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FORECAST

TODAY  **SAT**  **SUN** 
73°/57° 75°/52° 56°/29°
Complete forecast, **A2**

SPORTS



West Morgan faces Randolph

West Morgan, 10-0 and fresh off a region championship, hosted Randolph on Thursday night. Check out the score and highlights of this game and others. **C1, C2**

RIVERFRONT

Mrs. Roper to romp downtown Saturday

Downtown Decatur will be filled with Mrs. Roper lookalikes Saturday for a “Mrs. Roper Romp” through different businesses to raise money for local nonprofits. **B1**

E. Limestone teacher is art teacher of year

An art teacher at East Limestone High School and previously at Decatur City Schools has been named the secondary art teacher of the year by the Alabama Art Education Association. **B1**

NATION

Judge orders full funding of SNAP

A federal judge in Rhode Island ordered the Trump administration Thursday to find the money to fully fund SNAP benefits for November. **B4**

Pelosi won’t seek reelection to House

Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi will not seek reelection to the U.S. House, bringing to a close her storied career as not only the first woman in the speaker’s office but arguably the most powerful in American politics. **A3**

BUSINESS

Forecast: US holiday shoppers to spend \$1T

American shoppers are expected to spend more during this holiday shopping season than last year despite economic uncertainty and rising prices. **D4**

AREA DEATHS

Michael Coan, Moulton
Marjorie Davenport, Decatur
Robert McCormick, Decatur
Patricia Rogers, Moulton
Death notices, obits, **A3**

AbbyB3 HoroscopeB3
BusinessD4 Obituaries.....A3
ClassifiedC4 Religion.....D1
Comics.....B2 Riverfront.....B1
Crossword.....B3 SportsC1
Editorials.....A4 WeatherA2

Decatur, Alabama
114th year, No. 219
20 pages, 4 sections



HUNTSVILLE INTERNATIONAL

Airport unsure of disruptions

Flight reductions occur nationwide

By GraciAnn Goodin
Staff Writer

The FAA announced that flights will be reduced by 10% at 40 major airports across the country starting Friday, raising concerns about how local

travelers will be affected — especially with the Thanksgiving holiday approaching.

“It’s hard to say at this point whether HSV will be affected by potential flight reductions,” said Port of Huntsville spokeswoman Mary Swanstrom.



Swanstrom



Ingram

According to the Federal Aviation Administration, the reduction aims to improve safety during the government shutdown, as air traffic controllers have been working unpaid. This has caused a shortage of workers nationwide, resulting in flight

delays and other disruptions.

On Thursday, Huntsville International Airport’s most popular origin locations and destinations for flights were Washington D.C.; Atlanta; Charlotte, North Carolina; Houston; Chicago; and Dallas — all airports that the FAA said will see reductions.

SEE AIRPORT, A5

DECATUR RECREATION

New director adjusts Aquadome’s schedule



Randal Gray uses one of the treadmills at the Aquadome Recreation Center on Thursday. The facility expanded its hours this week under the new Parks and Recreation director. [JERONIMO NISA/DECATUR DAILY]

By Bayne Hughes
Staff Writer

New Director Hunter Allen adjusted the Aquadome Recreation Center’s hours this week as part of his ongoing changes to Parks and Recreation operations.

Previously opening at 8 a.m. daily, the Aquadome’s daily hours are now 5 a.m. until 9 p.m.

He also added Saturdays and Sundays to round out the schedule. Saturday hours are from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. while the center will be open from noon until 5 on Sunday.

“The biggest thing for us is we want to offer more hours for public use, whether that was in the gym, in the weight room or in the pool,” Allen told the Parks and Recreation board at its monthly meeting this week.



Allen

been open on Sundays.”

After getting hired in August, Allen started his tenure by increasing the hours at the city’s outdoor parks and fields to take advantage of the summer weather.

“After what we did at the outdoor facilities, we’ve been working logistically on our indoor facilities as well,” Allen said. “We started with the Aquadome now that it’s getting colder outside.”

Allen said scheduled programs like lap swim, swim lessons, swim team, pickleball and youth basketball will guide the Aquadome’s

use within this schedule.

He said they altered some of the Decatur Area Swim Team’s schedule “to try to open up more hours for public lap swim.” The swim team will begin an hour later at 6 p.m., so more of the public can swim laps right after work.

“Changing the hours gets us up to speed with other facilities in northern Alabama,” Allen said. “We’re kind of mirroring what other people are doing. We have had people who live in Decatur and would drive to Madison and other cities to swim in the morning because they couldn’t swim indoors and exercise before work.”

Allen said the change “helps us with our goal of expanded hours” as they prepare for

SEE DIRECTOR, A3

NATION

Strong calls shutdown ‘unacceptable’

By Alex Angle
Alabama Daily News

WASHINGTON — On day 36 of the government shutdown, Rep. Dale Strong and other House Republicans stood alongside Speaker Mike Johnson on the Capitol steps and continued to cast blame on Democrats for the impasse.

Strong, who has traveled back and forth between his district and Washington since the House has been out of session, huddled with Johnson and his fellow sophomore lawmakers after Wednesday’s press conference. They discussed the “pulse of America” during the longest-ever American shutdown.

Alabama’s 5th Congressional District is awash with thousands of federal workers who have been missing their paychecks for more than a month.

“I do believe that the federal workers should be paid for the work that they’re doing, and I think that this right here, is a dangerous position that the Democrats have put the American people in,” Strong, R-Huntsville, told Alabama Daily News in an interview in his D.C. office.

Senate Democrats have now blocked a House-passed Republican funding patch 14 times while the House has been out of session during the entire shutdown. When asked if Johnson should bring back members to work on full-year spending bills or hold committee meetings, Strong, an appropriator, reiterated the speaker’s position.

“I personally think the Democrats ought to open government up,” he said. “We need a handful of Democrats in the Senate to vote. The House has already taken care of its business.”



Strong

SEE STRONG, A5

OBESITY DRUGS

Trump unveils deal on coverage, lower costs

By Tom Murphy,
Aamer Madhani
and Jonel Aleccia
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump unveiled a deal Thursday with drugmakers Eli Lilly and Novo Nordisk to expand coverage and reduce prices for the popular obesity treatments Zepbound and Wegovy.

Known as GLP-1 receptor agonists, the drugs have soared in popularity in recent years but patient access has been a consistent problem because of their cost — around \$500 a month for higher doses — and insurance coverage has been spotty. More than 100



Trump

million American adults have obesity, according to federal estimates.

Coverage of the drugs for obesity will expand to Medicare patients starting next year, according to the administration, which said some lower prices also will be phased in for patients without coverage. Starting doses of new, pill versions of the treatments also will cost \$149 a month

if they are approved.

“(It) will save lives, improve the health of millions and millions of Americans,” said Trump, in an Oval Office announcement in which he referred to GLP-1s as a “fat drug.”

Thursday’s announcement is the latest attempt by the Trump administration to rein in soaring

SEE TRUMP, A5



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