The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

VOL. 144 • 50¢ PER COPY | OCTOBER 3, 2017 | USPS 139-700 • NO. 77

'To know Him and to make Him known'

Good Hope Baptist Church marks 175 years



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Good Hope Baptist Church congregation celebrated the church's 175th anniversary on Sunday, Oct. 1, 2017.

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

GOOD HOPE – On Sunday morning, members of Good Hope Baptist Church celebrated the church's 175th anniversary with a special service and full day of celebration. Members gathered documents and photos, and descendants of several charter members shared their families' stories. Councilman John Harris represented the Good Hope City Council, and Rep. Corey Harbison, R-Good Hope, who grew up attending Good Hope Baptist Church, came to represent the Alabama House of Representatives. Both brought resolutions from their respective bodies honoring the congregation.

Baptists being a fellowshipping (In this context, that means "eating together") kind of people, of course there was food. With such an event as this, there had to be lots! A fellowship breakfast before worship was followed by lunch and an afternoon of activities.

Good Hope Baptist Church is a congregation affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention, and claims more than 200 active members today. Six or seven charter members' families are still active in the church. Ralph Andrews, the current pastor, has served the church since 1996. The congregation was established as Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church in 1842, and is the oldest church in the West Cullman Baptist Association. The current city, which came later, took its name from the church. The original log structure sat on the south side of Good Hope Cemetery, and was also home to the community's first school.

Other important dates in the history of Good Hope Baptist Church:

1866 - The original log church building was replaced after being destroyed by fire.

1883 - The newly-formed Cullman County Baptist Association held its first meeting at Good Hope.

1892 - The school was moved to a separate building on the present site of Good Hope High School.

1896 - A new building was constructed at the church's present location.

1942 - The landmark sandstone building (known as the "rock church") now in use was constructed. There are still men in the congregation today who, as boys, participated in the digging of the basement. With tremendous volunteer labor from the church and community, the project was completed for only $7,000.

1957 - An education building was added to the back of the rock church.

2000 - The building housing the fellowship hall, nursery and offices was constructed.

The Tribune was with the Good Hope congregation Sunday

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Cullman Oktoberfest 2017 officially kicks off Wednesday



TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

2016's Burgermeister, Rev. John Richter, left, will pass the title on to John Dean Wednesday evening.

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – Cullman Oktoberfest 2017 will officially kick off Wednesday, Oct. 4, with opening ceremonies at 6 p.m. at the Festhalle downtown. Festivities will include the introduction of this year's Burgermeister, John Dean, the tapping of the kegs and the crowning of 2017's Miss Oktoberfest. Hanceville High School's German Band will perform.

Oktoberfest events have already begun around town, and citizens can enjoy German food and music at the Festhalle beginning today, Tuesday. The festival will run through Sunday, Oct. 8. See a detailed schedule below. Get more information at www.cullmanoktoberfest.com.

TUESDAY, OCT. 3

- 9 a.m.-2 p.m. – School tours
- 10:30 a.m.- 2 p.m. – Freddie Day Catering, German food
- 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. – Wolfgang Moritz, German music

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Pet of the Week: help Max find his forever home

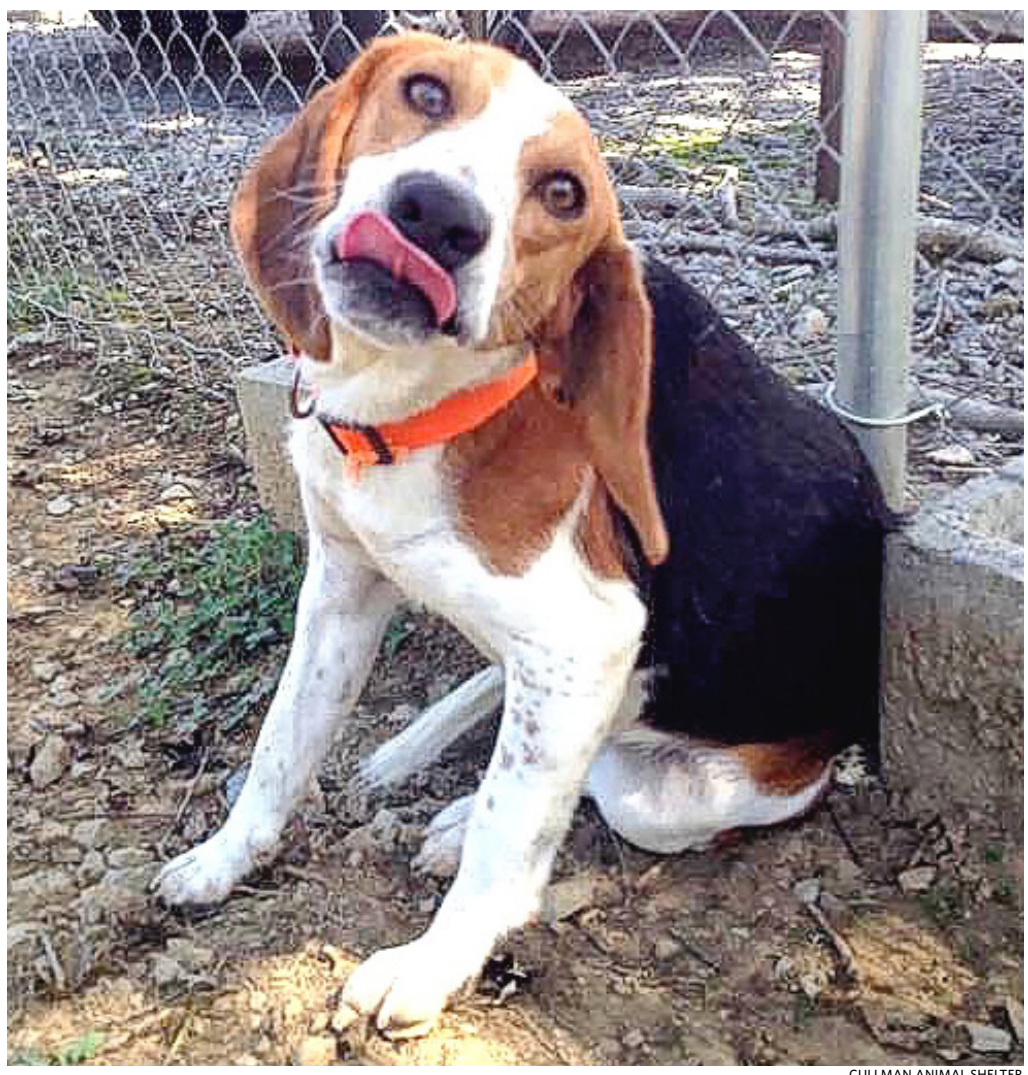
Cullman Animal Shelter
Contributor

CULLMAN – Meet Max, The Tribune's Pet of the Week. Max is an adult male Beagle.

"Hello, my name is Max. I am about 4 years old. My adoption fee is $90 and that includes the following: DHLPP vaccine, Bordetella vaccines, Rabies vaccine, wormer, general exam at the vet, spay/neuter, microchip, free 45-day health insurance policy issued by 24 Pet Watch (with valid email only) and a free bag of food from Cullman Pet Depot (you must pay sales tax)."

Please consider adopting from the Cullman Animal Shelter to give a rescued pet a chance at a happy and healthy life.

Call for more information: 256-734-5448 or visit in person at 935 Convent Road NE in Cullman.



CULLMAN ANIMAL SHELTER

Bosom Buddies announce fall fundraisers

Judy Grissom
Contributor

CULLMAN – October is all about PINK! Mark your calendars for these cancer fundraisers.

Oct. 1- Nov. 10 Turkey, ham and ribs
The third annual BBQ fundraiser. Orders will be taken for Freddie Day's delicious smoked meats. Turkeys, 15-17 lbs., are $30. Hams, 10-12 lbs., are $30. Full racks of ribs are $25. Orders may be picked up from Freddie Day Catering from 11 a.m.-noon on Saturday, Nov. 18 and from 9-10 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day.

To order, or for more information:
Mary Dyer: 256-347-0911
Judy Grissom: 256-347-5993
Janice McNeal: 256-708-5518
Oct. 28 Annual motorcycle ride

The fifth annual Bikers Against Cancer Ride will take a new, 110-mile route through Bankhead National Forest. It begins at Cullman Regional with registration at 7:30 a.m., and kickstands up at 9 a.m.

Cost is $25 per bike and $10 for an extra rider, which includes a complimentary breakfast, snacks at the rest stop and lunch afterward. This year's ride will honor David Sandlin, who was instrumental in forming and building the fundraiser. Proceeds benefit the Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation, that works to meet the needs of cancer patients and their families.

4th Annual Walk for Freedom set for Oct. 14

Will Hogue
will@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – On Saturday, Oct.14, the Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force, together with nonprofit group A21, will host the fourth annual Walk for Freedom in Cullman.

The event, which will be going on simultaneously around the world in 300 different cities, aims to help raise awareness for one of the most widespread, yet overlooked, issues in the world today: human trafficking.

The 1-mile walk will begin and conclude at the Cullman County Courthouse. The event is free, and registration is available at http://qrne.ws/walkforfreedom.

Those participating are encouraged to wear black in remembrance of victims of human trafficking.

Donations will be accepted, and T-shirts will be available for sale to help raise funds.

A21 is a nonprofit organization "fueled by radical hope that human beings everywhere will be rescued from bondage and completely restored. We are the abolitionists of the 21st century. We work with you to free slaves and disrupt the demand."

Find out more about the Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force at http://qrne.ws/cchttf.

Turn signal ahead for AL 69/Cherokee Avenue at Olive Street in Cullman

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – The Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) announced late Friday that a flashing yellow arrow turn signal will be installed next Tuesday, Oct. 10, on Alabama Highway 69/ Cherokee Avenue at Olive Street in Cullman.

"The four-arrow signal head featuring the flashing yellow arrow is a safe and efficient way to establish right of way for left-turning vehicles at intersections," said ALDOT's Seth Burkett.

After the new signal is in place and operational, signals will appear in the following sequence:

- A steady green arrow signifies that it is safe to turn.
- A steady yellow arrow warns that a red signal is coming. Do not enter the intersection if you can safely stop.
- A steady red arrow means drivers must stop.
- A flashing yellow arrow means turn with caution only after yielding to oncoming traffic and pedestrians.

More information about flashing yellow arrow signals can be found online at www.drivesafealabama.org/keys-to-safety/flashing-yellow-arrow.

Alabama AG Marshall joins those in support of 'Road to Recovery Act'

Office of Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall

MONTGOMERY – Alabama Attorney Gen. Steve Marshall, along with a bipartisan coalition of 39 attorneys general and the National Association of Attorneys General, on Monday called on Congress to pass legislation that changes federal law to make treatment for drug addiction more affordable and accessible for Americans who most need it.

HR 2938 is the "Road to Recovery Act." The coalition of Attorneys General sent a letter to the U.S. House of Representatives, describing the national epidemic of heroin and opioid abuse and overdose deaths, and stating: "... (W)e cannot arrest our way out of this problem, because it is not just a public safety challenge – it is a public health challenge as well."

A recent study reveals that drug overdoses claimed as many as 65,000 American lives in 2016, a 24 percent increase from the year before.

In Alabama last year, it is estimated that about 736 people died as the result of a drug overdose.

The Road to Recovery Act will help those struggling with addiction gain access to treatment, and eliminate a decades-old Medicaid rule that limits residential treatment options.

Marshall, who co-chairs Alabama's Opioid Overdose and Addiction Council, said mental health care is an essential component to fighting the opioid epidemic. "We are attacking this crisis on many fronts, through tough law enforcement against drug dealers, and through stronger laws and regulations to combat the proliferation of opioids.

It is vital that we also make it easier to help those who have a problem and are trying to overcome it. This federal legislation will remove a roadblock that limited treatment options, and will facilitate better treatment for drug addiction."

The Road to Recovery Act will help increase access to treatment for opioid addiction by removing a more than 50-year-old provision in the Medicaid program that currently acts as a barrier to residential addiction treatment.

The bill addresses the "Institutions for Mental Diseases" (IMD) exclusion which was created in the original 1965 Medicaid legislation to prevent the funding of large, residential mental health facilities. While the exclusion led to the closure of what were, in many cases, inhumane institutions, it now has the unintended effect of limiting Medicaid funding for residential treatment facilities, which can be one of the most effective ways to treat drug addiction.

The Road to Recovery Act will remove the exclusion for addiction treatment facilities only.

This will help open new avenues for addiction treatment while maintaining appropriate restrictions on mental health facilities.

The change in the law is supported by health care providers, insurers, treatment centers and governors of both political parties and the President's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis.

Community Note: Fly on the Trimotor!

Ken Brown
Contributor

CULLMAN – Back in the 1920s, Henry Ford designed an aircraft that could fly 10 passengers coast to coast. It was called the Ford Trimotor because it has three motors. Charles Lindbergh designed the cross-country route which took passengers by both train and airplane across the country, from New York City to Glendale, California in 48 hours.

On Nov. 3, 4 and 5, the Ford Trimotor will fly riders from the passenger terminal at Cullman Regional Airport over Cullman to experience what it was like to fly at the birth of commercial aviation in America.

Eckenrod Ford will sponsor the aircraft while here in Cullman. Tickets may be purchased in advance online for reduced prices or at the airport after aircraft arrival. Go to www.flytheford.org or call 1-877-952-5395.

On Saturday, Nov. 4, the Wallace State History Department will host a roaring 20s day inside the passenger terminal, featuring a 20s movie about the aircraft, as well as music and dancing from that period.

Teachers and students will perform in period dress.

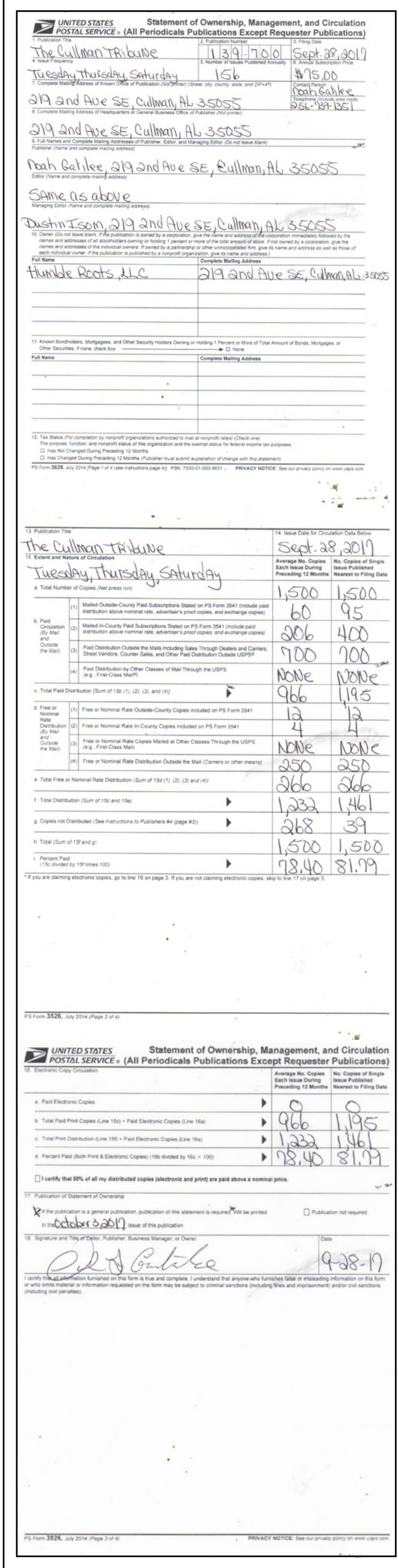
All this is part of our county-wide celebration of Veterans Day, presented by your Cullman Elks Lodge.

For complete details of the entire event, go to www.cullmanveteransday.com.

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Friday, October 6 and Saturday, October 7, 9:00 until 4:00, 2023 Larry Avenue SW
Patio furniture, appliances, grandfather clock
See pictures at: a1estatesalesllc.com
For more information: 205-862-2723

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Chesley Oaks Golf Course
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8:00am Shotgun start
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1. Publication Title: The Cullman TRibune | 2. Publication Number: 139-700 | 3. Filing Date: Sept. 28, 2017
4. Issue Frequency: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday | 5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 156 | 6. Annual Subscription Price: $75.00
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®): 219 2nd Ave SE, Cullman, AL 35055 | Contact Person: Noah Galilee | Telephone (Include area code): 256-737-1351
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 219 2nd Ave SE, Cullman, AL 35055
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address): Noah Galilee, 219 2nd Ave SE, Cullman, AL 35055
Editor (Name and complete mailing address): Same as above
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address): DustinIsom, 219 2nd Ave SE, Cullman, AL 35055
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)

Full Name	Complete Mailing Address
Humble Roots, LLC	219 2nd Ave SE, Cullman, AL 35055

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box → ☐ None

Full Name	Complete Mailing Address

12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one)
The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:
☐ Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months
☐ Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 1 of 4 (see instructions page 4)) PSN: 7530-01-000-9931 . PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com

13. Publication Title: The Cullman TRibune | 14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: Sept. 28, 2017
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		1,500	1,500
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	60	95
	(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	206	400
	(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®	700	700
	(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	NONE	NONE
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		966	1,195
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541	12	12
	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	4	4
	(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)	NONE	NONE
	(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	250	250
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))		266	266
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		1,232	1,461
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		268	39
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		1,500	1,500
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		78.40	81.79

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PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 2 of 4)

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16. Electronic Copy Circulation

	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Paid Electronic Copies	0	0
b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)	966	1,195
c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)	1,232	1,461
d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c × 100)	78.40	81.79

☐ I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.

17. Publication of Statement of Ownership
☒ If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the October 3, 2017 issue of this publication. ☐ Publication not required.

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: Noah Galilee | Date: 9-28-17

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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

NoahGalilee–Publisher
DustinIsom–Editor
Wendy Sack – Newsroom Editor
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HeatherMann–GeneralReporter
Will Hogue – General Reporter
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PREP CROSS COUNTRY

Kudzu Invitational: Cold Springs boys take 2nd, Sweeney 1st; St. Bernard girls take 3rd, McDonald 3rd

Josh McBrayer
josh@cullmantribune.com

BREMEN – In what has become one of the top events in the cross-country season, the Kudzu Invitational took place Saturday at Cold Springs High School.

Local high schools competing included Saint Bernard, Hanceville, Cold Springs, Holly Pond (1A-3A) and Fairview (4A-7A).

In the 1A- 3A boys' 5,000-meter run, Cold Springs took home second place with an average time of 18:07.

Saint Bernard placed eighth with an average time of 18:53. Holly Pond took home 13th place with an average time of 19:41 and Hanceville came in at 14th with an average time of 20:46.

In 1A-3A boys', nine local runners placed in the top 25:

- 1st Andrew Sweeney- Saint Bernard- 16:16.12
- 11th Aaron Brown- Hanceville- 17:29.18
- 12th Jonah Collett- Cold Springs- 17:29.80
- 14th Caleb Guthery- Saint Bernard- 17:46.95
- 15th Trentan Williams- Cold Springs- 17:58.84
- 18th Seth Walker- Cold Springs- 18:14.09
- 20th Conner Lowery- Holly Pond- 18:18.27
- 21st Cole Akridge- Cold Springs- 18:18.76
- 22nd Joey McCarthy- Saint Bernard- 18:19.53

In the boys' 4A - 7A 5,000-meter run, Fairview came in sixth place with an average time of 18:40.00. The lone Fairview runner to place in the top 25 was Quinton Chambers, who took third place with a time of 17:13.27.

GIRLS

Saint Bernard's girls had an impressive showing in the girls' 1A-3A 5,000-meter run. The Lady Saints took third place with an average time of 22:27. Holly Pond took ninth place with an average time of 24:26.

- In 1A-3A girls', five local runners placed in the top 25:
- 4th Leahrose Mami- Saint Bernard- 19:48.09
- 9th Ava Akridge- Cold Springs- 21:19.42
- 11th Abigail Kusz- Holly Pond- 21:24.99
- 19th Lizbeth Medina- Saint Bernard- 22:18.33
- 22nd Alyssa Jackson- Cold Springs- 22:36.53

In the girls' 4A - 7A 5,000-meter run, Fairview came in seventh place with an average time of 24:22. The lone Fairview runner to place in the top 25 was Alex McDonald, who took third place with a time of 20:59.00.

Junior high teams competed from Fairview, Saint Bernard, Cullman, Good Hope, West Point and Hanceville.

Boys' Junior High 2.1 Mile

Seven local runners placed in the top 25:

- 7th Peyton Bailey- Fairview- 12:34.38
- 9th Francis Mami- Saint Bernard- 12:45.75
- 11th Joseph Arriaga- Saint Bernard- 12:56.64 11
- 12th Nicholas Wood- Cullman- 12:57.40
- 21st Ben Kelly- Cullman- 13:33.43 19
- 22nd David De Jesus- Saint Bernard- 13:34.94 20
- 23rd Logan Self- Good Hope- 13:35.05 21

Saint Bernard took third with an average time of 13:21. Cullman took fifth with an average time of 13:51. In sixth was Good Hope at 14:39, followed by Fairview in eighth at 15:01, West Point in ninth at 15:45 and Hanceville in 12th at 16:26.



JOSH MCBRAYER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Girls' Junior High 2.1 Mile

Two local runners placed in the top 25:

- 7th Bijou Phillips- Good Hope- 14:24.06 7
- 9th Carrington Chambers- Fairview- 14:57.21

Cullman took third with an average time of 16:57, followed by Fairview in fourth at 17:50, Good Hope in fifth at 18:29 and West Point in seventh at 18:50.

MIDDLE SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

West Point takes Cullman County Middle School volleyball crown

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HOLLY POND – It was a thrilling day for the West Point Middle School volleyball team; the Lady Warriors did not drop a single set on their way to laying claim to the title of Cullman County Middle School Volleyball Champion.

The Lady Warriors faced Good Hope in the championship and it was a back-and-forth affair. The first set of the championship saw West Point get on the board first but Good Hope rattled off four straight points to take a 4-1 lead. West Point fired back with a kill from Sydney Smith and an ace from Kelena Carpenter. The action went back and forth for the majority of the set until West Point took over late, scoring seven straight points to make the score 20-15 in favor of the Lady Warriors. West Point held on to win with a kill from Kristine Shadix to end the first set 25-19.

West Point looked strong in the second set, and after trading points with Good Hope for the first eight points of the match, the Lady Warriors took over, going on an 8-2 run to open up a 14-6 lead. Good Hope fought back but never got closer than seven. West Point went on to win 25-17.

The Lady Warriors got to the championship game by defeating Vinemont 25-9, 25-12 in the opening round of the tournament and defeating Fairview 25-15, 25-17 in the semi-finals.


JOSH MCBRAYER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope earned its spot in the finals by defeating Hanceville 25-23, 25-22 in round number one and defeating Holly Pond 25-20, 25-21 in the semi-finals.

Fairview also won its opening-round match 25-15, 25-17 over Parkside. Holly Pond won its first-round match 25-13, 25-14 over Cold Springs.

Week 6 scoring wrap-up: Cullman County Youth Football

Josh McBrayer
josh@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN COUNTY – It was a great weekend of youth football action with the unbeaten squaring off (Pee Wee Cullman Cyclones and Fairview Aggies) and the play-off picture shaping up.

- Cullman Cyclones 34, Fairview 6 Fireplugs
- Cullman Cyclones 22, Fairview 0 Wee Wee
- Cullman Cyclones 14, Fairview 0 Pee Wee

- Cullman Bearcats 24, West Point 6 Fireplugs
- West Point 28, Cullman Bearcats 12 Wee Wee

- Good Hope Raiders 42, Holly Pond 6 Fireplugs
- Good Hope Raiders 30, Holly Pond 14 Wee Wee
- Good Hope Raiders 14, Holly Pond 12 Pee Wee

- Good Hope Outlaws 36, Hanceville 6 Fireplugs
- Good Hope Outlaws 12, Hanceville 0 Wee Wee

- Cold Springs 14, Vinemont 12 OT Fireplugs
- Vinemont 38, Cold Springs 0



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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
OCTOBER 03, 2017



PHOTOS COURTESY W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

SPECIAL TEAMS

Sheriff's office plays VIP team in 3rd annual exhibition game

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com



CULLMAN – On Saturday morning Sheriff Matt Gentry and his deputies from the Cullman County Sheriff's Office found themselves caught in an overwhelming incident at Heritage Park. Even through the coordinated efforts that come from all the team training that CCSO deputies do, they were simply no match for the threat they faced. Sometimes you just have to face the facts: they may be great at law enforcement, but soccer's a whole other thing.

Gentry and 15 CCSO deputies joined with the American Youth Soccer Organization's (AYSO's) local VIP (Very Important Players!) team for its third annual exhibition match, to kick off the season for Cullman's special needs soccer team.

The VIP team is coached by Brandy Thomas and Janice Edelman.

Thomas shared a little about her team. "This is Cullman's only special needs soccer team, and we play every year, and we also play against other VIP teams. We're always adding, so it's constantly changing. We (recently) added, I think, two new in north Alabama; so we're up to four or five in north Alabama.

"This is my third year as coach and administrator of VIP, and this is actually the fourth year for the VIP soccer program here. This is our third annual exhibition game; we call it an exhibition, because this is our first game of the year. We get to show off our skills, and the cops come out here and do what they do best, and give support to the kids.

"My co-coach is Janice Edelman. She allows me to coach these kids, and she keeps them safe and happy, and I could not do one thing without her. And we also have buddies that are out on the field, for our kids that need a little extra protection, a little extra focus: Makenzie, Brison, Abby and Addie. They are my lifeline. They give these kids out here the chance to play, that would not ever have an opportunity. I couldn't do it without them."

Thomas shared the history of the exhibition game.

"I just started thinking about things, and how to promote; and so I knew if I got the media involved, and got someone that was respectable in the community involved, that the rest of it would take care of itself. And it has; we get bigger and bigger every year."

Sheriff Gentry added, "This'll be our third game. The family and the soccer team reached out to us and said, 'Hey, we want to play the sheriff's office!' and we said, 'Hey, let's do it! We'll have a good time with it.'

"These kinds of events are very special to us. You know we do our special needs rodeo, and usually have about 1,100 children that attend that. It just gets down to the heart of all the deputies here. You can see how many deputies we have here today: it's all volunteer, and they just love to show up and play with the kids."

The match began with a liberal amount of all-in-fun, family-friendly trash talk between the competitors, as they sized each other up across the midfield line. But when play started, it was almost all VIP: the deputies struggled so much, it looked at times like they actually wanted their opponents to win. In the end, multiple scorers allowed VIP to celebrate a decisive 10-3 victory over the CCSO.

Afterward, the fierce competitors became friends once again; coming together for high fives, hugs and a combined team picture.

"I don't have any kids that are special needs," said Thomas, "but these are my kids, and they are fantastic! They're wonderful kids, and I love them, and I hope to grow every year. I hope to get so big that I have two VIP teams. It is fantastic!

For more information, visit Cullman AYSO's website www.cullmanayso.org, or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cullman.ayso.









SMALL-TOWN CHARM

Photos from Eva Frontier Days

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

EVA – Eva Frontier Days wrapped up on Saturday, with the annual festival and parade downtown. Here are a selection of photos from the day.





PHOTOS COURTESY AERIAL ENVISION PHOTOGRAPHY SERVICES









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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
OCTOBER 03, 2017

Cullman Regional's 3rd annual Trunk or Treat Oct. 26

Cullman Regional
Contributor

CULLMAN – Cullman Regional will host its third annual Trunk or Treat event on Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017 from 4- 7 p.m. on the Cullman Regional campus.

More than 8,000 community members attended the event in 2016. Main features of this year's event include free food, games, free health screenings and more candy than in years past.

The event will also feature elaborate trunks decorated and hosted by various departments and physician offices from across Cullman Regional's campus.

"We initially hoped to host a few hundred people on campus for some fun and food," Cullman Regional's Executive Director of Marketing Lindsey Dossey laughed.

"However, it continues to grow and exceed our expectations each year."

Cullman Regional departments compete to win "Best Trunk" as voted on by the event attendees; it has become a coveted title and has sparked some amazing creativity in the trunks featured each year.

"We have been amazed by the creativity of so many of our departments.

"Each year, the competition for first place becomes (fiercer)," Dossey said.

"Last year, we had a three-way tie between Dr. Seuss, Alice in Wonderland and Harry Potter — who were all amazing."

This year's event will add a few features to help make the evening even more memorable than in previous years.

"We like to add and improve the event every year; so you'll just have to come to see what's new," Dossey said.

For more information on upcoming events at Cullman Regional, visit www.cullmanregional.com.

Mechanic Position – Cullman City Garage
Applicant must have prior experience as a mechanic. Applicant must be able to work on gasoline and diesel engines; able to change tires; troubleshoot for mechanical problems; must be physically able to crawl under and on various types of equipment; must be able to lift heavy parts; and other duties as assigned by Supervisor. Starting pay is $14.03 per hour. Position is full time and includes benefits of health and dental insurances, retirement, life insurance, and uniforms. Applications will be taken at Cullman City Hall HR department through Tuesday, October 17, 2017. The City of Cullman is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
FRED F. PITZING,) CASE NO.: PC-2017-252
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION

Letters Testamentary having been granted to **MARTHA PITZING and GARY PITZING,** as Co-Executors/Administrators of the Estate of **FRED F. PITZING**, deceased, on the 27th day of September 2017, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge of said County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law, or the same will be barred.

DONE this 27th day of September, 2017.

MARTHA PITZING
GARY PITZING
CO-EXECUTORS/ADMINISTRATORS

Andria Richter
Attorney for the Petitioners
300 First Avenue, SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
256-775-7757

TO THE PUBLISHER OF: THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Please publish the above notice for three (3) consecutive weeks and provide a proof of publication affidavit to the Probate Judge of Cullman County, Alabama.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE

Obituary Announcements: Oct. 3-7

Johnnie Wayne Swann, 65 of Haleyville, entered into rest September 30, 2017 at Shoals Hospital. Arrangements are incomplete and will be announced later by Nichols Funeral Home.

Elbert Linden "Grouch" Salter, 78, of Haleyville, entered into rest on September 30, 2017 at his residence surrounded by his loving family. Mr. Salter was born on December 24, 1938, in Haleyville. Linden served in the United States Army for 2 years. He was a truck driver for over 60 years. Linden was known as "Grouch" on the CB radio. "Grouch" took great pride in his work and continued to truck drive up until this summer. Linden enjoyed old model cars and trucks. Christmas was his favorite time of the year. He enjoyed decorating his yard for his family and friends. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, October 3, 2017 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Haleyville, where services will be held at 1 p.m. Brother Royce Brimer will officiate. Burial will follow in Winston Memorial Cemetery. Elbert is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Lola Harris Salter; son, Noel Salter and wife Vicki; daughter, Patricia Dockery and husband Paul; brother, Leon (Wanda) Salter sister, Betty (Glenn) Wells; he was "Paw Paw" to 4 grandchildren, Scotty (Debbie) Salter, Brandi (Jonathan) Crumpton, Jaybrinia (Ruben) Martinez, and Shannon Salter; 7 great grandchildren, Jessica Salter, Jennifer (Spencer) Owens, Tyler Crumpton, Baylie Crumpton, Jon Bradey Crumpton, Tanner Martinez, Kiara Martinez; 2 great great grandchildren, Tasha Salter and Gabriel Owens. He was preceded in death by his parents, Berlie and Maude Salter; brothers, Lecil Salter and infant brother.

Clarence "Yank" Doedtman passed away on September 27, 2017. Funeral services are October 3, 2017 at 2 p.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Visitation is on October 2, 2017 at Moss Funeral Home beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Funeral services for Mrs. Eloise Nelson Abbott, age 75 of Water Valley Community, will be 2 p.m. Tuesday, October 3, 2017 in the Cullman Funeral Home Chapel, burial will follow at Livingston Tabernacle Cemetery, with Pastor Barbara Trussell & Rev. Bruce Abbott officiating. Cullman Funeral Home directing. Mrs. Abbott was born on June 8, 1942 to the late William Verdis & Margie Jennie Armstrong Nelson; she passed away at her home on Sunday October 1, 2017. She is preceded in death by her parents, and one brother, Bobby Joe Nelson. Survivors include Husband – Arnold Abbott; 4 – Sons – Randy (Belinda) Abbott, Paul (Jessica) Abbott, Bruce (Kandi) Abbott & Chris (Janet) Abbott; 2 – Sisters – Betty (J.R.) West & Linda (Henry) Knighten; 2 – Brothers – Donald Nelson & Rex D. Nelson; 9 – Grandchildren; 7 – Great-Grandchildren; and a Host of Nieces, Nephews, Family & Friends also survive. The family will receive friends from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at the funeral home.

Theresa Ann Johnson Ray, 58 of Vinemont, passed away Friday, September 29, 2017 at her residence. She was born July 4, 1959 to parents Lester and Emma Smith Johnson. She was preceded in death by her parents. Survivors include her sister, Donna (Brad) Johnson; two nephews, Justin (Amanda) Brown, Daniel (Kaylin) Johnson; a great niece, Aaliyah Brown; and a host of family and friends. A private memorial will be held at a later date. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is assisting with arrangements.

Funeral Services for Mr. Verbon Alton Sharpton, age 81 of Cullman, will be 1 p.m. Wednesday, October 4, 2017 in the Cullman Funeral Home Chapel, with Bro Scott Sessions officiating. Cullman Funeral Home directing. Mr. Sharpton was born to the late Dayton Elmer & Mary Fulenwider Sharpton on October 28, 1935; and passed away at Brookwood Medical Center on Saturday, September 30, 2017. He was a member of the 1st Church of the Nazarene in Cullman and he loved Alabama football. Survivors include Daughter – Lisa (Ronnie) Pugh; 2 – Sons – Ashley (Elaine) Sharpton & Dennis Sharpton; 6 – Sisters – Delores (Ralph) McBrayer, Margaret (Charlie) Evans, Barbara (Jerry) Woodis, Patsy (Rick) Blakely, Donna (James) Vickery & Geraldine (Kenneth) Tipton; 2 – Brothers – Wilburn (Gladys) Sharpton & Paul (Connie) Sharpton; 7 – Grandchildren – Tim (Delina) Howard, Meaghen (Chad) Woods, Ronald Sharpton, Kyle Sharpton, Paul Sharpton, Tabitha McGee & Elizabeth McGee. The family will receive friends from 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at the funeral home

Funeral services for Dorothy Speakman Pittman, 88, of Cullman will be at 1 p.m., Saturday, October 7, 2017 at Mt. Hope Baptist Church with burial in adjoining cemetery. The body will lie in state from 12-1 at the church. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Mrs. Pittman passed away September 30, 2017. She was born November 27, 1928 to Joe and Hallie Speakman. She was a long standing member of Mt. Hope Baptist Church in Crane Hill for many years before moving to Cullman and joining Seventh Street Baptist. She was Postmaster in Crane Hill for 22 years, and an avid Alabama fan. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 57 years, Adrian Pittman; and 8 siblings. Survivors include her daughters, Alice (Norm) Winkel, Sandra (Rick) Hudson, Vickie (Rick) Hale; 7 grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren. Visitation will be Friday evening from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

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Lost history found at Wallace State through research collection under Robert Davis' guidance

Russell Moore
WSCC

HANCEVILLE – The family and local history research collection in the library of Wallace State Community College in Hanceville draws questions and researchers from far and near. It has received national recognition from the National Archives of the United States, the Church of Latter-Day Saints, and the American Association for State and Local History for service to people seeking answers in the past and in television documentaries.

Recently, for example, the collection helped on some special projects. A writer from New York worked here on his upcoming article for Harper's and book on Alabama's Doctor James Marion Sims, a pioneer in gynecology who experimented on slaves in the 1840s. Sims' worked helped his patients (all volunteers) and many women since but raises ethical questions to this day.

A group in Texas also contacted the collection about the upcoming centennial of the Nineteenth Amendment that gave all American women the right to vote. They asked about Cullman County resident Mary K. Munson, a leader in Alabama who passed away on Sept. 25, 1920, just after the amendment passed but just before she could have voted for the first time.

The collection is also helping with Alabama's upcoming Bicentennial and with a historian researching Creek leader Menewa.

Robert S. Davis, senior professor of history, largely built this collection.

He cited the above examples at meetings of the Cullman Rotary and the Cullman Historical Society.

The previous week, he spoke at the Southern Studies Showcase in Edgefield, South Carolina, and to a joint meeting of the Autauga and Montgomery genealogical societies in Prattville, Alabama about research and records.

Most of the visitors, Davis claims are local people or at least from the Southeastern United States. They seek information on their ancestors, Native American ethnicity, Civil War service, and Alabama records. Visitors who come to research or to attend its classes in genealogy add to Hanceville's economy. The continuing education classes in genealogy include introduction to genealogy, computer genealogy, advanced genealogy/book publishing, Civil War research, and southern family history. For information on attending these classes contact mandi.perkins@wallacestate.edu.

The collection is open free to the public on Mondays through Saturdays. For more information on Wallace's family and local history research collection, contact Professor Davis at reobert.davis@walacestate.edu.

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

4 local students named National Merit Scholarship semifinalists

NMSC
Contributor

CULLMAN – Officials with the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) recently announced the names of approximately 16,000 semifinalists, less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, in the 63rd annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

Four local students were named:

- Cameron Cottingham, Cullman High School
- Genevieve Griffin, St. Bernard Preparatory School
- Andrew L. Sweeney, St. Bernard Preparatory School
- Thomas M. Parker, West Point High School

These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth more than $32 million that will be offered next spring.

To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the finalist level of the competition.

About 90 percent of the semifinalists are expected to attain finalist standing, and about half of the finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar title.

About 1.6 million juniors in more than 22,000 high schools entered the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2016 Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/ NMSQT), which served as an initial screen of program entrants.

The nationwide pool of semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest scoring entrants in each state. The number of semifinalists in a state is proportional to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating seniors.

To become a finalist, the semifinalist and his or her high school must submit a detailed scholarship application, in which they provide information about the semifinalist's academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, and honors and awards received. A semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test.

For more information about the competition, visit at www.nationalmerit.org.

Church (from Front)

morning. Pastor Andrews declined to be interviewed, but event coordinators and charter member descendants Laura Calvert Harris and Tammy Young Howard were happy to share about their church.

Harris began, "God has blessed our community for 175 years. We went back and got as much information as we could to make a history book for our members, and we're just together today just to have a big celebration of God's blessings on us.

"There's so much rich history that spread out from this hub of the church into the community.

The school met at the church in its beginning, and then, as this rock church was being built, the church met up at the school.

"So it's been very intertwined in this community. The town was established and took its name after the church."

Howard added, "A handful of families started this church, whose descendants are still here. I think that's pretty neat, both the history and the closeness of the community."

The Oak

A large, old solitary oak tree stands in the field behind the church. Though the field is undeveloped and filled with grass more than knee-high, a walking path was cut from the parking lot to the tree for Sunday's celebration.

Harris explained, "The church purchased some property behind it from a certain member, and in that property purchase, a stipulation was that the big oak tree back here never would be cut down, unless it died of natural causes. That was just to symbolize the deep roots and long-standing faith that were grown here in this church."

The Mission

"Our mission statement which was established in 1942," said Harris, "and it is on the cornerstone of the rock church: 'To know Him and make Him known.' And that is still our mission statement today.

"We are a growing church; we have youth programs, children's programs, and we participate in many ministries in our community.

"We do a backpack ministry at Good Hope Primary, to provide weekend meals for children who are in need.

"We have a senior elite program that are very active: they go on trips together and do things together. We're just a family.

"If you're looking for a loving church family, we're not perfect, but we strive to love each other."

Howard concluded, "I moved away to go to school, and stayed gone for almost 20 years. but when I moved back and came back to church, it was like I never left.

"I thought of that guy who said you can never go home again; he hadn't ever been to Good Hope. It's just awesome; I don't think you'll find a place like it anywhere else."

Oktoberfest (from Front)

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 4 (OPENING DAY)

- 9 a.m.-2 p.m. – School tours
- 10:30 a.m.- until – Freddie Day Catering, German food
- 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. – Terri Pines Country Club German Lunch Buffet, reservations required
- 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. – Wolfgang Moritz, German music
- 5-10 p.m. Carriage rides at Festhalle
- 5-7 p.m. – Sacred Heart German Dinner at the church
- 5-10 p.m. – Alabama Craft Bier Garten
- **6-7 p.m. – Opening Ceremonies; Burgermeister introduction; Miss Oktoberfest crowning; tapping of the kegs; Hanceville High School German Band**
- 6-10 p.m. – children's activities, parking lot
- 7 p.m. – Paper Airplane Contest
- 7-10 p.m. Terry Cavanagh & Alpine Express, German music
- 8:30 p.m. – Stein Hoist Contest

THURSDAY, OCT. 5 (SENIOR DAY 10 A.M.-2 P.M.)

- 7 a.m.-5 p.m. – Farmer's market
- **10 a.m.-2 p.m. – Senior Day**
  - o 11:30 a.m.-noon – Senior Day lunch
  - o Noon-2 p.m. – Senior Day bingo
- 10-11:30 a.m. – Terry Cavanagh & Alpine Express, German music
- 10:30 a.m.- until – Freddie Day Catering, German food
- 5-10 p.m. Carriage rides at Festhalle
- 5:30-6:30 p.m. Forgotten Alabama, presentation and discussion with author Glen Wills at the Cullman Public Library
- 5-10 p.m. – Alabama Craft Bier Garten
- 5:50-6:15 p.m. - Cullman Community Band with Gary Taylor
- 6-10 p.m. – Children's activities, parking lot
- 6:30 p.m. – Pickle Eating Contest
- 7 p.m. – Paper Airplane Contest
- 8 p.m. – Candlelight Walking Tour from Weis Cottage corner of 4th ST SE and 1st Ave. SE
- 6:30-10 p.m. Terry Cavanagh & Alpine Express, German music
- 8:30 p.m. – Stein Hoist Contest

FRIDAY, OCT. 6

- 9 a.m.-2 p.m. – School tours
- 10:30 a.m.- until – Freddie Day Catering, German food
- 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. – Wolfgang Moritz, German music
- 3-6 p.m.- Terry Cavanagh & Alpine Express
- 3:30-midnight – Alabama Craft Bier Garten
- 4-10 p.m. – Children's activities, parking lot
- 5-7 p.m. – Christ Lutheran Church German Dinner at the church
- 5 p.m.- until – Cullman Oktoberfest Classic Car Show, 1st Ave. Warehouse District downtown
- 6 p.m.- Ghost stories at the gazebo hosted by Cullman County Library
- 6:15-8 p.m. – The Beatlads (Beatle cover band)
- 6:30 p.m. – Pickle Eating Contest
- 7 p.m. – Paper Airplane Contest
- 8:15-10 p.m. – Overtones, band
- 8:30 p.m. – Stein Hoist Contest
- 10:15 p.m.-midnight – Riley Green (from Rock the South)

SATURDAY, OCT. 7

- 7 a.m.-5 p.m. – Farmer's market
- **8 a.m. – Oktoberfest 5K & 10K run (registration starts at 7 a.m.)**
- 8 a.m.-5 p.m. – Arts & Crafts at Depot Park
- 8 a.m.-10 p.m. – Children's activities, parking lot
- **9-5 p.m.- Oktoberfest Junior Sidewalk Art Show in front of City Hall, prizes awarded**
- **9 a.m.-1 p.m. – K-9s-4-A-Kause, Cullman Kiwanis Club at Depot Park (registration at 9 a.m.) www.cullmanoktoberfest.com/k-9s-4-a-kause**
- Carriage rides all day
- 9:30-10:30 a.m. – Cullman Middle and Cullman High School Choruses (tentative)
- 10 a.m.-midnight – Alabama Craft Bier Garten
- 10:30 a.m.- until – Freddie Day Catering, German food
- 10:45 a.m.-noon – WSCC Singers, WSCC Jazz Band (tentative)
- **Noon – Lions Club Bed Race, Depot**
- 12:30 p.m. – Bratwurst Eating Contest
- 1-2:45 p.m. – Ashley Rose Kent, singer
- 3-6 p.m. – Terry Cavanagh & Alpine Express, German music
- 3 p.m. – Paper Airplane Contest Finals
- 4-7 p.m.- St. Paul Corn Hole Tournament at Goat Island Brewing sponsored by St. Paul's Lutheran Church, can register online or onsite (www.stpaulscullman.com/oktoberfest)
- 6:15-7:55 p.m.- County Wyde, band
- 8:15-9:45 p.m.- Round 2, band
- 9:45 p.m. – Stein Hoist Contest
- 10 p.m.-midnight – Fly by Radio, band

SUNDAY, OCT. 8

- 8 a.m.-5 p.m. – Arts & Crafts at Depot Park
- 8 a.m.-5 p.m. – Children's activities, parking lot
- 9 a.m.-11:45 – Wolfgang Moritz, German music
- 10:30 a.m.- until – Freddie Day Catering, German food
- Noon-1:30 p.m. – Bluewater Road, band
- 1:35-2:15 p.m.- Cottin' Pickin' Kids, band
- 2:25-3:25 p.m. – Roy Crawford and Cullman County Bluegrass, band
- 3:35-5 p.m. – Three on a String, band

COMMUNITY NOTE

Hanceville Masonic Lodge hosting Swamp John's Oct. 3

Junior Heaton
Contributor

HANCEVILLE – The Hanceville Masonic Lodge will host a Swamp John's fundraiser on Tuesday, Oct. 3 from 4-7 p.m. at Hanceville Assembly of God's fellowship hall.

All proceeds go to buy Christmas for needy children. 402 Shady Lane Dr. SW, Hanceville, AL 35077

COMMUNITY NOTE

Blessing of Animals

Barbara Ragsdale
Contributor

CULLMAN – The annual Blessing of Animals will take place at Sacred Heart of Jesus Rectory on Saturday, Oct. 7, from 9-9:30 a.m. All are encouraged to bring their pets (or pictures of large animals) to take advantage of this yearly event. Our pets are a blessing to us; join us in blessing them. The rectory is located next to the church, 205 Third Ave. SE in Cullman.

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