



April 14, 2023

THE VALLEY STAR

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Having a ball at the Athens Sportsplex



5-6 year-old Orioles batter Luka Discerni



5-6 year-old Bucees batter Cara Johnson

Woman asked pilot for a favor, but everyone was shocked when he did this

A woman was flying from Seattle to San Francisco. Unexpectedly, the plane was diverted to Sacramento along the way.

The flight attendant explained that there would be a delay, and if the passengers wanted to get off the aircraft the plane would re-board in 50 minutes...

Everybody got off the plane except one lady who was blind...

A man noticed her as he waled by and could tell the lady was blind because her guide dog lay quietly underneath the seats in front of her throughout the entire flight... He could also tell she had flown this very flight before because the pilot approached her, and calling her by her name, said "Kathy we are in Sacramento for almost an hour, would you like to get off and stretch you legs?"

The blind lady said, "No thanks, but maybe Buddy would like to stretch his legs."

All the people at the gate area came to a complete stand still when they looked up and saw the pilot walk off the plane with a guide dog for the blind! Even worse, the pilot was wearing sunglasses!

People scattered. They not only tried to change planes, but they were trying to change airlines!



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This hound dog in the front seat was dressed out in red

I was stopped at a red light the other day and noticed this dog in the lap of the man driving the car next to me. It looked like a hound and he (the dog) had a red shirt on.

Are you kidding me? A hound with a red shirt? Boy, how times have changed around here.

First of all, I would never put a hound dog in the front seat of my car, and I certainly wouldn't ever, ever put a shirt on him, much less a red one, I thought. Hounds are made for hunting, not riding in a red shirt. Poodles are made for that.

When I was growing up in Elkmont, my family owned several dogs and most of them were hound dogs, the kind that ran rabbits. Our old hounds fended for themselves and the only ride they ever got in a vehicle was in the back of daddy's old pickup truck on the way to the woods for a hunt. We never put collars on them because if they ever got lost we figured they could find their way back home or stay lost. Why, if our hound dogs could not run a rabbit he was no good to us and didn't stay around our house long.

I remember one old dog of ours in particular. His name was "Rock" and he was an old red bone hound.



He was a good rabbit dog and made for a good football partner for me, too.

I remember when I didn't have someone to play football with, I would get old Rock and play with him. Shucks, if I didn't have

someone to tackle, I could tackle old Rock who seemed to like the fun and never ran away.

But really, I can't say too much about people today riding around in their cars with a dog because I've had my old bulldog "BuBu" in the seat with me before. He loves

to ride, and if he gets an invite, it's not hard to coax him right there in the front seat with you.

While I will admit I'm very attached to this worthless bulldog, I can say now that I will never put a shirt on him. He can find a better way to stay warm.

I guess people today treat dogs differently than they did years ago. There are some who treat them like children and I can understand that. Times today are less demanding than they were years ago when people had to go out and work on the farm. Dogs were the same way back then. They had to go out and find their own food like rabbits and squirrels. Today, the farms are dwindling and so are the rabbits. That is why we have to buy much of our dog food today.

But a dog is still a dog. If he finds something dead in the yard, I guarantee you there is not a one out there that will not roll himself on that dead animal. It's his nature and yes, it stinks to high heaven.

When that happened years ago, the stink wore off. But today, we give our dogs a bath because most of them come in and out of the house.



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DEMAND THE BEST!



Ball at Athens Sportsplex

continued from page1

The Athens Sportsplex on US 31 North is now open for spring sports, T-ball, baseball, soccer, and softball. We do believe there are more participants in the sports this year than ever before, at least according to the crowded stands and parking lots. They are in the process of adding more parking to accommodate the crowds. There is so much excitement at these games. For some, it is their first experience at playing sports. The ages range from five years old and up. We commend the coaches on the time they put in to helping these young kids learn the sport as well as sportsmanship. Come out and support our kids in the community.



Beck getting ready to bat.



Runner on 1st getting instructions from coach.



Safe at home with a slide.



Waiting on a good pitch in 7-8 baseball.



Jude in the dugout waiting his turn.



'Stars and Strikes' softball cheering on their teammates.



"Ok, coach."

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Easter Egg Hunting



Emme found the golden egg.



The Prater and Aderholt cousins on Easter Sunday.



Wren is having fun counting her Easter eggs.



The Easter bunny left Mila and Lenny surprises



The Johnson cousins are ready to hunt eggs.



Ruby's first Easter egg hunt.

Treasure Hunting

By Danny Johnson
Staff Writer

Taking the metal detector to the field is a past time that my son, Jonathan, and I share. After hunting season ends, it's a good opportunity to explore old home sites in search of artifacts. My favorite items to find are old coins. Indian head pennies and mercury dimes are my favorite.

My son likes to find mini balls from the Civil War era. The excitement of digging up an object after the detector has sounded a good signal is what keeps us motivated. Jonathan has found a gun part from an 1860 Colt cap and ball pistol. Rusty farm tools are a common find. Jewelry is a target many hunters focus on at the beach.

Always ask permission before going on private property. Without permission you can be arrested for trespassing. Another obligation is to replace the dirt or grass in the holes you dig. I have a friend who



Civil War finds:
Colt pistol frame

found a class ring and was able to get it back to the owner. The



Civil War finds: Button

ring was lost for 30 years. Most treasure hunters are willing to help people find lost objects. Keys and rings get lost frequently and it's a good feeling to return valued items to the owner.

The metal detectors have seen advancements in the area of discrimination features. Most junk metal can be tuned out and prevent a lot of useless digging. Another must tool of a treasure hunter is a pin pointer detector. This is a hand held detector for



Civil War finds: Lead Bullet

probing in the hole for looking for an object.

Civil War belt buckles are treasures hunters would be honored to find. There are several Civil War battle sites around North Alabama and Southern TN. Elkmont has rich history going back to the Civil War.

I just enjoy looking for things that have been lost for many years. I give the landowner anything they want to keep. The fun to me is the act of finding lost things.

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Professional Tournament Competition

I follow some of the pro-tournament trails and have since the conception was created in Ray Scott's brain. When I was a teenager the B.A.S.S. magazine was the 'holy grail' of bass fishing. I couldn't wait til the next edition would arrive in my mailbox. If the teacher had given me a quiz about the contents of Bassmaster I would have scored a 100 every time.

I still have every Bassmaster magazine I got. There were very few fishing programs on TV. I think Roland Martin might have had the first regularly aired fishing show. Bill Dance of Memphis, TN dominated the early fishing derbies at the beginning. Yes, some referred to bass tournaments as derbies or rodeos.

Roland Martin soon made a name on the scene and controlled the winning for several years. The first pro-tournament held on Wheeler Lake was won by Tommy Martin. Ray Scott introduced catch and release to save our fish and worked hard to reduce pollution of our waterways. Jimmy Houston and Hank Parker soon became winners on the fishing trail. Alabama great, Tom Mann, was a super fisherman and innovator of lures and fishing electronics like the Hummingbird Super

Sixty depth finder. The spelling of Hummingbird was changed in order to get a patent on the depth finder.

As the sport grew, sponsors provided a living so the fisherman could stay on the trail traveling all over the country competing. Many fishermen carried their families with them and lived out of campers. The wives home-schooled their children.

Being an outdoors sportswriter, I covered the Bassmasters event on Pickwick Lake held at the end of March. The heavy rain had handed the fishermen a bitter pill with the water rising 7 to 8 feet since practice days. The spill ways were open, and the river current was ripping down the lake filled with floating debris. 100 of the top fishermen in the country participated on day one. The second day only 50 were allowed to fish and day 3 the number was cut to 25 participants and the final day 10 competed for the winning spot. The last day all 10 fishermen were in reach of pulling out a first-place win.

I got bits and pieces of where the top ten were fishing. Some had battled the severe current below the dam to produce good bags of

smallmouth. The smallies were holding in eddy water behind rocks and biting the bait as it raced by. Other fishermen went shallow using a flipping or pitching technique to dissect the heavy grass and reeds apart.

The pro-fishermen would locate fish, but they might last 2 days then be caught out. Shallow gravel bars with scattered eel grass was working for a few of the guys but couldn't last 4 days of hard fishing. Swim baits fished across the shell

bed bars was the ticket as long as the fish population held out.

The next Bassmasters Tournament will be held on the Sabine River in Texas. With live streaming on the computer, we now have a means of keeping up daily who is leading the event. Be careful on the water, wear your PFD, and always keep up with the weather forecast. High winds and big water can become dangerous in a hurry. Enjoy the beautiful weather and the many lakes found in Alabama.



Danny Johnson and the late Ray Scott founder of Bass Master



Danny Johnson with some smallmouth bass.

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It's time to grow your garden — Your Way

by Debra Johnson

We see so many cute and crafty ways to plant a garden using raised beds and stacked pots, but I prefer the old-fashioned way. I was raised watching my parents and grandparents plant and tend to their garden. I even remember going to my grandparents when I was little and seeing a truck load of corn to be shucked and washtubs full of beans to be shelled.

Many family members would

gather under the shade trees and work together and then share in the produce. I do have some little hands that like to help plant and then gather the fruits of their labor. I enjoy showing my grandkids how to grow vegetables.

We have been waiting for the ground to dry up to get our early plants out. We usually plant onion slips and seed potatoes early because they can stand cooler temps and don't like hot weather.



Cut potatoes where there is a sprout in each piece.



A potato from last year's garden with sprouts that will be planted



A bundle of a variety of onion slips.

However, we are a little behind because of the excess rains we have had. The garden is in good shape and waiting to be planted. I prefer planting onion slips over planting the bulbs. I seem to have better luck growing larger onions with the slips. This year, I am planting a bundle of 'Candy' sweet onions and a bundle that has a variety of purple, white, and yellow onions.

Also, this year I used sprouted potatoes that were left from last year's garden. You just need to cut the potatoes so that there is a sprout on each piece. Plant the potato with the sprout pointing upward. We are seeing some of

the potato stems coming through the ground and the onions are looking good. So, maybe we got them out in time. Next, we will plant our corn and other seeds.

Transplants will be last because they are tender and need to be planted after the last frost.

We are downsizing this year. Still planting most of our favorite plants, just not as many. We will probably use more landscaping cloth as well to cut down on weeding and tilling the garden.

My husband always says, "Work smarter, not harder." I believe I am ready to do that now so I can cut down on my labor.



Strive for humility

We stumble into the word humility a lot in the Bible. But how do we define humility? What exactly is being humble? And why is it important?

Humility is often characterized as genuine gratitude, a lack of arrogance, and a modest view of one's self. However, the biblical definition of humility goes beyond this. Humility is a critical and continuous emphasis on godliness in the Bible. We are called upon to be humble followers of Christ and trust in the wisdom and salvation of God. True humility is seeing ourselves as we truly are, fallen in sin and helpless without God.

Additionally, for me, it is the acknowledgment that I need God for every aspect of my life.

Let's take a look at five reasons to strive for humility.

#1 – Humility allows us to fully submit to God.

God wants us to acknowledge that apart from Him we can do nothing. He is the one who knows us, the one who created us. He has a plan for each one of us. When we begin to put all of our faith in God, we humble ourselves to the point of being completely dependent on Him. When we reach this point, there is nothing God won't do for us. His love is deeper than we can imagine.

#2 Humility will help us avoid the negative effects of pride.

Pride separates us from God. In fact, the Bible states in Psalms 10:4 that "the proud countenance does not seek God; God is in none of his thoughts." Having an attitude of pride will surely lead to destruction and the Bible is clear about this. Having a heart of humility can help us to avoid being caught in this destruction that comes with being proud.

#3 Humility keeps us from sin.

When we are humble, we desire



to please God... totally and completely. With an attitude of humility, there comes the desire to do right before Him. The flesh becomes weak and the thought of sin becomes offensive. We begin to think about the effects of sin in our lives and the ability to turn from sin becomes stronger.

#4 Humility increases our attitude

When we realize the magnitude of God's love for us and the fact that He is in control of our lives when we submit to Him, we cannot help but be filled with gratitude. Gratitude for His great love, for all that He does for us, and for all that He saves us from.

Not only does humility lead to gratitude for all that God does for us, but for everything that others do for us as well. It leads us to feel the extent of thankfulness that is

needed to live according to the commands of God. It is the most fulfilling way to live.

#5 Humility gives us a desire to be kind.

Having a humble spirit means putting others above yourself. When we are humble, we cannot help but share the kindness that fills our hearts. In fact, Jesus stated this in Mark 12:30-31:

"And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." When we love others as we love ourselves, this is an act of kindness born out of the humility within us.

I will end with a quote about humility.

"A humble man is never rash, hasty or perturbed, never has any hot and volatile thoughts, but at all times remains calm. Even if heaven were to fall and cleave to the earth, the humble man would not be dismayed. Not every quiet man is humble, but every humble man is quiet. There is no humble man who is not self-constrained; but you will find many who are self-constrained without being humble. This is also what the meek humble Lord meant when He said, 'Learn of Me, for I am meek and humble of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.' [Matt 11:29] For the humble man is always at rest because there is nothing which can agitate or shake his mind."

- St. Isaac the Syrian



One-Pot Chicken Ratatouille

from Simply Southern Recipes

Ingredients

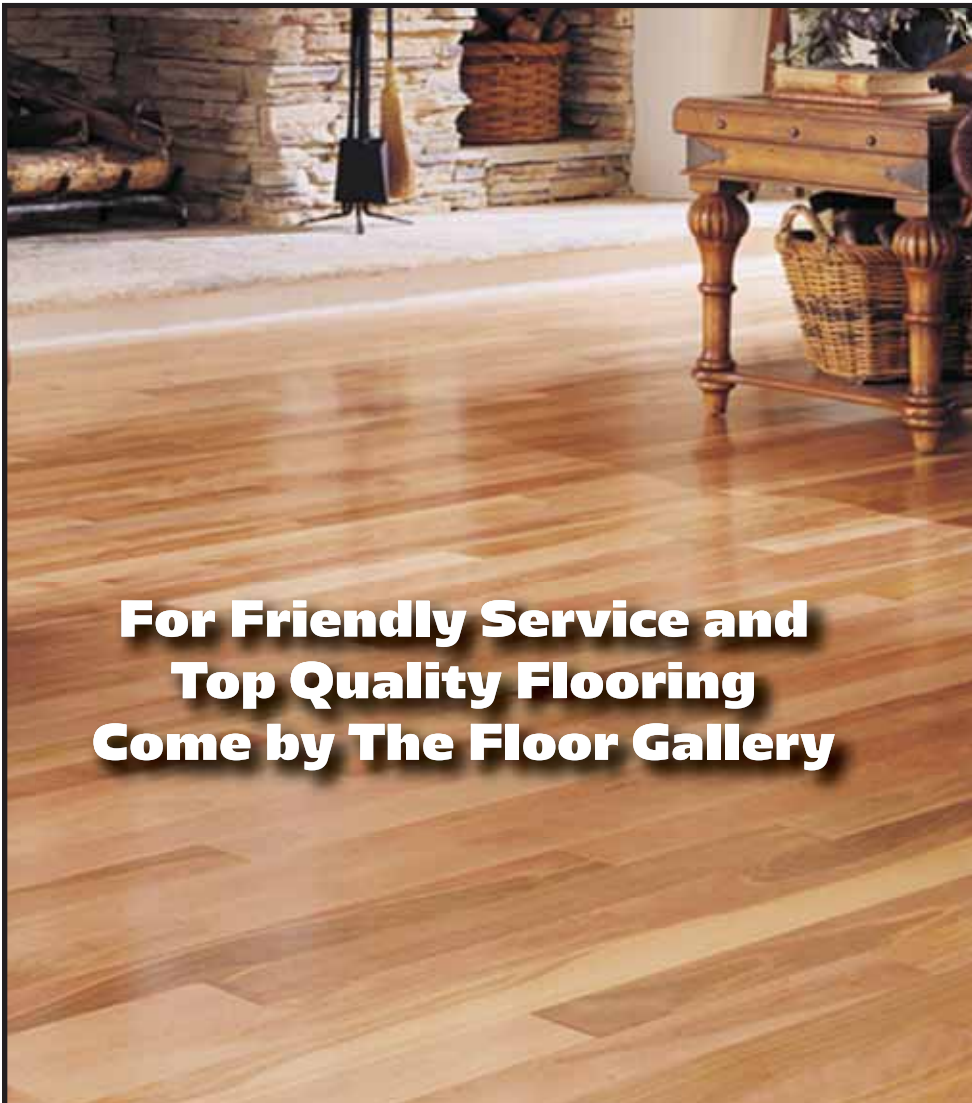
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 medium green bell pepper,
diced
1 medium onion, diced
3 cloves garlic, minced
1 small eggplant,
cut into 1-inch chunks
1 zucchini,
cut into 1-inch chunks
1 yellow squash,
cut into 1-inch chunks
3/4 cup chicken broth
1 (28-ounce) can diced tomatoes
3 cups shredded cooked chicken
(I used rotisserie chicken)
1/2 teaspoon dried basil
Salt
Pepper

Instructions

Heat the olive oil in a large dutch oven over medium-high heat. Add the onion and pepper and cook until the onions are translucent – about 3 to 5 minutes. Add the garlic and cook until fragrant – about 1 minute.

Add the eggplant, zucchini, and squash. Cook for 3 to 5 minutes. Add the chicken broth, cover, and simmer for about 5 minutes.

Add the undrained tomatoes, shredded chicken, and basil. Add salt and pepper to taste. Bring to a boil, reduce to a simmer, and cook until vegetables are tender to your liking. Serve warm over rice, pasta, or by itself.



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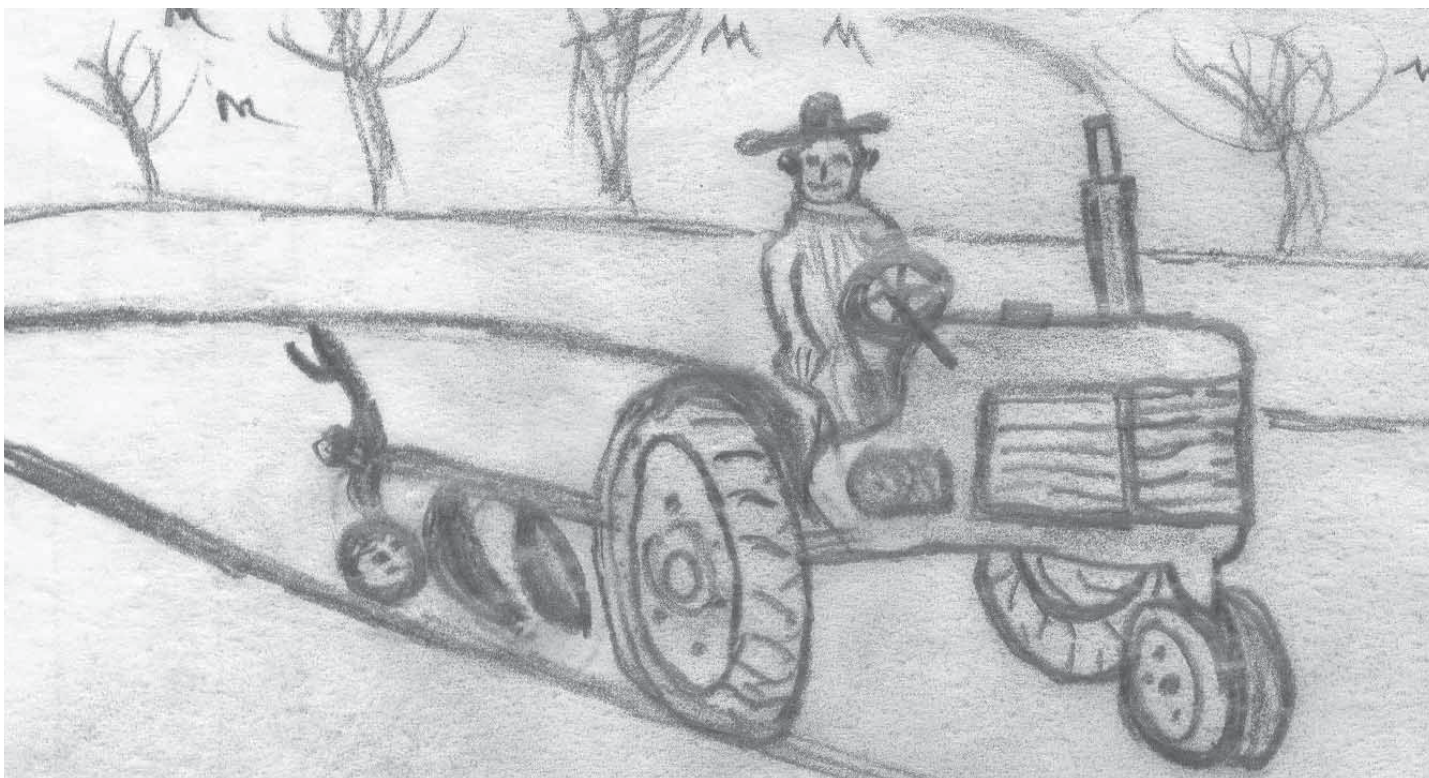
Tractors making their way to the holler

The month of April was a time to get the fields plowed and getting the seed in the ground. The almanac signs were always involved in deciding what days of the month to plant. I often said one day is as good as the other for planting. Grandma would answer "we have been going by the moon sign all my life and my daddy would never plant when the lunar signs were in the bowels or heart". "He said the seed would rot in the earth and never sprout".

There is some thing that we see work in life like finding a underground stream of water with a peach tree limb. There is not scientific reason why this water find method works but I seen it with my own eyes maybe the moon signs work the same way. I guess there is a time when unexplained things are left alone.

Corn seed get planted in early April and takes 8 to 10 days to break the ground. Corn is less effected by a late frost. A good rule of thumb for planting cotton is wait till after Good Friday. Grandad tells how he lost his complete cotton crop back in 1954 to a killing frost and had to replant the again. I guess global warming was happening back then. Local country stores sold tipple 13 fertilizer.

This was the product of choice for growing everything. In later years ammonia nitrate was a big help for growing good corn crops. The farm practice of our fathers involved turning and disking the land each year before planting. The thinking was this helps rid the soil of unwanted weeds and also aerated the earth. Often while turning a new ground for the first time the plow would catch on a stump or root and causing the implement to kick sideways injuring the one



plowing. Another danger of new grounds was plowing up a bed of copperhead snakes. You had to watch where you stepped for this reason.

The way of mule power was coming to an end by the late 40,s with tractors becoming more common with local farmers. During WW2 it was hard to get gasoline because it had been rationed for the war effort. Car and tractor tires were also impossible to get. The rubber was used to build tires for military machines.

Mr. Gaston had the first tractor in the holler with steel wheels. The wheels had spikes mounted around the wheel for traction in loose dirt. The tractor quickly became a workhorse for the local farmers. The tractor was used for pulling loads of cotton to the gin for baling. The A and B Farmall had a feature called a power take off. A large belt could be attached the p.t.o. for powering a cut off saw used in cutting up firewood.

The introduction of the tractor allowed farmers to work much

more land than ever in the past. Good rabbit hunting fields were being plowed up for planting. The natural habit for game was slowly is taking in for farming. Soon the bobwhite population started to dwindle and continued through the 70's.

The farms were producing so much crop the government started controlling what and how much land a farmer could plant. Abundance of supply could cause

the prices of cotton and corn to fall as we were told. The plan was keep the demand higher than the supply produced.

Papa said " most of those yahoos make up the rules never worked on a farm or smelled cow manure". He went on to say " politicians promise things they cant deliver and they only friendly ever 4 years". I didn't have time to worry about that stuff it was planting time.



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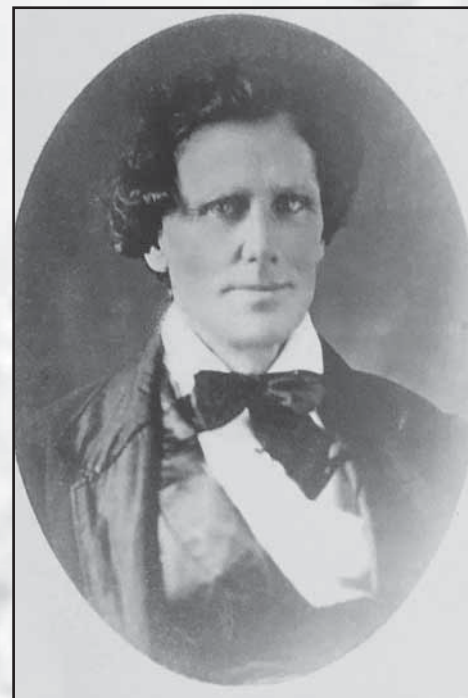
Early road building crew, Ardmore.



Hays Mill School, Limestone County, Alabama in 1910.



The Williams Family Band, Limestone County, Alabama



Robert Beaty, co-founder of Athens, Alabama

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1928 – 1930 Auburn Speedster

The first Auburn eight model was introduced in 1925, as the “Auburn Eight-In-Line”. In the following year, it received an ungraded 4.8-liter side-valve 68 bhp Lycoming engine and was renamed “8-88”.

That powertrain remained in use until 1930, when it developed 115 bhp, hence the “Speedster 115” model name. The car was of a straightforward and stout design. Suspension was by semi-elliptic springs all round,[1] and after experiments with hydraulic brakes, Auburn opted for mechanical brakes. The three-speed gearbox was in unit with the engine. The impressive open two-seater body styled by Count Alexis de Sakhnoffsky featured a boattail and a vee windscreen.

The “Auburn Speedster 120” with the so-called “big eight” 268 cubic



inch, 120 hp engine were built in 1928 and 1929. On a longer chassis and with a longer hood than the 8-88, 100 were built and today only maybe 8 are known to survive.

In 1930, the Auburn Speedster was upgraded, and it was renamed “Speedster 125”. The Speedster 125 was advertised as a “racing car with comfort of a closed car” with a 125 bhp version

of the Lycoming eight giving it a top speed of over 100 mph. It came with models such as “cabin speedster” and others.



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We have a 'soul' problem

By Alan Yeater

Regarding the recent Covenant School shooting in Nashville. This author has a friend who is a teacher at that school. Family and friends are directly impacted and the city of Nashville is surrounding the victims families with valuable support. Thanks to Ken Weliever for collecting the thoughts below.

"We have a soul problem" in America argued Trey Gowdy in the wake of the Covenant School Shooting that left six dead, three 9-year-old children and three adults.

This occurred just days after a high school shooting in Denver. According to a story by the Washington Post this is the 17th such incident in 2023.

"We've got to have some kind of conversation about what is wrong with the soul of this country that someone would kill a child," Gowdy said on "America Reports" Tuesday. "I don't know the answer. I just know that we have a soul problem in addition to a violence problem in this country."

The rawness of Gowdy's emotions in that interview undoubtedly expressed the feelings of most Americans. Shock. Outrage. Anger. And heartbreak for those who have lost loved ones. Especially the parents of little children.

Recently the Wall Street Journey, in a piece by Aaron Zitner reported that the values which once defined our national character are "receding in importance to Americans."

Compared to 1998, the survey revealed that only 39% of the respondents said that religion was very important to them, compared with 62% 25 years ago.

Additionally, there was a significant decrease in patriotism, having children, and community involvement. What has increased is the importance placed on money, with 43% calling it "very important" compared to 31% in 1998.

Pollster Bill McInturff agrees that our "core values" are declining.



Another pollster who worked on a similar survey said, "These differences are so dramatic, it paints a new and surprising portrait of a changing America."

If Gowdy is correct that we have "a soul problem" in America, why do we?

Could it be the result of the humanistic teaching that has infiltrated our media, entertainment, schools, government, and in too many cases even churches? That people have been deceived into believing there is no absolute Truth? That right and wrong is relative to the situation? That a secular world view is preferred over a Biblical world view?

Of course, whether or not one believes that we have a "soul problem" presupposes a belief in the soul. In the spirit. In eternity. And in God. If there is no God, what is the standard of right and wrong? The basis of morality? And a definition of good and evil? And who has the right to decide such?

For many the standard of morality is left up to each individual. So, we have a situation as in the days of the Judges where "everyone did what was right in his own eyes" (Jud. 21:25). As a result, that period of history was one of chaos, corruption, and depraved, despicable acts. Much like today.

The wise man was right. "When the wicked thrive, so does sin" (Prov. 29:16).

It's past time for those who call themselves Christians in our country to abandon the idea

that our problems can be solved through a political process.. There is no candidate, either Republican or Democrat, who is the Messiah. There is only one Messiah—the Lord Jesus Christ.

Family Research Council President Tony Perkins reminds us that we are fighting a "spiritual battle," one that "is raging for our country and our culture" which "is targeting our children."

"We must return to the only lasting source of hope and freedom – the Lord Jesus Christ," Perkins added. "The Church must stand uncompromisingly upon the truth of God's word, which is the source of hope and freedom. Nothing Washington is doing will matter until we acknowledge and address the moral decay and brokenness plaguing our culture."

"This begins in my heart. My home. My church. And my community. We need preachers, pastors and parents to return to God's Word as our guide. Our book of values. Our roadmap in a world that has lost its way."

"While we pray for those hurting from this latest tragedy, the soul of our nation will not change while estranged from God and His Divine counsel." Ken Weliever

Thanks to all of you readers of this newspaper who have a love for God and all those made in His image.

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Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday Night Class

6:45 p.m. Classes for all ages

Come Worship With Us



Every Try Counts



Allow me to ask a question. Say I asked you, 'how much does a full-grown elephant weigh? Your answer was 2 tons or three tons or you said you didn't know. After you gave your answer you were slapped upside your head and was called stupid, that's not the answer..... What would be your response? Would you be mad for being called stupid? I bet you would... or you should be. Would you be angry for me using a condescending tone of voice because you got it

wrong? Probably!

What if I asked you a series of questions and you got them wrong and you could see me getting increasingly agitated because you were just not getting it. What would your demeanor be at this point? Would you begin to become less unsure of yourself even if you knew the next answer? Thought so! Me too!!

Would you want to be around me anymore? Nope! Would you even like me after that? Probably not.

Ask yourself why... Why would you feel those feelings? You at least tried to answer correctly, didn't you? So, what if you were wrong, you tried. Shouldn't you have been given some credit for at least trying? Sure..

What am I getting at, what does this have to do with horses? Good question!

The point is, when we are working with horses and they give us a try, 'That Counts'. We have to be patient when it comes to horses. As we get older, we begin to know what is important when it comes to being with horses. We have to have that certain Feel. Feel is timing, balance, and patience.

When a horse tries to do what it is we are asking, our timing has to be in line with our release of pressure. When our release is

timed right then the horse begins to look for that point.

Funny thing is, people make the BIG mistake of releasing at the wrong moment and the horse learned that's what you wanted even though that's not what you wanted.

Yet, we accidentally taught him the wrong thing and we got mad for him doing the wrong thing when it was on us...

Patience is a must when it comes to horses and 'Every try Counts'.

Jim Swanner
13124 Carter Road
Athens, AL 35611
256-874-6781



1806 Wilkinson Street
Athens, AL 35611
256-242-1444
1-877-885-5592
Emergency Line:
256-216-8621



Alabama State Law requires you to call the Alabama One Call Center 48 hours prior to any excavation, to have underground utilities located.

811 is the new national three digit call number.

Athens Gas Department reminds you
"MAKE EVERY DIG A SAFE DIG"



CALENDAR

Apr 15, 2023 - ANNUAL SPRING PLANT SALE - 8:00am - 4:00pm Limestone Co Master Gardeners — At the Greenhouse behind Athens Middle School, Hwy. 31, Athens. A variety of perennials, annuals, shrubs, and vegetable plants will be available. Craft & Food Vendors. Kids Table. And more. www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100074433625151

Apr 15, 2023 - Guided Walk at Marbut Bend Trail 8:00am - 9:00am Damien Simbeck of TVA will meet participants at the Trailhead at 8:00 a.m. Mr. Simbeck is an expert in the history of this trail and all the wildlife that call the area home. There are boardwalks over the ponds and decks with beautiful river views. Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable walking shoes, bring a camera, and use sunscreen and/or insect repellent depending on the weather.

Apr 15, 2023 - Eli's Block Party 10th Annual Car Show 9:00am - 2:00pm at Lindsay Lane Baptist Church parking lot 1300 Lindsay Lane South, Athens, AL 35613 What started in 2013 as just a bunch of nice people with cool cars coming together to show their rides to a sick little boy has grown into an organized

showcase, attracting hundreds of cars, and is the foundation's namesake. **BIG BLOCKS AND SMALL BLOCKS** In 2023, we are featuring the Mustang in memory of Eli and his favorite make and model!

Apr 15, 2023 - Earth Day & Outdoor Expo the Earth Day & Outdoor EXPO are held annually in April in Athens, Alabama. Hosted by Keep Athens-Limestone Beautiful in partnership with Athens State University, this event is free and open to the public and will feature demonstrations, live animals, vendors, and more to spread the word of recycling, conservation, and environmental stewardship. The event will take place on the campus of Athens State University on Saturday, April 15, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. The event is free with free-will donations being accepted. All donations will be used to support KALB's educational programs. 300 N Beaty St, Athens, AL

Apr 17, 2023 - German Dinner Night at AMVETS Post 21 AL AMVETS Post 21 Monthly Themed Dinner. The German dinner is April 17, 2023, 5:30-7:30 pm. Dinner is open to the public and the cost is \$15.00. Menu: Pork Schnitzel, Pan Fried German Potatoes, Cucumber Salad,

German Green Bean Salad (Gruener Bohnensalat), German dessert TBD, Drink Choices - Water, Iced Tea or Coffee Please join us at the AMVETS Post 21, 22769 Black Road, Athens, AL 35613

Apr 19, 2023 - Lunch at the Library with Mary Catherine Folmar Athens-Limestone County Public Library Community Wing. 11:30am - 1:00pm

Apr 21, 2023 - Merchants Alley Happy Hour Music Series-Fridays April-June We are looking forward to 2023 and bringing more talented local artists to Merchants Alley. 5:30pm - 7:00pm Free to the public Merchants Alley 107 N. Jefferson St. Athens, AL For more information on AMS, visit their website at www.AthensMainStreet.org.

Apr 22, 2023 - Celebrate National Rails to Trails Day Hosted on the fourth Saturday of April, Celebrate Trails Day is an annual spring celebration of America's trails. Started by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy in 2013, the celebration encourages people across the country to get outside and enjoy the nation's exceptional trails and trail systems. Visit the beautiful Elkmong Rails to Trails. www.visitathensal.com/richard-martin-trail.html

www.visitathensal.com/richard-martin-trail.html

Apr 22, 2023 - Athens Historic Walking Tours - ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY DISTRICT Each Saturday in April-- Athens Historic Walking Tours Join the Athens-Limestone County Tourism Association at the Athens-Limestone Visitors Center (100 North Beaty Street in Athens) at 9:45AM for check-in. Expect a 1-hour long tour which begins at 10:00AM. Comfortable shoes and a light jacket are suggested. Free. Donation Welcome. For more information: 256-232-5411

Apr 22, 2023 - North Alabama Canine Expo - FREE 11:00am - 4:00pm Limestone Sheriff's Rodeo Arena Free admission.

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Reasons to Celebrate in April

April 14: National Pecan Day

National Pecan Day has been celebrated in the U.S. since 1996 and was launched by the National Pecan Shellers Association. Celebrate this delicious, buttery nut by whipping up a batch of pecan candies, a classic pecan pie, or some other pecan desserts.

April 15: National Glazed Spiral Ham Day

There's more than one way to glaze a ham. Soda, maple syrup, pineapple, and honey are all tried-and-true methods to sweeten a classic baked ham. Today's a perfect day to practice a method you've never tried before. You always can use leftover ham in a breakfast casserole or a sandwich

April 16: National Eggs Benedict Day.

What's brunch without eggs Benedict? Rich hollandaise sauce, a perfectly yolky egg, a

fluffy biscuit, and thick slices of Canadian bacon make up the classic dish that'll have you licking your lips before noon. Try making your own version at home today, or treat yourself to a delicious meal out.

April 19: National Garlic Day

National Garlic Day is dedicated to celebrating this "stinking rose" in the kitchen and in history. After all, people once thought garlic could cure the Bubonic plague, and in fact it does offer several health benefits. Garlic is surprisingly simple to grow and can thrive in a vegetable garden or planter. Make your favorite garlic-filled dish today to celebrate.

April 22: Earth Day

April 22, 1970, was the first Earth Day, and the date has been observed every year since as the anniversary of the birth

of the modern environmental movement. Mother Earth may only officially get full attention one day a year, but you can try to take care of the planet every day. Today's the day to learn some ways you can help protect the environment.

April 23: National Picnic Day

The word "picnic" derives from the French piquenique, meaning a meal eaten outdoors. A picnic truly became an activity during the early 19th century when a group of wealthy London residents formed The Picnic Society, featuring shared dishes and informal entertainment. To celebrate the day, pack a picnic lunch, and soak up some spring sunshine.

April 26: National Pretzel Day

Pretzels may be a go-to snack for modern-day sporting events, but the origin of this salty baked good can be traced back to monks

in the Middle Ages. Dipped in mustard or chocolate, wrapped around a hot dog, or shaped into a roll, pretzels are a bit tricky to make from scratch. However, they're well worth the effort. Use today to try your hand at making homemade pretzels.

April 30: National Adopt a Shelter Pet Day

Adopt a Shelter Pet Day was created to raise awareness for the millions of animals awaiting adoption in shelters across the U.S. If you're looking to add a pet to your home, today's the day to visit your local shelter or look at adoption sites online. Many rescue groups even have adoption specials to celebrate the day. If you don't have space for another critter, you can still help by volunteering or donating to a rescue group.

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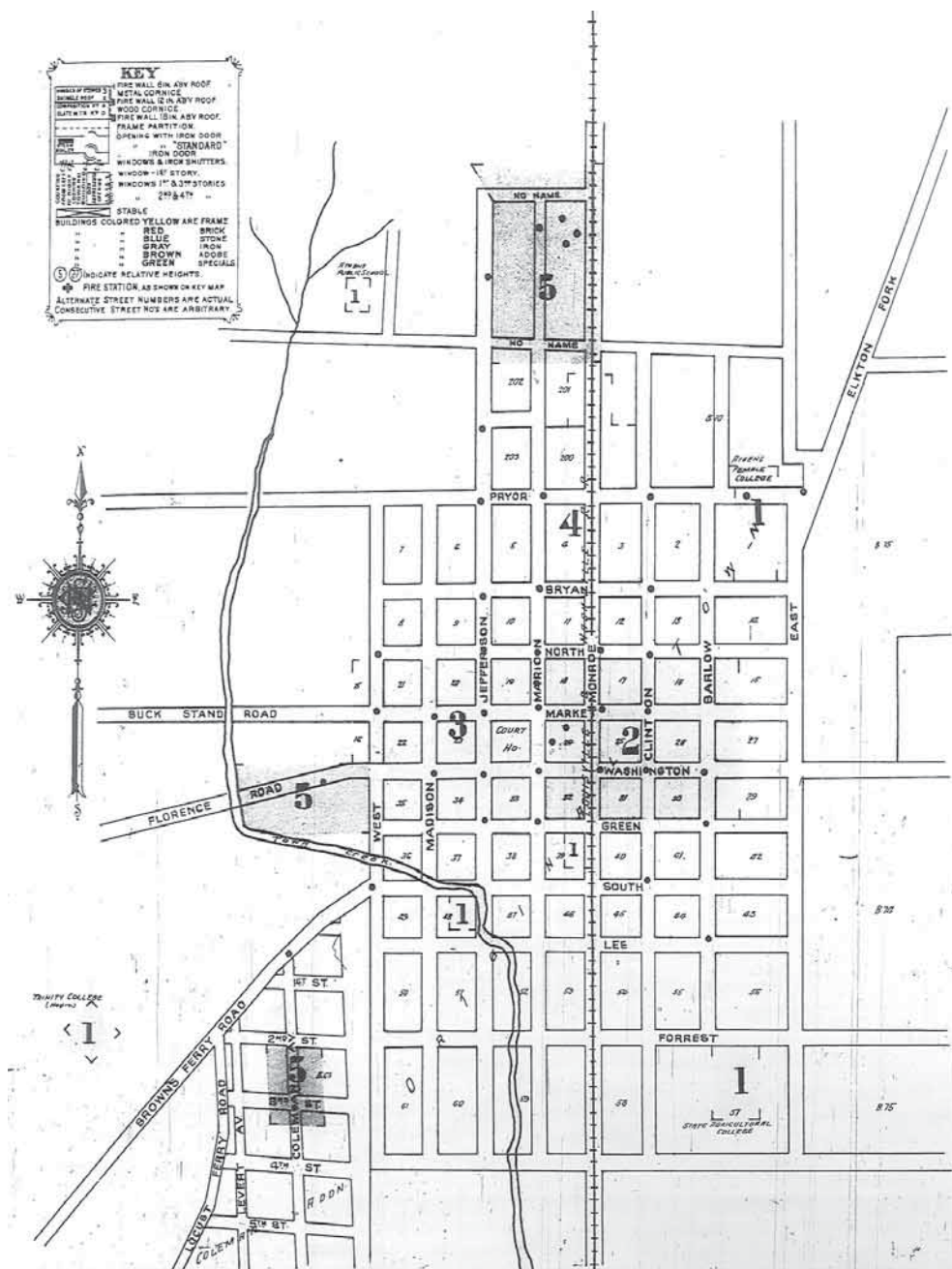


Flowers

Word Search
from puzzlemaker

A	W	R	E	D	N	E	V	A	L	C	Q
P	N	I	Q	P	T	M	P	A	L	E	
P	O	B	L	R	E	Q	X	M	T	A	W
L		H	R	D	R	T	E	T	S	L	P
E	L	V	Y	M	F	L	U	T	D	U	M
B	E	D	X	D	L	L	E	N	C	K	S
L	D	P	I	I	R	R	O	R	I	P	Y
O	N	K	A	N	L	A	E	W	I	A	R
S	A	B	Z	I	C	T	N	L	E	O	D
S	D	J	L	T	T	R	U	G	S	R	Z
O	J	Y	R	U	T	T	Q	E	E	Y	S
M	Y	W	B	R	K	T	Q	J	L	A	T

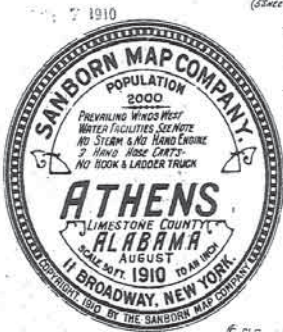
Boom Town: Athens population tripled in early 1900s



WATER FACILITIES
Water works owned & operated by city. Gravity & direct pressure system 2 Stand pipes, one of 40000 gals capacity & one of 150000 gals capacity. 10 above ground supplied by 2 Gardner Governor S.F. Pumps. 14' x 17 1/2' capacity 300,000 gals each, per 24 hours, pumping from 175000 gal reservoir which is supplied from Newer Falling Springs. Consumption 25000 gals per 24 hours. Direct pressure 30 lbs. Gravity pressure 55 lbs. 4 miles of 8" & 6" water pipe. 51 Double Core hydrants & 4 private hydrants.

FIRE DEPT
Volunteer with 30 members. 3 Hand Hose Carts. 600' 2 1/2" cotton jacket hose (Pair). Alarm by telephone.

Streets not paved. Grades level. Public Lighting electric.



INDEX.

STREETS.		SHEET	
Barlow	2	North, 401-409	3
Bryan	1 & 4	410-419	2
Buck Stand Road	3	Evans, G. W., Saw Mill	4
Clinton	2	Pryor, 101-137	4
Coleman Ave.	4	201-213	1
Florence Pike	3 & 5	Second, S	5
Green, N. S.	3	South, 1	1
Jefferson	3	Third, T	5
Madison	3	Washington, W	3
Market	3	West, 501-604	3
Monroe	3	605-616	2
North	3	617-628	2
		629-654	2
		201-232	4
		233-236	5
		Specials, A	1
		Alabama State Agricultural College	1
		Athens Bottling Works	5
		Cotton Mill Co.	5
		Female College	1
		Ice and Cold Storage Co.	1
		Public Schools	1
		Water Works & Elec. Light Plant	2
		Baptist Church	4
		Buckeye Cotton Gin	5
		Christian Church	3
		Congregational Church	2
		County Court House	3
		Cumberland Presbyterian Church	3
		Planters' Gin Co.	1
		Post Office	2
		Public Hall	4
		School	4
		Ross Hotel	2
		St. Timothy Episcopal Church	2
		Standard Oil Co.	5
		Trinity College and Annex (Negro)	1
		Walkers Boarding House	2
		Wartens, H., Cotton Warehouse	3

The Athens newspaper headlines in the summer of 1913 used words like “Wonderful Increase” and “Progressive County Site.” Athens wasn’t just growing; it was booming as more and more young families chose to make the town their home.

Between 1900 and 1920, the population of the city of Athens grew from 1,011 to 3,323, and the city stretched itself in all directions to make room for the boom. By the end of the century’s second decade, Athens had a new courthouse that was more than double the size of its old one; two new train depots – one for passengers and one for freight; a new music hall at Athens College; new store buildings downtown; and new cottages as well as larger homes in the city’s most fashionable new neighborhoods – Coleman Heights on Coleman Hill, and

Fairview and Pinehurst in what is now the Houston Historic District.

The town limits had also been moved outward to include more neighborhoods and businesses, which accounted for some of the population growth, but the 70 percent increase from 1900 to 1910 was due solely to “natural growth,” or people moving in and growing families. The fact that so many young couples were choosing Athens as a place to raise their families was reflected in the average age of the town’s residents by 1913: 27 years, 5 months.

On a Friday night in July 1913, the Athens City Council heard from census takers I.B. Lerman and G.G. McCracken about how the city was growing, and where. The local papers reported on the results:

Population had grown from 1,011

in 1900, to 1,715 in 1913, to 2,693 in 1913.

The 978-person increase in the prior three years was primarily due to the extension of the corporate limits.

Population breakdown: 929 white males, 1,016 white females, 342 “colored” males, 406 “colored” females.

Of those, 538 were street taxpayers and 529 were voters.

One very helpful resource at the Limestone County Archives is a roll of microfilm containing the Sanborn Maps of Athens from 1882 to 1934. Originally created to show the layouts of buildings in downtown areas for fire insurance assessment, these maps make it easy to see the booming growth of the city of Athens during this time frame as more streets, busi-

nesses and homes are marked on each successive map.

The footprint of the Limestone County Courthouse on these maps is a vivid indicator of why a new one was needed by 1916: The 1835 courthouse that had took up less than half the space in the center of the Square that the current one does. Quite simply, the courthouse was able to survive Union occupation, a fire that gutted it, and reconstruction during Reconstruction, but it couldn’t survive a town and county that grew so fast that it was bursting at the seams.

The map section pictured is the index print for the Sanborn Map of 1910. To see Athens of 1910 in more detail, and to compare it the town of other years and of today, come visit us at the Limestone County Archives.



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Glynda Walker
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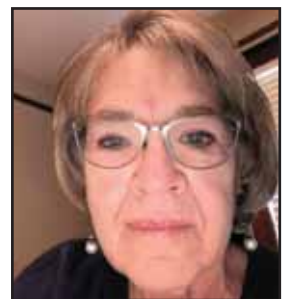
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COMING SOON!!

24110 Jacobs Drive - East Limestone - \$280,000

MLS#1828676 - Ginna Chittam, 256-777-3300

Very nice brick home built in 2012 and conveniently located east of Athens. Offering a split floor plan with isolated master, 3 additional bedrooms, living room, kitchen with breakfast and large back yard with detached storage. New HVAC in 2020 (3.5 T) Electric radiant floor heat in both baths. Master has custom tile shower and granite dbl vanity. Kitchen cabs have 2 lazy susans, appliance garage and pantry with pull outs. 2 50 amp camper hook ups in the rear. Code compliant generator hook up. All appliances to remain to include fridge, W&D. Extra attic insulation blown in 2020 and septic pumped in 2022. Concrete landscape curbing.



15814 Landview Lane - East Limestone - \$285,000

MLS#1831166 - The Phillips Team, 256-656-2370

Beautiful open planned one story home in growing area. Hardwood floors throughout. Crown molding, and plantation blinds create a lovely atmosphere. Well maintained home and ready to move in! Eat-in kitchen with an island and stainless steel appliances. A large master bedroom has two closets! Back yard has privacy fence. If you are looking for a location close to everything and ready to go, this is it!

307 East Green Street

Athens - \$554,900

MLS#1825082

Ginna Chittam

256-777-3300

Beautiful home in the Beaty Historic District. 3 bed, 2 full baths, 2 half baths. Wood floors throughout with elaborate crown molding. Large island in kitchen with range/oven (down draft vent). Tons of cabinets and storage space. French doors to parlor. Living room has gas logs in fireplace. Sunroom has tile floors, two sets of French doors to patio, built ins with desk and half bath. 10' ceilings on the main level with 9' ceilings upstairs. All bedrooms have walk in closets. Finished room on 3rd level is great for hobby/play room or home gym. Walk in attic. Jack N Jill bath between beds 2 and 3. New privacy fence. 12 x 12 gazebo.



25945 Apple Orchard Lane - East Limestone - \$475,000

MLS#1826894 - Shannon Elliott, 256-777-3311

LARGE LOT- oversized attached garage & detached garage. This home is all brick, open floor plan with 4 bedrooms & bonus room that could be the 5th, 2.5 bathrooms. Primary suite is located on the first-floor w/large glamour bath, whirlpool tub, oversize shower, double vanity. Family room has a fireplace, 9' ceilings, crown molding, Formal dining room, Kitchen with granite and breakfast area and stainless-steel appliances, tile floors. Private pool, hot tub, and covered back porch with fenced yard. Awesome Neighborhood with Sidewalks.

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14403 Birkdale Circle - Athens - \$334,900

MLS#1829735 - Ginna Chittam, 256-777-3300

COMING SOON! Very nice 3 bed, 2 bath home with several upgrades. New quartz counters in kitchen with tile backsplash plus mobile island. Recessed lighting. New flooring in all bedrooms. Granite vanities in both baths and beautiful tile shower in master with frameless door. 9' ceilings throughout. Spacious dining room. Gas logs in fireplace. Isolated master. Screened covered patio, privacy fence and tankless water heater. Storm shelter in garage. Sprinkler system. Central unit 5 Yrs old with 10 yr warranty.



25521 Capshaw Road - East Limestone - \$385,000

MLS#1822433 - Allyson Davis, 256-508-6782

Home with acreage! Check out this 4 bedroom 2 bathroom home in East Limestone with 1.47 acres. Convenient to both Athens and Madison! This home has hardwood/tile in all common areas. Gas fireplace in main living room. Washer and dryer to convey. Open concept kitchen and dining room. Under cabinet lighting. Large sunroom with views of the backyard. Large side entry attached garage along with a 2 door detached garage. Above ground pool with large deck. Small storage building in backyard to convey.



955 Sanderfer Road - Athens - \$594,900

MLS#1824740 - Kim Shindorf, 256-431-7916

Brand New Construction with a closet that any woman would die for. Walk into this home through gorgeous double doors into Living space with gas logs and lots of recessed lighting. The Eat In Kitchen has a abundance of white cabinets, SS Appliances and lots of natural lighting. Granite counter tops through out and LVP Flooring. This home is situated on a .69 acre lot. Bonus room upstairs or 4th bedroom with a bath, closet and also storage. Master Suite is isolated with a tiled shower, incredible his and her walk-in closets. This home is absolutely Beautiful.



WELCOME HOME!

23712 Laura Leigh Lane - East Limestone - \$369,900

MLS#1830156 - Chris Shindorf, 256-206-2838

This Beautiful Two Story Home Located In East Limestone School District Hosts 3 Bedrooms With A Bonus/Office Room. Recently Updated Kitchen Cabinetry And Countertops Flow Throughout The Kitchen Into The Dining Area. After Breakfast Or Dinner, Enjoy Your Time Afterwards On Your Screened In Back Porch. Need A Detached Garage? Enjoy A Spacious Three Stall Garage With A Private Bathroom. Off The Main Garage Area, Sit Back And Relax In The Game Room. Both Garages Have Epoxy Floors For Extreme Durability. Come Make This Your Home Today!

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19185 Lydia Corey Road - West Limestone - \$149,900

MLS#1830295 - Heather Green, 256-874-1147

Great location! This manufactured home is only 3 miles from Athens City Limits and has easy access to Hwy 72. This home offers 3 bedroom and 2 full baths. It has been updated with new roof, HVAC, LVP flooring, fresh paint, and lighting. This home has a great layout with lots of space and great closets. The master has a massive closet and other bedrooms also have walk-in closets. Home has a concrete pad the length of the home in the back. Nice clean and ready for you to move in.



14787 Woodland Road - Athens - \$299,500

MLS#1825813 - Ginna Chittam, 256-777-3300

Nice 3 bed, 2 bath in Indian Trace. Awesome 28x16 Sunroom with tile floor, smooth ceiling, recessed lighting and ceiling fan. Corner lot. Fireplace in living room is wood burner. Isolated master has large master bath with his/hers vanities, large tile shower and walk in closet. Double garage plus 16x12 detached garage/shop. HVAC 4 yrs. Instant hot water at kitchen sink. Built in at breakfast area has plumbing for bar sink. Half bath in laundry. Washer and dryer remain.



6091 County Road 50 - Rogersville - \$499,900

MLS#1821725 - The Phillips Team, 256-777-4916

2 barns; water spickets and ponds; 3 car garage; small storage shed; 1546 sq.ft. 3-bedroom 2 bath manufactured home (sold ASIS) that has electricity/water. This farm is ready to go! Fenced, cross-fenced, open pasture and wooded. Don't need a farm, but want hunting land? This property can fit that bill, too! Lots of road frontage and the property goes deep! There is a hand dug covered well on property as well.



WELCOME HOME!

14691 Grubbs Road - Clements - \$159,900

MLS#1829701 - Chris Shindorf, 256-206-2838

3 Bedroom 1 Bath Brick Home Located Just Outside City Limits! Home Features An Enclosed 1 Car Garage With A Detached Workshop! Get It Before It Goes!!! Lots of road frontage and the property goes deep! There is a hand dug covered well on property as well.

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19789 Riverside Street - Clements - \$399,900

MLS#1821178 - Chris Shindorf, 256-206-2838

Updated River Cabin With 180' Of Water Frontage on The Elk River! 3 Bedrooms 2 Bathrooms with A Basement. Master Bathroom Completely Remodeled with Tile Floors and Shower. New LVP Flooring Throughout the House. Spacious Kitchen with Stainless Steel Appliances Flows into Your Living Room with A Beamed Cathedral Ceiling. Metal Roof! In The Afternoons Enjoy the Screened in Porch Or The Covered Gazebo Overlooking The Elk River With Mesmerizing Views! Appliances Purchased In 2021. Get It Today Before It Is Gone!!!



19346 Tillman Mill Road - West Limestone - \$229,900

MLS#1830303 - Heather Green, 256-874-1147

Practically brand new! This charming 3 bed 2 bath home sits on .46 acres and has been basically rebuilt. The following is new: footing, block work, concrete driveway, brick, windows, soffit, gutters, septic tank, hvac, hvac duct work, plumbing, electrical, sheetrock, cabinets, LVP flooring, granite countertops, appliances, light & plumbing fixtures. Come check it out! (Exterior work to be completed once it dries up)



26390 Highway 72 East - Athens - \$1,300 mo.

MLS#1818091 - Kim Shindorf, 256-431-7916

Can't beat the price for a spot on Hwy 72, East. Detached Garage, fresh paint and new LVP Flooring. Close proximity to I-565, I-65 & Right on 72.



23711 Barkley Way - Tanner - \$169,900
MLS#1798845 - Ginna Chittam, 256-777-3300



1406 South Hine St. - Athens - \$299,000
MLS#11797713 - Ginna Chittam, 256-777-3300

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