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The Cullman Tribune

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CULLMAN CITY HALL SEES HAIL,

sort of...



CONTRIBUTED

Tribune reporter W.C. Mann presents 3D printed hailstone models to Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs Thursday afternoon.

» PAGE 3

HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE

Youth advocate programs combating human trafficking

Heather Gable, W.C. Mann

CULLMAN, Ala. — Heather Gable, Assistant Director of Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force partner agency Youth Advocate Programs, shares her organization's role in combating the crime of human trafficking:

You may think of human trafficking as something that happens in other countries or maybe even in big cities. Perhaps you heard about the arrests that occurred during Super Bowl week this year. The reality, however, is that human trafficking happens every day — in our own backyards.

According to the Department of Homeland Security, "human trafficking is modern-day slavery and involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act. Every year, millions of men, women, and children are trafficked in countries around the world, including the United States."

According to my organization, Youth Advocate Programs (YAP), Inc., most young people who fall victim to commercial sexual exploitation are those who've experienced trauma and abuse in their early childhood, or who are homeless. Victims of commercial sexual exploitation of children are traditionally placed in juvenile detention or other residential facilities due to the lack of alternative community-based options that could safely remove them from the control of their pimps.

YAP is an intensive and safe alternative to youth detention or out-of-home placement. At YAP, kids who are at risk for being sex trafficked are those we work with every day. They are children referred to us by our local Department of Human Resources or Juvenile Probation office.

They come with significant and complex challenges. Our core principles are uniquely designed to disentangle children and youth who may have been victimized by sex trafficking from the psychological trauma bonds that have developed with their pimp/trafficker while also effectively addressing educational, safety, health and home needs. This work is complex, requiring sensitivity, commitment and trust.

Real life experience

We recently supported a girl who told us that for years she struggled with low self-esteem. She felt she needed to look a certain way to be accepted. We found she would seek attention from boys and men, through social media and even exchanging favors for cell phones when hers were taken away. One night she was out with a friend and missed her curfew.

She assumed she was already in trouble so she would just run away and avoid the consequences. Alabama law enforcement was able to trace her in Texas, and brought her back to her home. While she was away, she found herself abusing drugs and became a victim of sex trafficking. While authorities were able to bring her back to her community, she and her family needed treatment and tools to help her succeed.

YAP worked intensely with the family — adhering to our core principles — to help » PAGE 2

KFC offers to hire displaced Rally's employees

» PAGE 3

STATE GOVERNMENT

Gudger amendment slows Common Core

Repeal approved by state senate to allow development of new standards

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – On Thursday, the Alabama State Senate voted to repeal the controversial Common Core curriculum used as a standard for public schools across the country. The bill calls for the State Board of Education to "replace the Common Core Standards for Math and English Language Arts with new curriculum standards adopted by the board, effective beginning with the 2021-2022 school year."



CONTRIBUTED

Gudger

The official synopsis of Senate Bill 119 continues, "This bill would further protect state and local control of education by restricting the State Board of Education from adopting or implementing any other national standards from any source or requiring the use of any assessments aligned with them."

Within the bill itself, its author and supporters argued that the Memorandum of Agreement that brought Common Core to Alabama "ceded control of Alabama's standards to entities other than the state and local educational agencies, and declared that the collection of personal data concerning students of Alabama public schools would not be collected or compiled."

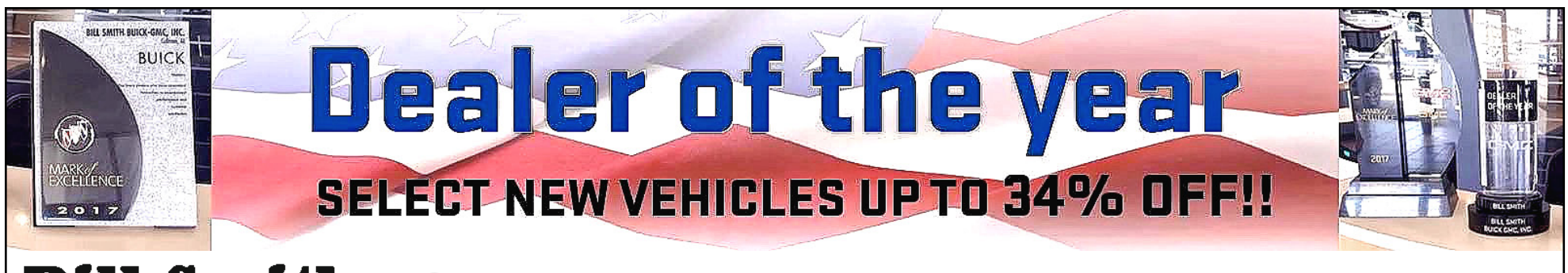
Amendment proposed by Gudger

As the bill moved around the Senate floor between Mar. 19 and Mar. 21, senators began to hear concerns from their constituents, especially educators. Freshman Senator Garlan Gudger brought some of those concerns to his colleagues during the discussion, introducing a package of amendments that was not intended to stop the repeal, but to slow it down long enough for the State Board of Education to think through and organize its next move.

Said Gudger, "If we're going to pass something that affects every education system in the state, and impacts every teacher and every student, and obviously the families of those students and teachers; then we needed to make sure that that bill was strengthened and was diligently thought out.

"From the concerns that I was receiving immediately, when this bill was dropped, from superintendents, parents, teachers, school board members throughout the state, and friends that were in the education system, I realized there were some overwhelming issues that needed to be addressed."

The original text of the bill called for a reversion at the beginning of the 2019-20 school year of academic standards to those of the 2011/12 school year, reading, "This » PAGE 3



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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Dodge City welcomes two new businesses

Maggie Darnell
maggie@cullmantribune.com

DODGE CITY, Ala. – Dodge City welcomed two new businesses at its town council meeting Wednesday night. Representatives from the ABC Family Medical Clinic were introduced where they invited the community to join them April 13th for their grand opening celebration. The celebration will be from 11 a.m. -1 p.m. with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at noon. ABC Family Medical Clinic is located at 24 County Road 262.

Additionally, Ace Hardware opened its new Dodge City location last Wednesday.

Dodge City town deputy, Sgt. David Nunn, mentioned that the opening has been well received by the community. ACE Hardware is located at 699 AL Hwy 69 about 1 mile west of the interstate.

The town was unable to reach an agreement Wednesday night with Mr. James Hollis who offered to purchase a parcel of land from the town.

Hollis offered $1,500 for a parcel of land located off I-65. Mayor Canada was willing to exchange the land if Hollis agreed to allow the town to install a community storm shelter on it.

Hollis was unwilling to agree to the offer. The council voted to keep the land.

Mayor Canada presented an estimate for clean up and maintenance of the town's sewer lines.

The estimate of $5,500 would be for the initial cleanup. The council approved the proposal.

The Dodge City Town Council meets every second Thursday at 6 p.m. Wednesday's meeting had been rescheduled due to last Thursday's severe weather.

The next meeting will be on April 11.

Arrests and incidents reported on March 22

Maggie Darnell
maggie@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported on March 22, 2019. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No incidents or arrests reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

March 20

• harassment; person; John H. Cooper Dr. SE

• first-degree theft of property; Hibbett Sports; Town Square Shopping Center; clothing; $3,799

• duty upon striking an unattended vehicle; Red Line Marketing; 2nd Ave SW; damage to '09 Dodge Ram; $1,000

March 21

• unlawful breaking and entering of motor vehicle, second-degree criminal mischief; person; 12th Way NW; damage to '96 Chev. C2500; $1,650

• first-degree theft of property; Inland Buildings, Boyd Brothers Transportation, P&S Transportation; 2nd Ave SW; trailers and steel beams; $155,000

• unauthorized use of vehicle; person

• third-degree criminal trespassing; Days Inn; 4th St. SW

ARRESTS

March 21

Anderson, John D., 45
• FTA- DUI, driving without registration (two counts), insurance violation, switched tag

Don Vargas, Mackenzie R., 36
• possession of forged instrument

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

No incidents reported

ARRESTS

Twilley, Randy D.
• second-degree assault

Ward, Wesley S.
• third-degree criminal mischief
• FTA- third degree criminal mischief
• FTA- third-degree domestic violence

Anthony, Cory D.
• bench warrant

Fanning, Nathan D.
• FTA- public intoxication

Brown, Rebecca A.
• FTA- driving while suspended

Lay, Rachel L.
• FTA- speeding

Dillard, Clayton E. Jr
• FTA- driving without a license

Smith, Brian N.
• FTA- no insurance, driving while suspended

Rainey, Timothy E.
• FTA- public intoxication

Thompson, Matthew N.
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia
• second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

King, Dewey W.
• FTA- third-degree domestic violence

Parker, Christopher T.
• DUI
• attempting to elude
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia
• illegal possession of prescription drugs

Perdue, Andrea L.
• FTA- third-degree domestic violence

Armstrong, David R.
• FTA- no tag

May, Shawna S.
• bond revocation

Farr, Jayna E.
• FTA- resisting arrest

Thomas, Dillion B.
• DUI

Loggins, Joshua D.
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia
• second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

Scott, Jeffery
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia

Bartlett, Micheal S.
• third-degree domestic violence

Busbin, Kellis H.
• FTA- no insurance

Hill, Jonathan C.
• unlawful possession of controlled substance

Hill, Rueben M.
• FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Jones, Melanie R.
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia
• unlawful possession of prescription drugs

Jones, Patrick E.
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• DUI

Loggins, Joshua D.
• second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia

Monroe, Joshua A.
• public intoxication

Ray, Kevin B.
• FTA- no insurance

Swafford, Jeffery S.
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia

Spivey, Bradley D.
• FTA- attempting to elude

Hall, David R.
• public intoxication
• third-degree criminal mischief

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

Programs (from Front)

the girl identify and realize her strengths while we connected her and her family with accessible tools to firm their foundation.

Those tools include:

• Individualized service planning — The girl had specific needs that couldn't be helped with standard "cookie cutter" services. We connected her to resources and counseling.

• Partnership with parents — We worked with Mom on parenting techniques that would work with her daughter's needs.

• Focus on strengths — We helped the girl identify and find places to use her unique talents and interests.

• Community-based care — We worked with the Department of Human Resources to ensure the girl's safety. A Guardian Ad Litem was appointed to represent her not only legally but to ensure her well-being. We also connected the girl to treatment and counseling at a local substance abuse facility.

• Unconditional Caring — We worked with the girl to help her understand the concept of boundaries and to give her skills to make better choices.

• Giving back — The girl found that a nearby animal shelter was a way to realize her special gift for caring for others. She also discovered giving back by volunteering her time at the shelter provided a form of pet therapy that helped her work on her self-esteem.

This girl's time with YAP ended, but like many young people we serve, she still reaches out to her YAP advocate-mentor when she feels she is in a crisis and needs support. At YAP, we have a "no reject, no eject" policy.

Young people who are sex trafficked often end up in youth justice and/or social services-child welfare systems or both.

Fortunately, YAP's model is uniquely designed to give these kids and their families the support they need to be safely home.

For more information on YAP and its services in your community, please go to YAPinc.org.

LEGALS

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

PB WIL BK 90 PG 22 - 03/20/2019 02:13 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, A

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
MURIEL MILLER, * **CASE NO.: PC2019-100**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to DENIS MILLER and KIMERLY PITZING, as Personal Representatives of the Estate of MURIEL MILLER, deceased, on the 20th day of March, 2019, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

DONE this the 20th day of March, 2019.

Personal Representative:
DENIS MILLER
KIMERLY PITZING

Attorney for Personal Representatives:
ANDRIA SIMS
300 First Avenue SE Suite 104
Cullman, AL 35055
(256) 775-7757

TO: Publisher
The Cullman Tribune

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

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

COMMUNITY CALENDAR
March 23 - April 15

2020 Distinguished Young Woman Informational Meeting- Sunday, March 24
An informational meeting for the 2020 Distinguished Young Woman of Cullman County Scholarship Program (formerly Cullman County Junior Miss) will be held on Sunday, March 24 at 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Cullman. High school girls in their junior year who are residents of Cullman County are invited to attend this meeting with a parent. We will go over the program details and give out applications for the June 29, 2019 program. If you have any questions or if you are interested but unable to attend the March 24 meeting, please contact Felicia Carden at 256-385-5287 or at cullman@distunguishedyw.org.

Smith Lake Park Spring Yard Sale- Saturday, March 30
Join us on Saturday, March 30 for our Smith Lake Park Spring Yard Sale! It's free to the public! Set up begins at 6 a.m. and sale begins at 7 a.m. Vendor grass spots are $10 and pavilions are $35 and $55. Vendors will pay at the gate on the day of the sale. Reservations only needed for pavilions. For more info, call 256-739-2916.

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/

UPCOMING....

Annual City-Wide Spring Cleanup Week- April 1-5
Old appliances, furniture, mattresses, and other large items will be removed curbside at no extra charge. We CANNOT pick up construction materials, rocks, dirt, bricks, concrete, hazardous materials, or tires. Place your items on the curb (not in the street) as early as possible during the week of the cleanup. Call 256-737-7560 or email cityhall@cullmanal.gov with questions.

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.

Haunted Hanceville, Al Ghost Walk/Paranormal Investigations – Saturday, April 13
The Southern Ghost Girls Tours and Paranormal Investigations, LLC invites you to join them on a Haunted History/Ghost Walk of Historic Downtown Hanceville, Alabama as they celebrate "CHAPTER 1" of their Haunted Hanceville Spring Festival 2019! Check in and eat dinner if you want to at Bulldogs Country Cookin Restaurant starting at 6:00 pm. Check in and eat before starting the Tour at 7:00 pm. The Southern Ghost Girls Tours, as seen on TV, will lead you on the Haunt and Supply you with all the Paranormal Investigation Equipment you need! This will include a historic tour of Downtown and the Interactive Paranormal Investigations will include the historic and Haunted buildings that house Just Repurposed Furniture and Too You Nique Home Decor, Furniture and Furnishings! The block and buildings are known for Paranormal Activity, especially the building that housed the old funeral home in Hanceville!

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



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Hail (from Front)

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – On Thursday afternoon, a day after delivering a 3D printed model of "Walter," Alabama's official largest hailstone which fell during the massive Mar. 19, 2018 hail storm, to Cullman EMA, The Cullman Tribune's W.C. Mann visited Cullman City Hall to present Mayor Woody Jacobs four hailstone models typical of the larger ones that fell in the city during that disastrous event.

These full-size models were produced from laser scans conducted by the Insurance Institute for Business and Health Safety (IBHS) by the Engineering Technology Department of Wallace State's Division of Applied Technologies. The IBHS can use these scans to produce models that match not only the size, but also the weight, of actual stones for use in testing the durability of building materials.

A special thanks to Wallace State Engineering Technology Chair Todd Hardman and instructor Blake Ray for their work in the production of the first models, and to Dean of Applied Technologies Jimmy Hodges for allowing us access to his staff and facilities.

More of these models are being produced for presentation to other people and organizations in Cullman County in the near future, and Wallace State students will take over the setup and production procedures.

Look for a story coming up on their efforts, as well as some other cool things happening in the Engineering Technology Department this spring.

Amendment (from Front)

bill would require the State Board of Education to replace the Common Core Standards for Math and English Language Arts with the courses of study for Math and English Language Arts in place immediately prior to adoption of the Common Core Standards, pending the adoption of new standards by the board."

An amendment proposed by Gudger and approved by an overwhelming majority of senators changed that text to read:

"This bill would require the State Board of Education to replace the Common Core Standards for Math and English Language Arts with new curriculum standards adopted by the board, effective beginning with the 2021-2022 school year."

In essence, Gudger's amendment allows the state's public schools to continue under the current Common Core standards for two more years while the State Board of Education works out the details for a new set of state standards.

A clause on the last full page of the bill originally read:

"The Legislature further prohibits the adoption or implementation of any national standards from any source, or the use of any assessments aligned with them, that cede control of Alabama educational standards in any manner, including, but not limited to, the Next Generation Science Standards, History Standards, Social Studies Standards, or Sexuality Standards."

Gudger's amendment leaves that statement intact, but adds to the end of the clause:

"Nothing in this act shall be construed to affect, prohibit, or inhibit the use of any of the following tools, standards, or certifications in the public K-12 schools:

- college entrance exams
- workforce skills assessments
- advanced placement courses
- career technical credentials
- national board certifications
- academic language therapy certification
- Praxis or other educator testing
- armed services vocational aptitude testing
- international Baccalaureate standards

Any college entrance examination, workforce skills assessment or examination, advanced placement course, career technical credential, national board certification, academic language therapy certification, Praxis or other core academic skills for educators test, armed service vocational aptitude test, or International Baccalaureate standard."

Gudger told The Tribune that the last amendment assures that the bill, if passed into law, will not affect:

On Thursday evening, Gudger spoke to The Tribune from his office in Montgomery, telling us, "Without those (amendments), I was going to be a no vote. I needed to add those amendments there after talking to my superintendents, principals, and some other people around in the education world here at the state level.

"My whole background is education in my family--not me personally--but my sisters, my mother, and my father.

"And I definitely have a deep-rooted education background as far as my family goes; and so, if I wouldn't have put those in there and voted for it, I think Dad would have came alive and beat me."

KFC (from Front)

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — When Kenny Parks read about the abrupt closing of the Cullman Rally's, resulting in its 11 employees being caught in limbo, he quickly took action. Parks, Director of Operations for Rule the Roost, LLC that operates the two KFCs in Cullman as well as Feedin' Folks Catering, reached out to Ann, the general manager of Rally's.

He explained, "I've known Ann for years. We were friends in school and kept in touch through Facebook." Parks offered to hire Ann and the other 10 employees from Rally's. As of Thursday afternoon, four are already on the schedule at KFC.

Parks made a similar offer to Krystal's employees when the Cullman location closed abruptly. He said, "We used to own Backyard Burgers so I understand both sides.

"When we closed Backyard Burgers we gave four weeks advanced warning but still ended up closing early. I was able to offer those employees help. I have the benefit of multiple locations."

KFC's busiest time of the year is spring and summer and Parks see this as a win/win situation. He said, "While I might not be able to get the back pay they are owed by the other company, I can get them paychecks coming in now." Parks felt that the additional staffing with experience will be a huge asset to the staff, service and customers.

He added, "I have tried in the past to get Ann to work for me. There have been multiple occasions when these guys haven't been paid. Don't get me wrong. I have three daughters and Saturday is our Rally's night so we were sorry to hear of the closing but I'm excited to have Ann and everyone."

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Obituary Announcements: March 19 - 22

presented by



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Ms. Eleanor Anne Manning of Cullman, Alabama passed away Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at the age of 72. She was born February 25, 1947 to Charles Max and Eleanor Elizabeth (Wachter) Richard in Cullman, Alabama. Ms. Manning was preceded in death by her parents, maternal grandparents, Alvin and Clara (Bowe) Wachter; paternal grandparents, Charles and Leonie (Schmitt) Richard, two brothers, Charles and James Richard; and 2 grandchildren, Christian Jude Manning and Valentine Francis Collicott. She leaves to cherish her memory her daughter, Elizabeth Anne (Manning) Collicott; son, Christopher Larry Manning; ex-husband, Andy Larry Manning, three sisters: Leonie "Nonie" Shaw, Cindy Maloof and Karen Creel; three brothers: Max, David and Dennis Richard; and seven grandchildren: Luke Oakley, Sakura Manning, Momoka Manning, Max Collicott, William Collicott, Rika Manning and Mary Elizabeth Anne Collicott. Visitation for Ms. Manning will be at Sacred Heart Catholic on Monday, March 25, 2019, beginning at 6:15 p.m. and ending with a Rosary at 7:30 p.m. officiated by Father Patrick Egan, OSB. A funeral Mass will be on Tuesday at 10 a.m. with Father Patrick Egan, OSB officiating. Interment will follow at Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery.

Debbie Sue Eddleman of Baileyton Alabama passed away at the age of 60 on March 20, 2019. She was born June 12, 1958 in Florence Alabama to F.D. and Edna Faye Burrow Norris. Funeral services are Sunday, March 24, 2019 at 2 p.m. at Moss Funeral Home Chapel. Survivors are: husband Gerald Eddleman, daughter Kristin Brown, son Josh (Jennifer) Eddleman, brothers Tim (Roberta) Shickles, Tommy Shickles, Darrell (Bess Woods) Fuqua, grandchildren Ethan Hopson, Aiden Brown, Sophia Brown, Anna Lee Eddleman and Lainey Eddleman. Visitation is on Saturday, March 23, 2019 at Moss Funeral Home from 5:30 p.m. until 9 p.m.

David Wayne Moon of Cullman passed away March 21, 2019 at the age of 64. He was born in Cullman June 26, 1954 to Wayne and Edna Faye Vest Moon. Funeral services are Saturday, March 23, 2019 at 11 a.m. at Moss Funeral Home Chapel. Interment will follow services in Hopewell Cemetery in Hanceville. Survivors are: wife Glenndean Turner Moon, daughters Alanna (Kevin) Twilley, Jamie (Richard) Stevens, sister Leeann Moon, grandchildren Cannon Twilley, Savanna Calvert, nieces Kimberly (Josh) Barnett and Amy Gonstad. Visitation is Saturday at Moss Funeral Home from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m.

Funeral services Eddie Mae Greene Weldon Arledge, 89 of Hanceville will be at 11 a.m. Sunday, March 24, 2019 at the Hanceville Funeral Home chapel. Reverend Tim Barnett will be officiating. Visitation will be Saturday March 23, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. Burial will be at the Kendrick Cemetery, Shelby County, Alabama. Survivors include Eddie's children; daughter Freida (Weldon) Burdette of Hayden, Alabama and son Ricky T. Weldon of Mobile, Alabama. Grandchildren include Lisa Welch and Angie Black. Great grandchildren are Christian Welch, Ashton Jax Kruz Loria, Allison Weldon, Emily Carter, Carolyn Black and Carrie Black. Eddie is preceded in death by her granddaughter Stacey Carter.

Doyle Edward Roberson of Cullman passed away March 21, 2019 at the age of 76. He was born in Cullman December 28, 1942 to Doyle H. and Ellen Williams Roberson. Funeral services are Sunday, March 24, 2019 at 2 p.m. at Mt. Zion Baptist Church with Rev. Randy Sellers officiating. Interment will follow in Welti Cemetery. Mr. Roberson will lie in state for one hour prior to the service at the church. Survivors are: wife Judy Sparks Roberson, daughter Mendi (Chris) McEachern, sons Ed Jr. (Michelle) Roberson, Lance (April) Roberson, sister Shirley Persall, grandchildren Kyle and Lauren Roberson, Isabella and Lily McEachern, Olivia and William Roberson. Visitation is Saturday, March 23, 2019 at Moss Funeral Home from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m.

Martha Faye Brockway, age 76 of Double Springs, entered into rest on Friday, March 22, 2019 at her home surrounded by her family. "Martha Faye" was born August 26, 1942 in Winston County. She was a 1960 graduate of Winston County High School, was a long time teller at Traders and Farmers Bank, and also worked for the Drummond Coal Company. Martha Faye had a generous heart and loved her rescue dogs. Visitation will be on Sunday, March 24, 2019 from noon until 2 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Double Springs, where services will be held at 2 p.m. Brother Etsel Riddle and Brother James Hood will officiate. Burial will be at Mt. Ebron Cemetery, Double Springs. Martha Faye is survived by her husband of 54 years, LeRoy Brockway; sons, Jeff Brockway, Michael (Angela) Brockway, and David (Nancy) Brockway; brothers, Marlin "Sam" (Betty) Townsend, Edward "Ed" (Kay) Townsend, Jerry (Deborah) Townsend, and Tommy (Sonja) Townsend; sisters, Margie (Etsel) Riddle and Jan (Gordon "Bubba") Pigg; "Maw-Maw" to nine grandchildren, Elizabeth Brockway Cifuentes, Joseph Brockway, Allison Brockway, Jessica Bloom, Brooke Bloom, Megan Brockway, Lisa Brockway, Nathan Brockway, and Shannon Hunter; and four great-grandchildren, Braiden Brockway, Kylie Cifuentes, Ayden Kitchens, and Olivia Cifuentes. She was preceded in death by her parents, Elton and Ruby Townsend; step-mother, Velma Townsend; daughter, Connie Lisa Brockway; grandparents, Joe and Lucy Townsend and Benjamin and Gertrude Overton; and brother, Otis Edward Townsend. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tennessee 38105.

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Pilot Club celebrates Pilot Light Home renovation, 100th birthday of charter board member Inez Ruehl

Christy Perry, W.C. Mann

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Pilot Club of Cullman hosted an open house Wednesday at its newly renovated Pilot Light Home. The service organization celebrated the completion of the home's renovation as well as the 100th birthday of Pilot Club charter board member Inez Ruehl.

Ruehl had a great time at the party and spoke about the Pilot Club of Cullman's beginnings.

She said. "I haven't been really active the past couple of years but we worked mighty hard to get all this started. Lorene Scott was one of those that if she saw a need, she helped. Cullman needed a home for children and they didn't have enough places to put them. People wouldn't take them so Lorene said that this was going to be our next thing."

She continued, "Lorene, she was a real go-getter. We worked! Every night-every day we were out trying to get the money." The homebuilder's association agreed to build the new home and many others pitched in to help complete the home.

"They said, 'all the windows won't match' and we said, well, we don't care," Ruehl recalled. "I think it has been a blessing and it was a pleasure just to work. Lorene liked to work. Boy, if there was something to do, she'd really dig it up. She wouldn't let you say no."

Ruehl was presented with $100 from the Pilot Club members that they donated to the club in Ruehl's honor. Board Chairperson Peggy Harris said, "Inez was very instrumental along with Lorene Scott in starting Christmas Love as well as getting this started. The Pilot Club was organized in 1982 and the Pilot Light Home was the first project. We needed a place so these kids didn't have to be housed at the jail or wherever until they could be placed in a foster home. It was set up as an emergency shelter and at one time it was a little house near the middle school."

The Pilot Light Home was moved to a couple of locations before the Pilot Club decided they needed to build their own home that would be permanent. They were able to complete the home in 1996.

The Pilot Club is currently searching for house parents for the Pilot Light Home. They have used the past several months without house parents as an opportunity to repair and update the home. Harris said, "last year, we noticed the house had gotten in pretty bad shape." The home can accommodate 6 children and foster parents.

Many area businesses, churches and individuals donated their time, money, materials and furnishings to help resulting in a beautiful home that is both cheerful and special. New paint helped to brighten the home and a custom table was donated to make sure the family could all sit together comfortably.

The pilot home has a master suite, a nursery that can easily be converted to a room for an older child, 4 additional bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, an open living, dining and kitchen area, a laundry area and home office. The interior décor is warm, comfortable and full of gorgeous touches that create a home.

With the renovations complete, Harris said, "now we are needing house parents. We are looking for someone with the heart to look after 6 kids that are not theirs that came from troubled backgrounds. In today's times, dealing with teenagers is difficult even if they are your own. It would be especially hard when they come from some of the backgrounds where they've been mistreated or not looked after properly.

Becoming a house parent is not a simple process. Smith explained that prospective house parents are required to complete an 11-week training program called Trauma Informed Parenting Solutions (TIPS). Each applicant must also pass a state and federal criminal background check, along with clearance through Alabama's DHR central registry and that of any other state in which the applicant has lived.

Harris noted that the prospective house parents' own children 14 and older who may live with them at the house must also undergo background checks. Anyone 19 or older must be fingerprinted.

Harris provided The Tribune with the Pilot Light Home House Parents Job Description below:

Role: You have many responsibilities to a number of individuals: the child placed in your home, the agency, The Pilot Light Board, the child's biological family and your own family.

Goal: The goal is to provide for the physical, emotional, spiritual and social needs of the children.

Responsibilities to the Child:

- Provide a safe and comfortable home for the child to live in with a bed and place for his/her belonging.
- Provide for child's basic physical and emotional needs.
- Provide for school attendance, monitor progress and note special needs and accomplishments.
- Provide appropriate clothing. See that the child is clean and well-groomed.
- Attend to medical and dental needs, including regular checkups as well as special needs.
- Provide recreational and enrichment activities that will promote the healthy development of the child.
- Provide love, care and supervision 24/7 for up to 6 foster children.
- Provide opportunity for children to be involved in church attendance and activities.
- To help and guide children through the grieving and adjustment process of removal from their families.

Responsibilities to the Pilot Light Home Board:

- Must be certified as a Foster Parent with Department of Human Resources.
- Must comply with state regulations and agency policies and procedures.
- Must have read, understand and comply with the Pilot Light, Inc. policies and bylaws.
- Must keep the board informed of problems and progress of the child, including any injuries to the child.
- Must be available for meetings with the social worker and the board members.
- Must submit all requested documentation in a timely manner.
- Must keep the agency and Board informed of upcoming requests for changes in the household including pending additions to the family, notification of impending vacations, etc.
- Must provide prompt reporting of needed repairs and maintenance for home or van.

Position- Salary/ Benefits:

- Modest Salary
- Workers compensation
- Home provided for family and foster children – LR, DR, Kit combination, office, playroom, laundry rm., 5 bedrooms, 3 full bathrooms, 1, ½ bath, extra-large double garage; fully furnished - furniture, appliances, kitchenware, cooking and eating utensils, dishware, and bed linens, towels, etc., on ½ acre or more lot.
- Groceries
- All utilities, insurance, phone, cable are provided.
- Van is provided for transportation; all gas, insurance and repairs are covered.

The job description concludes with a warning: "This job is not 9 to 5. It's your life. The children that you are taking care of can make it one of the most stressful jobs that you ever had. You will take care of kids - abused, neglected - that come from broken homes, drug-abusing parents, that don't usually want to be there. At the same time, it can be one of the most rewarding jobs, when you can be successful in making lifelong positive impacts for many children."

House parent/foster parent applications are available from:

- Alabama Department of Human Resources, 1220 St. Joseph St. NW, Cullman, AL 35055. Contact Callie Smith at 256-737-5300, or email callie.smith@dhr.alabama.gov
- United Way of Cullman County 256-739-2948, located in the Old Depot at 304 First Ave. NE, Cullman, AL 35055
- Pilot Light, Inc. Board of Directors Chairman Peggy Harris - gooderharris@gmail.com, 245-531-2525









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LIFESTYLE

Senior Spotlight: Meet Mrs. Inez Eidson Ruehl

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

Inez Eidson Ruehl will be celebrating her 100th birthday on March 27. She has made a tremendous impact on Cullman through her many philanthropic efforts. She, along with her son, Herman Jr., sat done with The Tribune to talk about her life in Cullman County.

The Eidson family moved to Carroll County Georgia to Welti, where they maintained a 40-acre cotton farm. Inez attended Welti School through the ninth grade and graduated from Fairview in 1937. She recalled her school's days, but it wasn't always easy.

She explained, "I rode the bus to Fairview...got up early! Caught that bus, I think, at 6:30, which meant getting up at 4 in the morning. I roughed it out, though, and graduated in '37."

Inez is one of 10 children.

She said, "My older brothers and sisters, I never knew them hardly because they were married when I was just a kid. Us younger ones, we had a lot of fun, too much fun. Fights, too. That went with it, though."

Life was mostly work and school, but the kids had fun, too. They played with rubber tires clicking wheels. Thursdays were exciting for Inez as that was the day the traveling store came by. She recalled trading eggs for other products.

Going to Joe C. Sapp's Clothing Store for fabric and celebrating 4th of July at the river are just a couple of Inez's fond memories of childhood.

She recalled one trip, saying "The whole community would go to the river back early on. One time, a woman got sick on us. She couldn't even walk. She was SO sick. We happened to have a quilt in the bunch. We carried that woman on that quilt, it was a good 3 miles to the river we'd walked. We brought her back on that quilt to Ruth's (Duke) house."

Ruth and Inez are friends who grew up together in the Welti community.

In the fall of each year, schools let out for cotton picking season. After Inez finished Fairview, she stayed home that fall to help with that year's cotton season. Afterward she attended Alverson Business School in Birmingham.

She laughed, "Boy, I was flying high then!"

She was a determined young woman and perhaps her distaste for picking cotton was a motivator.

"It was hard work. I didn't like it. It was plain old drudgery for me," she said as she chuckled.

She returned home after attending business school and landed a job with Colonial Poultry Farm, a company from Missouri that had opened in Cullman.

She said, "I was lucky and got a job with them, and it was hard to get a job back then. I think I made $10 a week. We had big ol' incubators and hatched baby chicks."

Inez worked in the office. She continued, "It was mail order stuff, and boy, were we busy. That mail would come in and we'd have a sack full. I mean a BIG sack full of mail. It was required with the postal service- you had to get that stuff out by a certain date. We'd work on that stuff having to acknowledge those people's money wanting checks and we'd ship them. Lord, we'd ship them by the thousands."

She was a single working woman who was "independent as I could be."

At this time, she was boarding with a family she remembered with great fondness. She met a young foreman at Colonial Poultry Farm named Herman Ruehl. Herman and Inez married in 1941 and soon had a young family with three children: Ruth, Herman Jr. and Martha Jane. Inez continued to work during the spring shipping season, which was only three months out of the year.

In 1958, tragedy struck the young family.

Inez recalled the painful events, "Martha turned 7 years old. When she turned 7 years old, we'd had her birthday dinner. Then two days after that, to the very hour, she and her daddy had an accident that took both of them."

Both were killed when the car Herman was driving collided with a trailer truck. Herman was only 41 years old.

Said Inez, "Since then, I've been on my own." Inez retired around the time the Colonial office closed in either 1979 or 1980, but her contributions to the city of Cullman were just beginning. Inez would go on to co-found Christmas Love with her friend Loreen Scott. The organization helps needy families and children in the Cullman community. She is also a charter member of the Pilot Light House where she served as secretary/treasurer for many years. She also sat on its board of directors.



CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Pilot Club of Cullman recently celebrated Inez's birthday. She will turn 100 on March 27, 2019.

The land she and her husband owned was also the original location of the Weiss Cottage, Cullman's oldest house. Inez donated the cottage to the City of Cullman in 1976. She only asked that Weiss Cottage be relocated. It was moved to its current location on First Avenue Southeast for all to visit and enjoy.

Inez has many talents, including sewing, quilting and cooking.

Herman Jr. bragged of his mom's cooking, saying, "She cooked good! Ooh! She'd cook a pot roast with all the potatoes and carrots in a deep iron skillet. It was so good! I remember those and the fried chicken, taters and gravy she made on Sunday."

Inez also took an upholstery class at Wallace State back in the 1970s so she could refinish her own furniture.

Her advice for a long life?

"Hard work! Sticking with it."

Herman Jr. described his mom as "very determined and a big part of this community."



•1874• Alabama Tribune •2019•

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

"THE 67-COUNTY, ALABAMA GARDEN PARTY"

LAWRENCE COUNTY

"Mama never had a flower garden, 'cause cotton grew right up to our front door."

Whenever I hear Tanya Tucker sing those beginning lines from "I Believe The South is Gonna Rise Again," the classic, progressive country song (if that's not an oxymoron), it takes me to the Lawrence County of my childhood.

My mama's people were Lawrence County farmers, and indeed, cotton grew right up to their front porch, which, no matter how many times you took a broom after it, was destined to have red dirt footprints. Mama was pretty, smart and proper, but daddy always said he was determined to marry her because she could fill a cotton sack faster than any girl in north Alabama.

Lawrence County was established in Feb. 1818, just 25 years after Eli Whitney, a Yankee schoolteacher living in Georgia, invented the cotton gin.

Whitney's miracle machine made growing upland short cotton commercially compelling throughout the Southland. One-thousand pounds of ginned cotton was shipped to England in 1793 and 4.5 million bales in 1861.

Cotton was king in Alabama, and it was mostly small-time growers in Lawrence County who planted, chopped and made the fibrous plants thrive here. People in this part of Alabama have pluck. Pluck can triumph lousy, natural luck.

Lawrence County has weathered pestilence, economic depression, erosion and drought.

They have endured and even triumphed because they have pluck. Pluck is spirited and determined courage, boldness, nerve, fortitude. Pluck and persistence are qualities which allow one to plow through the hard times.

Jesse Owens, "The Fastest Man in America," and the hero runner of the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, hails from Oakville. And Confederate General "Fighting Joe" Wheeler was from a cotton plantation at Pond Spring. Folks from Lawrence County, like those native sons, have a bushel and a peck of pluck.

Rockabilly and "Rock of Ages" is the soundtrack for Lawrence County, along with birdsong and bushhoggin' the pastureland. An old, farm-to-market road out of Moulton is named for native son, Rockabilly star and Mama's cousin, Gordon Terry. Rockabilly is what occurs when rock-and-roll cottons up to hillbilly music. Think Elvis before Vegas and painted, city women ruint him.

He would turn red hearing me say this, but George Brackin, a Lawrence County transmission mechanic, might be the closest I've ever come to knowing Jesus on earth.

Every Thursday for 20 years, Brackin, an African-American, self-taught cook, would have the cars and trucks in his garage pulled out of the bays and he and his workers would put up folding tables which would be sagging with home-grown bounty.

Collards, fresh corn, turnip greens, sweet potatoes, sliced tomatoes, cornbread, sweet tea and whatever local game hunters provided were laid out free for all.

Gathered round the makeshift dining tables would be people of various races and stations in life.

The times I was there, someone would offer a short prayer thanking God for the food, but the main Bible lesson was really the generous spirit of Brackin and the goodness plucked from this red-dirt Eden.

Here are other positive and pleasurable ways PLANTS + PEOPLE come together in Lawrence County, including a splendid recipe for a yard eggs and locally-grown squash frittata:

• **LAWRENCE COUNTY FARMERS' MARKETS**- Tthere are two, and each offers seasonal and locally-grown variety; Moulton—13182 Alabama Highway 157, April 28-October 30; Town Creek—15992 Main Street, Saturdays, May-October

• **LAWRENCE COUNTY U-PICK**- LouAllen Farms (Moulton) strawberries, peaches, greenhouse bedding plants, vegetables; Billy Reed Farmstand (Trinity)

• **RED LAND COTTON**- Local farm girl, Anna Yeager Brakefield, does good; after college and thriving as a big city marketer, this Moulton, sweet-as-a-rose-but-tough-as-an-oak, agribusiness heroine came home to build an Alabama-made brand with her cotton farming dad. Red Land Cotton has a charming store on the square in downtown Moulton, where everything it offers comes from the cotton plants of the Yeager's Lawrence County farm. I bought a set of "farmhouse chic" cotton ticking pillowcases that are so well-made, they'll be on earth when Jesus comes back.

• **PLANTING AN IDEA**- Last year, I was honored to be a "pie judge" at the Lawrence County Fair. Yeah, I know, tough job, but somebody's gotta do it. The pies, cakes, breads, cookies, fancy and humble, were all scrumptious. Also, I got to help judge the armloads of locally-gardened flowers. People in this part of Alabama have added beauty and deliciousness to their often hardscrabble, daily lives for 200 years. A fun and tasty idea I'd like to propose is the Lawrence County Lions Club, which hosts the fair each fall, and the local Alabama Cooperative Extension Agent Donna Shanklin get together and explore adding organic cotton candy tastings to the midway at the fair. There's a company online called Cotton Cravings that offers affordable little tubs of seasoned, organic sugar in flavors like cinnamon, apple, peach and maple bacon. This could be a fun and tasty way for the Extension service to also talk about exploring new recipes for healthier eating and portion control. Maybe some Lawrence County farming entrepreneur could make Sweet Potato Pie Cotton Candy a new Thanksgiving tradition.

Y'ALL COME to Lawrence County on your 67-County Alabama Garden Party tour. I promise you'll cotton to it.

Many thanks to Donna Shanklin, Lawrence County coordinator, Alabama Cooperative Extension System and the Yeager family of Red Land Cotton. And, God bless George Brackin and the many other good people of Lawrence County.



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

LAWRENCE COUNTY SQUASH FRITTATA

Hon, what in the land o' Goshen is a frittata? That's the first question my Lawrence County granny would ask. But, she and everybody from Hillsboro to metropolitan Moulton would savor this simple, healthy, inexpensive, skillet-cooked eggs-and-zucchini dish. I'm imagining it with salad greens from a side garden, homemade cornbread and Aunt Cille's iced tea, which was so sweet you could stand a spoon up in it.

INGREDIENTS

- 4 tbsp. olive oil
- 1 large Lawrence County zucchini squash, thinly sliced in rounds
- 1 medium Lawrence County onion, chopped
- 1 tbsp. fresh oregano leaves (chopped)
- 4 garlic cloves (finely chopped)
- 8 large Lawrence County eggs
- 1 tsp. kosher salt
- 1/4 tsp. crushed red pepper
- 1/4 cup fresh mozzarella, cubed (about 4 ounces)

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350F. On top of stove, heat 2 tbsp. oil in a 10-inch oven-proof skillet. Add zucchini, onion, oregano, and garlic and cook, stirring often, until vegetables are slightly softened, 8-10 minutes.

2. Whisk eggs, salt and red pepper until combined. Add remaining 2 tbsp. oil to skillet, distributed evenly. Pour egg mixture over vegetables and shake skillet to settle eggs. Cook over medium heat until edges begin to set, 2 to 3 minutes. Top with cheese.

3. Transfer skillet to oven and cook until top is just set, 13-15 minutes. Remove from oven and let cool slightly.

4. Gently slide frittata out of skillet and season with more crushed red pepper. Add ground black pepper and salt to taste.

Serves 4

LAUDERDALE COUNTY

"The coolest county in Alabama" is Lauderdale. That's true about the cooler temperatures, the state's northernmost point is about 6 miles northwest of Waterloo in green-forested rolling hills. And, it's true about the cool vibe of this nationally recognized, fertile mecca of music and fashion creativity.

Up here the locals playfully brag, "Lots of places can be cool, but awesome takes time."

Lauderdale County, established in Feb. 1818, is older than the state of Alabama.

This Alabama county is the home of Vogue Magazine's "Menswear Designer of the Year," Billy Reid, and the headquarters of his fashion empire. Reid is known for what high-toned media have called his "cool, lived-in luxury" and "Southern gentleman sartorialism." Reid has 12 eponymously named stores throughout the U.S., including his handsome, welcoming flagship in downtown Florence.

Reid's Southern roots sprouted farther south in Louisiana. He transplanted to Florence, his wife's Lauderdale County hometown more than 10 years ago. Like his friend, fellow fashion design star, Natalie "Alabama" Chanin, also based in this cool, Alabama creative hotbed, Reid decided to base his work around his life and not his life around his work.

Both fashion designers, Reid and Chanin exalt cool, natural fiber fabrics like open-weave linens and organic cottons which allow the skin to "breathe." These designers create in distinctive, signature styles very different from each other, but both understand the extreme, stress-inducing heat of Southern summers, and with their cool clothes they help address a warming globe.

COOL THINGS TO LEARN ABOUT ALABAMA'S COOLEST COUNTY:

• **DIP YOUR BEDDING IN THE SINGING RIVER**- The 43-foot high mound at the Florence Indian Museum was made by the Yuchi Indians to worship the sun. When you visit you'll learn about the woven textiles they made from native fibers and about their diet, which relied on wild berries, nuts and sumpweed and eventually evolved with the agrarian culture to include corn, squash and sunflowers. What the Yuchis called "The Singing River," the Tennessee River, is easy walking distance from the Indian mound. To stay cool when their sun god blessed them mightily with summer heat, the natives would dip their bedding in the river before sleeping.

• **SAVE "ICE BLOCKS" FROM THE WINTER PONDS**- The Forks Of Cypress, Alabama's only two-story, colonnaded plantation house, was built in 1830 when the rich soil of this area made cotton farmers rich. Many years ago, a fire burned the main structure to the ground, leaving 23 of the 24 massive, brick columns standing boldly against the sky. Today, this treasure belongs to the State of Alabama and exists mostly as an outdoor history museum. One of the many outbuildings of this property was an "ice house" where large chunks of ice were carved from the plantation ponds in midwinter and saved for cooling drinks and dishes in the warm months. This place is perfect for a picnic as you listen for the sound of thoroughbred horses, which many visitors claim to have heard emanating from the ghostly, plantation racetrack.

• **HAND-CRANK ICE CREAM WITH LAUDERDALE COUNTY FRUITS**- This Alabama porch tradition remains popular, but another cool option is Trowbridge's Ice Cream Parlor in downtown Florence (316 North Court St.), enjoyed for as long as anyone can remember, possibly serving the Yuchi Indians who built the prehistoric mound a few blocks away. I always get Trowbridge's made-from-scratch pimento cheese sandwich, sweet tea and two scoops of orange pineapple ice cream, honored in the Alabama Department of Tourism's "100 dishes to eat in Alabama before you die." After slurping your ice cream treat, you can walk it off strolling through the quaint shops and leafy public parks nearby.

• **COOL MUSIC FROM W.C. HANDY, "THE FATHER OF THE BLUES"**- The scholarly, cool-tempered bluesman was born in a rustic, 1873 log cabin, now a beautifully restored house museum just blocks from downtown Florence, 620 West College St. There is a great archive of cool blues tunes written by Handy. About this music mecca, Handy wrote, "Where the Tennessee River, like a silver snake, winds her way through the clay hills of Alabama, sits high, my home town, Florence." You'll see his hand-written song sheets for classics like "Saint Louis Blues," "Beale Street Blues" and "Memphis Blues" and the old wooden piano from which his original music wafted in the Alabama breeze.

• **THE VERY COOL DESIGNS OF ALABAMA'S ONLY FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT BUILDING**- The modest-sized, architectural treasure, The Rosenbaum House, is open for tours, and you'll appreciate the way Wright designed the clerestory windows and outside doors to optimize the natural light and ventilation.

• **PLANT A VINE TRELLIS**- On a south-facing, sun-blazing wall, consider native wanderers like jasmine and muscadine (see local nurseries listed below).

• **SAM PHILLIPS, THE COOL MAN WHO STARTED SUN RECORDS**- This cool record-producing cat was born in Florence and promoted these performers and their plant-centric hits: Elvis Presley "Wooden Heart," Roy Orbison "Candy Man," Jerry Lee Lewis "Drinkin' Wine Spo-Dee-O-Dee," Carl Perkins "Honey Don't" and Johnny Cash "Orange Blossom Special."

• **TAKE A MIDDAY NAP**- This may be a national fashion and music hub, but there is still a relaxed, small-town pragmatism; only tourists are on the sidewalks during the middle of summer days.

• **BECOME A FAN OF ATTIC FANS**- The grand old houses on shady Poplar Street and Wood Street near downtown Florence still hum the heat away.

Positive and pleasurable PLANTS + PEOPLE encounters in Alabama's coolest county also include these:

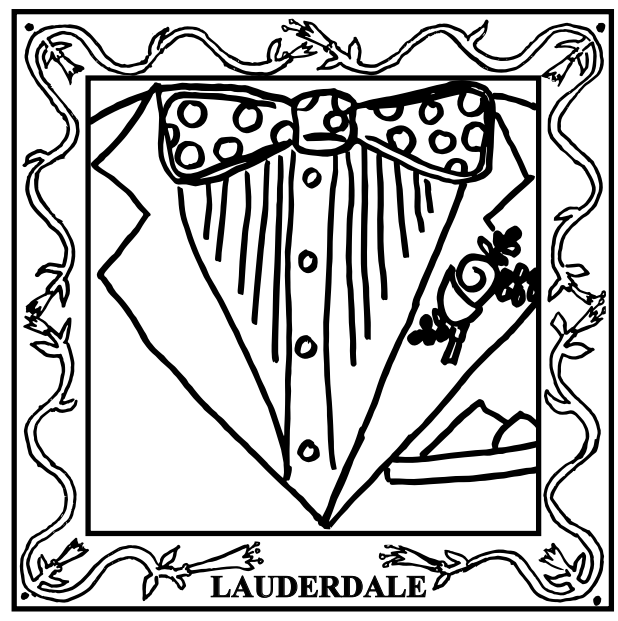
• **LAUDERDALE COUNTY FARMERS' MARKETS**- College Street Farmers' Market (Florence) May 1-August 30; Lauderdale Farmers' Market (Florence) 451 Fairground Road; Killen Farmers' Market (Killen) Lock Six Road, May 11-Sept 28

• **LAUDERDALE COUNTY U-PICK**- Aliyah Acres (Florence) fruits, vegetables, herbs; McGee Farm (Florence) roses, bedding plants, pumpkins, gourds, hayrides in the fall; James Noel Farmstand (Florence), Jack-O-Lantern Farmstand (Florence); Stumpe Backyard Nursery (Florence)

• **LAUDERDALE COUNTY NURSERIES**- Green Valley Nursery and Landscaping (Florence), Rudy's Nursery and Garden Center (Killen), Tree House Garden Nursery (Rogersville), Greenhill Nursery (Florence)

• **JOE WHEELER STATE PARK**—2,550 acres of public camping and hiking pleasure on the 69,700-acre Wheeler Lake- Expect to see sailboats, and even yachts, next to fishing boats hauling in a catch of bass, bream and catfish.

• **PLANTING AN IDEA**- Billy Reid's annual SHINDIG FESTIVAL of music, design, food and art began about 10 Augusts ago. It is a cool music and cool fashion destination for throngs of intrepid, summer fest-goers. This would be a perfect opportunity for the nonprofit North Alabama Agriplex (based in nearby Cullman County) to pop up a booth and share information about traditional, sustainable ways Alabamians have kept their cool over the past 200 years. Everything old is cool again.



Y'ALL COME to Lauderdale, "Alabama's Coolest," County on your 67-County Alabama Garden Party tour. Every guest is promised a tall glass of something cool and a journal full of cool memories.

LAUDERDALE COUNTY BOWTIE PASTA SALAD

The Coolest County in Alabama offers you this fresh, cool salad highlighting locally-grown produce and dapper bites of bowtie pasta. It can be refrigerated and served refreshingly cool for days.

INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups uncooked, multigrain, bowtie pasta
- 1 can (15 ounces) chickpeas (rinsed and drained)
- 6 cups fresh baby spinach
- 2 cups grape tomatoes, halved
- 1 medium sweet red pepper, chopped
- 1/2 cup cubed part-skim mozzarella cheese
- 1/2 cup pitted Greek olives, halved
- 1/3 cup reduced fat sundried tomato salad dressing
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/4 cup chopped pecans, toasted

DIRECTIONS

1. Cook pasta according to package directions; drain and transfer to a large bowl.

2. Throw remaining ingredients into the bowl and toss.

3. (Optional) Sprinkle with grated parmesan cheese and some more chopped pecans.

The Cullman Tribune is celebrating the Alabama Bicentennial (1819-2019) with statewide field reporting by Alabama Master Gardener/Botanical Artist Ben Johnson South. This year-long feature, "The 67-County Alabama Garden Party," will spotlight different counties each week. Each county will get its own "quilt block," along with a historical profile, and we'll share a recipe specific to the area. At the end of the year, all 67 counties will be put in a book to commemorate the Bicentennial.

EDUCATION

County school system breaks new ground with theatre production

W.C. Mann
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FAIRVIEW, Ala. – On April 8, over five months of coordinated effort will culminate in a new era of theatre for students of Cullman County Schools, when Fairview High School hosts a production of "Sleeping Beauty" featuring students auditioned from across the entire county school system.

The Tribune visited Fairview English teacher and theatre director Mark Dobbs to find out more, but he told us that we needed to start where the notion of a system-wide production began: with Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette.

At the central office, Barnette told us, "Not every one of our schools have a drama program, but that is something that is growing momentum throughout the country right now.

"And I want every student in Cullman County--this year it's just high school students; but hopefully, next year it's going to grow, and we can have two plays: one for elementary students and one for high school students.

"But this year, even if they do have a drama program, we had district-wide auditions where anybody in the high school throughout our district could try out for a part in this play. So we are going to be hosting this play. And the school board here has put up money to buy the scripts and all that stuff, the play rights.

"And so, the board has stepped up and they're doing that because they believe in it. And I'll tell you: I believe in if there's kids out there that want to do something like this, we want to make it happen for them.

"I think that, for kids to be successful in life, they're going to have to be involved in things like this; and so we just want to continue to grow it.

"And just like the release of the information that we did of the facility that we're wanting to build, this could be a common place that all the kids can go and take drama classes and be involved in district-wide plays and so forth.

"Even though this is a small start, we're getting a lot of schools to come in and watch this; and, hopefully, that'll build momentum to get even more kids involved next year. So, we just hope it continues to grow from here."

Barnette and the school board gave Dobbs a budget beyond his school's regular allotment for its theatre group and sent him around to the other high schools to pass the word and sign up over 80 students for initial auditions.

He's been at it for awhile: wrangling actors from multiple schools has taken a lot of after-school hours and weekends. Rehearsals began late last October.

Dobbs said, "This would not have been possible without Dr. Barnette having the idea that he wanted to offer an opportunity for all of Cullman County to be able to get into performing arts. He didn't want them to have go somewhere else to do it. He wanted it to be by Cullman County kids, for Cullman County kids."

About "Sleeping Beauty"

At Fairview, as we looked over the set, Dobbs told us, "We are doing a modernly written but not modern-set version of 'Sleeping Beauty.' I would say it's similar to 'Wicked' in that you find out the backstory of the characters. It still has the curse put on Sleeping Beauty: she falls asleep and she has to be awoken by someone who loves her with a kiss.

"That part's still there, but you find out all the characters' backstory like you do in 'Wicked.' Very funny production, some pretty good special effects.

"I think the younger kids will enjoy it, and I think there's enough story and enough comedy for the older kids to enjoy it, as well.

"Kids can watch it as a cartoon, but adults will get some things. The physical comedy the kids will laugh at; the more sophisticated lines the older audiences will laugh at. So there's a little bit of funny for both."

At this point in the process...

Dobbs said, "We've changed a lot since we first started. Every kid's off script; we're way ahead of where we usually are. Our actors have been off script for probably a month now. And now we're fine-tuning, and changing blocking or changing lighting, or deciding we like something a better way.

"And the interesting development that always happens with all of our plays is there's a point at which, when the kids stop thinking about what it is they're supposed to say, and when they're supposed to say it, and where they're supposed to stand.

"They start acting; that start becoming the characters. We're in that stage, now.

"The kids are starting to think. They're asking questions about, 'shouldn't I say this this way instead of that way,' and 'wouldn't this character be mad about that?' They're starting to explore who they are in their role, and so it's getting better and better and better each time."

The production will feature effects like thunder and lightning and pyrotechnics, and the action will include ever-popular sword fights.

Dobbs commended his crew, saying, "Of course, our kids--the actors--have worked especially hard for about six months to get ready for the performance.

"And, like I said, Mr. Miller, our Ag teacher (who built many of the set items and props) has gone above and beyond what anyone could ask of anybody.

"An example: I asked him for two wooden cutout swords that I could paint and make look like a sword.

"He takes some steel and cuts it out, and actually makes me two real (but dull) swords for the sword fighting. That's the kind of person he is: he's going to go above and beyond, and make it as good as it can be."

Cast

Dobbs visited and invited students from all schools, but some did not send students to audition. All schools that sent students are represented in the cast.

- Branwen, the Bright Witch - Allison Frost, Fairview
- Modron, the Dark Witch - Cayla Allen, Fairview; Heather Twilley, Cold Springs
- Gryff, half man/half dragon - Devan Humes, Fairview
- King Peredur - Matthew Baughman, Fairview
- Queen Guinevere - Lydia Baker, Vinemont; Taylor Simmons, Holly Pond
- The Bishop - Cain Rechter, Fairview
- Princess Briar Rose, the Sleeping Beauty - Alexia Baughman, Fairview
- Prince Owain - Jesse Smith, Fairview
- Tylwyth Teg 1 - Emma Butler, Fairview
- Tylwyth Teg 2 - Keira Pitts, Fairview
- Tylwyth Teg 3 - Angela Thornton, Fairview
- The Spider Queen - Bianca Messina, Cold Springs
- King's Footman - Brier Grace, Fairview

The group will put on 20 shows, mostly for the other schools in the system.

Public performances will be at Fairview High School on:

- Sunday, Apr. 14 at 2 p.m.
- Friday, Apr. 19 at 6 p.m.
- Saturday, Apr. 20 at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

FUNNY THINGS FROM YESTERDAY

When she is real hungry she can get mean

Robert N. Tidwell, Sr.
Tribune Contributor



Robin and Robert, Jr. were still in high school when we planned our vacation for a trip to the New England states.

We were looking forward to our drive across the states and a visit to New York City.

Robin had an accident not long before our vacation time. She had been hit in the face with the handle of a ski rope and it broke her jaw.

So she had both sides of her mouth wired shut, could hardly talk, and had all her meals through a straw.

Being in this miserable condition, she wanted to carry a friend along on vacation to comfort her. The friend she wanted to carry turned out to be Danny, who would in the future become our son-in-law.

Having started our trip, every thing was fine until about the third day. We stopped at the motel where we had reservations, and it was rundown and just wasn't the place we wanted to stay.

It was late, we were tired and hungry, and had to start looking for another motel. The longer we looked the hungrier we got.

You have to know Rudene to appreciate her feeling. When she is hungry, she gets ill tempered.

When she gets a little more hungry, she gets mad, and when she gets really hungry, she can get mean. She got really, really hungry.

When we finally found a good motel, Rudene was so mad she practically unloaded the car by herself, got in bed and pulled the cover up over her head and said that she wasn't going with us to eat.

I took the three teenagers out for supper, and they were concerned that their mother didn't go with us.

I explained to them that there are two things you don't bother when they are hungry - your mother and a bear. Just give either of them a little time and plenty of room and they will get over it.

Danny had to be a brave soul. Even after this incident, he still married into our family, and Danny has become my favorite son-in-law.

By the way he is my only son-in-law. Danny, as well as the rest of the family, tries to make sure one member of the family is well fed on a trip out of town.

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

'Lend a Hand' came to Beauregard

Bill King
Tribune Contributor



Last Monday morning, I went to see The Today Show live, or at least a portion of it. It was not my first time to see the program in person, but it was my first time at that location. Somewhere around fifteen years ago, I was in New York City, so we decided to go be in the plaza crowd of The Today Show.

The show begins at 7:00 a.m. Eastern Time, but we were told to arrive around 5:00. We rose before the sun. Old-timers used to say that they went to bed with the chickens and got up with the roosters. I don't think there are any roosters in Manhattan, or least I didn't hear any. We arrived early, went through security, got a pass and waited.

Since we had not eaten breakfast, one member of our group walked across the street to get bagels and coffee for us.

I learned if you ask for cream cheese on your bagel there, they are not frugal with it. There was so much cream cheese on that bagel that I think eating it clogged at least one of my arteries! We were near the front of the line, so when they let us enter the plaza area, we found a great spot right at the railing. I saw the cast, including Al Roker. Actor Colin Firth was a guest on the show that day. He came over where I stood and signed autographs. I had no idea, at that time, who he was or what movies he had been in, but I got his autograph anyway... for my teenage daughter, of course.

The only thing I had for him to sign was my plastic hotel key-card. I offered to pay the hotel for the room-key, but they graciously gave it to me. I thought Ashley would be thrilled, but when I gave it to her, she asked, "Who is Colin Firth?"

Last Monday, I was in the crowd again to see a live segment of The Today Show. Once again I got up, before I woke up, to get there. I still didn't hear a rooster crow, but this time there could have been possibly one nearby. There were no bagels and crème cheese this time, but there was barbecue... for breakfast!

Colin Firth was not there, so I got no autographs, but Al Roker was there and I did get my picture with him. Standing by him made me feel tall. No, I wasn't in New York again.

This time, Mr. Roker and The Today Show cameras came to Alabama. He came to Beauregard, to Providence Baptist Church, because of the tornadoes two weeks earlier. For almost twenty years, Roker and the Today Show cameras have visited areas needing help due to disasters.

The segment of the show is called, "Lend a Hand." Mr. Roker says, "We're pitching in to help those who need it most."

With around 200 homes destroyed by the tornadoes here, and at least another 300 damaged, there is certainly a number of families in need of a hand. Mr. Roker contacted Belfor National Disaster Team, who presented two travel homes to two families whose homes were totally destroyed.

Rodney Scott Barbecue, from Birmingham, also set up in the parking lot and provided lunch (or breakfast for some of us) for storm victims and volunteers. Wal-Mart brought a truck load of totes filled with all kinds of goodies for the families affected by the storms.

Thank you, Mr. Roker and everyone else for coming and for all your help. We also appreciate the attention you brought, which will in turn motivate others to come "Lend a hand." Slowly, the lives of the hurting will be rebuilt, as well as their houses. We continue to pray for all.

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

Tribune Files from Yesteryear

From The Files Of 1950

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Pinkard, of Akron, Ohio, are visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Pinkard. Margie Casey was the dinner guest of Nora Jame South on Sunday.

Jack Latham and Mr. and Mrs. Alvertis Smith spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Howard Latham.

Mrs. Minnie Elrod is visiting friends and relatives in Atlanta, Georgia.

Mrs. Evelyn Mitchell, of Atlanta, Georgia, spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Taylor Mitchell and her son, Clifford.

Mr. and Mrs. Dube Turkett spent Sunday here with Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins.

Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Pike had as their dinner guests on Sunday, Reverend and Mrs. W.T. Casey and daughter, Billie Ruth, Mr. and Mrs. William Pruden and Joyce, of Birmingham, Fay Lambert and Ellen Pike.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Holloway spent Sunday afternoon with her mother, Mrs. Mettie Dukes.

Mrs. Ethel Pinkard, Mrs. Mae Sanders and Mrs. Mancil Wade spent Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. W.H. Pike.

The new 1951 Studebaker is being displayed this weekend by the Owen Walker Motors.

G.C. Chapman, Chief of Police, is attending an FBI School in Tuscaloosa for two weeks.

Poet's Corner

A Dog Named Jonah

By: Randy C. Hale

I once had a Beagle,
Jonah was his name.
My grandfather didn't like him,
and that was a shame.

He didn't want him
fraternizing with his little dog.
So he kept him run off the porch
in no time at all.

One day grandpa
left his nice derby hat,
outside on the porch,
just imagine that.

He realized his mistake
when he looked out to see,
old Jonah running,
with his hat in his teeth.

Down through the valley
with his head held high,
carrying it with honor,
rushing with pride.

Hurry, he told me,
catch that old mangy mutt.
He's got my good hat,
I'll kick his hound butt.

I caught up with Jonah
just over the hill,
but it was too late
and Jonah sat still.

What he did to that hat,
it's hard to describe.
I picked up the pieces
and took them inside.

It was almost as Jonah
knew when to hit,
To make grandpa
throw such a fit.

And years later,
Jonah still had a name,
that brought laughter from
his hat wrecking fame.

Hanceville Elementary student raises $200 to buy lunch for classmates

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. - Hanceville Elementary School 2nd grader Aistin Jeffrey (AJ) Gable was recognized for his "charitable spirit" by Mayor Kenneth Nail at the town council Wednesday night. AJ gave $200 to his school's cafeteria to help classmates pay lunch fees.

AJ was at the meeting with his parents Jeff and Amy Gable, his principal Tommy Johnson and his 1st-grade teacher Michelle Pender. Amy Gable describes AJ as "not wanting to be the center of attention."

She explained, "AJ came home from school and said 'do you know some moms and dads forget to put lunch money in their kid's lunch accounts?'" She told her son that sometimes parents have a hard time paying all the bills.

AJ decided that he could help. He began doing extra chores and selling old toys to earn extra money. He raised $200.

At the meeting, Mayor Nail read a proclamation listing other ways the youngster gives back to his friends and community. AJ is involved in the Campus Clean Up Crew, Hanceville's Knapsacks for Kids, Bulldog Pantry and Hearts for Homeless.

The proclamation described AJ as "a 2nd grader in Monica Brown's class who enjoys writing and illustrating comics, pulling pranks and helping others." He also has a great sense of humor. He took advantage of his moment with the mayor to ask for "his own day and to be able to skip school that day without getting in trouble."

Mayor Nail and Principal Johnson joked that AJ could take next week off. "That's what's right with our kids," Nail said.



CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Mayor Nail congratulates AJ

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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!



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