

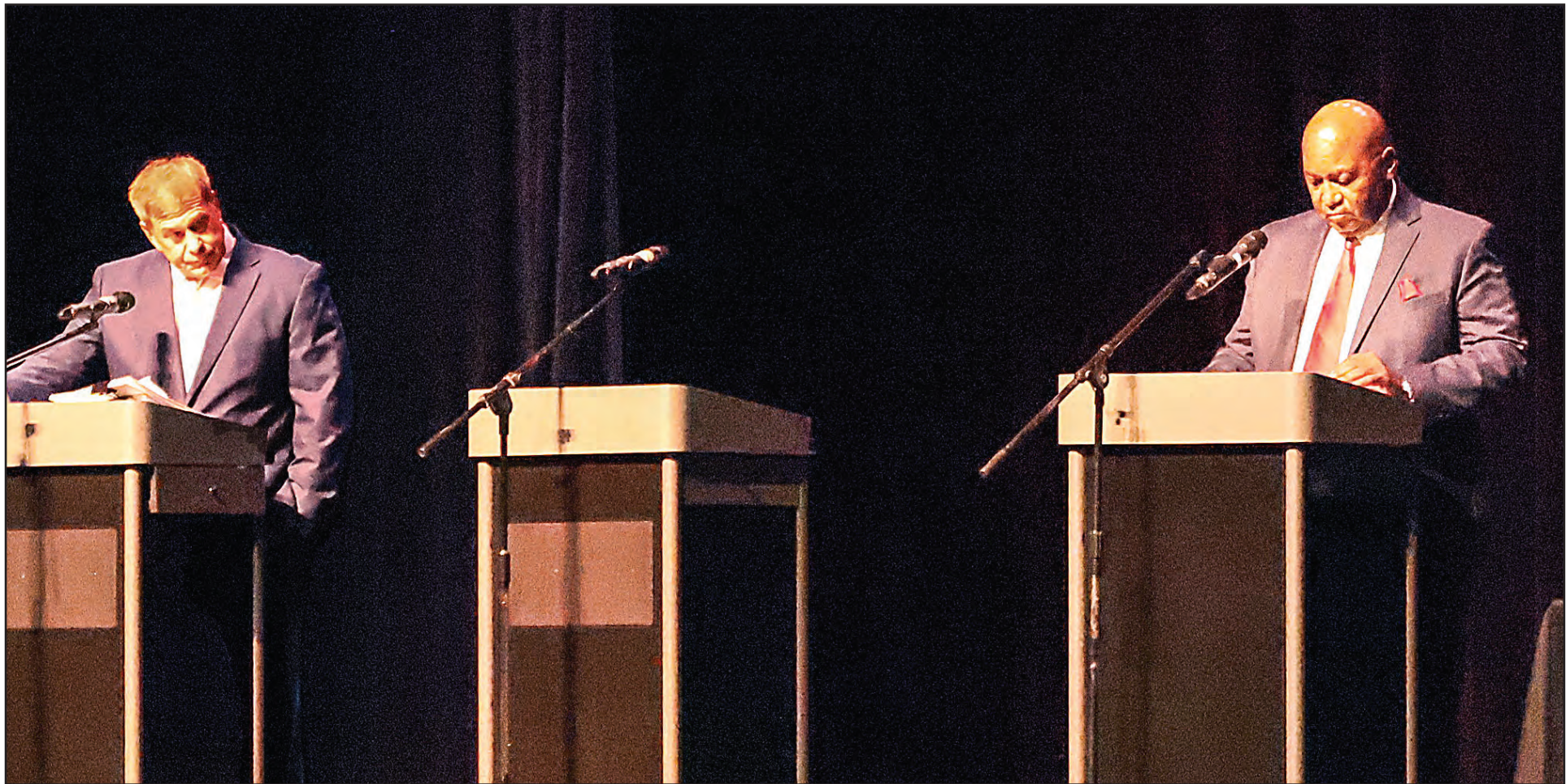
CITY OF GADSDEN

VOTE AUGUST 25

 Messenger

Volume 48, Issue 34August 21, 202650 cents

Gadsden mayoral candidates discuss economic development, city services at forum



By Lindsey Frazier
Features Editor

Candidates from several local races outlined their priorities to Gadsden residents on Sunday at a nonpartisan candidate forum sponsored by Gadsden's Divine Nine ahead of the Aug. 25 election.

The Divine Nine chose two moderators, Judge Nikki Tinker and former Gadsden City superintendent, Tony Reddick, to ask each candidate about their priorities and visions for the future of Gadsden.

The mayoral candidates and opposing candidates

from two districts, one and three, were given two minutes to answer their question, two minutes for a rebuttal and one additional minute for clarification or a follow-up response.

Mayoral Candidates
The moderators asked the candidates, Mayor Craig Ford and Thomas Worthy, ten questions covering topics from economic development to health care. While the candidates had different priorities for most of the topics, the one common ground was data centers.

Election - page A4

City of Gadsden breaks ground at GSCC for \$7 million tennis courts; foresees economic, athletic, community growth

By Caylie Moore
Reporter

On Thursday, Aug. 20, there was one city in the United States where its residents withstood temperatures of nearly 90 degrees to attend a groundbreaking ceremony for its brand new, \$7 million tennis courts—and that was the city of Gadsden, Alabama.

Heath Williamson, the Director of Engineering for the city, kicked off the ceremony by explaining how much playing a role in such a large-scale project meant to him.

"It's just a great honor to be a part of a project like this. You've seen us get to go through several projects like this, one after another, and from my seat, it's a whole lot of fun."

Williamson then gave his thanks to everyone involved in making the project possible, including the City of Gadsden engineering team, Chambless King Architects and Milam Construction.

"I truly work with a bunch of professionals," Williamson said, "and without them, this would be much harder."

After Williamson gave a brief invocation, in which he blessed the people at the ceremony and the project as it progresses, John Chambless, co-founder of Chambless King Architects, spoke and expressed gratitude to the city for his involvement in the design and development of the tennis courts.

"Today is much more than a groundbreaking on a new tennis center," Chambless said. "It is really part of a larger vision for Gadsden—investing in quality of life, recreation, health and places that bring people together."

Chambless also stated that the city is sending a clear message in doing this.

"Gadsden is moving forward and investing in the people who call Gadsden home," he said.

As he sees it, the tennis center will help build a stronger sense of community in the city, adding that it will not only be a place to play and compete—but also "a gathering place for young players, students, families and friends."

GSCC - page A2



INSIDE THIS EDITION

2026 Football Preview

Gadsden City
Hokes Bluff
Westbrook
Southside
West End
Glencoe
Etowah
Gaston
Sardis
Coosa



Coach interviews, schedules and more in the 2026 Football Preview.

See Page C1

INDEX

NEWS	- PAGES A2-A3
EDUCATION	- PAGE A4
GOVERNMENT	- PAGE A5
COMMUNITY CALENDAR	- PAGE A6
LIFESTYLE COLUMNS	- PAGE A7
DEVOTIONAL COLUMNS	- PAGE A8
SPORTS	- PAGE B1
LEGAL NOTICES	- PAGES B2-B6
CLASSIFIEDS	- PAGE B7



Little Caesars



NEWS

GSCC

- From A1

Additionally, Chambless noted the more practical benefits of the project, too.

“Tournament play will be enhanced by this new tennis facility and bring new visitors and expanded economic activity to Gadsden,” Chambless said.

Still, he explained that practicality was not the only factor in this decision.

“Years from now, the success of this facility will be measured not only in the matches played but by the friendships formed, children and students encouraged, families gathered, and memories created,” Chambless said. “The city, with the support and partnership of Gadsden State, is not simply building a tennis center; together, they are building community and helping build the next chapter of the new vision for Gadsden.”

Mike Milam, president of Milam & Co., the construction company building the courts, also had a few words to add.

“Thank you for the opportunity that we’re given to work in partnership. That’s what it’s about,” Milam said, echoing sentiments similar to Williamson’s and Chambless’s, before reading aloud a Bible verse that one of his mentors always carried with him. “How

good and pleasant is it when God’s people live together in unity!” he finished, a quote that was met with invigorated applause from the ceremony’s attendants.

Mark Salmon, Chief Facilities Officer of the Alabama Community College System, represented Chancellor Jimmy Baker, who could not attend the ceremony in-person.

“He is pleased to partner with you in making this tennis court a reality and a dream for this community,” stated Salmon.

After acknowledging Baker’s absence and personal thoughts, Salmon went on to tell an anecdote about his and his daughter’s own relationship with tennis, who he said “changed the world” with her love for tennis, and how that experience grounds his hope for the tennis center in Gadsden.

“This tennis facility—in the vision of Mayor Ford—is going to create wonderful memories for moms and dads as they bring their sons and daughters to this place and they develop a love for tennis.”

Once Salmon was done speaking, Gadsden State Community College’s very own president, Alan Smith, gave a few brief remarks as well.

“I celebrated one year of being the president on August 1st,” he began. “When I started, I simply had a mission that I wanted every college employee to

know—that our mission is to help people,” he continued, emphasizing that the goal was for Gadsden State to become “the most affordable, accessible, and achievable college anywhere in the United States of America.”

Through the construction of the tennis courts, he hopes that the college will inch a little closer to that goal.

“We want to be a college for the community, and I think today embodies that 100%,”

Smith said.

Smith also thanked Mark Salmon and Tim McCartney, a Board of Trustees member, for working alongside him throughout the planning and funding processes.

Finally, Mayor Craig Ford emphasized just how important his and the city’s relationship with Gadsden State by detailing his history with the college, stating that their connection is unique to them. As such, the tennis court project would have not come to fruition anywhere else.

“Don’t take these partnerships for granted,” Ford concluded, before dismissing the attendants from the formal part of the ceremony and proceeding to break ground on the actual construction site—together, with every party involved in the project, as a community.

Photos by Caylie Moore



Vehicle Title Problem? We have a Solution!

Unclaimed/Abandoned Vehicles, Mobile Homes & Surety Bonds

JSE:Alabama's Vehicle Title Recovery Service!

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

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



HANDS-FREE DRIVING IS THE LAW

ALABAMA'S
CODE OF THE ROAD

DriveSafeAlabama.org



Messenger

Owner/Publisher
Craig Ford
info@gadsdenmessenger.com

Reporter
Karla McArthur
kmcarthur@gadsdenmessenger.com

News Editor
Lindsey Frazier
lfrazier@gadsdenmessenger.com

Legals Editor
Teri Chupp
tchupp@gadsdenmessenger.com



SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

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

NEWS

Family Savings Credit Union Partners with Gadsden State’s Cardinal Foundation to Advance Student Financial Literacy

Gadsden State Community College and the Gadsden State Cardinal Foundation are proud to announce a new partnership with Family Savings Credit Union to strengthen financial literacy education for students across the College’s campuses.

As the College’s Primary Financial Literacy Partner, Family Savings Credit Union is committed to supporting programs that equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to make informed financial decisions during college and throughout their lives. The partnership reflects a shared commitment to student success by promoting financial responsibility, reducing barriers to completion, and preparing graduates for long-term financial well-being.

The initiative also supports the College’s commitment to meeting Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Standard 12.6, which emphasizes student debt education and financial literacy. Through the partnership, Gadsden State will expand opportunities for students to develop the knowledge and skills needed to make informed decisions about borrowing, debt management, budgeting, credit, and long-term financial planning.

“Student success extends well beyond the classroom,” said Tony Smith, president of the Cardinal Foundation. “By partnering with Family Savings Credit Union, we are providing our students with valuable financial education that will help them make wise decisions, reduce financial stress, and build a strong foundation for their futures.”

Family Savings Credit Union’s investment will support a variety of educational initiatives, including financial literacy workshops, one-on-one financial counseling opportunities, digital learning resources, campuswide awareness campaigns, and programs focused on post-college financial success. Topics will include loan repayment, budgeting, credit management, and long-term financial planning.

“Our goal is to ensure students graduate not only career-ready but financially prepared,” said Alan Smith, president of Gadsden State Community College. “Family Savings Credit Union shares our vision of empowering students through education, and we are grateful for their commitment to helping our students develop the confidence and knowledge necessary to achieve lifelong financial success.”

Danny Varnon, President and CEO of Family Savings Credit Union, said the partnership reflects the credit union’s longstanding commitment to serving the community through education.

“Financial literacy is one of the greatest gifts we

can provide because it creates opportunities that last a lifetime. By partnering with the Gadsden State Community College Cardinal Foundation, we’re investing not only in education, but in the confidence, knowledge, and financial well-being of students, faculty, and the entire community. Together, we’re helping build stronger financial futures for generations to come.”

The College will continue to monitor key financial wellness indicators, including student borrowing trends, loan repayment progress, and post-graduation financial outcomes. Through its partnership with Family Savings Credit Union, Gadsden State will strengthen these efforts by expanding financial literacy initiatives that support measurable student success and long-term financial well-being.

As the College’s exclusive financial literacy part-

ner, Family Savings Credit Union will have a visible presence throughout Gadsden State’s financial education programming, including workshops, seminars, educational resources, and student engagement events. The partnership also creates opportunities to build meaningful, long-term relationships with students as they prepare to enter the workforce and become financially independent members of the community.

This partnership represents a long-term investment in student achievement and reinforces the shared commitment of Gadsden State, the Cardinal Foundation, and Family Savings Credit Union to strengthen the communities they serve through education, financial literacy, and empowerment.

Through a \$20,000 annual leadership investment over the next 10 years, Family Savings Credit Union will

provide \$200,000 to establish a sustainable financial literacy initiative designed to benefit Gadsden State students for years to come.

For more information about the Gadsden State Cardinal Foundation and opportunities to support student success, visit www.cardinalfoundation.org.

Family Savings Credit Union is a not-for-profit financial cooperative proudly serving more than 79,000 members throughout North Alabama and Northwest Georgia for 75 years. Committed to helping members achieve financial success, the credit union offers a full range of financial products and services while remaining dedicated to the communities it serves. For more information, visit familysavingscu.com.



Stephen F. Blackstock, M.D.



George J. Douthit, Jr., M.D.



Christopher G. Kelley, M.D.



Michael K. Morris, D.O.



Connor R. Read, M.D.



Daniel O. Ryan, M.D.



northeastorthopedics.com

(256) 547-7417



Adam F. Shaw, M.D.



Dusty Smith, M.D.



Daniel R. Sparks, M.D.



Danny R. Sparks, M.D.



Dierick R. Sparks, M.D.



Glenn Lee Wilson, M.D.



Give the gift of entertainment

PREMIERE CINEMAS

REFRIGERATOR DOCTOR
Ice Maker Specialist
205-862-2384
Oscar Huey, R.D.
A/C & Refrigerator Repair | Senior Discount |
Nights & Weekends Same Price
Free service call with repair.

Nana's Attic
Consignment Shop
256-546-9281 • 429 Ewing Avenue North Gadsden, AL. 35901
Nana's Attic
Women's and Children's shoes, jewelry and clothing, including name brands. Also, a variety of household items and collectibles. For all your spring and summer needs!
Tuesday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

GOVERNMENT

Election

- From A1

Both ultimately stated they opposed data centers, with Ford explaining that the new ordinances set by the city would make it impossible for a data center to be located within Gadsde.

Industrial Recruitment

Tinker asked the candidates if they were planning to propose any new business initiatives, with 75 jobs or more, to the areas around the old Gadsden High building and the old steel plant.

Worthy said his focus would be on diversifying the workforce, moving beyond manufacturing into specialized areas such as health care and technology while creating more opportunities for entrepreneurs. Worthy suggested developing an economic incubator to support startup businesses rather than focusing solely on recruiting jobs to the area.

Ford said Gadsden needs more manufacturing jobs, pointing to the recently re-

cruited Minth as an example. He said the company has an average starting salary of \$23.60. Ford also said the city needs other types of jobs, including health care workers and lawyers. He discussed the city's partnership with Gadsden State and dual-enrollment opportunities for students.

Abandoned and Overgrown Properties

Reddick asked the candidates what role the mayor's office plays in holding property owners and the state accountable for abandoned and overgrown properties.

Ford said the city has demolished more abandoned houses than previous administrations. He said demolition is not the preferred method but can be necessary when abandoned properties negatively affect surrounding homeowners. Ford said the city's ultimate goal is to return the parcels to residents.

Ford also described the process the city follows to obtain abandoned properties and said the city can eventually acquire a new title and sell the property. He said the

city pays about \$4,000 for the title.

Worthy said that when he was previously in office, residents sometimes believed the city owned properties because the city demolished buildings and maintained the grass, while the state still owned the land. He said the state does not pay the city for maintaining those properties.

Worthy said that after the city accumulated more than 1,000 properties to maintain, it was able to establish a land bank. He said the properties could be sold to neighboring property owners for “maybe” \$500.

Mental Health, Homelessness and Substance Abuse

Tinker asked what the candidates have done or what they will do to support mental health services.

Worthy said he supported Christmas and Thanksgiving meals for residents in the Tuscaloosa Avenue area by using money from his discretionary fund. He suggested a developing a one-stop-shop

for residents struggling with mental health, homelessness or substance abuse. A place with access to food and job training.

Ford said the city has been working with pastors in the area to facilitate a one-stop-shop, as well as working with other non-profits in the area trying to fund all the organizations.

Ford attributed part of the state's mental health crisis to the closure of several mental hospitals under former Gov. Robert Bentley, which he said he opposed while serving as a state representative.

Ford said he works with Judge Scott Hassell on helping relocate homeless individuals and help them find employment and health care.

Both mayoral candidates said they would continue engaging with residents if elected, including through community meetings and future public forums. Voters will have the final say Aug. 25.

Key Points		
Issue	Craig Ford	Thomas Worthy
Jobs	Wants all types of jobs, including manufacturing	Wants a more diverse economy beyond manufacturing
Entrepreneurs	Emphasizes existing recruitment/workforce efforts	Proposed economic/business incubator
Education	Workforce partnership with Gadsden State	Greater city investment in Gadsden City Schools
Neighborhoods	City incentives and community partnerships	More resources directed toward underserved neighborhoods
Abandoned property	Demolition and cleanup	Land bank, affordable housing and property acquisition
Homelessness	Partnerships with service organizations	One-stop services and greater transparency
Data centers	Opposed	Opposed
Health care	Says Gadsden has quality access	Says access is important; focused on PFAS/water
Public engagement	Open-door policy/community meetings	Town halls/listening to residents

Congratulations!

— TO MY —
HONORARY
Pastor/Son

REV. RODERICK THOMAS

— WHO RECEIVED HIS —
B.S. DEGREE
FROM

**BIRMINGHAM
EASONIAN BIBLE COLLEGE**

*Love,
Susie Thomas
(S Frog)*



GADSDEN CITY VOTING LOCATIONS

Antioch Baptist Church Family Life Center ~ 2103 East Broad St.

East Gadsden Community Center ~ 921 Wilson Ave.

Thompson Community Center ~ 236 Goldenrod Ave.

Abundant Life Church (Gym) ~ 323 South 12th St.

Carver Community Center ~ 1030 Tuscaloosa Ave.

The Venue ~ 201 George Wallace Dr.

Meadowbrook Baptist Church (Family Life Center) - 2525 Rainbow Dr.

Downtown Civic Center ~ 623 Broad St.

The Tabernacle Church ~ 1301 South 11th St.

Senior Wellness Center ~ 2829 West Meighan Blvd.

Walnut Park Community Center ~ 3200 Walnut St.

Kiwanis Pavilion ~ 1500 Noccaculla Rd.

AUGUST 25TH



Tips from the field

“TempCheck is a great way to see how hotter weather can affect your energy use.”

BRADY K. | LINEMAN | SYLACAUGA



KNOW YOUR POWER

While we have frozen rates through 2027, your bill can still go up and down depending on usage and weather. Try our new **TempCheck** tool to see how the difference between the temperature outside and your thermostat setting can impact your cooling costs.



Explore all our energy-saving tips and tools at alabamapower.com/summer.

© 2026 Alabama Power

GOVERNMENT

In addition to the mayoral candidates, the audience heard from district one candidates, Tanya Latham and LaMont Kyle, and district three candidates Larry Avery Jr. and Denecia Getaw. Candidates not in attendance were; district 1 Brandon Hall and Russell Johnson, district 5 Linda Aaron and Jason Wilson, district 6 Dixie Minatra and Renay Stokes Reeves, district 7 Singn Horn and Chris Robinson.



Tanya Latham

Neighborhood revitalization: Supports strengthening neighborhood associations and helping them pursue grants for improvements.
Housing: Wants to address dilapidated housing and increase affordable housing options.
Economic development: Wants District 1 residents prepared to take advantage of new employment opportunities, including jobs connected to Minth.
Community partnerships: Supports public-private partnerships to address neighborhood needs.
Infrastructure: Identified roads, drainage and property maintenance as important concerns.
Experience: Four years of experience on the City Council; also cited her background in education and ministry.



LaMont Kyle

Neighborhood involvement: Proposed neighborhood advisory groups to identify and prioritize residents' top concerns.
Infrastructure: Identified roads, drainage and grass maintenance as priorities.
Housing: Wants to address dilapidated properties and improve housing conditions.
Neighborhood appearance: Believes improving the appearance of District 1 would help attract new residents and homeowners.
Community engagement: Emphasized working directly with residents to identify problems and solutions.
District 1 growth: Described the district as a gateway into Gadsden and said it has potential for additional development.



Larry Avery Jr.

Economic development: Supports public-private partnerships and pursuing grants to bring new revenue into the city.
Youth and seniors: Proposed directing some new revenue toward programs for young people and seniors.
Homelessness: Supports partnerships with organizations providing services to homeless residents.
Substance abuse: Supports community partnerships and rehabilitation programs.
Public safety: Supports working with residents and property owners to address abandoned properties and other problems contributing to crime.
Community involvement: Emphasizes staying connected to residents and using their concerns to guide council decisions.
Severe weather: Suggested Carver Community Center as a potential severe-weather shelter.



Denecia Getaw

Community investment: Supports private investment and grants while encouraging residents to participate in improving their neighborhoods.
Homelessness: Supports additional housing and services for homeless residents.
Mental health: Supports connecting residents with available mental-health resources.
Public safety: Supports increased police presence and addressing abandoned properties and squatters.
Transparency: Emphasizes accountability, honesty and transparency in city government.
District representation: Wants greater attention and investment across all areas of District 3.
Community engagement: Supports more frequent communication and meetings between residents and their council representative.
Severe weather: Supports using Carver Community Center and identifying additional shelter options for other parts of District 3.



RE-ELECT

Dixie MINATRA

City Council District 6

- Approved agreement with Minth automotive supplier to invest \$430 million at the former steel plant and create 1300+ jobs
- Voted for funding for the future Gadsden Athletic Complex located on West Meighan next to Boys & Girls Club in Alabama City
- Partnered with city building inspectors to identify and address abandoned and neglected houses, as well as homelessness - worked with street crime task force regarding illegal drug use.

VOTE TUESDAY AUGUST 25

Paid for by Dixie Minatra for City Council ~ P.O. Box 4402 ~ Alabama City, AL. 35904

Elect

DR. CYNTHIA W.TOLES

to the

GADSDEN CITY BOARD

DISTRICT 1

STRONG LEADERSHIP

GOVERNANCE

PROFESSIONAL

STUDENT SUCCESS

EXPERIENCE. INTEGRITY. COMMITMENT TO OUR FUTURE.

☒ PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT CYNTHIA TOLES

Vote Tuesday August 25, 2026

Your

CALENDAR

Community

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.

Aug. 22 Book signing by local author, P. W. Stephens - Where: Glencoe Public Library, 101 W. Main Street, Glencoe, AL. - When: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Aug. 23 Sip, Shop & Support - Where: Family Success Center/821 East Broad Street/ Gadsden, AL - When: 12 p.m.
Aug. 29 Dukes, Boots, And Swimsuits - Where: Etowah County Fair Grounds 31 Griffin Street Southeast, Attalla, AL. - When: 2 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Aug. 31 Mall Coin & Collectable Show - Where: Gadsden Mall 1001 Rainbow Drive, Gadsden, AL. - When: 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.

GADSDEN, AL REPTILE SHOW  JAN 3 MARCH 7-8 MAY 23 AUG 22 OCT 31 THE VENUE AT COOSA LANDING 201 GEORGE WALLACE DR, GADSDEN, AL 35903	
Sept. 1-6 Etowah County Fair - Where: Etowah County Fair Grounds, 31 Griffin Street SE, Attalla - When: 5 p.m.	Sept. 15 A Taste of Northeast Alabama - Where: The Venue at Coosa Landing 201 George Wallace Drive, Gadsden - When: 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Sept. 4 September First Friday - Where: Downtown Gadsden - When: 5 to 8 p.m.	Sept. 17 Advancing Women to the Top Conference - Where: 201 George Wallace Drive, Gadsden, - When: 9 to 3:30p.m.
Sept. 10 Them Dirty Roses at The Amp - Mort Glosser Amphitheater, 90 Walnut Street, Gadsden - When: 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.	Sept. 17 Little Black Dress Affair 2026 - Where: Gadsden Country Club 1884 Rainbow Drive, Gadsden - When: 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Sept. 11 Downtown Attalla Fall Open House - Where: Downtown Attalla 5th Ave NW & 4th St NW, Attalla - When: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Sept. 17 Gadsden Symphony Orchestra Concert - Where: 501 Broad St, Gadsden - When: 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Sept. 12 Pathos and Pigment Workshop - Where: The Coffee Bar, 532 Broad Street, Gadsden, AL. - When: 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.	Sept. 17 Black Jacket Symphony-Pink Floyd - Where: TMort Glosser Amphitheater, 90 Walnut Street, Gadsden - When: 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Sept. 13 Scary Stories and Snacks - Where: Rainbow City Recreation Ctr, 4412 Rainbow Drive, RBC - When: 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.	Sept. 18 Alabama Wine Festival - Where: Noccalula Falls Park 1500 Noccalula Road, Gadsden - When: 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.



Save the Date!

ETOWAH PREGNANCY TESTING CENTER'S

FALL BANQUET

September 19, 2026

6:00pm

THE CHURCH AT WILLS CREEK

Join us for a wonderful night of testimonies, great food, worship, and fellowship.
Please help us raise funds for our center to be able to continue serving families in our community.
NO TICKET PURCHASE NECESSARY
Our goal this year is \$50,000. Thank you for being a part of our mission!

LOVE DONATIONS APPRECIATED!

GIVE NOW



WANT TO BE A SPONSOR?

Call (256)442-6101

Email Sarahb.eptc@gmail.com

RVSP on our  page

LIFESTYLE

How your childhood shows up in your adult relationships

Have you ever found yourself reacting to something your partner did and wondered, “Why did that bother me so much?”

Sometimes the answer has less to do with what just happened and more to do with what happened a long time ago.

Our earliest relationships teach us what to expect from other people. As children, we learn whether the people we depend on are generally available and dependable. We learn how conflict is handled, whether emotions are safe to express and what happens when someone is angry or disappointed with us.

We carry some of those lessons into adulthood, often without realizing it.

If you grew up in a home where conflict involved yelling, criticism or days of silence, disagreement with your partner may feel threatening. You might avoid difficult conversations altogether or become extremely anxious when someone is upset with you.

On the other hand, if arguing was the primary way people communicated in your family, you may find yourself repeating that pattern because, although unpleasant, it feels

familiar.

Childhood experiences can also influence how we respond to closeness. Someone who experienced inconsistent attention may become particularly sensitive to signs of rejection. A partner taking longer than usual to respond to a text may trigger anxiety that seems out of proportion to the situation.

Others learn early that depending on people leads to disappointment. As adults, they may pride themselves on being fiercely independent. They may have difficulty asking for help, expressing vulnerability or trusting someone enough to rely on them.

Then there are the roles we learn to play within our families.

Maybe you were the peacemaker who tried to keep everyone happy. Perhaps you were the responsible child who learned to take care of everyone else. Maybe you discovered that being quiet and staying out of the way kept you from becoming a target of someone else’s anger.

Those roles can follow us into adult relationships.

The childhood peacemaker may become

an adult who struggles to say no. The responsible child may become the partner who carries the entire emotional load of a relationship. Someone who learned to stay quiet may struggle to express needs until resentment builds.

Understanding where these patterns come from isn’t about blaming our parents for everything that goes wrong in adulthood. Most parents are imperfect people raising children with the knowledge, resources and emotional skills they had at the time.

Understanding our history simply gives us information.

Once we recognize a pattern, we have the opportunity to decide whether we want to continue it.

When you notice yourself having a strong emotional reaction in a relationship, get curious. Ask yourself, “What am I afraid is going to happen?” or “Does this feeling remind me of anything I’ve experienced before?”

Sometimes the present situation really does require attention. Other times, an old alarm system is reacting to a new situation.

Our childhood experiences influence us,



Mindful Moment

Carrie Halladay

but they don’t have to determine the relationships we have as adults.

We can learn to communicate differently. We can set boundaries. We can tolerate healthy disagreement. We can learn that vulnerability doesn’t always lead to rejection and that someone else’s disappointment doesn’t mean we’ve done something wrong.

We can’t change where we came from.

But as adults, we get to decide which parts of it we carry forward.

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.



Arranging the Pieces

Tabitha Bozeman

I read an interesting article this week that claimed reading for pleasure has become a status symbol. A. Status. Symbol. (At this point, I was clutching my metaphorical pearls.)

I didn’t understand this at first because books are inexpensive, for the most part, and even free at a library. Most status symbols, historically and culturally, tend to be inaccessible, expensive things: luxury cars, designer clothing, tours of Europe. Things and experiences only a subsection of society can afford. Constantly striving to attain more status is a uniquely human trait.

Afterall, as Sartre said regarding this existential urge, “Man is not the sum of what he has already, but rather the sum of what he does not yet have, of what he could have.”

The reading-as-status article went on to explain that it is not so much the financial investment in books themselves that conveys status. Instead, it is what the writer described as the performative act of signalling to others that an individual who is reading has time and

attention at their disposal to do with as they please. Rather than showcasing financial capital, it showcases social and cultural capital. If someone has time and attention at their disposal, they have the luxury of freedom from the existential worries of daily survival. Not everyone who has time and attention to spare chooses to read. Some may choose other activities: building collections, traveling, oil painting, going to concerts, baking, and so on. Recently, though, reading has become a popular and prevalent status symbol.

This makes much more sense than I want it to. In a world where we are on a 24 hour news cycle, our workplace can contact us any time, everyone knows where everyone else is with tracking apps, and social media demands more and more time and attention to stay relevant, yes - having the time, attention, and energy to devote hours to a seemingly mindless and unprofitable activity like reading is a rarity.

I have always wanted reading to be something my children enjoy doing and look forward to, but I have begun to see it as something else as well. Setting aside intentional time to read—even for enjoyment—is now an important part of self-care and even preventative health care.

For example, reading reduces blood pressure and heart rate, improves sleep quality, and increases potential lifes-

pan. Reading for even just 6 minutes has proven benefits like relaxing muscle tension and lowering cortisol levels. Additionally, the workout our brains get from just reading the stories we enjoy protects and strengthens our neural pathways and protects us from dementia. I saw this in action when caring for my 92 year old grandmother a few years ago. She was reading daily, writing down words she did not know definitions for (or, that she no longer remembered), leaving books with little scraps of paper tucked in them as bookmarks all over the house. She had been diagnosed with dementia for nearly a decade before she passed away, and I believe that her ability to stay as mentally active as she was could in large part be attributed to voracious reading.

Multiple studies bear this out, showing that consistent reading for at least 6 minutes at a time can reduce stress by 68% and lower mortality by 20%. Of those who do not read regularly, 37.4% struggle with mental health challenges, compared to 11.8% of regular readers, and regular readers over the age of 50 live an average of nearly 2 years longer than non-readers.

If you’d like to start reading to experience these benefits, there are some specifics as to what you should read. Magazines, for example, are not as effective as a book, specifically fiction. Being absorbed by a story, known as “narra-

tive absorption,” shuts down the fight or flight response and stops cortisol release. For even more positive effects on your prefrontal cortex, improving social cognition and empathy, you should choose literary fiction. And, for the best nervous system regulation effects and to promote sleep-friendly winding-down, you should choose to read a physical, print book over a screen like Kindle in the evenings. Although benefits begin with as little as 6 minutes of reading, to get the most from reading, you should try to read for a minimum of thirty minutes a day.

Reading, or appearing to be a reader might be a current status symbol, but the positive effects of reading reach far beyond social or cultural capital. Once someone reads a book, it becomes part of them. It colors their perception of life, develops understanding, empathy, and cognitive flexibility; it can even help extend life. Reading does not require massive amounts of time or money, but it can definitely pay far-reaching dividends. Find a story you enjoy and start out with 6 minutes a day until you realize you want to keep reading to find out what happens. Who knows? You might end up like the readers Virginia Woolf describes who get to heaven and “the Almighty [says] ‘Look, these need no reward. We have nothing to give them here. They have loved reading.’”

When reading became a status symbol



radius recycling

Strength. Sustainability. Success.

CASH PAID FOR SCRAP METAL

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

CONTAINER SERVICE AVAILABLE
FULL SERVICE SCRAP METAL YARD

HIGHEST PRICES PAID

www.radiusrecycling.com
256-538-7891
1-800-289-2857
1007 9th Street SW | Attalla, Alabama



Become an ADULT FOSTER CARE Provider

“Love Never Ages”



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

1-800-458-7214
dhr.alabama.gov/AFC





RAINBOW MONUMENT COMPANY

Proudly Family Owned –

Now in its Next Generation.

256-442-6360
www.rainbowmonument.com





All American Building Sales



Rent to Own. No Credit Check.

Call Byron for details
256-442-1891

701 W. Grand Avenue | Rainbow City AL 35906



Coin Show

Presented by
The Gadsden-Rainbow City Coin Club

THE 63RD ANNUAL NORTHEAST ALABAMA FALL COIN SHOW

Friday & Saturday
AUGUST 21ST & 22ND

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

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

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

Find us on
CoinZip.com
The Ultimate Numismatic Destination

Follow us on
Facebook at:
Gadsden-Rainbow City Coin Club

★ Blaine Smith 256-405-3483
★ Harold Jennings 205-353-1328
★ Frank Thomas 256-440-3375

ANACS Coin Grading Service will be on site!

DEVOTIONALS

When worship costs you something

Most of us hear the word worship and immediately think about Sunday morning. We think about music, lifting our hands, clapping, singing, or praising God. But worship is much bigger than what happens during a song. Worship is not first revealed by what comes out of your mouth. Worship is revealed by what has first place in your heart.

The truth is, everybody worships something. We can bow to money, success, relationships, comfort, approval, politics, or even ourselves. So, the question isn't whether you worship. The question is: Who will you worship? Because whatever has first place in your life already has your worship.

Daniel 3 gives us one of Scripture's clearest pictures of genuine worship. King Nebuchadnezzar constructed a golden image and commanded everyone to bow before it. But Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused. Here's what makes this passage so challenging: Nebuchadnezzar didn't tell them to stop believing in their God. He simply demanded that they bow to something else too. And isn't that how compromise usually works?

The enemy doesn't necessarily care if you go to church—as long as Jesus isn't first. Keep praying, but keep control. Keep worshipping, but don't let obedience interfere with your comfort. Love Jesus, but don't let following Him cost you anything. The enemy doesn't always ask you to abandon God. Sometimes he simply asks you to move God over.

So, before we say God is first, we need to ask: Does our calendar agree? Does our spending agree? Do our relationships and

decisions agree? Because if God is first only when He agrees with what you want, God isn't really first.

When Nebuchadnezzar threatened the three Hebrew men with the fiery furnace, they answered: "The God we serve is able to deliver us... But even if he does not... we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold." Daniel 3:17-18

But even if He does not. Those words separate convenient Christianity from costly worship. It's easy to praise when the prayer gets answered, the door opens, the healing comes, the money arrives, or the situation turns around. But will you still worship when it doesn't? Will you still call God good when you're standing in front of the furnace you prayed He would remove?

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego decided God was worthy before they knew whether He would rescue them. Faith says God can. Worship says God is worthy even if He doesn't.

Their faithfulness didn't keep them out of the furnace. They were still thrown in. But something happened in the fire. The fire didn't burn the faithful. It burned what had the faithful bound. They entered the furnace tied up, but they walked around inside it free.

Maybe instead of only asking, "God, when are You getting me out of this?" we need to ask, "God, what are You trying to get out of me while I'm in this?" Maybe the fire is burning away pride. Maybe it's removing your dependence on people's approval. Maybe it's burning away fear, bitterness, or your need to control everything. What if the thing you're

begging God to take you out of is the very thing He's using to get something out of you?

Then Nebuchadnezzar looked into the furnace. He expected three men. He saw four. God didn't prevent them from entering the furnace. He met them inside of it. Sometimes God delivers us from trouble. Other times, God walks with us through trouble. Don't assume the furnace means God has abandoned you. You may discover Him in the fire in a way you never could have known Him outside of it.

And somebody is always watching. When the three men walked out, the same king who demanded they bow began praising their God. There are people who may never read your Bible, but they will read your response to hardship. Sometimes your strongest testimony isn't what you say after the trial. It's how you stand during it.

So, here's the challenge this week: Check the throne.

What gets the first of your time? What controls your decisions? Whose approval are you afraid to lose? What are you unwilling to surrender? And where have you been tempted to bow simply because standing became uncomfortable?

We don't usually lose our faith all at once. It happens one compromise at a time. One small bow. One quiet surrender. One rationalization.

Before you compromise, ask yourself: Does this honor the One I worship?

Then choose faithfulness. When it's uncomfortable, choose faithfulness. When it's unpopular, choose faithfulness. When every-



**ROOTED
IN THE
WORD**

Shawn Blackmon

body else bows, choose faithfulness. Because you never truly know what you worship until worship costs you something. Don't just sing about Him on Sunday. Stand for Him on Monday. And remember: you don't have to fear the furnace when you know Who will meet you there.

Let's Pray.

Father, search my heart and reveal anything competing with You for first place. Give me the courage to stand when everyone else bows. Give me faith that knows You are able and worship that declares that even if You don't answer the way I want, You are still worthy. If I must walk through the fire, burn away everything that has me bound and let my life become a testimony of Your faithfulness. 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.

Two flicks, a sonic boom and one Redeemer

I almost blew myself up the other day. Not on purpose, but literally.

A massive brush pile in our yard had been mocking me through my bedroom window for over a month. It wasn't on my to-do list, but when my weed-eater battery died before the allotted time for "full-time sweat production, with a side of yard work," I looked around and—BAM—there it was.

Assessing the situation, I determined I could safely burn a small section of the mound. I gathered a shovel, rake, and my trusty little orange Bic lighter. I even made a mental note that the leaf blower was ready just in case. (Since I had recently seen a local firefighter show off the leaf blower stored in his firetruck—telling preschoolers during library storytime how vital it is for containing fires.) I felt fully prepared. And very smart.

In full-disclosure, I have lit hundreds of brush fires safely. I have used brown leaves with little tee-pee stacked sticks. Other times, I have used lighter fluid or diesel fuel to start the blazes without issue. But these dry limbs wouldn't take to the lighter, and we were out of charcoal lighter fluid.

Thus came my brilliant idea to grab the "diesel" in the little red jug near the tractor. I liberally sprinkled the fuel over the brush for maximum coverage, then walked the fuel can a good distance from the pile, since

I know better than to light a fire near a fuel can. (The irony is about to get thick.)

Walking back to the pile, I took my little lighter out of my pocket and knelt down to give it a little flick.

For effect I need you to read these next sentences in slow motion. It took exactly two flicks of my Bic to get a flame. Then, came two seconds—which easily felt like minutes—for the fuel to combust.

I heard a slow hiss, immediately followed by a sonic boom.

I picked myself up 5 feet from the fire, threw my hat, and instinctively began feeling my face and arm for damage as I whispered—over and over — "Thank You, Jesus, thank You, Jesus." I could hear the sound of my hair singeing, and feel the sting of surface burns. Gratefully, they were only 1st degree. It is also worth mentioning that I was one spark away from a Three Stooges hairdo, but my AU hat proved to be remarkably flame-resistant! (War Eagle!)

It wasn't until my husband came home about 20 minutes after the ordeal that I understood what had happened. It seems that the "diesel" can was actually mixed gasoline. I learned a valuable lesson about combustion this week. How I missed that lesson in high school science is chalked up to "daydreaming," but it is now etched in my core mem-

ories.

As the smoke cleared—and the gratitude to God for saving me from what could have been set in—a deeper lesson took root in my heart. A lesson from Joseph in the Old Testament. It is the reminder that God often uses our close calls, mistakes, and sudden "flashes" of truth to teach us reverence, humility, and deeper reliance on Him. He also uses those lessons for what He is preparing us for.

A few weeks ago, one of our precious heart-children (kids the Lord has placed in our lives through foster-care or circumstance) was opening up about the heavy things she endured growing up. She was trying to make sense of her childhood when someone reminded her that God can—and will—use what she went through to bring glory to Himself.

When we look back at the heavy or painful seasons of our past, it is easy to wonder why we had to walk through them. But God never wastes a single sorrow or trial. Just like Joseph in Genesis, who went through betrayal and unfair suffering only to be positioned right where God needed him to save others, our hard experiences are often converted into our greatest capacity for ministry.

God doesn't cause our harm, but He is a master at redeeming it. He is our Redeemer. Genesis 50:20 reminds us that the trials meant to break or overwhelm us often be-



*Memoir
Musings*

Sandra Bost

come the exact tools God uses to help us comfort, guide, and speak life into someone else walking a similar path.

As the scripture says, "As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive... (ESV)." Feel free to insert whatever circumstance or struggle tried to harm you into that sentence—God turns even those moments around.

Take a moment to look back at a hard chapter in your life. Instead of viewing it only as a painful memory, ask God: "How can You use this part of my story to help someone else in a way that glorifies You?"

As for me, I have learned my lesson. I'm content leaving the big sparks and burning glory to the Lord—while my Bic lighter stays safely retired in the kitchen drawer, strictly on birthday candle duty.

Shine brightly!

RICK'S

Discount Drugs of Attalla

DRIVE THRU WINDOW

Open:

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

256-538-5850

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

OUTBACK TRAILERS.COM

Custom Built

116 Industrial Drive, Steele, AL 35987

256-438-8070

"The Lord is my Light and my Salvation;
whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of
my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"
- Psalm 27:1

**Giant
JOHNSON'S
Food**

HOME OWNED & OPERATED

THREE ETOWAH COUNTY LOCATIONS

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

OPEN

7

DAYS A WEEK

**NEW LOCATION
IN SOUTHSIDE
COMING SOON!**

FAMILYSAVINGS
credit union
WHERE YOUR MONEY GROWS WITH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

2 Locations to Serve You!

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

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

888-311-3728

www.familysavingscu.com

Federally Insured by NCUA

BLACKSTONE

PUB & EATERY

PIZZA KITCHEN

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

256-543-7473

Located at
525 Broad Street
Downtown Gadsden

blackstonepubandeatery.com

BEANS & GREENS

Southern Buffet Cooking

Open Wednesday - Saturday
10:30 AM - 8 PM

Open Sunday
10:30 AM - 3 PM

Closed Monday and Tuesday

256-492-3267

10294 Centre Rd. Gadsden, AL. 35903

SPORTS

Robertson’s 31 years at Hokes Bluff built on consistency, relationships

By Karla McArthur
Reporter

After more than four decades coaching at Hokes Bluff and 31 years leading the Eagles’ football program, Mike Robertson still finds his greatest satisfaction in the same place he always has — his relationships with players.

For Robertson, wins, championships and longevity tell only part of the story. “It’s still the relationship with the players,” Robertson said. “I work pretty hard on that side.”

Those relationships have taken on greater meaning as former players have grown into adults and returned to tell Robertson about the impact he had on their lives.

Robertson credits one of his mentors, former Hokes Bluff coach Danny Payne, with telling him years ago that the later stages of his coaching career would bring a different kind of reward.

“He said, ‘Kids are going to start coming up as adults and thanking you for helping them,’” Robertson said. “And that’s happening.”

Robertson’s connection to Hokes Bluff stretches back to his own playing days. His family moved to the community in 1971, a decision Robertson believes changed the direction of his life.

At Hokes Bluff, Payne put Robertson at quarterback and quickly recognized his understanding of the game.

“He told me in seventh

grade, including girls basketball and baseball, but football has provided his longest-lasting legacy. His tenure as Hokes Bluff’s head coach includes the Eagles’ 2001 state championship.

Still, Robertson said some of his most important lessons came during difficult seasons.

He learned not to allow losses to overwhelm him or victories to change his approach.

“I try not to let losses kill me,” Robertson said. “When we win, don’t over-celebrate. You’ve got to get over it. We lose, we’ve got to keep on going.”

Instead, Robertson has tried to build his program around consistency.

Practices are organized. Expectations are established. Players know what Robertson expects whether the Eagles are winning or struggling.

“I think a good teacher and coach has that consistency,” Robertson said. “Being consistent with the players — they know what we’re going to do.”

Robertson also believes coaching requires understanding that players’ lives away from football can be vastly different.

“Some kids need somebody to put their arm around them sometimes.”

That does not mean Robertson has softened his expectations.

He remains demanding about attendance, practice habits, academics and commitment. He tells players their priorities should begin



Submitted photo

From left to right; Alex Robertson Ball (daughter), Jake Ball, Champ, Mazely, Joc, Jax, Phyllis (wife), Kasie, Sammie Jo, Brad (son), Scottie Rae

ing here,” Robertson said. “Football should be fun, but it’s tough.”

Robertson also understands his age inevitably becomes part of the conversation. At 67, he knows people wonder how long he can continue coaching and whether he can still push players the way he once did.

He welcomes the challenge.

“As long as they want to play for me and my health is good, I don’t have any hobbies,” Robertson said.

Robertson’s longevity has also depended on support at home. He and his wife, Phyllis, have been married 40 years and have two children and six grandchildren. Their son Brad coaches alongside his dad, and daughter Alex is the counselor at Hokes Bluff Elementary.

Robertson credits Phyllis with providing the support necessary for a career that has demanded countless nights at practices, games and gyms.

“You love home,” he said. For Robertson, Hokes Bluff has never been simply a job. It is the community where he grew up, played, learned to coach, raised a family and ultimately built a career.

Through championships and losing seasons, changing generations and thousands of practices, Robertson said the approach that has sustained him remains relatively simple: Be consistent, care about the players and remember there is more to coaching than the scoreboard.

“You’ve got to have down years,” Robertson said. “But I think being consistent with the players — they know what we’re going to do.”

After 31 years as Hokes Bluff’s head football coach, they also know who will be leading them.



Submitted photo

grade, ‘You’re going to coach one day,’” Robertson said.

Robertson went on to play baseball at Gadsden State and Athens State before beginning his coaching career at Southside, where Randy Ross helped introduce him to the profession. Robertson later returned to Hokes Bluff as an assistant under Payne and passed on opportunities elsewhere because Hokes Bluff was where he wanted to be.

“I turned down a few head jobs,” Robertson said. “I just wanted to be a coach at Hokes Bluff.”

More than four decades later, he is still there.

Robertson has coached multiple sports during his

with family and faith, followed by academics before football enters the picture.

Robertson said he has watched high school athletics change dramatically during his career. Social media, cellphones, work obligations and other distractions compete for players’ attention in ways previous generations did not experience.

He understands the game — and the young people playing it — have changed.

His challenge has been adapting without abandoning the principles that have defined his program.

Football, he said, should still be enjoyable, even when it is demanding.

“They don’t hate com-

This Week in Sports

High School Sports

Football

August 21

Coosa Christian vs Pierce County High School at 7 p.m.

Gadsden City High School vs Oxford High School at 7 p.m.

Gaston High School at Spring Garden High School at 7 p.m.

Glencoe High School at Hayden High School at 7 p.m.

Sardis High School vs Haralson County High School (GA) at 7 p.m.

Southside High School vs. Chelsea High School at 7 p.m.

West End High School vs Cedar Bluff High School at 7 p.m.

Westbrook Christian vs Hokes Bluff High School at 7 p.m.

Girls Flag Football

August 25

Gadsden City High School at Leads/Anniston Tri Match at 5:30 p.m.

August 27

Gadsden City High School vs Talladega/Clay-Chalkville Tri Match at 4:30 p.m.

Volleyball

August 22

Tournament at Ashville High School – Teams playing are: Glencoe High School, Ashville High School and etc.

CoraStrong Tournament at Jacksonville High School – Teams playing Sardis High School and etc.

West End Varsity Invitational at West End High School at 8:30 a.m. – Teams playing are West End High School and etc.

Westbrook Christian at Geraldine High School – Geraldine Tournament

August 24th

Etowah High School vs Coosa Christian at 4:30 p.m.

Westbrook vs JCA at 4:30 p.m.

August 25

Westbrook Christian at Sardis Middle School at 4:00 p.m.

August 27th

Etowah High School vs Collinsville at 4:30 p.m.

Glencoe High School vs Cleburne County High School

West End High School vs Cleveland High School at 4:30 p.m.

Westbrook Christian School vs Sardis High School and Coosa Christian at 5:30 p.m.

Sardis High School at Cleburne County High School

Cross Country

August 22

Glencoe High School at Anniston the Wildcat Kickoff

College Sports

Volleyball

August 22

Gadsden State Community College vs Reid State at 11:00 a.m.

Gadsden State Community College vs Cleveland State at 3:00 p.m.

August 24

Gadsden State Community College at Chattanooga State at 6:30 p.m. ET

August 26

Gadsden State Community College vs Snead State at 5:00 p.m.

SUIT
A BETTER DIRECTION

WE’RE HIRING

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

JOIN US
256.305.5421
suittrans.com

LEGALS

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Tony David Battles and Veda Evelyn Battles, husband and wife and David Earl Battles, an unmarried man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee as nominee for Family Savings Credit Union, its successors and assigns, on July 23, 2025, said mortgage being recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, on July 29, 2025 at MORTGAGE Book 2025, at Page 3595491. Renasant Bank, 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 September 9, 2026, during the legal hours of sale, the following described real estate, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

To reach the point of beginning, commence at the point of intersection of the Northwest right of way of Highway #11 and the Northernly right of way line of the Old Crudup Road and run in a Southwesterly direction along the Northwest right of way of Highway #11 a distance of 373.7 feet to a point, said point being the point of beginning; and being the Southernmost corner of the property described in Deed Book 1437, Page 253, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama. From the point of beginning run Northwesterly and along the Southwesterly line of said "1437-253" tract and 211 feet to the Westernmost corner of said tract, thence Southwesterly along the line parallel with the North-western right of way of Highway #11 to a point in the centerline of a ditch, said point, also being in the Northeastery line of the Ray Woodard property, thence Southwesterly of centerline of said ditch and along the line of the Ray Woodard property to the Northwest line of Highway #11, thence Northeast-erly along the line of the Ray Woodard property to the Northwest line of Highway #11, thence North-easterly along the line of Highway #11 to the point of beginning, and embracing a portion of the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of Section Four (4) Township Eleven (11) South, Range Six (6) East and a portion of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of Section Nine (9) Town-ship Eleven (11) South, Range Six (6) of Hunts-ville Meridian, and lying and being in Etowah County, Alabama. More commonly known as: 1416 Valley Drive, Attalla, AL 35954

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

P.C. Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. reserves the right to award the bid to the next highest bidder should the highest bidder fail to timely tender the total amount due. If sale is voided, Mortgagee/Transferee shall return the bid amount to the successful purchaser and the Mortgagee/Transferee shall not be liable to the purchase for any damages. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the purchaser at the sale shall be only entitled to a return of the deposit and bid amount, if paid. The Mortgagee/Transferee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and indebtedness secured by the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation. Important Notice to Potential Bidders: Federal law administered by the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network ("FinCEN"), a bureau of the U.S. Department of the Treasury, requires certain residential real estate transactions to be reported to the federal government. If you are the winning bidder at auction, you may be required to provide identifying information about yourself and, if applicable, any entity or trust purchasing the property. This information is required by federal law and must be provided to complete the sale. Failure to provide required information after the sale may delay or prevent issuance of the foreclosure deed. Renasant Bank ("Transferee")

Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C.
3000 Riverchase Galleria, Suite 705
Birmingham, AL 35244
Phone: (801) 355-2886

August 7, 14, and 21, 2026

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having being made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage dated June 9, 2021 executed by Joshua Laughlin, an unmarried person, in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., solely as a nominee for Village Capital & Investment LLC, said Mortgage being recorded July 15, 2021, in Inst. # 3524242, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama; having later been assigned to Planet Home Lending, LLC by instrument recorded in Inst. # 3584076, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama. Said default continues and notice is hereby given that the undersigned, Planet Home Lending, LLC, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash or certified funds at the main entrance to the County Courthouse, Etowah County, Alabama on 10/14/2026, during the legal hours of sale, the following described real estate situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

Situated in the City of Gadsden, County of Etowah, State of Alabama:

Lot number sixteen (16); and a lot or parcel of land described as beginning at a point where the northeast line of lot number 17 intersects the southeast line thereof; thence in a northwesterly direction and along the northeast line of said lot a distance of 30 feet to a point; thence in a southwesterly direction and parallel with the southwest line of said lot a distance of 5 feet to a point; thence in a southwesterly direction and parallel with the southeast line of said lot a distance of 20 feet to a point in the southwest line of said lot number 17; thence in a southeasterly direction and along the southwest line of lot number 17 a

distance of 25 feet to the point of intersection of the southwest line of said lot number 17 with the southeast line thereof; thence in a northeasterly direction and along the southeast line of said lot a distance of 140 feet to the point of beginning, and embracing a portion of lot number 17, all in block number 44 in first addition Bellevue Highlands, as surveyed and platted by Totten and Woodruff, civil engineers, according to the map or plat thereof recorded in plat book "B" beginning at page 286, in the office of the judge of probate, and lying and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama.

TAX ID NO: 1009323000027.000 (PARCEL ID NO.) 19506 (PPIN)

For informational purposes only, the property address is: 209 Harts Ave., Gadsden, AL 35904. Any property address provided is not part of the legal description of the property sold herein and in the event of any discrepancy, the legal description referenced herein shall control. THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON AN "AS-IS, WHERE-IS" BASIS, SUBJECT TO ANY EASEMENTS, ENCUMBRANCES, AND EXCEPTIONS REFLECTED IN THE MORTGAGE AND THOSE CONTAINED IN THE RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF THE JUDGE OF PROBATE OF THE COUNTY WHERE THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS SITUATED. THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD WITHOUT WARRANTY OR RECOURSE, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED AS TO TITLE, USE AND/OR ENJOYMENT AND WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION OF ALL PARTIES ENTITLED THERETO. Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process.

Federal law requires that certain residential real estate transactions purchased with all cash or without institutional lender financing, where at least one buyer/transferee is a legal entity, LLC, Corporation, Partnership, trust, trustee or other non-natural person, be reported to the United States Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCen).

This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by mortgage as well as the expenses of foreclosure, including a reasonable attorney's fees and other purposes set out in said mortgage. The successful bidder may be required to provide identifying information/documentation successful bidders must tender funds and a fully completed FinCen form before noon of the next business day after the sale or the property will be reverted to the next highest bid.

Planet Home Lending, LLC
Paul K. Lavelle, Esq.
Attorney for Mortgagee Spina, & Lavelle, P.C.
One Perimeter Park South-Suite 400N
Birmingham, Alabama 35243
(205) 298-1800
39-FC-26-01309

August 14, 21, and 28, 2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain Mortgage executed by Vashiti M. Lopez, single woman, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), (solely as nominee for Lender, First Bank, and

Lender's successors and assigns), dated the 17th day of June, 2024, which Mortgage was recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, in Instrument Number 3576181; said Mortgage having been transferred and assigned by Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), (solely as nominee for Lender, First Bank, and Lender's successors and assigns) to Alabama Housing Finance Authority by virtue of that certain Assignment of Mortgage dated June 29, 2026, and recorded in said Probate Office in Miscellaneous Book 2026, at Page 3611573. The undersigned Alabama Housing Finance Authority as Assignee of said Mortgage will, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said Mortgage, sell at auction to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Etowah County Courthouse in the City of Gadsden, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale on September 17, 2026, the real property described in said Mortgage, which said description is hereby referred to and made a part hereof, said property being situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit: Lot No. Twenty-Three (23) in Block No. Nineteen (19) in Gadsden Land and Improvement Company's Kyle Addition, according to the map of plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book "A, Page 23, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama, and lying and being in Etowah County, Alabama; subject to any easements or restrictions or record.

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 realizing the mortgage debt, together with all expenses of the sale, including a reasonable attorney's fee.

CAPELL & HOWARD, P.C.
Bowdy J. Brown, Esq.
150 South Perry Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36104
Our File No.: 37591-3749
ATTORNEYS FOR ASSIGNEE

ALABAMA HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY ASSIGNEE

August 14, 21, and 28, 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 Steven Joseph Lobello, Melinda Lobello, Connie Marie White to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Rocket Mortgage, LLC, its successors and assigns dated March 9, 2023; said mortgage being recorded on as Instrument No. 3554467 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Rocket Mortgage, LLC by assignment to be recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama.

The undersigned, Rocket Mortgage, LLC, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Etowah County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on September 23, 2026 the following prop-

ty, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

LOTS 4 AND 5 IN BLOCK 2 OF CEDAR HILLS, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK "G", PAGE 3, PROBATE OFFICE, ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA.

Said property is commonly known as 884 Riverside Dr, Gadsden, AL 35901.

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

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

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

ATTENTION ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS: On March 1, 2026, the data collection and reporting requirements under the U.S. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) new Anti-Money Laundering Rule (the "Rule"), found at 89 FR 70258, went into effect. The Rule applies to certain residential real estate sale transactions (including nonjudicial foreclosures) where the transfer is to a legal entity or trust, and which includes cash purchases, private financing or financing provided by an institution not subject to a federal Anti-Money Laundering or Suspicion Activity Report requirement. As part of this Rule, purchasers and sellers are required to provide additional information and documentation about themselves, their legal entities, and the source of funds used in the reportable transaction, if applicable.* The collection of this information and documentation is required to comply with the Rule's federal reporting requirements, if applicable. This notice is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. You are encouraged to consult with your own independent legal counsel if you have questions about how the FinCEN Anti-Money Laundering Rule affects your transaction and whether your transaction is reportable.

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

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, (2) to final confirmation

and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Mortgage, and (3) to confirmation that the successful bidder has timely provided all information required for reporting under the Rule, 89 FR 70258, if applicable.

ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC
as holder of said mortgage
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
505 20th Street N, Suite 1775
Birmingham, AL 35203
Telephone: (205) 216-4238
FT21@mccalla.com
File No. 26-08782AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

August 21, 28, and September 4, 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 Patricia J Granger, Henry S Granger to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Homequest Capital Funding, LLC its successors and assigns dated September 30, 2005; said mortgage being recorded on October 6, 2005 as Instrument No. M-2005-4286 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to BRAVO Residential Funding Trust 2020-RPL2 by assignment recorded as Instrument No. 3522459 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama.

The undersigned, BRAVO Residential Funding Trust 2020-RPL2, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Etowah County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on September 30, 2026 the following property, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

Lots Seven (7), Eight (8), Nine (9) and Ten (10), in Block One (1), in Wiggmar Hills, as shown by plat recorded in Plat Book "F", Page 141, in the Office of the Judge of Probate and lying and being in Etowah County, Alabama.

Said property is commonly known as 2706 Lookout Avenue, Gadsden, AL 35904.

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

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

Alabama law gives some persons who have

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

ATTENTION ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS: On March 1, 2026, the data collection and reporting requirements under the U.S. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) new Anti-Money Laundering Rule (the "Rule"), found at 89 FR 70258, went into effect. The Rule applies to certain residential real estate sale transactions (including nonjudicial foreclosures) where the transfer is to a legal entity or trust, and which includes cash purchases, private financing or financing provided by an institution not subject to a federal Anti-Money Laundering or Suspicion Activity Report requirement. As part of this Rule, purchasers and sellers are required to provide additional information and documentation about themselves, their legal entities, and the source of funds used in the reportable transaction, if applicable.* The collection of this information and documentation is required to comply with the Rule's federal reporting requirements, if applicable. This notice is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. You are encouraged to consult with your own independent legal counsel if you have questions about how the FinCEN Anti-Money Laundering Rule affects your transaction and whether your transaction is reportable.

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

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

BRAVO RESIDENTIAL FUNDING TRUST 2020-RPL2
as holder of said mortgage
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
505 20th Street N, Suite 1775
Birmingham, AL 35203
Telephone: (205) 216-4238
FT21@mccalla.com
File No. 24-05870AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

August 21, 28, and September 4, 2026

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Jonathan T. Chavis, an unmarried man, originally in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Royal United Mortgage LLC, its successors and assigns, on April 2, 2025, said mortgage recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, in Book 2025 Page 3590378; the undersigned AmeriHome 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 30, 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: All that part of the Northwest Fourth of the Northwest Fourth of Section 5, Township 11 South, Range 5 East in Etowah County, Alabama, and being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the Southeast corner of the Northwest Fourth of the Northwest Fourth of Section 5, Township 11 South, Range 5 East in Etowah County, Alabama; Thence South 90 degrees 00 minutes West 105.0 feet to the True Point to Beginning for the property herein described; thence from the True Point of Beginning, continue on a bearing of South 90 degrees 00 minutes West 230.0 Feet to a 5/8 inch rebar found; thence North 06 degrees 14 minutes 21 seconds East 460.08 feet to a 5/8 inch rebar found on the Southern right of way of Shady Grove Road; thence along the Southern right of way of said Shady Grove Road, South 51 degrees 29 minutes 57 seconds East 230.0 feet to a point; thence leaving the Southern right of way of said Shady Grove Road, South 00 degrees 00 minutes East 314.18 feet (378.0 feet – Deed Record) to the True Point of Beginning for the property herein described; said lands lying and being in Etowah County, Alabama.. Property street address for informational purposes: 3180 Shady Grove Rd , 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 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. AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC, ("Transferee") Tiffany & Bosco, P.A., 2501 20th Place South, Suite 300, Homewood, AL 35223 www.tblaw.com TB File Number: 26-13505-SC-AL

August 21, 28, and September 4, 2026

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Christa Lewis and husband, Jeremiah Lewis, originally in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for

AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC, its successors and assigns, on March 20, 2025, said mortgage recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, in Book 2025 Page 3589466; the undersigned AmeriHome 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 30, 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: Lot Number Eighteen (18) of the Western Hills Subdivision to Southside, Alabama, as recorded in Plat Book I, Page 54, Probate Office of Etowah County, Alabama.. Property street address for informational purposes: 2755 Cedar Circle , Southside, AL 35907. THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON AN "AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS, WITHOUT WARRANTY OR RECOURSE, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED AS TO TITLE, USE AND/OR ENJOYMENT AND WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION OF ALL PARTIES ENTITLED 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. AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC, ("Transferee") Tiffany & Bosco, P.A., 2501 20th Place South, Suite 300, Homewood, AL 35223 www.tblaw.com TB File Number: 26-13505-SC-AL

August 21, 28, and September 4, 2026

FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness described in and secured by that certain mortgage executed by Gary Hall to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. "MERS" as mortgagee, as nominee for Lender, Central Mortgage Funding, LLC, and Lender's successors and assigns dated February 7, 2024 and Recorded in Instrument #3569619 of the records in the Office of the Judge of Probate, Etowah County, Alabama, which said mortgage was subsequently assigned to Village Capital & Investment, LLC by instrument recorded in Misc BK 2026, Page 3613125 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 September 16, 2026, at the front door entrance of the Courthouse of Etowah County, Alabama, 800 Forest Ave, Gadsden, AL 35902, the following described real property in the County of Etowah, State of Alabama, being the same property described in the above referred to mortgage: Lot 12, Woodland Hills, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book "H", Page 121, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama, lying and being in Southside, 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. 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.

Village Capital & Investment, LLC
Mortgagee
William McFadden
McFadden, Rouse & Bender, LLC
718 Downtowner Blvd.
Mobile, AL 36609

August 21, 28, and September 4, 2026

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Nyquitta Knight, unmarried, originally in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Canopy Mortgage, LLC, its successors and assigns, on February 26, 2026, said mortgage recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, in Bk: 2026 Pg: 3605491; the undersigned AmeriHome 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 October 14, 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: Lot Number (9), in Block Number Thirty-One (31), in Garden City Subdivision Number One (1), according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book "C", Pages 408 and 409, Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama, and lying and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama.. Property street address for informational purposes: 917 Litchfield Ave , Gadsden, AL 35903. 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 REDEMP-

TION 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. AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC, ("Transferee") Tiffany & Bosco, P.A., 2501 20th Place South, Suite 300, Homewood, AL 35223 www.tblaw.com TB File Number: 26-13598-SC-AL

August 21, 28, and September 4, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Byron Rahmon Bonner was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) 07/10/2026 to the Estate of Inzer Bonner, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

FILE CLAIMS

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

August 7, 14, and 21, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Vicki Lyle Potter was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) 06/29/2026 over the Estate of Earlene Lyle, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

FILE CLAIMS

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

FILE CLAIMS

Nanette Kennedy was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) 06/24/2026 over the Estate of Neal Wayne Holderfield, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

August 7, 14, and 21, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Laura Brothers was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) 06/29/2026 to the Estate of Colleen Gwendolyn Jones Brothers, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

FILE CLAIMS

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

FILE CLAIMS

Barbara Boyd was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) 06/26/2026 over the Estate of Christopher Dale

Boyd, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

FILE CLAIMS

August 7, 14, and 21, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Holly Marie Brock Johns was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) 06/25/2026 to the Estate of Jimmy A. Brock aka Jimmy Allen Brock Sr., deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

FILE CLAIMS

James Leslie Baker was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) 06/25/2026 over the Estate of Bertie Baker, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

FILE CLAIMS

Brandy Clemmons was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 11/06/2025 to the Estate of Larry Gene Whisenant, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

FILE CLAIMS

Dylan Jack Hallmark was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 06/24/2026 over the Estate of Jacky Royce Hallmark, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

FILE CLAIMS

Monica Rae Moulds Steward and Christopher Moulds were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 07/13/2026 to the Estate of Ellen Faye Hoskins Beasley, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

FILE CLAIMS

August 14, 21, and 28, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Emily Hawk Mills was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 07/29/2026 to the Estate of Laretha Boggs, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

FILE CLAIMS

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

FILE CLAIMS

Justin Hayes was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 08/04/2026 to the Estate of George L. Woods, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

FILE CLAIMS

August 14, 21, and 28, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

FILE CLAIMS

August 14, 21, and 28, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Howard Todd Jordan was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 08/05/2026 to the Estate of Jimmie Lou Jordan, deceased, Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama notifies all persons that claims not filed within six months will be barred.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

Case No.: 2024-00507
IN RE: THE ESTATE OF DONNEISHA SHAMBREA WILLIAMS, DECEASED.

TO: C.W. and C.W., minor children of Donneisha Williams, whereabouts unknown

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that there has been filed in this Court a Petition for Final Settlement in the Estate of Donneisha Shambrea Williams, deceased. You are FURTHER NOTIFIED to be in and appear before this Court on the 22nd day of September, 2026 at 2:00 p.m., when said petition will be heard and to show cause, if any you may have, why the said Petition to Sell Property in the Estate of Donneisha Shambrea Williams, deceased, should not be granted. Done this the 4th day of August 2026

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: WILLIAM J. RUCKLE, ALLEGED INCAPACITATED

Case #: 2026-482

TO: Rayburn Clay and any unknown family, whose whereabouts are unknown
Please take notice that a PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP & CONSERVATORSHIP of the above referenced incapacitated individual was filed in the Office of the Judge of Probate, and further, that the 22 day of SEPTEMBER 2026 at 1:30 P.m. was appointed a day and time for hearing on said Petition, thereof at which time you may appear and support and/or contest the Petition, if you so choose. DONE THIS THE 6TH DAY OF AUGUST 2026

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: CHARLES BAILY, ALLEGED INCAPACITATED

Case #: 2026-481

TO: Any unknown family, whose whereabouts are unknown
Please take notice that a PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP & CONSERVATORSHIP of the above referenced incapacitated individual was filed in the Office of the Judge of Probate, and further, that the 22ND day of SEPTEMBER 2026 at 1:00 P.m. was appointed a day and time for hearing on said Petition, thereof at which time you may appear and support and/or contest the Petition, if you so choose. DONE THIS THE 6TH DAY OF AUGUST 2026

Scott W. Hassall Judge of Probate

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

Notice to: Kevin Barth, whose whereabouts are unknown
Brian Barth, whose whereabouts are unknown
You will take notice that a Petition for Letters of Guardianship for the person of William H. Barth, and a Petition for Letters of Conservatorship over the estate of William H. Barth, was filed by Gadsden Regional Medical Center on the 31st day JULY of 2026.

A hearing on the Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Petition for Letters of Conservatorship

is set on the 8th day of SEPTEMBER, 2026, at 2:30 pm., in the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama, 800 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35901.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

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

August 7, 14, and 21, 2026

Notice to: Tara Spears, whose whereabouts are unknown

You will take notice that a Petition for Letters of Guardianship for the person of Betty M. Payne and a Petition for Letters of Conservatorship over the estate of Betty M. Payne was filed by Gadsden Regional Medical Center on the 7TH day of AUGUST 2026.

A hearing on the Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Petition for Letters of Conservatorship is set on the 14th day of SEPTEMBER, 2026, at 2:00 P.m., in the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama, 800 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35901.

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

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

August 14, 21, and 28, 2026

Notice to: Don Kinard, whose whereabouts are unknown

You will take notice that a Petition for Letters of Guardianship for the person of Don W. Kinard, and a Petition for Letters of Conservatorship over the estate of Don W. Kinard, was filed by Gadsden Regional Medical Center on the 18th day of AUGUST 2026.

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

Scott W. Hassell Judge of Probate

NOTICE OF COMPLAINT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

Elite Real Estate Management 2, LLC, Plaintiff v. Justin Jacobs, Defendant CV - 2026 - 900173

Defendant Justin Jacobs and any persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, possessory, or other interest in the lands described below must answer Plaintiff's Complaint filed in the above referenced court and case number within thirty (30) days of the completion of the newspaper publication or thereafter a judgment of default may be rendered against you in the above-styled case. The subject property is described as follows: Lots 3 and 4, as shown on the map of the Rearrangement of Block "B", Southmont Addition, Attalla, Alabama, as recorded in Plat Book "H", Page 83, in the Etowah County Probate Office. The address of the subject property is 506 Green Street SE, Attalla, AL 35954.

Done the 3rd day of August, 2026.

/s/Jason Knowles
Jason Knowles
Attorney for Plaintiff Knowles & Sullivan, LLC
413 Broad Street
Gadsden, AL 35901
jason@kkslawgroup.com

NOTICE OF COMPLAINT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

CV-2025-900531
John d. Bailey, plaintiff,



Vs. Lissa Maddox, Mac Smith, Tami Rains, Chris Smith, Gary Smith, and Michael Smith, including any heirs or devisees of the same and those whose addresses are unknown and any and all unknown parties, including any persons claiming any present interest therein and including any person claiming any future, contingent, reversionary, remainder, or other interest therein, who may claim any interest in the above described property, defendants.

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

The subject property is described as follows: A parcel of land described as Follows:

Parcel one: For a point of beginning: commence at the southwest corner of lot number one (1), Carlisle acres subdivision, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in plat book k, page 49, probate office, Etowah county, Alabama; thence run north 85 degrees 04 minutes 06 seconds west a distance of 39.59 feet (plat), 39.81 feet (field) to a point, thence run south 05 degrees 12 minutes 06 seconds east a distance of 81.91 feet to the point of beginning; thence run south 75 degrees 31 minutes 54 seconds west a distance of 129.20 feet to a point; thence run north 20 degrees 48 minutes 06 seconds west a distance of 103.96 feet to a point; thence run south 77 degrees 30 minutes 54 seconds west a distance of 183.34 feet to a point; thence run south 07 degrees 54 minutes 54 seconds west a distance of 133.75 feet to a point; thence run north 88 degrees 48 minutes 56 seconds east a distance of 368.59 feet to a point; thence run north 05 degrees 11 minutes 34 seconds west a distance of 100.00 feet to the point of beginning, said tract embracing a portion of the northeast quarter (ne 1/4) of the southwest quarter (SW 1/4), section 3, township 11 south, range 5 east of the Huntsville meridian, Etowah county, Alabama, containing 1.00 acre, more or less.

Parcel two: Five (5) acres in a square in the NW corner of the ne ¼ of the SW ¼ of section 3, township 11 south, range 5 east, lying and being in Etowah County, Alabama, together with all improvements located thereon. Less and except those portions conveyed to Michael Kevin nix by deed recorded in d-1998-0225; save and except those portions conveyed to the exchange bank of Alabama by deed recorded in d-2001-2176; and save and except those portions conveyed to Lissa Maddox by deeds recorded in d-2001-4039 and d-2001-4040, said descriptions embracing a portion of the ne ¼ of the SW ¼ in section 3, township 11 south, range 5 east.

Done the 5th day of August, 2026

/S/Sonny J. Steen
Circuit judge

Joshua b. Sullivan
Knowles & Sullivan, LLC
413 broad street
Gadsden, al 35901
Phone: 256-547-7200

August 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2026

NOTICE OF COMPLAINT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY ALABAMA

CV-2026-900334.00

ERIC MCGEE, PLAINTIFF v. KAREN SOFIA HEFNER HORDESKI, RICKY VAN HEFNER, RICHARD, LEE HEFNER and SHERI LYNN HEFNER, WILLARD HEFNER, KAREN HEF-

NER, KEN JAMIESON, MARY JAMIESON, et al, DEFENDANTS.

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

The subject property is described as follows: A PARCEL OF LAND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

A parcel of land in the west half of the southwest quarter of Section Twenty-Two (22), Township Ten (10), Range Five (5) East, more particularly described as follows: for a point of beginning, where the branch from the old Rogers Spring on Cox Gap Road, crosses the north boundary, thence southwest down the branch 233 yards to our west boundary thence south along the Sawmill Hollow branch 130 yards, thence east 120 yards, thence north 175 yards to the point of beginning. Done the 5th day of August, 2026.

/s/SONNY J. STEEN
CIRCUIT JUDGE

Joshua B. Sullivan
Knowles & Sullivan, LLC
413 Broad Street
Gadsden, AL 35901
Phone: 256-547-7200

August 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2026

NOTICE OF COMPLAINT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY ALABAMA

CV-2026-900377

CODY DANNA, PLAINTIFF, v.

DAN E. HUMPHREY, et al, DEFENDANTS.

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

The subject property is described as follows:

Lot Number 11 in Block Number 1 in East River-view Hills, according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book "H", pages 30 and 31, Probate Office. Etowah County, Alabama.

Done the 17th day of August, 2026.

/s/GEORGE C. DAY, JR
CIRCUIT JUDGE

Joshua B. Sullivan
Knowles & Sullivan, LLC

413 Broad Street
Gadsden, AL 35901
Phone: 256-547-7200

August 21, 28, September 4 and 11, 2026

PUBLICATION NOTICE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA
CASE NO: 2026-00245

STATE OF ALABAMA, EX REL JOHN R. COOPER, DIRECTOR OF THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, Petitioner, V. RICHARD WOODS AS SUCCESSOR TO GEORGE L. WOODS; BECKY NORDGREN, as the ETOWAH COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR; CITY OF GADSDEN, Defendants.

NOTICE TO: JAMES WOODS, DERRICK WOODS, RICHARD WOODS, JOSEPH WOODS AND ANY UNKNOWN HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR INTERESTED PARTIES CLAIMING RIGHT, TI-

TLE, ESTATE, LIEN, OR INTEREST
ADDRESS: UNKNOWN
You are hereby notified the Alabama Department of Transportation, by and through their attorney, John Porter, III., Esquire has filed a complaint in writing seeking to condemn for the ususes and purposes set forth in said complaint that certain real property located in the county of Etowah, State of Alabama, and described as follows:

LEGAL DESCRIPTION
A part of NW 4 of the SW 4 of Section 10, Township 12-5, Range 6-E, identified as Tract No. 49 on Project No. RACR-028-759-002 in Etowah County, Alabama and being more fully described as follows:

Parcel 1 of 1: Commencing at the intersection of the present east R/W line of Stroud Ave and the present south R/W line of 10th Street N; thence southeasterly and along said present R/W line a distance of 127 feet, more or less, to a point on the acquired R/W line (said point offset 120' LT and perpendicular to centerline of project at station 104+50.00); thence S 52°19'17" E and along the acquired R/W line a distance of 99.04 feet to a point on the acquired R/W line (said point offset 100' LT and perpendicular to centerline of project at PT station 105+47.00); thence following the curvature thereof an arc distance of 456.55 feet and along the acquired R/W line to a point on the present west R/W line of Alabama and Tennessee River Railroad (said point also on the acquired R/W line (said point offset 100' LT and perpendicular to centerline of project at PT station 110+46.42) (said arc having a chord bearing of S 75°19'27" E, a counterclockwise direction, a chord distance of 465.55 feet and a radius of 1160.00 feet); thence S 47°10'34" E and along said present R/W line a distance of 28.83 feet to a point on the present north R/W line of Decatur Street; thence S 89°24'54" W and along said present R/W line a distance of 504.22 feet to a point on the present east R/W line of Stroud Ave; thence N 38°53'13" W and along said present R/W line a distance of 203.60 feet to a point on said present R/W line; thence N 45°19'33" W and along said present R/W line a distance of 243.96 feet to the point and place of BEGINNING, containing 1.41 acre(s), more or less.

Please be advised that you have thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication to file an answer or other response with the Clerk of the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama, P.O. Box 187, Gadsden, AL 35902 and the attorney for the plaintiff, John Porter, III, Esq., 123 Laurel Street, Scottsboro, AL 35768.

You are further notified that the hearing of said complaint has been set by this court for September 15, 2026 at 10:00 a.m., at which time you may appear and answer said complaint or file objections thereto if you so desire.

If the application to condemn is granted by the Court, a Commissioners' hearing will be scheduled within 30 days thereafter to determine damages which may be due to the defendants. For information on the date and time of such hearing, please contact the Probate Court during regular business hours at 256-549-5333. This the 22nd day of July 2026.

Scott W. Hassell
JUDGE OF PROBATE

July 31, August 7, 14, and 21, 2026

NOTICE OF PENDENCY SUIT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY

Civil Action No. 31-CV-2026900181.00

JOE WISE and PATRI-

CIA WISE, Plaintiffs,

A PARCEL OF LAND IN ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

And the Estate of Norma Jean Rhodes, deceased, and all Fictitious Defendants claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said lands, or if any Defendant is deceased, such a Defendant's heirs or devisees shall be made parties in their stead. In the Circuit Court of Etowah County, Alabama, there is pending in Case Number CV-2026900181.00, a verified Bill of Complaint filed by the Plaintiffs, Joe Wise and Patricia Wise, on the 27th day of March, 2026, against the below-described lands, lying in Etowah County, Alabama, and against the Estate of Norma Jean Rhodes, deceased; and any and all persons claiming any title to, interest in, lien or encumbrance on said lands and to clear up all doubts or disputes concerning the same. Plaintiffs claim to own all of said land in fee simple absolute, free of all liens and encumbrances. The subject property is described as follows:

Parcel #1: The East Quarter (maps as east 1/2) of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (E 1/4 of NW 1/4 of SE 1/4) in section Nineteen (19), Township Eleven (11) South, Range Five (5) East of Huntsville Meridian in Etowah County, Alabama.

Parcel #2: To reach the point of beginning, begin at the northwest corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, Section 19, Township 11, Range 5 East of Huntsville Meridian and run south and along the west line of said forty 525 feet to a point, which said point is the point of beginning to describe the property herein conveyed; and from said point of beginning run south and along the west line of said forty 551.25 feet to a point; thence run east and parallel with the north line of said forty 400 feet to a point; thence run north and parallel with the west line of said forty 551.25 feet to a point; thence run west and parallel with the north line of said forty 400 feet to the point of beginning; and being a part of the Northeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (NE 1/4 of SE 1/4), in Section Nineteen (19), Township Eleven (11) South, Range Five (5) East of Huntsville Meridian, and lying and being in Etowah County, Alabama.

All persons having an interest in said lands or any portion thereof, claiming any title thereto or any encumbrance thereon, are hereby directed to plead, answer, demur or otherwise respond to the Complaint on or September 21, 2026; or else suffer judgment by default to be rendered against them; it being intended that this notice shall be used to perfect service against all parties who cannot be personally served with a copy of the Complaint. Your response must be filed with the Circuit Clerk, Cassandra "Saro" Johnson, Etowah county Courthouse, 801 Forrest Ave. #202. Gadsden. AL 35901. Done this 15th day MAY 2026

CASSANDRA JOHNSON
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Etowah County, Alabama

Counsel for Plaintiff: Jessica Guthrie-Hudson Palisades Title & Land, LLC
Attorney for Plaintiff 204 3rd St. N, Oneonta, AL 35121 205-706-6942

July 31, August 7, 14, and 21, 2026

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF MINOR

Notice to: Jessica Sandlin whose address is unknown

You will take notice that a Petition to Change Name of Minor regarding a female child born to Jessica Sandlin Ball on September 22, 2010, was filed on the 29th day of July, 2026. The Petition is set to

be heard on 6th day of October, 2026, at 2:30 p.m., in the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama, 800 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35901. Please be advised that you are required to answer this petition within thirty (30) days after the last publication of this notice. Your answer to this petition is to be filed with the Clerk of the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama, 800 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama 35901.

Scott W. Hassell
Judge of Probate

August 14, 21, 28, and September 4, 2026

CITATION AND PUBLICATION OF NOTICE, SUMMONS & PROCESS

JUVENILE COURT OF FLOYD COUNTY, GEORGIA

To: Ethan Cresie, Sr. and Matthew Hand, the fathers, and any other unknown person claiming a parental interest

Last Known addresses: Ethan Cresiek, Sr.: 3314 Madison Avenue, Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama 35904
Matthew Hand, 360 Sequoyah Drive, Unit B, Chatsworth, Murray County, Georgia 30705
In the Interest of: E. C., JR. N. V.
Date(s) of Birth: 08/24/2019
10/09/2014
File No: 2600368 & 2600369

This notice and summons are published pursuant to an Order of the Court for service by publication dated the 10th day of August 2026, and in accordance with the applicable provisions of O.C.G.A. 9-11-4, 9-11-5, 15-11-163, 29-2-15 and 17 et. seq., to notify you that a Petition for Permanent Guardianship to the above-named children in the above-styled matter was filed with this Court on the 22nd day of June 2026. The basis for this filing includes, but is not limited to, your abandonment of your children and your failure to provide child support for the children. You are entitled to object either to the establishment of a permanent guardianship or to the selection of the petitioner as permanent guardian, or both. Any objection must be filed in writing within fourteen days of the second publication of this notice.

The individuals seeking the guardianship are Jonna and Jimmy Vasser, maternal grandparents. You will lose all rights to object to the appointment of a permanent guardian if you fail to file a petition to legitimize the minor within 30 days of the hearing on your objection to the guardianship. Now Therefore, you, the party or parties named above, are commanded to lay all other business aside and to be and appear before the Juvenile Court of Floyd County, Georgia located at the Juvenile Court of Floyd County, Georgia at #3 Government Plaza, Rome, Georgia on the 5th day of October, 2026 at 9:00 o'clock a.m., and to remain in attendance of the Court from hour to hour, day to day, month to month, year to year and time to time until discharged by the Court and you are hereby commanded to be and appear with the aforesaid children in said court at the time and place identified herein to make defense thereto and to show cause why the said children and all parties named herein should not be dealt with according to the provisions of law. Failure to appear as directed may cause you to be held in contempt of court and punished accordingly. A copy of the petition may be obtained in the Office of the Clerk of the Juvenile Court of Floyd County, Georgia at the Floyd County Courthouse, #3 Government Plaza, Suite 202, Rome, GA 30161 during business hours or from counsel for the petitioner, to-wit: William O'Dell, Esq., J. Brent O'Dell, Esq., Kelli J. Freeman, Esq., Special Assistant Attorneys General, P.O. Box 65, Rome, GA 30162-0065.

If you are a putative/biological father, you are hereby noticed that if you have any objection to the granting of this petition, you must: (1) file a written objection setting forth the grounds of any such

objection with this Court within 14 days of the date you are personally served; the date that notice was mailed to you; or the day following the date of the second publication of this citation, AND you must

(2) file a petition to legitimize the minor within 30 days of the hearing on your objection. If you fail to file a petition for legitimation within 30 days or your petition is dismissed for failure to prosecute, or if an order issues on your petition which does not name you as the father of the minor, you will have no further rights to receive notice or object to the appointment of a permanent guardian for the minor.

You are required to be present at the formal hearing. You are entitled to counsel, and the Court will appoint counsel for you if you are unable, without undue financial hardship to employ your own counsel. If you ask for a lawyer to be appointed to represent you, the Court will inquire into your financial circumstances to determine if you qualify for a Court appointed attorney. If you desire to apply for counsel, you must do so immediately. Any answer or response to the Petition must be filed within the time prescribed by the Georgia law and a copy of said answer or response served upon counsel for the Petitioner identified above.

Witness the HONORABLE STEVEN V. BENNETT, JUDGE of the Juvenile Court of Floyd County, GA

S/ Angela Chestnut
Clerk-Juvenile Court of Floyd County, GA

August 14 and 21, 2026

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Water Works Board of Attalla will hold a public hearing on September 1, 2026, from 5:00 PM until 6:00 pm at the Attalla Water Board Office, 509 4th Street NW, Attalla, AL 35954 to discuss the submission of an application for the 2026 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan program through the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) and the Environmental Information Document (EID) associated with the proposed project. The hearing will address the proposed construction of a new clearwell at the Water Treatment Plant located at 1780 Highway 77, Attalla, AL 35954.

A copy of the EID will be available for review at the Public Hearing. Any person with a disability or communication impairment should contact the Water Works Board of Attalla at (256) 538-3322 if special accommodation is needed. The Board will attempt to satisfy all reasonable requests.

August 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Attalla Board of Adjustments will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Attalla City Hall located at 612 4th Street NW, Attalla, AL 35954. The following items will be considered:

A variance requested and filed by Rhonda Masters to use the property at 410 4th Avenue NW, Attalla, AL 35954 as a residential rental. The lot is zoned B-2 (Central Business). The property was previously used as a residential dwelling.

A variance requested and filed by Ngoc Tran to increase the size that a sign can be on the property at 959 Gilbert Ferry Road, Attalla, AL 35954. The property is zoned H-C (Highway Commercial).

A variance requested and filed by Jimmie & Virginia Miller for a setback variance to add on to the house at 503 9th Avenue SW, Attalla, AL 35954. The property is zoned R-3 (Multi-Family Residential).

Mandy Cash
City Clerk

August 21 and 28, 2026

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

ITB No. 2026-01

Etowah County Emergency Communications District
4610 Airport Rd.
Gadsden, AL 35904

Etowah County Emergency Communications District is issuing an Invitation to Bid (ITB) to interested qualified companies for a Grounding and Electrical Improvement Project. A mandatory prebid conference will be held on August 18th, 2026 at 11:00 AM Central Time at the Etowah County 911 center located at the address above.

Sealed proposals will be received on September 1st, 2026 until 2:00 PM Central Time at the above address, at which time there will be a public bid opening.

Award will be made only to competent and responsible bidders as mandated by Title 39 of the Code of Alabama who have the experience and other qualifications as set forth in the bid documents. Prequalification is not required.

Proposal documents may be requested at the above address during regular business hours or by emailing your request to lee.moore@911consult.com.

Etowah County Emergency Communications District reserves the right to reject any/or all proposals, waive any informality in the proposals received, and to accept any proposal which, in its opinion may be in the best interest of Etowah County Emergency Communications District.

August 7, 14, and 21, 2026

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Owner: The Water Works & Sewer Board of the City of Gadsden
Locality: Gadsden, Alabama
Engineer: Three Notch Group, Inc.

The Water Works & Sewer Board of the City of Gadsden (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project:

Interstate 759 Utility Relocation
ALDOT Project No. RACR-028-759-002-PE

A mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at the offices of The Water Works & Sewer Board of the City of Gadsden located at 515 Albert Rains Boulevard, on September 2, 2026, at 1:00 PM local time. Bids will only be accepted from bidders who attend the meeting.

Bids for the construction of the Project will be received in person from properly licensed contractors at the offices located at 515 Albert Rains Boulevard Gadsden, Alabama 35901 until September 9, 2026, at 1:00 PM local time. At that time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.

The Project includes the following Work:

The project consists of relocation of approximately 7,380 feet of water main, 7,200 feet of gravity sewer, 55 manholes, and associated appurtenances to account for the extension of Interstate 759.

The Owner requires the Project to be Substantially Completed within 365 calendar days after the date when the Contract Time commences to run, and completed and ready for final payment within 395 calendar days after the date when the Contract Time commences to run.

Copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Agent, Three Notch Group, Inc (Louie Arvelo - louie.arvelo@3notch.com). Printed copies are available for a non-refundable fee in the amount of \$200.00 per set. Copies in .pdf format are available via email at no cost to the bidder.

Bidding documents are on file for examination by prospective bidders at 515 Albert Rains Boulevard Gadsden, Alabama 35901 during normal business hours.

Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be issued. Neither Own-



bama.

Tax Parcel No: 10-09-32-4-000-084.000
PIN: 19786

Tax Parcel No: 10-09-32-4-000-083.000
PIN: 19785

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the City Code, notice of a public hearing has been given to MICHAEL STALLWORTH, 740 WOOD VALLEY RD SW, MABLETON, GA 30126, 1129 BRETWOOD DRIVE, GADSDEN, AL 35901.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the structure constitutes a nuisance in violation of

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing or repairing said structure and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the City Code.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on August 4, 2026.

Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

August 21, 2026

**RESOLUTION
NO. R-509-26**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

Whereas, the Building Official has determined that a structure located at 1324 STILLMAN AVENUE (HOUSE) in District 2 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

Lot 7 Block 12, in the Goodyear Highlands Rearrangement in Plat Book C, Page 293, Section 11, Township 12 South, Range 6 East, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama.

Tax Parcel ID: 15-01-11-3-000-323.000
PIN #: 31409

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the City Code, notice of a public hearing has been given to CORNELL D. GERMAN, JR. & PAULETTE R. CORDES, 1384 WHITE DRIVE, CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29407, BESSIE HERRICK, ADDRESS UNKNOWN, 1324 STILLMAN AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35903.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the structure constitutes a nuisance in violation of

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing or repairing said structure and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the City Code.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on August 4, 2026.

Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

August 21, 2026

**RESOLUTION
NO. R-510-26**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

Whereas, the Building Official has determined that a structure located at

1311 STROUD AVENUE (HOUSE) in District 2 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

Lots Number Twenty-seven (27) and Twenty-eight (28), in Block "B", 1st Subdivision to East Gadsden, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book "B", Page 84, Probate Office, Etowah County, lying and being in East Gadsden, Alabama.

Tax Parcel ID: 15-01-11-3-000-490.000
PIN #: 31353

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the City Code, notice of a public hearing has been given to MIA BEATRICE ANDERSON, 1100 JACKSONVILLE COURT, APT

D. GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901, 1344 STILLMAN AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35903, F&L PROPERTIES LLC, 1824 APPALACHIAN HWY, GADSDEN, AL 35903 OCCUPANT - 1311 STROUD AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35903, JUSTIN CHATAM - 1100 JACKSONVILLE COURT, APT D, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901, 1344 STILLMAN AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35903, 1311 STROUD AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35903. CLIFTON JEROME SIMPSON - 1100 JACKSONVILLE COURT, APT D, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901, 1344 STILLMAN AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35903, 1311 STROUD AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35903. SUBJECT TO A MORTGAGE IN FAVOR OF COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION (WINSOUTH CREDIT UNION), 110 S 26th ST. GADSDEN, AL 35904.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the structure constitutes a nuisance in violation of

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing or repairing said structure and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the City Code.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on August 4, 2026.

Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

August 21, 2026

**RESOLUTION
NO. R-511-26**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

Whereas, the Building Official has determined that a structure located at

3612 WESTERN AVENUE (HOUSE) in District 6 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

Lot Numbers Twenty-Seven (27) and Twenty-Eight (28), in Block Number Four (4) in Elliott Park First Addition, according to the map thereof recorded in Plat Book "B", pages 118 and 119, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama, and lying and being in Gadsden (formerly Alabama City), Etowah County, Alabama.

Tax Parcel No: 16-01-01-2-000-022.000
PIN: 49549

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the City Code, notice of a public hearing has been given to PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, 3232 NEWMARK DRIVE, MIAMISBURG, OHIO 45342, KIM CAUTHEN, KAY ADCOCK, CHARLES MCGRIF, JR AND CRAIG MCGRIF, 4 DWIGHT AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35904, 3612 WESTERN AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35904.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the structure constitutes a nuisance in violation of

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing or repairing said structure and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the City Code.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on August 4, 2026.

Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

August 21, 2026

**RESOLUTION
NO. R-512-26**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 207 SOUTH 9TH STREET in District 4 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LOT 10 BLK 8 SOUTH ADD PLAT B-380 GADSDEN SEC 10 TWP 12S R 6E

Tax ID#: 15-02-10-4-000-054.000
PIN# 36136

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to JIMMY R. WILLIAMS, 207 SOUTH 9TH STREET, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35903

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on August 4, 2026.

Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

August 21, 2026

**RESOLUTION
NO. R-513-26**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 2109 CANSLER AVENUE in District 6 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LT 14 BLK 12 OAK PARK ADD PLAT B-200 6-12-6

Tax ID#:15-03-06-4-000-165.000
PIN#: 38443

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to JERRY W FRANKLIN, 2109 CANSLER AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35904.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on August 4, 2026.

Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

August 21, 2026

**RESOLUTION
NO. R-514-26**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 1016 CHESTNUT STREET in District 5 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LT 11 & W 25' LT 13 BLK 14 GAD LAND & IMP CO PLAT A-23 5-12-6

Tax ID#: 15-03-05-4-000-102.000
PIN# 37111

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to ELIJAH BYNUM, 1016 CHESTNUT STREET, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901-3918.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on August 4, 2026.

Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

August 21, 2026

**RESOLUTION
NO. R-515-26**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 1018 CHESTNUT STREET in District 5 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LOT 9 & E 10' OF LOT 7 BLK 14 GADSDEN LAND AND INP CO'S KYLE ADD A-23 5-12-6

Tax ID#: 15-03-05-4-000-101.000
PIN# 37110

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to BETTY S MATTHEWS, 1018 CHESTNUT STREET, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901-3918.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on August 4, 2026.

Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

August 21, 2026

**RESOLUTION
NO. R-516-26**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 1123 CHRISTOPHER AVENUE in District 5 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LT 11 BLK 8 GADSDEN LAND & IMPROVEMENT CO PLAT A-23 GADSDEN 5-12-6

Tax ID#: 15-03-05-4-000-318.000
PIN#37422

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to ZELBRA LYNN ROBERTS, 11502 SCOTTISCHE LANE, KILLEEN, TEXAS 76542.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on August 4, 2026.

Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

August 21, 2026

**RESOLUTION
NO. R-517-26**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located 805 DEKALB AVENUE in District 3 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

BEG SW COR LT 4 BLK E GLENN IRIS ADD TO HIGHLAND AD PLAT B-217 TH N 53.5 ALONG E ROW OF DEKALB ST TO ALLEY TH E 168.5 ALONG ALLEY TH S 65S TH W 173.5 TO POB BEING LT 4 BLK E GLENN IRIS ADD TO HIGHLAND AD PLAT B-217 GADSDEN & PT ANN ALLEY 32-11-6

Tax ID#: 10-09-32-4-000-132.000
PIN# 19839

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given LENSEY C KING, 805 DEKALB AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with

the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on August 4, 2026.

Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

August 21, 2026

**RESOLUTION
NO. R-518-26**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 710 DODGE LANE in District 7 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

BEG SE COR LOT 128 ARGYLE HILLS PLAT G-67 TH S 230 TO N ROW OF DODGE LN TH W 100 ALONG ROW TH N 230 TH E 100 TO POB LY-ING IN NE1/4 NE1/4 29-11-6

Tax ID#: 10-09-29-1-000-008.001
PIN# 17440

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to LORI CARTER & HUSB KEVIN GOODNIGHT, 710 DODGE LANE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35904.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on August 4, 2026.

Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

August 21, 2026

**RESOLUTION
NO. R-519-26**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 520 JOSEPH T ROBINSON STREET (County records list property address as JOSEPH T ROBINSON ST) in District 3 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LOT 12 BLK 5 NORTHSIDE SUB PLAT G 197-199 GADSDEN 4-12-6

Tax ID#: 15-02-04-1-000-030.000
PIN# 33113

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to LV RENTING, LLC, 4629 SEMINARY ROAD, APARTMENT T2, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINA 22304-1446.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on August 4, 2026.

Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

August 21, 2026

**RESOLUTION
NO. R-520-26**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located 14 MARSTON AVENUE in District 6 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LT 73 PARCEL 3 CONE MILLS DWIGHT DIV PLAT F-55 GADSDEN 31-11-6

Tax ID#: 10-09-31-3-000-403.000
PIN# 18829

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given R A PARKER, 21

MARSTON AVENUE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35904.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on August 4, 2026.

Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

August 21, 2026

**RESOLUTION
NO. R-521-26**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located at 128 PENN DRIVE in District 4 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LTS 15-17 BLK 4 THE HIGHLANDS PLAT C-263 15-12-6

Tax ID#: 15-05-15-1-000-042.000
PIN# 41420

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given to CAMERON E. CLAYTON, 129 PENN DRIVE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35903

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on August 4, 2026.

Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

August 21, 2026

**RESOLUTION
NO. R-522-26**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located 807 ROSEWOOD LANE in District 2 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LT 4 BLK C OAKLEIGH EST PLAT G-55 25-11-6

Tax ID#: 10-07-25-3-000-114.000
PIN# 14398

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given DEBRA ANN DENSMORE, 807 ROSEWOOD LANE, GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on August 4, 2026.

Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

August 21, 2026

**RESOLUTION
NO. R-523-26**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located 321 ROSYLYN DRIVE in District 2 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LT 6 BLK F OAKLEIGH EST SEC 25 TWP 11S R 6E BK 1123 PG 155 1280-311 1665-183

Tax ID#: 10-07-25-3-000-131.000
PIN# 14415

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given STATE OF ALABAMA, PO BOX 327210, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36132.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances.

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on August 4, 2026.

Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

August 21, 2026

**RESOLUTION
NO. R-524-26**

Ordering Abatement of Nuisance

located 401 ROSYLYN DRIVE in District 2 in the City of Gadsden, more particularly described as:

LT 1 BLK J OAKLEIGH EST 25-11-6

Tax ID#: 10-07-25-3-000-133.000
PIN# 14417

is a nuisance and ordered its abatement; and

Whereas, as required by the Code of Ordinances, notice of a public hearing has been given STATE OF ALABAMA, PO BOX 327210, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36132.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. The Council finds that the property constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Code Ordinances and should be abated.

2. The Building Official is authorized to abate the nuisance by removing said nuisance and to give notice of this decision in accordance with the Code Ordinances

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

BEAUTIFUL BATH UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Superior quality bath and shower systems at **AFFORDABLE PRICES!** Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Call Now! 1-877-583-6484

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!

We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get

paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-877-385-7131

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

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

FOR SALE

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

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

AFFORDABLE TV & INTERNET. If you are overpaying for your service, call now for a free quote and see how much you can save! 1-877-541-5677

NEED NEW FLOOR-

ING? Call today to schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 1-877-403-4821

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 re-

ceive 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.



**STOP.
LOOK.
LOCK.**

Prevent hot car deaths.

Childsafety.al.org/hot-car



Prior to entering any Alabama school or child care center, an up-to-date Certificate of Immunization must be submitted for each child.

www.alabamapublichealth.gov/imm





STOP

Elder Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation

Contact DHR to Make a Report

 **1-800-458-7214**

 aps@dhr.alabama.gov



ETOWAH COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL FEE SCHEDULE

The Etowah County Health Department has been operating with a fee schedule adopted from November 16, 2007. Almost two decades later, the county has experienced a noticeable rise in the cost of various goods and services. Etowah County is no exception. With that in mind, the ECHD is revising the fee schedule that more accurately reflects the increased cost of operations.

The adjusted fees for ECHD will align more closely with current fees of those within the district. The updated fees are also within the recommended range of fees according to the Alabama Department of Public Health's Schedule of Proposed Environmental Fees for County Health Departments with Local Fee Bills. The fee schedule will result in an increase in most fees, but several will remain unchanged, and some fees will be reduced. The Division reviewed each fee to create a fee schedule that is equitable to the business and individuals, and better addresses the time invested by the department for each service.

The fees associated with the two largest programs within the Environmental Division; the food and onsite programs were the most modified. With the new schedule, the fee structure for food establishment permits will be based on the Priority Category instead of annual gross revenue. This will result in a potential increase in fees for many food establishments permits.

Following a detailed analysis and careful consideration, we have created an updated fee schedule that is representative of the current costs associated with our industry while also being fair and reasonable to the public we serve. The date for implementation of these proposed fees is September 1, 2026.

Etowah County Environmental Fee Schedule			
SERVICE CODE	DESCRIPTION	OLD FEE	NEW FEE
Onsite/Septic			
602	Conventional Application Sewage Permit	\$100	\$200
604	Engineered Application Sewage Permit	\$200	\$200
605	EXPEDITED Application Sewage Permit (Additional Fee)	New Fee	\$150
606	Commercial Conventional Application Sewage Permit	\$200	\$300
610	Commercial Engineer Application Sewage Permit	\$300	\$300
615	EXPEDITED Commercial Application Sewage Permit (Additional Fee)	New Fee	\$150
636	Sewage Tank Pumper Truck Permit Appt. Per Vehicle	\$50	\$100
638	Application for Septic Tank Manufacturer per Model/Series	\$250	\$250
641	Application for Solid Waste Transfer Station or Solid Waste Processing Facility	\$250	\$300
643	Solid Waste Exemption Permit: Individual Household (Fee established by Code §22-27-3(g))	\$10	\$10
644	Solid Waste Exemption Permit Appt. Per Vehicle	\$100	\$100
645	Application for Land Application/Septage Permit	\$250	\$300
620	Large Flow System/Development (Part 1)	\$250	\$300
622	Large Flow System/Development (Part 3) (+\$30 per lot)	\$300+	\$300+
681	Late Penalty Fee Charge (postmarked past due date)	\$35-\$70	\$75
Health Permits			
	Food		
631	Temporary Food Service Permit Application-Per Event -14 days or less	\$75	\$100
648	Food Processors Priority Category 1 based on rules/risk	\$200	\$300
649	Food Processors Priority Category 2 based on rules/risk	\$300	\$400
666	Food Service Establishment - Cat. 1	New Fee	\$100
668	Food Service Establishment - Cat. 2	\$75	\$150
670	Food Service Establishment - Cat. 3	\$200-\$500	\$500
672	Food Service Establishment - Cat. 4	\$200-\$500	\$600
677	Mobile Food Units	\$100	\$200
	Body Art		
625	Temporary License Tattoo Facility (Fee set by Code of Alabama §22-17A-3)	\$50	\$50
653	Body Art Facility Initial \$200/New Facility \$250 (Fees set by Code of Alabama §22-17A-3)	\$200-\$250	\$200-\$250
655	Body Art Operators	\$100	\$100
	Lodging		
659	Hotel/Motel 01-25 rooms	\$200	\$300
660	Hotel/Motel 26 or more rooms	\$300	\$400
664	Resident and Day Camps	\$50-\$100	\$150
	Other		
633	All Plan Review Requests	\$100	\$200
681	Late Penalty Fee Charge (postmarked past due date)	\$35-\$75	\$75
685	Inspection Request (Not Governed by Regulations)	\$100	\$100
699A	Environmental Fine-Grease trap lid law (Fees set by Code of Alabama §22-20-5.2)	\$100	\$100
	Other		
618	Private Water Consult -Homeowner Takes Sample	\$15	\$15
619	Water Sample -Env. Takes Sample	\$30	\$50
626	Cemetery Review	\$100	\$150
635	Records Search	\$5	\$25
657	Copies-copy fee (per page-electronic or paper)	\$1	\$2

DEALS

~ For ~

DAYS

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
AUGUST 21 & 22

FOOD CITY

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

WHILE
SUPPLIES
LAST.

SAVE OVER
\$200 IN SAVINGS

COUPON EFFECTIVE
AUG. 21 & 22

INSTANT DIGITAL COUPON SAVINGS
LOAD TO YOUR VALUCARD AT FOODCITY.COM OR ON THE FOOD CITY MOBILE APP.

Ground Beef

Food City Fresh, 81% Lean, Per Lb.

ValuCard Price.....4.49

Digital Coupon.....-1.50

FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON

2.99

With Card

With an additional \$25 Purchase

LIMIT 10 LBS.

MUST PURCHASE A MINIMUM OF 1 LB.

\$2.99, per Lb., **with** an additional \$25 purchase. \$4.49, per Lb., **without** an additional \$25 purchase. Limit 1 transaction per customer. ValuCard required.

Bakery Fresh
Apple
Fritters

4 Ct.

3.99

With Card

Selected Varieties
Pepsi Products

24 Pk., 12 Oz. Cans

10.99

With Card

Juicy
Honeycrisp Apples

Per Lb.

1.99

With Card

DIETITIAN'S PICK

Selected Varieties, Nathan's Beef
Franks (11-14 Oz.) or
Johnsonville Brats

12-14 Oz.

4.99

With Card

Hickory Smoked
King's Rightly
Seasoned Bacon

40 Oz.

9.99

With Card

LIMIT 6 EACH

Selected Varieties, Frozen Pillsbury
Toaster Strudel or Toaster Scrambles
(4-6 Ct.) or
Little Debbie Snack
Cakes

6-16.2 Oz.

2/\$5

With Card

Buy 4
SAVE MORE

shortcuts

Fresh Made In-Store
Snack Cups

Each

1.99

With Card

DIETITIAN'S PICK

When you buy 4 in the same transaction.
Lesser quantities are 2.99 each.
Discount applied as a coupon. Customer pays sales tax.

Made Fresh in the Bakery
Sandwich
Cookies

4 Ct.

4.99

With Card

IN THE Bakery

LIMIT 3 EACH

Selected Varieties, Chef Boyardee Pasta (4 Pk.),
Propel (6 Pk., 16.9 Oz. Btls.), Progresso Pitmaster
Soup (18-19 Oz.), Little Hugs (20 Ct.) or
Totino's
Pizza Rolls

50 Ct.

3.99

With Card

LIMIT 2 EACH

Selected Varieties,
Arizona Tea (12 Pk., 16 Oz. Btls.) or
Sunny D

18 Pk.

5.99

With Card

LIMIT 8 EACH

Selected Varieties
Lay's Potato Chips

5-8 Oz.

2.49

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Peter Pan
Peanut Butter (16.3 Oz.) or
General Mills Cereal

8.9-12.3 Oz.

1.99

With Card

Buy 3
SAVE MORE

Selected Varieties
Celsius Energy Drinks

12 Oz.

3/\$5

With Card

When you buy 3 in the same transaction. Lesser quantities
are 2/\$5 each. Limit 2 transactions (6 total items).
Discount applied as a coupon. Customer pays sales tax.

LIMIT 10 EACH

Selected Varieties, Kleenex (60 Ct.),
Maruchan Ramen (6 Ct.) or Frozen
Smart Ones Entrees

6.49-11.5 Oz.

2/\$3

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

Frozen, Selected Varieties,
Pillsbury Grands! Biscuits
(25 Oz.) or
Ore-Ida Potatoes

19-32 Oz.

2/\$6

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

Selected Varieties
Gatorade

8 Pk., 20 Oz. Btls.

2/\$11

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

Frozen, Selected Varieties,
Family Size
SeaPak Shrimp

16-22 Oz.

8.99

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Applesauce
(12 Ct. Pouches) or Frozen
Food Club Chicken

26-32 Oz.

4.99

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Blue Bonnet (32 Oz.),
General Mills Cereal Bars (8 Ct.),
Mott's Soft Baked Bars (6 Ct.) or
Nature Valley
Granola Bars

6-12 Ct.

1.99

With Card

LIMIT 2 EACH

Selected Varieties
Lipton Tea

12 Pk., 16.9 Oz. Btls.

4.99

With Card

Buy 3
SAVE MORE

Selected Varieties,
Pringles Mingles (5.5 Oz.) or
Pringles Party Stacks

7.10 Oz.

1.99

With Card

When you buy 3 in the same transaction. Lesser quantities
are 2/\$5 each. Limit 2 transactions (6 total items).
Discount applied as a coupon. Customer pays sales tax.

LIMIT 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Chex Mix, Bugles
or Gardetto's (5.5-8.75 Oz.) or
Old El Paso
Dinner Kits

5.4-13.25 Oz.

2/\$5

With Card

LIMIT 10 EACH

Selected Varieties, Libby's Green Beans, Corn
or Peas (14.5-15.25 Oz.) or
Van Camp's
Pork and Beans

15 Oz.

5/\$5

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Food Club American
Singles or Deluxe Cheese (16 Oz.),
Pillsbury Sweet Rolls, Crescents or
Pillsbury
Grands! Biscuits

8 Ct.

2/\$5

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

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

45.5-50 Oz.

2/\$7

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Energizer Batteries (16 Ct.),
Scott Bath Tissue (12 Rolls), Scott Paper Towels
(12 Double Rolls) or
Huggies
Little Movers

16-32 Ct.

9.99

With Card

COUPON EFFECTIVE
AUG. 21 -
AUG. 22

INSTANT DIGITAL COUPON SAVINGS
LOAD TO YOUR VALUCARD AT FOODCITY.COM OR ON THE FOOD CITY MOBILE APP.

Chuck Roast

Certified Angus Beef
Per Lb.

ValuCard Price.....6.99

Digital Coupon.....-1.00

FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON

5.99

With Card

LIMIT 10 LBS.

MUST PURCHASE MINIMUM 1 POUND

COUPON EFFECTIVE
AUG. 21 -
AUG. 22

INSTANT DIGITAL COUPON SAVINGS
LOAD TO YOUR VALUCARD AT FOODCITY.COM OR ON THE FOOD CITY MOBILE APP.
CLIP ONCE AND USE UP TO 2X EACH IN ONE TRANSACTION.

Crav'n Flavor
Ice Cream

48 Oz.

ValuCard Price.....4.49

Digital Coupon.....-1.50

FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON

2.99

With Card

USE 2X EACH

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

951 Rainbow Drive Gadsden, AL 35901

SALE DATES: FRI., AUGUST 21 -
SAT., AUGUST 22, 2026

www.foodcity.com

f @FoodCity

2026 Football Preview

Gadsden City
Hokes Bluff
Westbrook
Southside
West End
Glencoe
Etowah
Gaston
Sardis
Coosa



Messenger

Gadsden City	C3
Hokes Bluff	C8
Westbrook	C15
Southside	C12
West End	C10
Glencoe	C11
Etowah	C6
Gaston	C17
Sardis	C19
Coosa	C21



The Messenger would like to offer up a special thanks to the photographers who took the pictures featured in this annual football preview as this newspaper wouldn't be possible without them: Westcott Studios; WQSB; and the parents, coaches, and principals of these talented players.

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Karla McArthur, a contributor for The Messenger, for writing the articles featured in this football preview. She has been irreplaceable within this process, and we greatly appreciate all the work she puts into our newspaper.

Finally, we would like to thank our readers and advertisers, without whom we would not be able to produce special sections like this one.

We hope the 2026 football season is full of success for all of the teams included in this preview! We cannot wait to see you all in action!



Gadsden City Titans



Gadsden City aiming for state title in 2026

Coming off a trip to the second round of the play-offs, Gadsden City head football coach Ali Smith and the Titans are looking to build on last season's success with a young team centered on consistency, accountability and teamwork.

Smith was joined by team leaders Carter Ransaw, Braydon Kittle, Jakari Harris, Sam Sollie and AJ Goodson to discuss the Titans' preparation and expectations for the 2026 season.

"These guys right here, they have done everything we've asked them through the spring," Smith said. "They are the guys that we wanted to come and be with us today as our team captains and leaders going into the 2026 season."

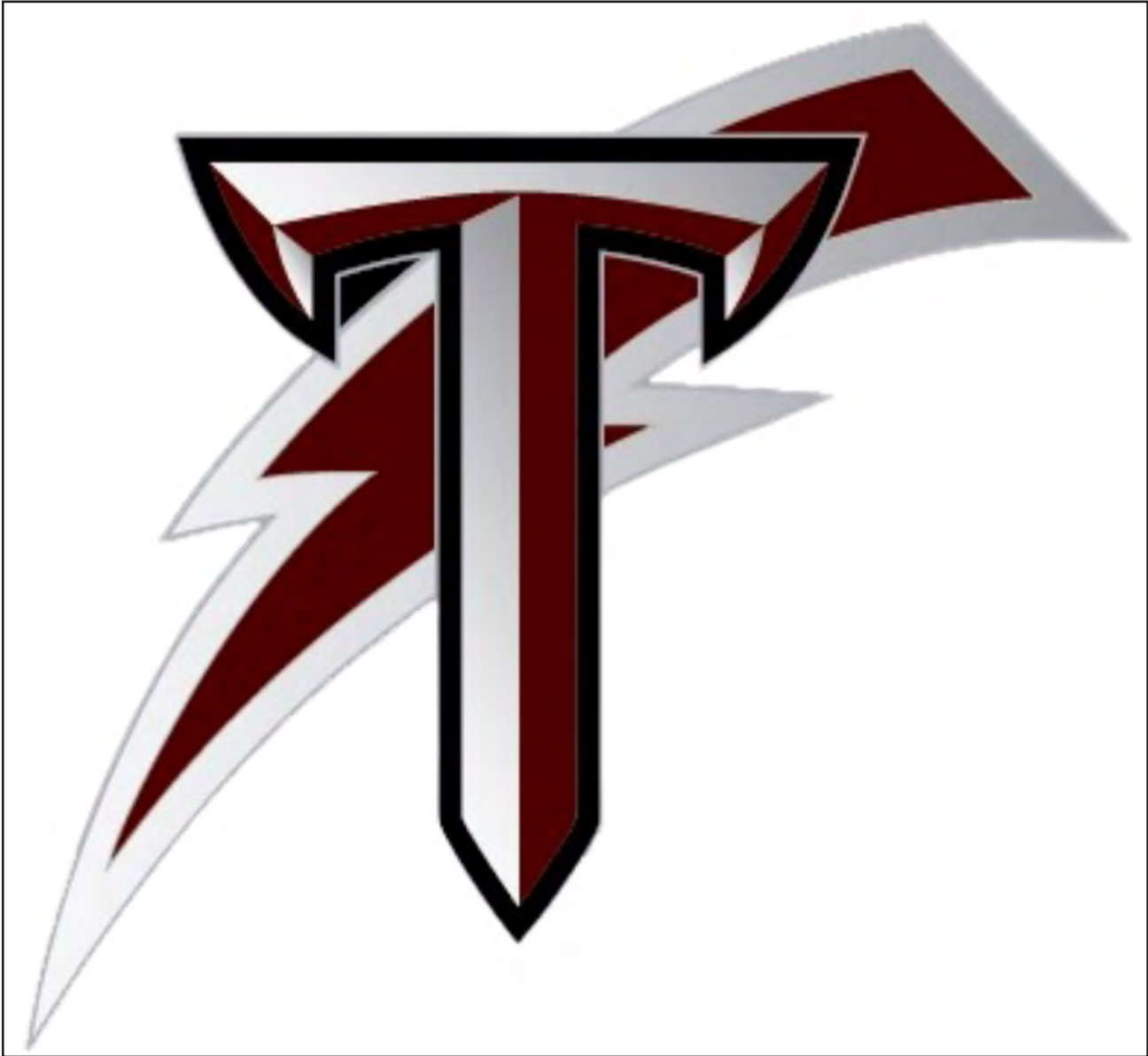
While Gadsden City returns players who contributed to last year's playoff run, Smith said every season requires a team to establish its own identity.

"Every year, pretty much, you start over in a sense," Smith said. "But the foundation, these guys have been there, and they understand the foundation of what we want to do and what we want to be as a football team and as a football program."

The Titans began summer workouts in early June, reporting early in the mornings for training and preparation. Smith said testing late in the summer showed significant progress.

"We definitely have gotten a lot better," Smith said. "We're a fairly new team, a young group of guys, and I'm really proud of where they have come thus far this summer."

Players said the work has extended beyond the weight room and practice field, with teammates holding one another accountable and spending



time together away from football.

Smith believes those relationships could be one of Gadsden City's great strengths.

"I think the strength right now is teamwork, and they understand they hold each other accountable," Smith said. "They believe in each other, and they do extra things. They do a lot of things together on and off the field."

Although the Titans return a number of players, many have limited starting experience. Several younger players will be

asked to take on larger roles this season.

Sophomore center David Pugh was repeatedly mentioned by players as someone expected to make an impact, while Jamarcus Hughes was also identified as a player to watch.

Smith pointed to Dane Terrell, Tommy Jones and Amir Thomas as others who could see expanded roles. He described Thomas as a "blue-collar worker" and utility player capable of contributing in multiple positions.

"He'll do anything,"

Smith said. "He's what I call a utility player. He can play any side of the ball and do anything."

Smith said he is eager to see what players can do when given their opportunity.

"I'm excited to see a lot of young guys and some older guys get opportunities to step up and play," he said.

Those players will be tested as Gadsden City returns to Class 6A competition under the Alabama High School Athletic Association's latest classification.

Smith said the Titans have prepared for the possibility of moving back into a larger classification by continuing to schedule larger programs in recent seasons.

"Even though we were in 6A, we still tried to play 7A," Smith said. "We kept two 7A schools on our schedule every year. We understand that there's always that possibility that we can always go back up."

Gadsden City opens the season against Oxford, beginning what Smith expects to be a challenging

schedule.

"Our kids understand the day-to-day grind," Smith said. "They understand the film study, they understand the weight room, the practices. ... You've got to be ready to go. You've got to be ready to get better."

The Titans are also emphasizing lessons that extend beyond football. Players pointed to perseverance, discipline and accountability as some of the things the game has taught them, while integrity has been a key word within the program.

For Smith, those lessons fit into the larger goal for the season — becoming better players, teammates and individuals each day.

"Our biggest goal as a team is to get better," Smith said. "Every day when I walk in the building, we'll be better. On and off the field, we'll be a better team, better individuals."

Smith said the Titans learned from last season the importance of maintaining their execution throughout a game. Gadsden City's focus entering 2026 is not simply on where it wants to finish, but on improving from one week to the next.

"We want to see our kids being able to play at a high level all four quarters," Smith said. "Those are things that we took from last year."

For a young Titans team facing a demanding schedule, Smith keeps bringing the message back to consistency.

"Get better every week," Smith said. "That's our goal right now, and that's the sole purpose of what we're trying to do."

Gadsden City Schedule

Aug. 21	GCHS vs Oxford
Aug. 28	GCHS at Fort Payne
Sept. 4	GCHS vs Sparkman
Sept. 11	GCHS at James Clemens
Sept. 18	GCHS vs Hazel Green
Sept. 25	GCHS at Fultondale
Oct. 2	GCHS vs Grissom
Oct. 9	GCHS at Huntsville
Oct. 16	GCHS at Buckhorn
Oct. 23	GCHS vs Bob Jones
Oct. 30	OPEN

State Representative Mack N. Butler

GOOD LUCK TO GADSDEN CITY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM





Downtown

GADSDEN Inc.



WE ARE Downtown Gadsden

Small Town. Small Shops.
Big Treasures. Great Tastes

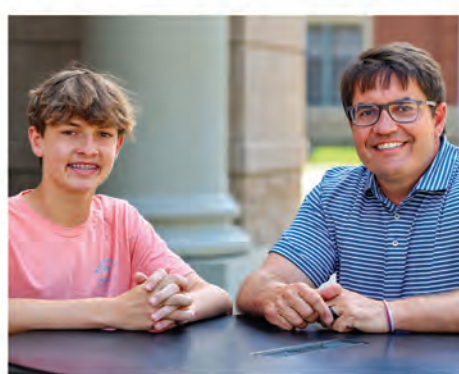


256-547-8696
www.downtowngadsden.com

WHY DO WE CHOOSE TO BE TITANS?



Academics
Facilities
The Arts



Career
Training
And More!



Teams
Clubs
College Prep



Real stories
from real parents
and students on
Why They Choose
To Be Titans.



WATCH THE VIDEO

With more than 4,500 students, every family has its own story. **Watch our short video** to hear some common themes like exceptional opportunities, challenging academics, vibrant diversity, and a genuine sense of community.

 Gadsden City Schools

Good luck this season from **Mayor Craig Ford, the Gadsden City Council and the City of Gadsden!**



LET'S GO TITANS!



Etowah

Blue Devils



Etowah looking to restore winning tradition

under Hawkins

With a new coaching staff, a renewed emphasis on toughness and a veteran group determined to restore the program's winning tradition, Etowah enters the 2026 football season with high expectations.

Head coach Davin Hawkins took over the Blue Devils during the offseason, leaving the team without spring practice while the coaching staff was assembled. Since then, Etowah has used summer workouts to install its offensive and defensive systems and establish a new identity.

With Hawkins unable to attend a recent media event because of a family emergency, Etowah assistant coach Pearson said approximately 52 to 55 players have participated in summer workouts.

One of Hawkins' first priorities was "recruiting the hallways" and encouraging students who could contribute to join the program.

"We're not supposed to be what we've been the last three or four years," the Pearson said. "We're supposed to be what we've been for a long time. We're supposed to win. We're supposed to be in the playoffs. We're supposed to be competitive."

Hawkins has assembled a staff with ties to Etowah and an understanding of the program's tradition.

"They understand what it means to be an Etowah Blue Devil," Pearson said.

Players said Hawkins has quickly earned their respect with a combination of accountability and instruction.

"He's the same person every day," one player said. "The same guy comes in there with the same attitude every day to get better."

Another said Hawkins focuses on teaching when mistakes occur.

"If we ever mess up, it's not just yelling," he said. "He's actually teaching us."

On the field, Etowah expects its strength to be along the offensive and defensive lines. The Blue Devils have size and depth up front, with the coaching staff expecting to rotate several players on both sides of the ball.

"We're going to win or lose in the trenches," Pearson said. "We're blue collar. We're going to line up, and we're going to defend the run, and we're going to run the football."

The coaching staff is also counting on its veterans to provide leadership for younger players.

"They show up and these guys work," Pearson said. "That's the strength of our team."

Etowah's players aren't backing away from high expectations, with several identifying a state championship as their ultimate goal.

For a program looking to regain its traditional place among the area's contenders, the message entering Hawkins' first season is simple.

"We're supposed to win," Pearson said. "We're supposed to be in the playoffs. We're supposed to be competitive."



Etowah Schedule

Aug. 20	Etowah vs Cleburn County
Aug. 28	OPEN
Sept. 4	Etowah vs Hokes Bluff
Sept. 11	Etowah vs Glencoe
Sept. 18	Etowah at Susan Moore
Sept. 25	Etowah at Southside
Oct. 2	Etowah at Vinemont
Oct. 9	Etowah vs Hanceville
Oct. 16	Etowah at Oneonta
Oct. 23	Etowah at Holly
Oct. 30	Etowah vs Douglas



Anderson's

★ Shoes and Boots LLC ★

Hwy 77 - Attalla, Alabama

Hours: Mon.
- Sat. 9-5:30

★



256-538-5582



SUPPORTING SCHOOLS IN OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1909!

LOCAL BANKERS. LOCAL DECISIONS. LOCAL COMMITMENT.



EXCHANGE
BANK

Strength. Growth. Vision.

www.exba.com
(256) 547-2572
Member FDIC

State Representative Mack N. Butler

GOOD LUCK TO ETOWAH HIGH SCHOOL
FOOTBALL TEAM



Good Luck

ETOWAH BLUE DEVILS



612 4th St NW, Attalla, AL
256-538-9986



Hokes Bluff Eagles



After 31 Years, Robertson Says Hokes Bluff Football’s Foundation Remains the Same

Entering his 31st season as Hokes Bluff High School’s head football coach, Mike Robertson is still asked the same question every year.

“When are you going to retire?”

Robertson laughs at the question, joking that he may coach until his fifth-grade grandson graduates high school. But behind the humor is a simple truth.

“These guys keep me doing it,” Robertson said. “I was asked the other day why I’m still coaching. It’s for the players. I enjoy the camaraderie, the organizational part of coaching and the challenges that we face.”

After graduating several standout players over the past two seasons, the Eagles enter the 2026 season with new faces stepping into larger roles as the program moves to Class 3A.

Robertson acknowledged replacing veteran talent will be a challenge but believes the team’s senior leadership has positioned the Eagles for another competitive season.

“We’ve lost some really good players the last two years, but these guys have been part of that,” Robertson said. “I expect good leadership from them, and I feel like we will be competitive.”

Senior leader Brendan Ward, along with his teammates, said the Eagles have spent the summer preparing for the season through weight training, conditioning and team workouts.

“We’ve put a lot of work in this summer,” Ward said. “A lot of these young guys are going to step up this year. A lot of roles are going to have to be filled.”

His teammates echoed that sentiment, pointing to the team’s growth both physically and mentally as younger players prepare to contribute on Friday nights.

Robertson agreed, saying the Eagles had a productive offseason focused on becoming “bigger, faster and stronger.”

“We’ve had a good summer,” he said. “But until you put pads on, you really don’t know. Everybody looks good in shorts.”

While Robertson discussed football preparation, much of his time focused on something deeper than wins and losses.

He repeatedly emphasized Hokes Bluff’s tradition of developing homegrown talent.

The veteran coach noted that only two of the program’s 56 players transferred into Hokes Bluff, a rarity in today’s era of frequent transfers.

“I do not recruit. I do not beg,” Robertson said. “That’s Hokes Bluff. These guys are Hokes Bluff through and through.”

Robertson shared one example of that tra-



dition by highlighting a senior whose family represents four generations of Hokes Bluff football. His great-grandfather helped establish the school’s booster club, his grandfather played for the Eagles, his father played on Hokes Bluff’s 2001 state championship team and now serves as an assistant coach.

“It’s Hokes Bluff kids,” Robertson said. “I’m proud to say that.”

The players said representing Hokes Bluff is about more than football.

“It’s an honor,” one senior said. “We’re a small community, so we’re all like one big family.”

Another player credited Robertson and his staff for preparing players for life beyond the field.

“Coach is an outstanding coach, but he’s a better person,” he said. “He’s not just coaching us to play football. He’s preparing us to be men.”

When asked about his coaching staff, Robertson became emotional while reflecting on the continuity of the program.

In 31 seasons, he has worked with just two primary coaching staffs. Many of his assistants are former Hokes Bluff players, including members of the Eagles’ 2001 state championship team. Others coach multiple sports throughout the school year.

“I’m really more proud of that as a head coach,” Robertson said. “Those assistant coaches need to be talked about. They’re all good people, they know the game, but they

know life. They make my job so easy.”

As for expectations this season, Robertson declined to make bold predictions.

Instead, he pointed back to the philosophy that has guided his program for more than three decades.

“I think we’re going to be competitive,” he said. “We’re going to do the best we can every day.”

For Robertson, after 31 years on the sidelines, the measure of success remains unchanged—not simply championships, but continuing a culture built on family, tradition, leadership and the players who proudly call Hokes Bluff home.

Hokes Bluff Schedule

Aug. 21	Hokes Bluff at Westbrook
Aug. 27	Hokes Bluff vs Southside
Sept. 4	Hokes Bluff at Etowah
Sept. 11	Hokes Bluff at Susan Moore
Sept. 18	Hokes Bluff vs Oneonta
Sept. 25	Hokes Bluff at White Plains
Oct. 2	Hokes Bluff vs Holly Pond
Oct. 9	Hokes Bluff at Vinemont
Oct. 16	Hokes Bluff at Hanceville
Oct. 23	Hokes Bluff vs Glencoe
Oct. 30	Hokes Bluff vs Munford

You'll like banking with us!

Team up with us and reach new financial heights with our personalized services and winning strategies.



PEOPLES INDEPENDENT BANK
~ PIB Mortgage

BOAZ • SCOTTSBORO • HOKES BLUFF • DOUGLAS • STEELE
GURLEY • FYFFE • POWELL • SYLVANIA



MEMBER FDIC
NMLS #466340

CITY OF HOKES BLUFF

(256) 492-2416 ~ www.cityofhokesbluff.com ~ 3301 Alford Bend Road, Hokes Bluff, AL 35903





Hokes Bluff City Council



Council Member - David Bankson
Council Member - Will Battles
Mayor Pro-Team - Larry Sandlin
City Clerk - Lisa Lowman
Mayor - Scott Reeves
Council Member - Chuck Robinson
Council Member - Walt Simmons

Good Luck

Hokes Bluff

High School Football Team

CECIL R. DORSETT, DMD

Certified by the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery



Choose an oral surgeon who is local and here when you need them.

When your dental needs require a specialist, whether it is for wisdom teeth, dental implants, or any surgical procedure, give us a call or visit our website at www.osassoc.com

910 Goodyear Avenue • Gadsden, AL | 256.492.6363
200-E SandMountainDrive • Albertville, AL | 256.878.1387

www.osassoc.com



Art work copyrighted by APG Local.



West End Patriots

West End Schedule

Aug. 21 vs Cedar Bluff	Sept. 18 at Saks	Oct. 16 at Ohatchee
Aug. 28 OPEN	Sept. 25 vs Sardis	Oct. 23 vs Pleasant Valley
Sept. 4 at Gaston	Oct. 2 vs Vincent	Oct. 30 at Appalachian
Sept. 11 vs Piedmont	Oct. 9 at Wellborn	



Harris, experienced West End Patriots ready to take next step

With an experienced roster and an offseason focused on mental toughness, West End High School head football coach Matt Harris believes the Patriots are ready to take another step forward this season.

Joining Harris to discuss the upcoming season were West End players Brooks Golden, Cody Campbell, Zeke Williams and Michael Deleon.

West End recently completed its summer conditioning program, and Harris said the Patriots made strides both physically and mentally.

“We got stronger mentally, and that was the most important part for this team,” Harris said. “We’re pretty good in the weight room, pretty good on the hoof. It’s a much faster team than we’ve had. So we really just needed to find out where we were mentally. Could we finish things that were hard?”

That toughness could prove valuable for a team returning considerable experience on both sides of the ball.

The Patriots have been relatively young the past two seasons, and last year’s close losses provided valuable experience. Harris said West End was within a score in the fourth quarter of several games but was unable to finish.

“You bring all those guys back who have experienced those close losses, and you expect the next step to be for us to win those close games,” Harris said. “You can’t do that if you don’t have experience in that situation.”

West End returns most of its starters, including several younger players who gained significant playing time because of injuries last season.

“We’ve got guys who’ve been through every imaginable situation on the field that you can deal with,” Harris said. “Having that experience when it gets to that place where it’s tough and it’s tight — this group is going to know what they’re capable of.”

The Patriots will also rely on their seniors for leadership. Golden, Campbell, Hannah and Deleon said Harris’ confidence in his players carries a responsibility to lead their teammates through adversity.

They also credited Harris and the game of football with teaching lessons beyond the field.

“One thing that Coach Harris has taught us over the years is being a man,” one senior said. “You’ve got to show up, and you’ve got to do what’s right.”

West End’s approach to the season is summed up in its offseason motto: “Win One.”

The philosophy is to win one rep, one day, one practice and one game at a time. Harris said the same mentality will be used as the Patriots navigate their region schedule.

“We deal with that one week at a time,” Harris said. “We’re going to win one, and then we’ll move on to the next one. We’re not going to worry about anybody until we get to them.”

While the Patriots hope that approach leads to more wins and postseason success, Harris said his ultimate goal as a coach extends far beyond Friday nights.

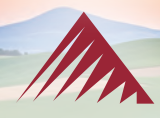
“It’s to turn out a group of good husbands and good fathers,” Harris said. “That’s my goal, and if that’s not the goal of every coach that walks in here, they’re falling short.”

For Harris, preparing players for life remains the program’s most important measure of success.

“My job is to make sure these young men leave our program and are able to go out and be a Godly husband and have children that come back to our program and know how to behave, know what an expectation is and know what a standard is,” Harris said. “If that’s not my goal, then I need to get out of the job.”

You’ll like banking with us!

Team up with us and reach new financial heights with our personalized services and winning strategies.



PEOPLES INDEPENDENT BANK
PIB Mortgage

BOAZ • SCOTTSBORO • HOKES BLUFF • DOUGLAS • STEELE
GURLEY • FYFFE • POWELL • SYLVANIA

MEMBER FDIC
NMLS # 466340



SUPPORTING SCHOOLS IN OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1909!

LOCAL BANKERS. LOCAL DECISIONS. LOCAL COMMITMENT.

EXB EXCHANGE BANK
Strength. Growth. Vision.

www.exba.com
(256) 547-2572
Member FDIC



Glencoe

Yellow Jackets



Glencoe building on winning foundation entering 2026 season

Coming off a 7-4 season and a return to the playoffs, Glencoe enters 2026 with a new head coach, an experienced senior class and expectations of building on last year’s success.

New head coach Brandon “B.J.” Brooks said the Yellow Jackets’ 2025 season established an important foundation for the program.

“I think last year was a good foundation for us,” Brooks said. “It was about learning to win and believing we can have success. We’ve got high-character guys who are good athletes and work really hard.”

Spring practice gave Brooks and his staff an early opportunity to install offensive and defensive systems following coaching changes.

“We had a spring this year, and it helped us get a jump start,” Brooks said. “Some things carried over into the summer and some didn’t, but our guys worked hard all summer, and we’re excited to see where the season takes us.”

The Yellow Jackets believe last year’s playoff appearance changed the mindset within the program.

“We got a taste of winning,” one senior said. “This year we’re trying to win even more games, get back to the playoffs and make a deeper run.”

The senior class has played under three head coaches during its high school career, adjusting to different systems along the way. Brooks praised the group for navigating those changes.

“Sometimes in life you have a different boss every year,” Brooks said. “These guys have handled that well. My goal is to be here a long time and provide stability for them.”



Brooks also wants his seniors to understand that leadership extends beyond football.

“I want these guys to become the best men they can be,” he said. “I want them to be good fathers, good spouses and good employees. Of course we want to

win football games, but that’s not the only goal.”

For Brooks, taking over the program is also a homecoming.

“This is home,” he said. “This is where I grew up. I live just a couple of minutes from the field house. Growing up, I’d walk to the stadium wearing my Glencoe Pee Wee jersey. It’s a blessing

to be back.”

One of Glencoe’s biggest challenges will be replacing several graduated offensive linemen. While the group lacks varsity experience, Brooks and his players have seen improvement throughout the offseason.

Among the returning players Brooks expects to make an impact are Bryce Borntrager, Jalen Hunter, Jayman Mint, Bronner McMurray, Jojo Bethel and Alex Hudson Jr.

Glencoe will also face a different region schedule with Etowah, Hokes Bluff and Anniston dropping from Class 4A.

“Those teams have been playing a tough brand of football,” Brooks said. “We’re familiar with Hokes Bluff — that rivalry has been around forever. We know Etowah, and we’ve competed against them in 7-on-7 this summer. We’re looking forward to the challenge and to showing people what Glencoe football is all about.”

For the Yellow Jackets, that identity centers on toughness and representing their community.

“We want to be the toughest team around,” one player said. “No matter how many times we get knocked down, we’re going to keep coming back.”

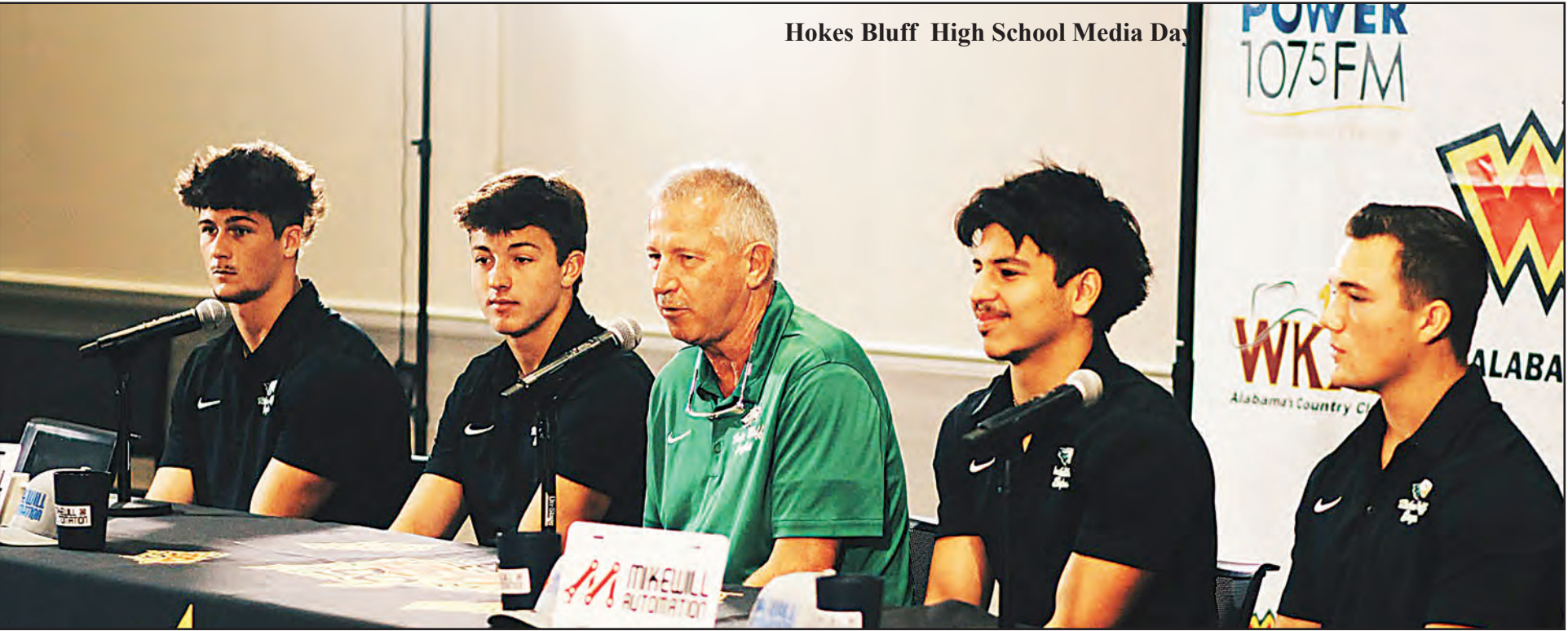
Brooks said that mentality goes hand in hand with his larger goal for the program.

“I want people to be proud to be from Glencoe,” he said. “I want people to be proud of how our players behave, how they carry themselves and how they represent this community.”

Glencoe Schedule

Aug. 21 Glencoe at Hayden
Aug. 28 OPEN
Sept. 4 Glencoe vs. Susan Moore
Sept. 11 Glencoe at Etowah
Sept. 18 Glencoe vs. Hanceville
Sept. 25 Glencoe at Ohatchee

Oct. 2 Glencoe at Oneonta
Oct. 9 Glencoe at Holly Pond
Oct. 16 Glencoe vs. Vinemont
Oct. 23 Glencoe at Hokes Bluff
Oct. 30 Glencoe vs. White Plains





outhside
Panthers



Southside leaning on experience,
renewed commitment entering 2026
season

Coming off a difficult season, Southside High School head football coach Miles Holcomb sees something different in his Panthers entering 2026.

Southside players Noah Thompson, Case Clough, Luke Olson, Kolby Dodd, Jaydon McElrath, Colin Futral and Jamel Boyd joined Holcomb at media day to discuss an offseason that began almost immediately after last season ended.

Holcomb said the Panthers traditionally take some time away from football following the season, but his players were ready to get back to work.

“As soon as we came back the next week, we turned our stuff in, did some inventory, and they were like, ‘Coach, when do we start?’” Holcomb said.

That response helped set the tone for an offseason Holcomb believes the program desperately needed.

“It had been since after the ’22 season that we’d had a real offseason without any type of chaos,” Holcomb said. “Our program needed it. It needed stability.”

The Panthers began offseason work Nov. 5 and maintained strong participation throughout the winter and summer. Holcomb said approximately 38 players regularly attended voluntary workouts during Christmas break, while June attendance remained above 90%.

That commitment has helped create a different atmosphere around the program.

“Being able to have a full and complete offseason has been



crucial to our team,” Olson said. “One of the problems we had last season was our lack of leadership and complete chaos in the beginning of the offseason. This season, we’ve had a tremendous amount of leadership, gained strength and just overall connection. It has changed the dynamic.”

Southside will lean heavily on an experienced senior class that includes several three- and four-year starters.

“This group is special,” Holcomb said. “We have a lot of experience. It’s really the con-

trast of what it was last year.”

Holcomb has also changed the way he measures success. Rather than allowing wins and losses to define the Panthers, he wants his team focused on maximizing its potential.

“We had one goal,” Holcomb said. “Our goal was to try to find the best version of us, to reach our full potential. We can’t control who lines up across from us. We couldn’t control what region they put us in.”

Southside faces a demanding schedule, including nonregional games against Chelsea,

Hokes Bluff, Etowah and Anderson. Holcomb said the Panthers understand they will have to play well each week to give themselves an opportunity to win.

They also know expectations outside the program may be low.

“We’re not running from anything,” Holcomb said. “If everybody else thinks we belong, maybe we do.”

His players echoed that attitude, repeatedly mentioning a desire to prove doubters wrong while establishing themselves

as leaders for Southside’s younger players.

Several said the difference is noticeable in the team’s willingness to work and sacrifice for one another.

“We’ve just been able to come in this offseason and work our tails off,” one player said. “We’re out there every single day grinding, pushing each other every single day to get better.”

Holcomb believes that work has produced one of the most connected groups Southside has had in recent years.

“This group right here is as together and as connected a group as we’ve had in a minute,” he said. “I’ve thoroughly enjoyed watching guys grow and just get better day in and day out.”

Holcomb also wants his seniors to appreciate their final season rather than constantly looking toward the next game or milestone.

“They’ve waited for four years to get this opportunity,” he said. “We’re not going to wish it away.”

For Southside, that means concentrating less on predictions and more on making the most of each day.

Holcomb believes if the Panthers do that, the results will follow.

“We feel like we’re good enough that if we can find a way to reach our full potential,” he said, “the wins and losses will take care of themselves.”

Southside Schedule

- Aug. 21 Southside vs. Chelsea
- Aug. 27 Southside at Hokes Bluff
- Sept. 4 OPEN
- Sept. 11 Southside vs Clay-Chalkville
- Sept. 18 Southside at Pinson Valley
- Sept. 25 Southside vs Etowah
- Oct. 2 Southside vs Springville
- Oct. 9 Southside at Pell City
- Oct. 16 Southside at Oxford
- Oct. 23 Southside vs St. Clair County
- Oct. 30 Southside at Anniston

State Representative Mack N. Butler

GOOD LUCK TO SOUTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL
FOOTBALL TEAM



Join the Family.

Feel Right at Home.

At Family, you're more than an account number. You're part of something bigger. We believe banking should be simple, safe and all about you. That's why we work hard to help you save, borrow and plan with confidence.

FamilySavingsCU.com
888-311-3728



Federally Insured by NCUA



we protect your house. because to you it's home.

simple human sense.



FORD

INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

cfordinsurance.com 256-413-7611

1957 Rainbow Drive, Gadsden, AL 35901

AUTO • HOME • LIFE • BUSINESS

Auto-Owners

INSURANCE

LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

CITY OF SOUTHSIDE



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:
DANNY GARNETT, SHANE HAMM, JOSEPH HUTCHINS,
MAYOR JOEY STATUM, JENNIFER MCGRIFF, KEITH CLAY



*Best of luck to
Southside High
School Football
Team*

**WELCOME TO SOUTHSIDE! AS MAYOR,
I'M COMMITTED TO OPEN COMMUNICATION,
SMART GROWTH, AND PRESERVING OUR
SMALL-TOWN CHARM. TOGETHER, WE'LL
STRENGTHEN OUR ECONOMY,
SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS,
AND KEEP SOUTHSIDE A GREAT
PLACE TO LIVE, WORK,
AND RAISE A FAMILY.**

Mayor Joey Statum

cityofsouthside.com

2255 Highway 77, Southside, Alabama, 35907

256-442-9775

Westbrook Christian Warriors



Westbrook Christian enters 2026 season with high expectations

With 18 seniors, an experienced roster and momentum from a successful 2025 campaign, Westbrook Christian head coach Steve Smith has high expectations for the Warriors heading into the 2026 football season.

Westbrook advanced to the second round of the playoffs last season before falling on the road to Geraldine. The Warriors' only regular-season loss came against Piedmont in a game with region championship implications.

"I think we did a lot as far as closing the gap between the upper part of Class 3A and the middle, which we were kind of stuck at," Smith said. "The guys deserve credit for the work they put in, laying the foundation and continuing to lay the foundation for where we want to be this upcoming year."

Warrior players Carter Cothran, Brooks Whiteside, Parker Sims, Read Barber and Titus Jones joined Smith to discuss the upcoming season. Smith said the five represent a senior class that has been instrumental in the program's growth.

"These guys are big contributors for us on each side of the ball," Smith said. "They've been in the program the entire time I've been at Westbrook. They're extremely hard workers, and they reflect that entire senior class."

The Warriors have spent the summer focusing on strength, condi-



tioning and speed while also participating in camps and 7-on-7 competitions.

Smith said consistency has been the key.

"Just being able to come every day with good energy and work to get better," he said. "We do weight room, conditioning and speed training every day."

For Smith and his players, the work is also about developing qualities that extend beyond football.

"Very few things in life are given to you," Smith said. "Things that mean the most to you are typically the things you work the hardest to attain."

The players echoed

Smith's emphasis on discipline, perseverance and teamwork, saying football has taught them to learn from mistakes, accept coaching and continue working through difficult circumstances.

Smith believes those lessons are part of what makes the sport valuable.

"Teamwork is having to depend on the guy beside you," he said. "It's not wanting to let the guy beside you down. You can't just do it on the days you feel good."

Westbrook will put that experience to the test against a challenging 2026 schedule that includes several unfamiliar opponents fol-

lowing changes to the Alabama High School Athletic Association's public-private alignment.

The Warriors will face programs including Shoals Christian, Lindsay Lane, Decatur Heritage and Whitesburg Christian, along with perennial contenders Mars Hill Bible, Fyffe and Trinity Presbyterian.

"I think if you look at our schedule, there won't be a tougher schedule for people to navigate than ours," Smith said. "We made it a tough schedule on purpose."

Despite the changes, Smith said Westbrook's objective remains unchanged.

"We're going to play the schedule that's in front of us, and we're going to try to compete to win the state private championship," he said. "The goal remains the same."

For the Warriors, accomplishing that goal will require the team-first approach Smith has emphasized throughout the offseason.

"We're all about winning games and whatever it takes," Smith said. "I'm a team-first guy, and I appreciate these guys for their buy-in and all of our team for what we're trying to do."

"We have high expectations, and everybody's individual goals will probably be met if we meet our team goals."

Westbrook Schedule

Aug. 20	Westbrook vs Hokes Bluff
Aug. 28	Westbrook at Ashville
Sept. 4	Westbrook vs Mars Hill Bible
Sept. 11	Westbrook at Coosa Christian
Sept. 18	Westbrook vs Decatur Hertiage
Sept. 25	Westbrook vs Oneonta
Oct. 2	Westbrook at Lindsey Lane
Oct. 9	Westbrook vs Trinity Presbyterian
Oct. 16	Westbrook at Shoals Christian
Oct. 23	Westbrook vs Whitesburg Chrisitan
Oct. 30	Westbrook at Fyffe



LOCAL BANKERS. LOCAL DECISIONS. LOCAL COMMITMENT.

EXB EXCHANGE BANK

Strength. Growth. Vision. www.exba.com
(256)-547-2572

FDIC FDIC Insured - Backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government

Johnson's
GIANTS
FOODS

PROUD
TO
SUPPORT
OUR LOCAL
HIGH SCHOOL
FOOTBALL TEAMS

ATTALLA | GADSDEN | EAST GADSDEN
JACKSONVILLE | COLDWATER | SOUTHSIDE

TALGATE
foods

QUALITY FOODS

FRESH MEATS

DELI FAVORITES

GAME DAY ESSENTIALS

You Belong with OLLI

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Discover the joy of learning with the Gadsden chapter of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UA! An enriching experience for adults 50+, OLLI offers fun and engaging non-credit courses and social events. Explore the world through domestic and international travel opportunities. Online courses also available.



“I am thankful for the friendships I am gaining while being able to learn.”
— Tish Quinn, Gadsden chapter member

OLLI is for Everyone!
olli@ua.edu | 205-348-6482 | olli.ua.edu



**Scan Here
to Join**

Gaston Bulldogs



Gaston Bulldogs aim for playoffs in second season under Dupree

After a 1-9 season in 2025, Gaston coach Randy Dupree enters his second season with the Bulldogs believing his team has laid the foundation for a turnaround.

Dupree, who took over the program last year, said establishing a strong culture was the priority during his first season.

"It was a learning experience," Dupree said. "But I think our guys got better. We didn't have anyone quit. That was really important to me — building a culture of guys that wanted to be at Gaston and wanted to work."

The Bulldogs return much of last year's roster, giving Gaston valuable experience heading into the 2026 season. Dupree said the team has also developed considerable talent at the skill positions.

"I don't know if I've been around as many skill players as we have that can really score when they touch the football," he said.

Gaston's offseason work began in April with spring practice and a competitive spring game against Glencoe. The Bulldogs continued through the summer with 7-on-7 competition and offseason workouts.

Dupree said attendance and commitment have been strong.

"Our guys have really bought in," he said. "I've let them know that it's your team. Hold each other accountable. We've had great attendance, and we've really competed well all summer."

Representing Gaston at Media Day were Zyien Dupree, Tavis Brown, Rylan Fleming, Chapman Clay and Maddox Eagly. The players said having Dupree back for a second season has provided stability after several coaching changes in recent years.

"I've been at Gaston since seventh grade, and we've had four different coaches," one player said. "Having the same coach ... I believe in it now."

The Bulldogs will compete in a new Region 6 this season, with Piedmont, Pleasant Valley, Ohatchee and Saks among the opponents on the schedule.

Dupree said his players are focused less on their opponents and more on improving themselves.

"We have to get 1% better every day, and you have to do your job," he said.

The players share Dupree's confidence.

"It doesn't really matter who's in our region because we can stack up to anybody," one player said. "I believe we've got the players and the coaches to do it."

For Gaston's seniors, the season is also about making the most of their final opportunity to play together. The Bulldogs have not reached the playoffs since 2016.

"My goal is to go out there and, being a senior, enjoy my last opportunity to play football with these



guys and make it something I remember for the rest of my life," one player said.

Dupree said making the playoffs is a goal, but reaching it will require consistent work.

"It's really easy to talk about your goals, write them on the board and say what you want to do," Dupree said. "But that's just the easy part."

He said he wants his players to show their

commitment in the weight room, classroom and community as well as on the field.

"Show me that you want to make the playoffs," Dupree said. "Show me that you want to be the

first team that has made a playoff since 2016."

The Bulldogs open the 2026 season against Spring Garden.

Gaston Schedule		
Aug. 20	at Spring Garden	
Aug. 28	vs Cedar Bluff	
Sept. 4	vs West End	
Sept. 11	at Pleasant Valley	
Sept. 18	at Piedmont	
Sept. 25	OPEN	
Oct. 2	vs Sacks	
Oct. 9	at Vincent	
Oct. 16	vs Wellborn	
Oct. 23	vs Ohatchee	
Oct. 30	at Ashville	

GAME DAY FINDS
AT NANA'S ATTIC





WOMEN'S & CHILDREN'S SHOES



JEWELRY



CLOTHING
Including
NAME BRANDS!



A VARIETY OF HOUSEHOLD ITEMS



COLLECTIBLES & MORE!



FOR ALL YOUR
FALL & WINTER NEEDS!



SHOP TUESDAY - FRIDAY 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.

256-546-9281 | 429 EWING AVENUE
NORTH GADSDEN, AL. 35901



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



FORD

INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

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

Auto-Owners

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY



Sardis Lions



Sardis embracing youth and new culture under Tidwell

With a young roster, a new coaching staff and a renewed emphasis on culture, Sardis is approaching the 2026 football season as an opportunity to build something that lasts.

Under new head coach Wes Tidwell, the Lions have spent the offseason establishing expectations in the weight room and on the practice field while relying on a small senior class to set the tone for a roster filled with underclassmen.

Sardis has six or seven seniors and about 10 juniors, with the remainder of the roster made up primarily of sophomores and freshmen.

Rather than view the youth as a disadvantage, the Lions are embracing it.

Assistant coach Byron Williams, speaking on Tidwell's behalf, said the staff's priority has been establishing a culture capable of sustaining the program well beyond this season.

"How you do anything is how you do everything," Williams said. "We're trying to build it brick by brick from the ground up."

The changes have been noticeable throughout the summer, particularly in the weight room.

Players described workouts as faster, more intense and more disciplined than in previous seasons. They also credited the new staff with creating an atmosphere in which teammates continually push one another.

"The biggest change is the atmosphere," Rowan said. "Every single one of us is pushing each other to get better. We're always working hard."

Another said the pace of workouts has helped players grow stronger while creating greater accountability throughout the team.

That intensity carries onto the prac-



tice field, where the coaching staff has attempted to keep sessions fast-paced and as close to game conditions as possible.

The players said the biggest differ-

ence, however, goes beyond schemes, conditioning or strength gains.

They believe the program is becoming a family.

Several seniors said football has

helped them develop leadership skills, handle adversity and become more accountable — lessons they expect to carry with them after their playing careers end.

"For me personally, I think it's brought me out of my shell a lot," Uhiren said. "Stepping into a leadership position with all these young guys has really gotten me to vocalize myself a lot more."

Rowan pointed to the experience gained through difficult seasons as something that has strengthened the group's bond.

"We've had good and bad, and we've learned over the years," he said. "I think that will help me out in life because I know how to handle adversity and tough situations."

Those experiences have also created urgency for a senior class entering its final season.

The Lions aren't hiding their desire to win and surprise opponents, but players repeatedly emphasized leaving the program better than they found it.

"This is our last season, our last run," Uhiren said. "I want to walk off that field after my last game with no regrets."

Stone said his goal is to help prepare Sardis' younger players to eventually assume the leadership roles the seniors now hold.

With Tidwell and his staff establishing a new foundation, the Lions believe that willingness to invest in the future could prove just as important as what happens on Friday nights.

For Sardis, the process begins with the same message that has defined its offseason — build it from the ground up, one brick at a time.

Sardis Schedule

Aug. 21	Sardis vs Haralson County (GA)	Oct. 2	Sardis at Good Hope
Aug. 28	Sardis at Guntersville	Oct. 9	Sardis vs Cherokee County
Sept. 4	OPEN	Oct. 16	Sardis at Hayden
Sept. 11	Sardis vs Crossville	Oct. 23	Sardis vs Scottsboro
Sept. 18	Sardis vs Fairview	Oct. 30	Sardis at Brewer
Sept. 25	Sardis at West End		

You'll like banking with us!

Team up with us and reach new financial heights with our personalized services and winning strategies.



PEOPLES INDEPENDENT BANK
& PIB Mortgage

BOAZ • SCOTTSBORO • HOKES BLUFF • DOUGLAS • STEELE
GURLEY • FYFFE • POWELL • SYLVANIA



MEMBER FDIC
NMLS #466340



SUPPORTING SCHOOLS IN OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1909!

LOCAL BANKERS. LOCAL DECISIONS. LOCAL COMMITMENT.



EXCHANGE BANK

Strength. Growth. Vision. www.exba.com
(256)-547-2572

FDIC FDIC Insured - Backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government





GADSDEN STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



5 CAMPUSES
AYERS - ANNISTON
CHEROKEE - CENTRE
EAST BROAD - GADSDEN
WALLACE DRIVE - GADSDEN
VALLEY STREET- GADSDEN



ONLINE FROM ANYWHERE!

GADSDENSTATE.EDU



Coosa Christian Conquerors



Coosa Christian looks to senior leadership in title defense

Coosa Christian enters the 2026 season with a new head coach, but the defending state champions have no plans to change the standard that got them there.

First-year head coach Alaric Williams, who has spent the past four years with the Conquerors, takes over a program replacing nine seniors from last season's championship team. He believes an experienced senior class can help bridge that gap.

"Our standard hasn't changed, and that's what's got us to the success that we're at right now," Williams said. "We've had great senior leadership over the past four years as well, and now it's their time to step up and be leaders."

Among those seniors are Trevon Heard, Rex Dodd, Halen Palmer and Hayden Pearce, each of whom has been part of two state championship runs.

"They understand how to get there, and they understand the way that it's supposed to be structured, the way it's supposed to be done," Williams said.

That experience takes on added importance for a younger roster and a program undergoing a coaching transition.

Williams recently met

with his nine seniors about taking ownership of the team and helping establish a player-led culture.

"I wouldn't trust another group of seniors to accomplish that job," Williams said. "I have full faith that they're going to do what they're supposed to do as seniors."

His familiarity with the program has helped ease the transition.

"I think the biggest thing is that he knows the standard, and nothing's really changed because he's been here through the losses and he's been here through the wins," Heard said. "We keep that standard, and we owe it to the guys who came before us."

Dodd said the trust between Williams and the players was already in place before he took over the program.

"Ever since I've been here, he's always got my back," Dodd said. "With a new guy coming in, you've got to remake yourself and go through all these things. But right now, it's just as close as we'll be."

Coosa Christian will test that experience early with a demanding nonregion schedule.

The Class 1A Conquerors open against Pierce



County, Georgia, a perennial state championship contender that has beaten Coosa Christian each of the past two seasons. The schedule also includes larger Alabama programs.

"If you're a competitor, it kind of gets your mojo going," Williams said.

The approach has worked before. Coosa Christian lost to Pierce County in 2024 before winning the remainder of its games. Last season, the Conquerors lost to Pierce County and Pell

City before going unbeaten the rest of the way.

Williams said facing larger programs carries risks for a roster with limited numbers, but the benefits outweigh them.

"The biggest pro is we throw our guys in the fire and we get to test their mentality very, very early on," Williams said. "We get to find out who's going to quit, who's not going to quit on the team."

The faster game speed also prepares Coosa Chris-

tian for postseason play.

"When you go and you see a high level of game speed like that Week 1, Week 2, and then you come back and you're playing in your 1A division, it makes life a lot easier for these guys," Williams said.

For Williams, the goal is for his seniors to eventually take much of the responsibility for maintaining the program's expectations.

"The less talking and screaming we've got to do, the more focus we can put into what we need to be focusing on as coaches," Williams said. "These guys can take the reins of holding the line with the team."

For Heard, Dodd, Palmer and Pearce, that means passing along more than a winning tradition. The seniors pointed to faith, discipline, brotherhood and leadership among the lessons they have learned through the program.

"For me, I think the biggest thing in my life is it's really taught me how to be a good, godly man and to lead as a man," Heard said. "Just being a part of the team, working together,

going through tough times, easy times and knowing how to react to that."

The Conquerors enter the season with an opportunity to repeat as state champions, but Dodd said they understand another title will have to be earned one day at a time.

"We have the back-to-back mentality, yes, but we're not going to get there if we don't take it day by day and step by step," Dodd said. "Everything we want to achieve, we can achieve."

Palmer said the seniors have a responsibility to show younger players how to meet the program's expectations.

"You've got to make them learn how to be successful," Palmer said.

For Pearce, success begins with effort.

"My biggest team goal is that, win or lose, we go out there and play with 110% every single play," Pearce said.

The destination Coosa Christian is chasing is familiar. With a new head coach and a championship-tested senior class, the Conquerors will find out whether the standard that carried them to the top can keep them there.

Coosa Schedule

Aug. 28	Coosa vs Pierce County, GA	Oct. 2	OPEN
Sept. 4	Coosa at WCA	Oct. 9	Coosa vs Decatur Heritage
Sept. 11	Coosa vs Westbrook	Oct. 16	Coosa at Lindsey Lane
Sept. 18	Coosa vs Mars Hill Bible	Oct. 23	Coosa at Shoals Christian
Sept. 25	Coosa vs Russellville	Oct. 30	OPEN



SOUTHTOWNE **MINI WAREHOUSES**

Etowah County's LARGEST **Self-Storage Facility**

- **1,500 units**
- **24/7 access**
- **Both standard units and climate-controlled units available**
- **RV/boat storage**
- **Weekend move-ins available**



 **SouthtowneMiniWarehouses.com**

 **256-442-1951**

Two great locations to serve you:
199 Woodland Drive in Rainbow City
301 Irby Boulevard near Noccalula Falls