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– LOCAL GOVERNMENT –

Colony Town Council accomplishes business amid continuing controversy



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Colony Councilwoman Ethel Alexander (left) voices concerns about council procedures as Mayor Curtis Johnson and Councilwoman Mary Parker listen. » PAGE 5

FINDING THEIR WAY HOME

Lost and found pet sites invaluable tools in reuniting animals and families





THE REAL FRIENDS OF CULLMAN ANIMAL SHELTER; SMITH LAKE LOST DOGS AND CATS

***LOST PET** (left) 11-year-old Destiny has been missing since Dec. 31 in south Cullman. She was spotted in Carroll Acres in early January. She may have traveled to areas near Bolte Road or Stone Bridge Farms or nearby subdivisions Derby Creek, Fox Meadow or Oak Meadow. She is a short-haired "blue tortoise" (gray and tan calico) with light green eyes and weighs 8 lbs. She's wearing a pink collar with a pink bell and gold tag engraved with her name and address/phone number (205-447-8650). Her collar is a tear-away type, so the tag may be gone. Her front paws are declawed and tan-colored. FOUND PET (right) This dog was found last week along Butler Branch Road in Arley. The family who found him describes him as very friendly with a nice electronic collar on, but says he is very skinny, and his toenails are very long.*

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – When thunderstorms roll through Cullman County as they did Monday evening, inevitably there will be an increase in the number of lost and found pets in the area. Luckily, there are individuals out there who have taken their love for animals and their willingness to volunteer their time to run social media pages in hopes of reuniting pets with their families.

Ruth Ann Tucker created Cullman County Alabama Lost and Found Pets in 2015. Although she is not a resident of Cullman County, she saw how valuable lost and found sites were near her home outside of Huntsville. She now helps maintain 25 sites in Alabama dedicated to helping pets and pet owners.

"When I started this five years ago with our local lost and found pets, they worked so closely with our shelter. They brought that shelter from a kill shelter to a 95% no-kill shelter.

"We discovered that with a lot of the pets that weren't from our local county, there were so many areas that had no lost and found pet sites," said Tucker. "I went to every county in north Alabama that didn't have a lost and found pet site and started sites. That way, if a pet is lost and it is posted on our local state sites, we can get them back to the county they are lost from and possibly get them home faster."

Even with the sharing and exposure a lost or found site can generate, Tucker said, "Sadly, we probably only get 25% reunited and that's sad." » PAGE 6

ARTS

CHS gearing up for 'Bright Star' production, social distancing and all

Show opens Thursday evening



CULLMAN THEATRE

Performances of "Bright Star" are set for 7 p.m. Jan. 28; 7 p.m. Jan. 29; and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Jan. 30.

Cullman City Schools
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – The arts will find a way — even through a pandemic. With ample social distancing and precautions in place, the Cullman High School theater department is gearing up for its first major production of 2021: "Bright Star."

Tickets are on sale to the public right now via GoFan.co at https://gofan.co/app/school/AL560. Tickets will be paperless, and the performance will also be available to stream online at cullmanhs.booktix.com — a first for the CHS theater department. Tickets for live performances in the theater itself are limited due to social distancing. Performances are set for 7 p.m. Jan. 28; 7 p.m. Jan. 29; and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Jan. 30.

"We actually chose this production last year and we were not able to do it," Cullman Theatre Director Wayne Cook explained. "We maintained the rights, and since the pandemic we have waited until the time was right to put it together. We hope the community will support the arts, buy tickets and come out to see this great production. With limited seating, we want and really need to sell every ticket."

"Bright Star" is a musical, set in the 1940s in the mountains of North Carolina, written by Steve Martin and Edie Brickell. It first launched in 2014 and ran on Broadway in 2016.

"It is based on a true story and has so many elements people can enjoy. It is heartwarming, moving and also funny," Cook explained. "The music is bluegrass and is simply delightful. Being from a small town with small town roots in the South, we have been able to identify quite well with the musical."

But what did it take to pull off — and prepare — this performance while adhering to safety precautions and social distancing? A lot of effort, according to Cook, though it will be more than worth it to see students finally bring the show to life on stage. He said from rehearsals to the layout of the performance itself, he had to rethink basically everything along the way due to COVID-19.

"We have social-distanced the blocking and made sure students did not touch each other," Cook said. "This is a very hard thing to do in theater. At times this past year, it felt like we were swimming in molasses — but we are here and ready to perform it in a safe way. Our stu- » PAGE 5

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WVTM-13

Tornado damage in Jefferson County

Hanceville Public Works assisting in Fultondale tornado recovery

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

FULTONDALE, Ala. – Following Monday night's catastrophic tornado in Fultondale, Hanceville Mayor Kenneth Nail and Public Works Director Rusty Fields dispatched a crew with self-loading brush trucks and chainsaws to the stricken city to clear downed trees and debris.

The mayor reached out to Fultondale City Hall early Tuesday morning with an offer of help, which was gratefully accepted.

Nail told The Tribune, "Folks came and helped us in 2011.

"And I'll tell you, the (city) council's been very supportive of us going and helping other folks, and we always try to do it.

"We wouldn't have the resources like the City of Birmingham, or Decatur or Huntsville, but we can send some of what we've got.

"When you're in trouble, any help is usually appreciated. We'll just go down and do what we can."

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COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2021 COVID-19 update from the Alabama Department of Public Health's COVID-19 Data and Surveillance Dashboard

- Total confirmed cases in AL: 352,918 (+1,930 since yesterday)
- Probable cases in AL: 92,991 (+970 since yesterday)
- Total confirmed deaths in AL: 5,638 (+169 since yesterday)
- Probable deaths in AL: 1,258
- Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co.: 5,737 (+20 since yesterday)
- Probable cases in Cullman Co.: 2,626 (+47 since yesterday)
- Total confirmed deaths in Cullman Co.: 83 (+0 since yesterday)
- Probable deaths in Cullman Co.: 42
- Total tested in Cullman Co.: 34,479
- Total tested in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 3,860
- Cases in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 596
- Total tested in Alabama: 2,097,970
- Cases in the last 14 days in Alabama: 40,429
- Total tested in the last 14 days in Alabama: 243,762
- Currently hospitalized in Alabama: 2,222
- Cumulative no. of hospitalizations in Alabama: 41,315
- Presumed recoveries in Alabama (reported weekly): 233,211

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

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Scholarship Opportunity
The Cullman County Soil & Water Conservation District is now accepting applications for a $500 scholarship sponsored by the Alabama Conservation District Employees Association. Applicant must be a U. S. citizen, high school senior and living in the state of Alabama. Applications may be picked up at the District office located 501-B Fourth St. SW, Cullman, AL 35055. Deadline to receive completed applications in the District office is March 12, 2021. For more information, contact Kathy Holmes at 256-734-1431or kholmes@cullmanswcd.com.

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. Come and pray with us or come to receive prayer.
- Classes Wednesdays at 7 p.m. "Events of the End Time Series- 2nd Half of the Tribulation" by Pastor Bobby Dodd
- Sundays at 9 a.m. Van runs in 5 Points area. Call 256-841-2060 for pickup. Small group classes for adults, children and youth at 10 a.m. Praise and worship and message at 11 a.m.
- Sunday, Jan. 31 message- "Go in the Strength You Have" 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.

Hanceville City Council Meeting
Thursday, Jan. 28 at 5:30 p.m. at Hanceville City Hall

Wild & Scenic Film Festival (Virtual)
- Thursday, Jan. 28 from 6-8 p.m.
- Presented by Alabama Rivers Alliance, Energy Alabama, Flint River Conservation Association and Waterkeepers Alabama
- General admission tickets are $10. Register at qudio.com/event/AlabamaRivers.

Cullman High School Theatre Presents "Bright Star"
- (In-person) Thursday, Jan. 28 at 7 p.m.
- (In-person) Friday, Jan. 29 at 7 p.m.
- (In-person) Saturday, Jan. 30 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- Limited seating. Masks required. Social distancing required.
- Purchase tickets ($12) at https://gofan.co/app/school/AL560.
- (Streaming only) Sunday, Feb. 1 and Monday, Feb. 2 at 7 p.m.
- Purchase a steaming pass at https://cullmanhs.booktix.com/

2021 Polar Bear Plunge
- Saturday, Jan. 30 at 10 a.m. at the Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center
- Everyone that jumps will be entered to win a family membership to the facility, and aquatics admission on that day will be free from 9-11 a.m.
- If you plan to participate in this year's Polar Bear Plunge, online registration is available now at https://forms.gle/yTbKNvS4Zk1LU7rn7 or by going to cullmanwellness.com and clicking on "Polar Bear Plunge."

LifeSouth Community Blood Drive
Saturday, Jan. 30 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Vinemont Town Hall

Cullman City Planning Commission Meeting
Monday, Feb. 1 at 5:30 p.m. at Cullman City Hall

Holly Pond Town Council Meeting
Monday, Feb. 1 at 6 p.m. at the Guy Hunt Museum

Fairview Town Council Meeting
Monday, Feb. 1 at 6 p.m. at Fairview Town Hall

Baileyton Town Council Meeting
Monday, Feb. 1 at 7 p.m. at Baileyton Town Hall

Community Blood Drive
- Wednesday, Feb. 3 from 1-5 p.m. at The Link of Cullman County, 708 Ninth St. SE
- Free COVID-19 antibody testing, $5 Amazon gift card and Red Cross T-shirt for all donors.

Cullman County Community Development Commission Meeting
Thursday, Feb. 4 at 6 p.m. at the Cullman County Economic Development office

St. Bernard Athletic Boosters Carry-Out Swamp John's Dinner
- Saturday, Feb. 6 from 4-7 p.m. Plates will cost $12 each and will include a choice of shrimp, chicken, fish or a combination of two. Dessert will be included.
- For tickets, contact the school at 256-739-6682. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

Alabama Cooperative Extension Virtual Caregiver's College- "Love Yourself" Webinar
- Wednesday, Feb. 10 from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. There will be presenters on the following topics: Senior Rx, Medicare Part D, Estate Planning/Wills/Taxes, Identify Theft and Nutrition.
- This is the first virtual Caregiver's College. This program will be presented by ZOOM. This is a great opportunity for seniors and senior caregivers to gain resources and education and not have to leave the house if they have internet access.
- This event is free, but registration is required. Register by emailing jns0030@aces.edu or by calling the Dekalb County Extension office at 256-845-8595.
- Virtual attendees can ask to receive a goody bag for their attendance at this event. When you call or email, ask for the free goody bag.
- The speakers for this event are very knowledgeable experts and specialists in their fields. Please share half a day with us to learn more about how important caregivers are and how to "Love Yourself."

EDUCATION

St. Bernard's Nikolas Borths named Area 12 winner of Bryant-Jordan Student-Athlete Award

Joyce Nix
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – St. Bernard student Nikolas Borths of Decatur, Alabama has been named the Area 12 winner of the Bryant-Jordan Student-Athlete Award. The award, developed by the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame in conjunction with the Alabama High School Athletic Association, recognizes Alabama high school seniors who have achieved a high level of excellence not only athletically, but also academically.

St. Bernard Athletic Director and Cross Country Coach William Calvert said, "Aside from excelling in basketball, cross country and track and field for the Saints, Nikolas is an extraordinary student in the classroom and has been accepted to Georgia Tech for his freshman year of college.

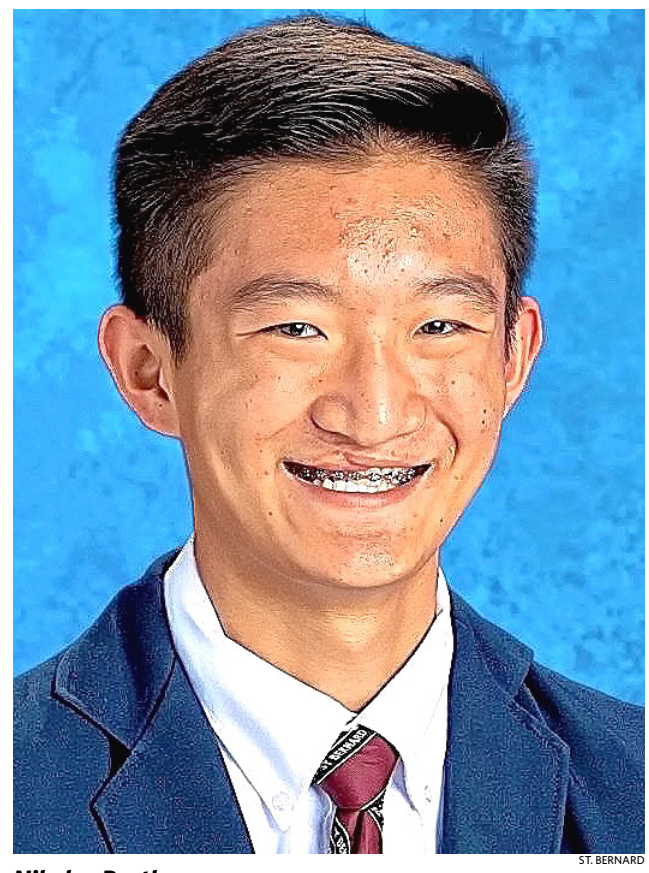
In addition to serving as president of his senior class, he is very active in church and community service. He recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout."

University of Alabama Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant and Auburn University Coach Ralph "Shug" Jordan earned their reputations as much by their accomplishments off the playing field as their victories on it. Their actions touched the lives of athletes everywhere especially those athletes who looked to them for leadership and inspiration. To award scholarships in their names not only helps to perpetuate the memory of their accomplishments, but also serves as inspiration for a new generation of athletes.

For athletic purposes, the secondary schools in Alabama are divided into seven classifications by enrollment, with 1A being the smallest and 7A being the largest. Each is then divided into eight regions, consisting of two areas with 4-6 schools each. Each school determines its nominees to be submitted for area competition. A committee of school principals selects the area winners to be submitted for regional competition. School administrators in each region are responsible for determining region winners.

Borths now advances to the Region Competition which will be held in February. Region winners are then put into competition before a selection committee to determine the winner in each class. Each nominee must be a high school senior and demonstrate a commitment to both high academic and athletic achievement. Criteria includes scholastic standing, sports participation, athletic honors, school leadership and community involvement.

Nikolas is the son of Dale and Kathie Borths of Decatur.



ST. BERNARD

Nikolas Borths

EDUCATION

Jacksonville State renaming historic Bibb Graves Hall

Angle Hall to honor benefactor family with close ties to the university

Buffy Lockette
Contributor

JACKSONVILLE, Ala. – The Jacksonville State University Board of Trustees on Tuesday during its quarterly meeting voted to rename the university's historic Bibb Graves Hall. The 90-year-old structure and campus administration building will now be known as Angle Hall (pronounced "Angel") in honor of alumni and benefactors Marcus E. Angle, Jr. (Marc) and his wife Mary.

"Events across the nation last summer compelled many of our students, student government leaders, alumni and employees to request that we consider renaming Bibb Graves Hall to reflect a more unified campus that believes in social justice and equality," said President Don Killingsworth.

"What the Board has approved today ushers in a new, more modern era for this important piece of the university's history."

"We wanted the individuals tied to this pivotal rename to be ones who have – and will continue to – positively impact this campus and its students for decades to come," added Randy Jones, chairman of the JSU Board of Trustees.

"As longstanding benefactors of the university, and as a family of successful JSU alums who use their success to cultivate the successes of others pursuing their own educations, the Angle family made perfect sense."

Married for 36 years, Anniston natives Marc and Mary Hudson Angle met on JSU's campus as undergraduates, where both were active in multiple student groups. Mr. Angle served as president of the Student Government Association, was a member of Kappa Alpha Order Fraternity and was on the 1980 baseball team. Mrs. Angle was a Marching Ballerina in the famed Marching Southerners.

Mr. Angle earned a bachelor's in finance from the university in 1982. After JSU, he received an MBA from Samford University and embarked on a successful career in banking. He currently serves Regions Bank as commercial banking district director for both Texas and Louisiana.

He was honored as Alumnus of the Year in 2016 and is a longtime member of the JSU Foundation Board. Mrs. Angle received a bachelor's in early childhood education in 1988 and spent many years as an elementary school teacher in school systems in Jacksonville, Fla.; Atlanta; Birmingham; and Dallas.

The couple now resides in Plano, Texas and shares one daughter, Darby, who graduated from JSU in December with a bachelor's in sport management and recreation. She participated in the Miss Alabama Pageant in 2019 as Miss JSU and – like her mother – was a Marching Ballerina throughout college. She was also a member of Alpha Xi Delta Sorority.

"If I had the opportunity to attend any university in the country, I would still choose JSU," said Mr. Angle while serving as JSU's commencement speaker in December 2020. "Jacksonville State University made me the man that I am today."

The Angles made a private donation to the university to secure naming rights for the former Bibb Graves Hall – one of several generous gifts they have provided the university over the years, but the first to which their name has been attached. According to Mr. Angle, it was of the utmost importance to them personally that the building secure a new name.



ST. BERNARD

The 90-year-old structure and campus administration building will now be known as Angle Hall. (JSU)

"JSU's diversity is what makes it special, and ultimately, diversity is good for any corporation, university or business," said Mr. Angle, who serves on Regions' corporate Diversity and Inclusion Committee. "On campus, we have kids who are gifted academically, and we have kids who want to be gifted academically. We have those who come to campus who have a lot of wealth, and we have students who work two part time jobs to pay for their education.

"We have people of different nationalities, backgrounds and religious beliefs. And because of this, JSU is able to provide an outstanding and equal learning environment for all."

Constructed in 1930 as the university's main classroom and administration building, the three- story, gothic Angle Hall sits atop a hill in the heart of campus, surrounded by historic oaks and gardens. Complete with an iconic bell tower, which chimes hourly, the building is one of northeast Alabama's most notable landmarks.

The building continues to serve as the university's main administration building and is home to the Dr. Clarence William Daugette Sr. Presidential Suite, which has housed the Office of the President for eight of the university's 13 administrations. It is also home to the university's financial, human resources and student services offices.

The building was originally named for two-term Alabama Governor Bibb Graves (1873-1942), as were buildings at higher education institutions across the state due to his many contributions to public colleges and universities in Alabama. Despite this, his past personal affiliations conflict with Jacksonville State's current and unwavering commitment to diversity and inclusion, which led to today's Board decision.

The university will phase out the use of "Bibb Graves Hall" in materials over the next few months leading to the Angle Hall rededication ceremony scheduled for April.

EDUCATION

Local students named to Mississippi State Dean's, President's Lists

Allison Matthews
Contributor

MISSISSIPPI STATE, Miss. – Local students were named to the Mississippi State University Dean's and President's Lists for the 2020 fall semester.

Students on the President's List achieved a 3.80 or better grade-point average, based on a 4.0 scale, while completing at least 12 semester hours of course work with no incomplete grades or grades lower than a C.

Deans' List students achieved a grade-point average between 3.5 and 3.79, based on a 4.0 scale, while completing at least 12 semester hours of course work with no incomplete grades or grades lower than a C.

President's List

- Kacy Anne Burroughs, of Cullman
- Abbie Kate Hancock, of Cullman
- Lindsey A. Lowery, of Hanceville
- Hannah Rose Mixon, of Bremen
- Madeline Leigh Whitesell, of Vinemont

Deans' List

- James W. Akin, of Hanceville
- Leah M. Bowden, of Cullman
- Shea P. Eaton, of Cullman
- MaKenna Grace Gaskin, of Cullman
- Jordan Lynn Millican, of Cullman
- Kelsey Lane Rogers, of Cullman

Some names of students may not appear on this list as a result of student requests for privacy from publication through the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

For more information, contact the MSU Registrar's Office.

St. Bernard Athletic Boosters to host Swamp John's in place of annual drawdown

Joyce Nix
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – While the pandemic has hit the pocketbooks of the world, it has also had an effect on the Saint Bernard Athletic Boosters. The annual Booster Club Drawdown, which is typically held the Saturday before Super Bowl Sunday, has been canceled due to restrictions placed on indoor gatherings because of COVID-19.

In its place, the boosters will host a Swamp John's carry-out dinner Saturday, Feb. 6 from 4-7 p.m.

Athletic Director William Calvert said the decision was made in December to cancel the 20-year tradition for the 2021 year for the protection of the community.

He said he looks forward to its return in 2022.

"We want to keep that date and invite everyone in our community to support our Saints program and enjoy a good take-out meal," he said.

"Sports programs all over the state have taken a hit as limited spectators can attend events.

"This domino effect leads to a decline in admissions, even though sporting officials still have to be paid."

Plates will cost $12 each and will include a choice of shrimp, chicken, fish or a combination of two. Dessert will be included.

"While the drawdown provides a considerable percentage of our budget, we want our supporters to be safe and be here next year to enjoy the festivities in 2022," Calvert said.

"With spring sports being canceled last year, and the schedule being reduced this year, there has been a reduction in the demands placed on the Boosters.

"Last year's drawdown was fantastic and has allowed the sports program to operate at minimal capacity.

"The fear is that next year might be a struggle when it's time to order new uniforms, equipment and other items needed to start the athletic seasons."

For Swamp John's tickets, contact the school at 256-739-6682.

Tickets may also be purchased at the door. For more information about supporting the Saint Bernard Saints, contact Calvert at 256-739-6682.

CULLMAN COUNTY TOURNAMENT

West Point downs Hanceville 71-50

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – Hanceville and West Point clashed in Monday night's final county tournament matchup and after building a 17-point lead going into the second quarter, the Lady Warriors maintained a comfortable lead to rest of the way and went on to eliminate the Lady Bulldogs 71-50.

Summer Mendoza drilled a three-pointer from the left wing to give the Lady Warriors an early lead and Kylie Quinn scored inside on the next possession to make it a 5-0 game. Lexi Shadix knocked down a deep three to stretch the lead to 8-0 and Shadix laid one in off a turnover to make it a 10-0 game with five minutes remining in the opening period. Victoria Stanley got Hanceville on the board with a three-pointer from the left wing but Shadix responded with another three on the other end to put West Point up 10. Ryleigh Jones laid one in to extend the lead to 16-3 with just over three minutes to play in the first and Jones netted a three-pointer on the next possession to make it a 19-5 game around the two-minute mark. Mendoza's second three of the game extended the lead to 22-5 but Cassidy Campbell scored inside for the Lady Bulldogs to stop the run and trim the lead to 22-7.

Jones scored in the paint and from beyond the three-point line to put the Lady Warriors ahead 27-8 but McAnnally scored in the final seconds of the period to make it a 27-10 game going into the second.

Campbell and Shadix traded three-point shots to start the second quarter and Braelee Quinn knocked down a three of her own to give West Point a 33-13 advantage with six minutes remaining in the opening half. Stanley netted a pair of free throws and Campbell buried a three-pointer to trim the lead to 33-18.

The Lady Warriors answered with an 8-0 scoring run capped by a three from Kaylee Faulkner that made it 41-18 with three minutes to play in the second but Hanceville was able to respond and cut the lead to 41-23. Campbell scored inside to trim it to 41-25 with less than two minutes to play in the period but Jones laid one in on the other end to make it a 43-25 game. Campbell drilled another trey in the final seconds of the half to bring the West Point lead down to 43-28 going into the break.

Shaidx knocked down another three and Jones buried a jumper to give the Lady Warriors a 48-31 lead early in the third quarter and Jones laid up another one in transition to make it 50-31. Shadix netted a pair of free throws to add to the lead and Kylie Quinn scored down low to make it a 54-31 game midway through the third. Campbell hit a jumper for the Lady Bulldogs to cut into the lead, but Mendoza responded with a bucket on the other end to give West Point a 56-33 advantage.

A pair of Shadix free throws stretched the lead to 25 with three minutes to play in the period but neither team and she buried a three-pointer in the final seconds of the third to make it a 61-33 game going into the fourth.

Campbell knocked down another triple to trim the lead to 61-36 early in the fourth quarter and Katelynn Bound hit a mid-range jumper to make it 61-38 with five minutes to play. McAnnally added a pair of free throws to make it a 21-point game but Shadix drained another three to give the Lady Warriors a 64-40 lead. Stanley and McAnnally responded with three-pointers for Hanceville to cut into the lead but a three-pointer by Nikki Tyree put things out of reach for the Lady Bulldogs and West Point held on to win it 71-50.



BILL PIPER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

West Point's Lexi Shadix (1) posted 30 points in the Lady Warriors' 71-50 win over Hanceville Monday night.

Shadix racked up a game-high 30 points for the Lady Warriors in the win. Jones added 16 points and Kylie Quinn and Mendoza each finished with eight. Campbell led Hanceville with 23 points in the loss, followed by Stanley with 11 and McAnnally with 10.

West Point will take on the third-seeded Cold Springs Lady Eagles Thursday night at 7:15 at Tom Drake Coliseum.

PREP BASKETBALL

Addison sweeps Winston County Championships

Todd Walker
Tribune Correspondent

ADDISON, Ala. – Addison took care of business on Saturday night as the Lady Dawgs defeated the Double Springs Lady Jackets in a thrilling, overtime game, 75-72 and the boys handled the Meek Tigers in another great game, 57-54. The ladies won the county tournament for the second consecutive season while the men avenged an upset loss in the title game last year.

Addison 75 – Winston County 72 (OT) (varsity girls championship)

The Addison Lady Bulldogs came into the game with the Lady Jackets from Double Springs feeling pretty good about their chances. They had split the regular season series one apiece and were coming off an impressive win over the Meek Lady Tigers two nights ago. The first period got off on a pretty solid start. The Lady Jackets were extending their defense to limit the outside shooting of Addison's three guard offense and it seemed to work. Addison couldn't get off a clean shot and the Jackets were led by Senior Izzy Cofer who was red hot from outside. Double Springs led 12-10 after one.

The second period was not a good period for the hometown Dawgs. The Jackets upped the defensive pressure and the young Dawgs struggled. Cofer was solid with 15 points and the Lady Jackets outscored the Lady Dawgs 19-10 to take a 31-20 lead into the half. The visiting crowd was in full throat and it looked like the young Dawgs were going to wilt under the pressure.

The second half started out with both teams firing away and nailing big shots. It was at this time that the Lady Dawgs down nine with five and half minutes left in the period, turned to Gracie "Bug" Manley and she started carrying the offense. Manley drove the lane, got rebounds and pretty much owned the paint against the larger Lady Jackets. Manley had 10 points in the period. Anna Grace "The Glove" Luker stole everything in sight and she is probably wanted for theft due to her stealing so many balls. Luker had three in the period and seven for the game. Addison outscored Double Springs 25-18 in the frame to cut the Jacket lead to 49-45. The Jackets were led by Sophomore Bailey Kelley with eight points.

With an entire gym yelling and screaming the emotion was high as the fourth period started and the county title was still up for grabs. The final period was a back and forth affair. Addison's Manley was a force to be reckoned with in the second half as she demanded the ball and scored when she got it. Addison tied the game at 53 with 3:36 to go with a Manley layup. Double Springs Junior Mikayla Lindsey scored 4 points down the stretch and Miss Kelley was unstoppable. With Addison up three with only two seconds to go in the game, Kelley threw up a no look prayer three pointer that drained the bottom of the net as the buzzer sounded to end the game. At the end of regulation, the game was tied at 62.

Overtime started and the momentum was with the visiting Lady Jackets. For starters, Addison's Luker and Manley had fouled out in regulation and Kelley had just tied it at the buzzer, so it looked bleak for the Lady Dawgs. The Lady Jackets scored the first four points of overtime then Addison's Hadley "Shooter" Butler nailed a three pointer and the game changed. Addison played tough defense and was able to come up with a defensive stop when they needed too. "Magic" Molly Gilbreath and Bracey "Tiny" Rodgers were able to knock down nine out of 11 free throws to end the game to give Addison the 75-72 victory.

The Lady Dawgs were led by Manley with a Lebron like 32 points and 18 rebounds. Gilbreath had 15 points and three rebounds. Rodgers had 12 points, four boards and three assists. Luker had three points, seven boards and seven steals. Butler had six points.

Addison's Rodgers, Luker, Gilbreath and Lydia "Barbie" Ergle all made the all-tournament team. Manley was named the Tournament MVP.

Addison 57 – Meek 54 (varsity boys championship)

Addison was aiming for a county tourney championship to go along with their regular season county championship. Addison also won their regular season area title, so they were going for the late season trifecta. Addison came out and was immediately punched in the mouth by the Meek Tigers. Meek had lost to Addison twice during the regular season and they weren't planning on going down for a third time. Meek pounded the ball down low and drove to the basket for easy scores. Meek absolutely dominated the glass in the early going and Addison had to rely on Logan "Baby Shaq" Wilkins and his seven points in the first period to keep them close. Meek was led by David Tidwell with six points. At the end of the first Addison led 16-13 and had to feel good about getting out of the period with a lead.

The second started out with Meek wanting to continue with their physical style of play and Addison wanted to run. Meek's style won out in the period. Meek had Kendrick Smith scoring four to go along with Jarret Benson's eight to lead Addison 30-28 at the half. With Wilkins nursing a bum ankle and not as effective as usual, Eli "Curly" Howse possibly played his best game of the year. Howse was absolutely un-guardable. No one on the Tiger roster could stay with him and he drove at will into the paint for the score. Going into the half Meek held a surprising 30-28 lead.

The second started out just like the first. Meek probably played Addison as physical as anyone has all year. Addison's Wilkins was out for most of the second half with an injury, so it was up to the rest of the Dawgs to pick up the scoring slack. Howse continued his magic while the rest of the Dawgs scored when they needed too. Christian "Ice Man" Roberts had 5 points in the period to go along with Roberts' seven. Addison outscored Meek 14-9 to take a 42-39 lead. Meek went cold in the period which looked to be a combination of Addison's aggressive in your face defense and Meek getting a little cold.

The fourth had each team scoring 15 and neither able to pull away. Meek was led by Tidwell with five and Smith with four. Addison's Howse, Xavier "Mr. Smooth" Barley and Brady "Stick" Gilbreath added to the point total for Dawgs. Addison was able to seal the win with two late free throws from Howse and were able to get a final defensive stop. Addison had a tough 57-54 win.

Addison was led by Howse with a game high 20 points, four boards, four assists and three steals. Wilkins had 13 points and five boards in limited action. Roberts had 11 points and three boards. Gilbreath had five points. Cannon "TNT" Hiller had four points and four boards. Barley had four points and four boards.

Addison's Wilkins, Roberts, Xavier Barley and Hiller were named to the all-tournament team and was named Tournament MVP.

WSCC ATHLETICS

Wallace State sweeps Enterprise in season openers

Russell Moore
WSCC Athletics

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – Wallace State's basketball teams swept Enterprise State in their home openers on Saturday at Traditions Bank Arena at Tom Drake Coliseum.

Sophomore guard Jiselle Woodson poured in a career-high 31 points, and the 21st-ranked Lady Lions capitalized on a strong third quarter, rolling to an 82-55 victory.

In coach Allen Sharpe's first home game in 11 years as Wallace State's men's head coach, the Lions held off a late Enterprise State rally, securing a 58-57 triumph.

Wallace State women

Woodson has picked up where she left off last season when she was an ACCC North Division 2nd-team and ACCC All-Tournament selection as a freshman.

Woodson went 11-for-17 from the field against the Lady Boll Weevils, including hitting three 3-pointers. She added six rebounds and four steals.

Freshman Destiny Garrett came off the bench for Wallace State, finishing with 14 points, seven rebounds and six assists. Fairview grad Payton Golden scored 11 points for Wallace State and Olivia Howard added eight points.

The Lady Lions, which surpassed the 100-point mark against Enterprise State on Jan. 20, nursed a 25-22 lead at the break. They pulled away in the third quarter, outscoring the Lady Boll Weevils, 25-12.

Men's game

Wallace State's men notched their second win against Enterprise State in a four-day span, prevailing in coach Allen Shape's home debut during his second stint with the program.

Kuran Garner led Wallace State with 15 points, including hitting clutch free throws in the closing seconds.

The sophomore guard from Huntsville is among the Lions' returners, and he was the leading scorer last season.

Tyler Hutchieson scored 11 points for the Lions, Jahvon Sims had eight and Zion Fluellen pitched with six.

Wallace State defeated the Boll Weevils by 21 points in the season opener behind four players in double figures. Garner paced the team with 18 points and eight assists, De'Monte Nelson scored 15 points, Rafael Jenkins had 14 and Miguel Miranda added 13 points off the bench.

Both Wallace State teams host Chattahoochee Valley on Tuesday, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

As an abundance of caution during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Alabama Community College Conference has prohibited spectators from attending indoor events through at least Saturday, Feb. 13.

Therefore, Wallace State basketball home games will be live streamed at the college's YouTube page (https://www.youtube.com/user/WallaceState) and shared on the college's main and athletics Facebook pages (links below) while fans are prohibited.

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



RUSSELL MOORE/WSCC ATHLETICS

Wallace State sophomore Jiselle Woodson scored a career-high 31 points against Enterprise State.

Production (from Front)

dents are incredibly talented and will not disappoint."

Cook went on to explain the execution was monumental. They've altered everything for rehearsals to the way students will take their bow at the end of the show. It's taken a tightrope balance of keeping students safe, while still working to deliver a worthwhile show for all involved.

"We have strict protocols that have to be followed, and all audience members must wear a mask. Our actors do not wear a mask when acting, but some who have small parts or do not have lines may choose to wear a mask on stage," he said. "We encourage social distancing and have really hammered down the need for actors and crew to be responsible so that this show could be performed. They have done a great job and deserve this stage time because of their hard work and diligence. We have had to learn brand new things through this process, but I'm glad we did."

Despite the added safety precautions, Cook said students have responded well to getting back into the theater this year. It's taken a lot of work, but Cook said to finally reach the finish line and be able to put on a live show is truly satisfying.

"In the midst of the pandemic, there is one song in the musical entitled 'The Sun is Gonna Shine Again.' I have held out that the message of this song is the message we all need to hear right now," he explained.

"Things are going to get better. I'm glad we can do what we can do. Our students need theater and would be totally lost and confused if they did not have something to work toward. It is the same with all our Fine Arts programs. Our students have a need to express themselves through the arts. I'm glad we can give them that opportunity."

Cook had a list of people to thank for getting "Bright Star" to the stage: "We have great students who are very diligent. I work with amazing people who, without their work, we could not possibly do this production. The main one I think of is Sarah Jane Skinner. She is a very important part of the directing staff. I couldn't do what I do without her.

"She is an amazing talent and I am glad we have her at Cullman High. I am also thankful to Elizabeth Wilson and Nohealani Naehu, both fine art instructors, because of their contribution in the areas of art and dance. Our administration has been fantastic. They have had such a hard job this year, but along the way they have encouraged us to let students do what they do. They want to see students on stage sharing their talents in a safe way. I want to thank all of them: Dr. Patterson, the school board, Mrs. Hall, Mr. Stephens, Mr. Sparks and Mrs. Tuggle. They have made 'Bright Star' possible."

Colony (from Front)

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

COLONY, Ala. – The Colony Town Council on Tuesday evening managed to pass three resolutions related to Town business, despite ongoing controversy between council members. The council first voted unanimously to establish standing committees as follows:

- Finance - Councilpersons Eric Carwell, Mary Parker and Mayor Curtis Johnson
- Streets and Drainage - Councilpersons Mary Parker, Jasmine Cole and Mayor Curtis Johnson
- Police and Fire - Councilpersons Samuel Ashford, Ethel Alexander and Mayor Curtis Johnson
- Library and Recreation - Councilpersons Jasmine Cole, Eric Carwell and Mayor Curtis Johnson
- Sanitation and Utilities - Councilpersons Ethel Alexander, Samuel Ashford and Mayor Curtis Johnson

The second resolution to pass named Town Clerk Patricia Ponder and Mayor Johnson as authorized signers of checks and other bank documents, and authorized Finance Committee Chairman Eric Carwell to act in the absence of either Johnson or Ponder. Two signatures are required by Town policy. The motion passed on a split vote, with Alexander and Carwell voting against the measure.

The third resolution to pass established Colony Town Hall business hours as 8 a.m.-noon, Monday through Friday. The measure also passed on a split vote with Alexander and Ashford voting against. The clerk's hours, which have been the subject of substantial recent argument, were not specifically addressed by the resolution, though some seemed to assume that the two schedules were equivalent. An additional resolution, that would have moved work sessions from 5 p.m. to 5:30, and meetings from the conclusion of the work session to the specific start time of 6 p.m., died on a tie vote. Johnson, Cole and Parker voted in favor of the change; Alexander, Ashford and Carwell voted against.

Council discussion items

Parker put out a call for volunteers with chainsaws to help cut up downed trees and large limbs in order to clean up community streets once the weather warms up. The first offers of help came from the audience even before the meeting ended. A date for the cleanup has not been set.

Cole announced that a donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, has offered to contribute to the repair of the gym roof, and that she will be getting an estimate from an unnamed contractor. Asked by Alexander to name the donor and contractor, Cole refused. After council discussion and a heated exchange between Cole and Alexander, Ponder explained the official policy: a donor to a Town project may remain anonymous but, depending on the cost, the project might have to be put out publicly for bid from contractors, thus requiring the identification of contractors.

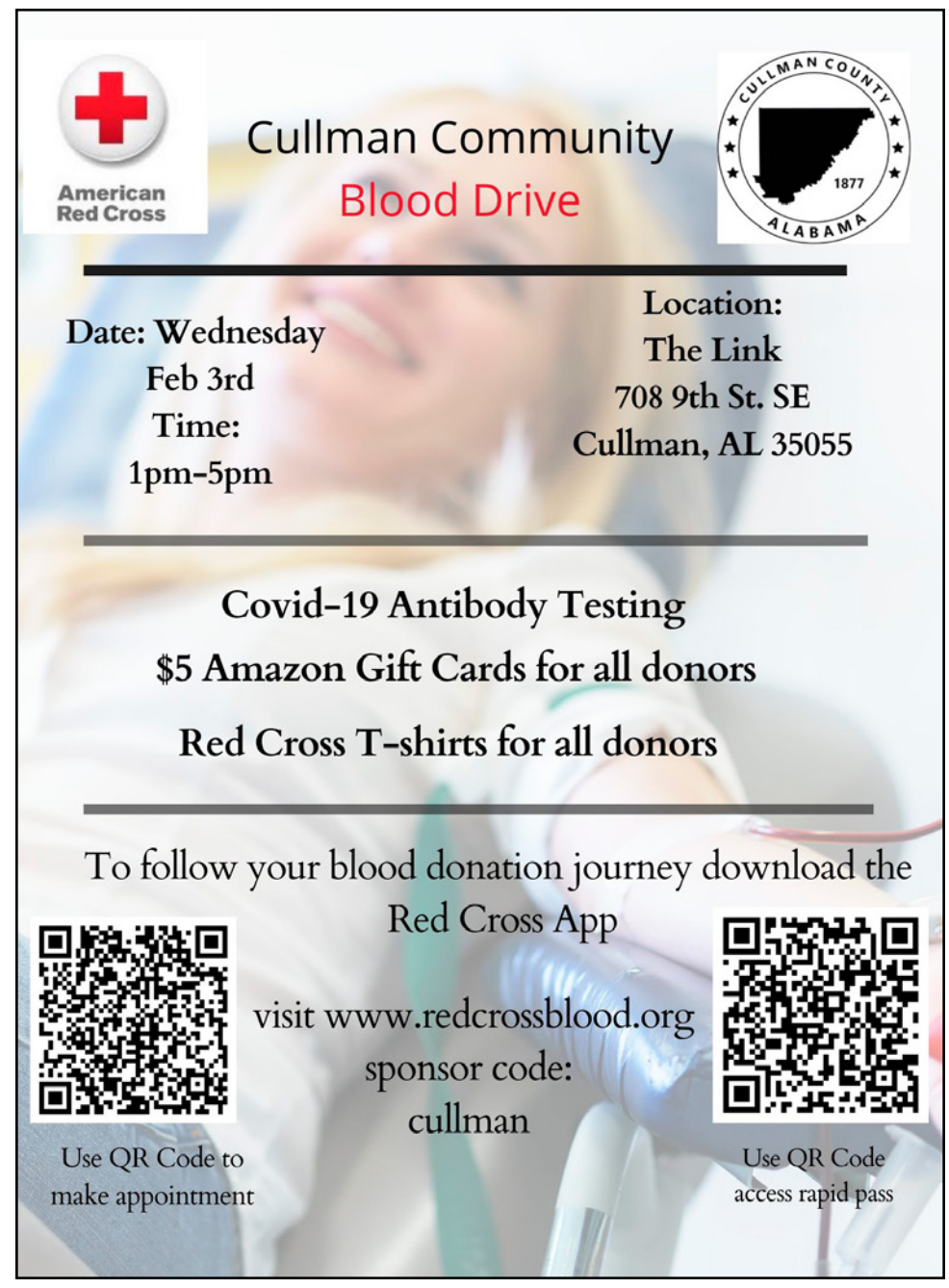
Alexander looked into December's high utility bill and reported that a company representative had shown her that the December 2019 bill had also jumped, noting that cold weather often caused cost spikes during that time of the year. Alexander addressed the work session with a list of concerns and suggestions, leading to exchanges with Parker and Cole, and a heated confrontation with Johnson that brought the mayor out of his seat. She expressed concern about the length of recent meetings and the lack of accomplishment on Town business, arguing that the audience has been taking over meetings by speaking during portions of the meetings that are reserved for council business. Council agendas do include a section for public comment, during which attendees may address the council. Alexander proposed limitation of public comment to the public comment section and proposed a two-minute limit on individual addresses.

Alexander addressed those in attendance and aroused some anger when she said bluntly, "You're invited to come, but you're not invited to take over."

Alexander's list continued through topics including COVID issues in the town and possible safety measures for council meetings and previously approved work on Wooley Road that has still not been done. As she talked through the list and Parker accused her of trying to take over the work session, Mayor Johnson called on Alexander repeatedly to stop, ultimately announcing, "Regular meeting is called to order" as she continued to speak.

The Colony Town Council meets at 5 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month at Colony Town Hall for a work session followed by its regular meeting. The public is invited to attend.











EDUCATION

UA Engineering researchers investigating solutions for jet biofuel

University of Alabama
Contributor

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. – Engineering researchers at The University of Alabama are working to improve a novel process to turn leftover corn scraps into biofuel for jet engines as part of a $3.8 million grant from the United States Department of Energy.

The designers of the process and a critical machine used to grind the corn leftovers, or stover, turned to UA metallurgical and mechanical engineers with expertise in mechanics to help clear a significant hurdle to scale up the process, paving the way to produce commercially viable jet biofuel.

"This is a great example of pure engineering being used to come up with solutions that benefit the nation," said Dr. Luke Brewer, associate professor of metallurgical and materials engineering. "Our graduate and undergraduate students will get experience working across disciplines and see how their work influences other areas of technology."

At UA, Brewer is working with Dr. Keivan Davami, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, and Dr. Mark Barkey, professor and head of the UA Department of Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics.

They are part of a grant to UA from the DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy that includes the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and General Comminution Incorporated in Toronto, Canada.

GCI invented and sells the Szego Mill, a machine that crushes and grinds organic material into fine particles using special steel, helical rollers. Developed about 30 years ago, the Szego Mill's proprietary roller technology has a high specific capacity while using low energy.

Scientists at the NREL innovated a process that uses the Szego Mill to transform corn stover, the leaves, cobb and stalk – everything except the corn kernels – from the corn plant into a chemical state that readies it for preparation into fuel. The deacetylation and mechanical refining process uses the rolling mill and chemical reactions to wring as much of the building blocks for the fuel, sugar, from the corn stover as possible. When using the Szego Mill to mash the corn stover, the process yields 10 percent more sugar.

However, the process needs to scale to produce industrial-sized quantities, and the current Szego Mills are too small to eat through the amount of corn stover needed. For successful scale-up, engineers need higher reliability and designs optimized for grinding biomass. These improvements demand better materials and mechanical design in the rolling mill.



UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

Metallurgical engineering students Madyson Canulette, left, from Picayune, Mississippi, works with Dr. Luke Brewer, right, in his lab.

UA researchers will study different types of steels that will perform better and last longer. The team will also see if cold sprayed metallic coatings and laser peening surface treatments on top of the steel rollers will help with wear and tear, and will use computer modeling of mechanical loading to further refine the choice of materials.

"We can help them find a better steel because we know which steels will perform better for certain configurations of the mill," Brewer said.

The four-year project will support a postdoctoral researcher and two doctorate students while enabling undergraduate researchers to participate, including a current senior design project.

Home (from Front)

Still, she said, for that 25% the sharing means everything, and the awareness created is priceless.

Like all reputable lost and found sites, rehoming of pets or selling of animals is not allowed on Tucker's watch. The page is intended to be a resource for those desperately seeking to find their pets or to those who have provided safe harbor to a found pet until the rightful owners can be found.

People are quite passionate when it comes to the welfare of animals, and things can get frustrating when moderating a site dedicated to them.

Tucker said she knows this all too, sharing stories of the rudeness some people easily hurl at others on social media.

"I am very mild mannered and real calm," she said. "It takes a lot to push my buttons, but there are days when I just think, you know, I don't deserve to be talked to like that."

Tucker said of the Cullman site, "To be honest, out of all my 25 sites, it's my favorite. I don't even live there, but we have a lot of good members.

"It's got a lot of members and everybody is so helpful to try to keep it going where some of my sites, it's like, 'Oh, dear Lord, just give me strength to get me through this conversation.'"

Tucker shared several tips she recommends after years of being involved in animal rescue and reuniting lost and found pets with owners.

What to do if you lose a pet

- File a lost report with your local shelter.
- Post on area shelter and vet sites.
- Post signs, including your front yard.
- Post on local lost and found pages.
- If microchipped, file a report with the chip company.
- Make sure microchip information is current.
- Place familiar beds, blankets, clothing, etc. outside to provide familiar scents.

Lost cat

- Place litter box outside and sprinkle some litter around your property.
- Place favorite canned food, e.g., tuna, sardines, bacon (smelly is better) outside.
- Check in trees.
- Ask neighbors to check outside sheds, garages, crawl spaces and attics.

What to do if you find a pet

- Never assume the animal is homeless/stray.
- Contact your local shelter or law enforcement agency for options and laws regarding strays and legal requirements.
- File a found report with your local shelter.
- Post on area shelter and vet sites.
- Post on local lost and found pages.
- Check with your local animal shelter or a vet to see if the animal is microchipped.

If someone comes forward claiming ownership, ask them:

- To provide photos
- To identify markings
- To provide registration papers
- To describe collar
- For vet records
- For the pet's name (does the pet react?)
- Also, watch pet's reaction to the person

The REAL Friends of Cullman Animal Shelter is another local site set up in 2010 to better showcase the animals at the shelter.

However, the page is not officially affiliated with the shelter and has changed trajectory over the past few years to be another resource for those wanting to share lost and found pets.

Administrators from both pages closely monitor the other to help share information for those needing help.

Cullman's Lost Pets was a page set up quickly after the April 2011 tornadoes to help gather information following the devastating storms.

Tucker said she hopes the efforts to reunite lost and found pets are an asset to local animal shelters.

"It takes a community to get together to help make these shelters successful. I think things have gotten better because of the sites.

"People are out there and aware that we have sites to post a pet to get them back home. I would love for every one of the shelters to just slam my page with the animals they intake. It's the best way to get them seen and get them back home, and that's our goal."

Find Cullman County Alabama Lost and Found Pets on Facebook at http://bit.ly/3iWfKlJ.

Find The REAL Friends of Cullman Animal Shelter on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/Realfriendsofcullmananimalshelter.

Also, find Smith Lake Lost Dogs and Cats on Facebook at http://bit.ly/3ontvea.

Visit the Cullman County Animal Shelter at www.facebook.com/cullmancountyanimalshelter.

CORRECTION

In the Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2021 issue of The Cullman Tribune, in the photograph with the article titled 'This is one of the biggest investments ever in the community,' Grady Parsons was identified as Corey Harbison. We regret the error.

LEGALS

PB WIL BK 99 PG 642 - 01/11/2021 04:03 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2021-003

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF LORENE MAGDALENA APEL, DECEASED

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Janice Apel Morgan and Gregory Alan Apel on the 11th day of January, 2021, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Janice Apel Morgan and Gregory Alan Apel
Personal Representatives

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

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

PB WIL BK 99 PG 689 - 01/19/2021 08:30 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF HARLISS J. MELTON, Deceased. * CASE NO PC-2020-062

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Administration with Will Annexed having been granted to Pamela E. Nail, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Harliss J. Melton, Deceased, on the 19th day of January, 2021, by Tammy Brown, Probate Judge. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claim against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Pamela E. Nail
Personal Representative

Pamela E. Nail
Attorney for the Estate
2nd Avenue SouthWest
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

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

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

PB WIL BK 99 PG 656 - 01/12/2021 08:43 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF VERNON R. HENDERSON, DECEASED.) CASE NO.: PC-~~2020-~~2021-013

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Jason Ray Henderson as Personal Representative of the Estate of VERNON R. HENDERSON, deceased, on the 11th day of January 2021, 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.

Jason Ray Henderson
Personal Representative of the Estate of
Vernon R. Henderson, 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
TAMMY BROWN, Judge of Probate

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

PB ADT BK 57 PG 798 - 01/11/2021 03:05 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF **CASE NO: AD-2020-097**

THE ADOPTION PETITION
OF JOEL SKINNER and
PATRICE SKINNER
FOR THE ADOPTION OF
J.T.S. A MINOR
D.O.B. 5-17-2015

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: SAVANNAH BLAKE NOE, BIOLOGICAL MOTHER

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

DONE THIS 11th DAY OF January, 2021.

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

G. Edward Coey
Attorney for Petitioners
PO Box 834
Hanceville, Alabama 35077

TO THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Please publish the above notice once a week for four (4) successive weeks and send an affidavit of publication to the Judge of Probate.

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

OUTDOORS

Spotted sea trout in Alabama

P. J. Waters, Richard K. Wallace

Spotted sea trout (Cynoscion nebulosus) belong to the drum family Sciaenidae. Other common members of the drum family encountered in Alabama include the Atlantic croaker, southern king fish (ground mullet), black drum and red drum. Spotted sea trout, also known as specks or speckled trout, are found in shallow coastal waters from Tampico, Mexico, through the Gulf of Mexico and up the East Coast to New York.

No spotted sea trout are harvested commercially in Alabama where they are designated as game fish. In 2019, Alabama harvests of all types (observed, reported and released alive) totaled just under 1.2 million fish with about 75% being released alive. The recreational harvest in the Gulf of Mexico region is about 5.2 million fish during the same reporting period.

Biology

Because spotted sea trout are found over such a wide geographical range, several aspects of their biology vary considerably. The following description is based on studies from the north-central Gulf of Mexico.

Spotted sea trout spawn from April to October. Within this time period, there are two spawning peaks: one in the spring and one later in the summer.

Spawning begins near sunset and lasts for several hours. Males congregate over grass, rubble, or shell areas near channels and in deeper passes near barrier islands where they produce drumming or knocking sounds to attract females. Contact among fish stimulates the release of sperm and eggs into the water where fertilization takes place.

Water temperature and salinity influence the location and time of spawning. Spawning is unlikely at water temperatures below 68 degrees F, and most spawning occurs at temperatures between 70 and

86 degrees F. Low salinities are not conducive to egg and larval survival, and spotted sea trout usually do not spawn in salinities below 7 to 10 parts per thousand. Most spawning occurs between 17 and 35 parts per thousand. For specks spawning in Mobile Bay, salinity may be a major factor. It is not unusual to have high river flows in April or May, which result in very low salinities in the bay. Some bay areas that are normally good spawning habitats may have salinities too low to support spawning. Research from Louisiana indicates that under these low salinity conditions, specks move to higher salinity areas for spawning.

Females are capable of spawning for the first time when they reach 10 to 13 inches in length and are older than 1 year. They can spawn many times in a season, and reported frequencies range from every 3 to 5 days to every 16 to 21 days depending on the location and size of the fish. As a result, estimates of egg production are not precise. However, a 2-pound female spawning eight times in a season could produce a total of about three million eggs.

Individual fish show much variation in growth, and the long spawning season means that some fish are produced as early as April and others as late as September, making it difficult to associate the length of a fish with its age. In Alabama, male trout average 11.8 inches at 1 year, 13 inches at 2 years, 14 inches at 3 years, 16 inches at 4 years, and 17 inches at 5 years. Females average 13 inches at 1 year, 15.6 inches at 2 years, 17 inches at 3 years, 20 inches at 4 years, and 23 inches at 5 years. The largest reported female trout were 23 to 33 inches at 5 to 9 years of age.



ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM

Spotted sea trout

Little is known about the behavior of recently hatched speckled trout, but they seem to move with the tides. As they reach 1/2 inch in size, they are found in or near submerged vegetation or other structures in the bays and bayous where they remain during the warm months. They move to deeper water in the winter.

Small specks feed on grass shrimp and copepods. As they grow larger, shrimp and small fish become more important in the diet. Adults feed on shrimp and larger fish; the larger specks seem to feed more on fish than shrimp.

Spotted sea trout are not considered migratory because they rarely move more than 30 miles. However, they do seem to move to deeper waters during the coldest weather and return to the shallow areas in the spring. Deep holes attract specks when water temperatures drop. Severe cold fronts have resulted in large numbers of spotted sea trout dying when some fish apparently could not reach warmer waters.

Specks also move in response to salinity changes. While they can be found in waters of very low salinities (2 parts per thousand) and very high salinities (greater than 45 parts per thousand), they seem to prefer moderate salinities of 10 to 25 parts per thousand.

Fishing success & management

The Alabama state record for sea trout is 12 pounds 4 ounces; the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) all-tackle record fish was caught in Florida (1995) and weighed 17 pounds 7 ounces. The IGFA all tackle length world record, also caught in Florida (2015), measured 87 centimeters (34.25 inches) surpassing the 79-centimeter (31.1024-inch) record. Current Alabama recreational harvest regulations call for a slot off 15 to 22 inches (with one over allowed) and a total of six fish per person per day.

Spotted sea trout management is guided by socio-economic conditions and a desire to achieve sustainable yields. The Alabama State Legislature determined that it was in the best interest of the state to declare spotted sea trout a game fish. Game fish status means that specks caught from state waters cannot be bought or sold. However, fish legally caught under a commercial license from other states may be sold in Alabama when properly documented.

Sustainable yield is achieved through a combination of length and bag limits. Length limits protect fish until they are large enough to spawn at least once; smaller fish then grow to a larger size, which increases yield. Bag limits reduce the overall harvest of fish, leaving some for another year, and are related to fishing pressure and fish population size. As pressure (the number of anglers) increases, bag limits may need to be reduced.

A number of local guides and other experienced anglers encourage the release of larger spotted sea trout. Larger fish generally are females and the most productive members of the population.

The future

Spotted sea trout are resilient in the face of fishing pressure and catastrophic events, such as freezes, because they are highly productive (reproduce at an early age, produce eggs over several months, and produce high numbers of eggs).

However, like any organism, specks need a healthy environment in which to thrive. Good water quality and habitats, such as submerged and emergent aquatic vegetation and oyster reefs, are key elements in sustaining spotted sea trout populations.

The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Marine Resources Division contributed data and suggestions for this publication. This publication was supported by the U. S. Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration under NOAA Award NA18OAR4170080, the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium, Auburn University, and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of any of these organizations.

Obituary Announcements: Jan. 27

Dudley Lee Latta, 85, of Hanceville
Graveside services for Dudley Lee Latta of Hanceville will be Thursday, Jan. 28, 2021 at Holly Pond Cemetery. Reverend John McKoy will be officiating. Visitation will be prior to the service at Hanceville Funeral Home beginning at 10 a.m. Mr. Latta was born to Julius and Allene (Watts) Latta Nov. 10, 1935 in Cullman County, Alabama. He died at the age of 85 at his residence Jan. 24, 2021. Survivors include his wife Juanita Latta; children Sharon Gobble, Karen (Scotty) Burgett, Linda (Daryl) Fox, and Earl Latta; grandchildren Corey Gobble, Matthew Gobble, Dylan (Emily) Burgett, Sean (Miyo) Nowak, Sarah Fox, Eli Latta, and Elyssa Latta; great-grandchildren Raylan Gobble and Olivia Gobble; sister Mary Nell Kelso; Judy Latta; and a host of nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents Mr. Latta was preceded in death by his sister Geraldine Latta and his brother and sister-in-law Robert and Francis Latta.

Nicholas Clint Burns, 29, of Cullman
Funeral services for Nicholas Clint Burns, 29, of Cullman will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 28, 2021 at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Duck River Cemetery, with Bro. Stephen Payne officiating. Visitation will be from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the funeral home Thursday. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Mr. Burns passed away Jan. 23, 2021. He was born Feb. 28, 1991 to Jeffery Lynn and Teresa Haynes Burns. He was preceded in death by his dad and his grandparents, Leonard and Erlene Haynes and Charles and Betty Burns. Survivors include his mother Teresa Burns; children Kali O'Rear, Mariah Burns, Jeremiah Burns, Jackson Burns, Landon Elliott, and Ava Burns; brother Bryan (Evelyn) Burns; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, family, and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Robert Dale Squires, 55, of Cullman
Robert Dale Squires of Cullman passed away Jan. 25, 2021 at the age of 55. He was born July 21, 1965 in Charlotte, Michigan to Douglas Gene and Waneta Gayle Smith Squires. Funeral services will be held Thursday, Jan. 28, 2021 at 7 p.m. at Moss Funeral Home Chapel. Survivors are sisters Sally (Johnny) Whaley, Annette Squires Gee, and Maurica Brown and brothers Rocky Tyler and Ralph Squires. Visitation is Thursday, Jan. 28, 2021 from 5 p.m. until service time at 7 p.m. at Moss Funeral Home. The service will be streamed live on Facebook at Moss Service Funeral Home. Please send memories and condolences to the family at www.mossservicefh.com. Moss Funeral Home directing.

Tony Wynn, 62, of Bremen
Graveside services for Tony Wynn will be at noon Saturday, Jan. 30, 2021 at Hopewell Cemetery in Pinson, Alabama. Reverend Billy Smith will be officiating. Visitation will be at Hanceville Funeral Home from 10-11 a.m. prior to the service. Tony Wynn of Bremen, Alabama was called home to be with the Lord at age 62 Monday, Jan. 25, 2021. He was preceded in death by his parents John G. Wynn and Mildred A. Wynn. Survivors include his loving and devoted wife of 17 years, Dorethea Wynn; sons Nick Love and Chris Love; sister Debbie (Sonny) Scholl of Brandon, MS; brothers Nicky Wynn of Pearl, MS and Terry Wynn of Brandon, MS; and nephews Conrad Gilmore, Kevin Gilmore and Brandon Wynn. Mr. Wynn was a devoted employee of O'Neal Steel with 42 years of service. Hopewell Cemetery is located at 9076 Hopewell Church Road, Pinson, AL 35126 and Hanceville Funeral Home is located at 100 Michelle St. NW, Hanceville, AL 35077.

Dwight David Clark, 78, of Cullman
Graveside services for Dwight David Clark, 78, of Cullman will be at 3:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29, 2021 at Mt. Carmel Cemetery with Dean Burtram officiating. Visitation will be from 2-3 p.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Clark passed away Sunday, Jan. 17, 2021 at his residence. He was born Aug. 9, 1942 in Cullman, Alabama to William B. and Ollie Mae Clark. He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Willard Clark, Robert Clark, Marvin Clark, Herman Clark, Walter Clark, and Roy Clark; and sisters Christine Whisenant, Annie Bell Evans, Hazel Tucker, and Ollie Mae Smith. Survivors include his sons Randy Clark and Bill Clark; daughter Tracey Clark; two grandchildren; and sister Marie Act.

Don Blake Wakefield, 59, of Holly Pond
Don Blake Wakefield, 59, of Holly Pond passed away Friday, Jan. 22, 2021. A memorial service for Mr. Wakefield will be held at a later time. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Wakefield family.

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Backyard and Small Flock Poultry Program

Chris Becker
Contributor

Join members of the Alabama Extension poultry team for the Backyard and Small Flock Poultry Program. This online program will cover some of the basic ins and outs to successfully raising a backyard poultry flock.

Tune in on Wednesdays

- Cost: Free
- When: Wednesdays, March 3-24, at 6:30 p.m. CST
- Where: The webinars are presented through Zoom, an online video presentation format.

Registration

Registration is required to attend this webinar series. The Zoom meeting number and link will be provided upon completion of the online registration.

Register for this program at https://auburn.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAtduCgqjguE9M2DaOZ1g4iBS37zFw-PKMh

New to Zoom? Visit the Zoom website to watch a video that will help you prepare to attend.

Dates and topics

March 3 – Backyard Poultry Basics

- Kristin Woods, Alabama Extension poultry regional agent

March 10 – Poultry Nutrition

- Wilmer Pacheco, Alabama Extension poultry specialist and assistant professor

March 17 – Disease Management

- Ken Macklin, Alabama Extension poultry specialist and professor

March 24 – Poultry Processing

- Dianna Bourassa, Alabama Extension poultry specialist and assistant professor

More information

For more information about the Backyard and Small Flock Poultry Program contact Chris Becker at cmb0034@auburn.edu.



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