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Autopsy results say blunt force trauma cause of 1-year-old's death



WVTM 13

1-year-old James Lee Sanson died on May 31, 2016.

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – After more than a year, the official autopsy report on the death of a Cullman baby who died last May is back. According to Cullman City Police Sgt. David Nassetta, James Lee Sanson, who had just turned a year old shortly before his death, died as a result of a blunt force trauma injury.

Now, Nassetta, the lead investigator on the case, will turn over all his findings to Cullman County District Attorney Wilson Blaylock. Blaylock is expected to present the case to a grand jury on July 17.

Authorities are not releasing the names of the suspect or suspects.

"We are not releasing suspect names. We are referring to them as 'the caregivers'," said Nassetta.

On May 29, 2016, 12-month-old Sanson was brought to Cullman Regional in a private vehicle by two caregivers, who were watching the child while his parents were away.

The child was in cardiac arrest when he arrived at the hospital and was soon transferred to Children's of Alabama in Birmingham. Sanson remained at Children's until the time of his death on the afternoon of May 31.

According to a statement from the Cullman Police Department at the time, the attending physicians could find no preexisting conditions that would have caused Sanson's death. An autopsy was performed on Friday, June 3, 2016.

At the time that the injury likely occurred, Sanson was in the care of two people who were not his parents.

When the caregivers took Sanson to Cullman Regional, they gave an account of what happened; however, a statement from the CPD said that as information developed and the extent of Sanson's injuries was realized, the account given by the caregivers was missing any explanation of how the child was injured.

"There was no explanation for what happened to him," Nassetta said.

When the two caregivers were contacted by the CPD for a follow-up interview shortly after the incident, they refused and directed any further contact to their attorney, Tommy Drake, who denied the CPD's request to speak to his clients.

As to why the official autopsy report took more than a year to come back, Nassetta said, "We expected it to take six to nine months, depending on the testing. The (Alabama) Department of Forensic Sciences is backed up, but this took longer than we expected it to take."



HEATHER MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

A donor gives for Team Olive Street Wal-Mart

City vs. County: teams go head-to-head for community blood drive

Heather Mann
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – There are many ways to help people, and the most common way is to donate to a good cause. When you add in a competition, people are even more enthusiastic to help contribute, whether the donations are food, clothing, money... or even blood. It's unclear at press time whether Team Cullman City or Team Cullman County came out on top, but the true winners are the patients who will receive the donations.

This is especially true since there is an emergency need for blood donations in the Cullman area. At the courthouse donation area, LifeSouth workers Melanie Moore and Dawn Prestwood explained that they only have a two-day supply for local hospitals.

Fortunately, the workers at the different donation areas were optimistic about donor turnouts. While the morning started off slowly, Moore commented that more people would probably show up after lunchtime. Some buses, like »PAGE 6

New CEDA director Dale Greer reflects on transition

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – When Peggy Smith retired after a generation as director of the Cullman Economic Development Agency (CEDA), the task of filling her shoes fell to longtime assistant director Dale Greer. At the end of his first week on the "new" job, he sat down for a few minutes to catch his breath and talk to The Tribune about the transition.

On his predecessor

"Peggy and I have worked together 25 years now; really a great relationship. I tell people she was the one who questioned whether everything would work or not, and I think everything will work out. So we had the pessimist and the optimist; somewhere in between, we balanced everything out.

"She and I kind of made decisions together for at least the last 15 years. She's agreed to allow me to call on her if I need help, support or information. I have that expertise to rely on.

"She's recognized as one of the best economic developers in the Southeast, so it's been a great opportunity to learn. Hopefully, I gleaned enough from what was there and all the people that we deal with, that we can be successful moving forward. I don't see any reason that we can't be."

On dealing with the transition to the top seat at CEDA

"Here in the office, there's a really strong staff that we've had for a long time. Most of them have been here for years, and do a nice job. That's not changing for me; having a good strong staff and support team is really a positive for us.

"I'm doing the same thing I did before, kind of in the same position. It's just that Peggy and I usually consulted on things and made decisions together. Now I don't have that, but I've got the mayor and the industrial board, and a number of allies that we work with. Personally, I see us trying to strengthen those relationships and improve on those, if there's anywhere possible. We're working with the Chamber on their Converging for Success plan; planning is very important, even more so when you have everybody involved. With all of us working together, we'll truly fill gaps in the community."

On Cullman

"Cullman is a remarkable community. It's been a real pleasure to work in recruiting business and industry here. Now, we're doing a lot on the retail side, with just great growth in this community. It sells very well. All of the things here are very good: you've got a great education system, a good highway transportation network, a good workforce-people who are hard-working and dependable. It's just been a great opportunity to market a really, really special community."

On the future of area economic development

"I think where I see some changes coming, we have been one of the top manufacturing areas in Alabama for the creation of jobs and capital investment. The companies we've recruited have grown and prospered; I think that's a compliment to the community.

"But we don't have a lot of open industrial »PAGE 6



CULLMAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Dale Greer

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
June 10, 2017

2 fatalities, multiple injuries in crash near Duck River Bridge

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN COUNTY – Two people died in a three-vehicle wreck on U.S. Highway 278 East, just east of the Duck River Bridge, Friday afternoon. Multiple injuries were also reported, with at least three AirEvac Lifeteam helicopters on the scene. Cullman County Coroner Jeremy L. Kilpatrick confirmed one fatality; the second was reported by the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency.

The wreck happened on the Holly Pond side of Duck River Bridge, at the top of the hill in the curve, at approximately 3:04 p.m. Friday. Hwy. 278 was closed for two and a half hours.

Editor's note: As of press time, no identities have been released. Check www.cullmantribune.com for the latest information.

Troopers: Texting and driving may have been factor in fatal crash in Vinemont

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmansense.com

VINEMONT – Alabama State Troopers say that texting while driving could be a factor in the crash that killed a Lacey's Spring woman Thursday afternoon.

Samantha Eugenia Wilkerson, 28 was pronounced dead at the scene of the wreck by Cullman County Coroner Jeremy L. Kilpatrick.

Troopers says Wilkerson was driving a 2008 Hyundai that struck a 2005 Peterbilt truck and overturned.

The driver of the truck was injured and transported to an area hospital for treatment of his injuries.

The crash occurred at 2:41 p.m. in the 5000 block of County Road 1435 (Eva Road), 6 miles north of Cullman.

Flames erupted following the collision, and the road was blocked for some time.

A statement from Trooper Curtis Summerville read, "Although the circumstances surrounding the crash are still under investigation, preliminary investigation indicates that driving while texting with an electronic device may have been a factor in the crash."

Troopers say nothing further is available as they continue to investigate the incident.

Thursday afternoon Blount County crash kills 2

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmansense.com

BLOUNT COUNTY – Two people are dead following a two-vehicle crash on U.S. Highway 278 near mile marker 102 in Blount County Thursday afternoon. The wreck happened at approximately 3:50 p.m.

According to Alabama State Troopers, a 16-year-old teenager from Altoona was seriously injured when the 1998 Chevrolet Cavalier she was driving collided with a 2000 Ford Windstar driven by Jo Cornelius Cloud, 79, of Guntersville.

The teen was airlifted to UAB Hospital where she later died.

A 17-year-old passenger in the Cavalier was pronounced dead at the scene.

Cloud, along with an adult passenger, was airlifted to UAB Hospital.

A 6-year-old child passenger in the Windstar van was airlifted to Children's of Alabama with serious injuries.

A 7-year-old child passenger in the minivan was transported to Children's of Alabama with minor injuries.

The roadway was closed for at least two hours following the crash.

Nothing further is available as Alabama State Troopers continue to investigate.

Tractor and engine show hot topic of quiet Hanceville council meeting

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

HANCEVILLE – With Mayor Kenneth Nail out of town, the Hanceville City Council held its regular meeting with a single item on the agenda this week: to pay the bills, which it did. Beyond that, the big topic of conversation for council members and audience alike was this Saturday's tractor show.

Hanceville will hold its 19th annual Antique Tractor and Engine Show at Wallace State Community College, starting at 9 a.m. Saturday, June 10.

The event will feature pedal tractor races, "slow races," a skillet throwing contest, tractor parade, homemade ice cream, food by Two Fat Men Catering, and of course lots and lots of vintage tractors and engines.

Event Coordinator Charles Allen told the council, "I want to invite everybody up Saturday morning. We should have a good show; we've been working hard on it.

"With the grace of God and y'all's help, everything is going good.

"I do know it brings some money into Hanceville, but it's mainly because we enjoy it.

"It's a good place to get together. Dr. Vicki (Karolewics) up at the college has been good about saying, 'Hey, here's our campus; help yourself.' That's great, that really helps."

The next Hanceville City Council meeting will be Thursday, June 22, at Hanceville City Hall at 6:30 p.m. with work session at 6 p.m.

The public is invited to attend.

Fairview council welcomes guests; Town mulls legal action on property purchase

Heather Mann
Tribune Correspondent

FAIRVIEW – First on the agenda for this month's Fairview Town Council meeting was a visit from Catherine Bethell and Sandy Parker from the First Source for Women pregnancy center. Continuing their mission to spread information about their services, Bethell and Parker talked about how they help pregnant women by providing medical care, parenting classes, childcare supplies and even victim support in cases of rape or domestic abuse.

First Source has also been informing people about their new mobile unit, which will debut around August or September and will travel around the county to provide sonograms and other services to pregnant women who may not be able to visit their building in Hanceville.

When asked about their finances, Bethell stated that they had received a $30,000 grant from Save the Storks, whom they are currently contracting with, and they also have a benefit banquet coming up in October that she believes will help them greatly.

After they finished, the council moved on to old business.

A few months ago, the council agreed to audit the Fairview Volunteer Fire Department due to suspicions of the Town's donations being misused.

An update on that subject revealed that the fire department has yet to respond to the audit request, and several council members were getting restless.

They decided to "not make any empty threats," and passed a motion to allow the fire department two more weeks to respond before stopping the Town's monthly donations.

The update on the Town's maintenance worker was positive.

With the council's approval, Mickey Yancy will start working next Monday. Mayor Keith Henry plans to have Yancy start out by working on roadside maintenance and sprucing up the front of the town hall.

He and Yancy found a wage that they both agreed on, and they were both fine with keeping his hours flexible.

The next item was the renewal of Fairview's contract with AirEvac, which the council approved.

The last item of old business regarded the Bailey property (Bailey Trailer Court).

At the last meeting, the council came up with some terms of financing, which they said Bailey was okay with.

However, they recently received a letter from her attorney, Blake West, that outlined a different set of terms.

While it wasn't what they had originally agreed on, the council sent West a letter accepting the terms because there was another party - Philip Crumbley - who was interested in buying the trailer park.

Henry stated that Crumbley agreed to hold off on the purchase until the council got things settled with Bailey and her attorney, but West has yet to contact the council.

West requested that all negotiating be done through him rather than Bailey, but Henry said that West never replied to the letter of acceptance, never responded to his emails and never returned any of his calls.

Henry said that the Town's attorney, Roy Williams, stated that the acceptance letter may be legally binding.

If it is binding and Bailey tried to sell to Crumbley anyway, the Town may have to sue in order to make sure the terms are followed.

After deliberation, the council voted to take legal action if necessary.

Under new business, the Cullman County Soil & Water Conservation District requested a donation of $2,000 to help with their school education programs. Henry said he would like to learn a bit more about what Soil & Water offers to students before he donates, so the council tabled the issue until more research is done.

On the subject of donations, the council deliberated what they should do with the account for Stadium Renovation Funds.

When the high school's bleachers were in disrepair, the council put 30 percent of the Town's revenue from the sales tax into an account to help with the repairs.

Now that the stadium is safe to play in again, the council decided that the 30 percent could be put to better use.

The council agreed to give the school all that was in the account - more than $13,000 - before closing that account and renaming another one.

The renamed account will be for maintenance. Henry said that he would use most of the money to repair the streets, but the town would still be able to access the funds in case of a non-street related emergency.

During a lull in the stadium account discussion, one council member brought up road maintenance and whether or not the County would repair the roads that it's responsible for.

The council agreed that if the County did not take responsibility for its roads, the town might have to take legal action.

The last topic discussed was the 4th of July fireworks celebration. The event will start at 6 p.m. with music from Southern gospel singers and alternative Christian music.

The fireworks celebration will begin around 8:30-9 p.m.

Local vendors will help set up and provide food, and the council donated $200 to help pay for making new signs since the old ones are worn.

The Fairview Town Council meets on the first Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at Fairview Town Hall. The public is welcome to attend.



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South Plaza site plans approved by Cullman City Planning Commission

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – On Monday evening the Cullman City Planning Commission met before a larger than normal crowd to consider eight subdivision measures and three site plans. The largest item on the agenda was the site plan for the new South Plaza shopping center, to be located on the corner of First Avenue Southwest and King Edward Street Southwest. See the background on South Plaza at http://qrne.ws/southplaza.

Nathan Johnson of Johnson and Associates Engineering of Huntsville stood before the commission to answer questions about the two-building, 75,000-square-foot project.

Four issues arose, based on reports sent in by city departments:

1. The Zoning Board complained that no specific building locations appeared on the survey submitted.

2. The Cullman Power Board warned that existing electrical equipment on the site might have to be relocated.

3. Cullman Fire Rescue stated that the roofs of the site's underground water retention chambers would have to be able to support 37 tons of firefighting equipment in the event of a fire emergency.

4. As with most new construction projects, the City requested sidewalks on both street sides of the site.

Johnson agreed to all the commission's terms and promised an updated survey showing the exact building locations.

With that, the commission granted conditional approval, contingent upon the developer keeping those commitments.

In other business

The commission also approved the site plan for a parking lot extension at Bill Smith Buick GMC on Second Avenue Northwest, contingent on the addition of one handicap parking space at the office and installation of a sidewalk along the street.

The commission approved a third site plan for the proposed construction of a modular home on County Road 497.

Zoning Director Rick Fulmer pointed out that site requirements and preparation for modular homes are the same as those for site-built structures.

Subdivision requests

The commission approved the following subdivision requests:

- 917 Convent Road NE – combine three lots into one lot
- 1829 Fox Meadow Trail SE – combine Lot 54 & Lot 71
- Short-form subdivision Pinedale Estates – Stadium Drive Northeast & 13th Street Northeast – divide one lot into three lots
- 1701 2nd Ave. SW (Jet-Pep) – divide one lot into two lots
- Alabama Highway 157 NW & Interstate-65 – Highland Cove (5 parcels)
- McNabb Road SW & 4th St. SW (Hwy. 278) – combine two lots into one lot
- Stone Creek (off of Convent Road Northeast) – Phase II – final plat

The commission denied only one subdivision request, because the division would produce lots that did not meet minimum size requirements:

- John H. Cooper Drive Southeast – divide Lot 1 into two lots (1A & 1B)

To close the meeting, the commission voted to recommend to the Cullman City Council the annexation of properties located at 48 County Road 497 and 451 County Road 1467.

City Attorney Roy Williams then presented a request to place an item on the next meeting agenda concerning the extension of Cullman's current Special Events District to include more of the downtown area.

This measure was to be considered at Monday evening's council meeting, but had not yet been reviewed by the commission.

The item was placed on the agenda for the July meeting, and was later in the evening tabled by the city council.

In a change brought on by the July 4 holiday, the next planning commission meeting will take place on July 10 in the city hall auditorium. The public is invited to attend.

Outdoor classroom and storm shelter top Baileyton council agenda

Andrew Cryer
Tribune Correspondent

BAILEYTON – The Baileyton Town Council heard two presentations at this month's meeting, one concerning an outdoor learning space at Parkside Elementary School and the other about construction of a storm shelter on Cemetery Road.

Local educators at Parkside Elementary are requesting funds to build an outdoor learning space which, if built, will incorporate STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) principles and common core standards into learning activities that aren't limited to the classroom.

The cost is estimated to be approximately $660, and would need to be approved no later than two weeks before the start of classes in the fall.

The council decided to table the discussion until next month's meeting to ensure that the Town would have the funds necessary for the project.

The council passed a motion to construct a storm shelter on Cemetery Road, and heard a presentation from Chris Yeager of Yeager's Sand Blasting on what materials should be used for the project.

No date has been set on the construction of the shelter, and no bids have been awarded for the construction. The council will meet with sales representatives to find the lowest responsible bidder.

In old business, repair work is ongoing at the Summit Road bridge. There is no set date for completion of the repair work.

Rubbish pick-up on Oliver road is ongoing with the aid of the Cullman County work-release program; a motion was passed to authorize the purchase of upwards of 20 55-gallon trash cans to be used in the clean-up efforts.

In new business, the council voted in favor of ordering municipal personnel shirts; research has begun on finding the lowest price.

A motion to build rails on the sides of the steps of the senior center passed, which should help avoid potential injuries.

The council discussed renovations to the town hall, but Mayor Johnny Dyar noted, "We are limited on money; in this next budget, we are going to have to really watch our funds. We need to concentrate on the building."

Allen Walker of Walker Brothers will meet with the council to give an estimate on costs as well as a floor plan. Once a floor plan and materials are agreed upon, the council will award the construction bid to the lowest responsible bidder.

The Baileyton Town Council meets on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Baileyton Town Hall. The public is welcome to attend.

Council tables measure to expand Special Events District, holds Rock the South debriefing

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – The Cullman City Council met Monday evening with a single item on its agenda, and that was tabled until next month. Thanks to Rock the South (RTS), though, they still had plenty to talk about.

The skipped item was a public hearing and second reading of Ordinance No. 2017-12, that would extend the Festhalle/Depot Park District (Special Events District) to encompass more of the downtown area along First Avenue Northwest. That measure had not yet been reviewed but the City Planning Commission, and so was tabled until the council's next meeting on July 10.

Instead, the council heard reports on RTS from the Cullman Police Department's Lt. Jeff Warnke, who served as the incident commander for the event, and Cullman Parks and Recreation (CP&R) Director Nathan Anderson.

Warnke happily began, "I am happy to report that the Cullman Police Department did survive Rock the South!"

He went on to share statistics:

- 52 arrests, 23 of which were for consumption or possession of alcohol by minors
- More than 100 persons ejected from the park

"In relation to the large number of people that were there over the two-day period, that's a very small percentage of people that misbehaved to the point that we had to get involved. Overall, it was quite a success. We had a lot of help from our partners: with ALEA (Alabama Law Enforcement Agency), with the Hanceville Police Department, and with the Cullman County Sheriff's Department helping us."

Warnke's report to the Council did not include two cases of marijuana possession and the most serious case, in which a man identified as Dakota Saint was charged with second-degree sodomy of a minor. That case is still under investigation. See http://qrne.ws/arrests.

Cullman Fire Rescue Chief Edward Reinhardt was not present, but Councilman Andy Page gave a brief report on information he sent in.

The CFR saw:

- 379 walk-up patients
- 77 patients treated in the on-site medical tent
- 456 total patient contacts

Anderson reported, "The cleanup efforts went well. Thank you, mayor, for helping us with that. He was out there for hours, literally sweating and getting sunburned, picking up trash. And the street department, Scotty and his guys stepped in; Shane (RTS Founder Shane Quick) and Nathan (Baugh) were right in the middle of it, too- my team, and we hired a company that helped. We walked down all the streets, walked down to Lowe's- that was cleaned up.

"We met with a consultant today on the fields (soccer and baseball). He's confident we'll get it all back. The baseball fields we're looking at within three weeks. Rock the South, as always, has agreed to pay for all of it."

Anderson pointed out that RTS paid for $10,000 worth of preventative measures ahead of the event, but that the event also suffered from a "worst case scenario" on Saturday. He estimated the crowd size to be approximately 30,000 per day, noting that Saturday's weather evacuation made that day's count more difficult to ascertain. He also stated that RTS gave CP&R a check for $64,000 "and some change" toward the agency's Connected Park playground project.

"They've helped us raise money for that the last three years," said Anderson, "and, all in all, we're sitting, just from RTS, around $130,000."

In other business

City Clerk Wes Moore was not present for the meeting, and the council voted Gail Busby to serve in his absence.

After announcing the resignation of Lona Heatherly from the CP&R board, the council voted to appoint Will Harding to take her place.

The Cullman City Council will hold its next meeting on Monday, July 10, at 7 p.m. in the city hall auditorium. The public is invited to attend.

Holly Pond discusses medical clinic, sewage plant, special events

Heather Mann
Tribune Correspondent

HOLLY POND – Holly Pond Mayor Bill Oliver was absent from this week's town council meeting, so Mayor Pro Tem Paul Brown served in his place. When public comments were invited, nurse practitioner Susan Stapp talked about the Midway Medical Clinic and her role there. She said she tries to help people save as much money as possible, especially with prescription medicines that can end up being incredibly expensive. The clinic will try to take as many walk-ins as they can in order to make sure as many people as possible receive treatment. While the clinic can help people with minor injuries and illnesses, it is not a comprehensive medical clinic for people with more specialized needs, like elderly patients with dementia or heart problems.

Holly Pond Memorial Park will be holding a Vintage Day on Saturday, October 14, where several antique vendors will set up booths for people to shop. Stapp said that the clinic would be more than happy to set up a booth there to provide free screenings for cholesterol, diabetes and blood pressure.

The council member committee reports started with Councilwoman Carla Hart, who reported a light out in front of town hall and several potholes in different roads that have yet to be fixed.

Councilwoman Gladys Wisener reported that the rotor for the sewage plant has been brought back and installed, and she also investigated an issue with a septic tank on Brooklyn Road. Wisener's thoughts on the matter were that the tank's condition was not too bad, and that all it needed was some raking and grass seed. However, the homeowner is disabled and unable to do the work herself.

During the discussion, a maintenance worker from the back of the room chimed in, "I say we don't provide any services to her until she pays her bill. Tell her where she can stick her rake."

The comment prompted discussion of the fact that many customers have fallen behind on their bills, but further conversation was saved for later in the meeting.

Councilwoman Lou Thomas's reported that Oliver was already given authority to get electricity all around the park for the town's Christmas festivities, but they still needed to get electrical outlets around the ground settings where the giant cards would be. The council then voted to give Oliver the authority to install outlets for all the Christmas decorations.

Councilwoman Michelle Bell's park report stated that the Town is looking forward to three tournaments.

There will be a district tournament on June 16, and area tournament June 23 and a fundraiser tournament on an unknown date.

The Holly Pond Lions Club will sponsor the fundraiser, which will benefit 2-year-old Samuel Mobley, who was diagnosed with cancer. The council also discussed putting more netting in place to provide further protection from foul balls.

Under new business, the council's first topic was passing a few updates on their sewer ordinance.

They spent 10 minutes looking over the old ordinance to refresh themselves on what it said (homeowners are responsible for digging holes for and installing their septic tanks, the Town will only connect it to the sewer lines) before they approved the amendments. Residents installing a septic tank will have to pay the Town's connection fee up front, since previously people would have the town connect their sewage lines and then refuse to pay and the Town could not easily disconnect them.

Other orders of business were brought up for consideration but will not be acted upon until the next meeting: areas for future paving projects (especially Turkey Hop Road), and an area of land that can be developed or renovated to become a new senior center.

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

LIFESTYLE FEATURE

Cradle of love

Loretta Gillespie
Tribune Correspondent

Last week I went down to Landersville, a wide spot in the road between Moulton and Russellville. There isn't even a caution light there anymore, although there was when I was a child. Of course back then there was also a one-room schoolhouse, a cotton gin, two or three churches and a general store with my family name above its door.

It was one of those country stores where there was always a fire in a potbellied stove in back where old men sat and discussed crops and various farm equipment, swapped lies and whittled on some little something for their grandkids.

One of them would have been my great-grandfather, Arthur Bone Young. He was already old when I was little, and I barely remember him, but those memories are centered around that little stove, in his store where there was a tall ladder that ran on wheels the length of the building so that my Aunt Addie Mae could climb up and get pairs of Liberty overalls or work boots from shelves that reached the 12-foot ceiling.

There were also rows of nails, and tools that I never knew the use of, along with penny candies in big glass jars that sell for about a hundred dollars now at auctions. We weren't concerned about the old jar at the time; it was the contents that held us motionless for long moments, trying to decide on a jaw breaker or a sucker or peppermint, or a dozen other brightly colored candies.

But I digress...the reason for my trip to Landersville was to pick up a cradle. I'm sure most people on the planet know by now that my daughter had a little girl last week. That means it's our turn to use the cradle...

The cradle was crafted by my fourth-great-grandfather, Reason Young, in as far as we know, 1852. He and his wife, Julia Ann, used it with their children, then on the eve of their first grandchild's birth, brought it to their son, Joseph Washington Young, and left it to him as a gift.

That child was my great-grandfather, Arthur Bone Young, who is the father of my grandfather, William Reason Young. William and his wife, Edna Wren Roberts rocked 11 children in that cradle.

Later, it was used to rock almost every one of their 24 grandchildren (some lived too far away to haul the cradle, but only three that I can recall). Later, it was passed along as each baby came to their great-great grandchildren, totaling 46 in number. Eventually their great-great-great grands were rocked in the cradle which now sits in my sunroom, awaiting Isabella's arrival here from Tennessee.

She will be the sixth generation of Young descendents to be rocked in the cradle made by the hands of Reason Young back in 1852.

The cradle itself is made of cherry wood, probably cut on Reason's land in Youngtown. He settled the land by walking all day from sunup until he couldn't see to walk anymore, then doing the same thing the next day until he had a square. That property would one day grow to include 2,500 acres in Youngtown and Landersville.

It was used for cotton, cattle, wheat and children, who built houses and had farms of their own. The Landersville Church of Christ and the cemetery next to it were built on that land, and the people mentioned here are buried there, within sight of Youngtown Mountain.

This little cradle, with its intricate spindles and spring-loaded rockers has seen many children off to a good start. I wonder if Reason could have possibly imagined how many generations of his family would use it and continue to tell the story of its beginning? I wonder if he would be astonished to know how well it's held up, and that his story is being told as far away as Mongolia, to an honorary cousin who is also a writer, and to Boston, to a woman who doesn't know as much about her Jewish ancestors as she would like, because they had the misfortune to have been in Germany at the wrong time in history...



LORETTA GILLESPIE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

I'll bet he would smile to see his great-great-great-great-great-great granddaughter, Isabella Reese Goodwin, swaddled in a blanket tied with a pink and white gingham bow, sleeping peacefully in it, just as his children surely did.

I'd like to whisper in his ear someday how much that cradle has meant to our family, how many mothers and fathers have gently rocked newborn babies in his handiwork, and how much this cradle has been loved over the years.

But somehow, I think he knows....

Just ducky: county parks department plans 5K and festival

Will Hogue
will@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Next Saturday June 17, starting with registration for the Duck Dash 5K at 6 a.m. and opening of the Duck Drawdown Festival at 9 a.m., Cullman County Parks and Recreation looks to kick off what it hopes will become a signature annual event for Sportsman Lake Park.

"Everyone comes to Sportsman Lake Park for the leisure of walking around, seeing and feeding the ducks," said CCP&R Director Doug Davenport.

"We thought, 'Why not have a duck-themed event?'"

The event will feature all-day activities, from an unofficial 5K (followed by a color/water war)– meaning that there will not be professional time-keepers – to a raffle drawing for a $1,000 grand prize and other smaller prizes, to the finale of a putt-putt golf tournament at the park's newly-renovated course.

Davenport is aiming to utilize all the amenities at the park to make the event a hit, and one that community members look forward to year after year.

"With the 5K, everyone seems to be doing themed 5Ks these days, so we're making ours duck-themed, and teams that are running together are encouraged to dress up in costumes to win prizes for best-dressed," Davenport said.

Davenport emphasized that this is an event promoting the community, enjoying the outdoors and promoting health and wellness for citizens.

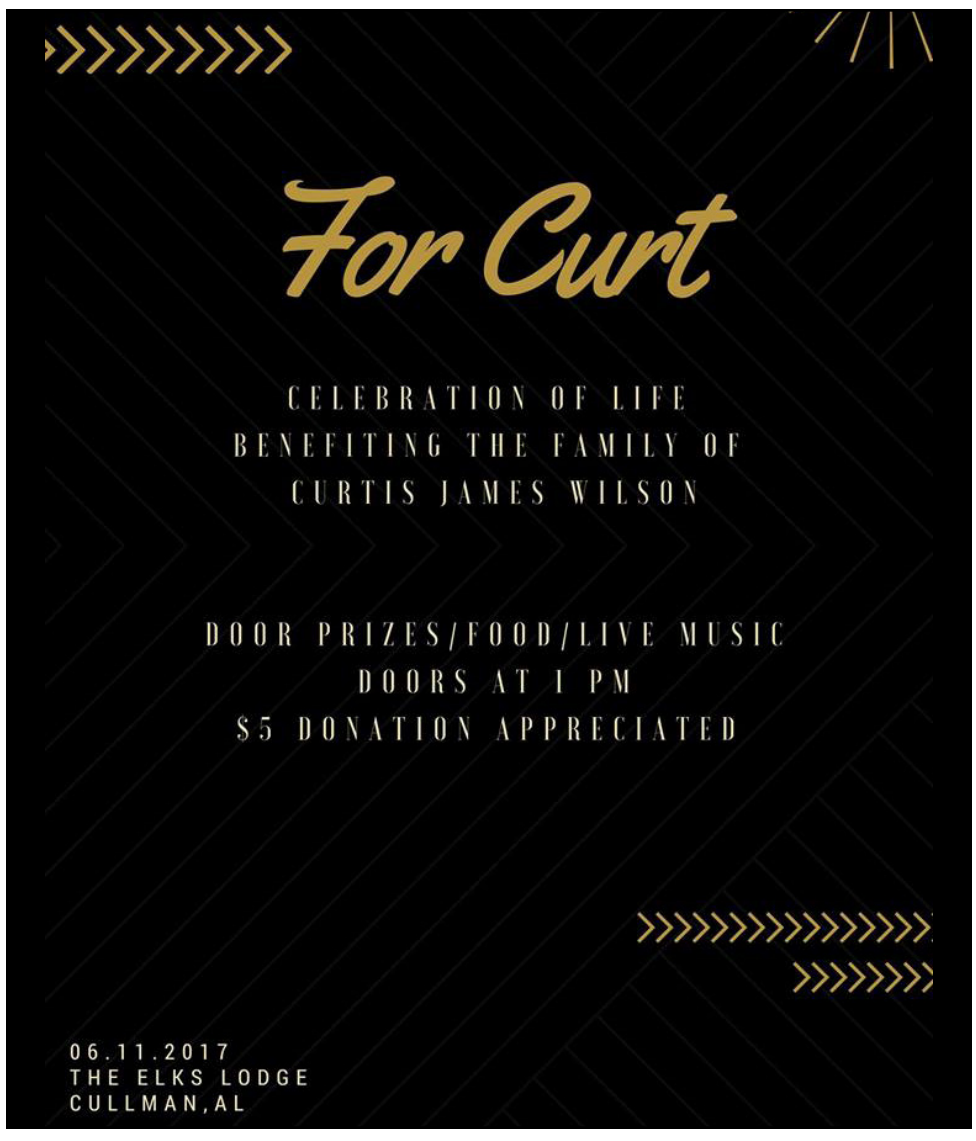
"We want people to come out to the event and have fun," he said.

The free event will feature live music and the concession stand at the park will be open and serving treats for those roaming around the park.

"We want to provide something fun and different for people who might be bored with any other kind of event," he said.

For more details about how to register, directions and other questions, visit www.cullmancountyparks.com/duck-dash-5k.html.







Judge Roy Moore taps former Alabama GOP Chair Bill Armistead to head campaign

Armistead to bring significant statewide grassroots and fundraising contacts to campaign effort

Rich Hobson
Contributed

MONTGOMERY – This week, the Roy Moore for U. S. Senate Campaign announced that former state senator and Alabama Republican Party Chairman Bill Armistead will serve as campaign chairman.

"I have known Bill for over 25 years and know him to be an ethical leader of our party who consistently stands up for our shared conservative values," said Moore. "As a former Chairman of the Alabama Republican Party, Bill will help us engage the real people of Alabama who are frustrated by establishment politics in Washington and want a senator who will be their voice."

Armistead, a resident of Shelby County, served in the Alabama State Senate for two terms from 1994 – 2002 and was the Republican nominee for lt. governor in 2002.

He served as chairman of the Alabama Republican Party from 2011 to 2015 during which time the party won every statewide office including the election of Moore as chief justice in 2012.

Under Armistead's leadership, the party also increased its majorities in the legislature and made record gains at the local level.

"Judge Roy Moore will be the next United States Senator from Alabama, and I am proud to offer my endorsement and support. I encourage all my friends across the state to join the campaign today by visiting www.judgemooreforsenate.com or on Facebook at JudgeRoyMoore," said Armistead regarding the announcement.

Armistead continued, "Judge Moore has stood up for conservative values his whole career, often in the face of so-called, bi-partisan adversaries, and this campaign will be no different.

"The Washington establishment has made it clear that they want to hand-pick the next senator from Alabama, but I have every confidence that voters in Alabama will stand with Judge Roy Moore on August 15 and send a proven fighter and tested outsider to Washington to shake up the status quo and support President Donald Trump in draining the swamp."

The appointment of Armistead is the first of several Judge Roy Moore for Senate Leadership Team announcements set for the coming days and weeks.



CONTRIBUTED

Bill Armistead

City Parks and Recreation urges patience for Heritage Park repairs

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – In the wake of Rock the South, many local residents have expressed concern about the condition of Heritage Park's soccer and baseball fields, and are anxious to see them properly restored. The Tribune spoke with Cullman Parks and Recreation Director Nathan Anderson and Rock the South's Nathan Baugh to get more information on work at the park.

Both offered assurances that the baseball fields will be ready for the short-field games to be played there this weekend.

After that, those fields will be closed for three weeks. They will be regraded and completely re-sodded with new turf. Baugh said that the fields would reopen around July 1.

He also said that restoration of the soccer fields would be a longer process of approximately five to six weeks.

Since CP&R soccer activities don't begin until August, the fields will not be resodded; but will instead be reseeded and tended by sports field turf specialists until they are back in shape.

According to Baugh, three turf companies were contacted, and two will be making the repairs, in order to move the process along as quickly as possible.

He could not name the companies, as contract details are still being worked out.

Anderson did point out that the companies CP&R approached have experience in turf installation and repair on a variety of athletic fields in both collegiate and professional sports.

The exact dollar amount of the repairs has not been disclosed, but Rock the South will, as they have every year, be responsible for the costs.

"We ask everyone to please be patient," said Anderson.

"We want to reassure you that Heritage Park will be even better than it was before. Rock the South is a great team to work with, and they will take care of this. It will take a little time, but it will be great in the end."

Nominations for Burgermeister 2017 open now, due July 1

Elaine Fuller
Contributor

CULLMAN – Cullman's annual Oktoberfest celebration is scheduled for Oct. 4-8 this year, and nominations for Burgermeister 2017 are now being accepted.

Being Burgermeister means being the honorary mayor of the city of Cullman during the festival.

It is a great honor and previous Burgermeisters have said how much they enjoy their position.

The only qualification required is that the person must have worked in some area of Oktoberfest in previous years.

And for those doing the nominating, you must ask for approval from the person you nominate for them to be considered.

Nominations can be emailed to culoktoberfestbm13@gmail.com or dropped off at the Cullman County Museum.

Nominations should be made before July 1, 2017.

For more information, call the Cullman County Museum at 256-739-1258.

Bernard Blues and BBQ Festival set for September; vendors can sign up now

Joyce Nix
Contributor

CULLMAN – Saint Bernard Prep School is adding the Bernard Blues and bbq festival to the Cullman calendar of events for 2017. This arts, crafts and music festival will be held on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 9-10, 2017 on the beautiful campus of Saint Bernard Abbey and Prep School.

Due to the popularity of the school's spring Bloomin' Festival, many artisans and patrons have expressed a strong interest in a fall festival.

"We have received numerous requests for the school to host a fall festival, so we felt it appropriate to wrap up the 125th Anniversary celebration at Saint Bernard with the Bernard Blues and BBQ Festival," President Father Joel Martin said.

Festival Director, Joyce Nix, who has directed 33 festivals at the school, says artisans are registering now to participate in the busy weekend.

"Whether one is shopping for seasonal decorations such as Halloween, Thanksgiving or Christmas, something unique will certainly be available at Bernard Blues and BBQ," she said.

Handmade quilts, brooms, pottery, jewelry, children's clothing, doll clothes, ragdolls, pillows, Christmas ornaments, driftwood creations, birdhouses, ceramics, flowering plants, fiber art, honey, handmade soaps, hand painted door hangers, photography, oil paintings, wooden music boxes, ladies clothing, woodcarvings, handwoven baskets, yard art – these are just a small sampling of what patrons can expect.

"We invite Alabama and neighboring states to attend and support the handmade works of our artisans while enjoying a variety of music we have planned for the weekend," Nix said.

Get ready to tap your toes while enjoying live entertainment throughout the weekend.

Visitors can expect to hear live blues music provided by Microwave Dave and the Nukes of Huntsville, Dixieland Jazz from Sweet Licks Dixieland Band of Birmingham, bluegrass and sacred music from Chimney Branch of Addison and Americana blues by Coco O'Connor and the Redeemers of Nashville, Tennessee and other performers.

The hickory-smoked aroma of barbeque ribs, pulled pork, hamburgers and hotdogs will fill the air and satisfy the palate.

Pair that with ice cold tea, Pepsi or freshly squeezed lemonade, and top it off with St. Bernard's famous strawberry waffles, funnel cakes, fried spiral potatoes, caramel apples, kettle corn, monk's bread and more.

A hands-on art and craft center for children will be available in addition to other fun games and activities at the festival.

Bernard Blues and BBQ promises to have something for the entire family!

Mark your calendars and plan to visit Cullman, Sept. 9-10, 2017 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day!

An admission donation of $5 per person is requested.

Anyone wishing to participate should contact the school at 256-739-6682 to request a booth application for original handmade items only.

This is a juried show and all work must be preapproved.

All proceeds from the event benefit Saint Bernard Prep School in Cullman.

Operated by the Benedictine monks at Saint Bernard Abbey, Saint Bernard Prep is a college prep boarding and day school for grades 7-12.

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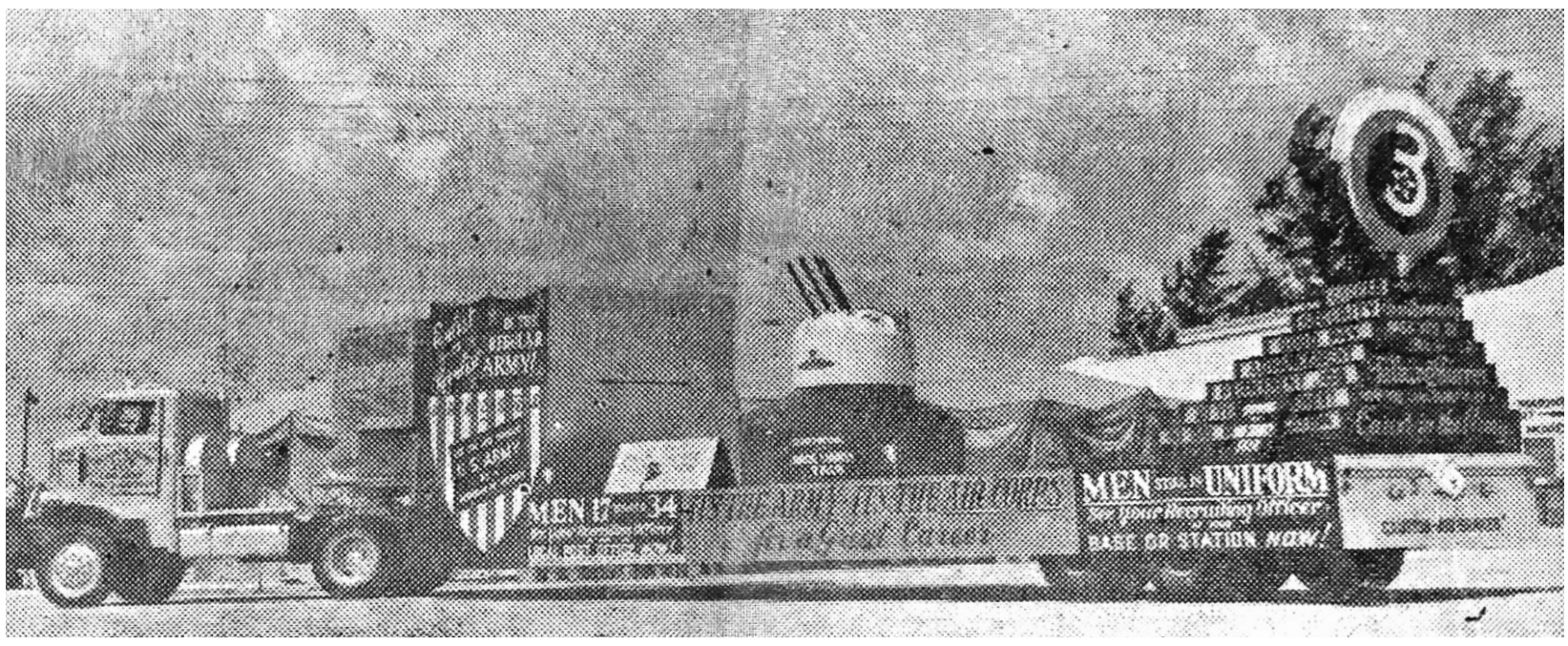
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Applications can be downloaded from the school's website:
www.CullmanChristian.org
or call the school office for more information at
256-734-074

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District Judge Kim Chaney
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Cullman Savings Bank
Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry
BLUE CAMPAIGN

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
June 10, 2017

This week in Cullman history: Air Force Exhibit Comes to Cullman (1946)

Samantha Vest
samantha@cullmansense.com



THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE HISTORICAL PHOTO: JUNE 6, 1946

One of the trailers used at the Air Force exhibit

On June 12-13, 1946, Cullman played host to the Air Force's Air Force exhibit. The exhibit was overseen by Capt. Bill Metz, and displayed items relevant to the Air Force, such as radar equipment, uniforms, navigational equipment, parachutes, rescue equipment, B- 29 operation, emergency survival kits, cameras, a plane dropboat, movies that featured the Air Force and even a plane engine.

The air show was set up on a vacant lot across from First Baptist Church, and was free to attend. Some of the highlights of the exhibit were considered to be the navigation exhibit, the photographic exhibit, the B-29 exhibit and the radar trailer. In addition to the displays, a large number of Air Force members were on hand to answer questions.

Air Force Capt. Warren E. Reid was quoted in the June 6, 1946 Cullman Tribune as saying about the exhibit: "After being shown the marvels of radars, B-29 operation, photography, navigation and other new developments, you will leave the show feeling as though you had just been through an Army flying school."

The navigation exhibit- overseen by Capt. T.C. Day- featured navigational items, such as radar, information about specific methods of navigating, automatic pilot apparatuses and radio compassing devices.

The B-29 exhibit- presided over by Lt. Rex Carpentier, Corporal Tony DiStefano and Sgt. Wright- featured information about the B- 29 Superfortress combat plane and even included the nose, tail and engine from a B-29 plane.

The photographic exhibit- presided over Sgt. Donahey and PFC Buddy Berkey- displayed the types of aerial and ground cameras used by the Air Force. One of the most popular exhibits from the air show was the radar trailer, where various radar equipment was displayed. The radar display was overseen by Lt. Hayward House and Technical Sgt. Medlin, and included a demonstration of how the radar devices on display worked.

One of the last displays at the air exhibit was the dropboat, a type of boat carried under B-17 planes and parachuted to air crews stranded at sea.

Drive (from Front)

the ones at Dick's Sporting Goods, experienced a slower morning than ones in higher-traffic areas, such as Wal-Mart on Olive Street. Overall, the buses had about 15-20 donors by 10:30 Friday morning.

Each donation can help three patients, so community members around Cullman had already saved between 45 and 60 lives before noon.

It was estimated that there are around 140 eligible blood donors throughout Cullman, both for the city and the county, and Moore thanked each of them for taking the time to help their community. "We have some of the most generous donors in north Alabama, and we'd just like to say thank you."

It's also important to remember that blood donations are needed consistently, not just during emergency situations. When a crisis happens and hundreds of people go to donate blood, hospitals and blood banks often end up with a surplus that goes unused and ends up going bad before it's needed. This can lead to a shortage, so eligible donors should keep in mind that blood is always needed, not just during emergencies.

Team sites for Cullman County were the Cullman County Courthouse and Wal-Mart south. The City had Wal-Mart north and Dick's Sporting Goods.

Check our website, www.cullmantribune.com, today for final results.

Greer (from Front)

property now, and unemployment is down around 5 percent; we're one of the lowest in Alabama every month. I don't think we have the people available to support a large new manufacturing operation like we have in the past. I think the focus is going to be a little different, where we turn to research and development operations: smaller properties, more intellectual (than industrial).

"I see Cullman continuing to grow, continuing to prosper. I think we'll be very progressive, but I think flexibility is going to be very important as we go forward."

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, will hold a public hearing on July 17th, 2017 at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in the Lucille N. Galin Auditorium at City Hall, 204 Second Avenue NE, Cullman, Alabama 35055. At this time, anyone wishing to be heard in favor of or in opposition to the adoption of Ordinance No. 2017-12 (set forth in full below) will be given an opportunity to speak.

ORDINANCE NO. 2017 – 12

AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2004-03, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. 2013-27, (SE-1 SPECIAL EVENTS DISTRICT)

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Ordinance No. 2004-03, as Amended by Ordinance No. 2013-27, is hereby amended by deleting Section 3. D. 3.a. *Festhalle/Depot Park District.* in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

Section 3. D. 3.a. *Festhalle/Depot Park District:* The following boundaries or any portion thereof may be approved for use under the SE-1 District rules. The District shall be bounded on the South by the North side of 5th Street SE; bounded on the West by the East property line of the CSX Railroad from 5th Street SE to the parking and facilities housing the Cullman Police Department; and on the East by the West side of 2nd Avenue NE from 5th Street SE to the parking and facilities housing the Cullman Police Department.

All other sections of said Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Wesley M. Moore, City Clerk

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OBITUARY ANNOUNCEMENTS: JUNE 8-9

Rondal Curtis Mize, 79, passed away June 3, 2017. Funeral service held June 8, 2017 at First Baptist Church. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Sada Oria Davis of Cullman Alabama passed away on June 3, 2017 at her residence at the age of 91. She was born in Cullman on September 4, 1925 to Robert Franklin and Elzada Haynes. She is preceded in death by her husband: K.V. Davis, sisters: Maybelle Johnston, Orella Nesmith, brother: Silas Haynes. Funeral service held Thursday, June 8, 2017 at Moss Funeral Home Chapel. Pastors' Frank McKinzey and Dale Banks officiating. Interment will be in Fairview First Baptist Church Cemetery. Survivors are: Daughters: Sherry (Joe) Hutchens, Edith (Tommy) Parker, Brother: Ernie (Betty) Haynes, Grandchildren: David (Erin) Hutchens, Beth (Marcos) Gonzalez, Michael Hutchens, Chris Hutchens, Shane Parker, great grandchildren: Jacob and Caius Gonzalez.

Kaye Blaylock was born on February 2, 1948 to Marvel and Norma Price. From the day of her birth, life for those that knew her would never be the same. Kaye was a woman of many talents. She could take any room and make it showcase worthy. She had a quick wit, a loud laugh, and a fierce love for her family. She was well known and widely loved. A visit with Kaye always left you smiling, and looking to see how your furniture had been rearranged. She loved flowers . . . hers and yours. She loved her hats, too! Your trash became her treasure and she made it look GOOD! She spent time working with the Cullman Community Theatre and many knew her from her years at Wallace State. She worked for the Girl Scouts and for state government. She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother, Bryan, his wife Glenda, and their daughter, Sarah. She is survived by her four children, Abby, Ike, Price, and Lucy (her favorite), their spouses and eight grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, please bring Christmas lights (a Kaye favorite) and wear your favorite hat to celebrate this one of a kind lady. Visitation was Thursday, June 8 with a memorial service to follow at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home.

Funeral services for Laura Mae White will be Saturday, June 10, 2017 at 2 p.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Flint Creek Cemetery, with the Rev. Harold Thompson officiating. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. White was born March 8, 1940. She passed away at Cullman Regional Medical Center on June 7, 2017. She is survived by her husband, Garrell White; three children; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; three sisters; and two sisters-in-law.

Evelyn Cordes Kilgo of Cullman passed away on June 6, 2017 at Hanceville Nursing Home at the age of 89. She was born on February 10, 1928 to Henry Augustus and Katie Henke Cordes. She is preceded in death by her parents, Husband: Eddie Eril Kilgo, Son: Stephen Wayne Kilgo. She worked as a manager at Bellsouth and later in her career she was the manager of the Pioneer Organization of Bellsouth. Graveside services will be on Saturday, June 10, 2017 at Cullman City Cemetery at 1 p.m. with Dr. Ralph Andrews officiating. Survivors are: cousins: Doris Hinkle, Becky Campbell, Kathy Hinkle, Debbie Davis, James Calvert, Ted Calvert, Edwin Calvert, Ed and Dottie Henke, Sister-In-Law: Juanita Kilgo, 11 nieces and nephews and several great and great great nieces and nephews. A dear loved one: Cynthia Hunt of Ohio. Memorial contributions can be made to Good Hope Baptist Church.

Funeral service for Dolton Wayne Robertson I will be Saturday, June 10, 2017 at 2 p.m. at Temple Baptist Church, Ministers Dolton Robertson II, Jeff Robertson I, and David Doss officiating, with interment in Duck Creek Cemetery. The body will lie in state from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. at the church prior to service. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Robertson passed away at Vanderbilt University Hospital on June 7, 2017. He was born on May 29, 1946 to parents, Casey and Lois Matlock Robertson. He is preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Casey Robertson and Jessie Robertson; and two sisters, Joyce Cook and Pat Gardner. Survivors include his wife, Marie Robertson; two sons, Dolton (Lisa) Robertson II and Jeff (Stacey) Robertson I; six grandchildren, Kelsi (Paul) Harrigill, Ashley (Andrew) Frey, Buddy Robertson, Charli Robertson, Jeff (Chelsee) Robertson II, and Cydni Robertson; a brother, Louis (Bettye) Robertson; two sisters, Edith (Mancel) Sinyard and Betty (Bruce) Payne; and a host of family and friends.

Mollie Dora Burson Warren, 96 of Haleyville, entered into rest on June 8, 2017, at her home. Mrs. Warren was born on July 20, 1920, in Haleyville. Mollie was a member of Orange Baptist Church for 40 years and served various positions through the years. She was a former member of First Baptist Church in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida for many years. She graduated from Phil Campbell High School. Mollie was a model in her younger years and was a professional seamstress for over 50 years. She loved sewing, smocking, and her ladies devotional group. Visitation will be held on Saturday, June 10, 2017 from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Haleyville, where services will be held on Sunday, June 11, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. Brother Jerry Hester will officiate. Burial will follow in Winston Memorial Cemetery. Mollie is survived by her sons, Burson Warren and his wife Chrissy, Barry Warren and his wife Diana, and one brother, Walter C. Burson Jr. She was "Nanaw" to 6 grandchildren, Amanda Warren Hacker and husband Wade, Kaitlin Warren, Taylor Warren, Samantha "Sami" Warren, Blain Hendrix, and Brock Warren. She was preceded in death by her 1st husband, Samuel Tilden Rowland, 2nd husband Jerry Franklin Warren; parents, Walter C. and Addielee Burson; 2 brothers and 5 sisters.

Kenneth Kirk Bohannon, 55, passed away June 7, 2017. Funeral service will be held Sunday, June 11, 2017 beginning at 2 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home. Arrangements under the direction of Moss-Service Funeral Home, Cullman, Alabama. Visitation will be held Saturday, June 10, 2017 from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

Graveside service for Joyce Elizabeth Purdy, 76 of Hanceville, are Sunday, June 11 at 2 p.m. at Hopewell Cemetery. Visitation on Sunday from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mrs. Purdy passed away on Friday, June 9. She is survived by her husband, Gertis J. Purdy; sons, Phillip A. Purdy and David W. (Tam) Purdy; grandchildren, Anthony Moore, Nathan Purdy and Madison Purdy and sister, Molly Ann Hartwig.

Free Obituary Listings

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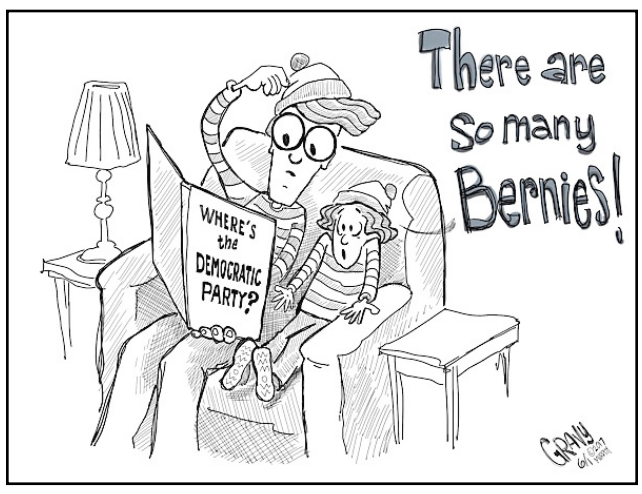
Complete obituaries may be found free of charge at CullmanSense.com/obituaries.

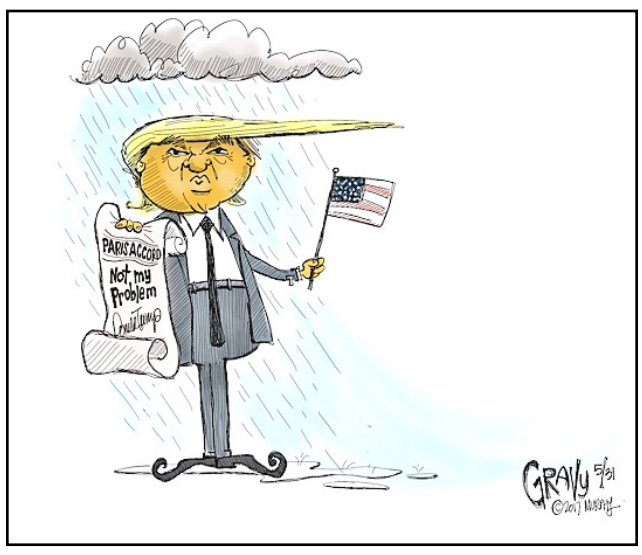
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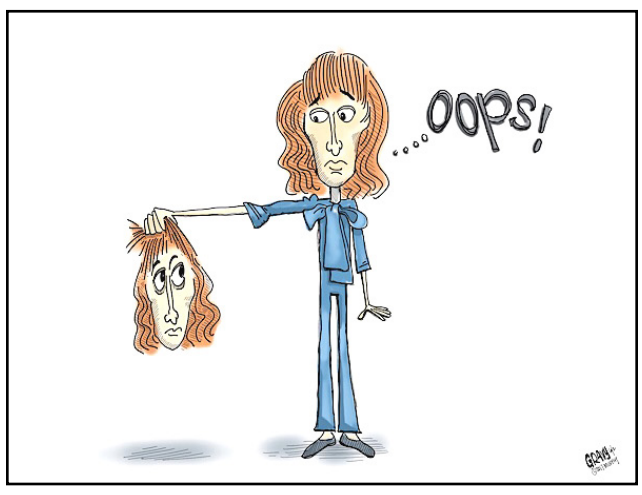
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MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the terms of that mortgage executed on March 20, 2012 by Kay Baggett, unmarried woman, a/k/a Clarissa Kay Baggett, to EvaBank, which said mortgage is recorded in Book MTG 1673, Page 219 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 June 27, 2017:

A tract of land being in the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 22, Township 11 South, Range 4 West, Cullman County, Alabama, described as commencing at an existing one-half inch rebar accepted as the Southeast corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter, thence along the South forty line North 88 degrees 52 minutes 14 seconds West 1325.40 feet to an existing one-half Inch rebar marking the Southwest corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence along the West forty line North 02 degrees 16 minutes 47 seconds West 333.74 feet to an existing one-half inch rebar; thence North 88 degrees 52 minutes14 seconds East 462.48 feet to an one-half inch rebar being the point of beginning, thence continue North 88 degrees 52 minutes 14 seconds East 307.68 feet to an existing railroad spike in the center of County Road 388; thence along the center of said road the following chord. bearings and distances: North 10 degrees 07 minutes 41 seconds West 72.84 feet and North 13 degrees 46 minutes 42 seconds West 115.57 feet to an existing railroad spike being North 50 degrees 14 minutes 20 seconds West 791.88 feet from the accepted Southeast corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 69 degrees 14 minutes 05 seconds West 310.00 feet to an existing one-half rebar; thence South 15 degrees 44 minutes 26 seconds East 83.22 feet to the point of beginning. LESS AND EXCEPT: All road rights of way and all other rights of way and easements of record.

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-June 3, 10, 17, 2017

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A bowl of red stew & Rock the South

Pastor Tom Fillinger
Contributor

The thesis of this article is recorded in Scripture.

Once when Jacob was cooking stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was exhausted. And Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stew, for I am exhausted!" (Therefore his name was called Edom.) Jacob said, "Sell me your birthright now." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me now." So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright. (Genesis 25:29-34)

A majority of the citizens of Cullman and Cullman County would claim to be Christians. Just a few short years ago Cullman was 'DRY.'

Then Cullman heard the 'siren song' of tax revenue generated by the sale of alcoholic beverages. Very quickly the RTS was conceived and the first event was deemed a success. This past weekend we endured yet another RTS which brought 60,000 people to Cullman. The conduct of some, not all, attending may only be described as reprehensible.

The Cullman Times' reporting sought to put the best face possible on this event. They printed only letters from people affirming this event.

I suggest those giddy in celebratory jubilation of this weekend of revelry speak with the employees of Lowe's. Hoards of RTS attendees invaded this place of business when the rains came. The reports they give are of vulgar language, inappropriate attire, people 'flipping the bird' to employees when they addressed this aberrant conduct, and theft.

The founder of this event, Mr. Shane Quick, stated at a Morning Blend meeting that "If we did not sell beer, we could not do RTS." The bottom line of that rationale is this – RTS may feature some musicians, and provide what some deem 'entertainment,' but, the fundamental issue is selling beer! It is the sale of alcoholic beverages that provides the primary funding for RTS. It appears that those who invaded Lowe's consumed more than their fair share of this beverage.

Bunyan describes this kind of revelry in "Pilgrims Progress."

He labels such alluring activity Vanity Fair. Those who engage such are NOT on the way to the Celestial City. Quite the contrary. It is anything but moral and virtually destructive of true spirituality that honors the God of the Ages.

So I pose this question to the citizens of Cullman. Is the soul of our city for sale for a few hundred thousand dollars?

Do we want our National Image to be shaped by a gathering that diminishes the moral fiber of our community? Are we better served by tax revenue than a moral posture that honors the dignity of mankind created in the image of God? Should we sell the soul of our community for the proverbial 'bowl of red stew'?

This question merits serious and honest reflection.

FOXGLOVES & FIREFLIES

Propagating mums

Loretta Gillespie
Tribune Correspondent

I just read an article about how people waste money. There were a lot of things in the article like bottled water, expensive clothes and overdraft charges. Granted, those things sometimes are a waste of money, but so is buying mums every fall. Buy them once, and you should have enough to last a lifetime, plus some to share.

Buying mums at the beginning of the season is something we sometimes pass on. They aren't blooming, and those pretty spring flowers like pansies, begonias and impatiens are beckoning us to take them home.

Now most gardeners who have been at it for some time will know this already, so if you fall into that category, this is just a friendly reminder or a nudge if you are a lazy gardener.

For younger gardeners, this is a tip that will save you a small fortune over the years.

If you are buying mums for the first time, you might wait until fall, or plant them now so that they will have time to spread.

After their first year, however, you should never have to buy more, unless you want different colors.

If you have established mums, now is the time to thin them out, making room for the overcrowded roots to stretch and multiply.

The rain we've been having lately has made the ground nice and soft, enabling you to pull them right up without even digging.

Now, take a small spade and make a little hole and pop each tiny plant right into it, covering up the roots and maybe pinching it back about halfway at the same time.

Just after a good rain is also a wonderful time to pinch back the tops of those leggy plants. Just pinch at a leaf node about halfway down the stalk, then make a hole with a pencil or a similar tool, now pop the little cutting into the hole, mound the soil up around it and make sure it has sufficient water while its roots are developing.

This is a simple and very effective way to multiply your plants. Be sure your soil isn't compacted, making it hard for new roots to form.

A garden fork is a wonderful way to make sure that the soil in a small place is aerated enough for success with unrooted or small plants. If you are working in a larger space, use a garden tiller before planting.

Right before the next rain, after you have transplanted your mums, fertilize with Mum Booster, or your favorite all-purpose fertilizer. This will get them off to a good start.

For the rest of the month, and until the 4th of July, pinch the tops back. With our long summers and late fall, you can even go a little longer than that, but not much.

They lose the ability to form blooms after about the middle of July.

In late spring and early summer, I pinch mine almost in half, thus helping them to remain upright when the blooms make them top-heavy in September and October. I stop pinching so much in mid-to-late June.

Keep fertilizing about once a month until the first part of September. Liquid fertilizer sprayed on the leaves works well, as does fish emulsion fertilizer. Be sure to read the instructions carefully.

Mums aren't bothered by many pests, except maybe mealybugs, but sometimes they get a fungus caused by water resting on the leaves.

Try not to water any of your plants in the late afternoon or at night after the humidity sets in. In the event that they do get a fungus or you see white cottony looking spots (mealybugs), spray with Ortho products labeled for fungus and insects. Most rose disease treatments will work for mums, too.

Give mums bright sunlight, water according to dry conditions; they will start to wilt when allowed to get too dry.

By transplanting your mums in this fashion, you can make 20 or 30 plants from one good-sized clump. Now that's saving money!

EDITORIAL

The Last Call

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

As a publisher of a small town newspaper one must learn to walk the fine line between political and personal gain. Almost every publisher across the country, or in most cases across the globe, are put in positions where they can either gain, lose or straddle the line when it comes to hot button topics. Some elect to listen to their higher ups at corporate and endorse political candidates just so the corporation can make more money. It doesn't matter the cost to the local division as long as the higher ups get their message out.

While any level headed individual knows, those in news should not be telling you their opinions just to increase revenue. However, if they don't do what the corporation wants them to do then they simply replace and reboot the entire operation. I believe we've all witnessed this at least once or twice in our lifetimes.

So what do you do when you're the one who decides what is newsworthy, editorial material and just sensational adjective filled junk. Easy. You use your brain, which houses a wealth of information about the community you are serving, that says, 'Hey, do what's best for the people. Don't worry about the money.' That's easy for the mind to come to that conclusion. But to put it in action is a whole other game in itself.

I've kept silent for nearly two years when it comes to editorials, although those on Facebook probably see enough screenshots to get a skewed idea of who I am as a person, not just a publisher. I don't hide anything from my past because those events only helped to mold the ideals I put into play each day. Of course, logically, those ideals are often changed over many life experiences. Recently it was revealed that good health was just something I was not blessed with. It's depressing at times but we push forward harder and more vigorously than ever because it's our responsibility to do so. I could drop dead after this is finished and many would celebrate as they know a lot would go to the grave. Or would it?

This may appear to be a rambling stream of consciousness but there is a point to the meandering. It's my job to ensure our writers and reporters are accurately reporting news – both hard and soft – giving fairness to all parties involved. They do a good job when it comes to being unbiased. That's what the public deserves. You all deserve news that's untainted by corporate meddling. News that is researched thoroughly and is accurate the first time it's published. Not news that's constantly revised due to poor research and kneejerk reporting.

That's why, over the past few months, I've been reflecting on why I do the job at hand. It became clear that I do this so there is a true balance in the local news being reported inside Cullman County. Those in positions of authority know I don't sweep issues under the rug. I'm not a man who can be bought. My goal each night is to sit in a recliner, mentally reliving the day's events to see if they were all handled fairly, correctly and without bias.

I've not lost a night's sleep since. But I'm sure I do keep many others up late. That's alright though. I took a stance a long time ago and haven't compromised since. Just know last call has been announced and we will be delving deeper into local events, news, politics, social clubs, along with many others to provide you all with better coverage. Enjoy!

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