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The Cullman Tribune

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– LOCAL GOVERNMENT –

City water, sewer rates coming down; new sanitation rates, nuisance ordinance approved; COVID-related raises to end



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUN

Members of the Cullman City Council are seen at the council's meeting Monday evening, Nov. 9, 2020. » PAGE 8

Thank you to all Veterans for your service and sacrifice!

POLITICS

Democrat Joe Biden elected 46th United States president

» PAGE 6

POLITICS

Jeff Clemons, in his own words



2020 CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Jeff Clemons won the runoff for Cullman County Commission chairman July 14, 2020. He is being sworn in today, Nov. 10, 2020. » PAGE 11

– FEATURE –

2020 Cullman County Veterans Day Celebration may be record-setter



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Young military history enthusiast Everett Pyle inspects a Jeep at Saturday's Cullman Veterans Day Celebration.

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Folsom Field/Cullman Regional Airport stepped back in time Saturday for a "sentimental journey" as Cullman Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 2214 and the Cullman Elks Lodge hosted a busy and successful 2020 Cullman Veterans Day Celebration.

Anchored by WWII aircraft including a B-25 bomber and a C-47 troop transport that dropped paratroopers on D-Day, the display included aircraft and vehicles from that war through the current War on Terror. Living history reenactors portrayed military and civilian characters from WWII all the way back to the Civil War, while military historians put on impressive "show and tell" with uniforms and insignia, medical equipment, weaponry and other gear. In a celebration tradition, the Wallace State Community College Jazz Band entertained with hits of the Swing and Big Band Eras.

Visitors to the event numbered in the thousands, including a large turnout of veterans and their families. By noon, the crew providing free meals to vets and their spouses had already given out the 960 beverages it had brought, and had exhausted stocks generously supplied by two donor groups.

A brief rain shower before lunch did not dampen spirits, and only cooled the air to make the afternoon more comfortable for the crowds that stayed later in the day to watch the vintage aircraft take off and make low altitude flyovers before heading to their respective homes.

Col. Ken Brown of Cullman's VFW Post 2214 told The Tribune, "I think we had a record crowd. This is the biggest event we've ever tried to put on for Veterans Day. We had some great vintage airplanes here from World War II; we had a bunch of World War II vets here. We got a little bit of a rain shower, but that didn't seem to scare anybody off.

"We've still got a big crowd here at 12:30 in the afternoon. We've given away more meals to veterans and their spouses than we ever have before, and it's just been a great, great event. Appreciate Cullman coming out and supporting it!"

For more on Cullman VFW Post 2214, including a promising new program enjoying remarkable success in helping veterans suffering from PTSD, visit www.facebook.com/cullmanVFW-Post/.

» MORE PHOTOS - PAGE 12

Cool cat 'Cubbie'



DAVID WIGGINS

Cubbie the cat conducts serious business at East Elementary School. » PAGE 11

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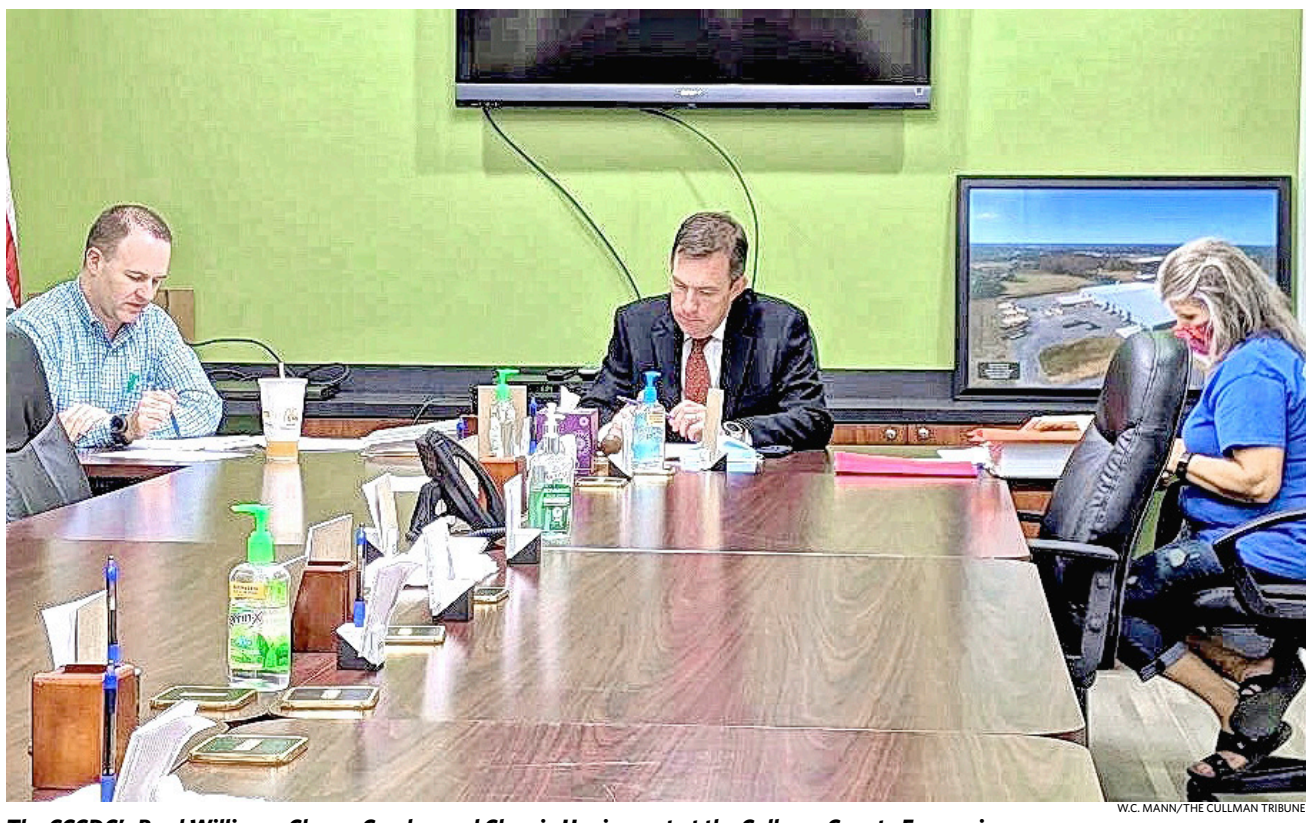
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The CCCDC's Brad Williams, Champ Crocker and Cherrie Hanie meet at the Cullman County Economic Development office. Commission member Josh Speakman attended by conference call.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CCCDC awards $56K in grants in last meeting of 2020

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Cullman County Community Development Commission (CCCDC) met and awarded a total of $56,000 in grants Monday night, without its usual amount of funding available, to get a few more awards distributed before the end of the year.

The following grant requests were approved:

- Berlin Community Center - $8,000 to replace HVAC unit
- Cullman Christian School - $12,000 for new classical curriculum
- Jones Chapel Volunteer Fire Department - $12,000 for personal protective equipment, wildland gear and extrication suits
- Good Samaritan Health Clinic - $12,000 for medication/supplies for uninsured
- Harmony School - $12,000 to develop a project-based learning environment

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 legislators. The CCCDC strives to maintain a $100,000 reserve fund, as advised by the legislators. Monday's awards left the fund slightly below that amount, but the dip was pointed out and approved by the commission. To learn more or to submit a grant application, visit http://co.cullman.al.us/cccdc/cccdc.html.

CRIME

Gunfire exchanged at Cullman Applebee's

Wendy Sack, W.C. Mann
Contributors

CULLMAN, Ala. – An exchange of gunfire outside the Cullman Applebee's restaurant at 2106 Cherokee Ave. SW Saturday night shortly before 10 p.m. left a vehicle damaged, but no injuries were reported.

Cullman Police Sgt. Adam Walker, on the scene that evening and according to initial witness statements, said an unidentified person fired first, and a customer leaving the establishment returned fire before the suspect fled the scene.

After further investigation, Detective Chuck Shikle on Monday told The Tribune, "It seems to have occurred between two groups of people. Now these are the reports. We've been unable to verify exactly what went down, but we do know that multiple shots were fired from two different individuals. We believe they were shooting at each other. We don't know who instigated the altercation."

Shikle said the CPD is still investigating.

"At least one shot was fired from the Applebee's parking lot towards Cherokee Avenue. There were some shots- we don't know if it was return fire or it initiated the gunfire- but we do know that shots were fired from Applebee's parking lot towards Cherokee or possibly in the air. We know that the shot was fired because we recovered the bullet casing. We know that shots were fired from a vehicle in the turning lane of Cherokee Avenue, that was southbound on Cherokee. He had turned and fired shots back toward somebody in the Applebee's parking lot, and in the process damaged the property there."

The parties were not familiar with one another, Shikle said. The person who shot from Cherokee Avenue has been identified and interviewed by police. The person who shot from the Applebee's parking lot has not been identified.

"It's absolutely- there's nothing positive, there's nothing positive that will come from this incident," he said.

"We're very fortunate. We're very fortunate. The person that claims he was returning fire claims that he was doing so in self-defense. That's not the proper way to defend yourself. He's very fortunate that no one was in that (damaged) vehicle (in the parking lot) and an innocent bystander wasn't harmed as a result of those actions."

Shikle said, according to witnesses, the incident arose after one group of people approached the other in the parking lot.

"One separate group approached the other group in an aggressive manner," he said. "At some point he said, 'Hey, what's your problem?' The guy's like, 'You need to leave. I've got a gun.' His buddy heard that he had a gun and said, 'Well, I've got a gun, too,' and shots were exchanged. Who initiated it? We don't know. All we know is that in the process of doing so, during this exchange of gunfire, between people that are extremely young and immature, property was damaged, and fortunately, no one was injured."

Walker said the owner of the damaged car had no connection to the incident or either of the parties involved.



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COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

Monday, Nov. 9, 2020 COVID-19 update from the Alabama Department of Public Health's COVID-19 Data and Surveillance Dashboard

- Total confirmed cases in AL: 173,854 (+980 since yesterday)
- Probable cases in AL: 31,003 (+190 since yesterday)
- Total confirmed deaths in AL: 2,865 (+0 since yesterday)
- Probable deaths in AL: 219
- Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co.: 2,498 (+25 since yesterday)
- Probable cases in Cullman Co.: 748 (+26 since yesterday)
- Total confirmed deaths in Cullman Co.: 20 (+0 since yesterday)
- Probable deaths in Cullman Co.: 7
- Total tested in Cullman Co.: 21,829
- Total tested in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 2,122
- Cases in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 748
- Total tested in Alabama: 1,406,829
- Cases in the last 14 days in Alabama: 20,100
- Total tested in the last 14 days in Alabama: 100,293
- Currently hospitalized in Alabama: 1,174
- Cumulative no. of hospitalizations in Alabama: 21,294
- Presumed recoveries in Alabama (reported weekly): 84,471
- See more details at https://bit.ly/2VjCQbP.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Submit your calendar items or public notices to wendy@cullmantribune.com

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings
The Grace of God group of Alcoholics Anonymous has open AA meetings (all are welcome) Monday and Thursday nights from 7-8 p.m. at the Carriage House, located next to Grace Episcopal Church, 305 Arnold St. NE Cullman. Contact phone numbers: 256-347-1097, 256-841-2209 or 256-708-1340

Church Services
- Spirit Life Church of GOD, 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
- Prayer meetings- Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Please join us to pray or come for prayer.
- "Events of the End Times" Bible study with Pastor Bobby Dodd- Wednesdays at 6 p.m.
- Sunday mornings- 10 a.m. adult, youth and children's classes; 11 a.m. children's classes; praise and worship, and message by Pastor Bobby Dodd

Cullman Moose Lodge Annual Turkey Shoots
At the Lodge on Eva Road at 8 a.m. every Saturday through Dec. 5. There will also be a special shoot Thanksgiving Day. Proceeds from these events will go to benefit the Lodge Special Projects Fund and local charities. Call 256-318-3013 for additional details or information.

Smoked Turkey & Ham Fundraiser
- Proceeds support the Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation.
- Let Freddie Day Catering cook your Thanksgiving ham or turkey! Order your delicious, slow-smoked 11-13 lb. turkey or 8-9 lb. ham and support the Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation.
- When: Pre-orders accepted until Nov. 13 (must be paid in full when order is placed)
- Cost: Turkey $25 Ham $35
- Curbside pickup: Nov. 21 from 10-11 a.m. and Nov. 25 from 4-5 p.m.
- Location: Freddie Day Catering 1628 2nd Ave. NW
- For ordering information, contact Louise Cole at 256-503-5301 or Judy Grissom at 256-347-5993.
- Email us at ccbbfinc@gmail.com or visit www.CullmanBosomBuddies.com.

Wallace State Future Foundation Student Investment Lunch-In and Auction
- The online auction will take place from Nov. 18 through Dec. 3, with anyone welcome to bid on items.
- The Lunch-In will be catered by Seasoned Catering and The Historic Bakery. The menu includes stuffed pork loin with bacon, Swiss cheese, sundried tomato and bacon citrus cream, green beans almondine, roasted baby red and gold potatoes, house made rolls and a gourmet red velvet cookie for dessert.
- The drive-thru event will be held Dec. 2 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the new Traditions Bank Operations Center at the corner of Third Avenue Northwest and First Street Northwest in Cullman. Deliveries will be made to Legacy, Premier and Gold sponsors on the date of their choice between Dec. 7-18.
- Sponsorship levels range from the $50 Fund a Need Sponsor to the $25,000 Legacy Sponsor, which pledges $5,000 annually for five years. Any donation will be gladly accepted, and donations can be earmarked to a specific scholarship fund of your choice.
- Visit www.wsccfuturefoundation.org/sil20 to register for the event, to access the online auction or make donations.
- Reservations for lunch should be made by Nov. 20. Call 256-352-7842 for more information or visit www.wsccfuturefoundation.org/sil20.

Cullman Education Retirees Association Meeting
- Thursday, Nov. 12 at 11 a.m. at Stone Bridge Farms in the meeting room (right of main dining room)
- All education retirees are invited to attend. Our program will be presented by Southern Eats. Following the program, we will have a brief business session and then enjoy lunch together.

Little Farmers Up in the Garden, Down in the Dirt
- Friday, Nov. 13, from 10-11 a.m. at the North Alabama Agriplex, www.agriplex.org
- Meet worm friends and try a little 'dirt' pudding! We will feature Kate Messner's adorable children's book 'Up in the Garden, Down in the Dirt' for this fun preschool program. This program is for ages 3-5 with their adult. Classes are $5 per child.

Saint Bernard Prep Open House
- Friday, Nov. 13, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Parents and students will tour the campus with student ambassadors and get any questions or concerns from the students' perspective regarding St. Bernard Prep. St. Bernard Prep is a co-educational, day and boarding school serving students in grades 7-12. Parents of students from fifth grade and up are welcome to attend the open house. Registration will take place in the school library where the tours will begin. For a personal tour, contact Fr. Linus Kluscarits at 256-739-6682. Saint Bernard Prep is operated by the Benedictine monks of St. Bernard Abbey.

34th Annual Ho! Ho! Ho! Christmas Show / Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show
- Saturday, Nov. 14 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Depot Park by the Train Depot, 309 First Ave. NE
- Fundraiser for Christmas Love of Cullman- Entry fee is $20 or a new toy valued at $20
- Dash plaque for first 50 registered vehicles
- For more info, see www.facebook.com/hohohochristmasshow.

Drive-Thru Food Bank
- Saturday, Nov. 14, from 9-11 a.m. at Spirit Life Church of GOD, 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
- Please bring an ID.

Cullman Elks Lodge Holiday Craft Fair & Vendor Expo
- Saturday, Nov. 14 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Cullman Elks Lodge, 1525 Brantley Ave. NW, Cullman
- Come out to shop early for Christmas. $1 ticket enters you for door prize drawings. Hot dogs, chili and chips available. All proceeds benefit Elks local charities.
- Masks are required. Please practice social distancing.

Swamp John's Dinner
- Saturday, Nov. 14 from 4-7 p.m. at East Side Baptist Church, 1111 Third St. SE, Cullman
- This is a fundraiser for our Missions department and all proceeds go toward these future ministry events. We will be providing drive-thru orders. Each $12 will also include a drink and a dessert.

Cullman Cars and Coffee
- Sunday, Nov. 15 from 2-4 p.m. at Depot Park, 309 First Ave. NE, Cullman
- Please park in the BIG parking lot across from the Festhalle Market! Be aware there may still be some construction going on.

Thanksgiving Revival with Dr. David Smith and Dr. David Beck
Sunday, Nov. 15 at 5 p.m. and Monday-Wednesday, Nov. 16-18 at 6:30 p.m. at Cross Baptist Church, 23654 U.S. Highway 31, Falkville, AL 35622

Heritage Skills Favorite Ferments
- Tuesday, Nov. 17, from 6-8 p.m. at the North Alabama Agriplex, www.agriplex.org
- We are featuring local farmer Mae Jefferson from Wild Rows Farm. A brief history of fermenting, a beginners guide to the process of fermentation, and an explanation of the health benefits will all be covered! Mae will do a sauerkraut demonstration and each participant will take home some kraut and a SCOBY (kombucha culture). Cost is $10 per person. Registration required.

Heritage Homeschool Woodworking
- Thursday, Nov. 19, from 9-11 a.m. at the North Alabama Agriplex, www.agriplex.org
- Students will use basic hand tools to make a woodworking project to take home. Due to the hands on nature of this program, no unregistered siblings allowed. Students may require assistance from their adults. Local members of the Woodworkers Guild will be on hand to help! Cost is $8 per child; max is $16 per family. Program is for kindergarten and up.

Vinemont Band Booster Craft Show
- Friday, Nov. 20 from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 21 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Cullman Church of Christ, 4345 AL Hwy. 157, Cullman, AL 35058
- Free admission. Door prizes and concessions. $500 cash raffle at noon Nov. 21.

Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation Mastectomy Bra and Prothesis 2-Hour Sale Fundraiser
- Thursday, Dec. 3 from 10 a.m.-noon at the Cullman VFW, 112 Veterans Drive SW

We will have:
- New mastectomy bras, in various sizes, for a minimum donation of $10
- New, in box, prostheses in various sizes for a minimum donation of $25
- If you use these products, this is a great deal for you!

Kids Loving Kids
- Dec. 12 at Spirit Life Church of GOD, 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
- A community outreach that provides clothes and toys for children and teens. Help us provide for those in need by donating gently used clothes or toys, new toys or cash! Bring donations to the church Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Call Joanne at 256-339-4138 to arrange a different time to drop items off. Call Alisha at 205-717-7478 to arrange for pick-up. To register to receive these items, sign up on Kids Loving Kid's Facebook page or go to https://form.jotform.com/202483601332041.

Fairview Lions Club Turkey Shoot
- Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 26 at 7 a.m. at the Clinton Barbee Field (old pool field) on Wesley Avenue in Fairview starting
- We will shoot for turkeys and hams- $4 a shot. We are also selling chances on a Savage Bolt Action 270 rifle with a 22" barrel and case. Drawing will be after the turkey shoot. Tickets are $1 each or 6 for $5. All proceeds will go to the Fairview Lions Club Project Fund. For more info, call Kita at 256-385-8805.

CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Nov. 9

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported Nov. 9, 2020. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
INCIDENTS
Nov. 5
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia; I-65 S/MM 305
- burglary; 2nd Ave. SW Hanceville
- harassment; CR 1498
- domestic violence; CR 216
- harassment; CR 1223
- theft of property; CR 437
- theft of property, burglary; CR 1674
- burglary; CR 1163
- domestic violence; CR 534
- permitting dogs to run at large; Sportsman Lake Road

Nov. 6
- burglary, unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle; CR 1043
- burglary; CR 747
- trespassing; Industrial Park Road
- violation of a protection order; CR 517
- burglary; Hwy. 69 N
- burglary; CR 437
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance, theft of property; CR 386
- unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle; CR 437
- domestic violence; CR 1114

Nov. 7
- domestic violence; CR 566
- permitting dogs to run at large; CR 160
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia; I-65 S/MM 304
- domestic violence; CR 781
- criminal mischief; CR 842
- domestic violence; CR 616
- unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle; CR 437
- harassment, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct; CR 1212
- harassment, criminal mischief, trespassing; CR 1212

Nov. 8
- domestic violence; CR 158
- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 702
- burglary, unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle; Tillery Road
- illegal possession of prescription drugs, possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1609
- criminal mischief; CR 216
- unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle; Lindsey Road
- criminal mischief; CR 601

ARRESTS
Nov. 5-8
Baker, Bethany Paige, 27
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Baughn, Cayden Lee, 19
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- tampering with physical evidence
- FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Beckman, James Casey, 51
- FTA- DUI- .08 BAC or greater

Bevington, Ronald Eric, 52
- third-degree receiving stolen property

Bircheat, Robert Earl, 38
- FTA- third-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument

Black, Adam Kalyn, 36
- FTA- negotiating a worthless negotiable instrument

Boyd, Lacie Michele, 24
- FTA- illegal possession or use of a credit or debit card (2 counts)

Carnes, Daniele Leann, 45
- FTA- contempt of court
- third-degree domestic violence- harassment

Casmiro-Farfan, Charles M., 23
- probation revoked-third-degree burglary

Clay, Cody Lemark, 32
- second-degree theft of property

Crenshaw, Ashley Renee, 28
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

Davis, William Charles, 41
- FTA- driving while suspended
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Dracos, Justin Andrews, 33
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance (2 counts)

Ellis, Bradley Todd, 40
- disorderly conduct
- harassment
- resisting arrest

Elms, Randy Levon, 25
- FTA- third-degree burglary (2 counts)
- FTA- third-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument (2 counts)
- FTA- third-degree forgery
- FTA- illegal possession or use of a credit or debit card

Hand, Justin Alan, 38
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- public intoxication

Harvey, Lauren Alexandra, 24
- DUI- any substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Hurst, Bradley Justin, 35
- third-degree burglary (2 counts)
- third-degree theft of property (2 counts)

Jenkins II, Donald Earl, 22
- violating a protection order

Jones, Zachary Wendell, 28
- FTA- public intoxication

Kilpatrick, Justin Kenneth, 32
- FTA- third-degree criminal trespassing

Kunze, Cody William, 27
- FTA- speeding

Lacy, Kimberly Ann, 37
- FTA- second-degree burglary
- FTA- illegal possession of prescription medicine

Martin, Anthony Andrew, 28
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Moore, Austin Tyler, 22
- third-degree assault
- FTA- illegal possession of alcohol

Moore, Christopher Ryan, 29
- chemical endangerment of a child

Nickens, Shannon Dwayne, 34
- FTA- negotiating a worthless negotiable instrument

North, Rachael Nichole, 35
- second-degree theft of property (3 counts)

Pezzeca, Leanna Michele, 41
- FTA- DUI- influence of alcohol

Puckett, Logan Isaac, 19
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

Quinn, Kendra Lee, 42
- FTA- illegal possession of prescription medicine

Robertson, Brenda Ann, 37
- FTA- driving while suspended
- FTA- driving without a license

Stites, Aaron Anthony, 26
- FTA- aggravated child abuse
- FTA- first-degree domestic violence

Swann, Brett Austin, 26
- FTA- third-degree burglary (2 counts)
- FTA- failure to register/establish SORNA

Traweek, Becky Leann, 45
- FTA- driving while revoked
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Young, Jeremy Allen, 38
- obstructing government operations

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
INCIDENTS
Nov. 6
- first-degree theft of property, second-degree theft of property; person; jewelry, pistol; $3,950
- leaving the scene of an accident; person; CR 715/2nd Ave. SW; damage to '16 Hyundai; $500

Nov. 7
- leaving the scene of an accident; person; Hwy. 157; damage to '14 Honda; $1,100
- third-degree domestic violence- harassment; person; Pinecrest St. NW
- duty upon striking an unattended vehicle; person; 2nd Ave. SW; damage to '07 Mercedes Benz; $1,000
- third-degree domestic violence; person; 2nd Ave. NE

Nov. 8
- third-degree criminal mischief; person; Waddell Ave. SW; damaged mailbox; $250
- unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle; person; Logan St. SW; miscellaneous; $100
- fourth-degree theft of property; Belk; Cullman Shopping Center; clothing; $325

ARRESTS
Nov. 6
Graves, Kevin D., 34
- FTA- third-degree criminal trespassing (4 counts)

Sanford, Christopher L., 36
- FTA- driving without a license
- FTA- violation of a protection order

Lacy, Kimberly A., 37
- FTA- fourth-degree theft of property
- FTA- failure to register
- FTA- insurance violation

Jones, Zachary W., 28
- FTA- third-degree domestic violence (2 counts)
- FTA- resisting arrest

Nov. 7
Stuart, Michael H., 22
- unlawful possession or receipt of a controlled substance
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
- third-degree domestic violence- harassment

James, Michael, 36
- DUI

Castro, Danielle N., 20
- third-degree domestic violence

Nov. 8
Pendergraft, Unique N., 28
- FTA- third-degree theft of property
- FTA- giving false information to law enforcement

Crenshaw, Ashley R., 28
- FTA- public intoxication
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia (3 counts)

Twilley, Natisha M., 42
- fourth-degree theft of property

Parker, Jordan B., 25
- FTA- unlawful possession of marijuana (2 counts)

Bell, Lela M., 40
- FTA- third-degree domestic violence

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT
No incidents or arrests reported.

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

LEGALS

PB WIL BK 98 PG 579 - 11/02/2020 09:45 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
JESSIE SUE SMITH * CASE NO PC 2020-291
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Testamentary having been granted to Susan Elise Smith Kraft as Personal Representative of the Estate of Jessie Sue Smith, deceased, on the 30th day of October, 2020, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, 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.

Susan Elise Smith Kraft
Personal Representative

Pro Se

To : The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for three consecutive weeks and send an affidavit of publication to the Judge of Probate.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE

PB WIL BK 98 PG 679 - 11/06/2020 04:06 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
FRANCES EARLINE CORLEY * CASE NO PC 2020-266
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND
AMENDED PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: GIGI SIDES, GINGER POSEY GOGGINS AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

The Petition for Probate of Will and Amended Petition for Probate of Will for the Estate of Frances Earline Corley, has been set for hearing on the **17th day of December, 2020, at 9:30a.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 6th day of November, 2020.

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

Beverly Paschal Poston
Attorney for Petitioner
200 1st Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

PB WIL BK 98 PG 684 - 11/09/2020 09:37 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
TRAVIS ODELL DINGLER * CASE NO PC 2020-274
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: HAROLD DEWAYNE LEE DINGLER AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

The Petition of Peggy Jean Coggins to admit to probate the Last Will and Testament of Travis Odell Dingler, deceased, filed by Steven C. Smith, Attorney for Peggy Jean Coggins, Petitioner, has been set for the **17th day of December, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.,** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman, Alabama.

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

Cullman County Courthouse
500 2nd Avenue SW
Room 101
Cullman, Alabama 35055

DONE this the 9th day of November, 2020.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

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

Steven C. Smith
Smith & Smith, LLP
Attorney for Petitioner
PO Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398

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TREE-LIGHTING BEGINS AT 7:45PM

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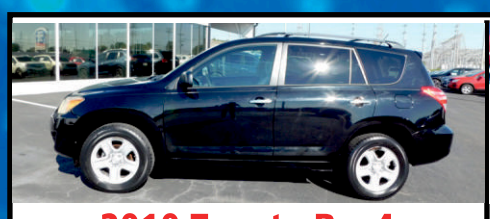
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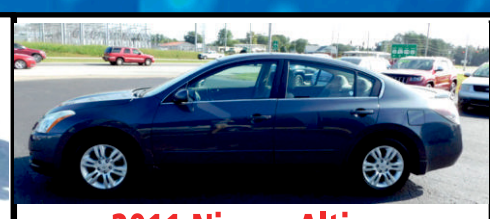
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2010 Toyota Rav4
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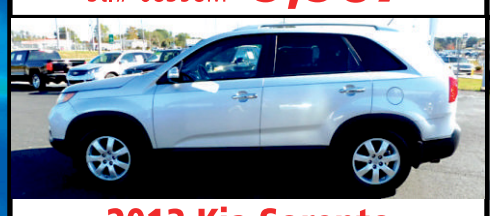
2014 Nissan Altima
St.# 04155A $6,897



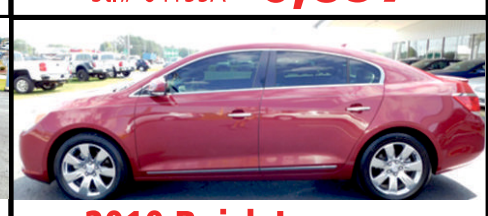
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2006 Chrysler 300
St.# 94271B $8,500



2013 Kia Sorento
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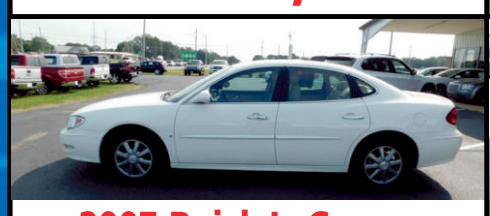
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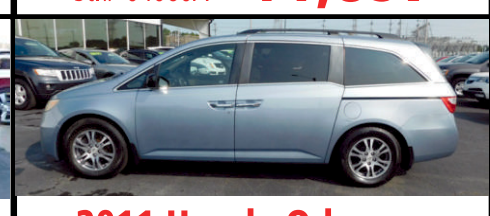
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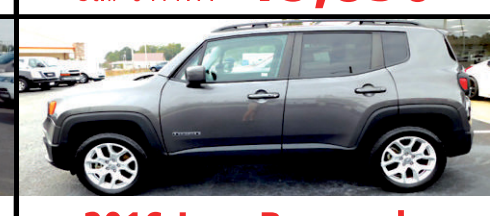
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2011 Honda Odyssey
St.# 17001B $9,887



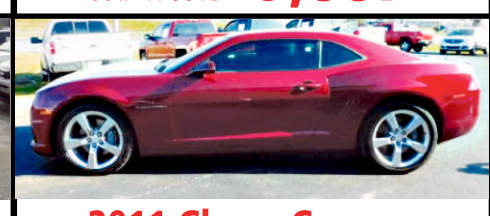
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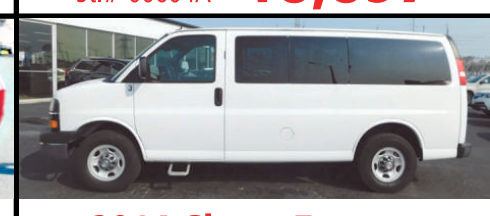
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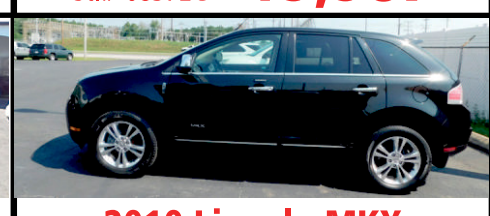
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2017 Ford Expedition
St.# 863701 $29,897



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St.# 08094A $12,897



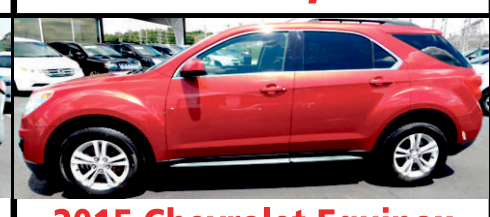
2013 Ford Focus
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2012 BMW X5
St.#07673B $14,500



2017 Chevy Traverse
St.# 07792B $21,200



2015 Chevrolet Equinox
St.# 07788A $11,500



2014 Chevy Impala
St.#17051A $15,897

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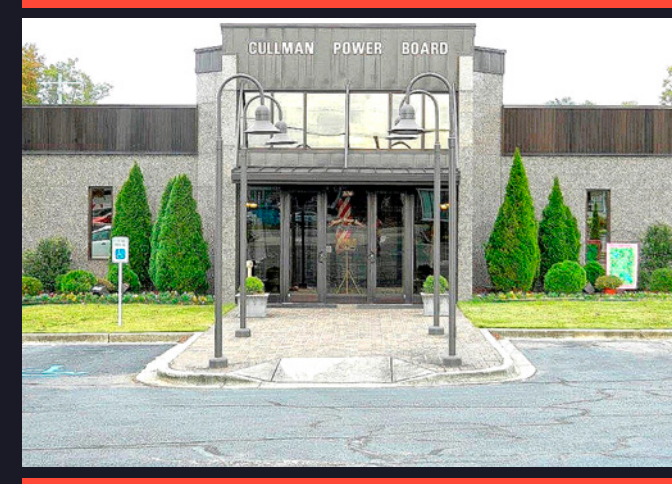
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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
NOVEMBER 10, 2020

SEC announces 2021 men's basketball schedule

Jeff Shearer
AU Athletics

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – The 2020-21 Auburn men's basketball team has learned when and where it will take on its Southeastern Conference foes as the league office announced the SEC schedule Friday.

Each SEC team plays the other 13 teams at least one time during 18-game schedule. They will then play their three permanent opponents a second time with the remaining two games changing annually.

Auburn's three permanent home-and-home opponents include Alabama, Georgia and Ole Miss. The Tigers are also scheduled to face Arkansas and Kentucky twice during the league slate.

Auburn tips off the SEC schedule inside Auburn Arena when it welcomes Arkansas, Dec. 30.

The Tigers then hit the road for a pair of tilts at Texas A&M (Jan. 2) and at Ole Miss (Jan. 6) before returning home to host Alabama (Jan. 9).

Three of the next four conference clashes are away from The Plains as Auburn travels to Georgia (Jan. 13), Arkansas (Jan. 20) and South Carolina (Jan. 23) around a home game against Kentucky (Jan. 16).

The Tigers then play at home against Missouri (Jan. 26) before heading to Baylor for the Big 12/SEC Challenge on Jan. 30.

Auburn plays the return game of the regular home-and-homes against Georgia (Feb. 2) and Ole Miss (Feb. 6) inside Auburn Arena.

Then, the Tigers play at Vanderbilt (Feb. 9) and at Kentucky (Feb. 13) before taking on Mississippi State (Feb. 16) at home.

It will be a battle between Tigers on Feb. 20 as Auburn heads to LSU prior to closing out the annual SEC schedule with two of three at home.

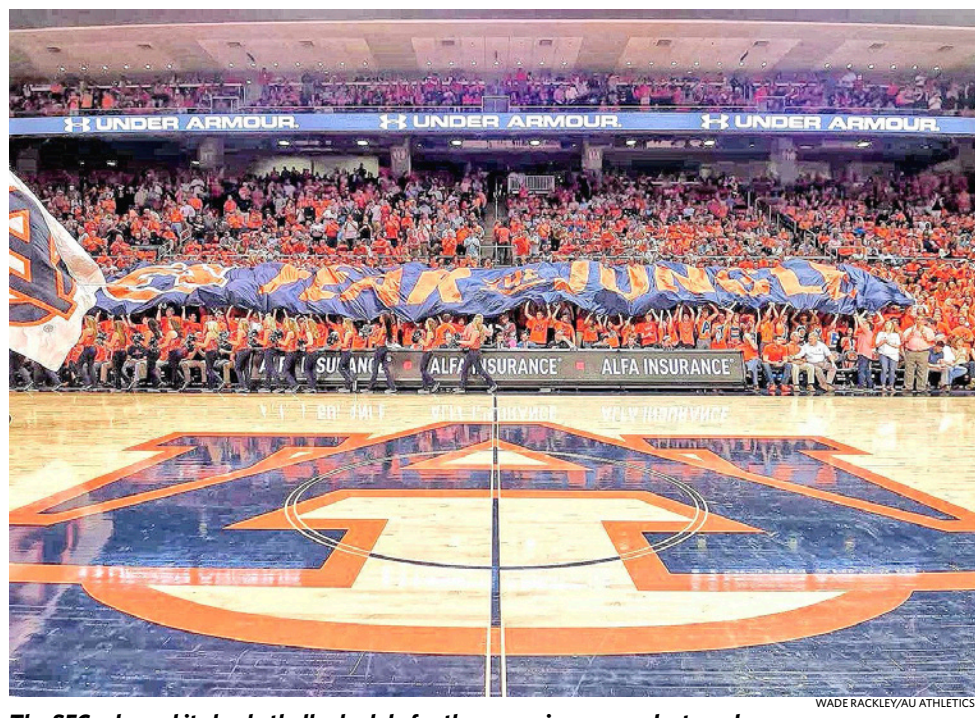
Auburn plays host to Florida (Feb. 23) and Tennessee (Feb. 27) before ending the regular season at Alabama (March 2).

The SEC Tournament returns to the Music City when Bridgestone Arena hosts the event in Nashville, Tenn. from March 10-14.

Tipoff times and broadcast information is set to be announced at a later date.

Auburn's 2021 SEC Schedule

- Dec. 30 (Wed.) vs. Arkansas
- Jan. 2 (Sat.) at Texas A&M
- Jan. 6 (Wed.) at Ole Miss
- Jan. 9 (Sat.) vs. Alabama
- Jan. 13 (Wed.) at Georgia
- Jan. 16 (Sat.) vs. Kentucky
- Jan. 20 (Wed.) at Arkansas
- Jan. 23 (Sat.) at South Carolina
- Jan. 26 (Tue.) vs. Missouri
- Feb. 2 (Tue.) vs. Georgia
- Feb. 6 (Sat.) vs. Ole Miss
- Feb. 9 (Tue.) at Vanderbilt
- Feb. 13 (Sat.) at Kentucky
- Feb. 16 (Tue.) vs. Mississippi State
- Feb. 20 (Sat.) at LSU
- Feb. 23 (Tue.) vs. Florida
- Feb. 27 (Sat.) vs. Tennessee
- March 2 (Tue.) at Alabama



WADE RACKLEY/AU ATHLETICS

The SEC released its basketball schedule for the upcoming season last week.

Alabama's 2021 SEC Schedule

- Dec. 29 vs. Ole Miss
- Jan. 2 at Tennessee
- Jan. 5 vs. Florida
- Jan. 9 at Auburn
- Jan. 12 at Kentucky
- Jan. 16 vs. Arkansas
- Jan. 19 at LSU
- Jan. 23 vs. Miss. State
- Jan. 26 vs. Kentucky
- Feb. 2 vs. LSU
- Feb. 6 at Missouri
- Feb. 9 at South Carolina
- Feb. 13 vs. Georgia
- Feb. 16 at Texas A&M
- Feb. 20 vs. Vanderbilt

Feb. 24 at Arkansas
Feb. 27 at Miss. State
March 2 vs. Auburn

Troy drops league tilt at Georgia Southern 20-13

Adam Prendergast
Troy Athletics

STATESBORO, Ga. – Troy scored a defensive touchdown in a third consecutive game, but the Trojan offense could never get on track Saturday as Georgia Southern handed Troy a 20-13 loss in Sun Belt play at Paulson Stadium.

Troy (4-3, 2-2 Sun Belt) carried a 10-6 advantage into the half thanks to Dell Pettus' 44-yard interception return for a touchdown that was aided by a big hit from Jayden McDonald on Georgia Southern quarterback Shai Werts. The defensive score was Troy's fourth in the last three weeks and marked the first time in the school's FBS history that it scored a defensive touchdown in three straight games. Unfortunately for the Trojans, that would be their only trip to the end zone all afternoon. The Georgia Southern (5-2, 3-2) defense limited Troy to just 235 yards of total offense and 61 plays; the Eagles' held the ball for nearly 43 minutes offensively behind their triple-option attack.

The Eagles also found limited success offensively Saturday with the exception of back-to-back drives in the third quarter; both of which were aided by a big play. Gerald Green took the Eagles' second play of their second drive of the third quarter 69 yards for a touchdown and then on the ensuing possession for Georgia Southern a 35-yard pass set the Eagles up at the 5-yard line.

Paced by Carlton Martial and T.J. Harris, the Trojan defense recorded seven tackles for loss in the game and forced Georgia Southern into three punts and a missed field goal on its final four possessions. Troy had a late chance to tie the game after the Eagles missed a 34-yard field goal with 2:40 to play in the game. Jacob Free led the Trojans down to the 16-yard line before ultimately throwing his second interception of the game.

Free finished 21-of-47 through the air for 201 yards, while Kaylon Geiger paced the Trojans with six catches for 49 yards. For Georgia Southern, Werts completed 12-of-13 passes for 85 yards, while Green finished with 109 yards on 10 carries.

Quotable – Troy Head Coach Chip Lindsey

"I'm still proud of (our team). Obviously, we didn't play great on offense, but the defense kept us in the ball game all day. Our special teams unit did a great job. I wish we would've played better on the offensive side of the ball, but at the same time, I know this is a special group of kids. We are going to regroup and get ready for another big matchup next week."

Sound Smart with Your Friends

Troy scored a defensive touchdown in a third straight game ... it is the first time in the school's FBS history that Troy has scored a defensive touchdown in three consecutive games. It marks the third time in Troy's FBS history to have at least three defensive touchdowns in a season.



TROY ATHLETICS

Troy's Dell Pettus returns an interception for a touchdown during the Trojans' 20-13 loss at Georgia Southern Saturday.

Notable

- Dell Pettus returned his first career interception 44 yards for a touchdown in the second quarter. It was Troy's second interception return for a touchdown this season.
- Carlton Martial and Dell Pettus tied for a team-high nine tackles ... Martial added a pair of tackles for loss. It was Martial's 21st career game with a tackle for loss and 10th with multiple tackles for loss. Martial moved into fifth place in Troy history with 34.5 career tackles for loss.
- Jack Martin placed five of his six punts inside the 20-yard line and 4-of-6 when for 50-plus yards, including a 59-yard blast. He pinned Georgia Southern inside the 10-yard twice with a kick down to the 1-yard line and 7-yard line.
- Troy ran just 61 plays in the game; the second fewest under Chip Lindsey (54 at BYU).
- Troy has outscored its opponents by 59 points in the first half this season (132-63).
- Georgia Southern was the seventh consecutive Troy opponent to play the Trojans on extended rest to open the season; the Eagles last played on Thursday prior to today's game.

Up Next

Troy returns home to play No. 15 Coastal Carolina next Saturday. Kickoff is set for 11 a.m. and the game will be televised on ESPNU; it is the earliest kick for a Troy home game since 2002.

Southern Miss rallies for 24-13 win over Lions

UNA Athletics
roarlions.com

HATTIESBURG, Miss. – The University of North Alabama forced four turnovers, but the Lions' offense could only generate 13 points as the Lions came out on the short end of a 24-13 decision to Southern Mississippi at M.M. Roberts Stadium.

UNA scored on the game's second play from scrimmage and held a 13-7 lead in the fourth quarter before USM scored a go-ahead touchdown with 12:08 left in the contest and added another score with 5:33 left.

The Lions then had their first turnover of the day and USM was able to add an insurance field goal and hold on for the win.

With the loss, UNA falls to 0-3 on the season, with two of those losses coming to FBS opponents. Southern Miss improved to 2-5.

UNA finished with 175 yards of total offense but gained just 23 on the ground. Blake Dever was 21-of-28 for 153 yards and one touchdown.

USM gained 345 total yards, rushing for 245 and passing for 100.

UNA's Darrell Sims forced a USM fumble on the opening kickoff, giving the Lions the ball at the Golden Eagles 23-yard line. After a roughing the passer penalty moved the ball to the USM 12, UNA scored on the following play on a pass from Dever to Dexter Boykin.

Grayon Easterling's PAT made it 7-0 at 14:48 of the first quarter.

North Alabama's Kyree Fields then picked off Trey Lowe on USM's second play from scrimmage to give the ball back to the Lions.

The Golden Eagles moved deep into UNA territory late in the first period, but Will Evans recovered a Lowe fumble to stop the drive at the UNA 23-yard line.

The Lions extended their lead to 10-0 in the second quarter. Dever completed a 34-yard pass to Parker Driggers to move the ball into USM territory and Sam Contorno kicked a 29-yard field goal with 12:40 left in the second period to make it 10-0.

Southern Mississippi finally got on the board with 7:19 left in the half on a one-yard run by Kevin Perkins, capping an 11-play, 70-yard drive. Briggs Bourgeois added the PAT to cut UNA's lead to 10-7.

USM had an opportunity to tie the game before the half but UNA's Mike Boykin blocked a 28-yard Bourgeois field goal attempt with 50 seconds left in the second period.

Dever finished the half 12-of-13 passing for 94 yards but UNA was out-gained in total yards 174 to 109.

Following a Gerrell Green interception in the third quarter, UNA moved to the USM five-yard line before Contorno came on to boot a 22-yard field goal, making it 13-7 with 2:47 left in the period.

Southern Miss took its first lead of the game with 12:08 left in the final period on an 11-yard Perkins touchdown run. Bourgeois PAT made it 14-13.

The drive was kept alive when USM converted on a fourth-and-four call at the UNA 25-yard line with a six yard pass from Lowe to Demarcus Jones. The Golden Eagles would score four plays later, capping a 12-play, 66-yard drive.

Perkins added his third touchdown of the day with 5:33 left on a 17-yard run that extended the USM lead to 21-13.

Natrone Brooks then picked off Dever on UNA's ensuing possession with 4:46 left.

Bourgeois added a 38-yard insurance field goal with 1:33 left to make the final count 24-13.

North Alabama will have a week off before traveling to Provo, Utah to face nationally ranked and unbeaten BYU on November 21.

President (from Front)

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Former Vice President Joe Biden became president-elect Saturday after winning the state of Pennsylvania, NBC News projected, defeating Republican President Donald Trump in his bid for a second term. Biden's running mate, Kamala Harris, made history as the first woman and first Black and South Asian American elected vice president. Biden will become the 46th president Jan. 20, 2021. After a tumultuous four days following Election Day Nov. 3, NBC, along with all other major news networks, including FOX News and the Associated Press, projected Biden the winner of Pennsylvania and its 20 Electoral College votes, pushing Biden across the 270-vote finish line.

Trump, however, has not conceded the race. He has mounted legal challenges against states in which he claims voter fraud caused his defeat. NBC News reported Saturday, "President Donald Trump vowed Saturday to press forward with a legal fight, pushing unfounded claims of voter fraud in response to the news that President-elect Joe Biden had won the election."

Monday afternoon NBC News' Carol E. Lee, Peter Alexander, Hallie Jackson and Monica Alba reported:

"As President Donald Trump continues to fight the presidential election results, numerous people close to him are expressing concern that he's spiraling into rage and hurting his own legacy, as well as the Republican Party.

"Those concerns were exacerbated Monday when Trump blindsided officials throughout the White House and at the Pentagon by firing Secretary of Defense Mark Esper with a tweet, multiple people close to the president said. The hope, these people said, is that this week ends differently than the last, and that the president's lawsuits challenging the election results in multiple states quickly run their course.

"The moment is particularly perilous, even for a White House that's powered through on chaos for nearly four years, with all the uncertainty unfolding against the backdrop of a new coronavirus outbreak among the president's closest advisers — including his chief of staff and the top lawyer on his campaign legal team."

Biden won 279 Electoral College votes, compared to Trump's 214.

Obituary Announcements: Nov. 10

Robert (Bob) Shannon, 70, passed away Thursday, Nov. 5, 2020 at St. Vincent's Hospital. He was born Dec. 8, 1949 to Robert (Buddy) and Vonda Shannon. He was a member of St. John's Evangelical Church. Bob retired from Morgan County School System where he taught Electricity at Brewer High School and later was Director of Maintenance for the school system. After retirement from the school system, he continued to work with the architectural firms of McCauley and Associates and Davis Architects. Bob also retired from the Alabama Army National as a Lieutenant Colonel with 28 years of service. He was preceded in death by his parents; his father-in-law and mother-in-law Wendell and Mary Jo Speegle; and his brother-in-law Dr. John Murphy (Florence, Ala.). Survivors include his wife of 50 years, Judy Speegle Shannon; son Chad (Misty) Shannon; granddaughter Haley Shannon; grandson Wynn Shannon; sister Teresa Murphy (Florence, Ala.), and brother Joe (Joyce) Shannon. Visitation was held Sunday, Nov. 8, 2020 from 5-7 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home. Rev. John Richter conducted the funeral service at Moss Service Chapel Monday, Nov. 9, 2020 at 11 a.m. with burial at Cullman City Cemetery with full military honors. Honorary pallbearers were Kevin Calvert, Ben Crow, Garlan Gudger, A.J. Lamar, Scott Summerlin, and Tony Wingo. In lieu of flowers, you may make a donation in Bob's memory to: St John's Evangelical Church, 512 Second Ave. SE, Cullman, AL 35055 or online at https://sjepc.churchcenter.com/giving, St. Vincent's Foundation, COVID-19 Response Fund, 1130 22nd St. S, Suite 1000, Birmingham, AL 35205 or online at www.stvh.com/philanthropy/give.asp or a charity of your choice.

Johnny M. Wynn, of Vinemont passed away at his residence Thursday, Nov. 5, 2020 at the age of 67. He was born in Cullman March 21, 1953 to James C. and Eunice Allred Wynn. Johnny was a loving husband, father, grandfather. He enjoyed fishing and vegetable gardening. He was preceded in death by his parents and sisters Kathy, Brenda and Ann. Survivors include his wife Rhonda Pope Wynn; daughter Darla M. Wynn (Glenn Leichter); sons Christopher L. Wynn and wife, Martha and Gary A. Horn; grandchildren Hailey Wynn and Ella Wynn; sister Kay Cramer; and brothers Kennon Wynn, Ricky Wynn, Roger Wynn, Randall Wynn, Tim Wynn and Wendall Wynn. Services will be in the chapel of Moss Service Funeral Home Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2020 at 2 p.m. with Bro. Brian Hawkins officiating. Burial will follow at Vinemont Baptist Church. His family will receive friends prior to the service from noon-2 p.m. at the funeral home. Moss Service Funeral Home directing. Condolences and special memories may be shared with the family at www.mossservicefh.com.

Barbara Ann Harbison was born Jan. 23, 1949 and passed away Nov. 5, 2020 and is under the care of Moss Service Funeral Home. Visitation was held Nov. 9, 2020 at noon at Moss Service Funeral Home, 1901 Second Ave. NW, Cullman. A Celebration of Life Funeral Service was held Nov. 9, 2020 at 2 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home. Interment at Logan Cemetery.

Mr. Randy Luther Parris, 67, of Cullman, Alabama passed away Friday, Nov. 6, 2020. Randy was born Aug. 20, 1953 in Cullman, Alabama to Rada Illa Lavonia Minerva Earwood Parris and Conrad Charlies Parris. Randy is survived by his wife Carlene Parris; daughter Jennifer (Tony) Gay; sons Kerry (Candice) Parris and Daniel (Valerie) Parris; sisters Jannie Denny, Juanita Vaughn, Betty Armstrong and Myra Hunt; brothers Wannis Parris, Ronald Parris, and Dale Parris; grandchildren Mason Gay, Karson Parris, Brayden Parris, Nathaniel Parris, Max Parris and Ainsley Parris; a host nieces and nephews; and brothers and sisters in Christ.Randy was preceded in death by mother Rada Illa Lavonia Minerva Earwood Parris; father Conrad Charlie Parris; sister Loretta Parris; brother Gerald Parris; grandparents Luther and Dixie Parris; and grandparents Bennie Lee and Minna Earwood. A visitation for Randy will be held Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2020 from 5-8 p.m. at Moss-Service Funeral Home. A funeral service will occur Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2020 at 2 p.m. in the chapel. A burial will follow the service at Cullman City Cemetery. Randy was a loving husband, father and grandfather and anyone he knew. He worked hard for years to build the business he owned, Parris Fence Company. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.mossservicefh.com for the Parris family.

Hilda Joan Ryder was born June 18, 1940 and passed away Nov. 7, 2020 and is under the care of Moss Service Funeral Home.

Funeral services for Kenneth B. Stewart, 46, of Hanceville will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2020 at Spirit Life Church of God. Bishops Greg Strickland, Mike Rester, Bruce LeVan and Pastor Mark Jenkins will be officiating. Interment will be in Bethesda Cemetery. Visitation will be Tuesday from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Spirit Life Church of God. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Heaven welcomed Kenneth Stewart Nov. 5, 2020. Kenneth served the Lord for many years and was a devoted husband and father. His family includes his beloved wife of 20 years, Leigh-Ann Stewart, two sons Vincent and his wife Celestial Stewart and Caleb; a daughter Raven and her husband Ralph Florvil. Kenneth proudly worked for the City of Cullman Water Department for 23 years. He leaves a legacy of changed lives which includes family members, friends, and coworkers. Kenneth was preceded in death by his father John D. Stewart, Jr.; mother Susan V. Cox; step-father James Hooper; grandfather Doug Watson; grandmother Joyce B. Jacobs; uncle Phillip Watson; uncle Mike Starnes; and mother-in-law Peggy Dutton. He is survived by his wife Leigh-Ann Stewart; sons Vincent and his wife Celestial Stewart and Caleb Stewart; daughter Raven and her husband Ralph Florvil; brother Jeremy Stewart; sister Tina Campbell; sister-in-law Teresa and her husband Joe Zuback; Norma and her husband Terry Witt; brother-in-law Jamie and his wife Asleigh Dutton; grandfather James Jacobs; grandmother Betty Stewart; step-grandmother Mona Watson; aunt Diane and uncle Walter Meyer; aunt Melanie and Lee Collier; aunt Michelle and Jerry Moore; aunt Kathy Watson; aunt Lynn Starnes; aunt Shelby and Uncle Ricky Moon; a host of nieces and nephews; and bonus family – mother and father-in-law Danny and Annette Lundy; sister Dannette and her husband Sean Stokes; sister Mindy and her husband Steven Kincade; sister Brooke and husband Roger Johnson; and sister Pam and her husband Rick Johnson. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Margaret Millican of Hayden, Alabama passed away Nov. 7, 2020 at the age of 80. She was born in Jones Chapel, Alabama May 5, 1940 to Amos and Icie Hale Wallace. Mrs. Millican taught at Garden City Elementary School for 35 years. She is preceded in death by her parents. Graveside services will be Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2020 at 2 p.m. at Garden City Cemetery. Survivors are husband Howard Millican; daughters Joyce (Michael) Miller and Kayla (Bobby) Palmer; son Jeff (Diana) Millican; grandchildren Wesley Ivey, Karessa (Jeff) Welch, Nathan Whisenhunt, Kasey (J.J.) Minor, and Emily Millican; and sisters Elouise Campbell, Peggy Tucker and Betty Wallace. Visitation will be Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2020 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Moss Funeral Home. Please send memories and condolences to the family at www.mossservicefh.com Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

There will be no services for J. Mack Bramlett at this time. Mr. Bramlett was born on March 29,1942 passed away Nov. 6, 2020. In lieu of flowers make donations to the Harold Coomer Evangelist Association. P.O. Box 1231, Decatur, AL 35602.

Walter Curtis "Boo" Holland, Jr. of Crane Hill passed away Friday, Nov. 6, 2020 at the age of 42. He was born Nov. 25, 1977 to Walter Curtis Holland, Sr. and Ethel Kay Kiskaden Holland. He was known as a jack of all trades; he could do everything from mechanics to tree removal. Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020 at Hebron Church of Christ Cemetery. Moss Service Funeral Home directing. Visitation will be held at Moss Service Funeral Home Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2020 from 5-7 p.m. He was preceded in death by his parents; son Edward Eugene Holland; and sister Christy Holland. Survivors include his wife Denenda "Dee" Holland; daughters Sabrina Faut and Kaydence Druaux; sons Larry Sandord, Jr., Isaiah Holland, and Kurtis-Lei "KW" Holland; chosen father Wade Henderson; sisters Joyce Glaze and Margaret Forrester; brothers Lee Wagner, Jason Wagner, Jessie Wagner, Jimmy Maddox, Lamar Sanford, and Chris Sanford; and a host of extended family and friends. Pallbearers will be Lee Wagner, Jimmy Maddox, Walter Kiskaden, Jason Wagner, Jessie Wagner, and Tommy Kiskaden. Condolences and special memories may be shared with the family at www.mossservicefh.com.

Eva Bukac was born Jan. 1, 1937 and passed away Nov. 9, 2020 and is under the care of Moss Service Funeral Home.

Archie Lafayette Persall was born Jan. 24, 1941 and passed away Nov. 7, 2020 and is under the care of Moss Service Funeral Home.

Graveside services for Helen Marie Woodall, 87, of Hanceville will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020 at Good Hope Cemetery. Moss Service Funeral Home directing. She was preceded in death by her parents William Edgar and Pearl Cook Carnes; husband Walter Louis Woodall; brothers Willie Orie Carnes and Fred Carnes; and grandson Brian Calvert. Survivors include her daughter Donna (Louis) Armstrong; son Mike (Teri) Woodall; grandchildren Kristi (Joseph) Lopez, Andrew (Keshia) Calvert, Lee (Chrys) Armstrong, Leah Woodall, Lindsay (Ben) Styes, and Tyler Stanley; and nine great-grandchildren. Condolences and special memories may be shared with the family at www.mossservicefh.com.

Graveside services for Wynette Scott, 79, of Cullman will be at 1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020 at Center Grove Cemetery with Bro. Ray Lathem officiating. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Scott passed away Friday, Nov. 6, 2020 at Falkville Health Care Center. She was born May 18, 1941 in Cullman, Alabama to Grady and Emmer Mewbourn. She was preceded in death by her husband Johnie Lee Scott and parents. Survivors include her daughter Debbie Benefield; stepdaughters Rhonda (Fred) Bamberger and Deborah (Jim) Phillips; grandchildren Kevin (Angela) Posey, John (Crystal) Posey, and Marianna Phillips; a host of great-grandchildren; a great-great-grandchild; and extended family and friends. A family-only visitation will be from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Masks are required.

Memorial services for Euvel Loron Kent, Jr. will be Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2020 at 1 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church. Mr. Kent passed away Sunday, Nov. 8, 2020 at his residence. He was born June 24, 1943 in Mississippi to Loron and Edith Kent. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother Ricky Kent. Survivors include his daughter Brooke (Vincent) Desnoes; grandchildren Eglantine Desnoes and Sidnonie Desnoes; brothers Joe Kent and Terry Kent; and sister Jan Saint. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Grace Episcopal Church for Grace Place, a program for adults with mild to moderate memory loss.

Funeral services for Lance Anthony Golden, 41, of Baileyton will be at 2 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2020 at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Brooklyn Cemetery, Rev. Millard Guffey and Rev. Steve Rodgers officiating. Visitation will be from noon-2 p.m. Wednesday. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Lance passed away Sunday, Nov. 8, 2020 at Shepherd's Cove Hospice in Albertville. He was born Aug. 15, 1979 to James and Brenda Golden. He was a special needs child and was very special to his family. He was loved by many and certainly brought joy to a lot of people's lives. He loved puzzles and loved riding in his daddy's truck. He was preceded in death by his grandparents Morgan and Leedie Golden and Milburn and Boots Maynard. Survivors include his parents; his sister Alisha Golden; and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Funeral services for Carol Sue McPherson, 81, of Hanceville, Alabama will be Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020 at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Reverend Danny Harris will be officiating. Burial will follow at Copeland Cemetery in Blount County, Alabama. The family of Mrs. McPherson will accept friends for a visitation beginning at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11 at Hanceville Funeral Home. Carol is survived by her husband Marvin McPherson; sons Ronald Dale Cole and Hubert William Cole; step-daughter Amy Cole; granddaughter Naomi Cole; grandsons Travis Cole, Zachery Cole, and Ryan Campbell; great-grandsons Liam Alexander Cole and Nolan Robert Cole; brother Bedford Dunn; sisters Ruthie (Charles) Price, Annie Mae Terry, Patricia (Glenn) Williams, and Rebecca Dunn; and a host of nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, Clarence William and Alta Ozella (Hitt) Dunn, Mrs. McPherson is also preceded in death by her sisters Mary Lou Nichols, Catherine Dunn, and Ozella Dunn; and brother Boe William Dunn.

Hazel Inez Lee, 95, of Sardis entered into rest Nov. 8, 2020 at her home. Hazel was born Dec. 4, 1924 in Morgan County, Alabama. She was a loving mother, grandma, and MawMaw who loved her family dearly. She was a great seamstress and enjoyed gardening, quilting, fishing, trips to the beach, listening to country music, her favorite artist being Marty Robbins, and spending time with her children and grandchildren. Visitation will be held Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2020 from 6-8 p.m. at Sardis Baptist Church No. 2, where the service will be held Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020 at 2 p.m. She will lie in state from 1-2 p.m. Brother William McClellan and Brother Jeff Wiggins will officiate. Burial will follow in the adjoining cemetery. Hazel is survived by her sons Larry (Linda) Lee and Rickey (Pam) Lee; daughters Patricia (Glenn Wilkins) Parker and Glenda (Jim) Wilson; grandchildren Sandy (Mike) Jackson, Sherry (Jeff) Strickland, Stephany (Chris) Clemmons, DaLita (Terry) Smith, Michelle (Micheal) Garcia, Shane (Kristi) Barnette, Kimberly (Andy) Hooper, Kelly (Nathan) Lee, Adam (Sarah) Lee, Jessica (Michael) Cornelius, and Scott (Ashley) Lee; 24 great-grandchildren; 10 great-great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by parents Andrew Jackson and Bertha Jane Wright; her husband Henry Hubert "Brownie" Lee; siblings James, Earnest, Hubert, Opal, and Myrtle; and an infant great-great-grandson Christopher Yost.

Sylvia Ann Ashley, 45, of Cullman entered into rest Sunday, Nov. 8, 2020 at UAB Hospital. Sylvia was born Oct. 22, 1975 in Decatur, AL. She was a loving, caring, and giving person who loved being a mother and loved to cook. Visitation will be held Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2020 from 5-8 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Addison. The funeral service will be Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020 at 2 p.m. at Northside Baptist Church. She will lie in state one hour prior to the service. Brother Chuck David and Brother Rickey Scott will officiate. Burial will follow in Northside Baptist Church Cemetery. Sylvia is survived by her husband David Ashley; son Aaron Jacob "A.J." Ashley; mother Shirley Suggs; brother Ed Suggs; special friends Michelle Moreno and Maria Pearson; and a host of other family and friends. She was preceded in death by her father James Suggs and grandparents Birchie Reid, Andrew Suggs, James Suggs, and Jewell Suggs. Memories and condolences may be shared at www.nichols-funeralhomes.com.

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City (from Front)

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Cullman City Council on Monday evening tackled a long agenda, including new water and sewer rates that will see minimum usage fees drop.

According to information supplied by City Clerk Wes Moore:

Sewer rates

• Based on a rate study from ADEM and UNC, we are moving back to a tiered rate system for sewer.

• Residential Sewer Rate Minimums decrease from $39 to $10 inside city and from $48 to $20 outside city.

• Sewer Usage Charges will start at 0 gallons versus 3,000 gallons.

• Residential Sewer Usage Rates will increase $0.50 per 1,000 gallons.

• Commercial Sewer Usage Rates will increase $1 per 1,000 gallons.

• Industrial Sewer Usage Rates will increase $1.50 per 1,000 gallons.

• Our Usage Charge Increases allowed us to decrease our minimums and the overall utility bills for the elderly, those individuals on fixed incomes, and single residents. The majority of our customers will see a decrease in their monthly bill.

• Commercial and Industrial rates are typically higher in other areas due to the higher infrastructure costs.

Water rates

• Based on a rate study from ADEM and UNC, we are moving back to a tiered rate system for water.

• Residential Water Rate Minimums decrease from $35 to $10 inside city and from $48 to $20 outside city.

• Water Usage Charges will start at 0 versus 3,000 previously. Residential Water Usage Rates will increase $0.50 per 1,000 gallons.

• Commercial Water Usage Rates will increase $1 per 1,000 gallons.

• Industrial Water Usage Rates will increase $1.50 per 1,000 gallons.

• Our Usage Charge Increases allowed us to decrease our minimums and the overall utility bills for the elderly, those individuals on fixed incomes, and single residents. The majority of our customers will see a decrease in their monthly bill.

• Commercial and Industrial rates are typically higher in other areas due to the higher infrastructure costs.

Sanitation rates

The council also approved a new table of rates for the city's sanitation department as follows (cited from ordinance document):

A. RESIDENTIAL

There will be a $16 per month charge for the first container; each additional will be an additional $8 per container, for once a week solid waste pickup, for each single family residence, town house, condominium or other living quarters within the city limits of the City of Cullman. Provided, further, that in apartment houses or other buildings or residences where more than one family occupy and maintain separate apartments, a garbage container shall be provided to each family living in such building or residence, and each family shall pay the garbage fee required by this ordinance. All garbage and waste shall be placed in plastic bags in the city provided container. No trash or waste in any container, other than the city provided container, will be picked up by the City of Cullman. Excessive trash pickup at a residence can be charged an additional pick-up fee at the discretion of the Sanitation Department.

B. COMMERCIAL

There will be a minimum charge of $60 per month for weekly solid waste pickup in two 96 gallon carts for each office or business in the City of Cullman. If more frequent service is required, fees may be adjusted accordingly. All garbage and waste shall be placed in plastic bags in the city provided container. No trash or waste in any container, other than the city provided container, will be picked up by the City of Cullman. Excessive trash pickup at a commercial office or business can be charged an additional pickup fee at the discretion of the Sanitation Department.

C. DUMPSTER SERVICE:

Two Yard Dumpster
Cost Per Haul: $80.00
Delivery Fee: $50.00

Four Yard Dumpster
Cost Per Haul: $120.00
Delivery Fee: $50.00

Six Yard Dumpster
Cost Per Haul: $160.00
Delivery Fee: $50.00

Eight Yard Dumpster
Cost Per Haul: $200.00
Delivery Fee: $50.00

D. ROLL-OFF SERVICE:

20 Yard Roll-Off Container
Per Delivery: $100.00
Cost Per Haul: $175.00
Daily Rent: $6.00
Plus Tipping Fees

30 Yard Roll-Off Container
Per Delivery: $100.00
Cost Per Haul: $175.00
Daily Rent: $6.00
Plus Tipping Fees

40 Yard Roll-Off Container
Per Delivery: $100.00
Cost Per Haul: $175.00
Daily Rent: $6.00
Plus Tipping Fees

E. COMPACTOR SERVICE

Minimum Monthly Rental Charge for a compactor is $475 plus hauling and disposal fees which will vary at the discretion of the Sanitation Department.

According to the ordinance, the rate will automatically adjust for inflation each year at a rate of 3% or the Consumer Price Index, whichever is greater.

Councilman Johnny Cook pointed out that the residential base rate of $16 is unchanged and has not been raised since 2013.

Nuisance ordinance

The council adopted a new nuisance ordinance which, according to Moore:

• Broadens the definition of nuisance to include building materials and "other miscellaneous items"

• Expedites the process for demolition of dilapidated houses

The ordinance notes that "abandoned or inoperable vehicles, abandoned overgrown grass and weeds, abandoned and unoccupied dilapidated structures, and other nuisances described herein within the city limits of Cullman, Alabama, could be injurious to the general welfare through being a dangerous public menace and an eyesore, and providing breeding grounds and shelter for rats, mice, snakes, mosquitoes, and other vermin, insects and pests; or attaining heights and dryness that constitute a serious fire threat or hazard; or bearing wingy or downy seeds, when mature that cause the spread of weeds and when breathed, irritation to the throat, lungs, and eyes of the public; or hiding debris such as broken glass or metal that could inflict injury on a person going upon the property, or being unsightly and constituting a usual blight."

COVID-related temporary raises to end

The council passed a resolution to reaffirm the expiration date of Dec. 31, 2020 for FFCRA benefits. This will terminate the 5% temporary pay raise given earlier this year to:

• Police Department

• Fire Rescue Department

• Sanitation Department

• Wastewater Treatment Plant

• Water and Sewer Departments

• Street Department

• Animal Control Division

• Engineering Department

• City Garage

• Information Technology Department

• Human Resources Department

Other council business

The council approved the following resolutions:

2021-36 to appoint officers of the City of Cullman. This resolution confirmed department heads as follows:

• Kenny Culpepper- Chief, Police Department

• Brian Bradberry- Chief, Fire Department

• Dale Greer- Director of Economic Development

• Sam Dillender- Superintendent, Sanitation Department

• Scotty Talley- Superintendent, Street Department

• Jeff Adams- Superintendent, Wastewater Treatment Plant

• Chris Freeman- Superintendent, Water and Sewer Department

• Joshua Brown- Superintendent, Garage Department

• Brian Landreth- Chief Building Official

• Christopher Dotson- Director of Risk Management

• Jacob Smith Director of Information Technology

• Rothal (Clain) Fletcher- Superintendent, ROW Maintenance Department

• Erica York- Director of Engineering

• Zachary Wood- Director of Parks and Recreation

2021-37 to appoint officers and committees of the council. This resolution officially named Jenny Folsom as council president and Johnny Cook president pro tem, along with committee assignments:

• General Government: Finance, Administration, Risk Management, Maintenance, Economic Development, Human Resources, and Building. Chairman: Jenny Folsom, Vice Chairman: David Moss; Members: Johnny Cook, Clint Hollingsworth, Andy Page

• Public Works: Garage, Street, Traffic, Sanitation, and Arborist. Chairman: Johnny Cook, Vice Chairman: Clint Hollingsworth; Members: Jenny Folsom, David Moss, Andy Page

• Public Safety: Police, Fire, Dispatch, and EMA. Chairman: Andy Page, Vice Chairman: Johnny Cook; Members: Jenny Folsom, David Moss, Clint Hollingsworth

• Tourism: Park and Recreation, Airport, Museum, and Chamber of Commerce. Chairman: Clint Hollingsworth, Vice Chairman: Andy Page; Members: Johnny Cook, Jenny Folsom, David Moss

• Utilities: Water, Sewer, Wastewater Treatment Plant, and Utilities Board. Chairman: David Moss, Vice Chairman: Jenny Folsom; Members: Johnny Cook, Clint Hollingsworth, Andy Page

• 2021-38 to reappoint Roy Williams as the city attorney

• 2021-39 to designate the mayor and city treasurer as depositories for City funds, and to designate the president and president pro tem of the council as authorized signatories

• 2021-40 to appoint officers and employees, naming Wesley Moore city clerk and Sherry Compton city treasurer

• 2021-41 to award a bid for pipe to Bear Concrete Products, Inc. in the amount of $ 24,032.61. Harvey Culvert Company, Inc. submitted a bid of $ 62,949.26; Tristar Pipe & Supply, Inc. was notified but submitted no bid.

The council also approved an ordinance to adopt a seven-member format for the City of Cullman Planning Commission, decreasing the number from nine members

The council also gave a first reading to an ordinance to amend the officers of the City of Cullman and eliminate the position of Tech Village Director. Being a first reading, no action was taken at this meeting.

The council gave additional first readings to proposed ordinances to annex two properties and vacate a utility easement.

The Cullman City Council meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month in the Cullman City Hall auditorium.

The public is invited to attend, subject to occupancy restrictions.









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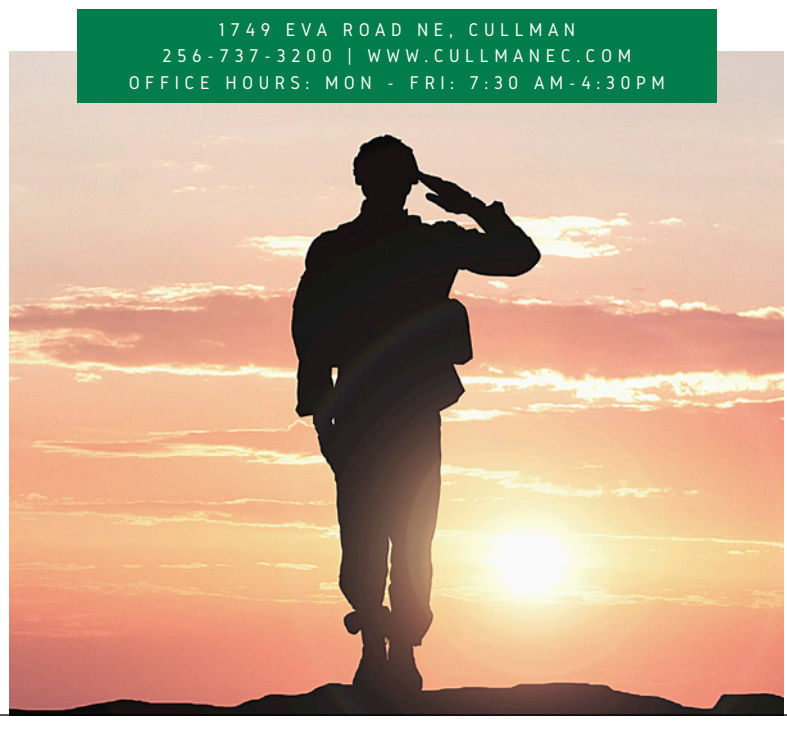
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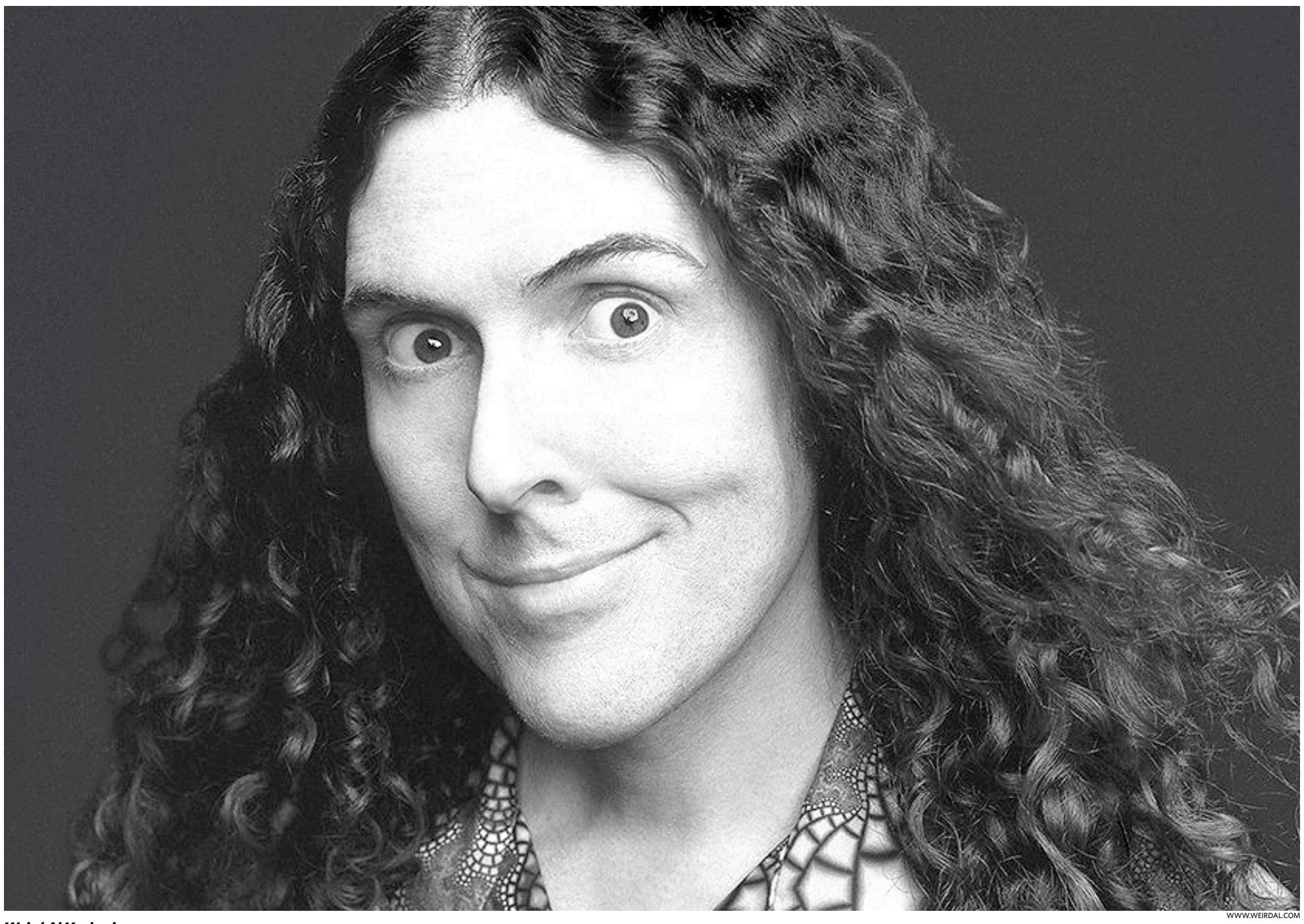
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Weird Al Yankovic

LIFESTYLE

A Round of Applause: 'Weird Al' Yankovic

Ben Johnson South
Contributor

HOORAY FOR THE JOY-GIVERS! We always need more smiles, music and laughter. This fun series salutes those seriously unsolemn people, places and things that bring joy to the world. Starting during the pandemic, an oft joy-challenged time, readers are introduced to present-day joy-givers and reminded of cherished joy-givers of the past. Each salute will have online links to add more opportunities for happiness in the comfort of your socially-distanced home. Many installments of the series will include a salutary food or drink recipe to add another element of pleasure.

The "SHIELD THE JOYOUS" shields, which will be given to those honored or to their family, are inspired from a passage in "The Book of Common Prayer" (1662). Prayers are lifted to "tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying...and shield the joyous." Joy-givers are precious. Let us preserve them, protect them, treasure them, smile with them, laugh with them, tap our toes with them and give them A ROUND OF APPLAUSE.

PLEASE GIVE A ROUND OF APPLAUSE FOR "WEIRD AL" YANKOVIC

Alfred "Weird Al" Matthew Yankovic was born and raised in California, which is no surprise. Some comedian once said, "America is like a rug and a giant lifted up the East Coast and all the nuts rolled to California." I'm writing this from Alabama, and we have a few nuts of our own, but truly California has us beat. "Weird Al" is a proud nut and determined to take his joy-giving nuttiness constantly to new heights.

"Weird Al" played accordion as a teenager- no surprise there either- we are just lucky it wasn't the bagpipes. Just imagine "Eat It," his hit parody of Michael Jackson's song, "Beat It," played with bagpipes like a sackful of silly, honking ducks.

"Weird Al" Yankovic is a singer, songwriter, musician, record producer, satirist, actor, music video director and author. He has recorded 150 joy-giving music parodies and comedy songs, played 1,000-plus LIVE concerts, internationally, and won five Grammys and racked up 11 nominations. He's sold more than 13 million records- more than any recording comedy star- with some of those going platinum.

Here's are some favorite "Weird Al" songs for your weird-but-fun listening pleasure:

1. "MY BOLOGNA"— which is a parody of The Knacks' "My Sharona" that then-student disc jockey Al recorded in a men's room at Cal Poly- the only space available to him

2. "ANOTHER ONE RIDES THE BUS"— Perfect for your elementary school-age kids too young to watch Queen's "Another One Bites the Dust" highlighted in the bio-film "Bohemian Rhapsody." It's "Weird Al" playing his squeeze box and getting squeezed as more and more riders get on the bus—every 6 year old needs this silliness.

3. "RICKY"— is "Weird Al" spoofing Ricky Ricardo with an outrageous Cuban accent and singing his words to the theme music of "I Love Lucy." The actress playing "Lucy" steals the show.

4. "I LOVE ROCKY ROAD"— is an ode to the ice cream flavor sung to the music of "I Love Rock and Roll," which most of us connect to Joan Jett, but it was first recorded by The Arrows in 1975.

5. "LIKE A SURGEON"— Seems readymade by Madonna for "Weird Al" to parody her "Like a Virgin" mega-hit; "Weird Al's" version is on his aptly named album, "Dare to Be Stupid"

6. "I WANT A NEW DUCK"— is the quacktastic parody of Huey Lewis and The News' "I Want A New Drug."

7. "YODA"— If you are a "Star Wars" fan, and I'm told there are several, you'll dig this take-off of The Kinks' classic, "Lola;" Y-O-D-A, yo-ho-duh.

8. "LASAGNA"—"Weird Al," a vegetarian who doesn't smoke or drink, has lots of hits about food; this one is an earworm of Richie Valen's, tasty, 1950s, Mexican song, "La Bamba," which was remade by Los Lobos in 1987. The next time you're zapping some Italian dish in self-quarantine, just try a bit of "La-la-la-laa-lasagna" and then try getting it out of your ear.

9. "WORD CRIMES"— This is fur minutes of witty grammar-shaming by "Weird Al," a self-professed grammar nerd; he's possibly more of a "word Nazi" than my delightful, DELIGHTFUL and relentless editor, Wendy Sack— writers and editors across the globe have forwarded the music vid to friends, family and bedraggled clients.

FREE YOUTUBE ROUNDUP OF "WEIRD AL" FUN:
"Trapped in the Drive-Thru" perfect for the pandemic and no dine-in (11 minutes); "Polka Face," on this "Weird Al" plays accordion which he has since high school. Did I mention he's been weird for six decades? Last week he celebrated his 61st birthday, (5 minutes); "Weird Al Goes Beyond Insanity while Eating Spicy Wings" (23 minutes); it's like dining at home with your craziest fun uncle.

WEIRD-BUT-SOME PEOPLE-PLEASING FOOD COMBINATIONS TO SALUTE "WEIRD AL"
I usually share a recipe honoring the "joy-giver," but "Weird Al" deserves this smorgasbord of weird, some think delicious, concoctions:

- **MACARONI AND CHEESE + KETCHUP**— Yeah, I know, gag a maggot, but here in the South where mac-and-cheese shows up on café menus as a veggie, I've seen people I used to respect make this atrocity and seem to enjoy it.

- **CHUNK CHEESE + PEANUT BUTTER**— Yes, just writing this made my stomach cramp.

- **COLD MEATBALLS + CHOCOLATE SAUCE**— I'm guessing this was invented by some stoner under the influence.

- **HOT DOG + JELLY + FRUIT LOOPS CEREAL**— This comes by way of Whacked Out Weiner, the hot dog people who deserve their own "joy-giver" ROUND OF APPLAUSE.

- **HAAGEN DAS VANILLA ICE CREAM + SOY SAUCE**— Three words: "Crazy Rich Asians"

- **PIZZA + NUTELLA**— This weirdness came from Reader's Digest and wasn't in its "Laughter is the Best Medicine" section; I would eat yummy Nutella on my hat, but with this in mind, maybe eat the pizza and then shovel in the Nutella, separately.

Please give A ROUND OF APPLAUSE for "WEIRD AL" YANKOVIC, "The Best-Selling Comedy Recording Star of ALL TIME!"



BendigoArt.com/CullmanTribune.com

PET OF THE WEEK

Calm your nerves with laid-back Josie

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – For those of you whose nerves might be a bit frayed from the excitement of Election Day and its aftermath, COVID-19 and whatever else 2020 has thrown at you, the Cullman County Animal Shelter's Donna Ruttkay offers a little relaxing calm with her recommendation for The Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week:

Josie is a 1-year-old Terrier mix. She's a really laid-back, low-energy pet described by Ruttkay as an "unassuming and gentle girl." She has good spatial awareness, is skilled on her leash and cherishes human company.

Ruttkay says Josie is "just a swell kid!"

Josie has the makings of a good therapy, companion or reading dog.

Josie's adoption fee is $100 which includes DHLPP vaccine, Bordetella vaccines, rabies vaccine, wormer, general exam at the vet, spaying, microchip, free 30-day health insurance policy issued by 24PetWatch (with valid email only) and a free bag of food from Cullman Pet Depot (you must pay sales tax).

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.



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Josie

Clemons (from Front)

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Cullman County Commission Chairman-elect Jeff "Clem" Clemons will take his oath of office today, Tuesday, Nov. 10 at 4 p.m. at the Cullman County Sheriff's Office Training Center. He sat down with The Cullman Tribune Monday to discuss changes, road plans, COVID-19 and other issues.

What have you been doing since July to prepare for taking office?

Clemons: Since the July 14 runoff, I took a few days off and got started back, I think about the first week, the 16th or 17th I went back to the sheriff's office. On Oct. 20, I retired from the sheriff's office after a little over 33 years. In the meantime, I've been working with our associate commissioners and our county engineer and I've been working with our county attorney on some things. We've got some really good plans for our roads in the near future. (Cullman County Engineer) Bryan (Cheatwood) is working on a five-year plan, and he should have that on my desk within the first month that I take office where I can view that. I think that's going to be very important.

I've been dealing with the county attorney on a lot of legal situations. We've got some things coming down and a lot to deal with in the next year. The OHV park (Stony Lonesome), we've got some lawsuits, and we are going to be dealing with it so I've been getting updated on those so that I can be familiar with everything. I truly believe I am ready for this job and I am ready for this challenge. We've got to hit the ground running and get to work for the people of Cullman County.

Would you say roads are your no. 1 focus?

Clemons: That will be our biggest task because we have the second most roads in the state of Alabama. If you drive our secondary roads, they are in pretty bad shape all across Cullman County. That's going to be our biggest issue so that's why we have got to all sit down to come up with a good solution for a plan for the long term. We need to fix our roads right the first time, so we don't have to go back.

How are you and the county engineer determining or scheduling which roads will get paved and when?

Clemons: What we are actually going to do, Bryan has a computer that he can pull up the most traveled secondary roads in the county- he most used roads or the heavy trucks like poultry trucks on those roads- that's what he is determining that by, he population that lives on those roads, and that will be in the plan when we get it down where we can see what roads we need to target first. We've already got several roads on that list that we are already looking into.

What I really like about Bryan, he's hands-on. He's not taking somebody's words. He's going out and inspects those roads himself so he can know. That's better because when you look at something, you know yourself, 'Does that road need attention right now?' I think that's very important. We've got several roads right now that we have dug up and hopefully when paving season starts in April, we can get to work on these roads.

Our engineer is solely in charge of all roads in Cullman County. He reports all his activity to the chairman and then I give all that information out to our commissioners.

What are your thoughts on the five-person commission (which will begin in November 2022)?

Clemons: I've been looking at that a little bit and the situation; it's passed. Our Legislature thought there was a need for a five-party commission. I am all for better representation across the county because that's what the people wanted and what they deserve. By looking into it, I don't know how that's going to work because you have four commissioners who will be part-time and a full-time chairman. I don't know how the communication is going to be. If I need those guys, they may be off that day. It's something we are going to have to sit down and have a plan in place.

Within the next year, those guys, whoever decides to run, will have to start campaigning because it's a countywide vote. They will be working a district, but they will have to run countywide.

When will the commission meetings be?

Clemons: It will be Tuesday nights. Starting Nov. 19, all our meetings will be at night starting at 6 p.m. and the work session starting at 5 p.m. For the next year, we already have the schedule made for those meetings.

Will that be twice a month?

Clemons: Right now, that will be once a month. Once a month.

Could that change?

Clemons: If we have a huge case load, we can go back and amend that.

Besides roads, what are other things you hope to accomplish in the first year?

Clemons: Our economic development is very important to Cullman County for job growth and community grants. Right now, we've got one person. Ashley Graves is working on grants for all our fire departments, all our small municipalities across Cullman County. She always does grants for our legislators and our Senate and works with the City of Cullman. I think they have five in their economic development and we've got one. The first thing I am going to do when I take office is I am going to appoint a director for that. Matt Kinsland will start today in Economic Development as a grant writer.

Speaking with her, over the last several years, Cullman County, we've lost thousands of dollars by not having the people in place to go after these grants. That's very important. We don't need to lose any money. We need to go after every dime we can get and bring it back to Cullman County.

What is your biggest challenge with the budget?

Clemons: Roads! Roads are always a challenge, but payroll is also a big challenge with over 500 employees across Cullman County. That's always a challenge. We just want to work together with our fellow commissioners and do what all we can do for the citizens of Cullman County.

During your campaign, wasteful spending is an issue you often spoke about. Have you identified any specific areas that need to be addressed?

Clemons: I think I have already identified some in the road department. I've been sitting down with the engineer and talked about coal mix. We've got to figure out a way to get away from coal mix. It's not the solution to patching a 2-3-mile road like I am seeing now. It's very expensive. I think for the last four years, we've spent a little over $1 million in coal mix. That's wasteful spending because how long does it last?

You can apply it today to a hole and in a week, it's probably going to be a big hole there again. We've got to figure out ways to cut that and use our Durapatchers more on these short roads. It's a spray and it's very effective. You can fix a road that will last for several years and you aren't going to have to spend lots of money on that road. That's some things I am identifying.

I will have all the budgets on my desk Wednesday morning where I can look over it. I want to know what money is in every account. Cullman County has several accounts and I want to look over all that. I want to be transparent to the citizens of Cullman County and I want to be accessible to them and I want to go to as many meetings as I can and speak on behalf of the commission on what we are trying to do to serve them. I think that is very important-to be accessible and be transparent. With all our directors across the county, they have to be strong leaders and they have to get the ball rolling in the right direction. We are all in this together to serve the people of Cullman County.

We are seeing a spike in COVID-19 cases. What are your thoughts on the virus, and would you consider a mask mandate?

Clemons: We know COVID is real. My son had it and he was off work for three months with it. It's a serious issue that we are facing, and this virus is very dangerous. We've got to take all the precautionary measures we can not to contract this. I would encourage everyone, if you are in a public place, social event or restaurant, I would seriously consider wearing a mask if you don't wear one. It's going to protect you, but we need to make sure we are protecting our citizens, especially our elderly and those who have underlying conditions; they are more prone to catch this. We've got to take this seriously and we've got to follow the CDC guidelines and the governor's Safer at Home Orders. So, that's something we got to look at down the road to make sure everybody is safe.

Would you consider requiring masks at the courthouse if these trends continue?

Clemons: I would consider that, but what I would want to do before making that decision is sit down with all the elected officials and work it out with them. Put our heads together. I wouldn't want to make a decision on me because I want to make sure it's the right decision for all the people of Cullman County. I think that is important.

What impact is the pandemic having on our area seniors and the Commission on Aging?

Clemons: Those folks have a tough job, and we have great people there at the Commission on Aging. I have been talking to the director, Dusty Baker, and we are speaking almost every day trying to find a way to get our seniors out of the house and getting them involved in something. We talked about the (annual) Christmas party, but we just don't know the danger of that facing this COVID. Hopefully, we can do the drive-in Christmas show where they can get a pass to see the lights at Sportsmans Lake.

You know, it's devastating on them. The senior centers, that's their family and many of them don't have any other family. There have been several of them who have passed away and it's just devastating. I want to be thinking every day with Dusty and the Commission on Aging to figure out ways we can get them out of the house and get them more involved.

Are there any other projects you would like to tell people about?

Clemons: I think it's very important with our economic development and going after these grants to bring money back to Cullman County; our first responders and volunteer fire departments are very crucial in keeping us safe. I would like to work on grants for all the communities that don't have storm shelters. There are communities that are yet to have a storm shelter. We can go after grants to utilize that money for communities that don't have them.

If tornado sirens aren't working, somebody is going to have to take the initiative to get them fixed. These are our citizens, and they are the most important and we have to do everything we can to keep them safe.



Cubbie (from Front)

Christy Perry
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CULLMAN, Ala. – There's a new face on the campus of East Elementary, and it has made coming to school each day a little more exciting than usual for the students. Some might even say he is the teacher's pet. His name is Cubbie, a handsome gray tabby and white kitty cat who has had no trouble making tons of new friends.

This friendly feline first appeared for school drop-off last Monday morning and Principal David Wiggins thought it would just be a one-day occurrence, but Cubbie, as the students call him, loved school so much, he has made it part of his daily activities.

"We've enjoyed having the cat around," said Wiggins.

Cubbie isn't the first cat to grace the halls at East. A Siamese named Muffin was a regular face on campus for several years but passed away many years ago. Muffin is buried on campus.

Wiggins explained, "When Cubbie showed up on Monday morning it was a little bit nostalgic and very exciting."

The kitty's owner was located and said she is tickled with Cubbie visiting the school.

"He is a daily fixture now and has been around for five days," said Wiggins. "Now students and parents are bringing in food, toys and a cat bed. Kids are drawing pictures and making cards. They just love Cubbie."

Brayden Clark, a sixth-grader at East, said, "Every morning when I walk into school, he lets me pet him. East Elementary takes very good care of him by giving him food and water every day. Everyone at East loves him. Every person I see when they walk into school, they pet him. We are so glad that we have Cubbie the Cat here at East."

Fourth-grader Elliana Belcher said of Cubbie, "This cat is amazing and I really like having him around. I think Cubbie is the perfect East Beast cat. He greets the students in the morning and he's very fluffy. It is a friendly greeting when I walk up to school. We should keep him around."

"Cubbie is a nice and sweet cat," said fifth-grader Aaliyah Brown. "Cubbie plays with us at recess. Cubbie is a gentle cat. Cubbie loves to cuddle and play with the kids."

Ginny Moss, in the fifth grade, said, "My experience with Cubbie is amazing because my Gigi is allergic to cats and I am not allowed to have one. So, since we have Cubbie now, I technically have a cat now." Third-grader Graham Dean said, "Cubbie is helpful and entertains the kids. He represents our school. He makes kids consolable about COVID-19."

Wiggins originally referred to the cat as Cub Cat, but his daughters weren't happy with that and suggested Cubbie. When the second graders were asked how they felt about the name Cubbie, Wiggins said, "They took to it and they were hooked."

Cubbie is not shy at all and by mid-week, he followed Wiggins inside to his office.

"He would sit down at the door and one day I asked him if he wanted to come in and he came in, followed me directly to the office and made himself at home. He explored everything and laid down in one of our office chairs, curled up, played on the carpet and then when the secretary and bookkeeper got here, they had their time with him," he said. "This morning (Friday) he was walking on my desk while I was doing paperwork. He wants to go back out front before school because he gets the loving from, I would guess, 200 children."

"I think we are co-parenting a cat at this point," Wiggins smiled.

Cubbie plays many roles at the school. He follows the School Resource Officer as he walks around the campus and he plays with the kids on the playground. Wiggins said, "If you see a small group of kids squatting down, that's where Cubbie is at."

The students are always wanting to know where Cubbie is. The students who live nearby have been seen riding bikes back to campus after school just to hang out with their new whiskered friend.

Cubbie has made a major impact on morale at the school, especially at a time when COVID-19 is a major concern. "We are in a little world. We aren't in the election world. We are in an elementary world and coronavirus is our challenge right now. Our no. 1 focus has become the social and emotional health and security of our students. In that, Cubbie has become part of the unwritten plan," said Wiggins. "I come second to the cat now, and that's fine by me. I am just tickled about how much he matters to our students and our school body."

Cubbie has been a much needed ray of sunshine at



Celebration (from Front)



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

***Top:** The WWII B-25 bomber "Georgia Mae" roars to life at Cullman's Folsom Field Saturday afternoon. **Bottom:** The community enjoys the 2020 Cullman County Veterans Day Celebration at Folsom FIeld/Cullman Regional Airport.*

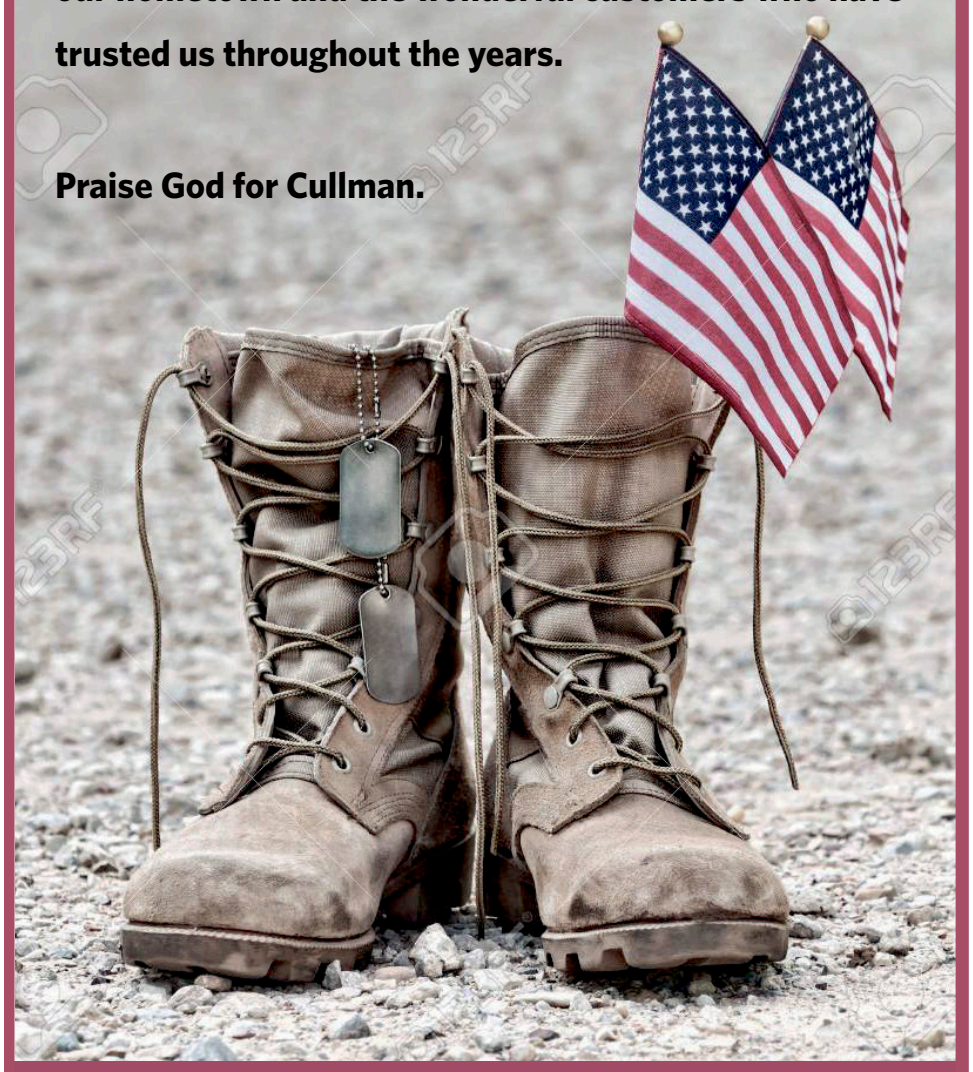


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THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VETERANS

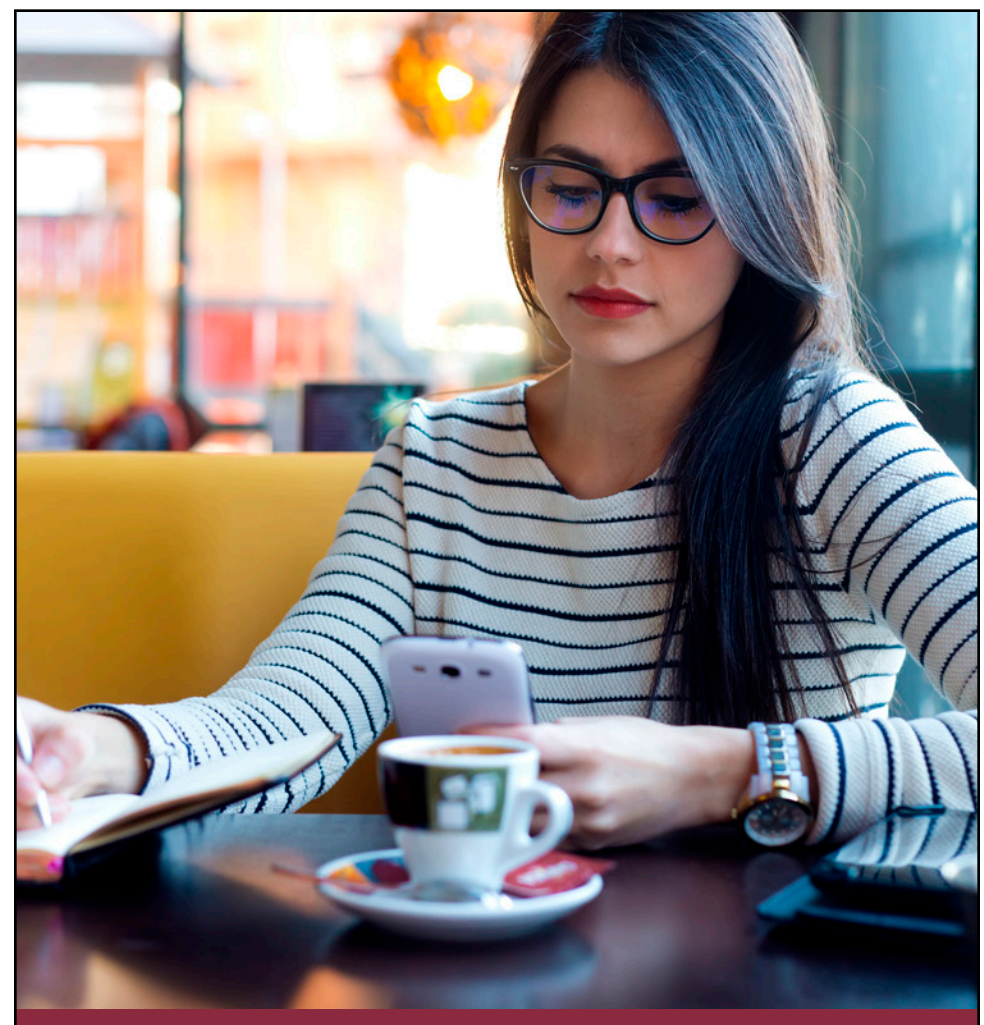
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DOWNTOWN CULLMAN
ACROSS FROM THE FESTHALLE

Veterans Day
is a time to remember our heroes - our wonderful troops. They have given their lives to defend us, our freedom and our country. We are so grateful for you all. We are grateful to live in the "Land of the Free," where we have the right to raise our children in the church of our choice and a Christian home. We are so thankful for our hometown and the wonderful customers who have trusted us throughout the years.

Praise God for Cullman.



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