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FACEBOOK/SMITH LAKE PARK BASS FEST

Close finish for 3rd annual Smith Lake Bass Fest P16



HANNAH WARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

62nd Cullman County Fair breaks records P9

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MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Raider Domination: Good Hope Middle School finishes 5th undefeated regular season P8

Honorary Warrior Tyler Branon makes play of a lifetime

Loretta Gillespie
Tribune Correspondent

WEST POINT – When Tyler Branon was born, his parents named him Tyler Dale, anticipating that someday he might want to use his initials, TD, because they also refer to "touchdown." It proved to be prophetic, against all odds.

You see, Tyler is autistic. His mom, Christina, never really thought that she would see her son accomplish that first, hopeful vision of crossing a goal line, but thanks to a group who were touched by a scene outside the West Point High Stadium, Tyler's dream, and his mom's, became a reality last weekend.

"We usually try to make all of the home games," Christina explained. "He had never caused problems before, but for some reason, Tyler started having a meltdown when he saw his cousin, Hunter Persall, running down the field for a touchdown. He became so agitated that I had to take him out of the stadium," said Christina.

Tyler's emotional P13

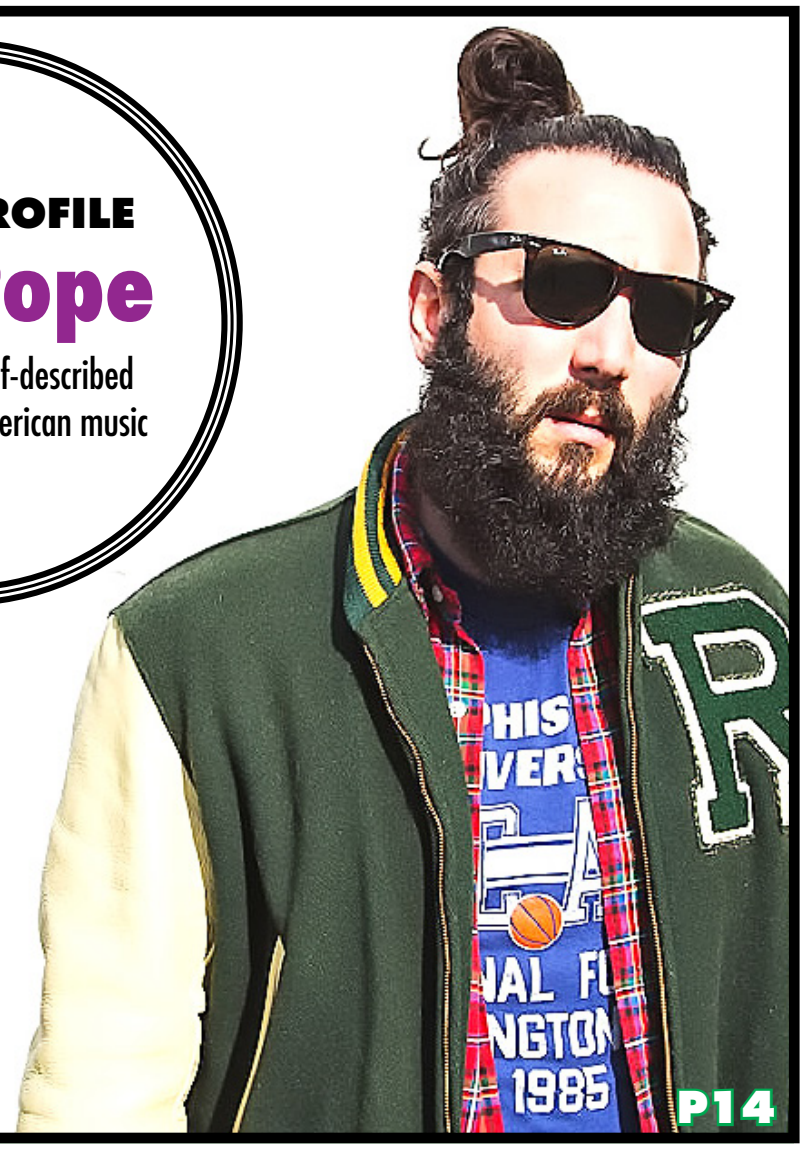


CONTRIBUTED

ARTIST PROFILE

Ron Pope

Latest record a self-described "love letter" to American music



BLAIR CLARK | DANCEPANDA

P14

Construction bid approved for Cullman's Fire Station No. 3

Wendy Sack
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CULLMAN – The City of Cullman this week approved a bid for the construction of Fire Station No. 3 on the north side of Cullman.

The station, according to officials, will mean that Cullman Fire Rescue can better serve the citizens of Cullman on that end of town, including Cullman Regional Medical Center, Terri Pines and the multitude of new businesses and residences in the area.

The Cullman City Council had budgeted approximately $4.2 million for the project, but the winning bid came in at $5.2 million.

The winner of the bid, Cullman's Eidson and Associates, will now enter into a value engineering phase with the project's contractor. According to councilwoman Jenny Folsom, this phase is P13

LIFESTYLE

Brody's dad (WHNT Chief Meteorologist Jason Simpson)

Loretta Gillespie
Tribune Correspondent

HOLLY POND – "Hey," said the lady, "It's Brody!" The lady who spoke in a friendly voice to the adorable toddler gave no more than a passing glance to Brody's dad, he was just the man with the big smile who quietly beamed down on his miracle son with pride and affection.

"These days he is more recognizable than I am," Brody's dad laughed.

Some people might recognize P12



JENNIFER DANIELS PHOTOGRAPHY

The Simpson family, Jason, holding Brody, Walt, Lacey holding Shelby. Today the family has reason to smile.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
October 6, 2016

Mayor Nail: 'Hanceville is ready for the next step'

Will Hogue
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HANCEVILLE – As the city of Cullman continues to grow, some of the surrounding municipalities within Cullman County are also seeing growth. One of the cities that is experiencing the most growth is Hanceville.

Wallace State Community College has anchored the southeast Cullman County community since 1966.

The college is one of the largest colleges in the Alabama Community College System and serves more than 7,000 students each semester. The school, along with the influx of new shopping opportunities and jobs in Cullman and the surrounding area, has only bolstered the potential for the rise of a college-town atmosphere in Hanceville.

Hanceville Mayor Kenneth Nail feels like he is finally able to successfully promote Hanceville's growth.

"When I took over eight years ago there was a lot of work to be done," Nail said. "Things don't happen overnight. I had to clean up Hanceville and clean up a lot of the mess that was made before I got here."

Under Nail's leadership, 23 dilapidated structures have been torn down and cleaned up in the past three years.

These sort of obstructions have prevented the kind of growth that Nail envisions for Hanceville.

But, now more than ever, he believes the town is ready for the next step.

"The biggest thing is to get people living in the upstairs of the buildings downtown," Nail said. "If we have people living downtown, they will be spending their money downtown. That is important. We have to support the downtown area."

Nail envisions a sidewalk connecting downtown Hanceville – the intersection of U.S. Highway 31 and Alabama Highway 91 – to what he calls "uptown Hanceville," – which is where Wallace State and the surrounding retail shops are situated.

"The students and residents want and need a way to move between these two areas," he said. "If we could ensure that they could safely walk, jog and ride their bikes between downtown and uptown, I think it would connect the town together and benefit everyone."

Nail says he will always support new businesses and not let bureaucracy slow down the issuing of the necessary permits for restaurants and stores to open their doors. This summer, The C Street Café, Marcela's Salon and Makeup and More all opened up downtown.

"One of the main things I have noticed while studying towns and cities around the country is that the most frustrating thing for businesses and the thing that stifles growth is having to wait around for weeks and months for permits," he said.

"We won't waste time. We will do what needs to be done and look over everything, of course, but we won't waste any time."

Even though the growth of a town is objectively beneficial for multitudinous reasons, there are still some detractors, whom Nail said need to reevaluate their viewpoints.

"I'll tell you what," Nail said. "Those people who don't want their town to grow, those who want to sit on their butts, just stay right there. Sit on your butts and don't do anything. Don't help your community grow, and your children and grandchildren will move away from you to find jobs."

Also located in Hanceville is The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament of Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, informally known as OLAM Shrine. It is a prominent Roman Catholic Latin Rite shrine. Adjoining the Shrine is the cloistered Monastery of Poor Clare Nuns of Perpetual Adoration.

The Shrine is situated on a beautiful 400-acre site and has a religious center affiliated with the Eternal Word Television Network, EWTN, in Birmingham. Thousands of people visit the Shrine each year for special events and pilgrimages.

Keep up with the city of Hanceville on Facebook at http://qrne.ws/hanceville.

Bikers Against Cancer event set for Saturday

Will Hogue
will@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – On Saturday, Oct. 8 the Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation (CCBBF) will host their 4th Annual Bikers Against Breast Cancer event at Cullman Regional Medical Center. Registration and breakfast will begin at 8 a.m. in the Colonel Cullmann Room in Professional Office Building 2.

Mary Dyer, the founder and president of the CCBBF, said that she and her colleagues started the foundation in order to have an independent group in Cullman.

"We are just a support group of women who have had cancer," she said. "We founded the group to be independent and to support Cullman women. It all started with a bake sale that we had. We set out to raise $1,300, that was our goal. Well, when by the end of it we had raised $1,800 we knew we were doing what we were supposed to be doing, that God was in it, you know."

The first Bikers Against Cancer charity motorcycle ride was held in 2013, and Dyer has learned much about how to organize the event from the past few years.

"I have learned that it is always harder than you think it is going to be," she said.

"But, we have helped so many people and that is what is important. It does get harder each year to work the event, but the people that it helps makes it worth it, and that is the reason we started this."

Dyer, a cancer survivor herself, is 77 years old. Everything she and her foundation make goes directly to help those who need it.

"One-hundred percent of everything goes to help our patients," she said. "There is always someone out there who has had to quit their job so they can make all the appointments and is getting treatment. A lot of us do not realize how bad it is for some people."

Dyer, as someone who has had to deal with cancer herself and as someone who works with those who have cancer, knows how difficult it can be.

"It is hard to ask for help," she said. "It is hard to admit that you need help or that you can't handle it all your own. But that is what we are here for; we are here to help."

Bikers Against Cancer schedule:

• Registration and breakfast beginning at 8 a.m. at Cullman Regional Medical Center in the Colonel Cullmann Room inside POB2.

• Onsite registration: 8-9:30 a.m.

• Riders' meeting: 8 a.m.

• KSU: 10 a.m.

• Police and Blue Knights VIII escorted ride - $25/rider, $10/passenger

For more information call Mary Dyer 256-339-0911, Judy Grissom 256-347-5993 or Lori McGrath 256-737-2588.

For more information about the Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation, visit https://www.facebook.com/CullmanCountyBosomBuddiesFoundation.

Mayor proclaims October Alpha Delta Kappa Month

Leanne West
Office of Mayor Max A. Townson

CULLMAN – On Tuesday, Oct. 4, Cullman Mayor Max A. Townson officially proclaimed the month of October 2016 "Alpha Delta Kappa Month" in the City of Cullman. Proclamations were presented to both the Alpha Theta and Beta Delta chapters of Alpha Delta Kappa in Cullman. Lisa Hullett was present to accept the proclamation for the Beta Delta chapter. Linda Creel and Sue Craig were present to accept on behalf of the Alpha Theta chapter.

Alpha Delta Kappa is an international honorary organization for women educators dedicated to educational excellence, altruism and world understanding.

The organization seeks to give recognition to outstanding women educators, build a fellowship among women in the field of education, promote high standards of education, promote educational and charitable projects and activities, sponsor scholarships, further and maintain worthy standards in education, cooperate with community programs relating to education and charities, and contribute to world understanding, goodwill, and peace.

Membership is honorary and based on peer recognition.

With more than 1,300 chapters throughout the world, Alpha Delta Kappa members focus on the good of schools, communities, the teaching profession and the world.

"Children are our future, and I greatly admire and respect those who have devoted their lives to teaching our young people and being good examples for them to follow," said Townson.

Women in education constitute a great portion of the nation's working force.

These women educators strive to serve their communities and nation in educational, civic, cultural and charitable programs with the goal of harmony, happiness and peace among all people.

"We are grateful to our Alpha Delta Kappa members for all they do to improve education in our community," added Townson.

"The long success of our school system in Cullman is due in large part to the dedication, commitment and love our teachers and local Alpha Delta Kappa have for education."

During Alpha Delta Kappa month, citizens are urged to thank a teacher or to express their appreciation to an Alpha Delta Kappa member.

To learn more about the Alpha Delta Kappa organization, visit their website at www.alphadeltakappa.org.

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Mayor Townson recognized by Planning Commission

Leanne West
Office of Mayor Max A. Townson

CULLMAN – At their regular meeting on Monday, Oct. 3, the Planning Commission surprised outgoing Mayor Max A. Townson with a special recognition. A framed Certificate of Distinguished Service was presented to Townson by Planning Commission Chairman Mike Voss.

The certificate reads:

Whereas, Max A. Townson has served the City of Cullman as a member of the Cullman Planning Commission with dedication, distinction, and integrity since becoming mayor in 2008; and,

Whereas, through his active participation and outstanding leadership, Max has played an instrumental role in the vital accomplishments of the Cullman Planning Commission; and,

Whereas, Max's devotion to his responsibilities as a member of the Cullman Planning Commission, his ability to form good working relationships with others, and his love of the community has earned him the high regard and respect of all with whom he has come into contact, and his participation as a member of this commission will be missed.

Now, therefore, this commission, speaking on behalf of all our citizens, publicly goes on record as commending Max A. Townson for his distinguished and outstanding service by expression our appreciation for his leadership on the Cullman Planning Commission and in all areas of community improvement.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands on this, the 3rd day of October, 2016.

The certificate was signed by Rick Fulmer (director of Building, Planning, & Zoning) and Planning Commission members Voss (chairman), Wendell Copeland, Steve Cummings, Cherri Drake, Gene Green, Bobby Kelley, Andy Page and Barrett Richard. In a touching and impromptu speech, Townson thanked the commission for the recognition and for their service to the community and spoke of how grateful he was to have had the opportunity to serve the City of Cullman as mayor and on the Planning Commission.

Holly Pond council meeting an emotional affair

Hannah Ward
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HOLLY POND – On Monday night the Holly Pond Town Council met a little after 7 p.m. for their October meeting. All members were in attendance. After the prayer and pledge of allegiance they got right down to business.

Monday night's meeting was the last town council meeting for two of the council members and the mayor. Plaques were presented to Mayor Herman Nail, and Councilmen Ricky Carr and Bartee Bryan in commemoration of their many years of service to the residents of Holly Pond. Bryan served 12 years on the council while Carr served 14.

Nail has spent a total of 36 years serving his community as a town employee, council member and mayor.

"We're really hardworking people and we want new people to come out and be with us," Nail said with a tear in his eye as he discussed Holly Pond.

Moving on to public comments, a request for additional parking space was presented to the council regarding a project previously approved. The resident making the request explained he would be paying for it himself and it would be a 20-foot extension of the gravel already laid down. The council approved his request.

In other business, the council voted to complete the process of applying for a grant to finish the town's storm shelter.

In parks, the department reported that the park will be used for football practice for only two more weeks.

The council voted unanimously to renew its contract with Life Evac. According to one of the council members, it can save citizens 35,000 for a trip to the hospital.

The Holly Pond Town Council meets on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Guy Hunt Library. The public is welcome to attend.

Fairview council meeting turns into informal orientation

Andrew Cryer
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FAIRVIEW – The Town of Fairview was scheduled to hold a council meeting Monday evening, but due to sickness two council members, Henri Derrick and Paula Edge, were unable to attend. The council instead held an unofficial meeting with Mayor-Elect Keith Henry in attendance to show him the ropes as he is set to assume office next month.

Dale Seals, current mayor of Fairview, informed Henry about the town's senior center project and stated, "We haven't had a chance to meet with him to go over anything yet so we want him to get up to speed on everything so he is good to go (when) he takes office next month."

Henry said he "felt a little overwhelmed" about being the mayor as he was told about the various projects being worked on and debts owed by the town.

There was also an informal going away party for Seals Monday evening as it was the last council meeting he will preside over as mayor.

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PREP FOOTBALL

Area preview- week no. 8

Johnny Thornton
Sports Editor

Hanceville Bulldogs (2-5, 1-3) @ Holly Pond Broncos (4-2, 1-2)
3A, Region 6
Thomas-Michelfelder Field - Holly Pond
Friday 7 p.m.
SERIES: Hanceville leads 22-11
LAST TIME: Hanceville defeated Holly Pond 60-50 in 2015
LAST WEEK: Hanceville lost to Susan Moore 56-21, Holly Pond lost to Locust Fork 37-31

A victory keeps the winner in the quest for a playoff berth, especially Hanceville, who has lost three straight games for new coach Craig Flanigan.

This game has huge dividends for Mike Bates and his Broncos. A year ago, the Broncos gave up four touchdowns to the Bulldogs in the fourth quarter with B.J. Smalls having a memorable rushing performance and Hanceville posting a 60-50 victory- the highest combined scoring total in one game between the two that have been battling one another since 1967. The Bulldogs have won the last four after they lost five in a row to the Broncos between 2003-08.

J.B. Pennington Tigers (4-2, 3-1) @ Vinemont Eagles (2-4, 0-3)
3A, Region 6
Mark Smothers Stadium - Vinemont
Friday 7 p.m.
SERIES: J.B. Pennington leads 11-3
LAST TIME: Vinemont defeated Pennington 40-20 in 2009.
LAST WEEK: Vinemont defeated Priceville 35-28, Pennington lost to Fultondale 49-34.

Getting a homecoming victory last Friday was important for Vinemont to restore confidence with Pennington coming to town on the heels of two consecutive losses.

The Tigers got outscored by region leader Fultondale last week in Blountsville. The Eagles scored three times in the fourth quarter to pull out a 35-28 win as Garrett Boland accounted for 142 yards rushing, three touchdowns, 138 yards passing and a score.

Vinemont must somehow slow down Pennington RB Trey Griffin. In two games against Cullman County schools who are Region 6 foes, Griffin has gained 550 yards on 74 carries and five touchdowns. He netted 260 on 41 attempts and two scores in a 34-32 win at Holly Pond Sept. 2, and on Sept. 16 rushed for 290 yards and three touchdowns as the Tigers held off Hanceville 44-30.

Pennington's road schedule is 60 percent Cullman County and 40 percent visiting schools in Marshall County. The Tigers have played at Holly Pond and Hanceville and now battle Vinemont on the first Friday of October.

The visitors from Blountsville are looking to go 3-0 vs. the county for the first time since 1989 when they defeated Hanceville and Holly Pond in the regular season and upset Good Hope in the first round of the 3A playoffs.

This is Vinemont's second straight game at home with the Eagles 1-1 on campus so far for second-year coach Matt Norris.

Winston County Yellow Jackets (1-5, 0-3) @ Cold Springs Eagles (4-2, 3-0)
2A, Region 7
Cranford Stricklin Stadium - Cold Springs
Friday 7 p.m.
SERIES: Winston County leads 4-0
LAST TIME: Winston County defeated Cold Springs 41-0 in 2009.
LAST WEEK: Cold Springs defeated West End 26-16, Winston County lost to Tarrant 40-16.

At stake for the Eagles is a chance to clinch a playoff berth on the home turf and then get ready for two challenging regional road games with Tanner and Cleveland Oct. 14 and Oct. 21.

The Eagles rallied from a 16-13 halftime deficit to defeat West End and stay tied for the region lead with Tanner, who crushed Cleveland 58-20.

Winston County comes to Stricklin Stadium for the first time in seven years. The Jackets are back in 2A after playing the previous six years as a 3A in the Alabama High School Athletic Association.

This is the final game for the Eagles at home, who have won four straight for Rod Elliott after opening the season with a 20-8 home loss to Hanceville and a 26-24 road defeat to Berry-Fayette.

West Point Warriors (3-3, 3-1) @ Mortimer Jordan Blue Devils (4-2, 3-0)
5A, Region 6
Jimmie Trotter Field - Kimberly
Friday 7 p.m.
SERIES: Mortimer Jordan leads 7-4
LAST TIME: Mortimer Jordan defeated West Point 48-21 in 2011.
LAST WEEK: West Point defeated Fairview 38-24, Mortimer Jordan had the week off.

Displaying a running game that netted 313 yards between Cameron Moore and Alex Hernandez with five touchdowns, West Point won a shootout over Fairview to extend its winning streak to three, all victories in 5A, Region 6.

Now comes the biggest game of the season thus far for Don Farley's squad. The Warriors meet the 2015 Class 5A state runner-up who had a week to get some rest and scout the Warriors last Friday during West Point's homecoming.

Mortimer Jordan's two losses have been to Cordova 21-14 in the opener and to Briarwood Christian 23-14 on Sept.23.

A win by West Point puts the Warriors into second place, depending on what happens between Hayden (3-0 region) and Corner (2-2) not far away in Jefferson County. The Warriors lock up a playoff berth if they execute the game plan, visiting Mortimer Jordan for the first time since 2010.

Curry Yellow Jackets (1-5, 0-3) vs. Fairview Aggies (2-4, 0-3)
5A, Region 6
West Point Stadium
Friday 7 p.m.
SERIES: Curry leads 10-1
LAST TIME: Curry defeated Fairview 10-9 in 1991
LAST WEEK: Fairview lost to West Point 38-24, Curry lost to Corner 43-19.

Fairview was hoping to be playing at Dafford Smith Stadium by now. But the bleachers on the home side are not completely ready and the Aggies will have to play homecoming at West Point.

George Redding's Aggies have become accustomed to the West Point surface, with three straight games. The Aggies battled West Point tight last week before a late interception gave West Point a short field to get the game clinching TD and keep the Aggies winless in regional play.

The Aggies and Yellow Jackets are the only squads in Region 6 that have not been able to put together a victory. One will leave West Point Stadium Friday night with smiles on their faces and victory in their hearts.

Good Hope Raiders (0-6, 0-4) @ Haleyville Lions (5-1, 3-0)
4A, Region 6
Bubba Scott Field - Haleyville
Friday 7 p.m.
SERIES: Haleyville leads 2-0
LAST TIME: Haleyville defeated Good Hope 52-7 in 2011.
LAST WEEK: Good Hope lost to Winfield 32-0, Haleyville lost to Madison Academy 31-21.

Now comes a trip for the Raiders into Winston County against the team with the best record in Region 6: Haleyville. The Lions won their first five before they went outside the region last week and fell to Madison Academy at home.

Coach Alan Scott is putting together a game plan for the Raiders to avoid their fourth shutout of the season and try to prevent the Lions from clinching a playoff berth on the first Friday in October.

Meek Tigers (4-3, 1-2) @ Addison Bulldogs (7-0, 4-0)
1A, Region 7
A.G. Hicks Stadium - Addison
Friday 7 p.m.
SERIES: Addison leads 55-10
LAST TIME: Addison defeated Meek 47-8 in 2013.
LAST WEEK: Addison defeated Decatur Heritage 26-21, Meek defeated R.A. Hubbard 52-15.

After escaping a Decatur Heritage comeback when Chandler Cookenmaster intercepted a pass at the Addison 32 with 1:54 left in the game, the Bulldogs now encounter their neighbors from Arley who will make the 10-mile journey to A.G. Hicks Stadium with Addison in position to win the regional championship.

David Smothers' Bulldogs earned a playoff berth last week in a matchup of Top 10 programs from the 1A rankings. This will be the final time for Addison to play at home prior to the postseason as they travel to R.A. Hubbard Oct. 14 and visit Winston County the 28th.

Addison presented Smothers his 35th victory in just his 50th game as Addison coach last week, a winning percentage at .700. The 7-0 start by the Bulldogs under Smothers matches a 7-0 start by his 2013 squad.

Meek has not defeated the Bulldogs since a 9-0 shutout in Arley in 2002. In the last seven meetings, the Bulldogs have yielded 20 points to the Tigers and shut them out five times.

Cullman Bearcats (4-3, 2-2) are idle
NEXT GAME: vs. Southside-Gadsden Oct. 14
6A, Region 7 at Oliver Woodard Stadium 7 p.m.

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MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Middle School 'Cats dominate Guntersville to cap off perfect season

Johnny Thornton
Sports Editor

CULLMAN – For the second time under current coach Gerald Turner, the Cullman Middle School teams put together an undefeated season of football.

It happened for the first time in 2012. It took place once again on Tuesday night at Oliver Woodard Stadium when the seventh-grade team shut out Guntersville 20-0 and the eighth-grade 'Cats romped to a 40-16 final.

The two combined for 14 wins on the 2016 season as they both were 7-0. Turner's middle school program has only lost twice in the last five years.

His last eighth-grade team to go through the season undefeated included current seniors on the varsity team, including Alabama commitment Hunter Brannon, Ross Crocker, Dawson Drake, Caden Winn and Owen Lovell, to mention a few.

Seventh grade: Cullman 20, Guntersville 0

A scoreless first quarter in the seventh-grade game changed to the Bearcats' favor when they produced two touchdowns during the second period, including a score on the final play of the first half.

A 75-yard drive came to a close in the Guntersville end zone on a 56-yard run by Max Gambrill.

That was with 3:15 remaining. The conversion failed and Cullman went up 6-0.

A strange play happened to benefit the Bearcats even though they lost the ball on a fumble. John Blackwood ran for 10 yards and a first down, but lost the ball into the hands of Guntersville's Ben Biddle.

Biddle ran up to the Wildcats' 45, only to be separated from the ball, with Cullman getting a new series of downs with 30 seconds showing on the clock.

The 'Cats took advantage of the Guntersville miscue with Hayden Stancil hitting Gambrill for the touchdown with 19 seconds to go before the break. Stancil passed to William Bradberry and the 'Cats were ahead 14-0.

Having the ball once in the third quarter was all Cullman needed to put the game away.

From their 20, the 'Cats drove it 80 yards in four plays as the series ended on Bradberry getting loose for 51 yards.

That was the final play of the third period as Cullman now enjoyed a 20-0 cushion.

The Cullman defense forced three turnovers with the final coming on a fumble recovery by Carter Gay with 5:50 to play in the contest.

Cullman allowed Guntersville 14 yards of offense in the third and 33 during the fourth with the Wildcats not able to get the ball near the Bearcat end zone.

Cullman ran for 249 yards in the season finale as Bradberry had 56 yards on two carries and a touchdown, Gambrill three carries for 69 yards and a score plus one reception for a 45-yard touchdown.

Jamar Kay had two rushes for 36 yards, Jake Dueland one rush for 11 yards and two catches for 19 yards. Stancil was 4 of 7 passing for 65 yards and a touchdown.

First half domination by the eighth grade: Cullman 40, Guntersville 16

Four first-half possessions for Cullman resulted in four visits to the Guntersville end zone with 212 yards of offense by halftime.

This took place after the Bearcats were penalized on the first three plays of the game, with a touchdown taken off the scoreboard due to a holding.

Once the mistakes were eliminated, the 'Cats were on their way to romping the Wildcats.

Max Dueland hit Napoleon Jones for a 33-yard gain that set up a 21-yard TD run by Jaylen Hughey. The conversion was scored by Hughey and it was 8-0 Cullman with 4:58 to go in the opening stanza.

Following a Guntersville punt, Dueland went deep to Jones who made the catch at the Wildcat 20 and headed on to the end zone for a 49-yard score. Ethan Echols had the conversion and after the first, Cullman led 16-0.

The Wildcats were again forced to punt and the 'Cats took advantage of field position.

From their 38, the 'Cats claimed their third touchdown on a 2-yard run by Hughey.

The score was set up by a 37-yard swing pass from Dueland to Joseph Sheppard.

Sheppard tacked on the conversion to make the score 24-0 with 5:47 left in the quarter.

Guntersville gave up possession on downs at the Cullman 41-yard line and the 'Cats ended the half with their fourth score. A pass interference call in the end zone gave Cullman an untimed down at the Guntersville 14.

Dueland drilled a strike to Gabriel Sosa and followed with the conversion and a 32-0 Cullman lead at halftime. The 'Cats had 212 yards of offense by the half, 127 on Dueland completing 6 of 7 and a running game that netted 85 yards.

Guntersville scored on the first series of the third when Jordan Griffin raced 50 yards for the touchdown and a 2-point pass by Jordan Burgess had the score at 32-8.

Then on the first Cullman series of the period, the 'Cats took it 60 yards and closed out their scoring with Matt Brock diving over from the 1. Brock had the conversion as well and the 'Cats led 40-8 with 5:24 to go.

Guntersville added a touchdown on a 2-yard run by Griffin, with a 55-yard run to the 2 from Jerrell Williamson setting up the score. Burgess threw another pass for the conversion and the score stood at 40-16 after the third ended.

The 'Cats controlled the clock in the fourth quarter with a drive that chewed up five-and-a-half minutes.

The 'Cats turned the ball over on downs at the Guntersville 44.

Guntersville was unable to mount an attack on the final series with time running out and Turner getting doused with a bucket of water to start an enjoyable postgame celebration.

Cullman finished with 299 yards of offense, 172 coming from the running game and 127 by Dueland's passing.

Eight different Bearcats ran the ball in the second half with Cullman gaining 87 yards and having four first downs to control the line of scrimmage and time of possession, too.

Jones gathered two passes for 72 yards and a touchdown, Sosa two catches for 28 yards and a score, Sheppard two receptions for 35 yards.

Hughey sparked the running with 63 yards on seven attempts and two touchdowns.

The 'Cats had 14 first downs while they allowed the Wildcats 175 yards of offense, only 11 passing in the second half and five first downs.

Going into 2017, the seventh grade has a nine-game winning streak with the eighth grade victorious in 11 consecutive games.

Cullman vs. Good Hope?

Some Cullman fans began a conversation about wanting the 'Cats to meet the Good Hope Middle School team.

Good Hope is 6-0, waiting to play in the county championship Oct. 17 vs. Hanceville.

The Raiders are currently on a 31-game regular season winning streak.

That would be special to Turner, who graduated from Good Hope in 1980 and was the school's second player to ever rush for 1,000 yards in a season. He did that as a junior when the Raiders went 9-2 and his coach was Billy Joe Pugh.

Pugh is a consultant in the press box for the middle school team with two grandsons, Eli and Jared Pugh, currently playing and making an impact in the Good Hope running game.

But the game will not be played, since a middle school is only allowed eight games by the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA), with Cullman playing seven in a regular season and having a jamboree.

The two programs could hook up for one next season with plenty of talent coming from the seventh graders that would make the matchup very entertaining.

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Tribune Files from Yesteryear

From The Files Of 1955:
George John Beyer, age 75, who served two terms as mayor of Cullman in the early 1900's, died in Birmingham, on Monday. Mr. Beyer was retired from the hardware business.

Returning home after two years of military service in Alaska are Corporal Leo Hasenbein and Corporal Louis Hasenbein, twin sons of the Frank Hasenbeins.

Garley C. Chapman, Police Chief in Cullman is happy with the new speed limits.

Dane Estes, age 20, of Holly Pond is pictured in a wheelchair.

Dane was stricken with polio, last February 13th while playing basketball for Saint Bernard College. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Norris Estes.

The building committee for Trinity Evangelical Church in Hanceville is Albert Burkart, C.T. Burkart, Paul Fox, Henry Fuchs, Albert Jochum, Edwin McNutt, Herbert Michelfelder, G.W. Thom, Henry Warren and Otto Michelfelder. Reverend C. Burkart organized the church in 1885.

The registered Hampshire Hog sale will be held at Ponder Warehouse, on February 6th.

Reverend Sim Calvert is pastor of Bethany Baptist Church and is teaching a Bible study this week.

J.A. Perdue has opened a store at Wheat in the L.H. Perdue Storehouse.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Cobb and boys are spending the winter in Florida.

Herbert Otto Reinhardt and Alma Edith Marie Richter were married, on January 20th.

Mrs. Marvin Ashwander and Miss Dorothy Jackson spent Thursday in Birmingham.

Doctor and Mrs. Allen Gray, of Schnectady, New York, announce the birth of a daughter, on January 16th. Doctor Gray is the son of Mr. and Mrs. C.H. Gray.

From The Files Of 1992:
Jack Sides Returns To Cullman
Former Cullman Mayor Jack Sides and likely Mayoral candidate this year, has returned to Cullman from a Birmingham Hospital, following treatment in a coronary care unit. Sides will return to Birmingham for additional tests to be sure he does not have arterial blockage in about a month.

The Cullman business man is apparently feeling better than he has in months. Welcome home, Jack!

From The Files Of 1937:
Doctor R.B. Dodson is Commander of the American Legion.

Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Kirtt, who formerly lived at West Point, have moved to the Willingham Community.

This is the first year for typing to be offered at Hanceville School. Miss Dixie Christian is the teacher.

Mr. Bud Gibbs and Dick Casey are the new owners of the One Stop Service Station.

Reverend Harvey R. Edwards is pastor of New Prospect Church.

Mr. Cord Scott is the hair cutter and neck-shaver at Oden's Store, at Vinemont, on Saturdays.

Hats - $1.98 and up at C.A. Stiefelmeyer's – Ad.

Cordia Bates, of Oak Level, recently underwent a tonsil operation, but is improved enough to start school.

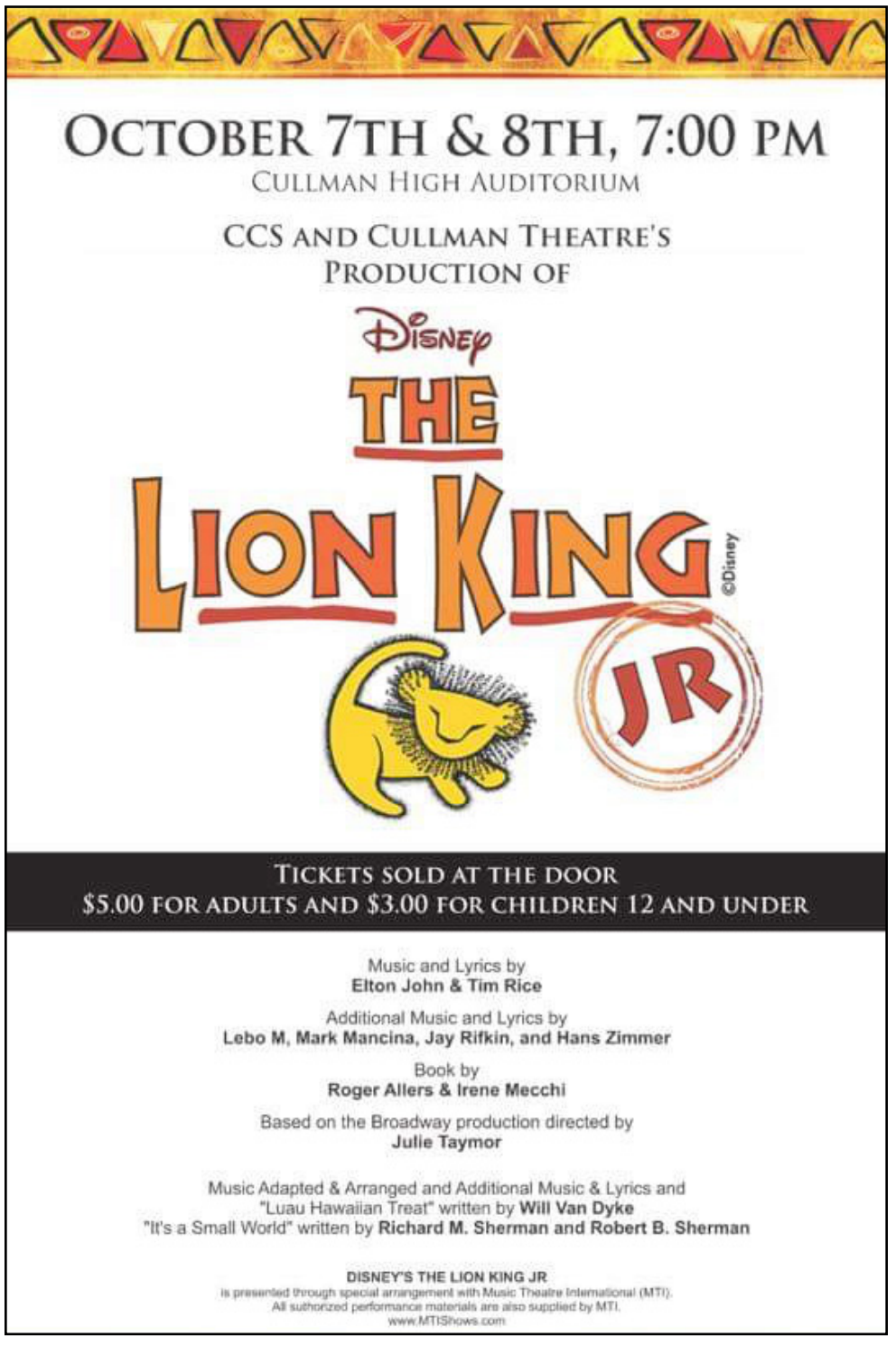
Several Flat Rock people attended the Bethel baptizing on Rock Creek, near the steel bridge on Sunday evening. There were 32 baptized.

All-star softball players are as follows: American League – Roy Cameron, W.D. Copeland, Frank Byer, H. Alldredge, C. Daniel, Ben Holmes, Bob Young, Ellis Burns, Red Holmes, Lorine Trimble, Red Styles, Ellis Calvert, Claburn Glasscock, Paul Wright, Garth Brindley, Charlie Glasscock, Buell Cobb and Rahfel Cooper. National League – Jess Wood, Roy Ragland, Aubrey Gleen, A. Speegle, Pinehardt, Fred Alldredge, H. Wells, Pierce Williams, Onnis Green McMinn, Howard Hart, Reno Lowery, Morris Estes, Sonny Burk, Less Green, B. Jetton, Herman Speegle and Onnie Calvert.

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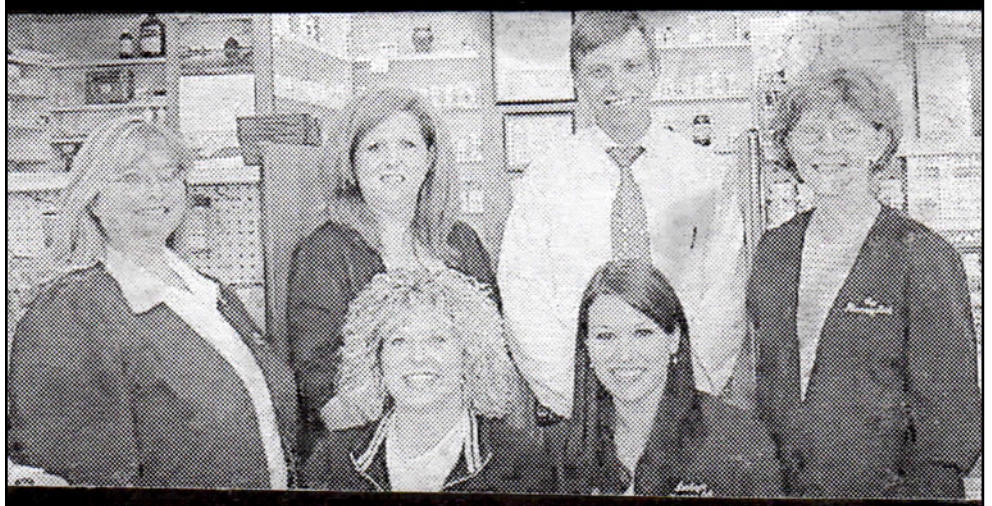
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PHARMACY TOPICS *by Eddy Hoenig*

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.

Older adults might want to avoid using a class of drugs commonly used in over-the-counter products such as nighttime cold medicines, due to their links to cognitive impairment. Using brain-imaging techniques, researchers found lower metabolism and reduced brain sizes among study participants taking the drugs known to have an anticholinergic effect, meaning they block acetylcholine, a nervous system neurotransmitter. Previous research found a link between the anticholinergic drugs and cognitive impairment and increased risk of dementia. The new paper, published in the journal *JAMA Neurology*, is believed to be the first to study the potential underlying biology of those clinical links using neuroimaging measurements of brain metabolism and atrophy.

***

A new analysis of 204 studies involving more than 1.4 million people suggests that metformin, the most frequently prescribed stand-alone drug for type 2 diabetes, reduces the relative risk of a patient dying from heart disease by about 30 to 40 percent compared to its closest competitor drug, sulfonylurea. The study, designed to assess the comparative – not absolute or individual – benefits and risks of more than a dozen FDA-approved drugs for lowering blood sugar in type 2 diabetes, is described in the April 19, 2016 issue of the *Annals of Internal Medicine*. Diabetes now affects almost ten percent of the United States population and poses a growing public health threat. Most people with the condition will eventually need drug treatment, the researchers say.

***

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MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Raider Domination: Good Hope Middle School finishes 5th undefeated regular season

Johnny Thornton
Tribune Correspondent

GOOD HOPE – Two onside kick recoveries in the first 25 seconds set up two touchdown runs that sparked the Good Hope Middle School Raiders' 44-20 triumph over the West Point Warriors Monday evening at James Shabel Stadium.

Catching West Point off guard, Walter Perez's two kicks were recovered by the Raiders' Eli Pugh and Colton Bagwell. Good Hope needed two plays to score following the work of the special teams with Bagwell going 33 yards and Pugh finding his way to the end zone on a 40-yard jaunt.

Good Hope has completed five consecutive regular seasons without losing a game. The Raiders are 6-0 and take 31 consecutive regular wins to the Cullman County championship game Oct. 17 on the Good Hope campus.

The opponent is to be determined, but Hanceville appears to be the front runner. The Bulldogs played Holly Pond Monday and had a 2-1 record going in, second best in the county behind Good Hope.

Pugh and Bagwell were able to run down the right sidelines on the onside kicks, beating the West Point receivers to the ball and putting Good Hope in excellent field position.

Pugh got the ball at the West Point 38 then an offside penalty sent the Raiders to the 33.

Bagwell ran up the middle for the first score with 10 seconds elapsed in the game. Cody Dye recovered the 2-point conversion try in the end zone and it was Raiders 8, Warriors 0.

Good Hope used Bagwell to hustle downfield and get the second recovery. Pugh carried for the first time with this one from the West Point 40 and on to the end zone.

The conversion failed and the Raiders had a 14-0 lead with this the start of a very strong first quarter for Tyler Hudson's squad.

The Raiders' third drive began from their 40 with Bagwell finishing it on a 35-yard run. A pass from Braxton Marshall to Lane Speegle made it 22-0 with 5:08 still to play in the first.

West Point fumbled the ball on its next series as Jesse Blackmon pounced on the pigskin at the Warriors' 47.

This drive took almost 4:00 off the clock with balanced running. Austin Cordes ran it in from the 2 and the Raiders were ahead 28-0 when the first ended. Good Hope gained 182 yards rushing with seven first downs and held the Warriors to -5 on five first-quarter snaps.

After the Raiders returned a punt to the West Point 42 early in the second, the next touchdown was put on the scoreboard.

Jared Pugh ran off left tackle for the score and the Raiders went up 36-0 when Speegle added the 2-point play.

The final TD of the half and of the game for the Raiders came with 2:01 to go in the half. After a 2-yard loss, Bagwell got free for the longest run of the night, 84 yards, and the Raiders took a comfortable 44-0 advantage to the locker room.

Nelson Hernandez provided the 2-point conversion with the Raiders gaining 306 yards in the half, all on the ground, producing nine first downs and scoring on six possessions.

Most of the starters were done by halftime. West Point recovered the second half kickoff and started from the Good Hope 39.

The Warriors drove it to the end zone and scored on an 8-yard run by Lucas McAfee. McAfee tallied the conversion and the Warriors were on the board, down 44-8 at the 5:28 mark of the third.

Forcing a Raider punt, the Warriors ended the third with their second score. McAfee took it in from the 2 after the score was set up by a 14-yard run from Matthew Hawley and a 10-yard pass by Kaleb Heatherly to Will Cochran.

The conversion was no good and the Warriors were down 44-14 when time ran out in the third quarter.

A 75-yard scoring drive was up next for Toby Denson's Warriors in the final stanza with a 45-yard pass to Hawley, followed by a 5-yard scoring play from Heatherly to Carter Thornton with 2:18 remaining.

West Point trailed 44-20. Good Hope got the ball and was able to take it near midfield before losing possession on downs with 0:08 left.

The Warriors got a 13-yard pass to Hawley to the 34 and the game was over.

Bagwell had four carries for 160 yards and three touchdowns, anchoring the Raider running attack.

Eli Pugh had four rushes for 67 yards and a touchdown, Jared Pugh had 76 yards on four carries and a score.

Speegle accounted for a pair of 2-point conversions and set up the first score in the second quarter on a 22-yard punt return to the West Point 42.

The Raiders needed just 15 plays to get six touchdowns on the board by the time the game reached halftime.

Through six games, the Raiders have scored 204 points, averaging 34 points a game. The 44 on Monday was the second highest of the season with 48 coming in a win against Fairview on Sept. 6.



CONTRIBUTED

The Raiders are after their fourth Cullman County championship in the last five years. The run was ended by a Vinemont in 2015 when the Eagles upset the Raiders at Shabel Stadium.

Kickoff for the title bout will take place at 6 p.m.



62nd Cullman County Fair breaks records

Hannah Ward
ward@cullmansene.com

CULLMAN – According to Lions Club members and fair workers, the 2016 Cullman County Fair was a slam dunk. The 62nd year broke records in attendance and the amount of funds collected. Cullman Lions Club member Jerry Bonner said, "It's been a wonderful year! It's gonna be in the top five of best years, as far as the money we've taken in."

It was Bonner's 53rd year to work the fair and his third year as manager. He continued, "We appreciate what the community does for us in supporting us to be able to have this event. We thank them, they've made it a success."

A couple of variables which made each day a grand day at the fair were the blue-sky weather, extra parking space and the multitude of fair rides.

"Our midway this year is the most rides we've ever had. It all takes teamwork and the Lions Club works as a team. Every member has a job and we do it well and that's what makes it happen," smiled Richard White, Lions club member and president of the fair.

A busy schedule of bands, contests and pageants ran throughout the duration of the fair, Sept. 22 all the way to Oct. 1. This year's events lead with the Cullman County Fair Parade and ended with Live95's Battle of the Bands. Mikah Hudson, from Hanceville High School, won the 2016 Cullman County Fair Queen crown Tuesday night.

One of the many many fair workers, Winde Davis, claimed "I like traveling, I like kids. I enjoy Cullman and I hope to come back next year!" Davis runs a fishing game for kids.

"I run the Arctic Blast; it runs nonstop. This is our first year in Cullman. It's been pretty good. Most people have been nice. Come on out, see us next year because I'm sure we'll be here!" said Jules a fair worker who was assisting his wife Tina serve lemonade at the iconic lemonade shaped stand.



HANNAH WARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE







NOTICE OF **MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE** Alabama, Cullman County Default having been made pursuant to the terms of that certain mortgage executed by Sarah B. Love, an unmarried person to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for M&T Bank, its successors and assigns, dated 03/22/07, said mortgage being recorded in Book 1513, Page 203, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, AL said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae"). Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae"), under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash or certified/bank check only. The conducting of the sale will be handled by Auction.com. More information concerning their policies and procedures on bidding at the foreclosure sale can be found on their website Auction.com. The certified/bank check should be made payable to or endorsed to RCO Legal, P.C. The sale will take place at 11:00 AM, on 10/27/16 at the Backside of Courthouse, of the Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055 the following real estate, situated in Cullman County, AL, to-wit: TRACT 1: COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 1, TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 5 WEST AND RUN THENCE NORTH 667.86 FEET TO A CEDAR POST: THENCE NORTH 01 DEGREES 20 MINUTES 28 SECONDS WEST, 137.13 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 21 MINUTES 03 SECONDS EAST, 67.26 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING TO TRACT HEREIN DESCRIBED; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 21 MINUTES 03 SECONDS EAST 91.96 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 55 SECONDS EAST, 309.71 FEET TO A POINT ON THE WEST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF COUNTY ROAD 1082; THENCE WITH SAID RIGHT OF WAY LINE RUN SOUTH 23 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 16 SECONDS WEST, 28.16 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 21 DEGREES 33 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST, 71.84 FEET; THENCE LEAVING SAID RIGHT OF WAY LINE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 55 SECONDS WEST, 272.52 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SAID TRACT LYING IN AND BEING PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 1, TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 5 WEST, CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA. TRACT 2: A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE NW 1/4 OF THE SW 1/4 OF SECTION 1, TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 5 WEST MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT THE SW CORNER OF ABOVE DESCRIBED 40 ACRES; THENCE NORTH 0 DEGREES 0'00" EAST 667.86' TO FENCE CORNER; THENCE NORTH 1 DEGREE 20'28" WEST 137.13' TO FENCE CORNER; THENCE NORTH 0 DEGREE 21'03" EAST 159.22' TO POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE NORTH 0 DEGREES 21'03" EAST 130.00'; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 01'55" EAST 373.68' TO THE BLAIR ROAD R/O/W; THENCE ALONG R/O/W SOUTH 27 DEGREES 14'39" WEST 106.14'; THENCE SOUTH 23 DEGREES 46'16" WEST 40.12'; THENCE LEAVING R/O/W SOUTH 89 DEGREES 01' 55" WEST 309.71' TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. Said property is commonly known as 7101 COUNTY ROAD 1082, VINEMONT, AL 35179. The indebtedness has been and is hereby declared due and payable because of default under the terms of said Mortgage and Note, including but not limited to the nonpayment of the indebtedness as and when due. The indebtedness remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same, all expenses of the sale, including attorney's fees and all other payments provided for under the terms of the Mortgage and Note. In accordance with Ala. Code §6-5-248(h) notice is given that Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as part of the foreclosure process. Said property will be sold subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: all zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; any outstanding taxes, including but not limited to ad valorem taxes, which constitute liens upon said property; special assessments; all outstanding bills for public utilities which constitute liens upon said property; all restrictive covenants, easements, rights-of-way; the statutory right of redemption pursuant to Alabama law; and any other matters of record superior to said Mortgage. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Sarah B. Love or tenant(s). RCO Legal, P.C. 2970 Clairmont Road NE, Suite 780, Atlanta, Georgia 30329
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Cullman Tribune 7345.29459
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IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF

JOSEPH G. RICKLE,

Deceased.

CASE NO.: PC 2016-213

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to **LINDA SNOW** as Administrator of the Estate of **JOSEPH G. RICKLE**, deceased, on the 23rd day of September, 2016 by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Cullman County, Judge of Probate.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Linda Snow
LINDA SNOW
Administrator

Annette Irons-Parker
Annette Irons-Parker (IR0003)
Attorney for **LINDA SNOW**, Administrator
PARKER AND PARKER, P.C.
215 Main Avenue Southwest
Cullman, Alabama 35055
256-775-4444

TO: The Publisher of CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for three consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Tammy Brown
Probate Judge

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

ESTATE OF
LEESA ANN WELCH BUTLER HICKS
Deceased

CASE NO.: PC 2016-260

NOTICE

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 9th day of September, 2016, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the 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 time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Brandi Michelle Richter Phillips
BRANDI MICHELLE RICHTER PHILLIPS
Personal Representative/Executrix

Roy W. Williams, Jr.
JACKSON & WILLIAMS
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Cullman, AL 35055
(256) 739-5400

To: Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

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

Tammy Brown
Hon. Tammy Brown
Probate Judge

Auction Notice

Contents of storage unit **A-26,** rented to **Riley Day,** on **April 16, 2016,** will be sold for auction for past due rent on **October 15, 2016** at **10:00 a.m**. Consisting of: desks and assorted household goods.

Contents of storage unit **C-15**, rented to **Ricky Kuykendall,** on **November 18, 2014,** will be sold for auction for past due rent on **October 15, 2016**, at **10:00 a.m**. Consisting of: computer, truck tool box, kid's basketball goal, model race cars, grill and clothing.

Contents of storage unit **D-8**, rented to **Steven Morrow,** on **December 14, 2013,** will be sold for auction for past due rent on **October 15, 2016,** at **10:00 a.m.** Consisting of: wooden desk, two craftsman tool boxes, tools and television.

Contents of storage units **D-12 and B-1**, rented to **Jackie Shelton**, on **November 21, 2015,** will be sold for auction for past due rent on **October 15, 2016**, at **10:00 a.m**.

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Legal Notice

Notice is hereby give to all owners, secured parties and lienholders of the following described motor vehicles, which I have a right to sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, in accordance with the State of Alabama abandoned motor vehicle law, Statues, Chapter 13, Section 1-8, Title 32 and Alabama Law Act Number 83-494-S-80:

1998 Chevrolet 'S' Truck, Vin. #1GCCS1941W8239523.
1996 Olds Bravada, Vin. #1GHDT13W3T2701987.
1995 Ford Ranger, Vin. #1FTCR10A0SPA00561.
1999 Ford Explorer, Vin. #1FMZU32E5XUA81856.

These vehicles will be sold to pay storage and or repair fee at Johnson's Auto Tire and Tow, LLC, 178 County Road 1332, Vinemont, Alabama 35179, on Friday, November 4, 2016, at 8:00 a.m.

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
CASE NO. AD2016-044

IN THE MATTER OF AN ADOPTION

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

NOTICE TO: JIMMY LYNN NELSON JR., natural father

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption has been filed in said Court by the Petitioner named below and that the 8 day of December, 2015 at 10:00 A.m. has been set for a hearing on the same in the Probate Court of Marshall County. Please be advised that if you intend to contest this adoption you must file a written response with the attorney for the petitioner named below and with the Clerk of the Probate Court, 425 Gunter Avenue, Suite 110, Guntersville, AL 35976 as soon as possible but no later than thirty (30) days from the date this notice is received.

Tammy Brown
PROBATE JUDGE Tammy Brown Cullman County AL

CLINT L. MAZE
BURKE, BEUOY & MAZE
725 North Brindlee Mountain Parkway
Arab, AL 35016
(256) 586-9000
Attorney for JAMES ANDY WILKS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
MICHAEL G. DAVIS,
DECEASED.

CASE NO. PC 2014-220

NOTICE OF ORDER SETTING HEARING

TO: Bobby Joe Davis, Marie Anderson, Toby Ray Davis, J. R. Davis, **Shannon Davis, Charles Travis Kennington, Dee Ann Kennington and ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS AND INTERESTED PERSONS**

Notice is hereby given that a hearing will be held on the 16th day of November 2016 at 9:30 AM in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama before the Honorable Judge Tammy Brown, in regards to the Petition for Final Settlement filed by the Administrator of the Estate of Michel G. Davis, deceased.

DATED this the 19th day of September, 2016

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, PROBATE JUDGE

BEVERLY PASCHAL POSTON
Attorney for Petitioner
200 First Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

STATE OF ALABAMA
CULLMAN COUNTY

IN THE PROBATE COURT
CASE NO: PC2016-194

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF **ROY FRANKLIN STURGEON,** DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED
BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters of Testamentary of said Deceased having been granted to HELEN FREEMAN STURGEON, as personal representative on the 29th day of September, 2016, by the Hon. TAMMY BROWN, Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/S/ HELEN FREEMAN STURGEON
Executor/Personal Representative of the Estate of
ROY FRANKLIN STURGEON, Deceased

To the Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the above notice once a week for three successive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE

Attorney for Petitioner:

PRO SE

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Goat Island brews Oktoberfest goodness

Hannah Ward
ward@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Friday night, Goat Island Brewing kicked off October with their very first Oktoberfest event. The brewery was bursting at the seams with some very happy Cullmanites. The crowd swayed to the Round 2 band while sipping on the delicious brewed beer Goat Island is known for.

One of the owners, Brad Glenn, said as he served customers behind the bar, "We're overwhelmed with the support we get consistently from this community. We have hopes and dreams and we're amazed every time we have an event people show up and support us. We're very greatly and glad to be here and feel very fortunate."

Owners Mike Mullaney, Gery Teichmiller, John Dean and Glenn opened Goat Island Brewing in early 2015. According to Glen they are hoping to make this an annual event. Customer Chris Holmes gave his reasons for coming out, saying, "To have a good time and get the Oktoberfest going on!"

Mad Dog Mike's Famous Bar B Que set up their truck onsite, with the local favorite an added win to the already great party.

"This is a pre-Oktoberfest party to celebrate Cullman's heritage. We have Colonel Cullman here that is promoting for the beer that was brewed here in 1880s. We are spreading the love of Cullman County to the South and everybody loves the beer that William F. Richter brewed in the 1880s," explained John Dean.

Dean continued as per Goat Island's motto, "We're blessed. Life is great, and life is too short to drink baaad beer."

The story of Goat Island Brewing...

Goat Island Brewing was founded on friendship and the art of making good beer. Two of our founders, Mike Mullaney and Gery Teichmiller met during the Cullman Oktoberfest Celebration in 2012. Both were avid home brewers and loved to design and perfect beer recipes. Both had a faithful following of friends and family who loved their beers. When the two of them began to collaborate and brew together the synergy took their beer recipes to a new level. When the two of them got an opportunity to help start the first brewery in Cullman since the 1880s, they jumped at it. They along with John Dean and Brad Glenn formed the Blue Moose Brew Crew. They brewed their beers and served them at the Blue Moose Café and Brewpub in 2013. The beers were a huge success. The success of this venture convinced the four friends to open their own brewery. In early 2015 Goat Island Brewing was formed.



HANNAH WARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Find out more at http://www.goatislandbrewing.com/.

OBITUARY ANNOUNCEMENTS: SEPT. 28 - OCT. 4

Mary Lois Blethen, 87 of Hanceville, passed away September 29.
Funeral service was held October 1. Hanceville Funeral Home directed.

Ethelee Land Bryson passed away September 30 at her residence.
She was 88 years old. Graveside service held October 2. Moss Service Funeral Home directed.

Clara Fay England, 86 of Cullman, passed away September 30.
Funeral service held October 2. Cullman Funeral Home directed.

Bettye Brasher McClain, age 80 of Cullman, passed away September 29.
Funeral service held October 3. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home directed.

Florene Woodard Watson, 89 of Nesmith Community, entered into rest on Saturday, October 1 at her home.
Funeral service held October 3. Nichols Funeral Home directed.

Ernest Lee Smith, 68 of Cullman, passed away October 1.
Funeral service held October 4. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home directed.

Bobby Lee Johnson, 72, of Cullman, formerly of North Carolina, passed away Saturday, October 1 at Baptist Medical Center-Princeton in Birmingham.
Funeral service held October 4. Moss Service Funeral Home directed.

Bertie Lee Hood, 81, of Haleyville, entered into rest on September 29 at Haleyville Health Care.
Funeral service held October 4. Nichols Funeral Home directed.

Jeannie "Becky" Barrett, 45 of Baileyton, Alabama passed away on September 30 at UAB Hospital.
Funeral service held October 4. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home directed.

Betty Sue Beck, of Vinemont, passed away on October 3 at Cullman Regional Medical Center at the age of 84.
Funeral service held October 4. Moss Service Funeral Home directed.

Lena Christine Williams, 89, of Cullman passed away October 3 at her home.
Funeral service held October 5. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home directed.

Christopher "Boo" Scott Gravitt, 24, of Haleyville, entered into rest on October 2 at Princeton Baptist Medical Center.
Funeral service held October 5. Nichols Funeral Home directed.

Alene Lester Johnson, 88 of Addison passed away on October 4 at her home surrounded by her family.
Funeral service held October 6. Nichols Funeral Home directed.

Anne Wilson, 64 of Cullman, Alabama passed away on, October 1 at her residence in Cullman.
A graveside service held October 6 at Fairview United Methodist East.

Eddie Eril Kilgo, 91, passed away October 3.
Funeral service held October 6. Moss Service Funeral Home directed.

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(256) 352-3130

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Brody (from Front)

the man as Channel 19's Chief Meteorologist, Jason Simpson. The Holly Pond native has reason to smile these days, but for a while it was a different story.

On May 7, 2016, Jason, 34, and his wife, Lacey, 33, were relaxing on a normal Thursday evening after Jason got home from doing the ten o'clock weather. Their children, Walt and Shelby, were asleep. Suddenly she grabbed his arm, "My water just broke," she exclaimed.

Although Brody, the third of the Simpson's three children, wasn't scheduled to make his appearance for another four weeks, he was apparently a bit impatient and ready to join the family a little earlier than expected.

By 1:30 a.m. on May 8, Lacey was being prepared for an emergency C-section. Little Brody, the early bird, took his first breath at 6:28 a.m. Friday morning after an exhausting night.

Within four hours of the delivery of their 6 lb. 7 oz. son, the Simpsons were in a hospital room hearing something almost incomprehensible.

Their tiny son had a serious heart condition. Dr. Matthew Israel patiently explained that little Brody had Shone's Syndrome. The Huntsville pediatric cardiology specialist led them through the gamut of complicated procedures and that baby Brody would have to endure before he could have the surgery that would save his life.

"It was absolutely crushing," said Jason. "Lacey and I weren't prepared for anything like this."

By the time they got to see their new baby, he was under the warmer; I-V lines, probes and tubes covering his body. "We rolled back to Lacey's room on the fifth floor trying to grapple with what we already knew, but more bad news was coming."

What they learned was that although Brody's heart worked, it would not last long without surgery. He had a severe coarctation (narrowing) of the aorta which prevented sufficient blood flow. "Without the other visible issues, the heart condition might have been found too late," they were told.

"The words "we are going to have to transfer you to..." seemed to take forever to roll off the doctor's tongue," Jason recalled later. "... Children's of Alabama in Birmingham."

"An exhausting, emotional day took a turn, and a heavy, crushing kind of fear weighed on us. We knew Children's to be top-notch. We knew UAB had the best of the best in medicine. We knew he would be in the best hands in the world, but all of this hitting at one time was just too much to handle," he wrote in a note to viewers on WHNT's blog.

The couple took comfort in their faith. "Romans 8:26 says 'Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.' I've probably read that and heard that a hundred times or more over the years, but Lacey and I were about to figure out what it really meant. There were no words to pray; it was just a deep, inward groaning begging for Brody's life," he remembers vividly.

Brody was flown by helicopter to Children's Hospital in Birmingham, where, Jason says, they were given the best of care. "Brody is truly a child of Children's," Jason reflected. "He was given top notch care in the NIC unit there."

Jason remembers the fear that built up as time for the operation approached. "But we knew we had to hand Brody to God," he wrote, again to his fans at WHNT.

"That's not nearly as easy as it sounds when you hear about it or read about it. Pediatric surgeons Dr. David Cleveland and Dr. Robert Dabal rebuilt and reworked Brody's aorta in a two-hour operation. Brody came off by-pass and moved back to CVICU for recovery; Dr. Cleveland personally brought us the good news of a successful surgery. Brody's unusual cardiovascular set-up was so unusual that the two seasoned surgeons told us it might be the first-ever occurrence of this particular condition."

The Simpsons were in Birmingham for a month. Jason literally vanished from public view on Channel 19, although his fans knew exactly where he was, and they were praying and soliciting prayers from others for Brody, daily.

During their time at Children's the couple stayed at the nearby Ronald McDonald House.

It had all the amenities of home, it was safe and they were able to focus on their son and not worry about having to travel to a motel. "It really takes a load off of the parents. You worry about your child, and the Ronald McDonald House takes care of you.

"Ronald McDonald Houses all over the U.S. are supported by donations," he explained. "On Oct. 15, you have the opportunity to help by donating your spare change in each McDonald's franchise. It's called the 'Day of Change.' Even a large company such as McDonalds can't do something of this magnitude without help from the various communities where they are located. Having had this place to stay when Brody was hospitalized made a big difference for us, and for all families going through something like this."

Jason, who previously worked at Birmingham's Channel 33/40 as a meteorologist, says that although he lived in Birmingham, and had heard of the Ronald McDonald House, he really didn't understand the impact and importance of the facility.

"They are there to provide and help families from out of town who have sick children and might not have a place to stay, especially for long periods of time," he said.

"The 'Day of Change' helps to defray some of the cost of running each facility. The money collected in each region goes to the nearest Ronald McDonald House. In our case, any money donated in north Alabama will go to the Birmingham Ronald McDonald House."

As the hours and days passed, the little guy proved to be more resilient than anyone could have ever guessed.

With each surgery, procedure and treatment, Brody grew stronger, but it was a very stressful and heart-wrenching time for the family. For those families going through similar illnesses Jason offers this advice, "When you are in the hospital with a sick child, it's counterintuitive to think that visitors get in the way. The important thing to know is that people can come by and give you a hug and it's like they take something of themselves and give it to you. Former church members, friends, people came by for brief visits and they sent text messages and it was very important to us that they cared, those moments stick in your mind long afterward."

These days there is much to be thankful for in the Simpson household. Brody just finished his eighth surgery this past summer. "It was like being in a storm until the beginning of this year," Jason described. "Now he smiles all the time, is happy and growing steadily."

Jason and Lacey will never look at the Miracle Network Balloons or Ronald McDonald Charities in the same way, knowing that some of those little dollar balloons helped to fund the technology, train the surgeons and build the hospital that saved Brody's life. He often thinks of the people who are now going through what they did. "We are put here together to love and support each other. Some are there for a few days, some for a few weeks, some for over a year, and some never make it home. We don't know why, but I've learned not to ask that question," said Jason. "Sometimes it feels like lightning is striking all around with bad news in the next room, alarms down the hall, tearful moms and dads in the waiting room; we are blessed that Brody is recovering, but we will never forget to pray for the other children in this unit and those who serve them."

The Simpsons have become involved in several fundraising efforts to help pay back some of the gratitude and emotional debt that they feel they owe the people and places that they have come in contact with over the last year. On Mother's Day weekend, 2016, they helped to raise $105,000 for Children's of Alabama by taking part in a fishing tournament "Castin' N Catchin'," on beautiful Lake Guntersville, at Goose Pond Colony, where they were joined by Boyd Duckett and Randy Howell, of Bassmaster's fame.

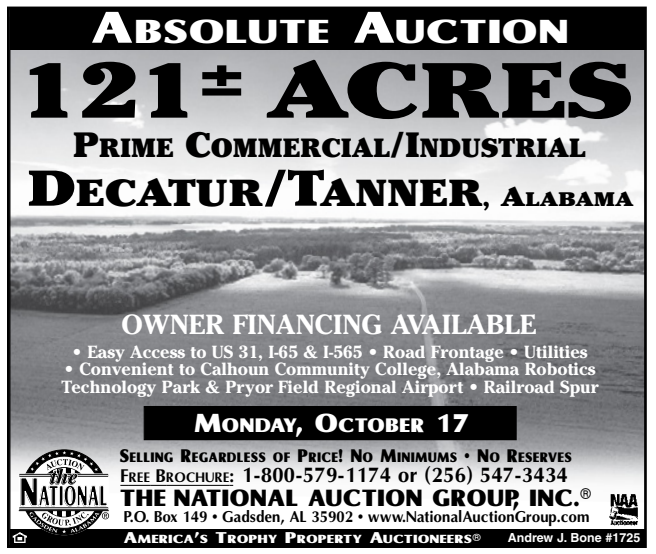
"We had perfect weather," said Jason. "We awarded $25,000 in prizes, with first prize being $10,000, and were still able to present Children's of Alabama with $105,000." The tournament will be an annual event.

"The one thing I would like to stress to people is that when you see those donation boxes at McDonalds, or the Children's Network balloons, give it a second thought before you turn and walk away, because you never know when it could be your family who is in need of their services," said Brody's dad.

To find out more about the Children's Miracle Network, visit http://give.childrensmiracle networkhospitals.org/.

For information about the Ronald McDonald House Charities, see http://www.rmhc.org/.

Details about Castin' 'N' Catchin' can be found at http://www.castinncatchin.org/.





STATE

McCutcheon announces members of House Driver's License Review Committee

Rachel Adams
Office of the Speaker of the House

MONTGOMERY – Speaker of the House Mac McCutcheon, R-Monrovia on Thursday announced the members of the House Interim Committee on Driver's License Review. The committee was created by HR11 during the recent special session.

"Access to driver's license offices and reduced wait times at these facilities continue to be a priority for our members," McCutcheon said.

"I'm confident this committee will work diligently and bring forward workable solutions that improve the driver's license process for the citizens of Alabama."

Rep. Randall Shedd, R-Fairview, who sponsored the resolution, has been appointed chairman of the interim committee. McCutcheon announced Shedd's appointment when he spoke in Cullman earlier this month.

"With threats of driver's license office closures in the not-so-distant past, the work of this committee is imperative to ensure the taxpayers of Alabama are being provided with the basic services they deserve," Shedd said.

"I am honored to lead this committee and promise we will hit the ground running to find the solutions that Alabama deserves."

The following individuals have also been appointed to the committee:

• Rep. Louise Alexander, D-Bessemer

• Rep. Dexter Grimsley, D-Newville

• Rep. Phillip Pettus, R-Killen

• Rep. David Standridge, R-Hayden

• Rep. Margie Wilcox, R-Mobile

As laid out in HR11, the committee is specially tasked with reviewing the process and procedure of issuing a driver's license in Alabama in order to seek ways to reduce wait times and find methods for making the driver's license office more accessible to all Alabamians.

Additionally, the group will review the necessity of closing certain driver's license offices.

The committee is required to report its findings and submit suggestions to the House of Representatives no later than the tenth legislative day of the 2017 regular session.

The committee's first meeting will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 10 a.m. in Rm. 410 in the Alabama State House.

Branon (from Front)

outburst was witnessed by some members of the West Point Youth Football and Cheer Association. "I've always had a place in my heart for special needs kids," said president of the group, Mike Wells.

"When we found out that Tyler wanted to run a touchdown, I told his mother that I would make this happen," said Wells.

When the big night came last Saturday, Tyler left his mom at the sidelines and, wearing his new maroon and white, #16 Warrior's jersey and his helmet, he took the field to applause from both sides.

"I had spoken to the coach of the opposing team, the Cullman Cyclones, and they all wanted to be a part of this special event," Wells explained.

Because the officers wanted Tyler to have the best possible experience, they had given him the T-shirt, jersey and the loan of an extra helmet, but when Tyler refused to take the head gear off, they decided to give that to him as well. He was ecstatic!

The other Warriors (ages 9-11 years) the cheerleaders, referees and other people along the sidelines, cheered and yelled Tyler's name. Over the loudspeaker came the announcement that "Honorary Warrior, Tyler Branon had taken the field to make a special play." He even got to huddle with the team.

When Tyler, with Hunter alongside him, crossed the goal line, the crowd went wild.

Players, cheerleaders and officials were in tears, as was the crowd on both sides of the bleachers.

"This was a personal, once in a lifetime experience," said Wells.

"To stand there and see that many adults and kids with happy tears in their eyes was a sensational feeling."

Equipment manager for the West Point youth team, Jeremy Kilgore, remarked about the swell of emotions in the stadium.

"After Tyler scored the music for the Braves Tomahawk song came on, everyone waved and did the tomahawk chop," said Kilgore.

"Our whole family has been blessed by this happening for him, it made his dreams come true," said Christina.

Everyone agrees that this is the way youth football should be.

Bid (from Front)

necessary to bring the price back down closer to the budgeted amount for the construction.

"The lowest bidder will work with the contractor because this project is subject to value engineering. What that means is that they will work together to find ways to reduce costs without changing the scope of the project," said Folsom.

The project will now proceed quickly.

Not only has the land been purchased, but the firefighters have already been hired.

The 12 new hires were made possible because Cullman Fire Rescue received a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant for a little over $1.1 million in September of last year.

Fire Station No. 3 will be located on Alabama Highway 157 East next door to Merchant's Bank, near the Piggly-Wiggly grocery store.

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Oct. is Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Ala.

Jennifer Ardis
ADECA

MONTGOMERY – If you start to see a bit more purple around your area this month, your eyes aren't deceiving you. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and the purple ribbons, logos and other decorations are designed to raise awareness about domestic violence and the assistance available to victims.

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs is joining in by turning its logo purple for the month and reminding Alabamians that free, professional help is always available for victims at nonprofit organizations across the state.

The organizations provide free services including 24-hour crisis lines, emergency shelter, counseling, court advocacy, safety plans and more.

A list of shelters is available on the Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence website: www.acadv.org/get-help/shelters.

Help also is available 24-hours a day by calling the coalition's statewide domestic violence hotline at 1-800-650-6522.

"We want to ensure that survivors of domestic abuse know that services are available at any time of the day to help them escape a violent situation," ADECA Director Jim Byard Jr. stated.

The services are supported by grants awarded by Gov. Robert Bentley and administered by ADECA from funds provided by the U. S. Justice Department and the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services.

In the past year, 18 nonprofit organizations have received more than $3.9 million in grants.

Along with the grant funding, these organizations rely on private donations to ensure that services are always available.

ADECA also will be participating in a candlelight vigil at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6 on the front steps of the State Capitol.

Organized by the Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the event honors victims and raises awareness of domestic violence and the services and assistance available to victims.

"Domestic Violence Awareness Month offers an opportunity for people and agencies across our state and nation to bring special attention to this important social issue," said Patricia Butts, executive director of the coalition.

Pope (from Front)

Will Hogue
will@cullmansense.com

Ron Pope is a musical artist from Marietta, Georgia who is in the middle of a fall tour, playing songs from the album he released this year titled "Ron Pope and the Nighthawks."

"This album is the greatest artistic achievement of my life," he said. "I have released many records, but this latest one is the record I am proudest of."

Although Pope grew up in the south, he spent most of his adult life in New York City. He attended New York University in Manhattan, but after graduating college he struggled to get a foothold in the music industry. He released his music independently and eventually founded the independent record label Brooklyn Basement Records.

He moved to Nashville, Tennessee recently, and he says the reason is twofold: the cost of living in Nashville is much lower than New York; and the gentrification in New York City is pricing out artists. So, as the head of a record label, Pope wants to be in the thick of the creative magic.

"Nashville right now is kind of like New York City when I moved there," he said. "All of the artists are here in Nashville. So, when you go out to eat, your waiter is in a band, and when you get your oil changed that person is also a photographer. So being around all of those types of people fosters a creative mindset within the community."

Pope describes the music he plays as American Rock music, but admits that there are myriad influences to his sound.

"Most of the music I listened to and loved while growing up in Georgia was made by people within a short drive from where I lived," he said. "So there are country elements with the slide guitar, there are some New Orleans horns in the songs, there's Wilson Pickett and the Allman Brothers influences for sure."

Pope describes his latest record as a "love letter" to American music. This is a comforting sentiment, when one considers that much of the sound that Pope has is usually accompanied with a feigned country accent. Rest assured, Pope is a sincere artist and will not feign an accent to sell more T-shirts.

"I want fans to know I'm swinging for the fences with every song, with every record," he said. "I feel like if an artist is doing that and giving you what he feels like is the truth, then there's nothing bad you can say about that. And that's what I want to do, I want to give my fans the truth."

While Pope does consider "Nighthawks" to be his best record yet, he will continue to create music.

"I have always been a writer. I have always been writing songs, I mean, ever since I was 12 years old," he said. "I feel compelled to write; it's like an itch I have to scratch. I have written on average 100 songs a year since I was 12 – 200 songs in a very productive year. But the thing is, almost everything you write is bad. You just have to push through to find the best stuff, the stuff that works."

Pope has been listening to artists like Chris Stapleton, Leon Bridges and Sturgill Simpson recently.

"That Stapleton record is a masterpiece," he said.

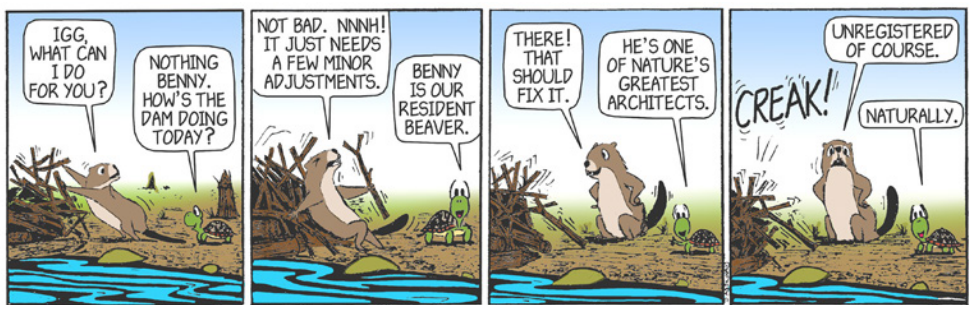
Pope is an artist who loves to see artistry flourish, and that is, in part, why he founded his own record label, and why he himself continues to make music.

"I want to give these amazing artists a chance to do something they would never, ever get the chance to do without a major record deal," he said.

Pope has three shows left in October: Oct. 18 in Athens, GA, Oct. 21 in Birmingham and Oct. 22 in Chattanooga.

Go to http://ronpopemusic.com/shows/ to purchase tickets and visit Pope's website.

Comics









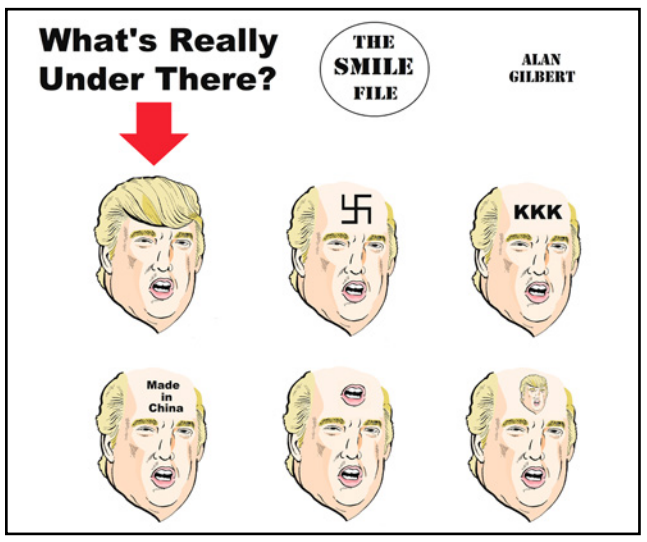
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Editorial Cartoons





Poet's Corner

TRAGIC DAYS

Fear is in our hearts in this
unstable rest.
People packing guns like the
wild wild west.

When will the killings stop?
I'm sure know human knows.
As we watch these tragic stories
before our eyes unfold.

To be sworn to uphold the law,
must be a heavy burden.
But God help us all to never shoot,
unless that we are certain.

Retaliation is not the answer,
taking other's precious life.
The blood that's shed in return
destroys us all in time.

So before you leave your home
today, pray that it will cease.
And dedicate to help someone
and live your life in peace.

By: Randy C. Hale

FOXGLOVES & FIREFLIES

Why didn't someone tell me?

Loretta Gillespie
Tribune Correspondent

Why didn't someone tell me that it was going to be like this? Getting old, I mean. When I was younger I thought my grandparents had it all figured out. They were the wisest people I knew, the ones who gave the best advice, had all of the most useful, basic experience, and the most insight into the world.

Now that I'm a grandparent myself, I realize how naive those assumptions were, and how great my grandparents were at convincing me of them.

About a year or so ago, I asked my Uncle Joedy, now in his 80s, if it was like that for him. Was he just in an older body with a mind that was still young? "Oh, yes, it sure is!" he said ruefully, and I knew from his tone of voice that he knew exactly what I was talking about. It's hard to describe to a young person who would probably think they were talking to someone who is on the verge of senility, but for me it's like I aged physically but mentally I think I'm still 19.

Which is probably why every day last week you could have found me dangling from a 12-foot ladder, hanging burlap and floral moss in the trees and hoping the wind wouldn't suddenly send me catapulting into the pond, or looking in the woods for stumps that I could use on tables to elevate dishes holding barbecue, red or white sauce, baked beans and coleslaw.

Who would have ever in the world thought that we women, now the matriarchs of the current generations, would have replaced silver-plated, brass candelabras and our great-grandmothers' best china and gleaming crystal with galvanized pails, tree limbs and twine-wrapped Mason jars? Why didn't someone warn me that I would one day be decorating with burlap, which was what gave off a smell like oil in my Daddy Young's barn? My word, I could have bought stock in the burlap industry really cheap back then, and be living on some exotic island now with the money I would have made off of burlap stock!

And here's another tip for those of you who have seen these changes taking place and wondered how it got to this point. Buy stock in Baby's Breath now while there might still be time! Baby's Breath (Gypsophila , a genus of flowering plants in the carnation family, Caryophyllaceae, native to Eurasia, Africa, Australia, and the Pacific Islands) was always just used as a filler for all of the years that I was growing up and when I started hosting weddings. Now, however, it has become the plant most favored by the shabby-chic crowd, and is sometimes used in lieu of and any fresh flowers at all!

I don't want anyone to think I can't adjust to these changes, it's not that, it's the way my mind say's "Go for it!" and my body says, "Hey, hold up a minute, there, and let's think this through... it might not be such a great idea to try pressure washing until 4:30 in the morning while everyone else in the world is sound asleep!" Especially when the pressure washer in question has a flat and you are trying to drag it over roots and vines. And about now is when you've discovered that you might not have been in your right mind to have wanted all of these brick sidewalks, edging and flagstone patios.

I'm giving all of you fair warning; this creeps up on you silently and stealthily. One day you are 21, and you can ride a bicycle all over town, all day long, and actually have fun. Then, you get on one, (and you have to be careful even doing that) you ride down the driveway, and by the time you reach the mailbox you are having second thoughts about your seating arrangements.

I saw my oldest friend's 47-year-old daughter, Kim, dancing up a storm over the weekend, but on Sunday she was complaining about being stiff and sore, and how badly her calf muscles were hurting. She must have danced for three songs, but she remarked later that they were really long songs... something about a 'stanky leg' and if 'you don't believe me just watch,' and some other stuff that I never could understand the words to (and probably wouldn't have wanted to know!). Kim said that it was the 'wabble' that got her.

So, you see, even in your 40s it has begun...

This insidious disease called old age makes its presence known only after it's too late to do anything about it. Sure, you can have plastic surgery but eventually it will catch up with you, somehow, someday, when you least expect it. And cosmetic surgery is only the tip of the iceberg. It's the joints that get you, and your feet, which used to carry you around in the cutest of shoes, and now howl all night long if you dare to wear anything other than tennis shoes with special inserts.

I just wanted to warn you about this because I sure wish someone had told me. Don't blink; you'll see what I mean soon enough...

EDITORIAL

Trump the pigeon

Tom H. Hastings
PeaceVoice

As the famous ethologist Konrad Lorenz told us in his classic 1963 book, On Aggression, we humans are closer to prey than predator—but that makes us more dangerous in some terrible ways.

A "real" carnivore—a massive cat with long razor claws and fangs measured in inches, or a wolf with a long row of exposed flesh-ripping teeth and jaws that can break bones—very rarely kills members of its own species. They have instinctive signals that allow for surrender and subservience. The dominant animal will almost never cross that signal to kill another of its species.

Prey, however, do not expose their jugular vein to fellow members of their species. And since they do not possess fearsome weapons with which to hunt, kill, and consume prey, they have no instinct to see that line of abject surrender. Prey, if they can be induced to attack a fellow member of their own species, will "torture them to death," wrote Lorenz, and this propensity comes down to the natural repertoire of humans too. Pigeons, if manipulated into attacking a fellow pigeon, will peck it into a lifeless mass of bloody flesh and feathers. We humans only became fearsome predators by inventing weapons and we only develop proscriptions on annihilating each other by wrestling with conscience, social norms, and empathy in a process of slow conscious evolution.

We see this complexity borne out in our societies from top to bottom, replete with exemplars from the convicted criminals in prisons, their guards, cops, soldiers, intelligence interrogators, billionaires on Wall Street, and including politicians. We struggle to control that inclination so we have laws, moral leadership, and public discourse such as happens in these very pages. Lorenz goes a long way toward explaining Donald Trump's unchecked tendency to peck at anyone in his way, from a reporter with disabilities who asks a tough question, to another journalist who happens to be a woman and asks a slightly challenging question, to Miss Universe who decides to endorse Hillary Clinton, to a judge who happens to have some Mexican ancestors, and on and on. He was not raised to deal with the social norms, courtesies, and accepted behaviors of civilized people—like royalty born into extreme privilege but never educated or disciplined toward decency, he is simply following his wiring and lack of training. He is a pigeon with zero idea that most people want to see a leader show real regard and respect for most others.

This is not a problem except Trump is now a serious contender to rule the US, be Commander-in-Chief, pick Supreme Court nominees, issue powerful unilateral Presidential Findings, as well as veto legislation. This includes the power to control the nuclear arsenal with launch codes instructing thousands of omnicidal weapons on submarines, bombers, and in ground-based missiles in the western US.

A responsible electorate would deny these capacities to someone like Trump. Let us pray that this prey never accesses that unbridled power. He shows all the signs of being capable of pecking the most powerful and apocalyptic destructive force on Earth into doing its worst. So we must do our best.

Close finish for 3rd annual Smith Lake Bass Fest

Johnny Thornton
Tribune Correspondent

TRIMBLE – After three years in operation, the Smith Lake Bass Fest has established consistency in participants with over 200 boats taking to the lake Saturday morning, despite fog in some locations and challenging conditions for the more than 400 anglers, with a $10,000 grand prize hanging in the balance.

When the weigh-in closed at 5:15 p.m., Bruce Holcombe and Gary Holcombe had a double-double.

The two collected the most weight with five bass totaling 16.98 pounds. They also had the biggest fish, bringing it in live, weighing 5.59 pounds.

The Holcombes edged out Jesse Wiggins and Jordan Wiggins, who claimed second with 15.56 total.

For much of the afternoon, Justin Defoe and Zared Mayfield were in the lead with 15.55 pounds.

But the Holcombes took the top spot and the Wiggins duo edged in for second place.

The husband-wife team of Spencer and Diane Lynn had a respectable showing with fourth place at 14.78 pounds from five bass.

A parent-child combo of Jamie Butler and Clay Butler claimed the fifth spot, bringing in 14.76 pounds.

Second place through fifth was extremely tight, especially with the prize money being distributed by the Cullman County Parks and Recreation Department, the sponsor of the yearly event.

Rounding out the top 10 were Chad Smith and Mike Smith in sixth place at 14.40, Lamar Smith and Greg Roberts seventh with 13.74, Robin Erb and Keith Townel and Benjie and Jonathan Seaborn tied for eighth at 13.37 with Michael Harbison and James Bagwell in 10th place, collecting 13.03 pounds on five bass.

The Holcombes' biggest bass outweighed the one brought in by Leon Brewington and Randy Brewington, which weighed 5.33 pounds and Roger Shiflett and Dale Carver's 5.15 pounder.

The Brewingtons grabbed the individual lead from Shifflet and Carver who were in front for much of the weigh-in until the late afternoon.

From the collegiate division, Logan Shaddix and Ethan Flack had the most bass with 9.41 pounds and were 31st overall.

Miles Smith and Spencer Smith took in second at 8.86,39th overall, followed by Brett Webster and Evan Horne with 6.60 and a 66th place finish.

Those were the only three individual bass that weighed better than five pounds of 453 that were weighed in between 3 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. The total weight of fish brought in live was 802.54 pounds.

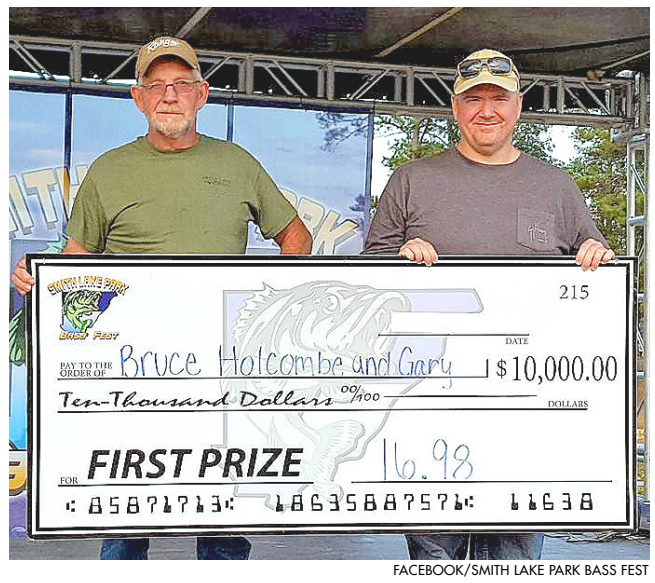
Ninety-nine boats of the 204 turned in their fish.

The Smith Lake Bass Fest started back in 2014 when a suggestion was made to Cullman County Commission Chairman Kenneth Walker.

Walker contacted County Parks and Rec Director Doug Davenport, and the rest is history.

The festival gathered better than 200 boats and had better weather conditions this time in comparison 2015, when the event took place in the rain.

The park is looking for the event to maintain its consistency and to increase the number of anglers and boats.



FACEBOOK/SMITH LAKE PARK BASS FEST

Another event in Guntersville on Saturday kept it slightly down from the 248 that came to Smith Lake last year.

Anglers from around the area and other locations came to Smith Lake for Bass Fest, which is coordinated by Fishlife from the Warrior area, who handled the scoring and weigh-ins.

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