



GPL

By Lindsey Frazier
News Editor

Gadsden City Schools and the Gadsden Public Library partnered for an evening of games, treats and dancing Wednesday at The Cola Warehouse as part of Lights On Afterschool.

The warehouse was transformed into a community celebration honoring after-school programs and the children they serve. Lights On Afterschool is a nationwide initiative that advocates for affordable after-school programs for every child.

Inside, the warehouse took on the feel of an old-school arcade, with games lining the walls. Craft tables gave children the opportunity to make bracelets or keychains while Bama Photobooths provided photo booths and The LilyPad Florist handed out floral arrangements.



GPL - Page A4

Lindsey Frazier|The Messenger

SCAN ME



INSIDE THIS EDITION



See photos from Artober, Loblolly and more events in our art section.

See Page A7



Gadsden State Community College Show Band performed at Artober on Oct. 15.

See Page B4



Attalla's annual Heritage Day was held on Saturday in downtown Attalla.

See Page A2

17th Annual A Walk Through Time celebrates 250 years of America

On Sunday, Oct. 18, Forrest Cemetery held its 17th annual A Walk Through Time from 2 to 4:30 p.m. The event began with opening remarks from Michael Rodgers, Secretary of the Forrest Cemetery Board, who explained the premise of A Walk Through Time — for Etowah County residents to learn more about the history of the locals who came before them by bringing them back to life. Through performances, oftentimes by descendants of the deceased themselves, the event proved able to breathe new life into history itself. He also added that the event has continuously played a crucial role in cemetery renovation and upkeep, stating that it had raised over \$130,000 for cemetery renovation and upkeep since it began 17 years ago. This year alone had gathered over \$8,000 in sponsorships.

This year's theme, Rodgers emphasized, would also honor the 250th anniversary of the United States and those who helped the nation gain its freedom.

Other notable figures, like Gadsden City Council President Kent Back and former City Clerk Iva Nelson, also presented various performances in line with America's 250th anniversary, including a partial reading of the Declaration of Independence by Back and a performance of the Star-Spangled Banner by Nelson.

Jesse Battles, candidate for District 10 Alabama State Senate, was also present and spoke about various Revolutionary War veterans, including his own ancestor, William Noel Battles.

Young and old alike attended the event, making for a packed-out day at the cemetery as locals spent their afternoon taking a walk through time.



Walk - Page A3

Caylie Moore|The Messenger

Ballot Correction

Editor's Note: An error was made on the ballot published Oct. 16. The images (right, below) contain the accurate titles and party affiliations matching the official state ballot.

FOR MEMBER,
ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION,
DISTRICT NO. 1
(Vote for One)

☐ MIKE POWELL
Republican



Write-in

FOR MEMBER,
ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION,
DISTRICT NO. 4
(Vote for One)

☐ TIM F. RAMSEY
Republican

☐ JOHNNY COOK
Independent



Write-in

FOR MEMBER,
ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION,
DISTRICT NO. 5
(Vote for One)

☐ JEFFERY WASHINGTON
Democrat



Write-in

FOR STATE TREASURE
(Vote for One)

☐ ROSILYN HOUSTON
Democrat

☐ YOUNG BOOZER
Republican



Write-in

FOR STATE AUDITOR
(Vote for One)

☐ VIOLET EDWARDS
Democrat

☐ ANDREW SORRELL
Republican



Write-in

In & Around SEC

Catch up on SEC football with Cole Fredricks.

See Page B3

INDEX

NEWS - PAGES A2-A3
MOVIE LISTINGS - PAGE A6
EDUCATION - PAGES A4-A5
COMMUNITY CALENDAR - PAGE A6
ARTS CORNER - PAGE A7
LIFESTYLE COLUMNS - PAGE A8
DEVOTIONAL COLUMNS - PAGE A9
LEGAL NOTICES - PAGES B5-B8
CLASSIFIEDS - PAGE B8



NEWS

Heritage Day draws in hundreds of locals for fall festival fun



Photos by Caylie Moore|The Messenger

By Caylie Moore
Features Editor

On Saturday, Oct. 17, Attalla hosted its annual Heritage Day event from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the historical downtown district. The fall festival was not only jam-packed with musical performances, food stalls and shopping booths but also hundreds of Etowah County residents as they joined in on the fun — and quite possibly the largest turnout the city has ever received for Heritage Day.



ANCHORED IN ADVOCACY

Sailing for Support. Anchored in Hope.

Navigating the complexities of Cancer & Rare Diseases Together.

Hosted by Voice and Value Health Advocacy Foundation, a 501 (C)(3) nonprofit

THE VOYAGE

Ship: Royal Caribbean's Wonder of the Seas
Sail dates: April 12-16, 2027 (4 nights)
Departs: Miami, Florida
Route: Miami > Day at Sea > Nassau, Bahamas > Perfect Perfect Day at CocoCay > Miami

Price based on double occupancy, taxes, and gratuities included.

Interior	\$718.47
Boardwalk Balcony	\$796.47
Central Park Balcony	\$903.47
Oceanview Balcony	\$941.47

Mission: Empowering cancer and rare disease patients, amplifying their voices, and increasing equitable access to care.

Inclusive Events:

- Welcome Aboard Meet-and-Greet
- Walk at Sea celebrating Survivors & Supporters
- Cruising for a Cause Cocktail Party
- Group Photo Experience
- VVHAF Wellness & Self-Care Activities

Your trip helps patients and families long after the ship returns to port. You relax, explore, and give back with every booking.

SECURE YOUR CABIN with Travel Therapy:
www.seatraveltherapy.com | Call Arnold: 434-429-2098

Questions about the mission? info@voiceandvaluehealthfoundation.org | voiceandvaluehealthfoundation.org

Travel insurance recommended. Accessible staterooms available request pricing

VOTE NOVEMBER 3

COMMISSIONER
RON SPARKS
AGRICULTURE

U.S. VETERAN

COMMISSIONER SPARKS IS ENDORSED BY:

TOMMY PAULK
FORMER CEO, ALABAMA FARMERS COOPERATIVE

TEDDY GENTRY
COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME AND CO-FOUNDER OF "ALABAMA"

TROY KING
REPUBLICAN FORMER ALABAMA ATTORNEY GENERAL

JAMES FIELDS
FORMER STATE REPRESENTATIVE CULLMAN COUNTY

MIKE BALL
REPUBLICAN FORMER STATE REP LIMESTONE COUNTY

JEROME GRAY
HUMAN & CIVIL RIGHTS ADVOCATE CONECH COUNTY

TRUSTED. PROVEN. THE EXPERIENCE ALABAMA NEEDS.

PAID FOR BY RON SPARKS FOR AGRICULTURE | TOMMY PAULK, CHAIRMAN JIMMY HOLLEY, TREASURER | 7956 VAUGHN RD #425 | MONTGOMERY, AL 36116

Messenger

Owner
Craig Ford

Owner/Publisher
Craig Ford
info@gadsdenmessenger.com

News Editor
Lindsey Frazier
lfrazier@gadsdenmessenger.com

Legals Editor
Teri Chupp
tchupp@gadsdenmessenger.com

Features Editor
Caylie Moore
cmoore@gadsdenmessenger.com

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

NEWS

Local youth participate in National Fair Livestock shows



Junior Showmanship winners in the Youth Sheep Show at the Alabama National Fair Oct. 15 in Montgomery were, from left, Palmer Mitchell of Montgomery County, grand champion; Jase Wells of Morgan County, reserve champion; Cohen Hill of Etowah County, third place; Collins Maze of Morgan County, fourth place; and Adah Carpenter of Talladega County, fifth place. Junior Showmanship is for exhibitors ages 9-12. Alabama Farmers Federation and Alfa Insurance sponsored youth livestock events at the fair. The winners are pictured with judge Luke Raudebaugh of Ohio.



Etowah County's Clara Bea Hill exhibited the Grand Champion Hair Breeding Ewe in the Youth Sheep Show at the Alabama National Fair Oct. 16 in Montgomery. Luke Raudebaugh of Ohio was the judge. Alabama Farmers Federation and Alfa Insurance sponsored youth livestock activities at the fair.



Beginner Showmanship winners in the Youth Sheep Show at the Alabama National Fair Oct. 15 in Montgomery were, from left, Clara Bea Hill of Etowah County, grand champion; Peyton Mitchell of Montgomery County, reserve champion; Chad Daviss of Coosa County, third place; Riley Daviss of Coosa County, fourth place; and Trevor Daviss of Coosa County, fifth place. Senior Showmanship is for exhibitors ages 16-19. Alabama Farmers Federation and Alfa Insurance sponsored youth livestock events at the fair. The winners are pictured with judge Luke Raudebaugh of Ohio.



Etowah County's Cohen Hill exhibited the Grand Champion Hair Market Lamb in the Youth Sheep Show at the Alabama National Fair Oct. 16 in Montgomery. Luke Raudebaugh of Ohio was the judge. Alabama Farmers Federation and Alfa Insurance sponsored youth livestock activities at the fair.

Walk - From A1



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.

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.

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

SUIT
DRIVEN BY DRIVERS

ASK ABOUT OUR VIPER RED KENWORTH T680'S

SUIT LEASE PURCHASE
Take Control of Your Career with our No-Hassle Lease Program!

Drivers are bringing home \$1,500 - \$2,000 weekly after deductions + fuel

Own your truck. Control your schedule. **NOW LEASING LATE MODEL TRUCK OPTIONS - KENWORTH • FREIGHTLINER • INTERNATIONAL**

- ✓ No Forced Dispatch - Be home every weekend or run hard and earn more
- ✓ Walk-Away Lease • No Money Down • No Interest • No Credit Check • No Strings Attached
- ✓ Year-round, High-quality Freight including Round-Trip Dedicated options
- ✓ Run the 27 states between TX & PA • No Northeast or West Coast
- ✓ Pet & Rider friendly after orientation Pay: 72% of Linehaul + Fuel Surcharge Direct to You
- ✓ 100% Access to SUIT Discounts on Tires, Fuel & Maintenance
- ✓ No Trailer Fees or Charges
- ✓ Low Settlement Deductions

OPPORTUNITY TO OWN YOUR TRUCK IN JUST 24 - 36 MONTHS / TITLE IN HAND!

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

EDUCATION

Jax State to host AI summit connecting education and industry

Jacksonville State University will bring educators, students and industry leaders together to explore the evolving role of artificial intelligence during AI Forward: From Classroom to Career, a two-day summit set for Feb. 11-12, 2027, at Merrill Hall.

The summit will focus on how artificial intelligence is changing the way people teach, learn and work while creating opportunities for collaboration among K-12 schools, higher education institutions and businesses.

“AI is already reshaping our classrooms and workplaces, and higher education has an important role in helping students understand not only how to use these tools, but how to use them thoughtfully and responsibly,” Jax State President Don C. Killingsworth Jr. said. “AI Forward gives us an opportunity to bring educators and industry leaders together to learn from one another and have meaningful conversations about how we prepare students for what comes next.”

Anthony Robbins, a former NVIDIA vice president and Jax State alumnus, will be the featured keynote speaker. Robbins brings decades of experience in artificial intelligence, innovation and technology and will share his perspective on how AI is transforming education, industry and the future workforce.

AI Forward will focus on three areas: K-12 education, higher education and student success, and business and industry.

Programming will include keynote and plenary sessions, concurrent breakout sessions, a cross-sector leadership panel, an AI Exhibitor Expo, an AI Showcase poster session and networking opportunities. Featured sessions will include representatives from Coca-Cola UNITED, Honda, AmFirst Credit Union and other industry leaders.

Call for proposals open through Nov. 9. Jax State is inviting educators, higher education professionals and industry partners to help shape the summit by submitting proposals highlighting their ideas, research and experiences with AI.

Proposals are being accepted in two primary areas: K-12 education and higher education and student success. Topics may include teaching and learning with AI, student AI literacy and readiness, academic integrity and responsible AI use, accessibility and student support, faculty and staff productivity, institutional practices and preparing students for an AI-driven workforce.

Industry professionals whose work relates directly to K-12 or higher education also are encouraged to submit proposals in partnership with an educational institution or school.

Presenters may propose a 30-minute presentation, a 10-minute presentation or participation in the AI Showcase poster session. The showcase will provide an informal setting for faculty and students to share AI-related projects, research, classroom applications, creative work, prototypes and other projects with attendees.

Proposals must be submitted by Nov. 9. Submissions will be reviewed for relevance, clarity, audience value, practical application and alignment with the goals of AI Forward. Selected presenters will be notified in early December, and registration fees will be waived for accepted presenters.

The summit begins Thursday, Feb. 11, with the AI Exhibitor Expo, opening keynote, breakout sessions, a cross-sector conversation and the AI Showcase. Programming continues Friday, Feb. 12, with additional breakout and plenary sessions focused on turning conversations into action. Optional post-conference workshops also will be offered Friday afternoon.

The summit is designed for K-12 educators and administrators, higher education faculty and staff, students, business and industry professionals, and workforce and community partners.

Registration is complimentary, but advance registration is required. Early registration continues through Jan. 9, with final registration closing Jan. 27.

For more information about AI Forward: From Classroom to Career, including registration, the full schedule and the call for proposals, visit the AI Forward website.

Educators and industry professionals can register for the summit or submit a proposal by Nov. 9.

GPL

- From A1



Artwork from schools across Gadsden was displayed in the center of the warehouse. Shoes decorated in a variety of colors, patterns and themes showcased the creativity of students from across the school system.

Outside, first responders welcomed children with fire trucks, police motorcycles and an armored vehicle. Families made their way through a trunk-or-treat line as children showed off their costumes and got an up-close look at the vehicles.

The outdoor activities also included snail racing and Pokémon-themed cornhole. Minnie Mouse made an appearance, while Redbird Willow Farm brought llamas for children to see. Windy Van Hooten, who teaches gardening, offered an assortment of seeds for children to take home and plant.

As the evening continued, a live DJ filled the dance floor with music, giving children one last chance to burn off some energy before heading home after a night of festivities.





CUT GAS/GROCERY TAX

RAISE MINIMUM WAGE

PROTECT
NO COST SCHOOL
BREAKFAST & LUNCH

Paid for by Hunter for House District 28



STOP

Elder Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation

Contact DHR to Make a Report

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

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN
RESOURCES

EDUCATION

Kerr’s contributes to GSCC Cherokee campus through scholarship

For nearly half a century, Kerr’s Redi Mix Inc. has served Cherokee County and the surrounding region, supporting growth and development through its work in the construction industry and its commitment to local communities.

Now, the Centre-based concrete company is investing in the region’s future in another way.

The Gadsden State Cardinal Foundation has announced the establishment of the Kerr’s Redi Mix Inc. Endowed Scholarship for Cherokee County. The scholarship reflects the company’s longstanding commitment to the area and its belief in creating opportunities for the next generation of students and skilled professionals.

The scholarship will provide support for eligible Cherokee County students pursuing careers in construction technology, education, commercial driver’s license training and automotive technology at Gadsden State Community College.

“Kerr’s Redi Mix Inc. has been blessed to do business in Cherokee County and throughout the surrounding communities for 50 years,” said Doyle Kerr, founder

and owner of Kerr’s Redi Mix. “We have seen firsthand the importance of strong communities, a skilled workforce and opportunities for young people and adults who are working to build a better future. Establishing this scholarship is one way we can give back to the people and communities that have supported our business through the years. We are proud to invest in students from Cherokee County and encourage them as they prepare for meaningful careers.”

For decades, Kerr’s Redi Mix has contributed to the growth and development of Cherokee County and neighboring communities through its work in the construction industry. The endowed scholarship extends that commitment beyond the job site, creating a lasting source of support for students pursuing careers essential to the continued success of local communities and industries.

Unlike a one-time contribution, an endowed scholarship is designed to provide ongoing support for students. The Kerr’s Redi Mix Inc. Endowed Scholarship will help Cherokee County students for gen-

erations to come, reducing financial barriers and encouraging them to pursue education and workforce training close to home.

Tony Smith, president of the Gadsden State Cardinal Foundation, said the scholarship represents the kind of partnership that creates long-term benefits for students and the communities they will serve.

“Kerr’s Redi Mix Inc. understands that the future of Cherokee County depends on the people who live and work here,” Smith said. “This endowed scholarship is a mean-

ingful investment in students who may become the construction professionals, educators, commercial drivers and automotive technicians our communities need. Doyle Kerr and Kerr’s Redi Mix Inc. have built a successful business that has served this region for 50 years, and through this scholarship, their impact will continue by helping students build careers and opportunities of their own. That’s a true testament to entrepreneurship and the family-owned business.”

Grant funds GSCC TRIO program five more years

Gadsden State Community College will continue expanding educational access and opportunities across its service area after the U.S. Department of Education announced its fiscal 2026 TRIO grant awards.

All three of Gadsden State’s TRIO programs — the Educational Opportunity Center and two Talent Search programs — have received continued federal funding for a new five-year award cycle. Combined, the programs will receive \$1,029,700 annually, or more than \$5.1 million over five years, to support students and community members pursuing educational, career and personal goals.

Throughout our region,” Davis said.

Gadsden State’s Educational Opportunity Center has been awarded \$256,200 annually for the next five years. The program serves approximately 915 adults each year, providing free educational and career support services throughout the college’s service area.

Participants receive assistance with opportunities such as earning a GED, exploring skilled trades, enrolling in college and navigating career pathways. By helping adults identify their goals and connect with appropriate educational and workforce resources, the center provides a bridge to new opportunities for individuals and families throughout the region.

The continued funding supports programs that connect individuals with resources, guidance and encouragement as they pursue college, career training and long-term success.

“The success of these programs is measured not only by the funding we receive, but by the lives that are changed because of the opportunities that funding makes possible,” said Dana Davis, dean of institutional effectiveness, grants and special projects at Gadsden State.

“These grant-funded programs exemplify Gadsden State’s commitment to being a college for our community by expanding access to education through meaningful outreach, student-centered support services, and strategic partnerships that empower individuals, strengthen families, and create pathways to academic, career, and lifelong success

their long-term educational goals.

“Gadsden State is committed to being more than a place where people earn a credential,” said Alan Smith, president of Gadsden State Community College. “We want to be a college that helps people see what is possible and gives them the support to get there. I am especially proud of Dr. Davis and our TRIO team for the dedication they bring to this work every day. These programs meet people where they are, help remove barriers to education and create opportunities that can change the trajectory of a student, a family and an entire community.”

The continued TRIO funding aligns with Gadsden State’s mission of preparing students from all backgrounds for success through education and workforce development, with an emphasis on community engagement and positive economic impact.

“These awards represent a significant investment in the people and communities we serve,” Davis said. “The continued support allows our TRIO professionals to build on the relationships and services that help students and community members move from aspiration to achievement.”

With more than \$1 million in annual federal funding, Gadsden State’s TRIO programs will continue providing educational guidance, academic support, career exploration and access to postsecondary opportunities over the next five years.

SUBMIT YOUR SCHOOL NEWS TO

INFO@GADSDENMESSENGER.COM

Gadsden-Etowah County Progress Council partners with food program

Gadsden-Etowah County Progress Council Inc. has partnered with the Child and Adult Care Food Program to increase awareness of and access to nutritious meals and snacks for eligible children and adults in the community.

Through the partnership, the council will work with grassroots organizations, community agencies, child care centers, community leaders and other partners to share information about the program and available nutrition resources.

The Child and Adult Care Food Program, or CACFP, helps provide nutritious meals and snacks to chil-

dren and eligible adults enrolled in qualifying care programs. Community partnerships can help families, providers and organizations learn about available resources and participation requirements.

“Gadsden-Etowah County Progress Council Inc. recognizes the importance of strong community partnerships in addressing the nutritional needs of children and families,” said Tanya Copeland, safety, USDA and nutrition manager. “We look forward to working with grassroots organizations and community partners to increase awareness, provide information and

connect eligible participants with available resources.”

As part of the initiative, the council is encouraging grassroots organizations to share program information with families and community members, promote awareness of nutrition resources, distribute approved educational materials, refer eligible participants to appropriate resources and collaborate on community outreach and nutrition education activities.

Organizations interested in partnering with the council can contact Copeland at 256-546-7431 or tmcclroy_2003@yahoo.com.

Jax State board approves new speech-language pathology degree

The Jacksonville State University Board of Trustees has approved a new Bachelor of Science in speech-language pathology, expanding the university’s health professions offerings and creating opportunities for students interested in careers treating communication and swallowing disorders.

The 120-credit-hour degree, housed in the College of Health Professions and Wellness, is planned to launch in fall 2027, pending approval by the Alabama Commission on Higher Education.

The proposed program is designed to address a growing need for speech-language pathologists across Alabama, particularly in rural and underserved communities. According to 2024 workforce data from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Alabama ranks 43rd nationally in

speech-language pathologists per capita, with 51.4 professionals per 100,000 residents compared with the national average of 61.9.

“This program represents an important investment in our students and the communities we serve,” Jax State President Don C. Killingsworth Jr. said. “By creating opportunities for students to pursue this field close to home, we’re helping address a critical workforce need while preparing graduates for meaningful careers that can make a difference in the lives of others.”

Speech-language pathologists work with individuals of all ages who experience speech, language, communication and swallowing disorders. They work in schools, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, private practices and other health care settings.

The profession is experiencing

significant national growth. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects employment of speech-language pathologists to increase 17% from 2025 to 2035, with approximately 12,500 job openings annually.

Jax State’s proposed undergraduate curriculum will provide students with foundational knowledge in communication sciences and disorders through coursework in language development, anatomy and physiology, phonetics, audiology, neurological communication disorders and clinical methods.

The degree will primarily prepare students for graduate education, which is required to become a licensed speech-language pathologist.

The undergraduate degree also represents a first step toward establishing a Master of Science in

speech-language pathology at Jax State, tentatively planned for fall 2030. The proposed graduate program would require separate approvals and could allow students to complete both undergraduate and graduate preparation at the university.

“Students in our region have a strong interest in speech-language pathology, but access to degree programs can be limited,” said Tracey Matthews, dean of the College of Health Professions and Wellness. “This program will allow us to build on our existing academic offerings, develop relationships with health care providers and school systems, and prepare students to meet a growing need for these services throughout Northeast Alabama.”

The proposed degree builds on Jax State’s existing speech-language pathology minor and will be

supported by developing partnerships with regional school systems, hospitals, rehabilitation providers and community organizations.

The university anticipates enrolling approximately 30 students in the program’s first year, with enrollment projected to grow to 120 students by 2030.

The Speech and Hearing Association of Alabama has expressed support for the proposed program, citing the need for additional qualified professionals in schools and health care settings throughout the state.

With board approval secured, the university will move forward with the remaining external approval process. The anticipated fall 2027 launch is contingent on approval by the Alabama Commission on Higher Education.



Become an ADULT FOSTER CARE Provider

“Love Never Ages”

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

1-800-458-7214

dhr.alabama.gov/AFC





radius recycling

Strength. Sustainability. Success.

CASH PAID FOR SCRAP METAL

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

CONTAINER SERVICE AVAILABLE
FULL SERVICE SCRAP METAL YARD

HIGHEST PRICES PAID

www.radiusrecycling.com

256-538-7891

1-800-289-2857

1007 9th Street SW | Attalla, Alabama



Four Points Venue

3680 Highway 77, Southside, AL.



FOUR POINTS VENUE

Booking appointments for Weddings, Reunions, Conferences, Parties, and other Special Occasions.

256-470-9670

www.fourpointsvenue.com



Your

CALENDAR

Community

Featured Events

Oct. 23-Oct. 30

Dry Creek Greenhouse’s Pumpkin Patch and Fall Festival

- Where: Dry Creek Greenhouse - 8536 Centre Road, Gadsden
- When: Every Friday in Oct., 7 to 11 p.m.; every Saturday in Oct., 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.; every Sunday in Oct., 1 to 6 p.m.

Knitting for Beginners

- Where: Walnut Gallery - 806 Walnut St., Gadsden
- When: Every Saturday in Oct., 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Aladdin Jr. Hosted by Theatre of Gadsden

- Where: Ritz Theatre - 310 Wall St., Gadsden
- When: Oct. 23-24, at 7 p.m.; Oct. 25, at 2 p.m.

Altoona Harvest Festival and Car Show

- Where: City of Altoona - 3315 Main St., Altoona
- When: Oct. 24, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

RainBOO City Fall Festival

- Where: Vivian Lee Maddox Sports Complex - 4573 Rainbow Drive, Rainbow City
- When: Oct. 24, 5 to 7 p.m.

Downtown Gadsden Ghost Tour

- Where: Nola’s Clover - 124 Court St., Gadsden
- When: Oct. 25, 5 to 7 p.m.

Recurring Events

Weekly

Gadsden Duplicate Bridge Club

- Where: 623 Broad St., Gadsden, 2nd Floor
- When: Mondays and Fridays at 10:30 a.m.

Bingo Night at AJ’s Neighborhood Bar and Grill

- Where: AJ’s Neighborhood Bar and Grill - 1582 Highway 77, Southside
- When: Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

Open Mic Night at Blackstone Pub

- Where: 525 Broad St., Gadsden
- When: Wednesdays, 7 to 10 p.m.

Useless Trivia at Back Forty

- Where: Back Forty - 200 N. Sixth St., Gadsden
- When: Thursdays at 7 p.m.

Friday Evening Wine Down at Wills Creek Winery

- Where: Wills Creek Vineyards and Winery - 10522 Duck Springs Road, Attalla
- When: Fridays, 6 to 8 p.m.

Bingo Night at Pique Nique

- Where: River Rocks Landing Resort - 1 River Road, Gadsden
- When: Fridays at 7 p.m.

Monthly

Voice and Value’s Lunch and Learn

- Where: Gadsden Public Library - 254 S. College St., Gadsden
- When: First Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

AND

- Where: Rainbow City Public Library - 3702 Rainbow Drive, Rainbow City
- When: First Thursday at 12 p.m.

Music Trivia Night at Baja Rainbow City

- Where: Baja California Grill - 110 Sutton Bridge Road, Rainbow City
- When: Second Thursday, 6 to 8 p.m.

North East Alabama Genealogical Society Meeting

- Where: Nichols Memorial Library - corner of Dwight Avenue and Cabot Avenue, Alabama City
- When: Second Saturday at 10 a.m.

Third Thirsty Thursday at the Stone Market

- Where: The Stone Market - 120 Chestnut St., Gadsden
- When: Third Thursday, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

All Events

Oct. 23-Nov. 6

Oct. 24

Trick-or-Treat Village

- Where: Noccalula Falls Park - 1500 Noccalula Road, Gadsden
- When: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Hounds of Harvest Fest

- Where: Etowah County Animal Shelter - 12071 US Highway 278, Piedmont
- When: 12 to 4 p.m.

Fall on the Block

- Where: Carver Community Center - 1030 Tuscaloosa Ave., Gadsden
- When: 3 to 7 p.m.

Freedom Church Fall Festival

- Where: Freedom Church - 2610 Sansom Ave., Gadsden
- When: 5 to 7 p.m.

Trunk or Treat

- Where: New Hamony Baptist Church - 109 Church Road, Attalla
- When: 5 to 7 p.m.

Fright Night at the Falls

- Where: Noccalula Falls Park - 1500 Noccalula Road, Gadsden
- When: 6 to 10 p.m.

Oct. 25

Garden Opry 2026 at Hooten Holler

- Where: Windy Van Hooten Teaching Garden - 271 Hillview Road, Gadsden
- When: 3 to 6 p.m.

Oct. 31

Show Me Reptiles and Exotics Show

- Where: The Venue at Coosa Landing - 201 George Wallace Drive, Gadsden
- When: 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Downtown Gadsden Trick or Treat

- Where: Downtown Gadsden - Broad Street, Gadsden
- When: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Halloween Bash

- Where: Back Forty - 200 N. Sixth St., Gadsden
- When: 3 to 9 p.m.

Zombie Crawl

- Where: Gadsden Elks Lodge 1314 - 118 N. First St., Gadsden
- When: 3 to 6 p.m.

Glencoe Fall Festival

- Where: George Wallace Senior Center - 407 Hollingsworth Park Drive, Glencoe
- When: 5 to 8 p.m.

Halloween at River Rocks Landing

- Where: River Rocks Landing Resort - 1 River Road, Gadsden
- When: 6 to 8 p.m.

Nov. 4

Patriots Hall of Honor Luncheon

- Where: The Venue at Coosa Landing - 201 George Wallace Drive, Gadsden
- When: 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Veterans Parade

- Where: Downtown Gadsden - Broad Street, Gadsden
- When: 2 to 4 p.m.

Nov. 6

The Gadsden-Rainbow City Coin Show (Day 1)

- Where: The Venue at Coosa Landing - 201 George Wallace Drive, Gadsden
- When: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Historic Downtown Gadsden Christmas Open House (Day 1)

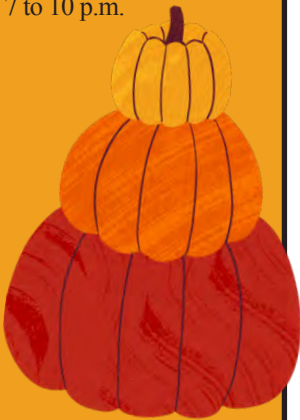
- Where: Downtown Gadsden - Broad Street, Gadsden
- When: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Service Guild Rummage Sale and Preview Party (Day 1)

- Where: 210 At the Tracks - 210 Locust St., Gadsden
- When: 6. to 8 p.m.

GPL’s Prom at the Pitman

- Where: Pitman Theater - 629 Broad St., Gadsden
- When: 7 to 10 p.m.



PREMIERE CINEMAS

New This Week

Clayface

A Talent for Murder

Wildwood

You Can See Everything

RENT YOUR OWN PRIVATE THEATER

Perfect for: Corporate Events | Company Parties | Fundraisers | Church & Youth Groups

More than movies:

Enjoy popcorn, nachos, hot dogs, pizza, candy, fountain drinks, ICEES and lots more.

Rent your own private theater:

Perfect for: corporate events, company parties, fundraisers, birthday parties, school field trips and church and youth events.

THROWBACK THRILLS

SCREAM

Oct. 25, 28, 31

Scan to book and view movie menu now!

www.pccmovies.com/gadsden

Give the gift of entertainment

Gift Card

PREMIERE CINEMAS



The Bluff hosts the first Loblolly Festival



Photos by Lindsey Frazier|The Messenger

Artoberfest proves to be smash hit with artists of all walks



On Thursday, Oct. 15, the city of Gadsden held its annual Artoberfest from 5 to 8 p.m. The festival featured food vendors and art booths — with an array of hand-crafted items, from paintings and stained glass to knitted and crocheted projects to books and pottery. The event also hosted musical performances from the Gadsden State Show Band, which performed songs like “Too Sweet” by Hozier and enraptured the crowd.



Photos by Caylie Moore|The Messenger



TOG presents Aladdin Jr.

If you’re looking for family entertainment, the Theatre of Gadsden’s newest show can satisfy your wish. Aladdin Jr. will be performed Oct. 23-25 at the Ritz Theatre in downtown Alabama City.

Tickets are available at www.theatreofgadsden.org. The production is a partnership with Innovation Youth Theatre. The show, based on the 1992 Disney film, follows the beggar and street rat Aladdin as he chases Princess Jasmine with the assistance of Genie, the mystical wish granter who helps him discover his true worth. But he must first defeat the evil Jafar, who has his eyes not only on Jasmine, but the kingdom. It’s a big, sprawling story, with familiar songs and big themes. It’s also got a lot of enthusiasm from its cast, as director Tristan Davis explained.

It’s his first show with Theatre of Gadsden. He entered with ideas on what the show might look like, but it became clear that he also had a young cast with its own ideas.

“It slowly changed from what we wanted to what the kids wanted,” Davis said. “They started putting in their ideas. It’s become this wonderful hodgepodge, I think every cast member has given us an idea and we’ve added it. It’s a melting pot of different ideas. They’ve put a lot of work into it. It’s become more about what they want.”

Davis said the collaboration involves some compromise between the vision that cast members have and the reality of what can be done.

“Instead of a triple backflip, we try a cartwheel instead,” Davis said, laughing. “I asked the kids, what’s something you think would work. They tell me something. And if it’s too much, we ask how we could scale that back to fit within our capacity.”

Adam Kelly plays Aladdin, a role that both of his brothers have tackled in other productions of the musical. He’s had other roles in Aladdin Jr., as well as seeing his brothers.

Previously, Adam played Jafar, giving him a unique perspective in having played both the antagonist, and now the protagonist. Kelly said he enjoys singing as opposed to acting, and his favorite song is “Prince Ali” “because I’m hardly in that one.” But then, it’s a

song about his character.

Daylin Smith plays Jasmine. She admits that she “just showed up not knowing what I would do with the character.” She had been in previous productions but never in a role as big. She enjoys the “community” aspect of community theatre.

“It’s fun,” she said. “I like getting to know everybody and see their characters come out into who they’re playing on stage.”

Davis said Aladdin Jr. resonates with audiences because it tells a much-needed story.

“It’s about looking within and realizing that we are valuable to ourselves, as well as everyone else,” he said.



The Messenger is partnering with the GPL for a fun fall reading challenge!

HOLIDAY READS

Fall Reading Challenge

October • November • December

Celebrate the season by discovering great books and stories!

Age brackets:

Children, ages 5-11 years old & 8-12 years old

Young adults, 13-18 years old

Adults, ages 19 years and over

October challenge forms are located at the Gadsden Public Library, and must be returned to the library no later than November 6th.

For additional information, contact us at 256-549-4699 ext. 2118 for Hanna; ext. 2114 for Hannah; ext. 2126 for LaShunda, and ext. 2107 for Carol.

LIFESTYLE



Welcome to the Library

Craig Scott

Over my years as Director of the Gadsden Public Library, I've learned something that has become increasingly important to me: some of the best ideas for improving our library don't necessarily begin in Gadsden.

Sometimes they come from having a conversation with another library director, visiting an innovative library or simply learning how another community has approached a challenge similar to one we're facing here at home.

That's one of the reasons I've always placed such a high value on professional development, collaboration and the relationships I've built with colleagues throughout Alabama and across the country.

As this week's edition of The Messenger reaches your doorstep, I'm in Winter Park, Florida, attending the annual Library Journal Directors' Summit, a national gathering limited to 100 public library directors from around the country.

Two years ago, I had the privilege of attending this same summit in Columbia,

South Carolina. Looking back on my many years in library leadership, I can say without hesitation that it was one of the most valuable professional conferences I've ever attended.

And interestingly enough, it wasn't necessarily the presentations or the formal sessions that made the greatest impression on me. It was the people.

I met directors representing libraries of all sizes, from small communities to major metropolitan systems. Each brought different experiences, different challenges and different ideas to the table. Yet despite the differences in our libraries, I discovered that we shared many of the same concerns: how to better serve our communities, stretch limited resources, support our employees, embrace new technologies and keep our libraries relevant in a constantly changing world.

Some of those conversations turned into professional friendships that continue today. More than once, I've reached out to one of those colleagues for advice, an opinion, or simply to ask, "How did you handle this at your library?"

And just as often, I've had the opportunity to share something we're doing right here in Gadsden that might benefit another community.

That's what makes these relationships so valuable. Learning isn't a one-way street.

Over the years, I've come to believe that one of the most important qualities a library director can possess is the willingness to recognize that none of us has all the answers.

It doesn't matter how many years we've spent in this profession. There's always something new to learn, a better way to approach a problem or an idea worth bringing home.

I've also learned that some of the most innovative ideas don't necessarily come from the largest libraries with the biggest budgets. Sometimes they come from smaller libraries where creativity, determination and resourcefulness have become necessities.

And that's something I can certainly appreciate as Director of the Gadsden Public Library!

This year's summit comes at an especially meaningful time for us. As many of you know, our library continues working through the aftermath of the devastating flood that struck our building on August 31.

While we await the insurance settlement that will allow major restoration work to begin, we're also thinking about the future. We're looking not only at how to restore our library, but how we can continue improving the services, programs and experiences we provide to our community.

I'm hopeful that the conversations and connections made in Winter Park will provide fresh ideas and valuable perspectives as we move forward.

After all, the Gadsden Public Library doesn't exist in a vacuum. We're part of a much larger community of libraries across America, all working toward a common

purpose: enriching lives through access to information, education, opportunity and discovery.

And while our communities may be separated by hundreds or even thousands of miles, the lessons we learn from one another can make a real difference right here at home.

As I often remind myself, leadership isn't about knowing everything. It's about being willing to listen, continuing to learn, and surrounding yourself with people who challenge you to become better.

That's what I hope to bring home from Winter Park.

Because at the end of the day, the greatest value of attending a conference isn't what you learn while you're there. It's what you bring back and put to work for the people you serve.

And for me, those people will always be the wonderful community we serve here in Gadsden and Etowah County.

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

Craig Scott is the director for the GPL.

Blast from the past - news nuggets



Oldest photo of Downtown Gadsden. Between 1881 and 1883 Broad Street. Photo submitted by Danny Crownover.

About 180 years ago, parts of three farms were surveyed and laid off into 260 lots as a site for the new town of Gadsden. Ever since then, there has been speculation as to which way it would grow.

The natural tendency for all large cities in the world is to grow towards the west, and that is what Gadsden did for many years, despite the activity of two factions that carried their fight into politics, business and social relations.

One faction wanted to anchor the center of the business section on or near the original site on the riverfront, and the other faction pulled for development westward.

Some of the factionalism still existed through the 1920s, but when Louis L. Herzberg influenced his friend John Rogers, chairman of the Alabama Highway Department, and Governor Bill Brandon to build the Broad Street bridge across Coosa River, he laid the foundation for the tremendous industrial and building development in East Gadsden and the consequent trend of growth in that direction.

Homes and businesses were being built on every road leading out of town; in some

sections, the city appeared to be crowding the rural areas for miles out. The trend of expansion did not stay confined to one section or in one direction.

In 1947, the Dixie Flying Club — which was made up of 125 members with 37 licensed as pilots — had nearly realized its dream of creating a landing field near the Goodyear plant, for the project was about two-thirds completed.

The strip that ran from east to west was 1,800 feet long and 300 feet wide, and was in the process of being completed for use. The strip running north and south was also about two-thirds completed, though only 1,600 feet long and 300 feet wide. Work on the latter was temporarily halted due to a lack of funds.

Plans and specifications for a hangar 30 feet wide and 200 feet long were being made. It would house the control room, work shop and six planes.



Looking at the History

Danny Crownover

J. U. Mears, traffic manager for Goodyear, was the chief promoter and was being assisted by an enthusiastic membership. It was said that future Goodyear employees would have a fine flying field. It was one of their own enterprises.

Contact The Vagabond at dkcrown@bellsouth.net.



Arranging the Pieces

Tabitha Bozeman

This week, I watched a show about the art students who pulled off a major news hoax in 1998: the "Leeds 13." Their idea was pretty simple: to highlight the unreliable nature of the British tabloids at the time, they would pretend to misuse grant monies awarded for an art project and pretend to go on a beach vacation. They took photos in the freezing cold at a local beach, filmed themselves in a freezing pool as if it were mid-summer, and took candids of their group hanging out, eating and drinking, and just generally posing as partying college students. The tabloids immediately picked up the story and ran with it, and it was all anyone could talk about. The stu-

dents went on radio shows, were interviewed on television, and so on, continuing to pretend the vacation happened on the government's dime, until they broke the news during a live interview that it was a hoax. But was it art? The answer to that may depend on the definition or purpose of art that resonates with an individual — and there are many to choose from.

Aristotle defined the purpose of art saying, "The aim of art is to represent not the outward appearance of things, but their inward significance." James Baldwin stated that "the purpose of art is to lay bare the questions that have been hidden by the answers." Bob Dylan said that "art is the perpetual motion of illusion." Brassier, artist and friend of novelist Henry Miller (who called Brassier "the Eye of Paris" for his art that showed the gritty, honest reality under the glamorous façade), said the purpose of art is "to raise people to a higher level of awareness than they would otherwise attain on their own."

The Leeds 13 said that the point of their hoax was to create art that focused on the



2015 art by the MWC graffiti crew, Reb and Christos Galazoulas, titled "TITANic." Photo submitted by Tabitha Bozeman.

way public narratives and moral panic could be manipulated by the tabloid media's obsession with sensationalism and break-neck turnaround speed on stories. If this is true, then, yes, according to the definitions and descriptions above, they created art. They played with outer appearances, uncovered hidden questions about the reliability of the tabloids and raised awareness of a topic many people

may not have considered otherwise. The actual physical "art" they created? They created a multimedia collection of fake appearances, photographs, fake travel documents and flight tickets, recorded radio and television broadcasts and even an empty exhibit experience when patrons showed up for their "show." They had effectively created art — performance art, if nothing else — while also pushing the boundaries as to what counts as art, who gets to define art, and raising awareness about the unreliable nature of the British tabloids.

This week I taught one of my favorite activities: the CRAAP assignment. This assignment walks students through evaluating various types of source materials to identify which are reliable sources of information. This is always an important lesson, but even more important now that students are wading through not only the internet but also AI search results as well. We discussed the importance of currency ("C"), relevance ("R"), authority ("A"), accuracy ("A"), and purpose ("P"). When was a source created? Updated? In what way is it connected to the topic of research? What authority do the creators of the source hold? Do they have direct, firsthand experience? Are they educated in that field? Why should they be trusted? How do we know the source is most likely accurate and reliable? What is the purpose of the source? Is it trying to sell a product? Membership? Idea?

Checking source reliability is important when faulty, unreliable information can have far-reaching, or even devastating and dangerous consequences. But checking the reliability of information takes a little effort on our part. Are we taking the time to scroll to the bottom of websites and look for the date it was last updated? Are we looking at the credentials and experience content creators hold? Are we cross referencing important in-



An Athens, Greece mural called "Praying Hands" by Pavlos Tsakonas in 2011. Photo submitted by Tabitha Bozeman.

formation with other sites and sources to see if anything stands out as anomalous? Have we considered what motivation a source might have for selling us an idea or product?

We can't always answer each of these questions with 100% certainty, but that doesn't mean they aren't worth considering. The young artists in the Leeds 13 group in 1998 saw something that concerned them, that no one else seemed to be questioning. They used the skills and platform they had to start a conversation. After all, as Pablo Picasso said, sometimes "art is a lie that makes us realize truth."

Tabitha Bozeman is an instructor at GSCC. Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of GSCC. Contact Tabitha at tabithabozeaman@gmail.com.

Why you keep repeating the same patterns

Have you ever promised yourself, "I am never doing that again," only to find yourself in almost the exact same situation months or years later?

Maybe you keep choosing partners who are emotionally unavailable. Maybe you avoid conflict until you finally explode. Perhaps you overcommit, become overwhelmed and swear you'll set better boundaries next time — but then you say yes all over again.

When we repeat patterns that hurt us, it is easy to become frustrated with ourselves. We may wonder, "Why do I keep doing this when I know better?"

The answer is often surprisingly simple: Knowing better and feeling safe enough to do something different are not always the same thing.

Many of our patterns developed long before we recognized them as patterns. As children, we learn how relationships work by watching and interacting with the people around us. We learn whether it is safe to express emotions, whether conflict gets resolved or avoided and whether love feels consistent or unpredictable.

We adapt.

A child who learns that keeping everyone happy prevents conflict may grow into an adult who struggles to say no. Someone who grew up around unpredictable emotions may become extremely sensitive to changes in another person's mood. A person who learned that vulnerability leads to disappointment may become fiercely independent.

These behaviors can become so familiar that they feel automatic.

And familiar is powerful.

Human beings naturally gravitate toward what we know. Unfortunately, familiar does not necessarily mean healthy. Sometimes we recreate situations that resemble earlier experiences because our brains recognize the emotional landscape. We know how to function there, even if we don't particularly like it.

This is one reason people sometimes find themselves in remarkably similar relationships with completely different people.

Patterns also repeat because they usually provide some kind of short-term benefit. Avoiding a difficult conversation reduces anxiety temporarily. People-pleasing pre-

vents someone from being disappointed with us. Shutting down protects us from feeling vulnerable.

The problem is that what protects us in the moment can create bigger problems over time.

Breaking a pattern begins with curiosity rather than criticism.

Instead of asking, "What is wrong with me?" try asking, "What is this behavior doing for me?"

What feeling am I trying to avoid? What am I afraid might happen if I respond differently? When did I first learn to handle situations this way?

Then comes the difficult part: practicing something new.

Healthy change often feels uncomfortable at first. Setting a boundary may feel selfish. Having a difficult conversation may feel dangerous. Allowing someone to help you may feel vulnerable. Walking away from an unhealthy relationship may feel strangely unfamiliar.

Discomfort does not always mean you are making the wrong choice. Sometimes it sim-



Mindful Moment

Carrie Halladay

ply means you are making a different one.

You do not break lifelong patterns by recognizing them once. You break them by noticing them a little sooner each time and choosing differently when you can.

Eventually, the new response becomes familiar too.

And that is how patterns change.

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.

DEVOTIONALS



ROOTED IN THE WORD

Shawn Blackmon

Have you ever gotten paid on Friday, and by Monday morning you were looking at your bank account wondering what happened? You saw the deposit hit. For a few minutes, you felt financially secure. Then Monday came, you opened your banking app, looked at the balance, closed it, re-opened it and thought, “Surely something didn’t load right.”

Then you started investigating. Walmart. Amazon. Chick-fil-A. The gas station. Another Amazon charge. And suddenly you realized something: Nobody stole your money. You spent it!

Sometimes we don’t need a financial investigator. We need a little time, a calculator and enough courage to look honestly at where our money is going.

The Bible teaches that what God places under our care deserves our attention. Proverbs 27:23 says, “Know well the condition of your flocks, and give attention to your herds.”

In Solomon’s day, flocks represented wealth, provision and security. Today, most of us are not counting sheep. We are looking at checking accounts, savings, bills, credit

cards, subscriptions and expenses. The principle is the same: You can’t manage what you don’t measure. There is a difference between trusting God and ignoring reality.

Faith does not require us to close our eyes to what is happening. Sometimes the most responsible thing we can do is sit down, look honestly at our situation and ask God for wisdom about what needs to change.

And let me say this clearly: not every financial struggle is the result of poor planning. Some people are dealing with rising costs, emergencies, medical expenses and circumstances beyond their control.

This is not about blaming people who are struggling. It is about helping all of us become more faithful with whatever God has entrusted to us. You can love God and still need a budget. You can pray and still need to check your transactions. You can worship on Sunday and still need to sit down on Monday and figure out where your money is going.

Being spiritual does not excuse us from being responsible.

And once we know where our money has been going, we have to decide where it is going next. That means we need a plan.

Proverbs 21:5 says, “The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty.”

A budget is not a punishment. It is simply a plan for what matters most. It helps you make decisions about your money before advertisements, impulses and emergencies start making those decisions for you.

Where did it all go?

Give every dollar a direction. Because money without a plan has a way of finding a purpose you never intended. But this is deeper than dollars. Jesus says in Matthew 6:21, “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” That means our spending can sometimes reveal our priorities.

If someone looked at your financial decisions over the last 30 days, what would they say matters most to you? Again, not every expense is a choice. We all have bills and responsibilities. But where we do have choices, our decisions matter. And we do not have to spend our lives trying to keep up with everybody else.

You do not have to drive what they drive. You do not have to live where they live. You do not have to go into debt trying to impress somebody who is not paying your bills.

Your value was settled at Calvary. Jesus paid the price for your redemption. You do not have to spend your life trying to purchase somebody else’s approval. That also means learning self-control.

Galatians 5 reminds us that self-control is part of the fruit of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit is not only interested in what happens during worship. He is interested in what happens after we leave. He works in our attitudes, our habits, our desires and our decisions.

Just because I want it doesn’t mean I need it. And just because I can buy it doesn’t mean I should. So maybe the question is not just, “Where did all my money go?” Maybe the deeper question is, “Who is directing my decisions?”

Is fear directing me? Is comparison directing me? Is impulse directing me? Or am I allowing Jesus to be Lord over every part of my life, including my finances? Because your worth is not measured by your net worth. And the greatest need in your life will never be a better budget. The greatest need will always be Jesus.

Let’s pray.

Father, thank You for everything You have entrusted to me. Give me wisdom to know where my resources are going and discipline to make decisions that honor You. Help me not to be controlled by fear, comparison or impulse. Teach me to plan carefully, live responsibly and trust You completely. Remind me that my worth is not found in what I have, but in who I am in Christ. 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. His leadership bridges the gap between the Church and the community, inspiring collaboration, compassion and lasting transformation.

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



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



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



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
---	---	--

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

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

VOTE

MACK N BUTLER

★

ALABAMA HOUSE • DISTRICT 28



Committee to Elect Mack Butler P.O. Box 7184, Rainbow City, AL. 35906

CELEBRATE THE Savings

SALE

SAVE OVER \$281 IN SAVINGS

OCTOBER 23RD & 24TH

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

2 DAYS ONLY FRIDAY & SATURDAY

COUPON EFFECTIVE OCT. 23 - OCT. 24

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

LIMIT 10 LBS.

GROUND BEEF

Food City Fresh 81% Lean, Per Lb.

ValuCard Price.....4.49
Digital Coupon.....-1.50

MUST PURCHASE A MINIMUM OF 1 LB.

FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON

2.99

With Card

With an additional \$25 Purchase

\$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.

Buy 3 SAVE MORE

DIETITIAN'S PICK

shortcuts

Made Fresh In-Store

Snack Cups

Each

1.99

With Card

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

LIMIT 2

Selected Varieties

Pepsi Products

24 Pk., 12 Oz. Cans

10.99

With Card

DIETITIAN'S PICK

Fruitist

Jumbo Blueberries

9.8 Oz.

4.99

With Card

IN THE Deli

Made Fresh In-Store

Fudge or Novaks

Per Lb.

4.99

With Card

Selected Varieties

Hormel Pepperoni (5-6 Oz.) or

Gwaltney Sliced Bacon

12 Oz.

2.99

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Bugles, Chex Mix or Gardetto's (5.5-8.75 Oz.), Vanilla Wafers (11 Oz.) or

Craw'n Flavor Graham Crackers

14.4 Oz.

1.88

With Card

LIMIT 6 EACH

Selected Varieties, Nestle Toll House Morsels (10-12 Oz.) or Frozen

DiGiorno Pizza

14.6-29.3 Oz.

3.99

With Card

IN THE Deli

Food City Spinach Dip (Per Lb.) or Selected Varieties

Gordo's Cheese Dip

16 Oz

4.99

With Card

Buy 3 SAVE MORE

Selected Varieties

Celsius Energy

12-16 Oz.

3/\$5

With Card

When you buy 3 in the same transaction. Lesser quantities are 2/\$5 price each. Limit 4 transactions (12 total items). Discount applied as a coupon. Customer pays sales tax.

LIMIT 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Food Club Fruit Snacks (10 Ct.), Hawaiian Punch (Gallon) or

Little Debbie Snack Cakes

7.38-16.2 Oz.

2/\$5

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

Frozen, Selected Varieties, Totino's Pizza Rolls (100 Ct.) or

Stouffer's Family Size Entrees

31-40 Oz.

6.99

With Card

LIMIT 2 EACH

Selected Varieties, Nestle Coffee Mate (64 Oz.) or

POWERADE

8 Pk., 20 Oz. Btls.

4.99

With Card

LIMIT 4

Selected Varieties, Toasted Chips or

Nabisco Ritz Crackers

8.1-13.7 Oz.

3.49

With Card

LIMIT 4

Selected Varieties

Hunt's Snack Pack Pudding

4 Pk.

2/\$3

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Nature's Own Honey Wheat Bread (20 Oz.) or

General Mills Cereal

8.9-12.3 Oz.

1.99

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

Selected Varieties

Café Bustelo (10 Ct. or 11 Oz.) or Dunkin' Donuts Coffee

10 Ct. or 11-12 Oz.

7.99

With Card

LIMIT 2

Selected Varieties

Frito-Lay Multipack Chips

15-20 Ct.

8.99

With Card

LIMIT 6

Selected Varieties, Crescents, Cinnamon Rolls or

Food Club Jumbo Biscuits

8 Ct.

3/\$5

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Blue Bonnet (16 Oz. Qtrs.), Frosting (14-16 Oz.), Brownie Mix (18-18.3 Oz.) or

Duncan Hines Cake Mix

15.25 Oz.

4/\$5

With Card

Buy 4 SAVE MORE

Selected Varieties

Progresso Soup

18.5-19 Oz.

1.49

With Card

When you buy 4 in the same transaction. Limit 1 transaction (4 total items) Lesser quantities are 2.99 each. Discount applied as a coupon. Customer pays sales tax.

LIMIT 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Nature Valley Bars (5-6 Ct.), General Mills or Annie's Bars or Fruit Snacks (6-10 Ct.) or

Jif Peanut Butter

15-16 Oz.

1.99

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Pringles Mega Stacks or Mingles (5.5-7.1 Oz.), Famous Amos (9 Oz.) or Mother's Cookies or

Keebler Cookies

8.5-13.4 Oz.

2/\$5

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

Canola or Vegetable Oil (40 Oz.), Chunk White Chicken (12.5 Oz.), Chunk Light Tuna (12 Oz.) or Granulated

Food Club Sugar

4 Lb.

2/\$5

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

Selected Varieties

Sparkle Paper Towels (4 Double Rolls) or Angel Soft Bath Tissue

8 Mega Rolls

6.99

With Card

LIMIT 4

Selected Varieties, Conditioner or

VO5 Shampoo

15 Oz.

4/\$5

With Card

LIMIT 4 EACH

Selected Varieties, Keebler Sandwich Crackers (8 Ct.), Carr's Table Water Crackers (4.25 Oz.), Cheez-it Snap'd, Snack Mix or

Cheez-it Crackers

6.5-12.4 Oz.

2/\$5

With Card

COUPON EFFECTIVE OCT. 23 - OCT. 24

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

LIMIT 10 LBS.

CERTIFIED ANGUS BEEF

Chuck Roast

Certified Angus Beef Per Lb.

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

MUST PURCHASE MINIMUM ONE POUND

FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON

5.99

With Card

COUPON EFFECTIVE OCT. 23 - OCT. 24

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

CLIP ONCE AND USE UP TO 4X IN ONE TRANSACTION.

USE 4X

El Monterey Taquitos

Selected Varieties, Frozen, 18-21 Ct.

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

FINAL PRICE WITH COUPON

5.99

With Card

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., OCT. 23 - SAT., OCT. 24, 2026

www.foodcity.com
f @FoodCity

SPORTS

Glencoe sweeps White Plains to advance to regional tournament



Photos by Alex Chaney

By Alex Chaney
Sports Correspondent

Glencoe defeats White Plains landing advancing the team the regional tournament. The teams had split their previous meetings this season, with White Plains winning 2-1 on Aug. 31 before Glencoe answered with a 2-0 victory Sept. 12.

Glencoe controlled the first two sets, winning 25-7 and 25-9. White Plains showed more fight in the third set, taking an early 1-0 lead as the teams traded points. Glencoe eventually pulled away to secure a 25-19 victory and complete the sweep.

Glencoe will face Plainview at 1 p.m. Thursday at the Finley Center in regional tournament play. The Yellow Jackets defeated Plainview 2-0 in their previous meeting Sept. 24.



**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

Last Week's Scores

High School Sports

Volleyball

Oct. 19
Sub Regionals
Glencoe defeated White Plains 25-7, 25-9 and 25-19. Stats for Glencoe.
Avery Barkley had 7 aces and 14 digs, Kinlee Montgomery had 19 assists and 19 digs, Avery Barkley had 14 assists, Mia Talbot had 10 kills, Katy Talbot had 11 kills, Millie Chambless had 6 kills and Gracyn Bunt had 11 digs.

College Sports

Volleyball

Oct. 19
Gadsden State lost to Northwest Shoals Community College 3-2.

Oct. 21
Gadsden State defeated Central Community College 3-0.

AARP
Alabama

AARP is fighting for every voter who's counting on Social Security.

As prices soar, protecting the Social Security you earned is more important than ever. Join AARP to stand up for Social Security in the upcoming election.

Be a Social Security voter.
aarp.org/SocialSecurityVoter

facebook.com/AARP | @AARP | aarp.org
paid for by AARP

FREE MAMMOGRAMS AND PAP TESTS

with FREE CANCER TREATMENT AVAILABLE TO ELIGIBLE WOMEN

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

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

For a referral or more information go to:
www.alabama.gov/bandc
scan the QR Code below,
or contact the hotline: 1-877-252-3324



Breast & Cervical
CANCER
EARLY
DETECTION
Program of Alabama



This Week in Sports

High School Sports

Volleyball

Oct. 22-23
3a Super Regionals at Hoover Met

SPORTS

Hokes Bluff beats out Hanceville in blowout

By Alex Chaney
Sports Correspondent

On Thursday, Oct. 15, Hokes Bluff Eagles traveled to Hanceville for a region matchup in which the Eagles won 49-8. The Hanceville Bulldogs entered the contest with a 0-7 record, and the night only added another loss for the struggling program.

Hokes Bluff scored with 10:30 on the clock in the first quarter after Bubba Leatherwood intercepted a Hanceville pass and ran it back for a touchdown. The point after touchdown was good, giving the Eagles a strong 7-0 lead early in the game.

Hanceville was unable to move the ball after that, and Hokes Bluff needed just two offensive plays for running back Brennan Ward to make Hokes Bluff second touchdown. In just two and a half minutes after their first touchdown, Hokes Bluff had pushed the score up to 14-0.

With 3:45 left in the first quarter, Hokes Bluff managed to put a third touchdown on the board when quarterback Dean Morgan ran around Hanceville's left end and took the ball the distance. This brought the score up to 21-0, with Hokes Bluff leading the game.

With Hanceville again being unable to move the ball, Hokes Bluff took possession of it again before the end of the first quarter. Running back Jace Hanks broke through the middle and outran the Hanceville defense, and with 1:05 left in the first quarter, the Eagles had run the score up to Hokes Bluff 28 and Hanceville 0.

Midway through the second quarter, Hokes Bluff began putting substitutes in the game, but the scoring did not stop. With 8:35 left in the half, freshman Brody Morgan pushed through on a short run to extend the lead to 35-0.

Before two minutes had expired, Hokes Bluff added a sixth touchdown to the board when freshman Jaxon Ponder ran in for another score, bringing it to 42-0.

At this point, Hokes Bluff Coach Mike Robertson seemed content to sit on the 42-point lead, play substitutes and run the clock. But with just six seconds left in the half and Hanceville operating from deep in their end of the field, freshman Tate Simmons intercepted a Hanceville pass and ran it back for Hokes Bluff's final score of the night, bringing the scoreboard up to 49-0.

For the second half of the game, the teams agreed to 8-minute quarters and a running clock. The Eagles continued to play substitutes and run the ball up the middle. Ultimately, there was no addi-



Photos by Alex Chaney

tional scoring in the third quarter.

With about 22 seconds left in the fourth quarter, Hanceville finally managed to get on the board. Time expired just as Hanceville completed a 2-point attempt, leaving the final score at Hokes Bluff 49 to Hanceville's 8.

Next week, Hokes Bluff will host region foe and county rival Glencoe. Due to region and class realignment, this will be Glencoe's second straight trip to Hokes Bluff. This will be a contest with playoff implications and teams more evenly matched than in recent years. Hokes Bluff is riding a 10-game winning streak but trails Glencoe with an overall contest record of 39-42-1.

Hanceville's path only gets more difficult as they host the region's #1 team, Oneonta.



Proudly Family Owned —
Now in its Next Generation.
256-442-6360
www.rainbowmonument.com



Last Week's Scores

High School Sports

Football

Oct. 16
Gadsden City lost to Buckhorn 20-49.
Glencoe lost to Vinemont 21-28.
Southside lost to Oxford 7-23.
Sardis lost to Hayden 9-29.
Hokes Bluff defeated Hanceville 49-8.
West End lost to Ohatchee 6-21.
Etowah lost to Oneonta 7-38.
Gaston defeated Wellborn 46-44.
Coosa defeated Lindsey Lane 48-0.

This Week in Sports

High School Sports

Football

Oct. 23
Gadsden City vs. Bob Jones
Glencoe at Hokes Bluff
Southside vs. St. Clair County
Sardis vs. Scottsboro
Westbrook vs. Whitesburg Academy
West End vs. Pleasant Valley
Etowah at Holly Pond
Gaston vs. Ohatchee
Coosa at Shoals Christian

Girls Flag Football

Oct. 27
Gadsden City at Springville

Cross Country

Oct. 29
AHSAA Section

SUBMIT SPORTS TIPS TO
SPORTS@GADSDENMESSENGER.COM



Northeast Orthopedic
Sports Clinic
& Physical Therapy

256-547-7417



QUALITY CARE CLOSE TO HOME

SPORTS



**In &
Around
SEC**
Cole Frederick

Week seven review of SEC football

Alex Golesh earned the first signature victory of his debut season on the Plains as his Tigers pulled off a massive upset over rival Georgia on the road in Athens. Alex McPherson knocked through a game-winning 34-yard field goal as time expired to propel Auburn to a 27-24 victory. The Tigers fell behind 14-0 early, but they responded with 24 unanswered points through the third quarter. Georgia evened the score in the fourth and had a chance to win on the final drive before the Tigers forced a Gunner Stockton fumbled, and Byrum Brown led Auburn into field goal range over the final seconds of the game. Brown threw for 150 yards and a touchdown and rushed for 115 yards and a score on the afternoon. The Tigers improved to 4-2 overall and 2-2 in conference play. They return home on Saturday (Oct. 24) to take on LSU.

Alabama Week 7 Review

The Crimson Tide dropped its second straight game of the season in a 26-10 road loss at Tennessee, and the Volunteers' defense dominated the Crimson Tide offense for four quarters. Tennessee held Alabama to only 201 yards of offense, and they also forced four Crimson Tide turnovers. The Vols led 12-10 at halftime after kicking four field goals, and they were able to punch the ball in the end zone twice in the second half. Alabama fell to 5-2 overall and 3-2 in SEC play. They return home on Saturday to host Texas A&M.

Week 8 Previews and Predictions (week 7: 3-5; season: 58-15)

Game of the Week

Ole Miss at Texas (-3.5)

After last weekend's embarrassing loss to Florida, the Longhorns' season is at a crossroads on Saturday night as the Rebels visit Austin. A loss doesn't necessarily end Texas' season, but they

would have to be perfect for the rest of the year to make the playoffs. The win over Ohio State will help the Longhorns' playoff chances even with three losses, but they are running out of margin for error. A win over Ole Miss would go a long way in terms of righting the ship for both Steve Sarkisian and Arch Manning. A loss will turn Sark's seat from warm to scalding hot. Prediction: Texas 31, Ole Miss 27.

LSU at Auburn (+7.5)

What do Alex Golesh and the Tigers have in store for an encore after last weekend's shocking upset win over Georgia? The stakes are even higher this Saturday as LSU visits Jordan-Hare Stadium. The visiting Tigers also have two losses, and this is a de facto elimination for the playoffs. It's possible—perhaps even likely at this point—that a 3-loss SEC team makes the playoffs, but both teams still have tough schedules remaining, so this is a must-win game for both squads. Prediction: LSU 23, Auburn 20.

Tennessee at South Carolina (-2.5)

The trend so far in the SEC has been to fade teams coming off of massive wins. Florida dominated Ole Miss and then lost to Missouri. Georgia beat Alabama and then lost to Auburn. Ole Miss beat LSU and then lost to Florida. If the cycle continues, Tennessee should be on upset alert this weekend as they travel to Columbia, especially considering the Gamecocks are off a bye week following their own massive win at Florida. Prediction: South Carolina 24, Tennessee 20.

Oklahoma at Mississippi State (+4.5)

The Bulldogs suffered their second loss of the season last weekend at LSU, and the offense was anemic without star quarterback Kamario Taylor. Taylor's

status is in question again this weekend against the Sooners. If he plays, Mississippi State has a great chance to win. Without him, they will need several John Mateer turnovers to have a chance. Prediction: Oklahoma 17, Mississippi State 13.

Texas A&M at Alabama (-14)

After two straight losses, Alabama returns home for a matchup with Texas A&M before a much-needed bye week. Kalen DeBoer's team is limping to the bye week, but they need a strong performance against the Aggies or they might be eliminated from playoff contention

before the calendar turns to November. Prediction: Alabama 31, Texas A&M 20.

Vanderbilt at Kentucky (-10.5)

The Commodores' best chance at winning a conference game was likely last week against Arkansas, but Clark Lea's team is always a threat as an underdog due to their style of play. Kentucky has been the biggest surprise team in the SEC under first-year head coach Will Stein, but this is a dangerous spot for his Wildcats after last week's road win at Oklahoma. Prediction: Kentucky 27, Vanderbilt 23.

Week 8 SEC Rankings

- Ole Miss (5-1, 3-1)
- Georgia (6-1, 4-1)
- Kentucky (6-1, 4-1)
- Tennessee (6-1, 3-1)
- Alabama (5-2, 3-2)
- LSU (5-2, 2-2)
- Florida (5-2, 3-2)
- Texas (4-2, 2-2)
- Auburn (4-2, 2-2)
- Missouri (5-2, 2-2)
- Mississippi State (4-2, 2-2)
- Oklahoma (3-3, 1-2)
- South Carolina (3-3, 1-3)
- Texas A&M (4-3, 1-3)
- Arkansas (3-4, 1-3)
- Vanderbilt (3-4, 0-4)

SCHEDULE 2026 SEASON			
WEEK	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME/SCORE
1	SEPT 5	VS. EAST CAROLINA	W. 48-10
2	SEPT 12	AT KENTUCKY	W 45-17
3	SEPT 19	VS. FLORIDA STATE	W 50-36
4	SEPT 26	VS. SOUTH CAROLINA	W 49-18
5	OCT 3	AT MISSISSIPPI STATE	W 56-23
6	OCT 10	VS. GEORGIA	L 17-20
7	OCT 17	AT TENNESSEE	L 10-26
8	OCT 24	VS. TEXAS A&M	2:30 P.M. ABC
9	OCT 31	OFF	
10	NOV 7	AT LSU	
11	NOV 14	AT VANDERBILT	
12	NOV 21	VS. UT-CHATTANOOGA	
13	NOV 28	VS. AUBURN	

SCHEDULE 2026 SEASON			
WEEK	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME/SCORE
1	SEPT 5	VS. BAYLOR AT MERCEDES-BENZ STADIUM, ATLANTA GA	W. 17-16
2	SEPT 12	VS. SOUTHERN MISS	W 43-8
3	SEPT 19	VS. FLORIDA	L 39-44
4	SEPT 26	VS. VANDERBILT	W 21-15
5	OCT 3	AT TENNESSEE	L 14-24
6	OCT 10	OFF	
7	OCT 17	AT GEORGIA	W 27-24
8	OCT 24	VS. LSU	11:00 A.M. ABC
9	OCT 31	AT OLE MISS	
10	NOV 7	VS. ARKANSAS	
11	NOV 14	AT MISSISSIPPI STATE	
12	NOV 21	VS. SAMFORD	
13	NOV 28	AT ALABAMA	

BAND

GSCC Show Band shows out at Artoberfest

Photos by Ryan Kelly



Hokes Bluff band earns grand champion honors at JSU invitational

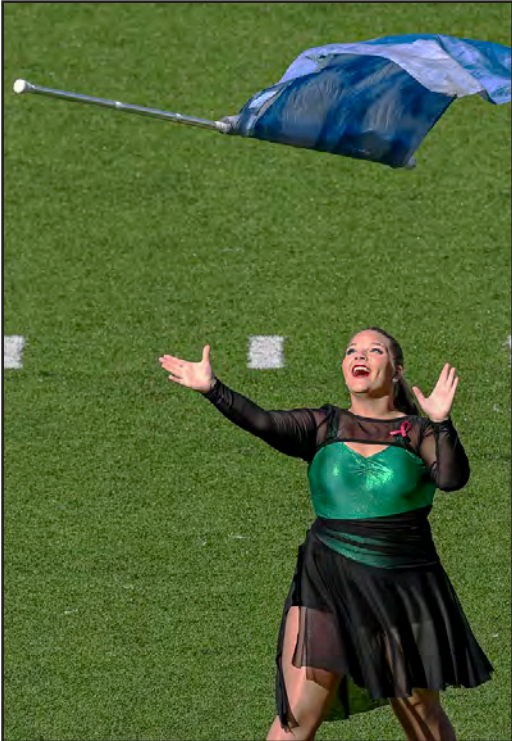
By Alex Chaney
Sports Correspondent

Hokes Bluff High School’s Green Machine Marching Band earned grand champion honors Saturday, Oct. 17, at

Jacksonville State University’s Gem of the Hills Marching Invitational. The competition was hosted by Jax State’s Marching Southerners as a fundraiser for their upcoming trip to perform in the Rose Parade.

Hokes Bluff received superior ratings in all categories and won Best in Class AA awards for drum major, majorette, percussion and band. The Green Machine also earned Best in Division A/AA honors in drum major,

majorette and percussion before capping the competition by being named Grand Champion Band in Division A/AA.



Photos by Alex Chaney

Coin Show

Presented by
The Gadsden-Rainbow City Coin Club

THE 63RD ANNUAL NORTHEAST ALABAMA
WINTER COIN SHOW

Friday & Saturday
NOVEMBER 6TH & 7TH

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

Join Us!
BUY • SELL
TRADE • LEARN
ALL THINGS
COINS!

Find us on
CoinZip.com

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

Blaine Smith 256-405-5183 Harold Jennings 205-353-1328 Frank Thomas 256-490-3375

LEGALS

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain real estate mortgage executed by ERIC MARTIN, an unmarried man, to SAMUEL LEE ROY HILL dated September 20th, 2019 and recorded in Instrument No.: 3491675 in the Office of the Judge of Probate, Etowah County, Alabama, and the Mortgagee, by reason of such default having declared all the indebtedness secured by said mortgage due and payable and said mortgage subject to foreclosure, and said default continuing, notice is hereby given that, acting under the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the Mortgagee will sell at public outcry, for cash, to the highest and best bidder in front of the Courthouse door of the Etowah County Courthouse, during the legal hours of sale on the 30th day of October, 2026, the following described real estate situated in Etowah County, Alabama:

Lot Number Ten (10), Block "B", according to the survey of Lincoln Park, as recorded in Plat Book "C", Page 291, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama.

Said sale will be made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. The property will be sold on an "as is, where is" basis, subject to any easements, encumbrances, and exceptions reflected in the records of the Probate Court. The property will be sold without warrant, 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. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the property and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the property.

Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in the 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.

s/David C. Livingston
By: David C. Livingston
Attorney for Mortgagee
P.O. Box 1621
Gadsden, AL 35902
(256) 546-9300

October 9, 16, and 23, 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 Joshua Bates, Tori Bates to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Mortgage Solutions of Colorado, LLC, its successors and assigns dated April 29, 2024; said mortgage being recorded on May 8, 2024 as Instrument No. 3573811 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Planet Home Lending, LLC by assignment recorded in Deed Book 2026, Page 3615972 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama.

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 before the main entrance of the Court House in Etowah County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on November 25, 2026 the following property, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

LOT 33, AS SHOWN ON THE CYPRESS GARDENS SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN MAP BOOK L, PAGE 27, IN THE OFFICE OF THE JUDGE OF PROBATE OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA.

Said property is commonly known as 2275 Cypress Bend Cir, Hokes Bluff, AL 35903.

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.

PLANET HOME LENDING, 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. 26-08708AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

The Messenger
10/23/2026, 10/30/2026, 11/06/2026
26-08708AL

October 23, 30, and November 6, 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 Leahgrace Claire Thompson to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for GenWay Home Mortgage, Inc., its successors and assigns dated March 6, 2026; said mortgage being recorded on March 11, 2026 in Deed Book 2026, Page 3605836 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Planet Home Lending, LLC by assignment recorded in Deed Book 2026, Page 3615364 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama.

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 before the main entrance of the Court House in Etowah County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on November 25, 2026 the following property, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

All that certain lot or parcel of land situated in the County of Etowah, State of Alabama, and being more particularly described as follows: The south 48 feet of Lot Number Fifteen (15), in Block Number Nine (9), of Walnut Park Addition according to map or plat thereof as the same appears of record in Book of Town Plats "B", Page 117, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama, and lying and being in the City of Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama, together with all improvements thereon.

Said property is commonly known as 302 Clark St, 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.

PLANET HOME LENDING, 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. 26-09108AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

The Messenger
10/23/2026, 10/30/2026, 11/06/2026
26-09108AL

October 23, 30, and November 6, 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 Joshua Llewellyn Knowles, an unmarried man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for First Federal Bank, A FSB, its successors and assigns dated June 7, 2024; said mortgage being recorded on June 7, 2024 as Instrument No. 3575390 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Freedom Mortgage Corporation by assignment recorded in Deed Book 2025, Page 3600817 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County, Alabama.

The undersigned, Freedom Mortgage Corporation, 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 December 3, 2026 the following property, situated in Etowah County, Alabama, to-wit:

Lot Number Thirty-Three (33) in Block Number One (1) in Rolling Green Farm Tracts Number One (1), according to the map thereof recorded in Plat Book "C", Page 265, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama, and lying and being in Etowah County, Alabama.

Said property is commonly known as 368 Riverside Drive, Gadsden, AL 35903.

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.

FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION
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. 26-08229AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

October 23, 30, and November 6, 2026

FIL CLAIMS

William Paul Bradford and Roy Patrick Bradford was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 09/08/2026 to the Estate of Donald Ray Bradford, 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

October 9, 16, and 23, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Jimmy Hasse was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 09/08/2026 to the Estate of Patricia Bohannon, 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

October 9, 16, and 23, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Paula Bruce was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 09/08/2026 to the Estate of Patricia Ann Willis Jolley, 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

October 9, 16, and 23, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Brenda Logan was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 08/21/2026 to the Estate of Lillie Mae Logan, 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

October 9, 16, and 23, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Wendy Miller was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 08/20/2026 to the Estate of John M. Miller, II., 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

October 9, 16, and 23, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Randy Box was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 08/21/2026 over the Estate of Glenna Boyd Caldwell, 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

October 16, 23, and 30, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Sharon Russell Hall and Robert L. Posey was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 09/22/2026 to the Estate of Joyce Lorraine Woods Posey, 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

October 16, 23, and 30, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Brad Jackson Addison was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 08/20/2026 over the Estate of Trula Faye Addison, 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

October 16, 23, and 30, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Stephen Craig Teague was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 09/16/2026 to the Estate of Chilton O. Teague, 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

October 16, 23, and 30, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Michael Berry McMillan was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 09/14/2026 to the Estate of Jan Wynn McMillan, 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

October 16, 23, and 30, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Latalia Riley was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 09/09/2026 to the Estate of Larry Dewayne Riley 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

October 23, 30, and November 6, 2026

FILE CLAIMS

Joseph Hutchins was/were appointed Personal Representative(s) on 09/15/2026 to the Estate of Paul Norris Hutchins, deceased, Probate

by the 30th day of November 2026. Failure to file such answer shall result in your loss of any claimed owner's or other interest in said currency. DONE this the 29th day of September, 2026

Cassandra Johnson, Circuit Clerk
Etowah County, Alabama

October 9, 16, 23, and 30, 2026

PUBLICATION NOTICE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF: ETHAN TODD HILL.

CASE NO.:2026-00512

TO: Unknown father Address unknown

Please take notice that a petition for adoption of a child born to Jackquiline Nicole Hill has been filed in said Court by the Petitioner(s) named above alleging that the identity and/or whereabouts of the biological father of said minor child are unknown and have not been disclosed to the Court. The minor child's date of birth is 07/24/2018. As a notified party, you may appear in the adoption proceeding to contest or support the attached petition. Please be advised that if you intend to contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of service of this notice with counsel for said Petitioner, whose name and address are as shown below and with the Clerk of the Probate Court at the following address: P.O. Box 187, Gadsden, AL 35902. If you fail to respond within thirty (30) days and appear at the hearing, the Court may construe that failure as an implied consent to the adoption and waiver of a right to appear and of further notice of the adoption proceedings. If the adoption is approved, your parental rights, if any, will be considered terminated. Attorney for Petitioner: Joseph Andrew Jones, Esquire
600 Broad Street, Suite 101
Gadsden, AL 35901

Given under my hand this the 29th day of September 2026.

Scott W. Hassell
Judge of Probate

October 2, 9, 16, and 23, 2026

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS

IN RE THE MATTER OF: K.W., A MINOR CHILD
CASE NO.: JU-2025-63.02

TO: Quintarius Lavontay Swann

You are hereby given notice that a petition has been filed by the Etowah County Department of Human Resources requesting that your parental rights be terminated to K. W. born 11/15/2025 to Ayana Samiria Williams. You are hereby given notice that you are required to file an Answer with the Clerk of the Juvenile Court of Etowah County, Alabama and with the Petitioner's attorney, Sheri W. Stallings, Assistant Attorney General, STATE OF ALABAMA DEPT. OF HUMAN RESOURCES 204 South River St., Centre, AL 35960, within fourteen (14) days of the date of the last publication of this notice or a default judgment can be entered against you. A parent has the right to representation of an attorney in a dependency or a termination of parental rights trial, and, if indigent, the Court may appoint an attorney if requested. Should the parent desire a court-appointed attorney, application should be made immediately upon receipt of notice of the action by contacting the Clerk of the Juvenile Court of Etowah County, Alabama on or before the 12th day of November 2026.

Cassandra Johnson
Circuit Clerk of Etowah County, Alabama

Attorney for Petitioner: Sheri W. Stallings
Assistant Attorney General
Etowah County Department of Human Resources

ment of Human Resources
204 South River Street
Centre, Alabama 35960

October 16, 23, 30, and November 6, 2026

JOB COMPLETION

Vulcan Materials Asphalt & Construction, LLC hereby gives notice of completion Patching, Leveling and Resurfacing designated areas within the City of Southside, Etowah County, Alabama. This notice will appear for three consecutive weeks beginning on October 16, and ending on October 30, 2026. All claims should be filed at Vulcan Materials Asphalt & Construction, LLC P.O. Box 1890, Gadsden, Alabama, 35902 during this period.

Vulcan Materials Asphalt & Construction, LLC
P.O. Box 1890
Gadsden, AL. 35902

October 16, 23, and 30, 2026

NOTICE OF COMPLETION

In accordance with Chapter 1, Title 39, Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended, notice is hereby given that A & S Electrical Contractors, Inc., Contractor, has completed the contract for Construction of Parking Lot Lighting at Southside Athletics, at Etowah County, Alabama for Etowah County Board of Education, Owner, and have made request for final settlement of said Contract. All persons having any claim for labor, materials, or otherwise in connection with this project should immediately notify B. Craig Lipscomb Architect 422 Chestnut Street, Gadsden, AL 35901.

A & S Electrical Contractors, Inc.
906 Nuckolls Street
Gadsden, AL 35903

October 16, 23, 30, and November 6, 2026

JOB COMPLETION

Vulcan Materials Asphalt & Construction, LLC hereby gives notice of completion for Project: STPAA-2826(250) in Etowah and Cherokee County, Alabama. This notice will appear for three consecutive weeks beginning on October 23, 2026 and ending on November 6, 2026. All claims should be filed at Vulcan Materials Asphalt & Construction, LLC., P.O. Box 1890, Gadsden, Alabama, 35902 during this period.

Vulcan Materials Asphalt & Construction, LLC
P.O. Box 1890
Gadsden, AL 35902

October 23, 30, and November 6, 2026

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Owner: The Water Works & Sewer Board of the City of Gadsden
Locality: Gadsden, Alabama 35901
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:
6th Street, Gray Road, Burns Park and Walnut Park Area Sewer Rehabilitation
CWSRF Project No.: CS011044-01

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, Gadsden, Alabama 35901 on Tuesday, October 27 at 10:00 AM local time. ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY. Bids for the construction of the Project will be received in person from properly licensed contractors at the board's offices located at 515 Albert Rains Boulevard, Gadsden, Alabama 35901 until Tuesday, November 3 at 10:00AM local time. At that time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.

The Project includes the following Work:

Gravity Sewer Main Cleaning and CCTV Inspection, Gravity Sewer Main CIPP Lining, Service Lateral CIPP Lining, Manhole Rehabilitation with Multi-Component Liner, and related ancillary work (Schedule 1). Also includes further Manhole Rehabilitation and CIPP Lining of Existing Service Laterals and related ancillary work at various locations as determined and directed by the Owner (Schedule 2).

The Owner requires the Project to be Substantially Completed within 150 Calendar Days after the date when the Contract Time commences to run, and completed and ready for final payment within 180 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 (Michelle Wilson – michelle.wilson@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.

Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be issued. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Agent. The attention of bidders is called to the provisions of State Law Governing General Contractors, as set forth in Title 34, Chapter 8, Article 1, Code of Alabama of 1975, as amended; and the provisions of said law shall govern bidders insofar as applicable. The above-mentioned provisions of the Code make it illegal for the Owner to consider a bid from anyone who is not properly licensed under such code provisions. In addition, bidders must carry the MU classification as listed in the latest edition of the Roster of the State Licensing Board for General Contractors, Montgomery, Alabama. The Owner will not consider any bid unless the bidder produces evidence that they are so licensed. All nonresident contractors preparing bids shall submit with their bid evidence of proper registration with the Alabama Secretary of State as a foreign corporation, and a Certificate of Good Standing as a Foreign Corporation from the State of Alabama Department of Revenue. The attention of nonresident bidders is called to the provisions of Alabama Law, Title 39, Chapter 3, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, whereby in the letting of public contracts in which any state, county, or municipal funds are utilized, except those contracts funded in whole or in part with funds received from a federal agency, preference shall be given to resident contractors, and a nonresident bidder domiciled in a state having laws granting preference to local contractors shall be awarded Alabama public contracts only on the same basis as the nonresident bidder's state awards contracts to Alabama contractors bidding under similar circumstances; resident contractors in Alabama, are to be granted preference over nonresidents in awarding of contracts in the same manner and to the same extent as provided by the laws of the state of domicile of the nonresident.

Issued by:
Owner: The Water Works & Sewer Board of the City of Gadsden
By: Chad Hare, P.E.
Title: General Manager
October 16, 23, and 30, 2026

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. STPSU-2815(258) ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA

Sealed bids will be received by the Director of Transportation at the office of the Alabama Department of Transportation, Montgomery, Alabama until 10:00 AM on November 06, 2026 and at that time publicly opened for constructing the Micro-Milling, Resurfacing, and Traffic Stripe on Randall Street from the junction of Haralson Avenue to the junction of South 6th Street in Gadsden. Length 0.338 mi. The total amount of uncompleted work under contract to a contractor must not exceed the amount of his or her

qualification certificate. The Entire Project Shall Be Completed In Thirty (30) Working Days. A Bidding Proposal may be purchased for \$5.00. Plans may be purchased for \$9.00 per set. Plans and Proposals are available at the Alabama Department of Transportation, 1409 Coliseum Boulevard, Room E-108, Montgomery, AL 36110. Checks should be made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation. Plans and Proposals will be mailed only upon receipt of remittance. No refunds will be made.

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

The Bracket Estimate On This Project Is From \$232,712 To \$284,426. The proposed work shall be performed in conformity with the rules and regulations for carrying out the Federal Highway Act. Plans and Specifications are on file in Room E-108 of the Alabama Department of Transportation at Montgomery, Alabama 36110. In accordance with the rules and regulations of The Alabama Department of Transportation, proposals will be issued only to prequalified contractors or their authorized representatives, upon requests that are received before 10 AM., on the day previous to the day of opening of bids.

The bidder's proposal must be submitted on the complete original proposal furnished him or her by the Alabama Department of Transportation. The Alabama Department of Transportation, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000D TO 2000D-4 and Title 49 code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of The Secretary, Part 21, nondiscrimination in federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award. The right to reject any or all bids is reserved.

JOHN R. COOPER
Transportation Director

October 16, 23, and 30, 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:

Chestnut Street Gravity Sewer Rehabilitation

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 Tuesday, November 10, at 2:00 PM local time. At that time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.

The Project includes the

following Work:

Rehabilitation of approximately 565 linear feet of 18-inch gravity sewer main and associated sanitary sewer service laterals

The Owner requires the Project to be Substantially Completed within 30 calendar days after the date when the Contract Time commences to run, and completed and ready for final payment within 60 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 (Michelle Wilson – michelle.wilson@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 Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Agent.

The attention of bidders is called to the provisions of State Law Governing General Contractors, as set forth in Title 34, Chapter 8, Article 1, Code of Alabama of 1975, as amended; and the provisions of said law shall govern bidders insofar as applicable. The above-mentioned provisions of the Code make it illegal for the Owner to consider a bid from anyone who is not properly licensed under such code provisions. In addition, bidders must carry the MU classification as listed in the latest edition of the Roster of the State Licensing Board for General Contractors, Montgomery, Alabama. The Owner will not consider any bid unless the bidder produces evidence that they are so licensed. All nonresident contractors preparing bids shall submit with their bid evidence of proper registration with the Alabama Secretary of State as a foreign corporation, and a Certificate of Good Standing as a Foreign Corporation from the State of Alabama Department of Revenue.

The attention of nonresident bidders is called to the provisions of Alabama Law, Title 39, Chapter 3, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, whereby in the letting of public contracts in which any state, county, or municipal funds are utilized, except those contracts funded in whole or in part with funds received from a federal agency, preference shall be given to resident contractors, and a nonresident bidder domiciled in a state having laws granting preference to local contractors shall be awarded Alabama public contracts only on the same basis as the nonresident bidder's state awards contracts to Alabama contractors bidding under similar circumstances; resident contractors in Alabama, are to be granted preference over nonresidents in awarding of contracts in the same manner and to the same extent as provided by the laws of the state of domicile of the nonresident.

Issued by:
Owner: The Water Works & Sewer Board of the City of Gadsden
By: Chad Hare
Title: General Manager

October 23, 30, and November 6, 2026

LEGAL NOTICE

The following units will be auctioned or otherwise disposed of on November 1, 2026 on the premises of 77 Storage LLC., 2800 Forestdale Road, Southside, AL. 35907.

Unit B1 - Andrew Hill

Unit B15 - Matthew Copeland

77 Storage LLC
2800 Forestdale Road
Southside, AL 35907

October 16 and 23,

2026

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that the Contents of the following storage buildings will be SOLD by Off Campus Storage on October 23, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at 474 George Wallace Drive, Gadsden, AL. 35903.

Dexter Harrell
Unit 53 and 71

Antwon Powell
Unit 70

Othay Rutledge
Unit 76

Jerome Threatt
Unit 172

Off Campus Storage
474 George Wallace Drive
Gadsden, AL. 35903

October 16 and 23, 2026

STATE OF ALABAMA PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS the Alabama Legislature at its 2026 Regular Session enacted Act No. 2026-276 (HB508), which ordered an election to be held on a proposed amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022 relating to Etowah County, Alabama; and WHEREAS notice of this election, together with the proposed amendment, is required by law to be given by proclamation of the Governor, to be published once a week for four successive weeks preceding the date appointed for the election in each newspaper qualified to run legal notices in the county affected; NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, as Governor of the State of Alabama, do hereby give notice, direct, and proclaim that on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, an election will be held in Etowah County, Alabama, in the manner and form provided by law upon the following proposed amendment to the Constitution of 2022 of the State of Alabama: AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY ACT NO. 2026-276 Section 28-11.20 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, relating to Etowah County and requiring voter approval to annex any territory within the county into any municipality not located wholly within the boundaries of the county before January 1, 1986, is repealed. FURTHER, I proclaim and direct that this proclamation shall be published once a week for the four successive weeks immediately preceding Tuesday, November 3, 2026, in each newspaper qualified to run legal notices in Etowah County, Alabama.

October 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2026

STATE OF ALABAMA PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS the Alabama Legislature at its 2026 Regular Session enacted Act No. 2026-341 (SB271), Act No. 2026-378 (HB380), Act No. 2026-379 (HB511), and Act No. 2026-424 (SB5), proposing amendments to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022; WHEREAS, in conformity with Section 284 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, as amended, the Legislature has ordered an election by the qualified electors of the state upon such proposed amendments; and WHEREAS notice of this election, together with the proposed amendments, is required by law to be given by proclamation of the Governor, which shall be published once a week for at least four successive weeks immediately preceding the day appointed for the election; NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, as Governor of the State of Alabama, do hereby give notice, direct, and proclaim that on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, an election will be held in the State of Alabama in the manner and form provided by law upon the following proposed amendments to the Constitution of 2022 of the State of Alabama: AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY ACT NO. 2026-341 PART I.

Section 127 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, is amended to read as follows: "Section 127

(a) In case of the governor's removal from office, death or resignation If a vacancy occurs in the office of the governor, the lieutenant governor shall become governor. (b) If both a vacancy occurs in the office of the governor and the office of the lieutenant governor be removed from office, die or resign more than sixty(60) days prior to the next general election, at which any state officers are to be elected, a governor and lieutenant governor shall be elected at such election for the unexpired term., and in the event of a vacancy in the office, caused by the removal from office, death or resignation of the governor and lieutenant governor, pending During such vacancy and until their successors shall be elected and qualified, the office of governor shall be held and administered by either the president pro tem, tempore of the senate, speaker of the house of representatives, attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, or state treasurer in the order herein named. (c) In case of the impeachment of the governor, his or her absence from the state for more than twenty days, unsoundness of mind, or other disability or incapacity to serve, the power and authority of the office shall, until the governor is acquitted, returns to the state, or is restored to his mind, or relieved from other disability no longer incapacitated, shall devolve in the order herein named, described in subsection (b) upon the lieutenant governor, president pro tem, tempore of the senate, speaker of the house of representatives, attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, and state treasurer. If any of these officers be are under any of the disabilities herein specified, the office of the governor shall be administered in the order named by such of these officers as may be are free from such disability. (d) If the governor shall be is absent from the state over twenty days, the secretary of state shall notify the lieutenant governor, who shall enter upon the duties of governor; if both the governor and lieutenant governor shall be are absent from the state over twenty days, the secretary of state shall notify the president pro tem tempore of the senate, who shall enter upon the duties of the office until the governor or other officer entitled to administer the office in succession to the governor returns. (e) If the governor-elect fail or refuse from any cause to qualify, the lieutenant governor-elect shall qualify and exercise the duties of governor until the governor-elect qualifies.; and in the event both if both the governor-elect and the lieutenant governor-elect from any cause for any reason fail to qualify, the president pro tem tempore of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, and state treasurer, shall, in like manner, in the order named, administer the office until the governor-elect or lieutenant governor-elect qualifies. (f) If a vacancy occurs in the office of the lieutenant governor more than 60 days before the next general election at which any state officers are to be elected, a lieutenant governor shall be elected at such general election for the unexpired term." PART II. The following provision is added to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022 to read as follows: Notwithstanding any other provision of the constitution: (1) The Lieutenant Governor and officers of both houses of the Legislature shall be paid an amount set by joint resolution; and (2) Any expenditure of funds appropriated for use by members of the Legislature for travel shall be approved by

an officer of the Legislature elected from the full membership of the respective chamber.

AMENDMENT
PROPOSED BY ACT
NO. 26-378

(a) Whenever two or more contiguous county boards of education deem it advisable to consolidate the administration of their respective county school systems under one remaining controlling multi-county board of education, each county board of education shall adopt and record within the minutes of each board an agreement providing for the consolidation. A formal resolution adopted by all members of the agreeing boards shall detail and provide for the payment of their respective indebtedness, specify how the consolidation will take place, identify how the remaining controlling multi-county board of education will operate, provide for the roles and duties of the resulting multi-county board members, and designate the time frame during which the consolidation will be implemented. Subject to subsection (c), the consolidation shall be finalized as designated in the formal resolution. (b) Before a consolidation may occur, the State Board of Education shall conduct an impact study on the potential effects of the proposed consolidation, including, but not limited to, the impact on students, families, educational quality, educational programs, staff, facilities, transportation and operations, finances and taxes, community identity, and governance. At least 30 calendar days before adopting the formal resolution finalizing the consolidation, the State Board of Education shall post a copy of the impact study on the public website of the State Department of Education. (c)(1) If, within 30 days after the adoption of the formal resolution, 25 percent of the qualified electors residing within the boundaries of any of the school systems proposing consolidation submit a protest, in writing, to any of the affected county boards of education, the consolidation may not occur unless the consolidation is approved by a majority of the qualified electors residing in each county or counties wherein all affected county school systems are located who vote in a referendum election as provided in this subsection. (2) The consolidation shall become operative only if approved by a majority of the qualified electors who reside within the combined territory of the affected county school systems who vote in a referendum election to be held on the date of the next regularly scheduled general election. The order setting the election shall be entered by the judge of probate of each affected county within one month after the expiration of the 30-day time period provided in subdivision (1). Notice of the election shall be given by the judge of probate of each county,

and the election shall be held, conducted, and the results canvassed in the manner as other county elections. The ballots shall have printed at the top a statement of the purpose of the referendum election and directly underneath, in plain type and on different lines, the words, "For Consolidation," and "Against Consolidation." If a majority of the qualified electors voting in the combined territory of the affected county school systems vote to approve the consolidation, the consolidation shall be finalized as designated in the formal resolution. (d) The consolidation shall not operate to relieve any board of education, or other governing body, of liability for obligations previously incurred, or to impair rights existing before the consolidation. The agreement and formal resolution shall be binding on the combining county boards of education. If a consolidation occurs, the remaining controlling multi-county board of education shall have the right to compel the execution of contractual obligations made to any of the boards before the consolidation. (e) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules as necessary to provide for the implementation of this section. (f) The Legislature, by general or local law, may enact legislation to implement approved board consolidations pursuant to this section.

AMENDMENT
PROPOSED BY ACT
NO. 2026-379

(a) Each local board of education shall adopt a policy requiring each public K-12 school under its jurisdiction, at the beginning of each school year, to conduct The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and give all students the opportunity to voluntarily recite The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag. (b) Each local board of education shall adopt a policy requiring each public K-12 school under its jurisdiction to allow a prayer to be conducted, provided that: (1) The prayer must be initiated by and led by a student; and (2) No student may be required to participate in a prayer. (c) Any policy adopted by a local board of education pursuant to this section shall ensure that students have the right to opt out of participation in the Pledge of Allegiance or the prayer based on their own beliefs. (d) Violations of this section may be reported to the local superintendent of education. The local superintendent of education shall review the violation

AMENDMENT
PROPOSED BY ACT
NO. 2026-424

(a) Each local board of education shall adopt a policy requiring each public K-12 school under its jurisdiction to broadcast The Star-Spangled Banner during school hours, at least once per week.

(b)(1) A local board of education shall select for broadcast, pursuant to subsection (a), any recording of the first stanza of The Star-Spangled Banner that is archived within the Library of Congress and available on the Library of Congress website. (2) A local board of education, alternatively, may adopt a policy allowing, during school hours, for the performance of the first stanza of The Star-Spangled Banner from original sheet music, archived within the Library of Congress and available on its website, by a school-sanctioned band program, choral program, vocal group, or vocalist. FURTHER, I proclaim and direct that this proclamation shall be published once a week for the four successive weeks immediately preceding Tuesday, November 3, 2026, in every county as required by law.

Kay Ivy, Governor

Wes Allen
Secretary of State

October 9, 16, 23, and 30, 2026

LEGAL ZONING
NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on Thursday, October 29 at 8:30 a.m., the Board of Adjustment of the City of Gadsden will hold a public hearing in the City Council Chamber, First Floor, at City Hall, 90 Broad Street, Gadsden, Alabama to give all persons who desire an opportunity to be heard in opposition to or in favor of the following request:

"A Request for a Special Exception to operate a Child Daycare Facility on the following described property located in a TR, Traditional Residential Zoned District in District 3.

Commence at the southwest corner of Lot 4, Block 1 of Elliott Probate Office, No. 7 as recorded in Plat Book B, Page 23, Etowah County also and run northerly along the westerly line of Lot 4, distance being of the 80.50 easterly feet right of way line of Pipe Shop Alley a to the point of point of beginning. From said point along of beginning the continue along the previously described course and thence westerly line of Lot 5, 6 and 7 a distance of 87.78 feet; distance deflect 90 degrees 03 minutes 13 seconds right and run also being of the 189.16 westerly feet to a point on the easterly line of Lot 11, thence deflect right of way line of North 9th Street; southerly 92 degrees 00 minutes 47 seconds right and run westerly along the easterly line of Lots 11 and 12; also being the right of way line of North 9th Street a distance of 87.66 feet; thence deflect 87 degrees 56 minutes 00 seconds right and run a distance of 186.00 feet to a point on the westerly line of Lot 5 and of Lots the point of beginning. Said parcel pa being Lot 6 and portions 5, 7, 10, 11 and 12 and a portion of that

10 foot alley annulled in Misc. Book Y, Page 441, all in Block 1, Elliott Addition No. 7, as recorded in Plat Book B, Page 23, Etowah County Probate Office, being subject to an easement to Alabama Power Company for an existing power line along the westerly side of the containing property, lying and being in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama, and 0.38 acre, more or less. (500 N 9th Street).

October 9 and 23, 2026

NOTICE TO
CONTRACTORS
REQUEST FOR BIDS
FEDERAL AID
PROJECT NO.
TAPSU-TA26(902)
CITY OF GADSDEN
BID #3653
CITY OF GADSDEN,
ETOWAH COUNTY,
ALABAMA

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Gadsden at Gadsden City Hall, Room 411, 90 Broad St, Gadsden, Alabama, 35901 until 2:00 pm, Wednesday, November 11, 2026, and at that time publicly opened for constructing the following:

Streetscape Improvements Along Chestnut Street From 6th Street to 5th Street - Phase III. For the City of Gadsden, Project No. TAP-SU-TA26(902) City of Gadsden Bid #3653

The bracket estimate on this project is from \$750,000 to \$1,000,000. This bracket range is provided only as a general indication of a broad financial size category for the project. It should not be used in preparing a bid, nor will it have any bearing on any decision to award the contract. The principal items of work are approximately as follows:
1132 Removing Concrete Sidewalk, per square yard

911 Concrete Sidewalk, 4" Thick, per square yard

864 Combination Curb & Gutter, Type C, per linear foot

2667 Micro-Milling Existing Pavement (Approx 1.10" Thru 2.00" Thick), per square yard

262 Superpave Bit Concrete Wearing Surface Layer, ½" Max Agg Size Mix, ESAL Range C/D, per ton

415 Traffic Control Markings, Class 2, Type A, per square feet

1 Decorative Lighting, per lump sum
1 Irrigation System, per lump sum

The entire project shall be completed in NINETY (90) working days. A cashier's check (drawn on an Alabama Bank) or bid bond for 5% of the amount bid (maximum of \$10,000.00) and made payable to the City of Gadsden must accompany each bid as evidence of good faith. The City of Gadsden requires that the General Contractor's Alabama license number is included on the outside of the sealed bid envelope to be considered and on the bid form. Proof of insurance coverages of

the types and amounts as set forth in the project specifications will be required of the contractor, and any and all subcontractors, prior to beginning work. The contractor will be required to perform work amounting to at least 30% of the total contract cost within their organization.

Contractor prequalification is not required to bid on this project. However, the award of the contract will not be made to any bidder who, at the time of the award, is considered by the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) to be disqualified from bidding, nor to any bidder who is an affiliate of or has a corporate officer, director, or principal owner who is a corporate officer, director, or owner of, another person who is presently disqualified by ALDOT. Further details and definitions regarding this provision are included in the project specifications.

To be eligible for consideration, bids must be submitted on complete original proposals made available by the owner. Bid documents (including plans and proposals) are available at Three Notch Group, Inc., 515 Locust St, Gadsden, Alabama 35901, (256) 543-9431 upon payment of a non-refundable deposit of \$250. PDF electronic copies are available via email Jamie.christopher@3notch.com at no cost to the bidder. Checks shall be made payable to Three Notch Group, Inc. Bid documents will be mailed only upon receipt of deposit. No bid documents will be distributed later than 24 hours prior to the scheduled opening of bids.

This is a federally funded project. The proposed work shall be performed in conformity with the rules and regulations for carrying out the Federal Highway Act and other acts amendatory, supplementary, or relative thereto. This project is subject to the contract work hours and Safety Standards Act and its implementing regulations. MBE/DBE participation is encouraged; however, no specific MBE/DBE goals have been established for this project. Minimum wage rates for this project have been pre-determined by the Secretary of Labor and are set forth in the advertised specifications.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4 and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, nondiscrimination in federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such act, all bidders are hereby notified that it will be affirmatively ensured that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will

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

The right to reject any or all bids and to disregard any minor irregularities is reserved by the owner.

Honorable Craig Ford, Mayor

October 23, 2026

ORDINANCE
NO. O-31-26

Authorizing Conveyance of Certain Property

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, that the CITY OF GADSDEN owns property located at Twin Bridges Golf Course, Gadsden, Alabama, more particularly described as follows:

Parcel A: Commence At The Southwest Corner Of Lot 3, Block 4, Of Mineral District Land Company's First Subdivision, As Recorded In Plat Book B, Page 350, Gadsden, Alabama, Which Is Also The Point Of Beginning; Thence Run North 01°50'00" West A Distance Of 50.00 Feet To A Point; Thence Run North 88°10'00" East A Distance Of 140.00 Feet To A Point; Thence Run South 01°50'00" East A Distance Of 50.00 Feet To A Point; Thence Run South 88°10'00" West A Distance Of 140.00 Feet To The Point Of Beginning.

Said Property Containing 0.16 Acres, More Or Less, Being Lot 3 In Block 4 Of Mineral District Land Company's First Subdivision, As Recorded In Plat Book B, Page 350, Probate Office, Etowah County, Alabama.

Whereas, Jan Turley has offered to pay \$740.00 for the property; Now, Therefore, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, as follows:

1. This real property is not needed for any municipal or public purpose. 2. The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute a deed to and in favor of Jan Turley for the sum of Seven Hundred Forty and 00/100 Dollars (\$740.00).

Adopted by the City Council of Gadsden on

October 13, 2026.
Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

October 23, 2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING

The Board of Adjustments will hold a public hearing on Thursday, November 12, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council chambers of Attalla City Hall located at 612 4th Street NW, Attalla, AL 35954. The following items will be considered: Variance requested and filed by DeeAnne Brown to consider a variance to put a modular home on the property located at 4314 Pleasant Valley

Road, Attalla, AL 35954. The property is currently zone M-2.

October 23 and 30, 2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC
MEETING ON
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
AGREEMENT

The City Council of the City of Gadsden will hold a public meeting on October 30, 2026, at 10 a.m., during a special called council meeting, to consider the adoption of a resolution authorizing an economic development agreement with GKH, LLC, which is authorized to do business in Alabama, and proposes to locate a multi-use facility that would include hotel space, office space, a restaurant, and a rooftop bar on property located at 437 Broad Street in Gadsden. GKH, LLC proposes to spend approximately \$20,000,000.00 in the Project, and proposes to employ the equivalent of approximately 20 employees with the potential for additional positions. GKH, LLC expects the multiuse facility to generate annual sales of \$5,000,000.00. GKH, LLC has requested financial assistance from the City of Gadsden to make this project feasible. The City of Gadsden proposes to pay to GKH, LLC the City's 5% lodging tax revenue generated from the multiuse facility for a period of ten (10) years, and 2.5% of City sales tax for a period of ten (10) years, the City will vacate its portion of the ad valorem tax all commencing with the Opening Date. The City of Gadsden seeks to provide citizens more multiuse buildings in the downtown area to increase employment, and return revenue back to the City of Gadsden. All interested persons may examine and review the Agreement and Resolution in the office of the City Clerk during normal business hours, before and after the meeting referenced herein.

Jennifer Smith, City Clerk

October 23, 2026

NOTICE OF VEHICLE
POSSESSION

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will proceed to take possession of the following described abandoned vehicle(s) on 11/30/2026.

2013 NISSAN SENTRA SILVER
VIN: 3N1AB7AP-5DL728766

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

October 23 and 30, 2026

CLASSIFIEDS

SERVICES

STRUGGLING WITH STAIRS? STAY SAFE AT HOME. Acorn Stairlifts® are the perfect solution for arthritis, COPD, and mobility challenges. A+ Rated by the BBB. Special \$250 Savings and a FREE In-Home Consultation. Call 1-844-349-3270 Today!

Up to \$15,000.00 of GUARANTEED Life Insurance! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company- 866-321-2416 or visit www.Life55plus.info/Alabama

APPLIANCE REPAIR: Prompt local service available for appliance repair. Washer/Dryer, Dishwasher, Refrigerator, Stove/Oven and

all major appliances. Certified, Insured techs. Satisfaction guaranteed. Call to schedule your appointment now! 1-877-441-0132

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

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

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!

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

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

Audien Hearing. The worlds first hearing aid with touchscreen controls. No tiny buttons, apps or prescriptions. 45-day risk free trial. Free shipping. Lifetime support. More than 1.5 million happy customers. Call Audien 1-844-298-7678

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

AUTOMOTIVE

GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC

HEARTS. Fast free pick up. Patriotic Hearts' programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 1-833-426-0193

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

SURPLUS ITEMS

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