The Cullman Tribune

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West Point High 1 of 5 AL schools named A+ College Ready Schools of Excellence



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The number of AP classes at WPHS has increased almost nine times over just since 2014.

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WEST POINT – In September, West Point High School (WPHS), the largest school in the county school system, was named a School of Excellence by the A+ College Ready Program, a joint venture between the private A+ Education Partnership and the Alabama Department of Education. Only four other schools in the state received that honor: Russellville High School in Franklin County, Albert P. Brewer High School in Morgan County, Carroll High School in Dale County and Prattville High School in Autauga County.

According to its website, "A+ College Ready is dedicated to developing effective teachers to educate students at higher levels, and to promoting the attainment of higher education in Alabama. It is our goal to increase the number of students in Alabama enrolled in math, science, English, and social studies Advanced Placement (AP) courses, earn qualifying scores on AP exams, and attend and succeed in college."

Between 2008 and 2016, Alabama quadrupled the number of students taking AP exams, from 5,327 students in 2008 to 27,817 students in 2016. As a result, Alabama ranks first in the entire nation in the percentile increase in qualifying scores on AP math, science and English exams. In 2017, Alabama students took 49,860 AP exams and earned 26,279 scores qualifying for college credit. This means that the students who achieve those scores will get college course credits without having to sit through classes, meaning potential earlier graduation and savings on tuition costs.

WPHS counselors Amanda Yearwood and Shannon Waters, via the school's AP program website, explained their school's entrance into the program:

"As a public high school, we are faced with the challenge of providing varied instruction to accommodate for both high achieving students and those students who struggle academically. We are also challenged by a millennial generation that becomes easily bored or disengaged with instruction delivered via the old "sit and get" model. These two factors alone are enough to justify change. As educators we are lifelong learners who believe in the value of working toward a goal. Our goal is to prepare every student as college and/or career ready by the exit of high school. To adequately prepare our students we must be willing to find new ways to reach them. These beliefs led us to pursue the opportunity to offer AP and Pre-AP courses in our school and serve as the spark to ignite the change needed to meet our goal.

"In the 2013-2014 school year our faculty began discussions on what opportunities our students had verses schools in our region. At that time, our students had little to no access to college level course work and the opportunity to earn college credit. In 2014-2015 we started building our AP program by launching a few Advanced Placement courses. Our students became excited and our faculty found new enthusiasm. In 2015-2016 we applied for and were invited into the A+ College Ready program. This program enabled us to expand our course offerings to include Pre-AP and AP coursework, provide quality training for teachers, and funding for classroom supplies. As of 2016-2017 our course offerings and student enrollment numbers in challenging courses has increased exponentially!"

In 2014 WPHS offered three AP classes. In 2017, the school boasts 26 AP and pre-AP offerings. In the spring, students took their exams and produced 56 qualifying scores. At a special celebration, the school presented a $100 gift card for each qualifying score, placing $5,600 directly into the hands of students.

Since WPHS joined the program in 2014, the A+ College Ready program has brought the school $325,000 in value grants, instructional and curriculum support and funding, and a potential of up to $100,000 in tuition savings, if all of the AP students pursue college educations.

Said Yearwood, "We are extremely proud of our students and teachers for all the work they have dedicated to Advanced Placement courses. Each of them spend an enormous amount of time in the classroom and beyond. Part of the A+ College Ready grant provides special Saturday Study Sessions to help students better prepare for exams. Many of our students have spent their Saturdays at these sessions. This type of dedication, in my opinion, is the key ingredient to their

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Cullman Kiwanis host Federal Reserve officer



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Leslie McClure describes the functions of the Federal Reserve at a meeting of the Cullman Kiwanis Club on Monday, Oct. 16, 2017.

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CULLMAN – On Monday, Oct. 16, Cullman Kiwanis Club members had the opportunity to hear about the work of the United States Federal Reserve from Leslie McClure, the regional executive senior officer of the Birmingham office of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. The Atlanta bank, representing the southeastern states, is one of 12 around the country that make up the Federal Reserve (often referred to as "the Fed").

McClure explained that the Fed performs three primary functions: bank supervision - regulation of policies and procedures of banks and banking systems; payment services to financial institutions - managing the flow of money from one entity to another when payments are made by check, or through direct deposit programs.

The Fed also oversees security for these types of systems; and monetary policy - controlling the price of credit to raise or lower interest rates, so as to stimulate a weak economy or reign in an economy growing out of control.

The Fed, McClure explained, is run by a leadership structure that is set in place for substantially longer terms than elected federal officials, making it much more difficult for those leaders to be controlled by one administration or another.

That structure is spread across 12 reserve banks nationwide, so that the Fed's policies will take into account the economic situations of every portion of the country, not just financial centers like Washington or New York.

McClure shared her thoughts about the current U.S. economy, stating that it appears strong now and is moving steadily in a positive direction.

She said, "We're in a situation now where the economy is growing slow

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Battle of wits: Weekly Scholar's Bowl League scoreboard

Wendy Sack
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CULLMAN COUNTY – This year's Scholar's Bowl League season kicked off on Oct. 12. According to West Point High School Scholar's Bowl Team coach Lee Henry, the league is made up of teams from high schools all over Cullman County who meet each Thursday after school on the campus of Wallace State Community College, this year until Nov. 30.

The league, which is coordinated by Wallace State's Christine O'Leary, has weekly sessions consisting of two matches for a full round-robin, and each team gets a bye week.

Here are the high school scores from week no. 1:

Match One
Holly Pond - 140
Cullman High - 260

Good Hope - 250
St. Bernard - 280

Cold Springs - 190
Hanceville - 210

West Point - 530
Vinemont - 100

Fairview - BYE

Match Two
St. Bernard - 340
Vinemont - 30

West Point - 570
Cullman High - 60

Holly Pond - 60
Hanceville - 240

Good Hope - 250
Fairview - 110

Cold Springs - BYE

There are no matches this week, since Wallace's Scholar's

» PAGE 5



CONTRIBUTED

CCSO litter crew has picked up more than 45,000 pounds of trash this year

Bradley Williams
Cullman County Sheriff's Office



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

CULLMAN COUNTY – Since Feb.1, 2017, the Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) Litter Crew has picked up litter on 289.3 miles of roadway. Most of that was county roads, but the miles did include sections of state highways and two exit ramps on the interstate and some municipal roads.

The CCSO Litter Crew has picked up litter on 98 roads and three roads twice.

In all, 45,521 pounds of trash, almost 23 tons, have been picked up in every area of Cullman County.

The litter crew collected 1,020 pounds of aluminum cans, selling them for $536.01, and per Sheriff Matt Gentry donated the money to Cullman Caring for Kids.

Javon Daniel, Cullman Caring for Kids executive director, stated that $100 buys 700 pounds of food.

Daniel was able to purchase 3,752 pounds of food with the money from the litter crew.

With almost three months still to go in 2017, the litter crew is on track to pick up more than 50,000 pounds of trash from all roads in Cullman County.

Cullman County residents who would like to report a road that needs to be cleaned can send an email to trash@cullmansherriff.org.

Cullman takes part in global human trafficking campaign

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CULLMAN – Human trafficking is a worldwide issue, and it affects Cullman County. On Saturday morning, the Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force took part in anti-trafficking organization A21's "Walk for Freedom" campaign, which took place in more than 300 cities around the world. In Cullman, the walk started and ended at the Cullman County Courthouse, with participants hoping to increase awareness of human trafficking in our community.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security defines human trafficking as "a form of modern-day slavery, and involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to exploit human beings for some type of labor or commercial sex purpose. Its victims include those forced into prostitution, as well as unpaid and severely underpaid domestic servitude, factory, and farm labor jobs. They are often lured into bondage with offers of jobs, drugs or immigration assistance."

Human trafficking is a $150 billion per year criminal industry involving millions of people around the world. A21 estimates that fewer than one percent of victims escape bondage.

"Today the human trafficking task Force has partnered with our local chapter of A21, which is a national organization, to end human trafficking," said Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force Chairperson Kathy Wilson.

"This walk has gone on worldwide, at the same time, all over the world, and it's simply to raise awareness. That's what the goal of our task force is: to raise awareness and to bring light to the problem, because as we know, it does exist here."

The task force has existed since 2015, and includes the Cullman County Department of Human Resources, local school systems, churches and numerous individuals including representatives of the U.S. Attorney's Office, FBI and U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Its membership is not appointed.

"Any concerned citizen can come," said Wilson.

Leaders of A21 refer to themselves as "the abolitionists of the 21st century," calling human trafficking slavery and vowing to end that slavery. Its Walk for Freedom took place in more than 300 locations on Oct. 14.

Wilson explained, "Our goal as a task force is to end human trafficking, and with the help and support of Judge (Kim) Chaney, (District Attorney) Wilson Blaylock--the DA has been instrumental in starting the task force--we're able to provide information, go out into the schools, to the public with such events as today, to raise that awareness.

"This is very special to me, because we live in a special community, and our goal is to keep it that way. Our quality of life here is so much different than 50 miles either direction, and our goal is to keep quality of life here for our children."

While Cullman County does enjoy much of a small-town peace-and-quiet atmosphere, Wilson wants no one to have any illusions about the realities of human trafficking right here among us.

"Here in Cullman, you know," she explained, "we've just recently had the two arrests. Those are the first two actual arrests. Human trafficking has existed here for quite some time; we just didn't call it that. We've had parents that have been arrested for selling their children to the neighbor for drugs, but it wasn't called that. It was just a sexual abuse case, or something like that.



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Participants walked with ribbons over their mouths to represent the silence that makes trafficking such a hard problem to confront.

"So, it's been here. We've got boyfriends that have been trading their girlfriends, not for a monetary amount, but for a case of beer or something like that. That's what exists here in this county.

"I want folks to know that human trafficking exists here in this county. I want people to open their eyes, see that it's here, and to educate themselves and to educate someone else. Awareness: it's what we're all about."

For more information, or to contact the Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force, visit http://qrne.ws/cchttf. For more information, or to contact A21, visit www.a21.org.

See photos and videos from today's Walk for Freedom from all over the world at www.facebook.com/a21campaign.

Legal Notice

Notice is hereby give to all owners, secured parties and lienholders of the following described motor vehicles, which I have a right to sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, in accordance with the State of Alabama abandoned motor vehicle law, Statues, Chapter 13, Section 1-8, Title 32 and Alabama Law Act Number 83-494-S-80, as per Legislative Act 2015-470:

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2002 Ford Ranger, (Dark Blue), Vin. #1FTYR10D52TA31845, tag #N94R.

These vehicles will be sold on November 28, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. for towing/storage fees if not claimed. Located at Hammock Auto Sales, 17 County Road 406, Cullman, Alabama 35057.

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2002 Chev Trailblazer VIN # 1GNDS13S222446731
1998 Strn SL2 VIN # 1G8ZK5271WZ216169

These vehicles will be sold to pay storage and or repair fee at Smith's Body Shop and Wrecker Service, LLC, 11597 US Highway 278 East, Holly Pond, Alabama, 35083, on Wednesday, November 8, 2017, at 8:00 a.m.

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

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I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13

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Catholic faithful mark 100th anniversary of Fatima miracle with Rosary event in Hanceville

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W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Catholic faithful gathered in the gazebo of Hanceville's Hamby Park to pray the Rosary.

HANCEVILLE – On Saturday afternoon, a small group of devout Catholics gathered at Hamby Park in Hanceville to pray the Rosary publicly. The informal group, all of whose members are active at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament, is part of the "America Needs Fatima" movement. This year's event, one of more than 21,000 such "rosary rallies" across the country on Saturday, took place on the day following the 100th anniversary of the "Miracle of the Sun."

According to Catholic teaching, between May 13 and Oct. 13, 1917 the Virgin Mary made six appearances to three Portuguese children near the town of Fatima: Francisco and Jacinta Marto, and Lucia de Jesus Santos. As the story goes, to confirm the teachings of the earlier appearances, her last appearance was accompanied by a promised miracle witnessed by as many as 70,000: rain that had fallen since the previous night suddenly stopped, the field dried, and the emerging sun appeared to change color and "dance" in the sky.

The America Needs Fatima movement encourages and helps organize rosary rallies each year on the Saturday closest to Oct. 13. Hanceville's local event organizers were Charlene and Joan Chapman.

"This is the fourth year that we're praying here," said Joan Chapman. "We've been celebrating since May, when she appeared to the three children in Fatima. The main reason she came was to tell everybody to pray the Rosary. And this is a message for today, too, a hundred years later: pray the Rosary every day. All of us go to the Shrine, and that's why we moved here: because Mother Angelica picked this area. She picked Hanceville; she said, 'A town that has 30 churches is pretty okay with me!' She knew, as soon as she stepped on the land, that this was the spot. We take this opportunity to pray to the Blessed Mother (Mary) today for peace in the world. That's the main thing we're praying for. You can see it in in the world today: so much agitation. And she said, 'Pray the Rosary.'"

For more information on the America Needs Fatima movement, visit www.rosaryrallytools.org.



SPENCER SANDLIN

Spencer Sandlin

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Fighting together for a better Alabama

Spencer Sandlin
Contributor

Hi, my name is Spencer Sandlin. I'm 30 years old and have lived in Cullman for three years now, and I love it out here. I have noticed, though, that there is some work to do out here and would like my fellow neighbors to help because you, my neighbors, are my eyes and ears. I just can't do this without you guys.

First a little about me: My wife and I have been married for going on nine years. We have two children: our daughter Savanna, who is 3, and our son who is 8. We came here for a better chance for our son, who is autistic, to have a chance of getting better access to a school that caters to children with his life struggle. I began to notice that there are struggles outside of school for special needs children: psychological care, pediatricians and lack of funding for programs that would help. I want to fight for them in Montgomery. I want to work with local universities to give incentives to obtain degrees for specialties that are few and needed, as well as work to develop degrees specifically focused on autism and other under cared-for special needs.

One thing that affects all Alabamians is taxes. I want to scrap our current tax system and put in place a new one, one that ensures everyone pays because you pay only when you purchase. One that also eliminates state income taxes but phases out property taxes. I want to work to eliminate senseless spending and programs, as well as pass a balanced budget amendment for the state as well. We don't start each month at home without one, neither should our state. I also want to work to fix our crumbling infrastructure. These are a few of the issues I want to address, but I need your help. I need volunteers to help the fight for a better Alabama. You can email me to find out how, ssandlin1987@hotmail.com, or find me on Facebook. I'll also be announcing meet and greets to get to know you and your concerns better.

Thanks for your time,
Spencer Sandlin
Republican candidate for Alabama House of Representatives District 12

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
OCTOBER 17, 2017

Youth football scoreboard

Nick Griffin
Tribune Contributor



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

CULLMAN COUNTY – There was a packed slate of critical youth football games in Cullman County this weekend as several teams' postseason hopes were on the line. All 10 teams were in action but not all of the age groups suited up. The action started at 4 p.m. Saturday with the Fireplug teams.

Cold Springs Eagles vs. West Point Warriors

Fireplug: The West Point Warriors captured a win in this matchup 28-22 in a tight game that was competitive for four quarters.

Wee Wee: The next group of Warriors had a little less trouble with the Cold Springs Eagles, running away with a 34-14 victory thanks to an impressive performance on both sides of the ball.

Good Hope Raiders vs. Cullman Cyclones

Fireplug: The Raiders pitched a shutout in this one 26-0. The Cyclones couldn't get anything going on offense and the Raiders took advantage with some big plays of their own.

Wee Wee: It was a different story in this contest as the Cyclones routed the Raiders 34-0 thanks to some explosive plays on offense and a stingy defensive performance.

Pee Wee: The Cyclones bounced back in the final game with a 28-0 shutout behind a strong defensive showing of their own.

Holly Pond Broncos vs. Good Hope Outlaws

Fireplug: The Outlaws dominated the youngest matchup with a 46-6 blowout of the Broncos full of explosive plays and a strong showing defensively.

Wee Wee: The older group of Outlaws followed the Fireplugs with a win of their own in a tight defensive contest 12-0.

Vinemont Eagles vs. Cullman Bearcats

Fireplug: The Bearcats were in control for the first game of this matchup running away with a 28-6 win.

Wee Wee: The Eagles bounced back with an impressive shutout 18-0 where the Vinemont defense really got a chance to shine.

Pee Wee: The Bearcats took the last game of the night 14-0 behind an effective passing game and a strong showing on defense.

Fairview Aggies vs. Hanceville Bulldogs

Fireplug: The youngest Aggies got the day started with a 14-6 win over the Bulldogs thanks in large part to a good day on the defensive side of the ball.

Wee Wee: The Aggies put on a show in a 50-0 blowout of the Bulldogs featuring explosive running plays and a shutout from the defense.

Pee Wee: The oldest group for Fairview completed the sweep for the Aggies in a close game with the Hanceville Bulldogs that went down to the wire 24-22.

Holly Pond Vintage Market showcases local businesses, crafts

W.C. Mann, Hunter Mann



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

HOLLY POND – On Saturday, the Town of Holly Pond hosted its first Vintage Market craft and antique show in Memorial Park. More than 40 vendors set up shop in the park, accompanied by live entertainment and kids' inflatables. Community shoppers browsed through antiques, handmade jewelry, toys and stuffed animals, wooden goods, quilts and foods. The Holly Pond High School band played, and had its own tent where it sold old uniforms and trophies to help fund future projects.

Husband and wife entrepreneurs Wayne White and Robin Yates, who own The Middle of Nowhere antique shop adjoining the park, organized the event with support from the Holly Pond Town Council.

Yates explained, "This is an event sponsored by the Town of Holly Pond. They just wanted to get people into the town, and bring the community together; so this is just sort of a little payback to the community from the Town of Holly Pond for all that the people do for the town.

"The town council came to me and my husband--we have the little antique store here--and they asked if we could help organize the event.

"I have a friend, Elizabeth White, who's helped us also, and of course the town council has helped. A lot of the businesses have helped.

"We have some sponsors from the town that have supported us. So, it's really been a town effort. We just appreciate the businesses that helped us. We appreciate the vendors that came out; we've had some great, great vendors."

Organizers were quite pleased with their first Vintage Market, and with the community response.

Yates continued, "The crowd has been wonderful today. The weather has held off; it's nice and cloudy, but there's no chance of rain. The temperatures are good. People are lingering. It's been a great event. We appreciate everything everybody's done to bring it together.

"With the first show, you have no clue.

"But we have prayed about this event for a long, long time, and we just turned it over to God, and He has really showed up today.

"The crowds are great; people are buying from our vendors, so we're pleased with it."

Organizers hope the success of this year's event will translate into the Vintage Market becoming an annual part of the local culture of Holly Pond.







HEATHER MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

All the festival's bands lined up for awards

The bands march on: 26th Annual Mud Creek Marching Festival

Heather Mann
Tribune Correspondent

HANCEVILLE – Saturday saw the 26th Annual Mud Creek Marching Festival at Hanceville High School, kicked off by a performance of the National Anthem by members of the Rocketeers Drum & Bugle Corps from Huntsville.

The festival hosted a total of 19 bands from around the state, with a special exhibition performance by the Hanceville Bulldog Band at the end of the night.

Each band was judged on its drum major, majorettes, dance line, color guard, percussion section and overall band performance, with each section receiving a score from 0-100, being placed into five ranks: I - Superior (90-100), II - Excellent (80-89), III - Good (70-79), IV - Fair (60-69), and V - Poor (below 60).

The numerical scores are then used to determine Best in Class and Best in Division awards.

The following is a list of scores and special awards for each band, divided into classes with bands increasing in size:

Silver Division Class A*
Curry High School
Dance Line: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Superior
Overall Band: Excellent

Silver Division Class AA
East Lawrence High School
Drum Major: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Superior
Overall Band: Superior

Deshler High School
Drum Major: Superior
Dance Line: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Superior
Overall Band: Superior
Special Awards: Best in Class Percussion

Central High School
Drum Major: Superior
Dance Line: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Superior
Overall Band: Superior
Special Awards: Best in Class Band; Best in Silver Division Band

Lawrence County High School
Drum Major: Superior
Dance Line: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Superior
Overall Band: Superior

Cold Springs High School
Drum Major: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Excellent
Overall Band: Superior
Special Awards: Best in Class Drum Major and Color Guard

Hayden High School
Drum Major: Superior
Majorettes: Superior
Dance Line: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Excellent
Overall Band: Superior
Special Awards: Best in Class Majorettes and Dance Line

Gold Division Class AAA
Cordova High School
Drum Major: Superior
Majorettes: Superior
Dance Line: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Superior
Overall Band: Superior

Good Hope High School
Drum Major: Superior
Majorettes: Superior
Dance Line: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Superior
Overall Band: Superior
Special Awards: Best in Class Dance Line

Dora High School
Drum Major: Superior
Majorettes: Superior
Dance Line: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Excellent
Overall Band: Excellent

West Morgan High School
Drum Major: Superior
Majorettes: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Superior
Overall Band: Superior
Special Awards: Best in Class Drum Major, Color Guard, Percussion and Band

Fairview High School
Drum Major: Superior
Majorettes: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Superior
Overall Band: Superior
Special Awards: Best in Class Majorettes

Lexington High School
Drum Major: Superior
Majorettes: Superior
Color Guard: Excellent
Percussion: Excellent
Overall Band: Excellent

Gold Division Class AAAA
Rogers High School
Drum Major: Superior
Majorettes: Superior
Dance Line: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Superior
Overall Band: Superior

Athens High School
Drum Major: Superior
Majorettes: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Superior
Overall Band: Superior

Scottsboro High School
Drum Major: Superior
Dance Line: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Superior
Overall Band: Superior

Jasper High School
Drum Major: Superior
Dance Line: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Superior
Overall Band: Superior
Special Awards: Best in Class Percussion

Calera High School
Drum Major: Superior
Majorettes: Superior
Dance Line: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Superior
Overall Band: Superior

Helena High School
Drum Major: Superior
Majorettes: Superior
Dance Line: Superior
Color Guard: Superior
Percussion: Superior
Overall Band: Superior
Special Awards: Best in Class Drum Major, Majorettes, Dance Line, Color Guard, and Band; Best in Gold Division Band; Vanessa Watts Memorial Award; Tam Easterwood Memorial Award

The Vanessa Watts Memorial Award is given to the band with the highest drum major score in the competition, and the Tam Easterwood Memorial Award is given to the band with the highest color guard score in the competition. Both awards are given without regard to band size or classification.

The night ended with a bang as Steven Porter, director of the Hanceville High School marching band, set off a firework display to celebrate the bands' hard work and achievements.

*Curry High School did not qualify for any Best in Class awards as it was the only band in Class A.

See videos of all the bands' performances at www.facebook.com/mudcreekmarching.

Scoreboard (from Front)

Bowl team is traveling to Gulf Shores for a tournament.

The next matches will be on Thursday, Oct. 26.

Henry said there's also a middle school league on Tuesdays.

That's not all.

Shared Henry, "There is an Alabama Scholar's Bowl TV show that airs on Saturday mornings at 10:30 a.m.

Holly Pond will appear on the Nov. 4 episode against Southside High School from Gadsden, and West Point will play Pike County High on Nov. 11.

"These episodes are pre-recorded, so I already know the outcomes. Obviously, I can't say, though," he laughed.

"The kids involved get scholarship money. The winning teams get to come back to play again. The more matches they win, the more scholarship money.

"I'm hoping to get a lot of (attention) for our Nov. 11 episode, plus any other episode(s) we may have filmed IF we won," he smiled. "The show is on APT."

West Point's team traveled to Sylacauga High School for an invitational meet this weekend.

"Our A-team went 8-1. Our only loss was to Hoover A in the championship game," said Henry.

"Along the way, we beat Hoover B, St. Bernard, Buckhorn, LAMP, Spain Park, and Indian Springs A and B."

Look for a weekly scholar's bowl scoreboard from The Cullman Tribune.

West Point (from Front)

success.

"I am very excited about what the future holds for our students. In a recent vertical team meeting with 6-12 teachers in our feeder pattern (West Point Middle, Harmony, West Point High) we discussed the impact that the curriculum and teacher training was having on all students. Many of the lessons used in Pre-AP and AP courses are being used in standard level courses as well. We are anxious to see student progress over the coming years."

For more information on the A+ College Ready program, visit http://aplusala.org/college-ready.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
OCTOBER 17, 2017

CCBOE announces personnel changes

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – After approving personnel changes at its meeting last Thursday, the Cullman County Board of Education (CCBOE) released the list of affected personnel. The release of such lists is routinely delayed, so personnel can be notified prior to publication.

The board retroactively approved the resignation of Child Development Center Aide Ashlea Miles, effective Sept. 15.

Leaves of absence

The following personnel were approved for temporary leave under the Family Medical Leave Act:

- Tracy Smith, health sciences instructor, Cullman Area Technology Academy; Sept. 27-Nov. 17, 2017
- Amy Yeager, instructional aide, Welti; Oct. 9-Oct. 18, 2017
- Mackenzie McKoy, teacher, Fairview Elementary; Jan. 3-Apr. 3, 2018

Ashley Kress, first-grade teacher, West Point Elementary was approved for leave Nov. 13-Dec. 15, 2017. The leave dates for Janna Absher, teacher, Hanceville Elementary, were corrected to Aug. 22-Oct. 31, 2017.

Transfers

The following personnel were approved for transfers, contingent upon their obtaining proper certification for their new posts:

- Amanda L. Martin, Child Development Center part-time custodian to become a Child Development Center temporary behavior support assistant, replacing Ashlea Miles
- Kristi M. Barnette, West Point Intermediate fourth-grade teacher to become Good Hope Primary intervention teacher. This is a new position.
- Randall F. Pearson, Cold Springs High School bus driver to become Hanceville High School bus driver, replacing Janet Davis
- Rhonda M. Wynn, Good Hope High aide to become West Point Elementary/High aide, due to transfer of unit

Appointments/New Hires

- Jacob Dewayne Ayers, Cullman Area Technology Academy Welding Technology Instructor, replacing Nolan Dooley
- Matthew Lee Bailey, Cold Springs High School Bus Driver, replacing Randall Pearson
- Marilyn Bolte, Child Development Center Temporary Part-time Nurse (RN) for Community Based Instruction Program as needed not to exceed 6 hours per week. Special Education Nurse needed for student in CBI program.
- Charlene Marie Booker, Hanceville High At-Risk Supper Program Child Nutrition Worker, new position
- Robin Dewayne Brannan, Holly Pond Elementary Temporary Intervention Teacher (19 hours or less), for a Title I New Federal Funds Unit
- Angela Leann Calvert, Cold Springs Elementary Temporary Intervention Teacher, for a new Federal Funds Unit
- Megan Elizabeth Dudley, Fairview Middle Temporary eighth-grade English Teacher, replacing Kelly Lewis
- Dawn Entsminger, Harmony Temporary Part-time Intervention Teacher (Tuesday-Thursday, 19 hours or less per week), for a Title I New Federal Funds Unit
- Jennifer Helms, Vinemont Elementary Temporary Special Education Teacher, replacing Annalee West
- Rebecca McDonald, Good Hope Primary Temporary Part-time Intervention Teacher (Monday & Wednesday, 19 hours or less per week), for a Title I New Federal Funds Unit
- Rebecca McDonald, Parkside Temporary Intervention Teacher (2 days per week, 7 hours per day), for a Title I New Federal Funds Unit
- Mickie Joe Perry, Transportation Trainer, part-time, as needed
- Patricia Perry, Transportation Trainer, part-time, as needed
- Pamela Jo Reid, Welti Temporary Part-time Intervention Teacher (19 hours or less per week), for a Title I New Federal Funds Unit
- Paula Farley Widner, Good Hope Middle Temporary Part-time Intervention Teacher (Tuesday & Thursday, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., not to exceed 19 hours per week), for a Title I New Federal Funds Unit

Non-faculty coaches

- Caiden Bagwell, West Point High Football & Basketball
- Mike Bates, Holly Pond High Football
- Mark Bell, Holly Pond High Baseball
- Brandon Black, Good Hope High Baseball
- Matt Black, Fairview Middle Football
- Larry Michael Brown, West Point High Softball
- Justin Calvert, Cold Springs High Cross Country & Track
- Jeremy Campbell, Cold Springs High Track (volunteer)
- Christy Chappell, West Point Middle Cheerleading (volunteer)
- Timothy Ethan Cofer, Good Hope High Football
- Brett Crider, Cold Springs Elementary Basketball (volunteer)
- Jefferson Daniel, Holly Pond High Soccer
- Taft Dillashaw, Good Hope High Football
- Jon Bryant Farley, West Point High Football
- Nathan Finley, Holly Pond Middle Basketball
- Kevin Folds, West Point Middle Baseball (volunteer)
- Tammy Foust, Holly Pond High Volleyball
- Paul Glenon, Hanceville Middle Basketball
- Jessica Gorham, Parkside Cheerleading (volunteer)
- Todd Greenlee, West Point High Tennis
- Tony Harris, Holly Pond High Softball (volunteer)
- Stephen Hollis, Holly Pond Middle Basketball
- Suzanne Hollis, Holly Pond High Softball
- Jeff Horton, Holly Pond Middle Football
- Whitten Tyler Hunt, West Point High Football
- Mitch Jones, Holly Pond High Basketball
- Kevin Knight, Fairview Middle Football (volunteer)
- Ben Landrum, Cold Springs High Baseball
- John Leathers, Holly Pond Middle Football
- Brandy Lowe, Good Hope Middle Cheerleading
- Jody Maddox, Good Hope High Basketball
- Blake Malin, Good Hope Middle Football & Basketball
- Wendy Mann, West Point Middle Cheerleading
- Terance Maze, Fairview High Basketball
- Rocky Montgomery, Good Hope Middle Football
- Matt Negron, Cold Springs High Football
- Chris Nichols, Fairview Middle Basketball
- George Norton, Good Hope Middle/High Football & Basketball
- Darlene Nuss, West Point High Cheerleading
- Tyler Pendergrass, Fairview Middle Football (volunteer)
- Paul Quattlebaum, West Point High Football & Baseball
- Justin Ray, Good Hope High Football
- Beth Taylor, Holly Pond Middle Volleyball
- Jason Thomas, Cold Springs High Football (volunteer)
- Brendan Voce, Cold Springs High Volleyball & Softball
- Randell Waldrep, Hanceville High Football (volunteer)
- Courtney Walker, West Point High Softball
- Edward Frank Webb, Jr, Hanceville Middle Football
- Edward Frank Webb, Jr, Hanceville High Track
- Patrick West, Cold Springs High Softball (volunteer)
- Jason White, Cold Springs High Football (volunteer)
- Branch Whitlock, Fairview High Basketball (volunteer)
- Ty Wilson, Holly Pond High Football

Substitute teachers and staff

- Serena Nikole Adair, Child Nutrition
- Brooke Baggett Echols, Teacher
- Mary Lou England, Teacher
- Lindsey Lenae Estes, Custodian
- Sherry Denise Ridgeway, Child Nutrition
- Michele A Robertson, Child Nutrition
- Tracy Frederick Shannon, Teacher
- Lori Ellen Warden, Teacher
- Amy Marquita Wood, Child Nutrition
- Renae M Yancy, Child Nutrition

The CCBOE will hold its next meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017 with work session at 5:30 in the Cold Springs Elementary School library. The public is invited to attend.

Obituary Announcements: Oct. 16-18

Oscar J. "Beaver" Greathouse of Garden City Alabama passed away on October 12, 2017 at his residence at the age of 90. He was born in Alabama on April 19, 1927 to Jack and Vinnie James Greathouse. He is preceded in death by: parents, wife Norma Jean Casey Greathouse, sister ethel Greathouse Knighten, brothers Arthur "Otto" Greathouse, Clifford Greathouse, Gloy "Monk" Greathouse, Hershel "Hub" Greathouse. Funeral services are Monday October 16, 2017 at Garden City Church of God with Rev. Vernon Alvis, Rev. Chuck Kennedy and Leah Stapler officiated. Interment will be in Garden City Cemetery. Survivors are: Daughter Debbie (Kraig) Alexander, Sister Eleanor Greathouse.

Larene Umphrey, 86 of Arley, entered into rest on Sunday, October 15, 2017, at her home surrounded by her loving family. A complete obituary and funeral arrangements will be announced at a later date. Nichols Funeral Home directing.

Verler Lee of Decatur entered into rest on Sunday, October 15, 2017 surrounded by loved ones. A full obituary and funeral arrangements will be announced at a later time. Nichols Funeral Home directing.

Peggy Louise Miller, 73 of Double Springs formerly of Haleyville, entered into rest on October 14, 2017 at her home surrounded by her loving family and friends. Mrs. Miller was born on June 6, 1944, in Haleyville. Peggy was a long time member of Beulah Baptist Church and was recently attending New Hope at Mt. Ebron Baptist Church. She loved to crochet and read. Funeral service will be held Tuesday, October 17, 2017 at Nichols Funeral Home in Haleyville beginning at 2 p.m. Brother Steve Wakefield will officiate. Burial will follow in Littleville Cemetery. Peggy is survived by her son, Jeff Miller and his wife Penny; sisters, Patricia Kilgore and her husband Dallas, and Paulette Coakley. She was "Mawmaw Peggy" to 3 grandchildren, Chris Miller, Stanley Miller, Patrick Miller, and 8 great grandchildren, Ethan Miller, Cadence Miller, Krislynn Miller, Anna Miller, Stormy Miller, Devin Pruitt, Shayla Pruitt, and Kimberley Treece. She was preceded in death by her husband, David Miller; parents, Lester and Lexie Fowler; and brother in law, Larry Coakley.

Sandra Lynnette Strickland, 65, of Double Springs, entered into rest on October 15, 2017 at her residence. Mrs. Strickland was born on December 25, 1951, in Decatur, Illinois. Sandra loved her kids and grandchildren. Her family was her world. She loved to sit on the porch to drink coffee and cook for her family. "Mama" had the biggest heart there was. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, October 17, 2017 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Double Springs, where services will be held on Wednesday, at 2 p.m. Pastor Drew Robbins will officiate. Burial will follow in Bethlehem Baptist Church Cemetery. Sandra is survived by her sons, Christopher (Shelby) Duval, Robert Strickland, Edwin (Tammy) Strickland, Billy Jo (Tina) Strickland; daughters, Christina (James Gillentine) Martin, Brandy Overstreet; brother, Dennis White; she was "Grandma" to 19 grandchildren, Stephen King, Gabrielle King, Hannah Grace Martin, CJ Duval, Alyssa Duval, Devin Duval, Rylan Duval, Jadon Duval, Talen Duval, Mason Duval, Kalyn Duval, Zaden Duval, Howard Strickland, Juston Strickland, Billy Strickland, Jessica Strickland, Jolene Jones, Summer Strickland, Hunter Overstreet; she was "GiGi" to 14 great grandchildren, Easten King, Jensen King, Aybree King, Hayden Gravitt, Taygen Cochran, Bentley Duval, Kingston Duval, Raelynn Duval, Tanner Chaporle, Chloe Strickland, Skyler Strickland, Kylie Strickland, Charlie Strickland, and Jenna Mae Jones. She was preceded in death by her husband Billy Joe Strickland Sr.

Funeral services for Frances Wren, 76 of Blair Community, will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel, Bro. Larry Duke officiating with interment in Blair Methodist Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Mrs. Wren passed away October 15, 2017 at her residence. She was born July 30, 1941 to Henry Calvin and Bessie Ann McAbee Shoemaker. She was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She loved gospel music and sang with the Spirit Singers. She was a member of Eastern Star and loved visiting the Senior Center. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Carl Lee Wren; sons, Johnny Lee Wren, Carlton Wren; sisters, Trudy Henson, Louise Pigg; brother, Calvin Shoemaker. Survivors include her son, Scott (Maria) Wren; daughters, Glenda (Cary) Zimmerman, Brenda Haynes; grandchildren, Amber (James) Coleman, Brandi (Greg) Wren Hicks, Jarrod (Crystal) Speakman, Logan Griffith, Abbey Wren, Carly Wren, Olivia Claire Wren; great-grandchildren, Elijah Hammick, Gracie Speakman, Camilla Coleman, Atticus Coleman, Jase Speakman, Macie Speakman; and a host of family and friends. Visitation will be Tuesday evening from 5:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

Free Obituary Listings

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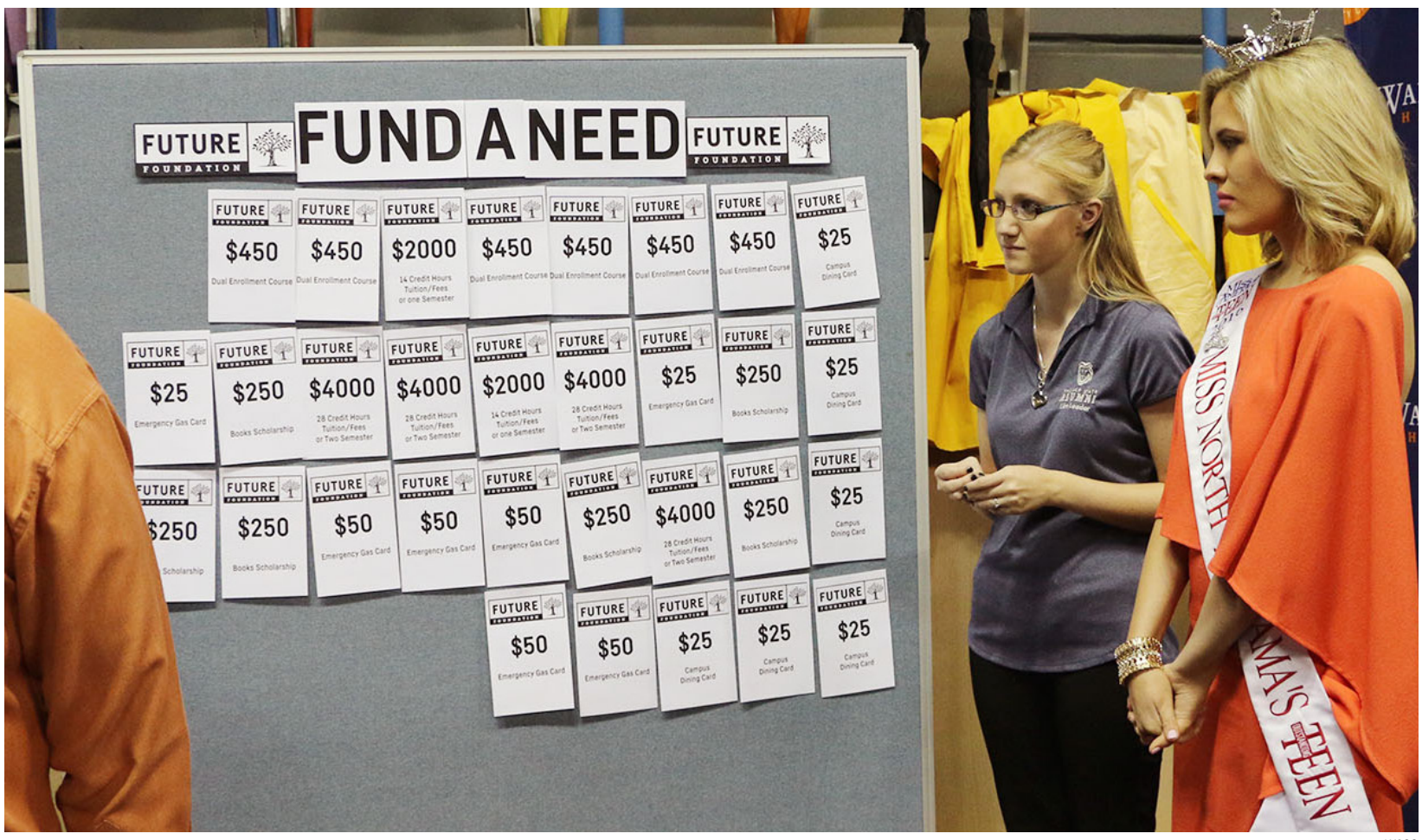
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WSCC Future Foundation hosting annual Student Investment Luncheon Nov. 1

Gail Crutchfield
WSCC



WSCC

The Fund A Need board made its appearance at the 2016 Student Investment Luncheon to help students with everything from tuition to gasoline and food. It will be back for the 2017 event on Nov. 1.

HANCEVILLE – The Wallace State Community College Future Foundation will host its 13th annual Student Investment Luncheon on Wednesday, Nov. 1, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Tom Drake Coliseum.

The event is the Future Foundation's largest fundraising event and includes silent and live auctions on hundreds of items ranging from baked goods to Iron Bowl tickets. Last year, the Foundation raised more than $200,000 in scholarship funds for students, meeting the need for tuition and books, as well as more basic needs like gasoline and food.

The Future Foundation is in the midst of its major gifts campaign "Our Story Begins with You," as it seeks to fund Scholarships, Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Opportunity.

The goal is to increase funds allocated toward scholarships to encourage students to completing their degrees and in an effort to reach more students; to provide state-of-the-art instructional equipment so students will learn on the equipment they will be using in the workforce; to create a Center for Entrepreneurship to develop collaborative partnerships with emerging business and industry; and to help in response to the best interest of the college's constituents as new opportunities arise.

Since 2008, the Future Foundation and Alumni Association has awarded more than $1.4 million in scholarships.

More than 130 scholarships totaling more than $95,600 were provided for 2017-2018.

"Whether a student is learning a trade or preparing to transfer to a four-year university, helping them with their education is one of the most thoughtful gifts anyone can give," said Suzanne Harbin, director of Advancement at Wallace State. "It's a gift that helps brighten the future for someone who may have never thought they would be able to go to college. It helps them take care of their families. It exposes them to possibilities they may have thought were out of reach.

"We appreciate each and every donor who gives to the Future Foundation, because we know they are helping to change lives," Harbin added. "They are helping to write our students' stories."

Reservations and sponsorships are still being accepted. You may register at www.wsccfuturefoundation.org/sil17 or call 256-352-7808. Your gift can be designated to go to a specific scholarship fund.

Officer (from Front)

and steady. We've had extraordinarily low interest rates for many, many years since the financial crisis (2008-2010). We have begun raising those back in late 2015, but they're still at a level that we would consider stimulative.

"At the most recent FOMC (Federal Open Market Committee) meeting, the governors pointed out that the labor market has continued to strengthen. Economic activity has continued to rise moderately, not wild growth, not contraction, just kind of good, moderate, stable growth. Job gains have been very solid, with the exception of September--which we know was impacted by the storms, so you kind of take that with a grain of salt. Household spending has been expanding moderately, and overall inflation is actually running a little lower than the goal we have, which would be between two percent and three."

Of the current job market, McClure noted that, while employment rates are up, the percentage of the population in the workforce has declined. This is due largely to increasing numbers of baby boomers retiring, and is resulting in many businesses struggling to find employees.

Additionally, while the unemployment rate is around four percent, many of those who are working are doing so in part-time jobs that do not provide them with good incomes.

Including both the unemployed and those who are "underemployed," the number of those who have struggled to find a good place in the workforce is actually around eight percent, according to McClure.

Over the last year, even including the weather-driven slowdown in September, the U.S. has averaged 148,000 new jobs (more people entering the workforce than leaving) per month.

The local chapter of Kiwanis International meets for a fellowship lunch at noon each Monday in Christ Hall at St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church, and hosts speakers on many various topics, along with occasional entertainment.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/cullmankiwanis.





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Protecting others: CHS grad now Pfc. Gracie Aiken

Heather Mann
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – Gracie Aiken is a member of Cullman High School's Class of 2017 and, more recently, the Marine Corps. Because she spent a year in the Delayed Entry Program, she started boot camp on July 10 of this year and graduated on Friday, Oct. 6. Her two years as a member of the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) helped her get a promotion to private first class, and her military occupational specialty is motor transport.

Aiken said that the Marine Corps was her first choice of military branch, and when asked about her reason for joining, she replied, "Growing up I always felt it was my duty to protect the smaller person, the underclassmen, or just people who were bullied. I guess the Marine Corps is my way of protecting those who cannot protect themselves."



CONTRIBUTED

Marine Corps Pfc. Gracie Aiken

On her plans for the future, Aiken stated that she'd like to do 20 years of service and then get out and travel on motorcycle, as well as take advantage of the educational opportunities the Corps provides. However, she said that at present, "I'm just really trying to learn from the amazing leaders I'm put under so I can become a better leader as I earn promotions."

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