

## **JOE SEWELL MEMORIAL AWARD**

*Recognizing Elmore County's Outstanding Christian Athletes and Leaders*

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET MAY 1, 2018

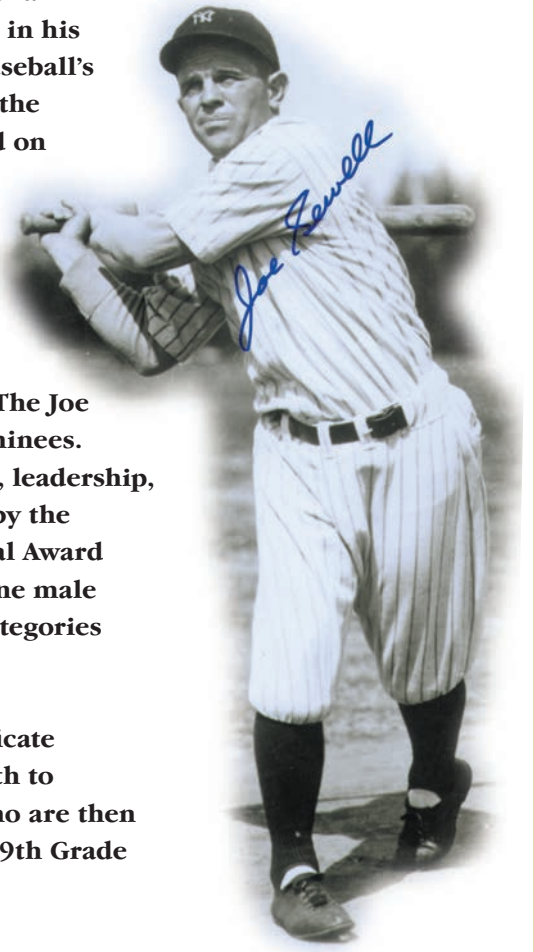


# Purpose of the Joe Sewell Memorial Award

The Joe Sewell Memorial Award is named after one of Elmore County's professional athletes who displayed leadership and Christian character both on the field and in his home community of Titus, Joe Sewell. Sewell still owns two of Major League Baseball's records for the single season fewest strikeouts in both 1930 and 1932 as well as the lifetime record of fewest strikeouts during his 14 year career. While he excelled on the field, Sewell was known as a quiet man of character and conviction who gave back to his community as often as he could.

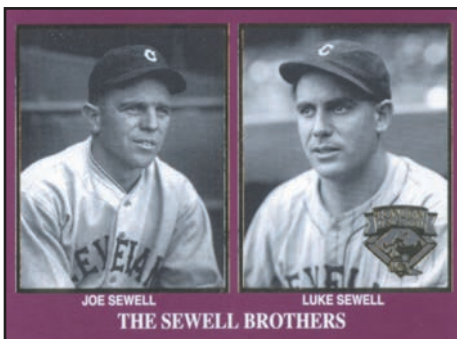
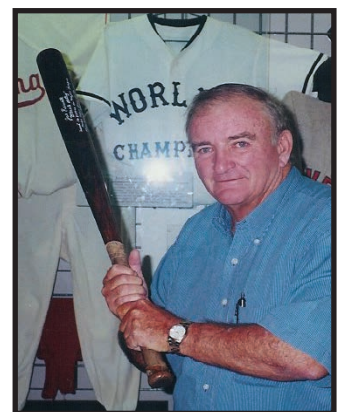
The purpose of the Joe Sewell Memorial Award is to recognize outstanding high school senior athletes who have consistently represented the highest ideals of Christian leadership and emulate the character of Joe Sewell. Each participating high school nominates up to four senior students for this award. The Joe Sewell Memorial Award Board of Directors names Finalists from that list of nominees. Students are then evaluated on the criteria of excellence in athletics, academics, leadership, and church, community, and character, as well as a panel interview conducted by the Board. One male and one female are selected as the overall Joe Sewell Memorial Award recipients. Each of those students receives a \$3,000 John Sewell Scholarship. One male and one female are also selected at the Category Winners for each of the four categories listed above, and each is awarded a \$1,000 scholarship.

The Joe Sewell Memorial Award Board of Directors also names 9th Grade Certificate Winners who exemplify the same criteria as the seniors to encourage these youth to continue to excel. High schools are invited to nominate up to four freshmen who are then evaluated by the board prior to being named a Certificate Winner. Many of our 9th Grade Certificate Winners return as Senior Finalists.



## John Sewell Scholarship

John Sewell was a cousin of Joe Sewell who was dedicated to the game of baseball and making a positive influence on young people. After a successful business career, John spent almost all of his available time working with young people. He admitted his greatest weakness in life by saying, "I just can't say no to a kid that wants to play ball. I'll do anything to help him." In 2000, John went on a mission to find his cousin's famous bat. When it was found in Birmingham, John had the opportunity to hold it and make the connection to his famous cousin from years past. John continued to coach and be a part of youth baseball until his death in 2003. He was a resident of Coosada, and his wife Billie serves with the Board of Directors.



The John Sewell Scholarships presented to students each year are fully funded by donations from local businesses and individuals who want to encourage excellence in Elmore County students and support the furtherance of their education. The scholarships for students would not be possible without these sponsors' participation each year – for their generosity, we are truly grateful.

## Joe Sewell still holds the record for The Hardest Player to Strike-Out in Baseball

Joe Sewell was born in Elmore County's Titus community in 1898. Most die-hard baseball fans know of the legendary Joe Sewell. However he stood in the shadows of some of baseball's giants in the game – Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig and many others. He played for the Cleveland Indians and New York Yankees in his career from 1920 to 1933. Sewell was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1977 and died in Mobile in 1990.

Joe Sewell still owns two of Major League Baseball's records, records which most fans of the game say will never be broken. He holds the lifetime record for fewest strikeouts at bat during his 14 year pro career – 114 in 7,132 games. Sewell holds the single season record for fewest strikeouts at bat of just three strikeouts in 640 games in 1930 and 1932. A left handed hitter who threw right handed, Sewell was a speedy shortstop who led the American League in fielding twice and putouts and led the league four times in assists.

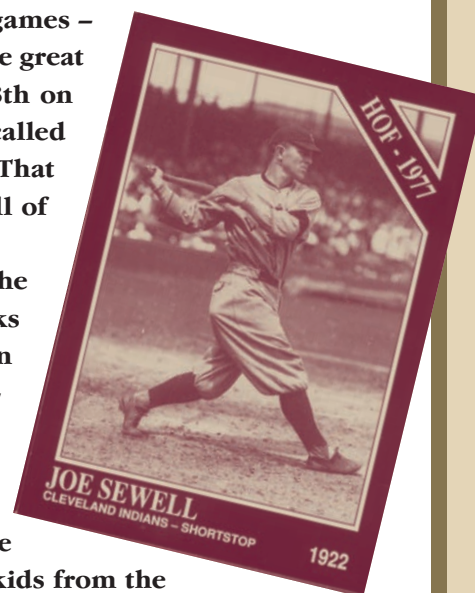
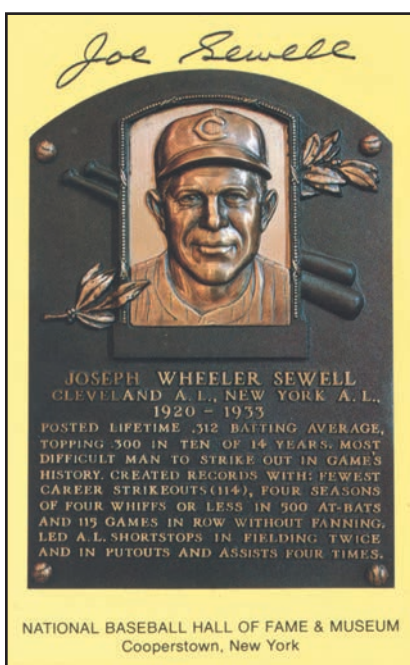
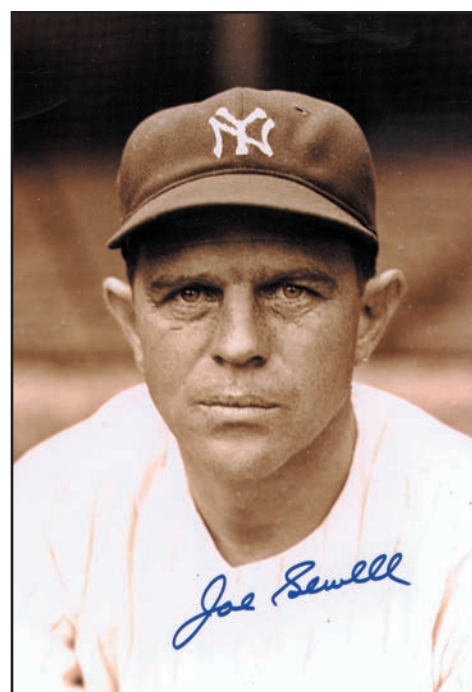
When it came to hitting, no one matched Joe Sewell. Few rookies then and even in today's modern era faced a tougher assignment or more pressure than Sewell did in 1920. While Sewell was playing his first professional season in New Orleans right out of college (Alabama), Cleveland Indians hero Ray Chapman was killed by a Carl Mays' pitch in August. When Chapman's replacement was hurt on Labor Day, the kid from Alabama got the call and was thrust into one of the most heated pennant races ever in the American League. "Little Joe" as he was called (5'7"), proved equal to the task, batting .329 for the rest of the season in helping the Cleveland Indians to their first American League Championship pennant.

From September 13, 1922 to April 30, 1930, he played 1,103 straight games – a major league record at that time, and only surpassed by his teammate, the great Lou Gehrig. He and his younger brother, Luke Sewell, are still ranked 8th on baseball's Most Career Hits list for brothers. Sewell used a 40-ounce bat called

"Black Betsy" during his entire career. That bat rests now in the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame Museum in Birmingham.

But for all of his athletic feats, it is the character of the man that this award seeks to emulate as well. Joe Sewell was known as a quiet man of character and conviction. During the depression, Joe was known on several occasions throughout the years to bring baseballs, gloves and bats to the kids of Elmore County. He loved the game and wanted other poor kids from the South to have a chance to learn the game and the sportsmanship that accompanied it.

After retirement he spent several years coaching for the Yankees. He later was a scout for the Indians. He was head baseball coach at his alma mater, the University of Alabama, for several years leading the Tide to an SEC title in 1968. Alabama's baseball stadium is named for him.



# 2018 Sponsors

*These businesses and individuals have “stepped up to the plate!”*

## GRAND SLAM



**NEPTUNE**  
TECHNOLOGY GROUP

## HOME RUN



## TRIPLE PLAY

ADAMS DRUGS • ALABAMA POWER FOUNDATION • FIRST COMMUNITY BANK  
MILLBROOK MEN'S CLUB • TALLASSEE REHAB • WETUMPKA LIONS CLUB

## MVP

ASE CREDIT UNION • CENTRAL ALABAMA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE • DON DUNCAN  
GARNER ELECTRIC • JACKSON THORNTON • RIVER BANK & TRUST  
SOUTHERN ORTHOPEDIC SURGEONS

## BASE HIT

HOLLEY MARKETING CONSULTANTS, LLC  
MARK'S SERVICE CENTER AND BODY SHOP, INC. • PRIMESOUTH BANK

### *Joe Sewell Board Members*

JIM ADAMS • BARRY CHRIETZBURG • RON DICKERSON • DON DUNCAN • JON FOSHEE • HARRIS GARNER • JENIFER GLOVER  
JOEY HOLLEY • LISA KNIGHT • BILL LEWIS • DAVID LOGAN • MICHAEL MORGAN • PATRICK PINKSTON • JEANINE PITCHFORD  
GRIFFIN PRITCHARD • MADISON ROBERTS • MARILYN SPEAKE • GWEN TURNER • RENAE VENABLE

## JOHN SEWELL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

WELDON FAMILY • INGRAM FAMILY • MRS. BILLIE SEWELL AND FAMILY

### *Special Thanks to These Providers:*

Jenilyn's Florist  
City of Wetumpka and Clay Murrell



***Tonight's Speaker -***  
***Larry Blakeney***  
***Former Head Coach, Troy University***



One of the all-time coaching greats in college football history, Larry Blakeney served as the head coach at Troy University for 24 seasons. He finished his legendary career with 178 wins, eight conference championships and five bowl appearances.

A 1970 graduate of Auburn University with a bachelor's degree in business administration, Blakeney was a three-year letterman at quarterback for the legendary Ralph "Shug" Jordan. He was the first sophomore ever to start at quarterback for Jordan, and Auburn played in two bowl games during Blakeney's career.

Blakeney was a two-sport star for the Tigers, also lettering in baseball (1968-69) while playing shortstop and third base for legendary coach Paul Nix.

He earned his master's degree in education from the University of Montevallo in 1976.

Prior to his arrival as Troy's head coach, Blakeney held a variety of roles in his 14 seasons at Auburn. He began his coaching career as the assistant offensive line coach during the 1977 and 1978 seasons, followed by stints as the Tigers' tight ends and wide receivers coach from 1978 until 1980, with a focus strictly on wide receivers from 1981 until 1990.

Blakeney won back-to-back SFL Coach of the Year awards in 1999 and 2000, and was also honored as Regional Coach of the Year in back-to-back years by the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA). During the summer of 2000, he was honored with the Johnny Vaught Lifetime Achievement Award by the All-American Football Foundation.

A member of the Troy University Sports Hall of Fame (inaugural class) and the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame, the playing surface in Troy's Veterans Memorial Stadium was named in his honor in the spring of 2011. The home field at Troy University is now known as Larry Blakeney Field at Veterans Memorial Stadium.

But his impact goes beyond wins and losses. Many of the players who came to Troy to play for Blakeney never had a positive male role model in their lives. That changed when they became Trojans. Throughout his career, Blakeney has been recognized by his peers, by the people he has worked for and with, and by the sporting community at large. He gives generously of his time to almost any group or organization who asks for it.

He is married to the former Janice Powell. The couple has three adult daughters, Kelley, and twins, Julie and Tiffany.

***Tonight's Emcee - DOUG AMOS***

Doug Amos has worked in sports media in the River Region for more than 30 years, having covered the Southeastern Conference for The Montgomery Advertiser for eight years before beginning his radio career. He has hosted a sports radio show in the area since 1993, and has been a two-time recipient of the Associated Press Excellence in Broadcasting Award. He currently hosts The MAX Round Table with former Auburn quarterback Charlie Trotman on ESPN The Ticket, and last year began a new show – Strong To The Finish – which is a faith-based sports interview program about balancing love for athletics and passion for God. He also works for the Troy Sports Radio Network, serving as the studio host and color analyst for Trojan football and basketball games. Doug and his wife, Karla, have a daughter – Reyn, age 10.



# SENIOR FINALISTS



**Casey Mitchell Baynes**

*Tallassee High School*

**Baseball, Football, Basketball, Track**

First Baptist Church Tallassee • Baseball All-State, All-Metro  
• AHSAA All-Star Baseball Team • Football: Team Captain, Most Valuable Offensive Player & Most Valuable Defensive Back  
• Montgomery QB Club Player of the Week • WSFA Player of the

Week • FBC Love Loud Weekend • Peer Mentor for 1st grade and Middle School P.E.

• Mr. Tallassee High School • Homecoming King • Mu Alpha Theta • Fellowship of Christian Athletes • Accepted to Southern Union • Son of Mark and Michelle Baynes



**Brandon Michael Boone**

*Edgewood Academy*

**Football, Baseball**

Mulder Methodist Church • Football State Championship 2015  
• Baseball State Championship 2016 • AISA All-Star Baseball Team  
• FCA Leader • Member of Beta Club, FFA, Spanish Club & First Priority • Volunteer with Vacation Bible School, Salvation Army,

Relay for Life & Community Clean-up Days • Accepted with various scholarships to Auburn University of Montgomery, Faulkner University and Troy University

• Son of Michael and Sherrie Boone



**Benjamin Todd Buck, Jr.**

*Holtville High School*

**Football, Soccer, Baseball, Basketball, Wrestling**

Shoal Creek Baptist Church • National Merit Finalist  
• Bryant-Jordan Academic Regional Winner • Chreitzberg Scholar Athlete Award • Football & Soccer Team Captain • Youth Worship

Band • Volunteer for Camp Amigos, VBS, Disciple Now & Christian Missions Unlimited  
• HHS Leadership Team • Leader in SGA, FFA, Spanish Club & First Priority • Joe Sewell 9th grade certificate • Accepted with scholarships to the University of Alabama, Auburn University, & Lawrence University • Son of Ben and Gina Buck



**Elizabeth Ann Crosby**

*Edgewood Academy*

**Softball, Track & Field, Basketball, Volleyball**

Mulder Memorial United Methodist Church • Wendy's High School Heisman School Winner • 1st degree Black Belt in Taekwondo • Top 10% Award • Autumn Wood Village Outreach  
• Mission trip to Haiti and multiple sites in USA • Founding

member FCA • Lions Club Leadership Forum • Volunteers with Salvation Army, Adullam House, Bark in the Park and others • Alabama Senate Page • Accepted with scholarships to UAB, Mississippi State, Huntingdon, Auburn & Troy • Daughter of Jonathan and Jane Crosby



**Sara Grace Ellis**

*Edgewood Academy*

**Volleyball, Basketball, Track**

Mulder Memorial United Methodist Church • AISA All-Star Volleyball All-Tournament Team • Girls State • Miss Edgewood  
• Beta Club, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, First Priority, & FCA Mathletes & Scholars Bowl • 4-H Horseback Riding

• Volunteers for Salvation Army & Adullam House • Rotary Club Speech Competition • Joe Sewell 9th grade certificate • Accepted with scholarships to Auburn, Alabama, Birmingham Southern, Huntingdon & Springhill • Daughter of Laura and Jeff Ellis



**Shon Alexander Boling**

*Holtville High School*

**Football, Baseball, Basketball, Soccer**

Shoal Creek Baptist Church • All-Metro, All-County & All-Area Linebacker • Ball Hawk Award • Team Captain in multiple sports  
• Boys State Senator • Founding member of Mu Alpha Theta at HHS • Skills USA President • FCA Award • Member of Junior

Civitan, Beta Club, FFA, DECA & First Priority • Accepted with various scholarships to Mississippi College, Auburn University Montgomery and University of West Alabama

• Son of Shon and Kelly Boling



**Claibourne Brown**

*Elmore County High School*

**Baseball**

Bethlehem East Baptist Church • Enlisted in Army National Guard  
• Church Praise and Worship Band • Fuge Camp 2017  
• Maroon Machine Marching Band Drum Line On-Field Leader  
• Volunteered with canned food drives • Senior Beta Club

• Concert Band • Member of Drama Club • Joe Sewell 9th grade certificate winner

• Accepted to Auburn University • Son of Heather Brown



**Ella Carpenter**

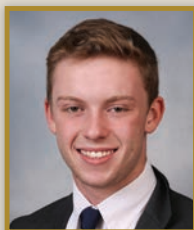
*Elmore County High School*

**Cross Country, Track, Basketball, Soccer, Powerlifting**

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints • State Track Relay Teams • Placed in State Powerlifting • President of Young Women's Class • Regional Leader for Youth Events • Beta Club, National

English Honor Society, & Foreign Language Club • Tallassee Swim Team • Volunteer for Eagle Scout project • Joe Sewell 9th grade certificate • Accepted to Brigham Young University, Central Alabama Community College and University of West Alabama

• Daughter of Daniel and Sharon Carpenter



**James Duer**

*Wetumpka High School*

**Baseball, Golf**

Vaughn Park Church of Christ • All-Metro, All-Conference & All-Tournament Baseball Teams • WHS Ace Award 2017

• Baseball Team Captain • Boys State • Volunteers with Upward Basketball, Special Olympics, Montgomery Zoo Light Festival and

others • Church Worship Team • WHS Choir & All-State Chorus • Tribal Council • National Honor Society • DECA Club • Beta Club • Scholars Bowl • Auburn University Spirit of Auburn Presidential Scholarship • Son of Steve and Shannon Duer



**Tyler Golden**

*New Life Christian Academy*

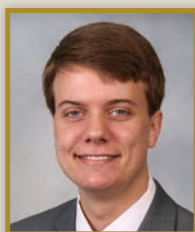
**Basketball, Football, Baseball**

New Life Church • Football & Basketball Team Captain  
• Basketball Heart of a Champion Award • Basketball MVP  
• ACAA All-State Basketball • Football Headhunter Award  
• Beta Club • Church audiovisual team • Video production for

Crisis Pregnancy Center • Joe Sewell 9th grade certificate • Accepted with scholarships to Auburn University, Auburn Montgomery, University of Alabama, UAB and Faulkner University

• Son of Rusty and Heidi Golden

# SENIOR FINALISTS



**Kyle Hawk**  
*Elmore County High School*  
**Soccer**

Thelma Baptist Church • Mission trips for home repair  
• Youth Retreats • Senior Class Chaplain • Volunteer with VBS  
and Thelma free tutoring program • Actor at the Wetumpka Depot  
Community Theatre • Member of Beta Club, Drama Club, and

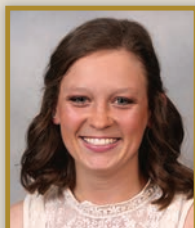
National English Honor Society • Alabama Boys State Participant • Counselor at Camp Chandler  
• Accepted to Troy University • Son of Dane and Susan Hawk



**Joshua Nichols**  
*New Life Christian Academy*  
**Basketball, Track & Field**

Shoal Creek Baptist Church • Basketball Best Defensive Player  
and Heart of a Champion Award • ACAA All-Star Basketball Team  
• ACAA State Track & Field Winner 110 yard dash & 440 relay  
• AB Honor Roll • Church Usher • DNOW participant

• Volunteers for Camp Amigos, VBS, Brain Pump and Community Clean-up Projects  
• Accepted with scholarships to Auburn University of Montgomery  
• Son of Paul and Kim Nichols



**Haylee Osborne**  
*Tallassee High School*  
**Volleyball, Softball**

First Baptist Church Tallassee • Softball Most Valuable Pitcher,  
Clutch Award, Highest GPA and All-County Area Team  
• Church Preschool, Nursery and VBS volunteer • Praise Team  
• Girls State • President of Mu Alpha Theta and Key Club

• Class Secretary of Student Council • Member of FCA, National Honor Society • A Honor Roll  
• Accepted with various scholarships and signed to play softball at the University of Mobile  
• Daughter of Stephen and Jennifer Osborne



**Emily D. Pinkston**  
*Wetumpka High School*  
**Soccer**

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints • Soccer Captain  
• Bryant-Jordan Regional Winner • Elmore County's 2018  
Distinguished Young Woman • Robotics Team • State Science Fair  
Winner • Science Olympiad • Volunteers with Operation Christmas

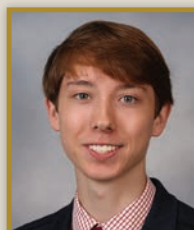
Child, Camp Hope and City of Wetumpka events • Member of NHS, Mu Alpha Theta, SGA  
and DECA • Joe Sewell 9th grade certificate • Pending admission and scholarships to Brigham  
Young University • Daughter of Patrick and Georgia Pinkston



**Peyton Faye Rodie**  
*Edgewood Academy*  
**Volleyball, Basketball, Softball, Track**

CenterPoint Fellowship • Team Captain: Volleyball & Basketball  
• Volleyball AISA All-Star & All-Tournament Team  
• Softball All-State Team • Safe Harbor Outreach Church Youth  
Leader • Dominican Republic, Peru & Atlanta mission trips

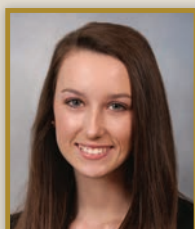
• Volunteer at Camp Adohi & Salvation Army • Officer in First Priority, FCA & Spanish Club  
• Joe Sewell 9th grade certificate • Accepted with various scholarships to Auburn, Troy,  
Alabama, UAB, Faulkner, Huntingdon and AUM • Daughter of Travis and Shana Rodie



**Theron Shipman**  
*Tallassee High School*  
**Cross Country, Track & Field, Swimming,  
Wrestling, Tennis**

First United Methodist Church Tallassee • Team Captain:  
Cross Country & Swimming • Alabama Boys State House of  
Representatives • THS Band Chaplain • THS Choir Section Leader

• FCA Vice President • Mu Alpha Theta Historian • National Honor Society • Tallassee Chamber  
of Commerce Student Ambassador • Volunteers for Encounter Service, VBS, Children's Church,  
Tallassee Bike Race and Christmas Parade • Auburn University Spirit of Auburn Founders  
Scholarship • Son of Wade and Pam Shipman



**Amber Sprayberry**  
*Wetumpka High School*  
**Volleyball**

First Baptist Church Wetumpka • Volleyball: Coaches Award,  
Academic Award, Team Captain, 6-A All-Area Team  
• Mission trips to Louisiana and Maryland • Volunteers with Serve  
Saturday, Downtown Clean-Up, Bark in the Park, Paint the Park,

and Frankenstein 5K • Officer in DECA and Beta Club • Member of Mu Alpha Theta, NHS, Tribal  
Council, and Indians in Action • Accepted to Auburn University Honors College with Spirit of  
Auburn Founders Scholarship • Daughter of Tim and Leigh Sprayberry



**Sarah Staton**  
*Holtville High School*  
**Soccer, Cross Country, Bowling**

St. Joseph Catholic Church • Soccer Captain • AHSAA National  
Summit • HHS Izell Brown Award • Girls State Supreme Court  
• Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos Award • Archdiocesan Youth  
Conference • Basic Life Support Instructor • Volunteer for Soup

Kitchen, Buddy Walk & AYSO • Officer in Spanish, DECA & HOSA Clubs • Girl Scouts Robotic Team  
• Joe Sewell 9th grade certificate • Accepted with scholarships to Spring Hill, Alabama, Troy, West  
Alabama, Montevallo & AUM • Daughter of Scott and Mary Staton



**Logan Swindle**  
*Stanhope Elmore High School*  
**Track & Field, Football**

Millbrook Baptist Church • JROTC Most Outstanding PT  
Commander Award • AHSAA State Champion 4x4 • SE Track & Field  
Hall of Fame: 7 school records • Numerous medals in AHSAA State  
Track • Football Playoffs • National Gold Elite in 4x4 and Silver Elite

in 400m dash • JROTC First Sergeant Echo Company • Capt. Physical Fitness Raiders • VBS, Prayer  
Walks & Worship Singer • Joe Sewell 9th grade certificate • Accepted to Troy, Huntingdon and  
Faulkner • Son of Ashley McClantoc and Lee McClantoc



**Madeline Taylor**  
*Tallassee High School*  
**Cheerleading, Swimming**

Rushenville Baptist Church • UCA All-American Cheerleader  
• Pin It Forward Award • Varsity Cheer Captain • Varsity Academic  
Award • Choral President & Soprano Section Leader  
• Class President • Mu Alpha Theta & NHS • THS "Divas" Show

Choir • Miss THS & Homecoming Court • Volunteer for Operation Christmas Child, Adullam House,  
Read Across America & Learning Tree • Joe Sewell 9th grade certificate • Auburn University Spirit  
of Auburn Scholarship • Daughter of Trey and Holley Taylor



# SENIOR FINALISTS

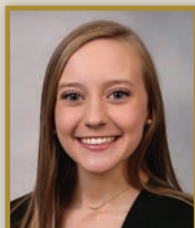


**Kasie Thomas**

*Wetumpka High School*

**Volleyball, Track & Field**

Community Congregational United Church of Christ • Volleyball: 6A MVP, All-Metro, All-Area; WHS Team Captain & Sportsmanship Award • State Qualifier 4x400 relay • Volunteer for volleyball camps, Relay for Life & MLK Clean-up Day • Church choir, VBS & Food Pantry • Founding member WHS Tribal Tones (Acapella Group) • Member of NHS, SGA & FCA • Elmore County DYW 1st Runner Up • Accepted to North Greenville University with track scholarship and to AUM • Daughter of Alex and Margo Thomas



**Kayson Farrow Wallace**

*Elmore County High School*

**Cheerleading**

Good Hope Baptist Church • All-American Cheerleader • Pin It Forward, Best Flyer & Most Spirit Awards • CMU Brazil Mission Trip • Hugh O'Brien Youth Leader • Kiwanis Key Leader Camp • Volunteer for Chuck's House, Angel Tree, GLAM House and Hope for Houston • Academic Top 10 • Yearbook Staff, Mu Alpha Theta, FCCLA & Beta Club • Key Club President • Class President 9-12 • Joe Sewell 9th grade certificate • Accepted with scholarships to Samford and Auburn • Daughter of Rod and Kelley Wallace



**Brantley Marie White**

*Holtville High School*

**Soccer**

New Home Baptist Church • Presidential GPA Award • Trained for 16 years in dance • Volunteer dance teacher at nursing home • Performer in "The Nutcracker" and other ballets • Wes Bell Award Winner • Alabama Youth Assembly Secretary • Sunday school teacher & AWANA volunteer • Member and officer in Spanish Club, DECA, SGA, Beta Club & Mu Alpha Theta • Accepted with scholarships to AUM, Faulkner University and The University of Alabama • Daughter of Robbie and Wendy White



**Sydney Wilson**

*Stanhope Elmore High School*

**Bowling**

Millbrook First United Methodist Church • Bowling Team Captain • AHSAA Girls Bowling State Runner-Up • Girls State: Director of Finance • Harry Denman Evangelism Award • Senior Class Treasurer • Performs in Drama Club, Show Choir and SEHS Band • Volunteer at Christ Café & Joy for Johnny • Member of BETA Club, NHS, Mu Alpha Theta, English & History Honor Societies • Accepted to South Alabama, UAB, and Troy University with Chancellor's Scholarship • Daughter of Kenny Wilson and Bridget Wilson



**Stephen Thornton**

*New Life Christian Academy*

**Football, Baseball, Basketball, Golf, Cross Country, Track & Field**

Church of the Highlands and New Life Youth • Football: Team Captain • Top 4 in ACAA conference for highest number of tackles • Boys State - House of Representatives Clerk • Boy Scouts: Life Scout • Alpha Omega Honor Society Citizenship Award • George Washington Award for Civility • DNOW • Summit Ministries • All-A Honor Roll • Accepted with scholarships to Huntingdon, Birmingham Southern, University of Montevallo and Faulkner University • Son of Steve and Heather Thornton



**Nathan Warlick**

*Stanhope Elmore High School*

**Soccer, Basketball, Football**

Church of the Highlands • All-State Honorable Mention in Soccer • North vs South Soccer All-Star Game • Soccer Team Captain • Boys State • Volunteer for Common Ground, Food Pantry & Church Child Care • DECA Youth Sports Mentor • SE Broadcast Team • Member of National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, Spanish Honor Society & Junior Civitan • Academic STEM Award • Accepted with scholarships to Troy University, Mississippi State University and The University of Alabama • Son of Philip Warlick and Julie Warlick



**Claire Williams**

*New Life Christian Academy*

**Soccer, Cheerleading, Track and Field**

CenterPoint Fellowship and New Life Millbrook Youth • Cheer Squad Captain • 1st place squad at Fellowship of Christian Cheerleading National Competition • Squad placed 2nd three times at National Competition • Volunteer for the Humane Shelter and Camp AMIGOS • Youth Group Worship Team • NLCA Homecoming Court • Beta Club • Joe Sewell 9th grade certificate • Accepted to Auburn University at Montgomery with Achievement Scholarship • Daughter of Philip & Angie Taylor and David & Kim Williams



**Kayla Wright**

*Stanhope Elmore High School*

**Softball, Volleyball**

Church of the Highlands • Volleyball: All-County, All-Metro, Best Defensive Player • Softball: Hustle Award & Spirit Award • Member of National Honor Society, BETA Club, Mu Alpha Theta, Science Honor Society & English Honor Society • Volunteers with Highlands Baptism Team, Adohi Farms and Christmas Family Sponsorship • Daughter of Tiffany McDonald and Casey Wright





## NINTH GRADE CERTIFICATE WINNERS

### Edgewood Academy

Macy Adams  
Mitchell Boyd  
Carson Peevy  
Faith Wheat

### Stanhope Elmore High School

Teddy Harris, Jr.  
Avery Nicole Johnson  
Rikki McAdams  
Christian Mozingo

### Elmore County High School

Chloe Andress  
Samuel Barlet  
Emerald Madison Britt  
Hutch Nicholas

### Tallassee High School

Lexi Love  
Jake Manning  
Haleigh May  
Ethan Stevenson

### Holtville High School

Whitney Marie Culverhouse  
Richard Matthew Hicks  
Bre'Ella Lanasiriyah Hughley  
Paxton Lee Price

### Wetumpka High School

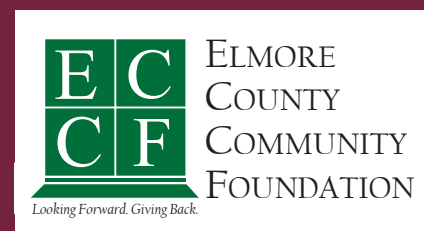
Connor Bailey  
Morgan Causey  
Avery Pyles  
Savannah Shoemaker

### New Life Christian Academy

Alden L. Barentine  
Delaney Bollie  
Keston Spires  
Justin D. Talley

The Joe Sewell Memorial Award and John Sewell Scholarships are projects under the auspices of the Elmore County Community Foundation.

Contributions to the Joe Sewell Fund are tax-deductible. Donations should be addressed to ECCF/Joe Sewell Fund and mailed to P.O. Box 743, Wetumpka, AL 36092.



## Joe Sewell Memorial Award

Elmore County's prestigious award for high school seniors – Since 2005



**PO Box 743  
Wetumpka, AL 36092**

**[www.joesewellaward.org](http://www.joesewellaward.org)  
[info@joesewellaward.org](mailto:info@joesewellaward.org)**

 **Joe Sewell Memorial Award**

*"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."  
- Proverbs 22:6 KJV*

# PREVIOUS OVERALL AWARD WINNERS



## 2017 BOY'S AWARD



**Robert Broom**

*Holtville High School*  
Cross Country, Soccer

## 2017 GIRL'S AWARD



**Hannah Traylor**

*Elmore County High School*  
Basketball, Powerlifting, Track & Field,  
Volleyball

### 2016 BOY'S AWARD



**Ty Naquin**

*Stanhope Elmore  
High School*

Baseball, Wrestling

### 2016 GIRL'S AWARD



**Elissa Brown**

*Elmore County  
High School*

Softball, Basketball,  
Track & Field

### 2015 BOY'S AWARD



**Kirkland  
McWhorter**

*Tallassee High School*

Cross Country, Soccer,  
Track & Field

### 2015 GIRL'S AWARD



**Madison Roberts**

*Wetumpka  
High School*

Cheerleading

### 2014 BOY'S AWARD



**Aaron Smith**

*Elmore County  
High School*

Football, Powerlifting,  
Track

### 2014 GIRL'S AWARD



**Patty Holley**

*Elmore County  
High School*

Volleyball



# PREVIOUS OVERALL AWARD WINNERS

## 2013 BOY'S AWARD



**Colton LaDon  
Campbell**

*Holtville High School*

Baseball, Basketball,  
Football

## 2013 GIRL'S AWARD



**Carter Singleton**

*Elmore County  
High School*

Basketball, Powerlifting,  
Soccer, Track

## 2012 BOY'S AWARD



**Evan Miles Venable**

*Elmore County High  
School*

Football, Powerlifting,  
Basketball, Golf

## 2012 GIRL'S AWARD



**Hannah Elizabeth  
Weldon**

*Edgewood Academy*

Volleyball, Basketball,  
Softball, Track,  
Cheerleading

## 2011 BOY'S AWARD



**Cody Arant**

*Wetumpka  
High School*

Football, Baseball

## 2011 GIRL'S AWARD



**Kelsey Baker**

*Tallassee  
High School*

Cheerleading

## 2010 BOY'S AWARD



**Thatcher Pinkston**

*Wetumpka High School*

Football, Tennis,  
Wrestling

## 2010 GIRL'S AWARD



**Taylor Veazey**

*Holtville High School*

Basketball, Tennis,  
Cross Country

## 2009 BOY'S AWARD



**Jordan Nickols**

*Holtville  
High School*

Football, Baseball

## 2009 GIRL'S AWARD



**Ashley Colquitt**

*Wetumpka  
High School*

Cheerleading, Soccer

## 2008 BOY'S AWARD



**Thomas Luke Rowe**

*Elmore County  
High School*

Football, Basketball,  
Track

## 2008 GIRL'S AWARD



**Rachel Virginia  
Powell**

*Tallassee High School*

Volleyball

## 2007 BOY'S AWARD



**Chris Glover**

*Holtville  
High School*

Football, Baseball

## 2007 GIRL'S AWARD

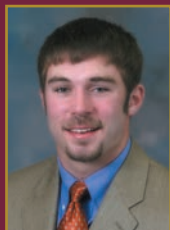


**Kelly McWhorter**

*Elmore County  
High School*

Cheerleading

## 2006 BOY'S AWARD



**Chas Worthy**

*Elmore County  
High School*

Football, Basketball,  
Baseball

## 2006 GIRL'S AWARD



**Ashley Hicks**

*Stanhope Elmore  
High School*

Cheerleading

## 2005 BOY'S AWARD



**Josh Cain**

*Edgewood  
Academy*

Football, Basketball,  
Track

## 2005 GIRL'S AWARD



**Heather Finklea**

*Elmore County  
High School*

Softball, Basketball

# *Fourteenth Annual* **Joe Sewell Memorial Award Banquet Program**

Wetumpka Civic Center

May 1, 2018

**Call to Order & Welcome** ~ Jenifer Glover, Joe Sewell Memorial Award Board Chair  
Harris Garner, Joe Sewell Memorial Award Vice Chair

**Senior and 9th Grade Student Entrance**

**Dinner Instructions** ~ Jenifer Glover

**Invocation** ~ Brandon Fomby, Student Minister First Baptist Church of Tallassee

**Dinner**

**Sponsor Recognition** ~ Michael Morgan, Joe Sewell Memorial Award Board Member

**Introduction of Emcee** ~ Don Duncan, Joe Sewell Memorial Award Board Member

**Special Recognitions** ~ Doug Amos

Board Members

Past Award Winners

Senior Finalists who were 9th Grade Certificate Winners

**Recognition of 9th Grade Certificate Winners** ~ Doug Amos

**Introduction of Senior Joe Sewell Award Finalists** ~ Doug Amos

**Introduction of Speaker** ~ Doug Amos – Neptune Technology Group

**Keynote Speaker** ~ **Larry Blakeney, Former Head Coach, Troy University**

**Honoree Selection** ~ Joey Holley, Joe Sewell Memorial Award Board Member

**Senior Category Award Winners** ~ Doug Amos

Girls Leadership Award . . . . . First Community Bank

Boys Leadership Award . . . . . Wetumpka Lions Club

Girls Academic Award . . . . . Alabama Power Foundation

Boys Academic Award . . . . . Adams Drugs

Girls Church, Community & Character Award . . . . . Tallassee Rehab

Boys Church, Community & Character Award . . . . . Millbrook Men's Club

Girls Athletic Award . . . . . Weldon Family

Boys Athletic Award . . . . . Ingram Family

**Girls Overall Joe Sewell Award and John Sewell Scholarship Winner . . Billie Sewell and Barry Mask**  
~ Sewell Family

**Boys Overall Joe Sewell Award and John Sewell Scholarship Winner . . . . . Billie Sewell**  
~ Lee's Auto Repair

**Adjourning Remarks** ~ Harris Garner