INSIDE



Inside today

REGION



Food pantry donations, requests rising

Churches offering food pantry programs have had an increase in calls this week asking about both donations and assistance. **B1**

LIFE



Rediscovering toys

Known for its creepy dolls, this museum expands macabre offerings. D1

WEIRD NEWS

Teen handcuffed when AI mistakes chips for gun

A Maryland teenager feared for his life when his high school's AI-powered security system mistook his bag of chips for a firearm.

Baltimore County high school student Taki Allen told WBAL-TV that he was hanging out with friends after football practice last week when eight police cars rolled up on them.

It wasn't until he was ordered to get on his knees, placed in handcuffed and searched that authorities concluded Kenwood High School's security software mistook an image of him putting a Doritos bag into his pocket for someone handling a gun.

High schools across Baltimore County last year implemented a gun detection system that uses AI to scan what security cameras are seeing and alert law enforcement when a potential weapon is detected.

– Tribune News Service

YOUR OPINION

Wednesday's Question: Will you be offering treats from your home on Halloween?

No: 64.9% **Yes:** 35.1% Today's Question: Should President Donald Trump seek a path to run for a third term?

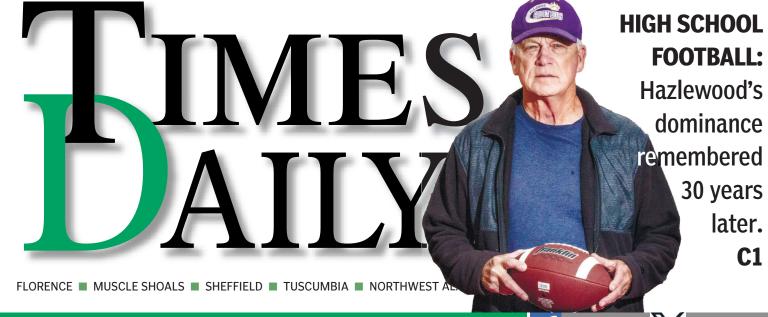
Vote at TimesDaily.com

Vol. 136 No. 259

Obituaries.....B2

Celebrity news...A2 Classified E1 Opinion..... Comics... Region..... Crossword......D3 Weather.....





Thursday, October 30, 2025

timesdailv.com

FLORENCE

Couch among issues discussed



Defense attorney Bryce Graham, left, shows witness Jamie Poss an image on a laptop during testimony in Lauderdale County Circuit Judge Gil Self's trial Wednesday in Florence. [PHOTOS BY DAN BUSEY/TIMESDAILY]

By Bernie Delinski Staff Writer

FLORENCE - Testimony and a Lauderdale County grand jury transcript Wednesday indicated Circuit Court Judge Gil Self kept a \$1,792.45 couch he purchased through the 11th Judicial Administration Fund at his house and claimed a couch he owns to be the one made through the purchase.

That was among revelations during the third day of the trial of Self, who is charged with 16 counts of using his office for personal gain or the gain of a family member. He also faces one charge each of perjury and making a false representation to the Examiners of Public Accounts.

The charges involve the judicial administration Fund and the Lauderdale County Law Library Fund and alleged lies he told authorities when questioned about them.

Additional testimony included



Lauderdale County Circuit Judge Gil Self, left, listens as his attorney Bryce Graham reviews documents during Wednesday's testimony during in Self's trial.

attorney Jamy Poss, who is a member of the law library's advisory committee. Self's son, Gil Self Jr., who was hired by Self as a clerk in his office and money from the judicial administration and law library funds were used. Poss said Self told him about it after hiring Self Jr.

Presiding Circuit Court Judge

Ben Graves also testified, saying he did not know where the funds for Self Jr.'s salary came from while Self Jr. was working.

Special Agent Louis Wilson, with the attorney general's Special Prosecutions Division, testified his office opened an

SEE SELF, A5

FLORENCE

Abroms merges with Top 25 firm

By Bernie Delinski Staff Writer

FLORENCE - Local firm Abroms and Associates, PC announced Wednesday it is merging with Top 25 national firm - Carr, Riggs and Ingram of Enterprise. Marty



Abroms, president and managing shareholder of Abroms and Associates, said he

will become an equity partner in the firm, which also is known as CRI.

"For decades, our firm has been proud to serve Florence and the greater Shoals community with the personal attention and trusted guidance our clients have come to expect," he said. "Joining CRI allows us to honor that legacy while expanding the depth of resources and expertise available to our clients. Together, we'll continue building on the strong relationships that define our community - now with the added reach and capabilities of a nationally

recognized firm." Abroms looks forward to what the acquisition will

"I'm not retiring," he said. "I've become a partner in the new firm. This really puts us overnight and creates a Top 25 accounting firm in the Shoals market. It's really good for our clients because of the expanded services we can offer now.

"As a 30-person firm we just don't have that kind of bench strength and resources, but now we have all kinds of resources available. The amount of extra

SEE ABROMS, A5

MONTGOMERY

Release of mass shooting suspect frustrates officials

Alabama Daily News

MONTGOMERY - The release on bail of a suspect in a high-profile mass shooting in Montgomery this month is frustrating local and state officials.

Some hope a constitutional amendment before voters next spring may prevent similar situations anywhere in the state.

The referendum adds solicitation, attempt, or conspiracy to commit murder to a list of alleged crimes for which judges may deny bail. Attempted murder, which the suspect in question is charged Law. Approved by voters

with, is not in the current law that allows the denial of bail.

"The district attorney's office would have the ability to ask the court to put a no bond on somebody who's charged with attempted murder," Sen. Will Barfoot, R-Pike Road, said recently. He sponsored Senate Bill 118 in the spring session, part of a larger, priority package of anti-crime legislation.

Law enforcement could also ask that bond be denied for those who shoot into occupied dwellings.

The proposal is an expansion of Aniah's

in 2022, it allows judges to deny bail for other specific violent crimes.

"It's another tool that law enforcement and prosecutors need to combat the crime that's happening around the state and specifically in some of the metropolitan areas," Barfoot said.

Four people so far have been arrested for their involvement in the early October shooting that killed two and injured a dozen more.

Last week, Javorick Whiting, 19, charged with attempted murder,

SEE SHOOTING, A5



downtown Montgomery on Oct. 6 at the site of a mass shooting that killed two people and wounded a dozen others. [KIM CHAN-DLER/ASSOCIATED PRESS]



- Classifieds on the cover -

DOGWOOD TERRACE APARTMENTS

Now Available! Accessible Affordable Apartments for Adults with Disabilities and Qualifying Seniors. Rent includes: heat, water and trash removal. 1-800-466-7722

- Classifieds on the cover

KEVIN MANSELL ROOFING

Discounts to Veterans and Seniors All Work Guaranteed FREE ESTIMATES 256-383-3218

Classifieds on the cover

Quality Foundation & Repair Floors Shake?

Walls Cracking?

Call Wayne

256-767-5258

· Classifieds on the cover

The TimesDaily is seeking a full-time **MACHINE OPERATOR** Questions and/or resume may be emailed to:

Kevin.Blurton@timesdaily

.com

- Classifieds on the cover -

To Place Your Front Page Classified ad Call Gina O'Kelley at 256-740-5816 **Monday-Friday** 8 am- 5 pm