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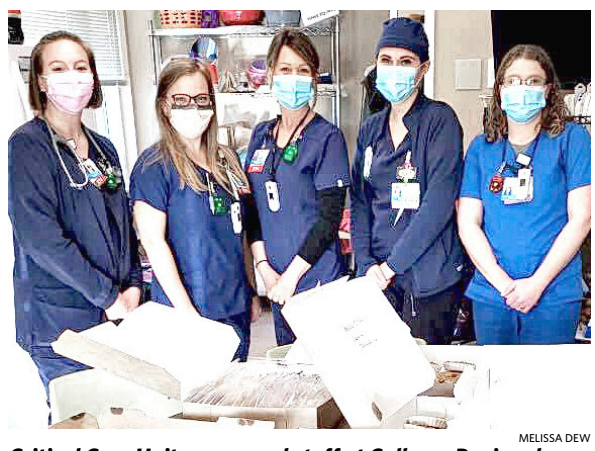
The Cullman Tribune

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– BRINGING OUT THE BEST –

Flourish of Cullman organizes support for Cullman Regional's CCU workers



MELISSA DEW

Critical Care Unit nurses and staff at Cullman Regional were fed by local restaurants for 48 hours, thanks to an effort organized by local nonprofit Flourish of Cullman. » PAGE 6

Fred and Dolores Osborne named 2021 Farm-City Family of the Year



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Dolores and Fred Osborne at the Cullman County Farm-City Banquet Tuesday evening, Nov. 17, 2020 » PAGE 6

– EDUCATION –

CCBOE: West Point's Yearwood named ASCA Secondary School Counselor of the Year

Ty Watwood named media & communications specialist



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette at Tuesday night's meeting recognized West Point High School Counselor Amanda Yearwood for winning this year's ASCA Secondary School Counselor of the Year Award.

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Cullman County Board of Education (CCBOE) held its monthly work session and board meeting Tuesday afternoon and after a lengthy discussion about potential maintenance projects in the work session, in its meeting the board recognized West Point High School Counselor Amanda Yearwood, the recipient of this year's Alabama School Counselor Association Secondary School Counselor of the Year Award.

The board used Tuesday's work session to meet with representatives from Schneider Electric to discuss a potential design agreement for the county school facilities. Schneider specializes in energy, electricity and automation management. The board went over questions with the contract and changes to potential plans with the company but ultimately decided to table the discussion for now and continue talking about it with Schneider in more detail before making any decisions.

Once the board moved into its meeting, Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette kicked things off with a pair of recognitions, starting with Rep. Scott Stadthagen, R-Hartselle.

"I just wanted to take some time to recognize Scott Stadthagen and thank him for all he does for our school system and the support he gives our community here in Cullman County," Barnette said. » PAGE 6

EDUCATION

City school board names officers, reviews finances



CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman City School Board Vice President Amy Carter and President Chris Branham pose for a photo at Tuesday night's board meeting. » PAGE 3

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KRYSTAL AYERS/WELTI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Students at Welti Elementary School enjoy socially distant snack time on benches purchased with funds donated by the Berlin Town Council.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Berlin approves CARES Act projects: Wi-Fi for low-income areas and more assistance for local elementary schools

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

BERLIN, Ala. – The Berlin Town Council on Monday evening approved multiple projects for slightly more than $16,100 in its remaining CARES Act funds for COVID response, after the Town purchased needed protective and sanitizing supplies for its own use and contributed $18,000 to Fairview, Holly Pond and Welti Elementary Schools, all three of which serve the town's children.

The new spending plan includes:

• $4,800 to purchase equipment to create public Wi-Fi areas in the town's lower income areas along County Roads 1612, 1619 and 1620. Mayor Patrick Bates said he has been in talks with the Cullman Electric Cooperative, which is currently installing Sprout Fiber Internet hardware in the area, about partnering in the service.

• $1,200 to stock up on additional supplies for the Town

• $10,000 to create care packages of sanitizing supplies and protective equipment for residents of Berlin, and to offer further assistance to the three area elementary schools. One suggestion for the schools noted that representatives from at least one school have reported shortages of sanitizing wipes, so Berlin will be seeking to find those items in large quantities.

Bates reported that he is still waiting to get quotes on the new town hall's steps and accessibility features, and on the shed to be erected at the farmers' market.

Council members agreed that the shed should be up before the coming selling season.

The council also approved $300 for an online training course for the town clerk, an increase from $35 per month to $70 per month in the town's QuickBooks subscription, and up to $500 to purchase a dedicated document scanner to be used for the current audit and other of the clerk's ongoing duties.

The Berlin Town Council will meet next at 7 p.m. Dec. 21, 2020 at the Berlin Community Center. The public is invited to attend, subject to occupancy restrictions.

CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Nov. 17

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported Nov. 17, 2020. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

No incidents or arrests reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Nov. 16

• fourth-degree theft of property; person; Hwy. 157; phone; $125

• fourth-degree theft of property, third-degree criminal trespassing; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; general merchandise; $137

• third-degree theft of lost property; person; Hwy. 157; wallet and contents

ARRESTS

Nov. 16

James, Randy E., 45

• unlawful manufacturing of a controlled substance

• possession of drug paraphernalia

Denton, Sara J., 26

• unlawful manufacturing of a controlled substance

• possession of drug paraphernalia

Hines, Timmy L., 58

• public intoxication

Wood, Bobby G., 40

• fourth-degree theft of property

• third-degree criminal trespassing

Fuller, Kagun D., 25

• fourth-degree theft of property (2 counts)

Fuller, Autumn E., 25

• fourth-degree theft of property

Smith Jr., James R., 32

• violation of a domestic violence protection order

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No incidents or arrests reported.

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

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2020 COVID-19 update from the Alabama Department of Public Health's COVID-19 Data and Surveillance Dashboard

• Total confirmed cases in AL: 185,874 (+1,229 since yesterday)
• Probable cases in AL: 34,974 (+387 since yesterday)
• Total confirmed deaths in AL: 3,040 (+39 since yesterday)
• Probable deaths in AL: 261
• Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co.: 2,813 (+32 since yesterday)
• Probable cases in Cullman Co.: 986 (+23 since yesterday)
• Total confirmed deaths in Cullman Co.: 24 (+1 since yesterday)
• Probable deaths in Cullman Co.: 6
• Total tested in Cullman Co.: 23,471
• Total tested in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 2,631
• Cases in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 894
• Total tested in Alabama: 1,473,546
• Cases in the last 14 days in Alabama: 25,305
• Total tested in the last 14 days in Alabama: 112,171
• Currently hospitalized in Alabama: 1,289
• Cumulative no. of hospitalizations in Alabama: 22,716
• Presumed recoveries in Alabama (reported weekly): 88,038

See more details at https://bit.ly/2VjCQbP.

Friday, Nov. 13, 2020 COVID-19 update from Alabama's K-12 COVID-19 School Dashboard

• Total cases reported by Cullman City Schools last week: 26
• Total cases reported by Cullman County Schools last week: 67
• See more details at https://bit.ly/31Z4uhd.

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W.C. Mann - Senior Reporter
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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.

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.

2nd Annual Christmas at the Grotto
• Christmas lights return to the Grotto! Come and experience the beauty of Br. Joseph's work at night surrounded by lights and music! We have expanded this unique holiday experience throughout the grounds and have added several dates!
• On Dec. 19, we will have a Christmas Crafts Fair in our parking lot, plus have live musical performances throughout the park!
• Coffee and cookies will be available each night. Make your plans to visit now!
• Ave Maria Grotto, 1600 St. Bernard Drive SE, Cullman

Dates
• Dec. 3,4,5 – 4-9 p.m.
• Dec. 10,11,12 - 4-9 p.m.
• Dec. 17,18 - 4-9 p.m.
• Dec. 19 – noon-9 p.m.
• Dec. 26 - 4-9 p.m.
• Dec. 30,31 - 4-9 p.m.

Admission
• Adults - $6
• Students - $3
• Children 3 and younger - free

Laps for Lyme!
• Wednesday, Nov. 18 at 2 p.m. at Heritage Park, 1705 Lee Ave. SW, Cullman
• Madeline was diagnosed with Chronic Lyme as a young child and will fight it the rest of her life. Most insurance companies don't pay for the treatment and many rely on grants. Madeline has been fortunate to receive a couple of grants and would like to give back! This is a FREE event but donations for treatment grants will be gladly accepted. Madeline will also have her famous "Take a bite out of Lyme...drink Lemonade" stand at the event. Dress up if you'd like! The color of Lyme Disease awareness is of course, lime green!

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.

Turkey Plunge
• Join the Friends of the Public Libraries of Cullman County for its Freezin' for a Reason event, the Turkey Plunge, by running/walking into the chilly waters of Smith Lake Saturday, Nov. 21 at Smith Lake Park.
• "Turkeys" of all ages are invited to take the plunge and participate in the "coolest" event of the season.
• The event is open to the public, requiring registration and a $15 entry fee payable on the day of the event. ($10 per additional family member) On-site registration will be from 9:15-10 a.m. prior to the event. Plungers are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items that will be donated to the Cullman Caring for Kids Food Bank. Each entrant will receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win a $25 gift certificate (total of five).
• At the "Gobble," the plungers will run/walk into the ice-cold Smith Lake waters from the Smith Lake Park beach. There is no time limit to remain in the water – and no specific depth to reach.
• Social distancing will be required during the Plunge.

Christmas in the Warehouse District
• Saturday, Nov. 21 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
• Christmas fun, shopping and eating in the Warehouse District!

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.

Cullman Regional Foundation Dr. Herman C. Ensor Lights of Love Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony
• Thursday, Dec. 3 at 6 p.m. The annual event is normally held on the Cullman Regional campus, but this year it will be virtual and live streamed on the Cullman Regional Foundation's Facebook page.
• Giving a gift of love of $20, $40, $60 or more places a light on the Christmas tree at Cullman Regional as a tribute to someone special. These tax-deductible gifts help support the Foundation's mission of advancing health care services at the medical center.
• Donations may be contributed throughout the entire holiday season; gifts received by Tuesday, Dec. 1 will be included in the special ceremony. Contributions may be made in memory of or in honor of someone special.
• To donate, go to www.cullmanregional.com/foundation/events or call the Foundation at 256-737-2565 for more information.

City of Hanceville Christmas Tree Lighting
Friday, Dec. 4 at 5 p.m. at Veterans Park

Christmas in Cullman Parade/ Tree Lighting
• Friday, Dec. 4 from 5-9 p.m. in downtown Cullman, Depot Park
• During the event, we will feature a mini Christkindlmarkt, and kids will be able to get their photos taken with Santa!

Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation Mastectomy Bra and Prothesis 2-Hour Sale Fundraiser
• Saturday, Dec. 5 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!

31st Annual Cullman County Christmas Parade
Saturday, Dec. 5 at noon, along U.S Highway 31 from Wallace State to Hanceville Fire Station no. 1

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.



WSCC

Molli Clark of Carbon Hill poses for a photo during the recent drive-through pinning ceremony for the Occupational Therapy Assistant class of 2000 at Wallace State Community College.



WSCC

Wearing her custom-made mask and newly pinned, Wallace State Occupational Therapy Assistant graduate Sherry McDowell of Guntersville poses for a photo during the recent drive-through pinning ceremony for her graduating class.

Wallace State OTA program holds drive-through pinning ceremony

Gail Crutchfield
WSCC

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – The Wallace State Community College Occupational Therapy Assistant program honored its most recent graduates during a drive-through pinning ceremony at the college.

The ceremony was delayed from earlier this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The outbreak affected the number of openings at clinical sites where students complete their training.

Working with non-traditional sites, Program Director Laura Smith developed emerging practices where the students could complete their clinical fieldwork in order to graduate.

"I think they were pleased that we were able to hold the drive-through pinning ceremony, since they weren't able to do a traditional graduation or pinning," Smith said.

"We were pleased to recognize their achievement of finishing the program."

During the event, each graduate drove through the circular drive located in front of the Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts.

They were presented with their pin and diploma cover.

"Though not a typical pinning ceremony thanks to COVID, I still felt honored and a sense of accomplishment when my instructors pinned me and handed me my diploma with words of encouragement as well as stating their pride in us all," said graduate Molli Clark of Carbon Hill.

"I am ever so grateful to Wallace State Community College for allowing us this opportunity. It was definitely worth the drive!"

"Although it was not what I had in mind when I started this program back in fall of 2019, it was exactly what I needed and I could not have asked for anything better," said Sherry McDowell of Guntersville, who that day was also celebrating passing the licensure exam to become a certified occupational therapy assistant.

"Thank you all for going the extra mile, providing us with the opportunity and honor of receiving our pins from our instructors, signifying the completion of such a major milestone in our lives."

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program is a five-semester curriculum, with the first two semesters consisting of pre-requisite courses needed before applying to the program.

The program accepts new students each fall, with applications accepted from March 1 to June 1 each year.

Priority registration for the spring 2021 semester began Nov. 17, with classes beginning Jan. 19.

Visit www.wallacestate.edu or call 256-352-8000 for more information.

Apply by Nov. 30 for automotive manufacturing scholarship to Wallace State

Russell Moore
WSCC

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – Current high school and college students interested in pursuing careers in Alabama's multi-billion dollar automotive industry have two weeks to apply for a scholarship to use at Wallace State Community College in Hanceville or Oneonta, or any of Alabama's community colleges.

The Alabama Automotive Manufacturers Association and Alabama Community College System have partnered to provide a total $189,000 in scholarships, as well as mentors, to 52 students who want to pursue a technical education certificate or associate degree in the automotive manufacturing industry.

The deadline to apply is Nov. 30.

Students awarded after the November deadline will begin classes in the spring, summer or fall semesters of 2020.

Interested students with at least a 2.5 GPA can learn more information and apply directly through the website, https://dreamitdoitalabama.com/aama/.

Applicants must use the scholarship toward an automotive-related program, including the following: Automotive Manufacturing Technology; Automotive Manufacturing; Automotive Service Technician; Computer Numerical Control; Engineering Technology; Industrial Electronics Technology; Industrial Maintenance Technology; Injection Molding; Logistics; Machine Shop/Tool Technology; Manufacturing Technology; Mechanical Design Technology; Mechatronics; or Welding Technology.

Locally, Wallace State Community College offers degrees and certificates in each of the targeted programs. Wallace State's programs boast outstanding reputations and job placement rates, are accredited in their field with national recognized industry certifications and a faculty committed to student success. Registration for spring semester is underway now.

Spring semester 2021 classes begin Jan. 19. Visit www.wallacestate.edu/register to view classes and learn more. Or call 256-352-8040 or visit www.wallacestate.edu/advising to schedule an advising appointment.

The total award is $3,600 for each student. The award covers tuition, fees and/or books needed.

A full submission for the scholarship requires the following: a completed application; a resume; a maximum 500-word essay on why the student wants to work in Alabama's automotive industry; one signed reference letter; an unofficial college or high school transcript; and a headshot photo.

Board (from Front)

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Cullman City School Board began Tuesday night's meeting by welcoming new board members Amy Carter and Cheryl Harrison to their first regular school board meeting. The reconstitution of the board also took place, with Chris Branham voted board president and Carter voted board vice president. Sharon Wilson, by recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Susan Patterson, was confirmed as recording secretary of the board.

Cullman City Schools Chief Financial Officer James Brumley updated the board on the September yearend financial report. The school system ended the year with 103% in revenue.

He explained, "Our sales tax remained strong, so that's why we are a little over budget on our revenues. That is a good thing on where we are."

The system ended the year at 96.69% on expenditures.

One reason given for coming in under budget was due to the savings on utilities with the campuses being closed in March. The total fund balance came in at $8 million. Of that final fund balance, approximately $7 million is what Brumley called, "true local money."

The rest is made up of funds from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) and other aid money.

Patterson said of the remaining aid money, "I think we've got a pretty good handle on it and (will be) able to spend it for what our needs are. I am sure we are going to see effects even this summer with our summer literacy programs and things we can also use the money on."

The board approved the following agenda items:

- September 2020 payroll of $2,152,122.16, invoices paid of $1,620,257.58, financial statements and bank reconciliations
- October 2020 payroll of $2,198,863.03, invoices paid of $1,073,636.51, financial statements and bank reconciliations
- Cullman City Head Start Health/Nutrition/Disabilities/Enrollment Report for October 2020
- Cullman City Head Start Expenditures Report for October 2020
- Cullman City Head Start SF425 4th Quarter Report, SF425 Semi-annual Report and SF429 Report

In new business, the board approved the following items:

- Grant Solutions NGA for Cullman City Head Start for FY21 in the amount of $536,854. Balance of funds will be awarded when available.

- Cullman City Head Start request for 12-month no-cost extension for CARES Act funding in the amount of $59,634.13- extend until 9/30/21

- 2020-2021 Textbook Committee members for Cullman City Primary School, East Elementary, West Elementary, Cullman Middle School and Cullman High School

- Contract with Kristin Gragg to provide monitoring assistance for Student Services beginning 11/05/20-3/31/21 (Local funds)

- Contract with CCS personnel to provide tutoring services for our students in need of reading support (CARES funds)

- Contract with Judy Spradlin to provide virtual education services to sixth-grade virtual math students beginning 11/16/20- 1/15/21

- Contract with Meaghan Britton to provide virtual education services to sixth-grade ELA virtual students beginning 11/16/20-1/15/21

- Contract with Jessica Posey to provide virtual education services to sixth-grade students (Board Member Joey Orr abstained from vote due to personal relation to Ms. Posey)

- Contract with Patrick Bates to provide database support, network services and consultation

The following personnel items were approved:

- Resignation of Holly Murphree- Pre-K Special Education instructional assistance at CCPS effective 12/18/20

- Resignation of Holly Murphree- EDP Early Morning teacher at CCPS effective 12/18/20

- Leave of absence for Kylie Bates-math teacher at CMS-FMLA beginning 1/04/21-5/28/21 (tentative)

- Leave of absence for Heather Carter-teacher at CHS beginning 2/01/21-4/05/21 (Board Member Amy Carter abstained due to personal relation to Ms. Carter.)

Employment (Conditional employment under the terms of the Child Protection Act of 1999, Act No 2002-457, and pending certification as applicable:

- Stacy Howard-temporary Special Education Instructional Assistant at EES beginning 11/30/20 for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year (JV 20-052)

- Ashton Laney-EDP Early Morning teacher at CCPS beginning 1/05/21 (JV 20-056)

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2020 at 5 p.m. in the central office board room.

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PREP BASEBALL

West Point's Cleghorn signs with UAH

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

WEST POINT, Ala. – Monday was a day for celebration at West Point High School. Warriors standout Aubry Cleghorn was surrounded by friends, family, coaches and teammates as he signed a scholarship to continue his baseball career for the UAH Chargers. Cleghorn earned All-State First-Team honors after his sophomore season at West Point and was well on his way to more accolades before his junior season was cut short in March.

Warriors Head Coach Drew Bryson has been working with Aubry since his freshman season and outside of his natural talent on the baseball field, Bryson sees another rare attribute that has helped Aubry reach the next level.

"He's blessed beyond measure with talent, but it's his work ethic," Bryson said. "Having talent isn't enough when it comes to college athletics, everybody is talented. So, it has to be your work ethic that sets you apart and we have a ton of guys that work hard, but I would say he's probably the leader of the pack. He's one of the hardest workers we've got and year-round whether it's in season or out of season, he's doing whatever it takes to get better."

Cleghorn has provided a lot of production for the Warriors on the mound and at the plate over the last couple of years but Bryson believes his leadership and attitude have been just as crucial to his success and the success of his team.

"He is a great teammate. He's one of those guys that it doesn't matter if he's 3 for 3 or 0 for 3, you would never know by the way he carries himself.

"He's the first guy out of the dugout when someone makes a big play or if someone makes a big play behind him, he's the first one to go them and let them know about it," Bryson said.

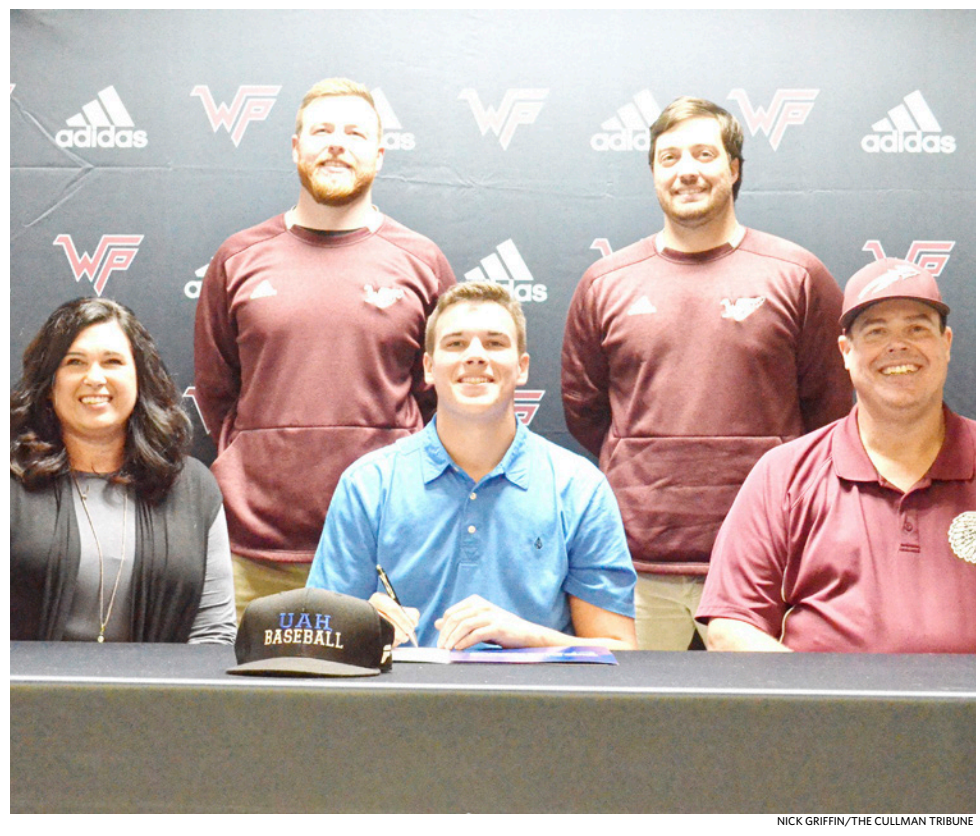
"He's just a positive guy and you'll never hear him be negative, get down on himself, or get down on his teammates. He's just always bringing energy and whether they see it or not, I think our guys kind of look to him as the guy that steers the ship in the right direction."

Aubry celebrated the achievement with as many of his teammates as he could round up Monday and it was important to him that they be included. He credits a lot his success to his teammates and wants to see that culture continue to grow in the West Point program long after he's gone.

"It's a great feeling but it's really not just about me. It's about all the players I've played with and how they helped push me to where I am today," Cleghorn said. "They've always made my job easy and I wish they could all be a part of this but I love each and every one of them and I hope in the future we'll have guys that look up to me and want I hope our program just keeps growing and growing."

Aubry says he really enjoyed getting to know the coaches at UAH and likes the family atmosphere within the program but he still has some things he wants to do at West Point before he makes the move up to Hunstville.

"I'm just trying to get stronger to get my velocity up and get in shape. I really want to win a state championship before I leave here too so I hope my team knows that's what we're striving for. I want an area championship and a state championship, and I believe we've got it in us. That's what I really want to accomplish before I leave.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

West Point's Aubry Cleghorn is joined by his mother and father, Gerrita and Patrick Cleghorn, and his coaches, Tyler Morgan and Drew Bryson, as he signs a scholarship to play at UAH Monday.

PREP GOLF

Fairview's Lawson signs with Mobile

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

FAIRVIEW, Ala. – For the second time in two weeks, Fairview High School celebrated the next step in a standout Aggie golfer's academic and athletic career. Lauren Lawson officially signed to play for the University of Mobile for Coach TJ Jackson and the Rams. Her teammate, Brileigh Roberts, signed to play for Wallace State earlier this month.

Fairview Head Coach Kurt Knight credits Lauren's combination of athletic ability and work ethic for her fast rise in the sport and the opportunity she's taking advantage of now.

"First of all, she's an athlete. She still plays soccer and that's been a positive for her. She didn't start playing until a little later in life. She didn't start very young, so she's picked it up quick, but her work ethic is second to none," Knight said.

"She puts in the time doing everything we ask of her and she has really improved and continues to improve. That's the biggest thing is she's never going to stop improving.

"She's constantly working to be better and just all in all she's a solid player."

Lawson is the second Aggie to sign a golf scholarship this month and Knight is happy to see the buzz it creates around the program for local players.

"It creates a lot of excitement," Knight said. "We've had a lot of people around here sign from the guys and the girls side and I think some of the signings we've had before help lead these girls to where they are today so it's a big thing anytime we can sign anyone in any sport.

"It's great to see them be successful and move on to the next level."

Lawson's final season with the Aggies is coming up in the spring and she already has some things in mind she wants to work on this year before graduating in May and preparing to play for the Rams.

"My short game has been a big factor for me since the beginning," Lawson said.

"I finally picked up my distance when it comes to my irons and my driver and all that but now it's really about the small details and implementing those little things in my game to get from the low 80s and high 70s down to the low 70s which is where I would definitely like to be for college."

The University of Mobile was uniquely fit for what Lauren was looking to get out of her college career. The private, Baptist university offers exactly what she is looking for academically and is in the midst of building up its golf program as well.

"They are one of the only schools in the state of Alabama that actually has an ESL (English as a Second Language) Degree.

"So, academically it was much better, and I'll have a lot more opportunities there to express myself academically and spiritually. A big part of my decision was that I'm Baptist and I'm very religious so that was a big factor for me," Lawson said.

"I've always wanted to explore and kind of get out and see new things, experience different things and have that college experience so that was important for me too and their golf program is building up a lot right now.

"I'm a big supporter of building things and supporting new teams and programs and they're really working on building their program right now.

"So, I'm really happy to have the opportunity to be part of that and help build that program up."



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Bottom row L-R: Mobile Golf Coach TJ Jackson, Lauren Lawson, Stephanie Lawson. Top row: Mark McKelvy, Jeff Lawson, Kurt Knight.

Wallace State's women's cross country finishes program-best 6th at nationals, men place 8th

Russell Moore
WSCC Athletics

HANCEVILLE, ALA. – Wallace State's women's cross country team finished sixth in the country and the men finished eighth at the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II National Cross Country Championships at Fort Dodge, Iowa, over the weekend.

The Lady Lions netted the best national finish in program history behind freshman Jennifer Aviles and Cassidy Winter, both finishing among the top 30.

Aviles recorded a 20:16.91 in the women's 5K, finishing 21st overall, and Winter was 28th with a 20:40.80.

Jaycee Biffle had Wallace State's third best finish (53rd overall) with a 21:35.93 and Juliana Ballew was next, recording a 21:36.69 (54th overall).

Ally Amerson placed fifth for the Lady Lions, clocking in at 21:42.41. Breanna Smith finished with a 22:12.83 and Maggie Graham with a 24:18.10.

Wallace State's men also placed among the top ten in the country, finishing eighth overall.

The Lions were sparked by sophomore Jonathan Jenkins, who finished the 8K in 26:46.55.

He was 17th overall among 145 runners and named a NJCAA All-American. Jenkins, a Beauregard native, was also the ACCC meet individual runner-up and the 2020 ACCC Runner of the Year.

Trentan Williams was second for Wallace State and 43rd overall with a 27:55.35. Raleigh Stamps was four spots behind Williams, clocking in at 28:00.82 (47th overall).

Sophomore Taylor Nails placed fourth for the Lions, finishing at 28:17.95 (56th).

Dakota Sheppard (29:10.51), Jikori James (29:15.11) and Jonathan Collett (29:47.93) rounded out the Wallace State field.

Nineteen teams competed in the men's 8K and 16 teams in the women's 5K.

Both Wallace State teams advanced to nationals after each won their third consecutive Alabama Community College Conference (ACCC) championship meets on Oct. 30.

It was the eighth conference title for the men and fifth for the women.

View the national meet results here: https://d2o2figo6ddd0g.cloudfront.net/5/5/8fjrhkv5vqy68h/2020_NJCAA_DII_Men-s_-_Women-s_Cross_Country_Championship_Results.pdf

For more information about Wallace State athletics, visit www.athletics.wallacestate.edu or the athletics Facebook page at www.wallacestate.edu/athleticsfb.



WSCC ATHLETICS

Wallace State's women's team finished sixth at the NJCAA Division II national tournament, while the men finished eighth overall.

Ivey appoints Sen. Cam Ward director of Alabama Board of Pardons and Paroles

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor



CONTRIBUTED

Sen. Cam Ward

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – Governor Kay Ivey on Tuesday announced that she is appointing Sen. Cam Ward, R-Alabaster to serve as director of the Alabama Board of Pardons and Paroles.

Currently in his third term in the Alabama State Senate, Ward serves as the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee where he has spearheaded bills related to criminal justice and prison reform. He is also a practicing attorney where he has focused much of his private career in economic development.

"Cam Ward has spent his career as an attorney and public servant dedicated to Alabama's criminal justice system," Ivey said. "As he transitions to director of Pardons and Paroles, I'm confident that his background and experience will position him to closely follow the letter of the law while providing individuals every opportunity possible to rebuild their lives post incarceration."

Prior to his tenure in the Alabama Senate, Ward was elected to the Alabama House of Representatives in 2002 where he served two terms. He previously worked as a deputy attorney general for Alabama Attorney General Bill Pryor and was assigned to the Alabama State Auditor's office where he served as legal counsel. Ward has worked as assistant secretary of state dealing with election laws and corporate filings and worked as district director for Congressman Spencer Bachus.

"I'm honored that Governor Ivey had the confidence to appoint me to this position," Ward said. "I have committed my career in the Senate to improving our criminal justice system in Alabama, and I look forward to working with Governor Ivey going forward in this effort."

Ward earned his bachelor's degree from Troy State University in 1993. Upon earning his law degree from Cumberland School of Law, he was admitted to the Alabama Bar Association in 1996. He is active in various community boards such as the Glenwood Autism Center, the YMCA of Alabaster, Leadership Shelby County and Prison Fellowship.

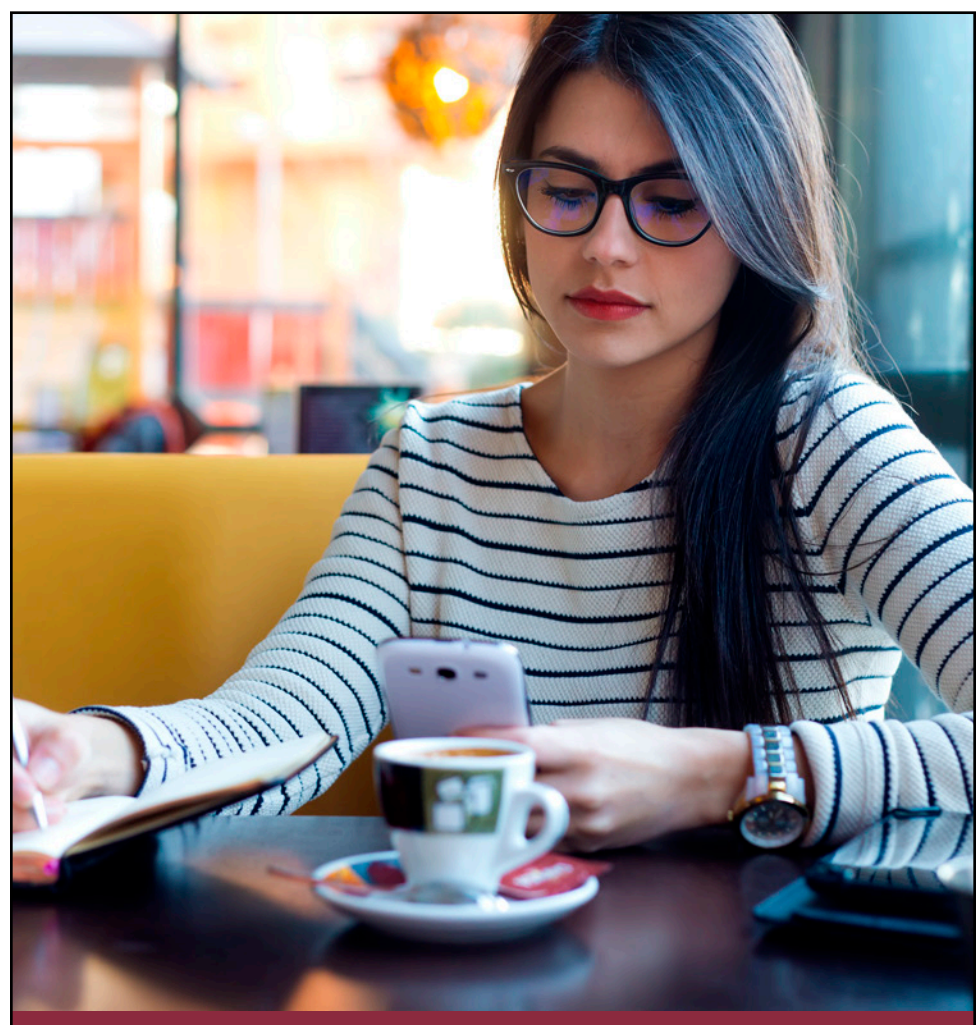
Ward's appointment is effective Dec. 7, 2020.

CHRISTMAS
in Cullman
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4TH
DOWNTOWN CULLMAN & DEPOT PARK
5:00PM - 9:00PM
PARADE BEGINS AT 7:00PM
TREE-LIGHTING BEGINS AT 7:45PM
MINI CHRISTKINDLMARKT
& PHOTOS WITH SANTA

Cullman Christkindlmarkt
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11TH
3:00PM - 9:00PM
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12TH
10:00AM - 9:00PM
DOWNTOWN CULLMAN
ACROSS FROM THE FESTHALLE

TURKEY PLUNGE
$15 entry fee payable at event! $10 per additional family member!
Bring non-perishable items to be donated to Caring for Kids Food Bank!
Each entrant receives a raffle ticket for a chance to win a $25 gift certificate!
November 21
Saturday
Smith Lake Park
Registration
9:15 – 10:00 am
Freezin' for a Reason!
Contact Tanya Allcorn (256-338- 9746) or Renee Welsh (860-818-7601) for more information

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Support (from Front)

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – "In the South, when we can't do anything about it, we try to feed people." That's how Flourish of Cullman Executive Director Melissa Dew explained the "48 Hours of Caring" the nonprofit organized to show love and support for the Critical Care Unit (CCU) staff at Cullman Regional. With help and donations from local businesses and individuals in the Cullman community, Flourish spent Monday and Tuesday delivering meals and snack baskets to the hospital's frontline workers and caregivers.

Flourish client Robert Squires is currently on a ventilator at Cullman Regional as he battles COVID-19. Dew's sister, April Williams, is also on a ventilator, due to an illness other than COVID-19.

"Last week when my sister was in the hospital and we knew Robert was in there, we were trying to think of some way that we could help," said Dew.

"I called to check in on my sister. The nurse was very helpful, but you could hear in her voice the weariness. What they have seen and are witnessing is very traumatic to see that much.

"It's got to be hard on them and stressful."

The Flourish Board of Directors agreed, and the nonprofit began organizing the "48 Hours of Caring." Soon, donations and offers of help were pouring in from all over Cullman.

Said Dew, "This morning I delivered Jack's biscuits to the night shift for breakfast at 5:30.

"Then at 7 this morning, Flavors Bakery donated stuff for them for breakfast."

For lunch, Dew returned with Johnny's Bar-B-Q donated by downtown merchant Ashley Mercantile.

Dew said Flourish was blown away by the response from those wanting to pitch in to help.

"We had donations from people in the community and local restaurants like Dreher's; they are providing food for this afternoon," she said.

"More people started calling saying, 'Hey we want to give to this,' and, 'We think this is a great thing for our community.'"

Southern Eats provided dinner Monday evening, along with Carlton's. Applebee's provided dinner Tuesday, and Karma's Coffee House also donated.

The number of donations was so great that Dew was busy Tuesday assembling snack baskets for all the nurses stations at Cullman Regional.

Dew said of the community effort, "I couldn't imagine on a daily basis having to do what they do.

"That's why it is so important as a community to help them because when we come together as a community and do things, it makes us all stronger.

"It also gives hope to people that this, too, will pass. It's amazing that our community just jumped in."

"It brings me to tears to see our community really rallying around our team during this crisis," said Cullman Regional Vice President, Marketing Lindsey Dossey.

CCBOE (from Front)

Next up was Yearwood. Yearwood is the recipient of this year's Alabama School Counselor Association Secondary School Counselor of the Year Award.

Yearwood won the award for High School Counselor of the Year in 2014.

"Mrs. Yearwood is very quick to recognize everybody at her school, whether it's faculty or students, for their accomplishments, but she's not very quick to recognize herself.

"But I want to take a minute to brag on her," Barnette said.

"We're so blessed that in 2014 she won it, but now in 2020, Mrs. Yearwood has been recognized as the Secondary School Counselor of the Year for the state of Alabama. She represents all of our counselors and does a great job."

The board then approved the appointment of Ty Watwood to the position of media & communications specialist for the system.

"Ty is our new media & communications specialist for our school district.

"He will be in charge of social media, our websites, our communication with our parents doing virtual learning and helping to create a communication plan across our entire district for our teachers and parents and everybody," Barnette said.

"He's been a bus driver for us and a technician at West Point and now he's going to continue his work throughout our school system, and we're pleased to have him.

"Ty has some experience as a manager at (WBRC FOX) channel 6 before he left there, so he's going to bring some of that expertise into our school system."

The board also approved the nominations of board members Shane Rusk and Kerry Neighbors to the positions of board president and vice president, respectively, for the 2020-21 school year.

Before the meeting adjourned, Barnette and board member Heath Allbright each gave a brief statement on the current COVID-19 quarantine policies in place for Alabama public schools and the challenges that come with them.

"It becomes a challenge, and it can be aggravating because you have to wear a mask, and yet if you're within 6 feet of someone for 15 minutes or more you still have to quarantine," Barnette said.

"I would love to see that eventually change; I don't see that changing any time soon."

"It's a shame that we're sending people home that don't even have a sniffle. I don't know how we can change that but losing faculty members and support staff when they even have a negative test is ridiculous to me," Allbright said.

"The mandates and protocols that the State has sent down to the school systems are unbelievable and it makes it to where we can't even function.

"We're trying to pull off the impossible.

"We've had a lot of faculty members here in the last couple of weeks that are as well as I am today and they're at home by State mandate for 14 days.

"We need them in our schools, and we need our kids in our schools and I don't know what we can do about it but it's an absolute shame that's the only we can do it.

"I feel like we could come up with something better because even if they test negative, we're sending them home.

"It just doesn't make sense to me."

Cullman County Schools will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday Nov. 23-27.

The CCBOE will hold its next regularly scheduled work session and board meeting Dec. 10 at 3:30 p.m. at the central office.

Family (from Front)

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Cullman County Farm-City Committee held its annual Farm-City Banquet Tuesday evening at Loft 212 downtown, where it named Fred and Dolores Osborne the 2021 Farm-City Family of the Year.

The Farm-City Committee chooses a Family of the Year each year, normally rotating between choosing a Farm Family and City Family; however, this year the committee said it chose a family that "has the best of both worlds" in the Osbornes.

The Osbornes succeed Ross and Judy York of York Farms, 2020's Farm Family of the Year.

Cullman County Farm-City Committee Past Co-Chair Pat Floyd had the honor of officially introducing the Osbornes:

"Each year, the Farm-City committee members select a family that is important to the entire community. Several names will be submitted, and then the committee will vote to make the final selection. This year the decision was unanimous.

"This year's family is supposed to be a City family since last year's winners were from the farm. We try to alternate each year. However, this year's family has the best of both worlds.

"Our family lives on a small farm in the town of West Point but has spent years serving the people in the city of Cullman.

"They have been married for 57 years and have two children- a son, Fred, and a daughter, Laura Paul, both of whom are graduates of Auburn University. They have four grandchildren- John and Andrew Paul, and Lee and Emma Osborne. They are lifetime members of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church.

"Fred is a very familiar face at Mary Carter Store, where he does custom picture framing as well as various other sales jobs. In fact, he did the beautiful framing of the portrait for our farm family. Fred has worked at this job for 46 years and is still going strong on the 'scene.' He is also a member of the Cullman Lions Club, with 52 years perfect attendance (I bet no one else can say that). Fred has received the Melvin Jones Fellow Award, Lion of the Year Award and the Life Membership that is awarded by the Lions International. I am sure that the Lions Club would love to have more dedicated workers like Fred, considering that he has worked at the Cullman County Fair and the Fish (and Ham Dinner) since he joined the Lions Club.

"Dolores went to work at State National Bank after graduating from Sacred Heart Junior College. She, too, was a very dedicated employee, and retired with 54 years of service to the same bank, which is now known as BBVA. She held the position of vice-president at the Cullman main office. Dolores spent numerous hours volunteering in the community in various fields such as education, health services and career goals. She even volunteered for seven years as a Farm-City Committee member. Like Fred, Dolores worked at the Cullman County Fair for 50 years. Actually, last year, due to a death in the family, was the first time that Fred and Dolores had ever missed a Farm-City Banquet.

"As you can tell from their biographies, when it comes to their community service, this is a very dedicated family."

OTHER AWARD WINNERS

Youth Awards

- Outstanding FCCLA Member: Madeline Mitchell, Cold Springs High School
- Outstanding 4-H Member: Jeb Quick, home school
- Outstanding FFA Member: Zoey Latham, Fairview High School

Poster Contest Awards

Grades K-3 Winners

- 1st Place: Chloe Walker, Fairview Elementary
- 2nd Place: Heston Hayes, Vinemont Elementary
- 3rd Place: Jacob Winfrey, Cold Springs Elementary

Grades 4-6 Winners

- 1st Place: Allie Johnson, East Elementary
- 2nd Place: Lee Dickerson, Good Hope Elementary
- 3rd Place: Mark Alexander Szedon, Cold Springs Elementary

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LEGALS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
BLANCHE REYNOLDS WARREN * CASE NO PC 2020-238
Deceased *

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to **Joel David Reynolds**, as Personal Representatives of the Estate of Blanche Reynolds Warren, deceased, on the 17th day of November, 2020, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court of Cullman County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Joel David Reynolds
Personal Representative

Thomas E. Drake, II
Attorney for Estate
419 2nd Avenue SW, Ste B
Cullman, Al 35055

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

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

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

PB WIL BK 98 PG 618 - 11/02/2020 04:00 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC2020-397

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF DONNIE L. SANDERS, SR., DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Donnie L. Sanders, Jr. on the 2nd day of November, 2020, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Donnie L. Sanders, Jr.
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C. Smith
Attorney for the Estate
Smith & Smith, LLP
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, Al. 35056-0398
(256) 734-4721

PB ADT BK 57 PG 18 - 11/02/2020 04:12 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD2020-077

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF JOSEPH ANDREW DANIEL TO ADOPT E.M.V., a minor child.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: ROBERTO VENLAZQUEZ, WHOSE WHEREABOUTS, RESIDENCE AND/OR ADDRESS IS UNKNOWN AND TO ANY UNKNOWN OR UNDISCLOSED FATHER OF E.M.V., WHOSE IDENTITY, WHEREABOUTS, RESIDENCE AND/OR ADDRESS IS UNKNOWN OR UNDISCLOSED

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of E.M.V., a minor child (born on June 21, 2009, to Jasmine Elizabeth Johns), was filed on the 29th day of October, 2020, in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by Joseph Andrew Daniel, Petitioner. Please be advised should you intend to contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with the Clerk of the said Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama, 35055.

DONE this 3rd day of November, 2020.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

To: *THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE*

PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR SUCCESSIVE WEEKS.

Sherry H. Barrett
SMITH & SMITH, LLP
Attorneys for Petitioner
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
256-734-4721 (telephone)

PB ADT BK 57 PG 422 - 11/09/2020 04:24 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF PAUL REUBEN SELF FOR THE ADOPTION OF
J.P.H. A MINOR.
D.O.B. 6/22/2004

CASE NO AD 2020-084

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: KNOWN OR UNKNOWN FATHER OF J.P.H., A MINOR CHILD BIOLOGICAL MOTHER, AMBER LEIGH SELF

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

DONE THIS 9th DAY OF November, 2020.

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

Jerry Kilgo
Attorney for Petitioner
105 1st Ave NE, Ste G
Cullman, Alabama 35055

Obituary Announcements: Nov. 18

Funeral services for Walter Kenny Walker, 74, of Vernon, FL will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2020 at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Reverend Brandon Stripling will be officiating. Burial will follow the service at Fairview West Cemetery in Hanceville. Visitation for Mr. Walker will be from 10 a.m. until funeral time at the funeral home Wednesday. Mr. Walker was born in Mississippi in 1947 to Legette and Clara (Moore) Walker. He died Nov. 13, 2020 at Bay Medical Center- Sacred Heart Health System in Panama City, FL due to an unexpected illness at the age of 74. Mr. Walker is survived by his wife Judy Walker; children Kenny Wayne (Lynn) Walker, Chris Walker, and Michelle (Carl) Hubbard; step-daughters Lisa Jones and Jennifer Langston; grandchildren Kendra Walker, Kyle Walker, Brandon Walker, Emilee Walker, Owen Walker, Eli Walker, Blake Hubbard, Katelynn Hubbard, Sarai Hubbard, Alan Williams, Sue Cain, Sonya Langston, and Kyle Langston.; sister Diane Warnock; brother and sister-in-law Ceiley and Ray Whaley; and a host of great-grandchildren and friends.

It is with great sadness that the family of Ronald Earl Cobbs (Ronnie), 78, of Vinemont announces that because of God's grace and the shed blood of Jesus Christ, he is in the presence of his heavenly Father. He passed peacefully at his residence surrounded by family Sunday, Nov. 15, 2020. Visitation will be held at Gum Pond Primitive Baptist Church Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2020 from 4-7 p.m. His Celebration of Life Funeral Service will be at the church Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020 at 2 p.m. with Elder Josh Mason and Elder Heath Williams officiating. Burial will follow in the adjoining cemetery. He will lie in state prior to the service from noon until 2 p.m. Moss Service Funeral Home directing. Ronnie was of the Primitive Baptist faith. He was a member of Mt. Olive Primitive Baptist Church for 20 years prior to returning to his home church, Gum Pond Primitive Baptist. He was a faithful member and Deacon for many years. Ronnie loved spending time and fellowshipping with other Primitive Baptist church members, he would travel all over to different meetings and made many lifelong friends. He was an excellent basketball player and played for Eva High School where he graduated in 1960. Ronnie was a sheet metal mechanic at Monsanto in Decatur for 33 ½ years prior to retirement. He also owned and operated a poultry farm for 27 years. After retirement he started Cobbs Furniture in Eva and has been in business for 20 years. He was known as a handyman and could literally fix anything. He had several hobbies, but his favorite was fishing with his grandchildren. He loved his family and was a wonderful grandfather. He enjoyed spending time with and babysitting his grandchildren. His parents Earl Whitney Cobbs and Pruddie Nunnley Cobbs preceded him in death, along with his siblings Nelda Nelson, Donald Cobbs, Darrell Cobbs and Steve Cobbs. Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Faye Morgan Cobbs; daughter Carla Beth Cobbs; son and wife Phillip Earl and Cheri Tidwell Cobbs; granddaughters Kayla Cobbs Witte, Alexandra Faye Parr and Zonna Mae Parr; grandsons: Elijah Parr and James Earl Cobbs; grandson-in-law Chris Witte; great-grandson Grayson Witte; sister Brenda Childers; and brother Delone Cobbs. Condolences and special memories may be shared with the family at www.mossservicefh.com.

Loletah "Bid" Bradford, 84, of Vinemont passed away Monday, Nov. 16, 2020 at her residence. She was born Sunday, July 26, 1936 to Dennis Melvin and Birdie Lee Woods.

Funeral services for Randy C. Morgan of Hanceville will be at 1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020 at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow at Hopewell Cemetery in Hanceville. Reverends Jeremy Stone and Josh Stone will be officiating. Visitation will be from noon until service time at the funeral home. Randy was born in Cullman, AL April 2, 1957 to Wilbert and Joann (Medlock) Morgan. He died at the age of 63 at Brookwood Hospital in Jefferson County, AL Nov. 16, 2020. In addition to his parents, Mr. Morgan is preceded in death by his twin brother Ronnie Morgan. Mr. Morgan is survived by his significant other, Jill Green; two sons Blake (Monica Jones) Morgan and Shawn (Anna) Morgan; step-sons Christian and C.J. Green; grandchildren Raiden (Isabella) Morgan, Malorie Morgan, Shawn Tyler Morgan, Jr., Matty Morgan, Weston Green, Chip Green, Cru Green, Rosie Green and Mason Isbell; brother David (Marilyn) Morgan; best friend Sophie Morgan; and mother of his children, Sandra Jane Morgan.

Effie Louise Misuik, 95, of Athens, Alabama passed away Monday, Nov. 16, 2020. Effie was born Aug. 20, 1925 to Lonnie McKinley and Gertrude Leaner Suggs Stewert. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband Edward Misuik. Effie is survived by sisters Faye Perkins and Marjorie McHargue; brothers Donald Stewart and Eugene Stewart; and a host of nieces and nephews. A visitation for Mrs. Misuik will be held Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020 from 6-8 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home. A celebration of life funeral service will occur Friday, Nov. 20, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. in the chapel with Rev. Tommy Graves and Rev. Andy Coffey officiating. Interment will occur at a later date at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Annville, PA. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.mossservicefh.com for the Misuik family.

Colonel James Loyd "Jim" Rooker, of Bremen, Alabama passed away at home Sunday, Nov. 1, 2020. Jim was diagnosed in December of 2019 with carcinoma cancer from an unknown primary source and fought hard before he peacefully left his earthly home surrounded by loved ones. Jim was born Aug. 12, 1938 in Rome, Georgia to Robert Nathaniel "RN" and Daisy Franklin (Bullard) Rooker. He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother Bertas Lee Rooker (Joanne - deceased); and a nephew, Donald Bruce Rooker. He is survived by his loving wife, Linda Jane (Tucker) Rooker; his four children: Sheryl Dawn Rooker Lee (Jeff) - Hartselle, AL, Wendolyn Kaye "Wendy" Rooker Crider (Tony) - Bremen, AL, Suzanne Carol "Suzi" Rooker Starosta (Scott) - Cumming, GA, and James Allen William Rooker (Jennifer) - Vidalia, GA. He also leaves behind the following grandchildren: Kiah Clay Crider (Katy) - Auburn, AL, Kaylin Kate "Ka-Ka" (Crider) Tuten (Jordan) - Bremen, AL, Hannah Alexis Lee - Birmingham, AL, Kramer Scott Crider - Mobile, AL, Montana Louise Rooker - Vidalia, GA, and Jade Mariduena Starosta - Cumming, GA; a great-granddaughter, Caroline James Crider - Auburn, AL; and great-grandson, Baby Tuten (due February 28, 2021) - Bremen, AL. Jim also leaves behind his sister, Shirley Ann Rooker Biddy (Joe, deceased) - Birmingham, AL; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Funeral services for Colonel Rooker will be held at Moss Service Funeral Home, 1901 Second Ave. NW, Cullman, AL 35055 (256-734-1821) Saturday, Nov. 21, 2020. Visitation will be from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; funeral at 1 p.m. with a graveside service to follow at Ryans Creek Baptist Church, 24849 County Road 222, Bremen, AL 35033. As a young child, Jim moved to Cullman, AL. He was raised in church and became a Christian at the age of 12 at First Baptist Church of Cullman. He was a 1956 graduate of Cullman High School and received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Aeronautical Engineering from Auburn University, Auburn, AL in December 1960. He enjoyed playing his trombone in both the Cullman High School and Auburn University bands. Colonel Rooker was commissioned through the Air Force ROTC program and after marrying his bride, Linda Jane Tucker, Dec. 31, 1960, he entered active duty in January 1961. Colonel Rooker had the privilege of serving in the military in various places such as Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio; Edwards Air Force Base, Edwards, California; and a temporary assignment in Philadelphia, PA. He was first assigned to the Aeronautical Systems Division (Ohio) as a Flight Control System's Engineer and performed tests on various aircraft and helicopters, one of which was the Huey helicopter Bell UH-1. His second assignment was with the Flight Test Center (California) as a helicopter flight test engineer. In Philadelphia, he was assigned to perform stability control tests on the Chinook helicopter and continued this testing in Lancaster, CA. All of these various testing projects were in an effort to improve combat and rescue missions during the Vietnam War. In 1966, Colonel Rooker resigned his commission and returned to Dayton, Ohio, and began serving in the Civil Service with the Flight Dynamics Laboratory in support of the Vietnam War effort. One of his highlighted accomplishments was having the privilege to perform G-force testing for the Apollo Space Program for which he received hazard duty pay. Colonel Rooker's military awards and decorations include the Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award, National Defense Service Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, and Air Force Training Ribbon. In 1970, he moved his family to Cullman County, and in 1973, he entered the USAF Reserves as an Individual Mobilization Augmentee. During his Reserve Duty, he worked in the Aircraft Engineering Section, Directorate of Maintenance and the 2955th Combat Logistics Support Squadron at Warner Robins Air Force Base, Georgia. Of his many accomplishments, he earned the rank of Colonel in 1987 and later retired from the Reserves in 1992 as a Full Bird Colonel. While living in Cullman County, Jim worked in various job capacities. From 1970-75, he partnered along side his mother-in-law and father-in-law (Grace and L.C. Tucker) in their greenhouse business, Mums Incorporated. Then, from 1975-81, Jim worked for Winston Industries, Inc., as a chief engineer under George Hammett, who became a good friend. From 1981-2003, Jim worked as a Nuclear Project Support Engineer for Southern Company Services, Inc. in Birmingham, AL, and during his service to this company he was assigned to Hatch Nuclear Power Plant in Baxley, GA, for several years. After relocating back to Birmingham, AL, he was awarded the 1994 Engineering Excellence Award before retiring from this Alabama Power Company in 2003. Jim was a member of First Baptist Church, Cullman, AL, from his youth to 1960, and then from 1970-2006. While attending FBC, he was an active member and enjoyed singing in the Chancel Choir under music directors Jim Walker, Danny Martin, and Bob Morrison. A few of his highlights were performing during the Christmas seasons as a member of the Living Christmas Tree Choir as well as having the privilege of playing his trombone in the orchestra during seasonal choir programs. After his retirement, Jim and his wife, Jane, relocated to the Bremen area and moved their church membership to Ryans Creek Baptist Church in 2006. Jim loved his wife, Jane, and his children, grandchildren, and great-granddaughter, Caroline, whom he had the privilege of knowing for 10 months. He rejoiced in the news that a great-grandson was on the way and due Feb. 28, 2021. He loved spending time with family, supporting his children in their numerous church and school activities while they were growing up, and being able to watch his grandchildren grow up, supporting them in the same capacity. Jim was a huge Auburn Tiger fan! "War Eagle" was a phrase he loved saying! He also loved flying which was probably his true passion in life. He was an excellent flight instructor through Wallace State Community College for many years. When his health issues would no longer allow him to pilot a plane, he was often asked to co-pilot alongside Dr. Rex Adams, his dentist and friend. Jim once flew his family from the Vinemont Airport to Miami, FL, during Thanksgiving to visit with his wife's sister and her family. He enjoyed traveling on the road as well and one of the most memorable family vacations was a trip they took in 1975. Jim rented a camper and took his family along with his parents on a 3 week trip out West covering 17 different states and viewing and visiting some of God's beautiful creations and National Parks. Jim was a long-time member of the Cullman Lion's Club and served as their president in the 1980's. During his time in the Lion's Club, he helped with several annual events like the fair parade, the fair queen pageant, and the ham and fish supper, all with the goal of raising money for the blind. Jim received the Lion's Club International Melvin Jones Fellow Award for his humanitarian services. He also enjoyed serving on the Cullman Community Concert Board and helped to select musicians for local performances. He was a member of the National Society of Sons of the American Revolution (Cullman Chapter), a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and teaching American history to future generations. He also loved researching his own family genealogy. Jim was stern and firm about his beliefs and loved Jesus, his family, friends, community, and service to this awesome country. He was patriotic, a conservative Republican, and believed in pro-life. He made sure he cast his vote by absentee ballot before he died! He was quick tempered, but also sweet and tender-hearted. He knew his sins were forgiven because of his salvation through Jesus Christ. He rededicated his life to Christ in February of 1989 and he knew he was going to heaven for his eternal home. He left this earth quickly and peacefully after battling his hard fight against cancer. His favorite verse was John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him, shall not perish but have eternal life." We are thankful God chose Jim to be our daddy and husband to our mother. We will miss him here on earth, but know he is with Jesus and all the loved ones who have gone before him. We know that through the gift of Jesus, we will see him again for all of eternity. Rest in Peace! We love you!! Upon Jim's request, donations can be made to the following places: Ryans Creek Baptist Church, Bremen, AL; First Baptist Church, Cullman, AL; Cullman Lion's Club; and the American Cancer Society. The family would like to extend their love and appreciation to all healthcare professionals through the Clearview Cancer Institute, Jasper, AL; Hospice Southern Care New Beacon, Cullman, AL; Visiting Angels, Cullman, AL; as well as Walker Baptist Medical Center and UAB Hospital. We also want to thank all those who took time out of their day to pray, call, text, send cards, provide meals, and help with personal care.

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Understanding bullying and the connection to suicide: A resource for parents

Adrienne M. Duke, Alex Tarpley, Synithia Flowers

Suicide resulting from bullying is a growing problem. Learn to recognize the warning signs and what parents and others can do.

Nationally, suicide is the second leading cause of death for youth and young adults between the ages of 10 and 24. In the past decade, headlines have been reporting more tragic stories of young people's suicide deaths linked to every type of bullying—physical, verbal, and online (cyber).

Here are the facts:

- Nearly one in five students (21%) have reported being bullied during the school year. This means that more than 5 million young people are affected annually.
- Almost all forms of bullying peak in middle school. Sixth graders have reported the highest percentage of bullying (29%).
- Youth who had any involvement with bullying reported higher levels of suicide-related behaviors than those not involved in bullying.
- Approximately 34% of students have reported experiencing cyberbullying. Of those students, more than 60% reported that it affected their ability to learn and feel safe at school.
- Students who have experienced cyberbullying are two times more likely to attempt suicide.
- Thoughts of suicide and suicide attempts among youth have nearly doubled since 2008 and that has made suicide the second leading cause of death for individuals 10 to 34 years of age.

What are the warning signs?

Parents should look for warning signs of bullying. These include the following:

- Withdrawing from friends and family members
- Avoiding discussions related to activities on social media and phones
- Showing feelings of anger, anxiety or depression following use of the computer and suddenly stopping use of the computer
- Decreasing academic performance
- Avoiding or becoming upset about going to school and other activities

Parents should also look for warning signs of suicidal thoughts, which could include the following:

- New or more frequent thoughts of wanting to die
- Self-destructive behavior
- Signs of increased anxiety or panic, agitation, aggressiveness, impulsivity, insomnia or irritability
- New or more involuntary restlessness (akathisia), such as pacing or fidgeting
- New onset of unrealistic plans or goals

Can anything be done to prevent suicide because of bullying?

Preventing suicide because your child is being bullied can be challenging. The following are ways that parents or guardians can help:

- Consider telehealth (online) therapy or in-person therapy.
- Try to provide a home environment that is stable and safe (physically and emotionally). Parents should work to create a space where youth feel comfortable to talk about how they feel.
- Monitor social media use to check for cyberbullying and to make sure that young people are not watching videos about self-harm or suicide.
- Work to strengthen relationships and friendships with other youth and adults other than you.
- Acknowledge that bullying is painful and that your child's feelings are justified and understandable. Do not dismiss being bullied as just part of growing up.
- Respond quickly in a crisis. If a child tells you that he or she is thinking about death or suicide, it is important to talk to them immediately. Don't wait. Ask questions to assess the immediate danger. Ask them if they have a suicide plan. Do they have what they need to carry out the plan? Do they know when they would do it? Do they intend to take their own life? These questions will help you assess if they have a plan that they will follow through on.
- Offer help and support. Let them know that they are not alone, that you care about them, and that you are there whenever they need someone to talk to.
- Remember, don't wait to talk. It might be too late.

How can other adults help?

Adults who work in youth-serving organizations and institutions can create a supportive and safe environment. Here are some ways that adults can accomplish this:

- Seek training to recognize the difference between bullying behavior and peer conflict.
- Establish a clear response when bullying happens.
- Talk to parents when you think something may be wrong.
- Respond consistently when bullying occurs and use free federal and nonfederal resources on bullying.

Adults can also offer social support:

- Listen.
- Help with problem-solving.
- Find community, religious, and mental health support.
- Show that they care.

These behaviors may help youth to reduce depressive symptoms that could lead to suicide.

What are resources parents and youth can use?

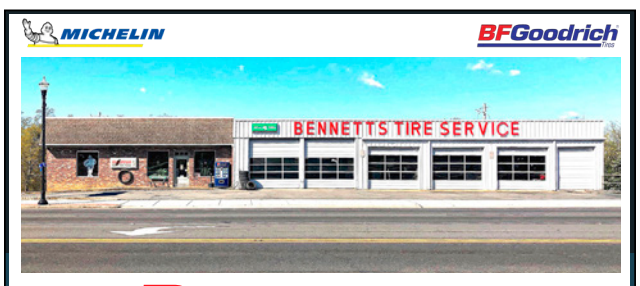
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Strategic Direction for the Prevention of Suicidal Behavior recommends that parents promote social support, participation in activities, and connection with others to reduce social isolation.

Another resource for parents of youth who want to commit suicide is the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255). The Alabama Suicide Prevention and Resources Coalition has several resources that can be helpful to not only parents but also others in the community. Visit www.asparc.org/resources/community-resources.

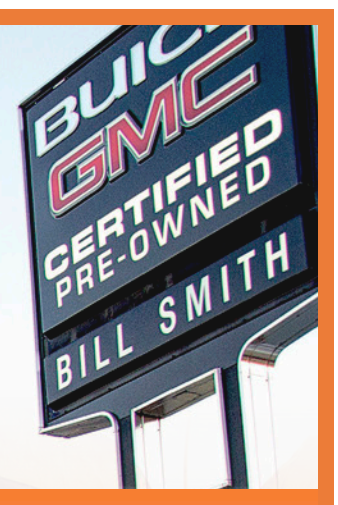
Early adolescence is a critical period for supporting mental health and suicide prevention among young people. During these years, it is crucial for parents to support youth and give them the services they need. Talk to youth, especially during the middle school years, about their struggles and offer support when needed. Young people should know that there are concerned adults around them who can help if they struggle with thoughts of committing suicide.

In 2018, Alabama Governor Kay Ivey signed the Jamari Terrell Williams Student Harassment Act in response to a 10-year-old Montgomery boy who committed suicide because of bullying. The act puts responsibility on the board of education to make sure that cyberbullying and bullying are not tolerated on or off a school campus or online.

This law gives schools more responsibility in disciplining bullies and stopping harassment before it leads to another tragedy. It also requires that each school system update the way it tracks and reports bullying cases. Parents should be aware that this law exists to hold schools accountable for the safety of their children.

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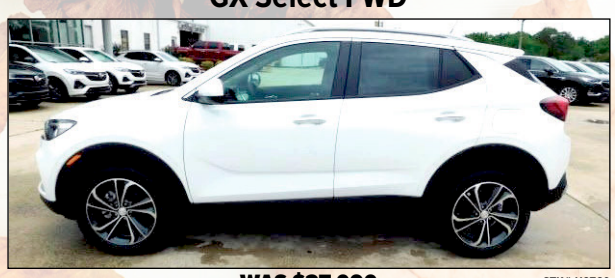
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