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Yutaka delivers Christmas joy to foster kids



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Yutaka representatives (at each end of the line) Aleese Horton, April Weaver, Summer Breskow Perry, and Courtney Brown present the Cullman County Department of Human Resources (DHR) a roomful of toys, new clothing items and other gifts for kids in foster care.

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – On Monday morning, the Cullman County Department of Human Resources (DHR) received a much-needed gift (a roomful of them, in fact!) from Alabama Cullman Yutaka Technologies (ACYT), as part of an ongoing partnership between company employees and the agency this year.

DHR's Rae Ann Moore explained, "Yutaka helped us with Thanksgiving, and they did an angel tree where they sponsored some children, plus they took up some money and just went and bought this extra for the foster children in Cullman County. Children that are picked up between now and Christmas, they will use this stuff; and if there's any children that need it, we'll give it to them."

Yutaka's Summer Breskow Perry told The Tribune, "Each year we try to sponsor local organizations. At Yutaka, we have what we call the 'A Team;' we take care of all activities in the community. We got together and we voted, and decided to sponsor three organizations this year: DHR, Good Samaritan Health Clinic and Hanceville Nursing Home.



SUMMER BRESKOW PERRY / ACYT

The "A Team" at Yutaka

Perry said Yutaka just really wants to help people in the community.

"We want to help the people in Cullman," she said. "We have a lot to give; the associates want to give, ACYT wants to give. A lot of the people that work at Yutaka are from the Cullman area, and so we're just giving back."

"Yutaka's just grateful for the opportunity to help the community," added company representative Courtney Brown, "to sponsor and help any of our neighborhood family that we can."

Yutaka's staff sponsored 68 kids, and other community groups and individuals are serving as sponsors, as well. The company gave certain gifts specifically to their sponsored kids, and a great many more gifts to be distributed by DHR as needs and opportunities arise.

Moore told the team from Yutaka, "We couldn't do it without people like y'all. Y'all are what make our Christmas. If we didn't have sponsors, » PAGE 8

Alabama experiences significant flu activity this season

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

MONTGOMERY – Influenza activity levels are increasing across the state of Alabama, according to the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), which said several positive influenza (flu) specimens in north Alabama have been reported in the previous three weeks. While the flu season is just getting started in much of the country, activity is already elevated in Alabama with providers reporting 3.59 percent of outpatient visits due to influenza-like illness. Flu is a very contagious respiratory illness. Some of the symptoms of influenza include fever, cough, sore throat, runny/stuffy nose, headache, muscle aches and extreme fatigue.

Numbers are on the rise here in Cullman County.

"We have seen a substantial increase over the past seven days," said Cullman Regional's Executive Director, Marketing and Public Relations Lindsey Dossey, on Monday. "Positive flu tests have increased from four per week to 30 per week."

"Providers reporting increased percentages of patients with influenza-like illness and influenza samples sent to public health provide an indication of the geographic spread of influenza in Alabama," said Dr. Karen Landers, district medical officer for the ADPH. "This is concerning because influenza can be a serious disease for anyone, even children, pregnant women, and previously healthy young adults."

The ADPH said an annual influenza vaccination is recommended for everyone 6 months and older and is the best prevention against getting the flu. Physicians, pharmacists and county health departments can provide flu vaccinations for Alabamians. Request the "quadrivalent vaccine," the one that protects against four influenza strains, because one of the strains in circulation in Alabama (Type B/Yamagata) is only included in the quadrivalent vaccine.

In addition to taking the flu vaccine, other measures can reduce or prevent the spread of influenza. These include staying at home when sick, covering the mouth and nose with a tissue/cloth when coughing or sneezing, and washing hands or using hand sanitizer frequently.

"Even healthy people can get very sick from the flu and spread it to others. It's not too late to get a flu shot to protect against this serious disease. People become protected about two weeks after receiving the vaccine," said Landers.

Contact your private provider, pharmacy or local county health department to re- » PAGE 8

Giving back to our 4-legged friends: donation drive through Dec. 31

Tribune teams up with Cullman County Animal Shelter, CAAWA to help animals

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – The Cullman Tribune in the middle of what it hopes will be an annual Christmastime drive for the Cullman County Animal Shelter and the Cullman Area Animal Welfare Association (CAAWA). Donations are being accepted at The Tribune office, 219 Second Ave. SE, through Dec. 31. Help us help animals!

Cullman County Animal Shelter wish list

- paper towels
- cat litter (non-scented, the cheaper the better, in great need)
- bleach
- disinfectant wipes
- dish soap
- laundry powder (in great need)

CAAWA wish list

- collars, medium to large
- leashes
- Kong toys, or any durable toys
- Purina Puppy Chow
- Hay or pine shavings from Tractor Supply
- dog crates, medium to Large
- Any gift cards to either Tractor Supply or PetSmart

Donations may be dropped off Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. and on Fridays from 8 a.m. until noon. The office will be closed on Christmas Day.



WENDY SACK/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The goal is to fill up the front of the office around the Christmas tree with donations for the Cullman County Animal Shelter and the Cullman Area Animal Welfare Association. Here's how much has been collected as of Monday, Dec. 18.

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FOXGLOVES & FIREFLIES

Glitter in the cornbread

Loretta Gillespie
Tribune Correspondent

Since when did everything switch from rushed to warp speed? Christmas and other holidays are always a hectic time, but this is just ridiculous!

Even though shopping online has given some of us a way to avoid crowded malls, it just hasn't given me a lot of time for other things, as it would seem. For one thing, you can't shop for your holiday meals online, or not at this house, anyway. I doubt I'll ever trust my holiday ham or turkey to FedEx. And I still want to make my own candy and cookies, but I have relented and stocked up on store-bought cakes this year; there is just no sense in baking for days when the deli was up at the crack of dawn baking enough for all of us.

The one thing that will never be store-bought as long as there is breath left in my body to stand and do it, is the dressing. I still make it using my Grandmother Young's recipe, which you really can't call a recipe since it's not written down. I just know how it's supposed to look and it always turns out just the way hers did, even though she killed the chicken herself, wringing its neck and popping it off as the body ran for cover. So, theoretically, I guess some of this dish does come from the store, the chicken, the meal, eggs, milk, cream of chicken soup and some other secret ingredients, but it's put together by these hands which have been making it now for at least 45 years twice per year, so they've had a lot of practice.

This year I've been commuting to babysit my new granddaughter in Tennessee, so things are even more disorganized and hectic than normal. Last Friday night when I got home I started wrapping gifts. It was almost 3 a.m. before I got finished. In between gifts I deboned three chickens, made two big pans of cornbread and chopped and sautéed a big skillet of onions and celery.

Now picture me stirring, adding ingredients, checking the oven, measuring, opening cans and crumbling cornbread, with wrapping paper, tape, scissors and glittery ribbon strewn around on the same island.

I got probably a dozen gifts wrapped while cornbread cooked in both ovens. I cleaned up the wrapping paraphernalia after deboning the chickens, and I put all of the dressing ingredients together into a huge dish pan, just the way my grandmother did (only mine is plastic and hers was enamel) and finally fell into bed at 5:30, just as the sun started lighting the horizon to the east. My last thought as I drifted off to sleep, or nap, as the case may be, was that I sure hoped there was no glitter in the cornbread...

At 6:30 a.m. I was back up, and by 8:30 had the dressing in the oven (no evidence of glitter that I noticed), four or five more gifts wrapped and some cookies ready to go into the oven.

I was only a little bit late for the sit-down meal in the church gym. And there was no glitter in the cornbread, thank you Lord!

I hope everyone has a wonderful, blessed Christmas this year. And that we can all relax and slow down a bit in the coming year. Lol, yes, that was a joke.

Merry Christmas from our home to yours, wherever that may be!

City of Cullman
Building Inspection Department

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City of Cullman
Planning Commission

On Tuesday, January 2, 2018, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M, at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Planning Commission, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Short form Subdivision – 1635 Main Ave. SW – divide into four lots
2. Short form Subdivision – 2nd Ave. SW between Birmingham St. SW & Short St. SW
3. Short form Subdivision – Walnut St. & Brantley Ave. – Rusken Packaging

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Fairview wreck claims life of Albertville woman

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

FAIRVIEW – An Albertville woman was killed in a two-car crash in Cullman County on Sunday. The wreck happened in the 500 block of Wesley Avenue in the community of Fairview.

Imelda Morales, 29, was pronounced dead at the scene, said Cullman County Coroner Jeremy L. Kilpatrick.

According to Alabama State Troopers, Morales was a passenger in a 2000 Mitsubishi Eclipse, which collided with a 2011 Chevrolet Camaro at approximately 12:13 p.m.

The driver of the Eclipse, a Hispanic male who has not been identified, was injured and transported to Huntsville Hospital. Troopers said the unidentified male is the at-fault driver.

The driver of the Camaro, a female from Cullman County, was also injured and taken to the hospital. Troopers declined to identify her Monday, saying the department does not release the names of not-at-fault drivers involved in fatal incidents; however, multiple sources have confirmed to The Tribune that the woman's name is Kimberly Maples Mullican, 45, of Fairview. Mullican is the librarian at Fairview Middle School.

Nothing further is available at this time.

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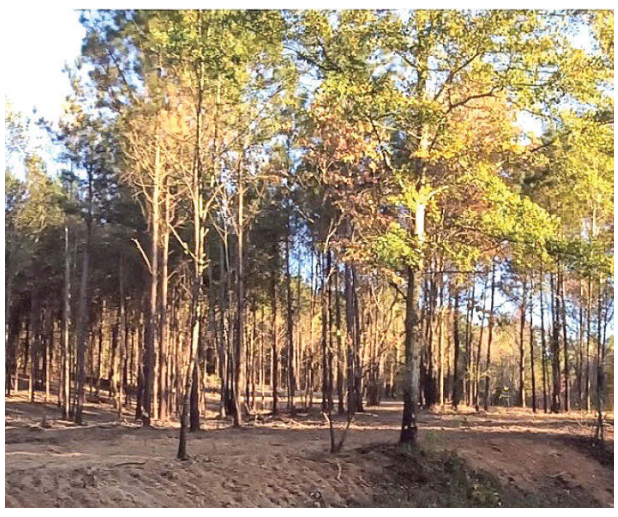








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W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Talking the finer points of pageantry between runs at last Saturday's rehearsal

Cullman Christmas tradition: Sacred Heart Children's Christmas Eve Pageant and Mass

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – At Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in downtown Cullman, the annual Christmas Eve Children's Mass featuring the Christmas Pageant has become a tradition. Around 30 children from the congregation dress up as Mary and Joseph, angels, shepherds, wise men and fuzzy-suited animals. In the middle of the parish's Christmas Eve afternoon Mass, the group will recreate the Nativity story for family, friends, and visitors.

Mary Hovater, who directed the pageant for years, said, "There is just something about children that helps us remember what Christmas is about. Each year the children tell me this is their birthday gift to Jesus. It's so precious and could warm even the coldest of hearts. They make my Christmas extra special every year."

With the younger of her boys no longer a child, Hovater handed over the reins this year to Monica Windham, whose own kids are pageant veterans.

In speaking to The Tribune, Windham was careful to insist that hers is part of a team effort that includes a fair bit of family help.

"My sister Natalie Hilb and I are directing it, assuming responsibility from Mary, who's passing it on to us. My daughter Jordan has been working with all the readers, and Anna Hilb, my niece, has been helping organize the children in the back. So it's a big family effort this year getting it together!

"Kelly Albright has been volunteering, and Mary is still a big part of helping us; and of course the choir with Jacqueline (Hill, youth minister) and Fharis (Richter, director of religious education). Since it's our first year taking over, we have a lot of help! We're just happy to have all the kids participate, that are willing to come for the practices."

Music for the Mass and Pageant will be led by the Sacred Heart Family Choir, and will include "O Little Town of Bethlehem," "O Come, All Ye Faithful," "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," "Rise Up, Shepherds, and Follow," "We Three Kings," "What Child Is This," "Away in a Manger," "Silent Night," "O Come, Little Children" and "Joy to the World."

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Church Children's Mass and Pageant will be Sunday, Dec. 24 at 4 p.m. in the main church. The parish will hold Christmas Day Masses at midnight (beginning of Christmas Day), 10 a.m., and Spanish language Mass at 5 p.m.

Obituary Announcements: Dec. 19-21

Graveside service for Glenn Ashby, 54 of Bremen, will be held on Tuesday, December 19 at 1 p.m. at Sandlin Cemetery, Virgil Cheshire officiating. The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Monday at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mr. Ashby passed away in Albertville,AL on Saturday. He is survived by his brothers Chris and Jeff kitchens; his father, Richard Kitchens; and his children Christopher AShby, Savannah AShby and Nancy Kitchens.

Funeral service for Keith Randall "Randy" Briscoe, age 58 of Vinemont, will be at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Rev. Ralph Andrews officiating. Burial will be at Emeus Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Briscoe passed away on Monday, December 18, 2017 at his residence. He was born December 9, 1959 in Cullman, AL to Lewis and Dorothy Briscoe. He is preceded in death by his parents, brother, Steve Briscoe, grandparents; Rev. Armon and Tinnie Briscoe, and Willie and Oma Sims. Survivors include his sisters Donna (Spencer) Lynn, Beverly Briscoe, honorable sister, Sheila Jordan, nephew, Derek Lynn, and great niece and nephews, Pierce, Alana, and Brant Lynn. Visitation will be from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home.

Funeral Service for Erek Rayl, age 30 of Vinemont, will be at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home on Thursday December 21, 2017 at 11 a.m. with Andy Heis, officiating; burial at Vinemont First Baptist Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Rayl passed away on Sunday, December 17, 2017 at his residence. He was born August 22, 1987 to Jim and Janet Rayl. He is preceded in death by his son, Alek Shane Rayl. Survivors include his wife, Stephanie Rayl, daughter, Jordin Faith Rayl, parents, and brother, Britt Axel Rayl. Visitation will be from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. on December 20, 2017 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home Chapel.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 19, 2017

‘Shop with a Cop’ brings smiles to kids, officers

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Officers from the Cullman Police Department (CPD) and Cullman County Sheriff’s Office (CCSO) on Saturday met local families at Chick-fil-A, before heading off to take the kids shopping at Wal-Mart for the CPD’s annual Shop with a Cop Christmas event. Sergeants Adam Clark and Todd Craig coordinated the event, leading a host of officers and volunteers who brought 17 kids to the store, and shopping on behalf of four others who could not accompany the group. Additionally, officers shopped earlier in the week for 15 clients of the Cullman County Center for the Developmentally Disabled Margaret Jean Jones Center.

The event serves a dual purpose: to bring a little Christmas cheer to children and families in the community who might have trouble finding it on their own, and to give kids a chance to interact with law enforcement officers in a low-stress and high-fun environment.

Physician and Reserve Officer Dr. Scott Gordon Warner came to help, and told The Tribune, “It’s a great opportunity for the kids to see the police in a non-threatening way, and also develop good relationships with the police.

″Hopefully, it’ll stay with them the rest of their lives, to see the policeman as their friend and a helper, because that’s really what we want to be.”

Clark said, “This is our fifth year. We really enjoy doing it. We actually had a good turnout for officers and volunteers this year, so we’re really excited.

″We couldn’t do it without them. We had a very good turnout for officers this year; we have nine or 10 here, and about 12 volunteers.

“We really want this to be a one-on-one with the officer, as much as possible, so the kid has a good experience with the police officer. Our goal is to make sure these kids have a positive outlook on the officers. We just want them to know us as regular human beings, not just police officers. We are here to help them; it’s what we’re here for.

“We just enjoy doing stuff to help people out. Most of the guys that do this profession, that’s why they do it--because they like to help people. It’s not for the money, believe me!” Clark laughed.

“The biggest thing is, we want the kids to have a positive experience with a police officer.”

The CPD officers and volunteers, along with a representative from the CCSO, met the kids at Chick-fil-A and escorted them to Wal-Mart.

There the children were allowed to shop for up to $200 worth of merchandise each, starting with coats, shoes and other needed clothing items they got to pick out themselves.

Then it was off to the toy department, where the kids were like, well, kids in a toy store! Some kids paused to take it all in, not quite knowing where to begin.

Others dove right in with enthusiasm and had prepared shopping lists they unfolded from their pockets and displayed to their amused adult helpers.

As officers helped the kids pick out toys or get items down from shelves, the volunteers tagged items with numbers corresponding to each child.



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Lt. Jeff Warnke shares a moment with the 6-year-old boy he was paired with for this year's Shop with a Cop event.

As the dust settled in the toy department, all the merchandise was gathered at the front of the store for payment.

Then everyone headed back to Chick-fil-A for lunch which the restaurant provided to the CPD at a substantial discount.

After parents picked up their kids, officers and volunteers left for CPD headquarters, where they enjoyed their own lunch and sorted gifts for distribution to shoppers’ families. Parents will pick up the items in the coming week.

At lunch, Lt. Jeff Warnke, who was participating in his first Shop with a Cop event, reflected on the morning’s excitement.

“It was real fun. It was something I haven’t done. I don’t have a boy; I have a young daughter, so it’s my first time shopping with a 6-year-old boy,” he smiled.

“It was quite an experience! He was picking out a lot of stuff that I probably would have liked when I was 6 years old. He had a buggy full of toys; he’s going to have a fantastic Christmas.

″He was so excited in the store. It was a really fun experience.”



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Sgt. Todd Craig loads a cruiser with kids’ purchases.

Cullman Community Band rings in the season

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – The 50-plus member Cullman Community Band delighted the crowd at the Cullman Civic Center on Sunday with its annual Christmas concert. Director/Conductor Garry Taylor led the band through a holiday set that included “Candlelight Carol,” “Away in a Manger,” “I’ll Be Home for Christmas” featuring solo trombonist Neal McLeod, “Silent Night,” and “Sleigh Ride.”

The concert also featured member Ken Simpson conducting his own arrangement of holiday favorites reimagined as marches. The band threw in a few non-seasonal pieces, including the national anthem, “Beguine for Flutes,” “Ode for Trumpet” featuring solo trumpeter Jim Parker and a sci-fi suite featuring music from the current “Star Trek” movies and original television series.

The entertainment concluded with an audience participation sing-along of “Deck the Halls,” “Jingle Bells,” “O Christmas Tree” and “We Wish You a Merry Christmas.”



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Neal McLeod plays solo trombone in “I’ll Be Home for Christmas.”

Taylor told The Tribune, “I think the band just keeps getting better and better, and it’s because we’ve got some outstanding musicians in the group, and some loyal musicians that are here, not just every year, but every rehearsal. They keep coming back, so we must be doing something right.

“We’ve got a lot of band directors, people that majored in music in college or played in college bands, so there’s some real talent in the group. There’s some real talent in this area, the Cullman community, and I’m proud that a lot of them are in this band.”

The community band is open to new members, and is actively seeking percussionists. Its practice and performing season follows the school year, with concerts at Oktoberfest and Christmas, and up to three performances in the spring. Rehearsals are held on Monday evenings from 6:30-8 in the Cullman Middle School band room. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/CullmanCommunityBand, call Taylor at 256-636-2754 or email garry54@bellsouth.net.





Baileyton enjoys annual Christmas celebration

Heather Mann
Tribune Correspondent



PHOTOS COURTESY HEATHER MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Children look over tables full of gifts at the Town of Baileyton's Christmas celebration on Saturday, Dec. 16, 2017.

BAILEYTON – Christmas is a time for friends and families to gather together, and what is a community but one big family? Many cities and towns take pride in holding Christmas celebrations for their communities to enjoy, and the town of Baileyton is no exception. With bright lights, cheerful colors and the sound of carols drifting out into the parking lot, the Baileyton Senior Center was alive with holiday spirit Saturday night.

The celebration had something for everyone: free food like hamburgers and hotdogs, Christmas karaoke, tables of small toys and gifts for kids, and a chance to meet and get photos taken with Santa, who was giving out goodie bags as a special before-Christmas treat. Some of the food and toys was donated, but most was sponsored by the Town of Baileyton.

Pat Dyar, wife of Mayor Johnny Dyar, organized most of the event with the senior center and has been very pleased with the turnout over the past few years.

"(Community feedback) is wonderful, it grows every year," she smiled. "We've got more this year than we've had. We usually have around 150 to 200 sometimes."

Dyar also gave a shout-out to the volunteers at the celebration, including members of the town council and seniors from the senior center itself.

The children also had a chance to write letters to Santa and took home bags of fruit.



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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 19, 2017

Letters to Santa

The Tribune has received many Letters to Santa this year. Shared here are some of those letters. Letters will also be published in Thursday's and Saturday's editions. Look for all of the letters online at www.Facebook.com/CullmanTribune this weekend.

Dear Santa,
My name is Natallie. I want a sister of flip a zoo, a pogo stick, Mal from the Descendants, Elsa doll, Elsa bike and some surprises. I have been good. I will leave cookies for you and carrots for your reindeers.

Love,
Natallie

people I want you to get to are my cousins in Orange Beach. The last people I want you to get to are all the people who don't have Christmas Joy in their town like we have in our town.

Sincerely,
Ilana Shadrick
East Elementary School
5th Grade
Mrs. Tokar

Dear Santa,
Hello. I am Kevin Cobb. I am in the 5th grade, and I am 10 years old and I play football for the Cullman Bearcats. For Christmas, I would really like some football gloves or an xbox one x but I would really want to get my brother a computer and my sister baby and his name is Jayce and get him a lot of paw patrol toys. And that what I really want for me and others. And to bless all the poor and homeless people.

Sincerely,
Kevin Cobb
East Elementary
5th grade
Mrs. Tokar

Dear Santa,
Olah! My name is Rylee Fox. I love cooking and I am obsessed with dogs. I have 3, Champ, Elway and Gus. They are the best dogs ever! I am very thankful and love God but I do have a few things on my Christmas list. I would love to have a keyboard, me & my sister would love to share a tramoline! Last but not least I would love to have some Monogram clothing. That will end my list, but one more thing. Please write me back and tell me what your favorite kind of cookies are & the will be in the kitchen with a glass of milk! I have been pretty good this year so I am looking forward to Christmas morning!

Sincerely,
East Elementary, Rylee Fox
Tokar 5th grade

Dear Santa,
My name is Izzie Wilson. I am 3 years old! I have been really nice this year! I even cleaned my room.

This year I really want: Swim to me puppy and Zombie lab. I can't wait till Christmas!

Love,
Izzie

Dear Santa,
My name is Kaide Scheer. I'm ten years old, and I'm in the 5th grade. For Christmas I would like to have a remote control helicopter, and money. Also I want a fifty dollar xbox card please!!! I would like my mom to get new earings. Merry Christmas!

Love,
Kaide Scheer
East Elementary School
5th grade
Mrs. Tokar

Dear Santa,
Merry Christmas! I am Ilana Shadrick. I am 10 years old, and Mrs. Tokar is my teacher. I have a GREAT girl so please get me a lot of presents!

The 5 thing I want the most are A cheata suitcase I found on amazon with my Inatals on it, another cat, Art suplys, A hamok, and cooking suplys. Please make sure you get to a few people for me.

The first person is Mrs. Tokar the best teacher in the world. The second

Dear Santa,
My name is Tucker Perry. I am 10 years old, and I am in the 5th grade. for Christmas, I would like Call of Duty WW3, a Golden Doodle (dog), and to have a great baseball season this year.

I hope you can remember the people who cannot receive presents.

Sincerely,
Tucker Perry
East Elementary School
5th grade
Mrs. Tokar

Dear Santa,
Hello this is Mack Dumas from Cullman, AL. I am in the 5th grade. I am also 11 years old. I only want 2 things for myself and 2 for others. I want for my brother to have more playing time in basketball. I also don't want my sister to move to Nashville!!! I want a job at wilborns outdoor and a koi pond without koi!!

Thank you Santa!
Mack Dumas
Mrs. Tokar
5th grade
East Elementary

Dear Santa,
Hi! It's me. Arianna Scott! I am 11 years old and in the 5th grade. I like to do archery and play with my cats. For Christmas this year I would appreciate if you got me an ipad, a genesis bow, an RC boat, a squishy and a fluffy panda. Please don't forget my sister Kandi Ella. You also need to remember my brother Caden.

P.S. if you see my missing cat, Holly, on the way to my house, could you bring her home?

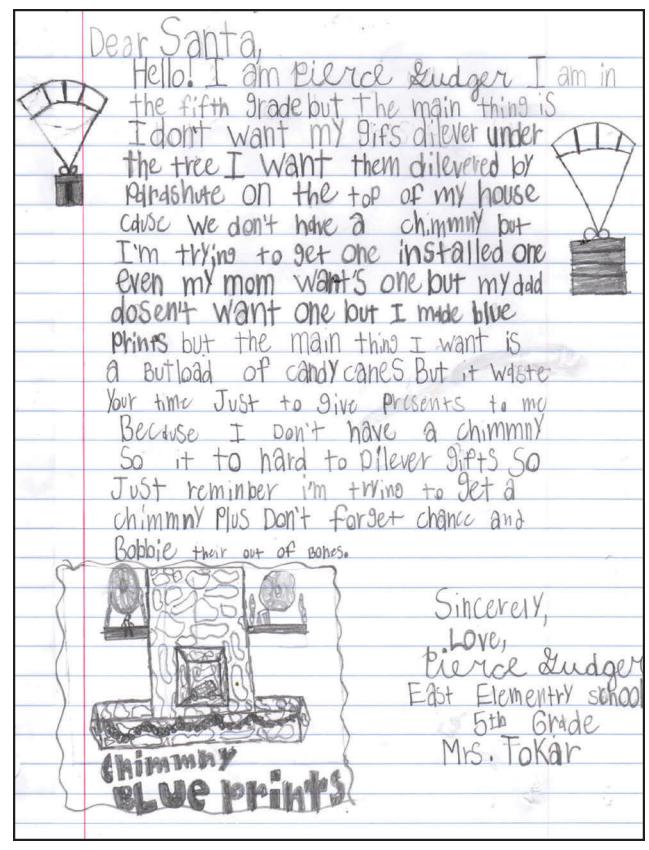
Sincerely,
Arianna Scott
East Elementary School
5th grade
Mrs. Tokar

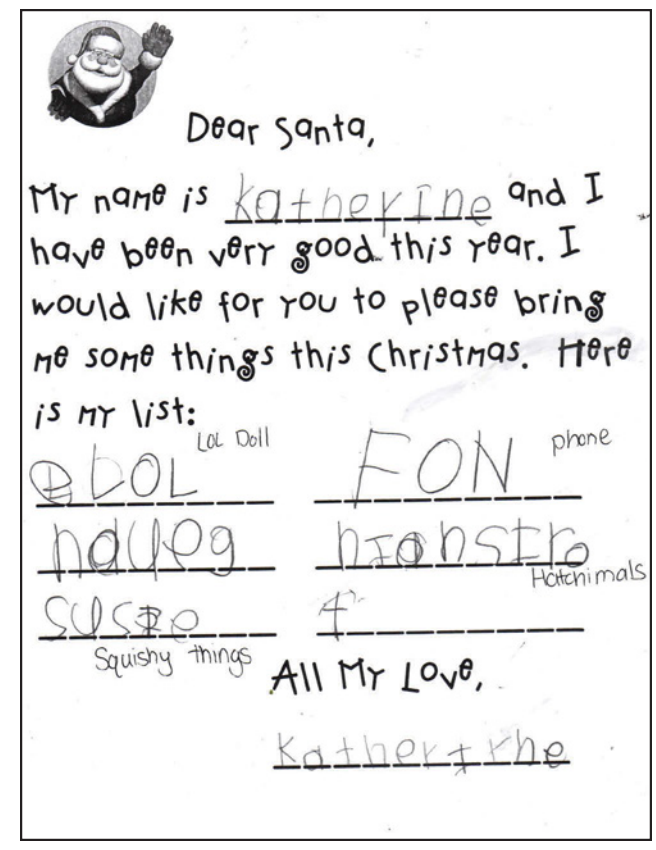
Dear Santa,
Hi! I am Evan and I love to hunt. I have killed 24 deer and I am 10 years old. For Christmas I would like to have a black connect gun, bullets, and slime. Santa don't forget my brother he likes cars and trucks, guns. He likes to hunt. I hope he kills a deer.

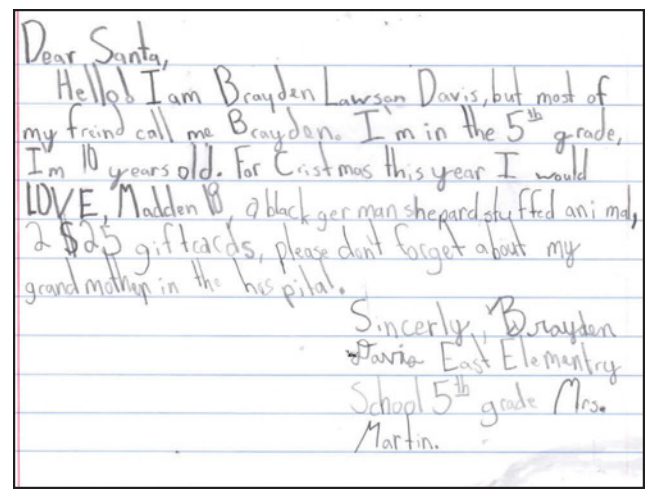
Sincerely,
Evan Dockery
East Elementary School
5th grade
Mrs. Tokar

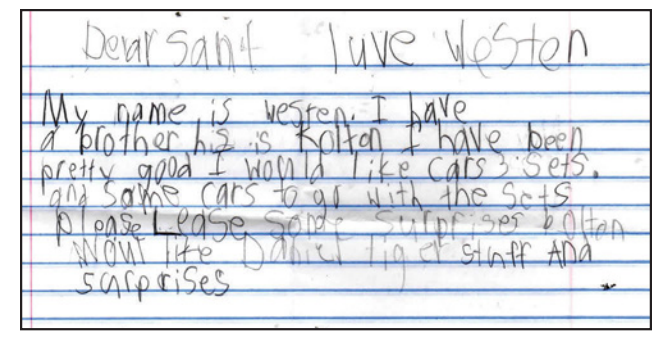
Dear Santa,
Hello! I am Colter Bowen. I am in the 5th grade, I am 11 years old. I play baseball, fish and hunt. For Christmas I would like a Lews speed spool bait cater reel and a Halo Vertios rod medium hevy, and another just like it, a fit bit, a 22. rifle, and a new trampoline. This Christmas I would like to give my Mamaw a very good Christmas and give her a surprise gift and my Granny and papaw to.

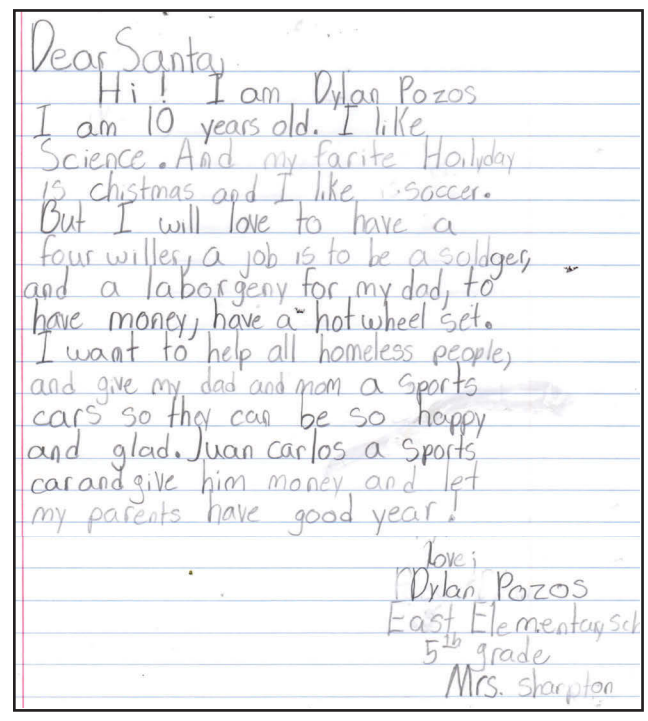
Sincerely,
Colter Bowen
East Elementary
5th grade
Mrs. Tokar

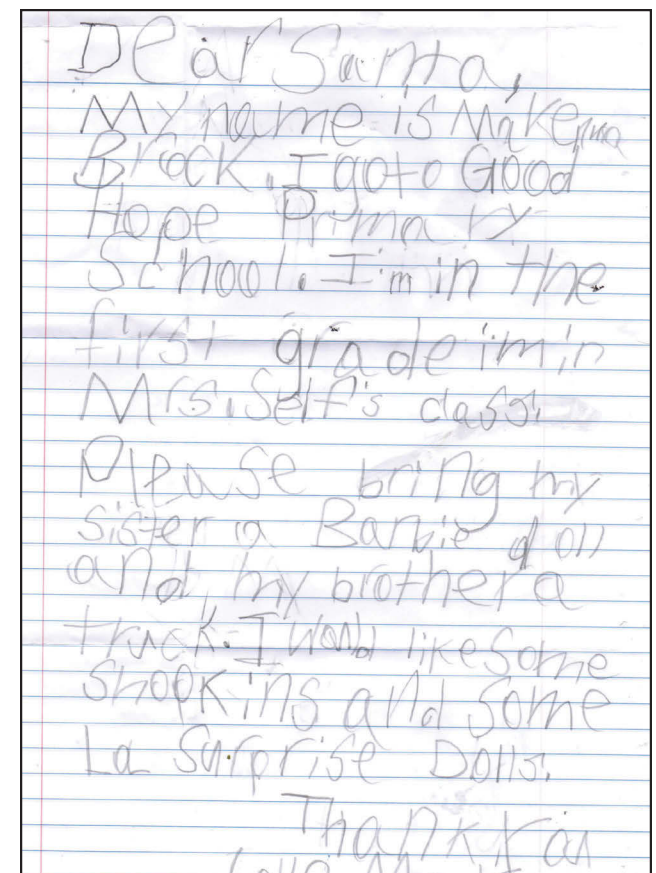


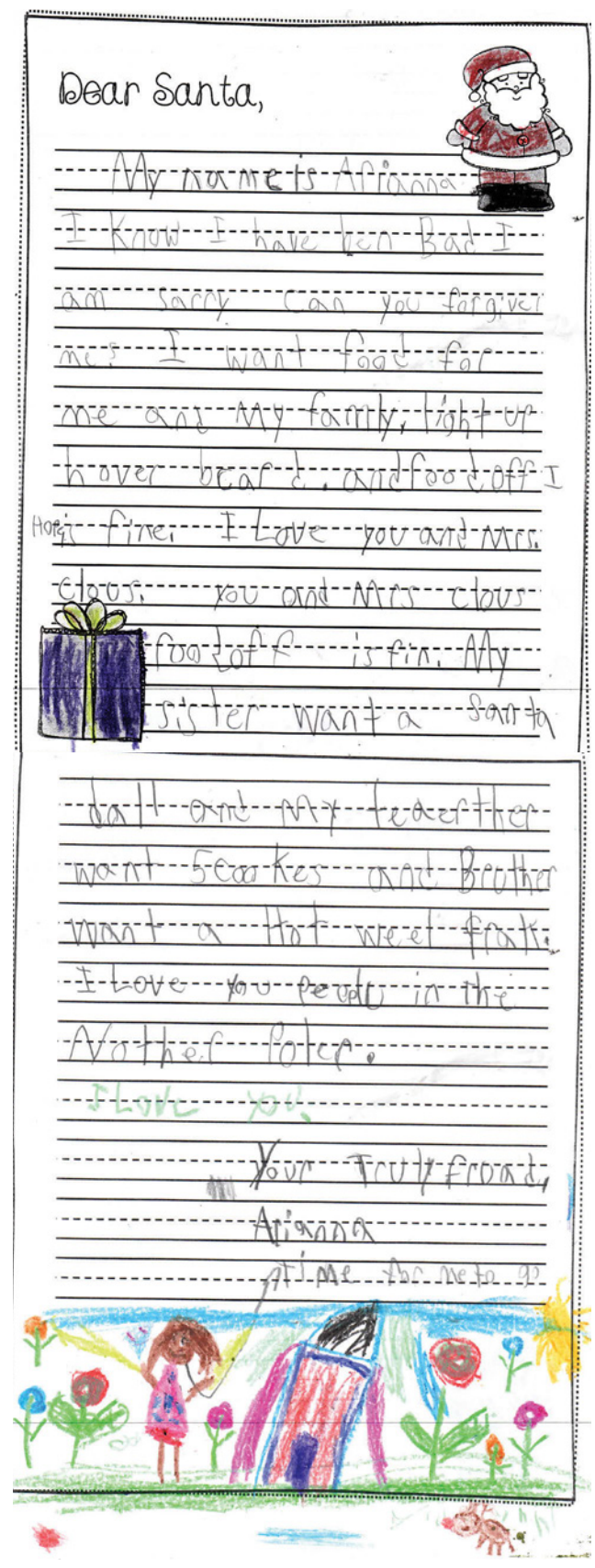


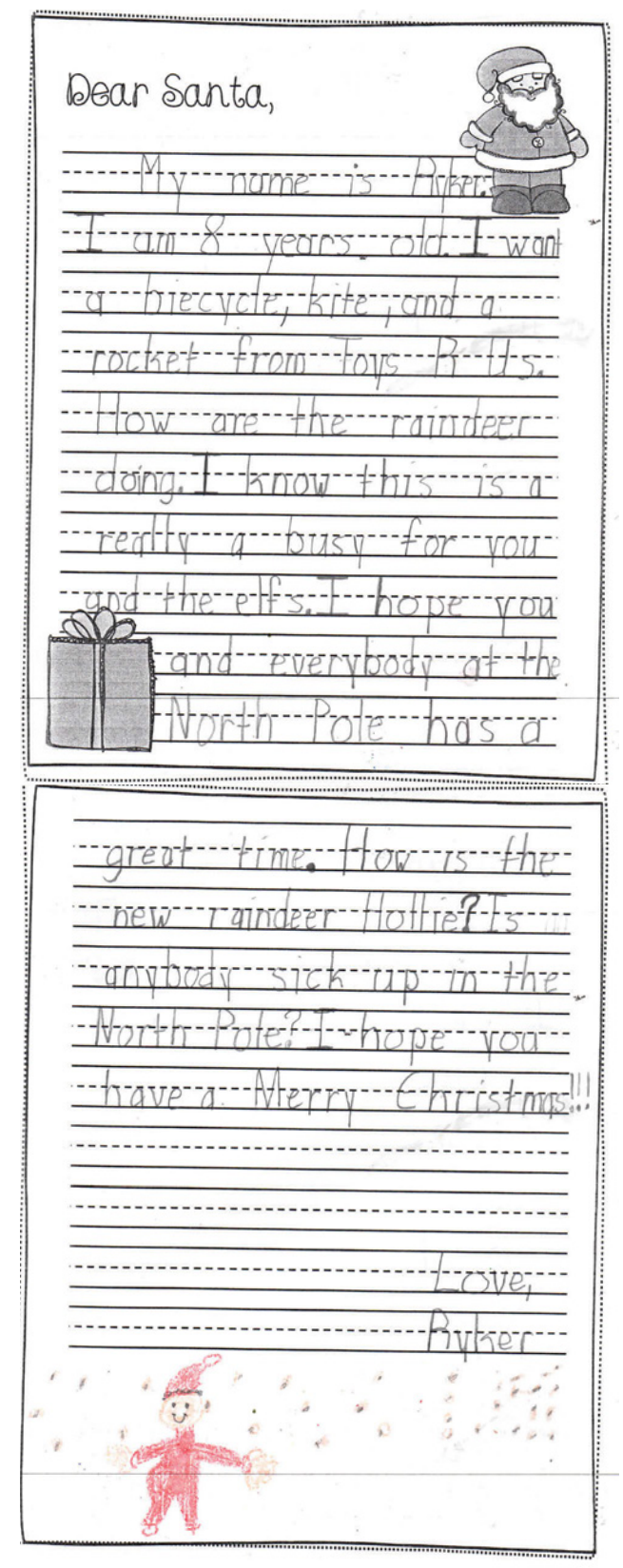












AL Sec. of State Merrill says all write-in votes in special election to be ID'd, documented

Office of Sec. of State John Merrill

MONTGOMERY – Pursuant to Act 2016-450, regarding the identification and recordation of write-in votes, Alabama Sec. of State John Merrill has determined that the individual write-in votes cast in the U.S. Senate election will be identified and documented for the results of special general election on Dec. 12, 2017.

This decision on whether to count these ballots was made based on Act 2016-450 which provides, upon a determination that the number of write-in votes for office of United States senator is greater than or equal to the difference in votes between the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes for the office of United States senator.

The difference, as of today, in the two candidates' total votes received is 20,634 and the total number of write-in votes cast was 22,814. Upon the introduction of Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) ballots and approved provisional ballots, these numbers are subject to change.



TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Alabama Sec. of State John Merrill, pictured in Cullman in April 2017

Upon completion of the count of write-in votes, the write-in votes are to be included in each county's final canvass of results that will be certified to the secretary of state on Dec. 22, 2017.

Final certification will occur once the vote has been reviewed and certified by the State Canvassing Board (a board which consists of Gov. Kay Ivey, Merrill and Attorney General Steve Marshall).

This board has until Jan. 3, 2018 to certify but this process could occur as early as Dec. 26, 2017.

A county by county breakdown can be seen at http://qrne.ws/countyvotes.

ALEA preparing for greater Christmas presence on Alabama roadways

ALEA
Contributor

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) will have a greater Christmas presence this holiday season by assigning all available Alabama State Troopers to patrol Alabama's roadways and to bolster efforts to prevent traffic crashes, injuries and fatalities.

The goal is quite simple: to save lives. Let's #ArriveAliveAlabama.

From now through midnight Monday, Jan. 1, 2018, Troopers will heighten enforcement.

Please obey speed limits, insist everyone in the vehicle buckle up and/or use child-restraint systems, avoid driving while under the influence of alcohol/drugs, avoid driving while texting and distracted in other ways, and avoid following too closely.

These driving behaviors are among the deadliest.

Grant funding from the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) and the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) will enable ALEA to conduct this seasonal safety initiative and provide additional Trooper shifts.







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 GMC Sierra 4dr White, Vin. #1GTEK19T83E300461

This vehicle will be sold to pay storage and or repair fee at John Kings Auto Sales, Inc., 448 US Hwy 278 East, Cullman, Alabama 35055, on Thursday, February 1st, 2018, at 8:00 a.m.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF HANCEVILLE

Pursuant to the instructions of the City Council of the City of Hanceville, notice is hereby given that the proposed ordinance set forth will be considered by the City Council on the 11th day of January 2018 for passage. Prior to this meeting a public hearing will be held at 6:30 p.m. on the 11th day of January 2018 in the Hanceville City Hall Council Chambers, located at 112 Main Street SE, Hanceville, Alabama, 35077, regarding Ordinance No. 618.
All interested citizens shall have the opportunity to be heard for or against the passage of this Ordinance No. 618 during this public hearing.

ORDINANCE 618
AN AMMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 510 INCLUDING THE ZONING MAP

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HANCEVILLE, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

1. The public health, safety, morals and general welfare requiring it under authority granted by Article 4, Sections 11-52-70 through 11-52-79, Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended and the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Hanceville, Alabama Ordinance No. 510, adopted the 1st day of May, 2006, as amended, and more particularly the Hanceville, Alabama zoning map as a part thereof, is hereby amended, changed and modified as follows:

   (a) That the real estate being the property of Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church, Inc., located in Hanceville, Cullman County, be zoned as I-D, described as follows, to-wit:
   Three and 2/10 acres in the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 18, Township 11 South, Range 2 West, described as follows: From the Northeast Corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 18, Township 11 South, Range 2 West, go North along the West line of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 18, Township 11 South, Range 2 West, 243.7 feet to the true point of beginning, thence go 79` 20` right, 357.7 feet, to the West Edge of a blacktop road, thence go Northwest to the South Right-of-Way of a second blacktop county road, thence 49` 50` Left, 327 feet to the West boundary of the above described quarter-quarter section, thence go South along said boundary 530 feet to the point of beginning.

2. That this Ordinance has been published once each week for two (2) successive weeks, prior to passage, within the City of Hanceville, Alabama, and the publication of said notice and ordinance being verbatim.

   That a public hearing has been held relative to the passage of this ordinance on the 11th day of January 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at which time interested parties and citizens had opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance and any changes relating thereto.

3. That all notices as required by law were given by the City Clerk concerning said public hearing.

4. That upon final passage of this ordinance, all zoning maps, master comprehensive plans or any other documents of the City of Hanceville, Alabama, in conflict with this ordinance be and are hereby changed and amended to reflect the changes and amendments herein.

5. Should any part or portion of this ordinance be held invalid, unenforceable or unconstitutional, for whatever reason, by a court of competent jurisdiction, such ruling shall not affect any other part or portion of this ordinance.

6. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the above described property is zoned I-D and that appropriate action be taken to change and modify the City Zoning Map to so reflect the said land as such.

7. This ordinance adopted the ____ day of _____ _____shall take effect after its publication as required by law, including notice, publication and public hearing, all in accordance with Section 11-52-1, et seq., Code of Alabama 1975, as amended.

_____
Mayor Kenneth Nail

ATTEST:

_____
Tania C. Wilcox, City Clerk

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF HANCEVILLE

Pursuant to the instructions of the City Council of the City of Hanceville, notice is hereby given that the proposed ordinance set forth will be considered by the City Council on the 11th day of January 2018 for passage. Prior to this meeting a public hearing will be held at 6:30 p.m. on the 11th day of January 2018 in the Hanceville City Hall Council Chambers, located at 112 Main Street SE, Hanceville, Alabama, 35077, regarding Ordinance No. 619.
All interested citizens shall have the opportunity to be heard for or against the passage of this Ordinance No. 619 during this public hearing.

ORDINANCE 619
AN AMMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 510 INCLUDING THE ZONING MAP

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HANCEVILLE, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

1. The public health, safety, morals and general welfare requiring it under authority granted by Article 4, Sections 11-52-70 through 11-52-79, Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended and the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Hanceville, Alabama Ordinance No. 510, adopted the 1st day of May, 2006, as amended, and more particularly the Hanceville, Alabama zoning map as a part thereof, is hereby amended, changed and modified as follows:

   (a) That the real estate being the property of Hopewell Cemetery located in Hanceville, Cullman County, after annexation be zoned as A-1, described as follows, to-wit:
   (b) Tract One:
   All that part of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 18 Township 11, Range 2 West, lying West of the Hanceville and Cullman Public Road, beginning at the SW Corner of Hopewell Church lot, running West with the Blacktop Road to the McElroy Line, North to the Creek, East to the Church lot, South to the point of beginning, being (2) acres, more or less.
   (c) Tract Two:
   Part of the SE¼ of NE¼ of Sec. 18, TllS, R2W described as beginning at the intersection of the North R.0.W. line of County Road 582 with the West R.0.W. line of County Road 599; thence Westerly along the North R.0.W. line of said County Road 582, 400 feet; thence Northerly 140 feet, more or less, to Whaley Mill Creek, at a point that is 380 feet, along said creek line, from the West R.O.W. line of said County Road 599; thence Easterly and Northeasterly along said Whaley Mill Creek, 380 feet to the West R.O.W. line of said County Road 599; thence Southwest along the West R.0.W. line of said County Road 599, 240 feet to the point of beginning. Situated, lying and being in Cullman County, Alabama.
   All that part of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter and the Northeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 18, Township 11 South, Range 2 West, and more particularly described as follows:

   Begin at the Southwest comer of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence North along the West line of said forty 243.7 feet; thence go North 79 degrees 20' right 357.7 feet to the West edge of a black top road; thence Northwest to the South right of way of a second black top road; thence Easterly along the South right of way to the West right of way of County Road 599; thence Southerly along the West right of way to the South line of the North half of the Northeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter; thence West along the South line of the North half of the Northeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter to the Southwest corner of said twenty; thence North along the West line to the point of beginning.

2. That this Ordinance has been published once each week for two (2) successive weeks, prior to passage, within the City of Hanceville, Alabama, and the publication of said notice and ordinance being verbatim.

3. That a public hearing has been held relative to the passage of this ordinance on the 11th day of January 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at which time interested parties and citizens had opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance and any changes relating thereto.

4. That all notices as required by law were given by the City Clerk concerning said public hearing.

5. That upon final passage of this ordinance, all zoning maps, master comprehensive plans or any other documents of the City of Hanceville, Alabama, in conflict with this ordinance be and are hereby changed and amended to reflect the changes and amendments herein.

6. Should any part or portion of this ordinance be held invalid, unenforceable or unconstitutional, for whatever reason, by a court of competent jurisdiction, such ruling shall not affect any other part or portion of this ordinance.

7. **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the above described property is zoned A-1 and that appropriate action be taken to change and modify the City Zoning Map to so reflect the said land as such.

8. This ordinance adopted the ____ day of _____ _____shall take effect after its publication as required by law, including notice, publication and public hearing, all in accordance with Section 11-52-1, et seq., Code of Alabama 1975, as amended.

ATTEST: _____ Mayor Kenneth Nail

_____
Tania C. Wilcox, City Clerk

Flu (from Front)

ceive an influenza vaccination. For more information contact the Immunization Division of the Alabama Department of Public Health at 334-206-5023 or toll free at 800-469-4599, and visit alabamapublichealth.gov/immunization.

Yutaka (from Front)

we just couldn't do it. It's hard to give the kids the Christmas they want, and for some kids, this is the only Christmas they'll have. If they're in care, we at least want to make sure they have a good Christmas."

Cullman DHR currently has 265 children in foster care; a few of whom, including kids up to 7 years old, will be receiving their very first Christmas presents this year.

"This is a fun but exhausting time of year for our staff and foster parents. Our halls and our cars are filled with toys and the hustle and bustle of Christmastime.

"That would not be the case without the support of our partner groups and agencies within the community," said Cullman DHR Director Amy Smith.

"We are so grateful to the many sponsors we have that make sure our 200-plus children in foster care have the Christmas that they deserve. Our community is one that responds every single time we ask for anything for our kids."

Smith said the department has received help this holiday season from many community sponsors, including: Yutaka, Kids to Love, Desperation Church, The Cullman Realtors Association, Second Century League, Holly Pond High School, other various local churches, civic groups and individuals throughout the community. "The department just does not have the resources available to make Christmas happen for our families without such generosity from the community," she shared.

To find out how you can help DHR's foster children, call the Cullman office at 256-737-5300.

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