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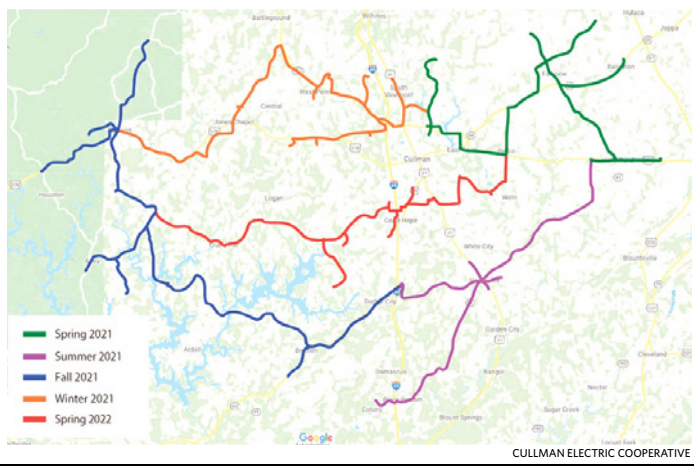
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Co-op customers near Berlin readying for Sprout Fiber Internet

This graphic shows, in different colors, when Cullman Electric Cooperative customers can expect access to Sprout Fiber Internet.

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CULLMAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

– EDUCATION –

Sacred Heart 5th grader Caroline McBride named national handwriting champion

Four other Sacred Heart students win state titles



CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Sacred Heart local and state 2019-2020 Zaner-Bloser handwriting winners: (left to right) John Carl Knight (Kindergarten -classroom winner), Valeria Becerra (first grade-state winner), Shawna Norman (principal), Jordyn Black (third grade-state winner) and Caroline McBride (fifth grade-state and grand national champion). Not pictured: state winners Maria Agnello (fourth grade) and Charli Roberson (sixth grade).

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Sacred Heart Elementary School recently became home to five state handwriting champions, including Caroline McBride, who went on to be named the fifth-grade national Grand Champion in the 30th annual Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest held last spring. The school has competed in the contest for 25 years and has a history of students bringing home honors.

The school's state level winners also included:

- Valeria Becerra, first grade
- Jordyn Black, third grade
- Maria Agnello, fourth grade
- Charli Roberson, sixth grade

Principal Shawna Norman recognized McBride before Sacred Heart Church's congregation during last Sunday's morning Mass.

The school teaches handwriting like other academic subjects, pointing to several benefits for those who learn cursive script.

At Sacred Heart Church, Norman presented a certificate to vice principal and fifth-grade teacher Tracy Holmes, crediting her for the skills she passes on to her students.

Norman said of her school's emphasis on good handwriting skills, "Sacred Heart School has been teaching handwriting

» PAGE 7

FAITH

LIST: Christmas church services

» PAGE 2

'I'm extremely humbled and honored'

Cullman U.S. Army recruiter accepted into prestigious Sergeant Audie Murphy Club

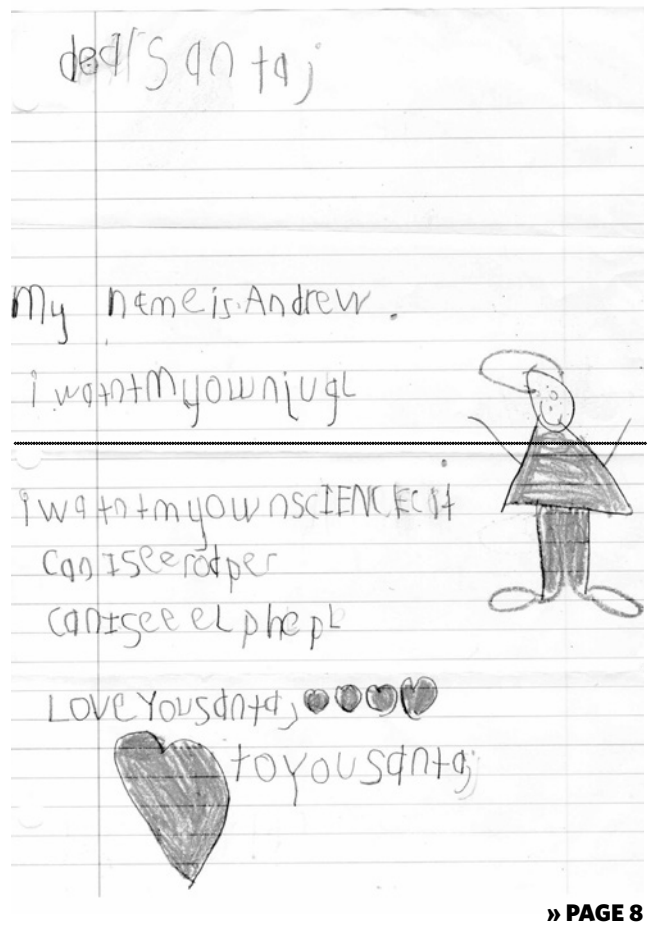


MELISSA VACCARO

Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Clayton

» PAGE 5

Santa Letters Inside



» PAGE 8

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Services (from Front)

Heather Mann
heather@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – With just over a week left until Christmas, many churches are preparing worship services while keeping in mind the COVID-19 guidelines. For those who are trying to figure out where to tune in, The Tribune compiled a list of churches with their service times and any other Christmas events they will be hosting.

All worship services will be held in-person with Facebook live streams available Sunday, Dec. 20 unless otherwise noted. Check each church's website or Facebook page for more details. If you know of a service we missed, email heather@cullmantribune.com.

• Center Hill Baptist Church, Hanceville – Sunday School at 10 a.m., worship at 11. Wednesday, Dec. 23: free Community Christmas Dinner at 1 p.m.

• Church at the Well, Cullman – 10:30 a.m.

• Crosshaven Church, Hanceville – "Christmas at the Cross" service at 10:30 a.m., video also available on the Crosshaven Church Cullman YouTube channel

• Cullman Church of Christ – 10 a.m., video also available on the Cullman Church of Christ website

• Cullman Nazarene Church – 10 a.m.

• Desperation Church, multiple locations – 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.

• East Side Baptist Church – Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. (also available on Facebook), worship at 10:30 a.m.

• Ebenezer Baptist Church, Vinemont – 11 a.m. (live stream only)

• Etha Baptist Church, between Fairview and Eva – "Love Came for Me" Carols & Candlelight at 10:30 a.m.

• Fairview First United Methodist- Thursday. Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7 p.m. in person or online on Facebook

• Faith Baptist Church, Vinemont – 10:45 a.m.

• First Baptist Church, Garden City – 10:30 a.m. (streamed to the GCFBC Facebook group)

• First Baptist Church, Cullman – Traditional worship at 8 a.m., Blended worship at 9:30, Modern worship at 10:45. Also available on the Cullman FBC website

• First United Methodist Church, Cullman – Thursday, Dec. 24. Outdoor worship service in the FUMC parking lot, 5 p.m.

• First United Methodist, Hanceville – 10:30 a.m.

• Grace Episcopal – worship services inside the church at 8 & 10:30 a.m., online worship via Zoom at 9:15

• Kingdom Life Church, Simcoe – 10:30 a.m. (live stream only)

• Life Church-Cullman, Dodge City – 9 & 11 a.m. Dec. 20, 10 a.m. Dec. 27

• New Hope #2 – Sunday School at 10 a.m., worship at 11

• Northbrook Baptist – 9 & 10:30 a.m.

• Oak Level Baptist Church, between Berlin and Holly Pond – 10 a.m., live streamed to Pastor Etsel Riddle's personal Facebook page

• Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church, Joppa – 11 a.m.

• Redan Missionary Baptist Church, Holly Pond – Sunday School at 10 a.m., worship at 11

• Renovation Church, Vinemont – 10:30 a.m.

• Rocky Mount Primitive Baptist Church, Arab – 10:30 a.m.

• Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church, Cullman – Thursday, Dec. 24: Children's Mass at 3 & 5 p.m., Spanish Mass at 8 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 25: Bilingual Mass at midnight, Mass at 10 a.m., Spanish Mass at noon. More information available at www.sacredheartchurchcullman.org.

• St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church, Cullman – Thursday, Dec. 24: Indoor worship in the sanctuary at noon, outdoor worship on the front steps at 5 p.m. (weather-permitting). Friday, Dec. 25: Christmas Morning Dawn Watch at 6 a.m. Must register for the service you wish to attend (https://sjepc.com/events/christmas-worship-services/).

• St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Cullman – Weekly evening prayer services held every Wednesday night at 6; Thursday, Dec. 24: 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. The service of lessons and carols will begin at 6 p.m. and feature talents and voices from Sunday school students, members of the Senior Choir, the Hand Bell Choir and a chamber ensemble from St. Paul's and the community featuring woodwinds, brass and percussion. The 11 p.m. service will feature carols and candlelight in the Divine Service. Friday, Dec. 25: Divine Service at 9 a.m. Services available on the St. Paul's Lutheran YouTube channel, StPaulsCullman.

• South Cullman Church of Christ – 10 a.m.; video also available on the South Cullman Church of Christ website

• Temple Baptist Church, Cullman - "Christmas at Temple" online-only services at 9 & 11 a.m. (www.facebook.com/templecullman)

• Temple Baptist Church, Fairview - "Christmas at Temple" online-only service at 10 a.m. (www.facebook.com/templefairview)

• Vinemont Baptist Church – 11 a.m.

• Welcome Baptist Church, Baileyton – 10 a.m.

• West Point Baptist Church – 9 & 10:30 a.m. (only 10:30 service is live streamed)

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COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2020 COVID-19 update from the Alabama Department of Public Health's COVID-19 Data and Surveillance Dashboard

• Total confirmed cases in AL: 249,849 (+2,846 since yesterday)
• Probable cases in AL: 55,791 (+1,261 since yesterday)
• Total confirmed deaths in AL: 3,704 (+62 since yesterday)
• Probable deaths in AL: 494
• Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co.: 4,258 (+78 since yesterday)
• Probable cases in Cullman Co.: 1,677 (+26 since yesterday)
• Total confirmed deaths in Cullman Co.: 50 (+2 since yesterday)
• Probable deaths in Cullman Co.: 14
• Total tested in Cullman Co.: 28,965
• Total tested in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 2,802
• Cases in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 1,223
• Total tested in Alabama: 1,741,128
• Cases in the last 14 days in Alabama: 49,492
• Total tested in the last 14 days in Alabama: 137,793
• Currently hospitalized in Alabama: 2,310
• Cumulative no. of hospitalizations in Alabama: 29,559
• Presumed recoveries in Alabama (reported weekly): 183,625

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

Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2020 update from Cullman Regional

• 58 positive patients, with16 currently on ventilators
• Cullman Regional has reported 79 COVID deaths to ADPH. Of these patients, 60 were from Cullman County.

"This week, Alabama's COVID-19 hospitalization rate is at an all-time high. The numbers of cases are climbing, and this latest surge ties directly into the Thanksgiving holiday. We've got to do better over the next two holiday weeks.

"While we're starting to get a glimpse of the light at the end of the tunnel with the introduction of the new vaccines, it will be several months before vaccines are available for the general public. The first rounds will be used for our frontline health care workers, first responders and nursing home residents. It will probably be the spring or early summer before we see an impact from vaccinations on community spread of the virus.

"This means we have to continue to wear our masks, stay at home if possible and socially distance if we have to go out and constantly wash our hands. So, during the holidays and on into next year, please make every effort to stay safe, to protect yourself, your family and others around you."

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Martha Needham - Photojournalist
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Janet Chandler - Marketing Specialist

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
• 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.
• Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
• Sundays at 10 a.m. adult, youth and children's classes; 11 a.m. children's classes; praise and worship, and message by Pastor Bobby Dodd
• Dec. 19 Drive-thru food bank 9-11 a.m. Bring a picture ID.
• Dec. 23, 7 p.m. Candle Lighting & Communion Service by Pastor Bobby Dodd. Everyone welcome! We will social distance and celebrate JESUS.

Hanceville Tinsel Trail
Now through Christmas at Veterans Park in Hanceville. Free admission. Enjoy the lights and displays as you walk along the Tinsel Trail.

Church Services- St. Paul's Lutheran Church
• Advent Season will be highlighted at St. Paul's Lutheran Church during weekly evening prayer services held every Wednesday night at 6 p.m. The focus of the readings will be chapters 47, 48 and 49 from the prophecy of Isaiah.
• St. Paul's Christmas Eve services are scheduled for 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. The service of lessons and carols will begin at 6 p.m. and feature talents and voices from Sunday school students, members of the Senior Choir, the Hand Bell Choir and a chamber ensemble from St. Paul's and the community featuring woodwinds, brass and percussion. The 11 p.m. service will feature carols and candlelight in the Divine Service. Divine Service will begin at 9 a.m. Christmas morning.
• All are welcome to join in these celebrations at 513 Fourth Ave. SE in Cullman.

18th Annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display at Sportsman Lake Park
• Guests can enjoy driving through the park, train rides, carriage rides, hot chocolate and pictures with Santa.
• This year a few things had to be tweaked due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The train has Plexiglass to separate riders. Santa will also be positioned with Plexiglass separating himself from the kids.
• Admission to the Winter Wonderland is $10 per vehicle. A photo with Santa is $5. Only cash will be accepted. The display will be open (weather-permitting) from 5-10 p.m.
• Dec. 17-23 and 26-27 (drive thru-only the 26-27). Dec. 23 will be the last day for the train.
• Free admission for seniors 60 and older Dec. 18-20. The Cullman County Commission will hand out candy to seniors Dec. 18-19.
• Sportsman Lake Park is located at 1544 Sportsman Lake Road NW in Cullman.

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. 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

Hanceville Quarterback Club Turkey Shoot
• Every Saturday until Dec. 19 at 8 a.m. along U.S. Highway 31 South between Barbee Motors and Domino's. Look for the signs.
• All proceeds support Hanceville Quarterback Club.

4D Farm "Country Christmas"
• Games, activities, food, sweets, rides, and of course, farm animals. Most of the farm's normal attractions will be open, as well as Santa's Barn, where Santa will be available for families to take pictures.
• Sleigh rides will take visitors on the Country Christmas Light Trail. For those not comfortable with a sleigh ride, don't worry, visitors can opt to drive their own vehicles.
• $14.95 + tax per person includes attractions and light trail. For $5, treat cards are also available for purchase- they include treat kits as well as feed for the farm animals. For those just wanting to drive through the Country Christmas Light Trail, the cost is $10 per vehicle.
• Social distancing at the farm should not be a problem. The attractions are spread out, and the farm is a large area which allows for families to stay distanced. Masks are encouraged.
• 4D Farm is located at 7182 County Road 703 in Cullman. The farm will be open from 3-9 p.m. Friday-Sunday through Dec. 20. The drive-thru light show is open Wednesday-Sunday from 5-9 p.m.
• Find out more at www.4dfamilyfarm.com or www.facebook.com/4D-Farm.

LifeSouth Christmas Blood Drive
Thursday, Dec. 17 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at RE Garrison Trucking, 1103 County Road 1194, Cullman, AL 35179

Living Nativity
• Dec. 17-20, times vary, at West Point Baptist Church, 140 County Road 1242, Cullman, AL 35057
• This is a free, socially distanced, outdoor event with music, drama and live animals! Parents, there will also be a photo opportunity for your children with the nativity animals.
• We will offer two presentations each night: 6 and 7:30 p.m.
• Being mindful of others, we will limit each presentation to 50 people.
• Reserve your place online or call for your reservation today!
• https://bit.ly/LivingNativity2020 256-739-5849

Santa in Garden City
• Friday, Dec. 18 at noon at Dollar General in Garden City
• He's going to be checking who's been naughty and nice and letting everyone get a picture with him! Cause who wouldn't want a picture with Santa!! We all hope to see you there! Look for the big red engines!

Holly Pond Civitan Club Cards in the Park and Luminaries
Friday, Dec. 18 at 5 p.m. at Governors Park in Holly Pond. Walk around the park and enjoy the giant "Christmas Cards" on display and the luminaries placed around the walkways.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Commission awards installation contract for New Canaan shelter; Human Trafficking Awareness Month proclaimed

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – New Canaan will soon see progress in the long-awaited installation of its community storm shelter. The Cullman County Commission on Tuesday evening awarded the contract to install the shelter to Harbor Enterprises, LLC, doing business as Survive-A-Storm.

The new community storm center will be located next to the New Canaan Community Center and will be paid for by a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Commissioner Kerry Watson thanked new Cullman County Economic Development Director Bradley Williams for helping to move the project forward, saying, "I appreciate it. I started this in 2017 and this shows you how long it takes to get one of these."

Chairman Jeff Clemons declared January 2021 Human Trafficking Awareness Month with the reading of a proclamation at Tuesday's meeting.

Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force Chairperson Kathy Wilson was present to thank the commission for its ongoing support.

Said Wilson, "This past year, we were able to partner with Wallace State Community College and we put out our first personal service announcement video.

"It's two and a half minutes long and it's on YouTube under Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force.

"If you would, view it, share it. That's how we stop this heinous crime is from one person to another education."

In other business, the commission took the following actions:

- Passed Resolution 2021-4 making Dec. 31, 2020 a County holiday
- Passed Resolution 2021-5- agreement with Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) relating to CARTS with partial funding by the Federal Transit Administration for FY2021-2022
- Passed Resolution 2021-07- agreement with the City of Cullman for improvements and resurfacing of 24th Street Southwest and a portion of County Road 715 in Cullman Industrial Park II
- Authorized Clemons to reappoint Judge Rusty Turner to the Public Library Board for a four-year term expiring 9/30/24
- Authorized Clemons to sign a Section 5311 agreement between CARTS and ALDOT for FY 2021-2022
- Authorized Clemons to sign certificate of compliance with the Beason-Hammon Alabama Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act
- Approved appointment of Clemons to the Airport Board, expiring 11/2024
- Approval of the Veterans Memorial Park bylaws
- Approved allowing bid for replacement equipment of the AWOS at the Cullman Regional Airport
- Approved allowing bid for proposals for design build hanger at the Cullman Regional Airport
- Approved three-year agreement with Georgia Pacific for dispenser refills for all County businesses, excluding parks
- Approved renewal of the ACCA Liability Self-Insurance- cost $412,189.11 (a 4% increase from last year)
- Approved donation of $6,000 to Saving Forgotten Warriors for the 800 Club for veterans with PTSD
- Approved donation of $6,000 to VFW for the 800 Club for veterans with PTSD
- Approved employment contract for the county administrator
- Awarded bid for the Agricultural Trade Center Pump Station Improvement Project to Apel Machine & Supply Co. Inc. upon recommendation of St. John & Associates
- Authorized Clemons to serve as owner's authorized representative to sign all documents pertaining to Agricultural Trade Center Pump Station Improvement Project
- Approved payment to St. John & Associates for engineering services in the amount of $10,095
- Accepted bid from Willoughby Roofing & Sheet Metal, Inc. in the amount of $56,965 to complete roofing project for the Cullman County Garage

The next commission work session will be Thursday, Jan. 21, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. followed by the commission meeting at 6 p.m. on the first floor of the Cullman County Courthouse.



CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Left to right are Commissioner Kerry Watson, Chairman Jeff Clemons, Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force Chairperson Kathy Wilson and Commissioner Garry Marchman.

EDUCATION NOTES

Cullman's Katelyn Smith named to Troy Provost's List

Matt Clower
Contributor

TROY, Ala. – Troy University is pleased to announce students who have been named to the Provost's List for Term 1 of the 2020/2021 academic year. Full-time undergraduate students who are registered for 12 semester hours and who have a grade point average of at least 3.65 qualify for the Provost's List.

Local students include Katelyn Smith of Cullman.

Troy University is a public, historic, international university with 22,500 students and 154,000 alumni. Students choose TROY for its quality academic programs, reasonable costs and availability of financial aid, outstanding faculty, and flexible in-class and online class offerings.

Students on the Troy, Ala. campus enjoy a traditional college experience, while adult students are the centers of attention at campuses in Dothan, Montgomery and Phenix City, Ala., as well as at locations around the world and online.

EDUCATION NOTES

Hanceville's Alex Campbell named to Berry Dean's List

Chris Reinolds Kozelle
Contributor

ROME, Ga. – Alex Campbell of Hanceville, AL was named to the Fall 2020 Dean's List at Berry College. The Dean's List honors students who posted an academic average of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale while carrying a class load of at least 12 hours during the semester.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 17, 2020

Auburn uses second half run to beat Texas Southern

Greg Ostendorf
AU Athletics

AUBURN, Ala. – For the first 20 minutes, Texas Southern gave Auburn all it could handle Tuesday night. But the home Tigers clamped down on the defensive end in the second half and went on an 18-2 run to pull away for an 80-63 win inside Auburn Arena.

"I thought we played well," head coach Bruce Pearl said. "People will point to the second half where the outcome was better. I thought offensively we were good throughout the night. To only have nine turnovers and score 80 points, I think that's a real positive."

For the second straight game, it was the trio of Allen Flanigan, Justin Powell and Jaylin Williams who stepped up and led the way for Auburn.

After combining to score 52 points in Saturday's win against Memphis, they combined for 48 points in Tuesday's game.

Flanigan scored a game-high 18 points with 15 coming in the second half.

During Auburn's 18-2 run, the sophomore made 3 the hard way twice, converting two baskets inside while drawing the foul, and then capped the run with a cross-over, step-back 3 as the shot clock was running down to put the Tigers ahead 61-46.

"When we had that run, we were real aggressive," Flanigan said. "Guys didn't back down. We crashed the boards and just fought back in those couple of minutes. We gave it all we had."

Flanigan has now scored in double figures in five of Auburn's six games.

Powell and Williams also finished in double figures Tuesday night with 15 points apiece.

Powell, the SEC Freshman Player of the Week, filled up the stat sheet as he tied for the team lead with seven rebounds and also dished out a team-high six assists. Through the first six games, he leads the team in all three major categories, averaging 16.5 points, 6.5 rebounds and 3.8 assists per game.

Williams put Auburn on the board first with a bucket on the game's opening possession. A few minutes later, the sophomore threw down an alley-oop drunk from Powell to finish off a fastbreak.

Powell fed Williams again for another slam in the second half. Williams also chipped in six rebounds, two blocks and two steals.

The big three for Auburn shot a combined 18 of 35 from the floor and only turned it over five times. As a team, the nine turnovers committed were a season low for the Tigers.

It was a breakout game of sorts for freshman JT Thor who was everywhere in the first five minutes. He grabbed three offensive rebounds. His steal led to the alley-oop dunk from Williams. He had a block, which led to a 3 in transition from Flanigan. And he threw down a nasty one-handed dunk with his left hand.

Thor finished the night with seven points, seven rebounds, three steals and two blocks.

Fellow freshman Dylan Cardwell also tied for the team lead with seven rebounds and provided the Tigers with a boost of energy off the bench in the second half.

"The big three of Jaylin Williams, Allen Flanigan and Justin Powell all played really well," Pearl said.

"But the key for our team is when JT Thor does what he does tonight. Three steals and five offensive rebounds. You could see how popular of a player JT is because when he started flying around and making plays, the whole bench just lit up like crazy.

"Or the effort and energy of Dylan Cardwell. Dylan played with such passion and got excited about some defensive rebounds and blocking a shot and getting a stop, and I love the fact that he's showing his emotion. I was really pleased with that."



SHANNA LOCKWOOD/AU ATHLETICS

Auburn's Allen Flanigan (22) scored 18 points in the Tigers' 80-63 win over Texas Southern Tuesday night.

10 different players scored for Auburn on Tuesday night.

The victory over Texas Southern made it 31 in a row over non-conference opponents inside Auburn Arena. The Tigers (4-2) will be back home this Saturday to face Troy at 1 p.m. CT.

Jones' double-double keys Alabama' comeback win over Furman

UA Athletics
rolltide.com

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. – Herbert Jones scored 18 points and grabbed 12 rebounds to key the Alabama men's basketball team to an 83-80 comeback win in Coleman Coliseum Tuesday night. Furman led by as many as 16 points and for all but 1:18 of the contest, however, with the Crimson Tide used a 15-9 run over the last six minutes to secure the victory.

Jones added four assists and two blocks to his fifth career double-double and second this season. Jaden Shackelford finished with 13 points while James Rojas contributed a season-high 11 points and tied his season-high with seven rebounds. Juwan Gary finished with a season high of 10 points on 4-of-5 shooting and added three rebounds.

The Crimson Tide (4-2) dominated the paint, scoring 40 points inside and grabbing 48 boards while holding the Paladins to 28 points in the paint and 27 rebounds. Alabama also dominated the offensive glass, turning a 21-5 offensive rebounding advantage into a huge 24-3 edge in second chance points.

Furman (5-2) was led by Mike Bothwell (23) and Clay Mounce (21) who combined to score 44 points.

Coach Nate Oats Postgame Comments

"That was a big win. Furman is a really good team. I thought our guys showed a lot of fight coming back from down 16. I thought our effort o close out the first half and a majority the second half was much better. I thought Rojas gave us a huge spark. We kind of went small and found a lineup that could guard them a little better. Our defense wasn't very good tonight, especially to start the game. We've got to do a better job coming out to play defensively, but I thought we showed a lot of character and fight. We didn't shoot the ball particularly well, but we figured out a way to score enough points. The offensive boards were big tonight, outscoring them 24-3 where last game it was 15-0 the other way. It was a huge point of emphasis in rebounding and we outrebounded them by 21. I thought Juwan Gary gave us some great minutes and John Petty's effort was great. He stayed engaged the whole game even though he didn't shoot the ball well, so we have to give him a lot of credit as well. I like where we are attitude-wise, but we have to do a better job coming out of the gate."

Team Stats

Furman took its largest lead of the game at 16 points (32-16) with 8:32 left in the half and led for 37:12 of the contest.

Alabama took its first lead of the game on a Rojas three-pointer with 1:18 remaining and never relinquished it

The Crimson Tide dominated the boards, outrebounding the Paladins 48-27, leading to Alabama scoring 40 points in the paint and 24 second-chance points

Alabama's bench contributed 34 points in the win compared to just 13 from Furman.

Alabama outscored Furman 46-33 while shooting 50 percent from the field in the second half to overcome the Paladins

With 8:12 to go in the game, Furman's Mounce fouled after scoring 21 points

Herbert Jones recorded his fifth career double-double with 18 points and 12 rebounds with four assists and two blocks in 33 minutes of action

First Half

Furman jumped out to a 20-14 lead to begin the game and then used a 12-2 run to pull ahead 32-16 with 8:21 left to play in the first half

Alabama responded with a 10-6 spurt to trim the Paladin lead to 10 with 4:57 left before the half

With Furman leading by 15 at the 2:15 mark, the Tide scored the last five points of the first half to cut the differential to 10 points, 47-37, as the teams went into the locker room



UA ATHLETICS

Alabama Forward James Rojas posted 11 points and seven rebounds in the Crimson Tide's 83-80 win over Furman Tuesday night.

Furman shot an efficient 62.1 percent (18-of-29) from the field and hit eight threes (8-of-17), while Alabama shot 40.0 percent (14-of-35)

The Paladins' Bothwell, Gurley, and Mounce combined to score 38 of the team's 47 points in the first half

Second Half

Alabama outscored Furman, 10-7, in the early part of the first half, however the Paladins scored four straight to lead 58-47 with 14:56 remaining in the game

With 8:12 to play and trailing 70-61, the Tide went on a 12-4 run to pull within one point of the Paladins at 74-73 with 3:42 left in the game

Trailing 76-73, Alabama scored eight straight points to take an 81-76 lead with 28 seconds left to play

Despite missing several free throws down the stretch, the Tide would go on to defeat Furman, 83-80

Alabama knocked down five of its last six field goals while holding the Paladins to just one of their last 10

Alabama outrebounded Furman 29-13 after the intermission

Up Next

The Tide continues its four game homestand on Dec. 19, taking on Western Kentucky at home in Coleman Coliseum

The contest is slated for 1 p.m. CT and can be watched on ESPNU

For all the latest information on the team, follow AlabamaMBB on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. General athletic news can be found @UA_Athletics on Twitter and Instagram and Alabama Athletics on Facebook.

Offensive line selected as semifinalists for the Joe Moore Award

UA Athletics
rolltide.com

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. – The Alabama offensive line was selected as one of 11 semifinalists for the Joe Moore Award, the Foundation for Teamwork announced on Monday.

The Joe Moore Award is presented annually to the nation's top offensive line unit. Alabama is joined on the semifinalist list by Buffalo, BYU, Coastal Carolina, Iowa, Iowa State, Kentucky, Louisiana, Notre Dame, Ohio State, and Texas A&M.

Offensive Line

Joe Moore Award Semifinalist

• Alabama's starting offensive line has only allowed quarterback Mac Jones to be sacked six times in 10 games on 301 drop backs, or one sack per 50.2 drop backs, while Jones leads the nation in passing efficiency

• The Crimson Tide is second nationally in rushing touchdowns with 33 (3.3 per game), while ranking third in the SEC in rushing offense (190.1 ypg)

• The Alabama offensive front has blocked for the nation's top-ranked FBS scoring offense (49.5 ppg), the No. 1 pass efficiency offense (198.2) and No. 3 total offense (537.6)

The award is named after Joe Moore, widely regarded as one of the best offensive line coaches in college football history and is the only major college football award to honor a unit. The award annually recognizes the nation's most outstanding offensive line unit that best displays toughness, effort, teamwork, physicality, tone setting and finishing.

Alabama previously won the award in 2015 in its first year of existence.

The Joe Moore Award finalists will be named on Monday, Dec. 21st. The eventual winner will be recognized in the ensuing weeks during a surprise, on campus visit to the winning unit's school (TBD as per the winning school's schedule).

Get all the latest information on the team by following @AlabamaFTBL on Twitter and Facebook and AlabamaFBL on Instagram. General athletic news can also be found at UA_Athletics on Twitter and Instagram and AlabamaAthletics on Facebook.



UA ATHLETICS

The Alabama offensive line has been selected as a semifinalist for this year's Joe Moore Award.

Honored (from Front)

Heather Mann
heather@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Local U.S. Army Recruiter, Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Clayton was recently accepted into the prestigious Sergeant Audie Murphy Club (SAMC), which describes itself as "an elite organization of noncommissioned officers (NCOs) who have demonstrated performance and inherent leadership qualities and abilities characterized by those of Sergeant Audie Murphy."

According to the SAMC page on the Audie L. Murphy Memorial Website (www.audiemurphy.com), members accepted into the organization must "exemplify leadership characterized by personal concern for the needs, training, development, and welfare of Soldiers and concern for families of Soldiers."

Selection for the SAMC is divided into three phases: Commander's Nomination, Initial Selection and Final Selection.

First, the unit commanders who recommend NCOs for selection evaluate candidates prior to their appearance before the initial selection board. Initial selection under the direction of the unit senior NCO numerically scores the candidates on a variety of criteria to determine if they should continue to final selection.

If approved, the candidates appear before a final selection board made up of a command sergeant major and three or more command or sergeants major.

Through a question and answer system, the board determines if the candidates have "reached a level of knowledge in a range of subjects to warrant induction into the SAMC. Candidates successfully meeting standards of final selection board will be selected for induction into the SAMC."

SFC Clayton outlined his military history in his introduction letter to the selection board, and he allowed The Tribune to share the information about his service.

"I joined the Army in 2004 out of my hometown Rockingham, North Carolina.

"I attended basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina and AIT (Advanced Infantry Training) at Fort Eustis, Virginia earning the MOS (Military Occupation Specialty) 88N, Transportation Management Coordinator, and was recognized by the battalion commander for being the class commander."

Clayton's first assignment saw him in South Korea as a movements specialist over airfield operations.

"I revised two SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) and developed an operations guide that was adopted by battalion.

"After completing Warrior Leaders Course and the promotion board to sergeant, I was pinned by the 19th ESC Commander, Brigadier General Raymond V. Mason, at 24 months in the Army."

Re-enlisting in 2008 sent him to Kure, Japan, serving as the senior NCO managing stock ammunition depots.

"I learned Japanese during my two years there and coordinated three major bilateral training exercises between the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Forces and Army National Guard units.

"I also managed a special mission in Diego Garcia as ADACG (Arrival-Departure Airfield Control Group) NCO In Charge for the RSOI (Reception, Staging, Onward Movement, and Integration) of the 5-2 Striker BCT (Brigade Combat Team) from Fort Lewis to Kandahar."

After five years of service, Clayton achieved the rank of staff sergeant. His next deployment took him to the Kuwait-Iraq border, where he served as a transportation supervisor in charge of eight soldiers and managed 24-hour convoy operations working with Kuwait Customs, Immigration and Border Security.

"He was reassigned to Fort Campbell, Kentucky after completing the Advanced Leader Course in March 2012, and in August 2012 he was deployed to Afghanistan.

"There he managed "all air cargo and personnel movements throughout the area of operations."

Clayton transitioned into the Army Reserve in 2014 and was accepted as a career counselor.

Three years later, he applied for the Active Guard Reserve program as a recruiter, and he is currently assigned to the Cullman Station, Huntsville Company, Montgomery Recruiting Battalion. In May 2020, he achieved the rank of sergeant first class.

"My short-term goals are to be inducted into the SAMC and complete by bachelor's degree," Clayton stated. "My long-term goals are to reclassify back to career counselor and achieve the rank of command sergeant major."

He described himself as a "passionate and caring leader" and stated that he hoped to be considered for the SAMC in order to "carry on the legacy of the organization while mentoring the next generation of leaders."

Clayton told The Tribune of the SAMC honor, "I would like thank God for blessing me with the opportunity and ability to serve this great nation for the past 16-plus years in the greatest Army on earth. I want to say a special thanks to wife Katy and my two boys for supporting me and being my biggest fans while I've prepared.

I'd like to thank my brothers in the Cullman Recruiting Station for the loyalty, selfless service and encouragement.

"Thanks to my leaders and mentors who recommended me and pushed me to achieve this distinction.

"I'm extremely humbled and honored to simply be considered qualified for the SAMC. Getting inducted into this phenomenal group of professionals is one of my greatest accomplishments.

I've always admired the SAMC, but never considered myself eligible.

"I look forward to carrying on the legacy of the organization and mentor the next generation of leaders! 'You lead from the front!'"

About Audie Murphy (www.army.mil)

"Audie Leon Murphy, son of poor Texas sharecroppers, rose to national fame as the most decorated U.S. combat soldier of World War II. Among his 33 awards and decorations was the Medal of Honor, the highest military award for bravery that can be given to any individual in the United States of America, for 'conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty.'

He also received every decoration for valor that his country had to offer, some of them more than once, including 5 decorations by France and Belgium. Credited with both killing over 240 of the enemy while wounding and capturing many others, he became a legend within the 3rd Infantry Division.

Beginning his service as an Army Private, Audie quickly rose to the enlisted rank of Staff Sergeant, was given a 'battlefield' commission as 2nd Lieutenant, was wounded three times, fought in 9 major campaigns across the European Theater, and survived the war."



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LEGALS

DISTRICT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY
500 2nd Ave SW
Room 303
Cullman, Al 35055

Bobby Noles
(PLAINTIFF)

VS CASE NO: SM-2016-900068

Amanda Drake
(DEFENDANT)

NOTICE OF FILING OF LAW SUIT

DEFENDANT(S), Amanda Drake, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the complaint brought against him/her by the PLAINTIFF, Bobby Noles, for $3,860.59 plus court cost, cause of action being: Failure to pay promissory notes.

ANSWER TO THE COMPLAINT MUST BE MADE BY THE SAID DEFENDANT on or before the 21st day of January, 2021, or a default may be rendered against him/her in the above styled cause.

DATED THIS THE 9th DAY OF December, 2020.

LISA MCSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

PB MIN BK 192 PG 739 - 12/09/2020 12:30 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
RANDY KEVIN WREN, deceased. CASE NO. PC2020-339

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF RANDY KEVIN WREN, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Sharon H. Barrett on the 8th day of December, 2020, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

SHARON H. BARRETT, Personal Representative

TO: Publisher of *The Cullman Tribune*:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Sharon H. Barrett
Smith & Smith, LLP
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
Phone: (256) 734-4721

PB WIL BK 99 PG 218 - 12/15/2020 03:22 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CUILLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
T.P. GADDIS a/k/a * **CASE NO.: PC2020-356**
TOMMY PASCAL GADDIS, *
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Testamentary having been granted to GERALD GADDIS and OUNITA WILKS as Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of T.P GADDIS a/k/a TOMMY PASCAL GADDIS, deceased, on the 15th day of December, 2020. by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

Gerald Gaddis
Ounita Wilks
Co-Personal Representatives

Andrea Gullion
Attorney for Co-Personal Representatives
Harrison & Gammons, P.C.
2430 L & N Drive
Huntsville, AL 35801

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

Please publish the above Notice once a week for three consecutive weeks and send an affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF * IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
* *
WILLIE AUBREY CARNES, * CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
* *
deceased. * CASE NO. PC2020-347

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Karen Carnes, as Administratrix of the Estate of Willie Aubrey Carnes, deceased, on the 15th day of December, 2020, by the Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

TAMMY BROWN, PROBATE JUDGE

TO: Publisher
The Cullman Tribune

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

Attorney for Administrator:
J. Bradley Wilson
Baggett & Wilson, LLC
206 Ninth Street Southwest, Suite 102
Cullman, AL 35055
256-737-0740

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

CHARLES EARL SMITH, deceased. CASE NO. PC2020-330

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF CHARLES EARL SMITH, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Charles Earl Smith on the 8th day of December, 2020, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Darlene A. Smith, Personal Representative

TO: Publisher of *The Cullman Tribune*:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Milda Laney as Personal Representative of the Estate of FRANCES EARLINE CORLEY, deceased, on the 8th day of December, 2020, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

Milda Laney
Personal Representative of the Estate of
Frances Earline Corley, deceased

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

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

TAMMY BROWN, Judge of Probate

Beverly Paschal Poston (PAS001)
Attorney for the Estate of
Frances Earline Corley, deceased.
200 1st Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama, 35055
bposton@beverlypaschalposton.com
(256)739-3970 Fax (256)739-3968

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

LISA MICHELE GLISPIE,
Plaintiff

Vs. Case Number: **DR-2020-900447.00**

BRIAN PATRICK BARNES,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Brian Patrick Barnes, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Lisa Michele Glispie's Complaint for Divorce by February 8, 2021 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2020-900447.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 9th day of December, 2020.

Lisa McSwain,
Clerk of Circuit Court

DISTRICT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY
500 2ND Ave SW
Room 303
Cullman, Al 35055

Walker Brothers, LTD
(Plaintiff)

v. Case No SM-2015-900290

One Call Property Maintenance
(Defendant)

NOTICE OF FILING OF LAW SUIT

Defendant One Call Property Maintenance, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the complaint brought against him/her by the Plaintiff, Walker Brothers, LTD, for $2,117.84 plus court cost, cause of action being Open Account.

ANSWER TO THE COMPLAINT MUST BE MADE BY THE SAID DEFENDANT on or before the 28th day of January, 2021, or a default may be rendered against him/her in the above styled cause

Dated this the 15th day of December, 2020

LISA MCSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
MARY ELIZABETH CANTRELL, deceased. CASE NO. PC2020-338

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF MARY ELIZABETH CANTRELL, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Sharon H. Barrett on the 8th day of December, 2020, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

SHARON H. BARRETT, Personal Representative

TO: Publisher of *The Cullman Tribune*:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Sharon H. Barrett
Smith & Smith, LLP
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
Phone: (256) 734-4721

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF * CASE NO.: PC2020-341
EVA BUKAC, *
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Alex Bukac, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Eva Bukac, deceased, on the 15th day of December, 2020, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

Alex Bukac
Personal Representative

C. Blake West
Attorney for Personal Representative
1701 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-0026

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, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

McBride (from Front)

for years, as long as I can remember. And there's a lot of controversy about handwriting: should we teach it? Should we not teach it?

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"It also helps with dyslexic students; we have found research that writing letters in cursive helps them to distinguish between d's and b's, and p's and q's.

"It also helps us link ourselves to the past, to history.

"Many of our documents from the past are written in cursive, and by teaching writing cursive, we also teach students to read cursive.

"So it helps them to link to things to the past like our Declaration of Independence, which they may not have been able to read if they didn't know handwriting."

For more on Sacred Heart School, visit https://shscullman.com.

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Obituary Announcements: Dec. 17

Billy Wayne Patrick, son of Forrest Lonzo Patrick and Mary Ruth Patrick of Cullman, Alabama, passed away surrounded by his loving family Sunday, Dec. 13, 2020 in Cullman, Alabama at the age of 81. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Donald Patrick. Bill is survived by Sarah Etta Goodlett Patrick, his loving wife of 57 years; son Bryan Wayne Patrick; daughter Amanda Paige Patrick Booher and her husband, Shawn Booher and Amanda's daughters Sydney, Kennedy and Landry Wright; sisters-in-law Margaret Patrick, Jenny Bonner, Barbara (Gordon) Bennett, and Mary Ellen Goodlett; and many nieces and nephews. Bill was born Feb. 4, 1939 in White City, Alabama and graduated from Cullman High School in 1956. He received his bachelor's degree from Howard College in 1961. Bill and Sarah married in 1963 and lived their life in Cullman, Alabama, and they have taken care of one another, their family and many others ever since that date. Bill was known for his quick wit and finding the lighter side of any situation. He loved his family, his work and his community, and his pride and joy was being called Papa by his granddaughters. He was actively involved in their lives no matter how far away they lived, always finding a way to be with them and help them. He worked hard all his life to accomplish his dreams and goals, and he loved living in the country. He was one of the best gardeners around the community, with the ability to grow practically anything. He was known to never sit still. He was the type of person to never meet a stranger, and he absolutely loved talking with and getting to know anyone he met. Visitation is Saturday, Dec. 19, 2020 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home in Cullman, Alabama. Graveside service is at Center Grove Baptist Church in Gold Ridge starting at 11 a.m. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Please visit www.mossservicefh.com to leave condolences for the family. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

A small memorial service for Frederic Harry Wallwork, 84, of Holly Pond, who passed away Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2020, will be held at Mt. Zion Baptist Church Thursday, Dec. 17, 2020 at 11 a.m. He was preceded in death by his parents Raymond and Mary Gargus Wallwork and brother, Raymond Wallwork. Survivors include his wife Sandra Sims Wallwork; daughters Christina (Eric) Jones; son David (Brandy) Wallwork; children from his previous marriage Peter John Wallwork and Cathy Wallwork Russell; grandchildren Chad Wallwork, Jacob Jones, Dori Wallwork, Ryan Wallwork, Caleb (Abby) Jones, Abbey Jones and Phoebe Jones; brother Charles (Gail) Wallwork; and sisters Betty (Bobby) Coggins and Mary Jane (Whit) Kennedy. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of Mr. Wallwork to Mt. Zion Baptist Church Nicaragua Mission Fund, 5041 County Road 703, Cullman, AL 35055. Moss Service Funeral Home is assisting the family.

Tommy Dean Walker, 80, of Addison entered into rest Thursday, Dec. 10, 2020 in Yuma, Arizona. Tommy was born March 26, 1940 in Danville, Alabama. He attended Addison High School. He proudly served his country in the United States Navy, where he retired as Master Chief. He loved driving his truck, working on his cattle farm, and helping everyone he could. Visitation will be held Thursday, Dec. 17, 2020 from 5-8 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Addison. A graveside service with military honors will be on Friday at Arley Congregational Christian Church Cemetery in Arley. Brother Kenny Sudduth will officiate. The family requests that all attendees please wear a mask. Tommy is survived by his wife Sandy Walker; son Dwight Walker and his wife Yvonne; daughter Lori Tellarico; grandchildren Joseph Tellarico, Marisa Tellarico, Benny Tellarico, and Amanda Newton; great-grandchildren Daniel Newton; sisters Kathleen Smith, Jewel Bailey, and Betty Ledford; and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents Roy and Laura Walker; son Dean Walker; brother Clyde Walker; and sister Linda Jane Walker. Memories and condolences may be shared at www.nicholsfuneralhomes.com.

Memorial services for Nelson Ragsdale, 84, of Cullman will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, 2020 at Bellview Heights Baptist Church. Cullman Funeral Home is assisting the family. Mr. Ragsdale passed away Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2020 at UAB Hospital. He was born Oct. 1, 1936 to Johnny and Ethel Walls Ragsdale. He was preceded in death by his parents; a son James Ragsdale; brothers Reuben Ragsdale and Avery Ragsdale; sisters Evelyn Fields and Faye Nelle Roberson; and grandchildren Amanda Fowler and Anthony Ray. Survivors include his wife Joyce Ragsdale; sons Dale Ragsdale and Kevin Ragsdale; daughters Leisha Aguero and Felicia Aleman; brothers Lenoit Ragsdale and Jerry (Joyce) Ragsdale; sisters Bonnie Cleghorn, Tommie Cleghorn, and Judy Golden; and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Private family funeral services for Ruby Jean Johnson, 82, of Cullman will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, 2020 at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Ebenezer Cemetery, Rev. Steve Rodgers officiating. Private family visitation will be on Sunday from 1-2 p.m. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Mrs. Johnson passed away Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2020 at Woodland Health Care. She was born April 25, 1938 to Daniel Samuel and Bertha Lois McCoy Phillips. She was a great loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and was dear to all. She was preceded in death by her parents, infant son and her brothers and sisters. Survivors include her husband of 66 years, James Johnson; son David (Amy) Johnson; daughters Katherine Barfield and Karen (Gary) Francis; grandchildren Jason (Amy) Barfield, Jessica (Paul) Nordan, Kandace (Justin) St. Denny, Maverick Johnson, and Weston Johnson; great-grandchildren Eli St. Denny, Kate Barfield, A.J. Nordan, Andrew Barfield, Hunter Nordan; and family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Funeral services for Marisa Goodwin McIntosh, 35, of Cullman will be at noon, Saturday, Dec. 19, 2020 at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Corinth West Cemetery, Rev. James McGraw officiating. Visitation will be from 11:30 a.m.-noon at the funeral home. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Ms. McIntosh passed away Dec. 8, 2020 at her residence. She was born May 27, 1985. She was preceded in death by her grandfather Bobby Gene Goodwin. Survivors include her mother Terrie Wallace; father Bobby Michael Goodwin; fiancé Keith Bearden; brother Michael Wayne Goodwin; sister Latasha (Kel) Karoly; grandparents Wayne and Ruth Jetton, and Gail Goodwin; nephew Jameson Karoly; aunts Robin (Danny) Johnson, Lynn (Rickey) Jennings, Teresa Nichols, and Lisa (Kenny) Overton; and a host of family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Funeral service for Otis Craig White will be Saturday, Dec. 19. 2020, at 10 a.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Visitation will be from 9-10 prior to the service. Mr. White passed away Saturday, Dec. 12, in Mobile, AL.

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Complete obituaries may be found free of charge at CullmanTribune.com/obituaries.

Letters (from Front)

Kylie Smith
Age 8
2nd Grade/East Elementary/CIA
Mrs. Kelly

Dear Santa,
I've been good this year and I would like a elf to come soon and this year I would like a lol doll and a barbie truck and a ugly sweater that has a elf on it a dragon costume and more american girl doll and some clothes for her and I would like a american boy doll and some art supplies
some paintbrushes and a kindle for me and my sister Jordan please get all of this stuff and I still have some stuff in mind but I have to go do school so I hope you have a good Christmas Day and tell Mrs. Claus that I said hey and do the same for the elf Lilly please Santa Claus please.

Kylie Smith

Dear Santa,
I really don't want to ask for anything this year for just myself. I'd like to ask for everyone to be able to get better, have Covid go away so we can go to school, and to help those who have been hurt in all the ways possible by Covid. I hope you and Mrs. Claus have a very Merry Christmas. Thank you so much!

With Love,
Ava Brown
2nd Grade – East Elementary

Dear Santa Clause,

I have been a really good girl this year. I hope you are safe from covid-19. I can't wait for you to come through my door on Christmas Eve! What I want for Christmas is a LOL. Omg doll, Remix dolls, a plane and a Playdate Repunzel and Maximus. It is not all about the gifts, I know. It's really all about Jesus.

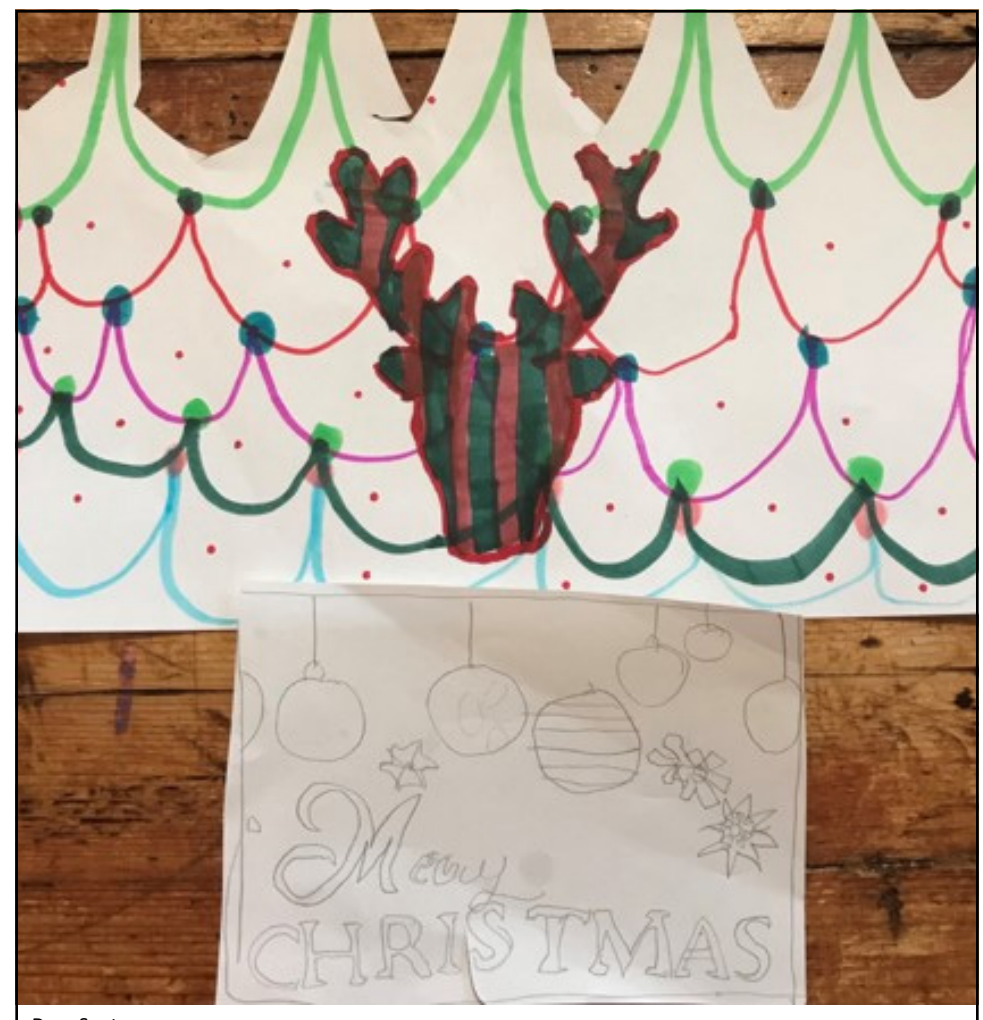
Love,
Paige
Age 11
Cullman Christian School

Dear Santa,

I'm always happy about the way you give out presents to people with a jolly mood! I really want to have mechanical pencils, Minecraft Dungeon figures, a computer for coding, and an epic Mine Coins gift card! I also wish that everyone else will have a good holiday season, especially the people who can't afford to get presents or an abundant amount of food. I wish for my mom, dad, and other family members to have a great Christmas, also.

Sincerely,
Sawyer
Age: 11
Cullman Christian School
5th Grade

Pandora
Age: 8
Grade: 2
Teacher:
Mrs. Kelly.
Deear santa: hi santa. hope your having jolly day. for christmas i want: a baby alive potty dance baby. kitty pop from lol surprise remix. a new unicorn shirt. lol balls. my little pony toys (i dont care which kind because i just like my little pony) a new unicorn backpack (i think its supposed to be clear. but i want a unicorn on mine) a blume toy. hatchmal eggs. a boxy girl. a hoverboard.gotta go flamingo.a baking kit that is a oven. world peace. and a unicorn dancing on a rainbow. my family.an end to covid-19. love-pandora



Dear Santa,

I just want to say Thank You for all that you do. It seems like a lot to do in just one night. How do you do it?

I have a few questions for you.

1. Have you ever lost a letter?

2. How do you deliver all of the toys in one night?

3. Do the Mail Ladies and Mail Men ever get to meet you?

4. Do all of your elves look the same or do they look different?

5. How many toys do you make every year?

6. If the elves ever need to come down here, do they have to get a reindeer ticket to come here?

Merry Christmas Santa, all of your reindeer and all of your elves.

P.S. Does cupid really have hearts in her antlers?

Love,

Lily Beth Veigl and her Elf, Tinsel

Lily Beth Veigl – 8 years old

2nd Grade-East Elementary School Virtual

2nd Grade Cullman City Virtual Teacher-Mrs. Tere Kelly

Internet (from Front)

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Sprout Fiber Internet service from the Cullman Electric Cooperative will soon be available in the Berlin area. Cullman Electric Cooperative Manager of Communications & External Affairs Brian Lacy said the Co-op has received great feedback from the eight residential customers and one business that served as "friendlies" or beta testers over the past few weeks.

"We have had almost 8,400 people who have basically registered through our website to indicate their interest in Sprout," he said.

Of those 8,400, approximately 2,300 are in Phase 1 of the Sprout rollout

"We haven't really started marketing yet. That's just from asking people to check out our website to see what they can find out."

So far, the mainline construction for Phase 1 has made its way through the Berlin, Fairview and Holly Pond area.

Crews from OnTrac are now in the Berlin area installing drop lines, so residents should see them out and about.

Explained Lacy, "That is basically the line that goes from the main power line to the outside of the house.

"There is a box that gets installed on the outside of every house and business, near the electric meter, and that's where the fiber line will run, from the power line to the home."

For those subscribers in the Berlin area where the drop lines and boxes are being installed, Lacy said the Co-op is hopefully they will be online sometime in mid-January.

The box on the outside of the house is called an NID (Network Interface Device).

"Once that NID is connected on someone's house, the last step is in January a home install crew will be scheduled to go out to those people's homes and run the fiber from the box on the outside of their home into their house either through the crawl space or however they determine is the best way to do it," he said.

The Co-op has been in communication with those subscribers as well as customers who have made inquiries to let them know that the drop line installers are in the Berlin area and home install crews will be scheduled.

Lacy encourages those who are interested in subscribing to do so now while they have crews focused in that area.

He said, "If you think you are going to want it, let us know now while we know the construction crew is going to be in your area."

In November, a small group of eight homes and one business served as beta testers and has been fully connected for several weeks.

"We have been talking with those members to make sure everything is going right and if they do have any issues, now is the time for us to work through those before we go live with everyone," said Lacy, who described the feedback as "excellent."

"The speed and the reliability have been so much better than anybody has been able to have access to before now."

He continued, "We have used a train car analogy. If you picture that loop that the mainline construction crews will continue to work around towards Hanceville and over to Dodge City and Bremen as they move around. Then back towards Fairview and Holly Pond, the drop crews will come behind them and the install crews will come behind them. We will just continue that process all the way around our service area. Hopefully, if things are going well and the response continues to be as strong as it has been, sometime during 2021, we will look at the numbers, and if the project is as successful as we hope it is, that will give indication to our board to make a decision about doing additional phases. The end goal, if this works right, is to have Sprout Fiber Internet available to every home and business that is served by Cullman Electric Cooperative. If everything keeps going well with Phase 1 over the course of this next year, I think we will see that come to fruition."

Phase 1 is expected to continue its loop around Cullman County throughout 2021 and possibly into the early part of 2022.

To learn more about Sprout Fiber Internet, visit www.cullmanec.com/sprout.



