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BUSINESS

412 Public House breaks ground in historic district



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

City officials and business owners gathered with economic development representatives and staff from the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce to break ground on 412 Public House Monday morning.

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – On Monday morning, city officials gathered with the owners of the upcoming 412 Public House and their friends to break ground for the project at 412 Second Ave. SE, next to Christ Lutheran Church.

Co-owner Stephen Gannon explained, "412 Public house is going to be a wonderful restaurant and pub, kind of upscale, but certainly not like 5-star dining, but definitely something with a classier bent.

"We are going to have kind of a combination of different little settings inside the building, some beautiful outside seating, and in the immediate interior we're going to have some small amounts of lounge seating, and a little podium for some nice simple background music, especially on the weekends.

"We'll have, of course, some traditional dining room seating and then some booths, as well, and then just a real super pretty bar area.

"Thanks to Frank, our architect, we going to have just a beautiful building with different kinds of natural light coming in through ceiling windows and sidelights too, as well. All around it'll be just a beautiful place for us to meet and gather, and hopefully have a good time."

Co-owner Trey Jordan, whose family owns the Hanceville Dairy Queen, came up with the original idea for a public house.

He shared, "I just wanted something unique. I did originally start with the idea of bringing another franchise to Cullman, and I've seen the development of franchises in Cullman, and I thought, 'Well, that doesn't really blend into the uniqueness of the city.'

"Actually, I was at a place in Marietta (Georgia), and that really influenced me to start a place like this, between the Social House in Marietta and Carrigan's Public House in Birmingham. I saw that, and I thought, 'Man, Cullman needs a place like this: something unique, something that can kind of capture the essence of the city, and still be original.'

"I want Cullman to keep its originality. That's what's important.

"I don't want it to be like any other city; it needs to stay unique."

The restaurant will offer a menu that includes upscale staples like seafood and steaks, along with unique items like lunchtime beef sliders topped with quail eggs.

The owners hope to have 412 Public House open before the end of the year.

Golden Corral opening in old Ryan's location this fall

Franchise to add 100 jobs



FRANCHISE CHATTER

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – Golden Corral is on its way to the Cullman area, according to officials with the Cullman Economic Development Agency and the restaurant chain itself.

"We are very excited to add Golden Corral to Cullman's restaurant lineup in the former Ryan's building," said Susan Eller, CEDA project coordinator. "We do not have a definite opening date but are working with Golden Corral officials. It will be sometime this fall."

An official press release from the restaurant chain stated, "Golden Corral Buffet & Grill is excited to be entering the Cullman, AL market as it begins preparations to open its newest corporately-owned restaurant, located at 1720 Cherokee Avenue, SW in Cullman, AL later this fall. The approximately 10,000 square ft. Golden Corral has seating capacity for 350 guests, and brings approximately 100 jobs to the community."

Continued Eller, "Golden Corral is very community-minded and will be a great corporate citizen. One of the first things we discussed were ways they give back to the community.

They are a huge supporter of Disabled American Veterans and their families and annually host a 'Military Appreciation Night' where they feed active military personnel and veterans."

According to Golden Corral Marketing Director Sandy Choate, "The restaurant will feature endless home-style buffet favorites **» PAGE 2**

SCIENCE

Get ready for the eclipse, and do it right

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN COUNTY – Folks are preparing for the first total solar eclipse to traverse the continental United States since 1918, and Cullman isn't too far off the mark.

If you travel just as far as Nashville, Murfreesboro, or places a little north of Chattanooga, you will be in the "zone of totality" (100 percent coverage by the moon's shadow) where, for a brief moment, the sky will go midnight dark: enough for other stars to become visible. The sun's corona will be visible as a ring of fire around the moon as it passes directly between the sun and earth.

Viewers in Cullman County will see approximately 95 percent coverage.

Those who commute to work in Huntsville will see about 97 percent coverage, and those down around Birmingham will see around 93 percent.

The eclipse will begin almost exactly at noon, central time. It will reach maximum coverage for north Alabama viewers around 1:30 p.m., and will conclude about 2:57 p.m.

Around Cullman, the midday sky will remain blue, but will darken to an early dawn/dusky hue during the height of the eclipse.

Wherever you are, be safe

Whether **» PAGE 2**



ECLIPSE2017.ORG

Believe it or not, the best viewing shades are available at Wal-Mart.

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
AUGUST 15, 2017

10 questions with....

Cullman County Coroner Jeremy L. Kilpatrick

W.C. Mann
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1. How many calls do you handle each month, on average?
It varies. On average, 15-20 per month. So far this year, I've investigated 130 deaths. In July, I had 29.

2. You also work as an EMT. How does that affect the job you do as coroner?
It pretty much means that I work seven days a week. That's following up on autopsies, toxicology reports, insurance companies' requests for records or answering questions for families. That doesn't include new coroner cases.

3. Cullman has seen a large number of suicides so far this year. What steps do you think could be taken to reduce suicides in the future?
As of right now, we have had 21 suicides. So that is a suicide rate of 1:3,924.5 persons based on the 2016 census.

I have noticed several churches and individuals have stepped up offering help in addition to what services are already available in the county.

However, I believe we need to have more state funding for mental health care to help slow down this trend.

4. What are the most common causes of death in Cullman County?
In no particular order: cancer, coronary artery disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, motor vehicle accidents and suicide.

5. Why did you decide to become a coroner?
Out of a desire to help families find closure.

6. What do you like most about your job?
Helping families find closure. Also, being able to recognize and bring awareness to some of the preventable deaths in hopes of reducing them.

7. Did you have to get a certain degree or certification to become a coroner?
Currently, no. Coroners only have to attend annual training to maintain continuing education requirements, based on state law.

8. On average, how many traffic fatalities do you see per year?
On average, we have 24 traffic-related deaths in Cullman per year.

9. What's something the public would be surprised to learn about the role of the Cullman County coroner?
I think everyone knows that the coroner is the only one who can arrest the sheriff (only if the governor calls me and tells me to do so). But, the coroner also has to discharge the duties of sheriff should he become incapacitated or if the sheriff's position is vacant. Also, the coroner can act as keeper of the jail if the sheriff is imprisoned.

10. Your position is an elected one. How long is your term and when are you up for re-election?
The coroner position is a four-year term. I will be up for re-election in 2018.



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Jeremy Kilpatrick

Golden Corral (from Front)

such as pot roast, fried chicken, meatloaf, mashed potatoes and steamed vegetables, plus a variety of international tastes and flavors including Italian and Mexican and signature seafood dishes. Guests will be able to enjoy premium meats slow smoked in-house over aged mesquite wood at our Smokehouse station. Sirloin steak is grilled to order, carved, and served daily at dinner.

"As a complement to the hot buffet items, the restaurant features a market-fresh salad bar, where guests may build their own salads from dozens of ingredients.

"Rounding out the buffet offering, a variety of cakes, pies and homemade breads—including warm, melt-in-your-mouth yeast rolls—are served on the Bakery buffet.

"The new Cullman Golden Corral will also showcase their legendary Chocolate Wonderfall – an ever-flowing chocolate fountain for dipping your favorite fruits and dessert treats.

"Cullman's Golden Corral will serve a Sunrise Breakfast Buffet every Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning from 9:30 –11 a.m.

"A 7-Day Brunch will be served every day from 9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. and will feature specialty waffles, made-to-order eggs and omelets and so much more.

"The restaurant will have two spacious separate meeting rooms available for large groups and organizations in the area that choose to dine at Golden Corral.

"Golden Corral Corporation is enthusiastic about locating to the Cullman market – a community that they feel is a perfect fit for their brand and a great location to become an active part of Cullman's business community."

Golden Corral Corporation
Golden Corral Corporation is privately held company and was founded in 1973. Lance Trenary serves as its president and chief executive officer.

Golden Corral currently has 487 restaurants in 40 states.

The company's vision is to be the leader in the family restaurant segment by making pleasurable dining affordable for every guest, at every restaurant, every day.

Golden Corral restaurants nationwide have long been strong supporters of the U.S. Military and the Disabled American Veterans (DAV).

Golden Corral has helped raise more than $11.5 million for the DAV as part of its annual "Military Appreciation Night" initiative. For more information about Golden Corral, visit www.goldencorral.net.

Eclipse (from Front)

you go to Tennessee to stand in the zone of totality or just take a few minutes out of your day here to catch the partial view, the same safety rule applies: do not look at the sun without eye protection! In the zone of totality, you will be able to drop the shades for a couple of minutes; but in any location in Alabama, you will need to protect your eyes at all times.

For direct viewing of the sun, wearable sun shades are the easiest answer, but there's a catch. Sunglasses will not work, and your 3D movie glasses will not work, and, sadly, many of the advertised eclipse sun shades will not work, either. Overseas manufacturers have flooded the U.S. market with so-called eclipse viewing shades that are nothing more than disposable sunglasses.

Have you already bought shades? Here's how to find out if they are good: put them on and look at the brightest bare light bulb in your house.

The brightest artificial light should still not be bright enough to penetrate true sun shades. If you can see that bulb through the shades, they are fakes. Don't use them during the eclipse; permanent damage to your vision can result.

With so many dealers selling shades on Amazon and Ebay, how are you supposed to know which ones to buy?

Happily, the answer couldn't be easier. American Paper Optics, which manufactures legitimate sun shades recommended by numerous authorities, distributes its shades through Wal-Mart and Lowe's. Better yet, they're only a dollar a pair, and you'll also find eclipse viewing guides in the same display rack. So don't worry about Amazon and Ebay; shipping would probably take too long, anyway.

The next total eclipse that will be visible over the continental U.S. will occur Apr. 8, 2024; but the zone of totality will not come close to Alabama.

On Oct. 14, 2023 an annular eclipse, in which the moon is a little further from the earth and does not completely cover the sun, will pass over the western U.S. Next week's eclipse is the most convenient viewing opportunity Cullmanites will have for a very long time. So be sure to watch, be safe, and enjoy the show.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

University degree not the only pathway to great careers in Alabama

Josh Laney
Contributor

Many of us grew up with the idea that the only way to get a good career in Alabama was via a four-year college degree or higher. For years, we accepted this as the gospel. Little consideration was given to the particular type of degree or the real-world applications for it. A university degree was viewed as a panacea for employment and success.

While seeking a university degree is admirable, it isn't a necessity for a well-paying job or a promising career. A recent survey of online job ads found that of the 39,514 open positions in Alabama, most do NOT require a four-year degree. What they DO require, however, are applicants who are qualified both fundamentally and technically.

The Two-Part Skills Gap
The most foundational qualifications are identical across all industries and are commonly called "employability skills." Showing up on time, being drug free, working as a member of a team and demonstrating a willingness to learn are critical to every company.

Technical skill requirements are more industry specific and can come in the form of on-the-job training, industry-recognized credentials, stackable certificates, or associates' degrees from one of Alabama's outstanding community colleges.

According to the Alabama Department of Labor, nine of the top 10 jobs that are in most demand require less than a university degree.

The top 10 in-demand jobs, the number of openings and their average hourly wage are:

- Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers -- 2,882, $19.28
- Registered nurses -- 2,481, $27.71
- Retail salespeople -- 1,285, $13.19
- Customer service representatives -- 698, $15.76
- Maintenance and repair workers -- 627, $18.52
- Computer user support specialists -- 562, $22.61
- Industrial engineers -- 605, $41.84
- Software developers -- 524, $45.44
- Light truck and delivery service drivers -- 443, $14.61
- Sales representatives (wholesale and manufacturing) not technical or scientific -- 431, $30.58

As you can see from that list, these are well-paying jobs, and the only job for which a four-year degree is required is industrial engineer. Nationally, there is a deficit of qualified employees to fill these and many other skilled jobs. Alabama's continuing economic growth means that shortfall could grow bigger as industries set up or expand operations in Alabama and create more jobs requiring specific skills.

Employability Training
As one part of our strategy to address employability skills, the Career Technical Section of the Alabama State Department of Education is implementing the Alabama Simulated Workplace model in our Career Technical Centers and programs. This model reframes the career and technical education program as a company where students get a more realistic work experience. Students must clock in and out, arrive on time, work alone and in teams, read and comprehend employee manuals, and effectively communicate with each other. These skills are the foundation for any successful career.

Career Exposure
We cannot overstate the importance of increasing the exposure of students to the wide range of career opportunities available in Alabama. In the state's seven workforce regions, industries are joining forces to host hands-on events. Through "Worlds of Work," "Worlds of Opportunities," and other career expo events, eighth-graders get a firsthand view from businesses of the many jobs they offer and the skills they require. These events and programs engage students with the job market and plant the seeds for careers available without a four-year degree.

At the ALSDE, we recognize that we can only teach things we know. So, we are not only educating our students, we are also educating our career coaches, teachers and school leaders. We are collaborating with Alabama's seven Regional Workforce Councils to take educators on industry tours to expand their knowledge of the opportunities available to students. In turn, these educators are sharing this information with our young people.

Technical Skill Attainment
Alabama schools are on the forefront of innovative programs to train students in high-demand skills. In one of many examples, 14 local school systems are partnering with Alabama Industrial Development and Training (AIDT) and the Associated Builders and Contractors of Alabama to train students through a craft academy focusing on building skills like carpentry, brick masonry, welding, electricity, plumbing and more.

Alabama students are also demonstrating their readiness for entry into the workforce through our Career Readiness Indicator (CRI) Initiative. Through this initiative, students can obtain industry-recognized credentials at no cost to them or their school systems. Thousands of Alabama graduates are coming away with credentials in high-wage/high-demand occupations in addition to their high school diplomas. These credentials serve to validate to employers that students have received real-world training in the skills they need most. The credentials also give our students a major advantage in the job-seeking process.

Dual enrollment
Another one of Alabama's innovative educational programs is technical dual enrollment. Thanks to funding from the Alabama Legislature, students can take community college courses in high-demand occupations at no cost while they are still in high school. Students can simultaneously earn college and high school credits. These credits provide an important head start toward a technical certificate or degree. A growing number of students are even earning a high school diploma and a technical/two-year degree at the same time, giving the graduates a jumpstart on a career with good pay, benefits and advancement opportunities. The bonus is, they get that head start without incurring student debt.

Youth Apprenticeships
In addition to the many programs we offer directly through the schools, the ALSDE also encourages students to take advantage of other training programs that likewise give them a head start toward the careers they want. One such program with a renewed emphasis in Alabama is the registered apprenticeship. The ALSDE is working with companies to identify placement apprenticeship opportunities that can be filled by students still in high school. The goal is to help employers fill their workforce needs while giving students earlier exposure to a wider range of career options and the chance to "learn while they earn." Apprenticeship areas include: healthcare, construction and carpentry, information technology, distribution, transportation and logistics, and advanced manufacturing. In many cases, the student completes the program with little or no school debt AND with a job offer.

Participation is a win-win for business. Apprenticeship Alabama staff works with employers to simplify and streamline the process of registering apprenticeships. Employers who become part of the registered program can claim a tax credit of $1,000 per apprentice for up to five apprentices each year

AlabamaWorks!
Alabama is a great state, and there is no other place in the world I'd rather call home. We have an amazing abundance of resources, and the most important one is our people. Connecting Alabamians with rewarding careers for which they are appropriately trained will allow us to prosper now and for decades to come.

Under the umbrella of AlabamaWorks!, state agencies, businesses, educators and others have joined forces to close the employer-employee gap. We're all working together to supply different pieces, solve the workforce puzzle, and promote good-paying and rewarding careers - all while meeting the needs of industries and driving economic development in Alabama.

The Alabama State Department of Education is proud to be an integral part of AlabamaWorks!

To learn more about AlabamaWorks, visit www.alabamaworks.com.

Josh Laney, Ed.S., sr. director for workforce development with the Alabama State Department of Education, can be reached at jlaney@alsde.edu or on Twitter at @LaneyWorks.

Victim Services' 6th Annual Roast and Toast Aug. 17

Will Hogue
will@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – On Thursday, Aug. 17 at Stonebridge Farms, Victim Services of Cullman will be holding its 6th Annual Roast and Toast. This year the organization's board of directors has selected Rev. Malcom Carter, pastor of the burgeoning Temple Baptist Church, to be on the "hot seat."

"Each year the board tries to select a highly respected member of the community," said Carol Horstman of the annual event.

"We are very excited to have Reverend Carter, who gets to choose those who come up and roast him. All of the people he has chosen are affiliated with Temple, so that will be nice."

While Horstman said that the event is the biggest fundraiser and event of the year for Victim Services, there is no specific amount of money that the organization is looking to raise.

"We usually raise several thousand dollars," Horstman said. "But we don't have any single number in mind."

Along with raising money, the event helps to renew awareness in the community of the victims of sexual assault, and raise awareness that the organization exists and is available to anyone who needs help.

"We can always use donations and volunteer help, on which we rely a lot," Horstman said.

The cost to attend the event is $30 for a ticket, and table sponsorships are also available for $1,000, $500 and $250.

All proceeds go to the Harbor Haus shelter for victims of domestic violence.

For more information, visit www.vsoccullman.org or call 256-775-2600.

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Details of Ricky Peek's prize winning custom Bourget Viper

Bikers overtake 1st Ave. for a worthy cause

W.C. Mann
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CULLMAN – A crowd of vintage and custom motorcycles and automobiles descended on First Avenue Northeast Saturday afternoon, as the Jack Aces Riding Club and Moe's Original BBQ presented their third annual car and bike show. The block of First Avenue in front of Moe's was closed to traffic, except for participants, for the evening.

This was no common cruise-in; participants paid to enter their vehicles in a multi-category competition, and $1,000 in prize money was awarded to the winners. All money raised during the event was donated to charity. Specifically, the Cullman Police Department's Shop with a Cop program.

Jack Aces representative Derrick Barton shared, "Our riding club does a charity event every year, to raise money for some type of charity. We've raised money for Cullman Caring for Kids the last couple of years.

"This one in particular is for Shop with a Cop Christmas fund, and they'll raise money for it. Everything you see here all goes to charity. We've had a few donations from Moe's and a few other businesses, for trophies and for cash prizes; and everything outside of that goes to charity."

Cullman's Shop with a Cop program takes needy children on shopping sprees during the Christmas season.

Jack Aces Riding Club has been around since 2008, and has put on some type of charity event each year. The group operates Jack Aces Garage at East Point, where skilled technicians build custom bikes.

Barton described the club as "mostly just a bunch of guys that like to get together and ride. We've got a myriad of different personalities: we've got construction workers, we've got business owners. I myself work at the hospital. We've all kinds of different people. Basically, we call ourselves a social club with a motorcycles problem!"

Winners

- Best in show motorcycle - Chuck Shikle, 1976 Harley Davidson Shovelhead
- Second place - Jonathan Collett, 1969 Harley Davidson Sportster
- Third place - Ricky Peek, 2009 Bourget Viper

- Best in show automobile - Randy Powe, 1970 Mustang Mach One
- Second place automobile - Joey Hinkle, 1968 Chevelle SS
- Third place automobile - Heath Rodgers, 1967 Chevrolet C10 Pickup

- First place metric bike - Derrick Barton, 2016 Victory Magnum
- First place bagger - Marvin Ball, 2015 Harley Davidson Roadglide
- First place cruiser - Scotty Hestla, 1999 Harley Davidson Softail
- First place custom bike - Ricky Peek, 2009 Bourget Viper

- First place car - Joey Hinkle, 1968 Chevelle SS
- First place rat rod - Jeremy Hancock, Ford Model A
- First place truck - Heath Rodgers, 1967 Chevrolet C10

The total amount raised Saturday evening was unknown at the time, but included at least $1,000, since all winners gave the entirety of their winnings back to Jack Aces for inclusion in the club's donation to Shop with a Cop.

Find Jack Aces on Facebook at www.facebook.com/jackaces.garage.



Randy Powe's 1970 Mustang Mach One won best car in show



Chuck Shikle with his '76 Shovelhead

Local groups come together to combat suicide

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The event began with a walk down First Avenue Northeast from Mary Carter Hardware to Depot Park.

CULLMAN – On Saturday morning, groups from around north Alabama gathered in downtown Cullman to promote awareness of suicide and mental health issues. Hosted by Vinemont Baptist Lifeline, a ministry of Vinemont Baptist Church, the event included representatives from Mental Healthcare of Cullman, the Alabama chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), Cullman County awareness and support group Just Live, and others. A bouncy house and games were available for kids, and Spider Man even made an appearance.

Event Coordinator Ron Lamon explained, "A couple of years back, probably going on four years now, my best friend from high school took his own life. And then, just recently, last November, my current best friend's 19-year-old son took his own life.

"This is a growing problem. Daily this thing seems to be growing, and it's getting out of hand. I felt like we had to do something. I'm not going to make but a small dent in this problem, but I'm going to try to do something. Honestly, I just got fed up, and I don't know what else to do.

"Awareness is not enough. Everybody's aware that there's a problem. You know, when you're aware that you're hungry, you eat. When you're aware that you're tired, you sleep. We're aware of this problem, but we're doing nothing. So what I want to do is spark a conversation, to get people where they're comfortable enough to speak about this problem, and seek help if they need help.

"Our end game, what I really want to do, is get suicide prevention in the classrooms. I want to get something in the class curriculum. They're required to take health class and sex ed, along with these other classes, but there's nothing for suicide prevention. It's a problem that needs to be talked about openly and discussed. I've got a petition down there today, and I'm trying to get as many people as possible to sign.

"This is my first time doing this, and I don't know how it's going to turn out, but I felt like I had to do something."

Lashonda Robison and Alexis Maddox, along with other members of Just Live, came to support their sister group.

Said Robison, "No matter how many organizations there are, we're all here to do it together. It's not only suicide prevention, but we're also doing drug and alcohol addiction, because according to the statistics, they all run together. We want people to live.

"We want them to know that there's people out there they can talk to, that want them to live, that want them to know that they're important. You know, every life matters, no matter if you're a drug addict, no matter if you have a criminal history; no matter what the situation is, we just want you to live."

Representatives of Mental Healthcare of Cullman and AFSP addressed the crowd, followed by personal accounts from people who have survived suicide attempts and those who have lost a family member to suicide.

A big theme of the day was talking, with calls for people to talk to friends or family members who appear to be in danger, and calls for those in danger to talk to friends or a help line. Honest communication in both directions was promoted as the first key to survival for those on the verge of self-harm.

Keith and Delinda Cain, along with family friends, came down from Arab to remember their son Cory, who committed suicide in 2015.

To kids in danger, Keith Cain offered a simple piece of advice:
"Don't hide it with a smile."

Find Vinemont Baptist Lifeline online at www.facebook.com/VinemontBaptistLifeline.

For those in immediate danger, contact AFSP at 1-800-273-TALK (8255).

For a detailed listing of danger signs as well as numerous phone, text and online contacts for help, see our February story wwwcullmansense.com/articles/2017/02/02/cullman-co-sees-frightening-increase-suicides.

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2017 FALL SEMESTER

Obituary Announcements: Aug. 15-16

Funeral Service for Hosea Kee, Jr., age 77 of Cullman, will be at 1 p.m. on Tuesday August 15, 2017 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Bobby Kee, Jr, officiating; interment at Union Grove Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Kee was surrounded by his family when he passed away on Sunday, August 13, 2017. He was born, January 21, 1940 to Hosea and Lola Markle Kee Sr. He is preceded in death by his parents, sister, Katherine Nix, brothers, Ray, Franklin and Harrell Kee, brother-in-law's, Billy Smith and Estelle Nix and sister-in-law, Doris Kee. Survivors include his wife Joann Kee, daughters, Margaret (Greg) Kee Holmes and Tammy Kee, sons, Norman (Bonnie) Kee, Hosea (Annette) Kee, III, and John Wayne (Angie) Kee, 14 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

Bobby Ray Tidwell, 62, of Haleyville, entered into rest on August 13, 2017 at Russellville Hospital. Mr. Tidwell was born on May 17, 1955, in Haleyville, Alabama. Bobby was a graduate from Haleyville High School. He was of the Baptist faith. Bobby was a janitor for Haleyville City School for many years and later worked at the jail for the City of Haleyville. He enjoyed helping the elderly their clean yards, garages, hauling things off for them, and collecting lighthouses. Bobby loved spending time with his sisters, and would stay with his sister, Joyce in Mississippi every opportunity he could. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, August 15, 2017 from 12 p.m. until 1 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Haleyville, where services will be held at 1 p.m. Brother Randy Jones and Brother Jonathon Hodge will officiate. Burial will follow in Hillcrest Cemetery. Bobby is survived by his sisters, Melba Joyce Hodge and her husband John, Mary B. Evans and her late husband Rodney, Angie D. Jones and her husband Randy; step sister, Janie Curtis and her husband Carl; 2 nieces, and 3 nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife of 24 years, Mary Tidwell; parents, Ollie and Mary Frances Tidwell; grandfathers, Tom Tidwell, and Jess Oden.

Funeral Services for Evelyn Posey Harbison, 87 of Cullman, will be from 2 p.m. Tuesday, August 15, 2017 in the Cullman Funeral Home Chapel, Burial will follow at Cullman City Cemetery, with Rev. John Richter officiating. Cullman Funeral Home directing. Born January 3, 1930 in Jasper, AL to Carl & Mary Lee Wilson Posey. Evelyn and Ed were childhood sweethearts in the early 1940's. They attended Northside Baptist Church in Jasper where Ed's dad was pastor. Evelyn loved gospel music and played piano for the church. She graduated with high grade honors from Walker County High School. Her first job was with the Circuit Clerk and later as a legal secretary with a law firm in Jasper. They were married on November 19, 1950 at Northside Baptist. In 1951 she joined Ed in Warrenton, VA where she worked for attorneys until Ed's discharge from the United States Army. Their daughter Karen was born in 1952 and they moved to Atlanta. They then moved to Cullman in 1953 where they purchased and managed the Sinclair Station at the intersection of Hwy's 278 and 31. Their son David was born in 1955. In Cullman she worked at the Veteran's Training School, Alabama Unemployment Office, King Edward Cigar plant. She later joined Ed to manage their Century 21 Real Estate and Valiant Insurance Agency businesses. She was a member of Jaycettes, Beta Sigma Phi, Red Hats and the Book Club. Evelyn loved to travel, she and Ed visited every state in the USA, much of Canada as well as Europe, Japan and China. She was loved by her immediate and extended family, including numerous nieces and nephews. She and Ed loved visiting and entertaining with their precious friends in Cullman as well as those in Walker County. She is preceded in death by her parents, 2 sisters, Ida Mae Beavers & Gaynelle Posey; 4 brothers, Cecil Posey, John Posey, Milford Posey & Vachel Posey. Survivors include her Husband of 66 years – Ed Harbison; Daughter – Karen (Richard) Nixon; Son – David (Debbie) Harbison; 3 – Grandchildren – Kari Nixon (Ronnie) Lancaster, Zak (Gina) Nixon & Branden Harbison; 6 – Great-Grandchildren – Garret Walker, Shelby Walker, Tatum Nixon, Jackson Nixon, Blake Lancaster & Seth Lancaster. The family will receive friends from 12 p.m. until 2 p.m. Tuesday. In Lieu-of-flowers, the family request contributions to Kindred Hospice & Home Health or the charity of your choice.

Nola Dean Cleghorn, 82 of Addison, entered into rest on Sunday, August 13, 2017 at Hanceville Nursing & Rehab Center surrounded by her loving family. Nola Dean was born on July 29, 1935 in Winston County, Alabama. She was a long time member of Addison First Baptist Church where she helped as a nursery worker. Mrs. Cleghorn attended Addison High School and went on to work as a security guard for Cavalier Homes for many years. She also drove the senior citizen bus in Addison and worked at the Community on Aging in Cullman for 10 years. She loved to be outside, fish, walking to the creek, taking care of people and being with her grandkids and great grandkids. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, August 15, 2017 from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. at Addison First Baptist Church, where services will be held on Wednesday at 2 p.m. She will lie in state from 1 p.m. unti. 2 p.m. Brother Mark Kimbrell, Pastor Robert Partridge and Brother Kenny Sudduth will officiate. Burial will be in Winston Memorial Cemetery. Nola Dean is survived by her son, Darrell Cleghorn and his wife Delina; brother, Marvin Cobb; sisters, Obera (Otha) Holt, Imogene Wakefield and Betty Porter; she was Maw Maw Nola to 2 grandchildren, Damon (Melissa) Cleghorn and Demicca (Jason) Baker; and she was Gran Dean to 3 great grandchildren, Dacey, Dathan and Drake; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends. She was preceded in death by her husband Max Allen Cleghorn; parents, Noah and Flora Cobb; and brothers, Raymond, Doyle and an infant brother Cobb.

Free Obituary Listings

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Get out and vote!

Andrew Cryer
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – Today marks the day that voters across the state of Alabama will pick their respective party's nominees for the U.S. Senate seat left vacant when U.S. Attorney Gen. Jeff Sessions was appointed to his current position by U.S. President Donald Trump. The seat is currently held by Sen. Luther Strange, who was appointed by former Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley. It is possible, but highly unlikely, that both parties will avoid a runoff given recent polling of state voters, but if it does happen, the run-off election will be held on Sept. 26 with the general election Dec. 12.

The primary race has been a slugfest, with Republican candidates campaigning hard in Cullman County.

What voters need to know about this primary election

• No "cross-over voting" between primaries and run-off elections

A new law prohibits Alabama voters from switching political parties between a primary runoff. The Associated Press reported in May, "Alabama does not require primary voters to register with a political party. The crossover voting ban is an attempt to prevent voters of one political party from trying to meddle in another party's runoff - although there is a dispute about how much that actually happens."

Basically, if you vote Republican in Tuesday's primary, you cannot vote Democratic in the run-off election, if there is one. The cross-over rule does not apply to the general election, nor to voters who do not vote in the primary.

Said Cullman County Probate Judge Tammy Brown, "For those persons who (do) not vote in the primary election, he or she may choose either party's (candidate) in the primary run-off election."

Brown says the cross-over rule starts over with each election cycle and only applies to primary and primary run-off elections. It does not apply to general elections. According to Vinemont poll worker Ernestine Linton, "I have to write down Dem. or Rep. by their (each voter's) name. When that voter comes back at the runoff, they'll already have that by their name, and they cannot change."

• A valid photo ID will be required to vote, and polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

• Voters may check their registration status and polling place at www.alabamavotes.gov.

• For sample ballots and more information, visit www.cullmancourts.org/probatecourt.html.

Candidates

On the Republican side, former Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Roy Moore holds a comfortable lead ahead of his opponents according to Monday's polls. The Trafalgar Group puts Moore with 35 percent of the vote, a 12-point gap between him and his closest competitor, incumbent Sen. Luther Strange, who last week received Trump's endorsement. Rounding out the top three is U.S. Rep. Mo Brooks, a local party favorite.

On the Democratic side, frontrunners include Robert Kennedy Jr. (no, not that Kennedy) and Doug Jones, who has garnered endorsements from former U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, U.S. Rep. John Lewis D-Georgia and Alabama's sole Democratic representative, Terri Sewell. Jones is also the favorite among local party faithful, receiving the unofficial endorsement from the Cullman County Democrats.

Local Democrats voted to endorse Jones, but stopped short of officially endorsing him upon advice from State Democratic Chair, Nancy Worley.

Below is a brief rundown of each candidate for final consideration

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 content creator 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.

• **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.

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.

• **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.

• **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.

• **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.

• **Brian McGee:** Will appear on the ballot, but dropped out of the race in July, throwing his support behind Doug Jones.

Election results for Cullman County will be tallied at the Cullman County Courthouse, on the third floor, after polls close. The public is welcome. Voters can also follow the results online at http://co.cullman.al.us/elections/electioncenter.html.



Tweens stock Little Free Pantry



CONTRIBUTED BY MIKE ARNOLD

First United Methodist Church Cullman tweens (fourth, fifth and sixth grades) collected and delivered food items to stock Cullman's Little Free Pantry as part of their mission project for their annual retreat.

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PET OF THE WEEK

Laid-back Callie is seeking her forever home

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CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Callie is a 4-year-old lab mix.

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

"This week we would like to feature Callie. Callie appears to be a lab mix that is approximately 4 years old. She came in as a stray and was never reclaimed. She has a sweet, calm demeanor and deserves to be given a home where she is loved, cared for and appreciated. She weighs 49 pounds," said Whisenhunt.

"Her adoption fee is $90, which includes her visit to the vet to get spayed, to receive a microchip, rabies vaccination and a general exam.

"She has already received her 5-in-1 shot and dewormer at our facility. The adopter will get a free 45-day insurance policy for her and will be given a bag of dog food at Pet Depot if he/she takes the receipt and pays the sales tax. We would be happy to see Callie go to her 'forever' home."

Visit Callie at the Cullman County Animal Shelter, 935 Convent Road NE in Cullman, or call 256-734-5448 for more information.

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