



Wiregrass Angel House

(334) 702-7010

www.wiregrassangelhouse.org

Facebook: [wiregrass angel house](https://www.facebook.com/wiregrassangelhouse)

(866) 318-6225

24-hour crisis line

email: wiregrassangelhouse@ymail.com

Director's Note

New Beginnings

In just a week or so the 20th judicial circuit's newest district attorney will take his new position. We want to welcome the Honorable Patrick Jones. We look forward to working with both he and his staff. We would like to wish DA Doug Valeska a wonderful retirement. As shown in his last trial, he is one of the best prosecutors in the state. He will forever be remembered for his picturesque detailed descriptions of the crime and the passion he portrayed in each of his closing arguments.

Shelly Linderman, Director

9th Annual Golf Tournament

Our annual golf tournament has been set! **Thursday, April 27th** is the date! This is the only fundraiser for Wiregrass Angel House. In order for us to provide lunches to victims' families, continue crime scene clean ups, and to continue our dog program, it is imperative we have corporate sponsors!

If you know of a business that would like to donate with door prizes, hole sponsorship, or corporate sponsorships, please contact Gary Maxwell, our board president and project chairman. (334) 702-7010.

TOURNAMENT



Board of Directors

Gary Maxwell- President

Barbara Ward- Vice President

Tony Luker- Secretary/Treasurer

DA Kirke Adams

Sgt. Jason Adkins

DA Tom Anderson

Mr. Mark Culver

Mrs. Joanne Decker

Lt. Will Glover

Sheriff Wally Olson

DA Ben Reeves

Sheriff Donald Valenza

JANUARY 2017

ANGEL PAWS



2017 is here and Wiregrass Angel House has implemented a new program, Angel Paws. Meet Cole and Luke, our two new Therapy Dogs. While this program is new to the Wiregrass area, the use of a therapy dogs is not a new concept. It's well-known (and scientifically proven) that Therapy Dogs have significant benefits. People who interact with therapy dogs experience a decrease in epinephrine and norepinephrine, the stress hormones, resulting in a lowering blood pressure and respiratory rate. They also show a decreased in anxiety.

Wiregrass Angel House unveiled Angel Paws on September 25, 2016, at the National Day of Remembrance and since then it has been a busy time for Cole and Luke. They have been to, two schools, a Rotary Club Meeting, several Retirement & Assisted Living Facilities and 15 public speaking engagements reaching over 350 people. During this time they have also provided 25 therapy sessions.

If you would like to meet Cole and Luke please feel free to stop by Angel House on give me a call 334-589-0767. They are available 24/7

Tony Luker
Therapeutic K-9 Program Manger



2017 Alabama Legislature

February 7th is the first day of the legislative session in Alabama. There are several bills already pre-filed you are able to read. All victims need to be vigilant when it comes to the introduction of various bills. It is our duty to ensure new bills are not infringing on the rights of crime victims.

You can go to www.legislature.state.al.us for more info.

Peanut Festival Parade

Congratulations to Mike and Ashley Thomas and the Miss Angel Queens and their parents for the outstanding job on the peanut festival float this year! They won 1st place in their division. It was a team effort and it was shown in the results. Good job! It makes Wiregrass Angel House proud that you represent us in the community.



Homicide Support Group

November was a great meeting! We learned how to coupon!

A special thank you to Mrs. Angela Glover for taking the time, energy, and talent to show us all the unique tricks to saving money. December's meeting was postponed because of open house. January's meeting is set for **Thursday, January 19th at 5:30 p.m.** Come join us and meet others who are part of the Angel family.



Counselor's Corner

When someone you love is murdered, your life is undoubtedly forever changed. There is an enormous amount of hurt and pain that grows from a place you never even knew existed. A place nothing and no one can seem to touch, heal, or find to begin to fill, no matter how much you cry, scream, or try to ignore it. Every day without justice the anger is fed. It seems like nothing can reach this dark painful place. Then there are some days that are better and the pain is not too much to manage. It seems as though it is buried in its cave for a day and you are thankful for the day.

Frustrations with the criminal justice system can make you angry. Watching the friends of your murdered love one progress through life's milestones can leave you feeling angry and questioning why your loved one was denied the opportunity. Since you are sharing the most painful time of your lives like some others you've met, it may feel like you should all be handling things similarly. You find yourself asking "how come I don't feel like that?" "Should I be doing what he/she is doing?"

However, each of us likes different things. We like different foods, clothes, smells, faiths and certainly activities. How you choose to deal with the anger and pain is determined by the many factors that make you unique. There is no roadmap, barely a destination. You can share experiences with each other, however. You may see things differently than someone else, but that doesn't mean you don't share a common view. That view is "different". Everything about your life is different.

Through this shared view, you can find support as you redefine your normal, family roles and help each other to try to comprehend what has happened. I look forward to continuing to speak with you and your family, and meet those I have not yet had the opportunity to meet. I am here to assist with anything you and your family may need. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is any way I can help!

Bridget Irwin, M.A.

Helping families within our Angel family



This year, through donations by the Miss Angel Queens, made it possible for our organization to help two families with toys for their children. Thank you Miss Angel Queens for making our families a priority.

Barbour & Bullock County News:

The family of Willie Pugh needs your prayers as they await the trial of the defendant in the case. The trial is set for March of 2017 no official date has been set.

Coffee & Pike County News:

Please remember to keep the family of Thurston Allen in your prayers as they patiently wait for justice to be served in the murder case of their child. The defendant in the case recently had a bond hearing in which he was approved for a bond with restrictions. The ruling was hard on the family so let's remember to keep them in our prayers as they wait for a set trial date.

Dale & Geneva County News:

Please keep the family of Cindy Knight in your prayers as the family awaits the trial of the defendant in the case there was hearing set back in November the defendant in the case is currently out on bond.

Also keep the family of Dawn Hagar in your prayers the defendant in the pled guilty to third degree assault and was also given probation. The family agreed to the plea deal because it was better to have him plead to something than to get away with murder. Thank you DA Adams for allowing the family to make the choice and letting them feel they were important in the judicial process and Dawn mattered.

Houston & Henry County News:

Please keep the family of Jarvis Daffin in your prayers as they await the trial of the second defendant in the case of his murder.

The longest running trial in Houston County history! The Wicksburg trial began on 12/05/2016 and ended 01/05/2017; the victims in the case Cameron Eubanks, Tiffany Grissett, and Rocky Robins finally received the justice due. The jury recommended death on all three cases!

The prosecution team that consisted of Doug Valeska, Seth Brooks, Kristin Shields, and the investigators involved in the case did an outstanding job. DA Valeska, once again, delivered one of the best, if not the best, closing arguments of his career. The defendant in the case was found Guilty on all counts and although Justice was served the void that the families of the victims feel will not be easily filled, so let's remember to keep all the families in our prayers as they begin their healing process.

Please keep the family of Paxton Kennedy in your prayers, attended a prelim hearing in October for one of the defendants in the case no bond has been set in the case for the defendant. All four defendants were indicted for Paxton's murder.

Also keep the family of Christopher Grimsley in your prayers, attended a prelim hearing in October for the defendant in the case who was granted bond and released from the Houston county jail.

There was a prelim hearing set in October for the defendant in the case of the murder of Jose Rosales Jr. There was no bond set for the defendant in the case, he also pled guilty to murder. Please keep the family in your prayers.

There was as prelim hearing set in the murder of Trevon Lingo there was no bond set for the defendant in the case. Please remember to keep the family in your prayers.

Please keep the family of Pete Reaves in your prayers there was a motion hearing for the defendant in the case back in November. Kharon Davis is a defendant who has used the system for 10 years to try and avoid justice for help in murdering Pete. We hope this will be the year Judge Moulton will make all sides have the trial.

In Remembrance.....

Ms. Amanda Bonds Anderson was murdered in November by Joshua Tew, in Houston County. The Houston County Sheriff's Office searched tirelessly for over 2 weeks to locate her remains. Investigator Ricky Herring found her close to the Alabama-Florida state line. Law enforcement made a decision not to give up looking until Amanda was found... to give this family some sense of finality. Thank you Sheriff Valenza and the entire Houston County Sheriff's Office for caring!



Donations

Thank you for your generosity! We couldn't exist without your financial support.

- Kirke Adams, 33rd Judicial DA
- Ms. Myra Edmonson
- Henry County Pre-Trial
- IBM Employees
- Gary and Carol Maxwell
- Steve and Mary Beth Morris
- NUW Graphics
- Ms. Betty Shipes
- Truist
- Wiregrass United Way



2016 Homicides

I would like to remember those families loved ones that were murdered last year

1- Paxton Kennedy's family

2-Yavari Allen's family

3-Chris Bailey's family

4-William Hawkins' family

5-Chris Grimsley's family

6-Cynthia Hawkins' family

7-Leonel Garcia's family

8-Trevon Lingo's family

9-James Matthew Hill's family

10-Tanisha Norton's family

11-Shira McKinnie's family

12-Jimmy Glenn's family

13- Amanda Bond's family

Please take a moment and say a prayer for strength for these families as they have to try and make their lives without their loved ones, and try and find their "new normal".

Cruisin.....



Mr. Paul Eubanks is spear heading a cruise fo survivors that want to participate.

Please contact him by facebook or email: bigdadpaul@hotmail.com

Wiregrass Angel House
P.O. Box 7133
Dothan, AL 36302

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE PAID
DOTHAN, AL
Permit No. 78

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Governor Robert Bentley
State Capitol
Montgomery, AL 35130
Taylor Vice, Director
Constituent Services
(334).242.7100
1.800.591.4217

Victim Contacts

Attorney General's Office
of Victim Assistance
501 Washington Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36130

(334).242.7300
1.800.626.7676
www.ago.state.al.us

Department of Corrections
P.O. Box 301501
301 South Ripley St.
Montgomery, AL 36310
(334).353.3871
www.doc.state.al.us
State inmate parole info.
1.888.726.9799, Option 4

Alabama Crime Victims Compensation
Commission
Dr. Cassie Jones, Director
P.O. Box 231267
Montgomery, AL 36123
1.800.541.9388
www.acvcc.state.al.us

State of Alabama Board
of Pardons and Paroles
P.O. Box 302405
Montgomery, AL 36130
VSO Debra Bonds
(334).242.8050
Fax (334).353.7701
www.pardoles.state.al.us