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Inside the new CCSO training center



Projectors and screens, along with an array of device hookups, allow for multimedia presentations.



PHOTOS COURTESY W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The training center, on the south side of the CCSO/jail complex, will soon be complete with the paving of its parking lot.

W.C. Mann
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CULLMAN – The Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) has a great reputation for reaching out into the community, but sometimes you'd just like to stay home. Now, Sheriff Matt Gentry and his staff can do just that, and they're inviting folks to come to them.

The CCSO recently completed construction of a training center adjacent to the Sheriff's Office and Cullman County Detention Center in south Cullman. The facility will house the offices of training and operations officers, and has the capacity to host all kinds of classes and training events. Earlier this week, Lt. Rebekah Cash and Lt. Rex Sorrow gave The Tribune a tour of the facility, and talked about plans for its use.

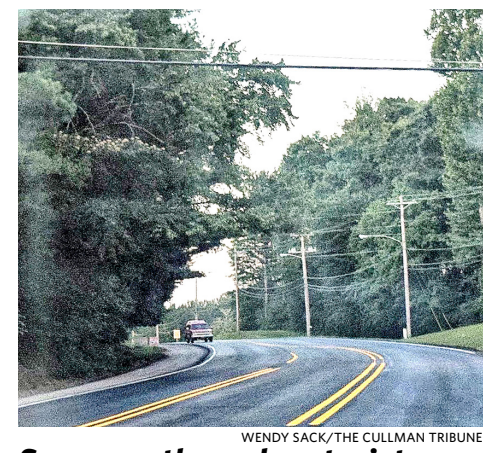
The front of the building houses the offices, a storage room and restrooms. A kitchen and breakroom will allow in-house service of food and drinks during events at the facility. In back is the large main training room, with dual electronically controlled screens and daylight projectors whose images can be seen with the room fully lit. In one corner of the room sits a desk with a full array of computing device hookups: a presenter can walk in with anything from a personal notebook computer to nothing but a flash drive, and still run a multimedia presentation with the available in-house equipment and sound system. Storage rooms hold folding tables, 120 chairs (so far; the room is large enough to hold more), and heavy duty floor mats that can be connected to form a large cushioned work area for physical conditioning or self-defense exercises.

It's nice stuff, but no one should think about messing with it. The facility also sports multiple security cameras inside and out to make sure that everything can be seen, recorded and documented.

The furnishings and equipment are high grade and didn't come cheap, but according to Sorrow, "We wanted to do a top-notch training center. Our goal is to see some kind of training in here every week, whether it be women's self-defense, firearms safety training, or our Citizens' Academy or Youth Leadership Academy. We have a broad range of training here at the CCSO; not only for the citizens, but also for us. We do a lot of in-house training, and not as much right now as we plan to do.

"That's one of Sheriff Gentry's visions: to have a training center where he could bring good training to us without us having to go out and get it. We're constantly sending people out of town, paying hotel bills and per diems, and stuff like that for an officer or deputy to go out and train, when they could do it right here."

Sorrow says he hopes to see the center become a place that law enforcement officers from other agencies come to for training events, the way the CCSO has sent its deputies out to other instructional venues and events. According to Cash, the agency plans to consolidate events that have been held at other venues around Cullman, like Cullman City Hall and the National Guard armory. Larger venues like » PAGE 3



WENDY SACK/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Some eastbound motorists are confusing the St. Bernard turn lane (between double yellow lines) for the passing lane that previously began just up the hill.

No longer 4-lanes

New lanes causing confusion on Hwy 278 E

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CULLMAN – The Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) recently began making modifications to the section of U.S. Highway 278 that runs through Cullman, from just west of I-65, all the way east to the junction of 278 and Alabama Highway 69. The agency calls them improvements, but some local residents are calling them dangerous.

Of the work being done on Hwy. 278 through west Cullman, ALDOT North Region Public Information Officer Seth Burkett said, "This project includes a small amount of safety widening — widening the shoulders to give vehicles room to recover — on U.S. 278 on the west end of the project near I-65. This is not a major feature of the project, but it is one of the things being done to improve safety. The » PAGE 4

4th of July safety: be smart around fireworks

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CULLMAN COUNTY – Independence Day is almost upon us. It's a time for parades, family get-togethers, cookouts, and of course, fireworks. And that's where folks can get in trouble.

On the 4th of July, and for two weeks before and after, an average of 250 people per day go to hospitals or emergency rooms for injuries related to fireworks. Firecrackers and reloadable mortar devices are the most common sources of injuries; and, as might be imagined, the fingers are the most commonly injured body parts, followed closely by the face and ears.

The nonprofit National Council on Fireworks Safety and Consumer Products Safety Commission offer the following suggestions for safety around fireworks:

• Parents and caretakers should always closely supervise teens if they are using fireworks.

• Parents should not allow young children to handle fireworks.

• Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Save your alcohol for after the show.

• Do not hold a firework in your hand unless specifically stated in the caution label.

• Fireworks should only be used outdoors.

• Always have water ready, both in a bucket and in a charged hose, if you are using fireworks.

• Have a Designated Shooter for the fireworks and make sure he/she reads the caution label before igniting.

• Never point or throw fireworks at another person.

• Obey local laws. If fireworks are not legal where you live, do not use them.

• Wear eye protection (safety glasses) whenever using fireworks.

• Never put any part of your body over a firework while lighting.

• Only light one firework at a time.

• Never relight a "dud" firework. Wait 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water.

• Used fireworks should be soaked with water and placed in a nonflammable trash can outside; several feet away from a house, garage, deck area or anything else flammable.

• Do not use homemade fireworks, professional fireworks or illegal explosives; they can kill you!

• Report illegal explosives, like M-80s and quarter sticks, to the police or fire department.

• Use fireworks outdoors in a clear area; away from buildings and vehicles.

• After purchasing fireworks, always store them in a cool, dry place.

• Never carry fireworks in your pocket or shoot them in metal or glass containers.

• Ensure all pets and animals are away from fireworks noise.

• With the rise in stress-related disorders affecting American service men and women, pay special consideration to individuals who may be sensitive to loud noises in proximity to your fireworks show.

Fireworks are allowed in unincorporated parts of the county, and on private property in Hanceville during the evening of July 4.

And if you live in the city of Cullman, Fire Marshal Chris Chafin has a special piece of advice, "Go to a show! Fireworks are illegal in Cullman. Just go see a show and enjoy yourself, and leave the other stuff alone."

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JULY 1, 2017

Cullman County Sheriff's Office utilizing Wallace State's Firearms Training Simulator this week

Russell Moore
WSCC

HANCEVILLE – Deputies from the Cullman County Sheriff's Office have been training at Wallace State this week, taking advantage of the TI Firearms Training Simulator located on campus.

From potential dangerous scenes ranging from shootings at a school hallway to a movie theater, deputies have been thoroughly practicing how to handle certain real-life situations.

"We do a lot of training and we are starting to do this more and more. It's a great tool and it really makes us think about how we would respond to a situation," said Sgt. Daniel Cummings, who has been with the department for nearly 13 years.

"This is imperative because you want to do your best to have the right thought process in these situations."

The Firearms Training Simulator belongs to Wallace State's Criminal Justice/Criminalistics/Law Enforcement Department as a tool to better aid its students throughout the program's classes.

The simulator is located at Wallace State's Advanced Visualization Center (AVC).

Wallace State students enrolled in Criminal Justice have the simulator incorporated into their classes each semester and it is heavily utilized during a Police Patrol course.

"It's such a valuable tool for our students. It was originally brought here to train our students for real life situations, and we also wanted to incorporate the local police departments and community, so they could benefit from it. Through the simulator, our students can understand the split-second decisions that officers have to make. We put the students in situations and see how they respond," said Thea Hall, Wallace State's Criminal Justice Department Chair.

Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry is grateful his officers can utilize the firearms training on a consistent basis.

"This simulator is an invaluable resource and something we haven't had in our community. In the past, you might be able to run into a training like this once every five years or send someone to another state for a month. This offers us the ability to train every quarter and for us to even run our citizen's academy through here and show them the scenarios we face in law enforcement," Gentry said.

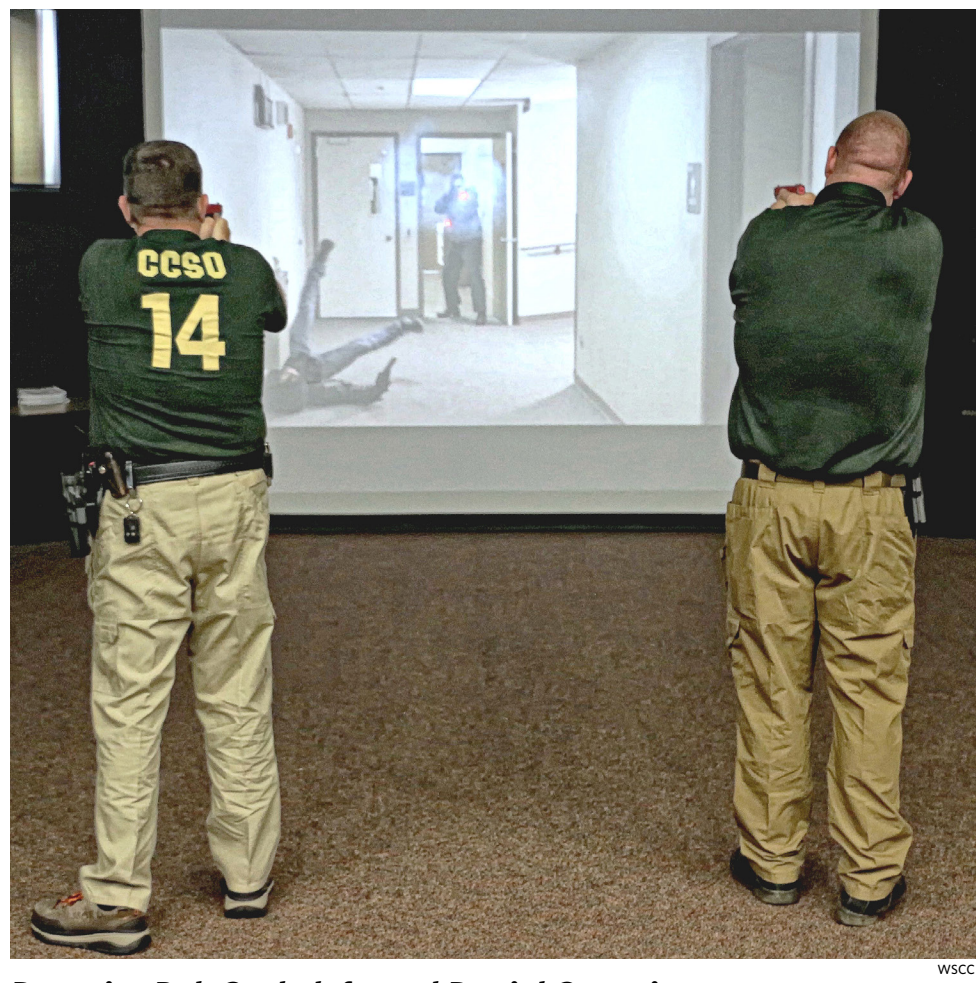
"I can't thank Wallace State and Dr. (Vicki) Karolewics enough for allowing us to come here. It makes our law enforcement better here in Cullman County."

Rob Cook is a Deputy Sheriff and School Resource Officer for the county and also finds the training beneficial. "The scenarios are realistic and things we could face each and every day. No two calls are the same," Cook said.

"It's not just scenarios that take place in big cities. It's scenes that can take place in a small town."

Wallace State Police Officer Brandi Parker has aided the Sheriff's Department this week with the simulator's video scenarios and also assists with Wallace State students as they become familiar with the program.

Besides the Cullman County Sheriff's Office, Parker said the Hanceville Police Department, Cullman County Animal Control and the state's special response team have practiced by using the simulator.



WSCC

Deputies Rob Cook, left, and Daniel Cummings train on the simulator this week, practicing their response to a school shooting.

Added Hall, "We want as many departments as possible to use the simulator. We know this benefits our students and community. You can never have enough training in this area. It makes the law enforcement better prepared."

For more information on Wallace State's Criminal Justice/Criminalistics/Law Enforcement program, contact Hall at 256-352-8279 or visit http://www.wallacestate.edu/programs/academic-division/criminal-justicecriminalisticslaw-enforcement

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

CCBOE recognizes area businesses and industries for support

W.C. Mann
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CULLMAN – The close relationship between the Cullman County Board of Education (CCBOE) and the area's businesses and industries has been well-documented. On Thursday, the CCBOE took a little time to thank them for their support.

At Top of the Town, school officials welcomed representatives from Topre, Rehau, Yutaka, Royal Technologies, Cullman Regional and others. Also in attendance were Cullman County mayors and members of the Cullman County Commission, industrial and economic development agencies, Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Cullman County, Wallace State Community College and the area's state legislative delegation. There was no fundraising or program promotion; it was just a time for Superintendent Shane Barnette and his staff to say thanks.

"We have many partners at Cullman County Schools," said CCBOE Special Projects Coordinator Dr. T.J. Franey. "We just wanted to say thanks to everybody for all they do for Cullman County Schools, and for our community. We don't get opportunity enough to say, 'Thank you,' and so this was just an opportunity for us to get together and let them know how much we appreciate them."

Barnette echoed Franey's comments, "Our only purpose today is to tell industry and business leaders how much we appreciate their partnership with Cullman County Schools. We're not asking for anything today; we're just saying, 'Thank you," because it takes every one of us working together to help our students be successful. And they partner with us in so many different areas."

The Tribune caught Cullman Regional's Lindsey Dossey and Cullman Area Technology Academy Principal Billy Troutman conversing happily about the achievement of CATA's most recent Patient Care Assistant students, who were able to boast a 100 percent passing rate on their Certified Nursing Assistant exams.

"This is what I live for," said Troutman, "this is a skill, no matter where you go. It's a lot of extra work for the kids; it's work they wouldn't have to do to pass the class. It's something they choose to do, and it's very rigorous. The fact that we had 17 out of 17 get the credential is unbelievable."

Dossey added, "The training that they receive through their Health Science program is really more in-depth than they would get at any other certification program. Usually a certification program for a CNA is very short; they (CATA Health Science students) are actually going through a lot more rigorous training, which makes them ideal candidates for us."

Troutman responded, "That's what we like to hear. If the businesses say that about us, it means we've accomplished our purpose. That's our goal in life."

Barnette says he looks forward to seeing such partnerships grow in the time ahead.

Reflecting back on the year of experience he's had with local businesses and industries, he concluded, "I'm looking forward to another year of working with them. I feel like the relationship's better today than it's ever been, and we have more networks and partnerships in Cullman County than we've ever had; and we're looking forward to even more partnerships, and having even more opportunities for the students. We're really excited about it."



W.C. MANN

State Rep. Randall Shedd, R-Fairview and Cullman Regional's Lindsey Dossey

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Military training course at Camp Liberty



KEN BROWN

Camp Liberty in Battleground, Alabama is putting young men and women from all over the U. S. And 11 foreign countries through a basic military training course, the Extreme Military Challenge (XMC). Sgt. Major Will Harris, a graduate of Cullman High School, Vietnam Vet, and Army Career Special Forces Member has been invited to be the graduation speaker at the Cullman County Fairgrounds at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 8. The public and all area veterans are invited to attend.

Pictured: Sgt. Major Will Harris from Cullman's VFW Post 2214 is being briefed by Camp Liberty Commander Joe Land while cadets pass through the obstacle course. ***Submitted by Ken Brown***

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News from the Pond

Jimmie Dean Carnell
Tribune Contributor



Good morning Tribune readers and families. Hope that you didn't have any damage from the recent storms last week.

Our hearts go out to the people further south from us. We surely did need the rain and we received plenty of it.

The Holly Pond Historical Society held their meeting on Sunday, June 25th at the Guy Hunt Library and Museum Conference Room. Several Holly Pond residents participated in the program entitled, "Family Heirlooms".

Residents who presented their family treasures included the following:

• June Wood presented several of George Campbell's whittling stick toys; Rhode Lee Davis' pitcher and a baby gown belonging to her father, Butch Davis. He weighed only two pounds at his birth.

• Mrs. Dot Smith presented a glass vase, which was passed down from the 1924 wedding of her parents, Bill and Agnes Butler.

• Mrs. Gladys Wisener presented needlework made on a homemade bedspread, aprons, pillow cases, a dresser scarf and other items that were made from flour, fertilizer and feed sacks.

• Kelli Nelson Burgess presented some appliques made from all types of old sacks that belonged to Eva May Heaton.

• Regina Hays presented a crucifix that came to America from Germany from her grandfather, William Joseph Henry Schaefer from 1876.

• Mary Hays presented a fruit bowl and cake plate, which came from Georgia to Holly Pond on a wagon train.

• Brenda Scott presented an old Sacred Harp songbook from her father. It included a song sung by Brenda entitled "Murillo's Lesson."

• Robin Henderson presented an old trunk with a quilt and tea set inside, which belonged to Ma and Pa Turner.

• Brenda Wisener presented pictures of her husband's grandparents Wiseners and Dodson, which also included postcards and pictures from World War I.

• Paul Brown presented a picture of the corn crib, which belonged to Press Chambliss and was located near his home. The crib was destroyed by a recent storm.

Plans are already underway for a similar program to be presented next year. Anyone in the community is invited to bring items, being sure to tell the story of who owned the items and how it was passed down in the family.

A special thanks to Wayne Hays and Brenda Scott for furnishing this list of presenters on this program.

Walt and Judy Floyd and Tammy Baker were among the Holly Pond Civitans attending the Civitan Centennial Convention in Birmingham this past week.

Tammy Baker's daughter-in-law, Jennifer was a featured presenter in the Opening Session video at the Convention.

Attending from the Hanceville Civitans was President, Doctor Nancy Horton, who is serving as Junior Civitan Chair for Alabama District North.

A few of the members from the Dripping Spring Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, left on Tuesday of this week for a convention in Washington, D.C.

Until next week, remember to stay cool and be safe.

Tribune Files from Yesteryear

From The Files Of 1936

Congressman-elect, Luther Patrick, of Birmingham, will speak at the Cullman County Courthouse on Saturday afternoon at two o'clock. It is a meeting of the Roosevelt Club and a Democratic Rally for Cullman County.

The L.O. Brock family are building a new home. There will be a play at White City on Friday night. A small admission will be charged.

Those married from September 24 to October 1, 1936 were Glaynus Quattlebaum, 20, to Miss Loree Jenkins, 16 and Buell Hale, 18, to Miss Ruth Waters, 16.

A seven pound sweet potato was grown by Ben Speegle on his farm, near Baldwin. Henry Quattlebaum and wife of Welti visited D.L. Smith and family, on Sunday evening.

A large crowd attended church at White Grove on Sunday and Sunday night. Mr. Floyd Linton has erected a new store building.

Pauline Camp and Cortez Johnson are attending Florence State Teachers College. Velma Hicks was the Sunday dinner guest of Flossie and Flora Duke.

Mr. and Mrs. Val Woods drove to Montevallo on Sunday to escort Opal Brown to where she will be a student this year. Mr. and Mrs. Troy Glasscock spent Tuesday in Birmingham.

The Birmingham Post Herald is available every weekday by mail for $3.25 per year (advertisement).

The new city school building has been finished and is now in use. Dewey Rollo has returned from a trip to Springfield, Ohio.

The people of Chancey's Crossroads have been making a lot of good syrup.

Thomas J. Boyd was killed by a truck, while walking across the Bee Line Highway, from the mailbox in front of his home.

Laudie Vandiver was married to Jewel Calvert this week. Mrs. Aurelia McCabe will move to Vinemont, at an early date.

Doctor Sudduth was killed in an accident while helping others, following a wreck with no thought for his own safety. Martin Turner Harbinson was married to Miss Rucie Hudson this week.

From The Files Of 1950

Joseph H. Yeager and Claude H. Moore are enrolled at Perdue University in Lafayette, Indiana.

Louis and Leo Hasenbein, twin sons of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hasenbein and both Army Corporals, arrived home last week for a thirty day surprise furlough visit, from Alaska.

Fourteen Ku Klux Klan members, dressed in white hoods and body attire attended church at Welti last week and Walter the week before.

Henry Ford Turner, of Hanceville, is working on his doctorate at the University of Alabama.

Three men were arrested, on Sunday, at Beech Grove, after store owner, L.A. Lynn was found lying under his porch, beaten. He was robbed of $200.00.

Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel J. Jones were injured when a 15-year-old youth attempted to pass Walter L. Horton's vehicle, knocking it off the road and hitting the Jones' vehicle head on. Mr. Jones has a broken leg and cuts and bruises. Mrs. Jones has a lacerated scalp and

Mrs. Nellie Coffman, age 86, fell at her Hanceville home and broke a hip, last Thursday. She is the mother of John T. Christian.

Maxine Floyd, age 19, was killed in a Garden City accident on October 19th. Maxine's twin sister, Christine, died an hour later and another sister, Mrs. Margaret Jones, suffered a back injury.

They were all three telephone operators in Birmingham. The ladies were enroute to visit their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Emory Floyd, of Vinemont. They were well- known as the Floyd Sisters Trio.

John T. Harper, age 69 and John Frank Lambert, age 69, both died this week in separate incidents of self-inflicted gunshot wounds, according to coroner, Grady Moss.

Roy Richter is leaving this week for a pre-induction physical.

F.S. Green has the flu and has been confined to his New Hope residence.

Mrs. Eva Handley, of Berlin, has dug about six hundred crates of sweet potatoes.

Roy James Stewart and Margaret Jean Bice, of Walter, were recently married. Margaret is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Bice.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Buckness and daughters, of Oneonta spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Razzie Rice.

Mrs. Emmie Smith and Mrs. M.A. Alldredge spent Sunday with relatives in Mount Pinson.

Alton Duke and his son went fishing last week.

Several persons in the Gold Ridge Community are painting the school this week.

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

My mouth waters for watermelons

Bill King
Tribune Contributor



I'll go ahead and confess it - I love watermelon. Since I'm confessing, I may as well go ahead and tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth, concerning watermelons. One of God's ten- commandments says we should not steal.

As a teenager, I helped myself to at least one melon, okay, perhaps more than one, from a field that did not belong to me. Please don't raise your eyebrows at me like that.

Back in the day, in rural Alabama farm country, that was not uncommon, especially for boys. I am not saying it was right, but I suspect if you grew up then and there, you may have done the same.

Some stole watermelons and then, for the pure mischief of it, smashed them in the middle of the highway. I never did that. Stealing is bad enough, but that red, juicy, sweet meat tasted too good to waste through such non-sense.

There's an old story about a farmer who kept losing watermelons to the neighborhood boys.

He tried everything he could think of to stop their thievery, but nothing worked.

Finally, he painted a sign, put on a stake, and drove it into the ground in the middle of his patch. The sign said, "Beware!! There is one watermelon in this patch that has been poisoned."

The next morning the farmer discovered that his sign had been altered to read, "Now there are two watermelons in this patch that have been poisoned."

When I was growing up, we had a garden that I have referred to as, "The Hundred-Acre Garden."

It actually was more like half an acre, but when I picked peas and butterbeans in the hot Alabama sun, it sure felt like a hundred acres to me! Sometimes, when Mama turned her back, I slipped off for a dip in Patton's Pond.

The one section in that garden that I loved was the melon patch.

There we raised cantaloupes and rattlesnakes – rattlesnake melons, that is. Once, Mama had a fit when she learned I had planted gourd seeds directly beside the melon patch.

According to folklore, gourds and melons will cross-pollinate and cause the melons to taste bitter.

She made me dig up all my gourd seeds and then pull up any sprouts that sprung up from seeds I had missed.

Dad used to tell me if I swallowed the seeds, that watermelons would grow in my stomach and the vines would run out my ears. They never did.

The Fourth of July is watermelon time. We always hoped to have watermelons ripe enough to eat on the fourth, and that no one had stolen them all. I liked to put them in the cool waters of the creek on our property, but occasionally I lost a few there.

I don't understand this, but I hear that some people eat yellow-meat watermelons. Is that American? Once, on the Big Island of Hawaii, I ate purple sweet potatoes. I also ate poi. Purple sweet potatoes are pretty good. I might even eat a purple watermelon, if I ever saw one, but yellow watermelons? In my humble opinion, they are about as tasty as poi. Yuck! We are RED-bloodied Americans. Our flag is RED, white, and blue. The inside of a watermelon is supposed to be RED!

This Fourth of July, I hope you have the opportunity to salute the red, white, and blue. Most of all, give thanks to God, as well as to those brave patriots who serve and have served our country and even shed their blood for our freedom. Enjoy some watermelon and have a happy Independence Day!

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

Center (from Front)

local churches will still be used for larger events like the Citizens' Academy graduation.

The center has already seen its first event, a recent human trafficking training course.

In the next few weeks, it is booked for the Sheriff's Youth Leadership Academy and a women's self-defense class.

For more information about training events at the CCSO, contact Capt. Mark Persall at 256-734-0342 or mpersall@cullmansheriff.org.

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PREP FOOTBALL

Cullman, Mortimer Jordan get in some snaps Thursday

Johnny Thornton
johnny@cullmansense.com



JOHNNY THORNTON/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman's Ezra Burks runs while offensive line blocks for him.

CULLMAN – High school football teams have changed the version of 7-on-7 competition for the summer time. Known to many as passing camps, the format can now be classified as organized team activity, something that is utilized in the off-season by the National Football League.

Cullman and Mortimer Jordan got together for a couple of hours Thursday morning at Oliver Woodard Stadium in an organized workout.

"We break the game down," coach Mark Britton said after it ended. "We have one-on-one drills with quarterbacks, receivers and defensive backs, then we go to two-on-two and three-on-three drills."

While the backs, receivers, linebackers and secondary were taking up the south side of the stadium, the north side was occupied by linemen, dealing with drills in pass rush and pass protection.

Things were moving right along until a heavy shower arrived around 9:50 a.m., sending the Bearcats and the Blue Devils into the field house above the stadium.

Both teams weathered out the shower and returned to the field around 10:20 a.m. The two teams went into the next segment of the activity, working offense vs. defense from the 40-yard line and later, red zone offense against red zone defense, inside the 20-yard line.

"Your quarterbacks and defense benefit from this," Britton said.

"We haven't been out here in several months. We are working on making corrections."

The Bearcats and Blue Devils ran 15 plays each from the 40 and then took seven snaps on possession at the 10-yard line, concluding the activity before 11 a.m.

"This was a chance to see our kids in different settings," Britton said. "Going against somebody new adds to the element of competition. The players know how to measure up to teammates in competition; now they are going against the best from someone else."

The Bearcats and Blue Devils worked on their spread formation offenses, getting snaps in and executing the run and the pass vs. different defensive sets.

All this took place without pads, with no heavy contact allowed. The conditions of Woodard Stadium with field turf were fine after the passing shower. Britton and Mortimer Jordan coach Dustan Goode were pleased to continue the event after the rain and no one sustained any type of injury.

Jordan has been very good in the last three years, posting a 33-7 record under Goode, appearing in the 5A state title game in 2015 and reaching the quarterfinals in the playoffs last season.

Mortimer Jordan is in Region 6 of 5A, with county schools Fairview and West Point on the schedule for regional play.

Cullman is coming off a 6-5 mark in 2016, reaching the 6A playoffs. They have been to the postseason in 14 of the 16 seasons they have been coached by Britton.

The 'Cats will have to replace some vacancies by graduation, with this type of activity allowing them to analyze the situation better with fall practice a month from beginning.

Britton reported the 'Cats and Blue Devils will conduct this once again on July 25 at Woodard Stadium. Britton is giving his squad next week off to enjoy the 4th of July holiday. They will resume condition workouts on July 10.

West Point-Hanceville 7-on-7 postponed

HANCEVILLE – A 7-on-7 between the West Point Warriors and Hanceville Bulldogs was postponed Thursday at Ray Talley Stadium, due to inclement weather.

Hanceville coach Craig Flanigan told The Tribune the teams are trying to work out a makeup date if possible. Nothing has been officially set between the two schools after losing out to Mother Nature.

Confusion (from Front)

two major aspects of the project are the resurfacing and access management improvements, such as installation of concrete islands and closing entrances or exits that are redundant and/or in close proximity. These are aimed at improving traffic flow and reducing vehicle conflicts and crashes, improving safety."

And on the route from St. Bernard to East Point, Burkett commented, "This project will actually reduce the undivided four-lane portion from St. Bernard Drive to west of Alabama 69 to three lanes (two through lanes and a center turn lane). We believe this 'road diet' will help to reduce travel speeds and conflict points."

It is the east side project that seems to be causing the most concern. Many eastbound drivers are accustomed to entering a passing lane and accelerating to pass slow traffic by the entrance to St. Bernard.

That passing lane no longer exists, but initial road markings at the beginning point do not immediately indicate that the lane that is there is actually now a turn lane.

Once drivers get further up the hill, they can see the solid/dashed striping and dual arrows typical of "suicide" turn lanes; by then, though, they could find themselves accelerating into oncoming traffic headed into St. Bernard.

A local resident watching conditions during the first day of the new lane configuration voiced his concern to The Tribune, "Just going to put this out there. I know that 278 has been four lane from St. Bernard to the east for years now, but the new pavement is clearly marked with two outside lanes and a turn lane right down the middle. It is NOT a driving lane people! It is a turn lane! There is a need for law enforcement presence to teach people the correct way to drive on it or there will be a head on collision. It will be bad because these drivers are just hammer down in the turn lane!"

When these concerns were passed along to ALDOT, Burkett responded in emails Wednesday evening and Thursday morning, "U.S. 278 has been changed from an undivided four-lane to a three-lane. The center lane is a two-way left turn lane as indicated by the yellow centerline stripes; it is not a travel lane for either direction. The striping is correct, though this is temporary striping and does not include all markings that will be present after the road has been resurfaced and permanent striping has been placed.

"Yesterday, it came to our attention that some motorists were misusing the center lane — treating it either as a through travel lane or a passing lane. We have discussed this issue with Cullman police, and we are going to be placing additional pavement markings, setting up message boards, and possibly installing permanent signs to help the public better understand."

Mayor Woody Jacobs has been out of town recently, and had not gotten to see the construction since his return; but has already started hearing from residents.

He spoke to The Tribune about his own set of concerns that he voiced to ALDOT when the project was still in the planning stages:

"Once you get to St. Bernard, all the way to East Point that's not going to be four-lane any more. It's going to be one lane going that way, one lane coming this way, and a center turn lane. When you get to East Point you've got 69 coming in, 278 coming in.

"This is what I told them, 'I'm not an engineer; I'm just expressing my concerns. They've got between there and St. Bernard bridge to work it out. In the mornings, it's backed up anyway; but you've got two lanes for them to stack. The pinch point is the bridge; now we're going to create a pinch point at East Point. Now you're going to be backing traffic up back towards Fairview and back towards Berlin. I don't know how that's going to work, but it's going to happen.'

"I told them that day, 'Guys, y'all can't do all these changes and the city not know about it. I'm the one that's going to get blamed for it.'"

Jacobs said Thursday he planned to contact ALDOT to make sure arrangements were being made to protect drivers on Highway 278 East.

Until ALDOT completes the paving and marking of the area, and until local drivers become more accustomed to the change of lane layout, Cullman drivers are urged to exercise extra caution on Hwy. 278 between St. Bernard Abbey and East Point.

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ALDOT: Top 2 ways to make 4th of July travel safe

Allison Green
ALDOT

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) is asking drivers to do their part to make this a fatality-free 4th of July on Alabama highways. As an added precaution during the heavily-traveled holiday, ALDOT is doing its part for road safety by having no temporary lane closures on Alabama interstates after noon on Friday, June 30, through midnight, Tuesday, July 4.

"Turning one of the deadliest holidays on the road into one of the safest is in the hands of the drivers," said Allison Green, Drive Safe Alabama coordinator, ALDOT. "We are asking motorists to join ALDOT in making highway safety a priority for this year's 4th of July holiday."

Top two ways to prevent fatal crashes

1. Don't drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

People are seven times more likely to die in a crash when the driver is under the influence of alcohol or drugs, as shown in ALDOT crash reports. Designating a sober driver before drinking is key to preventing these deadly crashes.

2. Wear your seat belt, in both front and rear seats.

Surviving a crash is much more likely when wearing a seat belt. The latest stats from Drive Safe Alabama show that 56 percent of people dying in crashes on Alabama highways are not wearing a seat belt.

More safe driving tips are available on the Drive Safe Alabama Facebook page at www.facebook.com/DriveSafeAlabama.

Motorists planning their holiday travel route can find Alabama traffic and road condition information at www.ALGOtraffic.com or by downloading the ALGO Traffic app available online in the Apple App Store and on Google Play. ALDOT asks motorists to use ALGO Traffic responsibly. Drivers should never text, tweet or use a mobile device while operating a vehicle.

Holiday hours

CULLMAN – In observance of Independence Day, City and County offices will be on the following schedule:

• City of Cullman offices will be closed on Tuesday, July 4. There will be no changes to residential or commercial sanitation routes.

• Cullman County offices will be closed on Monday, July 3 and Tuesday, July 4. Sanitation will run normal routes.

Compiled by Wendy Sack

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JULY 1, 2017

Utah State ME working to determine cause of Cullman doctor's death

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – The Utah State Medical Examiner's Office is working to determine the cause of death of Dr. Lane Friedman, 62, an internist with Cullman Internal Medicine. Friedman died this week while hiking with his family in Spooky Gulch, a popular slot canyon located east of Hole in the Rock Road in Kane County, Utah. His body was located on Wednesday, June 28.

Dr. Erik Christensen with the Utah State Medical Examiner's Office confirmed Friday afternoon that Friedman's autopsy is complete. The Kane County Sheriff's Office will release preliminary findings soon, if any are available. A complete autopsy report could take some time.

According to a statement from the Kane County Sheriff's Office, issued June 28, Garfield County Dispatch received a call at approximately 7 p.m. June 27 about an overdue individual who had been hiking in Spooky Gulch.

A Garfield County deputy responded to the trailhead where he met with Friedman's wife.

She stated that she and her husband and two children had been hiking in the slot canyon on the 27th when they came to a rocky spot in the canyon and decided not to continue. While returning to the trailhead they became disoriented and made some wrong turns.

The two children also became ill from the heat and the family took shade under some trees. Friedman decided to try and hike to the top of a nearby hill to see if he could get his bearings and see which way to go. That was the last time Mrs. Friedman saw her husband, according to the statement.

After some rest, Mrs. Friedman and the children began hiking out and eventually made it back to their vehicle at the Dry Fork Trailhead, where she borrowed a phone from some other hikers and called for help.

The sheriff's office said when the deputy arrived, it was late in the evening and getting dark and unsafe to start a ground search. The Utah Department of Public Safety helicopter was requested to help with the search for the next morning.

The helicopter search began at about 9 a.m. on June 28, and Friedman's body was located about 1 p.m. His body was transported by the helicopter to Escalante. A medical investigator from the Kane County Sheriff's Office responded to Escalante to continue the investigation.

Friedman's body was transported to the Utah State Medical Examiner's Office for autopsy.

Friedman's employer, Cullman Internal Medicine, issued a statement Thursday, saying, "Cullman Internal Medicine regrets to confirm the passing of Dr. Lane Friedman. Reports from emergency personnel in Utah have determined that Dr. Friedman passed away while hiking with his family in Utah. He will be missed sincerely here at Cullman Internal Medicine by his work family and his grateful patients. We ask that you all keep his family in your prayers."

The statement continued, "Cullman Internal Medicine is committed to continuing the excellent care here at our office that Dr. Friedman provided for his patients. Letters will be sent to all of his patients to make them aware of the arrangements we have made for continuing their care here at Cullman Internal Medicine. We look forward to hearing from each of them in the coming months and are happy to care for any urgent needs they have in the days and weeks to come."



CULLMAN INTERNAL MEDICINE
Dr. Lane Friedman

According to Cullman Internal Medicine's website, Friedman had been with the practice since May 2006.

He is also listed as the medical director for Southern Care Hospice in Cullman since January 2011.

NOTICE OF SALE In accordance with Section 32-13-1, Code of Alabama 1975, notice is hereby given to the owners, lienholders, and other interested parties that the following described abandoned property will be sold at public auction for cash to the highest bidder at 8:00 a.m., July 26, 2017 at 210 Campbell Drive, Hanceville, AL 35077. Seller reserves the right to reject any bid and the right to bid. 2002 Semi-Trailer, 1RNF50A272R008412 and 2002 Semi-Trailer 1RNF48A252R008216

Legal Notice

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

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

REBECCA DEGOLLADO MIRELES,
Plaintiff

Vs. Case Number: **DR-2014-900185.01**

JOSE AGUILAR FERTO,
Defendant

NOTICE OF CONTEMPT/MODIFICATION ACTION

Jose Aguilar Ferto, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Rebecca Degollado Mireles' Citation for Contempt/Petition to Modify by August 28, 2017 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2014-900185.01 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 27th day of June, 2017.

Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Circuit Court

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
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Obituary Announcements: July 1-4

Memorial services for Gerald R. Hill, 68, of Cullman, will be Saturday, July 1, 2017 at 11 a.m. at Sardis Baptist Church, in Trimble, Bro. Danny Yarbrough officiating. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Hill passed away Wednesday, June 28 at his residence. He was born January 23, 1949 to parents R.E. and Louise Roberts Hill. He was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters, Janice Gilland and Gail DeLoria; and one brother, Dennis Hill. Survivors include his wife, Debra Hill; one son, Cody Hill; two brothers, Edward Hill and Harold Hill; one sister, Linda Manuel; and a host of family and friends.

Elizabeth A. "Bill" Presley, age 89, of Oneonta, AL., passed away on June 26, 2017. Mrs. Presley was a member of Park Avenue Baptist Church. She graduated from Blount County High School in 1946. She was the first school bus driver at Oneonta City School. She ran the concession stands at the recreation park and the McDaniel Gym for many years. She loved to embroider and make handmade rugs and enjoyed playing ball with her grandchildren. Preceding her in death were her parents Ernest and Addie Robinson Armstrong; husband Robert "Bob" M. Presley, Jr.; daughter Alice Michelle "Shelly" Robinette; son-in-law Stephen Robinette; nine brothers and sisters. Survivors include her daughters Sandra Gail Maciel (Alex) of Huntsville, Charlene Adams (John) of New York, Suzette Presley of Oneonta and Denise Nelson (Rick) of Huntsville; sons Robert D. Presley, Sr. (Deb) of Morris and Dennis Presley (Daphne) of New Harmony; grandchildren Suzanne Tjarks (Chris), Robbie Maciel, Anna Logan, Robert D. Presley, Jr., Brenna Weston (Andy), Ashley Robinnette, Nick Presley, Kristen Guffey (Jordan) and Ryan Nelson (Ainsley); great granddaughters Abbigail Logan, McKenzie Chitwood, Chloe Presley and Sienna Presley. The family will receive friends on Sunday, July 2, 2017 at Lemley Funeral Home from 12 Noon until service time. Funeral service will be held in the Chapel of Lemley Funeral Home at 2 p.m. with Bro. Dan Sims officiating. Burial will be in the Pleasant Mount Cemetery. Serving as pallbearers will be Robert Maciel, Robert D. Presley, Jr., Ryan Nelson, Bart Rainey, Roger Jackson and Ross Norris. Lemley Funeral Home and Crematory directing.

James Paul Lee Doyle, 23, passed away June 24, 2017. Funeral services will be held Monday, July 03, 2017 beginning at 2 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home. Arrangements under the direction of Moss-Service Funeral Home, Cullman, Alabama. Visitation will be held Monday, July 03, 2017 from 12 p.m. until 2 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home.

Funeral services for Louetta M Vernon will be held Monday, July 03, 2017 beginning at 11 a.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home. Arrangements under the direction of Moss-Service Funeral Home, Cullman, Alabama. Visitation will be held Sunday, July 02, 2017 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

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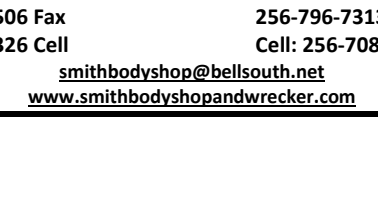
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