

# DOTHAN EAGLE

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50 cents

Today: Mostly cloudy  
Chance of storms  
High 90°  
Low 70°

A look at the numbers for **7A**  
Dothan's school budget



Hillary Clinton **1B**  
salutes Barack Obama at convention



Opener will be tough for **1D**  
Long's Scott Horne

## Ozark elects new mayor

Billy Blackwell defeats two others to succeed Bob Bunting



Billy Blackwell shares a moment with friends Barbara Hicks, right, and Pearl Prather while awaiting election returns Tuesday evening.

**Ebony Horton**  
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OZARK — City Clerk Billy Blackwell will continue working for the city, just in a different capacity.

The 33-year veteran city worker will lead the Dale County seat as its mayor for the next four years. He won the nomination Tuesday with a total of 1,926 votes.

His opponent, city councilman Andy Gilland, earned 1,694 votes, while opponent Lynda Webb had 152 votes.

It was the first time in 12 years that someone was chosen besides "Bob Bunting" as Ozark's leader.

Danny Tindell / dtindell@dothaneagle.com

**Newton OKs draft beer**  
184 — Voted for draft beer  
137 — Voted against draft beer

"I feel wonderful. I'm just looking forward to putting our plan into place and working with the newly elected city council members," Blackwell said after word he'd be Ozark's next mayor.

"We're gonna be a team and set our goals and move forward."

Gilland, a first-term councilman, said he honored the vote of the people.

See OZARK, 5A

### Inside

Columbia has first new mayor in 28 years | 5A

Headland gets new mayor | 9A

Samson mayoral race heads to possible runoff | 9A

Two candidates move on to Midland City mayoral runoff | 9A

## Dothan outlines water source plan

Debbie Ingram  
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The head of Dothan Utilities said Tuesday the city is well-positioned to meet its short, intermediate and long-term water supply needs.

Dothan Utilities Director Billy Mayes said plans are in place to address present needs and those for generations to come. Plans include:

■ Short term: The completion of two new wells and transmission lines in north Dothan and the possibility of adding a third to pull from the Clayton Formation in the panhandle of the county.

■ Intermediate: Passage of a resolution to pursue additional water sources and funding; joining the Wiregrass Water Supply Group to pursue direct withdrawal from the Chattahoochee River and Tuscaloosa Wells north of Enterprise; obtaining a permit for withdrawing water from the Chattahoochee; and working with various groups to review water quality and quantity issues.

### Your opinion

Do you think the city has good ideas for water needs? Tell us at [www.dothaneagle.com](http://www.dothaneagle.com).



■ Long term: Working with the Choctawhatchee, Pea, and Yellow River Watershed Management Authority Partnership to construct a regional reservoir on the Choctawhatchee River, which includes an Alabama Department of Environmental Management stream study and the permitting process with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

City Manager Mike West said because the City of Dothan is a 40 percent partner in the reservoir, based on population and usage, the city could not carry the debt of a project that could cost as much as \$200 million. A two-year-old cost projection was \$141 million.

See WATER, 3A

## Residents say improvements necessary for U.S. 231 north

Greg Phillips  
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Residents are ready to curtail traffic on U.S. 231 North in Dothan.

The Alabama Department of Transportation held an informal public involvement meeting on Tuesday night to discuss potential improvements to the highway between Ross Clark Circle and John D. Odom Road. Residents expressed their approval of the project, which aims to ease the flow of traffic in Dothan by adding turn lanes and using elevated medians to control turning and limit collisions.

"It sounds like a good plan," resident Kim Wilson said. "It sounds like it'll make it safer and the traffic flow better for everybody. It's been a problem for a while."

Don and Brenda McNinch think it's a matter of public safety.

"We need some help up there on these intersections," Don said. "I'm a salesman, and I drive to many other cities, and we're getting to be very much of a problem. It's worth it to put up with the trouble (of construction). It has to be."

See 231, 3A



## Municipal Election Results



### Coffee County

**ENTERPRISE**  
**District 1**  
▷ Bill Cooper 158  
▷ Vernetta DeRamus 131  
Larry Greenwood 52  
**District 2**  
▷ Tommy Johnson Jr.\* 324  
Richard Moore 87  
Gerard E. Dube II 101  
**District 3**  
▷ Kirk Donaldson\* 338  
Garland "Shag" Laprade 210  
Steve Shanks 23  
**ELBA**  
**Mayor**  
▷ James Grimes\* 527  
Stephen Boggs 374  
**District 1**  
▷ Tom Hooks\* 102  
John Larry "Popcorn" Gilbert 71  
**District 2**  
Mary Gray 108  
▷ Tommy Skinner 212  
**District 3**  
▷ Hillary Herbert Culver 69  
▷ Mike McKee\* 64  
Terry Hudson 57  
**KINSTON**  
**Mayor**  
▷ Heffin Smith 110  
Robert Shaffer 27  
**Council 2**  
▷ Susan White 93  
Bill Mullins 42  
**Council 5**  
Viola Shaffer\* 47  
▷ Gayle "Pops" Gist 85  
**NEW BROCKTON**  
**Mayor**  
▷ Lenwood Herron 153  
▷ Rodger Harrison 163  
Trenton Smith 43

### Dale County

**District 1**  
Billy Tindol 27  
▷ Lee Etta Edwards 28  
**District 3**  
Cal Donnia Howard\* 21  
▷ Douglas Pittman 78  
**District 4**  
Mack Moon 20  
▷ Jack Young 40  
**LEVEL PLAINS**  
**Mayor**  
Debra Ainsworth 124  
▷ Tyrus Waters\* 185  
**Place 3**  
Willie Reynolds 144  
▷ Ronnie L. Thompson 161  
**Place 5**  
Charles "Lindy" Linderman 120  
Greg Swim 167  
**NAPIER FIELD**  
**Mayor**  
▷ Greg Ballard\* 75  
Paul Phillips 21  
**MIDLAND CITY**  
**Mayor**  
Rickey Cook 21  
▷ Charles "Chick" Gary 165  
James Rhinehart 9  
▷ Virgil Skipper 160  
Lamar "The Shrimp Man" Spence 79  
Eddie Foy Wesley 64  
**Place 1**  
▷ Edward Baker 61  
Josh O. Cook 18  
Joe Harris 25  
▷ Clarence Shirah 31  
Allen Stoudemire 0  
Shannon E. Trail 3  
**Place 4**  
Rosalie P. Bryant 31  
▷ Don Parker 46

### Geneva County

**Place 5**  
▷ Dennis Mathews\* 33  
Marcine McKnight 32  
**DALEVILLE**  
**Mayor**  
Ralph Chalker 239  
▷ Wess Etheredge\* 439  
Charles Oneal 97  
Rhayce Tucker 12  
**Council**  
Cinda Fisher 240  
▷ Martha Gallo\* 372  
Aaron Jones 340  
Katheryne Magwood\* 354  
▷ Scott Moore\* 418  
Linda Heffner 338  
▷ Bob Slagle 446  
▷ Alan Souders\* 444  
Claudia Wigglesworth 467  
**NEWTON**  
**Mayor**  
Jean Watson 103  
Derrill Speller 37  
Ted Stanford 188  
**District 2**  
▷ Dennis Lee\* 48  
Allen Cole 16  
**District 4**  
▷ Lehman Irby 88  
Lamar Bright 35  
**PINCKARD**  
**Mayor**  
▷ Fred McNab\* 145  
Debra Sullivan 80  
**Ward 1**  
Sherman Benton 23  
▷ Arthur Preston\* 32  
**Ward 2**  
▷ Foyel D. Brunson 33  
Patricia Casey\* 28  
**Ward 5**  
Chris Hartzog 12  
▷ Charles Weed\* 30

### OZARK

**Mayor**  
▷ Billy Blackwell 1,926  
Andy Gilland 1,694  
Lynda Webb 152  
**Place 1**  
Stephanie Hoban 1,817  
▷ Joe Outlaw\* 1,879  
**Place 3**  
▷ Jerry "Red" Crittenden 955  
▷ Jerome Dudley\* 1,045  
Ronnie Helms 601  
Wayne North 454  
Gary West 207  
James Willis 378  
**Place 4**  
▷ Mark Blankenship 2,165  
Winston T. Jackson\* 1,546  
**Place 5**  
▷ Stanley Enfinger 2,377  
Patty Meek 906  
Timothy Chad Murphy 374  
**City council seat 1**  
Carl Reggie Marsh 191  
Jesse Scott 165  
**City council seat 3**  
Lamar Bright 59  
▷ Tom Vickers 294  
**City council seat 4**  
Lamar Bright 59  
▷ Tom Vickers 294  
**City council seat 5**  
Lamar Bright 59  
▷ Tom Vickers 294

### GENEVA

**Mayor**  
John Hughes 497  
▷ Winton Melton 553  
**City council seat 3**  
Ryan Tidwell 51  
Johny Ray Smith 13  
▷ Jerry Crutchfield 77  
**City council seat 5**  
James Dixon 121  
Paul Rose 136  
**City council seat 6**  
▷ James Nixon Jr. 66  
Matthew Pate 38  
**SLOCOMB**  
**Mayor**  
▷ Rob Hinson 397  
Vickie Moore\* 213  
Joe T. Myles 44  
**City council seat 1**  
Melissa Bateman 143  
▷ Lisa Sconiers 458  
**City council seat 3**  
Freda Johnson Carter 223  
▷ Magdelene Segrest 403  
**City council seat 5**  
Frances Hatcher 244  
▷ Terry Hicks Redding 385  
**HARTFORD**  
**Mayor**  
▷ Gene Brannon 149  
Ken Hales 72  
▷ Jeff Sorrells 279  
Johnnie Yeomans 96  
**SAMSON**  
**Mayor**  
Horace Beagles 39  
▷ Clay King 250  
James L. Reeves 85  
▷ Ronald Sorrells 128  
**City council seat 4**  
Michael Miller 240  
▷ Hazel Odom 258

### Henry County

**HEADLAND**  
**Mayor**  
▷ Ray Marler 698  
Reuben Shelley 411  
**District 2**  
Roger Mixson 122  
▷ Jody Singleton 146  
**District 3**  
Steve Watson\* 94  
▷ Eric Knight 102  
▷ John Mellowin 132  
**District 5**  
Mary Williams 41  
▷ Nancy Garry 45  
▷ Kendrick Spurling 57  
**ABBEVILLE**  
**Mayor**  
▷ Ryan Blalock 462  
Rhett Taylor\* 337  
Carl D. Ingram 31  
**District 1**  
Henry Murry\* 47  
▷ Terry Allums 87  
**District 3**  
▷ Greg Grimley\* 67  
Dorothy Baker 52  
**District 5**  
▷ Betty Edge Yoder 139  
Clifton Townsend 35  
**NEWVILLE**  
**Mayor**  
Sue Williams 6  
Ricky Allen 67  
Kent Widdon 216

### Houston County

**COLUMBIA**  
**Mayor**  
Rhuben (Ben) Armstrong 7  
Larry Carter 93  
▷ Sandra Lovett 166  
Jimmy Shoemaker 53  
**District 1**  
▷ Bobby E. Clemmons 30  
Charlie Lane \* 25  
**District 2**  
▷ Addie M. Buze \* 27  
Gale Jackson Smith 11  
**District 3**  
Scott Gamble \* 11  
Allison (Paige) Ingram 19  
▷ Elliott A. Whitton 44  
**District 4**  
▷ Kenny Lewis Jr. 40  
Mark Swords 34  
**GORDON**  
**Mayor**  
Charles Dismuke \* 109  
Elbert Melton 31  
**ASHFORD**  
**Mayor**  
S.G. (Guy) Bruner Jr. 99  
▷ Norman (Rusty) Burgess 222  
Edd Gilmore 41  
▷ John W. Massey 113  
**Place 3**  
Alan Anderson 173  
▷ Carole Barfield 266  
**Place 4**  
Becky Alloway 82  
▷ Debra Crosby 114  
▷ Larry Etheridge 156  
Denise Fowler 101  
**Place 5**  
▷ John McCoy \* 329  
Kerrie Strano 131  
**COWARTS**  
**Mayor**  
▷ Randy Roland \* 115  
Loyce Davis 27

### COTTONWOOD<sup>1</sup>

**Mayor**  
▷ Lomax Smith \* 178  
Dorothy Long 117  
**District 4**  
Todd Danford \* 54  
▷ Ann "Doodle" Adams 56  
**District 5**  
▷ Ken Hamilton \* 21  
Mary Ann Lundy 19  
**TAYLOR**  
**Mayor**  
▷ Joel H. Napier \* 232  
Robert Lamb 121  
**Place 3**  
David Shuemake \* 86  
▷ Merritt Carothers 266  
**Place 4**  
Stanley J. "Stan" Casey \* 139  
▷ Billy M. Snell Jr. 205  
**WEBB**  
**Mayor**  
Cindy Buie 48  
▷ Vicky Hunter 112  
▷ Lamar Ivey 76  
**Council (five at large seats)**  
▷ Morgan Hicks \* 29  
Jasper Jackson \* 19  
▷ Wesley McKenzie \* 39  
▷ Rex Ard 75  
▷ Eddie Hamm 26  
▷ Danny Odom 35  
Rob Tolar 9  
**REHOBETH**  
**Mayor**  
▷ Marty Collins \* 98  
▷ Joe P. Collins 135  
George Trotter 76  
**Place 2**  
▷ Charles Crawford \* 155  
Norman Williamson 132



For a list of candidates who were unopposed, see page 9A.

**KEY** ▷ Race winner ◁ Runoff candidate \* = incumbent

<sup>1</sup> = Cottonwood's provisional ballots will be counted Sept. 2. This may affect election results.