

LAKE SIDE

Living



“MAY YOUR
DAYS BE
MERRY AND
BRIGHT”

DECEMBER 2017

DECEMBER Contents



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Logan Martin Homes Edition

LAKESSIDE *Living*

Covering life along
Logan Martin Lake since 1994

Publisher
Robert Jackson

Editor
Anthony Cook

Advertising Director
Pam Isbell

Distribution
Gerald Reed

Photography
Bob Crisp
Tucker Webb

Lakeside Editor
Buddy Roberts

Writers
Laci Braswell
Kelli Tipton

Art Direction
Jennifer Mashburn

Graphic Design
Fay Denton-Belcher
Jennifer Mashburn
Geraldine Osburn

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Talladega | P.O. Box 977, 35161-0977 | (256) 362-1000
Pell City Towne Park | 1911 Martin St. S.
Suite 7, 35128 | (205) 884-3400



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ON THE COVER: Festive Christmas ornaments are a hallmark of the holiday season. Photo by Bob Crisp.

Merry CHRISTMAS

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LETTER



From the Editor

Conversations around the kitchen island

Over the course of several visits with the Hathorns, I've grown accustomed to hearing statements of an unusual nature. Such as Chasidy confessing to being a serial reuser of holiday decorative items. Or Abby outlining her plan for dressing like what a pumpkin spice latte tastes like.

But I wasn't prepared to hear something as bleak as what Chasidy said while she and Stan and I were standing in their newly remodeled kitchen.

"I tell you, it almost killed our spirit."

Stan nodded solemnly as Chasidy finished preparing a mug of coffee for herself. I'd declined her offer to make one for me, as I remain convinced that there is no such thing as a good cup of coffee (which Chasidy knows, but she's always too polite not to offer me one anyway).

"Surely it wasn't that bad," I replied, even though I wasn't sure what the topic was.

"Well, it was not awful, but it was not so great either," she said after the inaugural sip. "Charming, lots of potential, and the bones were excellent. But it was still a time capsule in desperate need of attention and love."

"Light mauve counters, floating cabinets that blocked the view, white tiles with fruit impressions and a large awkward space where nothing existed," Stan said, gesturing to the former awkward space with his mug. The kitchen we were standing in looked nothing like the one he described.

"It was big enough to land a helicopter," Chasidy said, "so we knew an island was the perfect solution."

"And you obviously found it," I said, indicating the handsome island the three of us stood by.

"Oh, we didn't find it," Chasidy quickly replied. "That's what almost killed our spirit."

"You didn't find it?"

"Not that we didn't go looking. How hard could it be for really picky people to locate the perfect piece of furniture on an unreasonably low budget, right?"

"Unreasonably is such a judging word," Stan said over his mug.

"The budget was set by the hubby," Chasidy explained, "who thinks everything is overpriced. And I do mean everything. And after countless hours of shopping, our ideal island was not found. We had no choice. We had to make it ourselves. And Stan was very sweet to design it with all my requests and more."

"What was one of your requests?" I asked.

"I absolutely hate looking at trash cans. They gross me out. Out of sight, out of mind. My number-one request for my island was for it to house the trash bin. But it had to be easy to get out so I could scrub it and disinfect it often."

"So you built an island for your trash can."

"Not just. I also wanted a place to chop vegetables. And use a piece of vintage marble that I bought many moons ago. Stan accomplished that and added wine bottle storage. Although truth be known, I use it to store my 2-liter Diet Pepsi bottles."

I was pleased to see that a copy of Lakeside Living also resided on the Hathorns' new island, and I hope this current issue will also find a spot there. In these pages, you'll find informative features about seasonal shopping and beverages, a preview of the return of a popular lake area event, and what two local medical organizations are doing to help those in lakeside communities.

It's guaranteed not to kill your spirit.

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CALENDAR KEY

Fishing Condition: This is the overall rating for the whole day, based upon our formula:

Best ■ Good ■ Fair ■ Poor ■

Best Time: This column lists the best time of the day when, according to our formula, fish will be biting: MORNING; EVENING.

Slow down, use the right bait this winter

Some anglers may tell you they fish just as fast in winter as they do in spring. However, most successful cold-water anglers will tell you slowing down the presentation yields better results.

Biologists and experienced anglers agree that bass will not normally chase a lure in water much colder than 50 degrees. An exception to this would be when bass move up to shallower water after a few warm days or after a warm rain. As a rule of thumb, it is best to slow down your presentation during the winter months.

A grub can be one of the most effective bass lures for cold water. A 4-inch curly tail grub on a 1/4-ounce jig head can be all that you need to catch your share of bass. Target steep, chunk-rock banks with as much as a 45-degree slope. Bass prefer these areas because they can make extreme depth changes by moving up and down the water column to feed without using much energy.

Cast to the shallow edge of the steep bank and then allow the grub to sink, raising the rod tip as the bait reaches the bottom to lift the grub up into the water column. Anglers often find success when repeating this technique until the grub is back to the boat. Bass often bite when the grub is on the fall, so be ready to set the hook.

Source: World Fishing Network.



DEC 01	●	GOOD	Morning
DEC 02	●	FAIR	Morning
DEC 03	●	FAIR	Evening
DEC 04	●	BEST	Evening
DEC 05	●	BEST	Evening
DEC 06	●	FAIR	Evening
DEC 07	●	POOR	Evening
DEC 08	●	FAIR	Evening
DEC 09	●	FAIR	Evening
DEC 10	●	FAIR	Morning
DEC 11	●	POOR	Morning
DEC 12	●	POOR	Morning
DEC 13	●	GOOD	Morning
DEC 14	●	GOOD	Morning
DEC 15	●	POOR	Morning
DEC 16	●	POOR	Morning
DEC 17	●	POOR	Morning
DEC 18	●	POOR	Evening
DEC 19	●	POOR	Evening
DEC 20	●	FAIR	Evening
DEC 21	●	GOOD	Evening
DEC 22	●	GOOD	Evening
DEC 23	●	BEST	Evening
DEC 24	●	BEST	Evening
DEC 25	●	POOR	Evening
DEC 26	●	POOR	Morning
DEC 27	●	POOR	Morning
DEC 28	●	FAIR	Morning
DEC 29	●	GOOD	Morning
DEC 30	●	FAIR	Morning
DEC 31	●	FAIR	Morning

Information from the Farmers' Almanac.

Lake Levels

Full Pool: 465 Feet Winter Pool: 460 Feet
Flood Pool: 467 Feet

This graph and information come from the LakesOnline.com website. For up-to-date lake levels, log on to <http://www.loganmartin.info/level/>

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Considering wine as a holiday gift?

Emporium Wine owner
encourages research first

Written and Photographed
by Buddy Roberts

Henry Foy traces his love for wine back to visiting his grandmother's house as a child.

"She always had Welch's grape juice at her house," he recalled. "We always had orange juice at ours, but I loved the flavor of the grape juice best."

When he began exploring the different varieties of fermented grape beverages as an adult, Foy often wished he knew more about them.

"I liked wine, but I didn't know what I was ordering,"

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Emporium Wine's walk-in humidor offers a variety of cigars, and the shop is adding a cigar lounge to its premises.

he said. "Menus and wine lists can be intimidating, and I wanted to be able to order intelligently at a restaurant. I just wanted to have enough knowledge about wine to buy a bottle at a store or off a wine list, and what better way to learn about it than to be in the business?"

So in 2004, he opened Emporium Wine on Main Street in Alexander City. The shop moved to its present location at 128 Calhoun Street in 2007, when Foy bought the historic Duncan & Son Furniture Store building.

"This building housed a furniture store since the mid-1800s," he said, seated at a table in the shop's cozy café area looking out on the street. "The original structure was

built by the Duncan family. It was rebuilt after the fire of 1902, and there was a furniture store here until Heilig-Meyers went out of business. We continue to do what we can to preserve the building."

Convinced that "a town like this needed a wine store," Foy launched his business as a purveyor of quality wines and has since branched out into providing craft beers and distilled spirits, opening the Café 128 offering sandwiches and sides and adding a walk-in humidor and still-in-progress cigar lounge.

"While I've dabbled in a lot of things since we've been here, but I've tried to stay close to our core business, which has always been wine," he said. "A wine store is what we've always wanted to be."

Acknowledging that "some grocery stores do a good job of providing a variety of wines, and you could survive on that if you wanted to," Foy said Emporium Wine's goal continues to be "providing good quality wine that might not be as available as what you find at the grocery stores."

Asked to identify his favorite wine, he admitted a preference for red wines but declined to be more specific. "I

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Owner Henry Foy consults the label on a bottle of Champagne.

used to have a favorite wine, but now it's like being asked which of your children do you like best. There is a lot to know about wine, and I always say drink what you like. And most people do."

Wine is frequently given as a holiday gift, but Foy recommends doing some

research before buying a bottle for a friend or coworker.

"Buying for somebody else can be tricky. If at all possible, know what they buy and drink the most of before you come to the store. If someone doesn't

know that, I usually ask them about the person they're buying it for. Are they great big meat eaters? Do they grill out a lot? Do they like a particular kind of food? For example, if they frequently cook Italian food, an Italian wine would be a good choice.

"If you have absolutely no clue what they prefer, don't go and spend a lot of money on it. And you don't have to spend a lot of money to buy a good

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wine. Most people will appreciate the gift even if you give them something they don't always drink or don't usually buy for themselves. Just keep it balanced and get some advice from a retailer. That's what I'm here for."

Even for the experienced oenophile, "there are so many hidden nuances about wine," Foy said. "There are no absolutes. We're here to help people negotiate through all the complexities of wine without being intimidated."

Emporium Wine is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays, and from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays through Christmas. For more information, call 256-212-9463 or visit www.emporiumwine.net.

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Let lakeside retailers care for your shopping needs this Christmas

Staff Report
Photographed by Tucker Webb and
Buddy Roberts

For those looking for the perfect holiday gifts – whether your list includes jewelry, clothing or gifts for the home or vehicle – lakeside retailers can help take the stress out of Christmas shopping, as a sampling of recommendations from local merchants attests.



Stackable rings are available in a variety of designs and styles.

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Griffin's offers several sets of freshwater pearls in a variety of sizes, starting at \$99.

9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays

The lake area's premier jeweler, Griffin's has been a purveyor of fine gift items for 67 years. A member of the invitation-only American Gem Society and Preferred Jewelers International, Griffin's is also a member of the Continental Buying Group, which gives it a 600-store buying power, according to its vice president of marketing and sales.

"Everything you can imagine that's out there in jewelry, we have it," said Michael Abernathy. "And if we don't have it, we can get it for you. That applies to all three of our locations – Pell City, Talladega and Sylacauga."

Popular gift items this season include stackable rings. "They come in a variety of shapes, patterns and sizes, so you can customize them to your own taste. They come

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High-quality decorative items, such as Mova globes, are available at Griffin's.

in white gold, yellow gold and rose gold, so you can 'stack' them by wearing two or three together."

Two-stone rings remain favorite gift ideas, Abernathy said. "So are the earrings and pendants. They all come with two diamonds, making it a gift for the special person who's your best friend and true love."



Griffin's has a wide inventory of Mova globes, which he describes as "good gifts for guys. They're solar powered and operate off the earth's gravity. They spin all on their own, and when you turn the lights off, they stop. They're really cool and a good gift for anybody, but guys in particular seem to like them."



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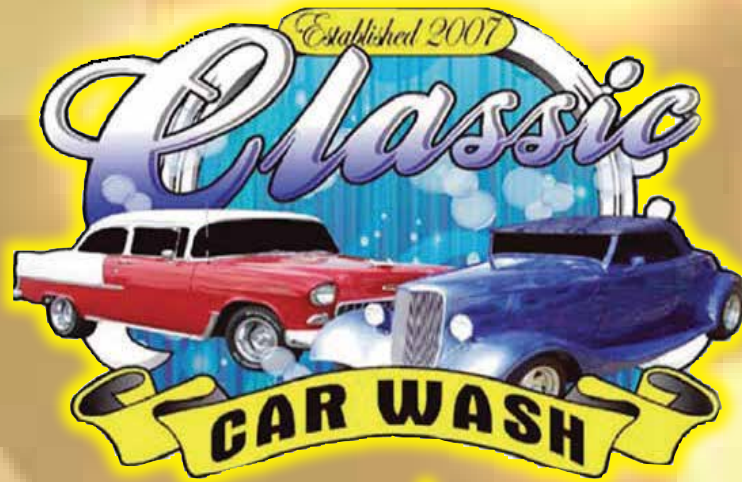
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Colorful styles of boots and accessories are sure to catch the eye of holiday shoppers.

Ariat shirts, jeans, boots and hats in a variety of styles and colors are sure to be popular gift ideas this holiday season for equestrian athletes and those who simply enjoy the Western style, Cabannis said.

Oak Grove Corral offers more than 20 other styles of boots and work boots by Durango, Justin, Rocky, Montana West, Georgia and Double H, with new boot lines coming out after Christmas. The boutique also offers other styles of casual footwear and such accessories as jewelry, wallets and bags.

Adjacent to the boutique is Oak Grove Feed & Tack, which can make sure that even your horses are properly decked out this winter with a variety of saddles and blankets. "We can dress a horse from head to toe," Cabannis said.



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Perfect for outdoor activities in colder weather, the Sherpa pullover by Appalachian Pile is in stock at Cogswell Trading Company.

trendy items sure to make good holiday gifts.

- Sherpa pullovers: "These are definitely a top item this year," Carroll said. "It's a super-soft high-pile pullover with pockets. It is super, super soft and comes in different colors and as a vest."
- Rowdy Gentlemen shirts: "We have a

variety of them. The Reagan-Bush '84 and Back-to-Back World War Champion tees are extremely popular. They're a 60 percent cotton-40 percent polyester blend, and they're full of attitude. You're sure to stand out wearing one of these."

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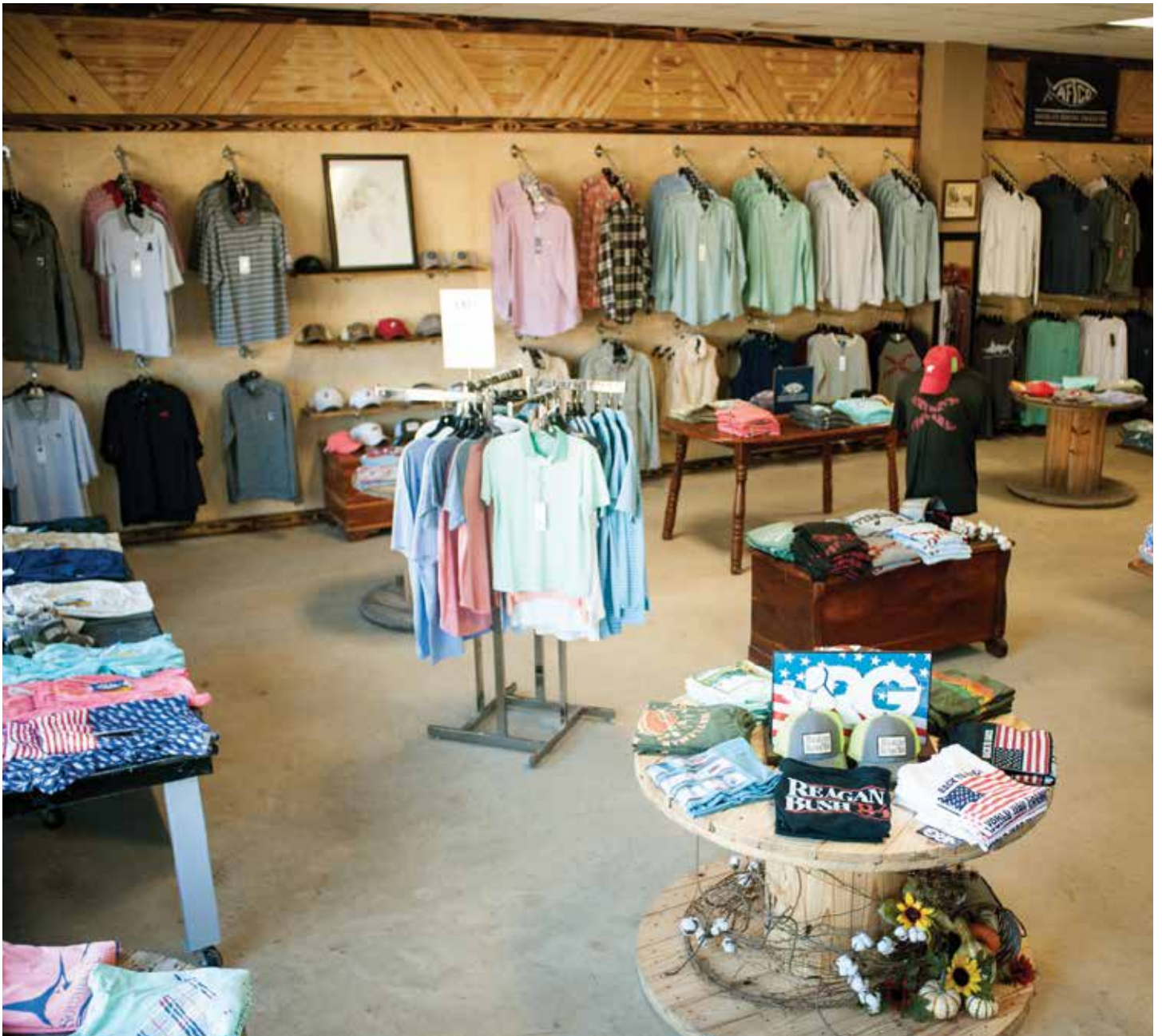


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Cogswell Trading Company offers several lines of quality men's casual wear this holiday season.

hasn't made it to Logan Martin before, but it's really popular down at the beach and with people going out on charter boats." AFTCO t-shirts, shorts, hats, sunglasses and button-up shirts are available at Cogswell Trading Company, and sales of the items support sustainable fishing efforts. "AFTCO products are quality, durable lake garments. We're excited to have them here. They're the only brand to have if you're into fishing."



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said. "We can make them out in any amount you want, or if you know exactly what work you want done for someone, we'll determine the cost and make the certificate out for that amount."

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Pate's offers several varieties and sizes of lift kits, bed covers and tool boxes for vehicles, the high-quality WeatherTech cargo, bed and floor liners and K2 coolers. Popular with boaters and fishermen, the coolers are available in 20-, 30- and 50-quart sizes and can be customized with your favorite college or high school team mascot.



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LAKESIDE LIVING

In Style

Written by Kelli Tipton
Photographed by Bob Crisp



It all started with a Jet Ski

Watercraft leads couple to Logan Martin lake life

When Linda Ruethemann and her husband Dieter found their three-bedroom, two-and-a-half bath, two-story home in Cropwell, they knew they had finally found the perfect place to retire.

They bought the lake house in 2003 after selling their small weekend home, and it all started with a Jet Ski.

“The summer of 2000, we were down at the beach, and I rented a Jet Ski,” Linda said. “I fell in love with it. By the next summer, I was obsessed with buying a Jet Ski. I called all around looking for a good deal on a Jet Ski, and I found one in Pelham.” She purchased it and kept it parked at her uncle’s house on the lake where she would often visit to take it for a spin.

“We started looking at property on the lake.



Whimsical signs celebrating life on the lake decorate the Ruethmanns' lakeside property.

We found a piece of property with a little A-frame house, and I knew it was a good deal, so we bought it. We were sitting in the attorney's office closing the deal, and the attorney is getting us to sign paperwork, and Dieter looked at him and said, 'You know this all started with a Jet Ski. She bought

a Jet Ski, and a year later, we're buying a house,'" Linda said laughing.

The couple loved its 800 square-foot A-frame home, and it suited them when they were both working and traveling and staying there on weekends and holidays. "We loved it so much. It only had

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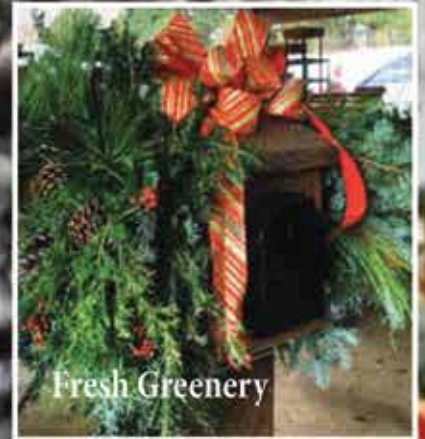
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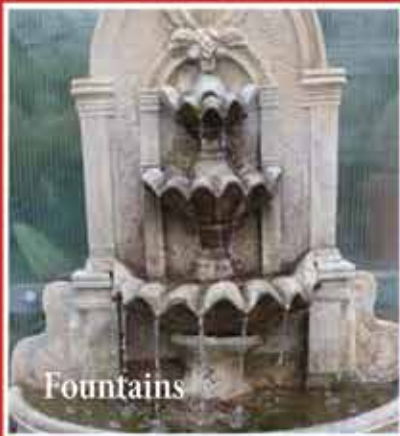
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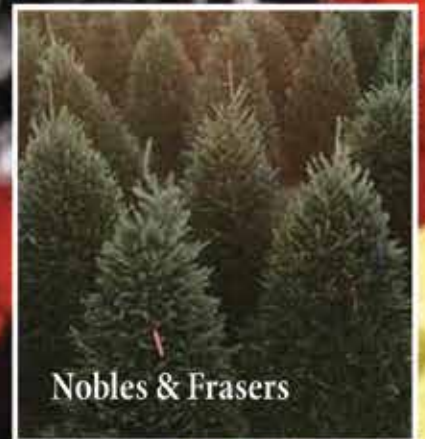
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The Ruethmanns love that their Cropwell lake home is cozy yet spacious enough for their needs.

a loft bedroom, but we could sleep so many people in that thing. Our intention had been to tear it down one day and build a bigger home on the lot, but it was too cute, and it broke my heart to think about tearing down one of the small, affordable places on the water that someone could use as a summer home," she said.

In 2002, Linda retired from AT&T and Dieter took a job at Diehl Aerospace. The couple began living in the

small A-frame full time and quickly realized that it was too small for them. "It was too cute to tear down and too small to live in full-time."

So they began looking for a larger home on the St. Clair side of the lake. "We looked at probably 25 houses. Finally the Realtor called and said, 'I have a house you need to see,'" Linda said. It was perfect for them.

"We loved it from the lakeside. It had everything



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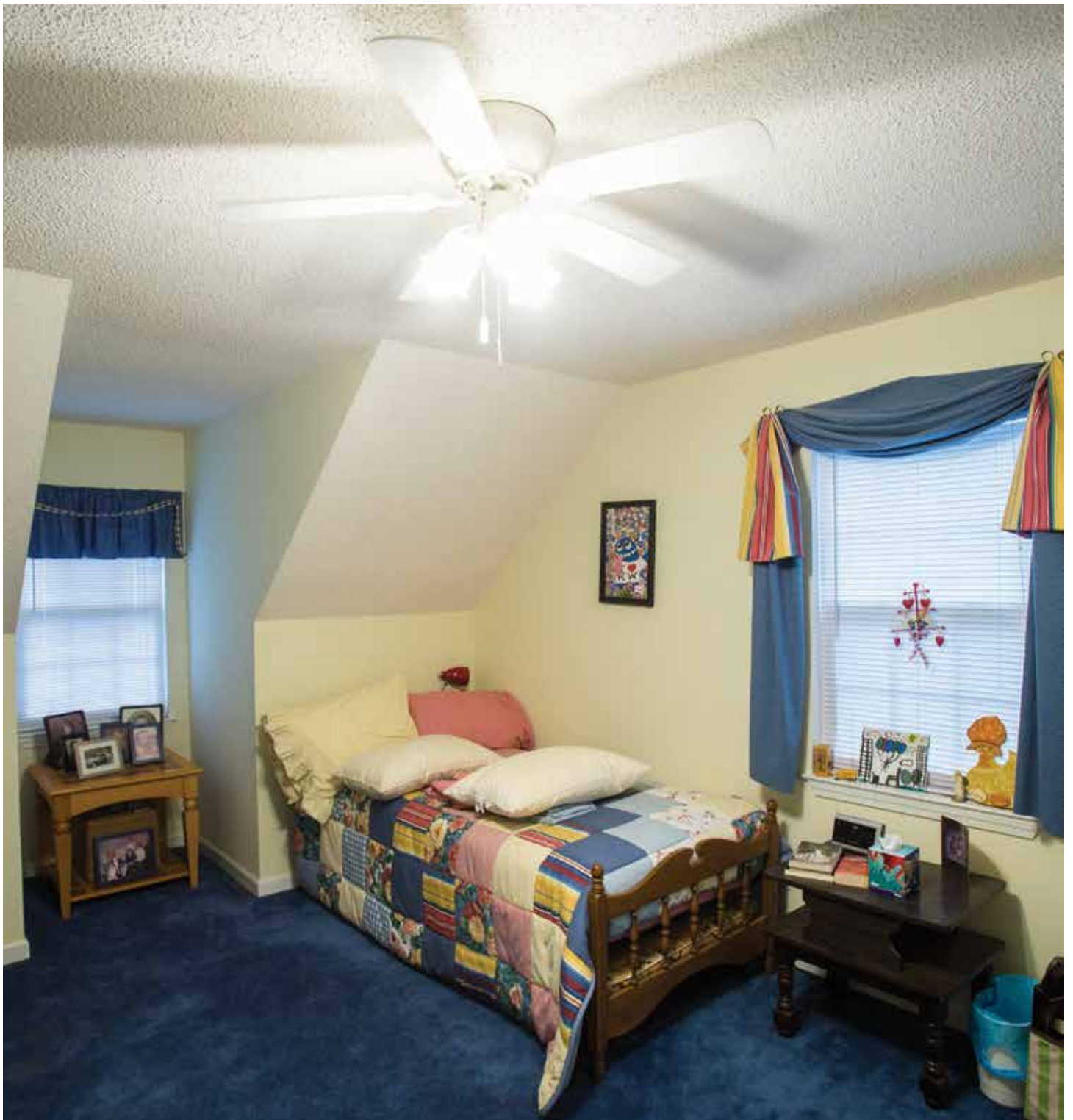


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we were looking for, including a place to park the Jet Ski," she said smiling. "And street side was great too. We love that it has a doggy door, and the yard is perfect for the dog, too. If we had designed the yard area ourselves, this is what we would have done."

And they still have access to the adorable A-frame. The CFO of Diehl bought it to use as the

company "club house."

Today, the Ruethemanns are active in their community. Linda is serving her fourth year as president of the Logan Martin Lake Protection Association. She and Dieter spend their time collecting water samples, monitoring pollutant levels, and attending meetings and conferences to make sure water quality is safe

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Colorful furnishings compliment the neutral color scheme.

for lake residents and others.

As parents of two grown children, they travel during the holidays to visit with them and don't really make a fuss with Christmas decorations. "We usually put up a small table top tree, but that's about it," Linda said.

Their home is quiet and decorated in neutral colors. Sage colored walls, leather furniture and cork floors add a natural look to their indoor living space. They are fond of multi-purpose furnishings like the ottoman with pull-out doors for storage that also serves as a coffee table.

Outside, a wood deck overlooks the lake and is divided in two sections. One section is screened off, and the other is open. "We enjoy this deck very much and spend a lot of time out here watching football," Dieter said. And they enjoy grilling in their Big Green Egg.

"The boathouse and boardwalk were a key selling point for us," Linda said. "It costs a lot to build a boathouse, and this one was already here." It is perfect for storing their boat and kayaks, and of course, the Jet Ski.

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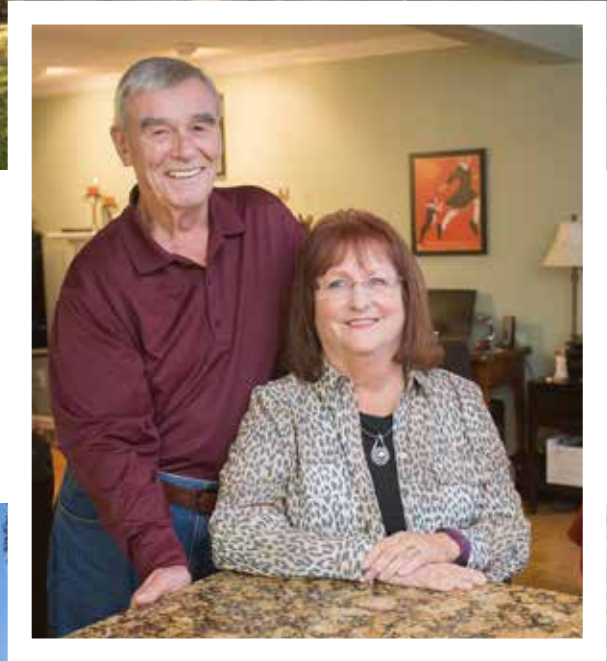
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The Ruethmanns describe their home as “perfect” – the space, the yard, the boardwalk and boathouse and the view from the back deck. “If we had designed it ourselves, that is what we would have done,” Linda said.



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Christmas in Talladega

Editor's Note: Join staff writer Kelli Tipton as she explores lakeside communities, events and activities.

Out & About with Kelli



Written by Kelli Tipton
File photographs by Bob Crisp

*I*t's beginning to look a lot like Christmas on Talladega's historic square.

City workers are busy transforming downtown Talladega into a holiday village for the city's second Christmas on the Square event. Winter greenery, miniature white lights and red ribbon bows adorn the columns of the oldest operating courthouse in Alabama and spiral up lamp posts on the lawn. These holiday trimmings and more will welcome visitors to a wonderland of entertainment and activities during the weekend of December 15-17.

I visited Talladega City Manager Patrick Bryant at City Hall to discuss the event, which is expected to draw more than 15,000 people from central Alabama and some parts of Georgia. I will be one of the many patrons who come to shop, eat and participate in the festivities, and I wanted to know more about it.

"Christmas on the Square is a yearly event produced by the city of Talladega that attracts our



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own residents and entices visitors from out of town as well," Bryant said. "Turning the square into a Christmas village is something that we knew we could do, and it shows people that Talladega is a destination place that they can come back to after Christmas."

Last year, the first Christmas on the Square was a great success.

This year, with a bigger budget, a greater number of sponsors and more vendors, it promises to be even better.

"We will have in excess of 35 vendors a day that specialize in unique home-made gifts and crafts that are ideal for gift giving or decorating for the holidays," the city manager said. "We will have a food truck alley, and of course a professional Santa for



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photo opportunities with the kids. We will continue to have free Christmas movies at the historic Ritz Theater all weekend, and music and deejay entertainment."

"One of the most popular activities from last year was Santa's Workshop, where kids can come fabricate their own crafts, either for themselves or to give as gifts, and we will have it again this year."

Several new activities have been added this year, and one that I am most eager to try is the outdoor ice skating rink. "It is an 'ice-like' skating rink that you use



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real ice skates on," Bryant said. (According to my research, this synthetic "ice" is used by professional ice skaters in training when temperatures are above freezing.)

And weather permitting, an outdoor concert by Taylor Hicks is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 16. Hicks was the Season 5 winner of American Idol, and he continues to be a successful singer and musician with a devoted fan base called the Soul Patrol. The concert will be held indoors at the Ritz Theater if it rains.



Two unique contests are also new this year.

"The Rotary Club is helping us to sponsor a Christmas decorations contest for businesses located in the courthouse historic district," Bryant said. "Visitors to Christmas on the Square will have the chance to cast their votes for the best decorated storefront, and the winners will receive cash prizes of \$500 for first place, \$350 for second place and \$150 for third place in the contest. There will also be a raffle for a Kawasaki ATV."

All of the activities are free to the public. "Free movies, free concert, free ice skating, free Santa," Bryant said. "Of course, if you want to shop the vendors, you will need money for that."

I am looking forward to attending Christmas on the Square. I will be there with jingle bells on, and I hope to see you there.


For more information, visit www.christmasintalladega.com.



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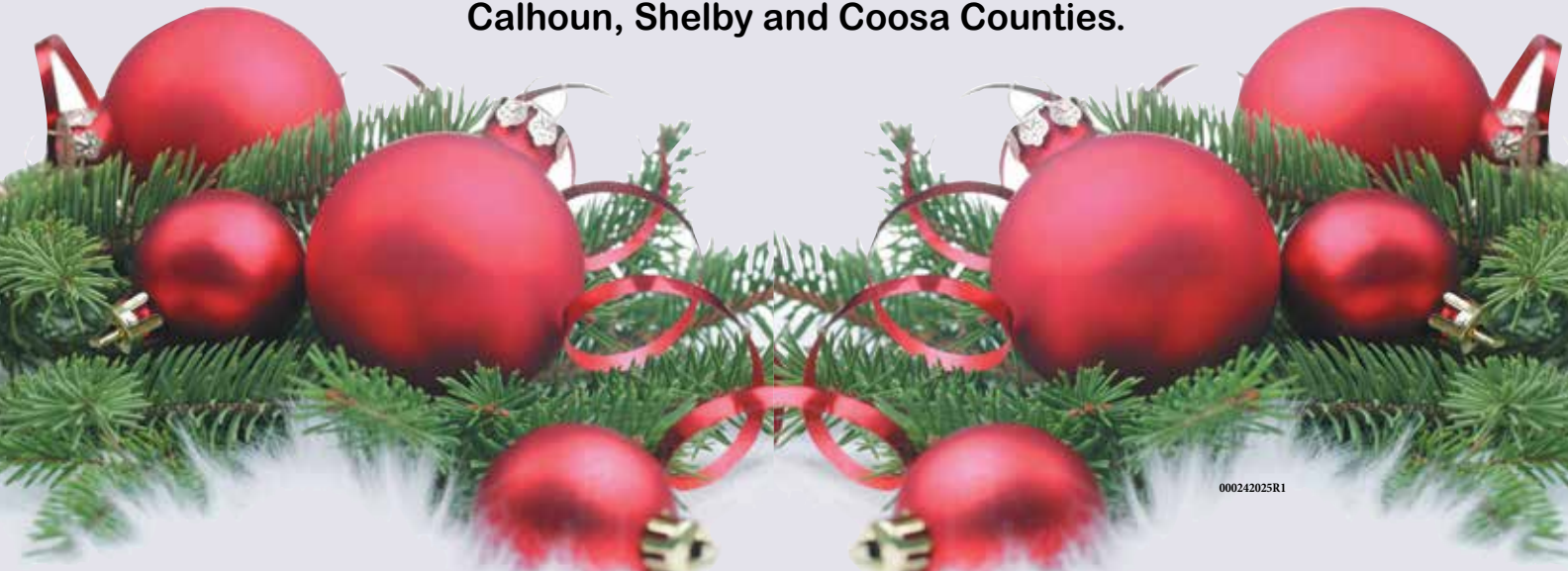
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VisionFirst Eye Center offers life-changing patient services

Written by Buddy Roberts
Photographed by Bob Crisp

Family-oriented, convenient care and the latest medical technology are hallmarks of VisionFirst Eye Center in Pell City.

Founded and owned by its medical director, Dr. Mark Bearman, the center specializes in cataract surgeries, which the ophthalmologist describes as a life-changing procedure that can improve patients' opportunities for enjoying all the sights the Logan Martin Lake area has to offer.

The result of natural changes inside the eye that decrease the sharpness of vision over time, a cataract is a clouding of the lens, causing blurry or hazy vision and sensitivity to light. VisionFirst was the first eye care center in Alabama to offer bladeless laser cataract surgery using the LenSx femtosecond laser.

"I recommend LenSx cataract surgery to patients so that they have an opportunity to get the very best outcome from their cataract surgery," Bearman said. "It has the ability to change lives. Removing a cloudy lens from your eye is like removing a cloudy lens from a camera. Then with an implant, we can replace that cloudiness with a clear window and return your vision to levels you haven't seen in

years."

Cataract symptoms include blurred vision, poor night vision, faded color vision and double vision. Cataracts usually form with age, but they can be caused by trauma, disease and family history. By means of the LenSx laser and artificial lens implants, patients can regain clear vision both near and at distances, said Bearman, who has performed more than 10,000 cataract surgeries.

In addition to cataract surgeries, VisionFirst provides iLASIK vision correction procedures, treatment of cornea disease, adult and pediatric eye exams and an optical center offering designer frames in a variety of styles and prescription and non-prescription sunglasses, many of which are popular with lake enthusiasts, according to Dr. Sarah Clark Cleghern, optometrist on staff at the center's new, more spacious offices in Pell City at 74 Plaza Drive, Suite 203.

Center hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursdays and 8 a.m.-noon Fridays. Physicians are available after hours for 24-hour emergency care. For more information, call 205-949-2020 or visit www.visionfirsteyecenter.com.



Dr. Mark Bearman has performed more than 10,000 cataract surgeries. He is the owner and medical director of VisionFirst Eye Center in Pell City.



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Lakeside Hospice staff finds rewards in caring for local communities

Written by Buddy Roberts
Photographed by Bob Crisp

The holiday season can be a difficult time for families coping with chronic and terminal illnesses, but the staff at Lakeside Hospice is here to make that time as enjoyable as possible for them.

"It is a tougher time on families," said Terri Walker, the nonprofit agency's executive director. "We usually have more hospice admissions around the holidays, and we care for a lot of needy families."

But Walker said the Lakeside Hospice staff views the season as an extra opportunity to demonstrate its mission of enhancing the quality of its patients' lives.

"That is our purpose – to enhance the quality of life," she said. "The truth about hospice care is considerably different from the myth that we're there to kill the patient or we're there for no reason other than they don't have long to live. We work hard to make a difference in people's lives."

This holiday season – during one week of which leading up to Thanksgiving the agency accepted as many as seven new patients – the Lakeside Hospice staff continues its tradition of sponsoring children and needy families and providing them

with gifts and holiday food baskets. "If nothing else, we want to see that they at least have a nice holiday dinner," Walker said. "Everybody deserves that."

She and the staff also believe that patients deserve to have the best treatment possible when facing cancer, Alzheimer's disease and other life-threatening conditions.

"Patient satisfaction and quality of care are very important to us," Walker said. "We have received the Award of Distinction from Fazzi's (Patient & Family Satisfaction Services), which to the average person doesn't mean anything, but it was a very proud moment for us because it recognizes how hard our staff works to take care of our patients."

Most staff members have relatives who have been or are being cared for by Lakeside Hospice, she added. "Every one of us is here as a God appointment. I was working at a different hospice organization when I got the text about coming here out of the blue. I had worked here before, and I was happy when things worked out for me to come back, but nobody knows where my number came up from."

Teressa Brewster, the agency's patient resources coordina-

tor, agrees that the staff lives up to its faith-based mission.

"Our mission is to help the community, and that's what we do," she said. "God always sees that we take care of those who need taken care of. And when one of us hurts, all of us hurt."

Long a fixture in lakeside communities, the agency provides a service that is not always uplifting in nature but that is rewarding, Walker said. "Death causes relationships to heal. You don't know how many people have been brought to the Lord on their deathbed. You never know how the Lord will work."

Still, it's never easy losing a patient.

"It hurts us when we do," she said. "It hurts us to see their family hurting. Nursing is about compassion, and when you lose that, it's time to step away from the bedside. Thankfully, we have a very loving and very caring group of people here at Lakeside Hospice."

The staff is in constant need of volunteers, however, to help with providing services to patients.

"Our volunteers do everything from answering phones to filing to yard work here at the office, and we are in desperate need for direct care volunteers," Walker said. "That involves sitting with patients while their caregivers go to the grocery store or an appointment or take care of whatever they need to do."

Individuals interested in volunteering are encouraged to call Elizabeth Thomaston, volunteer and community service coordinator, at 205-884-1111.

"Our focus is about caring for people and enhancing their quality of life," Walker said. "We enjoy doing that, and we enjoy being a part of the community here."

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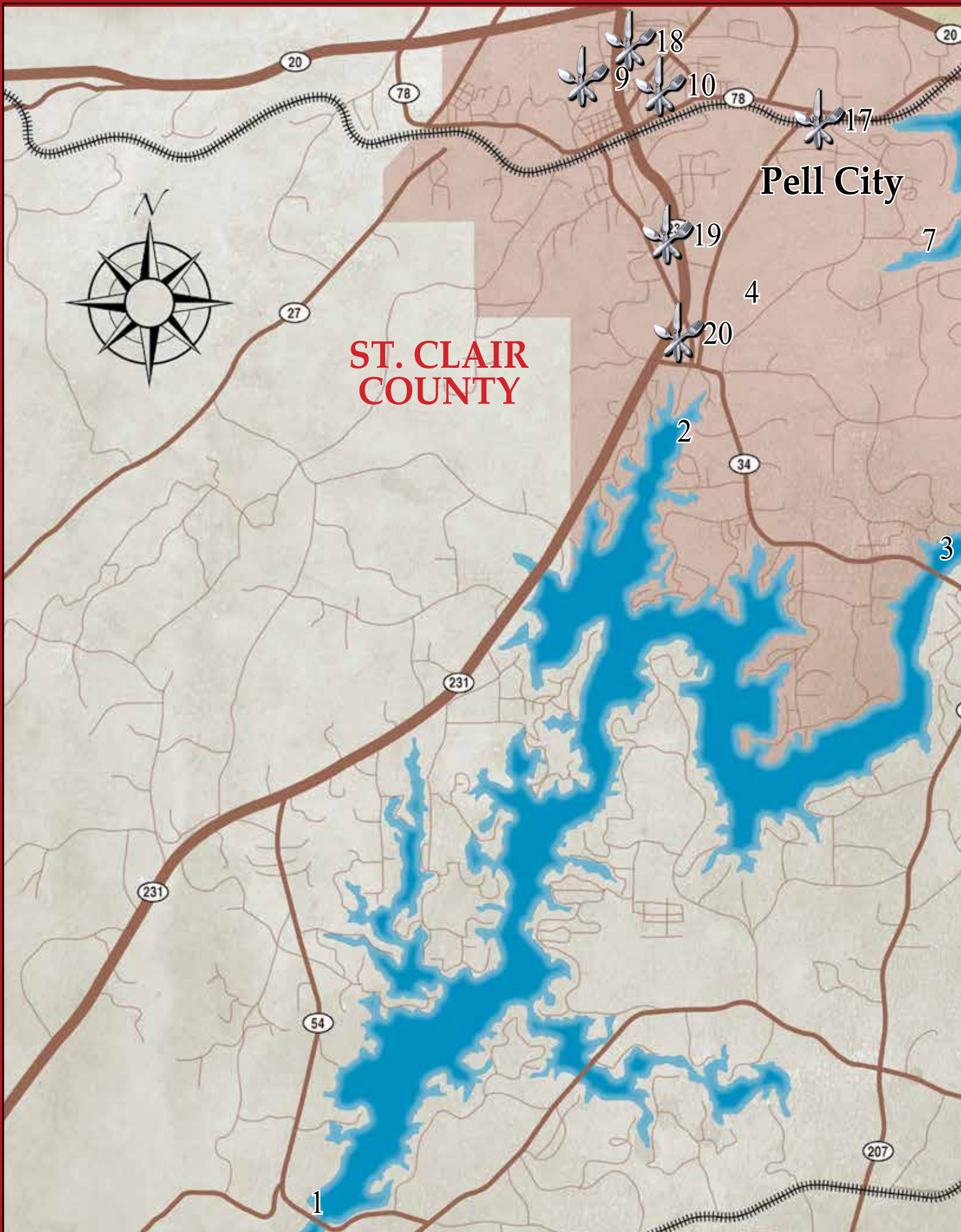
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20

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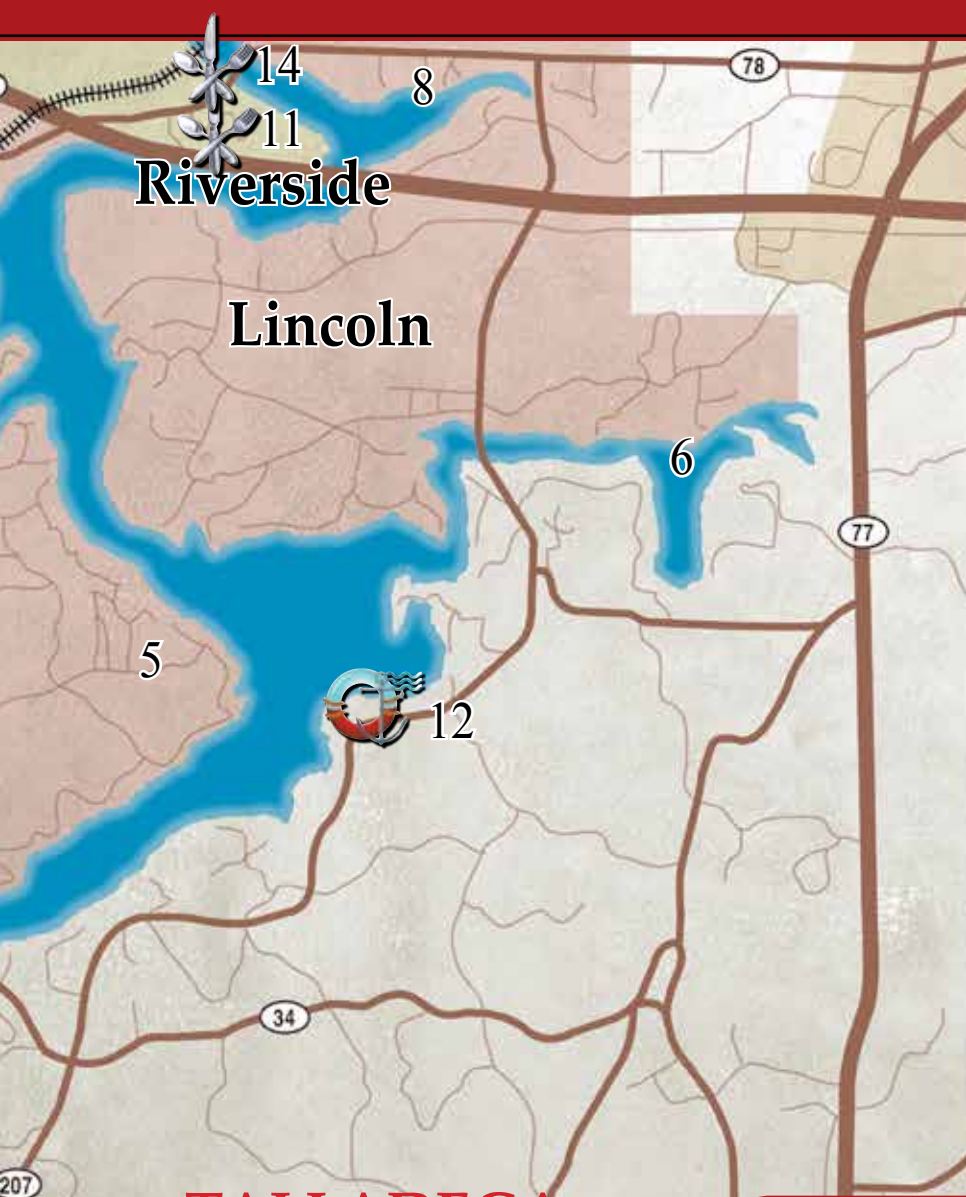
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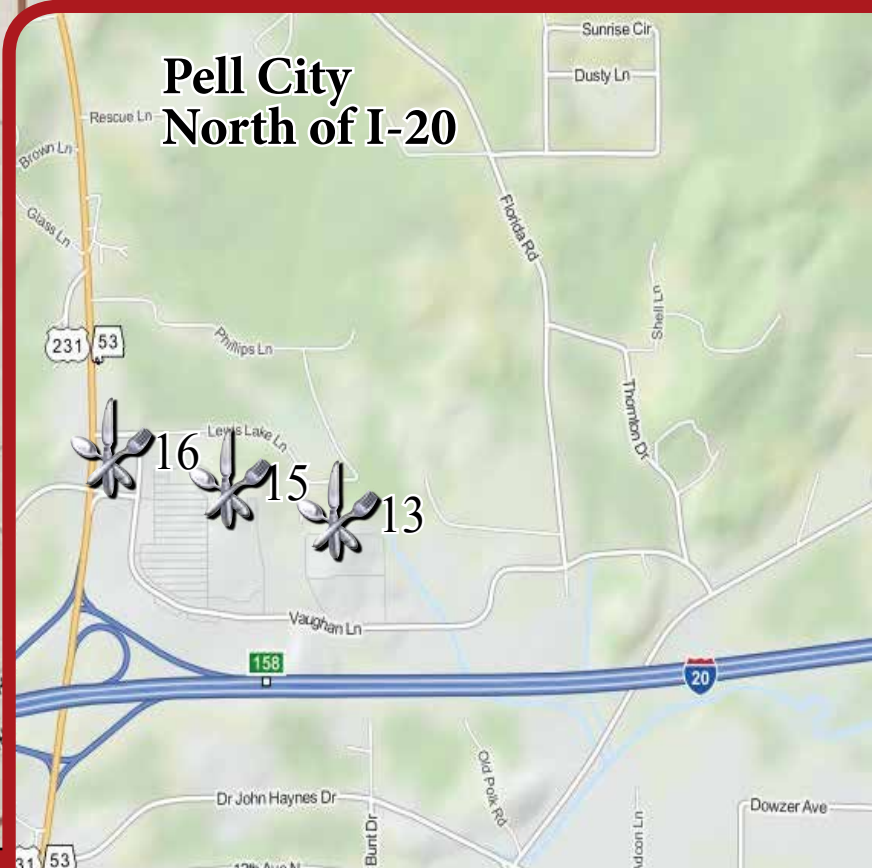
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A Lakeside Living guide to LOGAN MARTIN

1. Logan Martin Dam
2. Lakeside Park
3. Stemley Bridge
4. St. Clair Airport
5. Mays Bend
6. Choccolocco Creek
7. Dye Creek
8. Blue Eye Creek
9. KFC
10. Pell City Steak House
11. Boss Brothers BBQ
12. Poor House Branch Marina
13. Aztecas
14. The Ark
15. Jade East
16. Golden Rule
17. Oishi Japanese
18. Butts To Go - Pell City Texaco
19. Guadalajara Mexican
20. Docks

**TALLADEGA
COUNTY**



Pell City North of I-20



Holiday baking shortcuts for time-pressed entertainers

'Tis the season for baking cookies, cakes and other treats. However, during the holiday rush, it's easy to get side-tracked or tired, and perhaps even a little bit overwhelmed by all the things to do in such a short period of time. Holiday baking doesn't have to add to seasonal stress. With these tips and shortcuts, there will be plenty of sweet treats for the family.

Stick with tested recipes

Although holiday bakers may want to branch out a bit with their culinary creativity, recipes that have previously been prepared with great success can take some of the work out of holiday baking. Preparing recipes you recall preparing in the past is much easier than trying something new. If you'd like, add sparkle to old standards, such as decorating oatmeal or chocolate chip cookies with colored sprinkles.

Cookies are fast-baking

Did you know that cookies were originally made to test oven temperatures? Culinary historians say that cook-

ies were first made to test if an oven was hot enough to bake other goods. Today, cookies can be whipped up in mere minutes. Make a batch of dough and then freeze or refrigerate it, thawing it when the time comes to bake. Also, think about baking one day and decorating the next if pressed for time.

Embrace colored candy melts

Icing can be tricky to master. Simply heating colored candy melts and pouring over cakes or painting onto cookies can add festive appeal to desserts. Candy melts even come in many different colors and can be combined to achieve the tint desired.

Keep ingredients in top form

Don't let poorly performing ingredients or a lack of supplies be your undoing. Butter can be softened quickly in the microwave when needed for recipes. Eggs can be brought to room temperature by allowing them to sit in a bowl of warm water. Ensure that brown sugar stays soft by putting a piece of sliced bread in the container. Don't for-

get to stock up on other baking staples, such as vanilla and almond extracts, baking powder/soda, molasses, and confectioner's sugar.

Don't bake from scratch

Not all recipes need to be made from scratch. Boxed cake mixes can be embellished and turned into delicious desserts without much fuss. Substitute melted butter for oil, buttermilk for water, and add an extra egg for a rich cake. Mix in chocolate chips or nuts or experiment with garnishes for a festive look.

Parchment paper is key

Line cookie sheets or cake pans with parchment paper for easy dessert release and quick cleanup. Parchment paper and even foil can help lift cakes or cookie bars out of pans so they look neat and do not stick.

Holiday baking can be made much easier by employing a few tricks of the trade.

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DECEMBER calendar of events

FRIDAY 1st

BRIAN FREE AND ASSURANCE

The southern gospel concert featuring award-winning tenor Free begins at 7 p.m. at the Center for Education and Performing Arts in Pell City. Tickets are available at \$25 for general admission and \$45 for VIP admission. To reserve tickets, call 205-332-1961 or visit www.pellcitycenter.com.

LIGHTS IN THE PARK

The holiday favorite returns to Lakeside Park at sunset, offering a spectacular display of festive holiday lights. For more information, call Ashley Thomas at 205-338-9713.

MONDAY 4th

BEYOND GRIEF

Led by Chaplains Clay Cain and Larry Wimberly, the support group meets at 2 p.m. every first Monday at Lakeside Hospice, 4010 Masters Road, Pell City. It also meets at 6 p.m. every third Thursday. For more information, call 205-884-1111 or visit www.lakesidehospice.org.

TUESDAY 5th

SUPPORT GROUP

Meeting at 6:15 p.m. every first Tuesday at Lakeside Hospice, the Alzheimer's/Dementia support group provides support, resources and comfort for family members and caregivers dealing with the disease. For more information, call 205-884-1111 or visit www.lakesidehospice.org.

THURSDAY 14th

A MAGICAL CHRISTMAS

The annual holiday parade begins at 7 p.m. in downtown Pell City, the Gateway to Logan Martin Lake. For more information, call the Pell City Chamber of Commerce at 205-338-3377.

FRIDAY 15th

CHRISTMAS ON THE SQUARE

Talladega's new holiday tradition returns to 115 Court Square N for three days of holiday festivities, including a free concert by Taylor Hicks. Events will begin from 6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15, and continue from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16, and noon-6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 17. Besides the performance by American Idol winner Hicks, the Historic Ritz Theatre will host screenings of Christmas movies, while on the square will be pop-up shops, crafts for children, photos with Santa Claus, ice skating and holiday food vendors. For more information, visit www.christmasintalladega.com.

WEDNESDAY 27th

SOUTHERN THUNDER: THE LEGACY OF ALABAMA AUTO RACING

Inspired by the Alabama Gang's influence on auto racing, the exhibition concludes its stay at Vulcan Park and Museum, 1701 Valley View Drive, Birmingham. Recounting the hair-raising exploits of Alabama drivers who left an impact on regional and national auto racing, the exhibition is open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. through Saturday, December 30. For more information, call 205-933-1409.

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DECEMBER 2017

Homes

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



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LUXURIOUS LAKESIDE LIVING IN PELL CITY

Written by Buddy Roberts
Photographed by Bob Crisp

Prospective homebuyers seeking luxurious lakeside living will want to see the property at 705 Lakeview Crest Drive in Pell City, in The Reserve.

The newly constructed four-bedroom, four-bathroom home is situated on 1.55 acres. Amenities include 14-foot coffered ceilings in the family room, a black marble gas fireplace, natural red oak hardwood floors and picturesque windows throughout. It is handicap accessible with an elevator.

The kitchen offers granite countertops, touchless faucets, soft-close custom cabinets, stainless steel sink and a vaulted breakfast nook with decorative beams and a

bay window overlooking the lake.

The master suite features California organized closets and nice views of the lake, with multi shower heads, a tile shower and a jetted tub with hand-held sprayer in the master bath. The floor plan allows for one bedroom to serve as an office or formal dining room.

The basement includes a large den with fireplace, two bedrooms and an exercise room.

Exterior amenities include a private dock.

The property lists at \$979,000. For more information, call Fields/Gossett Realty at 205-884-2300.

ERA King agent is with her clients 'every step of the way'

Written by Laci Braswell
Photo Submitted

Pamela Chaney of ERA King Real Estate takes pride in getting to know each of her clients. "Connecting with my clients is my ultimate goal," she said. "Buying or selling a home is the biggest financial decision that most people will ever make in their lifetime. I am a hardworking agent who will provide you with the best customer service available."

The Pell City native has been employed with ERA King since August of 2015. "The company has been wonderful to work for and is made up of wonderful team players," she said.

When asked what she enjoys most about working in real estate, Chaney replied, "getting to know the people and helping them get into their dream home. There's nothing like seeing a client's face when you first hand them their new house keys. That's what it's all about."

The agent said she is a firm believer in the importance of building relationships with her clients. "Maintaining confidentiality and exercising my fiduciary duties are top priority. Whether clients are looking to market their home or searching for their dream home, I am with my clients every step of the way. There is so much more to real estate than most people realize. There are many steps involved, and every piece must fit like a puzzle."

Chaney said her desire is to continue to learn the ins and outs of real estate.

"ERA King has been great with providing us routine



training and new technology," she said, adding that ERA King takes pride in providing potential lakefront property owners all the necessary information during the home buying process. "We make sure to answer all of their questions such as information about flood insurance and water levels."

The agent offered advice to potential homeowners as well as those contemplating selling their property.

"When buying, it's so important to have an agent that you can trust, who will help guide you through all the major decisions. It's crucial for sellers to price their homes correctly. We are here to assist with making sure it's put on the market efficiently. ERA has a wonderful marketing team, and we are on all social media platforms. The company really likes to utilize technology tools to help our clients get their listing out there."

According to Chaney, the holidays are a good time to check out the market.

"It's a great time to buy or sell right now."

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870 Black Acres Rd.
1br, 2ba, 340' of shoreline
& year round water
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\$369,900



CROPWELL - LOGAN MARTIN
32 Smith Place
3br, 2ba
MLS #787824
\$99,900



RIVERSIDE - LOGAN MARTIN
604 Paradise Isle
2br, 2ba
MLS #794670
\$169,900



LINCOLN - LOGAN MARTIN
75 Willow Dr.
4br, 4.5ba
Waterfront
MLS #753619
\$599,900



LINCOLN - LOGAN MARTIN
Lot 19 River Pine Ln.
71' of Waterfront
MLS #798899
\$100,000



ALPINE - LOGAN MARTIN
77 Waters Edge Way
4br, 5ba
Waterfront
MLS #799188
\$879,900



ALPINE - LOGAN MARTIN
448 Cedar Cove Dr.
.6 acres with garage
& boathouse
MLS #799395
\$149,900



WILSONVILLE - LAY LAKE
185 Carleton Point Ln.
4br,3ba
Waterfront
MLS #794613
\$299,900



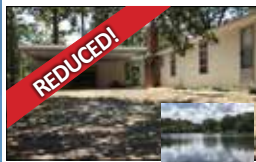
SYLACAUGA - LAY LAKE
140 Hummingbird Ln.
4 br, 3 ba.
Waterfront.
MLS #790670
\$399,900



SYLACAUGA - LAY LAKE
1276 Kelly Ln.
1br, 1ba
Waterfront
MLS #748486
\$119,900



SYLACAUGA - LAY LAKE
274 Nalrie Cir.
3br, 2ba
Waterfront
MLS #787895
\$169,900



CLANTON - LAY LAKE
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3br, 1ba
Waterfront/Acreage
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CLANTON - LAY LAKE
158 County Rd. 760
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Lake/Access/View
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1660 Nanyehi Dr.
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waterfront w/boathouse
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Waterfront/
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MLS 753626	Willow Rd, Lot 202	\$49,900
MLS 753627	Willow Rd, Lot 174	\$109,900
MLS 753625	33 Willow Rd	\$129,900
MLS 793436	87 Lake Pointe Dr	\$24,900
MLS 793439	214 Lake Pointe Dr	\$33,900
MLS 793438	Mountain Crest Dr, Lot 77	\$24,900
MLS 793437	Mountain Crest Dr, Lot 79	\$24,900



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552 River Bend Lane, Lincoln \$105,000.00 Beautiful Logan Martin Lake. Looking for a great Lake get away???? This is it a spacious double wide with screen porch and front covered porch. Furniture, washer and dryer included. 3 BR and 2 BA. Eat in are in the kitchen, huge living room. Vaulted ceiling. Bedrooms w/large closets. Big laundry room. Two out buildings. Your own private pier. Lincoln school system. Double car carport.

Merry Christmas and Have A Prosperous New Year!



668 LAKE FRONT DR., PELL CITY - \$599,000. Great room has 22 ft. ceiling, stacked stone fireplace. Pella windows & crown molding throughout. Kitchen has custom made cabinets, induction range, granite counter tops, bar, tile flooring and large bay window in casual eating area. Main level has formal dining room back foyer w/ large pantry and bar area, guest bath w/ black marble, master room and bath suite has separate tile shower & garden tub. Upstairs has 2BR both w bonus room w/skylight, full size BA and open balcony. Basement has 4th BR w/full bath & media room, exercise room and den w/wet bar. MLS #770918



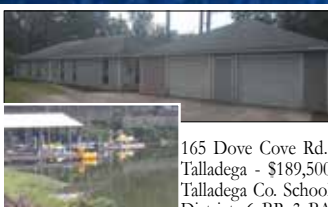
310 LAKE VIEW CIR. - \$398,000 Logan Martin Lake. Big water view, open floor plan, screened porch, open covered deck, 3 BR, 2 BA, beautiful landscape, 2 car garage, 1 carport. Extra Large Boat garage, boat house w/wench, sea wall. MLS #784680



8560 Renfro rd. - \$159,000 Logan Martin Lake. Over 400 ft. of shore line. Approximately 1.9 ac. lot. Point lot. MLS #763524



4208 BLUE CUTT RD. - \$299,000 8.5 acres, dirt track w/jumps, very private, architectural design home, 3 BR, 3.5 BA, stone fireplace, jetted tub, downstairs den. 20x60 workshop, 2 HVAC units, energy efficient. MLS #784566



165 Dove Cove Rd., Talladega - \$189,500 Talladega Co. School District. 6 BR 3 BA N/Asq Logan Martin Lake, huge great room, eat in kitchen. Approx 2200 sq feet. Extra large double garage w/workshop. Level lot, approx 115 feet of shore line. MLS #605715



2219 4th ave. no. - \$215,000 Downtown Living at its Best! Charm, Charm, Charm! 5 BR, 3.5 BA, formal living/dining room, greatroom w/FP, bay window, eat in space in kitchen, big deck, beautiful landscape, new roof, life time gutters, red wood siding, approx. 3565 sq. ft. MLS #777124



Hwy 280 14.27 Acres, Sterrett, \$1,900,000. Commercial Property, Chelsea Tax District. Across from Chelsea Park Subdivision. Road frontage approx. 497 feet 1285 ft deep, utilities at the street. MLS# 773072



2001 19th St, Pell City \$210,000.00. 2 ac farm in the city with such charm. Fenced with a barn and pasture. This adorable home is perfect for the southern charm home lover! It is full of character! Unique LR w/high ceilings! Pretty DR w/hardwoods! Spacious master BR w/large closet! Front foyer is great place for art work! This home is a treasure you see to appreciate! Tile counter top, gas heat, gas water heater, wood siding. MLS #790241



917 N LAKESHORE DR TALLADEGA, 299,000.00 Lake living at its best..... Walk in your front door to a Fantastic view of the Lake. This home offers a open floor plan great for entertaining. Three sets of glass doors gives you access to your large deck. The kitchen has granite counter tops, easy close drawers and cabinets with lazy susan. Farm house sink, stainless appliances, center island. Hardwood floors, high ceilings. Split bedrooms offer privacy for you and your guest. The master on the main floor. downstairs you will find 2 BR and a full bath. Large laundry with room for storage. Outside is like paradise.. Open deck for grilling, downstairs patio or follow the walkway to your boat house with boat lift. MLS #794558



116 Amitola Dr. - \$749,000 - Logan Martin Lake at its best. Large level lot with fantastic view. Enjoy the lake while sitting by your pool or on your screen. 3BR and 3.5 BA. Downstairs den has a wet bar. In-ground pool fenced with hot tub. Kitchen and bath rooms have been updated with granite and stainless appliances. Roof, hvac and windows all replaced 3 yrs ago. Double car garage on main level, boat/lawn mower garage downstairs. MLS #798239



194 MIRACLE HILLS RD, SPRINGVILLE \$239,000.00 All the charm of Beautiful Springville sitting on 1.19 ac corner lot. In-ground pool with pool house surrounded by massive patio. This home offers 3 BR and 2.5 BA. Kitchen has been remodeled with granite and a fantastic back splash, hardwood floating floor. The Great room has new hardwoods floors..the open floor plan lets you enjoy the fireplace from the kitchen, dining room and great room. This home has a new roof, carpet, water heater and appliances. Full brick, one level double car garage MLS #796021

- COTTON TOP FARMS, 4 LOTS. \$25,000
- TWO EAGLE POINTE LOTS, \$14,900 MLS #76033 AND MLS #760336
- LAKE LOT - RIVERSIDE \$75,000
- SEMINOLE TRAL - MAYS BEND LAKE ACCESS \$45,000

- LOGAN MARTIN LAKE POINT LOT, BEACH AREA, APPROX 440 FT. OF SHORE LINE MLS #783524 \$159,000
- LEVEL LOT - EASONVILLE SUBDIVISION MLS#793688 \$25,000
- HWY 280 COMMERCIAL PROPERTY. 14.27 AC +/- CHELSEA TAX DISTRICT APPROX 497 FEET OF HWY 280 ROAD FRONTAGE MLS 793683 \$1,700,000.00



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Merry Christmas from the Realty Pros!!



TALLADEGA, EASTLAND SHORES \$25,900 PER LOT. 2 BEAUTIFUL BUILDING LOTS IN THE LOVELY EASTLAND SHORES SUBDIVISION. WITHIN 2 MI FROM I-20. NEARBY WATER ACCESS WITH GAZEBO. MLS#795510



NEW LISTING!

PELL CITY \$92,500. GREAT LOT FOR BUILDING LAKE HOME. GOOD LOCATION, WATER FRONTAGE ON SEASONAL WATER. NICE SHADE TREE BY THE LAKE. MLS#796616



PELL CITY \$275,000. SPACIOUS BRICK 5BR/3BA HOME WITH DOUBLE GARAGE, LARGE PRIVATE BACK PORCH, FENCED YARD, SALT WATER POOL. BEAUTIFUL VAULTED ENTRY TO OPEN LIVING & DINING, HARDWOOD FLOORS. GREAT MASTER WITH FRENCH DOORS THAT OPEN OUT TO PORCH AND POOL. BONUS ROOM & HUGE CRAFT CLOSET. MLS#780872



PELL CITY \$499,000. GREAT 4BR/4BA ON APPROX. 40 ACRES. NICE HARDWOODS, LIVING RM WITH FP & BOOKSHELVES, SPACIOUS KITCHEN, LARGE COOKTOP ISLAND. MASTER HAS JET TUB, SEPARATE VANITIES, SITTING AREA, PLENTY OF CLOSETS. SUNPORCH OPENS TO BACKDECK. BASEMENT HAS MOTHER-IN-LAW SUITE. 2000 SQ. FT. GARAGE WORKSHOP WITH 4 DOORS. MLS#795103



TALLADEGA \$399,000. BEAUTIFUL VIEWS AND PLENTY OF SHADES ON GENTLE SLOPING LOT ON YEAR ROUND WATER. PEACEFUL AND PRIVATE 5BR/3BA HOME. 2 SEPARATE LIVING AREAS TO ACCOMMODATE LARGE FAMILIES OR GUESTS. BIG OPEN FLOOR PLAN WITH FIREPLACES. LARGE BEDROOMS WITH PLENTY OF CLOSET STORAGE. SCREENED BACK DECK, LOWER PATIO AND PIER. MLS#778391



great lake view!



LINCOLN \$950,000. AMAZING INCOME PRODUCING FARM! LOVELY MODERN BRICK 4BR/3BA HOME SURROUNDED BY APPROX. 90 ACRES, MOSTLY PLANTED WITH CROPS. MLS#755835



NEW LISTING!

PELL CITY \$279,000. GREAT WATERFRONT 2BR/2BA COTTAGE GET-AWAY IN PINE HARBOR AREA! HUGE DECK OVERLOOKING WATER. NEWLY REMODELED FLOORING, PAINTING, KITCHEN APPLIANCES, NEW ROOF, 2 BR/2 BA, FULL UNFINISHED BASEMENT. SHARED BOAT LAUNCH. MLS#796614



GREAT WATERFRONT LOT!

PELL CITY \$189,000. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME ON THIS WATERFRONT LOT IN PINE HARBOR, NICE NEIGHBORHOOD, HAS EXISTING BOATHOUSE. MLS#603599



May your Holidays be Merry and Bright!



Terry & Michelle DeWitt

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924 Blue Ridge Way, Odenville, AL 35120

New Construction! \$340's

Custom new home on beautiful acreage. Brick 1.5 story home with 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Upstairs and basement stuffed for additional bath and expansion. Creekside Cove is a picturesque community with oversized wooded lots, green space with pavilion, play area, walking trails & creek. www.DewittHomes.info



379 Lake Rd., Margaret, AL 35120

New Construction! \$240's

Custom built new home on 3.43 acre home site. Home qualifies for a 100% USDA Financing with approved credit!. One level, 3 bedroom, 2 bath with full unfinished basement. Lovely scenic view off the back, plus a great area for future workshop or kids play area! www.DewittHomes.info



665 Magnolia Crest Ct., Odenville, AL 35120

New Construction! \$180's

Custom built home on 1+/- acre home site. Home qualifies for 100% USDA Financing with approved credit. Great 1 level plan on full basement. New homes are located in the Magnolia Lake Community with community lake with walking path and pavilion. www.DewittHomes.info



208 26th Ave. N.E., Center Point, AL 35215

Solid Built Home! \$119,900

Almost 4000 sq. ft. on almost an acre of land on a private dead end street setting! This full brick, one level, low maintenance home has a circular drive with a 2 car carport and full finished basement. Backyard is private and fenced in. Downstairs area great for a Man Cave or In-Law/teenage suite. www.DewittHomes.info



120 Holly Ln. Tracts 35 & 36 Ashville, AL 35953

17 Private Acres! \$79,900

Great for weekend retreats or just getting ready for it to Hit the Fan! Nice private cul-de-sac area. Property has a small one room cabin with metal roof & scenic view and a covered carport/pavilion. Double wide mobile home or a stick built home are welcome. Two adjoining tracts 37 & 38 consisting of 9.8+/- acres are also available. Get a move on it before its too late! www.DewittHomes.info



138 Holly Ln. Tracts 37 & 38 Ashville, AL 35953

9.8 Wooded Acres! \$49,900

Whether you want some secluded green space to call your own or it is just time to "Get Out of Dodge", these tracts consists of 9.8+/- acres. Nice private cul-de-sac. Property does have an approved septic tank in a level area. Also, adjoining this property are tracts 35 & 36 that consists of 17.1 +/- acres that is available. Don't let this opportunity pass you by again! www.DewittHomes.info



0 Arrowhead Ln., Ashville, AL 35953

3 Acres! \$14,900

Longing for a little peace and quiet on some affordable land to call your own? Here's your opportunity! 3 wooded acres in the private setting of a cul-de-sac. Located in the city limits of Ashville. Site built homes and mobile homes are welcome! www.DewittHomes.info



0 County Rd. 12, Odenville, AL 35120

7.3 Acres! \$39,900

Property is located in the County! No restrictions. Road was once cleared through property to back property line, but has grown up since. Several nice areas for site on property! www.DewittHomes.info



31690 Hwy. 411, Ashville, AL 35953

Potential Commercial Property! \$24,900

Property has great potential for residential or commercial and is located on .56 of an acre in downtown area of Ashville, AL! Home on property needs work and is not livable at this time. Property if located on Hwy. 411 with 110 ft.+/- road frontage. Property can't be financed because of condition of home and will be sold "As Is", cash only sale. www.DewittHomes.info

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205.427.3222
Realtor®
michelle.shoemaker@aol.com

Carl Howard
205.965-4755
Associate Broker
carlmhoward@hotmail.com

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Tracy Boyd
Associate Broker
www.tracyboyd@gmail.com
www.realtyprospc.com

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