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Child Development Center eyeing playground upgrade

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN - The Cullman Child Development Center (CDC) is, for the most part, a state-of-the-art facility for the education of special needs students. Since Principal Chris Chambers came on board a few years ago, the entire facility has been made wi-fi capable, bandwidth has been increased, overhead digital projectors and screens have been installed in classrooms and keypad locks have been installed on all exterior doors. He has overseen the repainting of halls and classrooms, and the creation of specialized teaching and therapy spaces.

Now it's the playground's turn. Chambers said, "What we have right now is outdated, and needs to be updated."

The current playground is short on handicapped accessible equipment, and on equipment designed to give students a sensory experience. The principal hopes that is about to change. He's looking at a project that will make the CDC P5

Little Free Pantry coming to Cullman P15



What the Cullman Little Free Pantry will look like.

FACEBOOK/CULLMAN LITTLE FREE PANTRY

County Schools Superintendent Shane Barnette addresses State Dept. of Education 'report card'

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – The Alabama State Department of Education's (ALSDE) Alabama Accountability System at the end of December published the long-awaited and controversial 2015-2016 ALSDE "A-F Report Card," albeit without letter grades assigned. Cullman County Schools as a whole exceeded overall state scores; however, many of the system's schools did not fare well individually. (Visit http://qrne.ws/afreportcard to read more about the report card results. Parents can see percentile results by state, school district and school at https://ap.alsde.edu/accountability/atof.)

The Tribune sat down with Cullman County Board of Education (CCBOE) Superintendent Shane Barnette to talk about what those results say about county schools, and what they don't say.

What does this the report card tell us about the county schools? P14

Annual EMS chili cook-off will benefit area toddler battling cancer

Will Hogue
will@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Cullman Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is hosting their second annual Cullman County Chili Cook-Off on Saturday, Feb. 25.

The event, which pits teams of local emergency responders against each other, is all about friendly competition, fellowship and a chance to meet the members of the community in which these brave men and women serve.

It's also about raising money for a cause. This year, that cause is a very special "bear."

Money raised at the event will go toward expenses for medical treatment and travel for Claire "Bear" Byars and her parents, Jeff and Heather Byars.

Claire is a 2-year-old from Cullman who is battling cancer at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. The funds raised will go toward helping pay for medical treatment and her mother's constant travel to Philadelphia to visit on her off days.

Claire is the granddaughter of Melanie Jones, a long-time paramedic at Cullman EMS. Jeff Byars is the EMS captain of the Bethsadia Volunteer Fire Department and is the EMS Officer for the Cullman County Fire Association. Heather Byars is an EMR (Emergency Medical Responder). She was the first licensed EMR in the state of Alabama. Both are currently on inactive duty due to the ongoing care for Claire.

The chili cook-off is open to all emergency responders- EMS, law enforcement and fire personnel, and is not limited to Cullman County departments.

The cost to enter is $10 per team.

"Last year we had about 10 teams," said James Curtis Jr., director of Cullman EMS. "We are looking to greatly expand."

Curtis says he believes the event is a great opportunity for members of the Cullman community to meet the men and women who work hard to keep residents of Cullman County safe.

Chili will be $1 per bowl, and there will be P5

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CPD launches 'safe exchange zone'

Cullman Police Department
Contributor

CULLMAN – The Cullman Police Department has instituted a "safe exchange zone" in the parking lot of the police department facility, located at 601 Second Ave. NE. The zone provides a well-lit, public location for people to meet to finalize online sales transactions.

The idea behind the new safe exchange zone is to lessen the risk of robberies, fraud or other incidents that can sometimes be associated with these types of situations.

Police personnel will not be present or involved in any of the exchanges that take place in the safe exchange zone, and police personnel cannot serve as official witnesses of transactions. The zone is simply being offered as a safer alternative for these types of transactions.

The zone may also be used for custodial exchanges between parents.

The Cullman Police Department advises citizens to still follow the following safety guidelines when buying and selling items online:

• Only trade with local buyers/sellers.
• Take someone with you to meet a prospective buyer/seller.
• Make sure a family member or friend is aware of the transaction details.
• Insist on meeting in a public area, like the CPD's safe exchange zone.
• Do not enter someone else's house, and do not allow a stranger into your home.
• When possible, complete the transaction during daylight hours.
• If a transaction occurs after dark, complete the transaction in a well-lit, public location, such as the CPD's safe exchange zone.
• Be extra cautious when buying or selling valuable items such as vehicles or jewelry.
• Trust your instincts: If it sounds like a scam, it probably is.
• If someone is not willing to meet you at the CPD's safe exchange zone to complete the transaction, it is probably not a legitimate transaction.

Weather vs. News: Where does Cullman County fit?

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – When you watch weather reports on the news, depending on what channel you watch and what's going on up in the sky, you might notice that Cullman County sometimes appears to be exempt from weather issues in our neighboring counties. On the TV weather map, Winston and Blount Counties might be a fiery red or bright yellow, while in between is a Cullman-shaped void. Or Winston and Blount vanish, leaving Cullman County dangling like some unfortunate shark's last tooth. So, what's happening?

Cullman is caught in a sort of no-man's land between Birmingham and Huntsville, simultaneously claimed and rejected by both. Confused yet? It gets easier.

Cullman County is located in the Birmingham news market. A few providers make Huntsville stations available, but for the most part, we get our TV news from Birmingham.

On the other hand, we are within the National Weather Service's Huntsville (NWSH) weather district, while Winston and Blount Counties belong to the National Weather Service's Birmingham center (NWSB).

This means that the NWS maps and radar images used by TV news outlets in Birmingham will show Winston and Blount, but not Cullman. The opposite is true for the NWSH maps and images used by Huntsville stations.

How did this happen? The Tribune talked to NWSB's Warning Coordination Meteorologist John de Block, and NWSH's Meteorologist in Charge Chris Darden. In separate interviews, they gave similar accounts of Cullman County's assignment to Huntsville:

Originally, there was no NWS center in Huntsville. NWSB served the entire northern third of the state, so the news market and weather district were in sync.

In the 1990s NWS underwent modernization, leading to a reorganization of offices and upgrade of equipment. One outcome of this modernization was the creation of NWSH.

During the process of creating the new office, decisions had to be made about who went where along the midway line between NWSB and NWSH. That decision fell to the counties themselves. According to both Darden and de Block, the Cullman County Commission, in coordination with Cullman County Emergency Management Agency (EMA), requested assignment to the new NWSH. Winston and Blount chose NWSB. De Block emphasized, "This was not an arbitrary federal decision."

So, we are in the Huntsville weather district because we (via the County Commission and EMA) asked to be, and we are in the Birmingham news market because we were before and never changed.

What does this mean for our weather coverage through media outlets? The Tribune spoke to WBRC's Chief Meteorologist J-P Dice in Birmingham for more on that.

Dice said, "WBRC covers 21 counties, including Cullman. Everybody, including the other stations, has Cullman on their maps."

The gaps and dangling shark's tooth appear when the TV stations are using radar and maps issued by the NWS offices.

These appear during normal weather conditions and forecasts, and are also typically used for weather watch situations.

Watches are not issued locally, but by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Oklahoma. These maps, when sent to news outlets in Birmingham, tend to omit Cullman County.

That changes when the weather situation shifts from a watch to a warning. Warnings are issued by local offices (NWSH for Cullman County), but all Birmingham media outlets are in touch with NWSH and will display needed information. Dice offered assurance that, during severe weather events, Birmingham TV news weather maps will display all current warnings for north Alabama, regardless of what office issues the warning.

So, if you want to know what the weather will be like the day after tomorrow or you're watching to see what that approaching front is going to do, you might need to look at Winston and Blount, and follow their lead. Online, you can go right to the NWSH source at http://www.weather.gov/hun/.

But if the skies are dark and foreboding, and you're concerned for your safety and that of your friends and family, you should be able to turn on any TV news station and get the crucial information you most urgently need.

Loomis Bros. Circus bringing "FUNtasticTour" to Cullman

Loomis Bros.
Contributor

CULLMAN – Get ready for the beauty, laughter and excitement when "Alabama's Favorite Circus," Loomis Bros. Circus, makes their annual winter return to Cullman Feb. 3-5 with their 2017 "FUNtasticTour." Performances will take place at the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center, located at 17645 U.S. Highway 31 N. Showtimes are Friday at 7 p.m., Saturday at 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m.

Come be inspired by a spectacular cast of some of the world's finest circus stars in a three-ring extravaganza you and your family will not want to miss!

Witness the hair-raising excitement of the treacherous "Motorcycle Globe of Death," our majestic herd of Asian and African elephants, High-Flying Acrobats on the electrifying "Russian Swing," beautiful White Siberian and Royal Bengal tigers, an amazing live circus band and a whole lot more, in an all new 90-minute, family-friendly "FUNtastic" performance!

"This year we have several very special experiences you won't find anywhere else!" said circus producer and ringmaster Justin Loomis.

"The first is an all-new Wild West pre-show featuring Goode and Dangerous performing risky feats with bullwhips, lassos, axes and knives. In addition, from New York's legendary Big Apple Circus, we are pleased to present J.K. Kane, appearing as the hilarious Egg-Roll the Clown.

"Finally, we take pride that we can continue presenting exotic animals in our show, and are the ONLY circus in Alabama where you can see elephants!"

Full-priced admission is $20 for adults and $8 for children ages 2-12.

Tickets can be purchased in advance online by credit or debit card at www.loomiscircus.com or with cash only at the circus box office on the day of show.

Seating is general admission and doors open one hour prior to each scheduled showtime.

Patrons are encouraged to arrive early for best seating. Optional pre-show activities begin when doors open and the pre-show performance begins approximately 20 minutes prior to each scheduled showtime.

Coupons for "Free Kids Tickets" are available from many merchants throughout Cullman County.

These coupons can also be found on the show's Facebook page located at www.facebook.com/loomiscircus.

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City annexes 90 acres from Industrial Dev. Board

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – The City of Cullman moved forward Monday night with the annexation of a little more than 90 acres of land on the city's southwest side.

During a regular city council meeting, the first reading of ordinance No. 2017 - 09 was on the agenda. The council voted to suspend the rules of procedure so that the annexation could be voted on immediately.

The ordinance called for the annexation of two tracts of land located on Cherokee Avenue Southwest and owned by the City Industrial Development Board.

The first tract is 81.79 acres and will be zoned as M-1P Manufacturing District.

Tract no. 2 is 9.79 acres and will be zoned as B-2 Business District (Both tracts of land received a favorable recommendation from the City of Cullman Planning Commission).

To start the meeting, Council President Garlan Gudger and Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs made comments.

Gudger shared, "Martha Hayes passed away. She gave her life to this community, to mental health work, and to everyone who ever came in contact with her; so, I wanted to recognize that here. Please keep her family in your prayers right now."

Jacobs did not share anything specific, but noted that some economic and retail projects are in the works for the near future around town.

The council considered the following requests:

1. A request from Mary Hovater and Martha Lawrence to discuss the Little Free Pantry project in Cullman. This project would create a small self-service site in town where people could drop off or take canned goods and hygiene products as opportunities or needs arise. After discussion, including positive opinions from Cullman City Police Chief Kenny Culpepper and Zoning Board Director Rick Fulmer, a motion to implement the program for a 6-month trial period passed.

2. A request from Street Superintendent Scott Talley to purchase, from a city bid, a 2017 4WD crew cab pickup truck from Mitch Smith Chevrolet in the budgeted amount not to exceed $39,000. Motion to approve passed.

3. A request from Garage Superintendent Mason Kugler to purchase a mentor touch scout from Mac Tools in the budgeted amount of $2,200. Motion to approve passed.

4. A request from Traffic Superintendent Jeff Adams to purchase, from a city bid, a 2017 4WD crew cab pickup truck from Mitch Smith Chevrolet in the budgeted amount not to exceed $29,642. Motion to approve passed.

5. A request from Traffic Superintendent Jeff Adams to purchase 10 preemption systems from Temple, Inc., a sole source provider, in the budgeted amount not to exceed $39,088. After discussion, a motion passed to put the item back out to bid.

6. A request from Traffic Superintendent Jeff Adams to bid the purchase of a 2010 or newer bucket truck with less than 110,000 miles. Motion to approve passed.

7. A request from Anthony Smith to grant a variance on his building. A motion was passed to refer the request to the Zoning Board of Adjustments with a favorable recommendation from the council.

The following resolutions were considered:

1. Resolution No. 2017 - 36 – To enter into a contract with Terracon Consultants, Inc. for testing at the site of the new street facility in the budgeted amount not to exceed $28,000. Motion to approve passed.

2. Resolution No. 2017 - 37 – To enter into a contract with TTL, Inc. for testing and surveying at the industrial tract on County Road 222 in the budgeted amount not to exceed $7,860. Motion to approve passed.

3. Resolution No. 2017 - 38 – To authorize the mayor to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Industrial Development Board of the City of Cullman. Motion to approve passed.

4. Resolution No. 2017 - 39 – To grant a tax abatement for Reliance Worldwide Corporation (Cash Acme). Motion to approve passed.

5. Resolution No. 2017 - 40 – To award the bid for site work at an industrial tract to the lowest responsible bidder, Wiregrass Construction Company, Inc., in the budgeted amount of $329,987.18. Motion to approve passed.

6. Resolution No. 2017 - 41 – To award the bid for one or more 4WD double cab trucks to the lowest responsible bidder, Mitch Smith Chevrolet, in the budgeted amount of $29,641.50. Motion to approve passed.

7. Resolution No. 2017 - 42 – To award the bid for one or more 4WD regular cab trucks to the lowest responsible bidder, Eckenrod Ford, in the budgeted amount of $26,571.00. Motion to approve passed.

8. Resolution No. 2017 - 43 – To approve two change orders on the construction of the Cullman Water Facility. Motion to approve passed.

9. Resolution No. 2017 - 44 – To grant a 20-ft. utility easement on Lot 1B of the resurvey of Lot 1 Smith and Waldrop's Second Addition (Fire Station No. 3). Motion to approve passed.

Four board appointments were approved. Gary Hollingsworth to the Alcohol Review Board and Beth Downes-Johnson, Herbert Arnold and Lona Heatherly to the Cullman City Parks and Recreation Board.

The Cullman City Council meets at Cullman City Hall on the second and fourth Monday evenings of each month at 7 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

2 men likely to face charges for damaging Garden City's River Park

Andrew Cryer
Tribune Correspondent

GARDEN CITY – Two of the five people accused of causing more than $5,000 in damages to Garden City's River Park a year ago will most likely face criminal charges, the town's council said last night in a regular council meeting.

In January 2016, five individuals drove their 4-wheel drive trucks through the park, according to Garden City Town Clerk Pam Leslie. The ground was wet, and the men "drove through the park like it was their own yard." The joyriding caused serious damage to the grounds, particularly rutting, and the drivers ran over wooden posts that were up to keep people out of that part of the property.

The Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) investigated and identified the five individuals responsible. The five men were given the opportunity to take responsibility for their actions to avoid criminal charges. They were to appear at the January 2016 Garden City Town Council meeting to address the council. Only three of the men showed up.

After the two remaining men failed to show up again Monday night at the February council meeting, charges are expected to be brought.

"Three of the men came to last month's meeting and are working off their portion of the damages," said Leslie. "They took responsibility for what they did."

In other business, the council discussed and approved the purchase of a tanker truck for the Garden City Fire Department.

In new business, the council discussed pursuing a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for a water extension project. The extension would be along Roland Johnson Parkway, to U.S. Highway 31, and would add three to five fire hydrants along the road.

The Town will renew a permit from the Alabama Department of Environmental Management for its sewer run-off. An error made many years ago allowed the Town to have an outflow into an "unnamed tributary" when it was thought to be the Mulberry Fork. The council approved a resolution to spend $500 for Living Water Services to investigate sewer outflow and ammonia emissions.

The Town of Garden City will hold its next council meeting on Monday, Feb. 20 at 6 p.m. The public is welcome to attend.



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PREP BASKETBALL

Cullman drops a pair of close thrillers to Decatur

Josh McBrayer
josh@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – The Cullman Bearcats took on the Red Raiders of Decatur Tuesday night, and as most expected, the boys game started fast, ended fast and was non-stop action. Decatur took an early 7-2 lead less than two minutes into the contest but Cullman hung tough and clawed back thanks to the play of Trey Tucker, Drew Morton and Dylan Finch. After one fast quarter of play, Cullman held a slim 16-14 lead.

Decatur answered immediately on the back of a three by Tyrique Purvis. Jayden Sullins answered right back and it was on. Cullman led by as many as four in the quarter while Decatur's biggest lead was three before Finch drained a bucket in the waning seconds of the half to send Cullman to the break down just a point, 31-30.

The Red Raiders started the third red hot, rattling off nine straight to take a 10-point lead. Noah Bussman, Will Franey and Tucker kept the game close by combining for 15 points in the quarter but trailed by six heading to the final frame.

Tucker and Bussman combined for a trifecta of threes in the fourth but for the Cats, they never got closer than five, falling to Decatur 67-58.

Decatur 66, Cullman 63 (Girls)

Cullman started out strong with great play from Sierra Easterwood who scored the first eight for the Lady Cats. Decatur kept the game close with a pair of buckets in the paint and a three from deep in the corner. The Lady Red Raiders managed to take a four-point lead but it was erased by a 12-2 Cullman run that was capped by a late Anna-Kate Eastman three to give the Lady Cats a 17-11 lead after one.

Decatur looked like a different team to start the second quarter, scoring six straight to tie the game before Easterwood scored Cullman's first points of the second. Decatur scored eight more before Cullman found the stroke they had in the first, closing the gap to three, but Decatur opened the lead back up in the last two minutes of the half and took a 29-24 lead to the locker room at the half.

Coming out of the break Decatur stayed hot and extended their lead to nine. Cullman matched the Lady Red Raiders shot for shot down the stretch and finished the quarter strong with four unanswered from Eastman and Easterwood to cut the Cullman deficit to just six going into the fourth.

Eastman, along with Victoria Barker, quickly pulled Cullman to within a single point with five unanswered. Cullman had the chance to take the lead with a pair of free throws at the 5:15 mark but missed and the game remained tied. The two teams went back and forth for most of the quarter. Down by one with 36.9 left to play, Easterwood hit the back end of a pair of free throws that sent the game into overtime.

Easterwood took over in OT for Cullman, dropping six of the Lady Cats' eight points. Decatur kept pace and took a one-point lead with less than a minute to play. Once again it came down to free throws and once again it was Easterwood who knocked down 1 of 2 to send the game to a second overtime. But two costly turnovers converted to points doomed the Lady Cats, who fought hard but fell to Decatur 66-63.



JOSH MCBRAYER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

PREP BASKETBALL

West Point falls in 5-OT thriller; Lady Warriors rout Walker

Sammy Confer
Tribune Correspondent

WEST POINT – The 1987 West Point boys' and girls' teams from 1987 were in the house Tuesday night and witnessed a thrilling varsity game between West Point and Walker, a game that ended up going into five overtimes. The Walker Vikings wound up winning, 80-76.

It did not take long for West Point to put their first points up on the scoreboard as Kolton Sapp scored a few seconds after the tip. Moore then scored off of a Viking turnover to make it 4-0, but Walker's Jarius Williams took over, scoring eight out of the next nine points to put them up, 9-6. Brandon Farley and Toby Cunningham each hit layups that were sandwiched around an Evan Harris three to cut the deficit to two at 12-10 after one.

The second quarter saw each team looking for early momentum, as West Point took their first lead of the game, 15-14, on a James Sullins three. They increased their lead to 22-16 on a Sapp three, but Owen Long helped cut into the lead as he scored five straight points to cut the lead to 24-21. The Warriors' last possession of the first half worked to perfection, as Ryder Jones got a great pass from Austin Dubberly to score just before the buzzer to make it 26-21 at the half.

After layups by each team to keep the deficit the same, West Point's Alex Hernandez went to work, scoring six in a row, to give them a 34-25 lead. Farley nailed a three to give them a 37-26 lead. Isiah Cox and Williams scored the final seven for Walker, but baskets by Farley and Dubberly had West Point looking at a 41-33 lead after three.

Walker went at it quickly to start off the final quarter as Williams started an 8-0 run with a layup and ended it with a and one to tie the game at 41 with 6:18 remaining. After Farley went 1 of 2 from the free throw line to give them a 45-44 lead, off of a Ryder Jones missed free throw of his own, Williams hit a layup to give the lead back to Walker, 46-45, with 1:40 remaining in the ballgame. After each team missed two free throws, Dubberly hit a short jumper with 29 seconds left to give them a 47-46 lead. But Parker Long hit a big three with 15.3 seconds left to give them the lead right back at 49-47. Farley, though, tied the game right back with a layup to send the game to overtime.

Each team went back and forth in the first overtime. Harris hit a layup to give the Vikings a 55-53 lead. But Farley, once again, hit a layup to send the game to a second overtime.

Walker got off to a quick start, going up 59-55. But Farley completed an and one to cut the lead to 59-58. Off of a Walker turnover, Moore hit a huge three from the top of the key to give the Warriors a 61-60 lead with 14 seconds remaining. After Cox split from the line, Farley had a chance to win it, but his shot hit the front of the rim.

A Harris layup gave the Vikings a 66-63 lead, but the Warrior heroics did not stop as Dubberly hit another huge three from the right wing to tie the game at 66, which sent the game to a fourth overtime.

A Parker Long three gave Walker a 71-67 lead, but a pair of free throws from Dubberly and Sapp tied the game once again, at 71, to go to a fifth overtime. And in that overtime, Walker jumped out to a 77-71 lead and this time, there were no ties as West Point ran out of gas in an instant classic.

Walker was led by Williams with 22 points. Parker Long, Harris and Cox all finished with 14. Owen Long had 10 and Walker had five. They will go home to take on Jackson-Olin on Friday night.

Farley finished with a game-high 24 points for West Point. Dubberly had 16 points and three steals and Sapp ended up with 13 points and four rebounds. The Warriors fall to 8-14 on the season and will travel to Fairview on Friday night.

"We had some chances to take advantage, but we did not," West Point coach Randy Jones said. "But I am so proud of this team. They gave it everything they had out there. We just have to continue to work."

West Point 64, Walker 23 (Girls)

After getting off to a slow start in the opening quarter, No. 10 West Point got on the gas pedal in the second, outscoring the Lady Vikings, 20-3, en route to another dominant win.

Five points by Lexi Shadix, four by Olivia Ball, and two each by Miriam Oldacre and Lillie Burdette had West Point up, 13-7, after the first quarter. But the second quarter, the Lady Warriors exploded on offense, outscoring Walker, 20-3, to take a commanding 33-12 lead at the half, and they cruised from there to improve their record to 18-4 on the season.

Micah Oldacre finished with 12 points for West Point as all of her points came from behind the three-point line. Ten total were hit in the game. She also added four rebounds and two steals. Ball finished with 12 points, four rebounds, two steals and a block. Shadix ended up with 10 points, added three rebounds and a block, and Brooke Brownsfield had all of her nine points come from behind the three-point line as well. All but one West Point player found the scoring column. They will travel to No. 9 Fairview on Friday night.

Alexa Waid finished with 13 points and 11 rebounds for Walker, and Tameyah Griffin ended up with six points and four steals. They go home to take on Jackson-Olin on Friday night.

EARL'S BODY SHOP
2251 Decatur Ave., N.W.
734-2406

EDUCATION FEATURE

Get to know the Cullman County Child Development Center

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – There are folks who think the Cullman County Child Development Center (CDC) is a daycare facility, but it is far from that. The Tribune sat down with CDC Principal Chris Chambers to find out more.

He said, "We're not a daycare. We're a school like any other school. We're a stand-alone school for special-needs kids."

CDC is a school for students with special needs from preschool to age 21. A fluctuating body of approximately 120-130 students with physical or intellectual disabilities is served at any given time by a staff of 72 under Chambers' supervision: teachers, aides, various therapists, nutritionists, bus drivers and bus aides, and custodial/maintenance workers.

The principal spends his time performing a balancing act, bringing together those numerous resources to create an individual educational plan custom fitted to each student.

Chambers said, "All those people have to collaborate. I always say that's probably one of our biggest strengths: how many personal conversations we have about a child and meeting their needs- not just physical, but their overall well-being, knowing their culture at home, really being involved with their day-to-day needs, even their nutrition. My parents go above and beyond about trying to communicate with the teachers, and the teachers do the same thing with them."

CDC offers its students a wide range of activities, both in the classroom and out. Students arrive each morning on the bus, eat breakfast together, then go to class. They go to the school's library and gym, and eat lunch together. In the classroom, students are grouped with others who have similar abilities and needs, and engage in a spectrum of learning activities tailored to their needs. While they try to create certain routines, the staff places individual student needs above those routines; so, there's no really "typical" day.

A student activities director plans special on- and off-campus events for the kids. All classrooms have wi-fi, and Librarian Andrea Radcliffe brings a cart of iPads around to classrooms. There's even an active arts and music program.

Chambers shared, "We have a grant we won two years in a row through the Alabama Art Alliance, and Mr. Krel Buckelew is our art and music instructor. We have it two days a week, and every student on campus gets art and music instruction. It gives them an outlet, behavior-wise. We've seen our attendance go up, and bad behavior go down. Some kids get overly stimulated when we have functions out in the gym or if we go on a field trip. We've seen those kids actually be able to cope better, and I attribute part of that to our music and arts program."

Student artwork lines the school's hallways, and the performers in the student body will get the chance near the end of the school year to take part in West Point High School's performing arts spring showcase under the direction of West Point's band director, Ty Parker.

For some of CDC's intellectually and medically challenged students, graduation is a real possibility. According to Chambers, "Our goal is to transition those kids out. If they can ever be successful in a typical classroom, we want them to go out and be with typical peers."

CDC has transitioned 43 students into regular classrooms over the last few years, and only four of those ended up back at the school. Some of those successfully-transitioned students have received high school diplomas.

The constant pressure of offering a multi-tasked approach to meet so many needs of so many students takes a tremendous toll on the faculty and staff, and their principal and selected helpers strive to recognize and respond to the need for support and encouragement.

Said Chambers, "You leave here mentally, physically and sometimes spiritually exhausted at times, so we do special things for the faculty as well. We have a faculty feast: we all get together and eat, and get together to do fun things. It's a monthly thing; we call it CDC Family. I've got a faculty committee chairperson. She looks for things to keep us together. We're in constant need of support, and we need for people to know who we are and what we're about, about the service the people provide here every day. It's tough being here, working with so many kids that have so many different needs, but it's also very rewarding at the same time."

The CDC is located at 17600 Highway 31 N in Cullman and can be reached at 256-739-0486. Find out more about CDC, visit http://cdc.ccboe.org.

Upgrade (from Front)

playground more accessible, and provide a wide spectrum of special needs students with activities geared toward them.

He doesn't want a quick fix; he wants it done right. The project could take three years and potentially cost more than $400,000.

Chambers said, "We're looking at pieces of equipment that'll be specially designed for kids, but also kids can just enjoy going and playing on, just like they would at any school. Some pieces are going to be specially designed to meet different needs, so it's going to be a lot more inclusive.

"We need the equipment to meet that inclusive part. Once we get everything in place, it's going to meet the basic adapted physical education needs, hopefully, and sensory needs of students with severe needs, occupational therapy needs, physical therapy needs, and things like that. Our goal is to make it a public-use playground in the future. When we get our big project finished one day, it'll be a place where kids can come and have birthday parties, special needs adults can come.

"A lot of places are not accessible; we've got very few pieces of equipment in the county that are accessible, so we're trying to make it accessible for our kids, but also for use in the community as well."

The CDC has started working with experts in the field, and is reviewing preliminary concept designs drawn up by J.A. Dawson & Co./GameTime playground equipment suppliers. Chambers hasn't neglected the consumer end of the project in considering the playground's needs.

He said, "We've interviewed the kids and asked them what they want. One of the kids said, 'We need a lot of action things for lots of kids, all kids, us kids.'"

For the time being, everything is still preliminary.

The CDC and designers are still in the planning stages, but parents of CDC students and school staff are already getting excited about the prospect of a new and better playground. The Cullman County School Board's Dr. T.J. Franey has begun working on grant applications to help with construction, and CDC parents have taken fundraising into their own hands.

On Jan. 25, they will sponsor a Swamp John's dinner for a special fund the school has set up for the project.

At the Cullman VFW post (112 Veterans Dr. SW) from 3-6 p.m., folks will be able to purchase fish, shrimp or chicken dinners for $11.

"Right now," said Chambers, "this Swamp John's fundraiser sponsored by some of our parents is just to get everything started. We're going to donate all proceeds to get our project off the ground. And we've got a lot more planned for our playground. When we do get a website and some other things going, people will know exactly where their donations are going or what the grants are being written for."

Chambers is excited to see his school take this next step in becoming the best service provider it can be.

He said, "We've got our purpose, we've got our goal. We know it's a need, and it's going to be an ongoing need, not just for this school, but for the community as well."

For more information, visit http://cdc.ccboe.org.

Cook-off (from Front)

door prizes given away at the event.

The cook-off will take place at Cullman EMS downtown- 601 Second Ave. SW, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 25.

The chili cook-off is open to teams of law enforcement, EMS or fire personnel, paid or volunteer. The entry fee is $10. Each team should be two or more people.

Multiple teams from an agency can enter. Individuals can also enter.

The tasting is open to the public, and everyone will be able to vote for their favorite chili.

The cost will be $1 for a tasting bowl.

For more information, entry forms, or to make a donation (either monetary or in the form of a gift certificate or door prize), please contact:

- Donnie-Dawn Holmes (dawn.holmes@cullmanregional.com)
- Mary Willingham (mary.willingham@cullmanregional.com)
- Jennifer Young (jennifer.young@cullmanregional.com or 256-595-4135)

When asked why have the event centered around a chili cook-off, Curtis responded simply, "Who doesn't love chili?"

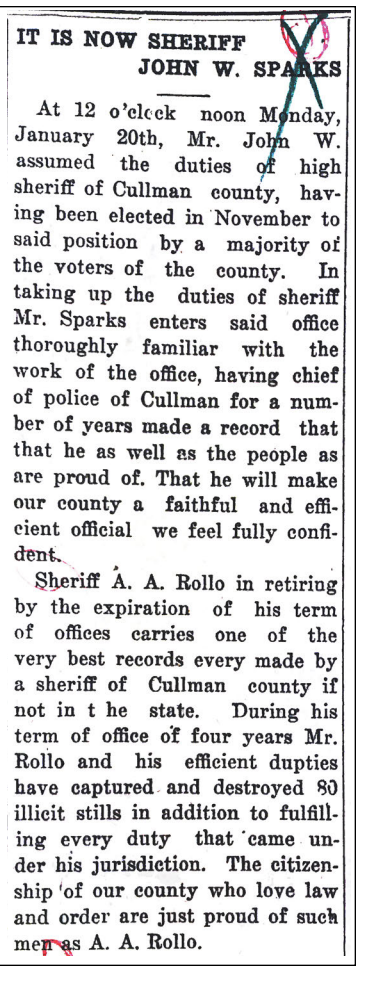
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This week in Cullman history

At noon on Jan. 20, 1919, John W. Sparks was sworn in as the new sheriff of Cullman County. Sparks was chief of police for many years before his election as sheriff, and replaced Sheriff A.A. Rollo.

Compiled by Samantha Vest



IT IS NOW SHERIFF JOHN W. SPARKS

At 12 o'clock noon Monday, January 20th, Mr. John W. assumed the duties of high sheriff of Cullman county, having been elected in November to said position by a majority of the voters of the county. In taking up the duties of sheriff Mr. Sparks enters said office thoroughly familiar with the work of the office, having chief of police of Cullman for a number of years made a record that that he as well as the people as are proud of. That he will make our county a faithful and efficient official we feel fully confident.

Sheriff A. A. Rollo in retiring by the expiration of his term of offices carries one of the very best records every made by a sheriff of Cullman county if not in t he state. During his term of office of four years Mr. Rollo and his efficient dupties have captured and destroyed 80 illicit stills in addition to fulfilling every duty that came under his jurisdiction. The citizenship of our county who love law and order are just proud of such men as A. A. Rollo.

News from the Pond

Jimmie Dean Carnell
Tribune Contributor



Good morning Tribune readers and families. Welcome to the ever changing weather conditions in our fine state. What a difference a week makes. We were freezing last week, then the southern winds came in and it was sweater weather later in this week. I have even seen lots of folks in shorts at the grocery store. Someone asked me if I enjoyed the warmer weather, and I said yes, but it would blow in storms, and they agreed.

It appears that every week, one of our church family, or my senior center friends is mentioned by me, as being sick, or died. This week is no exception.

On last Thursday, Jan. 5, we celebrated the 88th birthday for Mrs. Eva Clark at the center.

We were closed for bad weather on Friday of that week. I had prime time practice on Monday, January, 9th.

When I returned home that afternoon I had a phone message. When I played it back, it was telling me that Mrs. Eva Clark had been found dead in her home during the week- end.

She lived alone. During her working age, she was a back-of-the-house worker at the All Steak Restaurant in Cullman.

She worked her way up to the position of cook. One of her co-workers was Reverend Wade Maynard. He conducted her funeral on Friday, January 13 at the Cullman Funeral Home. She was buried in the Simcoe Cemetery.

On Saturday, Jan. 14, our church family was notified of the death of Mr. Howard Denney.

For many years, Howard was a driver of the ambulance service here. His wife, Mrs. Faye Denney worked at Cullman Regional Medical Center in the cafeteria. They both had to give up their jobs due to bad health. Howard was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Comer Denney, also of Holly Pond. They lived down the road from the Holly Pond Funeral Home, where his funeral was held on Monday, January 16th. I send Christian sympathy to each of these families.

On Tuesday of last week, the Holly Pond Homemakers Club began their new year of meetings. This meeting was an eating-in planning meeting in which we signed up for committee jobs and also for hostesses for the coming year. Mrs. Carolyn Bryan, president, presided.

The devotional was presented by Brenda Wisener entitled, "That" s what Grandma" s Are For." It was very enjoyable. We then mentioned those on the prayer list.

Mrs. Lyndell House, who has been on the sick list, was much better and able to attend this meeting and also was at church on Sunday.

When the cemetery board went to present Christmas gifts to the Talley family, who have been mowers at the cemetery, Mr. Talley said they would be unable to continue their job. As a result, Brenda Scott, represented the cemetery board, gave her report on their recent meeting and several names of individuals were mentioned as replacements. Mrs. Amelia Wisener was appointed to serve for three years on the board.

Members attending were: Carolyn Bryan, Jimmie Carnell, Julia Floyd, Nell Harbison, Lyndell House, Londalene Jean, Judy Jones, Peggy Ray, Lee Reid, Linda Reid, Brenda Scott, Tavia Smith, Eloise Stevens, Deanie Walker, Amelia Wisener, Brenda Wisener and Gladys Wisener.

Until next week, enjoy the weather and be safe.

Tribune Files from Yesteryear

From The Files Of 1937

With the passing of 1956, we have a new page to start on Teen Chatter. It was really started off with a big bang.

Saying goodbye to "56" and hello to "57" were Faye Mann and David Griggs, Jorene Burgess and Jimmy Hicks, Ruth Nell Morgan and Jerry Smith, Pat Mauldin and Billy Ray Pitts, Mary Ellen Giles and Yo Yo Miller, Linda Curtis (Fort Payne) and Jim Boyd, Barbara Duffey and Larry Byrd, Gerri Abbott and Darrell Wesley, Dessie Powell and Hiram Brown, Janice Johnson and Bud Bottcher, Melba Mann and Dwight McSwain, Jeanenne Oden and Fritz Mehrtens, Karen Drinkard and Gene Gasser, Pat Eddleman and Robert Herring, Susie Nix and Charles Edison, Tootie Means and Curtis Thomas, Virginia Boike and Kasper Kramer, Cora Sue Duffey and Gordon Gibson, Genevieve Fulmer and Shag Butler, Jane Osborne and Jim Young, Jackie Hamilton and Dale Cook, Benton Engle and Carl Stiefelmeyer, Nadine Buckelew and Leamon Loyd, Barbara Cofield and Huey Edge, Mary Jo Lee and Wayne Smith, Florence Culpepper and Jack House, Sue Carol Hamilton and Feilding Buchanan, Dorless Andrews and Tim Andrews, Lady Clair Davidson and Darrell Blalock, Mary Dudley Call and Vernon Whaley, Martha Jane Jackson and John Macon, Margie Reid and Jerry James, Barbara Tompkins and Bill Brunner, Linell Jones and Bill Cole, Carol Bledsoe and Gary Herring, Donna Kinney and Fraser Williams, Elizabeth Lee and Chuck Gorman, Louise Hendrix and Keith Moore, Betty Cofer and Charles Imbusch, Kay Keller and Johnny Nesmith, Linda Gibbs and Bobby Lovelady and Joyce Marie Jones and Herman Baker.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Williams and daughter, Patsy, of Fort Worth, Texas, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Williams and daughter, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Grimmett and sons, of Gardendale, Mr. and Mrs. Hulond Williams, of Hanceville, Mr. and Mrs. Mancil Sims and daughter, of Hanceville and Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Holmes and children were all the Sunday dinner guests of their parents and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Zeb Williams. Mrs. Cora Reenge, of Union Hill was also present.

Eva News

Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Childers, of Pontiac, Michigan and Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Funderburk and family, of Birmingham, Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Childers and Mr. and Mrs. Posey White and son, of

Decatur and Mr. and Mrs. Buford Lowery, of Cullman were all the dinner guests of their parents and grandparents, recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Corless Bennett and daughters, of New Mexico, are visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Bennett.

Leldon Brown and children, of Bagdad, Florida, visited his parents over the weekend and returned to their home on Monday of this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Karl Hough, of Lacey Springs, Mr. and Mrs. Buron Vann and family, Mr. and Mrs. Byron Vann and children, of Birmingham, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Vann and son, of Albertville, Mr. and Mrs. Rayburon Douglas and son, of Tarrant, Mr. and Mrs. K.P. Morris and family were all the dinner guests of their parents and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Vann one day during the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Willie Aaron and daughter, Gale, of Jones Chapel were recent visitors of Mrs. George Pirkle and family and Mr. and Mrs. Brooks Lindler and Grandma Lindler.

Mrs. Vada Holmes spent the Christmas holidays with her daughter, Mrs. Cecil B. Ford and family, of Selma. Another daughter, Mrs. Harrie Battles and son, of Florida were visiting there at the same time.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul W. Lindler and sons, James Paul and John Waymon, of Atlanta, Georgia spent part of the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Brooks Lindler and also Mr. and Mrs. Afton Cobb, of Woodlawn, were the Sunday visitors of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Brooks Lindler and the Mrs. Comer Livingston family.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Morgan and daughter, Joan, of Bessemer, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wallsee, of Birmingham and Leon Morgan, of the University were all at the home of their mother, Mrs. Bertha Morgan and their sister, Mrs. Curtis Nelson and Mr. Nelson for the holidays.

From The Files Of 1957

Nesmith News

Private Exell Shadix spent the weekend at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Laseter visited Mr. and Mrs. Willie Laseter, on Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Louis Shadix and Oppolene visited Mr. and Mrs. Charley Tucker, on Sunday afternoon.

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

Winter finally arrived but it won't stay

Bill King
Tribune Contributor



Around three weeks ago now, on Wednesday, December 21st, at exactly 4:44 a.m., Central Standard Time, winter officially began in the Northern Hemisphere. That was according to the calendar, however, according to the thermometer, winter did not actually arrive until sometime last weekend. Back in December we may have been dreaming of a white Christmas, but if we had one it was definitely only in our dreams. On Christmas day, I sat on a cabin deck in the Smokey Mountains.

The weather felt more like a fall day than winter. When I was a boy, I quite possibly went swimming on days that were no warmer.

Now, I will be the first to admit that back in those days, I had much more hair and much less sense, or so it appeared.

While it may not stay for long, winter arrived in full fashion.

Here in the Deep South we are not accustomed to that kind of weather and it can bring on all kinds of problems for us.

In the good ole U.S. of A. most residents who live in the northern section of our nation, take great pleasure in laughing at those of us who live down south.

Before we Southerners get too defensive about all the ribbing, we might need to back up and consider that we may give them cause for some of their actions.

The mere threat of frozen precipitation brings joy in the hearts of our children and widespread panic in adults.

Wait too long for a loaf of bread or a gallon of milk and it is about as scarce as a vegetarian at a barbecue.

Hey, we need that milk to make snow-cream and the bread for peanut butter and banana sandwiches so we won't starve to death in case we are snow bound for two to three months.

Driving on the frozen stuff is quite challenging. Merely getting inside our vehicles so we can drive can be an obstacle.

An enclosed garage, or at least a covered carport, sure is nice when that rare winter weather pays a visit. An iced over windshield can take quite some time to defrost.

Please do not try to chip the ice off with a chisel and hammer.

This can definitely give the folks who speak faster than we do something to laugh about but we may not find the outcome of our chiseling so funny.

Have your vehicle doors ever frozen shut? There may be several ways to thaw your doors and gain entrance. Some people have used a blow drier to melt the ice around the door.

Others have tried pouring warm water around their door; however, in extremely cold weather this may only add more ice to the problem.

My cousin's son, who would actually be my second cousin, tried this method last weekend.

When he went out early last Saturday morning to go work, he couldn't get his truck door to open. He poured a pitcher of water around the door but that didn't do the trick.

It was not until after he had poured four pitchers of water around his truck door that he finally realized his doors were locked!

Ever feel like life has you locked out and left you standing in the cold?

If so, check the obvious. You may hold the keys in your hand and not even realize it.

Now, at the time of my writing we are supposed to be back in the seventies by midweek. If you are still praying for a blizzard - go to Dairy Queen!

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



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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

The anti-vascular endothelial growth factor drugs ranibizumab and aflibercept, used to treat vision loss from diabetic macular edema (DME) and approximately 20 to 30 times more expensive than bevacizumab, are not cost-effective for treatment of DME compared to bevacizumab unless their prices decrease substantially, according to a study published online by *JAMA Ophthalmology*. Anti-vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) medicines have revolutionized DME treatment. A recent randomized clinical trial comparing anti-VEGF agents for patients with decreased vision from DME found that at one year aflibercept (2.0 mg) achieved better visual outcomes than repackaged (compounded) bevacizumab (1.25 mg) or ranibizumab (0.3 mg); the worse the starting vision, the greater the treatment benefit with aflibercept. These agents also vary substantially in cost. On the basis of 2015 costs, aflibercept was $1,850, ranibizumab, $1,170 and repackaged (compounded) bevacizumab, approximately $60 per dose. Considering that these medicines may be given nine to 11 times in the first year of treatment and, on average, 17 times during five years, total costs can be substantial. In 2010, when these intravitreous agents were being used predominantly for age-related macular degeneration, ophthalmologic use of VEGF therapy cost approximately $2 billion or one-sixth of the entire Medicare Part B drug budget. In 2013, Medicare Part B expenditures for aflibercept and ranibizumab alone totaled $2.5 billion.

***

Almost two million people are diagnosed with lung cancer every year worldwide and it is the top international cancer killer. The drug erlotinib is prescribed to between 10-30 percent of patients with non-small cell lung cancer, which accounts for 85 percent of all lung cancer cases. However, the cancer cells quickly develop resistance to the drug's deadly effects. A new study published in the journal *Cell Discovery* shows that this resistance could be reversed using a simple and cheap diuretic, or 'water pill,' called ethacrynic acid.

***

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Homesteaders group aims to 'reconnect and reskill'

Loretta Gillespie
Tribune Contributor

CULLMAN – The house was packed Sunday afternoon for the first meeting of the new Peinhardt Homesteaders group, held at the Peinhardt Farm Museum. The first month's subject: tapping trees for making syrup.

Almost a dying craft, tapping trees is a slow and tedious process, and for those who didn't have a lot of time on their hands, it became quicker to run to the supermarket and pick up a bottle of Log Cabin or Mrs. Butterworth's rather than take the time to make syrup at home.

However, with the renaissance of the old ways of doing things, from making your own butter to spinning wool for thread, people are reviving these nearly lost arts so that future generations will know how people lived in the days before the Industrial Revolution made such goods available to people who quickly forgot how to fend for themselves in these once common everyday jobs and household tasks.

The purpose of the Homesteaders, whose motto is "Reconnect and Reskill," is to teach and demonstrate things like tapping trees, and other useful arts that are done by hand, and the sweat of one's brow.

The location was perfect for such an interesting afternoon class. Peinhardt Farm, located on Talley Ho Street, has amassed an incredible collection of tools, bottles, washtubs and boiling pots, and machinery of all kinds, housed in one location.

The intent is obvious; this place brings the past into sharp focus, with not one computer, iPad, cell phone, pager, television or radio in the entire collection!

The goods, equipment and machines on display here were once operated by men and women who toiled to make their way in the world knowing that they wouldn't eat in the winter if they didn't work hard in the spring, summer and fall.

"Humans have been processing sugar for thousands of years," said spokesperson, Shannon McBride. "Although older recipes don't call for sugar as much as they did for spices," she pointed out.

According to McBride, it was more commonplace for people in the South to acquire their sugar from sugarcane plants, unlike their Northern counterparts who harvested sap from trees in large quantities every year.

"Sugar was a luxury," she added.

McBride paused in her presentation to remind the group of the importance of gleaning information about the old ways of doing things from elderly relatives and neighbors before they lose those valuable resources.

Resuming her dialog, she went on to say that sap has all of the nutrients that a tree needs to survive and thrive.

"That being said, it must be good for humans, too," she said.

One of the most important points made during the class was when to tap a tree to achieve the greatest yield.

"Once the tree breaks bud the chemistry changes and the sap isn't good for syrup after that," she stressed.

The information McBride presented also included such facts as the following:

Tree sap is high in fructose; therefore, it is easier for a diabetic to digest.

Huge amounts of vitamins can be found in tree sap, including large amounts of Vitamin C.

Sycamore trees produce a sap that bears a strong resemblance to butterscotch.

Sap ferments quickly, so it is best to process it immediately because it attracts ants.

McBride's husband, Lee McBride, demonstrated his method of inserting the tap into the tree as the class adjourned to a location just outside the building. Everyone present received a plastic tap.



LORETTA GILLESPIE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Lee McBride demonstrates how to tap a tree for its sugary sap, which is excellent for making syrup. Before modern methods made tapping trees almost obsolete for individual families, this is how most households acquired maple syrup.

He started the class by mentioning the importance of cleaning all elements of the equipment used to tap the tree, "The single most important thing about this process is keeping that drill bit clean," he said solemnly.

Everything used should be sterilized. Sterilize bottles and caps in boiling water.

He went on to inform the students that the ideal height for the tap is about 3 feet from the ground, and just above a big root. "Do not tap within 6 inches of a former tap hole," he emphasized.

"Sap flows best when day temps rise above freezing and night temps fall below freezing," said McBride.

"You get more sap from that 'push-pull' of the temps," agreed both McBrides.

Lee McBride advised students not to tap a specimen tree near their curb, indicating that in some cases, if conditions are not just right, tapping can actually harm or even kill a tree.

The Peinhardt Homesteaders will meet monthly with different topics of interest each month. Connect with the group on Facebook for details at http://qrne.ws/homesteaders.

For more information on tapping trees, contact your local Extension office.

Find a wealth of information at:

- TapMyTrees.com
- maplemadness.com
- smokylakepaole.com
- motherearthnews.com/real-food/how-to-make-maple-syrup-at-home
- adirondackalmanack.com

The following trees suitable for tapping grow in our zone.

- Sugar Maple, which yields the highest volume and concentration of sap
- Black Maple
- Red Maple
- Silver Maple
- Norway Maple
- Boxelder
- Black Walnut
- Paper Birch
- Black Birch
- River Birch
- Sycamore
- Ironwood

Apply now to be part of next CCSO Citizens' Academy

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – The Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) is now taking applications for the next session of its popular Citizens' Academy. The academy is a nine-week course and is free to the public; however, there is a class limit of 50 participants.

The academy begins on Tuesday, Feb. 28 at 6 p.m. and will meet weekly on Tuesdays from 6-9 p.m., with the last class being on April 25.

"Participants will learn about virtually every aspect of a deputy's job," said CCSO Director of Communications Bradley Williams, "including patrol, administration, dispatch, communications, criminal law, SWAT, crime scene investigations, jail operations and many other areas."

Here's how Capt. Mark Persall explained the academy when getting ready for the last session, which ended in November: "We will have presentations on the criminal justice system and the courts, including classes taught by our judges, district attorney and federal agencies including the FBI, DEA, Secret Service and ATF. We will have demonstrations on crime scene investigation, sex-offender registry and compliance and a tour of our courts and the Cullman County Detention Center and communications center," said Persall.

"We will explain the Sheriff's Office's responsibility to conduct secure elections. Our investigators will cover the investigation process for violent crimes, property crimes, fraud, scams, credit card offenses, child abuse and animal cruelty. We will talk about illegal drugs and profile major cases prosecuted in north Alabama. The Joint Terrorism Task Force (FBI) will highlight terrorist ties to people in Alabama. We will talk about our School Resource Deputies protecting our schools and their instruction of the D.A.R.E. program. We will teach self-defense, personal protection, use of force and firearms instruction including a day of live-fire shooting. We will also have demonstrations of SWAT techniques and building entries. We will also highlight community projects like Neighborhood Watch, Telephone Senior Assurance Programs, Safety Plans for faith-based organizations, Active Shooter training and the Cullman County Sheriff's Office Rodeo and Special Needs Children's Rodeo."

Williams says that the CCSO is not able to take more than 50 participants due to the logistics of having everyone participate in all of the scheduled activities.

This session will be the fourth so far.

"Our purpose," said Persall, "is to let the people of Cullman County know that the sheriff's office belongs to them. The Alabama constitution sanctions that each county will elect a sheriff to administrate services for the district, circuit and probate courts, to maintain a county jail and to provide law enforcement services to their citizens. Sheriff Gentry wants participants to see our total operation and even ride with the deputies on patrol to see the challenges and dangers they face and understand how they protect their communities.

"We also want to teach the historical origins of the office of sheriff, which goes back to ninth-century England. Civilization has recognized the office of sheriff to represent the people for over 1,100 years!" continued Persall.

The academy will take place at Cullman City Hall. To obtain an application, visit the CCSO at 1910 Beech Ave. SE, contact Persall at 256-734-0342 or mpersall@cullmansheriff.org or Williams at bwilliams@cullmansheriff.org.

For more information, see http://www.cullmansheriff.org/citizens-academy.php.

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W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman Elite Realty celebrates 1st year of business with ribbon cutting

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Amy Martinez and Rita Fromhold have been busy at Cullman Elite Realty. By Martinez's account, they "hit the ground running" a year ago, and haven't slowed down long enough to celebrate their new business. They offer residential and commercial real estate, as well as farms and land; and serve buyers and sellers throughout Cullman County, plus a few outlying communities just across county lines.

On Monday afternoon, they finally paused for the real estate agency's official ribbon cutting for their office at 103 Third St. SW.

Representatives from the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce were present, as well as Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs.

Often, ribbon cuttings don't include discussion of how business is going, but after a year, Cullman Elite already knows.

Martinez said, "Business is good; the market in Cullman is really good. We're still in recovery from the downfall that everybody experienced, but market prices are good, interest rates are good."

This is not a new thing for either owner. Both spent time working for Coldwell Banker Realty before deciding to step out on their own.

Both are Cullman natives, familiar with the community and market.

According to Martinez, "We're both seasoned agents; together, we have over 30 years' experience in the real estate market. We're here to serve the Cullman area. We wanted to give back to the community, be very involved in the community; and we were limited a little bit where we were at. We opened up our own, just to give us some freedom."

Cullman Elite is proud of their efforts to incorporate state of the art technology into their approach to realty. Martinez said, "We do aerial photography for all of our listings. We have a drone; we have people who use it to do aerial photography.

"We do videos inside and outside of the house, and use those on Facebook and YouTube and different marketing areas, which is something nobody here is doing. We do billboard advertising, which nobody else in this market is doing. We want to be on the cutting edge of technology, and do some things that's a little bit different from the normal real estate market."

Despite high-tech gadgetry and social media activity, Martinez was careful to note that their business model still centers on customers instead of gimmicks.

"We're basically full service; we do it all. We're both full-time agents, all we do is real estate. We eat, sleep and breathe it! We treat our clients like friends and family. We really take care of them, and look out for their best interests. We pride ourselves on treating people the way we want to be treated. We take our clients to heart. It's not just a business to us."

New 2016 Ford F-150
0% APR For 72 MOS.
PLUS $4750 Cash Back


ECKENROD
FORD - LINCOLN
734-3361 • www.EckenrodFord.com
5255 AL Hwy 157 • Cullman, AL 35055
Plus tax, title and fees
* On approved Ford Credit financing. $300 EcoBoost customer cash on EcoBoost engines only. Lariat cash back slightly less, see salesperson for details.

$5 OFF ONE ADULT ADMISSION AND up to 2 FREE CHILD'S ADMISSIONS
LOOMIS BROS. CIRCUS


SEE THE ELEPHANTS ONLY IN CULLMAN!
CULLMAN
CULLMAN COUNTY AG CENTER
17645 U.S. HIGHWAY 31
FRI FEB 3RD
THRU
SUN FEB 5TH
FRIDAY FEB 3 - 7:00 PM ONLY
SATURDAY FEB 4 - 1:00, 4:00, & 7:00 PM
SUNDAY FEB 5 - 3:00 PM ONLY
ELEPHANTS • AERIALISTS • WHITE TIGERS
DAREDEVILS • CLOWNS • LIVE CIRCUS BAND & MORE!
FOR MORE INFO VISIT LOOMISCIRCUS.COM
PRESENT THIS COUPON AT CIRCUS BEGINNING ONE HOUR PRIOR TO SHOW TIME
LIMIT 2 FREE CHILDREN (AGES 12 & UNDER) PER PAID ADULT WITH COUPON

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Now ALL DAY
For a Limited Time
$5 or $6 Lunch


HWY 31 NORTH
CULLMAN
734-8358
1840 LEE AVE. SW
CULLMAN
775-8870

Legal Notice

Notice is hereby give to all owners, secured parties and lienholders of the following described motor vehicles, which I have a right to sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, in accordance with the State of Alabama abandoned motor vehicle law, Statues, Chapter 13, Section 1-8, Title 32 and Alabama Law Act Number 83-494-S-80, as per Legislative Act 2015-470:

1997 Mercury Sable, Vin. #1MELM53S3VA618148.

The following vehicle will be sold on March 3, 2017 for towing/storage fees if not claimed. Located at Hammock Auto Sales, 17 County Road 406, Cullman, Alabama 35057. Phone number: 256-775-3754.

CULLMAN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES * IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

PLAINTIFF, * CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

V. * CASE NO. CV 2014-900436

BARBARA BAILEY, *

an incapacitated person *

NOTICE OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTING

This day comes Steven C. Smith, Conservator of the estate of said ward, and files his account, vouchers, evidence, and statement for partial settlement of his administration.

By Order of Circuit Judge Gregory A. Nicholas, the 7th day of March, 2017, at 9:00 a. m. is appointed as a day and time on which to make such accounting at which time all persons interested can appear and contest the said accounting if they think proper.

STEVEN C. SMITH
Conservator for Barbara Bailey

To: *The Cullman Tribune*:

Please publish the above notice three successive weeks.

Steven C. Smith
SMITH & SMITH, LLP
P. O. Box 398
CUllman, Alabama 35056-0398
Phone: (256) 734-4721
Fax: (256) 734-4774
e-mail: steve@smithandsmithllp.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)

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.**
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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:

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

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
LISA MCSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE
FOR THE ADOPTION OF CASE NO: AD 2016-069
VIOLET SADDIE LEE
A Minor child

AMENDED NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: COLLEEN CHRISTINE REYNOLDS, Natural mother address unknown

You must answer The Petition for Adoption filed be Haynes and Chelsia Riddle, which was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman, Alabama on the 13th day of October, 2016,and that should you contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with counsel for said petitioner and with the clerk of the said probate court of Cullman County, Alabama, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

DONE THIS 5th DAY OF January, 2017

Attorney for Petitioners:
Gregory Johnson
427 Second Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Phone (256)739-0006

To the Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the above notice once a week for four (4) successive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

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:
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

Legal Notice

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

2001 Pontiac Grand Am, VIN # 1G2NF52TX1M650820.
2003 Yamaha TTR125, VIN # JYACE07YX3A059433.
1998 Acura 3.2TL, VIN # JH4UA3640WC000077.
2003 Mercury Sable, VIN # 1MEFM55S53A619812.

These vehicles will be sold to pay storage and or repair fee at Smith's Body Shop and Wrecker Service, LLC, 11597 US Highway 278 East, Holly Pond, Alabama, 35083, on March 3, 2017, at 8:00 a.m.

NOTICE

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

WHEREAS, property owner Mallard Pointe Development, LLC, 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, Mallard Pointe Development, LLC, is requesting vacation of a portion of an unnamed and unimproved County Road described as follows, to-wit:

A strip of land being in a part of the NE Quarter of the SW Quarter, in Section 4, Township 12 South, Range 4 West, Cullman County, Alabama, as shown on the recorded map of Simpson Creek Circle View Subdivision, 2nd Addition, recorded in the Probate Office of Cullman County, Alabama at Map Book 7, Page 83, lying west of Lots 7 & 8 and bounded on the north and south by Cullman County Road #225, being more particularly described as follows: COMMENCE at the northeast corner of Lot 11 of said Simpson Creek Circle View Subdivision, 2nd Addition, said point being an open pipe(2"), and run N 89°09'03" W, along the north line of said Lot 11, a distance of 306.54', to a square tube(1"), the northwest corner of said Lot 11 and a point on the southeasterly right-of-way of Cullman County Road #225; thence S 19°51'57" W, along said southeasterly right-of-way, a distance of 47.45', to a square tube(1"); thence S 15°46'17" W, along said southeasterly right-of-way, a distance of 227.53', to a capped rebar(Smith); thence S 80°09'32" W, along said southeasterly right-of-way, a distance of 11.05', to the POINT OF BEGINNING of said right-of-way to be described and a point of curve; thence with a curve turning to the left, with an arc length of 98.32', leaving said southeasterly right-of-way of County Road #225, with a radius of 153.19', with a chord bearing of S 12°33'59" E, with a chord length of 96.65'; thence S 30°57'13" E, a distance of 81.09', to a point of curve; thence with a curve turning to the right, with an arc length of 93.60', with a radius of 182.20', with a chord bearing of S 12°09'46" E, with a chord length of 92.57'; thence S 02°33'13" W, a distance of 28.46', to an open pipe(2"), the northwestern most corner of said Lot 7 and a point on the northeasterly right-of-way of said County Road #225; thence N 39°29'41" W, along said northeasterly right-of-way, a distance of 62.64', to a capped rebar(Smith); thence S 84°12'47" W, along the northwesterly right-of-way of said County Road #225, a distance of 10.14'; thence N 05°38'00" W, leaving said right-of-way of said County Road #225, a distance of 16.94', to a point of curve; thence with a curve turning to the left, with an arc length of 35.59', with a radius of 68.72', with a chord bearing of N 20°28'21" W, with a chord length of 35.20'; thence N 30°27'34" W, a distance of 92.59', to a point of curve; thence with a curve turning to the right, with an arc length of 99.94', with a radius of 249.14', with a chord bearing of N 12°18'09" W, with a chord length of 99.27', to a point on the southeasterly right-of-way of said County Road #225; thence N 80°09'32" E, along said southeasterly right-of-way, a distance of 51.78', to the point of beginning.

SAID PARCEL OF LAND CONTAINS 0.31 ACRE OR 13394 SQ. FT. MORE OR LESS.

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 11th day of January, 2017.

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

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the terms of that mortgage executed on February 16, 2011 by Jason A. Wallace, and wife, Kristina L. Wallace, to EvaBank, which said mortgage is recorded in Book MTG 1646, Page 954 in the Probate Office of Cullman County, Alabama, and default continuing, and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the following described property will be sold at public outcry, for cash, to the highest bidder, in front of the Courthouse door of said County, in Cullman, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale on February 9, 2017:

See Exhibit A attached hereto for legal description.

Said sale is made for the purpose of paying the mortgage debt and cost of foreclosure.

EvaBank, Mortgagee
Dewayne N. Morris
Attorney for Mortgagee
2131 Third Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
The Cullman Tribune-January 19, 26, February 2, 2017

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the terms of that mortgage executed on January 6, 2004 by Michael Wayne Yeager, a married man, to EvaBank, which said mortgage is recorded in Book 1364, Page 431 in the Probate Office of Cullman County, Alabama, and default continuing, and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the following described property will be sold at public outcry, for cash, to the highest bidder, in front of the Courthouse door of said County, in Cullman, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale on February 9, 2017:

Commencing at the Southeast corner of the West half of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 15, Township 9 South, Range 1 West, Cullman County. Alabama; thence along the twenty line North a distance of 528 feet to the point of beginning. thence North 792 feet to a point; thence West 330 feet to a point; thence South 792 feet to a point; thence East 330 feet to the point of beginning, containing 6.0 acres more or less, lying and being in Cullman County. Alabama.

LESS AND EXCEPT: An easement for ingress and egress purposes being approximately twenty (20) feet evenly off the East margin of the aforementioned property.

Said sale is made for the purpose of paying the mortgage debt and cost of foreclosure.

EvaBank, Mortgagee
Dewayne N. Morris
Attorney for Mortgagee
2131 Third Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
The Cullman Tribune-January 19, 26, February 2, 2017

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the terms of that mortgage executed on October 10, 2008 by Chris Yeager, a married man, to EvaBank, which said mortgage is recorded in Book MTG 1578, Page 977 in the Probate Office of Cullman County, Alabama, and default continuing, and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the following described property will be sold at public outcry, for cash, to the highest bidder, in front of the Courthouse door of said County, in Cullman, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale on February 9, 2017:

Part of the South ½ of the Northwest ¼ of the Northwest ¼ of Section 20, Township 9 South, Range 1 West, more particularly described as follows: Commence at an iron and cap in the road at the Northwest corner of Section 20, Township 9 South, Range 1 West, Cullman County, Alabama; thence run along the section line South 00 degrees 27 minutes 20 seconds West (Alabama West Zone Grid Bearing) for a distance of 659.71 feet to an iron and cap in the center of County Road 1583; thence continue South 00 degrees 27 minutes 20 seconds West for a distance of 295.18 feet to an iron and cap in the center of County Road 1583 for the Point of Beginning; thence North 89 degrees 46 minutes 20 seconds East for a distance of 295.06 feet to an iron and cap found; thence North 00 degrees 29 minutes 40 seconds East for a distance of 295.18 feet to an iron and cap found; thence North 89 degrees 51 minutes 30 seconds East for a distance of 316.22 feet to an iron and cap found;
thence North 89 degrees 49 minutes 10 seconds East for a distance of 710.62 feet to an iron rebar found; thence South 00 degrees 43 minutes 00 seconds West for a distance of 576.07 feet to an iron and cap found on the North right-of-way of Alabama Highway 69; thence along said right of way North 89 degrees 45 minutes 50 seconds West for a distance of 1319.43 feet to a point on said County Road 1583, thence North 00 degrees 27 minutes 30 seconds East for a distance of 271.20 feet to the Point of Beginning.
Subject to prescriptive right of way for County Road 1583.
Source of Title/Description: Deed Book 579, Page 959.

Said sale is made for the purpose of paying the mortgage debt and cost of foreclosure.

EvaBank, Mortgagee
Dewayne N. Morris
Attorney for Mortgagee
2131 Third Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
The Cullman Tribune-January 19, 26, February 2, 2017

Legal Notice

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

1995 Cadillac Eldorado, VIN# 1G6ET1291SU612298.
1999 Ford Mustang, VIN# 1FAFP4043XF194696.
1998 Jeep Cherokee, VIN# 1J4FJ68S5W6191416.

These vehicles will be sold to pay storage and or repair fee at Restorations and Rods, LLC, 18615 US Highway 31, Cullman, Alabama 35058, on February 20th, 2017.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

KAREN ROGERS,
Plaintiff

Vs. Case Number: **DR-2016-900220.00**

BILLY H. ROGERS,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Billy H. Rogers, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Karen Rogers' Complaint for Divorce by March 13, 2017 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2016-900220.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 10th day of January, 2017.

Lisa McSwain,
Clerk of Circuit Court

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
THOMAS E. DRAKE II
419 2nd AV SW
SUITE B
CULLMAN, AL 35055

TO PUBLISHER: BEGINNING JANUARY 19, 2017 PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR (4) SUCCESSIVE WEEKS IN THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE.

*PLEASE BILL PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY FOR THE COST OF PUBLICATION IF HE DOES NOT PAY WHEN THIS IS DELIVERED TO YOU.

GIVING BACK.
HELPING OUT.
IT'S WHAT
GOOD NEIGHBORS
DO.

The Poarch Creek Indians support hundreds of organizations that provide crucial services to the citizens of Alabama. Meet the people who advocate for your wellbeing every day. Visit poarchneighbors.com.

ALABAMA NATIVES.
ALABAMA NEIGHBORS.

POARCH CREEK INDIANS



CLASSIFIEDS

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DONATE YOUR car to charity. Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details. 1-844-810-1257.

NFL SUNDAY Ticket free w/choice package - includes 200 channels. $60/mo for 12 months. No upfront costs or equipment to buy. Ask about next day installation! 1-800-988-5676.

WANT YOUR ad to be seen in 123 newspapers statewide? Place your ad in our Classified Network for just $210 per week! Make one call to this newspaper (a participating ALA-SCAN member) or call 1-800-264-7043 to find out how easy it is to advertise statewide!

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NEW CAREERS - CDL & welding training. Jobs available if qualified. Call today - start tomorrow! WIA, VA, Post-9/11 G.I. Bill & Rehab. ESD School, LLC. 1-866-432-0430.

UNDER NEW management! $1,000 sign-on bonus! Holiday/vacation pay! Quality home time! BC/BS insurance. Birmingham to all over southeast. Call 1-800-580-2205 X 1 for more information.

LAND FOR SALE

FOR SALE by owner 164 acres Butler County, Kentucky. Creek, lakes, barns, county water, electric. Fenced for cattle, crops. $2,195/acre. Shirley Flener 1-270-999-2222. www.kentuckydreamhunter.com.

MANUFACTURED HOMES

USED MOBILE Homes without land. All sizes. $20K cash or less. Call 1-205-289-8899.

FOR SALE

ACORN STAIRLIFTS. The affordable solution to your stairs! Limited time -$250 off your Stairlift purchase! Buy direct & save. Please call 1-800-471-4651 for free DVD and brochure.

DIGITAL HEARING aids - Now offering a 45-day risk free offer! Free batteries for life! Call to start your free trial! 1-866-960-5928.

SAFE STEP Walk-In Tub. Alert for seniors. Bathroom falls can be fatal. Approved by Arthritis Foundation. Therapeutic jets. Less than 4 inch step-in. Wide door. Anti-slip floors. American made. Installation included. Call 1-800-616-4009 for $750 off.

SAWMILLS FROM only $4397.00. Make & save money with your own bandmill - cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship! Free info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com. 1-800-578-1363 ext. 300N.

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OXYGEN - ANYTIME. Anywhere. No tanks to refill. No deliveries. The all-new Inogen One G4 is only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! Free info kit: 1-844-264-9500.

CHRONIC PAIN? Back or joint pain, arthritis? Recent Medicare/health coverage changes may benefit you! Products are little to no cost, if qualified. Free shipping. Accredited Pain Specialists. Call 1-800-582-1577.

GOT KNEE pain? Back pain? Shoulder pain? Get a pain-relieving brace at little or no cost to you. Medicare patients call health hotline now! 1-800-672-9326.

Drivers, Regional and OTR Excellent pay + Rider Program. Family medical/dental benefits. Great hometime + weekends. CDL-A, one year experience. 877-758-3905

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Now Hiring Drivers For Scheduled Dedicated Runs Rotate 5 days on, 2 days off/5 days on 3 days off schedule. Top pay, benefits, auto detention pay, CDL-A, 6 months OTR experience required. EEOE/AAP, limited positions. Apply Today! 855-790-0026 www.drive4marten.com

Weekly online news recap, Jan. 12-18

The Cullman Tribune's weekly print edition is packed full of important community news and current events. Did you know that you can also access our content for free online, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week?

Find us three ways: on our website at CullmanSense.com, on social media at facebook.com/CullmanSense and twitter.com/CullmanSense or through our free mobile app, "CullmanSense NOW," available from the App Store or the Google Play Store. Also online is our calendar, so you never miss an important community event. Find it at CullmanSense.com/calendar.

Here's a recap of our online news you may have missed since last Thursday.

CCSO urges residents to sign up for Nixle Alerts

CULLMAN - The Cullman County Sheriff's Office would like to make the citizens of Cullman County aware of the Nixle Alert System. You can sign up to receive Nixle Alerts from the Cullman County Sheriff's Office and get up-to-date information on major car accidents, missing dementia patients, major weather events and criminal activities. To sign up, text "25SHERIFF" to the number "888777". Nixle will text you back and ask for your zip code. You may also sign up at https://www.nixle.com/. Make sure to click on "Resident" when prompted.

Tuesday's prep basketball scores

VARSITY:

Cold Springs 57, St. Bernard 49

Holly Pond 83, Fairview 58

Hanceville 38, Vinemont 16

Decatur 57, Cullman 48

Walker 80, West Point 76 (5 OT)

GIRLS:

Cold Springs 63, St. Bernard 10

Fairview 67, Holly Pond 39

Hanceville 59, Vinemont 20

Decatur 66, Cullman 63 (2 OT)

West Point 63, Walker 24

Cold Springs Eagles, Lady Eagles clinch regular season class 2A, area 13 titles

BREMEN – Eli Hamby showed poise in the final three minutes, getting eight of his game-high 17 points that helped the Cold Springs Eagles clinch the Class 2A, Area 13 regular season title last Thursday night with a 56-48 victory over Winston County.

Community bags more than 10,000 pounds of local sweet potatoes for area's hungry

CULLMAN - The Society of St. Andrew (SoSA), a nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing hunger and food waste, hosted a sweet potato drop at the North Alabama Agriplex Saturday morning. Approximately 10,000 pounds of sweet potatoes were gathered up and bagged by more than 100 volunteers from SoSA, the Agriplex, TriGreen, the Cullman First United Methodist Church youth group and the community at large. The potatoes, from generous area farmers, including those from Haynes Farm, were then redistributed to hungry area families through various local organizations.

Gov. Bentley awards $100,000 grant for new Sequence Health facility in Cullman

CULLMAN – The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) announced today that Gov. Robert Bentley has awarded a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in the amount of $100,000 to help bring new health-care-related jobs to Cullman. The grant will help the city prepare a 15,000-square-foot facility at Cullman Industrial Park 3 for a new call center and medical consultation facility for Sequence Health, a Georgia-based company that specializes in patient engagement and health-care management systems. The center will create 20 new jobs initially and up to 128 jobs in the next five years, company officials said. Sequence Health announced their planned move to Cullman back in October at a press conference on the campus of Wallace State Community College, where the company has been operating out of the Bailey Center since August. The company's self-described "boutique healthcare contact center" is slated to open by Aug. 1, 2017.

Leaders young and old sound call to action at Cullman County Democrats' monthly meeting

CULLMAN – On Thursday evening, the Cullman County Democrats held their monthly meeting at the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce office. Before they conducted their business meeting, Former state representative and 2014 candidate for Alabama lieutenant governor, Rev. James Fields took the floor to reflect on some recent political developments in the state, including the state's suspension of its investigation into Gov. Robert Bentley, the conviction and sentencing of former House Speaker Mike Hubbard and two special elections in other parts of the state.

Cullman County Commission seeking help hauling hay into county

CULLMAN – The Cullman County Commission and Cullman County Soil and Water Conservation District recently secured a grant to bring hay into the county for livestock farmers who have been impacted by the drought. Now it's time to bring in the hay, and they're asking for help.

2 arrested in Hanceville for trafficking meth

HANCEVILLE – Two Cullman men were arrested in Hanceville this week after a routine traffic stop in which the suspects allegedly tossed a bag of narcotics from the passenger window of the vehicle. According to Hanceville Police Sgt. Rob Long, Officer John Davidson was patrolling a residential neighborhood when he observed two subjects in a vehicle with an expired tag. The tag was also switched. Davidson proceeded to conduct a traffic stop.

Stabbing victim's condition improving

CULLMAN – The victim in last Thursday night's stabbing at Dripping Springs Apartments in Cullman is still in the intensive care unit of Huntsville Hospital, although authorities report that his condition is improving. Jimmy Lee Young, 44, of Falkville was airlifted to Huntsville after allegedly being stabbed by Roger Dale Hines, 57, of Cullman. According to Cullman City Police (CPD) Lt. Gene Bates, who is handling the case, Young was able on Monday to give his account of what happened Thursday night.

Jonathan Cornelius

United States Air Force Airman Jonathan A. Cornelius graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas. He earned distinction as an honor graduate. He is the son of Micah L. Kitchens, of Holly Pond. He is a 2016 graduate of Arab High School.

Samford University Fall 2016 Dean's List

Hollie L. Bennett, Jackson L. Holbrook, Teresa L. MacBain and Megan Walker, all of Cullman, Mckenzie L. Bussman and Hannah B. Proctor, both of Hanceville and Jackson R. Hogan and Jacklyn D. Keller, both of Vinemont.

Community bags more than 10,000 pounds of local sweet potatoes for area's hungry

CULLMAN – The Society of St. Andrew (SoSA), a nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing hunger and food waste, hosted a sweet potato drop at the North Alabama Agriplex Saturday morning. Approximately 10,000 pounds of sweet potatoes were gathered up and bagged by more than 100 volunteers from SoSA, the Agriplex, TriGreen, the Cullman First United Methodist Church youth group and the community at large. The potatoes, from generous area farmers, including those from Haynes Farm, were then redistributed to hungry area families through various local organizations.

Chairman Walker defends commission's support of 3-cent gas tax

CULLMAN – Last Tuesday, the Cullman County Commission voted to support a 3-cent per gallon gasoline tax to fund a $1.2 billion bond issue that would be distributed among Alabama's 67 counties for road repairs. The tax would expire when the bonds are repaid. The Association of County Commissions of Alabama (ACCA) will seek legislative approval for the proposal, called ATRIP2, during the upcoming legislative session. The proposal was approved at the ACCA's annual legislative conference earlier this month. On Wednesday, in response to the commissions in his district supporting the tax, Alabama Rep. Randall Shedd, R-Fairview said in a release that he is not interested in sending more money to Montgomery in hopes of getting part of it back. Shedd says he prefers to work with local county commissioners and local legislators to allow voters to approve additional gas tax for roads. "I see three problems with this gas tax proposal," said Shedd. "It is a new tax without a vote of the people. It is borrowing money. It sends money to Montgomery hoping we get some of (it) back in road projects. I prefer to have a local referendum that spells out exactly what would be done with the money locally, never send it to Montgomery, spend 100 percent of it locally and let the people vote on it and decide if it's worth it." Last Thursday afternoon, Cullman County Commission Chairman Kenneth Walker released a statement in response to Shedd. (Available online.)



ANDREW CRYER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Pro-life and pro-choice activists converged on Brother Bryan Park in Birmingham on Saturday for the 2017 Birmingham March for Life.

Local activist joins pro-life, pro-choice march in Birmingham

BIRMINGHAM – The Greater Birmingham National Organization for Women (NOW) organized a protest to the 2017 Birmingham March for Life Saturday at Brother Bryan Park located in the heart of Birmingham. As many as 1,000 pro-life marchers gathered at the park, and as many as 100 protestors arrived to share their pro-choice stance. Security was tight; as many as 12 officers and four dogs patrolled the park. Cullman activist and council member of the Alabama Alliance for Healthy Youth, Tori Partridge, traveled to Birmingham to stand with the pro-choice protestors.

OBITUARY ANNOUNCEMENTS: JAN. 11 - 17

Alice Florence Daniel, 84, passed away January 12. Service information is unavailable at this time. Arrangements under the direction of Moss Service Funeral Home.

Funeral services for LarryJoe Preston Beasley, 27 of Cullman, held January 13 at Cullman Heritage Chapel with Calvin Franks officiating. Interment in Cullman Heritage Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Beasley passed away Tuesday, January 10 at UAB in Birmingham. He was born July 14, 1989 in Guntersville.

Funeral services for Ferrell Delaner Williams, 79 of Crane Hill, held January 14 at Cullman Heritage Chapel; Delbert Freeman officiated. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Williams passed away Wednesday, January 11 at his home. He was born November 7, 1937 in Cullman County to the late Virgil Williams and Lora McSwain Williams.

Graveside services for Leldon M. "Willie" Sutton, 93 of Cullman, held January 14 at Duck River Cemetery, with Bro. Sherman Bailey officiating. Cullman Funeral Home directing. Mr. Sutton was born on August 20, 1923 to the late Charles & Minnie Gable Sutton; and passed away at home on January 12, 2017. Leldon was an Army veteran of World War II, and a recipient of two Purple Hearts, he also worked many years and retired from US Steel.

A graveside service with military honors for Junior Homer Sullins, 88, of Pekin, Illinois held January 14 at Hopewell Cemetery; Rev. Trueman Davis officiated. Mr. Sullins passed away on Tuesday January 10, 2017 at his home in Pekin. Junior was a member of Faith Baptist Church. He served his country in the United States Army during World War II and later had the opportunity to participate in the Land of Lincoln Honor Flight. He worked for Caterpillar, Inc. as a machinist for 31 years, retiring in 1985. Junior and Hazel later worked for the Army Corps of Engineers for seven years in Atlanta, Georgia. He was an avid fan of the Alabama Crimson Tide college football team. He loved camping and loved his church. He enjoyed teasing anyone, but especially the girls at Walgreen's on Broadway and Kroger's in Pekin. He also liked working in his garden.

Ella Mae Hudson, 91, passed away January 14. Service information is unavailable at this time. Arrangements under the direction of Moss Service Funeral Home.

Abe Lee Edwards, 72, of Bear Creek, entered into rest on January 12, 2017 at Haleyville Health Care. Mr. Edwards was born on February 14, 1944 in Winston County. He was a long time member of Cherry Hill Church of God in Haleyville. Funeral service held January 15 at Nichols Funeral Home; Brother Royce Brimer and Brother Mickey Crane officiated. Burial in Littleville Cemetery.

Funeral services for Micheal Joseph "Joe Joe" Yeager, 31 of Hanceville, held January 15 at Stonebridge Farms Chapel; burial in Center Hill Cemetery. Mr. Yeager passed away January 12. Hanceville Funeral Home directed.

Frank Allen Briscoe passed away January 13 at the age of 88. He was born June 17, 1928 to John William Briscoe and Ida Brown Briscoe. Funeral service held January 15 at Moss Service Funeral Chapel with interment at Ebenezer Cemetery. Brother Randy Briscoe officiated. Mr. Briscoe was a member of the Ebenezer Community for 88 years. He worked for The Fontain Trucking Company for 32 years.

Mrs. Josephine Crabtree, age 89, of Quiton, AL passed away Saturday, January 14, 2017 at her home surrounded by her family. She was Born in Santa Clair, California. Mrs. Crabtree was predeceased by her husband, Billy R. Crabtree, Sr. She is survived by her loving son, Billy (Karen) Crabtree, Jr.; 4 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Private Memorial Service will be held by the family.

Funeral service for Shirley Ann Freeman, 73, held January 16 at Moss Service Funeral Home.

Mr. Howard Denney, age 83, of Holly Pond, passed away Saturday morning at his home. He was born in Cullman County to Comer Lemual and Mrytis Reid Denney. Mr. Denney and his wife had been married for 61 years. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Holly Pond, graduated from Holly Pond High School and Wallace State Community College and was a retired paramedic (worked for 41 years at Cullman Hospital). He was predeceased in death by his parents. Funeral service held January 16 at Holly Pond Funeral Home; interment at Holly Pond Cemetery.

Mary Frances Bills Henderson, 74 of Arley, entered into rest on Saturday, January 14 in Shelby, Alabama. Mary was born on January 30, 1942 in Jefferson County. She was a graduate of the 1959 Class of Minor High School. She worked as a substitute teacher at Meek School and in furniture assembly at Dover Furniture, but the most important job she held was as housewife and mother. Mary enjoyed quilting and home decorating. She was given the nickname "Red" as a child due to her red hair. A graveside service held January 17 at Fairview Cemetery in Double Springs; Brother Larry Quinn officiated. Nichols Funeral Home directed.

Funeral service for Mildred Annie Watwood David, 81 of Addison, held January 17 at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Cullman City Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Mrs. David passed away January 11 at Huntsville Hospital. She was born April 6, 1935 to Harl Ervin & Minnie Lee Powell Watwood. She was a devout Christian and helped guide all her children and others to the Lord. She always had a smile on her face. Her smile and bubbly personality was an inspiration to her family, friends and everyone she came in contact with. She had enough love for everyone. We are grateful for the role she played in raising Christy and Danny, II into the people they have become. She will be dearly missed as we go about our everyday lives and we will never forget the impact she had on our lives. Thank you Lord for the gift of such a wonderful Mother. Thanks for everything, Mother. We love you.

Myrtle Pauline Overton, 85, of Double Springs, entered into rest on January 15, 2017 at her home surrounded by her loving family. Mrs. Overton was born on April 6, 1931 in Moulton. She worked at Hendrix Health Care for over 30 years in the dietary department. She enjoyed cross stitching, bird watching, reading, piecing quilts and flower gardens. She also loved gospel singings. Funeral services held at Fairview Church in Double Springs on January 17. Brother Levi Overton officiated. Burial in the adjoining cemetery. Nichols Funeral Home directed.

Martha Carol McClain Hayes, 71 of Cullman, was received to Heaven Saturday, January 14. Martha was born September 22, 1945, daughter of the late James and Mildred Smith McClain of Ashville and Duck Springs Alabama. Mrs. Hayes was a graduate of Ashville High School, Snead College and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. She was a published author of the State Day of Prayer Program for Alabama Baptists and of Sunday School literature for Lifeway Christian Resources. In addition to being a private piano teacher Martha also taught 5th and 6th grade Sunday School for 50 years. Martha was also a dedicated Mother's Day Out teacher for more than 15 years. Martha was an advocate for mental health serving as a board member for nearly 20 years on the Cullman County Mental Health Authority. She was a patient and faithful pastor's wife, a loving mother, and doting grandmother lovingly named Momart with a love of travel developed through many national and international mission trips. The celebration of her life held at First Baptist Church Cullman on January 18; with interment at Cullman City Cemetery. In lieu of flowers the family kindly requests gifts to be made in her memory to First Baptist Church Missions or The Cullman Mental Health Authority.

Funeral service for JoAnn Phillips, 77, held January 19 at Moss Service Funeral Home.

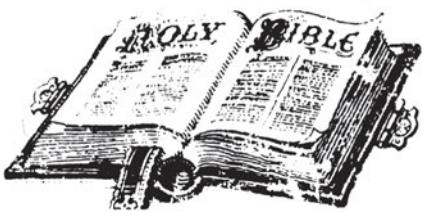
Marcia Dean Eskridge, 86 of Double Springs, entered into rest on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at ECM Hospital in Florence. Marcia was born on January 25, 1930 in Halls, Tennessee. She was a member of Decatur Baptist Church for approximately 10 years. During her lifetime, she worked in sales at Katz and was the records department manager at Sears, both in Memphis, TN; and was co-owner of Mobile Vista Bow Window in Double Springs. She loved to dance and therefore, the job she most loved was dance instructor for Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Ogden, UT. The family will receive friends on Sunday, January 22, 2017 from 1-2pm at Nichols Funeral Home in Double Springs, where a memorial service will be held at 2pm. Pastor Jay Rosario will officiate.

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Barnette (from Front)

Barnette began, "We are a really good school system. Compared to surrounding county systems and districts throughout the state similar to our demographics, we continually achieve greater than they do. But...being good is the worst enemy to being great. It's very easy to say 'I'm satisfied with being good,' and I'm not."

For Barnette, being able to point elsewhere to systems with lower scores is not a bragging point; but it does put the CCBOE's published results into context.

He continued, "I think we're an exceptional school system, but it does give us room and a target to shoot for. Is there room for improvement? Absolutely, and we need to. The first step in that is to make sure that every single classroom, every single day, there are excellent educational opportunities going on. Can I say that happens in every classroom every day? I doubt it, but that's what we're striving to do."

What does the report card not tell us?

Barnette shared, "Many states are moving away from the state-based letter grade report cards, and here we are in Alabama moving toward it, while other states have tried it and it wasn't very successful. They decided it didn't represent everything they wanted it to represent, so they're moving away from it. It's based on one score, a lot of it is. Something we've been trying to do, and having a lot of discussions about in Cullman County, is that a lot of the things we do in Cullman County and are proud of can't be represented by just one test. Our kids are successful on many levels: we consistently try to educate the whole child. That will never show up on a report card."

Barnette lists numerous achievements on the part of students, faculty and staff in the county school system, including:

*County Career Center Culinary Arts program ranked first in the state in 2015 and 2016, and ranked top in the nation in 2015.

*Cold Springs FFA string band won state competition and placed fourth in national competition.

*Cold Springs Boys' Cross Country team was 2015 state champion.

*Two county teams (Team MARE and Team ATTACK) won first place honors in three competitive categories in InSPIRESS (University of Alabama in Huntsville-based program promoting STEM).

*Cullman Area Technology Academy engineering students won first place in UNA's TARC rocketry challenge.

*Career Center Cosmetology and Automotive Service programs ranked first in their fields in TORCH.

*West Point Intermediate School achieved "Lighthouse" status as a "Leader in Me" school. Lighthouse is the highest status in this student leadership development program sponsored by Franklin Covey, and West Point Intermediate is one of only 260 schools worldwide to have achieved that status.

*Additionally, Barnette shared nine awards to be announced at Thursday's CCBOE board meeting, which the Tribune will wait until then to publish.

Barnette himself has been named by the Alabama Education Association as the 2016 Alabama Professional Developer of the Year, an award given to principals and superintendents who lead teachers to increase their base of skills and educational strategies. He points out that the 1,500-member county school workforce is highly qualified. While only a bachelor's degree is required to teach, CCBOE's roster includes 428 with master's degrees, 13 with doctorates, 67 education specialists and 17 national board-certified employees.

Barnette shared about several programs in the county system that are unique or have received widespread attention:

*The Health Science program at the Career Center is using a virtual reality program created by Tennessee Tech, that allows them to view inside virtual bodies to see how things work, as well as the effects of diseases. This program was created especially for the CCBOE.

*The CCBOE is working on a partnership with Cullman Regional that will allow Health Science students to participate in clinical rotations at CRMC. Health Science students will be able to enroll in programs at the Career Center, and graduate from high school already certified in various medical technology fields. From there, they will be able to transition into advanced programs at Wallace State in Hanceville, or even enter the workforce immediately.

*Through "Fast Track to Industry," CCBOE partners with REHAU to send students to Wallace for both high school and industrial classes. These students work in paid part-time positions at REHAU, and are guaranteed jobs at the company upon graduation.

*Through the CCBOE academic fast track program, qualifying juniors and seniors can take credit classes at Wallace State, and can potentially receive associate degrees at the same time they graduate from high school. In A unique pilot program, these students might even qualify for Pell Grants.

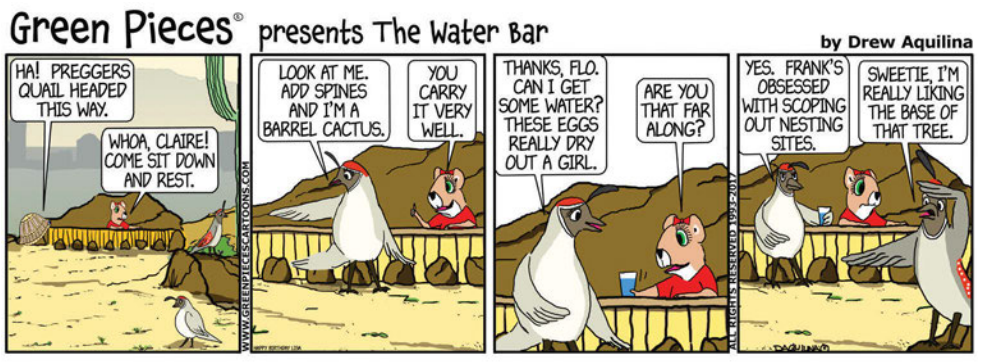
*Through dual enrollment, students can complete a year or more of college credits at Wallace State.

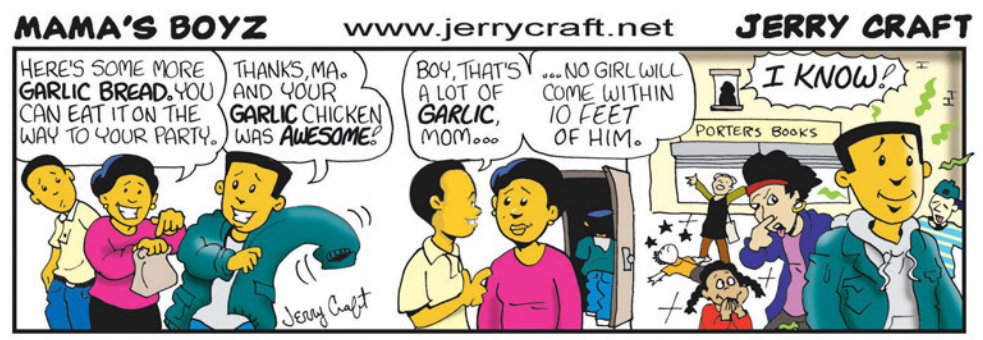
*Through a partnership with Wallace State, CCBOE has created a "Fine and Performing Arts Academy." Students can take courses in art, dance, music, theater and visual communications at Wallace at substantially reduced costs for high school and college credit.

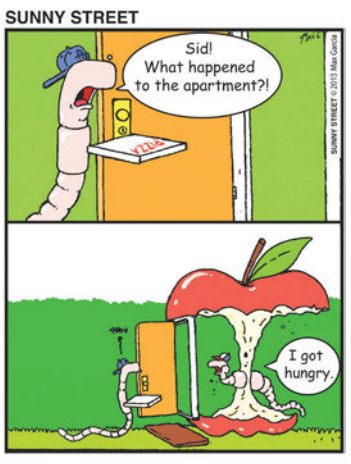
Barnette is realistic; he understands that there is always room for improvement, including within his system. There's no doubt, though, that he's proud of the big picture he sees.

When asked to share his final thoughts on the report card and the state of the CCBOE, Barnette stated, "When you measure a school or a school system, you've got to take into account all the wonderful things that they're doing outside of that one test. Do we want kids to learn? Absolutely. I want kids to be successful, and what does that mean? Does that mean being successful at taking standardized tests? Not necessarily. Not every child has to go to college. Go get somebody to repair your vehicle or build your house, and you'll find out how much you're going to pay them to do that. Our goal is to help kids be college and career ready. We're working right now in our Career Center to help kids earn a certification, where they can go out of high school straight into an occupation, and be the absolute best employee they can possibly be. If they don't want to go to college, we want to help them be successful by other means. And that'll never show up on a report card."

Comics









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OPINION



PRESIDENTIAL PRAYER

Save the drama for Obama
President-Elect Mr. Donald J. Trump
Help us from the fall
And do what is good for all.

Only Jesus can save us
I hope and pray
That in Christ he is working through you.
On Inauguration Day, we will be liberated.
We've been doing this our own way.
Jesus forgive us, and God bless the USA.

Elizabeth Poston (23)
Cullman, Alabama

Poet's Corner

MIMEOGRAPH

The oil base smell still lingers in my memory.

The stenciled sheet attached to the rollers. Ink oozing

onto the page with the sound of a constant whirl.

The finished copies are slightly warm as

the duplicator cools from its task.

Vapors linger in the room as the

morning absentee list is hand

delivered to each class.

The mimeograph machine, the red powder

that cleaned the old school floor.

Baked rolls welcoming you into the lunchroom.

Smells that never leave, pressed

like blue ink onto paper

rolling over in your mind of days gone by.

By: Randy C. Hale

Note: Careful, if you know what I'm talking about here you may give away your age.

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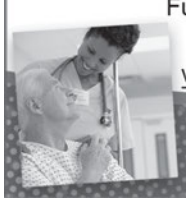
www.deancoauction.com Auctioneer: Donnie W Dean Lic. #907, Wes Dean Al Lic. #5219

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OPINION

Roof Sentenced to Death

Rachel Halfrida Cunliffe
PeaceVoice

Dylann Roof was sentenced to death for murdering nine people participating in a Bible study to which he had been welcomed. In a hail of bullets and horror he killed Cynthia Marie Graham, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lee Lance, Depayne Middleton, Clementa Pinckney, Tywanza Sanders, Daniel Simmons, Sharonda Coleman and Myra Thompson.

Roof is a radicalized white supremacist, espousing an ideology and acting violently upon his beliefs. Nothing in the time between the commission of the crime and the trial appears to have been done to de-radicalize him or help him acknowledge the harm he committed.

The initial harm of the killings has rippled out over time affecting everyone who has come in contact with the case. And now the jurors have found themselves seduced into the violence and have determined a death sentence. The sentence will be imposed later this week. Roof has already made his intention to appeal known and has requested counsel.

On the face of it, Roof is a poster-boy for the death penalty. In particular, his remorseless statement of no regret is repulsive and shocking. He appears to show himself to exist beyond the pale of civilized society and thus deserving of permanent exclusion.

However, we might bear these possibilities in mind: first, people in a corner, as they are in capital trials, are in survival mode and it is very hard to get them to think empathetically about those they see as their attackers. This takes huge amounts of imagination, work and commitment on the part of their defense teams – not to mention uncustomary amounts of financial resourcing to work for change in a client. To my knowledge, such investment is extremely rare.

Second, young men are frequently afraid of prison and what may happen to them there. Other prisoners will hear what Roof said and he may see his statements of no regret as a way to appear tough and dangerous which he may believe will engender respect.

Third, people on death row live in secure housing. Roof may believe his risk of being executed legally is less than of being attacked and perhaps killed in general population – and he may be right to do so. He may well have realized remorselessness would alienate the jurors like nothing else. Research shows a robust increase in punitiveness in such cases.

Fourth, Roof may have mental abnormalities or conditions which affect his ability to empathize and humanize. We might consider these mitigating as to culpability even if he is still guilty of a terrible crime with tragic outcomes. One might also say that the ability to commit such an atrocious crime is evidence of such a problem.

Finally, empathy can be developed and nurtured, at least in some degree, even in those with severe mental deficiencies. But it takes time.

Roof is very young. In due course, under the right conditions he might be brought to a fuller acknowledgement of the harm he has done and then could participate in restorative justice and reparative initiatives such as facilitated serious violence dialogue with victim's survivors, or community service, or work and have his wages garnished for restitution.

A death sentence will almost certainly prevent such opportunities and is a resort of hopelessness and lack of faith in change and redemption surely far from the values of the religion followed by those who died.

Rachel Halfrida Cunliffe is a Conflict Resolution professor and researcher with a focus on restorative justice and on nonviolent responses to interpersonal violence.

Pantry (from Front)

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – The Little Free Pantry pilot project got the green light from the Cullman City Council Monday night. Soon, local residents will have a small, self-service site in town where they can either drop off or pick up donated canned goods or hygiene products.

The project was the idea of Cullman's Mary Hovater and Martha Lawrence.

"Basically, Martha and I saw the idea on Facebook and thought it would be a great project to try in our community," said Hovater. "It will be the size of a bookcase with a door and a light for nighttime. The motto is 'Leave what you can...take what you need.' It's neighbors helping neighbors!"

Hovater says the biggest question she and Lawrence get is, why do this with all of the food banks and pantries already in town.

She answered, "Well those are fantastic! They serve so many in need. But they are only open a day or a few (days) a week, you can only get something every two months or so, and you have to make under a specific dollar amount. And that's great, you have to have rules and guidelines. But what about the person that makes just a few dollars above that limit, for example.

"The Little Free Pantry would be a gap filler. A way to help tide over folks in need or help someone that just needs a little at that time. Our hope is that while those that are able will help keep the pantry filled, the ones that have made use of it will also come back and give a can when they are able."

Cullman's first Little Free Pantry is a six-month pilot project and will be located on the corner of the old Bargain Town lot downtown, which is the corner of Second Avenue Southeast and Fourth Street Southeast.

"If this goes as well as we think, we hope other individuals will want to put one up in their neighborhood," said Hovater. "A person could also put one up in their yard and keep it up themselves. These personal and neighborhood pantries are popping up all over the country. It is just wonderful!"

After discussion Monday night, including positive opinions from Cullman City Police Chief Kenny Culpepper and Zoning Board Director Rick Fulmer, a motion to implement the program for a 6-month trial period passed.

Cullman's Little Free Pantry will be up and running "as soon as possible" according to Hovater.

Local Boy Scout Troop 321, led by Scoutmaster David Schwaiger, will build the structure as a community project.

Visit the Cullman Little Free Pantry on Facebook at http://qrne.ws/cullmanlittlefreepantry.

To learn more about the Little Free Pantry grassroots movement, visit https://www.facebook.com/littlefreepantry.



We are hosting a Swamp John's Fundraiser on January 25, 2017 at the VFW in Cullman (112 Veterans Drive SW. Cullman, AL 35055),

From 3:00–6:00p.m.

All proceeds will go to CCCDC Playground.

Plates will be $11.00 and will include your choice of fish, shrimp or chicken fingers with slaw, fries, hushpuppies, dessert and a drink.

Dine In or Carry Out

You can buy your ticket at Wayne Door Company, Auto Tech, or CCCDC.

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
January 19, 2017

PROFILES IN FAITH

Northbrook Baptist Church lends a helping hand through the Caring Center

Josh McBrayer
josh@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Chances are that if you live in Cullman you have driven by Northbrook Baptist Church. You may know of the church, you may attend the church or you may simply know it as "the one with the fountain out front." But what you may not know is how the church's Caring Center helps those in our community who are in need.

"The Caring Center is a ministry of Northbrook Baptist Church and we help 10,000 people each year with food and clothing as well financial assistance with utilities and medical when funds are available," Northbrook's Nicky Monk said.

The Caring Center Ministry has helped the citizens of Cullman for the last 15 years and the ministry is 100 percent funded by Northbrook Baptist Church.

"We accept gently used clothing for our clothing ministry and we buy our food from the Food Bank of North Alabama located in Huntsville," said Monk.

The Caring Center is open Tuesday mornings from 9-11:30 a.m. and Thursday evenings from 5-7 p.m. to allow those who work during the day to access the Caring Center if they are in need of assistance.

Northbrook staffs their Caring Center with volunteers, from Northbrook members to members of other churches who believe in the mission of the Caring Center.

"The Caring Center has 50 plus volunteers who are there every Tuesday or Thursday to give their time and hearts to the less fortunate of Cullman," explained Monk.

"They help pack food boxes, sort and hang clothing. They help families find the clothing they need and then help them carry it to their car. They listen to their life stories and pray with them. Their only motivation is to be like Jesus to these families. We also help many discouraged and many elderly people. We have many children come with their parents. We do our best to let everyone know that they are safe at the Caring Center, they are respected and that we love them with the love of Jesus Christ."

Northbrook runs the Caring Center year-round, but they have special programs around the holidays.

"The program is a year-round ministry. Even though we have special events during the Christmas season, we help all year. We do a back-to-school event in August.

"This past year we helped over 200 students from all the city and county schools with backpacks and all the school supplies they could carry," Monk said.



JOSH MCBRAYER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

"This Christmas we helped an additional 76 families with a special food box with hygiene items that the families could not buy with food stamps."

The program is completely self-sustained by those who believe in helping others and trying to be more Christ-like each and every day.

"My wife and I have been doing this ministry for 16 years," said Monk.

"We have watched many of the children that come to the center grow up. We consider many of the families that come here to be friends. Our hearts have been broken a few times, but there are so many times we have been blessed to be part of this ministry. I think any of our volunteers would tell the same thing. We plan on helping the less fortunate in our community, and Northbrook is planning on continuing to support its ministry at the Caring Center."

Northbrook Baptist Church is located at 3691 Alabama Highway 157 East in Cullman. Find them online at http://northbrookbc.com or call them at 256-734-6401.

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