3 TUESDAY • THURSDAY • SATURDAY 3
NOW 3 DAYS PER WEEK

The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

VOL. 144 • 50¢ PER COPY | JULY 25, 2017 | USPS 139-700 • NO. 47

NEVER TOO YOUNG TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Meet Denna Chivers



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Denna managed the yard sale, with help from her parents James and Beth Ann Chivers.

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – There are lots of people who say they are animal lovers. Then there are those who make an occasional contribution to the Humane Society. Then there are those who adopt animals from the shelter, to give them a forever home.

THEN there's Denna Grace Chivers. Recently, she held her own personal fundraising yard sale to support the Cullman County Animal Shelter, and this wasn't an isolated event.

She's been doing things like this for more than two years, using her birthday and Christmas money buy food, treats and toys for the animals at the shelter. By the way, she's 9 years old.

The Tribune caught up with Denna and her parents at the sale in front of Seventh Street Baptist Church, to find out more.

"She wanted to have this yard sale," said proud mom Beth Ann Chivers, "and give all the money she makes to the animal shelter.

"She just loves animals, and she's been doing this for a while. She has a really good heart."

Denna is already on her way to an animal-based career, with her own menagerie at home: cows, dogs, cats, chickens and goats.

Even with her hands full, she's ready for the next addition, saying, "I'm going to get another dog: a baby Dachshund, but I call it a weenie dog."



Denna explained why she decided to have this sale. "I just really love animals, and also I wanted to sell some of my stuff so I'll have more room in the den.

"I just thought that those poor animals can have some more food and water, and toys, and treats and stuff."

She also had a little advice for fellow animal lovers.

"Some people don't have pets. So I would really like for some more people to have pets, to adopt them, because some animal shelters, they put the animals to rest, and I just don't like that. So I'd really like for more people to adopt animals."

At 9 years of age, Denna already has career goals.

It should come as no surprise that she wants to be a veterinarian.

Beth Ann Chivers concluded, "She's just a gift from God. She's our precious little girl."

CRIME

Local optometrist arrested for harassment



CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Dr. Phillip Guthery

Heather Mann, Wendy Sack
Cullman Tribune

CULLMAN – A local optometrist was arrested Friday on one count of harassment after a patient swore out an affidavit against him and a warrant was issued by the magistrate's office.

Dr. Phillip Guthery, 66, a resident of Gardendale, was arrested at his place of business, the Family Eye Clinic, at 100 Seventh St. SW in Cullman.

According to court documents, Guthery allegedly grabbed the victim, described by police as "a female in her 50s or 60s," by the face and kissed her, then "grabbed her breast and genital area."

Cullman Police Sgt. David Nassetta, the lead investigator on the case, said, "We were able to corroborate enough to warrant the harassment charge."

Nassetta was not able to disclose how the department corroborated the victim's story.

The alleged incident took place at the eye clinic.

Nassetta says Guthery was arrested and bonded out on the same day.

According to part A of Section 13A-11-8 (A) of the Code of Alabama, 1975:
(a)(1) HARASSMENT. A person commits the crime of harassment if, with intent to harass, annoy, or alarm **» PAGE 3**

Southern gospel tradition

Joyful Hearts 25th anniversary homecoming Aug. 5

Loretta Gillespie
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – The rafters out at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church will probably vibrate a little on August 5, thankfully not from another tornado, but from the Joyful Hearts 25th Homecoming Gospel Singing.

In addition to the Joyful Hearts, the Master's Four Quartet from Pulaski, Tennessee, and Surrendered from Gadsden, Alabama, will be taking the stage at Pleasant Grove.

Admission is free, and a love offering for both the traveling groups will be received.

Cullman's Brenda Foxx, who is a member of the Joyful Hearts (along with Donnie Foxx and David Bates), invites everyone to attend this event, noting that the tradition of Southern gospel music is still strong in this region, and encouraging everyone to come and be a part of this extraordinary musical event.

Back in the horse and buggy days, small towns and cities across the region were filled with visitors who came to hear revival preachers, eat dinner on the grounds and listen to this music which comes from the hills of the Appalachians, its roots from Scotland and Ireland. These singings took place, not only in churches, but in courthouses and high school gyms and even in tents pitched in the fields of a friendly farmer. The singings sometimes lasted for three or four days. People came from great distances, with lunches packed, and prepared to stay until the last note faded away.

This homecoming promises to be just as well attended, although the parking lot will be full of cars and trucks instead of wagons and other **» PAGE 2**



CONTRIBUTED

Southern gospel group Joyful Hearts will celebrate its 25th anniversary with a homecoming gospel singing on Saturday, August 5 at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church.

ALABAMA BICENTENNIAL

Cullman library receives grant for August Alabama Bicentennial art project

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansenes.com

CULLMAN – On Monday morning, the Cullman Alabama 200 Committee presented the Cullman County Public Library with a check for $500, which will enable the library to host a free community art event in August. Bicentennial Committee Chairman Drew Green presented the grant to Cullman County Public Library System Director Sharon Townson and Janice Cook of the Cullman County Public Library.

Cook explained how the grant will be used.

"We're doing door hangers in the shape of the state of Alabama, and they (participants) will be able to decorate them to suit their families' needs, whether it's patriotic or has the family name, or whatever they prefer. We're providing all of the paints, all of the stencils, everything in order for them to make them and take them home with them. The library is using this as a kickoff for the Alabama Bicentennial, so we thought this would be a fun way to kick it off."

Townson added, "It's just the community coming together with the city and the county providing the funds, and it's coming through the committee to be able to do something like this for the public. The painting parties that people do are really popular right now, so we're just glad to be a part of it."

The painting class will take place at the main branch of the Cullman County Public Library Monday, Aug. 7, from 9:30 a.m. until noon.

Leah Barnes will oversee the class, and will provide the state-shaped wooden cutouts.

Paint, brushes and sponges, hanging wire and trim ribbon will all be available at no charge.

Admission to the event is first-come, first-served. Pre-registration is not available. Children age 6 and older are welcome with a parent, and participants do not have to have a library card.

One event among many, hopefully

Green hopes to see others involved in activities to promote the statehood bicentennial, and wanted to offer a reminder to the Cullman community.

"We do have some small funds like this to help out, if a group has a special project that would be connected with the bicentennial; and I also have contacts in Montgomery, if they're interested in trying to get a big project off the ground."

For more information, contact Green at the Cullman County Museum.

At a glance

Alabama door hanger painting class



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman's Alabama 200 Committee Chairman Drew Green presents a grant check to Cullman County Public Library's Janice Cook and Cullman County Public Library System Director Sharon Townson.

Open to children six and older accompanied by a parent
Cullman County Library, main branch, 200 Clark St. NE, Cullman
Monday, August 7, at 9:30 a.m.
Free event, all materials provided
No registration; first come, first served

Tradition (from Front)

horse-drawn conveyances.

If you are of the older generation, you have probably heard Southern gospel music sung in many of the local churches in by-gone days. According to Foxx, she first heard this compelling music at home when she was a very young child from her grandmother's (Louella Skinner) radio and from her father, Junior Lawrence, who sang harmony and high tenor and picked guitar. Foxx inherited his gift.

Not only is she a multi-faceted singer, but she is also a composer and will be sharing some of her own compositions at the homecoming. Other, more familiar songs often include audience participation; "What a Beautiful Day" and "What A Happy Time", among others, are often requested songs from the past.

This form of music might have escaped the attention of the younger generation in favor of hip hop, contemporary, and electronically generated music. However, the younger generation should know that it was Southern gospel that gave birth to many other forms of singing and songwriting over the past century. Singers Jerry Lee Lewis and Elvis Presley would have had a great deal of exposure to Southern gospel music, having attended churches in the rural South where it has retained one of its purest, unadulterated forms, in part because of the area's small churches, some of them very isolated from outside influences. Rock-and-roll, soul and many other forms of music came directly from the influence of Southern gospel music.

This was the music of the coal mines of Kentucky, the cotton fields of Alabama, the sugarcane plantations of Louisiana and the low country marshes of Georgia and South Carolina. You would have heard it coming through the open windows of little white clapboard churches in West Virginia, and it would have been a familiar sound in the turn-of-the-century Mississippi Delta and the Appalachian Mountains of Tennessee. It knows no denomination, race, creed or social status.

If you know what to listen for, you can hear remnants of a form of Southern gospel called, "Sacred Harp" music in many hit songs played on today's radio. A group of Sacred Harp singers preformed two of the songs in the 1990s movie "Cold Mountain" starring Nicole Kidman, Renee' Zellweger, Jude Law and Lucas Black. Buell Cobb, of Cullman County, was among that group of singers. According to Foxx, the Joyful Hearts and other groups still break off into a capella choruses of their songs.

"People who come to hear us, especially older people, love to sing along with us," said Foxx.

It is due to movies like "Oh, Brother, Where Art Thou?" and "Cold Mountain," that a renewed interest in the genre has exposed a new generation to the haunting beauty of the words and the homespun sound of banjos, dulcimers and steel guitars.

If you are curious about where the roots of traditional Southern gospel and country music got their start, you will want a seat in the audience on August 5, as these talented gospel singers and musicians take the stage to honor the Lord in song.

You'll find yourself tapping your toes and clapping your hands!

As long as there are events like this homecoming, the heritage of Southern gospel will continue to expose people of all generations to a form of music that not only entertains, but carries a message in song about redemption, and salvation.

Lines like "I'm kind of homesick for a country, to which I've never been before," by Squire Parsons, or, "Go rest high on that mountain, boy, your work on earth is done," (Vince Gill) have brought tears to the eyes of the hardest of souls, causing them to make their way down aisles in tent meetings, revivals and Sunday morning worship in churches and even at funerals all across the Southeast for years.

Come out and fellowship with people who love Southern gospel and visit with the Joyful Hearts, the Master's Four and Surrendered, on August 5, and renew your heart and your soul.

At a glance
Date: Aug. 5, 2017
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: Pleasant Grove Baptist Church
1980 County Road 1422
(Just off the Eva Road)
Admission: Free; love offering will be received for two touring groups

For more information, call 256-775-0103

City of Good Hope
6th Annual Back-to-School Bash
THURSDAY JULY 27, 2017
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Free T-shirts to Good Hope student's K-6th grade while they last. (Students must be present)
Free Hot Dog, Chips and Pepsi. Children 5 and under- will have their bounce house and wet slide on field #1. Children 6 and up will be on field #2 with big wet slides and slip n slide



GOLD SPONSORS: PEPSI
JAMES R. SMITH TRUCKING
GOOD HOPE CONTRACTING, INC.
GRANDMA'S CARWASH & LAUNDRY
JAMES A. SMITH TRANSPORTATION
WENDY'S

WEAR YOUR SWIMSUIT & BRING A TOWEL





Cool off @ Back-to-School Bash
Please join us

WRECKER/TOW TRUCK Driver
Clean driving record, clean criminal record, able to pass DOT physical, able to pass pre-employment drug and alcohol screening, must have CDL's, must be 21 years of age or older, good positive work ethics.
NO PHONE CALLS
Stop in office to fill out application
Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Mullins Body Shop, LLC
11042 US Hwy 31 South, Cullman, AL 35055

The Cullman Tribune
Cullman County's Oldest Business, Serving the area since 1874
Publication Number USPS-139-700
Telephone: 256-739-1351 Fax: 1-256-739-4422
Humble Roots, LLC
Published Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 219 2nd Avenue SE, Cullman, Alabama 35055 Entered as periodical material at the Cullman Post Office Periodical postage paid at Cullman, Alabama 35055
POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGE TO:
The Cullman Tribune
219 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Email Address: robin@cullmansense.com

ANNUALLY BASED RATES
Cullman.....$75.00
Outside Cullman.....$85.00

Noah Galilee – Publisher
Dustin Isom – Editor
Wendy Sack – Newsroom Editor
Loretta Gillespie – Lifestyle/Religion
Will Hogue – General Reporter
W.C. Mann – General Reporter
Andrew Cryer – General Reporter
Johnny Thornton – Sports Editor
Josh McBrayer – Sports Reporter
Robin Winton – Newsroom Manager

POLITICS

Voter registration deadline looming for U.S. Senate primary election

Wendy Sack, W.C. Mann
Cullman Tribune

MONTGOMERY – Voters have until July 31 to register to vote in Alabama's U.S. Senate primary election on Aug. 15.

There are 18 candidates, 10 Republicans and 8 Democrats, vying for the seat formerly held by now U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions and currently held by former Alabama Attorney General Luther Strange.

A primary runoff will be held on Sept. 26, if needed, and the general election will be held Dec. 12.

Visit http://qrne.ws/voters to register to vote or to check your registration status.

Leading Republican candidates, U.S. Rep. Mo Brooks and Roy Moore, will be in Cullman this Friday, July 28 at 6 p.m. when the Cullman County Republican Party's executive committee hosts a U.S. Senate candidate dinner at the Cullman Civic Center.

Tickets to the event are $50, with proceeds going to the local party to support campaigning and charitable work.

Below is a rundown of all 18 candidates.

Republican party candidates

James Beretta: A Shelby County pain management physician and grandson of immigrants. Supports immigration reform with strict rules for immigration, including a three-year time limit to learn English.

Joseph Breault: An Air Force Chaplain at Maxwell AFB in Montgomery. Nominated for the Utah House of Representatives last year. Known to avoid the press and skip interviews; platform still unclear.

Randy Brinson: A Montgomery physician who founded the Christian youth voter registration movement "Redeem the Vote," and who has served as head of the Alabama Christian Coalition. Promotes development of trade ties in Africa and Latin America.

Mo Brooks: A current U.S. Representative from Madison County, and the current no. 3 candidate in polls. Platform includes lowering national debt, securing borders and promoting free enterprise. Endorsed by conservative radio hosts Laura Ingraham and Mark Levin, U.S. Reps. Mike Rogers and Mark Meadows, and the Tea Party group, Alabama Patriots.

Dominic "Dom" Gentile: A Jefferson County businessman who promotes a flat tax and promises reduction of the power of the IRS. Refuses corporate contributions, and supports term limits; says he will run only once more if elected.

Mary Maxwell: A Massachusetts native who spent much of her adult life in Australia. A YouTube conspiracy theorist who once ran for Congress in New Hampshire on a platform of "discovering the truth about 9/11." Moved from Australia to Montgomery just to take part in this campaign.

Roy Moore: Former Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice removed from office for advising probate judges to ignore the U.S. Supreme Court's order supporting same-sex marriage. Endorsed by former state Sen. Bill Armistead. Leads or second place and gaining fast in polls.

Bryan Peeples: A Jefferson County business manager and consultant with no political background. Three years younger than the youngest current senator. Says he is a fiscal conservative who supports small government and term limits.

Trip Pittman: A Baldwin County businessman and current state senator. Though an elected official, advertises himself as a successful businessman and political outsider who will help "drain the swamp" in Washington.

Luther Strange: The incumbent candidate, and former state attorney general. Endorsed by U.S. Sen. Richard Shelby, the Alabama Farmers' Federation and the National Rifle Association. Platform includes support of religious freedom, support of the Trump administration agenda and replacement of the Affordable Care Act. Currently second or first but fading in polls.

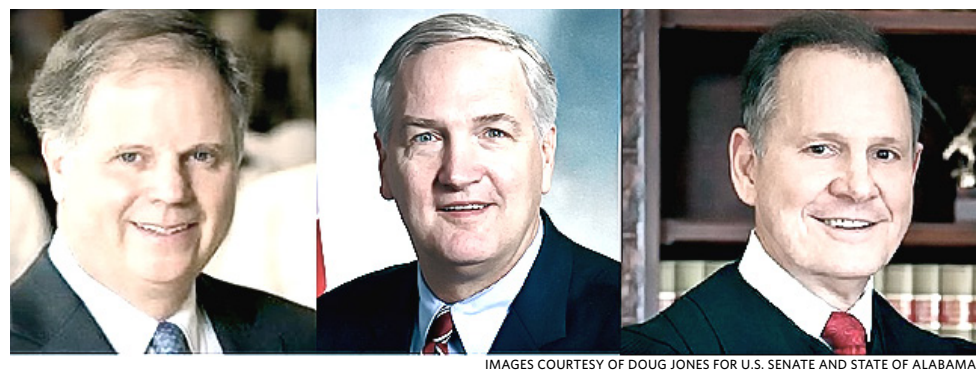
Democratic party candidates

Will Boyd: A Lauderdale County resident and former Greenville, Illinois city councilman. Pastor of St. Marks Missionary Baptist Church in Florence, claims to differ from other Democrats by being pro-life and supporting second amendment gun rights.

Vann Caldwell: A Talladega County constable. Platform includes support for the Affordable Care Act, growing the economy, and support for the military and homeland security.

Jason Fisher: A Baldwin County businessman with no political background. After the loss of his wife, became an advocate for healthcare reform which is his main platform item. Promotes reform of the Affordable Care Act without replacement.

Michael Hansen: An openly gay Jefferson County activist and environmental nonprofit executive, whose political views have been compared to those of Bernie Sanders. Calls for an increase to the minimum wage, Medicare for all Americans, and an end to all discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.



IMAGES COURTESY OF DOUG JONES FOR U.S. SENATE AND STATE OF ALABAMA

Democrat Doug Jones, left, and Republican Roy Moore, right, are the leading challengers for the U.S. Senate seat currently held by Luther Strange, center.

Doug Jones: A former U.S. attorney for the northern district of Alabama, based in Jefferson County. An advocate for education, healthcare and LGBTQ rights, he is best known for his successful 2001 prosecution of two perpetrators of the 1963 16th Street Baptist Church bombing in Birmingham. The leading Democratic party candidate.

Robert Kennedy, Jr.: No relation to the famous presidential Kennedy family. A Mobile marketing executive, a political unknown, even to party members in his home county. Supports the Affordable Care Act, but calls for reform. Opposes Trump's border security plan, but supports second amendment gun rights.

Brian McGee: A Lee County Vietnam veteran and retired Department of Defense overseas base school teacher. Supports the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid expansion, wants to reform the Veterans' Administration. Advocates mandatory government service for all citizens after high school.

Nana Tchienkou/Charles Nana: Born in Cameroon, a Jefferson County business consultant who won 44 percent of the vote in the Democratic party's 2016 U.S. Senate primary. Supports a minimum wage hike, free college education and immigration reform that includes a pathway to citizenship for illegal immigrants. Calls for increased care for the poor and veterans.

Harassment (from Front)

another person, he or she either:

a. Strikes, shoves, kicks, or otherwise touches a person or subjects him or her to physical contact.

b. Directs abusive or obscene language or makes an obscene gesture towards another person..

(2) For purposes of this section, harassment shall include a threat, verbal or nonverbal, made with the intent to carry out the threat, that would cause a reasonable person who is the target of the threat to fear for his or her safety.

(3) Harassment is a Class C misdemeanor.



EARL'S BODY SHOP
2251 Decatur Ave., N.W.
734-2406

Batteries for Car, Truck or Tractor
$38 *Exchange*
A-1 BATTERY SUPPLY
Cullman, Alabama

THE BARN
Portable Storage Buildings
Hanceville, AL
352-2737

Your protection is personal.

Get a quote today from:



Martha A Burchell
Burchell Ins Agency Inc
(256)737-7450
burchem@nationwide.com

Auto. Home. Life. Business.

Nationwide® is on your side

Products underwritten by Nationwide Mutual Company and Affiliated Companies, Columbus, Ohio. Subject to underwriting guidelines, review and approval. Nationwide and the Nationwide N and Eagle are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. NPO-0194M1.1 (09/14)

Subscribe to The Cullman Tribune today and have it delivered to your door!

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS
- In County - $75
- Out of County - $85



THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JULY 25, 2017



ALICE ENGLAND

England alleges that water stands in the ditch for days after rain, becoming a breeding site for mosquitoes.

Citizen alleges deficiencies in road management in Dodge City

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

DODGE CITY – When it rains at Alice England's house, it doesn't pour, but it does flood a little, and the water seems to enjoy hanging around. Water fills the low ditch in front of her home just inside the Dodge City town limits on County Road 216, and often encroaches into her yard, she says. To make matters worse, England contends, the water does not run off down the ditch; it stands for days until drying up, becoming a breeding site for mosquitoes during warm months.

"It doesn't have anywhere to go," said England, "so it fills up quickly. And the water doesn't travel; it just sits there until it's absorbed. It stands for several days, and in the deep parts it becomes a pond. It can stay here for a week or even two weeks."

The Tribune met England at her home on Monday to view the situation.

At the time of the visit, Dodge City had been hot and rain-free for 18 days, according to Weather Channel records; but the bottom of the ditch was still clearly wet in places.

Additionally, England pointed out the right of way along the road, that was overgrown with brush in several places.

She voiced four concerns/ allegations

1. Standing water in the ditch could breed mosquitoes and attract other pests like snakes.

2. Fast-rising water in the ditch during storms can wash over the road, making travel dangerous.

3. Overflows from the ditch have caused erosion of her yard, and have killed a tree near the ditch.

4. The lack of a solution to the problem, coupled with the overgrown right of way, seem to indicate a lack of interest on Dodge City's part in maintaining this stretch of CR 216.

England says she has been trying since 2014 to get something done about the problem.

She alleges that after repeated attempts to get help from the Cullman County Road Department, she was informed in 2016 that since her address is within the town limits of Dodge City, she would have to contact that municipality.

In a written statement, she related what happened after that:

"I next called (the) Town of Dodge City and spoke to the mayor. She was very understanding and did want to help me in some way. She asked what I thought could be done.

"I really had no idea, but did suggest some rip rap to possibly stop the erosion of my yard into the ditch. Even that help didn't happen quickly (only after a month or two of more calls), but they did finally."

Though Dodge City Mayor Tawana Canada did try to assist England, the measure was only intended to stop erosion, and could not alleviate the flooding or speed up drainage.

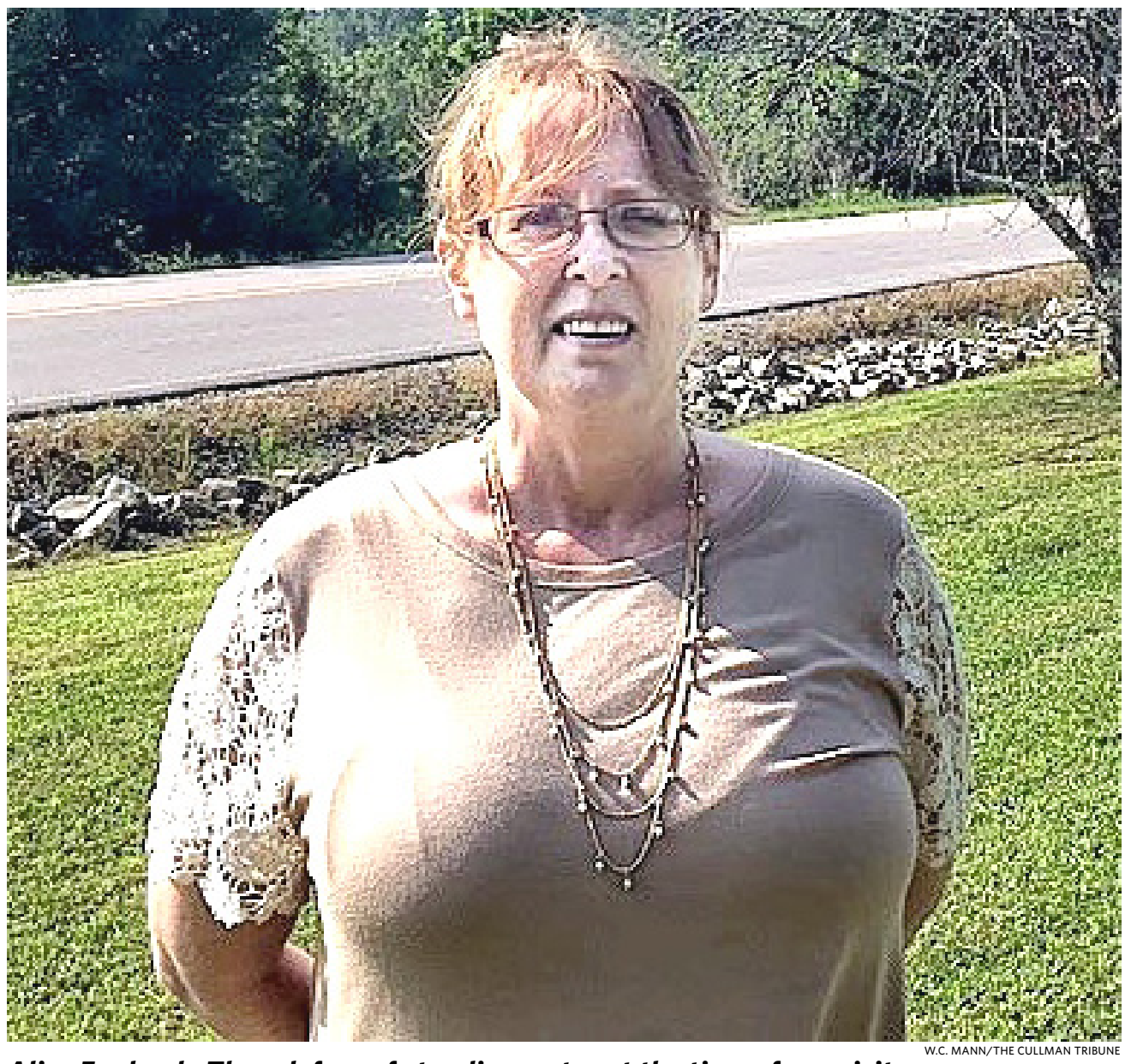
England's written statement continued, "Now I have rip rap with standing water around it. The ditch is now barely a depression as you can see from the photos (which England submitted to The Tribune), not even what you'd call a ditch at this time and it is eroding still.

"We are at the bottom of a hill, so I believe that some kind of engineering or drainage reworking will be required to correct this serious problem -- and it goes on a pretty good bit like that, as my driveway is not the only one holding water.

"BUT, we can get no one to help us, so here we are, at our wits end and very discouraged."

The Tribune visited Dodge City Town Hall to speak to Canada about the matter.

After reviewing England's written statement and photographs, she stated that she has not spoken directly with England since last year and would prefer to withhold comment on the matter until she has had the opportunity to do so.



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Alice England. Though free of standing water at the time of our visit, after 18 rain-free days, the bottom of the ditch was still wet.

Pepsi Cola
Distributing Company
205 Olive St. SW, Cullman, AL 256-734-9454

Ōnin Staffing
Onin Staffing Now Hiring For Automotive Production/Manufacturing Positions
Stand up and sit down forklift operators, customer service with medical/clerical experience, sandblasters, order pullers and general labor.
Apply Today at 1495 County Road 437
(Old Peoples Bank Building next to Hardee's in Good Hope)
256-287-5500

SINGLE VISIT DIGITAL CROWNS
CULLMAN 311 COSMETIC & FAMILY DENTISTRY®
"We treat you like family."
Monday - Friday 8am-5pm
311 6th Avenue SE • Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-7151 • CullmanDentist.com

Remembering Jay: Families First rally promotes safe driving

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – On Sunday evening, friends and family gathered at the Cullman County Courthouse for the fourth annual Families First rally, to remember the life of Jerry "Jay" Kendall, who died May 21, 2014 and to promote safe driving Kendall was riding his motorcycle on Highway 31 in Cullman when he was struck and killed by a distracted teen driver.

Local riders made a procession up Hwy. 31 from Hanceville past the place of Kendall's death near Williams Barbecue, until they reached and circled the courthouse. There they joined Kendall's family and friends, along with local dignitaries and other attendees, to celebrate Kendall and call for drivers to exercise safe practices behind the wheel.

Speakers included Faith Tabernacle Pastor Lummie Speakman, Commissioner Garry Marchman, Sheriff Matt Gentry, Rev. James Fields, Lindsey Jones and Kendall's widow Suzette Kendall. Music was provided by Lindsey Jones and students Chloe Weston, Alyssa Sandlin and Haylee Dauphin of Julie's Performing Arts Studio. The Temple Adult Signart Krew (TASK) from Temple Baptist Church provided sign language interpretation performances.

Event coordinator Josh Speakman shared, "This is an event for 'Hands on the Wheel;' it's a foundation that Suzette Kendall started when her husband got killed by a distracted driver--a young teen hit him on his motorcycle on Hwy 31. It's a nonprofit she started to raise awareness and kind of get the laws a little harsher for distracted driving, texting and driving. I knew Jay real well, and so I just kind of help her with this event every year to promote her organization.

"It's bringing the community together, all uniting for a positive cause, a strong family unit. It's just a positive event altogether, a time to come together. It's just a fun event."

County Commissioner Garry Marchman added, "It's a worthy cause, just to bring attention to being careful about using our cell phones when we drive; and to give a little recognition to people in our community to people who have suffered losses because of this, and I think it's a good thing."

Lummie Speakman addressed the young people in the crowd about how quickly a distraction can produce a tragedy on the road. Marchman told listeners that "what goes around, comes around," and explained that behavior behind the wheel is a reflection of a person's overall character.

Gentry, after a long and difficult week at the sheriff's office, encouraged people to "make the good outweigh the bad;' and said that events like the rally give him hope, because they have the potential to make things better than before.

Lindsey Jones, a cancer survivor who lost her eyesight to the disease, sang and talked about how the obstacles caused by her condition have made her a stronger person. Fields delivered a short but rousing sermon based on the biblical story of Jacob, saying that people often do not understand God's blessings until they have encountered struggles and hardships.

Suzette Kendall, widow of Jay Kendall and head of Hands on the Wheel, spoke about the dangers of smart phones, and their potential to distract.

"There's a lot of times I sit back, and I hear more and more accidents on texting and driving, and I even read an article that even the sheriffs and the cops are putting their hands up like, 'What do we do? There's way too many of these.'

"And you never think it can happen to you. I never dreamed in a million years that, that morning on May 21, 2014, when I passed that wreck that my husband was in, my son and I got detoured. We thought something happened at Williams Barbecue, because that's where it was at. When we turned around and came back through town, my son said, 'Must have been a bad one; they have somebody in the road, covered up.' Little did I know that was my husband. "I never got a chance to say goodbye, because we take so many things for granted. That morning I figured, 'He's asleep, I'll see him when I get home. I'll call him later.' Sometimes you don't get that chance.

"Don't take it for granted; always tell each other before you leave you love each other. Say goodbye, because I thought I would have so many goodbyes and hellos."

The rally included a balloon release, including 72 balloons, one for each birthday Kendall would have celebrated if he was still alive. After the sun went down, the evening concluded with a candlelight vigil.



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The evening concluded with a candlelight vigil.

Understanding distracted driving

According to Drive Safe Alabama, the following activities can all cause distraction for a driver:

- Texting
- Using a cell phone or smartphone
- Eating and drinking
- Talking to passengers
- Grooming
- Reading, including maps
- Using a navigation system
- Watching a video
- Adjusting a radio, CD player or MP3 Player

One in four teen drivers will respond to a text message at least once every time they drive, despite such behavior making them 23 times more likely to get in an accident.

According to a recent University of Alabama study, deaths from automobile accidents in 2016 were more than 24 percent higher than in 2015. Distracted drivers, as well as distracted pedestrians, were listed among the major causes. Nationwide, distraction-related accidents increased by 20 percent from 2014 to 2016.

Drive Safe Alabama recommends that drivers

- Keep their eyes on the road
- Put cell phones in the back seat to avoid temptation
- Pull off the road and stop in a safe place to do anything that would take attention off the road
- Use hands-free devices, if devices must be used

Visit Suzette Kendall's organization, Hands on the Wheel, at http://qrne.ws/hotw.

SINGLE VISIT DIGITAL CROWNS

CULLMAN 311 COSMETIC & FAMILY DENTISTRY®

"We treat you like family."

Monday - Friday 8am-5pm

311 6th Avenue SE • Cullman, AL 35055

256-734-7151 • CullmanDentist.com



We offer a wide variety of Dental Services:

Teeth Whitening • Porcelain Veneers • Digital X-Ray • Intra-Oral Cameras • Partials • Implant Restorations • Dentures • Root Canal Procedures

Now Offering Dental Implant Placement

Using 3D X-Rays and software, we are able to accurately place **IMPLANTS** here in the office.

What does this mean for you?

Implants replace missing teeth and enable you to wear dentures without adhesive

Jonathan Echols, D.M.D., P.C. • Ashley Holladay, D.M.D.

2nd Annual

Bearcat GROWLS

Growing Resources for Our Winning Local Schools

August 5th 4:00-8:00pm

At the Festhalle

Admission is just a donation of new school supplies!

Free bottled water and hot dog to first 50 people to donate!

Free Live Music by Avenue G!

Visit info booths of local non-profits and colleges!

For more info please contact Mary Hovater at mahovater@aol.com



Obituary Announcements: June 21-26

Charlsie Corene Cox, 82 of Nauvoo, entered into rest on Saturday, July 22, 2017 at Hendrix Health Care in Double Springs. Corene was born on March 25, 1935 in Double Springs. She was a dedicated, retired Navy wife. She was married to Donald Fondren for 35 years. Her husband served both in the Korean conflict and the Vietnam war. She later married Edward Cox and resided with him until her illness. Although she was raised in the Methodist faith, she attended the Baptist Church and was a member of Southwide Baptist Church for 10 years. During her years, she served in the nursery as a Sunday School teacher. She was a certified nursing assistant and spent 19 years in the field. She always made her residents feel special and she never forgot a resident's birthday, especially those without family members. Corene was very active in activities that promoted emotional health at her job and received an award for employee of the year. She loved singing, fishing, cooking, care-giving and enjoyed drawing. She was lovingly known as "CoCo" because her initials were CCC. Corene was the mother of 7 children. She was persistent and persevered in all things. She loved unconditionally and always found a way to make her children feel special and important. She was an awesome cook, where she cooked the best fried chicken, greens, cornbread, pinto beans, and biscuits. On a cold school morning, she was up sitting at the table with homemade biscuits and fig preserves Funeral services held Monday, July 24, 2017 at Nichols Funeral Home in Double Springs. Burial followed in Ashridge Methodist Church Cemetery in the Ashridge Community. Brother Rick Fesperman will officiate. Corene is survived by her husband, Edward Cox; sons, John Fondren and his wife Teresa, and Gary Fondren; daughters, Vickey Baccus, Linda Ebert and her husband Bradley, and Patricia Rabil and her husband Robert; sister, Dottie Sherrill; she was grandmother to 14 grandchildren: Bobby Prino; Traci and Justin Baccus; Melissa Lawerence; Shawnta Lumpkin; Curtis Fondren; Nicholas and Olivia Stefanovic; George and Grace Rabil; Cody, Brianna, Kerry-Katlin, and Duncan Fondren; and 3 great grandchildren: Aileah, Sierra and Eliana Lawerence; and Conner Baccus. She was preceded in death by her first husband Donald Fondren; son, Ricky Baccus; daughter, Debra Martin; parents, Levi and Dora Baccus; brothers, Veto and Odell Baccus; and sister, Mary Letson. The family would like to extend a special thanks to Hendrix Health Care; mom's care givers, Tammy, Sandy, Kelly and Jennifer; Hospice Care New Beacon and hospice nurses, Greg and Steve.

Ruby Mae Allred Sutherland, 71, of Haleyville, entered into rest on July 20, 2017 at North Mississippi Medical Center surrounded by her loving family. Mrs. Sutherland was born on February 27, 1946, in Haleyville. Ruby practiced Baptist faith and loved keeping her yard up, fishing, and cooking for family and friends. Funeral services held Monday, July 24, 2017 at Nichols Funeral Home in Haleyville. Brother Jerome Dodd officiated. Burial will follow in Mt. Vernon Cemetery. Ruby is survived by her husband of 55 years, Bobby Sutherland; son, Wayne Sutherland and his wife Beckie; daughters, Connie Sutherland and her husband Doug, Misty Joe Clark and her husband Stephen; brother, Connie Allred Jr. and his wife Diania; and a special uncle, Russell Vanzant. She was "Mawmaw" to 7 grandchildren, Trevor, Trenton, Heather, Tara, Andrew, Latasha, Rachel, and 8 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, Connie E. Allred and Dovie Vanzant Allred; brother, Billy Joe Allred; and sister, Barbara Allred Wright.

Betty Kirven Phillips, 86, passed away Friday, July 21, 2017. Service information is unavailable at this time. Arrangements under the direction of Moss-Service Funeral Home.

Funeral services for Mr. Roy "Shorty" Leldon Creel, 85, of Cullman, will be held Monday July 24, 2017 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Interment at Oak Level Cemetery. Mr. Creel passed away Friday, July 21, 2017 at his home in Cullman. He was born September 12, 1931 to parents George Robert Creel and Lela Bell Miller Creel. Mr. Creel is preceded in death by his parents, daughter Debra Creel, brother Alton Creel, and sister Evelyn Brady. Survivors include his wife Freida Creel; one brother Kenneth Creel, grandchildren Zachary (Elizabeth) Creel, Tammy McFadden, Brandi McFadden, and two great grandchildren Elijah Creel and Angel Creel.

Funeral services for Dennis Allen Green, 62 of Hanceville, will be held on Tuesday, July 25 at Faith Restoration Church at 2 pm.; Revs. Oney Cooper and Bradley McDonald will officiate. Interment will follow at Cullman City Cemetery. Mr. Green was born on March 30, 1955 to Donald and Cookie Stanley Green. He was the owner and operator of Dennis Green Paving. He was a deacon at Faith Restoration Church. He passed away at his residence on July 21, 2017, surrounded by his loving family. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Tommy Green. Mr. Green is survived by his wife, Audrey Green, two sons, Dennis (Ashley) Green Jr., Jason (Shantelle) Green, and a daughter, Jenny (Jerry) Dupre; eight grandchildren, Scarlett, Son, Abbey, Sophia, Daniel, Dominic, Jerry Lee and Jaxon; brother, Donald Ray Green and two sisters, Lisa Burton and Grace Burton.

Graveside Services for Malcolm T. Davenport, age 91 of Cullman, will be at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, July 25, 2017 at Valley Springs Cemetery, with Rev. Wade Maynard officiating. Cullman Funeral Home directing. Mr. Davenport was born on March 6, 1926 to the late Theophilus Norman Davenport and Bertha M. McCombs Davenport; he passed away on Sunday, July 23, 2017 at his residence. He is preceded in death by his parents; a daughter, Peggy Elizabeth Davenport and one granddaughter, Meghan Thomas. Survivors include his Wife of 71 years – Evelyn Reid Davenport; 2 – Sons - Eric (Katie) Davenport & Paul (Lynne) Davenport; 4 – Grandchildren – Brian Eric Davenport, Christopher N. Davenport, Johnathan Paul Davenport & Rebekah Lynn Davenport.

Mr. Fred Frank Pitzing passed away July 22, 2017 at the age of 89. He is survived by his Son: Gary (Kim) Pitzing, Daughter: Martha Pitzing, Grandchildern: Seth (Candice) Hollis, Joseph (Diana) Sims, Sarah Sims, Niki (Chad) Murray and Tyler Pitzing and 11 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his Wife of 61 years: Jewell Pitzing, Parents: Fred and Mary Leipert Pitzing, Sister: Irene Hook and Brother: Roy Pitzing Funeral services will be held July 26, 2017, 1 p.m. at St. Johns Evangelical Church. Visitation at the Church will be from 12 p.m. until 1 p.m. with Pastor John Richter officiating. Burial will follow at Cullman City Cemetery. Visitation at Moss Service Funeral Home will be 25th of July 2017 from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. Moss Service Directing.

Free Obituary Listings

Have your funeral home contact us

Email: robin@cullmansense.com • Fax: 256-739-4422

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

THE TOMBSTONE COMPANY

Custom Granite Headstones and Monuments
Date of Death Engraving in Cemeteries
Locally Made and Locally Owned
Low Cost, High Quality
30-Day Delivery, Guaranteed
We Use Only American Granite

2117 US Hwy 278 West
Cullman, AL 35057
(2 miles West of I-65)
256-734-2005
Saturdays by Appointment
www.thetombstonecompany.com

4 local teams in Wallace State volleyball team camp

Johnny Thornton
johnny@cullmansense.com



JOHNNY THORNTON/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope's Kate Kent blocks the ball up in the air against Priceville.

HANCEVILLE – Wallace State Community College welcomed 11 varsity teams and 16 junior varsity teams to campus Monday for its annual volleyball team camp series.

Among the varsity teams participating locally were Cold Springs, Good Hope, Hanceville and West Point. Each got the opportunity to play on the floor of Tom Drake Coliseum, with multiple courts set up.

Monday was pool play with teams to be seeded after having three game assignments. Good Hope was in Pool A with Jasper (formerly Walker High School), Winston County and Priceville.

Cold Springs took part in Pool B with Providence Christian, Springville and Brewer.

Hanceville and West Point were paired in Pool C, along with Geraldine and Jasper's junior varsity.

For Good Hope, it was a chance to get on the floor to gain some experience under new coach Natasha Holcombe.

Holcombe was officially hired during a July 13 meeting of the Cullman County Board of Education. Raven Aby is serving as her assistant.

Good Hope has experience returning with middle hitter Kate Kent, outside hitter Leyton Seal, setter Chrissi Smith and outside hitter Skyler Tucker.

Cold Springs worked hard Monday against some elite teams with Providence Christian very solid from the Dothan area, while Springville is an outstanding 5A program out of St. Clair County and Brewer with a history of success competing in 6A.

Amy Chambers at Hanceville will look for experienced personnel such as Malia Howell, Karmen Johnson, Kierra Merriweather and Lauren Robertson, plus Mattellan Rusk, Kaitlyn Shultz, Dinah Hudson and Molly Morgan to create depth for the Lady Bulldogs.

West Point coach Regina Jones will utilize the play of Makenzie Carter and Lexi Shadix up front, with a hard-working group to give them consistency serving and receiving the ball.

Each team finished Monday with three games in pool play, and will face different opponents in the second segment on Tuesday, with the tournament format to come into play on Wednesday at Wallace State.

Prep teams can start fall practice on Aug. 7 with many to open the season on Aug. 31. Good Hope will begin the Holcombe era that day with a tri-match at home against Cold Springs and Vinemont.

West Point opens the season at Corner while Hanceville will be in a tri-match vs. defending county champion Fairview and Holly Pond at Lane Horton Gymnasium the 31st.

Updated high school football schedule

Johnny Thornton
johnny@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN COUNTY – High school football kicks off one month from today. Here's a look at the weekly schedules for all the teams in The Tribune's coverage area.

Week 1 - Aug. 25
- Hartselle @ Cullman
- Cold Springs @ Hanceville
- Coosa Christian @ Holly Pond
- West Point @ Hamilton
- Addison @ Elkmont
- Phillips @ Meek

Week 2 - Aug. 31/Sept. 1
- Good Hope @ Vinemont (Thursday)
- Wilson @ West Point
- Cullman @ North Jackson
- Brindlee Mountain @ Holly Pond
- Berry @ Cold Springs
- Hanceville @ Addison
- Fairview @ East Lawrence
- Hubbertville @ Meek

Week 3 - Sept. 8
- Hayden @ West Point
- Albertville @ Cullman
- Corner @ Fairview
- Fultondale @ Hanceville
- Fayette Co @ Good Hope
- Vinemont @ Locust Fork
- Holly Pond @ Pennington
- Cold Springs @ Tarrant
- Addison @ Southeastern
- Meek @ Lynn

Week 4 - Sept. 15
- Hanceville @ Vinemont
- Cullman @ Oxford
- Susan Moore @ Holly Pond
- Good Hope @ Hamilton
- West Point @ Springville
- Sumiton Christian @ Addison
- Decatur Heritage @ Meek

Week 5 - Sept. 22
- Cordova @ Good Hope
- Fort Payne @ Cullman
- Corner @ West Point
- Fultondale @ Vinemont
- Hanceville @ Pennington
- Fairview @ Mortimer Jordan
- Cold Springs @ Falkville
- Addison @ Lynn
- Meek @ Gaylesville

Week 6 - Sept. 29
- Cold Springs @ Good Hope
- Fayette Co @ Good Hope
- Addison @ Vinemont
- Holly Pond @ Asbury
- Fairview @ Priceville
- Hanceville @ Clements
- Meek @ Vina

Week 7 - Oct. 6
- West Point @ Fairview
- Locust Fork @ Holly Pond
- Susan Moore @ Hanceville
- Cullman @ Pell City
- West End @ Cold Springs
- Vinemont @ Priceville
- Good Hope @ Winfield
- Decatur Heritage @ Addison
- Meek @ R.A. Hubbard

Week 8 - Oct. 13
- Haleyville @ Good Hope
- Holly Pond @ Hanceville
- Mortimer Jordan @ West Point
- Vinemont @ Pennington
- Cold Springs @ Winston Co
- Fairview @ Curry
- Addison @ Meek

Week 9 - Oct. 20
- West Point @ Good Hope
- Cullman @ Southside-Gadsden
- Fultondale @ Holly Pond
- Hayden @ Fairview
- Tanner @ Cold Springs
- Hanceville @ Locust Fork
- Vinemont @ Susan Moore
- R.A. Hubbard @ Addison
- Meek @ Southeastern

Week 10 - Oct. 27
- Holly Pond @ Vinemont
- Brewer @ Cullman,
- West Point @ Curry
- Fairview @ Springville
- Good Hope @ Dora
- Cleveland @ Cold Springs
- Sumiton Christian @ Meek

Week 11 - Nov. 2/3
- Danville @ Cold Springs (Thursday)
- Good Hope @ Hanceville
- Holly Pond @ Fairview
- Cullman @ Chelsea
- Lawrence Co @ West Point
- Vinemont @ Falkville
- Winston Co @ Addison

X-TERNAL X-PRESSIONS
TATTOOS & PIERCINGS
TO MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT CALL 256-775-0018
18260 U.S. HWY 31 CULLMAN, AL. 35058
(LOCATED AT MILE MARKER 331 ON HWY 31 IN VINEMONT)

AUTO INSURANCE
Senior Driver Discounts Age 60 & Above
Virgil B. Fowler Insurance Agency
"Quality Since 1935"
256-734-3821
www.vbfowlerinsurance.com

Commission on Aging

Need help obtaining *FREE* prescription medications?

WE CAN HELP!

Qualifications:

1) If you are 55+:
- If you have a chronic medical condition, and
- Have no prescription drug insurance, and
- Meet certain income limits

-OR-

2) If you have a disability at any age:
- You have been deemed disabled by Social Security
- Applied for disability and are awaiting a decision
- Have a doctor's declaration of disability
- Currently in the 24-month Medicare waiting period

-OR-

3) You have Medicare and reached your Medicare Part D coverage gap (donut hole)

CALL THE CULLMAN COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING TODAY

256-734-1241

PET OF THE WEEK

Laid-back Alexander searching for his forever home

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

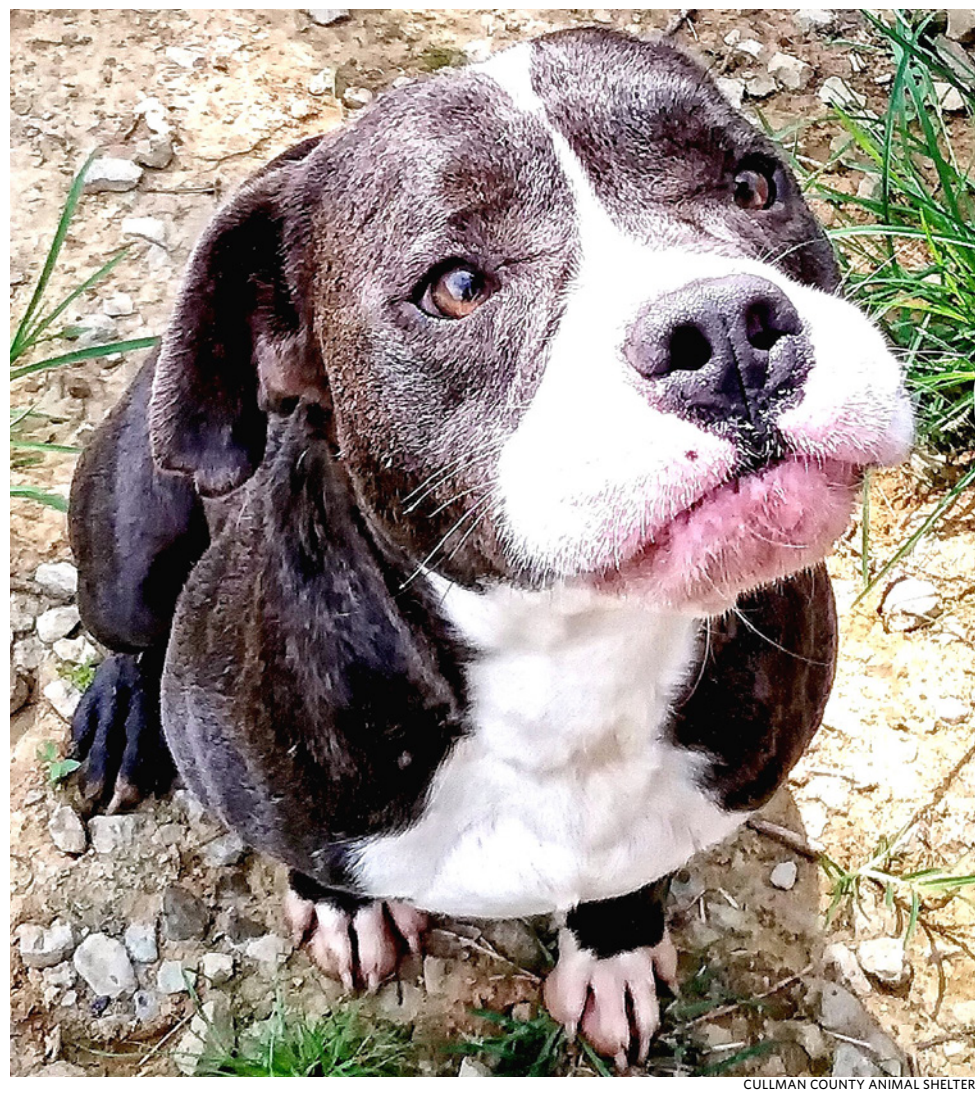
CULLMAN – Ryan Whisenhunt introduces us to Alexander, the Cullman County Animal Shelter's pet of the week.

"Alexander is a bulldog that is approximately 1-and-a-half years old. He has a soft, relaxed demeanor with a medium energy level. He appears to respond well to other dogs. He would enjoy taking a walk with his companion, but would be content with lounging in a comfortable place. We would love to see him experience the love, care and activity with a wonderful family that he deserves."

Alexander's adoption fee is $90. He has been neutered, has a current rabies vaccination and is microchipped.

The person who adopts him will be given a free limited day trial of pet insurance and will receive a free (except for sales tax) bag of dog food upon showing proof of receipt of adoption.

Visit Alexander at the shelter, 935 Convent Road NE in Cullman, or call 256-734-5448 for more information.



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Alexander is a 1-and-a-half-year-old bulldog.

The Mortgage Center
NMLS#181775
"Home Mortgages Are Our **Only** Business"
• Purchases ~ Up to 100%
• Conventional, FHA, VA and USDA
• Refinances
• Consolidations/Home Improvements
• Reverse Mortgages
• **LOCAL** Lender
Call us Today!
(256) 734-6193
Apply Online www.themortgagecenterinc.com

"Experience The Difference"
FREEDOM INSURANCE AGENCY
Gloria Williams/Kris Todd – Agents
Gloria.williams@freedomagency.net
"TIRED OF YOUR RATES GOING UP????"
CALL FREEDOM FOR A RATE QUOTE!
Office: (256) 737-0011 Fax: (256) 737-0616
Home: (256) 734-0463
168 County Road 1435, Cullman, AL 35058

Post-Cancer Surgery Apparel & Accessories for Women
Options
Chemo Caps
Wigs
& More!
Judy Watts Grissom
options5993@gmail.com
Over 150 Wigs In Stock!
256-347-5993
2201 2nd Ave. NW • Cullman, AL 35058

EvaBank
MR 5K
MIDNIGHT RUN
AUGUST 4TH, 2017 CULLMAN CIVIC CENTER
$25 PER RUNNER

Younique Boutique
JEWELRY AND ACCESSORIES
BOGO 50%
256-735-4074
105 2nd Ave SE • Cullman, Alabama

REGISTER TODAY!
WALLACE STATE
HANCEVILLE • ONEONTA
256.352.8000
www.wallacestate.edu
2017 FALL SEMESTER