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EDUCATION

Cullman County teachers focus on tech at annual conference



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

West Point fifth-grader Ellorie Kate Harbison (right) explains how her wired-up banana keyboard produces musical notes on the computer. Teachers even got to try playing songs!

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

FAIRVIEW – On Wednesday morning, most Cullman County Schools students got the day off while teachers and administrators attended the system's seventh annual Cullman County Education and Technology Conference at Fairview Schools, learning about new educational technology and how technological developments are shaping the future of education.

Keynote speaker Kasey Bell, creator of the "Shake Up Learning" program told the crowd, "The rest of the world has changed, right? The jobs that we're preparing students for have changed. It's a completely different world. But, unfor- » PAGE 5

EDUCATION

'Keeping It Real' with area 9th-graders

Cullman High School students given opportunity to look into life after high school during two-day program » PAGE 4

PREP BASKETBALL

Brackets determined for 2019 Cullman County Basketball Tournament

Nick Griffin
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FAIRVIEW – The pairings for this year's Cullman County Basketball Tournament were drawn at Fairview High School Wednesday afternoon, and in the varsity boys' bracket, a coin flip was needed to determine three of the seeds. Fairview, Holly Pond and West Point all entered the drawing tied for third place in the county and the Warriors came out on top after the tie-breaking coin toss, with Fairview and Holly Pond placing fourth and fifth, respectively. Good Hope secured the top seed with its win at Hanceville Tuesday night, and the Bulldogs claimed the second seed. Cold Springs and Vinemont rounded out the boys' bracket as the sixth and seventh seeds.

The Raiders will get a pass in round one,. Hanceville will take on Vinemont, West Point will face Cold Springs, and Fairview will match up against Holly Pond.

On the varsity girls' side, West Point finished as the no. 1 seed after compiling a 6-0 record in the county. Fairview secured the second seed with a 5-1 record, Hanceville finished one spot behind the Lady Aggies at 4-2, Cold Springs took the fourth seed at 3-3, Holly Pond finished fifth at 2-4, Good Hope sixth seed at 1-5 and Vinemont rounded out the bracket as the seventh seed at 0-7.

The Lady Warriors will enjoy a bye in round one while Fairview takes on Vinemont, Hanceville plays Good Hope and Cold Springs faces off with Holly Pond.

2019 Cullman County Basketball Tournament Schedule

Saturday, Jan. 19

- JV Girls' Game 1 – (4) Good Hope v. (5) Holly Pond – 2 p.m.
- JV Boys' Game 1 – (4) Cold Springs v. (5) Vinemont – 3:15 p.m.
- JV Boys' Game 2 – (3) West Point v. (6) Holly Pond – 4:30 p.m.
- JV Boys' Game 3 – (2) Good Hope v. (7) Hanceville – 5:45 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 21

- JV Boys' Game 4 – (1) Fairview v. winner of game 1 – 5:30 p.m.
- Varsity Girls' Game 1 – (2) Fairview v. (7) Vinemont – 6:45 p.m.
- Varsity Boys' Game 1 – (4) Fairview v. (5) Holly Pond – 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 22

- JV Boys' Game 5 – winner of game 2 v. winner » PAGE 2

Cullman Police report rash of vehicles break-ins

Wendy Sack
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CULLMAN – Cullman Police say a number of vehicles have been broken into recently and one stolen. Reports show two incidents on Monday and five on Tuesday this week. All have been on the city's southwest side, first on Cherokee Avenue and then in the area of Greenbriar Drive.

According to Sgt. Todd Chiaranda, "In the early morning hours of Jan. 8, 2019, property was stolen from several vehicles in the Greenbriar Drive area of southwest Cullman.

"Six victims who live within a few blocks of each other reported a number of items were taken from their vehicles, which were parked in their driveways. The total reported loss thus far is in excess of $850."

Chiaranda said a car was also stolen.

"A 2003 Toyota Corolla was also stolen from one of the residences.

"The vehicle was later recovered where it was abandoned in the Warrior area," he said.

Chiaranda urges citizens to come forward if they have been victimized.

"I encourage anyone who is a victim and has not yet reported the crime, please do so.

"The recovery of your property may be the evidence needed to identify and charge the persons who committed these crimes.

Tip from Todd

"A trio of thieves can hit several neighborhoods in just a few hours with little chance of alerting their victims, spending less than a minute in each vehicle they find unsecure.

"I cannot emphasize enough the importance of simple preventative measures such as locking vehicle doors, not leaving valuables visible from the outside of the vehicle and not leaving keys in the vehicle's ignition. Prevention is the best strategy."



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Holly Pond to pursue sewer plant upgrades, speed limit changes

Maggie Darnell
maggie@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND – The Holly Pond Town Council at Tuesday's meeting granted Mayor Bill Oliver permission to pursue two grants which will allow renovation of the town's sewer plant and intake lines.

The mayor and council also issued a proclamation, with Oliver saying, "We as the Town of Holly Pond declare Jan. 11 as Human Trafficking Awareness Day."

Oliver noted the other municipalities in Cullman County were asked to issue the proclamation as well. "We're hoping our county goes 100 percent," said Oliver.

The Cullman County Commission on Tuesday declared January Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

In old business, a new ordinance was introduced to change the price of a business license issuance fee.

A motion was made to make the new fee $10, as opposed to the Town's current 50-cent issuance fee.

The council cited money lost on mailing as one reason for the proposed increase.

A concerned business owner asked the council to not make the new fee $10, stating, "Ten dollars plus the 50 (dollars) is a bit over the line."

A new motion was made to make the fee $5, which passed, with one council member abstaining. The new fee will take effect in 2020.

The council mulled a new speed limit ordinance that would make school zone speed limits 20 mph and other roads within town limits 35 mph (with the exception of U.S. Highway 278).

Roads with limits already less than 30 mph would remain the same.

Town Attorney Dan Willingham suggested the council make a list of roads that currently have a posted speed of 35 mph and any roads that should have a lower speed limit.

Oliver asked the council to ride around town and find roads that should be less than 35 mph.

The ordinance was tabled until the council's February meeting, giving Willingham an opportunity to write a new ordinance with the updated items.

The council rescinded a previous motion to give a pay raise to the Town's hourly employees, replacing it with a motion to give a one-time $400 bonus at the beginning of the year to the hourly employees and one salaried employee.

The motion passed unanimously with a roll-call vote.

The council will discuss a pay raise at its next budget meeting.

The Holly Pond Town Council meets on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Guy Hunt Library.

The next Council meeting will be Feb. 2.

Arrests and incidents reported Jan. 8-9

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – Below are the arrests and incidents reported on Jan. 8-9, 2019. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

REPORTED TUESDAY, JAN. 8

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No arrests reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Incidents

- 1/7 unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, Cherokee Ave. SW, damaged '00 Chevrolet S10
- 1/7 unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, Cherokee Ave. SW, misc. equipment
- 1/7 third-degree assault, Convent Rd. NE

Arrests

Helms, Brittany L., 31
- fourth-degree theft of property

Tuminksi, Joseph O., 38
- fourth-degree theft of property

Boatright, Jeffery L., 52
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

Hardy, Steven A., 32
- unlawful distribution of a controlled substance

Johnson, Alvin L. Jr., 25
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Stanbery, Christian H., 28
- FTA- obstructing government operations

Pendergraft, Unique N., 26
- FTA- third-degree theft of property
- FTA- providing false information to law enforcement

Mann, Daniel R., 28
- FTA- owner allowing operation without insurance
- FTA- DUI

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests reported.

REPORTED WEDNESDAY, JAN. 9

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No arrests reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Incidents

- 1/7 fourth-degree theft of property, Warnke Rd. NW, bicycle
- 1/8 unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, Greenbrier Dr. SW, backpack and contents
- 1/8 unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, Florence St. SW, pistol and cash
- 1/8 unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, Nunnelly Ave. SW, cash
- 1/8 unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, Greenbrier Dr. SW
- 1/8 unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, Florence St. SW, cash

Arrests

Harris, Steven P., 39
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Wiley, Robin D., 34
- FTA- public intoxication

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests reported.

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

Brackets (from Front)

of game 3 – 5 p.m.
- Varsity Girls' Game 2 – (3) Hanceville v. (6) Good Hope – 6:15 p.m.
- Varsity Boys' Game 2 – (3) West Point v. (6) Cold Springs – 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 23
- Ninth Grade Boys' Game 1 – (1) West Point v. (4) Vinemont – 4 p.m.
- Ninth Grade Boys' Game 2 – (2) Fairview v. (3) Good Hope – 5 p.m.
- Varsity Girls' Game 3 – (4) Cold Springs v. (5) Holly Pond – 6:15 p.m.
- Varsity Boys' Game 3 – (2) Hanceville v. (7) Vinemont – 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 24
- JV Girls' Game 2 – (1) West Point v. winner of game 1 – 5 p.m.
- Varsity Girls' Game 4 – (1) West Point v. winner of game 3 – 6:15 p.m.
- Varsity Girls' Game 5 – winner of game 1 v. winner of game 2 – 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 25
- JV Girls' Game 3 – (2) Cold Springs v. (3) Fairview – 5 p.m.
- Varsity Boys' Game 4 – (1) Good Hope v. winner of game 1 – 6:15 p.m.
- Varsity Boys' Game 5 – winner of game 2 v. winner of game 3 – 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 26
- Ninth-Grade Championship Game – winner of game 1 v. winner of game 2 – 1 p.m.
- JV Girls' Championship Game – winner of game 2 v. winner of game 3 – 2:30 p.m.
- JV Boys' Championship Game – winner of game 4 v. winner of game 5 – 4 p.m.
- Varsity Girls' Championship Game – winner of game 4 v. winner of game 5 – 5:30 p.m.
- Varsity Boys' Championship Game – winner of game 4 v. winner of game 5 – 7 p.m.

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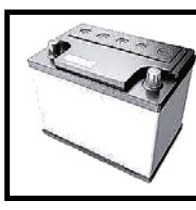
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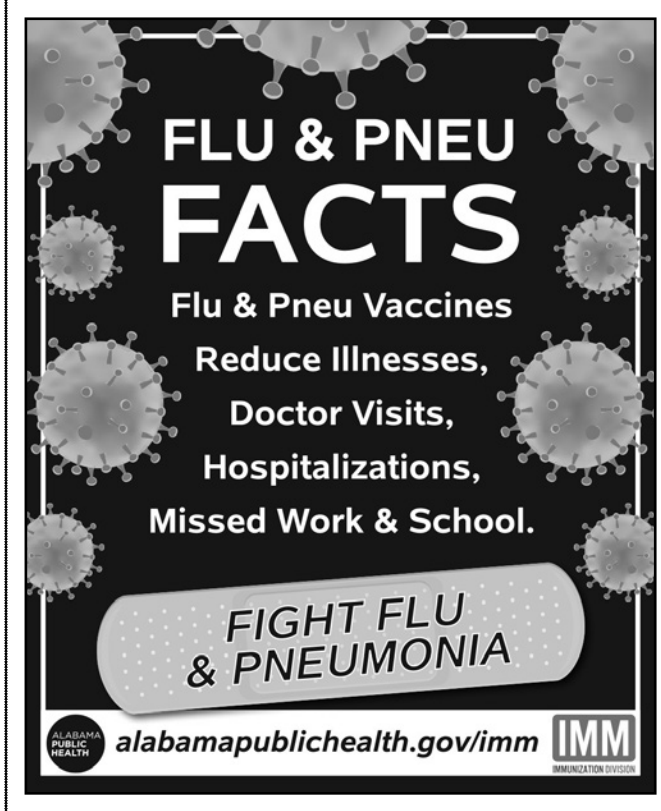

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County proclaims January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month

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CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Left to right: Commissioner Kerry Watson, Blakely Hopper, Chairman Kenneth Walker, Gail Swafford, Cullman County District Judge Kim Chaney and Commissioner Garry Marchman

CULLMAN - The Cullman County Commission on Tuesday proclaimed January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Cullman. Cullman County District Judge Kim Chaney, along with Blakely Hopper and Gail Swafford from Brooks' Place Child Advocacy Center of Cullman were presented with the official proclamation at the meeting.

The proclamation referred to human trafficking as a "crime against humanity."

Human trafficking is a global problem and according to Anti Trafficking League Against Slavery (ATLAS), "an estimated 5,000 victims of human trafficking are being moved through Alabama each month."

The proclamation also stated that close to 25 percent of international trafficking victims end up in the southeast United States, including Alabama.

The county commission urged residents to "help support efforts and take actions to end human trafficking."

At the beginning of Human Trafficking Awareness Month, Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force Chairperson Kathy Wilson pointed happily to a new study showing that Alabama has made dramatic improvements in its response to the crime of modern slavery.

Shared Hope International (SHI), a faith-based organization that fights trafficking and works to help victims recover, is celebrating the results of its annual Protected Innocence Challenge "report card" for states' responses to child sex trafficking, and its findings give Alabama a top score.

At the outset of the program in 2011, Alabama scored a troubling D. After improving to a B over six years, the state was one of 10 to earn an A on the 2018 national report card.

Out of 51 entries including the District of Columbia, Alabama was ranked fourth overall.

(See more at www.cullmantribune.com/articles/2019/01/03/alabama-enters-human-trafficking-awareness-month-high-marks)

County sets school tax referendum

Christy Perry
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CULLMAN – The Cullman County Commission held its first work session and meeting of 2019 Tuesday morning. The work session was scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. and the commissioners, along with County Attorney Chad Floyd, met with a county employee, members of the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce and county engineers. The Cullman Tribune was denied access to the work session discussions.

In the meeting, the commission authorized Chairman Kenneth Walker to sign an agreement with Arab Water Works for the billing and collection of Cullman County sanitation charges.

Floyd explained, "There are about 600 households that Arab bills to (for electricity) that our sanitation (department) services."

The commission also met with officials from Cullman City, Cullman County and Arab City Schools to discuss a special referendum to be held on March 19, 2019 for citizens to vote on the continuation and renewal of existing property tax allocation for schools. Attorneys representing the school systems addressed the commission and clarified that the tax is not new or an increase. State law requires the allocation be renewed through a referendum every 30 years.

The school districts asked to meet with the Cullman County Probate Judge to coordinate what all the boards of education, including Arab, can do to facilitate this.

The commission approved the special referendum. The commission entered into an executive session to discuss an "employee issue."

After a long private discussion with Floyd, the commissioners returned, but no details or information was made public.

The commission also:

- authorized the commission as fiscal agent for the Department of Youth Services grant for Youth Advocacy Program
- authorized a FEMA application and matching funds to replace generators
- authorized Walker's reappointment of Raymond Williams to the Industrial Development Authority until Jan. 19, 2025
- authorized Commissioner Kerry Watson's reappointment of Brannon Ray to the Industrial Development Authority until Jan. 19, 2025
- authorized Commissioner Garry Marchman's reappointment of Wendy Crider to the Industrial Development Authority until Jan. 19, 2025
- authorized payment to the ACCA Liability Self-Insurance Fund, Inc. for county liability coverage for the period of Jan. 1, 2019-Jan. 1, 2020 at a premium cost of $391,623
- authorized payment of $18,228.24 to Sharp Communication, Inc. for a volunteer fire department service contract
- authorized the purchase or parts for repair for tar distribution truck or $8,692
- approved a plat for Windemere Lakeside Garden Homes Subdivision located in District 2 on County Road 51

The next commission work session will be Wednesday, Jan. 23 at 8:30 a.m., followed by a meeting at 10 a.m. in the commission meeting room in the Cullman County Courthouse.

Colony to get long sought-after Dollar General

W. C. Mann
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COLONY - On Tuesday evening, during the regular meeting of the Colony Town Council, Mayor Donnis Leeth announced that he had heard from a developer with whom he has been working, who informed him that Colony is going to get its Dollar General. Bringing a local franchise of the neighborhood retail chain to the town has been part of Leeth's platform since he entered office.

Said Leeth, "The guy called me Friday, about 4, and all he said was, 'We got the Dollar General!' He's supposed to be calling me back in about two weeks."

The store will be located on Alabama Highway 91, not far from the interstate. A schedule for construction has not been set.

Town Clerk Patricia Ponder also informed The Tribune that Colony will, by March 15, have at least 10 raised beds constructed at the Colony Educational Complex for a grant-funded community garden.

Not only will the project, supported by the Morehouse School of Medicine, promote community health through activity and food production, but the program is "green" as well.

Volunteers spent time this week learning about sorting household garbage and saving lawn mower clippings to produce compost, and Ponder said that even the topsoil for the garden beds is being recycled from soil removed during the construction of the town's tornado shelter.

The Town has received funding to participate in a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) food purchasing program that could provide tons of food per year for local families in need. The amount of food the town would be required to take and distribute exceeds the needs of the local food pantry, so Ponder is looking at options for the program. Colony's Carpenter's Cabinet food pantry currently purchases food at a substantial discount from the North Alabama Food Bank. The Town is also working with Cullman County Economic Development on a grant to purchase a generator that would allow town hall to continue operating if a weather event or natural disaster shut down power to the area.

While not taking official action, the council also discussed the possibility of reopening the town's community center on Sunday afternoons and evenings to provide activities for local children and teens.

Councilman Curtis Johnson also reported that he hopes to have piping for the center's water feature repaired so the feature can reopen later this year.

The Colony Town Council meets on the second and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month in Colony Town Hall at 6 p.m. The public is invited to eat.

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Date: January 7,2019

INVITATION TO BID
COMMUNITY SAFE ROOM

Sealed Bids shall be received for one (I) or more Community Safe Room(s) by the Logan Volunteer Fire Department, until noon on local time by February 4, 2019. The bids will be opened on February 6, 2019 at 10 a.m. at Cullman County Economic Development, Cullman, Alabama. At this time bids .will be opened and publicly read for an above-ground, pre-engineered, pre-manufactured, 114" steel plate safe room, with standard bathrooms, 35 KW generator and generator cover that complies with FEMA 361 (2015) and ICC 500 Community Shelter Design Criteria. The contract, if a bid is chosen, will be awarded at the regular Logan Volunteer Fire Department meeting after the February 6, 2019 opening.

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

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

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

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

All bidders **must** use the attached form for submitting their bid. All bids must be sealed and marked - in the lower left-hand envelope **"BID #0119- Community Safe Room", with opening date and time. Late bids will not be opened. All Bids must be submitted to Logan Volunteer Fire Department at 325 2nd Street SE, Cullman, AL 35055. The proposal package includes specifications, a copy which is available for examination from, Monday through Friday 7:30 am to 4:30pm at the Cullman County Economic Development Office, 325 Second Street SE, Cullman, AL 35055. For questions regarding this invitation to bid, please email, Ashley Graves, Project Coordinator at ashley@cullmanecondev.org or call at 256-775-6258 or contact Chief Toby Bates at logan01toby@gmail.com**



Front L-R: Sonja Sewell, Launne Reid, Sue Miller.
Back L-R: Kathryn Striker, Eddy Hoenig, RPH

A new study published in The Lancet assessed the impact of daily aspirin on heart attacks, strokes and bleeding in a population at moderate risk of a first cardiovascular event. Moderate risk was defined as a 20 to 30 percent risk of a cardiovascular event in ten years. The study enrolled individuals with no prior history of a vascular event, such as stroke or heart attack. Men were at least 55 years old and had two to four cardiovascular risk factors, while women were at least 60 years old with three or more risk factors. Risk factors included smoking, elevated lipids and high blood pressure. Participants who took aspirin tended to have fewer heart attacks, particularly those aged 50 to 59 years, but there was no effect on stroke. As expected, rates of gastrointestinal bleeding and some other minor bleedings were higher in the aspirin group, but there was no difference in fatal bleeding events between groups.

***

More than half of Americans tested misused their prescription drugs in 2017 finds a new report released by Quest Diagnostics. Among patients in general care, use of non-prescribed medications and illicit drugs declined, but is still prevalent. Among patients in treatment for substance use disorder (SUD), misuse of heroin and prescription fentanyl surged nearly 400 percent; among patients testing positive for heroin, the rate of mixing with fentanyl nearly doubled. Drug mixing is the most frequent form of misuse with one-in-five test results showing concurrent use of opioids and benzodiazepines last year.

***

Use of medical marijuana surged by nearly 620 percent overall, with the general care population experiencing the highest rate of increase. Just over two percent (2.1 percent) of the general care population used medical marijuana according to new report released by Quest Diagnostics.

***

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Real (from Front)

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN – The Cullman Economic Development Agency's (CEDA's) workforce entity, Cullman Area Workforce Solutions (CAWS), brought its "Keeping It Real" program to Cullman High School this week.

Ninth-grade students were given an opportunity to look into life after high school during the two-day program. Students were given mock scenarios as they navigated the ups and downs of being a working adult.

Keeping It Real, according to CAWS, "gives area ninth-graders 'real-world experience' in paying household bills and making financial decisions for their 'mock' family. During the program, students, who are assigned a family, job and income, visit 12 booths where they purchase everything from groceries to daycare. The students learn the value (of) budgeting and making sound decisions when faced with unexpected expenses."

Each student was given a random mock career. They were given salaries, different levels of education, spouses and children. Some had working spouses while others had spouses who stayed home.

Belinda Hyatt, director of the Keeping It Real program, said, "The students basically come in and budget and pay bills to get an idea of what they will experience in the real world. Ninth grade is young, but we do it in ninth grade because starting in 10th, they start making career choices, they are picking their classes, preparing themselves for whether they are going to college or not or into the workforce."

On the second day of the program, the students were highly engaged as they were assisted by the many volunteers who participated.

Hyatt explained, "They start with a total and they go to 12 booths. They have to buy a house and it has to make sense. They can't live in a one-bedroom apartment with four kids. They have to pay utilities and they realize that wi-fi and all of that is a luxury and not a necessity."

The students were required to purchase insurance, transportation, groceries, clothing, child care and other needs. One booth had the students spin a wheel. The wheel had spaces that presented unexpected expenses such as a traffic ticket, flat tire or lost cellphone. Other spaces might be positive, such as a work bonus, refund or gift. Students had to make decisions that would allow for the unpredictability of life.

Volunteers from the community assisted the students at the different booths. Volunteers from Yutaka, Wells Fargo, Wallace State, the Alabama Career Center, the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce, retired military and others helped guide the students and answered their questions.

Michael Burchett, a retired U.S. Army officer, volunteered at the utilities booth. The students were required to have at least a basic utility package. Additional packages with cable and internet services were also available. Burchett observed, "Some are very smart. They will pay the basic and avoid everything else until they are through. Then they will come back and say 'Look, I have money for this and money for this' as opposed to having to come back and give something back."

CAWS defines itself as "a voluntary partnership working to develop a strong, qualified workforce able to meet the current and future employment needs of Cullman, Alabama and surrounding areas. There are currently 28 partners in the CAWS group representing 17 companies and organizations. CAWS activities include educating students, educators and the underemployed about career opportunities, offering career guidance, and serving as a link to career training opportunities. CAWS also works with employers on any workforce development need including assistance with funding acquisition for training or skill enhancement programs."

Lisa Dickinson, business representative from the Alabama Career Center -Cullman, has been involved with CAWS for many years. She said, "CAWS helps our industries come together. An industry might say that they are having a hard time fitting the positions and they need more education. Wallace (State) might be able to create some kind of credential for them. That's where the schools come in. We are here for industry to tell us what we need. CAWS can then communicate those needs to the schools and organize visits. It takes coordination from the city and county schools to bring the teachers to the industry so they can go back to their classroom and say, 'Look, if you want to be a chemist, you don't have to work in a lab. You can work in the auto industry, REHAU, Topre or Yutaka.' It's a solution to their hiring needs and if there is a shortage somewhere. It's constantly evolving."

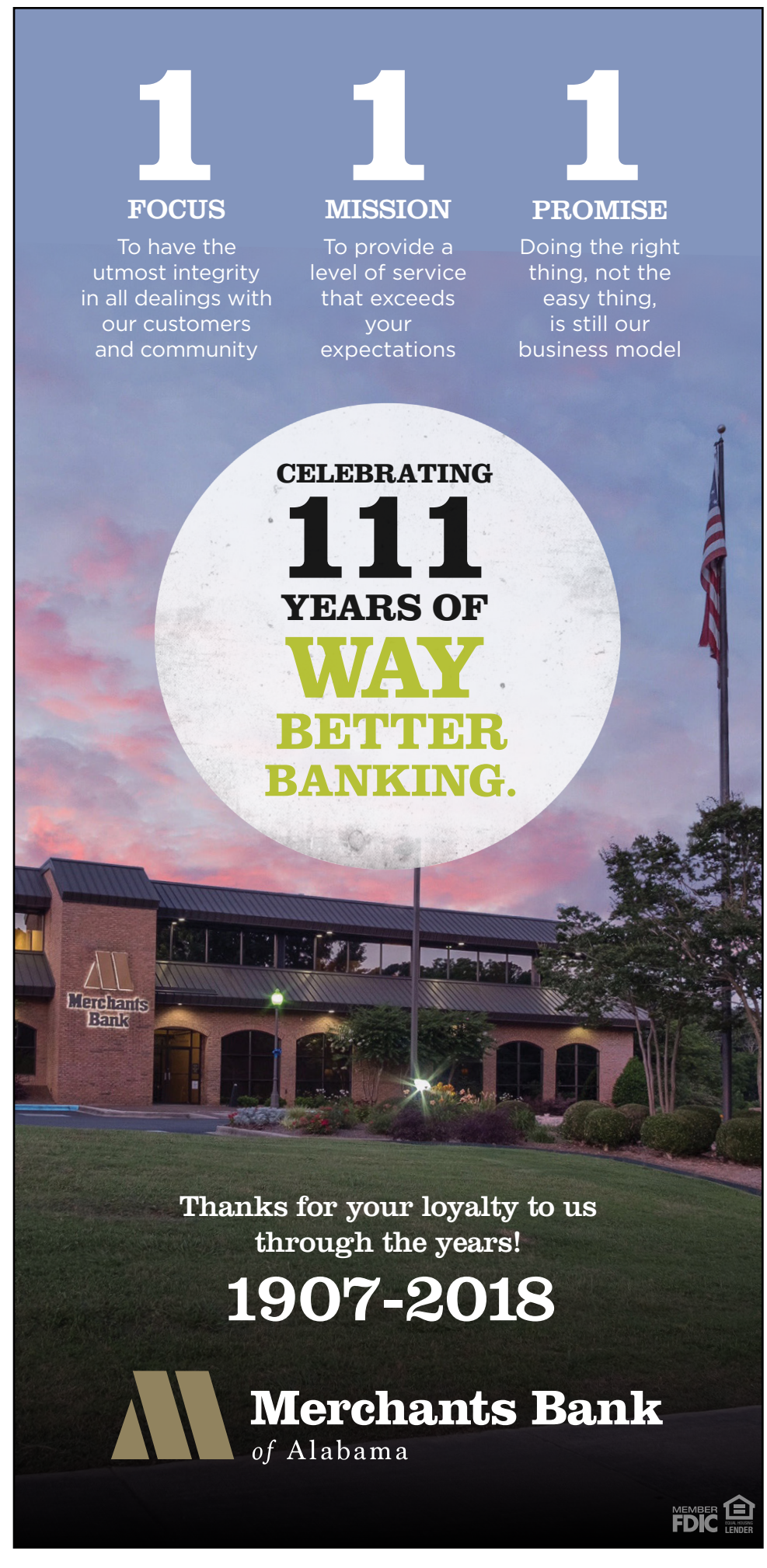
The Keeping It Real program will be held at Vinemont High School next week.











Conference (from Front)

tunately, education kind of gets caught up in this system, and it's just time to move on and to shake things up.

"The other thing that really bothers me about the system that we have in the U.S. is that we educate students in batches.

"They're like on this conveyor belt, this factory model of education. 'So, okay, you're 13 years old. You learn this, this, and this--no more, no less. Take your standardized test, move on; okay, next.' You know, move on down the line.

"And as teachers, we all know what that model does to kids, right? And it's not fair to all kids; they don't all walk away with exactly what they need that year.

"And so, I feel like we have to take a step back and really look at what's happening in our classrooms, and do the things that we can do, even within the system that's somewhat broken."

The conference was not just about getting tech into the classrooms, but also about helping teachers figure out some of the things they can do with it once it arrives.

One session's description said that devices and applications are "not a silver bullet for the classroom. It's what the students do with the apps and devices that matter."

Google-powered Chromebooks have become a widespread classroom tool, and that trend was reflected in the breakout sessions.

Various sessions gave opportunities to learn a little more about:

- developing instructional strategies around Google tools
- G Suite
- Read&Write for Google Chrome
- advanced Google apps for teachers and administrators
- beginning Google Docs, Slides and Classroom
- Google Forms
- Google Earth
- Google Hangouts and Google Meet

Other programs presented included Board Builder, Edgenuity, Compass Learning, Kahoot, Quizizz, Seesaw, Classlink, District Over Drive, ESL and special education programs and others.

Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette told The Tribune, "The really cool thing about it, besides our keynote speaker, (is that) all the sessions throughout the rest of the day are taught by our employees or our students, which is really exciting. They're sharing knowledge that they've learned, passing it on to other teachers."

Students teach the teachers!

Talk about shaking up learning! One of the features of this year's conference was the inclusion of students as session instructors and hands-on activity demonstrators. (We all know they're better with tech than adults, anyway!)

- Holly Pond Elementary students Cade Albright and Jackson Miller introduced Discovery Education's Board Builder, which allows students to merge their own content with Discovery Education resources to produce online boards.
- Cold Springs sixth-grader Josiah Johnson introduced teachers to Read&Write for Google Chrome, an app that gives users text-to-speech, speech-to-text and other tools for reading and writing documents and online content.
- In a large room in the middle school, teachers moved from station to station to see and try out tech devices and apps as students explained, demonstrated and supervised.

Barnette said that the students-turned-teachers were sharing "some form of technology that they're using on their campus regularly.

"A good example of that is my son. I think they used a program to help them write novels at Good Hope High School, so him and some of his peers are coming to share that knowledge with teachers about how they used that program.

"Their teacher, Ms. Whitlock at Good Hope High School, had introduced it to them, but she's letting them teach the adults how to use it. It's really good for the kids, and it's good for the teachers too, to see how it's really being used."

Barnette concluded about the event, "I'll applaud our technology department and all the volunteers, because it does stretch our teachers by getting them out of a role of them learning and them sharing with other people. I think it just takes their learning to another level, and so I'm really thankful for them as well."



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PREP BASKETBALL

Good Hope secures no. 1 seed in Co. Tournament: Bearcats win in double OT

Sammy Confer, Nick Griffin

HANCEVILLE – Good Hope traveled to Hanceville Tuesday night for a pair of huge county games and each team wound up taking home a win. The Lady Bulldogs took the girls' game over the Lady Raiders 60-41 and in the boys' game, Good Hope rallied late to defeat Hanceville 60-55 and secure the no. 1 seed in the Cullman County Tournament this month.

(14-4) Good Hope 60 - (14-4) Hanceville 55 (varsity boys)

The first quarter was back-and-forth between Good Hope and Hanceville, but the Bulldogs held a slim 16-15 lead after one. Behind a layup by Matt Dixon and a 3-point play by Cole Maddox, the Raiders took a 20-16 lead. Hanceville, though, responded with a huge run of its own, scoring 16 straight points to push the lead to double-digits at 32-20. Good Hope scored the final six points of the period to make it a 32-26 game at the half.

The third quarter was more like the first as both teams traded huge baskets. Drew Maddox nailed a long-range shot to give the Raiders a 40-36 advantage, but Hanceville's Fred Ellis helped jump-start a 10-4 quarter-ending run by scoring eight of the Bulldogs' last 10 points, giving Hanceville a 46-44 lead going into the final period.

A 7-2 Raider run to start out the fourth quarter gave them a 51-48 lead, but Hanceville took the lead right back at 53-51 after an Ellis 3-point play. The Bulldogs made it 55-52 on a pair of Romain Ponchon free throws.

After a Cole Maddox shot made it a one-point game, Good Hope forced the biggest turnover of the game when Eli Phares came up with a steal and laid it up and in to give the Raiders a 56-55 lead. Michael Lowe got a huge block on the next possession and Cole Maddox went 4-of-4 from the line the rest of the way to help seal the 60-55 Raider victory.

With the win, Good Hope clinched the no. 1 seed for the upcoming Cullman County Tournament at Wallace State.

Cole Maddox finished with 20 points, seven rebounds and a block for Good Hope. Drew Maddox wasn't too far behind, adding 16 points, two rebounds and a steal. Michael Lowe ended up with 10 points, nine rebounds, four blocks and a steal. Noah Fendley added eight points, five rebounds and two steals.

The Raiders will head home to take on Holly Pond on Thursday night.

Ellis led the way for Hanceville with 20 points, seven rebounds and a block. Ponchon added 10 points and a steal. R.J. Evans ended up with eight points and seven rebounds.

The Bulldogs will take on Locust Fork at home Thursday night.

(15-6) Cullman 79 – Athens 77 (2OT) (varsity boys)

The Bearcats and the Eagles went back and forth seemingly all night in this one, but in the end, it was the home team that held on to win it 79-77 in double overtime.

The first seven Cullman baskets were scored by seven different Bearcats and they continued to spread the scoring around to several players throughout the game. Cullman led it 15-14 at the end of the first quarter and led Athens by 10 at one point in the second. The Eagles cut the lead to 30-26 at the half and trailed by just two going into the fourth quarter.

Back to back 3-point baskets and a fast-break layup put the Eagles on top 53-51 midway through the final frame and stretched that lead to 57-51 in the next couple of possessions.

JT White knocked down two free throws to cut the lead to 57-55 with less than two minutes to play and laid another one in on the next Cullman possession to tie the game. The Eagles came up with a steal and scored to go ahead by two with 30 seconds to play, but the Bearcats had one more opportunity to tie it up.

Jace Goolsby went up strong under the basket and was fouled as time expired. With no time on the clock, Goolsby knocked down both free throws to send the game into overtime tied at 59.

The lead changed hands several times in the start of the overtime period, but an and-one basket and two free throws put Athens ahead 71-66 with less than a minute remaining on the clock.

JD Parrish drove to the basket and laid one in to cut the lead to three and after coming up with a defensive stop, Noah Bussman hit a three in front of the Cullman bench to tie the game at 71 with 20 seconds to play.

The Eagles couldn't answer with a basket of their own and the game went into double overtime.

Jayden Sullins hit two free throws midway through the second overtime to give the 'Cats a 74-73 lead and they would continue to do damage from the line for the rest of the game.

Sullins knocked down two more free throws inside of two minutes to go up by three before Athens was able to cut it to one with less than a minute to play. A technical foul on the Eagles' bench sent Parrish to the line and his two shots made it a 78-75 Cullman lead with 20 seconds to play. Sullins hit one more shot from the line with 12 seconds remaining to put the game out of reach and the Bearcats held on to win it 79-77.

Nine different Bearcats found the scoring column in the win, led by Sullins with 18 points. JT White was next with 13, Parrish and Tucker Gambrill each finished with 12 and Mason Herron posted eight.

Cullman will be back in action Friday night when the Bearcats host the Hartselle Tigers.

(10-6) Hanceville 60 - (2-12) Good Hope 41 (varsity girls)

Hanceville jumped out to a quick 13-5 lead behind eight points from Kelly Pickett and baskets from Lauren Roberson and Cassidy Campbell. The Lady Bulldogs wound up taking a 21-9 lead into the second period.

Pickett continued her red-hot first half, adding 11 more in the quarter, and Hanceville's defense made things tough for Good Hope, allowing only eight points. The Lady Bulldogs took a 36-17 lead into the locker room.

The Lady Raiders looked to get back in the game to start off the second half as a 6-3 run made it a 39-23 game, but Hanceville made sure they didn't get any closer than that. The Lady Bulldogs led 46-29 after three and wound up winning the game 60-41.

Pickett led the way for Hanceville with 29 points, four rebounds, seven steals and a block. Roberson added 10 points and seven rebounds. Campbell and Mira Geiser each finished with six rebounds. For Good Hope, Heather Tetro finished with 12 points, two rebounds and a steal. Rudi Derrick added seven points and three steals.

The Lady Bulldogs and Lady Raiders will both be back on the court Thursday night when they host Locust Fork and Holly Pond, respectively.

Athens 59 – (17-5) Cullman 46 (varsity girls)

The Lady Bearcats had some offensive struggles in their matchup with Athens, starting with turnovers in the opening quarter. The Lady Eagles took an early lead thanks to some transition buckets, but Cullman was able to tie the game at 11 by the end of the first quarter.

The Lady Bearcats still couldn't get into a good rhythm on the offensive end, but their defense kept them close and they went into the locker room trailing 22-21 at the half.

Turnovers were a problem for Cullman once again in the third quarter and the Lady Eagles were able to build a 39-28 lead going into the final frame.

Athens was able to find ways to pass out of the Lady Bearcats' press defenses and use long possessions to kill the clock. Hannah Hoffman converted an and-one play midway through the period to cut the lead to single digits and AK Eastman knocked down two free throws inside of three minutes to make it a 50-46 game, but Cullman was shut out the rest of the way. Athens finished the game on a 9-0 run to pull away with the win.

Olivia Neal was the leading scorer for the Lady Bearcats with 13 points, followed by Anna Grace Murphy with nine and Alexandria Barker with six. Hoffman and Jaden Winfrey each finished with five.

Cullman will look to bounce back Friday night for a big matchup with the Hartselle Lady Tigers

Other Tuesday night scores:

- Cold Springs 45 – Southeastern 32 (varsity boys)
- Cold Springs 84 – Southeastern 20 (varsity girls)
- Brindlee Mountain 59 – Vinemont 52 (varsity boys)
- Brindlee Mountain 37 – Vinemont 30 (varsity girls)
- Oneonta 62 – Fairview 44 (varsity boys)
- Fairview 66 – Oneonta 45 (varsity girls)



Obituary Announcements: Jan. 10 - 15

Funeral services for Mrs. Mavous Arlene Speegle, 96, of Cullman are Thursday, January 10, 2019 at 2 p.m. at Cullman Funeral Home, with interment in Cullman Memory Gardens Cemetery. Visitation on Thursday from noon to 2 p.m. Cullman Funeral Home directing. Mrs. Speegle passed away on Tuesday, January 8, 2019. She was preceded in death by her parents, John Freely Rushing and Myrtle Johns Rushing; grandson, Stark Anthony Greer and sister, Marion Raney. She is survived by her son, Ronald (Stella) Speegle; daughters, Bonita Greer and Kathy Moore; six grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Barbara Jo Wakefield, 82, was born March 09, 1936 and passed away Wednesday, January 9, 2019. Complete arrangements and obituary information will be available Thursday afternoon from Nichols Funeral Home.

Funeral services for Herbert Lee Gable Sr., 81, of Cullman are Friday, January 11, 2019 at 11 a.m. at Cullman Funeral Home, Rev. Doyle Berry officiating, with interment in Missionary Grove Cemetery. The family will receive friends Thursday from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. Cullman Funeral Home directing. Mr. Gable passed away on Tuesday, January 8, 2019. He was preceded in death by his parents, Donnie Emory Gable and Ider May Treaptu Gable; grandson, Timothy Jason Gable; granddaughter, Bridgett Nichols; great granddaughter, Greenlee Heatherly and ten siblings. He is survived by his children, Herbert Lee "Yogi" Gable Jr., Tim (Debbie) Gable, Mike (Becki) Gable, Mark (Betty) Gable and Peggy Sue Watwood; brothers, Charles Gable and Billy Joe (Gladys) Gable; grandchildren, Adam Gable, Jeremy Gable, Stephanie Driver, Nathan McDonald, April Gable, Wesley Freeman, Casey Jo White, Kimberly Walker, Priscilla Garcia and Eric Terrell; thirty-two great grandchildren; one great great grandchild and a host of nieces, nephews, other family and many friends.

Rozelle Estes Bedard, 94 of Cullman, Alabama passed away Saturday, January 5, 2019. The public viewing is Sunday, January 13, 2019 from 1 p.m. until the Funeral Services which will be at Moss Funeral Home at 3 p.m. in Cullman, AL with Pastor Todd Henderson officiating. Born in Cullman, Alabama, Rozelle was the daughter of Ed and Ammie Estes. She was one of ten children. Rozelle left home at the age of 18 to work in civil service in Washington D.C. and was transferred to Europe. There she met her husband, Wilbert Ernest Bedard who was in the Army. They married in Vienna, Austria in 1947. They later came back to the states and lived in Ogdensburg, New York for fifteen years before relocating to warmer weather in Cullman. While living in Ogdensburg, New York, Rozelle was the society editor for the Ogdensburg Journal. Upon moving to Cullman, she worked at the Cullman Hospital operating the switchboard and later moved to Human Resources. She worked both at the old hospital and Cullman Regional Medical Center, retiring in 1997. While at the hospital she served on the board for the American Red Cross and did volunteer work for United Way. During her thirty-two years at the hospital she received numerous certificates, awards, recognition for her dedication of service. She was well known at the hospital during Christmas time as Mrs. Claus for about 25 years. She made her own outfit and used it every year. After retiring she worked at Cook's Pest Control and the Cullman City School system serving lunches. In 1996 she was a contestant and runner up in the Mrs. Senior America of Cullman County Pageant. She performed a skit as Mrs. Claus. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Cullman for over fifty years. Rozelle had the sweetest disposition of anyone you ever met. She always had a smile, a laugh, a helping hand and the most joyful personality you will ever find. She is survived by her Son: Eddie (Sara) Bedard, Daughters: Carin Braswell, and Lisa (Richard) Forrester. Grandchildren: Maria Bedard, Chrissie (Scott) Gardner, Heath (Leanna) Bedard, Zachary Forrester, Emily Forrester, Kristin (Johnathon) Pickett, and Amy (Jamie) McClain. Great Grandchildren: Tess Gardner, Evy Gardner, Fitz Gardner, Brody Pickett, Danielle McClain. She was preceded in death by her husband, of 70 years, Wilbert (Bert) Ernest Bedard. Her son: Bert Bedard Jr., her son in law, Floyd Braswell, her parents and nine siblings. Donations may be made to The First United Methodist Church of Cullman, AL. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

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TRIBUNE COLUMN

Always Reforming: You really need to know - assessment

Tom Fillinger
Tribune Columnist

The title of this column is "Always Reforming." That is the challenge for every local church. Systems and organisms left to themselves decline. Unless there is intentional and targeted effort to correct that decline the purpose for any given organism or organization is continuously compromised.

Many years ago, people feared the bubonic plague. It was a lethal affliction and resulted in many deaths.

Today most pastors have a fear that parallels that of the bubonic plague. They flat out fear objective assessment.

What is assessment and why is it important to the local church?
"The first responsibility of a leader is to accurately define reality." (Max DuPree)

He is correct. A church must know the current condition of ministry before it can expect to be effective. Every church has some level of dysfunction. Those dysfunctions must be identified and corrected. When they are not, ministry is hindered and seldom, if ever, effective.

Here is a theologically functional and beneficial definition of assessment. Assessment is the process of intentional, systematic, objective and repeated evaluation of the current reality of an organization. A key measurement component in this process is examining accomplishment as compared to purpose.

Edgar Schein, emeritus professor at MIT declared – "What you have not defined you cannot measure!"

Very few churches have a clear statement of purpose that is known and owned by the people. They are riding off in multiple directions. There are camps and cliques, each embracing private objectives.

They come to a business meeting and engage in civil war!! Until they define their purpose with precision, they are doomed to figuratively "chase their tails!" This is what produces conflict and schisms. Sound familiar?

Why is assessment important? Why do you have an annual physical? You want to know the true condition of your health. This is precisely why assessment is important to the local church. Assessment, when executed properly, informs a local church of the status of its health.

They are either healthy and effective, or, dysfunctional and ineffective, merely going through the motions,

I urge my readers to respond with honesty and integrity to this question - - "Has your church engaged in any form of objective assessment in the past year - - ever?"

The purpose of every church is to make disciples. This includes reaching lost people with the Gospel. Sadly, many churches have no connection whatsoever with the community which they serve.

IgniteUS provides a well-crafted assessment process. Churches may apply this and discover the TRUTH concerning the condition of their ministry.

When regenerate people present the Gospel and lost people are redeemed, there is joy on earth and in heaven. Christians function under the mandate of the Great Commission. Know the JOY of serving as God's Ambassadors (2 Cor. 5:19-20) and make disciples.

I urge my readers to contact me (info@igniteus.net or 800-472-3764) and schedule this process for the church in which you serve.

he cost is minimal - the benefits are significant. Ask yourself this question - - "Why would I not want to know the true condition of ministry in my church?" Why go forward in futility when you could be so much more effective? I am praying for you. I look forward to your call.

Legal Notice

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 motor vehicle law, Statues, Chapter 13, Section 1-8, Title 32 and Alabama Law Act Number 83-494-S-80, as per Legislative Act 2015-470:

2005 Jeep Liberty, Vin. #1J4GK48K75W510530
2005 Chrysler PT Cruiser, Vin. #3C4FY58B05T599188

This vehicle will be sold on Friday, February 22, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. for towing/storage fees if not claimed. Located at Hammock Auto Sales, 17 County Road 406, Cullman, Alabama 35057, 256-775-3754.

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MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the terms of that mortgage executed on March 27, 2017 by Frances Elouise Richardson, an unmarried individual and Ricky R. Kelley, an unmarried individual, to EvaBank, which said mortgage is recorded in Book MTG 1814, Page 780 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 28, 2019:

Parcel 1
One acre of land located in the South half of the Northeast quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 4, Township 11, Range 4 West and described as follows:

Commence at the Southwest corner of said twenty and go East along the South line of said twenty 465 feet more or less to a point of beginning for the one acre herein conveyed; Thence North parallel to the West line of said twenty 220 feet more or less to a point; thence East parallel to the South line of said twenty 200 feet more or less to a point; thence South parallel to the West line of said twenty 220 feet more or less to a point on the South line of said twenty; thence East along the South line of said twenty 220 feet more or less to the point beginning for the land herein conveyed.

Parcel 2
Three acres of land located in the South half of the Northeast quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 4, Township 11, Range 4 West and described as follows:

Commence or the Southwest corner of said twenty and go North 660 feet to a point; thence at right angles go East 465 feet to a point of beginning for the three. acres herein conveyed; thence continue along said line 200 feet, more or less to a point; thence South parallel with the West line of said twenty to the South .line; thence West 200 feet, more or less to a point; thence North parallel with the West line of said twenty 660 feet, more or less to the point of beginning.

Property Address: 220 County Road 820, Cullman, AL 35057 and 220 County Road 822 Cullman, AL 35057

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-January 10, 17, 24, 2019

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE:
A.W.,
A Minor Child, 12/24/2017
CASE NO. JU 2018-005.02

NOTICE

The Petitioner having made a Motion for Service by Publication in the above styled action, it is

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Father of P.M. born on or about 12/24/2017. to Stephanie Walden, respond to the Petition by the 24th day of January, 2019, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioner.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioner: Michael J. Baggett, P.O. Box 561, Cullman, AL 35056-0561, (256) 737-0740 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this the 13th day of December, 2018.

WELLS R. TURNER, III
JUVENILE JUDGE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit Court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 13 day of Dec, 2018.
Lisa McSwain (CW)
Clerk of Circuit Court

UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM — STATE OF ALABAMA

AlaFile E-Notice

25-JU-2018-000005.02
Judge: WELLS R. TURNER III

To: BAGGETT MICHAEL JOSEPH
michael@bwfirm.com

NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

IN THE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF WALDEN ARIEANNA
25-JU-2018-000005.02

The following matter was FILED on 12/13/2018 11:59:58 AM

Notice Date: 12/13/2018 11:59:58 AM

LISA MCSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
500 2ND AVENUE SW, ROOM 303
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CIRCUIT COURT OF
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LISA MCSWAIN, CLERK

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF
WALDEN ARIEANNA
Case No.: JU-2018-000005.02

ORDER

Case is set January 31, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.

DONE this 13th day of December, 2018.

/s/ WELLS R. TURNER III
JUVENILE JUDGE

CLASSIFIEDS

AUCTIONS

AUCTION: TUESDAY, January 15th, 10AM. U.S. Bankruptcy, 3902 Angel Drive Bessemer 35022. Corvette, farm implements, Lake Furnishings, Antiques. www.assetliquidators.biz, Clydette Hughes Al 1275. 205-612-4221.

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IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
TONY CLIFFORD MELCHER,
DECEASED.
CASE NO PC-2018-417

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Administration having been granted to DEBRA ANNETTE SPRADLIN, as Personal Representative of the Estate of TONY CLIFFORD MELCHER, Deceased, on the 21st day of December, 2018, by the Honorable Tammy Brown. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claim against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

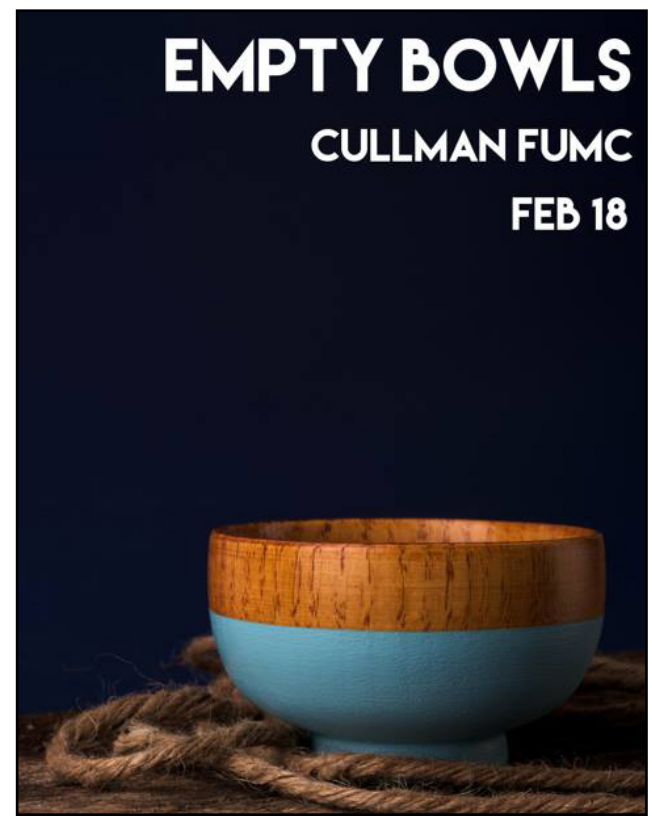
Debra Annette Spradlin
Personal Representative

J. Bradley Wilson
Attorney for Personal Representative
206 Ninth Street Southwest, Suite 102
Cullman, AL 35055
(256) 737-0740

TO: **The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune**

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

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



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