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TRIBUNE EXCLUSIVE

CCBOE names AHSAA's Wanda Gilliland first district-wide athletic director





PHOTOS COURTESY AHSAA

Left: Wanda Gilliland, who retired from the AHSAA in June, is set to be named the first-ever district-wide athletic director for Cullman County Schools. Right: Former AHSAA Assistant Director Wanda Gilliland at the opening ceremony of the AHSAA state softball tournament at Lagoon Park in Montgomery May 17.

W.C. Mann
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CULLMAN – In the wake of the July 1 resignation of West Point track coach A.J. Lamar amid allegations of improper conduct with a student, Cullman County Board of Education (CCBOE) Superintendent Shane Barnette has announced the appointment of former Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) Assistant Director Wanda Gilliland to the newly-created position of athletic director. Gilliland retired from the AHSAA on June 1 (see our story http://qrne.ws/gilliland), and will work with the CCBOE on a part-time basis.

Though she will not be officially appointed until the system's board meeting this coming week, Barnette is confident that Gilliland will come on board as a powerful resource for county schools' athletic programs. He sat down with The Tribune on Friday to share the news.

"We are really excited that; on next week's agenda, we'll be approving our first district-wide athletic director," said Barnette. "That person that I'm going to be asking the board to approve is Wanda Gilliland. We're really excited to have her, because she has many years working for the Athletic Association of Alabama.

"One of the responsibilities I've asked her to handle is to make sure we're in compliance throughout our district in all our athletics. Also, she's going to be working really close with non-faculty coaches and new coaches in doing some orientation and training and doing some work with the expectations that we have for our sports programs, to do some training with coaches to make sure that we're treating kids with respect.

"The things she's going to do will not only make sure that we're in compliance with Athletic Association rules, but also to make sure that we have a top-notch athletic program. We want to make sure that we're building character in our programs, and doing all the things the Cullman County Schools holds in high esteem. I love sports, but there's a whole lot more to learn in sports than just sports, and I'm excited to have her on board."

On Friday afternoon, The Tribune spoke to Gilliland about her appointment. She shared, "First, I'm excited about being retired and getting to spend time with my family! But I worked for 38 years, and I know I won't be able to just sit still for long.

"I want to be able to give back to the schools. We were put on this earth to give to others, and with the knowledge I gained in the last 38 years with schools and the AHSAA, I feel that I have something to give back. I am grateful to Mr. Barnette and the board for this opportunity."

Gilliland has set as one of her goals for the system's sports programs to see every county school sports program receive a sportsmanship banner, an award given to schools whose athletic teams complete an entire school year with no fines and no ejections from games.

"It's a lofty goal," said Gilliland, "but I believe we can achieve it."

Barnette anticipates that Gilliland's appointment will make school sports a more positive experience for the students who take part, saying, "We just want to make sure that all sports programs throughout our county are filled with character, and we want to make sure that if we have someone that is in charge of young people, that is directing young people and coaching young people, they're doing it in a way that is going to build those kids up, and make them be not only the best athletes, but also the best people they can be. She's going to help me ensure that."

More on AJ Lamar's resignation

According to Barnette, an internal CCBOE investigation into the allegations against Lamar was inconclusive, and he does not foresee any charges being brought against the former coach.

Lamar was placed on administrative leave back in April, after rumors began circulating of inappropriate conduct with a female student-athlete. (http://qrne.ws/lamar) » PAGE 7

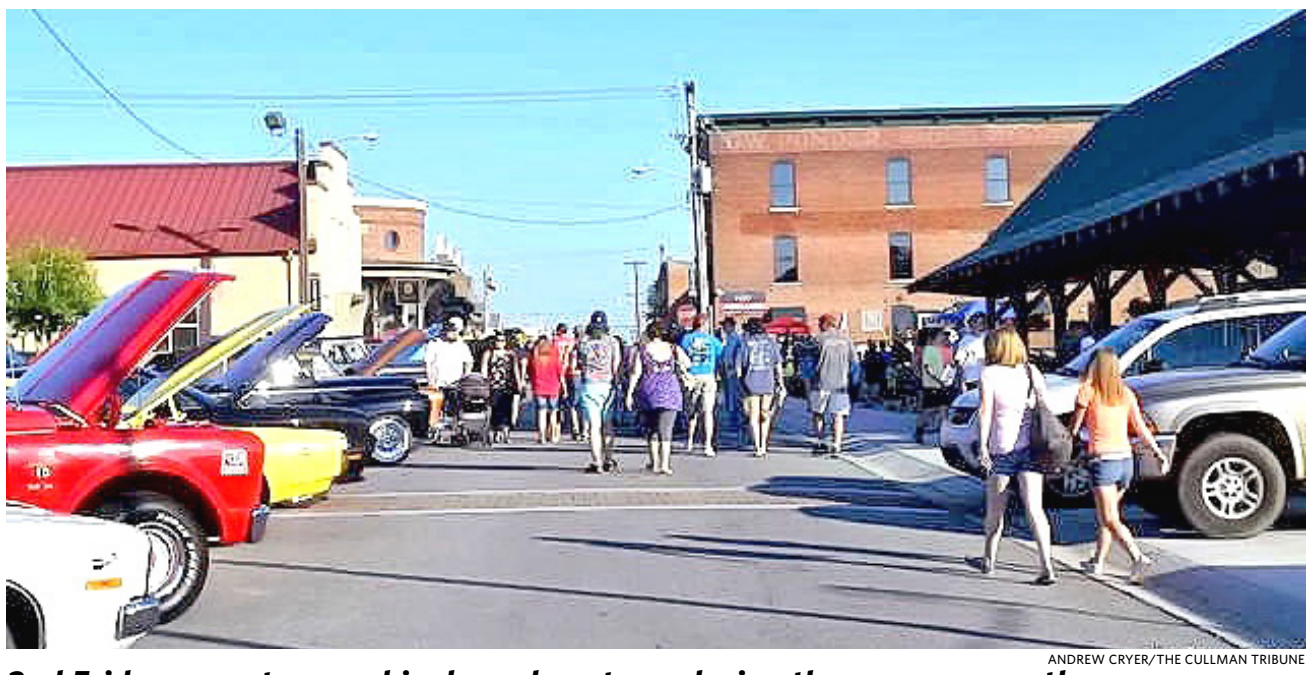
Downtown and Warehouse District merchants gearing up for 'Celebrate Cullman'

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CULLMAN – With the return of the Archery Shooters Association McKenzie Classic archery tournament to Cullman later this summer, the city is preparing to welcome thousands of archers and archery fans for the national-level event Aug. 3-6. To introduce all those out-of-towners to what the city has to offer, the Cullman Downtown Merchants' Association (CDMA), in partnership with the Warehouse District Merchants' Association, is restarting "Celebrate Cullman." The celebration will take place the evening of Friday, Aug. 4.

This week The Tribune sat down with CDMA planners Ron Pierce and Michael Sapp to talk about the upcoming event, which will be a joint effort between CDMA, the Warehouse District Merchants Association and Cullman Parks and Recreation (CP&R).

Pierce explained, "Celebrate Cullman originated when the tornado hit Cullman back in April of 2011, and a four-block area (of downtown Cullman) was closed down for a couple of months. » PAGE 6



ANDREW CRYER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

2nd Fridays events are a big draw downtown during the summer months.

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JULY 8, 2017

Brick Haven fire exposes weakness in water system; Co. water dept. responds

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AERIAL ENVISION

Firefighters on the scene of the fully-involved blaze at Brick Haven on July 1 were frustrated with the available water pressure. This photo shows the aftermath.

CULLMAN COUNTY – Around 1 a.m. on Saturday, July 1, the Bethsadia Volunteer Fire Department received a call to a fire at Brick Haven event venue. Within a short time, six local volunteer departments were on the scene, along with Cullman Fire Rescue, battling a blaze that was consuming the front building at the complex. Among those departments were firefighters from Logan, and their Chief Toby Bates.

By dawn, the front building had burned to the ground, but crews had saved the rear building only 15 feet away.

After daylight came, a tired and frustrated Bates was interviewed in front of the smoldering remains of the front building by WHNT 19 News from Huntsville. In that interview, he offered a scathing commentary about the county's water system, stating that it regularly suffers from insufficient water pressure to fight fires, and that the County does not consider the rural water system to be a firefighting resource.

Bates's told WHNT, "When we started trying to put water on it, we noticed that our water supply wasn't the greatest. I don't know if the County's got the lines turned down or what, but we had a hard time feeding three or four different engines and relaying water back and forth, and trying to put the amount of water we needed on the structure to get the fire out. I called our dispatch to have the county to see if they could come turn the pressure up for us. Of course, they never come out, but it's sort of aggravating, because I would think on that large line out there we'd have enough water pressure to do what we needed; and we didn't.

"I just figured that the County's got it turned down, and like all the other instances, they tell us that the fire hydrants are flush valves only; they're not made for us to fight fire with, so they've got them turned down. We've had a few instances in the past where they've came out and told us that water was for personal consumption, not firefighting. It makes it challenging for us, trying to use the water, and we don't have the required pressures that we need."

The full interview is available on WHNT's website at http://whnt.com/2017/07/01/structure-fire-shuts-down-highway-278w-in-cullman-county/.

For an independent perspective, The Tribune sought out a neutral third party opinion on the water system by consulting the Hanceville Fire Department, which often goes out into the county to assist local VFDs with fires but was not involved in the Brick Haven incident. Assistant Chief Bart Absher, who had previously viewed the interview video, confirmed that county water lines are prone to lower pressure than firefighters want during emergencies.

"We find hydrants scattered throughout the county that have limited flows," said Absher. "I don't know of any right offhand that have absolutely horrible flows, but I can understand (Bates's) concerns. I did watch the video, and he had some very legitimate concerns.

"It's a concern in the fire service nationwide that the water systems were established X amount of years ago, and they put in a particular diameter pipe. The standard is 6 inches or larger. But then, just like back over here behind Rehau, they've started building subdivision after subdivision down through there. They're building 30, 40, 50 homes per subdivision. If they don't come back in and increase that water pipe to the supply line going down that street, then the volume going to those houses just sucks the line dry. There's just not enough water in there. Each department kind of knows their bad spots, because we do yearly testing of hydrants. There is concern everywhere with water, in our area, and in all the counties surrounding us."

Absher did give the County and local water systems credit for supplying their lines with an increasing number of hydrants.

He stated, "One thing I do give props to all the water departments for is the amount of hydrants they've gone back and added. They do help."

Concerning the Brick Haven incident, Absher said, "With a fire that size, you've got to have a lot of water to put it out. We work on formulas and square footage; if it's totally involved, we know how much water per minute's got to be put on that fire to put it out. If not, you're just cooling it until it burns out. That looks like what might have happened there.

"But," added Absher, "they did an absolutely great job salvaging that (rear) building."

According to Absher, when the Hanceville department is called to assist a rural VFD, its standard procedure is to send a response truck with a 1,000-gallon onboard water supply, so its personnel can offer an immediate response regardless of water conditions on the scene. It also partners with departments in Blount County that have large water tankers that can be dispatched into Cullman County as needed.

"We make arrangements before we ever pull out of the station," said Absher, "to make sure we've got some kind of water source, either taking it with us, or getting somebody else to be headed that way with it."

In the case of a large event like Brick Haven, the sheer size and scope of the fire can still overwhelm small department resources.

Since the Brick Haven incident, Bates has met with Cullman County Water Department Manager Randall Waldrep, and on Wednesday Waldrep met with the Cullman County Commission about the issue. Later that day, Waldrep sat down with The Tribune at the Water Department office- and admitted both that pressure issues exist in the county, and that the Water Department's primary concern is with drinking water. He also explained the department's position on both issues.

He began by responding directly to Bates's claim about water pressure during the Brick Haven fire. "We have a 10-inch main in front of Brick Haven, and it's fed by the Spring Hill water tank. We don't have anything between the Spring Hill water tank and Brick Haven to cut the pressure down. We did not have the pressure down; it was under full operating pressure.

"The pressure is determined from the elevation of the tank to where the customer is. Every 2.31 feet (downhill) equals one pound of pressure. People at higher elevation are going to have lower pressure, and those at lower elevations are going to have higher pressure. The only way you can give them more pressure is to raise the level of the tanks, and we don't have the money to do that. The tank would have to be taller, because that's what determines the pressure.

"We didn't see a problem with the pressure. We looked at the telemetry, and everything should have been fine. I don't feel like they could have put the fire out if it was fully engulfed, anyway; but I'm not a fireman. I appreciate what they do, I do; but my main concern is keeping people with safe drinking water."

Waldrep did not wish to appear unconcerned about firefighting, but wanted to point out that the stated mission of the County Water Department, and therefore his job, is to supply its customers with clean drinking water. Fire departments are allowed to use the lines, but their work falls outside his jurisdiction.

During the Brick Haven fire, multiple trucks were drawing water simultaneously, contributing to the loss of pressure. Waldrep explained, "The more people using that line, the lower the pressure's going to be. It depends on how much they're drawing, but you certainly will lose some water pressure. It can be kind of like a main breaking. You're definitely going to lose pressure, and there's nothing we can do about that.

"We had a good meeting, me and the fire chief (Bates). He actually apologized to me, and we're going to try to work together to have a better relationship; and if I can help him, I will.

"But there's going to be places where we're not going to have as good pressure. There's nothing I can do for that, due to elevation. In Cullman County, we've got a lot of hills and hollers; and everybody's not going to be on the exact same water pressure. We do have some regulators in place in high mountains, to keep people below from getting blown out.

"We do the best we can. We definitely didn't have the water pressure cut down. I understand Toby's stress: fighting the fire all night, and frustrated. I don't hold any grudge. We've talked, and we're not at odds; we're going to try to work together.

"I'm not going to promise I can fix all the problems; I may not be able to, and I've told him that. We're going to look at some issues that he's told me about; if it's something I can help him with, I will. If I can't, we just can't."

Waldrep concluded by returning to the primary mission of the County Water Department. "I'm going to do everything I can to provide our customers with safe drinking water. If I can help the fire departments out, I certainly want to do that as well. I understand the fire departments' jobs and I respect that, but I've got a job to do, too, and that's to keep people with safe drinking water.

"But yes, I do want to help the fire departments, and I'll be willing to work with them. I just want to say that I do appreciate the job that they do. I know it's a very important job, and they work hard at it, and I'll certainly work with them any way I can."

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BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

I took a trip back in time

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



Marty McFly took a trip back in time in the movie "Back to the Future." In the 1980s sci-fi hit, McFly traveled back to the 50s. Many other sci-fi movies have been based on time travel.

I recently took a trip back in time, myself. In fact, I have done this several times, but I'm still fascinated by it. Now, before you call for help because I've gone completely around the bend, I only traveled back three hours. I took my trip in an airplane, not a DeLorean. I left Atlanta, on a flight to Phoenix, at 11:15 a.m. Strangely, after four hours of flight, when I landed in Phoenix it was only 12:15. That's because Arizona is two time zones behind Georgia, but on top of that, Arizona does not use daylight saving time.

I'm reminded of an old story that you may have heard many times, so please humor me. Billy Bob had ventured off to the foreign land of Georgia, with no way back home to Alabama. He went to the airport, where he inquired about flying to Birmingham. He was informed that a flight would leave at 10:38 a.m. and arrive the same day, in Birmingham, at 9:24 a.m. He turned to his friend and said, "I've never heard of anything that travels that fast." When asked if he would like to book the flight, he said, "Oh, no, ma'am. I wouldn't ride that thing for love or money, but if you don't mind, I would like to stand out there and watch it scratch out of here!"

Do you remember when airlines used to feed you? Back in the day, if you flew during a meal time, the airlines served you something to eat. It wasn't much, and it wasn't good, but it closely resembled food. We should have eaten something before we left Atlanta. My growling stomach drowned out the roar of the jet engines. One can only eat so many airline pretzels. They didn't even give us peanuts. When we asked if they had something other than pretzels, they gave us some kind of cookies called Biscoff. The package said they were Europe's favorite. We weren't in Europe, we weren't going to Europe, but I was thankful to the European's for saving us from starvation!

12:15 Mountain Time, is not so late for lunch, but my silly stomach thought it was 3:15. By the time we unloaded, rented a car, and found a place to eat, I had already lost seven pounds! Not really, but I wish. I was hungry enough to eat an Arizona desert cactus. We finally ate lunch, or was it dinner? It must have been lunch, because about four hours later, I ate again.

When I finally called it a day, I had no idea what time it was - mountain, central, or eastern. I do know that my body woke me up at 3:00 a.m., because it was terribly confused about what time morning arrives in Arizona. The sun did not arrive until several hours later, neither did breakfast! I decided that going back in time can be trying.

Of course, we can't actually travel back in time, but if we could, there are a few people I would love to visit. I've also wished I could go back and change a few things I've done and said, but I can't. We can't change the past, but we can change the future, in any time zone. We do this through the decisions and choices we make in the present. For some of those changes, we need God's help!

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Tribune Files from Yesteryear

From The Files Of 1950

The new Seventh Street Baptist Church building is almost complete.

Mr. and Mrs. Jake Burrow, of Trade celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary, on October 15th, with a dinner party.

Janet and Patricia Gibbs, of Birmingham attended church at Holly Pond on Sunday.

Jeff Ray, of the Welcome Community remains ill.

J.P. Hudson, of Fairview, is in serious condition in Veteran's Hospital in Tuscaloosa.

Thirty-three Cullman County 4-H Club boys and girls will feed calves for 1951, County, District and State Fat Calf Shows.

The following members will feed calves: Bobby Ellenberry, Raphael Lowry, Betty Lou Phillips, Dale Stallings, Lady Claire Davidson, Ralph Jenkins, Junior, Mary Frances Hanby, Colonel Filyaw, Donnie Blair, Talmadge Filyaw, John Vernon Oaks, Fay Eddleman, Delton Stidham, Wade Stewart, Mary Lee Hesterly, Bryon Eidson, Jerry Aldridge, Charles Helton, Erma Dean Bailey, Asa Blalock, Junior, Ralph Blalock, Delton Blalock, L.J. Hollis, Donald Ware, Joe Stallings, Dwyane Hand, Roland Hinkle, Kennon Wood, Dois Sims, Dan Sims, Iola Graham, Marlin Graham, Jackie Atchley and Maurice Blalock.

From The Files Of 1900

Vick Clark is among the clerical force at the Racket Store.

Ed Daniel has opened a restaurant in the old Speegle store building.

George Parker, Junior, went to Montgomery to witness a street fair, yesterday.

E.E. Burnum, of West Morgan is visiting his brother, Doctor F.B. Burnum, here.

Miss Clara Hewlett will teach a guitar class, at her home.

Miss Bertha Engel is now employed in the millinery department of Koopman and Gerdes.

Mr. and Mrs. H.L. Heidelburg will leave the last of the month for Los Angeles, California, where they expect to make their future home.

Mr. and Mrs. M.L. Robertson, who have been residing in Virginia, will move back to Cullman, soon.

Reverend George Clair held an Episcopal service at the Baptist Church on Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Mrs. David H. Speegle, mother of Mrs. J.A. McMinn, Mrs. Tom Vandiver and Mrs. R.H. Baird, died at her Trimble home on Monday.

Miss Hassie Mayo, who had taught school at Walter and Baileyton, died recently at the home of her brother, Thomas Mayo, at Walter.

William H. Waldrop has been appointed Notary Public in Beat 13.

Doctor James P. Moon and Miss Joe Ann Johnson were married, at Bremen, on October 7th.

Miss Eugenia Keller is attending college at Falkville.

From The Files Of 1930

The Coterie was presented the "Loulie Jones" gavel for community service at the district federation club meeting in Hartselle, on October 15th.

Those attending the event from Cullman were Mesdames M.H. Killingsworth, O.P. Jackson, O.D. Kennamer, Charles Alley, V.H. Collins, J.M. Oldacre, W.S. Leeth, C.L. Martin, J.C. Martin, W.A. Green and Bess Morrow.

Ottis Denson and Rosco Brown, of Cullman, were injured in a truck wreck near Fayetteville, Tennessee on Friday.

Saint Bernard College and Cullman High will renew athletic competition with a football game. The Girls C Club will sponsor a parade and the Cullman band will play.



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PLANT IT

Blue Chalk Sticks

Loretta Gillespie
Tribune Correspondent

This plant is a real eye-catcher. With blue plants a rarity in nature's green-on-green palette, the blues and burgundies are always superstars.

This is especially true for blue chalk sticks (Senecio vitalis "Serpents"), also known as blue chalk fingers. This attractive, easy-care succulent with stems that show off chalky blue-green, finger-shaped leaves can be found at most garden centers.

It can reach up to 18 inches, with a spread of 2 to 3 feet. Blue chalk sticks are houseplants in our area, but can spend the summer outdoors. It is winter-hardy in zones 10 through 11.

This plant works well in borders, mass plantings and rock gardens. Potted with other succulents, it can easily overrun its smaller companions, so be ready to repot frequently.

Water blue chalk sticks, usually once per week during warm summer weather, or when the soil feels dry to the touch. Water the soil to a depth of 6 inches. Always allow the soil to dry between each watering, as succulents sometimes develop rot and other potentially deadly moisture-related diseases in waterlogged soil. Water sparingly during the winter, providing only enough moisture to prevent the leaves from wilting. An old gardener's trick is to watch the news and each time it rains in Flagstaff, Ariona, it is time to water our succulents.

Fertilize blue chalk sticks only using about half the recommended strength as too much fertilizer weakens the plant and makes it more susceptible to disease and pests.

Fertilize once every two to four weeks during spring and summer, using a fertilizer formulated for cacti and succulents. Tomato fertilizer and fish emulsion fertilizer will promote even more growth.

Prune blue chalk plant severely every spring to make room for healthy new growth. Cut the plant down to a height of 3 to 4 inches.

Use your new skills to plant a succulent bowl. When it begins to look crowded or nonproductive, usually every two to three years, divide it again.

Dig the entire clump, and then pull the plant carefully into smaller sections, each with at least three to five healthy roots. Discard parts that look dead and then replant the sections.

Make your friends a great gift! Grow them a great blue chalk stick plant by taking cuttings in the spring. Cut a 2- to 3-inch lengths, and then plant the cuttings in a container filled with a commercial potting soil formulated for cacti and succulents. Place the container in a warm room. Keep the soil slightly moist, but don't let it stand in water and never let it get soggy.



GOLDEN STATE SUCCULENT

Milo's is back! Burger chain returns to Cullman

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CULLMAN – After an absence of several years, Milo's Hamburgers has returned to Cullman. The Birmingham-based chain appears to be viewing its previous departure from the Cullman market as more of a learning experience than a failure, choosing a new location in the middle of the Cherokee Avenue retail district and bringing an expanded menu and schedule.

Judging by the crowd, Milo's first day was a roaring success. Tables in the dining room stayed full, and at times the drive through line backed all the way out into the street, sometimes blocking both lanes of Patriot Way.

Milo's corporate executives were on hand to see and take an active role in the restart: greeting visitors, passing out souvenir hats, and even passing out menus in the drive through line. Vice President of Operations Liz Smith and Marketing Manager Mary Duncan-Proctor took time out of a busy lunch rush to sit down with The Tribune.

"We feel like Cullman has grown in time," said Smith, "and we just felt like it was the right time to get back here. With the growth and all the excitement in Cullman right now, we felt like this is a great market. We have a ton of folks from here that go to our Gardendale store, so we said it's the right time to get in here. We got lots of requests, and we're excited to be here."

Duncan-Proctor added, "We really do listen to our fan base; so as soon as we hear multiple people asking about a location, we're going to look into it."

Milo's returns to Cullman with both a longer daily schedule and wider range of menu choices than before. The restaurant opens at 6 a.m. with breakfast items including biscuits, sliders and burritos; chicken fingers have been added to the lunch and supper selections.

So what should folks expect from Milo's?

"A hot, saucy mess!" responded Duncan-Proctor. "Good service, friendly faces. A lot of it's all about the sauce: burgers are saucy, the chicken goes great with all of our homemade sauces. And everyone loves the really sweet tea."

The sauce is the thing

For most Milo's fans, the chain's distinctive charm lies in the sauce that comes on its burgers. By the way, it's the first thing that many detractors mention, as well.

Proctor admitted with a smile, "Our sauce is a 'love it or hate it' thing. But if you don't like it at first, by the third time you try it, I guarantee you'll be hooked!"



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The drive-through line backed up into the street, and at one point blocked both lanes of Patriot Way on Thursday.

During our lunch meeting, Proctor and Smith showcased Milo's sauce selection with a sample tray and chicken for dipping.

The flavors:

- Milo's Sauce - the standard sauce that comes on original burgers
- Double-O Sauce - a chicken dip made from ranch dressing and Milo's sauce
- Homemade Buttermilk Ranch Dressing - made in the local restaurant
- Boom-Boom Sauce - a hot spicy dipping sauce
- Honey Mustard Sauce - a popular standard for many fans of chicken tenders

According to Smith, each sauce is available for both chicken and burgers, by order.

Sheriff Gentry to citizens: *Slow down*

Wendy Sack
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CULLMAN COUNTY – According to the Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) patrol deputies will be out in force along County Road 222 during the month of July and part of August to help enforce traffic laws along that stretch of roadway.

The CCSO has received complaints from citizens from Brushy Pond, Crane Hill and up to Trimble about people speeding, texting and driving, passing on double yellow lines and other dangerous activity, read a statement from the department, which also stated a surge in the number of wrecks on 222 as a reason for the enhanced patrols.

"This is the busiest time of the year on Smith Lake and in that area of the county and traffic has been very busy. We have had our School Resource Deputies working that area all summer helping our patrol deputies answering any kind of call that may come up like a theft, burglary, domestic, etc., but now they will mainly focus on traffic enforcement until August," said Sheriff Matt Gentry. "They are not out there just to give tickets for the heck of it, but our intent is to get people to slow down on 222 due to people going way too fast on that road. It's better to be late somewhere than never get there at all...or hurt someone else. Deputies will also be looking for anyone who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs as well."

The speed limit on County Road 222 is 45 MPH. The speed is set by the Cullman County Commission; new speed limit signs have recently been installed.



CCSO

Lt. Erik Ryan performs a traffic stop Thursday on County Road 222.

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SEC Media Days begin Monday

Johnny Thornton
johnny@cullmansense.com

HOOVER – When SEC Football Media Days roll around, it's a sign that another season of college football is quickly approaching. Media Days kick off this Monday.

With the SEC heralded as one of the premiere leagues in the nation, SEC Media Days are not just for the 14 schools that compete in the conference. They bring in writers, reporters and sportscasters from across the country and consistent viewing on the SEC Network.

The Tribune will also cover the event, which will take place July 10-13 in the Wynfrey Hotel in Hoover.

In the past, the event has been held in later July and early August. This time it takes place approximately three weeks before most teams return from summer vacation and begin preparing for the 2017 campaign.

Media Days include all of the SEC head coaches, plus three student athletes from each program, who give the media the latest on what lies ahead in what is expected to be another entertaining year of SEC football.

The 2017 SEC Football Media Days schedule:

Monday, July 10

- Arkansas - Coach Bret Bilehema, QB Austin Allen, OL Frank Ragnow, DB Kevin Richardson II.
- LSU - Coach Ed Oregron, WR D.J. Chark, RB Derrius Guice, DE Christian LaCourture.
- Tennessee - Coach Butch Jones, DB Emmanuel Moseley, OL Jashon Richardson, DL Kendal Vickers.

Tuesday, July 11

- Florida - Coach Jim McElwain, DB Duke Dawson, DB Marcell Harris, OL Martez Ivey.
- Georgia - Coach Kirby Smart, RB Nick Chubb, RB Sony Michel, LB Roquan Smith.
- Vanderbilt - Coach Derek Mason, LB Oren Burks, QB Kyle Shurmur, RB Ralph Webb.
- Mississippi State - Coach Dan Mullen, WR Donald Gray, LB Dez Harris, OL Martinas Rankin.

Wednesday, July 12

- Alabama - Coach Nick Saban, OL Bradley Bozeman, DB Minkah Fitzpatrick, WR Calvin Ridley.
- Kentucky - Coach Mark Stoops, S Mike Edwards, QB Stephen Johnson, LB Courtney Love.
- Missouri - Coach Barry Odom, LB Eric Beisel, QB Drew Lock, WR J'Mon Moore.
- Texas A&M - Coach Kevin Sumlin, WR Christian Kirk, OL Koda Martin, DB Aramni Watts.

Thursday, July 13



JOHNNY THORNTON/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Alabama defensive back Minkah Fitzpatrick (left) and TE Miller Forristall were in Cullman as part of the Jeremiah Castille Character Camp in June. Fitzpatrick is one of three players who will join Nick Saban on Wednesday's media day.

- Auburn - Coach Gus Malzahn, K Daniel Carlson, DB Tray Mathews, OL Braden Smith.
- Ole Miss - Coach Hugh Freeze, OL Javon Patterson, QB Shae Patterson, DT Breeland Sparks.
- South Carolina - Coach Will Muschamp, QB Jake Bentley, TE Hayden Hurst, WR Deebo Samuel.

The Tribune will provide daily reports from each school, plus pre-season predictions.

Stay tuned for our coverage of 2017 SEC Football Media Days, beginning Monday.

McKenzie ASA Classic archery tournament returning to Cullman for next 3 years

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Nathan Anderson of Cullman Parks and Recreation (CP&R) and Mike Tyrell of the Archery Shooters' Association (ASA) recently signed an agreement that will bring the archery organization's McKenzie ASA Classic Pro/Am back to St. Bernard Abbey in Cullman for three years. The event, which has taken place in Cullman several times over the last few years, will return Aug. 3-6 with an extended schedule featuring an extra day of activities.

The ASA is a national organization with more than 9,000 members in 330 local clubs. Its McKenzie events are known for the use of innovative lifelike 3-D animal target systems of the same name, that simulate the types of shots that a bow hunter might have to make.

The ASA website describes McKenzie Pro-Am tournaments as "the best run, highest paying and most exciting events in 3-D archery. Competitors pay entry fees based on their competitive division in both pro and amateur classes, and they receive cash awards, trophies, and accumulate points toward the prestigious "Shooter of the Year" award in their class. In addition to providing world class competition, each ASA Pro/Am provides the Host community and surrounding area with an economic impact of well over $1,000,000.00, as each event attracts thousands of archers, sponsors, family members and spectators."

ASA will bring in a tournament director and staff to put on the event, assisted by CP&R staff. ASA will supply competition systems and equipment; CP&R will handle site preparation at St. Bernard Abbey and will provide security, concessions and emergency services. Multiple age groups and skill levels will allow a wide range of archers to participate, and industry manufacturers will be on hand to show off the latest and greatest in archery tech.

Anderson said of the upcoming tournament, "We expect around 1,800 competitors, featuring some of the best archers in the world. This is a great way to showcase our community. These competitors will fill our hotels, visit our tourist attractions, shop in our stores and eat in our restaurants. An event like this has a great economic impact on our community in a short amount of time."



WORLD ARCHERY

Tournament dates:

- August 3-6, 2017
- August 2-5, 2018
- August 1-4, 2019

For more information about the 2017 McKenzie ASA Classic, including an event schedule and registration, visit www.asaarchery.com/pro-am-tournaments/mckenzie-asa-classic-2017.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JULY 8, 2017

Fairview Town Council discusses rental prices and park improvements

Heather Mann
Tribune Correspondent

FAIRVIEW – At this month's meeting of Fairview's town council, there was much discussion about rental prices, possible improvements to the community park and the new senior center, which is expected to be opened soon.

The council reported that the new senior center is almost ready to open. There are still a few appliances that need to be installed, and the Commission on Aging needs to approve the center, but council members say they hope to have a grand opening within the next few weeks.

A large portion of the meeting was devoted to rental prices for the park pavilions and buildings like town hall.

The council agreed that while the current pavilion rental price of $10 might attract more renters, the revenue generated isn't enough to cover damages, graffiti removal and power bills.

The council is considering raising the rental price to $40, with a $5 discount for town residents. The price hike would also come with an extra charge for renters who hook up inflatables, to cover the extra power needed to air them up.

Also discussed was whether the Town should allow people to rent out the senior center and, if so, at what rate. A proposal was made to let renters choose whether to rent just the front of the building or the entire area. The discussion was tabled until next month's meeting.

The rental price for the town hall is currently $75, and the council did not change that, though they did propose a 10 percent discount for citizens wanting to rent buildings other than the park pavilions. A town resident discount was $5 off registration for all summer recreation programs was also suggested.

When considering improvements to the community park, the most pressing matter was the lack of a wheelchair ramp to the women's restroom, which was pointed out during Tuesday's Freedom Celebration at the park. The council stated this is a priority to correct.

Other park improvements considered were the adjustment of the lights around the flagpole, installing new picnic tables in the wooded area of the park and new benches around the walking trail.

While the decision was postponed until price estimates can be gathered, the council discussed the idea of letting community members buy memorial or honorary plaques to go on the new installations.

The council also heard from the meeting's guests. The first speakers were the heads of Fairview's peewee football program, who asked about using one of the ballparks for practice, saying their usual practice spot behind the softball field has become a mud pit.

The team agreed to compensate the Town for the cost of using the lights, so the council agreed to let them use Butler Field.

The other guest was a representative from the Fairview Lions Club, who said the Lions are doing service projects and are more than happy to help with any projects for the Town.

Also addressed were the upcoming Labor Day and Christmas celebrations. The Lions asked the council for suggestions on who should be the Labor Day parade's grand marshal. For Christmas, the Lions are considering allowing community members to bring ornaments of their own to decorate the community tree in memory of loved ones.

Although not on the agenda, the council did receive an update on the Bailey property purchase. There has been no contact from her lawyer, so the Town contacted Bailey directly - despite her lawyer saying that all contact with her needed to go through him first. The Town was able to make an offer that she could work with, so the Town's attorney is simply waiting for Bailey's attorney to draw up an acceptable contract.

Under new business, the council discussed a problem on Wesley Avenue with a drainage ditch eroding. A councilman who recently saw the area said the repairs they've made so far look good, but there was some concern about how the area across the road would hold up after a big storm. Mayor Keith Henry said that the town had negotiated a deal with the water company: the company would help with most of the repairs and would only charge the Town for the rocks it needed to lay down.

Just before adjourning, the council discussed possible renovations to the town hall, including removing the carpet and painting the walls, and agreed to bring floor and paint samples to the next meeting. Lastly, the council approved a motion to change meeting times from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The Fairview Town Council meets on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m.

Celebrate (from Front)

We had a downtown merchants' association, and we were worried about the merchants down in this area. That was the origination of it. Nathan Anderson, who heads up the parks department, and I, and Leah (Bolin) who's with the Chamber put together a celebration. The idea was to bring the traffic back and help the merchants.

"A couple of years after that, the parks department had signed up the ASA archery tournament. We decided that we could help the parks department if we moved the date to correspond, to bring those folks downtown to help sell downtown Cullman."

This year's celebration will once again reach out to the archers and their families, along with other visitors in town for the tournament.

According to Pierce, "This year, they'll have a big golden invitation in their bag. There'll be about 1,800 archers and maybe about 4,000 people (total). They've got a multi-year contract, so if it goes well this year, they'll bring even more next year."

For this year's event, planners are thinking big.

Preliminary plans include

- Carnival rides and inflatables in the street along First Avenue Northeast
- "Cow Train" ATV-towed ride for little kids
- Carnival games with tickets and a prize tent
- Games and rides will be free
- Loads of live music, including bands on First Avenue Northeast and individual musicians on other thoroughfares and in businesses and restaurants. The Warehouse District will have a DJ; and between Highway 278 and Busy Bee, acts like the Cotton Pickin' Kids, the Escalators, and BoomTown will perform.
- CP&R archery area
- Historic downtown tours
- Participating downtown merchants open for business into the evening, until 9 p.m.
- Participating downtown restaurants open until midnight

Planners are still talking with some people and groups that could expand the range of offerings.

"We've really got a vibrant downtown," said Pierce, "and we don't want to let that get away. We want to continue to grow it and fill it; and we want the people of Cullman to be proud of their downtown, because it's really unique. It's really a wonderful place.

"I love Cullman: a lot of good Christian values, a lot of good family values. We'd like (downtown) to be a crown jewel for Cullman. The reason Michael and I are working this is that we love Cullman. The reason Shane Quick is here doing everything he does is that he loves the downtown. The reason Nathan Anderson is doing what he's doing is that he loves the downtown. They love Cullman first of all, and they love the downtown."

Obituary Announcements: June 8-9

Memorial services for Ralph R. Clevenhagen, 75 of Vinemont, are incomplete and will be given by family at a later date. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Clevenhagen passed away Thursday, July 6, 2017 at Cullman Regional Medical Center. He was born March 12, 1942 to parents Ralph E. and Lucy Shelby Clevenhagen.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include his wife, Colette Clevenhagen; one daughter, Rachael (Harry) Brett; one son, Ray B. Clevenhagen; three step-children, Katherine (David) Stump, Eric (Becky) Schlichting, and Wayne Schlichting; five grandchildren, Maxx Stump, Dennis Schlichting, Morgan Schlichting, Kyle Roberts and Brianna Roberts; and a host of family and friends.

Funeral services for Talmadge Wayne Simspon, 67 of Cullman, will be Saturday, July 8, 2017 at 11 AM at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Cullman Heritage Cemetery, the Revs. Fred Rivers, Steven Sutter, and Derald Briscoe officiating. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Simpson passed away July 5 at Cullman Regional Medical Center. He was born April 30, 1950 to parents Willard and Gladys Simpson.

He is preceded in death by parents; and two sisters, Ethel and Rose.

Survivors include his wife, Geraldine Trussell Simpson; two sons, Joseph Simpson and David Bates; one daughter, Frances Hood; two sisters, Carol Robertson and Catherine Quick; 12 grandchildren, SeAnna, Ethan, Jacob, Maci Jo, Joshua Malin, Levi, Kendall, Kyle, Holly, Deanna, Shelby, and Kristin; 12 great-grandchildren; and a host of family and friends.

Funeral services for Fred Seay Holmes, 87, of Hayden are Sunday, July 9, 2017 at 2 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel; with interment in Graves Gap Cemetery. Visitation on Sunday from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Mr. Holmes passed away Wednesday, July 5, 2017. He is survived by his wife, Wanzell Marie Holmes; daughter, Gayla (Steve) Zabriski; granddaughters, Morgan (Chris) Hornung and Erin Zabriski and a host of nieces and nephews.

Free Obituary Listings

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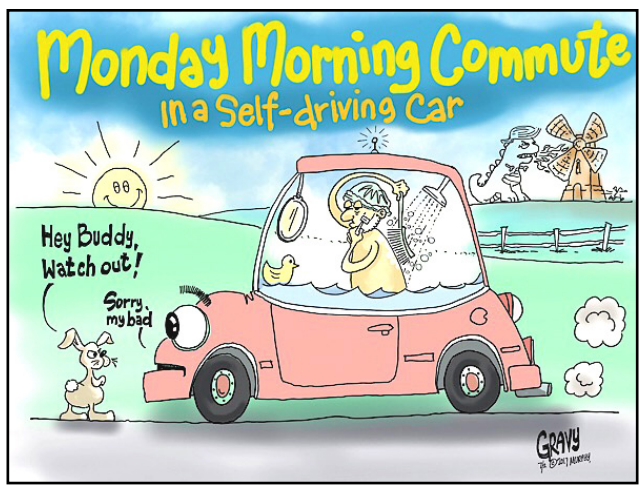
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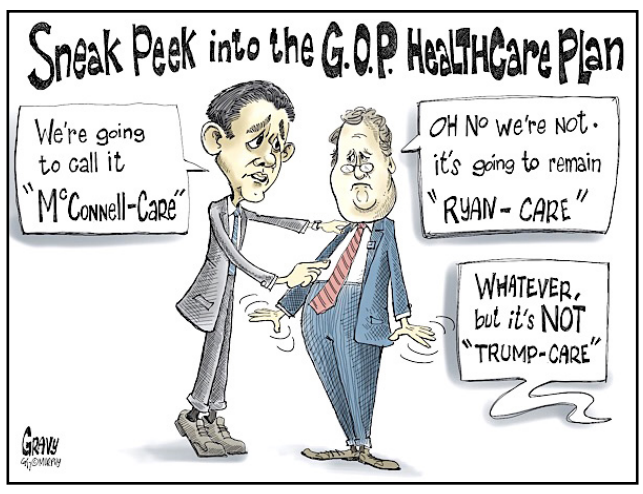
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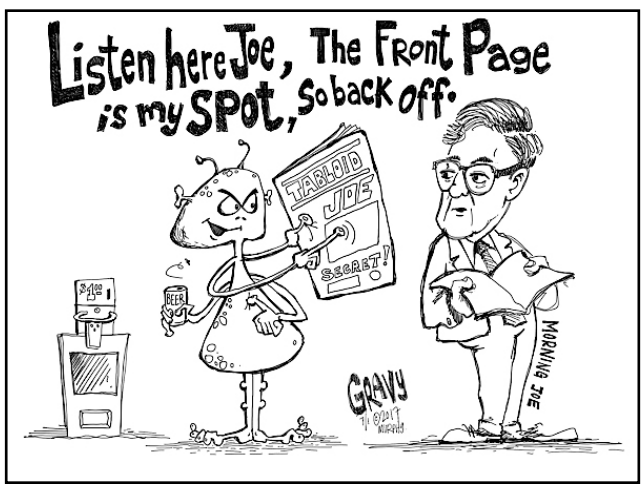
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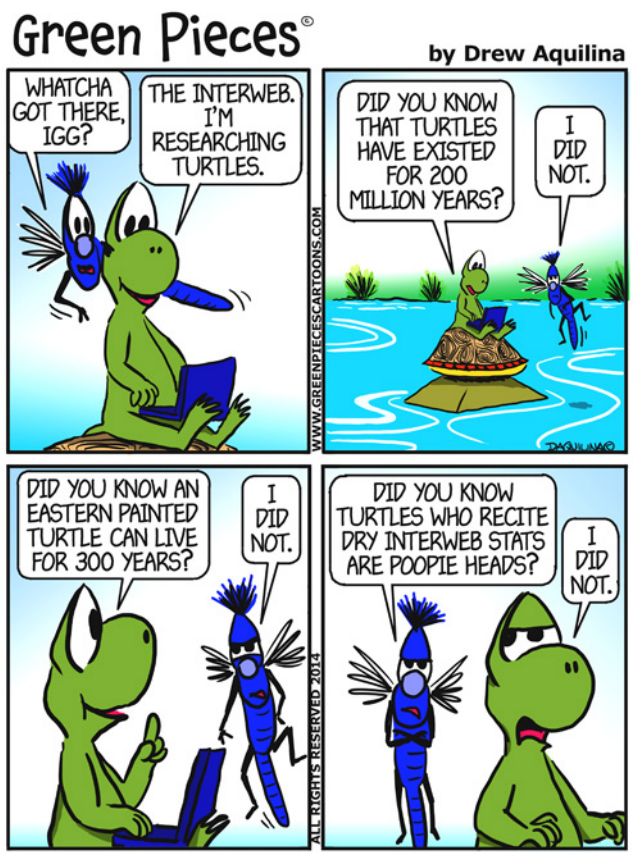
Editorial Cartoons







Comic



Poet's Corner

What Does the Little Birdie Say?

By: Alfred, Lord Tennyson 1809-1892

What does little birdie say In her nest at peep of day? Let me fly, says little birdie, Mother, let me fly away.

Birdie, rest a little longer,
Till the little wings are stronger.
So she rests a little longer,
Then she flies away.

What does little baby say,
In her bed at peep of day?
Baby says, like little birdie,
Let me rise and fly away.

Baby sleep, a little longer,
Till the little limbs are stronger,
If she sleeps a little longer,
Baby too shall fly away.

OPINION

Middle of the night thinking: ultrasounds

Loretta Gillespie
Tribune Correspondent

It's two in the morning here at the Gillespie household, and the sound of a baby crying has just been hushed. It's sort of funny, the things you think about in the middle of the night. This is what went floating through my tired brain...

"There just isn't any way to tell what she will see in her lifetime," I thought, gazing down at my month-old granddaughter. "Will there even be people here still, when she grows up? And will they ever figure out how to make those washers with no agitators work better? Will LED lights be normal or still blue when she is a mother?

That made me think of an article I wrote back around Mother's Day about a lady who still recalled getting her first washing machine, then not long afterward came the refrigerator, dryer, and later, a television!

She said that when power first arrived in her little community, everyone ran out in the road and yelled to one another that the power was on. They finally had enough light to read the paper! I asked her what she loved the most about having a modern kitchen and she answered, "The water!" Before we had running water, we had to draw everything from the spring and haul it into the house.

If there are life-changing advances like that in my granddaughter's lifetime, I can't even imagine what they would be...will people vacation on the moon? Will they have trouble growing food because of climate change? Will the population have grown so much by that time that the earth just can't hold them all?

All of this brings to mind the old adage, "The more things change, the more they stay the same."

But having said that, I've noticed that things have changed so much about the way we care for babies since mine were born in the 70s and 80s. I worried so much about sonograms when my daughter was pregnant. Now that might sound silly, but with the debate over babies getting shots that were considered life-saving when we were going through all of that, sonograms are another concern.

In the early days of doing them, the rate of autism in the U.S. was 1 in 10,000. In 2002, it had climbed to 1 in 168. Right now, it's 1 in 68. Those are staggering figures.

Something is causing that, but what? In third-world countries where there is no access to sonograms, the rate of children with autism is almost non-existent. They probably don't have access to vaccines, either, so the result could be from neither, or from a combination of both.

If you research the subject, you will find various experts who differ in their opinions, but if you do enough research, you will find frightening statistics that will concern you for any pregnant woman in today's uncertain focus on trying to find the cause, or causes of autism.

In a conversation with Health Science Consultant, Nancy Evans in 2011, Michealene Cristini Risley wrote, "Ultrasound is not unsound, but safety is an issue ... We do not know that modern ultrasound devices are safe ... Ultrasound operators do not know how to use the real-time display of safety information on the screen ... There is a possible link between experimental and epidemiological evidence on ultrasound and handedness," (Salvesen & Lees, 2009). Evans was referring to the fact that lefthandness was more prevalent among babies who had sonograms. She went on to assure that there was nothing wrong with left-handedness, just that it takes place in the brain, and indicated that there were changing statistics showing an increase of the previously rarer predilection for use of the left hand.

Stratmeyer and colleagues report, "Animal studies suggest that ultrasound may produce adverse effects in the neurological, immunological, hematological, developmental and genetic status of the exposed fetus," (Stratmeyer, 1982; Stratmeyer, et al, 2008).

One of the biggest concerns is the so-called, "entertainment sonogram or ultrasound" which is just for the mother and father's scrapbooks. In a question posed to Evans, "Apparently prenatal ultrasound also is performed many times outside of the health care system. How does this come into the equation?"

Her answer is very important, "I believe that this issue needs to be looked at much more closely, particularly with the increase of non-medical personnel who perform these ultrasounds. A pregnant mother's first sonogram may come from a keepsake ultrasound boutique at a local shopping mall. These boutiques have mushroomed into a huge industry. In 2004, there were 250 boutique centers (4d-ultrasounds.com). By 2006, a single franchise operator, United Imaging Partners, had a network of 90 facilities just in the U.S. (Ostrom, 2006). Keepsake boutiques can be found in every state, including the five states that have no standards, licensure or regulatory provisions for radiologic personnel (ASRT, 2010). Take a look at the map (https://www.asrt.org/media/pdf/govrel/doesyourstateregulate.pdf), I find it scary!"

This research does not mean that women should not have ultrasounds, it just means that they should be used only on the advice of a doctor, and by a licensed technician, and only for medical reasons, not for keepsakes. There will be plenty of opportunities to take pictures of your child after he/she makes an appearance, and the quality of them will be much better!

In 35 years, the medical community went from advising young parents that they should let babies sleep on their stomachs to avoid choking if they should vomit, to the current trend of having them sleep on their backs to avoid SIDS. I can't help but wonder what they will advise about ultrasound and sonogram use in the future, or about baby and childhood vaccines. But I do think it's important enough to warrant more studies, and that the use of them should be done only when absolutely necessary, not for vanity's sake. The risk is just too great...

Further Reading: American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine (http://www.aium.org/pressRoom/viewRelease.aspx?id=114)

Gilliland (from Front)

"He hasn't been terminated," remarked the superintendent, "he just resigned. It won't be official until the board meets, but he's come and done the paperwork. I was notified the he was going to officially resign and apply for positions outside the district, and I wished him well."

Upon the school board's approval next Thursday night, Lamar's resignation will be effective July 1.

Barnette said that Lamar's position at West Point may be filled internally at the school without the hiring of a new faculty member, but that decision has not been finalized.



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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
Lisa McSwain,
Clerk of Circuit Court

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

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JULY 8, 2017

Cullman's Oakleigh White wins Alfa Foundation scholarship

Mary Johnson
Alfa

CULLMAN – Oakleigh White, a graduate of Cullman High School, received a $1,000 scholarship from the Alfa Foundation. White is a junior at Troy University studying communication studies. White is one of 100 students from across the state who will reap the rewards of an Alabama Farmers Federation membership when they pay their tuition fees this fall.

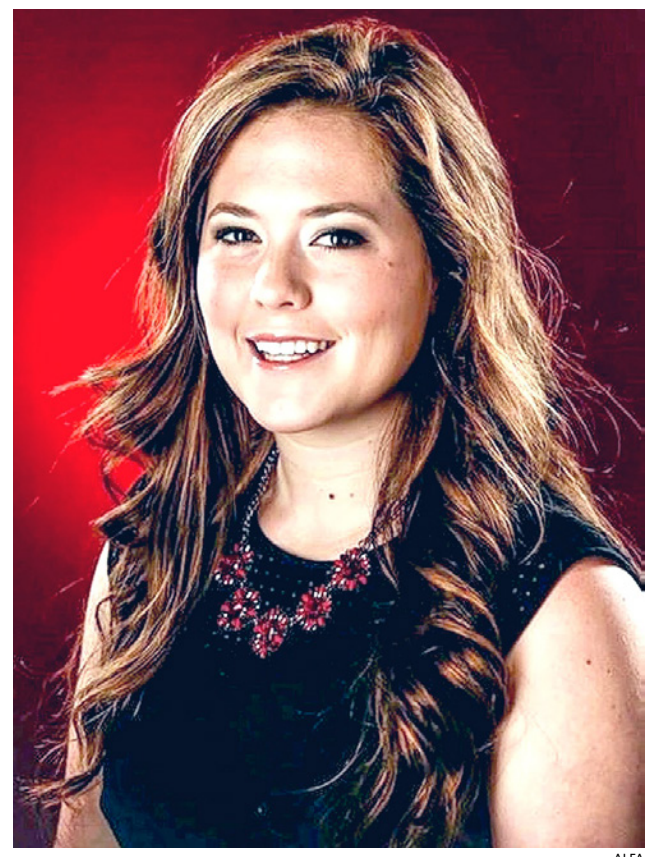
In its fourth year, the Alfa Foundation has again distributed $100,000 in scholarships to 100 college students studying at Alabama technical schools, colleges or universities. The scholarship may be used for tuition, fees, books or supplies.

The students represent 45 counties and 22 schools.

"Alfa is proud to support students who are working hard to educate themselves and develop workforce skills," said Alfa Insurance and Federation President Jimmy Parnell. "These students are the future of our state and nation, and I hope the scholarship will relieve some of the stress of paying for school."

The Alfa Foundation Scholarship program is administered by Scholarship America, which bases its selection on academics, participation in school and community activities, honors, work experience and future goals.

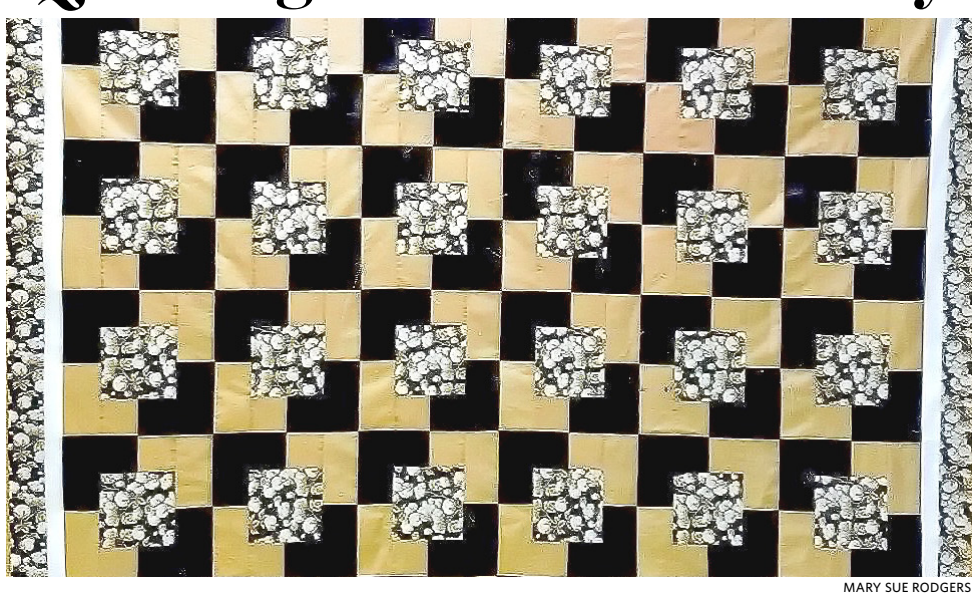
To view photos of the recipients, visit AlfaInsurance.com or go to Facebook.com/AlfaInsurance.



ALFA

Oakleigh White

Heartland Quilt Guild's 'Quilting in Cotton Country'



MARY SUE RODGERS

The Heartland Quilt Guild will sponsor a quilt show "Quilting in Cotton Country" Friday, July 14, 1-5 p.m. and Saturday, July 15, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at East Elementary School, 608 Fourth Ave. SE in Cullman. Included will be beautiful quilts made by Heartland members, a display of growing cotton in Cullman and north Alabama, vendors, a donation quilt give away, door prizes and mini demonstrations. Contact: Porsia Anderson 256 737-7557 or Hazel Ruehl 256 339-2224.

Pictured: This quilt will be given away at the show. ***Submitted by Mary Sue Rodgers***

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