

The Western Star

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Second floor Free weight room and Indoor Track

Bessemer Legacy YMCA Undergoes Renovations

BY DONALD JAY HOWTON
WESTERN STAR STAFF

“Commit to be Fit at the Bessemer Legacy YMCA” is the theme for 2024.

Each year, we all make New Year’s resolutions. For most people, they are forgotten by the middle of February.

Not so at the Bessemer Legacy YMCA.

Just in time for the New Year, the Bessemer Legacy YMCA has upgraded the Second Floor Free Weight Room and Indoor Track.

Today, the Bessemer Legacy YMCA has a state-of-the-art free weight facility.

According to Legacy YMCA CEO Michael Talerico, “The renovation was the result of extensive research and identifying what was required to upgrade the facility.” He further stated, “A great deal of thought and design plan went into this project.”

The demolition and renovation started on December 4 and was completed on December 18.

Following the demolition of the indoor track which took four days, Rubberflex flooring was installed, repainted the room with more inviting colors, four televisions with complete sports packages were installed along with two large commercial digital clocks, replaced existing weight room equipment with new Matrix Plate load equipment and added an additional 1,800 lbs. of free weights, added new water fountains with bottle-fill stations, and replaced existing lighting with LED panels. This spring new HVAC units will be installed.

The Bessemer YMCA is open Monday-Friday, 5 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. The Y is located at 1501 Fourth Avenue, SW, Bessemer.

Is There Anything Worth Preserving

BY ROBERT BURGINS, JR.
WESTERN STAR STAFF

In this world today, one wonders is anything sacred anymore? Do people take anything seriously at all? Do people truly even care about people anymore?

Well that’s something that we’ve scratched our heads about within the last few years, especially on a visit to Bessemer’s Pine Hill Cemetery.

Some things when I was young were held as sacred grounds, places, even people; but churches are broken into and vandalized these days, no person is safe from falsified scrutiny, and now it seems not even those resting have any peace, which brings Pine Hill to mind.

Growing up, Pine Hill was a sort of generational means to take loved ones or where families designated members of theirs to have their final resting place. But in recent years, it’s all but recognizable these days, where grass

was once nicely manicured, now are trees and uncared for bushes grown, covering graves. In a search for several family member’s plots, it was a grand question mark when seeking their names as grass has grown thick and stiff over them and almost posing an unsafe vibe over the grounds.

It’s heartbreaking and disheartening to see places as these being uncared for and treated or looked

upon as trash in the gutter. Despite how old, or if it’s no longer being used, people’s loved one’s remains are there and should be treated with some form of dignity.

Hopefully someone or some answers will be given on the care of preserving such a historic and sentimental place, along with bringing closure to families that still would like to visit their loved ones in the near future.



Attorney General Marshall Files Brief for Supreme Court to Hear Trump Case

BY DONALD JAY HOWTON
WESTERN STAR STAFF

On Friday, January 5 Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall filed a brief urging the United States Supreme Court to review the Colorado Supreme Court’s decision to exclude President Donald Trump from the ballot for that state’s presidential primaries.

Later that day, The United States Supreme Court

agreed to hear former President Donald Trump’s case on an expedited basis. The Supreme Court will hold oral arguments in the case on February 8, 2024.

Attorney General Marshall stated, “The Constitution, not the Colorado Supreme Court, decides who can run for President of the United States.” “If allowed to stand, this partisan ruling will create chaos and degrade confidence in the integrity of our electoral

process.”

The coalition of 27 states argued that under the Fourteenth Amendment, “Congress will decide whether a particular person is qualified to hold office.” The brief continued, “the structure of the Constitution, relevant history and authority from this Court confirm as much. The Court should grant the Petition to prevent state courts from usurping Congress’s exclusive power.”



Celebrating the New Year with Another Year

BY ROBERT BURGINS, JR.
WESTERN STAR STAFF

New Bethlehem Baptist Church (Pastored by Rev. Rogers- 1730 11th Av. North- Bessemer, AL. 35020) hosted a momentous celebration for one of Bessemer’s premiere citizens. Celebrating 90 years of age, this past Saturday Mother Nellie D. Leshoure was given a token of love through the lives she’s influenced.

Family members as far as California came to celebrate with her and show love along with others.

What better way to bring in the new year, than to be showed how much you’re loved and cared for by those you’ve raised, mentored, taught and cared for as well. Amongst many talents, Mother Leshoure is a retired church musician who continues to show what vibrancy and self-respect exemplifies within a

person.

This birthday program was conducted by Mistress of Ceremony, Sarah Buie with special words from Reverends, Rogers and Eades along with several tributes from Mother Leshoure’s neighbors, children, grandchildren and others. A special musical tribute of “God’s

Grace” was rendered by her children (led by Luellen Leshoure, Jr.), as the crowd clapped and sung along.

Decked out in black/gray and purple, Mother Leshoure was escorted by Robert Leshoure and Arthur Buie, Jr. to applause as she entered the center.

See Celebrating on page 2



Bessemer City Council Approves Resolution for Retirement Benefits

BY DONALD JAY HOWTON
WESTERN STAR STAFF

On November 7, 2023 the Bessemer City Council approved a resolution of payment of retirement benefits to a former city of Bessemer elected official.

The vote was unanimous.

Former Bessemer City Councilman Jesse Matthews, 65 is qualified to receive retirement benefits based on his years of service to the city of Bessemer. He served on the City Council from October 1, 1998 through November 4, 2022.

Alabama Law, Act Number 499 stipulates that retirement allowances should be provided

for elected officials of the city of Bessemer providing that they have served 16 years and is a minimum of 65 years of age or older.

Matthews will receive retirement from the city of Bessemer to be paid out of the General Fund \$10,315.68 annually or \$859.64 monthly beginning November 2023.

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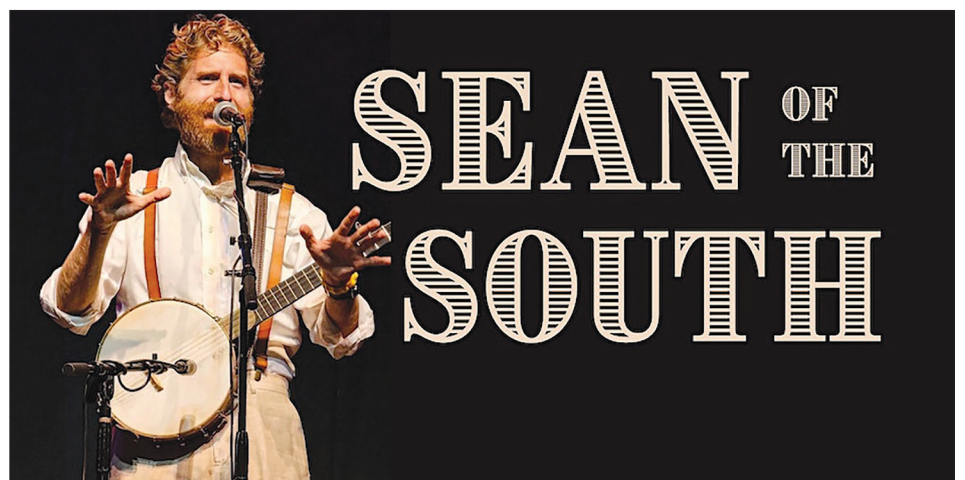
NEWS

Alabama Music Awards

Written by Ashley S.
Zeus, Zyoos & zoos Entertainment LLC, creator of the Alabama Music Awards, has dedicated to present a series of amazing events to keep the city buzzing and fun for all families. Especially with the Model Competition that will be taking place on March 10, 2024, at Bosses at Midtown located downtown Birmingham. Models will compete head to head to be crowned

the fiercest by our hand selected panel of qualified judges. This competition is open to all child, teen, and adult models who can set the runway on fire. The event creator, Zeus, Zyoos & Zoos Entertainment LLC tailored this event to bring recognition to modeling agencies, modeling coaches, and models both professional and aspiring in hopes of creating a network base that extends past limits unknown. This family friendly

event is open to the public as tickets are on sale now. Doors open at 4pm and the show starts at 5pm. Model registration will remain open until January 31, 2024. For more details, contact us at (205) 503-6840, (205) 259-8461, or (205) 565-8508. You may also send us an email at amassinfoo@gmail.com. For updates on this event and others, visit www.alabamamusicawardsshow.com and www.the3z.org.



Sean of the South Takes Center Stage at Hueytown Public Library: An Evening of Southern Charm and Stories

SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The Hueytown Public Library, in collaboration with the Hueytown Area Chamber of Commerce and the Hueytown Arts Council, is proud to announce an upcoming event that promises to be a highlight on the community's cultural calendar. On Saturday, April 13, 2024, the library will play host to the acclaimed writer and storyteller, "Sean of the South."

"Sean of the South" has garnered a widespread following for his enchanting tales of Southern life, captivating audiences across the nation. His unique perspective and charming demeanor have established him as a beloved figure in the literary world, and now, the Hueytown community has the opportunity to experience his magic firsthand.

The event is poised to be an unforgettable evening of laughter, stories, and genuine Southern charm. Attendees can expect to be transported to the heart of the South as Sean weaves his narrative magic, sharing anecdotes that resonate with the soul and celebrate the rich tapestry of Southern culture.

With a limited number of tickets available, organizers anticipate a sell-out event. Therefore, those eager to partake in this exceptional evening are encouraged to secure their tickets early to avoid disappointment. The event promises not only an entertaining night but also an opportunity to connect with fellow community members who share a love for the art of storytelling.

The collaboration be-

tween the Hueytown Public Library, Hueytown Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Hueytown Arts Council reflects a commitment to fostering cultural enrichment within the community. By bringing "Sean of the South" to the forefront, the organizers aim to create a space where individuals can come together to celebrate the unique stories that shape the Southern experience.

So mark your calendars for April 13, 2024, and join us at the Hueytown Public Library for an evening filled with laughter, stories, and the incomparable charm of "Sean of the South." Let's make this cultural celebration a resounding success, showcasing the warmth and hospitality that define the heart of the South. We can't wait to see you there!



Thanks to Chamber Board Member, John Verciglio and wife Lisa, for hosting a wonderful dinner for the Chamber Board of Directors at their home recently. They have a great team and are looking forward to great 2024. (Hueytown Area Chamber)

Pro Tem Wardine Alexander Appointed Vice Chair of 2024 NLC Large Cities Council

Birmingham, AL - In a significant development, Pro Tem Wardine Alexander has been appointed as the Vice Chair of the 2024 National League of Cities (NLC) Large Cities Council by Mayor David Sander, who currently serves as the President of the NLC Board of Directors. The announcement comes as the League of Cities celebrates its 100th anniversary, marking a century of dedicated efforts to strengthen cities across the nation.

Pro Tem Alexander graciously accepted the appointment, expressing her deep honor and enthusiasm for the opportunity to contribute to the Large Cities Council. As a representative of Birmingham City Council, her appointment reflects not only her individual achievements but also the city's longstanding commitment to making a positive impact on urban communities.

Mayor Sander commended Pro Tem Alexander's dedication to public service and her proven track record in municipal leadership, making her an ideal candidate for such a significant role within the NLC. The Birmingham City Council, proud of Pro Tem Alexander's achievements, extends its heartfelt congratulations on this notable appointment.

Pro Tem Alexander, upon accepting the po-

sition, conveyed her eagerness to collaborate with fellow council members during the upcoming meetings later this month. The discussions will center around defining focus areas, establishing in-person meetings, and addressing various critical issues that will shape the trajectory of the Large Cities Council throughout the year.

The City of Birmingham, through its active participation in the National League of Cities, has consistently demonstrated its commitment to advancing the collective interests of municipalities. As the @leagueofcities celebrates its centennial milestone, Birmingham City Council takes pride in its historical and ongoing contributions to this vital organization.

The League of Cities' 100th anniversary

serves as a testament to the enduring legacy of its mission, which focuses on fostering collaboration, innovation, and advocacy for cities nationwide. Birmingham City Council looks forward to continuing its involvement and contributing to the NLC's efforts in strengthening cities for generations to come.

As the Council embarks on a new year and Pro Tem Alexander assumes her role as Vice Chair, the Birmingham community joins in congratulating her on this distinguished appointment. Together, they look forward to a year of impactful collaboration, growth, and positive change within the National League of Cities, as they collectively celebrate a century of dedication to the betterment of cities across the United States.



Celebrating

Celebrating from page 1
The band played a medley of some of her favorite Andrae Crouch numbers as the crowd had dishes of finely prepared salads, baked chicken, green beans, red velvet and yellow birthday cake with purple and white icing that pleased many.

After a saxophone rendition of happy birthday, the crowd all joined in to sing along as a silver

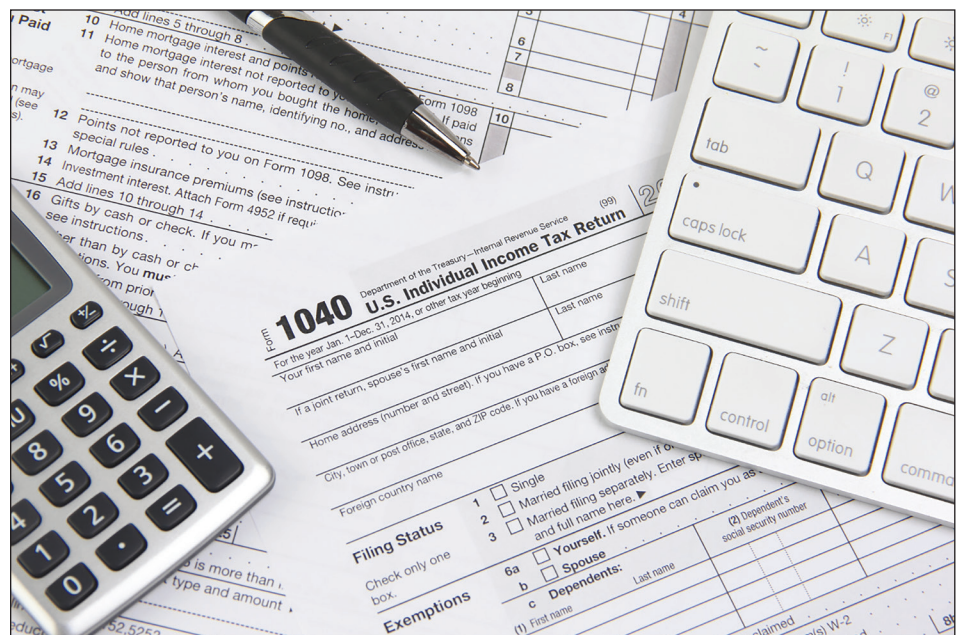
crowned Mother Leshoure laughed humbly.

Finishing the celebration, the celebrated woman herself told us, "I'm so glad you all thought enough of me to come out this evening and share this day with me. As a young lady I had a whole family to take care of, including myself, but God has shown me just what you can do if you have enough faith and trust. I just want to thank you all,

and I thank God for being here as well."

A momentous and touching occasion that shows familial love as well as care from friends and the lives one has touched is still around, is a testimony to the hope many still carry in their minds and hearts were exemplified this very day.

We send wishes of many more birthdays to Mother Leshoure and a Happy New Year to all.



Getting Ready for Tax Season: Essential Steps for Smooth Filings

SPECIAL TO THE STAR

As the new year dawns upon us, it's time to gear up for the impending tax season. For many, tax time can be a daunting period, but with proper preparation, it doesn't have to be stressful. Taking proactive steps now can streamline the process and potentially maximize your returns. Here are some essential actions to consider as you prepare for the upcoming tax season:

1. Organize Your Documents

Gather all necessary documents, including W-2 forms, 1099s, receipts, and any other relevant financial records. Create a system to keep these documents organized, making it easier to access them when needed. Consider categorizing them by type (income, deductions, investments, etc.) to simplify the filing process.

2. Review Changes in Tax Laws

Tax laws often undergo revisions each year. Stay informed about any updates or changes that might affect your tax situation. Be aware of deductions, credits, or exemptions that could impact your filings and consult a tax professional if needed.

3. Maximize Deductions and Credits

Take advantage of all available deductions and tax credits. Contributions to retirement accounts, charitable donations, education expenses, and eligible medical expenses can potentially reduce your taxable income or result in credits that lower your tax bill.

4. Explore Electronic Fil-

ing Options

Consider filing your taxes electronically. E-filing is not only convenient but can also expedite the refund process. Additionally, using tax software or online services can help minimize errors and ensure accuracy in calculations.

5. Consider Professional Assistance

If your financial situation is complex or if you're uncertain about certain tax matters, seeking professional assistance from a certified public accountant (CPA) or tax advisor might be beneficial. They can provide guidance, ensure compliance with tax laws, and help optimize your returns.

6. Plan for Estimated Taxes

If you're self-employed or earn income that isn't subject to withholding (such as investment income), you might be required to make estimated tax payments quarterly. Prepare for these payments to avoid penalties or interest charges for underpayment.

7. Stay Organized Throughout the Year

Make a habit of maintaining financial records throughout the year. Keeping track of expenses, income, and relevant receipts as they occur can significantly simplify the tax preparation process when the filing season arrives.

8. Be Mindful of Deadlines

Mark key tax-related dates on your calendar to ensure timely filing. The deadline for individual tax returns in the United States is typically April 15th, but

it's wise to double-check and be aware of any extensions or variations based on your specific circumstances.

9. Protect Personal Information

Exercise caution when sharing personal and financial information, especially when filing online or communicating with tax professionals. Use secure channels and reputable platforms to safeguard sensitive data against potential cyber threats.

10. Plan for Next Year

Reflect on your current tax experience to plan better for the next tax year. Consider adjustments to your financial strategies to optimize tax outcomes and streamline the filing process further.

Preparing for tax season can be a manageable task with proper planning and organization. By taking these steps and staying informed, you can navigate the tax filing process with confidence and potentially maximize your tax benefits.

Remember, while this article offers general guidance, individual tax situations can vary widely. It's advisable to consult with a tax professional or financial advisor for personalized advice tailored to your specific circumstances.

Preparing for tax season involves several steps, but staying organized, informed, and proactive can make the process more manageable. Always consider seeking professional guidance based on your unique financial situation.

COVERING TUSCALOOSA COUNTY NEWS



TPD Recognized as Outstanding Community Partner at Tuscaloosa City Schools' Apple Awards

Tuscaloosa City Schools recently celebrated its annual Apple Awards ceremony, a prestigious event that recognizes outstanding community partners and individuals who contribute significantly to the educational landscape of the community. Among the honorees was the Tuscaloosa Police Department (TPD), acknowledged for its exemplary collaboration and commitment to fostering safe learning environments. Additionally, Officer Mike Cain received well-deserved recognition as Tuscaloosa Magnet Elementary School's Support Personnel of the Year. This commendation highlights the department's dedication to supporting academic, social, and personal growth for students.

TPD's collaborative efforts in supporting the school community, fostering positive relationships with students, and contributing to the overall well-being of the school environment. His commitment to excellence reflects the values upheld by the Tuscaloosa Police Department and reinforces the importance of collaboration between law enforcement and educational institutions.

Outstanding Community Partner Recognition: Tuscaloosa City Schools bestowed the title of "2023 Outstanding Community Partner" upon the Tuscaloosa Police Department during the Apple Awards ceremony. This recognition underscores the department's unwavering dedication to collaborating with educational institutions and the broader community to ensure the well-being and success of students. The TPD has consistently demonstrated a commitment to creating a safe and supportive learning environment, aligning with the school district's mission to provide an enriching educational experience for all students.

Collaborative Efforts for Safe Learning Environments: The acknowledgment of TPD as an Outstanding Community Partner reinforces the belief that creating safe learning environments is a collective effort. By working hand in hand with Tuscaloosa City Schools, the police department aims to contribute to the holistic development of students, ensuring they thrive academically, socially, and personally. The partnership exemplifies the

significance of community collaboration in enhancing the educational experience for all students. Appreciation for Teachers and School Staff: In expressing gratitude, the Tuscaloosa Police Department extends heartfelt thanks to all the dedicated teachers and school staff who play a pivotal role in shaping the future of the community's youth. Their tireless efforts and unwavering commitment to the education and well-being of students contribute significantly to the overall success of Tuscaloosa City Schools. The collaborative spirit between law enforcement and educational institutions stands as a testament to the community's shared goal of providing a nurturing environment where students can flourish. The recognition of the Tuscaloosa Police Department as an Outstanding Community Partner and the acknowledgment of Officer Mike Cain's contributions highlight the positive impact that collaborative efforts between law enforcement and education can have on the community. Through these partnerships, Tuscaloosa City Schools continues to pave the way for safe, supportive, and enriching learning environments that empower students to succeed in all aspects of their lives.



Congratulations to Ava Thakor, 5th grade student at Tuscaloosa Magnet Schools-Elementary, and Hilaria Gomes Osorio, 5th grade student at Skyland Elementary School for being recognized as the Townsquare Media's Inspiring Excellence Award recipients for the month of November, 2023! Great job ladies!! We are proud of you!! (Tuscaloosa City Schools)

Saving Money in 2024

By: Sheila Duncan

Are you tired of constantly living paycheck to paycheck? Do you dream of being able to save money for big life events and emergencies? It may seem daunting, but with some simple lifestyle changes, you can start saving money for 2024 and beyond. First and foremost, it's important to create a budget and stick to it. Sit down and look at your monthly expenses – rent, utilities, groceries, and any recurring payments. Determine how much money you have left over and allocate a portion of it to savings. It doesn't have to be a large amount at first, even \$50 a month can add up over time.

"Pay yourself first" is a motto to live by when it comes to saving money. Before you start spending on non-essential items, make sure you have set aside money for your savings. This way, you won't be tempted to overspend and can prioritize your financial goals. One of the biggest ways to save money is by cutting back on unnecessary expenses.

Look at your monthly bills and subscriptions – are there any that you can do without or downgrade? Can you switch to a cheaper phone or internet plan? Are you spending too much on dining out or entertainment? By making small adjustments to your spending, you can save a significant amount of money each month.

Another lifestyle change that can help you save money is to make use of discounts and coupons. With the rise of technology, there are many apps and websites that offer great deals and savings. Don't be afraid to search for discounts before making purchases. You can also consider buying in bulk or shopping during sales to save money on essential items. Instead of splurging on expensive vacations, consider alternative ways to have fun and save money.

Plan a staycation or a road trip to a nearby destination. Take advantage of free events and activities in your community. Embrace a more minimalist life-

style by decluttering and selling items you no longer need. You'll not only save money but also have a more clutter-free and organized space. Lastly, it's important to have a savings goal in mind. Whether it's saving for a down payment on a house, a dream vacation, or an emergency fund, having a specific goal can motivate you to save more.

Write down your goal and track your progress. Seeing how much you have saved over time can be extremely rewarding and encourage you to keep going. Saving money may require some sacrifices and changes in lifestyle, but the payoff is worth it. In 2024, you'll be grateful for the hard work and dedication you put in to save money for your future. By creating a budget, cutting back on unnecessary expenses, and setting a savings goal, you can make this dream a reality.

Start implementing these changes now and see the positive impact it can have on your finances in the long run. Your future self will thank you.



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On the 7th day of December, 2023, came CAROLYN AVERHART and filed her petition in writing therewith producing and filing in this Court an instrument of writing purporting to be the last will and testament of MINNIE LEE STEELE, deceased, and praying for such orders decrees and proceedings as will duly and legally effect the Probate and record of said instrument as such will.

And the 15th day of February, 2024, at 10:45 A.M., having been set as a day for hearing said petition and the proof to be submitted in support of

same and it further appearing that the following next of kin of said deceased are: viz:

TONYA HALL, RHONDA GRAY, DEJEANINE LYNCH, Any and All Known and Unknown Heirs, Whose Names, Ages, Conditions and Whereabouts are Unknown

It is therefore ordered that notice of the filing of said petition and of the day set for hearing same be given by publication once a week for three successive weeks in the Western Star, a newspaper published in Jefferson Co., Al. Notice is hereby given the said named next of kin and all other persons in interest, to be and appear in this Court on said 15th day of February, 2024, to contest said petition if they think proper so to do.

Done this the 18th day of December, 2023. Elizabeth North JUDGE OF PROBATE Western Star 12/29, 1/5 & 1/12/24

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA BESSEMER DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE CONDEMNATION JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA A political subdivision of the State of Alabama Plaintiff,

v. JOHN S. BIVONA; MARY JANE BIVONA; FIRST FINANCIAL BANK; MCA-DORY AREA FIRE DISTRICT; and JOHNNY L. CURRY, Assistant Tax Collector. Defendants. CASE NO. 23BES000898

On the 11th day of December 2023, came the Jefferson County, Alabama, a political subdivision of the State of Alabama, by its Attorney of Record, Brent G. Grainger, Assistant County Attorney and filed its complaint, for the condemnation of certain lands therein described for and on behalf of the said Jefferson County, Alabama for use for public road school purposes, said lands belonging to John S. Bivona; Mary Jane Bivona, First Financial Bank, McAdory Area Fire District and Johnny L. Curry, Assistant Tax Collector, et al.

It is therefore ordered by the Court that the 23rd day of January 2024, at 10:00 a.m. be set as a day for hearing said Complaint for Order of Condemnation and the proof to be submitted

in support of same and upon said hearing an order be made appointing three commissioners to assess the damages and compensation to which the owners of the said lands may be entitled for the taking of said lands.

It is further ordered that notice of the filing of said Complaint and of the days set for hearing thereof be given to John S. Bivona; Mary Jane Bivona; First Financial Bank; McAdory Area Fire District and Johnny L. Curry, Assistant Tax Collector and any and all unknown heirs or devisees, of the individual defendants; Any and all unknown claimants of the property hereinafter described who may have any right, title or interest in said property whose names, ages, addresses and conditions are unknown and cannot be ascertained after exercise of reasonable diligence by publication once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in the Western Star, a newspaper published in this County, at which time they or any other parties interested in said cause may appear and contest the same if they think proper. Please note that an answer may be filed by each defendant within 30 days from the date of this last publication notice.

This the 12th day of December 2023. ELIZABETH NORTH JUDGE OF PROBATE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, AL. 12/22/23, 12/29/23, 01/05/24 & 1/12/24

PUBLICATION STATE OF ALABAMA JEFFERSON COUNTY PROBATE COURT ESTATE OF: BARBARA MULLE, DECEASED CASE NO. 23BES00919

TO: Anthony Thomas Strickland, Lisa Ann Smith, Any and All Heirs, Whose Names, Ages, Conditions and Addresses are Unknown and to any and all interested parties:

On the 18th day of December 2023, came Timothy Wayne Strickland, and filed his Petition for Probate of Will, in the matter of the Estate of Barbara Mulle, Deceased.

And whereas the 15th day of February

2024, at 11:00 A.M., has been set as a day for hearing said petition and the testimony to be submitted in support of same.

It is therefore ordered that notice of the filing of said petition and of the day set for hearing same be given by publication once a week for three successive weeks in the WESTERN STAR, a newspaper published in this County, notifying all parties in interest to appear and contest said petition if they think proper so to do.

This the 19th day of November 2023. Elizabeth North Judge of Probate Western Star 12/29/23, 1/5/24 & 1/12/24

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: NORMAN LEE GILLESPIE, DECEASED CASE NUMBER: 23BES000911

LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION UPON THE ESTATE of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 14th day of December 2023, by the HONORABLE JAMES P. NAFTEL, Judge of the Probate

Court of Jefferson County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

JOY SELF GILLESPIE Personal Representative(s) Western Star 12/29/23; 1/05/24 & 1/12/24 Attorney of Record

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: TERESA DARLENE ROBERTS, DECEASED CASE NUMBER: 23BES000914

LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION UPON THE ESTATE of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 14th day of December 2023, by the HONORABLE JAMES P. NAFTEL, Judge of the Probate

Court of Jefferson County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

SHIRLEY HAYNES Personal Representative(s) Western Star 12/29/23; 1/05/24 and 1/12/24 Attorney of Record

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: DAVID VICTOR DIDCOCT, DECEASED CASE NUMBER: 23BES000913

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY UPON LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 14th day of DECEMBER, 2023, by the HONORABLE JAMES P. NAFTEL, Judge of the Probate Court of Jefferson County, Alabama,

notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

ANDREW GLENN DIDCOCT TRACY BROOK TYN-DALL Personal Representative(s) Western Star 12/29/23, 01/05/24 & 01/12/24 Attorney of Record

PUBLICATION FOR PETITION OF APPOINTMENT OF PROTECTIVE PLACEMENT AND/OR SERVICES AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN IF NECESSARY STATE OF ALABAMA JEFFERSON COUNTY PROBATE COURT ESTATE OF: HAYES ANDERSON, AN ADULT IN NEED OF PROTECTIVE SERVICES CASE NO. 23BES000876

TO: DANNY RAY Any and All Unknown Heirs, Whose Names, Ages, Conditions and Whereabouts are Unknown and to any and all interested parties;

Take notice that on the 29th day of November 2023 Jefferson County Department of Human Resources filed a petition for the appointment of protective placement

and/or services and appointment of a guardian if necessary for Hayes Anderson, an adult in need of protective services.

Notice is hereby given the above named person and all persons in interest that said petition for appointment of protective placement and/or services and appointment of a guardian if necessary has been set for hearing on the 3rd day of January 2024, at 3:30 p.m.. All persons in interest should be and appear in this Court on said day of hearing to object to said petition and make such other defense in the premises as to them that may seem meet and proper.

WITNESS MY HAND, this the 12th day of December 2023. James P. Naftel JUDGE OF PROBATE Western Star 12/22/23; 12/29/23, 01/05/24 & 01/12/24

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: JAMES LEE BARNES, DECEASED CASE NUMBER: 23BES000907

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY UPON LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 19th day of DECEMBER, 2023, by the HONORABLE JAMES P. NAFTEL, Judge of the Pro-

bate Court of Jefferson County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

JOAN H BARNES Personal Representative(s) Western Star 12/29/23, 01/05/24 & 01/12/24 Attorney of Record

ALABAMA LEGAL JOURNAL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA BESSEMER DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE CONDEMNATION JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA
A political subdivision of the State of Alabama
Plaintiff,

v.
MARY JEAN WILLIAMS JOHNSON; HAYES TAYLOR WILLIAMS; JAMES D. WILLIAMS, as Personal Representative Of the Estate of James Richard Williams; MCADORY AREA FIRE DISTRICT And JOHNNY L. CURRY, Assistant Tax Collector,
Defendants.
CASE NO.
23BES000900

On the 11th day of December 2023, came the Jefferson County, Alabama, a political subdivision of the State of Alabama, by its Attorney of Record, Brent G. Grainger, Assistant County Attorney and filed its complaint, for the condemnation of certain lands therein described for and on behalf of the said Jefferson County, Alabama for use for public road school purposes, said lands belonging to Mary Jean Williams Johnson; Hayes Taylor Williams; James D. Williams, as Personal Representative of the Estate of James Richard Williams; McAdory Area Fire District; and Johnny L. Curry, Assistant Tax Collector, John S. Bivona; Mary Jane Bivona, First Financial Bank, McAdory Area Fire District and Johnny L. Curry, Assistant Tax Collector, et al.

It is therefore ordered by the Court that the 23rd day of January

2024, at 10:00 a.m. be set as a day for hearing said Complaint for Order of Condemnation and the proof to be submitted in support of same and upon said hearing an order be made appointing three commissioners to assess the damages and compensation to which the owners of the said lands may be entitled for the taking of said lands.

It is further ordered that notice of the filing of said Complaint and of the days set for hearing thereof be given to Mary Jean Williams Johnson; Hayes Taylor Williams; James D. Williams; as Personal Representative of the Estate of James Richard Williams; McAdory Area Fire District; and Johnny L. Curry, Assistant Tax Collector and any and all unknown heirs or devisees, of the individual defendants; Any and all unknown claimants of the property hereinafter described who may have any right, title or interest in said property whose names, ages, addresses and conditions are unknown and cannot be ascertained after exercise of reasonable diligence by publication once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in the Western Star, a newspaper published in this County, at which time they or any other parties interested in said cause may appear and contest the same if they think proper. Please note that an answer may be filed by each defendant within 30 days from the date of this last publication notice.

This the 12th day of December 2023. ELIZABETH NORTH JUDGE OF PROBATE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, AL.
 12/22/23, 12/29/23, 01/05/24 & 1/12/24

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: LETICIA N TATUM, DECEASED
CASE NUMBER:
23BES000910

LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION UPON THE ESTATE of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 14th day of December 2023. by the HONORABLE JAMES P. NAFTEL, Judge of the

Probate Court of Jefferson County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited. DOUGLAS TATUM Personal Representative(s)
 Western Star
 12/29/23, 1/05/23 & 1/12/24

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: MARGARET JANE REED, DECEASED
CASE NUMBER:
23BES000891

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY UPON LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 15TH day of DECEMBER, 2023. by the HONORABLE ELIZABETH NORTH, Judge of the Probate Court of Jefferson

County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited. BRYAN MICHAEL REED Personal Representative(s)
 Western Star
 12/29/23, 01/05/24 & 01/12/24
 Attorney of Record

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: DEBORAH ANN CARROLL, DECEASED
CASE NUMBER:
23BES000730

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY UPON LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 7TH day of DECEMBER, 2023. by the HONORABLE ELIZABETH NORTH, Judge of the

Probate Court of Jefferson County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited. JANICE K KNIGHT Personal Representative(s)
 Western Star
 01/05/24, 01/12/24 & 01/19/24
 Attorney of Record

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA BESSEMER DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE CONDEMNATION JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA
A political subdivision of the State of Alabama
Plaintiff,

v.
MARCUS BRENT MITCHAM; MCADORY AREA FIRE DISTRICT; and JOHNNY L. CURRY, Assistant Tax Collector.
Defendants.
CASE NO.
23BES000897

On the 11th day of December 2023, came the Jefferson County, Alabama, a political subdivision of the State of Alabama, by its Attorney of Record, Brent G. Grainger, Assistant County Attorney and filed its complaint, for the condemnation of certain lands therein described for and on behalf of the said Jefferson County, Alabama for use for public road school purposes, said lands belonging to Marcus Brent Mitcham, McAdory Area Fire District and Johnny L. Curry, Assistant Tax Collector, et al.

It is therefore ordered by the Court that the 23rd day of January 2024, at 10:00 a.m. be set as a day for hearing said Complaint for Order of Condemnation and the proof to be submitted in support of same and upon said hearing an

order be made appointing three commissioners to assess the damages and compensation to which the owners of the said lands may be entitled for the taking of said lands.

It is further ordered that notice of the filing of said Complaint and of the days set for hearing thereof be given to Marcus Brent Mitcham, McAdory Area Fire District and Johnny L. Curry, Assistant Tax Collector and any and all unknown heirs or devisees, of the individual defendants; Any and all unknown claimants of the property hereinafter described who may have any right, title or interest in said property whose names, ages, addresses and conditions are unknown and cannot be ascertained after exercise of reasonable diligence by publication once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in the Western Star, a newspaper published in this County, at which time they or any other parties interested in said cause may appear and contest the same if they think proper. Please note that an answer may be filed by each defendant within 30 days from the date of this last publication notice.

This the 12th day of December 2023. ELIZABETH NORTH JUDGE OF PROBATE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, AL.
 Western Star
 12/22/23, 12/29/23, 01/05/24 & 1/12/24

CHANGE OF NAME PUBLICATION FOR A MINOR
STATE OF ALABAMA JEFFERSON COUNTY PROBATE COURT
IN THE MATTER OF THE CHANGE OF NAME OF: L.B.B., A MINOR
CASE NO.
23BES000906

NOTICE TO: BRANDON M. BOYCE, ADDRESS UNKNOWN

On the 12TH day of DECEMBER, 2023, came LEA A. FINCH, Mother and Petitioner for the Change of Name for L.B.B., A Minor

And whereas the 7TH day of MARCH, 2024, at 9:30 A.M. has been set as a day for hearing said petition and the testimony to be submitted in

support of same.

It is therefore ordered that notice of the filing of said petition and of the day set for hearing same be given by publication once a week for four consecutive weeks in the Western Star, a newspaper published in this County, notifying all parties in interest to appear and contest said petition if they think proper so to do. Please note that an answer may be filed within 30 days from the date of this last publication notice.

Given under my hand, this, the 28TH day of DECEMBER, 2023. Elizabeth North JUDGE OF PROBATE
 Western Star
 1/05/24, 1/12/24, 1/19/24 & 1/26/24

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: DOROTHY F CHAMBERLAIN, DECEASED
CASE NUMBER:
23BES000920

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY UPON LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 18TH day of December 2023. by the HONORABLE JAMES P. NAFTEL, Judge of the Pro-

bate Court of Jefferson County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited. BARRY NEAL CHAMBERLAIN Personal Representative(s)
 Western Star
 12/29/23, 01/05/23 & 1/12/24
 Attorney of Record

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: BILLY JOE MARTIN, DECEASED
CASE NUMBER:
23BES000909

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY UPON LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 14TH day of DECEMBER, 2023. by the HONORABLE JAMES P. NAFTEL, Judge of the Pro-

bate Court of Jefferson County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited. SONIAM TWITTY Personal Representative(s)
 Western Star
 12/29/23, 01/05/24 & 01/12/24
 Attorney of Record

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA BESSEMER DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE CONDEMNATION JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA
A political subdivision of the State of Alabama
Plaintiff,

v.
HAYES TAYLOR WILLIAMS; WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.; MCADORY AREA FIRE DISTRICT; and JOHNNY L. CURRY, Assistant Tax Collector,
Defendants.
CASE NO.
23BES000901

On the 11th day of December 2023, came the Jefferson County, Alabama, a political subdivision of the State of Alabama, by its Attorney of Record, Brent G. Grainger, Assistant County Attorney and filed its complaint, for the condemnation of certain lands therein described for and on behalf of the said Jefferson County, Alabama for use for public road school purposes, said lands belonging to Hayes Taylor Williams; Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.; Successor By Merger to Wachovia Bank, N.A.; McAdory Area Fire District; and Johnny L. Curry, Assistant Tax Collector, et al.

It is therefore ordered by the Court that the 23rd day of January 2024, at 10:00 a.m. be set as a day for hearing said Complaint for Order of Condemnation and the proof to be submitted in support of

same and upon said hearing an order be made appointing three commissioners to assess the damages and compensation to which the owners of the said lands may be entitled for the taking of said lands.

It is further ordered that notice of the filing of said Complaint and of the days set for hearing thereof be given to Hayes Taylor Williams; Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.; Successor By Merger to Wachovia Bank, N.A.; McAdory Area Fire District; and Johnny L. Curry, Assistant Tax Collector and any and all unknown heirs or devisees, of the individual defendants; Any and all unknown claimants of the property hereinafter described who may have any right, title or interest in said property whose names, ages, addresses and conditions are unknown and cannot be ascertained after exercise of reasonable diligence by publication once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in the Western Star, a newspaper published in this County, at which time they or any other parties interested in said cause may appear and contest the same if they think proper. Please note that an answer may be filed by each defendant within 30 days from the date of this last publication notice.

This the 12th day of December 2023. ELIZABETH NORTH JUDGE OF PROBATE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, AL.
 12/22/23, 12/29/23, 01/05/24 & 1/12/24

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: VIRGINIA BLACKWELL, DECEASED
CASE NUMBER:
23BES000889

LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION UPON THE ESTATE of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 7th day of December 2023. by the HONORABLE JAMES P. NAFTEL, Judge of the Probate Court of Jefferson

County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited. ROBIN BECK Personal Representative(s)
 Western Star
 1/5/24; 1/12/24 AND 1/19/24
 Attorney of Record

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: CHARLES CLIFFORD CAMPBELL, JR., DECEASED
CASE NUMBER:
23BES000840

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY UPON LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 21ST day of DECEMBER, 2023. by the HONORABLE ELIZABETH NORTH, Judge of the

Probate Court of Jefferson County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited. EDNA CAMPBELL Personal Representative(s)
 Western Star
 01/05/24, 01/12/24 & 01/19/24
 Attorney of Record

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: PEGGY L HARRISON, DECEASED
CASE NUMBER:
23BES000932

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY UPON LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 22nd day of December 2023. by the HONORABLE JAMES P. NAFTEL, Judge of the Probate Court of Jefferson

County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited. JUSTIN FRANKLIN HARRISON Personal Representative(s)
 Western Star
 1/5/24, 1/12/24 and 1/19/24
 Attorney of Record

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ALABAMA LEGAL JOURNAL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: BEATRICE H. RILEY, DECEASED CASE NUMBER: 23BES000841
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION WITH WILL ANNEXED UPON THE ESTATE of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 22ND day of DECEMBER, 2023. by the HONORABLE JAMES P. NAFTEL, Judge of the Probate Court of Jeffer-

son County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.
LORI SHAWN RILEY ASHLEY
Personal Representative(s)
Western Star
01/05/24, 01/12/24 & 01/19/24
Attorney of Record

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: RILEY P GUIN, DECEASED CASE NUMBER: 23BES000931
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY UPON LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 22nd day of December 2023. by the HONORABLE JAMES P. NAFTEL, Judge of the Pro-

bate Court of Jefferson County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.
GAIL K GUIN
Personal Representative(s)
Western Star
1/5/24, 1/12/24 and 1/19/24
Attorney of Record

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: CARL M BELL, DECEASED CASE NUMBER: 24BES000004
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY UPON LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 4th day of January 2024. by the HONORABLE JAMES P. NAFTEL, Judge of the Probate Court of Jeffer-

son County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.
KELLY SCOTT
Personal Representative(s)
Western Star
1/12/24, 1/19/24 & 1/26/24
Attorney of Record

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: CLAXTON PERRY BONE, DECEASED CASE NUMBER: 23BES000758
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY UPON LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 4TH day of JANUARY, 2024. by the HONORABLE ELIZABETH NORTH, Judge of the Probate Court of Jeffer-

son County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.
VANESSA BONE GIBSON
Personal Representative(s)
Western Star
1/12/24, 1/19/24 & 1/26/24
Attorney of Record

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: CHERYL L BROWN, DECEASED CASE NUMBER: 23BES000922
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY UPON LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 18th day of December 2023. by the HONORABLE JAMES P. NAFTEL, Judge of the Probate Court of Jeffer-

son County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.
ALTRICE B GLOOR
Personal Representative(s)
Western Star
1/12/24, 1/19/24 & 1/26/24
Attorney of Record

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: JAMES EARL JOHNSON, DECEASED CASE NUMBER: 24BES000009
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION UPON THE ESTATE of said decedent, having been granted to the Undersigned on the 5TH day of JANUARY 2024. by the HONORABLE JAMES P. NAFTEL, Judge of the Probate Court of Jefferson

County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having Claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.
TANYA JOHNSON JONES
Personal Representative(s)
Western Star
1/12/24, 1/19/24 & 1/26/24
Attorney of Record

Notice to Contractors

Notice to Contractors Federal Aid Project No. HPP-TAPBH-CMAQ-A104(916) JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA

Sealed bids will be received by the Director of Transportation at the office of the Alabama Department of Transportation, Montgomery, Alabama until 10:00 AM on January 26, 2024 and at that time publicly opened for constructing the Pedestrian Bridge and Sidewalks over SR-3 (US-31) near Wald Park in Vestavia Hills. Length 0.104 mi.

The total amount of uncompleted work under contract to a contractor must not exceed the amount of his or her qualification certificate.

The Entire Project Shall Be Completed In Three Hundred (300) Working Days. A 5.00% DBE Contract Obligation Is Required.

A Bidding Proposal may be purchased for \$5.00. Plans may be purchased for \$34.00 per set. Plans and Proposals are available at the Alabama Department of Transportation, 1409 Coliseum Boulevard, Room E-108, Montgomery, AL 36110. Checks should be made payable

to the Alabama Department of Transportation. Plans and Proposals will be mailed only upon receipt of remittance. No refunds will be made.

A MANDATORY pre-bid conference is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at the Alabama Department of Transportation; East Central Region Office; 100 Corporate Parkway; Suite 450, Hoover, AL 35242. Any qualified bidder wishing to bid this proposal is required to have a company representative present at this MANDATORY pre-bid conference. Proposals issued to bidders who fail to attend the MANDATORY pre-bid conference and/or register their attendance will be voided and their bids will not be received nor considered.

Minimum wage rates for this project have been pre-determined by the Secretary of Labor and are set forth in the advertised specifications. This project is subject to the contract work hours and Safety Standards Act and its implementing regulations.

Cashier's check or bid bond for 5% of bid (maximum - \$50,000.00) made payable to the Alabama Department

of Transportation must accompany each bid as evidence of good faith.

The bracket range is shown only to provide general financial information to contractors and bonding companies concerning the project's complexity and size. This Bracket should not be used in preparing a bid, nor will this bracket have any bearing on the decision to award this contract.

The Bracket Estimate On This Project Is From \$3,251,972 To \$3,974,633 .

The proposed work shall be performed in conformity with the rules and regulations for carrying out the Federal Highway Act.

Plans and Specifications are on file in Room E-108 of the Alabama Department of Transportation at Montgomery, Alabama 36110.

In accordance with the rules and regulations of The Alabama Department of Transportation, proposals will be issued only to prequalified contractors or their authorized representatives, upon requests that are received before 10 AM., on the day previous to the day of opening of bids.

The bidder's proposal

must be submitted on the complete original proposal furnished him or her by the Alabama Department of Transportation.

The Alabama Department of Transportation, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000D TO 2000D-4 and Title 49 code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of The Secretary, Part 21, nondiscrimination in federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The right to reject any or all bids is reserved. JOHN R. COOPER
Transportation Director
Western Star
January 5, 12 & 19, 2024

The bidder's proposal

The bidder's proposal

The bidder's proposal

The bidder's proposal

Notice of Auction

NOTICE OF AUCTION

PURSUANT TO 32-13-1 ET SEQ, CODE OF ALABAMA, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECOVERING STORAGE, TOWING, AND/OR REPAIR BILLS ON March 8, 2024, AT 2:00 PM ANDY'S TOWING INC. 3800 FLIGHT DRIVE, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, 35215. ANY OWNER, SECURED PARTY, LIEN HOLDER MAY CONTEST THE RIGHT TO SELL SUCH VEHICLE BY FILING AN APPLICATION FOR

HEARING WITH THE CIRCUIT CLERK OF SHELBY COUNTY AT LEAST 10 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF SALE. SELLER RESERVES ALL RIGHTS TO REFUSE ANY BID.
2007 HONDA CIVIC
1HGFA16527L020406
2002 PONTIAC FIRE-BIRD.
2G2FV22G522107018
2006 NISSAN MAXIMA.
1N4BA41E26C839362
2018 LAND ROVER DIS SPORT.
SALCR2RX2JH737162
2004 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER
JTEGP212A640014449
2012 GMC TERRAIN

2GKALMEK2C6334320
2004 NISSAN MAXIMA
1N4BA41EX4C839509
2013 DODGE CARAVAN
2C4RDGCG0DR760440
2015 CHRYSLER 200
1C3CCCBB9FN619295
2018 KIA OPTIMA
5XXGT4L36HG154287
2005 CHEV IMPALA
2G1WF52E059190953
2003 MITSUBISHI LANCER.
JA3AJ86E43U117434
2005 LEXUS ES
JTHBA30G55078481
2009 NISSA SENTRA
3N1AB61E59L620177
2015 HONDA CIVIC
19XFB2F59FE002915
2003 HYUN SONATA
KMHWF35H13A851940

2019 FORD MUSTANG
1FA6P8CFXL5122818
2002 DODGE RAM
1500
1D7HU18Z02J220399
2010 TOYT COROLLA
1NXBU4EE5AZ240790
2010 NISS PATHFINDER
5N1AR1NN4AC608863
2013 FORD TAURUS
1FAHP2E83DG223113
2003 HYUNDA SONATA
KMHWF35H13A851940
2008 FORD ESCAPE
1FMCU04178KA51513
1999 NISS ALTIMA
1N4DL01D6XC189472
NISSAN FRONTIER-
1N6BD06T8C440288
Western Star
January 12 & 19, 2024

NOTICE OF AUCTION

In accordance with Alabama Law, there now being due and unpaid charges, the undersigned shall sell or otherwise dispose of the following on 1.31.24

Dorline Levels, 1822 Short 12th Street North Bessemer, AL 35020. Unit A08. Furniture, electronics, clothes.

Antoine Rogers, 457 Flint Hill Road Bessemer, AL 35022. Unit A36. Clothes, furniture, electronics.
James Hulsey, 22821 Bucksville Road McCal-

ton Dr. Birmingham, AL 35211, Bags, Household items, Furniture. Unit A05 Cynthia Davis, 2008 Henry Compton Dr. Birmingham, AL 35211, Bags, Furniture, Household items. Unit A08 Cynthia Davis, 2008 Henry Compton Dr. Birmingham, AL 35211, Furniture. Unit A12 Cynthia Davis, 2008 Henry Comp-

NOTICE OF AUCTION

IN ACCORDANCE with the provisions of Alabama Self Storage Act Section 8-15 there now being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to, shall sell at public auction to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of; the contents of the following storage

units to satisfy an owner's lien, as set forth by Alabama Self Storage Act. Not all units may be available for sale. The auction/disposal shall be conducted at Discount Self Storage at 1027 Woodward Road, Midfield, AL 35228 on January 27, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

ton Dr. Birmingham, AL 35211, Furniture, Totes. Unit E28 Donnell Campbell, 6132 Ct. M. Birmingham, AL 35228, Industrial Fan, Furniture, Tools, Misc. items. Unit G10 Kevin Harper, 3175 45th Ave N. Birmingham, AL 35207, Furniture, Fishing Equipment, Misc. Items. Western star

January 12 & 19, 2024

Notice of Sale:

In accordance with Section 32-13-1, Code of Alabama 1975, notice is hereby given to the owners, lien holders and other interested parties that the following described abandoned vehicle will be sold at public auction for cash to the highest bidder on 03/13/2024 at 12pm. Location Copart Auto Auctions 3101 Davey Allison Blvd Hueytown, AL 35023.

VIN	Year	Make	MODEL	Color
5TDZT34A73S153057	2003	TOYT	SEQUOIA	RED
1N4BL2AP2CC163104	2012	NISSAN	ALTIMA	BLACK
WDDGF54X69R044858	2009	MERZ	C300	GRAY
2HGFG3B50CH556830	2012	HONDA	CIVIC	BEIGE
5NPEB4AC7CH446184	2012	HYUN	SONATA	RED
2T1KR32E27C653311	2007	TOYT	COROLLA	WHITE
JTDKARFU4G3510980	2016	TOYOTA	HATCHBACK	SILVER
1VWAT7A30FC022811	2015	VOLKSWAGE	PASSAT	SILVER
2G112553XJ9170949	2018	IMPALA	SEDAN	BLACK
KMHCT4AE8DU475315	2013	HYUN	ACCENT	WHITE
1FTZR15X7XPA25441	1999	FORD	RANGER	BLACK
1GTEC19T0Y2275553	2000	GMC	SIERRA	BROWN
3GNAXKEV8K5534009	2019	CHEV	EQUINOX	BEIGE
1N4AL2AP5CN555378	2012	NISSAN	ALTIMA	BLACK
JN1CV6AR7FM521588	2015	INFINITI	Q40	GRAY

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January 5 & 12, 2023

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NEWS

While New Year Upon Us, Alabama State Leaders Must Continue to Address Past Issues

SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN STAR

A new year always brings hope for a fresh start in one's life. For Alabama state leaders, the year 2024 requires going back to the basics to address chronic issues that have plagued the state, such as crime, education and poverty.

State representatives and senators made excellent progress in passing bills that strengthened the Alabama criminal justice system. Laws to stiffen penalties for fentanyl trafficking, retail theft and gang violence

became law. In addition, the state's generous good time laws were amended to reduce the amount of time inmates could earn for an early release from prison.

This session lawmakers need to address the problems with the state's work release program that has allowed felons convicted of murder out unsupervised on the streets. Legislators also have to stop the slew of bills that have been pre-filed to gut the current parole board's ability to keep prisoners behind bars who had been convicted of heinous crimes. Week after week

the headlines in 2023 have reported the violence in our state which should focus legislators on making public safety a priority.

As for education, this past year a historic \$8.8 billion education budget and \$2.8 billion supplemental allocation was passed to fund state public education. The monies have been used to pay for additional math and science academic enhancement, pre-k, teachers and salaries. Even with the massive infusion of money, the state is still ranked low in scholastic achievement and this past year the Alabama Department

of Education reported that overall public schools actually declined from the year before. Thus, this upcoming session there will be a big push for education reform that includes school choice. The question will be what it actually looks like and how ultimately it will make a difference in our state.

Finally, we are three years past when Covid was at its peak and the Nation was shut down. Like other states, our small businesses and their employees suffered through the mandated lock downs. Yet, the economy is now thriving

in the state as Alabama continues to attract new companies and existing businesses grow.

Alabama Governor Kay Ivey reports that there has now been \$42 billion in new capital investment that has led to both the most people employed in state history and the lowest unemployment. The state continues to receive allocates for its economic development efforts.

The strong economy has led to increased revenue, which lawmakers have used to fund more state services. And there are for hire signs every-

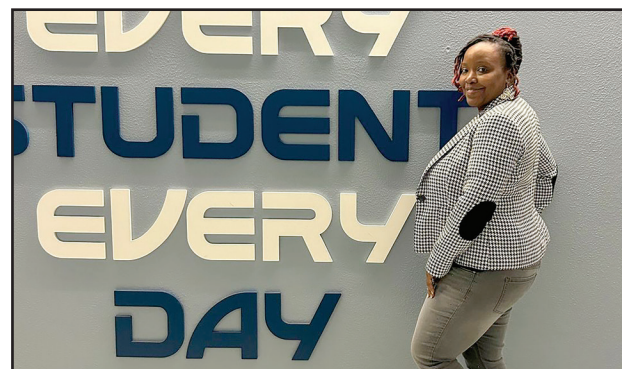
where you go, folks have to just agree to take those jobs. And while we approach a new year, there are plenty of reasons to believe 2024 will be another good one for Alabama business owners and their employees.

Thus, while there is optimism for the new year, Alabama state leaders must address the chronic issues are state has to move our state forward.

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



The City of Fairfield would like to thank U.S. Steel for their donation of \$175,500 that will go towards making improvements at our library! Special thanks to Councilor Phylis Oden-Jones for her assistance. The City also received a grant for \$10,000 towards the demolition of a dilapidated property. (City of Fairfield)



Teacher Feature: Congratulations to Dr. TaSharra Hilson, Instructional Transformation Specialist at Clay-Chalkville High School, on earning her doctorate! We love seeing our educators continually strive for success in their professional journeys. (Jefferson County Schools)



State Rep. Mike Shaw (who served two terms as a Hoover City Councilman) presented a check to the Hoover Parks & Recreation Department. The money will go towards the first phase of a passive nature park that will be located on Loch Haven Road near the Hoover Dog park. (City of Hoover)

Public Notice

Public Notice
 1
 2
 3
 4 A BILL
 5 TO BE ENTITLED
 6 AN ACT
 7
 8
 9 Relating to the City of Lake View in Tuscaloosa County;
 10 to provide that the municipal judge or magistrate for the City of Lake View may recall a failure to appear or comply warrant
 12 upon the payment of fee by the defendant.
 13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
 14 Section 1. (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary,
 15 a municipal judge or a municipal magistrate of the City of
 16 Lake View in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, may assess a
 17 defendant with a warrant recall fee that shall be paid in
 18 order for a municipal judge or municipal magistrate to recall
 19 a failure to appear warrant or failure to comply warrant

20 arising from any municipal ordinance violation or other
 21 offense brought against the defendant in the municipal court
 22 of the City of Lake View.
 23 (b) The warrant recall fee shall not exceed one hundred
 24 dollars (\$100) and is to be paid by the defendant at the time
 25 the warrant is recalled.
 26 (c) This section shall not be construed or interpreted
 27 to require the City of Lake View to recall a warrant that has
 28 been issued. All orders to recall a warrant shall be issued
 29 solely in the discretion of the municipal judge or municipal
 30 magistrate.
 31 d) All fees received by the City of Lake View
 31 Municipal Court for a warrant recall fee shall be deposited
 33 into the City of Lake View Corrections Fund and allocated in
 34 conformity with Section 11-47-7.1 of the Code of Alabama 1975.

35 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October 1, 2024.
SPECIAL NOTICE RE LOCAL LAWS
 NO SPECIAL, PRIVATE, OR LOCAL LAW CAN BE PASSED, except in reference to fixing the time of holding courts, unless notice of the intention to apply therefor shall have been published, without cost to the State, in the county or counties where the matter or thing to be affected may be situated. The notice must state the substance of the proposed law and be published at least once a week for four consecutive weeks in some newspaper published in such county or counties. Such publication must

have been completed prior to the day on which the bill is introduced. Proof by affidavit (proof of publication) which verifies that notice has been properly published must be exhibited to the House of Representatives and the Senate, and one copy of such proof must be attached to the original copy of the bill which is offered for introduction.
 The county or municipality affected by a local law introduced by a legislator must pay for advertising the notice, if the notice is signed by the Legislator, even though the bill is not passed. (Section 11-13-6, Code of Alabama 1975)
 Western Star
 January 12, 19, 26 &

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SOUTHERN STYLES

Southlake Christmas Holiday Party Elegant and Endearing



DONALD JAY HOWTON, III
WESTERN STAR,
SOCIAL EDITOR

A charming, gracious hostess, **Mary Jensen** of Hoover opened wide the front doors of her spacious, well-appointed River Lake Drive residence in Southlake to welcome the many guests arriving for her annual Christmas Holiday party.

Also, standing near the front door was a 6-foot Santa and several of his elves. All merry and filled with joy.

The elegant party was hosted by **Mary** and her husband **Bud Jensen**.

The four Doric columns outlining the entrance were wrapped in glittering red ribbon.

The Grand staircase was decorated with yards and yards of garland with white lights and red bows and on the landing, adorned with festive trees and red poinsettias stood a vintage St. Nick resplendent in a burgundy velvet frock coat trimmed in gold French gimp. Standing watch with St. Nick were his golden reindeers adorned with greenery and red and gold bows around their necks, together highlighted the staircase.

The Red Room, locat-

ed on the main level of the residence featured a living room filled with multiple festive Santas, an 8-foot Christmas tree to the left of the fireplace was decorated with even more Santas and a handsome mantel outlined with a garland of red and white lights and a dramatic Fitz and Floyd Santa in his sleigh.

Among the most beautiful rooms in the residence was the Gold Room. True to its name, the entire room sparkled in stunning gold decorations. A 10-foot tree, dripping in exquisite gold ornaments and topped with a beautiful gold angel stood to the right of the fireplace and above the fireplace was a 4 ft. wreath wrapped all in gold ornaments and a pretty gold bow. The mantel featured a magnificent display of gold angels and cherubs highlighted by a garland lit with white lights and gold floral picks.

The Dining Room table was set with Lenox Holiday china and crystal stemware. The dining room chairs were dressed in the Lenox Holiday chair covers.

Seen in the crowd were **Ann Hartline, Lloyd Beard, Shelley Rigby, Willie Edmiston, Suzanne Challis, Sherry Quan, Beverly Sublette, Callie Hines, Pat and Charlie Marvin, Margie and Jerry Argo** from Pell City, **Tiffany Levio, Beverly and Phil Stine, Lynn and Dan Phifer, Phil Fishman, Missey and Greg Wilson, and Donna Martin.**



Phil Fishman, Mary Jensen, Willie Edmiston and Suzanne Challis



Callie Hines, St. Nick and Tiffany Levio



Beverly and Phil Stine with Mary Jensen



Ann Hartline and Shelly Rigby

Opera Birmingham
Get your tickets for the World Premiere of *Touch*. It is an opera about the life of Helen Keller.

This new opera by **Carla Lucero and Marianna Mott Newirth** has its premiere on Friday,

January 19 at 7:30 p.m. at RMT Arts Campus-Main Theatre.

Starring in the opera are **Alie B. Gorrie and Michelle Allie Drever.**

For ticket information, please call 205-322-6737.

Quote of the Week
by Donald J. Howton
Honoring His birth brings, hope, peace and happiness to every home.
~ Doris Faulhaber

GOOD AFTERNOON

A chat with Napoleon Ricks, store manager, Dollar General on 14th Street



DONALD JAY HOWTON, III
WESTERN STAR,
SOCIAL EDITOR

From the moment you walk in the Dollar General store on 14th Street and Eighth Avenue, North in Bessemer you are greeted and made welcome. All thanks to Napoleon Ricks who was recently named store manager. He brings a new energy to the Dollar General store. Born and

raised in Pratt City, he has worked in retail sales management for over 30 years. Ricks truly understands the importance of customer relations in a community. A gregarious personality, he is a Prince Hall mason, Geometry Lodge #410. Ricks is committed to his work and excited about new growth opportunities in community relations.

What is your favorite saying? Ricks: It does not cost anything to be nice and courteous.

What are your duties at Dollar General? Ricks: I am responsible for the day-to-day operations and coordinating the employees work schedules. Most importantly, I am focused on

continuing to build a strong customer, friendly Dollar General store in Bessemer.

What has been most rewarding for you? Ricks: As a people person, I greatly enjoy meeting new people each day at the store. Also, giving the customer a warm welcome with a courteous attitude in a clean and organized store is most rewarding. It's my job and I am passionate about this philosophy.

Did you make a New Year's resolution? Ricks: I certainly did. My resolution is to make sure that I love my loved ones more than I did in years past.

Tell me about your family? Ricks: I was born in 1972 in Pratt City the

oldest of three siblings, my twin siblings are eight years my junior. I am the son of the late Raymond Ricks and Janice Ricks. My father was a youth football coach in Pratt City and my mother is a pillar of the community due to her bake goods and loving spirit.

What is your favorite music? Ricks: I really enjoy R & B particularly songs by Prince because of his musical versatility.

Do you have a favorite meal? Ricks: Yes Sir. My favorite meal is salmon croquettes, rice, English peas, broccoli, my mom's scratch biscuits and for dessert egg custard pie, also known as old folks pie.

Do you have any hobbies? Ricks: I am passionate about playing billiards. I love playing with friends and in tournaments.

Can you share a memorable experience at Dollar General? Ricks: Recently, a woman came into the store. I greeted her. While

at check out, she quickly realized she did not have enough money to cover her purchases. A man standing behind her told me to add her purchases to his. He knew she had been a caregiver to his grandmother years ago. He remembered her many good deeds.

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