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The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

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EDUCATION

CCBOE holds Teacher Institute; Holly Pond High named 2018 Cullman County High School of Excellence



CCBOE

Good Hope High School/Cullman Area Technology Academy graduate Breanna Allen, center, with her health science instructors Tracy Smith (L) and Adriann Basch (R)

» PAGE 2

CRIME

Cullman Police arrest 5 for meth distribution



CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Top, left to right: Tonya Cunningham, Kathy Woods; bottom, left to right: Selena Cofer, Donald Hill, Regina Swain

Wendy Sack
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CULLMAN – The Cullman Police Department's Crime Suppression Unit (CSU) recently arrested five people for methamphetamine distribution in separate cases.

According to the CPD, between July 12-31, Tonya Farr Cunningham, 41, of Cullman was charged with five counts of unlawful distribution of a controlled substance for allegedly selling meth. Cunningham's other charges include third-degree theft of property, unlawful possession of a controlled substance, second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia.

Cunningham remains incarcerated in the Cullman County Detention Center.

On July 24, while executing a search warrant on County Road 260, CSU officers allegedly recovered approximately 19 grams of meth, along with alprazolam pills, clonazepam pills and drug paraphernalia. Kathy Michelle Woods, 37, of Cullman was arrested for unlawful possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance, unlawful possession of a controlled substance and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia.

Woods was transported to the Cullman County Detention Center where she was booked in without incident. She has since been released.

On Aug. 1, the CSU, along with officers assigned to Alabama Drug Enforcement Task Force (ADETF) executed a search warrant on County Road 1163, where approximately 20 grams of meth, amphetamine pills, suboxone sublingual film and drug paraphernalia were allegedly recovered. Selena Cofer, 39, of Cullman was placed under arrest for unlawful possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance, unlawful possession of a controlled substance and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia.

Cofer was transported to the Cullman County Detention Center where she was booked in without incident, said the CPD.

Also on Aug. 1, Donald Eugene Hill, 33, of Hanceville was arrested by CSU and ADETF officers for one count of unlawful distribution of a controlled substance for allegedly selling meth.

Hill was behind bars on another drug charge at the time of his arrest. He remains incarcerated.

Lastly, also on Aug. 1, CSU and ADETF officers arrested Regina Marie Swain, 46, of Vinemont and charged her with one count of unlawful distribution of a controlled substance for allegedly selling methamphetamine.

Swain was already in jail on an unrelated charge at the time of her arrest. She remains incarcerated.

Sisters give birth just 61 minutes apart

Christy Perry
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – Sisters Morgan Bailey and Courtney Carpentier have always been very close. Last December when the sisters learned they were both expecting, they shared their great news with family at Christmas. Later in the spring, they had a joint gender reveal party. What happened next, they had NOT planned.

Carpentier, the older sister by 21 months, was scheduled to be admitted to Cullman Regional at 4 a.m. on July 30. Younger sister Bailey agreed to watch her sister's 4-year-old son, Tanner, so Carpentier's husband could be at the birth. That plan fell through when Bailey started having strong contractions and was admitted on Sunday night (June 29).

By 4 o'clock Monday morning, the sisters were next door to each other in the maternity ward.

The family members frantically kept each sister updated.

Father Randy Bailey laughed, "It did seem like the girls were racing each other.

"I did the best I could and just went with the flow and let nature do its thing. Two healthy babies is what we wanted."

Carpentier recalled, "I didn't want to have my baby until I knew Morgan had hers and I knew everything was good."

At 11:42 a.m. Bailey and Anthony Mullet welcomed their daughter, Mia Lynn Mullet, a beautiful healthy baby weighing 8 lbs. 4 oz. and measuring 21.5 inches. Mia is the first baby girl for the family in more than 12 years.

Next, Courtney and Will Carpentier welcomed Reece Harold Carpentier at 12:43 p.m. Baby Reece, a healthy baby boy, weighed in at 8 lbs. 10 oz. and measured 21.75 inches. Reece's middle name, Harold, was in honor of the sisters' maternal grandfather.

Debra Freeman, the babies' great grandmother laughed, "I went to bed with the one great grandbaby, Tanner, and expected to wake up with two.

"Nope, I still had one, so I went to work. Not long after that, the texts started coming in and all I could do was laugh. By early afternoon I had three great grandchildren."

Freeman admitted, "I will likely spoil both, but especially Mia since she's the first girl in a long time."



CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Sisters Courtney Carpentier, left, and Morgan Bailey, right, who are 21 months apart, gave birth this week just 61 minutes apart. Carpentier holds her son Reece; Bailey holds her daughter Mia.

Carpentier and Bailey loved being able to share such an important day. Bailey was a bit scared as a first-time mom, explaining, "I'm glad I get to share the day with my sister. I don't know if I could do this by myself."

The sisters' mother, Hollie Taylor, went home to get some rest after the exciting day of running from room to room. Mullet's mom was also next door getting some much-needed rest when The Tribune stopped in to meet the new arrivals.

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City school board announces last personnel changes before start of new year

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – At a special called meeting Friday morning, the Cullman City School Board took up several last-minute items before the start of the new school year next week, including personnel changes.

Hires

1. Kayla Rose Rogers, Head Start instructional assistant at Cullman City Primary
2. Meaghan Britton, temporary social studies teacher at Cullman High, filling leave of absence
3. Wanda Day, floating 6.5-hour CNP worker
4. Tiffany Whitesell, 6.5-hour CNP worker at West Elementary
5. Janie Davis, Special Ed. instructional assistant at West Elementary
6. Allison Tuggle, assistant principal at Cullman High. She will also receive a supplement for CHS administrative extracurricular activities.

Resignations

1. Susan Partridge, CNP worker, Cullman High
2. Roxie Lee, Special Ed. instructional assistant, West Elementary. She also resigned as drama sponsor.

Leaves of absence

1. James Bell, Cullman Middle, under Family and Medical Leave Act
2. Kim Shelton, Cullman High, on the job injury, returning Oct. 10

Transfers

1. Michael Fowlkes, from information technology manager to technology coordinator at Central Office
2. Jake Johnson, from assistant principal at Cullman High to federal programs/CTE coordinator at central office
3. Tracy Wilson, from CNP worker at West Elementary to CNP worker at Cullman High

The board also approved the following items:

• Permission for Cullman High to contract with Encore Rehabilitation, Inc. for athletic training and physical therapy services
• Permission to contract with Trent Dean for Cullman Parks and Recreation summer track and field camp
• Stipends for multiple teachers and staff to attend various training and administrative events
• Surplus/salvage of numerous non-working or non-useable electronic items, including computers, SMART boards, and others
• Revised Head Start Code of Ethical Conduct, previously approved by the Head Start Policy Council

The next scheduled meeting of the Cullman City School Board will be at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 21 in the central office board room. The public is invited to attend.

Karma in Cullman hosting back-to-school event for in-need families Saturday

Christy Perry
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – Local nonprofit Karma in Cullman is hosting an event Saturday to assist families with back-to-school needs. Karma, implementing what it calls a "pay it forward" clause, is asking participants to donate blood to LifeSouth. In return, eligible families can pick up backpacks, school supplies, five outfits, shoes and accessories for each child. Those ineligible to donate blood are asked to bring someone who can donate on their behalf.

LifeSouth will begin accepting blood donations at 9 a.m. Saturday morning at Karma in Cullman, located at 785 Alabama Highway 157 (near the 157/Alabama Highway 69 intersection).

Families will be able to choose clothes and school supplies from 10-5.

Rachel Bryant founded Karma in Cullman in 2013 after recognizing the need for family assistance through her own personal struggles. In addition to the school supplies and clothing, Karma helps with household items, furniture, toys and food.

The organization partnered with LifeSouth for this event last year and Bryant reported, "An estimated 100 lives were saved through the blood drive efforts. We always believe in paying it forward."

Karma in Cullman can always use donations of furniture, gently used toys, clothes and other items, Currently, the greatest needs are shoes, non-perishable food items and volunteers.

Also needed are composition notebooks, one subject notebooks and dry erase markers.

Karma accepts donations Monday-Friday from 10-4 but will also accept these donations during the event.

For more information visit Karma in Cullman on Facebook, call 256-735-3942, or visit www.karmaincullman.org

CCBOE (from Front)

W.C. Mann
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CULLMAN – On Thursday morning, 800 faculty and staff members of Cullman County Schools (CCS) met at Northbrook Baptist Church in Cullman for their 2018 Teacher Institute. Teachers got encouragement and inspiration to give them a kickstart in preparation for the start of school next week. Representatives of numerous community agencies and groups were on hand to share information about anything from teachers' insurance to charitable opportunities through the United Way and Victoria's Hope (a charity founded by one of CCS' own teachers). Cullman Regional came to offer free health screenings. Gerry Brooks, an elementary school principal from Kentucky and online personality well known in education circles for his YouTube videos that address common issues faced by teachers, was the keynote speaker.

CCS Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette shared, "Honestly, I expect this year to be the best year we've ever had. Our teachers are here and they're ready, they're smiling, they're encouraged, enthused and just ready to go!"

Former students testify to the impact teachers can have

Near the end of the event, several students came to talk about the effect dedicated teachers have had on their lives. As a powerful example, Good Hope and Cullman Area Technology Academy (CATA, also called the Career Center) graduate Breanna Allen, who got her nursing assistant license through CATA and now works in home health, closed out that portion with a moving and very personal account of a troubled youth due to family problems, then told the audience:

"If it wasn't for my teachers and staff at my Career Center and my home school at Good Hope, I wouldn't be standing here today, or maybe even graduated. They pushed me very, very hard.

"First off, I want to talk about my health science teachers, Ms. Smith and Ms. Basch. I met them when I was only in 10th grade, and I loved them from the beginning. They were always there for me from day one, and always was there when I needed somebody: a shoulder to cry on, a laugh when I was down.

"And they just didn't worry about my grades and stuff like that; they worried about my well-being and asked if I was okay. They were my best friends. When I felt lost, I knew I could just go to them, and they would be like, 'Okay, this is what you need to do...' They believed in me when I didn't believe in myself."

Allen also commended Good Hope Principal John Hood and Assistant Principal Amy Speegle as she described her senior year as "the hardest year of my life. But my vice principal and my principal, Mr. Hood and Ms. Speegle, helped me and encouraged me to finish the year when I didn't want to. I was ready to just give up. When I was having a good old breakdown, I knew I could just go to Ms. Speegle's office and talk to her.

"All these people have made my high school experience a thousand times better, and there's so many other people I didn't mention. And for that I am forever grateful. They all pushed me to be the best I could be. Because of them and my hard work, I was the first one in my family to graduate high school. They just showed me the love and compassion I want to show others."

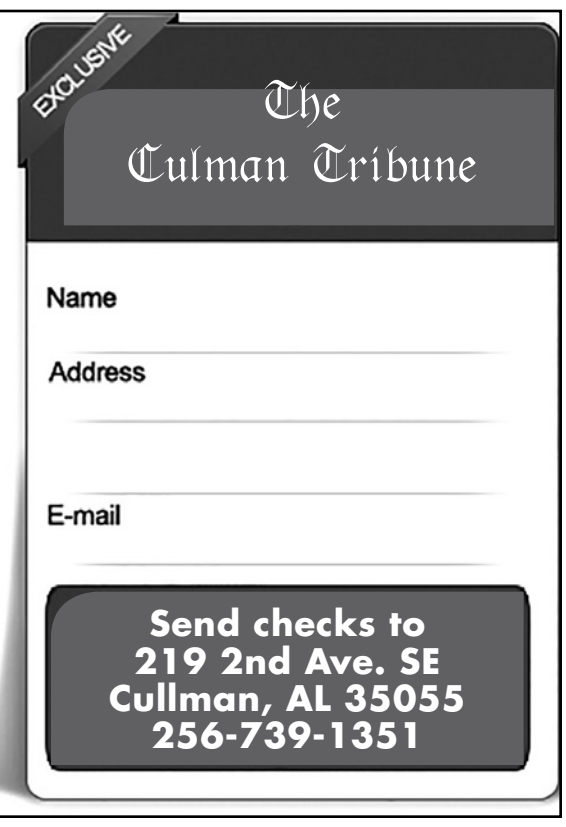
Holly Pond named High School of Excellence

During the Institute, Holly Pond High School was named the 2018 Cullman County High School of Excellence.

Barnette said, "The Cullman County High School of Excellence Award is awarded to the high school that earns the most combined points from sports accomplishments, academic achievement, teacher and student attendance, dual enrollment and AP classes offered and passed, as well as many other areas. Cold Springs High School has won it the past two years, and this year it was a close competition between Cold Springs, West Point and Holly Pond. I am very proud of the students and faculty of Holly Pond High School for their accomplishments! Once again, great things are happening in Cullman County Schools and I am proud to be a part of this team!"

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Cullman High School Soccer
2018 Alumni Game
Friday, August 10, 2018
6:00 PM @ CHS Soccer Field

Participation

Alumni and interested team sponsors should contact Casey Harbin (charbin@cullmancats.net)

Alumni should submit the following information by **July 13, 2018.**

- **Name and Year of Graduation**
- **CHS career notes** (Records held, All-Area, All-State, Final Four, State Runner-up, State Champion, etc.)
- **College/College Soccer**
- **Employment information**
- **Family information** (Spouse, children, etc.)
- **Shirt size**

Participation will include a **game jersey** and **all the water you can drink!**

Donations from our alumni are very much appreciated but not expected.

Format

We would **LOVE** for all alumni to participate and we encourage anyone interested to submit an email. The format of the game(s) will best suit the number of players who register; however, registration **does not guarantee** participation.

If selected for participation, you will be notified by either Coach Harbin or Coach Brown.

$2 for Students
$5 for Community
Kids get in FREE!
Admissions are donations to CHS Soccer



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Arrest report: July 30-Aug. 2

Wendy Sack
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CULLMAN – Below are the arrests reported for July 30-Aug. 2. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

MONDAY, JULY 30

Addison, Byron Timothy, 43
• unauthorized use of a vehicle

Barfield, Marcus Shawn, 37
• FTA- DUI- any substance

Brooker, Gary Allen, 57
• third-degree elder abuse and neglect

Cosby, Misty Marie Duvall, 31
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• public intoxication

Johnson, Jennifer, 45
• carrying a pistol without a license
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• second-degree promoting prison contraband
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Millican, Wesley Mark, 28
• FTA- fourth-degree theft of property

Moore, Darren Blain, 49
• writ of arrest- child support

Pierce, Gregory Allen, 35
• public intoxication

Pierce, Katrina Marie, 30
• carrying a pistol without a license

Quinn, Misty Ann, 31
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Woods, Kenneth Loyd, 50
• FTA- first-degree human trafficking (2 counts)
• contributing to the delinquency of a minor (2 counts)
• FTA- electronic solicitation of a child (2 counts)
• FTA- enticing a child for immoral purposes
• FTA- second-degree rape
• FTA- second-degree sexual abuse
• tampering with a witness
• FTA- transmitting obscene material to a child (2 counts)

TUESDAY, JULY 31

Bagwell, Scotty Wayne, 37
• judge's order- possession of drug paraphernalia
• judge's order- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Baskins, Gregory Shane, 28
• FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
• FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Burdeshaw, Elizabeth Blair, 22
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance
• second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
• unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle

Burgess, Nathan Robert, 40
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Deen, Dena Solana, 42
• judge's order- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Eipp, Nickolas Adam Edwin, 25
• unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle (2 counts)
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance
• second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
• unauthorized use/ unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle

Freeman, Abigail Brianna, 21
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• unlawful possession of controlled substance

Golden, Jesse Gene, 23
• judge's order- chemical endangerment of a child
• judge's order- possession of drug paraphernalia
• judge's order- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
• judge's order- unlawful possession of a controlled substance
• judge's order- unlawful manufacture of a controlled substance

Mathews, Megan Taylor, 18
• judge's order- possession of drug paraphernalia
• judge's order- unlawful distribution of a controlled substance

McMichael, Jarrod Mack, 25
• public intoxication

Mercer, Jimmy David, 40
• FTA- driving while suspended

Ryan, Justin Wayne, 26
• judge's order- possession of drug paraphernalia
• judge's order- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 1

Allred, Danny Ray, 47
• FTA- sex offender failure to register termination- SORNA

Black, Robert Lee, 34
• judge's order- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Burdeshaw, Elizabeth Blair, 22
• unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle
• illegal possession or use of a credit or debit card (2 counts)
• third-degree receiving stolen property

Eipp, Nickolas Adam Edwin, 25
• unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle (2 counts)
• illegal possession or use of a credit or debit card (2 counts)

Harbison, Vicky Pratt, 55
• second-degree bail jumping- third-degree burglary (2 counts)
• FTA- third-degree burglary (2 counts)
• FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

McKenzie, Cameron Blake, 23
• FTA- third-degree burglary
• third-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument (2 counts)
• FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)
• FTA- illegal possession of prescription medicine
• illegal possession or use of a credit or debit card
• FTA- third-degree theft of property
• FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance (2 counts)

Nail, Halie Nichole, 25
• second-degree promoting prison contraband
• third-degree promoting prison contraband

Reid, Allyson Claire, 20
• sex offender failure to register termination- SORNA

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 1

Cofer, Selena S., 39
• possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance
• unlawful possession or receipt of a controlled substance
• possession of drug paraphernalia

Fone, Jammie M., 21
• second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
• possession of drug paraphernalia

Ballenger, Zachary D., 21
• FTA- insurance violation
• FTA- speeding

Schultz, Dana D., 42
• public intoxication
• resisting arrest

THURSDAY, AUG. 2

Smith, Michael H., 44
• FTA- fourth-degree theft of property

Sellers, Brent M., 47
• FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
• FTA- failure to register vehicle
• FTA- insurance violation

Dover, Andrea L., 33
• third-degree domestic violence

Skipper, James E., 54
• FTA- public intoxication

Deason, Jennifer C., 44
• possession of drug paraphernalia

Elliott, Joshua D., 34
• possession of drug paraphernalia

Smith, Brian N., 44
• possession or receipt of a controlled substance
• possession of drug paraphernalia

Edgil, Billy R., 56
• DUI

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No report provided.

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

Legal Notice

Pursuant to Alabama Code 32-13-1 Earl's Body Shop Inc. will offer for sale at public auction the following vehicle on September 9th, 2018, at 7:00 a.m.

2002 CADI ESCALADE, VIN #1GYEC63T42R113934.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF **CASE NO: PC2018-201**

A.A.V.
D.O.B. 12-15-2011
A MINOR CHILD.

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR MINOR NAME CHANGE

TO: **RAUL VARGAS AGUIRRE OR ANY KNOWN, UNKNOWN, UNDISCLOSED PERSONS OR THE BIOLOGICAL FATHER.**

A PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE OF MINOR CHILD WAS FILED IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA BY KRISTIE MICHELLE CHACON, BIOLOGICAL MOTHER. IF YOU SHOULD CONTEST THIS NAME CHANGE, YOU MUST FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF YOUR RECEIPT OF THIS NOTICE. THE RESPONSE MUST BE FILED WITH COUNSEL FOR SAID PETITIONER, WHOSE NAME AND ADDRESS ARE SHOWN BELOW, AND WITH THE CLERK OF THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA, 500 2ND AVENUE SW, ROOM 101, CULLMAN, ALABAMA 35055.

DONE THIS 1st DAY OF August, 2018.

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

JOSH O'NEAL
ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER
200 2ND AVE. SE
CULLMAN, ALABAMA 35055
TO THE PUBLISHER OF THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE:



First responders Bible study

August 17 / 2:00 heritage park at the playground pavilion

Ryan Whisenhunt will be leading us in devotion

Jordan Canaday will be leading worship.

As a first responder we give constantly, some days we just need to be still!

No disaster can overtake you, no plague come near your tent; He has given His angels orders about you to guard you wherever you go. -Psalm 91:10-11



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BUSINESS

‘Pops for a purpose’: Frios open in downtown Cullman

Andrew Cryer
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN – Few things are greater than a delicious, frozen treat on a summer day in Alabama—and none were found as local economic and government officials were packed tighter than a box of popsicles in celebration of Cullman’s own Frios Gourmet Pops on Friday.

Frios has been operational in town for a few months, thanks to owners Kristy and Jay Keiffer, who first sold their pops from a cart in April.

Business was popping, and Frios quickly grew to occupy a storefront in June with an official opening at July’s 2nd Fridays event.

Friday marked the celebration of Frios joining the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce, members of which were on hand to welcome the business to the Warehouse District.

Director of Membership & Marketing for the Chamber, Magan Bartlett, noted the uniqueness of Frios and the growing diversity of businesses coming into Cullman.

“We’re excited that they’re adding something unique to Cullman’s uniqueness,” smiled Bartlett.

Frios features more than 80 flavors with as many as 20 to 30 flavors in rotation at any given time, alongside seasonal delights.

As for ingredients, Kristy Keiffer noted that all berries and watermelon used are from Alabama and that the milk used is from Working Cows Dairy located in Slocomb, Alabama.

The Keiffers first began their operation to raise funds for mission trips, but as business has grown, so has their mission.

Said Kristy Keiffer, “We donate 100 percent of proceeds. Every purchase is being sent back not only to our city but our county, state and around the world. We’re pops for a purpose.”

The Keiffers own the franchise rights to operate in Florence, Decatur, Cullman and the Smith Lake area. Another storefront location has been established in Florence in recent months.

Kristy Keiffer thanked everyone in attendance for coming to the celebration but noted that the true “pop stars” of the day and of the business were her workers.



ANDREW CRYER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Frios Gourmet Pops Owner Kristy Keiffer, right, and an employee hold a sign for the new shop Friday.

Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs seemed more excited than a kid in a candy shop. Said Jacobs, with pop in hand, “They’re going to do well here. I love popsicles!”

CARING FOR THE CAREGIVER

Grace Place offers training for those who watch over people with dementia

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – Family, friends and loved ones can give much of themselves when caring for people with dementia, but who watches over the caregivers? For the Cullman area, Grace Episcopal Church’s Grace Place has for months now offered two opportunities a week for caregivers to leave their loved ones in a safe and stimulating environment while they take some needed break time for themselves. Now, the ministry is taking another step, preparing to host a caregiver training, resource and encouragement event called Caring for the Caregiver on Wednesday and Thursday, Aug. 22-23.

Grace Place Director, Deacon Jerry Jacob, explained: “The purpose of the Caring for the Caregiver event is twofold: provide information, resources and advice to help caregivers who are taking care of a loved one with memory loss, and, raise community awareness of the prevalence of dementia in our area and the immense responsibilities that places on their caregivers.

“Cullman County has more than 15,000 residents who are aged 65 or older. That is roughly 18.3 percent of our total population (Source: U.S. Census Bureau as of 7/1/17). This is the age group who are more prone to develop cognitive issues, i.e., memory loss. According to the Alzheimer’s Association, one in 10 people, aged 65 and over, will develop some form of dementia. For us, that translates into at least 1,500 Cullman County residents.

“A caregiver at some point in the process of the disease becomes a 24/7 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week) attendant for their loved one. Different people with memory loss progress at different rates. Currently what is known is that dementia may develop undetected and/or undiagnosed for as long as 12 to 20 years. And, right now, there are no therapies or medications to reverse the effects.

“What is also almost universally accepted is that caregivers are prone to unknowingly sacrifice their own health in trying to care for their loved one. There is a compelling need to equip family-member caregivers with ways in which they can equip themselves with avenues to find respite.”

Caring for the Caregiver will be led by Robin Dill, founder and former director of Grace Arbor in Lawrenceville, Georgia, a respite day program for people with memory loss. She has been involved in local and statewide efforts in Georgia to raise awareness of dementia and its effects on sufferers and their caregivers. During the event, she will address common issues family-member caregivers face and possible solutions to those issues.

Dill founded Grace Arbor, a 4 day per week program that targets participants with memory loss, in 2005, serving hundreds of families until she stepped down as director in 2018 to assist churches as they consider respite ministries. She wrote and published “Walking with Grace” and “Walking with Grace Revised” as manuals to assist in setting up such programs. She mentors faith organizations who start and provide respite ministries, and is a frequent speaker at local Alzheimer’s support groups and professional conferences. Dill has also served on the Georgia Task Force for Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias.

The Tribune spoke with Dill, who shared: “This kind of ministry is a lifeline to families dealing with dementia. They can be the difference between a caregiver throwing up their hands and saying, ‘I’m done,’ to ‘Okay, I can do this because I’ve got a group of people that are walking this journey with me and supporting me in this stage of the journey.

“I’ve heard that over and over and over: ‘Your ministry is a lifeline.’”

Training events

Dill will be at Grace Place on Tuesday, Aug. 21 to observe and take part in one of the program’s regular meetings. On Wednesday, Aug. 22, she will offer a four-hour activity training class from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for Grace Place volunteers and other interested persons, on principles of dementia and how to conduct activities appropriate for those with memory loss.

Dill described the activity class as a training session, but also said it will be “a time of inspiration for them, to get some really good ideas, and kind of brainstorm more things they can do at their particular facility.”

On Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and Thursday, Aug. 23 from 10 a.m. to noon, Dill will offer caregiver training to give a deeper understanding of dementia and its effects, to help caregivers understand what is happening to their loved ones. Topics will include behaviors, communication techniques, safety, caregiver stress and how caregivers can take care of themselves, and how caregivers can prepare for the future.



CONTRIBUTED

Robin Dill, author and founder and former director of Grace Arbor in Lawrenceville, Georgia, will lead the Caring for the Caregiver event at Grace Place

Dill said of dementia respite ministries like Grace Place, “I’m telling you, it’s the best ministry. It’s a ministry that every community needs. Every church needs to think about being a partner in this type of ministry because it’s so impactful to caregivers and the participants. They’re having a fun place to go play while their loved ones are getting a break.”

For more information on Robin Dill’s programs, visit https://rdillblogwalkingwithgrace.wordpress.com. Her “Walking with Grace” books are available through Amazon and other book distributors.

For more information on Grace Place and Cullman’s Caring for the Caregiver event, visit www.facebook.com/305ArnoldStreetNE/, or contact Jacob at dcnjacob@gmail.com, 256-736-4260 or 256-338-6556.

Grace Place asks participants to please RSVP if they plan to attend.

At a glance

Caring for the Caregiver training, resource and support event for caregivers of persons with memory loss

Grace Episcopal Church, 305 Arnold St. NE, Cullman

These presentations are open to the public FREE OF CHARGE.

Continuing education credits (CEUs) available to nurses and social workers.

Please RSVP to Jerry Jacob at dcnjacob@gmail.com, 256-736-4260 or 256-338-6556.







Annual Good Hope Back 2 School Bash fills Municipal Park

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE – Good Hope's annual Back 2 School Bash saw an excited crowd fill the City's Municipal Park Thursday afternoon, with kids of all ages and their families enjoying free food, inflatables, a slip n' slide, door prizes, color run and more.

Good Hope City Councilman Greg Brown said the City is always happy to help give area kids a fun time before the new school year gets started.

"This is our seventh annual Back 2 School Bash. We love to have the kids a little party before school starts back. We will have something for all ages and hope that everyone that comes out has a blast," Brown said.

"This event is made possible by donations received from the businesses in our community.

"We do not charge the parents anything. When the community donates money, we plan these free events for our citizens to enjoy. A big thank you to all of our event sponsors and volunteers for making this event possible."

Good Hope High School Student Government Association (SGA) Secretary Hanna Hancock was on-hand for the event and touched on how much the event means for her and the schools.

"It's really big for us. Me and (SGA member) Chrissi Smith have just been out here seeing these kids get ready for school and smile, it just warms our hearts," Hancock said.

"We worked the color run a little while ago and seeing them do that was just great fun. Both of these outfields are full of kids, so that's pretty good, and the weather is just great. Not too hot and not too cool. They got the splash pads out for the kids; this has turned out great."

Good Hope Mayor Jerry Bartlett helped grill hot dogs and do some emcee work for the event. He talked about the community support that makes this event happen every year.

"I can't remember if this is the seventh or eighth time we've done this, but I was on the council back when we started this several years ago, and we go out and get donations from our local businesses to put it on.

"Then we give away a free T-shirt, food, we've got several door prizes and toys and school supplies and the businesses all pay for this.

"We do several things during the year like feeding 1,200-1,500 people during Thanksgiving and we do Christmas in the Park, and all of this is free for our community because we went out and got donations from our businesses.

"We have great support from our businesses and we appreciate all of them. That's what makes this happen, and people just love it."



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Jobe Pruett,8, charges through the slip n' slide during Good Hope's Back 2 School Bash Thursday afternoon.

Bartlett and the City added a new feature to this year's Bash as well, one that will allow parents to hold onto images of their children from the event.

"One thing we added this year is we've got a couple of professional photographers and they're taking back to school pictures of kids getting on the school bus. The other photographer is just walking around taking pictures and what we're going to do is upload them to the City of Good Hope web page," Bartlett said. "Then, if people see a photo of their child that they really like, they can send us their email and we'll send them a digital picture and it won't cost them anything."

Bartlett continued, bragging on the City employees who most contributed to this year's successful event.

"Greg Brown is our community service guy on the council and he did a lot of legwork on this. For our Assistant City Clerk Lori Leusby, this is her first year to put this on and she's just done great. She came up with the Fun Run where they splash the powder on everybody and she came up with school bus pictures so we're really proud of Lori, she did a great job. Her and Greg both went out to talk to the businesses and pick up door prizes and stuff like that.

"I don't know how many people are here, but there's a lot. We got a perfect day. We thought we were going to get rained out and that never works out good, but we've got a lot for them to do here today on both fields," Bartlett continued.

"The parents like to come and eat and watch the kids and we've got the SGA and some other clubs here. They come help and they can get community service points and if they get so many during their four years of high school, you get to wear a cord for graduation. We just have great community support."







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Obituary Announcements: Aug. 4 - 5

Hugo Hamil Umphrey, 79 of Tecumseh, Michigan passed away early the morning of Monday, July 30, 2018 at Cambrian Memory Care in Tecumseh, under the care of Great Lakes Hospice. Born, September 19, 1938 in Decatur, AL, he was the son of the late Hugo Chambley and Ila Mae (Holland) Umphrey. He was a 1957 graduate of Highland Park High School. He proudly enlisted in the Army immediately following high school and was trained at Fort Benning, GA as a part of a signal battalion. He was also stationed in Germany during peace time. In 1964, he began his employment with General Motors as an assembly line worker and eventually applied and was accepted into the apprentice program for skilled trades as a Tinsmith. While working full time and raising his family, he earned his Associate's degree from Henry Ford Community College. On July 1, 2004 after 40 years of service, he retired from the General Motors Plant in Romulus, MI. Hugo enjoyed gardening, fishing, spending time with his family, and had a true love of the outdoors. He was a member of the Church of Christ in Tecumseh. Hugo was a lifelong student of the Bible. He enjoyed listening to and following famous preachers. Hugo was especially fond of the Rev. Billy Graham and Dr. David Jeremiah, just to name a few. He is survived by his three children, Julie (Umphrey) Gorman, Derrick Umphrey, and Nathan Umphrey, six grandchildren, Amy Rochowaik, Melanie Rochowiak, Zach Rochowiak, Lauren Umphrey, Joshua Umphrey, and Nicole Umphrey; and one great-grandchild, Myles Williams. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Eugene James Umphrey of St. Joseph, Missouri in 2015. Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, August 4, 2018 at 11 a.m. at Hebron Church of Christ in Joppa. Visitation at Cullman Funeral Home Saturday from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. at the church. Hugo will be laid to rest with his family in the Hebron Church of Christ Cemetery. The family suggests that donations be made to the Alzheimer's Association or Shults-Lewis Child & Family Services.

Rachel Wells Hofues Armstrong, 49, of Haleyville, entered into rest on July 31, 2018 at Huntsville Hospital. Mrs. Armstrong was born on January 1, 1969, in Huntsville. Family will receive friends on Saturday, August 4, 2018 from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Haleyville, where services will be held at 11 a.m. Burial in Behel Family Cemetery in Haleyville. Complete obituary will be announced Thursday afternoon. In honor of Rachel, the family request in lieu of flowers, please make donations to: Rachel Armstrong Memorial Fund, 2001 20th Street, Haleyville, Alabama 35565. These funds will be used for a scholarship and/or to assist needs of students in Special Education.

Larry Randall Cole, 62 of Double Springs, entered into rest on August 2, 2018 at his home surrounded by loved ones. Randy was born on July 22, 1956, in Haleyville, Alabama. He graduated from Winston County High School in 1974. Randy was a truck driver and a logger for many years. He also was a poultry farmer. Randy enjoyed spending time hunting and riding motorcycles. He enjoyed raising chickens and other animals. Randy loved his grandchildren, watching westerns and spending time with his Chihuahua, Lee Lee. Visitation will be held on Saturday, August 4, 2018 from 2:30 p.m. until 3 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Double Springs, where services will be held at 3 p.m. Brother Thomas Curtis will officiate. Burial will follow in Rock Creek Cemetery. Randy is survived by his wife of 44 years, Kathy Sue Martin Cole; son, William Jarred Cole. He was "Paw Paw" to two grandchildren, Jashell Brooke Cole and Jarrett Austin Cole. He was preceded in death by his father, James Truman Cole; mother Maythel Violet Elliott Cole; brothers, Steven Daryl Cole and James Micheal Cole.

Eunice O'Reba Klepser, 83 of Cullman, passed away on Thursday, August 2, 2018 at Cullman Regional Medical Center. She was born, September 21, 1934 in Alabama to her parents Martin and Claudie Weeks. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is assisting with arrangements. She is preceded in death by her husband, Earl Klepser, and her parents. Mrs. Klepser was loved and will be greatly missed by her nieces and nephews. No services will be held at this time.

Gary Don Shores, 55 of Cullman, passed away on August 1, 2018 at his residence. He was a loving husband, son and friend. Gary graduated for McAdory High School as the class Valedictorian and went on to graduate from the University of Alabama. For 23 years he worked for the University of Alabama at the Paul W. Bryant Museum and then began teaching at the College of Education for Special Needs. While working with several coaches from the University of Alabama he was also a football announcer for ESPN and CBS. Gary was a motivational speaker and made several "Leadership" videos with various coaches. Recently Gary and his wife Mary bought a farm and would often be referred to as "Farmer Gary". On the farm he opened a state of the art music studio and would allow local artists to record at no charge. Gary and his friend, David had a radio show called The DC Capstone Report, they did weekly recaps of football games. Gary had the biggest, most generous heart and was always willing to help anyone in need. He would frequently see children at Walmart wanting a certain toy so he would give the parents the money to purchase that toy. He was also known for paying for meals for anyone he saw in a restaurant eating alone. Gary would go out of his way to speak words of encouragement to anyone he thought was going through a difficult time. He enjoyed Tuesdays because he would have lunch with his brother-in-law, Ralph. This is a tribute recently posted regarding Gary; "I only met Gary a couple of times but the impact he had on me and my family is almost impossible to believe. He was one of the most compassionate and spiritual people I have ever met. His picture should be beside the word uplifting in the dictionary because when the chips are down he knows how to lift people up. God Bless you Gary Shores. The Cunningham family will always love you and never never forget you." Gary is preceded in death by his grandparents, several aunts, uncles and cousins. He leaves to cherish his memory, his wife, Mary Rivers Shores; his parents: Billy J. and Brooksie Shores, Rainsville, AL.; sister, Andrea M. Shores, Bessemer, AL.; brother, Lance W. Shores, Bessemer, AL.; sister-in-laws: Judy (Ralph) Bradford, Sherry (William) Calvert and Donna (Jackie) Cottingham; nieces: Christa (Eric) Spratling and Emily Bradford; nephews: Stephen (Minnie) Calvert, Eric (Helen) Cottingham and Elliott Cottingham; special friends: David and Karen Cottingham and Brian and Vicki Cunningham; his best buddy Sunshine (his dog) and a host of friends. His graveside service will be on Saturday, August 4, 2018 at 2 p.m. at Mountain View Memory Gardens in Fort Payne with burial to follow in the cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to The Rise Center at The University of Alabama.

Brandy Michelle McClure (Long) passed away on August 1,2018 at 5:10 a.m. Born in Arab Al on December 25,1977. She graduated Fairview High School in 1996. She was formerly a Head Start teacher at Vinemont Head Start. She is survived by her husband James McClure, her father, Dewayne Long, her mother, Barbara Long, her grandmother, Verlene Roberts, her brothers: Christopher Long and Aaron Long, her daughters: Kathryn and Deborah Henry, her son and daughter in law Eric an Ashley Henry, and her 3 grandchildren Nevaeh, Axl, and Emalee Henry. Her Funeral Service will be held at Etha Baptist Church. Viewing at will be at 11 a.m. for family and 12 p.m. for friends. Funeral Service will be at 1 p.m. on Saturday, August 4, 2018. Burial will follow at the adjoining cemetery.

Ruby Lee Wood, 87 of Addison, entered into rest on Thursday, August 2, 2018 at home surrounded by her loved ones. Mrs. Wood was born on June 25, 1931 in Lawrence County Alabama. Ruby was a member of the Upshaw Friendship Baptist Church for 62 years. She loved her career as a homemaker and being a minister's wife. Visitation will be held Saturday, August 4, 2018 at Upshaw Friendship Baptist Church from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m., where services will follow at 2 p.m. Brother Tim Graham and Donnie Carroll will officiate. Burial will follow in adjoining cemetery. Ruby is survived by her sons, Ronal Wood and his wife Rebecca, Jeff Wood and his wife Kelle, and Max Wood; daughter, Brenda Graham; sisters, Christine Hall and her husband Marvin, and Roseine Nelson. She was "Granny" to 12 grandchildren, 26 great grandchildren and 2 great-great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband of 65 years, Glenn Max Wood; parents, Odis and Ethel Borden; brother, Herman Borden, and sister Helen Borden.

Funeral services for Alvis Dwain Morris, 90, will be Saturday, August 4, 2018. Visitation will be at 10 a.m. with Dr. Robert Crawford officiating at Moss Funeral Home. Alvis departed this walk of life to enter into his life with Christ August 1, 2018. Alvis was born January 26, 1928 to Otto E. and Lottie A. Childers Morris. He was preceded in death by (infant daughter, Patricia Caroline), wife, Juanita (Chastain) Morris, father Otto E. Morris, mother Lottie A. (Childers) Morris, sister Beatrice (Morris) Hopper. Alvis was an avid hunter, an extensive traveler and an avid camper. He began his working career on a farm in Cullman County, Al. Then worked several valleys in California in the vegetable and fruit industry. Alvis also served in the United States Army. After his military service Alvis worked thirty years with General Motors in Parama, Oh, until retirement. After retirement he returned to West Point, Al, then to Bonita Springs, Fl. and then back to West Point, Al. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Comfort Care Hospice or Gideon's International. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Funeral services for Janet Elaine McDowell, 61 of Blountsville, are Saturday, August 4, 2018 at 2 p.m. at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel; with interment in Hopewell Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home directing. Mrs. McDowell passed away on Thursday, August 2, 2018. She was preceded in death by her parents, Jessie Cochran and Daisy Mae Davis Cochran and her sister, Betty Long. She is survived by her husband, John C. McDowell; son, Johnny (Holly) McDowell; grandson, Levi McDowell; brother, Billy (Kay) Cochran; sisters, Mary Jane Ashwander, Shirley (Larry) Hodge and Joyce (Randy) Ballard; brother-in-law, Edward Long and a host of nieces, nephews, other family and friends.

Sarah Ruth Blackwell, 65, of Double Springs, entered into rest on August 1, 2018 at her home. Sarah was born on February 14, 1953, in Atlanta, Georgia. She graduated from Winston County High School in 1971. Sarah was known by friends and family as "Tootsie". She enjoyed shopping and watching westerns. Sarah loved attending church. Visitation will be held on Saturday, August 4, 2018 from 11 a.m. until 12 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Double Springs, where services will be held at 12 p.m. Pastor Chris Blevins will officiate. Burial will follow in Blooming Youth Cemetery. Sarah is survived by her daughter, Jennifer Eden Blackwell; aunt, Ruth Helen Blackwell; cousins, William Gregory Blackwell and Sheila Bernice Cook. She was preceded in death by her mother, Bernice Weaver Blackwell; father, Marvin Blackwell; uncle, William Charles Blackwell; and cousin, Sammy Charles Blackwell.

Walter Berry "Butch" Parker of Cullman Alabama and formally of Pike County, Kentucky passed away on August 2nd 2018 at the age of 71. Butch was born in Pike County Kentucky on October 11, 1946 to his parents the late Tom Parker and Eunice Varney Parker. Butch served in the United State Marine Corp during the Vietnam War. He received a Purple Heart during his service. Butch was a retired business owner and of the Old Regular Baptist faith. Butch was preceded in death by his parents, one sister, Febbie Jane Parker; one niece, Terina Lynn Parker; two nephews, Kenny Ray Slone and Jonathan Chapman. Butch is survived by his wife Janet Slone Parker with whom he's celebrated 49 years of Marriage, one daughter, Vickie Annette (Paul) Amos, one son Tom (Kristina) Parker, two grandchildren, Hayley Nicole (Cody) Clay, and Seth Thomas (Brooke) Parker; two great grandchildren: Sonny Michael Clay and Presley Ann Parker. Butch leaves behind two brothers; Ted (Vicki) Parker and Charles (Nancy) Parker; four sisters: Grace (Hatler) Slone, Polly West, Ruth Manning and Ann (Kenneth) Slone. Butch leaves many nieces, nephews, extended family, friends and his fishing buddy and cousin, Clint Varney. Butch was an active hunter, fisherman, and traveler. He loved the church and spending quality time with his family. Butch will be forever in our hearts. "I only slipped into another room. I am I and you are you and what we were to each other will always be." The family will receive friends on Sunday, August 5, 2018 at 5:00 PM. The family and friends, along with Butch, will enjoy church at 7 p.m. Funeral service will be Monday, August 6, 2018 at 2 p.m. with burial to follow at Blair Methodist Church Cemetery. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

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STATE / EDUCATION

Ivey announces 200 official Alabama Bicentennial Schools, including Good Hope High, Vinemont Elementary

Office of Gov. Kay Ivey
Contributor

MONTGOMERY – Gov. Kay Ivey announced Friday the 200 schools selected as official Alabama Bicentennial Schools. Good Hope High School and Vinemont Elementary School were among those named.

Ivey was joined at the announcement by superintendents, principals, teachers, students and administrators from the selected schools along with legislators and other dignitaries from across the state.

Launched by Ivey in December 2017, the Alabama Bicentennial Schools Initiative encourages all public, private, and homeschool students and teachers to participate in the celebration of Alabama's 200th anniversary of statehood in 2019.

In early 2018, all K-12 schools in Alabama were invited to submit a proposal that engages in outreach and improvement projects to connect their classrooms with their local communities.

From a competitive pool of nearly 400 proposals, 200 schools were selected to be official Alabama Bicentennial Schools and receive $2,000 grants to support the implementation of their projects.

Additionally, 56 schools received honorable mentions and $500 grants. Schools were chosen through a review process involving committees of local educators, community leaders, and private citizens.

"It makes me so proud to see such a strong showing of schools participating in the program.

"It is an honor to recognize these outstanding schools and their projects as we head into Alabama's bicentennial year," Ivey said.

"The Alabama Bicentennial celebration is about bringing communities together and getting all of our citizens involved. The schools being honored are a great representation of that goal."

Representing all corners of the state, the selected schools have developed a wide variety of projects that will make meaningful contributions to their local communities. Ranging from oral history projects to community gardens to mentorship programs, these projects will foster new relationships between schools, students, and local citizens, extending well beyond Alabama's bicentennial celebration.

"One of the core objectives of the bicentennial is to get Alabamians thinking about what makes our state special, and what they want it to be," said Steve Murray, co-chair of the Bicentennial Commission's Education Committee. "The terrific projects developed by the Alabama Bicentennial Schools will create opportunities for students to learn about the importance of community, and to discover the ability they have to shape the future of their corner of the state."

The Alabama Bicentennial Schools Initiative is presented in partnership by Alabama 200, the Alabama Department of Archives and History (ADAH), and the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE).

Tribune Files from Yesteryear

FROM THE FILES OF 1957

Mrs. Nancy Knight, Mrs. R.P. Newman and Miss Loe Mae Knight spent Sunday afternoon visiting Mrs. Charlie Vincent in Cullman and Mr. and Mrs. Austin Weaver and children in Berlin.

Mrs. J.M. Allred is ill at her home this week.

Mrs. George Burkart, Mrs. Vernie Clapp and Mrs. Mary Plunkett spent the weekend in Auburn visiting George Burkart, Junior, G.W. Clapp and Glenda Plunkett.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Clapp and daughters, Elaine and Kathryn, spent Sunday afternoon in Bangor.

Mrs. Jack Kyle, Mrs. E.M. Quick and Mrs. Jack Stricklin spent Friday afternoon visiting Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Brown at the Hartselle Nursing Home.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Mitchell and family, of Detroit, Michigan and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Bland, of Tennessee were called here due to the critical illness of their father, Matt Bland.

J.C. Mayfield is convalescing at his home, after undergoing surgery in the Cullman Hospital, last week.

Mr. and Mrs. K.E. Mitchell, of Warrior, were the guests on Sunday of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Davis.

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Dean, of Birmingham, were the Sunday guests of their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. S.M. Casey.

Gerdies Hines remains ill at the Cullman Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Bland and Mr. and Mrs. Jack McGlawn, of Birmingham, were weekend guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bert McGlawn.

News Flashes From Cullman High School

Judy Vann and Sam Hicks led the Cullman High School Group in ad selling with $210.00. Barbara Yost and Howard Woodard came in second with a grand total of $200.00.

The group totaled 28 in number and was composed of the journalism staff and a selected group of seniors.

The City Teachers Inservice Training met on Monday at the Cullman High School. Doctor Brock from Florence State Teachers College was present as consultant.

The Cullman High School Journalism Staff had as its guest, Mr. George W. Tanner, from Taylor Publishing Company, on Monday. The class came to a decision on the cover of the yearbook, the color of the cover, the type of the paper, the end pages, the size of print and the type of print and art work.

Cullman High School held its installation of Student Council officers on Thursday, October 10th. Dale Cook was installed as President and Paul Motzkus as vice-president.

Aged Lady Dies

Mrs. Evie Mae Cheatwood, age 94, died on October 7th at Nashville Baptist Hospital and funeral services were held at Corinth on October 9th, with Moss Service directing interment.

Survivors include: three sons, Herbert and Rufus Hogan and Louis Hall; one daughter, Miss Jessie Mae Hogan and three sisters.

Enon And Hamby's Chapel

Mrs. Valerie Kinney and Phillis attended the wedding of Jimmy Wilkinson in Decatur, Georgia, on September 26th.

Alan Cameron, of Augusta, Georgia arrived on Friday to spend several days with Lamont Edmondson.

Alan Lamont and Lieutenant Gary McGukin spent the weekend in Miami, Florida.

Willis, the young son of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Bailey, arrived on Friday, September the 27th.

Robbie Lou Morgan and Given Edmondson attended the fair in Birmingham, on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Green, Jessie Ruth and Allen visited relatives in Attalla, on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Robin Ray, of Birmingham, were the weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sanders and children.

Arretus Oden, Doverd Yeager and Stephen Edmondson attended the fair in Birmingham on Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Grady Bailey and daughters visited Mr. and Mrs. Guy Johnson.

Miss Linda Neal is working in Decatur, while schools are recessed.

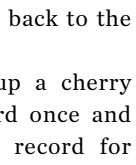
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Notice is hereby given to all owners, secured parties and lienholders of the following described motor vehicles, which I have a right to sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, in accordance with the State of Alabama abandoned vehicle law, Statues, Chapter 13, Section 1-8, Title 32 and Alabama Law Act Number 83-494-S-80.
2003 Chevrolet Trailblazer, Vin. #1GNDS13S232193752
1998 Chrysler Sebring, Vin. #4C3AU52N8WE087028
1986 Dodge Ram250, Vin. #1B7JW24T2GS002382
2012 Dodge 3500, Vin. #3C7WDTAL3CG212161
2005 Ford F150, Vin. #1FTPX12595NB17076
2005 Honda CR-V, Vin. #SHSRD78845U309244
These vehicles will be sold to pay storage and or repair fee at Mullins Body Shop, LLC, 11042 US Highway 31 South, Cullman, Alabama 35055, on Tuesday, September 11, 2018, at 9:00 a.m.

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

That was some more impressive tree climbing



Bill King
Tribune
Contributor

When I was a boy, I loved to climb trees. Sometimes I flew from them, but I didn't always love the landings. We had a wide assortment of trees. Three apple trees stood at one end of our house. I could hardly wait for those apples to get ripe enough to eat. Once the ripened apples fell to the ground, all I had to do to eat my fill was pick them up and avoid the yellow jackets that were eating their fill too. Sometimes my impatience got the best of me, so I shimmied up the tree and picked the ripe ones right off the branches.

Not everyone in my family was in favor of my tree climbing. Mama, for one, did not appreciate my gift of climbing, mainly because, occasionally, I took a fast short cut back to the ground.

I climbed up a cherry tree in our yard once and broke a world record for coming back down. Actually, what I broke was a limb, but not one of mine.

Mama used to constantly say, "You're going to fall out of there and break your arm one of these days." In reality, I was blessed to have two arms and I never broke either one. I did land flat on my stomach once and knocked the breath out of myself.

I had no idea what was happening to me, or what I had done to myself. It almost scared me to death. I looked for angels and pearly gates, because I felt certain the end was in sight. Visions of no more apples, and even candy bars and Coca Colas ran through my confused little mine.

I confessed all my most recent sins and transgressions as I lay there dying. I promised God that I would never climb another tree, or throw another cat in the creek, if He allowed me to breathe again!

He did, but like so many promises made to God in such dire situations, I didn't keep my promises. I lived to climb again.

I was beginning to think that tree climbing had become a lost art.

Children these days are too busy with more important things, like Pokemon hunting or playing on their smart phones, to climb trees. Then, a little over a week ago, I witnessed firsthand a most amazing tree climber. Tornados had touched down in our area the day before.

Our Disaster Relief Chainsaw Team went out to help. Behind one house, we found a large oak tree with its' top broken out. A limb that looked like a giant pulley-bone (if you remember those) had lodged itself about fifty feet up that tree.

That job was way above our heads and our pay grade (especially since we are free volunteers). Our team didn't dream of attempting to remove it, but we watched in amazement as a professional tree surgeon did. He tied a rope that was about the size of my arm around his waist and climbed that tree like a squirrel. While harnessed to the rope, with his chainsaw in one arm (not recommended) he cut his way up the tree. If my mama had been there, he would not have wanted to come back down after that stunt! Finally, the limb fell to the ground and the climber did not! He should try out for America's Got Talent.

I give thanks that no one lost their lives in those storms. I also thankful for first responders, disaster relief teams, and those who are brave enough to climb tall trees - and not take the short cut back down.

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

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Poet's Corner

Life Is But A Dream

By: Lewis Carroll

1832-1898

Alice through the looking glass

A boat, beneath a sunny sky
Lingering onward dreamily
In an evening of July

Children three that nestle near,
Eager eye and willing ear,
Pleased a simple tale to hear

Long has paled that sunny sky;
Echoes fade and memories die;
Autumn frosts have slain July.

Still she haunts me, phantomwise,
Alice moving under skies
Never seen by waking eyes.

Children yet, the tale to hear,
Eager eye and willing ear,
Lovingly shall nestle near.

In a Wonderland they lie,
Dreaming as the days go by,
Dreaming as the summers die;

Ever drifting down the stream
Lingering in the golden gleam
Life, what is it but a dream?

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
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Wallace State's Aviation/Flight Technology program invites public to airport during World Helicopter Day Aug. 19

Russell Moore
WSCC



WSCC

Wallace State's Aviation/Flight Technology program is celebrating World Helicopter Day on Sunday, Aug. 19.

HANCEVILLE – Wallace State's Aviation/Flight Technology program is celebrating World Helicopter Day with an event on Sunday, Aug. 19 at the Cullman Regional Airport-Folsom Field.

Wallace State Flight Technology instructors and students invite the public to stop by the airport from noon to 4 p.m. as they celebrate the event.

World Helicopter Day is being recognized nationwide for the fourth consecutive year and was established to help raise awareness of the contributions helicopters provide for society and to celebrate the individuals that design, fly and support them.

Wallace State conducts its flight technology program under the direction of long-time department head and instructor Bert Mackentepe at Cullman Regional Airport.

The program offers commercial pilot and helicopter training to its students through flight and ground instruction and also multiple degrees and certificate options.

Wallace State plans to exhibit all of its different career opportunities in helicopter training at World Helicopter Day.

The History of Aviation exhibition, put together by the Alabama Humanities Foundation and Airbus, and sponsored by Cullman Regional Airport, Wallace State Flight Technology and the Evelyn Burrow Museum at Wallace State, will be visiting the airport and on display that day.

Recent graduates and students of Wallace State's Aviation/Flight Technology program are now working as pilots for Jet-Pep, the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, med-flights for UAB and Children's Hospital and American Airlines, among for other businesses and companies.

On World Helicopter Day, the hashtag #worldhelicopterday will be used on multiple social media platforms to tie in activity across the nation.

For more information about World Helicopter Day, visit https://worldhelicopterday.com/

For more information about Wallace State's Flight Technology program, contact 256-737-3040 or visit www.wallacestate.edu.



Bill Smith Buick GMC wins 2017 Dealer of the Year Award

Nick Griffin
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CULLMAN – Local automobile dealership Bill Smith Buick GMC was honored recently with a 2017 Dealership of the Year Award from General Motors. The award is only given to a handful of dealers each year and is one of the highest honors a GM dealership can receive.

Bill Smith Buick GMC General Manager Andy Cole is excited and honored to see the dealership bring home the award and said he owes it all to his staff.

"Seven dealers in the nation got this award and to be one of seven in the nation is exciting. It was a lot of hard work, it takes great sales people and it's the biggest honor you can get in the Southeast and we're just tickled," Cole said. "We've got the best managers in the world, but it also takes great sales people, it takes a good service department, it takes a good office staff and you have to have a good owner that takes care of their employees."

Cole also credits that owner, Bill Smith, with establishing the work environment that led to this honor.

"What Bill has instilled in us, is to take care of the customer. I'm 43 and I've worked here since I was 18, and the whole time he's told me, 'If you take care of the customer, they'll come back.' It's just a huge honor and the team we have now, I just can't brag on them enough," Cole smiled. "I'm just proud of everybody. It's like a family here; it's not just a business. It's an honor to receive this award and it's an honor to work here, really."

The community also played a big role in the dealership earning this award, according to Cole, who said he believes that it's the people here in Cullman who helped make the difference in the dealership receiving this honor.

"We can't thank Cullman enough. A small dealer like us shouldn't do this, you know. We sell over 200 a month every month and most big city dealers don't do that; it's Cullman," Cole said.

"The repeat business we have and the brand loyal folks that we have, that's what makes us successful. We sell some out of town, but 90 percent of it comes from people here in Cullman and that's what we like. Anytime we can help someone from Cullman we do it. They're just good folks and that's why Bill has been in business since 1956. He wants to take care of the people here first."

Bill Smith Buick GMC is located at 1940 Second Ave. NW next to the intersection of U.S. Highway 31 and Alabama Highway 157.

