Tony Serra Nissan

GET THE RIGHT TRACTION
NAVIGATING THROUGH 2019



1724 Cherokee Ave SW
Cullman, AL
256-676-2435
TonySerraNissanCullman.com

The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

VOL. 146 • 50¢ PER COPY | *MARCH 16, 2019* | USPS 139-700 • NO. 34

NWS: EF1 tornado with 105 mph winds caused damage in White City, Holly Pond



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

A mangled tree is seen in front of a damaged home on County Road 617 in White City on Friday, March 15, 2019.

» PAGE 8



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Kenneth Don Malone

CRIME

Man indicted for murder in July 2018 slaying in New Canaan

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Kenneth Don Malone, 58, of Guntersville was indicted in February for murder in the shooting death of Joshua Adam White, 35, also of Guntersville. The shooting happened on Monday, July 16, 2018 at a residence in the New Canaan community in Cullman County. Following the indictment, Malone turned himself in to the Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) this week.

Court records show that a Cullman County grand jury in February found that Malone "did, on or about July 16, 2018 intentionally cause the death" of White by "shooting him with a revolver."

Details were scarce the evening of the incident, but the CCSO confirmed the next morning that White died after being transported to Huntsville Hospital.

In a statement on July 17, 2018, the CCSO said it received a 911 call just before 8 p.m. Monday night (July 16) about an altercation at a residence near the Cullman County, Marshall County and Blount County lines. During the initial investigation, CCSO investigators learned that one individual had shot another individual at the residence.

The evidence was turned over to the Cullman County District Attorney's Office and on Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2018 Malone was arrested.

Malone had been out on bond since his initial arrest last year.

His new bond was set at $50,000 property. He has since been released.

EDUCATION

Tony Serra Nissan-Cullman Tribune Teachers, Principal of the Month: Michelle Pender, April Hays, Chris Chambers



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Michelle Pender checks out the 2019 Nissan Rogue she'll be driving for the next month.



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

April Hays (front row, second from right) is so attached to her students that, when we brought her out to see her Nissan Rogue, she brought them with her.



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman Child Development Center Principal Chris Chambers checks out his Nissan Titan, accompanied by CCBOE Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette and Tony Serra Nissan Manager Shan Bell.

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Tony Serra Nissan is proud to announce that it is expanding its Teacher of the Month award program, in partnership with the Cullman County Board of Education (CCBOE) and The Cullman Tribune.

CCBOE Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette explained, "I'm so thankful that Nissan's partnering with us.

"I'm all about recognizing people, and I think this is a great opportunity. We started off as one Teacher of the Month, but now we've expanded that to do an Elementary Teacher of the Month, a Secondary Teacher of the Month and a Principal of the Month!"

Two teachers per month are nominated by the principals of their schools and reviewed by a committee of administrators at the CCBOE central office.

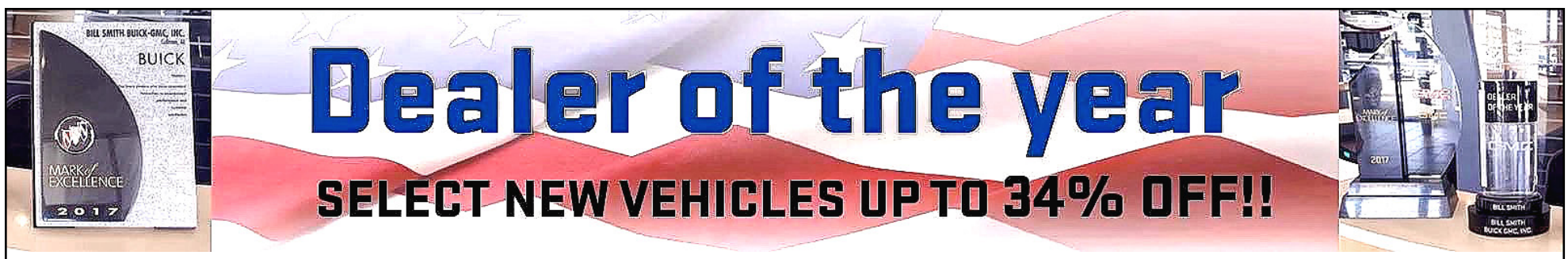
Additionally, the central office has now been charged with selecting a Principal of the Month. All honorees receive free use of a Nissan vehicle from the Tony Serra organization for one month.

Meet the Tony Serra Nissan/ » PAGE 3

EDUCATION / ARTS

5 area bands receive all Superior ratings at Music Performance Assessments

» PAGE 4



Cullman man charged with trafficking; 41 grams of meth, 5 grams of heroin seized

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – A Cullman man has been charged with trafficking after Cullman County Sheriff's deputies allegedly recovered approximately 41 grams of methamphetamine, almost 5 grams of heroin, marijuana and other drug paraphernalia during a search of his car.

Johnny Wayne Johnson, 34, was arrested Thursday and charged with trafficking in illegal drugs, trafficking in methamphetamine, unlawful possession of a controlled substance, second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

A press release from the Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) said deputies received several calls from citizens about a person on County Road 1435 (Eva Road) knocking on doors asking for clothing. The release said deputies located the suspect, later identified as Johnson, in the Dollar General parking lot on County Road 1435 near the intersection of Alabama Highway 157. The deputies then conducted a search of the car Johnson was driving.

"This is our second major drug bust in just as many days," said Sheriff Matt Gentry. "I believe we as a sheriff's office are sending a message to drug dealers that if you come to Cullman County to sell drugs in our community, you will be arrested. I know I say this a lot, but I am truly grateful for the job all of our deputies do on a daily basis and I know the citizens of Cullman County are grateful as well."



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Johnny Wayne Johnson

Johnson has made bond.

Arrests and incidents reported on March 14-15

Maggie Darnell
maggie@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported on March 14-15, 2019. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

REPORTED ON MARCH 14

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

March 11

- menacing; CR 609
- unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle; CR 222
- criminal mischief; CR 1725
- theft of property; CR 1564
- theft of property; Hwy. 157
- theft of property; Smith Lake Park
- harassment; CR 1725

March 12

- giving false name to a law enforcement officer; Wesley Ave. N
- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 216
- theft of property; Moehring Rd.
- burglary; CR 1612
- trespassing; CR 105
- domestic violence; CR 1668
- theft of property; Hwy. 91
- theft of property; CR 437

March 13

- trespassing; CR 425
- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 578
- violation of protection order; CR 650
- harassment; CR 775
- harassment; CR 1141
- theft of property; CR 490
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute, unlawful possession of a controlled substance, illegal possession of prescription drugs, unlawful possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 31
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance, unlawful possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia; Garden City Park
- trespassing; CR 425

ARRESTS

March 11

Brown, Dayron Daniel, 44
- FTA- fourth-degree theft of property

Burns, Kie Jeffery, 19
- FTA- public intoxication

Butler, Daniel Lee, 37
- third-degree domestic violence- harassment

Henderson, Sheila Ann, 51
- FTA- illegal possession of prescription medicine

Knighten, Jennifer Suzette, 33
- GJ- contributing to the delinquency of a minor
- GJ- interference with custody

Laney, Brandon Christopher, 23
- court appearance

Sanders, John H., 73
- negotiating a worthless negotiable instrument (2 counts)

Wilbanks, Martha Lynn, 41
- FTA- third-degree criminal trespassing

March 12

Addison, Kayla Mae, 26
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Adkins, John Paul, 30
- probation denied-first-degree sexual abuse

Clark, Jamie Ray, 42
- probation denied-first-degree assault

Giles, Jacob Levi, 27
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Gordon, Erica Sharee Overton, 29
- giving false name to law enforcement officer

McNabb, Robert Wayne, 39
- violation of a domestic violence protection order

Millwood, Joshua E., 28
- FTA- harassing communications
- FTA- unauthorized use/unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle

Sandlin, Dallas Chase, 21
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Widner, Kristin Lynn, 47
- DUI- alcohol and controlled substance

March 13

Campbell, Kim Marie, 45
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

Carter, Christopher Lee, 51
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance
- illegal possession of prescription medicine
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Clark, William Bennett, 62
- violation of protection order

Crenshaw, Ashley Renee, 27
- FTA- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

Fowler, Jeremy Lee, 38
- sex offender failure to register termination- SORNA

Griffin, Kera Beth, 23
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance
- illegal possession of prescription medicine
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

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

Lang, Frank Scott, 47
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance
- illegal possession of prescription medicine
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Malone, Kenneth Don, 58
- GJ- murder

Natello, Connolly Claire, 24
- public intoxication

Orourke, Jacob Michael, 27
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Scott, Sara Katel Lynn, 23
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Smith, Skipper, 50
- writ of arrest- child support

Staton, Marissa Nicole, 18
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Weaver, Coty Lee, 29
- FTA- first-degree criminal trespassing
- FTA- public intoxication
- FTA- unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle

Weldon, Tracy Michelle, 44
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Woods, Arron Blake, 18
- FTA- first-degree theft of property (2 counts)

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

- duty upon striking an unattended vehicle; person; Town Square Shopping Center; damage to '13 Hyundai; $1,000

ARRESTS

Burnett, Brian C., 31
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Hilburn, David W., 53
- third-degree domestic violence- harassment
- providing false information to a law enforcement officer

Trammell, Donald W., 43
- aggravated stalking
- second-degree stalking

Weaver, Coty L., 29
- unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No incidents or arrests reported.

REPORTED ON MARCH 15

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No incidents or arrests reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

March 12
- third-degree criminal trespassing; City of Cullman; Hickory Ave. SW

March 13
- third-degree criminal mischief; Westrock; 22nd St. SE; damaged property; $380

March 14
- second-degree theft of property; person; 4th St. SW; picture; $2,000
- fourth-degree theft of property; Belk; Cullman Shopping Center; clothing; $126

ARRESTS

March 14

Morton, Alexander S., 20
- FTA- fourth-degree theft of property

Landers, Doyle W., 37
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Pugh, Ashley C., 19
- unlawful possession or receipt of a controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Frederick, David R., 23
- unlawful possession or receipt of a controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- brass knuckles

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No incidents or arrests reported.

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

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

March 16 - 18

Sportsman Lake Park Spring Yard Sale- Saturday, March 16
7 a.m.-3 p.m. at Sportsman Lake Park

Subdivision Yard Sale- Saturday, March 16
Deer Trace subdivision, off of Hwy 278 at I-65 in Cullman, is having a community-wide garage sale. More than 12 families participating. Everything from kids' clothes and toys to furniture and housewares will be for sale. SATURDAY, MARCH 16 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Shop early for best selection, come late for "don't want to take it back inside" deals!

Cullman St. Patrick's Celebration 2019- Saturday, March 16
Join us on Saturday, March 16 for our inaugural St. Patrick's Celebration in downtown Cullman!

8-9 a.m.
- EES PTO Shamrock Shuffle 5K/1M Color Run

9 a.m.-noon
- Sidewalk Chalk Art Contest

9 a.m.-noon
- Kids' Activities at EES Playground (Inflatables, Face Painting, Games, Food Trucks)

11 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Merchant Crawl

noon-6 p.m.
- St. Patty's in the Park (Sponsored by Clayton Homes to Benefit Victim Services)

6-8 p.m.
- Pub Crawl Pre-Party/Registration at Goat Island Brewing

6-10 p.m.
- St. Patrick's Pub Crawl

10-11 p.m.
- Pub Crawl Post-Party/Winner Announcement at Mae's Food Hall

Find out more at www.facebook.com/events/495671590957115.

2019 Hanceville Irish Heritage Festival- Saturday, March 16
- Historic downtown Hanceville
- Irish music, Irish dance, arts and crafts, along with good food and Irish drink on tap, along with a little Irish swag for purchase
- Featuring Black Market Haggis, Chuck Carpenter and Tommy Chapman and O'Faolain Academy of Irish Dance
- There will also be a Doggie Parade and kids' play area with games and bouncy houses.
- Don't miss it, we look forward to seeing you there!

Cullman County Democrats Monthly Meeting- Saturday, March 16
This month's meeting will be on Saturday, March 16 at 10 a.m. at the Cold Springs Community Center. The address is 8869 Co. Rd. 109, Bremen, AL 35033.

Senior Outreach Organization Dinner and Entertainment- Saturday, March 16
The Senior Outreach Organization meets on the first, second and third Saturday of each month at The Link of Cullman County. (It is not affiliated with The Link of Cullman County, it is only renting the building.) The meal begins at 5 p.m. and the entertainment starts at 5:30 p.m. and ends at 8:30 p.m. 708 Ninth St. SE, Cullman.

Bingo at The American Legion- Saturday, March 16
Everyone is invited to Bingo every Saturday night at 6 at American Legion Post 4.
181 Reid Road, Good Hope, AL 35057

St. Paddy's Nighttime Cullman City Ghost Walk/ Paranormal Investigation- Saturday, March 16
- 8:30-10 p.m.; meet at the Cullman Festhalle

Join the Southern Ghost Girls Tours for a special St. Patrick's Day Cullman City History and Ghost Walk Tour. Start at the Festhalle Pavilion and walk the city streets for approximately 1 to 1 1/2 hours as you tour the city and see and hear about some of the infamous locations, unusual events and haunted happenings in downtown Cullman. You will use the newest paranormal investigation equipment supplied by The Southern Ghost Girls Tours. See if you can catch paranormal evidence yourself! Come join the fun as Cullman celebrates St. Patrick's Day this weekend. Tickets are $17: www.facebook.com/events/611814969243236

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Singing- Sunday, March 17
Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church will have its regular third Sunday night singing on March 17 at 6 p.m. Joyful Hearts will be the guest singers. The church is located by U.S. Highway 278, approximately 2 miles east of Holly Pond on the left. For more information, call 256-796-5986.

West Point Town Council Meeting- Monday March 18
West Point Town Hall at 6 p.m.

Garden City Town Council Meeting- Monday, March 18
Garden City Town Hall at 6 p.m.

Berlin Town Council Meeting- Monday, March 18
Berlin Community Center at 7 p.m.

Cullman City Council Meeting- Monday, March 18
Cullman City Hall at 7 p.m.

Relay For Life March Madness Golf Tournament- Saturday, March 30
The Wallace State Relay For Life team will hold a March Madness Golf Tournament on Saturday, March 30, at Cross Creek Golf Course. Check in will begin at 11 a.m., with a 12 p.m. shotgun start. The two-player scramble is flighted and includes a couple's division. Entry is $120 per team, and includes green fees and cart with GPS and club cover, team range balls, tournament gift, one attempt for longest drive, one attempt for closest pin, one attempt for closest second shot, dinner, prizes/photo. Team options include skins game, chipping and putting contest and mulligans. Cash prizes will be awarded. Register by March 23 at www.wsccalumni.org/marchmadness19 or contact Debra Young at 256-352-8334 or debra.young@wallacestate.edu. Facebook event: www.facebook.com/events/473493976509964/

Holly Pond Band 21st Annual Golf Classic- Saturday, April 6
Holly Pond Band's 21st Annual Golf Classic at Chesley Oaks will take place on April 6. For more information, visit the band's Facebook page, call 256-339-9677 or email hollypondband@gmail.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Ground flowers at the Cullman City Cemetery need to be removed by April 15 to prepare for Decoration Day on May 12.

LEGAL

Legal Notice

Pursuant to Alabama Code 32-13-1, Earl's Body Shop, Incorporated, will offer for sale at public auction the following vehicles on May 21, 2019, at 7:00 a.m.
2006 Hyundai Elantra, Vin.#KMHDN46D56U331397
2003 Dodge Stratus, Vin.#4B3AG52H63EO56385
2002 Honda Accord, Vin.#JHMCG56402C005215
1999 GMC Safari, Vin.#1GKDM19WXXB511561
2009 Dodge Journey, Vin.#3D4GG47B89T142673

The Cullman Tribune
Cullman County's Oldest Business, Serving the area since 1874
Publication Number USPS-139-700
Telephone: 256-739-1351 Fax: 1-256-739-4422
Humble Roots, LLC
Published Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 219 2nd Avenue SE, Cullman, Alabama 35055 Entered as periodical material at the Cullman Post Office Periodical postage paid at Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

ANNUALLY BASED RATES

Cullman.....$75.00
Outside Cullman.....$85.00

NoahGalilee–Publisher
DustinIsom–Editor
Wendy Sack – Newsroom Editor
Loretta Gillespie Lifestyle/Religion
Christy Perry - General Reporter
Maggie Darnell– GeneralReporter
W.C. Mann - General Reporter
Sammy Confer-Youth/JVSports Editor
Nick Griffin -Varsity Sports Editor
JoeMcElroy - Photographer
Bill Piper - Photojournalist
Howard Cole - Photojournalist
Robin Winton - Newsroom Manager
Christy Kimbril - Multi Media Consultant

ALABAMA BICENTENNIAL

Commemorative Bicentennial bourbon sells out in minutes at Cullman ABC Store

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – A crowd gathered outside of the Cullman ABC Store early Thursday morning in hopes of grabbing one of only 18 special bottles of Blanton's single barrel bourbon. Buffalo Trace Distillery and the Alabama ABC Board partnered for the special commemorative release of the highly sought-after bourbon in recognition of Alabama's 2019 Bicentennial. The 18 bottles sold out in minutes.

Cullman's was one of only 10 ABC Stores chosen to carry the collectors' edition bottles, all in custom gift boxes depicting Alabama images including the state flag and the Saturn V rocket. The bottles are marked with the Alabama 200 Bicentennial sticker.

The 18 bottles of Blanton's sold out in minutes, but the award-winning Buffalo Trace Distillery also released commemorative bottles of its Jefferson Reserve and those are still available. Special barrels of Buffalo Trace and Weller Antique 107 bourbons were selected for the commemorative Jefferson Reserve bottles.

Betty Childers, manager of the Cullman ABC Store, explained the enthusiasm for Blanton's, saying, "It's hard to get Blanton's anyway. Blanton's has a problem producing enough and we have customers call all the time just for that, but then they came out with that, ahhh! They were lined up. I got a text at 7 this morning and they were lined up. We had people come from out of town. They are collectors and that's what they do."

"Just like Buffalo Trace Distillery, Alabamians take great pride in their rich history and heritage," said Mac Gipson, the Alabama ABC Board administrator. "The 200th anniversary of our state's founding is another wonderful opportunity for Buffalo Trace and the Alabama ABC Board to collaborate on this one-of-a-kind commemorative release. Alabamians who enjoy Blanton's or any of the other Buffalo Trace offerings will want to add this special 200th Anniversary release to their collection."

Introduced in 1984 as the world's first single barrel bourbon, Blanton's is aged in Warehouse H at Buffalo Trace Distillery where Colonel Albert B. Blanton used to hand-pick "honey barrels" when entertaining important guests. The unique sphere-shaped bottles are capped with characteristic horse and jockey bottle stoppers, each marked with a single letter that spells Blanton's when aligned. When placed in order, the stoppers depict the different stages of Kentucky's most famous horse race, the Derby, from beginning to end.

In addition to Cullman, the Bicentennial bourbon was sold in Auburn, Muscle Shoals, Hoover, Guntersville, Montgomery, Mobile, Dothan, Birmingham and Tuscaloosa.



CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

This commemorative Alabama Bicentennial Blanton's single barrel bourbon with custom gift box was one of 18 sold Thursday at the Cullman ABC Store. The special bourbon was only available in 10 stores across the state.

Month (from Front)

Cullman Tribune Teachers and Principal of the Month for March!

Michelle Pender, Elementary Teacher of the Month - Hanceville Elementary School
Principal Tony Johnson, who nominated Pender, said, "Ms. Pender is a fabulous teacher and a fabulous person. She works up here tirelessly. We employ her, but the board really is employing sister, mom, dad. They're up here all the time working: changing signs, cleaning rooms, straightening beds; everything that you can think of, Ms. Pender's doing it. She's spearheaded the Milo's Student of the Month, so she runs that. Anything that we can do to recognize kids, she's involved in it; she's very, very good. We're so fortunate to have her. The kids are fortunate to have her here at Hanceville."

April Hays, Secondary Teacher of the Month - Holly Pond High School
Principal Kim Butler, who nominated Hays, shared, "She's a great teacher. She does so much beyond the classroom to help us out. She handles all of our student data, and she's always willing to do whatever we need her to do. She's one of many great ones we've got."

Chris Chambers, Principal of the Month - Cullman County Child Development Center
Barnette smiled, "We're really excited to recognize people, and Chris is a perfect principal to recognize as our first Principal of the Month.

"He pours his heart and soul in everything he does, and you can tell his passion for the young people here at the Child Development Center. We're excited to recognize him this morning."

Chambers reacted, "It's just an honor and privilege to be here, to serve, and I don't feel like I deserve it. I'm just doing my job. And the people of Cullman County's been very good to me and my family."

Barnette also commented on the recognition program: "I also appreciate The Cullman Tribune partnering with us and following these stories. I think it's a great opportunity just to highlight teachers.

"We have so many teachers and so many different employees in Cullman County Schools that we don't have an opportunity to highlight them as much. But in this situation, we get to highlight at least three.

"And then we're also, every month at board meetings, we're highlighting in a service award up to five people every month, just letting them know how much we appreciate them for going above and beyond, as well."

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

THE BARN
Portable Storage Buildings
Hanceville, AL
352-2737


A-1 Battery Supply
AUTO – TRUCK – TRACTOR
Quality Batteries For Every Need
Since 1979
2172 Co. Rd. 1169 • Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (Office): 256-734-9438

PAYROLL SERVICES, LLC HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:
Valley Rubber – 2nd and 3rd Shift Manufacturing
West Rock – 2nd Shift Assembly, 3rd Shift Manufacturing
If you are interested in one of these positions please come to our office and put in an application at:
1704 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055

Obituary Announcements: March 12 – 15

presented by


Cullman Funeral Home
"Sincere Compassionate Care"
100% Locally Owned & Operated by the Steve Rodgers Family
(256) 734-3144
461 U.S. Highway 278 East
Cullman, Alabama 35055
www.cullmanfuneralhome.com

Bruce Dustin Sutherland, 38, of Haleyville, entered into rest on March 12, 2019. Mr. Sutherland was born on August 29, 1980, in Haleyville, Alabama. Bruce attended Grace Baptist Church. He was a 1998 graduate from Phillips High School. Bruce enjoyed doing anything outdoors and he loved reading his Bible and spending time with his family. Visitation will be held on Friday, March 15, 2019 from noon until 2 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Haleyville, where services will be held at 2 p.m. Brother Ricky Thrasher will officiate. Burial will follow in Winston Memorial Cemetery. Bruce is survived by his mother, Brenda Sutherland; brother, Barry Sutherland; uncles, Tim (Trina) Pierce, Royce Kelley, Leo Pinkard; aunts, Cleta Pinkard, Carolyn Kelly, Fay Kelley; cousins, Jeff Kelly, Patrick Kelley, Greg Pinkard, Rhonda Cochran; and a host of friends. He was preceded in death by his father, Bobby Sutherland; grandparents, A.E. and Bertha Sutherland, O.B. and Esther Pierce; uncles, Phillip Kelly, Johnny Pierce; and aunt, Linda Pinkard.

Elizabeth C. Ward, 77, of Double Springs, entered into rest on March 13, 2019 at Brookwood Baptist Medical Center. Elizabeth was born on September 13, 1941, in Winston County, Alabama. She attended Winston County High School and was a member of Liberty Grove Baptist Church for 45 years. Elizabeth enjoyed collecting antiques, and taking care of her granddaughter. The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, March 15, 2019 at Nichols Funeral Home Chapel in Double Springs, Alabama. A private service will be held at a later time. Elizabeth is survived by her sons, John Ward, and Greg Ward; daughter, Beverly Sides; sisters, Marjorie Jean, Mozell Barnes, and Sue Hampton; and a host of nieces and nephews. She was known as "G" to her grandchild, Lottie Rachael Sides. She was preceded in death by her husband, Max Ward; niece, Nina Cockrell; parents, Ben and Dovie Clark; In-laws, John M. and Elsie "Tot" Ward; 1 brother; and 5 sisters.

Funeral Service for Cordis Edward Brannan, age 87, of Cullman, will be at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 17, 2019, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Rev. Samuel Tucker, Keith Hawkins, and Jim Gore officiating; interment in Welti Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Brannan passed away on Wednesday, March 13, 2019, at Cullman Regional. He was born June 16, 1931, to Roy and Lilor Brannan. He was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Venora Ray and Inez Johnson; and infant son, Christopher Brannan. Survivors include his wife of 67 years, June Cathryn Brannan; sons, Steve Brannan, Joel (Pat) Brannan, and David (Denise) Brannan; daughters, Marsha (Jim) Gore and Teresa (David) Ellis; 17 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; 2 great-great-grandchildren; and brother, Hollis Brannan. Visitation will be from 6 until 8 p.m. on Saturday, March 16, 2019, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home.

Funeral Service for Genora Brown, age 85, of Bremen, will be at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 16, 2019, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Ives Harris, Ray Bridgmon, and Bobby Waddle officiating; interment in Johnson Grove Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Brown passed away on Thursday, March 14, 2019, at her residence. She was born October 26, 1933, to the late Euel and Nancy Savannah Allred. She was preceded in death by her husband, Paul Brown; sisters, Leonia Parker and Omia Selvage; brothers, Milton Allred and Onis Allred. Survivors include her daughters, Vickie Goodwin and Holly (Daron) Woodard; grandchildren, Brandon (Jessica) Rollo, Jennifer Rollo (MIchael Grey), Sofie Woodard, and Madison Mauldin; great-grandchildren, Breanna Rollo, Nicholas Rollo, Dakota Johns, and Hannah Rollo-Myers; sisters, Ima Gean (J.B.) Chappell and Rachel (Ray) Bridgmon; brother, Bobby (Eloise) Allred; and a host of nieces and nephews. Visitation will be from noon until 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 16, 2019, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home.

Free Obituary Listings
HAVE YOUR FUNERAL HOME CONTACT US
Email: robin@cullmansense.com • Fax: 256-739-4422
Complete obituaries may be found free of charge at CullmanTribune.com/obituaries.

THE TOMBSTONE COMPANY
Custom Granite Headstones and Monuments
Date of Death Engraving in Cemeteries
Locally Made and Locally Owned
Low Cost, High Quality
30-Day Delivery, Guaranteed
We Use Only American Granite
2117 US Hwy 278 West
Cullman, AL 35057
(2 miles West of I-65)
256-734-2005
Saturdays by Appointment
www.thetombstonecompany.com

CULLMAN COUNTY HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE

Judge Kim Chaney talks internet safety for parents

W.C. Mann, Kathy Wilson, Judge Kim Chaney

Our children are our nation's most valuable assets. They represent the bright future of our country and hold our hopes for a better nation. Our children are also the most vulnerable members of our society. Protecting our children against the fear of crime and from becoming victims of crime must be a national priority. As a District and Juvenile Court Judge, Kim Chaney wants parents to know how to protect their children from the monsters of the internet.

Chaney said, "In my day, it was the man in the van with candy luring children; today that man is in the bedroom of your child on their game system, in the palm of their hand on their cell phone or tablet."

As Juvenile Court Judge and a founding member of the Human Trafficking Task Force here in Cullman, Chaney feels an obligation to protect our children.

From a pamphlet provided to families by Judge Chaney:

What are signs that your child might be at risk online?

• Your child spends large amounts of time online, especially at night. Most children that fall victim to computer sex offenders spend large amounts of time online, particularly in chat rooms. They may go online after dinner, during the evening hours, and on the weekends.

• You find pornography on your child's computer. Pornography is often used in the sexual victimization of children. Sex offenders often supply their potential victims with pornography as a means of opening sexual discussion, and for seduction.

• Your child receives phone calls from men you don't know or is making calls, sometimes long distance, to numbers you don't recognize.

• Your child receives mail, gifts, or packages from someone you don't know. As part of the seduction process, it is common for offenders to send letters, photographs, and all manner of gifts to their potential victims.

• Your child turns the computer monitor off or quickly changes the screen on the monitor when you come into the room. A child looking at pornographic images or having sexually explicit conversations does not want you to see it on the screen.

• Your child becomes withdrawn from the family. Computer sex offenders will work very hard at driving a wedge between a child and their family, or at exploiting their relationship. Children may also become withdrawn after sexual victimization.

• Your child is using an online account belonging to someone else. Even if you don't subscribe to an online service or internet service, your child may meet an offender while online at a friend's house or the library.

What can you do to minimize the chances of an online exploiter victimizing your child?

• Communicate, and talk to your child about sexual victimization and potential online danger.

• Spend time with your children online. Have them teach you about their favorite online destinations.

• Keep the computer in a common room in the house, not in your child's bedroom. It is much more difficult for a computer sex offender to communicate with a child when the computer screen is visible to a parent or another member of the household.

• Utilize parental controls provided by your service provider and/or blocking software. While electronic chat can be a great place for children to make new friends and discuss various topics of interests, it is also prowled by computer sex offenders. Use of chat rooms, in particular, should be heavily monitored. While parents should utilize these mechanisms, they should not totally rely on them.

• Always maintain access to your child's online account, and randomly check his/her email. Be aware that you child could be contacted through the U.S. Mail. be up front with your child about your access and reasons why.

• Teach your child the responsible use of resources online. There is much more to the online experience than chat rooms.

• Find out what computer safeguards are used by your child's school, the public library, and at the homes of your child's friends. These are all places outside your normal supervision, where your child could encounter an online predator.

Instruct your children:

• to never arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone they met online

• to never upload pictures of themselves onto the internet or online service to people they do not personally know

• to never give out identifying information such as their name, home address, school name, or telephone number

• to never download pictures from an unknown source, as there is a good chance there could be sexually explicit images

• to never respond to messages or bulletin board postings that are suggestive, obscene, belligerent, or harassing

• that whatever they are told online may or may not be true



With the Citizens Mobile App,
On-the-go banking is at your fingertips.

CITIZENS BANK & TRUST

223 2nd Ave SE | Cullman
256-941-4600
citizensbanktrust.com

Member FDIC

*Third party fees for data, messaging, Internet may apply.

Download on the App Store
Download from Google Play

Bands (from Front)

Heather Mann
Tribune Correspondent

CULLMAN, Ala. – When football season is over and high school bands pack up their marching equipment, the focus shifts to concert performances. While marching bands can go to several competitions throughout the season to be judged and rated on their performances, most concert bands only have one judgement: the Alabama Music Educators Association's Music Performance Assessment (MPA).

MPAs are held at different locations throughout the state, but the process for each one is basically the same: each band chooses three pieces with contrasting styles - typically a march, a ballad and a third style in between the other two speeds, one of which must be chosen from an approved list - and performs them in front of three judges, then goes to a different room to sight-read (play music that they've never seen or practiced before) in front of one judge. The scoring process is very similar to that of marching competitions, on a scale of 0-100 with ratings like Superior (90-100), Excellent (80-89.9), Good (70-79.9), Fair (60-69.9) and Poor (below 60). At their performances this year, five bands around Cullman County scored Superior ratings from every judge for which they performed.

The Tribune reached out to the band directors for comment.

Evan Curtis, Holly Pond High School Band
"We began preparing for this performance the first week of January and the kids have spent countless hours rehearsing since. I'm just overwhelmed with pride for our students and that their hard work paid off. Not many groups receive all Superiors and for us to earn that is a very big deal. Being a successful group comes down to dedication and strong work ethic. I think we have really great students and music educators in our school system that enable these things to take place."

Christopher Smith, Cullman High School Symphonic Band
"We started working on our music and practicing sight-reading when we came back from Christmas break, and actually we took two groups up to UNA - my group, the symphonic band, and the concert band, which was led by Mr. Doug Teuscher. The concert band received Excellent ratings all around and the symphonic band, this was actually the 26th year in a row that we've received an overall Superior rating.

"We're all really proud of the students, of both groups, for their hard work and what they were able to achieve. You know, when you can put a group of students in a room with a piece of music they've never seen before and have them play it for a judge, and do it successfully, it really makes everyone proud. The students are proud of themselves, and it makes us as directors proud to see all these skills we've been teaching them since middle school really pay off. They represented our school and community very well and we are looking forward to all that they will accomplish in the future.

"We're not done performing yet; the jazz band will be performing at the Strawberry Festival in April, and all three bands (symphonic, concert and jazz) will have their spring concerts on May 2."

Skylar King, Vinemont High School Band
"This year our concert band performed March 5 at Norton Auditorium. The band is comprised of high school students, a few eighth graders and two seniors. This composition of students really show the maturity of this group, the leadership of our upper classmen and our potential for growth in the future.

"This year our band program received a Superior rating from every judge, from our marching band, drum major, auxiliaries, percussion and concert band this has been a great year for our students and we'll be ending this year with our spring concert May 2 and band banquet May 11."

Nathan Kilgo, Fairview High School Band
"I'm very proud of the group's performance at our state performance assessment. This is a stressful event, but it is well worth it to see the students' hard work pay off, and they definitely worked hard, putting in extra hours outside of our normal class time.

"While we are proud of our scores, we know it's more about the process of getting better as musicians, setting goals and striving for them, and getting feedback from other music professionals on things to continue to work on to improve."

Jesse James, Hanceville High School Band
"I'm so incredibly proud and blessed to be the director of this great group of kids. Through all of their hard work, they pushed through and performed their absolute best. It is just so incredible to watch them grow through music. It was a fantastic day!"





CALL
RICHARD NEESE
WITH
WEICHERT REALTORS
THE SPACE PLACE
256-708-1511



OVER 2600 Sq. Ft.

GORGEOUS HARDWOOD FLOORS AND QUARTZ COUNTER TOPS

LOCATION CONVENIENT TO DOWNTOWN CULLMAN

1407 WISTERIA ST SE,
CULLMAN, AL 35055

Cullman High pageant winners

CULLMAN, Ala. – Cullman High School wishes to congratulate the following winners from our 2018-2019 Miss Southerner Pageant and 2019 Fair Queen Representative Pageant.

Submitted by Cullman High School

2018-2019 Miss Southerner

Kylie Hawkins

Miss Southerner Miss Congeniality
Adrionna Cox
Miss Southerner Miss Photogenic
Cailyn Sorrow
Miss Southerner 3rd Alternate
Emily Little
Miss Southerner 2nd Alternate
Isabella Allred
Miss Southerner 1st Alternate
Shelby Sessions
Top Ten
Kylie Hawkins, Shelby Sessions, Isabella Allred, Emily Little, Morgan Dingler, Brooke Cagle, Ali Burlison, Abbie Allison, Josie Rice and Caleigh Echols

2019 Fair Queen Representative

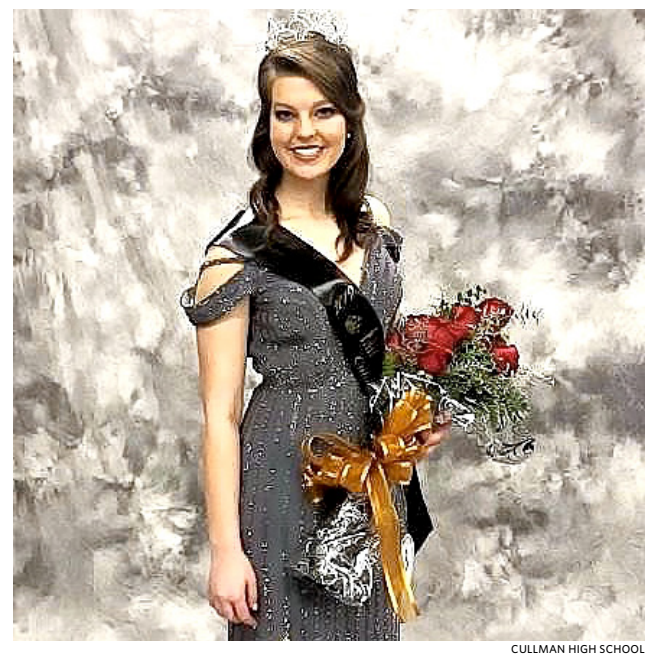
Lauren Grace Evans

Fair Queen Miss Congeniality
Moriah Wilhite
Fair Queen Talent Winner
Reagan Martin
Fair Queen 2nd Alternate
Reagan Martin
Fair Queen 1st Alternate
Isabella Allred



CULLMAN HIGH SCHOOL

Kylie Hawkins, 2018-2019 Miss Southerner



CULLMAN HIGH SCHOOL

Lauren Grace Evans, 2019 Fair Queen Representative



CULLMAN HIGH SCHOOL

Fair Queen winners, left to right: Reagan Martin, Lauren Grace Evans, Isabella Allred, Mariah Wilhite



CULLMAN HIGH SCHOOL

Miss Southerner winners, Back row (left to right): Isabella Allred, Shelby Sessions, Cailyn Sorrow; front row (left to right): Emily Little, Kylie Hawkins, Adrionna Cox



DEALER OF THE YEAR



Bill Smith

BUICK GMC



NEW YEAR, NEW SAVINGS, ONLY AT BILL SMITH!

2019 GMC ACADIA
FWD Denali



STK#97027

LIST ~~$50,280~~
SALE $35,995

2019 GMC SIERRA 1500
Crew Cab Short Box 4-Wheel Drive Denali



STK#97458

LIST ~~$69,570~~
SALE $58,983

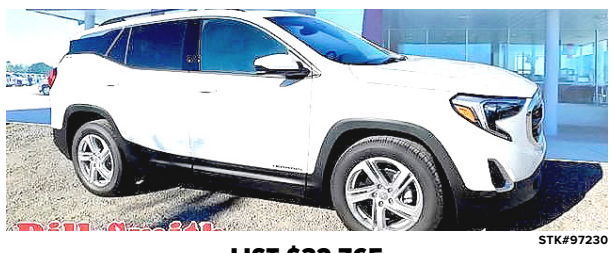
2018 BUICK REGAL TOURX
Preferred AWD



STK#84246

LIST ~~$37,100~~
SALE $24,995

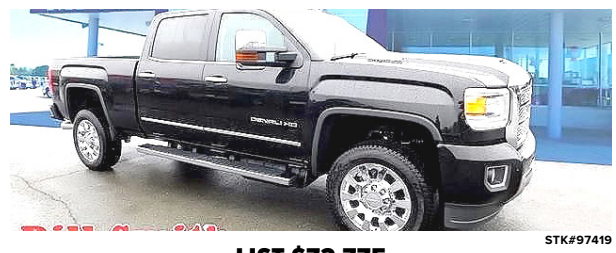
2019 GMC TERRAIN
FWD SLE



STK#97230

LIST ~~$32,765~~
SALE $20,995

2019 GMC SIERRA 2500HD
Crew Cab Standard Box 4-Wheel Drive Denali



STK#97419

LIST ~~$72,775~~
SALE $60,995

2019 GMC ACADIA
FWD SLE-1



STK#97017

LIST ~~$33,795~~
SALE $21,995

2019 BUICK ENCORE
Preferred FWD



STK#94026

LIST ~~$25,990~~
SALE $14,995
OR 72 MO. 0% FOR $17,689 • UP TO 42% OFF!

2018 GMC SIERRA 1500
Crew Cab Short Box 4-Wheel Drive SLT Premium Package



STK#88910

LIST ~~$ 53,035~~
SALE $36,994

2018 GMC SIERRA 1500
Crew Cab Short Box 4-Wheel Drive SLT Premium Plus Package



STK#88735

LIST ~~$56,945~~
SALE $39,945
OVER $17,000 OFF!

Bill Smith BUICK GMC

DON'T MAKE A $3,000 MISTAKE

*Notates all rebates applied, must have '99 or newer qualifying trade in. Prices are plus tax, title, & fee. Colors may vary.

BILLSMITHBUICKGMC.COM • 1940 SECOND AVE NW • CULLMAN, AL 35055 • 256-734-4472

•1874• **Alabama Tribune** •2019•

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE • ALABAMA'S OLDEST CONTINUOUSLY PUBLISHED WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

"THE 67-COUNTY, ALABAMA GARDEN PARTY"

BLOUNT COUNTY

Grand opera scenery is how Blount County was sumptuously designed by nature. The soaring mountains and plunging gorges have a jaw-dropping grandeur and are exhilarating to explore on foot or on the tree-skirted roads which have been carefully carved into the landscape. Even though we Alabamians have a lot more experience with the Grand Ole Opry than grand opera, it is easy to imagine a full-chested Luciano Pavarotti, Maria Callas or Dolly Parton filling and trilling this thrilling panorama with their arias. By the way, aria means "air" and if you're in need of the good stuff, the plant-cleansed, fresh air in Blount County could be just what your lung doctor ordered.

Blount Countians regularly defy the challenges of planting on a hillside; you'll spot a tidy farm with a well-tended garden resplendent with bountiful vegetables and, just for the heaven of it, some colorful flowers. The Blount County hills are alive with the joy of gardening.

This could seem like an embarrassment of visual riches, but to this sweeping terrain, picture-perfect farmland and charming gardens, add the most covered bridges of any county in Alabama.

If you're an Alabama landscape painter or photographer, just go ahead and get in your car and GPS it to Blount County.

The bridges of Blount County have their own compelling stories and deserve a best-selling romance novel and a film of their own. Most were built to cross rushing streams. Wood for the timber trusses, roofs, decking and siding all came from the nearby forest.

When you visit, notice how the longitudinal timber-trusses are engineered as backbones and how the latticework is pretty but is really designed to light safe passage. These bridges are picturesque, but they were also practical. A covered bridge can endure rain and sun for a hundred years, while a typical uncovered wooden bridge would last 20.

Like the high-profile example of the covered bridges, picturesque, practical preservation is a hallmark of Blount County and has been from the earliest days of the settlers. The Alabama Territory Legislature established Blount County on Saturday, Feb. 7, 1818.

You could imagine the locals hearing that news a few Saturdays later when they came into town to trade for the few supplies they couldn't produce on their mostly self-sufficient farms.

Traditional preservation techniques like canning, sun-drying and freezing locally-grown produce are still common here, the knowledge and skills often passed down from one generation to the next. And, if somebody outgrows a shirt or dress and there isn't someone waiting for the hand-me-downs, the garment is repurposed into a quilt. The land sustains the people of Blount County and the people preserve the place.

Here are other positive and pleasurable ways PEOPLE + PLANTS come together in Blount County:

• **BLOUNT COUNTY FARMERS MARKET**—Blount County-Oneonta Agri-Business Center, 500 New Street, Oneonta, AL 35121; Saturdays in May, then from June-October every Tues./Thurs./Saturday, 7 a.m.-1 p.m.

• **BLOUNT COUNTY U-PICK FARMS**—Baty Farms (Cleveland) blueberries; Daniel Allman (Oneonta) tomatoes, green beans, sweet corn, watermelons, honeydew melons, cantaloupes; Jerry Marsh Farm (Cleveland) strawberries, peas, tomatoes, beans, peppers, melons, corn, cucumbers, squash, potatoes; Kenneth Witt Farm (Hayden) strawberries, cantaloupes, blackberries, peaches, squash, cucumbers; Moody's Blueberries (Oneonta); Tumblin Farms (Cleveland) muscadines, scuppernongs

• **BLOUNT COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICE**—Dan Porch, Blount County coordinator for the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, suggested these PLANTS + PEOPLE places to explore also: The Great Pumpkin Patch (Hayden); Graves Family Market (Altoona) and Mann's Produce (Hayden); check the Facebook page of each for best time of year to enjoy.

• **BLOUNT COUNTY LOCAL NURSERIES**—Triple J Nursery (Hayden), Blackwood Crossing Nursery (Cleveland), T.J.'s Nursery (Blountsville)

• **DUNN'S BLOOM-IN-PIE DAYS** —(2 weekends in June, check their Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/Dunns-Angus-and-Daylilies-917771511577249/); daylilies and pies, what's not to love?

• **BEST PLACE FOR A LANDSCAPE PAINTER/PHOTOGRAPHER IN BLOUNT COUNTY**—remember this entire county is loaded with grand operatic scenery, but one all-time favorite vista is high on the refurbished fire tower on Ebell Mountain; this is located in the 145-acre public Palisades Park, created and managed by Blount County.

• **BLOUNT COUNTY COVERED BRIDGES**—Take your picnic blanket and a camera, each of these is a lovely backdrop for a memorably delightful visit: Easley Covered Bridge, Swann Covered Bridge and the Horton Mill Covered Bridge.

• **BANGOR CAVE**—It has gone from Prohibition-era "speakeasy" to the spelunkers of today; the natural cave in this neck of the piney woods in Blount County once housed the infamous Bangor Café Club where visitors could be dropped off at the entrance by the L&N Railroad and welcomed by poker cards and "painted ladies."

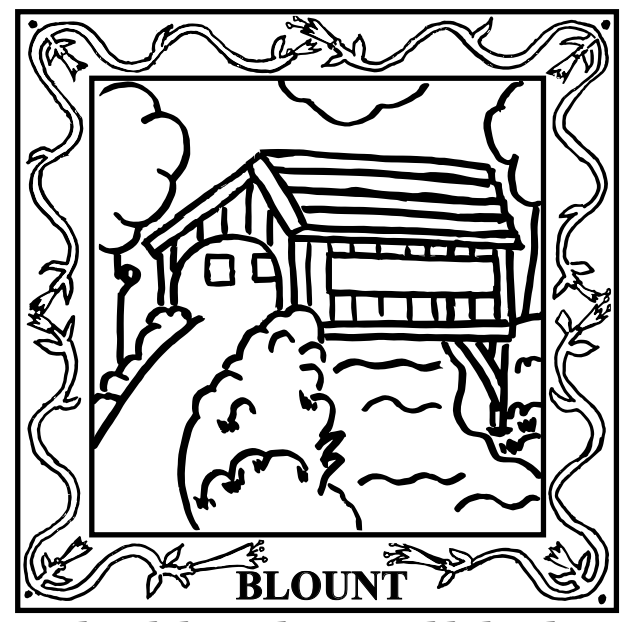
• **BLOUNT SPRINGS RESORT**—It was popular in the early part of the 20th century for natural mineral springs, and a cool, leafy respite for Southern city folks to escape the sultry hot summers. Lillian Russell, the biggest star of the day, vacationed at Blount Springs accompanied by famous NYC restauranteur, Diamond Jim Brady; the tabloids reported Miss Russell got so many chigger bites while sunbathing it took all the butter in Blount County and a number of willing hands to soothe her.

• **BLOUNT COUNTY "JUST A BOWL OF BUTTER BEANS" BOB CAIN**—Pay your respects to one of Alabama's most popular entertainers, Robert Lyle "Bob" Cain, buried in the Clear Springs Cemetery (Allgood). In my salad days, Bob Cain owned the funniest, "live music" supper club in Birmingham, The Cane Break, and performed when Bob Cain and The Canebreakers weren't playing Las Vegas. Top stars Bob Hope, Ray Charles and Johnny Cash would pop in and join the rest of us while Bob Cain led a happy sing-along of "Just a Bowl of Butter Beans" to the tune of "Just a Closer Walk with Thee," a hymn he knew from his Alabama childhood. You'll want to YouTube Bob Cain performing this classic while you cook up the recipe for BLOUNT COUNTY BUTTER BEAN SOYBEAN SUCCOTASH—song lyrics provided.

PLANTING AN IDEA: Saluting the self-reliance and creativity of Blount Countians and 200 years of handsewn clothing and quilts, Blount County-grown cotton could be creatively dyed using traditional plant dyes such as indigo (blues), safflower petals (yellows) and black walnut hulls (rich browns). Classes could be taught by the North Alabama Agriplex, which serves the area.

Y'ALL COME to Blount County on your Alabama Garden Party tour. This is a particularly stunning place to celebrate the positive and pleasurable ways PLANTS + PEOPLE have come together for more than 200 years.

Many thanks to Dan Porch, Blount County coordinator, Alabama Cooperative Extension System.



The Alabama honeysuckle border was inspired by an 18th century, Southern applique quilt.

BLOUNT COUNTY BUTTER BEAN SOYBEAN SUCCOTASH

This healthy, 1800s basic recipe highlights Blount County produce and brings it into Alabama's third century by adding fresh, green soybeans (which fancy grocers like Whole Foods call edamame) and herbed corn. It's so easy to cook you'll be singing "Just a Bowl of Butter Beans" to the tune of "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" as Blount County's Bob Cain popularized. Here are your lyrics: "Just a bowl of butter beans. Pass the cornbread, if you please. I don't want no collard greens. Just give me a bowl of them good ole butter beans."

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup fresh, Blount County butter beans
- ½ cup fresh, Blount County edamame (aka edible soybeans)
- 1 tbsp. vegetable oil
- ½ cup chopped, Blount County red bell pepper
- ½ cup chopped, Blount Count onion
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 cups fresh, Blount County sweet corn kernels
- 3 tbsp. water or chicken broth
- 2 tbsp. rice vinegar
- 2 tbsp. fresh, chopped basil or 1 tbsp. dried basil
- ½ tsp. salt
- Fresh, ground black pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS

1. Cook butter beans and soybeans in a large saucepan of lightly salted water, about 4 minutes until tender. Drain well.
2. Heat vegetable oil in a large, nonstick skillet over medium heat.
3. Add bell pepper and onion, cook, stirring often until the onion is translucent (about 2 minutes).
4. Add garlic and stir 30 seconds to allow it to sweat.
5. Stir in corn, water or chicken broth, butter beans and soybeans.
6. Cook, stirring frequently for 4 minutes.
7. Remove from heat. Stir in vinegar, basil, salt and black pepper.
8. Serve immediately.

NOTES: 6 servings; can make ahead and refrigerate up to two days. Healthy meat lovers could top this succulent succotash with their favorite Blount County grilled poultry or fish. For those who like a little spice, a dash of red pepper will add a little pop to this new, classic dish.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

This part of Alabama is known for being inventive and fun. The county was perfectly named to honor the American inventor, ambassador and 24/7 fun lover, Benjamin Franklin.

Alabama's first railroad was started here with crossties cut from the native forests. Thanks to rich soil, talented growers and lots of sunshine, the main cargo was the area's prized cotton headed to textile mills. The locals learned this maxim Ben Franklin wrote in "Poor Richard's Almanack": "Hide not your talents, they for use were made, what's a sundial in the shade?"

And, the fun part is underscored each year with the state's favorite watermelon festival made juicily competitive with the annual seed-spitting contest. Though far from solemn, these seed spitters are serious. Don't get between them and their targets. They could put your eye out.

Franklin County was established on Feb. 6, 1818 as part of the Alabama Territory. Even the old, farming community names like Spruce Pine, Seven Pines, Belgreen and Vina tell you Franklin County is a place where people love plants.

Here are more examples of the positive and pleasurable ways PLANTS + PEOPLE come together in Franklin County:

• **FRANKLIN COUNTY FARMERS' MARKETS**—Downtown Russellville at 202 Green Ave. SW and downtown Red Bay at 652 Second St. NE

• **FRANKLIN COUNTY FARM STANDS**—Jimmy Manning and Susie Baker, both in Russellville

• **BANKHEAD NATIONAL FOREST (part)**—One of Alabama's four,national forests, this green wonderland is known as "Land of a Thousand Waterfalls."

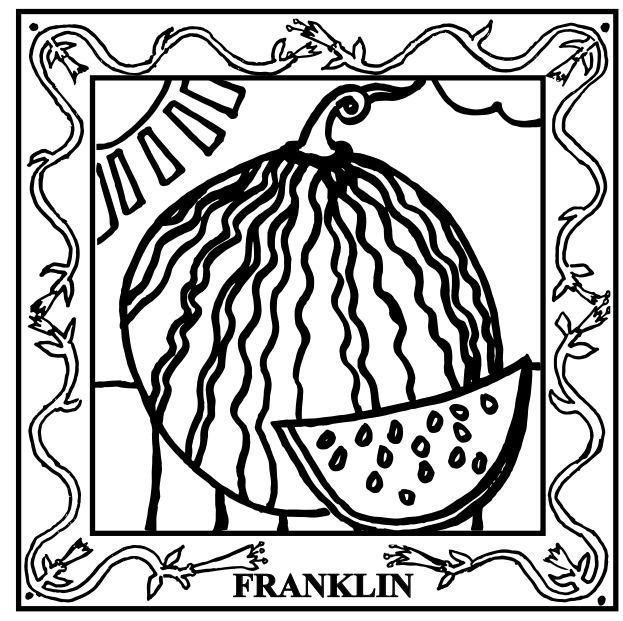
• **OVERTON FARM**—A fine example of a vernacular, "Alabama Dogtrot" house, with two rooms built of native lumber separated by an open breezeway, it was built in 1817 and has been on the National Register of Historic Places since 1975. Demonstrations of tobacco farming and corn farming; restored by the Northwest Alabama State Junior College

• **DISMAL CANYON**—(Phil Campbell) It's a privately-owned park, perfect for picnickers amid a plethora of plants, and after dark there's a real-live magic show of rare, luminous insects affectionately called "the Franklin County Glowworms."

• **WATERMELON FESTIVAL**—In Russellville every August; watermelons are members of the gourd family, Cucurbitaceae, which includes cantaloupes, squash, cucumbers and honeydew melons, all of which thrive in Franklin County; antique tractor and car show, bike and running contests and FREE, COLD WATERMELON SLICES!

PLANTING AN IDEA—A Benjamin Franklin Kite Park celebrating a Southern plant discovered by American Colonial plantsmen, John and William Bartram, and named for their good friend, Ben Franklin; the plant is the "Franklinia alatamaha," which is commercially available and relatively inexpensive for a large shrub or a small tree. This deciduous member of the "tea family" has white, lightly fragrant blossoms similar to an Alabama camellia.

Y'ALL COME to Franklin County on your 67-County, Alabama Garden Party tour. Even though it's north Alabama, it gets hotter than all "git out" in the summers, so you may find some inspiration from this Benjamin Franklin, PLANTS + PEOPLE quote: "Beer is proof that God loves us and wants us to be happy."



FRANKLIN COUNTY WATERMELON AND GOAT CHEESE SALAD

INGREDIENTS

- ¼ cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 tbsp. fresh, lemon juice
- 2 tbsp. red wine vinegar
- ¼ tsp. salt
- Ground black pepper; to taste
- 4 cups Franklin County lettuces
- 4 cups seedless, Franklin County watermelon, diced
- 2 oz. Alabama goat cheese, crumbled
- ½ cup Alabama pecans, chopped

DIRECTIONS

1. Whisk together olive oil, lemon juice, vinegar, salt and pepper.
2. In a large bowl, gently toss the lettuce greens and diced watermelon together with the vinaigrette.
3. Top with goat cheese and pecans to serve.

FUNNY THINGS FROM YESTERDAY

My dogs don't tree nothing but coons

Robert N. Tidwell, Sr.
Tribune Contributor



One time we had a family of groundhogs living in a dirt pile behind our shop.

One of our drivers, Paul, and I were talking about the groundhogs and he said, "Speaking of animals, reminds me of my coon hunting days."

He then told me this true incident of one of his hunting trips.

Paul had a friend that had three big redbone coon hunting hounds.

The friend told Paul, "My dogs don't tree nothing but coons."

So Paul and his friend took these three big dogs out for a coon hunt one night.

The dogs picked up a trail and followed it for about two hours before they treed. The two men found the dogs. The animal the dogs had treed was up a scraggly oak tree. Paul climbed the tree while his friend stayed on the ground.

His friend called up to Paul and asked, "What do we have treed?" (They had treed a skunk.)

Paul, knowing full well what was treed, called down to his friend, "I don't know what this varmint is, but if you will hold two of your big dogs, I'll shake it out and let the other dog get it."

Paul's friend held two of those big powerful hounds by their collars.

Paul shook the skunk out of the tree, and as soon as it hit the ground, both of those big dogs dragged Paul's friend right into the middle of the fight. There they were, three big dogs, one skunk and Paul's friend in a big fight.

Paul climbed out of the tree on the uphill side to avoid the fracas. His friend had on a new pair of overalls that had be thrown away and he made his dogs walk home.

Paul still laughs about those dogs that don't tree nothing but coons.

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

An outpouring of love that touched lives and hearts

Bill King
Tribune Contributor



Last week, as you no doubt know, killer tornadoes ripped through our state, once again. The EF-4 twisters ripped through a rural community, outside of Beauregard, killing twenty-three people there and wounding one-hundred. The storms went on to destroy property in Smiths Station, Eufaula, and even into Georgia. The results were heartbreaking.

What you may not know is the enormous number of people who have rallied together to aid and assist those who had lost so much. People came from all over to help the hurting and remember the deceased. Providence Baptist Church, in Beauregard, served as a hub of activities in the cleanup efforts. The church had to bring in volunteers to assist victims, and even to answer all the calls coming in from people who wanted to help.

My office at Tuskegee Lee Baptist Association, in Opelika, received hundreds from across the nation, and even one from another country, from people wanting to help. Disaster Relief teams came with trucks and trailers filled with chainsaws to remove trees off of houses and out of yards. Chaplains came to minister to the hurting and bereaved. Local pastors and ministers showed up at East Alabama Medical Center, in Opelika, the evening of the storm to comfort and pray with families.

As early as Monday morning, donations of all kinds began pouring in. Churches, businesses, organizations, and individuals sent checks and gift cards to help the hurting and assist those helping. Others brought goods by the truckloads.

We soon had enough bottled-water to start a new river! Churches were set up as distribution centers and were soon filled with clothing, diapers, blankets, food, toiletry items, work tools, and much more. Disaster relief and response teams from Christian organizations, churches, and other groups, worked tirelessly all weeklong. Alabama Baptists set up a laundry service for victims and volunteers. Even The President, First Lady, and the governor of Alabama came to visit.

A sixty-seven year old retired carpenter, named Greg Zanis, traveled to Beauregard from Aurora, Illinois. He drove his pick-up-truck almost 850 miles, one way. He had no connection to our area. He didn't know a single one of the victims who had died in the storm, or even those whose homes had been damaged or destroyed. He came to deliver gifts; to set up memorials – twenty-three of them, to be exact.

In 1997, after he saw his father-in-law gunned down, Mr. Zanis erected a cross in his memory. Two years later, he erected crosses for the victims of the Columbine shooting. Since then he has built and erected more than 26,000 hand- built wooden crosses. Mostly at his own expense, he has placed them across the nation in memory of the victims of tragedies. Some call Mr. Zanis "The Cross Man." His work is known as "Crosses for Losses." On the day of the storms, he worked through the night building crosses. He paints each four- foot tall cross white, writes the name of a victim on the crossbeam, and attaches a large red heart below the crossbeam. He drove himself to Alabama where he personally erected the crosses on the lawn of Providence Baptist Church, and placed a stuffed bear at the base of each cross. Each bear is unique because each victim was unique. President and Mrs. Trump viewed the crosses during their visit last Friday, stopping for a moment in front of each cross. The crosses will be given to the families of the deceased.

We often hear about all the bad things people do. I wanted to share about some good things a large number of people did last week. There are still many good people left in this world. There will, no doubt, be others who will lend a hand and give a gift in the days ahead. Thank you.

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

Tribune Column: Fishing with Tim

Tim Arnold
tim@cullmantribune.com

I want to start off by introducing myself. I am an avid outdoorsman, a tournament angler and a high school fishing coach. I have fished all my life, and even though I fish professional tournaments such as FLW and BASS, I have never considered myself as a pro such as Kevin Vandam and Rick Clunn. I still learn new things each year as new baits and techniques emerge, along with new technology.

I have won local tournaments over the years, but I know I may never hold a major pro tournament trophy like our local pro Jordan Lee, and although that would be a dream come true I'm fine with that. It's in my blood; I truly love the sport and the competition. That's why I keep trying to compete.

Each fishing trip has its own challenges with every changing condition. Some days seem like you can't do anything wrong and the next trip you can't seem to do anything right.

It is a very humbling sport to say the least. One week you're buying tons of new tackle and equipment and the next week you want to burn it all because you had a bad day or tournament. That's why it's called fishing, and I love it, at least for now; ask me after my next trip out.

With that being said, most avid bass anglers will know all about what I'm talking about in the rest of this column, but I ask you if you do to pass along your knowledge to a kid so they can carry on the next generation. High school and college fishing have blown up over the last few years and will continue to grow the sport.

Most weekend bass fisherman start getting their tackle out to get ready for the fishing season when we start getting those few warm, sunny days. We start seeing buttercups blooming and the trees budding and begin to get excited about spring fishing. The boat ramps start getting crowded and the tackle shops get busy. Spring is just around the corner, officially, even though it has been a fairly mild winter.

With all the rain in recent weeks most lakes and rivers are full or over full pool and most are heavily stained. This sometimes makes fishing a challenge, but the stained water sets up an opportunity because the lack of vison forces bass to rely on vibrations and sound to feed.

High, muddy water can quickly scatter out fish due to some fish venturing into shallow new territory forging on food while some remain close to areas where they were prior to the water change. The challenge is figuring out where to start looking for them.

One simple rule of thumb to remember after a heavy rain (especially in the spring) is to fish where water is coming into the lake such as a small creek or stream. These creeks pump thousands of gallons of water into the lake, and along with the water is food such as crawfish, salamanders and other fish. Some good baits for bass in these places would include crankbaits, jigs and shakey heads, just to name a few. Springtime fishing is usually great because bass are getting ready to spawn and they are feeding up and they will bite many different type baits.

Here is a list of baits I keep on hand in the spring months: Jerkbaits, spinnerbaits, chatterbaits, jigs, crankbaits, rattlebaits and various soft plastics.

One technique I use quite often is the Carolina rig. This technique can be used with a variety of baits like lizards and worms. This technique will catch bass just about anywhere you fish. Another bait I use frequently is a jig. This bait is perhaps the closest thing that resembles a crawfish there is. The way a jig looks in the water and the action it has when drug along the bottom looks just like a crawfish crawling on the bottom.

When I choose a crankbait I normally stick with a medium diver, one that dives 10-12 feet deep depending on how deep I think the bass are and usually in a crawfish pattern of some kind since they feed so heavily on crawfish with all the creeks following in. Square bill crankbaits are also good when bass are shallow on the banks. These baits run approximately 1-5 feet and work well around logs, bushes and other shallow cover. Some square bills have rattles and some are silent. You will have to play around with them to see what the fish are wanting that day. Sometimes subtle changes like no rattles or a small color change make the difference.

Try some of these baits and techniques the next time you're out if you haven't. Maybe they will put some fish in your boat. Remember to do your part in protecting our lakes and rivers so our kids can enjoy the same things we are.

Please email me questions or pictures of your recent catches. They may end up featured in this outdoors column. I will also try to keep up with local, high school, college and pro tournaments and post results.

Thank you for reading!

Tim Arnold

- **Facebook:** Tim Arnold Fishing
- **Instagram:** @timarnoldfishing

Email questions and pictures to: tim@cullmantribune.com.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The touchy subject of taxes

Leeanna Smith
Contributor

I am fortunate to work in a school system whose community voted to keep a local tax to improve schools. I am also fortunate to live in a community that has supported an ad valorem tax for the past 60 years. This tax has benefited me as a student, my children as current students, and my family as employment. This tax is up for renewal and I ask that you put your gas tax frustrations aside and vote yes on Tuesday. These kids are amazing and the ones that follow will be too! Cullman citizens, they need our support and encouragement, and sometimes that is shown in the form of a tax. Keep this community ever striving for better things for our children. Remember the kids, teachers and those that are tied to education when you cast your vote. #voteyesplease

Editor's note: Read about the upcoming Tuesday, March 19 tax referendum vote at www.cullmantribune.com/articles/2019/03/08/what-you-need-know-about-march-19-school-tax-vote

Tribune Files from Yesteryear

From The Files Of 1950

Fairview West News

Mr. and Mrs. Arlin Blackwood, of Hartselle, were Friday dinner guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L.M. Bryant.

Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Cornett and Mr. and Mrs. Claud Sharp and children called on Mr. and Mrs. Devere Holloway and children, on Sunday.

Grace Chopp, of Dora, spent last week with her sister, Mrs. Claud Sharp.

Mrs. Edna Quinn and baby visited Mrs. Vivelve Moore and family on Sunday.

Bethany News

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Williams, of Birmingham, spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. I.H. Eady.

Hilda Perdue, who is attending school in Cullman, spent the weekend at home.

Doris Taylor is ill.

Mrs. Olen Stricklin and Valaree, of Decatur, spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. W.D. Stricklin.

Mrs. C.C. Harbison spent a few days with Mr. and Mrs. R.C. Harbison in Birmingham, who are the parents of a baby boy. He has been named Roger Keith.

Mrs. Lelton Pittman, Harold and Charlotte, of Birmingham, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. K.L. Clay.

Mrs. Arcie Phillips, of Texas, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Eady.

Valley Grove News

Ordress Tucker, of Tuscumbia, spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Tucker.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Carrigan, of Birmingham, spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Treptau, who returned home with them.

Mrs. Cecil McCombs and boys, of Birmingham and Mr. Billy McCombs, of Eva were the Sunday dinner guests of Mrs. T.J. McCombs.

Mrs. Mary Eady and Judy, of Trade, are spending this week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Davenport.

Captain Lueck Wounded

Mrs. W.J. Lueck (Lucile Engel) received a message on Saturday, stating that her husband, Captain Lueck, was seriously wounded in Korea on September 15th.

When Captain Lueck was sent to Korea from Hawaii, last July 21st, Mrs. Lueck and baby, William Paul, returned to the states and are now with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Engel.

Mrs. Abbott Dies

Funeral services were held on Tuesday afternoon, at Simcoe, for Mrs. Rilla Wade Abbott, 64, who died at the Cullman Hospital on September 24th.

Reverend J.G. Speake conducted the services and Moss Service directed interment.

Surviving are her husband, Grover Abbott, two daughters, Mrs. Tressie Keller and Miss Bess Abbott, four brothers and four sisters.

Concord News

Mr. and Mrs. Troy Yates, of East Point, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Dewitt Pinkard.

Mr. and Mrs. Other Teal, of Miami, Florida and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Self, of Akron, Ohio were called here last week to see their mother, Mrs. Willie Howse, who is seriously ill.

Poet's Corner

She Walks In Beauty

By: Lord Byron (George Gordon)

1788 - 1824

She walks in beauty, like the night Of cloudless climes and starry skies; And all that's best of dark and bright Meet in her aspect and her eyes; Thus mellowed to that tender light Which heaven to gaudy day denies.

One shade the more, one ray the less,
Had half impaired the nameless grace
Which waves in every raven tress,
Or softly lightens o'er her face;
Where thoughts serenely sweet express,
How pure, how dear their dwelling-place.

And on that cheek, and o'er that brow,
So soft, so calm, yet eloquent,
The smiles that win, the tints that glow,
But tell of days in goodness spent,
A mind at peace with all below, A
heart whose love is innocent!

Tornado (from Front)

Christy Perry, Wendy Sack

CULLMAN, Ala. – The National Weather Service (NWS) on Friday determined that it was an EF1 tornado with peak winds of 105 mph that touched down in Cullman County between White City and Holly Pond Thursday evening.

The NWS released the results of its storm survey on Friday. It said the tornado's path was 11.01 miles long and 112 yards wide.

The roof was torn off the White City Community Center and a home next door suffered substantial damage.

Multiple trees were downed. The Cullman County Sheriff's Office also reported downed power lines. Cullman Emergency Management Agency Director Phyllis Little reported a mobile home on County Road 609 severely damaged by a tree and downed trees on County Road 766 near Welti.

The Jet-Pep home office in Holly Pond also suffered severe damage. No injuries were reported.

The Cullman County Commission jumped quickly into action Friday, holding two emergency sessions.

The first was to move White City's voting precinct to the Johnson's Crossing Volunteer Fire Department.

The damaged White City Community Center had served as the area's voting precinct.

The change comes just days ahead of the March 19 school tax referendum.

The Johnson's Crossing Volunteer Fire Department is located at 1544 County Road 617, Hanceville, Alabama 65077.

The second was to declare a state of emergency due to damages to property from severe storms, a tornado, flooding and other causes. The emergency declaration allows the County to seek aid from state and federal agencies.

It also gives local agencies broader scope in assisting with clean up.

For example, the emergency declaration allows the County to remove debris from rights-of-way.

Commissioner Garry Marchman explained, "Most of the storm damage was in the White City and Holly Pond areas, but the emergency is for storm damages countywide."

Traditional European Gift Shop & More
A TOUCH OF GERMAN
~EST. 1979~
und das ist gut
218 1st Ave SE Cullman, AL 35055 | 256-747-5737

Younique Sophistication Boutique LLC
105 2nd Avenue SE, Cullman, Alabama 35055
256.735.4074
Located Across From Sacred Heart Front Entrance
Tues. & Thurs. Noon – 6 p.m., Wed. & Fri. – 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sat. – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Closed Sunday and Monday
younіquesophistication@gmail.com www.facebook.com/youniquesophistication
Women's Clothing – sizes small-3X, Jewelry and Accessories

NextHome LIMITLESS REALTY
STACEY SMITH Broker/Owner 256.339.1155
AMY NEW Realtor® 256.347.3227
TARA YARBROUGH Realtor® 256.303.2153
KIM MESSERSMITH Realtor® 256.347.5023
KENDRA CUMMINGS Realtor® 256.620.2173
204 9th Street, SW, Cullman, AL 35055
Office: 256.841.6767
www.NextHomeLimitlessRealty.com
Each office is Independently Owned and Operated
Serving Cullman, Valley—North Alabama, Greater Alabama—Birmingham & Walker—Smith Lake MLS

CWAC
CULLMAN WELLNESS & AQUATIC CENTER
24/7 FITNESS
NOW AVAILABLE
CULLMANWELLNESS.COM

Options
Chemo Caps Wigs & More!
Over 150 Wigs In Stock!
Judy Watts Grissom
options5993@gmail.com
Cell: 256-347-5993
2201 2nd Ave NW Cullman, AL 35058
256-734-7730

Tony Serra Nissan

MEET DANIEL COOMBS
USED CAR MANAGER



Daniel Coombs served as the New Car Manager at Tony Serra Nissan of Cullman before being named Used Car Manager of the Used Car Supercenter lot this past February. Daniel says this Used Car Supercenter is something that is new to Cullman and that he is glad that Tony Serra Nissan is able to help customers find the perfect car, whether new or used.

"In the past we have carried an inventory of 40 to 50 pre-owned cars on the lot. We have spent the past year moving earth and paving a new parking lot just south of our main store. The new lot is located at 301 Broadway Drive SW.

This lot will allow us to stock over 100 pre-owned vehicles in addition to the 300 new vehicles we keep in stock.

We will have a bigger selection of trucks, SUV's and cars."

Daniel said they do their research to ensure they are giving their customers the best deals possible

"We try to set a fair price and eliminate the need for customers to feel like they have to be a good negotiator to get a good deal."

Come meet Daniel Coombs at the Used Car Supercenter, located at 301 Broadway ST. SW, and see what he can do for you!



1724 Cherokee Ave SW, Cullman, AL
TonySerraNissanCullman.com | 256-676-2435

1 FOCUS
To have the utmost integrity in all dealings with our customers and community

1 MISSION
To provide a level of service that exceeds your expectations

1 PROMISE
Doing the right thing, not the easy thing, is still our business model

CELEBRATING 111 YEARS OF WAY BETTER BANKING.

Thanks for your loyalty to us through the years!
1907-2018
Merchants Bank of Alabama
MEMBER FDIC EQUAL HOUSING LENDER