGORS. Tender of payment by certified or cashier's check or application for cancellation of the foreclosure sale shall be submitted to the address of the Foreclosure Commissioner provided below

Dated this 4th day of June, 2026.

Michael Lindsey Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. Foreclosure Commissioner 244 Inverness Center Drive Birmingham, AL 35242 Phone: (801) 355-2886 Fax: (801) 328-9714 HWM File: AL24156

July 3, 10, and 17, 2026

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by April J Pruitt, an unmarried woman, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Southern Home Mortgage Corp., its successors and assigns, on September 8, 2017, said mortgage being recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, on September 8, 2017, as Document Number 3456279, and said mortgage being re-recorded on September 20, 2017, as Document Number 3456732. Freedom Mortgage Corporation, the current holder, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Etowah County Courthouse, in Gadsden, Alabama, on August 20, 2026, during the legal hours of sale, the following described real estate, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit: Commence at a point that is North 29 degrees 27 minutes 24 seconds West 60.27 feet from the Southeast corner (RRSF) of the NE1/4 of the SE1/4 of Section 13, said point being located on the approximate North right of way of John L. Gap Road and the approximate west right of way of Leeth Gap Cutoff Road; thence run North 84 degrees 24 minutes 42 seconds West along and with said approximate North right of way of John L. Gap Road 337.61 feet to a point (IPR angle iron); thence North 01 degree 11 minutes 52 seconds West leaving said right of way 352.40 feet to a point (IPS) and the point of beginning; thence from said point of beginning run South 76 degrees 16 minutes 34 seconds East 353.33 feet to a point (IPS), said point being located on the approximate West right of way of Leeth Gap Cutoff Road a distance of 520.00 feet, more or less, to a point being the Southeast corner of the parcel conveyed to Julie Lankford by deed recorded in as Document #D-2003-486, in the Probate Office of Etowah County, Alabama; thence run North

82 degrees 38 minutes 19 seconds West and along the Southerly line of said Lankford tract 353.89 feet, more or less, to the Southwest corner thereof; thence run South in a direct line 455.00 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning. More commonly known as: 1395 Leeth Gap Cutoff Road, Boaz, AL 35956 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 purchaser 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. Freedom Mortgage Corporation ("Transferee") Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. 3000 Riverchase Galleria, Suite 705 Birmingham, AL 35244 Phone: (801) 355-2886

July 10, 17, and 24, 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 Aaron Lloyd Johnson, Zaida C Johnson to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Synovus Bank, its successors and assigns dated September 8, 2020; said mortgage being recorded on September 10, 2020 as Instrument No. 3508244 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama. Said Mortgage

35901. Bidders may receive digital documents from the Architect at no cost.

Bids must be submitted on proposal forms furnished by the Architect or copies thereof.

A prebid conference shall be held at the architect's office on Monday, July 13, 2026 at 9am CST.

All bidders bidding in amounts exceeding that established by the State Licensing Board for General Contractors must be licensed under the provisions of Title 34, Chapter 8, Code of Alabama, 1975, and must show evidence of license before bidding or bid will not be received or considered by the Architect; the bidder shall show such evidence by clearly displaying his or her current license number on the outside of the sealed envelope in which the proposal is delivered. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive technical errors if, in the Owner's judgement, the best interests of the Owner will thereby be promoted.

Etowah County Board of Education (Awarding Authority)
B. Craig Lipscomb, Architect,
256-390-5657,
craig@bclarch.com

June 26, July 3 and 10, 2026

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals, in duplicate, from Qualified General Contractors will be received by The Etowah County Board of Education at the board office 401 Broad Street, Gadsden, AL 35901 until 11:00am CST, Tuesday, July 14, 2026 for Parking Lot Lighting at Southside Athletics: at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read. A cashier's check or bid bond payable to Etowah County Board of Education in an amount not less than five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, but in no event more than \$10,000, must accompany the bidder's proposal. Performance and Payment Bonds and evidence of insurance required in the bid documents will be required at the signing of the Contract. Bid Documents may be examined at the office of B. Craig Lipscomb, Architect, 436 Chestnut Street, Gadsden, AL 35901. Bidders may receive digital documents from the Architect at no cost.

A prebid conference shall be held on Monday, July 13, 2026 at 11am CST at the architect's office.

All bidders bidding in amounts exceeding that established by the State Licensing Board for General Contractors must be licensed under the provisions of Title 34, Chapter 8, Code of Alabama, 1975, and must show evidence of license before bidding or bid will not be received or considered by the Architect; the bidder shall show such evidence by clearly displaying his or her current license number on the outside of the sealed envelope in which the proposal is delivered. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive technical errors if, in the Owner's judgement, the best interests of the Owner will thereby be promoted.

Etowah County Board of Education (Awarding Authority)

B. Craig Lipscomb, Architect,
256-390-5657,
craig@bclarch.com

June 26, July 3, and 10, 2026

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals, in duplicate, from Qualified General Contractors will be received by The Etowah County Board of Education at the board office 401 Broad Street, Gadsden, AL 35901 until 10:00am CST, Tuesday, July 23, 2026 for Bi-directional Amplifiers at West End Elementary, Hokes Bluff High School and Highland Elementary; at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read. A cashier's check or bid bond payable to Etowah County Board of Education in an amount not less than five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, but in no event more than \$10,000,

must accompany the bidder's proposal. Performance and Payment Bonds and evidence of insurance required in the bid documents will be required at the signing of the Contract. Bid Documents may be examined at the office of B. Craig Lipscomb, Architect, 436 Chestnut Street, Gadsden, AL 35901. Bidders may receive digital documents from the Architect at no cost.

A prebid conference shall be held on Thursday, July 16, 2026 at 10am CST at the architect's office. All bidders bidding in amounts exceeding that established by the State Licensing Board for General Contractors must be licensed under the provisions of Title 34, Chapter 8, Code of Alabama, 1975, and must show evidence of license before bidding or bid will not be received or considered by the Architect; the bidder shall show such evidence by clearly displaying his or her current license number on the outside of the sealed envelope in which the proposal is delivered. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive technical errors if, in the Owner's judgement, the best interests of the Owner will thereby be promoted.

Etowah County Board of Education (Awarding Authority)

B. Craig Lipscomb, BArchitect,
Phone: 256-390-5657
Email: craig@bclarch.com

July 3, 10, and 17, 2026

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

PROJECT: Attalla City Park and Attalla Sports Complex Recreational Improvements

Project No. M-052
FY 2024 LWCF Grant #: 24-LW-1095

OWNER: The City of Attalla, Alabama

Separate sealed bids for the construction of the Attalla City Park and Attalla Sports Complex Recreational Improvements will be received by The City of Attalla at the City Hall of Attalla at 612 4th Street NW, Attalla, AL, 35954 until 10:00 A.M. CDST on Thursday July 30, 2026 in the Council Chambers and then at said place publicly opened and read aloud. The project will consist of excavation and grading, pouring concrete, constructing tennis and pickleball courts and installing lighting for the courts.

The Contract Documents may be examined at the Attalla City Hall or copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained from The City of Attalla Engineering Department. Upon request, documents will be shipped after all shipping and handling charges are collected.

The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any or all bids, and to award the contract to the best and most responsible bidder. All bidders must comply with requirements of the Contractor's Licensing Law of the State of Alabama and be certified for the type of work on which the proposal is submitted. Each bidder must deposit with his bid, security in the amount, form and subject to the conditions provided in the Instruction to Bidders.

All Bidders bidding in amounts exceeding that established by the State Licensing Board for General Contractors must be licensed under the provisions of Title 34, Chapter 8, Code of Alabama, 1975, and must show evidence of license before bidding or bid will not be received or considered by the Engineer; the Bidder shall show such evidence by clearly displaying the license number on the outside of the envelope in which the Proposal is delivered.

Buy America Preference: The Grantee must comply with the requirements of the Build America, Buy America (BABA) Act, 41 USC 8301 note, and all applicable rules and notices, as may be amended, if applicable to the Grantee's infrastructure project. Pursuant to HUD's Notice, "Public Interest

Phased Implementation Waiver for FY 2022 and 2023 of Build America, Buy America Provisions as Applied to Recipients of HUD Federal Financial Assistance" (88 FR 17001), any funds obligated by HUD on or after the applicable listed effective dates, are subject to BABA requirements, unless excepted by a waiver.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 60 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

THE CITY OF ATTALLA
BY:
Larry Means, Mayor

July 3, 10, 17, and 24, 2026

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals will be received by Gadsden State Community College at 312 College Drive, Gadsden AL until 2PM CST, Thursday August 13, 2026, for Digital Signs For Athletics for Gadsden State Community College at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read. A cashier's check or bid bond payable to Gadsden State Community College in an amount not less than five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, but in no event more than \$10,000.00, must accompany the bidder's proposal. Performance and Payment Bonds and evidence of insurance required in the bid documents will be required at the signing of the Contract.

Drawings and specifications may be examined at the office of The EE Group, Inc., 108 Broad Street., Gadsden, Alabama 35901; Phone (256) 413-7717, 256-312-4307.

Printed Bid Documents may be obtained from the Engineer upon deposit of \$200.00 per set, which will be refunded in full on the first 2 sets issued to each general contract bidder submitting a bona fide bid, upon return of documents in good condition within ten days of bid date. Other sets for general contractors, and sets for subcontractors and dealers, may be obtained with the same deposit, which will be refunded as above, less cost of printing, reproduction, handling, and distribution. Electronic Copies may be obtained by email Casey@ee-grpinc.com

There will be a Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting for this project on Thursday, July 23, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at the project site.

Bids must be submitted on proposal forms furnished by the Engineer or copies thereof. All bidders bidding in amounts exceeding that established by the State Licensing Board for General Contractors must be licensed under the provisions of Title 34, Chapter 8, Code of Alabama, 1975, and must show evidence of license before bidding or bid will not be received or considered by the Engineer; the bidder shall show such evidence by clearly displaying his or her current license number on the outside of the sealed envelope in which the proposal is delivered. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive technical errors if, in the Owner's judgment, the best interests of the Owner will thereby be promoted.

Non-resident bidders must accompany any written bid documents with a written opinion of an attorney at law licensed to practice law in such non-resident bidder's state of domicile, as to the preferences, if any or none, granted by the law of that state to its own business entities whose principal places of business are in that state in the letting of any or all public contracts.

Notice of Sales & Use Tax Exemption: Materials incorporated into the Work are exempt from sales and use tax pursuant to Alabama Act No. 2013-205 (effective October 1, 2013). The Contractor and its subcontractors shall be responsible for complying with rules and regulations of the Sales, Use, and Business Tax Division of the Alabama Department of Revenue regarding certificates and other qualifications

necessary to claim such exemption when making qualifying purchases from vendors. The Owner shall not consider claims for additional costs resultant of the contractor's, or its subcontractors', failure to comply with such rules and regulations.

Gadsden State Community College (Awarding Authority)
EE Group, Inc. (Engineer)

July 10, 17, and 24, 2026

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. NH-HSIP-0001(656) ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

Sealed bids will be received by the Director of Transportation at the office of the Alabama Department of Transportation, Montgomery, Alabama until 10:00 AM on July 31, 2026 and at that time publicly opened for constructing the Safety Widening, Micro-Milling, Resurfacing, and Traffic Stripe on SR-1 (US-431) from the Calhoun County Line to the intersection of Banks Street in Gadsden. Length 5.000 mi.

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

A Bidding Proposal may be purchased for \$5.00. Plans may be purchased for \$6.00 per set. Plans and Proposals are available at the Alabama Department of Transportation, 1409 Coliseum Boulevard, Room E-108, Montgomery, AL 36110. Checks should be made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation. Plans and Proposals will be mailed only upon receipt of remittance. No refunds will be made.

Minimum wage rates for this project have been pre-determined by the Secretary of Labor and are set forth in the advertised specifications. This project is subject to the contract work hours and Safety Standards Act and its implementing regulations. Cashier's check or bid bond for 5% of bid (maximum - \$50,000.00) made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation must accompany each bid as evidence of good faith. The bracket range is shown only to provide general financial information to contractors and bonding companies concerning the project's complexity and size. This Bracket should not be used in preparing a bid, nor will this bracket have any bearing on the decision to award this contract.

The Bracket Estimate On This Project Is From \$849,317 To \$1,038,055

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

The proposed work shall be performed in conformity with the rules and regulations for carrying out the Federal Highway Act. Plans and Specifications are on file in Room E-108 of the Alabama Department of Transportation at Montgomery, Alabama 36110. In accordance with the rules and regulations of the Alabama Department of Transportation, proposals will be issued only to prequalified contractors or their authorized representatives, upon requests that are received before 10 AM., on the day previous to the day of opening of bids.

The bidder's proposal must be submitted on the complete original proposal furnished him or her by the Alabama Department of Transportation. The Alabama Department of Transportation, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000D-4 and Title 49 code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of The Secretary, Part 21, nondiscrimination in federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation

and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award.

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

July 10, 17, and 24, 2026

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. PR-I059(465) DEKALB AND ETOWAH COUNTIES, ALABAMA

Sealed bids will be received by the Director of Transportation at the office of the Alabama Department of Transportation, Montgomery, Alabama until 10:00 AM on July 31, 2026 and at that time publicly opened for constructing the Roadway Safety Improvements (Pipe Rehabilitation and Drainage Structure Corrections) on I-59 from 0.950 mile north of the SR-1 (US-431) Interchange (Exit 183) to 0.400 mile south of the SR-117 Interchange (Exit 231).

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

A Bidding Proposal may be purchased for \$5.00. Plans may be purchased for \$6.00 per set. Plans and Proposals are available at the Alabama Department of Transportation, 1409 Coliseum Boulevard, Room E-108, Montgomery, AL 36110. Checks should be made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation. Plans and Proposals will be mailed only upon receipt of remittance. No refunds will be made.

Minimum wage rates for this project have been pre-determined by the Secretary of Labor and are set forth in the advertised specifications. This project is subject to the contract work hours and Safety Standards Act and its implementing regulations. Cashier's check or bid bond for 5% of bid (maximum - \$50,000.00) made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation must accompany each bid as evidence of good faith. The bracket range is shown only to provide general financial information to contractors and bonding companies concerning the project's complexity and size. This Bracket should not be used in preparing a bid, nor will this bracket have any bearing on the decision to award this contract.

The Bracket Estimate On This Project Is From \$849,317 To \$1,038,055

The proposed work shall be performed in conformity with the rules and regulations for carrying out the Federal Highway Act. Plans and Specifications are on file in Room E-108 of the Alabama Department of Transportation at Montgomery, Alabama 36110. In accordance with the rules and regulations of the Alabama Department of Transportation, proposals will be issued only to prequalified contractors or their authorized representatives, upon requests that are received before 10 AM., on the day previous to the day of opening of bids.

The bidder's proposal must be submitted on the complete original proposal furnished him or her by the Alabama Department of Transportation. The Alabama Department of Transportation, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000D-4 and Title 49 code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of The Secretary, Part 21, nondiscrimination in federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation

religion, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award.

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

July 10, 17, and 24, 2026

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. STP-SU-CRGO-2815(256) ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

Sealed bids will be received by the Director of Transportation at the office of the Alabama Department of Transportation, Montgomery, Alabama until 10:00 AM on July 31, 2026 and at that time publicly opened for constructing the Roadway Improvements (Partial Realignment) and Resurfacing (Widening, Planing, Resurfacing, Grading, Drainage, Pavement, Sidewalk Installation, and Traffic Stripe) on South 11th Street from a point near the Black Creek Bridge to the intersection of Randall Street in Gadsden. Length 0.358 mi.

The total amount of uncompleted work under contract to a contractor must not exceed the amount of his or her qualification certificate. The Entire Project Shall Be Completed In One Hundred Forty (140) Working Days.

A Bidding Proposal may be purchased for \$5.00. Plans may be purchased for \$23.00 per set. Plans and Proposals are available at the Alabama Department of Transportation, 1409 Coliseum Boulevard, Room E-108, Montgomery, AL 36110. Checks should be made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation. Plans and Proposals will be mailed only upon receipt of remittance. No refunds will be made.

Minimum wage rates for this project have been pre-determined by the Secretary of Labor and are set forth in the advertised specifications. This project is subject to the contract work hours and Safety Standards Act and its implementing regulations. Cashier's check or bid bond for 5% of bid (maximum - \$50,000.00) made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation must accompany each bid as evidence of good faith. The bracket range is shown only to provide general financial information to contractors and bonding companies concerning the project's complexity and size. This Bracket should not be used in preparing a bid, nor will this bracket have any bearing on the decision to award this contract.

The Bracket Estimate On This Project Is From \$1,995,102 To \$2,438,458

The proposed work shall be performed in conformity with the rules and regulations for carrying out the Federal Highway Act. Plans and Specifications are on file in Room E-108 of the Alabama Department of Transportation at Montgomery, Alabama 36110. In accordance with the rules and regulations of the Alabama Department of Transportation, proposals will be issued only to prequalified contractors or their authorized representatives, upon requests that are received before 10 AM., on the day previous to the day of opening of bids.

The bidder's proposal must be submitted on the complete original proposal furnished him or her by the Alabama Department of Transportation. The Alabama Department of Transportation, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000D-4 and Title 49 code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of The Secretary, Part 21, nondiscrimination in federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation

and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award.

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

July 10, 17, and 24, 2026

LEGAL NOTICE

The following storage units will be auctioned off on July 13, 2026, beginning at 10:00 A.M. on the premises of Dixie Mini Storage Auction, located at 429 4TH ST SW, Attalla, AL 35954

Mary Garmany #24

Kenya Sigh #37C

Taylor Medley #45

Ariel Wyatt #58 & #480

Wendy Burke #107

Latasha Word #176, #376, & #387

Regena Harris #295

Kristin Love #359

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

July 3 and July 10, 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 07/31/2026 at 9:00 am.

2006 BMW 3 Series
VIN:
WBABV17566NK32943

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

July 3 and 10, 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 2015 Chevy Trax vin# KL7CJKB7F8111224 The public auction will be held at Matt's Towing 927 B 5th Ave NE Attalla AL 35954 at 10:00am 8/21/2026

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.

July 10 and 17, 2026

LEGAL ZONING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on July 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 HC, Highway Commercial. (Property address being The Front Road Portion of 1651 Highway 411). 7.2 Acres

TRACT 1 PROPERTY DESCRIPTION
A PART OF SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE 6 EAST, ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4, OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4, OF SAID SECTION 35, THEN N89°35'41"E A DISTANCE OF 742.05 FEET TO A 5/8" REBAR, THEN N00°41'43"W A DISTANCE OF 521.73 FEET TO A 5/8" REBAR WITH YELLOW CAP STAMPED CDG, THEN N00°56'06"W A DISTANCE OF 201.50 FEET TO AN IRON SET (THIS IRON AND ALL OTHER IRONS REFERRED TO AS "SET" ARE 1/2" REBAR WITH A RED PLASTIC CAP STAMPED ALLEN CA-1005-LS), THE POINT OF BEGINNING. THEN FROM THE POINT OF BEGINNING N00°56'06"W A DISTANCE OF 141.21 FEET TO AN IRON SET ON THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF U.S. HIGHWAY 411.

THEN ALONG THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SAID U.S. HIGHWAY 411 N58°14'21"E A DISTANCE OF 496.66 FEET TO A 6" X 6" CONCRETE MONUMENT. THEN CONTINUE ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT HAVING A RADIUS OF 1814.86 FEET, AN ARC LENGTH OF 435.54 FEET AND A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF N65°04'18"E 434.50 FEET TO A BUSTED 6" X 6" CONCRETE MONUMENT. THEN CONTINUE ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT HAVING A RADIUS OF 1814.86 FEET, AN ARC LENGTH OF 27.46 FEET AND A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF N72°25'38"E 27.46 FEET TO AN IRON SET ON THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF AN ALLEY. THEN LEAVING THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SAID HIGHWAY 411 AND ALONG THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF AN ALLEY N89°55'28"E A DISTANCE OF 86.89 FEET TO AN IRON SET AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 1 OF BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK I, PAGE 92, PROBATE OFFICE ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA. THE ALONG THE WEST BOUNDARY OF SAID BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION S00°28'02"E A DISTANCE OF 213.72 FEET TO A 1/2" STEEL ROD. THEN CONTINUE ALONG SAID WEST BOUNDARY OF BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION S89°04'37"E A DISTANCE OF 39.54 FEET TO AN IRON SET. THEN CONTINUE ALONG SAID WEST BOUNDARY OF BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION S00°44'46"E A DISTANCE OF 100.00 FEET TO A 3/8" BENT REBAR. THEN CONTINUE ALONG SAID WEST BOUNDARY OF BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION S00°55'51"E A DISTANCE OF 35.70

FEET TO AN IRON SET. THEN LEAVING SAID WEST BOUNDARY OF BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION S89°39'11"W A DISTANCE OF 462.15 FEET TO AN IRON SET. THEN CONTINUE S89°39'11"W A DISTANCE OF 50.00 FEET TO A POINT ON THE WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY OF A FUTURE PROPOSED ROAD. THEN ALONG SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY S00°20'49"W A DISTANCE OF 250.00 FEET TO AN IRON SET. THEN LEAVING SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY N89°39'11"W A DISTANCE OF 456.03 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING AND CONTAINING 6.23 ACRES MORE OR LESS. ACCORDING TO A SURVEY PREPARED BY ALLEN LAND SURVEYING DATED 10-17-2025, PROJECT NUMBER 25-116. TRACT 2 PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: A PART OF SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE 6 EAST, ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4, OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4, OF SAID SECTION 35, THEN N89°35'41"E A DISTANCE OF 742.05 FEET TO A 5/8" REBAR WITH YELLOW CAP STAMPED CDG. THEN N00°56'06"W A DISTANCE OF 342.72 FEET TO AN IRON SET (THIS IRON AND ALL OTHER IRONS REFERRED TO AS "SET" ARE 1/2" REBAR WITH A RED PLASTIC CAP STAMPED ALLEN CA-1005-LS) ON THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF U.S. HIGHWAY 411. THEN LEAVING SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY N00°56'06"W A DISTANCE OF 227.39 FEET TO AN IRON SET ON THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SAID U.S. HIGHWAY 411. THE POINT OF BEGINNING. THEN FROM THE POINT OF BEGINNING, LEAVING SAID NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY N00°56'06"W

A DISTANCE OF 146.99 FEET TO AN IRON SET. THEN N00°56'06"W A DISTANCE OF 56.76 FEET TO AN IRON SET. THEN N89°19'57"E A DISTANCE OF 322.09 FEET TO AN IRON SET ON THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SAID U.S. HIGHWAY 411. THEN ALONG SAID NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY S30°12'25"E A DISTANCE OF 8.50 FEET TO A 6" X 6" BUSTED CONCRETE MONUMENT. THEN CONTINUE ALONG SAID NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY N58°13'07"W A DISTANCE OF 379.99 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING AND CONTAINING 0.79 ACRES MORE OR LESS. ACCORDING TO A SURVEY PREPARED BY ALLEN LAND SURVEYING DATED 10-17-2025, PROJECT NUMBER 25-116.

Final/Preliminary Plat for a proposed Subdivision on property described below: (Property address being the back portion of 1651 Highway 411). Coosa Trail Subdivision. 18.98 Acres.

A PART OF SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE 6 EAST, ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4, OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4, OF SAID SECTION 35, THEN N89°35'41"E A DISTANCE OF 742.05 FEET TO A 5/8" REBAR WITH YELLOW CAP STAMPED CDG. THEN N00°56'06"W A DISTANCE OF 342.72 FEET TO AN IRON SET (THIS IRON AND ALL OTHER IRONS REFERRED TO AS "SET" ARE 1/2" REBAR WITH A RED PLASTIC CAP STAMPED ALLEN CA-1005-LS) ON THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF U.S. HIGHWAY 411. THEN ALONG THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SAID U.S. HIGHWAY 411 N58°14'21"E A

DISTANCE OF 496.66 FEET TO A 6" X 6" CONCRETE MONUMENT. THEN CONTINUE ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT HAVING A RADIUS OF 1814.86 FEET, AN ARC LENGTH OF 435.54 FEET AND A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF N65°04'18"E 434.50 FEET TO A BUSTED 6" X 6" CONCRETE MONUMENT. THEN CONTINUE ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT HAVING A RADIUS OF 1814.86 FEET, AN ARC LENGTH OF 27.46 FEET AND A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF N72°25'38"E 27.46 FEET TO AN IRON SET ON THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF AN ALLEY. THEN LEAVING THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SAID HIGHWAY 411 AND ALONG THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF AN ALLEY N89°55'28"E A DISTANCE OF 86.89 FEET TO AN IRON SET AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 1 OF BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK I, PAGE 92, PROBATE OFFICE ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA. THE ALONG THE WEST BOUNDARY OF SAID BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION S00°28'02"E A DISTANCE OF 213.72 FEET TO A 1/2" STEEL ROD. THEN CONTINUE ALONG SAID WEST BOUNDARY OF BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION S89°04'37"E A DISTANCE OF 39.54 FEET TO AN IRON SET. THEN CONTINUE ALONG SAID WEST BOUNDARY OF BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION S00°44'46"E A DISTANCE OF 100.00 FEET TO A 3/8" BENT REBAR. THEN CONTINUE ALONG SAID WEST BOUNDARY OF BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION S00°55'51"E A DISTANCE OF 35.70

FEET TO AN IRON SET. THEN LEAVING SAID WEST BOUNDARY OF BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION S89°39'11"W A DISTANCE OF 462.15 FEET TO AN IRON SET. THEN CONTINUE S89°39'11"W A DISTANCE OF 50.00 FEET TO A POINT ON THE WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY OF A FUTURE PROPOSED ROAD. THEN ALONG SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY S00°20'49"W A DISTANCE OF 250.00 FEET TO AN IRON SET. THEN LEAVING SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY N89°39'11"W A DISTANCE OF 456.03 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING AND CONTAINING 6.23 ACRES MORE OR LESS. ACCORDING TO A SURVEY PREPARED BY ALLEN LAND SURVEYING DATED 10-17-2025, PROJECT NUMBER 25-116. TRACT 2 PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: A PART OF SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE 6 EAST, ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4, OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4, OF SAID SECTION 35, THEN N89°35'41"E A DISTANCE OF 742.05 FEET TO A 5/8" REBAR WITH YELLOW CAP STAMPED CDG. THEN N00°56'06"W A DISTANCE OF 342.72 FEET TO AN IRON SET (THIS IRON AND ALL OTHER IRONS REFERRED TO AS "SET" ARE 1/2" REBAR WITH A RED PLASTIC CAP STAMPED ALLEN CA-1005-LS) ON THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF U.S. HIGHWAY 411. THEN LEAVING SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY N00°56'06"W A DISTANCE OF 227.39 FEET TO AN IRON SET ON THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SAID U.S. HIGHWAY 411. THE POINT OF BEGINNING. THEN FROM THE POINT OF BEGINNING, LEAVING SAID NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY N00°56'06"W

ULARLY DESCRIBED AS COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4, OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4, OF SAID SECTION 35, THEN N89°35'41"E A DISTANCE OF 742.05 FEET TO A 5/8" REBAR. THEN N00°41'43"W A DISTANCE OF 521.73 FEET TO A 5/8" REBAR WITH YELLOW CAP STAMPED CDG. THEN N00°56'06"W A DISTANCE OF 201.50 FEET TO AN IRON SET (THIS IRON AND ALL OTHER IRONS REFERRED TO AS "SET" ARE 1/2" REBAR WITH A RED PLASTIC CAP STAMPED ALLEN CA-1005-LS), THE POINT OF BEGINNING. THEN FROM THE POINT OF BEGINNING N00°56'06"W A DISTANCE OF 141.21 FEET TO AN IRON SET ON THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF U.S. HIGHWAY 411. THEN ALONG THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SAID U.S. HIGHWAY 411 N58°14'21"E A DISTANCE OF 496.66 FEET TO A 6" X 6" CONCRETE MONUMENT. THEN CONTINUE ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT HAVING A RADIUS OF 1814.86 FEET, AN ARC LENGTH OF 435.54 FEET AND A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF N65°04'18"E 434.50 FEET TO A BUSTED 6" X 6" CONCRETE MONUMENT. THEN CONTINUE ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT HAVING A RADIUS OF 1814.86 FEET, AN ARC LENGTH OF 27.46 FEET AND A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF N72°25'38"E 27.46 FEET TO AN IRON SET. THEN CONTINUE ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SAID HIGHWAY 411 AND ALONG THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF AN ALLEY N89°55'28"E A DISTANCE OF 86.89 FEET TO AN IRON SET AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 1 OF BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK I, PAGE 92, PROBATE OFFICE ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA. THE ALONG THE WEST BOUNDARY OF SAID BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION S00°28'02"E A DISTANCE OF 213.72 FEET TO A 1/2" STEEL ROD. THEN CONTINUE ALONG SAID WEST BOUNDARY OF BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION S89°04'37"E A DISTANCE OF 39.54 FEET TO AN IRON SET. THEN CONTINUE ALONG SAID WEST BOUNDARY OF BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION S00°44'46"E A DISTANCE OF 100.00 FEET TO A 3/8" BENT REBAR. THEN CONTINUE ALONG SAID WEST BOUNDARY OF BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION S00°55'51"E A DISTANCE OF 35.70

FEET TO AN IRON SET. THEN LEAVING SAID WEST BOUNDARY OF BROWNING PLACE SUBDIVISION S89°39'11"W A DISTANCE OF 462.15 FEET TO AN IRON SET. THEN CONTINUE S89°39'11"W A DISTANCE OF 50.00 FEET TO A POINT ON THE WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY OF A FUTURE PROPOSED ROAD. THEN ALONG SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY S00°20'49"W A DISTANCE OF 250.00 FEET TO AN IRON SET. THEN LEAVING SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY N89°39'11"W A DISTANCE OF 456.03 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING AND CONTAINING 6.23 ACRES MORE OR LESS. ACCORDING TO A SURVEY PREPARED BY ALLEN LAND SURVEYING DATED 10-17-2025, PROJECT NUMBER 25-116.

July 10, 2026

CLASSIFIEDS

SERVICES

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

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

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SunSetter. America's Number One Awning! Instant shade at the touch of a button. Transform your deck or patio into an outdoor oasis. Up to 10-year limited warranty. Call now and SAVE \$350 today! 1-877-930-3506

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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

AUTOMOTIVE

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!

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

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.

FOR SALE: 2016 Hyundai Santa Fe Sport

Well-maintained 2018 Hyundai Santa Fe Sport Ultimate with premium features and a comfortable ride. This SUV is clean, dependable, and ready for its next owner.

FEATURES:

- Leather interior
- Heated & ventilated front seats
- Heated rear seats
- Panoramic sunroof
- Power driver's and passenger seats
- BFGoodrich tires
- Loaded Ultimate trim package



Perfect for commuting, road trips, or everyday family use.

Price: **\$15,000** CASH ONLY

For more information or to schedule a time to see it, call or text

256-553-4105 Serious inquiries only.



YARD SALE COMING UP?



Don't miss out on shoppers!

Advertise your sale with us at a low price and get great local coverage.

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Contact us today to get started!

LOW PRICE GREAT RESULTS!

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\$5 Days

**FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
JULY 10 & 11**

LIMIT 1 TRANSACTION PER ITEM PER VALUCARD PER DAY.
DISCOUNT TAKEN AS A COUPON. CUSTOMER PAYS SALES TAX.



FOOD CITY

\$350 IN SAVINGS

SAVE \$5 ON PICK 5 MEAT



PICK 5
for \$14.99
2 DAY SALE

Pick 5 price **\$19.99**
with ValuCard

2 Day discount **\$ 5.00**

2 Day price **\$14.99**
with ValuCard

Mix or match any five specially marked meat items for \$14.99 after \$5 discount and your ValuCard.
Limit 2 per ValuCard

SAVE \$2.99 ON PICK 5 PRODUCE



PICK 5
for \$5.00
2 DAY SALE

Pick 5 price **\$7.99**
with ValuCard

2 Day discount **\$2.99**

2 Day price **\$5.00**
with ValuCard

Mix or match any five specially marked produce items for \$5.00 after \$2.99 discount and your ValuCard.
Limit 2 per ValuCard

COUPON EFFECTIVE JULY 10-JULY 11

INSTANT DIGITAL COUPON SAVINGS

LOAD TO YOUR VALUCARD AT FOODCITY.COM OR ON THE FOOD CITY MOBILE APP. CLIP ONCE AND USE UP TO 1X IN ONE TRANSACTION.



Chuck Roast
Certified Angus Beef
Per Lb.

ValuCard Price.....6.99
Digital Coupon.....-1.00

FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON **5.99**
With Card

*MUST PURCHASE MINIMUM ONE POUND



Selected Varieties
Swaggerty's Biscuits
16.3-19.2 Oz.

5.00

With Card

Buy 4 SAVE MORE



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

5.99
With Card

Must buy 4 in the same transaction. Lesser quantities are 1.49 each. Discount applied as a coupon. Limit 1 transaction (4 total items). Customer pays sales tax.



Selected Varieties
Octagon Tray
Each

5.00

With Card



Selected Varieties
In-Store Made Sushi
Each

5.00

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH



Selected Varieties, Jif Peanut Butter (29.5-40 Oz.) or Family Pack
Hostess Snack Cakes
20.25-22.22 Oz.

5.00

With Card

Buy 5 SAVE MORE



Selected Varieties
RC Cola
2 Liter Btl.

5/\$5

With Card

When you buy 5 in the same transaction. Lesser quantities are 2.99 each. Limit 1 transaction (5 total items). Discount applied as a coupon. Customer pays sales tax.

DIETITIAN'S PICK



Basket & Bushel
Idaho Potatoes
5 Lb.

2/\$5

With Card

DIETITIAN'S PICK

IN THE PRODUCE Dept.



shortcuts

Cut Fresh In-Store, Watermelon, Cantaloupe or Pineapple
Fruit Bowls
Each

5.00

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH



Selected Varieties
BodyArmor
16 Oz.

5/\$5

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH




Selected Varieties, Toasted Party Pack (12 Oz.), Family Size Club Snack Stacks (18.8 Oz.), Town House (20.7 Oz.), Multi Packs (12 Ct.) or
Cheez-It Crackers
17-21 Oz.

5.00

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH



Selected Varieties, Rice Krispies Treats (16 Ct.), Nutri-Grain Bars (16 Ct.), Special K Protein Bars (6 Ct.), Legit Pizza (16.7-18.8 Oz.) or
Wild Mike's Pizza
36.3-38.8 Oz.

5.00

With Card

DIETITIAN'S PICK



Selected Varieties, BelGioioso Fresh Mozzarella or
Cedar's Hommus
8 Oz.

2/\$5

With Card

LIMIT 6 EACH



Selected Varieties, Family Size Chex Mix, Garden of Eatin' or Bugles (9-15 Oz.) or
Drumstick or Oreo Novelties
4-5 Ct.

2/\$5

With Card

LIMIT 10



Frozen, Selected Varieties
Michelin's Entrees
4.5-9 Oz.

5/\$5

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH



Selected Varieties, Old El Paso Taco Dinner Kits (8.8-21.1 Oz.) or Frozen
Boston Market Entrees
13-16 Oz.

2/\$5

With Card

LIMIT 2 EACH



Selected Varieties, Pringles Snack Stacks (12 Ct.) or
POWERADE
8 Pk., 20 Oz. Btl.

5.00

With Card

LIMIT 8



Selected Varieties, Cornbread Mix or
Martha White Muffin Mix
6-7.6 Oz.

4/\$5

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH



Frozen, Selected Varieties, Eggo Family Size (24 Ct.), Eggo Protein Waffles (10 Ct.) or
Food Club Chicken
29-32 Oz.

5.00

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH



Food Club Granulated Sugar (4 Lb.), Vegetable or Canola Oil (40 Oz.) or White Chunk
Food Club Chicken Breast
12.5 Oz.

2/\$5

With Card

LIMIT 2 EACH



Selected Varieties, String Cheese (16 Ct.), Cheese Variety Tray (16 Oz.) or
Food Club Shredded Cheese
32 Oz.

5.00

With Card

LIMIT 8



Selected Varieties, Fried Apples or
Food Club Fruit
14.5-15.25 Oz.

4/\$5

With Card

LIMIT 6 EACH



Selected Varieties, Hunt's Snack Pack Gels or Pudding (4 Pk.), Duncan Hines or Dolly Parton Frosting (14-16 Oz.) Duncan Hines Brownie Mix (18-18.3 Oz.) or
Duncan Hines Cake Mix
15.25 Oz.

3/\$5

With Card

COUPON EFFECTIVE JULY 10-JULY 11

INSTANT DIGITAL COUPON SAVINGS

LOAD TO YOUR VALUCARD AT FOODCITY.COM OR ON THE FOOD CITY MOBILE APP. CLIP ONCE AND USE UP TO 1X IN ONE TRANSACTION.



Selected Varieties, Popcorners or
Doritos
6.5-10.75 Oz.

ValuCard Price.....3.49
Digital Coupon.....-0.50

FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON **2.99**
With Card

USE 5X

COUPON EFFECTIVE JULY 10-JULY 11

INSTANT DIGITAL COUPON SAVINGS

LOAD TO YOUR VALUCARD AT FOODCITY.COM OR ON THE FOOD CITY MOBILE APP. CLIP ONCE AND USE UP TO 5X IN ONE TRANSACTION.



Frozen, Selected Varieties
SeaPak Shrimp
8.2-20 Oz.

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

FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON **4.99**
With Card

USE 5X

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