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Cullman Police Department kicks off radKIDS Summer Safety Camp



HEATHER MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Officer Rohrscheib demonstrates the self-defense stance.

Heather Mann
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – Something special is going down at the Cullman Civic Center this week. The Cullman Police Department and Cullman Parks and Recreation are hosting the popular radKIDS Summer Safety Camp. The radKIDS Personal Empowerment Safety Education program teaches kids how to assess a situation for danger and act accordingly.

The course, the seventh annual here in Cullman, is led by certified radKIDS instructor and CPD DARE Officer Cindy Rohrscheib. Classes meet from 9-11 a.m. each day at a cost of $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.

Monday morning's program was all about how to call 911 and talk to dispatch. Rohrscheib told the kids that the most common mistake people make in an emergency is panicking, crying or screaming when they call, which makes it difficult for dispatch to understand them and get them the help they need. To help the children prepare for this, Rohrscheib gave each child an emergency scenario, had them run to a designated safety zone, and had them describe the emergency to her "dispatchers" (her assistant instructors).

Several of the children did not know their home addresses, so she promised a prize for each child who would learn it when they got home and recite it during Tuesday's class. She put extra emphasis on memorizing their addresses because sometimes emergencies happen where a child is the only one available to call 911, so it's very important for them to know where to send the emergency responders.

Another big lesson was on personal space. Rohrscheib showed the kids where her "bubble" of personal space was and asked all the kids to show their own bubbles. She repeatedly told them that nobody has the right to invade their bubbles without permission, but she also explained that the reverse is true: the kids should not invade other people's space without permission either.

With boundaries established, Rohrscheib's final lesson was bit of self-defense. She demonstrated the standard defense position (feet apart, knees slightly bent, weight balanced, both hands up) and taught them to say, "Step away! You're not my parent!" in order to draw attention in case a stranger ever tries to invade their space.

When the kids learned the stance, she outlined some of the basic areas to aim for when defending oneself, then brought out the training dummy ("Bad Boy Bob") to show the children a move called peppering. Each of the children got a chance to pepper (strike with the fingertips) Bob in the eyes before running to safety.

While the class enjoyed some refreshments, Rohrscheib went over some of the things the class will be doing during the rest of the week, including fire safety, gun safety, how to approach a dog and what to do if the dog is angry, Internet safety and what is safe to post, and how to identify and escape a predator. She said she will go over the password rule, an anti-abduction method used by children

» PAGE 3

'Absolutely fantastic!'

Cullman Caring for Kids responds to outpouring of community support during food shortage

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Earlier this month, a mix-up with the delivery of a large supply of donated food left the pantry at Cullman Caring for Kids (CCK) food bank dangerously low, and its staff scrambling for help.

On Monday, The Tribune caught up with CCK Director Javon Daniel for an update on the crisis. He had much to say about the community's response.

"It's been incredible," Daniel began. "The Thursday and Friday when all of this started, we had over 5,200 pounds come in those two days, just from donations from individuals and small businesses. We've continued to have people bringing small donations; we've had churches, businesses... it's been just really, really incredible. It's been very heartwarming to us to see the outpouring from the community.

"Publix gave a very generous food donation, and Louisiana Pacific did a food drive. Those were the two biggest: Publix donated six pallets of food, and Louisiana Pacific donated almost a ton."

Daniel recognized that many others contributed to the cause, and was apologetic that he could not name every person and business that responded to his organization's need.

He continued, "A lot of Sunday School classes and churches came in and donated; Bible schools did donations, and we had a lot of churches where the young people actually came here and helped sort the food, and put it where it needed to be. Temple (Baptist Church) brought their group, and Mount Olive Church on Simcoe-Berlin Road came in with a group of youth. And they worked really hard, because they were taking what was coming in and they were sorting it by group or the way we store it, and putting it in cases so we can store it more efficiently. That was a pretty big job. It's just been heartwarming! It's been absolutely fantastic!"

So how does the pantry look now? Daniel explained, "We are to a level that we can carry through the summer without a whole lot of problems. Before, we were not, at all. We were as low for this time of year as we've been in a long time.

"But, because of the community's donations and others that have donated, we've been able to buy some locally and some at the food bank in Huntsville. The donations, the volunteers coming in and helping here, have been a

» PAGE 3

Hanceville FD training a popular draw, not just for firefighters

W.C. Mann
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HANCEVILLE – Hanceville Fire Station No. 1 was a popular place to be recently, as the Hanceville Fire Department (HFD) held vehicle firefighting and victim extrication exercises as part of its ongoing firefighter training program. And it wasn't just firefighters who were showing up.

The HFD is currently conducting Firefighter Two training, building on its recently completed beginners' Certified Volunteer Firefighter course, also known as the "160" course for the number of hours involved.

Eight firefighters completed the 160 class out of 18 enrolled. Those eight have been joined by 10 others who had previously completed the course, to begin the next phase of their training.

On Saturday, instructors and trainees arrived at the fire station as early as 6 a.m. for classwork and testing, before putting on up to 80 pounds of turnout gear and heading outside into a warm and humid June morning to practice putting out vehicle fires and try their hands with the "jaws of life" by cutting up real cars.

HFD Capt. Jacob Hudson, who is in charge of the training program, sat down with The Tribune during a break in Saturday's activities to talk about the completion of 160 and the start of Firefighter Two.

"It's pretty typical to lose a lot of students. It's not uncommon to start with 25 or 30, and graduate six to ten. And it's not so much the physical demand of the course--that has a lot to do with it--but it's also anywhere from four to six months' worth of training, two or three days a week, and a lot of people's personal lives and work make it hard for them to be there that long.

"The Certified Volunteer Firefighter is the entry level: the basics of firefighting that gives them enough knowledge to hopefully go back and perform the job safely and efficiently under the guidance of more seasoned firefighters in their departments."

According to Hudson, Firefighter

» PAGE 3



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Firefighters take time out of a busy training day to welcome young visitors.

Sheriff's Office investigating death of 3-week-old baby

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

JOHNSON'S CROSSING - The Cullman County Sheriff's Office is investigating the death of a 3-week-old infant in the Johnson's Crossing community.

Emergency responders from the Johnson's Crossing Volunteer Fire Department were dispatched to a residence in the 900 block of County Road 483 at 10:22 a.m. Sunday morning, according to county dispatch reports.

The dispatch call reported a 3-week-old who was unresponsive and not breathing, with CPR being performed. Cullman County Coroner Jeremy L. Kilpatrick confirmed the death of the infant, but due to the age of the child and the ongoing investigation, no other details were given.

Scott Stadthagen officially kicks off campaign for Alabama House District 9 seat



ANDREW CRYER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman Economic Development Agency Director Dale Greer, Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs, Scott Stadthagen and Cullman City Council President Garlan Gudger

Andrew Cryer
Tribune Correspondent

HARTSELLE - Packing the Hartselle Farmer's Market to near capacity this weekend, Scott Stadthagen officially kicked off his campaign to represent those in Alabama House of Representatives District 9, in a seat currently held by Republican Ed Henry, who has announced he will not be seeking re-election.

District 9 is comprised of northern and western portions of Cullman County, most notably Vinemont and West Point, as well as portions of Morgan and Marshall Counties.

Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs, Cullman City Council President Garlan Gudger and Cullman Economic Development Agency Director Dale Greer were in attendance at the market; however, no public endorsements were made.

Explained Jacobs, "We're just friends with him, and we're here to show support."

Hartselle Citizens for Economic Development's Bob Francis introduced Stradthagen to the gathered crowd, calling the former a statesman, not a politician. "He is a man of vision, sound character, confidence, ability and integrity who will represent you with a servant's heart."

According to the man himself, Stradthagen promised those at the rally that he will be "a conservative, goals-driven representative in Montgomery for District 9."

Said Stradthagen, "I was invited to some of our civic groups and our chamber of commerce. I was able to see firsthand what was and what wasn't happening in our area; more importantly, I began to see the pattern of what it took to accomplish the big ideas.

"I believe in conservative fiscal policies, traditional family values, less government regulations and an emphasis on personal freedom and responsibility."

Incumbent Henry announced back in January that he will not seek another term.



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Shedd appointed chair of new House Urban and Rural Development Standing Committee

Office of House Speaker Mac McCutcheon

MONTGOMERY – Speaker of the House Mac McCutcheon, R - Monrovia on Monday announced that Rep. Randall Shedd, R-Fairview will serve as chairman of the new House Standing Committee on Urban and Rural Development, a panel that will focus its attention on combatting the pockets of poverty that exist across the state by addressing issues like broadband access, infrastructure, and other factors contributing to impoverished areas.

"For the past several years, Alabama has led the nation in attracting new jobs, opportunities and industrial development, but there are areas of our state that still struggle economically, and they deserve our attention," McCutcheon said.

"Since joining the Alabama House, Rep. Shedd has promoted the need for development initiatives in both urban and rural areas, so his expertise and interest in this area makes him the ideal candidate to chair this committee."

Shedd said he looks forward to tackling the challenges that leading the panel offers and pledges to work toward more prosperity and opportunity for all of Alabama's citizens.

"Every Alabamian, no matter where they live, deserves the chance at a good-paying job and an honest day's work, and, as chairman of this committee, I will do everything in my power to provide it to them," Representative Shedd stated.

"I appreciate the confidence that Speaker McCutcheon has placed in me, and I can promise that the bills, measures, and ideas that come before my committee will get a thorough vetting and a fair hearing."

Prior to his election to the Alabama House in 2013, Shedd served as chairman of the Cullman County Commission and as mayor of Fairview.

He was previously employed as the director of the Cullman County Commission on Aging.

McCutcheon announced that other members of the new committee are: Vice Chairman David Standridge, R-Hayden, Ranking Democrat Thomas Jackson, Thomasville, Louise Alexander, D-Bessemer, Prince Chestnut, D-Selma, Danny Crawford, R-Athens, Dickie Drake, R-Leeds, Bob Fincher, R-Woodland, Ralph Howard, D-Greensboro, Margie Wilcox, R-Mobile, and Rich Wingo, R-Tuscaloosa.



ANDREW CRYER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Rep. Randall Shedd, R-Fairview speaks at an event in Cullman earlier this year.

Camp (from Front)

to know who is safe to leave with, and when someone is touching them in a bad way. While it's important to remember that any touching that makes someone uncomfortable is bad, Rohrscheib placed extra emphasis on areas that a bathing suit would typically cover.

Her assistant instructors were both graduates of the radKIDS program, and both of them shared that the knowledge they received gave them a lot of confidence in themselves. Fortunately, neither of them have needed to use their training, but they felt that the programs taught them things that they could use to great advantage.

Support (from Front)

big help."

Daniel thinks the Cullman community is pretty special.

"I think the biggest thing is that this community is phenomenal," said Daniel.

"When they see a need, they take care of it. Here in 2011 we had the tornadoes; it wasn't the federal government that came in here and took care of it. They came in here and helped, but it was the citizens of Cullman County that took care of it. That's the way I feel like this is: people know there's a need, and they just take care of it. We have an incredible, phenomenal community; and the hearts here are as big as anywhere in the world."

For more information or to support CCK's ongoing efforts to feed the hungry of Cullman County, visit www.cullmancaringforkids.com.

Monetary or food donations can be made at the CCK office at 402 Arnold St. NE, Suite W-1.

For background, see http://qrne.ws/cck.

Training (from Front)

Two "takes all the knowledge that they've learned in 160, and gears them up to go to the next step in leadership roles in their departments.

At this point, they can take a bridge program that is five weeks long, that will bridge them over into the career side of firefighting, if they choose."

The advanced course includes studies in firefighting and rescue techniques, as well as administrative activities that go into keeping a department or station in good working order: testing fire hoses, maintaining equipment, use of fire suppression foams, vehicle extrication, presenting fire safety programs to one's community, developing pre-fire plans and performing home and business fire inspections.

Kaleb Jones, a firefighter from the Gold Ridge Volunteer Fire Department, is enrolled in the course.

He talked about his experience in 160, and what he's doing now.

"It (160) was a lot harder than I was expecting, but it was a lot of good information.

"I learned a lot of things through it that I didn't know previously. It showed me how to be safer in what we do.

"I want to follow up, and take as many classes as I can take, and I plan to stay and take them here at Hanceville. I love the instructors here; they do a great job."

The Hanceville HFD training program has become a popular stop for firefighters from all over the area, and not just from Cullman County.

The department's reputation for quality instruction drew Jamie Bishop, the first-ever female Chief of Dallas-Selfville Fire and Rescue, who came with crew members from her community in south Blount County.

Though a chief, she is enrolled in the course herself, getting as hot and tired as the rest of her crew.

Bishop shared, "I can't really ask my guys to come do training in things that I don't already have, so I feel it's only fair that I do what I ask them to do."

When asked about the training, she responded, "I love it, I enjoy it. I really do. I look forward to getting my Firefighter Two; and then any other classes (Hudson) puts on, I fully intend to be in, too."

The popularity of Hanceville as a training center, and participants' intent to return to this place for future courses, was a common theme in conversations Saturday.

Hudson reflected on the draw that his department has created, "We really strive here, and it's our mission to provide training that's low-cost, if not free when possible, to volunteers.

"They're already volunteering their time, they're volunteering their gas, they're taking time away from their families to go out and protect their communities.

"We're a combination department. We have some full-time guys, but without these volunteers we wouldn't be what we are. There's no way.

"Volunteers are the backbone of our department, and they're the backbone of so many communities.

"They go unnoticed and unthanked so often. Why wouldn't I, and why wouldn't we, as a department, want to offer them a chance to get an education so they can go back and teach the same things in their communities and make all their members operate more efficiently and safely, and also make their communities safer because of that?"

Being a firefighter isn't all about fighting fires

At noon the firefighters, most of whom had been onsite for six hours already, finished up one round of fire suppression exercises on burning cars in the field behind the station.

Dismissed for a lunch break, they were stripping off their heavy turnout gear when someone noticed a family out on the street that had stopped to watch the exercise.

Among the family's children was a young boy who was celebrating his birthday and wearing a toy fire chief's helmet he had received as a gift.

He had told his parents he wanted to meet a firefighter, so they stopped by.

Several of the exhausted firefighters, who had just been presented with the promise of hot lunch in the cool indoors, grabbed their helmets and went out to meet the family and pose for pictures with the kids.

After that, the children got to sit in the driver's seat of an HFD truck and blow the giant air horn before receiving coloring books and souvenir helmets from HFD Chief Rodger Green and his crew.

Then the firefighters finally got to enjoy their lunch, having practiced extrication and fire suppression, and having demonstrated how emergency responders, even without a fire hose or paramedic kit bag, can still be someone's hero.

Background reading on the 160 training: http://qrne.ws/hfd

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.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JUNE 27, 2017

A look at area basketball teams for the 2017-18 season

Johnny Thornton
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Editor's note: This is the first of a 2-part series by Tribune Sports Editor Johnny Thornton from his coverage of high school basketball play days during the month of June.



JOHNNY THORNTON/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

West Point PG Rylan Jones attacked the John Carroll defense in a play day game at Falkville June 23. West Point won 61-44.

CULLMAN COUNTY – Prep basketball teams across the area spent June 1-June 24 fine-tuning their squads for the 2017-18 season.

During the month of June, the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) allows basketball teams the opportunity to get in serious work in a segment called play days (known also as team camps). Teams are given a three-week period with an unlimited number of games to determine where they stand when the new season officially begins in early November.

The Tribune was on hand for seven days in a three-week period, analyzing the varsity squads for the upcoming year. Each school is going through the regular process of having to fill vacancies and welcoming back personnel. Optimism is high in the summer for a successful fall and winter.

COLD SPRINGS – The Eagles will have to replace PG Jesse Lee, WF Blake Hood and PF Eli Hamby from last year's 2A, Area 13 title team. C Hunter McClendon and G Mason Harris are the lone returnees for the Eagles for 2017-18.

McClendon will be asked to provide a scoring punch inside while Harris has speed from the wing guard position and will look to score by driving to the basket or stepping out and hitting from the perimeter.

The squad will be young and will have to gain game-time experience immediately, but will do so from the hard work and good teaching by head coach Tim Willoughby.

CULLMAN – PG Jayden Sullins will be a sophomore and will be more mature and improve his role of running the floor. Sullins was good in the summer in setting up his offense and cutting down on unforced mistakes.

C Dylan Finch gives the Bearcats ability to score in and away from the basket. Getting consistency from the perimeter by Noah Bussman and Trey Tucker and others adapting to Bobby Meyer's structure, Cullman will display a competitive unit, looking to increase total of wins and reduce the number of defeats from the previous season.

FAIRVIEW – The Aggies are waiting to see what will develop in the hiring of a new coach. Branch Whitlock ran the team in the summer.

The Aggies are experienced in guard play and up front with the likes of Grant Howard, Bryson Fletcher and Truman Boyd. Luke Yarbrough missed some time in the summer from an injury but is experienced as a ball handler and a scorer.

If Whitlock gets the job, his style is similar to Cullman's as he has been associated with Bobby Meyer's staff for several seasons, playing team and controlled offense.

GOOD HOPE – Second-year coach Drew Adams will have experience and newcomers that had success a season ago winning the Cullman County JV championship. C Kallen Sharpton returns after being one of the squad's top scorers last year.

Depth is provided by Isaac McDonald, Mason Moniz and Matt Hancock at guards, Isaiah Lemus in the post.

Expected to get quality playing time will be Drew Maddox, Cole Maddox and Landon Freeman as sophomore-oriented guards. The Maddox boys are cousins, with Freeman dividing time between the varsity and JV last season.

HANCEVILLE – The Class 3A, Area 13 regular season champions are ready to take it a step further. The Bulldogs will rely on the post play of R.J. Evans and Josh Stanley, plus steady guard play by Fred Ellis, Alex Campbell and Brendan Flanigan.

Flanigan has a good touch from long range, Campbell hustles at all times and Ellis complements the wing position for coach Daniel Wakefield. Developing depth will be something the Bulldogs will work on for the entire new season.

HOLLY POND – The Broncos were the only squad not seen at play days by The Tribune. But we know the Broncos had success in a series of play days at UAH, Samford and Scottsboro.

Mitch Morris saw the bulk of his talent that led the Broncos to 32 wins and a Final Four berth in February graduate.

The cover is not completely bare, with Griffin Morris, Jake Harris, Zach Shaw, McKinley Garrett and Reid Hollis experienced from the guard, wing and in the post.

Good hard-working personnel will move from the JV with the Broncos optimistic for more success following a season no one will not forget any time soon.

ST. BERNARD – All-Star guard Christian Peterson and postman Elijah Price anchor the leadership of the Saints.

Greg Boatright will be looking for a third scorer and has a group of young men that battle hard when tip off begins.

Peterson produced 19 points a game last season and brings a variety of abilities into his senior season.

The sharpshooter can cause headaches for opponents with his penetration skills, plus he has a good touch from the outside. Price will remind opponents there is more than one player wearing a St. Bernard uniform who is hard to slow down.

VINEMONT – The Eagles will be a young team determined to succeed. Coach Todd Johnson has a sharpshooter in his son, Ketch, who is left handed and loves the long-distance shot. Johnson had 17 points, hitting five treys in a play day last week with an athletic East Lawrence team.

Jack Hill, Clay Shipp, Adam Dunn, Carl Preiss and Conner Handley played hard for the Eagles in June, with Vinemont at times staying toe to toe with the opposition, before inconsistent scoring and turnovers hampered their cause.

WEST POINT – June was good for Randy Jones' team, especially the final week when the Warriors went 8-3 against AHSAA teams. They learned a lot playing tough foes like Hartselle, Decatur, Athens, Decatur Heritage and John Carroll last week.

Experience returns, but with people in different positions. Rylan Jones has gone to point guard, with Colby Sullins, Noah Allison, Kolton Sapp and Austin Dubberly being wing players with quickness and shooting potential. Sullins had several strong scoring performances from long range vs. Hartselle, Athens, Decatur Heritage and John Carroll.

Depth features big man Tyler Thompson, plus Dalton White, Cameron Bates, Noah Gammon, Skyler Bowers showing steady play, especially in the second half against John Carroll, protecting a double-digit lead.

With the opportunity to go deep into the bench and a chance to rest starters, West Point has its sights set on having an impact in the county and in 5A, Area 12, with the quest of being a playoff team once again well within their grasp.

FINAL ANALYSIS – Parity will be a part of county basketball. Each game that factors into seeding for the county tournament will be something worth following. Hard fought battles will be the storyline, seeing how the teams position themselves when the county tournament is held in late January.

Area play will be at high level too, with the county confident vs. out-of-county teams in the quest for a deep run into the postseason.

An analysis of girls' basketball will be posted Tuesday at www.cullmantribune.com.

Sports around the area

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Area players sign MLB contracts

After Cullman's Jacob Heatherly signed a contract for more than $1 million last week with the Cincinnati Reds, two other notable pitchers placed their names across the dotted lines with Major League Baseball franchises.

Former Cullman and Auburn standout Keegan Thompson signed a contract with the defending world champion Chicago Cubs. The terms of the contract were not disclosed, but Thompson received a signing bonus of more than $511,000, according to MLB.com.

Thompson was 7-4 for Auburn this season, his junior year, second on the team in wins.

He had a 2.41 earned run average with 95 strikeouts and only 17 walks in more than 93 innings on the mound. Thompson picked up a victory for the Tigers over Central Florida in the Tallahassee Regional on June 2. Thompson was a third-round pick by the Cubs, the 105th pick overall in the MLB draft.

Brewer High School graduate Dakota Bennett has bypassed attending the University of Arkansas. The left hander signed a contract last week with the Miami Marlins.

Bennett was an 11th round selection, the 329th overall pick.

Bennett was 6-1 his senior season for the Patriots, compiling a 0.58 ERA, and had 144 strikeouts in 63 innings.

Bennett will not be forgotten for a performance on April 11 at Bill Shelton Field against the Cullman Bearcats in a 6A, Area 14 game. Bennett struck out 18 Cullman batters through eight innings.

Bennett got a no decision, because he had thrown 125 pitches, the maximum in a pitch count adopted by the AHSAA this year. Cullman went on to defeat Brewer 2-1 with Bennett unable to finish out the game that ended in the ninth inning.

Castille Character Camp postponed due to inclement weather

Jeremiah Castille's Character Camp that was scheduled over the weekend at Austin High School in Decatur, had to be postponed due to inclement weather.

The event has been rescheduled for July 14-15 at Central Park Baptist Church in Decatur. The event is free for kids from first grade through 12th grade.

Castille, a former All-American at Alabama, made his tour of Cullman on June 10. This was Castille's 10th year bringing the character camp to area kids.

For more information on his camp in Decatur, call 256-345-9488.

Around the corner

AHSAA All-Star Sports Week is July 18-21 in Montgomery. Will Morrison of Cullman will play for the North in the baseball series July 18, Miguel Tizapa of Cullman in the soccer game July 18, Kolby Holcombe of Holly Pond in softball July 18, Andrew Sweeney of St. Bernard in cross country July 19, Christian Peterson of St. Bernard in basketball July 18, Abbie Chambless of Addison in volleyball July 20, Tristin Skinner of Cullman in the football game July 20.

In eight weeks, the 2017 high school football regular season will kick off with Hartselle at Cullman, Cold Springs at Hanceville, West Point at Hamilton, Coosa Christian at Holly Pond, Addison at Elkmont and Phillips at Meek.

Fairview will have a jamboree game that weekend vs. East Limestone, as will Good Hope at home against Susan Moore and Vinemont vs. an opponent to be named. The Aggies, Raiders and Eagles start the new season on the first Friday in September.

Prep teams in the AHSAA will officially begin fall workouts on Monday, August 7.

Recipes: scrumptious, easy dishes made with vegetables from the garden

Loretta Gillespie
Tribune Correspondent

This time of year when everything is so fresh, garden dishes for your table are just the thing to bring family together. After all, who doesn't love fried okra, creamed corn and tomatoes? Add cornbread and sweet tea and you have a true Southern meal fit for a king.

Let's try some new recipes for some tried and true garden staples that, if you don't garden yourself, you can always find at an area farmer's market.



PHOTOS COURTESY LORETTA GILLESPIE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Asparagus Roll-Ups

Asparagus Roll-Ups

- Phyllo dough sheets, about 2 dozen
- Butter, one stick, melted
- Garlic salt, 1-2 teaspoons
- 2 big bunches of fresh asparagus

1. Thaw phyllo dough according to directions on box.
2. Using a marinating brush, spread butter over dough, one or two sheets per one asparagus spear.
3. Roll one spear tightly in dough, then place on cookie sheet covered with parchment paper.
4. Repeat this process until all asparagus has been used.
5. Sprinkle with garlic salt to taste.
6. Bake at 350 until phyllo dough turns a beautiful golden brown, about 12-20 minutes in most ovens.
7. Serve immediately.

Serving suggestion: Try serving hollandaise sauce over asparagus roll ups when done.

Fried Corn

- Fresh whole kernel corn (From 7-8 ears)
- One stick butter
- One small Vidalia onion, finely chopped
- One red bell pepper, diced
- One green bell pepper, diced
- Salt, pepper, and Cajun seasonings to taste

1. Melt butter in a non-stick or iron skillet.
2. Slice corn off the cobs.
3. Add corn.
4. Add chopped and diced vegetables.
5. Add seasonings to taste.
6. At a low boil, cook until almost all moisture has reduced to about ¼ cup.

That's all there is to it! This is a great substitute for potatoes when grilling chicken or beef.

Stewed Mushrooms

Mushrooms are an acquired taste, but for those who love them, they are a wonderful addition to a steak dinner, or a tasty accompaniment to pork dishes. Mushrooms are fragile; take care that you handle them gently.

- 1 lb. fresh mushrooms
- ½ stick of butter, or olive oil
- 4 T. Worcestershire sauce or soy sauce
- Garlic salt

1. Clean any soil from mushrooms under cool, running water.
2. Slice fresh mushrooms in sauté pan to which half a stick of butter or olive oil has been added.
3. Add Worcestershire sauce, or soy sauce.
4. Add garlic salt to taste.
5. Sauté until mushrooms are tender, about 15 minutes on low heat.
6. Serve immediately.

Fruit Combo

Slice fresh peaches, strawberries and blueberries together for a pretty after-dinner dish. You can add a little sugar if desired. Refrigerate until time to serve. Serve with whipped cream or drizzle a little honey over the top and stir well.

Easy Green Beans

- 1 lb fresh green beans
- 2 chicken bouillon cubes
- ¼ cup chopped onion
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- Black pepper

1. Wash and snap green beans.
2. Place in iron skillet to which enough water has been added to cover beans.
3. Bring to a low boil, turn heat down slightly.
4. Add chicken bouillon cubes, onion, red bell pepper for garnish and black pepper to taste.
5. Place cover over beans, cook until almost all of the liquid has been reduced and beans are fork tender.

Kale Salad

- Fresh bunch of kale
- Dried cranberries, to taste
- Raisins, to taste
- Toasted sesame seeds, to taste
- Bacon bits, to taste
- Honey mustard salad dressing, to taste

1. Wash kale to remove any debris and soil.
2. Remove large stems from freshly chopped kale.
3. Drain well on paper towels.
4. Add chopped dried cranberries, raisins, toasted sesame seeds and bacon bits.
5. Serve with your favorite honey mustard salad dressing.



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JUNE 27, 2017

Wallace State conducts annual strategic analysis team meeting for business and industry partners

Russell Moore
WSCC

HANCEVILLE – Wallace State Community College's administrators and instructors presented to local businesses and industries this week during their annual Strategic Analysis Team meeting.

"This is an important meeting mandated by the federal Carl D. Perkins Act and an important day for us to get together with some of our industry partners. We share with them how we've spent our Perkins funding for the previous year and ask them for advice as to how proceed with next year's funding," said Jimmy Hodges, Wallace State's Dean of Applied Technologies.

"It also gives our administrators the chance to know the industry leaders better."

Administrators presenting at the luncheon were Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics, College Dean Dr. Johnny McMoy and Hodges.

Wallace State instructors Dr. Ken Crow (respiratory therapy), Allen Patterson (emergency medical services) and Jim Thompson (welding) discussed their recent department upgrades to those in attendance, and Hodges presented in place of Jeremy Smith (diesel technology) as Smith is currently in Louisville, Kentucky, at the national SkillsUSA competition.

Wallace State's EMS program is enjoying the fruits of a new state-of-the-art ambulance, giving the students a real-life classroom as they train.

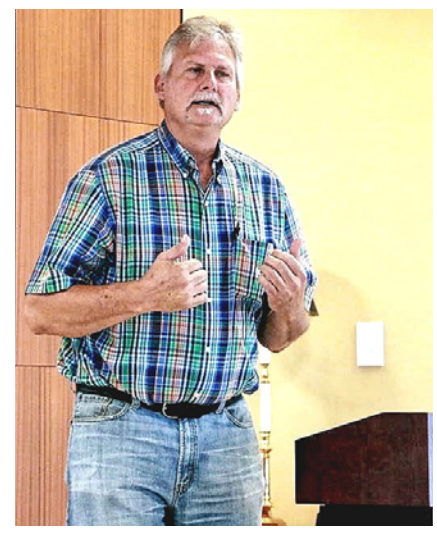
Wallace State's welding department is now equipped with NC3 tool kits, assuring safety throughout the department's working area.

Students can attain National Coalition of Certification Centers (NC3) credentials through Wallace State's Technical Division.

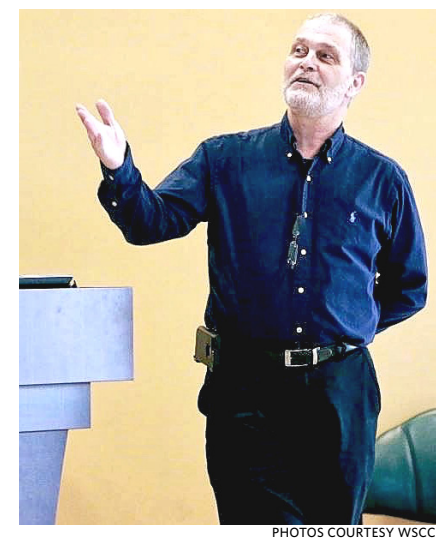
"It's important for all programs on campus to have the most sophisticated equipment available, while also stressing safety in the workplace," Hodges said.



Wallace State Dean of Applied Technologies Jimmy Hodges discusses recent funding that has helped the Diesel Technology program on campus.



Wallace State welding program chair Jim Thompson discusses the NC3 safety procedures his department has instituted.



PHOTOS COURTESY WSCC

Wallace State EMS program director Allen Patterson highlights the new ambulance simulator his program has acquired.

Wallace State's Career Technical Division requests funding each year through the Carl D. Perkins Act.

Federal funding is distributed to Wallace State to aid programs such as EMS acquiring the new ambulance trainer.

Doctor Kelley Jones provided an update about the Wallace State-Oneonta campus, discussing the impact the facility has had on the community and the excitement behind the new welding and EMS classes.

Business and industry representatives at the meeting were also allowed to offer suggestions to the Wallace State administrators and instructors and provided updates about their respective goals and plans.

"We're always looking for ways to improve. We want to be better at what we do and we want our students to be preferred candidates when they enter the workplace," Hodges said.

For more information about Wallace State, visit www.wallacestate.edu.

4 area students selected for prestigious 2017 Alabama Governor's School

Philip Poole
Samford University

BIRMINGHAM – Eighty-nine outstanding rising high school seniors from 24 counties and 56 high schools in Alabama were selected to attend the 2017 Alabama Governor's School at Samford University June 18-30.

Four Cullman-area students were selected:

- Carley Byerley, of Cullman, Cullman High School
- Reilly Mills, of Hanceville, Cullman High School
- Brinkley Thornton, of Cullman, Cullman High School
- Jeremiah Wilson, of Bremen, Cold Springs High School

AGS participants are nominated by their schools on the basis of academic ability, leadership qualities, creativity and community service.

Selection is also based on teacher and guidance counselor recommendations and written essays. Students attended classes on a wide range of topics, including health care, the American legal system, arts, video production, magazine production, research science, business, the Martian frontier, photography, the classics, web design, field biology, sports medicine, leadership, global citizenship and film studies.

Classes are taught by Samford faculty and other professionals from the community.

During the two-week honors program, students also learn about scholarships and college study skills, attend a Birmingham Barons baseball game, work on a service project June 22 with the Woodlawn Foundation, attend a piano concert arranged specifically for them and hear about philanthropy while attending a dinner in their honor June 27 at the Birmingham headquarters of Protective Life.

This year's AGS participants represented an average ACT score of 29.28 and a grade point average of 4.27.

More than 2,000 of Alabama's best and brightest high school students have attended AGS since it began at Samford in 1987.

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Obituary Announcements: June 25-28

Funeral Services for Della Jewel Ayers Suggs, 86 of Cullman, held Monday, June 26, 2017 in the Chapel of Cullman Funeral Home. Burial will follow at Emeus Cemetery with Pastor Steven Sutter officiated. Cullman Funeral Home directing. Mrs. Suggs was born on January 22, 1931, and passed away on Friday. June 23, 2017 at her residence. She is preceded in death by her parents, John & Annie Drake Ayers; Husband, George Suggs Sr.; Daughter, Brenda Stripling & Son, Roger Suggs Sr. Survivors include her Daughter – Eura Ann (Austin) Brewer; 2 – Sons – George (Patsy) Suggs Jr. & Barry (Amy) Suggs; Son-in-Law – Larry Stripling; Sister – Ida Little; 8 – Grandchildren – Brad Brewer, Berkley Brewer, Christina Pearson, Jessica West, Cody Suggs, James Nabors, Roger Dale Suggs Jr. & Aden Morgan; 5 – Great-Grandchildren – Kati Bonds, Alli Brewer, Johnna Ball, Madison Ball & Kenlee West; and a Host of Nieces & Nephews.

Robert "Gerry" Kreps passed away peacefully at his home in Cullman on Saturday, June 24, 2017 at the age of 69. Born in Cullman, he was the fourth of eight children and the oldest son. He enjoyed a long career in his family's business and with Canon, USA. But his life started when he met, Concetta Lovoy, his best friend who he married and lived his dream for 36 wonderful years. Gerry was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph Peter and Mary Gasser Kreps. He is survived by his wife Concetta Kreps, his sisters, Barbara Kreps Everest, Carlene Kreps, Linda Kreps Pauli, Kathy Kreps, and brothers, Jimmy (Kathy), Rickey (Jo), and Rodney, and a host of nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews, and one great-great nephew. Gerry was a man who always gave back and was completely devoted to his family and his faith. If you knew him, you will remember his extraordinary humor and gentle nature. Gerry was truly a reflection of God's love. If he touched your life in any way, you were blessed, as God's love radiated through this man. A funeral mass will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Church on Tuesday, June 27, at 10 a.m. Internment services will follow the mass at The Columbarium of St. Bernard Abbey, 1600 St. Bernard Dr., SE Cullman AL 35055. In lieu of flowers the family request donations be made to Sacred Heart Church St. Vincent DePaul Society, or Sacred Heart Church Capital Fund, 217 2nd Avenue SE, Cullman, AL 35055.

Kenneth D. Ferguson, 38, passed away June 24, 2017. A Committal Service will be held Tuesday, June 27, 2017 beginning at 2 p.m. at Cullman Memory Gardens. Arrangements under the direction of Moss-Service Funeral Home, Cullman, Alabama.

Clarice Vivian Ellard Henry passed away on June 22, 2017 in Cullman. She was proceeded in death by her parents, William A. and Esther Gorham Ellard; brothers, Fred and Dwight Ellard; and her husband, Earl Henry. Survivors include a son, Charles Henry (Sue); sister, Ruth Crutchfield; brothers, Conrad (Norma), Pat, and Jimmy (Evelyn) Ellard; three grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Clarice graduated from Holly Pond High School in 1943. She retired to Cullman. Her hand-sewn quilts, embroidery and needlework earned her many prizes at the Cullman County Fair. Services will be Wednesday, June 28 at 3:30 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel. Visitation will be at 1:30 p.m. with internment at Cullman City Cemetery.

James Moore, 74, of Houston entered into rest on Monday, June 26, 2017 at his home surrounded by loved ones. Complete obituary and arrangements will be announced at a later date. Nichols Funeral Home directing.

Born June 13, 1939 to Alton and Christine Suggs. Paul stormed heavens gates at 6:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 25, 2017. He was one in a million husband to Janet Sweed Suggs, for 38 years. He went ahead of his four children, Todd (Michelle) Suggs, Susan (Jason) Willoughby, Barbara Patton, and Jimmie Patton. Together with his wife they have seven grandchildren, and five great-grandsons; two of the best sisters-in-law, Sandy Sweed, of Cullman, and Beverly Taylor, of Iowa. His best pastor, Joyce Tyson will officiate the service, and his favorite song worshipper, Zack Tyson, will be providing music. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Funeral services will be Wednesday, June 28, 2017 at 11 a.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home Chapel, with visitation from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m., prior to service.

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City school board awards achievements, introduces new faculty members



Cullman City Primary School Principal Tricia Culpepper, with Superintendent Dr. Susan Patterson, Culpepper receives the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce's "Building a Sense of Community" Award for her school's Outdoor Learning Center.



East Elementary School Principal David Wiggins, with Superintendent Dr. Susan Patterson, accepts an award renewing his school's certification as a Blue Ribbon Lighthouse School.



Cullman City Schools Chief Financial Officer Russell Raney, with Superintendent Dr. Susan Patterson, receives the Robert L. Morton Award from the Alabama Association of School Business Officials.



Cullman Middle School Principal Lane Hill, with Superintendent Dr. Susan Patterson, accepts an award naming his school a 2017 National Beta School of Merit.

PHOTOS COURTESY W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – At its meeting Monday morning, the Cullman City School Board took time to recognize school and administrative achievements, and to have new school faculty members introduced.

City Schools Chief Financial Officer Russell Raney received the Robert L. Morton Award from the Alabama Association of School Business Officials. According to the association's website, the award is for "school business officials devoted to going above and beyond to do their job and to serve their community."

East Elementary Principal David Wiggins accepted an award renewing his school's certification as a Blue Ribbon Lighthouse School. The award recognizes schools that show excellent performance in all of nine categories: Student Focus and Support, School Organization and Culture, Challenging Standards and Curriculum, Active Teaching and Learning, Technology Integration, Professional Community, Leadership and Educational Vitality, School, Family, and Community Partnerships, and Indicators of Success.

Cullman City Primary School Principal Tricia Culpepper received the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce's "Building a Sense of Community" Award for her school's Outdoor Learning Center. According to the chamber, "This award is given to a business that strives to improve the community through additions of a park, play area, park benches or playground, etc."

Cullman Middle School Principal Lane Hill accepted an award naming his school a 2017 National Beta School of Merit. According to the National Beta Club, the award recognizes a school's commitment to academic excellence and the celebration of its students' achievements; and is awarded to schools that offer National Beta Club membership to all grades.

New faculty

Cullman High School Principal Kim Hall introduced two new faculty members:

- Aaron Avery, a 2012 CHS graduate who was an instructional assistant at Cullman Primary School last year, as well as a CHS Baseball team assistant. He will be teaching math.
- Nohealani Neahu, CHS graduate and co-founder of The Factory Dance Productions, will serve as an adjunct instructor in CHS's Fine Arts program, teaching beginning and advanced dance on a part-time basis.

East Elementary School Principal David Wiggins also introduced two new faculty members:

- Nicole Heptinstall, who worked part of last year filling a leave of absence vacancy in the third grade at East, will be taking charge of the school's secondary classroom on a temporary basis for the 2017-18 school year.
- Hannah Shelton, who worked part of last year filling a leave of absence vacancy at Gwin Elementary School in Hoover, will be teaching fifth grade on a temporary basis for the 2017-18 school year.

Other personnel items

The board approved contract renewals for four principals:

- Kim Hall, Cullman High
- David Wiggins, East Elementary
- Jay Page, West Elementary
- Tricia Culpepper, Cullman City Primary

The board accepted the resignations of Tracy Marsh (third grade, East) and Sandy Walker (Special Education Assistant, Cullman Primary) and granted a leave of absence for Courtney Speciale (East).

Transfers:

- Cassie Brooks, from Secretary/Bookkeeper to Instructional Assistant/ Bookkeeper at Cullman High
- Melissa Richard, Bookkeeper, from Central Office to Cullman High
- Carrie Woods, Instructional Assistant, from West Elementary to Cullman Primary
- Laura Elizabeth Reid, from part-time to full-time Remediation Teacher at Cullman Middle
- Jeremy Peek, from Instructional Assistant to Teacher at Turning Point/ ISS

New employees, in addition to those introduced at the meeting:

- Holly Murphee, Pre-K Special Education, Cullman City Primary
- Ashlee Kuri, Extended Day program aide, Cullman City Primary
- Lauren Harbison, Extended Day program aide, Cullman City Primary
- Jacob White, temporary Custodian, West Elementary
- Cindy Ricketts, part-time Bookkeeper, Central Office
- Cindy Steele, Custodian, Cullman High

In other business, the board approved a request for East Elementary's archery team to travel to Orlando, Florida to participate in the National Archery in Schools Program (NASP) World Archery Tournament on July 21-22.

East won the Alabama State NASP Championship in April.

The next Cullman City School Board meeting will be July 18 at 8 a.m. in the central office board room. The public is invited to attend.





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