Elect CAROL BERRY
PROBATE JUDGE
CULLMAN COUNTY
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The Cullman Tribune

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Elect ALEX J. CHANEY
For ALABAMA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 12



Alex is a 5th Generation Cullman County native. He is the son of Kim and Mauren Chaney and the Grandson of Jim and Jean Chaney who owned and operated Chaney Seed and Feed. He is a graduate of The University of Alabama and attended Jones School of Law.

A TRUE CONSERVATIVE with The Right Combination of Experience, New Ideas and Old Fashion Values

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Alex Chaney, P.O. Box 1052, Cullman, AL 35056

PREP SOCCER – PAGE 4

Cullman boys disqualified from remainder of AHSAA playoffs

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL 2018

Eve 6 to headline expanded festival entertainment schedule Saturday; Senior Shindig on Friday



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Crowds filled Depot Park during 2017's Strawberry Festival. Cullman Parks and Recreation said this year's event will offer even more. » PAGE 2

RE-ELECT TAMMY BROWN
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JUNE 5, 2018 REPUBLICAN PRIMARY



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PD. POL. ADV. BY TAMMY BROWN, PO BOX 177, CULLMAN, AL 35056

EDUCATION

Preston Corum 1st CDC student to ever compete in SkillsUSA

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN COUNTY – Cullman Area Technology Academy (CATA) Building Construction Tech teacher Mike Burkett has been doing a lot of bragging recently about his students, and with good reason. Three recently won a state level SkillsUSA competition and are headed to nationals, while three others placed second in another category. See (www.cullmantribune.com/articles/2018/04/28/cata-students-compete-state-skillsusa-competition-3-headed-nationals.)

He's proud of all of his students, but there's one he had to single out: Preston Corum, who placed high enough in district SkillsUSA competition to qualify for state. He didn't place at the state competition, but he's still a big winner for himself and his schools (all three of them!).

In addition to being a Construction Tech student at CATA, Corum is also a student at the Cullman County Child Development Center (CDC), the county's school for special needs students. And because of the progress he has made, his teacher informed us, he will soon transition out of the CDC and will graduate next year from Good Hope High School.

Burkett told The Tribune that Corum "does a wonderful job despite all of the challenges in his life. Anyway, he placed third last month at the SkillsUSA district competitions in the Job Demonstration category--he did the 10-inch miter saw--which qualified him for State, and while he did not make the top three last week, he had a great attitude and represented the CDC and CATA very well. We are all very proud of him. And if I am not mistaken, he is the first student at the Cullman County CDC to not only compete, but place in a SkillsUSA event. Preston is just a joy and an inspiration to us all and I am very proud to be one of his teachers."



MIKE BURKETT/CATA

Preston Corum placed third in SkillsUSA district competition in 10-inch miter saw, qualifying him to attend state competition. He is the first CDC student ever to compete in SkillsUSA.

CDC Principal Chris Chambers said of Corum: "He is what you're looking for in a young man that has matured to the point where he is self-monitoring himself, where he's going to be a productive employee for somebody one day. We're always trying to place our kids, and talk to local businesses about our students, and realize that there is an untapped workforce out there. And he is one of those kids that is very employable and will be a good employee, if given the opportunity.

"And he's one that right now, if I had a business in industry, that I would hire him right now. A lot of kids have to go through that maturation process, and he's one that's been through it. And, if given the right opportunity, I think he could be an asset to somebody here locally. You know, he's not going to be one of those kids that probably moves off one day. He's one of those that follows through with things. He's very conscientious, he's very humble, he wants to be a team player, and that's a lot of characteristics you're looking for in somebody to be an asset to a business."

Chambers then added, "I can't say enough about CATA, CATA and (Principal) Billy » PAGE 6

PET OF THE WEEK

Thumper searching for his forever home

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

CULLMAN – According to the Cullman County Animal Shelter's Donna Ruttkay, "We have seen an uptick of young families, looking for canine companions doing various jobs for their children. What a blessing!"

On Monday, Ruttkay introduced us to The Tribune's Pet of the Week, Thumper.

"Thumper is a Lab mix, approximately 3 months old. He's a medium-energy pet who enjoys playing in the yard and walks on a leash easily. He's smart and alert and craves human contact."

Thumper's adoption fee is $90 including: DHLPP vaccine, Bordetella vaccines, rabies vaccine, wormer, general exam at the vet, spay, microchip, free 45-day health insurance policy issued by 24PetWatch (with valid email only) and a free bag of food from Cullman Pet Depot (you must pay sales tax).

Animal shelter staff and volunteers work with their dogs to make sure they are accustomed to being around people, walking on a leash and practicing good behavior. Several of the shelter's dogs have even been "hired" recently to work as special needs service dogs.

Please consider adopting to give a rescued pet a chance at a happy and healthy life.

Contact the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 256-734-5448, or visit them at 935 Convent Road NE.

Reach them by email at cullmancountyanimalshelter@gmail.com.

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3-year-old boy dies in camper fire in Simcoe

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

SIMCOE – The child who died in a camper fire in Simcoe Sunday morning has been identified by Cullman County Coroner Jeremy L. Kilpatrick as Anthony Lynn Fitzgerald, 3.

Kilpatrick said the child was staying with an uncle in the camper. The incident occurred on County Road 1670 at approximately 8:40 a.m. The cause of the blaze has not been determined.

Kilpatrick confirmed the fatality early Sunday afternoon. "A 3-year-old did pass away in the fire. The child was pronounced dead at the scene."

The camper was on a property with a residence.

"The uncle stated he had left the camper to get a cup of coffee, and that's when he noticed the fire," said Kilpatrick.

The uncle, who has not been identified, pulled the child from the fire.

Volunteer fire fighters from Fairview, Gold Ridge, Berlin and Holly Pond responded to the scene, along with Cullman EMS, the Cullman County Sheriff's Office and the Alabama Fire Marshal's Office.

Fitzgerald's body has been sent to Huntsville for autopsy.

The Alabama Fire Marshal's Office is in charge of the investigation.

Truck rolls over man at Hwys. 31 & 278; victim airlifted to area hospital

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – An elderly man was airlifted to an area hospital following an incident at the intersection of US Highway 278 and US Highway 31 at approximately 12: 30 p.m. Monday.

"Originally it came in as a pedestrian hit by a vehicle," said Cullman Police Chief Kenny Culpepper, "but what happened is an elderly man was helping someone push a disabled vehicle out of the intersection, and it rolled back on top of him."

According to Officer Jeff Mize, the victim's truck broke down at the intersection, and he was attempting to push it out of the roadway when someone stopped to assist him.

"The gentleman slipped and fell, and truck rolled back over him," said Mize. "It was a severe leg injury."

Culpepper said a helicopter landed at East Elementary to transport the victim.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The incident happened around lunchtime at the intersection of US Highway 31 and US Highway 278

The victim is 79 years old.

Check www.CullmanTribune.com for updates.

Festival (from Front)

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

- **Friday only:** Senior Shindig, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
- **Saturday only:** Strawberry Festival, 7 a.m.-9 p.m.

CULLMAN – This Saturday, May 5, Cullman Parks and Recreation (CP&R) will host the 2018 Strawberry Festival downtown, from the Festhalle to Depot Park. Several features of the event will be expanded this year, and the cancelation of this year's Art in the Park led to the inclusion of a whole new collection of activities at the festival.

The Strawberry Festival will last from 7 a.m.-9 p.m. This year's festival will be headlined by Eve 6, who will play Saturday evening to end the event. The Strawberry Festival is free to attend.

The Strawberry Festival will feature more than a dozen farmers selling locally-grown, fresh strawberries throughout the day. The event will also feature more than 120 craft vendors on site. A large kids zone will feature inflatables, games, rides, a petting zoo and other attractions. A new art zone will also be added with kids' crafts, an art show and a sidewalk chalk contest where the winner will receive a free season pass for the summer to Wild Water water park at the Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center. The event will also feature a host of strawberry themed food and drinks, according to CP&R.

New stuff!

The Tribune spoke to Waid Harbison, CP&R's event coordinator, who explained that the festival's new art zone is the result of the cancelation of Art in the Park earlier in the spring, due to bad weather.

"We were not able to have our Art in the Park event this year," said Harbison, "so we're kind of bringing a lot of elements of that event to the art zone. So, Shop Around the Corner, Pam Willingham, is going to help out and do some kids' crafts.

"We're going to be still having our art show, so we'll have artwork on display there from just local artists all over Cullman, and then we're going to be doing our sidewalk chalk contest there, as well."

CP&R plans to hold art zone events in the parking area between the Cullman County Museum and the Festhalle.

In years gone by, Festival activities have usually concluded around supper time, but this year will see some of the fun just getting cranked up at that time. Live music will run all day from 8 a.m., and at 7:30 p.m., California-based "pop punk" trio Eve 6 will take the stage. The platinum-selling band, formed in 1995, is known for hits like "Inside Out," "Promise," "On the Roof Again" and "Here's to the Night."

According to Harbison, the number of farmers and craft vendors has been increased for this year, and the kids' zone will be expanded.

"We're really just amping everything up a little bit," said Harbison.

Senior Shindig

Harbison said the annual Senior Shindig will take place at the Festhalle on Friday, May 4, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The first 300 seniors to arrive will get a free lunch. A live band will be providing entertainment, and there will be Bingo with prizes. Strawberry vendors will also be onsite Friday.

Saturday's music schedule

- 8 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. – Cullman High School Choir
- 9 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. – Julie Ann & Gold Rush
- 10 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. – Community Band
- 11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. – Shannon McNeal
- 12 p.m. - 2 p.m. – Round 2
- 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. – Thick as Thieves
- 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. – to be announced
- 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. – Eve 6

For more information on the Strawberry Festival, call 256-734-9517 or visit www.facebook.com/CullmanStrawberryfest/.





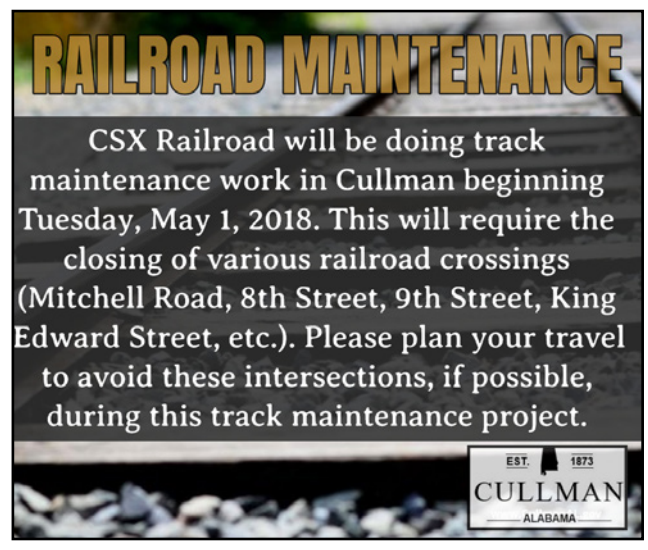

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Notice

Four abandoned JCR Recycling plastic gallon garbage cans. Were told several weeks ago that they would be picked up. If not picked up within 7 to 14 days (May 1-14), they will be emptied and repurposed as property of The Cullman Tribune.

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Arrest report: April 27-29

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – Below are the arrests reported for April 27-29. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

GJ = grand jury; **FTA** = failure to appear

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Amaro, Jacob Daniel, 20
- FTA- 20 days to register a vehicle
- FTA- speeding

Bentley, Amanda Dawn, 40
- public intoxication

Buxton, Paul Edward Jr., 41
- violation of domestic violence protection order

Criss, Tyler Phillip, 23
- attempting to elude
- running a red light
- speeding- more than is reasonable and prudent
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

Duke, Jimmy Dean Jr., 22
- attempting to elude
- running a red light
- speeding- more than is reasonable and prudent
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

Gouchtchine, Andrei Anatolya, 31
- FTA- driving while suspended
- FTA- improper equipment
- FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Hamby, Charles Edward, 26
- DUI- .08 BAC or greater
- fleeing/attempting to elude

Harbison, Ann Marie, 34
- illegal possession of prescription medicine
- public intoxication
- first-degree receiving stolen property
- unauthorized use of a vehicle

Jones, Blake Joseph, 22
- attempting to elude

Kennel, Brandon Christopher, 32
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
- FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Kilpatrick, Michael Shane, 49
- FTA- driving while revoked

Loggins, James Brian, 38
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Martin, Dannal Justin, 34
- writ of arrest- child support

McCrary, Gwendolyn Hadley, 38
- negotiating a worthless negotiable instrument

Minor, Henry Odes Montgomery, 38
- FTA- driving while suspended
- probation violation- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Morrow, Chastan Dace, 35
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Phillips, Alan David, 61
- allowing animals to run at large

Sherrell, Cameron Daniel, 21
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Swann, Nathaniel Barry, 32
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- fourth-degree theft of property
- second-degree bail jumping- possession of drug paraphernalia
- second-degree bail jumping- fourth-degree theft of property

Waid, Damon Bryant, 45
- FTA- negotiating a worthless negotiable instrument

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Peralta, Francisco S., 22
- FTA- driving while revoked

Wimbs, Shanna L., 38
- obstruction/using a false ID

Strickland, Ronnie J., 44
- public intoxication

Temples, Luanne, 63
- DUI

Hay, Zachary T., 23
- disorderly conduct

Webster, Melanie E., 37
- fourth-degree theft of property

Waid, Damon B., 45
- DUI
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Watson, Jade M., 21
- FTA- harassment

Yates, Jerome V., 41
- FTA- switched tag
- FTA- motorcycle helmet required

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests reported.

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

Wallace State Flight Technology/Aviation graduate Aaron Mathis giving back to college through Foundation scholarship

Russell Moore
WSCC

HANCEVILLE – Aaron Mathis has had a passion for flying as long as he can remember.

And, at only 22 years old, Mathis is making sure current Wallace State Flight Technology/Aviation students have the same opportunities.

Through Wallace State's Future Foundation, Mathis has established a scholarship for future flight professionals. The inaugural scholarship will be awarded next month to a deserving Wallace State student.

"I was fortunate enough to earn a scholarship while at Wallace State and it helped my family tremendously. I've always wanted to be a flight instructor, and this is one way I can give back. My dad has always told me if someone ever gives you something, find a way to give back. I want to give students an extra boost to fulfill their hopes and degree," Mathis said.

As a Wallace State student from August 2013-May 2015, Mathis shined in the Flight Technology/Aviation program and graduated with his multi-engine commercial license. After his two years at Wallace State, Mathis attended flight instructor training classes in Florida while living in Foley and earned the proper credentials to teach, while also enrolled at Athens State.

After instructing flight classes at multiple locations, including Wallace State, Mathis accepted a pilot/first officer position with PSA Airlines in July 2016. PSA flies under the brand name of American Eagle and is a regional airline under the American Airlines umbrella.

In high school, Mathis attended Pell City and was directed to Wallace State by one of his instructors.

"I was in my senior year and in flight school at the local airport in Pell City. I was told the best college options for aviation were between Auburn and Wallace State. I made a great choice.

"Flight training had always interested me, and it was even more important I could go to college, earn a degree and fly an airplane as a professional," said Mathis, who graduated from Pell City in 2013 and Wallace State in 2015.

"It was also the absolute perfect scenario for me financially as far as what I wanted to do for my career and pursuing a degree."

As a pilot for American Eagle, Mathis has the privilege of flying through



WSCC

historic and majestic U.S. cities on a consistent basis. On one lengthy trip last week, Mathis flew through cities such as Portland, Ore., San Bernardino, Calif., Chandler, Ariz., Stephenville, Texas and Shreveport, La.

Mathis, who also earned a management of technology degree from Athens State, now lives in Charlotte, N.C., for his aerial career, but travels back to Pell City as frequently as possible.

While at Wallace State, Mathis earned the Richard Caretti Aviation Technology Scholarship through the Future Foundation. He is excited to return the favor in a couple of weeks when he'll present his scholarship to an inaugural recipient.

"I'm ready to be a mentor to someone. That's why I put this scholarship together. I want to guide them and help them reach their goals with efficiency and affordability," Mathis said.

"It will be full circle for me. Here I was just a few years ago receiving a scholarship, and now I'll be handing one out."

As Wallace State celebrates Community College Month, Mathis is proud to be an ambassador for the institution.

"Wallace State put me ahead of the curve. I've never thought what life would be like without the training I received at Wallace State and I don't want to. I would still be working very hard, but I wouldn't have nearly made the progress I did. The opportunities I've gained through Wallace State have been extremely beneficial."

To learn more about Wallace State, visit www.wallacestate.edu.

MOVIE REVIEW

'Avengers: Infinity War' lives up to the hype and beyond

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

"Avengers: Infinity War" is directed by the Russo brothers, Joe and Anthony, and stars far too many Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) A-listers to name. If you don't already have a general idea of what this film is about, you may have a hard time enjoying it as much as someone who has been watching all the MCU films over the past decade. "Infinity War" is the culmination of 10 years of films that started with "Iron Man" in 2008 and the promise of the Avengers in Nick Fury's first post-credits appearance in that movie.

After the credits of Marvel's first big team-up blockbuster, "The Avengers," we were promised a confrontation with the Mad Titan himself, Thanos. Thanos has made brief appearances in films like "Guardians of the Galaxy" and after the credits of "Avengers: Age of Ultron," but the big question going into the latest MCU entry was whether or not he could live up to the six years of anticipation that has been building since "The Avengers."

It's safe to say that the Russo brothers heard the skepticism and as a result have delivered one of the MCU's most intimidating, smart and well-written villains yet. You don't go so far as to empathize with Thanos or his mission, but there is clear logic to all of his actions.

Similar to Erik Killmonger from "Black Panther," Vulture from "Spiderman: Homecoming" or Loki from several MCU entries, it's easy to understand where they are coming from and why they are doing what they are doing. This is without a doubt Thanos' movie, and Josh Brolin brings a dramatic weight to the character while still being imposing.

All of the familiar heroes that we have gotten to know over the years are great to see and the actors portraying them are so recognizable as these characters that it's nearly impossible to find flaws in any of their performances. The only negative that comes with having so many characters in this film is that it's impossible to give everyone the shine they deserve. A lot of this film's criticism will likely be based on who your favorite characters are and how much screen-time they get.

It's very impressive to see how well put together the film is considering how many characters and sub-plots the Russo brothers had to juggle, but it is undeniably imperfect.

While it's tough to keep up with all of the plots going on at times, the positives of jamming all these characters together far outweigh the negatives. Seeing members of the Guardians of the Galaxy interact with earth-based Avengers or Wakandans fight alongside Captain America is truly a blast and the humor that comes with some of these introductions is spot on.

However, I don't think you can fully appreciate the humor, drama, action or plot of "Infinity War" if you haven't been keeping up to date with the goings on in the MCU.

This film does take the time to explain things like Infinity Stones and what some characters have been doing but you are definitely expected to have some knowledge of what's been happening from the opening frame.

The action in this film is unlike anything we've seen in the MCU up to this point; "Infinity War" is the first film to ever be shot entirely with IMAX cameras and as a result every action sequence looks phenomenal, and there are a lot of them. In the two-and-a-half-hour run time we see literally dozens of characters with dozens of different abilities clashing across the galaxy and hammering home the severity of the situation.

This is a Marvel film that makes you truly fear for the characters and that makes for some jaw dropping moments over the course of the movie.

Overall, "Avengers: Infinity War" is a big, long, exciting, suspenseful, funny summer blockbuster that will leave you excited for what the MCU has in store going forward.

Griffin's score: 9/10

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
MAY 1, 2018

United Way Young Professionals raise funds with crawfish boil at Goat Island

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Freddie Day catering boiled up 500 lbs. of crawfish picked up fresh on the Gulf Coast by YP volunteers Saturday morning.

CULLMAN – If you wanted to drop by Cullman's own brewhouse, Goat Island, Saturday evening, you were in for a challenge and a treat. The challenge was finding somewhere to park, as vehicles packed parking lots and filled every nook and cranny up and down the lane going by the brewery. The treat was the second annual United Way of Cullman County (UWCC) Young Professionals (YP) Crawfish Boil.

Around 5 a.m. Saturday, YP volunteers Dusty Baker, Alex Chaney, Jake Johnson and Ross West left Cullman and went down to the Gulf Coast to fetch 500 lbs. of fresh crawfish. When they got back home, Freddie Day Catering started boiling up the mudbugs along with vegetables, getting them ready to serve when the event officially opened at 5 p.m.

Once the evening got underway, Goat Island was packed, and it stayed that way for most of the night. Outside, caterers and volunteers worked away as diners lined up to get their plates.

Inside, the BamaCountry Band played while patrons filled every table and crowded the bar in Goat Island's Tap Room.

YP Board President Michael Gray explained to The Tribune, "We're just raising money for 16 of our agencies that we have through UWCC that we support. We just wanted to be part of the effort to build our community.

"We've had so many volunteers . . . It's just incredible to see it all come together to build this community."

Gray wanted to be sure to recognize the event sponsors, including: American Proteins, Merchants Bank, Leavitt Group and Payroll Services.

Tap Room Manager Brad Glenn talked about Goat Island's two years of commitment to the fundraiser:

"This is our second one. They contacted us last year; and of course, we're a community-minded business. Anything we can do to give back, we want to do that. Cullman has been so awesome to support us at every turn, and so, any time we can help, we want to help."

Goat Island regularly serves as an event venue for parties and other celebrations, and hosts fundraisers for various organizations and causes though the year.

Where does the money go?

UWCC Assistant Director Becky Goff said, "United Way works year-round to reach the people who are underserved in our community, who need a hand up--we don't give them a handout, we give them a hand up, and try to help them improve their lives so they can contribute back to our community. They can be employed, educated, maybe some of them don't have healthcare. They can get those needs met so they can get back to being a part of our community. So that's what we do to try to work to give people an opportunity to improve their lives, and to make a contribution back.

"And we're thankful to the businesses here in our community who come alongside us and support our effort. We have probably right around 80 companies here in Cullman County that support us through payroll deductions and corporate gifts and fundraising."

The UWCC's Young Professionals Board, according to Gray, "was started to spread awareness for our age group, because a lot of times United Way is just--the big board, we like to call it--it's a little bit older age range. We're trying to spread awareness for the next generation."

Playoffs (from Front)

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – The Cullman High School boys' soccer team has been disqualified from the remainder of the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) State Playoffs, according to CHS Principal Kim Hall. Hall made the announcement Monday afternoon. In addition to the disqualification, the school has been fined, placed on probation for one year and ordered to forfeit its first-round playoff win against Oxford, according to Ron Ingram of the AHSAA.

"It has been determined that our men's soccer team will not be advancing in the state playoffs due to a violation of the AHSAA Outside Participation Rule. We are deeply disappointed and are saddened for our players, families and coaches," Hall said in a statement.

Ingram said in a statement, "Cullman played an ineligible student in violation of the **AHSAA Outside Participation Rule** found on **page 24** of the *2017-18 AHSAA Handbook*, which states a student who is a member of any school athletic team (grades 7-12) may not participate (includes practice) on a non-school team in the same sport during the school season in that sport.

"Oxford receives the win and will host Florence Tuesday night in the second round of the Class 6A state soccer playoffs. Cullman's season is now completed.

"The probationary period is a warning that other violations of this nature could bring further sanctions against the school," concluded Ingram.

The Bearcats shut out Oxford, 2-0, in round one of the playoffs and were set to take on Florence Tuesday night in round two.

From the AHSAA Handbook

SECTION 6. OUTSIDE PARTICIPATION RULE.

A student who is a member of any school athletic team (grades 7-12) may not participate (includes practice) on a non-school team in the same sport during the school season of that sport. A student who is a member of any member school athletic team may not participate on a non-school team's outside sport activity in the same sport during the school season of that sport.

Check back for updates at www.CullmanTribune.com.

Elect GARLAN GUDGER
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ELECT GARLAN GUDGER FOR ALABAMA STATE SENATE DISTRICT 4



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Revival of the board game: Local gamers celebrate International Tabletop Day

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – Gamers from around Cullman County and beyond gathered on Saturday at the North Alabama Agriplex to celebrate International Tabletop Day. Families and friends played together, and total strangers got the opportunity to get acquainted around the table. Some brought their own games, and many picked from the huge selection of games available at the event. Drawings gave away prizes, as did tournaments in the late afternoon and evening.

Siblings Boomer Barr and Leslie Sanders have hosted the event in Cullman for several years.

Barr shared with the Tribune: "International Tabletop Day was an event created by Wil Wheaton and Felicia Day, the people that started Geek and Sundry (an organization that describes itself as "the epicenter of gaming and lifestyle for pop culture fans with an independent spirit"), five years ago.

"We started doing our International Tabletop Day four years ago, so this is our fourth year running.

"And basically, International Tabletop Day is designed so that people will get together and spend time with family and friends, playing board games.

Some people don't always set aside time. A lot more people are getting introduced to board games, so that's becoming a more prevalent thing.

"It also introduces people to new board games, because a lot of people, especially in America, when they look at board games, they think of Monopoly and Sorry, and Trouble, and all those Milton Bradley games that have never changed in all their life. And this is introducing people to games: we have all sorts of games."

The new generation of games is referred to as "tabletop" games, and they are not your grandparents' board games. Some games use traditional-style boards, while in other games players construct the board through the course of the game with cards.

There are also more pure card games, and role-playing games that create one-evening adventures based on fantasy games like Dungeons and Dragons.

There are action games and thinking games, and games geared toward various interests and almost all age groups.

If you're interested in the new generation of games, Cullman has its own group led by Barr and Sanders that meets on Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. at the Old Depot at 309 First Ave. NE downtown. On the fourth Thursday of each month, they move over to Valhalla Comics at 1108 Fourth St. SW (US Highway 278).



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Local players try out one of the expansion games for "Betrayal at the House on the Hill" on International Tabletop Day at Cullman's North Alabama Agriplex.

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Corum (from Front)

Troutman--from a principal to another principal: the programs, Mr. Burkett, and all them at CATA. Mr. Troutman, the director over there, has been phenomenal, awesome to our kids. And he looks for opportunities.

"And then that follows suit, too, with our board and also our superintendent. They're looking for opportunities for our kids at the CDC to go out and be part of the community.

"And we find a diamond in the rough every once in a while, with a Preston Corum.

"But he wouldn't be able to do what he's doing, or you and I wouldn't be having this conversation, if we didn't have people like Billy Troutman and then our board, and then Mr. (Shane) Barnette to have that vision for our kids. I couldn't do what I do without them. It's very much appreciated."

For more about the CDC, see www.cullmantribune.com:8080/articles/2017/01/21/get-know-cullman-county-child-development-center and visit http://cdc.ccboe.org.

For more about CATA, see www.cullmantribune.com/articles/2017/02/01/tools-life-cullman-area-technology-academy-opens-doors-public or www.cullmantribune.com/articles/2017/02/17/cata-showcases-career-programs-open-house-event and visit http://cacc.ccboe.org.

Find CATA on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cataschool/.

Obituary Announcements: April 26 - May 20

Joseph William Matter passed away on April 26, 2018, after a lengthy illness. Mr. Matter was born April 23, 1924, to parents, Harold and Margaret Miller Matter in Halifax, PA. He spent most of his early life in this small rural community in Pennsylvania. He met and married his wife, Betty Rettinger. Together they had two children. Joe was an active member of the community, a leader in church, school and scouting. At 17 years of age, Joe joined the U.S. Navy at the beginning of World War II and ultimately became a member of the Scouts and Raiders, the first Naval Special Warfare Unit, which became the forerunner of the Navy Seals. He served in the Southern Pacific Theater during the war. Following World War II, Joe received a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Penn State University. He became a rural mail carrier and later became a bank examiner for the Federal Home Loan Bank Board of Pittsburgh. Following a career that took him to all parts of the country dealing with many problems in the banking industry, he retired in 1989 with his wife and moved to Cullman, AL to be near his son, Dr. James R. Matter, who has an established medical practice in the Cullman area. For most of his retirement, Joe had been bedridden and has received the excellent services of Comfort Care Hospice. Mr. Matter was preceded in death by his parents; grandson, Stephen Wagner; brothers, Paul Matter, Harold Matter; and a sister, Romaine Hoover. Survivors include his wife, Betty Matter; son, Dr. James Matter; daughter, Marcia Matter Wagner; grandchildren, Jay Matter, Joshua Matter, Justin Wagner; great-grandchildren, Joey Matter, Jimmy Matter, Finley Matter, Max Harman, Addie Wagner, Miller Wagner; sister, Velma Pennebaker; beloved caregiver, Mildred Gordon; and devoted pet cat, "Smokey". A memorial service will be announced later by the family.

James Edward "Ed" Latta, age 81, of Berry Mountain Community in Blount County, passed away on April 27, 2018. He was a home builder in the Blount/Jefferson area for many years. James is preceded in death by his parents, James Virgle "Jim" and Eva Latta; brother, Wayne Latta; sisters, Alma (Isaac) Baker, Louise (Louis) Leigeber and Era (Willard) Worthington. He is survived by his wife of sixty years, Pat Latta; children, Diane (John) Poole, Becky (Gary) Hicks, Steve (Tammy) Latta, Jimmy (Patience) Latta; grandchildren, Emily (Stephen) Breaseale, Tyler (Anna) Hicks and Andy Poole; great-grandchildren, Harper Breaseale, Lauren Breaseale and Ivy Hicks; brothers, Virgie (Charlotte) Latta, Cecil (Linda) Latta, Tommy (Charlotte) Latta; sisters, Faye Grimmett (Raymond) Moore and Linda (Leon) Beasley; sister-in-law, Barbara Latta Franks. Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church with burial in Oak Hill Cemetery. Brother Randy Hale will officiate the service. Serving as pallbearers are: Tyler Hicks, Andy Poole, Phillip Hazelrig, Dale Thomas, Roland McCoy, Stephen Breaseale, Allen Bryan and Reggie Murphree. Honorary pallbearers are: Whippoorwill Golf buddies. Lemley Funeral Home directing.

Funeral Services for Linda Carroll Wright, 68 of Hanceville (formerly of Mt. Olive) Will be held Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at the Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel Brother John McKoy officiating. Burial will follow at Hopewell cemetery. Visitation will be Tuesday beginning at 12:30 p.m. at the funeral home. Linda who spent many years as a handicap bus driver in Jefferson County died Saturday, April 28th at her residence. She is survived by cousins; Geraldine Powell, Charles Pugh, Curly Pugh and Darryl Pugh.

Funeral service for George Franklin "Doodles" Stancil, 53 of Hanceville will be held 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at Hanceville Funeral Home, Dennis Reeves and Pete Stancil officiating. Interment will follow at Laodicea Cemetery. His family will receive friends Monday evening beginning at 6p.m. at the funeral home. The son of the late James and Hilda Green Stancil died Sunday, April 29, 2018 at his residence after an extended illness. He is survived by his wife, Teresa; Children; Haley Desiree (Tyler Langley) Stancil, Skyler (Haley) Ragsdale, Christian Ragsdale and Charlie Ragsdale. Brothers and sisters include; Tony Stancil, Joe (Amanda) Baker, Wayne (Kathy) Baker, Pam Baker and Sabra Stancil. Also left behind are several nieces and nephews and Sisters-in-law; Shonya (Eddie) Hill, Crystal (John) Posey, Katrina Harris and Kathy Wagnon; Brothers-in-law; Billy (Charlotte) Farr, Doug (Melondy) Farr and Carles (Shirley) Farr. Besides his parents he was preceded in death by a brother, Eddie Stancil; mother-in-law, Wenonna Pennington; two grandchildren; Lilly and Addie Ragsdale and for brothers-in-law.

Allene Elam Privett, 83 of Addison, entered into rest on Sunday, April 29, 2018 at home surrounded by her loved ones. Visitation will be held Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Nesmith Community, from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. with services on Wednesday at 12 p.m. She will lie in state from 10:30 a.m. until 12 p.m. Brother Jr. Garmon and Brother Chris Godbee will officiate. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church Youth Group.

Funeral services for Mrs. Allison Ward Hulgan, 39, of Holly Pond, will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at Liberty Church (Campfire Campus) Arab, AL. Burial to follow at Fairview Baptist Cemetery, with Pastor Keith Hodges officiating. She will lie-in-state at the church from 10 a.m. until service time. Cullman Funeral Home directing. Mrs. Hulgan was born on April 22, 1979; and passed away at her residence on Sunday, April 29, 2018. She is preceded in death by her grandparents, Jimmy & Flora Ward and Dewrell Hester; and her father-in-law, Doug Hulgan. She is survived by her Husband – Jim Douglas Hulgan; Parents – Larry & Teresa Ward; Son – Jackson Maddox; Step-Son – Garrett Hulgan; Step-Daughter – Courtney (Justen) Mann; Sister – Amanda (Dusty) Bailey; Grandmother – Bobbie Hester; Step-Granddaughter – Jayleigh Mann; 2 – Nephews – Peyton Bailey & Will Bailey; Mother-in-Law – Brenda Sulad. The family will receive friends for visitation at the funeral home on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m.

Funeral services for Kathren Krebs, age 80 of Cullman, will be at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Burial will be at Cullman Heritage Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Ms. Krebs passed away on Monday, April 30, 2018 at Summerford Nursing Home. She was born August 20, 1937 in Cullman, AL to Arnold and Liller Sandlin. She is preceded in death by her parents, sister, Carolyn Miller, and brother, James Edward Sandlin. Survivors include her daughters; Denise (Dan) Keith, Anita (Drew) Pfeiffer, Donna (Keith) Johnson, and Kitty (Phillip) Thomas, sons; Stephen (Mary) Giles and Dale (Melanie) Krebs, brothers; Gene (Betty) Sandlin, A.L. (Cheryl) Sandlin, and Dwight (Sandy) Sandlin, sister, Glenda Brock, brother in law, Verlon Miller, twenty-two grandchildren, twelve great grandchildren, best friend, Naomi Johnson, and a host of nieces and nephews. Visitation will be from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 01, 2018 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home.

On April 28, 2018, Harry Lee Chandler of Good Hope went to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, whom he served faithfully for over 62 years. He shined his light for Jesus in everything he did, and to everyone he met he did not hesitate to show that he was a Christian. He was born on December 27, 1930 to Edward F. and Josephine (Campbell) Chandler in Malden, Missouri. He graduated from Hanceville High School in 1950 and then moved to Michigan. He married his high school sweetheart, Wynell (West) that same year. He served two years in the U.S. Army and was in the Korean War. He began working for Buick Engineering where he was a Test Build Analyst and retired after 42 years. He headed the bus ministry at Corunna Road Baptist Church in Flint and never failed to give his testimony to everyone he saw. He served as a Deacon for 58 years and a greeter, most recently at Seventh Street Baptist Church, where he made an impact on the lives of each and every one who came through the church doors. He was an avid softball player throughout the years, holding the record at Flint Whaley Park for the fastest windmill pitch. He coached girls' softball at Faith Missionary Church and was the pitching coach for the Carman-Ainsworth high school girls softball team in Flint. His true sports passion was his love for table tennis. He played on his lunch break everyday throughout his career at General Motors. He loved to exercise and was a member of the Wallace State Wellness Club where he played table tennis and volleyball 3 days a week for 20 years. While at Wallace, he participated in the Senior Olympics and Masters Games where he took first place playing table tennis and horseshoes winning a total of 18 gold medals in District, State and Regional competitions. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Wynell; children, Randall (Denise); Lisa (Ken); and Tammie (Patrick); grandchildren, Kelly, Chasen, Genna, Garrett, Olivia, Ben and Dylan; brother, Rev. G.J. "Chick" Chandler; sisters, Eloise Barnette, Margie White and Ruth Poulos; and special friends, Jim and Marsha Hight. He was preceded in death by his parents, Edward (Bertha Adamson) Chandler; Josephine (Campbell) Chandler; mother-In-Law, Vertis Johnson; brother, Clois Chandler; and sister, Donnie Harbison. Funeral services will be held on Thursday, May 3, 2018 at Seventh Street Baptist Church, Rev. Eddie Chandler officiating, with interment with military honors in Good Hope Cemetery. Visitation on Wednesday at Cullman Funeral Home from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. and Thursday from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. at the church.

James Dingler, 76, of Holly Pond passed away Monday, April 24, 2018. He is preceded in death by his parents, Kenneth Elmer Dingler and Veola Hann Yelli; wife, Carolyn Schrader Dingler; son, James Alan Dingler; and brother, Erven Dingler. Survivors include his daughters, Carol Richards and Tammy (Allen) McKendree; brother, Clayburn Isaac Dingler, of Texas; eight grandchildren; five great grandchildren; and one great grandchild on the way. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. on Sunday, May 20, 2018 at Holly Pond Funeral Home Chapel.

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PREP BASEBALL

Mortimer Jordan ends West Point's playoff run, 13-5

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

WEST POINT – Game three of West Point's 2018 AHSAA Baseball 5A State Playoffs round two series with Mortimer Jordan on Saturday was a back-and-forth match-up with a couple of big momentum swings, but after a big fifth inning, the Blue Devils pulled away and advanced to round three with a 13-5 win, ending the Warriors' season.

The Warriors took an early 1-0 lead in the opening frame on an RBI single from Rylan Jones. After three quick outs in the top of the second, West Point added three more runs on two bases-loaded walks and a hit batter. It was a long inning that not only generated two runs but forced Blue Devils' starter Griffin Busby to throw a lot of pitches early in the game.

Mortimer Jordan took a chunk out of the Warriors' lead in the top of the third with a three-run shot over the left-field fence that made it 4-3.

It looked like the Blue Devils would add a run in the top of the fourth on a single to left field, but Warriors left fielder Will Cochran gunned down a runner coming home from second to end the inning and save a run. West Point added to its lead in the bottom of the fourth when Cameron Bates brought in a run on a sacrifice fly and took a 5-3 lead into the fifth.

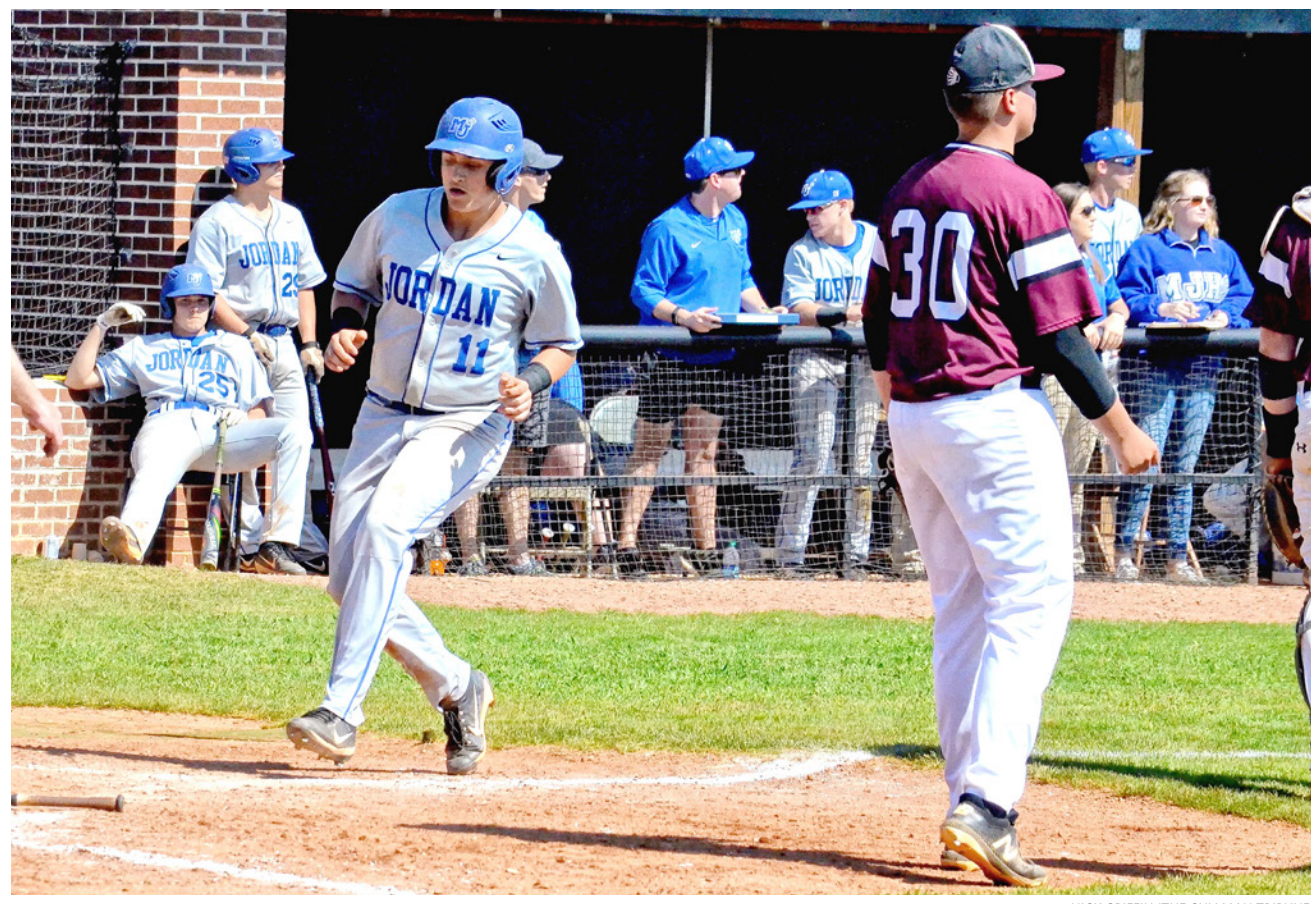
The top of the fifth was where things began to go the wrong way for West Point. Mortimer Jordan made it 5-4 with an infield single and took a 6-5 lead a few pitches later on an RBI single and an error. Two more came in to score for the Blue Devils before Aubrey Cleghorn picked off a runner at first to end the inning.

The Warriors were only able to come up with three more hits for the rest of the game and couldn't push any more runs across against the Blue Devils' defense.

Mortimer Jordan added two more runs in the sixth and three more in the seventh on its way to a 13-5 final. West Point Head Coach Seth Ward pointed to some errors defensively as one of the biggest factors in Saturday's loss.

"I thought Kolton (Easterwood) pitched pretty well. He gave up the bomb, but we didn't really let it snowball until we started kicking it a little bit; we made three of four errors and they're a momentum team and they took control of the game at that point," Ward said.

"We put a little too much pressure on ourselves in the box, didn't have great at bats and the story of the game is not playing defense like we should have."



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

A run comes in to score for Mortimer Jordan during the seventh inning of West Point's 13-5 loss to the Blue Devils.

After finishing the season at 22-15, winning the Cullman County Tournament, making the playoffs for the first time since 2003, and winning the first play-off series in school history, an emotional Ward talked about what this year's senior class means to him and the Warriors baseball program going forward.

"I'm so proud of this bunch. I knew two years ago they were special and they've got the ball rolling. What we've got to do is those young guys have got to appreciate what those guys have done; they've laid the foundation for what we're doing, and I love those kids like my own.

"I hate to see them go. They've accomplished so much, and I just couldn't be any prouder," Ward said. "This isn't what we wanted today, no, but it was so much fun every day going to work with those guys. That's the most enjoyable thing is the appreciation and what they mean to us and what they do for us as far as coming to work and making it such a special, awesome thing to really love what you do. We love those kids, all of us out here we love those kids and we're so proud of what they've done."

Read about games one and two here:
www.cullmantribune.com/articles/2018/04/27/prep-baseball-warriors-split-pair-mortimer-jordan-bearcats-sweep-pell-city-round



KEN BROWN

Cullman SAR honors Holly Pond Lions Club

Ken Brown
Contributor

CULLMAN – The Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) recognize and honor organizations and individuals who show their patriotism by properly displaying the American flag in our communities.

Here, Cullman SAR member Smokey Ferguson (left) presents an SAR plaque to Holly Pond Lions Club President Bartee Bryan. SAR Members can trace their family ancestry back to a patriot in the American Revolution.

If you are interested in the SAR, please contact Cullman Chapter President Ken Brown at 256-507-1121.





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JIM HAYS OF CULLMAN JOINS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT CITIZENS BANK & TRUST



Citizens Bank & Trust announces the appointment of James E. "Jim" Hays, Jr. of Cullman to its Board of Directors. The appointment of Hays expands the Board to 9 directors. "Jim is an accomplished business leader and his broad experience across important industries will add a valuable perspective to our Board of Directors," said Charlie Williams, President and CEO of Citizens Bank & Trust. "We appreciate his willingness to serve as a director and are confident that he will add great value to our Board of Directors."

MORE ABOUT JIM HAYS
Jim Hays, a Cullman native, is the president of Hays & Son Oil Co., Inc., Dodge City Travel Center, Inc., and the Managing Member of Hays Properties, LLC, and JTK Group, LLC. These companies are centered in Cullman, Alabama. Hays graduated from Cullman High School in 1976, the same year his family bought a small gas distributorship in Cullman. The business grew into Hays & Son Oil Company and now markets over 20 million gallons a year of gas and fuel through retail outlets branded Conoco, Pure, Chevron, and Shell and approximately 200 customers in agriculture, construction, and trucking businesses. Hays and his family also founded two real estate development companies in Hays Properties, LLC and JTK Group, LLC. Hays has served in the petroleum industry as a founding member and stock holder of the Pure Oil Jobbers Cooperative which markets fuel in 10 southeastern states. He has served two terms on the Pure Oil Board of Directors and is currently serving his second term on the board of the National Association of Truckstop Operators (NATSO).

Hays and his wife, Terri, have been married and working together for 36 years. They have one daughter, Karen, a teacher, and a son-in-law, Jordan Graham, who is a nurse. Hays has been a member of Northbrook Baptist Church since 1999 and has served on various committees including Stewardship, Properties, and Long Range Planning.

ABOUT THE COMPANY
Citizens Bank & Trust opened for business on March 3, 2003, is headquartered in Guntersville, Alabama and is traded publicly as an Over-The- Counter (OTC) stock under the symbol CBTH. It is the largest community bank based in Marshall County and has eight full-service offices located in Albertville, Arab, Cullman, Elkmont, Guntersville, Hazel Green, New Hope, and Rogersville, a loan office in Oneonta, a wealth management division, and a mortgage division. Citizens Bank & Trust is insured by the FDIC and is an equal housing lender. For more information visit www.citizensbanktrust.com or find Citizens Bank & Trust on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or YouTube.

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MAY 1, 2018



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

In "I and You," a chronically ill and homebound student is visited by a classmate with an English class project . . . and a shocking secret.

Fairview Theatre Works presents 'I and You'

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

FAIRVIEW – On Sunday afternoon, Fairview High School's Fairview Theatre Works presented "I and You" at the high school auditorium. The play was a two-character drama set in the bedroom of chronically and dangerously ill Caroline, who is homebound while on a transplant waiting list, when she is visited by previously unknown classmate Anthony, who has been partnered with Caroline on a class project. The two butt heads hard but begin to discover connections as they study readings from Walt Whitman's "Leaves of Grass." Watching it, you might get the feeling that there's something going on beyond the information you're getting onstage, and you'd be right. By the end, Caroline finds out why Anthony is really there, and just how connected they are.

Fairview Theatre Director Mark Dobbs told The Tribune, "Macie (Burgin), who plays Caroline, and Matthew (Baughman), who plays Anthony, have done a tremendous job learning a tremendous amount of lines. The play's an hour and 20 minutes; neither leave the stage the entire time. No one else has a line. They've done a great job."

Dobbs took time to give lots of credit to his other theater students for their design of the set and behind-the-scenes efforts.

Before the curtain opened, Dobbs said, "One thing I'm really proud of is when I go to introduce it in just a second, when I get through talking, I won't do anything else. Everything is done completely by the students.

"There are no adults in the play, no adults running the play. It's completely student-led."

Dobbs also recognized Fairview agriscience teacher Justin Miller, who constructed the set, and he thanked Walker Brothers for its donation of many of the materials used in set construction.

A cast of two

After the performance, Burgin and Baughman talked about the challenges of an 80-90-minute play with only two characters.

"Definitely getting all your lines," said Burgin, "and knowing how to cue each other; because there were some lines where we talked over each other. So I had to perfectly time it every time I would say something over him, because my character is very mean, and talks over and takes control of everything."

Said Baughman, "Another problem that a lot of actors, including me and Macie, face is, there's a lot of things going on in your head when you get on the stage, and it makes it hard to think clearly. What line do I need to say next? And when that takes over and one of us messes up a line, then we have to think, 'How can we recover from this?' because the main rule in acting is, it doesn't matter if you mess up as long as you can recover."

What's the fun part?

"I think really developing the characters and coming into them as your own," said Burgin. "Like my character Caroline: she's similar to me, and how I can bring that into the play and make this my own, especially the set. Most of the stuff came out of my room."

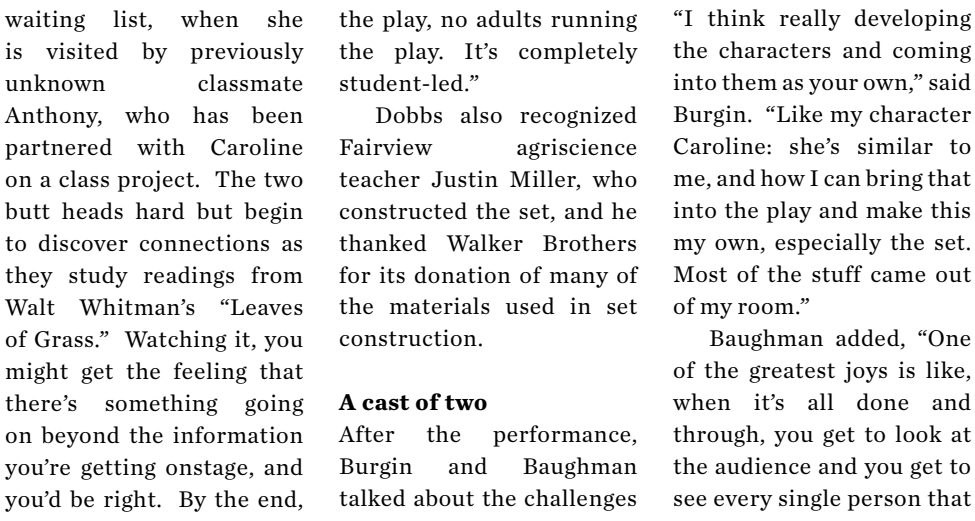
Baughman added, "One of the greatest joys is like, when it's all done and through, you get to look at the audience and you get to see every single person that paid to come and see you!"

Cast and crew

- Caroline: Macie Burgin
- Anthony: Matthew Baughman
- Choreographer: Whitney Heaton
- Lighting: Katie Tucker
- Sound: Kelly Harrington and Matthew Moore
- Stage Crew:
- Zohie Ballenger
- Selena Burks
- Alexia Baughman

Watch for the following productions coming up for Fairview Theatre Works

- Fall 2018 - "Red Riding Hood: the Grandmother's Tale"
- Christmas 2018 - "A Charlie Brown Christmas"
- Spring 2019 - "Steel Magnolias"



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

In a two-character play set in one room, Macie Burgin and Matthew Baughman shared the stage without a pause for over an hour.



