

Centreville Press

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LET US KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

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Bibb County EIDA Announces New Facility in Industrial Park, Creating Jobs and Economic Growth

BY SHEILA DUNCAN
REPORTER

On April 21, 2025, the Bibb County Economic & Industrial Development Authority (EIDA) announced that Rado Mechanical Group will be opening a new facility in the Bibb County Industrial Park. This expansion will bring 50 new jobs to the area and strengthen Bibb County's position as a growing hub for industry and innovation.

Rado Mechanical Group, based in Conyers, Georgia, specializes in a wide range of industrial services including mechanical,

electrical, structural, sheet metal, and field maintenance. Their new 20,000-square-foot facility will sit on 22 acres at 326 Industrial Park Drive in Woodstock, Alabama, and will serve as a key operations center.

"This is a major investment in our community," said Stephanie Kemmer, Secretary of the EIDA. Local and state leaders echoed that sentiment.

"Rado's decision to locate here shows the strength of our workforce and economy," said State Senator April Weaver.

County Commissioner Ty Corbell called

the move "a big win for Woodstock and Bibb County," citing job creation and industrial growth. Woodstock Mayor Jeff Dodson added, "We're excited to welcome Rado Mechanical Group and the opportunities they bring to our community."

The project is being supported by the Bibb County Commission, Alabama Department of Commerce, West Alabama Works, Alabama Power, Birmingham Business Alliance, and others. Hiring efforts are already underway in partnership with local workforce development programs.



The Tombigbee RC&D Council awarded the Brierfield Volunteer Fire Department a \$9,500 grant to buy new rope rescue equipment. This new gear has allowed Bibb County to form its first high-angle rope rescue team. Five team members are already certified through the Alabama Fire College, and a sixth is finishing their training. With this team in place, they can quickly reach patients in tough-to-access areas, provide advanced medical care, and safely remove people from dangerous situations.

Bibb County Commission Updates Storm Shelter Policy: Only ADA-Defined Service Animals Permitted

BY SAVANNAH LOGAN
REPORTER

The Bibb County Commission has passed Resolution No. 2025.004, updating its policy on animals allowed in storm shelters operated by the Commission. Effective immediately, only service animals as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) will be permitted inside these shelters during severe weather events. The resolution was adopted to promote the safety, health, and well-being of all individ-

uals seeking shelter during emergencies.

Under the ADA, a service animal is defined specifically as a dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for a person with a disability. These tasks may include guiding individuals who are blind, alerting those who are deaf, assisting someone during a seizure, or other disability-related support. Emotional support animals, comfort animals, therapy animals, and pets of any kind do not meet the criteria for service animals under

this definition and will not be allowed inside the storm shelters.

To ensure compliance with ADA guidelines, shelter staff or law enforcement may ask individuals two questions: whether the animal is required due to a disability, and what specific task or work the animal has been trained to perform. These questions are permitted by law to help confirm that the animal meets the federal standard for a service animal.

See Storm Shelter on page 7

Where Rivers Run and Forests Teach: The Biodiversity Legacy of UWA's Cahaba Center

BY SHEILA DUNCAN
REPORTER

Just down the road, we have a place of beauty and wonder. The UWA Cahaba Biodiversity Center (CBC) is set to become a leader in biodiversity research in Alabama, the Southeast, and beyond. Alabama ranks 4th in biodiversity among all U.S. states and is number one east of the Mississippi River. It also ranks first in the number of species of five aquatic animals: freshwater fish, mussels, snails, turtles, and crayfish. A look at Alabama's geologic map shows that the state has

one of the most diverse geologies in the country. This variety of rocks and soils creates many different habitats, which support a large number of species.

Joan L. Rundles, Assistant Director of the UWA Cahaba Biodiversity Cen-

ter says, "We aim to educate people 'from K to gray' about biodiversity, conservation, restoration, and land use management." To do this, they use several methods.

See the Biodiversity Center on page 2





APRIL Community Calendar

April 28 – BMC Wellness Center, Diabetes Management Support Group, 5:30 p.m.
April 29 - Right Bite – Healthy Eating for Diabetes, 11:30am-12:30 p.m.
Woodstock Senior Center
April 30 – Online Bee Keeping Series – Swarming Biology and Management. Register at <https://www.auburn.zoom.us/j/904522838>
May 1 - 4-H Community Clubs 2025 Summer Camp Registration Deadline. Registration is required!
May 3 – Relay For Life, BMC Wellness Center, 3:00 p.m.
May 2 – Grower's Farmers Market Training and IPM Update, 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm, BMC Wellness Center.
May 2 & 3 – Griffin Farms Rodeo, 5:00 p.m.
May 3 – Bibb County Natural Resource Council Tree Sale – 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Woodstock Feed Store
May 6 - Right Bite – Healthy Eating for Diabetes, 11:30am-12:30pm
Woodstock Senior Center
May 7 – Bibb County Chamber Coffee – Brierfield State Park
May 7 - Mental Health Awareness Event – 10am-2pm – Probate Office Parking lot
May 10 - Brierfield Ironworks' Family Fun Fest and Flea Market from 10am-2pm!
May 13 – Master of Memory – (held at two locations), Woodstock Senior Center and BMC Wellness Center. Register contact Bibb County Extension Office at 205-926-4310
May 17 – Woodstock Music Festival 3pm-until – with Tracy Lawrence
May 17 – Cahaba Lily Festival – 9 am to 3 pm

Bibb County Lake Re-Opens April 26 Under New Management

BY SAVANNAH LOGAN
REPORTER

Fishing fans and outdoor lovers, mark your calendars — Bibb County Lake is officially re-opening under new management, and the community is invited to celebrate at the grand opening event on Saturday, April 26th, 2025.

The Bibb County Lake promises a refreshed experience for anglers and families alike. The day will kick off at 5:15 a.m. at the gate, so be sure to have

your fishing license, tackle box, and fishing rod ready!

The celebration marks a new chapter for the lake, and organizers are eager to welcome both seasoned fishers and newcomers. In addition to a day of fishing fun, attendees can enjoy lunch and concessions provided by One Church Bibb.

Event Details:

Location: 1147 Walter Owens Parkway, West Blocton, AL 35184

Date: Saturday, April 26th, 2025

Time: Gates open at 5:15 a.m.

Food: Concessions available from One Church Bibb

Whether you're there for the early-morning catch or to soak in the natural beauty, the Bibb County Lake Grand Opening offers a great opportunity to connect with community, nature, and maybe even reel in a big one.

For more updates and information, visit the official Bibb County Lake Facebook page.



The Bibb County Education Retiree's Association held their April meeting at the West Blocton Library. Michelle Giddens, Bibb County Extension Director, presented a very informative program on Cooking Healthy for Seniors. For the monthly service project club members brought items for the Woman at the Well Ministry through DHR. Club members also put together treat bags to be delivered to new teachers in the district as a part of the new teacher mentoring program. Club members in attendance were: Suzanne Jones, Barbara Smith, Elaine Jones, Sara Lunsford, Kay Lightsey, Judy Elliott, Fran Kornegay, Donna Cook, Vickie Brown and Michelle Giddens from the Bibb Extension Office.



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NEWS



Bess Russell, Health Nurse at Bibb Medical Center

BY SAVANNAH LOGAN
REPORTER

At Bibb Medical Center, wellness isn't just a mission — it's a passion lived out daily by dedicated professionals like Bess Russell. With a heart for service, a rich background in cross-cultural care, and an unwavering belief in the power of preventative health, Bess is a vital part of the BMC community. Whether she's leading employee wellness challenges or helping someone take their first steps toward managing diabetes, her compassion and encouragement shine through.

We were fortunate to have Bess share more with us about her journey, the people and experiences that inspire her, and why loving others is at the heart of everything she does.

Can you tell us about your family?

"My husband, John Russell, and I have been married for 26 years. We have 3 children, a daughter-in-law, a son-in-law, and 3 grandchildren."

How long have you lived in Bibb County?

"We've lived in Bibb County since 2018."

Can you tell us about your role at BMC?

"My title is Health Nurse. I have several certifications including adult and senior health coach, ISSA personal trainer and nutrition coach,

AHA CPR instructor, Red Cross lifeguarding instructor and water safety instructor. Some days I am meeting with BMC employees doing annual health screenings, helping employees stay up to date on CPR certification and vaccinations. Other days I may be working in the hospital or in the specialty clinic assisting patients having colonoscopies, cataract surgery, or wound care. Another part of my work is meeting with clients for health coaching, for diabetes education or for teaching swimming lessons. All my jobs are primarily focused on wellness and prevention of illness and injury."

What are some of your favorite ways to focus on promoting community health?

"I love to help others have fun while working towards accomplishing achievable goals. A smile, encouragement, and a high five can turn what seems like a chore for a client into a fun and engaging session. As the employee health nurse, it has been fun thinking of quarterly employee health challenges. We've done them competing as individuals and as teams."

What inspired you to focus on employee and community health specifically?

"Working with patients in the hospital inspired me to focus on community health. So many times, I thought of how poorly managed chronic

health conditions can easily become a drain on resources and an uphill battle for patients. Focusing on patient education, resources, and preventative care provides a link that helps decrease ER visits, hospitalizations, and increases quality of life."

Can you tell me a little about your background and what led you to a career in nursing?

"I didn't always want to be a nurse. My childhood dream was to be a veterinarian, but after I formed a relationship with Jesus, my dream became to serve others as a cross-cultural witness. I had heard about how missionaries often showed the love of Christ in other geographical areas utilizing their secular profession and many were English teachers."

See Community Connect on page 3



Open Door Singing to be Held May 25

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS

On Sunday, May 25, 2025, the Raising a Standard Church invites the community to join together for a heartfelt Benefit Singing event, hosted at the Lillie Star District, located at 10600 Highway 5, Brent, AL 35034. The program will begin at 3:00 p.m., with Bruce Ruthledge serving as Master of Order and Devotion.

All are welcome to attend—soloists, duets, and singing groups are encouraged to participate, and pastors from all churches are

warmly invited to come together in fellowship.

Singing holds a special place in the heart of Christian worship. It allows us to express our love and gratitude to God while strengthening our bonds as a community. Whether you're lifting your voice in harmony or simply listening with an open heart, the act of singing can uplift the spirit, bring peace, and deepen faith. As Scripture reminds us:

"Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation!" — Psalm 95:1

"Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs." — Psalm 100:1-2

This benefit singing is a beautiful reminder of our call to sing—a divine invitation to acknowledge God's greatness, celebrate His blessings, and proclaim His goodness with one voice. Everyone is invited to bring their gifts of song and praise to this meaningful gathering. Let your heart be moved, your spirit lifted, and your soul refreshed as we come together in joyful worship.

Biodiversity Center

Biodiversity Center from page 1

Visitors are taken around the property in Kubota side-by-side vehicles to explore different trails, habitats, and geologic features. Each stop is a learning opportunity. At the cave, for example, they talk about how caves form and the plants and animals that live there—then visitors put on helmets and headlamps to explore inside.

Other stops include a pavilion where microscopes are set up to look at plants and small animals found nearby. At the Cahaba River, visitors use nets to catch fish, crayfish, and other small river creatures. Tools like photariums and bathyscopes help them see what they've caught, even in shallow water. The property also features limestone glades, sinkholes, streams, hardwood forests, pine plantations in different growth stages, and a natural spring.

The CBC acts as a biological field station. Graduate students from UWA and other universities have already done research here—and many are still continuing their work. Professors and researchers from different schools

have also visited and used the site.

Each year for the past three years, more than 600 people have visited the property. Visitors include

civic groups, middle and high school students, 4-H clubs, teachers attending workshops, foundation board members, and many others.



NOW HIRING

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Maintenance Technician
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Dietary Aide

**** DENOTES PART-TIME POSITION**

APPLY ONLINE: BIBBMED.COM/BMCCAREERS
bmchr@bibbmedicalcenter.com

Bibb County Children's Theater to Hold Summer Camp

BY SHEILA DUNCAN
REPORTER

The Bibb County Children's Theater is excited to announce its upcoming Summer Camp, taking place June 2–6, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Bibb County Board of Education Auditorium.

Open to children who have completed kindergarten through age 18,

this camp is a wonderful opportunity for both newcomers and seasoned performers to dive into the world of theater. Whether your child is exploring acting for the first time or looking to sharpen their skills, the camp promises a week full of creativity and fun.

Campers will enjoy learning new songs and dances, playing interac-

tive games, and working together to prepare a showcase performance. The week will culminate in a special showcase on Friday, where friends and family are invited to come and enjoy the talents the children have developed throughout the week.

Don't miss out on this enriching and entertaining experience for your child this summer!

Right Bite – Healthy Eating for Diabetes

BY SHEILA DUNCAN
REPORTER

Do you or someone you love struggle with diabetes or high blood pressure? The *Right Bite* series is here to help! This free, three-part program focuses on healthy eating habits to support better blood sugar and blood pressure management.

Join us at the Woodstock

Senior Center, located at 28513 Hwy 5 in Woodstock, on Tuesday, May 6th from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM. You'll learn valuable tips for meal planning, food preparation, and how to make small changes that have a big impact—like reducing calories, managing carbohydrates, modifying fat intake, and boosting fiber.

Lunch is available at 11:00 AM for those who pre-register, with a suggested donation. There is no cost to attend the program itself.

To register, call the Bibb County Extension Office at 205-926-4310. Don't miss this opportunity to take charge of your health in a supportive and educational environment!

Alabama Residents Urged to Prepare for Upcoming STAR ID Requirement Ahead of May 2025 Deadline

BY SAVANNAH LOGAN
REPORTER

The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) is reminding residents that beginning May 7, 2025, all air travelers age 18 and older will be required to present a REAL ID-compliant form of identification to board domestic flights or enter certain federal facilities. In Alabama, this federally compliant credential is known as the STAR ID. Those who do not have a valid U.S. passport or other federally accepted ID will need a STAR ID to fly within the United States or access select federal buildings, including some military installations.

"Currently, citizens who fly domestic are able to use their regular driver licenses or other photo identity cards issued by their state's DMV to board a plane," explained Holley Cook, Director of ALEA's Driver License Division. "However, the REAL ID Act changes this. If you plan to use your state-issued ID or driver license to fly within the U.S., then it must be REAL ID compliant after May 7, 2025."

The STAR ID is Alabama's version of the federally compliant REAL ID. It meets the strict security standards set by the federal government and has been available since 2012, allowing residents plenty of time

to prepare.

Although obtaining a STAR ID is optional, it is essential for anyone planning to fly or enter certain secure federal facilities without a passport. For everyday activities — like driving, voting, or local identification — a standard Alabama driver license or ID will remain valid.

STAR IDs can only be issued in person at Alabama Law Enforcement Agency Driver License Exam Offices. While county-operated license offices can provide renewals or duplicates, only ALEA exam offices can issue the STAR ID for the first time. Licenses or ID cards issued on or after April 25, 2022, that are not STAR ID compliant will be clearly marked with "Not

for Federal Identification" at the top.

To obtain a STAR ID, applicants must present four original documents (photocopies are not accepted) to verify:

Identity and Date of Birth (one required):

Valid U.S. Passport (unexpired)

Certified U.S. Birth Certificate

Certificate of Naturalization or Citizenship

Permanent Resident Card or other DHS-approved immigration documents

Note: If your name has changed from what's listed on your birth certificate or passport, you must provide official proof of the name change, such as a marriage certificate or court order.

See Star on page 7

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DEBRIS/GRASS CUTTING ATTENDANT

Job Description: The Bibb County Commission is seeking qualified applicants to fill a Full-time position as Debris/Grass Cutting Attendant. The person hired will work in the Debris/Grass Cutting and Solid Waste Department and assist in clearing and cleaning up of right of ways within Bibb County.

Qualifications: High School Diploma/GED and valid driver's license (required), Heavy equipment experience using small tools. Class B CDL (Optional)

Disclaimers: Daily duties will include but are not limited to the operation of heavy equipment, examples include tractor with bush hog, side cutter and grapple brush truck. Running of chainsaws, weed eaters and other tools to clear debris, tall grass and litter from the right of ways.

Position may involve frequent bending, moving and lifting (may exceed 25 pounds) at times. Working in all weather conditions. Available to work overtime if needed.

Pay Range: \$14.00-\$19.00 hr.

Benefits: BC/BS Health Insurance and participation in State Retirement System.

Applications will be accepted at the Bibb County Commission Office, 157 SW Davidson Drive Centreville, AL 35042, until the position is filled. Applications can be picked up and returned to the above address. For additional information, please contact the Bibb County Emergency Management Office 205-928-0092.

The Bibb County Commission is an Equal Opportunity Employer

NEWS/CALENDAR



Community Connect from page 2

Well, my mother was a high school English teacher and knowing how hard she worked in an underappreciated field and how I did not care much for the subject, I thought about nursing.

“I earned my BSN at Auburn University in 1998. My first job was at Camp ASCCA, I worked in child behavioral health, orthopedics, and in medical-surgical departments while John and I were raising support to work with The Mission Society. We lived and worked in the Upper West region of Ghana as cross-cultur-

al witnesses from 2005–2010 alongside the Ghana Methodist Church. I homeschooled our oldest two children and made nurse home visits for nationals living in rural areas in the region under the Upper West Ghana Ministry of Health. That was my dream and since then all the other nursing jobs I have had I see as a bonus blessing.”

Are there any specific community outreach programs or events that you’re particularly proud to be a part of?

“BMC offers Diabetes Self-Management Education Services. It has been so affirming to work with

clients to discover how a little change can make a positive impact on controlling blood sugar.”

Is there a moment or story from your work that really stuck with you or affirmed that you’re in the right field?

“One instance stands out where the client had a high blood sugar level. During our session the client drank 24oz of water, walked and used the stationary bicycle for 50 minutes. When we rechecked the blood sugar, it had dropped 40 points. The client was surprised and pleased to see that they had controlled their blood sugar with just a

few relatively simple actions.”

How do you stay motivated and energized in a role that involves caring for so many others?

“Motivation and the energy to continue working in this field is fueled by the employees, clients, and patients I get to work with.”

What advice would you give to someone looking to take better care of their health but not sure where to start?

“If someone really wants to make positive changes but is unsure where to start, I tell them to make a SMART goal. One that is specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and timebound. Then get a buddy or health coach to help keep them on track.”

When you’re not work-

ing, how do you like to spend your time?

“Outside of work I enjoy spending time outdoors. Yard work, bicycling, running, hiking, sightseeing, swimming, and meeting new people while being with family are my favorite way to spend free time.”

Where is your favorite place that you have traveled to?

“I think everywhere that I have visited I have had a favorite experience. The one that sticks out the most is Ephesus, Turkey. Walking down the remains of streets once lined with statues of gods and visiting the Basilica of Saint John was especially impactful. Turkey is so rich with biblical history.”

Do you have any pets?

“The pet count is now up to 25. We have a little

hobby farm, so I include all those critters.”

Is there a particular verse in the Bible that inspires you?

“John 13:34, ‘A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.’ inspires me that no matter what, love is most important. What is our purpose in life if not to love each other?”

From rural Ghana to Bibb County, Bess Russell has made a life out of serving others with heart and purpose. Her approach to health goes beyond treatment — she brings joy, encouragement, and faith into every encounter. Through her work, Bess continues to build a healthier, more connected community, one smile and high five at a time.



GOVERNMENTAL MEETINGS

- » Bibb County Commission meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 5 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.
- » The Treasure Forest Association, a stewardship and land ethic program, for and by timberland owners (present or aspiring) meets the fourth Thursday at the B/C library (downstairs) 6pm. Visit us on FB. Search for “Treasure Forest of Bibb County” and join to learn more.
- » Saturday night singing at Cedar Grove Church on May 3rd starting at 6pm. Guest singers will be Foregiven Heart.
- » Open Door Singing on May 25th at 3pm at the Lillie Star District 10600 Hwy. 5 Brent. Bruce Rutledge will be the Master of Order & Devotion, all church Pastors are invited for solos, duets and groups as well.

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 IPM 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/L, July-P/L, August-J/K/R, September-Q/S/T, October-U-Z and November-Commercial.
- » Brieffield 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 GPF 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. Bee-keepers.

- » 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 on the third Thursday at 7pm at the Sawmeal Restaurant.
- » 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 meets in alternate months or at the call of the Chairman on the third Thursday beginning January 2025 at the Centreville Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall at 5pm.
- » 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

- » Join us at the Celebrate Recovery support group each Tuesday at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall at Brent Bible Methodist Church. For more information contact Dwight Crosley at 812-675-1543.
- » 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 compassion-andhopefoodbasket@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 9-11 to sign up. Email, bibbsavealife@gmail.com. 48 University Way, Brent, AL.
- » 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/woodstockcommunitylibrary

QUARTERLY MEETINGS

- » 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

Centreville Press
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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.

THE STAFF

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| David Daniel..... | President |
| Annie Duncan..... | Business Manager |
| Shelia Duncan..... | Reporter |
| Whitney Buzbee..... | Advertising Manager |
| Savannah Logan..... | Reporter |

- » 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.
- » Little Hope Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery (West Eoline): C/O William Deason 262 Grover Lane Centreville, AL 35042-5562.
- » Green Pond Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Homecoming is 4th Sunday in May, Send donations for upkeep to P O Box 145, Green Pond, AL 35074.

Centreville Press

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Centreville 225-0460

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205-926-7600

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**Cynthia "Cindy"
Hughes Elliott**
May 5, 1946 –
March 12, 2025
Cynthia "Cindy"
Hughes Elliott, of Rich-
mond Hill, GA, and for-
merly of Demopolis, AL,

passed away peacefully on March 12, 2025, at the home of her son. She was born on May 5, 1946, in Beverly, MA, to the late Elwin and Elwyn Hughes. Cindy is survived by her loving husband of 47 years, John Henry Elliott; her son, John Elliott Jr., and his wife, Molly; and her beloved grandson, Henry, whom she adored. She is also survived by her sister, Susan Scogins, as well as many cherished nieces and nephews. She dedicated her career to the United States Postal Service until retirement. In retirement, Cindy

found joy in traveling, dining out, and, most of all, spending time with her family. She took immense pride in her grandson, Henry, and treasured every moment with him. Cindy's laugh could light up a room, and her warmth and kindness left a lasting impact on everyone she met. Cindy was of the Baptist faith. Per her wishes, no services will be held at this time. A burial will take place at Bethel Baptist Cemetery in Brent, AL, at a later date. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

COMMUNITY NEWS

West Eoline News

From The Pen Of Jane Hannah



My Brother Stan
Known as the "Meat Man"
Constant youth companion
Our family horseshoe champion
Grill master extraordinaire
Fun golfer beyond compare
Loved his family best
Considered himself blessed
Proud of his boys, now men
Whom are his next of kin
Along with his Wife
Who stuck with him for life
Next chapter begins
Competitive nature wins
Happy to be your Sister. Jane

Amy Ellison's hip repair surgery on the 14th went exceptionally well. Praise God for the right surgeon. She came home the next day with alternating home help from Ruth Deason, Jo Kitchen, Diana Dailey and Anita Helms. Stacey Thompson celebrated her birthday the 15th at LaTortilla with husband Chad and hosted by friends Robbie & Ed Todd. On Wednesday the celebration continued at Chow's in Tuscaloosa with Chad, & Jane Hannah. Everything was delicious. Jo Kitchen and her son

Mike Vessels feasted at Chows Friday night. Birthdays this week: Blakely Hannah 4-27, Vance Ohme & Harper Hannah 4-30, Tyler Carter 5-1. Joy to each special one. Belated best wishes to Tracie Dickerson. Somehow I skipped over her name last week. The Deasons were in great numbers Sunday, celebrating ... HE IS RISEN!! Babies galore, egg hunting fun!! Wayne's bunch numbered 27, Geneva's 8, Jane's 14, C H's 4, Stan's 6 and if my memory is correct we totaled 59. Of those

59, nine were infant or toddlers and five were age five to ten. I was germy sick and sat in the shade outside observing. Later in the afternoon we learned Mike Vessels (Jo Kitchen's son) wrecked his truck near Tallahassee, FL and was being evaluated at the hospital. Praise God his truck was the only think totaled. Mike was banged up and had stitches in a hand but was released for home in the evening. A celebration of life for Stan Deason was Saturday, April 19, 2025 at Centreville Baptist Church.

Centreville News

From The Pen Of Brenda Hubbard

BCHS Class of 1969 met on Friday, April 11, 2024 for a late lunch at Milano's Italian Restaurant in Tuscaloosa. We realize how important these gatherings are as we lost another classmate yesterday, Horace McGee. Twenty-two was in attendance and celebrated him. Belated birthday wishes go out to Emma Watts who celebrated her 21st birthday on April 12, 2025. Anniversary wishes go out to Jim and Debbie Perry who

recently celebrated their 11th wedding anniversary. Also to Kevin and Tammy Boyd who recently celebrated their 6th wedding anniversary. Among those celebrating birthdays in April are Barbara Cottingham, Barbara Creel, Aubrey Franklin, Roger Brothers and Bonnie Ray. The Joyful Hearts of Brent Baptist Church met on Monday, April 14, 2025. Services for Horace McGee who passed away recently were held on Mon-

day, April 14, 20205. Among the classmates attending the service in Bel-lamy, AL were Jimmy Headley, Quack Lawrence, James Owens, Allen Wyatt and Charlotte West. Anniversary wishes go out to Dennis and Lori Stripling who recently celebrated their 39th wedding anniversary. If you have news call it in at 205-316-1181. Take care and God Bless!

Plain & Simple

"Slow down and enjoy the simple pleasures in life"

By: Sheila Duncan

Coconut Cream Cake

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Ingredients: | whipped topping | clean, 20-25 minutes. Cool |
| 1 package white cake mix (regular size) | 1/3 cup sweetened shredded coconut, toasted | on a wire rack 10 minutes. Mix milk and extract. Using a large meat fork, poke holes in cake. Gently spread half of the milk mixture over cake; let stand 3 minutes. Spread with remaining milk mixture; cool 1 hour. Spread with whipped topping, sprinkle with toasted coconut. Refrigerate, covered, until cold, about 4 hours. |
| 3 large egg whites, room temperature | Directions: | |
| 1-1/4 cups water | Preheat oven to 350°. Coat a 13x9-in. pan with cooking spray. Beat cake mix, egg whites, water and coconut on low speed 30 seconds. Beat on medium 2 minutes. Transfer to prepared pan. Bake until a toothpick inserted in center comes out | |
| 1/3 cup sweetened shredded coconut | | |
| 1 can (14 ounces) fat-free sweetened condensed milk | | |
| 1 teaspoon coconut extract | | |
| 1-1/2 cups reduced-fat | | |

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YARD SALE

Multiple family yard sale: clothes, shoes, household/kitchen items, furniture, some tools, other miscellaneous items. 2996 Elam School House Rd Brent. Sat 7-3p.m.

PROBATE NOTICE

Legal Notice
Probate Office of
Bibb County
Case Number 2025-PC021
Estate of Scott Alan Bardwell, deceased
Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to Sheldon Carl Sander- son, as Personal Rep- resentative, on the 3rd day of April, 2025, by the Honorable Steph- anie Kemmer, Judge of the Probate Court of Bibb County, notice

is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to pres- ent the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred. G. Stephen Wiggins Attorney for Personal Representative Capell & Howard, PC 1490 Northbank Parkway, Suite 226 Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 Centreville Press April 11, 18 & 25, 2025

NOTICE OF PETITION

Notice of Petition for
Letters of Administra-
tion Cum Testamento
Annexo
Notice to : Christopher Todd Steakley, whose last known address is 9729 Montevallo Road, Centre- ville, Alabama 35042
You will take notice that a Petition for Letters of Administration Cum Test- mento Annexo has been filed by Rebecca Steakley

on the 20th day of Febru- ary, 2025.Said Petition is set to be heard on the 10th day of June, 2025 at 10:00 am in the Probate Court of Etowah County, Alabama, 800 Forrest Avenue, Gads- den, Alabama 35901. Justin Hayes, Esq. 406 South 3rd Street Gadsden, AL 35901 Centreville Press April 18, 25, May 2 & 9, 2025

NOTICE OF COMPLETION

LEGAL NOTICE
In accordance with Chap- ter 1, Title 39, Code of Ala- bama, 1975, as amended, notice is hereby given that: Central Alabama Asphalt & Construction Co., LLC has completed the contract for the construction of Mu- nicipal Paving Project #2: Town of Woodstock for the State of Alabama, and the County of Bibb, and have made request for final set-

tlement of said contract. All persons having any claim for labor, materials, or oth- erwise in connection with this project should immedi- ately notify: Central Alabama Asphalt & Construction Co., LLC P.O. Box 20766, Tuscalo- osa, Alabama 35402 Office: (205) 349-0910 Centreville Press April 11, 18, 25 & May 2, 2025

ADOPTION NOTICE

In the Probate Court of
Bibb County, Alabama
State of Alabama
County of Bibb
Case No. PC-2025-AD0004
In the matter of the
Adoption Petition of
Delilah Loraine Pyp- er Sparkes
Notice for Service by
Publication
Come Now the Petition- ers, Joyce Faye Brown & Robert Llyod Brown, by and through their attorney of record, Thomas W. Hi- note, and hereby move this Honorable Court for

an order directing notice of service by publication in the Centreville Press of this petition for adoption of a minor child, Delilah Loraine Pyp- er Sparks.
As grounds for this mo- tion, the Petitioners adopt by reference the state- ments contained in the at- tached affidavit for service by publication.
So requested this the 2nd day of March, 2025.
Thomas W. Hinote
2316 University Blvd.
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
Centreville Press
April 11, 18 & 25, 2025

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice of Public Sale
McKinney Wrecker Ser- vice gives notice of fore- closure of lien to sell these vehicles on June 4, 2025, 10:30am at 4901 Truman Aldrich Pkwy, West Bloc- ton, AL 35184-2101, pur- suant to subsection 32-13-3 of the Alabama Statutes. McKinney Wrecker Ser- vice reserves the right to

accept or reject any and/or all bids.
1G6KD57Y27U191075 2007 CADi DTS
1GNDS13S762177356 2006 CHEV TRAILBLAZER
1HD4CP2137K466042 2007 HD SPORTSTER
2C3CDXBG7NH224569 2022 DODGE CHARGER
Centreville Press
April 25 & May 2, 2025

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF BIBB
NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE SALE
Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage and security agreement executed by NURKILYA BELL, a single woman, on the 20th day of June 2008, to VANDERBILT MORTGAGE AND FINANCE, INC., as recorded in Real Property Book 217, Page 275, in the office of the Probate Judge of Bibb County, Alabama; VANDERBILT MORTGAGE AND FINANCE, INC., as Mortgagee, by reason of such default having declared all of the indebtedness secured by said mortgage and security agreement due and payable and such default continuing, notice is hereby given that, acting under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and security agreement, and as authorized by Section 7-9A-604(a)(2) of the Code of Alabama of 1975 as amended, VANDERBILT MORTGAGE AND FINANCE, INC., as Mortgagee, will sell at public outcry, for cash to the highest bidder, in front of the Courthouse door, in the City of Centreville, Bibb

County, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale on May 7, 2025, the following described real and personal property situated in Bibb County, Alabama, to-wit:
A parcel of land lying in the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 19, Township 22 North, Range 9 East in Bibb County, Alabama, being more particularly de- scribed as follows:
As the POINT OF BE- GINNING, commence at the Northeast corner of the above said 1/4 – 1/4, said point being an iron pin found; thence run West along the North line of said 1/4 – 1/4 for a distance of 243.64 feet to an iron pin found, said point lying on the Northeasterly right of way of Harrisburg Road; thence turn an interior an- gle right of 61°28'51" and run Southeasterly along said right of way for a dis- tance of 318.07 feet to an iron pin set; thence turn an interior angle right of 46°41'56" and leaving said right of way fun North- easterly for a distance of 294.16 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, said par- cel containing 0.78 acres more or less.
INCLUDING a securi- ty interest in one (1) 2008 CMH manufactured home, Serial No. CS20095077- NAB; together with the

hereditaments and appur- tenances thereunto be- longing and all fixtures now attached to and used in connection with the pre- mises herein described.
This property will be sold on an "as is, where is" ba- sis, subject to any ease- ments, 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 with- out 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 in- terest in property the right to redeem the property un- der certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure pro- cess. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of

the foreclosure process.
Said sale will be made subject to any existing Fed- eral Tax Lien, if any, and/ or Special Assessments, if any, which might adversely affect the title to the subject property.
Said sale will be made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by the above-described mor- tage, and the proceeds thereof will be applied as provided by the terms of the said mortgage. This sale is subject to postpone- ment or cancellation; con- tact Margery Oglesby at the phone number shown below prior to attending the sale.
Lori C. Baird Attorney for Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc.
ROSEN HARWOOD, P.A.
2200 Jack Warner Pkwy Ste 200 P.O. Box 2727 Tuscaloosa, AL 35403 (205) 344-5000 Centreville Press April 18, 25 & May 2, 2025

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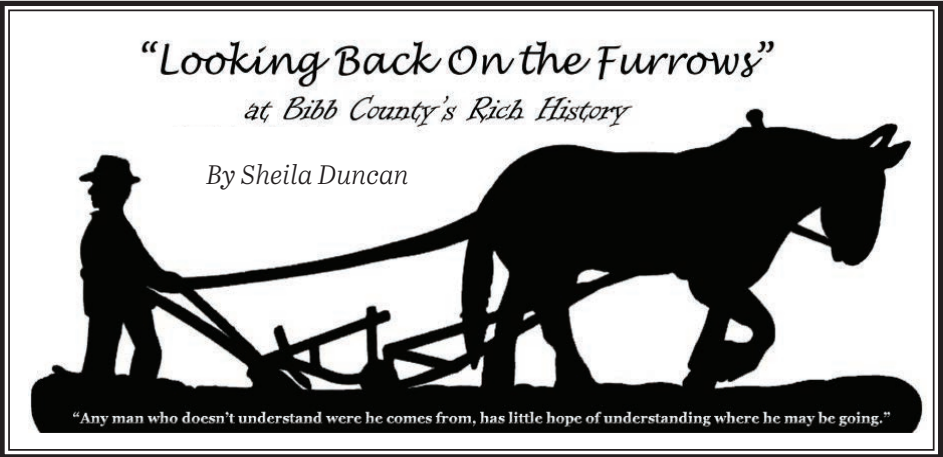
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LIFESTYLE



Welcome to our historical journey, where we delve into the rich tapestry of our past through the pages of The Centreville Press. Below, you will find articles from what we call the “morgue” – a collection of past articles that once graced our newspaper. These narratives provide a fascinating glimpse into the events, stories, and voices that shaped our community. So, let’s embark on a journey through the narratives that once filled our pages, preserving the legacy and memories of yesteryears capturing the essence of bygone eras with vivid detail.



Twix ‘n’ Tween Restaurant in Centreville

CORRECTION TO APRIL 11TH ISSUE

For decades, travelers along the highway between Tuscaloosa and Montgomery knew that a stop in Centreville wasn’t complete without a visit to Twix ‘n’ Tween Restaurant. Whether it was for a legendary barbecue sandwich—simply called “a barbecue” by regulars—a side of crispy fries, an ice-cold bottle of Coke, or a slice of icebox pie, the restaurant was a must-visit.

Twix ‘n’ Tween first opened its doors in 1952, as Sinclair Twix “n” Tween with its name chosen through a contest to reflect its location between the neighboring Bibb County towns of Brent and Centreville. After being purchased by HUGH EDMONDS, Sinclair was removed but remained Twix “n” Tween. As noted by the late Montgomery Advertiser reporter Alvin Benn, the restaurant enjoyed more than 60 years of success before closing its doors in the mid-2010s.



Bibb County, Alabama, has a rich history marked by several key events. Initially called Cahawba County in 1818, it was renamed Bibb County in 1820 to honor Alabama’s first governor, William Wyatt Bibb. Non-Indian settlers began moving into the area in 1815, with Centreville established as the county seat. The county experienced economic and social turmoil after the Civil War, with a significant portion of the population consisting of former slaves. Bibb County also saw lumber production boom in the 20th century, and timber remains a major economic driver today.

Here are some notable events:

1818: Bibb County was established as Cahawba County.

1820: The name was changed to Bibb County in honor of Governor William Wyatt Bibb.

1860s: Bibb County was a center for iron, coal, and lumber production.

1865: The county experienced economic and social turmoil

following the Civil War.

1880s: West Blocton became a major mining town due to the «coal rush,» significantly boosting the population.

Late 19th Century: West Blocton was known for its rapid growth and reputation for lawlessness.

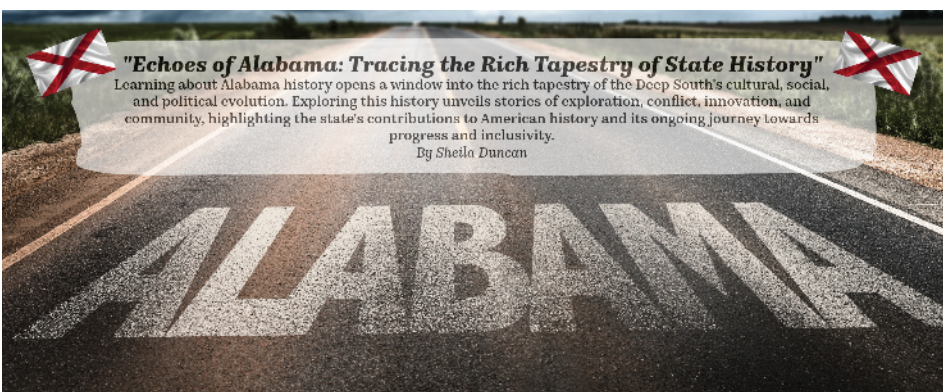
1896: The first recorded Jewish ritual in West Blocton, the wedding of Israel Kronenberg and Annie Israel, occurred.

Early 1900s: James Tate was lynched in Randolph, near the Shelby County line, in a gruesome incident that highlights the harsh realities of the time.

1919: Jim McMillan was lynched by a white mob in Bibb County.

2000: Bibb County voted against a proposed amendment to Alabama’s constitution to abolish the prohibition of interracial marriages.

April 27, 2011: A major storm, including powerful tornadoes, struck the southeastern United States, including Bibb County.



119 N. McKenzie Street

BY SHEILA DUNCAN
REPORTER

Hotel Magnolia opened its doors in 1908 under the helm of Chicago businessman and city founder John Burton Foley. Attracting tourists and residents alike, the hotel boasted twenty rooms, a dining room, and a beauty shop on the first floor. Though the property saw many innkeepers and owners throughout its history, it stands today as a beacon of Foley’s hospitality and long history as a tourist destination.

You Should Know...

- Hotel Magnolia is Colonial Revival in architectural style—note the broken pediments atop the door and windows.
 - In 1967, John Snook, the founder of Gulf Telephone Company, and his wife, Marjorie Snook, purchased the hotel and made several renovations, including the addition of a custom iron fence that depicts the agricultural history of Baldwin County.
 - There is an underground tunnel that connects Hotel Magnolia to the former Gulf Telephone building.
- This information is from the Downtown Foley by

Foot - A Historic Walking Tour Booklet you can find for free at the Foley Welcome Center.

Walking tours return to Foley for the month of April! Enjoy a free guided tour of downtown Foley each Saturday in April at 10 a.m. The tour begins at the Foley Welcome Center, corner of Highway 59 and US 98, in the heart of the city. Wear comfortable walking shoes and join us for a one hour tour that highlights Foley’s historic buildings. Tours are led by area experts, last about one hour and cover about eight blocks.

Carl Lewis: A Track and Field Legend

BY SHEILA DUNCAN
REPORTER

Carl Lewis, born in Birmingham, Alabama in 1961, is one of the most iconic athletes in track and field history. Renowned for his speed and power, Lewis rose to fame in the 1980s and 1990s with an extraordinary career that spanned multiple Olympic Games and World Championships.

He won a total of **10 Olympic medals**, including **9 golds**, and added **10 World Championship medals** to his record. His primary events included the 100 meters, 200 meters, long

jump, and the 4x100 meter relay. His achievements and dominance in both sprinting and jumping set a standard in athletics that few have matched.

Carl Lewis was named the “**World Athlete of**

the Century” by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) and remains a global symbol of excellence in sport. His legacy continues to inspire athletes around the world.



Can you solve the Sudoku?

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| | 3 | | | | | | 4 | |
| 5 | 4 | | | 7 | 1 | | 2 | |
| | | | 3 | | | | | 6 |
| | | 8 | | | 9 | | | |
| 3 | | 2 | | | | | | |
| | 1 | | | | 7 | | | 3 |
| | | | | | | | 8 | 9 |
| 7 | 8 | 5 | 9 | | | | | |
| | | | 5 | | | | 6 | 2 |

- Programs
- Flyers
- Business Cards
- Invitations
- Banners

- Envelopes
- Note Pads
- Copies
- Doorhangers

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NEWS

BIBB COUNTY COMMISSION

Meeting Date: April 14, 2025

By: Lynn Hamric

Commission Chair Caddell called the meeting to order at five o'clock.

Comments: -None
Comments from other elected officials: None

Roll Call: (Present) Rodney Stabler, Jeremy Lightsey, Charles Caddell, Matt Downs. Absent – Ty Corbell

Invocation – Kirk Smith
A/P Check Run(s) – Approved

Consent Agenda – County Administrator Brian Davis presented the following.

A motion was made (Lightsey) seconded (Downs) to approve the purchase of rip rap from Vulcan Materials in the amount of \$1,400. Motion carried.

A motion was made (downs) seconded (Stabler) to purchase chert from Sacred Earth Aggregate in the amount of \$2,375. Motion carried.

A motion was made (Stabler) seconded (Lightsey) to approve the purchase of #4 stone from Ready Mix in the amount of \$1,350. Motion carried.

A motion was made (Lightsey) seconded (Downs) to approve the purchase of janitorial supplies from American Ozment in the amount of \$1,404.24. Motion carried.

New Business:

A motion to approve the March 10, 2025 minutes was made by (Stabler) seconded (Lightsey). Motion carried.

Katie Cheslock, Centreville Main Street, gave a quarterly report.

A Proclamation from America 250 Alabama was read.

A motion was made (Downs) seconded (Stabler) to approve an invoice from Global fire Sprinklers (Jail) in the amount of \$10,392.21.

A motion was made

(Lightsey) seconded (Downs) to approve the new contract for the fingerprint machine maintenance in the amount of \$1,700 per year. Motion carried.

A motion was made (Downs) seconded (Stabler) to approve an additional request for one-time funding in the amount of \$2,000. Motion carried.

A motion was made (Downs) seconded (Lightsey) for the Chair to sign the two-year contract with S&W. Motion carried

A motion was made (Lightsey) seconded (Downs) to purchase a ford f150 truck from

Stivers Ford in the amount of \$44,420 (Sheriff's Dept.). Motion carried.

A motion was made (Stabler) seconded (Lightsey) to approve the purchase of outfitting two sheriff Dept. vehicles from Prologic not to exceed \$19,000 each. Motion carried.

County Administrator (Downs) seconded (Stabler) to approve the Resolution on allowing only Service Animals in the public storm shelters. Motion carried.

*A motion was made (Downs) seconded (Stabler) to approve the contract with Ward Scott Morris

Architecture for the Transfer Station and for the Chair to sign the contract and bid documents.

Motion carried.
* Brian read the ACCA Legislative Report.

* A motion was made (Lightsey) seconded (Downs) to approve G&W Landscaping to do work at the Probate and Tax building in the amount of \$5,300 and at the Jail in the amount of \$1,200. Motion carried.

*A motion was made (Downs) seconded (Lightsey) to approve rescheduling the April 28th Commis-

sion meeting to April 29 at 5:00 pm. Motion carried.

County Engineer – Jeff McKinney

*A motion was made (Lightsey) seconded (Downs) to approve Resolution 2025-003 for Cahaba River Drive Bulldog Bend Road resurfacing project BCP 04-01-25. Motion carried.

*A motion was made (Lightsey) seconded (Dows) to approve Schnellecke Packing Logistics application for the Adopt-A-Mile program on Highway 11 from the county line for one mile. Motion carried.

* Jeff discussed his future equipment needs.

County EMA Director -Kirk Smith

*A motion was made (Lightsey) seconded (Stabler) to purchase one weather camera in the amount of \$1,200. Motion carried.

*A motion was made (Stabler) seconded (Downs) to approve the certification and purchase of a taser in the amount of \$1,978.20. Motion carried.

*A motion was made (Downs) seconded (Stabler), to approve the advertising for a Debris/Grass Cutting attendant with a pay rate of \$19 per hour. Motion carried.

County Attorney – Anthony Johnson

Upon the recommendation of Brian Davis, a motion was made (Lightsey) and seconded (Stabler) to go into Executive Session.

Upon the recommendation of Brian Davis, a motion was made (Stabler) seconded (Lightsey); motion carried 3-0 (Downs abstained) to approve the avoidance of potential litigation.

Old Business – None
Discussion by Commissioners – None
Meeting Adjourned.

CENTREVILLE WATER/SEWER DEPT.

Meeting Date: April 14, 2025

By: Lynn Hamric

Chair Josh Colburn called the meeting to order with all six board members present.

Water Superintendent discussed various common comments with regard to individuals receiving higher water bills, a commode running constantly, a leak. Once water is metered it is the responsibility of the home owner.

Larry requested written policies and procedures for dealing with water meter locking, water bill adjustments, etc. These are to be brought to the next water board meeting for review and adoption.

Larry provided inventory information and recommendations as to what should be placed on the city web page for sale and what should be sold for scrap. The city will maintain the right to "no sale" items.

A loan in the amount of \$231,324 was obtained for payment to the company who recently verified all water meters. A Resolution is needed in order to receive 100% reimbursement in this amount.

Rebecca stated the drive by drop box for after hour payments needs to be re-located.

Rebecca requested an ad-

ditional employee to handle the drive through window. This would be a full-time person. After discussion the idea of using two part-time Co-Op students to cover this. Further investigation is needed.

The work hours for staff were discussed and the new schedule was dropped with a return to previous hours approved (Wed. afternoons closed).

The on-line water bill payment system remains un-resolved.

Attorney Kemmer is working with Mayor Oakley in an attempt to resolve this.

Meeting adjourned.



J&S Drug Store is entering an exciting new phase with a fresh facelift underway.

Judson College Campus No Longer Considered for New School

BY SHEILA DUNCAN REPORTER

The Healthcare Science High School is scheduled to open in fall 2025, with its permanent building expected by 2026. For the upcoming school year, the University of West Ala-

bama in Livingston will serve as the temporary campus.

Judson College in Marion was once considered for the temporary site, but plans fell through due to concerns about the town's infrastructure. Supporters couldn't guarantee clean

water, proper police protection, or an acceptable quality of life for students and staff.

The Alabama School of Healthcare Sciences will be the state's first residential high school focused on healthcare careers, set to open in Demopolis in 2026.

Storm Shelter

Storm Shelter from page 1

Residents who depend on emotional support animals or family pets are encouraged to make alternative arrangements ahead of any severe weather. This could include identifying friends or family members outside the storm's path who can provide temporary shelter, finding boarding options, or preparing a pet-specific emergency kit with food, water, medications, and identification.

Residents are encouraged to review this policy ahead of storm season and make appropriate plans if their animals do not qualify as service animals. By setting clear expectations and following federal guidelines, the Bibb County Commission aims to maintain an orderly and safe

shelter environment for all who depend on these

facilities during times of emergency.

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STAR

Star from page 2

Social Security Number (one required):
Social Security Card
W-2 Tax Form (current or prior year)

Medicare/Medicaid Card (if SSN includes letter A)

U.S. Military Form DD 214

Proof of Principal Residence (two required):

Examples include:
Current Alabama Driver License or ID with correct address

Voter Registration Card
Utility Bill (within 90 days)

Vehicle Registration
Lease, mortgage, or property tax documents
School enrollment forms or military orders

If the proof of residence documents are in a spouse

or parent's name, applicants must also provide a marriage or birth certificate to confirm residency. For the full list of accepted documents and additional information, visit the TSA website.

The STAR ID deadline is quickly approaching, and long wait times are expected as May 2025 nears. If you plan to fly domestical-

ly or access secure federal buildings, now is the time to gather your documents and make an appointment with an ALEA Driver License Exam Office.

Whether you're a frequent flyer or simply want to be prepared, obtaining your STAR ID now ensures you're ready for takeoff when the new rules go into effect.

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NEWS

Bankhead District Meeting

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS

The Amelia Gayle Gorgas Chapter 2117 hosted the Bankhead District Meeting on February 1, 2025, in Northport, AL. All chapters in our district were represented. 48 UDC members registered for the meeting. State officers attended as guests: Cyndi Himes, Division President; Susan Dooley, Vice President; Lori Adams, Division Historian; Wanda Bowen, Division Chaplain; Linda Barton, Honorary Division President; and Linda Ed-

wards, past Division President and past President General.

Leigh Bearden, Director, led the meeting. The program was about "Being a UDC Daughter." This was followed by workshops for learning about the various aspects of the organization. Especially helpful were the experienced officers who spoke about their respective offices and their duties, e.g., Historian, etc. Games and laughter complemented the occasion. Gifts, favors, awards, and

prizes just added to the celebration.

And of course, there was the delicious food prepared by the host chapter.

But the flavor and favor of the mealtime extended much further than "food" alone. Tables were often themed, e.g., "daughters" who served as historians in their chapter set at the table with the State Historian. In this informal setting, learning came easily and friendships quickly. *Respectfully submitted by Eileen Katz*



L to R - Jo Clark, Dover Currie, Judy Spree, Eileen Katz, Brenda Justiss, Ann Peak, Carole Harry, Leigh Bearden

WOODSTOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting Date: April 7, 2025

The Town Council of the Town of Woodstock, Alabama met in a Regular Council Meeting at the Town Hall on Monday, April 7, 2025, at 5:00 P.M. A quorum being present: Mayor Jeff Dodson called the meeting to order at 5:03 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Dodson. The following Council Members were present: Ernestine Johnson, Ronnie Kinard, Kellie Parks, and Don Bowling. Town Attorney Boozer Downs, Police Chief Len Price and Director of Library & Media Services Michele Dickey were also present. Council Member Lee Mears was absent.

COUNCIL APPROVAL:

Council Member Ronnie Kinard made the motion to approve the March 17, 2025 minutes as previously submitted by email. Motion was seconded by Council Member Ernestine Johnson and the motion so carried.

Council Member Don Bowling made the motion to approve the February 2025 financials. Motion was seconded by Council Member Ernestine Johnson and the motion so carried.

Council Member Don Bowling made the motion to approve the following donation:

West Blocton Middle School Cheer – Donation for Cheer Uniforms \$500.00

Motion was seconded by Council Member Kellie Parks and the motion so carried.

Council Member Ernestine Johnson made the motion to approve the following expense:

Mike Gamble – Town Hall Electrical Maintenance \$1,830.00

Motion was seconded by Council Member Kellie Parks and the motion so carried.

Council Member Ernestine Johnson made the motion to approve the following expenses:

Part-Time Contract Labor for Summer at rate of \$12.00 per hour – Schedule and hours TBD by Facilities Manager Jay Matthews.

Motion was seconded by Council Member Don Bowling and the motion so carried.

Council Member Ronnie Kinard made the motion to

approve the following expenses:

Reimbursement for Travel Expenses for Assistant Town Clerk

Regional Court Seminar - Mileage \$71.40

Motion was seconded by Council Member Don Bowling and the motion so carried.

Council Member Kellie Parks made the motion to approve the following expenses for the Senior Center:

Reach Plumbing – Line Repair \$2,668.00

Motion was seconded by Council Member Don Bowling and the motion so carried.

Council Member Don Bowling made the motion to approve the following for the 2025 Music Festival:

Cahaba Events Rental \$4,120.00

Holiday Raceway – Venue Contract \$6,300.00

Motion was seconded by Council Member Kellie Parks and the motion so carried.

Council Member Kellie Parks made the motion to approve the following expenses for the Parks & Recreation:

US Foods - Concessions \$1,808.99

KnowMyHire.com – Background Checks \$45.00

Coca-Cola - Concessions \$657.03

Mosquito Authority – Mosquito Control \$979.00

Motion was seconded by Council Member Don Bowling and the motion so carried.

Council Member Don Bowling made the motion to approve the following expenses for the Police Department:

Advance Business Machines - Copier \$3,500.00

Motion was seconded by Council Member Ronnie Kinard and the motion so carried.

Council Member Kellie Parks made the motion to approve the following expenses for the Library:

Bibliomix – Library Software Annual Billing \$880.00

Motion was seconded by Council Member Ernestine Johnson and the motion so carried.

Council Member Don Bowling made the motion to approve the following invoice for the Lakeview Pumpstation ARC Project

AL-20343-2021:

Dexter Fortson Associates, Inc – Invoice #308906 \$32, 438.00

Motion was seconded by Council Member Ronnie Kinard and the motion so carried.

Council Member Kellie Parks made the motion to approve the following expenses for road repairs to County Road 13 & Intersection of Hunter Dr & Molly Trace:

Kornegay Materials \$10,261.00

Motion was seconded by Council Member Ronnie Kinard and the motion so carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Planning & Zoning Report to Council

Council Member Ernestine Johnson made the motion to reject and rescind the Planning & Zoning Board Report to Council dated March 17, 2025, as attached to said minutes. The motion was seconded by Council Member Don Bowling and the motion carried unanimously.

Alabama League of Municipalities Risk Management Award

Mayor Jeff Dodson announced that the Town of Woodstock was recently awarded a Silver Risk Management Award by the insurance divisions of the Alabama League of Municipalities. The award recognizes members who have instituted risk management and loss control activities for workplace accidents and injuries.

Bibb County Pinwheel Garden Planting

Town Clerk Tiffney McCulley announced that the Bibb County Pinwheel Garden Planting was taking place at the Bibb County Courthouse today. This event honors brave children and spreads hope and awareness for Child Abuse Prevention Month.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Public comments were heard.

There being no further business to come before the Town Council at this time, Council Member Ernestine Johnson made the motion to adjourn at 5:28 P.M. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ronnie Kinard and upon being put to a vote, the motion was carried unanimously.



Three generations - Karen Fondren, Linda Barton, Brianna Fondren

BC BOARD OF EDUCATION


Meeting Date: November 12, 2024

Agenda
1. Call to order
2. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Executive Session: Student Discipline (1)
6. Approval of the Minutes
7. Financial Report and Bank Reconciliations
A. Receive Financials and Bank Reconciliations for March 2025.
B. Request to approve Bills and Payroll for March 2025.
8. Consent Agenda
Items-Contracted Services, Bids, Trips, etc.
A. Receive Library Media Procedure Manual.
B. Receive Faculty and Student Combined Acceptable Usage Policy (AUP).
C. Request to approve the quote from ClearWinds Technologies for \$95,000 for security camera system upgrade and replacement at BCHS and WBHS. Payment will be made from Alabama A & T funds.
D. Request to approve payment to Inline Electric Supply Co. to purchase LED lighting. Payment of \$22,200 will be made from A&T funds.
E. Request to approve payment to Chandler Keef for grass cutting football field area, April 2025, West Blocton High School. Payment of \$150 will be made from WBHS football booster funds.
F. Request to approve payment to judges for pageant, April 25, 2025, West Blocton Elementary School. Payment of \$75 per judge will be made from WBES local school funds.
G. Request to approve West Blocton High School Varsity cheer squad to attend cheer camp at the University of Alabama, May 28- 31, 2025. Students will travel by private vehicles and have overnight stay.
9. Consent Agenda
Items-Personnel
A. Request approval for unpaid leave for Susan Gaines, Teacher, West Blocton Elementary School, March 3-14, 2025.
B. Request to approve the retirement of Steven Lightsey, Teacher, Woodstock Elementary School, effective June 1, 2025.
C. Request to approve the retirement of Vicki Mitchell, Special Education Paraprofessional Aide, Woodstock Elementary School, effective June 1, 2025.

D. Request to approve the retirement of Sharon Sellers, CNP Worker, West Blocton High School, effective June 1, 2025.
E. Request to approve the retirement of Angela Murphy, Itinerant EL Paraprofessional Aide, effective June 1, 2025.
F. Request to approve the resignation of Anjanette Jones, Counselor, West Blocton High School, effective June 30, 2025.
G. Request to approve Meg Cottingham as Summer Special Education Clerical/Data Entry worker, June 2-August 1, 2025.
H. Request to approve the following as Summer 2025 ESY/Remediation teachers:
I. Request to approve Janet Morris as Color Guard Sponsor, West Blocton Middle School.
J. Request to approve the following volunteers:
K. Request to approve the following substitutes:
10. Regular Agenda Items
A. Request to approve the retirement of Alissia Sommers Cromer, Teacher, Centreville Middle School, effective June 1, 2025.
B. Request to approve the retirement of Melissa Dearman, Teacher, Brent Elementary School, effective June 1, 2025.
C. Request to approve the retirement of Kelsey Dunn, Teacher, Brent Elementary School, effective June 1, 2025.
D. Request to approve the retirement of Jan Lowery, Intervention/Bus Aide/Paraprofessional, effective June 1, 2025.
E. Request to approve the resignation of Lauren Conradi, Teacher, Randolph Elementary School, effective May 23, 2025.
F. Request to approve the resignation of Kara Hud-

son, Teacher, Centreville Middle School, effective June 1, 2025.
G. Request to approve the following for 21st Century CAST, Brent Elementary School:
H. Request to approve payment to Alana Brasher to choreograph and teach routine to color guard, April 21 & 28 and May 5 & 12, 2025, West Blocton Middle School. Payment of \$300 will be made from WBMS local school funds.
I. Request to approve payment to the following to teach technique, camp and half time shows to color guard during the 2025-2026 season, Bibb County High School. Payment of \$25 per hour each, not to exceed \$500 each, will be made from BCHS local school funds.
J. Request to declare 2025 West Blocton High School and Bibb County High School senior chromebooks surplus property. This would only include HPG6 and HPG8 devices.
11. Executive Session: Personnel
A. Request to approve the non-renewal of the probationary, non-tenured employees on the Superintendent's Personnel Action List.
12. Information Items
A. The Sick Leave Committee has approved Bobby Terry, Bus Driver, catastrophic sick leave for up to 12 weeks.
B. Statement of Economic Interests-Due April 30, 2025
C. Board Work Session: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at 10:00 AM
D. Board Meeting: Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at 5:00 PM
13. Superintendent Remarks
14. Request to adjourn

- Phone Repairs
- Computer
- Laptops
- Tablets
- Game Consoles



**MOBILE DEVICES
REPAIR
ON THE
SQUARES
CENTREVILLE
AND COMPUTERS**

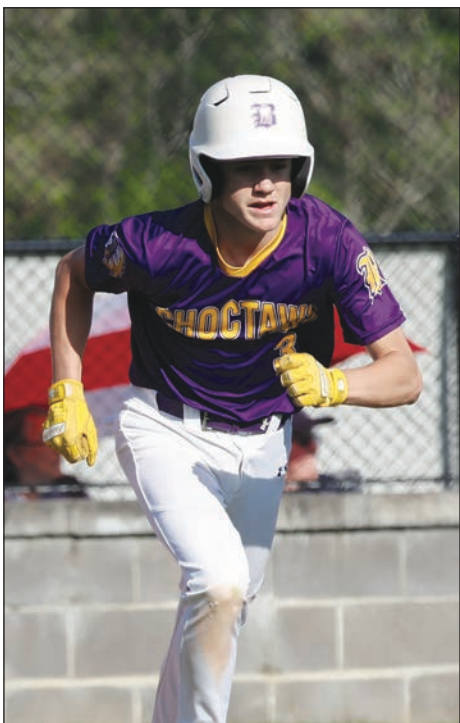
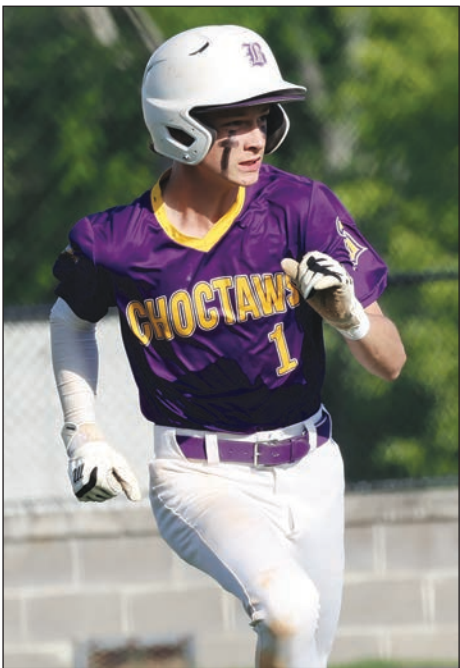
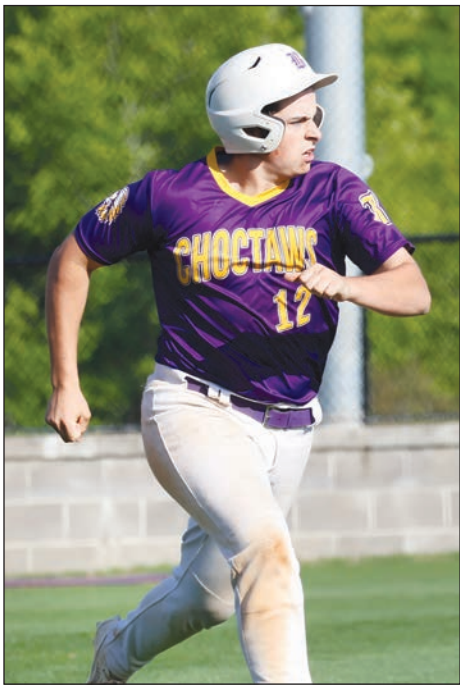
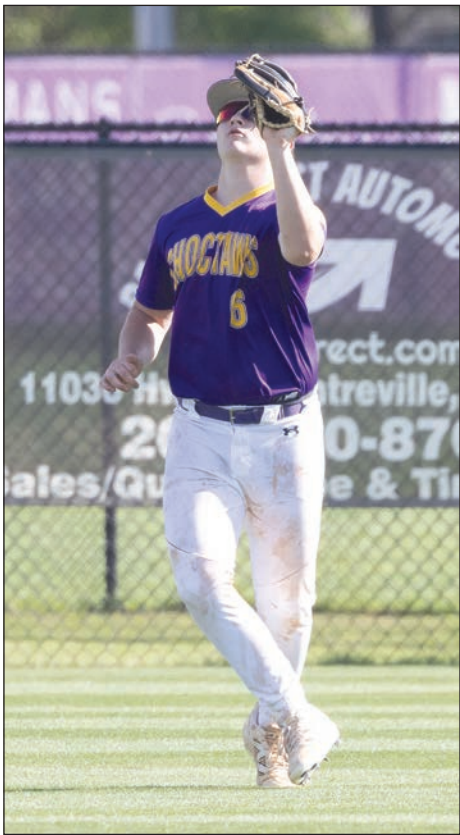
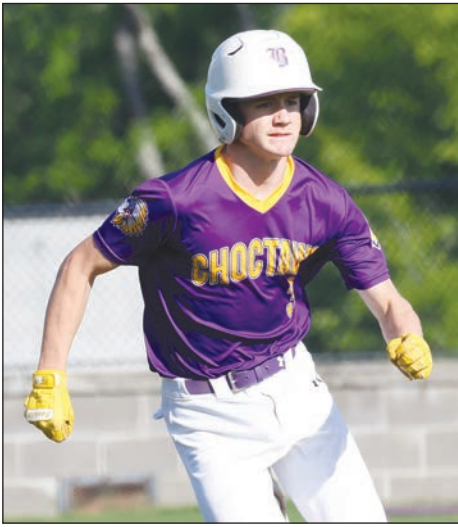
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- popular gaming systems like PlayStation, Xbox, and Nintendo Switch, handling issues like overheating, HDMI port replacements, power supply failures, and controller connectivity

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- Advising
- Tutoring
- Meet with an SSCC representative

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ENG 101-B01*
CRN 30370
Mondays and Wednesdays
3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

MTH 099-B50*
CRN 30209
Mondays and Wednesdays
7:55 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.

MTH 100-B50; MTH 100C-B50*
CRN 30211 CRN 30210
Mondays and Wednesdays
5:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

BIO 103
Online
with Virtual Student Hours Available

*Online options also available

For more information or to set up a meeting, contact bibb@sheltonstate.edu.

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Orthopedic Surgeon

UAB MEDICINE
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Gregory Kennedy, MD, PhD

BMC EMERGENCY DEPT: MAKING MINUTES COUNT WITH TELESTROKE

In the words of the National Neurological Disorders and Stroke, a stroke is a **BRAIN ATTACK**.

What makes a stroke terrifying is how quickly it permanently damages the brain when oxygen is no longer supplied to support brain function, making time an incredibly rare resource in these circumstances. To save time in the treatment of a stroke, a new telemedicine approach to stroke treatment, called Telestroke, is one of the most successful implementations of telemedicine that helps administer emergency treatment to patients just in time.

Patients living in rural areas often do not have access to rapid consultation with specialized neurologic teams for diagnosis and treatment of stroke. The use of telemedicine in the form of a telestroke consultation can improve timely diagnosis and treatment for rural patients exhibiting stroke symptoms. Telestroke has increased the percentage of patients receiving thrombolytics in less than 60 minutes, and door-to-needle time has decreased.

