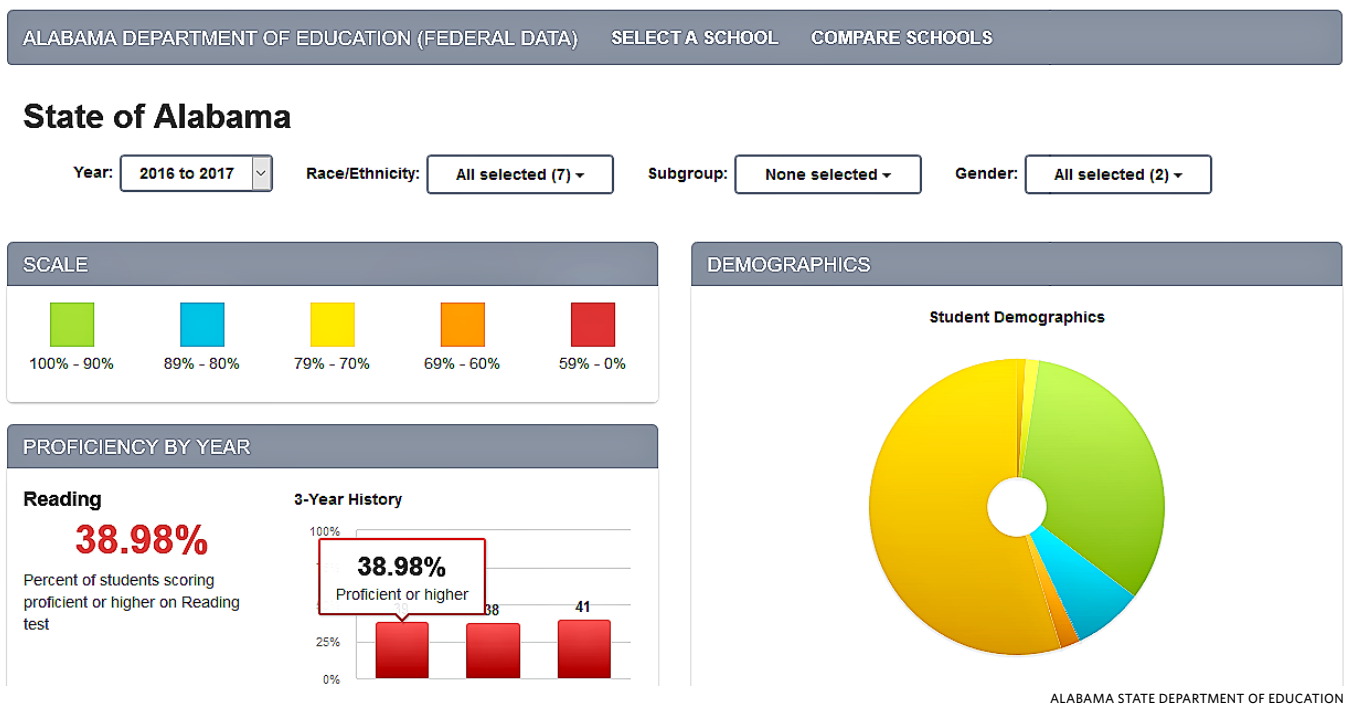
The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

VOL. 145 • 50¢ PER COPY | JANUARY 9, 2018 | USPS 139-700 • NO. 4

ASDE publishes school data dashboard

County superintendent responds to preliminary performance report



ALABAMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Alabama State Department of Education published its new online dashboard system on Dec. 30, 2017. For now, the system includes only partial "report card" data and partial ACT Aspire results. The state "report card" will be released on Feb. 1, 2018.

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – The Alabama State Department of Education (ASDE) recently published its new online dashboard system. The system, for now, shows federal data for public schools, statewide, and enables users to see information from individual schools and school systems and to compare that data between schools. It also contains ACT Aspire test scores, on which the "Proficiency by Year" percentage scores are based. Some of those scores have been published by a local website, according to Cullman County Schools Superintendent Shane Barnette, and have been taken by readers to be the annual state "report card" promised by the ASDE through the Alabama Accountability System (AAS). This is not the case. State report card data will not be released until Feb. 1; however, ASDE officials said the state report card data will be also be shared, when released, through the public dashboard system.

The AAS' official purpose statement reads:

"Alabama ACT No. 2012-402, requires the State Superintendent of Education to develop a school grading system reflective of school and district performance. Alabama's goal is to provide another transparent layer of accountability as it relates to Elementary and Secondary education in the State.

"This law requires the state to use state-authorized assessments and other key performance indicators that give a total profile of the school or school system, or both, a school's grade, at a minimum shall be based on a combination of student achievement scores, achievement gap, college and career readiness, learning gains, and other indicators as determined by the State Superintendent of Education to impact student learning and success."

Last year's state report card scores (see www.cullmantribune.com/articles/2017/01/03/state-releases-f-report-card-2015-2016-wide-range-results-throughout-cullman and www.cullmantribune.com/articles/2017/01/19/county-schools-superintendent-shane-barnette-addresses-state-dept-education) were based on several factors:

• Learning Gains (for schools that have no grade 12) - Determined based on individual students who demonstrate improvement in reading/math from one year to the next using multiple years of data.

• Student Achievement- Determined based on the percentage of proficient students in the area of reading/math utilizing assessments in tested grades.

• Graduation Rate (for schools that have grade 12) - Determined based on the percentage of high school students who graduate within 4 or 5 years of first entering the 9th grade.

• Local Indicators- Created by individual schools, approved by the ALSDE and required to be tied to student outcomes.

So, taking all of that into consideration, readers should be aware that the data, as it exists today in the dashboard, is not yet complete. The scores included in the preliminary report represent, according to Barnette, only a portion of a larger document that will be the actual state "report card" scheduled for public release on Feb. 1.

About the ACT Aspire test

The proficiency scores in the report are based on ACT Aspire scores from tests administered as follows:

• reading proficiency, grades 3-8, 10

• mathematics, grades 3-8, 10

• science, grades 5, 7, 10

• Not all grades take the test, and in some cases, not all grades listed may be tested. The results, then, do not represent the total performance of a school or system, but more of a snapshot taken at a certain point in the process.

State contract canceled

It should be noted that the 2016-17 school year was the last in which the ACT Aspire assessment was planned to be used. For years, Alabama students across the board scored lower » PAGE 4

Festival of the Cranes returns this weekend

Event will take place Jan. 13-14 at Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Whooping crane

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

DECATUR – If you're looking for something out of the ordinary that doesn't involve lots of mileage or money, consider a short trek up the road to Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge in Decatur for the Festival of the Cranes this weekend. It's different, it's close, it's family-friendly and it's free!

Since a successful directed migration program brought large numbers of cranes to Wheeler in 2011, a population of sandhill and whooping cranes has made Wheeler its winter home.

Up to 14,000 sandhill cranes temporarily occupy the refuge, and up to seven rare and endangered whooping cranes can be seen each day from the refuge's wildlife observation building. Fewer than 700 whooping cranes are alive today, with less than 600 in the wild.

Wheeler's Festival of the Cranes will take place at the refuge's visitor center, 3121 Visitors Center Road, Decatur, from 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

The event will include bird viewing, birding workshops, children's activities, nature walks and sponsor booths. Admission to the refuge and all events is free.

Raptor shows

If tougher birds are more your thing, the Southeastern Raptor Center at Auburn University will present live shows featuring birds of prey, in » PAGE 4

Cullman Farm-City youth awards

Doris Patterson
Contributor

These Cullman Farm-City youth winners were selected from more than 400 students across Cullman County by the Cullman Farm-City Committee.

Outstanding Youth Award Winners for Cullman County are selected each year based on citizenship, community service and school involvement.

More than 350 students entered the Farm-City poster contest.

The first-place winners' posters will now compete in the state contest.



DORIS PATTERSON

Grade K-3 winners pictured left to right are: first place, Lyric Antone of West Point; second place, Mason McDonald of Good Hope; and third place, Latham Shuford of Cold Springs.



DORIS PATTERSON

Winners in the 4-6 grade division are pictured left to right: first place, Mattie Wix of Good Hope; second place, Elaina Agnello of Sacred Heart; and third place, Boston Gibbs of Holly Pond.



DORIS PATTERSON

Pictured left to right are: Outstanding Future Farmers of America (FFA) Members Paige Quick of West Point and Sydni Benefield of Holly Pond; Outstanding 4-H Member Colby Tyree of West Point; and Outstanding Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Members Jessica Roden and Rachel Haynes of Cold Springs.

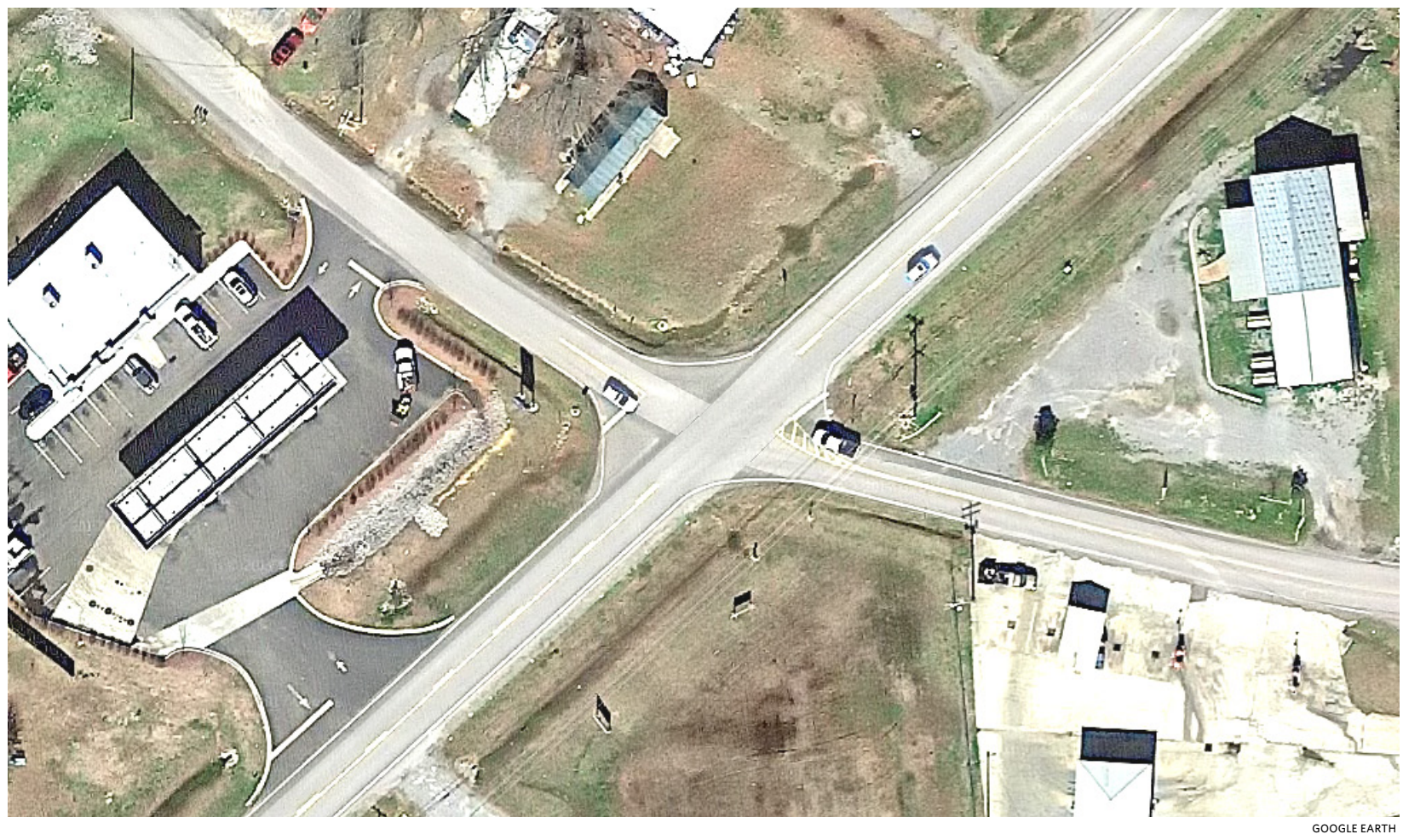
Basch Bros. POWERSPORTS
Husqvarna
POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC
TORO
3330 AL HWY 157 • CULLMAN, AL 35055 • 256-734-3225

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JANUARY 9, 2018

Community response to crashes at AL 91 intersection brings ALDOT to Hanceville

ALDOT director: "We will do something here"

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com



GOOGLE EARTH

According to Mayor Nail, the Hwy. 91/Edmondson Rd. intersection has been the scene of three traffic fatalities.

HANCEVILLE – After the death of a Crane Hill man due to a crash at the intersection of Alabama Highway 91 and Edmondson Road in Hanceville Thursday evening (www.cullmantribune.com/articles/2018/01/05/crane-hill-man-id-d-victim-thursday-night-crash-hanceville), the most recent of multiple traffic fatalities at that location, online action by local citizens got the attention of the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) with an email campaign that reached the office of Governor Kay Ivey herself.

After the accident that claimed the life of Burshel Boatrite on Thursday, local residents who read Hanceville Mayor Kenneth Nail's social media post on the incident took to their keyboards, leading to a excited follow-up post from Nail on Friday evening (edited):

"I received a call tonight at 8:15 from Mr. John Cooper. He is the Alabama Department of Transportation Director. He will be meeting me in the morning at 11 at Dale's to discuss a red light.

"Also, the Governor's office said they had received about a dozen emails from the Hanceville area about the traffic signal at Alabama Highway 91 and Edmondson Road.

"Folks, when we stick together, we can accomplish anything. We've not got the traffic signal yet, but we got their attention. Thanks, everybody."

"We did put on Facebook," Nail told The Tribune on Saturday, "that your emails to the Governor's Office and DOT would be appreciated. And the Governor's Office--the Assistant Chief of Staff--did call me back yesterday, and said that he had received several emails from the Hanceville area, requesting a light there."

On Saturday, the head of ALDOT, Transportation Director John Cooper, personally came up from Montgomery to meet with Nail and other Hanceville officials at the scene of the accident. Afterward, the mayor sat down with The Tribune for a briefing on what took place.

"We met with Mr. John Cooper around 11 o'clock today at Dale's. That's at Edmondson Road and Alabama Highway 91 where the fatality occurred the other night. Of course, this is the third fatality that I know of that's occurred at this intersection, which is kind of strange.

"And Mr. Cooper was baffled, also, because the line of sight--you can see a mile both ways there. We don't quite understand that.

"He kind of indicated to me that he thought a red light was out, there; (ALDOT) probably would not go with a red light. And I told him that the City would be happy--along with a couple of council members there with me--told him that we would be happy to have a four-way stop.

"And he said he was going to talk with Curtis (Vincent), his local district engineer, next week, and he said, 'We will do something here.' Now, I don't know what that something is, but he said, 'We're going to do something here.'"

Hwy. 91 and Edmondson Road meet each other at an angle, and an early attempt to address issues there involved painting curved "islands" on the pavement to get Edmondson vehicles to square up and stop perpendicular to Hwy. 91, to make sure drivers could more easily look to their right before pulling out.

That effort proved unsuccessful, as Nail explained, "The state came in about a year ago and painted on the road there, and tried to get the traffic to straighten up with the road.

"Of course, 90 percent of the people who pull up there, they just pull across the paint, and still kind of look over their right shoulder. So, I don't know that that's working.

"He kind of indicated that they might, and I say might, put a concrete barrier there. That could happen.

"Either way, I don't think that's going to be that big of a deal, but we're still hoping for a four-way stop."

Safety over convenience

"Now, I understand some people are not going to be happy, if they put in a four-way stop, about coming down Hwy. 91 and having to stop at a stop sign. I understand that.

"But, you know, the small bit of inconvenience that is, is that anything to compare to possibly my family or your family's life? I don't think so. So I told Mr. Cooper that we were ready to bear the pressure if folks didn't like it. I don't think that's going to happen. What I've heard, people want it; but we'll see."

CRIME
Arrest report: Jan. 5-7

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – Below are the arrests reported for Jan. 5-7. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Brooks, Anthony De Jon, 19
- second-degree promoting prison contraband
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

Clemmenson, Matthew Frederick, 44
- failure to appear- first-degree theft of property

Cobb, William Grant, 41
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Franklin, Ginger Lovell, 44
- third-degree domestic violence harassment

Freeman, Joshua Aaron, 36
- third-degree domestic violence harassment

Golden, Jarod Nelson, 36
- DUI- controlled substance
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance (2 counts)

Graveman, Amy Marie, 40
- judge's order- DUI-influence of alcohol

Hale, Alton Shane, 34
- failure to appear- first-degree criminal mischief
- nonsupport

Harbison, Ann Marie Holloway, 34
- failure to appear-possession of drug paraphernalia

Haynes, Ashley Nicole, 30
- third-degree domestic violence harassment

James, Angela Pugh, 40
- probation violation-unlawful possession of a controlled substance
- probation violation-unlawful manufacturing of a controlled substance

King, Sebastian Wade, 24
- failure to appear-speeding

Madison, James Austin, 24
- first-degree theft of property

McDonald, Steven Scott, 32
- negotiating a worthless negotiable instrument

Parson, Billy Alexander, 21
- second-degree bail jumping- possession of drug paraphernalia
- second-degree bail jumping- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Purser, Angel Marie, 26
- permitting dogs to run at large

Purser, Tony D. Jr., 29
- permitting dogs to run at large

Turcios, Jessica Lynette, 24
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Skipper, James E., 53
- public intoxication

Gardner, Jonathan A. Jr., 24
- public intoxication
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
- possession of drug paraphernalia

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Cooper, Mark-Twain A., 19
- providing false information to a law enforcement officer

Maddux, William T., 27
- murder
- failure to appear- DUI
- failure to appear-expired tag
- failure to appear-reckless driving
- failure to appear-possession of drug paraphernalia

Tucker, Mark A., 46
- third-degree burglary (2 counts)

Aldijaili, Keith T., 22
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Morton, Jon W., 28
- failure to appear-insurance violation (2 counts)
- failure to appear-driving without a license
- failure to appear-driving while suspended

Parker, Gloria F., 62
- failure to appear- third-degree criminal trespassing
- failure to appear-disorderly conduct

Medlock, James E., 22
- failure to appear-fourth-degree theft of property

Clark, Stephen S., 26
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Garner, Brian L., 25
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Burgess, Christopher A., 28
- trafficking
- unlawful possession or receipt of a controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- failure to appear- public intoxication

Marsh, Stacie L., 31
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Harrison, David E. Jr., 31
- failure to appear- third-degree domestic violence

Wilson, Wayne T. Jr., 41
- fourth-degree theft of property

Golden, Kate M., 24
- unlawful possession or receipt of a controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests reported.

Find arrest reports online Monday-Friday at www.CullmanTribune.com.

The Cullman Tribune
Cullman County's Oldest Business, Serving the area since 1874
Publication Number USPS-139-700
Telephone: 256-739-1351 Fax: 1-256-739-4422

Humble Roots, LLC
Published Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 219 2nd Avenue SE, Cullman, Alabama 35055 Entered as periodical material at the Cullman Post Office Periodical postage paid at Cullman, Alabama 35055

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGE TO:
The Cullman Tribune
219 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Email Address: robin@cullmansense.com

ANNUALLY BASED RATES

Cullman.....$75.00
Outside Cullman.....$85.00

NoahGalilee–Publisher
DustinIsom–Editor
Wendy Sack – Newsroom Editor
LorettaGillespie–Lifestyle/Religion
HeatherMann–GeneralReporter
Will Hogue – General Reporter
W.C. Mann– General Reporter
Andrew Cryer – General Reporter
Nick Griffin - Reporter
Joe McElroy - Photographer
Bill Piper - Photojournalist
Howard Cole - Photojournalist
Josh McBrayer–Sports Reporter
RobinWinton–NewsroomManager

COURTS

2 advocacy groups sue 49 AL sheriffs over feeding of inmates

Civil rights groups want access to public records

Aaron Littman, Frank Knaack

GREENSBORO – On Friday, the Southern Center for Human Rights and Alabama Appleseed Center for Law and Justice filed Southern Center for Human Rights and Alabama Appleseed Center for Law and Justice v. Kenneth Ellis, et al., a lawsuit in Hale County Circuit Court challenging the refusal of 49 Alabama sheriffs to produce public records showing whether, and if so by how much, they have personally profited from funds allocated for feeding people in their jails.

Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry is named in the suit.

Many sheriffs in Alabama contend that a state law authorizing them to personally "keep and retain" taxpayer dollars provided for feeding people in their jails permits them to take any amounts they do not spend on food as personal income. "This archaic system is based on a dubious interpretation of state law that has been rejected by two different Attorneys General of Alabama, who concluded that the law merely allows sheriffs to manage the money and use it for official purposes not to line their own pockets," said Aaron Littman, a staff attorney at the Southern Center for Human Rights. "It also raises grave ethical concerns, invites public corruption, and creates a perverse incentive to spend as little as possible on feeding people who are in jail."

In an effort to learn which sheriffs across the state have taken taxpayers' money from jail food funds, and by how much they have profited, the plaintiff organizations have sent letters requesting copies of financial records showing how much each has kept for personal use. Although certain sheriffs have responded in compliance with Alabama's open records law, 49 sheriffs have refused for nearly half a year to comply with their clear obligations to produce the records, claiming instead that these documents are "personal." Some even recently responded to a request by the plaintiff organizations for records regarding any jail food obtained for free or shortly before its expiration date with the same argument.

"The public has a right to know whether sheriffs are meeting the basic human needs of incarcerated people in their care, or are instead filling their personal coffers," said Frank Knaack, the executive director of Alabama Appleseed. "The Alabama Public Records Law exists so that we can hold our government accountable. Unfortunately, a number of sheriffs have decided that our public records law does not apply to them."

The Southern Center for Human Rights receives reports from people in Alabama jails that they are being provided inadequate or unhealthy meals, or food that is spoiled or contaminated. In 2009, the former Morgan County sheriff was held in contempt and jailed by a federal judge after he purchased half of an 18-wheeler load of corn dogs for $500 and fed them to inmates at every meal. During the preceding year, he had skimmed almost $100,000 from his office's food money account.

It is presently unknown how much money sheriffs across the state have taken because most do not report it as income on state financial disclosure forms. What is clear is that the sums can be significant. One sheriff who did make such a report took more than $250,000 in "compensation" from "food provisions" in both 2016 and 2015. Another sheriff was held in contempt of a federal court in 2017 after removing $160,000 from the jail food account and investing it in a used car dealership.



CONTRIBUTED

The lawsuit was filed in Hale County Circuit Court. The plaintiff organizations, represented by attorneys at the Southern Center for Human Rights and Jake Watson and Rebekah Keith McKinney of Huntsville, seek an order from the court that the records they have requested are public, and that the defendant sheriffs must produce them. They have requested that their suit be consolidated with a related case filed by Sheriff Kenneth Ellis which is currently pending before the same court and involves the same question of public access to information about how sheriffs profit from jail food funds.

FOXGLOVES & FIREFLIES

Whatnots

Loretta Gillespie
Tribune Correspondent

I've been constantly reminded of my grandparents' house this morning. First, I got up way before daylight, about 4:15 a.m., which they always did, else they'd never have enough hours in the day to work in the fields and all the other things it took to feed 11 children. By the time the sun came up they'd done what we would consider a half-day's work. My granddaddy probably thought of sunrise as we think of midday.

It might have been the cold that brought them and their house so vividly to mind, because on winter mornings like this, it was frigid in those bedrooms! We'd been tucked in the night before under as many as 14 quilts, but that mattress was still awfully cold until your body heat caused it to warm enough for you to drift off to sleep in a little nest that you'd wallowed out for your body, knees tucked up as far as they'd go into the fetal position, and only your nose sticking out from under the little tent you'd made with the quilt to cover your head as best you could. You drifted off to sleep with the beep from the electric fence box playing its little annoying lullaby.

They lived on a paved road. Many people didn't at that time in the late 1950s. From way down toward Russellville you could hear the 18-wheelers coming full throttle. The whine peaked right about the place even with the house, and then you heard them gear down for the sharp curve just past my grandparents' place. The house, which I'm almost sure was formerly a dog-trot style house, was by necessity large, holding 13 people when all of the kids were still at home, and it was impossible to heat back then, with no such thing as central units or inferred heaters.

They heated only the two front rooms, the kitchen by stove, and the living room, or front room, was kept warm by a huge old coal heater, kept stoked and filled by whichever boy had the misfortune to be the first to have to visit the outhouse, located next to the coal pile out back.

That old heater roared to life with the addition of newspapers and other burnable paper or cardboard that could be found. It was the only thing that promised warmth so that when you were called to breakfast, you forced yourself with the greatest exertion of willpower to climb out from under that mountain of quilts and made it to the front room in record time so frostbite wouldn't set in, your toes already feeling numb with the cold when they hit the floor.

That floor was covered in what I think they called rolled linoleum. Whatever it was probably came from McCulloch Furniture in Moulton, and was the covering for the entire house. Where cuts had to be made to adjust for doors or seams there were long aluminum strips nailed down to keep it from buckling. And it did nothing at all to insulate the floors because they were like ice in the back rooms.

Shaking with the cold you hovered as closely to that old heater as you dared, knowing that getting too close meant burns that hurt and made you cry. This is where everyone got dressed taking turns out of necessity to be decent, and since I was one of the younger ones, being the first granddaughter, I always had a little help with reluctant buttons and stubborn zippers. That help came from whichever aunt happened to be in the mood to braid hair or tie shoe laces. Usually they were too busy taking the tissue paper and pink sponge rollers out of their hair to be very diligent about youngsters underfoot.

Meanwhile, my grandmother, that paragon of diligence and virtue who never raised her voice in anger, wore an apron everywhere except to church, and knew how to wring a chicken's neck (making her something of a cross between a witch doctor and a magician in my 6-year-old eyes) would be in the kitchen, having already milked the cows, fed the pigs and chickens and made 50 or so biscuits from scratch (although canned biscuits were invented in the South in 1931 , by Lively Willoughby of Louisville, Kentucky at Ballard & Ballard Company and later merchandised by Pillsbury, most farm wives would have sooner cut of a digit than to serve canned biscuits) and started the ham or bacon, and the eggs, which were, or course, gathered fresh from the hen house that morning.

Those eggs were from free-range chickens before the term was trendy. Their yolks were as yellow as the sun, sometimes as orange as the sunset, and they looked beautiful on plates chipped along the edges from much handling and handwashing in big galvanized tubs.

But the focal point of breakfast at my grandparents' house wasn't the eggs, it was the coffee, but not just plain old coffee. It was poured up into oversized cups, more like mugs, then, according to how grown up you were, milk and sugar were added. Today, when I drink coffee, it is much the same as it was back then, pale mocha in color, about half as strong Eight O'Clock coffee cut with half a cup of milk, only now it's Creamora and then it was straight from the cow.

Everyone was seated by this time; being late for the bus was unacceptable. My grandmother then went down both sides of the table with a big pan of hot biscuits in tow.

Her hands, rough and careworn, were oblivious to the scorching heat from the biscuits as she crumbled biscuits into the hot liquid. Those hands were farm wife hands, used to wringing cold sheets and hanging them on the line, winter and summer. They were calloused from picking things with sharp nettles, like cotton, and blackberries, and gathering, shelling, snapping, peeling and chopping anything that she could grow. Her hands were oblivious to the heat of the biscuits, but I could see steam coming out when she crumbled them into my cup.

I guess this trip down memory lane might have been triggered when I started a big pot of chicken stew this morning, the potatoes and onions probably made the steam smell like their house. She always had a pot of something, even if it was just water, boiling on the back eye of the stove.

If it wasn't a school day, or if it was summertime, we were expected to do our chores. You might have your children or grandchildren look up this word. Chores are not something you are paid an allowance to do, they were jobs assigned mostly by age, and you were expected to do them without being prompted.

My chore was to dust my grandmother's whatnots. They sat on a whatnot shelf. (If you have those kids looking up stuff, you might find that the definition of a whatnot is bric-a- brac.) I never heard of bric-a-brac back then, but I sure enough knew all about whatnots, especially how not to break a whatnot, which wasn't easy in this case. I'm a little bit surprised that I was chosen for this task, being only 6 or 7.

Whatnots were gifts given to my grandmother by children and grandchildren and probably from sisters and brothers of hers, or their children. You give someone a whatnot if the item in question reminds you of the person receiving it. There were a lot of ceramic chickens on my grandmother's whatnot shelf.

But there were also pom-pom poodles connected by little chains (I have no idea what reminded someone of my grandmother, since she would never have had a use for something so frivolous as a poodle that would be good for nothing on a farm) and cows, pigs, ladies in fancy dresses, old men smoking tiny corncob pipes and tiny tea pots with "See Rock City" on the side. (It was also painted on the neighbor's barn.)

Those whatnots were precious to my grandmother for some reason. She would sit and look at them fondly, relating where every one of them came from and who had given it to her on what occasion.

I know that chicken stew, cold drafts coming underneath the door and coffee reminded me of those precious people this morning, but I have no idea what brought on the memory of whatnots. Perhaps this is just one of those nostalgic days that crop up from time to time, lest we forget the people who raised us, instilled in us their hard work ethic and their love for home and hearth, and especially for family. It's taken me until just now to figure out that she didn't really love those little whatnots – she loved the people they reminded her of – much like this story reminds me of her.

BUSINESS

Tractor Supply celebrates grand opening in new location

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – After months of redesign and reconstruction, the old K-Mart building is back in business. On Saturday, Tractor Supply Company held its grand opening in its new facility. It wasn't a big move--just next door, but according to Manager Chris Terry, even one-third of the K-Mart building almost doubled the indoor floor space of the old location.

"The community's always been good to Tractor Supply," said Terry. "It's been a busy store, a high-volume store, and it was just time to make more room. It helps us, obviously helps the customers to be able to take care of their needs.

"There was merchandise in that old store we used to sell out of the back room, just because there wasn't room for it out on the floor. So it opened up those opportunities for the company, and made it easier shopping for our customers."

More stuff, warm and dry, and a pet wash!

Not only has the staff been able to move more merchandise from the storage area to the retail floor, they have also been able to bring inside many items like three-point equipment that formerly sat outside exposed to the weather.

They have even added a pet washing station in the back of the store.

Terry explained, "We added a pet wash station, which is a big thing. The customers really like it. They bring their dogs in, or goats, or whatever, and use our pet wash station. We supply the shampoo and that stuff, and it's a $9.99 thing they can do.

"We will expand on some categories; there will be items that we didn't carry in the old store that we'll carry here.

"Our aisles are wider, we have a little bit larger selection. Convenience is a big thing."

As part of its opening celebration, Cullman Tractor Supply made donations of $200 to Cullman 4H, $150 to Hope Horses, Inc. and $150 to the Cullman County Cattlemen's Association.

Tractor Supply is located at 1731 Second Ave. SW in Cullman.



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Manager Chris Terry gave out souvenir hats to visitors at Saturday's grand opening celebration.

Dashboard (from Front)

than expected on the test, and lower on average than they did on the previous state assessment, leading to concerns that Aspire might not be properly aligned with Alabama's curriculum content.

After the results of the spring 2017 Aspire test returned to Alabama by ACT were found to contain bad data, the ASDE voted to cancel its contract with ACT for the Aspire.

The state will continue to use the 11th grade college readiness assessment and 12th grade work readiness assessment from ACT.

The numbers
Compared to last year's profiles, the Aspire scores only represent the "Student Achievement" score. They do not account for daily classroom performance or other school activities, and graduation rates and college/career readiness scores were not readily available.

By comparing 2017 to the two previous years (included in the dashboard chart), though, some idea may be gained about learning gains.

The scores are percentile rankings out of 100, and represent the percentage of students who performed at or above their grade-level standards. Higher scores are better.

County schools
• Reading Proficiency - 41.21
• Mathematics - 44.76
• Science - 35.13
• Learning Gains: From 2015-17, the system showed generally consistent performance in Reading and Science, but a steady gain in Mathematics scores.

City schools
• Reading Proficiency - 59.41
• Mathematics - 70.58
• Science - 59.08
• Learning Gains: From 2015-17, the system showed a small but steady drop in Reading scores, while scoring gains in both Mathematics and Science.

Overall Alabama public school averages
• Reading Proficiency - 38.98
• Mathematics - 43.64
• Science - 34.72
• Learning Gains: The state showed slightly lower Reading scores in 2017 than in 2015, with small but steady gains in both Mathematics and Science across the three-year span.

Cullman City Schools' scores are significantly higher than both the state average and the scores from Cullman County Schools. Even the lower scores of the county schools were still slightly above the state average.

County Superintendent Shane Barnette responds
The Tribune spoke with Barnette, who issued the following statement:

"Some media outlets have published scores stating that they were our system's State Report Card, while in all actuality they represent a small portion of the overall State Report Card.

"The scores that were reported represent one grade, on one test, which the state has since stopped using due to it being considered flawed.

"While we will own our scores and work to improve in that area, the State Report Card doesn't actually come out until Feb. 1st.

"I am extremely proud of the teachers and students in our school system. Our educators work hard every day to help all of our students to be successful."

Separately, the superintendent added: "Yes, those scores do represent a need for improvement in that area, and we have been working hard to address those needs.

"The actual State Report Card pulls data from multiple grade levels and different components. I would love to address the report when it is released."

Statistics
Certain statistics about schools and systems are also available on the ASDE dashboard.

In the Cullman County school system:
• 62.4 percent of students qualify for free or reduced meals. Economically disadvantaged students in the county system averaged seven to eight points below the system average on the Aspire.
• 13.9 percent of students have physical or mental disabilities. The county system has both a larger number and a larger percentage of special needs students than the city system. Special needs students in the county system averaged 30 to 36 points below the system average on the Aspire.
• 53.5 percent of teachers/staff have master's degrees
• 6.1 percent of teachers/staff have post-graduate credentials

In the Cullman City school system:
• 32.1 percent of students qualify for free or reduced meals. Economically disadvantaged students in the city system averaged 14 to 15 points below the system average on the Aspire.
• 8.0 percent of students have physical or mental disabilities. Special needs students in the city system averaged 33 to 44 points below the system average on the Aspire.
• 52.7 percent of teachers/staff have master's degrees
• 4.9 percent of teachers/staff have post-graduate credentials

Find the dashboard online at http://qrne.ws/dashboard.

Look for a full report from The Tribune on the statewide report card data when it is released on Feb. 1.

Cranes (from Front)

conjunction with the festival, at the Princess Theater in downtown Decatur. The shows will take place at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Saturday, and 1:30 p.m. Sunday.

From the Southeastern Raptor Center:
"Due to the popularity of the raptor presentations during the Festival of the Cranes and the limited seating and parking at the refuge visitor center, the three raptor presentations will take place at the historic Princess Theater in downtown Decatur. This will ensure everyone will have the opportunity to enjoy this wonderful entertaining and educational program. The presentations are free as always and everyone is invited to attend. To make it even more convenient to enjoy all the events at Festival of the Cranes, a shuttle will be available to take you to and from the Wheeler Visitor Center to the Princess Theater and other areas of historic downtown Decatur."

At a glance
Festival of the Cranes
Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge visitor center
3121 Visitors Center Road, Decatur
6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday; 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday
Raptor shows at the Princess Theater in Decatur, 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Saturday and 1:30 Sunday

For more information, call Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge at 256-350-6639.





Polar Bear Plunge sees lowest temps ever

Nick Griffin
Tribune Correspondent



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The crowd at this year's Polar Bear Plunge may have been smaller, but it was no less enthusiastic.

CULLMAN – This year's Polar Bear Plunge is in the books and according to CP&R's Director of Marketing Waid Harbison, it was the coldest one on record. Harbison let all the participants know just before the countdown that the pool temperature was sitting around 20 degrees and that they were the bravest group of plungers they've had so far.

This week's historically cold weather deterred some people from participating, but there were still close to 30 people that dove in.

One of those brave swimmers was 15-year-old Jonah Hilb.

Hilb participated in last year's plunge and was hoping for an easier dive this year.

"I don't remember exactly how cold it was last year, I think it's about the same right now," he said.

"It was freezing, the water didn't even feel like water. Hopefully it'll be better this year."

Unfortunately for Hilb, he was diving into the coldest Polar Bear Plunge ever.

After warming back up, he reflected on this year's temperatures.

"It's way colder this year," he laughed.

"Last year was closer to 30 or 40 degrees in the water but this year it was like 20 degrees."

This year's winner of the year-long family membership to the Cullman Wellness and Aquatic Center was Lindy Bennefield, who had her two sons, Isaiah and Zeke, and two nieces, Madison and Brooklyn, also putting their names in the hat and diving into the pool.

The family has been in the event for the last three years and echoed what many people were saying about the frigid temps.

Lindy and her husband Wesley said they had yet to jump into the pool with the kids saying they don't have the guts to get into that January water.

Inside the facility, Community Wellness Week was in full swing with fitness classes, basketball games, food vendors and more all available to the crowds of people taking advantage of the admission-free day.

Memberships were also $50 off for everyone during the week and some people took home giveaway items throughout the day.

The Plunge didn't have its normal crowd, but the courage of the participants has never been higher.

Thank you!

Tribune Staff
Contributor

CULLMAN – The staff of The Cullman Tribune would like to give a big thank you to all of you who donated to our inaugural Christmastime drive for the Cullman County Animal Shelter and the Cullman Area Animal Welfare Association (CAAWA).

We would also like to thank:

- Tori Francis
- Freedom Insurance
- Patricia Hankey
- Angie Frost
- Amber Duke
- Dr. Jonathan Echols
- Samantha Bailey
- Amanda Jones
- Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation

Pepsi Cola
Distributing Company
205 Olive St. SW, Cullman, AL 256-734-9454



Donations to CAAWA



Donations to the Cullman County Animal Shelter



IMAGES COURTESY THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Patricia Bentley and Belle from CAAWA with donations given to the organization.

Harrison
OUTDOORS
DBA Greencraft Mowers
GRASSHOPPER
STIHL
GRAVELY
1414 Sportsman Lake Road
Cullman, AL 35055
256.737.0735
greencraftmowers@bellsouth.net
www.harrisonoutdoors.com

Post-Surgery Drain Management Products
Options
Chemo Caps
Wigs
& More!
Judy Watts Grissom
options5993@gmail.com
Over 150 Wigs In Stock!
256-347-5993
2201 2nd Ave. NW • Cullman, AL 35058

STATE

January is Radon Action Month; ADPH offers free radon test kits

Nick Swindall
Contributor

MONTGOMERY – Do you know that winter is the perfect time to protect the health of yourself and your family from radon? Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States, and is the leading cause of lung cancer in nonsmokers.

"The Environmental Protection Agency estimates radon causes 21,000 deaths in the U.S. a year," said David Walter, director of the Office of Radiation Control, Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH).

"The best time to test for radon is during the colder months, when your home is closed and radon levels are likely to build to their highest concentrations. So this is the time of year to test your home for cancer-causing radon gas, and we encourage you to urge friends and family to test their homes as well."

High levels of indoor radon have been found in many areas of Alabama; however, radon appears to occur most frequently in homes across the Tennessee Valley and in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains from Jefferson and Shelby counties through Cleburne County.

Because radon is a colorless, odorless gas that occurs naturally in soil and rocks through the breakdown of uranium, testing is the only way to know the radon level in a home.

Radon test kits weigh only a few ounces and cost about $15. Testing for radon should be done on the lowest level of the home on which the occupants spend time, so a finished basement or a basement containing a workshop is a good place to test. Kitchens are not recommended testing areas.

"Testing directions are on the kit, and it only takes a few days to obtain a sample," Walter said. "It is easy to perform a radon test on your home."

While radon test kits are available at many larger home improvement stores, Alabama homeowners can order kits online through the National Radon Program Services at http://sosradon.org. In addition, one free test kit per residence is available at http://alabamapublichealth.gov/radon.

If test results are above the levels recommended by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the ADPH, homeowners should consider installing a radon remediation system. Systems generally cost between $1,500 and $2,500, depending on the square footage of the residence and the difficulty in finding a suitable pathway for the radon removal pipe. Homes with a crawl space, no gravel under the slab, or a completely finished lower level sometimes cost more. Visit http://alabamapublichealth.gov/radon for more information.

WRECKER/TOW TRUCK Driver

Clean driving record, clean criminal record, able to pass DOT physical, able to pass pre-employment drug and alcohol screening, must have CDL's, must be 21 years of age or older, good positive work ethics.

NO PHONE CALLS

Stop in office to fill out application
Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Mullins Body Shop, LLC
11042 US Hwy 31 South, Cullman, AL 35055

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF:
JAY COLEMAN GLASSCOCK

) Case No.: ~~PR~~ PC 2017-339

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED
BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

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

Jay Colby Glasscock

Jerry L. Kilgo
O'Neal & Kilgo
Attorney for the Personal Representative
200 2nd Street SE
Cullman, AL 35055

To: THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
Cullman, AL 35055

Please publish the above notice three (3) successive weeks in said newspaper.

HONORABLE TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

Obituary Announcements: Jan. 9- 10

Jeremy Odell Young, 20, of Double Springs, entered into rest on January 5, 2018 at Huntsville Hospital. Mr. Young was born on June 7, 1997, in Birmingham. Jeremy loved his son and enjoyed hunting and fishing with his uncles, and playing the guitar. Funeral services to be held at Nichols Funeral Home in Double Springs on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 11 a.m. Brother Buford Smith will officiate. Burial will follow in Curtis Cemetery. Jeremy is survived by his wife, Nikie "baby girl" Moore; son, Kason Young; parents, Alton Odell Young Jr. and Janet Lee Smith Young; sister, Tosha Michelle Young; grandmother, Jane Smith; aunt and uncles, Tommy Smith and his wife Beth, and Jackie Smith and his wife Veronica; and a host of cousins, other relatives, and friends. He was preceded in death by his half-brother, Christopher Odell Young; grandparents, Alton and Janie Young and Thomas Smith.

Funeral services for Jimmy Mitchell Pigg, 64 of Cullman, will be 2 p.m Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home Chapel, with interment in East Point Cemetery. Rev. Randy Sellers will be officiating. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Mr. Pigg passed away Friday, January 5, 2018, at his home. He was born July 15, 1953, to parents, Ralph and Elli Mae Maddox Pigg. He is preceded in death by his parents; and his daughter, Joni Miranda Pigg. Survivors include his wife, Garrie Day Pigg; his daughter Brandie Johnson; step-daughter, Becky Johnson; three sisters, Mary Fowler McCormick, Bobbie Holmes, Evelyn Pigg; two brothers, Cecil 'Bo" Pigg, Jackie Pigg; seven grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces and nephews. Visitation will be 12 p.m. until 2 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Funeral services for Mrs. Vera Mae Clark, 91 of Cullman, will be at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 in the Cullman Funeral Home Chapel burial will follow at New Hope #2 Cemetery, with Bro. Steve Rodgers officiating. Cullman Funeral Home is directing. Mrs. Clark was born on April 8, 1926; and passed away on January 6, 2018 at Cullman Regional Medical Center. Survivors include 2 – Nieces – Agnus (Kenneth) Nunnelly and Martha (John) Fillmore; one Nephew – David Ramey; and a host of Great-Nieces & Great-Nephews and other family and Friends. Visitation will begin on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 12 p.m. until 2 p.m. at the funeral home.

Mildred Survilla Aderholt, 86, of Double Springs, entered into rest on January 7, 2018 at ECM Hospital. Mildred was born on March 17, 1931 in Leedy, Mississippi. She was a member of Double Springs First United Methodist Church for 55 years. Mildred was a Sunday School Teacher and Church Pianist for many years. She graduated from Burnsville High School and NE Boonville College. Mildred enjoyed painting and taught piano lessons in her home. She was a homemaker and seamstress. Mildred was a devoted wife of 66 years and a devout Christian. She loved her family and always put them first. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 from 12 p.m. until 1 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Haleyville, where services will be held at 1 p.m. Dr. Ron Horton will officiate. Burial will follow in Littleville United Methodist Church Cemetery. Mildred is survived by her husband of 66 years, Hubert L. Aderholt; son, Benji Scott Aderholt and wife Belinda; daughters Melissa A. Deal, Julie Camille Denard and husband Chris; sisters, Margorie Kimbrough, Sue Hubbard; she was "Mawmaw" to 5 grandchildren, Daniel Jeremiah (Donya) Deal, Jonathan Essary (Kaylin) Deal, Wes (Danielle) Todd, Rusty (Sara) Todd, Alexandra Lanye Aderholt; 7 great grandchildren, Jackson Copeland Deal, Preston Daniel Deal, Rowan Asher Deal, Dylan Foster Deal, William Daniel Deal, Maddux John Todd, Maizy Elizabeth Todd; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father, James Otto Strickland; mother, Martha Jesse Strickland; brothers. James Ancil Strickland, William Boyce Strickland, John Houston Strickland; sister, Kathyrn Robinson. The family would like to send a special thanks to the Palliative Care Nurses and Doctors at ECM for the loving care given to our mother and family.

Bobby Wallace Byars was born November 2, 1943 to Jessie Wallace Byars and Lena Gibson Byars Denton. He was a Retired Coal Minor. Mr. Byars passed away on January 6,2018 at the age of 74. He was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his son: Jeff Byars, Daughter-in –law: Heather Byars, Granddaughter: Claire Byars, 2 Brothers: Rex Byars, Rodger Byars, 2 Sisters: Myrl Dyer, Shirley Nuss. A host of Nieces & Nephews. Memorial Services for Mr. Byars will be Tuesday Night January 9, 2018 at 6 p.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home.

Memorial Graveside services for Mr. Henry Clay Smith, Jr.; 66 of West Point, will be at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at Cullman City Cemetery, with Bro. Steve Rodgers officiating. Military honors will be rendered. Cullman Funeral Home is directing. Mr. Smith was born on July 23, 1951 in Cullman; and passed away on January 6, 2018. He is preceded in death by his parents, Henry Clay Smith, Sr. and Opal Doyle Smith. Survivors include his Daughter – Tonya Woods; 2 – Grandsons – Dylan Woods & Tony Curry; Sister – Peggy (Buck) Brown; Brother – Jerry (Cindy) Smith; 2 – Nieces – Tracey (Eric) Litz & Brandy Brown; 2 – Nephews – Chris (Rhonda) Smith & Jeff (Cindy) Smith; and a Host of other Family & Friends.

Free Obituary Listings

HAVE YOUR FUNERAL HOME CONTACT US

Email: robin@cullmansense.com • Fax: 256-739-4422

Complete obituaries may be found free of charge at CullmanTribune.com/obituaries.

THE TOMBSTONE COMPANY

Custom Granite Headstones and Monuments
Date of Death Engraving in Cemeteries
Locally Made and Locally Owned
Low Cost, High Quality
30-Day Delivery, Guaranteed
We Use Only American Granite

2117 US Hwy 278 West
Cullman, AL 35057
(2 miles West of I-65)
256-734-2005
Saturdays by Appointment
www.thetombstonecompany.com

EARL'S BODY SHOP
2251 Decatur Ave., N.W.
734-2406

Batteries for Car, Truck or Tractor
$38 *Exchange*
A-1 BATTERY SUPPLY
Cullman, Alabama

THE BARN
Portable Storage Buildings
Hanceville, AL
352-2737

Your protection is personal.

Get a quote today from:



Martha A Burchell
Burchell Ins Agency Inc
(256)737-7450
burchem@nationwide.com

Auto. Home. Life. Business.

Nationwide®
is on your side

Products underwritten by Nationwide Mutual Company and Affiliated Companies, Columbus, Ohio. Subject to underwriting guidelines, review and approval. Nationwide and the Nationwide N and Eagle are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. NPO-0194M1.1 (09/14)

Subscribe to The Cullman Tribune today and have it delivered to your door!

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS
- In County - $75
- Out of County - $85

EXCLUSIVE
The Culman Tribune

Name
Address
E-mail

Send checks to
219 2nd Ave. SE
Cullman, AL 35055
256-739-1351

PREP INDOOR TRACK

Ice Breaker Invitational: local results

Sammy Confer
Tribune Correspondent

BIRMINGHAM – The Ice Breaker Invitational indoor track meet was held over the weekend at the Birmingham CrossPlex. Below are results from local participants.

Class 1A
Addison: Emee Baldwin- 2nd in High Jump at 9′6″
Meek: Jaycey Bowling- 15th in Pole Vault at 7′

Class 2A
Cold Springs: (Girls) Lilly McSpadden- 16th in High Jump at 4′6″
Cold Springs: (Boys) Cole Akridge- 31st in 800-Meter Run with 2:22.99, Jonathan Collett- 27th in 1,600-Meter Run with 5:16.18, Akridge- 36th in 5:24.71, C.J. Lang- 51st in 5:36.46

Class 5A
Fairview: (Girls) Lorin Zehr- 5th in Shot Put at 30′6″
Fairview: (Boys) Quinton Chambers- 17th in 800-Meter Run in 2:16.94, Chambers- 16th in 1,600-Meter Run in 5:02.97, Cody Fallin- 22nd in 5:11.18, Dylan Garner- 10th in Shot Put at 38′7″
West Point: (Girls) 60-Meter Dash: Lauren Garrett- 68th in 9.92, 400-Meter Dash: Garrett- 77th in 1:27.73, 60-Meter Hurdles: Sadie Junkins- 12th at 10.66, Long Jump: Junkins- 15th at 14-11.75, Shot Put: Shelby Sellers- 2nd at 32′7″
West Point: (Boys) 60-Meter Dash: Hunter Appling- 4th in 7.25, Joshua Couch- 15th in 7.48, Luke Hammond- 27th in 7.56, Raylon Moore- 85th in 8.49, 400-Meter Dash: Blake Diestelow- 38th in 56.59, Samuel Flores- 81st in 1:01.79 1,600-Meter Run: Jeremy Reid- 81st in 6:16.67, 60-Meter Hurdles: Appling- 1st in 8:18, Couch- 19th in 10.36, 4X200-Meter Relay: Relay Team-12th in 1:42.70, Long Jump: Couch- 33rd at 15′7″, Moore- 36th at 15′3.75″

Class 6A
Cullman: (Girls) Triple Jump: Lexi Daily- 16th at 32′5.5″, Pole Vault: Anna Franklin- 9th at 9′, Shot Put: Madelyn Hendrix- 34th at 25′11″, Raigan Canter- 44th at 23′8.5″
Cullman: (Boys) 400-Meter Dash: Edgar Medina- 66th in 55.94, Adam Mangum- 96th in 58.18, Walker Huddleston- 109th at 59.95, 800-Meter Run: Mangum- 44th in 2:15.60, Will Thompson- 65th in 2:20.23, Huddleston- 68th in 2:21.51, 1,600-Meter Run: Eli Wilhite- 5th in 4:32.36, Jackson Tucker- 21st in 4:45.18, Tucker Adkison- 32nd in 4:52.32, Thompson- 47th in 4:58.38, 3,200-Meter Run: Preston White- 48th in 11:24.11, 60-Meter Hurdles: Will Kress- 9th in 9.06, 4X800-Meter Relay: Relay Team- 9th in 8:48.77, High Jump: Colton Smith- 4th at 6′2″, Long Jump: Cameron Baumgartner- 38th at 17′11.5″, Shot Put: Garrett Crider- 37th at 33′0.5″, Will Reid- 41st at 32′2.25″



HEITH YEARWOOD

West Point High School's Hunter Appling placed first in the 60-meter hurdles and fourth in 60-meter dash.

EDUCATION

9 area students graduate from Troy University

Provost's and Chancellor's Lists for Fall Semester/Term 2

Matt Clower
Contributor

TROY – Troy University is pleased to recognize students who completed the requirements for graduation during the Fall Semester and Term 2 of the 2017/2018 academic year.

Local-area residents who graduated include:
• Christina Donnell, of Blountsville, graduated with the Bachelor of Science degree
• Madeline Puckett, of Cleveland, graduated with the Bachelor of Science degree
• Jacob Spiker, of Altoona, graduated with the Master of Science in International Relations degree
• Brada Acevedo, of Oneonta, graduated with the Bachelor of Science degree
• Christopher Fisher, of Cullman, graduated with the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree
• Brianna Killough, of Blountsville, graduated with the Bachelor of Science in Education degree
• Sarah Taylor, of Oneonta, graduated with the Bachelor of Science degree
• Adam Tekulve, of Oneonta, graduated with the Bachelor of Science in Education degree
• Allyson Waldrop, of Hanceville, graduated with the Bachelor of Science degree

Troy University Provost's List for Fall Semester/ Term 2
Troy University is pleased to announce students who have been named to the Provost's List for the Fall Semester and Term 2 of the 2017/2018 academic year. Full-time undergraduate students who are registered for at least 12 semester hours and who have a grade point average of at least 3.65 qualify for the Provost's List.

Local-area students who made the list include:
• Rebekah McPherson, of Cullman
• Amanda Hines, of Cullman
• Tanner Jackson, of Cullman
• Kalle Killough, of Oneonta
• Eliya Knight, of Oneonta
• Alexandria Soli, of Hayden

Troy University Chancellor's List for Fall Semester/Term 2
Troy University is pleased to announce students who have been named to the Chancellor's List for the Fall Semester and Term 2 of the 2017/2018 academic year.

Full-time undergraduate students who are registered for at least 12 semester hours and who earn a grade point average of 4.0 qualify for the Chancellor's List.

Local-area students who made the list include:
• James Franklin, of Locust Fork
• Josie Boyd, of Bremen
• Maggie Doss, of Hayden
• Brianna Killough, of Blountsville
• Madison Neal, of Oneonta
• Sarah Taylor, of Oneonta
• Adam Tekulve, of Oneonta
• Emily Oden, of Cullman
• Oakleigh White, of Cullman
• Mace Schneekloth, of Arab
• Allyson Waldrop, of Hanceville

The Fall Semester includes students at the Troy campus. Term 2 includes students at TROY's campuses in Dothan, Phenix City and Montgomery, along with locations outside of Alabama and online.

AUTO INSURANCE
Senior Driver Discounts Age 60 & Above
Virgil B. Fowler Insurance Agency
"Quality Since 1935"
256-734-3821
www.vbfowlerinsurance.com



Prep Basketball: Jan. 9-13 schedule

Sammy Confer
Tribune Correspondent

Tuesday, Jan. 9
• Cold Springs @ St. Bernard (VG, VB)
• Cullman @ West Point (9B, JVG, JVB, VG, VB)
• Hayden @ Fairview (JVG, JVB, VG, VB)
• Hanceville @ Good Hope (JVG, JVB, VG, VB)
• J.B. Pennington @ Holly Pond (JVG, JVB, VG, VB)
• Meek @ Winston County (JHB, VG, VB)
• Oakman @ Vinemont (JVB, VG, VB)

Thursday, Jan. 11
• Addison @ Meek (JHG, JHB, VG. VB)
• Randolph @ Cullman (JVB, VG, VB)
• St. Bernard @ Vinemont (JVB, VG, VB)

Friday, Jan. 12
• Addison @ Winston County (JHB, VG, VB)
• Falkville @ Cold Springs (JVG, JVB, VG, VB)
• Curry @ Fairview (9B, JVG, JVB, VG, VB)
• Good Hope @ Cordova (9B, JVB, VG, VB)
• Hanceville @ Oakman (JVG, JVB, VG, VB)
• Locust Fork @ Holly Pond (JVG, JVB, VG, VB)
• Lynn @ Meek (JHB, VG, VB)

Saturday, Jan. 13
• Locust Fork @ Cold Springs (JVG, JVB, VG, VB)



CRIME

Hanceville teen charged with capital murder in Etowah County

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

GADSDEN – A 17-year-old from Hanceville is behind bars in Etowah County, charged as an adult with capital murder, according to a report from The Gadsden Times.

The newspaper reported that Tyler Michael Abbott, has been charged in the shooting death of Aaron "A.J." Huff, 18, of Gadsden. The incident happened on Thursday night and is Gadsden's first murder of 2018.

Abbott was taken into custody on Friday.

According to the report, the two young men knew each other and were involved in some sort of altercation prior to meeting up in a nearby parking lot. The shooting happened at the intersection of Litchfield Avenue and Hoke Street, where men were in separate vehicles, Huff a passenger in one and Abbott in one behind Huff. Abbott allegedly got out of the vehicle, approached the vehicle in which Huff was riding and shot him.

Abbott is being held in the Etowah County Detention Center without bond.



ETOWAH COUNTY DETENTION CENTER

Tyler Michael Abbott

The Mortgage Center
NMLS#181775

"Home Mortgages Are Our **Only** Business"

- Purchases ~ Up to 100%
- Conventional, FHA, VA and USDA
- Refinances
- Consolidations/Home Improvements
- Reverse Mortgages
- **LOCAL** Lender

Call us Today!
(256) 734-6193

Apply Online www.themortgagecenterinc.com

"Experience The Difference"

FREEDOM
INSURANCE AGENCY

Gloria Williams/Kris Todd – Agents

Gloria.williams@freedomagency.net

"TIRED OF YOUR RATES GOING UP????"

CALL FREEDOM FOR A RATE QUOTE!

Office: (256) 737-0011 Fax: (256) 737-0616
Home: (256) 734-0463
168 County Road 1435, Cullman, AL 35058



CULLMAN
311
COSMETIC & FAMILY DENTISTRY®



Jonathan Echols
D.M.D., P.C.



Ashley Holladay
D.M.D.

We offer a wide variety of dental services:

SINGLE VISIT DIGITAL CROWNS
DENTAL IMPLANT PLACEMENT

- Teeth Whitening
- Porcelain Veneers
- Digital X-Ray
- Dentures
- Intra-Oral Cameras
- Partials
- Implant Restorations
- Root Canal Procedures

"We treat you like family."

311 6th Avenue SE • Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-7151 • cullmandentist.com
Mon.- Thurs. 8 am-5 pm, Fri. 8 am-1 pm