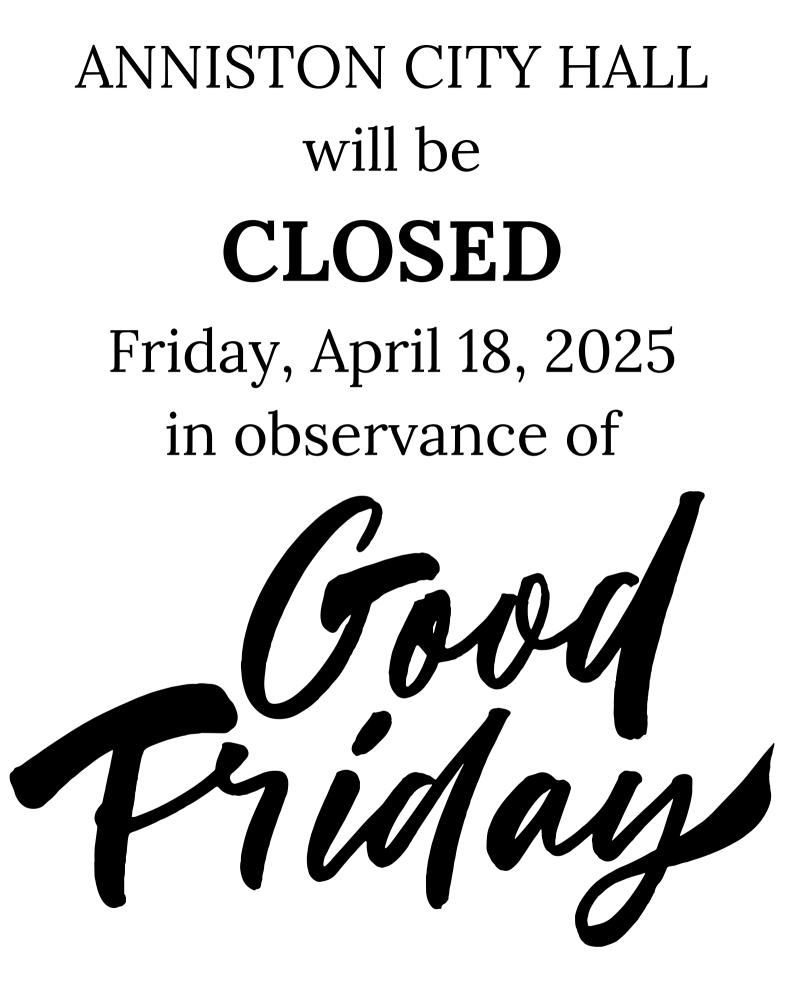






EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER





Congratulations to Mr. Steven D. Folks, Sr., on his well-earned retirement. With an impressive 30 years of dedication to Anniston and 21 years of service in the U.S. Army, his journey is truly extraordinary. From his early days with the Parks and Recreation Department to his impactful role as City Manager, he has undoubtedly been a cornerstone of leadership and positive change in the community. His legacy will surely continue to resonate throughout Anniston for generations to come. Wishing him a fulfilling and joyous new chapter ahead!



CITY OF ANNISTON, ALABAMA

Lewis Downing - Ward 1

D.D. Roberts - Ward 2 Ciara Smith - Ward 3 Millie Harris - Ward 4

MAYOR Jack Draper

CITY COUNCIL CITY MANAGER Steven Folks

PRESS RELEASE - MARCH 19, 2025 - 8:20 AM JACKSON HODGES, PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR - CITY OF ANNISTON 4309 MCCLELLAN BLVD, ANNISTON, AL 36206 - WWW.ANNISTONAL.GOV JHODGES@ANNISTONAL.GOV - (256)-846-2044

CITY OF ANNISTON APPOINTS SKYLER BASS AS INTERIM CITY MANAGER

ANNISTON, AL -- The City of Anniston is pleased to announce that Skyler Bass has been appointed as Interim City Manager. This appointment was made by a resolution from the Anniston City Council in a unanimous 5-0 vote during their March 18, 2025, council meeting. Ms. Bass' role as City Manager will become effective on April 10, 2025. Ms. Bass, who has served as the City Clerk since 2018, will step into the role following the retirement of current City Manager Steven D. Folks, Sr.

A dedicated public servant, Skyler Bass has spent the past seven years ensuring transparency, efficiency, and integrity in municipal operations. Her leadership during this transition underscores her deep commitment to the city's success.

A native of Decatur, Alabama, Mrs. Bass is a first-generation college graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a Master of Public Administration from Jacksonville State University. She is a certified Municipal Clerk and an active member of the Alabama Municipal Clerks and Administrators Association, Alabama Women Leading Government, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Ms. Bass's leadership is rooted in a passion for community engagement and accountability in local government. As she steps into this new role, she remains committed to fostering growth and progress for the City of Anniston.







Birthstone: Diamond Birth Flowers: Daisy or Sweet Pea Zodiac signs: Aries & Taurus



April 1 - April Fools April 5 - Deep Dish Pizza Day April 7 - No Housework Day April 11 - National Pet Day April 18 - Good Friday April 20 - Easter April 23 - Administrative Professionals Day

- In the Northern Hemisphere, April is a time for planting gardens and crops.
- The cherry blossom trees in Washington D.C. typically reach their peak bloom in early April.
- April is National Grilled Cheese Month in the United States.
- The famous playwright William Shakespeare was born in April.

IN ANNISTON & SURROUNDING AREAS



Tue, 12:00 PM (CDT)

HOSTED BY: Jacksonville State University

JHS SuperHero Race/Walk 5K

1602, 700 Pelham Rd N, Jacksonville, AL



I Spy! Leonardo da Vinci

Museum Dr, Anniston, AL, United States, Alabama 36206, 800 Museum Dr, Anniston, AL 36206-2813,



HOSTED BY: Anniston Museums and Gardens

Dino Day: A Prehistoric Adventure for All Ages!

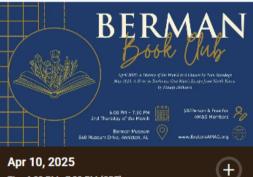
Museum Dr, Anniston, AL, United States, Alabama



HOSTED BY: Anniston Museums and Gardens

Raptor Run 5k & Dino Dash Fun Run

Museum Dr, Anniston, AL, United States, Alabama 36206, 800 Museum Dr, Anniston, AL 36206-2813,



Thu, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM (CDT)

HOSTED BY: Anniston Museums and Gardens

Berman Book Club

Museum Dr, Anniston, AL, United States, Alabama 36206, 800 Museum Dr, Anniston, AL 36206-2813,



HOSTED BY: Anniston Museums and Gardens

Trail Walk

Museum Dr. Anniston, AL, United States, Alabama 36206, 800 Museum Dr, Anniston, AL 36206-2813,



Sat. 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM (CDT)

HOSTED BY: Noble Street Festival

Noble Street Festival 2025

Historic Noble Street, Downtown Anniston, 1001 Noble St. Anniston, AL 36201-4604, United States



+

(+)

Apr 12, 2025 Sat, 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CDT)

HOSTED BY: Anniston Museums and Gardens

Building Fairy Houses in the Garden

Museum Dr, Anniston, AL, United States, Alabama 36206, 800 Museum Dr, Anniston, AL 36206-2813,



Apr 26 - 27, 2025 Sat, 12:00 PM - Sun, 12:00 PM (CDT)

HOSTED BY: Talladega Superspeedway

2025 NASCAR Spring Race Weekend

3366 Speedway Blvd, Talladega, AL, United States, Alabama 35160, 3366 Speedway Blvd, Talladega, AL

noble street

1931

5th



The Noble Street Festival & Sunny King Criterium return on April 5, 2025 from 11:00 AM CT to 7:00 PM CT!

Join us for live music, food trucks, professional USA Cycling races, a free KidZone, and more exciting attractions!

Main Street Anniston's Noble Street Festival is a large-scale, community event that anticipates bringing together nearly 7,500-10,000 attendees from all over the state of Alabama!

FREE FAMILY FUN!

www.noblestreetfestival.com

RAPTOR RUN 5K & Dino dash fun run

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025 Anniston Museum of Natural History

Raptor Run 5K 8:00 am / \$30 Dino Dash Fun Run 9:30 am / \$15

AM&G Members receive \$5 discount

Lace up your running shoes and dash through the picturesque grounds of the Anniston Museums and Gardens. Embrace the harmony of exercise and nature as you sprint, jog, or walk along the beautifully landscaped gardens, promoting health and appreciation for the natural world.

COA employees can use code COA25

to receive \$5 off registration



ANNISTON MUSEUMS and GARDENS RunSignUp



www. ExploreAMAG.org

Administrative Professionals Day is April 23, 2025

This month we will spotlight the Administrative Professionals for the City of Anniston

Let's show our gratitude to the administrative professionals who work tirelessly every day to ensure the City of Anniston operates seamlessly!



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Jodie Trapp Administrative Coordinator - Police 20 Years

What do you like to do in your off time?

I enjoy crocheting, listening to true crime podcasts, reading and thrifting. I love the idea of taking something old and giving it new life.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

My favorite thing about my job is working with What do you enjoy most about your job? terrific people.



Vivian Hill Administrative Assistant - Fire 37 Years

What do you like to do in your off time?

I like to spend time with my family. I like to be in the kitchen with my granddaughter cooking and canning, and I like to spend time with my grandson watching him play sports at his ballgames. We also like to go camping.

I like that it is never boring and there is always something different going on at the Fire Department. Everyone makes my job easier by doing everything they can to help me with whatever needs to be done. I enjoy hearing about their families and what the kids have done or gotten into today. I cannot think of a better place to work.



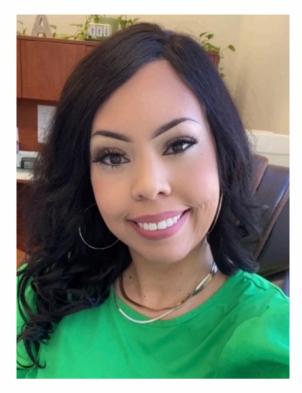
Johnita Roberts Public Works Division Secretary 29 Years

What do you like to do in your off time?

During my off time, I love spending time with my family and friends. I enjoy cutting grass, working in my flower beds and hanging out by the pool with family.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

There are so many things I enjoy about my job: assisting the public with their concerns/requests, working with an amazing group of people within my department and working closely with other departments to make the City of Anniston better each and every day.



Avanti Ammons Administrative Coordinator - Public Works 3 Years

What do you like to do in your off time?

In my off time I enjoy spending time with my family, painting canvases, shopping, watching Auburn basketball, and being out in the sunshine!

What do you enjoy most about your job?

There are lots of things I love about my job! Assisting the citizens of Anniston with their needs is at the top of the list. I also enjoy interacting with all departments within the city as Public Works encompasses a variety of people, places and things. I love my job because I am surrounded by a Public Works team that values, encourages, and supports one another. I could not ask for more!



Shelby Shiflett Administrative Assistant - Safety & Inspections 2 Years

What do you like to do in your off time?

I enjoy being a full-time wife to Phillip, mommy to a very active 4-year-old son Owen and a dog mom to Herschel. I also love reading books, going to concerts and constantly expanding my useless pop culture knowledge.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

Each day brings a new and exciting opportunity, such as interacting with citizens and contractors when they apply for work permits or plan to build a new business here in the city. I also serve as the Secretary for both the City of Anniston Planning Commission as well as the Anniston Historic Preservation Commission.



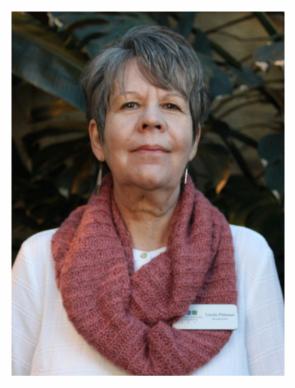
Pam Chapman Museum Sales Associate 2 Years

What do you like to do in your off time?

I enjoy trips to the Smoky Mountains and spending time with my husband and family, especially my 2 grandchildren.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I enjoy working with the museum staff. Everyone is like family. I also enjoy meeting new people who visit the museum and seeing their reactions to our amazing collection.



Linda Pittman Museum Sales Associate 19 Years

What do you like to do in your off time?

I really enjoy spending time with my granddaughters, traveling with my husband, and reading.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

It is exciting to meet visitors from all around the country and the world. They are so impressed by the quality of our museums.



Angie Dothard Administrative Assistant - Museum 21 Years

What do you like to do in your off time?

I enjoy spending time with my family, sitting on my porch birdwatching, and being outdoors enjoying nature. My hobbies include photographing wildlife, putting together puzzles, and making costumes and crafts.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

The thing I enjoy most about my job is seeing the joy and excitement on children's faces as they experience the Museum for the first time. Working alongside an awesome group of coworkers to make sure our guests have an enjoyable experience makes each day enjoyable and rewarding.



Sharonda Hutchinson Museum Receptionist 4 Years

What do you like to do in your off time?

I enjoy couponing and spending time with my granddaughter.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I love the different people that I meet, the happy children that come to the museum. I enjoy seeing the excitement in their faces.



Michele Elston Executive Assistant - City Manager's Office 6 Months

What do you like to do in your off time?

In my off time, I enjoy spending time with family and just having a relaxing day at home watching movies

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I was fortunate to have the opportunity to return to work with the City of Anniston. I thoroughly enjoy working with the public and my co-workers. Everyday gives me an opportunity to have a positive impact on someone.



Kristin Smith Administrative Assistant - Main Street 2 Years

What do you like to do in your off time?

In my off time I like to go see Broadway shows and ballets and help my husband at our tattoo studio.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

What I enjoy most about my job is engaging with the community. I love hosting events downtown and seeing everyone come together and spend time with one another.



Shree Walker - Kidd PARD Clerk 4 Years

What do you like to do in your off time?

In my off time I enjoy traveling, relaxation and spending time with my family and friends.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

What I enjoy most about my job, it has given me so much insight into the city's history as well as all the great things the city has to offer which sometimes goes unnoticed. Also gets me in touch with what is going on in the community and with the citizens of Anniston and the things we are doing to help the community.



Carmen Aguilar Museum Sales Associate 1 Year

What do you like to do in your off time?

I love to get lost in a book, spend time with my children (cats) and go to Buc-ee's any chance I can get

What do you enjoy most about your job?

Receiving merchandise feels like Christmas and watching it sell is always exciting Honorable mention: Gus the chinchilla

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Amanda East **Ashley Lemons** Avanti Ammons **Avery Odom Behegbin Djesse Blake Noah Cody Scheurich Dalton Stephens Daniel Henry David Hulsey** Debra Arnett **Demetrium Hutchison** Derrick Dotson **Gabrielle** Colindres lan Ford Jackson Hodges **Keith Hudson Tony Canevaro** Jarek Burroughs Jaycob Tola **Jaylon Lewis**

John Parker Johnita Roberts Johnnie Phelps Justin Allen **Justin Hise Kamlyn Thomas** Karla Eden Layne Samples Matthew Caballero Nikita Wood **Paul Young Robert Nowland Rodney Glass** Samuel McDaniel Shannon English **Talon Whaley Tana Bryant Tremaine Royal Tyler Bell Tyrone Taylor**



Steven Folks 30 Years Paul Wade 29 Years **Joseph Hoffman 28 Years** William Parris 26 Years **Johnnie Phelps 26 Years Clint Dover 22 Years Jason Mayfield 22 Years Justin Hartley 20 Years Justin Sanford 20 Years Robert Nowland 19 Years Montague Braxton 15 Years Charles Pritchett 13 Years Christopher Grier 13 Years Donald McGraw 13 Years Justin Allen 12 Years Mark Williams 11 Years Demetrium Hutchison 11 Years Steven Turley 11 Years Floyd White 11 Years Anthony Green 10 Years Tyler Bell 10 Years**

Betty Smith 8 Years David Morgan 8 Years Thomas OConnor 5 Years Cody Murray 3 Years Joey Rollins 3 Years Tyrone McGhee 3 Years Herbert Brown 2 Years Ian Ford 2 Years Samuel McDaniel 2 Years **Dillion Wiggins 2 Years** Hannah Rhodes 1 Year **David Toole 1 Year Jimmy Beck 1 Year Jarek Burroughs 1 Year Jerry Fuller 1 Year Quintarious Whitson 1 Year Jorge Galvis Monroy 1 Year Margaret Smith 1 Year Lilly Workman 1 Year** LaKea Bailey 1 Year





Remember you can login to KRONOS at anytime and update your contact information such as your phone number, email and mailing address, emergency contact, direct deposit and withholdings forms.



Amanda East Human Resources Clerk 10 Months

What do you like to do in your off time? Spending quality time with my family, especially with my two kids, Brayden and Harper, brings me so much joy. I also enjoy reading and going to the movies.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

Onboarding new employees is the highlight of my job—I genuinely enjoy introducing them to the benefits of joining our team. I also find great fulfillment in guiding employees through their challenges and helping them find effective solutions.

FROM THE HUMAN RESOURCES TEAM

Big thanks to everyone who participated in the Employee Spotlight! We're grateful for your time and effort in joining us for this, and we're excited to involve even more folks in the future. Thanks for doing a great job representing your departments and being such valuable members of the City of Anniston team.

hank

Bersheba Austin, HR Director LaKea Bailey, HR Generalist Amanda East, HR Clerk

IT'S FAST AND EASY TO CHOOSE A PROVIDER

With Our Online Provider Directory

With our vision insurance, you have access to advanced vision technology at many independent and retail providers, including popular national chains and regional favorites, as well as online retailers. That way, you receive vision care and services when and where it's convenient for you.

- Go to MutualofOmaha.com/vision
- In the Extensive Network section, click on the Locate a Provider link.
- 3 Enter a ZIP code or click on Use My Location to see providers in your area.



Download the EyeMed Members app on your iphone, ipad or android to view benefit information and id card.



If you have questions or need additional assistance during business hours, contact our service team at (833) 279-4358.



Underwritten by United of Omaha Life Insurance Company A Mutual of Omaha Company



EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM - EAP

When life's a little much, reach out and get in touch.

Let's be real: life can be tough. When your responsibilities start to feel overwhelming and showing up each day with a smile on your face seems difficult, it's important to reach out for help. You can lean on your free and confidential Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for support.

We've got your back.

A free benefit from your workplace, the EAP can help you or anyone in your household:

- · Be more present and productive at work
- · Receive support when you don't feel like yourself
- · Get help with responsibilities that are distracting or stressful
- · Grow personal and career skills
- · Be a caring, loving friend or family member
- Receive care after a traumatic event or diagnosis
- Make healthy lifestyle choices
- Improve and inspire daily life

We're here for you, always.

Life happens, regardless of the day or time. That's why we make ourselves available 24/7, even on holidays. So whenever you need to reach out, we're here for you.







Directions EAP

Web Visit eap.ndbh.com for resources

SERVICES

- ✓ Counseling
- Consultation on
 - Finances
 - Legal needs
 - Managing employees
 - Life
- Crisis support
- **G** Coaching
- Section Adult and child care resources
- Personal and professional training
- Digital behavioral health tools

eap.ndbh.com 800-624-5544

Services are free and your employer will not know you reached out. Flip this sheet over to see some common reasons people use EAP.



Ingredients

- 1 ½ cups Dry Calrose Sushi Rice
 - 2 cups Water
- ¼ cup Seasoned Rice Vinegar (Marukan)
 - ¼ cup Japanese Mayonnaise
 - 2 teaspoons Sriracha
- 8 ounces Imitation Crab (chopped into small pieces)
- ¹/₂ cup English Cucumber (diced)
- 2 Nori Sheets (chopped or crumbled into small pieces)
 - 1 Large Avocado (peeled and sliced)
 - add Toasted Sesame Seeds (and, for garnish)
 - ¼ cup Low-Sodium Soy Sauce (for serving)

add Furikake

California Roll Sushi Bowl

- Start off by rinsing 1 1/2 cups of sushi rice in a mesh sifter. Once the rice is well rinsed, add it to your rice cooker along with 2 cups of water. Then turn on the rice cooker.
- Once the rice is cooked transfer it to a rimmed baking sheet.
- Then pour 1/4 cup seasoned rice vinegar over the rice and fold it in. You want to use a rice paddle to do this. Make sure be gentle with the rice and not mash it up. Then let the rice cool completely.
- Then make your spicy Mayo by combining 1/4 cup Japanese mayonnaise with 2 teaspoons sriracha.
- Now chop cup 8 ounces of leg style imitation crab meat and 1/2 cup of English cucumber. You can also break up a few pieces of Nori (dried seaweed).
- Now add the cooled sushi rice to a bowl, along with the chopped crab, cucumber, and sliced avocado. Then drizzle on the spicy mayonnaise, and top with chopped nori, sesame seeds, and furikake.