TUESDAY • THURSDAY • SATURDAY
3 DAYS PER WEEK

The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

VOL. 145 • 50¢ PER COPY | JULY 10, 2018 | USPS 139-700 • NO. 82

Paintballers come out to play



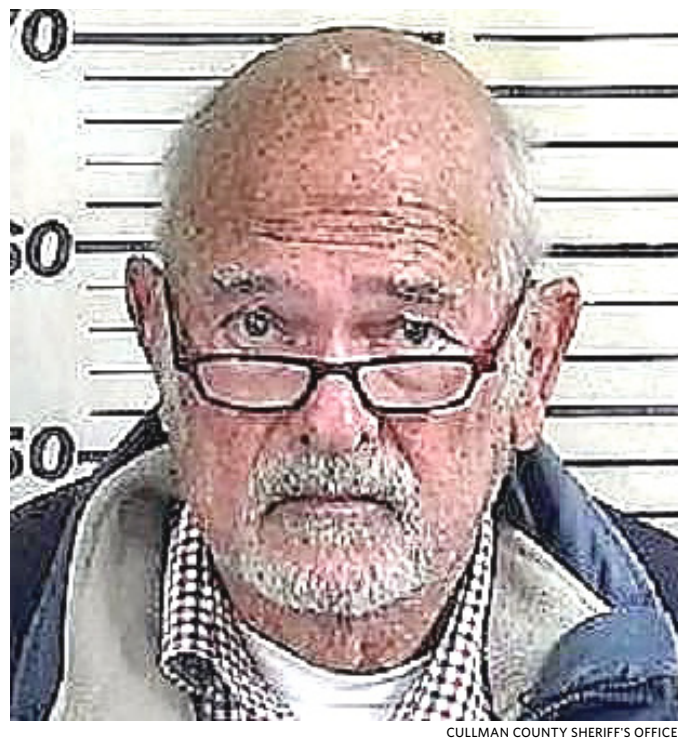
HAYDEN HYATT/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

A paintball player fires his paintball marker during a paintball game at Mt. Doom Paintball Field, Hanceville.

» PAGE 7

CRIME

Justice Department files sexual harassment suit against Randy Hames



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Randy Hames is shown in a booking photo from earlier this year.

» PAGE 2

Registration underway for annual EvaBank Midnight Run



TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Runners pose for a group photo at the 2017 EvaBank Midnight Run 5K.

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – Cullman's wildly popular annual EvaBank Midnight Run 5K is coming up fast- the night of Aug. 3, to be exact. Registration is open now. The race normally draws around 1,000 runners.

Runners will meet up at the Cullman Civic Center Friday, Aug. 3 and line up to start the race at 11:59 p.m. The run will begin at midnight and take participants through the streets of Cullman before circling back around to the civic center.

According to Cullman Parks, Recreation, & Sports Tourism, runners will have the option to go through neon color powder and black light stations, and a pre-race and post-race black light party will be held in front of the civic center.

Serious runners can also focus on their times, as all runners will be chip-timed, and awards of $200 will be given to the overall male and female winners as well as master's winners.

Medals will also be given to the top three in each age division. Runners will also receive a T-shirt and post-race food.

The cost to register is $25 prior to the event, or $30 the night of the run. Participants can register at the Cullman Civic Center, any EvaBank location or online at http://qrne.ws/midnightrun2018.

The Midnight Run 5K, sponsored by EvaBank, benefits the Cullman Parks & Recreation Foundation, which raises money for upgrades, developments and support for CP&R's programs, events and activities. CP&R offers free programs annually to kids, adults and special needs individuals, as well as maintains more than 150 acres of park-land that is used for free by the public.



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Tonya Brock

CRIME

Crane Hill woman charged with trafficking meth

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN - Agents with the Cullman Narcotics Enforcement Team (CNET) and investigators with the Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) on Friday arrested a Crane Hill woman, Tonya Lynn Brock, 41, for trafficking in methamphetamine.

According the CCSO, agents and investigators conducted a traffic stop on Brock's vehicle in the Crane Hill community on County Road 222 Friday. During the stop, approximately 41 grams of meth were allegedly found in the automobile.

"This arrest, on top of the multiple arrests earlier in the week, has netted us almost 200 grams of meth in a week. That is a lot meth that has not made it into our community," said Sheriff Matt Gentry. "Again, I would like to thank the agents and investigators who worked on this case."

Brock was booked into the Cullman County Detention Center on a $500,000 property bond. She has since made bond and been released.

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

Hanceville man charged with selling meth

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – Last week, the Cullman Police Department's Crime Suppression Unit (CSU) arrested a Hanceville man, Stephen Harold White, 53, and charged him with two counts of unlawful distribution of a controlled substance.

Police said White was selling methamphetamine.

White was transported to the Cullman County Detention Center. He has since made bond.

The CPD encourages those who would like to report illegal drug activity to call 256-734-1434.



CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
Stephen White

Arrest report: July 6-8

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – Below are the arrests reported for July 6-8. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Aills, Dana Edward, 43
• FTA- driving without a license

Briscoe, Wilma Bernice, 66
• third-degree domestic violence- harassment

Brock, Tonya Lynn, 41
• trafficking in methamphetamine

Carroll, Savannah Michelle, 30
• third-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument
• third-degree forgery

Denton, Cody Ryan, 23
• third-degree domestic violence- harassment

Duke, Travis Dewayne, 26
• third-degree domestic violence- harassment

Fletcher, Michael Paul, 64
• second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

Hyde, David Brandon, 34
• sexual abuse of a child under the age of 12

Jenkins, Donald Earl II, 19
• FTA- first-degree criminal trespassing
• FTA- third-degree domestic violence-harassment (2 counts)

Lindsey, Alexis Dean, 20
• FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance
• FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
• FTA- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

Martin, Jacqueline Gayle, 33
• public intoxication
• resisting arrest
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Mayfield, Jackie Earl, 67
• third-degree domestic violence- menacing

McDonald, Sunny Kay, 41
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Morgan, Daniel Eugene, 34
• driving on wrong side of road
• expired tag
• second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Olinger, Christopher Wayne, 44
• FTA- attempting to elude

Peek, Daniel Wayne, 32
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance
• writ of arrest- child support

Pesina, Jose Luis, 26
• FTA- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

Shaw, Crystal Dawn, 32
• fourth-degree theft of property

Smith, Roger Dale, 35
• FTA- brass knuckles
• FTA- driving while suspended
• nonsupport (2 counts)
• FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Stewart, Leah Cagle, 52
• public intoxication

Vincent, Angela Diane, 45
• probation violation-unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Wilhoite, Casey Suzanne, 32
• third-degree burglary
• second-degree promoting prison contraband
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Williams, Stephanie Renae, 41
• probation violation-possession with intent to distribute control substance

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Shelton, Savannah R., 25
• unlawful distribution of a controlled substance

Jernigan, Dustin S., 29
• FTA- insurance violation

Parson, Eddie V., 53
• DUI

Lamar, Nathan J., 31
• DUI

Grace, Marvin E., 61
• GJ- unlawful possession or receipt of a controlled substance
• GJ- trafficking
• GJ- possession of drug paraphernalia

Armstrong, Kevin W., 39
• unlawful possession or receipt of a controlled substance
• possession of drug paraphernalia

Necklaus, Nathaniel P., 30
• DUI

Nunnery, Trevor A., 29
• public intoxication

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No report provided.

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

Hames (from Front)

U.S. Attorney's Office
Northern District of Alabama

WASHINGTON – The Justice Department today announced that it has filed a lawsuit alleging Cullman attorney and landlord Randy Hames, 76, subjected female tenants to egregious sexual harassment in violation of the Fair Housing Act. Along with Hames, the Department's complaint names his residential property company, Hames Marina, LLC, as a defendant.

The complaint, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, alleges that since at least 2011, Hames sexually harassed numerous women who lived in the defendants' residential property.

The suit alleges that Hames's conduct included demanding or pressuring female tenants to engage in sexual acts with him in exchange for rent or to prevent eviction; evicting female tenants when they refused his advances; making female tenants feel unsafe by stalking them and entering their residences without permission; and making unwelcome sexual comments and advances.

"Subjecting female tenants to harassment and demands for sex is offensive and illegal," said Acting Assistant Attorney General John Gore.

"The Justice Department will continue its vigorous enforcement of the Fair Housing Act against landlords who engage in this reprehensible conduct. No woman should feel unsafe in her own home."

"The alleged behavior of Randy Hames is abhorrent and repulsive.

"We will not let women, or any person, in our district be threatened, harassed, or retaliated against by landlords," said U.S. Attorney Jay E. Town for the Northern District of Alabama.

"The Fair Housing Act is an extraordinary tool that allows the Department of Justice to protect all tenants from egregious misconduct, like sexual harassment, and we will continue to strongly enforce all violations of it."

The Justice Department's Sexual Harassment in Housing Initiative (SHHI) was launched in October 2017 and expanded nationally in April 2018.

The initiative specifically seeks to increase the Department's efforts to protect individuals from harassment by landlords, property managers, maintenance workers, security guards, loan officers, or other people who have control over housing.

The Justice Department has filed or settled 10 sexual harassment cases and has recovered over $1.6 million for victims of sexual harassment in housing since Jan. 20, 2017.

Today's lawsuit seeks monetary damages to compensate the victims, civil penalties, and a court order barring future discrimination.

The complaint contains allegations of unlawful conduct. The allegations must be proven in federal court.

Individuals who believe that they may have been victims of sexual harassment or discrimination at rental dwellings owned or operated by Randy Hames or Hames Marina, or who have other information that may be relevant to this case, should contact the Housing Discrimination Tip Line, by calling 1-800-896-7743, pressing 1 to continue in English, and selecting mailbox 7 to leave a message.

The federal Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status.

More information about the Civil Rights Division and the laws it enforces is available at www.justice.gov/crt.

Individuals who believe that they may have been victims of sexual harassment in housing should call the Justice Department at 1-844-380-6178, send an e-mail to fairhousing@usdoj.gov, or contact the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) at 1-800-669-9777.

If you have information or questions about any other housing discrimination, you can contact the Justice Department at 1-800-896-7743.

The charges Hames is facing are in addition to ones in Cullman County. Hames was indicted by a Cullman County grand jury in May on multiple counts of human trafficking and other offenses.

The indictments stem from his arrests earlier this year on Feb. 22, March 5 and March 10 and involve alleged crimes against three women.

Locally, Hames' case is being presided over by Madison County Circuit Judge Donna Pate.

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

THE BARN
Portable Storage Buildings
Hanceville, AL
352-2737



A-1 Battery Supply
AUTO – TRUCK – TRACTOR
Quality Batteries For Every Need
Since 1979
Phone: (Office): 256-734-9438

WRECKER/TOW TRUCK Driver
Clean driving record, clean criminal record, able to pass DOT physical, able to pass pre-employment drug and alcohol screening, must have CDL's, must be 21 years of age or older, good positive work ethics.
NO PHONE CALLS
Stop in office to fill out application
Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Mullins Body Shop, LLC
11042 US Hwy 31 South, Cullman, AL 35055



IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
LINDA S. VAUGHN,) CASE NO.: PC2018-212
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION

Letters Testamentary having been granted to **MARK WAYNE MADDOX,** as Executor of the Estate of **LINDA S. VAUGHN**, deceased, on the 29th day of June, 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 29th day of June, 2018.

Mark Wayne Maddox
Executor

Andria Richter
Attorney for the Petitioner
300 First Avenue SE Suite 104
Cullman, AL 35055
256-775-7757

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

Your protection is personal.

Get a quote today from:



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

Auto. Home. Life. Business.

Nationwide®
is on your side

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

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

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

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

ANNUALLY BASED RATES
Cullman.....$75.00
Outside Cullman.....$85.00

NoahGalilee–Publisher
DustinIsom–Editor
Wendy Sack – Newsroom Editor
LorettaGillespie–Lifestyle/Religion
HeatherMann–GeneralReporter
Hayden Hyatt – Reporter/Photographer
W.C. Mann– General Reporter
Sammy Confer - Sports Reporter
Nick Griffin - Reporter
Joe McElroy - Photographer
Bill Piper - Photojournalist
Howard Cole - Photojournalist
RobinWinton–NewsroomManager

BUSINESS

T.J. Maxx re-opens, donates $10K to Victim Services

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com



HAYDEN HYATT/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Roy Drinkard, whose company Drinkard Development owns the Marktplatz center, cut the ribbon on the repaired store himself.

CULLMAN – It's been almost four months since the March 19 hailstorm shuttered businesses in Cullman's Marktplatz shopping center. On Sunday morning, the center's anchor, T.J. Maxx, officially re-opened its doors to an anxious crowd that gathered bright and early in anticipation for the special 8 a.m. opening.

Donna Brown, who has managed the Cullman T.J. Maxx for three years, said she is ready to get back on track. She took a minute to address the excited crowd before cutting the ribbon.

"We really appreciate the fact that you all took a few moments out of your busy schedules to support us this morning.

"We are so excited to be back home. Three months and 19 days ago, the store closed due to storm damage, and many of you were impacted by that, but we had the privilege to work in many of our sister stores to help them out while we were rebuilding," Brown said.

"Now, we're glad to be back home and we're better than we were before. Thank you to all of you for coming out today and if you see anything that you feel like we need to do different to make your shopping experience better, let us know, and if it's anything that we can do within our power we'll see that it happens. We want to execute extraordinary values to our customers every single day," she said.

Roy Drinkard, whose company Drinkard Development owns the Marktplatz center, cut the ribbon on the repaired store himself.

Giving back

Sunday morning's event was about more than shopping.

"T.J. Maxx is very serious about being a neighbor of choice, and we're always giving back to our community," said Brown. "So, the charity that our store chose to support, and there were a lot to choose from, is Victim Services of Cullman. We want to present them today with a $10,000 check."

Victim Services of Cullman is a local nonprofit organization that offers services to families dealing with sexual abuse or domestic violence.

T.J. Maxx is located at 1908 Marketplatz Center SW and is open from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sundays.

Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday July 20-22

Hayden Hyatt
hayden@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – The start of the school year is just around the corner and so is Alabama's 13th annual Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday. Cullman County, along with the cities of Good Hope, Cullman and Hanceville are all participating in the tax holiday, which takes place from 12:01 a.m. Friday, July 20, until midnight, Sunday, July 22. The state of Alabama and more than 300 cities and counties participating will waive sales tax on school-related supplies and clothing during the tax holiday, according to the Alabama Retail Association.

Items exempt during the holiday will include: clothing priced at $100 or less per article of clothing, school supplies valued at $50 or less per item, books that cost $30 or less per book and tablets, laptops, computers and printers with a selling price of $750 or less. For a more detailed list of exempt and taxable items check out https://revenue.alabama.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/STHolidayQuick-RefSheet18.pdf. For more general information about the tax holiday, visit https://alabamaretail.org/resources/salestaxholidays/back-to-school.

Peinhardt Homesteaders hold traditional basket-weaving class, give class schedule for remainder of 2018

Heather Mann
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – As part of their purpose to revive traditional, simple living, the Peinhardt Homesteaders held their monthly basket-weaving class Sunday afternoon. Each basket made during these classes is woven by hand from reeds and wooden supports, with simple instructions and a helpful community-like atmosphere making the task much less intimidating for beginners.

The class for July focused on making melon baskets, which have ribbed shapes for the actual basket part and God's Eye designs where the handle connects to the basket.

The basket-making classes take place on the second Sunday of each month (except May) from February to September, 2-4 p.m. on the designated days. No prior experience is required, as beginners will receive lessons on how to work with reed to prevent it from breaking and can choose to work on simpler versions of the month's project. Each meeting gives the option to continue working on a previous project, so there's no pressure to finish within the two-hour class period, or even to take an unfinished one home. Each meeting is open to adults and youth age 14 and up, with supply fees varying based on the project. Students are encouraged to bring their own basket tool kits - a water bucket/large bowl, sturdy scissors, a tape measure, bypass pruners, a screwdriver/awl, a pencil, a sponge, needle-nose pliers, and a towel - but some tools will be provided for those who don't have their own.

Other monthly classes include tatting (lace-making) classes on the third Saturday from 10 a.m.-noon and fiber workshops for both adults and children.

The schedules and brief descriptions of the fiber workshops are as follows:
Adult Workshops (age 14 and up)

• Saturday, July 28: 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Weaving Bands with the Inkle Loom - "Learn to weave on an inkle loom, which can be used to make narrow bands. In class you can make a bookmark, hatband, strap or small pouch, depending on how much time you want to spend. Begin to learn the language of weaving. No weaving experience is required. The leader will bring all the tools and other supplies you'll need to use during the workshop. Experienced inkle loom weavers will learn to weave letters on an inkle loom. If you have an inkle loom and already know how to dress it, we'll send you the draft for dressing your own inkle loom so you can bring it to the workshop. Bring a sack lunch. No supply fee."

• Saturday, Aug. 25: 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Introduction to Rug Braiding - "Make a braided 'mug rug.' Learn how to prepare the fabric strips, how to braid the strips and how to lace the braids into round and oval rugs. No sewing or braiding experience is needed. If you want to bring your own fabric, you can recycle sheets or other similar tightly woven fabric. Before the workshop, wash and dry the fabric the same way you plan to clean the finished project. The leader will bring all the other tools and other supplies you'll need to use during the workshop. Bring a sack lunch. $5 supply fee."

Children's Workshops (age 9 and up, accompanied by an adult)

• Saturday, July 28: 3-5 p.m., Weave a Scarf on Soda Straws - "You don't have to weave on a traditional loom. Learn how to weave a scarf on soda straws. You will start the scarf in class and learn how to make pom poms to add to the ends when you finish it at home. No weaving experience is required. Bring 3-4 ounces of worsted weight (code 4) yarn. Bring more than one color of yarn for a striped scarf. If you want to use a thinner yarn, you'll need more than 3-4 ounces. The leader will bring all the tools and other supplies you'll need to use during the workshop. No supply fee."

• Saturday, Aug. 25th: 3-5 p.m., Introduction to Weaving on the Inkle Loom - "Learn to weave on an inkle loom, which can be used to make narrow bands. In class you can make a bookmark or strap. Begin to learn the language of weaving. No weaving experience is required. The leader will bring all the tools and other supplies you'll need to use during the workshop."



HEATHER MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

This melon basket was made by hand at Sunday's basket-weaving class.

Each class is held with the purpose of teaching different, more diverse crafts than just sewing, knitting or crocheting. The Homesteaders will soon be looking for ideas for next year's classes, so anyone with an idea can contact the Homesteaders at peinhardtlhf@gmail.com. People interested in taking a class can also pre-register at that email to reserve their crafting supplies. Pre-registration is not required, but it is encouraged to ensure that everyone has supplies. Further information on classes and schedules can be found at https://peinhardtlhf.tumblr.com/.

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



CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Left to right: Thumbnail, Jake, Eddy and Fred

'The Fab 4': these long-term residents of the Cullman County Animal Shelter need forever homes

Christy Perry
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – Meet the four dogs who have resided at the Cullman County Animal Shelter the longest. These fur babies need a forever home.

Thumbnail
Thumbnail is a small free-spirited dynamo looking for his forever home. This 3-4-year-old came to the shelter as a stray.

Possibly a corgi/schipperke mix, he is approximately 25 pounds. He loves a quick splash in the wading pool and saying hello to everyone he sees. He has been waiting a long time for the perfect family to come take him home.

Jake
Need a trail buddy or a boat co-captain? If so, Jake is waiting for you. Jake is a 2-3-year-old charming yellow lab.

Gentle and mindful, he would be great with adults and children.

He is extremely handsome so be prepared for lots of compliments as you make your way through the dog park.

Eddy
If cuteness is what you seek, Eddy is that and then some. This young Beagle mix is pure joy with four paws. Eddy loves to be with all people and makes everyone feel important.

He smiles constantly and loves the company of other dogs.

He also enjoys a quick dip in the pool on a hot summer day. Energetic yet cuddly, Eddy will be a great addition to any home.

Fred
Fred is looking for a home that appreciates the strong yet quiet and gentle type. A 1-to-2-year-old pit bulldog mix with a gorgeous light chocolate/fawn coat. Fred has that wonderful pittie smile.

He has a calm energy and very controlled nature when being playful. He is very courteous around other dogs.

Fred was a stray, but he appears to be housebroken.

These four boys have been waiting longer than others for their homes.

While many people look for puppies, often times the amazing and already trained adults get overlooked.

Adopting an adult dog has many benefits, especially for those who prefer to skip those puppy stages.

The staff and volunteers of Cullman County Animal Shelter spend many hours interacting with these dogs.

They can help answer questions you may have.

Adopters are welcome, and encouraged, to bring dog/dogs already in the home for a meet and greet with any potential new family member.

The adoption fee for a dog is $90, which includes DHLPP vaccine, Bordatella vaccine, rabies vaccine, wormer, spay or neutering, general exam at the vet, microchip and a free 45-day health insurance policy from 24 PetWatch (must have valid email).

Adopters can also get a free bag of food from Pet Depot (must pay sales tax).

If you are interested in adopting from the Cullman County Animal Shelter, stop by 935 Convent Road NE or call 256-734-5448.

To reach them by email, cullmancounty-animalshelter@gmail.com

COMMUNITY NOTE

Davenport Reunion

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

Hanceville's Moody Center was packed for food, family and fellowship on Sunday during the Davenport family reunion. Local family members gathered along with several families that traveled for the event. Some drove from as far as South Carolina.

The family reunion also acted as a birthday party for Mr. Bobby Davenport, who turned 71 years old. Another one of the family members in attendance, Bobby's sister Evelyn Aaron, just celebrated her 86th birthday on Thursday, July 5, giving the Davenport family plenty to celebrate together on Sunday.

After an invocation, the family rounded out the event with a buffet of home-cooked family recipes.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

L-R: Evelyn Aaron (86) James Davenport (90) Lillis Swann (89)



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

L-R: Siblings Thelma Milligan, Selma Barnett, Evelyn Aaron, Bobby Davenport





126th annual singing fills Cullman County district courtroom

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Singers and spectators filled Judge Kim Chaney's district courtroom for the 126th annual Cullman County Courthouse Singing Convention, the last traditional shaped note singing convention held in any courthouse in the United States.

CULLMAN – Crowds filled the district courtroom at the Cullman County Courthouse Saturday and Sunday for the 126th annual Cullman Courthouse Singing Convention, the last traditional shaped note singing convention held in any courthouse in the United States.

Event coordinator Henry Guthery shared with The Tribune, "Used to, people every year would have annual singings and events at their courthouses, and they gradually got just closed down, and it stopped.

"But, anyway, people come here from Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida; they come from all over.

"Many of the people are new singers, and many of the people have been singing all of their life, but whatever station in life, they come.

"We have judges, doctors, lawyers, politicians, congressmen; we have all kinds of people come to the singings, including newspaper reporters, which we're glad for!" he smiled.

"The event is something that is treasured. And some people come mainly just to learn how to sing, but for the majority of us, we sing because it's like singing prayers all day. Anyway, it's something that we all enjoy, and the fellowship that's involved with it."

The crowd sang from 9:30 until noon Saturday, then broke for a potluck covered dish lunch at the courthouse, before returning for more singing until 2:30.

After that, the fun continued for some of the singers as they traveled to the home of local singers Tom and Linda Booth, for a fellowship dinner and evening bluegrass and gospel jam session.

The singing and fellowship continued with the same schedule of events at the courthouse on Sunday.







CITIZENS
BANK & TRUST

Lock in Your Rate Today...

On these CD Specials when you open a Citizens Checking Account.

2.05% APY*
11 MONTHS

OR

2.27% APY*
22 MONTHS

Annual Percentage Yield*
$500 Minimum

Member FDIC

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) accurate as of 2/22/18. Rates subject to change without notice at any time after the account is opened. $500 minimum balance required to earn stated APY. DDA (Demand Deposit Account) required to earn stated APY. Other rates available if no DDA. Fees or other considerations could reduce earnings on the account. Penalties could apply upon early withdrawal. Subject to terms and agreements.

STATE

Troopers release statistics for 4th of July holiday period

Lieutenant J.R. Ward II
ALEA

ALABAMA – Alabama State Troopers on Monday released traffic statistics for the Fourth of July holiday period. Troopers noted that In 2017, Alabama traffic statistics covered a 5-day period, which was from Friday, June 30, to Tuesday, July 4. In 2018, the traffic statistics covered a total of 10 days, which was from Friday June 29, to Sunday, July 8.

Between Friday, June 29, and Sunday, July 8:

• Saturday, June 30, was the deadliest day, with five traffic fatalities – 4 motorcyclists, 1 motorcycle passenger – in Cullman, Limestone, Marshall and Mobile Counties.

• Sunday, July 8, was the only day with zero traffic fatalities.

• Wednesday, July 4, had one traffic fatality (Geneva County). It was the passenger of a vehicle equipped with a seat belt, but the victim was not using a seat belt at the time of the crash.

The rest of the travel period:

• 18 traffic fatalities (including the 5 on June 30).

• 6 drivers, 3 passengers, 3 pedestrians, 5 motorcyclists, 1 motorcycle passenger.

• 5 seat belts in use, 4 seat belts not in use, seat belts not applicable for 9 individuals killed (pedestrians and motorcyclists).

• Counties: Bullock, Cullman, Franklin, Geneva, Jefferson, Limestone, Lowndes, Marengo, Marion, Marshall, Mobile, St. Clair, Talladega, Walker

During the same time period, Troopers in Marine Patrol Division worked two deaths on Alabama waterways:

• Although a few incidents still may be added to Marine Patrol's boat-accident reporting system, there were eight zero-incident days during the holiday period.

• 2 boating fatalities Wednesday, July 4, in Hale County

• 4 crashes with property damage (including the fatal crash) on July 2 and July 4. Counties: Baldwin, Hale Morgan and Tallapoosa

COMMUNITY NOTE

Ladies' Night Out Bunco Party set for July 27

Barbara Ragsdale
Tribune Contributor

The Altar Society of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Cullman will host its popular Ladies' Night Out Bunco Party once again. The event, scheduled for July 27, will begin at 7 p.m. in the Family Life Center with refreshments and fellowship.

The evening's event is $20 per person with prizes awarded in several categories. Everyone is welcome to attend this gathering, so mark your calendars for a night of fun, fellowship and the popular dice game and bring your friends.



BARBARA RAGSDALE

Obituary Announcements: July 10 -14

Mildred Elizabeth Boyd, 85, of Cullman died on Sunday, July 8, 2018. She was preceded in death by her husband Derwood Boyd; her son Jeffrey Boyd; grandson Jeffrey Boyd II; and parents Covie Long and Madgaline Davis Long. She is survived by her son James Boyd; grandson Lucas Boyd; granddaughter Star Boyd and sister Sue (Rayburn) Bradley. Visitation for Ms. Boyd will be Tuesday, July 10, 2018 from 12 noon until 2 p.m. at St. Andrews Methodist Church with the celebration of life at 2 p.m. Burial will follow at Cullman City Cemetery. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Vera A. Willis, 101, of Bellevue, Ohio formerly of Haleyville, Alabama, entered into rest July 9, 2018. Complete arrangements and obituary information will be announced Tuesday by Nichols Funeral Home.

James "Jamie" Garlen Ward, 61, of Talladega, entered into rest on Sunday, July 8, 2018 at Princeton Hospital in Birmingham. Mr. Ward was born on December 12, 1956, in Houston, Texas. Jamie was born with cerebral palsy, and in spite of the challenges that he faced, he was always happy and had a smile. He had a loving heart toward everyone, especially the women and would ask them to marry him. There was nothing Jamie loved more than listening to country music. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, July 10, 2018 from 12 p.m. until 2 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Haleyville, where services will be held at 2 p.m. Brother Gary Wakefield will officiate. Burial will follow in Sardis No. 1 Baptist Church Cemetery. Jamie is survived by his father, Billie "BG" G. Ward; sisters, Velma Ann Nelms, Cindy Ward Moore and her husband Steve; nephew, Daniel H. Helms and his wife April; niece Jessica Moore, great nephew, Harrison Evans; special friends, D.J. McCurdy, Wilma Knight, and a host of cousins and other relatives. He was preceded in death by his mother, Velma Walling Ward, and grandmother, Mariah Ward.

Gerald Dale Brock, 64 of Cullman, passed away on June 29, 2018. Mr. Brock was preceded in death by his parents Buell L. Brock and Virginia Jeffers Brock. He is survived by daughters: Tracy Brock Tankersley and Crystal Brock Cooper; Grandchildren: Taylor Tankersley, Devyn Tankersley, Kanryn Tankersley, Ryker Chaney, Kennedy Twilley, Kylie Twilley, Asher Cooper and Gaines Cooper; sister, Pauline Robbins and brothers: Ronnie Brock, Charles Brock, Larry Brock, Roger Brock and Kerry Brock. Mr. Brock's family will receive friends on Tuesday, July 10, 2018 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home. The Celebration of Life for Mr. Gerald Dale Brock will be on Wednesday, July 11, 2018 at 10 a.m. in the chapel of Moss Service Funeral Home.

Funeral Service for Ethel Racine Shaw, age 88 of Vinemont, will be at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, July 11, 2018 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with burial at Corinth West Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Shaw passed away on Sunday, July 08, 2018 at Cullman Regional Medical Center. She was born, April 1, 1930. She is preceded in death by her husband, Calvin E. Shaw, and daughter, Phyllis Ball, Survivors include her sons, Phillip Shaw and Larry Shaw, 6 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-great-grandchild. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Wednesday, July 11, 2018 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home.

Helen Lee Hyde Foust, 92 finished her journey in this world and went home to Jesus on Friday July 6, 2018 at Maury Regional Hospital in Columbia, TN. She was born at Boothton, Alabama on March 7, 1926 to the late Edith Booth Hyde and Charlie Hyde and was one of 9 children. She was married to the late, Earl Jr. Foust on July 12, 1947. They had two children Linda Carol Foust Grajewski of Columbia, TN and the late, Kenneth Earl Foust. She was retired from Woodland Community Hospital in Cullman, Alabama where she also served many years in the Auxillary. Her home church and community of over 50 years was Walter Baptist Church. She helped to raise several generations of children by serving there in the Nursery, VBS and other areas. She loved them dearly! She loved Jesus, her family and people, was an avid quilter until her failing eyesight prevented it, but continued with her Card ministry with people receiving them even while she was in hospice care the week of her death. She was a life-long student of God's Word (Holy Bible) and loved her Bible Study small group (GRACE) at Pleasant Heights Baptist Church in Columbia, TN. Hers was a life well-lived! Survivors include: her daughter, Linda Carol Foust Grajewski (Joe) grandsons Joe E. Grajewski (Carolyne), Josh Grajewski, granddaughter Ashley Foust (Ravi Purandare) and 3 great-grandchildren; Azrael Hozian, Ember Purandare and River Grajewski. She has one surviving sister, Carolyn Hyde Grover of Brewton, Alabama, also, a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends. Her services will be held at WALTER BAPTIST CHURCH in Cullman County, Alabama on Saturday July 14, with viewing from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. and the Celebration of Life Services will be held at 2 p.m.; Duck River Cemetery for burial, and Family/Friends Meal at Walter Baptist Church immediately after. Hanceville Funeral Home in Hanceville, Alabama is handling arrangements. Our special thanks to the staff at Maury Regional Hospital, CHARIS Hospice and Poplar Estates assisted living. In lieu of flowers please send donations to: St. Jude's Children's Hospital in Memphis, TN. "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." 2 Timothy 4:7

Free Obituary Listings

HAVE YOUR FUNERAL HOME CONTACT US

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

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

THE TOMBSTONE COMPANY

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

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

Wallace State AmeriCorps VISTA program accepting applications for 4 positions

Gail Crutchfield
WSCC

HANCEVILLE – The Wallace State Community College AmeriCorps VISTA program is currently taking applications for anyone interested in working one of its outreach programs, earning an allowance and, upon completion, receiving funds for further schooling, to pay off student loans, or a cash award.

There are four full-time positions opening for the 2018-2019 year with Wallace State's Future Foundation, Community Garden, Career Closet and Food Pantry programs.

The Future Foundation AmeriCorps VISTA members are responsible for assisting with the Future Foundation's capital campaign, which raises funds for student scholarships, educational technology and student/graduate entrepreneurship to support the hopes of the community. Duties include: blogging; funding research; developing marketing materials; drafting emails and designing social media campaigns; creating the scholarship recipients network; assisting with data collection; student tracking and reporting; collecting output and outcome data from activities for reporting to internal and external audiences.

Wallace State' Planting Seeds Community Garden addresses the College's mission to transform lives and communities by teaching food awareness and providing food security to Wallace State's students, employees, and area residents through developing a community garden. AmeriCorps VISTA members are responsible for building the program, establishing partnerships with area businesses to provide the necessary materials, creating a volunteer network to build the beds and work the gardens, marketing the program, coordinating the monthly educational events, and developing the infrastructure for sustainability.

The Career Closet VISTA will work with the Job Placement Coordinator to further develop this new program. The VISTA's activities include developing policies and procedures, drafting operating manuals, designing communications systems (traditional and through social media), forging business and industry partnerships, securing donations, and establishing a staffing plan.

The Food Pantry VISTA will work with the Dean of Student Services to develop a Student Food Pantry. The VISTA's activities will include developing policies and procedures, drafting operating manuals, designing communications systems (traditional and through social media), forging business and industry partnerships, and establishing a staffing plan.

Minimum requirements have been established for each position. Some college experience is required in all of the positions, though it varies by program. Information about each program is available at www.wsccalumni.org/vista18, including a link on how to apply for the VISTA positions. The VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) program is a national program in which volunteers apply their skills by designing sustainable, anti-poverty programs in low-income communities. In order to understand the needs of their constituents and anti-poverty work, VISTAs receive a monthly subsistence living allowance set slightly above poverty level. VISTAs at Wallace State work 40-hour weeks for a full year. Upon completion of their year of service, the VISTAs will receive either an Educational Award of $5,815 to go towards further schooling or paying off student loans or a cash award of $1,500.

For more information, contact VISTA Supervisor Kristi Barnett at 256-352-8231 or kristi.barnett@wallacestate.edu, or visit the Wallace State AmeriCorps VISTA page at www.wsccalumni.org/vista18, or the VISTA website, www.nationalservice.gov/programs/americorps/americorpsvista.

ENTERTAINMENT

'Ant-Man and the Wasp' a fun summer ride: 7/10

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

"Ant-Man and the Wasp," the sequel to 2015's "Ant-Man" sees the return of director Peyton Reed, as well as Paul Rudd as Scott Lang/Ant-Man, Evangeline Lily as Hope Van Dyne/The Wasp and Michael Douglas as Hank Pym. The entire cast of side characters from the first film is back as well along with several newcomers like Hannah John-Kamen as the film's villain, Ghost, Laurence Fishburne as Bill Foster and Walton Goggins as Sonny Burch. This film begins before the events of "Avengers: Infinity War" and deals with the aftermath of "Captain America: Civil War," specifically Lang's actions.

It seems appropriate that the biggest film in the entire Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) should be followed up with the adventures of the smallest hero and heroine in the MCU. Similarly, this film feels small and self-contained. There are of course references to past events and small looks ahead, but overall, this Marvel installment is meant to be a passive, fun time.

The first "Ant-Man" film had a stronger narrative in that it was a comeback story for a very likeable, relatable character in Lang. The sequel still tells a personal story, but only some of the time. There are a lot more plots to follow this time around and by trying to do justice to all of these stories at once, each come up a little short.

As in nearly all the Marvel films, the characters are arguably the strongest part of the movie. In the "Ant-Man" films even more than most; the side characters are all memorable. Michael Pena, T.I. and David Dastmalchian are all back as Langs's friends and might be even funnier this time around in the screen time they get.

A lot of the dramatic weight in the sequel goes to Hope, and Lily does a great job of bringing more to that character than we got in the first film. John-Kamen's character Ghost is also interesting and has a past that you want to learn more about; that's why it's a little disappointing that the movie wasn't more streamlined. All the characters we are introduced to are cool and interesting, but we don't get a lot of time or development for them because there's not enough screen time to go around.



MARVEL STUDIOS

That issue, along with a couple unexplained things that happen in the third act lead me to believe that these things are going to be fleshed out in later films. As an individual movie, I can see why that would be a negative for someone who doesn't plan to watch all of the Marvel films and won't get all the answers they want, possibly not even within the "Ant-Man" series of movies.

Where this film is better than the first is in the action sequences. The Wasp suit has a new set of abilities to put on display and there are some great fighting scenes with her and Ant-Man. Ghost also has a very unique set of powers that present a tough matchup for our heroes. The shrinking technology of "Pym Particles" is used in very creative ways that help make the film a truly fun time.

Overall, "Ant-Man and the Wasp" is a solid installment in the MCU but sometimes feels spread a bit thin. The action and characters are great, even though Ghost probably doesn't get enough time to be as sympathetic as the film wants her to be. Despite that, the film does succeed in its main goal, which is to be a light, funny, summer ride.

Griffin's score: 7/10

Paintballers (from Front)

Hayden Hyatt
hayden@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE – Sunday, more than a hundred people visited Mt. Doom Paintball Field to participate in a free paintball event hosted by the staff. Players enjoyed free entry, games and air for paintball markers at the event.

Philip Schultz, a regular player at the field, chose to come out Sunday and spoke to The Tribune about what makes Mt. Doom such a great place to play.

"I come out as often as I can. I've been playing for years on and off," Schultz said. "Mt. Doom is the place to be on the weekend. It's the environment, the people that come here, they just make it."

Bryan Pirkle, field manager at Mt. Doom, said of the free day, "(Doug Arnold, owner of Mt. Doom) just really wanted a customer appreciation day. He does this about once a year. There's no real reason, just to get everybody introduced to the sport and let them be introduced to a safe environment where they can play. Even if they don't play here, they can at least learn how to be safe while playing paintball."

Paintball is safer than you might think, explained Pirkle.

"Paintball is actually one of the safest sports; it's safer than even bowling if done properly at a field. Everybody is required to have a full face-mask on and that will protect your eyes and your face. The end of the paintball marker, where the paintball comes out, everybody has a blocking device that covers it when you're not in a game and as long as you have all of that and you play safely you shouldn't have any problem."

Pirkle has been with Mt. Doom, the oldest running paintball field in Alabama, since the beginning.

"I started playing here in 1986, it officially became 'Mt. Doom' in 1987," said Pirkle. "It's actually still one of the oldest (paintball fields) in the world, not the oldest, but it ranks up there really high."

Dan Ziegenbein, a veteran of the sport himself, was present at the inception of Mt. Doom and was out playing at the event on Sunday as well.

"I've been playing since 1981. Doug used to come play with us and then that field was closing down, So I came to Doug and said, 'We've got the markers and stuff and you've got the land, so let's play.' So he started and he's been keeping it up ever since,", said Ziegenbein. "I've been playing so long, I'm knowing the fourth generation of people playing. People will have played when they were kids, go to college and work, and move back to Cullman and they'll be out here with their kids."

Jesse Waters, a regular player at the field and referee for the event on Sunday described why he comes to the field.

"I've gotta say this is probably the most people I've seen out here in a long while. I've been here for about 12 years now on and off," Waters said. "I like the atmosphere; it's a good family-friendly place. Half these people out here, they've known me since I was in middle school. They've seen me grow up and I've seen them and their families grow up. It's fun being out here to just hang out with your friends."

Waters also spoke about paintball itself.

"My favorite thing is being able to work out the frustrations of the week. Sometimes you just gotta get out there and run and just breathe heavy, sweat a little bit and feel better. I love being out here playing with all these people and seeing them all having fun; at the end of the day we're all sitting there laughing, even though were all shooting each other, but everybody's having fun that's the good part about it."

Waters also had a recommendation for anyone wanting to check out Mt. Doom.

"Come up here and play," he smiled. "Were always up here, every Sunday, Saturdays too. Come on out and play. We love it."

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

EXCLUSIVE
The Culman Tribune

Name
Address
E-mail

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

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

MISSING TORTOISE

Last seen in the White City /Hanceville area



ERIN HUTCHENS

"This gorgeous big boy belongs to my in-laws, and he's lost. He was last seen in the White City /Hanceville area. He's around 50 pounds, and possibly digging here and there. Let us know if you see him," said reader Erin Hutchens.

The tortoise's owners live on County Road 601.

If you spot him, please call 256-352-6887.

Cullman County students may qualify for scholarships from A-1 Auto Transport

A-1 Auto Transport
Contributor

CULLMAN – A-1 Auto Transport is looking to award eligible students in Cullman County with scholarship awards ranging from $250 to $1,000 per year. Students must be enrolled at any university, trade school program or accredited college and carry a 3.0 or higher GPA to enter.

All qualified and interested students may submit an essay of a 1,000 words or more on a topic related to car shipping services or the auto transport industry. For example, students may write about international car shipping or enclosed car shipping services. Students may not submit already published essays and all content must be completely original. A-1's Scholarship Committee will review all submitted essays.

The last day to turn in essays for the scholarship program is March 10, 2019. Students may submit their essays via email to scholarships@a1autotransport.com. Emails should also contain the student's full name, phone number, mailing address, school name and email address.

Sometime by the end of March 2019, the Scholarship Committee will showcase the winning essays on its website. All scholarship winners will also get an email from A-1 members. The scholarship money is then sent directly to the financial office of the student's school. To learn more about the scholarship program through A-1 Auto Transport, go to http://www.a1autotransport.com/a-1-auto-transport-scholarship/.



