The Cullman Tribune

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JOE MCELROY

Glory days: CHS baseball alumni day P8

Good Hope OKs EMA's emergency evacuation plan for Smith Lake Dam P3

On the move: preemption devices guarantee green lights for Cullman Fire Rescue P2

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Berlin incorporation movement holds town hall meeting

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BERLIN – Patrick Bates, who heads up the effort to incorporate Berlin, held a meeting Tuesday evening at the Berlin Community Center to talk to local residents and get those interested to sign the petition for incorporation. Turnout was low, especially after Bates sent out the largest mass-mailing the effort has yet seen; a seven-page brochure went out, with information on tax revenue and town budgets, available grants and municipal government. In all, 16 people attended the meeting.

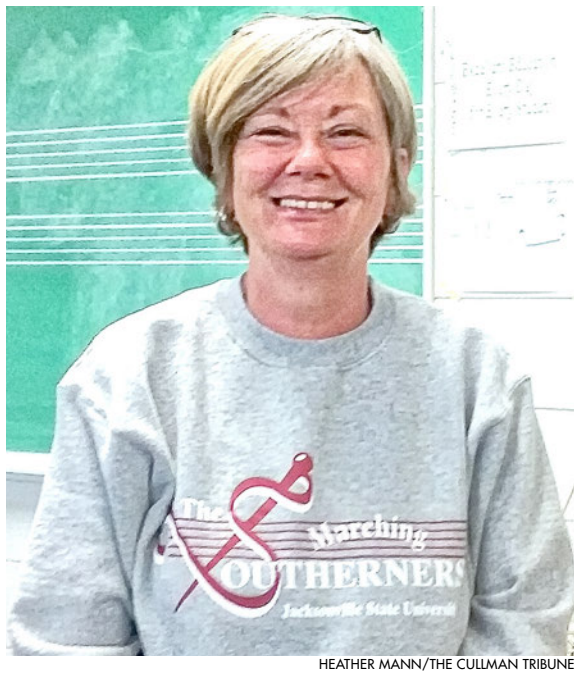
Unlike some previous meetings, though, this gathering was unmarked by any opposition.

All those present seemed to support incorporation, and one first-time attendee signed the petition.

The incorporation effort has secured the needed number of petition signatures in the portion of the proposed township that lies north P4

Benefield, Whateley retiring from Holly Pond High School





HEATHER MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Left: Wilma Whateley, Right: Luette Benefield P3

Lawmakers, leaders react to Bentley's resignation, Ivey as new governor

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ALABAMA – Reactions from lawmakers and leaders around the state poured in following the resignation of Alabama's 53rd governor, Robert Julian Bentley. Bentley resigned amidst allegations he covered up an affair with an aide and plead guilty to misdemeanor charges in relation to those allegations. Alabama Lt. Gov. Kay Ivey was sworn in as the state's 54th governor shortly thereafter.

AL Rep. Randall Shedd, R-Fairview

I think we are all sad that actions of former Governor Bentley reached the level of impeachment or resignation.

I take no pleasure in the situation, however I think it is best for our state.

As I said more than two months ago, I became P3

State and local officials take part in lively town hall forum

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HANCEVILLE – On a very busy day in Alabama politics, members of the Alabama House of Representatives joined local officials in a public town hall meeting at Hanceville City Hall Monday evening. House Majority Leader Nathaniel Ledbetter, R-Rainsville accompanied Rep. Randall Shedd, R-Fairview and Rep. Corey Harbison, R- Good Hope to talk about matters in Montgomery. County officials also spoke, including Sheriff Matt Gentry, County Schools Superintendent Shane Barnette and County Commissioners Kerry Watson and Garry Marchman. The event was hosted by Mayor Kenneth Nail and the Hanceville City Council, with hot supper and dessert provided by the sheriff's office.

In the front of everyone's mind were the momentous events of the day in Montgomery. Shedd was the first to address Gov. Robert Bentley's resignation.

"It's a day that we have a new governor (Kay Ivey). I was in Montgomery today; it's a sad day, but it's a day we need. The time had come-way past the time, I felt like. Rep. Harbison and I on Feb. 13, I believe it was, we made our decision. When we came out, we felt the process was stalled; and we felt like somebody had to say something about the situation. And, frankly, people all over the state told us, 'Y'all said what was on our minds.'"

Shedd and Harbison co-sponsored the legislation that revived the movement to impeach former Gov. Robert Bentley. Shedd pointed to two incidents that prompted their decision: P5

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
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On the move: preemption devices guarantee green lights for Cullman Fire Rescue

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CULLMAN – When firefighters respond to a call, especially in town, they run a gauntlet of other vehicles in trucks that aren't designed to be nimble. They have to be both safe and fast. In addition to extensive training and practice, Cullman Fire Rescue (CFR) now has another tool in its chest.

CFR engines (the big trucks) carry traffic preemption controls (TPCs) that automatically change red lights ahead of them to green, keeping traffic flowing out front and preventing the risks of driving through red lights.

It doesn't work on every light; receivers are attached to specific lights on the routes most often traveled by fire trucks.

The Tribune sat down with CFR Chief Edward Reinhardt to get more information about how the devices work.

"The device on the truck will signal the light," said Reinhardt, "and the light will pick it up and give us a green light, and turn the other three directions red. It's set up on the truck to where, any time we turn the emergency lights on, it comes on at that point. Once you set the parking brake or put the truck in park, it goes back off."

The light change is not instant. When an approaching truck activates the TPC, the green light will cycle through yellow to red to give motorists time to stop.

TPCs are not just for straight routes. The devices are keyed to the trucks' turn signals, as well.

According to Reinhardt, "If we turn on a left turn signal, and there's a turn lane there, it will give us that turn.

"And as we turn right or left, the next light picks it up."

The TPC not only changes the light immediately in front of a truck, but also the lights ahead along the truck's route.

Reinhardt explained, "As you go down through town, the traffic backs up from light to light. If it just turns the light that you're at, then the next light is red; you just keep backing up.

"The idea is to get as many lights as you can on a main throughway. When you get one light, it gets the next light, and the traffic in front of you just keeps moving on through town and out of your way. It actually makes it safer for everybody, and for us too. It also cuts down on our response time, since we're not having to maneuver in and out of the traffic."

Right now, 13 lights in Cullman have receivers: those closest to the stations, along Highway 31 and Highway 278, and on the routes from stations to those main thoroughfares.

With recent city council approval, the CFR will soon add eight more lights; and more will come in the future.

"Eventually, we'll have most all of the lights in town," said Reinhardt.

Law enforcement agencies and ambulance services can also use TPCs, but for now in Cullman, only the fire department has them.

There, they are used only on the engines and rescue trucks. Reinhardt was clear that no staff or personal vehicles will carry the devices.

Art in the Park this weekend at City Park; future plans to be unveiled

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CULLMAN – Cullman City Parks and Recreation (CP&R) will host the annual Art in the Park event this Saturday, April 15 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. In the past, Art in the Park has taken place at Heritage Park; however, this year the event will be at City Park off of Main Avenue.

"We really want to highlight the different types of art being practiced in the community and center the event around the Art Guild building, which was recently renovated within the last year," said CP&R's Waid Harbison, who oversees events and marketing.

The event is free to attend and will feature more than 30 arts and craft vendors, live craft demonstrations throughout the day, several free crafts for kids, an art show in the newly renovated Art Guild building and live music throughout the day by Shannon McNeal.

The popular sidewalk chalk art contest will also take place for kids of all ages from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the park; the winner will receive a free three-month family pass to the waterpark at the Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center.

There is no charge or pre-registration to be in the sidewalk chalk contest; participants just need to be at the park between 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs and the Park Board will be on-hand to unveil plans for the future of City Park.

"We obviously want to continue to have this event annually at City Park," Harbison said.

"However, we will be holding a ribbon-cutting during the Art in the Park, renaming City Park the 'Art Park.'

"It is here that we will have sculptures and feature local artists' work, all centered around the Art Guild building that will host art classes throughout the year."

Harbison said that the event will feature jazz and acoustic music.

He hopes Art in the Park can grow to become not only one of Cullman's essential yearly events, but also one of the biggest events in the county.

"We have really never done anything like this before," he said.

"We would love to have around 1,000 people show up for this. It is going to be a lot of fun and a unique event for sure."

Since parking at City Park is sparse, CP&R is facilitating parking across the street and will have attendees leading cars to the parking area and directing traffic for safety. The roadway that runs alongside City Park will be closed for the event.

For more information on Art in the Park, contact CP&R at 256-734-9157 or visit www.cullmanrecreation.org.

Update: Chief Reinhardt on Cullman's new fire station

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CULLMAN – The Tribune recently got an update on Cullman Fire Rescue's (CFR's) new Fire Station No. 3 from Chief Edward Reinhardt, Jr. The four-bay facility is located on Alabama Highway 157, behind Merchants Bank on the east side of Piggly Wiggly; it will serve the northwest part of the city.

"We've actually already started construction there," said Reinhardt.

"They've poured some of the pads, and they're starting to put up some of the framing today (Thursday, Apr. 6)."

According to Reinhardt, the station will house CFR's administrative offices, which are currently in Cullman City Hall, and will be the base of operations for first response/pumper engine 517 and the department's new rescue truck no. 3.

The rescue truck is a medical response vehicle; the engine is a multi-purpose platform equipped for medical response, firefighting, automobile crash response and numerous other tasks.

CFR Training Officer Brian Bradberry added that the new station will also house the department's hazmat and technical rescue trailers.

When the station is completed, it will go into operation immediately. The extra personnel needed are already employed and undergoing necessary training by the CFD.

Reinhardt explained, "Staffing was a problem, but we went for a SAFER grant, which is a grant for personnel. We were awarded that grant for 12 additional personnel, so it pays their salary and benefits for two years.

"After that, the City has to pick it up, but that gives them the time to get adjusted, get our people in here and get them trained. We have them on staff now; in fact, we're close to having them all trained, where we can start running just like we had a third station, but it will be run out of Station One for the time being."

Station No. 3 is expected to be completed and open by late November. The chief will be happy to see it happen.

He reflected, "We feel very fortunate to be getting this. It's been a long time needed, and the mayor and council saw the need for it. We really appreciate it."

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Good Hope OKs EMA's emergency evacuation plan for Smith Lake Dam

Heather Mann
Tribune Correspondent

GOOD HOPE – The Good Hope City Council welcomed Cullman County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Director Phyllis Little this week. Little presented the EMA's updated evacuation plan for areas of the county that could be affected by a catastrophic failure of, or high-volume discharge from, Smith Lake Dam (Lewis Smith Dam). The council's first motion of the night was to authorize Mayor Jerry Bartlett to sign off on the plan, which passed.

Read more about the plan here: www.cullmansense.com/articles/2017/02/23/cullman-county-ema-issues-new-emergency-plan-smith-lake-dam

Councilman John Harris reported all was well in the financial report: total revenue is up overall, and the missing excise tax, as reported in March, should be coming in next week. Harris, who oversees finances, stated that since everyone had a copy of the bank reports in front of them, he had nothing to report.

He did, however, say that he was glad that the lights at the park were repaired.

For utilities, Councilwoman Susan Eller brought Grady Parsons to give an update on the recently-installed pumps at the water treatment plant.

Parsons stated that the pumps should greatly reduce sludge amounts due to the increased water volume that they're moving, and the new control panels being installed will replace equipment that's approximately 30 years old.

He said that the new equipment should greatly improve the plant's performance, though they hadn't realized how bad it had gotten until they made repairs.

Councilman Greg Brown had nothing to report, and Councilman Taft Dillashaw reported that so far this year the profits from the concessions stands at the ball park have been very good.

He also hopes to have the new weight room for the high school's athletes open by summer or fall.

The deputy present reported a few burglaries in the area, though mostly the house was just ransacked with little taken, as well as a theft from Cabin Fever Beverages.

The Good Hope City Council meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Good Hope City Hall. The public is welcome to attend.

Retiring (from Front)

Heather Mann
Tribune Correspondent

HOLLY POND – Holly Pond High School has seen several new teachers in the past few years. New teachers for agriculture and physical science came this year, and last year brought a new English teacher. Now, the school will be looking to replace two more beloved faculty members: Luette Benefield, longtime band director, and Wilma Whateley, dynamic jack-of-all-trades science teacher. The Tribune sat down with both teachers to learn more about some of HPHS' most popular educators.

Luette Benefield

Benefield will be ending her career as a full-time band instructor after 30 years on the job. Starting at T.W. Martin High School in Walker County, she came to Holly Pond in the fall of 1992 and has been a part of the family ever since. Reminiscing on her first year there, she says that they had around 35 horn players, a small drumline and a large number of auxiliary performers. That year, she also started the jazz band, which plays during the school's basketball games. Along with the jazz band, each year has seen its fair share of marching competitions, honor band try-outs, All-State try-outs, Solo and Ensemble performances, concerts and the annual trip to Musical Performance Assessment.

When asked about how many awards the band has won in her time there, Benefield said, "For just marching contests, we've gone to about three or four every year, so we've won between 12 and 20 trophies every year that I've been here. Adding Solo and Ensemble awards, we've probably won around 500 awards. With the trophies the band's won in the years before me, there's probably around 700 trophies in this band room."

Benefield shared some of her most memorable moments, and had trouble choosing just one. "You'd really have to break it down by seasons. Summer and band camp always provide good memories, especially seeing what you're given at the beginning of band camp and watching these kids progress and seeing how far they've come after two or three weeks. Marching season, that's always full of memories. All the practices, the performances, every competition that we go to. Some of the games, the way they turn out, can be especially memorable."

She went on to detail some of the competitions. Mid-South Marching Competition, she said, was always the most memorable, along with every time the band won a best in class award.

Of concert season, she said that many special memories are made on the band's annual spring trip. "We've been to Washington D.C. twice, Disney World seven or eight times. One year we got to perform on the steps of the capitol."

Many of Benefield's students reacted to her retirement announcement with sadness, as many had been with her since sixth-grade beginner band and had years of memories with her.

Fortunately, she said, they seem to be handling it rather well and have given her many well-wishes with her future plans, which revolve around taking a part-time position at Mount Pleasant Christian School. The school would like to start a band, and Benefield plans to help them achieve that goal.

As for what, if anything, she could have done differently? "I wish I could've gone back and taken more time to show each student how amazingly, incredibly wonderful they are. Sometimes I get so caught up in a task that I lose focus on doing other things, so I wish I could've spent more time letting all the kids know how important they are. I also wish I could've done more towards getting the band some new uniforms because these ones are old."

Wilma Whateley

After teaching for 28 years, 11 of which were spent at Holly Pond, Whateley will be retiring to raise her two grandchildren, a 4-year-old and a 21-month-old. "They deserve the best of me, not what's left of me at the end of the day," she explained.

Whateley started her career at Anniston Middle School, where she spent six years and was recognized as Teacher of the Year by the Alabama State Department of Education.

She then taught in Jefferson County for two years, received her National Board Certification during her time in Talladega County and worked as an intervention specialist for the ASDE, working with at-risk schools. She spent time in Blount County schools, before finally moving to Holly Pond in 2006.

During her time at Holly Pond, Whateley made herself a well-known presence. She coached the robotics team for eight years, coached the science team every year until the county-wide shutdown, coached three InSPIRESS teams, sponsored the pep club and acted as an improvised bell every time the school bell malfunctioned. She taught seventh- and eighth-grade science, earth and space science, physical science, biology, chemistry and physics.

She renewed her National Board Certification in 2008, was named Teacher of the Year for South's BEST, and is renewing her certification again this year so she can teach her own grandchildren.

When asked how her students took the news of her leaving, she responded, "I don't think they think it's real yet. I don't think it's real yet. I haven't even started cleaning out my room... I've had kids come up to me in the hall and say 'I can't believe you're leaving' and I'm just like 'I can't believe I'm leaving.' Holly Pond hasn't just been a place of work; it's been a significant part of my life and my family's life."

Whateley recounted some moments from her time at Holly Pond that really showcased the kindness and generosity of the school family: when her husband Pete had cancer, her family worked hard to carry him to treatments and help him recover. During this trying time, the people at the school helped make sure that her family would be able to celebrate Christmas and have gifts to exchange with each other. She described how her family had needed to move, and several faculty members and two football players volunteered their time and effort to help her while Pete was still trying to regain his strength.

There came a time in her life when she suffered 13 family deaths in a span of eight months, and people at the school helped cover for her by handling some of her administrative duties while she was out. She says that she has "never known a kinder, more compassionate, more giving group of people" than the students and faculty at Holly Pond.

Whateley says she can happily say she has no regrets from any part of her career. She says she wishes she had gotten her doctorate, but considers that a goal she hasn't met yet rather than an actual regret. She says she's met all other goals she set for herself, and will continue to meet her goal of caring for children. Along with her grandkids, she plans to foster other children in an effort to help give them the life they deserve.

Resignation (from Front)

convinced the governor leaving office was necessary.

It is time now for us to move on.

The message to our citizens and the whole world is corruption will no longer be tolerated in Alabama.

Future governors hopefully will not allow a "governor behind the curtain" whether it be an individual, a group or lobbyists.

Business and industry considering Alabama can come knowing that Alabama is fair to everyone and Alabama addresses its problems.

I look forward to working with Governor Kay Ivey.

I think people will be pleased with her steady leadership during this difficult time.

With Governor Ivey's leadership, we can now address the problems of our state including public safety, education, mental health and a host of other issues.

Most importantly, we can restore the public's trust.

U.S. Rep. Robert Aderholt, R-Alabama

Governor Bentley had to make a difficult choice in resigning today.

However, I believe it was the right decision for a state I know he deeply loves.

I thank Governor Bentley for his service to our state, in particular, the way he handled the devastation and loss of life after the April 27, 2011 tornado outbreak.

I wish new Governor Kay Ivey the best and stand ready to help her in any way I can to advance our state and help its people.

Alabama Farmers Federation President Jimmy Parnell

Gov. Ivey has always been a friend to farmers. She understands the importance of agriculture and forestry to our state — how they shaped our state's history and their importance to Alabama's future.

We look forward to working with Governor Ivey as she continues her life's work to make Alabama better.

She is a true public servant who brings to the governor's office the knowledge, experience and determination necessary to move our state forward.

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
April 13, 2017

Lady Warriors reign supreme in Cullman County Softball Tournament

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GOOD HOPE – The second and final day of the 2017 Cullman County Softball Tournament got underway Tuesday afternoon with some fantastic action. Up first on the day was the winner's bracket final that pitted the host team, the Good Hope Lady Raiders, against the favorites to win the tournament, the West Point Lady Warriors.

GAME ONE (Day Two) WINNERS BRACKET FINALS- West Point 8, Good Hope 6

It was a back and forth affair in the winner's bracket final. West Point got on the board first, scoring three in the bottom of the first inning. Olivia Ball got the scoring going with a booming two-run double that scored Courtney Blackwood and Lillie Burdette. The third run of the inning was scored by Ball when Molly Pendley grounded into a fielder's choice.

Good Hope picked up their first run of the game in the top of the second thanks to an RBI single by Abigail Neighbors, but the Lady Warriors got the run back on a Ball double in the bottom of the inning to make the score 4-1 in favor of the Lady Warriors after two full innings of play.

Down but not out, Good Hope rallied in the top of the third, hanging a three spot on West Point to tie the game at four, thanks to an RBI single off the bat of Alex Stansell and a costly West Point error.

West Point took the lead back in the bottom of the fourth on a Pendley single, but Good Hope came right back and took their first lead of the game in the top of the fifth when Derekia Tankersley notched an RBI single and came home to score on a wild pitch to make the score 6-5 in favor of Good Hope.

West Point struck back in the bottom of the fifth for three runs, taking the lead for good and advancing to the championship game, by a score of 8-6.

GAME TWO (Day Two) LOSER'S BRACKET SEMIFINAL- Cold Springs 11, Holly Pond 9

Seven innings were not enough to see who would face Good Hope in the loser's bracket finals as the Lady Eagles and Lady Broncos needed extra innings to decide a winner.

Cold Springs dented the scoreboard first, when Hayden Goodwin came home to score on a wild pitch in the top of the third.

Holly Pond struck back in the bottom half of the inning, scoring three with RBI singles by Taylor Tankersley and Lili Harris and a bases-loaded walk earned by Maddie Heatherly. The Lady Broncos led 3-1 after three.

After trading runs in the fourth, Holly Pond enjoyed a two-run lead heading to the fifth when Cold Springs went to work. Victoria Freeman got the scoring merry-go-round started with a ringing RBI double.

Two batters later Crimson Gann singled in Taylor Sisco, who was brought in as a courtesy runner. Cold Springs scored three more runs on a bizarre play that saw two errors, leading to the three runs. Katherine Sanders capped the six-run inning with an RBI single to give Cold Springs an 8-4 advantage.

The Lady Eagles added on in the top of the sixth with an RBI by Desmarie Moore to make the score 9-4.



JOSH MCBRAYER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Holly Pond cut into the Cold Springs lead, scoring three in the bottom of the sixth with the big blow coming on a Tankersley two-run home run to make the score 9-7.

Down to their last three outs, Holly Pond scored twice in the bottom of the seventh on a Tankersley ground out and an error to tie the score at nine and force extra innings.

It took two extra frames, but the Cold Springs Lady Eagles took advantage of a pair of productive outs to plate two. They then retired the Lady Broncos in order in the bottom of the ninth to take the game 11-9 and earn the right to face Good Hope in the loser's bracket final.

GAME THREE (Day Two) LOSER'S BRACKET FINAL- Good Hope 15, Cold Springs 0

It was all Good Hope from the first pitch to the last out in the loser's bracket final. The Lady Raiders scored five in the first, five in the second, three in the third and two in the fourth to run-rule Cold Springs 15-0 in four innings.

Sidnie English recorded five big RBIs. Tankersley, Stansell, Neighbors and Josie McDonald each had a pair of RBIs, while Mykale Lowe plated one.

GAME FOUR (Day Two) CHAMPIONSHIP- West Point 5, Good Hope 3

West Point took an early lead in the championship game Tuesday night at Good Hope High School. Blackwood led off the game with a single and quickly found herself on third via a steal and wild pitch. Pendley brought her home with a single, but the Lady Warriors failed to score anymore when a bases-loaded strike out ended the inning.

The Lady Warriors put their bats back to work in the second, plating a pair. Ball singled in Blackwood who had led the inning off with a ringing double.

Pendley recorded the other RBI in the inning, a single to left that scored Jordyn Kimbrell, but for the second time in as many innings, West Point left the bases loaded. Good Hope got on the board in the bottom of the second thanks to a sacrifice by Neighbors that scored Stansell.

West Point slowly continued to add to their lead by picking up a single run in the top of the fourth with a Ball double, but for the third time in the game the Lady Warriors had the bags full when the third out was made.

Just as it looked like West Point was going to cruise to their second straight county crown, Good Hope came roaring back with two huge runs coming off a double by Tankersley to cut the deficit to one. After five complete innings, the score stood at 4-3 in favor of West Point.

The Lady Warriors gave up two runs in the fifth and watched their lead shrink, but Makayla Brown smashed an RBI double to centerfield to make the score 5-3 and get West Point that much closer to the title.

The bottom of the sixth and the top of the seventh were uneventful. West Point went into the bottom of the seventh with three outs to get, and they did, claiming the Cullman County Softball crown for the fourth straight year by a final of 5-3 over a very solid Good Hope team.

Incorporation (from Front)

of Highway 278, but Bates is still seeking a few needed signatures from residents south of the highway.

The man who signed at the meeting is one of those residents, and he offered to take the petition to his neighbors.

The main theme of the evening was tax money.

All municipalities in Cullman County get a share of the County's sales tax revenue, based on population.

According to Bates, in 2016 an incorporated Berlin with a population of 750 (Bates's estimate) could have seen $308,440.36 in revenue, with more than 80 percent of that coming from County sales tax.

"Whether or not we have a town," said Bates, "we're still paying the taxes that support towns. We're just seeing that money leave the community and go to these other places, to support them. If we incorporate, that money will come back to us, with no additional taxes on anyone in the area."

He estimated that, currently, about $400 per Berlin resident is leaving Berlin each year, and is being distributed to incorporated towns.

One anonymous resident seemed to sum up several conversations buzzing around the tables during the question and answer time that followed Bates's presentation: "It's our money! It should stay here!"

Bates also spoke briefly about specifics of what needs to be done for incorporation from this point:

• Supporters must gather the remaining signatures needed from the southern half of the proposed incorporated area. They have around six months to do so, before the current petition expires.

• The community will have to come up with money to fund an incorporation election in the fall, including an estimated $3,000-4,000 in legal and attorneys' fees, and $6,000 to rent a voting machine and purchase ballots.

Bates has scheduled meetings at the community center for the second Tuesday evening of each month through July.

He hopes to have the needed signatures by that time, and to see incorporation put to a vote in the fall.

Forum (from Front)

Bentley's transportation of his former mistress and her husband to the presidential inauguration aboard a state plane in January, and the appointment of Luther Strange to fill Jeff Sessions' vacated U.S. Senate after Strange (then Alabama Attorney General) stopped the state's investigation into Bentley.

"That's just more than I could take," said Shedd, "because it gave the appearance of a deal; and that's just not the way it's supposed to work."

Ledbetter added, "Last year, it (the governor's scandal) didn't affect what we do; it really didn't. But this year, it sucked the life out of the process. We've spent more time dealing with this than passing bills and making legislation to make Alabama great. It just hasn't happened. It's a new day. When we start tomorrow, it's a new day."

Harbison concluded the legislators' discussion of the governor's scandal, "I do hope that, after today, some of this stuff can be put behind us, and we can move on; because we do have a lot of issues that we need to handle."

The legislators called for people to pray for the former governor, and voiced commitment to the process of rebuilding citizens' trust in the government of Alabama.

During individual addresses, and during the following question and answer time, officials addressed several issues.

Mental health

After talking about the good relationship between the sheriff's office, local communities, and the other two law enforcement agencies in the county, Gentry addressed the ongoing issue of mental health.

"We face a lot of things we didn't face years ago," began Gentry, "and Chief Long (Hanceville Police Chief Bob Long) and all these guys here can tell you: mental health. You know, we deal with mental health every day. In the last two and a half years, we've been in five standoffs with mentally ill individuals. The money's been cut; there's nowhere to send people for long-term treatment. There's no way to get them help, because we deal with it every day. There's things that they're facing every day that we've never faced before in society."

Shedd, during the open floor portion of the meeting, stated that mental health is an important issue, and that the change of administration should create more opportunities to address the matter.

When asked if any mental health legislation is actually on the docket for this session, the three legislators admitted that they did not know of any; but they reiterated their hope that the new administration might create more opportunities for discussion of the issue.

Ledbetter spoke briefly about the possibility of a secure mental health facility to remove mentally ill persons from the prison system.

Drugs

Gentry shared, "As I talk to other sheriffs, they're always like, 'How, in Cullman County, do y'all make so many drug arrests?' And I say, 'I'll tell you this: we've got three good law enforcement agencies.' You've got the Sheriff's Office, Hanceville Police Department and the City of Cullman (Police Department). Law enforcement, as a whole, care about their community. We want drug dealers out of our community. That's why you see all those agencies making arrests; we're putting drug dealers behind bars. We don't want them here. That's why we average 360 people in our jail right now."

The sheriff also commended his department's monitoring of registered sex offenders, noting that deputies made more than 3,000 home checks last year, compared to averages in the 300s in years gone by.

He further spoke with pride of the department's work release program, noting that inmates are leaving with life skills and job skills, and that the program has paid more than $1 million in victim restitution.

Constitutional carry

Gentry opened the discussion by voicing his support for Senate Bill 24, which would allow citizens without criminal records to carry concealed firearms without the need for a permit. Permits would still be sold, for people who wish to buy firearms without a waiting period, or those who want to carry their firearms across states lines. Gentry is one of only three Alabama sheriffs who support constitutional carry.

All three legislators indicated that they plan to support the bill if it comes to the House.

Long voiced his opposition to the bill, arguing that it would take away police officers' ability to disarm people who have not committed a violent crime yet, but who are behaving in suspicious ways.

During the open floor portion, the question came up again. The legislators again voiced their support, and said that the bill has good chances in the legislature. They also stated, though, that they did not know what Ivey's position would be.

Education

Barnette touted the achievements of the county school system, noting recent achievements and ongoing programs that are gaining national attention for the system.

He took time to talk about the relationship between the system and Wallace State, and the kinds of opportunities that exist for vocational students and those studying fine and performing arts.

Fuel tax

The three legislators returned to the front to make a lengthy joint presentation promoting a fuel tax to support road maintenance. They and Marchman talked about the extensive number of miles of paved roads in Cullman County, noting that it has the third highest number of miles in the state.

According to Harbison, "I think that roads are the number one issue of the citizens. We have to have good roads; we have to have infrastructure because, if we have roads that a police car can't get down, or sheriff's cars can't get down, they're no help to the citizens. And we can't get school buses down the roads."

Marchman had earlier spoken in opposition to the proposed fuel tax, during his remarks. He said that, though he had earlier supported the tax, he felt a lack of trust in how the state would handle the money.

"People are going to go against a tax every time," he said, "until they trust what you're doing."

Marchman renewed his attack on the proposed tax, stating that when the state turned roads over to counties years ago, it failed to turn over the funds to maintain those roads.

"Right now, the state collects 17 cents per gallon of gas that's sold here in Cullman," argued Marchman. "You know what the county gets? We get a portion of one cent that comes off the gas tax."

After a brief change of topic, Ledbetter returned to the fuel tax issue, pointing again to infrastructure needs and saying that the current road system is hurting economic development in the state.

A lively but friendly debate ensued between the legislators and Marchman, who called instead for a local tax that would stay completely in Cullman County.

The two sides did not come to a consensus on the tax, but did agree on the need for funds to be generated to support road systems and infrastructure.

During the open floor portion, several other issues were presented and received brief attention, including:

- The need for state government to contain costs and operate within a budget
- Medicaid funding
- Security and state licensing for church-run daycare centers (See HB 277, The Child Care Safety Act)
- Personal recognizance bonds for arrested persons
- Funding for benefit raises in the state retirement system





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MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the terms of that mortgage executed on August 29, 2007 by Monique Kunze, an unmarried woman, to EvaBank, which said mortgage is recorded in Book 1535, Page 453 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 May 5, 2017:

Lot 17 of Scenic Valley Subdivision as shown on the plat as shown in Slide B184B in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama.

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

Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as part of the foreclosure process.

EvaBank, Mortgagee
Dewayne N. Morris
Attorney for Mortgagee
2131 Third Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
The Cullman Tribune-April 13, 20, 27, 2017

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

MELISSA CARRIE LEE,
Plaintiff

Vs. Case Number: **DR-2017-900066.00**

GLEN DALE LEE,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Glen Dale Lee, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Carrie Melissa Lee's Complaint for Divorce by May 22, 2017 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2017-900066.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 20th day of March, 2017.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Clerk of Circuit Court

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
ANDRIA RICHTER
300 1st AV SE
CULLMAN, AL 35055

TO PUBLISHER: BEGINNING MARCH 30, 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.

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3/20/2017 10:12 AM
25-DR-2017-900066.00
CIRCUIT COURT OF
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
LISA MCSWAIN, CLERK

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

LEE CARRIE MELISSA,
Plaintiff,

V. Case No.: DR-2017-900066.00

LEE GLEN DALE,
Defendant.

ORDER

MOTION FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION filed by LEE CARRIE MELISSA is hereby GRANTED.

DONE this 20th day of March, 2017.

/s/ GREGORY A NICHOLAS
CIRCUIT JUDGE

News from the Pond

Jimmie Dean Carnell
Tribune Contributor



Good morning Tribune readers and families. Yay!!! From all indications, it looks like – feels like – spring has sprung at last. This has truly been a beautiful week, with lots of sunshine and warm temperatures. I hope you have taken the opportunity this week to get your beans and taters planted for lots of good summer eats (don't forget the squash and peas, as well).

This is Holy Week as we are reminded of the real reason that we call ourselves Christian.

Without the resurrection, our churches would not exist, we would not have Christmas, we would not have Hope.

I am reminded of a quote by Phillips Brooks that is important to me: "Let every man and woman count himself immortal. Let him catch the revelation of Jesus in his resurrection. Let him not say not merely, 'Christ is risen,' but 'I shall rise.'"

We are thankful for Easter and all it represents to people everywhere, not just Christians and I hope that we will remember the true significance of this week.

Holly Pond Homemakers Club will be having their semi-annual bake sale on Saturday, April 15 at the Holly Pond Town Hall.

This is always a wonderful event that supports the upkeep of the Holly Pond Cemetery. Doors open at 8:00 a.m.

Plan to come early for the best selection. Last year, the club had completely sold out of goodies by about 10:30.

This is the last week to contact a Holly Pond Civitan Club Member to get your order in for your bag of fresh Vidalia Onions.

They are $10.00 for a ten-pound bag and that is a real bargain.

The onions will be delivered fresh from the farms in Georgia during the first week of May. Your Civitan will deliver them to your door.

I extend Christian sympathy this week to the family of Mr. James Hudson.

Mr. Hudson was a longtime English teacher at Holly Pond High School.

He impacted many lives and almost everyone that had him in class has a "Mr. Hudson Story."

He was 91 years old and was laid to rest in Blountsville.

Have a great week, stay safe and enjoy the beautiful spring weather.

Tribune Files from Yesteryear

From The Files Of 1918

Marvin Scott, who is on the USS Pennsylvania, will arrive Sunday to spend a few days with his mother, Mrs. W.A. Scott.

The New Cullman Drug Company has opened with a capital stock of $10,000, fully paid in. The officers of the company are: H.C. Arnold, president, A.P. Martin, vice-president, D.C. Fuller, secretary and G.S. Leeth, treasurer. The board of directors are: J.I. Armstrong, S.M. Lovelady, E.C. Kinney, G.W. Ponder and J.M. Bright.

"Friends are like melons. Shall I tell you why? To find one good one you must a hundred try."

W.A. Schlosser, 75, died at his home on Friday morning, April 29th, after a long illness.

He was one of the county's best- known citizens, having been active in city, county and state affairs.

For several years, Mr. Schlosser served on the city council.

The deceased was truly a builder. Being an architect and contractor, he has designed and built the majority of the county's most magnificent buildings.

Doctor J.E. Marion, pastor of the First Baptist Church, conducted the services.

He was interred in the Protestant Cemetery.

Pallbearers were: Rene Clark, Robert Speer, Bill McNabb, Bill Nesmith, Sam Green, T.D. McMinn, R.P. Johnston and Asa B. Fuller.

The deceased is survived by his widow, five sons, Charlie, Dwight, of Cullman, Alfred, of Birmingham and Harry, of Huntsville, four daughters, Mrs. J.A. Dunlap, Mrs. Jeff Barnett and Miss Mabel Schlosser, of Cullman and Mrs. Herbert Miller, of Smokemont, North Carolina.

Moss-Scheiung was in charge.

From The Files Of 1955

Two Joppa thirteen year olds, Billy Wayne Tipton and Mary Evelyn Thrasher drowned in a pond on Saturday.

The two were fishing in a pond near the home of Billy Wayne's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Amos Tipton, when Mary Evelyn slipped and fell into the water.

Mac Arthur Talley, who was plowing in a nearby field, saw Billy Wayne jump into the pond, trying to pull the girl out. Neither could swim and both went under. Talley ran to the Tipton residence to tell Billy Wayne's parents.

In the meanwhile, Weed Maze arrived and after about 30 minutes was able to find the little boy. Some ten minutes later, he brought the little girl out.

They were taken to Arab Hospital, where Doctor R.M. Barnard tried for two hours to revive them, but was unsuccessful.

Billy Wayne is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Amos Tipton, of Route Two, Arab; one brother, L.W. Tipton and three sisters, Mrs. Fanny Mae Holloway, Mrs. Olga Waldrop and Mrs. Willean Thrasher.

Mary Evelyn is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Thrasher (Willean Tipton), of Route Two, Arab and one sister, Corene Thrasher.

Bruce Harbison, member of the West Point 4-H Club, was the first place boy winner in the annual 4-H Cooperative Essay Contest held on Thursday afternoon, at Kleins Creamery. Bruce and Annette Gibbs, of the Hanceville 4-H Club, girl winner, will represent the county at the district elimination in Decatur, on June 3.

The first crate of 1955 strawberries was sold by B.W. West, of Route Three, Cullman, to Howard Edwards, of Brothers Store.

The second crate reported to the Tribune, was bought by Fred Peinhardt, from F.A. Kennemur, of Route One, Steppville. Mr. Peinhardt, in turn sold the berries to A and P Market.

Both crates were brought to Cullman on Monday of this week.

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

What's Easter really about?

Bill King
Tribune Contributor



We have three dozen eggs in the fridge waiting to be dyed, hidden, found, and eaten. We still like the real thing, rather than those plastic, pop-apart eggs, with candy inside. Well, maybe a few of those are okay, if they contain the right kind of sweet stuff. I have always enjoyed the dying, or decorating step, as much as any part – well, maybe except the eating part.

Gigi has gone all fancy in the decorating department. She uses onions skins, somehow, to make eggs with a marbled effect.

They are too pretty to crack and eat. She also uses whipped cream and food coloring to make a tie- dyed decoration.

These remind me of those tie-dyed shirts we used to make.

As a kid, I thought we had arrived at a new level of living when we bought an egg dying kit.

That's because we had always decorated our eggs with crayons.

I drew multi-colored stripes on eggs, poorly drawn animals, and photo-like pictures of people.

Okay, forget that I said photo-like. I drew the faces of Paul, John, Ringo, and George on four of my eggs back in their day, but no one recognized the Fab-Four, until I identified them.

Some people simply have no eye for fine art! I drew a checker board on an egg once, but I couldn't find checkers that small.

That probably was best because trying to play checkers on an egg might have been a frustrating exercise.

These days, I usually find myself on the hiding end of the egg hunts.

I've retired my crayons and have given up on becoming a famous egg artist. I don't think there's a big market for such anyway.

I let Gigi do the fancy decorating, and I watch with blessed excitement as Drew and the dogs hunt and find. I do still enjoy the eating part.

I have realized if you hide two dozen eggs, but they find twenty-five eggs, you should sniff before you eat!

Where did we get the tradition of decorating and hiding Easter eggs? Some contend that it has pagan roots, and that even the word "Easter" is an old pagan word that predates Christianity.

Perhaps these things are true, but neither the egg, nor Easter, has to mean those things to us today.

The egg is a symbol of new life, fertility, and rebirth in many cultures across the world.

Some say the tradition is linked to springtime, because this is the time of year when much of nature is in bloom and coming back to life, or out of dormancy.

For Christians, the Easter egg may be symbolic of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Coloring eggs red is an ancient Christian tradition, in which the color represented the blood of Jesus that he shed on the cross. Hiding the eggs may represent the three days when Jesus was hidden away in the tomb.

Hunting the eggs may represent those who came to the tomb on Sunday seeking to find him.

The hard shell of the egg may represent the sealed tomb, while cracking the shell represents his emergence from the grave.

While we may have fun with decorated eggs, baskets, bunnies, and Easter outfits, may we never forget the real meaning of this holiday.

On Sunday, let's pause to remember what Jesus did for us when he died on the cross, and was raised from the dead three days later.

Numerous opportunities exist to give him thanks and to worship at sunrise services, Easter services, and musical programs. May you have a happy Easter!

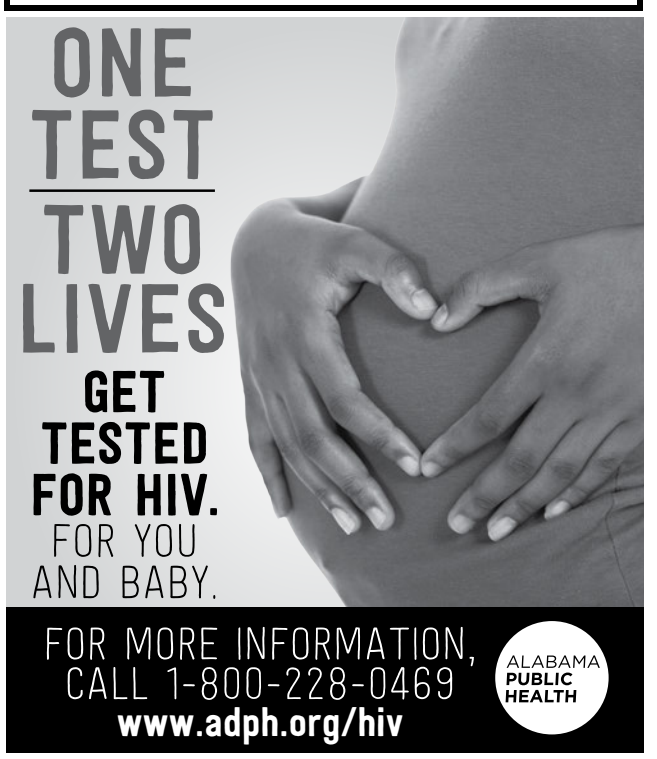
Bill King can be reached at bkpreach@yahoo.com or 334-745-0588 (office) or 334-728-5514 (cell).

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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

Seventy-five percent of patients with moderate to severe alopecia areata – an autoimmune disease that causes patchy and less frequently, total hair loss – had significant hair regrowth after treatment with ruxolitinib, reported researchers in the *Journal of Clinical Investigation/Insight*. Alopecia areata, the second most common form of hair loss, can occur at any age and affects men and women equally. The disease usually causes hair loss on the scalp, but some patients also experience facial and body hair loss, with devastating consequences particularly in children. Currently, there are no known treatments that can completely restore hair.

***

Benzodiazepines are drugs typically prescribed for the treatment of neurological and/or psychological conditions, including anxiety, insomnia and seizure disorders. Both classes of drugs depress the central nervous system ("CNS depressants"); however, each has unique pharmacology, safety risks and labeling information related to its use.

***

Four commonly prescribed blood pressure medications may impact mood disorders such as depression or bipolar disorder, according to new research in the American Heart Association's journal *Hypertension*. Patients on beta-blockers and calcium antagonists were at two-fold increased risk of hospital admission for mood disorder, compared to patients on angiotensin antagonists (angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors or angiotensin-receptor blockers). Patients on angiotensin antagonists had the lowest risk for hospitalization with mood disorders compared to patients on other blood pressure meds and patients on no antihypertensive therapy. Patients taking thiazide diuretics showed the same risk for mood disorders compared to patients taking no antihypertensive meds.

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Glory days: CHS baseball alumni day

Johnny Thornton
johnny@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Cullman's current baseball team stepped aside last weekend to allow former Bearcats to relive their glory days in the second annual Alumni Day at Bill Shelton Field.

The activities featured a home run derby then a game between former Bearcat players. The odd graduates got the best of the even grads by the score of 14-5.

Coordinated by coach Brent Patterson, the alumni day reflects on the success of Cullman baseball in the last 15 years. The Bearcats have won four Alabama High School Athletic Association championships in that span and been the runner-up four other times.

The success that began with the school's first state championship in 2002, serves as motivation for the current squad, who is 24-6, on top in Class 6A, Area 14 play and ranked second in the state prep poll.

An alumni dinner was held Saturday night at Terri Pines Country Club to get the weekend festivities underway.

On Sunday afternoon, 19 former Bearcats took part in the home run derby. Eight were able to put one over the fence, with 2007 grad Chris Cain leading after the preliminary round with four, followed by 2009 grad Drew Bryson and 2011 grad Matthew Britton with two to earn a spot to the finals.

Then Britton, who went on to play for Mississippi State University, got into a groove, belting three straight home runs to start the final round and finishing with nine.

Two of them were solid blasts that went over the scoreboard in right-center field.

Cain took second with four while Bryson was third with two in the championship segment.

The finalists were all left-handed hitters, dominating the competition with 11 leaving the field in the preliminary. The only home run by a right hander was Josh Phillips. Several balls just missed going out with several landing well into the parking lot outside the right-field area.

Then the game took place with odd classes meeting players who graduated in an even-numbered year.

The odd team included Josh Phillips, Josh Goodwin, Ben Moore, Matthew Britton, Colby Lawrence, Aaron Avery, Drew Bryson, Wesley Sams, Chris Cain, CJ Shearer, Matt Norrell, Zach Roden and Will Carter.

Playing for the even squad were Matt Drake, Joey Shearer, Mark Stephens (current assistant principal and athletic director at CHS), Caleb Clay, Matt Dellinger, Weston Bates, Jacob Dellinger, Whit Ford, Ben Sellers, AJ Johnson, Robbie Laney, Todd Graveman, Jeremy Peek and Blake Bright.

Buddy Shearer and Dion Johnson handled the duties coaching the evens while the odds were under guidance by a committee featuring Bryson, Phillips, Britton and Lawrence.

Bryson started on the mound for the odds and struck out the side in the bottom of the first. Bates was given the ball to begin the pitching duties for the evens.

Bryson had four runs batted in while Phillips, Moore, Goodwin and Cain provided assistance at the plate as well. A nine-run fourth inning broke the game open.

But what really mattered was the fellowship shared by the former players, with the oldest being Stephens and Joseph Lambert, who graduated in 1994 and 1996, respectively. Several of these Bearcats went on to play collegiate baseball with Clay and Moore drafted by the majors.

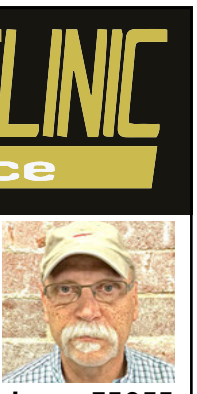
The current Bearcat team assisted by chasing foul balls throughout the derby and game. Wheeler Eastman served as the pitcher for the home run derby.

In total, 28 former Cullman players returned to Bill Shelton Field on Sunday for a moment they will never forget.

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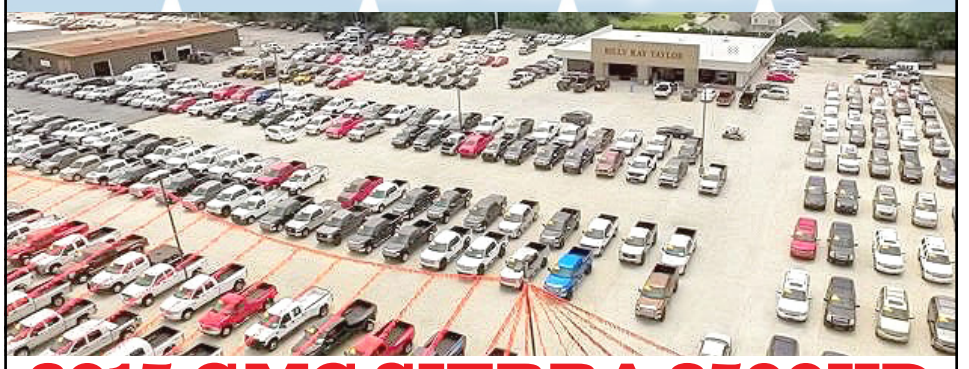
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2007 Suzuki Forenza, VIN # KL5JD56Z17K552980
2004 Kia Spectra, VIN # KNAFE121845035687
2001 Acura 3.2CL, VIN # 19UYA42441A014391
2007 Hyundai Sonata, VIN # 5NPEU46F07H272770

These vehicles will be sold to pay storage and or repair fee at Johnson's Auto Tire and Tow, LLC, 178 County Road 1332, Vinemont, Alabama 35179, on Thursday, May 4, 2017, at 8:00 a.m.

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, May 1, 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: Premier Bank of the South
vs.
Victoria Chambers
757 County Road 1135
Vinemont, Alabama 35179

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 Victoria Chambers, property, described as follows:

The East ½ of the North ½ of the West ½ of the Southwest ¼ of the Northeast ¼ of Section 36, Township 10 South, Range 2 West, containing 5 acres more or less.

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

Dated this the 27th day of March, 2017.

BY: Matt Gentry, Sheriff
Sheriff Matt Gentry

NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

Default having been made in the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Angela W Murphy A Single Woman to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., solely as a nominee for Homecomings Financial Network, Inc. dated August 18, 2006; said mortgage being recorded in Book 1485, Page 439, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Nationstar Mortgage LLC by assignment recorded in Deed Book 290, Page 780 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama.
The undersigned, Nationstar Mortgage LLC, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Cullman County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on the 27th day of April, 2017 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:
A portion of the N 1/2 of the N 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 10, Township 9 South, Range 2 West, being more particularly described as follows, to-wit: Commence at a point where the east margin of the Cotaco Road intersects the north forty line; thence east 163 feet; thence in a southerly direction 200 feet; thence westerly 62 feet; thence southerly 59 feet; thence westerly 47 feet to the east margin of the Cotaco Road; thence northerly along the east margin of the Cotaco Road a distance of 246 feet for the beginning of the land herein conveyed.

Said property is commonly known as 5990 County Road 1545, Cullman, AL 35058.
The indebtedness secured by said Mortgage has been and is hereby declared due and payable because of default under the terms of the Note secured by said Mortgage, including but not limited to, nonpayment of the indebtedness as and when due. The indebtedness remains in default, and this sale will be made for the sole purpose of paying the same, including all expenses of the sale, attorney's fees, and all other payments provided for under the terms of said Mortgage.

Said property will be sold subject to the following items, which may affect the title to said real property: all zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the property; any outstanding taxes, including but not limited to, ad valorem taxes, which constitute liens upon said property; special assessments; all outstanding bills for public utilities, which constitute liens upon said property; all restrictive covenants, easements, rights-of-way; the statutory right of redemption pursuant to Alabama law; and any other matters of record superior to said Mortgage. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the real property is Angela W Murphy or tenant(s).
Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process.

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC
as holder of said mortgage
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC
Two North Twentieth
2 20th Street North, Suite 1310
Birmingham, AL 35203
(800) 275-7171
FT21@mccallaraymer.com
File No. 911617
www.foreclosurehotline.net

Auction Notice

Contents of storage unit **D-5,** rented to **Wayne Wilson, Junior,** on **July 31, 2012,** will be sold for auction for past due rent on **April 22, 2017** at **10:00 a.m**. Consisting of: metal toolbox, wooden dresser, wooden bed and frame, stereo, hand truck and computer and printer.

Contents of storage unit **D-21**, rented to **Teresa Culver,** on **September 9, 2011,** will be sold for auction for past due rent on **April 22, 2017**, at **10:00 a.m**. Consisting of: assorted household goods.

Contents of storage unit **B-21**, rented to **Tim Hollingsworth,** on **August 4, 2006,** will be sold for auction for past due rent on **April 22, 2017,** at **10:00 a.m.** Consisting of: stereo, computer, tool chest, bike and television.

Your Extra Attic
c/o Werner's Trading Company
1115 4th Street, Southwest
Cullman, Alabama 35055

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY

STATE OF ALABAMA
CULLMAN COUNTY CASE NO: AD-2017-022

IN THE MATTER OF:
SAVANNAH BROOKE FREEMAN ,
A minor child.

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: JOHN CODY FREEMAN WHOSE WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN

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

DONE THIS 28th DAY OF March, 2017.

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: *
THE ESTATE OF *
DAVID ARNOLD M^{C}ANNALLY, * CASE NO: PC-2017-006
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Amy Elizabeth Chambers, as Administrator of the Estate of DAVID ARNOLD M^{C}ANNALLY, deceased, on the 17th day of March, 2017, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

/s/ RANDY A. HAMES
Randy A. Hames, Attorney for the Estate
of David Arnold M^{C}Annally, Deceased
HAMES LAW FIRM, LLC
427 2nd Ave. S.W.
Cullman, Al 35055
(256) 739-7191

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for 3 consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE

DISTRICT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY

Utilities Board of the City of Cullman
(PLAINTIFF)
VS CASE NO: SM-2017-900116
James Kadale Scott
(DEFENDANT)

NOTICE OF FILING OF LAW SUIT

DEFENDANT, James Kadale Scott, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the complaint brought against him/her by the PLAINTIFF, Utilities Board of the City of Cullman, for $5836.23 plus court cost, cause of action being: On or about October 21, 2016, Defendant negligently or wantonly caused damage to property of the Plaintiff resulting in the claimed damages.

ANSWER TO THE COMPLAINT MUST BE MADE BY THE SAID DEFENDANT on or before the 18th day of April, 2017, or a default may be rendered against him/her in the above styled cause.

DATED THIS THE 10th DAY OF April, 2017.

Plaintiff's Attorney: Steven C. Smith
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, Al 35056
Phone: 256-734-4721

Lisa McSwain
LISA MCSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

VALUATION NOTICE

The appraised valuations of all property listed for taxation in Cullman County have been fixed as provided by law and filed in my office according to Sec. 40-30-20, 1975 Code of Alabama. The Board of Equalization and Adjustment will hear protest on any of these valuations provided these protests are filed in writing by May 15, 2017.
Barry Willingham, ACTA
Revenue Commissioner
Board Secretary
Cullman County

Legal Notice

Pursuant to Alabama Code 32-13-1 Earl's Body Shop will offer for sale at public auction the following vehicles, on May 24th, 2017, at 7:00 a.m.
2007 BUICK LUCERNE, VIN#1G4HD57297U209828.
2000 TOYOTA CAMRY, VIN#2T1CF22P7YC269714.
1997 FORD ESCORT, VIN#1FALP13P5VW339077.
2004 DODGE NEON, VIN#1B3ES56C04D573415.
2005 NISSAN MAXIMA, VIN#1N4BA41E35C858730.
2207 SUZUKI RENO, VIN#KL5JD66Z27K510422.
2000 FORD FOCUS, VIN#1FAFP3833YW298032.
1997 TOYOTA 4 RUNNER, VIN#JT3GM84R2V0012950.
1997 MERC VILLAGER, VIN#4M2DV1115VDJ01450.
1995 GMC 1500, VIN#1GTEC14Z3SZ527248.

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the terms of that mortgage executed on March 22, 2012 by Joyace Michelle McAnnally, unmarried woman, to EvaBank, which said mortgage is recorded in Book MTG 1672, Page 554 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 April 20, 2017:

A tract of land lying in and being a part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 15 Township 12 South, Range 4 West, more particularly described as follows: Commence at the Southeast corner of said forty; thence North 89 degrees 17 minutes 55 seconds West along the South forty line a distance of 570.01 feet to the point of beginning of the tract herein described; thence continuing along said forty line, run North 89 degrees 17 minutes 55 seconds West 150.00 feet; thence North 00 degrees 16 minutes 35 seconds East 294.93 feet to a point on the South right-of-way line of County Road 119: thence South 89 degrees 17 minutes 55 seconds East along said right-of-way line a distance of 150.00 feet; thence South 00 degrees 16 minutes 35 seconds West 294.93 feet to the point of beginning, Including a 1986 Kimberly Homes Manufactured Home bearing Serial#KH4026D, Model – 3!K6893GA, located thereon. Containing 1.02 acres, more or less.

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-March 30, April 6, 13, 2017

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

The Estate of:)
) CASE NO. PC-2017-057
CHARLIE COLUMBUS BRYAN,)
Deceased)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted Michelle D. Bryan, as Administratrix of the Estate of Charlie Columbus Bryan, deceased, on the 21st day of March, 2017, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

Michelle D. Bryan
Michelle D. Bryan
Administratrix of the Estate of
Charlie Columbus Bryan, deceased

TO: The Publisher of the Cullman Tribune

Please publish the foregoing notice one a week for 3 consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Beverly Paschal Poston,
Attorney for the Estate of
Charlie Columbus Bryan, deceased.
200 First Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama, 35055
bposton@beverlypaschalposton.com
(256) 739-3970 Fax (256) 739-3968

Tammy Brown
Probate Judge, Tammy Brown

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE:
WESLEY SEBASTIAN BRYAN,
a minor child: DOB 06/02/2011

CASE NO: JU 2013-22.03

NOTICE

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

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that Mariano Barrientos or other possible father of Wesley Sebastian Bryan, the child born 06/03/2011, respond to the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights by the 11th day of May, 2017, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioner.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioner, Michael Haynes, 412 1st Ave SE, Suite 100, Cullman, Alabama 35056, (256) 737-5068 or Clerk of Court Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Avenue Southwest, Room 303, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

DONE this the 21st day of MARCH, 2017.

JUVENILE COURT JUDGE

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit Court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 29 day of March, 20 17.
Lisa McSwain (GW)
Clerk of Circuit Court

FILED IN OFFICE
MAR 21 2017
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

NOTICE

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER APPLICATION TO VACATE A PORTION OF CULLMAN COUNTY ROAD 1615.

WHEREAS, property owner AGCOR Steel, 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, May 23, 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, AGCOR Steel, LLC, is requesting vacation of a portion of Cullman County Road 1615, more particularly described as follows, to-wit:

Commence at the Northeast Corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 9, Township 10 South, Range 2 West, thence S 1°36'10" E 1338.25 feet to an existing iron, thence S 88°48'46" W 467 feet to an existing iron, thence N 1°37'11" W 101.08 feet to an existing iron, thence N 1°24'08" W 198.07 feet to an existing iron on the South R.O.W. of Co. Rd. 1615 and the point of beginning, thence N 2°52'23" W 40.38 feet to an existing iron on the North R.O.W. of Co. Rd. 1615, thence along said R.O.W. the following bearings and distances, thence N 83°56'30" W 88.50 feet, thence N 82°28'50" W 111.88 feet, thence N 78°12'40" W 93.15 feet, thence N 71°25'59" W 79.54 feet, thence N 63°47'45" W 61.88 feet, thence N 54°42'55" W 60.21 feet, thence N 48°04'49" W 85.38 feet, thence N 45°14'25" W 92.68 feet, thence N 43°28'14" W 155.44 feet, thence N 42°59'57" W 152.44 feet, thence N 40°39'28" W 82.63 feet to an existing iron on said R.O.W., thence S 6°27'44" E 81.56 feet to an existing iron on the South R.O.W. of Co. Rd. 1615, thence along said R.O.W. the following bearings and distances, thence S 76°13'13" E 9.97 feet, thence S 43°04'55" E 161.12 feet, thence S 43°28'54" E 156.72 feet, thence S 45°14'48" E 93.82 feet, thence S 48°09'24" E 88.75 feet, thence S 54°48'20" E 65.53 feet, thence S 63°17'25' E 67.65 feet, thence S 71°23'54" E 84.68 feet, thence S 78°09'50" E 96.97 feet, thence S 82°27'17" E 114.04 feet, thence S 84°00'26" E 95.10 feet back to the point of beginning.

WHEREAS, an action is requested for an adoption and approval of a Resolution vacating a portion of Cullman County Road 1615.

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 Cullman County Road 1615, will be considered by the Cullman County Commission at a Public Hearing to be held on Tuesday, May 23, 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 28th day of March, 2017.

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

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE:
WESLEY SEBASTIAN BRYAN,
a minor child: DOB 06/02/2011

CASE NO: JU 2013-22.03

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

The Petitioner having made a Motion for service by Publication in the above styled action, stating that the Father of the above described Minor is unknown it is

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that Mariano Barrientos or other possible father of the child born 06/03/2011 to Stephanie Bryan, respond to the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights by the 11 day of May, 2017, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in the favor of the Petitioner.

It is further ORDERED that this Order and notice be published once a week for four successive weeks in The Cullman Tribune, a newspaper of general circulation in Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE this the 21st day of March, 2017.

JUVENILE COURT JUDGE

FILED IN OFFICE
MAR 21 2017
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE:
YESICA KAY BRYAN,
a minor child: DOB 11/29/2008

CASE NO: JU 2013-23.03

NOTICE

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

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that Mariano Barrientos or other possible father of Yesica Kay Bryan, the child born 11/29/2008, respond to the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights by the 11th day of May, 2017, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioner.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioner, Michael Haynes, 412 1st Ave SE, Suite 100, Cullman, Alabama 35056, (256) 737-5068 or Clerk of Court Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Avenue Southwest, Room 303, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

DONE this the 21st day of MARCH, 2017.

JUVENILE COURT JUDGE

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit Court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 29 day of March, 20 17.
Lisa McSwain (GW)
Clerk of Circuit Court

FILED IN OFFICE
MAR 21 2017
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE
MINOR NAME CHANGE OF
ETHAN RYAN SARTIN
A Minor child

CASE NO: PC2017-058

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR A MINOR NAME CHANGE

TO: UNKNOWN FATHER, AND ANY OTHERS WHOSE IDENTITY, ADDRESS AND/OR WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN OR UNDISCLOSED

You must answer The Petition for Minor Name change filed by Natasha Marie Bagwell, which was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman, Alabama on the 3rd day of March, 2017, and should you contest this Minor Name Change, 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, Room 101.

DONE THIS 17th DAY OF March, 2017.

Attorney for Petitioner:
Andria Richter
300 First Avenue SE
Cullman, AL 35055
256-775-7757

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

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE:
YESICA KAY BRYAN,
a minor child: DOB 11/29/2008

CASE NO: JU 2013-23.03

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

The Petitioner having made a Motion for service by Publication in the above styled action, stating that the Father of the above described Minor is unknown it is

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that Mariano Barrientos or other possible father of the child born 11/29/2008 to Stephanie Bryan, respond to the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights by the 11th day of May, 2017, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in the favor of the Petitioner.

It is further ORDERED that this Order and notice be published once a week for four successive weeks in The Cullman Tribune, a newspaper of general circulation in Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE this the 21st day of March, 2017.

JUVENILE COURT JUDGE

FILED IN OFFICE
MAR 21 2017
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

CLASSIFIEDS

AUCTIONS

BUSINESS LIQUIDATION: Scuba, Diving & Office Equipment. Online bidding thru Thursday, April 20 at 8 PM. www.hortonauction.com, 1-256-536-7497. Scott Huber, AL5284, Horton Auction & Real Estate.

SERVICES

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.

SWITCH TO DIRECTV. From $50/Month, includes free Genie HD/DVR & 3 months HBO, Showtime, Cinemax, Starz. Get a $50 Gift Card. Call 1-855-401-5498.

WANT YOUR ad to be seen in 120 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!

HELP WANTED-DRIVERS

$1,000 SIGN-ON bonus! Holiday & vacation pay! Quality home time! BC/BS Medical/Dental/Prescription Insurance. Regional and OTR lanes. Call 1-800-580-2205 x1 for more information.

ATTN: DRIVER trainees needed now! Earn $800-$1000 week + benefits. No CDL, no problem! We'll train you. Call today 1-800-878-2546.

DRIVER TRAINEES needed! Learn to drive for Stevens Transport! No experience needed! New drivers can earn $900+ per week! Paid CDL training! Stevens covers all costs! 1-888-528-8864. drive4stevens.com.

HELP WANTED-HEALTHCARE

VIVA HEALTH is hiring Nurses & Social Workers in your area! Care/Case Management & Leadership opportunities. Regular business hours & paid holidays off. Visit www.vivahealthcareers.com.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

ARE YOU in big trouble with the IRS? Stop wage & bank levies, liens & audits, unfiled tax returns, payroll issues, & resolve tax debt fast. Call 1-855-787-1656.

HAVE 10K in debt? National Debt Relief is rated A-Plus with the BBB. You could be debt free in 24-48 months. Call 1-888-774-9191 now for a free debt evaluation.

FOR SALE

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.

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.

WALK-IN-TUBS - Save $1500 if you own your own home & its value is $100k+ free heated seat ($600 value) - America's favorite brand! Call 1-855-886-4478.

MEDICAL

CANADA DRUG Center: Safe, affordable medications. Licensed mail order pharmacy. SAVE up to 75%! Get $10.00 off your first prescription. Free shipping! Call 1-844-765-6480.

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.

Drivers:
Impressive weekly pay! Monthly bonuses! Medical/Dental/Vision! Guaranteed home every weekend! Excellent equipment w/APU's. One year CDL-A.
855-842-8498

Weekly online news recap, April 6 - 12

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.

Search of Berlin home results in trafficking arrest

BERLIN – Two people were arrested late last week after officers with the Cullman City Police Department (CPD) executed a search warrant at a home on County Road 1605 in the Berlin community. On April 6, CPD Sgt. Chris Thomason, Investigator Justin Craft, Officer Trey Higginbotham, Officer Dustin Colburn, Officer Chris Steele and Officer Cole Kelley executed a search warrant at the home of Joel Mabry, 49, of Berlin. During the search of the residence, authorities allegedly recovered 2.3 ounces of methamphetamine, along with marijuana, a handgun, rifles and multiple items of drug paraphernalia. Mabry was arrested and charged with trafficking in methamphetamine, second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia. He is being held at the Cullman County Detention Center on a $1 million bond. Caroline Mullins, 41, of Albertville, who was at the residence at the time of the search, was found to be in possession of MDMA pills, also known as Ecstasy, along with drug paraphernalia, according to the CPD. Mullins was arrested and charged with unlawful possession of a controlled substance and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia. Mullins was taken to the Cullman County Detention Center and booked on a $5,000 bond, but has since bonded out. The CPD officers were assisted by Cullman County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Ryan Fortenberry, Deputy Kevin Bowers and Deputy Ryan Black at the scene.

Man killed in collision near Parkside School

BAILEYTON – A Cullman County man was killed early Tuesday morning in a two-car collision on County Road 1595 (Grandiflora Road) near Parkside Elementary School in the Baileyton community. Joshua Drake Smith, 26, of Cullman was pronounced dead at the scene according to Cullman County Coroner Jeremy L. Kilpatrick. Smith was killed when the 2001 Ford he was driving was struck by a 2006 Dodge pickup. The driver of the pickup was not injured The crash occurred at 7:12 a.m. No further details are available from the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) at this time, as troopers continue to investigate.

Work begins on U.S. 278 to AL 69 junction

CULLMAN – Road construction has begun on U.S. Highway 278 in Cullman County. The project affects Highway 278, from just west of I-65, all the way east to the junction of 278 and Alabama Highway 69. Good Hope Contracting (GHC) is in charge of the work, which the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) describes as "safety widening, resurfacing, traffic stripe and safety improvements." According to ALDOT North Region Information Specialist Seth Burkett, "Work will be going on throughout the summer. The majority of the work, including concrete work and resurfacing, will be performed at night. We do not anticipate any daytime lane closures." GHC was awarded the contract for the work for $2,885,781.32.

Jacobs proclaims April 2017 "Community College Month" in city

CULLMAN – On Monday, April 10, 2017, Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs officially proclaimed the month of April 2017 "Community College Month" in the city of Cullman. On hand to accept the proclamation was Dr. Vicki Karolewics, president of Wallace State Community College.

Jacobs proclaims "Parental Alienation Prevention Week" and "Bubbles for Love Day" in city

CULLMAN – On Tuesday, April 11, Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs officially proclaimed the week of April 23-29, 2017 "Parental Alienation Prevention Week" and April 25, 2017, "Bubbles for Love Day" in the city of Cullman.



LEANNE WEST/OFFICE OF CULLMAN MAYOR WOODY JACOBS

Xtreme Allstars recognized by Cullman mayor and council

CULLMAN – At this week's Cullman City Council meeting, the mayor and city council formally recognized the Cullman Gymnastics & Cheer Academy's Xtreme Allstars for their accomplishments at the U.S. Finals Cheer & Dance held April 8-9, 2017, in Pensacola, Florida.

Baileyton swears in new council member

BAILEYTON – Almost 60 people came out to witness the swearing-in of Baileyton's newest council member. Baileyton Mayor Johnny Dyar appointed Gene Sumner to Place 1, a position that was left vacant following the passing of Councilman Walker Mead, who lost his battle with cancer in late February. The remainder of Mead's salary was given to his surviving family to aid them in their time of need. The council nominated candidates for Mead's seat at a special meeting in March, and Sumner was officially sworn in today, Thursday, April 6.

Republican Women host ALGOP Chairwoman Terry Lathan

CULLMAN – The Cullman County Republican Women hosted a special guest Tuesday evening. Alabama Republican Party (ALGOP) Chairwoman Terry Lathan joined the group. Lathan began by praising Cullman for its strong Republican voting record, "Cullman is very Republican, right? A little spoiled, but you're never going to take it for granted. You're going to expect the highest from public officials." Lathan described how she thinks the ALGOP provides infrastructure for Republican candidates, "We helped over 60 candidates in 40 counties... We spent close to half a million dollars on the election." Of course, the looming topic was Monday's resignation by former Gov. Robert Bentley, of which Lathan remarked, "A handful does not represent the body." Lathan told the group that Republicans need to do the right thing, "I'm thankful for our team not putting partisan politics above doing the right thing; when you do the right thing, you'll win every time."

West Point dashes Fairview's hopes of clinching 5A, Area 12 playoff berth

WEST POINT – West Point was determined to not let county rival Fairview clinch a playoff berth Tuesday evening on the Warrior diamond. In a critical 5A, Area 12 game for both sides, West Point prevailed 9-3, thanks to timely hitting and good pitching from freshman Matt McDonald.

Holly Pond's Michael Lambert inks scholarship with Huntingdon College

HOLLY POND – Through four years, Michael Lambert and coach Mike Bates built a unique bond, seeing Holly Pond football go from defeat after defeat after defeat, to success in the 2016 season. Lambert was Bates' starting quarterback since his freshman year at Holly Pond in 2013. The first three years were frustrating, a time spent building experience into something positive. It all paid off last fall, when Lambert led the Broncos to their first winning record in nine years and a berth to the AHSAA 3A state playoffs. Lambert's performance last year has been rewarded. The left-handed senior signed a national letter of intent Friday with Huntingdon College in Montgomery. Huntingdon is in Division III of the NCAA and a member of the USA South Athletic Conference.

Albertville blanks Cullman girls 1-0 to win 6A, Area 14 regular season title

CULLMAN – Heather Choron drove the ball through the hands of goalkeeper Ashley Grace with 21:31 left in the second half to propel Albertville past the Cullman Lady Bearcats 1-0 and take home the regular season title in Class 6A, Area 14. Choron's goal gave the visitors enough momentum to fight off the Lady Bearcats in crunch time in a matchup of no. 3 vs. no 4 in the current Class 6A state soccer poll.

West Point High has top 5A scholars' bowl team in Alabama

WEST POINT – At Jefferson State Community College in Birmingham this month, the scholars' bowl team from West Point High School (WPHS) came out as the top-ranked 5A team in the state of Alabama. They also placed fourth overall, competing against teams at all levels from 1A-7A. WPHS was the only non-7A team in the final four. Team members included Captain Will Parker (named to All-State Tournament), Tom Parker, Kohan Lovett, Austin Frederick, Billy Ellis and Declan Cornett.

2017 Safe Kids Expo encourages child safety- and lots of fun

CULLMAN – On Saturday, Brooks' Place celebrated its 14th annual Safe Kids Expo at Sportsman Lake Park in Cullman. The event, sponsored by several area organizations and businesses, featured free food and drinks, child ID kits and services, Cullman Fire and Police vehicles, the Cullman Police helicopter, inflatables, face painting, puppet shows by students from Wallace State, and health screenings by Cullman Regional. Exhibits and booths included Cullman Caring for Kids, the Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force, Flourish of Cullman, D.A.R.E. and Bikers Against Child Abuse.

Local group hosts Autism & Special Needs Awareness Day at Heritage Park

CULLMAN – On Saturday, members of the Cullman Autism and Special Needs Family Support Group gathered at Heritage Park in Cullman for a fundraising 5K run and walk, and all around fun day. There were balloons, clowns, face painting, inflatables and games. The Cullman County Sheriff's Office, Flourish of Cullman, local churches and others manned booths around the park's soccer fields.

OBITUARY ANNOUNCEMENTS: APRIL 5 - 11

Funeral service for Jefferson Davis Bailey, 80 of Hanceville, held April 6 from Moss-Service Chapel, Rev. Tom Fillinger officiated; with burial at Welti Cemetery. Mr. Bailey passed away April 1 at CRMC. He was born in Cullman August 19, 1936 to Jefferson Davis and Ethel Hampton Bailey. He was a Hydrometeor Logical Technician with the National Weather Service. Survivors include former wife of 40+ years; Carolyn A. Bailey, son; Talmadge "Wayne" Bailey, twin daughters; Valarie Brady, Vanessa Jamison, grandchildren; Andrew Kunas, Kristie Leon, S. Logan Brady, Casey Brady, great granddaughter; Rosalie Leon.

Graveside service for Arlice Wheeler McSwain, 95 of Bremen, held April 8 at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Crane Hill; Julian Swann officiated. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. McSwain passed April 5 at his home. He was born Sept. 21, 1921, in Wheat to (the late) Joe Wheeler and Lucindia Calvert McSwain. Survivors include his wife, Mary Frederick McSwain; a son, Carroll (Wanda) McSwain; stepson, Frank (Christine) Forgue; three stepdaughters, Vicki (Terry) Garnett, Jody (Phil) Meyers and Pam (Tony) Riddley; two grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; eight step-grandchildren; 18 step-great-grandchildren; and a niece, Shelba (O.D.) Haynes.

Funeral services for Evelyn Smith Easterwood, 93 of Cullman, held April 8 at Moss Service Funeral Chapel. Larry Brown officiated, with burial in Cullman City Cemetery. Moss Service Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Mrs. Easterwood passed away April 6 at her residence. She was born May 4, 1923, to John Ervin and Lemmer Rodgers Smith. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Felix Easterwood; brothers, Lloyd, Claud, Jack and J.E. Smith; and sisters, Essmer Chandler, Avis Sims. Survivors include her son, Ronnie (Mary) Easterwood of Cullman; daughter, Joan (Robert) Aris of Logan; sister, Ovis Simmons; six grandchildren, Cindy (Greg) Neal of Arley, Matt (Brenda) Thompson of Cullman, Chad (Wendy) Thompson of Cullman, Josh (Jaclyn) Thompson of Moulton, Jonathan Easterwood and Jennifer (Wes) Harding of Cullman; and nine great-grandchildren.

Funeral service for Ronald Edward Edmondson, 73 of Cullman, held April 8 at Cullman Heritage Chapel; Pastor Bob Kurtz officiated with interment in Cullman City Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Edmondson passed away April 5 at his home. He was born December 7, 1943 in Cullman. He was a 1961 graduate of Cullman High School. He served four years in the U.S. Navy as a Petty Officer Aviation Technician. He graduated from Auburn University in 1971. He was a retired electrical engineer after working at GE, TVA and Monsanto. He was preceded in death by his parents, Deward and Aline Kinser Edmondson. Survivors include his wife, Janis Gerards Edmondson; a son, Scott (Charlotte) Edmondson; a daughter, Jill (Kevin) Nelson; two grandchildren, Bailey and Bennett Edmondson; one brother, Dennis (Jane) Edmondson; one sister, Yvonne Sharpton; and caregivers, Carrie Harris and Kim Watts.

Funeral services for Inez Entrekin Warren, 96 of Cullman, held April 8 at Moss-Service Chapel; Rev. Tommy Graves officiated. Burial in Cullman City Cemetery. She passed away April 5 at Hanceville Nursing Home. She was born in Cullman December 24, 1920 to Benjamin and Mary Hays Wix. She was a homemaker. She is preceded in death by her parents, husbands; Edward Entrekin and John Warren, grandchild; Jason Beasley, siblings; Walter and Herschel Wix, and Sidney Lambert. She is survived by daughters; Freda Beasley, Diann (Randy) Hancock, Rose Marie (Byron) Martin, sons; Earl (Ann) Entrekin and Terry (Rita) Entrekin, grandchildren; Phillip, Boyd, Durant, Wilette, Darina, Tim, Anthony, April, Amelia, Chris, Melanie, Patrick, and Jill, 13 great grandchildren, 2 great-great grandchildren.

James "Jim" Allen Schulien, 61, of Addison, entered into rest April 6 in Addison, Alabama. Jim was born on April 8, 1955 in Racine, Wisconsin. He was a member of Nesmith Church. Jim worked on the top fuel race team and enjoyed NHRA drag racing. Family received friends on April 9 at Nesmith Church in the Nesmith Community. Brother Steton Hayes officiated. Jim is survived by his wife of 16 years, Sue Schulien; sons, Devin Schulien, Alex Schulien; step sons, Jeff Pilgrim and his wife Mary and Mark Pilgrim and his wife Tanya; brother, John Schulien; sister, Ruth Richardson and her husband Marty. He was "Pops" to one grandchild, Samantha Pilgrim. He was preceded in death by his parents, Matt and Edith Schulien.

Virginia Mary "Ginny" (Croaker) Henderson, 63 of Hanceville, passed away on April 8 at her residence. Virginia "Ginny" was a tender, loving nurse for 39.5 years at CRMC, and a hospice nurse for 14 of those years. She succumbed to the ravages of ALS after a three-year long battle. Ginny loved walking, bowling, fellowship and family. She was a loving soul. Ginny is survived by her beloved husband of 44 years, Phillip Henderson; sons Brad (Karen) and Nicholas; six grandchildren Noah, Kadie, Raina, Irelyn, Sariah and Karys Henderson; Parents Robert and Patricia Croaker, nine siblings and a large extended family. Memorial service will be held April 9 at Hanceville First Baptist Church. If we kept it short--loving, caring, and an angel on Earth, that would describe Virginia "Ginny" Henderson. In Lieu of flowers, please donate to ALS 300 Cahaba Park Circle Suite 200 Birmingham, Alabama 35242 Website ALSAlabama.org or Hospice of Cullman County P. O. Box 1108 Cullman, Alabama 35056.

Funeral service for Brenda Gail McGraw, 46 of Hanceville, held April 9 at Cullman Heritage Chapel; Malcolm Carter II officiated. Interment in Etha Baptist Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. McGraw passed away April 5 at her home. She was born July 7, 1970 in Cullman. She was an x-ray technician. She was preceded in death by her Grandma & Grandpa Key, Grandma Hayes, Grandma Ponder, Grandpa Oden, and step-dad, Jerome Oden. Survivors include her husband, Chris McGraw; children, Colt Sanford, Shana (Robert) Knott and Peyton McGraw; mother, Luana Roberts; father, Danny Key; granddaughter, Jessie Knott; sisters, Gennia (Bobby) Wilhite, Belinda (Kevin) McCurry and Christy Key; brothers, Jeffrey Oden, Andrew Key and Little Danny Key; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Wilbert Ernest (Bert) Bedard, 89 of Cullman, died Wednesday April 5, 2017. Funeral service held at Moss Service Funeral Home Aprill 9; Pastor Todd Henderson officiated. Interment to follow at Cullman City Cemetery Born in Brockville, Ontario Canada, Bert was the son of the late Robert Bedard and Rita Pearl Smith Bedard Nichols. He joined the army at the age of 19 and served overseas where he met and married Rozelle Estes from Cullman Al in 1947. Rozelle left home at the age of 18 to work in civil service in Washington D.C. and was transferred to Europe. They met and married in Vienna, Austria. They later came back to the states and lived in Ogdensburg, New York for fifteen years before relocating to warmer weather in Cullman. In his early years in Cullman, Bert was known as "Yank" and he never lost his Yankee Accent. When he moved to Cullman he managed the Phillips 66 station a number of years, then continued working for Valley Oil Company and then Williams Service Company. He worked until he was 80 years old. Bert had a love for building, fixing, refinishing all things imaginable for his backyard, family and friends. He had a knack for projects and always had one in process. He could do anything from mechanical, electrical to carpentry and then some. He was always willing to help anyone with anything at any time. He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Rozelle Estes Bedard, Son: Eddie (Sara) Bedard, Daughters: Carin Braswell, and Lisa (Richard) Forrester. Grandchildren: Maria Bedard, Chrissie Gardner, Heath Bedard, Zachary Forrester, Emily Forrester, Kristin (Johnathan Prickett) Forrester, Amy (Jamie) McClain. Great Grandchildren: Brody Forrester, Tess Gardner, Evy Gardner and Fitz Gardner. Mr. Bedard Was preceded in death by his parents, Son: Bert Bedard Jr. Brother: Robert Bedard and Son-In-Law: Floyd Braswell. Friends may make donations: Cullman Regional Medical Center Foundation.

The family of Ramon Benitez, 53 of Cullman, received friends April 9 at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel. Mr. Benitez passed away April 6 at his residence.

Tommy Joe Scott of Falkville Alabama passed away on April 6 at Cullman Regional Medical Center at the age of 56. He was born on November 15, 1960 to James Franklin and Ella Mae Vernon Scott. He was a veteran of The United States Army. He is preceded in death by his parents, sisters: Peggy Young, Shirley Murray, brothers: Michael and George Scott. Funeral services will be on Monday, April 10, 2017 at Moss Funeral Home Chapel; Bro. Fred Nichols and Bro. Randy Williams officiated. Interment in Baileyton Cemetery. Survivors are: Sisters: Sheila (Rathel) Young, Mary (Jerry) Pierce, Brothers: David (Brenda) Scott, James (Susan) Scott, Donald (Michelle) Scott, a host of nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews and great-great nieces and nephews.

Wilma Imogene Martin Hicks passed away Friday, April 7 in Tuscaloosa, AL. She was 83 years old. A lifetime resident of Addison, AL, Mrs. Hicks was born on October 10, 1933, to Oliver and Mae Martin. She graduated from Addison High School in 1951, and went on to earn a Master's degree in Elementary Education from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She taught third grade at Addison Elementary for thirty years. She was married for fifty-six years to Coach A.G. Hicks. Mrs. Hicks loved watching Wheel Of Fortune and Crimson Tide Football, spending time with and cooking for her family, and going on outings with her Sunday School class. She was a member of Addison First Baptist Church. She is survived by her daughters, Trisha (Ric) Turner of Tuscaloosa and Sandy (Creig) Bell of Addison; brothers, Edsel (Dale) Martin, Windle Martin and Willie Ray Martin; sisters, Betty (Jimmy) Box and Linda (Tom) Woody; grandson, Spencer (Ashlynne) Bell of Huntsville; granddaughters, Gracie (Scott) Flynn and Katie Bell Cantrell, both of Addison, and Brittany Denton of Tuscaloosa; and great-grandchildren, Meri Kayte and Scout Flynn; Kash Cantrell; Cruce, Cannon, and Charlotte Bell; and Turner Denton; special relatives, Violet Wilkins and Rita Bartlett; and a host of nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Coach A.G. Hicks; and parents, Oliver and Mae Martin. Funeral service held April 10 at Addison First Baptist.

Mr. Roy 'Max' Cheatham, 81 of Cullman, passed away April 9. He was born in Cullman County to Lester and Vernice Miller Cheatham. His occupation was a self-employed carpenter. Mr. Cheatham was preceded in death by his parents; Brothers, Clyde Cheatham and Glen Cheatham; and Sister, Marjorie Poole. Survivors are Brothers, Joe Cheatham, and Lynn Cheatham; Sisters, Lila Edwards, Dixie Hays, Sue Easterling: Sister-in laws, Ann Cheatham and Irene Cheatham. Graveside service held April 10 in Corinth Cemetery in Battleground.

Dorothy Nell Davis, 82, passed away April 8. Funeral service held April 10 at Moss Service Funeral Home.

Nellie "Jeanette" Watts, 74 of Nauvoo, entered into rest on April 8 at her residence. Mrs. Watts was born on September 2, 1942, in Lynn, Alabama. She was a lifetime member of Ashbank Freewill Baptist Church. Jeanette retired as a cafeteria manager at Lynn High School after 18 years of service. Funeral service held April 11 at Ashbank Freewill Baptist Church in Nauvoo. Brother Leslie Sartin officiated. Burial followed in the adjoining cemetery. Jeanette is survived by her husband of 17 years, Larry Watts; daughters, Jena L. Alexander and her husband Vincente J., and Cindy M. Martin; brothers, Jimmy Tidwell and his wife Eulene, and Cecil Tidwell and his wife Lillian; sister, Betty Elkins and her husband James; and a host of nieces and nephews. She was "Maw Maw" to 8 grandchildren, Brandon Bevis, Anthony Bevis, Valerie Williams, Shawn Mobley, Christopher Williams, and Daniel Alexander; two step grandchildren, Lashayna Alexander and Keena Alexander; 7 great grandchildren, Ella Kate Teeter, Kara Williams, Brody Teeter, Bret Teeter, Isabella "Bella" Bevis, and Kaylee Williams; and one step great grandson, Darnell Alexander. She was preceded in death by her parents, Benjamin Franklin and Lucille Tidwell; brothers, Terry and Jerry Tidwell; and sisters, Elhura Myers, Christine Clingan, and Nola Mae Garrison.

Mary Margaret Clayton Oden, 60 of Falkville, Alabama passed away April 11 at Cullman Regional Medical Center. She was born March 23, 1957 in Birmingham, Alabama, to the late Charles Clayton and Carol McKenzie Clayton. She was employed by Excell Interior. Survivors include a son, Brian Oden, daughters, Crystal (Josh) Causey and Katelin (Joe) Oden, grandchildren, Brianna and Laci Causey, a brother, Charles Clayton, and sisters, Martha Johnson and Carla Estes. Memorial services will be announced at a later date.

Funeral services for Elba "Lozean" Smith Denton, 88 of Cullman, held April 12 at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel. Rev. Charles York officiated with interment in Cullman City Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Mrs. Denton passed away April 9. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Travis Denton; son, Jimmy Denton; brothers Crawford (Vada) Smith, Buford (Beatrice) Smith, Arlin (Violet) Smith, Acie (Arie) Smith, Mayo Smith, Kile Smith; sister, Elvina Smith Via. Survivors include her son, Ricky (Cindy) Smith; daughter-in-law, Carolyn Jones Denton; grandchildren, Marsha, Jimmy, John, Eric, Heather, Cody, Aaron, Alex; great-grandchildren; Johnathan, Matthew, Sidney, Trey, Luke, Hope, Kaylee, Camilla, Parker, Little Joe; brother, Dafford (Vikki) Smith; brother-in-law, Opal Via; sisters-in-law, Bertie and Hilda; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Funeral Services for Lucretia V. Heron Sharp, 76 of Hayden, held held Thursday April 13 at Blount Springs Baptist Church; Jeff Ingle and Richard Coggins officiated, with interment in Hays Cemetery. Mrs. Sharp passed away Sunday April 9, 2017 at Huntsville Hospital. She was born on December 12, 1940 in Powderly, Alabama to Joseph Wheeler & Frances Engles Jones Vandenhuerk and is preceded in death by her parents; two husbands, Douglas Harold Heron and Charles Sharp; and a sister, Donna Jo Mitchell. Survivors include four children: James Van (Melissa) Heron, Harold Douglas Heron, Steven J. Heron and Michelle Heron (Ben) Sewell; three grandchildren: Heath Heron, Chelsea Heron (Jared) Almon and Ethan Heron; three great grandchildren: Kelsi, Aubrey and Hayden; other family & friends: Carl Vandenhuerk, Vicki Ballard Doss and Stewart Egebrecht; and a host of other extended family.

Ricky Milton Hill, 57 of Double Springs, entered into rest on April 7, 2017 in Cornersville, Tennessee. Mr. Hill was born on October 11, 1959, in Jonesboro, Arkansas and attended Winston County High School. He drove a truck for Tidco and had a girl truck named “Lucy”. Ricky was the best dad and friend a person could have. He loved to fish, ride motorcycles, go mudding and work on his Jeep. He also enjoyed driving his truck, watching his grandkids play ball, Alabama football and collecting old money. Although his skills were not the greatest, he also loved to cook. Ricky was known as “Easy Rider” and for his favorite quote “ain’t no step for a stepper”. Visitation will be held on Thursday, April 13, 2017 from 6-9 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Double Springs. Funeral services will be held on Friday at 11 a.m. at Pleasant Hill No. 2 Baptist Church in Double Springs. Jason Tidwell and Brother Jeff Wiggins officiated. Burial followed in Fairview Cemetery. Ricky is survived by his sons, Chris Hill, and Shane Hill and his wife Jennifer; daughter, Brooke Hill; father, Rayburn Hill; brothers, Ronnie Hill and Mike Hill; he was “Paw Paw Rick” to 5 grandchildren, Tyler Hill, Brandon Hill, Bre Hill, Nikki Anderson and Bradley Anderson. He was preceded in death by his mother, Joann Wilson Castell.

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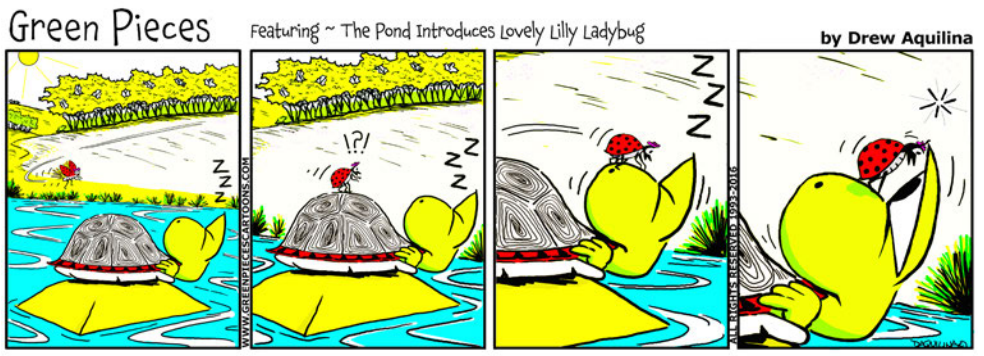


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Comics









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This week in Cullman history

CULLMAN – On Saturday, April 17, 1909, the H.A. Parrish boarding house and restaurant- located in West Cullman- was destroyed by fire. The fire started sometime before 2 a.m. and completely destroyed the two–story building before the fire department arrived. The building and contents were partly covered by insurance.



BOARDING HOUSE BURNS SATURDAY.

Saturday morning about 2 o'clock the large building in West Cullman used as a boarding house and restaurant by H. A. Parrish, was totally destroyed by fire.

The building was a two story frame, and the fire was under good headway when discovered, and was practically destroyed by the flames before the department reached the scene.

Coming at such an early hour, the fire fighters were slow in turning out and but for the absence of winds, West Cullman would have been the scene of a disastrous fire.

The building and contents were partially covered by insurance.

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE HISTORICAL PHOTO: THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 1909

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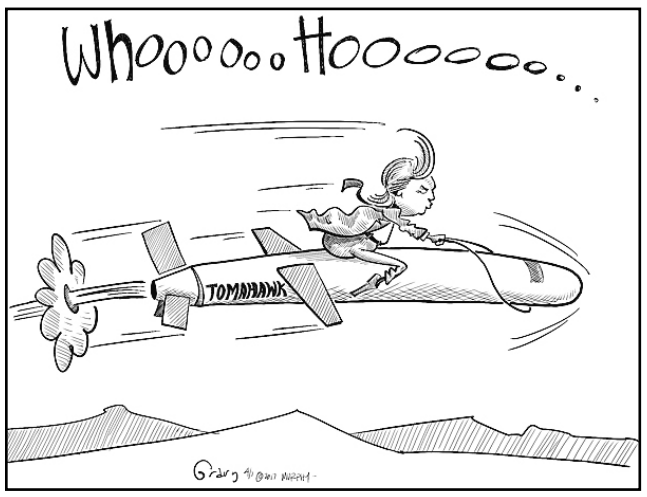
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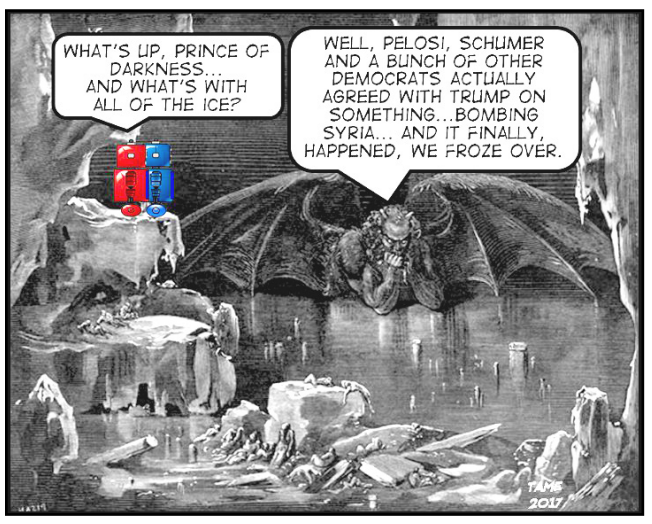
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Editorial Cartoons





Poet's Corner

UNDER HIS FEATHERS

I know a place of refuge where I can run and hide
from storms that rage around me
and those that rage inside.
This place gives peace and comfort
from every painful thing:
Under His feathers, Under His wing.

He bids me come and rest there
to find a sweet surcease,
and there from all my burdens, my
weary soul finds peace.
I know I'll find acceptance; there's
nothing I must bring:
Under His feathers, Under His wing.

He draws me close beside Him an
bids me peace, be still.
Then He gently teaches me to trust His sovereign will.
Depending on His mercy, there to His cross I cling:
Under His feathers, Under His wing.

Oh! wonderful that haven, that precious
hiding place, where I can flee from trouble
and seek my Savior's face; where He dries
every teardrop and teaches me to sing:
Under His feathers, Under His wing.

By: Rita Aiken Moritz • Submitted by: Randy C. Hale

Container gardening

Loretta Gillespie
Tribune Correspondent

When faced with the challenges of poor soil or not having enough space for landscape plants, the answer is often a container garden.

Grouping plants together in a container, or grouping containers in one spot, is nothing new, but it is an art, and it does require some gardening knowledge.

You must know the water, light and soil requirements of each plant for your container garden to be successful. Grouping plants that like to stay dry is a sure way to kill them if planted with varieties that like frequent watering and moist soil.

You can look up your plants' needs online, or in many books, but a good rule of thumb is to look at the leaf. The swollen leaf of a Jade plant compared to a paper-thin fern leaf makes it easy even for a novice to notice the difference.

The reason the Jade plant's leaf is so thick is because it is full of water, like a storage tank. It would take a long time for the plant to need water, since it gets it from the numerous leaves on its branches, which also hold a lot of moisture.

The leaf of the fern is so thin you would hardly think it could survive without constant rainfall. That's not far from the truth, as most ferns grow in boggy areas or in rain forests.

These two would never make good companion plants. However, there are plenty of plants that make excellent neighbors, so do some research and find out which suits your pot, your location and your zone.

We live in Zone 7, which is very important if you intend to leave your pots outdoors during the winter months.

Ivy, most bulbs, some sedums and roses will be fine in pots or hanging baskets, but you will have to bring impatiens and other tender plants inside for the winter.

For that reason, you should pay particular attention to the weight of the pot you choose. A heavy ceramic or stone container will be much too heavy for most people.

For plants that must be relocated, choose lightweight resin or plastic pots.

Sitting like plants together makes a bolder statement. It is also good for the plants because it creates humidity. Rex begonias look striking when kept in a grouping, and the light requirements are the same for each pot.

While not 'technically' a container, a small, narrow strip of soil between a wall and a sidewalk certainly do contain these roaming plants. Red spider lilies, or 'naked ladies' come back faithfully each year to put on this crowd-pleasing display.

An extremely large cabbage head growing in a garden urn looks very compelling to visitors. It gives a unique perspective to 'container gardening,' which can easily turn into a vegetable container garden by adding a few companion plants.

A large concrete container situated in the middle of a long narrow flower bed becomes a focal point near a driveway. It also adds height, almost giving the container a 3-D effect.

Containers flanking the sides of a gazebo should match one another as much as possible to give balance to your seating area. Planted with prolific "Marguerite' sweet potato vine and hot pink and white impatiens, they add height as well as color to a deck.



LORETTA GILLESPIE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Containers flank the sides of this gazebo. Planted with prolific "Marguerite' sweet potato vine and hot pink and white impatiens, they add height as well as color to the deck.

You can also plant single succulents in an unusual container to make a great focal point that can be moved from place to place with ease.

That is another important consideration: some plants can take spring sun, but when the weather turns hot and dry, they might do much better in a light shade or under a porch. Moving them with ease will be much easier on you and your plant.

Think outside the box. Use outdoor furniture or statuary to give added emphasis, allowing your succulent dish garden to show off its draping habit.

Dish or pot gardening is easy, once you learn the basics listed above.

Enjoy gardening!

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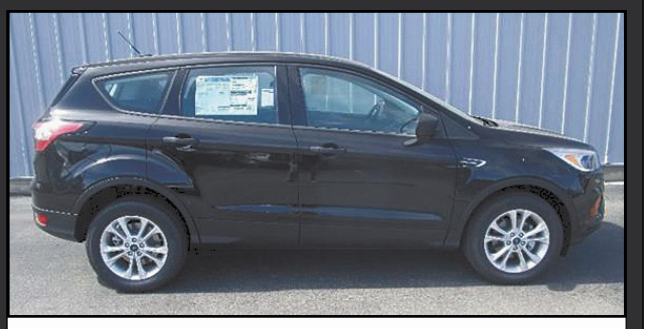
2017 Ford Expedition
Stock # 170111, Leather

Was $50,010 **$39,900** Save $10,110



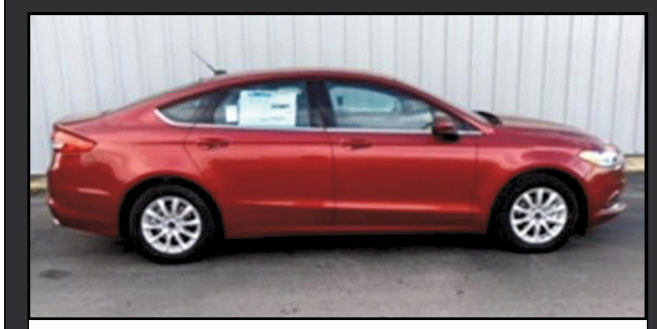
2017 Ford Explorer
Stock # 1601105, Leather

Was $35,681 **$29,900** Save $5,781



2017 Ford Escape
Stock # 160916

Was $25,090 **$19,900** Save $5,190



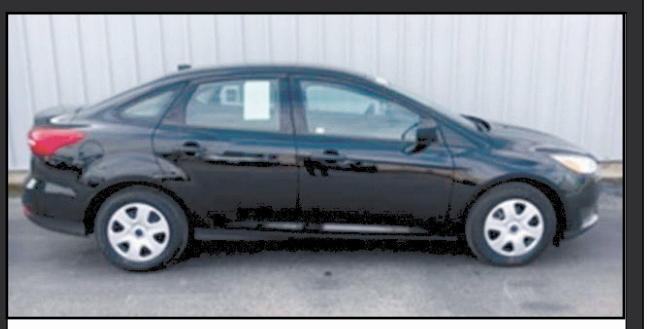
2017 Ford Fusion
Stock # 16K1010

Was $23,890 **$19,990** Save $3,890



2017 Ford F-150
Stock # 170211

Was $28,035 **$21,990** Save $6,095



2017 Ford Focus
Stock # 17B205

Was $18,745 **$15,990** Save $2,755

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