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Big tree, big crowd

Christmas in Cullman blasts expectations



PHOTOS COURTESY W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The 41-foot-tall Christmas tree was a sight to behold, especially after the "snow" began to drift down from its top.

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – It was a night to remember in downtown Cullman Friday, as the city rolled out its holiday best for "Christmas in Cullman." A parade ran down First Avenue from the Busy Bee Cafe through the Warehouse District, and on to Depot Park. Included were numerous local businesses, churches and ministries, elected officials and candidates, city and county agencies, and the marching bands from Holly Pond and Hanceville High schools.

Once the parade reached Depot Park, visitors packed the space, walking among giant light displays, listening to and singing along with Cullman's own Round 2, enjoying pony rides and inflatables for the kids, listening to City Council President Garlan Gudger read the Nativity story from the Gospel of Luke, and counting down with Miss Hannah Jacobs to the lighting of the city's biggest Christmas tree to date. After the tree was lit, visitors even got to play in "snow" at its base.



A small boy shares an awe-struck moment with Santa Friday night at Depot Park.

Cullman Parks and Recreation put on Christmas in Cullman, and CP&R Director » PAGE 5

Sheriff's office gearing up for annual rodeo, Dec. 7-9



» PAGE 5

W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Sheriff Matt Gentry talks about the rodeo. This year's saddle, which will be raffled Saturday night, may be viewed at the Cullman County Courthouse.

Weekend holiday happenings

CULLMAN – Below is a list of Christmas events for you to enjoy this weekend. For more details, visit www.CullmanTribune.com/calendar.
(Some text provided by individual event organizers)

Saturday, Dec. 2
Holly Market, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Cullman Civic Center
Cullman Parks & Recreation Holly Market continues Dec. 2 at the Cullman Civic Center. The event features "some of the best handmade items around!"

Fridays and Saturdays, though Dec. 22
Santa Claus at Dodge City Park, 6-8 p.m.
Santa Claus will be at Dodge City Park Friday and Saturday nights through Dec. 22, from 6-8 p.m.
Bring the kids by for hot chocolate and cookies with Santa, while enjoying the lights.

Through Sunday, Dec. 31
15th Annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display, 5 p.m. at Sportsman Lake Park
The 15th annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display at Sportsman Lake Park will take place from now through Dec. 31*. The cost is $10 per vehicle. This year's display will have a sleigh ride, train ride, horse and carriage rides, a » PAGE 6

EDUCATION SPOTLIGHT

Cullman Middle School FFA

Nick Griffin
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – It has been a busy year for the Cullman Middle School chapter of the Future Farmers of America (FFA) and it culminated at the National FFA Convention Oct. 24-27 in Indianapolis. CMS' chapter was one of just 23 Alabama schools out of 255 that was invited to this year's convention after winning a Gold Level Chapter Award at the state convention in June.

The chapter's sponsor, Lucas McCollum, said he is very proud of his team's performance especially considering who they were up against. "We received the gold level rating, which is the highest you can get, and I believe we were the only middle school in the competition so we're usually competing against high school chapters," McCollum said. "At the National Convention, as one of the 23 schools from the state of Alabama, we received a two-star rating out of three. There was only one school that finished with three » PAGE 5



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman Middle School's Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter was one of just 23 in the state of Alabama to be invited to the National FFA Convention in October.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 2, 2017

Ahead of special election, Cullman GOP chair weighs in on Roy Moore

Cullman Democrats issue statement

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – With the special U.S. Senate election coming up fast (voters head to the polls Dec. 12), The Tribune contacted the local offices of both major parties for statements on the controversy surrounding Republican candidate Roy Moore, who has been accused by nine women of sexual misconduct. County Democrats chose not to engage in the controversy, issuing a simple statement supporting their candidate, Doug Jones; the Republican chairman chose to talk through the complex issue his party faces.

Cullman County Republican Party (CCRP) Chairman Waid Harbison continued to voice support for the embattled former judge based on the rule that the accused is considered innocent until proven guilty. He expressed skepticism about the accusations but was emphatic that, should those claims be proven, Moore must go. In the meantime, he maintained, Alabama's Republicans need to make sure they maintain their party's control of the contested Senate seat.

The big IF: If Moore really did it

Harbison said, "You know, this is what I've said all along, and I think everybody will agree with this: there's nothing right about the things that he's done. If he's truly done those things, then I would say he needs to step down.

"The national media has blown this up and made it sound like, if you're supporting Roy Moore, you're supporting a child molester, all of his actions, and everything like that. That's not necessarily true, at all, because we're not condoning any of those actions or saying they're okay, but they are just allegations at this point, and there's just not enough proof or evidence, really. And I know there's a bunch of stories and everything like that, but a lot of them are being discredited now.

Continuing to support Moore

"The Cullman County Republican Party, we're going to 100 percent stand behind him. The state party did the same thing. I'm a member of the state executive committee and, basically, the steering committee for the state talked about it. And there (were) a few people on that committee that wanted to replace him with somebody else on the ticket, but they polled all of the county parties, and of course Cullman County said we want to support Roy Moore.

"A couple of reasons why: to me, the people voted in the primary, so I think it would be wrong and really cut us off from our base of people, because they voted for him in a primary. He won fair and square. A lot of money was spent in that primary, a lot went into that. It's been a whole year for the election. It cost a lot of money to have that special election. The people have voted; they've decided, and I think we have to stand by what they've said.

"And the other thing I think about this, too, is Mitch McConnell and the people in Washington are trying to tell us--I feel--in Alabama how to vote. I think the people of Alabama are smart enough to make their own decision about this, and if they think that these things are really true, then they're probably not going to vote for Roy Moore.

"But as more things are unravelling, as more things are coming out, I think it's looking more and more like a lot of these things are not true.

"A lot of them are probably set up, and I don't know exactly where they come from, but the state party basically decided to back Roy Moore, and I'm glad that they did that, because the Cullman County Republican Party--our stance when they called us--we basically said we want to support him, because the people voted for him in the primary and we don't want to go against the will of the people.

"If we can investigate this and find out after the election, and we send Roy Moore up there; there's a chance we could ask him to step down or resign, and put another Republican in that seat. Whereas, if Doug Jones is elected and goes up there, unfortunately we're not going to be able to do that.

"It doesn't matter how conservative or moderate people think Doug Jones might be. He's going to go side with Chuck Schumer and whatever they want, so it's going to be more Obamacare, or trying to stand in the way of this tax reform. They're going to be supporting abortion and gun control, anything that the national Democrats are doing, he's going to go and be in that caucus. He's going to support them, he's going to vote with them.

"I think people need to step back and realize how important that is, because even if Doug Jones is in this position for another couple of years before we have another election, that could be detrimental, especially with the Senate as tight as it is right now, because you have 52 Republicans and 48 Democrats. The problem is there's about three or four Republicans that have stood in the way of a lot of Republican legislation that Donald Trump's trying to pass. So we haven't repealed health care, we haven't done anything with the border wall, or anything like that.

"The people of Alabama just voted for (Trump), and they want his principles, his package, what he was selling, what he was doing. They want the border wall. They want health care repealed, and the Senate hasn't been able to do that. So if we send one more Democrat to the Senate for Alabama, you're talking about an even narrower gap.

"From the Cullman County Republican Party, we just want people to think about what the candidates stand for, what are they going to go up there and actually represent and vote for, and how are they going to do that right now.

"Again, we're not condoning any actions of anything Roy Moore's done. If any of that's true, it's wrong, it's bad, it's not good, and we don't want it.

I've heard other county party chairmen on the news media say things like 'We don't care; it doesn't matter.' It does matter. It's not okay, because he's lived a life like an upstanding Christian. So I think that negates everything he's done for 40 years in public office, if he's done all these things in the past and he's had all these ties to these people. I really don't think that they're true, but if there's any truth to them, I think that he would need to step down, for sure. But at this point in time the Cullman County Republican Party's a hundred percent behind him."

The Cullman County Democrats issued the following statement:

"We have no comment regarding the allegations made toward Roy Moore but will say that we stand firm in our belief that Roy Moore is not qualified for the office of U.S. Senate based on platform issues made long before any allegations were brought to light.

"We are focused on getting out the vote: organize, vote, win. Today, November 27, 2017, is the last day to register to vote in the special election December 12, 2017. We encourage those that are not registered to do so today. As you choose your candidates, we ask that you look for qualities that represent us as a whole such as honor, integrity, civility. We see these qualities in Doug Jones.

"If you are concerned about the future of your healthcare, fair coverage policies, non-biased coverage, and maintaining rural hospitals, VOTE Doug Jones.

"If you are a concerned taxpayer, VOTE Doug Jones.

"If you are concerned about your right to vote, the right to earn a living wage, justice for all, not just the privileged few, VOTE for Doug Jones.

"We have an opportunity to elect a good man to represent Alabama in the U.S. Senate. Volunteer! Let's not lose this one for the sake of our citizens, our state and our nation. Elect Doug Jones for U.S. Senate on December 12, 2017."

Moore and Jones will face off on Dec. 12 in the special election to fill the remainder of U.S. Attorney Gen. Jeff Sessions' Senate term. Sen. Luther Strange was appointed to the seat in February by former Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley, after Sessions was appointed to his current position by U.S. President Trump. Moore defeated Strange in the special election primary runoff in September.

Former Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Moore, who is known nationally as the "10 Commandments Judge," was removed from office twice, once for refusing to remove a 10 Commandments monument from the state's Judicial Building (2003) and once for advising probate judges to ignore the U.S. Supreme Court's order supporting same-sex marriage (2016). Moore beat Strange handily, by 20 percent, in September's run-off election.

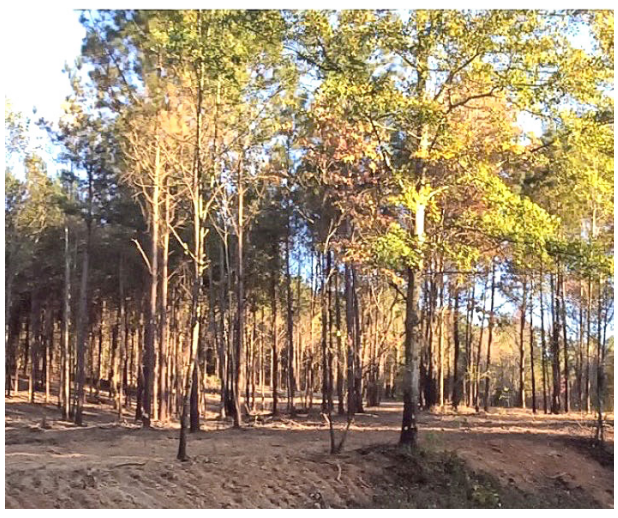
Jones is a lawyer and former U.S. attorney, based in Jefferson County. An advocate for education, healthcare and LGBTQ rights, he is best known for his successful 2001 prosecution of two perpetrators of the 1963 16th Street Baptist Church bombing in Birmingham.

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Premier Bank celebrates 30 years of business

Nick Griffin
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – Premier Bank of the South celebrated its 30th anniversary Tuesday morning with a ribbon-cutting event, and the building at 101 First Ave. NW was full of people there to join in. President and Chief Executive Officer Jay Mullins, a founding member of the bank in 1987, has been a big part of the business ever since. He gave credit for the bank's success to both the employees and the people they serve.

"The great people that we have working here is one of the big reasons for our success, along with our distinguished and loyal customers," Mullins said.

"We thank each and every one of them for bringing us along, and my personal hope is that they can help us be successful for another 30 years."

The Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce was on hand as well, and President and CEO Leah Bolin presented a certificate to Mullins in honor of the bank's 30 years.

"We just want to give a big congratulation to everyone here; you've been doing it a long time, and 30 years in business is a big milestone," said Bolin.

"It has been recognized statewide that your employees love to work here and that says a lot about your bank and what you stand for.

"We appreciate what you do for the community and what the next generation will continue to do, so in 30 years let's do this again."

Bolin said she always enjoys these types of events and is happy that the Chamber can celebrate success with local businesses.

"These are fun events; this is one of my favorite parts of my job because with a ribbon-cutting event you're either celebrating the opening of a business or the success of a business," she smiled.

"Both of those are great celebrations and it's fun to do things like this because 30 years ago they started this business and have been a part of the community and this is a great milestone."

Mullins said he owes a lot of the bank's success to the philosophy the founders began with in 1987, saying it has carried the bank to where it is today.

"When we first started we really felt like we could be successful because what we wanted our culture to be was taking care of your customer," Mullins shared.

"That's what has made us successful. It's not only our loyal customers, but truly our competent, friendly staff that gives you personal treatment."

He continued, "When you walk in the door someone looks you in the eye and says hello. If you're a customer they're going to quickly learn your name and when you walk in the door they'll know you and smile at you.

"That's the culture that we started with and we want to continue it, and no matter how big we get I hope we always have that culture in place. We want you to be treated the way you expect to be treated. It's simple but it has served us well for the last 30 years and hopefully for the next 30."



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Premier Bank President and CEO, Jay Mullins (left) with Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce President and CEO, Leah Bolin (right) at Thursday's 30th anniversary celebration

Tribune Files from Yesteryear

From The Files Of 1959

Hanceville Club Meets

The Hanceville 4-H Club met on Monday, October 26th, in the club room at Hanceville School. Everette Chandler, assistant county agent, met with the group. Officers for the club year 1959 were elected. They are: president, Maurice Blalock; vice-president, Doyle West; secretary, Ronald Pender; song leaders, David McAnnally and Mickey Stanley and reporter, Dwight Blalock.

Aged Man Dies

Funeral services were held on November 3rd at Bell Springs for James Mathes McReath, 95, of Falkville, who died at his home on November 1st. Reverend Peppers conducted the services and Moss Service directed interment in the adjoining cemetery. Pallbearers were grandsons.

Survivors are his wife, Ola McReath; three daughters, Mrs. Allie Sullins, Mrs. Oneal Downs, of Falkville and Mrs. Virgil Roberts, of Birmingham; three sons, Don and Fred, of Falkville and Loyd, of Vinemont; one brother, J.W. McReath; twenty grandchildren; thirty- eight great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

Cullman FHA Meets

The Cullman FHA Chapter met recently with Carol Noneaker presiding. Members and officers repeated the opening ritual.

The officers explained the FHA emblem, flower, motto, colors and symbols for degree of achievement. It was decided that one of the projects to be carried out is, "Friends At Home." The club will participate in this project by sending money and clothing to deaf and blind girls enrolled at the Alabama Institute.

Members of the Cullman FHA Chapter are: Elvia Brewer, Sandra Burnham, Faye Campbell, Betty Sue Creel, Betty Crossno, Rebecca Slunn, Patricia Entrekin, Janice Fuller, Eloise Gay, Rose Gillon, Jady Glasscock, Kathy Gossett, Glenda Graham, Brenda Hames, Mildred Hicks, Sandra Hill, Ann Hite, Helen Hite, Edith Hestson, Betty Kilgo, Evelyn Leigeber, Betty Lewis, Patricia Marty, Geree Mitchell, Rachel Nix, Panice Price, Ann Persall, Margaret Pruitt, Polly Reaid, Judy Rodgers, Wanda Scott, Janice Taylor, Carolyn Williams, Margaret Yates and Glenda England.

Garden City News

Reverend and Mrs. A.B. Harris and Marhamae, of Trenton, Tennessee, visited friends here on Tuesday. Reverend Harris also attended the East Cullman Baptist Association at Hanceville.

Mr. and Mrs. J.G. Nelson, of Birmingham, were Tuesday guests of Mr. and Mrs. F.W. Shaver, Senior.

Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Shaver spent Sunday with their daughter, Mrs. Aubrey Willis and family, in Birmingham.

Mr. and Mrs. B.D. McKenzie were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. W.M. Cost, in Hartselle.

Lesley Hudson and Edgar Earl Edwards were home from the University of Alabama for the weekend with their parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Dickie Garner and Tim, of Birmingham, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Chappell.

Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Lesley and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hunter and baby, of Sylacauga, were Saturday guests of Mrs. Cora Lesley and Mrs. Eula B. Kinser.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Hallmark, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hallmark and son, of Birmingham, were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Fanning.

Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Tinpenney and children, of Birmingham, visited Mr. and Mrs. Gorden Latham, on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Karry Hanks and Mr. and Mrs. Hilburn Black were visitors in Pulaski, Tennessee, on Sunday.

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

My family and I found a great place to stay for the holidays



Bill King
Tribune Contributor

In recent years, my family has enjoyed traveling during the holidays. A couple of years ago, we spent Thanksgiving in Washington, D.C. We had hoped for a white Thanksgiving. Instead we walked the mall and viewed the monuments in our shirt sleeves. We had our Thanksgiving meal at Lincoln's Restaurant. It was a great meal, except they served turkey and stuffing, made from loaf bread, rather than turkey and dressing, made from cornbread. A few years back we brought in the New Year on Mexico Beach, in Florida. That was a white (beach) New Year. Last year, we spent Christmas in the Smokies. We had a good time, but the condo had not been decorated for Christmas and the weather was unseasonably warm. It really didn't have that Christmas feel.

In our early years of marriage, Jean and I took turns going to school. For our first three years, I was in college at Samford University in Birmingham. The only place we could afford to travel for holidays was home to northeast Alabama.

For the next two and a half years, I was in seminary in New Orleans. We usually scraped together enough gas money to make the eight hour trip back home for holidays, except for one Thanksgiving. Do you remember Howard Johnson's? That Thanksgiving, we managed to find enough funds to walk across the street to have turkey and dressing at Ho Jo's Restaurant.

This year, we spent the long Thanksgiving weekend at a wonderful Bed and Breakfast type place. It was beautifully decorated for Christmas already.

Unlike the condo in Pigeon Forge, this place had a Christmas tree in almost every room.

The food was absolutely wonderful. Thanksgiving morning the chef baked up delicious cranberry walnut scones and thick-sliced bacon.

This place not only served breakfast but all three meals on most days. Snacks were available all weekend, including homemade fudge brownies and fresh roasted peanuts in the shell. For Thanksgiving lunch, we had turkey and dressing (not stuffing), cranberry salad, sweet potatoes, green bean casserole and pear salad. Fresh baked apple pie and coffee was served for dessert. After lunch, we went out on the lawn for a friendly game of family football – two hand tag, of course.

This was my first physical activity since my surgery. Shortly after the game, I realized this might not have been a wise idea. I'm not sure if that was because of my recent health issues, or my not so recent football playing. For supper we had the same thing as lunch. I have to confess, I am in love with the main chef of this place and not simply because of her food.

All of her meals were not as elaborate as on Thanksgiving, but they were all good. For the Iron Bowl, we watched the game on the big screen in the television room, where giant nutcrackers greeted us at the top of the stairs.

The chef did not serve breakfast that morning but sent out for biscuits from Jack's. She served bowls of piping hot homemade potato soup for lunch.

We enjoyed staying at this place so much that we are planning to stay there for Christmas this year too. Oh, you want to know the name of the place? Well, you could call it The King's Inn, but these Kings just call it home. We do still love to travel, but I have to agree with Dorothy, there is no place like home. Wherever we are, I agree with the one who said, "Home is not these four walls. Home is wherever we are together."

Bill King can be reached at bkpreach@yahoo.com or 334-745-0588 (office) or 334-728-5514 (cell).

Poet's Corner

Thank You

By: Brother Randy Burtram

Snead,Alabama

Lord: I thank you for a blue sky

and the morning sun.

Thank you for forgiveness for all the

things against you I have done; For

your love that warms my heart

That is full and comprehensive and not in part;

For the eyes of Jesus when I can't see

And his blessed hands that have never failed to

help me. So as I meditate and your name I Bless,

I will step into this sin cursed world

draped in your loving kindness.

EDUCATION

ACOE hosts legislative education forum in Cullman

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – On Thursday evening, representatives of the Alabama Conference of Educators (ACOE) visited Cullman to host an education forum at the Cullman County Board of Education. State Sen. Paul Bussman, R-Cullman, Rep. Corey Harbison, R-Good Hope and Randall Shedd, Fairview offered answers to questions prepared by the organization.

ACOE is a professional organization for Alabama teachers and support staff, established in 2001 by Alabama teachers as an option to established groups like the Alabama Education Association (AEA). It offers its members several benefits, most notably legal assistance and a $1 million liability policy.

ACOE Executive Director Terry Slone explained the evening's event: "We're here tonight because it's important that educators be involved in legislation, know what bills are being proposed that affect education, be able to speak with their representatives; so this is an effort to bring the educators and the legislators together for a dialog of what's coming up in the next legislative session, and also to let our members express to their legislators the items of importance to them."

Educator salaries and premium increases in the Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Plan (PEEHIP)
The most recent teachers' pay raise was, according to ACOE, offset by an increase in PEEHIP premiums that resulted in no net increase on educators' paychecks, resulting in a lawsuit. The legislators were asked to address the funding of PEEHIP.

Bussman responded that the legislature has always paid whatever PEEHIP requested, and that it was PEEHIP's after-the-fact decision to raise premiums beyond what it had requested. He referred to the move as a "cheap shot," and said that he would work to continue funding whatever the program requests. He also expressed concern about the possibility that PEEHIP's move was conducted illegally behind closed doors, saying that if official business was conducted in secret, "there should be some consequences for that."

Harbison concurred with Bussman, adding that the benefits of all state and local government employees should be protected, as those benefits are often the most attractive draw of jobs.

"We know it's definitely not for the pay," he noted.

Shedd also agreed that full funding of education should be a legislative priority, and noted that healthcare is a "mess" at all levels at present.

The possible conversion of employee retirement plans to a 401k-type plan
All three legislators emphatically stated opposition to changes to the system, pointing out that such a plan would affect all employees in the state whose retirement plans are through Retirement Systems of Alabama (RSA).

Shedd, who led a fight against such a plan in a recent session, said, "Rest assured: if this comes up again, I will drop whatever I'm doing. I will lead the effort, or I will push from behind, either one, whatever it takes to protect the retirement system."

Bussman cautioned that RSA has made some bad choices in its investments in previous years, and that, as the legislature needs to protect RSA, the retirement system needs to protect its clients' retirement funds through wise investment choices.

Will there be a pay raise for educators on the table in the next legislative session?
Shedd said that discussions about raises are underway, though amounts have not been determined. He offered that he would work toward the highest raise possible, saying, "In Montgomery, legislation is no different than trying to trade cars: you just try to get the best deal you can get." Bussman stated that senators are also talking about teacher raises, but was also unwilling to speculate on amounts; he did, though, say that he would support a plan that fixed last year's PEEHIP problem.

He also took time to comment on chaotic conditions at the Alabama State Department of Education, stating the department is "completely out of control. They have no idea what they're doing." He spoke about a goal of moving money from the state level down into local school systems to circumvent the problems in Montgomery.

Harbison said that decreases in pay due to benefits issues are unacceptable, and supported raises, but called for caution in raises, noting that overextension in one year could lead to cutbacks and layoffs in the next.

Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP)
This plan, previously dropped, is up for renewed consideration in AL SB2 and AL HB1 in the upcoming session. Bussman immediately voiced opposition, noting that the previous plan had been open to too much abuse.

He said he might consider a version of the plan for teachers, as long as abuse of the system could be kept in check. Harbison agreed with the senator, expressing concern that something like the old plan could bankrupt RSA. Shedd spoke positively about his personal knowledge of the author of the House version of the bill, and noted that RSA has shown support for the new plan. His tone remained cautionary, though.

A bill to increase the required length of notice before a teacher resignation



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Sen. Paul Bussman and Reps. Corey Harbison and Randall Shedd await questions from ACOE representative Cathy Fine at a meeting on Thursday evening, Nov. 30, 2017, in Cullman.

Alabama teachers are currently required to give only five days' notice of their resignation, if they leave during the school year. A bill coming up in the 2018 session would extend that requirement to 30 days. All three legislators admitted to not being familiar with the bill, but opposed the idea, at least on its surface.

Harbison summed up their shared opinion: "If they don't want to be there, I don't think we want them there."

Shedd said that they would have to look further into the bill before making a final decision about it.

A proposed one-time $400 lump sum payment to all retired educators
All three legislators voiced support for the idea. Shedd noted past problems with cost of living adjustments, but said he would support anything the legislature could do to help retirees.

A proposed bill to shorten educational job postings from 14 days to seven days
Bussman said that he would need to talk to the bill's author, Sen. Dick Brewbaker, R-Montgomery, to find out the reasons for the proposal before making a decision on the issue. He did say that Brewbaker was a strong supporter of education who usually had good reasons for his proposals. Harbison said that he could support such a plan, and Shedd expressed confidence in the author of the House version of the bill, Rep. Isaac Whorton, R-Valley.

A proposed bill to extend National Board Certification type stipends to speech pathology specialists
The state board of education offers $5,000 stipends to teachers seeking optional National Board Certification, but not to speech pathologists. who are required to get advanced degrees and certifications.

The legislators said they would need to look into why speech pathologists have been excluded from such stipends, but said that benefits extended to certain teachers should be extended to all.

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Rodeo (from Front)

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – It's really not a Christmas event, but it still helps make this the "most wonderful time of the year" for a lot of folks. The Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) Jimmy Arrington Memorial Rodeo is coming back to the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center Friday and Saturday, Dec. 8 and 9, with the popular mini rodeo for people with special needs on the morning of Thursday, Dec. 7. More than 3,000 spectators are anticipated on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Begun in 1998, the Sheriff's Rodeo is the office's primary fundraising event, providing money for deputies' ballistic vests and department computers, as well as community events including the Citizens' Academy, firearms safety classes and self-defense classes. Proceeds also fund a scholarship at Wallace State for students pursuing careers in law enforcement.

Additionally, rodeo funds allow substantial contributions to be made to local schools.

On Oct. 5, Sheriff Matt Gentry and the Rodeo Committee donated $15,500 from the proceeds of the 2016 rodeo to Cullman County Schools Superintendent Shane Barnette and Cullman City Schools Superintendent Dr. Susan Patterson, to be divided among the 31 area schools that serve special needs children.

Gentry shared, "Our rodeo is kind of a year-long project for us, getting it organized and getting everything in place. Next week will be a week-long process for us, to get ready for the rodeo, which is a three-day event.

"We start on Thursday with the special needs rodeo. We're looking at having about 1,300 kids this year, and then we'll probably have another 500 people that are volunteers or helping with the special needs rodeo. We'll have a mini rodeo for the kids, and then we'll do our stick horse races, roping and our hay rides.

"Our regular rodeo is Friday and Saturday night. 4L and Diamond S are our stock contractors. Adam Gibbs, who is a local announcer, will be one of the announcers for the rodeo, and Adam does a great job."

The Friday-Saturday pro rodeo is a sanctioned event that officially kicks off the Professional Cowboy Association (PCA) 2018 rodeo season, and competitors can get points toward their overall standing. It's a big deal on the circuit, but in Cullman there's a bigger deal for the sheriff.

"The big thing about it for me," said Gentry, "number one is that special needs rodeo. If you can attend the special needs rodeo, I'll tell you what--it's life-changing to see, bringing happiness to that many children. And that's important for me and all the deputies here.

"Friday and Saturday night's a way to bring all the citizens in Cullman County and all the deputies together in one event, for just good wholesome fun, so that we can be together with our families and have laughter, and just share a good experience."

On Saturday night, the CCSO will raffle off the following items:

- Custom, handmade saddle valued at $1,600
- Stoeger 3500 12-gauge shotgun in Realtree camouflage, which typically sells for around $700
- Thompson Center Venture Predator .308 bolt action rifle in Realtree camouflage, which typically sells for around $475

The CCSO also received a pair of custom .45 Glocks from the Donald Reese family. Each is unique, but both share such features as compensated barrels, extended magazine releases, flared magazine well ports and electronic optics. Both will be auctioned at the rodeo sponsors' dinner Thursday evening.

When his family presented the prizes in October, Reese said, "We thank the sheriff's department for everything they do, and we really appreciate what they do for the special needs children in this county."

Gentry concluded, "It's just good, clean fun for families here, and that's our goal with it. Our goal is to bring the community and the Cullman County Sheriff's Office together, and enjoy an event like the rodeo. We look forward to seeing everyone come to the rodeo, and we want all of our citizens to come that can come. And I just can't thank all the deputies enough that put all their heart and soul into making this a successful event. Our deputies and the ones that run the rodeo care about it, they love it, they love what it does for the community. I can't commend them enough."

At a glance
Cullman County Sheriff's Office Jimmy Arrington Memorial Rodeo

- Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center, 17645 U.S. Highway 31 N
- Special needs mini rodeo Thursday, Dec. 7, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- PCA pro rodeo Friday and Saturday, Dec. 8-9, gates open at 5:30
- Advance tickets: $10 adults, $8 students 6-18; available at the CCSO, Jack's Western Wear and Traditions Bank
- For more information, contact the CCSO at 256-734-0342.

FFA (from Front)

stars, so two stars is really good and that just shows how active we are as a chapter, especially as a middle school."

McCollum is excited to see some growing interest in the FFA chapter as it becomes more and more competitive. He has clear goals in mind for where he wants the chapter to be and wants kids to continue to join and improve the team.

"I really want to try and get the word out so that everyone in the community can see what we're doing and get recognition for the kids. If we can get some more information out to the community that will really help our chapter. We have a goal now; our goal as a chapter is to again submit our application for a National Chapter Award, receive our gold level rating and aim for a three-star rating at next year's National Convention. We've been doing well in the Quiz Bowl. We're still trying to get that elusive first-place state banner on our ceiling, we just haven't gotten over that hump yet, but we're going to get there."

The star ratings given at the convention are based on a chapter's year-round activities. A committee scores their performances from state conventions, leadership conferences, Quiz Bowls, land judging competitions, forestry judging, FFA cookouts, poultry judging, horse evaluations, community service projects and more.

McCollum said he has really seen his group of kids grow in the program throughout the year and develop their talents, as well as draw student interest in the CMS chapter.

"At the beginning of the year, some of the kids aren't really sure what they're getting into, but the more they see of what we do, the more they want to get involved. That's motivation for me too, whenever they decide they want to do something I'm ready to start getting it planned and the interest has definitely grown. When we get back from these conventions and competitions, the kids always want to know how we did. Kids have started asking about the National Convention next year because now they want to go. We want to include everybody that wants to be part of it."

The Cullman Middle School FFA chapter has wrapped up a strong year, but McCollum and his students are already looking ahead to National FFA Week in February to start off even stronger in 2018.

Christmas (from Front)

Nathan Anderson seemed almost awestruck at the success of the event. His word for the evening was "amazing."

"Man, what an amazing night," exclaimed Anderson. "It's a special night that I think all of us will remember for a long time.

"We've got an amazing 41-foot-tall Christmas tree that blows snow out of the top of it. We just lit the tree, and thousands of people are gathered around it, singing Christmas carols and having a great time!"

When asked how many visitors CP&R had anticipated for the event, Anderson replied, "Well, not this many! We had high expectations for the crowd, based off of last year, but it is truly amazing how many people came this year for this event, for the parade and for the tree lighting.

"We have an amazing team in the city. This is an amazing group effort to put this thing on, from the parade to the tree lighting ceremony. We had great citizen involvement. We are truly blessed in Cullman with a great, amazing team. We come together to do things that are special, just like this."

Christmas festivities continue around town Saturday, including the Cullman County Christmas Parade at noon in Hanceville.









Obituary Announcements: Dec. 2-3

Funeral services with military honors for Warren McPhillips Sr. will be at 10 a.m. December 2, 2017, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, with interment in Sacred Heart Cemetery. Pallbearers for Mr. McPhillips will be his grandsons: Weir Alexander, Philip Hancock, John McPhillips, Jr., Jay McPhillips, Joseph McPhillips, Tripp Otis and Marshall Alexander (Honorary). Moss Service Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. McPhillips died Nov. 26, after a brief illness. He was born March 9, 1923, in Mobile, Ala., to Julian Byrnes and Lilybel McGowin McPhillips. After attending, Tulane University in New Orleans, Mr. McPhillips joined the U.S. Navy and successfully completed his fighter pilot training at the Pensacola Naval Air Station. He was then immediately deployed to the Pacific region and flew missions from an aircraft carrier during World War II. After two tours of duty in the Pacific, Mr. McPhillips was honorably discharged with the rank of First Lieutenant. Following his discharge, Mr. McPhillips joined the family business, King Pharr Canning Operations, in Selma, Ala. Mr. McPhillips and his family moved from Selma to Cullman in 1957, where he served as president of King Pharr Canning Operations for over 25 years. King Pharr operated six plants in the southeast. Mr. McPhillips was a hard working successful businessman and his family business contributed to the Cullman economy for many decades with 200 employees and over 1,000 employees, companywide. Mr. McPhillips also served as president of the Georgia Canners Association. He was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church and a board member of Saint Bernard College. Mr. McPhillips was an avid golfer and played three times a week until very recently and, as all older golfers do, he took great pride in the fact that he was able to shoot his age since he was 70. Mr. McPhillips was preceded in death by his wife, Sarah Frances Ledbetter McPhillips; and daughter, Frances McPhillips Brownlee. Survivors include two sons, Warren McPhillips Jr. (Susan) of Roswell, Ga., and John McPhillips (Linda) of Cullman; three daughters, Libby McPhillips of Scottsdale, Ariz., Mary Morrow McPhillips of Birmingham and Emily McPhillips Otis (Alan) of Mt. Olive, Ala.; son-in-law, Bob Brownlee of Lemont, Ill.; 15 grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the ARC of Jefferson County (Association of Retarded Children) 6001 Crestwood Blvd., Birmingham, AL 35212.

Funeral Service for our beloved father, Othell Raney, will be on Saturday, December 2, 2017 at 1 p.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Rev. James Fields officiating. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. before the Funeral Service. Burial will be at Bethsadia Cemetery. Othell passed away Thursday, November 30, 2017. He was a husband, father, grandfather, friend, brother, teacher, and was loved by many. Othell was a retired instructor of Auto Body Repair at Wallace State in Hanceville. When Wallace State began in 1966, Othell was on the first faculty. He retired in 1991 after twenty-five years and hundreds of students. Othell was born in Cullman County on February 25, 1936, to Hubert and Lois Raney. Othell's interests were varied. He loved cars, bird watching, his cats, NASCAR, Alabama football, his wife and kids, grandkids and his great grand kids. One of his greatest loves was his God. Othell and Jeanell, his wife, were members of St. Andrews Methodist Church. He was a graduate of Cullman High School, attended Calhoun Community College and graduated from Athens State College with a B.S. in Education. Othell was preceded in death by his parents and his in-laws Cordie and Bertie Tubbs. Survivors include his wife of sixty-two years, Jeanell Tubbs Raney, his brother, Gordon (Billie) Raney, his son Michael (Donna) Raney, his daughter; Melanie (Michael) Hagemann, his granddaughters; Kelley Raney, Leslie Raney, and Stephanie (Jason) Phillips, and his great grandchildren; Camden, Cullen, and Cohen Phillips. Also survived by his sister-in-law, Jo Burrow and her husband Jerry and their three children; Beth (Julian) Tune, Susan (Jim) Baker, and Jonathan Burrow. Also his brother's children, Lyn Knox and Jill (Roger) Clemons along with a Host of family and friends. In lieu of flowers a donation may be made to your Church or favorite charity.

Former Muncie, Indiana resident, Rosalind Bernice Gill Blocher Casey, 94, passed away unexpectedly at Folsom Center in Cullman, Alabama. She was born in Muncie, Indiana, June 10, 1923 the daughter of the late Beatrice and Ralph Gill. She attended Lincoln, Wilson schools and graduated from Munice Central in 1941. In 1942 she married Emmett S. Blocher, they had two children, Carol Ann and Emmett, Jr. The family moved to Cullman in 1961, where Emmett was affiliated with Cullman Products, he passed away July 15, 1980. Rosalind has been active in Beta Sigma Phi sorority and was a member of St. Andrews Methodist Church. She also worked several years at the State House in Montgomery, in the Treasury Department. Surviving are her son Emmett, Jr., wife Marcia of Cullman, and son-in-law Jerry Delk of Paris, Tennessee; three grandchildren, Natalie Blocher of Cullman, Corey Delk Ricardi (Doug) of Largo, Florida, and Cobey Delk of Nashville, Tennessee; six great-grandchildren, Matthew, Meredith and Marshall Ricardi, Desmond and Ava Cox, Riley Delk, her foreign exchange student (son) from 1966 from Italy and now Cullman, Morris Maurizi; her sister, Bonnie Gill-Green and sister-in-law, Pearl Gill of Muncie, Indiana. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m., Saturday, December 2, 2017 at Elmridge Funeral Home in Munice, Indiana with burial in Elmridge Cemetery.

Funeral Service for Mrs. Vivian Graham, age 93 of Vinemont, will be at 2 p.m. on Sunday, December 03, 2017 at Ebenezer Baptist Church. She will Lie in State from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. prior to the service. Burial will be at Ebenezer Baptist Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Graham peacefully passed away on Thursday, November 30, 2017 at her residence. She was born on May 28, 1924 to her parents, Lecil and Ethel Hutson. She is preceded in death by her parents, husbands; T.K. Speegle and Marvin Graham, son, Charles Speegle, grandson, Ricky Reaves, three brothers, two sisters, and, step-daughter, Mildred Jones. Survivors include her daughters; Margaret (Don Fuller) New and Brenda Presnell, sons; James (Mimi) Graham and Jerry (Lynn) Graham, grandchildren; Dion (Melody) Speegle, Heath (Tammy) Speegle, Sherry (Andy) Brazelton, Donald (Amy) Milne, Scotty (Jennifer) Graham, Ricky (Kris) Timney, Debbie Timney, Phoebe Graham, Melody (Dion) Speegle, Marla (Scott) Sanders, Misty Kennedy, Tracy (Jared) Roberts, and Jeremy (Taylor) Graham, twenty-one great grandchildren, two great great grandchildren, and sisters; Velma Jacobs, Mary Hughes, and Doris Briscoe. Visitation will be from 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Saturday, December 2, 2017 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home.

Betty Jane Williams Woods, 82, of Decatur, entered into rest on November 29, 2017 at River City Nursing Home. Mrs. Woods was born on January 20, 1935, in Vinemont, Alabama. Betty had a strong faith in her Heavenly Father. She had many friends and will be missed by all. Visitation will be held on Sunday, December 3, 2017 from 12 p.m. until 2 p.m. at Mt. Vernon FCM Church in Vinemont, where services will be held at 2 p.m. Brother Glenn McCain will officiate. Burial will follow in adjoining cemetery. Betty is survived by her sons, Almond "Al" Ray Woods, Bowman "Dale" Woods and wife Reba, Stephan "Steve" Copal Woods; daughter, Beverly Amanda Bricker and husband John D.; grandchildren, Heather, Bo, Alison, Rachel, and Joshua; great grandchildren, Kenzie, Mya, Haley, Livia, Devon and Hannah; step brother, Billy Ray Morgan and wife Rita. She was preceded in death by her husband, Almond Copal Woods, (they would have been married 67 years on December 2, 2017); father, Opal Williams; and mother, Stella Auzell Morgan.

Funeral Service for Mrs. Detra Monk, age 56 of Cullman, will be at 2 p.m. on Sunday, December 3, 2017 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Dr. Jim Hoover and Rev. Allen Kuykendall officiating. There will be a visitation from 1 p.m. until before the Funeral Service. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Cemetery in Cullman, AL. Pallbearers will include; Barrett Hoover, Travis Kress, Casey Smith, Cody Smith, Doug Moody, David Jones, Mark Wiesenhunt, and Rodney Carden. Alt. pallbearers; Todd Hardaman and David McCravy. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Monk passed away on Friday, December 1, 2017 at Cullman Regional Medical Center. She was born June 12, 1961 in Cullman, AL to Rev. Norman R. and Opal Smith. She is preceded in death by her father, Rev. Norman R. Smith, and grandparents; Dewey and Myrtis Miller Smith and Luther and Eva Mae Kuykendall. Survivors include her husband, Rev. Paul Monk, mother, Opal Smith, son, Austin (Tiffany) Monk, brother, Keith (Skeeter) Smith, nieces and nephews; Casey (April) Smith, Cody Smith, Emily Smith, Stacy (Daniel) McCabe, and Matthew (Mary) Monk. Visitation will be from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Saturday, December 2, 2017 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Gideons International or Hospice of Cullman County.

Jimmie Edward "Jim" England, 63 of Houston, entered into rest on Thursday, November 30, 2017 in Houston. Jim was born on July 25, 1954 in Moreland, Alabama. Jim graduated from Addison High School in 1972. He worked at Cavalier Homes for 28 years as a tool man. Jim enjoyed to hunt, fish, and ride his motorcycle. He loved spoiling his grandchildren. Visitation will be held on Sunday, December 3, 2017 from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. at New Home Baptist Church in Moreland, where services will be held on Monday at 2 p.m. Brother Jeff Burleson and Brother Chris Riddle will officiate. Burial will be at Pine Torch Cemetery, Lawrence County. Jim is survived by his sons, Jimmy Dale England, Joseph England; brothers, Tommy England and wife Barb, Roy England; he was "Paw Paw" to 2 grandchildren Brooklyn Grace "Brook Brook" England, Jimmy Mac "Mac" Cordell England; lifelong friends, Johnnie Ayers, Susie Ayers, Nevaeh Ayers, Josie Ayers family, Tub Bryson, Duck Tidwell, and Terry Lewis. He was preceded in death by his wife, Connie Ann England; his parents, Joab and Pauline England; brothers, Russell England and Randal England.

Graveside services for Harry William Walker, 80, of Hanceville are Sunday, December 3 at 2 p.m. at Mt. Grove Congregational Christian Church Cemetery. Mr. Walker passed away on Wednesday, November 29, 2017. He was preceded in death by his parents, James Franklin Walker and Mable Jewel Harper Walker; sons, Rodney Walker and James Smith and brother, James Franklin Walker Jr. He is survived by his wife, Peggy Walker; children, Billy Walker, Kathy Walker, Londy Smith, William Smith, Trish Burney, Chris Walker, T.J. Walker and Nancy Smith; eleven grandchildren; eighteen great grandchildren and sister, Edna W. McCullers. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the family via Paypal to trishburney85@gmail.com.

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Happenings (from Front)

snow machine, photo booth, and much more. "Come by to see Santa and play in the snow!" (Santa will only be here until the 23rd.)

*Schedule (weather-permitting)
The display will be closed Dec. 4-5 and Dec. 11-12; Wednesday and Thursdays, open from 5-9 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, open from 5-10 p.m.; Sundays, open from 5-9 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 2
Fairview Lions Club Christmas Parade, 4:30 p.m. in Fairview
The Fairview Lions Club Christmas Parade will be Saturday, Dec. 2 beginning at 4:30 p.m. on Wesley Avenue in Fairview.

Parade participants will line up at the turnaround by the school no later than 4 p.m.

The parade will end at Randall Shedd Community Park, where there will be the reading of the Christmas story, free hot chocolate and cookies, and Santa.

Anyone who wants to participate in the parade is welcome to join in.

Saturday, Dec. 2
Breakfast with Santa, 8-10 a.m. at First United Methodist Church Cullman
Breakfast with Santa!! Cost is $5 per person. All proceeds benefit our Angel Tree children. Includes breakfast and photos.
RSVP to help with food count: 256-734-6690

Saturday, Dec. 2
28th Annual Cullman County Christmas Parade, noon in Hanceville
On Saturday, Dec. 2, the Hanceville Civitan Club will host the 28th annual Cullman County Christmas Parade on Highway 31 in Hanceville, followed by an open house at Hanceville Fire Station One.

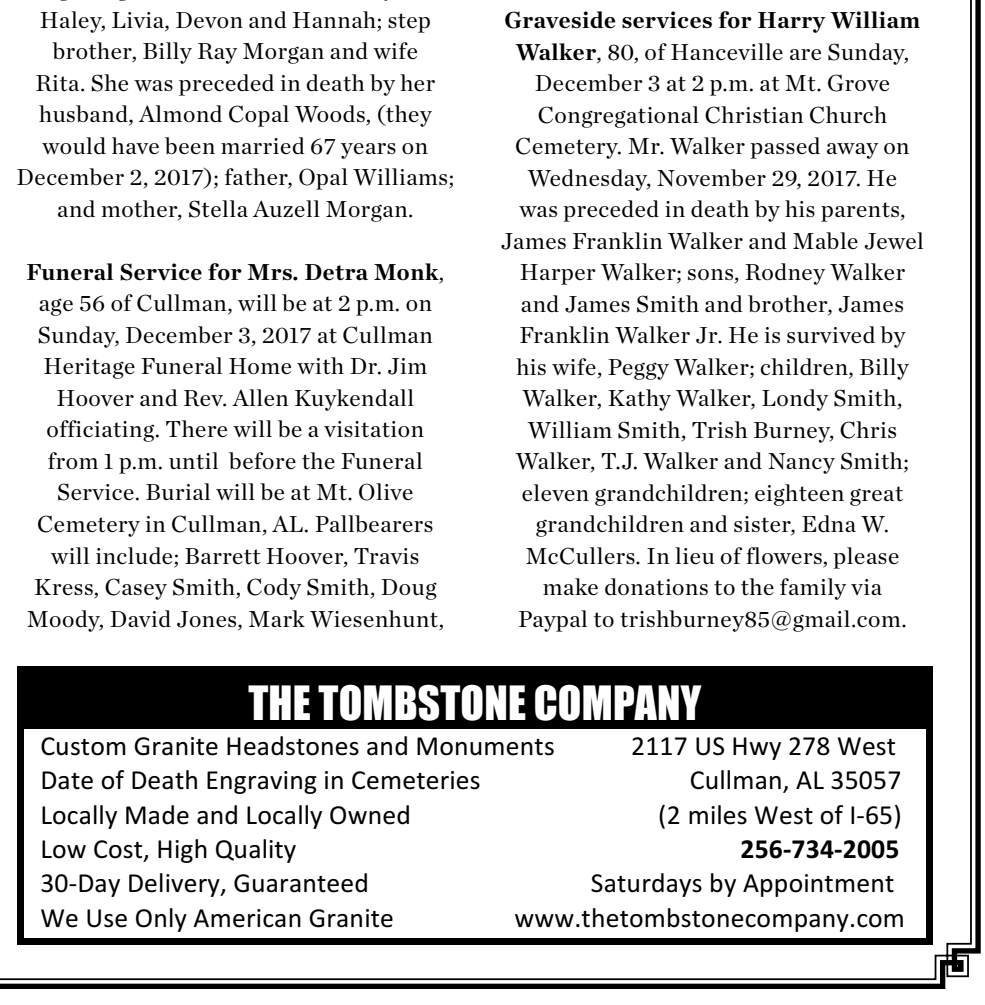
This year's parade will honor the memory of Joann Walls, who passed away earlier this year.

Lineup starts at 10 a.m.; Parade starts at noon

The 2-mile parade will start at Wallace State and end at the fire department, where there will be an open house with concessions.

For those who want to participate in the parade itself, applications will be taken until Friday, Dec. 1. Participants are asked to pay $5.

For more information, contact Hanceville City Hall or call Ricky Cason at 256-201-7040.



PREP SPORTS

AHSAA announces 2018-2020 classifications, alignments

Sammy Confer
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – The Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) on Thursday announced its updated classifications and alignments for the next three years. Notable changes affecting schools in The Tribune's coverage area are marked below in bold.

Football

Meek will stay in Class 1A and move to Region 6 with Berry, Brilliant, Hubbertville, Lynn, Marion County, Pickens County and South Lamar.

Addison has moved from Class 1A to 2A and will be in Region 7 with Colbert County, Hatton, Red Bay, Sheffield, Tanner and Tharptown.

Cold Springs will stay in Class 2A. The Eagles will be in Region 5, and will be joined by Aliceville, Southeastern, Sulligent, Sumiton Christian, Tarrant, and Winston County.

Hanceville, Holly Pond and Vinemont remain in Class 3A, now all in Region 5, with Fultondale, Locust Fork, Midfield and J.B. Pennington.

Good Hope is still in Class 4A, and will be in Region 5 with Cordova, Curry, Fayette County, Haleyville, Northside and Oak Grove.

Fairview moves down from Class 5A to 4A, and will be in Region 7, along with Danville, DAR, North Jackson, Priceville, Randolph, St. John Paul II and West Morgan.

West Point will stay in Class 5A. The Warriors will be in Region 7 with Corner, Dora, Hamilton, Hayden, Jasper, Lawrence County and Russellville.

Cullman will be staying in Class 6A. The Bearcats are in Region 7, and Athens, Columbia, Decatur, Hartselle and Muscle Shoals will be joining them.

Basketball

- Meek and St. Bernard- 1A, Area 13: Decatur Heritage, Falkville, Lynn

Cold Springs- 2A, Area 12: Cleveland, Southeastern West End

- Addison- 2A, Area 13: Red Bay, Sulligent, Winston County
- Hanceville- 3A, Area 12: Glencoe, J.B. Pennington Susan Moore
- Holly Pond and Vinemont- 3A, Area 13: Brindlee Mountain, New Hope
- Fairview and Good Hope- 4A, Area 12: Ashville, Oneonta

West Point- 5A, Area 14: Hamilton, Lawrence County, Russellville

- Cullman- 6A, Area 14: Decatur, Hartselle

Cross country

St. Bernard moves from 1A-2A to 3A. This move is due to the AHSAA's new competitive balance rule, which, based on a points system, bumps successful private-school programs up to higher classifications for two seasons based on the programs' performance over the previous three years.

For a full look at all sports, and to read more about the new competitive balance rule, see www.ahsaa.com/Home/2018-20-Classification-and-Alignments.

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 vehicle law, Statues, Chapter 13, Section 1-8, Title 32 and Alabama Law Act Number 83-494-S-80.

2003 Hyundai Tiburon VIN # KMHHN65F73U036118

This vehicle 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 Friday, January 5, 2018, at 8:00 a.m.

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 vehicle law, Statues, Chapter 13, Section 1-8, Title 32 and Alabama Law Act Number 83-494-S-80.

1999 Dodge Ram 1500 VIN # 1B7HC13Z4XJ632305

1994 Honda CBR600F2 VIN # JH2PC2500RM301598

2005 Chevy Trailblazer VIN # 1GNET16S256145371

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 Friday, December 29, 2017, at 8:00 a.m.

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: ANY KNOWN, UNKNOWN, OR UNDISCLOSED PERSONS, WHO MIGHT BE THE BIOLOGICAL FATHER

A PETITION FOR ADOPTION WAS FILED IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA BY TAMMY MICHELLE WILBANKS, PETITIONER, BIOLOGICAL MOTHER BRIANNA MICHELLE WILBANKS, IF YOU SHOULD CONTEST THIS ADOPTION, YOU MUST FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE LAST PUBLICATION. THE RESPONSE MUST BE FILED WITH COUNSEL FOR SAID PETITIONER, WHOSE NAME AND ADDRESS ARE SHOWN BELOW, AND WITH THE CLERK OF THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA, 500 2ND AVENUE SW, CULLMAN, ALABAMA 35055.

DONE THIS 30th DAY OF November, 2017.

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

ANDRIA RICHTER
Attorney for Petitioner
300 1ST Avenue SE
Cullman, AL 35055
(256) 775-7757

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

HOLLIS CECIL KEEL, deceased CASE NO. PC2017-319

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF HOLLIS CECIL KEEL, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Beverly Charlene Keel on the 17th day of November, 2017, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Beverly Charlene Keel, Personal Representative

TO: Publisher of *Cullman Tribune*:

Please publish the above notice three successive weeks in said newspaper.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C. Smith
Smith & Smith, LLP
Attorneys for Beverly Charlene Keel
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
Phone: (256) 734-4721

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE GUARDIANSHIP of)
DONALD QUICK,) CASE NO: PC2017-334
An Incapacitated Adult.)

NOTICE OF HEARING PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP

TO: BARBARA POLIQUIN, TAMMY BRADFORD, DEWAYNE QUICK, DONNIE QUICK OR ANY OTHER KNOWN OR UNKNOWN HEIRS.

Please take notice that a hearing on the Petition for Letters of Guardianship filed by Treva Quick to appoint a guardian for DONALD QUICK, an incapacitated adult has been set for the 22nd day of February, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. before TAMMY BROWN, Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama, Room 101, at this time you may appear or if you have an objection to the Petition for Letters of Guardianship you must make your objection known in writing and file said objection with this Court before the day and time of said hearing.

DONE this 28th day of November, 2017.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

To the Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the foregoing notice for Three successive weeks in said publication and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Done this 28th day of November, 2017.

Tammy Brown (LP)
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

LOUIS EDWIN HUTTON, deceased CASE NO. PC2017-337

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF LOUIS EDWIN HUTTON, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Frayne Hutton on the 27th day of November, 2017, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Frayne Hutton, Personal Representative

TO: Publisher of *Cullman Tribune*:

Please publish the above notice three successive weeks in said newspaper.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C. Smith
Smith & Smith, LLP
Attorneys for Frayne Hutton
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
Phone: (256) 734-4721

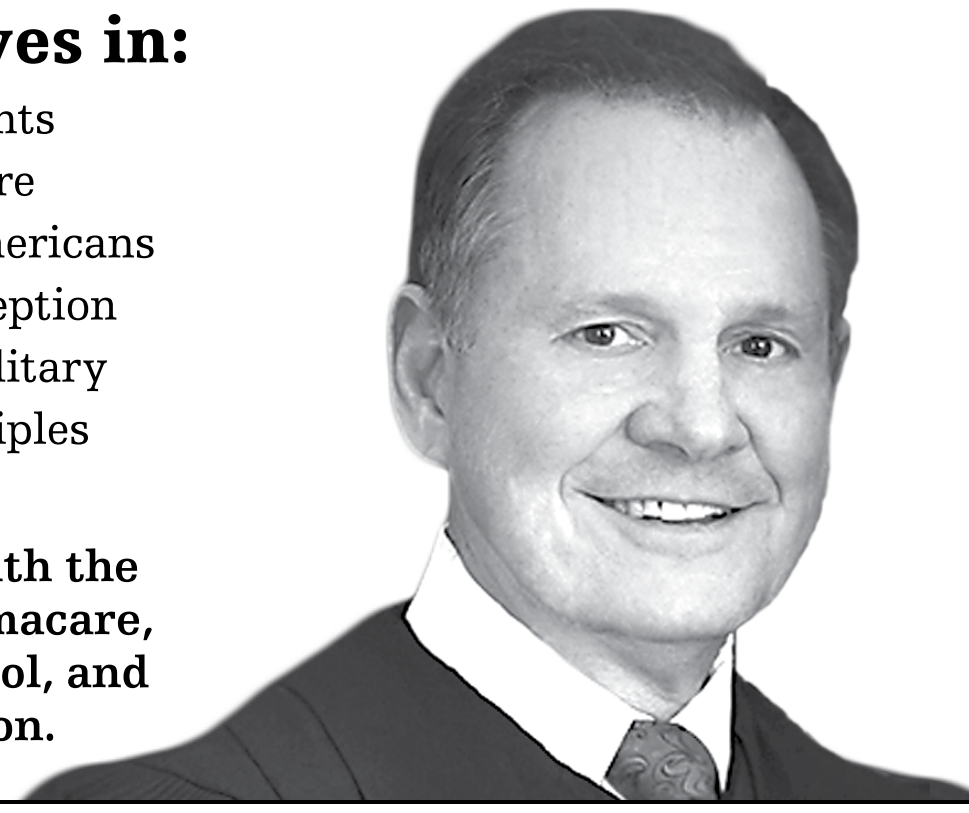
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WSCC to host Christmas Spectacular Thursday, Dec. 7

Gail Crutchfield
WSCC



WSCC

The Wallace State Singers, backed up by the Wallace State Jazz and Concert bands, perform during the 2016 Christmas program, "In the Mood for Christmas." The Singers, Jazz Band, Concert Band and Choir will perform in the 2017 Christmas Spectacular on Thursday Dec. 7, at 7 p.m., with a special segment featuring students who participated in the SingKids! program of the WSCC ArtsKids! Program offered by Wallace State Fine and Performing Arts.

HANCEVILLE – Wallace State Community College Fine and Performing Arts will present its annual Christmas Spectacular at 7 p.m., on Thursday, Dec. 7, in the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre. Admission is free. Four ensembles within the Fine and Performing Arts program will entertain with a selection of holiday tunes. The Wallace State Jazz Band, under the direction of program chair Ricky Burks; the Wallace State Concert Band, under the direction of Jacob Keisler; and the Wallace State Singers and Wallace State Choir, under the direction of Tiffany Richter, will all perform.

A preview performance earlier that day at 9:30 a.m., will be open to the public and with free admission.

The 7 p.m. show will include a special segment featuring SingKids!, also under Richter's direction. SingKids! is part of the Fine and Performing Arts program's WSCC ArtKids! program that began this fall. The next two segments, BroadwayKids! and StudioKids! will be held this Spring, with classes starting Jan. 10, 2018, for each.

Anyone attending festivities around the Oneonta Christmas Parade on Dec. 1 will get a sneak peek of the Wallace State Singers Christmas show when they perform in downtown Oneonta.

"The Christmas show is always a special time of the year for our Fine and Performing Arts program," said Burks. "It can be hectic as it's the end of the semester and we are all preparing for final exams, but being able to perform many holiday classics and hopefully spread some Christmas cheer along the way is rewarding. We hope we have great crowds to come out to enjoy the music and support our students who have worked so hard this semester on this and many other shows."

For more information about the Wallace State Fine and Performing Arts programs, including WSCC ArtsKids!, call 256-352-8277 or email stefany.pate@wallacestate.edu.





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