

**FORECAST**

TODAY FRI SAT  
 71°/55° 68°/47° 57°/38°  
 Complete forecast, A2

**CORONAVIRUS**

Statistics on COVID-19 reported by the Alabama Department of Public Health as of Wednesday.

County	Cases	Deaths
Colbert	16,248	248
Franklin	9,841	137
Lauderdale	24,009	379
Statewide	1,290,165	18,944

**Hardest hit county:** Jefferson with 183,897 cases and 2,281 deaths.

**REGION**



**Colbert County High seeks help with flooding**

County Engineer Jeremy Robison held up an aerial photograph Tuesday to show Colbert County commissioners the extent of the flooding that can render some ball fields at Colbert Heights High School unusable. **B1**

**LIFE**



**Canine saves a life**

This is the story of a mischievous mutt who turned out to be a very good girl. Such a good girl, in fact, that she saved a life. **D1**

**WEIRD NEWS**

**Nice try but no potato**

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — When is a potato not a potato? When it's a tuber of a gourd, according to Guinness World Records.  
 A New Zealand couple who believed they had dug up the world's largest potato in the garden of their small farm near Hamilton have had their dreams turned to mash after Guinness wrote to say that scientific testing had found it wasn't, in fact, a potato after all.  
 Colin Craig-Brown, who first hit the 17-pound tuber with a hoe last August when gardening with his wife Donna, said it sure looked and tasted like a potato. Mind you, he added, he's never tasted a gourd tuber.  
 "What can you say?" said Craig-Brown. "We can't say we don't believe you, because we gave them the DNA stuff."  
 — The Associated Press

# TIMES DAILY



**HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER: Florence's Dolly signs with Louisiana-Monroe.**  
**C1**

FLORENCE ■ MUSCLE SHOALS ■ SHEFFIELD ■ TUSCUMBIA ■ NORTHWEST

Thursday, March 17, 2022 timesdaily.com @TimesDaily

**LAUDERDALE COUNTY**

## Poll workers to earn more this year



Lindsey Collier, election manager, does maintenance on a voting machine Wednesday in Florence. [PHOTOS BY DAN BUSEY/TIMESDAILY]

**By Bernie Delinski**  
Staff Writer

FLORENCE — Lauderdale County is increasing its pay to poll workers for each election day beginning this year.  
 The Lauderdale County Commission this week approved the pay increase in hopes it will entice more residents to apply for the position, and help retain existing workers.  
 Each worker will receive \$150 said Probate Judge Will Motlow, who made the request to the commission. Poll workers made \$100 in past elections, he said.  
 In addition, the pay for chief inspector at each poll increased from \$125 to \$175.  
 The new pay schedule will be in place for the May 24 primary, June 21 runoff and



Will Motlow, probate judge, talks about how voting machines used by Lauderdale County do not use an internet connection.

Anyone interested in being a poll worker for Lauderdale County can call Probate Judge Will Motlow's office at 256-760-5800.  
 Nov. 8 general election.  
 "I thank the commissioners for doing this and for always taking elections seriously," Motlow said. "It's a very serious issue. It's critical that we do this right and do it well."  
 The county has 214 poll workers when fully staffed, Motlow said. He said they

SEE WORKERS, A5

**MONTGOMERY**

## Convicted murderer up for parole

**By Bernie Delinski**  
Staff Writer

MONTGOMERY — A woman serving a life sentence after she and her husband were convicted in the 2005 brutal killing of a Tuscumbia man is up for parole today, authorities said.

Kay Shelly Stanley is serving a life sentence in the beating and stabbing death of Henry Earl Smith, 52, according to the Alabama Department of Corrections.



Stanley

Her parole hearing is today, but the results are not immediately released until they are certified, officials said.

Stanley has been incarcerated for 16 years, 8 months and 23 days, according to corrections records.

Smith's body was discovered June 20, 2005, in the apartment where she and her husband, Anthony Stanley, lived.

Shelly Stanley was sentenced to life with the possibility for parole in 2006, and then testified against her husband in the case. Anthony Stanley was convicted of capital murder in April 2007.

Jurors recommend a sentence from the options of death by lethal injection or life in prison without parole in capital murder convictions in Alabama. The jury recommended life without parole.

However, then-Colbert County Circuit Court Judge Hal Hughston went against the recommendation and chose death due to the brutality of the slaying.

Authorities said Smith was beaten with a baseball bat, and then stabbed with steak knives more than 30 times. Testimony during the trial indicated that eight of the stab wounds punctured Smith's lungs.

Also, the state medical examiner said the autopsy revealed Smith's face was crushed and his jawbone broken.

Shelly Stanley testified her husband was the one who beat and

SEE PAROLE, A5

**GOVERNOR'S RACE**

## James: Repeal 2019 gas tax increase

### Eliminate sales tax on groceries

**By Kim Chandler**  
Associated Press

MONTGOMERY — Republican gubernatorial challenger Tim James on Wednesday called for a repeal of Alabama's 2019 gas tax increase — as well as an end to the state's sales tax on groceries — saying families need relief from soaring prices.  
 James, the son of former Gov. Fob James, is one of several GOP candidates

challenging Gov. Kay Ivey in the upcoming Republican primary. He is seeking to use the gas tax increase that Ivey supported as a wedge issue with primary voters.  
 James said he supports a repeal of the 10-cent-per-gallon gas increase approved in 2019, as well as a repeal of the state's sales tax on food and business privilege tax.  
 "The people of Alabama are fed up," James said

during a news conference in Montgomery.  
 "It's affecting whether they can fill up their car with gas, or make a house payment, or sign up their kids for baseball. That's how serious this is," James said.  
 Alabama lawmakers in 2019 approved the increase on gasoline and diesel fuel taxes to fund road and bridge



Alabama Republican gubernatorial candidate Tim James is calling for a repeal of the 2019 gas tax and sales tax on groceries. [AP PHOTO/KIM CHANDLER, FILE]

SEE JAMES, A5

**ONLINE**

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**YOUR OPINION**

**Wednesday's Question:** Will you watch any of the NCAA men's basketball tournament?  
**Yes:** 43.0% **No:** 57.0%  
**Today's Question:** How would you rate President Joe Biden's response to the war in Ukraine?  
 Vote at [TimesDaily.com](https://www.timesdaily.com).

Vol. 133 No. 54

Classified.....E1	Obituaries.....B2
Comics.....D2	Opinion.....A4
Crossword.....D3	Region.....B1
Life.....D1	Sports.....C1
Lotteries.....C3	Weather.....A2



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**See More in Today's Classified Section**

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The Civil Service Board of the City of Tuscumbia is accepting applications:  
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