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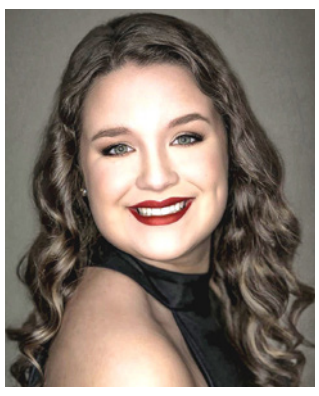
CULLMAN COUNTY FAIR

Miss Cullman County Fair Queen 2017

Pageant to be held today at 7 p.m. in the Coca-Cola Theatre



Ally Knight - Good Hope



Haylee Dauphin - Cullman



Serah Hudson - Hanceville



Hillary Holcomb - Vinemont



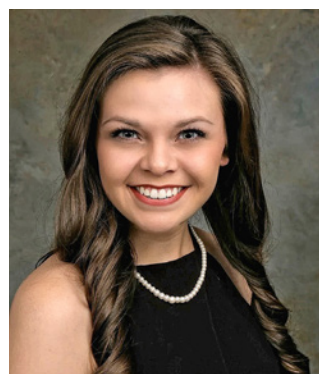
Averie Harris - Fairview



Savannah Aaron - Cold Springs



Raven Gilliland - West Point



Gracie Thomas - Holly Pond

Representatives of the eight public high schools in Cullman County will compete on an equal basis for a $3,000 scholarship award (paid to the school in which she enrolls) given by the Cullman County Fair Association. The winner also receives a diamond pendant from Doug Doggett Jewelers of Cullman. The first alternate receives a $2,000 scholarship; in the event the winner is unable to fulfill any of her duties, the first alternate will serve in lieu of the Queen. The second alternate receives a $1,000 scholarship. Wallace State Community College gives a one-year scholarship in the field of performing arts to the winner of the talent portion of the contest. The Cullman Lioness Club awards $200 to Miss Congeniality. Lion Thomas Warhurst will emcee the pageant.

Ms. Savannah Aaron – Cold Springs High School

Ms. Savannah Aaron, 17, is representing Cold Springs High School. Aaron, who is 5'1" with brown hair and hazel eyes, is the daughter of Tanya Aaron and Jeremy Aaron.

Savannah's hobbies include cheerleading, dancing, volunteering, club activities and spending time with her friends and family.

Ms. Aaron will perform a jazz routine to Christina Aguilera's "Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend."

She is the Cold Springs senior class president and co-captain varsity cheerleader, is a member of the SGA and LEO Club, and is an FCCLA state medalist and UCA All-American Cheerleader. With UCA Camp Champions she performed at the Buffalo Wild Wings Citrus Bowl in Orlando, Florida, receiving an invitation to try out for the UCA staff. She also volunteers at H.O.P.E. Horses, The Crossing and the community outreach clothing program at Cold Springs High School.

Savannah plans to attend the University of South Alabama to obtain a degree in sports physical therapy.

Ms. Haylee Dauphin – Cullman High School

Ms. Haylee Dauphin, 17, is representing Cullman High School. Dauphin, who is 5'9" with brown hair and green eyes, is the daughter of Danielle Dauphin and Gary Dauphin.

Haylee's hobbies include dancing, singing, working in her church's nursery, swimming and baking.

Ms. Dauphin will sing a medley of "Come in from the Rain" and "Stormy Weather."

She is in LEO Club, FCCLA, has played in her school's band for four years, served three years on dance line, is dance line captain, received superior ratings at marching competitions, and was Cullman High School's Fair Queen talent winner.

Haylee plans to attend either the University of North Alabama or the University of Alabama in Birmingham, where she hopes to earn her degree before working as an OBGYN ultrasound sonographer.

Ms. Averie DeAnn Harris – Fairview High School

Ms. Averie DeAnn Harris, 17, is representing Fairview High School. Harris, who is 5'2" with red hair and hazel eyes, is the daughter of Brad and Kristy Harris.

Averie's hobbies include singing, playing the flute and piccolo, spending time with her church family and youth group, baking, sewing, crocheting and spending time with special needs children.

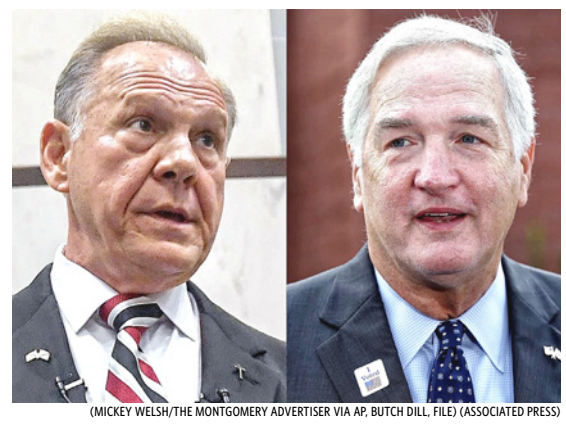
Ms. Harris will sing "Part of Your World" from "The Little Mermaid."

She is the FCA/Huddle Leader, a member of Aggies for Christ, Key Club secretary, student

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POLITICS

Run-off election today: Strange versus Moore



(MICKEY WELSH/THE MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER VIA AP, BUTCH DILL, FILE) (ASSOCIATED PRESS)

This combination of 2017 file photos shows U.S. Senate candidate Roy Moore, left, and Sen. Luther Strange. Strange and Moore face off Tuesday, Sept. 26 in the Republican runoff for U.S. Senate.

Wendy Sack
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CULLMAN – A wild, oftentimes crude, special election primary campaign comes to a close today as Republican voters head to the polls for the run-off election for U.S. Senate between Sen. Luther Strange and challenger Roy Moore, former chief justice of the Alabama Supreme Court.

Alabama voters have been inundated with campaign calls, mailings and television and radio ads. The eyes of the nation are on the election, as well. President Donald Trump and Vice President Mike Pence both campaigned in the state on behalf of Strange, while former White House strategist Steve Bannon did the same for Moore.

What's at stake?

Moore and Strange are both after the Republican nomination to fill the remainder of Attorney Gen. Jeff Sessions' Senate term. Strange

» PAGE 8

Pet of the Week: help Gabby find her forever home

Wendy Sack
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CULLMAN – Ryan Whisenhunt, with the Cullman County Animal Shelter, introduces us to our Pet of the Week.

"Hello, my name is Gabby, and I am about 2 years old. I am believed to be a chihuahua mix. I have a low to medium energy level, I do well with other dogs, and I do well with cats. I would make a great companion because I love people. I walk on a leash. My adoption fee is $90 and that includes my first set of vaccines and wormer at the shelter. It also includes me getting spayed, my general exam at the vet, my rabies vaccine, my microchip, my free 45-day health insurance policy, and our local Pet Depot will give you a free bag of food (you pay the taxes) in support of you adopting me from the animal shelter. Please consider coming to meet me today!

The Cullman County Animal Shelter is located at 935 Convent Road NE in Cullman.



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Gabby is a 2-year-old chihuahua mix.

TRIBUNE INVESTIGATES

A reader asks: Why do all of the Dumpsters in the county belong to the County?

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

VINEMONT – A while back, The Tribune got a question from a contractor and asbestos removal specialist who ran into trouble when he called his regular Dumpster supplier for a job in Vinemont. The supplier told him that the only place to rent Dumpsters in Cullman County is from the County Sanitation Department. He then contacted The Tribune with a request to look into the matter, and a complaint: "What appears to be happening is our local governing officials are enforcing a monopoly for themselves."

Blount Hauling, a WCA Waste Corporation affiliate located in Trafford, supported at least part of our reader's concern. A source at the company's office told us that they had received a letter from the Cullman County Sanitation Department stating that, by regulation, contractors in the area were to use its Dumpsters, and that outside suppliers placing Dumpsters in Cullman County would be subject to fines and potential lawsuits. That source also described the situation as a monopoly.

On our first call to the Cullman County Commission office, a source there confirmed that a regulation did exist giving the Sanitation Department control of all Dumpster rentals, and that fines and suits were potential penalties for violation. After a subsequent call, we reached Commissioner Garry Marchman, who located and presented to us Resolution 2000-16 from January 2000. That resolution stated that:

"...it is in the best interest and welfare of Cullman County and its citizens that every person, household, business, industry or property generating solid wastes, garbage or ash as defined in the Solid Wastes Disposal Act participate in and subscribe to the Cullman County collection services unless granted a Certificate of Exception..."

The resolution did allow for businesses and residents, on a case-by-case basis, to apply for exemption from the resolution. It did not define specific terms under which one would be granted, but did exempt hazardous waste from the regulation.

To find out the specific reasons behind this lockout of commercial waste handlers, we were referred to James Rollo, manager of the Cullman County Sanitation Department. Rollo explained that the behavior of waste handling companies toward customers at remote locations out in the county was the primary cause.

"There used to be commercial waste companies here," said Rollo, "but they were cherry-picking accounts, and people out in the middle of nowhere weren't getting service at all. We had to take care of them ourselves; so we decided that if we were going to have to get the 'bad ones,' we were going to get them all."

Rollo explained that, under sanitation department control, all customers pay the same rate for services, regardless of who they are or where they are located in the county. He also noted that the franchising of a particular business is not uncommon for county governments.

Asked if the old asbestos siding handled by our reader qualified for special consideration as a hazardous material, Rollo responded that most asbestos is not considered a hazardous material, but instead a "special material." It requires particular methods of handling, and must be deposited in particular locations in a landfill, but both the County Sanitation Department and county landfill take the material.

Elks Lodge to hold annual low country boil

Will Hogue
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CULLMAN – This Friday, Sept. 29, from 6-8 p.m., the Cullman Elks Lodge will hold its annual low country boil. The event, helps fund the $1,000 Elks Lodge Scholarships, which are given to one male and one female student in Cullman County each year.

For $15 per plate, customers will get 12 shrimp, polish sausage, red potatoes, corn on the cob, coleslaw and homemade beer-battered hushpuppies.

"We get the medium-sized, easy-peel, de-veined shrimp flash-frozen," Elks Lodge member Dale Ball said. "Everything else we buy locally."

Ball said she started the event to have something different, and because she loves boils.

"Everybody loves seafood," she said.

For reservations, call 256-339-0098.

There will be dine-in and carry-out options available.

The Elks Lodge is located at 1609 Brantley Ave. NW in Cullman.





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Hanceville First UMC raises funds, through music, for disaster relief

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HANCEVILLE – Recent events in this part of the country have heavily taxed the resources of relief agencies across the board, and many people and groups have stepped up to respond: some by taking on the task of response themselves, and others by offering extra support to front-line relief organizations.

On Sunday afternoon, Hanceville First United Methodist Church held a dinner and concert to raise funds for the North Alabama Disaster Relief Warehouse (NADRW), a facility and service of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

Church Music Director and Hanceville High School Band Director Steven Porter, who planned the event, spoke to The Tribune about what he hoped to accomplish.

"It's something that I can give. I don't have much to give. What I can give is music, and I can do concerts," said Porter, "and I can bring people together with good food, good music and good fellowship. I thought, 'We need to do this.'

"I just found out about the NADRW in Decatur a couple of weeks ago, and I said I can do something for them, because they do something domestic and worldwide, for man-made and natural disasters, and they distribute care packages, and relief and supplies all across the world."

Performers at the benefit concert included:

- Porter himself, performing original contemporary Christian music
- New Horizon, a Southern Gospel quartet
- Dog Pound Players - a jazz band made up of current and former Hanceville High School Band members under the direction of Porter



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

New Horizon gospel quartet

UMCOR is a Methodist nonprofit dedicated to relieving human suffering in numerous forms.

It offers various services including disaster relief, health, sustainable agriculture, food security and relief supplies.

Event kitchen coordinator Sandy Waters reported that donations totaled more than $1,300.

For more information about UMCOR, visit www.umcor.org.

For more information about the work of Hanceville First United Methodist Church, visit http://hancevillefumc.org.

CULLMAN COUNTY FAIR

Darlene Phillips named 2017 Queen of the Kitchen

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CULLMAN – This year's Cullman County Fair Queen of the Kitchen has been crowned. Darlene Phillips, who was also queen in 2014, won the honor this year.

"I was queen of the kitchen in 2014 and I've been off for a few years," said Phillips.

The contest entails contestants making 10 different items in six different categories, including cakes, pies, cookies, candy, sweet breads and yeast breads

"It's a true experience," Phillips shared, "and other people need to give it a try. It's fun."

Phillips said her favorite category to compete in is cakes.



NOAH GALILEE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Darlene Phillips

Q&A WITH THE PUBLISHER

Tribune Publisher Noah Galilee discusses why he thinks locally-owned newspapers better serve their communities

What does it mean to be a locally-owned newspaper?
To be a true locally-owned newspaper means a paper is owned and operated by individuals who are from the community or communities in which they serve.

It's basically the difference between a homemade cake and a store-bought cake. You know homemade will always be better in taste, texture and overall appearance because the person or people who made it have those being served as their central focus.

What impact does being locally-owned have on coverage and content?
As far as impact and coverage, it's easier for a locally-owned newspaper to navigate the communities they serve simply because they know people who live and work in those areas and understand the importance of accuracy over sensationalism.

How do locally-owned newspapers better serve a community?
It's the presence of the newspaper at all community council meetings - not just the ones a publisher or editor deems worth attending - local events, and other community gatherings that further separate big box-owned newspapers or news outlets, simply because local is what a newspaper like The Cullman Tribune is all about.

There are no special allegiances or pay-for-play from locally-owned newspapers and news outlets.

How many newspapers in the state are truly local?
There are a handful of true community-minded and locally-owned newspapers, and quite a number of online outlets attempting to break into the news business across the state, but the number of locally-owned and operated print newspapers is extremely slim.

When people discuss mass media, speaking about how biased news outlets are, then I suggest they look into who actually owns them.

The Cullman Tribune is the only locally-owned and operated newspaper in Cullman County, not to mention the oldest business and one of the oldest newspapers in the state, and we are just grateful to serve all our residents with accurate, timely and non-sensationalized news coverage.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
SEPTEMBER 26, 2017

Bands wow crowds at 34th annual Cullman County Band Exhibition

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Cold Springs High School



Hanceville High School



Vinemont High School

PHOTOS COURTESY W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

CULLMAN – On the evening of Saturday, Sept. 23, the marching bands of county and city schools came together at Cullman High School's Oliver Woodard Stadium for the 34th annual Cullman County Band Exhibition.

Fairview High School's drum line provided the cadence for the entrance of the bands to open the evening.

All nine area school bands presented their halftime shows, in order:

• Cullman Middle School - "Show Me How You Dance"

• Vinemont High School - "Fright Night"

• Hanceville High School - "Latin Up! with a Twist of Life"

• Cold Springs High School - "Ladies of the 80s"

• Holly Pond High School - "Heartbeats"

• Fairview High School - "The Evolution of Boy Bands"

• Good Hope High School - "Caravana De Rhythmo"

• West Point High School - "Dance to the Music"

• Cullman High School - "The Living Tapestry"

Highlights

All of the bands did a great job, but a few moments in the program were particularly memorable:

Cold Springs is a small band, but they had a big sound with some powerful brass. They sounded like a much bigger band.

Holly Pond, with new leadership in director Evan Curtis, is going through something of a rebuilding period. The band performed its complete show for the first time.

With a little singing and clapping, Fairview High School turned One Direction's "What Makes You Beautiful" into an audience participation event.

In director Ty Parker's second year at West Point, his band put on a spectacle with full-band dance, a light-up disco dance floor for featured dancers, and the famous closing scene lift from "Dirty Dancing" while the band played "The Time of My Life."

Cullman High School filled the field, and would have wowed the crowd with numbers alone; but did bring as much quality as quantity to the field.

Comments on The Tribune's live feed of the event were overwhelmingly supportive of the bands and students. No negative statements were made. Many commenters expressed support for their own bands, and several showed appreciation for all. A few unedited samples:

"All of the bands did an outstanding job tonight. It was sooooo good!!!"

"This is so cool I love to watch our (county's) high school marching bands"

"I love Exhibition night. So great seeing all the schools come together as one, everyone did (an) awesome job tonight."

A member of Holly Pond's color guard suffered an ankle injury during their performance, and had to be taken from the field on a cart. Parents and members of multiple bands expressed concern for her, both in the crowd and online. Many feared, based on initial descriptions of the incident, that the student had broken her ankle. She was taken to the emergency room, where her injury was diagnosed as a sprain.

Afterward, Cullman Band Boosters President Mary Hovater sent out a word of thanks to the bands and all who supported the event:

"On behalf of the Cullman Band Boosters, and as the president, I want to thank all the band boosters from across the county on working so hard for their students and making this year's County Band Exhibition a huge success! "Every year each band gets better than the year before, and this year was no exception. All the bands were fantastic!! I so enjoyed you all! And I hope you could hear all the cheering from all those in the stands for you all. Even if the football teams are rivals, all the bands are family and we all support each other. This event is a true example of that.

"Congratulations to you all on another fantastic Exhibition!"



Saturday youth football wrap-up

Josh McBrayer
josh@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN COUNTY – It was a full day of action Saturday as local youth football teams strapped on the helmets and pads and went to war in the trenches.

Good Hope Raiders 28, Cold Springs 6 (Fireplugs)
The offense was firing on all four cylinders for the Good Hope Raiders fireplug team as they took down Cold Springs 28 - 6. The defense stood strong only allowing six points over the course of four quarters, showing that Good Hope is a force to be reckoned with in the fireplug division.

Good Hope 16, Cold Springs 0 (Wee Wee)
The Good Hope Wee Wee team followed suit, downing Cold Springs 16-0 thanks to a strong offensive showing and a lights-out defense.

Cullman Bearcats 26, Good Hope Outlaws 12 (Fireplugs)
The Bearcats took care of business in the fireplug division, more than doubling up on the Good Hope Outlaws. Cullman's excellent on offense and toughness on defense secured the 26-12 win.

Good Hope Outlaws 12, Cullman Bearcats 6 (Wee Wee)
The Good Hope Outlaws won the battle in the trenches Saturday afternoon, holding off the Cullman Bearcats. It was a hard-fought 12-6 victory which saw the Outlaws play spectacularly on both sides of the ball.

Cullman Cyclones 34, West Point 20 (Fireplugs)
It was a shootout at the OK Corral when the Cyclones and the Warriors took the field Saturday afternoon. Both teams moved the ball up and down the field but it was the Cyclones who came out victorious 34 - 20.

Cullman Cyclones 22, West Point 0 (Wee Wee)
It was all Cyclones from the opening kick to the last second in the wee wee game. They Cyclones were able to move the ball well for the entirety of the game and it showed. West Point fought hard but was unable to get anything going, as they fell 22-0.

Cullman Cyclones 22, West Point 6 (Pee Wee)
It was an emotional game for the Cyclones as they downed West Point 22-6. LJ Turner fought through the adversity of losing his mother today and left his heart on the gridiron, scoring twice, once on a pass reception and once rushing. Our thoughts and prayers go out to LJ and the entire Turner family.

Fairview 8, Vinemont 0 (Fireplugs)
One score was all it took for the Fairview Aggies, as their defense was rock-solid and was able to keep the Vinemont Eagles out of the end zone, allowing Fairview to take home the 8-0 victory.

Vinemont 6, Fairview 0 (Wee Wee)
It was a huge game for the Vinemont Eagles and the playoff picture and the Eagles came up huge. One score and a whole lot of defense kept the Vinemont Eagles in the running for first seed in their division for the playoffs.

Fairview 38, Vinemont 0 (Pee Wee)
Fairview controlled both sides of the ball from the opening kick, holding Vinemont scoreless and coming up with an impressive 38-0 victory.

Holly Pond 8, Hanceville 0 (Wee Wee)
Holly Pond broke through for its first score of the year and it was just enough as the Broncos defense held Hanceville scoreless. Holly Pond took the game 8-0 for its first win of the season.



PHOTOS COURTESY JOSH MCBRAYER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



High school sports schedule for the week

Josh McBrayer
josh@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN COUNTY – It is a full week of action around the county on both the hardwood for volleyball and the gridiron for football.

Addison High School
Volleyball
• Tuesday at Brilliant 4pm
• Thursday at Arab 4pm

Football
• Friday at Vinemont 7pm

Cold Springs High School
Volleyball
• Tuesday vs Tarrant 4pm
• Thursday at Altmont rpm

Football
• Friday at Good Hope 7pm

Cullman High School
Football
• Friday vs Fayette County 7pm

Fairview High School
Volleyball
• Tuesday at Hayden 4pm
• Thursday at West Point 4pm

Football
• Friday at Priceville 7pm

Good Hope High School
Volleyball
• Tuesday at Priceville 4pm

Football
• Friday vs Cold Springs 7pm

Hanceville High School
Volleyball
• Wednesday at Vinemont 4pm
• Thursday at West Point 4pm

Football
• Friday at Clements 7pm

Holly Pond High School
Volleyball
• Tuesday at Susan Moore 4pm

Football
• Friday vs Asbury 7pm

Meek High School
Volleyball
• Tuesday vs Curry 4pm
• Thursday vs Winston County 4pm

Football
• Friday vs Vina 7pm

Vinemont High School
Volleyball
• Tuesday vs Saint Bernard 4pm
• Wednesday vs Hanceville 4pm

Football
• Friday vs Addison 7pm

West Point High School
Volleyball
• Tuesday at Priceville 4pm
• Thursday vs Fairview 4pm

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
SEPTEMBER 26, 2017

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Addison falls to no. 2 Alexandria in gold bracket of Brooks Invitational

Josh McBrayer
josh@cullmantribune.com

LORETTO – It was a tough end to a great weekend of volleyball for the Addison Lady Bulldogs when they fell to no. 2 Alexandria in the gold bracket of the Brooks Invitational Volleyball Tournament Saturday morning.

Addison won its first match over Wilson 25-14, 25-23.

In the second match, the Lady Bulldogs downed East Lawrence 25-11, 28 - 26.

The third win came at the expense of Loretto who they dropped the first game to 25-27 but rallied back to win 25-10 and 15-10.

The Lady Bulldogs' lone match loss came at the hands of Alexandria. The Lady Bulldogs won the first set of the match in convincing fashion, 25-10.

However, they lost the next two sets 23-25 and 10-15.

"It wasn't the outcome we had hoped for, but I feel that there were things we got better with today and that is success within its own," said Addison Head Coach Kayla Woodward.

"We are focused on getting better each day to reach our ultimate goal."

The Lady Bulldogs had several players who stood out throughout the tournament.

Abbie Chambless
51 kills, 34 digs, 16 blocks, 1 ace

McKenzie Berry
23 kills, 5 digs, 4 blocks

Allie Chambless
18 kills, 10 digs, 2 blocks, 1 ace

Kendra Tyree
42 digs, 8 aces

Addison will take to the hardwood next on Tuesday afternoon at 4 p.m. in Brilliant.

Obituary Announcements: Sept. 26-27

Marvorene Marie Hamilton of Cullman passed away on September 21, 2017 at the age of 90. She was born in Clanton Alabama on July 30, 1927 to Phillip O. and Jewel Esther Littleton Mims. She is preceded in death by her husband Ernest Almon Hamilton. Funeral services will be on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at Moss Funeral Home Chapel at 11 a.m. with Rev. Etsel Riddle officiating. Interment is in Cullman Memory Gardens. Survivors are: daughter: Anita (Henry) Burns, sons: Kenneth Michael (Marlene) Hamilton, James Lewis (Debra) Hamilton, brothers: Kenneth E. (Wilma) Mims, Phillip O. (Charlene) Mims, grandchildren: Amanda Morgan, Courtney (Josh) Gulley, Julie Hamilton, Brad Hamilton, Allyson Cofield, Anthony Hamilton, Ronnie and John Cruz, great grandchildren: Ashlyn, Ayden and Zander McAbee, Ian and Isaac Gulley, Owen and Adeline Hamilton, Bethany and Colyn Cofield.

Lacie Lynn Harris, 89, was born in Cullman County, Alabama, on January 8, 1928. She entered Heaven's gates on September 22, 2017, at Riverview Medical Center, Gadsden, Alabama, after a brief illness. She was the daughter of Luther and Florence Lynn. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Eldridge Harris; and infant son, Ronnie Harris. She is survived by her twin sister, Gracie Tapscott; her daughter, Carolyn (Larry) Mince, sons, Lynn (Ann) Harris, and Rick (Angel) Harris. Grandchildren: Dr. Shawn Galin, Tori (Court) Barber, Nikki Whitehead, Casey Harris, Adam (Lisa) Harris. Great-grandchildren: Courtlyn Barber, Emma Barber, Read Barber, Dr. Jessica (Jordan) Akin, Sydney Whitehead, Dean Thomas Roddy, and Lily Roddy and great-great-granddaughter, Ella Akin. Lacie retired from the Cullman County Health Department. After retirement she continued her life of service to others as a Pink Lady volunteer at Cullman Regional Medical Center. She enjoyed gardening and cooking for her family. Canning vegetable soup, green beans, and apple jelly were her specialties. Her lemon icebox pies and fried apple pies were legendary. She was a member of Northside Baptist Church. She loved Southern Gospel music and good preaching. She cherished her life-long friends from Northside who were so faithful to call and visit her during her final years. Lacie's faith in God never wavered. While a resident at Morningside Assisted Living, Lacie continued her hobby of raised-bed gardening and attended all the social activities. Bingo for quarters was the highlight of her day. She always enjoyed a good sale at Belk. When she transitioned to Gadsden Health Care she began a new hobby of intricate coloring. She was adored by her family who lavished her with love. The family would like to thank the residents and staff at Morningside Assisted Living and Gadsden Healthcare for making her final years so happy. The family will receive friends Tuesday, September 26, at Moss Service Funeral Home from 12 noon until 2 p.m. with a life celebration at 2 p.m. Burial will follow at the Cullman City Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Northside Baptist Church, 310 Katherine Street NW, Cullman, AL 35055.

Funeral service for Opal Marie Pinkard, 91 of Cullman, will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Dr. David Chambers, officiating; burial at Concord Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Pinkard passed away on Saturday, September 23, 2017 at Cullman Regional Medical Center. She was born, March 07, 1926 to BJ and Mae Jetton Yeager. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, GW Pinkard, son, Gerald Pinkard, and granddaughter, Kateah Pinkard. Survivors include her sons, Gene (Doris) Pinkard, and Tim (Bobbie) Pinkard, grandchildren, Sharron (Bill Cochran) Jones, Amy (Clint) Haynes, Gidget (Chad) Wright, Josh (Terra) Pinkard, 11 great grandchildren.

Donald Wayne Kinard, 65, of Haleyville, entered into rest on September 24, 2017 at his home surrounded by his family. Mr. Kinard was born on July 31, 1952, in Haleyville, Alabama. He was a truck driver for over 30 years and known as "Pop" on the CB radio. Donald enjoyed spending time with his family. Family will receive friends on Wednesday, September 27, 2017 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Haleyville. Donald is survived by his son, Donald "Buddy" Kinard II and wife Adrienne; daughter, Tina Morrison; two step sons; seven step daughters; brother, Troy Kinard and wife Mary; sisters, Lois Hankins, Jean Wallace and Linda Taylor. He was "Paw Paw" to a host of grandchildren, great grandchildren, and uncle to many niece's and nephew's. He was preceded in death by his wife, Sheila Kinard; parents, Jessie Lee and Evalina Kinard; brothers, Garvis Kinard and David Kinard.

Eleanor Louise Hale passed away on September 22, 2017 at the age of 76. She was born in Cullman on November 12, 1940 to Dudley O. and Ida Mae Tankersley Smithson. She is preceded in death by her parents, daughter: Sheila Ann Myatt, brother: Edward Smithson. Funeral services are Wednesday, September 27, 2017 at Blair Methodist Church at 2 p.m. with Rev. Tim Holder officiating. Interment will be in Blair Congregational Methodist Cemetery. She will lie-in-state at the church for one hour prior to the service. Survivors are: husband: George Hale, son: Jeff McClellan (Fiance': Kimberly Roth), brother: Dudley O. Smithson, 3 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Visitation is Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at Moss Funeral Home from 5:30 p.m. until 9 p.m.

Mr. Lionell Willingham, 81, of New Hope Community, passed away September 23, 2017 at his home. He was born in Marshall County to Thomas (T.C.) and Ella May Austin Willingham. Mr. Willingham worked in the farming industry. Mr. Willingham is preceded in death by his parents; wife, Eva Mae Willingham; infant daughter, Linda Lou; sister, Bonnie Willingham. Survivors are sons, David Willingham, Rickey (Gloria) Willingham and Mickey (Angel) Willingham; brothers, Gregory Willingham and Ira Joe Willingham; grandchildren, Stephanie, Josh, Christy, Jessi, and Fleshia; 13 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren. Funeral service will be held Wednesday, September 27, 2017 beginning at 3 p.m. at Holly Pond Funeral Home. Visitation will be held from 1 p.m. until service time.

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PREP CROSS COUNTRY

St. Bernard, Cullman winners in Saturday's Fairview Invitational

Nick Griffin
Tribune Correspondent

FAIRVIEW – Close to 20 schools gathered Saturday morning out at the pavilions in Fairview's Randall Shedd Community Park for this year's Fairview Invitational cross-country meet. The action got started at 9 with the varsity level girls' race, which was broken up into two groups. 1A-4A schools raced against one another, while the 5A-7A schools were scored separately as well.

In the 1A-4A division, Kelly Joyner of Pisgah High School finished third, Brea Bryan from Falkville came in second, and Leahrose Mami of St. Bernard finished in first place with a time of 21:15:47.

As a team, St. Bernard came away with the victory scoring 49 points.

In the 5A-7A division, Alex McDonald of Fairview finished third, Emma Stewart for Arab finished at second place and her teammate Megan Schwarze won the race posting a time of 20:25:35. The Bearcats managed to win the event as a team finishing with a score of 29.

The varsity boys were next up, competing in the same format, split up between 1A-4A and 5A-7A.

First up for the 1A-4A division, Hanceville's Aaron Brown crossed the finish line in third place, Brandon Mendez of Brindlee Mountain finished second and St. Bernard's Andrew Sweeney won the race by nearly two minutes with a time of 16:39:93.

The 1A-4A team winner was J.B. Pennington behind a score of 49.

In the 5A-7A division, the top three spots were a sweep for the Cullman Bearcats. Cullman's Tucker Adkison finished in third place just behind Jackson Tucker who finished in second.

The winner of the 5A-7A race was Eli Wilhite with the best time of the day at 16:31:55.

The Bearcats won the team competition as well with the lowest score of the day at 20 points.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The junior varsity teams lined up next. While the varsity units ran a 5K, the JVs competed in a 2-mile race.

The junior varsity boys' team for Cullman followed them up with a first-place finish as well, behind a second-place finish from Adam Mangum and a first-place finish from Walker Huddleston with a time of 12:01:20.

The JV girls' competition was dominated by the Arab Knights featuring a first-place finish for the team with a score of 27 and top two individual times from Jillian Grisham and Grace Gosline, who finished first at 13:41:79.

LIFESTYLE

Décor tips: Fall's wonderful bounty makes for great decorating

Loretta Gillespie
Tribune Correspondent



Decorating for the fall season always cheers people up. Maybe it's those crisp fall colors, orange, green, ochre and burgundy, or maybe it's just being able to be outside in weather that doesn't allow you to fry an egg on the sidewalk. Whatever the reason, it's time to start, and here are some ideas that you might like to incorporate into your own decorating theme.

Scarecrows and pumpkins, hay bales and mums set the theme for most entrances this time of year. The more mums you have, the more cheerful your welcome seems. Mums come in such delightful colors and they are Cullman's signal that fall festivities are just around the corner. Try making pumpkin topiaries by driving a piece of rebar into the ground near your entrance. Push your largest pumpkin down over the rebar until it touches the ground, then stack accordingly. Now, for a different look, wind strands of fall leaves through the middle of your topiary, paint a cute scarecrow face on the top pumpkin and give your new friend a stylish look with a straw hat, or maybe a scarf, just the way you would do with a snowman.

Inside, set your table with a festive tablecloth; it need not be expensive, just something that blends with your décor. You can find lots of fabric and vinyl table covers in discount stores right about now. Then place your tallest ornaments in the center. If you need to give an item more presence, try setting it on top of a cake stand. You might even try turning the cake stand upside down to make it look more like a pedestal. Then surround it with smaller ornaments, glassware, and don't forget the candles!

Candles make everything glow, you can drop some votives into your wine glasses, place taller candles under globes, and use battery-operated ones in places where it's unsafe to light a real flame.

Using fall leaves and branches, spread your arrangement between place setting; you can always remove any extra greenery when it's time to eat.

Place candy corn and pumpkins in clear glass vases or cake plates. Cookies from your favorite deli in shapes of leaves or pumpkins work well for adding another splash of color to your tablescape.

Instead of folding your napkins, try inserting them into your stemware, which will also give you another layer of height to make your table more cohesive.

Don't forget texture. Use woven mats, burlap and allow colorfully-patterned cotton scarves to puddle under your centerpiece or as place mats. The more texture, the better!

Use cattails, dried ornamental grass blooms, Indian corn and twisted branches to make an airy centerpiece, then place battery-operated lights in the vase so that the light will shine up through the dried floral arrangement. This works well outside as well as inside.

Use other fruits and vegetables, such as ornamental squash, bell peppers, artichokes, apples and melons to make vases or to serve food in. Ornamental pumpkins make great candle holders. Just cut the center out and pop in a votive.

Collard greens, with their lovely white veins, make amazing serving platters. Place a clean collard, the larger the better, on a clear tray, then pile on carrots, cherry tomatoes and other vegetables to make a natural looking buffet selection. You can also use collards for making arrangements, as well as cabbages with the leaves folded back, and a hole cut in the center for a small glass (baby food jars word wonderfully for this) which will hold water for cut flower arrangements.



LORETTA GILLESPIE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Pumpkins last a long time, so splurge!

Zinnias work well in fall arrangements, and they come in so many colors!

Most gardeners will be glad to share their bounties with you, or you can find them at most farmers' markets. But don't overlook what's in your own backyard; many flowers, such as roses, form seed heads and dried pods, which look amazing in fall arrangements.

You have much to choose from in fall's glorious bounty, so look around you and let your imagination guide you in creating wonderful vignettes for yourself and your guests to enjoy. Happy fall, y'all!

Cullman County jurisdiction has been selected to receive an award under Phase 34 of the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) based upon the available statistics. Congress has appropriated $120,000,000 to supplement and expand emergency food and shelter programs. Your jurisdiction's award is based upon your jurisdiction's total number of unemployed as compared to the total number of unemployed in all qualifying jurisdictions.
Local Board of EFSP is charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high need areas around the country. The Local Board 0072 of Cullman County is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds made available through the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program, Phase 34.Under the terms of the grant from the national EFSP Board, local agencies chosen to receive funds must : 1) be private voluntary non-profits or units of government, 2) be eligible to receive federal funds 3) have an accounting system, 4) practice nondiscrimination, 5) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and or shelter program, and 6) if they are private voluntary organization, they must have a voluntary board of Directors. Qualifying agencies interested in applying to the Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds must contact Donna Jacobs at 256-775-2600 or email vsoced@vsoccullman.org for an application. The deadline for applications to be received is Sept 29, 2017.

Fair (from Front)

council 12th grade class representative, band drum major, first-chair flute/piccolo, and plays on the varsity soccer team.

Averie plans to attend Wallace State Community College for two years to earn her associate degree before transferring to Athens State to pursue a degree in elementary/collaborative education.

Ms. Ally Peyton Knight – Good Hope High School

Ms. Ally Peyton Knight, 18, is representing Good Hope High School. Knight, who is 5'2" with dark brown hair and green eyes, is the daughter of Jacob and Cindy Knight.

Ally's hobbies include writing music, playing guitar, singing, English and dressage horseback riding, traveling and playing volleyball.

Ms. Knight will be performing an original song she wrote and composed entitled "The Problem with Girls."

She is a member of the Fast Track Academy at Wallace State Community College where she made the Dean's List and is a member of the Good Hope varsity volleyball team, where she has received All-County awards the past two years.

Ally plans to attend Wallace State Community College to earn her associate degree before transferring to the University of North Alabama to pursue a degree in business with a minor in music.

Her goal is to one day work in Nashville in the music industry.

Ms. Serah Hudson – Hanceville High School

Ms. Serah Hudson, 17, is representing Hanceville High School. Hudson, who is 5'0" with brown hair and brown eyes, is the daughter of Wayne and Sherri Hudson.

Serah's hobbies include listening to classic R&B music, cooking and trying new foods, shopping, babysitting her niece Kaydence, binge watching shows on Netflix, spending time with her youth group and traveling to new places.

Ms. Hudson will perform an Acro/Lyrical routine.

She is a member of FCCLA, TRIO club, SGA, LEO club, Hanceville High School's track team and National Honor Society, and serves as senior class vice president.

Serah plans to attend college to pursue a degree in social work.

Ms. Gracie Alexis Thomas – Holly Pond High School

Ms. Gracie Alexis Thomas, 17, is representing Holly Pond High School. Thomas, who is 5'1" with brown hair and green eyes, is the daughter of Jed and Amber Thomas.

Gracie's hobbies include singing, writing, running, hiking and volunteering.

Ms. Thomas will sing "House of the Rising Sun."

She is a member of the varsity volleyball team, FCA, FCCLA, SGA, FBLA, Key Club and Beta Club and performs in the choir and ensemble.

Gracie plans to earn a degree in criminal justice from Jacksonville State University so she can later become a juvenile probation officer.

Ms. Hillary Holcomb – Vinemont High School

Ms. Hillary Holcomb, 17, is representing Vinemont High School. Holcomb, who is 5'6" with brown hair and blue eyes, is the daughter of Heath and Emily Holcomb.

Hillary's hobbies include playing the piano and trumpet, reading, watching Netflix, volunteering with the "Back Pack Program," and entertaining residents at her local nursing home, along with baking and cooking.

Ms. Holcomb will perform a medley of Floyd Cramer songs on the piano.

She is a delegate to the 2017 Alabama Lions Club High School Leadership Forum, was a member of the 2017 All-State Honor Band, part of the Alabama Lions High School All-Star Band and Cullman County Chamber of Commerce Youth Leadership delegate, member of the National Honor Society, GEMS, Anchor Club, LEO Club, FCA, FCCLA and the Vinemont High School Marching Eagle Band.

Hillary plans to attend the University of North Alabama and play in the "Pride of Dixie" Marching Band while pursuing a biomedical engineering degree. After completing college, she plans to work at UAB Hospital to help change the lives of others.

Ms. Raven McKenzie Gilliland – West Point High School

Ms. Raven McKenzie Gilliland, 17, is representing West Point High School. Gilliland, who is 5'2" with dark brown hair and green eyes, is the daughter of Loren Gilliland and Greg and Toni Jenkins.

Raven's hobbies include going to church, tumbling, cheerleading, riding horses and spending time with her friends and family.

Ms. Gilliland will perform a dancing and tumbling routine.

She is a member of FCCLA and a is varsity cheerleader.

Raven plans to the Wallace State Community College's nursing program.

Election (from Front)

was appointed to the seat in February by former Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley, after Sessions was appointed to his current position by Trump.

In the August 15 primary, Moore won Cullman County (47.52 percent), along with Democrat Doug Jones (65.85 percent). Statewide, the voter gap between Moore and Strange was narrower, with Moore taking 38.9 percent of the vote and Strange 32.76 percent. Strange garnered 31.03 percent of the vote in Cullman County.

Tuesday's run-off winner will face Jones on Dec. 12. Jones is a lawyer and former U.S. attorney during the Clinton administration, 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.





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