Centreville Dress

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LET US KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

205.926.9769 | editor@centrevillepress.com







New Basketball Court Brings Fresh Energy to West Blocton

BY SHEILA DUNCAN REPORTER

West Blocton has something new to celebrate — a brand-new basketball court is now open and ready for action! This exciting addition gives local youth and families a safe, modern space to play, gather, and enjoy outdoor fun together.

A ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate their newly renovated basketball court, made possible with funds awarded by Tombigbee RC&D. We were joined by Senator April Weaver and Bedsole.

The court features a smooth surface, solar-powered lights making it safer and more enjoyable for players of all ages, full-size goals, and clearly marked lines, making it perfect for pickup games, practice sessions, and even future tournaments. It's conveniently located for easy access and will serve as a community hub for recreation and events

Residents are already enjoying the court, and local leaders hope it will inspire more healthy activities, stronger connections, and pride in the town. Whether you're a seasoned player or just want to shoot a few hoops with friends, the new basketball court in West Blocton is open for evervone.

This project is a big win for the community — and just the beginning of more good things to come.





July 28th-29th: ServSafe Managers Course 9:30 A.M. – 3:30 A.M. at Centreville Middle School. For Fees and Info contact Alice Moore at (334) 216-0738 or the Bibb County Extension Office at (205) 926-4310.

July 31st: Heirs' Property Workshop, 6 pm to 8pm. at Ebeneezer Baptist Church, Brierfield Alabama.

August 1st- Grand Opening of Bibb County Expo Center August 4th- West Blocton Town Park Expansion Ribbon Cutting at 9:00 am at 512 Oak St. West Blocton, AL

August 5th- State Farm Woodstock Office Ribbon Cutting at 10:00 am at 20026 Hwy. 11 Woodstock, AL

August 7th- First day for Bibb County Schools

August 22nd: Brierfield Ironworks Movie Night! This is a FREE event. There will be food trucks available. Movie will be outdoors, so bring your blankets or lawn chairs! Movie starts at 7pm. August 28th – Treasure Forest of Bibb meeting at 6:30 pm at Brent/Centreville Library September 5th: Brierfield Ironworks Movie Night! This is a FREE event. There will be food trucks available. Movie will be outdoors, so bring your blankets or lawn chairs! Movie starts at 7pm. September 20th: Brieffield Ironworks' Car Show and Flea Market from 10am-2pm! The Car Showwill be judged at Ipm. We will have food trucks, vendors and live music!

September 25th - Treasure Forest of Bibb meeting at 6:30 pm at Brent/Centreville Library.

Karleigh Bolding Named Winner of the 2026 Distinguished Young Woman Competition

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS

The 2026 Distinguished Young Woman (DYW) competition was a night filled with talent, grace, and exemplary young women showcasing their achievements. The event, held in Bibb County at the Board of Education Auditorium, celebrated the outstanding accomplishments of participants in various categories.

This past Saturday, Karleigh Bolding won the title of Bibb County's Distinguished Young Woman 2026. In addition to winning the overall title, she was the overall Interview and Scholastic winner. She also placed in Talent, Fitness and Self Expression categories. She was awarded a total of \$3800 in cash tuition scholarships. She will also receive custom stationery from Hollie Pritchett, owner of Happies

As the winner, Karleigh will proudly represent Bibb County in the upcoming DYW of Alabama program, scheduled to be held in Montgomery in January. See DYW on page 7



LEARNING BEYOND THE **CLASSROOM: INSIDE THIS** Year's Summer Program

BY CANDACE JOHNSON REPORTER

The Neighborhood House Tutorial Center, located at 100 Kids Street in Brent, Alabama, provides educational services to throughout the summer months. Its annual summer camp focuses on academic enrichment, personal growth, and outdoor exploration.

"We offer a summer camp for our students focusing on the importance of friendships, embracing nature due to the location, and promoting independence," said Dr. Earnie Cutts, CEO of the organization.

One of the program's key components is building core academic skills, particularly in reading and math.

"Our primary cus is to provide those educational offerings, mainly due to the fact that during the summer, students lose a lot that has been taught during the regular school year," Cutts explained.

This phenomenon, commonly referred to as the "summer slide," can leave students at a disadvantage when they return to school in the fall. The Neighborhood this through hands-on activities, targeted in-

alized support.

"I did work with the organization in 1994 as a counselor," Cutts shared. "In 2015, I moved to the CEO position, pulling everything together and making sure that we can contin-Bibb County students House works to combat ue the educational offerings that we do "

See Summer Program on page 8





On July 17th Friendship Lodge 83 had ceremony to install the officers for the 2025-2026 Masonic year. From left to right is Mike Oakley, Tim Tucker, Adam Steele, Hubert Osbourn, Geary Hewett, Clay Jones, Trey Fondren, Josh Whitman.



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Centreville McCalla Woodstock Vance 205.432.0255 205.633.0904 205.938.7813 205.926.4651

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NEWS



Get to Know our Candidates In the heart of campaign season, it's easy to get lost in slogans, yard signs, and sound bites. But behind every candidacy is a real person with a story, a purpose, and a passion for serving the community. In this special feature, we bring politics to a personal level—introducing you to Everett Reese Lee, a local face with big ideas and a commitment to making a difference. From early influences on current motivations, we take a closer look at the person behind the platform.

Everett Reese Lee Shares His Journey and Dedication to Centreville Everett Reese Lee, a candidate for City Council District 3, brings with him a life story filled with service, dedication, and a deep-rooted love for community. Raised in Helena, Lee fondly recalls the joy of visiting Bibb County during his childhood. "Any chance we had to come down to Bibb County, we were on the road heading to Aunt Gail's and Uncle AC's house," he shared. "The most fun was the competitive badminton tournaments. If you ever witnessed it, you'd understand!" After graduating from Pelham High School, Lee joined the United States Marine Corps in February 2001, serving as a 0331-machine gunner. During his four years of service, he was deployed to Iraq where he earned the Navy Achievement Medal with combat valor and became a Purple Heart recipient. Following his military service, Lee began a new chapter—pursuing a nursing degree while adjusting to civilian life. He has spent much of his career in intensive care units, ultimately finding his passion in cardiac care. Today, Lee is married to his best friend, Elizabeth, and the couple has two daughters, Caroline and Evelyn, with a third child on the way. The family attends East McFarland Baptist Church, where Elizabeth serves as the music minister. The Lees chose Centreville as the place to set down roots, raise their family, and build a future. "This is our home," Lee said. "We want it to be the best it can be—for our family and for yours." Lee's story reflects a lifetime of commitment—to country, to community, and to family—and he's ready to serve District 3 with the same dedication.

Peachy Day of Learning for B County 4-H Homeschool Club

BY SHEILA DUNCAN

REPORTER

The Bibb County 4-H Homeschool Club had a sleeves and dove into the art of peach jam making!

Hosted by the kind folks at Mt. Carmel, with Pastor Jackson and Gary graciously opening their kitchen doors, the day was filled with laughter, sticky fingers, and plenty of peachy goodness. Club members plished. not only had fun with familiar friends but also gained learning together, and the valuable lessons on food joy of making something safety and the importance from scratch! of cleanliness in the kitch-

en, thanks to Mrs. Emily and Mrs. Angela.

From washing fruit to sealing jars, the students got hands-on experience in food preservation and jam-packed day of fun, learned just how much love learning, and sweet suc- and care goes into creatcess as they rolled up their ing quality products. It was more than just a lesson—it was a memory in the making!

> By the end of the day, the kitchen smelled delicious. and each student left with a jar of homemade peach jam and a whole lot of pride in what they had accom-

Here's to sweet days,















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

NEWS

7-Year-Old Ava Rose King Found Safe After **Centreville Search**

BY SHEILA DUNCAN

REPORTER

A missing child alert that sent shockwaves through the Bibb Councommunity ended in relief Tuesday night as 7-year-old Ava Rose King was found safe after an extensive search effort.

Ava was last seen around 1:00 p.m. on July 15 near the apartment complex on Alexander Avenue in Centreville. Authorities and family members quickly raised the alarm, and a "missing child" alert was issued by the City of Centreville via social media. The post urged locals to remain vigilant: "If you see something, say something."

In the hours that followed, more than 200 people joined the search, including Centreville Police, Bibb County

BY SHEILA DUNCAN

REPORTER

Kay Ivey is inviting stu-

dents across the state to

dive into books this sum-

mer as part of the Ala-

bama Summer Reading

Challenge. The program,

launched to keep students

engaged and learning

during the school break,

encourages children of

all ages to read regularly

throughout the summer

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS

Park & Recreation Au-

thority (PARA) is proud

to announce Iron & Em-

ber Golf, a new indoor

golf and training desti-

nation and experience

opening later this year at

the Jerry Pate Golf Cen-

University of Alabama's

golf teams, the space

is being transformed

into a public destina-

tion where business

and play converge. Iron

& Ember at the Jerry

Pate Golf Center at Ol'

Colony will feature four

state-of-the-art Golfzon

simulator bays, a private

boardroom-style meet-

ing space, upgraded VIP

range and short game

access, fitness ameni-

ties, firepit seating, and

a family-friendly lounge

ment designed for year-

a-kind facility for

Tuscaloosa," said Brian

Davis, CEO of PARA.

Periodicals postage paid at Centreville, AL 35042

"This is a one-of-

all-weather

round use.

all in a comfortable,

environ-

Once home to the

ter at Ol' Colony.

Tuscaloosa County

Alabama Governor

Sheriff's deputies, local fire departments, city employees, and volunteers from across the community. Police Chief Rodney Smith and Mayor Mike Oakley helped coordinate the search, which spread throughout the Alexander Avenue area and surrounding neighborhoods.

After nearly eight hours, the search came to a joyful end when Ava was discovered safe in Alabaster, reportedly in the care of a neighbor who had taken her swim-

Authorities arrested 42-year-old Jacqueline Rhodes of Alabaster shortly after Ava's recovery. Rhodes is charged with second-degree kidnapping and interference with child custody. She remains in custody as the investigation continues.

Chief Smith person-

Gov. Ivey Encourages

Alabama Students to Join

Summer Reading Program

phasized the importance

of reading in a statement

released by her office:

"Reading is the founda-

tion of all learning. I want

every student in Alabama

to pick up a book, use

their imagination, and

keep their minds active

Challenge partners with

libraries, schools, and

community organizations

to help promote literacy

and provide free resourc-

PARA Announces Iron &

Ember: A Reimagined Golf

ing a meeting, working

on your swing, or enjoy-

ing time with your fam-

ily, Iron & Ember offers

a space where people

can connect, grow, and

The project builds on

the legacy of the Jerry

Pate Golf Center, which

opened in 2004 as a

ing facility for Alabama

Golf. In a nod to that

history, the facility and

boardroom will retain

the Jerry Pate namesake,

honoring the Crimson

Tide legend who de-

signed the course and

original practice facility

supports PARA's broad-

er mission: to enrich

the Tuscaloosa County

community through ex-

citing recreational and

ues to grow nationwide

traditional course play

— thanks to its acces-

sibility, efficiency, and

. Business Manage

..Advertising Manager

currently outpacing

Indoor golf contin-

cultural opportunities.

Iron & Ember also

at Ol' Colony.

state-of-the-art

the season."

The Summer Reading

over the summer."

Governor Ivey em- es for families. Students

ally drove Ava's grandmother to the location in Alabaster to reunite with the child. "When you live in a small town, you'll be taken care of," said Smith. "This was a team effort. The number of people that came to help was amazing."

Mayor Oakley also praised the community response, noting that neighbors knocked on doors, searched vehicles and buildings, and did not hesitate to help. "They came out of their

cumstances surrounding Ava's disappearance and Rhodes' involvement. No injuries were reported, and Ava was reunited safely with her family.

can track their reading

progress and earn prizes

or recognition for their

librarians are encouraged

to support children in se-

lecting books that match

their reading levels and

on how to join, visit your

local public library or the

Alabama Department of

mentum home, offering

access to world-class

courses in a fraction of

the time and without

elevated and welcom-

ing, while honoring his-

tory and inspiring new

legacies," Davis said.

"It's for athletes, pro-

fessionals, families, and

anyone looking to forge

their game — whether

that's on the course,

in the boardroom, or

in conversation with

potential naming bay

partners and commu-

nity supporters. Busi-

nesses, foundations, and

individuals interested in

being part of this next

chapter in Tuscaloosa

recreation are encour-

aged to reach out to

learn more. Earlybird

on annual passes and

are available. Visit @

social media for more

ironandembergolf

discounts

options

pre-launch

membership

information.

PARA is currently

both."

"We're creating a

weather disruptions.

Education's website.

For more information

interests

"Whether you're host- Ember brings that mo-

have fun — no matter space that feels both

train-

Parents, teachers, and

homes saying, 'Where do you need me?' That's the kind of town we live in," said Oakley. Authorities are still investigating the cir-

BC BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Date: July 15, 2025

AGENDA Call to order

Invocation/Pledge of Al-

Roll Call

Approval of Agenda Approval of the Minutes Financial Report and

Bank Reconciliations Receive Financials and Bank Reconciliations for June 2025.

Request to approve Bills and Payroll for June 2025. **Board Meeting**

07/15/2025 - 05:00 PM Request to approve revisions to the following 2025-2026 salary schedules, approved June 25, 2025:

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

Request to approve hourly rate for 21st Century Community Learning Center as revised in the Information & Guidelines Handbook, received July 10, 2025.

Request to approve the purchase of a Pass Thru Heated Cabinet for Bibb County High School, in the amount of \$7,759. Payment will be made from CNP funds.

Request to approve payment to Smitherman Construction for repair of firewall at Centreville Middle School in the amount of \$6,800. Payment will be made from A&T funds.

Request to approve public works project to Civil Worx, Construction, LLC to pave Randolph Elementary car rider line in the amount of \$71,250. Payment will be made from A&T funds.

Request to approve payment to Steel Built Systems, LLC to repair the canopy at Woodstock Elementary in the amount of \$9,792. Payment will be made from A&T funds.

Request to approve the trading in of a Scag Model SMTC-48V, for trade-in of the mower to Topline, as partial payment (\$1,000) for a new mower that the Bibb County High School football/baseball/softball programs are planning to pur-

Request to approve 2025-2026 West Blocton Elementary School 5th graders to travel to Washington, D.C., May 6-10, 2026. Students will travel by charter bus and have overnight stay.

Request to approve payment to Lillian Turner to provide Federal Programs support, May 16- July 31, 2025. Payment of \$10 per hour, up to 16 hours per week, will be made from Title I funds.

Request to approve payment to Russell Greene for music writing for the 2025-2026 half time show, July 2-August 1, 2025, Bibb County High School. Payment of \$600 will be made from BCHS local school

Request to approve payment to Meredith Greene to compose drill for the 2025-2026 half time show, July 2025, Bibb County High School. Payment of \$1,000 will be made from BCHS local school funds.

Request to approve payment to Ashlie Cash to provide choreography for majorettes, July 24, 2025, Centreville Middle School. Payment of \$50 will be made from CMS local school funds.

Request to approve payment to Kevin May for Assistant Head Coach supplement, June 3, 2025-June 2, 2026, Bibb County High School. Payment of \$25,000 will be made from BCHS Football Booster funds.

Request to approve payment to the following for football coaching responsibilities, field maintenance

and other duties assigned, July 31, 2025- May 31, 2026, Bibb County High School. Payment will be made from BCHS Football Booster funds:

Consent Agenda Items-Personnel

Request to approve the resignation of Laran Lofton, Counselor, Woodstock Elementary School, effective May 23, 2025.

Request to approve the resignation of Amanda Cromer, Teacher, Woodstock Elementary School, effective May 23, 2025.

Request to approve the resignation of Susan Gaines, Teacher, West Blocton Elementary School, effective May 23, 2025.

Request to approve the resignation of Rita Roose, CNP Worker, Woodstock Elementary School, effective May 22, 2025.

Request to approve the resignation of Candyce Hodgens, Bus Driver, effective May 22, 2025.

Request to approve the transfer of Billie Gilbert from Custodian, West Blocton Middle School, to 1/2 Custodian, West Blocton Middle School, 1/2 Custodian, West Blocton Elementary School, effective 2025-2026 school year.

Request to approve the employment of Bobbie Watson as Bus Driver, effective 2025-2026 school year.

Request to approve the employment of Brenda Rinehart as Science Teacher, Bibb County High School, effective 2025-2026 school

Request to approve

the employment of Casey Reach as 9 month Counselor, Woodstock Elementary School, effective 2025-2026 school vear.

Request to approve the employment of Brianna Fondren as Teacher. Woodstock Elementary School, effective 2025-2026 school year.

Request to approve Jamesio Rhine from Special Education Paraprofessional Aide, Bibb County High School, to PE/Health Teacher, Bibb County High School, effective 2025-2026 school year.

Request to approve Callie Pinson from Teacher, Brent Elementary School, to ARI Local Reading Specialist, Brent Elementary School, effective 2025-2026

Request to approve the employment of Chandra Minor as Teacher, Brent Elementary School, effective 2025-2026 school year.

Request to approve the employment of Kavla Cochran as Special Education Paraprofessional Aide, Brent Elementary School, effective 2025-2026 school

Request to approve Jamesio Rhine as Head Varsity Boys Basketball Coach, Bibb County High School.

Request to approve Alissia Sommers Cromer as Boys and Girls Golf Coach, Bibb County High School.

Request to approve Ivey Moreland as Head Middle School Softball Coach,

205.926.5615

Centreville Middle School. Request to approve the following summer workers: West Blocton Middle School Levi Carey

Regular Agenda Items Request to approve payment to Bear Creek Trucking to lay block around WBHS lunchroom freezer. Payment of \$8,950 will be made from A&T funds.

Request to approve payment to the following to provide security, as needed, for school events for the 2025-2026 school year, Bibb County High School. Payment of \$22.50 per hour will be made from BCHS local school funds.

Request to approve payment to Sara Kate Watson to lead instruction in color guard techniques, July 21-31, 2025, Bibb County High School. Payment of \$25 per hour, not to exceed \$500, will be made from BCHS local school funds.

Request to approve the resignation of Amanda Greene, Teacher. Elementary Woodstock School, effective May 23, 2025.

Request to approve the resignation of Bobbie Watson as Utility Worker, effective July 14, 2025.

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

the employment of Deborah George as Itinerant EL Paraprofessional Aide, effective 2025-2026 school Request to approve the

employment of Glenda Rice as Bus Driver, effective 2025-2026 school year. Request to approve

Chloe Robertson as Head School Basketball Coach, Blocton Middle School.

Request to approve Jericha Smith as Assistant Middle School Volleyball Coach, West Blocton Middle School

Request to approve Cassandra Rutledge as Assistant Middle School Girls Basketball Coach, West Blocton Middle School.

Request to approve the following substitutes: Kelsey Dunn-classroom substitute, Melissa Dearman-classroom substitute, Amiee Cook-classroom/ custodian substitute. Sidney Michael Smothermanclassroom/custodian/CNP substitute, Braleigh Smitherman-nurse substitute, Rita Roose-CNP substitute, Matthew Kornegav-bus substitute and Vicki Mitchell-classroom/CNP substi-

Information Items

AASB Policy Pipeline Webinar: Monday, July 21, 2025, 10:00-11:00 AM

Called Board Meeting: Wednesday, July 23, 2025 at 2:00 PM

Board Work Session: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 at 2:00 PM

Board Meeting: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at 5:00 PM Request to adjourn



Congress shall make no laws respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress or grievances

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Whitney Buzbee..

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BAPTIST Antioch Baptist

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Brierfield 665-1111

Ashby Baptist

Bethel Baptist Brent 205-225-4780

Bethlehem Baptist Centreville

Bibb Baptist Association Centreville 926-7866

Bibbville Baptist Woodstock 938-2015

Brent Baptist Brent 926-7687

Cahaba Valley Baptist Centreville 926-5927

Calvary Baptist

Centreville 926-4079 Camp Branch Baptist Church 2590 Camp Branch Rd

West Blocton Cedar Grove Baptist

West Blocton 938-0828 Centreville Baptist

Centreville 926-7069 Community Baptist

Centreville

Deer Creek Missionary **Baptist Church** Centreville 225-0460

Ebenzer Baptist Church Brierfield 665-4865

Enon Baptist Centreville 926-4517

Eoline Baptist

Eoline 926-7448 Faith Baptist

West Blocton 938-7220 First Baptist Church of Woodstock

Four Points Baptist Centreville 926-7775

205-938-7479

Green Pond Baptist Green Pond 938-7769

Haysop Baptist

Hopewell Primitive Baptist West Blocton 553-7603

Johntown Baptist West Blocton 938-7621

Liberty Baptist West Blocton 938-2090

Liberty Baptist Duncanville 759-9647 / 759-

Liberty Freewill Baptist

Little Hope Primitive Baptist Centreville 926-4236

Lowerytown Baptist West Blocton 938-2436

Lucille Baptist

West Blocton 966-3556 Mission Baptist

Woodstock 938-7096 Mt. Carmel Baptist

West Blocton 938-2379

Mt. Ebell Baptist Brent 926-9223

Mt. Grove Baptist 938-3410

Mt. Moriah Baptist

West Blocton 926-5425 Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church

Mt. Tabor Baptist Brent 926-7156

Brent 926-9009

Mt. Zion Baptist Centreville 334-366-5903

New Hebron Baptist West Blocton 938-2101





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

New Hope Missionary Baptist Randolph 334-366-1199

New Life Baptist Church Centreville 205-541-7072

New Pleasant Valley Brent 926-9045

Pinegrove Missionary Baptist Brent 225-0139

Pineview Baptist 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

Grace Bible

Woodstock 938-7763

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

205-477-5468 River of Life Church of God

9225 Hwy 82, Brent 205-926-7600

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

CHURCH OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST 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



NELSON Heating & Cooling

Melvin, Dean & Terrill Nelson

205.938.9555

Four Points 926-5565

Word of Faith Worship Cen-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

205-225-4000

9:15 - 10 AM Sundays Freindship Rd. • Brent Friendship Bible Methodist Church

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**

Mt. Sinai Church Centreville 256-577-8137

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

205.826.5763

Bible Methodist

West Blocton 938-0091 Hopewell A.M.E. Zion

Harrisburg 926-5777 New Hope AME West Blocton 540-8016

Tabernacle United Methodist

Waymon Chapel AME Brierfield 205-665-4730

West Scottsville

United Methodist Church North Scottsville Road 451-3624 **NAZARENE**

Spencer Church Of The

Ridgeville Church Of The

PENTECOSTAL New Life West Blocton

Pastor Greg Brock

205.441.2809 First United Pentecostal

Church of Centreville **PRESBYTERIAN** Brent Presbyterian P.C.A.

Centreville First

926-4722

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

Yahweh's Harvest 926-9044

Pastor Butch Tucker

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 926-4934



OBITUARIES



IN MEMORIUM of John Franklin Blake October 26, 1942 - June 1,

2024 FUNERAL DISCOURSE WILL BE HELD VIRTU-ALLY VIA ZOOM VIDEO **CONFERENCING**

DATE: JULY 26, 2025 TIME: 3:00 PM MEETING ID: 896 4873

PASSCODE: 861964

John Franklin Blake was shared by his family. born on October 26, 1942, in Edward Blake, Sr. family and loved ones, eventually marrying Anne Walker Blake, with whom he shared over 58 years of his life. Tocherished him deeply.

Throughout his life, John was known for his devotion to his family and his faith. He lived with the awareness of his mortality and had specific requests regarding his final arrangements, including cremation. 1, 2024, John passed away peacefully at his home from Jehovah's Witnesses. natural causes, surrounded dearly. He was 81. His legacy lives on through the countless memories and the love nesses.

Survivors include his lov-McCalla, Alabama, to John ing wife, Anne and son, John T. Blake, Jr. and Lucille Law- Bryan Blake, (wife Cinrence Blake. He grew up in dy); grandson, John Garrett Bibb County, Alabama, with Blake; granddaughter Eryn his younger brother, Glenn Blake; and great grandchil-John dren, Matthew, Brystyl and lived a life surrounded by Jordyn; a brother, Glenn Edward Blake, Sr.(wife Ginger): one surviving uncle. Virgil Lawrence (wife Kate) of Centreville, Alabama; gether, they had a son, and four brothers-in-law, Earl R. a lineage of grandchildren Roberts (wife Joyce) of Linand great-grandchildren who colnton, North Carolina; and from Piedmont, Alabama, Paul Roberts (wife Marlene); David Roberts (wife Vicky); sister-in-law, Martha Roberts Mayhall (husband Danny); and several nieces and nephews and a number of cousins.

Discourse to be given by On June H.R. (Rod) Williams from the Calera Congregation of

Closing prayer to be givby the family that loved him en by Marco Peinitz from the Tuscaloosa Central Congregation of Jehovah's Wit-

COMMUNITY NEWS



West Eoline News

From The Pen Of Jane Hannah





Wayne Deason & C H Deason lunched at The mikub with Chad & Stacey Shack in Marion, on Thursday, July 17th with Siblings, Geneva Mullins, Jo Kitchen, Jane Hannah and Barbara Deason, Sista Carol Schladerbach and Wayne's daughter Ruth. Jo baked a fresh Peach Cobbler as their Birthday Dessert. The group enjoyed Crab Claws, Catfish, Fish Sandwich, Hamburger, Corn Nuggets, Sweet Potato Fries, Fried Ellison Sunday afternoon; Okra and Fried Jalapenos! Everything was delicious!

I enjoyed games of Rum-Thompson & Jim Kirkendall Friday night. This was after a great meal of Ravioli, Salad, Garlic Bread & Jalapeno Poppers.

Saturday was a day for celebrating Kaydi Kinney's 1st birthday at Nana's.

I made Grandma Hannah's cake, which is a tradition at my house. Jo Kitchen visited Amy

plus a major cut on her left hand was the result. She was transported to DCH and as of Monday morning, surgery on her hand was imminent. En route from Iowa to Florida, Cousin Jo Hinson, daughter in law Stace Hinson with children Pepper,

ing to let Thomasina (cat) in

and keep some other cat out

when she fell. A huge goose

egg and small head wound,

Giada, Halle & Tate are expected here today, 7-25. Geneva Mullins enjoyed getting out Sunday afternoon to attend a Bridal Shower for Eliza Caddis with me. We didn't stay long enough to see all the gifts, but there were many. It was good to see Sarah

Smith, from Foley and all

the locals attending. **BIRTHDAY** INGS to these Grayson Ingram 7-25, Dedra Clinner 7-27, Donna Kornegay 7-28, Brownie Duncan, Jade Rowberry, Caroline Fondren & Savannah Grogan 7-29, Tony Fancher & Shepherd Caddis 7-30, Hayes Perez & Vetley Mul-

lins 7-31. I hope you have a blessed week and call me at 478assisting her with lunch, 396-2513 to share your housekeeping and a shower. news.



Centreville News

The BCHS Class of 1961 recently

month of July. Charlotte Lovelady West recently enjoyed lunch at the Bright Star in Bessemer with Crystal Waters Hood and Kathy Youngblood. They met while teaching at Rutledge Middle

School in Midfield many years ago. Birthday wishes go out to Wyatt Clinner who celebrated his 4th birthday on July 20, 2025. Happy Birthday Wyatt.

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Get well wishes and prayers continue met for their annual breakfast for the to go out to Kaley Whaley who underwent surgery recently at UAB.

From The Pen Of Brenda Hubbard

July are Rhonda Kay Deason, Donald Glass, Amy Boyd, Amy Graves and Ashton Cottingham. Pam Long and Dot Tidwell spent the weekend with Charlotte West recently,

Among those having birthdays in

also visiting was Peggy Reynolds. If you have news call it in at 205-316-1181.







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ALABAMA LEGAL JOURNAL

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NE1/4, SECTION 21,

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RANGE 9 EAST, BIBB

COUNTY, ALABAMA,

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WAY NO. 58; THENCE

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GREES 32 MINUTES

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52 SECONDS WEST

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address is: 2087 Univer-

sity Way, Centreville, AL

Any property address

35042.

For informational pur-

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provided is not part of

the legal description of

the property sold herein

and in the event of any

discrepancy, the legal

description referenced

This sale is made for

the purpose of paying

the indebtedness se-

cured by said mortgage,

as well as the expenses

of foreclosure. Further-

more, the property to be

offered pursuant to this

notice of sale is being

offered for sale, trans-

fer and conveyance AS

IS, WHERE IS. Neither

the mortgagee, nor the

officers, directors, at-

agents or authorized

representative of the

mortgagee make any

representation or war-

ranty relating to the title

or any physical, envi-

safety conditions exist-

ing in, on, at or relating

to the property offered

for sale. Any and all

responsibilities or liabil-

ities arising out of or in

any way relating to any

such condition, includ-

ing those suggested by

Code of Ala. (1975) §

35-4-271, expressly are

disclaimed. This sale is

subject to all prior liens

and encumbrances and

unpaid taxes and as-

sessments including any

transfer tax associated

with the foreclosure.

The successful bidder

must tender a non-re-

fundable deposit of Five

ronmental, health

employees.

torneys,

herein shall control.

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PROBATE NOTICE

In the Probate Court of Bibb County, Alabama In Re: The estate of Ronald Joe Knight, Deceased Case No. 2024PC082

Publication Notice Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned, Kimberly Joyce Knight, on the 11th day of September, 2024, by the Honorable Judge Stephanie W. Kemmer of Probate of Bibb County, Ala-

bama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law of the same will be barred. Kimberly Joyce Knight, Executor

B. Boozer Downs, Jr. Downs & Davis Law, LLC Attorney for Petitioner PO Box 65 Woodstock, AL 35188 Centreville Press July 11, 18 & 25, 2025

In the Probate Court of Bibb County, Alabama Case No. 2025PC045 **Estate of Michael Ed**win Rogers, Deceased **Probate Court**

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 3rd day of July, 2025, by the Honorable Stephanie Kemmer, Judge of the Probate Court of Bibb County, notice is hereby given that all per-

sons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Shonda Marie Rogers, as Personal Representative of the estate of Michael Edwin Rogers, deceased

Clint C. Thomas Attorney at Law PO Box 1422 Calera, AL 35040 Centreville Press July 11, 18 & 25, 2025

In the Probate Court of Bibb County, Alabama In the matter of the **Estate of Joseph Lee** Owings, deceased Case No. 2025PC050 **Publication Notice**

Letters Testamentary under the last will and testament of Joseph Lee Owings, deceased, having been granted to Patrick lee Owings, Executor, on the 30th day of June, 2025, by the Honorable Stephanie W. Kemmer, Judge of the Probate Court of Bibb County, Alabama, notice

Probate Court of Bibb County, Alabama Case No. 2025PC22 In the matter of the estate of Linda Hyde, Deceased

Notice to Creditors Take notice that Letters of

Testamentary having been granted to Kimberly Jean Pvlant, as Executrix of the estate of Linda Hyde, deceased on the 24th day of May, 2024, by the Honorable Stephanie Kemmer, Judge of Probate. Notice is hereby given that

In the matter of the estate of John William Breasseale, deceased **Probate Court of Bibb** County, Alabama Case No. 2025PC052 Notice of Publication

Take notice that Letters of Administration have been granted to Cody Breasseale on the 21st day of July, 2025 by the Honorable Stephanie Kemmer, Judge of Probate of Bibb County Probate Court, Alabama and that all parties having claims against said

sons having claims against the estate of Joseph Lee Owings, deceased, are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed of the same will be barred. Patrick Lee Owings, Exec-

is hereby given that all per-

Thomas G. Owings

Owings Law Firm, LLC 1186 University Way, Suite

Brent, AL 35034 Attorney for Petitioner Centreville Press July 11, 18 & 25, 2025

all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present the same within he time allowed by law of the same will be barred.

Kimberly Jean Pylant

Executrix of the estate of Linda Hyde Christopher R. Smitherman Attorney for Estate 725 West Street Montevallo, AL 35115 Centreville Press July 18, 25 & August 1,

estate should file the same with the probate Court of said county within the time allowed by law, or they will be barred.

Done this day of July 21, 2025

Judge of Probate Stephanie W Kemmer Lindsey Eastwood Eastwood Estate & Pro-

2001 Park Place, Suite 510 Birmingham, AL 35203 Centreville Press July 25, August 1 & 8, 2025

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:

MILTON MCKINNEY **DBA MCKINNEY WRECK-**ER gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on 09/03/2025, 10:30 AM at 4901 TRUMAN ALDRICH PKWY, WEST BLOCTON, AL 35184-2101, pursuant to subsection 32-13-3 of the Alabama Statutes. MILTON MCKINNEY DBA MCKINNEY WRECKER reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or

1HGCD5636VA250488 1997 HOND ACCORD 1HGCG22552A028887 2002 HOND ACCORD 1N4AL3AP2JC279871

2018 NISS ALTIMA 2FTRF17W04CA96975 2004 FORD F150 2FTZF1723XCA12052

1999 FORD F150 2G1FD1E38F9106923 2015 CHEV CAMARO 2G1WB5EKXA1178329 2010 CHEV IMPALA

3KPF24AD4PE552633 2023 KIA KORTE Centreville Press July 25 & August 5, 2025

SALE Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed on July 15, 2004 by Arthur Edward Lott, Sr., single man, originally in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for RBMG, Inc., and recorded in 138 at 522 on July 20, 2004, and modified in and modified by agreement recorded October 6, 2014 in Book 298, Page 302 and further modified by agreement recorded August 2. 2016 in Book 318, Page 744 and further modified by agreement recorded February 22, 2019 in Book 350, Page 179, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Bibb County, Alabama, and secured having indebtedness been transferred to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.. LOGS Legal Group LLP, as counsel for Mortgagee or Transferee and under and by virtue of power of sale contained in the said mortgage will, on September 4, 2025, sell at public outcry to the highest bidder at the main entrance of the Bibb County, Alabama, Courthouse in the City of Centreville, during the legal hours of sale. the following real estate situated in Bibb County, Alabama, to wit:

A PARCEL OF LAND

MORTGAGE FORE-CLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Stephanie Baker Jefferson, a single woman, originally in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for LeaderOne Financial Corporation, its successors and assigns, on June 28, 2024, said mortgage recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Bibb County, Alabama, in RPB Book: 2024 Page: 4817; the undersigned AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC, as Mortgagee/Transferee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Courthouse at Centreville, Bibb County, Alabama, on July 9, 2025, during the legal hours of sale, all of its rights, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate, situated in Bibb County, Alabama, to-wit: Part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 14, Township 22 South, Range 6 West, Bibb County, Alabama and being more particularly described as follows: Commence at a calculated point being accept-

ed as the Northwest corner

of said Quarter, Quarter as

per Deed Book 115 at Page 654 recorded in the Probate Office of Bibb County, Alabama; thence run North 89 degrees, 09 minutes 56 seconds, East and along the north boundary of said Quarter, Quarter 114.20 feet to a calculated point; thence run South 00 degrees, 16 minutes, 47 seconds West 198.33 feet to a calculated point; thence run South 00 degrees, 40 minutes, 10 seconds East 315.00 feet to a calculated point; thence run North 87 degrees, 18 minutes, 52 seconds East 168.00 feet to a calculated point; thence run South 10 degrees, 13 minutes 13 seconds, East 187.03 feet to a calculated point; thence run North 84 degrees, 02 minutes 05 seconds, East 71.62 feet to a calculated point; thence run South 05 degrees, 58 minutes, 26 seconds, East 400.40 feet to a calculated point; thence run South 89 degrees, 10 minutes, 35 seconds, East 113.45 feet to a 1/2 inch capped rebar(CA-965-LS); at the intersection of the east right-of-way of Pecan Street and the south rightof-way of Hickory Street, said point being the Point of Beginning; thence continue South 89 degrees, 10 minutes, 35 seconds, East and along said south rightof-way 102.74 feet to a 1/2

inch capped rebar (CA-95-

LS); thence run South 01

Thousand Dollars and no/100 (\$5,000.00) in degrees, 10 minutes, 16 seconds, East 104.17 feet to a capped rebar (Moore); thence run North 89 degrees, 59 minutes, 44 seconds, West 112.14 feet to a capped rebar (Moore) on the said east right-of-way of Pecan Street; thence run North 04 degrees, 03 minutes, 29 seconds, East and along said east right-of-way 102.92 feet to the Point of Beginning. Property street address for informational purposes: 1143 Hickory St West Blocton, AL 35184. THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON AN "AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS, WITH-**OUT WARRANTY OR RE-**COURSE. EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED AS TO TI-TLE, USE AND/OR EN-JOYMENT AND WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION OF ALL PARTIES ENTI-TLED THERETO. Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. The successful bidder

certified or cash funds at the time and place of the sale. The balance of the purchase price must be paid in certified funds by close of business on the next business day thereafter at the Law Office of LOGS Legal Group LLP at the address indicated below. LOGS Legal Group LLP reserves the right to award the bid to the next highest bidder, or to reschedule the sale, should the highest bidder fail to timely tender the total amount

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

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., and its successors and assigns

Mortgagee or Transferee

LOGS LEGAL **GROUP LLP** Perimeter 10130 Parkway, Suite 400 Charlotte, NC 28216

704-333-8107/ 024515 Attorneys for Mortgag-

ee or Transferee Centreville Press July 18, 25 & August

must tender a non-refundable deposit of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) in certified funds made payable to Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. at the time and place of the sale. The balance of the purchase price plus any deed recording costs and transfer taxes must be paid in certified funds by noon the next business day at the Law Office of Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. at the address indicated below. Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. reserves the right to award the bid to the next highest bidder should the highest bidder fail to timely tender the total amount due. The Mortgagee/Transferee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation. The above mortgage foreclosure sale has been postponed from July 9, 2025 until August 20, 2025, during the legal hours of sale in front of the main entrance of the Courthouse at Centreville, Bibb County, Alabama. AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC, ("Transferee") Tiffany & Bosco, P.A., 2501 20th Place South, Suite 300, Homewood, AL 35223 www. tblaw.com TB File Number: 25-04337-CE-AL Centreville Press

July 25, 2025

LIFESTYLE

Meet the Candidates: Bibb County's August 2025 Election Preview

BY SHEILA DUNCAN

REPORTER

Bibb County's August 26, 2025 local elections are fast approaching, and The Centreville Press is bringing our readers a first-hand look at the individuals campaigning to serve our community. Our mission in a series of feature articles—is to go beyond the ballot and help voters connect with the candidates on

a more personal level. Local elections shape the policies and services that impact your everyday life—from school funding to public safety, infrastructure priorities, and more. Getting to know the people running for office empowers citizens to make thoughtful, informed decisions about who will represent their interests in Bibb County.

This is how we will be covering this preview:

Featured Profiles: Each article will include a brief

personal bio, key cam- why-what inspired them, ty involvement highlights, and what motivated each candidate to run.

A professional headshot, social media handles, and key campaign contact de-

a fun fact, their vision for matters. our county, and one important issue they want ning weekly from mid July voters to know about.

ery candidate has their in The Centreville Press chance to stand out. If you and on our website for new plan on running-or al- candidate features. Your ready are—for any position in the August 2025 Bibb County elections, we'd love to feature you! We'll gather your materials let's bring Bibb Counand reach out with a guided ty voters closer to the Q&A and next steps.

will get a deeper under- terest and materials to: standing and learn not just sheila.duncan@centrevilwhere candidates stand, but lepress.com

paign priorities, communi- what they value, and how they plan to serve. Sideby-Side Comparison: Our format ensures you easily Photo & Contact Info: compare qualifications and priorities and Stronger Engagement: Knowing candidates personally can boost civic participation-vot-Q&A Section: Candi- ing, attending events, or dates are invited to share volunteering. Your voice

Features will begin runthrough early August, lead-At The Centreville Press, ing up to the August elecwe want to make sure ev- tion date. Check each week voice matters.

If you're running, we want to tell your story. Email us today, and people who will repre-Bibb County Citizens sent them. Email your in-



When the Circus Came to Town: A Glimpse at Alabama's Traveling Shows of the Past

BY SHEILA DUNCAN

REPORTER In the early-to-mid 1900s, long before smartphones streaming services, one of the most exciting events to come through small towns in Alabama was the arrival of the traveling circus. For many rural communities across the state, the sound of calliopes and the sight of striped tents popping up on open fields brought a kind of magic that folks still talk about today.

Each summer, Alabama towns like Selma, Tuscaloosa, and smaller communities like Centreville and Fayette would be abuzz with anticipation. The Ringling Bros., Barnum & Bailey, and other lesser-known but equally entertaining traveling shows rolled into town on trains and wagons, setting up their big tops on school grounds or empty fairgrounds.

Children would watch wide-eyed as elephants were led down the main street during a parade often a promotional

event to draw crowds. Acrobats performed death-defying tricks, clowns roamed the crowds, and cotton candy filled the air with its sweet scent.

whole town would shut down for the day, schools giving halfdays so children could attend the matinee. For many Alabama families, the circus was not just entertainment—it was a rare escape from the day-to-day routine of farm life or factory

Localsoftenremember performers how would mingle with townspeople, sometimes

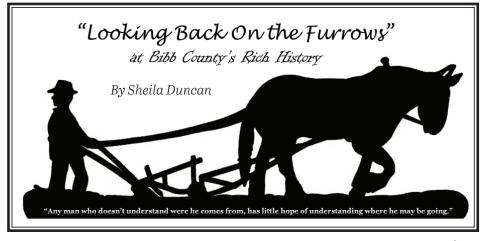
staying in local boarding houses or dining in the town cafés. It wasn't unusual for kids to sneak peeks behind the tents to see how the animals were cared for In some places, the or to catch a glimpse of the performers without their makeup.

> Though times have changed and the traveling circus mostly a thing of the past, the memories live on in photo albums, local lore, and stories passed down through generations.

> For Alabama towns big and small, those circus days were more than just fun—they were unforgettable.







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.

75 YEARS AGO

75 Years Ago in Bibb County: **Centreville's First Rural Electrification Project Lights Up the Community**

Centreville, Ala. – July 1950

Seventy-five years ago this month, a flicker of light changed the lives of countless Bibb County residents forever. In July 1950, the first wave of rural electrification reached the outskirts of Centreville, thanks to the efforts of Alabama Power and the Rural Electrification Administration (REA). The historic switch-on lit up homes, barns, and schools that had previously relied on oil lamps and wood-burning stoves

The scene was one of joy and excitement as local families gathered at the Bibb County Courthouse lawn for a celebration. Then-Mayor J.C. Maddox spoke at the event, calling the expansion of electricity "a giant step forward for the families and farms of Bibb County." Children ran around with lanterns while elders stood in awe as light bulbs glowed brightly from newly installed poles.

The electrification project was part of a na-

tional push to bring modern utilities to America's rural communities after World War II. In Bibb County, the project began in early 1949 and by the summer of 1950, more than 200 homes and farmsteads had been connected to the grid.

Mrs. Lillian James, a lifelong resident of the Pondville community, was quoted in the 1950 edition of The Centreville Press: "We never thought we'd see the day when we could plug in a washing machine or listen to the radio without winding it up. It feels like a miracle."

The event marked not only a technological milestone but also a cultural shift for the rural South, bringing convenience, safety, and a taste of modern life to a generation that had long gone without.

Today, the poles may have changed and the wires may be hidden underground, but the legacy of that summer still shines brightly in the history of Bibb County

100 YEARS AGO

Remembering the 1925 "Blast **Furnace**" Alabama's Hottest Day

On September 5, 1925, Alabama hit its hottest temperature ever recorded — a scorching 112°F in Centreville, Bibb County. The reading, still unmatched, was recorded by local observer Josiah Kennedy and later shared by weather ex-

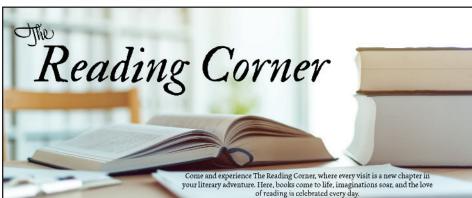
The brutal heat wave began in July, worsened in August, and peaked in September — an unusual pattern, as Alabama's hottest months are typically earlier in the summer. That year, Birmingham reached 106°F the same day as Centreville's record.

With no air conditioning at the time, residents

had few ways to escape the heat. Some tried planting kudzu for shade. Over the summer, there were 36 days over 95°F, 14 over 100°F, and six consecutive days above 102°F.

Adding to the misery, drought gripped the state. Rainfall was nearly nonexistent during the worst of the heat, with just 0.03 inches recorded in September.

Nicknamed the "1925 Blast Furnace," this heat wave remains a grim benchmark for extreme weather in Alabama history — made even more severe by the limited technology and resources of the time.



The Most Beautiful Places in Bibb County, Alabama

BY WHITNEY BUZBEE REPORTER

Nestled in the heart of central Alabama, Bibb County is a region of quiet charm, natural beauty, and rich Southern heritage. Though often overlooked, this rural county offers a variety of breathtaking landscapes, historical treasures, and peaceful getaways that make it one of Alabama's best-kept secrets. From rolling hills and winding rivers to preserved forests and small-town charm, here are some of the most beautiful places to explore in Bibb County.

Cahaba River Nation-

al Wildlife Refuge: One of the crown jewels of Bibb County, the Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge is a stunning sanctuary that protects one of the most biologically diverse rivers in the United States. The refuge is especially known for the rare and dazzling Cahaba lilies, which bloom in the river's shallow shoals each May and June. Visitors come from across the region to witness the lily-covered waters—a true spectacle of natural beauty. The refuge also offers opportunities for canoeing, birdwatching, and photography.

Brierfield Ironworks Historical State Park: Brierfield Ironworks is where history meets natural serenity. Once a vital ironworks during the

Civil War, the park is now a peaceful site for camping, hiking, and family outings. Shaded trails, scenic creeks, and well-preserved historic buildings provide a picturesque and educational experience. It's a place where you can step back in time while enjoying the calm of the Alabama woods.

Bibb County Glades Preserve: Managed by The Nature Conservancy, the Bibb County Glades Preserve is a hidden treasure for nature lovers and botanists. This unique ecosystem is home to dozens of rare and endangered plant species, many of which are found nowhere else in the world. The glades bloom with vibrant wildflowers in spring and summer, creating a dazzling natural display unlike anything else in Alabama.

Talladega National Forest - Oakmulgee Division: Although much of the Talladega National Forest lies outside of Bibb County, the Oakmulgee Division stretches into its eastern region, offering miles of quiet trails, hardwood forests, and wildlife habitats. The area is ideal for hiking, hunting, and off-the-beaten-path exploring. In the fall, the changing leaves paint the landscape in brilliant shades of orange and gold, making it a perfect spot for scenic drives and

photography. Uptown Centreville and Court Square: For those who appreciate historic architecture and small-town charm, downtown Centreville offers a glimpse into the past. The Bibb County Courthouse, built in 1902, anchors the square with its classical columns and stately appearance. Local shops, churches, and preserved storefronts give the area a timeless quality, making it a lovely place for a stroll or quiet afternoon.

Hurricane Creek and Shades Creek Tributaries: Lesser known but rich in natural beauty, Bibb County's smaller creeks and tributaries offer peaceful retreats for kayaking, fishing, or simply soaking in the sounds of nature. With crystal-clear waters, rocky beds, and wooded banks, these waterways invite quiet reflection and adventure alike.

Bibb County may not boast towering mountains or ocean beaches, but its quiet beauty, ecological diversity, and rich Southern character make it a place worth exploring. Whether you're a nature lover, history buff, or someone simply seeking peace and simplicity, Bibb County offers a beautiful escape that feels like home.

So next time you're searching for beauty in Alabama, don't overlook what's right in your backyard— Bibb County is full of hidden treasures just waiting to be discovered.

2026 DISTINGUISHED YOUNG WOMEN

DYW from page 1

Savannah Gibson was named the 1st Alternate. She was the overall Fitness and Self Expression winner and also placed in Talent, Scholastic, and Interview categories. She received the Spirit of DYW Award which is voted on by the participants as the individual who best embodies the essence and values of the program. She also received a scholarship for her Be Your Best Self essay. She was awarded a total of \$3850 in cash tuition scholarships.

Anna Belle Mott received a scholarship as 2nd alternate. She

placed in Interview, Scholastic, Talent, Self Expression and Fitness categories. She also received a scholarship for her Be Your Best Self essay. Anna Belle was awarded a total of \$2900 in cash tuition scholarships.

Takyla Pewee was awarded a scholarship as 3rd alternate. She was the overall Talent winner and placed in Interview, Scholastic, Fitness and Self Expression. She earned a total of \$2300 in cash tuition scholarships.

Dakayla Jackson received a scholarship as 4th alternate, placing in each of the 5 program

categories. Dakayle was awarded \$1950 in cash tuition scholarships.

Savannah Gibson won the Signature Contest, a fundraiser for DYW scholarship opportunities. She raised over \$2000 and received a \$200 Amazon gift card to help cover school supplies.

The success of the Bibb County DYW program would not be possible without the generous support of sponsors and scholarship donations. The following individuals, organizations, and businesses contributed to the 2024 program scholarships:

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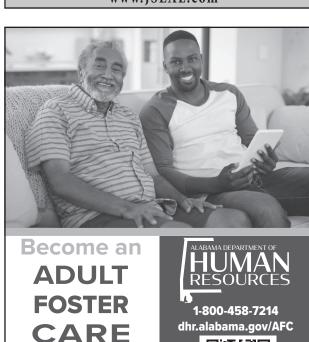
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SUMMER PROGRAM

Summer Program from page 1

This year's summer program ran from June 3 to July 11 and included 20 students. While the facility can house up to 30, class sizes are intentionally kept small to allow for one-on-one assistance.

Students also participate in educational field trips, including visits to the local library and the McWane Science Center in Birmingham. These experiences reinforce learning in engaging and memorable ways.

Parents learned about the program primarily through the organization's Facebook page.

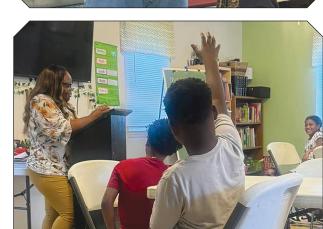
"We send out registration information prior to the summer," Cutts said. "I try to get that information out two months prior to summer starting, school closing, and they simply just complete the registration application, and then we pull those students in to be a part of our summer program."

Looking ahead, Neighborhood House plans to launch an after-school tutoring component in September to continue supporting students who need extra help in specific areas.

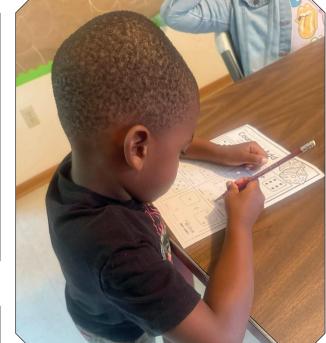
With its balance of academics and fun, the Neighborhood House Tutorial Center continues to be a valuable resource for children and families in Bibb County.

More information can be found here.

https://www.facebook.com/Afterschool2/











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Softball Camp	June 2nd-6th	5 – I2	5:00pm-7:00pm	Jaiden Farnetti
Volleyball Camp	June 16 th - 20 th	8 - 18	8:00am - 12:00pm	Marilyn Jones
Soccer Camp	July 7th-11th	4 – 14	4:00am-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

Register Online https://www.bmcwellness.com/summercamps

GET READY FOR A SUMMER FULL OF FUN!!



