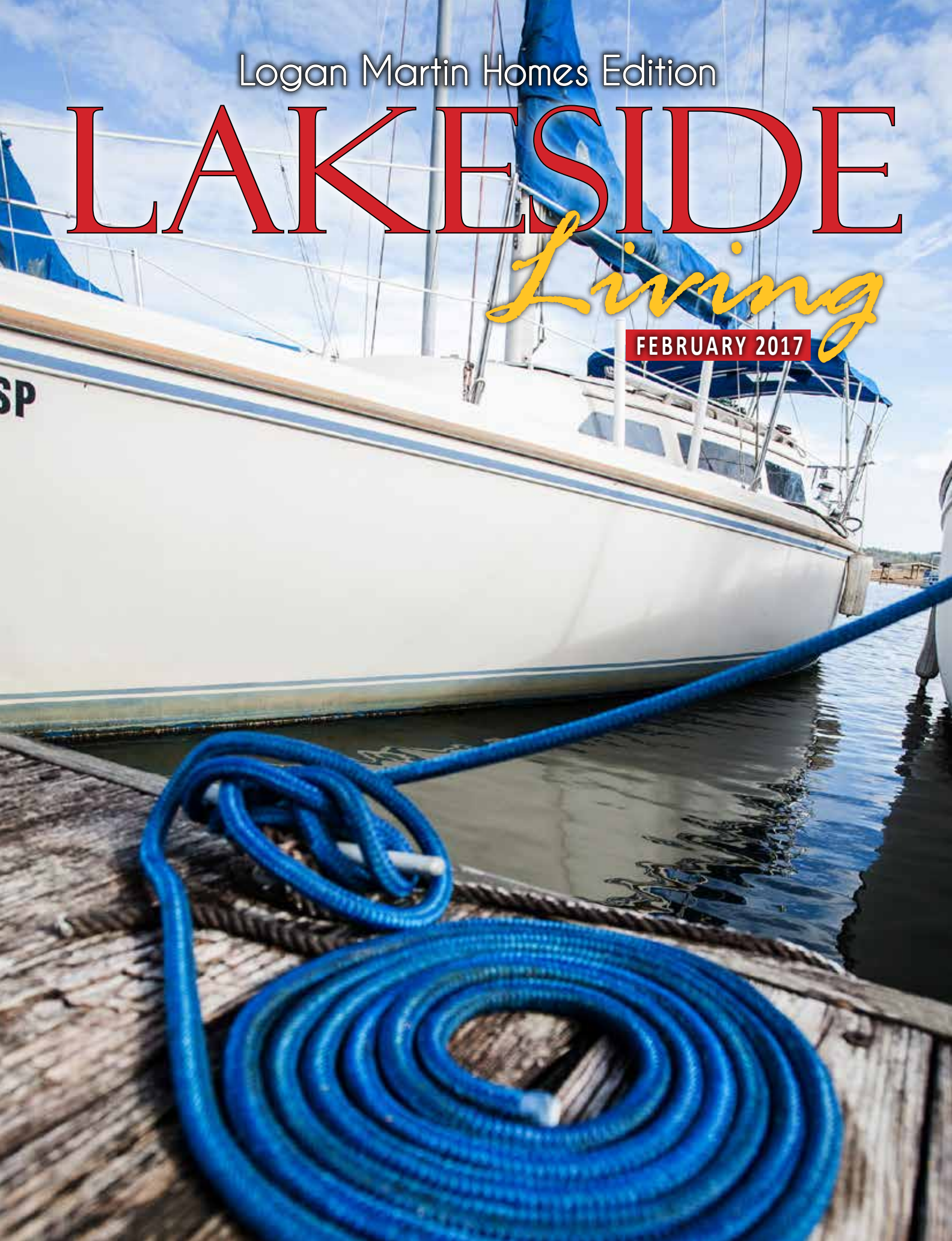


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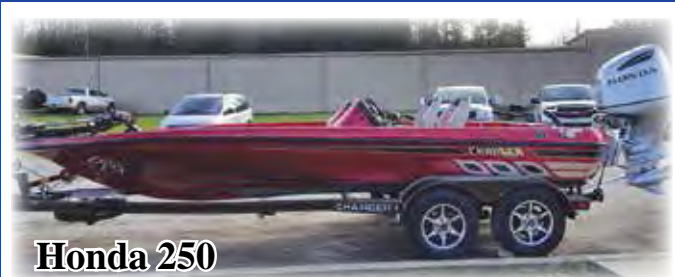
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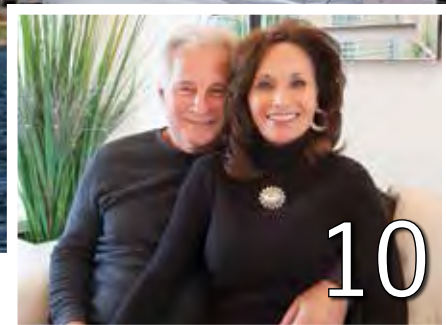
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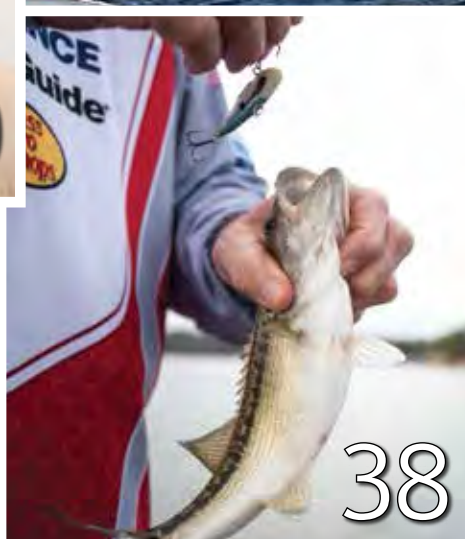
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On the cover: The Birmingham Sailing Club has called Logan Martin home since 1964  
.... Photo by Bob Crisp

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## Logan Martin Homes Edition LAKESIDE Living

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Logan Martin Lake since 1994*

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## FROM THE EDITOR

## February confessions

"Okay, so I have, like, a serious confession to make."

Considering that the last serious confession Chasidy had made in my presence was that she tends to be over-zealous when pruning her crepe myrtles, I didn't expect a tale of mortal sin to follow. Still, she fortified herself with a deep breath, as might a condemned soul about to take the first step of the last mile.

"I'm a reuser."

"Reuser?" Stan echoed from the porch swing. "Is that even a real word?"

"It needs to be," she said in a shaky voice before I could support Stan's question. "It describes what I really am...a person who uses things over and over again. I use them until they are a shell of their former selves...and then...I... repurpose and upcycle those things into new things that I can reuse over and over again."

Suddenly she sighed and clasped her hands together over her heart. "Oh, what a relief. I simply could not live with this secret any longer."

I hadn't seen the Hathorns since early fall. Their daughter Abby was away at college now, but everything else was happily status quo. Stan had something cooking in the Big Green Egg, and Chasidy was at work on her décor.

"I love decorating my front porch," she said, now enjoying the proverbial post-confession good-for-the-soul feeling. "It absolutely is one of my favorite things to do, and my hope is it makes the neighbors and passersby smile."

"No doubt it does," I replied, noting the splashes of Valentine's Day red Chasidy already had in place.

"Well, when I say I like to gussy up the porch, that's for all the major holidays and seasons. I put out pretty pillows and cute holiday signs, even if it is only for a couple of weeks or so. It just makes me happy, and I believe we should all do more things that make us happy."

"What prompted you to start reusing your decorations?"

"Take my obsession with cute pillows, for example. I can't just run out every single month and purchase new ones, because Stan would not be very happy with me. He already thinks my cute pillow collection is ridiculously large..."

"It is," Stan confirmed.

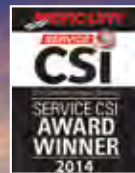
"...and because it seems wasteful to constantly be buying new holiday decorations. After all, we only put these themed items out once a year for a few weeks, sometimes less. We want the latest trends, we want something different, and on and on goes our reasoning for tossing out the old and bringing in the new. Instead of that, now I buy things I love and display them year after year."

Not unlike Chasidy's front porch, love is on display in the current issue of *Lakeside Living*. Appropriate to the season, we bring you the story of a couple's romance that transversed North America before settling in at Logan Martin Lake. In the spirit of showing love for neighbor, we offer information about some lake-area beneficent organizations and how you can support them. We'll also spend some time fishing with competitive angler George Crain and enjoy a visit to the Birmingham Sailing Club's clubhouse.

As always, thank you for joining us. And if you'd like to read more about Chasidy's confession and how you too can become a reuser, visit her blog at [www.sweetsorghumliving.com](http://www.sweetsorghumliving.com). 



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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.

**After you've hooked your catch, landing it isn't difficult, but it's best to employ caution – for the benefit of you and the fish. Following are some helpful tips.**

1. As the fish gets closer to the boat, drop your entire rod and reel to your waist.
2. If the fish goes under the boat, get your rod tip in the water and follow it.
3. When the fish rolls over on its side, you'll know it's ready to be landed. Even if you can't see it, you'll be able to feel it.
4. For smaller fish, lift them from the water by hand, cradling your catch around its middle to remove the hook.
5. For larger fish or those with sharp teeth, it's best to use a net. Place it in the water and lead the fish into it head first.
6. Don't stab the net at the fish. If you don't get it the first time, re-aim and try again.
7. Get it out of the water and take the hook out as quickly as possible so you can either release it promptly or store it in a live well.
8. Rubber nets are preferred for catch and release fishing, plus they minimize touching the fish.

Source: [www.takemefishing.com](http://www.takemefishing.com)



## February 2017

Feb 01, 2017	POOR	Evening
Feb 02, 2017	FAIR	Evening
Feb 03, 2017	FAIR	Morning
Feb 04, 2017	POOR	Morning
Feb 05, 2017	POOR	Morning
Feb 06, 2017	POOR	Morning
Feb 07, 2017	BEST	Morning
Feb 08, 2017	BEST	Morning
Feb 09, 2017	FAIR	Morning
Feb 10, 2017	FAIR	Evening
Feb 11, 2017	GOOD	Evening
Feb 12, 2017	GOOD	Evening
Feb 13, 2017	FAIR	Evening
Feb 14, 2017	POOR	Evening
Feb 15, 2017	POOR	Evening
Feb 16, 2017	GOOD	Evening
Feb 17, 2017	GOOD	Evening
Feb 18, 2017	POOR	Morning
Feb 19, 2017	POOR	Morning
Feb 20, 2017	POOR	Morning
Feb 21, 2017	FAIR	Morning
Feb 22, 2017	FAIR	Morning
Feb 23, 2017	GOOD	Morning
Feb 24, 2017	FAIR	Morning
Feb 25, 2017	GOOD	Morning
Feb 26, 2017	GOOD	Evening
Feb 27, 2017	POOR	Evening
Feb 28, 2017	POOR	Evening

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.  
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*'You never forget  
your first love'*

Story by KELLI TIPTON  
Photos by TUCKER WEBB

*30 years apart  
couldn't kill  
romance for this  
Lakeside couple*

**T**he passion and heartache that comes with a first love is the inspiration for countless movies and novels. The stories are either enchanting or tragic,

or a complicated mixture of the two. Such is the story of Nick and Denise Olivastri, a lakeside couple who met in Ontario in their teens, fell in love, broke up and reunited



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30 years later.

"Nick and I met when I was 17. He was 19. There was an instant attraction and chemistry between us," Denise said. Their personalities, innocence and fun-loving nature drew them closer together as the months passed.

"We spent a lot of time laughing. We were carefree and happy," Nick said. He took her to concerts, fairs and movies. They listened to the radio and talked about life. A year and a half later, they were engaged to be married.

"Unfortunately, as youth and circumstances would have it, I acquired cold feet. I thought we were much too young to get married, and I broke up with him," Denise said. "It was very emotional for both of us. He cried. I cried. He asked me for one last kiss, and I just got out of the car. I knew it was better that way."

They each went their separate ways. Nick went to college. Denise went to work. After college, Nick

worked throughout Canada for years. Then he moved to Talladega to take over plant operations at International Enterprises. Denise climbed the company ladder at Sears Canada.

But they never forgot one another.

"When we were dating, I bought Nick a star sapphire ring, and I always wondered if he kept it. I kept a beautiful, delicate, 18 karat gold cross necklace that had been blessed by our priest as a reminder of our young love," Denise said. "Every year on his birthday, I sent him a mental birthday greeting. You never forget your first love. I always wondered how he was, what happened to him, what he looked like and if his wonderful character was still the same."

And Nick never forgot Denise. On a trip to his hometown in Ontario, 30 years after their break-up, Nick ran into Denise's father and took the opportunity to ask



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about her. That conversation with her father led to a phone call to Denise, and that brief phone call opened the door for further communication.

"What we discovered after a few hours talking together was that we each had retained the core character of our youth," Denise said. The softly smoldering embers in their hearts ignited, and the flames of love burned brightly once again. They began a long-distance relationship.

"When we finally saw one another, he was wearing the ring, and I was wearing the cross

necklace," Denise said. "He asked me if he could have that last kiss."

Though the logistics were challenging, they traveled to see one another as often as possible. "Each reunion felt like a thousand first dates," Denise said. On one of her weekend visits with Nick, they went for a boat ride

and came upon three acres of land on Logan Martin Lake

they both fell in

love with. "We

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building our home on it once I retired from Sears and got my green card,” Denise said. They called it The Love Lot, and it was a permanent stake to start building their life on.

Finally, after five years of traveling to see each other, her green card arrived. They were ecstatic about spending the rest of their lives together as husband and wife, and Denise made the move to Alabama. They married in 2009 and danced to Barry White’s song, “My First, My Last, My Everything.”

Today, they live in a beautiful Mediterranean-style home, and are still madly in love. “With love, you have everything, and want for nothing. Life is too short not to live it full of love, intimacy and happiness. We are best friends, kindred spirits, soul mates and twin flames. I still

get what I call ‘flutterflies’ when I see him after work,” Denise said.

“I think I am just hard wired to love her,” Nick said. “Call it fate, call it destiny, but we are meant to be together forever.” 



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# Lakeside nonprofits seek volunteers to help make a bigger impact in people's lives



Story by KELLI TIPTON  
Photos by TUCKER WEBB

**F**ebruary is the month of love, but acts of love occur year-round through the humanitarian efforts of charitable organizations. Whether it comes in the form of a hot meal or a new car seat for a new baby, nonprofits and their compassionate volunteers love to make a difference in the lives of those who seek their services.

The lakeside area is home to many philanthropic

agencies aimed specifically at helping people in need, and representatives of those nonprofits say they too have a need – for more volunteers. Following is information about four such organizations and how you can get involved.

## **The Red Door Kitchen**

The Red Door Kitchen in Talladega provides a nutritious noontime meal to anyone in the Talladega community





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who cannot prepare or obtain a meal due to a financial setback, poor health or lack of resources. More than 36,000 meals with meat, vegetables, fruit, dessert and beverages are served each year, either in its recently upgraded facility or by volunteers who deliver meals to people who are homebound. Many of those served are referred by First Family Services in Talladega.

The Red Door Kitchen receives funding from individuals and organizations that hold food drives or make financial donations.

“The community has been very good to us,” said Billy Sparkman, president of the board of directors. “Churches and various civic groups will make donations throughout the year, some foundations have adopted us and provide financial support, and the city of Talladega helps to

fund us because we provide a service to the city. We are a United Way funded program in part, so donations through United Way can be designated for The Red Door Kitchen, but our biggest donations come from Afternoon of Praise at the Ritz Theater.”

The proceeds from last year’s Afternoon of Praise concert, in addition to grant money, allowed The Red Door Kitchen to make some upgrades to its building. A walk-in freezer, double convection ovens, metal shelving and other improvements have already been made.

But volunteers are needed.

“One of our biggest needs right now is volunteers to deliver meals,” Sparkman said. “A person can deliver

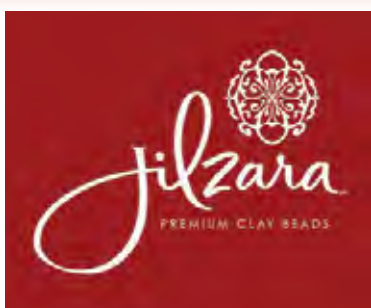
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one day a week if they want to, or an organization can take a route and divide it up. It's really fun to deliver meals. We may be the only person that person sees that day, so drivers develop a bond with the people they serve. It's a great way to stay

active after retirement."

He added that dedicated volunteers are hard to replace when they age out. "It would really be nice if some younger people in the community stepped up to take their place."

The Red Door Kitchen is at 500 South St. W. For more information, call 256-362-3663 or visit the Facebook page.

#### **Samaritan House**

Samaritan House serves people in the Talladega and Alpine communities who



qualify for their services. According to board president Charles Montgomery, Samaritan House can assist with food, clothing, utility bills, prescription medication and co-pays for doctor visits if the applicant's income falls below a certain amount. "We have our own guidelines. Anyone who needs help needs can come in and see if they qualify," he said.

Each year before Christmas, Samaritan House raises funds to buy toys for children whose families are selected by First Family Services in Talladega. Last year, it raised almost \$3,000 to buy

gifts for 35 children.

In the summer and fall, it distributes fresh produce to low-income housing residents. "We get produce from Farmers Market at Pepper Place in Birmingham and bring it back to Curry Court or Knoxville Homes and give it out," Montgomery said.

Samaritan House receives funding from the city of Talladega, the United Way and from individuals, churches and other organizations. Food drives are held regularly by civic groups and

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schools.

“Food drives are wonderful, and they help us tremendously, but that can of beans that cost a dollar at the grocery store, we can get it for a quarter at the Community Food Bank in Birmingham. So financial donations do go further,” Montgomery said. “We can also use the money for our other services, like assistance with utilities.”

Samaritan House also needs more volunteers. “If someone could volunteer one day a month, that would be wonderful. They can do what they like to do. If it’s filling grocery orders, they can do that. If it’s folding clothes, they can do that. They can learn the routine and meet the other volunteers. We can find a day for them to work.”

Samaritan House is open from 9-11:45 a.m. Mondays through Thursdays. For more information, call 256-362-7698, or visit the offices at 1301 Allison Mill Road in Talladega.

### **Good Works Charitable Foundation**

Good Works Charitable Foundation is a soup kitchen and mobile food pantry. It holds a monthly event called The Community Table every third Monday at the 19th Street Recreation Hall in Pell City. “Beginning at 6p.m., we give away a hot meal and free groceries to anyone who shows up. We serve about 600 people a month,” said co-founder Carrie Leland. The only requirements are that recipients must live in St. Clair County and be in need of food.



**VOLUNTEERS ARE CRITICAL TO THE OPERATION OF SAMARITAN HOUSE IN TALLADEGA. ABOVE, GAIL JOINER AND RIETTA BROOM SORT THROUGH DONATIONS OF SHOES FOR LOCAL CHILDREN, WHILE BELOW, FRANCES LOVELACE AND HENRIETTA LAWLER PREPARE CLOTHING FOR DISTRIBUTION.**



“We see people who come once or twice, and then they don’t need us anymore,” co-found Jean Speer said. “We see people who come every month, because they need us every month, and we see people who were once recipients become volunteers and donors.”

The organization relies on

sponsorships from local businesses, corporations and churches to provide money for food. “We need sponsors,” Speer said. “It costs about \$1,000 a month to buy the groceries.” They also need volunteers to prepare and serve the monthly meal.

“We are an all-volunteer organization,”





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Leland said. “We don’t have a storefront, so we don’t have that overhead. One hundred percent of what we take in goes back out.”

For more information on becoming a sponsor or a volunteer, call Speer at 205-369-8516 or visit the organization’s Facebook page.

#### **Ann’s New Life Center**

Ann’s New Life Center in Cropwell serves women in the Pell City area who are faced with an unplanned pregnancy, a stressful pregnancy or anyone with a young child who is having parenting issues.

“We serve the whole family,” said director Dani Christophersen. “We want fathers to come, grandparents and anyone who is involved with the baby.”

Many of the center’s patients are high school

and college-aged and are faced with an unplanned pregnancy. “They can come here to get their pregnancy confirmed, and we can talk to them about what to expect with their pregnancy. We can help them set goals for the future and teach them how to take care of their baby,” Christophersen said.

The center offers free pregnancy tests and free ultrasound scans to confirm pregnancies. A trained nurse performs ultrasounds and runs the clinic aspect of the organization. “One of our goals from the very beginning of the ministry was to become a medical clinic. Over the last year, we have done that,” she said, adding that the clinic operates under federal regulatory standards.

Free parenting classes are available, and patients earn “baby bucks” for attending the classes. They

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can spend the “baby bucks” at the clinic’s boutique to purchase necessary items like diapers, clothes, cribs or car seats. Classes focus on parenting skills and issues like potty training and proper discipline for young children.

“Since becoming a medical clinic, our expenses have increased significantly, and that is going to be one of the biggest challenges this coming year,” Christophersen said. “Financial donations are needed. Donations for the boutique are always welcomed. Car seats and cribs have to be new, and diapers and baby wipes are always needed. But one of

the biggest things we need right now are volunteers. We need people to donate their time.”

Volunteers receive training and are placed in positions according to their abilities and what they like to do. “We have people who clean and organize, some just answer the phone, and some work directly with the patients.”

The clinic is in Lake Plaza at 3440 Martin St. S., and walk-ins are welcome. It is open from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more information, call 205-338-4580 or visit the website [www.annsnewlifecenter.com](http://www.annsnewlifecenter.com). 



**WHILE DONATIONS OF MONEY, FOOD AND CLOTHING ARE ALWAYS HELPFUL, DIRECTORS OF LAKESIDE NONPROFITS SAY THE ORGANIZATIONS ARE ALWAYS IN NEED OF MORE VOLUNTEERS TO HELP SERVE THEIR COMMUNITIES.**







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# A visit to the home of the Birmingham Sailing Club

LAKE SIDE PLAYING

# In Style

Story by KELLI TIPTON  
Photos by BOB CRISP

Logan Martin offers superb setting for competitive sailors

**T**he Birmingham Sailing Club is the premier place for sailing on Logan Martin, and its nautical

themed clubhouse has a history that actually predates the lake.





DAVE HACKNEY, THE CLUB'S CURRENT COMMODORE, WITH HIS WIFE TONI IN THE CLUBHOUSE'S COLORFUL AND NAUTICAL THEMED GREAT ROOM.



When the clubhouse was constructed in 1963, there was no water in sight. The first boats weren't launched until 1964, after Logan Martin Dam created the lake that covered the land with water.

Located 10 miles south of Pell City, the clubhouse sits on 9 acres of mostly waterfront property on the west side of the reservoir, some two





KNOTS AND CONCENTRIC CIRCLES OF ROPE ARE COMMON SIGHTS ON SAILING CLUB DOCKS.


miles above Logan Martin Dam. At this site, the lake is approximately one mile wide and offers excellent sailing conditions.

“This club was founded, and is still very focused, on one design sailing,” said 2017 Commodore Dave Hackney. “One design sailing essentially means that there are fleets of different types of boats, there are five boats to a fleet, and right now there are three fleets -- the Flying Scots, the Thistles, and the J-22s.”

A fenced parking area is filled with such various



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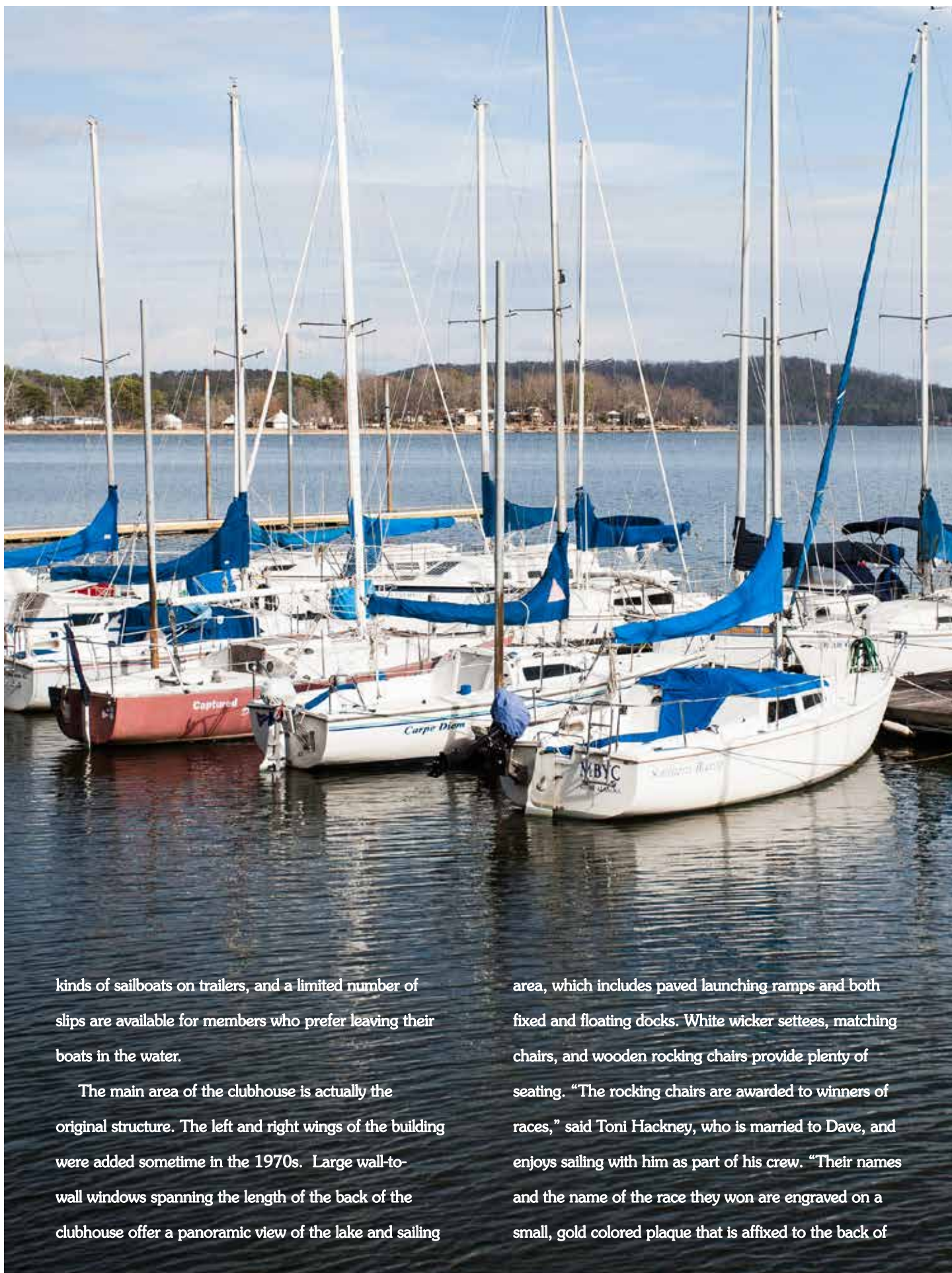
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kinds of sailboats on trailers, and a limited number of slips are available for members who prefer leaving their boats in the water.

The main area of the clubhouse is actually the original structure. The left and right wings of the building were added sometime in the 1970s. Large wall-to-wall windows spanning the length of the back of the clubhouse offer a panoramic view of the lake and sailing

area, which includes paved launching ramps and both fixed and floating docks. White wicker settees, matching chairs, and wooden rocking chairs provide plenty of seating. “The rocking chairs are awarded to winners of races,” said Toni Hackney, who is married to Dave, and enjoys sailing with him as part of his crew. “Their names and the name of the race they won are engraved on a small, gold colored plaque that is affixed to the back of



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THE VIEW FROM THE CLUBHOUSE.

the chair.”

The interior of the clubhouse is decorated with small, colorful, triangular flags called burgees. Each burgee bears the insignia of every sailing club whose members have visited BSC. “We present our burgee to clubs that we visit as well,” Dave said.

Clubhouse facilities include men’s and women’s dressing rooms. Both are equipped with private toilets, cinderblock showers with tiled floors, vanities with mirrors and changing areas. These areas can be accessed from the inside of the clubhouse or by an outside door. These facilities were added in the early 1990s.

A full kitchen is located in the left wing. Members and their families enjoy a meal, either catered or prepared on site, after each regatta. “We have a great group of people here,” Dave said, adding that the club currently has 143 members.


There is plenty of room for storage in the rear of the clubhouse. This storage area also serves as office space, which is where the club’s regattas are scored and recorded.

The clubhouse is not air-conditioned. It is naturally cooled by winds off the lake and by six ceiling fans. The original fireplace provides heating for chilly evenings.

Outside, on the grounds to the left of the clubhouse, there is ample space for tent camping both on grass and in the preserved wooded acres. A pavilion serves as a grilling and dining area for campers.

In addition to sailing, the Club provides a lake swimming area with a dock, a fire pit and a playground for young children. “The playground was built by one of our members,” Dave said.

The sailing program consists of Sunday afternoon races throughout the year, beginning the first week in February. Monthly one-day regattas are held during the spring and summer, as are invitational regattas, which attract entries from other clubs throughout the Southeast. The club also has a junior sailing program and an adult Learn to Sail program.

*For more information, visit the club’s website at [www.birminghamclub.org](http://www.birminghamclub.org).* 





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# 'It gets you a little closer to God'

## Cropwell angler appreciates quiet times on the lake

Story by BUDDY ROBERTS

Photos by TUCKER WEBB

**F**or George Crain, a good day fishing is any day he gets to go.

"Fishing gets you a little closer to God, to be honest," the Cropwell resident said. "It makes you feel a bit more in touch with the moment at hand." Crain believes that's important in the fast-paced workaday world of American society.

He believes it's so important that he obligates himself to participate in a certain number of fishing tournaments each year to make sure he gets in enough therapeutic time on the water.

"I fish for fun first, and if I win

enough to

pay for some expenses

along the way, well, that's

great," he said. "If you start thinking

about fishing for a paycheck, you'd

better make sure you really do love it.

When you're by yourself 12 hours a day

in Wisconsin in the winter practicing for a trail tournament, you're not going to last long if you don't love it."

Crain developed his love of fishing as a child, on fishing trips with his father and grandfather.

"I remember sitting between them in the boat when I was probably 7 or 8. My dad liked to fly fish, and in 1952 he designed his own boat. In the 1950s, boats weren't of a size for two people to fly fish in one, and Dad came up with a swivel seat system that overcame that problem."



Other anglers would ask where he got the boat.

"My dad and grandfather would tell them, 'We made it.' Then they'd ask, 'Would you be interested in making us one?' And my dad and grandfather would say, 'No,'" Crain recalled with a chuckle.

When his father relocated to Florida in the mid-1970s, he sent his son a seven-page letter containing the instructions for building the boat. More than 40 years later, Crain still has the boat he built following his father's directions.

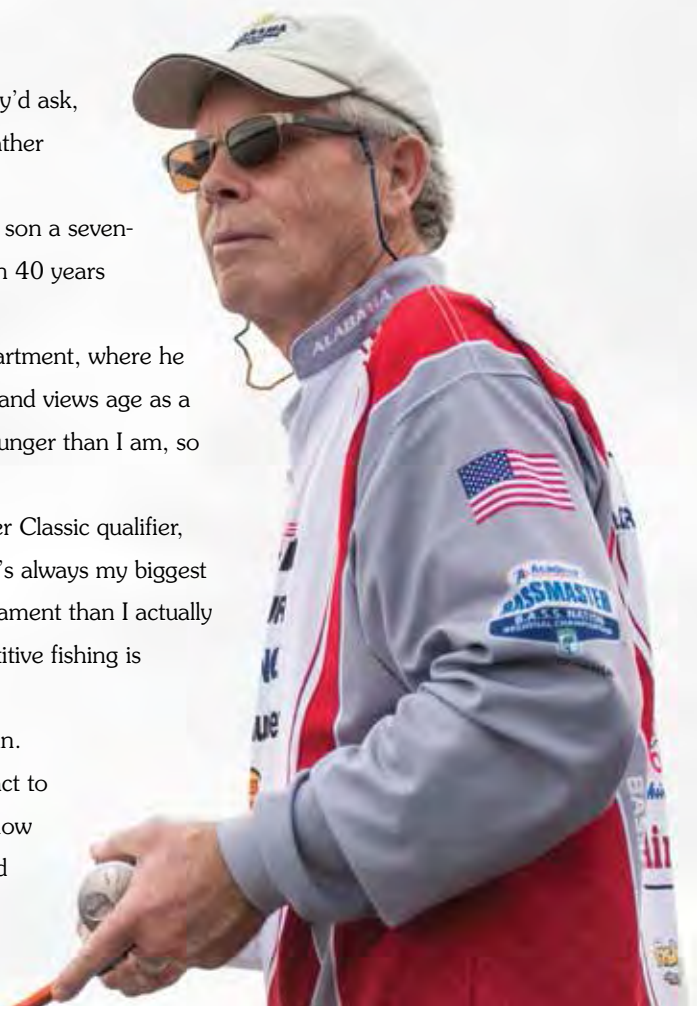
Now 64 and retired after 28 years with the Birmingham Fire Department, where he worked as part of the high-angle rescue team, Crain says he feels 35 and views age as a matter of being "as old as you feel. Most of my fishing buddies are younger than I am, so that helps."

A B.A.S.S. and FLW trail tournament participant and a Bassmaster Classic qualifier, Crain appreciates his wife for supporting his angling endeavors. "She's always my biggest fan, and she's probably more competitive for me when I'm in a tournament than I actually am. That's important, because if your family isn't behind you, competitive fishing is probably not something you need to be doing."

The unpredictability of fishing is part of the sport's appeal for Crain.

"Everybody likes catching fish on top water and seeing the fish react to the bait, but I get excited about dropping down below so you don't know what you've hooked. You can get a bite caught up in some foliage and think you've caught a 30-pounder, then pull it up to find out it's just a two-pound fish. But it's still exciting."

This time of year, fishing deeper water is an effective strategy,



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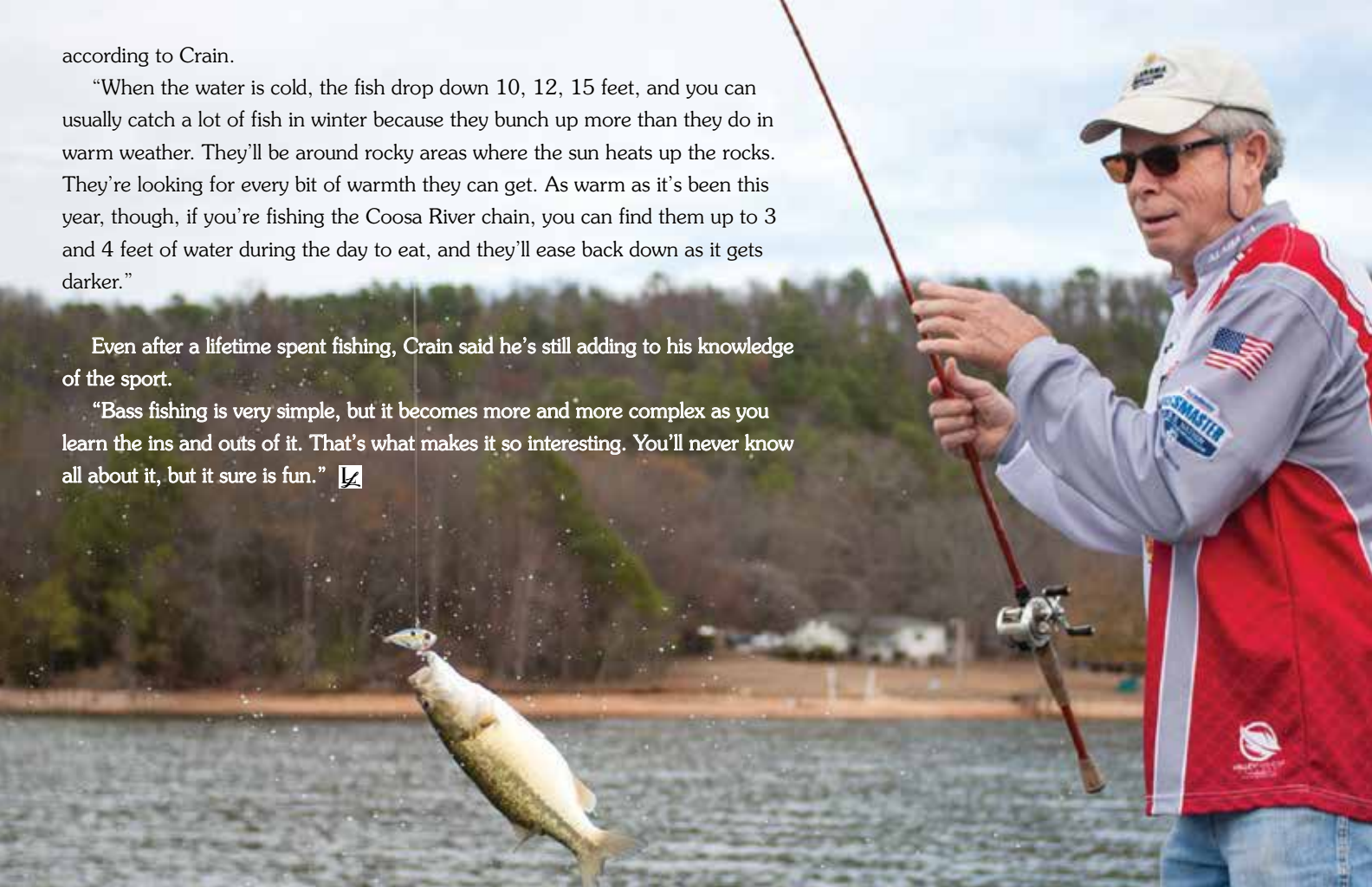


according to Crain.

"When the water is cold, the fish drop down 10, 12, 15 feet, and you can usually catch a lot of fish in winter because they bunch up more than they do in warm weather. They'll be around rocky areas where the sun heats up the rocks. They're looking for every bit of warmth they can get. As warm as it's been this year, though, if you're fishing the Coosa River chain, you can find them up to 3 and 4 feet of water during the day to eat, and they'll ease back down as it gets darker."

Even after a lifetime spent fishing, Crain said he's still adding to his knowledge of the sport.

"Bass fishing is very simple, but it becomes more and more complex as you learn the ins and outs of it. That's what makes it so interesting. You'll never know all about it, but it sure is fun." 



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# Meet Me by the



Story and Photo  
By BUDDY ROBERTS

**G**ive Alli Brascho the choice, and she'll take the lake over the beach any day.

Even in February.

"There is simply nothing like a winter on the lake," she said. "Nothing. The water is down, it's morning, there's fog skirting over the lake, the orange, purple and red sun is rising – it might just be my favorite time to be on the lake. At least it was when the house was full and lived in year-round. Now, it's more of our summer home."

Brascho, a self-described "lake girl," is a college senior studying voice performance at Samford University, but she still spends time at the lake as often as she can and treasures memories of growing up on Logan Martin, some of which she shared on a recent afternoon back by the water.

**Winter lakeside memories:** "I spent a lot of time outside with my neighbor Jackson



Alli Brascho

Williamson, who was my best friend. We are pretty close in age, so we grew up together. We loved to see if the lake had any ice and walk along the dried shore. One year we tried to



plant a pine tree in the dead of winter with a pine cone. It didn't work, but I was hopeful.


"I remember my dad driving us to school in the mornings, frost and fog covering the field in our neighborhood, my Aunt Jill coming over in the evenings to make sweets with us and visit my mom, my Gran and I waking up in the mornings to watch the sunrise on the back porch with coffee for her and warm milk for me. There was so much peace. It was a cold, eerily beautiful time made warm by family, a fire and plenty of blankets."

**Warmer memories:** "My mom smiling as we swam is something I always associate with the lake. Katie, our golden retriever, chasing our boat along the shoreline as Dad pulled us on the inner tube. We would compete with my siblings as teams. The team that fell off the most lost, so Jackson and I would do our best to keep each other on the tube. But it was fun to watch him fall off, even if we lost."

**Her favorite lakeside activities:** "When I was little, it was tubing and running around in my bathing suit all day. My mom made sure we spent plenty of time outside playing. She says she'd just strap a life vest on us, let us loose and watch us run. Now that I'm older, I prefer to watch the other kids be pulled behind the boat. My dad is a champion water

skier, and he's constantly teaching someone how to ski or surf. It's always a joy to watch their faces light up when they get it right. I still enjoy skiing occasionally, but I'm nowhere near as good as my father."

**Her ideal day on the lake:** "My family is instrumental in the perfect lake day. I love when my aunts are over. It doesn't feel right if they aren't there. 'Brascho burgers' are a must, made by my dad and uncles. The most important thing is the feeling I get when everything lines up just right. It can't be forced, planned or manufactured. It just happens. I'm light, content, at peace...it's a timeless emotion."

**If she were stranded on the hypothetical desert island with one book, one piece of music and one meal:** "For the book, I'm gonna go with the Bible. I have about a million verses I've been trying to memorize since I was 12...maybe I'd finally do it. For music, I could live with listening to Frank Sinatra or Bing Crosby for the rest of my life. I also love Ed Sheeran, but I'm equally infatuated with Stravinsky and my friend Maggie Boswell's music. I think I'd have to take a mix tape. Or a *Hamilton* CD. For food, it would be steamed green beans, mashed potatoes, balsamic drizzled asparagus and my mom's tomato and feta chicken." 



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# FEBRUARY calendar of events

MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup>

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

information or to register, call 800-245-2740 or visit [www.outdooralabama.com/becoming-outdoors-woman-bow](http://www.outdooralabama.com/becoming-outdoors-woman-bow).

Calendar continued on page 48

Happy  
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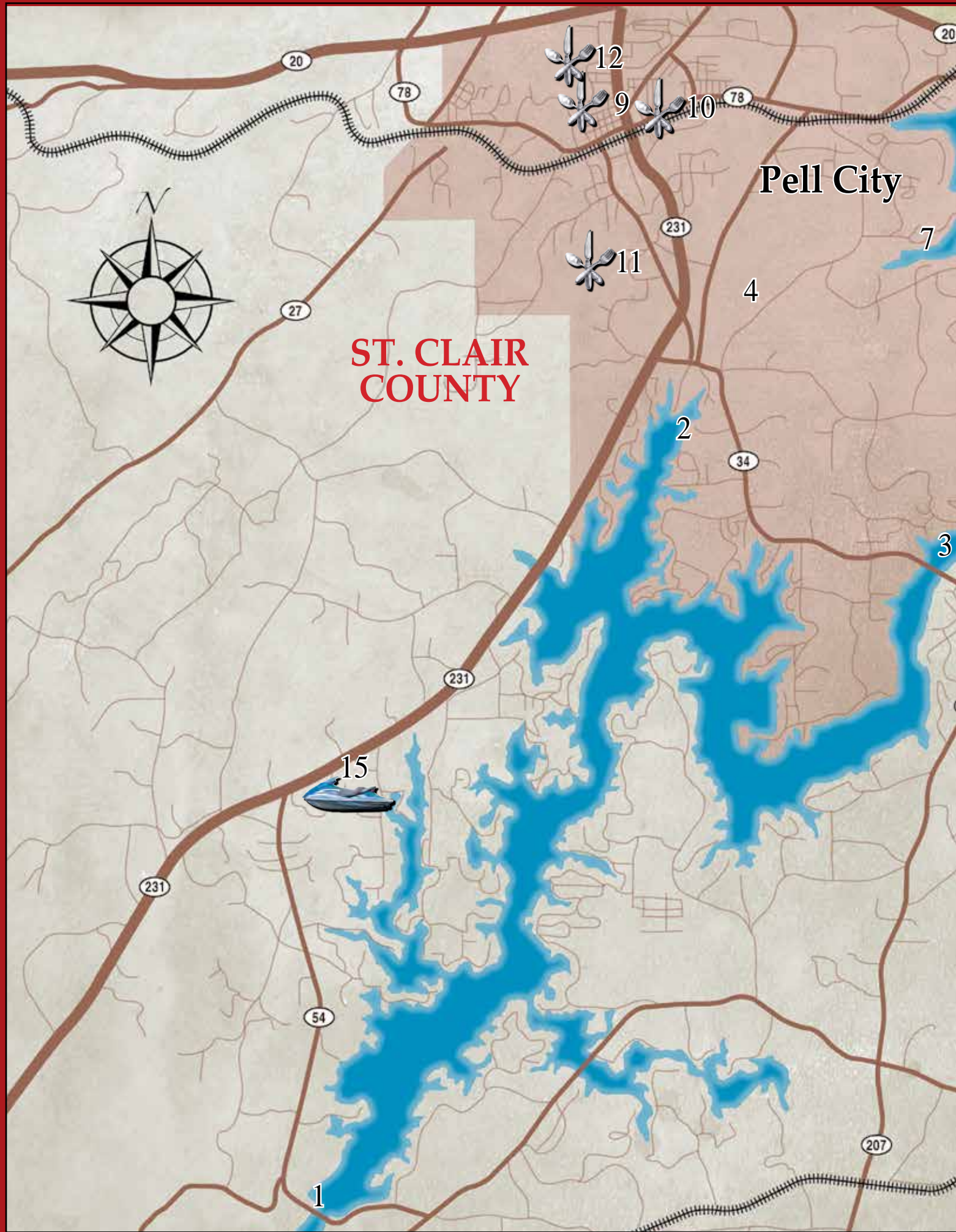
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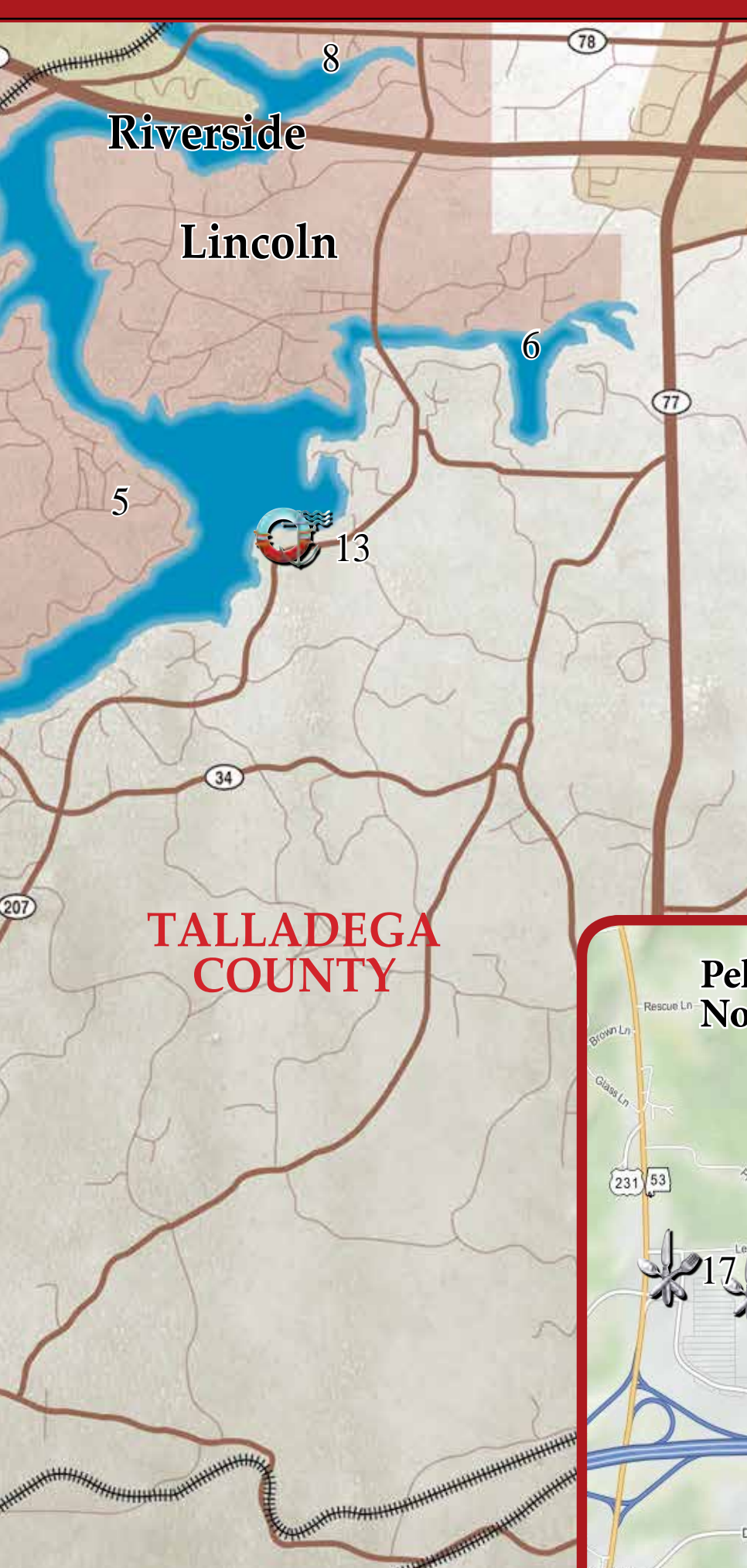


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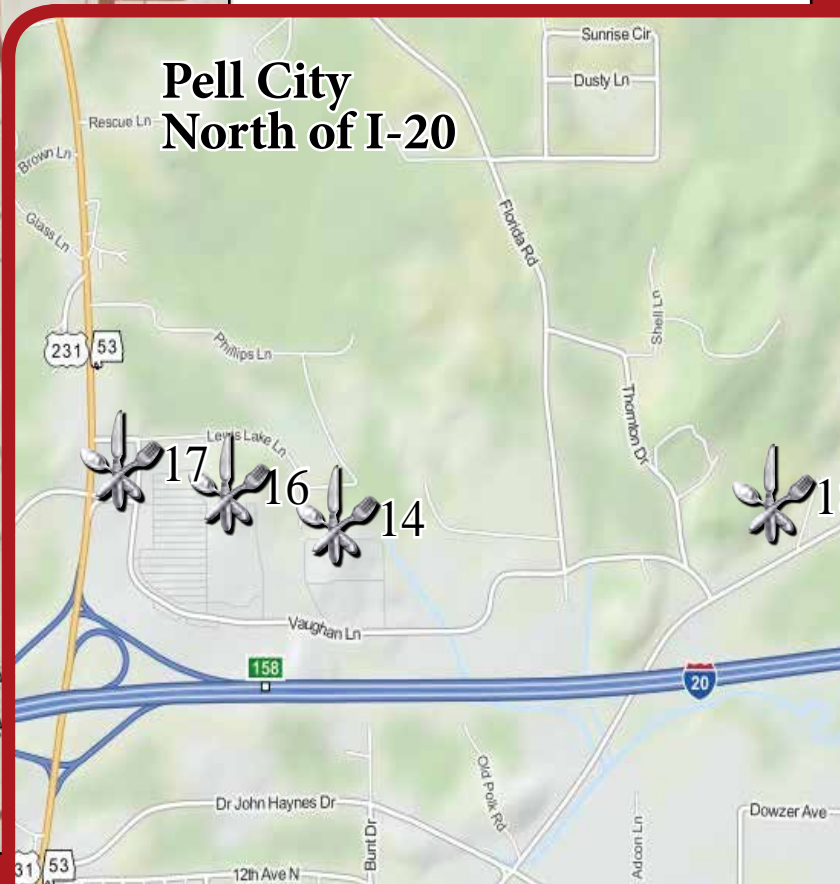






## A Lakeside Living guide to **LOGAN MARTIN**

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. Guadalajara Mexican
12. Daylight Donuts
13. Poor House Branch Marina
14. Aztecas
15. Advanced Watercraft
16. Jade East
17. Golden Rule BBQ
18. Big Deddy's





# FEBRUARY calendar of events



THURSDAY - SUNDAY

16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>

## BIRMINGHAM HOME SHOW

The Birmingham-Jefferson County Convention Complex plays host to the annual home and garden expo. Celebrity speakers at this year's show will include Kevin O'Connor of PBS' *This Old House*, Tyler Wisler of HGTV's *Design Star* and Robert Lee, developer of the Encore azalea. Exhibits will feature appliances, construction, garden, kitchen and bath, home décor, deck and patio, interior and exterior lighting and fitness products and services. For ticket information, visit [www.homeshowbirmingham.com](http://www.homeshowbirmingham.com).

FRIDAY

17<sup>th</sup>

## DANCING WITH OUR STARS

The fourth annual evening of fun and entertainment benefiting the Pell City Fire Department begins at 6 p.m. at Celebrations, presented by The Pell City Line Dancers. Proceeds will help support the Pell City Fire Department in providing training programs for future firefighters. Tickets are available now at the Pell City Coffee Shop and Main Street Drugs for \$25 each. If the event is not sold out in advance, admission will be \$30 at the door.

## FEBRUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

SATURDAY

18<sup>th</sup>

## CRAPPIE USA TOURNAMENT

Riverside Landing plays host to the competitive fishing event offering local anglers opportunity to compete for cash, prizes and a chance to advance to the 2017 Cabela's Crappie USA Classic. A pre-tournament seminar will be held on February 17 at the Riverside City Hall Storm Shelter. Sign-up will begin at 5 p.m., with the meeting and a National Sponsor Field Test Product Drawing starting at 7 p.m. The seminar is open to the public. Those not fishing the event are encouraged to come out to meet the top crappie anglers in the region. Held in conjunction with the tournament will be the Crappie Kids Fishing Rodeo on February 18. Sign-up will be at 8 a.m., with the rodeo scheduled from 9-11 a.m. For more information, call 502-384-5924 or visit [www.crappieusa.com](http://www.crappieusa.com).

SATURDAY

18<sup>th</sup>

## ABA CENTRAL ALABAMA COUPLES TOURNAMENT

Sponsored by Alabama Bass Anglers, the 20-boat couples' event launches from Lakeside Landing at safe light. Weigh-in will be 8 hours later. For more information, contact Mark Shannon at 256-777-7560 or [smedic29@charter.net](mailto:smedic29@charter.net).



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## **MOBILE HOME RENTALS**

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Logan Martin

# Homes

FEBRUARY 2017

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



## THE REALTY PROS

418 Martin Street South | Pell City, AL | 205.884.0400





## Lakeside home in Cropwell is great for entertaining

Story By BUDDY ROBERTS  
PHOTOS BY TUCKER WEBB


Prospective homebuyers who love to entertain may find exactly what they're looking for in the property at 1015 River Oaks Drive in Cropwell.

Situated on a well-maintained 1.65-acre lot with plenty of shade trees, the River Oaks subdivision home offers wide-open views of Logan Martin Lake, allowing for plenty of natural sunlight inside. Built in 1996, it contains four bedrooms and three and one-half baths.

The flowing floor plan features a spacious living room, dining room, gourmet kitchen with breakfast bar,

den (which offers a wall of full-length windows facing the lake), laundry room, master suite and a second bedroom that can be used as an office. Two more bedrooms are upstairs.

A two-car garage is attached to the kitchen. The unfinished basement is ideal for a workshop, and the covered back porch is a superb spot for enjoying sunsets over the lake.

The property is listed at \$899,000. For more information, call The Realty Pros at 205-884-0400. 



# Jackson's 'servant's heart' helps clients reach the goal of home ownership

STORY BY BUDDY ROBERTS

Carol Jackson observed her one-year anniversary as a real estate agent in November, saying she's learned a lot during the past 14 months.

"There is always something to learn," she said, "and real estate is something I've always wanted to do. My background is in the medical field – as an x-ray technician and in information technology – but at some point I decided I wanted to be a real estate agent when I grew up."

Her "servant's heart" told her when the time was right.

"I woke up one morning and asked myself, 'what are you doing here?' I could see that God was preparing my path, that this was what he wanted me to do, and I've enjoyed it very much. I want to help people, and real estate gives me the opportunity to do that."

An agent with Re/Max Hometown's Pell City office, Jackson said the aspect of real estate she's enjoyed the most is working with first-time homebuyers.

"I love helping people get into a home that is just right for them," she said. "To



purchase a home is a huge thing, and it's a great accomplishment for a lot of people. To see them get what they want and be satisfied is very rewarding for me."

For prospective homebuyers – especially those buying a home for the first time – she recommends "doing your homework. These days, technology has made doing your real estate homework so much easier. The more you can learn about what you want and what you can afford, the easier the process will be. And it takes patience. Buying a home comes with a lot of different challenges."

But Jackson says she's never backed

down from a challenge.

"I'm the type of person that when something is in my way, I'm going to figure a way to work it out. I don't leave things on the shelf too long without finding a solution. You can look at a challenge positively or negatively. It's all in how you look at it. For me, challenges are positives, because they're opportunities to work to accomplish something. I'm going to try to make it happen for my clients, if it's at all possible. And viewing it that way, I never get bored." 📌





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Office 205-884-0400



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PELL CITY \$189,000. GREAT WATERFRONT LOT IN PINE HARBOR, NICE NEIGHBORHOOD, HAS EXISTING BOATHOUSE. MLS#603599

TALLADEGA \$99,000. GOOD SLOPE TO WOODED WATERFRONT LOT. GREAT LOT TO BUILD PERMANENT OR WEEK-END HOME MLS#603430



LINCOLN \$419,000. BEAUTIFUL 3BR/2BA ON APPROX. 4 ACRES. 3 CAR GARAGE, GORGEOUS SALT WATER POOL & PATIO. 32X42 BRICK 2 CAR GAR/WORKSHOP WITH FLOORED UPSTAIRS, PLUS DETACHED OFFICE/MAN CAVE WITH HEAT/AIR. NEWLY REMODELED KITCHEN WITH GRANITE, STAINLESS APPS, LARGE ISLAND, FORMAL DINING. SPACIOUS DEN WITH GAS FP AND CUSTOM CABINETS. MLS#761267



CROPWELL \$559,000. LOVELY 3BR/2.5BA WITH AWESOME LAKE VIEW ON GORGEOUS LEVEL LOT IN RIVER OAKS. CABANA, GREAT POOL, FENCED AREA, PIER. GREAT ROOM OVERLOOKING FANTASTIC VIEW OF LAKE, STACKED STONE FIREPLACE. SEPARATE OFFICE & LAUNDRY ON MAIN LEVEL. UPSTAIRS HAS 2 BEDROOMS PLUS A LARGE BONUS ROOM. MLS#738166



PELL CITY \$295,000. Approx. 4.7 Wooded acres & 300 ft. of waterfrontage on Logan Martin Lake. Great place to build or subdivide. City Limits. Nice spacious Mobile Home with large porch overlooking lake and large flat yard. MLS#633317



TALLADEGA \$409,000. AMAZING WATERFRONT AND VIEW WITH THIS 3BR/2BA BRICK HOME WITH NEW DECK, PATIO AND SCREENED PORCH. NICE INTERIOR WITH HARDWOODS, FIREPLACE. BONUS STUBBED ROOM IN ATTIC, WIRED & PLUMBED DAYLIGHT BASEMENT & REC ROOM. MLS#754459



CROPWELL \$369,000. NICE 3BR/2BA ON LOGAN MARTIN. APPROX 3 ACRES AND 60 FT OF WATERFRONT. HUGE FENCED LOT, DETACHED GARAGE AND COVERED RV CARPORT. NICE OPEN LIVING, DINING AND KITCHEN WITH HARDWOOD FLOORS. SCREENED IN PORCH, BASEMENT AND DECK. MLS#760694





*The Sign  
of Results*

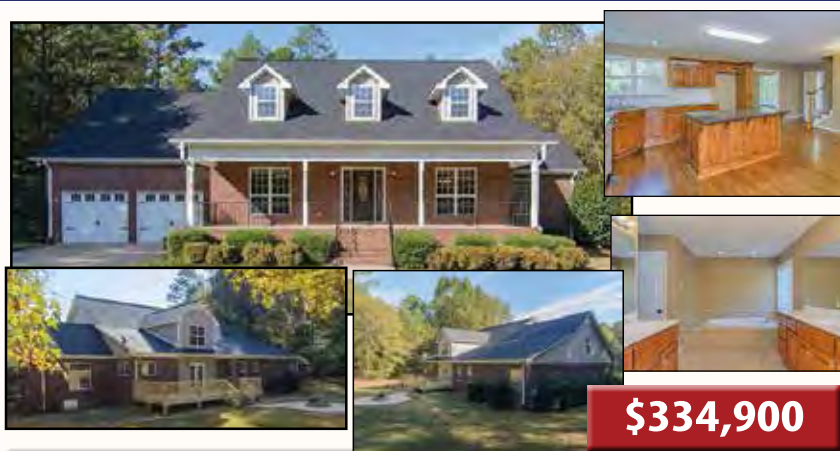


Dana Ellison, REALTOR®



**\$499,900**

**705 River Oaks Dr, Cropwell,** 2 new HVAC's, 140 ft. water frontage with concrete wall, private boat house/dock with lift. Hardwood floors, kitchen has corian counter tops, laundry room, 2 car garage. Master bedroom has fireplace, double vanities and garden tub. 3 beds, 3 full baths with a finished basement. Additional rooms that could be extra bedrooms, office space/workout room. Over 4000 sq. ft. including basement, 1.41 acres. MLS #758609.



**\$334,900**

**433 Eagle Pointe Dr., Pell City,** brick 4 bedroom 3 1/2 bath home has new roof, garage doors, exterior & interior paint, hardwood floors, tile floors in bathrooms, carpet, lights, kitchen cabinets, stainless steel appliances, large master shower has been added, bathroom vanities and mirrors & deck. The septic tank has been inspected and cleaned, the HVAC is only a few years old. The main level offers a formal living room with gas fireplace, dining rm, den, large kitchen with granite & bar island, eating area with fireplace, large master suite has 2 vanities, walk in shower, jacuzzi & huge closet, nice laundry room & half bath are conveniently located in the hallway. The upstairs has 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths and den area for the teens. STORAGE GALORE! Community pool, tennis courts & boat launch are all yours to enjoy! MLS 768992.



**\$419,900**

**67 Mays Bend Circle,** Brick home on Logan Martin Lake, 4 BR, 3 full BA, 3 car garage, central vacuum system, hardwood floors, breakfast bar and spacious laundry room, master suite w/jacuzzi tub, lake view from every room in the house, 120 ft. shoreline with seawall & dock. MLS #738433.



**\$99,000**

**1909 Chula Vista Mtn. Road, Pell City** ~3 acre lot. This manufactured home has 3br, 2ba, a large kitchen with new tile counter tops, breakfast area, bar, lots of cabinets & a spacious laundry room with pantry space. There is a wood burning fireplace in the living room. The master suite has a his & her vanity area with a separate shower and jacuzzi tub and great closet space. A new metal roof was installed in May of 2016. 10 x 16 workshop with electricity is also on the property. MLS #758076.





Bill Gossett



Blair Fields



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Fields



Brenda Fields



Karen Bain



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Michelle  
Shoemaker



Scott Fields



Adam Bain



Carl Howard



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**\$1,300,000 - 229 Willow Dr. - (2) YEAR ROUND WATERFRONT LOTS AND MOTIVATED SELLER** with this magnificent custom built 4 BR home with many amenities. Master BR is located on the main level with other three located upstairs, one with private BA and two with Jack-n-Jill. Open living room with huge windows w/view of the lake and saltwater inground pool. MLS #729239 Call Lawrence 205-812-5195



**\$475,000 - 490 River Oaks Dr. - EXCLUSIVE NEIGHBORHOOD** with some of the finest homes on Logan Martin for this 3 BR, 3 BA level home with basement located on main channel. Home has living room w/FP, dining room, finished basement with den, BR, BA and huge walk in storage area. Newly added outdoor kitchen with covered sitting area with outdoor fireplace. MLS #767866 Call Karen 205-473-4613



**\$179,000 - 2351 Fraim Dr. - 2 STORY TOWNHOUSE - 3** bedroom, 2 bath, family room with fireplace, screened in porch and master bedroom with fireplace, private balcony overlook the lake, private dock. MLS #748368 Call Lawrence 205-812-5195



**508 Lindy Circle - PARADISE ON LOGAN MARTIN LAKE!** Private waterfront estate w/ gated entry, 4 BR, 3.5 BA home with 3-car garage, formal LR with columned archways, elegant formal DR, oversized den with fireplace, magnificent master suite with sitting area, office/library with built-ins. Waterfront views throughout, salt water pool and hot tub w/pool house. MLS #754090 Call Blair 205-812-5377



**\$329,900 - 2400 Blue Springs Rd.- FULL BRICK 3** bedroom 2 bath waterfront home with (2) fireplaces, kitchen with new appliances, freshly painted and mostly update. Located on gentle slope lot with boathouse and private deck. Downstairs with den, workshop and storm room. Conveniently located! MLS #761005. Call Alesia 205-405-0860



**\$375,000 - 404 Allen Rd. - GREAT LAKE HOUSE** with large open floor plan and large living areas. Enter the front door to a spectacular view of the lake with this large 6 BR, 4 BA 1.5 story home. Living/dining room w/ FP and updates to include hardwood floors, hot water heater, roof, septic tank, kitchen, carpet, screened porch and deck. Level lot leads to dock and seawall with walk area. MLS #745879 Call Adam 205-369-2704



**\$1,400,000 - 710 Sunset Dr. - EXQUISITE ESTATE OF** Approx. 94 ACRES (with more available for additional cost) and CUSTOM BUILT brick 5 BR, 4.5 BA home. Great room with approx. 20' ceiling and abundance of floor to ceiling windows. Gourmet kitchen w/adjacent breakfast room. Downstairs has 2nd kitchen, den, BA, BR and storm shelter. MLS # 749436 Call Brenda 205-812-4141 or Blair 205-812-5377



**\$160,000 - 819 Barclay Rd. - RANCH STYLE** one level 3 BR, 3 BA home with updates of flooring, dishwasher, roof and new paint located on approx. 3.7 ACRES. Flat to gentle sloping land, private and no zoning. MLS# 767938 Call Tony 205-281-1317 or Bill 205-369-7977



**\$185,000 - 625 Creek Ridge Dr. - CONVENIENT 4** bedroom 2 bath home with spacious open floor plan with 2-car garage and located on cul-de-sac. MLS #759631. Call Carl 205/965-4755 or Michelle 205-427-3222



**\$349,900 - 413 Eagle Pointe Dr. - AMAZING 5** bedroom 3 bath home in Eagle Pointe Estates. Home has large updated kitchen with granite countertops, 4 ovens and 2 dishwashers, large family room with fireplace, large windows facing backyard unground pool. Lake access! MLS #759564. Call Carey 205-901-0652



**\$118,500 - 30 Jackson Lane - NICE 3 bedroom, 2** bath one level home with 2-car garage and located on level corner lot in Lincoln. MLS #764785 Call Carl 205/965-4755 or Michelle 205/427-3222



**\$97,000 - Historical, cottage style home** located in Talladega. Open entry hall and staircase, large rooms with original ceilings, wide baseboards, crown molding and floors and some updating. MLS 736000. Call Nan 256-452-4761



**\$159,900 - 100 Deerbrook Rd. - BEAUTIFULLY RESTORED** with hardwood floors, handmade concrete counter tops in kitchen and master bath and new hardwood cabinets throughout, 30x40 shop, concrete storm shelter and located on 3 ACRES m/l. MLS# 748507 Call Tina (205)337-8509



**\$250,000 - 195 Peoples Lane - PROPERTY WITH MANY OPPORTUNITIES!** Approx. 6 UNRESTRICTED ACRES with this 4 bedroom, 2 bath home with large den, dining room, covered porch, above ground pool and 40x40 workshop that comes with its own car lift. Two manufactured homes are currently located on the property that will be moved or not included. Great potential! MLS #761922 Call Sebastian (256)926-8043



**\$69,900 - 365 Brookview Dr. - 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath** in well established neighborhood. MLS 755506. Call Scott 205-368-8138 or Joel 205-753-3831



**49,900 - WATERS EDGE DR. - GORGEOUS LAKE ACCESS** - lot in the beautiful Waters edge gated community on Logan Martin Lake. Lot has a pier slip assigned to it and a community boat launch. MLS #750116 Call Mary 205-566-0825





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**REDUCED WATERFRONT**

475 RIVER FOREST LN., TALLADEGA, \$172,900 2 BR, 2 BA, Condo. No maintenance just move in and enjoy the lake. You will love the community pool, beach, boat launch, dock, playground and grilling stations. Beautiful kitchen with custom cabinets and granite counter tops. The master features a garden tub and separate shower, double vanity. Covered deck. MLS# 761110



41 11TH ST. SO. - \$89,000 This 2 BR, 1 BA charming home is close to schools and I-20. The home has recently been updated, new siding and roof in 2008. One car carport. Great starter home or empty nester's. Storage building negotiable. MLS #771143

403 EUREKA RD, LINCOLN, \$295,000. 3 BR 2BA. The front is a wall of windows looking into screen porch looking at Logan Martin Lake. Over one acre leading to your boat house with lift and water. Great room has beautiful stone fireplace. Kitchen has eat in space and breakfast bar. Sitting area with wall of bookshelves. Master bedroom has room for a sitting area. Large closets in the bedrooms. Air conditioned workshop. MLS# 761750



**REDUCED**

3215 DR JOHN HAYNES DR, PELL CITY \$210,000. Two 75x150 lots. There's a 31 unit warehouse. Several different sizes. The other lot is vacant and fenced. The property also comes with a 2006 Chevrolet Roll Back wrecker. MLS# 726742



60 GUY DR, LINCOLN, \$175,000. New Construction, 3 BR, 2 BA. Open floor plan, eat at bar, granite counter tops, hardwood floors, tile bath, large laundry, double garage MLS# 766714.



250 NIXON RD. CROPWELL. - \$239,900. Love country living in this brick home with 5 acres M/L. Convenient to Logan Martin Lake. Finished basement, family room, bedroom bath, 2 closets, cleared off back half of land for horses. New paint, carpet and hardwood floors. 2 car garage and workshop. Basement has private entry and patio. Just minutes to 3 marinas and boat storage. MLS #769768.



125 OAK LEAF, PELL CITY \$209,000. 4 BR and 2.5 BA, formal dining room plus eat in space in the kitchen, great room with fireplace, upstairs den, patio, gas cooktop mls MLS# 766471.

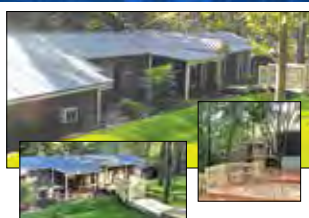


2307 FRAM DR., PELL CITY 199,900. Pine Harbor with a beautiful sunset. 2 BR and 2 full BA, double car carport, screen porch, pier, community pool, sprinkler system, new hvac, new roof, storm shelter-chair lift and some furniture can be bought separately. MLS# 753181.



**WATERFRONT**

7145 SKYLINE DR, PELL CITY, \$368,500. 6 BR, 3 BA, screen porch, pool, side patio and hot tub. Sits on approximately 1.9 acre, large level lot. Approximately 121 feet shore line with concrete seawall and pier. Subdivision has a boat launch. Wood vaulted ceiling with beams in the great room and kitchen area. Kitchen is open to the great room with a view of the lake. Metal Roof. In ground pool completely fenced. Handicap accessible ramp. Workshop and metal building. Updates needed. MLS# 760884



334 CANE CREEK DR., PELL CITY 3 BR/3 BA. - \$98,000. Walk in closets, fireplace, abundance of cabinet space and pantry in the kitchen. This home has a storm shelter and playground that is equipped with a pirates ship jungle gym. Also offers a large library with full bath. FHA approved for loan. MLS #763289



231 LAKELAND HILLS, TALLADEGA \$295,000. Tucked back in nature with amazing views from all rooms. Lakeside: master, office, living and kitchen. Teenager, in law suite or multiple family space downstairs. Includes master BR, 2 BR, bath, walk in closets, living area, full kitchens and laundry area. Natural landscape, boat pier, screened porch, storage building and more! Siding is Hardie fiber cement. MLS# 770846.



**WATERFRONT**

PARADISE ISLE Unit 112, RIVERSIDE \$174,800. 2 BR, 2 full BA. Perfect lake living. Maintenance free and only seconds away from I-20. This unit is on the main channel with a forever view. Paradise Isle features two pools, tennis courts, boat launch, grilling area, playground area, basketball court, boat parking. The owner of this unit has paid the fee to have a new pier built. Screen porch. FP in the greatroom. Eat at bar in the kitchen plus a dining area. MLS# 736388



190 OAK POINTE DR., CROPWELL - \$575,000. Home offers a 2 ac +/- level lot with in-ground sprinkler, seawall, boat house with remote control boat lift, sundeck and spider be gone system. Saltwater heated in-ground pool. Back yard fenced in. Gazebo pool side along with outside kitchen. Home has 4 BR, 2 1/2 BA. Great room with gas log fireplace, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen. Huge screen porch with wood burning fireplace, clear vinyl winter panels to enjoy year round. Home has approx. 3000 sq ft. double car garage, safe room, storm shelter and workshop. Home has gutter helmet and UV light filter system. MLS #771044.



922 COMER AVE, PELL CITY \$89,900. This property is a commercial building on Main Street. The building has been updated with new sheet-rock, new electrical and new Trane heat/air system. The building has a big storage area in the back with a roll up door. There is parking on the side street and back of the building. MLS# 734189



668 LAKE FRONT DR., PELL CITY - \$675,000. Elegant home on main channel point lot. 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. In addition two screened porches lake side and wrap around porch, 2 huge garages insulated, one heated, cooled, double boatport with 2 remote control lifts, piers, house generator and geostone seawall. Ladies retreat or man cave over garage. Irrigation system. MLS #770918

- 1355 COUNTY ROAD 42, STEELE \$154,800 - 33 acres MLS# 619571
- TWO EAGLE POINTE LOTS, \$14,900 MLS #76033 AND MLS #760336
- MAYS BEND, LOGAN MARTIN LAKE POINT LOT - \$165,000

- COTTON TOP FARMS, 4 LOTS. \$15,000
- LAKE LOT - RIVERSIDE \$75,000
- MAYS BEND, LAKE VIEW \$45,000 MLS 766725



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