The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

VOL. 145 • 50¢ PER COPY | *FEBRUARY 10, 2018* | USPS 139-700 • NO. 18

Local hotel employees trained to spot signs of human trafficking



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Kathy Wilson displays tattoos commonly used to "brand" victims of trafficking.

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CULLMAN – This week, employees of Cullman's Hampton Inn met at the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce office to be trained in recognizing and responding to human trafficking by Kathy Wilson, chairwoman of the Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force. Hilton Worldwide, the international corporation that owns Hampton, recently enacted a policy requiring all of its hotel/motel employees to receive such training.

"It's a first for me," said Wilson. "I'm new at the hospitality industry, but, hopefully, together we'll be able to work through and make a difference, to make them aware. (Human trafficking) is huge in the hotel industry, because that's where (traffickers), for lack of a better word, 'set up shop.'"

Human trafficking is defined by the Department of Homeland Security as "modern-day slavery and involves the use of force, fraud or coercion to obtain labor or commercial sex." Victimization can take the forms of:

- Sex Trafficking - Victims of sex trafficking are manipulated or forced to engage in sex acts for someone else's commercial gain.
- Forced Labor - Victims of forced labor are compelled to work for little or no pay, often manufacturing or growing the products we use and consume every day.
- Domestic Servitude - Victims of domestic servitude are forced to work in isolation and are hidden in plain sight as nannies, housekeepers or domestic help.

Closer than you think

Is human trafficking really a problem in our area hotels? Try this on for size: according to Wilson, the task force recently hosted a former trafficking victim who came to speak to the group. While traveling through Cullman before the meeting, the speaker recognized and identified three hotels in the city to which she had been delivered at various times while she was trapped in "the life."

Recognizing the signs

Wilson and the Cullman task force provided this training in partnership with the Department of Homeland Security's Blue Campaign, which notes, "Traffickers often take advantage of the privacy and anonymity offered by the hospitality industry. They can operate discreetly because staff and guests may not know the signs of human trafficking. You may have employees who are victims of forced labor. If a third party applied for a position on behalf of an individual or if employees are not receiving their own paychecks, these could be signs of human trafficking. Hotels and motels are also major locations where traffickers force sex trafficking victims to provide commercial sex to paying customers. Victims may be forced to stay at a hotel or motel where customers come to them, or they are required to go to rooms rented out by the customers."

In the training, Hampton Inn housekeepers, maintenance workers and room service staff were told to look for the following:

- "Do Not Disturb" sign being used constantly
- Requests for room or housekeeping services (additional towels, new linens, etc.), but hotel/motel staff being denied entry into room
- Refusal of cleaning services for multiple days
- Excessive amounts of cash in a room
- Smell of bodily fluids and musk
- Presence of multiple computers, cell phones, pagers, credit card swipes or other technology
- The same person reserving multiple rooms
- Individuals leaving room infrequently, not at all, or at odd hours
- Children's items or clothing are present, but no child registered with the room
- Individuals loitering in hallways or appearing to monitor the

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Topre announces $80M expansion; Ivey in Cullman



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Gov. Kay Ivey and Topre America President Hideo Shimizu cut the ribbon on Topre's new building, and celebrate the company's newly-announced $80 million expansion project on Friday, Feb. 9, 2018.

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CULLMAN – On Friday morning, Gov. Kay Ivey was in Cullman to join Topre America Corporation in announcing the company's $80 million expansion project. The expansion, which Topre estimates will create approximately 98 new jobs, is in addition to its most recent expansion, a $3 million, 42,000-square-foot multipurpose facility that opened in December 2017. Ivey cut the ribbon on that structure, which is being used for storage and distribution.

The $80 million expansion will focus on a new manufacturing production line which will be used to supply parts for Nissan's 2018 Altima being built in Smyrna, Tennessee. Topre plans to install the new press line and machining equipment on an extra press pit that was built with future expansion in mind. Construction is slated to begin in the coming months.

"It is always a good day when existing Alabama businesses choose to expand," Ivey said. "Topre America's expansion is a testament to the quality of our workforce and makes clear that world-class companies can and will be successful in Alabama.

"I am proud to be leading a state that is committed to helping both our people and our businesses thrive."

Joining Ivey on Friday were Topre America President Hideo Shimizu, Alabama Secretary of Commerce Greg Canfield, ADECA Director Kenneth Boswell, Cullman Economic Development Agency Director Dale Greer and a delegation of local, state and company officials.

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Saturday events around the county

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CULLMAN EMS 3RD ANNUAL 911 CHILI COOK-OFF
Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Cullman Regional's Cullman EMS is hosting its 3rd Annual 911 Chili Cook-Off on Saturday, Feb.10, with all proceeds benefiting Saving Forgotten Warriors. The registration fee for entering a chili recipe is $10 and is open to law enforcement, firefighters, EMS personnel and dispatchers. Community members are invited to attend and vote for their favorite chili.

Awards will be given:

- Popular vote- 1st, 2nd and 3rd place
- Director's Choice Award
- Hottest Chili Award

Also, anyone who makes a donation will have the opportunity to win door prizes. Cullman EMS is located at 601 Second Ave. SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

2ND ANNUAL BEANS & GREENS DINNER
Saturday, 4 p.m.
The Holly Pond Lions Club is hosting its second annual Beans & Greens Dinner on Saturday, Feb. 10. The event will take place in the Holly Pond Lions Club building at Holly Pond Park beginning at 4 p.m. Plates are $5. Funds raised will be used for local sight projects.

BINGO AT THE AMERICAN LEGION
Saturday, 6 p.m.
Everyone is invited to Bingo every Saturday night at 6 at American Legion Post 4.
181 Reid Road, Good Hope, AL 35057

2ND ANNUAL FLOURISH FUNDRAISER AT GOAT ISLAND BREWING
Saturday, 6 p.m.
Flourish of Cullman, Inc. is teaming up with Goat Island Brewing for the second annual Flourish FUNdraiser- a night of fun at Goat Island Brewing.

Italian dinner for $25; silent auction and bingo- $5 a game or four cards for $20. Bingo tickets sold at the door. Goat Island is located at 1646 John H Cooper Drive SE, Cullman. More info at www.facebook.com/pg/flourishofcullmaninc.

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CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Left to right: Angel Johnson, Matthew Childers, John Goings and Brandon Laney

Multiple drug arrests made in separate cases

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – The Cullman Police Department (CPD) reported multiple drug arrests on Thursday.

The first occurred on Tuesday, Feb. 6, when Cullman Crime Suppression Unit (CCSU) officers stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation on Alabama Highway 157. According to the CPD, neither the driver nor the passenger had a valid driver's license.

Officers allegedly recovered drug paraphernalia and 14.5 grams of methamphetamine when searching the vehicle. The passenger, Angel Desiree Johnson, 24, of Vinemont was arrested and charged with unlawful possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia.

Johnson is being held in the Cullman County Detention Center.

The second arrest also occurred on Tuesday, when CCSU officers again stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation, this time on Cherokee Avenue and Mize Road.

The CPD said that upon establishing probable cause to search the vehicle and occupants, officers recovered approximately 121 grams (4 ounces) of marijuana from the driver, identified as Matthew Edward Childers, 19, of Cullman. Childers also allegedly had a loaded revolver.

Childers was placed under arrest for first-degree unlawful possession of marijuana and carrying a pistol without a permit.

Childers, who was out on federal bond at the time of the arrest, was transported to the Cullman County Detention Center.

The third arrest followed a controlled buy in which John Edward Goings, 50, of Vinemont allegedly sold officers methamphetamine.

CCSU officers arrested him on Wednesday, Feb. 7.

Goings, who was on probation, was charged with unlawful distribution of a controlled substance and placed in the Cullman County Detention Center.

A fourth arrest by the CCSU also involved an undercover operation. Brandon Christopher Laney, 23, of Good Hope allegedly sold officers methamphetamine on three separate occasions.

Laney was charged with three counts of unlawful distribution of a controlled substance. Laney was on probation at the time of his arrest. He remains incarcerated in the Cullman County Detention Center.

Arrest reports: Feb. 7-8

Wendy Sack
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CULLMAN – Below are the arrests reported for Feb. 7-8. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 7

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Brown, Cody Weston, 26
• probation violation- second-degree theft of lost property

Fairbanks, Jeffery Dwight, 52
• failure to appear- negotiating a worthless negotiable instrument

Jones, Kevin Doyle, 32
• possession of drug paraphernalia

Jones, Rachel Elizabeth, 27
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• failure to appear- possession of prescription medicine
• second-degree theft of property

Morris, Matthew Cambron, 32
• failure to appear- possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)
• failure to appear- resisting arrest

Willingham, Joshua Joe, 34
• failure to appear- third-degree domestic violence- harassment

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Goings, John E., 50
• unlawful distribution of a controlled substance

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests reported.

THURSDAY, FEB. 8

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Bailey, Jon Austin Hilton, 34
• failure to appear- driving while revoked

Branch, Karen Marie, 21
• harassment

Davis, Jessica Catherine, 35
• failure to appear- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Dobbs, Ricky Eugene, 46
• failure to appear- possession of drug paraphernalia

Dunkin, Roger Wayne, 46
• probation violation- felony leaving the scene

Jones, Kevin Doyle, 32
• first-degree theft of property

Jones, Rachel Elizabeth, 27
• first-degree theft of property

Narrell, David Wayne, 51
• fourth-degree receiving stolen property

Riggs, Kevin Edward, 31
• IPA illegal possession of alcohol in a dry county

Ross, Brandon James, 24
• failure to appear- possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)
• failure to appear- unlawful possession of a controlled substance (2 counts)

Schwan, Sherry Annette, 48
• probation violation- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Scott, Brittany Marie, 34
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance (7 counts)
• second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

Smith, Tommy Jacob, 30
• third-degree domestic violence- harassment

Spradlin, Dustin Ray, 22
• harassment

Swann, Nathaniel Barry, 32
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• fourth-degree theft of property

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Whisonant, Melanie A., 39
• failure to appear- fourth-degree theft of property

Dill, Barry L., 48
• failure to appear- public intoxication (4 counts)

Bigham, Emily K., 22
• third-degree theft of property

Brown, Jerrie R., 53
• fourth-degree theft of property

Foshee, Jennifer J., 42
• second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• second-degree promoting prison contraband

Smith, Richard C., 56
• possession of drug paraphernalia

Culver, Brian K., 56
• DUI

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests reported.

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



Thursday, February 22nd
5:30 pm to 7:00 pm
Cullman EC Training Room,
1749 Eva Rd NW, Cullman
Visit Cullman EC's Facebook events page for more info

Cullman Electric Cooperative proudly presents this acclaimed IMAX movie as a FREE community event during National Engineers Week and Girls Night Out

Details: Movie length is 45 minutes, see trailer at www.dreambigfilm.com.
Popcorn and drinks provided, then take a behind-the-scenes co-op tour.
All ages are welcome, especially kids who will receive a special gift for attending.

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11042 US Hwy 31 South, Cullman, AL 35055



MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the terms of that mortgage executed on January 8, 2003 by Kenneth R. Layfield, a married man, and wife Carol Layfield, to EvaBank, which said mortgage is recorded in Book 1289, Page 96 in the Probate Office of Cullman County, Alabama, and default continuing, and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the following described property will be sold at public outcry, for cash, to the highest bidder, in front of the Courthouse door of said County, in Cullman, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale on February 19, 2018:

Lot No. 35 in the Lakeview Road Subdivision, as recorded in the Judge of Probate Office, Map Book 5, Pages 187 and 188 in Cullman County Courthouse, Cullman, Alabama.

Said sale is made for the purpose of paying the mortgage debt and cost of foreclosure.

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 part of the foreclosure process.

EvaBank, Mortgagee
Dewayne N. Morris
Attorney for Mortgagee
2131 Third Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
The Cullman Tribune-January 27, February 3, 10, 2018

Bethsadia Volunteer Fire Department

454 County Road 804
Cullman, Alabama 35057

Date: January 25,2018

INVITATION TO BID
COMMUNITY SAFE ROOM

Sealed Bids shall be received for one (1) or more Community Safe Room(s) by the Bethsadia Volunteer Fire Department, until noon on local time by February 20, 2018. The bids will be opened on February 21, 2018 at 10 a.m. at Cullman County Economic Development, Cullman, Alabama. At this time bids will be opened and publicly read for an above-ground, pre-engineered, pre-manufactured, 114" steel plate safe room, with bathrooms, generator and generator cover that complies with FEMA 361 (2015) and ICC 500 Community Shelter Design Criteria. The contract, if a bid is chosen, will be awarded at the regular Bethsadia Volunteer Fire Department meeting after the February 21, 2018 opening.

The Community Safe Room shall meet the specifications in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Publication 361. Each bid must certify that the bid meets or exceeds FEMA 361 specifications. The successful bidder will also be required to provide a notarized Contractor/Installer form certifying this upon completion of the job, as well as an engineering peer review.

The Bethsadia Volunteer Fire Department reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities in awarding this bid to the best responsive bidder. The bid award will not be based solely on price. Quality, conformity with the specifications, purpose for which required, terms of delivery, and past service and experience are among the factors that will be considered in determining the best responsive bidder. Other factors such as compliance with Qualifications for Safe Room Design Acceptance, value, conditions and past performance will be considered in determining the best bid. Bidders must show proof of a minimum of five (5) years' experience in successfully completing community safe room projects of this size and type. Provide at least three (3) references from previous community safe room projects, with photos.

Bids submitted are firm and no claims for errors will be considered after bids are opened and subsequent thereof.

The bidder shall use domestic products and labor and if domestic products are not used, there shall be a downward adjustment in the contract price equal to any realized savings or benefits to the contractor/installer.

All bidders must use the attached form for submitting their bid. All bids must be sealed and marked - in the lower left-hand envelope **"BID #1139- Community Safe Room", with opening date and time. Late bids will not be opened. All Bids must be submitted to Bethsadia Volunteer Fire Department at 325 2nd Street SE, Cullman, AL 35055. The proposal package includes specifications, a copy which is available for examination from, Monday through Friday 7:30 am to 4:30pm at the Cullman County Economic Development Office, 325 Second Street SE, Cullman, AL 35055. For questions regarding this invitation to bid, please email, Ashley Graves, Project Coordinator at ashley@cullmanecondev.org or call at 256-775-6258 or contact Chief Keith Bates at bethsadiafire@yahoo.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

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DustinIsom–Editor
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Chamber reception celebrates local industry, economic success

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CULLMAN – On Thursday evening, the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce hosted its annual Industry Appreciation Reception at Terri Pines Country Club, offering a very positive view of the partnership between local government and educational entities and various industries and businesses.

Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce President Leah Bolin told all of the industry representatives present, "On behalf of our whole Chamber membership and our board of directors, I want to express our sincere gratitude and thanks to each of you for the roles that you play daily in providing jobs and a great quality of life for our citizens."

Chamber updates

Bolin went on to talk about the Chamber's community development initiative intended to attract and retain a skilled area workforce, pointing out specific programs working toward that goal:

- Housing Task Force - making sure that the area's population and workforce have adequate and interesting places to live
- Business Development - making sure the area has a good number and diverse range of businesses
- "Think Local" campaign - promoting local jobs and local liveability
- Internship programs - in the works, to develop local workforce pipelines for the industry, retail and medical sectors
- Seminars and workshops - for both large and small businesses, to help with issues in human resources, management skills and new tax structures
- Entrepreneurship and Education Initiative - helping young people learn how to start businesses or get into the workforce through the Young Entrepreneurs' Academy, Youth Leadership Program, Career Awareness Fair and Emerging Professionals Impacting Cullman
- Advocacy Initiative - working toward an industry-friendly local environment by pushing for infrastructure development and other moves at the governmental level, and developing local broadband access

"Our goal at the end of the day," concluded Bolin, "is to take Cullman further than it's ever been. And as the Chamber continues to promote our area, we look for new ways to benefit you, our industry partners."

Education initiatives

Wallace State Community College (WSCC) Dean of Applied Technologies Jimmy Hodges shared points of interest related to educational programs geared toward workforce development:

- Fast Track for Industry - a joint venture between WSCC and the county school system that allows high school students to work toward, and in many cases even complete, associate degrees in applied technology while still in high school
- New manufacturing skills credentials - including Certified Production Technician, Certified Logistics Technician, Precision Measuring Certificate and Torque Certificate
- Workforce training solutions - including corporate and community education, and continuing education events
- Apprenticeships and internships - Hodges pointed out that WSCC students are in high demand, and that there are places available for every student interested in hands-on learning opportunities.

Industry/workforce updates

Cullman Economic Development Agency Director Dale Greer asked Cullman County Economic Development Director Cherrie Haney to join him at the podium as he talked, to emphasize their agencies' cooperative partnership in the area's successes. Greer pointed out 2017 area industrial accomplishments, including:

- $103,998,483 in capital investment
- 415 new jobs
- 34 total projects, with 33 of those being expansions of existing industries
- A 10-year (2008-2017) total industrial growth of $1,017,477,505 capital expenditure and 5,462 jobs

He also noted several community accomplishments that positively impact local business and industry:

- Cullman is the top-ranked micropolitan (small city) in the nation for economic growth
- The area has the second lowest unemployment rate in the state, at 2.8 percent
- Sales tax revenues up 7.1 percent
- Cullman was ranked among the top 20 safest communities in Alabama
- Cullman has the top ranked parks and recreation program in Alabama
- Strong retail and restaurant growth



W.C. MANN/THE CCULLMAN TRIBUNE

Dale Greer, director of the Cullman Economic Development Agency, asked County Economic Development Director Cherrie Haney to join him as he talked about their accomplishments.

Chamber Chair Jason Spann concluded the evening's program by recognizing Royal Technologies Corporation, American Proteins Inc., Reliance Worldwide Corporation and Louisiana Pacific Corporation for their participation in the Chamber's 2017 Industry Tour.

Tribune Files from Yesteryear

From The Files Of 1940

Hanceville Happenings

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Chappell and daughter, Gail and Mrs. M.T. Coniff, of Birmingham and Mrs. M.G. Little, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Longshore, on Sunday.

Dock Thomas was called to Houlka, Mississippi, on Monday, because of the illness of his brother.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Green visited the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G.W. Green at Garden City.

Jimmy Kelly spent Thursday at Hartselle.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerome Hardin and Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Mann attended the funeral of Floyd Suggs, in Decatur, on Saturday.

Mrs. J.W. Wood spent Monday and Tuesday in Birmingham.

Miss Aline Absher, of Nashville, Tennessee, spent the weekend with her sister, Mrs. Betty Horton, enroute to Dallas, Texas.

Miss Virginia Moore, of Auburn, visited Mrs. Cecil Towles, on Saturday.

Miss Leona Peinhardt spent the weekend at Cullman.

Mrs. Fred Gibbs, of Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville, Tennessee was the guest of relatives last weekend. She was accompanied to Nashville by her mother, Mrs. S.O. Quattlebaum.

Mrs. Rush Johnson was carried to the Cullman Hospital, on Tuesday, with a severe throat injury.

Mrs. Albert Thom has been visiting her mother, Mrs. Henry Ratliff, at Hayden.

Miss Mary Wood, of Auburn, spent the weekend with her parents, Doctor and Mrs. J.W. Wood.

Mrs. Gertis Hines is improving after an illness of several days. Her mother, Mrs. Moore, of Gadsden, has been visiting her.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Davis, of Birmingham, spent the weekend with relatives.

Miss Lucille Garlington, of Birmingham, has recently been added to the Grammar School faculty.

41-Year Cold Record Almost Broken Sunday - 16 Below Recorded

On Sunday morning Reverend Gabriel Germann, O.S.B., who has charge of the official weather instruments at Saint Bernard College and who no doubt has answered an unusual number of questions concerning the weather, of late, reported today that his readings, taken in the mornings, before 7 o'clock, show Sunday to have been the coldest during the "spell" with a low of 16 below the zero mark.

On Friday the mercury ran down to minus 5, on Saturday minus 12, on Monday, 15 above (31 degrees higher than the preceding morning), on Tuesday, 22 and on Wednesday, 8.

Unofficial, but dependable reports claim this to be the coldest weather in the county since 1899, when it is remembered to have gone down to 17 below, however, even then, the temperature fluctuated greatly from day to day, never nearly touching that low again.

After a thorough discussion of the closing of the high school gymnasium, to public dances, it was voted unanimously that the City Pastor's Union favor the action of the Trustees of Cullman County High School, in their action of closing the gymnasium to all public dances.

At this meeting of the Pastor's Union, held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, the following were present: Doctor R.B. Lavender, Doctor John Marion, Reverend Ralph Saunders, Reverend J. Brown and Reverend Theo Mehl.

Plans were made for "A Christ Centered Crusade," which will begin within a few weeks in most of the Protestant churches in Cullman.

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

S'More stuff we say down here in the South

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



Ole Billy Bob was sittin' around the house, doing nuttin' but killin' time, when his flip-phone rang. As soon as he heard the voice on the other end ask, "How y'all doin'?" he knew it was his brother, Bubba. He answered, "Au-ight, y'all?" "We're as happy as a dead pig in the sunshine." "How come?" "Oh, we're headed off over yonder today. We're all excited about the trip except the youngun." "Bless her little heart." "Yeah, she's madder than an ole wet hen." "Well, I'll declare. What's wrong with her?" "Oh, she had a date, so she wanted to stay home by herself. I told her she was barking up the wrong tree." "I heard that. That dog won't hunt, will it?" "Shore won't, so we'll swing by and drop her off at your house. We'll be there directly."

Both understood the conversation clearly, but sometimes, in the south, you almost need an interpreter. In case you "Ain't from round here," here's what some of those words and sayings mean.

"Happy as a Dead Pig in the Sunshine" – When a pig dies, outside in a mud sty, the sun dries out his skin. The drying causing the pig's lips to draw causing his teeth to show which makes him look like he is grinning, or happy.

"Bless his heart" – Some have suggested that this phrase is a passive-aggressive way to call someone inadequate or maybe even a nut.

It often follows an insult about someone and is intended to soften the blow, or to excuse the person's shortcomings.

You might hear someone say, "Boy, she sure has put on the weight lately – bless her heart," or "He's a few straws short of a bale – bless his heart." It has been said that you can say anything about anyone, no matter how nasty it may be, as long as you follow it by saying "Bless his heart."

"Madder than a wet hen" – When hens are sitting on their eggs they may become "broody."

When someone tries to gather their eggs they may get pecked, flogged, and the hen may refuse to budge. Farmers sometimes pour cold water on them to break their broodiness, making them mad.

"That dog won't hunt" – This means an excuse offered is not acceptable.

This is believed to have originated when a hunting dog, such as a coon dog or bird dog, will not do what he is intended to do which is to hunt.

"Barking up the wrong tree" – This one is similar to the last one.

It had to do with hunting dogs, in particular those who tree their prey. Sometimes the dog is confused as to which tree the animal is in and therefore is barking up the wrong tree.

It is used to imply that someone is mistaken or confused.

"I'll be there directly" – One might think this means I'll be there right away. Actually, in the south, it means the opposite. What the speaker actually means is I'll be when I get there. There is nothing "direct" about it. If he is coming right away, he may say "I'm fixin' to come over there."

"Well, I'll declare" – This one means, well, I'll declare, I don't know what it means!

"Over yonder" – No one actually knows where "over yonder" is or how far away it is, but we do know that is not next door. The distance may be extended by added the word "way" as in "They live way over yonder." We even sing an old hymn called "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder." By the way, "When the roll is called up yonder, will you be there?"

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

Poet's Corner



There's Not A Day

By: Randy C. Hale
Happy Valentine's Day to all!

There's not a day
I don't think of you,
not many hours,
the minutes few.

You come to me,
in waves of dreams,
I feel your touch
it seems.

Though miles and miles
in separate lives are we-
My love for you,
never rests, never weans.

The deepest thread
within my soul,
holds tight my heart
that loves you so.



The Cullman Tribune

Valentine's Day Deals

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PREP BASKETBALL

AREA TOURNAMENTS: Bulldogs, Lady Eagles, Lady Raiders, Lady Aggies claim area titles

Sammy Confer
Tribune Correspondent

Note: This story covers Thursday night's games. For Friday night's games, see www.CullmanTribune.com.

HANCEVILLE – The Hanceville Bulldogs hosted the Bulldogs of Carbon Hill Thursday night for the 3A, Area 12 championships. In the end, the Hanceville Lady Bulldogs came up short, 61-53, but the Hanceville Bulldogs put down Carbon Hill, 66-37, taking back-to-back area titles.

Carbon Hill 61, Hanceville 53 (Girls)
The Hanceville Lady Bulldogs looked to win their first area title since 2001 and they got off to a strong start, leading 19-9 after one; Hanceville saw that lead cut to 30-26 at the half. They started the second half on an 11-4 run to increase their lead to 41-30, but Carbon Hill finished the quarter on a 15-7 run of its own to make it a 48-45 game after three. The final quarter was a nightmare for Hanceville; the Carbon Hill Lady Bulldogs outscored Hanceville 16-5 to turn a double-digit lead into an eight-point defeat.

The Hanceville Lady Bulldogs are now 19-9 overall. Kierra Merriweather led Hanceville with 20 points. Kelly Pickett finished with 16. Cassidy Campbell ended up with nine. Karmen Johnson had five and Malia Howell ended up with three. Hanceville will travel to West Morgan on Monday at 7 p.m.

Hanceville 66, Carbon Hill 37 (Boys)
It was raining threes to start out the game for Hanceville, with all 18 points in the first period came from behind the arc; R.J. Evans nailing three of those, and Brendan Flanigan, Raiden Morgan and Allen Jones each added one to give the Hanceville Bulldogs an 18-6 first-quarter lead; they added four more from deep in the second period and played strong defense in the first half, allowing just 16 points. Hanceville went into the locker room with a comfortable 34-16 lead.

Evans went off in the third period, scoring 12 of his 25 points, and Hanceville held a 54-26 lead after three, holding on for the easy runaway win and back-to-back area titles.

The Hanceville Bulldogs improve to 17-9 overall and will host their sub-regional next Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Morgan nailed four treys to finish with 12 for the game. Jones added three of his own from deep to end up with nine. Flanigan finished with seven, Zeke McDonald ended up with six, Damion Johnson had four and Josh Stanley three.



NORMAN BUSH/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Hanceville Bulldogs beat Carbon Hill, 66-37, Thursday night to claim back-to-back 3A, Area 12 titles.

"Hitting 14 threes wasn't in our game plan," Hanceville coach Daniel Wakefield said. "But, we kept hitting them and I kept telling my players to keep taking them when you're wide open.

"We didn't hit as many in the second half. But we hit enough; we got some steals and we hit some layups. It feels great winning back-to-back area titles. If we shoot and play defense like we did tonight, we will win our sub-regional game next Tuesday. It's better to host a sub-regional game than travel. Shooting like this heading into our sub-regional game will give us a huge advantage."

Class 1A, Area 12: Marion County 51, Meek 47 (Girls)
The Lady Tigers looked for their second area championship in three years as they took on Marion County, but they fell just four points short at the end. Meek falls to 16-12 overall, and will travel to Decatur Heritage for their sub-regional game next Monday at 7 p.m.

Class 2A, Area 13: Cold Springs 71, Winston County 35 (Girls)
The Lady Eagles easily rolled past Winston County to give coach Tammy West her 19th area championship overall. They improve to 19-12 overall and will face the Mars Hill/Tanner loser next Monday at 7 p.m. at home in their sub-regional game.

Class 4A, Area 10: Good Hope 57, Dora 45 (Girls)
The Lady Raiders took down Dora for the second straight season to become 4A, Area 10 champions. Their record is 10-17 overall now and they will take on Wilson next Monday at 7 p.m. in their sub-regional game.

Class 5A, Area 12: Fairview 65, West Point 43 (Girls)
The Lady Aggies got past West Point to win back-to-back area titles to add to their back-to-back county titles. Fairview improves to 22-7 overall and will host its sub-regional game against the loser of Mae Jemison/Lee-Huntsville contest, while the Lady Warriors (22-10) will travel to the winner of that game next Monday at 7 p.m.

Class 6A, Area 14: Brewer 58, Cullman 48 (Girls)
The Lady Bearcats looked for an upset on the road in the area championship game against Brewer, but they fell by 10, falling to 18-14 overall on the season. Cullman will travel to Minor next Monday at 7 p.m. in its sub-regional game.

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Hanceville council discusses impending closure of city pool

Nick Griffin
Tribune Correspondent

HANCEVILLE – The Hanceville City Council met Thursday night, and the planned closing of the city pool was discussed in greater detail. Hanceville Parks Director Ashley Dye was on hand Thursday to provide more information.

The council voted at its last meeting to close the pool due to growing concerns about repair costs. The plan is to replace it with a splash pad. Mayor Kenneth Nail said he believes the splash pad will be a better long-term investment, citing the City being unable to find anyone who can permanently solve the algae and mold problems with the pool.

Dye seconded Nail's thoughts, saying that she and her staff have not been able to come up with a solution to permanently remove the mold. Nail said the City has been told that repairs could cost $65,000-$75,000, with no guarantees the repairs would be permanent. He said he doesn't think that would be worth opening the pool for 50-60 days in the year.

Mayor Pro Tem Jim Sawyer voiced concern that a splash pad will only serve the pool's younger users, but Dye said most of the pool's guests are 6-10-years-old, which would be the target age range for the splash pad.

Dye and Nail both agreed that having both the pool and splash pad would be ideal, but said the City cannot afford the recurring repairs to the pool and they believe a splash pad will be a better fit financially and with younger community members.

In old business, the council discussed bid from SmartFox Solutions of Decatur for the City's phone system. SmartFox's was the only bid the council received, but Sawyer expressed concern with the length of the proposed contract, which is five years.

The council agreed with Sawyer and decided to wait and explore more options before making a decision.

Update on Officer Jason Hare

Nail gave an update on the condition of Hanceville Police Officer Jason Hare, who was severely injured in a three-car crash at the intersection of U.S. Highway 31 and Alabama Highway 91 on Jan. 22. Hare is still in UAB Hospital.

"I try to check on Jason at UAB Hospital every couple of days," said Nail.

"Anyone who is able to, keep him and his family in your prayers, and if you would like you could bring any donations for him and his family to Hanceville City Hall." City Hall is located at 112 Commercial Street in Hanceville.

The Hanceville City Council will meet again Feb. 22 for a work session at 6 p.m. and a meeting at 6:30. The public is invited to attend both.

Obituary Announcements: Feb. 9-25

Graveside services for Randall Wyatt Putman, 63, of Center Hill will be held Sunday, February 11, 2018 at 2 p.m. at Center Hill Cemetery. Mr. Putman passed away on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at his residence. He was born on September 13, 1954 in Cullman to Wyatt & Gwendolyn Webb Putman and graduated from Cullman High School in 1972 where he participated in football and track. Randy attended Austin Peay State University on a track scholarship. Survivors include his son, Brettly Hue Putman of Hanceville; grandson, Elijah Wyatt Putman of Cullman; sister and brother in law, Barbara Putman (Wayne) Trimble of Arab; nieces, Alana Trimble (Johnny) Burks of Huntsville and Adi Trimble (Barry) Hunt of Arab; uncle, Carl Webb of Decatur; aunt, Sue Putman of Hanceville; and many beloved cousins and great nieces.

Troy Melvin Ellis, 59 of Addison, entered into rest on Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at Brookwood Medical Center. Troy was born on November 28, 1958 in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. He attended Addison High School. Among his favorite past times were hunting and fishing, but he also enjoyed summers on the lake and spending time with his grandchildren. He loved talking to people and never met a stranger. The family received friends on Friday, February 9, 2018 at Addison Church of God, where a memorial service was held afterwards. Pastor Rodney Ridgeway and Brother Mackey Watts will officiate. Troy is survived by his wife of 30 years, Tammy Allcorn Ellis; mother, Kathaleen Brannon Ellis; son, Jonathon Reed Ellis and his wife Jennifer Lee; daughters, Jessica Blackwood and her husband Nick, Erica Patterson and her husband Brian, and Kelita Cox and her husband Kevin; brothers, Allan Ellis and his wife Mary, and Joe Cox and his wife Sherry; sisters, Kathy Jensen, Tammie Bowling and her husband Keith, and Kittie Lynn Midkiff. He was "Papa Troy" to 7 grandchildren, Colorado, Danner, Ryan, Gage, Scott, Christian and Savanah. He is also survived by a host of family and friends. He was preceded in death by his father, James Ellis; grandparents, Clifford and Mamie Brannon, Troy Ellis and Eva Ellis Denson. Friends may sign the guestbook online at www.nicholsfuneralhomes.com

Kenneth Ray Kiley, 69, of Birmingham, AL., passed on February 6, 2018. He served in the US Army during Vietnam and he was a retired contractor. He loved fishing, hunting, Alabama Football and spending time with his grandchildren. Preceding him in death were parents Henry "Tiny" and Evenia Bryant Kiley; wife Janet Kiley and brother Henry Kiley. Survived by daughter Lana Self (Mark); sons Brian Kiley (Katie) and Tim Kiley (Christy); grandchildren Logan Self, Gavin Haynes, Lexi Brody (Dalton) and Madison Kiley; brothers Eugene, Michael (Gloria) and Howard Kiley; sister Carolyn Quick. Funeral service was held on February 9, 2018 from the Chapel of Lemley Funeral Home; Pastor Phillip Jones officiated. Burial was in Brashiers Chapel Cemetery. Lemley Funeral Home and Crematory directed.

William Joseph Weems passed away on Friday, February 2, 2018. He was born November 5, 1931 to Roscoe and Geneva G Weems. He was a Decorated Korean War Veteran, Airborne Division and a member of 1st Presbyterian Church of Cullman. He is preceded in death by his parents. Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Sarah Weems, daughters; Sandy (Tommy) Arndt and Laura (Kenneth Stroll) Weems, son, Matt Weems, grandchildren; Erin (Joey) Kendrick, Brittany (Nick) Bland, Hannah Wachter, and Kyle Weems, great grandchildren; Finley Robertshaw, Isabelle Robertshaw, Reagan Kendrick, Ryder Kendrick, and Harper Bland, and sister, Katherine (Loyd) Cain. Any memorials can be made to Kindred Care Hospice of Cullman or 1st Presbyterian Church of Cullman. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is assisting with arrangements.

Lecie "Dimples" Estille Moody, 95, of Double Springs, entered into rest on February 7, 2018 at Hendrix Health Care. Mrs. Moody was born on July 10, 1922, in Russellville, Alabama. Lecie was known as "Dimples" by family and friends. Dimples married the love of her life, Mr. Selva "Dub" Moody, then moved to Double Springs. Dimples was a tax collector for Winston County for numerous years, after the passing of her husband. Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, February 10, 2018 at Fairview Church Cemetery in Double Springs, Alabama. Dimples is survived by her nieces, Virgina Morton, Susie Robertson, and Deborah Hamilton; nephews, Thomas Plylar, and Roger Tomplins. She was preceded in death by her husband, Selva "Dub" Moody; son, Ronnie Moody; parents, Maudie Levi and Susie Plylar; a brother and three sisters.

Ellis "Rip" Baker of Cullman Alabama passed away February 9, 2018 at the age of 92. He was born in Cullman on February 26, 1925 to Bert and Angie Tabor Baker. He is preceded in death by his parents and his wife Wilma Baker. Funeral services are Sunday, February 11, 2018 at 2:00 PM at Moss Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Ken Persall officiating. Interment will be in Valley Springs Cemetery. Visitation is Sunday, February 11 from 12 p.m. until 2 p.m. Survivors are: Daughter: Kathy (Tim) Wright, Sons: Robert (Martha) Baker, Paul Baker, Sister: Jenny Boyles South, 5 Grandchildren, 11 Great Grandchildren and 4 Great Great Grandchildren.

Funeral services for Herman Albert "Sonny" Voigt Jr., 87, of Hanceville are Monday, February 12 at 1:30 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church, Pastor Sandy Niiler and Don Strandlund officiating, with interment in Hopewell Cemetery. Visitation on Monday beginning at 9 a.m. at the church. Hanceville Funeral Home directing. Mr. Voigt passed away on Friday, February 9, 2018. He was preceded in death by his parents, Herman Albert Voigt Sr. and Dora Wamp Voigt; stepmother, Alma Voigt and grandsons, Herman C. Voigt and Phillip Michael Voigt. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Betty Voigt; daughter, Connie (Woody) Jacobs; sons, Craig Voigt and Joe (Toni) Voigt; grandchildren, Melissa, Jill, Tyler and Hannah; great grandchildren, Michael, Caitlyn, Lana, Daisey, Ivan and James; sisters, Arlene Stuckey and Katherine (Leon) Waters; brother, Vic (Pat) Voigt; brother-in-law, Kelley (Peggy) Milam; special friend, Ann Moore and a host of nieces, nephews, other family and friends. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Christ Lutheran Church or Kindred Hospice.

Nella Fayteen Johnson, age 84 of Cullman, went to her heavenly home Monday, February 5, 2018. She was preceded in death by her husband, H.M. Johnson. Fayteen is survived by daughters: Janet Calloway (Jackie), Karen Johnson, and Regina Thayer (Scott); sisters: Bobbie Johnson, Dairlene Lipsey (Charles), and Mechelle Baker (Mike); brother, Pete Johnson (Linda); grandsons: Jared Calloway (Amanda), Jeremy Calloway (Jennifer), and Michael Thayer; and great grandchildren: Abby, Emma, Hanna, Emily, and Eli Calloway.The memorial celebration of Fayteen's life will be Sunday, February 25, 2018 at 2 p.m. at Longview Church of God. The family request in lieu of flowers donations be made to your favorite charity in memory of Mrs. Johnson. Please visit mossservicefh.com to leave condolences for the family. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

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From left are Federation President Jimmy Parnell, Cullman County's Jeremy Calvert and Federation Horticulture Division Director Mac Higginbotham.



ALABAMA FARMERS

From left are Federation Pork Division Director Guy Hall and Cullman County's Tim Donaldson.

Alabama Farmers elect new, recognize longtime leaders

Cullman County's Jeremy Calvert and Tim Donaldson honored

Mary Johnson
Alfa Farmers

MONTGOMERY – More than 600 farmers representing 16 commodities gathered in Montgomery Feb. 6-8 for the Alabama Farmers Federation Commodity Organizational Meeting. They heard industry updates, learned about cutting-edge technology and elected leaders to state commodity committees.

New committee members were elected for 16 state commodity committees, which are responsible for reporting on agricultural issues and concerns and helping establish the Federation's governing policies.

Those committees are: Bee & Honey; Beef; Catfish; Cotton; Dairy; Equine; Forestry; Greenhouse, Nursery & Sod; Hay & Forage; Horticulture; Meat Goat & Sheep; Pork; Poultry; Soybean; Wheat & Feed Grains; and Wildlife Resources.

Cullman County's Jeremy Calvert was recognized for serving the maximum nine years on the Alabama Farmers Federation State Horticulture Committee.

Cullman County's Tim Donaldson was re-elected chairman of the Alabama Farmers Federation State Pork Committee.

The Federation also represents peanut farmers through the Alabama Peanut Producers Association, which held elections during the group's annual meeting Feb. 8 in Dothan.

During daily luncheons, longtime leaders from state commodity committees were recognized for their service. Committee members rotate off after serving three, three-year terms. Those honored were:

- Bill Mullins, Madison County, Bee & Honey
- Andy Webb, Washington County, Bee & Honey
- Robert Earl Acker, Cherokee County, Soybean
- Paul Looney, Limestone County, Wheat & Feed Grains
- Tom Ingram, Lee County, Cotton
- Thomas Kirkland, Dale County, Cotton
- Joe Mullek, Baldwin County, Cotton
- Jeremy Calvert, Cullman County, Horticulture
- Joe Roberts, Fayette County, Poultry
- Tommy Thompson, Covington County, Poultry
- Jan Woodham, Dale County, Poultry
- Grady Bobo, Tuscaloosa County, Wildlife Resources
- Randy Gilmore, Jefferson County, Wildlife Resources
- Randy Hollingsworth, Hale County, Catfish
- Will Pearce, Dallas County, Catfish
- James Waite Sr., Covington County, Dairy
- Wade Hill, Lawrence County, Hay & Forage

Lunch on Feb. 6 also included two special presentations.

The Alabama Wheat & Feed Grains Producers presented a plaque to Dr. Kathy Flanders, who retired in January from Auburn University and the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service.

Cherokee County farmer Matt McMichen also received a $10,000 check from the Alabama Soybean Producers for winning the 100-Bushel Soybean Challenge.



IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

STATE OF ALABAMA
CULLMAN COUNTY

CASE NO.: AD2017-080

IN RE: THE MATTER OF ADOPTION OF M.B.C
A MINOR CHILD.

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

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

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of M.B.C, a minor child born on the 14th day of November, 2016, in Cullman, Alabama, to Felicia Renae Hollinger, was filed on the 13th day of November, 2017, in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by Michael Raper and Tina Raper, petitioners. Please be advised should you intend to contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with the Clerk of the said Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama, 35055.

DONE THIS 18th DAY OF January, 2018.

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

Andria Richter
Attorney for Petitioners
300 First Avenue, SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
(256)-775-7757

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
JOHNNIE DALENE GAMBLE,) CASE NO.: PC2017-292
Deceased.)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION

Letters of Administration with Will Annex having been granted to **CHARLOTTE CHANEY and CHERRIE HANEY,** Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of **JOHNNIE DALENE GAMBLE**, deceased, on the 30th day of January, 2018, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge of said County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law, or the same will be barred.

DONE this 30th day of January, 2018.

CHARLOTTE CHANEY and CHERRIE HANEY
Co-Personal Representatives

ANETTE IRONS-PARKER
Attorney for Petitioners
215 Main Avenue, SW
Cullman, AL 35055
256-775-4444

TO THE PUBLISHER OF: THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Please publish the above notice for three (3) consecutive weeks and provide a proof of publication affidavit to the Probate Judge of Cullman County, Alabama.

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF BLOUNT COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF
THE ADOPTION OF:
Z.M-R.H.,
a minor.

CASE NO. 2018-003

NOTICE OF ADOPTIONS PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: Kennith Michael Hudson, natural father

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of Z.M-R.H., a minor born on July 8, 2013, in Cullman County, Alabama to Summer Blakley Mullins Hudson, was filed on the 4th day of January, 2018, in Blount County, Alabama, by Dallas Kretzschmar, the petitioner.

Please be advised, should you intend to contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of being served this notice, upon counsel of record for said Petitioner, whose name and address are shown below, and with the Clerk of the said Probate Court of Blount County, Alabama located at 220 2nd Avenue East, Room 101, Oneonta, Alabama 35121.

Done this the 4th day of January, 2018.

Chris Green
Chris Green
Blount County Probate Judge

Attorney: Nathan A. Brock
223 2nd Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055
Telephone: (256) 841-4331

To: The Editor of _____

Please publish the above notice in your newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks, and after having done so, file with the Court an affidavit showing the fact of publication together with a copy of the notice of publication.

FILED
BLOUNT COUNTY, AL
01/04/2018
CHRIS GREEN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

Default having been made in the payment of the debt secured by that certain mortgage executed by Joshua L. McElhone and spouse, Della D. McElhone, on July 3, 2017 and being recorded on July 24, 2017 in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama at Mtg. Book 1823, Page 940; that certain mortgage executed by Joshua L. McElhone and spouse, Della D. McElhone, on September 2, 2016 and being recorded on September 23, 2016 in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama at Mtg. Book 1798, Page 704, and that certain mortgage executed by Joshua L. McElhone and Della D. Meeks (now known as Della D. McElhone) on August 3, 2012 and being recorded on August 6, 2012 in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama in Mtg. Book 1682, Page 785, Traditions Bank as Mortgagee, by reason of such default, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgages, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, at the front door entrance of the Courthouse at Cullman County, Alabama, on March 22, 2018 during the legal hours of sale, all of its right, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

A tract of land being in the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter Section 1, Township 11 South, Range 5 West, Cullman County, Alabama described as beginning at an existing rock accepted as the Southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter thence along the accepted west forty line N 00 degrees 43'08" E 340.63 feet to an existing ½" pipe on the southwesterly right of way of County Road 847, thence along said right of way the following chord bearings and distances: S 36 degrees 38'36" E 208.48 feet and S 27 degrees 04'36" E 195.31 feet to an existing fence post on the accepted south line of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter, thence along said accepted forty line N 89 degrees 51'00" W 217.60 feet to the point of beginning. Being 0.93 acres, more or less. Less and except all powerline rights of way and all other rights of way and easements of record.

Address of Property: 275 County Road 847, Crane Hill, AL 35053

THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON AN "AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS, SUBJECT TO ANY EASEMENTS, ENCUMBRANCES, AND EXCEPTIONS REFLECTED IN THE MORTGAGE AND THOSE CONTAINED IN THE RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF THE JUDGE OF PROBATE OF THE COUNTY WHERE THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS SITUATED. THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD WITHOUT WARRANTY OR RECOURSE, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED AS TO TITLE, USE AND/OR ENJOYMENT AND WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION OF ALL PARTIES ENTITLED THERETO.

This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgages, as well as the expenses of foreclosure.

The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the real estate.
This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation.

Traditions Bank, Mortgagee

Trent Lowry
GRIFFITH, LOWRY & MEHERG, LLC
Attorney for Traditions Bank
409 1st Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055
(256) 734-0458
trent@griffithlowry.com

PB WIL BK 84 PG 785 - 01/30/2018 10:04 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC-2017-300

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF RILEY J. SAVAGE, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Jamie Coffman on the 30th 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.

Jamie Coffman
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

Sherry H. Barrett
Attorneys for the Personal Representative
Smith & Smith, LLP
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
256-734-4721

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MELVIN D. RICKETTS, Deceased) PROBATE COURT CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
CASE NO. PC 2018-030

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary upon the last will and testament of said decedent having been granted to Michael W. Ricketts as personal representative of said estate on the 5th day of February, 2018, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from the above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate / Tammy Brown

Attorney for petitioner:
Brooke A. Everley
Everley Law, LLC
2100 First Avenue North, Suite 600
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
(205) 623-1259

TO: Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

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

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, Probate Judge
Cullman County, Alabama

Topre (from Front)

Ivey said the new hot press assembly line will allow Topre to produce automotive parts that are both lighter and stronger, allowing auto manufacturers to produce cars that are safer and more fuel efficient.

Ivey spoke of the benefit for "98 of our neighbors, 98 more of our moms and dads, 98 more folks we go to church with," saying, "This just reflects a commitment on the part of Topre and this community, not just to grow a business, but to grow a community and a state, for the better for all. This is real commitment, and I'm sure proud to help lead a team like this.

"When you have a team working together with teamwork, and committed to business success and families to thrive, that's a recipe for success. Our unemployment now is at an all-time record low of 3.5 percent, and in December we also reached a new benchmark of 2.1 million Alabamians actually being employed in our great state. That is an all-time record."

Greer said the project announcement is a reflection of Topre's success and reinvestment in the Cullman community. The Cullman location originally opened in 2003 with plans to create 200 jobs, and the company now employs approximately 600 in the Cullman area. This latest announcement is the fifth large expansion since the facility opened.

"I agree with Governor Ivey. Topre's decision to locate in Cullman and Alabama was the right one. We are extremely proud the community, state and company partnership has produced such great results," Greer said.

"We promised Topre that the work ethic and trainability of Alabama workers would only enhance the company reputation for production quality and this labor force has certainly delivered."

Said Ivey, "We are experiencing strong economic growth in our great state, and it's a testament to the fact that what we are doing and the way we are doing is working.

"And, as a result, the people of Alabama are working and better able to care for themselves and their families. And y'all, that's just plum good news!

Topre America Corporation is a Tier-1 Japanese manufacturer of automotive components. The company is a metal stamping parts producer for Nissan, Toyota and Honda. The Cullman location of Topre America Corporation serves as the North America headquarters, with additional facilities located in Mississippi, Tennessee, Ohio and Mexico.

See Ivey's full address, along with statements from Greer, Shimizu and Topre America Vice President Brad Pepper at www.facebook.com/CullmanTribune/videos/1636625089732513/.

Trafficking (from Front)

area
- Excessive amounts of alcohol or illegal drugs in rooms
- Evidence of pornography
- Minors left alone in room for long periods of time
- Excessive number of people staying in a room
- Extended stay with few or no personal possessions
- Provocative clothing and shoes
- Constant flow of men into a room at all hours
- Excessive amounts of sex paraphernalia in rooms (condoms, lubricant, lotion, etc.)
- Rooms stocked with merchandise, luggage, mail packages and purses/wallets with different names

Front desk, security, and concierge staff were told to watch for:
- Patrons checking into room appear distressed or injured
- The same person reserving multiple rooms
- Few or no personal items when checking in
- Room paid for with cash or pre-loaded credit card
- Excessive use of hotel computers for adult oriented or sexually explicit websites
- Patrons not forthcoming about full names, home address or vehicle information when registering
- Minor taking on adult roles or behaving older than actual age (paying bills, requesting services)
- Patron appears with a minor that he or she did not come with originally
- Rentals of pornography when children are staying in the room
- Individuals dropped off at the hotel or visiting repeatedly over a period of time
- Individuals leaving room infrequently, not at all, or at odd hours
- Minor with a patron late at night or during school hours (and not on vacation)
- Individuals checking into room with no identification
- Room is rented hourly, less than a day, or for long-term stay that does not appear normal
- Patrons requesting information or access to adult services or sex industry
- Room rented has fewer beds than patrons
- Individuals selling items to or begging from patrons or staff
- Individuals enter/exit through the side or rear entrances, instead of the lobby
- Car in parking lot regularly parked backward, so the license plate is not visible

Food and beverage staff were told to look for:
- Patrons entertaining a minor at the bar or restaurant that they did not come in with originally
- Patron claiming to be an adult although appearance suggests he/she is a minor
- Individuals loitering and soliciting male patrons
- Individuals waiting at a table or bar and picked up by a male (trafficker or customer)
- Individuals asking staff or patrons for food or money
- Individuals taking cash or receipts left on tables

In presenting the signs, Wilson was careful to point out that one or two signs are not sufficient to prove criminal activity or evil intent. She encouraged the staffers to look for multiple signs and to "put the pieces together."

What to do when the signs are there

According to the Blue Campaign, hospitality workers who recognize or suspect trafficking should do the following:
- Do not at any time attempt to confront a suspected trafficker directly or alert a victim to your suspicions.
- Call 9-1-1 for emergency situations—threats of violence, physical assault, emergency medical needs, etc.
- Follow your corporate protocol, such as by notifying management and security.
- Call 1-866-DHS-2-ICE (1-866-347-2423) to report suspicious criminal activity to federal law enforcement. Highly trained specialists take reports from both the public and law enforcement agencies. Submit a tip at www.ice.gov/tips.
- To get help from the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC), call 1-888-373-7888 or text HELP or INFO to BeFree (233733).

Wilson expressed hope that this week's training event was only the first of many.

Hampton Inn Manager Tabatha Smothers said, "Hopefully, the other hotels will get as interested."

Wilson added, "That's what I'm hoping: after they see this, that (Hampton) set a precedent, maybe they will."

At the conclusion of the training session, Wilson offered the following words to the hotel staffers:

"What can you do to prevent human trafficking? What can you do? Gandhi once said, 'Be the change that you wish to see in the world.' There are many ways that each of us can become that change. I like to say, 'Become a voice for the voiceless,' because they don't have a voice. Join our Task Force. We would love to have you join us; I always need volunteers . . . Spread the word; tell somebody that you know what you learned. Tell a family member, a coworker, someone at your church. It doesn't matter who you tell; just be sure that you tell somebody, so they can educate themselves and that they can educate someone else.

"The more people who know that human trafficking exists here in our community, the more people that we have who will be watching out for our children. You've heard the saying, 'It takes a village . . .' It does. It takes a village; it takes everyone. We have the power to change history with our actions. Now is the time for all of us to take action, so we can stop this heinous crime from happening.

"And it's up to us to do that. It's up to each one of us. It's time that we, as a community, are appalled that our children are being sold."

For more information on the Department of Homeland Security's Blue Campaign against human trafficking, visit www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign.

For more information about the Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force, visit www.facebook.com/Cullman-County-Human-Trafficking-Task-Force or email endtrafficking25@gmail.com.

For more information on human trafficking in Alabama, visit www.enditalabama.org or www.stnow.org.

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