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Centreville Press

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May 10, 2024

Hope Illuminated: Bibb County Relay for Life

BY SHEILA DUNCAN
REPORTER

On Saturday, May 4th, Bibb County's Relay for Life held its annual event at the BMC Wellness Center.

Relay for Life is a community fundraising event organized by the American Cancer Society to honor cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost to cancer, and fight back against the disease. The event typically involves teams of participants taking turns walking or running around a track or designated path for a set period, often 24 hours, to signify that cancer never sleeps.

The Survivors Tea of the Brent Study Club kicked off right on time at 4:00 p.m., marking the beginning of the event's activities. At 5:00 p.m., the Grand Opening ceremony followed, with Anna Stewart delivering the keynote speech and Mayor Mike Oakley opening the ceremony and Jason Elam leading the rendition of the National Anthem. Survivors and caregivers took the first laps, honoring their strength, while the winners of the Relay for Life Bibb County pageant were acknowledged.

Different groups, such as West Blocton High School, West Blocton Jr. Varsity, Bibb County High School, Centreville Middle School, and Hale County High School, showcased their tal-

ents during the event. The audience was treated to performances by majorettes, color guards, and cheerleaders, accompanied by musical acts including the WBHS Jazz Band and The Studio.

Vendors dotted the area, each with their own booth showcasing an array of goods and services. Children of all ages delighted in the face painting and indulged in the delicious food. Meanwhile, churches distributed information about their upcoming Vacation Bible School sessions, adding a touch of summer spirit to the festivities.

Big Al arrived at approximately 6:00 p.m. during the Superhero Kids walk, where both adults and children

donned superhero costumes to show their support for childhood cancer awareness. We made sure not to overlook the politician's pie, as well as the moving Luminaria Ceremony. The kids enjoyed a thrilling scavenger hunt, followed by an outstanding performance by Taylor Bagi. As the night ended, participants were encouraged to bring their own glow items for the Glow Walk.

The evening was filled with excitement and enjoyment. In essence, Relay for Life stands as a potent symbol of hope, unity, and the collaborative endeavor to eliminate cancer.

See more photos on page 8



Photos by Centreville My Hometown



2024 Miss Cahaba Lily Pageant Crowns Chloe Sanders as Queen

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS

The Miss Cahaba Lily Pageant crowned Chloe Sanders as 2024 Miss Cahaba Lily Queen at West Blocton High School ahead of the 2024 Cahaba Lily Festival that will be held in West Blocton, AL on May 18, 2024.

Alongside the 2024 title, Chloe Sanders was honored with a series of prestigious awards, including a \$1000 cash scholarship generously sponsored by Bibb Medical Center, a \$1500 cash prize from HighPointe Properties and membership to the esteemed Friends of the Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge, an organization dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of one of Alabama's most cherished natural treasures.

Sanders was crowned at the end of the Miss Cahaba Lily Pageant which included judges' interviews and evening gown competition categories. Sanders joined

new 2024 Cahaba Lily Queens who were crowned earlier in the day including Mackenzie Paul (Junior Miss Cahaba Lily), Amiyah

Cole (Young Miss Cahaba Lily) Emmerson Smith (Little Miss Cahaba Lily),

See Cahaba Lily on page 8



2024 Miss Cahaba Lily Queen, Chloe Sanders



Spectrum's Gift of K-9 Ari Honors Fallen Deputy Johnson While Strengthening Community Safety

BY SAVANNAH LOGAN
REPORTER

In a heartfelt gesture honoring the memory of Deputy Brad Johnson, who tragically lost his life in the line of duty nearly two years ago, Spectrum, a leading connectivity brand through Charter Communications, has donated K-9 Ari to the Bibb County Sheriff's Office. This generous contribution was made in collaboration with elected officials, including Lt. Governor Will Ainsworth, Senator April Weaver, and Representative Russell Bedsole as they unified in their efforts to welcome the newest addition to the department's ranks.

At the Bibb County Commission Office on Friday, May 3rd at 11:00 a.m., Lt. Governor Will Ainsworth, State Senator April Weaver, State Representative Russell Bedsole, Chairman of the Bibb County Commission Ty Corbell, Bibb County Sheriff's Office members including Investigator Chris Poole, Brad Johnson's family, Joseph Marchant, Charter Communications representatives including Kevin Keithley and Taylor Vice, and others gathered together for the official announcement and unveiling of K-9 Ari. The event also included a live demonstration by Ari and his trained handler, Deputy Brad Taylor.

Ari, a 2-year-old Dutch Shepherd, symbolizes both remembrance and renewal for the Sheriff's Office, marking the first acquisition since the retirement of its previous canine, Bodie. Sheriff Jody Wade expressed gratitude for Spectrum's tribute, emphasizing Ari's role in revitalizing their K-9 pro-

gram. "His expertise in narcotics detection will enhance public safety throughout our county," Sheriff Wade remarked. In his prayer during the ceremony, Sheriff Wade clarified that they are not "moving on, but moving forward" in continuing Deputy Johnson's legacy of service.

See K-9 Ari on page 2



CCA Announces New Principal

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS

The Board of Directors for Cahawba Christian Academy is pleased to announce the selection of Dr. John D. Russell, Jr. as principal of the school. He replaces Principal Dr. Steve Morgan, who is retiring. Currently, Dr. Russell serves as a member of the faculty, teaching primarily science in high school, and coaching Track.

He also serves as Pastor for New Hope Baptist Church in Hale County,

and as a Major in the Alabama Air National Guard unit in Birmingham, Alabama serving as Chaplain.

Dr. Russell, a graduate of Bibb County High School, also has an undergraduate degree from Auburn University, a master's degree from Samford University-Beeson Divinity School and a Doctor of Divinity degree from The University of the South at Sewanee Tennessee.

He is married to Elizabeth (Bess) Russell, and they have three children, Isaac, Rachel, and Miriam

and two grandsons, Jacob and Oliver.



Dr. John D. Russell, Jr

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NEWS



Melissa Thompson, Director for Bibb County Sav-A-Life

BY SHEILA DUNCAN REPORTER

In the hustle and bustle of daily life, it's easy to become disconnected from the heartbeat of your community. Yet, encouraging the growth of strong connections with local officials, leaders, and neighbors is not just a good idea—it's vital for fostering a sense of belonging and building a resilient, supportive community. Here's how you can get to know the people who shape your community:

I had the chance to learn about Melissa Thompson, a prominent figure in our community. Not only is she the director of Bibb County Sav-A-Life, but she's also a devoted mother. Melissa, alongside her daughter Grace and son Luke, has connected harmoniously into our neighborhood. Grace is embarking on her freshman year at Delta State University in Mississippi, while Luke is thriving as a junior at Bibb County High School.

To reach deeper into Melissa's personality, I posed a variety of random questions across different topics and subjects. Let's see what insights she shares.

If your life were a movie, which actor would you choose to play you and why? "Melissa McCarthy! I think she is hilarious although most people don't get my actual sense of humor. That's a joke (wink)."

If you could have dinner

with a historical figure, who would it be? "Salvador Dali for sure. He was very eccentric in his life and eclectic with his thinking."

What's the most memorable piece of advice you've ever received and who gave it to you? "You can't break broke." My grandfather's advice to me about fixing things which poured over from tinkering to life in general. He encouraged me to think outside the box and try something even if I don't know how. If it's already broken you can't break it, so at least you can try to fix it."

If you were given a chance to switch careers for a week, what would you choose to do? "Something in the way of a True Crime Detective or Forensic Science. I have so much experience just from all the series and podcasts that get my attention daily!"

If you could magically solve one problem in your community or industry overnight, what would it be? "Apathy."

What's your favorite way to unwind and relax after a busy day or week? "Relax on the couch with a good murder mystery."

If you could time travel, would you go to the past or the future? "I would go into the past, sometime before cell phones but after indoor plumbing!"

If you described your leadership style using a movie title, what would it be? "The Lion King. I'd like to think

that my leadership is based on serving others."

If you could have any superpower, what would it be, and how would you use it to benefit your community or business? "Time manipulation. There are so many things that I learned after the fact that I wish I could go back with the present knowledge to do a better job."

Thank you, Melissa, for your openness in sharing with us. It helps us to better understand you!

Asking questions is much more than a simple task; it's a gateway to deeper connections and a richer understanding of our communities. Through genuine curiosity and thoughtful inquiry, we open doors to a wealth of knowledge, perspectives, and stories that might otherwise remain hidden. Whether the questions are light-hearted or intense, they serve as bridges between individuals, encouraging empathy and strengthening the bonds within our communities. So, let's continue to ask, to listen, and to learn, for in that place lies the true essence of community building.



Melissa Thompson

Brierfield Historical Ironworks Park Welcomes New Director

BY SHEILA DUNCAN REPORTER

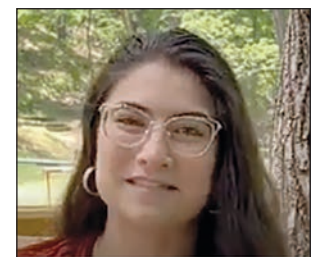
Meet Dee Benton, the new Director of Brierfield Park. Hailing from a quaint town in Meridianville, Alabama, Dee is one of five siblings and a proud alumna of the University of Montevallo, with a master's degree from Samford University in Homewood, Alabama.

In her new role, Dee will not only manage the property but also bring

her wealth of ideas to enhance the park experience. Get ready for a slew of exciting events designed to lure visitors, including Gospel music performances, plays, musicals, market days, and much more.

Already offering a range of amenities like camping spots, cabins for rent, picnic areas, event spaces, and a community pool set to open on May 27th, Brierfield Park offers all these delights at

affordable rates. Whether you're looking for a day out or planning to camp overnight, come say hello to Dee Benton and enjoy everything the park has to offer.



Dee Benton



Annual Bibb Belle Ball Held on April 28th

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS

On Sunday, April 28th the Bibb Belles held their annual Bibb Belle Ball where they recognized their contributions to our community over the past year, including many different volunteer opportunities such as Celebration on the Green, The Studio Events, the Cahaba Lily Festival, Special Olympics, volunteering at local elementary schools, and much more!

The focus of the Bibb Belle Ball is to recognize the success of each individual Belle, as well as honoring any graduating seniors. This year West Blocton High School Senior, Millie Morris was awarded a scholarship from the Bibb Belles. Millie is graduating from West Blocton High School and has served with the Belles since 2019 when she was part of the inaugural Junior Belles program. Millie is graduating with honors, and in addition to serving as the Bibb Belle President this year, she also serves with many other incredible organizations throughout Alabama and will attend Auburn this fall where she will study her passion of Aerospace Engineering.

The Ball was held at the River of Life Church in Centerville, AL with great food and great dancing! In addition to celebrating the Bibb Belles, this year a brand new program was unveiled welcoming Little Belles (grades 4-7) into the group! Interviews & an informational

session were held on site, and many of the girls chose to stay and celebrate being welcomed into the Little Belle program by getting to know their Belle Mentors throughout the Bibb Belle Ball.

The Bibb Belles are a group of young women from both the North and South ends of the county dedicated to serving the community. Their meetings consist of planning community service events, fundraising for the Bibb Belle Scholarship Fund, etiquette lessons, learning from talented guest speakers, and additional leadership opportunities through member presentations and professionally running the meetings. The aim of the Bibb Belles is to build future leader of our community.

The Bibb Belles are currently accepting applications from young women going into grades 7th-12th to join them for the 2024-2025 school year. If you are interested in learning more, or if you would like to request the Bibb Belles to volunteer at your event, please reach out to BibbBelles@gmail.com or you can contact them through their Bibb Belles Facebook Page.

The Bibb Belles would like to thank the Bibb County Chamber of Commerce for all of their support, the families & previous Sponsors of the Belles who helped make this program such a success, and all the incredible businesses throughout Bibb County who support our young ladies as they focus on serving the community!

K-9 Ari

K-9 Ari from page 1

The introduction of K-9 Ari not only serves as a homage but also signifies a practical reinforcement of law enforcement efforts. Partnered with Deputy Brad Taylor, Ari underwent rigorous training over 12 weeks, culminating in their recent certification to work as a team. Together, they stand ready to combat illegal drug activity, to track suspects, and to assist in locating missing individuals. Since their graduation from training on April 12th, Ari and Deputy Taylor have already been involved in 12 cases within Bibb County concerning both missing persons and narcotics.

Jane Rhodes, Senior Vice President of Corporate Physical Security at Charter Communications, Inc., Spectrum's parent company, underscored their commitment to community service. "In providing the funding for K-9 Ari, we honor Deputy Johnson and the law enforcement heroes that are keeping citizens safe," Rhodes affirmed. Charter's donation of nearly \$17,000, facilitated through Cahaba Valley Health Services nonprofit, covered the acquisition of K-9 Ari, equipment, and comprehensive training for both Ari and Deputy Taylor. This was the third K-9 donation made overall by Charter Communications.

Lt. Governor Ainsworth voiced appreciation Spectrum's community-oriented approach, recognizing

their dedication beyond mere business transactions. "Bibb County is fortunate to have companies that understand that doing business isn't just about providing service, it's about serving people," he noted.

State Senator April Weaver and Representative Russell Bedsole were both commended for their work in implementing The Deputy Brad Johnson Act, which both restricts and further stipulates criminals being able to earn time off from their original sentences. Senator Weaver affirmed that the work they had done was to ensure that if someone did the crime, they were bound to do the time.

The process to re-implement the K-9 program began about 9 months ago at Deputy Taylor's interest in taking on the role, being the first to succeed fallen Deputy Brad Johnson. From there, funding was sought through donations before Charter Communications committed to front-

ing the full cost, streamlining the process as much as possible from that point forward.

Ari's role extends beyond law enforcement duties; he will reside with Deputy Taylor, forming a bond that goes far beyond the professional realm. As with all law enforcement K-9s, Ari will serve the department faithfully until he retires (typically when they are about 10 years old), after which he will enjoy a well-deserved retirement in a loving home.

Spectrum's donation of K-9 Ari stands as a testament to the enduring spirit of service and remembrance, embodying the shared commitment to community well-being and honoring the sacrifices of those who dedicate their lives to public safety.

Without a doubt, K-9 Ari and Deputy Brad Taylor will serve as an impactful, dynamic duo to further protect the people of Bibb County.



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LIFESTYLE/CALENDAR

Plain & Simple

"Slow down and enjoy the simple pleasures in life"

By: Sheila Duncan

Butterfinger Cookies

Ingredients:
 1 cup unsalted butter, softened
 1 cup granulated sugar
 1 cup brown sugar, packed
 2 large eggs
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
 1 teaspoon baking soda
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 6 regular-sized Butterfinger candy bars, chopped into small pieces

Directions:
 Preheat your oven to 350°F (175°C). Line baking sheets with parchment paper.

In a large mixing bowl, cream together the softened butter, granulated sugar, and brown sugar until light and fluffy.

Add the eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Stir in the vanilla extract.

In a separate bowl, whisk together the flour, baking soda, and salt.

Gradually add the dry ingredients to the creamed mixture, mixing until well combined.

Gently fold in the chopped Butterfinger candy bar pieces until evenly distributed

throughout the dough.

Drop rounded tablespoons of dough onto the prepared baking sheets, spacing them about 2 inches apart.

Bake in the preheated oven for 10-12 minutes, or until the edges are lightly golden brown.

Remove from the oven and let the cookies cool on the baking sheets for 5 minutes before transferring them to wire racks to cool completely.

Prep Time: 15 minutes | Cooking Time: 10-12 minutes per batch

Total Time: 25-27 minutes per batch | Kcal: Varies based on serving size | Servings: Makes about 3 dozen cookies



GOVERNMENTAL MEETINGS

- ▶ Bibb County Commission meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the County Commission Chambers inside the Rock Building-Courthouse Annex.
- ▶ Centreville City Council meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m..
- ▶ Brent Council meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 5:00 p.m. at Brent City Hall.
- ▶ West Blocton City Council meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 7 p.m.
- ▶ Woodstock City Council meets the 1st & 3rd Mondays of each month at 5:00 p.m.
- ▶ The Bibb County Board of Education normally holds regular monthly Board Meetings the second Tuesday of every month. Meetings are at 5:00 p.m. and are held in the Board Room of the Central Office. Board Minutes are available on our website at www.bibbed.org. Ph. 205-926-9881.

SPECIAL WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

- ▶ Come join us for The Masters Kitchen at the First Baptist Church of Woodstock, Coldwater Rd. on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 6 p.m. Free meal along with a great message through the word or a song.
- ▶ Homecoming at Mt. Ivah Bible Methodist Church in North Perry County on May 19th. Everyone is welcome!
- ▶ Women's Bible Study at the Bibb Baptist Association office on Wednesday mornings 9-11 beginning April 3rd for 7 weeks. The study is "When You Pray". Please RSVP Caren Jones cpjones145@gmail.com
- ▶ Birmingham Quilters Guild is holding a Quiltfest on June 21 and June 22, 2024. Location: Bessemer Civic Center, 1130 Ninth Ave. SW, Bessemer, AL. 10 - 5 pm daily. This will be a Judged Quilt Show and will include a Special Exhibit of Riley Center Quilts.
- ▶ Acapella Christian Harmony singing on Sat. May 11th at Antioch Baptist Church in the Antioch Community from 10am-2pm. Potluck lunch at noon. Everyone welcome!
- ▶ Come join us at Cedar Grove Church on Rd 9 on Mother's Day May 12th at 11am. Bro Russell Anthony Magni will be with us to bring the morning word.
- ▶ Singing at Hubbard Springs Church on May 25 at 7pm. Guest singers will be Promiseland. Come enjoy with us!

WEEKLY CHURCH SERVICES

- ▶ Green Pond Presbyterian Church, Service at 10 a.m. every Sunday. Pastor, Bev Dodson.
- ▶ Enon Baptist Church 5286 Montevallo Rd. Centreville, AL 35042. Sunday worship 10:30am, Sunday School 9:30am, contact info 205-928-9421 or 205-490-4830.
- ▶ Woodstock United Methodist Church services begin Sunday School at 10am Worship at 11.
- ▶ Sandy Chapel Church services start at 9 am for preaching 10 am for Sunday School.
- ▶ Scottsville Union Church, Co. Rd. 9., Sun. School-10 a.m., Worship-11 a.m., Sun. eve. Bible Study 5 p.m., Wed. service 6 p.m. Bro. J. R. Keeton, Pastor. Info. 205-340-1864.
- ▶ New Life West Blocton a revival oriented church. Sunday Service at 11am, Wed. night service at 7pm. Pastor Greg Brock 205.441.2809
- ▶ Little Hope Primitive Baptist Church holds services on Sat. before 3rd Sun. of each month at 10am. Elder Scott Sexton-Pastor. For info 205-225-4341.
- ▶ Scottsville Baptist Church holds church service on Tue. at 7pm. with a different speaker each week.
- ▶ God's House of Prayer 489 Co. Rd 162 Marion, AL (in Heiberger) hold services every Sunday at 11am.
- ▶ Centreville Church of Christ, 824 Montevallo Rd., Centreville. 926-5683. Assembly times-Sun. a.m. Bible Study-9:30, a.m. Worship-10:30, p.m. Worship-5:00 p.m.; Wed. night-6:30.
- ▶ Six Mile Baptist Church: Sunday School on Sun. at 10am, Worship at 11am. Wed. Bible Study at 6 pm.
- ▶ 1st United Pentecostal Church of Centreville has weekly services. Pastor Marilyn Belcher, Asst. Pastor Murray Nichols. For info, call 205-225-0007.
- ▶ New Jerusalem Holiness Church holds services in the Woodstock Plaza on Sun. at 10:30 am and 6:30 pm, and Wed. at 7:30pm.
- ▶ Apostolic Revival Center holds services on Sunday: Sunday School 2pm. and Worship 3pm.; Wed. Bible Study 7pm.
- ▶ West Blocton Bible Methodist Church holds services on: Sunday School 10am, Worship Service 11am, Sunday Night 5pm & Wednesday night 6pm. The Bible Methodist Church meeting every second Tues. of each month at 10:30, lunch provided.
- ▶ Randolph Baptist Church Sunday School 9am, preaching 10am. Wednesday night teen kids & youth 6:15pm, supper provided at 6pm.

MONTHLY MEETINGS & REMINDERS

- ▶ The Bibb County Planning Commission is an organization involving county landowners and forestry groups. We meet the third Tuesday of each month at 1PM in the Alabama Forestry Commission Office located at 9712 Highway 5, Brent, AL.
- ▶ Car Tag Renewal Months: (Alphabet indicates the first letter of last name) January-A/D, February-B, March-C/E, April-F/G/N, May-H/O, June-M/I, July-P/L, August-J/K/R, September-Q/S/T, October-U-Z and November-Commercial.
- ▶ Briarfield Fire & Rescue meets on the last Monday of each month at 7pm at Station 1 located at 18756 AL-139. For more information, call the Station at 205-665-3060. We welcome volunteers!
- ▶ Green Pond Fire & Rescue holds its monthly meetings every first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm at Station 1, located at 19629 Eastern Valley Road in Woodstock. These meetings are open to the public and everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. For more information, call GPFR at 205-938-9991 or visit greenpondfire.com
- ▶ The Bibb County Bee Keepers Association August meeting will be at The Cahaba Lily Center in West Blocton. For more info call the BC Extension Office at 205-926-4310 or mdh0007@aces.edu or Chuck Allen 205-202-0501. Find us on FB at Bibb Co. Beekeepers.

- ▶ Bama Carry of Bibb County meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Sawmeal Restaurant. For more info contact Danny Jones 928-2455.
- ▶ Women for Sobriety meets every Tues. at 5:30pm. For info call Karen 205-718-4097.
- ▶ F. O. P. meets the 3rd Mon. of each month at Rock Building.
- ▶ Bibb County Soil & Water meets at 9:00 a.m. on the 3rd Tue. of each month at 183 S. W. Davidson Dr., Centreville. 926-4360.
- ▶ Bibb County GOP will hold quarterly meetings in January, April, July and October. Next meeting will be Thursday, July 3.
- ▶ Bibb County Chamber of Commerce holds monthly meetings on the 2nd Thurs. of the month at 5pm. at the chamber building.
- ▶ Friendship Lodge #83 F & AM in Centreville meets on 1st and 3rd Thur. at 7pm. at 28 Ct. Sq. All members are encouraged to attend.
- ▶ The Bibb Co. Airport Authority meets on the 1st Thursday of each month at 5pm. at Bibb County Airport.
- ▶ The Centreville Historic Preservation Commission now meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall.
- ▶ American Legion Post 47 West Blocton meets 7pm on the 4th Tues. of each month at 195 Rose Lane in West Blocton. Veterans are encouraged to attend. For more info call Jimmy Fitts 938-3713 or Gary Monk 938-0621. American Legion Auxiliary & Sons of American Legion are accepting members. Call Jan Fitts 938-3713 or Cathy Atchison 938-7617.
- ▶ The Brent Cemetery Committee reminds the community of its policy of periodically removing old & faded flowers from cemetery. We welcome flowers, but ask you to remove flowers when faded.

LIBRARY HOURS

- ▶ The Brent/Centreville Public Library hours are. M-9a-8p, Tu-Th-9a-5p, Fri-9a-1p Closed, Sat & Sun.
- ▶ The West Blocton Public Library hours are. Mon.-closed, Tues. 10am-2pm, Wed.-12pm-4pm, Thur.-1pm-5pm, Fri.-12pm-3pm, Sat.-10am-1pm, Sun.-closed.
- ▶ Woodstock Community Library is open Sunday & Monday: closed, Tuesday: 11AM - 5PM, Wednesday: 10AM - 5PM, Thursday 10AM - 5PM, Friday 10-4
- ▶ Vance Town Library is open Tues. & Thurs. 3-5pm. & Sat. 2-4pm.

PRAYER & SUPPORT GROUPS

- ▶ Cancer Support Group Startup for Bibb County. Anyone interested - please call and provide your contact information 205-926-5803 or 205-316-8741.
- ▶ Group One, a Bibb County Cancer Support groups meets at BMC, AOB meeting room the fourth Thursday of each month. For information call 205-316-8970.
- ▶ If you need help, call 2-1-1 for community services to get assistance. United Way of West AL.
- ▶ Is your church or civic organization interested in starting a "Home Delivery Meal Ministry (Program)"? At the core of the pro-grams is a nutritious meal, companionship and a watchful eye on the health and safety of our senior adults who have trouble getting around. For more information call (205-926-3968).
- ▶ Helping Other People Excel (HOPE) in Bibb County is a group of stakeholders within the Bibb County Community who have a vested interest in ensuring that all residents have the knowledge, skills, and abilities to obtain available resources that will equip them to thrive. Whether you (or someone you know) is in need of food, clothes, or other resources, our coalition works to either provide or help identify resources to meet your needs. Please contact John Skinner at 205-876-6931 or via email at compassionandhopefoodbasket@gmail.com or H.O.P.E. in Bibb County at hopeinbibbco@gmail.com.

FREE CLASSES

- ▶ Bibb Family Connections offers free Parenting Classes on the 2nd and 4th Thur. of each month at 10:00 am. The Earn While You Learn class offers opportunities for those with infants and toddlers to earn baby supplies and needs while attending classes. For more info call 205-926-3170 or come by Mon. mornings from 9-1 to sign up. Email, bibbsavealife@gmail.com. 48 University Way, Brent, AL.
- ▶ Bibb Family Connections is always looking for volunteers and donations. Please call 205-926-3170 to find out how to help.
- ▶ GED classes are offered free of charge to Bibb Co. residents at Brent Elem. School, 4 nights wkly, Mon.-Thur. Classes begin at 5:00 p.m. Vouchers are available to help pay the cost of the GED test for class participants. More info, call 205-260-0041.
- ▶ The new Genealogy Class will be held monthly the 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 10:00 a.m at the Woodstock Community Library. Dianne Chesser returns as our master genealogist and patrons will have free access to Ancestry.com during class time. Those interested may call 938-0008 or check our Facebook for more information. www.facebook.com/woodstockcommunityli-

brary

QUARTERLY MEETINGS

- ▶ The Friends of the Library for the Brent/Centreville Library meets quarterly in the library meeting room. For meeting dates, call 926-4736. New members welcome.
- ▶ The Bibb County Chapter of the Alabama Treasure Forest hold quarterly meetings. For info. call 926-9765 or 926-4917. Private landowners interested in good stewardship of property are needed.
- ▶ West Blocton Lunch Bunch, 1st Wed. of Feb., Apr., Aug., and Oct. More info, 938-2622.

CEMETERY FUNDING

- ▶ If you have loved ones buried at any of the following cemeteries and would like to make a donation for upkeep and etc., please send check (made payable to "(Church or Cemetery Name) Cemetery Fund" to the name and address listed below:
- ▶ Enon Baptist Church Cemetery: Main donations to Enon Baptist Cemetery PO Box 609 Centreville, AL 35042 For more info. 205-613-9060 or 205-928-2529.
- ▶ Thrasher Family Cemetery in Woodstock, AL: c/o Danny Kellum 11502 Brown Circle Woodstock, AL 35188.
- ▶ Shady Grove II Cemetery: Shady Grove II Baptist, 7247 Grey Hill Rd., West Blocton, AL 35184.
- ▶ Pleasant Hill Church cemetery 2827 Ingate Pass, Centreville, AL 35042.
- ▶ Mount Carmel Cemetery: Baptist Foundation of Alabama, P. O. Box 241227, Montgomery, AL 36124-1227. Mark check "Mt. Carmel Cemetery Fund Account #00-1870"
- ▶ Pondville Perpetual Cemetery: Larry Watkins 8490 Payne Lake Rd. Brent, AL 35034.
- ▶ Wesley Chapel Methodist Church Cemetery: Linda Crim 7197 Montevallo Rd. Centreville, AL 205.340.3476.
- ▶ Schultz Creek Cemetery: PO Box 706, Centreville, AL 35042.
- ▶ Shiney Rock Cemetery: call 205-938-9537.
- ▶ Kinard Cemetery, Lowreytown: Kinard Cemetery Fund, Lowreytown, C/O Vicki Goggins 1694 Hopewell Church Road West Blocton, 35184.
- ▶ If you have family buried at Old Salem Methodist Church Cemetery send donation to, Salem Methodist Cemetery Fund, 374 Collen Road, Selma, Al 36701 or call Jean Stevens at 205-316-8736.
- ▶ Donations to Mt. Ivah Cemetery are greatly appreciated. Please send to: Lynn R. Johnson, 67 Friendship Pass, Brent Al 35034.
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OUR GOAL: The Centreville Press is published proudly for the citizens of Bibb County and adjoining counties by Bibb Community Media, Inc., Centreville, AL. Our goal is to produce quality, profitable, community-oriented newspapers that you, our readers, are proud of. We will reach that goal through hard work, teamwork, loyalty and a strong dedication towards printing the truth.

OUR POLICIES: Signed letters to the editor welcomed. Please limit to 300 words and include address and phone number. Liability for an error will not exceed the cost of space occupied by the error. Political endorsements will only be accepted through paid advertisements. We cannot be responsible for return of pictures or material unless stamped, return addressed envelope is included.

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Hymn History

By: Savannah Logan

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord” - what a phrase of surrender, and a phrase that God is probably quite used to wrestling from many of our own grasps. For those of us who like control, who like to feel capable and competent in our own right, this is perhaps a phrase that when it finally falls from our lips, it’s after God has proven to us that no matter what, His way is the best way, even when we cannot comprehend it.

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord” is a well-known hymn that has been sung in churches and beyond for over a century. The hymn was written by Adelaide Pollard in 1907, and its message of surrender to God has resonated with believers ever since.

Adelaide Pollard was born in 1862 in Bloomfield, Iowa. She was a gifted speaker and evangelist, traveling across the United States and Europe to share the gospel message. Pollard was particularly moved by the story of Jacob wrestling with God in the book of Genesis, and she felt that she too needed to surrender her will to God.

In 1902, Pollard was attending a prayer meeting in New York City when she heard a woman pray, “It really doesn’t matter what you do with us, Lord, just have your way with our lives.” These words stayed with Pollard, and she began to meditate on the idea of surrendering to God’s will.

One day in 1907, while attending a prayer meeting in Kentucky, Pollard was inspired to write a poem about surrendering to God. She wrote the poem in one sitting, and later set it to music with the help of composer George Stebbins. The resulting hymn, “Have Thine Own Way, Lord,” quickly became popular in churches across America.

The hymn’s lyrics are a prayer of surrender to God, acknowledging that we are not in control of our lives and that we need His guidance. The first verse begins with the words, “Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Thou art the potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me after thy will, while I am waiting, yielded and still.”

The second verse continues the theme of surrender, with the words, “Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Search me and try me, Master, today! Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now, as in thy presence humbly I bow.”

The third verse asks God to shape us into His image, with the words, “Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way, Lord! Wounded and weary, help me, I pray! Power, all power, surely is thine! Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!”

The final verse of the hymn is a plea for God to use us for His purposes, with the words, “Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Hold o’er my being absolute sway! Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see Christ only, always, living in me!”

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord” continues to be a beloved hymn in churches around the world. Its message of surrender to God is a reminder that we are not in control of our lives, but that we can trust in God’s guidance and plan for us.

Once upon a time (just kidding, still every day just about) I was under the notion that surrender was a one-time, single act – a solitary decision that would last me the rest of my life. Unfortunately, that hasn’t been the case. Instead, surrender is a daily decision, sometimes even an hourly, minutely one. It’s one that requires often (to me at least) what seems like a ridiculous type of intentionality.

As exhausting as surrender can be, we all know, as God promises – it leads to peace. It may not make sense now, and quite honestly, it may never make sense – but I can assure you from my own experience, surrender is the surest way to true and lasting freedom.

Do you have a hymn you would like to know more about? Feel free to send in a request to savannah.pearce@bibbcommunitymedia.com or by giving me a call. I would love to hear from you!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Centreville News

From The Pen Of Brenda Hubbard

Sincere sympathy goes out to the families of Jan Hyde McClung and Bill Ragland who passed away recently. They will be greatly missed by their family and friends.

The Joyful Hearts of Brent Baptist Church met on Monday, April 22, 2024. Anniversary wishes go out to Bobby and Jane Watts who celebrated their Wedding Anniversary on May 6, 2024.

Birthday wishes go out to Thomas R. Rinehart who celebrated his 3rd birthday on Sunday, April 21, 2024.

Among those having birthdays in May are Mason Phipper, Dillion Watts, Matthew Phipper, and Betsy Graham.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the Goodson Family in the recent loss of their loved one.

The Young of Heart of Centreville Baptist Church met recently.

Charlotte Lovelady West enjoyed lunch recently with Nancy Stroud at Bright Star.

Belated birthday wishes go out to Linda Fulgham, April 25, 2024. Judy Richardson also on April 25, we send out birthday wishes to Judy, Janiece Holifield and Sharon Newton on April 26th.

Several of the class of 1968 of West Blocton High School met on Thursday, April 24, 2024 at the Blocton Sports Grill for lunch with the having a great time with delicious food, fun and fellowship.

Sincere sympathy goes out to the family of Lambuth Marchant who passed away. Services were held on April 22, 2024.

Call news in at 205-316-1181. Take Care-God Bless!

West Eoline News

From The Pen Of Jane Hannah

Chad & Stacey Thompson invited me to test the Blackstone Grill results Tuesday evening, last week. I feasted on yummy chicken and vegetables plus fresh corn on the cob. Conversation with them is always entertaining too. Love these sweet kin friends.

Jo Kitchen and I went road tripping May 2nd. Our first stop was in Dawsonville, GA to visit Tracie & Bobby Dickerson and family. Friday night we contributed Pasta Salad and Potato Salad to the BBQ Pork, Fresh Fish, and Fries dinner. After unlimited hors d’oeuvres al fresco, there were about thirty of us celebrating the upcoming wedding of Gracie and Jared. We drove to Commerce, GA Saturday for their special wedding at Grants Hill Farm. The WEDDING of those two was a special experience. We enjoyed seeing many cousins, and making new friends. John Garner drove up Saturday from West Eoline to witness the nuptials and celebrate with them. Jo and I were blessed to enjoy the tranquility of the Armgard’s Lakehouse on Lake Lanier during our stay. We left there Sunday morning and drove to Bryon, GA to visit our Thompson friends.

Thanks Tracey & Luke Holladay for watering flowers while I was gone.

LaShelle Kinney was in hospital a couple days last week due to extreme high blood pressure. Please keep her in prayer during the next many weeks as God sculpts their baby girl. Also, please pray for their care giving and residency decisions.

Prayers for Carol Schladerbach are coveted. She is experiencing back pain and seeking medical diagnosis and relief.

Call 478-396-2513 to share your news. Have a blessed week.

West Blocton News

From The Pen Of Monette Woodruff

The Lilies are Blooming!!!! And just in time for the Cahaba Lily Festival! The 37th Cahaba Lily Festival will take place on Saturday May 18th. Registration begins at 8:00am. In addition to the annual presentation there will be food trucks, and vendors on the street. Desserts will be provided by the West Blocton Improvement Committee. It’s going to be a fantastic day. Come and bring a friend. Enjoy the festivities and a trip to the river to view our beautiful and rare specimen. The Lilies are in full bloom right now.

Myrtle Jones enjoyed a rare and much needed outing this past week. Her good friends Jean Bearden and Linda Smitherman picked her up and they went for a picnic at the West Blocton Coke Ovens Park. They had a delightful time. The food was great and the fellowship even greater.

Happy Mother’s Day to all mothers and those who have been like mothers. Enjoy your special day of recognition.

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**FORM OF ADVERTISE-
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In accordance with Chapter 1, Title 39, Code of Alabama, 1975, notice is hereby given that **CivilWorx Construction, LLC**, has completed the Contract for (Construction) (Renovation) (Alteration)(Improvement) of the **Bibb County Career Technical School Paving Project** for the Bibb County Board of Education, Owner(s) and have made request for final settlement

of said Contract. All persons having any claim for labor, materials, or otherwise in connection with this project should immediately notify McGiffert and Associates, 2814 Stillman Blvd, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401, Draper McMillan PE, Phone 205-759-1521
CivilWorx Construction, LLC.
731 Bear Creek Rd. East
Tuscaloosa, AL 35405
Centreville Press
May 10, 17, 24 & 31, 2024

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE. Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Joseph M. Jackson, a single man, originally in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Worldwide Mortgage Company, on September 28, 2006, said mortgage recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Bibb County, Alabama, in RPB Book 179 Page 428 with Loan Modification Agreement recorded in Book 275 Page 714, Book 288 Page 244 and Book 405 Page 425, and also signed by Brittany Jackson; the undersigned MidFirst Bank, as Mortgagee/Transferee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Courthouse at Centreville, Bibb County, Alabama, on June 12, 2024, during the legal hours of sale, all of its rights, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate, situated in Bibb County, Alabama, to-wit: A parcel of land located in the East half of the Southeast Quarter of Section 15, Township 21 South Range 6 West, Bibb County, Alabama being more particularly described as follows: Commence at the SE corner of Section 15 Township 21 South Range 6 West and

run South 89 degrees 27 minutes 26 seconds West for a distance of 326.37 feet; thence run North 29 degrees 49 minutes 38 seconds West for a distance of 416.39 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence continue North 29 degrees 49 minutes 38 seconds West for a distance of 348.11 feet; thence run North 14 degrees 47 minutes 29 seconds East for a distance of 862.01 feet; thence run North 81 degrees 53 minutes 55 seconds East for a distance of 412.61 feet; thence run South 01 degree 46 minutes 22 seconds East for a distance of 406.56 feet; thence run South 30 degrees 43 minutes 52 seconds West for a distance of 915.84 feet to the Point of Beginning. Also a 30 foot easement for ingress-egress being more particularly described as follows: Commence at the Northeast corner of the NE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 15, Township 21 South, Range 6 West and go South 02 degrees 06 minutes 41 seconds East for a distance of 764.31 feet to an existing iron pin on the Southwest Right of Way of the Centreville-Elyton Road and the Point of Beginning of said easement; thence run North 42 degrees 10 minutes 23 seconds West for along said Southwest Right of Way for a distance of 35.09 feet; thence run South 24 degrees 43 minutes 05 seconds West for a distance of 24.24 feet;

thence run South 04 degrees 00 minutes 22 seconds East for a distance of 136.36 feet; thence run South 02 degrees 40 minutes 48 seconds East for a distance of 219.05 feet; thence run South 01 degrees 46 minutes 22 seconds East for a distance of 406.48 feet; thence run North 88 degrees 13 minutes 38 seconds East for a distance of 30 feet; thence run North 01 degrees 46 minutes 22 seconds West for a distance of 406.56 feet; thence continue North 01 degrees 46 minutes 22 seconds West for a distance of 320 feet to the Point of Beginning. Said easement lies in the NE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 15, Township 21 South, Range 6 West, Bibb County, Alabama.. Property street address for informational purposes: 145 Red Oak Ln, Woodstock, AL 35188. THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON AN "AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS, WITHOUT WARRANTY OR RECOURSE, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED AS TO TITLE, USE AND/OR ENJOYMENT AND WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION OF ALL PARTIES ENTITLED THERETO. Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consult-

ed to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. The successful bidder must tender a non-refundable deposit of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) in certified funds made payable to Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. at the time and place of the sale. The balance of the purchase price plus any deed recording costs and transfer taxes must be paid in certified funds by noon the next business day at the Law Office of Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. at the address indicated below. Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. reserves the right to award the bid to the next highest bidder should the highest bidder fail to timely tender the total amount due. The Mortgagee/Transferee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation. MidFirst Bank, ("Transfer-ee") Tiffany & Bosco, P.A., 2501 20th Place South, Suite 300, Homewood, AL 35223 www.tblaw.com TB File Number: 24-02511-MF-AL 04/26/2024, 05/03/2024, 05/10/2024
Centreville Press
April 26, May 3 & 10, 2024

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
MILTON MCKINNEY DBA MCKINNEY WRECKER gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on 06/05/2024, 10:30 AM at 4901 TRUMAN ALDRICH PKWY, WEST BLOCTON, AL 35184-2101, pursuant to subsection 32-13-3 of the Alabama Statutes. MILTON MCKINNEY DBA MCKINNEY WRECKER reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.
1FAHP3F21C1380869
2012 FORD FOCUS
1FTWW32F1YED46455
2000 FORD F-350
1G1BE5SMXH7144223

2017 CHEV CRUZE
1G1ZA5EU3BF245395
2011 CHEV MALIBU
1GCHK53659F152635
2009 CHEV SILVERADO
1HGCR2F30DA076738
2013 HOND ACCORD
1HGEM22584L084539
2004 HOND CIVIC
2FAHP71VX9X115212
2009 FORD CROWN VICTORIA
2T1CF22P82C576350
2002 TOYT CAMRY SOLARA
3C4NJCCB9MT559380
2021 JEEP COMPASS
5NPET46CX7H265608
2007 HYUN SONATA
JHMCM56367C009289
2007 HOND ACCORD
Centreville Press
May 3 & 10, 2024

Notice of Sale
PATRIOT MINI STORAGE LLC, 19982 HWY 11, P. O. Box 363, Woodstock, AL 35188 will auction off for cash only the household goods of units below on Sunday, May 19, 2024,

3:00pm
Unit 222/244-Michael Cromer- 13212 Nick Rd McCalla, AL 35111
Unit 231 - David Stan Harrell - 1578 Beardens Farm Rd Woodstock, AL 35188
Centreville Press
May 3 & 10, 2024

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage dated October 27, 2015 executed by John R. Thomley, an unmarried man, in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. solely as nominee for Trustmark National Bank, said Mortgage being recorded October 28, 2015, in Book 310, Page 243, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Bibb County, Alabama; having later been assigned to Trustmark National Bank by instrument recorded in Book 398, Page 579, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Bibb County, Alabama. Said default continues and notice is hereby given that the undersigned, Trustmark National Bank, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the main entrance to the County Courthouse, Bibb County, Alabama on 06/18/2024, during the legal hours of sale, the following described real estate situated in Bibb County, Alabama, to-wit:
Parcel 1

Beginning at the Southwest corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 16, Township 23 North, Range 9 East; thence East 70 yards; thence North 70 yards; thence West 70 yards; thence South 70 yards to the point of beginning; containing one acre, more or less, and located in the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 16, Township 23 North, Range 9 East. Parcel 2
Begin at the corner of lands owned by G. C. Boyd thence running 134 feet North and South thence 246.6 feet Northwest, thence 300 feet running North and South, thence 148.6 feet East and West back to point of beginning. This lot more fully described as approximately one (1) acre, more or less of lands deeded to Gordon Carter by D. F. Creel and wife, Pearl F. Creel recorded in Book 60, Page 72 dated the 22nd day of January, 1955.
For informational purposes only, the property address is: 83 Carter Drive, Centreville, AL 35042. Any property address provided is not part of the legal description of the property sold herein and in the event of any

discrepancy, the legal description referenced herein shall control. THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON AN "AS IS, WHERE-IS" BASIS, SUBJECT TO ANY EASEMENTS, ENCUMBRANCES, AND EXCEPTIONS REFLECTED IN THE MORTGAGE AND THOSE CONTAINED IN THE RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF THE JUDGE OF PROBATE OF THE COUNTY WHERE THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS SITUATED. THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD WITHOUT WARRANTY OR RECOURSE, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED AS TO TITLE, USE AND/OR ENJOYMENT AND WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION OF ALL PARTIES ENTITLED THERETO. Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the

right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by mortgage as well as the expenses of foreclosure, including a reasonable attorney's fees and other purposes set out in said mortgage. Trustmark National Bank Paul K. Lavelle, Esq. Attorney for Mortgagee Spina, & Lavelle, P.C. One Perimeter Park South-Suite 400N Birmingham, Alabama 35243 (205) 298-1800 40-FC-24-01125 Centreville Press May 3, 10 & 17, 2024

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NEWS

Ribbon Cutting Held for Marion Military Institute New Dining Hall

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS

On Friday, April 26, Marion Military Institute (MMI) held a ribbon cutting ceremony for its brand-new Dining Hall, marking the first new construction on campus in more than 30 years. Special guests attending the ceremony were Alabama Governor Kay Ivey, Alabama Community College System (ACCS) Vice-Chancellor Dr. Chris Cox and MMI alumnus Jimmy Rane, CEO of Great Southern Wood Preserving, maker of YellaWood. A \$12.8 Million project, MMI's new

facility seats up to 500 in the main dining room, is handicap-accessible, and features energy-efficient building systems and a covered porch with outdoor seating. Designed to complement the college's historic architecture, it is also equipped with a private dining room and special event space with catering support. Cadets began eating daily meals in the new Dining Hall during the Spring 2024 semester. During her speech, Governor Ivey said she was proud to help usher in a new era of expansion and

modernization for MMI. "It's an honor to be here in Marion to celebrate this important milestone for one of the most unique institutions of higher learning both in this state of Alabama and in America," said Ivey. "Marion Military Institute has a rich history, tracing its roots back over 180 years to 1842 with the founding of Howard College. ... It's now famous high standards of character, academic achievement, and military traditions continue to be its hallmark well into the 21st Century. ... Today, MMI is synonymous with the highest caliber

of learning, and its cadets pursue careers in military service or other disciplines. Its many graduates are leaders changing our state and nation, and their impacts are felt, literally, worldwide." Thanking elected officials for their investment in the ACCS, Dr. Cox remarked, "We are fortunate in this state to have a governor, her staff and our

legislators who believe in the mission of our community colleges, giving back to serving those." The ceremony closed with COL Mollahan's perspective on this historic moment in MMI history, moving from meal service in a basement to a beautifully-designed new space: "Today's ceremony allows us to acknowledge that

for MMI's fully on-campus residential educational model, the dining service provided within this facility is absolutely mission essential for us." A member of the Alabama Community College System, MMI is the oldest military junior college in the nation and educates students from more than 40 U.S. states and territories.



MMI President COL David Mollahan, USMC (Ret) and Governor Kay Ivey, center, with Dining Hall project supporters.



The Bibb County Education Retiree's Association held their April meeting at the West Blocton Public Library. Dennis Stripling, Executive Director of the West Alabama Commission on Aging, presented an informative program on services available for seniors in West Alabama. Entertainment was provided by Millie Morris and Catherine Hammond, cast members of the recent Bibb County Children's Theatre production of "Beauty and the Beast." Service projects for the remainder of the year were discussed as well as scholarships which will be awarded at Bibb County High and West Blocton High at Awards Day in May. Members and guest attending Suzanne Jones, Faye Johnson, Judy Elliott, Sarah Lunsford, Mary Beth Sansing, Fran Kornegay, Donna Cook, Dennis Stripling, Vickie Brown, Millie Morris and Catherine Hammond, Bibb County Children's Theatre.

LEGALS

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE STATE OF ALABAMA COUNTY OF BIBB

Default having been made of the terms of the loan documents secured by that certain mortgage executed by Blanche Watkins An Unmarried Woman And Sharon Gale Hughes An Unmarried Woman to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for First Federal Bank, FSB, its successors and assigns dated October 28, 2004; said mortgage being recorded on November 2, 2004, in Book 143, Page 619 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Bibb County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB not individually, but solely as trustee for Residential Mortgage Aggregation Trust by assignment recorded in Deed Book 2024, Page 2248 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Bibb County, ALABAMA. The undersigned, Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB not individually, but solely as trustee for Residential Mortgage Aggregation Trust, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the high-

est bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Bibb County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on the 28th day of May, 2024 the following property, situated in Bibb County, Alabama, to-wit: Parcel 1: All of Lot 1, 2 and a part of Lot 3 of Creekview Subdivision, as recorded in Map Book 1, Page 103 in the Probate Office of Bibb County, Alabama, being more particularly described as follows: Begin at the Northeast corner of said Lot 1, said rod being the point of beginning; thence run South 34 degrees 47 minutes 50 seconds East along the Northeast line of said lot for a distance of 200.03 feet to an iron rod; thence run South 55 degrees 21 minutes 47 seconds West along the South line of said Lot 1, 2 and part of Lot 3 for a distance of 125.42 feet to a point; thence run North 34 degrees 33 minutes 12 seconds West for a distance of 200.00 feet to an iron rod located on the Northwest line of said Lot 3; thence run North 55 degrees 20 minutes 53 seconds East along said line for a distance of 124.57 feet to the point of beginning. Parcel 2: Begin at the Southeast corner of Lot 1 of Creekview Subdivision, as recorded in Map Book

1, Page 103 in the Probate Office of Bibb County, Alabama, said point begin the point of beginning; thence run South 55 degrees 21 minutes 47 seconds West along the South line of said Lot for a distance of 125.42 feet to a point; thence run South 34 degrees 57 minutes 27 seconds East for a distance of 150.35 feet to an iron rod; thence run North 55 degrees 12 minutes 10 seconds East for a distance of 125.00 feet to an iron rod; thence run North 34 degrees 47 minutes 50 seconds West for a distance of 150.00 feet to the point of beginning. Said parcel lying in the Northeast quarter of the Southeast quarter of Section 33 and in the Northwest quarter of the Southwest quarter of Section 34, all lying in Township 23 North, Range 9 East, Bibb County, Alabama. Parcel 3: Commence at the Southeast corner of Lot 1 of Creekview Subdivision, as recorded in Map Book 1, Page 103 in the Probate Office of Bibb County, Alabama, said point begin the point of commencement; thence run South 55 degrees 21 minutes 47 seconds West along the South line of said lot for a distance of 125.42 feet to a point; said point being the point of beginning; thence continue South 55 degrees 27 minutes 23

seconds West along said line for a distance of 40.11 feet to an iron rod; thence run North 34 degrees 22 minutes 20 seconds West for a distance of 35.23 feet to an iron rod; thence run North 55 degrees 14 minutes 02 seconds East for a distance of 40.00 feet to an iron rod; thence run South 34 degrees 33 minutes 12 seconds East for a distance of 35.39 feet to the point of beginning, said parcel being a part of Lot 3 and 4 of Creekview Subdivision. Ingress/Egress Easement: Begin at the Southeast corner of Lot 3 of Creekview Subdivision, as recorded in Map Book 1, Page 103 in the Probate Office of Bibb County, Alabama, said point being the point of beginning; thence run South 55 degrees 21 minutes 47 seconds West along the South line of said lot for a distance of 25.42 feet to an iron rod; thence run North 34 degrees 33 minutes 12 seconds West for a distance of 200.00 feet to an iron rod located on the Northwest line of said lot; thence run North 55 degrees 20 minutes 53 seconds East along said line for a distance of 24.57 feet to a point being the Northeast corner of said lot; thence run South 34 degrees 47 minutes 50 seconds East along the Northeast line of said lot for a distance of 200.01

feet to the point of beginning, said easement being a part of Lot 3 of Creekview Subdivision. Said property is commonly known as 1512 Main Street, Brent, AL 35034. 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. 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. The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Mortgage. WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB NOT INDIVIDUALLY, BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE AGGREGATION TRUST as holder of said mortgage McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC Two North Twentieth 2 20th Street North, Suite 1000 Birmingham, AL 35203 (205) 216-4238 FT21@mccalla.com File No. 22-02495AL www.foreclosurehotline.net Centreville Press 05/03/2024,05/10/2024,0 5/17/2024

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ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

NEWS

Celebrating Conservation: The Third Annual Groundwater Festival in Bibb County

BY SAVANNAH LOGAN
REPORTER

The third annual Groundwater Festival in Bibb County was a resounding success, drawing 4th graders from all corners of the county to Briarfield Historical Ironworks State Park on May 1, 2024. This vibrant event, organized jointly by the Bibb County Conservation District and the Bibb County Extension Office, aimed to instill a profound understanding of groundwater conservation and pollution among the county's youth.

The participating students from Randolph Elementary, Woodstock Elementary, West Blocton Elementary, and Brent Elementary were treated to an immersive educational experience designed to illuminate the complexities of water pollution and the vital importance of safeguarding our water resources.

Upon arrival, the students were divided into groups and made their way through five engaging stations, each offering unique insights into the challenges and solutions surrounding water conservation.

At the Water Cycle Bracelet station, young learners crafted bracelets adorned with colorful beads symbolizing different stages of the water cycle. Through this hands-on activity, they not only learned about precipitation, infiltration, evaporation, and condensation but also grasped the indispensable role of water in sustaining all life forms.

The Incredible Edible Aquifer station provided a tasty yet instructive demonstration of how pollutants infiltrate groundwater. By layering gummy bears, Sprite, ice cream, and sprinkles in a cup, students simulated the layers of an aquifer and witnessed firsthand the consequences of contamination, reinforcing the importance of responsible waste disposal.

At Fantastic Filtration, participants delved into the diverse array of pollutants threatening our waterways, from litter to chemical runoff. They gained valuable insights into the mechanisms of water treatment and the critical role of filtration in ensuring safe drinking water for communities.

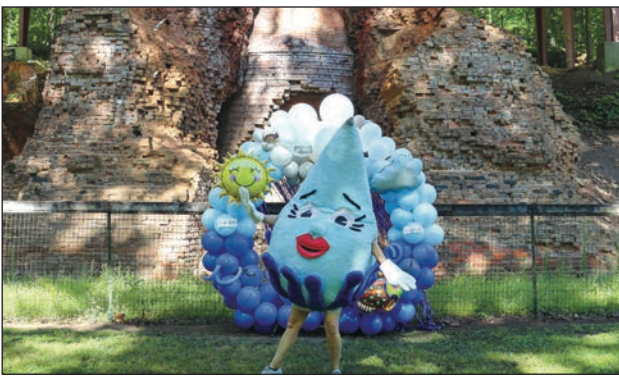
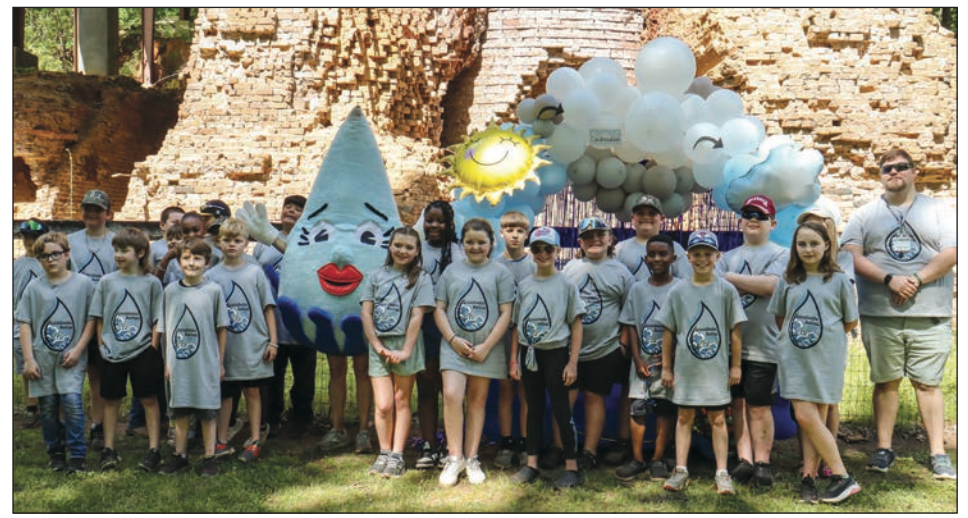
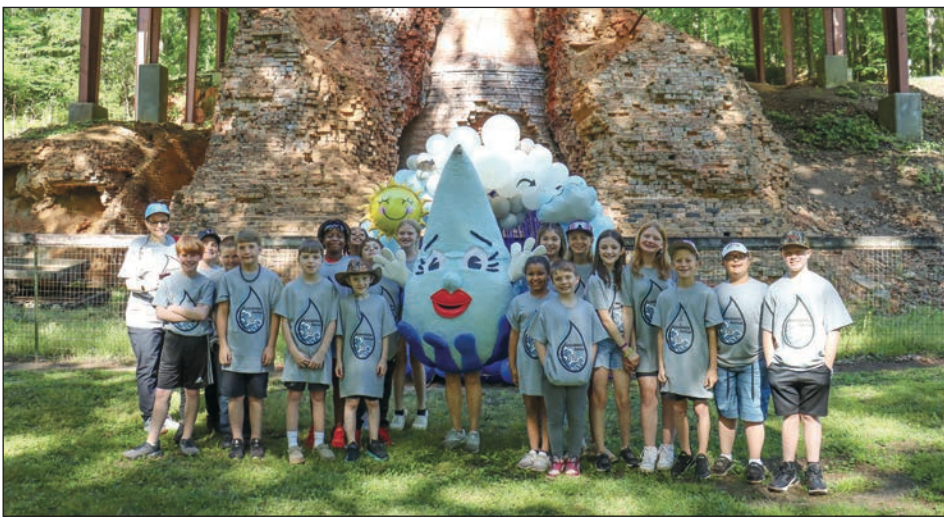
Water Cycle Bingo offered a fun and interactive review of the day's lessons, allowing students to test their knowledge and win prizes while reinforcing key concepts. This station also included a scarf game that led students through the beginning steps of learning how to juggle.

The festival also featured a station where they could have an encounter with Ruby Raindrop, the festival's beloved mascot, while the kids listened to a whimsical tale of the water cycle brought to life. This playful narrative, coupled with a lively game of dot-to-dot, brought laughter and learning together in engaging ways.

After a morning of learning and a picnic style lunch, the kids and educators were able to enjoy a magic show that further educated kids on the importance of water from

Steve and Amy Craig, The Fishin' Magicians, a duo out of Missouri who traveled to Bibb County for the Groundwater Festival. Including a humorous mix of magic and mystery (their specialty), students were able to participate in some of the magic tricks as well. Some of their tricks included educating about the 3 stages of water (solid, liquid, gas); precipitation; how humans are mostly liquid over solid; how water holds our ecosystems together; how freshwater makes up only 3% of the total water on earth; and how water is used to make things like glass, paper, etc. Through their captivating performance, students gained a deeper appreciation for the myriad ways water shapes our world, from sustaining ecosystems to powering industry.

The success of the Groundwater Festival owes much to the visionary leadership of Debbie Clements, Bibb County Conservation District Coordinator, and Michelle Giddens, Bibb County Extension Coordinator, whose dedication and collaboration made this transformative event possible. Alongside numerous volunteers and supporters as well as teams from both the Conservation District and Extension, this event not only educated but also inspired a generation of young environmental champions. With each bracelet crafted, each aquifer built, and each magic trick performed, the seeds of conservation were sown, ensuring a brighter, more sustainable future for Bibb County and beyond.



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West Blocton Church of God

Mother's Day Revival

Sunday, May 12

9:45 am Service
5:30 pm Sunday Night Service

**Monday, May 13th-
Wednesday, May 15th**
6:30 pm

Speaker is Evangelist Linda Baughtman

Everyone Welcome!

For more information contact
Pastor Pete Moran 205.966.4988

CAHABA LILY PAGEANT



Miss Cahaba Lily - Chloe Sanders, 1st Alternate - Zoe Porter, 2nd Alternate - Callie Jo Lemley and Photogenic - Chloe Sanders



Young Miss: Queen - Amiyah Cole, 1st Alternate - Alivia Goodwin, 2nd Alternate - Presley Nash and Not Pictured Photogenic Winner - Arden Clements



Tiny Miss: Queen - Preslee Eaton, 1st Alternate - Blayr Carter, 2nd Alternate - Kenlyn Henry and Photogenic & Overall photogenic - Preslee Kate Eaton



Junior Miss: Queen - Makenzie Paul, 1st Alternate - Emily Carden, 2nd Alternate - Koli Hobson and Photogenic & Overall Photogenic - Makenzie Paul



Little Miss: Queen - Emmerson Smith, 1st Alternate - Cadia Swisher, 2nd Alternate - Denver Winters and Photogenic - Emmerson Smith



Petite Miss: Queen - Cortlyn Samson, 1st Alternate - Rosalie McRae, 2nd Alternate - Ava Cleary and Photogenic - Addison Carter



Baby Miss: Queen - Avery James Robertson, Not Pictured: 1st alternate - Remington Ray, 2nd Alternate - Millie Tombrello and Photogenic - Nova Harris

Cahaba Lily from page 1

Preslee Kate Eaton (Tiny Miss Cahaba Lily), Cortlyn Samson (Petite Miss Cahaba Lily) and Avery James Robertson (Baby Miss Cahaba Lily).

This year, high school girls in 11th and 12th grade from all communities were invited to compete for the Miss Cahaba Lily title. The decision to broaden the pageant's scope yielded impressive results, with the number of participants quadrupling.

The Miss Cahaba Lily Pageant serves as a platform for young women to showcase their talents, intelligence, and

commitment to their communities. It is a celebration of beauty, grace, and the spirit of service, echoing the values cherished by the Cahaba River community.

The Miss Cahaba Lily Pageant extends its gratitude to all participants, sponsors, volunteers, and supporters who contributed to the success of this year's event. Together, we continue to foster a legacy of empowerment, inspiration, and community pride.

Sanders is the 16-year-old daughter of Jarrod and Brandi Sanders of Centreville and attends Bibb County High School.



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Online

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It is the policy of the Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees and Shelton State Community College, a postsecondary institution under its control, that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, marital status, disability, gender, age, or any other protected class as defined by federal and state law, be excluded from participation, denied benefits, or subjected to discrimination under any program, activity, or employment.

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