For tickets or more information, call (877) Go2-Dega or visit TalladegaSuperspeedway.com

## Local events, eats, entertainment and camping for





## inside



Life in the Pit Meet No. 19 car crew member Kerry Ferris. P14

Oct. 23 - 25, 2015

## RACE WEEKEND IN TALLADEGA / ST. CLAIR COUNTY











Can he do it?
Heading into 'Dega,
Dale Earnhart Jr.
is on the outside
looking in. P16

One more time Jeff Gordon looks to make one more lasting memory at Talladega. P8

## A familiar name returns



Recently, Marcus Lemonis, Chairman and CEO of Camping World and Good Sam Enterprises, and Talladega Superspeedway announced that the fall NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race, on Sunday, Oct. 25 at NASCAR's Most Competitive Track, will be known as the Camping World.com 500.

The partnership rekindles a relationship between Talladega Superspeedway and Camping World that existed from 2011-2013 when the company served as the entitlement sponsor for the fall NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race at Talladega. The CampingWorld.com 500 will be the anchor event of an exciting weekend (Oct. 23-25) that will also feature the fred's 250 Powered by Coca-Cola NASCAR Camping World Truck Series™ race.

Plans are for Lemonis to serve as Grand Marshal of the CampingWorld.com 500. Many know him as the "business turnaround king" and star of CNBC's prime time reality series, The Profit, in which he lends his expertise to struggling small businesses around the country and judges businesses based on a "Three P" principle: People, Process, and Product. The new season of the show is expected to premiere later that week.

"We are thrilled to have Marcus and Camping World back in the Talladega

Superspeedway family," said Talladega Superspeedway Chairman Grant Lynch. "It is a world class company with a sterling reputation and a great fit with our passionate fans that will travel in their RVs from all over the country to witness this anticipated event.

The CampingWorld.com 500 will be extra special this year since it is the third and final race of The Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup's Contender Round.

Through its nationwide network of SuperCenters, Camping World offers a wide variety of products and services to suit the outdoor lifestyle, including RVs, camping accessories, RV maintenance and repair. Camping World has served as title sponsor of the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series<sup>TM</sup> since 2009 in addition to being the Official RV and Outdoor Retailer of NASCAR®.

The CampingWorld.com 500 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race on Sunday, Oct. 25 (starting at 1:30 p.m.) will be the deciding race in the NASCAR Chase for the Sprint Cup Contender Round in which the championship field will be cut from 12 to eight at the checkered flag.

From TalladegaSuperspeedway.com
 Visit today for ticket info and more

#### **Support Our Partners**



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TempForce
Logan Landing RV
Golden Rule Bar-B-Q
Jefferson's
Ricky Bobby RV

Big Deddy's El Cazador Wheeler's Wheels Tina's Home Cooking First Class Pizza The Broiler Room Two Friends Florist

## 4 will be eliminated It's Race Week at Talladega!

After his second consecutive win Sunday, Joey Logano is the only driver who has punched his ticket to the Eliminator Round in the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup. While he can breathe a sigh of relief, Sunday's CampingWorld.com 500 will be filled with stress and anxiety for the remaining 11 drivers in the Contender Round, which will see the Chase-eligible drivers trimmed to eight at the checkered flag.

With a win, a Chase driver can automatically advance to the Eliminator Round of eight. Heading to Talladega, a couple of the sport's biggest names will likely need just that – a trip to Talladega's Gatorade Victory Lane.

Six-time Talladega winner Dale Earnhardt, Jr., who triumphed earlier this year in the GEICO 500, sits 11th in the standings, 31 points out of the eighth and final transfer spot while Matt Kenseth, who won at the 2.66-mile venue in 2012, is mired in 12th, 35 points behind first. No one, other than Logano, is guaranteed to advance to the next round because of the tight points battle. Second through 10th is separated by only 20 points, and with unpredictable Talladega, the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup is wide open at NASCAR's Most Competitive track.

Here are the incredibly close Chase standings with the cut-off of eighth place:

- 1: Joey Logano (secured spot in Eliminator Round);
- 2: Denny Hamlin (+18 ahead of ninth place)
- 3: Kurt Busch (+13)
- 4: Carl Edwards (+12)
- 5: Kevin Harvick (+7),
- 6: Jeff Gordon (+7)
- 7: Brad Keselowski (+7)
- 8: Martin Truex (+6)
- 9: Kyle Busch (-6 behind eighth)
- **10:** Ryan Newman (-8)
- 11: Dale Earnhardt, Jr. (-31)
- **12:** Matt Kenseth (-35)

Saturday's fred's 250 Powered by Coca-Cola will also feature a hotly contested battle for the season-long NCWTS title with just five races remaining. Young gun Erik Jones leads the standings by just four points over veteran Matt Crafton, with defending fred's 250 Powered by Coca-Cola pole winner Tyler Reddick 16 behind. Neither of the trio has ever won at Talladega. Crafton's best finish is fourth (2010). Both Jones and Reddick will be making their second start after solid runs in their initial attempt at TSS a year ago. Reddick was fourth while Jones was sixth.

Talladega's weekend kicks off on Friday (Oct. 23) with practice sessions for both the fred's 250 Powered by Coca-Cola and the CampingWorld.com 500. Saturday's (Oct. 24) slate includes qualifying (9:30 am CDT) and the green flag for the fred's 250 Powered by Coca-Cola (starting at noon CDT), with Foodland/Food Giant qualifying for the CampingWorld.com 500 at 3:15 pm CDT. The green flag will drop Sunday (Oct. 25) on the CampingWorld.com 500 at 1:30 pm CDT.

Here are other key news items for what promises to be an incredible weekend.

- From TalladegaSuperspeedway.com

Visit today for ticket info and more

## Experience a racing tradition at Talladega RV



#### Talladega RV

Located on Speedway Blvd (770) 926-0939 talladegarvpark.com Find the park on Facebook.



#### **Family-Owned Friendly Atmosphere Spacious Sites**

- 298 water and electric sites that all accommodate pullthrough
- Water and electric sites have a maximum RV length of 60 feet
- Each site has electric and water access with either 30 or 50 AMP's available for hookup
- "Dry" RV camping sites without access to electric (water is available at dump station)
- Two dump stations on site
- Easy access to ice, firewood, and race/NASCAR memorabilia
- Travel trailers available for rent during race week

n 2001, 78 acres of farmland was converted into an RV campground. This change was made after the sound of NASCAR engines began to replace the hum of tractors in Talladega.

The pastime of racing at Talladega is almost matched by the tradition of camping the week of the race. The main demand for being a prime option for race week camping is simply being as close to the track as possible. Fortunately for race fans, there is an RV park literally next door to the track.

Talladega RV Park is a family-owned and operated business that is located right next to Talladega Super Speedway. From the

campground, guests are half a mile away from the raceway's west entrance and have a clear view of the grandstand.

When the park opened in 2001, the former farmland turned into a small RV park, with just 30 sites. Since then, the park has continued to grow, and now holds 298 sites, spread spaciously across acres of land.

"We have some of the most spacious sites available," John Harper said. "We don't cram everyone next to each other."

Each site is 40' x 60'. This gives campers the ability to park their cars on site and have an outside area where they can grill and hang out.

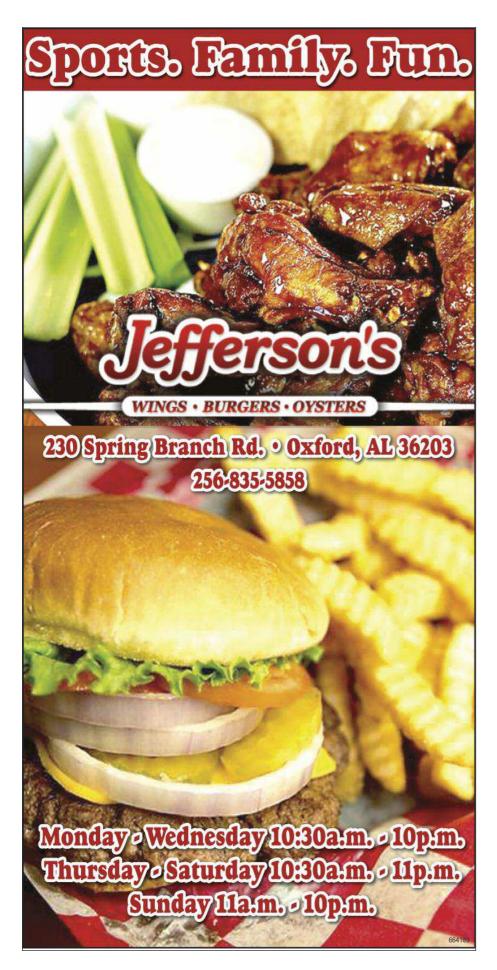
In addition to having an incredible view of the track's grandstand, the park itself has plenty of amenities to offer. It is a fully equipped RV park with each spot offering full hookups for guests. Bicycles, golf carts, scooters, and 4-wheelers are all allowed on the property. The park is also pet friendly.

The park itself is an open field of grass with trees offering some shade for campers.

The friendly atmosphere the family business provides has earned Talladega RV lifelong customers. The campground is now owned by John Harper and his cousin, Al Craig. They took over the business from their mothers, who originally opened the

"I see a lot of familiar faces," Harper said. "It's nice to be able to walk around and visit with the regulars."

For those interested in camping but do not own an RV, rentals are now available through the park. For more information on the RV park or to make a reservation, call (770) 926-0939, visit the website at talladegarvpark.com or find the park on Facebook.





## Fan Experiences and Opportunities

#### Team Chevy and American Cancer Society Breast Cancer Awareness Program



On Saturday, Chevrolet and American Cancer Society will team up to provide an onsite Breast Cancer Survivor/Awareness program. The program will consist of survivor Pink Pace car rides, a private autograph session and brunch afterwards in Legends Village.

#### **Bama Bier Garden**

"Bama Bier Garden" offers Talladega Superspeedway fans a place to indulge in some great local refreshments. Located in Horsepower Plaza outside the track behind the frontstretch, fans will have a chance to partake in the "Bama Bier Garden's" 40-foot full bar stocked with the traditional spread of Miller, Coors and Budweiser beers as well as a selection of savory beers that are brewed right here in Alabama. Local flavors to be featured include Back Forty Beer Company based out of Gadsden and Trim Tab Brewing Co., out of Birmingham.

#### Pit Pass Upgrade

Fans that purchase Talladega's "Pit Pass Upgrade," can have access to the pre-race driver introductions plus the Fan Q&A with some of NASCAR's most notable drivers and personalities, prior to the start of Sunday's CampingWorld.com

500. Scheduled to appear for Q&A are Chase Contenders Dale Earnhardt, Jr. and Kyle Busch, along with Austin Dillon, Sam Hornish, Jr., Kyle Larson, David Gilliland, Rusty Wallace and Miss Coors Light. The session is set to begin at 9:40 am and conclude at 11:30 am. Pre-race festivities are set for 12:50 pm.

Not only can fans get an up-close look at NASCAR's finest with the Pit Pass Upgrade, but they can also take in other festive pre-race activities, which include the ability to witness the Red Carpet Entry into the Drivers Meeting and an up-close look at the cars lined up on pit road. The Pit Pass Upgrade is \$75. To obtain, call 1-877-Go2-DEGA.

#### **Pricing**

Kids 12-and-under receive \$50 off all regular adult ticket pricing throughout the grandstands and towers for the CampingWorld.com 500 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race. In GADSDEN and TALLADEGA Grandstands 2-day sections, kids 12-and-under can sit for FREE, when accompanied by an adult. Kids Grandstand and Tower seats for the fred's 250 Powered by Coca-Cola are FREE as well. Tickets are required for all kids' tickets.

#### NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Kids Autograph Session

NASCAR Sprint Cup Series drivers
Danica Patrick, Aric Almirola, AJ
Allmendinger and Ryan Blaney are
scheduled to appear for a Talladega
Superspeedway special youth autograph
session on Saturday at 10:45 am in the
track's Legends (Hospitality) Village,
located behind the Birmingham Tower

outside the frontstretch.

The first 100 kids (12-and-under) to arrive will have the chance to get an autograph from each driver (limit one per child and time permitting). To pick up a wristband, go to the Main Guest Services Office located at O.V. Hill South Grandstand Section L. Participants will be allowed to start lining up for the youth autograph session at 10:00 am.

#### The Big One on the Blvd

The wildest Mardi-Gras style event in the South will kick off at 6:30 pm Friday in the infield on Talladega Blvd. Fans have the chance to join in on some fierce competitions such as the 'Big One' Eating Contest that will feature the track's famous 1-pound "Big One Meatballs."

Or, they can get down and dirty in "The 'Dega Cherry Chase," a one-of-akind obstacle course, as well as compete in front of NASCAR's top drivers in the traditional Costume Contest. Scheduled drivers to participate in on the festivities include Clint Bowver, Jeff Gordon, Austin Dillon, Ricky Stenhouse, Jr. and many more. The parade is open to all infield guests or fans that have infield admission.

#### "The Big One" Meatball

Race fans can sink their teeth into this "softball-sized" menu item. "The Big One" Meatball has a center of blended Mozzarella and Pepper Jack Cheeses mixed with smoked BBQ Pulled Pork and a little house BBQ sauce for an extra kick. It is then covered by a layer of Ground Beef, rolled in a panko bread crumb and Parmesan mix before being deep fried to a golden brown. It's topped off with a dollop of BBQ sauce and a spaghetti garnish. This mammoth meatball, like Talladega Superspeedway, is the biggest of its kind and weighs in at over 1 pound. Purchase "The Big One" Meatball at concession stands in the Gadsden and O.V. Hill South Grandstands along the frontstretch.

For tickets or more information, call (877) Go2-Dega or visit TalladegaSuperspeedway.com



- 1. Radiator Air Intake: Directs outside air into the radiator to cool engine fluids.
- 2. Brake Air Intakes: Direct outside air to brake discs and rotors for additional cooling.
- 3. Hood Pins: Four, quick-release metal pins with wire tethers that keep the hood closed.
- 4. Cowl Induction: Housing for the air cleaner that connects the air intake at the base of the windshield to the throttle body.
- 5. Body Panels: Fabricated from 24-gauge/0.0247-inch (minimum) coldrolled sheet metal.
- 6. Roll Cage: A cage of steel tubing inside the car that protects the driver during impacts and rollovers.
- 7. Jack Post: Where the jackman places the jack to lift the car during pit stops.

- 8. Double Frame Rail and Energy Absorbing Material: A combination of steel plating and energy absorbing materials installed in between the roll cage door bars and door panels that attenuate energy upon impact.
- 9. Window Net: Safety device located in the driver-side window that keeps the driver's head and arms inside the car during an accident.
- 10. Roof Strips: Two three-quarter-inchtall aluminum strips which run lengthwise on the roof to help prevent the car from flipping when turned sideways during a spin or accident.
- 11. TV Camera: Allows NASCAR fans to view the racing from the driver's perspective.
- 12. Roof Flaps: Help prevent the car from becoming airborne when it is turned sideways or backwards during a spin or accident.

- 13. Jacking Bolts: Area where the crew uses a tool to adjust the handling of the car by altering the load on the rear springs.
- 14. Cooling Vents: Help remove warm air from the cockpit and help cool critical components inside and at the rear of the car.
- 15. Goodyear Eagle Racing Tires: Treadless radial tires designed specifically for racing.
- 16. Rear Deck Fin: At 3.5 inches tall, it can be the full length of the deck lid (25 inches) but must be a minimum of 17 inches, starting at the front of the deck. This tuning tool adjusts rear sideforce and is made of clear polycarbonate beginning with the 2013 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series season.
- 17. Rear Spoiler: Directs air flowing over the rear of the car, providing down force to improve the handling.

## Race Weekend Event Schedule

#### ON THE TRACK

(NCWTS: NASCAR CAMPING WORLD TRUCK SERIES)

(NSCS: NASCAR SPRINT CUP SERIES)

#### FRIDAY, OCT. 23

Noon-12:55 p.m.: NCWTS Practice 1 p.m.-1:55 p.m.: NSCS Practice

2 p.m.-2:55 p.m.: NCWTS Final Practice 3:30 p.m.-4:25 p.m.: NSCS Final Practice

#### SATURDAY, OCT. 24

9:30 a.m.: Foodland/Food Giant NCWTS Qualifying

11:30 a.m.: NCWTS Driver Introductions

**Noon:** NCWTS fred's 250 (94 Laps, 250.04 Miles) **3:15 p.m.:** Foodland/Food Giant NSCS Qualifying

#### SUNDAY, OCT. 25

1 p.m.: NSCS Driver Intros

1:30 p.m.: NSCS CampingWorld.com 500 (188 Laps, 500.08 Miles)



NASCAR driver Danica Patrick. Photo courtesy of John Gilreath.

#### **OFF THE TRACK**

#### FRIDAY, OCT. 23

Grandstands Open at 11:30 a.m. Day Parking Lots Open at 8 a.m.

## 4-4:45 p.m.: NCWTS Autograph Session

- Hospitality Village behind the Birmingham Tower, outside of the frontstretch
- Drivers scheduled to appear include: Erik Jones, Daniel Hemric, John Hunter Nemechek, Cameron Hayley, Brandon Jones, Christopher Bell, Spencer Gallagher, John Wes Townley, Mason Mingus, Tyler Young, Austin Hill, Chad Boat, Matt Tifft, and Ray Black Jr.

## 6:45 p.m.: The Big One on the Blvd

• Open to all infield guests and 'DEGA Club members, the Big One on the Blvd starts with a parade featuring some of the sport's top drivers. Once the float makes it to the south end of Talladega Blvd., the real party begins with even more fun activities TBA!

## 8 p.m.: Concerts in the Campgrounds

- SOUTH PARK RESERVED: A Band Called River
- NORTH PARK: House of Thomas

#### SATURDAY, OCT. 24

Grandstands Open at 8 a.m.

Day Parking Lots Open at 5 a.m.

## 10:45 a.m.: Youth Autograph Session

Lineup starts at 10 a.m. at the Hospitality Village behind the Birmingham
 Tower, outside the frontstretch

- The first 100 children (12 and under only) to pick up a wristband before 10 a.m. will have the chance to get an autograph from each participating driver (limit one per child and time permitting).
- Drivers scheduled to appear include Danica Patrick, AJ Allmendinger, Aric Almirola, and Ryan Blaney.

## 7:15 p.m.: Infield Concert featuring Easton Corbin

- Infield area behind Eastaboga Blvd
- Fan favorite Tim Dugger will open the show at 7:15 p.m., a DJ will keep the party going at approximately 8:20 p.m., and Easton will take the stage at approximately 9 p.m.
- Open to all infield guests and any race fan presenting a Sunday Camping-World.com 500 race ticket

## 8 p.m.: Concerts in the Campgrounds

- SOUTH PARK RESERVED: A Band Called River
- NORTH PARK: House of Thomas

#### SUNDAY, OCT. 25

Grandstands Open at 8 a.m. Day Parking Lots Open at 5 a.m.

#### 9:30 a.m.: TWEET UP

- Horsepower Plaza in the corner behind the Golden Flake display!
- Mingle with your fellow NASCAR fans and some of NASCAR's elite media members featuring USA Today's Jeff Gluck (@jeff\_gluck) and ESPN's Bob Pockrass (@bobpockrass)!
- Visit talladegasuperspeedway.com to download a map

#### **Pell City**

2108 Cogswell Ave., Pell City (205) 338-3830 Mon-Sat: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

## **Standard Furniture**

#### Where customer satisfaction comes first

#### **Talladega**

809 Battle St. E, Talladega (256) 362-2330 Mon-Sat: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.





**Above**: Standard Furniture store manager Steve Spencer and associate Laura Taylor inside the Pell City location, which opened earlier this year. **Above Right**: Talladega store manager Lisa Gurley and associates Summer Stephens and Brandy Decker behind the counter of the new location on Battle Street. Grand opening ceremonies will be held next month to commemorate the move the store made from downtown Talladega.

Por Standard Furniture, sales have never been the most important part of the business.

For the past 103 years, the franchise has focused on building lasting relationships with its customers. With locations in Pell City and Talladega, Standard Furniture has spent decades serving the area and working with customers to help create the home interior they've always wanted.

#### PELL CITY

Standard Furniture's Pell City store, located on Cogswell Avenue, opened in April of this year. While still new, the staff is very excited about all the possibilities the area has to offer

"We are really pleased to be here," Store

Manager Steve Spencer said. "The people have been great, and we're excited to keep working with the community in the future."

In addition to working to meet the furnishing needs of the community, Standard Furniture is also committed to giving back to the Pell City area. Spencer has plans for his staff and store to be heavily involved in local events and the Chamber of Commerce.

"It's important for us to reach out to the people that surround us," Spencer said. "We want them to know it's not just about selling them a couch, it's about becoming a part of the community."

#### **TALLADEGA**

While selling is a main part of most



### **Talladega Grand Opening**

To commemorate the recent relocation of the store to its current location on East Battle Street, Talladega Standard Furniture will be hosting its grand opening celebration Nov. 6-7. The weekend will be filled with special promotions as a way to welcome the community into the store. For more information, contact the store at **(256) 362-2330.** 

stores' approach, Standard Furniture prides itself on being different. This mindset applies in Standard Furniture's Talladega location as well.

"Nobody on our staff is a salesperson," Credit Manager Summer Stephens said. "We are here to help you, not pressure you into purchasing something you don't want."

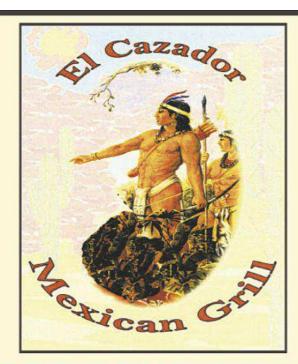
Standard Furniture is focused on building relationships with its customers. These relationships turn people into lifetime customers of the store.

"We want to help customers, first and foremost," Store Manager Lisa Gurley said. "We want to get in people's rooms and try to help create the best design possible."

This focus on service, not selling is what

has gained Standard Furniture the loyal customer base it has. The staff at the Talladega location has decades of experience at the store and is prepared to help you find exactly what you need for your home.

oth Standard Furniture locations offer a delivery option with the purchase of furniture. This includes full assembly of the pieces. In-house financing is also available and everyone is approved. For more information on the store, contact the Pell City location at (205) 338-3830 or the Talladega location at (256) 362-2330.



## **WE'RE BACK!**

Come try us at our new location
Downtown Pell City
inside former Rexall drug store

## DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS

\$6.00 LUNCH SPECIAL WITH DRINK INCLUDED

**Monday - Wednesday Specials** 

12 oz. Regular Lime Margarita

32 oz. Mug Beer

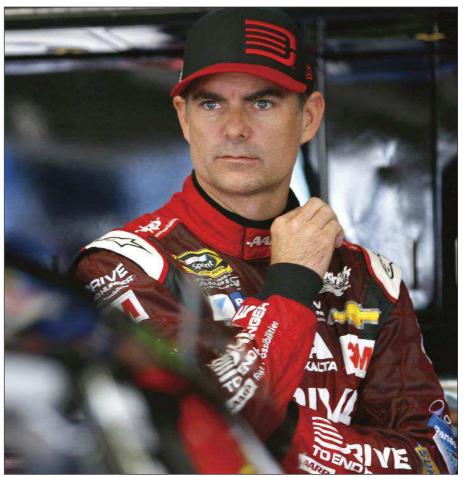
ALL DAY THURSDAY SPECIALS

1901 Cogswell Ave., Pell City, AL 35125

205-338-7585

Open Sun.-Thur. 11 a.m-9 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

## Gordon Looks to Make One



NASCAR driver Jeff Gordon. Photo by Brian Lawdermilk/NASCAR via Getty Images. From NASCARmedia.com

fter the CampingWorld.com 500 on Oct. 25, Jeff Gordon will have plenty of memorable moments

— both on and off the track — to look back on and celebrate.

Gordon currently has six NASCAR Sprint Cup Series wins at Talladega Superspeedway (TSS) to his credit, tying him for second on the track's all-time winners list with Dale Earnhardt Jr. This weekend, he will not only be trying to move into sole possession of second place on that list behind Dale Earnhardt Sr.'s 10 career TSS wins, he will also be trying to keep alive his hopes of winning a fifth career championship by surviving the riveting Contender Round of the 2015 Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup.

With another triumph at NASCAR's Most Competitive Track, the driver of the

No. 24 Chevrolet would be guaranteed to be one of the eight drivers to advance to the Chase's Eliminator Round, keeping his "Drive for Five" alive and well.

"I've had some great memories at Talladega, some big wins," Gordon said. "I learned from Dale Earnhardt Sr. about racing on restrictor plate tracks, watching him at Talladega do things that I didn't think were possible. A few years later I took that knowledge, utilized it and got some wins there. It's something I'm very proud of, especially one in particular."

The victory he referenced came in the spring race of 2004 when a late caution came out as he and Dale Earnhardt Jr. battled it out for the win. It appeared that Dale Jr. would make a late-race pass on Gordon, but when the caution flew, that wasn't the case. Enforcing a rule it had

## Last Great Talladega Memory



Attorney Lance Bell of Pell City with NASCAR driver Jeff Gordon during Race weekend in April 2015 at Talladega Superspeedway. **Photo courtesy of Lance Bell.** 

implemented in late 2003 that prohibited racing back to the flag when the yellow came out, NASCAR froze the field. At that exact point, Dale Jr., while in the process of making the pass, didn't when the caution came out, keeping Gordon out front.

What followed was pure chaos as spectators pelted the track and Gordon's car with beverage cans along with other debris as he took his victory lap.

"The caution came out at the perfect time when I was racing Dale Jr.," Gordon said. "Of course the fans all thought he was ahead of me. You're in Junior Nation in Talladega, and you don't want it to be a controversial call against Dale Earnhardt Jr. They (NASCAR) went back and said we were the winner, and the place erupted and went crazy."

### Some of Gordon's other memorable TSS moments include:

- Making his TSS debut in a NASCAR XFINITY Series race in July 1992. He started 28th and finished a respectable 11th that day driving for owner Bill Davis.
- Visiting Victory Lane at Talladega for the first time in July 1996. Though the race was shortened due to inclement weather, it didn't dampen the day for Gordon, who recorded the sixth of his 10 wins that season.
- Recording his 50th career victory by charging from the 36th starting spot in the spring 2000 race. Despite starting deep in the field, Gordon sliced his way through the

front to take the lead with six laps to go and held on for the milestone victory.

- Annihilating the field in the spring 2005 race to record his fourth career TSS victory. After leading 139 of the 188 laps, Gordon said "This is the most dominating performance we've ever had on a plate track. Talladega is not a handling track. It's pure speed and, man, this car had it."
- Sweeping both races in 2007, including a win in the spring race that wasn't short of historical importance. Gordon's win on April 29, 2007 was his 77th, moving past Dale Earnhardt Sr. for sixth on NASCAR's all-time win list. Ironically, this occurred on what would have been Earnhardt's 56th birthday and once again, unhappy fans of "The Intimidator," showered the track with beverage cans and debris.

"I know there are a lot of fans out there that probably didn't want us to win this race today but nobody had more respect for Dale Earnhardt than I did, and everything I learned from him I applied it out there on the race track today," Gordon said afterwards. "It was a great victory."

Later that year, his victory in the 2007 fall race provided an unforgettable family moment. His daughter, Ella, who had been born just the previous June, made her first trip to Gatorade Victory Lane with her father.

From TalladegaSuperspeedway.com
 Visit today for ticket info and more

## Celebrate Autumn's Arrival at Logan Landing RV



Spend this Halloween on the banks of Logan Martin Lake!

On Oct. 31, Logan Landing will host its annual Fall Festival. This event offers something for everyone to enjoy and will be taking place from 10 a.m.-11 p.m.

Businesses and vendors will have booths set up during the day. There will be food, drinks and amusement rides for guests to enjoy. Live music will be providing more entertainment throughout the day at the campground's stage.

Beginning at 5:30 p.m., trick or treating will begin for children at the festival. There will be a costume contest at 6:30 p.m. and guests are encouraged to attend in their costume.

One of the main attractions at the festival is the Trail of Terror that the campground hosts from 7-11 p.m. the day of the event. Guests are taken through the wooded area of the park in a tractor-pulled wagon. On the trail, they will encounter all the horrors of a haunted forest.

"The Fall Festival is a great way to introduce people to our campground," Office Manager Suzi Varela said. "It also provides our guests with a fun event to spend time with other guests and community members."

Logan Landing is an RV resort and campground located alongside Logan Martin

Lake, in Alpine. The property offers guests 140 acres of land, lake, and river to explore while they stay in their camper or rented cottage.

The campground has entranced quite a few guests to make it a permanent fixture in their life. It is not uncommon for guests who came for a quick getaway to end up extending their stay as a result of the beautiful scenery and spacious grounds.

"We have a lot of guests that end up purchasing a campsite here," Varele said. "It is a very warm environment, our customers become like a big family."

Admission to the Fall Festival is free and the event is open to the public. For more information on the event or the campground, contact Logan Landing at (256) 268-0045 or loganlandingcabinresort.com.

## Logan Landing RV Fall Festival

Oct.31 from 10 a.m.-11 p.m.
Call Logan Landing at
(256) 268-0045 or visit
loganlandingcabinresort.com



## Saturday Night Infield Concert Featuring

## **EASTON CORBIN**



ward-winning Mercury Nashville recording artist Easton Corbin will thrill Talladega

Superspeedway fans with his unique style of country music as the headliner for the track's traditional Saturday Night Infield Concert, Oct. 24.

Corbin's third album, About To Get

Real, was released in June 2015 and has been compared to Alan Jackson, George Strait and the late Keith Whitley. He has been described by the American Songwriter magazine as having "one of those rare, glorious voices that was made — just made — for singing country music."

Corbin vaulted onto the country scene in 2009 with a self-titled debut album that produced two No. 1 singles, numerous awards and nominations, and blockbuster tours with some of country's biggest current acts like Rascal Flatts, Blake Shelton and Brad Paisley.

While at Talladega Superspeedway, Corbin will rock the rowdy infield crowd of the biggest and baddest racetrack on the planet well into the night at the intersection of Eastaboga and Talladega Boulevards. The best part about the concert is that admission is free with the purchase of a Sunday race ticket for the Alabama 500 (starting at 1:30 p.m.).





#### **Top Trails Director** Wes Pope , far right, stops to pet Blue, the unofficial Top Trails mascot. Above and right, the park features about 100 miles of trails made to be enjoyed by riders on dirt bikes, ATVs and other types of outdoor equip-





# Top Trails

Miles of Adventure in Your Backyard

### More to Explore

Bunkers used to store equipment during WWII are located throughout the park. These rounded, concrete buildings are available for annual rent. Guests wishing to extend their stay can rent one for a year for \$300. This provides them with the building, as well as the area outside to set up a campfire.

Annual memberships are also available, with prices decreasing the more people-per-household who join.

Visit toptrails.net or find them on Facebook!

f you're looking for a way to get away for a few hours — or a few days — Top Trails provides the perfect escape. The park has 2,800 acres of hills, mud and mountain, filled with endless trials for dirt bikes. ATVs, 4-wheelers and more.

The park's trails cut through wooded areas, and there are varying levels of difficulty available. A creek cuts through the park, and riders can cross via a new bridge. Mud pits scatter the property as well, adding to trail diversity.

Guests can take the experience a step further on weekends. From when the park opens at 8 a.m. on Fridays until it closes at 8 p.m. on Sundays, the park stays open 24 hours. During those times, guests can ride the trails throughout the day and night and set up a tent to camp anywhere in the park.

"We are the only park that is open around the clock," Park Director Wes Pope said. "It gives people a chance to experience the park after dark."

Since taking the position over three years ago, Pope has been constantly working on improving the park. He has a Kiddie Trail that is open and features gentle terrain for young riders to take on.

Through his constant work to improve the park, Pope works tirelessly to create new trails as often as possible. The park is closed Monday through Wednesday, and those days are dedicated to finding new places to build trails and creating them. This keeps the park updated and gives riders a different experience each time they visit.

Even without the addition of new trails, it would be difficult for riders to run out of places to explore. There are almost 100 miles of trails to be covered.

As of right now, the only camping options are primitive camp tenting. That will all be changing soon, though. The park is working on a fully equipped campground, perfect for RVs and campers. This site will have full

hook ups, and access to the two shower houses located in the welcome center.

In addition to those campsites, four cabins will be available for rent. These will be twobedroom cabins, with a den, showers and full kitchens.

In addition to ATV's, hikers and mountain bikers are welcome to go explore the park.

For more information on Top Trails, visit the website at toptrails.net or find the park on Facebook.

#### Friday's Can't Miss Entertainment

## The Big One on the Blvd

Oct. 23 at 6:45 p.m.



s anticipation continues to grow among both drivers and fans alike for NASCAR'S premier offtrack party, "The Big One on the Blvd," on Friday, Oct. 23, Talladega Superspeedway is proud to announce a lineup of outrageous fun with sights only able to be seen at NASCAR's "Party Capital".

Fans attending this Friday night extravaganza have the possibility to join

some fierce competitors for never before seen fan competitions, where fans will have a chance to not only win a lifetime of bragging rights but a unique Talladega inspired trophy to commemorate each event.

Participants are encouraged to wear their most creative of outfits to stand out in front of NASCAR's top drivers for a Costume Contest. Fans can also attempt to eat their way through as many of the track's famous 1-pound "Big One Meatballs" as they can during the 'Big One' Eating Contest. If that isn't enough, contestants can get down and dirty in "The 'Dega Cherry Chase", a one-of-a-kind course challenge which you'll just have to see to believe.

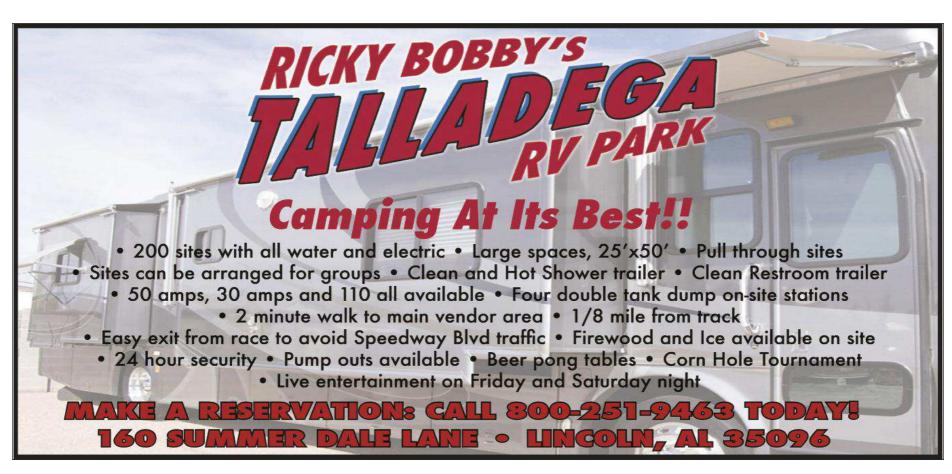
The best part of all is that the huge crowd gathered in Talladega Superspeedway's infamous infield, along with many of the stars of NASCAR, will determine which fans come out on top in these mind-blowing competitions.

See a unique and up-close side of some of NASCAR's best as they have some fun in the midst of the pressurepacked Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup as part of the CampingWorld.com 500 (NASCAR Sprint Cup Series - NSCS) and fred's 250 Powered by Coca-Cola (NASCAR Camping World Truck Series – NCWTS) Weekend Oct. 23-25.

In the spring, the star studded list of drivers who interacted with fans included Jeff Gordon, Danica Patrick, Brad Keselowski, Clint Bowyer, Ricky Stenhouse, Jr., Austin Dillon, Ryan Blaney, Kyle Larson, Greg Biffle, Denny Hamlin, Brendan Gaughan, Michael Waltrip and Kenny Wallace. Kevin Harvick, Tony Stewart and Kasey Kahne have also joined the fun in the past, and many of those same drivers and more are expected to again experience the thrill of Talladega Boulevard – Party Central – on Oct. 23.

"The Big One on the Blvd" will get rolling at 6:45 p.m. on Friday evening at the north end of Talladega Boulevard. From there, drivers can be found on the float throwing out swag and welcoming race fans to the party that trumps all others. The float will pass through the most colorfully decorated campsites in all of NASCAR and wind up in the south end of the Blvd at the main stage for the fan competitions.

- From TalladegaSuperspeedway.com Visit today for ticket info and more



## Join **TempForce** in the Fight Against Breast Cancer



#### **About TempForce**

#### **Providing Quality** Service Since 1986

TempForce began operation in 1986 in Anniston. Owner, Ray Hornsby, works in the business every day and takes a solutions-driven approach to the staffing challenges faced by our clients. In 1994 the company opened its second branch in Pell City and its third location in Sylacauga in 1997. In 2006, it added a satellite office in Lineville, Ala.

#### Our Coverage

TempForce serves northeast central Alabama including, Calhoun, Clay, Cleburne, Coosa, Randolph, St. Clair, Talladega and Tallapoosa Counties.

#### **Contact Us Today**

For more information on TempForce or to join them in the Seeing Pink campaign, visit their website at tempforcestaffing.com or find them at Facebook.com/TempForce.

#### Tempforcestaffing.com Facebook.com/TempForce

ctober is all about orange and black, right? Wrong. At TempForce, October is all about pink.

TempForce is doing its part to fund breast cancer research in the hopes of finding a cure. And they are giving other companies the opportunity to join them in the fight.

Throughout the month of October, the staffing agency is hosting a fundraiser for local businesses to be a part of. Being involved is as simple as snapping a photo of staff members.

This is the fourth year since TempForce began its Seeing Pink: Raising Awareness fundraiser. To participate in the fundraiser, local businesses can send photos to TempForce of their staff members dressed in pink. For each photo they receive, TempForce donates \$10 to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

"The community participation has been great," Marketing Specialist Ava Lowe said. "The \$10 we donate for each photo really adds up over the month."

During last October, TempForce was able to raise over \$3,000. They are on their way to another great year, having already raised over \$1,000 dollars.

Each company that submits a photo will be eligible for the Most Creative Pink Pic contest. The winner of this contest will receive a company lunch, serving up to 50 employees.

"This is our way to help with breast cancer research," Lowe said. "We do that through raising money and the pink photos. We hope that women will see these photos and they will serve as a reminder to have their checkups done."

The Seeing Pink campaign is a way for TempForce to get other companies involved in the cause. For companies to participate they do not have to be a TempForce client. Any business is welcome to send their pink photos to TempForce. These photos are posted every Friday on the company Facebook page.

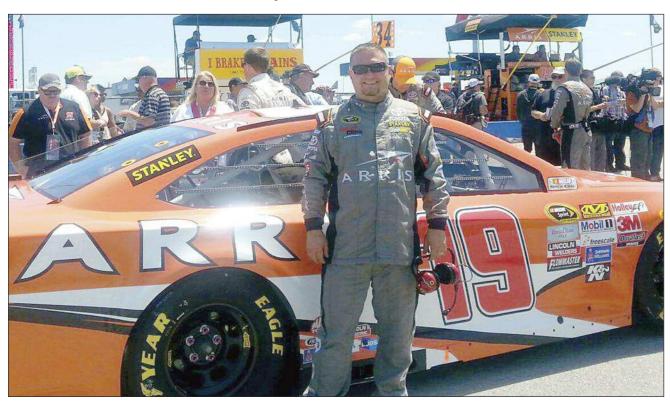
"Awareness is so important, but it's not

enough," said Ava Lowe. "This is the first year we're donating to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation directly. Someone close to our TempForce family was taken this year after being in remission. If we can contribute directly to the search for the cure, we're going to fight to raise all the money we can. We're fighting for a better future."

For more information on TempForce or to join them in the Seeing Pink campaign, visit their website at tempforcestaffing.com or find them on Facebook at Facebook.com/Temp-

## Life in Pit Lane: Odenville's Kerry Ferris

One St. Clair County resident talks about his role on the NASCAR circuit





Kerry Ferris moved to Odenville after marrying his wife, Alisa. He currently works as a Tire Specialist on the No. 19 car, pictured left, driven by Carl Edwards. Catch Ferris this weekend at Talladega Superspeedway during the CampingWorld.com 500. Photos **Courtesy of Kerry Ferris.** 

#### By KRISTEN DALE

KDALE@NEWSAEGIS.COM

Working on cars has always been a part of Kerry Ferris' life. Growing up, he spent a significant amount of his time with his father in the family's garage. That was where he learned about the mechanics and the makeup of vehicles. It's also where he

developed a love of cars that would later lead him to a career with a NASCAR team.

His exposure to the industry came from his childhood best friend, whose father worked in racing. This connection led Ferris to his first job in the field. He began working on engines for a team in New York in 2004, which led him into a career based off of his hands-on experience working

with cars.

In 2011, Ferris made a move to North Carolina to work for Joe Gibbs racing. He continued working on racecar engines and worked with the team engineers to develop new parts and features.

Last year, Ferris began working for Carl Edwards, on the No. 19 car team. He is a Tire Specialist for the team, working with other members to constantly make improvements on the tires, as well as the car overall.

During the off-season, team members work to improve the cars in preparation for racing season. Time away from the track is spent developing new pieces of equipment and focusing on general maintenance of the vehicle and parts.

"It is our job to work to make things easy to use on race day," Ferris said. "We do all we can to make everything run smoothly during the season."

The highlights from his career in the racing industry are mainly focused on the people he has encountered, not just the cars. One of those people is his wife, Alisa,

who he met at a restaurant in Anniston while he was traveling with the team.

"Ever since I got her number that night, we haven't gone a day without texting or calling each other," Ferris said. "Meeting her is the highlight of my career."

Alisa lives in Odenville, which is where Ferris made his home after they got married. Even though the majority of his time is spent away from home, he still takes every chance he gets to come back to St. Clair County.

His life on the road is made easier by the team he works with. The a-team, that he is a part of, travels together to the races and is there throughout the entire event. There are around 15 people who make up this team.

"The team is great," Ferris said. "We all have a common goal and we all know what it's like to be on the road all the time and having that understanding goes a long way in keeping us working as a unit."

On race days, the atmosphere surrounding the team is like a calm before a storm. Everyone is focused on staying





Kerry Ferris, a Tire Specialist, works with other members of the No. 19 car team to constantly make improvements on the tires, as well as the car overall. Photo Courtesy of Kerry Ferris.

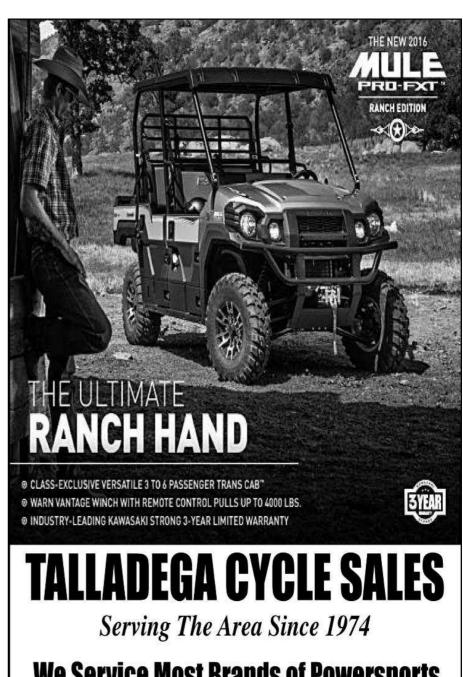
relaxed before the race begins. Once the engines are started, Ferris is down in the pit, fully focused on tires. He is responsible for checking the tires for wear, gauging tire pressure and keeping records on how the tires are holding up throughout the laps. He reports this information to the Crew Chief, keeping him informed throughout the duration of the race. All facets of the team come together in the pit on race day, to ensure the best possible outcome for the team.

In the future, Ferris would like to return to Odenville permanently. He wants to spend time at home with his wife and less time on the road. Until then, he plans on soaking up every moment of his exciting career in racing.

"This job and the life we live is completely crazy," Ferris said. "But, I love the team and I love racing. I wouldn't trade it for anything."

'This job and the life we live is completely crazy. But, I love the team and I love racing. I wouldn't trade it for anything.'

- Kerry Ferris



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Classic Toys is a locally owned shop with new and antique Gas Pumps, Pedal Cars, signs, NASCAR items, housewares, re-purposed furniture and miscellaneous items.

The store carries a variety of vintage toys and signs, including fuel tanks, classic car signs and children's scooters.

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## Earnhardt Jr. Can Earn Unique



Dale Earnhardt Jr., right, driver of the No. 88 Nationwide Chevrolet, and his crew chief, Greg Ives, celebrate in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series GEICO 500 at Talladega Superspeedway on May 3. Photo by Chris Trotman/NASCAR via Getty Images. From NASCARmedia.com.

hen Dale Earnhardt Jr. takes the green flag in theCampingWorld.com 500 on Sunday, Oct. 25, he'll not only be looking to sweep into Victory Lane at the Talladega Superspeedway for the second time this season, he'll also be trying to write his name into the track record book in a special way alongside his Dad — Dale Earnhardt Sr. — and Pete Hamilton.

With a win, Earnhardt Jr. would join the duo as the only drivers in NASCAR history to win three of the four races run at NASCAR's "Super" superspeedways - Talladega and the Daytona International Speedway - in a single season. Earnhardt Jr. finished third in the season-opening Daytona 500, but won the GEICO 500 at Talladega in May after leading 67 of 188 laps and the Coke Zero 400 at Daytona in July to set up his shot at racing history.

He'd love nothing more than to join the elite company of his father (accomplished feat in 1990), who was driving for Richard Childress Racing, and Hamilton (1970), who was driving for Petty Enterprises.

The CampingWorld.com 500 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race on Sunday, Oct. 25 (starting at 1:30 p.m.) will be the deciding race in the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup Contender Round in which the championship field will be cut from 12 to eight at the checkered flag. A victory at TSS by an eligible driver in the Chase will result in an automatic berth in the Eliminator Round.

Earnhardt Jr., who guaranteed his spot in the Chase with his triumph in the GEICO 500, attributes much of his success at NASCAR's Most Competitive Track (Talladega) and Daytona to the fact that he feels a great responsibility to run well there

## Place in History with Win



Earnhardt Jr. celebrates in Victory Lane after winning the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Coke Zero 400 Powered by Coca-Cola at Daytona International Speedway on July 6, 2015 in Daytona Beach, Florida. Photo by Jerry Markland/Getty Images. From NASCARmedia.com.

because so many people expect him to.

"I feel like I'm supposed to get up there and lead," Dale Jr. said. "I feel like it's a real disappointment for a lot of people when we don't finish well, and if we're not up in the battle trying at the end. If we are not in that group crossing the finish line that is up front, I feel that disappointment from all the supporters of our team, more so here and at Daytona than other race tracks for sure."

Hamilton and Earnhardt Sr. both came close to achieving NASCAR's version of a Grand Slam only to have strange strokes of misfortune cause them to come up just short.

In 1970, Hamilton won the Daytona 500, swept the two races at Talladega and had a competitive car in the early going in the July 4th Firecracker 400 at Daytona before a strip of insulation broke loose and went down the carburetor, choking the life from the engine and putting him out of the race after only 46 laps. Twenty years later, Earnhardt Sr. appeared well on his way to winning his first Daytona 500 when he, while leading, ran over some debris and cut a tire going into Turn 3 on the last lap and Derrike Cope sailed by for the victory.

Earnhardt Sr. went on to sweep the two Talladega races and the July race in Daytona in 1990 to come oh-so-close to perfection.

Earnhardt Jr. holds the mark for consecutive victories at NASCAR's biggest, baddest track with wins in four straight races from 2001 to 2003, including a sweep of both races in 2002. He has six wins at the track in 31 career starts and has recorded 11 top-five finishes and 15 top-ten finishes. The six wins tie him with Jeff Gordon for second on Talladega's all-time victory list behind only Earnhardt Sr. (10).

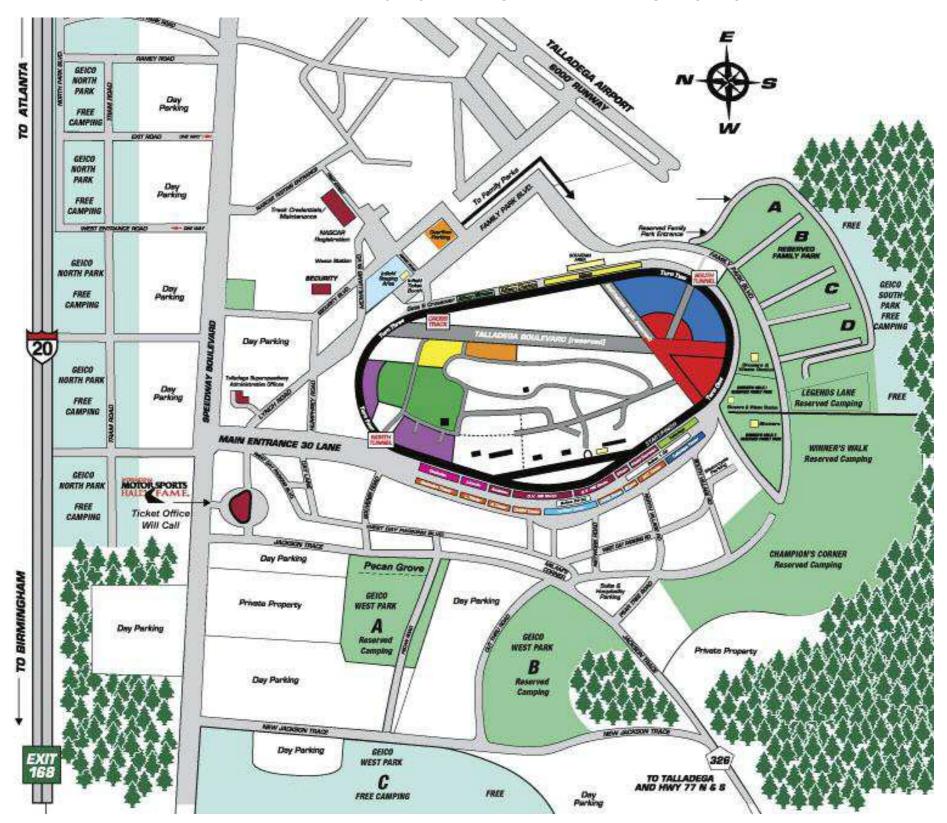
"I felt like we have a lot of supporters here because of dad's success here," Dale Jr. said after his GEICO 500 triumph in May. "Dad won so many races here. I think about all the races he won here and at Daytona. I love when we go to Victory Lane because I feel like I add to his legacy. All I ever want to do is make him proud. I feel like when we win at those tracks where he was successful, that's exactly what we're doing."

From TalladegaSuperspeedway.com
 Visit today for ticket info and more



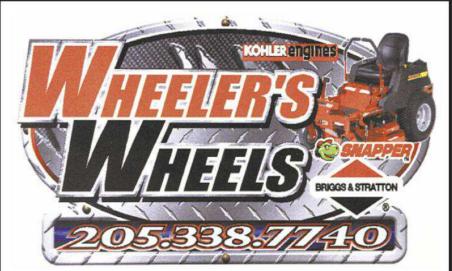
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