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The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

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'THE SHELVES ARE EMPTY'

Cullman Caring for Kids in desperate need of donations



JAVON DANIEL

Photo taken July 12, 2019 shows empty shelves at the Cullman Caring for Kids food bank.

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Cullman Caring for Kids (CCK), the area child abuse prevention advocate best known for its very active food bank, is desperately in need of donations, according to Director Javon Daniel, who said the shelves are empty.

Daniel reports that the food bank is running low on almost all items it commonly distributes and needs donations right now.

Daniel told The Tribune, "We've done over 200 families in (the last) four (business) days. So, kids are at home. More people, they come in because they need food for their kids, their grandkids that they're keeping, whatever. And, I'll tell you what, Craig, we've got a lot of food going out of this place.

"You know, I've always said that we do 10, 12 tons of food a month out of here. Last month, we did 575 families. That equated to over 1,100 individuals. It's been really, really busy so far this summer."

Items commonly needed include cereal (especially kids' cereal), peanut butter and jelly, mac and cheese, canned pasta and any popular children's foods. Canned goods are needed as well, along with dry goods like crackers, rice and beans. And of course, CCK's partnership with the North Alabama Food Bank gives it the ability to buy at huge discounts, so a little monetary donation can go a long way, too.

To find out how to donate, or to get more information, visit www.cullmancaringforkids.com or call 256-739-1111. Monetary or food donations can be made at the CCK office at 402 Arnold St. NE, Suite W-1.

Chick-fil-A gearing up to help

On Tuesday, July 30, Cullman Chick-fil-A (CFA) will host a "Mobile App Spirit Day" on behalf of CCK. When orders are placed at the Cullman store via the CFA app any time that day, a portion of the proceeds from sales will be donated to CCK.



JAVON DANIEL

Daniel explained that orders must be placed through the app to qualify, but even folks who want to dine at the restaurant that night can still order onsite through the app. For those who dine in, the CFA Cow and representatives from CCK will be at the Cullman restaurant that day from 5-7 p.m., and diners can register to win a CFA gift basket.

Daniel told The Tribune, "We're excited to partner with them. We've talked with them several times, and they're good folks. They're super good folks to work with, and we at Cullman Caring for Kids are very excited to work with Chick-fil-A."

The CFA app is available from Apple's App Store for iOS devices at https://apple.co/2xGchki and for other devices from Google Play at http://bit.ly/2NKUIdW.

Cullman Electric Co-op donates $7K to volunteer fire departments



CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Left to right are Phillip Garrison, Bruce Whitlock, James Fields, Jr., Brandon Williams, Garlan Gudger, Robert Tidwell, Josh Speakman, Toby Bates, Bradley Williams and Scott Stadthagen.

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Representatives from Logan, Trimble and Crane Hill Volunteer Fire Departments received a $7,000 donation from the Cullman Electric Cooperative Friday morning to help with the purchase of a fire rescue boat. The boat is a much-needed resource for the departments, which cover Smith Lake. » PAGE 7

CCCDC awards more than $97K in grants

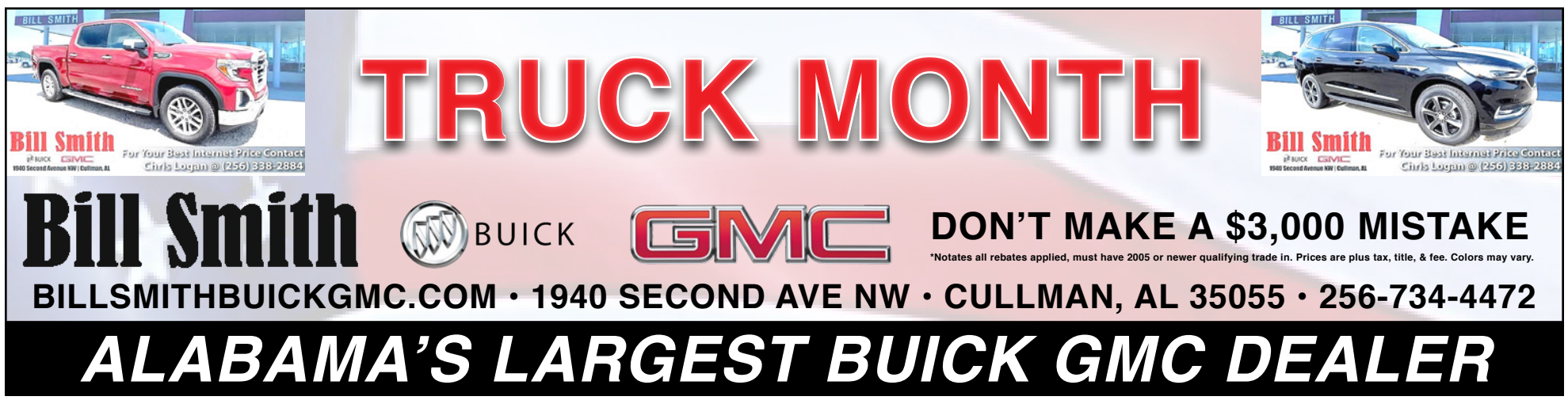


CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Left to right are CCCDC Board Member Josh Speakman, Rep. Scott Stadthagen, CCCDC Chairman Champ Crocker, Cullman Christian School Board President Tina Warner, CCCDC Board Member Bradley Williams and Sen. Garlan Gudger.

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Cullman County Community Development Commission (CCCDC) awarded $97,160 in grant money to several area organizations Friday morning. The CCCDC was joined by Sen. Garlan Gudger, R-Cullman and Representative Scott Stadthagen, R-Hartselle as the recipients were presented checks. » PAGE 7



Elderly woman killed in wreck on U.S. 278 W

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – A two-vehicle wreck at U.S. Highway 278 West and County Road 831 Wednesday evening, July 10 left one person dead. Cullman County Coroner Jeremy L. Kilpatrick identified the victim as Aura Dequasie, 85, of Cullman.

Dequasie was killed when the 1997 Nissan Maxima she was driving was struck by a 1995 Chevrolet Suburban. Dequasie, who was not using a seat belt, was pronounced dead at the scene.

The driver of the Chevrolet was transported to an area hospital for treatment of his injuries.

The wreck happened at approximately 6:50 p.m., shutting down the roadway.

On scene were emergency responders from Logan, West Point and Bethsadia.

CCSO to offer Church Safety Class July 25

Bradley Williams
CCSO

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) will host a Church Safety Class Thursday, July 25 at 6 p.m. at Temple Baptist Church (30 County Road 1184, Cullman, AL 35057). The class will focus on prevention and the steps a church and congregation can take to prevent imminent danger.

Discussion items will include the creation of a church security team, increasing situational awareness and promoting building security.

The CCSO encourages two to four members of each church to attend- members that could make up a security team. Carpooling is also encouraged.

"Saying that our first church safety class was successful would be an understatement. We had over 1,000 citizens attend our class in 2017," said Sheriff Matt Gentry. "We have all seen in the media and online the attacks that evil people have perpetrated against our churches, schools, business, etc. in recent years. At the sheriff's office, our citizens are our top priority, and we wanted to again offer a class to the community on what they can do to protect themselves and their family."

The class will be taught by CCSO Investigator Trevor Clemmons and Deputy Chad Whaley, who have more than 30 years of law enforcement experience combined.

Registration is not required, but it is encouraged as it gives CCSO deputies a good idea how many participants will be attending the class.

To register, email Deputy Bradley Williams at bwilliams@cullmansheriff.org with your name, the name of your church and the number of people from your group. For more information, call 256-734-0342.

Arrests and incidents reported July 11-12

Maggie Darnell
maggie@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported July 11-12, 2019. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

REPORTED JULY 11
CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
INCIDENTS
July 8

- public intoxication, disorderly conduct; CR 1763
- violation of a protection order, domestic violence; CR 1138
- criminal mischief; Hwy. 278 E
- disorderly conduct, trespassing; White Oak Circle
- theft of property; CR 1776
- possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 31
- harassment, trespassing; CR 97
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1592
- harassment; CR 255
- possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 31 N
- theft of property; CR 1242
- theft of property; CR 781

July 9

- domestic violence; 3rd St. SW Hanceville
- trespassing; CR 1087
- burglary; CR 1400
- unauthorized use of a motor vehicle; CR 1490
- domestic violence; CR 1224
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1714
- criminal mischief, harassment; CR 1391

July 10

- domestic violence; CR 831
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance
- theft of property; CR 623
- theft of property; CR 1736
- theft of property; Hwy. 69 S

ARRESTS
July 8
Collins, Brenda Diane, 37

- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Corbin, Angela Denise, 43

- disorderly conduct
- public intoxication

Garrett, Michael Ruth, 22

- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- illegal possession of prescription medicine
- FTA- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

Gilbreath, Justin Bernard, 34

- second-degree theft of property
- unauthorized use of a motor vehicle

Green, Charles Kevin, 28

- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Hann, Christopher Adam, 29

- probation violation – third-degree burglary
- negotiating a worthless negotiable instrument
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance
- probation violation – unlawful possession of a controlled substance
- probation violation – unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle (with theft) (2 counts)

Hann, Timothy Michael, 30

- attempting to elude
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- reckless endangerment
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Houston, Kathy Blair, 56

- second-degree theft of property

Kilpatrick, Justin Todd, 55

- FTA- negotiating a worthless negotiable instrument

Sanford, Sharon Jo Mosely, 59

- possession of drug paraphernalia

Sponaugle, Zena Marie, 53

- disorderly conduct

Wise, Lisa Diane, 47

- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

July 9
Chaney, Barbara, 40

- third-degree domestic violence – harassment

Drane, Anthony Gwen, 33

- probation violation – second-degree forgery (2 counts)

Freeman, Logan Lee, 30

- court appearance

Hobbs, Justin Matthew, 38

- third-degree domestic violence – harassing communication

Johnson, Karley Noel, 25

- harassment

Moore, Steven Ray, 33

- court appearance

Nunnelley, Justin Grant, 32

- possession of drug paraphernalia
- resisting arrest
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Phillips, Brandon Ray, 35

- FTA- third-degree receiving stolen property
- FTA- third-degree theft of property

Pinkston, Richard Lynn, 49

- third-degree domestic violence – harassment

Quick, Leanda Lechele, 32

- probation violation – unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Vences, Raul Flores, 23

- drug court sanction – unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Willingham, Felicia Renea, 27

- possession of drug paraphernalia

Willingham, Mickey Joe, 56

- fourth-degree theft of property

Yokeley, Stevie Joe, 59

- third-degree domestic violence – harassment

July 10
Anderson, Candice Megan, 33

- probation violation – first-degree theft of property

Beebe, Davon Treshawn, 21

- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Hallmark, Stephanie S., 39

- negotiating a worthless negotiable instrument (5 counts)

Hazelrig, Jason Ray, 41

- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Pearson, Shannon Foy, 46

- third-degree burglary (2 counts)

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
INCIDENTS
July 10

- menacing; person; Mitchell Rd. NE
- first-degree theft of property; Bill Smith Buick GMC; '16 GMC Sierra; $31,860
- third-degree theft of property; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; cash; $600

ARRESTS
July 10
Curvin, Meshach J., 23

- third-degree domestic violence
- resisting arrest
- FTA- third-degree assault
- FTA- third-degree criminal mischief

Goodwin, Leah C., 31

- fourth-degree theft of property

Knepper, Shauna R., 32

- fourth-degree theft of property

Sturgeon, Anthony M., 23

- FTA- fourth-degree theft of property

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT
No arrests or incidents reported.

REPORTED JULY 12
CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
INCIDENTS
No incidents or arrests reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
INCIDENTS
July 10

- third-degree domestic violence; person; Hickory Ave. SW
- harassment; person
- unauthorized use of a motor vehicle; person; Hwy. 157
- fourth-degree theft of property; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW; misc. merchandise; $56
- fourth-degree theft of property; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $5
- third-degree burglary; person; Katherine St. NW; guitar, coins; $1,000

July 11

- third-degree criminal mischief; person; Ave. E SE; damaged door; $400
- unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle; person; 2nd Ave. NW; miscellaneous; $625
- duty upon striking an unattended vehicle; person; Olive St. SW; damage to '15 Chev. Cruze; $500
- third-degree criminal trespassing, fourth-degree theft of property; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; miscellaneous; $50

ARRESTS
July 11
Schwaiger, Stephen W., 47

- harassing communications

Dye, Tressa S., 64

- fourth-degree theft of property (2 counts)

Bentley, Amanda D., 41

- disorderly conduct

Jones, Alex M., 31

- FTA- public intoxication

Marshall, Shea M., 40

- third-degree criminal trespassing
- fourth-degree theft of property

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT
No arrests or incidents reported.

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

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR
July 13 - 15

SATURDAY, JULY 13
127th Annual Cullman County Courthouse Singing Convention

- Saturday and Sunday, July 13-14, Cullman will celebrate what has become a unique tradition in Alabama: the state's last regular courthouse singing convention. Singers from all over the state, across the country, and even overseas will fill the Cullman County Courthouse's district courtroom for the 127th installment of a local crossroads of faith and arts that began in 1893. Singers, listeners and the public are invited to attend.
- July 13-14, 2019, starting at 9 a.m. Saturday with a potluck lunch around noon, and 9:30 a.m. Sunday
- Cullman County Courthouse, 500 Second Ave. SW (Hwy. 31) in Cullman
- Second floor District Courtroom of Judge Kim Chaney
- For convention veterans: Bring your 1991 Denson book.
- For newcomers: They've got books you can borrow.

Olen F. and Clara Blackwood Bishop Annual Family Reunion
The Olen F. and Clara Blackwood Bishop Annual Family Reunion will be held Saturday, July 13, 2019 at the Berlin Community Center (located 5 miles east of Cullman at 3309 Highway 278 East, Cullman, AL 35055). Please bring your favorite covered dish to share - lunch will be at noon. Visiting will begin at 10 a.m.

Vinemont High School Class of 1972 47-Year Reunion
The Vinemont High School Class of 1972 will hold its 47-year reunion Saturday, July 13 at 11 a.m. in the Florida Room at The Shrimp Basket in Cullman. Call Jolene Gamble Bethke at 256-612-7201 or Linda Williams Skinner at 256-595-7808 for more information.

Gospel Singing
A gospel singing will be held July 13, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. at the Commission on Aging building (1539 Sportsman Lake Road). Everyone is welcome. For more information call 256-796-6072.

SUNDAY, JULY 14
Davenport Reunion
The Davenport reunion will be Sunday, July 14 at the Moody Center in Hanceville, AL. Please bring a covered dish and enjoy food, family and fellowship.

Special Needs Free Swim at the Aquatic Center
3-5 p.m. Free Swim Hosted by Cullman Parks, Recreation and Sports Tourism Free swim is for those with special needs and immediate family members. All guests must sign in at the CWAC front desk before entering the pool. Parents/guardians/caregivers must stay in the pool area at all times during the therapeutic recreation swim time.

MONDAY, JULY 15
Grace Episcopal Church VBS
Grace Episcopal Church VBS invites all pre-K through fifth graders to join us as we learn, create, play and sing about God's love shown to us through the story of Joseph "The Merciful Dreamer" Monday, July 15 through Thursday, July 18, 5:30-7:30 p.m. each evening. There is no cost and no strings for your children to participate. To register, go to www.GraceChurchCullman.org and click on the VBS link at the bottom of the front page. Grace Episcopal Church, 305 Arnold St. NE, Cullman, 256-734-6212.

West Point Town Council Meeting
6 p.m. at West Point Town Hall

Garden City Town Council Meeting
6 p.m. at Garden City Town Hall

Cullman City Council Meeting
7 p.m. at Cullman City Hall

Berlin Town Council Meeting
7 p.m. at the Berlin Community Center

UPCOMING....
Fairview Class of 1963 Meeting
The Fairview Class of 1963 will meet at noon Friday, July 19 at the Golden Corral, 1720 Cherokee Ave. SW, Cullman. For more information, call Joyce Williams Rodgers at 256-339-3451.

Fairview High School Class of 1974 Reunion
The Fairview High School Class of 1974 will have its 45-year class reunion Saturday, July 20 at 5m p.m. at Whispering Cedars, 1244. County Road 730, Cullman, AL 35055. We will receive donations only for this evening of fun, fellowship and food. Casual dress. See you there. For info, contact Ray Hulen Wren at 256-412-7238.

West Point High School Class of 1962 Reunion
The West Point High School Class of 1962 will hold its 57-year reunion Saturday, July 27 from 1:30-4 p.m. at the Brandin' Iron in West Point. For more information, call 256-747-6883.

Christmas in August Kickoff Event
The annual Christmas in August Kickoff Event will be held Wednesday, July 31 at 6:30 p.m. at Northside Baptist Church (1310 Katherine St. NW). Every year, the West Cullman Baptist churches collect and fill backpacks for underprivileged children. This year, the backpacks will be delivered to the Mississippi River Ministry. The kickoff program includes Christmas music, a skit, a video of area that will receive backpacks, how to fill a backpack and speaker Jonathan Reid of Sardis Baptist Church. Pizza will be served following the program. All ages are welcome to attend! Contact 256-620-0828 for more information and to RSVP.

85th Annual Sandlin Reunion

- Cold Springs Community Center; 8821 County Road 109, Bremen, AL 35033
- Saturday, Aug. 3, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Bring covered dish and drinks; plates, cups, napkins, forks and ice provided.
- Invite your Sandlin relatives.
- Chairman: Dr. Randall Sandlin; Secretary: Patsy Sandlin Medlock
- Contact: Anita Sandlin Glover, 1283 Highland Lakes Trail, Birmingham, AL 35242, patsymedlock@bellsouth.net, 205-995-7988 (home), 205-915-1870 (cell)
- Let's conserve postage! Please email me your email address. If you don't have an email address, invitations will be sent via U.S. mail. Thanks!
- Directions: Interstate 65, Exit 299 toward Dodge City/Jasper, take AL-69 South (approximately 14 miles). Turn RIGHT on CR-54. At 1st STOP sign, turn RIGHT on CR-109. At the STOP Sign at Cold Springs High School, turn RIGHT. Less than 1/4 mile, Cold Springs Communit Center is on the RIGHT!
- Sandlin Chapel & Cemetery are off AL-69S.



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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Hanceville accepting bids on 2 properties

Christy Perry
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HANCEVILLE, Ala. – The Hanceville City Council voted Thursday to surplus two properties and accept sealed bids to be opened at its Aug. 8 meeting. The council included the stipulation that it has the right to reject any bid. The Joann Walls Center on Bangor Street and an approximately 1-acre lot behind the Hanceville Funeral Home on Wendy Street are the two properties for bid.

The council added these properties to the agenda after a 30-minute executive session called to discuss a "possible property acquisition." The council did not disclose the property being discussed for acquisition.

The council also held three public hearings required for the rezoning of two properties and the addition of dormitories to the City's existing zoning ordinances.

There were no guests in attendance who wished to voice opposition to the proposed changes.

First, the Cobb property, located at the corner of Commercial Street and Kentucky Avenue, was approved to be rezoned from B1, business, to R1, residential.

Second, dormitories were added to the zoning ordinances.

Mayor Kenneth Nail explained, "This was a situation where our zoning didn't even talk about dormitories."

The mayor abstained from voting, saying, "It directly affects me."

Nail is the owner of Lioness Dormitories, the opening of which he recently announced. The dormitories are located on U.S. Highway near Wallace State Community College.

Said Nail, "The new Lioness dorm facility is for young ladies attending Wallace State."

Lastly, the Preiss property, located on Alabama Highway 91 and Shady Lane, was rezoned to R3. The owner has plans to build duplexes, and the new zoning will allow for personal rental property.

In new business, the council passed a resolution allowing Nail to sign the application for the Community Development Block Grant it hopes to receive for a new senior center.

The council also voted to withdraw the bid awarded to John's Paving for multiple repaving projects. The bids were originally opened at the April 25, 2019 council meeting.

City Clerk Tania Wilcox said, "We sent a certified letter that he had 10 days to respond and let the City know what his intentions were.

"Whether he was going to start on it or not be able to do it or what, and so, he does not have a mail receptacle at his address, but the post office did leave a notice on the door that he had a letter, but he has not picked it up. It's been 14 days."

The next lowest bidder for the repaving projects was Real Seal of Cullman with a bid of $39,183.75. The council voted to award Real Seal the contract.

The next Hanceville City Council meeting will be July 25, 2019 at 6 p.m.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Dodge City votes to renew township deputy contract

Maggie Darnell
maggie@cullmantribune.com

DODGE CITY, Ala. – Dodge City will soon have a new township deputy. The Dodge City Town Council voted Thursday night to renew an agreement between the Town and the Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) for a township deputy contract.

Sgt. David Nunn, who had been serving as the town's deputy, left in May for a new job.

Mayor Tawana Canada said there will be no changes from the current township deputy agreement, which ends July 19.

CCSO Major Matt Hogue said a new deputy will be assigned to the town soon, saying, "We hope by the end of the month."

The next item on the agenda was the renewal of the Town's contract with Air Evac Lifeteam for $3,995 per month.

The council tabled the discussion until its next meeting.

The council also discussed making a donation to the Good Samaritan Health Clinic, which Canada said could be $100 a month or $1,200 a year.

Councilman Jason Burney made a motion to pay a year, which passed.

The council voted to move its August meeting from Aug. 8 to Aug. 15.

The Dodge City Town Council meets on every second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.

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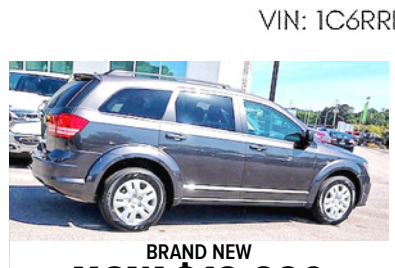
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1500 BIG HORN / LONE STAR CREW CAB 4X2 5'7 BOX Crew Cab
VIN: 1C6RREFT4KN628233 Stock: K0044



WAS $45,385
NOW $40,937
New 2018 Jeep
Wrangler UNLIMITED SPORT S 4X4 Sport Utility
VIN: 1C4HJXDN5JW257115 Stock: J0491



NOW ONLY
$20,990
New 2019 Jeep
Renegade SPORT FWD Sport Utility
VIN: ZACNJAABXKPK49442 Stock: K0335



BRAND NEW
NOW $19,990
New 2019 Dodge
Journey SE VALUE PACKAGE Sport Utility
VIN: 3C4PDCAB4KT751533 Stock: K0286



WAS $45,620 | $12,000 DISCOUNT
NOW $33,620
New 2019 Ram
1500 CLASSIC BIG HORN CREW CAB 4X2 5'7 BOX Crew Cab
VIN: 1C6RR6LT0KS563943 Stock: K0130



WAS $39,990 | 22K MILES
NOW $36,242
Certified Pre-Owned 2016 Jeep
Wrangler JK Unlimited Rubicon 4x4 SUV
VIN: 1C4BJWFG2GL319759 Stock: 8557



WAS $47,900 | 20K MILES
NOW $43,444
Certified Pre-Owned 2018 Ram
2500 SLT Truck Crew Cab
VIN: 3C6UR5DL9JG402418 Stock: 8605P



WAS $57,900 | ONLY 4K MILES
NOW $53,552
Certified Pre-Owned 2018 Ram
3500 Laramie Truck Crew Cab
VIN: 3C63RPJL2JG408802 Stock: 8567



WAS $16,900
NOW $13,444
Certified Pre-Owned 2016 Jeep
Compass Latitude FWD SUV
VIN: 1C4NJCEB6GD664627 Stock: 8577



WAS $45,900 | ONLY 24K MILES
NOW $42,223
Used 2017 GMC
Sierra 1500 Denali Truck Crew Cab
VIN: 3GTU2PEJ0HG475841 Stock: 8598



WAS $43,900 | 26K MILES
NOW $38,844
Certified Pre-Owned 2018 Dodge
Charger R/T 392 Sedan
VIN: 2C3CDXGJ7JH142520 Stock: 8578P



WAS $25,990 | ONLY 19K MILES
NOW $22,222
Used 2018 Chrysler
Pacifica L Van
VIN: 2C4RC1AGXJR158840 Stock: 8561



WAS $25,900 | 30K MILES
NOW $21,668
Certified Pre-Owned 2018 Chrysler
300 Limited Sedan
VIN: 2C3CCAEG3JH208102 Stock: 8609P



WAS $44,900 | LIKE NEW
NOW $39,820
Certified Pre-Owned 2018 Ram
1500 Longhorn Truck Crew Cab
VIN: 1C6RR7PT5JS111551 Stock: 8584



WAS $12,900
NOW $9,444
Used 2016 Kia
Soul Base FWD Hatchback
VIN: KNDJN2A24G7396341 Stock: 8579



WAS $14,900
NOW $10,888
Used 2015 Chrysler
200 Limited Sedan
VIN: 1C3CCCAB9FN503967 Stock: 8610P

Cullman VFW honors law enforcement, emergency responders, scouts

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Cullman's Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 2214 Thursday night honored local law enforcement officers, emergency responders and Eagle Scouts at an awards dinner held at the post hall.

Before dinner, Post Commander Will Harris told the assembled officers and responders that the post's members made special efforts to recognize such personnel because, as veterans, they had a keen understanding and appreciation of the things first responders do.

Honorees included:

- West Point Fire and Rescue Assistant Chief Roger Tew
- West Point Fire and Rescue EMT Heather Bolling
- Cullman County Sheriff's Office Captain Robert Schweighart
- Cullman County Sheriff's Office Captain Jeff Clemons
- Cullman Police Department Captain Bobby Kelley
- Cullman Police Department Patrol Officer Jack Springer
- Eagle Scout Joseph Turner - Steve and Marcie Turner accepted on behalf of their son, who is currently working at Camp Sequoyah.
- Eagle Scout Noah Haynes - Jonathan Haynes, who is also the troop scoutmaster, accepted on behalf of his son, who is currently working at Camp Steiner in Utah.

Both scouts are members of Troop 219 based at First United Methodist Church in Cullman. All four law enforcement officers recently retired from their respective agencies.

Kelley and Springer were unable to attend, but will receive their certificates later.

After sharing a personal story about the service of particular emergency responders and law enforcement officers, VFW Vice Commander Mike Elston pointed to groups of sheriff's deputies and responders around the room and said, "I want to thank you guys, you guys, and you guys for everything that you do, and the compassion with which you do it. Thank you."

Harris told the crowd, "Now, I know all of you have been around a lot of sheriff's departments here in Cullman County. But this is, hands down, the best group of guys I've ever seen, best group of law enforcement officers that I've ever seen. I've never lived in a place where the county responds to the citizens the way the county guys do, and the city people. I've known (Police Chief) Kenny Culpepper 25 or 30 years; I knew him before he was your police chief. It gratifies me to know that we have these dedicated people out there.

"I was talking earlier: there's very little difference, folks, today, (between) the folks who suit up, get in their car, and go on patrol, and the folks in our combat zones, that are saddling up and going on patrol.

"The same dangers exist. About the only thing you don't see right now is IEDs, but you see everything else: you see ambushes, you see all kinds of things. And these guys, along with our veterans, are putting up with the same thing."



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Honorees (L-R): Cullman County Sheriff's Office Captains Robert Schweighart and Jeff Clemons; Steve Turner accepting for his son, Eagle Scout Joseph Turner; Jonathan Haynes accepting for his son, Eagle Scout Noah Haynes; West Point Assistant Fire Chief Roger Tew, EMT Heather Bolling. Not pictured: Cullman Police officers Bobby Kelley and Jack Springer

Post officers installed

At the dinner, the VFW post also swore in its officers for the year:

- Will Harris - commander
- Mike Elston - sr. vice commander
- Robert Turner - jr. vice commander
- Joseph Charles - chaplain
- Brian Monk - quartermaster
- Bob Stevens - 3rd year trustee
- Warren Reppond - 2nd year trustee
- Candace Reppond - 1st year trustee

STATE

Vote in America's Best-Looking Cruiser Contest

Senior Trooper Eric Smith
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – It's time once again for the American Association of State Troopers (AAST) America's Best-Looking Cruiser Contest.

Alabamians can, if they so choose, vote for the Alabama State Trooper cruiser.

According to the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, "This year, AAST redesigned the voting process.

"A picture collage of all state cruisers will be posted on Facebook (www.facebook.com/StateTroopers) with a link to vote through SurveyMonkey, which will record votes officially. One vote per electronic device will be allowed.

"The association will post updates daily to its Facebook page, listing each state's standing in the morning and the day's Top 13 states in the afternoon."

The contest begins at 2 p.m. CDT Monday, July 15. Voting ends at 2 p.m. CDT Tuesday, July 30.

An accountant will verify results, which AAST will announce Wednesday, July 31.











3 Cullman County residents Top 10 finalists for Ms. Alabama Nursing Home Pageant

John Matson
Contributor



ALABAMA NURSING HOME ASSOCIATION

Left to right are Ruth Brigham, Faye Aaron and Ann Trucks

CULLMAN, Ala. – Three women from Cullman County are top 10 finalists for the 36th annual Ms. Alabama Nursing Home Pageant. The ladies are Ms. Hanceville Nursing & Rehab Center Ruth Brigham, Ms. The Folsom Center for Rehab & Healthcare Faye Aaron and Ms. Woodland Village Rehab & Health Care Center Ann Trucks.

The event will be held Monday, July 29, at 2:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Birmingham – The Wynfrey Hotel in Hoover. The winner will serve as a spokesperson for nursing home residents and the Alabama Nursing Home Association (ANHA).

Ms. Brigham, age 94, doesn't let her limited eyesight stop her from enjoying life at Hanceville Nursing & Rehab Center. She participates in all of the activities and performs with the handbell choir. She was married for 32 years and has three children, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Ms. Aaron, age 83, is president of the Resident Council at The Folsom Center and is the song leader for the Friday morning Bible study. She assists other residents with their arts and crafts projects and enjoys reading and playing games. She was married for 47 years and has four children and eight grandchildren.

Ms. Trucks, age 76, is a member of the Resident Council at Woodland Village Rehab & Health Care Center w. She serves as a resident activity volunteer which involves setting up an activity and assisting other residents in participating. She was married for 56 years and has three children, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Other ladies selected as finalists for the Ms. Alabama Nursing Home Pageant are:

- Ms. Arlington Rehab & HealthCare Center, Eva McWay, Birmingham, age 62
- Ms. Brookdale University Park, Betty Gilbert, Birmingham, age 89
- Ms. Diversicare of Boaz, Betty Smith, Boaz, age 85
- Ms. Falkville Health & Rehab Center, Carolyn Daniels, Falkville, age 71
- Ms. St. Martin's in the Pines, Juanita Tant, Birmingham, age 90
- Ms. The Oaks on Parkwood, Tracy Moore, Bessemer, age 61
- Ms. Wiregrass Rehab Center & Nursing Home, Gwen Haney, Geneva, age 80

"These contestants are wonderful ambassadors for their nursing homes," ANHA President & CEO Bill O'Connor said. "They are proof that you can make a difference no matter your age or ability. I encourage you to attend the pageant and help us celebrate the contributions these ladies make in their nursing home and the community."

The finalists were selected from a field of 49 contestants during preliminary judging in Montgomery. The contestants are evaluated on their outlook on life, personality, poise and involvement in their individual nursing homes.

The top 10 finalists will have individual interviews with the panel of celebrity judges on the morning of July 29 before competing on stage that afternoon. All the other contestants in attendance will be part of the Honor Court and will be individually recognized during the pageant. Admission is free and the public is invited to attend.







LEGALS

PB WIL BK 91 PG 442 - 07/11/2019 03:55 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2016 - 019

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF MARGARET VIRGINIA NICHOLS, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO KELLEY NICHOLS JETT and ALL OTHER KNOWN AND UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MARGARET VIRGINIA NICHOLS:

A Petition Seeking Direction of the Court filed by Mike Cone, Personal Representative of the Estate, has been set for hearing on the 13th day of August, 2019, at 9:30 a.m.

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C. Smith
Smith & Smith, LLP
Attorneys for the Personal Representative
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
256-734-4721

PB MIN BK 180 PG 600 - 07/12/2019 08:57 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
JERRY ANTHONY HARPER * CASE NO PC 2017-152
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT

TO: ANTHONY L. HARPER, AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Please take notice that a hearing on the Petition for Final Settlement filed by Doris M. Harper, personal representative of the Estate of Jerry Anthony Harper, is set for hearing on the 16th day of September, 2019, at 9:00 A.M. before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

DONE this 12th day of July, 2019.

Doris M. Harper
Personal Representative
Estate of Jerry Anthony Harper

Roy W. Williams, Jr.
Attorney for Personal Representative
416 1st Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

To The Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the above and foregoing notice for three (3) consecutive weeks and send proof of publication to the Judge of Probate.

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

PB ADT BK 52 PG 682 - 07/11/2019 02:46 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY

STATE OF ALABAMA
CULLMAN COUNTY **CASE NO: AD-2019-006**

IN RE: THE MATTER OF ADOPTION OF A.A.P.
D.O.B. 12/12/2011
A MINOR CHILD.

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: **ANDREA LYNN TOLBERT PERDUE**
ADDRESS UNKNOWN

A PETITION FOR ADOPTION WAS FILED IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA BY MARK ANTHONY PERDUE AND LORI ANN PERDUE, PETITIONERS. IF YOU SHOULD CONTEST THIS ADOPTION, YOU MUST FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS WITH COUNSEL FOR SAID PETITIONER, WHOSE NAME AND ADDRESS IS SHOWN BELOW, AND WITH THE CLERK OF THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA, 500 2ND AVENUE SW, ROOM 101, CULLMAN, ALABAMA 35055.

DONE THIS 11th DAY OF July, 2019.

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

J.Bradley Wilson
Attorney for Petitioners
206 Ninth Street SW
Suite 102
Cullman, AL 35055

PB MIN BK 180 PG 598 - 07/12/2019 08:38 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
WARNER M. MERCER * CASE NO PC 2018-197
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
SALE OF LAND FOR PAYMENT OF LEGACIES
AND AMENDED SALE OF LAND FOR PAYMENT OF LEGACIES

TO: EDWARD WEBB, TOM WEBB, HILDA MERCER RYDER, BRANDY N. MERCER WHITNEY MEYER RANDOLPH, MELISSA MERCER MAYFIELD, JOEL MERCER LAURA YATES TOWNSEND, BARBARA CRUCE STEVENS, JOHN K. CRUCE, DOROTHY K. CRUCE MCDONALD, HERMAN GENE JEAGER, JAMES DAVID JEAGER, CYNTHIA JEAGER MILLER, CHARLES TERRY MORRIS, CHRISTY MORRIS CHASTEEN, BRANDON MORRIS, CHRISTOPHER MORRIS, JOHN WAYNE MORRIS, PHILLIP ALLEN MORRIS, ELLA MORRIS COUCH, MARY WILKINS COLLUM, TIMOTHY WILKINS, PAUL RODNEY WILKINS AND VELDA WILKINS ROGERS AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

The Petition for Sale of Land for Payment of Legacies and Amended Sale of Land for Payment of Legacies for the Estate of Warner M. Mercer, has been set for hearing on the **19th day of September, 2019, at 10:00 a.m.**

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

Done this the 12th day of July, 2019.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune:

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

Pamela E. Nail
Attorney for the Petitioner
St. John & St. John, LLC
200 Second Avenue, Southwest
Cullman, AL 35055

PB MIN BK 180 PG 365 - 06/28/2019 10:04 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
CAROL A. SMITH, * CASE NO.: PC-2019-081
*
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Melissa I. Smith, as Administrator of the Estate of Carol A. Smith, deceased, on the 28th day of June, 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.

Melissa I. Smith
Administrator

C. Blake West
Attorney for Administrator
1701 Main Ave., SW
Cullman, AL 35055

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

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE TO SELL LAND

The City of Cullman approved to vacant and surplus 3 residential lots, which are no longer needed for public or municipal purposes. The City is requesting bids for the following lots: Lot 5 and Lot 6 of Terrace Heights (the minimum bid per lot is $33,150), and Lot 673 located on 9th Street SE (the minimum bid is $29,825). The lots are being purchased in "as is" condition and will be conveyed by statutory warranty deeds. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids without cause. Bids must be hand delivered to the City Clerk (204 2nd Ave NE) or mailed to PO Box 278, Cullman, AL 35056. Bids will be opened in the City Clerk's Office on Friday, July 19th, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. No bids will be accepted after the bid opening. The successful bidder will be required to follow and comply with all local, state, and federal laws and/or regulations and deposit $5,000.00 (earnest money) on the day of the bid opening with the City Clerk. Closing shall occur within 30 days after bid is awarded. Any cost of financing, title insurance, and title search shall be at the cost of purchaser. For additional questions about bidding or the properties, please contact the City Clerk at (256) 775 - 7110.

Obituary Announcements: July 10 - 12

Betty Jean Henderson, 85, of Haleyville, Alabama entered into rest on July 10, 2019 at North Alabama Medical Center. Mrs. Henderson was born on November 30, 1933. Betty loved her family and her dogs, Gidget, Cocoa, and Pebbles. She enjoyed spending holidays with her family, working puzzle books, cooking, and watching the food network channel, Law and Order, and Murder Mystery. Betty was full of life and always excited when her family came to visit. Visitation will be held on Friday, July 12, 2019 from 6-8 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Haleyville, where services will be held on Saturday, July 13, 2019 at 11 a.m. Brother Rickey Whitt and Tameka Vickery will officiate. Burial will follow in Ireland Freewill Baptist Church Cemetery. Betty is survived by her sons, James Henderson, Timothy Henderson and his wife Darlene; daughters, Deborah Whitman and her husband Terry Hurley, Sandy Reynoso, and Darlene Earnest. She was "Mawmaw" to 20 grandchildren, Jeremy (Heather) Sibley, TaMeka (Brad) Vickery, Alisha (Paul) Johnson, T.J. (Angela) Henderson, Jessica Henderson, David Sparks, Amanda Henderson, Daniel Miller, Shane Hogan, Jessica Moody, Adam (Brandy) Hogan, Priscilla Hughes, Richard (Brandy) Adams; 13 great grandchildren, Landon Whitman, Madelynn Sparks, Anna Brooke Sibley, Ices Johnson, Ethan Johnson, Chandler Henderson, Austin Henderson, Lukas Hogan, Jaxon Hogan, Haden Hogan, Jase Hogan, Abby Gail Moody, and Adrianna Dyer. She was preceded in death by her husband, Paul Henderson; son, Steve Earnest; daughters, Lisa Henderson, Susan Flinders; father, Monroe Smith; mother, Winnie Padella; brothers, Billy Smith, Bobby Smith; and son in law, Michael Whitman.

Graveside services for Kimberly Smith, 50, of Cullman are Saturday, July 13, 2019 at 11 a.m. at Bethsadia Baptist Church Cemetery. Mrs. Smith passed away on Wednesday, July 10, 2019. Cullman Funeral Home directing. She was preceded in death by her father, Mickey Smith. She is survived by her mother, Joan Smith; daughter, Shelby Smith; son, D.J. Parker and granddaughter, Penelope Parker.

Danny Charles Sanderson, 69, of Danville passed away Tuesday, July 10, 2019 at his residence surrounded by family and friends. Funeral services were Friday, July 12, 2019 at Enon Baptist Church with Brother Steve Ledbetter officiating and Cullman Funeral Home directing. Burial will follow in the adjoining church cemetery. Danny was born July 24, 1949 in Lawrence County to Leo and Margaret Sanderson. After high school he began his career as a brick mason and then later he was employed by Wolverine Tube, Decatur in the maintenance department where he made many lifetime friends. After working at Wolverine for 23 years he retired and resumed working as a brick mason as long as his health allowed. Throughout his childhood Danny had a love for horses. In his adult life he and his wife Karen enjoyed riding horses together. Danny was preceded in death by his parents; and grandparents, Biddie and Muriel Johnson and Warren and Susie Sanderson. Survivors include his wife, Karen who cared for him faithfully; two daughters, Kelly Roberts and husband, Willard and Terri Jackson and husband, Joey; sons, Lance Smith, Tyler Grimes and wife, Stacia; sister, Brenda Powell; grandchildren, Kaley Jeffreys, McKenna Jackson, Memphis Grimes, Joplin Grimes, Weston Smith, Zane Smith, and Kabri Smith, and a huge number of friends and family. We are grateful for a special family member who was like a brother standing by him always, Kenny "Frog" Johnson. Danny leaves behind his beloved pets, Rambo and Mollie. The family wishes to express thanks to Kindred Hospice for their special care and to a special nurse Ashley. Serving as pallbearers: Keith Lindsey, Steve Lindsey, Wendell Atkins, Tim Burnham, Leeman Woods, and Dewayne Prater.

Funeral services for Aura Dequasie, 85, of Cullman are Sunday, July 14, 2019 at 3 p.m. at Pilgrims Rest Baptist Church, with interment in the adjoining cemetery. The family will receive friends on Sunday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the church. Cullman Funeral Home directing. Mrs. Dequasie passed away on Wednesday, July 10, 2019. She was born May 3, 1934 in Colombia to Eduardo Cerra Hurtado and Maria Vincenta Diaz Cabrera. She is survived by her husband, Hank Dequasie; son, Don Dequasie; daughter, Marina (Morris) Crawford; brother, Carlos Cerra Diaz; sister, Maria Stella Cerra Diaz; grandchildren, Thomas Dequasie, Andrew Dequasie, Gerald Crawford, Kathryn Crawford and Tristyn Crawford and a host of nieces, nephews, other family and friends.

Gregory Allen Stark, age 62, loving husband of Deborah Shaw Stark, passed away at his home in Alabama on Wednesday, July 10, 2019. He was born in Pana, Illinois on September 9, 1956 to Minister William E. Stark and Cora Sue Rankin Stark of Georgetown, Kentucky. Greg was an Engineer with Gates Rubber Company. He had an eclectic taste for music, enjoyed photography, loved hunting, fishing, and everything outdoors. Greg was a member of Desperation Church in Cullman, Alabama and he was always very active in his church, no matter where he was a member. He loved the Lord with all his heart, soul and mind. Greg was devoted son, father, grandfather and enjoyed, Deb, the love of his life over the last 12 years. Greg is survived by his wife, his parents, his son, Jared (Stacey) Stark of Poplar Bluff, Missouri, his grandchildren, Myles William Stark, Clayton Stephen Stark, his sisters, LuAnn (Todd) Maples and Laurel Stark, both of Georgetown, Kentucky and a host of aunts, uncles and cousins. Visitation for family and friends will be Friday, July 12, 2019 from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Tucker, Yocum & Wilson Funeral Home. Services for Greg will be 10 am at Berea Christian Church, with Dr. Mark Searby and Dr. Philip Goodson officiating. Burial will follow the service at Georgetown Cemetery.

Rachel Ann Lay, 76 of Haleyville entered into rest on July 11, 2019 in Florence. Rachel was born on April 25, 1943 in Haleyville. Rachel was a member of the of Assembly of God Church. She enjoyed fishing, crafts, the beach and especially spending time with family. Her granddaughter Gracelyn called her me-me. Visitation will be held on Sunday, July 14, 2019 from 1-3 p.m. at Nichols funeral home in Haleyville where services will be held on Sunday at 3 p.m. Brother Ricky White will officiate. Burial will be at Winston Memorial Cemetery in Haleyville. She is survived by her sons, Ray Lay and his wife Janet; daughter, Tina Cavender; brothers, Doug Glaze, Tim Glaze, Terry Glaze, Lee Glaze and Gary (Vickie) Aaron; sisters, Vella Rogoscki and Beth Gray; sisters-in-law, Linda Glaze and Loretta Glaze; she was Maw Maw to 6 grandchildren, Toni Moore, Daisy (Toby) Clark, Ray (Nikki) Lay, Anjaleah (Jordan) Hubbert and Treasure (Shawn) Mayfield; and 17 great grandchildren, Kurt, Jayden, Kameron, Dawson, Tyler, Ivy, Bryant, Jaxxon, Chloe, Peighton, Riley, Jack, Oliver, Sean, Gracelyn, Makayla and Alex; and nieces and nephews, James Jividen, Trena Glaze, Deana Bills, Chance Williams, Lake Glaze and Anna Aaron. She was preceded in death by her husband Elmos Lay; parents, Dan and Christine Aaron; father, Garvin Glaze; brother, Raymond Glaze; granddaughter, Misty Kois and nephew, Dougie Glaze.

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.

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Funny Things from Yesterday: Bragging rights for great-grandchildren

Robert N. Tidwell, Sr.
Tribune Contributor



Several years ago, I wrote an article about having bragging rights for grandchildren. This year, I will have the opportunity to write about great-grandchildren. This may be the first of many articles about these little ones.

Our number of great-grandchildren is up to six, and we dearly love each one. Emma Grace was our first one. She stayed with us many times when she was in her 1s and 2s. She was a delight and very intelligent. When she was in her 2s she was already playing with an iPad.

When she would come to our house, she would come in the front door and the first thing she would say is, "Where is the pad? Where is the pad?"

Granny kept the iPad hidden in the morning and let her play with it in the afternoon. She wanted Emma Grace to know other things and not only the iPad.

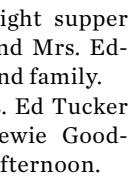
We had saved many of the little construction toys that Robert, Jr. had when he was little. So, in the morning, I would build little houses, bridges to pull a little wooden train under and towers. She would knock them down and laugh. I would rebuild them and down again they would come, with more laughter. By the way, Emma Grace is Robert, Jr.'s granddaughter. She didn't know that she was playing with her granddaddy's toys. Some day when she is older, she will treasure that thought.

Granny and I would take turns getting her to sleep for her nap. When I would get her to sleep, I would place her in the middle of a king-sized bed and place pillows on the sides of the bed so she wouldn't roll off. When she woke up, if I had put her in bed, she would not let Granny get her up. She demanded that I get her up. That made me happy and I felt that I was important to her. I know there are many grandparents and great grandparents who feel the way we do and like to brag on the little ones and help to guide them to a full and joyful life.

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

Fun times in the sumertime

Bill King
Tribune Contributor



During the summer months, while Drew has been out of school, he has spent weekdays with his Gigi and me. I take off on Fridays and those are usually boy's playdays for us, or boy's day out. Our typical Fridays begin with a biscuit run. No, that is definitely not any kind of exercise.

We drive through some place that sells biscuits, maybe with gravy. We may even add what we call a sweet biscuit. After our biscuit run, we need to run (yes, the kind that is exercise), so we head on over to the Opelika Sportsplex around the middle of the morning. I have been an avid racquetball player for over thirty years. Drew is not actually playing competitively yet, but he is getting better.

One Friday, on our way to play, we passed by an eighteen-wheeler. I said, "My daddy, who would have been your great-granddaddy, used to drive one of those."

Drew replied, "I don't like them." I asked, "You don't like what?" He answered, "I don't like those big trucks." I asked, "Why?" He completely surprised me when he said, "Because you have to change gears in them."

This raised several questions in my mind. First, how did he even know that you have to change gears? Some big trucks do have auto-shift transmissions, but most are still manual. I doubt he has ever even seen inside an eighteen-wheeler. Since he is only nine, I know without a doubt that he has never driven one.

I guess he has already made his mind up that he doesn't want to drive a big truck when he's grown, because he doesn't want to change gears! At nine years old, I didn't drive my dad's eighteen-wheelers either, but I did sit in them and joyfully pretended to shift gears.

After racquetball, guess what we did. We went to lunch. Perhaps you've figured out the reason I play racquetball is so I can eat! Then we went to one of Drew's favorite places – The Home Depot. Okay, so I like it too. We looked at every refrigerator in the place and then bought some PVC pipe for a small repair job at home. I don't know why, but he likes refrigerators.

Drew's mom had asked me if I would take him to get his haircut. On the way we passed Wendy's. Well, that's not exactly true. We almost passed Wendy's.

I'm sure we had not run enough playing racquetball to eat chocolate frostys, but quite frankly, we didn't seem to care. We should have gone back to run some more, but we didn't because we had to go get those haircuts.

With a tone of concern in his voice, Drew wanted to know what kind of haircut he was going to get. I replied,

"We'll get you one that won't require you to change gears." With a look of confusion, he scratched his head. Oh, you too? I soon realized that his bigger concern was that the person who cuts my hair was going to cut his too. He was afraid his hair might look like mine.

I said, "You don't want a haircut like mine?" With raised eyebrows he gave me an "Are you crazy look." Then he said, "You mean bald?" I replied, "I'm not bald." He said, "No, but you do have holes in your hair!" Perhaps I have holes in my head too, but we had a fun day, haircuts and all, simply because we were together.

I don't think it matters what we do with our children or grandchildren. What does matter is that we do something. We like to fish too and sometimes even do some chores together. I've heard it said that love is spelled T-I-M-E. I must agree.

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 1963:

Valley Grove News

Reverend and Mrs. Charles Lindsey and family, of Lacon, Emit Hines and Mrs. Donna Huffman and Allan were Sunday night supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Edward McGraw and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Tucker visited Mrs. Dewie Goodwin, on Friday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Elwin Milligan, of Cullman, were supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Carlen Milligan.

Mrs. Alma Speegle has moved to this community from Trimble.

Reverend and Mrs. Wayne Nails and family, of Unity, attended church, at Macedonia, on Sunday. Reverend Nails brought the 11 o'clock message.

Reverend James Abbott is in the Cullman Hospital. Visiting him last week were his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Haynes, of Parrish.

Bethany News

Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Perdue visited his uncle, Billie Perdue, near Nesmith, on Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Stricklin, of Good Hope, spent a few days with Mr. and Mrs. C.C. Calvert and Mullice this week.

Ronald Smith, of Birmingham and Miss Betty O. Mary, of Carbon Hill, attended church at Bethany on Sunday.

The October meeting of the W.M.U. was at the home of Mrs. K.L. Clay. The president, Mrs. A.E. Smith, presided. Prayer was by Mrs. Clay. Program chairman, Mrs. Hoyt Perdue, led the program.

Topic of the lesson was, "Challenging New Officers." The closing prayer was by Mrs. Ruth Vest. After the program, refreshments were served to those above and Mesdames Bertha Perdue, Ovis Willoughby, C.C. Harbison, Devon Harbison, Audrey Freeman, Donald Clay and Gertis Vest.

Mr. and Mrs. James Duke and Kerry, of Welti, spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E.E. Kilgo and family.

Garden City News

Reverend and Mrs. Tony Gunter, of Birmingham, were Sunday dinner guests of Mayor and Mrs. B.M. Farmer. Reverend Gunter is pastor of the Congregational Christian Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Vester Gamble attended the funeral of Grady Alexander on Sunday afternoon.

Reverend and Mrs. James Hollis and family, of Huntsville, spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Earl Edwards and other relatives.

Bill Shaver and Betty McCoy attended the Alabama-Tennessee football game, on Saturday, in Birmingham.

Mr. and Mrs. Dickie Garner and Tim, of Birmingham, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Chappell, on Sunday.

Mrs. E.C. Simpson and Mrs. W.D. Abercrombie spent Monday in Birmingham.

Poet's Corner

Hyla Brook

By: Robert Frost

1874-1963

By June our brook's run out of song and speed.
Sought for much after that, it will be found
Either to have gone groping underground
(And taken with it all the Hyla breed
That shouted in the mist a month ago,
Like ghost of sleigh-bells in a ghost of snow)—
Or flourished and come up in jewel-weed,
Weak foliage that is blown upon and bent
Even against the way its waters went.
Its bed is left a faded paper sheet
Of dead leaves stuck together by the heat—
A brook to none but who remember long.
This as it will be seen is other far
Than with brooks taken otherwhere in song.
We love the things we love for what they are.

Co-op (from Front)

Members of the Cullman Electric Co-Op board were joined by Sen. Garlan Gudger, R-Cullman and Rep. Scott Stadthagen, R-Hartselle to present the check to Trimble Fire Chief Bruce Whitlock, Crane Hill Fire Chief Brandon Williams and Logan Fire Chief Toby Bates.

The departments recently retrofitted a pontoon boat to use on the lake, but they're now purchasing a bigger boat that's built for firefighting.

"What we already have is set up for fire fighting and this new boat will be set up for firefighting, but it's a little bit bigger boat.

"In terms of getting from point A to point B in a little bit more timely manner, it's got more room and more capability than what the current boat has.

"It's got a sonar and depth finders on it where the boat we have now doesn't," Williams said.

The new boat will also help fire and rescue navigate the lake much faster than the boat the departments currently have.

Bates said he feels the new boat is absolutely necessary, sharing, "This boat will be a whole lot safer for us. We need boats designed for this. The one we did, we just had to modify because that's all we had. We had no other choice.

"We bought us a pontoon boat and we have a pump on it. Right now, it's heavy and sits low in the water so we are actually going to have to put a third pontoon on it to get it up out of the water and possibly a bigger motor."

The purchase of the new boat is a unified effort between the Crane Hill, Logan, Trimble, Dodge City, Loretto, Bremen, Cold Springs and Good Hope fire departments. Williams said the group hopes to have a couple more departments pitch in to help with the cost, too. The boats can be utilized in other areas that may need assistance but will be kept at Smith Lake.

Bates added, "The ultimate boat we would like to put on the lake is a true fire boat, but they are $300,000. There are all kinds of capabilities that go with that. You've got technology on sonar, fire fighting protection of 1,500 to 3,000 gallons a minute. It could lower the home owners' insurance around the lake and a host of things that could benefit. We just gotta find the money."

A group will leave Saturday to pick up the new boat and should be back on Tuesday.

Said Bates, "Whatever we need to help anybody else, we will do it, but right now in Cullman County, we don't have anything. We have so many people on the lake. The lake is getting bigger, there's more people coming and more houses being built on the lake and there's nothing there to protect those people on the water. If they have a wreck, we have to stand on the bank and watch them with no way to get to them."

The Cullman County Community Development Commission (CCCDC) presented the Crane Hill and Trimble fire departments a total of $24,000 early Friday morning (see separate story) in addition to the $7,000 from the Cullman Electric Co-Op.

CCCDC (from Front)

Grant recipients included:

- Dodge City Volunteer Fire Department for a cutting/extrication tool- $7,992
- Welti School for virtual reality viewers- $9,369
- Cullman Christian School for an updated curriculum- $12,000
- East Point Community Center for facility upgrades- $12,000
- Camp Meadowbrook to upgrade water line- $10,000
- Cold Springs K-8 for virtual reality viewers- $9799.99
- Good Samaritan Health Clinic for medication/ supplies for uninsured patients- $12,000
- Crane Hill Volunteer Fire Department for a fire rescue boat- $12,000
- Trimble Volunteer Fire Department for fire rescue boat- $12,000

Gudger addressed the recipients, saying, "I just want to say thank you guys for all you do in the community.

"We're lucky to have this board and to be able to distribute these funds back to you guys and back to the people throughout the county.

"We are one of the only counties that really (does) it this way and (does) it entirely this way. We are blessed to have you guys on the board (who) put the work in and we are blessed to have you guys to help serve this community. It's what's makes this community great."

Added Stadthagen, "This board does a phenomenal job. I thank every one of the members we are proud of and the work they do and give back to the community.

"They represent us well and they represent Cullman County well. Thank you."

The final two checks were presented to the Crane Hill and Trimble VFDs to help purchase a fire rescue boat.

CCCDC Chairman Champ Crocker explained, "As we all know, things happen at Smith Lake. There's areas of the lake you can't get to by car so the people from these fire departments are committed to make the lake a safer place."

Crane Hill Chief Brandon Williams and Trimble Fire Chief Bruce Whitlock accepted the grant money for their departments.

"This past weekend has been a long weekend for all of us and especially for Crane Hill," said Williams, speaking of the still ongoing search for a boater missing since a crash that happened on Smith Lake the night of the 4th of July.

"We were out on the water from when the call went out at 10:30 that night on July 4 until 3 o'clock in the morning. The next morning, we all went home, took a shower and got something to eat.

"We were back out there until 7 a.m. and we stayed out there with other departments that had come in to help us just for manpower. We stayed out there all day Friday for about 14 hours and 12 hours Saturday.

"The boat this goes towards wasn't there, but the other boat we started with was there.

"I'll be honest with you, that was by far needed." Williams said.

CCCDC members are:

- Cherrie Haney – appointed by Sen. Garlan Gudger, R-Cullman
- Joe Golden – appointed by Rep. Randall Shedd, R-Fairview
- Bradley Williams – appointed by Rep. Corey Harbison, R- Good Hope
- Josh Speakman – appointed by Rep. Scott Stadthagen, R-Hartselle
- Champ Crocker, chairman – appointed by the legislative delegation

Funding for CCCDC grants comes from taxes- Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) in lieu of taxes and beer taxes.

Grants are capped at $12,000 and are not issued for more than that amount except under extraordinary circumstances, which must be approved by the legislators.

The CCCDC strives to maintain a $100,000 reserve fund, as advised by the legislators.

To learn more or to submit a grant application, visit http://co.cullman.al.us/cccdc/cccdc.html.

•1874• **Alabama Tribune** •2019•

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

"THE 67-COUNTY, ALABAMA GARDEN PARTY"

WILCOX COUNTY

Ben Johnson South
Tribune Correspondent

"Y'all, Wilcox County is God's country," Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey always proclaims. Ivey proudly hails from Camden. People in this south-central part of the state have been saying that since at least 1819 when the county was established by the Legislature.

Wilcox County was the 29th of Alabama's 67 counties to be officially established. In this Bicentennial series about PLANTS + PEOPLE coming together, I'm saluting each county from oldest to newest. In all the other stories, I've written more than I have shown, but this time I want you to see a garden party idea with a fresh, family-friendly, fun-to-create perspective.

Superb Alabama hostess and home cook extraordinaire Laurie Johnson (with full disclosure, also my sister-in-law) has been creating a delicious dish to salute each county in this series. For Wilcox County, home to both Ivey and the famous Gee's Bend Quilters, Laurie enlisted the help of two of her three, Lego-obsessed grandsons, Russ and Will, and they recreated, piece-by-piece, one of the most well-known of the Gee's Bend quilts using Alabama garden vegetables instead of cloth.

Years ago, I enjoyed a home-cooked meal with these Gee's Bend Quilters before they became museum-world rock stars, and they showed me their artistry. I shared with them my very earliest childhood memory, which is being about 3 years old playing under an Alabama quilt frame as my mother and some of her friends created a multi-colored canopy above me.

According to the impressive website, Souls Grown Deep, multiple generations of women from Gee's Bend, a small, remote, African-American community in Wilcox County, have created hundreds of masterpiece quilts since the early 20th century. These quilts of bold geometry using repurposed fabrics are like modern, color-block, fine art paintings and are treasured collectibles.

Right away you'll recognize the Gee's Bend quilt Laurie selected to re-create. It is on permanent display in the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts (Alabama). And, this quilt was one of 10 in the United States postage stamp collection honoring the Wilcox County textile artisans. Now, I'm going to let these photographs with easy instructions and recipe tell the rest of the story. You can find many examples of the Gee's Bend quilts to inspire your own version at www.soulsgrowndeep.org .

While you're in Wilcox County on your 67-County Alabama Garden Party tour, you should take your Gee's Bend Veggie Quilt and enjoy a picnic at beautiful Roland Cooper State Park. Here are two places to gather locally grown produce:

- **CAMDEN FARMERS' MARKET**—2200 Highway 10 Bypass, Camden, AL 36726; Tuesdays and Saturdays, 7:30-10 a.m., June-August
- **EAST WILCOX COUNTY FARMERS' MARKET**—869 County Road 59, Pine Apple, AL 36726; Thursdays 7:30 a.m.-noon, July 12-Nov. 15
- **PLANTING AN IDEA**—In August, every other year in Brussels, Belgium, volunteers convene at a town square and create a carpet-like tapestry of various colored begonias. This hugely popular event for locals and thousands of tourists was started by a landscape designer in 1971. It could inspire a similar garden in Wilcox County replicating a different Gee's Bend quilt each year. Begonias and/or other weather-tolerant flowers could be donated, planted by volunteers and then sold at the end of the season to support a local, perhaps plant-centric, cause like an "edible schoolyard." An Alabama model for this sort of flowering fundraiser is the annual tulip festival in Montevallo (Shelby County). This big, living "floral quilt" could be a good project to explore with the gardening experts of the local office of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System.

Many thanks to Laurie Johnson and her grandsons, Russ and Will Bryan, for the beautifully created and tasty salute to Alabama's internationally-acclaimed Gee's Bend Quilters.

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.

4 SIMPLE STEPS TO A COLORFUL AND DELICIOUS "QUILT PAN" OF ROASTED VEGETABLES

1. Choose your quilt pattern. While all the Gee's Bend quilts are beautiful and unique, starting with a simple pattern with large blocks of color will turn out the best. The quilt pattern chosen for this recipe is a quite famous one made in 1970 by the Gee's Bend quilter Minnie Sue Coleman, named "Pig in a Pen Medallion." Its image was one of several Gee's Bend quilts chosen for a 2006 United States 39-cent postage stamp series. The quilt is now on permanent display in the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts.



"Pig in a Pen Medallion" quilt photo



2006 U.S. postage stamp series featuring Gee's Bend quilts

2. Shop for, or pick from a garden, colorful vegetables that represent the colors in your quilt (see full recipe for suggestions). Prepare the vegetables for the quilt pan following the instructions in the recipe. Children may need help with knife safety in this step.



Prepping fresh, colorful vegetables for roasting

3. Arrange the vegetables on the sheet pan to make your quilt, using a printed copy of the quilt as your guide. Use a dark, non-stick sheet pan that has been sprayed lightly with cooking spray. Once arranged, lightly brush the tops with olive oil or spray with cooking spray. Season with salt and pepper. You will likely have some raw veggies left, so get a second pan ready and make your own art! According to an article on the Gee's Bend quilters on the Souls Grown Deep Foundation website (soulsgrowndeep.org), the Gee's Bend quilting style can be called improvisational, or "my way" quilting, so have fun making a "my way" quilt pan of vegetables.

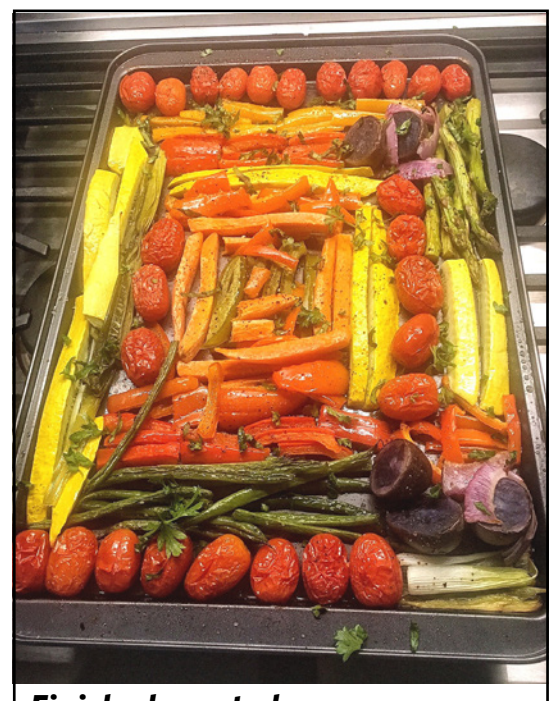


10-year-old Russ Bryan having fun making quilt pan veggies



Quilt pan before roasting

4. Roast for about 25 - 30 minutes in a 425F oven. Make sure to use oven mitts or heavy potholders to handle the hot pans and have a heat-proof surface nearby on which to place them when they come out of the oven.



Finished roasted vegetable quilt pan

WILCOX COUNTY GEE'S BEND "QUILT PAN" ROASTED VEGETABLES

Most cooks know the simple technique of roasting vegetables on a "sheet pan," but this recipe is a "quilt pan," honoring the artistry of the Gee's Bend quilters. Kids of all ages will love eating their veggies if they first get to play with them by arranging them into a colorful quilt pattern.

INGREDIENTS

- Fresh, colorful vegetables, chosen by the colors in your favorite quilt, such as: carrot sticks, multi-colored bell peppers (green, red, yellow and orange), red onions, green onions, yellow squash, zucchini, purple small potatoes, cauliflower, asparagus spears, green beans and cherry tomatoes
- Cooking spray and/or olive oil
- Salt and black pepper
- Optional - minced fresh herbs such as parsley, thyme, basil, oregano, etc.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Preheat oven to 425 F.
- Prep vegetables - Slice carrots, multi-colored peppers, onions, squash and zucchini into thin strips. Cut potatoes in half or quarters depending on size, cut cauliflower into small florets and snap off the tough ends of the asparagus. Leave the green beans and cherry tomatoes whole. If any of the veggies are wet, blot them with a paper towel as moisture is an enemy to roasting.
- Make your quilt - Spray a non-stick sheet pan lightly with cooking spray. Arrange the vegetables, by colors, into the pattern of the quilt, blanketing the whole pan. Brush tops lightly with olive oil (or spray with cooking spray) and season with salt and black pepper. You will likely have raw vegetables left, so have fun creating your own quilt art with a second pan!
- Roast for about 25-3030 minutes or until vegetables are softening, maybe even browning a little, and tomatoes are just starting to pop open. Sprinkle with (optional) herbs and rotate the pans in the oven half way through.

6 - 8 servings per pan



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

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