The Cullman Tribune

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Hopewell Baptist celebrates 175 years



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Mayor Kenneth Nail, accompanied by daughter Haana, delivered a proclamation from the City of Hanceville for Hopewell Baptist Church's 175th anniversary.

W.C. Mann
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HANCEVILLE – On Sunday morning, Hanceville's Hopewell Baptist Church held a special service celebrating its 175th anniversary. Established in January 1842, the congregation is the oldest in Cullman County. Three former pastors- Trueman Davis, Steve Miller and Wayne Wisener, as well as Hanceville Mayor Kenneth Nail, Alabama Baptist Historical Commission Executive Director Dr. Lonette Berg and East Cullman Baptist Association Director of Missions Randy Makemson were on hand to join in the celebration.

Anniversary committee chairman Tyler Hooper said, "We have been doing a year-long celebration, starting literally on New Year's Day and running through New Year's Eve this year, and we've tried to have various different events and projects going on each month. In February we had a rededication service: the members rededicated their lives to Christ and God, and rededicated the facilities in their name.

"Our theme is 'embracing our heritage, preparing for our future.' We definitely wanted to reflect on the past 175 years, but also make sure that we didn't lose sight of where we are and where we're going: trying to create a memorable impact in the community.

"We've been here the longest of any church. We just want to make sure that we're here to set the groundwork, then celebrate those who've gone before us--the founders who laid the groundwork--and we lay some of our own groundwork for the next 175 years, so that when people look back, they'll see what we did at this time to get them where they will be."

Nail presented a proclamation from the City of Hanceville, and Berg presented one from the Baptist Historical Commission. Makemson presented the church a plaque from the association. While other dignitaries did not attend in person, the church also received proclamation certificates from State Rep. Randall Shedd, R-Fairview, the Cullman County Commission and Gov. Kay Ivey.

All three former pastors addressed the congregation, and the oldest and longest tenured members were recognized with commemorative platters.

History of Hopewell Baptist

1842 - "The Baptist Church of Christ of Hopewell" founded north of present Hanceville
1858 - A log church building was constructed
1870s - Name changed to Hopewell Baptist Church of Christ
1883 - Hopewell joined the Cullman Baptist Association
1909 - Hopewell organized a Sunday School
1912 - A new white church building was constructed
1948 - Wednesday evening prayer services begun
1961 - Construction of new brick building begun, name changed to Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church
1973 - Church building completely destroyed by fire, congregation meets temporarily in community center in White City
1974 - New building, which is now the fellowship hall, completed
1975 - Construction began on the current sanctuary building
1986 - Another building added for more Sunday School classrooms
1988 - Lake Catoma Baptist Church founded as a Hopewell mission
1991 - Sanctuary expanded; office, nursery, and preschool building added

Today, Hopewell has around 200 members on roll, with an average Sunday attendance of 60-70.

The church currently has an interim Pastor, Rev. Layne Howard. Dale Thomas serves as minister of music, and Jerrod Jackson serves as minister of youth.

For more information on Hopewell Baptist Church, visit www.facebook.com/HopewellHanceville.



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Jonathan Biggs

Ohio man indicted for reckless murder in deaths of Cold Springs student Rhianna Busbee and mother » Page 3

Halloween night fun

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – Don't want to go the traditional trick-or-treating route tonight? There are plenty of options to choose from around town! Get the very latest at www.CullmanTribune.com/Calendar.

5-7 p.m. Karma in Cullman and William's BBQ Trunk or Treat
William's Barbecue, 2021 Second Ave. SW, Cullman

5:30 p.m. Light the Night
Church at The Well- Cullman, 708 Ninth St. SE, Cullman

5:30-7:30 p.m. Gym Treat at Ryans Creek Baptist Church
Ryans Creek Baptist Church, 24849 County Rd 222, Bremen

5:30-7:30 p.m. Etha Baptist Church Harvest Festival
Etha Baptist Church, 8417 County Road 1545, Cullman

6-8 p.m. Family Fall Festival
Crosshaven Church, 9131 U.S. Highway 31, Hanceville

6-8 p.m. Trunk or Treat at the Cullman Police Department
Cullman Police Department, 601 Second Ave. NE, Cullman

6-8 p.m. Trunk or Treat at Redeeming Grace Church
Redeeming Grace Church, 7549 County Road 222, Cullman

6-9 p.m. Trunk or Treat at Church 212
Church 212, 4690 County Road 437, Cullman

Halloween safety 101 with Sheriff Gentry and Chief Culpepper

Nick Griffin
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – It's Halloween; time for trick or treating! It's important to have fun, but it's just as important to stay safe, especially kids. Cullman Police Chief Kenny Culpepper and Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry were happy to provide some advice and information for parents.

Culpepper said he thinks is perhaps a better, safer alternative to traditional trick or treating.

"The best form of Halloween safety is to take the kids to participate in trunk or treats. There are churches and lots of different organizations that are having trunk or treats," he said.

"The best thing about them is that they're supervised, it's all in one location, you don't have children that are going house to house to house and you don't know who's in the house. So by far that is the best way to trick or treat; the kids love it and the people running them love it and it makes it a much, much safer environment."

Costume designs were a concern for Culpepper as well, especially when it comes to the color schemes.

"If someone does want to do the more traditional type of trick or treating, the costumes need to have visibility in mind. Make sure you have a costume with some bright colors or make sure you have some kind of reflective material or something that glows to help visibility," said Culpepper.

"You also want to be sure there are no trip hazards or fire hazards with the costumes."

Gentry shared some of the same sentiments for parents and kids that'll be out this Halloween.

"Our main priority is community safety. One of the things we like to prioritize is for parents to stay with their kids and not let them go off without you," Gentry said. "You also want to stay in well-lit areas and make sure your kids are wearing something reflective or easy to see. There are a lot of churches and other places doing trunk or treats and those are really good to take your kids to as well."

Gentry is also calling on citizens not participating in the festivities to be more aware of their surroundings as they get around town tonight.

"For all of the drivers and people that will be out on Halloween, just keep an eye out for the kids that'll be walking around, especially in neighborhood areas," he said. "You need to watch your speed and just be careful and be aware that there will be kids out."

So whether you or your kids are trick or treating door-to-door or attending a local trunk-or-treat event, remember to be safe...and have fun!

CATA cosmetology students raise money for breast cancer



JUDY WATTS

Cullman County Schools Superintendent Shane Barnette, Mary Dyer of the Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation and Tasha Flannigan, cosmetology instructor.

Judy Watts
Options

CULLMAN – The Cullman Area Technology Academy Cosmetology Department is giving back to the community by donating to help cancer patients. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the cosmetology department is focused on going PINK!! Students provided special salon services on Oct. 27 and donated the money raised to the Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation.

The Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation thanks the cosmetology department for its generosity.

Get tickets now for Farm-City Farm-to-Fork Dinner



TOMMY WARHURST

The 2016 Farm-City Banquet was held on Thursday, Nov. 17, 2016 at the Cullman Civic Center, where Jerry and Shirley Bonner were named the 2017 City Family.

Doris Patterson
Contributor

CULLMAN – Tickets are on sale now for the Farm-City Farm to Fork Dinner to be held Nov.16 at the Cullman Civic Center. The Triumphant Quartet will provide the entertainment. All former Farm and City Families of the Year will be honored at the event.

Tickets are available from Farm-City committee members and at all branches of Merchants Bank, Cullman Savings Bank and People's Bank.

Now through Nov. 10, tickets are available for $15. After the 10th, tickets will be $20 until Nov. 15, the last day to purchase.

Upcoming events at the North Alabama Agriplex

Rachel Peinhardt Dawsey
Contributor

CULLMAN – The North Alabama Agriplex has several events coming up over the next few weeks. Learn more and register at www.agriplex.org. The Agriplex is located at 1714 Talley Ho St. in Cullman. Contact the Agriplex at 256-297-1044.

Little Farmers - Nov. 3, 10-11 a.m.
Seeds we planted have produced fruit to harvest! We'll be picking produce and tasting nature's bountiful harvest from our gardens. Come help gather the bounty as we discuss ways to use it. For preschoolers with an adult. $7 at door, $5 prepay.

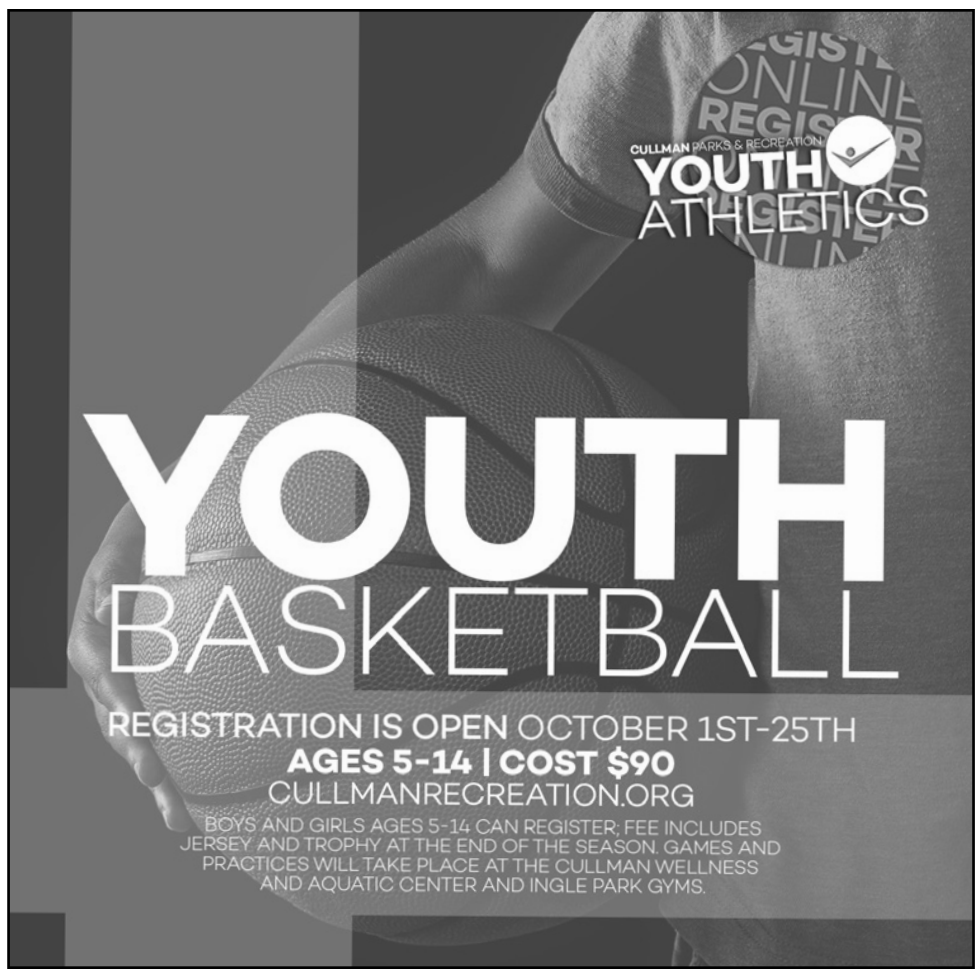
Farm Kids' Club- Farm Chef: Fall Cooking Throwdown- Nov. 4, 9-10:30 a.m.
We're rolling up our sleeves and donning our aprons! We're going to be cooking and learning how to incorporate a glorious autumn fruit into our favorite dishes. Come ready to taste and prepared for battle! Ages 5 and up with an adult. $7 at door, $5 prepay.

Heritage Skills- Crochet- Nov. 7, 6 p.m.
From beginner to expert, let's learn from each other as we gather around the table sharing our talents and techniques. We'll be providing some supplies for an easy craft, as well as helping you get your stitches down. You will be able to take home your yarn and hook to finish. Come see why this handicraft has been around for over 200 years. Cost: $10.

Living Landscapes- Indoor Gardening- Nov. 14, 6 p.m.
Participants will learn the basics of plant propagation, and take home their new transplants to grow. We'll show you how to make an indoor garden to keep your green thumb happy all year round. $5.

Heritage Homeschool- Woodworking- Nov. 16, 9-11 a.m.
Shaving horse? Adze? Plane? These are all tools used in creating items from wood. We will learn the evolution of woodworking tools of yesteryear to present day as we put them to use building a project to take home. $10 at door, $8 prepay.

DECEMBER
Farm Kids' Club- German Christmas- Dec. 2, 9-10:30 a.m.
For the holidays we will be answering important questions, such as, why do we have Christmas trees? We'll be learning about the German influence on Christmas traditions. Make and take old world crafts and ornaments. Ages 5 and up with an adult. $7 at door, $5 prepay.



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Ohio man indicted for reckless murder in deaths of Cold Springs student Rhianna Busbee and mother

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CULLMAN – A Dayton, Ohio man was extradited to Cullman on Saturday, Oct. 28, 2017 to face six charges stemming from his alleged role in the deaths of Tonya Busbee, 34, and her daughter Rhianna Busbee, 13, both of Bremen. Jonathan Biggs, 53, is charged in connection with the head-on collision that killed the younger Busbee and her mother in March of this year.

The incident occurred on Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at approximately 8:24 p.m., near the 8000 block of County Road 813, near the entrance to Smith Lake Park.

The Busbees were traveling south in a 2003 Ford Ranger pickup truck when Biggs, driving northbound in a 2016 Chevrolet Impala, allegedly crossed the center line and struck them head on.

Both victims were pronounced dead at the scene by Cullman County Coroner Jeremy L. Kilpatrick, while Biggs was airlifted to UAB Hospital in Birmingham.

The next day, on March 29, 2017, the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency said that both alcohol and speed appeared to be factors in the crash.

On Oct. 4, 2017 a Cullman County grand jury handed down a six-count indictment:

• One count of reckless murder for each victim, charging that Biggs "did, recklessly engage in conduct which manifested extreme indifference to human life and created a grave risk of death to a person other than the said JONATHAN D. BIGGS, by, to-wit: operting a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, and did thereby cause the death of another person."

Reckless murder is a Class A felony.

• Two counts of driving under the influence of alcohol. One count charged that his blood alcohol concentration was above the legal limit, while both charged that he was "incapable of safely driving."

• One count of reckless driving "in willful or wanton disregard for the rights or safety of persons or property or without due caution and circumspection and at a speed or in a manner so as to endanger or be likely to endanger any person or property."

• One count of failing to stay in his lane on the road

On Oct. 5, 2017, the day after the indictment, Circuit Judge Martha Williams determined that the defendant would require a $150,000 property bond.

After the issuance of a warrant, Biggs was extradited from Ohio and was booked into the Cullman County Detention Center on Saturday, Oct. 28, 2017.

As of Monday afternoon, Biggs was still incarcerated.

HHS QB Club
2017 Turkey Shoot
$5.00 Meat Shots
$5.00 Money Shots
SATURDAYS
OCT 28, Nov 3, 10, 17, 23
Starting at 8 AM-until
Highway 31 South
Field just south of
Domino's Pizza
All money raised goes to support the Hanceville High School Football team.
Gun Specifications
• NO barrel chokes longer than 21/2 inches
• NO barrels longer than 32"
• NO machine barrels
• NO scopes

Pesticide Clean Day for area farmers Nov. 15

Tony A. Glover
Cullman County Extension

CULLMAN – On Wednesday, Nov. 15, an Agricultural Pesticide Clean Day for area farmers will take place in Limestone County. This event allows farmers or others to take unwanted pesticides (herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides, etc.) that are not needed or useable for proper disposal. This disposal will not threaten the environment.

There is no charge for the disposal and there will be no questions asked.

To participate in this one-time event, fill out the registration form at: http://www.aces.edu/go/882 Alternatively, forms and detailed information are available at the County Extension office at 402 Arnold St. NE in Cullman.

The deadline for returning the participation form to the County Extension office is Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2017 if packing materials are needed, and Monday, Nov. 13, 2017 if pesticides to be disposed of are in good containers that need no packing material to safely move.

For questions or more information, contact 256-737-9386. The Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System make this program possible.

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IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE

A.C. S. CASE NO: AD2017-077

A MINOR CHILD. DOB: 01/17/2011

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION TO BE PUBLISHED

TO: JUSTIN CHASE STEVENS

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption in the above styled matter has been filed in said Court by MITCHELL SHAE MCCLENDON, Petitioner, and STORMIE CALVERT MCCLENDON, biological mother. Please be advised that if you intend to contest this adoption, you **MUST** file a written response within thirty (30) days hereof with counsel for said Petitioner, whose name and address are shown below and with the Clerk of the said Probate Court at 500 2nd Avenue S.W., Cullman, Alabama 35055.

DONE THIS 30th DAY OF October, 2017.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABMA

TO: PUBLISHER – THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

PLEASE PUBLISH THE ABOVE NOTICE IN SAID PUBLICATION FOR FOUR SUCCESSIVE WEEKS AND SEND PROOF TO JUDGE OF PROBATE OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

ANDRIA RICHTER
Attorney for Petitioner
3000 First Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
OCTOBER 31, 2017

Cold rain can't dampen enthusiasm at Parkside Pumpkin Run



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Noah Haynes was the first-place overall finisher, with a time of 19:08.

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

BAILEYTON – When it's cold and windy, and the rain can't decide whether to drizzle or pour, what do you do? At Parkside School in Baileyton, they run! On Saturday morning, the bad weather didn't stop students and adults from gathering for the ninth annual Parkside Pumpkin Run on a 5K course from the school to Baileyton Town Park.

With 91 pre-registrations plus a handful of last-minute sign-ups, the fundraising run had approximately 100 registered participants. As would be expected with the weather, some, as event coordinator and Parkside eighth-grade teacher Tracey Jones put it, "chose the sleep-in option." Still, around 70 runners actually took to the road to compete for medals, spend time with family and friends, and support the school.

"This is our ninth year to do this," said Jones. "We use this to raise money for our middle school. We have bought technology for the students; we're pretty much one-to-one (each student having a computer or tablet to use) in the back hall. We use it to buy programs to help enhance learning, pretty much, just anything the middle school students need."

This year's run is expected to raise around $2,500 for Parkside's 90 middle school students.

Winners

- Noah Haynes was the first-place overall finisher, with a time of 19:08.
- Bijou Phillips was the first-place overall girls' finisher, with a time of 21:57.
- Ethan Edgeworth, only 11 years old, finished in second place overall.

Event coordinators said a complete list of the top three finishers in each age group, along with times, will be available on the group's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/parksidepumpkinrun.

Parkside School, according to Jones, has a "great small community feeling. We have great parents, great kids. We are a feeder school into Fairview, and for the last 25 years we've had either the valedictorian or the salutatorian that had actually come from Parkside. A good school, we have good, high scores. Our students thrive in this environment, and it shows when they go on to the high school."



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Hometown health care: new Hanceville clinic open for business

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

HANCEVILLE – On Monday afternoon, Sabrina Nail and her husband, Mayor Kenneth Nail, cut the ribbon to open Hanceville Primary Healthcare (HPH) for business at 1009 Main St. NW (Highway 31, north of Wallace State). It was a symbolic gesture indeed, since patients had already been occupying examination rooms in the facility, just moments before.

Mayor Nail was joined by Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs and Good Hope Mayor Jerry Bartlett, along with Rep. Randall Shedd, R-Fairview, Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics, members of the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce and Cullman County Economic Development, and representatives of the University of Alabama's Small Business Development Center to celebrate the opening and cut the ribbon. The facility has four examination rooms, offices and a small lab area, with substantial room for future expansion, which the owners intend to fill over time.

Owner Sabrina Nail said, "Hanceville's considered an underserved rural area, and we need more health care. We need to reach out to more people, and improve on our health, so we're trying to create better access to health care. We love Hanceville; we want to see it grow. We want to help its citizens and everything.

"We offer urgent care and primary care. Our main goal is to prevent you from getting sick and going to the hospital, but we also treat those urgent needs, too. If you come in with the flu, or if you cut your hand and you need stitches, we could actually take care of all those issues.

"We are going to treat indigent cases, as well. We will take those on a case-by-case, and decide how we're going to be able to help them with their health care. We're not turning away anybody. We're here; we had a calling to be nurses, and we've had a calling to help people in the community. So that's what we're here for, to help out." HPH services will be overseen by a nurse practitioner, who can diagnose conditions and write prescriptions. According to Sabrina Nail, it is the first clinic of its kind in Cullman County, and one of only a few in the state. The staff includes Nurse Practitioners Stephanie Barnett (full-time) and Monica Phillips (part-time). For issues beyond the scope of primary care, the staff has relationships with various specialists to whom they can refer patients. Dr. Nancy White of Huntsville will be the clinic's consulting physician. "We offer more one-on-one basis," said Sabrina Nail, "so we can really figure out what the needs are of people, and how we can help them physically, mentally, emotionally, spiritually. We want to be there for our patients. You know, a lot of people go to a doctor's office, and they're in and out in less than five minutes, and they feel like they haven't been heard. We are actually there to hear you. We listen really good!"

To begin, Hanceville Primary Healthcare is open Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information or an appointment, call 256-887-1751, or visit hancevilleprimary-healthcare.com or facebook.com/hanceville-primaryhealthcare.

Cyclones, Aggies and Outlaws claim youth football titles

Josh McBrayer
josh@cullmantribune.com

FAIRVIEW – Saturday marked the culmination of months of grueling practices, weeks of games and a lot of blood, sweat and tears for the local youth football players as the pee-wee, wee-wee and fireplug divisions of the Cullman County Youth Football Association held their championship games at Dafford-Smith Stadium on the campus of Fairview High School.

PEE-WEE

Cullman Cyclones 22, Cullman Bearcats 0

The Cullman Cyclones acted as a brick wall on defense Saturday as they held their peers, the Cullman Bearcats, scoreless the entire game. The Cyclones have relied on their defense the entire year, allowing their opponents to score less than 30 points combined on the year.

On the offensive side of the ball, the Cyclones kept the ball on the ground with scores coming on a 3-yard rush by Isaac Jones, a 47-yard scamper by LJ Turner, a 5-yard blast by Jackson Sessions and a pair of 2-point conversions by Trenton Clemens.

WEE-WEE

Fairview Aggies 14, Cullman Cyclones 12

In the wee-wee division, it took overtime to crown a champion, after playing to a stalemate in the first four quarters. Aggies running back Jake Harper found pay dirt in the OT period, tying the game at 12. He then blasted his way up the middle for the 2-point conversion and the win. Jordan Ellis had the lone Fairview touchdown in regulation, a 76-yard sprint.

Asher Drake had both scores for the Cyclones. A 5-yard rush in regulation and a 3-yard blast in overtime, but was stopped short of the goal line on the 2-point conversion try.

FIREPLUG

Good Hope Outlaws 30, Cullman Bearcats 0

It was all Outlaws from the opening kickoff until the final whistle as they took the fireplug division in impressive fashion, 30-0 over the Cullman Bearcats. Quarterback Cooper Johnson got the scoring going for Good Hope in the second with a 9-yard QB keeper for a touchdown.

Parker Childers got in on the scoring action late in the second with a 27-yard scoop and score.

Childers started the third just like he ended the second, with a score, this time on a 62-yard rush.

Johnson then put the game out of reach on the next Outlaw possession, scoring from 3 yards out.

Annual Fall Fest in downtown Hanceville

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

HANCEVILLE – On Sunday afternoon, downtown Hanceville was taken over by ghouls and goblins, heroes and villains, and all manner of hunters for candy-flavored treasures, as the city held its annual Fall Fest. The event was truly a community event: coordinated by members of First Baptist Church Hanceville, in cooperation with other area churches: First Baptist Church of Garden City, Faith Restoration Church, Garden City Congregational Church, Hanceville First United Methodist Church, Laodicea Freewill Baptist Church, Northside Church of Christ, St. Boniface Catholic Church and Trinity Lutheran Church. Hanceville High School's student council, Hanceville Knapsacks for Kids and Operation Christmas Child had cars or tents set up along the route.

Hanceville Mayor Kenneth Nail said, "The City just plays a supportive role; we close streets and provide security, and stuff like that."

The mayor estimated a turnout of 6,500 to 7,500. By 4:30 trick-or-treaters and their families were lined up from Highway 31 up Commercial Street to First Baptist, from there up Bangor Avenue to Blountsville Street, and from that intersection a block back toward the highway. More than 50 cars participated in trunk-or-treat, and more than 100 volunteers gave out candy and tended a side street filled with kids' inflatables. Hanceville Police brought vehicles, and the Cullman Police Department sent a helicopter. Hanceville Fire and Rescue handed out free popcorn.

Business and corporate event sponsors included American Proteins Inc., Birmingham Fastener, City of Hanceville, Clark Gas Company, Dairy Queen, Dale's, Deb's Tires & Accessories, Dollar General, Hanceville Drug Company, Hanceville Elementary PTO, Hanceville EXXON, James Auto Parts, Just Repurposed, Kat Parker Photography, and Luna's BBQ.

Said Nail, "This is a great alternative to going out and beating on doors at night, and it's a good safe environment.

"The several years we've done this, we've never had a problem, never had an incident, so it's really been a good thing. I think the community likes it. Seems like everybody has a good time, and a lot of fun.

"We want to do more festivals like this downtown. If you look around, from this time last year, you see several things that's going on, so we hope every year a few more grows. We just hope it continues to grow, and comes back alive."



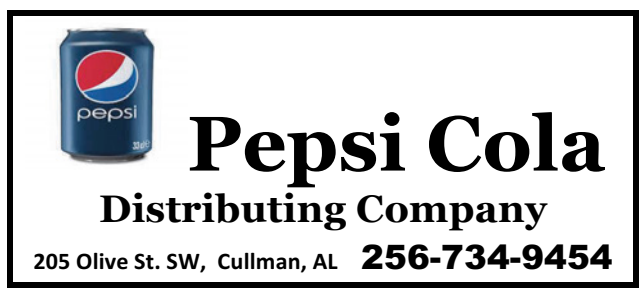
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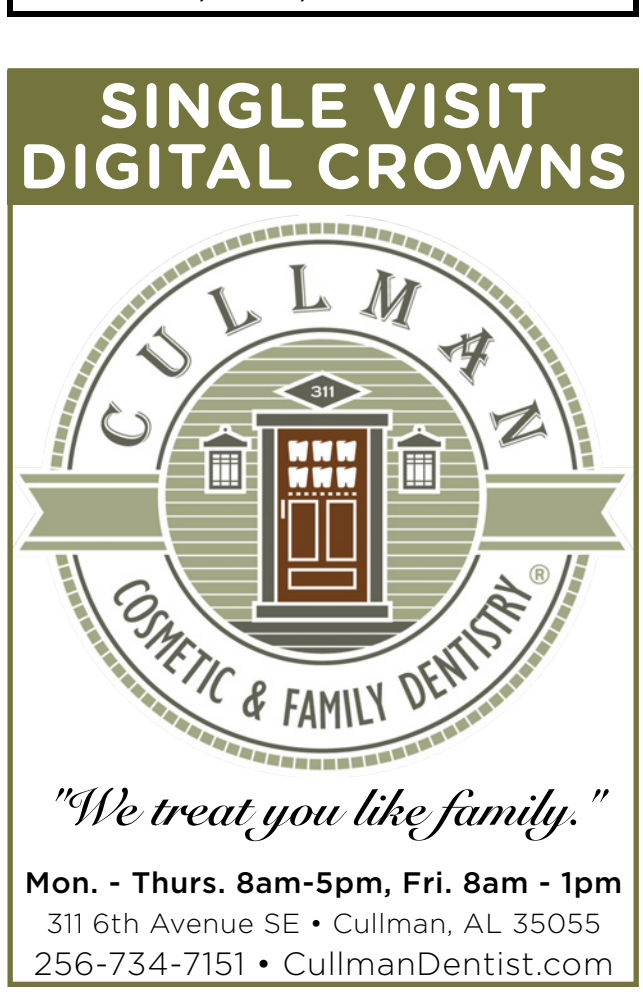
The Tin Man from "The Wizard of Oz" was spotted handing out treats at this year's Hanceville Fall Fest.













THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
OCTOBER 31, 2017

10 unconventional Halloween flicks

Nick Griffin
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – Every year when Halloween comes around, everyone has their go-to list of movies they traditionally like to watch. Whether it's an installment of the "Halloween," "Saw" or "Friday the 13th" franchise, you know what you're going to get and probably have them memorized by now. These are some options for films to watch this Halloween that you may not have heard of or don't usually associate with the season that could shake up the routine and be worth your while.

"Shaun of the Dead" (R) - One of Edgar Wright's first films, "Shaun of the Dead" stars Simon Pegg as Shaun and Nick Frost as Ed, two roommates caught in a rut of working at an electronics store and spending the rest of their time drinking. Things get worse for Shaun after his girlfriend breaks up with him the night before the zombie apocalypse commences. Wright puts together a movie that subverts your expectations of a zombie film and has fun with the genre in a hilarious way while still giving us relatable characters that we want to root for. This is without a doubt a comedy but that doesn't mean it can't be serious or frightening in some places and would be a great time for a group of friends to get together and watch this Halloween.

"Zodiac" (R) - This suspenseful mystery film was directed by David Fincher and is based on the true story about the Zodiac Killer who operated in California in the 1960s and 70s. The film stars Jake Gyllenhaal, Mark Ruffalo and Robert Downey, Jr.as they work to try and identify the notorious serial killer. Fincher gives you hints as to who he thinks may have been the killer, but it is very much left open to interpretation as the killer still hasn't been identified to this day. This film has some truly unnerving scenes that you watch unfold knowing that they happened in real life, as well as some fascinating scenes where you can see the characters trying to piece together the mystery with the clues being given to them by the killer himself. "Zodiac" has a long runtime but keeps you engaged throughout thanks to great performances from the cast and the suspense you feel from watching something play out that you know actually happened.

"Beetlejuice" (PG) - This is the film in which most people were introduced to the director Tim Burton, and the lead actor, Michael Keaton, just one year before "Batman" was released. This is arguably Keaton's signature performance as the titular character, Beetlejuice. He puts on a completely manic show utilizing his physical and comedic acting skills to their fullest. The film begins when Geena Davis and Alec Baldwin are killed in a car accident and find themselves on a waiting list to get into heaven. As a result, they are forced to haunt their old home as ghosts for 50 years. When an obnoxious group of people try to move into the house, they do their best to scare them off but ultimately decide to summon the ghoul, Beetlejuice, to finish the job which creates a whole new problem for them. "Beetlejuice" is a fun time that gives you a great look into the creepy and artistic mind of Tim Burton as well as a look at Michael Keaton's full range as a performer.

"The Babadook" (R) - The most recent entry on this list, "The Babadook" is an Australian psychological horror film written and directed by Jennifer Kent. This is Kent's writing and directorial debut. The film stars Essie Davis as a mother of a 6-year-old son played by Noah Wiseman. After the young boy has been experiencing nightmares about a creature he believes is coming to kill them, a storybook titled "The Babadook" appears at their house and the boy is convinced that it is the monster that is coming for them. Davis' character struggles to control her son and even begins to question her own pre-conceived notions about what her son is seeing. This film is truly impressive as it walks the line between a horrifying monster film and a realistic psychological thriller.

"Zombieland" (R) - Written and directed by Ruben Fleischer, "Zombieland" stars Woody Harrelson, Jesse Eisenberg and Emma Stone as some of the few remaining survivors in a world that has already been destroyed by a zombie apocalypse. The main characters make their way across the United States using some unconventional methods to survive and giving us a look into the rules you need to follow if you want to survive the zombie apocalypse. This is a very fun, and violent, horror comedy that features one of the greatest celebrity cameos you will ever see and would be a great choice to watch with your friends at a Halloween party this year.

"Nightcrawler" (R) - This is a mysterious and suspenseful thriller written and directed by Dan Gilroy and starring Jake Gyllenhaal. Gyllenhaal plays a wannabe crime journalist in Los Angeles who is introduced to the world of "nightcrawling," a profession that consists of racing to crime scenes in order to capture video and photographs of gruesome crimes and selling them to local news stations before they are closed off by police. Gyllenhaal gives arguably his best performance ever as an obsessed, driven sociopath who becomes disturbingly good at his job and makes you question who you are pulling for as the film goes on. This film is a great look into the psychology of an obsessive, disturbed person that can really creep you out and mess with your head this Halloween.

"The Cabin in the Woods" (R) - I've listed some films here that like playing with genre clichés but this film directed by Drew Goddard is completely built on making fun of horror movie clichés and stereotypes. The film stars Kristen Connolly, Chris Hemsworth, Anna Hutchison, Fran Kranz and Jesse Williams as your typical teenage archetypes that you see in horror movies. From the opening scene you can see where this film is going and the craziness and jokes just continue to build as you see all of your typical horror clichés play out with a twist that is amazing to see unfold. This is another horror comedy that would be a great choice for you and a group of friends to get together and have fun with during this Halloween season.

"The Orphanage" (R) - Directed by J.A. Bayona, "The Orphanage" stars Belen Rueda as Laura and Fernando Cayo as her husband Carlos. As a child, Laura spent her formative years being cared for by the staff of a large orphanage located by the Spanish seaside. Those were some of the happiest years of Laura's life, and now, 30 years later, Laura returns to the rundown institution with her husband and their 7-year-old son, Simon, to reopen the orphanage as a facility for disabled children. However, something ominous haunts the dark hallways of this silent, gothic manor. When Simon's behavior begins to grow increasingly bizarre and malicious, Laura and Carlos start to suspect that the mysterious surroundings have awoken something ominous in the young boy's imagination. This is a film that could truly keep you up at night and leave you thinking about the ending for some time.

"Ghostbusters" (PG) - Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd, Harold Ramis and Ernie Hudson star as a group of Manhattan-based "paranormal investigators." When their government grants run out, the former three go into business as The Ghostbusters, later hiring Hudson. Armed with electronic gadgets and weapons, the team becomes famous and very successful as it takes on a wave of supernatural ghosts and other creatures that are invading New York City. This is one of the most beloved comedies of all time while at the same time being a haunting movie full of all kinds of spirits and demons that threaten to take over our world. "Ghostbusters" is a great time all year round but particularly appropriate when Halloween rolls around.

"Troll 2" (PG-13) - Sometimes watching an especially awful movie can be just as much fun as watching a great one, especially if you get a big group of friends together. "Troll 2" has been dubbed by some critics as "the greatest bad movie ever made." The film follows a little boy who tries to warn his family and friends that the evil trolls his late grandfather used to tell him about are real. Unfortunately, no one believes him and he and his sister are sent to the enigmatic town of Nilbog, where nightmarish things begin to happen around them. I could go on but it is best enjoyed if you have no idea what's coming and would be a very fun time this Halloween with friends who don't take movies too seriously and are ready to laugh.

Obituary Announcements: Oct. 31 - Nov. 4

Joseph Scott Thompson, age 38 of Vinemont, passed away on Saturday, October 28, 2017 at Huntsville Hospital; he was born on December 3, 1978. The family is planning a Celebration of Life service at a later date. Cullman Funeral Home announcing. He is preceded in death by grandparents, Rayford & Katie Miller Livingston; and Mary Bryan Thompson. Joe "played" at RARE, Inc. Ray's Auto Restoration Etc.; loved NASCAR, Tennessee Football, riding his motorcycle and spending time with family and friends. Survivors include his Soul mate of 19 years – Cheryl Kitts Thompson; Father – David (Dot) Thompson; Mother – Debra Livingston Doyle; Grandfather – Curtis (Ann) Thompson; Father-in-Law – Kenneth Kitts; 3 – Sisters – Renee (Bo) Bridges, Rita (Steve) Schonenbeck, Melissa (Ralph) Weaver; Sister-in-Law - Angela (Bobby) Head; 2 – Brothers – Clark (Deborah) Yarbrough & David Thompson II; Brother-in-Law – Dana (Ellie) Kitts; his four legged children – Kasey Joe, Dega, Alice & Daytona; and a host of Nieces & Nephews also survive.

Funeral Service for Joyce Marie Dingler, age 70 of Cullman, will be at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, October 31, 2017 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Rev. Dan Cobb, officiating; burial at Mt. Zion in Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Dingler passed away on Saturday, October 28, 2017 at Woodland Village Health Care. She was born Monday, June 02, 1947 to Hugh and Ruth Dye. She is preceded in death by her, parents, husband, Harold Dingler, sons, Eugene Lowery, Doug Lowery and Travis Dingler and brother, Danny Dye. Survivors include her, sons, Randall Lowery, James Dingler, Sr., Carroll Chaffin, Danny Chaffin, Manford Chaffin, Allen Lowery, Troy Lowery, and Paul Lowery, 11 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, nieces, Patricia Guthrey, and Marlena Alldredge, brother, Donald Dye, sister, Edith Dye, and a host of family and friends.

Funeral service for Helen Jean Crigger, age 92 of Cullman, will be at 12 noon on Tuesday, October 31, 2017 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Bro. Larry Duke officiating; burial at Mt. Carmel Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Crigger passed away on Saturday, October 28, 2017 at her residence. She was born Tuesday, June 09, 1925 to Mose and Clemmie Blackburn. She is preceded in death by her, parents, husband, Earnest Crigger, son, Karl Crigger, and son-in-law Larry Ross. Survivors include her, daughters, Gail (Keith) Baudoin, Patricia Ross, Karin (Donald) Dibble, Nancy (Ken) Dandron, and Lynn (Brian) Day, son, Lance (Janice) Crigger, 17 grandchildren, and a host of great grandchildren, great great grandchildren, family and friends. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until 12 noon on Tuesday, October 31, 2017 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home.

Bobby Gene Shoemaker, 82 of West Point, passed away Monday, October 30, 2017. His funeral will be at 2 p.m., Friday, November 3, 2017 at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel. His family will receive friends on Thursday from 2 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the funeral home. Burial, with military honors, will be in Cullman Memory Gardens. Mr. Shoemaker served a combined total of over 25 years in the U.S Air Force and Alabama Air National Guard, retiring in 1990. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Mary Ruth Kreps Shoemaker; sons, Robert (Wanda) Shoemaker and Stan (Regina) Shoemaker; daughters, Jeana (Greg Hampton) Stone, Diane (Bill) French, Marie Lindsey and Ernie Gossett; brothers, Charles (Janell) Shoemaker and Garey (Elta) Shoemaker; sister, Josephine (Reno) Wren; 21 grandchildren; 49 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Reburn Carlton and Lulabelle Savannah Umphrey Shoemaker; sister Melba Heiret; grandsons, Donald DeMarco and Tykie Shoemaker; great-grandchildren, McKenzi Shoemaker and Tucker Staton.

Edythe Engel Nesmith passed away on October 6, 2017, in her home at Decatur House in Sandwich, MA. She was born to Paul and Frieda Engel in Hanceville, Alabama, on December 15, 1926, and was raised in Cullman as one of six children. She was married to the late Jack Nesmith, of Cullman, from 1953 to 1985. Edythe traveled extensively throughout her life, but always considered Alabama to be her home. She moved to Cape Cod in 2009, to be with family, after living in Ohio, Egypt, and Tennessee, among other places. Edythe was known for her sharp wit and intellect, and a constant curiosity about the world and people around her. She deeply valued her Christian faith as well as education, putting herself through St. Bernard College as a young woman. She was an avid reader throughout her life, and possessed a sense of wonderment about the world that inspired her to continue learning until the day she died. Edythe is survived by her two daughters, Mary Faith and Edye Nesmith, her two granddaughters, Molly and Lucy Prothero, her sister, Betty Newman, of Montgomery, and much loved nieces, nephews, and cousins. Edythe was predeceased by her parents and her siblings: Alfred Engel and his wife Conradine, Lucille Lueck and her husband Bill, Helen Engwall and her husband Clarence, Margaret Plunkett and her husband Dorsey, and Betty Newman's husband, Frank. The family expresses its gratitude to Decatur House for providing such a loving home to Edythe for the last three years. A celebration of life service was held on October 10th at First Lutheran Church in West Barnstable, MA. The burial will take place at Cullman City Cemetery, on Saturday, November 4th, at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, Edythe's family requests donations for hurricane relief be made to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America at community.elca.org/hurricane-relief.

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Beginning Nov. 1, veterans get in free to all Alabama State Parks



ALAPARK.COM

Buck's Pocket State Park

Ala. Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources

MONTGOMERY – To show appreciation for their service, Alabama State Parks is implementing a new program that provides veterans with free admission to any state park, park facility or day use area that charges an entrance fee – including boat ramps and the Gulf State Park Pier. The Alabama State Parks: Parks for Patriots program will go into effect on Nov. 1, 2017.

"Our parks and public lands are places for reflection and serenity, and they stand as a tribute to those who have served our great nation," said Greg Lein, Alabama State Parks director.

"For years we have offered free state park admission to veterans on Veterans Day. Expanding that access year-round is the least we can do for those who have made our freedom possible."

Alabama has a long tradition of honoring veterans. Evolving from Armistice Day, which celebrated the end of World War I, the first national Veterans Day celebration occurred in Alabama in 1947. Veterans Day takes place each year on Nov. 11.

Additionally, several Alabama state parks were built with help from the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), which employed many World War I veterans during the Great Depression. Structures built by the CCC in the 1930s are still cornerstones of the Alabama State Parks system.

Parks for Patriots also includes a voluntary component that allows park visitors to provide free admission for veterans through sponsorship contributions. Contributions to the program will be accepted for any dollar amount and will be used only to fund free entry for veterans from any branch of the U.S. military.

There are three ways that you can make a sponsorship contribution to the Parks for Patriots program: online by visiting www.alapark.com; cash-only sponsorships can be made at any manned park gate; and cash or credit card sponsorships can be made at most point-of-sale cash registers in park offices, restaurants, camp stores and golf shops.

Your sponsorship contribution will be utilized at the park in which it was made. For those making contributions online, the sponsorship can be assigned to the park of your choice.

The Parks for Patriots program applies to entry fees only.

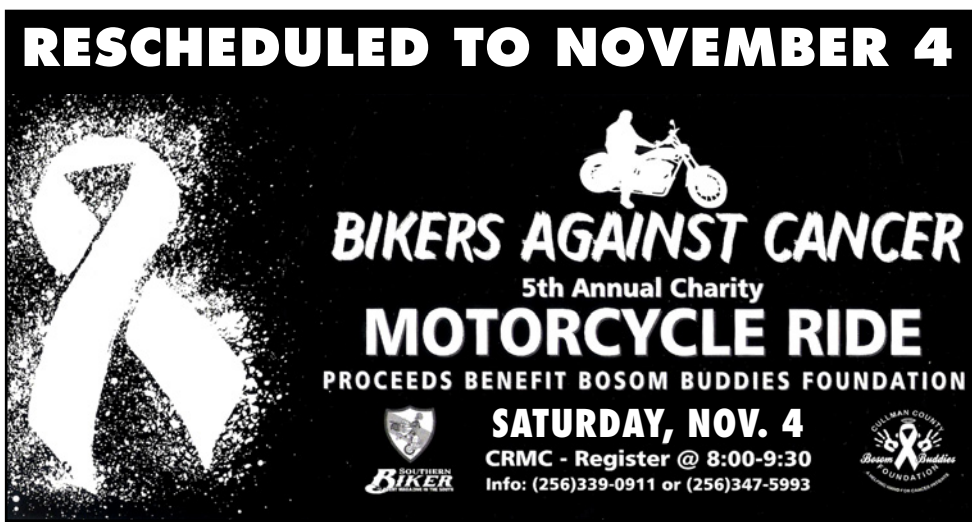
Park concessions and other fee-based outdoor adventures within the parks are not covered by the new program.

"I am so thankful for all of our veterans and I am glad we can offer them free admission to our state parks," said Chris Blankenship, commissioner of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

"As Veterans Day approaches, we urge all Alabamians to consider sponsoring our veterans by contributing to this new program. It's just one of the ways we can all show our gratitude for their selfless service to the country."

To learn more about the Parks for Patriots program, visit www.alapark.com/Parks-for-Patriots-Veterans-Program.

The Alabama State Parks Division relies on visitor fees and the support of other partners like local communities to fund the majority of their operations. To learn more about Alabama State Parks, visit www.alapark.com.





Pet of the Week: help Buddy find his forever home

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – The Cullman County Animal Shelter's Ryan Whisenhunt introduces us to our Pet of the Week, Buddy.

"Hello, I am Buddy and I am available for adoption at the Cullman County Animal Shelter. I am about 3 years old. I weigh approximately 45 pounds and I am friendly. I would be a great dog for someone or a family.

"My adoption fee is $90 and that includes the following: 5-in-1 vaccine, Rabies vaccine, the worm medication administered to me at the animal shelter, a 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 the Cullman Pet Depot (you must pay sales tax)." The Cullman County Animal Shelter is located at 935 Convent Road NE. Contact the shelter at 256-734-5448 or cullmananimalshelter@co.cullman.al.us.



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