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#### From the Editor...

Welcome to the "aha" moment we've all been awaiting!

The water's just right, the boats are out, and another lovely lake season awaits!

We're thinking fun and family and, yes, of course food and all things summer and Lakeside.

We enter this time of year that we enjoy so many lakeside things with a busy slate of great stuff, from the 2014 Relay for Life held on the water at Lakeside Park, to the wildly successful



Lakefest event and it's obvious everyone's ready to get out and about and get on with all their favorite lake loving things.

We start out with a look at the so convenient, low maintenance condo at Lincoln Harbor that David and Joanne Horton have enjoyed since 2007.

They have a fabulous view, chose a corner condo for making the most of that asset, and love savoring each and every lake season that comes their way.

The cozy condo is always ready for their relaxation time, and for friends as well, and there's a favorite balcony that's just perfect for viewing the area's abundant wildlife and natural beauty.

With all that in mind, there's also the pool that's just perfect, available boat slips, along with a boat launch to use whenever the boating bug bites.

Joanne will tell you first-hand about all the convenience of condo life, especially when it comes with a lake front.

Pell City is enjoying its latest eatery, it's called Highway 55 and it has a menu filled with the foods everyone craves.

From those juicy old fashioned burger delights to the variety of sandwiches and "baskets," Highway 55 is ready to greet hungry lake lovers of every age and menu favorite.

And, oh yes, don't forget about those frozen custard creations at Highway 55, with cones and shakes and custards to make this a totally delightful destination.

Then there's the abundance of activity perking up out on the Scenic River Trail through the Coosa, where a little river trip turns out to find those lake loving folks up close and in person.

The paddler finds the waterways awakening with those taking in the view, taking in a little fishing and those out and about with their boats back in summertime mode.

Glass artist Karen Dixon has an interesting tale to tell about how she discovered her hidden talent, turning from her role as a laboratory Ph.D. probing into molecular genetics to turning glass into her own pieces of art.

She's a native of Pennsylvania and has called Alabama home for about 20 years now.

You can find her creations inside the ArtScape Gallery in downtown Pell City where she has joined with the talented cache of folks of the Council of the Arts.

As for me, we'll take a visit into the kitchens of some well-known dessert masters, with a couple of the recipes they've had handed down from the very best hands there are, their mothers.

Susiebell Lunamund's mom somehow discovered the things called "Whoopie Pies" and being that they're well worth saying "whoopee!" over, she's kept the tradition alive in her own kitchen.

The same goes for baking aficionado Joanie Gann, whose mother, the late Peggy Crump, made her fried pies a favored treat all over Pell City.

The Crumps often offered the pies at their grocery until it closed, and Joanie has revived her mother's legacy with her own two hands. Word gets out fast when she's whipping up the pies, and usually, each and every one will be spoken for by the time they're perfectly browned and cooled a little and ready to pop on a plate.

My mother wasn't quite the kitchen queens these gals are and were, neither am I, but we both have a few things we could make well enough to present o friends and company.

Of her sweet side recipes, the one I liked best was the simplest and it's one you can totally turn over safely to those little hands in the kitchen.

Besides being total crowd pleasers, these are all desserts that can be fine-tuned into so many varieties you'll never get tired of turning to them when you need them.

Let's all say a big "hello summertime," find our favorite spot for loving the lives we love, and we hope that this June edition of Lakeside Living finds you living the life you love the best.













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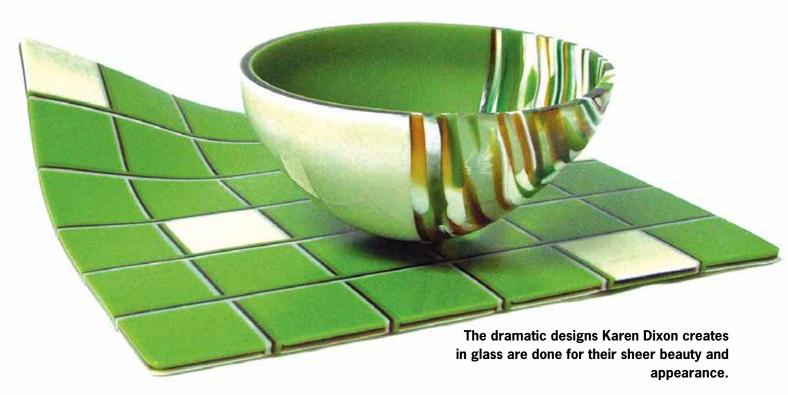
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# A Scientist Takes On a Different Twist

### Kiln-formed glass designs fills Karen Dixon's new life

Story by SHANE DUNAWAY Photos Submitted

A former scientist in the molecular genetics field of research now applies her skills in the art industry, trading beakers and test tubes for kiln-formed glass.

Karen Dixon, a graduate from the University of Alabama at Birmingham who studied Huntington's disease and neuro-developmental disorders, initially began her journey into glass-working by crafting mosaics in 2000.

"I started doing glass mosaics more as a hobby," Dixon said. "It was a great stress reliever. I had a pretty stressful job for a while."

Dixon, a Pennsylvania native who moved to Alabama roughly 20 years ago, received inspiration from two of her

aunts in her family who exhibited artistic flair.

"They could paint and draw anything," Dixon said. "They were just amazing. I can't really draw or paint, so I never thought I could be an artist. There was always something about art and glass that I really enjoyed."

Her love for glasswork eventually surpassed her love for the labs, and when the recession impacted her career, she saw a window of opportunity.

"For me, this really speaks to that part of my training from years ago," Dixon said. "I got my Ph.D. in 2004 and worked in a lab for while. I decided that when the economy took a hit, funding kind of dried up for a lot of





labs, so I decided to move on and do something else."

But she didn't shed the skills she learned in a lab coat, opting instead to fuse those intangibles into her art.

"The interesting part of being a scientist is creating the experiments and coming up with new ideas," Dixon said. "That really translated well into also being an artist. I don't think a whole lot a people realize how much creativity it takes to be a scientist, to really come up with new things and go beyond what's been done."

She described the process for fusing glass, using her pieces on display at Artscape Gallery in Pell City as visual aids.

"Typically, you either start with colored sheet glass or what we call fret, which is crushed glass," Dixon said while holding an example of her artwork. "So a piece like this starts out with a piece of glass. I cut it into the shape that I want and put my design on it. Then, it's put into the kiln, where it's fired and fused flat. Then I have molds in different shapes to create the shapes that I want, whether it's something like a tray or a bowl."

When it comes to working with glass for projects, Dixon stated not just any glass will work for a project.

"You can put any glass in a kiln, but you can't fuse any glass together," Dixon said. "The glass I buy is tested compatible because anytime you heat and cool glass, it expands and contracts. If it's not all expanding and contracting at the

same rate, then you get stress fractures in it."

Dixon not only uses her kiln for fusing glass, but she also does a style of glass-working called kiln casting.

"It's where I create a void, and I fill it with glass so the glass flows into that void," Dixon said while pointing to "Birchbark," a piece she has received awards for in recent art shows. "That's how I did this piece. You can see on the back that there's not really uniform thickness in it. That allows me to get some really cool texture and movement in the glass."

The kiln Dixon uses for her work has a programmable controller that she explained makes the process more manageable.

"I plug in the program I want," Dixon said. "I tell it how fast I want it to heat up and how slow I want it to cool down, and the computer takes over. If it wasn't for that, it would be very difficult to get the glass to slowly cool down the way you want it and to really control the temperatures. Because the programmable controllers are out there, it makes it a whole lot easier to control the work."

Depending on the thickness of the glass, Dixon said the number of times and length of time the glass for a project needs to be fired could vary four to five times for anywhere between 24 hours to a week, so her work involves a great deal of precision.



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"A lot of artists are trying to make a statement with their work," Dixon said. "It's never been about that for me. I like to be technically-challenged and create something people will enjoy looking at and touching. I'm not out to make any kind of political statement or social statement of any kind. I just like making beautiful glass."

Though her works consume many hours and days of her time, she stressed her favorite part of being an artist is often the end result.

"I love when one of my ideas that grew from something in my head, an idea in my head, becomes a tangible object that I've executed well and people enjoy looking at it," Dixon said. "I do art festivals and shows, so when someone comes into my booth with a big smile on their face and goes, 'Wow!' you know that really makes your day as an artist."

Contact Shane Dunaway at sdunaway@dailyhome. com 🖪

> Glass artist Karen Dixon loves hearing the reactions of those who view her glass creations.







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They serve up the real deal in superb style at Highway 55 in Pell City. The Pell City location is the first for the franchise in Alabama.

# Burgers You'll Want to Bite

## Highway 55 pleases crowds in a big way

Story by CHRIS NORWOOD Photos by BRIAN SCHOENHALS

If you are not familiar with Highway 55 Burgers, Shakes & Fries already, the chances are good that you will be very soon.

The franchise originated in North Carolina as Andy's, but changed the name in conjunction with the national (and international) expansion effort.

The one in Pell City, located in the Wal-Mart shopping center, is the first location in Alabama, but

there are plans for as many as 50 in the state alone.

That number sounds ambitious until you go there. The interviews for this story were conducted around 2 p.m. on a weekday, after the lunch rush should have been dwindling. The place was still packed, and the patrons appeared to be having the times of their lives.

In the third week of operation, master franchisee Gerd Anderson says he has lost 20 pounds.



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The frozen custard creations are as over the top as you could possibly desire at Highway 55.

"All our food is fat-free," he joked. "The fat is free, you pay for the rest."

Born in Germany, Anderson said he was adopted by an American colonel and lived in Vestavia before relocating to Pell City. He has an extensive business background, but admits that he is new to the food service industry.

"It's easier to succeed with a franchise," he explained. He and his partners scouted several possible locations for the Alabama flagship when the spotted the available space in Pell City.

"But it was really the people here that sold us on this location," he said. "We met with the mayor and the chamber of commerce, and it is really hard to express just how welcome everyone made us feel. After we opened, we knew we had made the right decision. We had a huge amount of people coming in, and I want to thank all of





The atmosphere is upbeat, the service is great and the food is just the way you want it at Pell City's brand new eating establishment, Highway 55.

them for coming. People liking going out and having fun, enjoying high quality food at reasonable prices."

The décor is definitely 1950s diner revival, from the seats at the bar to the chrome surfaces to the Elvis Presley records decorating the walls. The food is timeless.

As one might guess from the name, the burgers are the mainstay here, from the single to the triple, with your choice of four cheeses and at least a dozen condiments, with fries or onion rings on the side.

For the most adventurous and/or hungry among you, there is also a challenge burger, five patties and slices high, with four condiments and fries. Eat the whole thing in 30 minutes or less, your meal is free and your name is enshrined in the hall of fame and on the company website.

Fail, and the feast will set you back \$24.99.

There are also other entrees, including wings and chicken fingers, hot dogs, a shrimp platter, shrimp po'boy and a Philly melt.

But their other mainstay is on the dessert menu.

Rather than going for the traditional ice cream or frozen yogurt, Highway 55 goes for frozen custard, a far richer alternative to most other frozen desserts.

Unless you've tasted it before, you have probably never tried anything quite like it. It is available in sundaes, banana splits and waffle cones with a variety of toppings, as well as in various shakes and blends.

The Pell City location currently has about 40 employees and is still hiring. To go orders are available, but catering is not.

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Owner Gerd Anderson, right, and Mark Nicholson welcome you to the wonders you'll find from the kitchen at Highway 55.

At least not yet.

"That's something we'll be looking at down the road," Anderson said. "We're not set up for it right now, and with the rush we have, there's not time."

Seating and serving are first come, first served.

Highway 55 Burgers, Shakes & Fries is open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and noon to 9 p.m. Sundays.

For more information, please call 205-338-7055 or visit hwy55burgers.com.









The decades old delight known as Whoopie Pies are still in fashion at the Lunamund household in Pell City. Susiebell Peeples Lunamund loves recreating this favorite recipe from her mother's files.

# Sweet and Old

### Some of the best "afters" are those with a history

Story and Photos by LAURA NATION-ATCHISON

I've turned to "sweet things" this month, partly because my tastes have taken a liking to them lately, and partly, because-yes, blame it all on friends!-some of my pals have been taunting some pretty good stuff.

I think my interest was really piqued by two of these kitchen cohorts of mine, both with a reputation all their own for being bakers extraordinaire.

And, that these delicate delights were both passed to them by their mothers, the late Peggy Crump, also known as "Mama Peg," of Coal City and Mary Ella Peeples, lovingly called "Miss Ella," by longtime friends in her hometown of Webb, Ala.

By the way...how come all the best cooks around have these great names to go along with their cooking talents?

I've long known of neighbor Joanie Gann and her penchant for turning out impressive creations from her kitchen, with some she just "wings it" with limited instructions, and yes, they always turn out to be magnificent.

Example-I found a dreamy sounding coconut pound cake, had the ingredients, but lost the directions.

Guess who had one turned out to perfection the very next day by simply "feeling" her way through it?

For this venture into the land of outstanding finishes, I finagled her mother's fried pie recipe and tried to dig out a few of these pies' long trusted secret touches that make them the decades old pleaser they are.

You have to have that touch for baking, I believe, it's precise and can be lengthy and sometimes gets a little touch and go.

Or, in my case, a little bit of one great big mess.

All the good bakers I know are known to improvise, they just have that feel for mixtures and dough and consistency, along with cooking times and temperatures for the aforementioned attributes.

I can do this on some levels, but that exquisite sense for baking, well, it kind of takes me back to those chemistry classes I so struggled with.

My mother wasn't a big baker, either, but there were a few recipes she could turn out that were always perfect. Her whipped cream pound cake, her light as a feather cheese straws, and a lemon meringue pie with a homemade crispy crust and just the right touch of zing were always winners.

While remembering her dessert triumphs, I'm going to focus on one this month that is truly kindergarten easy, and there's no baking involved, but I just don't see it around anymore and I think its versatility, taste and ease merit mentioning, especially for those of us with "dessert making fears."

And finally, the one I'd absolutely never even heard of, pal Susiebell Lunamund's innocent mention one day of this thing called "Whoopie Pies."

I suppose I immediately loved the name, and there went my curiosity.

This north Englander inspired treat somehow found its

way into Susiebell's mother's kitchen repertoire, a lady she describes as "so typically southern," and doesn't really know how her mom latched onto them.

Her faves are a red velvet version and a German chocolate, but upon doing a little research on these little pies, I discovered that their possibilities are only limited by your own taste buds.

We'll give details on that later.

So, let's start with these "whoopies," then move on to the fried pies "Mama Peg," as she was known to many, offered throughout the Pell City area, and then, we'll end with a whimper with my remedial level dessert that is a certain success for those of us without that special touch.

For the Whoopies...

For the cake:

What you need: (red velvet variety)

One box red velvet cake mix

Two eggs

One stick butter

What you do:

Preheat oven to 350

Mix cake mix, eggs and butter until thoroughly blended. Refrigerate until filling is made.

Filling:

8 ounces cream cheese



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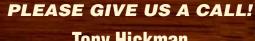
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Plump with the delicious apple and peach fillings, these are fried pies with the perfect touch of crispness, flavors and "yum."

one fourth cup melted butter 2 cups confectioner's sugar 1 teaspoon vanilla

#### What you do:

In mixer with paddle beater, mix all ingredients well. (You may need to add a little more melted butter if the mixture is too thick, or a little more confectioner's sugar if it's too thin...the consistency should come out similar to that of marshmallow crème, but not runny.)

Take out cake mixture and drop one to two teaspoons full onto a greased cookie sheet. Cook at 350 for about nine minutes. Remove and let cool on cookie sheet for about five minutes then place on waxed paper. Repeat until all the mixture is used.

When cookies are completely cooled, place the filling on flat side of each cookie and then top with another cookie, flat side down.

That's it! You can use any flavor cake mix, and add flavoring to your filling as desired! Here are some other ideas: Peanut butter, using chocolate cake with peanut bitter cream filling, strawberry cake shells with cream cheese filling, chocolate cookie cake shells with cream filling, then dipped in chocolate, chocolate cake shells

with mint flavored cream filling, coconut cake shells with cream filling and last but not least, mocha cake shells with chocolate filling.

As for extra appeal, top with toasted coconut, jams, chocolate shavings, dust with confectioner's sugar, crumbled candy bites, you name it! Not only superb as desserts, but well suited for brunches, teas or snacks. And I just bet these would freeze well, then thaw at room temperature as needed.

### Those old fashioned fried pies What you need:

Packages of dried fruit of your choice, these are made with apples or peaches-enough to provide filling for the number of pies, approximately two six ounce packages per batch.

One half cup sugar
One half stick of butter
Four cups all purpose flour
Crisco (solid)

A cup or so of buttermilk

#### What you do:

Cover fruit with water in sauce pan and simmer on low for about an hour, then drain in a colander and pat dry. Mash the fruit and add about a half cup of sugar and a half stick of butter, return to stove and simmer until most of the liquid is absorbed.

(It's best to do the filling the day before and refrigerate so it doesn't seep moisture into the dough.)

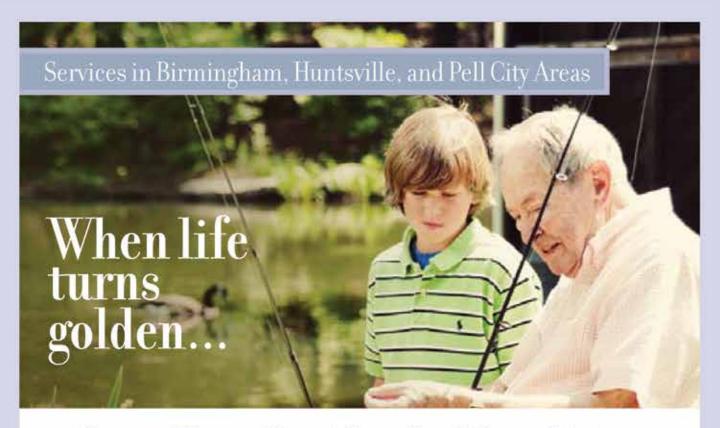
For the dough, combine the flour, Crisco and mix together until crumbly. Add buttermilk until it creates a ball, not too sticky, keep adding a little flour if needed.

#### To assemble:

Flour a countertop, place dough on top and gently roll out. (Joanie uses a wooden rolling pin, her mother used a whiskey bottle!) You can cut out the dough using a saucer or roll the pie crusts out to a good thinness. When rolled out, add a heaping spoonful of filling to each, then fold over and pinch edges of use a fork to close them up. Heat Crisco and butter in an electric skillet (at about 350 degrees) or iron skillet, the Crisco mixture should cover the pies about halfway. Cook about three minutes on each side, to desired brownness and crispness. Drain on paper towels.

The key here is to make sure your dough is rolled out thin enough, Joanie advises.

Serve with ice cream, whipped cream, sprinkle with nuts, cinnamon, your choice if desired.



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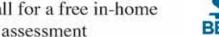
For over a year, Always There's Amelia Gibson has nurtured a special relationship with Mr. Tipton that transcends helping maintain his home and preparing his meals. They have become friends. In fact, when the dapper Mr. Tipton takes his two walks per day, he carries his cane in one hand and Amelia on the other. Jen says, "We can't imagine having anyone else care for him."

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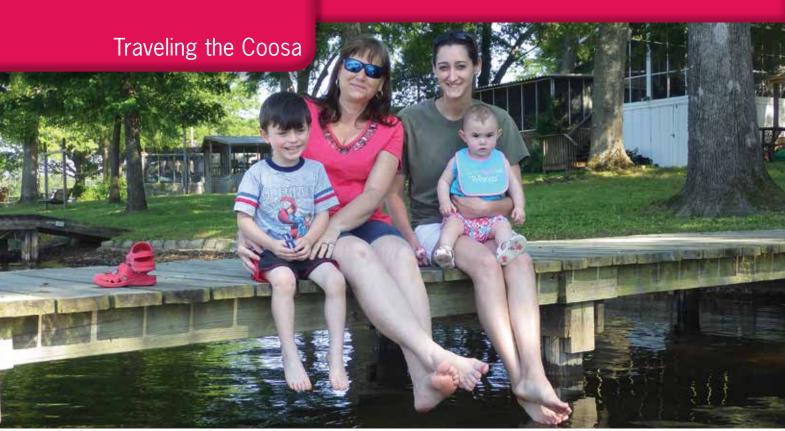


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In the picture, from left, are Gavin Cline, Saundra Reeves, Casey Reeves and Taylor Cline sitting by the lake.

# Surprises Out On the Water?

#### Of Course!

Story and photos by DAVID ATCHISON

What is it, a bird, a plane? No, it is a chicken.

Yes, standing tall along the edge of the dock was a big handsome white chicken.

As I paddled closer and closer, I really wasn't seeing things. It was a big old chicken - cluck, cluck.

I heard people in the lake home next to the dock. I thought to myself, maybe they can tell me why this wonderful piece of chicken art adorns the end of this dock on Logan Martin Lake, part of the Alabama Scenic River Trail.

There had to be a story behind it.

"Hey," I yelled.

I yelled a few more times until I finally got someone's attention, who turned out to be Saundra Reeves.

"I know there's got to be a story about, well, about this big fluffy white chicken," I said.

She explained that her neighbors, Shannon "Tag" Jackson,

and his wife, Mary, bought the chicken from a restaurant.

Saundra said a restaurant owner, who apparently specialized in chicken, was getting out of restaurant business.

"He wanted to get rid of it (the chicken)," she said.

Well, her neighbors, the Jackson's, bought the chicken for their lakeside dock.

"You can always find your way back here," Saundra said.

Yep, when the Jacksons are out on their boat, they just have to look for the big white chicken to find their way

I do see interesting things, items people use to decorate their lakefront homes, and probably markers so they can find their way back home, but I have yet to see such a dazzling display – or a more handsome chicken.

The big bird sort of made me hungry - fried chicken

Ironically, right across the lake from the chicken, was a traffic light.

Yes, a big yellow traffic light along the shore of the lake.



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I've seen a lot of things on the lake, but this is the first larger-than-life chicken I've encountered on a fishing pier.

It appeared the traffic light actually had power running to it. The traffic light would probably act as a beacon during the night to help the resident find his or her way back home.

The chicken, the traffic light, it sort of reminded me of the jokes..., "Why did the chicken cross the road?" or in this case the lake?

Saundra's great nephew, 5-year-old Gavin Cline, took a lot of interest in me and my small kayak, boating around the lake with only a paddle in hand.

Gavin had to show me his pack of gum.

"Do you want a piece of gum," he kept asking.

"Sure," I said.

I pulled the piece of gum sticking out of the package, and the pack of gum squirted water at me. That really tickled the youngster.

Gavin, along with Saundra's daughter, Casey Reeves, and her great niece Taylor Cline were visiting her

that day.

I eventually said my good-byes, and headed down what people call Coosa Island Slough.

I didn't expect to see many people on the lake when I left Woods Surfside Marina that early Wednesday afternoon.

Jerry Woods was nice enough to let me use his marina as a launching pad for my trip.

I had left my truck at Coosa Island Marina and a co-worker, Candi, gave me a ride back to Woods Surfside Marina where I began my trip.

"Have a good time out there," Jerry said.

I paddled for a while before I saw my first person on the lake, Gatha North of Birmingham.

He has a small place on a really nice spot on the lake.

"This is Arrow Head Point," he said.

The community where he lives in is actually in the flood zone, so no permanent structures are allowed. He had a travel trailer that he stays in when he comes up to the lake.

"I've been coming up here since 1979-1980," Gatha said, adding that they come up to relax, fish, swim and boat. "It's nice to get away from the city."

He was doing a little house cleaning, so I didn't keep him away from his chores.

I then had the pleasure of meeting Steve Bell and his 89-year-old father, Joseph Bell.

Steve lived in Atlanta for 33 years, but bought his lake home about seven





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Geese feed along the shores of Logan Martin Lake in someone's yard.

years ago.

"I've been working on it ever since," he said.

His father lives in Birmingham with family, but he is originally from Old Coal City, where my wife, Laura and I live.

Mr. Bell lived there until he got drafted after World War II broke out. He served in the U.S. Air Force.

Mr. Bell said he use to drive the school bus to Pell City and after the war, he drove for the Birmingham Transit Authority, where he drove buses and trolley cars.

He later went to work for the Seaboard Railroad Company, which is now CSX.

"I hit it lucky," Mr. Bell said.

Steve said the Lawrence Lee family owned all the land before the lake was built, including the property he owns now. It was farm land, but Mr. Lee divided the land up in lake lots.

Steve said Lee actually built, "The Porch," where they entertain guess along the lake.

"It was a bedroom and bath, but we turned it into a kitchen and a bedroom," he said.

The Bells have a really nice home up on the hill above, "The Porch," which not only provides a comfortable spot along the lake but a conversation piece.

It is one of Mr. Lee's favorite spots to relax in a rocking chair and enjoy the view of the lake.

The porch awning is attached to the old building, providing a huge patio to relax and entertain guests.

The patio awning was built with wood that came from the Pell City Pipe Shop, which was built in the 1800s, Steve said.

"I like it here," he said. "I've got a lot of family around."

I had a really good visit with the Bell's but time was running out. Mr. Bell and his son were so interesting to talk with, but I was running out of time.

I did visit with Margaret Banks, 79, and her great-granddaughter, Josey, age 4, before I reached my final destination.

Mrs. Banks' daughter lives next door to her.

Mrs. Banks lost her husband about eight years ago and moved from a larger lake home to her current residence on Coosa Island. She said the bigger house was just too much for her to keep up.

Mrs. Banks and her husband once owned and operated the Banks Lounge in Lakeside, a suburb of Birmingham.

Mrs. Banks said she has nine children, six boys and three girls, 30 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

After a short visit with Mrs. Banks, I headed up the slough and around the bend to my final destination.

I reached Coosa Island Marina as the sun began getting low in the sky. There were still people fishing at the marina, but I was about spent after my paddle trip.

I didn't have chance to find out about the history of Coosa Island Marina and what the marina has to offer today, but I will.

So until then, have a safe and wonderful time on the lake.



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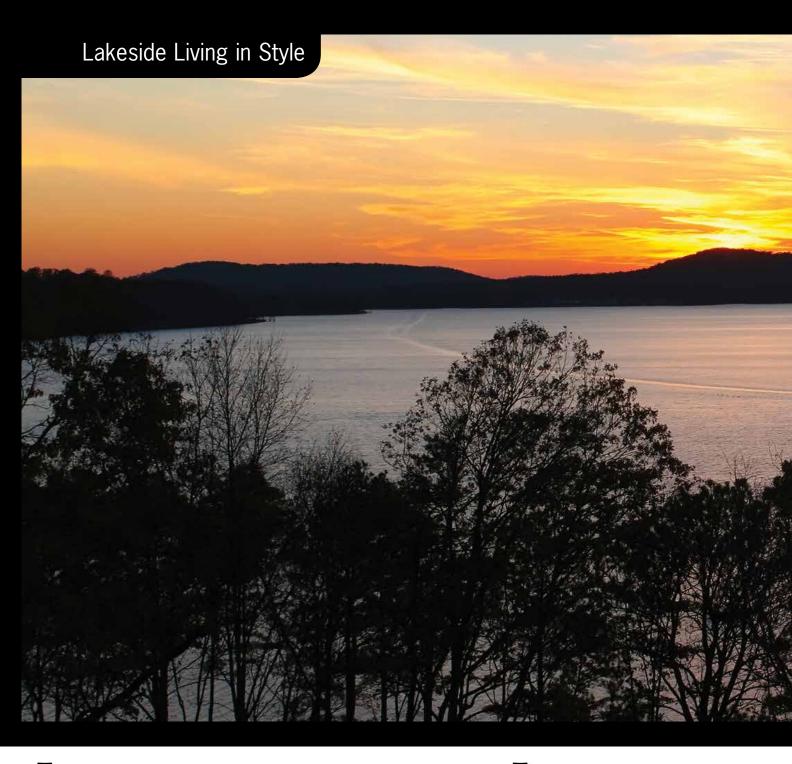
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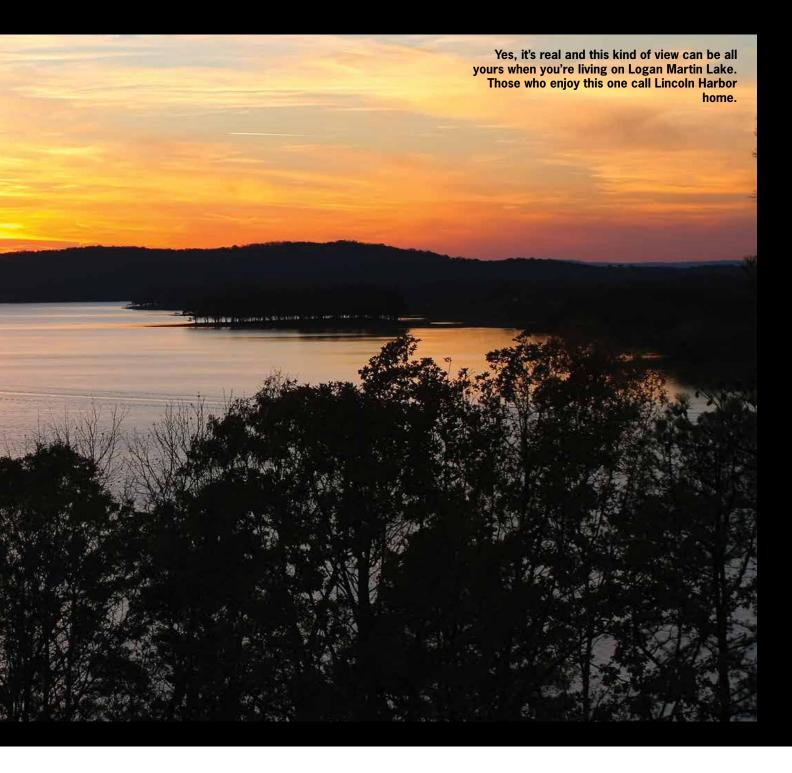


# Low-maintenance Living

Hortons' condo is a year-round lakefront retreat

Story by EMILY McLAIN Photos by BOB CRISP

Opelika may be home now, but when David and Joanne Horton left Talladega five years ago, they were wise enough to hold onto their prime piece of real estate on Logan Martin Lake.



No, it's not a multi-story mansion set on a sprawling property, but that doesn't make it any less valuable. In fact, the Hortons' three-bedroom lakefront condominium is all the home they need.

"It's more than low maintenance; it's no maintenance," Joanne said. "(The building owners) take care of the yard and the pool. I have friends in the area who check on the condo for me when we aren't here. It's a great, easy arrangement."

The pair purchased a waterfront condo at Lincoln Harbor in 2007. At the time, Joanne was superintendent for Talladega City Schools, where she worked for two years before entering retirement, and her husband worked for Riviera Utilities in Foley.

"They started building this right as the economy tanked," Joanne said. "I tried to sell mine at one point, but things



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were so bad economy-wise that I just held onto it, and I'm glad now that I did."

One of 80 units at the Talladega complex, the condo boasts two guest bedrooms, an open kitchen and living area, and a master suite with outdoor access and a view of the water. A comfortably sized back porch is the icing on the cake of this corner condo at the edge of the property.

Being on the top floor and the corner of the building has its perks, Joanne noted, allowing for a fireplace and tray ceiling in the living room that other condos do not have, and of course, an uninhibited view of the water.

"We were one of the first to move in here in 2007, so we made sure to choose the best spot," Joanne said. "This view is worth the whole thing. This is why I bought this one."

During every season of the year, there is something to love about the view of Logan Martin, Joanne said.

"The view is bar-none, because there is nothing here

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The Hortons' bedroom is more than ample in size, and decorated with a soft and relaxing palette of soothing colors.

to block it," she said. "I looked at other condos here, and they didn't compare to this one. I thought, 'I want this one on the end where it's quiet and there will never be anybody on the other side of me."

In the spring and summer, she watches boats and activity on the water from their shaded patio. In the fall and winter, sparse trees allow for an even wider view of the sparkling water and wildlife as Joanne enjoys reading a book or sipping hot chocolate outside.

"Summertime is really, really nice," she said. "People can park the boats in the boat slips, and we have an area in the back where you can park. And we have the

most outstanding sunsets here."

Since her retirement in 2009 after a 35-year career in education, Joanne has earned some time to rest and relax.

She has made use of her newfound free time by traveling to places like Alaska and the Caribbean, visiting her brother in Tucson, Ariz., and going on a trip to Switzerland with her sister.

When she is at home during the summer, most of her time is spent watching her 10-year-old grandson play baseball.

But when she gets an itch to visit the lake, their condo always ready and waiting.





A cheery breakfast area awaits for morning coffee and gatherings to plan the day's fun on the lake.

Joanne said she visits the lake any time she wants and sometimes rents it to friends so they can enjoy it too.

Joanne and her husband are able to visit more often since they moved from Foley to Opelika last year.

David accepted a job as director of Opelika Power Services, where he has is leading implementation of a fiber network system.

"When we were in Foley, it was almost a four-

and-a-half hour drive, and that made it hard for us to use this," Joanne said. "From Opelika, it's about an hour-and-a-half. Of course we come more in the summertime with the family, but I come any time, because I love all the seasons on the lake. As long as it's not too cold, I will sit on the balcony and just be content and enjoy the nature. It's nice."

As for the layout and decor of the condo, Horton calls her decorating style "plain Jane," figuring

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The Hortons' porch area is a spot for seclusion as well as for inviting company and conversation.





Soft shades of color carry a relaxing theme into the Hortons' living area, where natural light is ample and the view is perfect.



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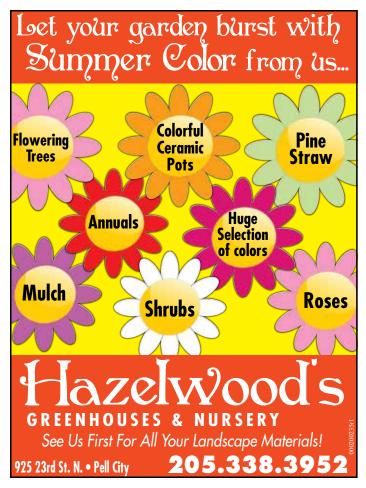


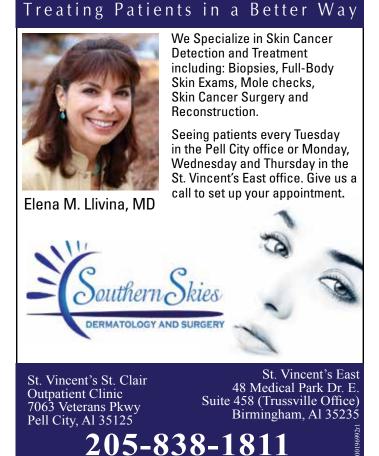
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Joanne Horton shows the convenience of the dining area just off the kitchen where the cook and friends can mingle together.





that when you come to the lake, the decorations really don't matter. Nonetheless, the condo is nicely furnished with a breathable layout.

Just inside the front door are two guest bedrooms and a guest bathroom with a tiled shower. In the hallway is a closet containing a stacked washer and dryer. The hallway leads to the large kitchen and living space.

The kitchen boasts dark countertops, tiled floors and stainless steel appliances. A glass top kitchen table on the other side of the counter joins the kitchen and living room.

In the living area is a cornflower blue couch and chair. A coffee table is accented with scrolls and covered in Joanne's favorite editions of Lakeside Living magazine.

If you ever tire of the lake view, a large entertainment center in the room features a retractable flat screen television as well as some family photos and mementos lining the shelves. A door leads to the wide patio, which is outfitted with plenty of wicker seating.

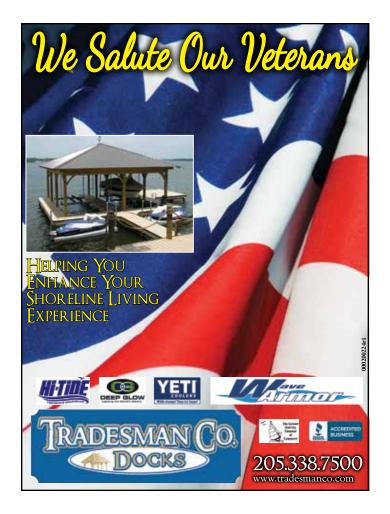
Adjoining the living room, the master bedroom is decorated in light, calming colors. A master bathroom includes a double vanity, open shower and bathtub and extra storage space. The bedroom also has a lakefront view and a door to the patio.

In addition to the condo itself, residents at Lincoln Harbor enjoy perks like pool and boat ramp access, Joanne said, and more additions including a club house may be developed in the next few years.

Overall, their lakefront getaway is the perfect retreat, allowing for all the fun and none of the fuss of a larger home.

"If you want just peace and quiet and to enjoy the lake, this is the place to be," Joanne said.

Contact Emily McLain at emclain@dailyhome.com.







# Lakefest: Yes!

#### Another fantastic Lakefest

Story by LAURA NATION-ATCHISON Photos by EMILY McLAIN

The setting was perfect, the people, all about a good time and throughout the Lakefest weekend, one of Pell City's favorite features was the star of the show.

It was the fourth Lakefest weekend on Logan Martin Lake, celebrated with live entertainment and fantastic foods, a line-up of lake loving vessels for all water bound pursuits and an opportunity for all who love lake living to get a look at the best there is.

The very latest products for lake festivities and fun were in full supply with pontoon boats and fishing boats and everything in-between.

Boat dealers were on hand to offer test drives and rides and share the information anyone needs to have to choose their lake bound dream. Vendors came from throughout the area and beyond, with all the ware imaginable to create an interesting and distinctive shopping outing.

Lakefest was in place at Pell City's Lakeside Park for the first time, and visitors and organizers alike said the venue was everything it needed to be to have an outstanding and successful event.

While some of the approximately 5,000 to 7,000 who visited the event were from nearby areas, many came from out of state and even from out of the country and got a taste of the Pell City Lakeside allure.

Lakefest organizers cleared approximately \$13,000 from the weekend to use for area charities, said Justin Hogeland, an event organizer along with Eric Housh.

Among the entities slated to receive funds from Lakefest are the Logan Martin Laker Protection Association, the Pell City Police Department, Coosa Valley Academy and the Pell City Receation Department.

And yes, plans are already under way for a huge celebration again next year, with Lakefest on the calendar once again, Hogeland said.

Hogeland said keeping an eye on the Lakefest web site will help in staying up on the latest plans for the 2015 event, especially for those who want to participate as well as attend.

"It's definitely a major go," he said.



# 15th Annual Pell City Block Party

Story by ELSIE HODNETT Photos by BRIAN SCHOENHALS

The 15th Annual Pell City Hometown Block Party is June 7 in downtown Pell City.

This year the event opens to the public at 3 p.m. There will be a welcome at 5:30 p.m. at the Rock Stage and music will play 6-11 p.m.

Golf carts will be available to escort the crowd. The Pell City Library will be the pickup and drop off location.

Food vendors signed up so far will offer hot dogs, hamburgers, banana pudding, chips, shaved ice, gelato, funnel cakes, fried Oreos, chicken sandwiches, sweet potato pies, ribs, wings, roasted peanuts, pickles, nachos, Polish sausage, Philly cheesesteak, turkey legs, lemonade, tea, popcorn, BBQ chicken, ice cream, pretzels, pucker powder candy and more.

Retail vendors will offer Scentsy, airbrush tattoos, t-shirts, The Daily Home products and more.

Sponsored by Hampton & Holiday Inn, Take 5 will have tables and chairs set up under the Courthouse awning to allow the crowd a place to enjoy their food.

Sponsored by Lakeside Package, the VIP Lounge will be available to diamond, gold and silver sponsors and is located in the Chamber Office.

Kids Corner, sponsored by 94.9 The River, will feature rides for the





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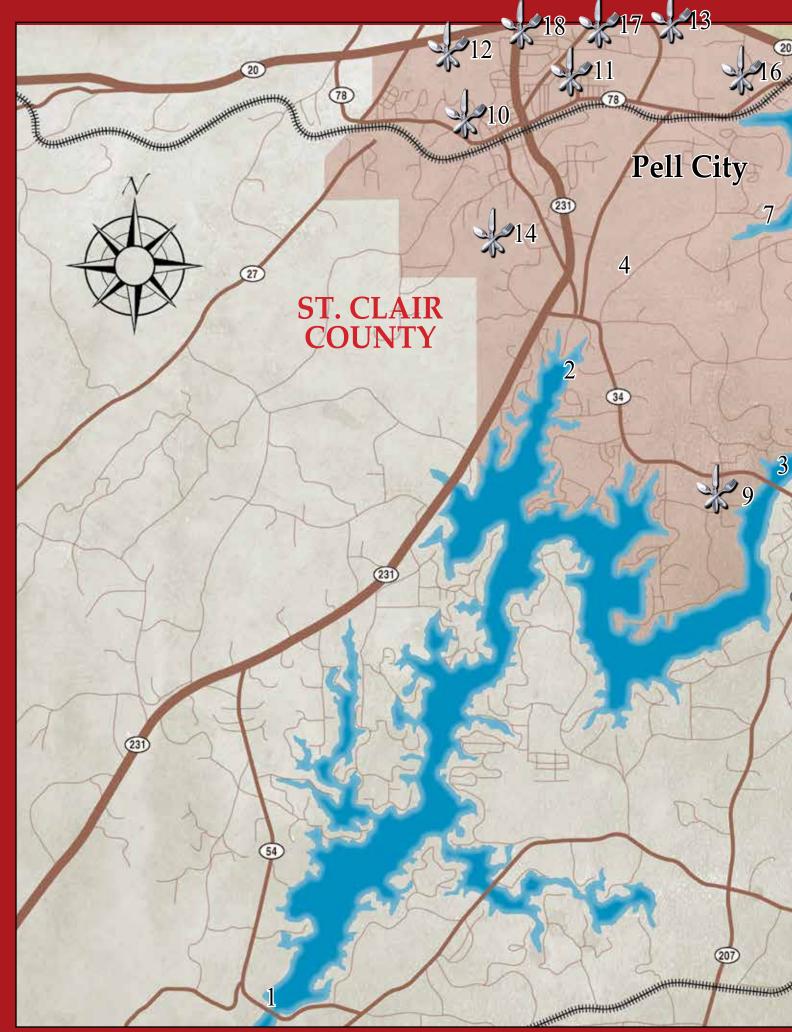
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The Rock Stage is sponsored by Lickert Paving, Trussell, Funderburg, Rea & Bell P.C. law firm, Northside Medical Associates, WKW Erbsloeh North America and Goodgame Company.

- 6-7:15 p.m. will feature Jamison Taylor & the Gypsy Cab Co.
- 7:15-8:30 p.m. will feature Sonic Stew
- 8:30 p.m.-close will feature Vintage 6

The Country Stage is sponsored by CenturyLink, Fields/ Gossett Realty, BB&T Bank, Alabama Power Company, TempForce Staffing and Pepsi.

- 6-6:45 p.m. will feature Hipp Music
- 6:45-7:30 p.m. will feature Madibeth
- 7:30-8:30 p.m. will feature Memory Lane
- 8:30 p.m.-close will feature Johnathan East Band The Motown Stage is sponsored by The Daily Home & St. Clair Times.
- 6 p.m.-close will feature Silk e Smooth Show Band
   The Inspirational Stage is sponsored by Harvest Center

Church of God, Coosa Valley Electric Cooperative, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama and Jack's Hamburgers.

- Joey Kay
- Victory Christian Church Band
- The Layton's
- DPB
- Harvest Center "Rend"

The Multi-Performance Stage in the Teen Block is sponsored by Metro Bank and Sisson Pell City Septic Tank.

- Hayden Tumlin
- Pell City Line Dancers.
- Studio Starrz
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# Logan Martin Homes

A Real Estate Property Guide for Logan Martin Lake and Surrounding Areas



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Love this house?



# Too Much to Mention Here

# See this beauty for yourself

Story by BILL KIMBER Photos by BRIAN SCHOENHALS

There's too much comfort, convenience and charm to fit in one story in this house on Lay Lake. Its three bedrooms and two and a half baths are contained in one and a half stories plus a basement, with a covered wraparound porch, large level lot and a lake-fed sprinkler system for the yard.

"It's a large house – three levels including the basement - so it offers a lot of room for people who might have a lot of family and friends who come to visit," said listing agent Ruth Berry of Atkinson Real Estate in Sylacauga.

"There's not a steep incline, so you can walk right out to the water."

The house at 150 Cedar Shores Drive was built in 2007. Its 4,454 square feet with brick and vinyl siding on the exterior. Inside, there's a master suite with garden tub on the main level, along with an open living room with gas fireplace, a dining room with bay window, spacious open kitchen and a half-bath.

The kitchen features a convection oven, electric range,

built-in dishwasher and disposer, and a breakfast nook.

Upstairs, there are two bedrooms with dormer windows and a bathroom. And downstairs, there's an unfinished daylight basement with a working laundry room and gas fireplace. Plumbing is stubbed in for a full bathroom downstairs.

The house features recessed lighting, and the floors are carpet and slate.

Heating and cooling is with an electric heat pump, and there are two water heaters. Sewer is a septic system, and utilities are underground. The lot also features a dock and a workshop.

Located about four miles from Fayetteville with easy access to Childersburg or Sylacauga, the house is in the Talladega County school district.

Listing price is \$335,000. To see this or other fine Lakeside homes, contact Ruth Berry at Atkinson Real Estate, 256-245-6782.

# Learning A Lot Through the Tough Years Pays Off

A lake specialist who feels her calling 205-338-6683

#### BY BILL KIMBER

Stephanie Hurst knows Logan Martin Lake like the back of her hand, and she loves using that knowledge to help clients become homebuyers.

"I got my real estate license after the 2008 crash, so I didn't come into business when it was easy," she said. "I've had to go out and work it and learn it and build relationships with clients and work to make deals happen.

"I've always had to work for it, and I love it," Hurst said. "I love the challenge. Sometimes you work your heart out and it doesn't come through; other times you work your heart out and it feels great to be at the closing table."

Hurst was born in Alabama, but lived in Louisiana for a few years as a child, then in Maytown, Texas, from third grade through high school.

She returned to her native state in 2000 and attended the University of Alabama.

"I never really knew what I wanted to do, but I knew I wanted to be in business and public relations," she said.

After college, Hurst worked in Birmingham at a company that deals with foreclosed homes. Her job was as a liaison between mortgage companies, foreclosure companies and the broker, and her tasks included overseeing foreclosed properties such as



having them cleaned and boarded up and having lawns mowed regularly.

Her husband, Tad Hurst, is from Talladega, and is a swimming pool contractor in construction, repair and maintenance in several counties.

They are the parents of Daniel, 3; and Michael, 2 months.

After they moved to Talladega County, Hurst met Nancy Locklar of Realty Executives Complete. She got her real estate license four years ago and has worked with Realty Executives Complete since then.

"I really feel like I've found what I am supposed to do," she said. "I can't wait to jump back into it with both feet after my baby gets a little bigger. You build lasting relationships, and I think that's important."

The firm specializes in lake properties.

"We have a very strong team and we take pride in our agents knowing the lake very well," she said. "It's great to see how happy the clients are. You never run into the same thing twice, and it's always a learning experience. It keeps you on your toes, which is a lot of fun."

Hurst can be reached at 205-338-6683 or stephaniehurst@outlook.com. To see her current listings, visit http://realtyexecutives.com/Agents/Stephanie\_Hurst/?search=true.





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\$334,900. TALLADEGA Awesome sunset view with year round water, a floating pier & a lake pump with a 20 gal holding tank! This gentle

burning fireplace. The kitchen features tile flooring, oversized double ovens, abundance of countertop space, gas cook top, dishwasher, built-in microwave, a bar area & a spacious eat-in area. The Master BR has a great view of the water and an exit to a screened porch! The Master BA has 2 walk-in closets, 2 sinks, a tub & separate shower. Downstairs has 2 BR and a den,kitchen/game room & an office! The large decks on both levels are great for entertaining.



CITY \$112,000. Nice & clean 3BR/2BA on approx. 1.3 acres, with cir-cle drive, big front porch, out bldg, all appliances remain, huge kitchen island with storage,2 living areas. MLS#593747



PELL CITY \$159,900. Gorgeous Cape Cod Style home in Down Town Pell City. The back yard is fenced, plus a fenced off area for the dogs with a dog house. Separate garage apartment, The home offers original heart pine floors and arched door ways. For the men there is a work shop just outside your door.



CROPWELL \$424,900. Great 4BR/4BA waterfront home sold with adjoining lot that has 3 covered RV parking spaces & storage building. Very spacious open floor plan, large open kitchen with pan-try. Out of this world Master suite with huge closet & 2 sitting areas. 4th BR/Office separate from main

house. 2 car garage with 4 car carport, low maintenance inside and out, 2 large decks, patio, boat launch, beautiful tile floors, MUST SEE! MLS#575269



CITY \$149,900. Cute all brick 4BR/2BA with bonus room and nice fenced backyard. attic, 2 car garage. MLS#589452



LINCOLN \$199,900. LO-GAN MARTIN LAKE access home on large lot. 3BR/3BA with hardwood floors, split bedrooms, large dining room with wainscoating, attic stor-age. Fenced backyard is Perfect for pool or kids swing set, Convenient to 1-20 & Honda, Community swim

area & boat launch just a golf cart ride away. Large deck, basement den and full bath. MLS#568506



LINCOLN \$121,900. Like new 3BR/2BA in nice neighborhood with open floor plan, level lot, private backyard, garage. MLS#573448



PELL CITY \$264,900. Nice 3BR/2BA home on Logan Martin lake in nice Skyline SD. Kitchen has granite counters, hardwood floors throughout, generator in basement, new pier. MLS#587905



PELL CITY \$189,900. Large 3BR/2BA home on large lot in Pine Harbor SD. Remodeled, state of the art kitchen with granite counters. Great screened porch, double garage, fruit trees, unfinished basement has lots of poten-tial. Near Golf Course & Marina. MLS#592022



PELL CITY \$119,900. Cute country setting, nice 3BR/2BA with cedar siding, on level shaded lot. Beautiful backyard, 2 decks, hot tub. 2 living spaces, granite counters, wood-burnstove in Great room with vaulted ceilings, pella windows, 2 heat pumps, unique solar sys. heat. MLS#585536





CITY \$79,900. \$79,900. great little horse farm, convenient town, on approx 5 acres, fenced & crossfenced. stall barns &



out buildings, fruit trees, Home has 2BR/1BA, big country front porch, huge kitchen. ML\$#582110



\$109,900. Like new 3BR/2BA in nice neighborhood with open floor plan, level lot, private backyard, garage. MLS#573448





PELL CITY \$549,000. This is the deal of the century, 2 homes for the price of one. 4 acres with a beautiful pond. Both homes are approximately 2000 square feet each. The main house has 3 BR and 2 BA, large great room with a fireplace plus a double car garage. The master shower is to die for, 6x6 with 4 shower heads. The second home has a huge pavilion with a hot tub and grilling area. This home has 3 BR and 2 BA. The master bath has a big soaking tub.

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#### 5031 FOREST DRIVE - \$249,900

Spacious waterfront home on Logan Martin Lake with floor to ceiling windows to view the lake. 3 bedroom 2-1/2 baths. Main level master bedroom, spacious foyer, family room, kitchen with pantry and breakfast room. Upstairs loft area with 2nd den or sunroom, 2 bedrooms and a full bath. One car garage with laundry area that was previously located in kitchen pantry and 1/2 bath in basement. Metal roof less than 4 years old, newly constructed boat house with lift, seawall and large storage building and garage. Downstairs sunroom equipped with hot tub to remain. Beautiful view of stemley bridge.Contact Paula Blair for more information at 205.812.5290.





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176 River Pine Lane, Talladega MLS#509253 \$2,900,000



794 Killough Ln., Talladega MLS#567748 \$1,500,000



740 River Oaks Dr., Cropwell MLS#578320 \$799,900



**386 Lakeview Circle, Alpine**MLS#520662 **\$549,900** 



152 Haven Point Riverside MLS#570725 \$549,900



205 Cove Dr., Pell City MLS#578854 \$449,900



187 Lakeland Hills Dr., Cropwell MLS#583092 \$449,900



1154 Funderburg Bend Rd, Pell City MLS#562184 \$449,900



200 Hunter Ridge Ln. Pell City MLS#577765 \$435,900



130 Eagle Pointe Way, Pell City MLS#594465 \$425,000



890 Black Acres Rd., Cropwell MLS#596987 \$399.900



338 Roberts Cir., Lincoln MLS#573489 \$389,000



Pell City
MLS#587730
\$369,900



593 Cove Point Dr., Riverside MLS#555430 \$299,900



5009 Masters Rd., Pell City MLS#557441 \$285,900



110 Hunter Ridge Ln., Pell City MLS#593115 \$259,900



98 Traweek Ln., Pell City MLS#592405 \$259,000



3933 Griffitt Bend Rd., Talladega MLS#559498 \$255,000



111 Paradise Isle #111, Riverside MLS#564664 \$209,9000



Talladega

MLS#527722

\$199,900



580 Seminole Trail, Pell City MLS#536149 \$189,900



660 Ridgeway Cir., Talladega MLS#581445 \$169,900



O Lake Hills Dr. Talladega MLS#559523 \$149,900



979 Coosa Island Rd., Cropwell MLS#591412 \$109,900



538 Wood River Ln., Talladega MLS#594642 \$99,900





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Ronnie Foster, 205-965-<u>969</u>7 email: ronniefoster@centurytel.net www.realtyprospc.com



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LOGAN MARTIN LAKE PRIVATE ESTATE \$1,199,000. Approx 6 acres on 1000' water-front with seawall. Beautiful Vanishing Edge Salt Water Pool with fountain & surrounding patio overlooking lake. One level, views of the lake from all rooms. 4BR/4.5 BA, Beautiful Dining room, Huge Gathering Room Kitchen with Australian Verde Fire Granite, Wet Bar, amazing cabinetry. Luxurious Master with Jet tub, Steam Shower, coffered ceilings, dressing closets, adioning study w/

ceilings, dressing closets, adjoining study w/FP. Gazebo w/swing & Playground. Covered boathouse, 2 electric wenches, Seaplane Hangar &

covered boat slip w/lift. Landscaped & wooded for privacy. A fishing HOT SPOT. Guest House with Kitchen/Living combo, bath, laundry, private deck. Playground, beach volleyball area plus 2nd boat dock, fenced yard & 2nd stone patio. MUST SEE! MLS#498718









TALLADEGA \$599,000. Fantastic home on Logan Martin Lake, sits on approx. 3.38 acres with over 350 ft of waterfrontage. Perfect for large family or enter-taining, this home has 4 or 5BR/3.5 BA. Amazing Master bedroom and bath with Amazing Master bedroom and bath with all the extras. Nice sunroom, 2 laundry rooms, terrific kitchen with solid surface coumters, large pantry & formal dining room. Multiple entertaining areas, four decks, hot tub, screened tile porch, pagoda, launch, huge pier, garden shed and garage/workshop. MLS#549580



LINCOLN \$329,000. Large 1 level Large 1 level 4BR/3BA home on Logan Martin Lake. Very well-built, needs some carpet & paint, basement with 2 en-trances. MLS# 595462





LINCOLN \$159,900. Nice wooded lake lot in gorgeous Eastland Shores Subdivision. Approx 1.37 acres, 158 ft of deep waterfront, great view, 2 mi from I-20 @ Em-bry Crossroads exit. MLS# 576132





PELL CITY \$589,000. Unique custom-built home on Pine Harbor Golf Course, with Lake Harbor Golf Course, with Lake access, 3BR/3.5BA, open floor plan, kitchen with granite, great room with lots of windows, sunken dining with glass walls, perfect for entertaining. Amazing Foyer with 18 ft ceiling. Lots of extras, travertine & marble floors, handmade mahogany doors, solid limestone fireplace, 2-2 car garages, lifetime terracotta roof, and beautifully landscaped with beautifully landscaped with 16 station irrigation system. MLS#551527





PELL CITY \$180,000. Nice 3BR/1BA on approx 1.5 acres on Logan Martin Lake. Spacious great room with stone fireplace & open

kitchen. Basement can be 3rd BR or rec room, plus huge deck for entertaining, with extra storage underneath. Great boating/fishing amenities, 2 piers, seawall & launch. MLS#547095





NEW LISTING! PELL CITY \$325,000. Nice 5BR/3BA lake home on 2 lots, with boat launch, pier, seawall, covered pavilion, fenced in sections. 20 x 40 pool, 4-5 ft deep with new cover. MLS#594959



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- 1147 Baylor Court - NEW CONSTRUCTION, nice 3 bedroom, split foyer located in Hillstone Subdivision.

Large family room and nice kitchen with granite counter tops, covered porch off the back and unfinished basement with 2-car garage, located on a cul de sac lot. MLS #582455 Call Scott 368-8138



\$279,900 - River Ranch Rd. - PELL CITY AREA for this 111 ACRES with mature pine and mixed timber, green fields and abundant wildlife. MLS #530928. Call Blair 812-5377











\$448,500 - 477 Aradon Farms - QUALITY 4 bedroom. 4 bath Executive Estate with many amenities. Main level and basement parking, split bedroom design, formal living and dining room and refurbished kitchen with solid surface counter tops. Enjoy the privacy with covered patio and rock water fall. MLS #558310 Call Bill 369-7977 Jeff 405-1649 or Tony 281-1317



\$199,900 - 380 Oak Leaf Cr. - Fabulous master hedroom with walk-in closets, stone-tiled shower and jetted tub. Full bath upstairs with 2 large bedrooms with double door closets. Can use bonus room as 4th bedroom, Crown moulding and vaulted ceiling in living room, 2- car garage and fenced backyard. MLS #569028. Call Tina



\$138,900 - 369 Fox Run Lane - QUIET LIV-ING in this 3 bedroom, 2 bath one level home in Fox Hollow with Community Pool, pavillion, underground utilities and sidewalks. Convenient to I-20, shopping and restaurants. MLS #578061, Call Liza at 246-1456









\$529,900 - 229 Osprey Dr. - WOW! Walk in the front door and you will never want to leave such a VIEW! Main Channel with year round water with

this 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath brick and siding home that

has greatroom with fireplace, dining room and office. The master bedroom has a sitting area and is easily

accessed to the screened in porch, the inground

pool is salt water with cook decking and plus a new boathouse.. MLS #593496 Call Mary 205/586-0825



\$299,900 - 268 Lakeview Circle - GREAT LAKE ENJOYMENT - with this one level brick and vinyl bungalow that has many updates. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths with potential for another bedroom if playroom is utilitized, living room with fireplace, eat-in kitchen and large sunroom. 2-car garage, boat port, seawall and gentle slope lot with year round water. MLS #595558. Call Brenda 812-4141



\$389,900 - 986 Merkle Lane - 6 bedroom, 4.5 bath home on approx. 2 acres with greatroom with fireplace, built-in bookcases, family room upstairs, plus office space and bonus room, sunrooms overlooking pond and the home has main level garage plus basement parking. MLS #594238. Call Carl 965-4755 or Michelle 427-3222













\$499,500 - 119 Valley View Cir - FIRST

\$309,900 - 70 Fritz Dr. - SOUTHERN ELEGANCE with this inviting 4/5 bedroom, 4.5 bath 1.5 story home with nice amenities. The home has a large living room with fireplace, formal dining room and fantastice kitchen. The master bedroom is oversized with a sitting area, located on the main level with the other four upstairs. Basement includes a den another bedroom and full bath with room for additional expansions. MLS #592268 Call Blair 205/812-5377



TIME ON THE MARKET - (2) Beautiful gentle sloping lots with a full brick 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath 1.5 story home with newly updated kitchen, family room with fireplace, dining room and (2) large country porches, large shoreline with pier. MLS #568076 Call Lawrence 812-5195







Tina Stallings







\$625,000 - 601 River Forest Lane FABULOUS custome built 5 bedroom, 4 bath home with full finished basement. Dream kitchen with granite counter, hardwood and slate flooring, screened porch, basement has den and 2nd kitchen and full bath. Seawall, launch, covered pier with lift. MLS # 595235 Call Jenny 405-0280

\$195,000 - 285 Hillstone Dr. - NICE one level 3 bedroom, 3 bath home with family room, dining room and partially finished basement with 2-car garage, located convenient to town and I-20. MLS #585324. Call Adam at 369-2704

\$89,900 - 788 Ridgeway Circle - LAKE ACCESS with this 2 bedroom, 2 bath home located in an area with many amenities including community pool and tennis court. MLS # 595941. Call Nan 256/452-4761









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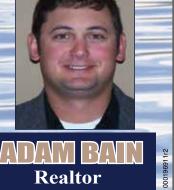


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