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– EDUCATION –

Harmony School awarded $30K P-3 grant



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Harmony School, in Logan, is seen Thursday, May 14, 2020.

» PAGE 7

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– FEATURE –

Duchess Bakery owner announces retirement

Future of bakery uncertain



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Duchess Bakery Owner Larry Bontrager poses for a photo Thursday, May 14, 2020.

Heather Mann, W.C. Mann

CULLMAN, Ala. – For 81 years, The Duchess Bakery has been a Cullman landmark, its famous donuts attracting customers from all over Alabama. Owner Larry Bontrager has been at the bakery for 43 years, and after nearly a year of consideration, recently announced he will retire at the end of May. The decision, he said, was settled after seeing how overwhelmed his sales staff became during the COVID-19 shutdown, as the bakery was short-staffed and under-equipped to handle the flood of customers who were unable to get their baked goods at other businesses. Bontrager said he was reluctant to hire and train more workers in the middle of a pandemic.

A Cullman landmark

The bakery has been a staple of downtown Cullman for several generations. Bontrager said Duchess has been in his family for more than 60 of the 81 years it's been open.

He briefly outlined his time with the bakery and the changes that occurred during his time, saying, "I've been here for 43 years, my father was here for 48. We were partners that overlapped for a while, him and I. It was incorporated in 2000; I actually had some shareholders at that time, but as the years went by I repurchased their shares. They found other things they wanted to do, so I became the sole shareholder."

Duchess is certainly locally famous, and Bontrager credits the community with helping make the bakery famous across half the state.

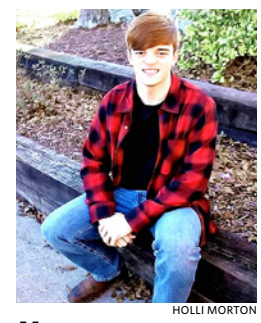
"The people of Cullman have been good to me, and actually the peo-

» PAGE 7

– FEATURE –

Going places

Fairview's Mason Roberts: National Merit Finalist, 35 on his ACT and a full scholarship to the University of Alabama



HOLLI MORTON

Mason Roberts

» PAGE 7

PET OF THE WEEK RETURNS!

Alana wants to make a splash in your life!

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Cullman County Animal Shelter's Donna Ruttkay and Andrea Hudson are proud to announce the re-opening of the shelter as they share The Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week:

Alana is a 7-month-old Shepherd mix. She's a lively-but-not hyper medium-energy pet who loves playing in the water, just in time for the warm weather. She enjoys being close to her people and is skilled on her leash.

Staff say, "She is a happy go lucky gal!"

Discount doggie!

Alana has already

» PAGE 2



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Alana

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

As of early Thursday evening, from Alabama Public Health: Up until now, there have been 10,968 cases of COVID-19 in Alabama, and 467 deaths have been confirmed.

Cullman County has had 67 cases and 0 deaths.

Find the latest numbers at https://bit.ly/2V-jCQbP.

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COURTS

Cullman courts to return to limited in-person proceedings May 18

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – On Wednesday, May 13, the Alabama Supreme Court authorized presiding judges in each circuit across the state to reopen courtrooms for in-person proceedings other than jury trials, and to determine for themselves the schedules and regulations for reopening. Later the same day, after talking with other judges and court officers, Cullman County Presiding Judge Gregory Nicholas issued an order reinstating in-person proceedings beginning Monday, May 18.

Virtual proceedings will continue to be used when both parties agree to do so, and video conferencing technology will be available during in-person proceedings for those who are at higher risk of adverse health effects of COVID-19 by request, if they wish.

Jury trials are still on hold statewide until Sept. 14.

Nicholas's order offers instructions including:

• People diagnosed with COVID-19 or exhibiting symptoms consistent with the condition may be denied entry to courtrooms and other judicial areas of the courthouse. If the person's presence is required, they might wear a mask and follow extended social distancing, or appear via video conferencing technology.

• Maximum occupancy during the first phase of reopening will be determined based on the size of the particular room. Court bailiffs will keep counts, and will make arrangements with people excluded for them to return at other times if they are required to be present.

Occupancy allowances -

• Court Clerk's area: 12
• Hallway at Clerk's payment/filing window: 4
• Waiting rooms near Clerk's office: 4
• District Courtroom One: 16
• District Courtroom Two: 21
• Circuit Courtroom One: 30
• Circuit Courtroom Two: 16

Priority in courtroom occupancy will be given to judges, court staff, parties, counsel of record for each party and witnesses. Parents/guardians of minors or incapacitated adults may remain with them. Spectators will be allowed as space is available. Persons providing transportation to participants should wait outside.

Seating will follow social distancing rules: seating will be at the ends of benches, and certain benches will be roped off to maintain distance. Members of the same family will be allowed to sit together. Staff will sanitize utilized spaces after proceedings.

Court notices, summons and subpoenas will include the judge's name, specific courtroom, date and time for proceedings to make moving through the courthouse easier. Loitering or congregating in hallways will be prohibited.

During proceedings, witnesses will be placed on call as often as possible, so they will not have to sit in the courtroom or waiting rooms. Attorneys and their clients will be allowed to exchange notes, or short recesses can be taken for communication. Exhibits will be handled only by selected staff wearing gloves, and will not be handed to any other person.

Masks recommended

The order reads, "It is recommended that all individuals entering a courtroom, court clerk's area, private judicial area, or public judicial area wear a mask for his or her own protection and for the protection of others. Masks shall be worn by courtroom bailiffs and any other person involved with a judicial proceeding as may be directed by the judge presiding over the proceeding. Masks worn into court proceedings shall not contain writing or any image that would be inappropriate for a courtroom setting. When mask use is required by this order or the order of a judge presiding over a judicial proceeding, the mask shall at all times completely cover the mouth and nostrils of the person who is wearing the mask."

During proceedings, certain participants may be asked to remove their masks for purposes of identification, or when they cannot be heard clearly when speaking.

Personal protective equipment (PPE)

Staff will be issued masks and gloves to be worn when interacting with visitors, and Plexiglas screens will be used where appropriate.

Hand sanitizing stations

According to the order, "Hand sanitizing stations containing a solution that is at least 60% alcohol shall be set up at the entrance to each courtroom, in the court clerk's area and at various locations within each public judicial area.

"Signs also shall be posted at conspicuous locations near the courtroom entrance, court clerk's area, and other public judicial areas reminding individuals to wash their hands frequently and encouraging them to use hand sanitizer upon entering a courtroom, court clerk's area, or any other public judicial area."

Cleaning requirements

The order reads, "Frequently touched surfaces including, but not limited to, courtroom benches, tables, doorknobs, light switches, writing instruments used by the general public, seats, witness stands, computer keyboards, countertops at the court clerk's filing and payment window, tables, chairs, and all surfaces frequently touched in courtrooms, the court clerk's area, and other public and private judicial areas shall be sanitized by cleaning staff or court staff at regular intervals throughout the day, depending on use.

"At a minimum, each courtroom shall be sanitized according to CDC recommendations at the conclusion of each court proceeding and before individuals involved with the next proceeding are allowed entry into the courtroom.

"All chemicals used to sanitize and disinfect surfaces must meet standards adopted by the CDC or the Alabama Department of Public Health as adequate to kill infectious agents, including COVID-19."

Stairways and elevators

Only one person or members of one household at a time may ride in elevators.

The central staircase in the courthouse will be used for going upstairs; people may come down the staircases at each end of the building.

Signage will be posted to direct visitors. The Cullman County Commission may alter these directions as needed.

Violations

According to the order, "An individual found to have willfully violated any provision of this order, including social distancing rules, may be held in contempt of court and punished accordingly."

Cullman Regional Foundation postpones 2020 Gala to 2021

Maria Stanford
Culman Regional

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Cullman Regional Foundation Gala, originally scheduled for June 6, 2020, has been rescheduled for Saturday, April 24, 2021 at Loft 212.

"The annual event recognizes individuals who have played a significant role in advancing health care for our community through Cullman Regional," said Cullman Regional Foundation President Jerry Lawson.

"We are pleased to announce the H.C. Arnold Humanitarian Award honoree, Dennis Richard, and the Dr. Herman C. Ensor Excellence in Heath Care honoree Dr. Chris Coccia."

The honorees will be recognized at Gala XX in 2021.

Service Guild members always help with the organization of the Gala and look forward to a memorable year celebrating 20 years in 2021.

The Foundation is especially grateful to the 2020 sponsors and donors who committed to the cause of helping the Foundation purchase a new ambulance for Cullman Emergency Medical Services.

"During this time with the pandemic we are also grateful to the many sponsors over the years who helped us raise money for ventilators for the medical center," added Lawson.

For additional information, contact the Cullman Regional Foundation at 256-737-2565.

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Alana (from Front)

been spayed, so her adoption price has been reduced to $30.

Check with the shelter for more details.

Animal shelter staff and volunteers work with their dogs to make sure they are accustomed to being around people, walking on a leash and practicing good behavior.

Several of the shelter's canine friends have even been "hired" to work as therapy and special needs service dogs.

Please consider adopting, to give a rescued pet a chance at a happy and healthy life.

Contact the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 256-734-5448 or cullmancountyanimalshelter@gmail.com. Visit the shelter at 935 Convent Road NE.

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PUBLIC NOTICES
May 15

Pilot Club 2020 Fashion Show/Luncheon Canceled

The Pilot Club regrets to cancel this year's event. With the public health recommendations for social distancing, donning face masks and limiting large gatherings, it would be impossible to comply with these guidelines for an event with 400-plus attending.

Festhalle Farmers' Market

Opens at 7 a.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Located at 209 First Ave. NE, Cullman.

Cullman Grown Drive Up Market

• Online farmers' market with drive-thru produce pickup.
• "We distribute produce from local farmers. You order the produce you want from Monday noon to Tuesday noon and you can pick up your order Wednesday between 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the North Alabama Agriplex. The products we distribute change week by week – depending on the weather and availability."
• The Agriplex is located at 1714 Tally Ho St. SW, Cullman, AL 35055.
• Order at https://cullmangrown.company.site/.

Spirit Life Church of God

• 1650 St. Joseph St. NW, Cullman
• In-person services have resumed. Services will still be aired live on Facebook and can be viewed when convenient. The State's guidelines regarding social distancing, cleaning, etc. will be followed. If attendees wish to wear a mask, please bring your own. No bus ministry will be provided until further notice due to COVID-19.
• Wednesdays May 20 and 27 @ 6 p.m. Bible study class by Pam Dodd
• Sundays May 17, 24 and 31
• 10 a.m. Children, youth and adult Small Group classes
• 11 a.m. Praise & Worship, sermons by Pastor Bobby Dodd, children's church and youth ministry
• 6 p.m. Messages by Pastor Bobby Dodd
•

From Cullman Municipal Court

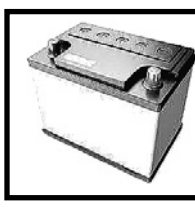
Due to Governor Kay Ivey's "Safer at Home" Order, all Cullman Municipal Court cases are hereby continued until further notice. Reset court date notices will be mailed to each defendant. It is imperative that defendants ensure we have the correct address on file. To update your address, please call the court office at 256-775-7136.

BBB Shred Day May 16, 9 a.m.-noon

The Better Business Bureau (BBB) has scheduled Cullman Shred Day for Saturday, May 16. This is a free event that we offer to the general public - where they can drop off old personal documents/papers that get shredded on site. The Cullman Police Department will be there to receive old prescriptions, drugs and medications. Cullman Caring for Kids will be there to receive any food/monetary donations for the food bank. Lions Club members volunteer for this event every year. Alabama Archives shreds the papers at no charge. This drive-thru event will be held at King Edward Plaza from 9 a.m.-noon. This year we are going to strictly enforce people not exiting their cars, but rather staying in their cars while the volunteers get the papers, etc. out of their vehicles.

East Point Cumberland Presbyterian Decoration

Decoration Day will be May 23 and 24, at East Point Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Upkeep is done by donations only. These may be sent by mail to: Cemetery Fund c/o DeAnn Schafer, at 1725 Crestview Drive SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055.


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Martha Needham - Photojournalist
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SPORTS COLUMN: 'Best games I've ever covered' vol. 2

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. -- COVID-19 has forced the cancellation of spring sports and during this unprecedented time, I've compiled a list of some of the best games I've seen in my years with The Cullman Tribune. I've seen a lot of exciting games so far that had us all on the edge of our seats so feel free to add any games that you would include on your list as well.

February 18, 2018
A trip to the Regional Finals was on the line when no.5 Holly Pond hosted Hanceville. The Bulldogs had the lead at the half over the Broncos and even pushed the deficit up to 11 at one point. Despite multiple attempts by the Broncos to get back in the game, Hanceville stopped them in their tracks after a huge and-one play by Damion Johnson gave the Bulldogs a 6-point advantage and they wound up pulling off the upset, 65-59.

September 7, 2018
West Point hosted Hamilton in its region opener and the game went back-and-forth. Back-to-back touchdowns by the Aggies gave them a 48-35 lead in the final period and the Warriors scored to cut it to six. They looked to win the game late, but West Point fell just short at the end, falling 48-42.

October 19, 2018
West Point traveled to take on Corner in a game that was scoreless at the half. The Yellow Jackets took an 8-6 lead going into the final period and made it 14-6 with West Point looking to tie the game, but it wasn't meant to be as the Warriors wound up dropping the game by eight on the road.

November 2, 2018
The final game of the season saw Fairview hosting Holly Pond. The Broncos held a 14-7 lead at the half and increase it to 20-7 in the third period, but the Aggies came back and took the lead early in the final period; they sealed the 21-20 win on an interception by Dante Dumas.

November 16, 2018
St. Bernard traveled to take on Vinemont and the Saints held a slim lead at the half that they pushed to seven in the fourth period, but the Eagles cut it to one on a trey by Hudson Wood. St. Bernard saved the win by adding a clutch free throw at the end to give the Saints a 45-43 win.

December 4, 2018
Hanceville hosted Holly Pond in what turned out to be a tight, thrilling game. Both teams traded leads several times during the contest and it eventually went into overtime on a pair of Fred Ellis free throws. The Broncos dominated most of the extra period and had to hold off a late rally by the Bulldogs to take the game, 91-86.

December 18, 2018
Good Hope hosted Oneonta in a huge area game. A huge second-quarter run gave the Raiders a 15-point lead, but the Redskins came back and took the lead in the third period. Good Hope looked for a run late in the game and they got one, but they fell just short at the end, 69-64.

December 28, 2018
The 2018 West Point Christmas Tournament featured a pair of thrilling games for the Raiders and Warriors. Good Hope took on Brewer in the first game and fell behind early but mounted a comeback in the second period and both teams went back-and-forth the rest of the way. Good Hope forced a turnover and a Drew Maddox trey from the left corner helped give the Raiders a 69-67 win. West Point took on Priceville next and fell behind early, but made a huge run to get back in the game and wound up taking the lead in the final period with a pair of Rylan Jones free throws helping to seal the 57-53 win.

January 9, 2019
Good Hope and Hanceville squared off against each other with no.1 seed in the 2019 county tournament on the line. A huge second quarter run by the Bulldogs would give them a six-point lead at the half. Both teams hit huge baskets in the second half, but none was bigger than Eli Phares' as he got a steal and a layup to give the Raiders a 1-point lead, which would turn into a 60-55 victory.



MARTHA NEEDHAM/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope's Cole Maddox (left) and Holly Pond's Kyler Chaney (right).

January 15, 2019
The Good Hope Lady Raiders hosted Cleveland in a game that belonged to Cleveland through the first three periods. Good Hope trailed by 19 at one point in the final frame but the Lady Raiders would respond in a huge way as their bench helped launch a furious rally led by Heather Tetro and Ivey Maddox to cut into the deficit. They forced numerous Lady Panther turnovers to cut the lead to just two at one point, but the comeback came up just short and Good Hope fell 54-50.

February 8, 2019
Fairview took on Oneonta in the girls' area championship game and the Lady Aggies suffocated the Lady Redskins early, taking a 24-16 lead into the half. They pushed the lead up to 11 early in the third period, but Oneonta tied the game at 27 after three and both teams swapped the lead for most of the final period before the Lady Redskins took a 40-37 lead late in the fourth. The Lady Aggies looked for a quick basket, but the ball got deflected out of bounds and Fairview wound up falling in the title game by three points.

February 13, 2019
Good Hope traveled to take on D.A.R. in its Sub-Regional game and had to overcome a hot-shooting start by the Patriots, needing a huge scoring run of their own to get back in the contest. The Raiders wound up taking the lead late in the final period, but a controversial technical foul got things started for D.A.R. and they ended the game on a huge run to win it 64-62.

August 23, 2019
Hanceville traveled to take on Sumiton Christian to kick off the 2019 season and the Bulldogs dominated the first half, taking a 26-6 lead into the locker room. But, the Eagles launched a huge rally in the second half, tying the game at 26 and forcing overtime before Hanceville won it on a 10-yard run by Bo Joles that gave the Bulldogs a 32-26 road victory to start the season.

October 24, 2019
West Point hosted Hayden on Senior Night and it was a tale of two halves for the Warriors as they trailed the Wildcats 14-0 at the break but got back in the game behind a huge second half from quarterback Will Cochran. He, along with the West Point defense, helped tie the game up at 14 and send the contest into overtime. After Hayden scored, but missed the point after attempt, West Point found the end zone on a Cochran touchdown run and Logan Selby nailed the extra point to give the Warriors the thrilling, 21-20 overtime win.

November 8, 2019
Good Hope traveled to take on Oneonta in round one of the 2019 AHSAA State Football Playoffs and the first half was dominated by the Redskins as they took a 17-0 lead into the locker room. The Raiders quickly got back in the game and went on a run to cut the deficit to five but they couldn't quite close the gap after that and wound up falling on the road 37-29.

January 24, 2020
A spot in the JV Girls' title game was on the line as (2) Good Hope took on (3) Holly Pond in what turned out to be a very close contest. The Lady Raiders held a slim lead at the half, but the Lady Broncos wound up taking the lead in the second half and stretched their advantage to six at one point. Good Hope went on a little rally of their own and a huge and-one play by Maddie McKenney gave the Lady Raiders a 38-37 lead before they added three free throws to help seal the 41-37 win.

CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported May 14

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported May 14, 2020. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS
May 11
• harassment; CR 1422
• theft of property; Megan Lane
• harassment, trespassing; CR 650
• criminal mischief; CR 656
• harassment; CR 1595
• theft of property; CR 222
• harassment; CR 386
• possession of drug paraphernalia, unlawful possession of a controlled substance; CR 1612

May 12
• theft of property; Hwy. 157
• harassment; CR 1141
• burglary; CR 817
• theft of property; CR 222
• theft of property; CR 209
• theft of property; CR 1402
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 91
• criminal mischief; CR 1435
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 291

May 13
• domestic violence; Mayfair Lane
• domestic violence; CR 747
• domestic violence; CR 548
• domestic violence; CR 805
• harassment; CR 1222
• possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 278 E
• domestic violence; CR 222
• harassment, criminal mischief; CR 1141
• harassment; CR 109
• burglary; CR 202
• violation of a protection order, attempting to elude; CR 1336

ARRESTS
May 11
Berry, Dennis Samuel, 27
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Kelso, James Garrett, 27
• FTA- third-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument
• FTA- third-degree forgery (2 counts)

Letson, Justin Shane, 31
• DUI- .08 BAC or greater

Mason, Tommy Oneal, 54
• FTA- expired tag

Moore, Travis Uranus, 34
• probation violation-chemical endangerment of a child

Pearce, Troy Elijah, 31
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Smith, Jonathan Kerry, 46
• FTA- driving while revoked

Swindoll, Sammi Lee, 26
• FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
• FTA- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
• FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance (2 counts)

Wright, Randy Lee, 23
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance

May 12
Durham, Jesse Elijah, 38
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance

Farrow, Chelsea Ruby Jean, 31
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• FTA- illegal possession of prescription medicine
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance
• FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance (2 counts)

Hale, Jerry Lamar, 59
• possession of drug paraphernalia

Ochoa, Ruby Jane, 45
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Smith, Benjamin Charles, 36
• FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
• FTA- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
• FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

May 13
Cole, Shannon Douglas, 51
• third-degree domestic violence- harassment

Cranford, Mason Anthony, 36
• FTA- driving while revoked

Firlik, David Harold, 48
• second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

Gunter, Roman Dewayne, 28
• FTA- possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance

Hamilton, Terra Leigh Ann, 39
• first-degree theft of property

Hill, Brandon Douglas, 43
• attempting to elude
• reckless endangerment
• violation of a domestic violence protection order

Kilpatrick, Justin Todd, 56
• motion to revoked bond-possession of drug paraphernalia (3 counts)
• motion to revoke bond-possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance
• motion to revoke bond-illegal possession of prescription medicine
• motion to revoke bond-unlawful possession of a controlled substance (2 counts)

Ponder, Trevor Lindley, 29
• third-degree criminal trespassing
• FTA- driving while revoked (4 counts)
• harassment

Wingo, Donald Warren, 64
• possession of drug paraphernalia

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS
May 12
• fourth-degree theft of property; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; miscellaneous; $69

May 13
• identity theft; person
• fourth-degree theft by deception; person; cash
• fourth-degree theft of property; person; Main Ave. NE; pressure washer; $200

ARRESTS
May 13
Gee, Joshua F., 31
• third-degree domestic violence- harassment

McGuire, Michelle C., 49
• third-degree domestic violence

McConnell, Angela F., 40
• FTA- insurance violation

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No incidents or arrests reported.

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

MEEK HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2020

Graduation is Tuesday, May 19, at 7:00 p.m., at the Meek High School football stadium.

"Seniors, you have faced a challenge unlike anything we have ever seen, and you have handled it with grace and maturity. If nothing else, this moment can teach you this important lesson: life turns on a dime; there will be multiple events in your life for which you have no preparation, yet you can face them, conquer them, have victory over them. Always look for the silver lining, always be thankful for small mercies, always remember those battles you have already faced and overcome. You are strong enough to take on whatever will come next. Good luck to you all, and may God bless the Class of 2020."

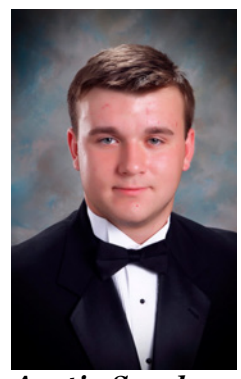
Marla Murrah – Principal of Meek High School

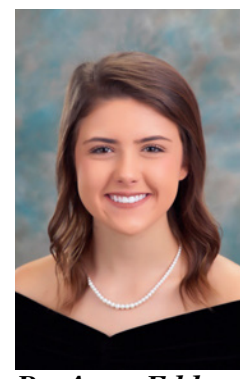
BILL MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY


Alden Archer


Amber Page

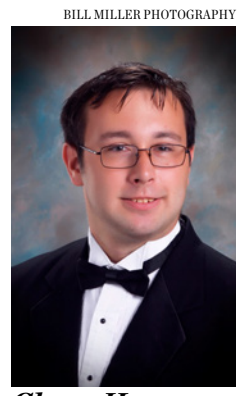

Angel Chino


Austin Sparks


BreAnna Eddy


Bryan Phillips


Bryson Hudson

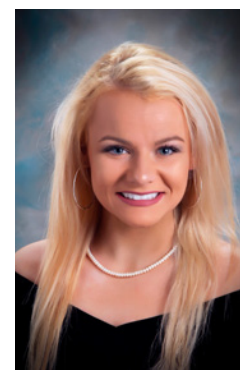

Chase Herron

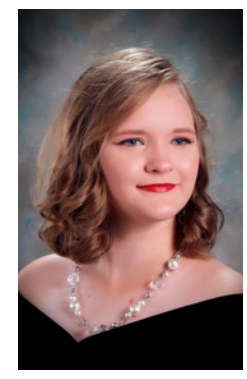

Colby Manasco

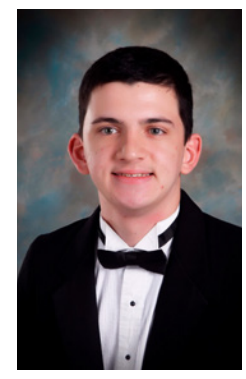

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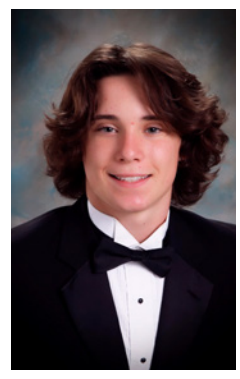

Gracie Hamby


Haley Alston


Kalin Rivers


Holli Hyche

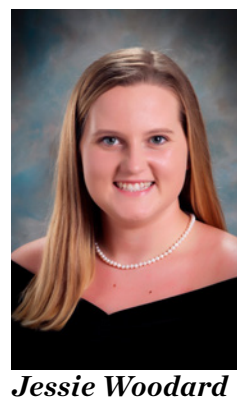

Hunter Lane

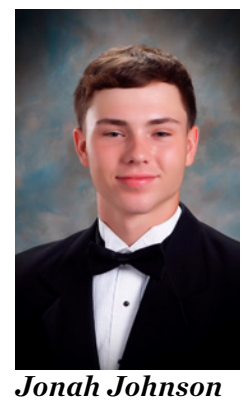

Jagger Benson

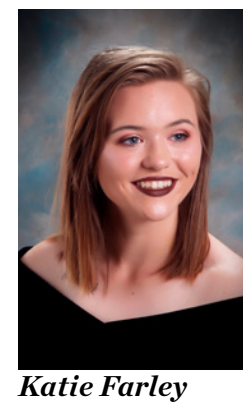

James Brown

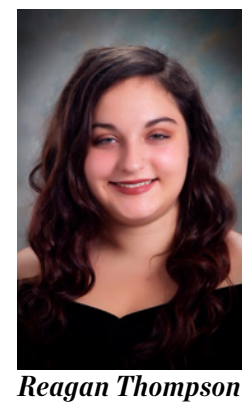

Jasmine Ragsdale

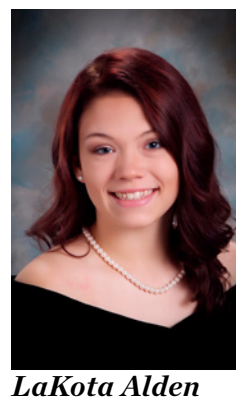

Jaycey Bowling


Jessie Woodard


Jonah Johnson


Katie Farley


Reagan Thompson

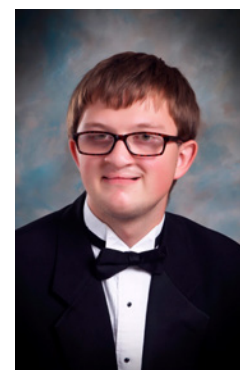

LaKota Alden


Stuart Waldrep


Sunnie Manning


Taylen Stone


Tori Payne


Trevor Steelman

SAINT BERNARD HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2020

Saint Bernard graduation is Sunday, May 24 at 2:00 p.m. at Abbey Church

"I most heartily congratulate the brave class of St. Bernard Preparatory School class of 2020. While we were not able to celebrate your class the way we wanted to this year, we are nonetheless so proud of you and your accomplishments. With thanksgiving to God and the promise of our continued prayers, we wish you every success in life. God bless you."

Father Linus Klucsarits, O.S.B., Headmaster, St. Bernard Preparatory School



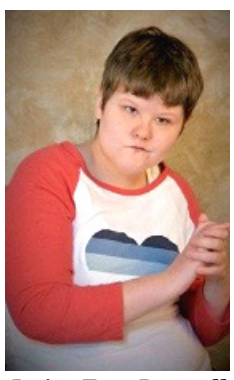
JOYCE NIX

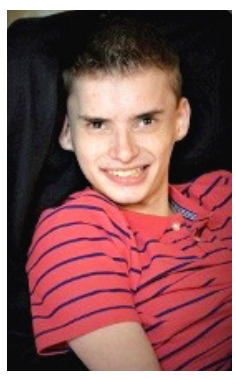
First row, (left to right): Gabrielle Bennett, Lauren Agnello, Chiara Schewczuk, Lluvia Ponce-Marquez, Bridget Gallegos, Yadira Echeverria, Abbot Marcus Voss, OSB; Yessenia Pascual-Contreras, Lizbeth Medina, Carly Tombo, Alison Gongre and Ian Sidley. Second row, (left to right): Jay Kim, Jordan McCormick, Caleb Guthery, John Christian Rose, Hailey Snapp, Brayam Morales, Jenna Pechon, Claire Sanders, Lillian Nassetta, Amber Lin, Olivia Brown, Ella Buckingham, Macy Whaley, Thy Mai Nguyen, Daniela Hernandez, Aria McMillan, Emma Tafazoli and Josh Spitzer. Third row, (left to right): William Tang, Jongha Park, Dee Gann, David Yi, Jimmy Schomburg, Alex Shoaff, T J Uhler and Torben Schiele.





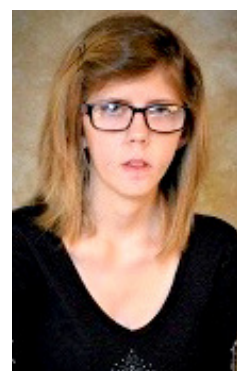
TERESA FINCHER PHOTOGRAPHY


Jerica Faye Bagwell

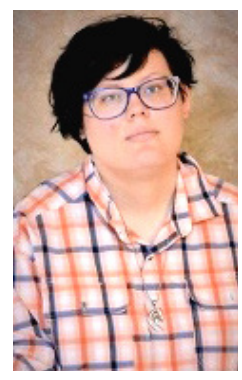

Hunter Isaiah Cason

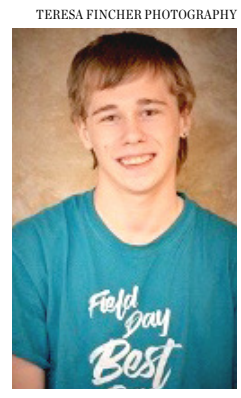

Kirkland Hunter Curvin


Alyssa Lynn Ergle


Kayla Marie Harbison


Dawson Dakota Oden


Bailey Savanna Vaughn



Cameron Micheal White

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

CLASS OF 2020

Graduation is Friday, May 22, at 1:00 p.m. at the Child Development Center Gym

"Graduation at the Child Development Center is like no other graduation you have ever seen. This year has been full of typical challenges to overcome, but the recent challenge has given a new perspective to us all. There will be many speeches and yearbook pages about the corona virus and its impact. Graduation at the Child Development Center again will be like no other because of these student's and their support system's ability to endure and still overcome. Our students know about struggle and how it can be used to build or weaken. The CDC family and all of the CCBOE system honors these graduates and their families with a heartfelt celebration of accomplishment through endurance."

Child Development Center Principal - Chris Chambers



ADDISON HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 2020

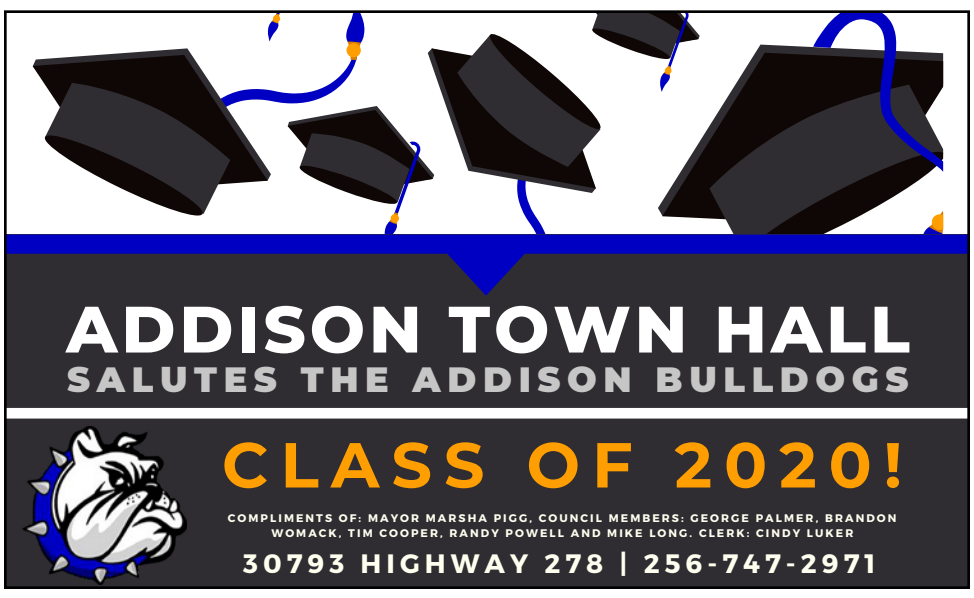
Graduation is Tuesday, May 19, 2020, at 8:00 p.m., at the Addison High School football stadium

In case of rain, it will be held on Monday, May 18

Seated: Austin Breedwell, Gracie Martin, Logan Douglas, Katelyn Ward, Heather Bryson, Abi Williams, Chloe Brockwell, Misty Roberston, Rheagan Holland and Jason Pellicer. Second row: Hailey Carter, Hannah Robertson - Valedictorian, Amelia Cleghorn, Maddie Cain, Jacob Smithson, Dustin Turner, Lexi Anders, Kate Laseter, Kaylee Brummett and Gracie Everett. Third row: Lucas Box, Connor Alexander, Michael Walker, Brett Smith, Sawyer Hale, Jeb Robinson – Class President, Savannah Manley, Jake Wilson, Gavin Jones, Jadon Cook, Andrew Stone, Candace Barley, Zac Stewart, Macey Butler, Anthony Ladd, Ivey Howse, Dylan Norman, Hannah Smothers, MiKaela Ball, Alexa Darty, Gracie Yarborough and Kylee Marks. Fourth row: Ethan Baker, Grant Rice and Colton Tyree. Fifth row: Luke Chambers, Caleb Crider, Luke Waldrep- Salutatorian and Matthew Harris. Not shown: Todd Martin, Alex Melson, Kolbi Miller, Brandon Moore, Timothy Trussell and Jason Vance

"These are unprecedented times that have unfortunately called for very difficult decisions. When you make decisions in this environment, you have to be very careful and methodical, but at the same time precise and expedient. The class of 2020 and their parents/guardians have been done a disservice that was not any individual's fault but a novel virus that has changed all of our lives. Now that this has happened we have to pick up the pieces and move on as best as we can. There's not a cookie cutter approach or precedent set before us to go by, so we have to make something positive out of a bad situation. The Addison High School class of 2020 is not any different than all of the other graduating classes at Addison and the ones after them will be the same. The Addison spirit lives in each one and cannot be duplicated somewhere else or taken away by anyone or anything, especially a virus. The Addison community is like no other, with people that have always risen to the occasion regardless of what has been thrown at them. They work hard and rally around each other when someone's in need with a fervent spirit that can only be acquired through the Christian values that have been instilled throughout our community. Addison is a special place, like no other, and can only be truly appreciated by those that live and thrive in our town and school. This 2020 graduating class will be just as strong, if not stronger, because of the adversity they have had to overcome, and the faculty, staff, and administration will always be here to support each student that has a need regardless of their situation. This is what we have always done and what we will continue to do at Addison High School. To the AHS 2020 graduates I offer my congratulations and love. I will pray for each of you as you take this next step in your life. May God bless you and your family."

Micah Smothers, Principal of Addison High School

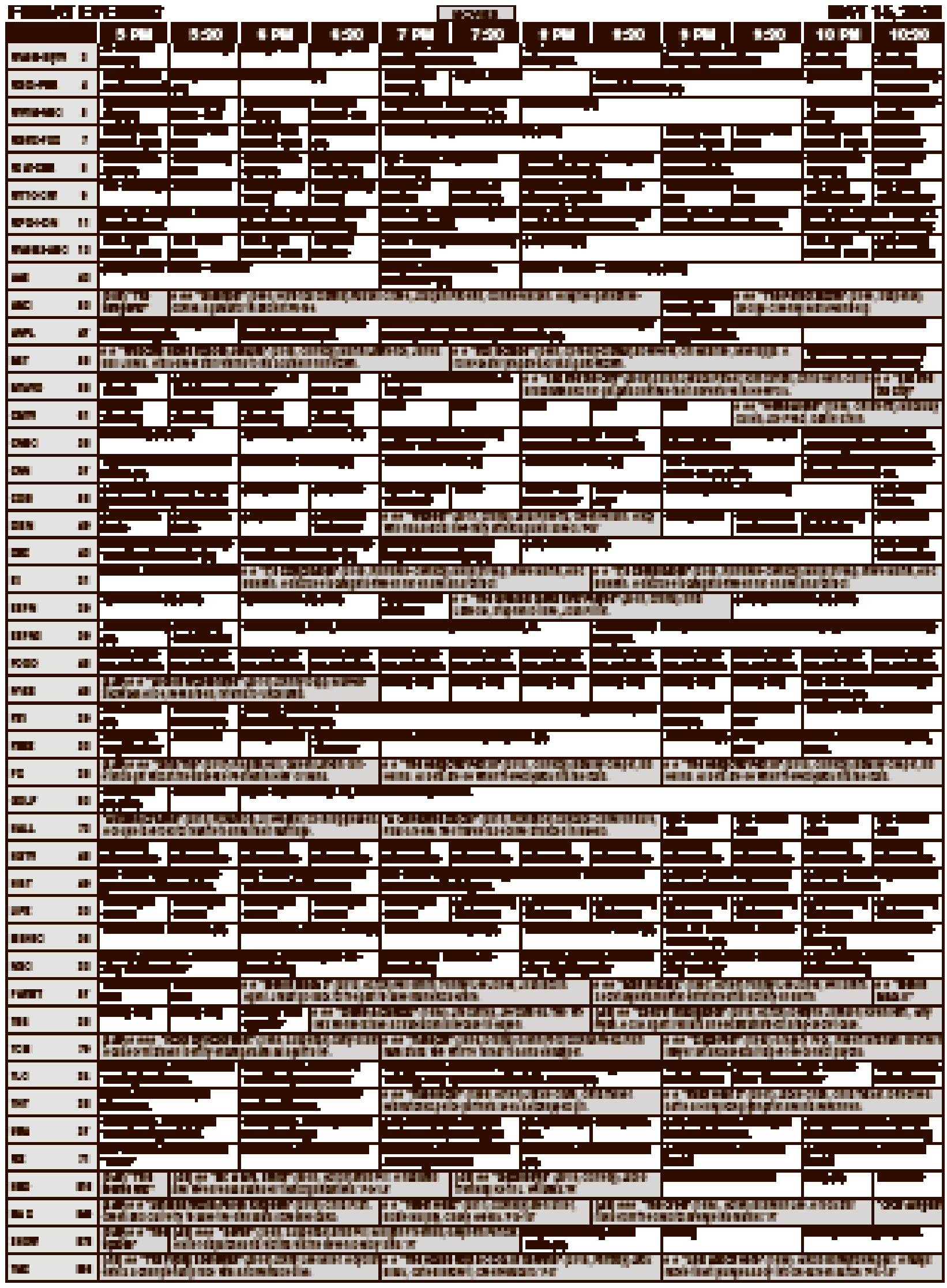






Sports

Movies



Best Bets



Bakery (from Front)

ple of north Alabama have been good to me," he commented. "The hometown folks are the ones who got the word out to the other folks. We had a lot of people who work at hospitals who would take product to work with them, and those people would come return and say they had my donuts in Huntsville or Birmingham or wherever, then they became customers as well."

The bakery's future

When asked about the future of the bakery, Bontrager said it is still uncertain as of Thursday afternoon.

"Hopefully someone will take it over and go on," he said.

"I've been bombarded with phone calls from people interested in purchasing, but there have been no agreements or deals made of any kind." He expressed some preference for potential buyers who already have the capital available to run the business, reluctant to have to wait for loans to come in. He also stated he has not yet decided whether he will pass on the family recipe - which was developed by his father in 1960 and helped propel the bakery to fame - to the next owner. However, customers still have plenty of time to enjoy that family recipe, as the bakery will remain open for the immediate future to work through inventory.

The legacy

Whether the bakery closes or stays open under new ownership, Bontrager expressed how he wants his time at Duchess to be remembered: "I hope they'll remember the good products and the wholesome small-town bakery shop that tried to do their best."

While Bontrager said retirement wasn't an easy decision to make, he said it was time to let go, and he offered his sincerest gratitude to Cullman for 81 years of support and success.

Grant (from Front)

Elaine Wren
Harmony School

LOGAN, Ala. – The Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education has awarded a $30,000 Alabama Pre-K–3rd Grade Integrated Approach to Early Learning (P-3) grant to Cullman County Schools to fund two Kindergarten units at Harmony School.

Gov. Kay Ivey and the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education started the official P-3 initiative in 2017. Harmony School applied for the past two years. It has one First Class Pre-K and expects to receive the grant for a second classroom in June, giving students the opportunity to attend a nationally recognized Pre-K program. Alabama has ranked no. 1 in Pre-K for the last 13 years.

This is an excerpt from Ivey's press conference last year:

"Alabama children have reaped the benefits of our nationally recognized First Class Pre-K program, and our P-3 program works to build upon those gains all the way through the third grade," Ivey said. "As we head into year three of the P-3 program, I'm proud to be funding 41 additional classrooms. Those early years are vitally important for a student's future success. By expanding this program even further, we are certainly taking advantage of those valuable years in a child's learning journey."

Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette and Harmony School Principal Kevin Sullins have supported program from the beginning. The decision was made to begin by applying for Kindergarten, then first grade the following year and continue applying annually through third grade.

"The grant has given kindergarten teachers a renewed love of teaching," Sullins said. "They are now able to provide their students with an even more hands-on learning environment that would have taken years of funding to acquire."

The grant will enable teachers to establish their classrooms with research-based play items that are all developmentally appropriate. Children learn best through play and hands-on activities. They will have resources and curriculum, along with much training, to implement the new "gold" teaching, learning and assessment program. They are excited to see age-appropriate learning take place. This will benefit the students socially and emotionally.

The goal of the P-3 program, now moving into its third year, is to expand the early learning model from First Class Pre-K (that has been proven to work over and over) through third grade.

The Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education and the Alabama State Department of Education are working together to align instructional practices, assessment and leadership from Pre-K to third grade.

Places (from Front)

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

FAIRVIEW, Ala. – Fairview High School senior Mason Roberts has a lot to celebrate. Not only did he score a 35 on his ACT, he is also one of only two Cullman County students to be named a National Merit Finalist. Roberts, the son of Danny and Kerri Roberts, will be headed to the University of Alabama this fall after being awarded the Alabama Presidential Scholarship, which includes tuition, books, room and board and an opportunity to study abroad. Mason will graduate with the Aggie Class of 2020 May 23.

The ACT is a standardized test used by colleges to measure high school achievement and readiness for college-level academics. The ACT consists of tests in English, mathematics, reading and science, each scored on a scale of 1-36. A student's composite score is the average of the four test scores.

Just how good is a 35? According to PrepScholar.com and ACT.org, in the class of 2018, 1,914,817 students took the ACT, with an average composite score of 20.8 out of 36. Of those, just 14,928, only 0.780%, scored a 35. That means Roberts is in the top 1%.

Students qualify for the National Merit Scholarship program by first taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), after which, according to NationalMerit.org, "Of the 1.6 million entrants, some 50,000 with the highest PSAT/NMSQT Selection Index scores (calculated by doubling the sum of the Reading, Writing and Language, and Math Test scores) qualify for recognition in the National Merit Scholarship Program.... In early September, about 16,000 students, or approximately one-third of the 50,000 high scorers, are notified that they have qualified as Semifinalists." That number drops to just 15,000 finalists.

Roberts said of his five-year scholarship, "That was from a different test, the PSAT I took in the 11th grade. The ACT score was definitely part of it, but it's not really where the scholarship came from."

According to NationalMerit.org, "A variety of information is available for NMSC selectors to evaluate: the finalist's academic record, information about the school's curricula and grading system, PSAT/NMSQT Selection index score, the high school official's written recommendation, information about the student's activities and leadership and the finalist's own essay."

Roberts wrote his essay on his greatest influences.

"I wrote about my parents and their impact on my life," he smiled.

He said that his parents are very excited about him going to Alabama and he grew up a fan, saying, "Roll Tide!"

Roberts is poised to have a great awards day if Fairview High School has one.

He explained, "I don't know right now what my senior class standing is, but I got a senior superlative recognition which I believe is 10 students that are considered the top of the class of Fairview. Last year, I was in the Top 5 of the class as well, and I got the recognition for that at awards day. I'm not exactly sure yet for my senior year because we haven't had an awards day or anything yet."

Roberts is a member of the National Honor Society, student council, is class vice-president, is a member of the yearbook staff and plays soccer. He has attended Fairview since kindergarten.

"Fairview has been a big part of my life, and it's a great community," he said.

He played football for one year but concentrated on soccer for the past three years.

"We only played five games this year," he said, "and we normally play a lot more than that."

His final few months at Fairview were abruptly cut short due the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I think it was Friday, March 13. That was kind of the last time everybody was there. We had heard about it, but we didn't really know we were going to be leaving and not coming back. It was disappointing to not be able to finish out senior season and our senior year.

"Especially with our soccer season canceled and having to do our work online. It really wasn't the same as being there," said Roberts.

"Fortunately, we are going to be able to graduate on the football field and those kinds of things. I'm looking forward to that. I'm actually really excited about it being on the football field. I think it will be neat."

Roberts hasn't yet decided what major he will pursue in college, but he said he feels prepared.

"My favorite subjects in school have been English, really everything: English, history, math, science. I've had some good teachers for all those," he smiled. "I don't know if I would want to shout out just one person but really just the faculty of Fairview as a whole. It's a great faculty and everybody I have come in contact with pretty much has helped me along the way, in their own way. It's been a great experience, honestly, at Fairview."

He added, "Shout out to Fairview High School. Shout out to all my friends and everybody that's been a part of my life. Especially to my parents and the impact they have had on me and kind of pushing me to do the best I can."

Obituary Announcements
May 15

Mr. Charles Earl Smith passed away peacefully at his home May 13, 2020. Memorial service details are incomplete at this time and will be announced at a later time. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to be ministering to the Smith family. Mr. Smith was born June 6, 1952 to Earl Wayne and Rosa Lee Smith. He is preceded in death by his parents and one son Christopher Smith. Charles is survived by his wife Darlene Smith; son Benjamin Smith; brothers Jerry Smith and Gary Smith; sisters Patsy Carol of Birmingham and Joyce McCartha of Montgomery; and grandchildren Anna and Zack Smith. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Mrs. Jacqueline Madeline Rose Shelton passed away May 13, 2020 at Cullman Regional Medical Center. Memorial service details are incomplete and will be announced at a later time. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Shelton family. Mrs. Shelton was born Sept. 6, 1967 to Girard Edgar Dawson, Sr. and Carol Rose Erspringer Dawson. She was preceded in death by her parents and nephews Dylan Aust and Quinton Aust. Mrs. Shelton is survived by her son Jacob Shelton; daughter Cristine Shelton; brothers James Fort, Girard Edgar Dawson, Jr. and Bruce Dawson; and sisters Cristine Nolan and Katrina Dawson. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

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LEGALS

PB AOT BK 55 PG 64 - 04/22/2020 11:59 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE

PETITION OF JOSEPH ANDREW POE FOR THE ADOPTION OF — CASE NO: AD2020-010

H.W.H. A MINOR.
D.O.B. 09-04-2014

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: JAMES TRAVIS MCDANIEL OR ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN FATHER OF H.W.H. A MINOR CHILD, BORN TO ARTISHA NICOLE HAND

The Petition for Adoption was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by Joseph Andrew Poe, Petitioner. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within Thirty (30) days from the date of the last notice of publication. Your response must be filed with Counsel for said petitioners, whose name and address are shown below, and with the Clerk of Probate Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE THIS 22nd DAY OF April, 2020.

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

Sara Baker
Attorney for Petitioners
100 Fifth Street, SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

PB MIN BK 186 PG 990 - 05/06/2020 02:27 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
BETTY JANE DUKE SCREWS,) CASE NO.: PC 2019-180
Deceased.)

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION TO AUTHORIZE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

TO: STEVEN ANDREW SCREWS, LISA CHAMBERS AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN OR INTEREST PARTIES

A Petition to Authorize Sale of Real Property, filed by Philip A. Screws, Personal Representative of the Estate of Betty Jane Duke Screws, has been set for hearing on the **30th day of June, 2020, at 9:30 a.m.** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, Probate Office Room 101, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this 6th day of May, 2020.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

Erick K. Pratt
Attorney for Personal Representative
PO Box 1906
Decatur, AL 35602

PB MIN BK 186 PG 815 - 04/29/2020 11:16 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

SUSAN SHAYNE STROUD, deceased — CASE NO. PC2020-136

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF SUSAN SHAYNE STROUD, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Sharon H. Barrett on the 29th day of April, 2020, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

SHARON H. BARRETT, Personal Representative

TO: Publisher of *The Cullman Tribune*:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C. Smith
Smith & Smith, LLP
Attorneys for Petitioner
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
Phone: (256) 734-4721



CONTRIBUTED

First-grader Maggie Phillips earned an honorable mention in the Alabama Farm-City Poster contest with her cheerful poster featuring a couple at a farm stand. Phillips is one of eight students who earned the honorable mention recognition, and her work will be featured in the 2021 Alabama Farm-City Calendar.

AGRICULTURE

Cullman County student's Farm-City poster wins statewide award

Mary Wilson
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – Young artists and storytellers were honored during the Alabama Farm-City Awards livestream May 12 for showcasing how farmers "Keep Alabama Growing."

Students from Autauga, Houston, Lawrence and Shelby counties took home top honors in the state Farm-City poster, essay and video contests. The contestants earned the opportunity to compete for state awards by winning their county contests last fall.

Alabama Farm-City Committee Chairman Jeff Helms said the "Keep Alabama Growing" theme encouraged competitors to explore the diversity and importance of agriculture and forestry.

"Since 1955, Farm-City Week has been observed for seven days before Thanksgiving as a time to foster understanding between farmers and their city neighbors," Helms said.

"In Alabama, the poster, essay and video programs have the most lasting impact on the Farm-City mission because they plant seeds of understanding with students who may never live on a farm."

Alabama Farmers Cooperative (AFC) sponsored cash prizes for the winning contestants and matching awards for their schools.

AFC serves farmers, gardeners and homeowners with about 80 Quality Co-op stores in Alabama, Florida and Tennessee.

Poster Contest, Kindergarten - Third Grades

• First place and $200 — Sam Thornton, first grade, Heard Elementary School in Houston County

• Second place and $100 — Danie Fielder, third grade, Munford Elementary School in Talladega County

Poster Contest, Fourth - Sixth Grades

• First place and $200 — Kendall McVay, fourth grade, Moulton Elementary School in Lawrence County

• Second place and $100 — Will Thornton, sixth grade, Carver School of Math, Science and Technology in Houston County

Eight students received an honorable mention and $50 from AFC through the poster contest. They are:

• Asa Thompson, fourth grade, Pike Liberal Arts in Pike County

• Maggie Phillips, first grade, Good Hope Primary in Cullman County

• Kadence Provens, third grade, Caldwell Elementary in Jackson County

• Corey Ellis, second grade, Bear Exploration Center in Montgomery County

• David Thomas Aldridge, fifth grade, homeschooled in Fayette County

• Mattie Wisener, sixth grade, Arab Junior High in Marshall County

• Greer Jones, fourth grade, Ariton Elementary in Dale County

• Emerson Champagne, third grade, Southside Elementary in Etowah County

The 2020 Alabama Farm-City Calendar will feature poster contest winners and honorees.

Essay Contest, Seventh - Ninth Grades:

• First place and $300 — Audrey Teaster, freshman, Autauga Academy in Autauga County

• Second place and $200 — Ciara Laird, freshman, New Life Christian Academy in Pike County

Essay Contests, 10th - 12th Grades:

• First place and $300 — Emma Wendland, senior, Autauga Academy in Autauga County

• Second place and $200 — Alex Simmons, junior, Elmore County High School in Elmore County

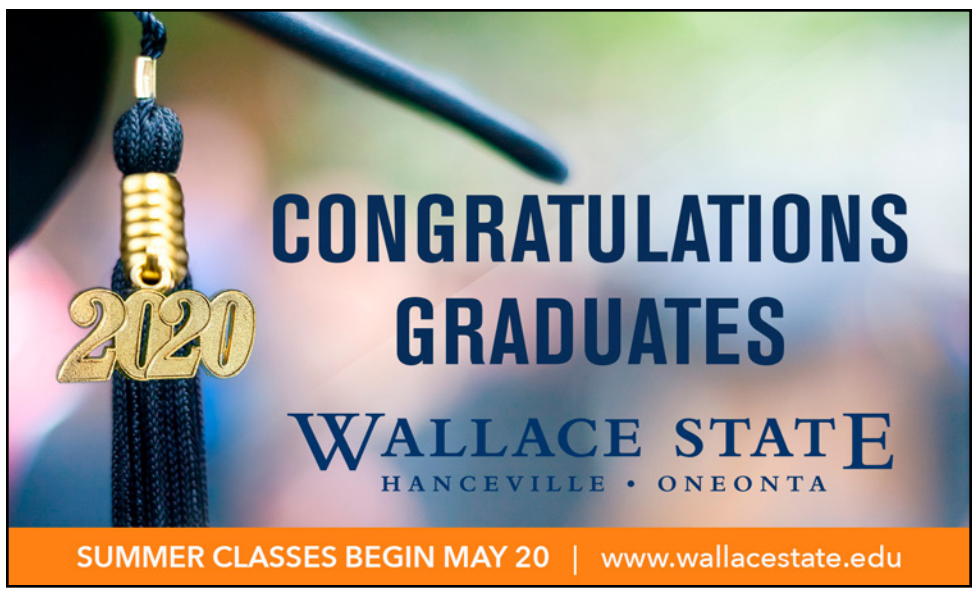
Video contest:

• First place and $300 — Marion Bell, junior, Homeschooled in Shelby County

• Second place and $200 — Rio Murray, junior, Munford High

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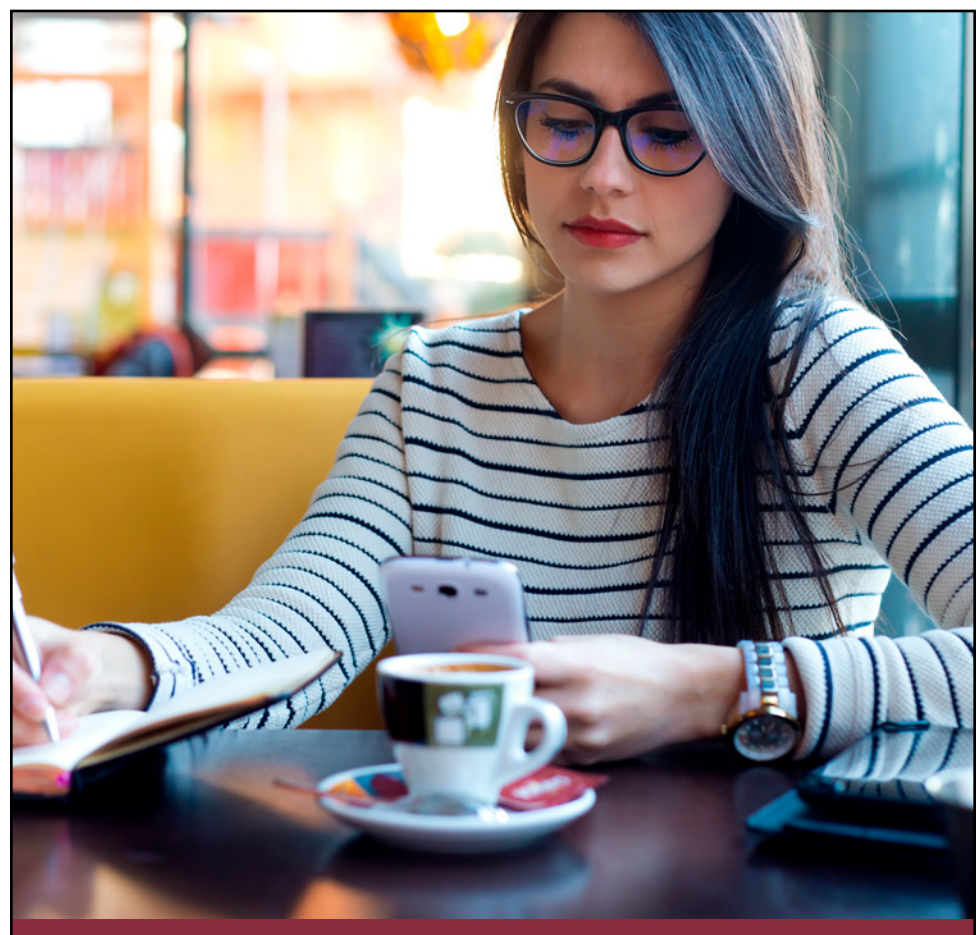
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