

# Centreville Press

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LET US KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

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Photos by Ryan Thompson  
See More Photos on page 8

## Autism Club Tips Off Summer with Slam Dunk Fun and Friendship!

BY SHEILA DUNCAN  
REPORTER

The Autism Club kicked off summer in the best way possible—with basketballs bouncing, pom-poms twirling, and laughter echoing through the gym at BMC Wellness Center on Saturday, June 7th!

In an inspiring show of community spirit, local law enforcement and correctional officers laced up their sneakers and hit the court for an unforgettable game of hoops with children and adults with autism and other special needs. The Bibb County Sheriff's Department brought out the best, including Lt. Underwood, Deputies Eddie Wehrenberg, Thomas Sudsberry, Brad Taylor, Jim Ward, Kenneth Poole, Investigators Chris Poole and Justin Hobbs, along with Correctional Officer Ryan Rote from Bibb Correctional Facility. These hometown heroes showed up ready to play, laugh, and connect—and boy, did they deliver!

The gym lit up with high-fives, cheers, and ear-to-ear smiles as players teamed up for a fun and friendly basketball game. But the excitement didn't stop there—Leah's Twirl Girls brought the halftime sparkle! The crowd cheered as Nevaeh wowed everyone with her fantastic twirling routine, showing poise, talent, and heart.

This special day wasn't just about basketball—it was about building bridges. These types of events help create meaningful relationships between first responders and individuals with special needs, so that in times of emergency, a familiar, friendly face can bring comfort and calm.

Huge thanks go to the Bibb County Sheriff's Department, Bibb Correctional Facility, and the BMC Wellness Center for making the day a success. And of course, a standing ovation to Kay Culp, LPC, of Culp Counseling, who leads The Autism Club with a heart full of love and dedication.

The Autism Club plans to host monthly meetings and fun-filled activities for both children and adults on the autism spectrum, as well as those with other special needs. It's a welcoming place where families and friends can share stories, find support, and build a community rooted in understanding and joy.

For more information on upcoming events or how to get involved, reach out to Kay Culp at [culpkaye@gmail.com](mailto:culpkaye@gmail.com) or Ryan Thompson at 205-225-4287.

Let's keep the ball bouncing and the smiles shining all summer long!



## Heards BBQ & Soul Food Expands to Brick-and-Mortar Location in Centreville

BY WHITNEY BUZBEE  
REPORTER

After months of anticipation and loyal support from the community, Heards BBQ & Soul Food is making a big move — from wheels to walls. The beloved food truck business has officially announced the upcoming opening of its new brick-and-mortar location in Centreville at 901 Birmingham Road, inside the former Big Potato Company building.

In a heartfelt message shared on social media, the owners expressed deep gratitude for the journey that brought them to this milestone. "The wait is over," the post read, reflecting on the growth and lessons learned over the past several months. Operating primarily through their food truck, the team saw tremendous success, especially in

Centreville — their busiest stop week after week.

The decision to expand into a physical location was not taken lightly. "Going bigger isn't always better," the owner shared. "But we've been blessed to grow our business everywhere we go." It was a pleasant surprise to discover that the Big Potato building, which had been closed and available, was a perfect fit for their needs — and right in their strongest market.

The new location will offer greater stability for their team and longer hours for loyal customers. The announcement was filled with gratitude — not just for the Centreville community and Bibb County at large, but also for the family support that helped make it possible. A special thank you was given to the owner's wife, Shakira, for her faith and encouragement, and to

sons Dorian and Daniel for their patience and understanding during the long journey.

Though the opening is still a couple of weeks away, the food truck will continue serving customers in the meantime. Even after the restaurant opens, the team plans to dedicate at least one day a week to traveling with the food truck, continuing the mobile service that helped build their brand.

Heards BBQ & Soul Food has become a staple of Bibb County's culinary scene, and this next step is a testament to their commitment, resilience, and community-first spirit.

For more updates on the grand opening, follow Heards BBQ & Soul Food on social media — and get ready to enjoy your favorites at a new, permanent home in Centreville.

## Centreville Study Club Holds Open House for ARC of Tuscaloosa

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS

The Centreville Study Club's Open House for the ARC of Tuscaloosa — Bibb County Program was a huge success. The event was held on Sunday, June 8th at Brent Baptist Church Fellowship Hall with over 60 people in attendance.

Delshonda Thomas - Executive Director, Aleshia Kennedy - Program Coordinator and Tim Green - Program Director all of ARC of Tuscaloosa attended the event and spoke to the crowd about all the many services

offered at the ARC for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. There was a follow up Q & A after each of these individuals spoke. The staff from ARC stayed around and spoke to many parents that were in attendance one on one.

We were entertained by the Sounds of Joy lead by Bibb County's own Vickie Brown. From jazzy big band tunes to old gospel hymns, the Sounds of Joy has performed for organizations throughout Tuscaloosa County and beyond.

The message the choir conveys is clear: Indi-

viduals with intellectual and developmental disabilities possess many abilities. One of our own ARC attendees, Chris Heptinstall, joined in with the group of a couple of their songs.

Everyone enjoyed refreshments and a time of fellowship after the program.




Courtney Doss, Chris Shaaban, Larry Wimberly, Robbie Lewis, Sheryl Carter, Gwen Thomas, Vickie Brown, Director



Centreville Study Club members and ARC staff in attendance. Cynthia Winegard Study Club president, Valerie Cook, Lynn Ellinghausen, Stephanie Kemmer, Christian Sanford, Dover Currie, Tiffany Chandler - Program staff Bibb County, Delshonda Thomas - Director ARC of Tuscaloosa, Pat Terry- Bibb Program staff, Alicia Kennedy- Program Coordinator Tuscaloosa County ARC, Michelle Sanford, Receptionist - Tuscaloosa ARC and Shontae Williams Tuscaloosa ARC staff, Janis Conway and Vickie Brown. Not pictured but in attendance were club members Melanie Murphy and Tammy Morton also in attendance was ARC program director, Tim Green.

# JUNE

## Community Calendar



June 20th-21st – Griffin Farms Rodeo Gates open at 6:00. Rodeo at 8:00 p.m.

June 23 – 25 - 4-H Community Clubs 2025 Summer Camp (ages 9-13)

June 27th: Brierfield Ironworks' FIRST EVER Movie Night! This is a FREE event. We will have food trucks available. Movie will be outdoors, so bring your lawn chairs!

Movie starts at 7pm.

July 4th- Fourth of July Celebration at West Blocton Town Park at 4pm

July 6th- Homecoming at Johntown Baptist Church on July 6, 2025 with special guests. Service & Singing at 10:30 am, Covered Dish Lunch at 12 pm & Afternoon Singing at 1 pm.

July 12th – Celebration on the Green

July 14th-July 18th - 2025 Aquaculture/Aquaponics 101 Teacher Workshop, 8:00am-12:30pm, E.W. Shell Fisheries Center, 2101 N. College St., Auburn, AL 36830

July 25th: Brierfield Ironworks' Movie Night! This is a FREE event! There will be food trucks available. Movie will be outdoors, so bring your lawn chairs! Movie starts at 7pm.

August 22nd: Brierfield Ironworks Movie Night! This is a FREE event. There will be food trucks available. Movie will be outdoors, so bring your lawn chairs! Movie starts at 7pm.

September 5th: Brierfield Ironworks Movie Night! This is a FREE event. There will be food trucks available. Movie will be outdoors, so bring your lawn chairs! Movie starts at 7pm.



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NEWS



Bibb County Children's Theatre Hosted Annual Summer Showcase

**By Ashlyn Partridge**  
On Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, Bibb County Children's Theatre (BCCT) held its annual summer showcase. The showcase was a culmination of BCCT Summer Camp, which was held from June 2<sup>nd</sup> to June 6<sup>th</sup>. This year was the largest Summer Camp group to date, with 67 children ranging in age from 5-15. Throughout the week, the participants sang, danced, played games, and learned more about different as-

pects of theatre. The showcase featured seven songs chosen from shows previously performed by BCCT in honor of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the program, which will occur this year. BCCT would like to thank all of the participants and volunteers for a wonderful week! If your child would like to be involved with Bibb County Children's Theatre, auditions for the winter show, *The Wizard of Oz*, will take place in October 2025.



William Mann MOS Expert



Sydney Bush MOS Expert

Sydney Bush and William Mann Achieve Microsoft Office Specialist Expert Certification

**SPECIAL TO THE PRESS**  
Bibb County Career Academy is proud to announce that Sydney Bush and William "Liam" Mann, students in Mrs. Kendel Johnson's Business Information Technology Program, have earned the coveted Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) Expert certification, demonstrating exceptional proficiency in the Microsoft Office suite of applications. This achievement highlights Sydney and Liam's dedication to developing essential digital literacy skills highly valued in today's workforce.

The MOS Expert certification requires successful completion of basic and expert-level exams in Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Achieving this level signifies advanced knowledge and mastery of these widely used productivity tools, preparing students like Sydney and Liam for success in various professional fields. Sydney and Liam's accomplishments are a testament to their hard work and dedication," said Kendel Johnson. "Mastering these critical skills gives them a significant advantage as they pursue their academic and career goals".

Microsoft Office Specialist certifications are industry-recognized credentials that validate an individual's skills in Microsoft Office applications. Having a MOS Expert certification can boost a resume, improve job security, and potentially lead to higher earning potential.

Sydney and Liam's successful certifications are an example of Bibb County Career Academy's commitment to equipping students with the digital skills needed to thrive in a technology-driven world.



**BY SHEILA DUNCAN  
REPORTER**

It's the event everyone waits for all year—and it's almost here! The **2025 Celebration on the Green** is officially underway and trust us—you don't want to miss it!

What started 13 years ago as a small community fundraiser has blossomed into one of the biggest and most beloved events in town, now welcoming crowds of more than 2,500 attendees. Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 12, 2025, because the green is going to be buzzing with excitement, energy, and plenty of hometown pride! Get ready to dance the night away with performances by local favorites Caleb Orr & Band and the crowd-pleasing Holston Brooks! Bring your lawn chairs and blankets, grab a bite to eat, and enjoy an unforgettable evening under the stars. Follow the mouthwatering aromas to a lineup of food trucks that promise to satisfy every craving. From sweet treats to savory eats, there's something for everyone. Plus,

local vendors will be set up offering unique crafts, gifts, and goodies for all ages. Calling all gearheads! Don't miss the chance to stroll through rows of chrome and horsepower at our fan-favorite car show—perfect for snapping photos and swapping stories with fellow enthusiasts. One of the sweetest sights of the day, the children's patriotic parade is a heartwarming tradition where little ones show off their red, white, and blue spirit. It's a celebration of community, family, and country! And of course... **FIREWORKS!** As the sun sets, the sky will come alive with a spectacular fireworks show guaranteed to wow the crowd and close out the night with a bang! This incredible event is only possible thanks to the generous support of our local businesses, organizations, and community partners. We're inviting YOU to be a part

of the magic by becoming an Official Sponsor of the 2025 Celebration on the Green. Sponsors will receive: Logo placement at sponsored activity or area Stage shout-outs throughout the evening Promotion on social media Vendor booth space for outreach and visibility To lock in your sponsorship and support the community celebration of the summer, please let the library know your commitment by Monday, June 30, 2025. Your donations, sponsorships, and attendance make this event not just possible—but magical. The library and event organizers thank you from the bottom of their hearts and can't wait to celebrate with you on **July 12!** **Come for the fun. Stay for the fireworks. Celebrate with us on the green!**

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**BIDDING:** The Bidding process will be **ONLINE** only through our MarkNet Platform. The Bidding Period **BEGINS** Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup> and **ENDS** Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM.

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LIFESTYLE/NEWS



The Heart of Helping Others

BY WHITNEY BUZBEE  
CP STAFF

“Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.” – Philip-  
pians 2:4 (ESV)

Helping others is not just a kind act—it’s a calling. As followers of Christ, we are invited to live beyond ourselves, to reflect the love of Jesus in both word and deed. In a world that often shouts “look out for number one,” God whispers a different message: serve one another in love.

Be the Example of Jesus

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus models what it means to help others. He didn’t just preach truth—He lived it. He fed the hungry, healed the sick, wept with the grieving, and spent time with the outcast. Helping wasn’t a task on His to-do list; it was part of His heart. When Jesus washed the disciples’ feet (John 13), He demonstrated the humility

and service that should define our lives. He told them, “I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you” (John 13:15). To help others is to walk in the footsteps of our Savior.

Helping others isn’t always convenient. It often means putting our schedules, comfort, or resources aside. But the impact goes far beyond the moment. A simple act of kindness—a meal delivered, a prayer spoken, a listening ear—can soften a heart, open a door, and even lead someone to Christ. When we help others, we embody the Gospel. We become living examples of grace, compassion, and selfless love. It’s not about receiving praise or recognition; it’s about pointing others to the One who helps us all.

You don’t have to solve every problem or fix every situation. Sometimes the most powerful help is found in the smallest gesture.

A smile to a stranger. An encouraging text. A meal to a family in need. A ride to church. These actions, fueled by love, are never wasted.

Galatians 6:9 encourages us: “Let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.” Even when it feels like no one notices, God sees. And He uses every act of kindness for His purpose.

This week I encourage you to think on these questions:

Who in your life could use help, encouragement, or support this week?

What’s one small step you can take today to serve someone else?

How has someone’s kindness impacted your life?

Helping others isn’t just a good deed—it’s a way of life for those who follow Jesus. May we never forget that when we serve others, we are serving Him.



“Jesus Loves Me”: A Beloved Hymn of Childlike Faith

“Jesus Loves Me” is one of the most well-known and cherished Christian hymns of all time. Though often associated with children’s ministries, its message is simple yet profound—declaring the unshakable love of Christ in words that resonate across generations. The hymn’s history is rooted in the 19th century and intertwines with both American literature and music.

The words to “Jesus Loves Me” were first written not as a hymn, but as part of a novel. In 1860, Anna Bartlett Warner penned the lyrics as a poem in Say and Seal, a book she co-authored with her sister, Susan Warner. In the novel, the poem is recited by a Sunday school teacher to comfort a dying child. The tender scene captured readers’ hearts, and so did the simple poem. Anna and Susan Warner were devout Christians who lived on Constitution Island near West Point Military Academy, where they held Bible classes for cadets. Their home is still preserved today as a place of historical and spiritual significance.

The transformation of “Jesus Loves Me” into a hymn occurred shortly

after the novel’s publication. In 1862, renowned composer William Batchelder Bradbury, moved by the poem, wrote the now-familiar melody and added the famous chorus: “Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.”

Bradbury was a key figure in the promotion of gospel music during the 19th century. His contribution turned the poem into a singable, memorable hymn, and it quickly spread in popularity, especially among children’s Sunday school groups.

“Jesus Loves Me” soon became a cornerstone of Christian children’s music, not just in the United States, but around the world. Missionaries used the song to teach children in other languages, and its simple message of Christ’s love made it easy to translate and sing across cultures. The hymn’s power lies in its simplicity. The lyrics are easy to understand, yet they speak profound theological truths: Jesus loves us, He gave His life for us, and the Bible confirms His love. Even in times of hardship, the hymn has brought comfort. It has been sung by

soldiers on battlefields, whispered in hospital rooms, and echoed in churches and homes alike.

In a world full of complexity, the message of “Jesus Loves Me” remains refreshingly clear. It is often one of the first songs children learn, and for many, one of the last songs they remember in old age or illness. Its truth is timeless: God’s love is constant, unchanging, and available to all. Though it began as a simple poem in a forgotten novel, “Jesus Loves Me” endures as a hymn of faith that continues to echo through hearts and generations, reminding us all of the foundational truth of the Christian faith: Jesus loves me—this I know.

Fun Fact: President Dwight D. Eisenhower reportedly requested the hymn “Jesus Loves Me” to be sung at his bedside near the end of his life. This shows how deeply its message has touched people from all walks of life.

Whether sung by a child in Sunday school or a weary soul seeking comfort, “Jesus Loves Me” is more than a children’s tune—it’s a declaration of eternal truth.

BC BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Date: June 10, 2025

Call to order  
Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance  
Roll Call  
Executive Session:  
Personnel

Approval of Agenda  
Financial Report and Bank Reconciliations  
Receive Financials and Bank Reconciliations for May 2025.

Request to approve Bills and Payroll for May 2025.

Receive 2025-2026 salary schedules.

Consent Agenda  
Items-Contracted Services, Bids, Trips, etc.

Receive Electronic Communication Devices Policy ECD-1(11).

Board Meeting  
06/10/2025 - 05:00 PM

Request to approve the purchase of security cameras and equipment for the remaining district facilities, to ClearWinds Technologies. Payment in the amount of \$189,916.57 will be made from A&T funds.

Request to approve payment to Emily Blake for administrative services required for Cahawba Christian Academy tutoring and Bibb County Federal Programs, for 2025-2026 school year. Payment of \$25 per hour, not to exceed \$5,000, will be made from Title I funds.

Request to approve Katelynn Johnson to volunteer to teach routine to majorettes, June 3, 2025, Centreville Middle School.

Consent Agenda  
Items-Personnel

Request to approve the retirement of Phyllis Watkins, Bookkeeper/Receptionist, Bibb County Career Academy, effective August 1, 2025.

Request to approve the resignation of Brookanne Anderson as Assistant Varsity Volleyball Coach, West Blocton High School, effective May 23, 2025.

Request to approve the resignation of Teresa Smotherman as Assistant Middle School Volleyball Coach, West Blocton Middle School, effective June 3, 2025.

Request to approve the resignation of Ashlynn Partridge as Head Middle School Softball Coach, Centreville Middle School, effective May 24, 2025.

Request to approve the transfer of Anita Mathews from Special Education Teacher, Woodstock Elementary School, to Special Education Teacher, Centreville Middle School, effective 2025-2026 school year.

Request to approve the transfer of Courtney Strickland from Teacher, Brent Elementary School, to Teacher, Randolph Elementary School, effective 2025-2026 school year.

Request to approve the transfer of Jessica Hicks from Teacher, Woodstock

Elementary School, to Teacher, West Blocton Elementary School, effective 2025-2026 school year.

Request to approve the transfer of Brenda McRee from Special Education Teacher, West Blocton Middle School, to 1/2 Special Education Teacher, West Blocton Middle School, 1/2 Special Education Teacher, West Blocton High School.

Request to approve the employment of Hayleigh Tingle as Teacher, West Blocton Elementary School, effective 2025-2026 school year.

Request to approve the employment of Amy Rooker as ARI Local Reading Specialist, Woodstock Elementary School, effective 2025-2026 school year.

Request to approve the employment of Rachel Fisher as District Special Education Teacher of the Deaf and Hearing Impaired, effective 2025-2026 school year.

Request to approve the employment of Kayla Howard as District Speech Language Pathologist, effective 2025-2026 school year.

Request to approve Brookanne Anderson as Head Varsity Volleyball Coach, West Blocton High School.

Request to approve Tori Pierson as Assistant Varsity Volleyball Coach, West Blocton High School.

Request to approve Noah Wilder as Assistant Varsity Football Coach, West Blocton High School.

Request to approve David Steele as Assistant Varsity Boys and Assistant Varsity Girls

Basketball Coach, Bibb County High School.

Request to approve the following for Summer Reading/Math Camps:

Request to approve the following volunteers: Regular Agenda Items

Request to approve Tiasha Hamilton as Assistant Principal, Brent Elementary School, effective July 1, 2025.

Request to approve Macy Ryan Phelps as School Based Technology Coordinator, Brent Elementary School.

Request to approve the following for Jump-Start Kindergarten Program, West Blocton El-

ementary School:

Request to approve payment to Reco Dawson to provide summer workouts and conditioning for basketball, June-July 2025, Bibb County High School. Payment of \$2,000 in June and \$2,000 in July will be made from BCHS Basketball Boosters.

Request to approve payment to KC Twist-ers to provide gymnastics instruction for 21st Century CAST, June-July 2025, Bibb County High School. Payment of \$1,200 will be made from BCHS local school funds.

Request to approve payment to Alana Brasher to choreograph, teach routines and instruct color guard camp, June 11, 13, and 23-27, 2025, West Blocton Middle School. Payment of \$600 will be made from WBMS local school funds.

Request to approve payment to Alana Brasher to lead summer color guard practices, July 14, 16, 22, 24, 2025, West Blocton Middle School. Payment of \$200 will be made from WBMS local school funds.

Request to approve payment to Demi Smith to choreograph, teach routines and instruct majorette camp, June 11, 13, and 23-27, 2025, West Blocton Middle School. Payment of \$600 will be made from WBMS local school funds.

Request to approve payment to Demi Smith to lead summer majorette practices, July 14, 16, 22, 24, 2025, West Blocton Middle School. Payment of \$200 will be made from WBMS local school funds.

Information Items  
Called Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 25 at 2:00 PM

Board Work Session: Thursday, July 10 at 10:00 AM

Board Meeting: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 5:00 PM

The Superintendent, based on the recommendation of the local school Principal, has made the following reassignments for the 2025-2026 school year: Randolph Elementary School Brooke Hayes from 4th Grade Teacher to 3rd Grade Teacher

Superintendent Remarks

Request to adjourn

**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.

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Brent 926-9280

Pleasant Sabine Baptist  
Centreville 926-3867

Pondville Baptist  
Brent 926-9211

Randolph Baptist 366-4296

Reno Baptist Church  
Caffee Junction 477-5058

Rising Star Baptist  
Centreville 926-4115

Rehobeth Baptist  
Lawley 663-2907

Schultz Creek Baptist  
West Blocton 938-9766

Shady Grove Baptist  
Randolph 366-1163

Shady Grove II Baptist  
West Blocton 938-0120  
Pastor 834-2557

Shiloh Baptist  
Centreville 926-7041

Six Mile Baptist  
Brierfield

Smith Hill Baptist  
West Blocton 938-2379

Thomas Mill Baptist  
Centreville 926-6882

Union Baptist Church  
722 Magnolia St  
West Blocton

West Blocton First Baptist  
938-7392

**BIBLE**  
Grace Bible  
Woodstock 938-7763

**CATHOLIC**  
Church Of The Holy Spirit  
Tuscaloosa 553-9733

St. Thomas  
The Apostle Church  
Montevallo 663-3936

**CHRISTIAN**  
Marvel Christian Union  
Montevallo 345-7018

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Centreville Church Of Christ  
926-LOVE

North Bibb Church of Christ  
Woodstock 477-6121

West Blocton  
Church of Christ  
West Blocton 938-7108

Evangelist Temple  
Brent 926-6430

**CHURCH OF GOD**  
Church of God of Prophecy  
at Eoline  
256-393-9625  
Pastor Shane Pate

Church Of God Of Prophecy  
West Blocton 938-2788

Caffee Junction Church Of  
God  
205-477-5468

River of Life Church of God  
9225 Hwy 82, Brent  
205-926-7600

West Blocton Church of God  
City Rd. 21 Smith Hill  
205-966-4988

**CHURCH OF THE  
LORD JESUS CHRIST**  
2300 South Scottsville Rd  
Centreville 926-5393

**EPISCOPAL**  
The Church Of The Holy  
Comforter  
Montevallo 665-2769

St. Andrews Episcopal  
Church  
925 Plowman Street  
Montevallo 665-1667

**HOLINESS**  
Deliverance Temple Holiness

Four Points 926-5565

Word of Faith Worship Cen-  
ter  
Centreville 926-4555

Free Will Apostolic Holiness  
Antioch 926-9252

Real Truth Holiness Church  
646 S. Scottsville Road  
Brent 926-5009

Trinity Spirit Holiness Church  
Centreville 926-4321

**METHODIST**  
Brent Bible Methodist  
812-675-1543  
210 4th St. Brent, AL

Brent Methodist  
190 Tabernacle Rd.  
Brent, AL

Pondville Methodist  
9:15 - 10 AM Sundays  
Freindship Rd. • Brent

Friendship Bible Methodist  
Church  
205-225-4000  
Co. Rd. 16 Brent, AL

Ada Chapel Bible  
Methodist Church  
12540 N. Scottsville Rd.  
West Blocton, AL  
513-254-8241

West Blocton Bible  
Methodist Church  
355 Camellia Lane, West  
Blocton  
205.826.5763

Mt. Sinai Church  
Centreville 256-577-8137

James Chapel  
A.M.E. Zion Church  
926-5607

Bible Methodist  
West Blocton 938-0091

Hopewell A.M.E. Zion  
Harrisburg 926-5777

New Hope AME  
West Blocton 540-8016

Tabernacle United Methodist  
Lawley

Waymon Chapel AME  
Brierfield 205-665-4730

West Scottsville  
United Methodist Church  
North Scottsville Road  
451-3624

**NAZARENE**  
Ridgeville Church Of The  
Nazarene  
Brent

Spencer Church Of The  
Nazarene  
Brent

**PENTECOSTAL**  
New Life West Blocton  
Pastor Greg Brock  
205.441.2809

First United Pentecostal  
Church of Centreville

**PRESBYTERIAN**  
Brent Presbyterian P.C.A.  
926-4722

Centreville First  
Presbyterian P.C.A.  
926-4261

Green Pond Presbyterian  
Presbyterian Church Rd  
205-938-2344

Pleasant Hill Upper Cumber-  
land Presbyterian Church  
Centreville 926-4409

**SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**  
First Brent Seventh Day Ad-  
ventist  
926-6328

**NON-DENOMINATIONAL**  
Fellowship Community  
926-6800

Scottsville Union Church  
Co. Rd. 9  
Scottsville 205-503-6096

Victory Tabernacle Church  
1008 Walnut Street •  
Centreville  
926-9455 or 361-2763  
Pastor Butch Tucker

Yahweh's Harvest  
926-9044

The Refreshing Place Church  
24865 Hwy. 5  
Woodstock, AL 35188  
Pastor Wayne Keeton

God's House of Prayer  
489 Co. Rd. 162 (Heiberger)  
Marion, AL 36756  
334-683-4933  
Every Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Sandy Chapel Community  
Church  
926-4934

# OBITUARIES



Tracy Posey Holladay

Tracy Posey Holladay, age 53, of Centreville Alabama passway on Sunday June 8, 2025. Tracy is survived by her loving husband Robert Holladay, one sister Michelle Hawkins of Nectar Alabama (Jeff), step-daughters Brandi Hobson, Lacey Holladay (Eric), grand-daughter Lyric Holladay.

Tracy was a kind hearted, loving soul, who spoke her mind with no filter. She enjoyed hunting, going to the beach, ridding her motorcycle (wing it), and mud ridding. She loved her dog Odessa and her cat Wam-pass. Tracy worked at Mercadeec of Vance Alabama for 5 years.

A celebration of life will be plained for Saturday July 12, 2025 from 2-5 pm at Square One Event 10450 AL-5 Brent, AL. 35034

Found memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at this time as we celebrate Tracy's life as she would have wanted.



Joe Morris Crawford, Jr.

Joe Morris Crawford, JR, age 81, went to be with his Father in Heaven on Sunday, June 15, 2025 in West Blocton, Alabama.

A visitation will be held for Morris on Friday, June 20, 2025 from 11:00-1:00 at Schultz Creek Baptist Church in West Blocton, Alabama. A funeral service will be held following at 1:00. Burial will be in the adjoining cemetery. Brother Roasco Kornegay is officiating.

Morris Crawford was born on April 30, 1944 in Bessemer, Alabama. He was preceded in the death by his beloved parents, Joe & Marguerite Crawford and his in-laws, Readus & Lenora Morrison.

He is survived by his high school sweetheart and the love his life, wife of 60 years, Janet Morrison Crawford, his daughter Marcie Boothe, Son-in-Law Kyle Boothe, Son JJ Crawford and his grandsons Gauge, Brody, Mason and Kaleb Boothe.

Morris graduated from Bessemer High School in 1962 and went on to graduate from Samford University in 1967 with a BS in Pharmacy. He practiced pharmacy for 50 years with 25 years with CVS Pharmacy in Centreville, Alabama where he was known as "Mr. Morris". He loved practicing pharmacy and always referred to it as a calling from God, not a job.

After graduating from Samford in 1967 he joined the 117th Air National Guard in Birmingham where he served as Pharmacist and medic for 6 years.

Morris loved God and had a beautiful voice. He will be remembered for his many gospel solos, and his time in quartets. He was ordained as a Deacon of Woodstock Baptist Church in 1992 and later served at Schultz Creek Baptist Church.

Pallbearers will be Gary Blake, Kyle Boothe, Gauge Boothe, Brody Boothe, Mason Boothe and Kaleb Boothe.

Honorary Pallbearers: Deacons of Schultz Creek and Woodstock Baptist. River Bend and Schultz Creek Community.

Special thanks to Morris's caregiver team, Amedisys, Hospice of Tuscaloosa, Ms. Ann, Jessica, Haley, Leigh and Bro Ron.

Special caregiver friends Scott Lightsey and Jim & Dianna McSpadden

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## West Eoline News

From The Pen Of Jane Hannah

Jayne & Bill Hornsby, from Hueytown visited with me June 10th. Bill and I worked together for almost 20 years at Dixie Electrical Mfg. Co. in Pinson. Our families visited over the years, and we have kept in touch. I enjoyed our time together. "catching up".

Mike and Brenda Vessels visited Uncle Wayne Deason and Aunt Geneva Mullins, LaShelle, Ronnie & Kaydi Kinney Friday, the 13th. On Saturday Donna Glidewell and Carly Garcia visited with them at Jo Kitchen's. Baby Olive and big brother Judah entertained them all.

I drove to Ocean Isle Beach, NC June 14th, for a week with Jera & Alan Fortner and Addison & Avery Roper. It is wonderful to be asked to share the fun with fam-

ily.

Jo Kitchen loves keeping her great granddaughter, Olive Eleanor Garcia several days every week. This will end when she starts daycare, in the meantime, Jo is enjoying this special time.

Thinking of my son Joel who would have celebrated his 60th birthday on June 26th. I miss him every day, but am thankful for the 55 years of sharing his life. I am blessed to have my daughter, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Life is good. God is good all the time.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** 6-20 Bonnie LeVert, 6-25 Carolyn Hallford, 6-27 Phil Hannah & Meg Cottingham.

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

## Centreville News

From The Pen Of Brenda Hubbard

The BCHS Class of 1961 recently had their June monthly breakfast.

Anniversary wishes go out to Bill and Robin Patridge who recently celebrated their 52<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary.

Charlotte West, Pam Long and Fran Deason had lunch at the Blue Plate on Monday recently. The occasion was to celebrate Pam's birthday that was on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. They enjoyed delicious food and catching up with all.

Get well wishes and prayers continue to go out to Jason Corley.

Birthday wishes go out to Bryson Corley who celebrated his 9<sup>th</sup> birthday with a party on Saturday, June 14, 2025. Happy Birthday Bryson!

Among those having birthdays in June are Neysa McGee, Karen Hicks Smith, Carol J. Belcher, Dyllan Suttle, Karin Caffee Maas, Rance Gallo-way, Luquita Burns, Melinda Payne,

Quack Lawrence, Mandy Nix, Lori Lynn Stripling, Willie Frank Mitchel and Logan Pipher.

Get well wishes and prayers go out to Kaley Whaley who recently underwent surgery at UAB.

Patricia Caddis has returned home after spending a week within daughter Rebecca and Family in Arizona.

Congratulations to Aubrey Franklin of Centreville who was named to University of Alabama Spring 2025 Deans List.

David Perry spent Wednesday recently with his grandmother Charlotte Lovelady West.

We wish to extend sympathy to the family of Mr. John Crews who passed away.

If you have news call it in at 205-316-1181.

Take Care and God Bless!

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**Night (205) 926-7196**

Highway 82 Centreville, AL  
926-926-4851

God's House of Prayer  
489 Co. Rd. 162 (Heiberger)  
Marion, AL 36756  
334-683-4933  
Every Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Sandy Chapel Community  
Church  
926-4934

**FOOD LAND**

"Your Hometown Grocery Store"

20000 Hwy. 11  
Woodstock, Alabama  
205-938-2991

**Associated Foods**

**Saymor Food Outlet**

205-926-7446  
Highway 26 at 82  
Brent, AL

**Rockco Funeral Homes**

*We have a simple goal: to continuously provide services to meet the individual needs of your family and ensure you are comfortable and secure during this emotional time.*

805 Birmingham Rd.  
Centreville, AL  
205.926.4876  
[www.rockcofuneralhomes.com](http://www.rockcofuneralhomes.com)



# ALABAMA LEGAL JOURNAL

## STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED NETWORK

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

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Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase\*

Call 1-877-323-5516 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Safe Step. North Americas #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-871-6175

AGING ROOF? NEW HOMEOWNER? STORM DAMAGE? You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call 1-833-465-2704

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Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-877-817-4697 www.dental50plus.com/alabama #6258

Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-833-426-0193 today!

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waiving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 6/30/25.) Call 1-877-205-0836

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off installation + Additional

10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-833-887-1317 AUTOMOTIVE

GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC HEARTS. Fast free pick up. Patriotic Hearts' programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 1-833-426-0193

### NOTICE

**Brent Garden Apartments – One Bedroom Available Now Elderly Community – Ask about the qualifications. Maintenance free living, with nice amenities. Come in and apply today. Office Hours Monday - Friday 8:00 AM – 2:30 PM 57 Steele Street; Centreville AL 35042 (205) 926-7547. 6/27**

### PROBATE NOTICE

**In the Probate Court of Bibb County, Alabama**  
**In Re: The estate of Jimmy Aaron Boothe, deceased**  
**Case No. 2025PC035**  
**Notice of Hearing**  
Take notice that a hearing shall be held on the Petition for Administration filed by the Petitioner, Jimmy Wayne Boothe, in the estate of Jimmy Aaron Boothe, deceased, 6-11-2025 at 10:am the hearing shall be held in the Bibb County Probate Office3, 8

Court Square West Suite A, Centreville, Alabama 35042.  
Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May 2025.  
Honorable Jerry pow  
Probate Judge by Special Appointment  
Richard M. Kemmer, Jr. P.C.  
Attorney for the Administrator  
1124 walnut Street  
Centreville, AL 35042  
Centreville Press  
June 20, 27 & July 4, 2025

**In the Probate Court of Bibb County, Alabama**  
**In Re: The estate of Robert W. Rogers, Jr. Deceased**  
**Case No.2025PC039**  
**Notice to Creditors**  
Take Notice that Letters of Administration having been granted to Robert W. Rogers, III as Administrator/trix of the estate of Robert W. Rogers, Jr., on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of May of 2025, by the Honorable Judge of Probate of Bibb County, Alabama.

Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.  
Robert W. Rogers III  
Administrator/trix for the estate of  
Robert W. Rogers, Jr. Deceased  
The Redd Law Firm, PC  
5343 Old Springville Road  
Pinson, AL 35126  
Centreville Press  
June 6, 13 & 20, 2025

**In the Probate Court of Bibb County, Alabama**  
**In the matter of the estate of:**  
**Bernard Henderson II, Deceased**  
**Case No. 2025PC041**  
**Publication Notice**  
Letters Testamentary of said deceased, Bernard Henderson II having been granted to James Michael Elam on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025, by the Hon. Stephanie W. Kemmer,

Judge of the Probate Court of Bibb County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.  
James Michael Elam  
Michael L. Murphy  
Attorney at Law  
44 Court Square East  
PO Box 38  
Centreville, Al 35042  
Centreville Press  
June 13, 20 & 27, 2025

### NOTICE OF SALE

**Notice of Public Sale**  
Icon Motor Group gives notice of foreclosure of lien and intent to sell these vehicles on July 15, 2025 at 10:00am at 20714 US-11 North Woodstock, AL 35188, pursuant to subsection 32.13.3 of the Alabama Statutes. Icon Motor Group reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or

all bids.  
2016 Hyundai Sonata Vin# 5NPE34AF-9GH303816  
2015 Kia Optima Vin# 5XXGM4A70FG430687  
2016 Chevrolet Camaro Vin# 1GFH1R71G0129764  
2009 Toyota Corolla Vin# 1NXBU40E99Z033046  
Centreville Press  
June 20 & 27, 2025

**Notice of Public Sale**  
Hometown Towing and Recovery, LLC gives notice of foreclosure of lien and intent to sell these vehicles on July 27, 2025 at 10:00am at 54 Norman Dr. Woodstock, AL 35188-3941, pursuant to subsection 32.13.3 of the

Alabama Statutes. Hometown Towing and Recovery LLC reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.  
2010 Toyota 4T1B-F3EK0AU564711  
Centreville Press  
June 20 & 27, 2025

**Notice of Public Sale**  
Hometown Towing and Recovery, LLC gives notice of foreclosure of lien and intent to sell these vehicles on August 2, 2025 at 10:00am at 54 Norman Dr. Woodstock, AL 35188-3941, pursuant to subsec-

tion 32.13.3 of the Alabama Statutes. Hometown Towing and Recovery LLC reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.  
2002 Ford 1FMZU-65W32UD03194  
Centreville Press  
June 20 & 27, 2025

### Vehicle Title Problem? We have a Solution!

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### MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

#### NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER FORECLOSURE NOTICE

WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms and conditions of a mortgage from SHANISHA L. BRAY, UNMARRIED WOMAN AND LARRY ABERCROMBIE, UNMARRIED MAN to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS INC. AS MORTGAGEE, AS NOMINEE FOR HAMILTON MORTGAGE CORPORATION., on the 18th day of July, 2024, said mortgage recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Bibb County, Alabama, on July 30, 2024, in Deed/ Mortgage Book 2024, Page 5687, Bibb County, Alabama Records, said Mortgage having subsequently been transferred and assigned to NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, by instrument recorded in the aforesaid Probate Office; notice is hereby given that the undersigned NewRez LLC d/b/a

Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, 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 at the front steps of the Bibb County Courthouse located at 35 Court Square East, Centreville, AL 35042 in Centreville, Bibb County, Alabama, on July 15, 2025, during the legal hours of sale, all of its right, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate, situated in Bibb County, Alabama, to-wit: LOT 6, ACCORDING TO THE SURVEY OF HOLLY HILLS, PHASE 1, AS RECORDED IN MAP BOOK 3, PAGE 19, IN THE OFFICE OF THE JUDGE OF PROBATE OF BIBB COUNTY, ALABAMA. Said legal description being controlling, however the property is more commonly known as 74 HOLLY LANE, CENTREVILLE, AL 35042. Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the

right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process. This property will be sold on an "as is, where is" basis, subject to any easements, encumbrances, and exceptions reflected in the mortgage and those contained in the records of the Office of the Judge of Probate in the county where the above-described property is situated. This property will be sold subject to the right of redemption of all parties entitled thereto and subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not now due and payable). This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. 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. NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, Mortgagee/Transferee  
THE BELOW LAW FIRM MAY BE HELD TO BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, UNDER FEDERAL LAW. IF SO, ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.  
Rubin Lublin, LLC, Attorney for Mortgagee/Transferee  
3145 Avalon Ridge Place, Suite 100, Peachtree Corners, GA 30071  
Telephone Number: (877) 813-0992 Case No. SHP-25-02390-1  
Ad Run Dates: 06/13/2025, 06/20/2025, 06/27/2025  
rslselaw.com/property-listing  
Centreville Press  
June 13, 20 & 27, 2025

### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

#### TOWN OF WOODSTOCK PUBLIC NOTICE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS MUNICIPAL ROAD PAVING PROJECT #3

Sealed bids for the "Municipal Road Paving Project #3" will be received by the Town of Woodstock at Woodstock Town Hall, located at 28513 Highway 5, Woodstock, Alabama 35188, until 5:00 P.M. CST on Monday, July 7, 2025, and then publicly opened and read aloud in Council chambers, Woodstock Town Hall, at 5:00 P.M. Bids received either by hand delivery or mail after the specified date and time will not be considered.  
A mandatory site visit is required to bid on the project. Contact the Building Inspector (205) 331-2448; (inspector@townofwoodstock.com) to schedule the site visit.  
Bids should be returned in a sealed envelope clearly labeled, "Municipal Road Paving Project #3", Town of Woodstock, Alabama, and return ad-

dressed to:  
Town Clerk  
Town of Woodstock 28513 Highway 5  
Woodstock, AL 35188  
Municipal Road Paving  
The project consists of furnishing all labor, tools, materials, and equipment for milling, paving, road repairs, and resurfacing a portion of one (1) residential street within the Town of Woodstock: Shamblin Woods Road Inspection of the site prior to submitting the bid is mandatory.  
All bids must be on bid forms provided in the Specifications and submitted in their entirety. A certified check or bond payable to the Town of Woodstock for not less than five percent (5%) of the bid amount, not to exceed \$10,000.00, must accompany each proposal.  
Workmen's Compensation, Public Liability and Property Damage Insurance, Performance, Labor and Material Bonds & Town of Woodstock

Business License will be required.  
Bid documents may be examined at the Office of Building Inspector, Woodstock Town Hall, located at 28513 Highway 5, Woodstock, Alabama 35188, phone number (205) 331-2448; inspector@townofwoodstock.com.  
No bids will be considered unless the bidder, whether resident or non-resident of Alabama, is properly qualified to submit a bid for this construction in accordance with all applicable laws of the State of Alabama. This shall include evidence of holding a current license from the State Licensing Board for General Contractors, Montgomery, Alabama, as required by Chapter 8 of Title 34, of the Code of Alabama, 1975. In addition, non-residents of the State, if a corporation, shall show evidence of having qualified with the Secretary of State to do business in the State of Alabama. Each bidder must be prequalified

with the Alabama Department of Transportation and shall be responsible for knowledge of and compliance with the Alabama Public Works Bid Law, Alabama Code Section 39-1-1, et seq. Bids will be received from experienced contractors who have successfully completed projects of similar scope.  
In addition, bids shall be clearly identified on the exterior of the package with the bidder's name, address, the name of the project being bid, and time and place of the bid opening. No bid may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for receipt of bids for a period of sixty (60) days. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive technical errors if the best interest of the owner will thereby be promoted. All bids received after the date and time of the bid opening noted above will be returned unopened.  
Centreville Press  
June 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2025

### SOLICITATION OF BIDS

#### SOLICITATION OF BIDS FOR RECREATIONAL USE LIMITED LICENSES THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

The University of Alabama is soliciting bids for the recreational use limited license on selected tracts of land located in Bibb, Fayette, Jefferson, Shelby, Tuscaloosa, and Walker Counties in Alabama. Offers for the Recreational Use Licenses must be submitted by sealed bids which will be publicly opened and read aloud at 1:00 pm (CDT) on June 24, 2025, at the Office of University of Lands and Real Estate Services, 1115 14th Street, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401. All bids must be received in the Office of University Lands and Real Estate Services, prior to the bid opening time, to be considered. Recreational Use Licenses include hunting, horseback riding, hiking,

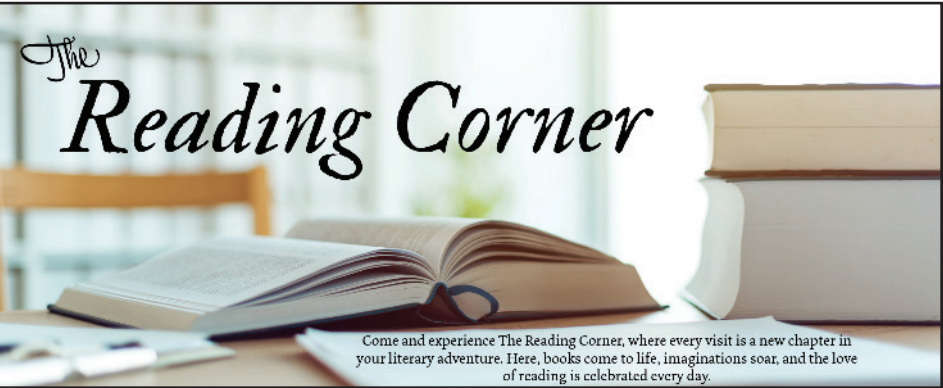
camping, mountain biking, etc.  
All information on this year's tracts can be found online at the following address: https://universitylands.ua.edu/bids/ or you may contact the Office of University Lands and Real Estate Services at (205) 348-3510.  
Only bids which are submitted on the bid form prepared by the Office of University Lands and Real Estate Services will be considered. Bidders submitting bids on more than (1) one tract should print all pages of the bid form and submit a separate bid for each tract. If a bid is mailed, the bid should be posted in sufficient time to ensure its receipt prior to the bid submission deadline of 1:00 pm (CDT), June 24, 2025. The mailing address for bid submission is The University of Alabama, Attn: Office of Uni-

versity Lands and Real Estate Services, Box 870176, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0176. Mailed bids should be marked "Recreational Bid 06-24-2025 – with the County and Tract you are bidding on in the lower left-hand corner of the envelope for bid security. Bid forms can be emailed to the following email address: bmf@ua.edu but must be received by the deadline of 1:00 pm (CDT), June 24, 2025.  
Successful bidders will be required to carry comprehensive general liability insurance with limits of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence for bodily injury and \$1,000,000 per occurrence for property damage. Each bidder will be required to add the University as an additional named insured on all insurance policies. The certificate of insurance will be required upon the execution of the

agreement.  
Term of the recreational use license will be one (1) year and with the University's consent renewable for nine (9) renewal terms of one (1) year each. The annual fee will be due upon signing the agreement, with a 20% deposit due within five (5) business days of Acceptance of the winning bid. The annual fee for each renewal term will increase by two-and-one-half percent (2½%) above the prior year's fee, each subsequent year of renewal.  
Minimum bid per acre is \$5.00. Bids below this figure will be rejected. The University reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities. Sub-leasing by the high bidders to another individual will not be allowed.  
Centreville Press  
May 30, June 6, 13 & 20, 2025



LIFESTYLE



THE HISTORY OF THE WEST BLOCTON COKE OVENS: ALABAMA'S INDUSTRIAL PAST PRESERVED

BY WHITNEY BUZBEE  
REPORTER

Nestled in the heart of Bibb County, Alabama, the West Blocton Coke Ovens stand as a striking reminder of the area's once-booming coal and iron industry. These now-silent brick structures once roared with fire and smoke, producing the coke that fueled Alabama's steel industry during its rise in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Today, the site is a cherished historical park—an educational resource and a symbol of the hardworking people who helped shape the region's industrial legacy.

Coke is a fuel made by heating bituminous coal in the absence of air, driving off volatile compounds and leaving behind a carbon-rich material. This process, known as "coking," produces a substance that burns hotter and cleaner than raw coal, making it ideal for use in iron and steel production. Beehive coke ovens, like those found in West Blocton, were commonly used during the 1800s. Shaped like domes and built of brick, each oven was loaded with coal and sealed while being burned for days. Workers then cooled the ovens and removed the hardened coke.

West Blocton was established in the late 1800s as part of the Bibb County coal boom, spurred by the growing

demand for iron and steel in nearby Birmingham, which was quickly becoming a Southern industrial hub. Rich coal seams in the Cahaba Coal Field brought mining companies to the region, and towns like West Blocton sprang up to support the growing workforce.

The coke ovens were built along the hillside near town and operated by various coal companies, including the Woodward Iron Company. At its peak, West Blocton had over 400 ovens, supplying high-quality coke for furnaces in Birmingham. The ovens burned around the clock, and the town thrived with miners, merchants, and families who depended on the industry. The work at the ovens was grueling and dangerous. Laborers—many of them immigrants from Eastern Europe, Italy, and African American workers from the South—endured long hours in extreme heat and toxic fumes. Yet out of this hardship, a strong and diverse community formed. West Blocton grew to include churches, schools, shops, and a vibrant town life. The coke ovens provided steady employment for decades, helping fuel not just industry but also the hopes and dreams of generations of working families.

By the mid-20th century, the demand for beehive coke declined. New technologies made the

old methods obsolete, and many smaller coke operations shut down. The West Blocton ovens, once a vital industrial site, were abandoned and fell into disrepair. In the 1990s, recognizing their historical significance, local residents and preservationists launched efforts to save the site. The West Blocton Coke Ovens Park was established, restoring a portion of the ovens and creating a walking trail and interpretive signs for visitors.

Thanks to community dedication, the site is now a peaceful natural area where visitors can explore the ovens, walk through the woods, and learn about the town's industrial past. Each year, the park also hosts events like the Cahaba Lily Festival, connecting history, nature, and community. The West Blocton Coke Ovens represent more than just an industrial relic—they are a testament to Alabama's role in America's steel-making era, a memorial to the laborers who powered progress, and a preserved piece of a proud town's heritage.

As you walk among the moss-covered bricks and peer into the arched chambers once filled with fire, you step into a story of grit, growth, and resilience. The ovens may be silent now, but they still speak—of history, of hard work, and of the community that rose around them.



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.

Mr. Jim Oakley, Sr., Editor  
The Centreville Press Centreville, Alabama

Dear Mr. Oakley:  
I read a piece in your paper a few weeks ago about the early shipping of cotton down the Cahaba River. I believe my father Josiah Lightsey was the first to transport cotton down the Cahaba River by boat. I know he was married on December 24, 1855 and had to leave on his boat the next day as the river was rising and was high enough to get his cotton boat over the shoals.

I'm quite sure that trip was not his first. He was 44 years old when he married and he was in the cotton shipping business before he was married. He built his cotton boats on the bank of the river on the Uncle Bill Logan place, because the water was deep there, and he had to have deep water to turn the boat in.

The bottom was built first, bottom up. It was securely corked with a roll of cotton, then thoroughly pitched with pine tar. I can remember watching him make the tar from very rich pine splinters, then the bottom of the boat was pushed into the deep water and turned over. The boat

was finished in the river, then securely tied up to wait for high water, and he would stop at each big cotton farm and load the cotton bales.

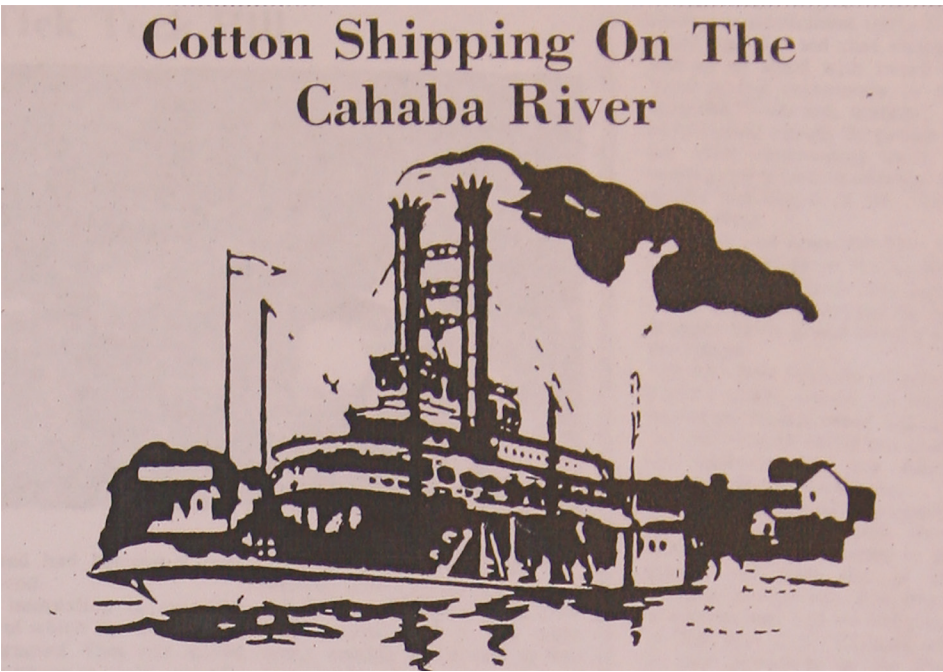
The boat was guided by two large oars, propelled by man power. They didn't have

such things as motor power in those days. Father suffered a stroke in 1885 and was never able to make another trip down the Cahaba River, but every year he wanted to go. It had been his life for so many years. He didn't want to give it up. Sometimes he sold his cotton at Selma, but other times he went on to the mouth of the Cahaba to

await a steam boat to tow his boat on to Mobile. Father was a subscriber to The

Bibb Blade as far back as I can remember (and I'll be ,85 in August of this year). He continued to take the county pass until his death in 1899. He was the oldest of 12 children and outlived them all. I am the only one of the children living.

Sincerely,  
Suzanna (Lightsey) Odom  
West Blocton, Alabama.



LEGALS

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Under and by virtue of the powers contained in certain mortgage executed by MARK OWENS and wife, KIRSTIN OWENS, to JEFF RUSSELL, dated July 1, 2024, recorded under RPB Book 2024 Page 4860, in the Probate Office of Bibb County, Alabama, default having been made in payment of the indebtedness secured by said mortgage and in the performance of the terms of said mortgage, the undersigned, having declared due and payable the entire indebtedness secured by said mortgage, will, within the legal hours of sale on July 14, 2025, sell at public auction to the

highest bidder for cash at the Court Square East entrance of the Bibb County Courthouse at Centreville, Alabama, the following described real estate, situated in BIBB COUNTY, ALABAMA:

A parcel of land containing 050 acres, located in the NW ¼ of the NW ¼, Section 15, Township 22 South, Range 6 West, Bibb County, Alabama, described as follows:

Commence at the Northeast corner of said ¼-¼ section and run South 0 degrees 19 minutes 23 seconds West along the East boundary 167.50 feet to an iron pin, said point being the point of beginning; thence continue on the same line

167.54 feet; thence run North 89 degrees 57 minutes 39 seconds West 130.0 feet; thence run North 0 degrees 19 minutes 23 seconds East parallel to the East boundary of said ¼-¼ section 167.54 feet to an iron pin; thence run South 89 degrees 57 minutes 39 seconds East 130.0 feet to the point of beginning, subject to an easement 25 feet in width along the East boundary.

ADDRESS: 29 Stormi Lane, West Blocton, AL 35184

Source of Title (Mortgage): RPB Book 2024, PG 4860, Probate Office of Bibb County, Alabama

Alabama law gives some persons who have an inter-

est 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 proceeds of said sale shall be distributed and applied in accordance with the terms of said mortgage.

JEFF RUSSELL  
ROBERT SCOTT DOOLEY, P.C.

Attorney for Mortgagee  
118 18<sup>th</sup> Street North  
Bessemer, Alabama  
35020  
CENTREVILLE PRESS  
June 13, 20 & 27, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Brent, AL will hold a public hearing on Monday July 7, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. at Brent City Hall to discuss the city's submission of a formal amendment to the city's CDBG Sewer Rehabilitation grant project #LR-CM-PF-22-013.

The project amendment is to include additional sewer improvements not included in the original sewer improvement project and to use the remaining CBDG grant funds and local matching funds for the sewer rehabilitation improvements. The new sewer improvement project

area will require household surveys, project administration, engineering design and inspection, project monitoring and closeout. The city needs as much local participation as possible to reflect the true desires of the community, as well as the comments relating to the proposed project amendments.

For more information, or if you require any special accommodation at the hearing, contact Ms. Rosalyn Adams, Brent City Hall at 205-926-4643.

Bobbie White.  
Mayor  
City of Brent  
Centreville Press  
June 20, 2025

VACCINATION IS KEY! Prevent Cervical Cancer

CHILDREN Between 9 and 12 years of age 2 Doses

ADOLESCENTS Between 13 and 14 years of age 2 Doses

ADOLESCENTS AND ADULTS Between 15 and 26 years of age 3 Doses

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- Has no long-term side effects

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

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

QR code



LEGALS

PUBLIC HEARING

LEGAL NOTICE  
TO WHOM IT MAY  
CONCERN:

Notice is hereby given that a hearing will be held before the Department of Finance of the State of Alabama at the State Capitol, Room E-317, located at 600 Dexter Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama, at 10 A.M. on June 26, 2025, to determine whether consent should be given Central Alabama Electric Cooperative

(“CAEC”) to borrow from the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation a loan in a maximum principal amount of \$20,000,000 to finance, when incurred, storm damage and disaster recovery expenses to Petitioner’s electric distribution system and related fiber optic system.

All of said loan funds will be used to finance storm damage and disaster recovery ex-

penses, when incurred, relating to poles, wires, transformers, security lights, AMI equipment, substations, fiber optic cable, and other electric and fiber optic facilities and the related labor costs and other capital expenditures in the Counties of Autauga, Bibb, Chilton, Coosa, Dallas, Elmore, Lowndes, Perry, Talladega and Tallapoosa, Alabama.

Any person having an interest in these

matters may attend the hearing and be heard on the question of whether the issuance of said note and evidences of indebtedness for the loan serves some public need and is in the public interest.

STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE  
BILL POOLE  
Director of Finance  
Centreville Press  
June 20, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE  
OF PROPOSED  
AMENDMENT TO  
ZONING ORDINANCE

BE IT KNOWN TO ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS that the City of Centreville, upon the recommendation of the Zoning Board of the City of Centreville proposes to amend the zoning ordinance of the City of

Centreville by amending the B2 zoning designation to allow the inclusion of mixed use occupancy which allows retail or business use of the first floor of a building and residential use of the upper floors and the rear portion of first floor of a building. The City Council of the City of Centreville will hold a public hearing to address any con-

cerns regarding addition of mixed use occupancy of property zoned B2 according to the Centreville zoning ordinance on July 15, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. The hearing will be held at Centreville City Hall located at 1270 Walnut Street, Centreville, Alabama.

A copy of the proposed ordinance is available for inspection during regular business hours at Centreville City Hall.

All persons in favor or in opposition of the proposed rezoning shall be heard at the public hearing.

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

Tracy Griffin  
CITY CLERK  
Centreville Press  
June 20, 27 & July 4, 2025

BRENT  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
SEALED BIDS

The Brent Police Department will be accepting sealed bids on the following:

2016 Ford Explorer  
VIN#1FM5K8AR8GGB19424  
with minimum bid starting at \$2000.00

Bids will be accepted at the Brent City Hall until July 15, 2025 at 4:30pm

Utilities Board City of Brent – 2025 Safe Drinking Water Report

Board of Directors  
Danny Russell, Chairman  
Jerry Averette  
Jerry Conway  
Elaine Stoudemire Jones  
Roberta Lawrence

P.O. Box 220  
Brent, AL 35034  
(205) 926-4643

Bobbie White, Mayor

Hours:  
Weekdays (except Wednesday)  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM  
Wednesday  
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

PWSID: 0000091

We are pleased to present to you this year’s Safe Drinking Water Report. This report shows you the high quality of water and service we deliver as your utilities board. Our goal is to always provide safe and dependable drinking water and we are pleased to report another successful year. We want you to understand our commitment to continually improving and protecting our water resources.

The Brent Utilities Board is located in the town of Brent, approximately 50 miles south-southwest of Birmingham and serves residents of Bibb County, Alabama. Our water is treated well water of the highest quality and meets all standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. Our wells are sourced in the Knox Aquifer found in northern and central Alabama. The Knox Aquifer is composed of thick-bedded dolomite that is interbedded with limestone and chert. An assessment of our source water (wellhead protection) has been prepared. A copy of the assessment may be requested at our office. Our well water is chlorinated for disinfection prior to distribution. Well no. 4 is also aerated.

We routinely monitor the quality of your water as it relates to treatment and delivery to your home. Public water systems must monitor over 75 contaminants. The table provided summarizes the results. Please note that a detected contaminant does not mean a health risk is present, it simply means that it was detected in the tests. Only contaminants in excess of the MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level) are considered a violation. The table shows the results for our monitoring for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2024, or data from the most recent testing done in accordance with applicable regulations.

MCL’s are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. **More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.** The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material, and it can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Utilities Board City of Brent is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Based on a study conducted by ADEM with the approval of the EPA a statewide waiver for the monitoring of asbestos and dioxin was issued. Thus, monitoring for these contaminants was not required.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. People who are immunocompromised such as cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy, organ transplant recipients, HIV/AIDS positive or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. People at risk should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

In compliance with our Vulnerability Assessment Policy, we ask that you please be vigilant and report any suspicious activity especially around pumping stations, water tanks, and wells.

If you have any questions about this report or the quality of your water, please contact Mr. David Tucker at (205) 926-4643. We value the input of our customers and invite you to attend our regularly scheduled board meetings each second Monday at 6:00 PM in the City Hall. Please note that a copy of this report will not be mailed to each customer.

List of Detected Contaminants in Our System

Contaminant	Violation?	Level Detected Well No 4; 5; 6	Unit of Measure	MCL/ MRDL	MCLG/ MRDLG	Likely Source of Contaminant
Total Dissolved Solids	No	ND; 123; ND	ppm	500	none	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	No	ND	ppm	250	none	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	No	0.69; 0.33; 0.27	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate	No	ND	ppm	500	500	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	No	ND	ppm	4.0	4.0	Erosion of Natural Deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Iron	No	ND	ppm	.30	none	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	No	ND; 0.018; ND	ppm	2.0	2.0	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Alpha emitters	No	0.965±1.24; -0.419±0.895; 2.51±1.76	pCi/L	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium	No	0.413±0.313; 0.36±0.337; 0.246±0.292	pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Tetrachloroethylene	No	1.6 (ND - 1.6); ND; ND	ppb	5	0	Leaching from PVC pipes; discharge from factories and dry cleaners
Total Coliform Bacteria	No	ND	n/a	>5% of samples	0	Naturally present in the environment
Lead	No	ND(ND-0.0048)	ppm	0.015	0	Corrosion of household plumbing system; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	No	0.12(0.0088-0.15)	ppm	1.3 (action level)	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing system; erosion of natural deposits

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT  
MONITORING RULE NUMBER 5 (UCMR5)

The Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) requires monitoring by certain water systems for 30 unregulated contaminants during 2022-2026 on assigned schedules. UCMR5 specifies monitoring for 29 PFAS and one metal (lithium). Our recent sampling on 1-10-2023, 3-1-2023, 7-17-2023, and 9-11-2023 yielded no detections of the 30 contaminants. For more information please refer to <https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr>.

UCMR5 Chemicals			UCMR5 Chemicals		
Analyte	MRL	Highest Level Detected	Analyte	MRL	Highest Level Detected
PFTyDA	0.0064 ppb	ND	PFHxA	0.0030 ppb	ND
NETFOSSA	0.0045 ppb	ND	ADONA	0.0030 ppb	ND
NMEFOSSA	0.0054 ppb	ND	PFPeS	0.0040 ppb	ND
PFTeDA	0.0073 ppb	ND	6:2 FTS	0.0050 ppb	ND
PFBA	0.0050 ppb	ND	PFOA	0.0040 ppb	ND
PFMPA	0.0040 ppb	ND	PFHpS	0.0030 ppb	ND
PFPeA	0.0030 ppb	ND	PFOS	0.0040 ppb	ND
PFBS	0.0030 ppb	ND	PFNA	0.0040 ppb	ND
PFMBA	0.0030 ppb	ND	9CI-PF3ONS	0.0020 ppb	ND
PFEESA	0.0030 ppb	ND	8:2FTS	0.0050 ppb	ND
HFPO-DA	0.0050 ppb	ND	PFDA	0.0030 ppb	ND
NFDHA	0.020 ppb	ND	PFUnA	0.0020 ppb	ND
4:2 FTS	0.0030 ppb	ND	11ICI-PF3OUIS	0.0050 ppb	ND
PFHxS	0.0030 ppb	ND	PFDoA	0.0030 ppb	ND
PFHpA	0.0030 ppb	ND	Lithium	9.00 ppb	ND



# AUTISM CLUB

PHOTOS BY RYAN THOMPSON



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Volleyball Camp	June 16th - 20th	8 - 18	8:00am - 12:00pm	Marilyn Jones
Soccer Camp	July 7th-11th	4 - 14	9:00am-12:00pm	UK International
Tumbling & Cheer	July 14th-18th	4 - 12	8:00am-12:00pm	Kessa Steele
Basketball Camp	July 21st-25th	4-14	8:00am- 12:00pm	Jamesio Rhine

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☒ **ACT: 18 OR HIGHER**

☒ Applicant must be eligible to enroll in or have  
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B.) BIO 201 during the first term of nursing  
courses (BIO 103 is a pre-requisite to BIO 201).

APPLICATION DEADLINE:  
**JULY 5TH**



