

Marion man charged with attempted murder

Complaint alleges he fired a handgun into an occupied vehicle

A Marion man was arrested on a warrant Oct. 8 on charges of attempted murder and discharging a firearm into an occupied vehicle stemming from a Sept. 15 incident, according to Perry County District Court records.

Ja'Rodrick O'Neal Woods, 24, of Marion is charged with attempted murder, a Class A felony; discharging a firearm into an occupied vehicle, a Class B felony; and criminal mischief in the second degree, a Class A misdemeanor.

In a complaint sworn Sept. 23, a Perry County sheriff's deputy alleges that Woods fired a handgun into an occupied vehicle. The occupant was "attempting to leave the location following an assault," the complaint states.

No assault charge had been filed as of court records dated Oct. 9.

A Perry County Sheriff's Office incident report filed in the case lists the offense as occurring on the morning of Sept. 15 at a residence on Alberta Fuller Drive in Marion. The report lists the vehicle as damaged.

The case was filed in district court the day Woods was arrested. The court entered an order on his initial appearance Oct. 8, and an attorney was appointed to represent him, court records show.

Court records dated Oct. 8 listed Woods as jailed with no bond set. A docket entry that day cites Aniah's Law and reads "no bond Marengo Co."

The defense filed an affidavit of substantial hardship Oct. 8 and a motion for discovery Oct. 9, court records show.

A combined Aniah's Law and preliminary hearing was set for 9 a.m. Oct. 15, court records show.



Francis Marion Principal Demetrice Jackson cuts the ribbon, held by Alexis Nank, left, and Justin Broderway of Communities Unlimited, at one of the school's three new filtered water stations Oct. 2.

No lead detected at FMS water stations

Francis Marion School has three new filtered water bottle filling stations in its halls, and every round of lab testing since they went in has found no detectable lead in the water they deliver, Communities Unlimited said in a release Oct. 7.

Perry County Schools staff, students and Com-

munities Unlimited held a ribbon cutting at the school Oct. 2.

Francis Marion was enrolled in fall 2025 in a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency lead-reduction grant program created under the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act, the release said. Com-

munities Unlimited, which works on rural water and wastewater systems, applied for the funding with a letter of support from Superintendent Dr. Marcia Smiley.

The school was eligible because it has an older building, every student qualifies for free lunch and Perry

... see **Water**, page two

Callan JMB announces \$28 million in pharmaceutical equipment for Atlas Complex

Callan JMB Inc. has signed an initial purchase order with TRUKING for pharmaceutical manufacturing equipment for the Atlas Complex in Marion, the company announced Oct. 8.

The company said it expects to make a \$500,000 down payment toward about \$28 million in equipment planned for installation at the complex.

The initial deployment is being coordinated with development of the planned 90,000-square-foot Marion 9 manufacturing facility at the Atlas Complex, the company said. The facility is intended to support U.S. production of

pharmaceutical products affected by critical supply shortages.

TRUKING, an international supplier of pharmaceutical equipment, will build the equipment at its plants in China and ship it to Alabama, where Callan JMB will assemble and install it, according to the release. Callan JMB said it plans a dedicated assembly team for the work.

The arrangement also provides for Callan JMB to serve as a North American distributor and assembly provider for TRUKING equipment, including for other planned pharma-

ceutical plants and commercial customers, the company said.

The company expects about nine months to build the equipment and six to nine months to build the facility. Initial production is targeted before the end of 2027, subject to construction, equipment delivery and installation, commissioning, validation and regulatory requirements, the release said.

The planned production would pair active pharmaceutical ingredients the company expects Walker's Pharmaceuticals to supply with fill-finish work at the Atlas Complex, according to the release.

Voter registration closes Oct. 19 for the Nov. 3 general election

The deadline to register to vote in the Nov. 3 general election is Monday, Oct. 19, Secretary of State Wes Allen said in a release Oct. 5.

Voters can register online at sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/voter/register-to-vote, or deliver a paper registration form in person or by mail to the county Board of Registrars. Registration status can be checked at myinfo.alabama-votes.gov/VoterView.

To vote in Alabama, a person must be a U.S. citizen, live in Alabama and

be at least 18 on or before Election Day, and must not be barred from voting by a disqualifying felony conviction or have been judged "mentally incompetent" by a court.

Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day. Voters must show valid photo identification at the polls or when voting by absentee ballot.

For more information, contact the Secretary of State's Elections Division at 334-242-7210 or the Perry County Board of Registrars at 334-683-2218.

Water

... from page one

County is a persistent poverty county, the release said.

A small amount of lead had been detected in the school's water before, and clearing up concerns about it had been a long-standing goal for the district, the release said.

"It's tremendous help for the community itself because now the parents are confident in letting their child or scholar drink the water here at the school," Principal Demetrice Jackson said.

In November 2025, Alexis Nank, a community infrastructure management consultant with Communities Unlimited, walked the building and documented every drinking fountain. Her 37-page assessment found two fountains that had tested above the minimum detectable level for lead and others that no longer worked, the release said.

The district used the findings to decide which fountains to replace, weighed a quote from a local plumber and ordered the stations. Nank and two maintenance staff members installed two of them in one day in the spring and returned several weeks later to put in the third, the release said.

The grant program requires months of water sampling after installation. Nank

said she walked the halls about 5 a.m. several times to collect samples before anyone arrived.

Eleventh-grader Mackenzie Tubbs said she gets thirsty, especially during cheer practice, and does not always bring her own water bottle. "I feel like the station has been good. It tastes like purified water," she said.

Classmate Mia Bensley, who brings a bottle every day, said filling it is easier now.

The stations have also cut the school's reliance on purchased and donated cases of bottled water, the release said. Communities Unlimited gave the school reusable bottles with the school's logo and colors, enough for the year's enrollment.

Each station has a sensor-activated spout and a light that signals when its filter needs changing. Building maintenance staff watch for that signal and contact the district's central office maintenance team when a filter needs to be replaced.

The school also has a binder from Communities Unlimited with cleaning procedures, flushing schedules, replacement parts and filter replacement schedules for every fountain in the building.

Nank led a session on lead reduction for Perry County faculty at their back-to-school professional development day in August.



A bottle is filled at one of Francis Marion School's new filtered water stations.



Students Mackenzie Tubbs and Mia Bensley, Alexis Nank and Justin Broadway of Communities Unlimited, and Principal Demetrice Jackson, left to right, at the Oct. 2 ribbon cutting.

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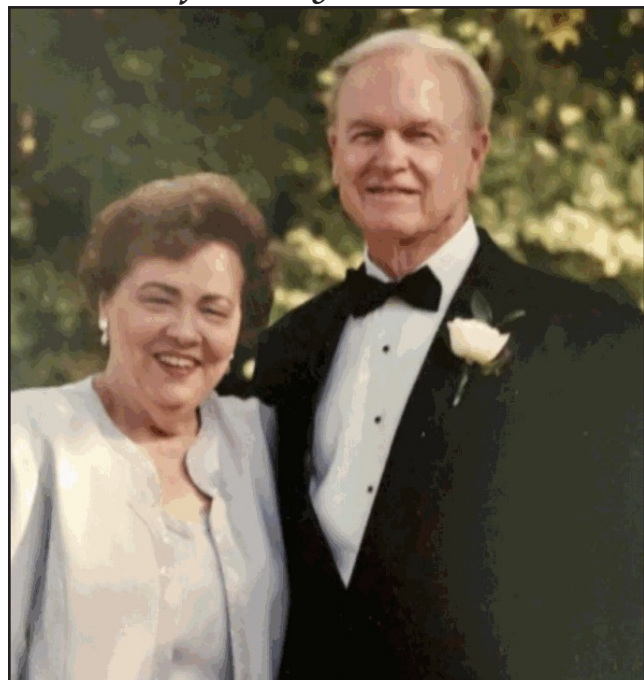
Erica King memorial trail ride for breast cancer awareness set for Oct. 17 at East Perry park

The Ride for a Cause, a breast cancer awareness trail ride and event in memory of Erica King, is set for Saturday, Oct. 17, at East Perry Community Park and Recreation Center, 5689 County Road 64, Marion, according to the flyer for the ride.

Gates open at noon and the ride starts at 3 p.m. Admission is \$15, and the flyer says a donation will be made to the Breast Cancer Society; other donations are welcome.

Guardians' history includes a Marion Military Institute cadet

Hendrick Cromartie, class of 1947, played in the Indians' farm system in 1949



By: Brian Clements

After losing the first two games of the best-of-five American League Division Series, the Cleveland Guardians (formerly the Cleveland Indians) beat the Chicago White Sox three games in a row to win the series and advance to the American League Championship Series, where they

face the Tampa Bay Rays.

The Guardians have not won a World Series since 1948. As defending World Series champions in 1949, the Indians had an MMI graduate in their farm system.

Hendrick Cromartie never made it to the majors.

Born in Albany, Georgia, in 1928, Cromartie graduated from Leesburg High School in

1945 and enrolled in Marion Military Institute's junior college program. After graduating in 1947, he enrolled at the University of Georgia.

During the spring and summer of 1949, Cromartie played minor league baseball for the Hazlehurst-Baxley Red Socks of the Georgia State League and the Cordele Indians of the Georgia-Florida League.

In 249 at-bats between the two farm clubs, Cromartie had a .201 batting average and drove in 24 runs with nine doubles, six triples and one home run.

Those are not Hall of Fame numbers, but as with Moonlight Graham, the real story began after his season in the grass.

Cromartie focused on his studies and graduated from UGA in 1951. He then enlisted in the Air Force and served four years, spending part of his service in a dental lab. Liking the work, Cromartie enrolled in the Emory University School of Dentistry after his time in the Air Force and graduated in 1960. At Emory he met Dorothy Fincher, who became his wife.

After dental school, Cromartie and his new bride moved to Rome, Georgia, where he practiced dentistry for 38 years. In his spare time he was an inventor. Cromartie held four U.S. patents, two for knee braces and two for specialized swimsuits. He was a church deacon, a golfer and a Cotillion member, and he and Dorothy danced many nights away.

Dr. Cromartie died in 2019.

Donate to help with maintenance at Marion Cemetery

The Marion Cemetery Association, Inc. is in need of your donations to help maintain the cemetery. The increased cost of fuel and laborers to mow makes this needed even more. Please consider sending your tax deductible donations to: Marion Cemetery Association, Inc., 1806 Oak Crest Drive, Marion, Alabama 36756.

Services will be Oct. 16 in Uniontown for Terrance Earl Banks, 42



Terrance Earl Banks, 42, of Fort Wayne, Ind., entered into eternal transition on September 29 at his residence. He was born July 6, 1984.

A viewing will be held Friday, October 16, from 1 to 6 p.m. at Phillip White's Julia L. White Funeral Home in Uniontown. Visitation with the family will be held Saturday, October 17, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at the funeral home. A graveside service will be held Saturday, October 17, at 2 p.m. at Goldman Hill Cemetery in Uniontown.

Phillip White's Julia L. White Funeral Home of Uniontown is in charge of arrangements.

Marion Veterinary Clinic asks for pet food donations for its shelter animals

Marion Veterinary Clinic is asking for donations of dog and cat food for the animals in its shelter: food for adult dogs and puppies and for adult cats and kittens.

"We will use any brand," the clinic said in its request, "but they seem to do better with Pedigree or Purina."

Donations may be left at the clinic, which is open from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and closed on Wednesdays and weekends.

Eagle Grove Missionary Baptist marks 132nd anniversary with homecoming Oct. 25

Eagle Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 1467 County Road 38, Marion, will celebrate its 132nd anniversary with a church homecoming service at 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25.

The Rev. Dr. Bobby England, pastor of New Purnell Baptist Church in Marion Junction, will be the guest speaker, and Dr. Cathy Trimble will be mistress of order. The Rev. Dr. Bailey Dawson Sr. is pastor.

The theme is Psalm 126:3, "The Lord has done great things for us, whereof we are glad."

Beef and Forage Field Day set Oct. 16 at Black Belt research center

Livestock and forage producers are invited to the annual Beef and Forage Field Day on Friday, Oct. 16, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Black Belt Research and Extension Center, 60 County Road 944, Marion Junction.

The field day gives producers a chance to get out in the field, see demonstrations firsthand and learn about current research, forage management and practical farming techniques. The program is free and is provided by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System.

Register at aub.ie/BBField-Day26. For questions, contact Court Green-Johnson at 205-659-6796 or

Donate to Pleasant Valley cemetery fund

Remember your family members and loved ones by contributing to the maintenance and upkeep of Pleasant Valley cemetery. Send your donations to: Pleasant Valley Cemetery Fund, c/o Ren Kyndard, 1605 Water Oak Rd., Greensboro.

Prior to entering any Alabama school or child care center, an up-to-date Certificate of Immunization must be submitted for each child.

www.alabamapublichealth.gov/imm



Cooking in the Black Belt

by Casey Roberts

Slop, slop, everywhere, but not a bit to eat. That's how many editorialists are describing our current state of affairs. If I had to place a bet on the Oxford Dictionary's Word of the Year, it would be "slop." Last year's was "rage bait" which at least had some human input. For example, the viral recipe where a set of hands puts a hamburger patty in the middle of a pan, cuts out a smiley face, surrounding the face with chopped onions. That's not even the best part: cracking three eggs into the eyes and mouth of the hamburger smiley face. Steam it awhile and you have an abomination.

Another one that, unfortunately, started infiltrating holiday spreads last year was the Little Debbie Christmas Tree Dip. Basically, you just blend a package of the vanilla Christmas tree cakes together with cream cheese and milk (or something like that). Voila! Now you can tell all your friends and family to stuff your stocking with insulin. I was downright horrified when our friend Loretta was absolutely raving about it to me over the phone after she'd been to a holiday party. People actually make this stuff?!

Slop, until recently, served a purpose. Namely, feeding pigs. I remember my grandfather gleefully gathering up leftovers and kitchen scraps for the chickens and the pigs. In this way, there really was a use for everything. With the rise of artificial intelligence, I loathe even going on Facebook now, lest I get inundated with one ChatGPT listicle after another. As a journalist, I could go on and on about how a bulleted list of pure pathos punctuated with emojis isn't a substitute for real human language, but this is a recipe column. No, I'm here today to talk about a cook from Greensboro, Alabama that recently came to my attention. Her name is Edna Jackson.

To give credit where credit is due, John is the one who brought this YouTube channel to my attention. Under the channel name, EdnaJackson-

Cooking, this computer-generated woman speaks with an equally computer-generated voice offering various "soul hacks" in the kitchen. Now, algorithms are quite responsive to the "life hack" or "hack" terminology, which is internet speak for just doing something correctly. Although, I wouldn't really go seeking out these life hacks in the hopes that they'll improve anything for you. For instance, one life hack that sticks with me is soaking a strawberry in bleach to get a "white strawberry." Not only can you not eat the strawberry, but we already have pineberries, which are basically white strawberries. I know, I know, they're more than just white strawberries, but you get my point.

Anyway, this Edna character prattles on in one 15-minute video after another, promising you she'll reveal her ultimate secrets at the end of the video after she's listed off 20 other things you already knew. You see, the thing that drives me nuts about everyone using AI to express their thoughts is that it doesn't do a great job at getting to the deadgum point. I don't know how many times I have to hear Edna Jackson tell me my cabbage is grey and smells like a wet sock before she tells me how to get it to not look grey, to not smell like a wet sock. If any real person talked like that, they'd wear themselves out beating around the bush so much.

Of course, Edna is also selling a cookbook, complete with oversaturated images of disproportionately steamy buttermilk biscuits that look like something out of the Teletubbies universe. This \$30 wonder blessedly has a free pdf preview with a handful of recipes that shockingly are all on a website of the same name. It's called Soul on the Table and boasts about Jackson's childhood in Greensboro, and even has a section titled "Fish and Coastal Suppers." Unless Miss Jackson is speaking of her summering in Mobile, I'd be very curious what coast we're close to in Greensboro, Ala-

bama. It's unfair of me to pile all of this on Edna, though, because (as it turns out) there's a whole network of these Southern AI-generated grandmothers showing you how to cook things their way. To the surprise of no one, their recipes are pretty much all the same, right down to the examples they offer: sweet potato pie, buttermilk cornbread, a pot of greens, etc. Sure, these are in every Southern cookbook, but they have the added benefit of being vetted by real people, not just regurgitated through a computer. What's fascinating about this phenomena is just as quickly as these AI grandmas started cooking on Instagram and X, their profiles just as quickly vanished. Now, they all are shilling their AI-generated cookbooks, with each of these home cooks claiming to be from some part of the rural South.

Seeing all this talk of AI-generated sweet potato pies had me thinking about finally rolling out the real deal sweet potato pie. Seeing how boring the AI version of the recipe is, I thought it best to give you a recipe that really works. I've made this pie a couple times and I really have to be sparing with it because I could easily eat the whole thing. Some of you may recognize the contributor of this recipe, but we shall see.

Jean Childs Young's Sweet Potato Custard Pie

1 (9-10 inch) pie crust
3 medium (1 1/4 pounds) unpeeled sweet potatoes
4 Tablespoons (1/2 stick or 57 grams) unsalted butter, at room temperature
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 1/2 cups heavy cream or evaporated milk
3 large eggs
1/2 cup (96 grams) lightly packed dark brown sugar
1/2 cup dark corn syrup or sorghum
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
1/2 teaspoon salt
Whipped cream for serving
Place pie crust in a 9 to 10 inch deep dish pie pan, crimp the edges, and set aside in the fridge.

Rinse and pat dry the sweet potatoes. Place them in a large saucepan, cover with water, and boil in their "jackets" (unpeeled) until very tender when pierced with a fork, 25 to 30 minutes, depending on the size of the potato. You should be able to stick a fork nearly through with ease. Drain, and when cool enough to handle, peel and mash. You'll need 1 3/4 cups mashed sweet potatoes.

Heat the oven to 375 degrees with a rack in the lower middle.

Place the warm sweet potatoes, butter, and vanilla in a large bowl and stir until the butter melts. Stir in the cream or evaporated milk.

Separate the eggs, place the whites in a large clean bowl and the yolks in the bowl with the sweet potatoes. Stir vigorously to incorporate the yolks. Stir the brown sugar, corn syrup or sorghum, cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger, and salt into the sweet potato mixture until smooth.

Beat the egg whites with an electric mixer on high speed until nearly stiff peaks form, about 3 minutes. Fold the beaten whites into the sweet potato mixture until smooth. Pour into the piecrust and place the pan in the oven.

Bake until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean and the pie is browned around the edges, 53 to 58 minutes. Let cool in the pan for 1 hour before slicing and serving with whipped cream, if desired.

I've mentioned this hack before, but I use a buttermilk biscuit dough for my pie crust. Set that sucker in a cast iron skillet and this pie will hold. In fact, this has been one of the few pies I've successfully removed from the pan to serve on a pretty platter. Although, everyone loves to see a cast iron skillet doing double duty. For those of you unfamiliar with her work, Mrs. Young was a Marion native who went on to marry Andrew Young, a decorated politician as far as Georgia goes. If there's any way to bag a future ambassador to the United Nations, this pie could very well do the trick. Honestly, I'm surprised it took a tirade against artificial intelligence to get this recipe out of me. I

also highly recommend the sorghum if you can get your hands on some. Last time I saw any for sale was at Ford Farms in Selma, but things change all the time.

There's an interesting little debate amongst Southern home cooks that I've recently become aware of: whether or not you grew up with white corn syrup or dark corn syrup. Personally, we always had both on hand, because you just never know. However, much like the many opinions I've encountered over the years about Southern foodways, somebody has something they're loyal to. For me, I don't go tit-for-tat about the little things like that. As long as I know your recipe came from your human mother, or your human grandmother and not some whirring set of wires in Data Center Alley, we should be on the same page.

Y'all, there's not a lot I ask for these days. Going out and hearing all about what y'all are cooking is all I need to keep this column up and running. As we hand over more and more of our lives to the machines we made to simplify them, let us not forget the beauty in slowing down. It's ironic to me that there's a proliferation of this AI-slop of six-fingered grandmothers telling you how to cook like in the old days, while acting as a proxy for the technology that is threatening that very way of life. No, I'm not gonna be the Luddite revolutionary that tells you to go smash the machines, but I will tell you (much like a grandmother would) to put that phone down. An AI cook claiming Black Belt ancestry is about as valuable in the kitchen as having a toilet for a sink. One thing AI can never replace is your real grandmother taking you by the hand and showing you how a biscuit dough is supposed to feel or to stop opening the oven door so much as to not "worry the pie to death." One perk about all this AI-slop is if you make something that really doesn't work out, I could see blaming AI for generating a terrible, unworkable recipe for you. Maybe you have an out now for any of your forthcoming holiday culinary emergencies. You're welcome in advance.

Perry County fifth graders' math proficiency rose to 38.89 percent, Wallace say



Math proficiency among Perry County fifth graders rose from 3.57 percent in the 2022-23 school year to 38.89 percent in 2024-25, Wallace Community College Selma said in an Oct. 1 story on its website.

Third and fourth graders

gained over the same years, the college said. Third-grade proficiency went from 19.15 percent to 43.64 percent, and fourth-grade proficiency from 3.85 percent to 14.93 percent.

The figures come from an Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative presen-

tation on the school-based math coaches Perry County hired for the 2023-24 school year, the story said.

Each grade improved in each year, according to the story. In 2023-24, proficiency was 24.29 percent in third grade, 11.63 percent in fourth and 17.39 percent in fifth.

The story says the data do not establish that the coaching alone caused the gains.

Wallace and Alabama State University are an AMSTI regional site that supports kindergarten through 12th-grade math and science teachers in the region, the college said.

Francis Marion School credited the gains to its students, its teachers and the AMSTI partnership.

County solid waste customers can now pay online or by phone

Perry County Solid Waste customers can pay their bills online, sign up for autopay, e-billing and paperless billing, or pay by phone at 844-516-1082 through a new payment system that went live Wednesday, Sept. 16, the Perry County Commission announced.

Customers whose account number is currently listed as their name will need to contact the solid waste office to have it changed to a numeric account number before using the automated pay-by-phone system, the commission said.

For more information, contact the Perry County Solid Waste Department at 334-683-2200, ext. 4, or solidwaste@perrycountyal.gov.

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Kids and Kin classes for relative caregivers set at Marion library through Dec.

The Family Guidance Center of Alabama's Kids and Kin program has scheduled free classes for grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and other relatives raising children at the Marion-Perry County Public Library, 202 Washington St., through the end of the year.

The schedule: A Guide to Safe Sleep for Infants, Tuesday, Oct. 13; Peer Pressure, From Toddlers to Teens, Monday, Oct. 26; How to Potty Train Children with Special Needs, Monday, Nov. 9; Financial Literacy 101: Curriculum for Kids and Teens, Monday, Nov. 23; APT, Multisensory Learning Techniques: What Is It?, Monday, Dec. 7; and Laughter is the Best Medicine, Monday, Dec. 14.

Kids and Kin offers two trainings a month, in person and online. Relative caregivers who enroll in its Voluntary Certification Program receive a free health and safety item, earn \$50 in toys and educational materials for completing six trainings plus CPR and first aid, and earn \$100 more for six additional trainings, according to the program's flyer.

Information: Rebecca Dye, 334-465-0049 or rdye@familyguidancecenter.org.

Throw & Go contest offers Magic City Classic tickets

The Black Belt Community Foundation's Throw & Go contest is open, with the winner receiving two tickets to the Magic City Classic football game between Alabama A&M and Alabama State in Birmingham, plus a two-night stay at a Birmingham hotel.

Entries are \$5 each, with bonus entries for donations of \$20 or more. Proceeds support the foundation's community grants in its 12 Black Belt service counties. The last day to buy entries is Thursday, Oct. 15, at noon, and the drawing is Friday, Oct. 16. Enter at blackbelt-found.org/throwandgo.

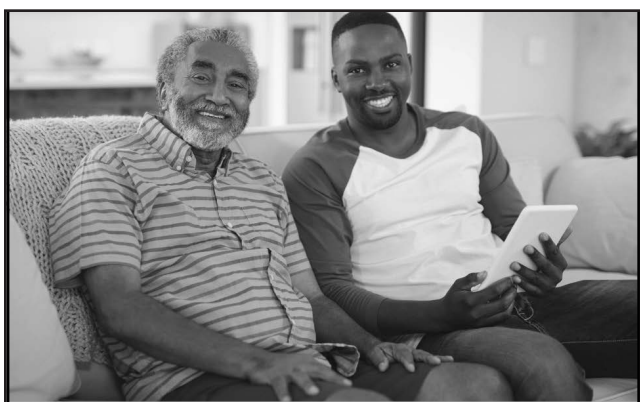
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Card of Thanks, Birthday Greetings, Memoriams, and Poems — standard size (2 column-inches by 2 inches or 1 column-inch by 4 inches) — **\$25.00. Payable in advance of publication.**

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Help Wanted

EAT WHITE DIRT, SOUR DIRT, RED DIRT, KAOLIN, OR CLAY? University of Alabama researchers would like to hear about your experiences in a confidential, judgment-free interview. Adults who eat white dirt now or have eaten it in the past may be eligible. Participants receive \$20-40 depending on level of participation. Text 917-607-6291 or email cdlynn@ua.edu for info. "Whether white dirt is a remedy, a craving, a favorite taste, or a family tradition, we would like to hear your story."

Legal Notice

STATE OF ALABAMA PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS the Alabama Legislature at its 2026 Regular Session enacted Act No. 2026-341 (SB271), Act No. 2026-378 (HB380), Act No. 2026-379 (HB511), and Act No. 2026-424 (SB5), proposing amendments to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022;

WHEREAS, in conformity with Section 284 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, as amended, the Legislature has or-

dered an election by the qualified electors of the state upon such proposed amendments; and WHEREAS notice of this election, together with the proposed amendments, is required by law to be given by proclamation of the Governor, which shall be published once a week for at least four successive weeks immediately preceding the day appointed for the election;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, as Governor of the State of Alabama, do hereby give notice, direct, and proclaim that on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, an election will be held in the State of Alabama in the manner and form provided by law upon the following proposed amendments to the Constitution of 2022 of the State of Alabama:

AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY ACT NO. 2026-341

PART I.

Section 127 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

"Section 127

(a) ~~In case of the governor's removal from office, death or resignation~~If a vacancy occurs in the office of the governor, the lieutenant governor shall become governor.

(b) ~~If both a vacancy occurs in the office of the governor and the office of the lieutenant governor be removed from office, die or resign more than sixty~~60 days prior to the next general election; at which any state officers are to be elected, a governor and lieutenant governor shall be elected at such election for the unexpired term,~~and in the event of a vacancy in the office, caused by the removal from office, death or resignation of the governor and lieutenant governor, pending~~During such vacancy and until their successors shall be elected and qualified, the office of governor shall be held and administered by either the president pro tempore of the senate, speaker of the house of representatives, attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, or state treasurer in the order herein named.

(c) ~~In case of the impeachment of the governor, his or her absence from the state for more than twenty days, unsoundness of mind, or other disability or incapacity to serve, the power and authority of the office shall, until the governor is acquitted, returns to the state, or is restored to his mind, or relieved from other disability~~no longer incapacitated, shall devolve in the order herein named, described in subsection (b) upon the lieutenant governor, president pro tempore of the senate, speaker of the house of representatives, attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, and state treasurer. If any of these officers be under any of the disabilities herein specified, the office of the gov-

ernor shall be administered in the order named by such of these officers as ~~may be~~ are free from such disability.

(d) ~~If the governor shall be~~ is absent from the state over twenty days, the secretary of state shall notify the lieutenant governor, who shall enter upon the duties of governor; if both the governor and lieutenant governor ~~shall be~~ are absent from the state over twenty days, the secretary of state shall notify the president pro tempore of the senate, who shall enter upon the duties of governor, and so on, in case of such absence, ~~he or she~~ shall notify each of the other officers named in ~~their~~ the order of ~~succession herein provided~~, who shall discharge the duties of the office until the governor or other officer entitled to administer the office in succession to the governor returns.

(e) ~~If the governor-elect fail or refuse from any cause to qualify, the lieutenant governor-elect shall qualify and exercise the duties of governor until the governor-elect qualifies, and in the event both If both the governor-elect and the lieutenant governor-elect from any cause for any reason fail to qualify, the president pro tempore of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, and state treasurer, shall, in like manner, in the order named, administer the office until the governor-elect or lieutenant governor-elect qualifies.~~

(f) ~~If a vacancy occurs in the office of the lieutenant governor more than 60 days before the next general election at which any state officers are to be elected, a lieutenant governor shall be elected at such general election for the unexpired term.~~

PART II.

The following provision is added to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022 to read as follows:

Notwithstanding any other provision of the constitution:

(1) The Lieutenant Governor and officers of both houses of the Legislature shall be paid an amount set by joint resolution; and

(2) Any expenditure of funds appropriated for use by members of the Legislature for travel shall be approved by an officer of the Legislature elected from the full membership of the respective chamber.

AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY ACT NO. 26-378

(a) Whenever two or more contiguous county boards of education deem it advisable to consolidate the administration of their respective county school systems under one remaining controlling multi-county board of education, each county board of education shall adopt and

record within the minutes of each board an agreement providing for the consolidation. A formal resolution adopted by all members of the agreeing boards shall detail and provide for the payment of their respective indebtedness, specify how the consolidation will take place, identify how the remaining controlling multi-county board of education will operate, provide for the roles and duties of the resulting multi-county board members, and designate the time frame during which the consolidation will be implemented. Subject to subsection (c), the consolidation shall be finalized as designated in the formal resolution.

(b) Before a consolidation may occur, the State Board of Education shall conduct an impact study on the potential effects of the proposed consolidation, including, but not limited to, the impact on students, families, educational quality, educational programs, staff, facilities, transportation and operations, finances and taxes, community identity, and governance. At least 30 calendar days before adopting the formal resolution finalizing the consolidation, the State Board of Education shall post a copy of the impact study on the public website of the State Department of Education.

(c)(1) If, within 30 days after the adoption of the formal resolution, 25 percent of the qualified electors residing within the boundaries of any of the school systems proposing consolidation submit a protest, in writing, to any of the affected county boards of education, the consolidation may not occur unless the consolidation is approved by a majority of the qualified electors residing in each county or counties wherein all affected county school systems are located who vote in a referendum election as provided in this subsection.

(2) The consolidation shall become operative only if approved by a majority of the qualified electors who reside within the combined territory of the affected county school systems who vote in a referendum election to be held on the date of the next regularly scheduled general election. The order setting the election shall be entered by the judge of probate of each affected county within one month after the expiration of the 30-day time period provided in subdivision (1). Notice of the election shall be given by the judge of probate of each county, and the election shall be held, conducted, and the results canvassed in the manner as other county elections. The ballots shall have printed at the top a statement of the purpose of the referendum election and directly underneath, in plain type and on different lines, the words,

"For Consolidation," and "Against Consolidation." If a majority of the qualified electors voting in the combined territory of the affected county school systems vote to approve the consolidation, the consolidation shall be finalized as designated in the formal resolution.

(d) The consolidation shall not operate to relieve any board of education, or other governing body, of liability for obligations previously incurred, or to impair rights existing before the consolidation. The agreement and formal resolution shall be binding on the combining county boards of education. If a consolidation occurs, the remaining controlling multi-county board of education shall have the right to compel the execution of contractual obligations made to any of the boards before the consolidation.

(e) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules as necessary to provide for the implementation of this section.

(f) The Legislature, by general or local law, may enact legislation to implement approved board consolidations pursuant to this section.

AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY ACT NO. 2026-379

(a) Each local board of education shall adopt a policy requiring each public K-12 school under its jurisdiction, at the beginning of each school day, to conduct The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and give all students the opportunity to voluntarily recite The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag.

(b) Each local board of education shall adopt a policy requiring each public K-12 school under its jurisdiction to allow a prayer to be conducted, provided that:

(1) The prayer must be initiated by and led by a student; and

(2) No student may be required to participate in a prayer.

(c) Any policy adopted by a local board of education pursuant to this section shall ensure that students have the right to opt out of participation in the Pledge of Allegiance or the prayer based on their own beliefs.

(d) Violations of this section may be reported to the local superintendent of education. The local superintendent of education shall review the violation.

AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY ACT NO. 2026-424

(a) Each local board of education shall adopt a policy requiring each public K-12 school under its jurisdiction to broadcast The Star-Spangled Banner during school hours, at least once per week.

(b)(1) A local board of education shall select for broadcast, pursuant to subsection (a), any recording of the first stanza of

The Star-Spangled Banner that is archived within the Library of Congress and available on the Library of Congress website.

(2) A local board of education, alternatively, may adopt a policy allowing, during school hours, for the performance of the first stanza of The Star-Spangled Banner from original sheet music, archived within the Library of Congress and available on its website, by a school-sanctioned band program, choral program, vocal group, or vocalist.

FURTHER, I proclaim and direct that this proclamation shall be published once a week for the four successive weeks immediately preceding Tuesday, November 3, 2026, in every county as required by law.

10-8-4c

Legal Notice

STATE OF ALABAMA PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS the Alabama Legislature at its 2026 Regular Session enacted Act No. 2026-343 (HB573), which ordered an election to be held on a proposed amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022 relating to Perry County, Alabama; and **WHEREAS** notice of this election, together with the proposed amendment, is required by law to be given by proclamation of the Governor, to be published once a week for four successive weeks preceding the date appointed for the election in each newspaper qualified to run legal notices in the county affected;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, as Governor of the State of Alabama, do hereby give notice, direct, and proclaim that on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, an election will be held in Perry County, Alabama, in the manner and form provided by law upon the following proposed amendment to the Constitution of 2022 of the State of Alabama:

AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY ACT NO. 2026-343

(a) In Perry County, an individual 65 years of age or older may claim a senior property tax exemption for ad valorem tax purposes on real property located in the county which is owned by the individual, classified as single-family owner-occupied residential property, and used as the principal place of residence of the individual for not less than five years immediately prior to the tax year for which the individual first claims the senior property tax exemption. The senior property tax exemption shall freeze the assessed value of the property for the year immediately prior to claiming the exemption.

(b) The following provisions shall apply to the individual claiming the senior property tax

exemption:

(1) The taxpayer shall continue to receive the senior property tax exemption as long as the taxpayer continues to use the property as his or her principal place of residence.

(2) The individual shall continue to be eligible to claim a home-
stead exemption and any other exemption authorized by law on the property.

(3) The property shall continue to be subject to any millage rate changes on the property.

(4) The assessed value of any additions to the property after claiming the senior property tax exemption shall be added to the assessed value of the property and subject to ad valorem tax based on the increase in the assessed value of the addition after the taxpayer claims the senior property tax exemption.

(5) This exemption may be claimed beginning October 1, 2027, for the value of the property on October 1, 2026.

(6) This exemption must be claimed in writing with the Perry County Revenue Commissioner between October 1 and December 31.

FURTHER, I proclaim and direct that this proclamation shall be published once a week for the four successive weeks immediately preceding Tuesday, November 3, 2026, in each newspaper qualified to run legal notices in Perry County, Alabama.

10-8-4c

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF PERRY COUNTY, ALABAMA
IN RE: The Estate of Kelvin W. Gibson, Deceased.

Case No.: 26-0035

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Brian O. Gibson, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Kelvin W. Gibson, on October 2, 2026, by the Probate Court of Perry, Alabama.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Brian O. Gibson
Administrator of the Estate of Kelvin W. Gibson

10-15-3c

Legal Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
STATE OF ALABAMA,
PERRY COUNTY
PROBATE COURT, CASE NO. 26-0036

Estate of Elaine Edwards, Deceased

Letters Testamentary upon the

last Will and Testament of the decedent, having been granted to the undersigned, on the 8th day of October, 2026, by the Honorable Probate Court of Perry County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of the claim in the office of the Judge of Probate within six months from above date or the claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

Hugh Edwards, III

Personal Representatives of the Elaine Edwards

Attorney for Personal Representative:

Jefferson K. Nail

P.O. Box 916

Marion, AL 36756

10-15-3c

Legal Notice

Invitation to Bid

Schmidt Environmental Construction, Inc. is currently accepting proposals from suppliers & subcontractors for the Laney Hills and Harvest Wastewater Pump Station Rehabilitation for the Uniontown Waterworks and Sewer Board. SECI is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We encourage MBE/DBE/WBE participation. For more information regarding this project or other projects SECI is currently bidding check out our website www.schmidtcci.com, email allyson@schmidtcci.com, or call (334) 887-0334.

10-15-2c

Legal Notice

POLLWORKER LIST FOR THE UPCOMING GENERAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ELECTION TO BE HELD TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2026

ARMORY - District 1, Box A-G Inspector: William Avery Provisional Ballot Clerk: Cynthia Hogue HAVA Express Vote Machine: Merlinda Burt Poll List Clerk: Malinda Faye Caldwell

ARMORY - District 1, Box 2 (H-M) Registration List Clerk: Juanita Roberson Ballot Clerk: Lucille Williams Poll List Clerk: Tiffany C. Smith

ARMORY - District 1, Box 3 (N-Z) Registration List Clerk: Denisha Jones Ballot Clerk: Tosha L. Griffin Poll List Clerk: Jeraldine Harris

WEST PERRY/EAST HALE - District 1, Box 1 (A-Z) Inspector/Provisional Ballot Clerk: Gloria Reeves Registration List Clerk: Chinester Herring Poll List Clerk/HAVA Express Vote Machine: Estelle Scott

ARMORY - District 2, Box 1 (A-D) Inspector: Leslye Essex Registration List Clerk: Veronica Thomas Ballot Clerk: Mary Martin Poll List Clerk: Queen Ward

ARMORY - District 2, Box E-L Registration List Clerk: Emma Perry Poll List/Ballot Clerk: Sharon Green

ARMORY - District 2, Box 3 (M-R) Registration List Clerk: Jamie Harris Poll List/Ballot Clerk: Wanza Coleman

ARMORY - District 2, Box 4 (S-Z) Registration List Clerk: Minnie Turner Ballot Clerk: Harold Kynard Poll List: Viola Nelson

ARMORY - District 3, Box 1 (A-Z) Inspector: Tommy King Registration List Clerk: Pauline Gooden Poll List/Ballot Clerk: Kathleen Cowan

NORTH PERRY FIRE STATION - District 3, Box 1 (A-Z) Inspector/Provisional Ballot Clerk: Melanie Smith Registration List Clerk/HAVA Express Vote Machine: Christopher Hoytte Poll List/Ballot Clerk: Jacqueline Kynard

HEIBERGER CAFE' - District 3, Box 1 (A-Z) Inspector/Provisional Ballot Clerk: Pamela Horne Registration List Clerk/HAVA Express Vote Machine: Robert Shepherd Poll List Clerk/Ballot Clerk: Hosea Rutledge

SEVERE - District 3, Box 1 (A-Z) Inspector/Provisional Ballot Clerk: Dara K. Hopper Registration List Clerk: Tracy Leah Huey Poll List Clerk: Josephine Brand Ballot Clerk/HAVA Express Vote Machine: Matthew Colburn

EAST PERRY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT. - District 3, Box 1 (A-Z) Inspector/Provisional Ballot Clerk: Paulette H. Essex Registration List Clerk/HAVA Express Vote Machine: Brenda Mann Poll List Clerk: Alberta Hollis Ballot Clerk: Denise M. Lovelady

OFS HWY 219 - District 3, Box 1 (A-Z) Inspector/Provisional Ballot Clerk: Betty C. Edwards Registration List Clerk: Maeberta Hatcher Ballot Clerk: Gail P. Ivey HAVA Express Vote Machine: Constance P. England

SUTTLE - District 3, Box 1 (A-Z) Inspector/Provisional Ballot Clerk: Audrey Ford Registration List/Poll List Clerk: Cad Ford Poll List/Ballot Clerk/HAVA Express Vote Machine: Beth Watters

UNIONTOWN CITY HALL - District 4, Box 1 (A-L) Inspector: Latanya Hunter Registration List Clerk: Debra Banks Poll List Clerk: Elizabeth Wyatt Provisional Ballot Clerk/Express Vote Machine: Alfreda B. Washington

UNIONTOWN CITY HALL - District 4, Box 2 (M-Z) Inspector: Emma P. Williams Registration List Clerk: Rosia D. Jones Ballot Clerk: Bertha Brown Poll List Clerk: Jalen Williams

HAMBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT. - District 4, Box 1 (A-Z) Inspector/Provisional Ballot Clerk: Tracie H. Kynard Registration List Clerk: Florence Lauderdale Poll List/HAVA Express Vote Machine Clerk: Larry

Strother Ballot Clerk: Doris Bates

HINTON HALL - District 4, Box 1 (A-Z) Inspector/Provisional Ballot Clerk: Sarah Hollis Registration List Clerk/HAVA Express Vote Machine: Vivian Turner Poll List Clerk: Josephine Moore Ballot Clerk: Louis Foster

ARMORY (OLD LINCOLN SCHOOL) - District 4, Box 1 (A-Z) Inspector: Anne Robinson Registration List Clerk: Linda Mckenzie Poll List/Ballot Clerk: Eula Mckenzie

UNIONTOWN CLB - District 5, Box 1 (A-G) Inspector/Provisional Ballot Clerk: Gregory Abernathy Registration List Clerk/HAVA Express Vote Machine: Dorothy Johnson Poll List/Ballot Clerk: Geraldine Collins Ballot Clerk: Georgia Askew

UNIONTOWN CLB - District 5, Box 2 (H-O) Inspector/Provisional Ballot Clerk: Deloris J. Braxton Registration List Clerk: Lucy Whitt Poll List Clerk: Mary L. Williams Ballot Clerk/HAVA Express Vote Machine: Dorothea M. Williams

UNIONTOWN CLB - District 5, Box 3 (P-Z) Registration List Clerk: Queen Robinson Poll List/Ballot Clerk: Callie Sanders

ABSENTEE Inspector/Provisional Ballot Clerk: Nekia D. Moore Manager: Joanna Evans Manager: Pamela Vaughn Returning Officer: Clementene Mosley

APPROVED this the 13th day of October, 2026

Carlton L. Hogue, Judge of Probate

Mia Jacobs-Turner, Circuit Clerk/ Absentee Manager

Roy J. Fikes, Sheriff

10-15-1c

Legal Notice

NEWS RELEASE-SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION FOR GENERAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ELECTION TO BE HELD TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2026

I, CARLTON L. HOGUE, JUDGE OF PROBATE for Perry County Alabama, announces the school of instruction for the General and Constitutional Amendment Election to be held, Tuesday, November 3, 2026, between the legal hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm.

Voting systems must comply with the United States HAVA 301(a), Alabama HAVA and Alabama Code 17-2-4 (1975). Each polling place must have an accessible voting machine for the people with disabilities. According to Harris v. Siegelman case, ordered by the United States District Judge Myron Thompson, on September 7, 1988, each polling official must be certified.

The School of Instructions will be held, Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 5:00 pm in the upstairs courtroom at the Perry County

Courthouse for Marion Poll Workers.

The School of Instructions will be held, Wednesday October 28, 2026, at 5:30 pm at Uniontown City Hall for Uniontown Poll Workers.

Anyone who desires to work as a Poll Worker is invited; in the event a designated Polling Official is unable to work at the polls on Election Day.

If you have any questions or are unable to work, please contact me at 334-683-2210.

Done the 13th day of October 2026

Honorable Carlton L. Hogue
Judge of Probate, Perry County
10-15-1c

Statewide Ala-Scan Classifieds

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WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION: A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals dry out the wet area and do repairs to protect your family and your home's value! If you have water in your home that needs to be dried, Call 24/7: 1-833-879-1371 Have zip code of service location ready when you call!

BEAUTIFUL BATH UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Superior quality bath and shower systems at AFFORDABLE PRICES! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Call Now! 1-877-583-6484 Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-844-358-5270

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AFFORDABLE TV & INTERNET. If you are overpaying for your service, call now for a free quote and see how much you can save! 1-877-541-5677

NEED NEW FLOORING? Call today to schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 1-877-403-4821

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

Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-877-724-3049 today!

R.C. Hatch homecoming parade set for Oct. 16 in Uniontown; entries free

Robert C. Hatch High School's homecoming parade will roll through Uniontown at 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16, and any individual, group, business or nonprofit organization may enter at no charge, the school announced.

Entry forms are due by Oct. 13 so the homecoming committee can prepare and

send out the line-up information. The form is online at forms.gle/Hb8VZkE29K1v8YDn8 and through the QR code on the school's flyer. This year's theme is "Lights, Camera, Hatch!"

Tailgating spots for the homecoming game are \$100 each through GoFan until Oct. 15, the school said.

Services were Oct. 9 for Willie Lee Thrash, Sr., age 83



Willie Lee Thrash Sr., 83, died September 12.

He was born August 9, 1943.

A public viewing was held Friday, October 9, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Glen White Memorial Funeral Home in Uniontown. The funeral service was held Saturday, October 10, at 11 a.m. at Glovers Primitive Baptist Church in

Thomaston.

Glen White Memorial Funeral Home of Uniontown directed.

Veterans support group meets monthly in Marion

A veterans support group meets at Sowing Seeds of Hope, 1728 Washington St. in Marion, at 10 a.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. All veterans are welcome. For more information, call 334-683-4666.

Donate to Pleasant Valley cemetery fund

Remember your family members and loved ones by contributing to the maintenance and upkeep of Pleasant Valley cemetery. Send your donations to: Pleasant Valley Cemetery Fund, c/o Ren Kynard, 1605 Water Oak Rd., Greensboro.

Stephens Memorial to install Pastor Johnson Oct. 18

Stephens Memorial Missionary Baptist Church in Uniontown will hold the installation of Pastor McArthur Johnson and First Lady Shemeco Johnson on Sunday, Oct. 18, at 1:30 p.m. at the church, 1530 Stephens Memorial Road, Uniontown.

The service theme is Acts 20:28: "Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers."

HOUSES FOR RENT

Two single-family houses within the city of Marion. Two bedrooms, one bath, living/dining room, utility space, large hallway, large closets. Public sewer service, public water supply. Excellent for college students or a single family. One block from Marion Military Institute, two blocks from the former Judson College campus. Please furnish references. Contact 334-683-8278.



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Perry County Church Directory

MARION

Antioch Baptist Church
County Rd 191, Marion, AL
36756

Apostolic United Pentecostal Church
(205) 926-5547
115 Apostolic Way, Marion, AL
36756

Berean Baptist Church
(334) 683-8940
804 Washington Street, 36756

Bethel Church
(334) 627-3502
7834 AL-5, Marion, AL 36756

Bethlehem Methodist Church
(334) 683-8195
2600 Co Rd 162, Marion, AL
36756

Calvary Baptist Church
(334) 683-6601
7800 Coretta Scott King Hwy,
Marion, AL 36756

Eagle Grove Baptist Church
(334) 683-0520
Highway 38, Marion, AL 36756

Ephesus Baptist Church
(334) 683-8195
31820 Hwy 193, Marion, AL
36756

Faith Chapel
(334) 875-1496
County Road 45, Marion, AL
36756

First Congregational Church of Marion
(334) 683-9622
601 Clay Street, Marion, AL
36756

Friendship Baptist Church
(334) 683-4748
20987 AL-183, Marion, AL
36756

God's House of Worship
(334) 683-6868
206 Washington St, Marion, AL
36756

Greenleaf Missionary Baptist Church
(334) 683-4635
Scott Station Rd, Marion, AL
36756

Hamburg Church of Christ
(334) 683-6710
Mt Olive Church Rd, Marion,
AL 36756

Heiberger Methodist Church
(334) 683-8967
800 Heiberger Loop Road,
Marion, AL 36756

Hickory Grove Baptist Church
(334) 683-9877
950 Hickory Grove Baptist
Church Road, Marion, AL
36756

Hopewell Baptist Church
(334) 683-6965
13411 M.L.K., Marion, AL
36756

Lake Payne Church of God
(205) 710-7423
17100 Coretta Scott King Hwy,
Marion, AL 36756

Little Rock Baptist Church
(334) 683-5063
Highway 5, Marion, AL 36756

Marietta Methodist Church
(334) 624-3568
157 Marietta Church Rd, Mar-
ion, AL 36756

Marion Methodist Church
(334) 683-6543
110 Washington Street, 36756

**Marion Junction Presby-
terian Church**
(334) 875-4141
55 Railroad St, Marion Junc-
tion, AL 36759

Marion Kingdom Hall
(334) 683-9867
Hamburg Rd, Marion, AL
36756

Marion Presbyterian Church
(205) 632-8104
502 Washington St, Marion, AL
36756-2526

Morning Star Baptist Church
(205) 334-2497
27177 Highway 14, Marion, AL
36756

Mount Moriah
(334) 683-8060
106 Graham Cir, Marion, AL
36756

Mount Pilgrim Church
(334) 683-4341
272 Mt. Pilgrim Church Rd, AL
36756

Mount Sinai
(334) 683-4341
112 Centreville St, Marion, AL
36756

Mt. Nebo AME Zion Church
(334) 683-6311
12 Ollis Martin Rd, Marion, AL
36756

Mt. Olive Baptist Church
(334) 683-9528
200 Jagger Rd, Marion, AL
36756

Mt. Tabor AME Zion Church
(334) 683-2992
Coretta Scott King Memorial
Hwy, Marion, AL 36756

Nebo Methodist Church
(334) 683-4080
332 Centreville St, Marion, AL
36756

New Canaan Holiness Church
(334) 683-4080
Co Rd 23, Marion, AL 36756

New Oak Grove Baptist Church
(334) 683-9116
150 County Road 127, Marion,
AL 36756

North Perry Church - Our Lord
(205) 926-4706
100 Hopkins Loop, Marion, AL
36756

North Perry Holiness Church
(334) 683-5855
3761 County Rd 23, Marion,
AL 36756

Oak Grove Baptist Church
(334) 289-1951
142 Oak Grove Rd, Marion, AL
36756

Pine Grove Baptist Church
(334) 412-4907
301 CO RD 152, Marion, AL
36756

Pineview Assembly of God
(334) 683-4486
29470 AL-14, Marion, AL
36756

Providence Baptist Church
(334) 683-8001
206 AL-14, Marion, AL 36756

Saint James Church
(334) 683-4115
6420 Highway 14, Marion, AL
36756

Sardis Baptist Church
(334) 683-6311
588 Sardis Church Road, Mar-
ion, AL 36756

Shepherd's Love Ministry INC
(334) 683-9153
1604 AL-5, Marion, AL 36756

Siloam Baptist Church
(334) 683-6613
505 Washington Street, 36756

Simpson Chapel
(334) 683-4341
1419 E Catherine Drive, Mar-
ion, AL 36756 / 1804 Cren-
shaw Springs Road, Marion,
AL 36756

Sowing Seeds of Hope
(334) 683-4666
1728 Washington St, Marion,
AL 36756

St. Wilfrid's Episcopal Church
(334) 683-6562
104 Clements St, Marion, AL
36756

Trinity Baptist Church
(334) 683-4624
501 Carol St, Marion, AL
36756

Waycross Bible Methodist Church
(334) 683-8345
16541 Coretta Scott King Hwy,

Marion, AL 36756

Zion Methodist Church
(334) 683-4959
301 Pickens St, Marion, AL
36756

United Community Church of God
(334) 683-6331
104 Hwy 14E, Marion, AL
36756

UNIONTOWN

Aimwell Baptist Church
(334) 628-4112
10571 Central Mills Rd, Union-
town, AL 36786

First Missionary Baptist Church
(334) 628-6281
20 Cahaba Rd, Uniontown, AL
36786

First Methodist Church of Uniontown
(334) 628-6281
103 1/2 Church Street, Union-
town, AL 36786

Friendship Baptist Church
(334) 628-5536
120 Central Mills Rd, Union-
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Holy Cross Episcopal Church
(334) 289-3363
5097 US-80, Uniontown, AL
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Hunter's Ministry
(334) 628-3911
100 Franklin St, Uniontown, AL
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Lily Grove Baptist Church
(334) 628-3722

Miracles of Prayer Christian Church
(334) 628-6700
631 Highway 80, Uniontown,
AL 36786

Mount Calvary Church
(334) 628-9040
Freetown Road, Uniontown, AL
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Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist
(334) 628-2929
23277 Co Rd 53, Uniontown,
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Oak Grove Primitive Baptist Church
(334) 628-9040
Hwy 193, Uniontown, AL
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Quinn Chapel AME Church
(334) 628-3722
394 Front St, Uniontown, AL
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Rock Chapel AME
(334) 628-4483
394 Front St, Uniontown, AL
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Second Baptist Church

(334) 628-6477
414 Yelverton St, Uniontown,
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Shady Grove Baptist Church
(334) 628-3019
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St. Michael's Church
(334) 289-3363
Franklin St, Uniontown, AL
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St. Peter Primitive Baptist Church
(334) 628-5900
41 Langward South Cir, Union-
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Star Bethel Baptist Church
(334) 628-5001
30 Star Bethel Rd, Uniontown,
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Stephens Memorial Baptist Church
(334) 628-5900
1530 Stephens Memorial
Buster Sealy, Uniontown, AL
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Tabernacle of God Holiness Church
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Gay Street, Uniontown, AL
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Union Baptist Church
(334) 683-4591
Highway 29, Uniontown, AL
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Uniontown Church of God
(334) 628-4081

SPROTT

Cleveland Mills Church
(334) 628-3722
Rural Route 1, Sprott, AL
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Concord Baptist Church
(334) 628-6700
Hwy 183, Sprott, AL 36756

Ephesus Baptist Church
(804) 443-5792
1400 Ephesus Loop, Sprott, AL
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Ivey's Chapel

Mount Pisgah Church
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County Hwy 27

Mountain Pleasant Freewill Baptist Church

New Hope Methodist Church

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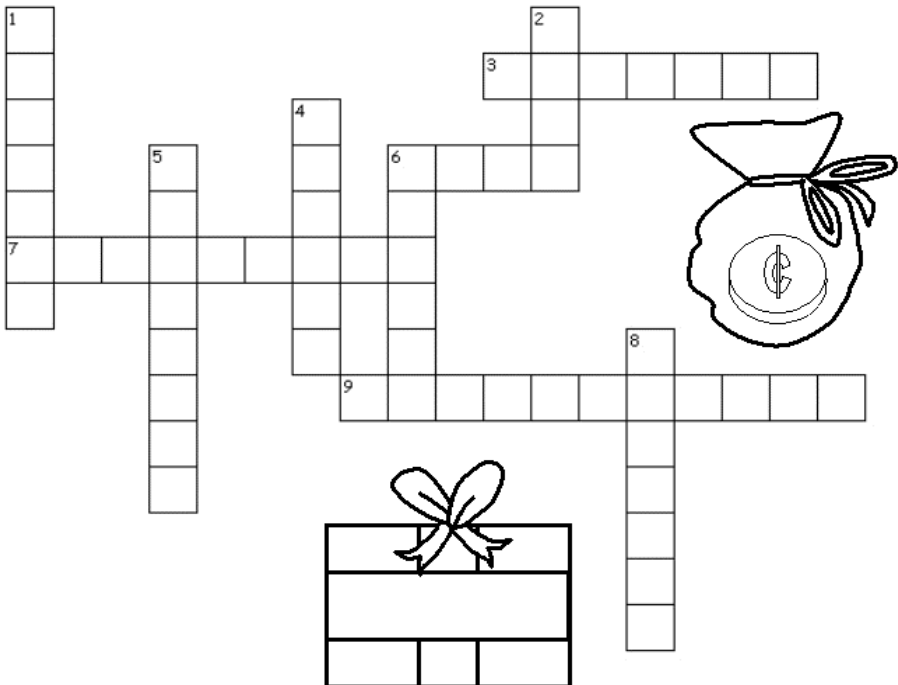
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Parable of the Talents Crossword**Across**

3. The type of story Jesus told about the talents is called this.
6. The master rewarded the servant who increased his talents by giving them ____.
7. The master gave to each servant according to their ____.
9. If you are ____ with a few things God will give you more responsibility.

Down

1. We are each given a ____ ability that no one else has.
2. If we don't use our special gift God will ____ it away.
4. The servant who received one talent did this with it.
5. Our abilities are very ____ to God, he wants us to use them wisely.
6. This person in the story is used to describe God.
8. The first two servants did this with their talents.

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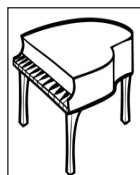


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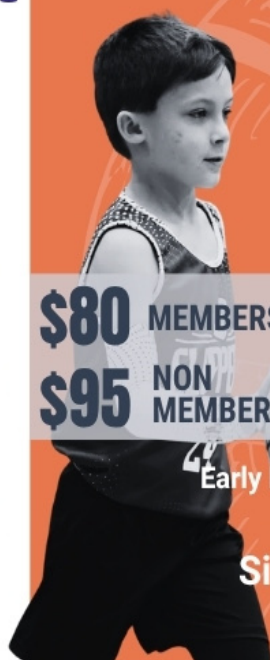
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Services were Oct. 8 at Ephesus for Charles Maurice Nichols, 94



Charles "Chief" Maurice Nichols Sr., 94, of Marion died October 5.

He was born September 7, 1932, in Sprott to Troy B. Nichols and Mattie Era Hopkins Nichols, and later made his home in Marion, where he retired.

He proudly served his country in the United States Air Force for 24 years.

Following his military career, he continued serving his community through his work at Marion Military Institute, where he worked for more than 20 years.

Those who knew Chief will remember a life marked by loyalty, perseverance and a deep com-

mitment to family and service.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 58 years, Dycie Perry Nichols; his parents; a sister, Betty Faye Mitchell; and a brother, Clarence Nichols.

He leaves behind six children, Robin Ray (Earl), Marty Nichols, Judy Nichols, Shay Nichols, Jenny Hughey (Bryan) and Jill Fischer (Mike); nine grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and his sisters, Martha "Mop" Osbourne of Uniontown and Carolyn Adams of Johnson City, Tenn.

Visitation was held Thursday, October 8, from

11 a.m. to noon at Ephesus Baptist Church, with a graveside service following at 12:15 p.m. in the adjoining cemetery.

Pallbearers were Bryan Crews, Keith Nichols, Heath Crews, Ross Henderson, Bryan "B" Hughey and Troy Hughey.

Rockco Funeral Home of Centreville directed.

**Public notices
are also
available
online at
alabama
publicnotices.
com**

Salvation Army takes Angel Tree applications through Oct. 16

Angel Tree application packets are available at the Salvation Army's Demopolis Service Center, which serves families in Perry County and in Choctaw, Dallas, Lowndes, Marengo and Wilcox counties, the Salvation Army said in an

Oct. 4 post.

Completed packets are due back by Friday, Oct. 16, "no exceptions," according to the Salvation Army's flyer.

Packets have been available since Wednesday, Sept. 16. They are limited and given out

on a first-come, first-served basis. The service center is at 900 U.S. Highway 80 East in Demopolis, and its phone number is 334-289-6090. The Salvation Army said more information will be shared on its Facebook page.

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The Perry County Conservation District 2026 Annual Report

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DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR
LILLIE B SANDERS

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Kathryn Strain, District Conservationist
Marshall Colburn, District Technician

District Board Meetings are Scheduled for the second Thursday of each month
The Public is welcome. Phone 334-683-9017 ext. 3

District Activities

The Perry County Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held regular monthly meetings and special meetings as needed. The Board prepared its annual work plan and budget from the long-range plan and assisted with the State Soil and Water Conservation Cost Share Program. The following applications were funded:

- 10 Water Quality
- 2 Reforestation & Forestry Improvement
- 1 Feral Hog Trap

The District Board is a member of the area, state, and National Association of Conservation Districts. Throughout the year, the Board worked with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the Alabama Forestry Commission, and local partners to provide conservation planning, technical assistance and educational outreach to landowners and residents of Perry County. The Board promoted Soil, water, forestland, pasture and hay land conservation programs; supported Farm Bill Conservation Programs; collaborated with Ala-Tom Resource Conservation and Development Committee, and kept the public informed through educational programs, newspapers articles and this annual report.

The District Board is a member of the Area, State and National Association of Conservation Districts. During the year, the board partnered with NRCS,

the Alabama Forestry Commission, and local Organizations to promote conservation, provide technical assistance, support Farm Bill programs and Educate the public on the importance of protecting Perry County's natural Resources.

Programs

USDA offers many programs to help landowners meet conservation needs.

Conservation Technical Assistance

Conservation Technical Assistance Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) helps landowners, communities, local governments, and other organizations plan and implement conservation practices that protect and improve natural resources. Through this program, NRCS provides technical expertise to reduce soil erosion, improve soil health, enhance water and air quality, protect wetlands, improve wildlife habitat, strengthen pasture and forest management, and reduce flooding risks. These conservation efforts support the long-term productivity and sustainability of Perry County's natural resources. Additional information is available through the local NRCS and Perry County Soil and Water Conservation District offices. Conservation District Offices.

Conservation District offices and the Alabama NRCS website: <http://www.al.nrcs.usda.gov>

Environmental Quality Incentive Program

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a USDA conservation program authorized through the Farm Bill that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers. Through local work groups, priority resource concerns are identified and addressed based on environmental needs and community input. In Perry County, key concerns include grazing land improvement, forestland management, soil erosion, soil health, and water quality. During Fiscal Year 2026, Perry County had a total of 4 EQIP contracts, a total of 408.9 acres and a total of \$104,660 obligated. 1 CSP Contract a total of 537.50 acres and total of \$143,706.00 and 6 BBPI Contracts with a total of 208.00 acres a total of \$141,138. allocated to support the implementation of conservation practices that improve and protect natural resources.

Conservation Stewardship Program

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) encourage agricultural and Forestry producers to maintain existing conservation practices and adopt additional measures that improve natural resources management. Through financial and technical assistance. CSP supports efforts to enhance soil health, water quality, air quality, wildlife habitat and overall land productivity.

EDUCATION:

ESSAY CONTESTS SCHOLARSHIPS AND MORE

Each year, the Alabama Conservation District Employees Association awards a \$500 scholarship to one graduating high school senior from each area of the state. Eligible students need only complete and submit an application to be considered. Scholarship application and guidelines are available through the Perry County Soil and Water Conservation District Office located at 11971 Highway 5, Marion, AL 36756



SUMMER READING PROGRAM PERRY COUNTY LIBRARY-RUBY RAINDROP

The Perry County Conservation District 2026 Annual Report

2026 Poster Contest

THEME: SOIL WHERE IT ALL BEGIN

2026 POSTER CONTEST WINNERS:

Mrs. Bettie Lucky, Winning Teacher

Kaliyah STEADMAN, First Place

MARY ANN WOODS, SECON PLACE

Each year, the Perry County Soil and Water Conservation District participate in the Alabama Association of Conservation Districts' Poster Contest, providing students with an opportunity to learn about natural resources conservation through art. The contest encourages creativity while promoting awareness of Soil and Water, Forestry, wildlife and environmental stewardship. By participating, students gain better understanding of the importance of conserving natural resources for future generations. The programs also support teachers by providing an engaging way to incorporate conservation education into the classroom curriculum.



2026 Poster Contest winners

Perry County District held a Local Working Group Meeting August 26, 2026 at the Perry County Court House 300 Washington Street, Marion, AL 36756

Local Working Group Meeting Participation -2026: The Perry County Local working group brings together representatives from Federal and state local agencies, conservation organizations agriculture producers and community stakeholders to identify priority natural resources concerns within the county.



Harris Carter, Alabama Forestry Commission, left, and Charles Holmes, chairman



Jamila Hayes, Farm Loan



Kathryn Strain and Marshal Colburn, NRCS



Samuel Sanders, Farm Service Agency



Tyrone Smith, Tuskegee Cooperative Extension



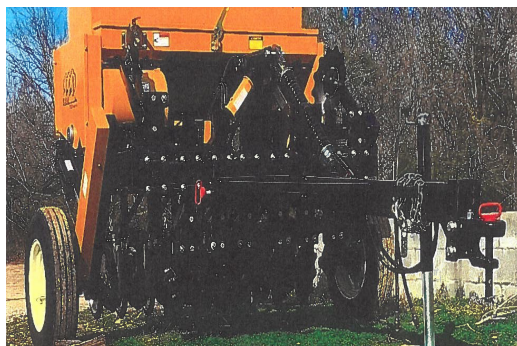
Harris Carter, Alabama Forestry Commission



Margaret Snow, Auburn Extension Service



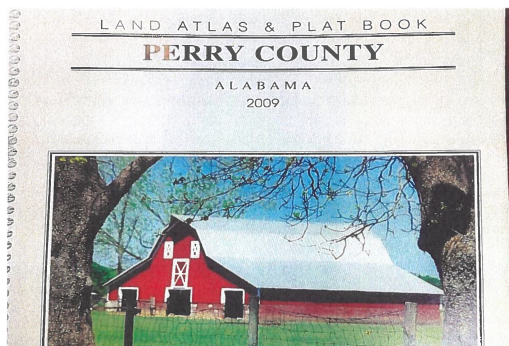
Local Working Group Meeting participants



GRAIN DRILL

The Perry County Soil and Water Conservation District rent a 6-foot Great Plains no-till drill. A \$75 deposit is required to reserve the equipment and applies to the first-day rental if returned on time and in working condition.

Rental: \$75.00 each additional day plus \$10.00 per acre each acre planted over seven acres.



Perry County Plat BOOK

Perry County Plat Books are available at the District Office for \$25 each. Published by Rockford Map Publishers, they include county plat and aerial maps.



PIG Brig Trapping System

The Perry County Soil and Water Conservation District rents a Pig Brig Trap System. For information, contact the District Office at (334) 683-9017 ext. 3.

Conservation Education Demonstrations

NRCS and District employees offer natural resource conservation demonstrations, including the Enviroscape an soil and water conservation displays.

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The Perry County Soil and Water Conservation District and USDA prohibit discrimination in programs and employment based on protected civil rights categories, consistent with federal law and USDA policy.

Youth deer and duck hunts set at Forever Wild Field Trial Area

Registration is open through Friday, Oct. 16, for this season's youth deer and duck hunts at the M. Barnett Lawley Forever Wild Field Trial Area in Hale County, the State Lands Division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources announced.

Hunters will be chosen by a computerized random drawing on Oct. 16, and those selected must accept their hunt invitations by Oct. 20.

The youth deer hunts are set for Nov. 14, 25 and 28; Dec. 2, 12, 16, 19 and 23; Jan. 2, 6, 9,

13, 16, 20, 23, 27 and 30; and Feb. 3. The youth duck hunts are set for Nov. 28; Dec. 2 and 23; Jan. 2, 9, 23 and 30; and Feb. 6.

Registration is at public.dcnr.alabama.gov/puvHunts10 and is open only to parents or other adults who are at least 21 and have a Conservation ID number. A hunting license is not needed to register, but anyone selected must have a valid license to accept the permit.

Youth hunters must be 15 or younger and accompanied by a

parent or another adult at least 21. The adult must have a valid state hunting license and, for the duck hunts, the required duck stamp, bought ahead of time; neither is sold at the site. Deer taken on the hunts must be reported through the state's Game Check system within 48 hours.

The field trial area covers 4,300 acres. Questions go to Scott Hammerle of the State Lands Division at 334-901-6964 or

scott.hammerle@dcnr.alabama.gov.

10th annual breast cancer walk is Oct. 17 at courthouse

The 10th annual Breast Cancer Walk, hosted by Keycia Heard, is set for Saturday, Oct. 17, at the Perry County Courthouse, according to the flyer for the walk.

Registration begins at 8 a.m., and the walk begins at 9 a.m. Refreshments will be served.

Donations are welcome, and all proceeds will be donated to the Cancer Society.

Main Street Marion to present economic development plan Oct. 22

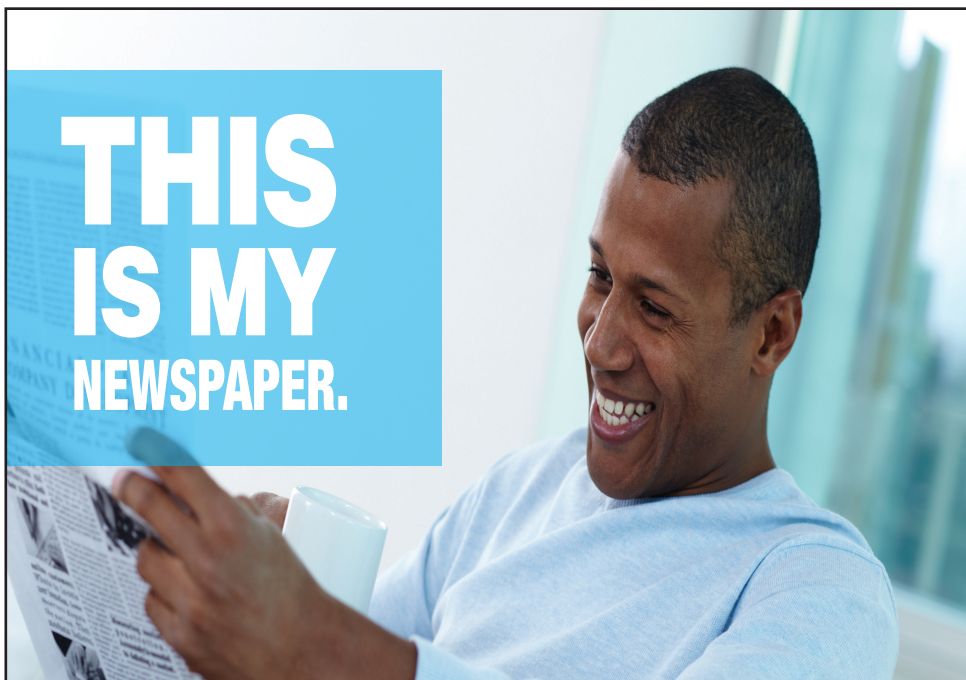
Main Street Marion will present its Economic Development Strategic Plan at a public meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22, at the Harris Technology Hub, 401 Washington St.

The organization calls the plan a roadmap for growing jobs, supporting local businesses, strengthening down-

town and expanding opportunities for young people.

Those who come are invited to learn what is in the plan, ask questions and say what they want to see for Marion and Perry County.

People who cannot attend can send feedback by email to mainstreetmarional@gmail.com.



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Drug take-back drive-through set for Oct. 24 at courthouse

A drive-through DEA National Rx Take Back is set for 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 24, at the Perry County Courthouse, 300 Washington St.

People can drive through and drop off unused, unwanted and expired medications for safe, anonymous disposal.

The event's partners include Alabama A&M University, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, O.E.S. Taylor's Pride Chapter #712, the Perry County Sheriff's Office and the Marion Police Department.

Extension office offers pesticide applicator training Oct. 27

The Perry County Extension office will hold Private Pesticide Applicator Training from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 27, at the office, 1710 S. Washington St., Suite 107.

Participants get training followed by testing for a private pesticide applicator permit. The cost is \$20.

To register, call 334-683-6888 or go to aces.edu/event/private-pesticide-applicator-training-2.

Berean Baptist Church sets annual Men's Day for Nov. 15

Berean Baptist Church, 804 Washington St., will hold its annual Men's Day at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 15.

The Rev. Oscar Ford, pastor of Healing Spring Baptist Church in Marion and St. James Baptist Church in Selma, is the guest minister.

The theme is "Iron Sharpens Iron," from Proverbs 27:17.

The Rev. Willie Shears is pastor of Berean. Deacon Derrick Cosby is master of order, Deacon Edd Miree is chairman of deacons and Faye Suttles Knox is church secretary.

C.H.O.I.C.E. plans senior citizens lunch and bingo Nov. 18 in Uniontown

C.H.O.I.C.E. will hold a Senior Citizens Lunch and Bingo from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18, at the Uniontown Recreational Building on Highway 183.

The event is open to all senior citizens and includes lunch, bingo with prizes, fellowship and a chance to connect with resources.

To RSVP, call JoeAnn Tabb at 334-231-7019.

Nylasia Hinkle and Westley Shaw named Breakthrough homecoming queen and king

Nylasia Hinkle and Westley Shaw are homecoming queen and king of Breakthrough Charter School's 2026 Homecoming Court, whose theme is "Breakthrough: Rise to Royalty."

The high school court also includes Myron Williams, Mr. Middle School; Ariyan Mayo, Miss Middle School; Aunola Hinton, Miss Sixth Grade; La-Kyra Johnson, Miss Eighth Grade; Zaniyah Williams, Miss Freshman; Kalee Edwards, Miss Sophomore; Caitlyn Beal, Miss Junior; Tyranasia Lewis, 11th grade maid; Sarai Brown, Miss Senior; and

Kaylen Sims, 12th grade maid.

Also named are Anthony Nelson Jr., Mr. BCS; Bella King, Miss BCS; Ava Eldridge, Miss All American Cheerleader; Tywone Fraley, Mr. Cross Country; Ja'Nyla Lee, Miss Track and Field; Edriona Conner, Miss Basketball; Taraja Lee, Miss Flag Football; Curtashia Knox, Miss Pearl; and Ronsha Sykes, Miss FCA.

On the elementary court are Antron Zanders, Little Mr. Pre-K King; Kali Williams, Little Miss Pre-K Queen; Javien Lewis, Mr. Kindergarten King; Journee Williams, Miss Kin-

dergarten Queen; Mason Williams, Mr. Kindergarten; Anthony Bryant Jr., kindergarten alternate; Khloe Allen, Little Miss Second Grade; Lucas McCarpine, Little Mr. Third Grade; Kaitlyn Allen, Little Miss Third Grade; and Tinlee Edwards, third grade alternate.

Also on the elementary court are Lamonderick Ward, Little Mr. BCS; Ariyah Fikes, Little Mrs. BCS; Jamari Coleman, Mr. Fourth Grade; Jo-Shun Leverette, fourth grade alternate; Cash Edwards, Mr. Fifth Grade; Kaden Collins, Mr. Intermediate; and Dajah Nemo, Miss Intermediate.

Sowing Seeds of Hope CNA students work health fair with Samford, Walgreens



Sowing Seeds of Hope's CNA students worked alongside Samford University's

McWhorter School of Pharmacy and Walgreens at the organization's community health fair Saturday, Oct. 3, in Marion.

The fair was at the Judge Richard M. Avery Jr. Perry County Courthouse Annex II, 1710 S. Washington St. The organization's advance post and

flyer for the event advertised free flu shots from Walgreens and blood pressure and glucose checks.

Sumac Cottage's third holiday open house set Dec. 13

Sumac Cottage will hold its third annual holiday open house on Sunday, Dec. 13, the same day as the Porches and Parlors tour of homes, with a pop-up shop of artwork and handmade gifts by regional artists and makers, an artist ornament sale, live music, refreshments and make-and-take art activities, the art space announced.

Participating artists and hours are to be announced. Sumac Cottage is at 1107 South St. in Greensboro.

Trinity Baptist's women's conference is Oct. 17

Trinity Baptist Church, 501 Carol St., Marion, will hold its Community Women's Conference from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 17, with the theme "Encourage and Build Up One Another," from 1 Thessalonians 5:11.

The guest speakers are from the Pastor Wives' Ministry: Shirley Dawson, Mary King and Cathy Wright. Everyone is invited, and those attending are asked to wear something pink. The Rev. B.L. Tucker is pastor, the Rev. L.D. Jackson is assistant pastor and Joanna Evans is youth minister.

Fire department fall festival and Poe Halloween party set for October in Perry County

A fall festival Saturday, Oct. 17, and a Halloween party Saturday, Oct. 31, are set in Perry County.

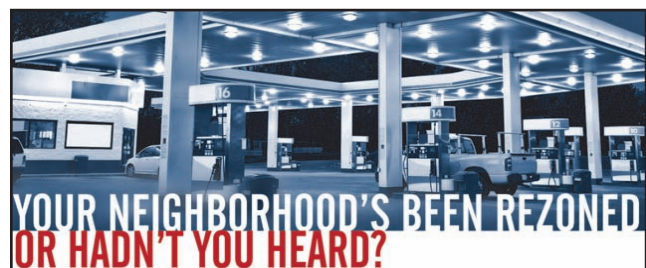
The North Perry Volunteer Fire Department will hold its fall festival at 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, with games, food, prizes and bingo.

Tickets are 50 cents each and are sold at the door. The festival supports the fire de-

partment.

An Edgar Allan Poe Halloween party is set for 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31, at As Time Goes By, 418 Washington St., Marion.

The party will have free drinks, candy and snacks, free Bloody Marys, a costume contest with prizes of \$50 for first place and \$25 for second, and a recital of "The Raven."



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