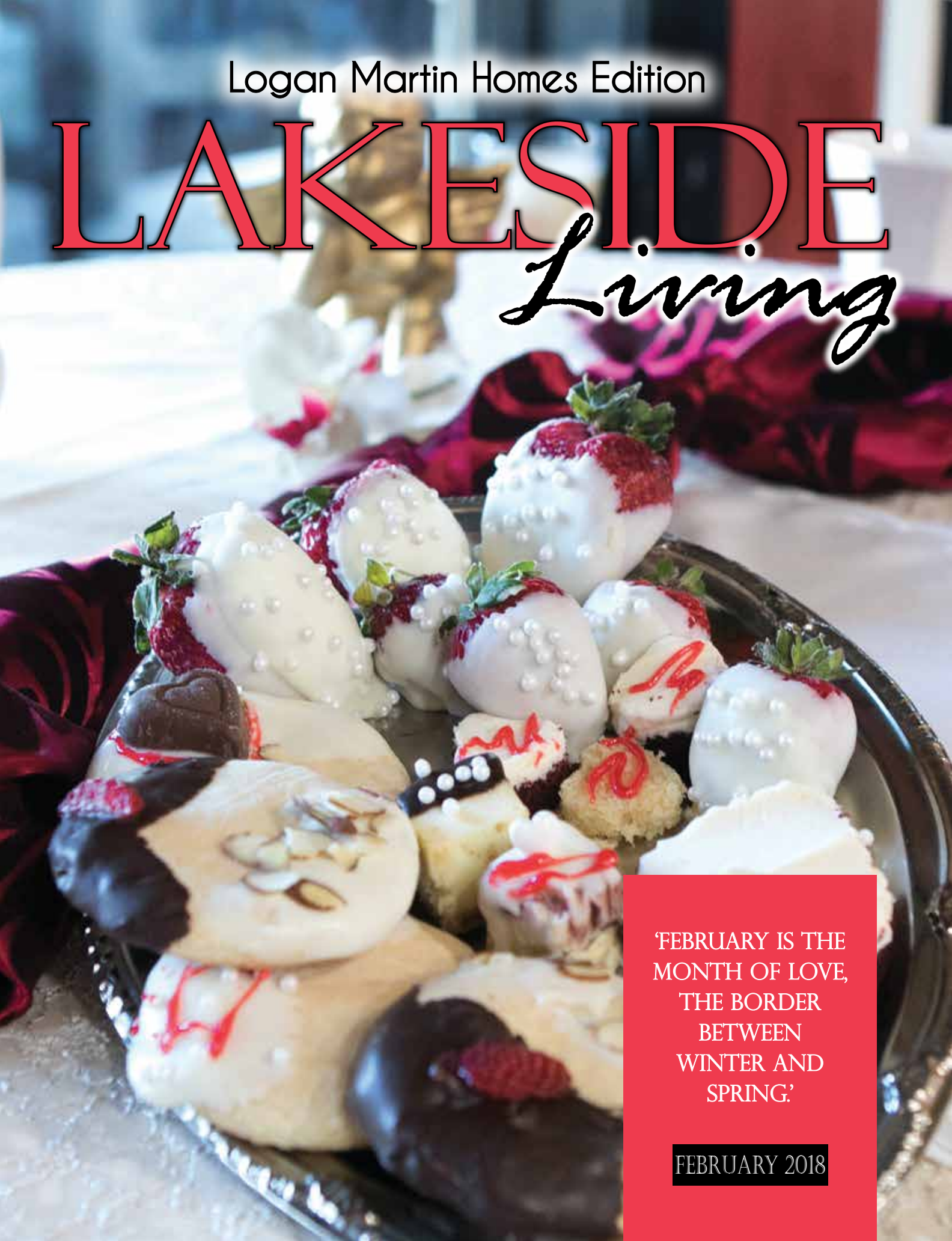


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FEBRUARY 2018



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ON THE COVER: Valentine's Day is a perfect occasion for tasty, decadent treats. Photo by Bob Crisp.

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**LAKESIDE**  
*Living*

Covering life along  
Logan Martin Lake since 1994

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# LETTER



## From the Editor

### How long does it take to fill a football stadium with water?

“The story of Logan Martin Dam and Logan Martin Lake began as a story of energy,” the fact sheet said. “It continues today as a story of flood control, recreation and economic opportunity, irrigation and drinking water and fish and wildlife habitats. Power was just the beginning.”

I had picked it up some time back at a Choccolocco Creek Watershed Alliance conference, where it had been distributed by representatives of Alabama Power Company to explain why water levels in the lake vary depending on the time of year.

Interesting information, I thought, as I rediscovered it not long ago, even as I realized that it’s likely old news for longtime lake residents and visitors. But for those who came late to Logan Martin – like me – it’s quite educational. And since I don’t believe I’m the only one who would think so, here are a few facts I gleaned from the material. It’s good stuff.

Alabama Power manages the rivers and streams that pass through its 14 dams and 11 lakes stretching across the Coosa, Tallapoosa and Black Warrior rivers. With its 275 miles of shoreline and total area of 15,263 acres, Logan Martin is among the largest of the utility provider’s six storage lakes. (Martin, Smith, Weiss, Henry and Harris are the other five.)

Storage lakes were designed to provide seasonal storage, with different summer and winter pool levels. They’re drawn down in late fall-early winter to provide a measure of protection against flooding during the high flow events that can occur in the colder months. They are returned to summer pool levels during spring, and water in the storage lakes can ease the impact of drought periods by providing a limited source of water when the need exceeds the natural supply.

Floods, according to Alabama Power, usually cause the most significant and quickest changes in lake levels, resulting from heavy rains that can raise a lake level several feet overnight. Lakeside

residents likely remember when that happened three Decembers ago, when 10 days of rain caused the water to rise well above summer pool and into the flood easements.

Here are some interesting numbers from that event: The maximum volume of water stored in the six storage lakes totaled 50 billion cubic feet, equal to about 400 billion gallons. That much water would cover every single one of the 52,419 square miles in Alabama with about a half-inch of water.

“To put the amount of water released in perspective, maximum releases during the event from the Coosa and Tallapoosa were 2.5 times the annual average flow at Niagara Falls and very near the annual peak flow there,” said Alan Peebles, Alabama Power’s reservoir management manager. “The volume of water would be enough to completely fill the AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas – home of the Dallas Cowboys – in about nine minutes.”

Wow. As that event showed, not every flood can be completely controlled, but Alabama Power’s efforts to manage waterways and shorelines – whether one sees the lake primarily as a recreational resource, a tool for producing hydroelectric energy or a place to call home – are to be appreciated. They are one reason the lake is a great place to live and play.

Once again, we celebrate various aspects of lakeside living in this month’s issue. Please continue reading to find out how you can become part of an effort to help foster children in lakeside communities, visit a stylishly designed lake home and enjoy some tasty treats appropriate to the month of February.

As always, thank you for joining us.

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# HOOK, LINE & SINKER



## 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.

## Pre-spawn season can yield quality catch

Fishing for early pre-spawn bass in February can seem difficult to an angler expecting to catch a lot of fish. However, those expecting fewer but better quality bass will be content until the days become longer and sunnier and the water becomes warmer.

By late February and early March, warming trends bring big changes to bass behavior. The sluggish, lethargic fish begin to move as they seek out warmer water. Once the water temperature rises from the low 40s and up to the 60-degree range, bass will begin moving and become more active.

A lake point close to a spawning flat is a hot spot for pre-spawn bass. In deep reservoirs void of cover, bass often spawn on ledges or shelves along steep ledges in creeks. Pre-spawn bass will almost always migrate to these deeper areas near their spawning grounds as they wait for conditions to become suitable for the spawn.

The pre-spawn season is a productive time to fish here in the Deep South. Many anglers wait and watch the warming trends closely until the temperatures are just right. The spawn will follow the same trend. Mother Nature tells bass this before many fishermen have a clue to the changes taking place daily as the days become longer and the water becomes warmer.

Source: Berkley Fishing



FEB 01	●	GOOD	Evening
FEB 02	●	GOOD	Evening
FEB 03	●	FAIR	Evening
FEB 04	●	POOR	Evening
FEB 05	●	GOOD	Evening
FEB 06	●	GOOD	Evening
FEB 07	●	GOOD	Morning
FEB 08	●	POOR	Morning
FEB 09	●	POOR	Morning
FEB 10	●	FAIR	Morning
FEB 11	●	FAIR	Morning
FEB 12	●	FAIR	Morning
FEB 13	●	FAIR	Morning
FEB 14	●	FAIR	Morning
FEB 15	●	GOOD	Evening
FEB 16	●	GOOD	Evening
FEB 17	●	GOOD	Evening
FEB 18	●	GOOD	Evening
FEB 19	●	POOR	Evening
FEB 20	●	POOR	Evening
FEB 21	●	FAIR	Evening
FEB 22	●	FAIR	Evening
FEB 23	●	POOR	Evening
FEB 24	●	BEST	Morning
FEB 25	●	BEST	Morning
FEB 26	●	FAIR	Morning
FEB 27	●	FAIR	Morning
FEB 28	●	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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# Tasty treats for *Valentine's Day*

Written Laura Nation-Atchison  
Photographed by Bob Crisp  
and Laura Nation-Atchison

If there's ever a day set aside just for sweetness, it's February 14.

Since the third century, this observance has grown from its origin as a tribute to the Roman St. Valentine of Terni and the traditions of courtly love to a day of holding close to those we love, along with indulging in a few sweet treats.

Those delectable delights may not be part of the lifestyles we aim for most other days of the year, but some of us choose to bend the rules of the day today and indulge on this special occasion.

So we'll take a little journey of sweetness now with some tried and true and old and new ideas



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Rhonda Gann, left, and Julie Funderburg enjoy an afternoon of tea and treats by the lake.

to help you express your sweet thoughts to those you treasure.

We'll start with something old: a tradition that's as simple, elegant and adaptable as they come.

The sheer simplicity of these delicacies we call teacakes is their allure, with nothing really needed to enhance their place on a table.

Here is a version of a teacake enjoyed by many through the years, made by the hands of the

late Ninnie Mae Golden, whose granddaughter, Joanie Gann, keeps the family tradition of her teacakes alive. Joanie whips these up whenever the spirit moves her, and they're perfect for Valentine's Day.

3/4 cup sugar

2 eggs

1/4 cup buttermilk

1 tsp baking soda



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- 1 cup butter
- 4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 ½ tsps vanilla
- Pinch of salt

Mix all ingredients together. Measure out 4 cups flour and add gradually until the dough is right for rolling. Roll dough out thin, and cut cakes into shapes with a biscuit cutter. Bake at 350-375 degrees for 12 minutes. Sprinkle sugar on top of the cakes.

And when teacakes are on your table, there's nothing quite like serving a little tea along with them. Serving tea can be as easy or as intricate as you care to make it, but the basics are really just as much a matter of preference and taste. Just choose a cozy spot and assemble your serving ware and the garnishes.

You might try some teas that would accent the sweets you offer. There are flavors from basic blends to those treated with a fruity or herbal

addition to suit any kind of accompaniment.

Though strict tea traditions often mean sandwiches as well, being as it's Valentine's Day, let's just stick to the dessert side.

I like to take favored standards and give them a twist, and I don't know too many folks who don't love a good cheesecake.

Here's a recipe for one made in a flat pan, as we're going to cut out the cake into heart shapes (it's easy). The first thing you need is a 9x13 baking pan.

**Crust**

- 1/2 cup margarine, melted
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1 1/4 cups ground graham crackers

**Filling**

- 1 8-ounce package cream cheese, softened
- 2 eggs
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla



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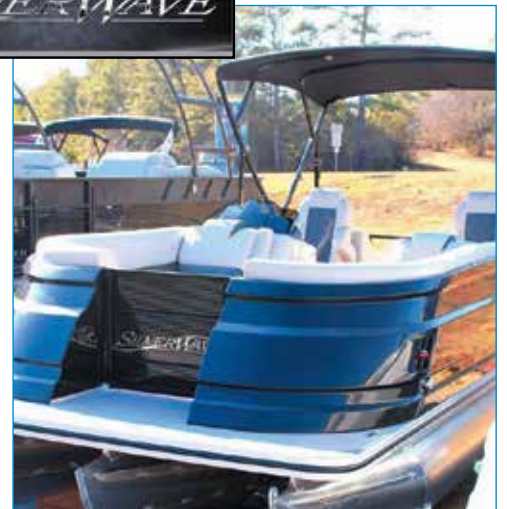
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1/2 tsp lemon juice

### **Topping**

1 pint sour cream

3 tbs sugar

1 tsp vanilla

### **Sauce (optional – if used, apply after cutting out shapes)**

10 ounces frozen strawberries, blueberries or raspberries

2 tbs sugar

1 tbs cornstarch

1 tps lemon juice

Mix together melted margarine, sugar and crumbs in pan to cover bottom evenly, pressing down to form crust. Bake at 350 for 8 minutes.

Make filling while crust bakes. Beat cream cheese, eggs, sugar, vanilla and lemon juice on high until whipped. Pour over crust and bake at 350 for 30 minutes.

Cool completely.

Make topping by mixing sour cream, sugar and vanilla well. Pour on top and bake at 400 for 5 minutes.

Let cool 6-8 six to eight hours, or overnight.

Add enough water to reserved berry juice from thawing to make 3/4 cup of juice. Combine sugar and cornstarch in a 2-cup measuring cup and mix well. Stir in juice and lemon juice. Microwave on high for 3-5 minutes or until thick, stirring occasionally. Stir in the fruit and cool completely.

This is usually poured over the cake, but in this case, we will add it, if desired, after cutting out the shapes. You can also use melted chocolate or caramel, nuts, sprinkles – all kinds of things, just depending upon the flavor and look you want. That's the fun part.

Tip: Refrigerating, even putting this cake into the freezer a bit for firmness will assist in the cutting process. I used commercially available heart-shaped cutters.

Place cakes in decorative paper or assemble on plates to serve. They really look nice on a tiered serving piece.

A tea is always complimented by standards, so here's one more. A perfectly prepared pound cake is so adaptable and versatile, you can personalize it with toppings and flavors all your own.

### **Here's a great basic super-moist pound cake to start with:**

8-ounce package cream cheese

1/2 cup butter

1/2 cup vegetable shortening

2 eggs

1 3/4 cups sugar

1 tbs vanilla

1/2 tsp salt

1 tbs baking powder

1 cup milk

2 1/2 cups cake flour

Preheat oven to 325. Cream cheese and butter should be room temperature.

Mix together cream cheese, butter, shortening, eggs, sugar and vanilla. Add milk and baking powder. Add cake flour a half cup at a time. Batter will be thick. Pour mixture into bundt pan. Bake for 75 minutes.





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# Getting to know the *Gateway to Logan Martin Lake*

Written by Kelli Tipton  
Photographed by Bob Crisp

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



## Out & About



Pell City is the "Gateway to Logan Martin Lake," and its historic downtown area provides residents and visitors with a unique shopping experience. Several one-of-a-kind shops offer everything from fashion and beauty to art and music to home décor and dining.

I recently took a walking tour of Cogswell Avenue with the outgoing chamber of commerce president, Larry Daugherty. He is known affectionately by many as "Mr. Pell City" for his tireless



At left: Outgoing Pell City Chamber of Commerce president Larry Daugherty displays a map of Logan Martin Lake.

Right: Many of the buildings along Cogswell Avenue were built in the late 1800s and early 1900s.



efforts to promote, organize, volunteer and serve the city. He is passionate about the history of Pell City, and he has vast knowledge of the families and businesses that located there after the city was founded in 1890.

During our walk, we visited some of his favorite shops, most of them located in the "old Maxwell building," and he introduced me to the owners, who are as unique as their businesses. They all have a desire to revitalize downtown, and their can-do spirit breathes new life into old buildings that have stood since the late 19th century.

Renee Lilly is the owner of Lilly Designs A Design Resource, a full-service design firm with clients across the Southeast. She specializes in charming, elegant Southern interior and exterior design, and her retail shop features beautiful displays of furniture, wall décor, floral arrangements and other accent pieces. She is adding a French café to the front area of her store and has recruited Anita Pichon to help with this venture. Anita is the owner of Pichon Pralines, a candy company she started with a love for the buttery, creamy Creole confection and a family recipe that uses all-natural ingredients.

"The café will have French press coffee, French press teas, a variety of pastries and Anita's wonderful Creole pralines," Renee said. "I've been hearing people talk about the need for a place downtown where people can come in for a cup of coffee, work





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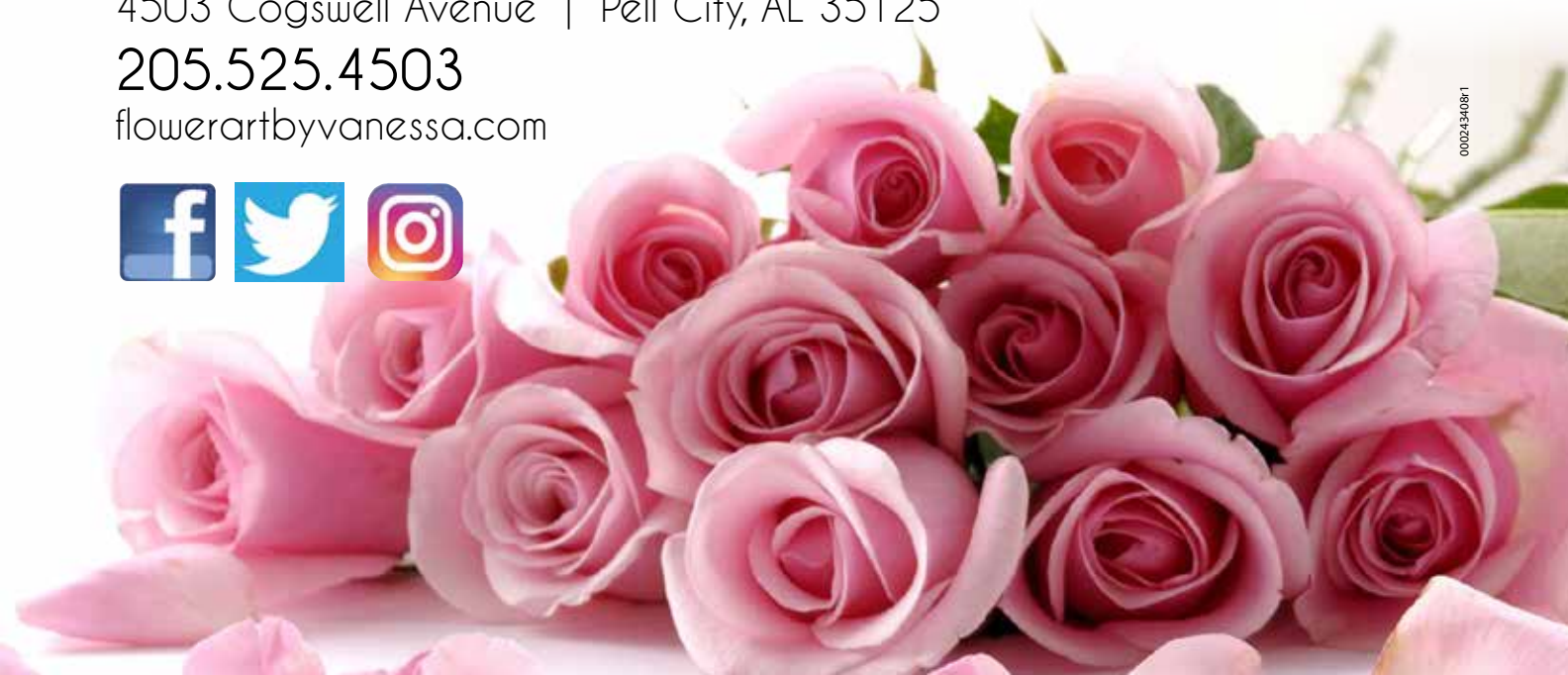
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Top: Lilly Designs A Design Resource is adding a French café in the front area of the shop. It is also the retail location for Pichon Pralines. Middle: Merle Norman Cosmetics and Boutique shares space with Artscape Gallery. Bottom: The Maxwell building on Cogswell Avenue.

on their laptops, maybe do some reading and meet with friends in an intimate setting. I am filling that need."

Mila Le's Beauty Bar is an upscale, appointment-only beauty salon that offers such services as facials, manicures and pedicures, waxing, lash extensions and permanent makeup. The salon is located next to Merle Norman Cosmetics and Boutique, a retail cosmetics company that offers such fashion accessories as jewelry, scarves and handbags.

The Merle Norman shop was started more than 30 years ago by Corbina Howard. It is managed today by her daughter, April Willis, who grew up learning the ins and outs of the beauty business. "We are the try-before-you-





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buy makeup shop. We do free makeovers and offer free samples, so there is really no risk involved in purchasing makeup from us," she said.

Merle Norman shares space in the Maxwell building with Artscape Gallery, a co-operative art gallery. The gallery was founded in 2007 by the Council of the Arts in Pell City, a nonprofit organization that supports and develops the arts in Pell City and surrounding communities. Artscape Gallery is a working studio that offers classes and workshops for people of all ages to learn art techniques using a variety of materials such as stained glass, pottery, copper enamel, and acrylic paints. For a fee, artists can display and sell their works at the gallery, which is operated solely by volunteers from the Council of the Arts.

Pell City's artist Dirk Walker has a private studio in the Maxwell building. He has painted professionally for 35 years and is best known for his Birmingham Landmark Series and cityscapes of other communities throughout the Southeast. He works primarily with oils and describes his style as "abstract realism." He is represented by galleries in Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee, and his paintings are hanging in

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Above: Artist Dirk Walker paints in his downtown studio.

Below: Ron Partain's World of Music is one of Daugherty's favorite shops on Cogswell Avenue.

Grandview Hospital on U.S. 280 and Brookwood Hospital in Birmingham. He is also the only Alabamian to have artwork on display in the new Atlanta Braves stadium.

Dirk said he finds inspiration in the beauty of Logan Martin Lake and the rural areas surrounding it. "I've always had a place on Logan Martin Lake, and I loved the idea of having a studio right in the heart of Pell City. I love the energy of downtown, and I'm here every day painting. My studio is open to the public and I've had people come in and watch me work. I'm not really a retail shop, but if someone were to see something they like, I would let the gallery in Birmingham handle the transaction," he said.

After talking with Dirk, Larry and I crossed the street to have lunch at Toast Sandwich Eatery, owned by Russell Howard. The sandwich shop also offers homemade soups and fresh salads. "I just wanted to bring something different to downtown Pell City to help revitalize the area. We've been open for a little over two years, and we've been well received. A lot of people like our unique sandwiches, like the turkey, bacon and avocado sandwich, and each month we do a feature sandwich that's not on the menu. It gives our everyday customers something different," he said.

He wants to see more businesses locate downtown. "I would really like to see it filled up with people walking by, shopping, eating and enjoying what downtown has to offer," he said.

I ordered the delicious turkey, bacon and avocado sandwich and a pasta salad. Larry had a roast beef po boy sandwich and a bag of chips. We talked about the need for new businesses to open downtown, and what the downtown experience could be.

And no one works harder to bring this vision to fruition than Larry Daugherty. "I love to inspire enthusiasm, collaboration and participation among business owners to move all businesses forward," he said.







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Local initiative seeks to

# Lighten the Load

## *Lakeside attorneys work to help foster children*

Written by Buddy Roberts  
Photographs Submitted

**T**he idea that a piece of luggage can make a huge difference in a child's life may seem an odd notion, but a group of lakeside area attorneys knows that it really can.

"That's why we started Lighten the Load," said Laurie Mize Henderson, a Pell City juvenile dependency attorney who has helped organize an effort to provide suitcases to local foster children. "There are eight family court attorneys





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Laurie Mize Henderson, left, with Cheri Hamlin and Connie Bain of the St. Clair County Department of Human Resources and a truckload of suitcases to be donated to local children in foster care.

in St. Clair County, and this is something we as a group decided to take on. We want to make the situation better for our foster children, if only in this small way."

Henderson went on to explain how the initiative started, why owning a suitcase can mean so much to a foster child and how individuals, businesses and organizations can donate to the cause.

**The beginnings of Lighten the Load:** "We attended a regional judicial family court summit about a year and a half ago. There was a panel of current and former foster children that spoke, and each said that having their own personal luggage would've helped make the process a bit less demeaning and fearful for them, that it would have made them not feel as worthless. It would have provided some sense of comfort to have something of their very own. There were speakers who discussed it being a common request of foster children, something they have identified time and time again that we, as the court and foster care system, could do better.

"That really made us think. Imagine you're a child, and

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Lakeside area attorneys who have worked to make sure that local foster children can have their own piece of luggage include, from left, Laurie Mize Henderson, Renay Bertella, Angie Slaten, Brandi Williams, Sarah Brazzolotto, Ericka Elzey, Jennifer Sellers and Landon King.



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you're yanked from everything you've ever known, and you have to gather up what you can of your things and throw them into a plastic garbage bag to carry them around in. Can you imagine?"

**Does that really happen?** "Yes. That is the norm, for foster children to be given big black garbage bags to gather their belongings in when they go into foster care."

**After the summit:** "Because of certain regulations, the Department of Human Resources can't accept secondhand luggage, so we decided to provide the children with durable, full-sized, hard-sided rolling luggage that they could take with them from foster care to adulthood. We determined that they could be bought locally for about \$100 each, but the added security and sense of belonging it would give to each foster child would be priceless."

At that time, according to Henderson, the number of children in foster care in St. Clair County was slightly less than 100, with as many as 40 who were from or housed in Pell City. She and fellow family court attorney Jennifer Sellars asked the city council to support the effort with a \$5,000 donation, but the council determined that it couldn't then make the investment. The attorneys began working on it themselves, "and suddenly there were 32 bags just like that," she said with a snap of her fingers. "And there was a time when there was a suite here in our office that contained nothing but suitcases."

**Lighten the Load supporters:** Henderson said donations have come from many sources such as local attorneys, Alabama Power Company, the St. Clair County

Farmers Federation Women's Division, Benjamin Moore & Co., and vacation Bible school students at Northside Fellowship. "Those kids raised enough money for 17 suitcases. That was really awesome."

Her 10-year-old son Garrett was at the time building picnic tables with his grandfather, and he donated the proceeds from the first sale to Lighten the Load. "The Shops of Grand River got wind that he had done that, and they donated a suitcase, and they now make

donations on a regular basis."

Since the initiative began, a total of 168 suitcases has been provided to local foster children. "We just get the suitcases to the Department of Human Resources. We don't disperse them," Henderson said. "But the suitcases don't belong to the DHR. They belong to the children. Where the child goes, so goes the suitcase."

**To make a donation:**

Call the Law Office of Laurie Mize Henderson at 205-338-0061 or the Law Office of Jennifer Sellers at 334-437-0303. Cash or check donations or new suitcases can be delivered to Henderson's office at 1906 Cogswell Avenue in Pell City or Sellers' office at 1918 Cogswell. For more information, visit Lighten the Load's Facebook page.

**Where did the name come from?** "We were thinking of ways to get this message out to the community, and we decided a Facebook page would be a good way. As for the name, we thought about how foster children carry such a heavy load emotionally, and this is one thing we could do to lighten their load. And I just know God has a hand in this project."



Blaine Henderson accepts a donation of luggage to the Lighten the Load campaign from Benjamin Moore & Co. representative Nan Trice.





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# In Style

Written by Kelli Tipton  
Photographed by Bob Crisp

## Lakeside couple transforms summer home into year-round residence

*Updates to landscaping, kitchen and dining room make home more functional*

In 2007, Mike and Jan Sweatman bought a four-bedroom, four-bath, single-story brick home on Valley View Circle in Pell City with intentions of using it as a summer home.

Two years later, they sold their primary residence in Birmingham to become full-time lake dwellers. They immediately started renovations to update their lake home, which was built sometime in the 1970s.

First, they improved the landscaping. "There was a cedar tree and two hardwood trees here, and that's about it. I planted magnolias, rose bushes, a river birch, several dogwoods, crepe myrtles, wax myrtles, hydrangeas and Japanese maples," Jan said.

Then they turned their attention to the inside of the home, focusing on the kitchen.

"We've actually redone the kitchen twice," she said. "The first time, I did it on my own with the help of a friend in the cabinet business. It stayed that way until 2017. I decided it wasn't functional for me anymore. I love to cook and have people over, and I didn't have a dining table. This house wasn't built with a dining room."

With the kitchen and living area joined together, and no separate dining room, Jan had a major dining dilemma. So she hired Pell City interior designer Renee Lilly, owner of Lilly Designs A Design Resource, to solve the problem. "I wanted to seat eight people. I asked her to please help me find a way to seat eight people in the space I had," she said.

Jan and Renee discussed several options, and during the planning stages, Jan saw a table



Logan Martin resident Jan Sweatman enjoys her updated 1970s-era home.

top in a Birmingham store that she really liked. She sent Renee a picture of it. Renee contacted Lee Kerr of Anniston, who had previously done some carpentry and cabinet work for her. Lee put together a sample from the photo, and Jan loved what she saw.

Today, she has a custom-designed table that is attached to an island in the kitchen. The dark wood table top is distressed perfectly, and the length and width allow plenty of room for eight place settings.

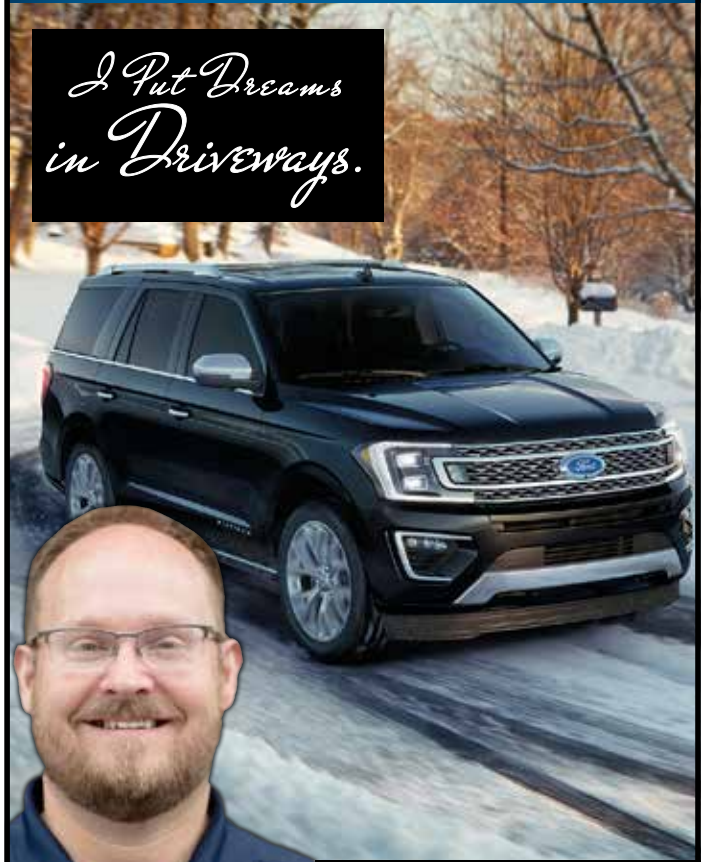
Six linen covered high-back chairs fit along the sides

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The Sweatmans' kitchen has undergone two renovations over the years.

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Above: The spacious master bath.

Below: The sunroom, situated off the master suite.







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Light colors and understated furnishings adorn the master bedroom.

of the table, and a linen-covered love seat fits at the end. "The chairs and love seat are slip covered, so they can be changed out if she wants a different look," Renee said.

The love seat at the end of the table can be turned the other way into the living area to provide seating for guests who come over to watch football

games on the curved TV above the mantle. "It works so well. I just love it," Jan said.

With the seating issue resolved, Jan revamped the kitchen cabinets and bought new stainless steel appliances to enhance the look of the space. "More than anything, I love the way the kitchen flows. We moved the refrigerator, which gave me pause at first, but it





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Interior designer Renee Lilly redesigned the Sweatmans' kitchen last year, including a custom table that can seat eight people.

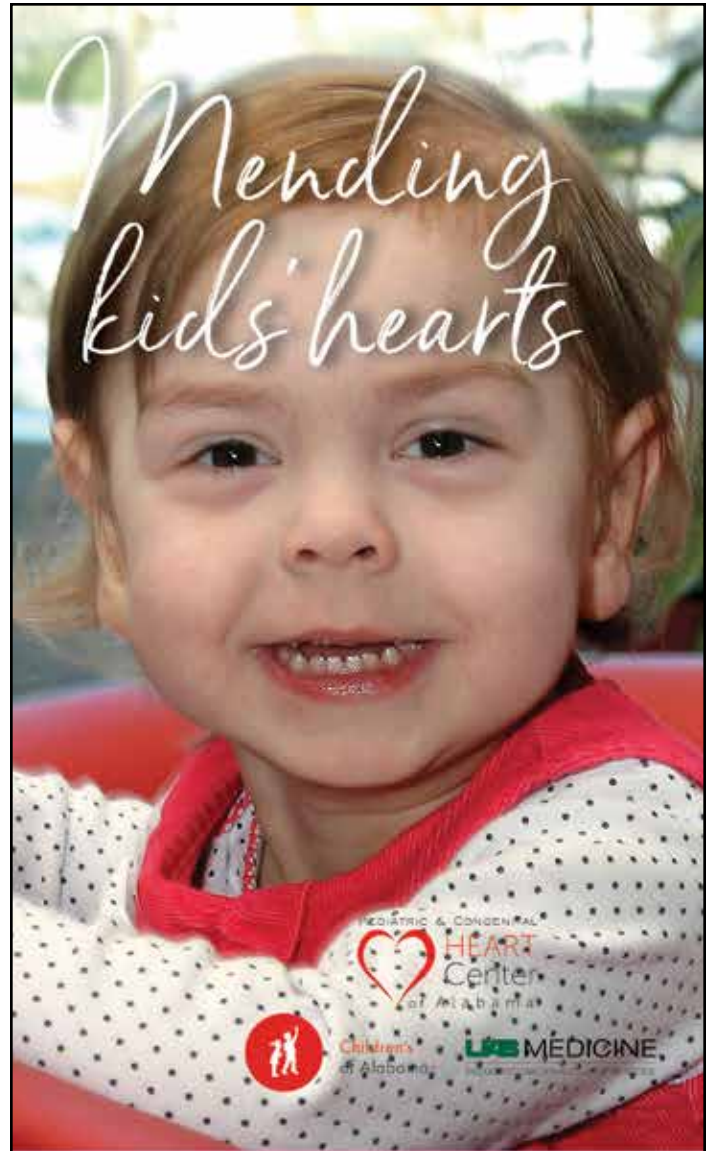
works great. When I'm cooking, the whole area just has a great flow," she said.

New light fixtures add the finishing touch to the now functional space.

"Renee helped me with everything from planning the space to choosing the finishes on the cabinets to picking out the lighting. I needed her input on everything. I mean, I'm an accountant, not a designer," she said with a laugh.

Renee said there are several advantages to hiring an interior designer when undertaking a project such as this one, but the biggest advantage is a smaller bottom line.

"An interior designer can save you money. People who try to do this on their own make mistakes, and mistakes cost money. An interior designer will save you money in the long run," she said.



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# Renew Our Rivers begins 2018 efforts

## *Logan Martin cleanup set for March*

Written by Gilbert Nicholson  
File photograph by Tucker Webb

**N**ow in its 19th year, Renew Our Rivers kicks off again this month with 30 planned cleanups across Alabama. The annual Logan Martin Lake cleanup – scheduled next month, March 17-24 – is part of the initiative.

Renew Our Rivers began with Gene Phifer's vision in 2000 to clean a stretch of the Coosa River near Plant Gadsden, where he worked. Since then, more than 100,000 volunteers have joined the effort and collected more than 15 million pounds of trash and debris from waterways across the Southeast. That milestone was reached late last year.

"Fifteen million is a staggering number in and of itself," said Susan Comensky, Alabama Power's vice president for environmental affairs. "But when you apply it to the amount of trash and debris that otherwise would be in these lakes, it is beyond staggering. Renew Our Rivers has made an overwhelming difference."

In 2017 alone, 4,714 volunteers removed more than 295,000 pounds of trash from Alabama lakes, rivers and

shorelines, including Logan Martin and the Coosa River.

"Renew Our Rivers got its start with a single power company employee, but it has been embraced and championed by volunteers, young and old, across the Southeast," said Mike Clelland, an environmental affairs specialist with Alabama Power who coordinates the cleanups. Alabama Power employee volunteers assist at each cleanup, providing guidance and supplies to event organizers.

Renew Our Rivers is one of many initiatives in which Alabama Power partners with others to promote conservation and environmental stewardship in communities across the state. Locally, the lake and river cleanup is a partnership of the Logan Martin Lake Protection Association and the utility provider.

For more information about the Logan Martin cleanup, call Mike Riley at 205-531-2372. For an up-to-date listing of all Renew Our Rivers cleanups scheduled in 2018, visit <https://apcshorelines.com/blog/>.



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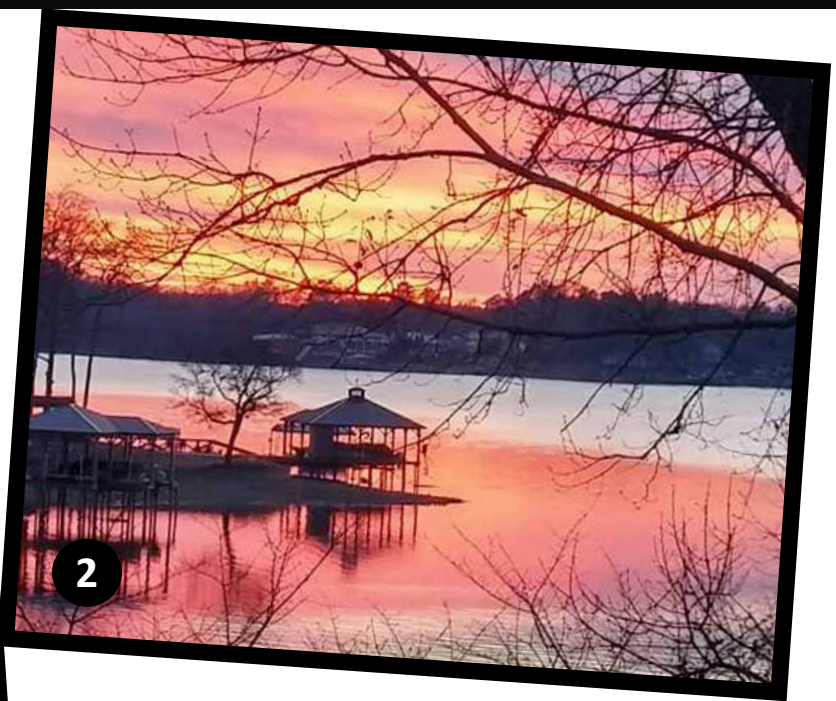
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# From The Reader's Eye...

*Every picture tells a story. What's yours?*



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1. Luke Thomas holds Alanna Williams, who loved getting to see her first giant snowman earlier this winter. Both are from Talladega.

2. Nila McBrier captured the spectacular colors of a Logan Martin sunset from her vantage point in Alpine.

3. 'Tis the season for bonfires. The sound of crackling wood, the flickering of flames and the company of good friends are encapsulated in this photo taken by Eric Carmack in Cropwell.



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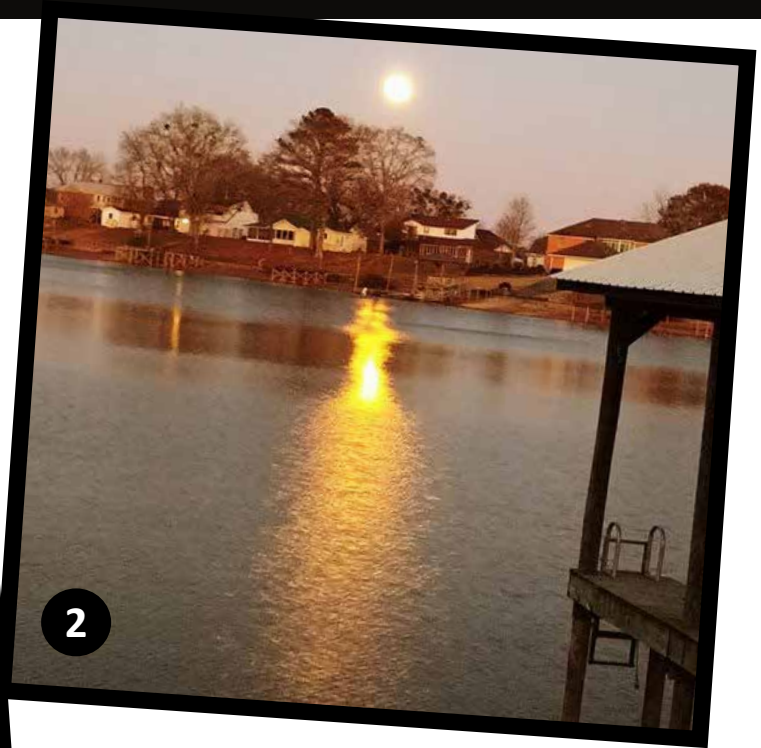
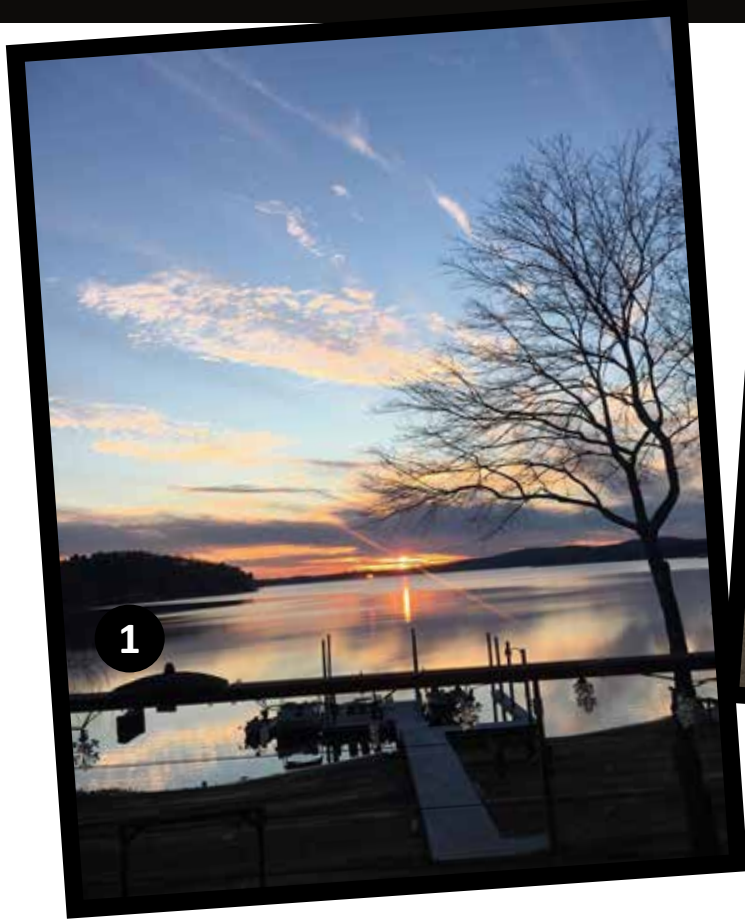
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# From The Reader's Eye...

*Every picture tells a story. What's yours?*



1. "There's just something special about a Logan Martin Lake sunrise," said Mike Cruce, who shares this photograph as evidence of why the lake is an amazing place to live.

2. The reflection of a winter moon on the lake was photographed by Riverside resident Susan Woodham.

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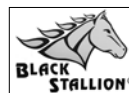
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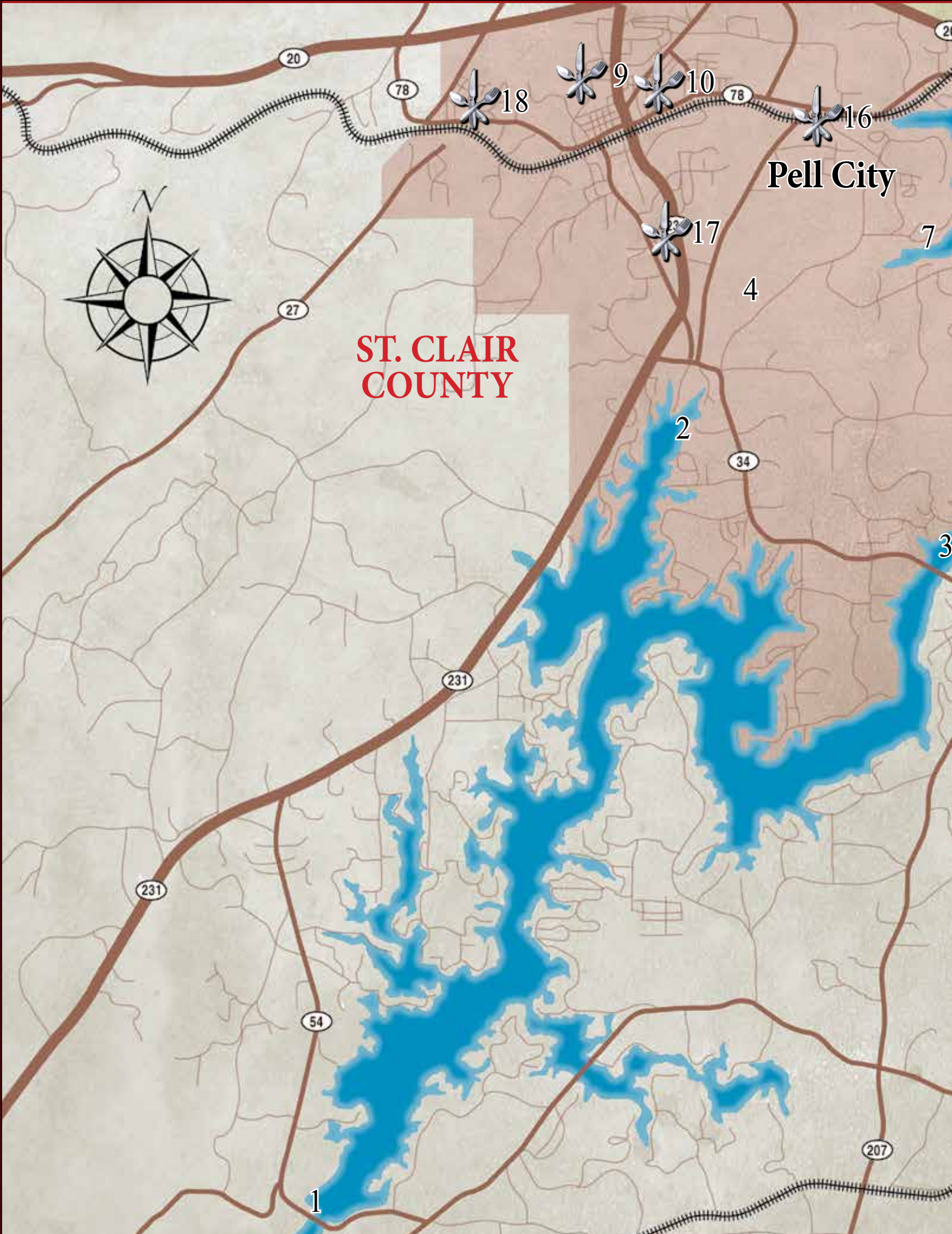
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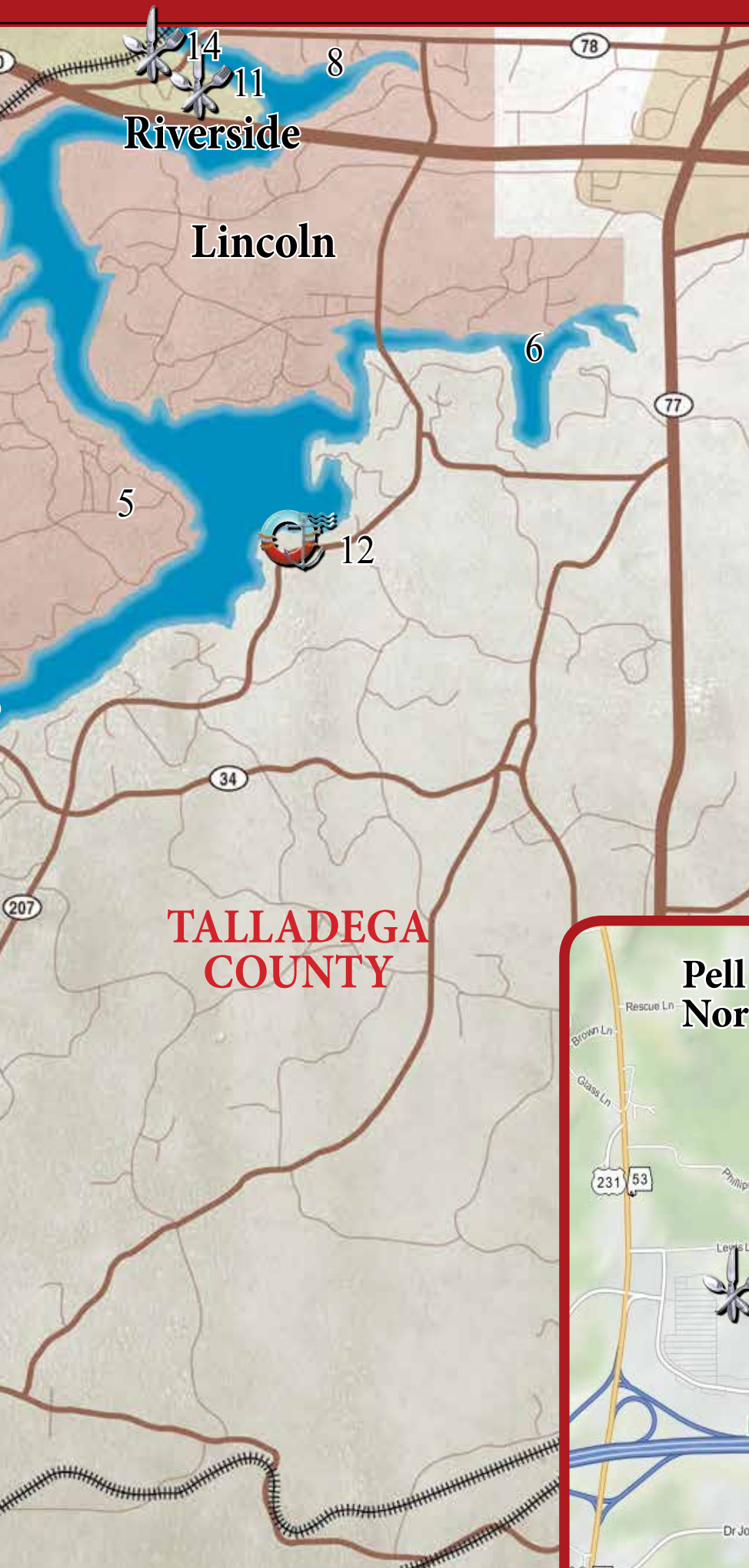
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17





## 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. Oishi Japanese
17. Guadalajara Mexican
18. B's Grill



### Pell City North of I-20

# FEBRUARY calendar of events

**SATURDAY** 3<sup>rd</sup>

## LOCAL SOUNDS

The singer-songwriter concert series continues at Pell City's Center for Education and Performing Arts with a performance by violinist Susie Shortt and drummer Alex Duck. The event begins at 7 p.m. For ticket information, call 205-338-1974 or visit [www.pellcitycepa.com/tickets](http://www.pellcitycepa.com/tickets).

**MONDAY** 5<sup>th</sup>

## 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](http://www.lakesidehospice.org).

**SATURDAY** 10<sup>th</sup>

## VALENTINE MARDI GRAS GALA

The 23rd annual event begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Fox Sports 1 Dome at Talladega Superspeedway. Billed as "Alabama's largest Mardi Gras party north of Mobile," proceeds from the gala will benefit programs of Talladega's Historic Ritz Theatre. Tickets are \$85 for singles, \$170 for couples and \$680 for a table of eight. Name-reserved tables are an additional \$50. The evening will include hors d'oeuvres, an open

bar, a 12-course gourmet dinner catered by Classic on Noble, dance music by The Peytones and silent and live auctions. Only 500 tickets are available. To order or for more information, call 256-315-0000 or visit [www.talladegamardigras.com](http://www.talladegamardigras.com).

**SATURDAY** 17<sup>th</sup>

## FISHING TOURNAMENT

The Crappie USA tournament launches from Riverside Landing at 6:30 a.m., with weigh-ins scheduled for 4 p.m. A pre-tournament seminar, which is open to the public, will begin at 7 p.m. Friday, February 16, at Riverside City Hall. A children's fishing rodeo is also scheduled for the day of the tournament. For more information, visit [www.crappieusa.com](http://www.crappieusa.com) or call 205-616-0725.

**FRIDAY** 23<sup>rd</sup>

## PETER PAN

The Spotlight theater program presents this stage production of J.M. Barrie's classic story of the boy who never grows up. The play is produced and performed by drama students at Moody High School. For more information, call 205-338-1974.

**TUESDAY** 27<sup>th</sup>

## LOCAL SOUNDS

Singer-songwriter Brandon Elder will be in concert at the Pell City CEPA. For ticket information, call 205-338-1974 or visit [www.pellcitycepa.com/tickets](http://www.pellcitycepa.com/tickets).



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FEBRUARY 2018

# Homes

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



The Realty Pros

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# TALLADEGA PROPERTY OFFERS PEACE AND TRANQUILITY ON YEAR-ROUND WATER

Written by Buddy Roberts  
Photographed by Bob Crisp

Prospective homebuyers seeking the serenity of lakeside living will want to see the home at 103 St. Jude Lane in Talladega, in the Kradle Kove subdivision.

Situated on slightly less than one acre, the property is a gently sloping lot that offers superb views of the lake and plenty of shade during warmer seasons. Built in 1990, the five-bedroom, three-bath home has separate living and laundry areas capable of accommodating two families or guests.

Interior features include an open floor plan, two fireplaces, large bedrooms with spacious closets, recess lighting, a basement, garage and carpet, hardwood, tile and vinyl flooring.

Exterior amenities include a boat launch and private dock on year-round water, a workshop and a screened porch.

For more information, call The Realty Pros at 205-884-0400.



# ‘Now is a wonderful time to buy or sell’

## Bentley Drozdowicz agent encourages good relationships

Written by Laci Braswell  
Photo Submitted



Ryan Bell

For Ryan Bell, the art of real estate is just in his blood. “My mom worked for a local real estate company back home, and it was just something I’ve always been around and enjoy,” the Corinth, Mississippi, native said. “I remember getting excited when I got to tour different houses with her.”

A graduate of the University of Mississippi, Bell became an agent himself 11 years ago and began working for a Gulf Coast real estate company in Destin, Florida. “I loved working near the beach, but it just wasn’t the same as being back home or near a lake,” he said.

Bell moved to Birmingham in 2011 and started working for Bentley Drozdowicz Group almost five years ago. “Last year we sold a total of 453 homes,” he said. “We all take pride in what we do. We have 25 agents that all have their unique specialities when helping clients.”

With a total company-wide volume of 62 million properties sold, the group represents properties all across

central Alabama, including Logan Martin Lake.

“Logan Martin has some of the most affordable lakefront homes in the state. We are lucky to have so many quality properties for reasonable prices. The lake offers relaxation and a way to slow life down, which many clients find appealing.”

As an agent, Bell believes that developing a good relationship with his clients is key.

“You want someone who has your best interest in mind and someone you can work well with, someone you can trust,” he said. “Having that connection is so important when it comes to making such a major decision, such as buying or selling a home.

“Right now is actually a wonderful time to buy or sell -- especially for those on the lake. Clients usually want an early start so they can be settled into their new home by the summer.”



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**34545 HWY 280  
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 MLS: 780975:

**\$774,900**

44 acres, 3BR, 2 full BA, breakfast bar, dining area, hardwood tile, carpet, detached carport, fishing, stall barn, gazebo, acreage, pasture.



**24 LAKESHORE CT.  
 CROPWELL, AL 35054**

MLS: 800475 **\$499,000**

Waterfront home with 3 BR and 2 BA. Great water.



**2025 WOODROW DR.  
 BIRMINGHAM, AL 35217**

MLS: 800474 **\$35,000**



**95 RIVER PINE LN.  
 CROPWELL, AL 35054**  
 MLS: 800786

**\$89,000**

2 BR, 2BA, manufactured home located in River Pines Subdivision on Logan Martin Lake



**4030 MASTERS RD.  
 PELL CITY AL 35128**  
 MLS: 796884

**\$168,000**

3BR, 2.5 BA. Open living room, 2 car garage, and fenced backyard. Must see to appreciate



**0 ANNESLEY DR.  
 PELL CITY, AL 35128**  
 MLS: 803223  
**\$100,000**



**900 RIVERCREST DR.  
 VINCENT, AL 35004**  
 MLS: 755633

**\$229,000**

2 BR, 1BA with big sunroom. Cute kitchen with such charm. A big porch. Plenty of yard. Shared driveway. Waterfront.



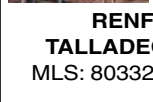
**540 CREEK RIDGE DR.  
 RIVERSIDE, AL 35135**  
 MLS: 781659

**\$250,000**

3BR, 2 BA, 1,766 sq.ft. custom built brick home with such elegance. Granite counter tops, open floor plan from kitchen to living room. Beautiful formal dining room.



**5 RENFROE RD.  
 TALLADEGA, AL 35160**  
 MLS: 803321  
**\$125,000**



**RENFROE RD.  
 TALLADEGA, AL 35160**  
 MLS: 803323 **\$125,000**



**0 SPEEDWAY BLVD.  
 EASTABOGA, AL 36260**  
 MLS: 803319 **\$599,000**



**67 MOHAWK TRL.  
 PELL CITY, AL 35128**  
 MLS: 803326 **\$155,000**



**0 COVE ACCESS RD.  
 TALLADEGA, AL 35160**  
 MLS: 801016 **\$304,000**



**500 SUNSET RD.  
 PELL CITY, AL 35128**  
 MLS: 780006 **\$140,000**



**5400 RANCH MARINA RD., PELL CITY, AL 35128**  
 MLS: 730123 **\$329,000**

Waterfront home excellent for lake living. 2 bedroom 1 bathroom. shower only. Listing agent owns property.

**LOTS AND ACREAGE**

- RIVER VIEW CIR., CROPWELL, AL 35054      MLS: 781715      **\$11,000**
- LLOYD DR. CROPWELL, AL 35054      MLS: 801484      **\$14,900**
- 0 VALLEY VIEW CIR. PELL CITY, AL 35128      MLS: 795010      **\$16,900**
- 1 RIVERVIEW DR. CROPWELL, AL 35054      MLS: 791574      **\$21,000**
- RIVERVIEW CIR. CROPWELL, AL 35054      MLS: 781717      **\$21,000**
- 2 RIVERVIEW DR. CROPWELL, AL 35054      MLS: 791684      **\$21,000**
- 285 HILDESTONE WAY, PELL CITY, AL 35128      MLS: 791667      **\$22,000**
- 0 HAVEN CIR. RIVERSIDE, AL 35135      MLS: 801182      **\$69,000**
- 0 HAVEN CIR., RIVERSIDE, AL 35135      MLS: 801183      **\$69,000**
- 435 COVE ACCESS RD. TALLADEGA, AL 35160      MLS: 801103      **\$145,000**

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Jeff Gossett



Gary Smith



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**\$399,000 - 290 Cove Dr. - OUTSTANDING VIEW** 4 BR, 3 BA home consists of main level of formal living room and dining room, den with fireplace and kitchen with breakfast room with incredible views of the Main Channel. Upstairs features 3 BR and 2 BA, master suite with private sun room/office. Basement w/den and 4th bedroom and full bath, sun room and 2-car garage. Also consists of multiple decks, detached one-car garage, small boat launch and floating dock. MLS #801395. Call Blair (205) 812-5377



**\$685,000 - 559 River Forest Ln. - 4 BR, 3.5 BA** one level home consisting of great room w/FP, dining room, playroom and exercise room. Lot of amenities of large wood and iron doors at the entrance, cathedral ceilings, arched doorways, stone flooring and open floor plan. The basement was built for entertaining, featuring a theater area, stage, dance floor and wet bar. There is a 5-car garage and golf cart path to the lake and dock, private boat house with two slips and inground pool. MLS #796413 Call Karen (205) 473-4613



**\$419,000 - 527 W Sunset Dr. - AMAZING VIEW** 3 BR, 3 BA located on the Main Channel allowing breathtaking views! Great room w/vaulted ceiling, brick FP and sunroom with separate heating and cooling. Downstairs level has den, BA and additional kitchen and large screened porch with hot tub. MLS #787227 Call Alesia (205) 405-0860



**\$150,000 - 275 Brooks Rd. - NICE** 2 BR, 2 BA home with stone fireplace, full unfinished basement and large sunroom that is heated and cooled, located on approx. one ACRE and near public boat launch. MLS #791185 Call Bill (205) 369-7977 or Jeff (205) 405-1649



**\$325,000 - 215 Kewanee Ln. - BEAUTIFUL VIEW OF MAIN CHANNEL** with this 3 bedroom 2 bath waterfront home that consists of large living room and basement den that has water connections and a second kitchen or bar could easily be added. The lot includes a boat launch, pier and sprinkler system, covered patio and an open deck. MLS #787102 Call Adam at (205) 369-2704



**\$347,900 - 708 Cove Point Dr. - FABULOUS** 3 BR, 2 BA home located on deep water. Home features great room with fireplace, sunroom and lake living with lovely views inside or out. Hardwood floors in great room, kitchen and master bedroom. Convenient to I-20. MLS #782203 Call Tina (205) 337-8509



**\$850,000 - 705 Lakeview Crest Dr. - SPECTACULAR** New Construction with LUXURY LAKE LIVING! Brick stacked stone with amazing trim with this large 4 BR, 4 BA w/many amenities. Family room with 14' coffered ceilings and black marble gas FP. Downstairs has large den with 2nd FP, wet bar, exercise room and two of the bedrooms. FANTASTIC view of the main channel. MLS #769402 Call Lawrence (205) 812-5195



**\$44,500 - 155 Hollis Ct. - WATERFRONT mobile home** on leased lot. This has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room and eat in kitchen. Large, nice deck overlooking the lake with private dock. MLS #800645 Call Brenda (205) 812-4141



**\$159,900 - 415 Crawfish Ln. - COZY, WATERFRONT** 3 BR, 3 BA one level home with basement has living room, dining room and located just minutes from the city. Partially finished basement has den, bedroom and bath with 2-car garage. MLS #777818 Call Lee Higginbotham (205) 812-4530



**\$219,500 - 2814 Woods Bend Rd. - QUIET COUNTRYSIDE LIVING** with the Coosa River 2 minutes away! Home has 3 BR, 2.5 BA, high ceilings and large spacious rooms. Large kitchen has beautiful cabinets and counter tops. Home is located on approx. 3.6 ACRES in county neighborhood. MLS #785143 Call Carey (205) 901-0652



**\$149,900 - 85 Blake Street - NICE** 3 bedroom, 2 bath full brick home with updated energy efficient window and new roof. Bonus room and fenced backyard with storage build. MLS #791587 Call Carl (205) 965-4755



**\$89,000 - 52599 Hwy. 77 - ONE LEVEL** 3 BR, 2 BA brick home with carpet. Great room, den, hallway and one bedroom with hardwood floors. Home needs some work. MLS #789191 Call Nan (256) 452-4761



**\$329,000 - CHARACTER** with this older custom built 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath 1.5 story home. First time on the market and the home consists of living room, dining room, and cozy den with exposed beams and fireplace. Enter the foyer with brick floors and nice staircase leading upstairs to the two bedrooms. Home has 2-car carport and is located on nice lot, convenient to town and I-20. MLS #801960 Call Lawrence (205) 812-4141 or Lawrence (205) 812-5195



**\$203,400 - 54 Southbend Dr. - LARGE LEVEL LOT** with this 3 BR, 2 BA home with huge master suite, living room with fireplace, formal dining room and eat-in kitchen. Full unfinished basement with 2-car garage and open deck in the back with nice level backyard. MLS #792181 Call Michelle (205) 427-3222



**\$34,000 - 522 Court St. N. - UPDATED** 3 BR, 1 BA home with new plumbing, electrical wiring, vinyl siding and hardwood floors. Large storage/workshop building. MLS #791356 Call Scott (205) 368-8138 or Joel (205) 753-3831



**\$179,900 - 450 Hillstone Drive - NEW CONSTRUCTION** located in Pell City. One level 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with open floor plane and located in convenient new subdivision. Family room, dining area, patio and large 2-car garage. MLS #756824 Call Jenny Frey (205) 405-0280





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- PELL CITY \$185,000. 7 ACRES ON HWY 78, NEAR DOWNTOWN & I-20. ZONED B-2, CAN BE CHANGED TO R-4, MULTI-DWELLING RESIDENCE PER CITY. GREAT FOR A SUBDIVISION, CONDOS, OR APARTMENTS. MLS#758407
- ASHVILLE \$159,900. 45 ACRES ON BOTH SIDES OF ROAD. MLS#599660
- TALLADEGA \$35,000. SEASONAL WATERFRONT, 1.5 ACRES LOGAN MARTIN LAKE IN THE WOODS, ON GENTLY SLOPING LOT. MLS#737536
- LINCOLN \$30,000. GREAT BUILDING LOT ON STEMLEY ROAD, CONVENIENT LOCATION TO I-20 AND BLOCKS FROM LOGAN MARTIN LAKE. MLS#763796
- PELL CITY \$129,000. 20 ACRES IN TOWN NEAR I-20, SCHOOLS, HOSPITAL, VA HOME, AND SHOPPING. THIS PROPERTY HAS ALREADY BEEN SURVEYED FOR A 34 LOT SUBDIVISION. PROPERTY IS GREAT FOR BUILDING WITH ALL UTILITIES. WATER TANK HILL. MLS#591453

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PELL CITY \$92,500. GREAT LOT. GOOD LOCATION, SEASONAL WATERFRONT. MLS#796616



PELL CITY \$189,000. WATERFRONT LOT IN PINE HARBOR, WITH EXISTING BOATHOUSE. MLS#603599



TALLADEGA \$25,900 PER LOT. 2 BEAUTIFUL LOTS IN LOVELY EAST-LAND SHORES, 2 MI FROM I-20. NEARBY WATER ACCESS GAZEBO. MLS#795510 & 795516





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975 COOK SPRINGS Rd. - \$99,000.00  
. Welcome to your new home sitting on 1.3 ac. Cute 2 BR, 1 BA home. With office that could be 3rd BR. Dining area and eat up bar. Detached room for your arts and crafts. Several out buildings for workshop or storage. Large Deck for grilling. Stocked spring-fed pond, metal roof, double car carport and RV carport. Newly remodeled including New windows, water heater and HVAC. New roof 2015, Kitchen redone in 2014. Outside painted 2015. Just bring your PJs and move in. MLS #801171



**NEW LISTING**  
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



**NEW LISTING**  
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



**REDUCED**  
15 Eureka Rd, Lincoln - \$250,000 Enjoy a Lake View from your large deck in this Beautiful New Construction. Stunning entrance to your 9ft ceilings open floor plan. Greatroom, Dining room, eat in space in the kitchen plus eat up bar. Very light and bright. The kitchen is sooooo awesome. all wood custom cabinets, granite counter tops, stainless appliances, hands free water faucet, top of the line refrigerator. Beautiful tile back splash. Hardwood floors thru out with tile baths. Master Bath will make you feel like your in a luxury motel. Tile floors, soaking tub, tile shower, double sink vanity. Your 2nd bath even has a double sink vanity and tile shower surround. The barn doors in the master suite gives the house a new flare. So much more to see!! MLS #799130



**REDUCED**  
4208 BLUE CUTT RD. - \$267,000 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



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



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



**REDUCED**  
2219 4th ave. no. - \$200,000 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



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



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



3215 Dr. John Haynes Drive - \$210,000. Two 75X150 Lots, 31 Warehouse 11-10X20= \$60.00 Ea 11-10X15=\$55.00 Ea 5-6X10 = \$30.00 Ea 1- Double 10X20 \$150.00 1 Double 10X15= \$130.00. This property offers 2005 By 150 Lots. On one of the lots there's A 31 unit wearhouse. Several different sizes . The other lot is vacant and fenced. MLS #726742

- 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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