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# The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

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## 'It's during times like these that abuse typically increases'

**Brooks' Place Child Advocacy Center serves children, families through pandemic**



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

*Brooks' Place*

» PAGE 5

# 99%!

## New record rate of adoptions through Tribune's Pet of the Week series



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

*These six dogs were among the many featured as Pets of the Week in 2020. Top row, left to right, are Jingles, Snow and Big Red. Bottom row, left to right, are Sally, Ajax and Ollie.*

**W.C. Mann**
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**CULLMAN, Ala.** – The partnership between the Cullman County Animal Shelter and The Cullman Tribune hit a new high in 2020. The Pet of the Week series, originally created to promote the adoption of dogs on the shelter's "short list" for euthanization, saw 99% of all featured animals adopted.

The shelter's Andrea Hudson told The Tribune, "We never even slowed down due to COVID. In fact, our adoptions are up from last year.

"We are blessed to have a community that cares so much for the animals.

"We have non-stop donations coming in from the public year-long, which include pet food, cleaning supplies, cat litter and cans, to even shares on Facebook.

"Each and every one of these donations and efforts to get our babies adopted and claimed makes a huge difference to the shelter, and we are greatly appreciative. I would like to emphasize that we consider our community as part of our team. Also, Mrs. Beverly Burke has graciously placed her handmade jewelry at Chambers Seed and Feed and is using the money for dog food for our shelter.

"We are so grateful for our volunteers, each and every one of them.

"Donna Ruttkay makes such an impact on our fur babies; she is here every day walking them and training them and she even cooks for them.

"She really puts her heart into helping these babies and that is what we need. She is truly a blessing to both the animals and to the shelter and I consider her a huge part of our team.

"We have a catalyst, Shay Corgi, at the drop of a hat that will coordinate through a network of rescue groups help in the aid of getting some babies who have been neglected the help they need and get them placed in foster care until they can find a home. They also help us with litters of puppies that need to be in a different environment than a shelter."

**Stories of shelter dogs**
Donna Ruttkay » PAGE 2

COURTS

## Cullman judges postpone, alter in-person proceedings due to COVID-19




CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

*Cullman County Courthouse*

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## Grace Place sees hard impact, gets creative in 2020



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

*Grace Place is a ministry of Grace Episcopal Church in Cullman.*

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LIFESTYLE

## My view (part 2): There's plenty to do!



CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

*Shiloh National Military Park*

» PAGE 2

BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR!
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CRIME

# HPD: Johnson's Crossing incident ends peacefully

**Wendy Sack**
wendy@cullmantribune.com

**JOHNSON'S CROSSING, Ala.** – Hanceville Assistant Police Chief Adam Hadder said an incident Sunday morning ended peacefully with no injuries.

Hadder said a 911 call came in early Sunday morning about a man threatening to harm himself.

Glennon Holland, Jr., 38, armed with a shotgun, barricaded himself inside a shed on his property when officers arrived.

According to Hadder, Holland was inside the shed for about an hour, and after Sgt. Kyle Duncan spoke to him through the door about an hour, he came out.

Deputies from the Cullman County Sheriff's Office also responded, with member of the CCSO Special Response Team (SRT).

Hadder said the HPD recovered the shotgun and transported Glennon to the city's jail.

"We appreciate the assistance from the sheriff's office," said Hadder.

The incident happened at approximately 7 a.m.

# Adoptions (from Front)

shared a few stories about the shelter's canine friends:

"Many have accomplished the task as therapy dogs. The Link of Cullman County graciously allows these amazing dogs, with a handler, to walk around The Link.

"Employees come out of their offices and lovingly interact with these dogs, who probably never had so much positive human attention before. Perfect environment to develop appropriate social skills- vital to getting adopted. All who worked as a therapy dog were adopted!"

**Penny's field trip to The Link of Cullman County**

"She shyly walked into each office looking for humans to meet and brighten their day. Each corridor brought out people, standing by their office, waiting to interact with our sweet Penny. Penny put a smile on everyone's face!"

"God brought an amazing person into the shelter. He shared, he works with the homeless, assists them with their dogs, (e.g.,) food, etc. Another goal is to pair those who are interested in dogs with dogs needing a home. He indicated canine therapy opens the door for people to care about others again, being responsible again.

"So thankful there has been a paradigm shift, as of late. The dogs have been sojourning in the shelter a bit longer than usual, which allows precious extra time for continuing modifying unwanted behavior. Each dog, who learns at their own pace, has a specific set of issues that lack social acceptance. Some have had to overcome living on the street, fending for themselves without positive human interaction, for a long while. Their transformation is remarkable. This can hold true of our kids and us!

"One day, as the shelter opened up to another day of possibilities, (e.g.,) backpack, halter and obstacle course, for one unique dog, who was innately overwhelming in his behavior, the word was, 'He got adopted earlier today. The guy loves him!' There is a family for each dog in the kennels.

"A woman adopted sweet Molly, a bull mastiff. Molly loves to be with you, and on her leash, she has 'power steering.' Molly loves you, children and cats, but struggles immensely with shelter life. It was mentioned to this lady, 'You will absolutely fall in love with her.' The lady turned with tears in her eyes, 'I already have.' An emotional day for all!

"Several dogs have been adopted to assist family members struggling with different issues, e.g., physical and emotional. This includes young children to adults. Our cats also have been adopted to facilitate encouragement and hope to their new people.

"None of this would be possible unless God's merciful hand was on this shelter. His presence is felt, always."

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

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

# Do (from Front)

**Christy Perry**
christy@cullmantribune.com

Previously, I compiled a list of places to visit in and around Cullman County and north Alabama that are fun, and most importantly safe, to do during the pandemic. Most of the places mentioned could easily be done in a day or on a short weekend getaway. Here are a few more ideas for destinations, some out of state, that are still nearby and great places to explore.

**SHILOH NATIONAL MILITARY PARK**
**1055 Pittsburg Landing Road, Shiloh, TN 38376**

Shiloh is approximately two hours from Cullman but well worth the drive to visit. The site of the Battle of Shiloh, this National Park provides a map for a self-guided tour of the large park including Pittsburg Landing, Shiloh National Cemetery and the Shiloh Indian Mounds Site.

The visitor center is open and offers a movie to give you a better understanding of the two-day battle and events leading up to it. Besides the visitor center, which is not busy during the winter months, all the locations on the self-guided tour are outside and can be enjoyed at your own pace.

The grounds are clearly marked as you piece together and imagine the conflict that took place. Countless monuments and authentic artillery are placed throughout the park pinpointing exactly where the soldiers were, and which regiments were involved.

You can walk to the Hornet's Nest, Shiloh Church and the several Confederate mass graves located there. The Shiloh National Cemetery is located near the visitor center and overlooking the Tennessee River. You can actually stand in the same spot where General Ulysses S. Grant slept in the days leading up to the battle.

If you love history or the Civil War, this is a must-visit and a great learning opportunity for kids. Besides travel costs, the park is free to visit, but donations can be made at the visitor center. There is also a gift shop with literature on the Civil War and Battle of Shiloh. www.nps.gov/shil

**DAVIS BRIDGE BATTLEFIELD**
**1145 Essary Springs Road, Pocahontas, TN 38061**

Located about 20 minutes from the main Shiloh site, the Davis Bridge Battlefield (sometimes referred to as the Battle of Hatchie's Bridge) is a bit off the beaten path. It is a great stop, though, maintained as part of the Shiloh National Military Park. Markers guide you down a path in the woods to the banks of the Hatchie River where the final engagement of the Iuka-Corinth Campaign occurred. www.battlefields.org/learn/civil-war/battles/davis-bridge

**Hagy's Catfish Hotel**
**1140 Hagy Lane, Shiloh, TN 38376**

Although it's not a hotel, this is a great restaurant overlooking the Tennessee River near the Shiloh battlefields. The shack, outside the restaurant, was actually occupied by Union troops during the Battle of Shiloh. The restaurant has a great lodge-like atmosphere with a menu of seafood, chicken, steaks, burgers and more. It's fun to watch the barges pass by so closely as you enjoy a meal.

This could be a long day trip, but I would recommend taking two days to thoroughly explore the area. There are hotels in neighboring cities near Shiloh, but we opted for an Airbnb in the charming town of Henderson. www.catfishhotel.com

**Dahlonega, Georgia**

This is definitely an overnight trip, at least. It's a four-hour drive but through some of the prettiest scenery in northern Georgia. This old gold mining town has some great family places to check out. The Consolidated Gold Mine is open for tours, and masks are definitely required. If going deep underground makes you uncomfortable, no worries. You can still pan for gold or do a little "grubbing" for gems all while staying safely distanced from other guests. For those Six Flags lovers, you might be familiar with the Dahlonega Mine Train roller coaster. Well, this is where the real deal is.

The Dahlonega area also has several vineyards, wineries and waterfalls to visit as well as a charming downtown area near the campus of the University of North Georgia. The downtown area is full of local eateries, art shops and boutiques.

We stumbled upon Dahlonega and can't wait to go back! We wished we had more time to explore this beautiful town. To see more activities, visit www.dahlonega.org.

**Tigers for Tomorrow at Untamed Mountain**
**708 County Road 345, Attalla, AL 35954**

Although this destination will be closed throughout January, it is a place you should visit in a few weeks. Don't expect a typical zoo. This Wild Animal Preserve and Environmental Education Center is home to tigers, mountain lions, African lions, bears, wolves, black leopards and other endangered animals. The preserve is in a more natural setting for the animals, and guests are expected to respect the animals by being mindful of their noise level and following the rules of the reserve. For more information on costs and future reservations, visit www.tigersfortomorrow.org.

**Other notable places nearby I hope to visit soon and report back:**

- David Crockett State Park- Lawrenceburg, Tennessee
- Bell Witch Cave- Adams, Tennessee
- Cathedral Caverns State Park- Woodville, Alabama
- Rickwood Caverns State Park- Warrior, Alabama
- Russell Cave National Monument- Bridgeport, Alabama
- Blue Ridge Scenic Railway- Blue Ridge, Georgia

**EARL'S BODY SHOP**
2251 Decatur Ave., N.W.
734-2406

**THE BARN**
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352-2737

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We travel the river of life
day by day,
And it's turns can bring
many changes our way.
But what may appear as
the final bend,
Is just the beginning
instead of the end.
For beyond it lies still
another land
Where our loved one,
directed by God's own hand,
Lives on, although
physically out of sight,
At peace in world of
Eternal light.
***Love,***
***Joan, Jenny, Jamey, Morgan, Mallory, Chris and Jase***

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

**Public Notice**

The Traffic Call dockets scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021 and Jan. 13, 2021 beginning at 8:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. will be combined with the March 3, 2021 Traffic Call docket. This is due to COVID-19.

**Alcoholics Anonymous**

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

**Free Community Dinner at Center Hill Baptist Church**

- 5-6 p.m.- The first Wednesday of every month we will be offering a Free Community Dinner. Church members, community members, neighbors and friends are welcome. This will be takeout only. Please message or comment with how many plates you will need to help us prepare enough food for everyone. RSVP at http://bit.ly/centerhill.
- 13108 County Road 747, Hanceville, AL 35077

**Miércoles de Despensas**

- 6-7 p.m. ler. miercoles del mes, En Su Tierra Cullman FUMC
- Despensas para la comunidad. No requiere ID. Entrega en su vehículo. Por favor use mascarilla.

**Cullman Education Retirees Association Meeting**

- Thursday, Jan. 14 at 11 a.m. at Stone Bridge Farms, 281 County Road 717, Cullman
- Our program will be presented by Kelly Smith, personal financial counselor. Following our program, we will have a short business meeting and then enjoy lunch together. Remember to wear your mask and practice social distancing.

**General Dentist Office**
Needs part-time hygienist Tuesdays, Wednesdays and some Friday mornings. Position will become full-time. Some dental assisting may be required. Teamwork and a positive attitude are a must. Experience preferred.
Send resumes to dentistoffice1965@gmail.com

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CRIME

# Arrests and incidents reported Jan. 4

**Cullman Tribune staff**
Contributor

**CULLMAN, Ala.** – Below are the arrests and incidents reported Jan. 4, 2021. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

**CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**INCIDENTS**

**Dec. 30**

- theft of property; CR 1114
- obstructing criminal investigation, using false identity; CR 222
- domestic violence; CR 346
- domestic violence; CR 1805
- domestic violence- strangulation; CR 1118
- attempting to elude, harassment, theft of property; Hwy. 69 S
- permitting dogs to run at large; CR 1141
- theft of property; CR 431
- theft of property; Logan Ave. SW
- criminal mischief, theft of property; Hwy. 157

**Dec. 31**

- unlawful possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 278 E
- domestic violence; CR 1665
- using false identity; CR 490
- harassment; CR 1564
- permitting dogs to run at large; 763 S Main St. Arab
- unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle; I-65 rest area
- unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle; Hwy. 69 S

**Jan. 1**

- domestic violence; Heatherly Road
- harassment; Hwy. 31 N
- domestic violence; CR 1302
- domestic violence; CR 961
- theft of property; Red Hill Road
- possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 69 S
- unlawful possession of marijuana; CR 1114
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance; Hwy. 157

**Jan. 2**

- unauthorized use of a motor vehicle; CR 625
- unauthorized use of a motor vehicle; Main St. NW Hanceville
- domestic violence; CR 590
- harassment; CR 1711
- harassment; CR 1157

**Jan. 3**

- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1157
- unlawful possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 69 N
- domestic violence; CR 1635
- assault; CR 855
- criminal mischief, trespassing; Hwy. 69 N
- theft of property; Hwy. 91
- theft of property; CR 950
- unlawful possession of marijuana, unlawful possession of a controlled substance; Holly Pond Road
- domestic violence; CR 1162

**ARRESTS**

**Dec. 28-Jan. 3**

**Atchley, Lashay Gail, 21**

- FTA- chemical endangerment of a child

**Baker, Brittney Leigh, 36**

- public intoxication

**Baughn, Cayden Lee, 20**

- first-degree theft of property

**Brown, Thelbert Eugene, 60**

- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

**Burge, Shallowmist Martin, 43**

- FTA- illegal possession of prescription medicine
- FTA- public intoxication
- FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

**Cantrell, Jacob Ray, 28**

- FTA- third-degree burglary
- motion to revoke bond-third-degree burglary
- chemical endangerment of a child

**Cantrell, Jerimiah Ross, 24**

- FTA- attempting to elude
- FTA- DUI- influence of alcohol
- FTA- driving while suspended
- FTA- improper lane usage
- FTA- open container in vehicle
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

**Clark, Randy Lee, 31**

- third-degree domestic violence- harassment

**Corbin, Sarah Kristina, 25**

- FTA- third-degree burglary
- obstruction/using false ID
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

**Duncan, Stephanie Lynn, 44**

- FTA- first-degree criminal trespassing
- FTA- third-degree domestic violence- harassment

**Edgil, Billy Ray, 58**

- FTA- driving while suspended
- FTA- public intoxication

**Finnen, Stanley Eugene, 47**

- public intoxication

**Free, Montie Evan, 26**

- FTA- driving while suspended
- FTA- fishing without a license

**Freeman, Abigail Brianna, 24**

- FTA- 20 days to register vehicle
- FTA- driving while suspended (2 counts)
- FTA- liability insurance required (2 counts)
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

**Garrett, Wesley Nathaniel, 38**

- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

**Gean Jr., Clifford Wayne, 24**

- possession of drug paraphernalia

**Goerner, Kimberly Renee, 31**

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

**Green, Jamie Charnette, 48**

- FTA- improper taillights

**Grubb, Christopher Charles, 27**

- probation violation- failure to register/establish SORNA

**Hinds, Austin Samuel, 25**

- negotiating a worthless negotiable instrument

**Hodges, Walter, 51**

- possession of drug paraphernalia
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

**Holder, Jereme Thomas, 44**

- DUI- influence of alcohol
- illegal possession of alcohol

**Huges, Zane Evan, 28**

- FTA- second-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument
- FTA- second-degree forgery

**Kendall, Katherine Rene, 32**

- attempting to elude
- reckless endangerment
- first-degree theft of property

**Lamons, Christian Lewayne, 21**

- FTA- attempting to elude
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
- FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

**Lindsey, Kristy Leigh, 43**

- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana (2 counts)

**Mathers, Jena Marrie, 34**

- third-degree domestic violence- harassment

**Mayfield, Wendy Elaine, 52**

- third-degree domestic violence- harassment

**McIntyre Jr., Bryan David, 36**

- second-degree hindering prosecution

**Monroe, Ashley Christian Todd, 35**

- FTA- third-degree domestic violence- harassment

**Nelson, Robert Scott, 43**

- third-degree domestic violence- harassment

**Oden, Hannah Gail, 24**

- FTA- third-degree burglary
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- first-degree receiving stolen property
- FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

**Pate, Cody Wade, 34**

- unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle (with theft)

**Peak, Marion Charles, 73**

- third-degree domestic violence- harassment
- interfering with a domestic violence emergency
- violation of a domestic violence protection order

**Perry, Troy Cole, 30**

- possession of drug paraphernalia
- public intoxication
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

**Raymond, Brandy Nicole, 38**

- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

**Robbins, Coty Austin, 34**

- DUI- controlled substance
- second-degree promoting prison contraband
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

**Self, Jordon Dewayne, 25**

- probation violation- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

**Sellers, Margaret Denise, 47**

- FTA- obstructing government operations
- FTA- public intoxication (2 counts)
- FTA- reckless driving

**Shedd, Corey Tyler, 27**

- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

**Sparks, Sabrina Montgomery, 36**

- FTA- driving while revoked

**Steele, Mark, 52**

- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

**Sterling, Christopher Wayne, 43**

- FTA- driving while revoked
- FTA- illegal possession of alcohol
- FTA- no tag/tag not plainly visible
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- illegal possession of prescription medicine
- FTA- unlawful distribution of a controlled substance
- FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance (2 counts)

**Teal, Kevin Roscoe, 49**

- FTA- second-degree burglary
- FTA- driving while revoked
- FTA- second-degree receiving stolen property

**Tidwell, Matthew Lance, 35**

- obstruction/using false ID

**Twilley, Secily Ann, 32**

- possession of drug paraphernalia

**Weaver, Stefanie Nichole, 27**

- sexual offender failure to register termination SORNA

**Weeks, Christopher Jerome, 42**

- third-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- fourth-degree receiving stolen property
- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

**Weldon, Tracy Michelle, 46**

- FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

**West, Ethan Blake, 20**

- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

**Wise, Justin Dale, 36**

- fourth-degree theft of property

**Woods, Jacinda Kay, 40**

- negotiating a worthless negotiable instrument (2 counts)

**Wright, Edward Lynn, 55**

- obstruction/using false ID

**CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**INCIDENTS**

**Dec. 28**

- counterfeit $100; State of Alabama; Cullman Shopping Center
- fourth-degree theft by deception; Belk; Cullman Shopping Center; general merchandise; $14
- fourth-degree theft of property; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $104

**Dec. 29**

- third-degree criminal trespassing; person; Cooper Circle SW

**Dec. 30**

- counterfeit $20s; State of Alabama; Hwy. 157
- fourth-degree theft of property; person; Logan St. SW; lawn mower, tag

**Dec. 31**

- fourth-degree theft of property; person; 3rd St. SW; tools; $60
- counterfeit $10; State of Alabama
- fraudulent use of a credit or debit card; person; miscellaneous charges
- second-degree theft of property; person; 3rd Ave. SE; wallet and contents

**Jan. 1**

- third-degree criminal mischief; person; Lessman St. SW; damaged mailbox; $60

**Jan. 2**

- fourth-degree theft of property; ALDI; Cherokee Ave. SW; miscellaneous; $75
- fourth-degree theft of property, third-degree criminal trespassing; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; miscellaneous; $101
- fourth-degree theft of property; person; 2nd Ave. SW; tag; $20

**Jan. 3**

- fourth-degree theft of property, third-degree criminal trespassing; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; miscellaneous; $13

**ARRESTS**

**Dec. 31**

**Crawford, Cody B., 23**

- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana

**Edwards, Kaliya K., 19**

- second-degree receiving stolen property

**Lay, Zackary J., 32**

- FTA- third-degree domestic violence (3 counts)
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)
- FTA- fourth-degree theft of property

**Taylor, Jason T., 50**

- public intoxication

**Lovell, Anthony R., 46**

- public intoxication
- disorderly conduct
- resisting arrest
- unlawful possession or receipt of a controlled substance

**Pearce, Stacy L., 39**

- unlawful possession or receipt of a controlled substance

**Jan. 1**

**Avila, Brenda T., 19**

- DUI- under 21
- minor in possession of alcohol

**Avila-Peralta, Tanya K., 18**

- minor in possession of alcohol

**Corbin, Sarah K., 25**

- FTA- fourth-degree theft of property

**Sparkman, Dustin R., 44**

- FTA- insurance violation (2 counts)
- FTA- driving without a license
- FTA- expired tag
- FTA- driving while revoked

**Gendron, Mary M., 51**

- FTA- third-degree criminal trespassing

**Jan. 2**

**Burbage, George R., 46**

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

**Hall, Clara M., 37**

- fourth-degree theft of property

**Sellers, Margaret D., 47**

- FTA- public intoxication

**Edgil, Billy R., 58**

- fourth-degree theft of property
- FTA- public intoxication
- FTA- expired tag
- FTA- improper signal
- FTA- insurance violation
- FTA- DUI

**Phillips, Joseph J., 46**

- FTA- driving without a license

**Jan. 3**

**Steele, James B., 45**

- FTA- insurance violation

**Adkins, Tyler N., 35**

- fourth-degree theft of property

**Bailey, Jon A., 37**

- third-degree burglary
- possession of burglar's tools
- FTA- public intoxication (2 counts)

**HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

No incidents or arrests reported.

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




## COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

Monday, Jan. 4, 2021 COVID-19 update from the Alabama Department of Public Health's COVID-19 Data and Surveillance Dashboard

- Total confirmed cases in AL: 301,486 (+1,686 since yesterday)
- Probable cases in AL: 72,609 (+475 since yesterday)
- Total confirmed deaths in AL: 4,259 (+4 since yesterday)
- Probable deaths in AL: 619
- Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co.: 5,161 (+25 since yesterday)
- Probable cases in Cullman Co.: 2,130 (+8 since yesterday)
- Total confirmed deaths in Cullman Co.: 61 (+0 since yesterday)
- Probable deaths in Cullman Co.: 17
- Total tested in Cullman Co.: 31,792
- Total tested in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 2,102
- Cases in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 1,003
- Total tested in Alabama: 1,903,388
- Cases in the last 14 days in Alabama: 50,090
- Total tested in the last 14 days in Alabama: 115,070
- Currently hospitalized in Alabama: 3,064
- Cumulative no. of hospitalizations in Alabama: 35,430
- Presumed recoveries in Alabama (reported weekly): 202,137

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

**Monday, Jan. 4, 2021 update from Cullman Regional**

- 70 positive patients, with 18 positive patients currently on ventilators (21 total patients on ventilators)

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JANUARY 5, 2021

# No. 1 Alabama wins 2021 College Football Playoff Semifinal, 31-14, over No. 4 Notre Dame

**UA Athletics**
rolltide.com

**ARLINGTON, TX.** - The top-ranked Alabama Crimson Tide won the 2021 College Football Playoff Semifinal at the Rose Bowl Game Presented by Capital One by a score of 31-14 over No. 4 Notre Dame Friday in AT&T Stadium in front of a crowd of 18,373. The victory advances the Crimson Tide to the CFP National Championship Game on Monday, January 11, at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, Fla.

The Crimson Tide trio of Mac Jones, DeVonta Smith and Najee Harris once again led the Crimson Tide offense. Jones went 25-for-30 and threw for 297 yards with four touchdowns.

Smith, the Offensive Player of the Game, caught seven passes for 130 yards, tying the Rose Bowl record and setting the Alabama bowl mark with three receiving touchdowns.

Harris ran for 125 yards on just 15 attempts, while adding 30 receiving yards on four catches.

Patrick Surtain II was named the Defensive Player of the Game, tallying five tackles, tackle for loss and a pass break up.

DeMarcco Hellams led the Tide with 12 tackles, including six solo stops and a sack.

Christian Harris snagged an interception to shut down a third-quarter Notre Dame drive, while Christian Barmore recorded a sack in the third quarter to go with five tackles.

Alabama totaled 437 yards of offense, including 297 receiving and 140 rushing, while the defense held the Irish to just two rushing touchdowns.



UA ATHLETICS

*The Alabama Crimson Tide defeated Notre Dame 31-14 in this year's CFP Semifinals to advance to the national championship game against Ohio State.*

**How It Happened**

**First Quarter**

- 10:14 - UA | Smith hauled in a pass from Mac Jones and went 26 yards through traffic for the score on Alabama's first drive of the game.
- 4:19 - UA | Jones connected with a wide open Jahleel Billingsley in the end zone from 12 yards out for the Tide's second scoring drive in as many attempts.

**Second Quarter**

- 11:16 - ND | Kyren Williams rushed up the middle for the one-yard score to cut the lead in half to 14-7
- 08:49 - UA | Smith recorded his second touchdown of the afternoon, this one from 34 yards out, off the pass from Jones helping send the Tide into the locker room with a 21-7 lead.

**Third Quarter**

- 04:48 - UA | Jones shuttled a perfectly-placed pass in the front corner of the end zone to Smith for the Tide's fourth score of the game.

**Fourth Quarter**

- 12:45 - UA | Will Reichard continued his unblemished streak on kicking attempts this season, hitting his 13th field goal, this one from 41 yards out, to add three points for Alabama.
- 00:56 - ND | Ian Book capped a 14-play, 80-yard drive with a one-yard touchdown run

**Up Next**

Alabama will play the winner of the College Football Playoff Semifinal at the Allstate Sugar Bowl, which features No. 2 Clemson and No. 3 Ohio State, in the 2021 College Football Playoff National Championship Game on Monday, January 11. The game is slated for a 7 p.m. CT start at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, Fla.

# Alabama uses big 2nd half run to take down No. 7 Tennessee on the road, 71-63

**UA Athletics**
Troy Athletics

**KNOXVILLE, Tenn.** – Alabama used a big second half run to upset No. 7/6 Tennessee, 71-63, on the road at Thompson-Boling on Saturday night. It marked the Crimson Tide's first road win over a top-10 team since knocking off then-No. 4 Mississippi State, 77-73 in Starkville, Miss., on Feb 21, 2004.

Alabama (7-3, 2-0 SEC) used a big 19-6 run over the first 5:03 of the second half to take control of the game. The Tide led for the entire second half and by as many as 14 points before holding on to the eight-point win. Alabama knocked down 8-of-11 (72.7 percent) three pointers and shot 50 percent from deep after the intermission.

John Petty Jr. led the Crimson Tide with a game-high 17 points on 6-of-7 shooting from the field and a perfect 4-of-4 from beyond the arc to go along with six boards. Jahvon Quinerly added 12 points and dished out a game-high five assists. Herbert Jones and Joshua Primo each scored 11 points while Jones led the Tide with eight rebounds in the win.

Tennessee was led by Victor Bailey Jr.'s 16 points and seven rebounds in the loss.

"I tell our guys we have to be able to figure out how to win games when our shots aren't dropping. If we're going to win when we're on fire and lose when we're not, we're not going to have a very successful season," Head Coach Nate Oats said.

"I tell them the margin of victory can be determined by how you shoot it, but we still have to win the game. Whether it's offensive rebounds, getting to the free throw line, getting transition buckets — it all starts with your defense and your effort. The guy's effort has been really good lately."

**Team Stats**

- The Crimson Tide finished shooting 41.9 percent (26-62) from the field and making 50 percent (10-of-20) from three-point range while holding Tennessee to 31.8 percent from the floor and 19.0 percent (4-of-21) from deep
- Alabama is now 6-0 this season when shooting 40 percent or better this season
- This marked the Tide's first victory this season when it has not reached the 80-point mark in a game (1-3)
- The Volunteers outrebounded UA 46-43 but the Crimson Tide did not give up any fastbreak points, outscoring UT 9-0 in the category
- Herbert Jones earned the team's Blue Collar Award for a team-leading fifth time this season

**First Half**

- The first half was a back-and-forth contest that featured six ties and six lead changes with no team holding more than a four-point advantage
- After the first five minutes of play, the game was knotted at 8-8 with Jaden Shackelford scoring five of the Tide's first eight points
- With the Volunteers leading 22-19 with 6:04 remaining in the opening stanza, the Crimson Tide used an 8-4 spurt to take its first lead of the game at 27-26 with 1:41 to play in the first half
- A pair of Volunteer free throws tied the game at 29-29 before a technical foul against Tennessee allowed Alabama to knock down two more free throws to take the 31-29 lead



UA ATHLETICS

*Alabama's John Petty Jr. led the Crimson Tide with 17 points in their 71-63 win at Tennessee Saturday night.*

**Second Half**

- Alabama began the half with a crucial 19-6 run, knocking down 8-of-13 from the field and converting on 5-of-6 three pointers to take a 52-39 lead with 12:57 remaining in the game
- Tennessee used a quick 11-5 spurt to make the score 57-50 with 9:41 remaining
- With 2:55 left to play Tennessee trailed 65-59, but Alabama continued to answer every shot and never allowed the Vols to get any closer the rest of the way
- The Tide shot 45.2 percent from the field and knocked down 8-of-11 from beyond the arc while holding the Volunteers to 31.3 percent and just 2-of-13 from three point land in the second half

The Tide heads back to Tuscaloosa to take on Florida on Jan. 5 inside Coleman Coliseum. The contest is slated for 6 p.m. CT and can be watched on ESPN2.

"We went over those types of situations where we held big leads throughout the offseason and we made that a big point of emphasis to win close games," Tide Forward Herbert Jones said. "The last six to eight minutes, we knew it was going to be very important and we just stayed together as they went on their run and pulled out the win."

# Tigers' 2nd half rally comes up short at Texas A&M

**Greg Ostendorf**
AU Athletics

**BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION, TX.** – Auburn trailed by as many as 14 in the second half and erased a 9-point deficit in the final five minutes, but Texas A&M made a game-winning basket with less than two seconds remaining to prevail, 68-66, on Saturday.

"I'm proud of my kids and the way they battled," Auburn head coach Bruce Pearl said.

After struggling offensively in the first half, Auburn caught fire in the second half. Led by junior Jamal Johnson, the Tigers connected on 10 of 20 shots from deep and scored 44 points in the final 20 minutes. They shot 17 of 31 (54.8 percent) from the floor in that span and only turned it over five times.

Johnson, who scored a career-high 21 points in Wednesday's loss to Arkansas, finished with a game-high 20 points with 17 of the 20 coming in the second half.

"You can see the advantages of being a junior," Pearl said. "He's been in the program for three years now. He worked so hard in the offseason, but he's got a leadership role on this team. That's a good thing because he's such a great kid. It's just wonderful to see."

The offense got Auburn back into the game, but twice in the final two minutes, the Tigers came up with critical defensive stops that translated to points.

First, it was Devan Cambridge who got a steal, saved the ball from going out of bounds and then made a layup on the other end to tie it at 64 with 1:14 left. Then with less than 30 seconds left and the Tigers down two, Jaylin Williams stepped in front of a pass at midcourt and found JT Thor for a two-hand slam, tying the game at 66.

Williams, who assisted on both baskets, finished with a team-high seven assists.

"We've got to continue to find a way to put the ball in Jaylin Williams' hands and let him make plays because he's such a good passer and a versatile player," Pearl said.

Thor scored the first and last points for Auburn and finished with 10 points and five rebounds. Cambridge had nine points and tied for the team lead with six rebounds.

Sophomore Allen Flanigan had three triples in the second half and scored 16 points on 6 of 11 shooting. It was the ninth time in 10 games this season Flanigan has been in double figures scoring. He currently leads the Tigers and is ranked top 10 in the SEC with 14.5 points per game.

Freshman Justin Powell, Auburn's second leading scorer coming in, missed the majority of the second half with a head injury. He will be re-evaluated once the team returns home.

The Tigers trailed 33-22 at the half, and though they couldn't find a rhythm offensively, their effort on the defensive end kept them in the contest. They had nine steals, forced 14 first-half turnovers, and blocked three shots.



AU ATHLETICS

*The Auburn Tigers came up just short on the road at Texas A&M Saturday, falling 68-66.*

"It was an ugly first half, but at least we competed," Pearl said. "Even though we were down 11, offensively we played bad enough to be completely out of the game. But our kids have got better character than that, and they stayed in it. In the second half, we started to be able to move the ball a little bit better and get the ball where we wanted to get it."

Auburn (6-4, 0-2) will stay on the road and travel to Ole Miss on Wednesday. The game is scheduled to tip off at 8 p.m. CT and will be televised on SEC Network.

OPINION

# Op-Ed: Slowing coronavirus spread is key in 2021

**State Health Officer Scott Harris, M.D.**

As the new year begins and we reflect on 2020, we are faced with the sad reality that almost 4,800 Alabamians have died from COVID-19, the highly contagious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). Last spring when we learned about the illnesses and deaths due to this highly contagious virus, it was almost unimaginable that our state--much of it rural and without the higher population density of Europe and the Northeast--would reach this level of loss.

While we were initially afraid we would reach such high numbers as a worst-case scenario, by now this deadly virus has become a part of almost everyone's personal experience. Regrettably, I know many people who have been infected, hospitalized, and died.

Although death totals from all causes have not been tallied for 2020, it is apparent that Alabama has exceeded the number of deaths we would expect to experience in a normal year. Every one of those deaths is someone's fellow citizen, friend, or family member. Skeptics opine that COVID-19 mortality is no worse than the flu, and the number of deaths in 2020 is about the same as it would have been by coincidence due to the number of frail elderly persons in the state.

That statement is far from the truth. Fewer than 1,300 people in Alabama succumbed to flu and pneumonia combined in 2018, and COVID-19 has resulted in more than triple the mortality in 2020.

We now have vaccine products and better therapeutic agents for those with the virus. I am optimistic about the future as we embark on a vaccine effort like we have never tried before. Tens of thousands of frontline workers, residents of long-term care, and other very high-risk Alabamians have already received immunizations in cooperation with our community partners.

Many people are interested in receiving COVID-19 vaccine as soon as it is available for their risk group; some are even making demands for it, but equitable distribution of vaccine is critical. We do not yet have a timeline of when priority groups can receive vaccination because we are dependent on vaccine supply. For many people, access will come in the late spring at best.

After the first phases of vaccine administration, however, we will face the complicated challenge of convincing a larger number of people about the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccine. Many Alabamians are hesitant to be vaccinated for a variety of reasons, including misinformation.

Certainly, a segment of the population mistrusts all vaccines and the system in general, and those people are difficult to convince. Many more people have concerns about the technology used to develop and approve the vaccine rapidly; they want to make sure it is safe; and know more about possible side effects before they are immunized.

Questions raised by the public are appropriate and we need to be responsive to their concerns.

We must take different approaches to reach all populations in the state by providing clear, accurate, and culturally sensitive information about COVID-19 prevention, treatment, and vaccines. Some segments of the population may be hard to reach. Race history in Alabama is checkered, and opinions are influenced by events like the Tuskegee Syphilis Study. Many African American Alabamians remain unsure whether they can believe what public health tells them. To counteract these longstanding uncertainties and fears, our department is working with members of the African American community, including pastoral organizations, faith leaders, the League of Black Mayors, local public officials, and others. Their trusted voices will carry well-informed, data-driven, and credible messages to their own congregations and constituents.

Despite erroneous reports to the contrary, Alabama does not mandate vaccination. Regardless of vaccine uptake, which we hope will be significant, pandemic protocols must continue to be practiced for many months. Until the majority of the population is vaccinated and more information is available on the vaccines' ability to stop virus transmission, wearing masks, social distancing, frequent handwashing, avoiding crowded indoor areas, and traveling only when necessary are still needed. Masks serve as a powerful social symbol to remind people to protect themselves and others. We have always known that masks are not magic, but they are effective. The best indication we have is that it only took two weeks for Alabama's COVID-19 infection rates to decrease after a mask mandate began in July.



CONTRIBUTED

*State Health Officer Scott Harris, M.D.*

As 2021 begins, our deepest sympathies are with the families and friends who have lost loved ones during this pandemic. Anyone can get and spread COVID-19, so it is our responsibility as citizens to be kind to other people and to take all necessary steps to prevent them from being at risk. This includes getting vaccinated, returning for the second dose of vaccine, and following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations regarding prevention measures. When a substantial portion of the public is vaccinated, we look forward to a time when the pandemic will end.

**Scott Harris, M.D.**
**State Health Officer**

# Brooks' Place (from Front)

**W.C. Mann**
craig@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** – Shutdowns and quarantines provide the perfect opportunity for families to spend more time together, enjoying each other's company and shared activities in the home. Unfortunately, real life is often not so idealistically pretty; tensions rise as families are cooped up for long periods, sometimes with reduced resources due to a layoff. The 2020 pandemic created the perfect environment for child abuse, so the staff of Brooks' Place Child Advocacy Center of Cullman thought creatively and worked extra hard to continue providing services to 261 clients.

Executive Director Gail Swafford told The Tribune, "Like many nonprofit agencies, Brooks' Place has faced many challenges this year due to COVID-19. Despite these challenges, we have continued to serve children and families impacted by physical and sexual abuse. We have had to think outside the box on how we can best serve families while ensuring the safety of clients and staff. Child abuse still happens even when there is a pandemic. It's during times like these that abuse typically increases. We will not know the extent of abuse until months or sometimes years later when children feel safe enough to tell someone.

"Since March, we have mainly provided counseling sessions via platforms which utilize technology similar to Zoom. Platforms we use are HIPPA-compliant, meaning that counseling sessions are confidential so children feel safe in talking about the many issues related to their abuse.

"Our family advocates have worked diligently following up with clients to keep them up to date on the status of their case as well as making sure that their basic needs such as housing, clothing, food, etc. are met.

"This is an important part of what we do at Brooks' Place. Basic needs must be met in order for a child/family to begin the journey of healing from the impact of the abuse. Cullman is blessed to have organizations, area churches and civic clubs that help us meet the needs of the families we serve.

"Our forensic interviewer made sure interviews of children were scheduled as quickly as possible and CDC guidelines followed for the safety of all involved. Our forensic nurse was available to conduct medical examinations on the children so that the child and family had the peace of mind of knowing whether any medical issues were caused by the abuse."

**Financial challenges**

Swafford said, "Brooks' Place has been financially challenged this year as well. Private and corporate donations have decreased significantly because of the pandemic. Fundraisers that we typically have in the summer were canceled. We were able to reschedule our annual golf tournament in October this year. We are really thankful for all those that supported us in the midst of the pandemic.

"Another obstacle we faced was a reduction in the grant funds. Many operating costs typically covered in the grant were cut out this year. This means we must find monetary resources to cover these costs."

**Using multiple resources to address a multifaceted problem**

Swafford told The Tribune, "Brooks' Place is blessed to partner with DHR (Cullman County Department of Human Resources), city and county law enforcement, (Cullman County) District Attorney's Office, Juvenile Probation, mental health and medical professionals to assist child victims as they recover from abuse they endured. Last year, 261 brave children came forward to tell what happened to them so that the abuse would end.

"Our mission is to offer hope, help and healing not only to these brave children, but also to their parents/caregivers and siblings.

"After all, when it comes to child abuse it's not only the identified child victim who suffers but other family members as well. Brooks' Place was able to provide counseling sessions, medical examinations, criminal justice support, family advocacy to all these families at no cost to them.

"It is our hope in the upcoming year that we can expand some of our services so that more children will know what to do if faced with this horrific dilemma. Community education is paramount in stopping child abuse. Many adults are even unsure of what to do if a child discloses abuse.

"Child abuse is very ugly and most want to pretend it doesn't exist. Unfortunately, it does exist even in our beautiful community. In the next year Brooks' Place will provide child abuse awareness curriculum in different platforms in an effort to reach more people about the dynamics of abuse. Stay tuned!"

Find out more about Brooks' Place at www.facebook.com/brooksplacecac.









OPINION

# Cullman's culture & 2021

## Happy New Year!

**Tom Fillinger**
Tribune Columnist

Where are we as a nation? Where are we as a community? What is the definition of culture? What are indicators of a decadent culture?

In this article it is my purpose to briefly examine some of the factors that provide a window through which we may view the culture of Cullman, Alabama. First, I must define culture.

Culture is defined by everything from language, religion and habits. The culture of Cullman, Alabama is defined by the way people speak, dress, communicate and relate to one another.

The general direction of culture has been toward decay. The typical restraints that have shaped conduct in the past have diminished.

My hope and purpose in writing this article are that we focus on applying in our social discourse and relationships what is noble, proper and uplifting.

We strive to make our community better as measured by a sense of moral absolutes, a simple sense of decency. I now provide several areas for our reflection. How are we doing in each of these areas?

**Communication** – Social media has drastically reduced face-to-face interaction. It has become a virtual substitute. People do not read their emails. They do not listen to their voice mails. They use the despicable "K," a shortened form of "OK." The drive to a paperless society has produced more, not less, paper and has isolated people from one another. Take the time to speak to one another face-to-face. There is a vast improvement in relational connection by doing so. Do not sacrifice relational effectiveness for perceived efficiency.

**Language** – All forms of communication are saturated with what I define as crude, rude and obnoxious verbiage. The almost ubiquitous use of the infamous "F word" is everywhere. You see it used in social media communication with impunity. When people are not pleased with any circumstance they will "flip you the bird," and I am not speaking about the first robin of spring! I guess this would be characterized as "sign language!" Think before you speak and choose your words wisely. Make your speech gracious. Would you approve of your children using the same words you do?

**Attire** – In the mid-70s John T. Malloy wrote "Dress for Success." As the saying goes, "We've come a long way baby" but in the wrong direction since that title was published. A funeral was formerly a time of sober reflection and a sense of dignity. Now people come dressed in ragged jeans, T-shirts bearing vulgar slogans, flip-flops on their feet, men do not remove their hats, etc. As a society we have gone from proper attire to Casual Friday to outright grungy. Your attire should match the occasion in which you are participating, and it sends a clear message about who you are.

There is an aphorism that states "A rising tide lifts all boats!" I challenge everyone to embrace a relational form of communication. I challenge everyone to choose your words with precision and speak in a manner that benefits others and shows you to be a person of intelligence and dignity. I challenge everyone to "Dress for Success." Research has proven that students perform better academically when the teacher is properly attired. Make Cullman a community of excellence. Thanks for doing your part. It matters.

*I invite response to these articles. You may contact me by phone at 803-413-3509; leave a voicemail. Or send me an email at info@igniteUS.net. I am available to serve as an interim pastor or for pulpit supply. I look forward to your inquiries.*

# LEGALS

PB WIL BK 99 PG 390 - 12/28/2020 11:43 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

**IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
SUE HUMPHRIES, * CASE NO.: PC 2020-351
Deceased. *

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Testamentary having been granted to Glenda Bryan as Personal Representative of the Estate of Sue Humphries, deceased, on the 28th 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.

Glenda Bryan,
Personal Representative

Maia Niemann
Attorney for Personal Representative
Hinson & Hinson, P.C.
4010 Pepperwood Circle SW
Huntsville, AL 35758

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

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

Gena Ibrahim
(PLAINTIFF)
VS CASE NO: SM-2018-901050
Stacey Yarbrough
Carrie Yarbrough
(DEFENDANTS)

NOTICE OF FILING OF LAW SUIT

DEFENDANT(S), Stacey Yarbrough & Carrie Yarbrough, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the complaint brought against him/her by the PLAINTIFF, Gena Ibrahim, for $3,497.76 plus court cost, cause of action being: Unpaid rent and damage to dwelling and mess to be cleaned up.

ANSWER TO THE COMPLAINT MUST BE MADE BY THE SAID DEFENDANT on or before the 26th day of January, 2021, or a default may be rendered against him/her in the above styled cause.

DATED THIS THE 18th DAY OF December, 2020.

LISA MCSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

Walker Brothers, LTD
(Plaintiff)
v Case No. SM-2017-900938
Adam Cuney
(Defendant)

NOTICE OF FILING OF LAW SUIT

Defendant, Adam Cuney, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the complaint brought against him her by the Plaintiff, Walker Brothers, LTD for $537.75 plus court cost, cause of action being: Open Account.

ANSWER TO THE COMPLAINT MUST BE MADE BY THE SAID DEFENDANT on or before the 26th day of January, 2021, or a default may be rendered against him her in the above styled cause.

Dated this the 17 day of December, 2020

LISA MCSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

**IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

IN RE: )
A.L. )
A Minor Child, 02/16/2004 )
CASE NO. JU 2010-165.05

**NOTICE**

The Petitioner having made a Motion for Service by Publication in the above styled action, it is

**ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** that Ashley Loggins, the Mother of A.L., born on or about 02/16/2004, respond to the Petition by the 26 day of January, 2021, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioner.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioner: Michael J. Baggett, 206 Ninth Street SW, Cullman, AL 35055, (256) 737-0740 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this the 15 day of December, 2020

WELLS R. TURNER, III
JUVENILE JUDGE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit Court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 16th day of December, 2020.
Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Circuit Court

FILED IN OFFICE
DEC 15 2020
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

**IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

IN RE: )
A.L. )
A Minor Child, 02/16/2004 )
CASE NO. JU 2010-165.05

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DONE this the 15 day of December, 2020

WELLS R. TURNER, III
JUVENILE JUDGE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit Court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 16th day of December, 2020.
Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Circuit Court

FILED IN OFFICE
DEC 15 2020
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

**IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

IN RE: )
A.L. )
A Minor Child, 02/16/2004 )
CASE NO. JU 2010-165.05

**NOTICE**

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Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioner Michael J. Baggett, 206 Ninth Street SW, Cullman, AL 35055, (256) 737-0740 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this the 19 day of December, 2020

WELLS R. TURNER, III
JUVENILE JUDGE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit Court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 16th day of December, 2020.
Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Circuit Court

FILED IN OFFICE
DEC 15 2020
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

**IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

IN RE: )
H.L. )
A Minor Child, 11/05/2007 )
CASE NO. JU 2017-003.04

**NOTICE**

The Petitioner having made a Motion for Service by Publication in the above styled action, it is

**ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** that Ashley Loggins, the Mother of H.L., born on or about 11/05/2007, respond to the Petition by the 26 day of January, 2021, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioner.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioner: Michael J. Baggett, 206 Ninth Street SW, Cullman, AL 35055, (256) 737-0740 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this the 15 day of December, 2020

WELLS R. TURNER, III
JUVENILE JUDGE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit Court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
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Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Circuit Court

FILED IN OFFICE
DEC 15 2020
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

**IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

IN RE: )
A.L. )
A Minor Child, 02/16/2004 )
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**NOTICE**

The Petitioner having made a Motion for Service by Publication in the above styled action, it is

**ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** that Ashley Loggins, respond to the Petition by the 19 day of December, 2020, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioner.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioner Michael J. Baggett, 206 Ninth Street SW, Cullman, AL 35055, (256) 737-0740 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this the 19 day of December, 2020

WELLS R. TURNER, III
JUVENILE JUDGE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit Court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 16th day of December, 2020.
Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Circuit Court

FILED IN OFFICE
DEC 15 2020
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

PB WIL BK 99 PG 382 - 12/28/2020 09:19 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

**IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

IN RE: The Estate of *
JOHN MCCARTY OLIVER, * CASE NO. PC 2020 - 365
Deceased. *

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

TAKE NOTICE: Letters Testamentary having been granted to SAMUEL JOHN OLIVER, III, as Executor of the Estate of JOHN MCCARTY OLIVER, deceased, on the 28th day of December, 2020, 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.

SAMUEL JOHN OLIVER, III
Executor

Gaynor St. John

Shay Persall

Attorneys for Executor

ST. JOHN & ST. JOHN, LLC
108 3rd Street SE
Cullman, AL 35055
Telephone: (256) 734-3542

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

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

Tammy Brown, Probate Judge

**IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

IN RE: )
H.L. )
A Minor Child, 11/05/2007 )
CASE NO. JU 2017-003.04

**NOTICE**

The Petitioner having made a Motion for Service by Publication in the above styled action, it is

**ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** that the Father of H.L., born on or about 11/05/2007 to Ashley Loggins, respond to the Petition by the 26 day of January, 2021, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioner.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioner Michael J. Baggett, 206 Ninth Street SW, Cullman, AL 35055, (256) 737-0740 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this the 15 day of December, 2020

WELLS R. TURNER, III
JUVENILE JUDGE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit Court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 16th day of December, 2020.
Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Circuit Court

FILED IN OFFICE
DEC 15 2020
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

STATE OF ALABAMA )
)
COUNTY OF CULLMAN )

**NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE**

**TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL PROPERTY AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**

**Date & Time of Sale:** Monday, Jan 11 2021 at 11:00 a.m./p.m.
**Sale Location:** Cullman County Courthouse East Entrance
500 Second Avenue, S.W.
Cullman, Alabama 35055

**Writ of Execution Parties:** BRC Dolly Creek Station LLC v. Cindy Burrow Holland a/k/a Cindy B. Holland
C/O Attorney Brian Bugge'
P.O. Box 43856
Birmingham, AL 35243

By virtue of an Execution issued to me by Circuit Clerk Jacqueline Smith, pursuant to the Code of Alabama, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Execution issued on a judgment, with interest and cost. Upon the expiration of proper notice and advertisement, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder at the date, time, and location listed above, all right, title, and interest of Cindy Burrow Holland a/k/a Cindy B. Holland, in the real property, described as follows:

*A tract or parcel of land containing 12.92 acres and being a part of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 28, Township 10 South, Range 3 West, Cullman County, Alabama and being more particularly described as follows: Commence at a found railroad spike marking the northwest corner of said northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 28, having an Alabama State plane, West Zone, NAD 83 coordinate value of N.1509632.95', E.2160384.60' and run south 00 degrees 22 minutes 08 seconds west (bearing based on AL State plane, west zone, NAD 83, grid) and run along the west line, a distance of 658.95 feet; thence run south 89 degrees 16 minutes 23 seconds east, a distance of 24.12 feet to a set rebar on the east right-of-way line of Leonard Road, same being the point of beginning; Thence north 00 degrees 22 minutes 08 seconds east, a distance of 617.62 feet to a set rebar marking the intersection of said right-of-way line and the south right-of-way line of Cullman County Road No. 436; thence south 89 degrees 18 minutes 13 seconds east, and run along said south line, a distance of 136.59 feet to a set rebar; thence south 00 degrees 22 minutes 08 seconds west, a distance of 200.00 feet to a set rebar; thence south 89 degrees 18 minutes 13 seconds east, a distance of 655.01 feet to a set rebar; thence north 00 degrees 22 minutes 08 seconds east, a distance of 200.00 feet to a set rebar on the south right-of-way line of Cullman County Road No. 436; thence south 89 degrees 18 minutes 13 seconds east, and run along said right-of-way line, a distance of 278.49 feet to a found 5/8 inch rebar; thence south 11 degrees 11 minutes 31 seconds east, a distance of 259.68 feet to a found 5/8 inch rebar; thence south 07 degrees 12 minutes 31 seconds east, a distance of 164.03 feet to a found 5/8 inch rebar; thence south 02 degrees 53 minutes 33 seconds east, a distance of 202.05 feet to a set rebar; thence north 89 degrees 16 minutes 23 seconds west, a distance of 1,155.26 feet to the point of beginning. Subject to any rights-of-way and/or easements of record.*

*Source of Title: Deed Book 655, Page 725, Office of the Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.*

*The physical address of the property is 12.92 acres on County Road 436, Cullman, AL 35055.*

THEREFORE, according to said command, I shall expose for sale at public auction, all the right, title, and interest of the above-named Cindy Burrow Holland a/k/a Cindy B. Holland, in and to the above-described property on the date listed above, subject to all prior encumbrances of record.

Dated this the 3rd day of December, 2020.

BY: Matt Gentry, Sheriff
Sheriff Matt Gentry

# Proceedings (from Front)

**W.C. Mann**
craig@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** – Due to COVID numbers that continue to rise in Cullman County, the county court system has postponed many cases and will go back to virtual hearings in cases that need to move forward.

In a release on Monday, Presiding Judge Gregory Nicholas wrote, "The latest weekly report received from Cullman Regional Medical Center indicates that their ICU is now operating at over 100% capacity and the hospital currently has 83 patients who are COVID-19 positive, 21 of whom are currently on ventilators.

Further, the number of COVID-19 cases in our area is expected to increase even more during the next few weeks due to the Christmas and New Year's Eve holidays.

While CRMC has managed to respond admirably to recent challenges and is currently able to provide care for all COVID-19 patients, the potential shortage of critical care beds and nurses at our local hospital is a cause for concern, if numbers continue to increase.

"To help slow the spread of COVID-19 within our community, a decision has been made by Cullman County circuit and district judges to postpone some non-essential in-person judicial proceedings or to utilize video conferencing to conduct virtual court proceedings, where feasible.

"The civil non-jury cases set before Judge Nicholas and Judge Williams for Jan. 5, 2021 will be virtual court hearings only, so parties and witnesses will not need to appear in person and will be provided information regarding how to participate in virtual court trials.

"District Judge Chad Floyd has also postponed his traffic court docket set for Jan. 6, 2021.

"Those cases have been reset for March 3, 2021. In addition, jury trials currently scheduled for Jan. 25, 2021 have been postponed until February, when hopefully local conditions have improved, and jury trials can be resumed.

"Despite the changes, Cullman Circuit and District courts will remain open and motions may still be filed in all cases either electronically or directly through the Circuit Court Clerk's Office.

"Virtual court hearings will be held for the remainder of January as a substitute for in-person proceedings, where feasible.

"In-person judicial proceedings will be held utilizing previously adopted COVID-19 safety measures, in cases where it is necessary to provide immediate relief in emergency circumstances and for all court hearings deemed so essential that a postponement is not appropriate."

# Obituary Announcements: Jan. 5

**Robert Emory Creel**, 84, of Hanceville
In loving memory of Robert Emory Creel. Robert Emory Creel passed away early Jan. 2, 2021 from complications of the COVID virus at the age of 84. He was born Oct. 6, 1936 to Robert Elijah Creel and Naomi (Patrick) Creel and was a lifelong resident of Hanceville. After graduating from Hanceville High School, he began a 42-year career with the railroad, first working for the L&N and retiring from CSX. Robert had a love for trains that began when he was a boy working in the fields in White City near the railroad tracks. This continued through his life when he was known to carry grandkids to excellent vantage points to see trains crossing. Robert had a love for his hometown and served two terms on the city council. In 1988, Robert and Linda relocated to Jacksonville, Florida for work, but Robert did not feel at home until he was able to relocate back to Hanceville upon retirement in 1998. After his retirement, he was an avid gardener and active member at church and loved his church family dearly. Mr. Creel is survived by his wife Linda of 53 years; two sons Clint (Kristi) and Jon (Kim) Creel; grandchildren Warren, Emily, Katie, and Zella; sister Ruth Brigham; brother Don (Wanda) Creel; sister-in-law Frances Creel; and a host of nieces and nephews, all of whom he adored. He is preceded in death by his parents; brothers E.O. Creel and Leo Creel; and sister Bonnie Waldrop. Services will be announced at a later time by the family. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Children's Hospital at www.childrensal.org/foundation.

**Reverend Randy Derrick Burnett** 43, of Cullman
A graveside service for Reverend Randy Derrick Burnett 43, of Cullman were held at 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 4, 2020 at Colony Community Cemetery in Colony, Alabama.

**Mary Ellen Farley**, 83, of Ft. Payne, formerly of Cullman
Funeral services for Mary Ellen Farley, 83, of Ft. Payne, formerly of Cullman, will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021 at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Heritage cemetery; Rev. Richard Pope officiating. Visitation will be Tuesday from 10-11 a.m. at the funeral home. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Mrs. Farley passed away Friday, Jan. 1, 2021 at Dekalb Regional Hospital. She was born July 21, 1937 to Marvin Theodore and Inez Nichols Hall. She was a good Christian lady. She enjoyed her church and family and always put her family above her. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband Billy Joe Farley; daughters Laura Powell and Faith Lawrence; and brothers and sisters Charlotte Mosley, Bobbie Sue Hall, Bill Hall, and Cecil Hall. Survivors include her sons David (Debbie) Farley, Dennis Farley, and Max (Sharon) Farley; daughter Lisa Sandlin; brothers Ralph (Mildred) Hall and Jim Hall; sisters Grace Haynes and Nilah Harbison; 14 grandchildren; 39 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and a host of family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

**Jessie Pearl Trussell**, 93, of Cullman
Funeral services for Jessie Pearl Trussell, 93, of Cullman were at 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 4, 2021 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with burial at Valley Springs Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Trussell passed away Friday, Jan. 1, 2021 at Woodland Village Health Care. She was born May 30, 1927 in Cullman, AL to Henry Robinson and Rosie Parker. She is preceded in death by her husband Seabourn Trussell, parents, and great-grandson Trenton Trussell. Survivors include her two sons Leslie (Rose) Trussell of Huntsville, AL and Richard (Sherry) Trussell of Parrish AL; five grandchildren Marlena (B.J.) Trussell of Parrish, AL, Tracy (Kyle) Wade of Parrish, AL, Christopher (Stephanie) Trussell of Parrish, AL, Samantha (Alex) Selvidge of Huntsville, AL, and Beth (Logan) Haughwout of Madison, AL; along with nine great-grandchildren Amy, Madison, Skylar, Kaytlyn, Andrew, Oakleigh, McKinley, Arianna, and Rosemary. Visitation was from noon-2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 4, 2021 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home.

**Clara Ann Bowen**, 70, of Cullman
Graveside services for Clara Ann Bowen, 70, of Cullman, who passed away Thursday, Dec. 31, 2020, will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021 at Simcoe Baptist Cemetery. Moss Service Funeral Home directing. Ms. Bowen grew up in Fairview and attended the University of Montevallo. She was an accountant by profession and spent most of her career as a political media buyer for the elections. Her job consisted of calling the radio and television stations where the election was being held and procuring the best rates for the ads. Clara loved watching and attending the Atlanta Braves games; her favorite player was Gene Garber, who was a relief pitcher. She lived in Atlanta for 20 years but also lived in Nashville and New Orleans. She particularly loved the Mardi Gras festivities in New Orleans. She enjoyed traveling and while traveling to New York, she did a film junket with Kris Kristofferson. Her parents Joseph and Mamie Nicholas Bowen preceded her in death, as well as her sister Julie Elizabeth Bowen. She is survived by her son Stacey Huffman; grandchildren Cade Hardin, Keagan Hardin, Macey Huffman, and Jase Huffman; sisters Mary (David) Nunnelley, Marlene (James) Masters and Darlene (Mike) Hudson; and brothers William (Joannie) Bowen and Charles (Helen) Bowen. Condolences and special memories may be shared with the family at www.mossservicefh.com.

**Gerald Wayne "Jerry" Goodwin**, 79, of Arley
Gerald Wayne "Jerry" Goodwin, 79, of Arley passed away Jan. 2, 2021 at Princeton Baptist Medical Center. Jerry was born Dec. 20, 1941 in Cullman, Alabama and graduated from Meek High School with the class of 1960. He was a member of the Arley Police Department Reserve since 1978 and was a member of the Arley Town Council for 20 plus years. Jerry loved to garden and give "veggies" to family, friends, and neighbors. He was a full-time member of Houston Congregational Christian Church and was "Papaw Jerry" to all of the kids at Meek Schools. Jerry was at every game and supported every athlete and was inducted into the Winston County Sports Hall of Fame in July 2018. Visitation will be held from 10-11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021 at Nichols Funeral Home in Addison, where funeral service will begin at 11 a.m. Interment will follow at Arley United Methodist Cemetery. Brother Bobby Smith will be officiating. Jerry is survived by his wife Virginia Goodwin; daughter Teresa (Bobby) Smith; son Chuck (Michelle) Goodwin; grandson Caleb (Whitney) Smith; granddaughters Megan Smith, Lindsey (Jake) Yerber, and Emily (Andrew) Clingan; great-grandchildren Raylee Smith and Kylah Smith; brothers Ellis (Mary) Goodwin and Terry (Cheryl) Goodwin; sisters Pat (Wayne) Cole and Delilah Goodwin; several nieces and nephews; and a host of other family members and close friends. He was preceded in death by his parents Marlin Goodwin and Stella Mauldin; baby sister Roxie; brothers Frank and Terry Goodwin; and father and mother-in-law Charlie and Louise McCormic.The pallbearers are Caleb Smith, Andy Cole, Roger Pirkle, Matthew Clark, Chris Clark, and Jake Yerbey. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Jerry Goodwin Funeral Fund at BankFirst – Arley branch. Memories and condolences may be shared at www.nicholsfuneralhomes.com.

**Glenson Paul Rhoads, Jr.**, 84, of Cullman
Glenson Paul Rhoads, Jr. of Cullman passed away Dec. 30, 2020 at the age of 84. He was born Sept. 20, 1936 to Glenson Paul Rhoads, Sr. and Irene Carpenter Rhoads. He is preceded in death by his parents and two daughters Floetta Irene Rhoads and Mary Martha Rhoads. Mr. Rhoads received his Bachelor of Science degree from St. Bernard College and a master's degree from Georgia State University. A retired major from The United States Army, he was a decorated Vietnam veteran, receiving two Purple Hearts, a Silver Star and a Bronze Star, among other honors. After retiring from the military, he worked with the Defense Department until his retirement in 1996. He was a member of The American Legion and VFW. Funeral services are Wednesday Jan. 6, 2021 at Moss Funeral Home Chapel at 2 p.m. with Pastor Scott Sessions officiating. Interment will follow services in Cullman Memory Gardens. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Juanita Reed Rhoads; brother Jerry Rhoads; and a host of nieces and nephews. The family request in lieu of flowers, donations be made to The Wounded Warrior Project. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.mossservicefh.com. Moss Funeral Home directing.

**Bernie Dean Herfurth,** 84, of Cullman
A private graveside service for Bernie Dean Herfurth, 84, of Cullman was held for the family. She was born Wednesday, Oct. 14, 1936 to Bernie O'Neal and Vera Whaley. Bernie Dean Herfurth was called home to the Lord Dec. 31, 2020. She was preceded in death by her father Bernie O'Neal Whaley and her mother Vera Heatherly. She is survived by her husband of 63 years, William Herfurth; brothers Verlon Whaley and wife Dot and Randy Heatherly and wife Debbie; sons Tim Herfurth and wife Sonja, John Herfurth and wife Karen, and Andrew Herfurth and wife, Cathy; daughter Heidi Settles; and grandchildren Haley, Rana, Hayden, Bailey and Meleah Herfurth, who remember her as Mama. She was a member of St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church, where she volunteered with the Women's Guild organizing rummage sales and sending notes of well wishes to sick or grieving church members. In her younger years, she worked as a dental hygienist, a substitute teacher, a daycare worker, and a saleswoman. In her home, she could often be found painting birds and flowers, writing poetry, sewing, playing the piano, and singing, or generously feeding the guests that so often came by to visit, whether it was a friend of 30 years or a young woman selling magazines door to door. Dean loved the Lord and was quick to pray earnestly on behalf of her family and friends, whom she always put before herself. Her voice was gentle and encouraging and her words compassionate and kind. She was, from her soul, immeasurably and unfailingly good — no one ever left her presence heavy-hearted. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts can be made to St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church.

**Margie Marie Gurganus**, 88, of Cullman
The funeral service for Margie Marie Gurganus, 88, of Cullman will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021 at the Cullman Funeral Home Chapel. Visitation will precede the service from 1-2 p.m. The interment will follow the service at Springhill Baptist Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the Gurganus family. Mrs. Gurganus was born Sept. 4, 1932 to Eddie Cleveland and Bertie Florence Minor Warren. She passed from this life Jan. 3, 2021 at the Cullman Regional Medical Center. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Johnny Frank Gurganus; and brothers and sisters. She is survived by her son Philip Doyle (Diane) Gurganus; her daughter Rose (Sam) McCluskey; brother Charles (Juquita) Warren; grandchild John-David (Rebecca) Gurganus; and special nephew, Ron Wilson. Family and Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

**Jerry Laotto Willibey**, 80, of Cullman
Jerry Laotto Willibey, 80, of Cullman died peacefully, Jan. 2, 2021 at Cullman Regional Medical Center. Left behind to cherish his memory are his wife of 49 years, Ava; two daughters Lorrie Vancheri of Warrenton, Virginia and Patricia Crump of Cullman; and two granddaughters Audrey and Anna Vancheri of Richmond, Virginia. Jerry entered the U.S. Air Force at a young age and served a combat tour in Vietnam, later retiring with 25 years of service. He then worked for 15 years for Lockheed Martin in their missile division, before permanent retirement. For the past 15 years, Jerry has been an active member of Cullman's VFW Post 2214, where he served several years as quartermaster and was elected as commander for five years. He led the post to number one in the state of Alabama and was honored at the national convention for his leadership. He served five years on the Elks/Veterans committee that plans the annual county celebration of Veterans Day, which has grown each and every year. During his time with the post, he met and helped many of his band of brothers. Jerry also served his neighborhood of Canterbury as president of the homeowners association for many years and enjoyed working with all his neighbors. On the weekends he enjoyed watching NASCAR and was a huge Alabama Fan (Roll Tide). He also enjoyed working in his yard and was an avid coin collector. Donations may be made in Jerry's name to the flag fund at VFW Post 2214, 112 Veterans Dr., Cullman, Alabama 35055. The family wishes to thank our veteran family, church and community for the outpouring of love, which will stay with us forever. Visitation for Mr. Willibey will be at Moss Service Funeral Home Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021 from 10-11 a.m. with a celebration of life service to follow. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.mossservicefh.com for the Willibey family.

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# Grace Place (from Front)

**W.C. Mann**
craig@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** – Grace Place, Grace Episcopal Church's ministry to those with memory loss and their caregivers, was stopped in its tracks by COVID-19 early in 2020 but was soon back up and running after a little advice from similar programs in other cities and a little creativity on the part of its own leaders.

**In a message to The Tribune, the group shared:**
Grace Place was significantly impacted by 2020's coronavirus. Cullman's only day program for those with mild to moderate memory loss was shut down in early March because of the very real danger of the virus to the people served and restrictions on the size of gatherings.

Board member Jerry Jacob said, "It was a tough, but necessary, decision for the board. The volunteers and community contributors, who made the program a reality, were also disappointed. Special thanks to the meal providers: Carlton's Italian Restaurant, Cullman Church of Christ, Little Caesars Pizza (Second Avenue location), Panera Bread and St. Andrews Methodist Church Charity Circle."

Grace Place's twice per week, four-hour sessions were canceled, as well as the once-a-month Caregiver Support Group meetings. Also, the newly hired Program Director, Melva Jackson, literally missed her first opportunity to lead a weekly session that had been scheduled for the second week in March.

Thanks to networking with similar programs across the state, however, Grace Place did not stop interacting with participants, the people served.

Board of Directors Chair Jay Jones commented, "One of the great things about memory-loss programs in Alabama is their willingness to share their experiences, successes and failures. By April, participants and their caregivers began receiving weekly-mailed packets containing devotionals, picture puzzles, word games, jokes, funny short stories, adult coloring images and other materials. It was enough activities to keep them engaged for several hours per week.

It was not until September, when it looked like the spread of COVID-19 was waning, the program board met and, with medical professional advice, decided to re-open on a scaled-back version. In mid-October, Grace Place re-opened for three-hour sessions, face masks or shields required, social distancing, less than 10 total people present and no lunch. Unfortunately, the much-anticipated surge of the disease reared its ugly head, and the program was shut down again in December.

Grace Place wound up serving 10 participants in 2020, down considerably from the 20 served in the previous year. The number of volunteers who graciously gave of their time and made the program possible was down from 20 in 2019 to 10 in 2020.

Even though donations were also down a lot, the organization is blessed with dedicated donors who continued to support the program's efforts.

According to Jacob, "The year 2020 was hard on everyone. Grace Place suffered without being able to provide very-needed services to participants and their caregivers.

"We adapted to the circumstances and adjusted our services to fit what was feasible and effective. As we approach the new year, and the promise of vaccines to provide protection, our program will come back in its original format, revitalized and re-energized. Our participants and their family caregivers are far too important to us."

For more information about Grace Place, director Melva Jackson can be reached at melvalayne@yahoo.com or 256-736-4260.




Bill Smith
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