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The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

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A special Christmas wish

East Elementary 4th grader asks Santa for a very special gift this Christmas



SETH MILLER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Doug, Eli, Tanner and Karen Gaines pose for a photo at their home this week.

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – A recent letter to Santa published in The Cullman Tribune prompted a strong response from the community. The letter, written by 10-year-old Eli Gaines, a fourth grader at East Elementary School, expressed a very personal wish: Eli wants his dad's cancer to go away.

Eli's letter read, in part, "My mom wants me to make a Christmas list, but I don't need to because I only want 2 things, a Nintendo Switch and my dad's cancer to go away because I want him to see me play football in high school and college and the NFL."

East Elementary Principal David Wiggins said, "Eli's letter shows the heart of children. It allows us to see through their eyes about what matters most."

The Tribune recently met with Eli, his parents Doug and Karen, and older brother Tanner. The family has a love of sports, laughter and God that have been great comforts during Doug's battle with lung cancer.

Karen spoke about Doug's illness, saying, "In November of 2015, Doug was having surgery to remove the cancer from his right lung. By the time they had gone in to take out the tumor, it had gotten so big they had to remove his entire lung. This was at St. Vincent's.

"When he recovered from his surgery, done on Nov. 13, 2015, he had four rounds of clean-up chemo, they called it, starting in January 2016. He started getting sick again in the summer of 2016 and he went back to the doctor. We found out the cancer had come back in his other lung and in the lymph node at the end of his trachea. They said chemo wasn't an option, so they started him on a trial with OPDIVO, an autoimmune drug. He's been on it for two and a half years now and it has shrunk the cancer so small. It's still there, but it's not growing. It's really small but they didn't give us any measurements."

Karen continued, "He's taken it once a month for two and a half years, he does a CT scan every other month, and actually, he went to have his treatment Wednesday and they told him it would be his last one. They will check him on January 16. Then, 40 days after that. They'll do a CT in three months. If it starts growing again they could start the treatment again."

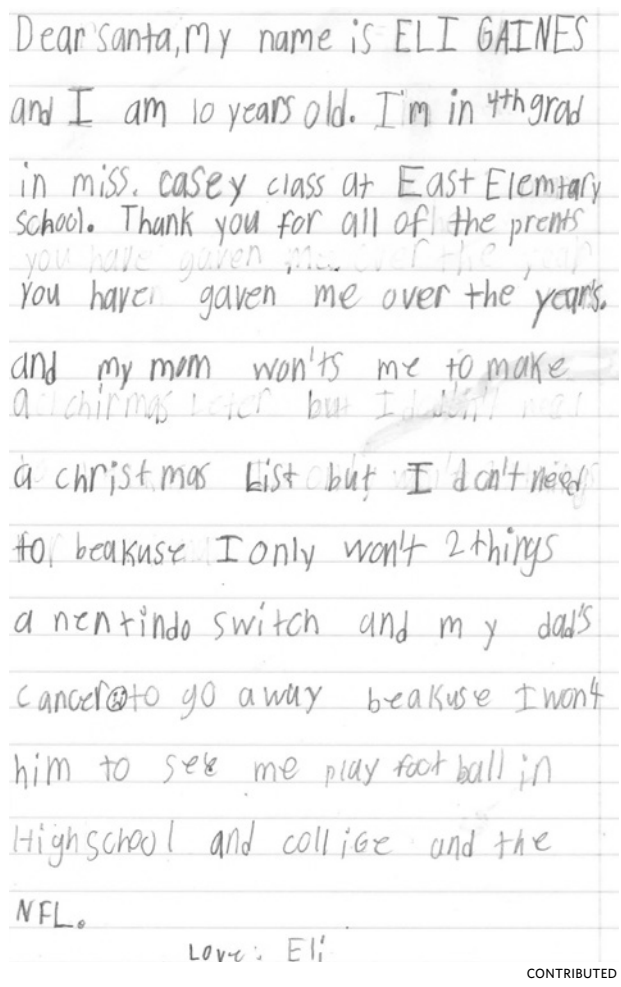
Prior to the OPDIVO, Doug's cardiothoracic surgeon and oncologist at St. Vincent's had given him a grim prognosis of just 4-6 months.

Doug's results on the trial have been far better than expected and better than most people receiving the treatment.

Doug said, "My oncologist said I was the poster child for the drug."

Doug credits positive attitude and prayer as major parts of his success.

Karen added, "A LOT of prayers! You wouldn't believe the amount of people who have prayed for us during all of this. All of my clients, churches, people at the schools, people he works with and so many."



Dear Santa, My name is ELI GAINES and I am 10 years old. I'm in 4th grad in miss. casey class at East Elemtary school. Thank you for all of the prents you have gaven me over the years. and my mom won'ts me to make a chirmas list but I don't need a christmas List but I don't need to beakuse I only wont 2 thinys a nentindo switch and my dad's cancer to go away beakuse I wont him to see me play foot ball in Highschool and collige and the NFL.

Love: Eli

CONTRIBUTED

Eli's letter to Santa

Doug is a building inspector for the City of Cullman and his coworkers donated their time, so he wouldn't have to take his own time.

The Gaineses are also involved with the Cullman Bearcat youth football program. Doug has been a coach for six years and the organization has supported him with special decals on the players' helmets and jerseys saying, "Pray for Doug." One player took it upon himself to write that message on the top of his hand prior to games.

Both Eli and his brother Tanner are involved in sports. They love all sports including football, basketball and baseball. Sports is a love the family shares. Doug and Tanner are Auburn fans while Karen and Eli cheer for the Crimson Tide.

Doug loves being a youth football coach and has coached both boys and continues to coach Eli.

Doug recalled, "I had to sit on the sidelines when I was sick. I had a lot of people help me. They put up tents and a chair for me."

Karen laughed, "They actually won the championship that year. They dumped the

» PAGE 4



HEATHER MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

James McWhorter poses in front of the Good Hope High School ACT Wall of Fame

EDUCATION

A PERFECT 36

Good Hope senior James McWhorter achieves perfect score on ACT

Heather Mann
Tribune Correspondent

GOOD HOPE – James McWhorter is a high school phenom. The Good Hope High School senior has participated in marching band, archery, jazz band, math team, scholars' bowl, Student Government Association (of which he is president) and will be starting soccer next semester - all while maintaining A averages in his classes and ranking within the top five of his class. To round out this already-impressive resume, McWhorter can now say that he has achieved a perfect score of 36 on the ACT.

The ACT is a standardized test used by colleges to measure high school achievement and readiness for college-level academics.

According to U.S. News & World Report, in the U.S. high school graduating class of 2017, only 2,760 out of more than 2 million graduates who took the ACT earned a composite score of 36.

The ACT consists of tests in English, mathematics, reading and science, each scored on a scale of 1-36. A student's composite score is the average of the four test scores.

McWhorter's score shows the results of persistence and determination, as this sixth time taking the ACT.

When asked how he went about preparing for the test, he shared, "For the first one, I didn't know what to expect, but then after that I was like, 'Okay, I got this.' My mom ordered me the prep book.

"I didn't really take it seriously though, so before this last one she enrolled me in this ACT prep course that I took at Cullman, and that helped a lot because she made us do homework with the book."

McWhorter's first score was a 28, and his scores got better each time.

He attributes a lot of his success to his teachers and the Cullman ACT Prep course (which he recommended to anyone taking the test who may be unsure of what to expect or just looking to improve their score).

As for college, McWhorter is choosing between attending The University of Alabama in Huntsville (where he has been offered full tuition and housing) or The University of Alabama (where he has been offered full tuition, one year of housing and several research stipends), though he said he is leaning more toward UAH for the job opportunities and shorter drive from Cullman.

He has also applied to The University West Florida and is currently working on an application to Georgia Tech.

McWhorter has high praise for two of his teachers he said have helped him tremendously.

"My English teacher, Mrs. (Tiffiany) Ellis, I've had her for the past three years and she's really helped with the English whenever we've done an ACT boot camp.

"I've gotten 35s and 36s on the English parts because of her. Also, my science teacher, Mrs. (Tish) Jackson, really helped with the science portion, which was what I was struggling with. She would help give us practice on certain days."

On his plans after college, McWhorter smiled, "I want to be an aerospace engineer and work for a company that allows me to travel a lot, because one thing I really love to do is travel."

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Hit and run driver charged with murder

Wendy Sack, W.C. Mann

CULLMAN – The Morris man charged in the Dec. 18 fatal hit and run on Alabama Highway 157 in Cullman County has now been charged with murder, manslaughter, criminally negligent homicide, homicide by vehicle or vessel and leaving the scene of an accident. Brett Steven Amerson, 54, was initially charged with, felony DUI, failure to yield right of way, operating a motor vehicle at night without headlights and driving with a revoked or suspended license. All charges stem from the hit and run crash that claimed the life of Bradley Ray Patterson, 39, of Holly Pond.

The additional charges followed a special bond hearing held at the Cullman County Detention Center on Thursday, Dec. 20 in which Amerson was denied bond. Amerson will remain behind bars until his trial. Cullman County District Judge Rusty Turner presided over the bond hearing.

Amerson was allegedly intoxicated at the time of the Dec. 18 crash and court records show he has an extensive criminal history dating back to at least 1986, including multiple DUI charges, among them felony DUIs, an attempted murder charge and a charge for discharging a weapon into an occupied dwelling.

The Cullman County District Attorney's Office filed a motion on Wednesday, Dec. 19 asking Judge Turner to hold Amerson without bond for the following reasons:

- Court records reveal "an extensive criminal history dating back to the 1980s," including 11 prior DUI arrests in other counties.
- Amerson has two prior felony DUI convictions.
- Amerson is currently on probation after pleading guilty to shooting into an occupied building in Jefferson County in 2016. When he made the plea deal, the County dismissed a related charge of the attempted murder of Jefferson County resident Sidney Stephen Blackburn. The court sentenced Amerson to 15 years in prison, but suspended the sentence and placed him on 36 months probation instead.
- Amerson fled the Dec.18 Cullman County accident scene and was found 21 miles away was presented as evidence that he is a flight risk.
- Amerson has exhibited suicidal ideation since his arrest.
- Amerson blew a 0.269 on the portable breathalyzer when he was picked up, more than three times the legal limit.
- According to the motion, "Defendant has been, or is, expected to be charged with a number of felonies stemming from the traffic fatality he caused on December 18, 2018."

AlaCourt records also show that warrants have been issued for Amerson in other cases when he failed to show up for court dates.

The Cullman County District Attorney's Office presented Amerson as a flight risk who is a threat to himself and others. Assistant DA Jeremy Cline wrote in the motion, "Pretrial detention is the only option to prevent the Defendant from driving intoxicated and taking another innocent life," and, to the degree it needed to, the court agreed.

Two other alleged drunk drivers who were involved in fatal accidents in Cullman County in the last two years have been charged with reckless murder. (See www.cullmantribune.com/articles/2017/10/30/ohio-man-indicted-reckless-murder-deaths-cold-springs-student-rhianna-busbee-and and www.cullmantribune.com/articles/2017/10/10/brad-meeks-indicted-reckless-murder-wreck-killed-chs-student-curtis-wilson).

The Dec. 18, 2018 fatal hit and run in Cullman County

According to Cullman Police Lt. Jeff Warnke, Patterson, driving a newer model Harley Davidson motorcycle, was traveling southbound on Hwy. 157 at approximately 5 p.m. when he was struck by a white 1998 GMC box truck that failed to yield the right of way when turning left onto Interstate 65 South. The driver of the truck, identified as Amerson, did not stop, instead continuing onto the interstate, prompting the Cullman Police Department to issue an alert to area law enforcement agencies in an effort to locate the vehicle.

Shortly before 7:30, Amerson was located, 21 miles away from the scene off I-65 Exit 291. Sgt. Cindy Rohrscheib said the truck was found at a truck stop off of Alabama Highway 91.

"Mr. Amerson was found due to the diligent hard work of Lt. Daniel Cummings of the Cullman County Sheriff's Office," said Warnke. "He made a traffic stop and was able to apprehend Mr. Amerson, 21 miles away."

"The sheriff's department did great work in being able to locate and stop him," said Cullman Police Chief Kenny Culpepper.

Warnke said, "This is a felony hit and run. The case will be taken to the district attorney and then grand jury."

Warnke said Amerson's blood alcohol content (BAC) was "somewhere in the neighborhood of .26" on a partial breathalyzer done when he was found.

"He refused the test at the jail," said Warnke, "the breath-testing device housed there at the jail that we can use at court. The portable ones (like the one done when he was found) we can't. But we did do a forensic blood and urine kit on him that will be sent to the state and will be used as evidence at the trial."

As to why Amerson fled the scene, Warnke said, "He said he did it because he was drunk. He was highly intoxicated. He told us he fled because he knew he was intoxicated. He seemed somewhat remorseful."

Arrests reported on Dec. 20-21

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – Below are the arrests reported on Dec. 20-21, 2018. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

REPORTED ON THURSDAY, DEC. 20
CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Monday, Dec. 17

Edwards, Tammy Sue, 47
- third-degree domestic violence- third-degree criminal mischief
- violating a protection order

Hanners, Bobby Leon, 29
- carrying a pistol without a license
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Lang, Adam Wesley, 37
- writ of arrest- child support

Monroe, Jason Terry, 40
- FTA- driving while revoked

Upton, Joseph Scott, 50
- FTA- driving while revoked
- FTA- illegal possession of alcohol
- FTA- liability insurance required
- FTA- window tint

White, Destiny Faith, 27
- third-degree domestic violence- harassment

Tuesday, Dec. 18

Abbott, Austin Kyle, 23
- probation violation- third-degree burglary
- FTA- leaving the scene- misdemeanor

Amerson, Brett Steven, 54
- DUI-.08 BAC or greater
- driving while revoked
- headlights required at night

Baker, Jessica Ann, 25
- fourth-degree theft of property

Bukszar, Frank Joseph, 29
- probation revoked- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Elliott, Darrin Mitchell, 52
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Farley, David Shannon, 63
- FTA- driving while revoked
- parole violation/revocation/probation violation- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Hill, Matthew Lee, 34
- second-degree bail jumping- obstruction- using a false ID
- second-degree bail jumping- possession of drug paraphernalia
- second-degree bail jumping- unlawful possession of a controlled substance
- second-degree bail jumping- unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle

McCormick, Kenny Lynn Jr., 26
- FTA- resisting arrest

Thursby, Jessica Leigh, 29
- fourth-degree theft of property

Weeks, Chase Leanne, 23
- judge's order- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Wednesday, Dec. 19

Barbee, Clifford Allen, 36
- third-degree receiving stolen property
- third-degree theft of property (2 counts)

Beasley, Tony Allan, 46
- FTA- open container in vehicle
- FTA- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

Creamer, John Larry, 41
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Encardes, Jeremy Justin, 36
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Goodlett, Christel Lane, 44
- FTA- expired tag

Green, David Wayne, 29
- GJ- first-degree theft of property

Mack, Anthony Dewayne, 39
- first-degree criminal trespassing
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- illegal possession of prescription medicine
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Miles, Kimberly Wilks, 46
- FTA- driving while suspended

Mosley, Wendell Wayne, 66
- permitting livestock to run at large

Payne, Jason Wayne, 41
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Tidwell, Kimberly Ann, 43
- second-degree promoting prison contraband

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
Wednesday, Dec. 19

Alexander, Deangelina Y., 25
- GJ- chemical endangerment of a child

Wagner, Steven M., 26
- unlawful possession or receipt of a controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- failure to register vehicle

Overton, Brandon G., 28
- third-degree criminal trespassing

Speakman, Tyler L., 24
- first-degree theft of property

Shikle, William C., 31
- first-degree theft of property
- possession of drug paraphernalia

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT
No arrests reported.

REPORTED ON FRIDAY, DEC. 21
CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
No arrests reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
Thursday, Dec. 20

Amerson, Brett S., 54
- murder
- manslaughter
- criminally negligent homicide
- homicide by vehicle or vessel
- leaving the scene of an accident
- DUI
- failure to yield
- driving while revoked

Morgan, Zackery T., 23
- FTA- fourth-degree theft by deception

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT
No arrests reported.

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

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IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
THOMAS ALLEN ALLRED) CASE NO PC 2016-259
Deceased.)

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: ANGELA MARIE FRASIER, AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

The Petition of Evelyn Allred to admit to probate the Last Will and Testament of Thomas Allen Allred, deceased, has been set for hearing on the 4th day of April, 2019, at 10:00 a.m.

All persons in interest residing or being without the state are hereby given notice to appear and contest said petition if they think proper.

Done this the 21st day of December, 2018.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

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

Lana K. Hawkins
The Hawkins Law Firm
400 Gunter Avenue
PO Box 899
Guntersville, AL 35976
(256)571-2829

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD2018-111

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF DUSTIN LEWAYNE GREATHOUSE and KENDALL MICHELL GREATHOUSE TO ADOPT Z.A.F., a minor child.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: JAMES ALLEN FORD

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of Z.A.F., a minor child (born March 25, 2015, to Jessica Danielle Whitehead Ford), was filed on the 6th day of December, 2018, in the Probate Court of Cullman County by Petitioners Dustin Lewayne Greathouse and Kendall Michell Greathouse. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with counsel for said Petitioner, whose name and address are as shown below, and with the Clerk of the said Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

DONE this 13th day of December, 2018.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

To: *CULLMAN TRIBUNE*

PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR SUCCESSIVE WEEKS.

Sherry H. Barrett
SMITH & SMITH, LLP
Attorneys for Petitioners
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
256-734-4721 (telephone)

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AL unemployment at 4%; Cullman County 2nd lowest in state at 2.9%

Tara Hutchison
Contributor

MONTGOMERY – Employment and job counts have once again reached record levels. In November 2018, 2,128,082 people were counted as employed, an increase of 46,330 from November 2017. Wage and salary employment, which measures the number of jobs our economy is supporting, grew to 2,069,800, representing a yearly increase of 35,400 jobs.

"Business is booming in Alabama," said Alabama Department of Labor Secretary Fitzgerald Washington.

"We are continuing to shatter employment records month after month. Jobs are growing at a record 1.7 percent yearly growth rate. It's a great time to be doing business in Alabama."

Wage and salary employment grew by 1.7 percent from November 2017 to November 2018, tying with October 2018 and July 2015 for the largest over-the-year percentage growth in history. Over the year, wage and salary employment increased 35,400, with gains in the professional and business services sector (+11,900), the manufacturing sector (+10,200), and the education and health services sector (+3,200), among others.

Wage and salary employment increased in November by 6,400. Monthly gains were seen in the trade, transportation, and utilities sector (+6,000), the education and health services sector (+1,700), and the government sector (+1,200), among others.

Alabama's preliminary, seasonally adjusted unemployment rate is 4.0, down from October's rate of 4.1 percent, and above November 2017's rate of 3.8 percent. November's rate represents 87,757 unemployed persons, compared to 89,745 in October and 81,970 in November 2017.

"Average weekly earnings continue to increase, with workers seeing an additional $34.76 per week in their paychecks," continued Washington.

"Those working in the manufacturing sector also saw an increase in their earnings, with manufacturing weekly earnings at their highest level in history."

Total private average weekly earnings increased to $838.89, up from $804.13 in November 2017, representing a $34.76 increase.

This represents the second highest level in history, surpassed only by September 2018's average weekly wages of $849.89.

Manufacturing earnings rose to their highest level in history, to $1062.18 per week. Counties with the lowest unemployment rates are: Shelby County at 2.5 percent, Marshall, Madison, and Cullman Counties at 2.9 percent, and Morgan, Limestone, and Elmore Counties at 3.0 percent.

Counties with the highest unemployment rates are: Wilcox County at 7.9 percent, Clarke County at 6.4 percent, and Dallas and Lowndes Counties at 5.8 percent.

Major cities with the lowest unemployment rates are: Homewood and Vestavia Hills at 2.3 percent, Alabaster at 2.4 percent, and Northport, Madison, and Hoover at 2.5 percent.

Major cities with the highest unemployment rates are: Selma at 6.5 percent, Prichard at 6.1 percent, and Anniston at 4.7 percent.

ALDOT limits road construction and lane closures during holidays

ALDOT
Contributor

MONTGOMERY – Drivers planning to be on Alabama roads during the Christmas and New Year holidays should expect increased traffic and allow extra time to reach their destinations. For the safety of travelers, construction workers and maintenance crews, the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) announced there will be no temporary lane closures on Alabama interstates from noon, Friday, Dec. 21, through midnight, Tuesday, Dec. 25, and from noon, Friday, Dec. 28, through midnight, Tuesday, Jan. 1.

"To keep traffic flowing, it's important that drivers do their part and plan to celebrate safely," said Allison Green, Drive Safe Alabama coordinator with ALDOT. "Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs can wreck your holiday and have serious consequences that continue long past the new year."

ALDOT encourages drivers to remember two key ways to arrive safely:

- Always designate a sober driver.
- Wear a seat belt.

Safety check

People are almost seven times more likely to die in a crash when the driver who causes the crash is under the influence of alcohol or drugs, as shown in the Alabama 2017 Crash Facts publication (http://drivesafealabama.org/uploads/files/ALDOT-2017-CrashFactsBook.pdf)

Surviving a crash is more likely when wearing a seat belt. The latest statistics from Drive Safe Alabama (DriveSafeAlabama.org) show that almost 60 percent of people killed on Alabama highways were not wearing seat belts.

Traffic and road conditions

Motorists can access real-time road work, traffic and weather conditions through www.algotraffic.com or by downloading the ALGO Traffic app in the Apple App Store and on Google Play. ALDOT asks motorist to use ALGO Traffic responsibly. Drivers should never text, tweet or use a mobile device while driving a vehicle.

CCSO Litter Crew picks up more than 51K pounds of trash in 2018

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – Since the beginning of 2018, the Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) Litter Crew has collected 51,527 pounds of trash from 185 miles of Cullman County roadways, according to a media release from the department.

Also collected were 2,389 pounds of aluminum cans, which the CCSO said was recycled for $1,329.04.

That money was donated to Cullman Caring for Kids.

On Nov. 7, at the Alabama People Against a Littered State (PALS) Governor's Awards program, the CCSO and Sheriff Matt Gentry won the Governor's Award for Law Enforcement for its dedication to picking up litter on Cullman County roads.

"The litter crew has done a great job helping clean up our roads.

"They find everything from tires, nails, to paper sacks.

"Deputy Ron Wood takes great pride in working with citizens to make sure the roads are cleaned but also to hold the non-violent inmates who are working the litter crew detail accountable as well."

Cullman County residents who would like to report a road that needs to be cleaned can email trash@cullmansherriff.org.

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD 2018-110

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF AUSTIN BRETT SMITH and TAYLOR ROWELL SMITH TO ADOPT I.K.M.A.F.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: JAMES ALLEN FORD

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of I.K.M.A.F., a minor child (born April 29, 2013, to Jessica Danielle Whitehead Ford), was filed on the 10th day of December, 2018, in the Probate Court of Cullman County by Petitioners Austin Brett Smith and Taylor Rowell Smith. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with counsel for said Petitioner, whose name and address are as shown below, and with the Clerk of the said Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

DONE this 13th day of December, 2018.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

To: *CULLMAN TRIBUNE*

PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR SUCCESSIVE WEEKS.

Sherry H. Barrett
SMITH & SMITH, LLP
Attorneys for Petitioners
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
256-734-4721 (telephone)

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the terms of that mortgage executed on January 30, 2008 by Sylvia a. Lackey, a widowed woman, to EvaBank, which said mortgage is recorded in Book MTG 1553, Page 139 in the Probate Office of Cullman County, Alabama, and default continuing, and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the following described property will be sold at public outcry, for cash, to the highest bidder, in front of the Courthouse door of said County, in Cullman, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale on January 7, 2019:

Beginning at the Northeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence West a distance of 400 feet to the point of beginning; thence South 610 feet to the center line of a creek; thence West 145 feet; thence North 610 feet; thence East 145 feet to the point of beginning. The above described property situated, lying and being in the Northeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter, Section 22 Township 9, Range 2 West.

Source of Title/Description: Deed Book 346, Page 935.

Robert N. Lackey and wife, Sylvia A. Lackey received title, for and during their joint lives and upon the death of either of them, then to the survivor of them, in that deed recorded April 28, 1979 in Book 346 Page 935. Robert N. Lackey died on or about June 9, 2007.

The following manufactured home to be auctioned separately and together with the real estate: 1999 Freestate, VIN# FS101405MS.

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

EvaBank, Mortgagee
Dewayne N. Morris
Attorney for Mortgagee
2131 Third Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
The Cullman Tribune-December 15, 22, 29, 2018

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
* CASE NO. PC 2018-425
JAMES DAVID SEYMORE, DECEASED *

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary of said decedent having been granted to the undersigned on the 20th day of December, 2018, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

All claims must be filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County.

Sarah Claire Seymore
SARAH CLAIRE SEYMORE
Personal Representative

BLAND, HARRIS & McCLELLAN, P.C.
Nancy F. McClellan
Attorney for Personal Representative
401 Second Avenue, SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055
(256) 734-4040

TO: Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

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

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
Probate Judge
Cullman County, Alabama

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF * IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
JOHNNY LEE HOWARD, * CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
deceased. * CASE NO. PC2018-427

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Ola M. Howard, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Johnny Lee Howard, deceased, on the 20th day of December, 2018, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

DONE this the 20th day of December, 2018.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, PROBATE JUDGE

TO: Publisher
The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for 3 consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Attorney for Personal Representative:
Michael J. Baggett
Baggett & Wilson, LLC
206 Ninth Street Southwest
Cullman, AL 35055
256/737-0740

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the terms of that mortgage executed on December 27, 2005 by Christopher Jackson Coots and Pamela K. Coots, to EvaBank, which said mortgage is recorded in Book MTG 1457, Page 104 in the Probate Office of Cullman County, Alabama, and default continuing, and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the following described property will be sold at public outcry, for cash, to the highest bidder, in front of the Courthouse door of said County, in Cullman, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale on January 7, 2019:

A part of the Northeast quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 33 T10S R3W, more particularly described as follows: Commencing at a found Railroad Spike located. North 89 degrees 28 minutes 01 seconds East, 1,331.74 feet from the Northwest corner of said Section, said spike being the accepted Northwest corner of the above described forty: thence North 89 degrees 28 minutes 01 second East along the accepted North line of said forty a distance of 104.13 feet to a set Railroad Spike and the true point of beginning of the property herein described: thence from said true point of beginning continue North 89 degrees 28 minutes 01 seconds East a distance of 146.85 feet to a set Railroad Spike; thence South 00 degrees 29 minutes 09 seconds East a distance of 82.72 feet to a set 5/8 inch rebar iron; thence South 03 degrees 34 minutes 18 seconds West a distance of 39.94 feet to a set 5/8 inch rebar iron; thence South 67 degrees 52 minutes 54 seconds West a distance of 40.06 feet to a set 5/8 Inch rebar iron; thence South 14 degrees 26 minutes 44 seconds West a distance of 48.13 feet to a set 5/8 Inch rebar Iron; thence South 02 degrees 43 minutes 22 seconds East a distance of 26.07 feet to a set 5/8 inch rebar iron; thence South 89 degrees 28 minutes 01 seconds West a distance of 102.69 feet to a set 5/8 inch rebar iron; thence North 07 degrees 35 minutes 12 seconds East a distance of 27.82 feet to a set 5/8 Inch rebar iron; thence North 06 degrees 59 minutes 35 seconds West a distance of 34.02 feet to a set 5/8 inch rebar iron; thence North 00 degrees 17 minutes 19 seconds West a distance of 55.66 feet to a set 5/8 inch rebar Iron; thence North 03 degrees 58 minutes 46 seconds East a distance of 93.12 feet to the true point of beginning and containing 0.65 acres more or less.

Said property subject to a right of way for Mize Road along the North side and all other right of ways and/or easements of record.

Description according to survey of H. D. Harris Ala Rag. No. 5742 dated September 21, 2005.

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

Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as part of the foreclosure process.

EvaBank, Mortgagee
Dewayne N. Morris
Attorney for Mortgagee
2131 Third Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
The Cullman Tribune-December 15, 2, 29, 2018

Baileyton seniors celebrate the season

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

BAILEYTON – Baileyton seniors were treated to a fun Christmas party Thursday thanks to Walker Brothers, Ltd. The town's senior center was full of folks enjoying live music, games and a delicious Christmas dinner.

Mayor Johnny Dyar welcomed everyone and even had some special guests join in on the festivities. Arab Mayor Bob Joslin, Sen. Garlan Gudger, R-Cullman, Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry, Cullman County Commissioner Kerry Watson and several deputies from the Cullman County Sheriff's Office joined the Baileyton seniors for lunch.

The traditional Christmas dinner was provided by Walker Bros and each senior brought a dessert which led to very difficult decisions. The crowd of approximately 75 enjoyed live country Christmas favorites while laughing and fellowshipping with neighbors. Plates were delivered to at least a dozen seniors who were either sick or homebound.

Dyar said he is proud of the holiday spirit shown this year in Baileyton, sharing, "We have been so blessed. We have great people here. We are already making plans on some new ideas for next year. We have had a fun time this year which has led to several people saying they want to pitch in for next year. My wife Pat has worked especially hard. She takes care of everything."

Bobby Martin, Booty Hyatt, Tom Goen, Burt Gilley and Gene Sumner gathered around a table to play Rook while a group of women played a game of Skip-Bo. Others danced and enjoyed the music.

Everyone congratulated Baileyton maintenance supervisor Bobby Walker, who welcomed his new granddaughter Summer Renae Horton on Wednesday evening.

Walker beamed, "I am one proud grandpa! She is perfect."

Baileyton resident Linda Cullen will be hosting an open house breakfast at her home Christmas Day from 7 a.m.-noon. Friends old and new are invited. The breakfast is a family tradition started to make sure people didn't spend the holiday alone. C

Shared Cullen, "Last year we had about 45 people stop by. Everyone took home a tin full of cookies."

Kims Parkside Catfish Restaurant in Baileyton will be serving Christmas Eve Dinner from 5-8 p.m. The event is for people in need or just for fellowship. In lieu of money, they ask those who can bring canned or non-perishable food items to donate to the Parkside Outreach Program.

Wish (from Front)

water on him and he had his oxygen equipment on him."

Eli smiled, "This year he was actually standing on the sidelines!"

Eli plays quarterback and defensive back for the Bearcats youth team and Tanner plays quarterback and receiver for Cullman Middle School.

Both are good students with Tanner recently being inducted into the Beta Club.

Doug said proudly, "They are good boys. Not just because they are mine. They are great kids."

This was evident in Tanner's admission when asked who the better athlete was.

Tanner said, "When I was Eli's age, I mean, he is better than me when I was that age."

"The thing that upsets Doug the most is he can't go out in the yard and throw the football with the boys," Karen said.

"There are limitations Doug faces with having only one lung. He is easily winded, and the cold temperatures makes breathing more difficult due to less oxygen in the air. Things like vacations have also been difficult due to Doug's health and medical expenses."

Doug has a positive attitude, saying, "There's things you can't do. I mean, and this is the selfish human in me because I'm alive and I ought to be thankful enough for that but again, it's also a burden that I can't get up and shoot basketball, or throw the basketball or the football, or walk to the deer stand rather than being driven up to it and dropped off.

"All the things people take for granted until you lose it. All I asked for when I was told I had cancer was God please let me live long enough to see these boys become fine young men before you take me out."

He smiled, "So far, we are heading in that direction. The other stuff, how selfish we can get as humans because I overlooked my real treasures for stuff that really didn't matter."

When Eli's letter to Santa was printed in The Tribune, the Gaineses didn't know about it and neither are on Facebook. Friends began sharing it, and a week later, Karen finally saw it and said she "cried like a baby."

Tanner said, "I haven't read it yet. I just feel bad because dad can't do the stuff with Eli that he used to do with me."

Said Eli, "I knew it would be in the paper. I asked my dad, did you cry when you read the letter? He said, 'Yeah.' I said, 'I didn't know you cried!' My dad said, 'I didn't. Tears just came up in my eyes.'"

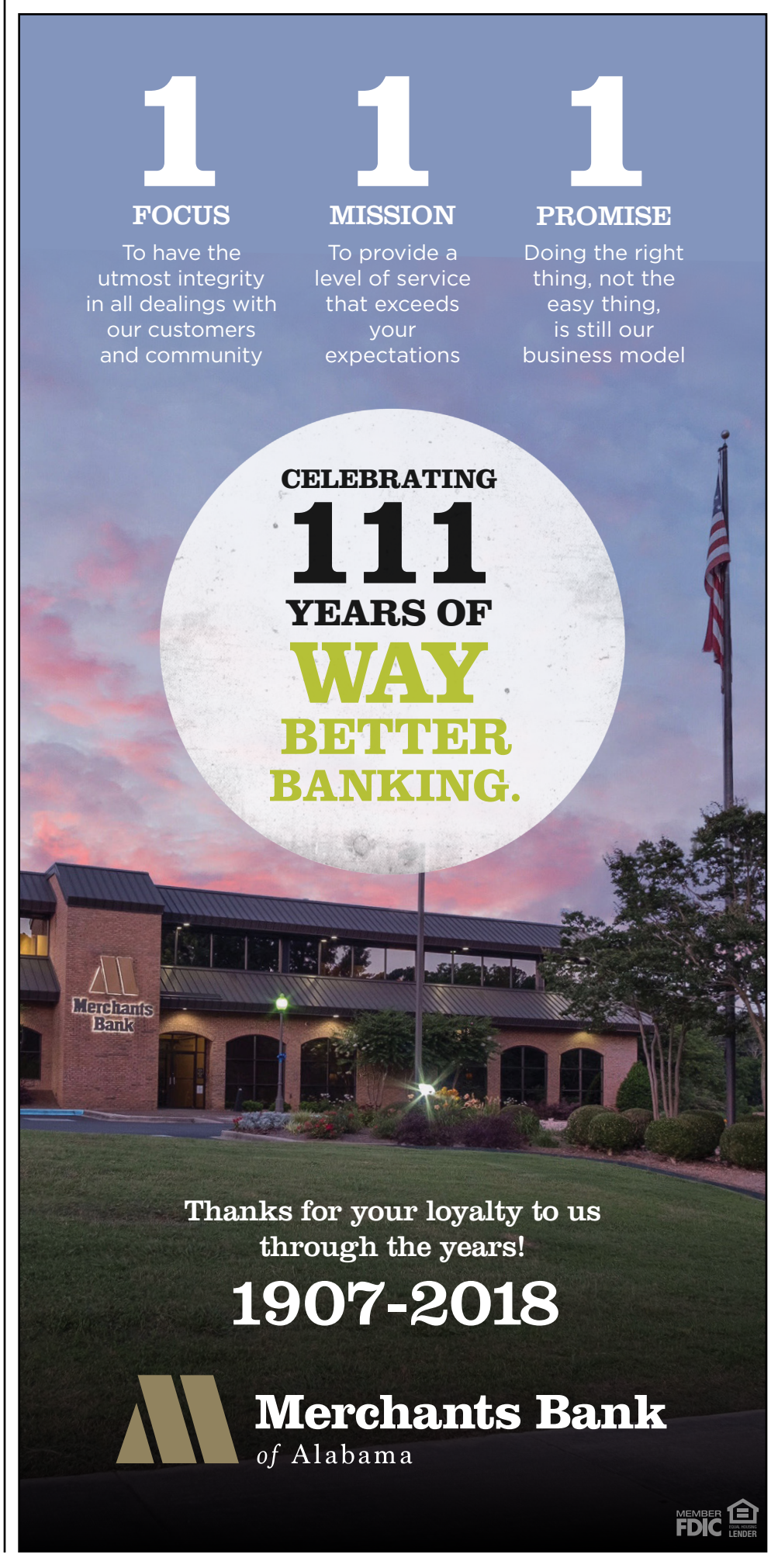


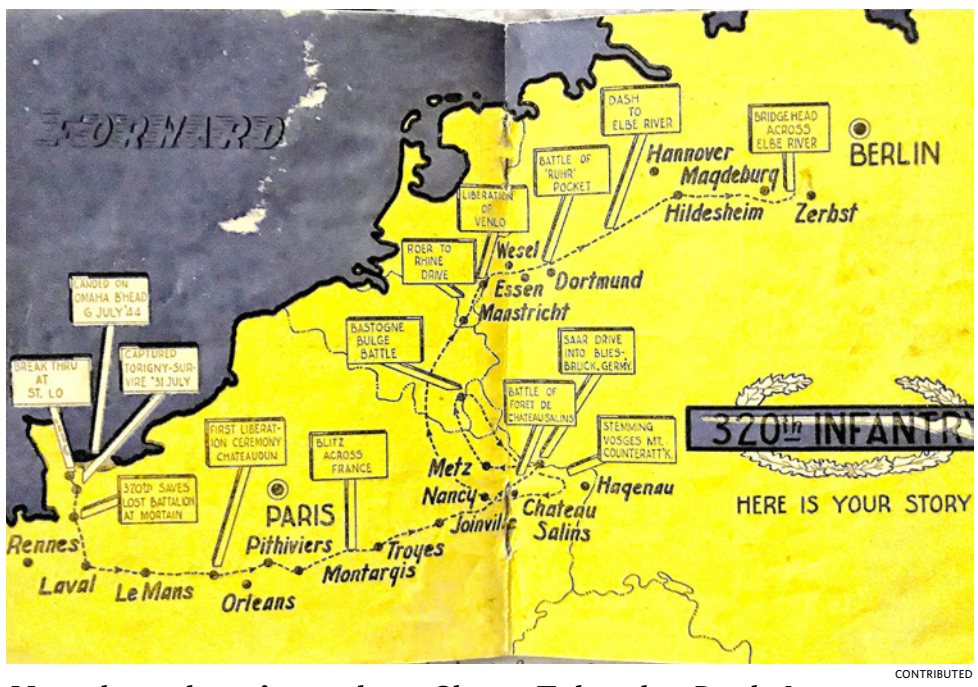












CONTRIBUTED

Map shows locations where Cloyce Talmadge Drake's company went while in Europe in World War II

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Meet Cloyce Talmadge Drake (part 2)

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

Read part one at https://bit.ly/2LqcHl8 or in the Saturday, Dec. 15 print issue of The Cullman Tribune.

Company I, 320th Infantry, 35th Infantry Division landed on Omaha Beach in Normandy France on July 6, 1944. They would travel just a few miles to Saint-Lo, France where Company I would fight in what many refer to as the Battle of the Hedgerows. Cloyce Talmadge Drake recalls his first battle as "the worst battle I was ever in."

Drake was a .30 caliber machine gunner and he recalled his experience at Saint-Lo:

"We attacked one morning about daylight. We went into these wheat fields. It was in the hedgerows of Saint-Lo.

"We got pinned down in a wheat field. The wheat was at least 3 feet high and we just laid down in there where they were shooting over us.

"German machine guns were shooting at us. We stayed there shooting back at them Germans until General Eisenhower sent a man to hunt us to see if we were still alive up there.

"They had had an order to withdraw and they had withdrawn about a mile or 2 miles up the road. The general caught them withdrawing and brought them back up there.

"There were three generals there: General (Omar) Bradley, General (Courtney) Hodges and General (Dwight) Eisenhower. They sent a private boy, a young fellow named Lance.

"He came up there to find where we was at crawling through this wheat field. When we came out of those hedgerows, the general was standing there."

Another member of Company I who was with Drake at Saint-Lo wrote in an article titled "The Constant Fear" where he recounts their first two days of the battle.

William E. Larkin, who was just 19 at the time of the battle, wrote, "The first night in the hedgerows of France, near Saint-Lo, our company was shelled by Germans and a man was lost by bleeding to death.

"The medics could not see to stop the bleeding. No lights of any kind could be allowed.

"This was my first encounter with the war and death on the front lines.

"The second night after moving through several fields fighting for every field of the hedgerows, everybody was exhausted.

"During the night, the Germans dropped a 2,000-pound bomb on the same field where we were dug in.

"Most slept through the vibration and noise of the bomb hitting the ground. It buried itself nearly out of sight. Only the fins were visible.

"It was a dud and failed to explode. If it had exploded, the whole company would have been wiped out."

Drake's actions at Saint-Lo earned him a Bronze Star for heroism. He and six of his fellow soldiers, who refused to withdraw when their platoon was forced back, withstood several counter attacks by the Germans.

Despite being outnumbered, they were able to hold the enemy, while inflicting heavy losses. Meanwhile, their platoon reorganized and carried out an attack eventually leading to a victory for the Allies.

It is estimated that the 35th Infantry suffered more than 2,400 casualties and losses at Saint-Lo.

Drake said, "There was so much artillery shot in there until all the leaves on those green trees were shot off. It looked like a storm had hit it."

Drake's company fought in numerous battles and skirmishes as they made their way, by foot, from Omaha Beach to the city limits of Berlin.

While he does not recall where some incidents happened, Drake can still recall situations quite vividly.

He described one experience that is remarkably similar to a scene in the movie "Fury" starring Brad Pitt. The movie is listed as fiction, but for Drake, it was very real.

He recalled, "There were bushes and a fence row in the woods. I had a machine gun set up there. About 500 to 1,000 feet there was the woods and we were in the field.

"I walked around and had my gun set up there and had the first gunner on it. They sat there, and I would walk around. I got out every day.

"I'd get up and walk all around in that field there and around in front of that gun and look over in those woods.

"The Germans were up there in it. But you know, they never did shoot at me. They could have taken that fast machine gun they had and made just one little burp and killed me dead!

"That's all they would have had to done. You know, they never did shoot at me. So, I don't know how but I guess they was looking from the air to have seen them and known where they was at.



CONTRIBUTED

Cloyce Talmadge Drake in Belgium

"They (the U.S.) sent about two or three tanks up there- those tanks come right up in front of my gun.

"They went down there and they, about three of them, turned all their machine guns on them Germans- spraying those woods with tracer bullets. About 15 German soldiers came out of there- one wounded. He was crawling.

"They had white rags. See, over there, if you gave up, you have a white rag in your hand. The tank outfit took all those with white flags prisoner.

"When they came out with white rags, they quit shooting. All the ones who could walk surrendered to the guys in the tanks."

There are many tough decisions made in war and what happened next, Drake said softly, "I always thought that was something that he ought not have done."

Drake laughed as he told of his birthday during his time in Europe. Dec. 10, 1944 was his 20th birthday and he remembers it well.

"I was on a mountain. It was clear in front of us. We were on a smaller mountain in front of a larger mountain with a holler separating the two.

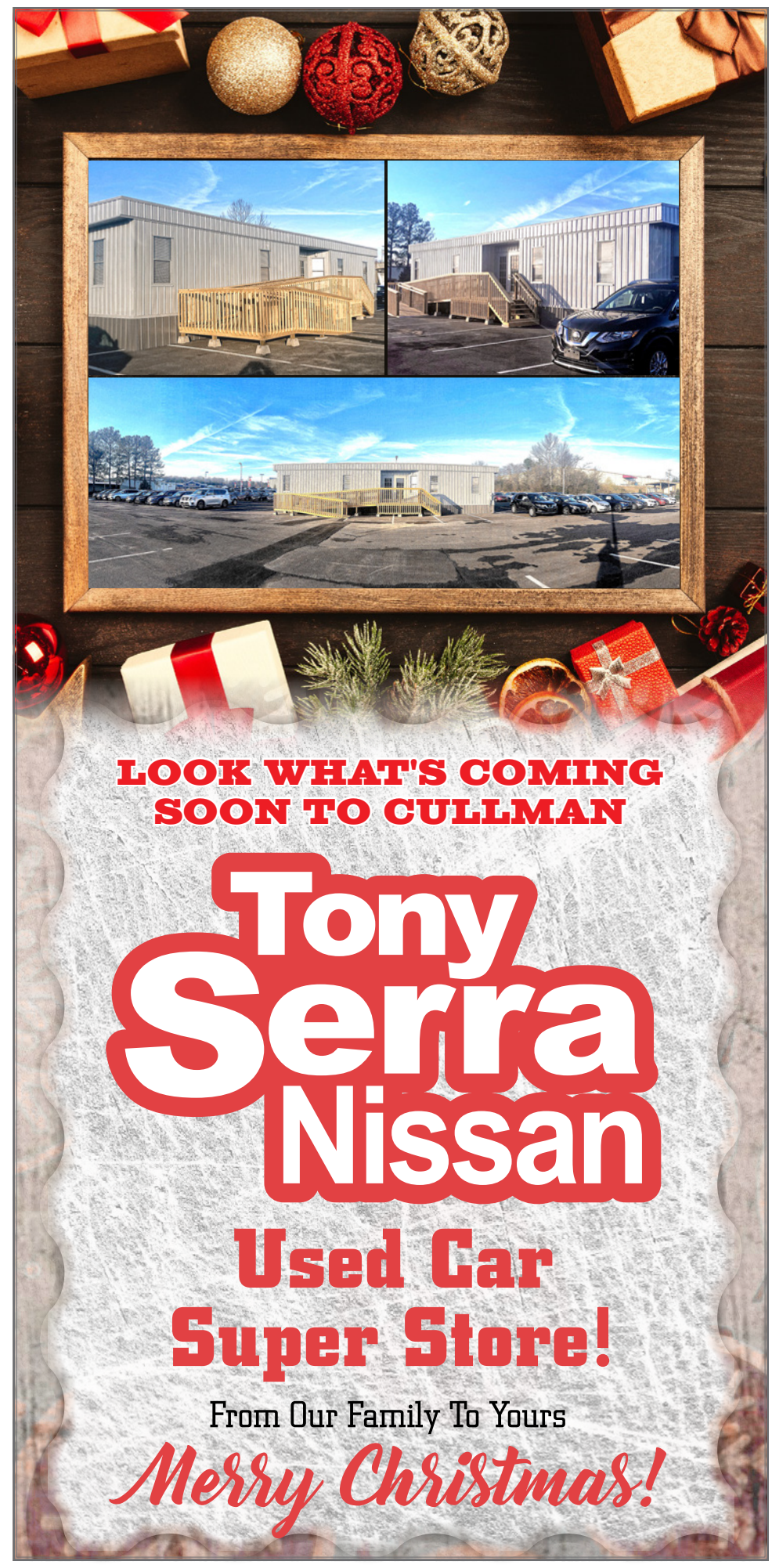
"A German tank was several hundred yards away. He was firing that tank hitting the mountain behind us. Those bullets was coming by us making a racket, but they'd hit on the other mountain over there, wasn't hitting close to us at all," Drake said while laughing.

He continued, "He fired that tank on my birthday. He fired that thing all day long! It rained a lot and I was having to take my canteen. I had a ditch dug around my foxhole.

"I'd take that canteen and toss out the water. I kept the water out to keep my feet from getting wet. Every time I'd throw out some water, he'd fire!"

Soon after his birthday, Drake would experience Christmas, prayers from General George S. Patton and the Battle of the Bulge.

To be continued.....





Last-minute gift ideas from 2018's Tribune Tastemakers

Ben Johnson South
Tribune Contributor

In his creative weekly series, "10 Things from a Tribune Tastemaker," local author, artist and all-around entertaining and eccentric (not to mention classy!) Southern gentleman Ben Johnson South introduced Cullman Tribune readers to some creative thinkers and doers in the Cullman community.

This week, just in time for Christmas, we hear from those Tastemakers again.

"Goodgawdamighty, It's Christmas Again?" is the title of one of the songs I co-wrote for a musical being produced in 2019, but it's also that frantic question many of us have with just three days until the annual giftapalooza. So, I reached into The Tribune archives and found gift ideas from the 12 2018 Tribune TASTEMAKERS

1. JOCK LEONARD, Cullman starchitect, reminded us a Frank Lloyd Wright work, The Rosenbaum House, in nearby Florence, is an inspiring half-day trip for every would-be builder; the price is just $10 for adults and $5 for seniors and students. www.wrightinalabama.com

2. CHRISTINE NISHIMURA, the head bartender at 412 Public House and unofficial ambassadress of Cullman, is on her feet all day, running back and forth being mixologist and den mother to the lively crowd at her popular watering hole; someone should give her a gift certificate for a mani-pedi at Salon Luxe.

3. JENNA NELSON CULPEPPER, hair/beauty expert at Salon Luxe, truly deserves the original, refreshing-yet-calming Bunny Melon Cocktail created by her fellow Tastemaker, Christine Nishimura, at 412 Public House; Christine generously shared her Bunny Melon Cocktail recipe with Tribune readers and I'm here to testify it's great at home, but it's really better when Christine adds her holiday magic; call ahead for a seat at the bar.

4. WILL JUSTICE DRAKE, future Alabama Poet Laureate and first year English faculty at St. Bernard Prep, has a new, week-old baby boy at home. How's that for the joy of Christmas? My gift suggestion for Will Justice is an egg timer, a set of earplugs and a book of poetry from Deb's Bookstore, 256-736-2622; for other bookish locals, consider a Members Club card at Books-A-Million, 256-734-7135.

5. CONCETTA LOVOY KREPS, Cullman's textile guru and top-notch home baker/hostess; Concetta's "go-to" local suggestion for gourmands is a handmade, "paper" basket by Joyce Hyde, 256-734-3153—near the Cullman Civic Center—filled with CULLMAN GROWN jams and jellies like those from Steele Orchard 256-734-5249.



CONTRIBUTED

2018 Tribune Tastemakers

6. JARROD SMITHERMAN, wood-turning artisan, suggests a writing pen handmade from Alabama wood; often Jarrod's exquisite creations are from fallen trees he has repurposed; for works from this skilled craftsman, email woodchuckturning-studio@gmail.com or call 256-620-1359.

7. MARIA RICHTER, "The Countess Of Cullman Colors," for Tribune readers, selected 10 colors inspired by iconic Cullman things like the Strawberry Festival, All-Steak orange rolls and Oktoberfest; for Christmas gifting Maria suggests Monks Bread made locally at St. Bernard Monastery and for sale in the Ave Maria Grotto gift shop, 256-734-4110.

8. ADRIAN SCOTT, Wallace State graphic arts head and fine artist—Adrian is one of the quickest thinkers and movers (former track star) in Alabama; my gift suggestion for him and every super-energized friend is a lovely pot of calming lavender from Sandy Waters at The Mustard Seed Nursery, 256-737-7333

9. CINDY PHILLIPS, the only yotter (certified yoga instructor and potter) around; her gift suggestions are a "go try it out" health and wellness gift certificate at Gentle Rain Yoga which you can arrange via Facebook/Gentle Rain Yoga; for a fun gift for art lovers, Cindy suggests a whimsical calendar or notecards by Cullman artist Laura Walker; check these out at Facebook/Laura Walker Art With A Soul.

10. LACI SCHUMAN, chief cook and bottle-washer/owner of Southern Eats - Meals to Go; Laci buys lots of locally farmed and produced goods for her original, delicious creations, but someone should give her a "Power Of Produce" gift certificate at the Festhalle just for her own energetic family; the Festhalle farmers are already busy getting ready for bumper crops for spring 2019—by the way, please join me soon at the new location of Southern Eats, Southern Eats Cafe at Mae's Food Hall, in the Warehouse District; soul-warming soups and fresh sandwiches made-from-scratch, perfect for a mid-winter uplift.



CONTRIBUTED

Santa Claus with Ben Johnson South

11. KATHRYN CALLAWAY JONES, professional home organizer/owner of Simplified Spaces, suggests supporting local artists who exhibit at the Bloomin' Festival; for those who want to organize their holiday clutter and make decluttering a New Year's resolution, the number for Simplified Spaces is 256-347-7717.

12. PAT SHARPTON, president Cullman County Master Gardeners- Do you know someone with a green thumb who likes to dig in the dirt? Pat encourages you to consider a gift certificate for the local Master Gardeners classes starting in late-January 2019; classes meet every Wednesday for 12 weeks and cost $150, which includes lunch; Early Bird registration before Dec. 31 is $125; call the Alabama Cooperative Extension office at 256-737-9386.

Read more about the Tribune Tastemakers at www.cullmantribune.com/keyword/tribune-tastemaker.

THANK YOU, 2018 TASTEMAKERS, and MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!!

Obituary Announcements: Dec. 22 - 24

Hanceville Funeral Home announces the passing of Helen Marie Barbee, 69 of Hanceville on Wednesday, December 19, 2018 at her residence. The daughter of the late John and Dorothy Bales Graves was a retired CNA who worked at Hanceville Nursing Home. She was also preceded in death by her husband Loyd "Tee" Barbee. She is survived by daughters; Pam (Tony) Hart and Carla (Barry) Gable. A sister, Tammy (Scotty) Hestla and a brother, Rick (Cathy) Graves. Also surviving are her grandchildren, Jake (Emily) Gable, Emily (Scotty) Gable, Makala Hart and Brennan Hart as well as 6 great grandchildren.

Funeral Service for Bobby Ray Collum, age 78, of Vinemont, will be at 2 p.m. on Saturday, December 22, 2018, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Pastor Heath Tinker officiating; interment in Bell Springs Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Collum passed away on Tuesday, December 18, 2018, at Grandview Medical Center. He was born August 5, 1940, to William George Collum and Mamie Ruth Collum Sherrill. He was preceded in death by parents; son, William Cortez Collum; sister, Diane Clark; and stepfather, Russell Sherrill. Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Mary Ann Wilhite Collum; daughters, Annette (Bo) Gingrich and Mona (Rod) Cook; grandchildren, Bobi Jo (Adam) Creel, Paige (Ben) Parish, Tyler (Leanne) Gingrich, Mallory (David) Martin, and Michael Vickers; six great-grandchildren; aunt, Christine F. Triner; and a host of other family and friends.

Lorena Jeanette Herbert, 88 of Cullman, passed away Monday, October 22, 2018, at Cullman Health and Rehab Center. She was born April 27, 1930 to parents, Clifford and Jeanette Forest Greenwood. She was preceded in death by her parents; a daughter, Catherine Treece; two sons, Bobby Herbert and Stephen Blankenship; siblings, Paul Greenwood, Bernice "Bunny" Lord, Clayton "Sonny" Greenwood, and Leo Greenwood. Survivors include a daughter, Linda Valcourt; two sons, Jimmy Herbert, Richard Tainter; 10 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild; siblings, Eugene Greenwood, Raymond Greenwood, Ellsworth "Butch" Greenwood, Alfred Greenwood, Theresa Hammond, Mary Greenwood; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is assisting with the arrangements. A memorial service will be held at Daystar Church in the Terrace Room on Saturday, December 22, 2018, from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m.

Harry Buford Lowry, 90 of Cullman, passed away on Wednesday, December 19, 2018 at Orchid View Nursing Home in Columbus, GA. Mr. Lowry was a prominent man in Cullman for most all of his life. He was a United States Army Veteran that served after WWll and was stationed in Germany. He and his brother; Gus, owned and operated the family business; Lowry Implement Company, until 1979. He was an active member of the Masonic in Trimble Lodge no. 739 for many years. He was very active in the Cullman Civitan Club. He served as a Cullman City Councilman for 14 years. He is preceded in death by his wife and mother of his children, Jo Ann Childers Lowry; parents: Harry Raymond and Grace Estelle Phillips Lowry; and brothers: Dalton Douglas Lowry and Clifford Aubrey (Wynema) Lowry. Buford is survived by his son, Stephen (Debra) Lowry; daughter, Luann Lowry (Wayne) Gentry; wife, Flora Louise Lowry; grandchildren: David (Audrey) Lowry, Chris (Carmen) Lowry, Kathryn Lowry (Victor) Grant, Ann Marie Gentry (Jeffery) Rollo and Wally (Emily) Gentry; great grandchildren: Kyle Grant, Eli Grant, Maggie Grant, Nora Lowry and Tripp Gentry; brother, Doyle Raphael "Gus" (Cora) Lowry; step-daughters: Annett (Byron) Whitton and Martha (Harlon) Green; and numerous step grandchildren and great grandchildren. His family will receive friends on Friday, December 21, 2018 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home. The Celebration of Life for Mr. Harry Buford Lowry will be held in the chapel of Moss Service Funeral Home on Saturday, December 22, 2018 at 10 a.m. with burial to follow at the Cullman City Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations made to CCCDD, Inc. the Margaret Jean Jones Center at 1807 Beech Avenue SE Cullman, AL 35055.

Kathern Delois Wilkerson Moore, 78, of Jasper, entered into rest on December 20, 2018 at Walker Baptist Medical Center. Kathern was born on April 29, 1940, in Parrish, Alabama. She was known as "Kat" to certain family and friends. Kathern will be greatly missed by her husband, children and grandchildren. Visitation will be held on Sunday, December 23, 2018 from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Double Springs, where services will be on Monday, December 24, 2018 held at 12pm. Burial will follow in Walker Memorial Cemetery. Kathern is survived by her husband of 62 years, Charles L. Moore, her son, Charles (Annette) Moore Jr.; daughters, Kathy Garrett, Rhonda (Jack) Moore, and Miranda (Tim) Tesseneer; sister, Faye Edwards; 7 grandchildren, April and Adam Garrett, Misty (Craig) Sullivan, Cody and Sheena Harrison, Colton and Shayla Tesseneer; and 3 great grandchildren, Raeleigh Harrison, and Nicholas and Kirsten Sullivan. She was preceded in death by her parents, Jasper and Dora Wilkerson; 3 brothers, 6 sisters, and her son in law Ray Garrett.

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.

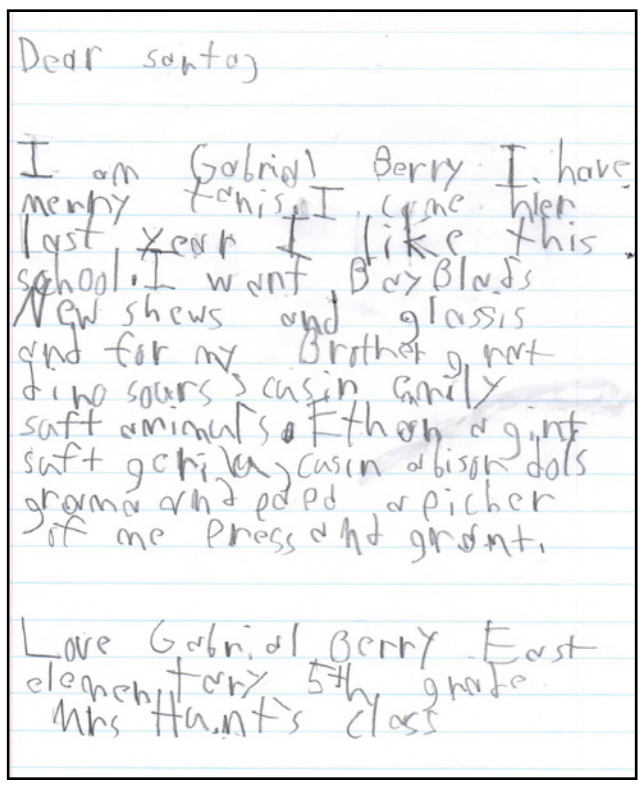
THE TOMBSTONE COMPANY

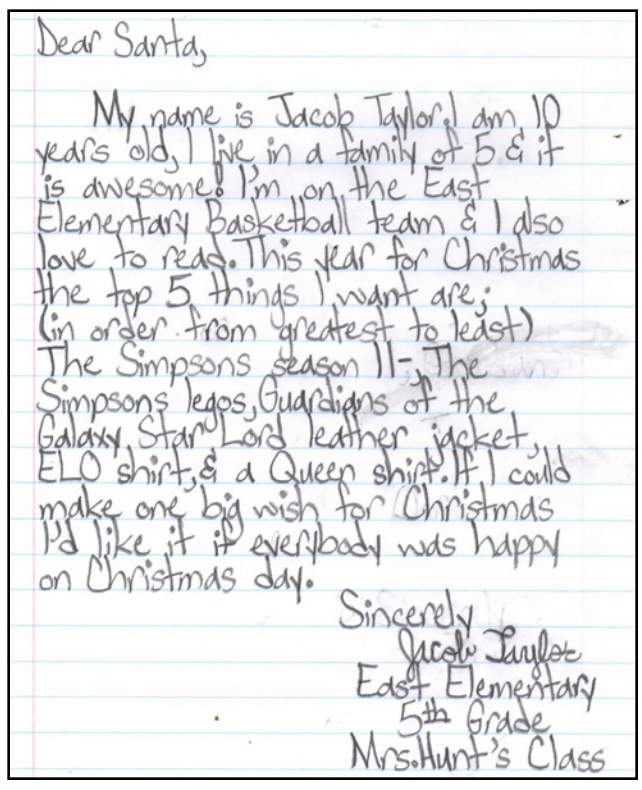
Custom Granite Headstones and Monuments
Date of Death Engraving in Cemeteries
Locally Made and Locally Owned
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We Use Only American Granite

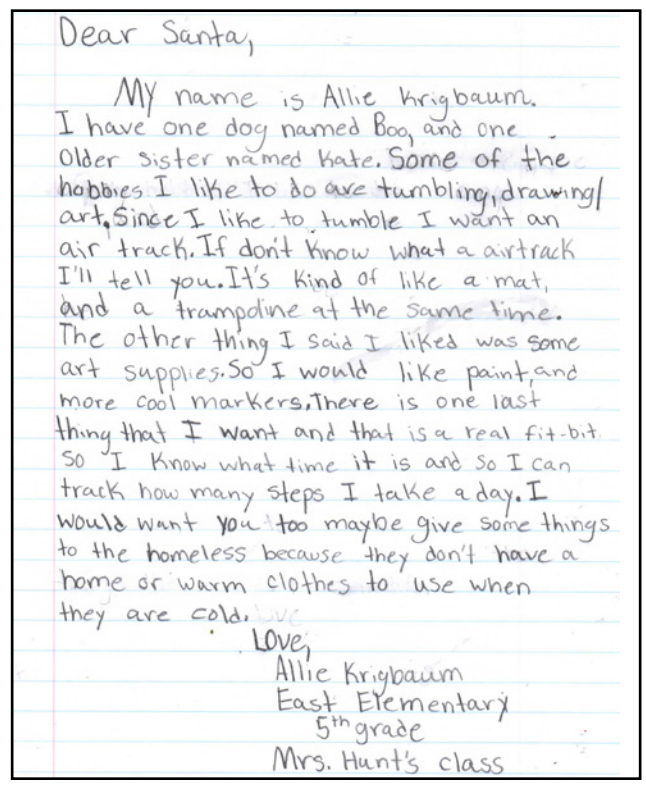
2117 US Hwy 278 West
Cullman, AL 35057
(2 miles West of I-65)
256-734-2005
Saturdays by Appointment
www.thetombstonecompany.com

Letters to Santa

Ms. Hunt's 5th grade class, East Elementary







Funny Things from Yesterday: The clothes we wear

Robert N. Tidwell, Sr.
Tribune Contributor



When we were growing up and were going to town or especially to school our mother would have nice clothes on us. When we arrived back home she would say, "Off with your good clothes and on with your play clothes."

She was talking about the ones that might have a hole in the knee or a tear in the seat. We took good care of our best clothes and that was a lifelong lesson to me. I have always tried to take good care of my clothes.

Today things are different. Women buy blue jeans that are already worn out. I was amazed at how much they pay for these worn out things.

I wish I had saved some of my old play jeans. I could make a pile of money selling them.

Our children were in their teens and had been looking at my high school annual.

They had seen a picture of me. At this time our family had a house on Smith Lake.

We had some of our older clothes there for our casual living. Our daughter, Robin, saw a shirt in our closet and said, "DADDY!! You had this shirt in high school." This was a perfectly good shirt, no holes, no tears and no worn spots. As I said before I tried to take good care of my clothes. And who knows, they may come back in style one day.

Tribune Files from Yesteryear

From The Files Of 1905

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Dunlap, Mrs. Charles Watson and little Miss Jean Gunn left on Wednesday for a motor trip through Georgia and Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Brunner and daughter and William Buettner drove to Michigan this week to take their sister, Mrs. Louise Buettner Brown home after a visit here. They will also drive to Canada.

Miss Evelyn Grey McAdory is attending the Epworth League Assembly in Montevallo this week.

Elwin Kinney and his orchestra are playing a series of engagements in Texas during June.

Mr. and Mrs. Tony Wise will leave tomorrow for three weeks in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Mr. and Mrs. W.W. Newman motored to Tuscumbia on Sunday.

Allen Gray, a Birmingham Southern College student, is home for the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Grayot and Henry Dorrough attended the annual meeting of the postal employees in Anniston on Thursday and Friday.

Miss Mary Grace Orr was hostess to the Areodia Club on Friday.

From The Files Of 1938

Gordon Daves has completed his freshman year at Emory University and will spend the summer with his parents, Doctor and Mrs. J.G. Daves.

Doctor and Mrs. E.D. McAdory and Edward Dudley, Junior, went to Montevallo for the graduation exercises of Alabama College, where Evelyn Grey McAdory received a A.B. Degree.

Myron Jacobs will arrive this weekend from Emory University, for a visit to his mother, Mrs. C.B. Sherill.

Jo Keyes, an Alabama College student, came home from Montevallo this week to spend the summer with her parents.

Mrs. L.T. Wagnon, of Hartselle, spent several days last week with her parents, Doctor and Mrs. T.A. (Arthur) Robinson.

Miss Jane Dodson, who has made such a splendid record at Converse College in Spartanburg, South Carolina, has returned for a vacation with her parents, Doctor and Mrs. R.B. Dodson.

Mr. and Mrs. R.P. Johnston and children attended the graduation exercises at Bessie Tift College in Forsythe, Georgia, on Monday and Tuesday of this week.

Mr. Oliver Cooper will leave this week for Hartford, Arkansas, where he will conduct a three week singing school.

Miss Bess Morrow and Mrs. R.H. Austin will spend Sunday in Blountsville.

Miss Ruth Graves is attending Howard College this summer and will receive her degree at the end of the first term.

Miss Gertrude Blandenberg came from Athens College this week to spend the summer with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Blandenberg.

Mr. and Mrs. Tome Goehler and daughter, Dolores and Miss Alma and Anna Goehler spent last week with Mr. and Mrs. Max Buettner.

Mr. and Mrs. Earnest Buettner, of Sheffield, spent last Sunday and Monday with Miss Clara Buettner.

During the month of April, Alabama collected gasoline taxes in the amount of $1,141,149.17.

Of this amount, each county will receive approximately $8,400.00

Marriage licenses: May 28th – Theodore Thornton, 31, to Eva Mae King, 22; William C. Weldon, 41, to Mrs. Edith Evans, 27; J.T. Allen, Junior, 19, to Eunice White, 18; Louie Farley, 20, to Wynelle Calvert, 18; William Stewart, 22, to Frances Crawford, 20; D.C. Akin, 18, to Lorraine Smith, 17; Guy Bice, 23, to Freda E. Vess, 15 and May 30th – Tom Frank Barber, 24, to Grace Sandlin, 23.

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

The real story of Christmas

Bill King
Tribune Contributor



Once upon a time, long, long ago, there lived a young lady named Mary. Mary was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph. Before they were married, and while she was still a virgin, Mary was found to be with child. God sent an angel named Gabriel to explain to Mary what was happening. Gabriel said, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. You will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus." Mary asked, "How can this be since I have not known a man?" And the angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God."

Joseph, being a just man, and not wanting to make Mary a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

Now it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered to pay taxes. Everyone went to the city they were from to be registered. Joseph went from Nazareth, in Galilee, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David. Mary accompanied him. So, while they were there in Bethlehem, the time came for Mary to deliver her baby. Because so many had come to Bethlehem to register, there was no room for Mary and Joseph in the inn. So Mary brought forth her first born Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger.

Now there were in the same country shepherds out in the fields watching over their sheep by night. An angel of the Lord appeared before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them and they were greatly afraid. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign to you. You will find a Babe wrapped in saddling cloths, lying in a manger." Suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

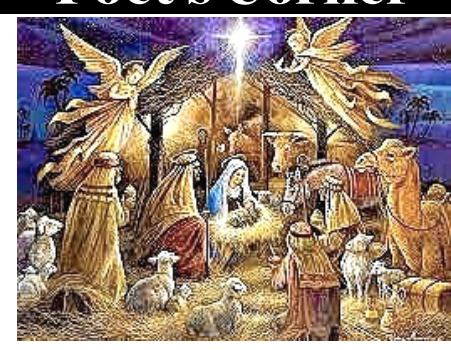
After the angel left them, the shepherds went to Bethlehem to see this great thing that had happened. Just as they had been told, there they found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. Now when they had seen Him, they told everyone what they had been told about this Child. All who heard them marveled at those things. The shepherds returned home glorifying and praising God for what they had seen and heard. Others, including wise men from the East, came to see Jesus too.

While many fun and interesting story have sprung up around Christmas, this is the real story of Christmas. I wish each and every one of you a blessed Merry Christmas.

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Poet's Corner



Mary's Song

By: Charles Causley
1917-2003

Sleep, King Jesus
Your royal bed
Is made of hay
In a cattle-shed.
Sleep, King Jesus,
Do not fear,
Joseph is watching
And waiting near.

Warm in wintry air
You like,
The ox and the donkey
Standing by,
With summer eyes
They seem to say:
Welcome, Jesus,
On Christmas Day!

Sleep, King Jesus:
Your diamond crown
High in the sky
Where the stars look down.
Let your reign
Of love begin,
That the world
May enter in.

Santa Claus came to town

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – The Cullman County Courthouse had a very special visitor on Thursday, when Santa Claus himself made a last-minute visit before heading back to the North Pole to make preparations for Christmas Eve. This is the fifth year Santa has visited the courthouse. He posed for pictures and gave candy canes to all the kids and even a few courthouse employees.

Savahanna Morgan brought her son, 16-month-old Brystn Morgan. Brystn's grandmother, Tammy Hammick, works for Cullman County Circuit Judge Martha Williams at the courthouse.

Smiled Hammick, "We weren't sure how he (Brystn) would do with Santa. He did much better than I thought he would."

Scout Trussell, who turned 4 years old Thursday, asked Santa for several things but mainly wanted an iPad. Her little sister Skylan, 8 months, came too.

Fourteen-month-old Drayden Miller hopes Santa will bring him a My Town Rug. He came with his mom, Samantha Drinkwine.

Kay Blevins braved the rain so that her two grandchildren, Kane and Karli, could visit with Santa. Karli is hoping for a baby doll. Kane was a tad confused about being at the courthouse. He asked his grandmother, "Did Santa get in trouble? Was he arrested?" Kane asked for a train set for Christmas.

Peyton Tharp, 19 months, wore a beautiful Christmas outfit with a lovely white coat, sparkling silver shoes, and white bow in her hair. She still wasn't ready to sit in Santa's lap this year, but mom Lauren believes she will be next year. Peyton did enjoy the candy canes and Christmas tree.

Santa explained, "The 3 and 4 year olds are usually the rock stars. The 1-3 year olds are still not sure what to think."

Haley Burton came from Good Hope with her children Madison (2) and Grayson (1). Madison and Grayson looked prepared for a magical Christmas morning in their matching Christmas pjs. Madison said she really likes Trolls, especially Poppy.

Gary and Tasha Miller stopped in for new car tags and to see Santa. Their daughter Anna, who will be 2 in February, was shy but her mom was optimistic, "Well, she cried last year but didn't cry this year. We are improving at least. By next year, I think she might do it." Anna is hoping for anything to do with puppies.

Seven-year-old Bella Morgan waited until her uncle Tyler was home from college before going to see Santa. All she wanted was a picture with Santa and "the best uncle in the world." Tyler was happy to do whatever his niece wanted.

Two-year-old Ryelyn McClusky, dressed in his finest elf suit, visited with Santa.

His mom Janice explained, "This is our third attempt. The first two times Ryelyn wasn't having it. He wanted Santa to know he wants a baby pig. He loves little pigs."

James Kilpatrick (8), Willow Kilpatrick (6), Hunter Baker (4) and Carter Baker (2) were very excited to tell Santa their Christmas wish lists: LEGOs for James, a phone for Willow, cars for Carter, but Hunter isn't picky. He just wants surprises.

Rumor has it that Good Hope City Councilman John Harris and Santa Claus know each other very well!



CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Willow Kilpatrick, 6, whispers in Santa's ear Thursday at the Cullman County Courthouse.



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