



# Coosa Journal



*News & Encouragement from the Coosa County Sheriff's Office*

*Happy Thanksgiving!*



# November

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**"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."  
(John 15:13)**

*Sheriff Terry Wilson*

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**Your Coosa County Sheriff's  
Office is here...  
To Serve and Protect**

**November 2017  
Volume 9  
Number 11**

***Police Officers Prayer***

*Lord I ask for courage  
Courage to face and Conquer my fears...  
Courage to take me Where others will not go...  
I ask for strength  
Strength of body to protect others And strength of spirit to  
lead others...  
I ask for dedication  
Dedication to my job, to do it well. Dedication to my  
community,  
To keep it safe...  
Give me Lord, concern  
For others who trust me  
And compassion for  
those who need me...  
And please Lord through it all  
Be at my side...*

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*You are Invited to Attend:*

**Rockford Baptist Church**

9575 Highway 231 Rockford

10:00 AM Sunday School  
11:00 AM and 6:00 PM Worship

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# Point of View

## Trusting In The Storms

By: Dr. Jeff Fuller

All of us face storms at times in our lives. These may be nothing more than mounting bills we are unable to pay to health issues which come with news we are unable to bear. It is something akin to a rollercoaster life; there are ups and downs, good times and bad times, troubles and triumphs in our life. This is why we find David writing:

*“The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I lack. He lets me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. He renews my life; He leads me along the right paths for His name’s sake. Even when I go through the darkest valley, I fear no danger, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff—they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Only goodness and faithful love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD as long as I live.” (Psalm 23:1-6 HCSB)*

I recently heard a brief segment of a



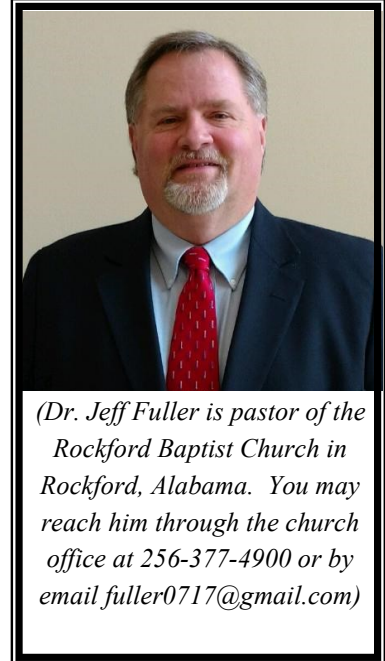
sermon by Jeff R. Steele, pastor of Redeeming Grace Church in Cullman. He spoke about how Lazarus died even though he believed in God. Then he added the three Hebrew Children who stood before the King for their lives, were sent to the fiery furnace believing in God to rescue them. His point was that even though we go through the problems of life, it is better to go through those things with Christ than without Christ.

How anyone can face the storms of life without God is beyond me.

Someone is going through the storms of life, the wind is blowing, the foundation is shaking, the tears are flowing, it is more than you can bear; yet, I tell you these things will help you endure the trials of this life!

There are four things I wish for you to consider today.

**Prepare.** In Boy Scouts I learned, “Be Prepared.” It applies to life, as much as anything else. We are prepared for the troubles



*(Dr. Jeff Fuller is pastor of the Rockford Baptist Church in Rockford, Alabama. You may reach him through the church office at 256-377-4900 or by email fuller0717@gmail.com)*

*Continued on Page 4*

and trials by knowing we belong to Christ, have made Him Lord and Savior of our life. Our trust is in Him to carry us through whatever may come and to give us a home in heaven at the end of the journey. With this preparation, we are able to meet the challenges of life, knowing God is there walking with us up each incline. He is whispering in our ears; “Peace, be still.”

**Rely.** Being prepared for the journey which takes us in various directions, to places unknown, we rely on Him for provision, protection, and His personal touch upon each of our lives.

**Answers.** Wait for the answers to come in due time; we may not know why we endured the experience until much later, but at the appointed time God will reveal His purposes and plans for the pain and sorrow.

**Yield.** When we are like the old man Saul, “[kicking] against the pricks,” (Acts 9:5) we are trusting in ourselves, our ways, and our outcome to whatever may take place in our lives. Though when we are yielded to Him-God-in all things we are like Paul who said, “He said unto me, ‘My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.’” (2 Corinthians 12:9 KJV)

If you will look back at the first letter of each of those four words above, you will find the word PRAY. When you know Christ as Savior and Lord, you have placed your faith in Him for this life and the life to come, you are able to talk to Him. As you communicate with Him He is able to speak to you and share with you and aid you though the storms of life.

I pray today you will take hope! You may endure for a time, but joy comes in the morning. This joy comes because you were prepared, relying on God, seeking His answers, and yielded to His leadership and not your own.

Until next time...





# November's *Sheriff's Office* Featured Article

## DISTRACTED DRIVING

The driver is traveling along the roads of Coosa County. He has a snack he picked up at the convenience store and is heading to a friend's house of a long visit and to watch the ballgame. He is reaching for a soft drink while texting his friend he is on his way and will arrive in the next ten minutes. What he does not realize is he has entered the oncoming lane and will hit the oncoming vehicle head-on within seconds.

Later he wakes up in the hospital to find he has totaled his truck, the driver he hit is in critical condition, and the state trooper will rule the accident happened because of distracted driving.

Such is the condition taking place on a daily basis throughout the nation. Distracted driving is causing a huge headache among law enforcement. All ages are involved in the problem. Distracted driving is any activity that diverts a person's attention away from the primary task of driving. All distractions endanger the driver, passengers within their vehicle and bystanders or other drivers' safety.



These types of distractions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- ⇒ Texting
- ⇒ Use of a cell phone or smartphone
- ⇒ Eating and drinking
- ⇒ Talking to passengers
- ⇒ Grooming
- ⇒ Reading, including maps
- ⇒ Using a navigation system
- ⇒ Watching a video
- ⇒ Adjusting a radio, CD player or MP3 Player

Accident reports and records show that over 90 percent of highway crashers are caused by driver error, lack of knowledge, inattention, physical or mental condition, improper attitude or faulty judgement. When you are worried, distracted or if your mind is preoccupied, you cannot count on being sufficiently alert to drive safely.

### **STATE DISTRACTED DRIVING LAWS**

Distracted driving could leave you responsible for a crash in which other people could be

hurt or even killed. At the least, you could end up with a traffic ticket. In Alabama, teen drivers with restricted licenses are prohibited from using any kind of handheld wireless communication device while driving. Possible consequences of a ticket include:

- Fines
- Suspended driving privileges
- Attorney's fees
- Court costs
- Insurance rate increases

The law does not single out teen drivers, either. Alabama has similar restrictions for adults, who may not text and drive.

Electronic devices aren't the only distractions a driver faces. Passengers can be distracting, too. This is one reason Alabama's graduated driver licensing system allows no more than one passenger in the vehicle, not including a parent or legal guardian of the licensee, until a driver reaches age 17.

### **Alabama Distracted Driving Laws**

Alabama lawmakers approved a bill regarding distracted driving in February 2011. It was unanimously approved by the Alabama state house, which hasn't been the case in many other states.

There is no hand-held ban in Alabama, but only a texting ban for all drivers and a ban on cell phone use for novice drivers. This means that drivers are allowed to make and receive phone calls while behind the wheel. Alabama is among the states with the lowest fines for distracted driving.

### **Novice Drivers**

Novice drivers, which in Alabama are defined as 16 and 17 year old drivers who have held an intermediate license for fewer than 6 months, are banned from all cell phone use (handheld and hands-free). This is a primary law.

### **Text Messaging Ban**

In Alabama, all drivers are banned from sending, receiving, or composing text messages while driving. This is a primary law that was

put into effect on August 1st, 2012. Prior to that, only novice drivers were banned from text messaging.

Those who violate the text messaging ban are subject to a \$25 fine, and receive 2 demerit points to their driver's license. Second-time offenders get a \$50 fine, whereas third-time offenders face a \$75 fine.



### **The Problem Of Distracted Driving**

Distracted drivers cause many deadly car accidents on Alabama highways. Despite efforts to educate the public (and especially young drivers), accident statistics continue to show a growing problem. The Property Casualty Insurers Association of America reports, "a 14 percent increase in traffic fatalities over the past two years — the largest two year increase

in more than 50 years."

While many think that the answer is found in passing new laws to make it more difficult for drivers, the primary items of interest are found in:

- Education / Awareness
- Safety Technology
- Law Enforcement

### **Recent Legal Changes In Other States**

Even though most states have put in place laws that restrict texting while driving, more action is needed to address distracted driving and the sharp spike in crashes and traffic fatalities that have occurred over the past few years.

In 2017, several other state legislatures acted to strengthen their distracted driving laws. Both Washington and Arkansas expanded the definition of distracted driving in an effort to include driver distractions such as Facebook and YouTube.

Washington, Arkansas, North Dakota and the District of Columbia increased fines for violators. Colorado passed legislation increasing its fines which is currently sitting on the governor's desk awaiting signature. In

Arkansas, first-time offender fines are now up to \$250. Repeat violations are even greater. Some of these provisions also increase fines for offenders involved in accidents.

In addition, Tennessee and Vermont passed laws banning the use of handheld devices in school zones. It is reported that several distracted driving cases have been the result of a crash which occurred in a school zone. One such case was where a young student slammed into another vehicle in a school zone while looking for songs on her phone. That crash destroyed two vehicles and left one victim with a [traumatic brain injury](#).

We recognize that simply passing new laws will not stop dangerous distracted driving. This is why many advocate an approach involving law enforcement, education and technology. The danger of distracted driving puts our families at risk on the highway. We all worry every day about our own children being hurt by a distracted driver. We must continue to advocate for highway safety that protects our families as they travel to school, work and errands each day.

<https://www.alabamainjurylawyer-blog.com/2017/06/20/new-laws-seek-reduce-deadly-distracted-driving/>

### **Distracted Driving**

It just makes sense that a person can't text and drive a car at the same time. Distracted driving causes crashes, and people can get hurt or killed. That's why responsible drivers don't text and drive (or talk on the phone while driving), and they don't allow other distractions to pull their attention from the road.

### **DISTRACTED DRIVING IS DANGEROUS**

According to [the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety](#), more than half of teen drivers reported using a cell phone while driving, and more than 1 in 4 reported typing or sending a text message while driving in the previous 30 days. When it's time for you to get behind the wheel of a car, don't let yourself be a distracted driver. And don't ride with distracted drivers, either – safe driving comes first.

### **KEY TIPS FOR SAFE DRIVING**

- Distracted driving does not just involve cell phones and other wireless devices. Eating,

drinking, chatting with a passenger, reading a map, personal grooming, reaching for objects or looking at people or objects unrelated to the driving task are all things that could lead to a crash.

- As you get ready to learn to drive, ask your parents, driving instructor or other supervising driver how they minimize dangerous driving distractions and stay focused on driving.
- Even as a passenger, you can help others avoid distractions. If you're ever riding with friends



who are texting, on a cell phone, speeding or otherwise behaving recklessly, speak up. Tell your friends to focus on safe driving, ask to help them manage the phone or, if they do not change their risky behavior, ask to be dropped off.

Research for this article:

<http://teendriving.aaa.com/AL/teens/getting-ready/distracted-driving/>

<https://www.dmv.com/al/alabama/distracted-driving-laws>

## News from the Sheriff's



# Reserves

### *Thankful*

One might think that when you ask a law enforcement officer what they are thankful for their answer may include their firearm, flashlight, bullet resistant vest and training. While we are thankful for all those things, there are other more important things to give thanks for.

I'm most thankful there is a God in heaven who ordained law enforcement and who sent His only Son to die so we could have eternal life. In Romans 13 the bible says, let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore, whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but too bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. The amount of authority possessed by the law enforcement officer is dwarfed by the amount of responsibility.



I'm thankful for a family who loves and supports me. The life of a law enforcement officer is difficult and takes a toll on the officer and the family. An officer's work schedule often collides with birthday parties, get togethers and sporting events. Having to sleep after a twelve-hour shift or having to work a special detail means time away from family outings. Missing family time tears at the officer and the family. Having a loving supportive family means everything.

I'm thankful for friends. True friends are hard to come by for the law enforcement officer. It is difficult to let your guard down knowing that on any given day you may be called on to arrest a friend, neighbor or family member. That obviously puts a strain on a relationship. A prerequisite for being a friend of a law enforcement officer is to understand we have a job we are sworn to do. True friends don't put us in a position to have to choose between maintaining a friendship and performing our job. We are thankful for the friends we have.

I am thankful for my coworkers. There are many times when I do not see eye to eye with my coworkers and sometimes when I want to wring their neck. I think that is true in any vocation.



However, I know my coworkers understand what it's like to live this life. They know the joy of the successes and the pitfalls along the way. They know the stress that comes with a huge amount of responsibility. While we frequently argue among ourselves, we know when everything hits the fan, we are the ones coming to each other's rescue.

I am thankful for the support of the public. Today, the media and others often paint law enforcement as the bad guys simply because they are enforcing the law. A culture of defiance of authority and an attitude that shuns personal responsibility makes policing a difficult and stressful vocation. Law abiding citizens who respect and obey the law are something to be thankful for.

Lastly, I am thankful for a group of concerned citizens who serve in the Coosa County Sheriff's Reserve Unit. They give sacrificially of their time and talent for the benefit of the citizens of Coosa County.

I have a lot to be thankful for, just like you do. Let's not forget to give thanks.

**Reserves Meeting**  
**November 14, 2017**  
**6:00 PM E-911 Building**

By  
 Joel D. Glover  
 Coosa County Sheriff's Office Reserve Unit

**Top 5  
 Reserve Deputy  
 Hours  
 October**

Bill Embry .....	110.5 hrs.
Joel Glover .....	80.5 hrs.
Don Hodge .....	59.5 hrs.
James Ward .....	38.5 hrs.
Justin Howard .....	33 hrs.

**Total Reserve Deputy Hours**

**508 hours**



## OFFICER DOWN MEMORIAL PAGE

★★★★★  
 REMEMBERING ALL OF LAW ENFORCEMENT'S HEROES

**Total Officers Down = 109**  
*As of November 01, 2017*

**Month:**

**Type Of Death:**

January: 13	911 Related: 3	Heart Attack: 11
February: 10	Aircraft Accident: 2	Motorcycle accident: 4
March: 9	Animal Related: 1	Stabbed: 1
April: 10	Assault: 4	Vehicular: 11
May: 11	Auto accident: 23	
June: 11	Boating accident: 2	
July: 6	Drowned: 5	
August: 14	Duty related illness: 2	
September: 12	Exposer to Toxins: 1	
October: 10	Gunfire: 39	

# CCSO

# Serving & Protecting

## Sheriff's October

## Arrest Report



- On October 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy House arrested Jackson Akio Griggs from Birmingham, AL. on the charges of Driving Under the Influence, Possession of Marijuana 2<sup>nd</sup> and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia 1<sup>st</sup>. He was processed and released on a \$ 6,000 bond to await trial.
- On October 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy Jones arrested Bobbie Joe Jordan from Kellyton, AL. on the charge of Public Intoxication. He was processed and placed in the County Jail on a \$ 500 bond to await trial.
- On October 4<sup>th</sup> Corporal Moon arrested Tarreck Dexaxier Chandler from Gadsden, AL. on a warrant for Identity Theft. He was processed and released on a \$ 5000 bond to await trial.
- On October 6<sup>th</sup> Deputy House arrested Tiana Brene Riley from Kellyton, AL. on a warrant for Failure to Appear/Possession of Marijuana 2<sup>nd</sup>. Also, she was arrested on the charges of Obstructing Governmental Operations and Resisting Arrest. She was processed and released on a \$ 2000 bond to await trial.
- On October 7<sup>th</sup> Deputy Jones arrested Quterial Chanell Daniel from Alexander City, AL. on the charge of Domestic Violence 3<sup>rd</sup>/Assault. She was processed and released on a \$ 2000 bond to await trial.
- On October 10<sup>th</sup> Lt. Hammond arrested Santana Ann Kelley from Kellyton, AL. on a warrant for Failure to Pay/ Driving Under the Influence. She was processed and placed in the County Jail without bond to await trial.
- On October 11<sup>th</sup> Lt. Keel arrested Michael Anthony Tyson from Anniston, AL. on a warrant for Failure to Appear/Driving While Suspended. He was processed and released on a \$ 1000 bond to await trial.
- On October 12<sup>th</sup> Lt. Burke arrested Ebony Morton Holmes from Goodwater, AL. on a warrant for Failure to Appear/ Driving While Suspended and Speeding. She was processed and released on a \$ 2000 bond to await trial.
- On October 14<sup>th</sup> Deputy House arrested Joseph Leon Foster Jr. from Childersburg, AL. on the charge of Driving Under the Influence. HE was processed and released on a \$ 2000 bond to await trial.
- On October 15<sup>th</sup> Deputy Rudd arrested Wanda Faye Banks from Alexander City, AL. on a warrant for Failure to Appear/Driving While Revoked. She was processed and released on a \$ 1000 bond to await trial.
- On October 16<sup>th</sup> Lt. Keel arrested Alfred James Williams Jr. from Sylacauga,

AL. on a warrant for Probation Violation. He was processed and placed in the County Jail without bond to await trial.

- On October 19<sup>th</sup> Deputy Lipscomb arrested Laken Breanna Free from Dallas, GA. on a warrant for Theft of Property 1<sup>st</sup>. She was processed and placed in the County Jail on a \$ 10,000 bond to await trial.
- On October 19<sup>th</sup> Deputy Rudd arrested Camryn Seth Collier from Sylacauga, AL. on a warrant for Failure to Appear/Theft of Property 4<sup>th</sup>. He was processed and placed in the County Jail on a \$ 1,000 bond to await trial.
- On October 26<sup>th</sup> Deputy House arrested Jervis Kennard Whetstone from Rockford, AL. on a warrant for Failure to Appear/Non-Support of a Child. He was processed and released after payment was made to the Department of Human Resources.
- On October 26<sup>th</sup> Deputy House arrested Steven Kyle Yarbrough from Alexander City, AL. on a warrant for Failure to Appear/Operating a Motor Vehicle without Insurance. He was processed and released after fines were paid.
- On October 26<sup>th</sup> Deputy House arrested Angela Sheri Marbury from Sylacauga, AL. on the charge of Driving Under the Influence. She was processed and released on a \$ 2000 bond to await trial.
- On October 27<sup>th</sup> Deputy Lipscomb arrested Shane Eugen Carden from Stewartville, AL on warrants for Domestic Violence 3<sup>rd</sup>/Assault x 2 and Shooting into an Unoccupied Dwelling or Vehicle. He was processed and placed in the County Jail on a \$ 15,000 bond to await trial.
- On October 27<sup>th</sup> Deputy Rudd arrested Eddie Samuel Turner from Sylacauga, AL. on the charge of Driving Under the Influence. He was processed and placed in the County Jail on a \$ 2000 bond to await trial.
- On October 29<sup>th</sup> Lt. Hammond arrested Shane Anthony Vernon from Rockford, AL. on the charges of Burglary 3<sup>rd</sup>, Theft of Property 2<sup>nd</sup> and Escape 1<sup>st</sup>. He was processed and placed in the County Jail on a \$ 285,000 bond to await trial.
- On October 29<sup>th</sup> Deputy House arrested Ryan David Weaver from Verbena, AL. on the charge of Domestic Violence 3<sup>rd</sup>/Harassment. He was processed and placed in the County Jail on a \$ 5000 bond to await trial.

# Recent News

## Sheriff's Office Investigating Child Fatality



The Coosa County Sheriff's Office has opened an investigation into a child fatality case following the recent death of an 8-year-old.

On Saturday, September 30, at approximately 5:50 p.m., Sheriff's Office dispatchers received a 911 call concerning an 8-year-old child who was unresponsive. The call came from the child's mother at a residence on Robinson Road, off of County Road 40 in the Hissop community outside of Rockford.

Emergency services were immediately dispatched to the residence. Reportedly, EMS and deputies arrived on the scene within minutes and began performing CPR on the child. Shortly thereafter, an ambulance with Kellyton Fire and Rescue arrived on the scene, and the child was rushed to the emergency room at Russell Medical Center in Alexander City. There, they continued working to save the child's life, but were unsuccessful.

The scene at the house was secured by the Coosa County Sheriff's Office deputies. The Sheriff's Office investigators and county coroner initiated a child death investigation, and an autopsy has been ordered.

Because of the nature of the case, and it being an ongoing child death investigation, names of the victim and family are not being released.

Sheriff Terry Wilson said that it could take approximately two weeks or longer to receive autopsy results. He said that no further comments will be provided until this investigation is completed.

"Our condolences go out to the family," Wilson stated.

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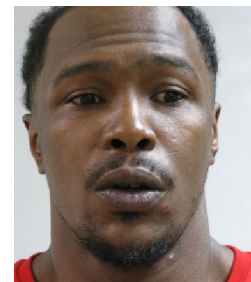
## Gadsden Man Arrested For Identity Theft

A Gadsden man was arrested for allegedly using the identity of another individual to avoid being served a warrant. On September 20, the Sheriff's Office took a report for Identity Theft. The victim is from Fort Payne, in north Alabama.

During the investigation, the victim received information that he failed to appear in court in Coosa County for a traffic violation. However, the victim had reportedly not received such a violation.

Further investigation revealed that 30-year-old Tarreck Dexaxier Chandler of Gadsden had provided a state trooper with the victim's identification. This was allegedly done because Chandler had a warrant for him from another county.

It was determined that Chandler was the perpetrator, and he was arrested on October 4 for identity theft. His bond was set at \$5,000, and he has since been released on bond to await trial.



Tarreck Dexaxier Chandler



## Childersburg Man Arrested for Identity Theft

A Childersburg man was arrested for allegedly using the identification of a victim in Coosa County.

In September, the Coosa County Sheriff's Office took a report for identity theft. During the course of that investigation, documents were presented to the investigator. This helped the investigator to determine that the suspect was using the victim's information to obtain money or goods. After reviewing all documents provided, it was determined that 22-year-old Colton Reed Jackson of Childersburg had been using the victim's identity numerous times.

Jackson was then arrested September 28, for Identity Theft, which is a felony charge. His bond was set at \$40,000, and as of press time he remained in custody at the Coosa County Jail awaiting trial.

During a follow-up investigation on 22-year-old Colton Reed Jackson of Childersburg on that Identity Theft case, it was determined that at the time of his arrest he had in his possession a credit/debit card belonging to someone else. Sheriff's Office investigators spoke with the owner of the card, who stated that Jackson did not have permission to be in possession of the card.

Therefore, while in jail, Jackson was served a warrant and arrested on October 5 for illegal possession of a credit/debit card. His bond for that charge was set at \$10,000. As of press time, Jackson remains in custody at the Coosa County Jail awaiting trial.



Colton Reed Jackson

## Georgia Woman Arrested for Vehicle Theft

A Georgia woman was arrested for allegedly stealing a vehicle in Coosa County approximately three months ago. In July, the Sheriff's Office took a report for the theft of a motor vehicle from County Road 19 in the Richville area.

After following up with the victim, the investigation led to identifying 23-year-old Laken Breanna Free of Dallas, Ga., as a suspect. During the investigation, they also discovered that she was somewhere in Georgia. Local law enforcement officials spoke with investigators in Georgia. The allegedly-stolen vehicle was located and impounded soon after.

Investigators learned that Free had been living at the residence where the vehicle was found. Coosa County then obtained warrants for her arrest.

A traffic stop was recently performed on Free in Dallas, Ga. She was held in custody there on the warrants from Coosa County.

She was extradited back to Coosa County and arrested on October 19 for first-degree theft of property. Her bond was set at \$10,000, and as of press time she remained in custody at the Coosa County Jail.



Laken Breanna Free

**“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”**  
**Matthew 5:9**

## **Juveniles Arrested for Shooting Near Ray Residence**

Two juveniles were arrested after allegedly shooting into a residence near the Ray community. On October 14, deputies responded to a call of shots fired at an occupied residence on County Road 73, just outside of the Ray community. Because of the nature of the case, Sheriff's Office Investigator Lt. Scott Hammond was also called out.

The scene was secured, and Hammond and the deputies began investigating the case. During the initial investigation, they found that numerous bullet holes had been made into the occupied dwelling and an unoccupied vehicle, which was located at the same residence.

The residence was occupied by three individuals at the time of the shooting, but none of the shots injured anyone.

During the investigation, deputies learned about various suspects who may have committed the crime. Deputies pursued those leads, which led them to one suspect's residence in Alexander City.

There, they found evidence related to the shooting and determined that a 15-year-old from Alexander City was one suspect involved in the case. Evidence was collected at the residence, and the 15-year-old was taken into custody on October 14. A follow-on investigation led to another suspect, a 17-year-old also from Alexander City. He was taken into custody that same day, and both were transported to the Lee County Juvenile Detention Center.

They were held there pending a hearing, which was scheduled for October 17, 2017. This was done because the center requires 72-hour hearings, meaning the juveniles were in custody there for 72 hours awaiting their hearing. During the hearing, the 15-year-old was ordered to be returned to the Detention Center for an undetermined amount of time. He was charged as a juvenile for discharging a firearm into an occupied dwelling and reckless endangerment. The 17-year-old's juvenile case was reviewed and dismissed. He was ordered to be tried as an adult, per the Code of Alabama Section 12-15-204.

As it relates to this particular instance, that section reads, "Acts for which person who has attained age 16 shall be charged, arrested, and tried as adult; removal of person from jurisdiction of juvenile court: Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any person who has attained the age of 16 years at the time of the conduct charged and who is charged with the commission of any act or conduct, which if committed by an adult would constitute any of the following, shall not be subject to the jurisdiction of juvenile court but shall be charged, arrested, and tried as an adult: ...A felony which has as an element thereof the use of a deadly weapon." Therefore, since the juvenile is at least 16 years old, and the alleged crime involved use of a firearm, his juvenile case was dismissed and he faced charges as an adult.

He was arrested again on October 17, after his adjudication hearing, for the charges of disarming a firearm into an occupied dwelling and reckless endangerment, as an adult rather than a juvenile. He was placed in custody at the Coosa County Jail in Rockford. His total bond was set at \$35,000. As of press time he remained in custody at the Coosa County Jail.

Because both suspects are less than 18 years old, their names are not being released. The Sheriff's Office reported that this remains an ongoing investigation as others may also be involved in this case.

## Sheriff's Office finishes 2017 C.O.A.C.H. fundraisers

The Coosa County Sheriff's Office has finished its 2017 fundraiser events for Cancer Outreach and Community Hope, ending with the annual "Fish for a Cure" fishing tournament that was held October 21, 2017.

A total of 70 boats participated in this year's tournament, raising \$7,000 for C.O.A.C.H., before expenses were deducted. The Sheriff's Office reported that this was the most participation and best tournament it has had so far.

Money that was raised from this and other fundraisers held this year will go to C.O.A.C.H. to be used to help cancer patients and their families right here in Coosa County.

The Sheriff's Office gave payouts to those who placed in the top 15 spots of the 70 participants. The 15 payout winners were Rachael Fondren and Jeremy Miller (first place, 17.93 pounds - \$1,000), Heath Howell and Tim Lawrence (second place, 15.53 pounds - \$800), Butch Buttram and Chance Buttram (third place, 15.27 pounds - \$600), Robbie Pritchard and Lynn Pritchard (fourth place, 13.31 pounds - \$500), Greg Vick and Chris Studdard (fifth place, 12.88 pounds - \$400), David Gaston and Bill Gaston (sixth place, 12.41 pounds - \$300), Lee Holmes and Alan Guinn (seventh place, 12.14 pounds - \$250), Toney East and Hunter Ward (eighth place, 11.79 pounds - \$200), Ron Perdue (ninth place, 11.51 pounds - \$200), Rusty Mask and Ronnie Mask (tenth place, 11.32 pounds - \$150), Rick Rhodes and Norman Browning (eleventh place, 11.25 pounds - \$150), Wayne Brown and Randy Spivey (twelfth place, 10.89 pounds - \$150), Slaton Jemison (thirteenth place, 10.7 pounds - \$100), Dewayne Jones and Don Belew (fourteenth place, 10.19 pounds - \$100), and Chris Landers and Shane Patterson (fifteenth place, 9.94 pounds - \$100).

Additionally, tournament participants had the option to also participate in a Big Fish Pot for \$10. The "Big Fish" winners were Rachael Fondren and Jeremy Miller with a 6.06-pound fish, which won them \$700.

Also at the fishing tournament, winners were announced from the gun and watch raffle, with three prizes given away. This raffle was also part of the C.O.A.C.H. fundraisers for the Sheriff's Office team.

Kevin Luke from Sylacauga won the Aviator watch, donated by the Detroit Watch Company. Two guns were also given away as part of the raffle. Margie Blankenship from Weogufka won the ATI AR 1911 pistol, and Pam Buttram from Richville won the ATI AR 15 rifle.

Sheriff Terry Wilson said it was a beautiful day for the fishing tournament. He said they appreciate all of the fishers, helpers and sponsors who helped make the event such a success, adding that they could not do it without the sponsors.

The 2017 "Fish for a Cure" sponsors who provided monetary donations were Charter HR, Town of Kellyton, NCIC Inmate Phone System, Coosa Family Dentistry, Big Mac's Towing, Williams Pipeline, Mid-American Machine, QCHC, Southern Software, Greg Varner's office, Tallapoosa Ford, and Gulf States.

Additionally, sponsors who donated door prizes for the tournament were Bastinelli Knives, ESEE Knives, Satterfield Inc., The Home Depot, Gulf States Distributors, Skeeter's Marine, Duckett Rods, Camillus Knives, Five Star Plantation, Carava Outdoors, Trader's Helper, Vortex Sights, Doc Irv Custom Baits, William Davis Baits, II Knives, and Spyder Company.



# Uninsured Motorists Face Civil Penalties Effective November 1

Special to the News

The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency is set to begin enforcing the Alabama Mandatory Liability Insurance Law, in accordance with Act 2016-361.

Last year, during the 2016 legislative session, the law was passed and signed by the governor to mandate all Alabama motorists have liability insurance. Beginning Wednesday, November 1, those who choose to drive without liability insurance will face a civil penalty. The MLI law provides that no person shall operate, register or maintain registration of a motor vehicle designed to be used on a public road or highway unless it is covered by a liability insurance policy.

Alabama's Secretary of Law Enforcement Hal Taylor said, "There has been a grace period in enforcing that law to give motorists time to obtain the proper insurance coverage. Beginning November 1, motorists are subject to a civil penalty if involved in a motor vehicle incident, the vehicle you are operating is not covered by the state's mandatory liability insurance and you are not issued a citation for no insurance at the time of the incident." (First offense: \$200; second offense: \$300; third or subsequent offenses: \$400 each.)

In addition, Secretary Taylor said those individuals will face a 90-day driver license suspension if they do not pay the civil penalty within 45 days or request a hearing with the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's Driver License Division. (Driver license reinstatement fee: \$100) If a driver is issued a civil penalty, due process provides the option to appeal, and a hearing will be conducted to determine whether the motor vehicle being operated at the time of the motor vehicle incident was in compliance.

Alabama Department of Insurance Commissioner Jim Ridling said, "It just makes sense to have liability insurance on your vehicle because operating a motor vehicle without it drives up everyone's rates. Do the right thing, and follow Alabama's Mandatory Liability Insurance laws to help stabilize rates for Alabama insurance consumers."





**2017** THE YEAR OF  
*Stronger Leadership*  
*with Superb Teamwork*

## 2017 Monthly Stats

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Calls to Service/Activities	915	882	942	808	830	862	843	824	794	695			8395
Daily Jail Inmate Average	25	25	26	41	36	32	23	27	27	30			29
Prisoner Transports Made	10	16	13	6	12	20	8	21	15	11			132
Incident & Offense Police Reports	47	42	57	59	46	51	68	55	52	53			530
Arrests Made	41	40	44	59	43	56	37	40	41	27			428
Warrants Served	49	50	69	84	75	65	35	47	63	28			565

## I Feel like I'm Stuck inside a Soap Opera

I don't watch soap operas. I've always found them too unbelievable. All that stuff could not possibly happen to one person, or could it? As I review my own life over the past two months, I fear that not only are soap operas real, but that I may be stuck inside one. If so, I'm not sure what we might call mine. I love "As the Stomach Turns," but that one has already been used. How about: "As the Creek Rises," "As the Kidney-Stone Stops," or "The Old and the Stressed Out?"

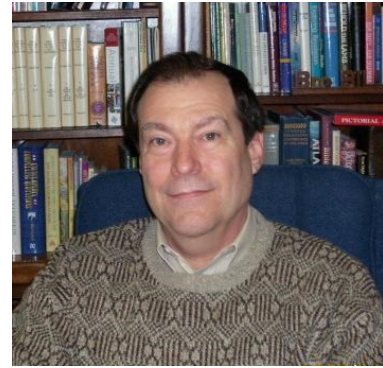
My journey began about two months ago, when my urologist confirmed that I had prostate cancer. After examining my options, I chose to have a prostatectomy to remove the cancer. During that same time, my oldest nephew was battling kidney failure, caused by diabetes. Labor-Day weekend, at the age of fifty-three, we lost him. The week after we buried Paul, Tropical Storm Irma blew in. Due to a severe weather threat, I cancelled a scheduled Billy Bob program in Tuscaloosa and stayed home. That afternoon, Irma blew through and planted a 105 foot poplar tree inside our house. She destroyed our garage and fireplace chimney, plus caused water damage inside the main part of our house.

A couple of days later, on her way home, one of Jean's tires separated and blew out. While this added to the aggravation of the days and could have been dangerous, we realized it paled in comparison.

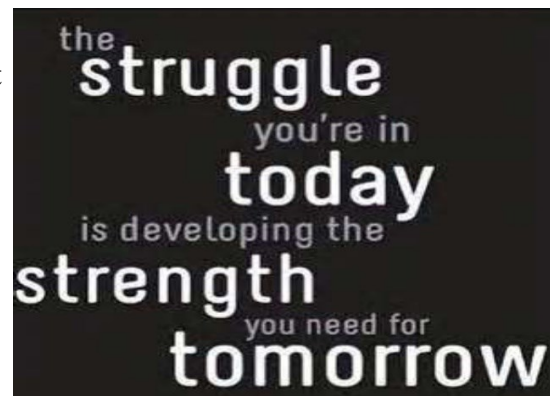
On Sunday, before my scheduled surgery on Wednesday, another storm blew in. This one was Hurricane Stone. Although kidney stones are not typically fatal, those in the midst of an attack may wish they were. If you've never suffered a kidney stone attack, you should praise God and drink lots of water. They feel like you've swallowed a live beaver and he's inside your mid-section gnawing his way out. If you visit the home of a kidney stone victim, you will most likely find the sufferer's teeth marks on their bedposts!

After a visit to the emergency room, I returned home. For the next three days I wallowed and swallowed. I wallowed in the floor in agony and swallowed pain pills like they were M&Ms. I prayed to pass the stone, pass out, or pass on. During that time, another storm blew in by the name of Nate. He dumped mud in our pool, which had sprung a leak, and caused our creek to rise. I let Ginger (sixty-five) and Cocoa (fifteen) out to do their business. When Fifteen didn't return, and I saw Ginger staring in the creek, I feared she had fallen in and been swept away. I'm not proud of this, but I went in the house and went back to bed. I think it was the combination of feeling so poorly and medication, but when Jean asked where Cocoa was, I replied, "I think she drowned in the creek!" I don't have pictures of Jean in her nightgown and house-shoes, wading in the creek as she searched for Cocoa, but I sure wish I did. It turned out that Cocoa wasn't dead at all. Jean found her next door, snuggling with our neighbor's two big white ducks.

Surgery day finally came. I donated one kidney stone that must have been the size of a C-130 aircraft, one prostate, and a few lymph nodes. I'm home now, the house is almost finished, and I'm watching General Hospital – not! James said, "Count it all joy when you fall into many kinds of trials." I've fallen but thankful Cocoa had not. I'm filled with joy, as well as thanksgiving. I'm counting, I'm counting.



Bro Bill King Columnist



# Devotional

## Mountain Top Experiences

By Pam Ford Davis



Both husband Norm and I are fans of the TV classic, *Green Acres*. I'm not sure how much we resemble the characters Lisa & Oliver Douglas but, like Lisa, I am from New York State. If you remember, she liked city life.

On the other hand, I'm a *country girl*. I was born in Syracuse but raised several miles outside of the city in the rural neighborhood of Mycenae. One of my fondest memories is of a fresh water spring.

*"He causes the springs to gush into the valleys; they flow between the mountains (Psalm 104:10 HCSB)."*

Maybe you've heard Christ followers reminisce about mountain top experiences.

They were not missing mountain climbing. It was the spiritual highs they recalled. One of my most memorable mountain tops experiences occurred in North Carolina. I was at Ridgecrest, the Southern Baptist North Carolina mountain retreat. I sat under the teaching of Ms. Bertha Smith, a retired foreign missionary to China.

I've walked through many valleys since that mountain top experience. But note the scripture passage; *He causes the springs to gush into the valleys...*

His waters bring refreshing down to His people. God's waters make things grow. Sure, I like the atmosphere of the mountains and the views are spectacular but I spend much of my time in shaded valleys.

### Scripture Encouragement

*"Now the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ Jesus, will personally restore, establish, strengthen, and support you after you have suffered a little."*

*1 Peter 5:10 HCSB*

## Smart Phone App

To download the app.

- Go to your app store
- Search and download the Mobile Patrol app
- Open the app and select Alabama
- Under Agency select Coosa



Some information in the app includes the Jail Population (Detention), Outstanding Warrants, Crime Tips and the Most Wanted in Coosa County as well as general contact information

# 2017 County Calendar of Events

## NOVEMBER

2 <sup>nd</sup>	6:00 pm	COACH Meeting at Stewartville VFD
4 <sup>th</sup>	4pm-6pm	Festival of Thanks—Providence Baptist Church
8 <sup>th</sup>		Veteran's Day Program at Veteran's Park (Rockford)
9 <sup>th</sup>		Veteran's Day Program at Coosa County Schools
10 <sup>th</sup>	All Day	Veteran's Day - Holiday
11 <sup>th</sup>	All Day	Holiday In The Country —COACH
11 <sup>th</sup>	2pm-4pm	Veteran's Day Program—Weogufka Memorial Park
22 <sup>nd</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup>	All Day	Thanksgiving Holidays with Coosa Schools
24 <sup>th</sup>	All Day	Thanksgiving Day



## Coosa County High School Basketball Game Schedule



Date	Time	Game - Location
11/14	4:30	Sylacauga – Away
11/17	1:00	Lafayette – Away
11/20-21	TBA	Lafayette – Away - Tournament
12/1	4:30	Clay - Home
12/7	4:30	BB Comer - Home
12/8	1:00	Lafayette — Home
12/12	5:00	Childersburg - Home
12/15	5:00	BRHS - Home



# ***Important***

## **Contact Information you may need!**

**Take this page and post near your phone or computer for future use.**



### **Coosa County Sheriff's Office**

Emergency Calls 9-1-1 .....	256-377-4922
Dispatch .....	256-377-2211
Office .....	256-377-1803
Board of Registrar's Office.....	256-377-2418
Central Alabama Electric Cooperative .....	256-377-2498
Circuit Clerk's Office.....	256-377-4988
Commissioners' Office .....	256-377-2420
Coosa County Extension Office .....	256-377-4713
Coosa County School Board .....	256-377-4913
Central Elementary School.....	256-377-1456
Central Middle School .....	256-377-1490
Central High School .....	256-377-4384
Science and Technology .....	256-377-4678
County Highway Department .....	256-377-2602
Department of Human Resources .....	256-377-2000
District Judge's Office.....	256-377-4957
First Bank in Rockford.....	256-377-1000
Goodwater Town Hall .....	256-839-6301
Juvenile Probation Officer .....	256-377-2687
Probate Judge's Office.....	256-377-4919
Revenue Commissioner's Office.....	256-377-4916
Rockford Family Health .....	256-377-4366
Rockford Post Office .....	256-377-4698
Rockford Town Hall .....	256-377-4911
Tag Office .....	256-377-4919



# Programs Offered by...



# Coosa County Sheriff's Office



## The Yellow Dot Program

The "Yellow Dot" program is designed to assist Alabama citizens and first responders in the event of an automobile crash or other medical emergency involving the participant's vehicle. The program can help save lives during the critical "Golden Hour" by improving communication at a time when accident victims may be unable to communicate for themselves. Pick up a "Yellow Dot" folder here at the Sheriff's Office, have your photo taken and printed.

A "Yellow Dot" decal on the driver's side rear window of a vehicle alerts first responders to check in the glove compartment for the corresponding "Yellow Dot" folder. Having this information following a crash helps first responders positively identify the person, get in touch with family or emergency contacts and ensures that the person's current medications and pre-existing medical conditions are considered when treatment is administered for injuries.



## Project Lifesaver

Project Lifesaver is a radio transmission system designed to assist law enforcement and rescue agencies in locating lost or missing persons who have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's, Autism, Dementia, or other disorders that may prohibit them from communicating personal information such as who they are or where they live. Project Lifesaver can help provide peace of mind to caregivers. However, it does not replace the need for supervised care.

The transmitter is a small circular radio device on a wristband, approximately the size of a wristwatch. The transmitters and wristbands are worn 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and are difficult to remove without the appropriate tools. If the participant becomes lost or missing, the Sheriff's Office and emergency response services have specialized tracking equipment to help isolate the location of the transmitter the participant is wearing. The search will start from the last known location of the participant and work outward until the transmission signal is obtained. The goal is to determine the location of the signal in a quick, timely manner, minimizing the risk of harm to the loved one.

CCSO is proud to participate, along with the other agencies in Alabama, in this very worthy and worthwhile program; Sheriff Wilson says this is another way we will live up to our motto, "To Serve and Protect" and he is extremely proud to offer this great service to Coosa County!



## Neighborhood Watch Program

A citizen's involvement program where citizens, in cooperation with their local law enforcement agency, directly participate in the detection and prevention of crime. These citizens keep well informed about their neighborhood and of any suspicious, criminal or dangerous activities that may be occurring. Coosa County has five communities that participate with the CCSO in this program. Their meetings are scheduled every month, the dates and times are indicated.

- November 2 - 6:30 PM - Richville
- November 6 - 6:00 PM - Union Square
- November 13 - 6:30 PM - Smyrna
- November 16 - 6:30 PM - Weogufka