The Cullman Tribune

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POLITICS

Today's the day: *Moore or Jones?*





TRIBUNE FILE PHOTOS

Months of campaigning, a lot of it ugly, come to an end today, as Alabama voters head to the polls to decide between embattled Republican Roy Moore or Democrat Doug Jones.

Wendy Sack
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CULLMAN – The day is finally here: the U.S. Senate special election. Polls are open today from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Alabama voters will choose between Republican Roy Moore and Democrat Doug Jones, two names Alabamians have become all too familiar with over the last several weeks.

This election has led to bitter, nasty debate. Social media feeds have been clogged with angry arguments for both candidates on The Tribune's Facebook page, and, indeed, all over the internet. Each side has dug in its heels, Moore's supporters not budging on issues like abortion and traditional marriage, Jones' faithful likewise on a woman's right to choose, marriage equality and access to healthcare for all.

So. How did we get here?

When U.S. Attorney Gen. Jeff Sessions was confirmed by the Senate in February, then-Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley was tasked with temporarily filling the Senate seat vacated by Sessions until a special election could be held.

Bentley chose Luther Strange, the Alabama attorney general who had recently called off an investigation into the governor's allegedly illegal activities.

Strange could have proven to be a capable and effective lawmaker, but the suspicious looking circumstances surrounding his appointment led many to call for the state to give citizens an option to decide for themselves sooner rather than later.

In response, in one of her first actions, new Gov. Kay Ivey, who took control of the state after an embattled Bentley resigned on April 10, moved up the special election, which Bentley had set to coincide with the regular 2018 election, to this year. Party primaries took place Aug. 15; Strange and Moore went to a runoff on Sept. 26, while Jones easily won his party's election. And here we are, at the end of seven weeks of increasingly intense campaigning since Moore and Jones were officially declared opponents for the coveted seat.

Then, on Nov. 9, The Washington Post published an article reporting allegations that Moore initiated a sexual encounter with a 14-year-old girl when he was 32, and an assistant district attorney, in 1979.

Since then, eight more women have come forward. Moore supporters have questioned the timing of the accusations, while his detractors have rallied behind the women.

Moore has vehemently denied the allegations, saying he does not know the women in question.

Political heavyweights from both sides have thrown their support behind their chosen candidate; some came out only to voice their opposition to a candidate.

Longtime Alabama Republican Sen. Richard Shelby doubled down on his previous remarks against Moore, saying on CNN's "State of the Union" Sunday, "I didn't vote for Roy Moore. I wouldn't vote for Roy Moore. I think the Republican Party can do better."

Meanwhile, President Donald Trump has whole-heartedly endorsed Moore, and began making robo-calls in the state just prior to the election.

In Cullman County, the local GOP is standing firm in its support of Moore, Chairman Waid Harbison telling The Tribune, "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 » PAGE 3

TN man arrested for murder by Cullman Police



CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

William Lynn Smith

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CULLMAN – A Trenton, Tennessee man was extradited over the weekend and brought to Cullman to face two murder charges. The arrest stems from an incident that occurred at the Days Inn off U.S. Highway 278 West in March of this year, when the body of Jeanie Kent, 47, also of Trenton, was found.

William Lynn Smith, 43, has been charged with murder and first-degree domestic violence (murder), according to Cullman Police Department Sgt. Scott Sanford, who is the lead on the case.

"On March 25 of this year, we were called to the Days Inn on Highway 278, where a deceased female was found," said Sanford.

"It was discovered that the room was actually rented in the name of William » PAGE 3

EDUCATION

3 area schools named 'Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence'

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CULLMAN – Three area schools have been named 2017-18 Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence (BRSE): Good Hope Primary and Fairview Middle from the county system, and East Elementary from the city system.

The BRSE Program, according to its website, "is a comprehensive school self-assessment experience utilizing the Blueprint for Excellence with guidance and support from Blue Ribbon Recognized School Educators. The program assists all schools, with a special focus on low socioeconomic, culturally diverse, and low performing communities of learning in assessing the quality of their academic and instructional programs and in developing a school-wide action plan to ensure measurable student achievement. Additionally, BRSE supports effective comprehensive school reform through the development and implementation of a web-based Interactive Library of Best Practices, K-12. The BRSE Program develops and supports educational policies that improve student performance and enable comprehensive school reform. BRSE also provides a network of educators from nationally recognized Blue Ribbon Schools, as well as researchers, business leaders, philanthropists and government officials, which allows these individuals to exchange information and ideas."

The Tribune requested statements from the three schools' principals, asking three questions: What does it mean for your school to get this award? Are there particular people in your school who need to be recognized? What do you want people to know about your school, staff, students?

East Elementary Principal David Wiggins, whose school achieved Blue Ribbon status for a second time, responded:

"Being recognized for a second time as a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence validates the ongoing efforts made by our school family to improve upon and expand the learning opportunities for our students. This award recognizes more than academic success; it recognizes our whole school program. It means that what we do to meet the needs of our students, whether academic, social, » PAGE 3



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Principal David Wiggins and his team from East Elementary

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 12, 2017

Sheriff's rodeo closes with capacity crowd

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CULLMAN – Three days of cowboy action came to a close as the Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) Jimmy Arrington Memorial Rodeo concluded in front of a standing-room-only crowd at the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center Saturday evening. Almost every space was filled in the 1,300-seat stands, with additional floor seating. Spectators filled gaps, standing where they could and repeatedly being asked to move away from the rails around the arena floor for their own safety.

A special needs exhibition mini rodeo on Thursday was followed by two evenings of pro competition in bareback riding, steer wrestling, calf roping, team roping, breakaway roping, barrel racing and bull riding. This event concluded the 2017 season for the Professional Cowboy Association. (Note: a source had previously reported to The Tribune that this was the kickoff event for the 2018 season, but this was not the case.)



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The professional rodeo on Saturday night, Dec. 9, 2017, included bull riding.

Also during Saturday's event, the sheriff's office raffled its highly sought-after prizes:

- A custom handmade saddle valued at $1,600 went to Spencer Reynolds.
- A Stoeger 3500 12-gauge shotgun in Realtree camouflage went to T.J. Baker.
- A Thompson Center Venture Predator .308 bolt action rifle in Realtree camouflage went to L. Hancock.

The CCSO also gave away a $300 pair of earrings in an (almost) no-holds-barred ladies envelope scramble.

The rodeo is the primary fundraising event for the CCSO, as Sheriff Gentry explained, "This is the biggest fundraiser we have at the sheriff's office. We give it back to the special needs kids and the children in our community in the schools. Then, this year, we bought vest carriers (external bullet-resistant ballistic armor) for all the deputies, to make sure they're protected. And it supports all of our community events like Citizens' Academy and our firearm training. That's how we're able to do all those things for free for the community, and it doesn't cost anybody anything.

"I can't thank all the deputies enough," he continued. "The deputies are donating their time, working tirelessly. They're not turning in overtime to do this. They're doing it on their own. And the deputies are the ones who make it happen."

Cullman man dies in motorcycle crash in Vinemont

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VINEMONT – A Cullman man was killed early Saturday morning in a motorcycle wreck in the Vinemont community.

Cullman County Coroner Jeremy L. Kilpatrick said that Jeffrey David Entrekin, 46, was pronounced dead at the scene.

The crash happened at County Roads 1343 and 1354 at 12:01 a.m.

Alabama State Troopers said Entrekin, driving a 1997 Honda motorcycle, was going into a right-hand curve and left the roadway. Troopers said Entrekin was wearing a helmet.

Nothing further is available at this time.

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Letters to Santa



The Cullman Tribune will be publishing Letters to Santa this year beginning in December through the Christmas holidays.

Each letter will be published, some in hard copy* and some online. Letters should contain a salutation, an introduction of the child, the child's list and any wishes for others, e.g. asking that Santa remember a brother/sister, or children who might not know how to write, etc. Each one should be signed and include the child's age.

The letters should be addressed to:

Santa Claus

c/o The Cullman Tribune

219 Second Ave. SE

Cullman, Alabama 35055

For more information, contact Robin Winton at 256-739-1351.

The deadline for print is Wednesday, Dec. 20.

REAL ESTATE

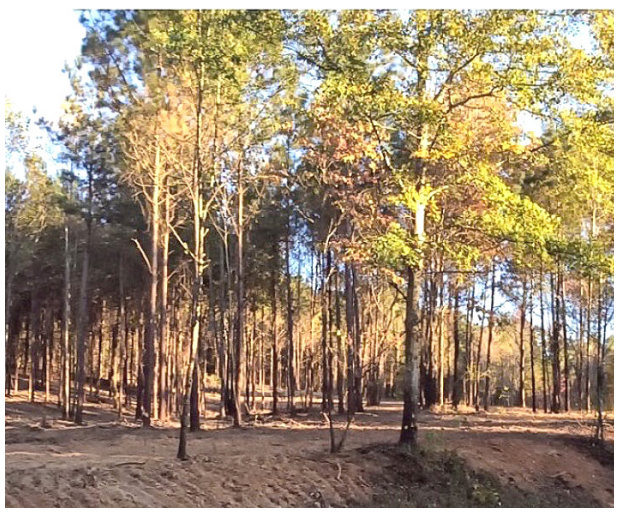








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Garden City First Baptist hosts 3rd annual Christmas carnival

Nick Griffin
Tribune Correspondent



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

A young guest gets a hug at Sunday's Christmas carnival at Garden City First Baptist Church.

GARDEN CITY – Garden City First Baptist Church held its annual Christmas Carnival Sunday afternoon and this year's event had all the favorites from last year and then some. This is the third year that the church has put on the Christmas Carnival and one of the event's organizers, Kat Parker, has been involved in all three and was prepared for a big crowd this year.

"It kind of varies each year but we're expecting a larger crowd this year," Parker said.

"We're hoping for a whole lot of people, I can't come up with an exact number but we're definitely expecting a big crowd this year. We've done a lot better promoting and advertising this year."

Parker turned out to be right when the crowd of excited kids and their families came through the door. There were more than a dozen attractions for them to hit ranging from bouncy houses and train rides to a picture with Santa or a stuffed animal walk.

Another one of the carnival's organizers, Sherri Walker, was proud of how many activities they were able to put together for this year's event.

"We have all kinds of activities ready this year, we have the cake walk, the stuffed animal walk, Plinko, we have a bell toss, ring toss, Santa Claus, we have putt-putt, train rides, mascot mash and a lot more," Walker said.

"We've got free food for everyone, free hot dogs, popcorn and drinks and we just do this to bring the community together and try to spread the gospel. That's what our main goal is."

Walker was happy to see the carnival turn out well knowing the work that goes into it every year.

"It's the whole church that works to put this together; everyone's involved. It's a lot of hours for everyone in the church preparing for the carnival."

Murder (from Front)

Smith."

Sanford said the investigation has taken several months.

He could not release particular details of the case, but said, "I believe they argued, and that resulted in her losing her life."

Neither drugs nor alcohol are suspected to have played a part in the incident.

Shared Sanford, "The suspect and the victim had been involved in a relationship for several, several years.

"It was on-again, off-again, and wasn't easy-going."

At the time Kent's body was found, Smith had left the area and returned to Trenton.

Smith is being held in the Cullman County Detention Center on a $60,000 cash bond.

He is awaiting a preliminary hearing.

Election (from Front)

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.

"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.

The Cullman County Democrats have passionately campaigned for Jones, and hosted a rally for him this month at Stone Bridge Farms, where Jones said, ""Folks, this is our time, this is our opportunity, but we've gotta seize it. It is up to us. And I don't have to go through all the detail about what's come out; I've said before and I'll say it again. First of all, I never believed Roy Moore was good for Alabama before all this came out. Someone that's been removed from office twice for disobeying the rule of law, the last time he went before the judiciary said his testimony was not credible, that he was misleading.

"I don't believe he's qualified to be a United States Senator," Jones said, "because he used that Moral Foundation (The Foundation for Moral Law) for his own benefit to make sure he and his family enriched themselves, but now we've seen the disturbing conduct. This campaign, obviously, we have stuck with issues, we are talking about issues. We're happy to meet every day, whether it's with educators, manufacturing, labor, I'm taking phone calls and I'm meeting with folks, but there is this other noise out there that we can't overlook. We simply can't overlook, in this age and in this time when this country has reached its tipping point, about the power that women can feel to stand up and speak out about those things that they have to endure every day.

Roger Duke, speaking on behalf of the Cullman Democrats, said Monday, "Tomorrow's special Senate election is a very important election for Alabama. I encourage everyone who is a registered voter to get out to the polls and vote, remind your family and friends, even offer to take them. Looking at all the polls that have been conducted through this campaign, it shows it being close, but, as we know elections are not won by polls; it depends on voter turnout. This election is very important; this election, depending on who wins, could affect the future of new businesses coming to the state and this person will also be the one to represent every Alabama resident, not just a certain group, but all.

"The Democrat office will be open all day if anyone needs a ride to the poll we have volunteers to help make sure you have the chance to cast your vote. They can contact us on social media or by calling 205-529-1558. Later in the evening around 6:30 p.m. we will be gathering at the headquarters to watch the results come in. Come join us and show your support."

Viewing Parties

The Cullman County Republican Party will be holding an Election night viewing party beginning at 7 p.m. at the Elks Lodge in Cullman at 1609 Brantley Ave. NW in Cullman.

The Democrats will gather for a viewing party at the Democratic headquarters, beginning at 6:30 p.m., at 415 Second Ave. SW in Cullman.

Excellence (from Front)

emotional, developmental, athletic, etc., is not just adequate but exemplary.

"This award is shared by all stakeholders in support of East Elementary School. This award belongs to our collective family of students, teachers, staff, families, and community. Success like ours does not happen in isolation, instead it is a collective effort of many individuals and entities dedicated to doing what is best for children.

"East Elementary School is always evolving. We are continuously seeking out new educational resources, improving our instructional strategies for teaching and learning, and offering exciting opportunities for our students.

"Today's award is only another step in our evolution; and, we look forward to what possibilities lie ahead."

Fairview Middle School Principal Trina Walker said:

"We knew when we started this endeavor a few months ago that we had the potential to bring this award home.

"We are always confident that our students, parents, and teachers are going to represent Fairview well, and they did not disappoint throughout this journey.

"To receive the highest honor from Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence, the Lighthouse award, was reassurance for us that we are going above and beyond for our students on a daily basis. It is a great honor to be recognized in this capacity.

"There are members of our leadership team who helped everything come together as far as organizing student and parent committees and collecting surveys; however, our students, parents, faculty, and staff members are the ones who deserve recognition. It takes all of us working together to have a successful program.

"We have an awesome group at Fairview Middle School. Our state test scores show our students excelling, and that is credited to the big picture of student, parent, and teacher involvement.

"In addition to that, we have students and teachers who go above and beyond expectations daily. The Blue Ribbon of Excellence Award goes beyond excelling in classroom performance. We have students with huge hearts; students who think about others above themselves.

"Our students participate in several service projects throughout the year, and they amaze us every time. They have given to hurricane relief, made donations to the Harbor House, and are currently participating in Christmas Love.

"We have a very well-rounded group at Fairview Middle School. For that, we are very grateful!

"It was also pretty cool to get to share the award presentation ceremony with our students live from Orlando through Google Hangout. They have taken great pride in owning this award."

Tonya Cupp, principal of Good Hope Primary School, shared:

"Good Hope Primary School is honored to be awarded the Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence Beacon of Light Award for 2017.

"To know our stakeholders--students, parents, faculty, and staff--believe all students receive an outstanding educational experience from the time they enter our doors to the time we dismiss each day, including engaging lessons, delicious lunches, and a clean school validates the hard work and efforts that go with our calling as educators.

"Our entire faculty and staff go above and beyond for our students each day."

Cullman City Schools Superintendent Dr. Susan Patterson, said, "Being recognized as a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence is an amazing honor.

"This recognizes the committed work of our teachers and students to achieve academic excellence. Cullman City Schools consistently has high student achievement scores in all our schools, and East Elementary being honored with the Blue Ribbon Award for the second time highlights this on a national level."

As of press time, County Schools Superintendent Shane Barnette had not made a statement.

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 12, 2017

Holly Pond Christmas parade, 'Cards in the Park' defy elements

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HOLLY POND – On Saturday afternoon, the town of Holly Pond celebrated the season with its annual Christmas parade and "Cards in the Park." Bitter cold and higher than usual winds made things tough, but crowds came anyway. The short parade made its way from Holly Pond Lions Park past the high school and elementary school to Governor's Park, where businesses, churches and civic groups displayed oversized Christmas cards.

The parade included fire trucks, trucks and trailers from local groups and businesses, and the Holly Pond High School marching band.

After the parade, the band made its way to Governor's Park, to play for locals gathered around heating fires, while treats and hot beverages were served in Town Hall's basement.

Santa Claus even made an appearance to visit with Holly Pond's children.

Holly Pond Mayor Bill Oliver was happy with the day's festivities, saying, "We don't have a real lengthy parade like some of the others, but we had a good turnout. I was happy, and everybody seemed to enjoy it.

"We've got all of our decorations up; we worked real hard this week getting everything up here in the park, and we've had a lot of participation from the local clubs, churches and businesses.

"I've not counted how many cards we have, but we have more than we did last year. So far, so good. It's a hectic week, but everybody seems to enjoy it. I enjoy it."

The Holly Pond Civitans are sponsoring this year's Christmas Cards in the Park, which will be on display at Governor's Park through Dec. 31. Everyone is welcome to come out, stroll through the park and enjoy the giant Christmas cards.



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Santa stayed warm while visiting with children at this year's Holly Pond Christmas celebration.

Downtown Hanceville's "Dickens Christmas" to go on again this weekend

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HANCEVILLE – Downtown Hanceville merchants attempted to stir new interest in their corner of the community by inviting the public to a "Dickens Christmas" last weekend. Characters in fanciful renditions of Victorian costume, as well as snowmen and gingerbread men, wandered the streets as sidewalk models displayed fashions from local boutiques. Businesses planned to stay open late, while carolers and other musicians provided live entertainment.

Then it snowed. The winter weather shut down events on Friday, and Saturday's activities were scaled back.

This coming Friday and Saturday, Dec. 15 and 16, the merchants of Hanceville will try it again.

Shawn Bennett of Too You Nique, one of Hanceville's newest downtown shops, told The Tribune, "We had a little problem because of the snow, so we're extending it out to next weekend.

"And of course, we have Frosty the Snowman, gingerbread man; we have street models, people in Dickens attire. We've got the fire pits that we're going to be burning on the street. We've got a band coming tonight that we've got to reschedule for next week, store sales, store promotions. We're just trying to get a fun event up for Hanceville; make Hanceville work!"

Participating businesses include Bradford Development, Burns Florist, C Street Cafe, College Tire, DJ's Detailing Service, Hanceville Drug Company, Heavenly Days Bath and Body Products, Just Repurposed Painted Furniture and Home Decor, Luna's BBQ, Mann's Garden Center, Mission Possible Bargain Center, Once Upon a Time Boutique and Collectibles, Paradise Cove Home Bakery, Past to Present Antiques, QDS Boutique and More and Too You Nique.

For more information on Hanceville's Dickens Christmas, contact Bennett or his staff at Too You Nique by calling 256-3457-1113, or visit www.facebook.com/Tooyouniquehanceville.



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Too You Nique's Shawn Bennett and staff portray characters from the world of Charles Dickens, as well as fun comical characters for visitors to downtown Hanceville.







Community, holiday spirit on full display in Good Hope

Nick Griffin
Tribune Correspondent



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Girl Scouts from Troop 10438 walk in the Good Hope Christmas parade on Saturday, Dec. 9, 2017.

GOOD HOPE – Saturday was a festive one around Cullman County, and particularly in the city of Good Hope, where people lined up along the route to get in position for the annual Good Hope Christmas parade. The parade started at Good Hope High School and made its way through town on its way to Municipal Park. Excited kids and adults lined the roadway, yelling and waving as the floats came through, with participants tossing candy out to the spectators.

The parade was made up of dozens of floats, displays and vehicles.

There were floats carrying the Raiders football team, the city council, firetrucks carrying mascots, Hanceville and Good Hope's marching bands, Boy Scout Troop 241 and Girl Scout Troop 10438; all that mattered to the younger spectators was that they all had candy to give away.

As the parade wound down, Christmas in the Park kicked off, the crowd of kids and adults working its way over to Municipal Park to enjoy some of the activities attendees look forward to every year, along with some new ones.

Perhaps the biggest change for this year's celebration was to the popular cookie house.

The City opted to have one big cookie house this year, heated and with more room, but even with the changes there was still a line of people waiting to get in and decorate a sweet treat.

Outside, a fire burned, not just to help keep people warm, but also for making s'mores.

The fire was set up next to a long line of people waiting to enjoy hayrides and train rides around the park.

This year's parade and celebration in the park saw another great crowd come out and participate despite some bitter winds. Community and holiday spirit were on full display.

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STATE

Ivey awards more than $37M to help low-income families with energy bills

Office of Gov. Kay Ivey
Contributor

MONTGOMERY – With the first real surge of winter weather in Alabama last week, Gov. Kay Ivey is awarding $37.3 million in grants to ensure that many of Alabama's neediest families are prepared for the cold weather.

Serving Cullman, Lawrence and Morgan Counties, Community Action Partnership of North Alabama Inc. is receiving $1.79 million.

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program grants, issued to 21 community service agencies throughout the state, provide funds to help eligible low-income families with home-energy-related expenses.

In the winter, the program helps eligible households afford the energy required to heat their houses.

"These LIHEAP funds ensure that low-income residents, including the elderly, children and those with disabilities, do not have to endure a winter without heat," Governor Ivey said.

"Often these families are forced to weigh between having heated homes or food on the table and necessary medicine, and these funds provide much-needed assistance."

Residents apply for assistance to local community service agencies who determine eligibility based on income, family size and available resources.

Governor Ivey awarded the grants from funds provided to the state by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) is administering the grants.

"At Governor Ivey's request, ADECA's Energy Division is making these funds available as expedient as possible so qualified families can take advantage of this program as we enter the cold season under a winter weather advisory," ADECA Director Kenneth Boswell said.

Below is the list of the community service agencies receiving grants, their service areas and grant amounts

- Community Action Agency of Northwest Alabama Inc. (Colbert, Franklin and Lauderdale) - $1.1 million
- Community Action Partnership of Huntsville/ Madison and Limestone Counties Inc. (Madison and Limestone) – $2.31 million
- Community Action Agency of Northeast Alabama Inc. (Blount, Cherokee, DeKalb, Jackson, Marshall and St. Clair) – $3.04 million
- Community Action Partnership of North Alabama Inc. (Cullman, Lawrence and Morgan) – $1.79 million
- Marion-Winston Counties Community Action Committee Inc. (Marion and Winston) – $588,062
- Community Action of Etowah County Inc. (Etowah) – $864,701
- Community Action Agency of Talladega, Clay, Randolph, Calhoun and Cleburne Counties (Calhoun, Clay, Cleburne, Randolph and Talladega) – $1.49 million.
- Walker County Community Action Agency (Walker) – $629,320
- Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity (Jefferson) – $3.33 million
- Community Services Program of West Alabama Inc. (Bibb, Choctaw, Dallas, Fayette, Greene, Lamar, Perry, Sumter and Tuscaloosa) – $4.32 million
- Pickens County Community Action Committee and Community Development Corp. Inc. (Pickens) – $287,068
- Hale Empowerment and Revitalization Organization Inc. (Hale) – $361,343
- Eleventh Area of Alabama Opportunity Action Committee Inc. (Autauga, Chilton, Elmore and Shelby) – $1.81 million
- Community Action Committee Inc. of Chambers-Tallapoosa-Coosa (Chambers, Coosa and Tallapoosa) – $862,929
- Alabama Council on Human Relations Inc. (Lee) – $1.31 million
- Macon-Russell Community Action Agency Inc. (Macon and Russell) – $858,631
- Montgomery Community Action Agency (Montgomery) – $2.01 million
- Organized Community Action Program Inc. (Bullock, Butler, Covington, Crenshaw, Dale, Lowndes and Pike) – $2.33 million
- Southeast Alabama Community Action Partnership Inc. (Barbour, Coffee, Geneva, Henry and Houston) – $1.9 million
- Community Action Agency of South Alabama (Baldwin, Clarke, Conecuh, Escambia, Marengo, Monroe and Wilcox) – $2.41 million
- Mobile Community Action Inc. (Mobile and Washington) – $3.83 million

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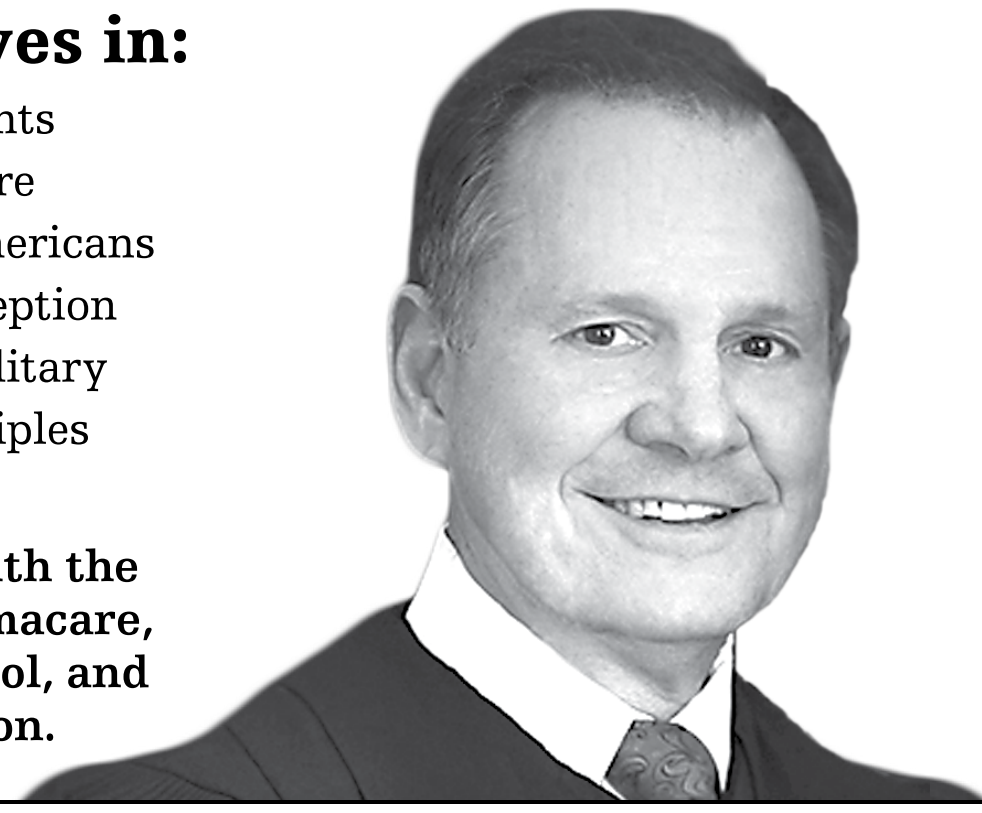
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Obituary Announcements: Dec. 12-14

Memorial services for Wanda Gail Rodgers, 61 of Vinemont, are incomplete at this time and will be announced at a later date. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Ms. Rodgers passed away December 9, 2017 at her residence.

Billy Wayne Hardin, 65 of Hanceville, Al. passed away on December 9,2017. He was born on October 11, 1952. Billy worked as a Contractor until his retirement. He was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife Kay Wright Hardin, Step-Daughter Jennifer Wright Nelson and her husband Matt. Stepson Joshua Wright and his wife Keisha, Step-Grandchildren: Mattilen Nelson, Ethan Nelson, Kinsley Wright, Mason Wright. A host of Brother and Sisters-in -Laws. Special Friends: Tonya and Blayze Parker, Linda Quick, Charlotte Chaney. The Family plans to have a memorial service at a later date.

Funeral Service for Ronda Harris, age 48, will be at 7 p.m. on Thursday December 14, 2017 at Daystar Church with Terry Blankenship officiating. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Harris passed away on Saturday, December 09, 2017. She was born, December 03, 1969 to Truman "Jack" and Hilda "Sue" Freeman. Survivors include her parents, husband, David Harris, daughters, Lakeshia (Johnathon) Patty, Millie Harris, sons, Tray (Amy) Dunn, Jaxon Dunn, Dakota Harris, grandchildren, Koley, Kynzlee and Luke Patty, sisters, Connie Self and Jackie Gable, brother, Chris Freeman, a host of family and friends. Mrs. Harris was an elementary teacher at Parkside Elementary School for twenty years. She was passionate about teaching and loved each student that she came in contact with. The school, faculty, staff, students, and community held a special place in her heart. In lieu of flowers please make a donation to National Breast Cancer foundation, 2600 Network Blvd, Suite 300 Frisco, Texas 75034. Visitation will be from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Thursday December 14, 2017 at Daystar Church.

Free Obituary Listings

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Mountain Melodies dulcimer band provided live homespun entertainment.

Peinhardt Homesteaders celebrate Christmas, reflect on first year

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – On Saturday, the Peinhardt Homesteaders celebrated Christmas at Peinhardt Farm. Homemade Christmas treats abounded, along with handmade gifts and games. Live traditional southern Appalachian style entertainment was provided by Mountain Melodies dulcimer band.

During the celebration, Homesteaders director Shannon McBride took time to reflect back on 2017, the group's first full year. The Homesteaders were formed just before Peinhardt Farm Day in October 2016.

During the course of the year, the group held classes on:

- Gardening, including a seed swap for attendees
- Syrup Tapping
- Homestead Medical Care
- Woodworking
- Frugal Living Tips
- Farm Dogs
- Simple Sewing and Repair
- Rabbits
- Knot tying
- Homestead Preparedness
- Leatherworking

"We are extremely pleased with the turnout we've had this year," said McBride. "We've been really excited about it. We're wondering which direction to concentrate on for next year. We're looking for people to send us their ideas about what they'd like to do, whether introductions to subjects or more in-depth events.



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Treats included homemade and hand-decorated Christmas cookies.

"Peinhardt has expanded to have a basket group, tatting group, fiber group and blacksmith group, along with this homestead group. They would like to get leatherworking, and maybe a mule group if there's enough interest. We're looking for our members to tell us more about what they'd like to do next year."

The Homesteaders will kick off 2018 in January with a repeat of their very popular class on maple syrup tapping.

McBride explained, "One of our new members' dad is from Kentucky. He does this for a living up there, and he's going to come down and give us a real pro's take on that. There's one maple tree here; that's as many as you need! And we'll have some practice stumps and drills, so people can practice the tapping on an actual piece of wood."

Other 2018 events in planning include:

- Fall Seed Swap/ Gardening in August,
- Homestead preparedness in September (National Preparedness Month)
- Livestock Guardian Dogs, date to be determined
- Volunteering for Peinhardt Farm Public and School Days in October

Events under consideration include falconry and an in-depth leathercraft workshop.

More than 250 people follow the Homesteaders' Facebook page. Individual classes are usually small enough to allow for plenty of Q&A and hands-on activities, but almost 200 people have attended at least one of the group's monthly programs in 2017, with a fair number of "regulars."

For more information about Peinhardt Homesteaders, visit www.facebook.com/groups/1131297910295001.

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.

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These vehicles will be sold to pay storage and or repair fee at Restorations and Rods, LLC, 18615 US Highway 31, Cullman, Alabama 35058, on January 15, 2018.

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DECEMBER 12, 2017

WSCC women's basketball stays hot

Russell Moore
WSCC

HANCEVILLE – Wallace State's women's basketball team reeled off its third win in five days at Tom Drake Coliseum on Sunday, earning an 83-72 victory over Columbia State.

Eight Wallace State players scored at least six points as the Lady Lions moved to 8-3 on the season.

Miajah Bullock poured in a career-high 13 points off the bench for Wallace State, Jada Golden added 11 points off the bench behind three 3-pointers and Joy

Sadler posted her fifth double-double of the season, finishing with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Wallace State won its fourth straight game.

"It doesn't matter who you play, winning three games in five days is a big feat, especially with their minds also being on finals. Our ladies came in and executed. They listen well and respond to what's going on. I'm very proud of them," said Wallace State interim women's coach Jessica McBrayer. "One of our strengths is you don't know who's going to step up from game to game. Someone new comes off the bench for a spark, and that's great for a coach. It was Miajah Bullock's turn today."

Wallace State jumped out to a 24-15 lead at the end of the first quarter and pushed it to 45-34 by halftime. The Lady Lions led 63-58 after three quarters.

Karlie Hudson scored 10 points for Wallace State, Gabby Hill had eight points and Sydney Powell and Marquise Cobbs each scored six.

Golden had five assists to complement her scoring output. She leads the Lady Lions with 23 3-pointers made.

On Friday, Wallace State's women cruised to an 83-66 win over Volunteer State.

Sadler paced the Lady Lions with 24 points and 10 rebounds, shooting 10-of-17 from the field.

Golden contributed 14 points and four steals for Wallace State and Hudson finished with seven points, seven rebounds and four steals. Gabby Hill had seven points, Channing Gafford pitched in with seven points and seven rebounds off the bench, DeMaurea Moore scored six points an Alexis Osteen scored five.

Wallace State also beat Motlow State on Dec. 6, winning 72-60.

Wallace State men

The Wallace State men are also off to an 8-3 start to the season after earning a 61-54 victory over Volunteer State on Friday.

Jonathan Andre paced the Lions with 15 points in the win. Geordan Walker contributed 13 points and five rebounds and Dee'Quan Fleming registered a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Chris Rollins added six points for Wallace State and John Payne had five off the bench.

Wallace State led 36-23 at the break.

Both Wallace State teams host Wallace Community College – Selma on Sunday beginning at 2 p.m.

For more information about Wallace State athletics, visit http://athletics.wallacestate.edu

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