The Cullman Tribune

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EDUCATION

State releases 'A-F Report Card' for 2015-2016

Cullman County schools receive wide range of results

W.C. Mann
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CULLMAN – The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE)-established system to monitor the academic achievement of all of Alabama's public schools is called the Alabama Accountability System (AAS). The AAS recently released the long-awaited and controversial 2015-2016 ALSDE "A-F Report Card," albeit without letter grades assigned. There is a website, however, where parents can see percentile results of by state, school district and school: https://ap.alsde.edu/accountability/atof.

Alabama State Superintendent of Education Michael Sentance is a vocal opponent of letter grades for schools.

Back in November, P5

Developing young leaders the hard way

Cullman County camp provides military-style training to teens



P9

XMC

POLITICS

Special Cullman Co. Republican Women meeting to focus on human trafficking

Wendy Sack
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CULLMAN – The Cullman County Republican Women will meet on Jan. 10 at 6 p.m. at Cullman VFW Post 2214, located at 112 Veterans Drive SW. The meeting's special guest speakers will be members of the Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force, including task force chair Kathy Wilson, Cullman County District Attorney Wilson Blaylock and District Judge Kim Chaney.

Attendance is free and the public is invited.

Late last fall, the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced a new partnership between the DHS Blue Campaign, the department's unified effort to combat human trafficking, and Cullman County, aimed at raising public awareness about human trafficking. Cullman is only the second county in the state of Alabama to partner with DHS. Jefferson County is also a partner. The news was shared at November's monthly meeting of the Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force.

"This is exceptional because we are only the second county in the state to do this. This is monumental for Cullman," said Wilson at the time. "Our quality of life here is like no other, which is why we've got to keep it that way."

Blue Campaign Chair Maria Odom signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on behalf of the DHS with Cullman County Commission P14

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
January 5, 2017

Relay For Life of Cullman County hosting 2017 Kickoff Celebration Jan. 12

Gail Crutchfield
WSCC

CULLMAN – The American Cancer Society's Relay For Life of Cullman County will kick off the 2017 fundraising season on Thursday, Jan. 12, 2017, at 5:30 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall of First Baptist Church of Cullman, marking the 24th year for the local fundraiser organized by a group of local volunteers.

The 2017 Relay For Life of Cullman County event will be held Friday, May 5, 2017, at the Cullman County Fairgrounds, from 6 p.m. to midnight. The theme for Cullman's event is "Once Upon a Cure," with participating teams encouraged to build their team theme/slogan around books.

Relay For Life is the signature fundraiser for the American Cancer Society.

Cullman County is one of more than 5,200 communities in 20 countries where volunteers work together to raise money used to fund research, provide support and services to cancer patients and their families, and educate the public on prevention and early detection.

During Relay For Life, participants are encouraged to have team members take turns walking around a track or designated path for the duration of the event.

The continuous walking is the signify that cancer never sleeps. It also honors cancer patients who don't stop fighting because they're tired.

Between now and May 5, teams will be hosting fundraisers as they try to meet their fundraising goals. Teams are asked to raise at least $100 for each registered member of their team.

Teams can raise funds through group events, individual fundraising, by securing event sponsorships and more. The Relay For Life committee offers several opportunities for fundraising to all teams.

Teams that choose to set up campsites at the May 5 Relay For Life event continue their fundraising efforts that night by collecting donations for food, goods, games and activities.

Relay For Life is open to all individuals, groups, businesses, etc., who would like to participate.

"We have families who have banded together to honor loved ones affected by cancer; we have church and school groups and businesses all who want to support the American Cancer Society and the fight against cancer," said Helen Allen, a 23-year veteran of Relay For Life of Cullman County.

"We all have been affected by cancer in some way. We all have seen the progress that's been made over the years, but there's still a lot of work to do, and we need your help."

Businesses who may not be able to field a team but still would like to support Relay For Life are welcome to provide help through donations and sponsorships.

Teams can now register at www.relayforlife.org/cullmanal. For more information, contact Helen Allen at 256-709-4019 or helen@weltimail.com or ACS Staff Contact Haley Marecle at 256-531-4010 or haley.marecle@cancer.org.

Follow Relay For Life of Cullman County on Facebook at www.facebook.com/RFLCullmanAL or on Twitter at @RelayCullman.

Missoula Children's Theatre bringing 'Treasure Island' to Cullman; auditions Jan. 16

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CULLMAN – This month, the Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT) will return to Cullman to present "Treasure Island" at the Cullman Civic Center, in partnership with Cullman City Parks and Recreation (CP&R). As with previous MCT productions, they'll be looking for local talent.

The Tribune spoke with event coordinator Waid Harbison to find out more. He shared a little about the production company and its long-standing relationship with CP&R:

"Missoula Children's Theatre is a touring company based out of Montana that sends staff across the country to put on shows for youth ages 5-18. This is one of the oldest programs we have at parks and recreation, as my sister and I were in these shows some 20 years ago, and the program is still going strong today." He went on to describe the MCT's traveling shows as "a huge way to promote the performing arts to kids at a young age."

MCT's mission, according to the organization's website, is "the development of life skills in children through participation in the performing arts."

This year's production, "Treasure Island," will begin with local auditions at the Cullman Civic Center, starting at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 16. Auditions are open to all children and youth ages 5-18. Daily rehearsals will then take place until Saturday, Jan. 21, when shows will be presented at 2 and 6 p.m. at the civic center. Auditions are free; families of those chosen for the cast will pay a small fee that will include parents' tickets.

Harbison feels the ongoing relationship between CP&R and MCT has a positive impact on the culture of Cullman, especially on its youth.

He said, "The big draw of this program is really offering the performing arts to young children. For many, MCT will be their first encounter with singing, dancing, acting and performing on stage. Having this opportunity for all the kids in our community is vastly important, as many will go on to have a future in performing arts, whether that be at a high school, college or even professionally down the road as several of our former participants are now involved in professional performing arts (including Morgan Smith, also known as the Wendy's spokesperson in many of their commercials and Paige Harbison who is a professional entertainer at Dollywood, having performed several times with Dolly Parton). CP&R is also dedicated to offering something for everyone in the community of all different interests and skill sets. This just adds to our department being able to offer even more for the community."

MCT and CP&R's productions are supported with funding and volunteer manpower by Shirley Quattlebaum and State Farm Insurance. For more information on MCT, visit the organization's website http://mctinc.org.

For more about CP&R's arts and culture programs, see http://cullmanrecreation.org/arts-culture-programs/.

2017 Bownes Memorial For Kids' Sake Variety Show set for Jan. 22

Maria Stanford
CRMC Foundation

CULLMAN – Students from the Cullman community are preparing to showcase their talents to benefit nursery and pediatric care at Cullman Regional on Sunday, Jan. 22 at 4 p.m. in the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre at Wallace State.

The 2017 Bownes Memorial For Kids' Sake Variety Show celebrates the variety of talent among the youth in our area. The program will feature musical and theatrical performances from more than 80 children.

The event was started in 1993 by Dr. Eugene Bownes, one of Cullman's most beloved pediatricians.

The program allows the Cullman Regional Medical Center (CRMC) Foundation to purchase special items for the hospital to help care for infants and pediatric patients. Proceeds from the event have purchased a variety of patient-care items over the years.

Engaging the students in the show allows them to be exposed to a philanthropic event at a tender age.

Through their participation, they will give back to help advance healthcare services. The participants make donations at the time of their auditions, sell tickets and sell sponsorships for the show.

The 2017 Bownes Memorial For Kids' Sake Variety Show promises to deliver a wide range of talents from solo and ensemble dance performances to vocal and instrumental performances. Tickets may be purchased in the Foundation office for $10 in advance and $15 the day of the program.

"We are excited to once again host the variety show giving students the opportunity to showcase their talents," said Champ Crocker, Foundation president. "We encourage the community to take part and show your support for this cause benefiting the nursery and pediatric care at Cullman Regional."

To sponsor or purchase tickets for the show, contact the CRMC Foundation at 256-737-2565 or email crmcfoundation@crmchospital.com.

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Holly Pond council brings 2017 to order in 1st meeting of new year

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Holly Pond Town Council

HEATHER MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

HOLLY POND – The Holly Pond Town Council met Monday evening, in spite of the rough weather, to discuss the monthly matters of the community. The minutes from the last meeting were read, then corrected. Next, the council read the financial report, and found it acceptable. The council then opened up to public comments, and the only person in attendance simply stated that he was very proud to be living in a town like Holly Pond.

Mayor Bill Oliver then moved on to the committee reports. Carla Hart (Streets and Lighting) discussed possible improvements to the "Welcome to Holly Pond" sign and passed around pictures of different towns' signs to get ideas of what the new sign might look like.

She also brought up the issue of replacing the street signs. Lou Thomas (Beautification) said that she was very proud of the Christmas decorations but that "we can do more next year."

Suggestions were made for getting a tree so the town could have an official Christmas tree lighting in the park. Paul Brown (Safety) brought up the issue of a dogwood tree near the water treatment facility that needs to be removed, as the roots are causing cracks in the foundation.

He also stated that the facility requested additional railing around some of the structures. Gladys Wisener (Sewage) had little to report since Brown covered pretty much everything she was going to say.

Finally, Michelle Ball (Parks and Recreation) stated that sign-ups for park workers would begin in February.

When the council reviewed old business, Oliver reminded the members to complete their ethics training courses by the end of February, and he also notified everyone that the Christmas lights would be taken down soon.

The first order of new business was the changing of address for Pond View Drive. County 911 dispatch had the area listed as Pond View Road, which caused problems for responders.

The council made and approved a motion to change the 911 maps to say Pond View Drive. The next issue concerned salaries of the council members and whether the amount discussed was before or after taxes were taken out.

The issue was quickly resolved with confirmation that the amount was before taxes.

Oliver then alerted the council to the fact that there was a sale on Christmas lights and that he had already ordered several new ones, and Wisener requested that he order some new bulbs as well.

Oliver also brought up a request from Wal-Mart to host a free health fair for senior citizens, complete with screenings and shots.

There is currently no set date or location, but Oliver said it would likely take place between August and October.

Other matters discussed were the issue of getting permission to fix a traffic light and the protocols for reimbursing council members for mileage expenses.

Finally, Oliver told the council that the Cullman County Emergency Management Agency will host a disaster training seminar on March 21.

When the new business was finished, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Oliver asked all in favor to "raise your hand, stand up and go home."

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

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Fairview Town Council meets, talks community development

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FAIRVIEW – The Fairview Town Council held its regular meeting Monday evening, with Mayor Keith Henry, all council members and Town Clerk Debbie Shedd present.

After the invocation and pledge, the last meeting's minutes were approved without discussion before the council moved into old business.

Old business included three matters:

Henry gave an update on the town's senior center, noting that while most work on the exterior and parking lot has been completed, the interior is still far from finished. He specifically pointed out continuing needs in the center's kitchen and HVAC system. Council members were invited to visit the center and see the current status and progress.

Henry also gave an update on the lighting for the town's park. Solar-powered lights have been installed at certain points along the park's walking trail, to test how they will work; and they appear to be functioning well. He estimates that 67 more lights are needed to complete the trail with a light every 50 feet, at an approximate cost of $5,700. No action was taken, and the matter was tabled until the next meeting.

The council then discussed the need for cleanup of the Craft property. Councilwoman Paula Edge stated that the overgrown and unsightly property is owned by Traditions Bank, and that bank representatives have failed to return recent calls. Discussion of possible action was tabled until Henry can talk to bank representatives himself.

In new business, the council considered the possibility of hiring a full-time town maintenance person. A recommendation was made to allow the mayor to handle hiring, based on an existing policy that would allow him to do so. Henry said that the town should not hire just anyone, but someone with extensive skills in construction and maintenance. A plan that seemed workable to all was the hiring of one full-time skilled person, and the use of Cullman County Detention Center inmates for unskilled tasks. One name was brought to the table as a possible candidate, but as that person is currently employed elsewhere, the name is withheld. No action was taken, and the matter was tabled until the next meeting.

After the conclusion of that one new item, a motion to pay town bills was passed without discussion.

Before the council adjourned, one more item was brought up. Edge asked if the mayor was ready to proceed with any property annexation. Henry said he was ready for local property owners to begin applying for annexation, but he wanted to focus on properties along Highway 69, waiting for additional funds for road improvement before soliciting property owners on side roads. The council discussed advantages of annexation and the procedure by which a property owner gains annexation, but the matter ultimately received no official council action before the meeting adjourned.



Fairview Town Council

W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The next scheduled meeting of the Fairview Town Council is Monday, Feb. 6 at 6 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

PREP BASKETBALL

West Point edges Good Hope in overtime

Johnny Thornton
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WEST POINT – Cameron Moore scored his only field goal of the game, a 3-pointer with 40 seconds left in overtime, that lifted the West Point Warriors by the Good Hope Raiders 47-44 Tuesday night at Jim Boyd Gymnasium.

Moore had been shut out on the scoring column until the extra four minutes. The senior hit two free throws that put the Warriors ahead and after a Good Hope basket tied the score, he delivered a patented trey from the right wing off a pass from Brandon Farley that sent West Point to victory.

The Warriors have won three of their last four games after enduring a nine-game losing streak heading into their Christmas Tournament last week.

West Point helped themselves in the pairings for the upcoming county tournament.

The Warriors are 3-3 with the Raiders falling to 2-3. Cold Springs is 3-2 with a game at home Thursday against Hanceville, while Fairview is 3-2 with a game at home Saturday vs. Vinemont to determine the second- through fifth-place seeds. Good Hope closes out its county play vs. Hanceville at home next week.

A slow pace through the first half with the Warriors leading the Raiders 11-7 after one and 22-17 through the half, picked up in the third period as West Point extended its advantage to 35-28.

Then the Raiders stormed back behind the scoring of Kallen Sharpton in the fourth quarter. Sharpton got nine points including four straight in a span of 16 seconds to get the game tied at 42-42.

Sharpton and West Point's Kolton Sapp missed potential game-winning threes in the final seconds with the contest to be decided in an extra four-minute period.

Free throws from Moore sent West Point up 44-42 with Sharpton driving inside for a basket, and Good Hope tied it at 44-44 with 1:27 to go.

The Warriors patiently worked the ball around and found Moore open who converted the three to break the tie. His long ranger was only the third one scored by Randy Jones' squad all night.

Austin Dubberly led the Warriors with 14, Sapp scored 13, Alex Hernandez had six, Moore scored five, Farley four, Michael Keller three and Toby Cunningham two.

Good Hope dropped to 12-5 overall. Sharpton was sharp with 22 for the Raiders, Isaac McDonald added seven, Blake Lyle and Mason Moniz scored five each and Isiah Lemus two.

West Point 59, Good Hope 43 (Girls)

Former Good Hope players Miriam Oldacre and her twin sister Micah Oldacre responded for West Point after the Lady Warriors had a slow start with one field goal in the first quarter and were trailing the upset-minded Lady Raiders 12-6.

West Point scored on eight field goals in the second, two by Miriam Oldacre, two by Olivia Ball and two by Mackenzie Carter that accounted for a 19-9 run and a 25-21 lead at halftime.

Good Hope stayed close, getting the ball in the post to center Kate Kent who had eight at the break, with eight by Leyton Seal from the perimeter.

From the 5:32 mark to 1:01 in the third quarter, Miriam Oldacre took charge of the attack for John Welborn's Lady Warriors. She tallied 13 consecutive points to create breathing room with her team owning a 45-33 lead when the period came to a close.

Good Hope tried to hang around, closing to 51-40 on a three from Savanna Derrick with 4:35 remaining.

The Lady Warriors held Good Hope to a three by Mckailey Speegle the rest



JOHNNY THORNTON/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

of the way and added eight on their side to run their season record to 15-2 and extend their winning streak to three games.

Miriam Oldacre got 20 in this contest with Lexi Shadix hitting for 12, Olivia Ball and Carter scoring nine each, Madison Roberts four, Micah Oldacre three and Lillie Burdette two.

Good Hope played hard for coach Amanda Swann, but suffered their seventh straight defeat. Kent tossed in 16 with Seal and Derrick scoring eight each, Speegle with six, Sadie Abbott four and Erica Woodall one.

Good Hope will host Holly Pond Thursday and Meek Friday. West Point travels to Fairview Friday. The Friday games are in question with a possible wintry mix to affect Cullman County and the Tennessee Valley.

Stay tuned for the latest information from The Cullman Tribune.

PREP BASKETBALL

Lady Bearcats, Wildcats win in first games of 2017

Sammy Confer
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – The Cullman Lady Bearcats and the Guntersville Wildcats enjoyed their first games of 2017 with respective wins.

Guntersville 71, Cullman 58 (Boys)

Guntersville got on the scoreboard first on a pair of free throws by Logan Bonds. Cullman could not buy a shot early, until Dylan Finch put the Bearcats on the board with 5:17 remaining in the opening quarter by going 1 of 2 from the line. Guntersville quickly pushed the lead to 8-1 behind layups by Chrishon Hampton and C.J. Williamson.

Williamson got fouled hard after hitting the layup and stayed down for a little bit before getting up. Josh Perry hit both of the intentional free throws to push the lead to 10-1. Finch also scored Cullman's first basket of the game with 4:06 remaining on a layup.

The Wildcats quickly pushed their lead to 16-4 after a Williamson layup. But the Bearcats finished the quarter on a 7-0 run to cut the lead to 16-11 after one.

Finch swiveled the lead to 16-13 to start the second quarter. The Wildcats scored the next six points to push the lead back to 22-13. After a Jayden Sullins layup cut the lead to 22-15, Izzak Parker hit a layup and got fouled.

He completed the 3-point play to increase the lead to double-digits. Cullman cut the lead to 31-24 after a 9-2 run. Guntersville answered with a 7-2 run of their own to push the lead to 38-26. After a Finch 3-point play cut the lead to 38-29, Kevin Collie hit a layup to make the score 40-29 at the half.

The Wildcats increased their lead to 45-29 to start the third quarter, but Cullman fought back with a mini 6-0 run, finished by a put-back basket by Reese Harbison, to cut the lead to 45-35, but they never got the deficit under double-digits the rest of the game as Guntersville took a 56-37 lead after three and cruised from there to win their 14th game of the season.

Williamson finished with a game-high 20 points for the Wildcats. Hampton ended up with 15. Perry and Collie each had 12. They improve to 13-2 on the season. They will host New Hope on Thursday.

Sullins had 16 for Cullman, and Finch finished with 12 as the Bearcats fall to 7-13 on the season. They will host Albertville on Thursday instead of Friday because of the threat of wintry weather.

Cullman 64, Guntersville 42 (Girls)

Cullman jumped out to a quick lead and they cruised from there to win their opening game in the new year.

The Lady Bearcats led 19-4 after one, 35-16 at the half and 47-26 after three.

All but two Cullman players scored at least two points. Sierra Easterwood led Cullman with 19 points. Anna Evans finished with 10. Hannah Hoffman and Anna Eastman each had nine. They will host Albertville on Thursday instead of Friday because of the threat of wintry weather.

"I thought we played a pretty solid game," Cullman coach Josh Hembree said.



TWITTER/CULLMAN HIGH SCHOOL

"Offensively, we need to take care of the ball, but we did move the ball around and hit some outside shots. Defensively, we need to move our feet and anticipate things quicker. If the refs are going to call a lot of fouls, then we need to stop trapping them. These girls are getting better. We improved to 10-9 on the season and any time you are above .500, it is good."

Aniyah Harris finished with 13 for Guntersville and Kaylee Hasley had nine. They fall to 4-10 on the season. They will look to snap their eight-game losing streak at home against New Hope on Thursday.

Card (from Front)

the state board of education, after working with lawmakers, approved revised rules to get the grading system, which is state law, implemented.

The revision tabled the A-F letter grades for 2015-2016, but left the delivery of all of the data intact. That data is what has been released.

At the end of 2017, however, letter grades are expected to be assigned.

The official purpose of the AAS reads:
"Alabama ACT No. 2012-402, requires the State Superintendent of Education to develop a school grading system reflective of school and district performance. Alabama's goal is to provide another transparent layer of accountability as it relates to Elementary and Secondary education in the State.

This law requires the state to use state-authorized assessments and other key performance indicators that give a total profile of the school or school system, or both, a school's grade, at a minimum shall be based on a combination of student achievement scores, achievement gap, college and career readiness, the 2017 report card and scholarship that will learning gains, and other indicators as determined by the State Superintendent of Education to impact student learning and success."

For this report card, AAS rated schools and school systems with a percentile score based on the following:
• Learning Gains (for schools that have no grade 12) - Determined based on individual students who demonstrate improvement in reading/math from one year to the next using multiple years of data.
• Student Achievement- Determined based on the percentage of proficient students in the area of reading/math utilizing assessments in tested grades.
• Graduation Rate (for schools that have grade 12) - Determined based on the percentage of high school students who graduate within 4 or 5 years of first entering the 9th grade.
• Local Indicators- Created by individual schools, approved by the ALSDE and required to be tied to student outcomes.

According to the ALSDE, will also include data on learning gains for schools that include grade 12, attendance, achievement gaps and college and career readiness indicators.

It should be noted that the gains and achievement categories focus specifically on reading and mathematics skills, and do not directly reflect a school's performance in sciences, social studies, athletics, arts, etc.

This year's findings for Cullman County and city schools are eye-opening. Both systems, as collective wholes, exceeded overall state scores; the real story is in the details of individual schools.

"Cullman City Schools continues to have outstanding success in our students' achievement. Our scores are a reflection of the dedicated work our staff and students do as well as the committed support of our parents and community," said Cullman City Schools Superintendent, Dr. Susan Patterson.

"Our focus will continue to be on daily providing the learning gains our students need to ensure they graduate with character, citizenship make them successful. This focus is much more than a score, it is the foundation of our school system's vision and the expectation of our community."

"The Alabama State Department of Education did release a portion of the school report card that they are developing. It is not complete and it does not assign letter grades as of yet," said Cullman County Schools Superintendent Shane Barnette.

"While I am not satisfied with our overall achievement, I am optimistic about our improvement and our upward trend. When compared to other districts of similar size and demographics we continue to be one of the leaders. While much of this report card data is based on one test, it is important to know that the success of students from Cullman County will always be determined by much more than one score. Cullman County Schools are doing many wonderful things that could never be measured by one test."

Below is an alphabetical listing of all public schools in Cullman County, with the exception of West Elementary, which is listed with its sister school, East Elementary, under Cullman.

All point values represent percentages. For obvious reasons, elementary and middle schools have no graduation rates. High schools did not display learning gains.

Top performing schools in Learning Gains:
• Elementary - Parkside and Welti tied, with a perfect 100
• Middle - Cullman, with a perfect 100

Top performing schools in Student Achievement:
• Elementary - East, with 87.39
• Middle - Cullman, with 86.51
• High - Cullman, with 71.31

Top performing high school in Graduation Rate:
• Fairview, with 96

Poorest performing school in Learning Gains:
• Both Elementary and Middle - Harmony, with 69.5 (Harmony is a combined K-8 school, and scored lower than any other school in either category.)

Poorest performing schools in Student Achievement:
• Both Elementary and Middle - Harmony, with 49.13
• High - Holly Pond, with 29.17

Poorest performing high schools in Graduation Rate:
• Cold Springs and Hanceville tied, with 87

When each school's two categories are added up for an overall score, the two top performers are both in the Cullman City system: No. 1 Cullman Middle School and No. 2 East Elementary School.

West Point Elementary School is at the bottom of the list, due to an incomplete report. Holly Pond High School and Harmony School scored lowest among those schools with complete reports.

Data sourced from https://ap.alsde.edu/accountability/atof and https://www.alsde.edu/

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Cullman County Schools
ALSDE 'A-F Report Card'
2015-2016

School Name	Learning Gains	Student Achievement	Graduation Rate
State of Alabama	89.08	59.27	89
Cold Springs Elementary	88.3	63.37	NA
Cold Springs High	NA	38.06	87
Cullman Middle	100	86.51	NA
Cullman High	NA	71.31	94
East Elementary	96.63	87.39	NA
West Elementary	98.38	83.67	NA
Fairview Elementary	83.13	57.58	NA
Fairview Middle	98.41	74.91	NA
Fairview High	NA	33.61	96
Good Hope Elementary	89.27	68.2	NA
Good Hope Middle	89.28	65.29	NA
Good Hope High	NA	32.8	89
Hanceville Elementary	76.42	57.4	NA
Hanceville Middle	96.68	64.01	NA
Hanceville High	NA	38.58	87
Harmony School	69.5	49.13	NA
Holly Pond Elementary	88.7	73.47	NA
Holly Pond Middle	98.64	66.8	NA
Holly Pond High	NA	29.17	91
Parkside Elementary	100	74.13	NA
Vinemont Elementary	94.44	69.18	NA
Vinemont Middle	96.08	69.77	NA
Vinemont High	NA	39.67	89
Welti Elementary	100	76.75	NA
West Point Elementary	NA	69.79	NA
West Point Intermediate	79.89	61.21	NA
West Point Middle	94.67	66.56	NA
West Point High	NA	41.91	93

News from the Pond

Jimmie Dean Carnell
Tribune Contributor



Good morning Tribune readers and families. HAPPY NEW YEAR! Welcome to 2017, now we have made it to another year. Someone said they hoped this year would be better than the last one. Maybe. I hope also that you have enjoyed the wide variety of college football bowl games – I certainly have.

Also I would like to say congratulations and keep up the good work to the Holly Pond Bronco Varsity Boys basketball team.

They are having an outstanding year so far. Their team is coached by Mitch Morris.

Every time there is a game, I will look in the newspaper and see the results.

Some of the team members are a part of our church family and make us extra proud.

Do you make New Year's Resolutions? I don't, because they are mostly forgotten before the first month is completed.

When a person makes a resolution they resolve to keep it forever, but you know what they say about 'good intentions.'

Most people are more aware this time of year about resolutions and are reflecting upon changes they would like to make in their lives.

Also at this time of year, some people are off of work for several days.

The school student's return to classes this week, most workers are back on schedule, and some have a hard time adjusting to the colder weather. It seems that the winter months are the longest.

One of my Avon customers in downtown Cullman is at the former Cullman Real Estate office.

One of my favorite people is Mrs. Robin Seymour, a sister to the co-owner, Mrs. Kay Whaley. Robin and her husband Gary Seymour had a sad few days recently.

Gary's father, died on Wednesday, December 28th. They reside in Arley.

I extend Christian Sympathy to this family. His funeral was held on Friday, December 30th.

Last Sunday, December 25th, we were honored to have three families at our church, who have been serving on the mission fields. Among these were the Kenny and Bethany Boulhanis family, who are part of the Cameron Harbison family, Zack and Savanna Freeman's families and Chris Pugh's family.

Kenny and Bethany and Zack and Savanna serve in South Asia.

Chris Pugh and his family serve in Baltimore. They will be honored at our church with a church-wide fellowship on January 8th. We were very glad to have them home for the holidays.

Tribune Files from Yesteryear

From The Files Of 1957

Cullman Relatives Attend Edgar Tucker's Funeral

Mr. and Mrs. Alva Gene Tucker, Bernice Tucker and Mrs. W.B. Wood have returned from Akron, Ohio, where they attended the funeral of their cousin, Edgar A. Tucker, last Friday.

Mr. Tucker, age 48, died at Akron General Hospital on September 30th, after suffering a heart attack.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Velma Tucker; two stepsons, Phillip and James Lucco; two sisters, Mrs. Lela Bean and Miss Lucy Tucker and three grandchildren, all of Akron.

Hutchinson Rites Held

Funeral services were held on October 9th at the New Prospect Church for Mrs. Eula Hutchinson, age 42, of Gardendale, who died at her residence, on October 7th.

Reverend Harvey Edwards conducted the services and Moss Service directed interment in the adjoining cemetery.

Surviving are her husband, Leonard Hutchinson; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L.D. Grimmett; a sister and three brothers.

Mrs. Knight Injured

Mrs. Nancy Knight, age 78, was injured in an automobile accident on Monday afternoon in Hanceville. She received a broken leg.

The accident occurred on the street in front of Warren Brothers Store. Miss Lula Mae Knight, driver of the car, in which Mrs. Knight was a passenger, hit a parked car and then ran into a house.

From The Files Of 1898

The first open cotton boll of the season that we have seen was brought in on August 17th, by James Trapp.

The hat trimming party at H.L. Heidleberg's on Tuesday evening was largely attended and was a pleasant affair.

Fire at early dawn on Sunday destroyed the storehouse and fixtures of N.J. Stewart and Sons and the vacant building formerly occupied by the Hays Drug Company.

A meeting of the school board was held on August 15th, attended by three of the five members. J.H. Karter, W.H. Jones and E.M. Stone were present.

They elected the teachers for the coming school year, which will begin on September 26th.

S.H. Green was elected principal, at a $45 per month salary, Charles G. Speegle, teacher of the intermediate department at $30 per month and Miss Magdeline Scheiterle as primary teacher at $25 per month.

The financial statement for October 1897 to July 1898 shows receipts to be $1,383.05 and expenditures to be $971.92, leaving a balance of $411.13.

J.M. Biggs is erecting a shop and wagon factory at his residence, near Trimble.

Fritz Homberg, a veteran German shoemaker, who had worked and lived alone for many years, died suddenly on Wednesday morning.

He had accumulated $18.75 in cash, which will suffice to defray his burial expenses.

Mrs. J.E. Clark left on Saturday morning for Grand Rapids, Michigan, with the hope of regaining her health.

Miss Dora Gray is visiting in Hartselle.

Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Jones are spending a week in Vermont.

Mayor John F. Beyer is in Louisville, Kentucky, this week.

An unsuccessful applicant for principalship of the City School vouched for his ability to teach anything taught in a school and therefore need (he wrote) "know recommendation" beyond that.

From The Files Of 1928

Bertas Mackentepe, who recently purchased the Alabama Hotel, is remodeling the interior.

From The Files Of 1937

The home of W.C. Wilhite was destroyed by fire on Friday night, about 11:00 o'clock.

The Mothers Club is sponsoring free dental and medical examinations of the Cullman City School pupils. The physicians and dentists are giving their services free.

Men leaving for Camp Pike this week are: James G. Nix, John Grady Howard, Lee O. Brooks, Robert Fortner, Oscar Bahme, Mancil Self, Oliver Daniel and S. Phillips.

The honor roll at Cullman City School for the first month includes: second grade – Dorothy Ruehl, Florine Lonnergrin, Pearlier Mayhall, Maybelle Blanton, Edna Motley, Elsa Mark and J.W. Waller; third grade – Dorothy Simpson, Alma Green, Edna Mae Fehler and Marvin Green; fourth grade – Max Wood, Emma Werner, Mary Lessman, Helen McKoy and Doris Griffin; fifth grade – Bessie Metz, Mattie Lea Rollo, Hazel Schneider, Esther Wood and Alberta Ziegler; sixth grade – Vivian Fisher and Lorine Fischer; seventh grade – Claribel Christian, Louise Cannon, Willie Buettner, Viola Brooks, Elizabeth Richter, Florence Patjens, Laurietta McMinn, Lawranie Hoenig, Clifford Deerr, Hazel Whitten, Maybelle Watson, Edley Turner, Hazel Pylant, Nelle Neal, Erma Kinney and Louise Grayot.

Mrs. C.C. Scheuing returned on Tuesday from an extended visit with Mrs. C.O. Jaggers in Chickasaw, Oklahoma.

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

'What if I had?' or 'What if I do?'

Bill King
Tribune Contributor



What's faster than a speeding bullet? Why, Superman, of course. He's also more powerful than a locomotive and able to leap tall buildings in a single bound, but he has never won a gold medal in any of those events. This past year Usain Bolt did. He won a pocket full of them, because he's the fastest man in the world. He has reached speeds of 27.8 miles per hour – on foot! I once had a worn out Volkswagen that wouldn't run that fast downhill with a tailwind! It reached its top speed each morning when I coasted down the hill in our back yard to pop the clutch and crank „er up.

What is faster than Usain Bolt? An Ostrich! They can reach speeds of 40 mph on two legs. The four-wheel drive Cheetah, I meant four-legged, reaches speeds of over 60 mph.

We could say they are lightning fast, but that's not actually true. Lightning's return stroke is said to travel at 220,000,000 mph.

The lightning bolt is much faster than the Usain Bolt.

Now those are all amazingly fast, but I feel like the fastest thing I have ever witnessed may have been the passing of 2016!

I used to laugh at old people as the said, "The older you get the faster the years go by." Now I am "old people" and I'm one of the ones saying that!

Could it be that time only seems to move faster, because I am moving slower? Nah, that couldn't be it!

At this stage in my life, I have to confess that I am definitely moving slower, but do feel like the years are passing by at warp speed. It seem like 2016 began a month or two ago rather than twelve.

It seems like yesterday we entered a new millennium and people were predicting the end of the world, or at least the crash of all the computers.

Can you believe that was seventeen years ago? Of course, if you are in your early twenties, seventeen years is a long time. It makes sense when you think about it with the proper perspective.

For example, when you were four years old, a year was one fourth of your entire life.

Now that you are, well, never mind how old you are, or me either, for that matter, you get the point.

I've seen several years and one of them is certainly no longer one fourth of my life. I would tell you the exact percentage but I'm not good with fractions.

Like a whirlwind, 2016 is gone. It is past tense and we have used it up!

We can't go back, we can't do it over, but then we might not want to. We may look back with remorse and play "What if" but that won't change anything. I've often asked, "What if I had been born rich

instead of so good looking?" The truth is that asking "What if" won't make me either. The good news is that an entirely new and unused year is stretched out right in front of us.

The question is what are we going to do with it? Instead of using "What if" with regret as we look back, how about using it with anticipation as we look ahead?

What if we give thanks for the good in 2016, ask forgiveness for the mistakes we made, put it to bed and move one?

What if, in 2017, we explore our options and possibilities and make wise choices and do the right things? Happy New Year!

Bill King can be reached at bkpreach@yahoo.com or 334-745-0588 (office) or 334-728-5514 (cell).

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, will hold a public hearing on January 23rd, 2017 at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in the Lucille N. Galin Auditorium at City Hall, 204 Second Avenue NE, Cullman, Alabama 35055. At this time anyone wishing to be heard in favor of or in opposition to the adoption of Ordinance No. 2017-08 (set forth in full below) will be given an opportunity to be heard.

ORDINANCE NO. 2017 – 08

TO DECLARE CERTAIN PROPERTY SURPLUS WHICH IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC OR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES BY THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, as follows:

SECTION 1. It is hereby established and declared that the following described real property of the City of Cullman, Alabama, is no longer needed for public or municipal purposes, to-wit: "A parcel of land, otherwise known as an undeveloped portion of Charles Avenue SW, which is fifty feet by seven hundred and twenty-eight feet, more or less, located directly west of Charles Avenue SW."

SECTION 2. That the Mayor and City Clerk be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed to execute and attest, respectively, for and on behalf of the City of Cullman, Alabama, a warranty deed, a copy of which is on file in the office of the City Clerk, whereby the City of Cullman, Alabama, does convey the premises described Section 1 hereof to the adjoining property owners for its fair market value.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall become effective upon its passage and publication as required by law.

Wesley M. Moore – Cullman City Clerk

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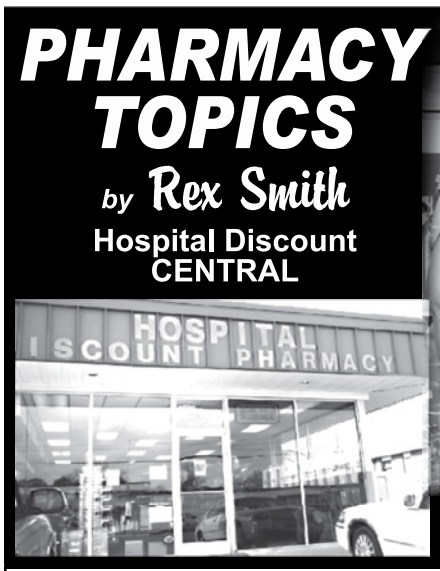
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PHARMACY TOPICS

by Rex Smith

Hospital Discount CENTRAL





Pictured L-R: Vanessa Patton, Becky Cook, Becky Burks and Rex Smith, RPh

Mothers who purchased antidepressants at least twice during pregnancy had a 37 percent increased risk of speech and/or language disorders among their offspring compared to mothers with depression and other psychiatric disorders who were not treated with antidepressants, according to new research published in JAMA Psychiatry. The speech/language disorders included expressive and receptive language disorders and those involving articulation of sounds. Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) such as fluoxetine, citalopram, paroxetine, sertraline, fluvoxamine and escitalopram cross the placenta and enter the fetal circulation. They are also increasingly used during pregnancy..

***

Approximately 1.9 billion adults are overweight and 600 million are obese worldwide. Identifying effective long-term treatment strategies for overweight and obesity is of paramount importance. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved five weight loss drugs (orlistat, lorcaserin, naltrexone-bupropion, phentermine-topiramate and liraglutide) for long-term use in obese (body mass index (BMI) > 30) or overweight (BMI > 27) individuals with at least one weight-associated condition (type 2 diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia). The researchers found that a median 23 percent of placebo participants had at least five percent weight loss versus 75 percent of participants taking phentermine-topiramate, 63 percent of participants taking liraglutide, 55 percent taking naltrexone-bupropion, 49 percent taking lorcaserin and 44 percent taking orlistat. All active agents were associated with significant excess weight loss compared with placebo at one year: phentermine-topiramate, 19.4 pounds, liraglutide, 11.7 pounds, naltrexone-buproprion, 11 pounds, lorcaserin, 7.1 pounds and orlistat, 5.7 pounds. Compared with placebo, liraglutide and naltrexone-bupropion were associated with the highest odds of adverse event-related treatment discontinuation.

***

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
January 5, 2017

Artist profile: W.C. "Music" Man(n)

Loretta Gillespie
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – When you stop to consider that Craig Mann has performed on 38 musical instruments, it makes all kinds of sense to refer to him as the Music Man. That's more instruments than most people can name in a trivia contest.

A music historian, Mann has performed on numerous instruments related to American popular music history. His main performing instruments are Appalachian dulcimer, guitar, clawhammer and minstrel banjo, and piano. His personal music collection includes around 400 pieces of 19th century sheet music (original, copied or transcribed).

Mann was the assistant curator and music historian for Old Alabama Town in Montgomery from 1997 -2006, and was the top Alabama finisher in the dulcimer competition in 2015 at the Old Time Fiddlers Convention in Athens, Alabama, which garnered him the title as the Alabama State Dulcimer Champion for 2015-16.

He holds the United Daughters of the Confederacy's Jefferson Davis Medal for preservation of southern history for his work in the preservation of music of the Civil War era.

According to Mann, his interest in history reaches way beyond music. He has won craft competitions in historical leather crafting, traditional blacksmithing and hand sewing reproduction historical cloth goods.

"I have also been a reenactor, portraying characters of the early French colonial era, French and Indian War, Creek War/ War of 1812, fur trade era, Civil War and Old West," he said.

Mann started playing more than 25 years ago, at the age of 25. His parents were musically inclined, both sang around the house, and his mom sang in the choir and was the church pianist.

She realized that her son had a gift for music when she was practicing for the upcoming Christmas season one year.

"She had been playing 'The Little Drummer Boy' and got up from the piano to do something," recalled Mann recently.

"I climbed up on the stool and began playing the same tune."

He was 6 years old at the time. His mother immediately arranged for him to take music lessons, but after a few months, Mann says that he got kicked out of both piano and organ lessons, which ended his parents' funding of his budding career.

Much later, in about the 10th grade, he picked up a guitar and began playing it.

The following years in high school, and later on in college, he would return to the piano, often earning extra money in college by playing piano in area churches around Birmingham.

He attended college at Samford, where he majored in religious education, with a minor in psychology, then went on to attend graduate school in New Orleans at the Baptist Theological Seminary, where he did some elective studies which included classical guitar.

As a musician, he didn't have much interest in the dulcimer until years later, when, in April 1991, he was host to contemporary Christian star, Rich Mullins, who was proficient on the instrument.

The sound so intrigued Mann that he drove from New Orleans to Birmingham to buy his first dulcimer soon after hearing Mullins in concert.

That began his love for the instrument which eventually led him to share its unique sound with students in the Cullman area.

One of the reason's he elected to teach this, out of all the other instruments he might have chosen, is because it allows students the opportunity to learn the basics in about two minutes.

"Most leave their first lesson knowing how to play 'Mary Had a Little Lamb,'" said Mann, "That gives them a lot of confidence to keep coming back each week for more complex lessons."

Along with his advanced students, Mann is one of a nine-member performing group called Mountain Melodies.

The group performs at venues such as Peinhardt Farm Day, Oktoberfest, the Strawberry Festival, Farm Y'all, the Farm to Fork dinner, Blountsville and Hanceville Christmas open houses and at several local churches.

Members of Mountain Melodies are, Janice and Johnny Graves, Gail Dixon, Jean Gilliland, Judy Goode, Jane Teeter, Sandy Waters and Linda Prater.



CRAIG MANN

Mann conducts dulcimer classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced students each Friday at the Donald E. Green Senior Center, starting at 11 a.m.

He teaches advanced classes in Blountsville on Tuesdays at the Blountsville Historical Park.

Mann also teaches private lessons for beginners in Hanceville.

"The dulcimer has a lot of complex levels, but it offers students a way to gain self-confidence quickly, so that they don't get discouraged," he pointed out.

"This instrument works on a tablature similar to the number system used in the 'paint-by-number' concept," he explained. "Students can take it as far as they want to go."

Mann has produced some instructional YouTube videos for those who want to familiarize themselves with the instrument. Enter 'Dr. Bill's Mountain Music' to check them out. If you would like more information, contact Mann at wcraigmann@yahoo.com.

"I also encourage people who think they might want to enroll in classes to come and sit in on one before signing up," he suggested.

Mann has served as music director of several churches and is currently a reporter for the Cullman Tribune, the father of a son, Hunter, and a daughter, Bonnie Heather, both of whom are in the marching band at Holly Pond High School. His wife, Lana, is a respiratory therapist. The family makes their home near Holly Pond.

Mann has lectured on early Alabama history, and is currently awaiting publication of his biography of Creek Chief Samuel Moniac by NewSouth Books.

If you would like to attend a class, or sign up for classes, or book Mountain Melodies for a performance, contact Mann at wcraigmann@yahoo.com or call the Donald E. Green Senior Center at 256-734-9157.

The Donald E. Green Senior Center is located at 510 Fifth Street SW in Cullman. Hours of operation are Monday thru Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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Camp (from Front)



PHOTOS COURTESY XMC

BATTLEGROUND – A 75-acre camp located near Battleground in eastern Cullman County, known as Camp Liberty, offers a youth leadership development program known as "Extreme Military Challenge" (XMC) The summer, holiday and weekend program, which operated for years on the campus of Marion Military Institute in Marion, Alabama, relocated to the former Stoney Creek Christian Camp (15719 Alabama Highway 157 in Battleground) in September 2016 in order to develop its course offerings beyond what was available in the borrowed facilities of MMI.

XMC is a program of Maryland-based Liberty Communications LLC, and both the corporation and program are headed up by President/Col. Joseph Land Sr. Liberty Communications offers leadership development and career services, along with other organizational support services to service members, veterans and government agencies.

XMC offers team-building programs for corporate teams, but its main focus is military-style leadership development for teens ages 13-18.

Its staff members, many military or former military, describe their offerings as "the most challenging and realistic military training programs available to cadets.

Perfect for the young person who is interested in exploring - first-hand - the military lifestyle." Their stated mission is "to provide young people with a realistic exposure to uniformed service, allowing them the opportunity to make informed decisions regarding their future."

Land described the XMC program and its participants: "XMC is a career exploration program for young people 13 to 18: good kids, crime-free, drug-free and have the ability to do well in school. The realism, the quality of the facilities, the level of qualification of the staff--everything we do is as real and as high quality as we can possibly provide. There's just nothing like it."

XMC may sound like an ROTC program, and many cadets do come to the camp; but the program is open to any youth looking for a little adventure and the opportunity to test and develop themselves.

Its training offerings include certain aspects of military basic training, marksmanship, wilderness survival, rappelling, physical fitness, teamwork and team leadership.

Advanced programs even offer students SCUBA certification and credits toward a pilot's license.

XMC recently held its winter Cadet Tactical Skills Training course at Camp Liberty.

With a small group of 20 experienced cadets and instructors, the week-long program keeps its participants constantly outdoors, and features medical and survival skills along with simulated combat.

Cadets are learning about common injuries in winter settings, and are building fires and shelters while watching their kits of available tools shrink each day.

By the end of the course, cadets should be able to shelter and warm themselves with no modern equipment at their disposal.

Assisting in this course is U.S. Army Private First Class (PFC) Jared Duncan, a graduate of XMC.

In an interview provided by XMC, he said of the program, "It helped me make my decision to join the Army. All the experiences I had: all the training, all the instructors, just learning so much; it helped me get ready to join the Army. I joined in 2015, and I just felt greatly prepared with the great help of XMC."

For more information visit "Extreme Military Challenge" on Facebook, or the website http://www.xmccamp.com.





STATE OF ALABAMA)
)
COUNTY OF CULLMAN)

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

Date & Time of Sale: Monday, January 23, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.
Sale Location: Cullman County Courthouse East Entrance
500 Second Avenue, S.W.
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Writ of Execution Parties: Larry Collins, *et al*
vs.
Clarence Blake West, *et al*
713 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

By virtue of an Execution issued to me by Circuit Clerk Lisa McSwain, pursuant to the Code of Alabama, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Execution issued on a judgment, with interest and cost. Upon the expiration of proper notice and advertisement, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder at the date, time, and location listed above, all right, title, and interest of Clarence Blake West, real property, described as follows:

A parcel of land described as follows: Beginning at the northeast corner of the south half of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 16, Township 10, Range 5 West, thence west to the east side of the Jones Chapel and Crane Hill Road, also known as County Road 940, thence southerly along the east right of way of said Road a distance of 120 feet, thence east to a point on the east line of said southwest quarter of the southeast quarter that is 120 feet south of the above beginning point, thence north along the east line of said southwest quarter of the southeast quarter a distance of 120 feet to the point of beginning. Said parcel of land being in the south half of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter in Section 16, Township 10, Range 5 West.

Source of title: Deed Book 565, Page 674 in the Office of Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

THEREFORE, according to said command, I shall expose for sale at public auction, all the right, title, and interest of the above-named Clarence Blake West, in and to the above-described property on the date listed above, subject to all prior encumbrances of record.

Dated this the 19 day of December, 2016.

BY: Matt Gentry, Sheriff
Sheriff Matt Gentry

STATE OF ALABAMA)
)
COUNTY OF CULLMAN)

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The South half of Lot No. 417, as shown on the recorded map of the City of Cullman, Alabama, being a tract of land 82 ½ feet by 132 feet located on the Northwest corner of the intersection of Second Avenue, East and Eighth Street, in the City of Cullman, Alabama.

Said property is transferred subject to all easements, and rights of way, whether recorded or unrecorded.

Source of title: Deed Book 422, Page 400 in the Office of Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

THEREFORE, according to said command, I shall expose for sale at public auction, all the right, title, and interest of the above-named Clarence Blake West, in and to the above-described property on the date listed above, subject to all prior encumbrances of record.

Dated this the 19 day of December, 2016.

BY: Matt Gentry, Sheriff
Sheriff Matt Gentry

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC-2016-331

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF GARLAND McCARN, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Kristy Myers on the 21st day of December, 2016, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Kristy Myers, Personal Representative

and

Thomas A. Smith, Jr., Attorney for the Personal Representative

To the publisher of the *Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Thomas A. Smith, Jr.
Smith & Smith, LLP
Attorneys for Personal Representative
P O Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398

DISTRICT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY

AFH Properties
(PLAINTIFF)
VS CASE NO: SM-2016-000525
Brandon Dawson
(DEFENDANT)

NOTICE OF FILING OF LAW SUIT

DEFENDANT, Brandon Dawson, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the complaint brought against him/her by the PLAINTIFF, AFH properties, for $2,747.05 plus court cost, cause of action being: Non-payment of rent in the amount of $2,142.60 plus $604.45 for 2016 taxes.

ANSWER TO THE COMPLAINT MUST BE MADE BY THE SAID DEFENDANT on or before the 9th day of February, 2017, or a default may be rendered against him/her in the above styled cause.

DATED THIS THE 22nd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2016.

LISA MCSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

STATE OF ALABAMA)
)
CULLMAN COUNTY)
)
IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
)
PATRICIA EUDY BAXTER,)
)
DECEASED.)

IN THE PROBATE COURT
CASE NO: PC2016-315

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters of Testamentary of said Deceased having been granted to MICHAEL EUDY, personal representative on the 13th day of December 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.

MICHAEL EUDY, Personal Representative
The Estate of **PATRICIA EUDY BAXTER,** 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
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

Attorney for the Estate:
MELVIN HASTING
PO BOX 517
407 2ND Ave S.W.
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0517

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT default has occurred in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by **MATTHEW T. LIVINGSTON AND DESTINY NICOLE LIVINGSTON**, to **JEANNIE HELMS**, on the 4th of February, 2016. The mortgage is recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, in Book 1782, Page 842. Because of the default, the undersigned Mortgagee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in the mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash in front of the courthouse door of the Cullman County Courthouse at Cullman, Alabama, on the 24TH day of January, 2017, during the legal hours of sale, the following described real estate located in Cullman County, Alabama:

Commencing at a one inch re-bar at the Northwest corner of the Northeast quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 10, Township 12 South, Range 2 West of the Huntsville Meridian; thence South 89 degrees 12 minutes 31 seconds East, a distance of 1,339.62 feet to a ½ inch re-bar at the Northeast corner of the Northeast quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 10, Township 12 South, Range 2 West; thence South 39 degrees 24 minutes 43 seconds West; thence South 39 degrees 24 minutes 43 seconds West, a distance of 692.52 feet to a ½ inch re-bar, of Cap #CA-78 at the Point of Beginning; thence South 33 degrees 09 minutes 04 seconds East; a distance of 380.00 feet to a ½ inch re-bar, Cap #CA-78 thence South 58 degrees 11 minutes 02 seconds West, a distance of 114.63 feet to a 5/8 inch re-bar on the Northeast right of way of a county road; thence North 33 degrees 09 minutes 04 seconds West, a distance of 380.00 feet to a ½ inch re-bar, Cap #CA-78 on said right of way; thence North 58 degrees 11 minutes 02 seconds East, a distance of 114.63 feet to the Point of Beginning. Property being in Cullman County, Alabama and containing 1.00 acres, more or less. Property subject to all existing rights of way and/or easements that are recorded or unrecorded.

Subject to any and all prior mortgages and/or liens and easements and right-of-way of record, restrictions of record, mineral and mining rights, if any, current ad valorem taxes, municipal improvements assessments, and statutory right of redemption on the part of those entitled to redeem.

THIS SALE is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by the said mortgage, as well as the expenses of the foreclosure.

By: DB
DAVE BEUOY
BURKE, BEUOY & MAZE, P.C.
Attorney for Mortgagee
725 North Brindlee Mountain Parkway
Arab, Alabama 35016

BURKE, BEUOY & MAZE, P.C.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
725 NORTH BRINDLEE MOUNTAIN PARKWAY
ARAB, ALABAMA 35016

NOTICE

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER APPLICATION TO VACATE A PORTION OF AN UNNAMED AND UNIMPROVED COUNTY ROAD.

WHEREAS, property owner John Bryant, desires to vacate a portion of a county road within the County limits of Cullman, pursuant to Ala. Code § 23-4-20 (1975);

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ala. Code § 23-4-2 (1975), the Cullman County Commission is required to hold a public hearing, prior to taking final action;

WHEREAS, notice of which is required by statute, shall occur once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks;

WHEREAS, a public hearing will take place on Tuesday, February 28, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. at the Cullman County Commission Meeting Room; First Floor; Cullman County Courthouse; 500 2nd Avenue, S.W. Cullman, Alabama 35055;

WHEREAS, applicant, John Bryant is requesting vacation of a portion of an unnamed and unimproved County Road described as follows, to-wit:

A R.O.W. along an Unimproved County Road described as follows: Commence at the Northeast Corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 11, Township 9 South, Range 5 West, thence N 88°53'55" W 441.11 feet to an iron ½" capped rebar set on the East R.O.W. of said road and the point of beginning, thence S 6°15'00"W 64.40 feet to a point on said East R.O.W., thence S 4°48'42" E 99.87 feet to a point on said East R.O.W., thence S 6°45'49" E 114.07 feet to a point on said East R.O.W., thence S 2°58'30" E 207.40 feet to an iron ½" capped rebar set on the North R.O.W. of County Road 1082, thence S 73°17'55" W 31.07 feet along the North R.O.W. of County Road 1082 to an existing iron on the West R.O.W. of said Unimproved County Road, thence N 2°58'30" W 214.73 feet to a point on the West R.O.W. of said road, thence N 6°47'50" W 112.08 feet to a point on the West R.O.W. of said road, thence N 4°49'18" W 100.90 feet to a point on the West R.O.W. of said road, thence N 26°12'55" W 75.73 feet to an existing iron on said West R.O.W., thence S 88°53'55" E 70.55 feet back to the point of beginning. Said land lying in the NW ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 11, Township 9 South, Range 5 West, Cullman County, Alabama.

WHEREAS, an action is requested for an adoption and approval of a Resolution vacating a portion of an unnamed and unimproved County Road.

WHEREAS, said notice is posted in accordance with Title 23-4-2, et.seq. Code of Alabama, 1975. All persons who desire shall have an opportunity of being heard in opposition to or in favor of such resolution. This public notice is posted a minimum of Thirty (30) days prior to the date of the public hearing at: Cullman County Courthouse Entrance Bulletin Board.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the provision of the Resolution vacating a portion of an unnamed and unimproved County Road, will be considered by the Cullman County Commission at a Public Hearing to be held on Tuesday, February 28, 2017, at the Cullman County Commission Meeting Room at 10:00 a.m. at which time and place all persons who desire shall have an opportunity of being heard in opposition to or in favor of such Resolution or any provision thereof.

Dated this the 13th day of December, 2016.

BY: /s/ J. Chad Floyd
J. Chad Floyd
Attorney for Cullman County
500 Second Avenue, S.W., Room 110
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Telephone: (256) 775-4893

To The Cullman Tribune:

Please publish for once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks: December 22, and December 29, 2016; and January 5, and January 12, 2017.

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 01/26/17 at the Backside of Courthouse of the Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055the 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 (770) 234-9181 (770) 234-9192 Cullman Tribune 7345.29459 12/22/16, 12/29/16, 01/05/17 TS#: 7345.29459 FEI # 2013.04659 12/22/2016, 12/29/2016, 01/05/2017

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
January 5, 2017

Wallace State offers training for many of nation's fastest-growing occupations

Gail Crutchfield
WSCC

HANCEVILLE – Based on an article published by The Wall Street Journal, Wallace State Community College can be the starting point for people seeking to take advantage of opportunities in what are expected to be the fastest-growing occupations in the nation and the occupations expected to have the most new jobs over the next several years. The publication recently listed the top five fastest-growing occupations in the nation and the top five occupations with the most new jobs. Among the occupations mentioned in both lists, Wallace State Community College offers certificates, degrees and non-credit certification options for almost all of them.

Its list of Fastest-Growing Occupations included:

1. Wind turbine service technicians; 108 percent growth; $51,050 median annual salary
2. Occupational Therapy Assistants; 43 percent growth; $57,870 median annual salary
3. Physical Therapist Assistants; 41 percent growth; $55,120 median annual salary
4. Physical Therapist Aides, 39 percent growth; $25,120 median annual salary
5. Home Health Aides, 38 percent growth; $21,920 median annual salary

While Wallace State does not have a course dedicated to wind turbine service technicians, its Electronics Technology program can provide the knowledge and skills used in the occupation. "The skills overlap," said Electronics Technology instructor Michael Johnson. Due to the nature of the business, the states with the highest number of employment include California, Texas and Minnesota, followed by North Dakota, Wyoming and Iowa.

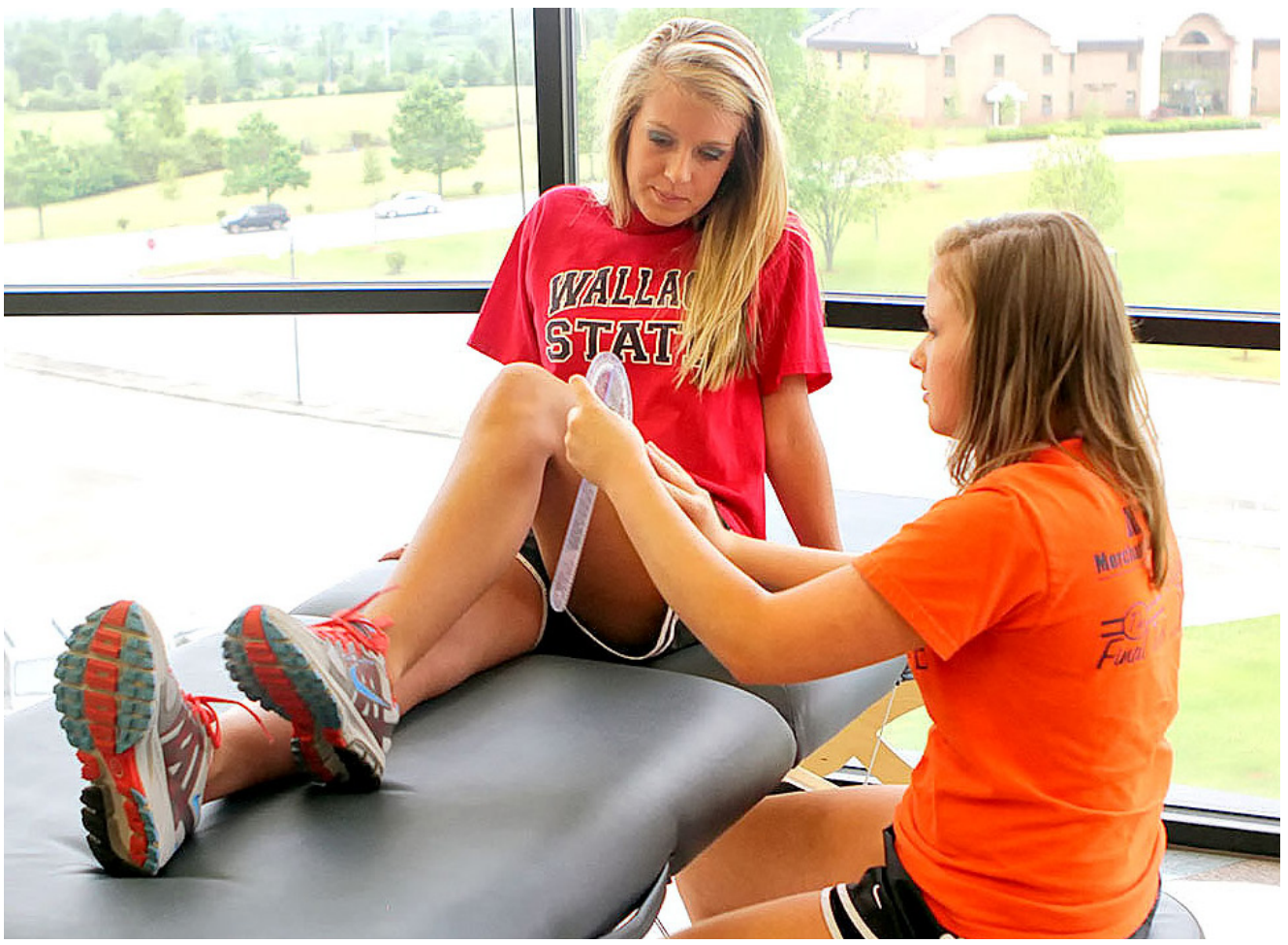
The next four on the list are all taught at Wallace State either through its Health Science programs or the Continuing Education department.

Wallace State's Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) and Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) programs both have high marks in successful completion for its graduates, with both boasting 100 percent pass rates on their licensure exams.

The OTA and PTA programs are five-semester programs, with each offering an Associate in Applied Science degree. The first two semesters are pre-requisite courses that can be taken before applying to the program.

The final three semesters consist of the professional components of the program. A new cohort starts each fall for both programs, with applications accepted April 1 through June 1 for entry into the program.

Wallace State's Continuing Education department offers non-credit courses for both physical therapist aides and home healthcare aides. The Physical Therapy Aide course is a 50-hour course; it does not include national or state certification.



WSCC

The Home Healthcare Aide course is an 80-hour course and prepares students to sit for the National Association for Home Care & Hospice Home Care Aide Certification examination.

The list for Occupations with the Most New Jobs included:

1. Personal Care Aides; 26 percent growth; $20,980 median annual salary
2. Registered Nurses; 16 percent growth; $67,490 median annual salary
3. Home Health Aides; 38 percent growth; $21,920 median annual salary
4. Food preparation and serving workers; 11 percent growth; $18,910 median annual salary
5. Retail salesperson; 6.8 percent growth; $21,780 median annual salary

Personal Care Aides fall in the same realm as Home Health Aides, therefore the Home Healthcare Aide course through Continuing Education could be a source for training.

Wallace State's nursing program is one of the best in the nation. The WSCC Department of Nursing Education earned the distinction of being named a Center of Excellence by the National League for Nursing through 2020, and graduating classes consistently achieve high pass rates – well above the national average – on their licensure exams.

Wallace State offers a five-semester associate degree program for registered nursing, with an option of sitting for the practical nursing license exam at the completion of the third semester. Applications for Fall 2017 admission will be taken from March 15 through May 15.

Wallace State's Culinary Arts program offers a five-semester associate degree program, as well as an advanced certificate (4 semesters) and a short certificate (2 semesters) for those looking to become cooks, chefs and food preparation workers.

Registration for Spring 2017 is currently under way. Classes begin Jan. 4, with registration continuing through Jan. 10. Go to www.wallacestate.edu/register-now to register for classes. For more information about Wallace State, visit www.wallacestate.edu or call 256-352-8000.

This week in Cullman history

Compiled by Samantha Vest

On the night of January 3, 1982, severe thunderstorms struck Cullman County. Areas affected included Simcoe, Walter, Phelan and Fairview, with Simcoe the hardest hit. Though no tornadoes were confirmed, winds were high enough to completely destroy a Texaco station and out building, and do damage to a fire station, bridges and chicken houses.



JOHN FINNEY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Left: The destroyed Texaco station at Simcoe. Right: The flattened out building, also at Simcoe.



OBITUARY ANNOUNCEMENTS: DEC. 28 - JAN. 3

Funeral services for Marzell Brock, 94 of Cullman held December 29 at Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel; Elder Heath Williams officiated. Interment in Cullman City Cemetery. Mrs. Brock passed away December 27, 2016 at Woodland Village Health Center. She was born July 21, 1922, to C.W. and Dera Davis Talley in Cullman County. She was a member of Mt. Vernon Primitive Baptist Church and a seamstress at Cullman Lingerie for many years.

Graveside services for Barbara J. Powers, age 82 of Cullman, held December 31 at Cullman City Cemetery; Bro. Steve Rodgers officiated. Cullman Funeral Home directing. Mrs. Powers was born on February 6, 1934 to A.R. and Verdie E. McAfee Wood; and passed away at home on Thursday, December 29, 2016. She was a member of Cullman First Baptist Church; and loved her family.

Graveside Services for Charlotte L. Jenkins, age 74 of Cullman, held December 31 at New Hope #2 Cemetery; Randy Sellers officiated. Ms. Jenkins passed away on December 28, 2016 in Cullman, Alabama. She was born on April 6, 1942 to Troy and Jessie Riddle Haynes. She worked as an Inspector for the Cullman County Housing Authority. Holly Pond Funeral Home directed.

Funeral services for Birton Hollis Anders, 81 of Cullman, held December 31 at Moss Service Funeral Home. Interment in Mission Grove Baptist Church. He was born Nov. 18, 1935, in Alabama to Thomas Merity and Emily Ethel Maze Anders. He went home to be with the Lord December 29, 2016. He retired from Cullman Products after 36 years as second-shift supervisor. He owned Anders and Sons Bermuda Hay Farms. Besides spending his days farming, he enjoyed rocking on the front porch watching his great-grandchildren play.

Funeral services for John L. Johnson, 54, held December 31 at Hanceville Funeral Home; with interment in Colony Community Cemetery. Mr. Johnson passed away December 28, 2016 at UAB Hospital.

Mr. Jonathan Neal Hunter of Baileyton Alabama passed away on December 29, 2016 at his residence at the age of 37. He was born June 13, 1979 to Kenneth and Brenda Kritner Hunter. He was self-employed as a farmer and a poultry farmer. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, December 31, 2016 at Moss Funeral Home Chapel; Bro. David Wisener, Bro. Carl Wisener and Bro. Bradley Wisener officiated. Interment in Duck Creek Cemetery.

Mrs. Belinda Lee Reeves, 52 of Cullman, Alabama passed away December 31, 2016, at Cullman Regional Medical Center in Cullman, Alabama. Born Sunday, June 28, 1964 in Cullman, Alabama. She was the wife of Joe Reeves. Funeral services held January 3 at Cullman Heritage Funeral with the Mark Long officiating. Interment will be in Good Hope Cemetery, Cullman, AL.

Karen Lynn Burke, 76 of Cullman, December 28, 2016. The celebration of Mrs. Burke's life held January 2 at Christ Covenant Church in Cullman, AL. with burial in Cullman Memory Gardens.

Hugh B. Newell, 83 of Haleyville, entered into rest on December 31, 2016 at DCH Regional Medical Center, Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Mr. Newell was born on June 27, 1933, in Haleyville, Alabama. He was a member of Liberty Grove Church and attended Phil Campbell High School. Hugh B. enjoyed fishing every chance he could. Graveside services held Wednesday, January 4 Winston Memorial Cemetery in Haleyville. Brother Ronnie Marbutt will officiated. Nichols Funeral Home directed.

Funeral services for Betty McNabb Burks,71 of Cullman, January 4 at Cullman Heritage Chapel. Interment in Mt. Zion Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Burks passed away January 2, 2017 at her residence. She was born April 9, 1945 in Cullman.

Funeral services for Rebecca Haynes, 68 of Cullman, held January 4, 2017 at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel. Pastor Scott Sessions officiated with interment in Cullman City Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Mrs. Haynes passed away January 1, 2017 at her residence. She was born September 6, 1948 to Troy Hershel and Velma Lee Campbell Bagwell.

Graveside services for Doris Keller, 83, held January 4 at Cullman City Cemetery. She passed away January 2, 2017. Moss Service Funeral Home directed.

Memorial service for Erika Annette Dunn Bailey, age 53 of Cullman, will be at 6:00 p.m. Thursday, January 5 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home; visitation will follow. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Ms. Bailey passed away on January 1, 2017 at her residence. She was born December 19, 1963 in Cullman to the late Carlton M and Nettie M Bagwell Cupp. She was a homemaker.

Funeral services for Maurice Willingham, 81 of Falkville, will be at 2 p.m., Thursday, January 5, 2016 at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel, Revs. Paul Monk, George Redding, and Steve Rodgers officiating with interment in Friendship Methodist Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Mr. Willingham passed away December 31, 2016 at Woodland Health Care. He was born June 14, 1935 to Ellis Pascal and Flora Ann Owens Willingham. He was a member of Friendship Methodist Church for many years. He was a retired truck driver and full time camper. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

Funeral services for Steve Luther Sutter, age 63 of Cullman, will be Thursday, January 5, 2016 at 11 a.m. at Emeus Baptist Church with Steven Sutter and Jeff Steele officiating; interment in church cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Sutter passed away Monday, January 2nd at Cullman Regional Medical Center. He was born December 17, 1953 in Long Beach, CA to the late Florene Stevens Sutter and his beloved father, Albert Sutter. He graduated from South Gate High School in South Gate, CA. and Shelton State College with an associates degree in fire science. He moved to Cullman after graduating from High School to live in a city that was dear to his heart. Steve was an entrepreneur (first class), a trader and barterer. The thing he loved most was being a Cullman firefighter (retired). His service and dedication to the Cullman community was unending with 33 years of service. He received several commendations for his heroic actions in the line of duty saving lives. He truly loved his fellow firefighters and considered all of them his brothers for life.

There will be a memorial gathering of family and friends to celebrate the life of Steven Dewain Parris, 56 of Hanceville on Thursday, January 5 at Hanceville Funeral Home from 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. Mr. Parris was born in Birmingham on July 20 to Charles Burl and Doris (Banks) Parris. He was a machinist. Mr. Parris passed away January 2, 2017.

Funeral services for Shirley Jean Glenn Chambers, age 63 of Cullman, will be Friday, January 6, 2017 at 2 p.m. at Cullman Heritage Chapel with Larry Nail and Andy Heis officiating; interment in Duck River Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Chambers passed away Monday, January 2 at Grandview Medical Center in Birmingham. She was born July 14, 1953 in Cullman County to the late Rayford Glenn and Carlie Wise Glenn. Visitation will be Thursday evening from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorial services for Dwight Evon Phillips, 69 of Bremen, will be held on Saturday, January 7, 2017 at Stouts Mountain Baptist Church, Rev. Ernest McKinnon officiating. The family will receive friends at the church from 12 noon until 2 p.m. Mr. Phillips passed away in Tuscumbia on Sunday, January 1, 2017.

Hanceville Funeral Home
100 Michelle Street Northwest,
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(256) 352-3130

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Trafficking (from Front)

Chairman Kenneth Walker.

"We cannot combat human trafficking alone," said Odom. "The Blue Campaign works closely with our partners across the nation to help ensure that our communities know how to recognize and report the signs of human trafficking. We are honored to be working with Cullman County to bring an end to this heinous crime."

Cullman's task force is comprised of representatives from local community organizations, juvenile probation and the district attorney's office and holds free public trainings with the DHS Blue Campaign. The partnership also provides more targeted materials to attorneys, juveniles and members of the trucking industry in the county.

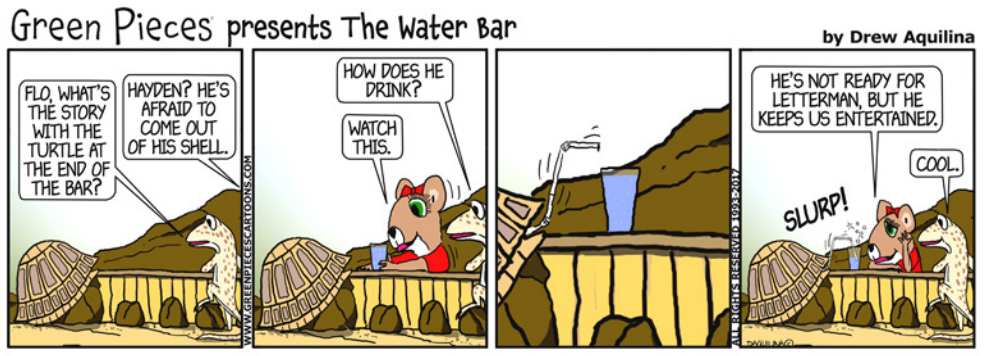
"I am extremely pleased and proud that through the efforts of the Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force that Cullman County has been chosen to partner with the United States Department of Homeland Security with the Blue Campaign to bring awareness and education about human trafficking to our county and state," said Chaney. The Blue Campaign works in partnership with law enforcement, government, non-governmental and private organizations to protect the basic right of freedom and to bring those who exploit human lives to justice.

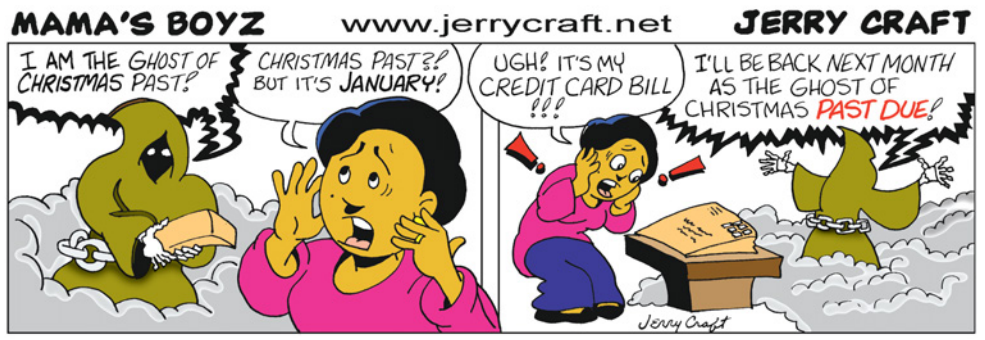
The month of January is designated as Human Trafficking Awareness Month, with Jan. 11 being Human Trafficking Awareness Day. In addition to the Republican women's meeting, the task force will take part in "Coffee for a Cause" at Karma's Coffee House on Jan. 11 from 6:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Find the Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force on Facebook at http://qrne.ws/ht. For more information on the Blue Campaign, visit www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign.



Comics







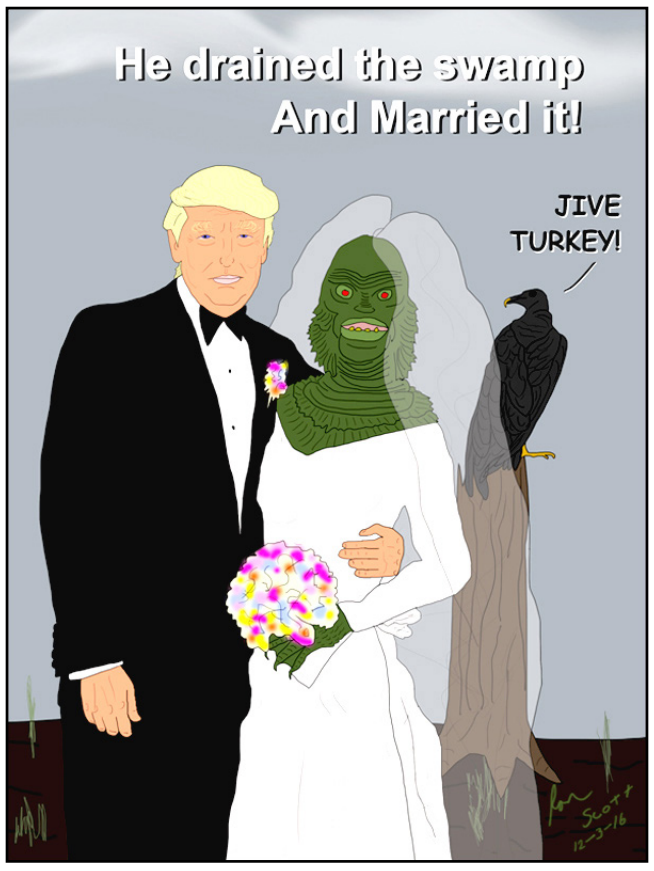


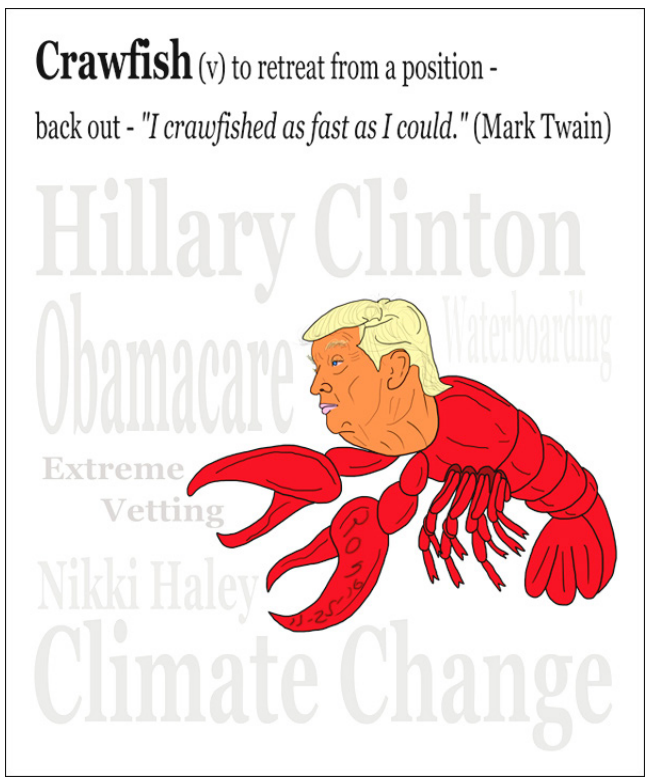


Cullman Lions Club
Annual
Fish & Ham
Dinner
Saturday, February 25th
At
Cullman Middle School Cafeteria
11:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.
$10.00 Plate
Choice of catfish filet or ham, baked potato, slaw, hushpuppies, dessert, and drink (Eat In or Carry Out)
* Drive-Thru available on North Side *
Purchase advanced tickets from any Cullman Lion, or Lioness, Club member
- OR -
The Brandin' Iron Restaurant - Business Solutions of Cullman
Cullman Veterinary Hospital - Doug Doggett Jewelers
East Side Barber Shop - Ed White Jewelers - Mary Carter Store
Peek Auto Parts - Ponder Wrecker Service - Rennards Gallery
www.cullmanlions.com



Editorial Cartoons





Poet's Corner

A STRONG FAMILY

A Strong Family can be described as the love of
cherished relatives and friends, They are the people
who will care deeply for us until our lives shall end.
The strength of a strong family is built
on the love for the Father above,
He is the foundation in which our lives are based
through His wonderful love. Each day we carry
our families love, honor, and courage with in the
depths of our hearts,
For no matter how discouraging times
can be, their love, care and strength
will never part.
A strong family will stand by us, stand behind
us, and comfort us in times of grief and strife,
They are a strength spiritually, emotionally,
physically…worth more than any treasure in life.
A strong family will give every ounce of
their being to see a smile on our face,
A strong family will help guide each
other to heaven…helping to
win life's race.
A strong family encourages each other to show
love and be a great example for others to see,
An example of strength, humility and respect through
love…for that is what has been shown to me.
By faith a strong family will look to the Father
for wisdom and guidance through His Love,
And follow His direction with understanding
of our hope eternally of Heaven above.

By: Tyler Adams Hayden, Alabama

FOXGLOVES & FIREFLIES

Love is all you need

Loretta Gillespie
Tribune Correspondent

The Bible mentions the word "love" 310 times. In the 60s the Beatles told us that "all we need is love" and for most of us, love is high on our list of priorities, although we oft times take it for granted, especially when we fuss and squabble amongst ourselves.

Love, according to the dictionary, is a profoundly tender, passionate affection for another person. A feeling of warm personal attachment or deep affection, as for a parent, child or friend.

Love, so they say, never fails.

According to 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love conquers all...

In a 2010 study conducted at Rutgers University, researchers concluded that falling in love is much like the sensation of being addicted to drugs, with a sense of euphoria, including brain chemicals like dopamine, oxytocin, adrenaline and vasopressin. Kat Van Kirk, Ph.D., a clinical sexologist and licensed marriage and family therapist, says these chemicals are released throughout different points of attraction, and help bond you with your partner. Like drugs, the more time you spend with this person, the more addicted you become, says Van Kirk.

So, what actually happens when we "fall" in love, and why do they call it falling?

Often the heart rate speeds up and the hands get sweaty. Love is like the stimulation of adrenaline and norepinephrine. "This can lead to having a physical sensation of craving and the desire to focus your attention on that specific person," said Kirk.

But did you know that you can actually die of a broken heart? Well, according to the American Heart Association it's a scientific fact.

The technical term is "stress-induced cardiomyopathy," and it can strike even the healthiest person when their stress hormones surge during an emotionally stressful event, such as the death of a partner, divorce or even a bad breakup.

Symptoms often mimic those of a heart attack and include shortness of breath, irregular heartbeat and chest pain. While broken heart syndrome can cause permanent damage to the heart and, in rare cases, even death, the good news is that most cases are treatable and can be completely resolved within a few weeks.

According to an ABC News story, the world's most important living philosopher, Slavoj Žižek, reminds us to remember why we call this emotion "falling in love."

"It makes sense because usually we don't glide or float into love; we fall, we plummet, we plunge, completely out of control when we're falling. The whole process is a violation, a violence, having its own volition. Love overcomes us, overwhelms us, overtakes us."

Is it any wonder that we lose our appetite, our sleep, our focus and our sense of reason when we fall in love? And doesn't this out-of-control state leave us pretty vulnerable? You bet it does!

We cry at sappy love songs, move halfway across a continent to be with the object of our affections, not to mention that this overwhelming feeling keeps florists in business.

My own great-great grandfather, Reason Young, ventured all the way from Laurens, South Carolina, following his sweetheart, who had come to north Alabama with her family in a wagon train; he followed a few months later, on foot, with only the clothes on his back and a burning desire to be with her.

They did eventually marry, and raised a family near Youngtown, which is in Lawrence County. My point is, he came here not knowing if she would return his affections, but he was willing to follow his heart, giving up his home and leaving behind his widowed mother and siblings to be with her.

Others have crossed oceans, fought wars and many have even died for love.

Some studies indicate that men fall in love earlier than women and that women are quicker to fall out of love than men. I'm not so sure about that ... I know women who put up with horrible men in the name of love.

Love can make us happier than anything in the world, and sadder than anything in the world. It can cause euphoria and despair.

It is almost dangerous, but if we never leave ourselves open to the experience, we miss out on much of what is most valuable and important and wondrous in this life.

Love is without a doubt the force behind the writing of some of the greatest works of literature, the lyrics of the most beautiful songs, the subject of many memorable works of art and the inspiration for some of the most profound poetry.

Love, they say, makes the world go 'round.

My hope for 2017 is that everyone finds love, continues to love, spreads love and goodwill, and makes an effort to share it with those around them.

If everyone followed the golden rule, "Love thy neighbor as thy self" then would it not follow that the world would become a much better place for all of us?

"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

I Corinthians 13, NIV

Disaster preparedness: food storage

Dave Robinson
Contributor

As everyone is, I'm sure, diligently building their food pantry, the matter of storage often comes up. This is not about food preservation, as I will leave that to the experts. Plenty of information is available both online and there are classes available in most communities through an extension office or similar service.

One of the best options I have discovered for storing bulk food is the plastic bucket. They are generally inexpensive and unlike plastic totes, are water, air, dust and bug proof. Most totes leave something to be desired as certain vermin can find their way inside.

Storing food in plastic buckets can be helpful in a number of ways. Plastic buckets allow you to store large amounts of bulk foods like grains, pasta and dried beans in lightweight containers to be used in the event of a disaster. However, not all plastic products are safe with food. It is important to be able to identify what the industry calls "food grade" plastic. Some plastics leach harmful compounds into their contents. To avoid this problem, flip the bucket over and look for the recycling symbol on the bottom. There should be a triangle of arrows with a number stamped in the middle. The numbers considered safe with food are 1, 2, 4, and 5. The best type of plastic is high-density polyethylene (HDPE), which is indicated by the "2" symbol. HDPE is one of the most stable and inert forms of plastic and all buckets sold specifically for food storage are made from this material. Other types of plastic acceptable for food storage are PETE, LDPE, and polypropylene (PP). These plastics are represented by the numbers 1, 4, and 5 respectively.

Other symbols also indicate food-related uses. A symbol depicting a cup and fork verifies "food grade" plastic, as well as radiating waves means "microwave-safe", a snowflake indicates "freezer-safe" and dishes in water signify compatibility with a dishwasher.

Food grade buckets can be found in most hardware stores and come in various sizes from two gallon to five gallon. Be sure to pick up lids and a lid lifter for opening. To help keep the bucket air tight, put a couple of layers of plastic wrap across the top of the bucket before snapping the lid in place. Better yet, check out gamma-seal lids. A gamma-seal lid snaps onto the bucket, then the entire center screws out, making entry that much easier.

Send your questions and comments to disasterprep.dave@gmail.com. Visit my blog at www.disasterprepdave.blogspot.com for more tips.

NEW BUSINESS

Find unique antiques in 'The Middle of Nowhere'

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

HOLLY POND – Holly Pond recently became home to another new business, and the owners are local folks. In November, The Middle of Nowhere, an antique shop and boutique, opened at 28 Brooklyn Road, behind the Chevron station at the town's main intersection. Wayne White and Robin Yates, along with daughter Bailey White, currently operate the store on a part-time basis: Wednesdays-Fridays 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; though they are considering possible Monday openings for the near future.

Yates, a Holly Pond native, comes from a family of antique collectors. She grew up around shops and auction houses, and has passed the bug along to her daughter.

"We've always dealt in antiques," Yates said. "Even when I was a young girl, I would go with my parents to auctions. And Bailey and her cousins, they grew up in auctions."

Asked why they chose to locate their shop in the small town, she replied, "We're Holly Pond people. Our family homesteaded land back in the 1800s, and we're still on the homesteaded land, so this was just a natural place for us to open a little store."



The 2,500-square-foot facility is mainly devoted to antiques, but also features more modern items that are vintage-inspired. One small section of the store has been set aside as a clothing boutique, and Robin Yates sells pillows that she makes from grain sacks and quilts.

The store also carries specialty milk paint for rustic furniture, and they hope to expand that offering in the near future.

Those pillows Yates makes are popular enough that they may soon be appearing in other stores as well; she has recently been approached about wholesaling them to other retailers.

The Middle of Nowhere is not an antique mall/indoor flea market with multiple aisles of small rented booths. It has an open floor that's easy to navigate, with items arranged in attractive displays.

While it is mainly a family endeavor, the store does take items on consignment from contracted private collectors and dealers, being careful to avoid the clutter of malls, and to preserve a high standard of item quality.

Yates said, "We have taken on some vendors to help us fill the store, but we don't do like malls. They don't have a specific space. We take things in on consignment, and we choose what they bring in, and place it wherever it looks best in the store."

The Middle of Nowhere is not for those who enjoy the challenge of sifting through thrift stores and flea markets, panning for that hidden nugget.



PHOTOS COURTESY W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Wayne White and Robin Yates, owners of The Middle of Nowhere

It is for those who appreciate a true specialty shop, real antiques and quality handcrafts. Those who want to know more about the store, or who are interested in consigning antiques or handmade items, can contact Bailey White at 256-962-8550 or look up The Middle of Nowhere on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/the.middle.of.nowhere.al) and Instagram (https://www.instagram.com/the.middle.of.nowhere/).

Cullman County Fair Association names 2017 board of directors

Jim Howard
Contributor

CULLMAN – The Cullman County Fair Association recently selected its officers and board of directors for the coming year, 2017. The Cullman County Fair is sponsored each year by the Cullman Lions Club and has been an annual community event since 1955. It has always received top ratings from the Alabama State Association for its exhibitor participation and presentation of the different events during the 10-day fair. Most of the proceeds go back to community nonprofit organizations.



CONTRIBUTED

2017 Cullman County Fair Association, Board of Directors - (Left to right), seated: Lion Richard White, Lion Dennis Berse, Lion Charles Childers, president, Lion Steve Cartee, vice president and Lion Steve Singleton, treasurer. Standing: Lion Charlie Powell, Lion Carey Thompson, Lion Rickey Peek, Lion Doug Spradlin and Lion Tommy Warhurst, secretary. Not pictured, Lion Tim Scott, director