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Annual Flag Day celebration Wednesday; former U.S. astronaut special guest



NASA

Astronaut Robert L. Stewart in untethered flight

Will Hogue
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CULLMAN – The Cullman Elks Lodge will hold its annual Flag Day celebration, a patriotic and colorful family event, this Wednesday, June 14 at 7 p.m., with special guest speaker Brigadier Gen. Robert L. Stewart, a former U.S. astronaut.

Col. Ken Brown, a member of the Cullman Elks Lodge, says that Stewart was a U.S. Army helicopter pilot during the Vietnam War, and was later selected as the first astronaut from the U.S. Army.

He flew two subsequent shuttle missions, and was one of two astronauts who were the first to fly in space untethered from a spacecraft.

"He will be presenting one of the American flags that he took into space during his missions," Brown said.

According to the Cullman Elks, "The celebration highlights the rich history of our nation's flag from the beginning of our republic to the present day.

"Our local combat veterans are featured and will participate in the service."

The event, which is free and open to the public, is celebrated by Elks Lodges across the country annually.

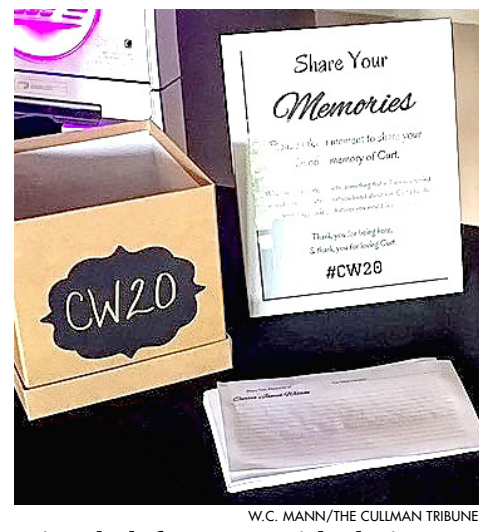
"Supposedly some founders of the Elks were related to some of the women who stitched together the first flags during the American Revolution," said Brown.

"Usually we have some desserts and some coffee and water," Brown said. "Everything is totally free. We have plenty of parking, and that is free too."

Brown says the event will be a great event for everyone, "from grandchildren to grandparents."

The Cullman Elks Lodge is located at 1525 Brantley Ave. NW.

For more information on Stewart, visit www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/stewart-rl.html.



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Friends left notes with their fond memories of Curt.

FOR CURT

Friends and family gather to celebrate life of CHS student Curt Wilson

W.C. Mann
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CULLMAN – On Sunday afternoon, the Cullman Elks Lodge was the site of a celebration of the life of Curt Wilson, a Cullman High School student who lost his life as a result of a tragic automobile wreck on May 7. Mother Ashley Wilson's family and friends, supporters and Curt's CHS classmates and teammates filled the lodge hall for an intentionally joyful event, though a few inevitable tears would be shed.

"Curt can't be forgotten," said family friend and event host Emily Hayes. "The light that he brought into so many people's lives in his short time here needs to be celebrated. The funeral was a somber, reflective time, as it should have been; but today what we wanted to do was get everyone together and celebrate our memories of Curt- how he touched our lives. That's how we keep him alive in our hearts; when you speak his name, when you share a funny story about him or a tender moment, he's still here.

"I don't want people to forget Curt, and I don't want people to forget his family. His family has been like a second family to me since I was his age. They've been very kind and very generous to me in my life. The whole family is going to need the support of the community, not just today but in the days coming. You never get over the loss of a child. These people will need »PAGE 7

PREP FOOTBALL

Meek hires David Norwood as new football coach; other coaching news

Johnny Thornton
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ARLEY – Meek High School has hired David Norwood as its new football coach, replacing Lance Archer who recently resigned.

Norwood spent the last couple of years as defensive coordinator at Cordova High in Walker County.

Norwood has been a head coach at two schools in the neighboring area. He coached Gardendale High School from 2002 to 2003, compiling a 19-5 record and a 2-2 record in the playoffs. He moved on to Austin High School in Decatur, leading the Black Bears from 2004 to 2009. The Bears unfortunately never developed great success, going 23-38 during Norwood's tenure with a 5-6 record in 2008 being his best for the program in the River City.

As DC at Cordova, the Blue Devils have been a solid program with 22 wins and only four losses from 2015 and 2016. The Devils reached the semifinals of the 4A playoffs in 2015.

Cordova gave up only 15.7 points a game that season, holding four opponents to one touchdown.

Meek was 5-5 last season, 2-4 in 1A Region 7, failing to make the playoffs. The Tigers will begin the Norwood era on Aug. 25 at Meek against Phillips of Bear Creek.

Other area football coaching news:

No word has come from Vinemont as the Eagles look to replace Matt Norris.

Norris was relieved of his duties on May 22. Vinemont has been reviewing applications and is hoping to fill the vacancy as soon as possible.

In a recent interview, Vinemont High School Principal Ferrell Runge told The Tribune the assistant coaches are handling off-season workouts. Vinemont will kick off the 2017 season at Mark Smothers Stadium Sept. 1 against rival Good Hope.

Douglas High School in neighboring Marshall County hired Bryan "Bubba" Jennings as its new coach. Jennings takes over the position vacated by Brad Pounds. The Eagles were 1-9 in 2015 and have not won more than five games in a single season since they got six victories in 1998.

Jennings is known for his days coaching at Susan Moore High School in Blount County. Jennings guided the Bulldogs to a 51-43 record from 2006 to 2014 and was 5-5 in the postseason.

Jennings took over at midseason in 2006, leading Susan Moore to a 7-1 record and a berth to the semifinal round in Class 3A.

As of the weekend, 14 schools in the Alabama High School Athletic Association remain with a coaching vacancy. The closest to The Tribune coverage area is DAR, located in Marshall County.



THE JASPER DAILY MOUNTAIN EAGLE

David Norwood

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
June 13, 2017

GoFundMe page set up for son of couple killed in Holly Pond wreck

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN COUNTY – A GoFundMe page has been set up for Saxon Levi Waid, 3, the son of an area couple killed in a car wreck in Holly Pond Friday afternoon.

A statement on the GoFundMe page, posted late Friday night, says, "Saxon Levi Waid age 3 is my God Son. His parents Matthew Waid and Rachael Kelley where friends of my son Saxon Staples Ross who was killed in a car accident almost 5 years ago.

Saxon Levi's parents (were) killed in a car accident today. He is injured but will recover. Any help you can give to this sweet boy will be greatly appreciated. His God Mother Melissa Staples Pratt"

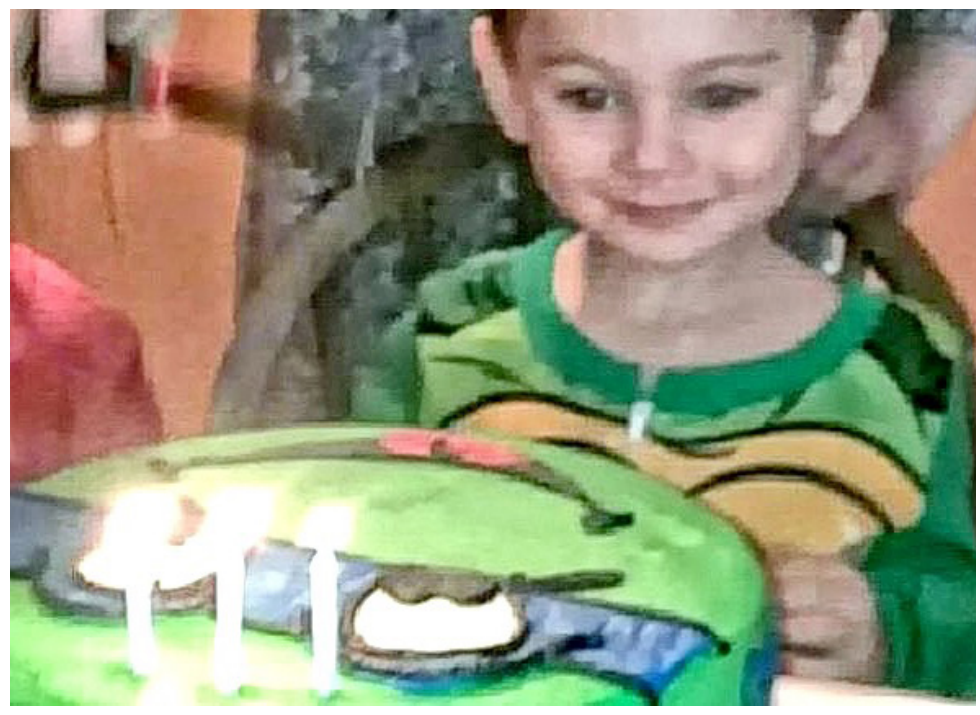
The four-vehicle crash occurred at 3:05 p.m. Friday, June 9. Rachael Danielle Kelley, 24, of Vinemont was killed when the 1991 Honda Civic she was driving collided with a 2011 Toyota Camry. Kelley was pronounced dead at the scene by Cullman County Coroner Jeremy L. Kilpatrick.

The driver of the Camry and two passengers were transported to area hospitals for treatment of their injuries. One was airlifted to UAB Hospital and two went to Cullman Regional.

A passenger in the Civic, Albert Matthew Waid, 24, of Vinemont, died while being transported to an area hospital, according to emergency medical personnel on the scene.

A 1993 Chevrolet Silverado and a 2010 Chevrolet Caprice were also involved, but neither driver was injured.

The crash occurred on U.S. Highway 278 East, just east of the Duck River Bridge. It was on the Holly Pond side of Duck River Bridge, at the top of the hill in the curve. Hwy. 278 was closed for two and a half hours.



CONTRIBUTED

2nd Fridays event kicks off summer evening series

Andrew Cryer
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – The Festhalle and Warehouse District were hopping Friday night, as the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce and Cullman Parks and Recreation held this year's first 2nd Friday event downtown.

The events will take place, you guessed it, on the second Friday of each month through September.

Director of Member Services for the chamber, Magan Bartlett, says 2nd Fridays are a way to create a nightlife in downtown Cullman.

"It brings families of all ages together for a great night of fun," she said.

Friday's festivities featured live music, local shopping and restaurants, children's activities, Cullman Farmer's Market, an antique and classic car cruise-in, the Artist's Alley and more, drawing a crowd to the central business district.

Said Bartlett, "Any event is going to take time to grow, and the word is spreading; I think that everyone is benefiting from this."

For more information on 2nd Fridays visit www.facebook.com/2ndFridaysCullman.



ANDREW CRYER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Fairview Lions continue monthly family fun days with movie in the park

Heather Mann
Tribune Correspondent

FAIRVIEW – As a part of their goal to have at least one family fun day each month, the Fairview Lions Club hosted a movie night in Fairview Community Park over the weekend. With Father's Day approaching, the Lions played the movie "Courageous," a story about a group of men who all sign contracts to be the best fathers they can possibly be. After last month's movie crowd of nearly 300 people, the Lions were very optimistic about this month's turnout. One of the club members mentioned that the fact that the movie focuses on fathers was probably a big help, as she had heard about several mothers convincing their husbands to take them to the movie on a much-needed date night.

The movie night not only serves to get the community together, but also gives people a way to help the less fortunate.

The Lions set up a concession stand so people could enjoy snacks during the movie, and the money raised will be put toward the Lions Club's special project fund. Their main project is helping provide eyeglasses to people in the community who can't afford them, but they have also put together Christmas boxes and helped families pay funeral expenses. They also work closely with the Cullman Caring for Kids food bank.

When asked if they have their future family days planned out, the Lions listed events for the rest of the year. In July, they will sell funnel cakes at the 4th of July freedom celebration. In August (or maybe even late July), they will provide eye screenings for students at Concord Baptist Church's back-to-school drive. September 4 will be the big Labor Day celebration with a car show, food vendors and the parade. October will have another movie in the park for Halloween, and there will be a turkey shoot in November. December will have the Christmas tree lighting and the parade, and the Lions plan to do this all again next year "with a pancake breakfast maybe thrown in here and there."

Sheriff's office reminds public of availability of Nixle Alert System

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – The Cullman County Sheriff's Office would like to remind the citizens of Cullman County about the availability of the Nixle Alert System.

You can sign up to receive Nixle Alerts from the Cullman County Sheriff's Office and get up-to-date information about such things as major car accidents/road closures, missing dementia patients, major weather events and criminal activities.

To sign up, text "25SHERIFF" to the number "888777". Nixle will text you back and ask for your zip code.

You may also sign up at www.nixle.com. Make sure to click on "Resident" when prompted.

While at www.nixle.com, you can also view current and recent alerts from your area, based on your zip code.

McDonald's to give away 400 backpacks in Cullman area

Samantha Jarman
Contributor

BIRMINGHAM – McDonald's of Central Alabama has announced the third year of its successful McDonald's McBackpack Giveaway. Over two weekends, July 27-29 and August 4-5, 17 participating McDonald's restaurants will give out a total of 3,400 backpacks to local students in an effort to support education and prepare for the new school year. In the Cullman area, a total of 400 backpacks will be given away, 200 each at two locations.

- Cullman: 1425 Second Ave. SW, Cullman
- Hanceville: 740 Main Street, Hanceville

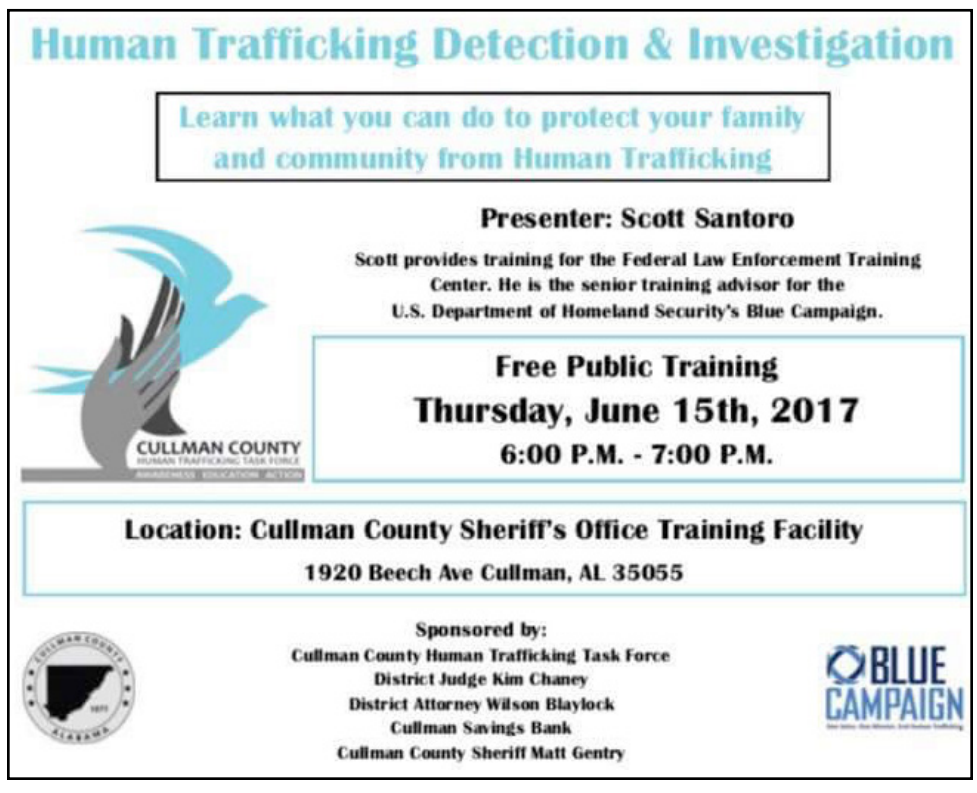
"The first two years of this program were quite successful distributing 1,200 and then 2,000 backpacks. This year we are thrilled to announce we will increase the number of backpacks handed out by 70% to a total of 3,400," stated Debbie Kiker, Angels Advertising marketing director.

"Our goal for this program is to encourage students to realize the importance of receiving an education and bring excitement into starting off the school year strong."

The backpacks will contain school supplies items such as pencils, crayons, paper, a ruler, a folder, and more.

There will be one grand prize backpack at each individual location with extra supplies and McDonald's items that will be given out at random.

The backpacks will be given on a first come, first serve basis to students accompanied by a guardian or parent. McDonald's owner/operators will be on hand at their particular locations to hand out backpacks and meet the students in their local communities.



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TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Certified radKIDS instructor and Cullman Police Department DARE Officer Cindy Rohrscheib with a participant at last summer's radKIDS Summer Safety Cam

Cullman Police, CP&R offering radKIDS Summer Safety Camp this month

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – From June 26-30, the Cullman Police Department and Cullman Parks and Recreation will offer their seventh annual radKIDS Summer Safety Camp for children ages 5-11.

According to the radKIDS website, "radKIDS Personal Empowerment Safety Education program is a 10-hour family centered safety education program that emphasizes essential decision-making skills as well as physical resistance options to escape violence. radKIDS is a life skills educational model that enhances natural instincts with real skills while increasing the foundational resiliency skills we all need to not only survive but excel."

Students enrolled in the class will learn:

- Internet safety from online predators
- Defending against vicious dogs
- Escaping a house fire
- Escaping an abduction
- Gun safety
- Good touch vs. bad touch
- What to say when calling 911
- How to physically resist an attack

The course will be led by certified radKIDS instructor and CPD DARE Officer Cindy Rohrscheib. Classes will meet from 9-11 a.m. each day at the Cullman Civic Center; refreshments will be provided. The cost is $7 per child, and preregistration is encouraged, since space is limited.

If space is available, kids will be allowed to join up until June 28, the third day of the class. Registration forms are available at the CP&R front desk at the Civic Center.

The Tribune spoke with Rohrscheib about what students will do during the course.

"Every day we'll do a different aspect of safety, and every day they'll learn a new self-defense move. If someone picks you up who shouldn't pick you up, we'll teach you things that will make them want to put you down. If you're trapped in your room by a fire in your house, we'll teach you how to get out. We'll teach them about approaching strange dogs and, if the dog bites, how to protect their bodies from the most serious injuries.

"The first thing we'll teach is how to contact dispatch and use 911. We'll have people playing dispatchers, so kids can practice talking to dispatchers on a cell phone. They'll learn what to say to a dispatcher, and how to stay calm and answer the dispatchers' questions."

Is this kind of instruction really needed in Cullman? Rohrscheib answered with an emphatic "Yes!"

"It's a big issue all around," she stated. "Four out of five girls will have their personal space invaded in an inappropriate way by the time they turn 18, ranging from things that just make them uncomfortable to full-blown sexual assault. And many of these will go unreported. I hear stories every day, 'I went out with this guy who made me uncomfortable, but I don't want to report it.'"

Rohrscheib also pointed out that Cullman County is often one of the top counties in the state for incidents of incest, inappropriate sexual contact involving relatives.

She shared, "I teach kids that if you don't want to hug someone, you don't have to. We tend to force our kids to put themselves in uncomfortable situations with relatives because we're more concerned about an adult's feelings than about our kids. We don't realize that, when we make our kids hug people they're not comfortable with, that we're teaching them that it's okay for a relative to make them uncomfortable. Then, when something bad happens, they're more likely to go along with it and not report it. We need to get a different view on what we teach these kids."

For more information on radKIDS, visit www.radkids.org. For more information on this class, contact Rohrscheib at 256-736-4703.

At a glance

- radKIDS Personal Empowerment Safety Education course
- Monday, June 26 through Friday, June 30 at the Cullman Civic Center
- 9-11 a.m., refreshments provided
- Instructor Cindy Rohrscheib
- $7 per child, preregistration encouraged

Mopars cruise into Cullman for annual show, raise $3,300 for hungry children

Andrew Cryer
Tribune Correspondent



ANDREW CRYER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

CULLMAN – It was a weekend packed with car shows in Cullman, and one of the biggest was the annual Mopars on the Street event put on by the Pentastar South Car Club at Depot Park. The show had goals beyond simply sharing participants' rides. All proceeds from the event are going to the nonprofit Secret Meals for Hungry Children.

According to www.secretmeals.org, "Many children in Alabama rely heavily on free and reduced breakfasts and lunches five days a week.

However, the weekend creates a nutritional gap leaving many children hungry when they return to school on Monday. Secret Meals fills the gap these children experience by discretely slipping into their backpack, on Fridays, vitamin-fortified and nutritional meals."

Brenda Allison, president of the Pentastar South Car Club, says the club raised $2,800 last year, and had sights on surpassing that mark this year, which they did. The final tally for this year was $3,300. "Every penny that's raised here goes towards secret meals; the club doesn't keep any money at all because we are a nonprofit club."

This is the second year that the show has been put on at Depot Park; the event was previously held at the Cullman Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram dealership, but came to outgrow the venue. Allison expressed her gratitude to the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce for inviting the club to use Depot Park for its annual event.

Said Allison, "Every year we get more and more people."

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NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

WHEREAS, default has been made in the terms of the mortgage executed on the 26th day of August, 2008, by **Earl Lee Nixon, a single man,** as Mortgagor in favor of **Johnny Albright** as recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama in **Mortgage Book No. 1574 Page No. 690,** and subsequently modified on the 8th day of March, 2010, by **Earl Lee Nixon, a single man,** as Mortgagor in favor of **Johnny Albright**, as Mortgagee, as recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama in **Mortgage Book No. 1620 Page No. 826** and said default continuing, the mortgagee, under power of sale contained in said mortgage will sell at auction for cash to the highest bidder on the steps of the Cullman County Courthouse in Cullman, Alabama, during legal hours of sale on the 12th day of July, 2017, the following described real estate embraced in said mortgage, situated in **Cullman** County, Alabama, to-wit:

Parcel I: A part of the NW ¼ of the SE ¼ of Sec. 20, T9S, R1E, more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point where the West R.O.W. line of New Highway No. 67 crosses the North line of said forty; thence South along the West R.O.W. line of said Highway 105 feet; thence West 105 feet; thence North to the North line of said forty; thence East along the North line of the said forty to the P.O.B. Said lands lying and being in Cullman County, Alabama.

Parcel II: Commencing at the NE corner of the NW ¼ of the SE ¼ of Sec. 20, T9S, R1E, thence S 89° 54' 13" W along the ¼-¼ line 761.56 feet to the Western R.O.W. of Alabama Highway 67; thence S 41°45'58" E along said R.O.W. 105.00 feet to the P.O.B. for the property herein described; thence S 39°02'46"E along said R.O.W. 67.44 feet, thence N 89°45'42"W 250.76 feet to the East boundary of an unimproved road; thence N 37°45'31"W along said road boundary 164.49 feet to the ¼-¼ line; thence S89° 54' 13"E 134.07 feet; thence S 41°45'58"E 105.00 feet; thence S 89°54'13"E 105.00 feet to the P.O.B. Said lands lying and being in Cullman County, Alabama.

THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON AN 'AS IS, WHERE IS' BASIS, SUBJECT TO ANY EASEMENTS, ENCUMBRANCES, AND EXCEPTIONS REFLECTED IN THE MORTGAGE AND THOSE CONTAINED IN THE RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF THE JUDGE OF PROBATE OF THE COUNTY WHERE THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS SITUATED. THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD WITHOUT WARRANTY OR RECOURSE, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED AS TO TITLE, USE AND/OR ENJOYMENT AND WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REMEMPITON OF ALL PARTIES ENTITLED THERETO.

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

The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the real estate.

This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation.

Johnny Albright, Mortgagee

Beverly Paschal Poston, Attorney for Mortgagee
200 First Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
bposton@beverlypaschalposton.com
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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
June 13, 2017

Hard work and fun at Castille Character Camp

Johnny Thornton
johnny@cullmansense.com



JOHNNY THORNTON/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Participants at Castille Character Camp in warm-up drills at Woodard Stadium

CULLMAN – Jeremiah Castille is a man of great character. From his days playing for legendary coach Paul "Bryant" Bryant to being an instructor for his popular character camp, Castille puts the emphasis in simple terms.

"HOW" is expressed as hours of work. Castille pointed that out Saturday morning at Cullman's Oliver Woodard Stadium prior to the beginning of his 10th annual character camp.

"We are here to work," Castille addressed the group of approximately 80 kids, ranging from first graders to high school athletes. By 3:30 p.m., the camp accumulated six hours of work in speed, agility and football skills.

The Cullman Savings Bank Foundation made Castille feel very welcome when representatives Matt Townson and Taira Ugarkovich presented a $2,500 check to the Jeremiah Castille Foundation.

Then it was on to work. Castille had with him a group of hard working men, with several having careers in the National Football League and all being involved in a Division I collegiate program.

Current Alabama players Minkah Fitzpatrick and Miller Forristall served as instructors, along with ex Crimson Tide standouts Darius Gilbert, Brandon Brooks, Charles Jones, Tim Castille, Simeon Castille, Dennis Alexander and Zac Fletcher. Joining them were former Wallace State track coach and speed specialist Willie Smith and Joe Edwards, who played at Alabama A&M University.

Tim Castille currently coaches at Thompson High School, Edwards is a coach at Bessemer City, Gilbert at Jasper High and Fletcher at Lawrence County in Moulton. Jones and Alexander are on the staff at East Central Community College in Mississippi. Simeon Castille's resume includes playing in the NFL for the Cincinnati Bengals and San Diego Chargers.

Castille pointed out to the participants Saturday, the purpose was the reality of how you accomplish a goal vs. the fantasy. "You have to have a great attitude," he said. "The coaches know what they are talking about. We have our coaches today that have played in the NFL and most playing Division I in college. We want them to give it their best. Today, these kids are competing against themselves."

Once the camp was completed, a cookout was held at St. John's Church, followed by a service inside the church.

Castille established his character camp in 2008, with the purpose of sharing sound fundamentals in football and character training. Participants work on teamwork, self-discipline, consideration of others and how to obtain and maximize their true potential relative to age on the field and in life.

Former Hanceville football coach Danny Miller, who assisted in the camp for several years, stopped by and paid a visit to Castille and others.

Some coaches, such as Hanceville football coach Craig Flanigan and Good Hope girls' basketball coach Amanda Swann, brought their children to participate in the camp.

The participants bought into Castille's philosophy of coming to work, listening to what they were provided in different drills from different coaches and to having fun once they accomplished a goal throughout the day.

Castille will conduct a character camp in nearby Decatur the weekend of June 23-24. To find out more on the Decatur camp, contact the Castille Foundation at 205-737-3662 or go online to www.castillefoundation.org.

Cullman Bearcats win Alabama B.A.S.S. Nation High School Championship

Johnny Thornton
johnny@cullmansense.com



MARK STEPHENS

L-R: Keaton Kinney, David Dueland, Cameron Glasscock, Lawson Graves, Cy Lambert and Houston Smith

EUFAULA – To become the best, Cullman's bass fishing program, led by coach Kyle Morris, defeated the best in the Alabama B.A.S.S. Nation High School Championship Saturday at Lake Eufaula.

Led by Lawson Graves and Cameron Glasscock, the Bearcats got the job done, defeating Auburn by three quarters of a pound.

Coach Kyle Morris' squad brought in 56.56 pounds to Auburn's 55.64 pounds.

Graves and Glasscock, who have been together for three years, were fourth overall from individual boats.

The duo recorded 29.45 pounds.

They had help from the other two boats, consisting of Keaton Kinney and David Dueland (9.31 pounds), plus Cy Lambert and Houston Smith (17.77 pounds) putting the entire team on top when the weigh-ins were completed.

Kinney is a sophomore, while his teammate Dueland is a junior. Lambert and Smith are the youngsters, both in their freshman season.

Thirty-one clubs competed in the two-day state event.

Graves and Glasscock punched their ticket to the nationals at Kentucky Lake in Paris, Tennessee June 22-24.

They join Justin Lowery and James Cobbs who qualified from an event earlier in the season.

Glasscock's effort earned him a $10,000 scholarship to the University of Montevallo. Hanging in the balance will be $50,000 in scholarships in the nationals, along with national television exposure from ESPN.

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In spite of stiff competition, Hanceville tractor show sees good turnout

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

HANCEVILLE – Who would have thought that a tractor show would face stiff competition from, of all things, another tractor show? Who knew tractors were so popular? On Saturday morning, there were a bunch of folks at Wallace State Community College who knew.

WSCC hosted the 19th annual Hanceville Antique Tractor and Engine Show, bringing in collectors and active farmers from all over the area. Turnout was down this year, mainly due to a conflicting event; several local collectors already had their equipment loaded up to take to the Red Power Roundup, a national tractor show being held in Des Moines, Iowa this year.

It turns out, tractor shows are actually a pretty big cultural phenomenon in rural America. From late February into December, a hardcore enthusiast who's willing to travel can find an event almost every weekend, with occasional overlaps like that which hurt the Hanceville show this weekend.

Despite the schedule conflict, local enthusiasts lined the parking lot in front of the Health Sciences building with vehicles from vintage Cub Cadet lawn tractors to big classic John Deere and International commercial farm pieces.

Event Coordinator Charles Allen was a little disappointed at the smaller number of displayed pieces this year, but still pleased with attendance. He talked about this year's show and the event's history.

"This is the 19th annual show," he said. "It was started by Jimmy Hamrick and Hershel Needham. They're both now deceased, and Bonnie Hamrick Brannan and myself are taking it over and keeping it going. (In the beginning) most of it was farmers wanting to display their equipment, like a car show. Folks want to display their cars; well, farmers want to display their tractors. For many years, we had a few that were restored, but most of them were farm tractors. They just brought them out of the field, washed them, and brought them on. But now, probably two-thirds of them are restored tractors, with just a few that bring them out of the field."

Over the years, this show has routinely drawn collectors and farmers from all around Alabama as well as surrounding states.

No one has charted the economic impact, but it does bring an uptick in business to local hotels, restaurants and others.



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Sherman Roberts had the oldest operational tractor at the show, a 1939 Farmall "H"

Participants and visitors could find homemade ice cream made with churns powered by antique engines, hamburgers and hot dogs from Two Fat Men Catering, and competitive events you won't see in too many places.

A series of "slow races" were exactly that, testing how slow a low-geared and throttled-down tractor could go without stalling; a trophy was given to the last driver to cross the line in each of several heats.

A ladies-only skillet toss tested competitors' ability to heave a specially-designed heavyweight cast iron skillet, in three age group categories. Of her dad and show founder Jimmy Hamrick, Brannan said, "He's always been a tractor enthusiast. He always loved tractors and had been around them, worked on them, liked restoring them. He had a passion for them. He farmed and worked, too. He loved his community, and he loved giving back. If he could do anything for you, he would; so this was just one way to give back to the community."

Business profile: Midway Medical Clinic in Holly Pond re-opens

Heather Mann
Tribune Correspondent

HOLLY POND – Midway Medical Clinic is a rural health clinic that originally opened in Holly Pond in the spring of 2013. Two doctor partners (an internal medicine and geriatric specialist from Huntsville and an internal medicine/family specialist from Scottsboro) own this clinic, along with Southview Medical Clinic in Hanceville. The clinics have been operated since 2013 by a combination of local doctors and nurse practitioners. Due to some health issues with one of the providers at Midway and personnel changes at the Hanceville clinic, the decision was made to temporarily close the Midway clinic in March 2017 and move all personnel resources to Hanceville (which is the busier clinic by far and needed additional help). After Midway closed, the owners contacted Susan Stapp, the nurse practitioner who had opened Midway in 2013 and left the business in 2014, to come back and operate the clinic.



HEATHER MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

"I said yes, I would love to come back to Holly Pond and have the chance to operate the clinic. By this time, I realized I should have stayed in my hometown from the beginning. I had missed my patients and wanted to come back home to take care of people I had come to know and care for in my own community," Stapp recalled. With the help of an office assistant, she reopened the clinic on May 8, 2017. Currently, Stapp and the assistant are the only staff members, but they anticipate adding on more personnel when business picks up again.

Stapp is a family nurse practitioner who graduated from the UAB School of Nursing with a master's degree in nursing, specializing in family care. She is certified in basic life support, advanced cardiac life support and pediatric advanced life support, is a certified medical examiner for DOT physicals, and is experienced with Social Security disability and worker's compensation exams. Her assistant, while not certified, was trained by Stapp in giving injections and drawing blood, and Stapp described her as "the amazing lady who answers calls and greets you when you come in with a warm and helpful attitude."

The clinic treats patients of all ages, from infant to elderly, and offers chronic disease management (but not chronic pain; patients needing long-term pain medication will be referred to the pain clinic of their choice).

Walk-in patients for acute care can be treated for fever, cold and flu, sinus pain, sore throat, UTIs, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, simple drainage of abscess, minor suturing, allergies, strains/sprains, rashes, cuts or scrapes and other minor emergencies.

Other services include PAP tests, contraceptive management, sports physicals, employment physicals, DOT physicals and non-narcotic weight management, though appointments are necessary for these.

Patients with chest pain or other emergency problems will advised to go to the ER of their choice, or if they are too unstable, Midway will care for them using basic life support techniques until they are taken to an ER by ambulance.

Midway also has a network of specialists, lab companies, and hospitalists to help patients that the clinic may not have the resources to treat. They have an on-site lab drawing service in which the specimens are sent to Labcorp, Quest or Diatherix lab companies, depending on the patient's insurance coverage and the needed specimen results, and the results often come back within a few days.

They don't have on-site x-ray or radiology services, but they do write orders to take to Cullman Regional outpatient services to have the x-ray, ultrasound, MRI, CT, mammogram, or other tests performed there. The tests results are read by a radiology specialty doctor from Cullman Regional and the typed results are faxed back to the clinic, often within the same day.

The clinic's relationship with Cullman Regional's hospitalist team means that if one of Midway's patients needs to be hospitalized, they can speak directly to a physician or nurse practitioner on Cullman Regional's team and try to have them admit the patient to a room directly without the patient having to go through the ER.

The hospitalist then takes over care of the patient while they are in the hospital setting and Midway will see the patient for a follow-up when they are discharged home.

Stapp and her associates also have a network of specialists for people who need treatment in cardiology, pulmonology, gastroenterology, dermatology, urology, nephrology, orthopedic and spinal problems, minor surgical procedures, wound care and pain management.

When asked about how the clinic helps low-income families or people without insurance, Stapp replied, "We accept the following payment methods: Medicare, Medicaid and most private insurance is accepted. If no insurance, we offer reasonable private pay fees for visits, injections and some labs. We can also order tests and refer the private-pay patients to specialists as needed, but they will have to make their own payment arrangements for the tests or the specialty doctor.

"In addition, we have referred non-insured patients to UAB charity care, in which the patient can sometimes get care through UAB hospital and specialty doctors after going through a process with UAB to see if they qualify for charity care.

In addition, for both the insured and non-insured we will try to prescribe medications that are appropriate for their condition(s) and that are also covered by their insurance. Further, if you don't have insurance or if you have poor prescription coverage, we will work to help you find a cost-effective medication that is also suitable for your illness."

Midway Medical Clinic is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., and is located at 111 Brooklyn Road in Holly Pond. Appointments can be made by calling the clinic at 256-796-3084.

Stapp said, "At this time, we are a small, two-person operation, but we will be adding additional personnel as the business grows. There may be a little wait, but I can promise the patient will receive comprehensive, friendly and caring service when they are seen by me."

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HEATHER MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

New business Dixie Duds & Decor hosts car and bike show

Heather Mann
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – With the amount of new businesses opening in Cullman, it's easy for the individual stores to get lost or overlooked in the crowd. To stand out a bit and gain some publicity, Dixie Duds & Decor took advantage of the nearby empty lots and held what they hope to be their first annual classic car and bike show.

The store, run by Melia Mead and her family, opened in March and sells vintage clothing and antique gifts.

The idea to use a car show to gain publicity came from Mead's nephew, Weston Martinez, who helps in the shop and frequently goes to shows with his own car.

With the help of her family and a group of sponsors, Mead got the word out to classic car owners, food vendors and other local businesses who might want to set up booths.

The proceeds from the show went to one of the sponsors, Desperation Church, who provided vendor tables and music equipment.

Mead was optimistic about making the show an annual event. With live music, a few food trucks, a wheel-spinning prize game and several beautiful vintage cars, more and more people filled the lots.

She and her family did their research to make sure they wouldn't get overshadowed by another car show on the same day, but she feared they missed something scheduled nevertheless.

"It's kind of a bummer, but maybe they'll mosey on down here afterwards."

The annul Mopars on the Street show went on at Depot Park on Saturday, as did the 19th annual Hanceville Antique Tractor and Engine Show at Wallace State.

Find out more about Dixie Duds & Décor at www.facebook.com/DixieDuds.

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OBITUARY ANNOUNCEMENTS: JUNE 12-16

John Robert Dunn passed away June 8, 2017 at the age of 78. Funeral Mass held at Sacred Heart Catholic Church June 12, 2017, with Interment at Mt. Vernon Primitive Baptist Cemetery. He is survived by his wife: Alice F. Dunn, Sons: John Dunn, Kevin (Krista) Dunn, Brother: Charles (Martha) Dunn and Grandchildren: Logan, Adam and Lauren.

Katherine Kinney Morgan age 94 of Cullman, died Thursday, June 8, 2017. Mrs. Morgan was a nurse at Cullman Regional Medical Center for over 43 years. She was preceded in death by her husband, Hiram Morgan. Mrs. Morgan is survived by her son, Mark Morgan (Gail). A graveside service held Monday, June 12, 2017 at the Cullman City Cemetery with Moss Funeral Service directing.

Funeral service for Earl Cone, 93 of Hanceville, to be held Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at 2 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel; with interment with military honors in Fairview West Cemetery. Mr. Cone passed away on Saturday, June 10. He served in the US Army during World War II and Korea. He was preceded in death by his parents, Byrd Cone and Neanie Laney Cone; sisters, Jeanette Pitts, Ellen Russell and Esther Kanaday and brothers, James Cone and Dyrel Cone. He is survived by his wife, Ethelene Hughes Cone; son, Michael (Cindy) Cone; grandsons, Joseph Cone and John Cone; sisters, Beatrice Phillips, Lela Mae Whaley and Elsa Bailey; brother, Donald Cone and a host of nieces, nephews, other family and friends.

Services for Wilburn Joseph "Joe" Creel, 79 of Cullman, will be 2 p.m. Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at Welcome Baptist Church, David Stancil officiating with burial in the adjoining cemetery. Moss-Service Funeral Home directing. Joe passed away Friday, June 9 at the Folsom Center. He was born October 16, 1939 to James and Julia Creel. He was a self-employed salesman. He is preceded in death by his parents, sons; Joe Anthony (Tony) Creel and Gregory Steven Creel. He is survived by daughters; Tina Creel Battles and Tammy Creel (Joe) Mehaffey, grandchildren; Tori Creel Martins, Shelli Creel Hogan, Rhys Battles, Braxton Battles, Try Mehaffey, Wil Mehaffey, brothers; James (Brenda) Creel, Keith (Susie) Creel, sister; Sarah Baker. Visitation; Monday 6-8 at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers donations to Welcome Baptist Church or H.O.P.E

Funeral services for Lucy Catherine Payton Thompson, of Cullman, will be Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at 2 p.m. at Westside Baptist Church in Eva, the Rev. Gary Peebles officiating, with interment in Garland Brook Cemetery in Columbus, Indiana, at a later date. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Thompson died Saturday, June 10. 2017 at Hanceville Nursing Home. Lucy was the 10th child, born on July 26, 1925, to parents James Garfield and Ida Bell Crawford Payton. She attended New Castle High School and Bradford High School. She worked for N.Y.A (National Youth Association) while attending school, to support her education. She worked for the Wagon Wheel Restaurant, in Bedford, Kentucky. She also worked for the Army, after she married Edward William Thompson. They were married on August 12, 1947 while living at Fort Knox, KY. She worked for Arvin Industries for 37 1/2 years. Her last job was with Community Action in Cullman? She had one son, Edward Ray Thompson. She was a member at West Side Baptist Church in Eva, Al. She was a member at Parkside Baptist Church, of Columbus, IN, from 1968 to 2004. She is preceded in death by her parents; and all of her eleven of her siblings; four sisters, Annie Rodgers, Ray Bell Rodgers, Stella Suter, and Jessie Lee Payton; seven brothers, Jimmy, Bennie, Walter, Carl, William Earl, Crawford J., and Oldham Payton. Survivors include her son Edward (Evelyn) Thompson, of Hanceville, Al; two grandchildren, Michele Dawn Thompson, of Huntsville, Al and Kyle (Lauren) Thompson, also of Hanceville; three great-grandchildren, Madison Fowler, Ryan Fowler, and Tara Thompson; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends. Visitation will be Tuesday, June 13 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the church.

Graveside services with military honors for Harvey Houston Berryhill, Jr., 89, of Hanceville will be Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at 1 p.m. at Maple Hill Cemetery in Huntsville, AL. Mr. Berryhill passed away on Sunday, June 11.

Funeral services for Betty Chambers Rice, 90, of Cullman, Alabama will be Wednesday, June 13 at 3:30 p.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home Chapel, Dr. David Chambers and Rev. Matthew Roskam officiating, with interment in Mt. Zion Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Rice was born August 8, 1926 to parents Hurschel M. and Lillian Methvin Chambers, Sr. She passed away June 11, 2017 at Cullman Regional Medical Center. She is a retired Bell South employee. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Paul E. Rice, Sr.; brothers, Hurschel M. Chambers, Jr. and Charles W. Chambers; and a niece, Sandy Chambers. Survivors include her son, Eddie (Allison) Rice; grandchildren, Kevin (Tehryn) Rice and Kelsey Rice; great- grandaughters, Kenzie and Harlow Kate; nieces and nephews, Tammy (Matthew) Roskam, Teri (Jerry) Burch, Don (Jennie) Chambers, Larry (Marie) Chambers, Dianne (Tom) Thompson; and a host of great nieces, nephews, family, and friends. Visitation will be Tuesday night from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the funeral home. Special thanks to caregivers, Vanessa Nichols, Patsy Self, Cindy Smith, and Tina Luker. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be made to Hope Horses, Inc., or Building Fund, 1st Baptist Church of Fairview. Funeral services for Donna Kay Reid will be Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at 11 a.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home Chapel, Revs. Johnny Jackson and Johnny Reid officiating, with interment in Valley Springs Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Reid passed away Sunday, June 11 at Falkville Healthcare Center. She was born September 4, 1960 to parents Mitchell and Vauldean Light Tolbert. She is preceded in death by her father. Survivors include her mother; husband, Phillip Reid; son, Lance (Jennifer) Reid; grandson, Hunter Reid; granddaughter, Bailey Reid; brother, Reggie Tolbert; and a host of nieces, nephews, family, and friends. Visitation will be 6 p.m. until 8 p.m., Tuesday, June 13 at the funeral home.

Kennith J. York, 73 of Addison, passed away on June 11, 2017 in Decatur, Alabama. He was born on September 16, 1943 in Grayson, Alabama. Kennith was a member of Addison Church of Christ for 6 years. He was a graduate of Addison High School Class of 1962. Visitation will be held on Wednesday, June 14, 2017 from 12 noon until 2 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Addison, where services will be held at 2 p.m. Manuel Strickland will officiate. Burial will be in Sardis No.2 Baptist Church Cemetery. Kennith was survived by his wife, Peggy Faye Terry York; sister, Carolyn (Larry) Umphrey; he was "Paw Paw" to 3 grandchildren, Lee (Libby) Netherton, Brittney (Isaac) Brown and Ashley (Micah) Dyer; 2 great-grandchildren, Conner Ross Dyer and Brynlee Kate Dyer. He was preceded in death by his parents, Walter Herman and Winnie Avis Alexander York; son, Jeff York; grand-daughter, Leslie Nicole York.

Robert Morris Warnke, 79 of Cullman, passed away June 8, 2017. He was born October 2, 1937 to Herman Robert and Alma F. Reichwein Warnke. He is preceded in death by: parents, Sister: Dorothy Warnke Neal, Niece: Melissa Neal Bice. Funeral services are Friday, June 16, 2017 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church at 2 p.m. with Pastor John Bussman officiating. Interment in Cullman Memory Gardens. Survivors are: Brother: George Albert Warnke Sr., Nephews: George Albert Warnke Jr., Don Warnke, James Neal, Niece: Tammie Warnke Dufrene. Visitation is June 15, 2017 from 7 a.m. until 9 a.m. at Moss Funeral Home.

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Endowed scholarship created in honor of James Meherg

Gail Crutchfield
WSCC

HANCEVILLE – A former educator was such an influence on others in his community that one of them has gone to the effort to create an endowed scholarship in his name that will provide scholarships to students in his east Cullman County community until the end of time.

Johnny Albright has pledged a generous donation to the Wallace State Community College Future Foundation in order to establish the James W. Meherg Endowed Scholarship, in honor of the former principal of Fairview High School and what was then Baileyton Junior High.

Albright pointed to the decades of service and support Meherg gave to the Fairview and Baileyton communities as an educator and as a positive role model for those whose lives he impacted over the years as his reason for making the donation in Meherg's name.

With the donation, the James W. Meherg Endowed Scholarship will give students in the Fairview and Baileyton areas a step in the right direction in their education. The first two scholarships for one-year full tuition and fees will be awarded in the fall, said Suzanne Harbin, director of advancement at Wallace State.

"This is to honor you and all you have done for your students, faculty, and staff," Harbin said.

"We're honored to be the recipient of these scholarship funds, and we'll take good care of them and make sure that you'll have recipients that you'll be proud of."

"The gift of a college education is one that transforms generations and families," said Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics.

"So, we are honored that Wallace State was chosen to be a recipient of an endowed scholarship in your honor. I just want to congratulate you on having made such an impact over all of your career that made someone want to commemorate your life in this way."

Meherg said he was speechless about the honor. "I'm not capable of expressing myself for something like that," he said. "I never expected it. I thought Johnny was funning me for a long time."

Meherg was gifted with a key chain bearing his initials on one side and the name and the date of the scholarship's creation on the other.

"That scholarship will be the key to someone's future," Karolewics said as the key was presented.

For information about the Wallace State Future Foundation, to make donations or inquire about scholarships, visit www.wsccfuturefoundation.org or call 256-352-8144.



WSCC

Wallace State Community College President Dr. Vicki Karolewics presents a certificate to James W. Meherg about the formation of the James W. Meherg Endowed Scholarship. Johnny Albright made a generous donation to the Wallace State Future Foundation to create the scholarship fund, which will assist students from the Fairview and Baileyton areas.

First Wallace State CELEBRATE event a success, second event June 14

Gail Crutchfield
WSCC



WSCC

Attendees of the CELEBRATE Adult Health and Wellness Fair hosted by the Wallace State Community College Department of Nursing Education learn about ways to relax at the Chill Out station. A second event will be held on June 14 from 8 a.m. to noon in the School of Nursing's Conference Center.

HANCEVILLE – The first CELEBRATE Adult Health and Wellness Fair was deemed a success, as more than 20 area residents turned out for the inaugural event hosted by the Wallace State Community College Department of Nursing Education.

During the four-hour event, area residents could visit with nursing students and professionals to get tips on everything from safe driving habits and ways to relax, to bone density tests and an evaluation of medication to determine any possible interactions they may have.

Wanda Creel and Carol Rigsby left the event with bags filled with information to look over at their leisure, and with results from the various simple tests provided to recipients.

"My doctor never does a bone density test," said Creel, who was glad to have been given the opportunity to take the test during the health fair.

Creel also update her information for the Cullman County Sheriff's Office Yellow Dot program, getting an up-to-date photo made to include in the packet she'll place in her car's glove compartment. The packet will include information regarding her medical history, as well as contact information in the case of an emergency. A sticker provided in the packet will be placed in a window of her car so emergency responders will know to look for the folder if it's needed.

"That's something I've been putting off," Rigsby admitted regarding the Yellow Dot program, but she was able to take care of that and more at the health fair. She also received a cholesterol reading she said she would give to her regular doctor to help keep track of changes.

"It was great," Rigsby said of the health fair.

Nursing student Megan Barclift said the event was great and gives her an opportunity to interact with the public as she will when she enters the nursing field. She helped escort attendees to each station and was one hand to answer any questions they had.

A second CELEBRATE Adult Health and Wellness Fair will be held on Wednesday, June 14, from 8 a.m. to noon, in the School of Nursing and Center for Science Conference Center. Admission is free.

Curt (from Front)

your prayers for a very long time.

"I also feel that, knowing what Ashley's gone through with her injuries as well, and how that's affected her work- bills don't stop- she should be able to have the time to heal, not only physically, but to help her heart heal.

"And she should be able to mourn Curt without worrying about financial responsibilities. If we can lessen that burden through the event today, then we've done what we intended to do."

Money raised at the event will go into the Curt Wilson Memorial Fund to assist Ashley Wilson with the cost of recovery from her own injuries suffered in the crash that took her son's life.

Local businesses, and some from as far away as Birmingham, donated goods and services to be raffled off to guests.

Prizes ranged from T-shirts and free pizzas to a three-day Pigeon Forge vacation.

Hosts started the event at with a roll of 1,000 tickets to sell; well before the first drawing took place an hour later, they were completely sold out and scrambling to find more.

They did find more tickets, and people continued lining up to buy their chances.

Local providers also donated beverages and hot food that were sold to add to the fund.

Stephanie Giancatarino, a friend of Ashley Wilson, helped host the event. She shared, "Ashley is one of my best friends; she's like a sister to me. I didn't know Curt, but I'd do anything to stand by her. She's a very good person.

"God wants us to stand up for our family and our friends; He wants us to be there for everybody. I wouldn't miss it for the world."

Ashley Wilson sat down with The Tribune for a few minutes. She suffered fractures in her knee and hand in the accident that claimed her son, but is making good progress in recovery.

She expressed deep gratitude to a circle of family, friends and even strangers who have surrounded her with support in the last few weeks.

Wilson described, "Amazing, godly, supporting, loving, generous people that are with me. I'm blown away by the support of everyone in the community, even people I don't know. It's very humbling, and I'm so very grateful for everyone. Thank you to everyone. And 'thank you' is really not enough. I don't know how to express my gratitude."

Of her son, Wilson shared, "Curt was absolutely amazing! He was the most loving, caring, happy child, and I'm not just saying it because he's my child. He was. He was special. He would never leave a room until you were laughing or smiling; it was just his character. He could walk into the room to ask me what was for dinner, and he would stand at the doorway until I would smile back at him.

"You could be having the worst day ever, and Curt would make it the brightest. In his own little way, he would turn any day into an amazing day. He just wanted everybody to be happy. He loved life."

"His smile was the most perfect smile," said Hayes, "sweet, genuine, caring; it spoke a lot about him and his character.

"At 15 years old, he was already a great human being. Lord knows what he could have done, but we'll carry on and do good things in his name."

The Curt Wilson Memorial Fund was established at Traditions Bank. Contributions can be made at any branch office.

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