The Cullman Tribune

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BERLIN TAKES STEPS TOWARD INCORPORATION P3

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COLOR ME CULLMAN TAKES OVER SPORTSMAN LAKE PARK P6

TWO FOUND DEAD IN WOODED AREA QUARTER MILE BEHIND CRACKER BARREL; FOUL PLAY NOT SUSPECTED P2

FIRST PHASE OF REPAIR ON U.S. 278 SLOPE COMPLETE P2



SHARON SCHULER KREPS/CULLMAN TRIBUNE

HOPPER'S FAMILY MARKET AND PHARMACY HOSTS "SWEEP" TO HELP AREA CHILDREN P7

LADY WARRIORS TASTE VICTORY FOR THE FIRST TIME P4

CULTURE

CHS DELIVERS STUNNING PERFORMANCE OF "BEAUTY AND THE BEAST"



The cast and crew of Beauty and the Beast did a stellar job during their opening night performance Friday.

SHARON SCHULER KREPS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE P14

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT IN CULLMAN

By: Amy Leonard
amy@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Every ten seconds in the United States a child is abused or neglected. In the time it took the average reader to finish the first two sentences of this article, two to three children will have endured horrors that most of us cannot imagine.

In Cullman County, 980 reported cases of child abuse and neglect were investigated last year. The population of children in the



CULLMAN CARING FOR KIDS

Five percent of the children in our community are abused and/or neglected. If you see something, say something.

P10

APRIL 12 RUNOFF

HICKS VS. WALKER





Darrell Hicks and Kenneth Walker

CONTRIBUTED P6

ELECTION 2016

SHELBY CHALLENGER CRUMPTON IN CULLMAN

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – The Cullman County Democrats welcomed U.S. Senate candidate Ron Crumpton to their monthly meeting on Saturday morning at the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce. Opting to forgo usual business, the group gave the podium to Crumpton, who will meet incumbent Republican Sen. Richard Shelby in the November election, for the duration of the meeting.

Speaking under the theme of a need for "new leadership and new direction and new results in Washington, D.C.," Crumpton spoke for an hour to the diverse audience of supporters.

"Shelby is not working for Alabama. It's time the people of this state elect a senator who is true to Alabama, true to her needs and true to her people," said Crumpton.

Working as an activist for the better part of past decade, Crumpton has

Ron Crumpton is challenging longtime incumbent U.S. Sen. Richard Shelby in November.

P9



AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

INDEX

Calendar - P12
Classifieds - P13
Comics - P14
Sports - P4
Obituaries - P13
Editorials - P15

PRINTED LOCALLY @ PRINTING Alabama Web Press

RAID AT SEX OFFENDER'S RESIDENCE LEADS TO MULTIPLE DRUG ARRESTS

Bradley Williams
CCSO

HANCEVILLE – On Thursday, April 7, agents with the Cullman County Narcotics Enforcement Team (CNET), along with Cullman County Sheriff's Office investigators, patrol deputies and K-9 units arrested Stacy Lee Tubbs, 41, of Hanceville, a registered sex offender, Savannah Michelle Carroll, 28, of Hanceville and Angela Roberts Griffey, 40, of Hanceville, for unlawful possession of a controlled substance and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia. Also arrested was Richard Melvin Scott, 52, of Hanceville, for unlawful possession of a controlled substance, second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana, unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia and unlawful distribution of a controlled substance.

The arrests were made at the residence of Tubbs, a registered sex offender, near Hanceville on County Road 536 while deputies were executing a search warrant.

Deputies entered the residence and immediately discovered Tubbs, Carroll and Griffey smoking a glass pipe of methamphetamine.

After the first scene was contained, CNET, investigators and deputies executed a search warrant and an arrest warrant for unlawful distribution of a controlled substance a short distance away on County Road 538 Scott.

Deputies discovered ICE, a purer form of methamphetamine, marijuana, drug paraphernalia and cash.

In total, CCSO seized approximately 10 grams of ICE, 5 grams of marijuana, $1,250 cash and drug paraphernalia.

"Anytime we can get a sex offender who is also a drug offender off the streets of our community that's a good day," said Sheriff Matt Gentry.

"I also want to commend all the agents and deputies for their work in arresting these suspects," added Gentry.

All four suspects are being held in the Cullman County Detention Center without bond.



PHOTOS COURTESY CCSO

Top: Deputies discovered ICE, a purer form of methamphetamine, marijuana, drug paraphernalia and cash. Bottom: Stacy Lee Tubbs, Angela Roberts Griffey, Richard Melvin Scott, Savannah Michelle Carroll

TWO FOUND DEAD IN WOODED AREA QUARTER MILE BEHIND CRACKER BARREL; FOUL PLAY NOT SUSPECTED

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Two bodies were found in a wooded area approximately a quarter mile behind Cracker Barrel off Interstate 65 and Alabama Highway 157 just outside Cullman city limits on Friday, April 8. Cullman County Coroner Jeremy Kilpatrick identified the victims as mother and son Neysa Wood,49, a white female and Daniel Wood, 28, a white male, both from Cullman. Kilpatrick said that it "appears to be suicide but an autopsy is going to be performed."

"Foul play not suspected at this time," said Sheriff Matt Gentry on Friday. "It's important for people to know we do not suspect foul play was involved," he said.

The bodies were found by acquaintances of the deceased, according to Gentry.

"The call came in around 2:35 p.m. today (Friday) by acquaintances of the deceased," he said.

Gentry said the investigation is ongoing and that the two bodies will be sent off for autopsies to determine the cause of death.

"Until we get the report back from the autopsies we cannot say what caused the deaths."

FIRST PHASE OF REPAIR ON U.S. 278 SLOPE COMPLETE

Seth Burkett
Ala. Dept. of Transportation

HUNTSVILLE – The Alabama Department of Transportation advises motorists that all lanes of U.S. Highway 278 are now open following completion of the first phase of geotechnical repairs to correct a slide west of the bridge over Kugler Creek in Cullman County.

GeoStabilization International was the primary contractor on the project, which included excavation of the upper slope and construction of a 20-foot-high soil nail retaining wall to stabilize the slope and U.S. 278.

GSI was awarded the $753,770 contract in an emergency letting.

Work began Feb. 22 and concluded March 30. Following inspection of the work and replacement of guardrail, all traffic control has been removed.

A second phase of repair, to be contracted later, will address the lower slope and retaining wall.

For a full background, see http://cullmansense.com/articles/2016/04/01/phase-1-repair-work-us-highway-278-west-new-bridge-now-complete-pending.

2ND ANNUAL STONY LONESOME 5K MUD RUN MAY 14

Will Hogue
will@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – On Saturday, May 14 at 8 a.m., Stony Lonesome OHV Park will host its second annual 5K Mud Run.

The event started last year, under current Park Manager Tyler Lindsey, and he wants to continue to grow the event.

"It was Sara Teichmiller's (Cullman County Parks and Recreation Marketing) idea to have this 5K," Lindsey said. "We had a lot of success last year with advertising for the event, and that sort of thing."

Last year's event saw 400 runners sign up.

"There were about 10-12 serious runners who were there to really compete and win the whole thing. We put them in the front of the line. The event is really just about coming out and getting muddy and having fun, but the serious runners are welcome too," Lindsey said.

Along with learning how to improve on last year's inaugural event from a logistics standpoint (parking, registration, etc.), Lindsey wants to add more obstacles over the course of the 5K route.

"We're improving the obstacles and adding obstacles," he said. Why not have as many opportunities to get as dirty as possible during this event, since there will be fire trucks enlisted from the county fire departments to assist with washing off competitors after they've crossed the finish line.

"We wanted to have the fire trucks here last year, but they said it was too short of notice," Lindsey continued. "We made sure to call them plenty in advance this year."

Registration for the event is $30 per person.

The event is available to ages 13 and up for the full 5K. For ages 12 and under, the first mile of the course is available free-of-charge.

"The first mile is visible from the lookout-point," Lindsey said. "You know, so the parents can watch their kids. That is just for the 12 and under ones, though." Lindsey expects the event to go from about 8 a.m.-noon, when tired runners can relax with lunch from the food trucks that will be at the park for the race. Those who register in advance get a free T-shirt.

To register, visit http://www.cullmancountyparks.com/mr-registration.html.

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MUNICIPAL NEWS

BERLIN TAKES STEPS TOWARD INCORPORATION

Keeping tax revenue in the community cited as biggest reason for move

Wendy Sack
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BERLIN – The community of Berlin took the first step toward incorporation on Saturday, when an open house was held at the Berlin Community Center from 2-7 p.m. Residents were invited to drop in to get information and, if they live in the initial incorporation area, sign the petition for incorporation. The first signature on the petition expires in 18 months, meaning the next year and a half will be a busy one for the small community centered around the intersection of U.S. Highway 278 and County Road 747, known as Walker's Corner.

So who is allowed to sign the petition and how many signatures are needed? Those who live in the initial incorporation area (outlined in blue on the map graphic) are the only residents who can sign. As far as the number of signatures, there's not an exact number, but rather a percentage. Within the blue area, 15 percent of registered voters must sign the petition to move the incorporation process forward.

As for how the blue area was selected, the law states that there must be four registered voters per quarter mile of the entire, contiguous area. In fact, the blue area is now a bit smaller than it was just last week, as a community member passed away, leaving only three registered voters on her particular quarter mile, meaning that the four subdivisions on the other side of her land are now cut out of the area. Estimates are that those subdivisions house anywhere from 300 to 700 people.

Community member Patrick Bates, who has taken the lead role in driving the incorporation efforts forward, led the open house on Saturday. A lifelong resident of Berlin, Bates researched and produced an informational pamphlet, presentation and several maps showing the exact area that will be targeted for the initial incorporation.

"Berlin is one of the oldest, most densely populated communities in Cullman County that remains unincorporated," said Bates.

And how many people actually live in Berlin? Bates says that the voting precinct area is 16 square miles with somewhere between 2-3,000 people; however, the incorporation at first will only involve around 2 square miles. He estimates that area includes between 600-1,000 residents.

"I think we'll fall above the Vinemont and Holly Pond range, size-wise."

According to Bates, a significant amount of tax revenue collected from residents of the Berlin community is redistributed elsewhere due to Berlin being unincorporated.

Bates said, "There's other people in the community that want this (incorporation) for other reasons, but my main reason is financial. We pay into taxes and that money gets redirected elsewhere. We want them to benefit our community."

He says that the first question everyone asks him is "How much are my taxes going to go up?" According to his research, he said, "They shouldn't go up at all. We already pay the taxes. They're just going to other things in the county. Incorporating would mean that money would go into our town."

Berlin resident Marilyn Bolte, who says she's lived in the community "for 67 years, born and raised," said, "This would have been done a long time ago if I had known how to do it. I'm all for it. I've said all along that we need to do this. We need a playground. We need things for our community, things we can use."

Regina Johnson agrees with Bolte, although she says she has "mixed feelings." When asked why, she said, "I have mixed feelings that it will actually happen. I'd like to see more here. A bank, a post office. I want Berlin to prosper. That's what I want to see. We need jobs. That's why I started my own business. I'd like to see a playground, walking trails or a kiddie park. I'd like to see more family time come from this. I'd like to see a grocery store."

"I think we need the money. We need all of the things that everyone else has," said another resident.

"It would be nice if we could incorporate. We sure could use some roads fixed," said yet another.

By about 5 p.m., about a dozen people had stopped by, one of whom lived in the blue area and quickly signed the petition. Everyone else lived in Berlin, but not inside the area.

Talk among the ones gathered then turned to the condition of the community's roads and the fact that, if incorporated, Berlin would have to take care of all of its own roads, except for U.S. Highway 278. One gentleman, on the fence about his opinion of the move, questioned whether or not the tax money that would come into the town would cover the cost of road maintenance.

"We don't even have any equipment for that," he said. Others pointed out that the other municipalities in the county were able to maintain their roads.

Here are some facts and figures that Bates compiled for consideration.

Sales Taxes

Cullman is unique in that sales taxes are uniform across the county at 8.5 percent (exceptions being the City of Cullman, Fairview and Dodge City, which have an additional 0.5%). A $100 purchase made most anywhere would be subject to $8.50 in sales tax and distributed roughly as follows:

- State of Alabama - 4.00
- County Schools - .50
- Cullman County and Agencies - 1.80
- City of Cullman - 1.80
- Other Municipalities - .40

The tax revenue for other municipalities is split among them based on population. With a population of only 500, in the last three years Berlin would have received:

- FY 2013 - 148,924.46
- FY 2014 - 155,656.01
- FY 2015 - 169,692.60
- Total - 474,273.07

Bates also cites additional population-based taxes that would provide revenue to Berlin, such as gasoline taxes and payments made by TVA in lieu of property taxes.

Projected Revenue

Thanks to data available for the various taxes, according to Bates, it is possible to estimate the revenue Berlin would have received from the major sources during the 2015 fiscal year:

Population of 500
- Sales Tax - 169,692.60
- TVA Payments - 14,877.71
- Gasoline Tax - 6,545.78
- Total - 191,126.09

Population of 1,000
- Sales Tax - 323,819.92
- TVA Payments - 29,195.61
- Gasoline Tax - 12,836.64
- Total - 365,852.17

Population of 1,500
- Sales Tax - 464,429.68
- TVA Payments - 42,956.93
- Gasoline Tax - 18,887.17
- Total - 526,273.78

If the incorporation happens, Berlin will face the one required duty of a town: road maintenance. That includes everything from repaving, patching and mowing. The town could contract with Cullman County or solicit bids for the jobs. The Berlin community contains between 20 and 30 miles of public roads, not including U.S. Highway 278.

Besides the financial benefits, Bates says the second biggest positive would be parks and recreation. "Right now we have no public parks. We could have parks or playgrounds for families and walking trails. We do have the ball field, but that's it." Alabama law provides for towns to operate a variety of public grounds, he says.

Another area a newly incorporated Town of Berlin would face is public safety. Bates thinks the town could consider contracting with the Cullman County Sheriff's Office and the Berlin Volunteer Fire Department to improve services. The town could also apply for its own ISO PPC fire rating, potentially receiving a rating lower than the fire coverage district at large. "The other municipalities have maintained their volunteer fire departments," said Bates. "We would do that as well."

There was a lot of praise for the Berlin Volunteer Fire Department. "It's one of the best, if not THE best, fire departments in the county," said a community member.

So what are the next steps?

Petition Drive - The petition drive, happening now, is expected to take several months, but cannot be longer than 18 months.

Incorporation Vote - The vote on incorporation will take place about 3-6 months after petition is turned in to the Cullman County Probate Judge. Only people within in the incorporation area can vote.

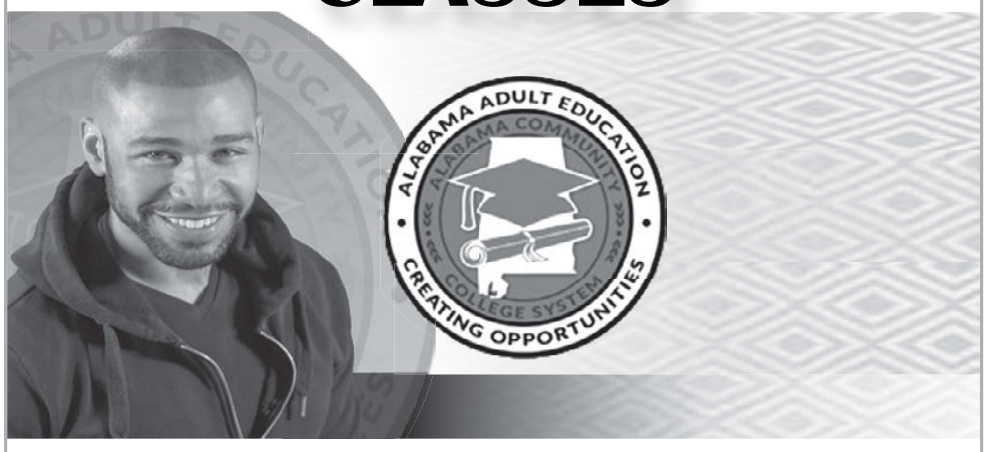
Town Census - After a successful vote for incorporation, a town census will be conducted for the purpose of determining revenue distribution.

Council Election - About 1-2 months after the census, election will be held to elect the first mayor and town council (five members) for the Town of Berlin.

For more information, visit http://berlinal.org/.

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EAST ELEMENTARY TAKES STATE ARCHERY TITLE; CULLMAN MIDDLE 4TH IN MS DIVISION; WEST POINT HIGH 4TH IN HS DIVISION

Josh McBrayer
Sports Correspondent

MONTGOMERY – The East Elementary 'Cats were at it again Thursday as they ran roughshod over their competition, claiming the elementary division title at the 2016 NASP Alabama State Championship Archery Tournament in Montgomery. EES took down the elementary division, defeating 14 other schools to capture the top prize.

The team shot exceptionally well, dropping their closest competitor by 143 points. Cullman Middle School and West Point High School took fourth place in their respective divisions.

Here's a brief breakdown of the scores.

Elementary Division- Team Scores

- 1st East Elementary, 3148
- 2nd Dixon Elementary, 3005
- 3rd Gillard Elementary, 2990
- 4th Madison County Elementary, 2989
- 5th Huntington Place Elementary, 2977

Middle School Division- Team Scores

- 1st Ashville Middle School, 3326
- 2nd Buckhorn Middle School, 3262
- 3rd Saraland Middle School, 3253
- 4th Cullman Middle School, 3204
- 5th Prattville Junior High, 3201

High School Division- Team Scores

- 1st Alma Bryant High, 3413
- 2nd Buckhorn High, 3407
- 3rd Ashville High, 3374
- 4th West Point High, 3301
- 5th Prattville High, 3296
- 6th Susan Moore High, 3290
- 7th Good Hope High, 3272
- 8th Pell City High, 3231
- 9th Arab High, 3231
- 10th Saraland High, 3226
- 11th Fairview High, 3216

Not only did EES shoot well as an entire team, they also had some single archers stand out. Here are the top elementary division results from Cullman County archers.

Individual Scores (Top 10)- Elementary Boys (out of 229 competitors)

- 4th Will Bolzle, East Elementary, 273, 2nd overall in 4th-grade division
- 10th Hayden Wynn, East Elementary, 267, 6th overall in 6th-grade division

The female archers from EES were the top two archers in their division, shooting well and on target all day.

Individual Scores (Top 10)- Elementary Girls (out of 155 competitors)

- 1st Haylie Segers, East Elementary, 277, 1st overall in 5th-grade division
- 2nd Katie Skinner, East Elementary, 272, 1st overall in 4th-grade division
- 4th Reese Fox, East Elementary, 269, 2nd overall in 4th-grade division
- 6th Ivan Medina, Fairview Elementary, 266, 3rd overall in 5th-grade division

Here are the top middle school division results from Cullman County archers.

Individual Scores (Top 10)- Middle School Boys (out of 286 competitors)

- 7th Connor Laney, Cullman Middle School, 284, 5th overall in 8th-grade division

Here are the top high school division results from Cullman County archers.

Individual Scores (Top 10)- High School Boys (out of 201 competitors)

- 4th Andrew Hudson, West Point High, 290, 3rd overall in 12th-grade division

East Elementary proved they were a force to be reckoned with and came out on top.

The Cullman Tribune would like to congratulate East Elementary and all of the Cullman area archers who participated in the NASP Alabama State Championship Archery Tournament.

For a complete breakdown of results, visit http://qrne.ws/tate.

LADY WARRIORS TASTE VICTORY FOR THE FIRST TIME

Johnny Thornton
Sports Correspondent

WEST POINT - The West Point Lady Warriors got their first taste of victory Friday night.

An offside call took a goal off the board for the Haleyville Lady Lions and West Point made the Lady Lions pay for their error two minutes later.

A goal from Mallory Campbell off an assist by Bridget Morales was delivered by the Lady Warriors. West Point finished off a 1-0 victory, its first in its inaugural season playing soccer in the Alabama High School Athletic Association.

West Point had been outshot by Haleyville for the entire game. But after the goal was disallowed by the officials, the Lady Warriors were finally able to get the ball into the Haleyville zone and make it count with the goal from Campbell.

Melissa Lee was sharp in goal all evening for the Lady Warriors. In the first 40 minutes, Lee turned away seven shots by Haleyville attackers.

Haleyville dominated the half by having the ball more in West Point's zone, with the Lady Warriors unable to get a shot on goal against the Haleyville goalkeeper.

The Lady Warriors were near the zone right before the half ended, but couldn't convert, as the 4A/5A Area 14 game was scoreless at the break.

West Point faced adversity to start the second half as Destiny Riggs went down with an ankle injury and the Lady Warriors had no one to replace her. They played the final 38 minutes short-handed.

But with the defense adjusting and Lee showing aggressive play on goal, Haleyville could only get four opportunities to score against her. In total, Lee turned away 11 Haleyville shots.

When the Haleyville score was taken off the board at the 25:00 mark, the Lady Warriors took over and advanced the ball deep into the Lady Lions' zone. They were able to get it to Campbell, with the eighth grader directing the ball by the goalie as celebration erupted on the West Point sidelines.

Still with over half of the second half to be played, the Lady Warriors held firm on the Haleyville attack.

In the last couple of minutes, West Point kept the ball near midfield, and Haleyville ran out of time to try and score a possible tying goal.

West Point broke a 0-9 start on its inaugural season, keeping Haleyville from getting its first of the year as well. The Lady Warriors got their first goal since March 8 in a game with Brewer.

Now the Lady Warriors look to continue their winning ways with an area game at home Monday against Priceville, then visit St. Bernard Prep for an encounter Tuesday with the Lady Saints.

Haleyville 2, West Point 0 (Boys

West Point yielded a goal 12 minutes into the contest and struggled to get the ball into the Haleyville zone. The Warriors had one shot by halftime.

Caleb Barnette was playing hard in goal for the Warriors. Near the halfway portion of the second half, the Lions were putting the pressure on Barnette and his defensive teammates.

The turning point came with 15:45 to go when Haleyville scored on a penalty kick after the Warriors were guilty of a hand ball off a corner kick from the Lions.

West Point was unable to overcome the miscue and allowed 14 shots on goal in the second half.

Haleyville held the Warriors to seven chances with the Warriors unable to score on a good opportunity when the game went under 2:00 remaining.

The win by Haleyville ended a six-game losing streak. West Point was coming off playing hard seven days earlier the last time they were at home, when Warriors and county rival Fairview fought to a 1-1 draw.

Now 0-8-1, coach Tyler Yearwood's Warriors deal with Priceville at home Monday and visit St. Bernard Tuesday. Yearwood is a former standout athlete at St. Bernard from several years ago.

The game with the Saints will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday following the Lady Warriors vs. the Lady Saints at 5 p.m.

COUNTY SPORTS SCHEDULE

WEEK OF APRIL 11

MONDAY

Baseball

Good Hope @ Oneonta 4:30 p.m.

Soccer

Cullman @ Brewer 5:30, 7:00 p.m.
West Point @ Priceville 5:00, 7:00 p.m.
Fairview @ Pennington 5:00, 7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Baseball

West Point @ Fairview 6:30 p.m.
Holly Pond @ Cold Springs 7:00 p.m.

Softball

Hanceville @ Cleveland 4:30 p.m.
Good Hope @ West Point 4:00 p.m.
Holly Pond @ Cold Springs TBA

Soccer

West Point @ St. Bernard 5:30, 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Baseball

Good Hope @ Holly Pond 6:00 p.m.

Softball

Good Hope vs Cold Springs 4:30 p.m.
Fairview @ Falkville 4:30 p.m.

Soccer

Cullman @ Spain Park 4:30, 6:00 p.m.

FRIDAY

Baseball

Hanceville @ Pennington 6:30 p.m.

Softball

West Point @ Cold Springs 4:00 p.m. (Good Hope City Field)
West Point @ Hanceville 6:30 p.m. (Good Hope City Field)
Vinemont @ Hanceville 4:30 p.m.

Soccer

West Point @ Westminster Christian 5:00, 7:00 p.m.

Compiled by Josh McBrayer

PREP BASKETBALL SCORING WRAP-UP

MONDAY

Baseball

Vinemont 9, Holly Pond 2
Vinemont 13, Holly Pond 3
Locust Fork 2, Good Hope 1

Softball

Hayden 5, Cullman 4
Fairview 7, Good Hope 3

TUESDAY

Baseball

Russellville 6, Cullman 3
Cullman 10, Russellville 5
Hanceville 12, Susan Moore 1
Hanceville 16, Susan Moore 2

Softball

Cullman 12, Austin 1
West Point 12, Good Hope 6
Good Hope 13, Holly Pond 2
Good Hope 4, Fairview 2
Falkville 5, Cold Springs 2
Cold Springs 12, Falkville 12

THURSDAY

Softball

Cullman 9, Corner 1
Good Hope 7, Oneonta 1

FRIDAY

Baseball

Good Hope 5, Vinemont 1
Vinemont 3, Good Hope 0

Softball

Corner 6, Good Hope 5
Northside 1, Good Hope 0

Compiled by Josh McBrayer

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2016 COUNTY TOURNAMENT!

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF MOTHER ANGELICA, PART 2

April 20, 1925 ~ March 27, 2016

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

HANCEVILLE – In Part 1 of "The Life and Times of Mother Angelica," we learned that Mother Angelica was the only child born to a poor couple and named Rita Rizzo in 1925. Her father deserted them when Rita was young and by the time she was 6 years old, her parents were divorced. Rita and her mother struggled to make ends meet and daily hardships were just the way of life.

As a teenager, Rita was plagued with stomach ailments and was later completely cured after praying to St. Teresa for the intersession.

It was a life-changing event; Rita realized how much God loved her on a personal level and gave herself to God. At the age of 21 she left home and joined a convent, telling her mother about it in a letter after the fact.

She became known as Sister Mary Angelica of the Annunciation. On January 2, 1953 she made her solemn profession of vows at Sancta Clara Monastery in Ohio.

While Sister Angelica was still in the monastery at Sancta Clara, she was inspired to create a religious community which would appeal to African Americans in the South.

She began to seek support and in 1957, Archbishop Thomas Toolen suggested that she open a Franciscan order in Birmingham. With the help of several other Poor Clare nuns Sister Angelica began working to raise the necessary funds.

The nuns made and sold "St. Peter's Fishing Lures," rosaries and charcoal sketches. After a few years of this, they changed gears and began selling roasted peanuts as a way to earn the extra cash.

In 1961 the nuns bought a building and land, and in 1962 the order was officially established.

It was named Our Lady of the Angels Monastery and located in Irondale, Alabama.

Many years later it would move a little northward and become a part of what we know today as the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Hanceville.

In 1962, Mother Angelica began a series of community discussion meetings on matters relevant to Catholicism. Before long she began recording her talks and selling them – they were a hit. Bishop Joseph Vath, the Bishop of the Birmingham Diocese at the time, noticed her talent for communicating with the lay public and encouraged her to continue, so she began taping a radio show that broadcasted on Sunday mornings.

In August 1972, Mother Angelica published her first book, "Journey into Prayer," and by the end of that same year, she had published three more books, "In the Shadow of His Light," "In His Sandals" and "The Father's Splendor."

For some reason, in October 1975, Mother's publisher refused to publish her latest book, "To Leave and Yet to Stay," so she and the nuns had a choice to make: abandon the book ministry or do the printing themselves. Always up for the challenge, Mother purchased a printing press, a cutter and a stapler and the nuns began producing their own mini-books.

"God does awesome things with us." - Mother Angelica

In the late 1970s she began videotaping her talks for television, and these talks were broadcast on the satellite Christian Broadcasting Network.

After visiting a Chicago television studio and seeing how many people could be reached by the cameras with just a few people operating out of a tiny television studio, she walked out and famously exclaimed, "Lord, I gotta have one of these!"

On January 27, 1981, after receiving an FCC license, she formed the nonprofit EWTN Corporation which became the first Catholic satellite television station in the United States. Her early shows were recorded in a converted garage on the monastery's property. According to EWTN, the network's channels currently reach 264 million households globally!

On December 28, 1992, Mother Angelica launched a short wave radio channel, WEWN (Eternal Word Network), which is broadcast by 215 stations. It is the world's largest privately-owned shortwave radio facility with a potential worldwide listening audience of 600 million.

"Faith is what gets you started. Hope is what keeps you going. Love is what brings you to the end." – Mother Angelica

In 1999, Mother Angelica visited Colombia, where she claimed to have a vision which told her to build a temple in honor of the Child Jesus.



SHRINE OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

Private donors contributed $48.6 million and she opened the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Hanceville later the same year, which is a story in itself.

Mother Angelica was a world changer; she made it a better place. She was able to do the extraordinary things she did because of her utter love and trust in God.

Yes, her faith was tested over the years and she endured many hardships in life, especially where her health was concerned.

But she was able to bring God's message of Love to people all over the world.

"You want to do something for the Lord ... do it. Whatever you feel needs to be done, even though you're shaking in your boots, you're scared to death – take the first step forward. The grace comes with that one step and you get the grace as you step. Being afraid is not a problem; it's doing nothing when you're afraid." – Mother Angelica

Hanceville, Alabama became home to this remarkable woman, a future saint, many people are saying. How did Mother Angelica affect us here in Cullman County?

Be sure to watch next week's edition of the Cullman Tribune for Part 3 of, "The Life and Times of Mother Angelica."

BUSY BEE CAFÉ ANNUAL REOPENING CELEBRATION APRIL 30

Will Hogue
will@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN - On Saturday, April 30, starting at 6 p.m., the Busy Bee Café will hold what has become an annual celebration of its reopening back in 2012 after being destroyed by the tornadoes of April 2011.

For the fourth annual event, the local dive will start the evening off with a burger-eating contest.

"We celebrate the reopening every year," said owner Kyle Spears.

"We usually have a food or a drink special. This year we're having the burger-eating contest and live music."

To register for the burger-eating contest, with prizes yet to be announced, just visit the restaurant. The final day to register is Friday, April 29.

The Busy Bee Café was demolished in 2011 after suffering damage that made the Cullman classic unrepairable.

Since the café was originally opened back in 1919, Spears says that the centennial celebration is on the horizon.

"We have some idea of what we want to do," he said. "Nothing truly planned yet."

After the burger-eating contest at 6 p.m. on Saturday night, the café will play host to live music from Huntsville-based blues outfit Tres Locos, who are scheduled to start up around 7 p.m.

When asked why have an annual celebration instead of an intervallic celebration each five years or so, Spears said, "We do a celebration every year, well, because we want to."

For those interested in chowing on the burgers, here are the rules and additional info from the Busy Bee:

- $15 entry fee - Reservations are required to enter and you must pay up front in cash before the contest.
- 16-person max
- 1-hour time limit to eat
- $100 cash prize to first place winner
- All burgers are the same- a plain hamburger.
- Winner must beat the current record of 11 burgers held by Brandon Cogle.
- Contest winner will get their picture taken and put up on the wall.
- If you vomit, pass out or leave the dining room for any reason, you will be disqualified.
- If you back out, you will not receive a refund.
- If less than 10 people enter we will call off the eating contest and all people who registered will receive a refund.

The Busy Bee Café is located at 101 Fifth St. SE in Cullman. Find them on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/Busy-Bee-Cafe-150398638310245/.

cullman city parks & recreation cp&r

WHAT'S ON DECK AT PARKS AND REC....

www.cullmanrecreation.org
256-734-9157

- **CP&R's Free Art in the Park:** Saturday, April 9 at Heritage Park from 10am-2pm. The event will feature free crafts for all kids to make, an art display of local artwork, dozens of craft vendors selling handmade craft items, and a sidewalk chalk contest at 11am. The sidewalk chalk contest is free to enter and winner receives a free 6 month membership to the Wellness & Aquatic Center.
- **Community Yard Sale & Craft Fair:** Heritage Park will be hosting a community wide craft fair and yard sale in conjunction with Art in the Park on Saturday, April 9 from 7am-2pm. The yard sale and craft show is taking vendors now; spaces are $10 and can be booked by calling 256-739-9931.
- **Youth Outdoor Adventure Program:** Program will meet Saturdays at 9am starting April 9 for a 6 week session of hiking, kayaking, archery, rock climbing, & wilderness survival. Boys & girls ages 7-14 can register online or at the Civic Center
- **Beginner Kayaking Class:** Will be offered at the indoor pool at the Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center on April 9, 16, and 23 at noon. Kayaks and gear will be provided, and participants will be taken on a trip at the conclusion of the class down a class I-III whitewater river. Register now at the Civic Center or online at cullmanrecreation.org.
- **2016 Strawberry Fest:** Mark your calendars for May 6 & 7 for the 2016 Strawberry Fest. Festival will kick off Friday, May 6 from 9am-2pm with Senior Day with BINGO, free lunch, and bluegrass bands. Friday from 4-10pm will feature bands, a kids zone, and strawberries for sale, and Saturday, May 7 will feature a car show, a huge craft show, kid's zone, and live bands from 8am-10pm. Don't miss out on this FREE event!
- **Flag Football Registration:** CP&R is offering a safer alternative to learning and enjoying the sport of football. Registration is open now at the Civic Center or online for ages 5-14; practices start in August and games start in September.
- **Festhalle Farmer's Market Opening April 16:** CP&R's farmer's market will open Saturday, April 16 from 7am-2pm. Normal market hours will be Tuesday, Thursday, & Saturday from 7am-2pm.
- **Big Announcement Coming to Cullman Golf Course**: Stay tuned in April for a HUGE announcement coming to Cullman Golf Course!

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
April 11, 2016

COLOR ME CULLMAN TAKES OVER SPORTSMAN LAKE PARK SATURDAY

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – On Saturday, April 9, Sportsman Lake hosted the Color Me Cullman 5K. Although the weather was a little chilly, lots of people came out to get some exercise with their friends and blasted with bright, beautiful colors.

Runners and walkers traipsed along the path that took them all through the park, around the lake and playground area. At certain places in the park, pipes blew colored power all over the participants. After the run people had a blast playing in the extra colored power. There were people of all ages.

"Well I am excited that God has given me the ability to be doing my first 5K EVER," said Stephanie Usher.

"I am 50 pounds lighter than I was at Christmas. It's been 15 weeks and I am not turning back! I am excited to show my son Lane what a life of healthy lifestyle is about. He will be doing this with me. I thought it would be a great event to do together. I am ecstatic to be doing my first one! I am hoping that if I have to walk all these 5Ks, 10Ks, whatever, that Lane gets something out of doing it with me."

Winners- Male

- 1st place: Chris McCollum, 24:01
- 2nd place: Colton Aaron, 27:59
- 3rd place: Zack Myers, 28:52

Winners- Female

The top two female racers were mother and daughter.

- 1st place: Megan Haynes, 29:02
- 2nd place: Melanie Haynes, 31:40

"Thanks to everyone who came out to our 5K run this morning at Sportsman Lake Park," said Doug Davenport, director of Cullman County Parks and Recreation. "Thanks to Cullman Today and CullmanSense for covering the event, and it wouldn't have happened if not for all the great volunteers and staff pulling together. A big thanks to you all."



People young and old came out to Sportsman Lake Saturday morning for the Color Me Cullman 5K. SHARON SCHULER KREPS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Color Me Cullman 5K was a colorful way to promote health and happiness. The event was for people of all different speeds, ages, shapes and sizes. To see photos, visit http://qrne.ws/color.

Cullman County Parks and Recreation is offering another 5K event next month. The Stony Lonesome 5K Mud Run is on May 14 at Stony Lonesome OHV Park. For more information, visit https://www.facebook.com/events/571329169691850/.

Runoff (from Front)

Wendy Sack
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Amy Leonard
amy@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – This Tuesday, April 12, Cullman voters will go to the polls to elect the next Cullman County Commission Chairman. Incumbent Kenneth Walker and his challenger, Darrell Hicks, fended off Eric L. Parker in the March 1 primary, but neither had a big enough percentage to claim victory. The runoff on Tuesday will determine the winner, as there will be no Democratic candidate on the ticket in November's general election.

CullmanSense took to Facebook to see what our readers had to say about Walker and Hicks. Here's what we found out.

Of the 20 people who were willing to publicly state whom they prefer, six said they are voting for Hicks, 12 for Walker and two liked neither of the candidates.

"Tell me which one will put their hand on the Bible and will swear to resign if they don't come out and pave County Road 34. The last three road commissioners responsible for the west side have lied to me over the last 18+ years since it was originally paved. All we have are patched holes ever since," said one particularly disgruntled community member.

"Walker!" exclaimed another reader.

"I'm voting Darrell Hicks. He is honest, fair, experienced and proven. I know him very well and he is the person for our county," said another.

In the weeks leading up to Tuesday's runoff, our reporter Amy Leonard sat down with both men.

Hicks, who previously held the position of Cullman County Commissioner, Place 1, has based his campaign on three basic platforms: county roads, senior centers and the completion of a public gun range in Bremen.

"I want the (Highway) 157 overpass to get done," Hicks told Leonard.

"I went with the mayor of Cullman and met with ALDOT when I was on the commission. We asked what the delay was on the bridges and they said the railroads required more insurance than the state is allowed to pay. We asked how much money, and he said $3,000. I told the mayor that the county had $1,500 if the city had $1,500. We sent that $3,000 check and nothing has been done on the work. But, I don't know if there's been a concerted effort to put pressure on ALDOT to complete the project. To me, the bridges are there and the utilities have already been moved. The county, the city and our legislative delegation need to be on the same page. What's the response time at certain times of the day to the hospital now with the traffic?

"I think we need more money put into our farm-to-market roads and secondary roads. I'm in favor of this gasoline tax if they can divert a big portion of that to farm-to-market roads and not send it to ALDOT. The legislators tell me they're for the tax, too, so maybe they'll fight for it. We have the second most secondary roads in the state of Alabama, but we're 15th in funding because the funding is based on population and not the miles of road. Morgan County gets about $8,000 a mile to maintain their roads and Cullman County gets only about $2,000 per mile. It's kind of an unfair formula."

Hicks sees a need for renovations in many of the county's senior and community centers, especially in the smaller communities, to make them a source of local pride for the citizens.

"We've got a lot of old community centers out in the county that need repair. Instead of being an eyesore they need to be something the community is proud of. I feel more of an obligation to help these unincorporated areas that have community centers that don't have a tax base to support these centers. Places like Simcoe, Brushy Pond, Walter and Crane Hill. The community needs something more than just a place for the seniors to meet. I helped build the Cold Springs community center while I was in office and they rent that place out for family reunions, wedding receptions and other events. The community needed that building space and that center really adds to the community."

In addition to roads and senior centers, Hicks wants to move forward and complete the public gun range in Bremen.

"Gun sales are at an all-time high. I have a farm so I can take my grandson down in the pasture and I can teach him gun safety and we can shoot, but how many people have a house on a lot and nowhere to shoot? Where are they going to shoot? There was a shooting range started down at Bremen, and after we went out of office, it's just been sitting there. We got most of the work done. Sheds are up. Tables are up. Restrooms. Berms are built. A place for rifles. Sidewalks poured for handicap accessibility. The gravel is even there for the parking lot. They put up a sign that says 'closed to the public' since then and that's it. The only thing that has been done is the sign put up telling people to keep out when all it needs is a septic tank.

"It just wasn't the present administration's idea so it's sat there," Hicks continued.

"They've come up with several excuses saying it's at the old county dump. But, where this thing is built there was never any garbage put there. The man that was there when the first dirt was pushed said it was just strip-mined land and they build houses on strip mines now. I want to see that finally finished."

Walker told Leonard that his goals for his next term, if re-elected, are simple: "To keep the county running as smooth as it's running and to make it as safe as it can be and looking for funding for roads and looking to improve our roadways. Short and sweet."

Citing a need for new leadership as the reason he chose to run during his initial campaign, Walker says he wasn't surprised by the demands of the position. "You know, we got employee troubles and road problems, but we're always going to have road problems. Yeah, it's about what I was expecting."

Walker's goals mirror the projects initiated by the current commission, which are "resurfacing County Roads 747 and 703."

Roads are a big concern to county residents, and the Alabama Highway 157 "bridge to nowhere" still stands as an eyesore and reminder of unfinished work. Additionally, as the preferred path to Cullman Regional Medical Center, patient care is potentially compromised due to traffic issues on the two-lane bridge.

"The state, ALDOT, had that project in the 2016 bid lettings and they backed it up until being bid in 2018 or 2019. It doesn't matter if it's in the city or county. That's a state road. The city can't do nothing. We're waiting on ALDOT. They're looking at 2018."

When asked if the 6-cent gas tax increase, which was approved by an Alabama House of Representatives committee on March 17, would help the funding of those projects, Walker responded, "I'm sure it would. I try to stick to county business and try to stay out of that."

Sonny Brasfield, Association of County Commissions of Alabama executive director, has come out in strong support of the bill, as has ALDOT, noting the thousand-plus bridges that school buses cannot cross every morning throughout Alabama counties, including Cullman.

With a $1 million-dollar sales tax surplus from last year, the county looks to pave even more roads this year. "I think this year we're going to pave about 40 miles of road instead of the usual 20. I hope sales tax stays about like it is right now. If it continues to stay stable, we'll have an extra million to put in the road budget every year.

"I'm proud to come in and finally get a 90-day reserve," Walker continued. "Before I took office we didn't have but a 45- or 60-day reserve. Now, we've got a 90-day reserve."

Both candidates have three things in common: They love Cullman County, they want to do what's best for Cullman County residents and they've both been working tirelessly over the course of this campaign.

For more information:

Read: http://cullmansense.com/articles/2016/03/28/cup-coffee-darrell-hicks

Read: http://www.cullmansense.com/articles/2016/04/06/chat-kenneth-walker

View April 12 Sample Ballot: http://www.cullmancourts.org/assets/probatecourt/PDFs/sampleBallot.PDF.

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HOPPER'S FAMILY MARKET AND PHARMACY HOSTS "SWEEP" TO HELP AREA CHILDREN

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

FAIRVIEW – On Wednesday, April 6, Cullman Caring for Kids joined forces with Cullman Savings Bank and Hopper's Family Market and Pharmacy in Fairview to help feed the hungry children of Cullman County.

"Running to Feed the Children" was a huge success as members of Cullman Caring for Kids ran through the grocery store, filling a total of five grocery buggies to the max, in just a matter of minutes, with much needed food to add to their food bank.

"Today we collaborated with the community, Cullman Savings Bank and Hopper's Family Grocery Store at Fairview, who is celebrating their fifth anniversary this Saturday," said Nancy Bryant, assistant director, Cullman Caring for Kids, still out of breath from the run.

"April is Child Abuse Awareness Month, and we know that part of stopping child abuse is feeding hungry people, feeding the children, so Hopper's is giving us food and Cullman Savings Bank just paid for all those buggies full of food plus donated a check for $1,000! We are so excited about that.

"Today we were able to fill five buggies full of food; one of them was just peanut butter," she smiled.

"We just thank them so much. This was fun! We even had two of our board members here helping us push the buggies and filling them up."

After the groceries were gathered, pictures were taken and everyone caught their breath, there was a small reception for everyone. Cake and cupcakes, which had blue ribbons made of icing, were served.

Blue ribbons are used as a part of Child Abuse Awareness Month to represent the bruises on abused children.

John Riley, president and CEO of Cullman Savings Bank, was there for the fun. The bank played a key role in the day's events.

"Part of our marketing plan is to do things with different customers and bring awareness to the different things that are going on in the community," said Riley.

"Cullman Caring for Kids, who is a customer of ours, was having their Child Abuse Awareness Month. We put the two together to have some fun, raise some money and got them some food."

The day was filled with fun and laughter and resulted in lots of food for the Cullman Caring for Kids Food Bank.

Many thanks to Hopper's Family Market and Pharmacy, Cullman Savings Bank and all who participated in Wednesday's "Running to Feed the Children" food sweep.

The children of Cullman County are truly blessed to have people like them to help in times of need.

Those wishing for more information or to make a donation to the Cullman Caring for Kids United Way Food Bank should call 256-739-1111. Visit them on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/CullmanCaringForKids/.



SHARON SCHULER KREPS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Members of Cullman Caring for Kids, Cullman Savings Bank and Hopper's Family Market and Pharmacy pose in front of all the food that was gathered at Wednesday's grocery sweep in Fairview.

2016 ST. BERNARD PREP GRADUATES



ST. BERNARD

1st Row: Song Xue, Anna Gongre, Wren Thornton, Isabel Smith, Greer Cauthen, Torey Badar, Meg Borths, Madison McMahon, Kham Nguyen; 2nd Row: Ann Huynh. Zana Wilson, Alli Messick, Abigail Bennett, Tatum Fisk, Xin Yu Zeng, Minhee Seo, Gavin Harris; 3rd Row: Dean Smith, Ramonah Gibson, Jillian Ivey, Aaron Crawford, Hyoseok Lim, Will Sciaroni, Tania Martinez; 4th Row: Kaegan Meagher, Zachary Smith, Thomas Bolin, Sophia Rataj, Theresa Gamble, Mary Grace Vinson, Dani Moeller, Steven Mami, Yuhang Wu; 5th Row: Jacob Lewis, David Schartung, Jacob Grey, Hayden Harris, Samuel George, Evan Aldridge, Chris Woods, Christian Rankin, Nate Giffin, Chuhui Qiu

PHARMACY TOPICS *by Eddy Hoenig*

Hospital Discount West



Front row, Left to right: Anita Antaillia, Karen Metz, RN, Kathryne Striker and Sue Miller. Back row: Sonja Duke and Eddy Hoenig, Rph.

For the first time, chondroitin sulfate has been more successful than celecoxib in reducing the long-term progression of knee osteoarthritis (OA), according to new research findings presented at the American College of Rheumatology Annual Meeting in San Francisco. Osteoarthritis is a slowly progressive disease in which joint cartilage breaks down. Normally, cartilage on the ends of bones allows smooth, pain-free joint movements. In OA, cartilage becomes thin and irregular, resulting in symptoms of joint pain and stiffness. Grinding or cracking sensations may occur. Joints that are under high stress due to repeated activity or weight bearing are most susceptible to OA. The hips, knees, hands and spine are commonly affected. OA becomes more common with aging.

***

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved Zurampic (lesinurad) to treat high levels of uric acid in the blood (hyperuricemia) associated with gout, when used in combination with a xanthine oxidase inhibitor (XOI), a type of drug approved to redue the production of uric acid in the body and usually appears first as redness, soreness and swelling in the big toe. Uric acid in the blood is produced by the breakdown of substances called purines, which are found in all the body's tissues. Uric acid usually dissolves in the blood then passes through the kidneys and out of the body in urine. Uric acid can build up in the blood, a condition called hyperuricemia. This occurs when the body increases the amount of uric acid it makes, the kidneys do not get rid of enough uric acid, or a person eats too many foods high in purines. Most people with hyperuricemia do not develop gout, but if uric acid forms crystals in the body, gout can develop.

***

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
April 11, 2016

CP&R HOSTS ART IN THE PARK

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Although turnout was less than anticipated due, in part, to the colder temperatures and high winds, many artists, big and small, joined together at Heritage Park on Saturday for Cullman City Parks and Recreation's annual Art in the Park craft show and celebration.

Original artwork was on display along the walkway highlighting the talented young artists at work in our community.

Cash prizes were awarded to the winning art pieces which, sadly, were not available for purchase.

Many of the young citizens that were present took place in the sidewalk chalk drawing contest featuring various themes and ideas.

Benefiting CP&R's afterschool arts program, the yearly art show is in its second year. The "Kids Create" art class emphasizes recycled art, crafts and various other mediums and is available for children ages 6-12 on Tuesdays at the Cullman Civic Center.

Young artists in the area also have a summertime art camp available in June through CP&R where they will produce projects daily. The weeklong camp will also meet at Cullman Civic Center and is open to children ages 6-14.

For more information on the many programs and events available through CP&R, visit www.cullmanrecreation.org or call 256-734-9157.







Art in the Park took place on Saturday at Heritage Park.

PHOTOS BY AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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NEXT TO
FUN ZONE

Crumpton (from Front)

"been in Montgomery for 97 percent of the legislation days over that time." His time has been spent working on raising the minimum wage, employee rights, medical marijuana, women's rights and other key Democratic issues.

Calling for a $90 billion investment in education over the next 10 years, Crumpton reflected, "There was a time in this country when we were the smartest people in the world. We were the first country to require our kids to go to school and we did that during a time when most countries didn't allow the average child to go to school. We were the innovators."

Crumpton outlined his "9-Point Plan for the Economy," which includes breaking up big banks, investing in education and infrastructure and addressing job outsourcing- he noted he would not support the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) or any trade deals that would send American jobs overseas.

"We need to address the way we pay Americans. Currently, business profits are the highest they've been in the last 88 years, and yet workers' pay is the lowest it's been in the past 66 years. One of the biggest reasons for that is over the past three decades the minimum wage has failed to meet inflation. My plan would be to raise the minimum wage to $15 an hour.

"If Mom is working in a job that pays a man $500 a week, she is making $390. That's $440 a month difference, and for most families, that's rent, a car payment, insurance or even a month's worth of groceries. We currently live in a state where 45 percent of single parents are living in poverty. We have over 380,000 children who receive food stamps and we're 49th in education."

With Shelby not sponsoring or supporting any education bills, Crumpton said, "Unfortunately, my opponent hasn't done anything to address any of these issues. Richard Shelby sponsors the fewest number of bills of any senator in Washington, D.C. If you look it up, it will say that he's 97th, but there's a four-way time for last place. He has about six bills. One of his bills is great. It deals with child exploitation. All of the other legislation he has is doing one thing and that's making rich people richer and poor people poorer."

Crumpton also voiced strong criticism of Shelby's support of veterans and seniors.

"Shelby has voted against every piece of legislation over the past six years that deals with helping provide jobs to former soldiers or helps to improve the lives of our wounded warriors. Every single bill, he has voted against.

"Shelby's plans will kill people in this state, seniors in particular. He's got a bill that would start a flat tax in this country. A lot of retirees with retirement accounts could actually be forced to pay taxes on the value of their Medicare under his plan."

Crumpton is hopeful for a victory in November, but said that a loss won't stop him from continuing to try to make a difference in Alabama, going so far as to talk of a bid for the governorship in 2018.

The Cullman County Democrats meet at 8 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month at the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce.

For more information on Ron Crumpton and his campaign, visit www.crumptonforalabama.com.

Elect
DARRELL HICKS
CHAIRMAN CULLMAN COUNTY COMMISSION

I am asking for your vote and support on April 12 for new leadership as your chairman of the Cullman county commission.



DARRELL HICKS
YOUR REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE

DARRELL HICKS
Vote Darrell Hicks - Working For Cullman County
Pd. Pol. Adv. by Darrell Hicks, 3853 County Road 781, Cullman, AL 35055

Estate Auction!
Saturday, April 23rd, 10:00 AM
College Drive, Cullman County, Hanceville, AL

5 Acres +/- as a Whole!
Prime 5 Acres +/- in Hanceville with Good Community Growth!!!
Great commercial investment for developing with high traffic and great visibility. Nice level property. Utilities available. Perfect for retail development. Surrounded by businesses, apartments and residential housing. Located near Wallace State College. Wallace State is a growing institution with over 8,000 students and a large staff and faculty. Easy access to Cullman and Birmingham.

Directions: From I-65S travel approx. 46.3 miles. Take the exit towards County Road 222 (Good Hope Exit) travel 0.2 miles. Take 24th Street SW and US-31S to College Drive NE in Hanceville, travel 0.8 miles. Turn left onto Cherokee Ave SW travel 0.2 miles. Turn right onto 24th St SW travel 2.1 miles. Turn right onto US-31S travel 5.0 miles. Turn left onto College Drive NE travel 0.2 miles. The property and sale site will be on the left. From Decatur, AL, follow US-Hwy. 31S. **Watch for our Holland signs!**

Terms & Conditions: Real Estate: A non-refundable deposit of 15% will be required the day of the sale with closing within 30 days. The seller will furnish a **deed** and a **preliminary title search.** **NO BUYER'S PREMIUM!!!** All other expenses, including closing costs will be charged to the purchaser(s). The real estate is being sold "as is" with no warranties expressed or implied. Information contained herein believed to be correct but not guaranteed. Announcements made the day of sale by Holland Realty and Auctions, Inc. supersede any printed material. **Agency Disclosure:** Auctioneers are acting as agents for the seller only.



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NEWS FROM THE POND

Jimmie Dean Carnell
Contributor

HOLLY POND – Good morning Tribune readers and families. We have had a beautiful spring week, weather-wise. There have been all kinds of weather, which is normal for our state and this time of year as winter turns into summer. News is on the short order for this week. First of all, all of the area Civitan clubs are beginning their annual sale of Vidalia onions. As they all know, orders are to be turned in as soon as possible as the onions will come around the first part of the month of May. If you would like to purchase some Vidalia onions, and are not contacted, you may call me or any member of the Holly Pond, or Hanceville, Civitan clubs to place an order. They are $10 per 10-pound bag. They are a good staple to use in your cooking.

Congratulations to Tim and Janet Easterwood on the birth of their second granddaughter. She was named Stella and was born last week. Proud great-grandparents are Felton and Polly Easterwood.

Speaking of Mr. Felton Easterwood, coming up the last part of this month will be the annual Cullman County Sports Hall of Fame at the Cullman Civic Center. The Holly Pond representative is the former Coach Billy Wayne Oliver. I hope to spotlight Coach Oliver in one of the columns at a later date.

The Dripping Springs Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution met last Sunday, April 3 in the Bob Sapp room of First United Methodist Church in Cullman. Regent Brenda H. Scott presided. Our guest speaker was Mrs. Jeaneal Shannon, who is the former Alabama DAR state chaplain from Birmingham. Shannon was an excellent speaker with the main emphasis being on the topic, "Faith of our Fathers." Our hostesses for this meeting had a large cake made in the shape of an open Bible with this topic put on it. It was a true work of art. The next meeting will be at St. John's Church, as a luncheon, with the program being the installation of new officers, awards for member contributions and DAR Good Citizen Awards. A state officer will be our guest to install new officers.

Until next week, be safe and be careful, driving, walking too.



CONTRIBUTED

Mrs. Jeaneal Shannon, at left, is shown with Brenda H. Scott, regent of the Dripping Springs Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Shannon, former DAR state chaplain from Birmingham, presented our April 3 program "Faith of our Fathers."

Abuse (from Front)

entire county is just under 20,000.

By those numbers, five percent of children in Cullman are victims of reported abuse. Five percent of the children in our community. That's just the reported cases.

What about the unreported cases of child abuse and neglect that occur every day right under our noses?

"Child abuse is one of the hardest things to know about. You can see the bruises a lot of times on a child, but the perpetrator wants to keep things a secret. They want to make sure that nobody knows what's happening, so they'll either threaten the child, threaten to harm someone the child loves and even a child's pet can be used as leverage to keep the secret," shared Javon Daniel, executive director of Cullman Caring for Kids.

April of each year is recognized as Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month throughout the country. Locally, the month is commemorated with many events and media spotlights to help spread awareness and honor the lives of children lost to abuse and neglect.

Cullman Caring for Kids, with their dream and mission of "no child will ever be abused, no child will go to bed hungry, no infants will ever be shaken in anger and the cycle of abuse will be stopped" strives each day to provide support for children and families to prevent abuse and education for citizens to recognize abuse and neglect when it's happening to the little ones in our lives.

Cullman Caring for Kids defines physical abuse as any non-accidental physical injury or pattern of injuries inflicted or caused by an adult, parent, guardian, or any other person. Physical abuse can include striking, kicking, burning or biting the child, or any action that results in a physical impairment of the child. Indicators of physical abuse include, but are not limited to, bruises and welts, fractures, burns and scalds, abdominal injuries, head or brain injuries, lacerations and abrasions, bite marks, multiple injuries (old and new), history of injuries and any injuries to very young baby. While some of these injuries can occur by accident, child abuse should be suspected if the explanations do not fit the injuries. A child who is consistently withdrawn or overly aggressive, who complains of soreness, wears inappropriate clothing for the weather or who is a chronic runaway may be a victim of abuse.

"(Physical) abuse is any time a child is hurt to the point that they have a lot of bruises, need medical attention, have burns, spiral fractures of the arms where a child has been grabbed and the arm twisted, using an instrument that can cut the skin or leave bruising like belt buckles, cords or clothes hangers. That is the physical abuse of a child," said Daniel.

The legal definition for the sexual molestation of a child is an act of a person (adult or any person who is older than the child) which forces, coerces or threatens a child to have any form of sexual contact or to engage in any type of sexual activity. Sexual abuse includes both touching and non-touching offenses such as provocative language or behavior. In its most extreme forms, it includes sexual intercourse and its deviations.

Sexual abuse also includes indecent exposure, exposure to pornographic material and masturbating in front of a child. Physical offenses include fondling, making a child touch an adult's sexual organs or any penetration of a child's vagina or anus by any object that does not have a valid medical purpose. The sexual exploitation of a child for the purposes of prostitution or use in pornography is also a criminal offense.

"Sexual abuse is any touching of a child when the adult is trying to be aroused or to arouse the child."

Emotional abuse is commonly defined as a pattern of behavior that can seriously interfere with a child's positive emotional development. It is the systematic tearing down of a child.

These harmful behaviors can include constant rejection or terrorizing of a child, refusal to provide basic nurturing, refusal to get help for a child's psychological problems, failure to provide the physical or mental stimulation that a child needs to grow and exposure to domestic violence, drug abuse or criminal activity. Children who are constantly shamed, terrorized, humiliated or rejected suffer as much as children who are physically abused.

"Emotional abuse is when a child is put down. 'I didn't really want you. You're no good.' Those kinds of horrible, horrible words," said Daniel. "Physical wounds will heal. Emotional abuse leaves scars that will never heal. You can't tell a child that they're worthless all of their life and expect them instantly to accept that they're worthwhile, special and awesome, which they all are."

Neglect is defined as a failure to provide necessary food, shelter, medical care, supervision, or education to a child under the age of 18. Neglect also includes an absence of love, security and stimulation that is necessary for positive parent-child relationships to develop. Neglect can be physical, emotional/psychological, educational or medical.

Long-term effects of abuse include diminished mental health including lifelong battles with depression, anxiety disorders, struggles with substance abuse and increased rates of suicide. Over 75 percent of adults who report experiencing physical abuse as children have battled a mental illness in their life.

That's in the cases when the child lives to see adulthood. Not all victims are that fortunate. The yearly average of child abuse deaths in the United States is well over 1,500, meaning that five children a day die as a result of child abuse or neglect in this country. 13 of those deaths happened in Alabama last year.

All we know of the Alabama children who died last year from child abuse and neglect are their names.

Samantha. Joseph. Caley. Tyleah. Isabella. Timothy. Bennett. Jamarion. Michael. Alania. Jadarrius. Lia. Aaliyah.

"It's never a child's fault. There is nothing, absolutely nothing that a child can do to deserve to be abused in any way. If abuse is happening to a child, it is because of the adult, not because of something the child has done. The child is never to blame."

If we take a moment to reflect on a time when we, ourselves, were expecting a child, anticipating the birth of a little one in our family or the arrival of a new godchild, we can recall the excitement when the baby's name was decided. A name for a new, miraculous life is shared with joy and, in the South, the monogramming and embroidery begin! Our names mean so much.

All we know is their names and that they died as the direct result of abuse and neglect.

Samantha. Joseph. Caley. Tyleah. Isabella. Timothy. Bennett. Jamarion. Michael. Alania. Jadarrius. Lia. Aaliyah.

I wonder what they dreamed of being when they were grown? Did Alania know every word on the "Frozen" soundtrack? What was Joseph's favorite food? Did Isabella play T-ball like the kids at the park by my house?

Questions roar in my head as I read their names. How did no one know these kids were being hurt? Why didn't someone do something? Surely someone saw bruises. Could someone have made a phone call that could have saved one of their lives or all of their lives?

If you see something, say something. Call 9-1-1. Call the Department of Human Resources at 256-737-5300. Call Cullman Caring for Kids at 256-739-1111. Say something.

The thirteen children whose names we know will be honored on Wednesday, April 13 from noon-1 p.m. with a prayer walk and balloon release. The walk will begin at the Cullman County Courthouse and will end at the top of the parking deck at Cullman Savings Bank where balloons will be let go and prayers will be lifted.

The Safe Kids Expo will be held on April 16 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Sportsman Lake Park. Hosted by Brooks' Place, Cullman's Child Advocacy Center, the event will provide invaluable information and tools to keep your child safe and protected. Lots of fun and activities will be available for the kids.

We are grateful for the events of Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month and their effectiveness in bringing to light the staggering reality of abuse and neglect. The more we know, the more effective we can be at protecting the children in our community.

But, child abuse does not begin and end each April. Children are abused every minute of every day of the year and we, the staff at CullmanSense and The Cullman Tribune, are committed to working hand-in-hand with local advocacy agencies on behalf of the victims of these horrendous crimes.

It's the least we can do.



PB ADT BK 43 PG 750 - 04/04/2016 08:27 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY

STATE OF ALABAMA
CULLMAN COUNTY

CASE NO.: AD2016-013

IN THE MATTER OF:
SHANIA RENE KRAFT,
A minor child.

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: AMANDA NATASHIA KRAFT AND THE UNKNOWN FATHER WHOSE WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN

A PETITION FOR ADOPTION WAS FILED IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA BY PAMELA KAY BASINGER. IF YOU SHOULD CONTEST THIS ADOPTION, YOU MUST FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE LAST NOTICE OF PUBLICATION. YOUR RESPONSE MUST BE FILED WITH COUNSEL FOR SAID PETITIONER, WHOSE NAME AND ADDRESS ARE SHOWN BELOW, AND WITH THE CLERK OF THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA, POST OFFICE BOX 970, CULLMAN, ALABAMA 35056.

DONE THIS 4th DAY OF April, 2016.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

ANNETTE IRONS-PARKER
Attorney for Petitioner
PARKER AND PARKER, P.C.
215 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055
(256)775-4444

****

TO the Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

PLEASE PUBLISH THE ABOVE NOTICE IN SAID PUBLICATION FOR FOUR SUCCESSIVE WEEKS AND SEND PROOF TO JUDGE OF PROBATE OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

PB WIL BK 75 PG 904 - 04/06/2016 10:23 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF)
JANICE JOHNSON, Deceased,) CASE NO. PC8016-088

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to **ALLEN DOUGLAS JOHNSON**, Personal Representative on the estate of **JANICE JOHNSON** on the 5th day of April, 2016 by the **Honorable TAMMY BROWN**, Judge of Probate Court of Cullman County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by the law or the same will be barred.

Gregory A. Johnson
Attorney for Petitioner
100 4th Avenue N.E.
Cullman, AL 35055
(256) 739-0006

TO: Publisher of **The Cullman Tribune**

Please publish the above notice three (3) successive weeks in said newspaper.

Tammy Brown
HONORABLE TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF CASE NO: AD-2015-044

THE ADOPTION OF DAVID LANE ARRINGTON,
A MINOR CHILD.

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: KIMBERLY DEAN WHOSE WHEREABOUTS IS UNKNOWN AND ANTHONY RYAN ARRINGTON WHOSE WHEREABOUTS IS UNKNOWN OR ANY KNOWN, UNKNOWN, OR UNDISCLOSED PERSONS, WHO MIGHT BE THE BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF THE ABOVE NAMED MINOR CHILD.

A PETITION FOR ADOPTION WAS FILED IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA BY JANA WALDROP AND MICKEY WALDROP. IF YOU SHOULD CONTEST THIS ADOPTION, YOU MUST FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF YOUR RECEIPT OF THIS NOTICE. THE RESPONSE MUST BE FILED WITH COUNSEL FOR SAID PETITIONERS, WHOSE NAME AND ADDRESS ARE SHOWN BELOW, AND WITH THE CLERK OF THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA, POST OFFICE BOX 970, CULLMAN, ALABAMA 35056.

DONE THIS 15th DAY OF March, 2016.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABMA

NATHAN A. BROCK
Attorney for Petitioners
223 2nd Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055
(256) 841-4331

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE:)
AUBURN BARBEE,) CASE NO. JU 2014-622.03
A Minor Child, 08/22/2013)

NOTICE

The Petitioner having made a Motion for Service by Publication in the above styled action, it is

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Father of Auburn Barbee born on or about 08/22/2013 to Terri Corinna Barnett, respond to the Petition by the 28th day of April, 2016, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioner.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioner: Michael J. Baggett, P.O. Box 561, Cullman, AL 35056-0561, (256) 739-9300 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this the 17th day of March, 2016.

WELLS R. TURNER, III
JUVENILE JUDGE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

STATE OF ALABAMA IN THE PROBATE COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY CASE NO: PC2013-016

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF: NORMA FAYE JOHNSON, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF HEARING FOR PETITION FOR SALE OF REAL ESTATE TO PAY DEBTS WITH REMAINDER TO BE DISTRIBUTED ACCORDING TO STATUTE

TO: **TERRENCE JOHNSON, KEVIN JOHNSON, KERRY JOHNSON, CRYSTAL JOHNSON, MATTHEW JOHNSON OR ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN HEIRS OF NORMA FAYE JOHNSON.**

Please take notice that the Probate Court of Cullman County shall hold a hearing on the above matter on **the 4TH day of MAY, 2016 AT 10:00 am** in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, for the Petition for Sale of Real Estate to Pay Debts with Remainder to be Distributed According to Statute filed in said Court by Shawn Johnson, the Administrator of the Estate of Norma Faye Johnson, deceased. That any objection to the Petition for should be known in writing and filed with this Court before the day and time of said hearing.

Dated this 22nd day of MARCH, 2016.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

OF COUNSEL:
Gregory A. Johnson (JOH 152)
Attorney for the Estate of Norma Faye Johnson
101 4th Avenue N.E.
CULLMAN, ALABAMA 35055

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD2016-004

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF ANDREW MICHAEL JACOBSON FOR THE ADOPTION OF EMMA NICOLE WOOD.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: Cody Smith and any Unknown or Undisclosed Father

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of Emma Nicole Wood, a minor child born January 28, 2008, was filed on the 23rd day of January, 2016, in the Probate Court of Cullman County by Petitioner Andrew Michael Jacobson, step father of Emma Nicole Wood, alleging that the natural parent of said minor child may be Cody Smith or unknown, or has not been correctly disclosed to the Court and whose relationship of said possible Cody Smith, unknown or undisclosed natural parent of the aforesaid minor child is that of Natural Father. Please be advised should you intend to contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with counsel for said Petitioner, whose name and address are as shown below, and with the Clerk of the said Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

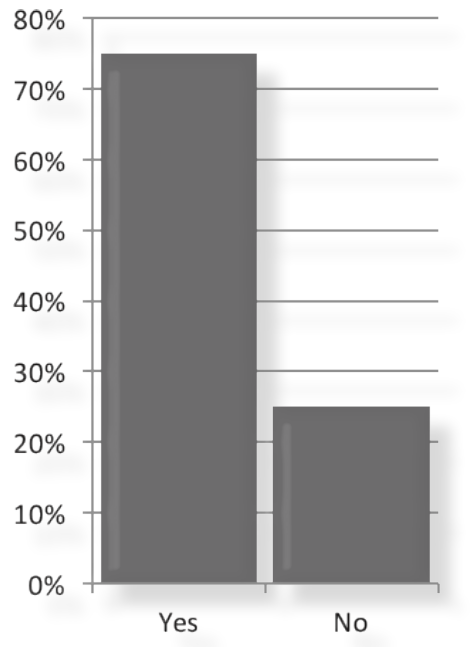
DONE this 15th day of March, 2016.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Cullman County Judge of Probate

Sherry H. Barrett
SMITH & SMITH, LLP
Attorneys for Petitioners
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
256-734-4721 (telephone)

Poll

Does your family have a fire safety plan?



This Week's Poll

Have you ever done volunteer work?

Vote Today at CullmanSense.com/Poll

Light a Candle, Spread HOPE

RELAY FOR LIFE
American Cancer Society

Join your community in the fight against cancer! At Relay For Life, teams take turns walking or running around the track. Teams consist of people representing companies, churches, clubs, organizations and families. During Relay For Life, team members enjoy games, food, music and camaraderie while camping out on the surrounding grounds.

Participants also share in a special luminaria ceremony to remember those individuals who have been affected by cancer. Candles are lit in honor or memory of those touched by cancer and placed around the track. You are invited to support this effort by making a luminaria donation and having a candle lit in honor of a loved one who has been touched by cancer. Simply fill out the back of this form and return to a team member, team captain or mail your order to the address listed on the reverse side.

Thank you for your support. For more information, call 1-800-227-2345 or visit cancer.org.

Luminaria Order Form

Minimum donation: $10.00 each

Yes, I would like to make a luminaria donation in honor of or in memory of the following:

In Memory/Honor of: (*circle one*)

_____

In Memory/Honor of: (*circle one*)

_____

In Memory/Honor of: (*circle one*)

_____

Total amount enclosed: $_____
Payment method: Check ____ Cash ____

Thank you for your donation. Please make checks payable to the **American Cancer Society**. Return to:

Attn: Tess Kimbrough
1024 County Road 730
Cullman, Al 35055

CULLMANSENSE NOW



DOWNLOAD TODAY
QRNE.WS/CSNOW
GET IT ON Google play
AVAILABLE ON THE App Store

Monday

Cullman City Council Meeting
Monday, April 11, at 7 p.m. in the City Hall Auditorium

Good Hope City Council Meeting
Monday, April 11, at 6:30 p.m. at Good Hope City Hall

CP&R Community Classes- Painting
Oil Painting and Acrylics - Mondays from 6:30 - 9 p.m. at Cullman Civic Center. For more information, contact Waid Harbison at 256-734-9157.

CP&R Therapeutic Recreation Program Free Swim
The program uses recreational activities, leisure and play to enhance the quality of life for individuals with physical, mental, social or emotional limitations or abilities. Every Monday night is FREE swim from 6-8 p.m. at the Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center's indoor pool.

Storytime at the Library
Storytime at the library every Monday and Tuesday at 10 a.m. Join us for fun! Listen to stories, learn songs and make crafts. Contact 256-734-1068 for more information.

Cullman Caring for Kids- United Way Food Bank
The food bank is open every Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 9 a.m. - noon and 1 - 3 p.m. and Thursdays from 9 a.m. - noon for eligible families. Located at 402 Arnold St. NE Ste. W-1. For more information, or to make a donation, call 256-739-1111. www.cullmancaringforkids.com

Cullman Senior Center Bingo
Play Bingo at the Cullman Senior Center every Monday and Wednesday. Activities from 8 a.m. - noon. A hot meal is served at 11:30 a.m. daily. For more information, call 256-734-0145. The Cullman Senior Center is located at 1539 Sportsman Lake Road NW.

Overeaters Anonymous
Overeaters Anonymous will be meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Carriage House, located behind Grace Episcopal Church. For more information, contact 724-376-2124 or 256-352-1143.

Kiwanis Club
The Cullman Kiwanis Club invites all local men and women who are interested in taking part in community service along with great fellowship, fun, networking, and learning to attend their weekly meeting at noon each Monday at St. John's Church Christ Hall. Come see what Kiwanis is all about and enjoy a great luncheon meal as well.

Domestic Violence Survivors' Support Group
Victim Services of Cullman's Domestic Violence Survivors' Support Group meets every Monday from 5-7 p.m. at the old County Board of Education Building (310 Third Ave. SE) Childcare is available. Call 256-775-2600 for more information. Crisis Line: 256-734-6100.

AA Meeting
The Cullman Downtown Alcoholics Anonymous will meet at 1519 St. Joseph St. NW. Every day at noon will be an open discussion meeting, Sunday at 7 p.m. is an open discussion and speaker meeting, Tuesday at 7 p.m. is an open discussion meeting (with meal at 6:30 p.m.), Wednesday at 7 p.m.; Thursday at 10:30 a.m. is women's big book study; and Friday at 7 p.m. is a closed discussion meeting (no card signed). All meetings are non-smoking. The last Tuesday of each month is open speaker meeting/ birthday night. For more information, contact the AA coordinator at 256-736-6000.

Free English Classes
The Link of Cullman County hosts classes, 10 a.m. on Mondays and 6 p.m. on Tuesdays. Beginner and Advanced classes available. Call 256-775-0028 for information.

Tuesday

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

April 12 Runoff Election
Runoff election between Darrell Hicks and incumbent Kenneth Walker for Cullman County Commission Chairman. Polls are open from 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

Colony Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 12, Colony Town Hall, 6 p.m.

South Vinemont Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 12, South Vinemont Town Hall, 6 p.m.

2016 National Arc Welding Conference
On Tuesday, April 12 at 2 p.m., 100 participants from the 2016 National Arc Welding Conference will visit Topre and Yutaka. This is the first time this event has been held in Alabama. http://2016nationalarcweldingconf.com/index.php/conference-schedule/confdetails

Victim Services of Cullman Chick Fil-A Spirit Night
April 12, 4-8 p.m. Join us at Chick Fil-A for our spirit night to help raise awareness in our community! If you would like to make a donation to our organization, simply tell the cashier at the time of payment. Victim Services of Cullman is a nonprofit organization that offers a host of services for victims of domestic violence or sexual assault. We are a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization funded by United Way, grants and community contributions.

Meet and Greet with Local Authors
The Cullman County Public Library is hosting a Meet and Greet the Author event on Tuesday, April 12, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in honor of National Library Week. The event is free and a great opportunity for the community to get to know local writers and hear their stories.

2016 Workforce Seminar Part 1: Compliance Strategies
April 12, 8-11 a.m. in the Cullman Chamber Wal-Mart DC Room. Learn about your rights as employers regarding recruiting, hiring, firing, compensation and establishing a workplace culture that reflects your philosophies and principles. The discussion will emphasize what you can do and the full range of options available to you regarding employment related matters. Each participant will receive a comprehensive, practical handout, including sample policies covering social media, harassment, discrimination and retaliation. Free, but registration is required. Call 256-734-0454 or contact Ben Smith at bsmith@cullmanchamber.org.

CP&R Community Classes- Yoga and Dance Fitness
Yoga- Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.; Nia Dance Fitness / Ageless Grace - Tuesdays at 9 a.m. Cullman Civic Center. For more information, contact Waid Harbison at 256-734-9157.

Lunch at VFW Post 2214
Everyone come to Tuesday's lunch at the VFW Post in Cullman. Starts at 11:30, $5 per plate. We have carryout if you can't stay and eat with us. We always have a great time. Love to see new folks and enjoy the usual group. See you on Tuesday.

Storytime at the Library
Storytime at the library every Monday and Tuesday at 10 a.m. Join us for fun! Listen to stories, learn songs and make crafts. Contact 256-734-1068 for more information.

Dodge City Senior Citizen Luncheon
Every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. Come enjoy fun, food and games at Dodge City Town Hall.

Cullman Caring for Kids- United Way Food Bank
The food bank is open every Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 9 a.m. - noon and 1 - 3 p.m. and Thursdays from 9 a.m. - noon for eligible families. Located at 402 Arnold St. NE Ste. W-1. For more information, or to make a donation, call 256-739-1111. www.cullmancaringforkids.com

Board Games at the Library
Each Tuesday the Cullman County Public Library will host a gaming program from 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. A variety of board games, cards and dominoes are available for play at the library for teens and adults.

Cullman Knifty Knitters
Members of the Cullman Knifty Knitters group meet each Tuesday afternoon at 3 p.m. in the Cullman County Library. Everyone is invited to learn how to knit yarn, and needles are free. This group is open to all ages, both accomplished knitters and those wishing to learn the art form. Crocheters are also invited to take part in these weekly meetings. Please call Lesia for more information at 256-734-2720 ext. 23.

Special Needs Bowling Night
Individuals with special needs and their families are invited to the Cullman Area Special Needs Bowling Nights, every Tuesday from 6-8 p.m. at the Cullman Bowling Center. Please RSVP before 12 noon the days of the events. The charge is $3 per person. For more information, contact Rhonda at 256-962-2208.

AA Meeting
The Cullman Downtown Alcoholics Anonymous will meet at 1519 St. Joseph St. NW. Every day at noon will be an open discussion meeting, Sunday at 7 p.m. is an open discussion and speaker meeting, Tuesday at 7 p.m. is an open discussion meeting (with meal at 6:30 p.m.), Wednesday at 7 p.m.; Thursday at 10:30 a.m. is women's big book study; and Friday at 7 p.m. is a closed discussion meeting (no card signed). All meetings are non-smoking. The last Tuesday of each month is open speaker meeting/ birthday night. For more information, contact the AA coordinator at 256-736-6000.

Celebrate Recovery
Meets at Holly Pond Methodist Church on Tuesday nights. Free meal at 6 p.m. Program starts at 6:30 p.m. Two court stamps available. Open to everyone with a Hurt, Habit or Hang-up. 37851 AL Highway 91 in Holly Pond.

Addiction Recovery
The Link of Cullman County hosting Christ-centered, 12-Step Addiction Recovery meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon. 1101 Third Ave. SE in Cullman. Call 256-775-0028 for more information.

Free English Classes
The Link of Cullman County hosts classes, 10 a.m. on Mondays and 6 p.m. on Tuesdays. Beginner and Advanced classes available. Call 256-775-0028 for information.

Wednesday

Remembering the 13 Children Who Died from Child Abuse and Neglect Last Year in Alabama
The thirteen children whose names we know will be honored on Wednesday, April 13 from noon-1 p.m. with a prayer walk and balloon release. The walk will begin at the Cullman County Courthouse and will end at the top of the parking deck at Cullman Savings Bank where balloons will be let go and prayers will be lifted. Samantha. Joseph. Caley. Tyleah. Isabella. Timothy. Bennett. Jamarion. Michael. Alania. Jadarrius. Lia. Aaliyah.

Victim Services of Cullman LifeSouth Blood Drive at Wal-Mart on Highway 157
April 13, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Give blood and learn more about our organization and raise awareness in our community. We will have a table set up next to the truck for anyone who is interested in information and services provided through our organization. Victim Services of Cullman is a nonprofit organization that offers a host of services for victims of domestic violence or sexual assault. We are a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization funded by United Way, grants and community contributions.

Project Closet
At Longview Church of God, on the second Wednesday of each month from noon - 6 p.m., the public is welcome to come and shop for clothes at no charge. Donations of clothing are accepted, and shoppers can swap donations for any clothing in the closet. Call 256-734-2566 for more information.

Good Hope Senior Center Meeting
Seniors meet every Wednesday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Pot Luck Lunch at 11 a.m., games, crafts, special speakers and more Contact Gene Bradford at 256-636-2100 or Jackie Gentry at 256-739-0403.

Cullman Senior Center Bingo
Play Bingo at the Cullman Senior Center every Monday and Wednesday. Activities from 8 a.m. - noon. A hot meal is served at 11:30 a.m. daily. For more information, call 256-734-0145. The Cullman Senior Center is located at 1539 Sportsman Lake Road NW.

Saint Monica's Group
Saint Monica's Group is for those who are addicted to drugs or alcohol. The meetings begin at 7 p.m. each week in the Rectory basement of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church. For more information, please contact either Brian at 256-595-5015 or Rita at 256-507-0358.

Wednesday Lunch Buffet at TP Country Club
Lunch Buffet at TP Country Club from 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Call 256-739-0738 for more information.

AA Meeting
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Divorce Care Support Group
The Link of Cullman County, 6 p.m. Call Denise at 256-590-3719 for more information.

Thursday

Dodge City Town Council Meeting
Thursday, April 14, 6 p.m. at Dodge City Town Hall

Hanceville City Council Meeting
Thursday, April 14, 7 p.m. at Hanceville City Hall

Cullman County Commission Meeting
The Cullman County Commission meets every second and fourth Tuesday, except in cases where the meeting date falls on a holiday, in which case the meeting is moved to the following day. Meetings are scheduled for 10 a.m. in the Commission office conference room, first floor, Cullman County Courthouse, unless otherwise specified. The next meeting is THURSDAY, April 14, due to the Tuesday, April 12 runoff election.

"Althea" at WSCC
The Evelyn Burrow Museum at Wallace State Community College presents "Althea" as part of the South Arts Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers at the Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts on Thursday, April 14 at 9:30 a.m. Following a screening of the film, the filmmaker will engage the audience in a discussion about the film and their work as filmmakers. Admission is free and the event is open to the public.

Cullman County Board of Education Meeting
Thursday, April 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the Cullman County Schools central office board room, 402 Arnold Street NE. (5:30 p.m. work session)

Victim Services of Cullman Spoken Word Night at Karma's Coffeehouse
April 14, 6-8 p.m. Bring your friends, poetry and music to play/perform as we continue to raise awareness for sexual assault. Victim Services of Cullman is a nonprofit organization that offers a host of services for victims of domestic violence or sexual assault. We are a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization funded by United Way, grants and community contributions.

Swamp John's Dinner
Join us forbour Swamp John's dinner to benefit The Grant Brown Memorial Scholarship fund at Wallace State. Dinner is at the Moody Center at C.W. Day Park in Hanceville from 4-7 p.m.; Plates are $11 and include your choice of fish, chicken or shrimp, fries, coleslaw, dessert and tea. Plates are available for dine in or carry out. A drive-thru will also be available.

American Legion Post 4 Monthly Meeting
April 14, 6- 8 p.m. Join us for our monthly meeting held at the VFW. Dinner is served at 6 p.m., meeting to follow beginning at 7 p.m.

CP&R Community Classes- Dance Lessons
Ballroom, Latin and Swing Dancing - Thursdays, $10 per class. Cullman Civic Center. For more information, contact Waid Harbison at 256-734-9157.

Cullman Caring for Kids- United Way Food Bank
The food bank is open every Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 9 a.m. - noon and 1 - 3 p.m. and Thursdays from 9 a.m. - noon for eligible families. Located at 402 Arnold St. NE Ste. W-1. For more information, or to make a donation, call 256-739-1111. www.cullmancaringforkids.com

Overeaters Anonymous
Overeaters Anonymous will be meeting at 1:30 p.m. in the Carriage House, located behind Grace Episcopal Church. For more information, contact 724-376-2124 or 256-352-1143.

Cullman Senior Center Live Band and Karaoke
The Cullman Senior Center will have a live band or karaoke every Thursday from 8 a.m. - noon. For more information, call 256-734-0145. The Cullman Senior Center is located at 1539 Sportsman Lake Road NW

AA Meeting
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Addiction Recovery
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Friday

Cross Creek Golf Course Celebration
Friday, April 15 at 2:15 p.m. New branding will be unveiled at the Cullman Municipal Golf Course, now Cross Creek Golf Course. The course is located at 2321 County Road 490, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

Wallace State Jazz Band's Big Band Ballroom Dance
The Wallace State Jazz Band will host its annual Big Band Ballroom Dance on Friday, April 15, at 7 p.m., in the Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts. Admission is a $15 donation. Call 256-352-8277 to reserve tickets or buy them at the door. Tables may also be reserved in advance.

Alabama Crimson Tide Star Trent Richardson at Outfitters Cullman
Outfitters Cullman is proud to announce that we will have Trent Richardson here with us on Friday, April 15 from 6- 8 p.m. Any questions feel free to call the store at 256-735-4333. Located at 1708 Second Ave SW.

Cullman Caring for Kids- United Way Food Bank
The food bank is open every Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 9 a.m. - noon and 1 - 3 p.m. and Thursdays from 9 a.m. - noon for eligible families. Located at 402 Arnold St. NE Ste. W-1. For more information, or to make a donation, call 256-739-1111. www.cullmancaringforkids.com

Cullman Senior Center Gospel Singing
The Cullman Senior Center will have a Gospel Singing beginning at 9:30 a.m. every Friday. Special guests share devotions at 10:30 a.m. A hot meal is served at 11:30 a.m. daily. For more information, call 256-734-0145. The Cullman Senior Center is located at 1539 Sportsman Lake Road NW.

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Saturday

Safe Kids Expo
The Safe Kids Expo will be held on April 16 from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. at Sportsman Lake Park. Hosted by Brooks' Place, Cullman's Child Advocacy Center, the event will provide invaluable information and tools to keep your child safe and protected. Lots of fun and activities will be available for the kids.

Grant Brown Memorial 5K/ Fun Run and Walk
Saturday, April 16 at WSCC Coliseum. $10 entry fee. Registration 8-8:25 a.m. Race starts at 8:30 a.m. All proceeds go to the Grant Brown Memorial Scholarship fund at Wallace State.

Opening Day! Cullman Farmers Market - Festhalle
Farmer's Market hours, April 16 – October 29. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 8 a.m.- 2 p.m.

2016 Bloomin' Festival Arts & Crafts Fair
Saturday and Sunday, April 16-17, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The 32nd Annual Bloomin' Festival Arts and Crafts Fair to be held on Saturday and Sunday, April 16-17, 2016. St. Bernard has been recognized by the Southeast Tourism Society consistently in the past nine years as a "Top Twenty Event in the Southeast."

CRMC Foundation Gala XV
Saturday, April 16 at 6 p.m. at the Cullman Civic Center. Gala will honor Mr. Del Brock and Dr. Jim Hoover. For more information, contact the CRMC Foundation at 256-737-2565.

Olive Wood Carvings from the Holy Land to be Offered at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Cullman
For the second time, Saida and George Rashmawi, volunteer members from the Roman Catholic Church in Bethlehem, will visit Sacred Heart of Jesus on April 16 and 17. The Rashmawis will bring some beautiful Olive Wood carvings which are all handmade by the Christian people in Bethlehem. The proceeds from the sale of these items will help the Catholic Church to maintain a presence in the land where Jesus was born, lived, preached the Good News and first established His Kingdom. These beautiful carvings make great sacramental gifts that have an added special significance given where and why they were made by hand with innate skill and love. The carvings will be available following all Masses both on Saturday, April 16 and Sunday, April 17. All are welcome to come to the Church to see these beautiful wood carvings which depict Crosses, the Last Supper tableau and various other themes of religious significance. Mass on Saturday usually ends about 6:30 p.m., with Sunday Masses ending around 10:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. The presentation tables will be set up in the entrance of the Church. Barbara Ragsdale 256-347-3471

CP&R Youth Outdoor Adventure Program
Program kicks off April 9, registration now open at Civic Center; Saturdays at 9 a.m. for six weeks; Cost is $75. Call 256-734-9157 for info.

CP&R Community Classes- Rock Climbing
Hurricane Creek Park - Saturdays at 10 a.m., $25, call to register at 256-734-2125. For more information, contact Waid Harbison at 256-734-9157.

April 2016 Historic Walking Tours
Community historians will guide free tours through the historic Cullman. The hour-long tours start at 10 a.m. on April 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 on the steps of the Cullman County Museum located at 211 Second Ave. NE. For more information, call the museum at 256-739-1258 or 1-800-533-1258.

War Recovery
From 1-2 p.m. at Redemption Assembly of God. 516 Shaeffel Rd. Cullman. We have court refer. in Cullman Co. Call Susan, 256-620-6966 for more info.

Saving Forgotten Warriors
Organization helps area disabled Marine and Vietnam veteran Cpl. Kenneth Beasley and other area veterans in need. Clean-up days for Cpl. Beasley are each Saturday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Beasley's home at 185 Co. Road 823. Volunteers are needed and donations are accepted. See Facebook page "Saving Forgotten Warriors" for more info or call Jeremy (352-440-4076), Tammy (256-286-3136) or Josh (256-615-5263).

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Sunday

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CP&R Community Classes- Wilderness Survival Course
Sundays with reservation, call to register at 256-734-2125. For more information, contact Waid Harbison at 256-734-9157.

Sunday Brunch Buffet at TP Country Club
Sunday Brunch Buffet at TP Country Club from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Call 256-739-0738 for more information.

AA Meeting
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Announcements and Upcoming Events

Wallace State Horticulture Department's Spring Plant Sale
Going on daily. Easter lilies, vegetables, flowers, annuals, hanging baskets, shrubs and more will be for sale from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., each weekday, while supplies last. The horticulture department is located on the southwest portion of the Wallace State campus. From Highway 31, enter the campus at the College Drive entrance (the entrance across from Hardee's) and drive to the back of campus toward Tom Drake Coliseum. Turn left onto Industrial Drive and then right onto Lions Lane, crossing over the bridge next to the lake. At the stop sign turn left; the horticulture building will be on the right.

Bob's Grief Support Group
On the last Thursday of each month, Bob's Grief Support Group meets at the Chapel at Smith Lake Park. For more information, please call 256-595-7331.

Relay For Life of Cullman County: 2016 Calendar Announcements
• Relay For Life Team Spirit Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Thursday, April 28, First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall; contact Helen Allen, 256-709-4019; www.relayforlife.org/cullmanal
• Relay For Life Survivors' Breakfast, 7 a.m., Wednesday, May 4, Cullman Church of Christ; contact Helen Allen, 256-709-4019; www.relayforlife.org/cullmanal
• Relay For Life of Cullman County, 6 p.m.-midnight, Friday, May 6, Cullman County Fairgrounds; contact Helen Allen, 256-709-4019; www.relayforlife.org/cullmanal

Project Closet
At Longview Church of God, on the second Wednesday of each month from noon - 6 p.m., the public is welcome to come and shop for clothes at no charge. Donations of clothing are accepted, and shoppers can swap donations for any clothing in the closet. Call 256-734-2566 for more information.

Cullman Senior Center Creating Cookbook
Cookbook will be created this summer. The center is asking for seniors age 60 and older to submit their favorite recipes. You can also submit a recipe in memory of a loved one. Mail recipes to: Cullman Senior Center, 1539 Sportsman Lake Road NW, Cullman, AL 35055. Please include your name and phone number.

Food Assistance
Every second Saturday at Harmony Word of Life Church. NEW HOURS: 1 - 3 p.m. Take Highway 157 to Battleground, turn right onto County Road 1212, go half mile to County Road 1204, turn left and drive a half mile. 256-739-2956.

Free GED Classes
Sponsored by Wallace State Community College Adult Education Program. Call 256-352-8077 or 1-866-352-WSCC for more information.

Clothes Closet
Addington Chapel UMC in Bremen has clothes available free to those in need. No qualifications or paperwork needed. Call 256-287-1791 or 256-287-1828

Masonics of Cullman County Meetings
Held at 7 p.m. at the following locations: Baileyton 472 (first and third Thursday, call 256-796-6611); Cullman 421 (Mondays, call 256-734-1231); Logan 500 (second and fourth Tuesday, call 256-747-4243 or 256-747-2908); Simcoe 854 (second and fourth Thursday, call 256-796-5794 or 256-796-5018); Vinemont 562 (first and third Thursday, call 256-796-7244).

Cullman County Commission Meetings
The Cullman County Commission meets every second and fourth Tuesday, except in cases where the meeting date falls on a holiday, in which case the meeting is moved to the following day. Meetings are scheduled for 10 a.m. in the Commission office conference room, first floor, Cullman County Courthouse, unless otherwise specified. The next meeting is THURSDAY, April 14, due to the Tuesday, April 12 runoff election.

2016 Strawberry Festival
May 6-7, 2016, at Depot Park, a host of local farmers will offer strawberries to purchase both days of the event. Strawberry-themed foods, ice cream, drinks and more will also be a part of the festival. Huge lineup of music to be announced on April 1, free kids' games and rides, dozens of craft vendors and a car show. Food trucks will also be on-site both days. The event will kick off during the day Friday with Senior Day from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; the festival will run from 4-10 p.m. on Friday, and 8 a.m.-10 p.m. on Saturday. For more information on CP&R's 2016 Strawberry Festival, visit www.cullmanrecreation.org or call 256-734-9157.

Cullman Pilot Club Spring 2016 Charity Fundraiser
The Pilot Club of Cullman will host its spring 2016 charity fundraiser, Professional Women's Fashion Show and Luncheon: "Dancing in the Street," on Wednesday, April 27 at the Cullman Civic Center. The event will be "a way of celebrating Administrative Professional's Day." Doors will open at 11 a.m. so attendees can shop the booths set up by area businesses. Boxed lunches provided by Sweet Peppers Deli will be served at 11:30 a.m., with a fashion show beginning soon thereafter. Door prizes will be given away during the show. Tickets for the event are $20 and can be purchased at the Cullman County Museum or the Cullman Civic Center.

"Arts in April Celebration" 2016 at WSCC
Wallace State Community College-exhibition of local community artworks Monday, April 4 - Saturday, April 30 as part of the annual 2016 Arts in April Celebration. In conjunction with WSCC's Earth Week Celebration, participants for this year's Arts in April Community Exhibition "Spring Upcycle" are invited to create artworks based on general themes of nature, its beauty and its conservation. More specifically this year participants are encouraged to use repurposed, recycled and found materials to create "upcycled" artworks which will become creative, imaginative, and lasting reminders of our everyday roles as recyclers and partners in conservation. Exhibition Artist Reception will be held in the Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts Lobby on Saturday, April 30 from 10 a.m.-noon.

Cullman City Head Start
Now accepting applications for the 2016-17 school year. Must live in city limits and be 3-4 years-old on or before Sep. 2 and meet qualifications. Call 256-734-0234 for more info.

Rock the South
June 3-4 at Heritage Park. Check out www.rockthesouth.com for more details.

Cullman Community Lions Club Meetings
First and third Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Cullman Civic Center

Tornado Awareness Training
June 10 from 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. in the Cullman County EMA training room (basement) located at 2020 Beech Avenue SE. For more information about the event, call 256-739-5410, email cullmancountyema@gmail.com or visit www.cullmanema.org. Find them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CullmanCountyEMA/.

Cullman County People Against a Littered State (PALS) Community Cleanup
PALS Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 23 from 8a.m.-noon. http://www.co.cullman.al.us/pals/pals.html. Dumpster Locations are as follows: West Elementary, East Elementary, Cullman High School, Cold Springs School, Baileyton Town Hall, Colony Community Center, Crane Hill Sulphur Springs, Dodge City Fire Station, Fairview Community Park (Across from Fairview Superette), Garden City maintenance area, Good Hope City Hall, Hanceville behind City Hall, Holly Pond – Lions Club Park, Jones Chapel School, Vinemont First Baptist Church and West Point Town Hall. Items that cannot be taken are tires, paint and chemicals. 55 gallon drums must have multiple punched holes or they are not allowed. Citizens should contact their local town or city hall for bags (furnished by State PALS). Community members are being asked to pick up around their homes as far as possible in each direction. Filled bags should be placed with normal weekly garbage.

Cullman Caring for Kids Yard Sale
June 1-4, all proceeds go to Cullman Caring for Kids. Our yard sale will be held at the Cullman County Fairgrounds. If you have anything you would like to donate to be sold at the yard sale you can contact us at our office 256-739-1111. We are a nonprofit organization, and receipts will be given at the time of donation.

Cullman County Alabama Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics
The more people who participate in the Torch Run, the more fun the event will be. Get your T-Shirt for $10 from Rex Sorrow at the CCSO or Adam Walker with the CCPD. Can't wait to see everyone at our BIGGEST FUNDRAISER of the year at the Cullman Wal-Mart on Olive Street April 29-30, from 8 a.m.- 8 p.m. The local Torch Run is Tuesday, May 3. The State Torch Run (TBA) Stay up-to-date at http://qrne.ws/so.

Join Local Cyclist Charles Coggins as He Reaches 100,000 Miles!
On Saturday, April 23 at 11 a.m., local cyclist Charles Coggins is asking that the community join him in a ride around the trail which encircles the water at Sportsman Lake Park. "We're meeting at pavilion 10," said friend of Coggins and fellow cyclist Paul Levering. "This is going to be a celebration of Charles reaching 100,000 miles, but it will also be a celebration of the value of cycling, of community health."

Stony Lonesome 5K Mud Run
May 14 at 8 a.m. Where mud and mayhem come together. Runners will grind their way through the challenging course which will feature: crawling through grimy mud, climb over high walls, splash across a wooden bridge, and traverse through obstacles packed throughout this muddy course. With spectators cheering, this event will surely be a memorable experience for anyone daring to take on the Stony Lonesome Mud Run! Registration is $30, 13 and up only!

Cullman Rescue Squad Car Show
On Saturday, April 30, the Cullman Rescue Squad will hold a car show at the Cullman County Fairgrounds. The squad hopes to make the show an annual event. Registration will start at 8:30 a.m., and the event itself will be going by 9 a.m. The judges will begin their assessment of the cars at 1 p.m. To pre-register an automobile or to be a vendor, call 256-739-0786 or 256-595-7814 to get more information.

CP&R Therapeutic Recreation Program Events
The program uses recreational activities, leisure and play to enhance the quality of life for individuals with physical, mental, social or emotional limitations or abilities. The program targets more than play and uses the power of recreation and leisure activities to support the rehabilitation process and promote overall wellness. Activities are targeted at education, teaching, playing and participation in a number of meaningful activities. The program offers several events, activities, and ongoing programs throughout the year. It is open to all ages of anyone with special needs of varying levels. The program's activities are free to attend and are supported by the efforts of the Cullman City Parks and Recreation Department. For any questions regarding the program contact Kelly Pulliam at 256-734-9157 or kpulliam@cullmanrecreation.org.
Upcoming Events:
• Barn Party / April 30 / HOPE Facility
• No Limits Dance Class / July & August / Civic Center
• Swim Night & Cook Out / August 2 / 6 p.m. / CWAC
• Pizza & Bingo Night / September 8 / 5:30 p.m. / Civic Center

CRMC Spring into Summer 5K and Wellness Day
Saturday, April 23. Registration is at 6:45 a.m. Spring Fun Run at 8 a.m. Spring into Summer 5K at 8:30 a.m. Awards will be given to the top 2 places in each division for both male and female winners. Additional door prizes will be given away during the awards ceremony. Must be present to win. Wellness Day: FREE Community Health Screenings- Blood Pressure, BMI, Bone Density, Cholesterol and Glucose. Health info booths, fun kids' activities, bounce house, food vendors, hula-hoop contest and face painting. For full details and to find out how to register for the 5K, visit https://www.facebook.com/events/765481406886898/.

The North Alabama Agriplex Harvest to Home Fundraiser and Silent Auction
Saturday, April 30. Tickets go on sale Friday, April 1 at 10 a.m. Tickets are first come first serve, so buy early. Ticket sales are through this link: http://goo.gl/forms/1TFmEXCOhq.

Dirt Therapy Day 2016 at Stony Lonesome OHV Park
July 9. Who's ready for Dirt Therapy Day? We're working on a whole bunch of fun activities including our MUD BOG! So, keep an eye on our Facebook for more information! https://www.facebook.com/stonylonesomeohv/

Youth Flag Football
Registration April 1 – June 30 @ Cullman Civic Center; $90 fee includes jersey & trophy; Practices begin in July and games will begin in August going through part of October. For more information, call Heritage Park at 256-739-9931.

Yellowhammer Classic Charity Golf Tournament
June 10 at Terri Pines Country Club, sponsored by the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Thomas Jefferson Denney Camp 1442. All proceeds will go to Children's Hospital Miracle Network and Cullman Caring for Kids United Way Food Bank.

Blalock Family Reunion
The Blalock Reunion will be on Sunday, June 12, at Mike Blalock's residence in Birmingham. For more information, call 205-451-9390.

Hanceville Class of 1958 Reunion
The Hanceville Class of 1958 reunion will be on Saturday, May 28, at 10 a.m., at the Moody Center in Hanceville.

Phillips Family Reunion
The John Marion and Frances Compton Phillips reunion and luncheon will be on Saturday, June 25, at 10 a.m. at the Brushy Pond Community Center.

Guthery Family Reunion
The Guthery Reunion will be on Saturday, June 11, at the West Point Community Center.

Sinyard Family Reunion
The Sinyard Reunion will be on Saturday, August 13, beginning at 10 a.m. at the Moody Center.

Little Mister & Miss Cullman County Pageant
Sunday, May 29 at 3 p.m. at the Cullman Civic Center. Deadline for entries is Sunday, May 15. http://www.divineroyaltypageants.com/cullman-county-pageant.html

Cullman Spring Cleanup Week
May 2-6. A FREE service for all City of Cullman Sanitation customers! FREE pickup of large items- old appliances, furniture, mattresses, etc. Just place the items curbside on your normal trash day that week. Batteries, tires, chemicals, rocks, concrete or other building materials not included.

Cullman City Schools Board of Education Meeting
Tuesday, April 19 at 6 p.m. in the Cullman City Schools central office board room, 301 First Street NE.

The Link of Cullman County's 2016 Reverse the Cycle Sprint Triathlon
Saturday, June 18 at Smith Lake Park; INDIVIDUAL RACE: 3-MILE RUN, 7-10-MILE BIKE RIDE and 200-YD POOL SWIM; KID'S RACE (up to 15 years): 1-MILE RUN, 2-MILE BIKE RIDE and 50-YD POOL SWIM. For more info: http://linkingcullman.org/reversethecyclesprinttriathlon/

Ground Zero Men's Conference- Center for Rapid, Intense Change
Saturday, May 7, 8:30 a.m.-noon at WSCC School of Nursing Building. This conference will empower males, ages 10 and up, to be the men God has created them to be in an effort to help them understand the importance of their leadership role and involvement in the home, the family and the community. The event will provide tools to guide them as they walk through the struggles of daily life and give them a support group to move forward as they strengthen our community. Speakers: Mark "Oz" Geist, member of the Annex Security Team that fought the Battle of Benghazi and co-author of "13 Hours: The Inside Account of What Really Happened in Benghazi."; Chette Williams, chaplain for Auburn University Football and campus director for Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Jerry Lawson, Lead Pastor, Daystar Church serving multiple communities throughout North Alabama. http://qrne.ws/zero

Busy Bee Café Annual Reopening Celebration
On Saturday, April 30, starting at 6 p.m., the Busy Bee Café will hold what has become an annual celebration of its reopening back in 2012 after being destroyed by the tornadoes of April 2011. Festivities will include a burger-eating contest and live music from Tres Locos.

Yutaka 10-Year Anniversary Celebration
Monday, April 18, Yutaka 10-year anniversary celebration. Program at 10 a.m., Plant Tour at 11 a.m. and Luncheon at noon.

Good Hope Decoration
Good Hope Public Cemetery will hold its annual Decoration Weekend on Saturday, April 30 and, Sunday May 1. Request all flowers and decorations be removed from the Good Hope Public Cemetery by Sunday, April 24. Any flowers and decorations remaining after April 24 will be subject to removal by Cemetery maintenance with respect to condition. Additionally, all graves with grave edging must have the edging and internal grave area appropriately cut and maintained by the family. Graves not properly maintained with edging will have their edging removed on Wednesday, April 27 and cut by Cemetery maintenance. The removed edging will not be replaced.

City of Cullman Municipal Election
August 23, the election for City of Cullman mayor, council and school board will be held August 23. For more information on the upcoming municipal election contact the City Clerk's office.

Senior Spirit

A program sponsored by the City of Cullman Parks and Recreation Department that focuses on recreational, social and leisure opportunities for individuals 50 & over. There is no membership fee and programs are offered at the Donald E. Green Senior Center.

Exercise Area
An exercise area with several types of equipment is available for seniors to use provided they have a release form signed by their physician.
Date: Mon., Tues., Wed., and Fri.
Time: 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Fitness for Life
Walking and light cardio stretching classes that help boost your energy.
Date: Year-round
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
Time: 8-9:15 a.m.
Instructor: Catherine Hasenbein

Line Dancing
Date: Year-round
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
Beginners: 9:15-10 a.m.
Adv. / Kickers: 10 a.m. - noon
Instructor: Sherry Boatright
Cost: FREE

Senior Spirit Singers
Join this group that sings old time Gospel Hymns. The group is available for Special Events, Revivals, Assisted Living facilities and Nursing Homes throughout the Community.
Date: Mondays
Time: 10 a.m.
Instructor: Helen Orr
Cost: FREE

Sacred Harp Singing
(Fa-So-La)
Learn this old style of traditional singing that took root in the Southern region of the United States as a part of the larger tradition of shape note music.
Date: 1st & 3rd Wed. of each month Time: 9-11 a.m.

Monday Jam Session
Come together with other seniors to listen to pickers as they play old time country music or try your talent at picking and singing with them.
Date: Every Monday
Time: 1- 4 p.m.
Group Leader: Barbara Whitehead

Fun & Games
Bring a friend or make new ones with a fun filled day of fellowship, card playing or dominos.
Date: Tuesdays
Time: 9 a.m.-until

Bingo
Date: Tuesdays
Time: 1 p.m.
Play a minimum of 12 games

Art Classes
Art classes in oils, acrylics and other venues. This is a relaxing and rewarding activity. Seniors are responsible for furnishing their own supplies.
Date: The 1st Tues. of each month
Time: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Instructor: Nance DiPiero
Cost: $10 per class

Bunco
A parlor game played in teams with three dice.
Date: 1st Wednesday of each Month
Time: 1 p.m.

Yoga
Health benefits associated with Yoga are improved flexibility, more strength, improved posture, and relaxation. Classes can be done from a mat or in a chair.
Date: Tues. 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Thurs. 4-5 p.m.
Instructor: Fabian Holland
Cost: Free

Dulcimer Classes
Take lessons to learn the Appalachian dulcimer, generally regarded as one of the easiest string instruments to learn. The traditional way to play the instrument is to lay it flat on the lap and pluck or strum the strings with the right hand, while fretting with the left.
Date: Every Friday
Time: 1 p.m.
Instructor: Craig Mann
Cost: $10 for 1 hour

Pool Table
Pool table is available for play from 8 a.m. -5 p.m. Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri.

WII Bowling
Date: Wednesday & Friday
Time: 1 p.m.
WII bowling is also available when the room is not being used for other activities.

OBITUARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

APRIL 4 - 10

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Joe Keith Burnham
Theaford L. Martin
Rebecca Ann Kuykendall
Deborah Diane Green
Walter L. Loggins
Jim Stanton
Robert Lee "Bob" Martin
Jacob Forest King
Wayne Cole
Gary Lynn Reid
Bradley Kyle Reynolds
Anthony Wayne
Buster Jackson
Jearl Wayne McClendon
Wilma Olene Baker
Minnie Leah Norris Nickles
Sharon Moody Noojin
Cleora Catherine
"Dink" Windsor
Frank Freeman
Annelies M. Griffith
Virginia Louise Dollar
Randall Steven Deaver
Martha Annette McClure
Neysa Marie Wood
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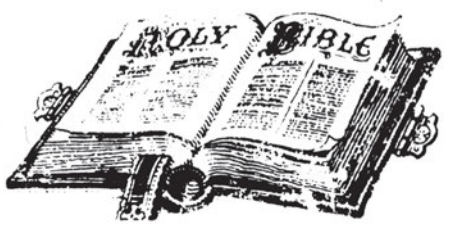
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Performance (from Front)

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – On Friday and Saturday, April 8-9, the Cullman High School theater and choral departments presented Disney's Broadway musical "Beauty and the Beast." The production was a huge success and drew standing ovations at each showing. Rave reviews were given for the student actors, as well as the directors, music and set design.

The "tale as old as time" tells the story of beautiful Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped in a spell placed on him by an enchantress. In order to break the evil spell, the Beast must learn how to love and to be loved before time runs out.

Sara Helms played the part of Belle to perfection while JonLuke Long was the perfect grizzly Beast. Burly and full of himself, Gaston was played by none other than Duncan Warner. Everyone in the play was magnificent and left the crowd wanting more!

"I am in awe over the talent from tonight's show at CHS," said Amy Roberts Handley. "If you haven't seen 'Beauty and the Beast,' you need to go! Amazing talent!"

The show was directed by Wayne Cook, CHS theater director, and Sarah Jane Driskell, CHS choir director. Together they were a team and helped the students create magic up on stage.

"This is the first year Ms. Driskell and I have worked together," said Cook. "It's been a really good situation working with her. We work really well together.

"We announced we were going to do 'Beauty and the Beast' back in the fall and we auditioned students before they went home for Christmas break," he continued. "We started working on it right after Christmas and it's been pretty steady from January on. It was a major undertaking, but there was so much support and encouragement towards producing it because everybody loves the story," he smiled.

According to Cook, there were around 125 students involved in the production of the show in various capacities. A lot of the students have acted before; some were involved with the school's drama production last year, and some had done other things as well. Cook was able to use some students from Cullman Middle School, which was new and exciting for the young students.

"The kids have been working so hard," Driskell explained. "It's kind of a culmination of all the arts; we have singing, dancing and acting. They are all so talented in those areas, so it's been easy working with them; they are such talented kids.

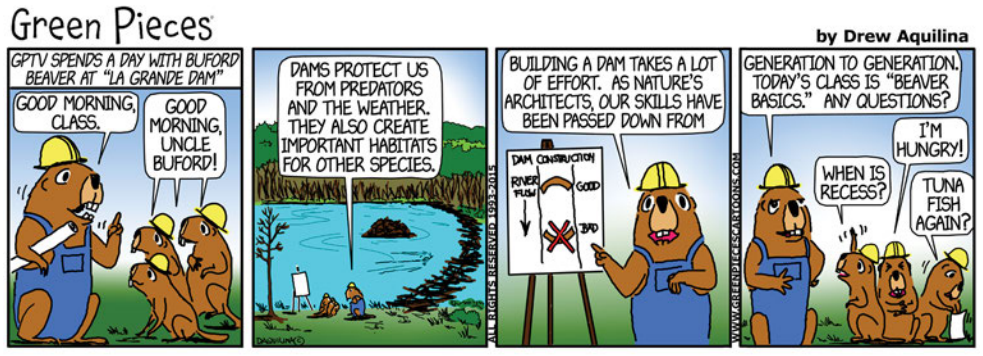
"This is my first year at Cullman, I love it," she grinned. "I am both the high school and middle school choir director, so I got a chance to bring some of my middle school kids who wanted to do the play in as well. The middle school administration let us do that, and I think it's a great opportunity for them to get experience. The choir kids are really involved in it, and I think they did a great job, but it's more than just the choir department, there are kids that are in it from all over that love it."

"I am so impressed with the Cullman High School production of 'Beauty and the Beast!' JonLuke our boy has become...a BEAST," said Jeff Steele. "Magnifico!"

"Beauty and the Beast" was amazing and shows what kind of remarkable talent we have here in Cullman. It would be wise to keep an eye on these kids from now on... Because trust me, you are looking at some future movie stars, for sure!

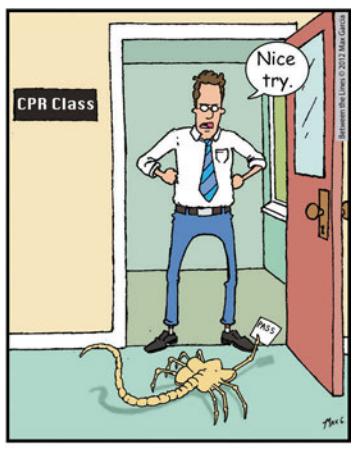
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EDITORIAL CARTOON



POET'S CORNER

THE OLD TIN ROOF

Who could forget
the sound of the rain
plummeting the old tin roof.
So loud in downpours,
you stopped talking
and just listened.
The individual drops,
millions together
in nature's symphony.
Sometimes lying in the bed,
drifting to sleep
to the pinging consistence.
The sound of the showers
falling
and
falling,
playing
the
tin
above.

By: Randy C. Hale • 5684 County Highway 33 • Oneonta, AL 35121 • randyhale62@yahoo.com

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OPINION

LETTER FROM A BIRMINGHAM JAIL: POIGNANT AND TIMELY

Rivera Sun
PeaceVoice

On April 16th, 1963, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was sitting in a stark jail cell in Birmingham, Alabama, where he had been arrested for engaging in nonviolent direct action.

An ally had smuggled a newspaper into the jail that contained the recently published piece, A Call To Unity, written by eight local white clergymen who thought civil rights should be won in the courts, not in the streets. Dr. King began drafting his response on the margins of the newspaper - the only paper he was allowed at first. Later, a black trusty brought Dr. King some scratch paper. Dr. King's lawyers pieced the writing back together and prepared it for publication. It was widely published in 1963, and included in Dr. King's book, Why We Can't Wait, in 1964.

In Letter From A Birmingham Jail, Dr. King responded to criticisms of nonviolent direct action on religious, moral, legal, historic, and political grounds. He chastised the attitudes of the white clergymen, and other white progressives. He stated clearly the intentions of the movement, and wrote expressively and honestly about the cruel effects of racism and discrimination.

Some of our most widely recognized quotes from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. come from Letter From A Birmingham Jail, including, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."

Dr. King concludes the letter by apologizing for its length, writing poignantly, "but what else can one do when he is alone in a narrow jail cell, other than write long letters, think long thoughts and pray long prayers?" He reaches out a hand of reconciliation to the eight clergymen, hoping they can meet in person one day, and saying, "Let us all hope that the dark clouds of racial prejudice will soon pass away and the deep fog of misunderstanding will be lifted from our fear drenched communities, and in some not too distant tomorrow the radiant stars of love and brotherhood will shine over our great nation with all their scintillating beauty." Letter From a Birmingham Jail is as timely today as it was in 1963. The scourge of racism has not vanished; it has changed form. Segregation has ended, legally, but persists economically and socially. Many white allies find their stances eerily reminiscent of the eight Alabama clergymen as they rebuke Black Lives Matter over choices of tactics. And, the contemporary voices of African-American organizers share Dr. King's clarity about the scope of injustice they face, and the importance of immediate action. Reading Letter From a Birmingham Jail with an eye on the past, the present, and the future is a powerful, challenging, and insightful experience. As we approach the anniversary of this historic letter, take the time to read, reflect, and find ways to engage with the ever-timely messages it contains.

Author/Activist Rivera Sun, syndicated by PeaceVoice, is the author of The Dandelion Insurrection and other books, and the Programs Coordinator for Campaign Nonviolence.

EDITORIAL

In Over Your Head – or Maybe Not

Bill King
Tribune Contributor

Both boys were almost beside themselves with excitement and anticipation. Randy was 8 and Kerry, his little brother, was 6. Going fishing with their Grandpa Ezell was a rare privilege for them. I can appreciate their feelings because I fished with their grandpa a few times myself when I was a kid and he was quite the fisherman. When I was too young to go to the pond to fish by myself, or at least mama thought so, I watched for anyone we knew to drop a hook in the water. I had several regulars like Mr. Gilbreath, Mr. Ledbetter and Randy and Kerry's Grandpa Ezell, who often fished in the ponds near our house. I thought Mr. Ezell was a pro. He took his fishing seriously and on days when I couldn't catch a bad cold he would reel in large mouths – with large bodies to match. You might remember that I occasionally fished in mud puddles. Mr. Ezell didn't fish in mud puddles, but I believe he could have even caught something in there if he had.

Randy said their grandpa had certain rules for them when they fished with him. They had to stay at least 50 feet from him, with one of them on each side and their grandpa in the middle. I suspect that separation had something to do with past episodes of talking too much to one another, or any number of things little boys that age have a tendency to do and grandpas his age don't care for - especially when trying to catch fish. It may have been because their grandpa didn't want to be close enough for either of them to hook him.

On one particular day of fishing everyone had settled into their assigned spots and serious fishing had begun. As Kerry cast his line he attempted to drop his bait under a willow tree branch that hung over the water.

That's a difficult maneuver for a seasoned angler, let alone a 6-year-old. He missed his target and his bait landed in the tree and was caught there.

He tried to yank it free, but instead lost his balance and fell off the dam and into the water. Kerry was thrashing and flapping around in the water and Randy was in a state of panic thinking that his little brother was about to drown. Their grandpa calmly continued to fish as if nothing had happened. Randy yelled at his grandpa and asked, "Are you not going to help Kerry?" Their Grandpa Ezell leisurely spit out of a line of chewing tobacco juice and looked over in Kerry's direction as he fought for his life.

His nickname for Kerry was Mazeroski. He slowly said, "Hey Mazi, stand up." As it turned out, although Kerry thought he was drowning, when he stood up the water was only about a foot and a half deep!

We've probably all had situations in life much the same as Kerry's. We felt like we were in over our head, literally or figuratively, but when all was said and done the situation was not nearly as serious as we thought. We may struggle, flail about in a state of fright and panic and think we are going to go under for the last time when all we have to do is stand up, so to speak. If things really are too deep to find the bottom, then start praying and try to swim out, but if you can't, holler for someone to come help you out.

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