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Vinemont students hear, accept Rachel's Challenge



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

After the assembly, a banner reading "I Accept Rachel's Challenge" was signed by Vinemont students who pledged to participate in the program.

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

VINEMONT – Across the United States each day, approximately 160,000 students skip school to avoid being bullied. Rachel's Challenge hopes to change not only that number, but the whole culture in which such a number can exist. On Wednesday, students at Vinemont Middle and High Schools accepted that challenge.

So what is Rachel's Challenge?

1. Look for the best in others
2. Dream big
3. Choose positive influences
4. Speak with kindness
5. Start your own chain reaction

The program was created in memory of, and named for, Rachel Joy Scott, the first victim of the 1999 Columbine High School shooting.

The program's website responds to the above statistic by saying:
"It doesn't have to be this way. Creating a school climate less susceptible to harassment, bullying and violence is possible. We see it happening in socioeconomically and demographically diverse schools across North America every day.

"For us it started when Rachel Joy Scott was the first person killed in the Columbine High School shooting on April 20, 1999. But that was only the beginning of the story. After her death, many students that Rachel reached out to shared stories with the Scotts about the profound impact her simple acts of kindness had on their lives; even preventing one young man for taking his own life. They soon realized the transformational effect of Rachel's story and started the nonprofit organization that is Rachel's Challenge today.

"In the nineteen years since we lost twelve innocent lives, including Rachel, her legacy has touched 25 million people and is the foundation for creating programs that promote a positive climate in K-12 schools. Her vision to start a chain reaction of kindness and compassion is the basis for our mission: ***Making schools safer, more connected places where bullying and violence are replaced with kindness and respect; and where learning and teaching are awakened to their fullest.*** And it works!"

Vinemont Middle and High Schools
On Wednesday, Rachel's Challenge came to Vinemont Middle and High Schools. Vinemont teacher Mandy Redding said, "This was very life-changing in some of our other schools. I know Fairview did it a few years ago. So this is something we've been wanting to do for a few years; it's just now been able to get going."

The program arrived in a very personal way, as Rachel Scott's own uncle, Larry Scott, came to address a joint assembly and issue the challenge. Scott told the students and faculty members about how Rachel lived and died, and shared with them the stories of other kids who were touched by Rachel's kindness. His slideshow included pages from Rachel's personal journal.

One-on-one with Larry Scott
After the assembly, while scores of students took their turns pledging to participate in the program by signing their names to a Rachel's Challenge banner, Scott spoke to The Tribune:

What advice would you give to a bully?
"To a bully I would say, 'Quit bullying, and begin to focus your energy on being nice and kind to one another.' You know, it takes a lot of energy to be a bully.

"It takes more muscles to frown that it does to smile. So it's kind of that principle of use your energy to do positive things instead of negative things, and your life will be better, and it'll make everybody else's life better around you.

"And so, all I can ever say to a bully is why--I'd like to first of all ask them, 'Why are you being a bully?' Because there's a lot of things inside a person that causes them to be a bully. Bullies are afraid, too. Bullies usually feel lonely.

"The two boys that did the killings at Columbine, they literally separated themselves from everybody else, made themselves loners, and got in their own little world, » PAGE 5

Search continues for suspect who escaped custody in Hanceville

GoFundMe page set up for officer injured in pursuit



GOFUNDME

Hanceville police officer Jason Hare and his family

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

HANCEVILLE – Hanceville police officer Jason Hare remains in intensive care at UAB Hospital recovering from injuries he sustained Monday evening while in pursuit of an escaped inmate. On Wednesday, a GoFundMe page was set up to raise funds for Hare and his family. Find it at www.gofundme.com/injured-police-officer-jason-hare.

From GoFundMe: "Officer Hare is currently in the ICU where he will remain for several days. Officer Hare is receiving treatment for a broken scapula, fractures and lacerations on his face, head, and neck, a chip on his C spine, and pain in arms upon movement and touch.

"He will endure several surgeries » PAGE 4

A little food and a lot of love: Vinemont Baptist Church's 3rd Saturday Café

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

VINEMONT – They call it the 3rd Saturday Café because it takes place on the third Saturday of every month. It isn't a particularly original name, but it's not really about names, anyway. There's a lot more to it. The Tribune dropped by this month for a bite, and to find out a little more.

The café is a ministry of Vinemont Baptist Church, a small congregation located at 787 County Road 1343 on the northeast side of Vinemont. It gives the needy of the area an opportunity for a hot meal and the fellowship of caring people, and gives the church one more way to touch its community.

"We do this the third Saturday of each month," said coordinator, Dr. Jane Teeter. "Because none of us can remember dates, we named it the 3rd Saturday Café! It's open from 11 to 1 on that Saturday. Anybody can come and eat. Of course, we have it planned for, maybe, people in the community that might want a hot meal or whatever, but anybody (can come); our church members come.

"Last month we fixed 40 plates, and this month we only had four who might actually need a meal. And sometimes they need to use the restroom, even to maybe take a sponge bath--we don't have any kind of shower facilities here--and they've done that before.

"We've been doing this about six months, I think. And we haven't had many, but we want to do » PAGE 4



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

VBC's Dr. Jane Teeter and Lucille Greenwood coordinate the 3rd Saturday Café ministry.

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Cullman extends tax abatement for Royal Technologies; recognizes police achievements; plans new walking trails

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – At a busy meeting Monday evening, the Cullman City Council moved to promote local industry, recreation, and personnel of the Cullman Police Department (CPD).

Royal Technologies tax abatement

The council approved a tax abatement of "all state and local noneducational ad valorem taxes, all construction related transaction taxes, except those construction related transaction taxes levied for educational purposes or for capital improvements for education, and/or all mortgage and recording taxes" for a period of 10 years for Royal Technologies (RT).

The east Cullman manufacturer, had previously received abatements, and was requesting an extension related to their facility expansion currently underway.

RT, in business since 1987, is based in Hudsonville, Michigan, with 1,200 employees working at facilities in that city, Cullman and Mission, Texas.

The company specializes in plastic and urethane foam molding for the automotive and furniture industries, as well as other commercial ventures.

Within Alabama, RT's Cullman facility supplies components to the Hyundai automotive plant in Montgomery, Remington Firearms in Huntsville and REHAU in Cullman.

RT has committed $4,121,462 to a 165,000-square-foot facility expansion that it said would create up to 50 new jobs at the Cullman plant.

Police recognitions

Councilman Andy Page, chairman of the Public Safety Committee, was joined by Cullman Police Chief Kenny Culpepper and Assistant Chief Craig Montgomery to commend four of the department's officers:

• Officer Zachary "Zach" Latham received his five-year service pin. Montgomery said of him, "Zach always has a smile on his face, he's always in a good mood, always positive, and he's always optimistic. So, it's been a quick five years, but we very much appreciate having him here at the department."

• Dispatcher Sheena Sartin was commended for proactive efforts that led to the swift return of a missing Childhaven student within hours of her being reported missing. Said Montgomery, "She always does a great job, and she's very conscientious."

• Sgt. Adam Clark was recognized for his initiative in reaching out to the community in various ways. Montgomery said, "He is always engaged with anything going on in the department, within the city, outside the department. He's been involved with community cookouts--he's a heck of a cook, too--Shop-with-a Cop, Coffee-with-a-Cop, Trunk-or-Treat. He is always engaged."

• Officer Joey Duncan was commended for his quick reaction to a dangerous situation, in which he came to the aid of fellow officer Brandon Patterson. An intoxicated suspect attempted to draw a pistol on Patterson during a pat-down in the local Denney's early one morning, but Duncan reacted, subduing the suspect and securing his firearm before he could draw. Montgomery said, "He had just (a) split second to react to this situation. Think about if that person had retrieved that weapon and started shooting rounds in Denney's. So he did an excellent job. His quick thinking, his quick action resulted in the safety, not only to the individual, but the other customers in Denney's, and to his fellow officers."

Recreation area development

The council approved a measure to create trails around the city lake on Wolf Creek along Eva Road south of Alabama Highway 157.

The City will receive grant money for the project; the adopted resolution committed Cullman to matching grant funds for the project.

Tax authority

The meeting closed with the council approving a resolution authorizing City Attorney Roy Williams to "get the state attorney general's opinion," according to Council President Pro Tem Jenny Folsom, though the resolution did not specify the subject of the opinion being sought.

After the meeting, Williams told The Tribune that the matter was a question about "taxing authority" related to the proposed county gasoline and fuel tax bill which may be introduced in the State Legislature during this session. He expressed concern that certain statutes might be in conflict.

The Cullman City Council meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, at 7 p.m. in the Cullman City Hall auditorium, with work session at 6:30.

The public is invited to attend.

Arrest reports: Jan. 22-23

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – Below are the arrests reported for Jan. 22-23. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

MONDAY, JAN. 22

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Bice, Jennifer Ryan, 45
• grand jury- illegal possession or use of a credit or debit card (5 counts)

Boyer, William Wade, 50
• failure to appear- negotiating a worthless negotiable instrument (6 counts)

Flanigan, George Lamar, 40
• parole violation/ revocation- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Johnson Donny Paul, 27
• probation violation- unlawful manufacture of a controlled substance

Kendrick, Charles D., 41
• failure to appear- DUI-influence of alcohol

Moore, Christina Johnson, 40
• third-degree domestic violence harassment

Self, Amber Leigh, 32
• failure to appear- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mack, Melissa A., 34
• possession of drug paraphernalia

Vest, Bruce A., 47
• public intoxication
• possession of drug paraphernalia

Guthery, Trey B., 24
• failure to appear- possession of drug paraphernalia

Reed, Patrick E., 30
• failure to appear- insurance violation
• failure to appear- driving while suspended

Laney, Brandon C., 22
• unlawful distribution of a controlled substance (4 counts)

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests reported.

TUESDAY, JAN. 23

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Baker, Johnie Dee, 64
• third-degree criminal trespassing

Boykin, Wilma, 37
• failure to appear- driving while suspended
• failure to appear- giving false name to law enforcement
• failure to appear- proof of liability insurance required

Hill, Matthew Lee, 33
• failure to appear- obstruction/using false ID
• failure to appear- possession of drug paraphernalia
• failure to appear- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Jenkins, Donald Earl II, 19
• first-degree criminal trespassing

Needham, James David Jr., 35
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance (2 counts)

Peek, Daniel Wayne, 32
• possession of drug paraphernalia

Rhodes, Mark Anthony, 48
• possession of drug paraphernalia

Sellers, Margaret Denise, 44
• failure to appear- public intoxication

Woods, Jamie Lee, 39
• failure to appear- possession of drug paraphernalia
• failure to appear- possession of prescription medicine

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Cantrell, Jerimiah R., 21
• failure to appear- insurance violation
• failure to appear- driving while suspended

Haynes, Christopher A., 37
• identity theft
• giving false information to law enforcement
• fourth-degree receiving stolen property
• second-degree providing false information

Munson, Munro M., 48
• second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
• possession of drug paraphernalia

Hill, Matthew L., 33
• unlawful breaking and entering a motor vehicle

Jones, Larry W., 40
• failure to appear- insurance violation

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests reported.

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

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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

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County authorizes call-out pay for hours worked during winter shutdown

Nick Griffin
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – The Cullman County Commission met Tuesday morning, when, after approving the minutes of its emergency meeting called on Jan. 16, the commission motioned to terminate the local state of emergency that was declared at that meeting due to last week's winter weather. The local declaration was in response to Gov. Kay Ivey's statewide emergency declaration the day before on the 15th. Ivey ended the state of emergency on Jan. 19, and the commission followed by terminating the local emergency Tuesday morning.

As a result of the winter weather shutdown, the commission approved Resolution 2018-14, which allows it to pay County employees call-out pay for time they spent working while the County was closed.

County Attorney Chad Floyd explained how the weather affected some employees' hours and wages.

"When we closed as a county on the 16th of January, we closed at 11 o'clock that day, and certain road department and sanitation employees continued to work after 11 just due to public safety," Floyd said.

"Some worked for a period on the 17th on Wednesday as well, so this resolution will allow us to pay those employees for that time worked."

Floyd said those workers will be paid time and a half for those hours.

The commission voted to authorize Chairman Kenneth Walker to sign an entertainment contract with Post Panda Productions for the three summer festivals at Smith Lake Park in the amount of $14,800.

Cullman County Parks and Recreation Director Doug Davenport was at the meeting and explained the County's relationship with the production company.

"This is all the events at Smith Lake Park; it's actually three days but there will be four days of entertainment," he said.

"This is the same company we used last year for the same dollar amount we spent last year."

The contract will cover events for Memorial Day, Fourth of July and two days of the Sweet Tater Festival.

The commission motioned to sign an agreement with the Loomis Brothers Circus for a family entertainment show at the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center on Feb. 2-4.

This will be the fourth year for the Loomis Brothers Circus to make an appearance in Cullman.

The commission also:

• approved a request for furniture and equipment from the Cullman County Volunteer Fire Association in the amount $6,676.30. The money is being used at the training facility in Vinemont and should complete the furnishings of the training center.

• approved the purchase of a 2018 Mack for the sanitation department off the NJPA cooperative list through Ingram Equipment Company for the amount of $262,230.73. James Rollo, head of the Cullman County Sanitation Department, explained why this is an important upgrade for his department. "We'll be replacing a 2002 unit once we get it," Rollo said. "We're spending so much money on the other one for repairs and we try to keep everything within 10 years so that would be replacing it."

• authorized the chairman to sign an auction agreement with J.M. Wood Company to dispose of six 2018 Mack GU713 tri-axle dump trucks. The commission has worked with the auction company for several years, allowing it to make back as much as they can off of old trucks in order to better replace them.

• approved a payment of $20,066.07 to the City of Arab for a joint paving project on the south end of Main Street. The commission has an agreement with the City of Arab for Cullman County to pay for 50 percent of the project because it extends partially onto a county road.

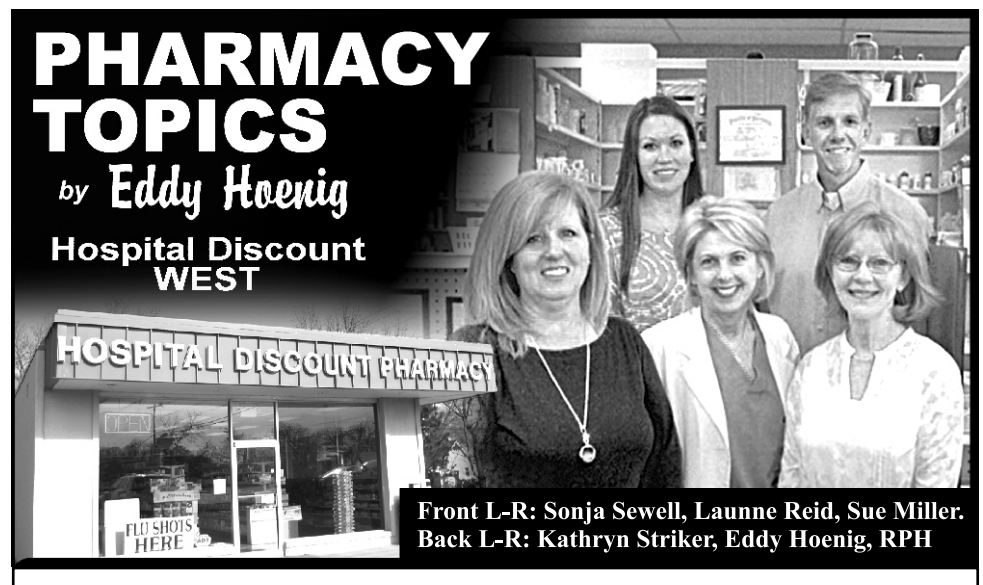
The commission will hold its next work session on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 8:30 a.m. with the next commission meeting following shortly afterward at 10 a.m. in the commission meeting room at the Cullman County Courthouse.

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Sepsis presents a major challenge for health care providers, especially in low-income countries where the mortality rate can exceed 60 percent. Even in advanced medical settings, sepsis is still very dangerous and accounts for over 400,000 deaths annually in the United States alone. While new drugs are in development, a group of researchers has determined that a combination of intravenous vitamin C, corticosteroids and thiamine (vitamin B) may be effective in preventing progressive organ dysfunction and reducing the number of deaths from severe sepsis and septic shock. Their findings are published in *CHEST*.

***

Women who are at high risk of developing breast cancer may be failing to take the preventive anti-cancer drug tamoxifen because they are confusing naturally-occurring symptoms with side effects from the medicine, according to a study of nearly 4,000 women published in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*. The researchers say that their findings have important implications about how to communicate with women, because getting it right could improve adherence to medication, thereby helping women to reduce their risk of developing breast cancer. Tamoxifen, which is used to treat women with breast cancer driven by the estrogen hormone, has been shown to reduce the incidence of breast cancer by at least 30 percent if it is given before disease develops in women who are at high risk of developing it due to factors such as a family history of breast cancer. The International Breast Intervention Study has shown that the preventive effects of tamoxifen last at least 20 years. However, only one in six high-risk women opt to take the drug when it is offered and not all of them manage to take it consistently for at least five years.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
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PREP BASKETBALL

County Tournament: Scoring recap for days 2 and 3

Sammy Confer, Nick Griffin

HANCEVILLE – The 2018 Cullman County Basketball Tournament is going on this week inside Tom Drake Coliseum on the campus of Wallace State Community College.

Here are the scores for Monday and Tuesday.
Monday, Jan. 22

• JV Boys Game Four: (1) Holly Pond 64, (4) Hanceville 48
• Varsity Girls Game One: (2) West Point 72, (7) Vinemont 16
• Varsity Boys Game One: (4) Fairview 61, (5) Hanceville 49

Tuesday, Jan. 23

• JV Boys Game Five: West Point (2) 50 – Fairview (3) 45 – Overtime
• Varsity Girls Game Two: Cold Springs (3) 55 – Holly Pond (6) 31
• Varsity Boys Game Two: Good Hope (3) 51 – Cold Springs (6) 34

Wednesday's games were still going on as of press time. Check out the latest information at www.CullmanTribune.com and www.Facebook.com/CullmanTribune.



BILL PIPER

Varsity Boys: Cold Springs - Good Hope



BILL PIPER

Varsity Girls: Cold Springs - Holly Pond

Café (from Front)

it at least a year to see if we can get people to come."

The numbers haven't been big, yet, but the need is there. Some of those who come live in homes without power or running water, or even live in their vehicles. When they leave, they take boxes of leftovers and two-liter bottles of soda. Empty bottles go, too, filled with water. And while folks are at the church, life is normal for a few minutes: good food, laughing, joking and small talk around the tables.

Teeter explained that the ministry came from "one of our Bible studies we did: to be a Romans 12 Christian. So we decided--we talked about some things we could do; so we decided to try and feed anybody in the community that might be hungry. "So we're feeding some people. I know, having been the principal (of Vinemont Elementary School), that there are hungry people in Vinemont. I think our free and reduced (lunch recipients) when I left was about 70 percent in the elementary school. So there are hungry people in the community, if they'll just come by."

Most of the people who have come so far have not been from Vinemont. Information provided to the public by other area ministries has brought many visitors from down in Cullman. The café is open to all who come, without question of background or hometown. Diners can eat at the church, and carry-out boxes are available for those who would prefer to take a meal home.

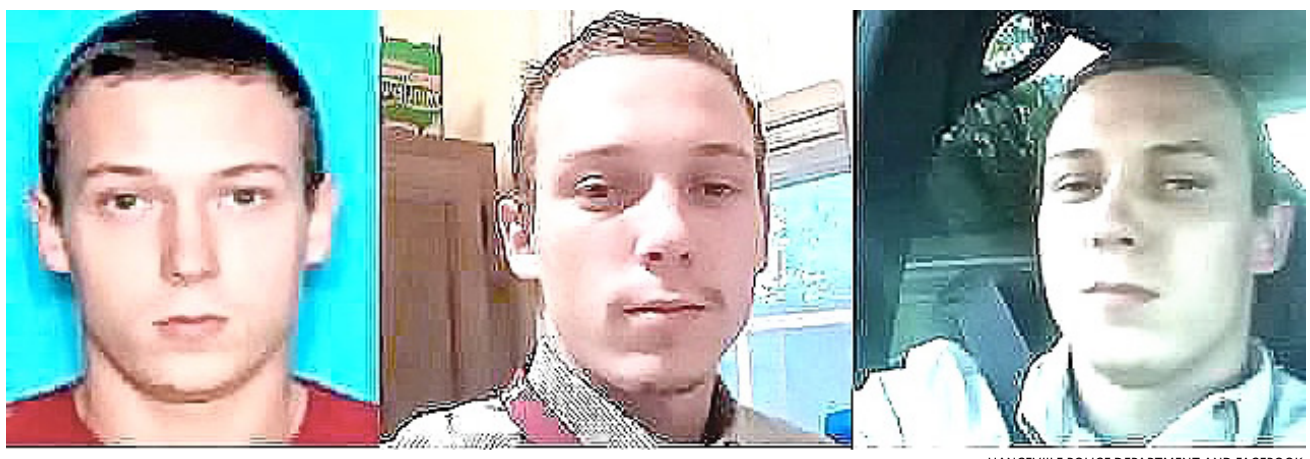
As we finished our dessert, Teeter concluded with a word about her church:

"It's a small church, but a really loving church and helping church. We do a lot of missions; we do the shoeboxes, we help Archie Hand with his mission in Mexico. We've had things for teenagers, we've tried homework camp, we feed young people on Wednesday night. Some of them don't come here to church, but they come on Wednesday night, so they can get a meal.

"It's a good little church. Everybody loves each other, takes care of each other. If you're ever sick, you'll have like 42 casseroles at your house . . . Anybody needs anything, we just do it."

For more information, call Vinemont Baptist Church at 256-595-2144 or visit www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistVinemont/.

Search (from Front)



HANCEVIILE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND FACEBOOK

Justin McCoy Booth

over the next few days, but this will only be the beginning.

"He will have multiple more surgeries in the months to come, and the road to recovery will be long."

The Hanceville Police Department continues to search for Justin McCoy Booth, 23, of St. Clair County in connection with the incident that injured Hare.

Booth was in the process of being released from Hanceville, but was to be held for pickup on an outstanding warrant for burglary in St. Clair County. Booth now faces charges for escape.

Hanceville Police Chief Bob Long said shortly after the incident, "He (Booth) actually was released from our facility, but he had a hold with another agency. He's been in our jail for a couple days.

"He saw the judge this evening and he was being released, but he had a hold with another agency.

"In the process of moving inmates back and forth from the courtroom into the jail facility and so forth, he was able to basically just bolt and run out the door."

A vehicle pursuit ensued, and Hare was severely injured in a three-vehicle crash at the intersection of U.S. Highway 31 and Alabama Highway 91.

Alabama State Troopers said Hare was not wearing a seat belt.

The two other vehicles involved in the crash were a 2009 Freightliner, driven by Steven Harbison, 39, of Logan and a 2008 Chevrolet, driven by Peter Tarantino, 26, of Steubenville, Ohio.

Harbison was not injured.

Tarantino was injured and transported to an area hospital.

Long said, "We would just encourage any friend or family member that has any contact with him (Booth) to contact law enforcement, or just persuade him to come turn himself in, so he can get this matter put behind him."

Anyone with any information on Booth's whereabouts is encouraged to contact the Hanceville Police Department at 256-352-9811.

Booth is described as 5'6", 135 pounds, with brown hair and blue eyes.

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Challenge (from Front)

thinking they were the only ones right, and got into a whole mindset of 'We're going to do damage to people who are not like us.' That's what Hitler did, basically. It's very insecure people who are bullies, usually, and that's just a known fact.

"And it's important for people to reach out to people who nobody else reaches out to.

"You never know how far a little kindness will go, like Rachel said, whenever you reach out to people that nobody else is reaching out to. You just may prevent a school shooting by simply reaching out to that person.

"They feel alone, they feel isolated. And isolation is never a good thing for somebody.

"So I would ask a bully that: 'Hey, how many friends do you have? Who are you hanging around with? What influences are in your life? Is everything going okay at home?' Usually the home is where things start, whether we believe that or not--everything starts in the home.

"And that's why we speak to the parents at night, is to encourage parents to, you know, hear the story, get Rachel's story just like their kids heard today--and at 6:30 tonight we'll be sharing her story--and let the parents be on the same page as their kids. That's important."

What would you tell the kid who's being bullied?

"Well, I'd say to the kid being bullied, go tell an adult. If it's truly a bullying situation, go get an adult to help you. You can't handle it on your own. Don't try to handle the situation by yourself. And also to not bully back. At least be friendly and kind as you can, even though that's a tough thing to do sometimes.

"But I would say get help and don't let it get to you as a person. Don't take it personally, because usually the bully has more problems, and that's what's causing them to become a bully, and realize that maybe they're dealing with something that you don't even know about in their life.

"And Rachel talked about that. She said, you know, look in people's eyes, and see their heart. And when you begin to do that, it even lets a bully think about 'Why am I doing this?' You know, "Why am I being mean to someone that's being nice to me?'

"Rachel reached out to a girl named Valerie five times. And Valerie was a bully, and mean to her all five times . . . (Valerie) got in a fight, she got in drugs; she was a mean girl at Columbine, and Rachel reached out to her.

"And Valerie said, 'Five times I was mean to her, but Rachel was nice to me every time, and it made a difference in my life.' And she said, 'Meeting Rachel and knowing Rachel made you want to become a better person.' It made her realize--made Valerie realize--that there are good people out there.

"And so, that's what I would say to a person, is don't be mean back. Always be nice. You may be the one that influences that bully to not be a bully anymore, by being kind, by even just being nice to them, being friendly to them. It might make a difference. You never know how far a little kindness can go."

Shortly after the assembly, Scott met with 100 students and teachers from the middle and high schools to begin training them to form a "Friends of Rachel" Club (or FOR Club) at Vinemont, which will recruit other students and promote the challenges and principles set forth in Rachel's Challenge.

Each year, more than 1.5 million people take part in Rachel's Challenge programs, including more than 1,200 schools and businesses. The program claims a success rate that includes the prevention of more than 150 suicides annually, along with decreases in bullying and increases in acts of kindness and service in the communities it serves. An independent nationwide survey indicated a 282 percent increase in the number of students who felt safe at school after the implementation of Rachel's Challenge.

Leading up to the event, the administrations of Vinemont Middle and High School issued the following statement:

"Here at Vinemont Middle/High School we value our community and seek to reestablish it as a priority for our students and 'for our students.' All the people in this community deserve students that show empathy and love for one another. We want to use Rachel's Challenge to energize and excite our young people to show kindness and be a light in any dark place they encounter.

"We want our students to lift up others and be a lighthouse for the lost. Rachel Joy Scott was murdered in cold blood at Columbine High School because of her Christian beliefs.

"We want to challenge our students to believe in something bigger than themselves. Rachel's Challenge is a program, unlike any other character education program. Rachel's challenge is meant to change our school and our community. We hope to see the effects of this program for many years to come."

Rachel Scott's last school essay included these words: "I have this theory that if one person can go out of their way to show compassion, then it will start a chain reaction of the same. People will never know how far a little kindness can go."

Referring to that quote, Redding said, "So, that's kind of what we're wanting to happen in our schools."

For more information on Rachel's Challenge, visit http://rachelschallenge.org.







City Schools seeking Distinguished Alumni nominations

Dr. Susan Patterson
Contributor

CULLMAN – The Cullman City Schools Foundation is now taking nominations for the 2018 Distinguished Alumni and Service Awards.

These awards have been established to recognize and honor the accomplishments of our outstanding graduates, community supporters and promising CCS graduates.

By celebrating these role models, the CCS Foundation hopes to inspire today's students to follow their own pursuit of excellence.

Nominations must be received by Feb. 9, 2018.

The CCSF Distinguished Alumni and Service Awards Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at 11 a.m. in Tillman Hall on the campus of Cullman High School.

Event sponsorship information will be available soon on the CCS Foundation website.

Please contact CCSF President, Steven Sides, for questions or additional information at stesides@gmail.com.

Find the nomination form at http://qrne.ws/nominationform.

Welti Elementary honor roll

FIRST NINE WEEKS

All A's

Third Grade: Riggs Fulmer, Mattie Claire Keith, Katelyn O'Rear and Jordan Pierce

Fourth Grade: Alexia Harris and Morgan Bartlett

Fifth Grade: Noah Jennings, Jacob Keith, Olivia Stallings, Kane Twilley and Haley Tyree

All A's and B's

Third Grade: Cainen Bennett, Abigail Brady, Kaylee Burgess, Foster Hendrix and Myles Johnson

Fourth Grade: Alexia Harris

Fifth Grade: Jeremiah Oglesby, Maribel Saldana and Gracie Thornton

SECOND NINE WEEKS

All A's

Third Grade: Riggs Fulmer, Mattie Claire Keith, Katelyn O'Rear and Jordan Pierce

Fourth Grade: Morgan Bartlett, Silas Reynolds and Dane Mauldin

Fifth Grade: Noah Jennings, Jacob Keith, Olivia Stallings, Kane Twilley and Haley Tyree

All A's and B's

Third Grade: Cainen Bennett, Abigail Brady, Kaylee Burgess, Foster Hendrix and Myles Johnson

Fourth Grade: Alexia Harris

Fifth Grade: Olivia Butler, Amy Davis, Maribel Saldana, Claudia Mandujano, Jeremiah Oglesby and Gracie Thornton

Obituary Announcements: Jan. 25 - 26

Kenneth Jerry McCarter 69, of Haleyville, entered into rest on January 22, 2018 at his residence surrounded by family and friends. Mr. McCarter was born on August 31, 1948 in Haleyville, Alabama. He loved crappie fishing and was a huge Alabama Crimson Tide football fan. Roll Tide Roll!!! Private Service. Kenneth is survived by Pat McCarter; sons, Kenneth Sorke and wife Evon, Jeremy McCarter and wife Mandi; daughter Roxann Davis and husband Rob; sisters, Jean Tarter, Vodie Barton, Doris Martin; He was Paw Paw to 7 grandchildren, Hayden, Cameron, Makenna, Samantha, Jullian, Amanda, and Kenny; and 2 great grandchildren, Jonathan, and Conner Lee. He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Eula McCarter; sisters, Faye Guin; granddaughter, Emma McCarter; brother-in-laws, John Martin, and Norm Tarter.

Funeral services for Ethel Pearl Tuggle, 67 of Vinemont, will be 11 a.m. Thursday, January 25, 2018, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Chapel with interment in Antioch Baptist Church Cemetery in Fairview. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Mrs. Tuggle passed away on January 20, 2018 at her residence. She was born February 25, 1950, to parents Earnest and Truedell Lewter Freeman. She was preceded in death by her parents; sisters, Edna Bavar, Doris Wright and brothers, Johnie Freeman and Gerald "Shorty" Freeman. Survivors include her husband, Benny Gene Tuggle; two sons, Randy McClure, David (Kim) Johnson; grandchildren, Seth Johnson, Lexi Johnson, Jordan McKenzie, Hannah McKenzie, Brittany Swords, Tristen McClure, Madison McClure; sister, Carolyn (Allen) Adamson, brother, Ray (Tina) Freeman, Earnest Terrell (Janis) Freeman, Jack (Sue) Freeman, Jimmy (Gail) Freeman, Emitt (Bonnie) Freeman; step-sisters, Edith (Joe) Calvert, Dorthy Peresleny and step brother, Carl Hutson and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends. Visitation will be 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday evening at the funeral home.

Funeral service for Willie Mae Cox, age 67 of Cullman, will be at 2 p.m. on Thursday, January 25, 2018 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Burial will follow at McKinley Methodist Chapel Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Cox passed away on Monday, January 22, 2018 at her residence. She was born September 28, 1950 to O.C. and Willie Keller. She is preceded in death by her parents and five siblings. Survivors include her husband, Daniel Boone Cox, daughters; Rebecca Waldrop, Keresa Cox, Shirley Moore, and Jacquelyn Bentley, five grandchildren, six great grandchildren, sisters; Joyce Stanfield and Frances Green, brother, Ray Keller, and a Host of nieces, nephews, family, and friends. Visitation will be from 12 noon until 2 p.m. on Thursday, January 25, 2018 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home.

Funeral services for Rayford King, 86 of Holly Pond, will be Friday, January 26, 2018 at 2 p.m. at Pleasant View Baptist Church in Holly Pond. Visitation will be Thursday evening from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Pleasant View Baptist Church and Friday from 12 noon until service time. Bro. Randy Burtram and Bro. Larry Nail will be officiating with interment in Holly Pond Cemetery. Mr. King was born April 28, 1931 to Lee and Mamie Stewart King. He went to be with his Lord January 24, 2018. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Evyleaner King, and two brothers. Survivors include his wife, Ann King; Daughter, Vickie (Danny) Alldredge; son, Randy (Belinda) King; daughter, Cindy (Larry) Nail; son, Jeff (Sally) Helton; son, Scott (Amber) Griffin; 26 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren; two brothers Franklin (Evelyn) King and Ron (Mona) King; two sisters, Janice Murphree, Barbara Ann Welch; and a host of nieces, nephews, family, and friends. In lieu of flowers, the family suggest donations be made to Hospice Family Care, 10000 Serenity Lane, Huntsville, AL 35803. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Graveside services for Lois J. Mayfield, 75, of Hanceville are Friday, January 26, 2018 at 11 a.m. at Sulphur Springs Cemetery. Visitation on Thursday from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mrs. Mayfield died on Sunday, January 21, 2018. She is survived by her daughter, Elizabeth Morgan and her husband, Mike; grandchildren, Katy Morgan and her husband, Brandon Edmonds and Kyle Morgan; great grandchildren, Riley Edmonds and Harrison Edmonds; sisters, Maxine Layton, Mick Lefler and Faye Weirstein; brothers, Karl Rowe, Ray Rowe, Bub Rowe and Daniel Rowe and a host of nieces and nephews.

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Cullman Regional CEO James Clements addresses the audience at this year's State of the Hospital Luncheon on Wednesday, Jan. 24

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Cullman Regional held its annual State of the Hospital Luncheon on Wednesday, and according to CEO James Clements, the hospital is experiencing continued success.

Clements noted that the hospital has operated at increasing profit for three years and improved its financial ratings, that current projects will increase in-patient capacity by 25 percent and bring another 200 jobs to the Cullman area when complete, and that the hospital had a $ 200 million economic impact on Cullman last year, including $12 million dollars in charitable care.

Look for a full story coming soon.

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IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF:
FLORA GLASSCOCK,
DECEASED.

CASE NUMBER: PC2018-003

Letters Testamentary of said decedent having been granted to the undersigned on the 11th day of January, 2018, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 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.

Diana Pentecost
DIANE PENTECOST

Robert Glasscock
ROBERT GLASSCOCK

ANNETTE IRONS-PARKER
Attorney for Personal Representatives
PARKER AND PARKER, P.C.
Attorneys at Law
215 Main Avenue, Southwest
Cullman, Alabama 35055
256-775-4444

To: Publisher of THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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

Tammy Brown
Honorable Tammy Brown
Probate Judge

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

JESSICA MOON,
Plaintiff

Vs. Case Number: DR-2018-000008.00

JAMES MOON,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

James Moon, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Jessica Moon's Complaint for Divorce by March 19, 2018 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2018-000008.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 12th day of January, 2018.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Clerk of Circuit Court

PETITIONER'S:
JESSICA MOON
377 CO RD 438
CULLMAN, AL 35057

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PB WIL BK 84 PG 391 - 01/05/2018 03:25 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2017-355

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF AMIL G. STERCHO, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Sieglinde A. Heatherly on the 5th day of January, 2018, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Sieglinde A. Heatherly
Personal Representative

To the publisher of Cullman Tribune:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C. Smith
Smith & Smith, LLP
Attorney for Personal Representative
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
(256) 734-4721

PB MIN BK 168 PG 135 - 01/04/2018 03:12 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE ESTATE OF
CHARLES M. MOORE
Deceased

CASE NO.: PC2017-326

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 2nd day of January, 2018, 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.

Marinox Moore
Marinox Moore

Roy W. Williams, Jr.
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To: Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

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

Tammy Brown
Hon. Tammy Brown, Probate Judge

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

CHRISTOPHER JAMES GARRETT,
Plaintiff

Vs. Case Number: DR-2017-900363.00

WENDY MARIE GARRETT,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Wendy Marie Garrett, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Christopher James Garrett Complaint for Divorce by March 5, 2018 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against her in Case Number 25-DR-2017-900363.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 3rd day of January, 2018.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Clerk of Circuit Court

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
STUART MOORE
101 FIRST AV NE, SUITE 130
CULLMAN, AL 35055

NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

Default having been made in the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Faye Nell Smith An Unmarried Woman to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for M&F Bank its successor and assigns dated February 28, 2013; said mortgage being recorded in Book 1701, Page 71, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to PNC Bank, National Association by assignment recorded in Deed Book 322, Page 390 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama.
The undersigned, PNC Bank, National Association, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Cullman County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on the 7th day of February, 2018 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:
Lots 1 and 2 of First Addition to Leighwood Acres Subdivision to the City of Cullman, Alabama, as indicated by the plat recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, in Plat Book 6, Page 91.

Said property is commonly known as 600 Glenn DR NW, Cullman, AL 35055. The indebtedness secured by said Mortgage has been and is hereby declared due and payable because of default under the terms of the Note secured by said Mortgage, including but not limited to, nonpayment of the indebtedness as and when due. The indebtedness remains in default, and this sale will be made for the sole purpose of paying the same, including all expenses of the sale, attorney's fees, and all other payments provided for under the terms of said Mortgage.

Said property will be sold subject to the following items, which may affect the title to said real property: all zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the property; any outstanding taxes, including but not limited to, ad valorem taxes, which constitute liens upon said property; special assessments; all outstanding bills for public utilities, which constitute liens upon said property; all restrictive covenants, easements, rights-of-way; the statutory right of redemption pursuant to Alabama law; and any other matters of record superior to said Mortgage. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the real property is Faye Nell Smith or tenant(s).
Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process.

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

SAMANTHA EDWARDS,
Plaintiff

Vs. Case Number: DR-2017-900304.00

HENRY SMALL,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Henry Small, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Samantha Edwards' Complaint for Divorce by March 5, 2018 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2017-900304.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 5th day of January, 2018.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Clerk of Circuit Court

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
STUART MOORE
101 FIRST AV NE, SUITE 130
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LOCAL

2-year-old and adult attacked by family dog; adult severely injured

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – An area man has been airlifted to Huntsville and a toddler taken to Cullman Regional after an alleged dog attack on the city's southwest side late Wednesday afternoon.

According to Cullman Police Chief Kenny Culpepper, "At around 4 p.m., a family dog attacked a 2-year-old girl.

"An adult at the residence, presumably the grandfather, stepped in to help and got bit."

Culpepper said the dog, described as a "bulldog-type," was shot and killed by another relative on the scene to end the attack.

The incident occurred at a home on Seventh Street Southwest.

The chief said the child was transported to Cullman Regional, and the grandfather was airlifted to Birmingham.

"He may have severed an artery, so that would be life-threatening," said Culpepper.

This is a developing story.

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