# Centreville Bress

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### Centreville Mayor Election Goes To Court

#### Incumbent Mayor Mike Oakley Files Election Challenge

BY MIKE HOBSON

REPORTER mike.hobson@centrevillepress.com

September 5, 2025

The municipal election for the Office of Mayor ended in a tie contest on August 26, 2025. On Tuesday, September 2, the city council met at Noon to certify the election results. After eligible provisional votes were

sults Challenger Barry Cooner was certified as the election winner by a total of 3 votes, defeating incumbent Mayor Mike Oakley.

Alabama election law allows 48 hours to petition for a recount and 5 days to file an election challenge contest. No recount petition was filed however, today (Septem-

added in to the tied re- ber 5) an election challenge was filed in the Fourth Judicial Circuit Court in Bibb County by Mike Oakley. The challenger (Óakley) is represented in this lawsuit by Attorney Joel Blankenship.

Under Alabama law election challenges are non-jury, to be heard by a Circuit Judge and election contests are to receive

priority over most other docketed cases. Cases are assigned to Judges on a rotational basis. There are three elected judges in the Fourth Circuit; any of them may be assigned the case. Each party in an election contest case must bear their own cost and legal expenses, subject to the losing party being or-

dered to pay the cost

for both sides. Complaint In his Oakley alleges grounds for the contest to be that there was malconduct on behalf of an inspector, canvassing board, and/or other persons involved in the elecprocess and/ or tallying, certifying and/or canvassing of votes and as a result of said malconduct three or more votes were counted in favor of Cooner and/or three or more votes were not counted in favor of Oakley that would have resulted in Oakley having a sufficient number of lawful votes to be declared the winner. He further alleges there were more than three illegal votes cast in the race and there were more than three legal votes that were rejected and not included in the tabulation that would have been included in the tabulation in the favor of Oakley; and that the number of rejected

votes to have him be declared the winner. Oakley alleges that

votes, if declared le-

gal, would sufficiently

change the tabulation

of such election to re-

sult in Oakley having

a sufficient number of

the combination of more than three legal votes that were rejected and illegal votes that were counted would have been sufficient for him to be declared the winner of the election.

Oakley seeks to have the Circuit Court declare him the winner of the election and declare that Barry Coon-

er was not the winner. Municipal election contests are rarely filed in Alabama, however another election contest was filed in North Alabama on Thursday. Decatur resident Maurice Ayers filed a lawsuit in Morgan County Circuit Court on Thursday alleging mayoral candidates were omitted from some ballots and seeking an injunction to void the election. According to a press release Friday from Danny Saafiyah, co-founder of Standing In Power, the lawsuit "comes after it was revealed that ballots in multiple precincts failed to list all certified candidates, and every one of those ballots was both defective and fraudulent.'



#### Veteran, Athlete **Demy Jones to** Lead Disability **Awareness** Course

BY CANDACE JOHNSON

REPORTER

The Bibb Medical Center's "Rolling Together," event will be directed by none other than U.S. Army Veteran and National parafencing athlete Demy Jones.

Jones will lead a new Disability Awareness Course aimed at providing practical resources and community support for individuals with disabilities. The course will take place at the BMC Wellness Center.

Hosted on Sept. 17 at 5:30p.m., the course will cover topics such as wheelchair maintenance,

and bladder care, and nutrition. In addition to practical instruction, Jones said the program is designed to create a space where participants can connect, share experiences and build communi-

Jones's mission is to help others feel supported, informed and empowered. Jones's personal journey as a veteran and athlete offers unique insight into navigating challenges while maintaining health and independence.

More information can be found on the BMC's Facebook page.

#### Senator April Weaver Selected to Co-Chair Rural Roadmap Initiative's Healthcare Committee



State Sen. April Weaver (R - Brierfield) was selected this week to serve as co-chair of the Rural

Roadmap Initiative's healthcare committee, a position that tasks her with developing legislation and policies that improve health-care delivery and outcomes across less developed portions of Alabama.

Trump "President appointed April Weaver to direct healthcare policy for the entire southeastern U.S. during his first term in office, and the same talents and abilities he identified in her will now be used to make

our already great state even better," said Senate President Pro Tem Garlan Gudger (R - Cullman), who leads the Rural Roadmap Initiative. "Her knowledge, her background, her hands-on experience, her leadership, her compassion, and her deep roots in rural

Alabama all combine to make Sen. Weaver the perfect choice to lead this healthcare committee."

Since 2011, more than a half-dozen rural hospitals in Alabama have been forced to close as a result of funding issues, and out of the 52 remaining, roughly half are

considered to be at risk of closure. It is estimated that close to 20 rural hospitals could shut their doors any day.

Among the issues Weaver's committee will address are sustainable funding for rural hospitals, recruiting and retaining doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals in rural Alabama, telehealth and broadband access, and others.

A registered nurse with extensive experience in healthcare administration and policy in Alabama,

President ald Trump appointed Weaver as Region IV

Director of the United States Department of Health and Human Services during his first presidential term.

During the 2025 regular session, Weaver successfully carried and passed legislation that created the Rural Hospital Investment Tax Credit, which allows individuals, businesses, and corporations to receive dollar-for-dollar tax credits for donations they make to rural medical centers located

The Rural Roadmap Initiative is a project of the Alabama Growth Alliance, a 15-member public/private partner-ship created by the Legislature in order to create and promote economic expansion, and in addition to healthcare, its areas of focus and improvement include rural

infrastructure, business growth, workforce development, and quality of life.
State Rep. Phillip
Rigsby (R - Hunts-

ville), who is a pharmacist by profession, will also co-chair the committee on behalf of the Alabama House.



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#### **NEWS**



Pictured: Front L-R--Hank Poore, Garrett Guthrie, Rear L-R--Kathy Poore, Ashley Ferry, Garrett's parents & brother. | Submitted photo

## Hank Poore Foundation Awards Grant to **Bibb County** Resident

**BY MIKE HOBSON** 

mike.hobson@centrevillepress.com

Garrett Guthrie received the gift of an athletic wheelchair that will enable him to participate in wheel-chair basketball summer camps at the Lakeshore Foundation. Garrett is a sophomore at Bibb County High School. His mother, Jennifer Guthrie is a pharmacist at Bibb Medical Center.

Ashley Belcher Ferry, Executive Director of the Hank Poore Foundation said her organization makes gifts of recreational equipment, and funds special events or experiences for disabled youth across the State of Alabama. Garrett is a victim of Cerebral Palsy.

The

Foundation (HPF), founded by a small group of family and friends in 2020, was established with the goal of providing community, connection, and support to people with disabilities. Inspired by Hank Poore, with cerebral palsy, HPF was born out of others with the opportunities and experiences that Hank has had, and is built on the ideals of inclusion, engagement, education, and unity. These ideals have played significant roles in Hank's life, both as he has lived them out and as others have embodied them. Hank is lucky to be a part of a community, both near and far, that has embraced his disability, and to Hank Poore have had the opportu-

nity to engage in adaptive athletics, summer camps, long term employment and a number of other activities and experiences that are not always available to people with disabilities. Hank, and all other staff and vola Tuscaloosa native unteers at HPF, are committed to making these experiences and a desire to provide communities widely available to people with disabilities by providing forums for connection and empowerment, and by working to reach and support families in need of the resources, community, and opportunity that enable individuals with disabilities to live life to the fullest. In so doing, HPF hopes to model and bring forth the sort of inclusivity, compassion, and limitless possibility that changes

lives.
For more information on the Hank Poore Foundation visit their website at the following link: https://hankpoorefoundation.org/

# **Alabama Announces Proposed Rule Changes** for Public Libraries

Proposed Rule Changes Pertain to Public Library Sections for Minors and Sexual Content

BY MIKE HOBSON

REPORTER mike.hobson@centrevillepress.com

On Friday, September 5, 1819 News reported on recent proposed rule changes being considered by the Alabama Public Library Service. Selections of that report follows: tions of that report fol-

"The Alabama Public Library Service (APLS) announced on Thursday the opening of a public comment period for a proposed code amendment address-ing material contain-ing gender ideology in Alabama's libraries.

The code change follows a vote by the APLS Board at its July meeting to approve moving forward with amending state code.

The proposed amendment came in response to requests from concerned parents regarding books containing positive depictions of transgender procedures aimed at children. The change seeks to strengthen existing guidelines by making clear that li-brary sections designated for minors under the age of 18 must remain free from sexual topics deemed inappropriate for children and youth.

The new language specifically states: "Under this section, any material that promotes, encourages, or positively depicts transgender procedures, gender ideology, or the concept of more than two biological genders shall be considered inappropriate for children and youth."

If adopted, this language will be incorporated into state code and will require that books containing such content be relocated to an adult section, where parents can decide whether their children should have access. The comment period will remain open until October 14. After reviewing all input, the APLS Board will determine the final wording to be adopted."

sional butterfly farmer and political strategist, was re-elected as chairman of the Alabama Republican Party for a third consecutive term recently. The vote took place during the party's Winter Meeting, where Wahl ran unopposed, solidifying his position as a key figure in state and national Republican politics.

Wahl, 37, has led the Alabama GOP since 2021 and is also vice chairman of the Republican National Committee's Southern Region. Under his leadership, the party has achieved significant victories, including gains in majorityminority districts and record-breaking fun-draising efforts. He is presently serving as chairman of the Alabama Public Library Service (APLS) board. He recently an-nounced that he will step down from his ALGOP role to run for the office of Alabama Lt. Governor in 2026.

The Alabama Public Library Service (APLS), under the leadership of Wahl, is moving forward with its continued efforts to protect parental rights through a proposed code change amend-

"The Alabama Public Library Service (APLS) board's priority has been listening to parents. For us, the priority is making sure that Alabama libraries represent the parents of our state. We're going to make sure that we move forward, that we listen to the public, and that we stand for the people," the APLC Chairman John Wahl said in a phone interview with 1819 News.

The new proposed code change follows a vote by the APLS Board at its July meet-ing. It would amend the state code to state specifically: "Under this section,

any material that proencourages, motes, or positively depicts transgender proce-

John Wahl, a profes- dures, gender ideolional butterfly farmer ogy, or the concept of more than two biological genders shall be considered inappropriate for children and youth." Wahl

encouraged everyone to participate in the public comment process, saying, "whatever people's perspective, left, right, center, wherever they're coming from." he said, "through hearing people's thoughts on any subject that we can better represent the public."

He explained, "What we have heard overwhelmingly from both sides is that controls should rest with parents on what their children are exposed to."

While this rule would apply to libraries within the APLS system, it would not protect children from such books in school libraries or classrooms. "That accountability does not go into our school libraries. Those are independent, and I would encourage the state legislature and parents to be involved in that process be-cause it's incredibly important that we don't assume that just because our local libraries are being cleaned up and we're making sure they represent the people of Alabama, that does not necessarily go into our school systems." The board previ-

ously moved to move sexually explicit books from children's and youth sections to the adult sections of the library. May guidance issued said, "At its meeting on May 8, 2025, the APLS Executive Board approved the following definition of 'sexually explicit' for the purposes of APLS code and policy compliance. This définition is based on existing state and federal guidelines and is intended to serve as a clear and practical reference as you address this matter in your libraries. In order to comply with state code, please move all books with these 'sexually explicit' topics to the adult section of the library effective immediately, as they do not require a patron reconsideration form to be submitted or individual library board's

review.' Written comments must be signed and include a full name and address. All comments must be received by the Alabama Public Library Service by 4:30 p.m. on October 14. A public hearing will be held at APLS on October 21 at 10:00 a.m. at the agency's Montgomery office.

Sources:

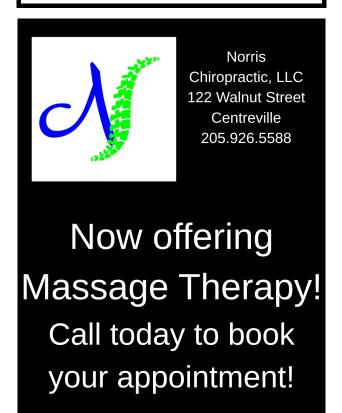
https://birminghamfreepress. com/2025/03/03/john-wahl-re-elected-asalabama-gop-chairamid-controversies/

https://1819news. com/news/item/aplschairman-john-wahlboard-is-listening-toparents-as-board-considers-rule-to-protectyouth

https://admincode.legislature. state.al.us/api/



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#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT



# City of Centreville **Vote Canvass**

BY LYNN HAMRIC REPORTER

September 2025 - 12:00 Noon

Family, friends and concerned citizens gathered at Centreville City Hall to hear the reading of the Provisional Ballots, which was to be the deciding factor of the tied election for the mayoral candidates. The tie vote brought about various opinions over the past week. Once again Centreville makes national news as several TV stations were present.

Mayor Oakley called the meeting to order at noon followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer.

Council members present were: Linda Lawrence, Dianne Epperson, Brad Colburn, Don Mack Mike Nichols.

Also present were City Attorney Mitch Kemmer, Police Chief Smith and Joel R. Blankenshp, Attorney for Mayor Oakley.

City Attorney Kemmer explained the process, one part being to ask Clerk Tracy Griffin if the Provisional Ballot box had been opened nor to this meeting Clerk Griffin stated the box had been secure and unopened. Tracy then unsealed the box, sorted said ballots, enclosed in two sealed envelopes from

the Registrar. One envelope, marked ineligible contained six ballots. These were set Brad Colburn - Absent aside. The second envelope contained four envelopes of eligible ballots. Clerk Griffin read the numbers for the four eligible bal- recorded as having lots as follows: 3 were cast for Barry Cooner and 1 for Mike Oakley. The eligible ballots were then viewed by the council members ecutive and Mayor Oakley. Councilman Don Mack questioned the fact that one of the four envelopes appeared to not have been sealed at the time the box was sealed. There was discussion between the council members, City Clerk and City Attorney. On two occasions during this discussion, Attorney Kemmer left the council chamber to place a phone call for clarification. Attorney Kemmer advised the law requires the cetification of said ballots. The Council then certified the results with Barry Cooner being officially elected Mayor.

Mayor Oakley had 48 hours in which to request a recount, 5 days to file a contest.

Clerk Griffin then read a Resolution declaring Barry Cooner the elect- Minutes were read, ed mayor. A motion to approve the Resolution was made (Mack) seconded (Epperson). Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned. a

#### CENTREVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: September 2, 2025

by Lynn LHamric

Mayor Oakley called the meeting to order at five o'clock followed by the Pledge of Al-

legiance and prayer.

Roll Call: Mike Nichols - 5:01 Linda Lawrence – 5:01 Ер-Dianne person 5:01 Don Mack - 5:01

Minutes were approved with the folcorrections: lowing A motion was been made by Don Mack should be recorded as Mike Nichols. Brad Colfor Exburn called Session not Brad Nichols.

Request to Address the Council: Hunter Murphy brought a complaint against the police department, officer Gray in particular, to the council after having been unsuccessful in prior conversations. This involved actions by Officer Gray during a traffic stop while children were in the vehicle. Chief Smith was unaware of this and discussions between Murphy and Smith are to hopefully resolve the situation.

Business: Request the status of the VAPE City At-Ordinance. torney Mitch Kemmer continues to work on this, a VAPE Tax Ordinance and/or Resolution. A motion to pursue the Tax Ordinance was made (Mack) seconded (Nichols). Motion carried.

Business: New Centreville Main Street – The Director presented the awards received at a recent conference and updated on continued progress being made.

Police Chief Report: Monthly

porting of calls will • available be at next meeting. Officer Trent Page has returned to the Chilton County Police Department effective August 29, 2025. Š R O 's working are well far this year. thus Bids for new digital signs presented. \$20,300, \$17,300 and \$16,500. This does not include the \$500 shipping from Atlanta. action taken. The training class October. car is Requested to begin preliminary work for possible officers to the academy. The academy begins January 26, 2026. Approved Reported that work needs to begin on the minimum salary for a post-certified officer. This needs to be based on expe-

Request to replace the spot light on the Tahoe that was damaged by a low hanging wire (\$500-\$600). No action taken. Request to replace black Tahoe door

hinge. No action taken Chief continues to work on the 2025-2026 budget. Smoke detectors have been ordered and will be installed by Chief Smith. Six for City Hall and six for the Police Department. Neither building has smoke detectors.

The interview room needs a separate camera system for conducting interviews. This system needs to be secure and not visible to the public. No action taken.

The next council meeting will be at five o'clock on September 2025.

Meeting adjourned.

#### **BRENT CITY COUNCIL**

**WOODSTOCK TOWN COUNCIL** 

Submitted by the Town of Woodstock

Meeting Date: August 18, 2025

by Lynn LHamric

rience and creden-

tials. No action taken.

Mayor Bobbie White called the meeting to order at five o'clock, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer.

Roll Barbara Morrison 5:01 Tracy Sanders 5:01 Jones Chad 5:01 5:01 Owings Tom Conway 5:01 Jerry

a motion made to Court Report – None (Owings) seconded (Morrison). Motion carried.

After review of AP motion to approve payment was (Conway)

The

Meeting Date: September 2, 2025

seconded (Jones). Motion carried.

A request by the Water Board was made to give a \$500 memorial for Danny Russell. A motion to approve this expenditure was made (Owings) seconded (Sanders). Motion Carried.

Police Report – None

Request Adto dress Council - Li-Board, brary Beth Downs came as a follow-up to a previous request for the City of Brent to add a library

assistant to their payroll. Mayor White that under advice of their attorney this would not be approved.

PersonnelAction:None

Business: Collecting Fees at Heritage Park The Council addressed the rental of the pavilion and not the entire park Street DepartmentBudgetproposed.

• A/C Unit in Police Department Nelson has ordered necessary part(s) and is making the needed repairs.

Culvert date - The matter of several culverts that need inspecting was discussed and the company is to be contacted to see about a reduced rate for multiples. Tabled. 2 0 2 5 Budget 2026 The council received the preliminary budget and a discussion followed A moinclude a 5% increase pay was made (Jones) seconded (Sand-

Meeting adjourned.

ers). Motion carried.

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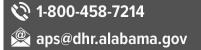
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#### STOP Elder Abuse, Neglect & **Exploitation**

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Town Council of the Town of Woodstock, Alabama met in a Regular Council Meeting at the Town Hall on Tuesday, September 2, 2025, at 5:00 P.M. A quorum being present: Mayor Jeff Dodson called motion so the meeting to order at

5:00 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Dodson. The following Council Members were pres-Park Ronnie Kinard. Kellie Mears, Fall Ball Uniforms Lee Parks, Ernestine Johnson and Don Bowling. Town Attorney Boozer Downs, Police Chief Len Price and Director of Library and Media

COUN-APPROVAL: CIL

Services Michele Dick-

ey were also present.

□Council Member Kellie Parks made the motion to approve the August 18, 2025 minutes as previously submitted by email. Motion was seconded by Council Member Ronnie Kinard and the motion so carried.

□Council Member Lee Mears made the motion to approve the July 2025 financials. Motion was seconded by Council Member Ernestine Johnson and the motion so carried.

□ Council Member Don Resolution #2025-09-

Bowling made the motion to table the review of quotes received for the following expense: Library – Exterior Painting Motion was seconded by Coun-Member Ronnie Kinard and the carried.

□ Council Member Kellie Parks made the motion to approve the following invoices for & Recreation: SuperSports -

\$1,417.00 Motion was seconded by Council Member Ernestine Johnson and the motion so carried.

II. A Y -REPORT OR'S Magis-Α. Certifications trate Council Member Lee Mears made the motion to approve a pay increase of \$2.00 per hour for the Assistant Clerk and Court Clerk for completing and passing the Municipal Magistrates' Certification Program. Motion was seconded by Council Member Ernestine Johnson and the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution #2025-09-01 -Property Donated Council Member Ernestine Johnson made the motion to adopt

01, accepting the donated property (0.67that parcel) acre adjoins the town hall campus, to be used as a recreational area for the construction of a municipal playground and designated as a Town Park. The motion was seconded by Council Member Don Bowling and the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution #2025-09-02 - Playground Bid Opening Upon proper notice by posting outside the purchasing office (Town Hall) pursuant to Section 39-2-2, Code of Alabama 1975, sealed bids were opened. Council Member Ronnie Kinard made the motion to adopt Reso-#2025-09-02, lution awarding the only

responsible bid in the amount of \$137,940.00 to Creative Play Solutions. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lee Mears and the motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd.)

Avenu Sales Tax Penalty Abatement Request Council Member Ernestine Johnson made the motion to waive

the sales tax penalty request from Avenu Insights. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kellie Parks and the motion so carried. A copy of the request letter is attached to said minutes.

Govdeals.com - Minimum Bid for 2014 & 2017 Chevy Tahoe Member Council Lee Mears made the motion to approve \$5,000.00 as the minimum bid to be accepted for the 2014 & 2017 Chevy Tahoe vehicles, which will be placed on govdeals. com website. motion was seconded by Council Member Kellie Parks and the motion so carried.

Road Engineering Council Member Ronnie Kinard made the motion to approve a \$25,000 payment for a traffic study to be conducted in Tuscaloosa County from Exit 100 to Exit 97. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ernestine Johnson and the motion so carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Public comments were heard.

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### WEST BLOCTON TOWN COUNCIL Meeting Date: August 18, 2025 Submitted by the Town of West Blocton

The Town Council of the Town of West Blocton, Alabama met in a Regular Council Meeting at the Municipal Building on Monday, August 18, 2025, at 7:00pm. A quorum being present, Mayor Daniel Sims called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Prayer was led by Fred Lynch. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Glenn Johnson. Roll was called by Town Clerk Brandy Fancher. Present: Fred Lynch, Glenn Johnson, Holly Barnett, Blane Sherron, Kristen Nash A b s e n t : Mayor Notes: Halloween on Main Street will be October 30, 2025 The Pavillion at Town Park has been completed. There will be a dedication in the coming weeks in honor of Mrs. Parker. Collene I. Council Approval: Previous Council Meeting Minutes 8-4-2025 Council member Glenn Johnson made the motion to approve the previous Council Meeting Minutes for 8-4-2025. Motion was seconded by Council member Holly Barnett. All in favor and motion so carried. Municipal 2025 Election Meals Roll Call Vote was

viding Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner to the Poll Workers from the Hometown Cafe, Tiger Hut and Bloc. Coun-The cil Member Fred Lynch - NO Council Member Glenn Johnson-YES Council Member Holly Barnett - YES Council Member Blane Sherron-YES Council Member Kristen Nash - YES NO-I YES-4 Motion Passes Resolution 2025-8-18 Severe Weather Preparedness Tax Holiday Ron Can Vote was used to approve Resolution 2025-8-18 for the town to participate in the 2026 Weather Severe Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday. Council Member Fred Lynch -YES Council Member Glenn Johnson-YES Council Member Hony Barnett - YES Council Member Sherron-YES Blane Council Member Kristen Nash - YES NO-0 YES-5 Mo-Passes tion Purchase of Dog Kennel \$249.00 Roll Call Vote was used to approve the purchase of a Dog Kennel for the Police Department in the amount of \$249.00. Council Member Fred Lynch - YES Council Member Glenn Johnson-YES Council Mem-Holly Barnett Speak ber - YES Council Member used to approve pro- Blane Sherron-YES

Council Member Kristen Nash - YES NO-0 YES-5 Motion Passes Kornegay Materials Roll Call Vote was used to approve Kornegay Materials \$29,000 for the paving at Municipal Building. Council Member Fred Lynch -YES Council Member Glenn Johnson - YES Council Member Holly Barnett - YES Council Member Blane Sherron-YES Council Member Kristen Nash - YES NO-0 YES-5 Motion Passes Annual Water Report presented by Wa-Superintendent Jonathan Lawley Page of2 Executive Session for IO minutes@ 7:20pm - Motion was made by Council Member Kristen Nash to enter executive session and was seconded Council Member Blane Sherron. Council Member Glenn Johnson made motion to enthe ter back into regular session. Coun-Blane cil Member Sherron seconded the motion. All in favor and motion so carried. District I - Coun-Member Lynch reported a limb down on Magnolia District 2-5 - No Report Citizens

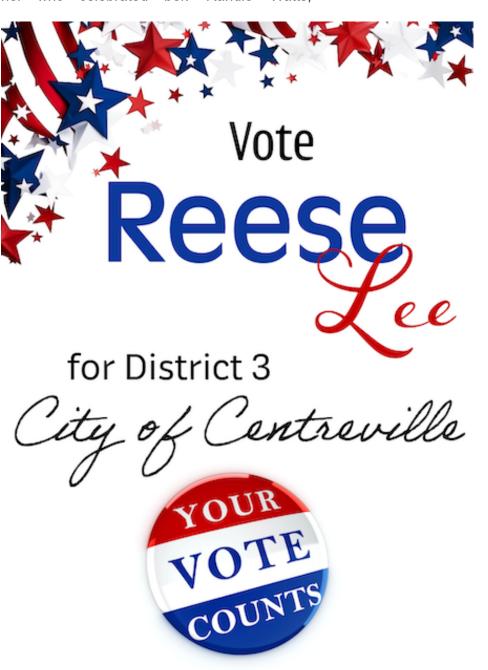
None

#### **Centreville News**

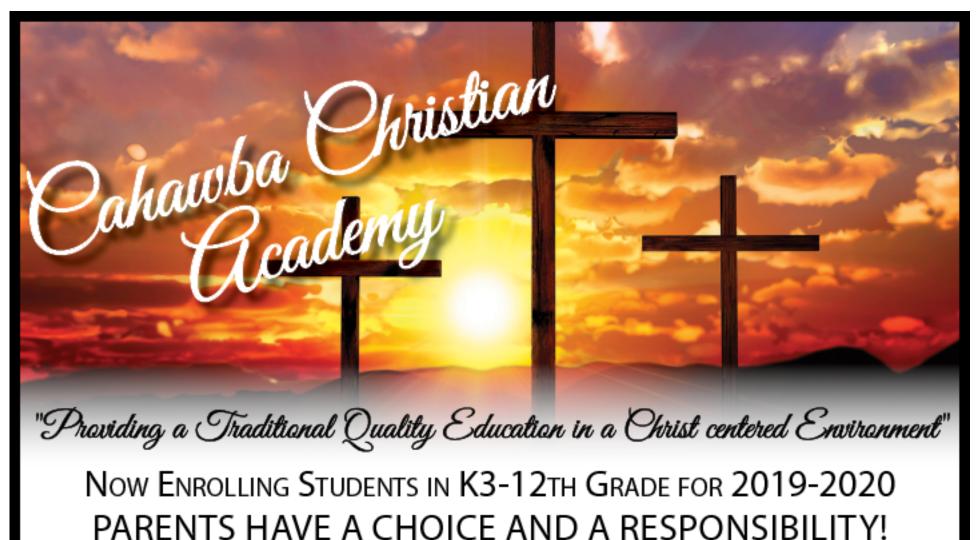
Congratulations to Bill Murphy and Carol Belcher who were united in marriage on Auqust 31, 2025 at Haysop Baptist Church. Belated birthday wishes go out to Luka Seales who celebrated his 5th Birthday on August 30, 2025. Also to Rowan Clinner who celebrated

By Brenda Hubbard his 2nd Birthday on September 1, 2025. The WMU of Brent Baptist Church met on Tuesday night, September 2, 2025 at 6p.m. We wish to extend sympathy to the Averette family for the recent loss of their loved one. Birthday wishes go out to several that have birthdays in September. Randle Watts,

Jacob Rushton, Kay-Whaley, ley Speights, Ramona Dill, Melissa Camp, Camille Hudson, Flo Franklin, Brenda Dial, Linda Cox, Myra Steele, Rhonda Levert, Kayla Cooner and Tasha Tidwell. If you have news call it in at (205) 316-1181. Take care & God bless.



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Centreville Press | Page 5 **September 12, 2025** 



# Community Calendar

BioBlitz September 27th, 2025, from 7 AM – 5 PM Tannehill Ironworks Historical State Park, 12632 Confederate Parkway, McCalla, AL 35111

Ridgeville Nazarene Church Fall Festival October 19th, 4:00 PM

Bibb County Democratic Party - September 16, 6p.m. at the Brent-Centreville Library

September 20th: Brierfield Ironworks' Car Show and Flea Market from 10am-2pm! The Car Show will be judged at 1pm. We will have food trucks, vendors and live music!

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





Upcoming Extension Don't wait to register for er organisms. Bibb 60 events! Classes require Extension is partner- 944, 10 people to be held. ing with Tannehill Iron-tion, If you want to make works Historic State The Beef & Forage sure you don't miss a program, contact Wild our office at 205-926- has our office at 205-926- has been add- that offers both expe-4310 and tell us the ed to Tannehill. rienced and beginning program you are in- People can decide livestock and forage terested in, along with what type of plant/an- producers hands-on your email address and phone number, we will contact you ries we have. There weed when the date, time will be leaders for current and location are set! each category to as- farming techniques. Bibb County Extension sist with identification. Auburn University speis also happy to pro- This is a free event! cialists and experts vide programs to your Registration is en- will be leading the school, business, civ- couraged ic, church, or nonprofit required. organization! of our programs are https://www.aces. free and we wel-Thank you for your continued support September of Bibb County Ex- 25th, 30th, Programs! Évents 60 BioBlitz September 27th, 2025, from 7 AM – 5 PM Historical Park, 12632 Confederate Parkway, AL 35111 A BioBlitz is a collabevent where scientists Health, Nutrition, For- month to learn about and the public work ages, Economics, our environment, ways together to find and Environmental Stew- to help safeguard identify as many dif- ardship, Meats, & Re- human, animal, and ferent species as cord Keeping. Your environmental health, possible in a specific registration fee covers and ways to reduce area over a set peri- all 4 nights & meals. your ecological footod. It provides a quick Register online at print. Whether you "snapshot" of a lo- https://www.aces.edu/ are an educator, encation's valuable data for con- or servation, updating park Green-Johnson resources, and engaging communities with more their local environ-

on citizen science.

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Field

17th

Bibb and identify observa- 10 AM - 3 PM tive Plants for North • Family Conflict Reso- County youth in mid-Activ- tions of plants, ani- Blackbelt Research Alabama, with AAMU lution - October 7, 2025 dle & high school Events mals, fungi, and oth- and Extension Center Herbarium Curator at 6:00 PM to 12:00 PM Monthly meet-Park and Forever Field Day is an annu-Wild on property that al statewide program imal they want to look demonstrations for from the catego- forage management, will be leaders for current research, and but You may Most register online at edu/event/bioblitz/ everyone! Beef System Short Extension Course – (4 Nights) tem. Register on-September 23rd, line at https://aub. 25th, 30th, & October ie/Oct17FieldDay 2nd, 5pm – 7pm, \$40 or contact 60 County Road Green-Johnson 944, Marion Junc- (205) 36759 moré tion,  $\mathsf{AL}$ M – 5 PM Join us on Septem- Online Events Ironworks ber 23rd, 25th, 30th, ONLINE - Eco-Friend-State and October 2nd for ly a multi-session Beef ronmental Series System Short Course September 12th, 2025, event. We will cover from 11 AM – 11:45 AM two topics each night. Join us on the secshort-term Reproduction, biodiver- event/beef-system- vironmental generating short-course-night-1/# fessional, (205)information. ment through hands- 2025 Beef and For-

County Road Marion Junc-36759 identification, techniques. not sessions and providing feedback to participants. This is a free program provided by Alabama Cooperative Syscontact Court at 659-6796 for information. Friday Envi-Series Herd ond Friday of each you pronacontact Court ture-lover, tune in to at discoverhowtobeabetter 659-6796 for steward of the en-Regisvironment. tration is required. at 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM teamwork, For- Sessions include: • Estate Planning – speaking, deci-Day September 12- Fifteen September 30, 2025 sion-making, and more. from Tried and True Na- at 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM Open to all Bibb

Lynne Why Pruning Shapes Agreements -Trees Over Urban with Register online at day-environmental-se-Law Course (Zoom) 22nd, September 2025 from 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM Last This course meets Each ADPH training for PM starting a Cottage about Alabama laws, approved foods, sales locations, labeling, and food safety. \$25 Registration Fee. Cerlabeling, tification is valid for 3 years. Online only, Events non-refundable, -Friend- non-transferable. Limit law-course-zoom-3/ ONLINE Saving the Family Proper-Heirs Information Series Do you have "famihow to protect and Bibb resolve ïssues regarding famisessions: tiple • Overview of Heirs'

Weninegar • Trusts, LLCs, and October 10- How and Tenant-in-Common Oc-Time, tober 14, 2025 at Exten- 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM sion Agent Joel Potter • Heirs' Property Suc-November 14- Winter cess Stories and Bird Feeding, with Ur- Case Studies – Ocban Extension Agent tober 21, 2025 at Dr. Roosevelt Robinson 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM https://www.aces.edu/ Register online at event/eco-friendly-fri- https://www.aces.edu/ ries-7/2025-09-12/ ly-property-heirs-prop-

event/saving-the-fami-ONLINE-Cottage Food ertyinformationseries-2/ ONLINE - At Home Beekeeping Series Tuesday Last 6:30 Each Month ` -7:30 September 30th — Food Business. Learn Using Nucs in Your Beekeeping Operation Ĕllis, Jamie Uni-Florida versity of FREE online alter- Activities, native to your usual beekeeping club meet-40. Register online at ing. Experts will preshttps://www.aces.edu/ ent on timely topics event/cottage-food- and the presentation will be followed by Q&A. This series is presented via Zoom and Property Facebook Register at https://www.aces.edu/ blog/topics/bees-pol-County 4-H Council Youth Calling all Bibb Counly (heirs') property ty middle & high This event has mul- school students! Join the Bibb County 4-H Youth Council

To sign up or get more info, contact Holly Hall at (205) 928-2981 or HAH0056@ auburn.edū Don't miss this chance to grow, lead, and make a difference in your community! Club's are FREE and open to all Bibb County youth ages 9-18. Youth ages 5-8 are welcome with an adult present. Adults are welcome to apply to volunteer. You' must provide your own transportation to club meetings. Water and snacks are provided. First time participants must pre-register by calling the Bibb County Extension Office at 205-926-4310. Join us from home on To stay up to date on the last Tuesday of all Bibb County Exeach month for this tension Programs and subscribe to our online Bibb County eNewslethttps://www. ter at aces.edu/go/bibb Alabama Cooperative Extension System (Alabama A&M University and Auburn University) is committed to affirmative equal opportunity, and ly property" that does linators/at-home-bee-not have a clear ti-tle? Log in to learn 4-H Community Clubs grams serve all people regardless of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, marital status, family/parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, Property in Alabama – and build real-world reprisal, or because all September 23, 2025 skills in leadership, or a part of an individpublic ual's income is derived from any public assistance program.

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#### **EDITORIALS & OPINIONS**

#### **ANNOUNCING OUR NEW FORMAT**

Thank you for your continued support of the Centreville Press and for supporting our work in the Bibb County community with your paid subscription.

As weekly newspapers across our state have discontinued their print publications we are continuing to struggle with the economic headwinds of these challenging times. In order to continue with producing our weekly news we have no option other than to find ways to operate in a more economically feasible manner. This means that the era of producing a printed full weekly edition is coming to an end for us.

We will be pausing production of the full weekly edition printed newspaper after our August 29 edition. We plan to continue to produce the same community newspaper in digital format only. Our weekly mailing to subscribers will include only abbreviated content and legal notices. The remainder of our weekly content will be available only on our digital platform.

Our weekly full edition newspaper will be available on your digital devices at www.bibbvoice.com along with other breaking or happening news that we can publish immediately on our digital platform. You will be able to view the same newspaper you are accustomed to in electronic format and you can access the product on your phone, desktop computer or other digital devices.

Soon we will have a downloadable App for the the Bibb Voice platform and subscribers will be able to enable push notifications. When we publish breaking news you will receive a digital notification. We will have bonus content that is only available to subscribers. Your current print subscription will allow you to immediately access the digital platform without any additional expense to you.

One of the benefits to you will be immediate access to the weekly newspaper via the digital version, with no delay from the mailing of newspapers to your home or business. You will also receive the benefit of full color images that a printed product cannot match.

We sincerely appreciate your business and hope that you will continue to support local news products on our digital platform. Thank you for your continued support of the Centreville Press.

David Daniel, President Bibb Community Media, Inc. Centreville Press & Bibb Voice

### Weak Sentence for Rapist an Injustice for Crime Victims and Insult to Law Enforcement Who **Captured Him**

Submitted DeMarco Paul

Crime and the Alabama criminal justice system continue to be major issues in our state. unfortunately, And despite politicians promises to increase public safety, there is still a long way to go. A horrendous case out of Jefferson County is a perfect example.

Recently, the Leeds Department Police rightfully questioned an incredibly lenient sentence meted out by a judge assuring that a violent felon will merely serve five years in prison even after he pled guilty to 2 counts of firstdegree rape. To make matters worse, as part of the plea deal,

charges and a count for human trafficking were dropped by prosecutors. The five years is all that will be mandated, despite the judge sentencing him to 20 years in a state penitentiary. This rapist will then likely be back on the Alabama streets despite the devastating crimes he confessed. The convoluted sentencing scheme is referred to as a "split," and very few victims probably understand the realities of the time an inmate will serve.

Most folks can agree that serving five years for the horrible crimes committed is not justice for those victims. In addition, police believe there

two additional rape were more crimes perpetrated by this violent felon and they have asked victims other come forward. It is hard enough for law enforcement to do the difficult work to conduct an investigation to provide the evidence to arrest and have a criminal convicted. Thus, to turn around and allow the rapist to serve so little time behind bars is not fair either to the detectives who made this case.

> passed legislation that gave more latitude for judges to give "split sentences" for convicted criminals, which means a lot less time in prison for serious crimes. This type of injustice

Lawmakers recently

should be the impetus for Alabama State representatives and Senators to fix the problems with split sentences when the legislature is back in session. Actually, Alabama leaders should take the best next step and pass truth in sentencing, other states have done recently.

Public safety and crime victims in Alabama deserve no

Paul DeMarco is a former member of the Alabama House Representatives of and can be found on formerly Twitter, @Paul DeMarco

#### Inside the Statehouse

By Steve Flowers

#### Cynthia **Almond Outstanding** Choice for PSC President

September 10, 2025

of Governor Kay Ivey's greatest legacies will be her outstanding wisdom and prudence in her appointments to fill important judicial governmental openings. She has shown amazing leadership in capacity over her decade as Governor.

had opportunity to make stellar another appointment in June. Ivey appointed State Representative Cynthia Lee Almond to be the new President of the Alabama Public Service Commission. The vacancy occurred when veteran PSC Commissioner Twinkle Andress Cavanaugh left to take the Trump Administration appointment Alabama's Director for Rural Development at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. She will work closely with President Trump's Secretary of the Department U.S. Agriculture, of **Brooke** Rollins.

Twinkle has been one of the most successful

political figures in Alabama for several decades. She has served as President of the Public Service Commission since 2012 and was first elected Associate Commissioner in 2010. In 2020, she received the most votes in Alabama history for a nonpresidential candidate. Twinkle served a stint as Chairman of the State Republican Party at a young age.

making the appointment ` of Cynthia Almond to the important rate setting Presidency, PSC Ivey stated, "Cynthia" has proven to be an effective extremely public servant, and I am confident the people of Alabama will be even better served when she takes the helm at the Public Service Commission."

Governor Ivey's public comments were exuberant, but privately, she was even more excited to get someone of Cynthia Almond's character, integrity, and experience to take the post. Cynthia successful attorney and legislator.

Cynthia was born and raised in Tuscaloosa. Herdaddywasalawyer and State Legislator Tuscaloosa. She followed in his footsteps. She has had a prominent career in law and governmental service. She began

the practice of law in her hometown after graduating from the University of Alabama Law School. legal work has been focused on estate planning, business law, and real estate.

Ms. Almond served

four, four-year terms on the Tuscaloosa City Council prior to being elected to her Republican State seat. House Her legislative House seat is within the confines of Tuscaloosa. She has been one of state's outstanding legislators during her twoterms in the House.

In the State House, Almond served as Chair of the Tuscaloosa County Legislative Delegation and as a member of the Ways and Means Education Committee, Judiciary Committee, and Rules Committee. She has worked closely with Governor Ivey on several of her legislative priorities.

This House seat has become a prominent steppingstone position. encompasses Tuscaloosa upscale enclaves. Prior to Cynthia Almond the taking Seat, Representative Poole was in the seat for 10 years. Bill was probably the most important House member of the 105-member body for a decade while he wrote the State Education Budget as Chairman of the Ways House and Committee. Means Poole became Governor Ivey's State Finance Director at the beginning of the quadrennium, where he still serves. State Finance Director is generally considered the most important post in the Cabinet.

Prior to Poole being in this House Seat 63, Dr. Robert Bentley, who was probably the most prominent dermatologist Tuscaloosa, was in the seat. Dr. Bentley from moved Druid City Seat to the Governor's mansion.

Before Governor Bentley, prominent Tuscaloosa Businessman Parker Jr. served in this prized seat. His father, the original Tim Parker, served in this House from Tuscaloosa, also, Tim Parker Jr. was recently named to the Alabama Business Hall of Fame.

the In upcoming special election, Tuscaloosa Councilman, Norman Crow is expected to fill this illustrious House seat. He will be tracking Cynthia Almond. He is in the City Council Seat she left to become State Representative. will do a great job.

There have been several other new legislative seat departures arrivals this year. State Representative Matt Woods (R-Jasper) has moved to the Senate taking the seat left by Senator Greg Reed, who became head of the new Department Workforce Development. There are two open seats in Cullman County. Heath Allbright is set to take the seat left by veteran Representative Randall Shedd. Cindy Myrex won a very impressive for a hotly contested Cullman County House district this August. She took the seat of retiring Representative Corey Harbison. Debbie Wood Chambers County House seat, unexpectedly. She will probably be followed by Kristin Nelson, who is currently the Chairman of County Chambers Republican Party. Her husband, Jeff Nelson, is the popular Sherriff of Chambers County.

See you next week.

Steve Flowers

Alabama's leading political columnist. His weekly column appears in over 60 Alabama newspapers. He served 16 years in the state legislature. Steve may reached at steve@ steveflowers.us.

## Centreville Press

P.O. Box 127 • 32 Court Square West • Centreville, Al 35042 Phone (205) 926-9769

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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. Four Points 926-5565

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Brent, AL

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Free Will Apostolic Holiness

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190 Tabernacle Rd.

Pondville Methodist

9:15 - 10 AM Sundays

Freindship Rd. • Brent

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Centreville 256-577-8137

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West Blocton Bible

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205.826.5763

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**Brent Baptist** Brent 926-7687

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Cedar Grove Baptist West Blocton 938-0828

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Schultz Creek Baptist West Blocton 938-9766

Shady Grove Baptist Randolph 366-1163

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

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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

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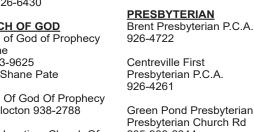
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Yahweh's Harvest 926-9044

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





Gospel music has long carried messages of hope, faith, and the promise of heaven. Among its most enduring songs is "The Good Ole Gospel Ship," a hymn that has been sung for nearly a century in churches, revivals, and gospel singings across America. The song was written in 1923 by Rev. Marion W. Stevenson, a minister and songwriter from Missouri. Stevenson was known for penning hymns that reflected the Christian believer's assurance of eternal life. "The Good Ole Gospel Ship" uses the imagery of a great vessel carrying passengers to glory, drawing from biblical themes of heaven

as a final destination and Christ as the way. In 1937, the song gained widespread popularity when it was first recorded by The Selah Jubilee Singers, one of the earliest gospel quartets to perform on radio. Over the years, it was picked up by countless southern gospel groups, becoming a staple in hymnbooks and a favorite at singings. all-night The song's lively tempo and simple chorus made it easy for congregations to join in. Its message—boarding the "gospel ship" and leaving behind sorrow for eternal joy—resonated deeply with people during the Great Depression and World War II, offering

hope in difficult times. the Perhaps famous recordings came from groups like The Chuck Wagon Gang and later The Happy Goodmans, who helped cement the song's place in the canon of southern gospel classics. Today, it is still sung by quartets, choirs. and congregations, bridging generations with its joyful proclamation of faith. Nearly a century af-Nearly a conter its writing, "The Ole Gospel Ship" continues to remind believers of the promise of heaven and the joy of joining together in song as they look toward that eternal shore.

# Finding Peace in a Restless World

By: Whitney Buzbee

In a world filled with constant noise, rushing schedules, and anxious hearts, peace can often feel out of reach. Yet the Bible reminds us that true peace is not found in circumstances, but in Christ Himself. "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your nearts be troubled and do not be afraid." — John 14:27 Worldly peace is fragile. It depends on everything going just right—a quiet home,

a healthy body, a

call, one diagnosis, or one storm can shake what we thought was secure. That's why the peace Jesus offers is so different. His peace isn't dependent on the absence of trouble; it's His presence within the trouble. This peace comes when we pause long enough to place our worries into Goas hands, remembering that He is bigger than our problems and faithful in every season. It grows as we practice prayer instead of panic, trust instead of fear.

steady income. But If you find yourself life rarely stays that restless today, take smooth. One phone a moment to breathe deeply and whisper a prayer: "Lord, still my heart. Remind me of Your peace that passes understanding." You may not see your situation change right away, but you'll begin to feel the calming presence of the One who promised never to leave you. Peace is not sometning we chase—it's Someone we welcome. When we open our hearts to Christ. His peace becomes an anchor in the storm.

#### Plain & Simple **Crockpot Chicken and Dumplings** By: Whitney Buzbee

Ingredients: 2 lbs boneless, skinless chicken

breasts or thighs

1 medium onion, diced

2 cloves garlic, minced

3 medium carrots, sliced

2 celery stalks, sliced 4 cups chicken broth

1 can (10.5 oz) cream of chicken

1 tsp dried thyme 1 tsp dried parsley

1/2 tsp black pepper

1 tsp salt (to taste) 1 can (16 oz) refrigerated biscuits

(like Pillsbury Grands) Optional: 1 cup frozen peas or

corn (add in the last 30 minutes)

Instructions:

Layer the base: Place chicken, onion, carrots, and celery in the crockpot.

Add liquids and seasonings: Pour

in chicken broth and cream of chicken soup. Stir in garlic, thyme. parsley, salt, and pepper. Cook: Cover and cook on Low for 6–7 hours or High for 3–4 hours, until chicken is tender. Shred chicken: Remove chicken,

shred with two forks, and return to

the crockpot. Add dumplings: Cut biscuits into small pieces (about 6-8 per biscuit) and drop them into the crockpot. Stir gently to coat. Finish cooking: Cover and cook on High for 1 more hour, stirring occasionally, until dumplings are fluffy and cooked through.

Optional veggies: Add peas or corn in the last 30 minutes.

• Tip: If you like a creamier texture, stir in ½ cup heavy cream right before serving.



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#### BIBB COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

CHOCTAWS VS. TAIRRANT WILDCATS



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#### **WEST BLOCTON**



#### West Blocton High School Homecoming Court

Left to Right:

Maddie Scurlock, Anna Belle Mott, Gracie Bates,
Kennedie Williams, Christalee Rodgers

#### West Blocton High School Class Maids

9th Grade - Chrisalyn Samson 10th Grade - Karleigh Foster 11th Grade - Maliyah Sanders





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#### The BACK PAGE



# Smoked Magic Serves Up Flavor and Tradition in Woodstock

BY CANDACE JOHNSON Reporter

Since opening in 2019, Smoked Magic has become a staple in the Woodstock community. Owners Heath and Star Martin are no strangers to the food business, with nearly a decade before Smoked Magic, the couple ran the popular food truck Taco Magic, known for artisan tacos made with smoked meats marinated in special blends of herbs and spices.

"We have always had a passion for cooking with smoke," Martin said. That passion has fueled a reputation for flavorful dishes and reliable community service, with Martins catering pounds of meat for holiday tables and local events. "With the help of our amazing family, we have been able to proudly fix up some of what we believe are the finest smoked meats around," he added.

Tradition runs deep at Smoked Magic.

Their banana pudding comes straight from Martin's greatgrandmother's recipe, which has been passed down for more than a century. But while rooted in family history, the Martins aren't afraid to experiment. A fan favorite is their Jack Daniels and bacon BBQ sauce, a creative spin on a classic that has been evolving for 20 years.

Of all the savory options on the menu, customers can't get enough of the pork sandwiches and loaded BBQ fries. The fries, topped with a signature four-cheese nacho sauce, stand out as one of the restaurant's most unique offerings. Preparing dishes is truly a labor of love, with meats smoked for up to 20 hours using hickory wood, salt, pepper, and garlic. "That leaves our meats seasoned without being overwhelming and just the right amount of smoky flavor," Martin explained.

Every meal at Smoked Magic comes with their signature BBQ sauce on the side, but what really sets the restaurant apart is its commitment to bringing people together. "We see it every day, from a family grabbing dinner after a long day, to a group of Mercedes

# Study Abroad Opportunities for High School Students



employees on lunch break, or even a couple traveling from Canada to Key West who just googled 'great food near me,'" Martin said.

Beyond the restaurant, Smoked Magic shows up wherever the community gathers. They serve food at Trade Days at Tannehill Ironworks, the an-Volkswagen Pilgrimage, and local school events, as well as feeding volunteers during severe weather cleanup efforts. "The camaraderie of breaking bread together can make all the difference," Martin said.

Running a BBQ business means long hours in hot kitchens, but for Martins, the community makes it worthwhile. Smoked Magic sets itself apart with both craftsmanship and connection, offering a Chef's Special every Friday and their award-winning ta-cos every Tuesday.

Qualified high school students are offered a unique opportunity to explore the world by spending an academic year, semester, or summer in Europe, Asia, North or South America, Australia, or South Africa as part of the ASSE International Student Exchange Program. A non-profit, public benefit organization, ASSE is dedicated to promoting closer ties of friendship between the United States and other countries by fostering intercultural understanding through youth exchange programs.

Students, 15 to 18 years old, qualify on the basis of academic performance, character references, and a genuine desire to experience life abroad with a volunteer host family. Prior knowledge of the host country's language is not a requirement. Scholarships available and are are based on academic performance, leadership skills, and financial need.

Families abroad are carefully screened,

and students do not need to know the language of the host country prior to departure, but will acquire the language skills through experiencing the day-to-day local culture and attending regular high school classes along with their new teenage friends.

ASSE also provides the experience of a lifetime to American families who are interested in hosting an international student from Spain, Italy, Germany, Ukraine, Thailand, Japan, and many other countries. These exceptional young students will attend the local American high school for an academic year or semester.

Students or families interested in learning more about becoming an ASSE exchange student or host family should contact ASSE at 1-800-736-1760, visit www.studyabroad. asse.com, or send an email to asseusamidwest@asse.com

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#### BMC WELLNESS CENTER

#### ROLLING TOGETHER

JOIN DEMY JONES, **SEPTEMBER 17TH AT 5:30PM**, FOR ROLLING TOGETHER, A DISABILITY AWARENESS CLASS FOCUSED ON PRACTICAL, EMPOWERING TOPICS FOR EVERYDAY LIVING. LEARN ESSENTIAL SKILLS INCLUDING WHEELCHAIR MAINTENANCE, BOWEL AND BLADDER CARE, AND NUTRITION. WHETHER YOU'RE LIVING WITH A DISABILITY OR SUPPORTING SOMEONE WHO IS, THIS SESSION OFFERS VALUABLE INSIGHTS AND HANDS-ON GUIDANCE.



#### National Environmental Services and Rehabilitation Week!

This week, we recognize and celebrate the dedicated teams in Environmental Services and Rehabilitation. Your hard work, attention to detail, and commitment to care create a clean, safe, and supportive environment for everyone. From maintaining our spaces to helping patients in their recovery, your efforts make a difference every day. Thank you for all that you do!

#### **FALL FESTIVAL: SEARCING** FOR VENDORS

Come be part of the fun! Vendor sign-ups for BMC's 2025 Fall Festival are now open for churches, businesses, and food trucks. Don't miss your chance to connect with the community. Sign up by October 3rd.

Contact us if you have any questions! 205.926.3360 info@bmcwellness.com



#### **BMC FLAG FOOTBALL DIVISION CHAMPIONS**









**8U TITANS** 



11U CHIEFS 14U CHIEFS

#### **HEALTHY** AGING

This month, we celebrate Healthy Aging by highlighting our senior fitness classes designed to keep our community active and strong. All classes are held at the BMC Wellness Center. Classes are \$5 each for nonmembers and free for members.

Our senior fitness offerings include:

- Senior Women's Strength: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays at 9am
- Senior Men's Strength: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9am
- Water Aerobics/Arthritis: Tuesdays
- and Thursdays at 10am and 4:15pm

• Senior Rhythm Dance: Wednesdays at 10:00am

These classes support strength, flexibility, and overall well-being, helping seniors stay healthy and engaged. Thank you to everyone who participates

and makes healthy aging a priority!