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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Fairview council talks spring sports signups, debris removal proposal

Nick Griffin
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FAIRVIEW, Ala. – The Fairview Town Council on Monday night said the Town's parks and rec baseball, softball and T-ball signups will begin Monday, Feb. 8. Preparations have begun for the upcoming season after last year's season was canceled due to COVID-19.

The council is planning to have signup forms available in front of town hall with a drop box outside for completed forms. This way signups can be contactless and turned in any time throughout the day. Council members said they are hoping for a great turnout for spring sports this year.

Mayor Keith Henry said he was pleased with field preparations leading up to last spring's season, and he is confident they'll have them in great shape once again for this season.

The council discussed a proposed Municipal Debris Removal Fund program through the Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation.

According to the AMIC's website, "The Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation » PAGE 6



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Fairview Town Council held its regularly scheduled meeting at Fairview Town Hall Monday night.

Polar Brrrrrr Plunge



LYNDSEY MCCORMICK

A brave "polar bear" takes the plunge Saturday at the Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center.

Christy Perry
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CULLMAN, Ala. – The 2021 Polar Bear Plunge took place Saturday morning at the Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center (CWAC), including a first for the annual event- a double dip! With approximately 70 brave participants coming out on the chilly morning, in an effort to maintain social distancing, the plunging polar bears were dividing into two groups.

Both water and air temperatures were around 45 degrees for the 10 a.m. Plunge, but participants were not deterred. Some seemed a tad hesitant as the countdown began, while others were eager to experience the frigid waters of the outside pool.

Most sprung out of the water as quickly as they entered.

Only a couple chose to linger and float.

Wallace State Community College nursing instructor Ashley Ball said it was the first time she'd braved the Plunge.

She nervously eyed the water before the big jump.

She laughed afterward, "I don't know if I will do it again! It was a lot colder than I thought it would be. It feels better now being out of there."

Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism (CPRST) Executive Director Zac Wood came out to cheer on the participants but did not brave the waters.

He said this year's event was a bit different from years past.

"It initially was in conjunction with Community Wellness Day, a day to get people out and (to) come down to the center and a way to get introduced to the aquatic center," he said. "This year we didn't tie it to that because of everything going on."

Following the Plunge, CWAC staff drew for several prizes, including a grand prize of a free one-year membership.

CPRST Marketing Coordinator Jasef Wisener said 72 people pre-registered for the Plunge. "It was definitely one of our bigger years.

"The most we ever had was 85 and that was two years ago."

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

PLAY BALL!

Holly Pond moves forward with ball programs, names new park director



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

New Holly Pond Park Director J.C. Corneglio was introduced to the town council Monday evening. » PAGE 3

EDUCATION

CHS eyes transition back to more traditional, 4-day schedule » PAGE 3

ADPH launches COVID-19 Vaccination Eligibility Check and Scheduling Portal » PAGE 6

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CRIME

Cullman Co. man wanted in Missouri homicide located in West Point, takes own life

Wendy Sack
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WEST POINT, Ala. – A Cullman man wanted in connection with a homicide investigation in Sarcoxie, Missouri was located in West Point in Cullman County Saturday. He was deceased. The Jasper County Sheriff's Office (JCSO) in Missouri said Justin Chase Stevens, 34, was found dead of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound.

According to the JCSO, "At approximately 4 p.m., (Jan. 30), Cullman County sheriff's deputies were advised of a possible location of Justin Chase Stevens.

"The information received was that he was staying in the garage of a residence. Deputies surrounded the house and attempted to call him out. After not responding to requests to exit the residence, deputies went into the garage and found Stevens dead of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound. The next of kin has been notified.

"The Jasper County Sheriff's Office is appreciative of the assistance from various law enforcement agencies throughout the course of this investigation."

The Cullman County Sheriff's Office issued the following statement Saturday:

"Earlier today, the Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) received information as to the whereabouts of Justin Chase Stevens. As previously reported, Stevens was being sought in connection with a homicide in Jasper (County), Missouri, as well as a warrant for felony theft. CCSO also has a sexual abuse 1st degree warrant for Stevens.

"Cullman County investigators, patrol deputies and the Cullman County Special Response Team went to a residence in the West Point area in an attempt to locate Stevens. Investigators attempted to communicate with Stevens but received no response.

"After multiple failed attempts to communicate with him, deputies made entry into the building; Stevens was found to be deceased. No foul play is suspected.

"No other citizens or law enforcement personnel were injured."



JASPER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Justin Chase Stevens

Stevens was wanted in connection with the Jan. 13, 2021 death of Becci D. Sanders, 46, of Sarcoxie.

FAITH

'Neighbors are still helping neighbors'

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com



ST. PAUL'S

Left to right are St. Paul's youth group members Alyx Bibb and Jeremiah Dake, a member of the Fultondale Fire Department and St. Paul's Youth Group Leader Emily Trahan.

CULLMAN, Ala. – After learning of the devastation caused by the Jan. 25 tornado in Fultondale and hearing a sermon Wednesday on the subject of charity, the youth group at St. Paul's Lutheran Church decided to lend a hand to their neighbors in need. The kids loaded up Saturday and took much needed supplies to the Fultondale Fire Department to be distributed to those affected by the terrible storm.

Youth group leader Emily Trahan explained, "Wednesday's evening service, the sermon was about charity in its different forms and focused on Lydia, Phoebe and Dorcus in the Bible.

"With everything that has happened in Fultondale, it just seemed like the right time to seek donations, pick up some things and come down this weekend. It helped plant the seed that we should do this."

The group asked various church committees to donate blankets and opted to use part of the youth group's budgeted funds to purchase other items. After a trip to Costco, they loaded up with dog food, cat food, paper towels, toilet paper, water, diapers, wipes, cleaning products and hygiene items and headed to Fultondale.

Youth group members Jeremiah Dake and Alyx Bibb, along with Trahan, made the trip to Fultondale and helped unload all the items they and the other kids collected.

Trahan said she witnessed many from around the area reaching out to help the town.

"It was great to see," she said. "We are down there in our church and school van, and we see the Catholic Diocese had brought a van of stuff and donated, and other civic organizations were down there with stuff. It's good to see that neighbors are still helping neighbors. Nobody cared today who you voted for or which side of the aisle you sit on. They cared about their neighbor, and that's the most refreshing thing."

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

Monday, Feb. 1, 2021 COVID-19 update from the Alabama Department of Public Health's COVID-19 Dashboard Hub

Case details

- Total confirmed cases in AL: 363,228 (+909 since Friday)
- Probable cases in AL: 97,632 (+312 since Friday)
- Total confirmed deaths in AL: 6,171 (+0 since Friday)
- Probable deaths in AL: 1,517
- Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co.: 5,852 (+14 since Friday)
- Probable cases in Cullman Co.: 2,722 (+9 since Friday)
- Total confirmed deaths in Cullman Co.: 94 (+0 since Friday)
- Probable deaths in Cullman Co.: 55
- Total tested in Cullman Co.: 34,987
- Total tested in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 3,583
- Cases in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 537
- Total tested in Alabama: 2,144,425
- Cases in the last 14 days in Alabama: 37,773
- Total tested in the last 14 days in Alabama: 238,085
- Currently hospitalized in Alabama: 1,888
- Cumulative no. of hospitalizations in Alabama: 41,859
- Presumed recoveries in Alabama (reported weekly): 242,143

Vaccine details (updated Monday-Friday)

- Total doses delivered to Alabama: 772,275
- Doses delivered to Alabama providers: 690,375
- Doses administered: 359,589
- Doses delivered to federal Long-Term Care Program: 81,900
- Doses administered by the federal Long-Term Care Program: 43,920
- Currently eligible for vaccine: 326,000 health care providers, nursing home residents, law enforcement officers, firefighters and 350,000 persons age 75+
- Average first doses of vaccine shipped to Alabama per week: 50,000-60,000

See more details at https://bit.ly/3iVJwXK.

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.
- Ladies' exercise classes- Wednesdays at 6 p.m. Children welcome.
- Classes- Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Children and youth classes. Adult class "You are Qualified" by Zach Beard-Youth Pastor
- Sundays at 9 a.m. Van runs in 5 Points area. Call 256-841-2060 for pick-up. Small group classes for adults, children and youth at 10 a.m. Praise and worship and message at 11 a.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 7 message "Out of the GRAVE!" by Pastor Bobby Dodd
- Mondays-Fridays- Free hot meals for children and elderly 3:30-5 p.m. Cullman Housing Authority Community Center 1545 Vine Circle SW Please call Aimee at 256-841-2060 for more information. Eat in or take out. Kids' activities are available. Sponsored by Kids Loving Kids, Raising Arrows Ministry, and Spirit Life Church.
- Sunday, Feb. 14 at 5 p.m. Valentine's Banquet $10 per person. Dinner, entertainment and fun! To reserve your tickets, call Amy at 256-736-4657 Venmo @AMYNCANTER

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.

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."

Cullman Education Retirees Association Meeting
Thursday, Feb. 11, 2021 at 11 a.m. at Stone Bridge Farms. Our program this month will be a COVID Impact Panel with Dr. Shane Barnette, Dr. John Waggoner and Tim Compton, explaining the impact this pandemic has had on our area. Following the program, we will have a short business meeting and then enjoy lunch together. All education retirees are invited to attend. We will practice CDC guidelines, including wearing masks and social distancing.

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Feb. 1

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported Feb. 1, 2021. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Jan. 28

- harassment, criminal mischief; CR 992
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 842
- violation of a protection order; CR 1595
- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 222
- domestic violence; CR 1352
- theft of property; CR 69

Jan. 29

- harassment; CR 1598
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance; CR 222
- domestic violence; CR 703
- domestic violence, criminal mischief; CR 15
- interference with a domestic violence emergency call; Trimble Road
- criminal mischief; CR 544

Jan. 30

- domestic violence; Hwy. 67
- domestic violence; CR 438
- theft of property; CR 641
- domestic violence; CR 1109
- unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle; CR 1591
- domestic violence; CR 1033
- criminal mischief; CR 15
- domestic violence; CR 312
- criminal mischief; CR 436
- domestic violence; CR 946

Jan. 31

- trespassing; CR 1422
- domestic violence; CR 7001
- harassment; Hwy. 31
- theft of property; CR 955
- burglary; CR 955
- burglary; CR 1763
- harassment; CR 1109
- harassment; Hwy. 69 N

ARRESTS

Jan. 28

Barr, Cameron Darien, 29
- GJ- third-degree burglary (2 counts)

Cooke, Cameron Lane, 25
- FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Jones, Melanie Renee, 32
- counterfeiting

Lindsey, Kevin Chase, 37
- DUI- controlled substance

Lott, Melody Ann, 35
- FTA- open container in vehicle
- FTA- driving while suspended

Mann, Justin Cody, 31
- FTA- DUI

Moore Jr., Ted Franklin, 29
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Sachs Jr., James Edward, 41
- harassment
- disorderly conduct
- harassing communications

Surrett, Jason Oliver, 36
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Weaver, Stefanie Nichole, 27
- probation violation- first-degree human trafficking

Wise, Justin Dale, 36
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- DUI

Jan. 29-31

Agnew, Sashe Justina, 31
- GJ- unlawful distribution of a controlled substance

Beatty, Ryan Tyler, 38
- burglary
- criminal mischief
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
- FTA- theft of property

Calvert, Daniel Lee, 32
- assault

Farrer, Paul Joseph, 50
- FTA- driving while suspended (2 counts)

Gerst, Levi Joseph, 39
- FTA- illegal possession of prescription drugs
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
- FTA- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Hill, Aubrey Pike, 37
- FTA- harassment

McNabb, Robert Wayne, 41
- FTA- obstruction

Moore, Tammy Rena, 34
- FTA- driving while suspended (3 counts)
- FTA- expired license
- FTA- improper lane usage
- FTA- no seat belt
- driving without insurance
- FTA- driving without insurance

Morton, Ronald James, 51
- GJ- forgery (4 counts)
- GJ- possession of a forged instrument (3 counts)

Owens, Chad Michael, 36
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Reid, Jason Michael, 41
- probation violation- unlawful possession of a controlled substance

Sparks, Zackery Allen, 29
- probation violation- unlawful possession of a controlled substance (2 counts)

Waldrop, Ricky Jason, 38
- assault

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Jan. 27

- unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle; person; Industrial Dr. SW; miscellaneous

Jan. 28

- fourth-degree theft of property, third-degree criminal mischief; Dollar General; Hwy. 278 W; propane tanks, damaged property
- harassment; person; Cherokee Ave. SW
- identity theft; person

Jan. 29

- fourth-degree forgery; Hospital Discount West; 4th St. SW; forged prescription
- third-degree assault; person
- identity theft; person
- third-degree domestic violence; person; Hwy. 157

Jan. 30

- third-degree domestic violence, third-degree criminal mischief; person; Main Ave. NE; damaged windshield; $250
- identity theft; person
- harassing communications; person

Jan. 31

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

ARRESTS

Jan. 29

Owens, Chad M., 36
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- driving without a license (2 counts)
- FTA- switched tag
- FTA- insurance violation

Johnson, George M., 31
- FTA- public intoxication (2 counts)
- FTA- criminal mischief

Jan. 30

Pugh, Ashley C., 21
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia (3 counts)
- FTA- third-degree criminal trespassing
- FTA- third-degree criminal mischief
- FTA- fourth-degree theft of property

Lovell, Anthony R., 46
- obstructing justice using false ID

Hester, Christopher L., 46
- FTA- insurance violation

Hill, Aubrey P. 37
- FTA- second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana
- FTA- expired tag
- FTA- driving while revoked

Lance, Travis E., 24
- FTA- attempting to elude

Jan. 31

Bates, Jeremy C., 48
- FTA- driving without a license
- FTA- insurance violation

Harris, Tabitha M., 34
- FTA- speeding

Vividor, Marco A., 42
- public intoxication

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No incidents or arrests reported.

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

STATE

Ivey signs 30-year lease agreements for 2 new men's mega prisons

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – Governor Kay Ivey and the Alabama Department of Corrections (ADOC) on Monday signed 30-year lease agreements for two of three of the State's planned new men's mega prisons. One will be in Tallassee in Elmore County. The other will be near Atmore in Escambia County.

The facilities will be constructed by private prison company CoreCivic's Developer Team (CoreCivic; Caddell Construction; DLR Group; and R&N Systems Design). The State signed one lease agreement with Government Real Estate Solutions of Central Alabama, LLC, a CoreCivic entity, for Facility Two (Elmore County Facility), which will be constructed on Rifle Range Road in Tallassee, Alabama, and will specialize in the inmate population's medical and mental health needs. The State signed a second lease agreement with Government Real Estate Solutions of South Alabama, LLC, a CoreCivic entity, for Facility Three (Escambia County Facility), which will be constructed on Bell Fork Road near Atmore, Alabama.

The term of each lease agrement is 30 years. The agreements are not subject to annual renegotiation; however, options to negotiate occupancy extensions beyond the 30-year lease term are available to the State.

The binding agreements are subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the respective agreements. The signed lease agreements may be viewed at https://bit.ly/3cx5LlU and https://bit.ly/2MghdaR. Please note that trade secrets and security-related information will not be disclosed.

Final lease costs, which are subject to the overall project affordability limit of $88.6 million in fiscal year 2022 dollars, will become available once financial close is achieved with CoreCivic.

"I am pleased that we have reached this important milestone in the Alabama Prison Program, the cornerstone of a multifaceted strategy to address the ADOC's longstanding challenges and failing prison infrastructure," Ivey said.

The lease agreements were signed after engaging in confidential negotiations with CoreCivic to ensure the State secures the best possible value. Negotiations with Alabama Prison Transformation Partners (Star America; BL Harbert International; Butler-Cohen; Arrington Watkins Architects; and Johnson Controls, Inc.) for the lease of Facility One, proposed to be built at a site located near AL-139/CR-2 in Bibb County, are progressing, and the State continues its diligent work on this component of the process.

"It is no secret that, due to decades of inaction and a lack of resources, our correctional system is at a crossroads. Thanks to Governor Ivey's vision, tenacity, and leadership, we have reached an important step in our continued work to chart a transformative new course for the Department," said ADOC Commissioner Jeff Dunn.

"Leasing, staffing, and operating modernized prison infrastructure that is owned and strictly maintained by the private sector minimizes our short- and long-term risk for an initiative of this necessary magnitude. These facilities will provide a safer, more secure environment in which our heroic staff can better deliver effective, evidence-based rehabilitative programming to our inmate population."

The ADOC anticipates construction of the Elmore County Facility and the Escambia County Facility to begin in 2021. The two facilities will provide approximately 7,000 beds and are expected to be ready for occupancy in fiscal year 2025 once construction is completed. While the ADOC will operate and staff the facilities, CoreCivic will provide ongoing facility and infrastructure maintenance and is responsible for life-cycle replacement costs through the duration of the lease term.

Ivey and ADOC leadership have met with legislators and provided public updates throughout the procurement process, beginning with the Expressions of Interest phase in early 2019. The ADOC posted a request for Expression of Interest (EOI) to improve the state's prison infrastructure on March 27, 2019 and announced the Developer Teams who submitted EOIs on April 18, 2019.

The ADOC issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) on June 27, 2019. Participation in the RFQ process was mandatory and required interested Developer Teams to respond and submit a Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) by August 26, 2019, to demonstrate the team's financial capacity and technical expertise.

An Evaluation Committee, comprised of stakeholders from the ADOC and Department of Finance, including the Division of Construction Management evaluated the SOQs to identify the developer teams qualified to receive the Request for Proposal (RFP).

The Evaluation Committee identified qualified Developer Teams based on the experience and qualifications of the team lead, equity partners, design and construction teams, and service providers, as well as their ability to adequately meet the financial needs of the Alabama Prison Program. In November 2019, Governor Ivey and the ADOC announced the four developer teams that qualified to receive the RFP in December 2019.

An addendum to the RFP was issued on April 3, 2020, extending the proposal submission deadline due to the impact of COVID-19.

The proposals were due to the ADOC on May 14, 2020 and were opened on May 15, 2020. The public opening was held virtually out of an abundance of caution and in line with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations on COVID-19 as it relates to large public gatherings in enclosed spaces.

The Evaluation Committee conducted a thorough evaluation of the proposals submitted by pre-qualified Developer Teams, and subsequently made award recommendations to ADOC Commissioner Jeff Dunn. In September 2020, Governor Ivey and the ADOC announced their intent to enter into negotiations with the successful developer teams.

CHS (from Front)

Cullman City Schools
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – After shifting to a hybrid schedule in September 2020 that had students on campus two days per week in staggered groups to reduce the spread of COVID-19, Cullman High School is now plotting a return to a more traditional on-campus schedule next week.

The current plan is for hybrid students to return to on-campus instruction four days per week beginning Monday, February 8, 2021. Students will attend on-campus classes Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday — with Wednesday remaining a remote learning day in an effort to allow time for distancing and campus cleaning.

COVID-19 cases across the nation, state and county have been on the decline in recent weeks. School officials will be closely monitoring local numbers to ensure there is no uptick in cases.

If transmission remains low, the plan is to return to a full five-day-per-week schedule March 1, 2021.

"We feel it is extremely important to get students back to in-person learning as soon as we can," Cullman High Principal Kim Hall said.

"We'll be watching the case numbers closely to make sure we can do that as safely as possible."

This change will not affect students who are attending school virtually. Those students will remain virtual through the remainder of the semester.

Only students who had been attending in-person are affected by this schedule change.

In-person students also have the option to remain in a hybrid schedule if parents choose to do so.

Ball (from Front)

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. – The Holly Pond Town Council on Monday evening announced that the spring ball season will go on as planned, unless the State enacts another shutdown. Parents can pick up forms at town hall and return with payment. They must also have a copy of their children's birth certificates. For more information, call 256-796-2124.

Cost

- T-Ball $65
- Softball $80
- Baseball $80

Signups begin this week with the following schedule:

Daytime hours

- Mondays and Tuesdays, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Thursdays, noon-5 p.m.

Evening Hours

- Thursday, Feb. 4, 4-7 p.m.
- Monday, Feb. 8, 4-7 p.m.
- Wednesday, Feb. 10, 5-7 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 13, 10-2 p.m.

Mayor Carla Hart and Park Committee Chairperson Gladys Wisener also introduced J.C. Corneglio as the Town's new park director. Hart noted that the council had previously been talking with Kim Thomas, but she had to decline.

In additional parks and recreation business, the council voted to spend $800 to repair the park's four-wheeler rather than try to purchase a new one, and to hire a part-time concession worker for the park at a rate of $9 per hour. Hart announced that a company has agreed to inspect the tennis courts for possible repairs and resurfacing, but inspections may not take place until spring.

Other council business

The council voted to purchase decals with the Town's name and Holly Pond Bronco logo to place on all Town vehicles, as well as 10 new park trash cans.

The council heard a proposal for a digital LED sign to be placed outside town hall but, after lengthy discussion, decided to table the approximately $20,000 plan for a future meeting due to upcoming plans for the construction of a senior center and needed major sewer system repairs.

Hart announced that the Town's weather siren, which has been out of service for two months, has been repaired at a cost of $20,227.47 (plus the cost of one speaker that still has to be replaced), and that the siren should work for Wednesday morning's regular monthly test.

The mayor also told the council that the design for the new senior center must be finalized by the end of February, and that construction must begin in August under the terms of the grant received by the Town. For that reason, the council will hold a special meeting at 4:30 Friday afternoon at the library, to talk about the design with engineers from St. John & Associates.

The Holly Pond Town Council regularly meets at 6 p.m. the first Monday of each month at the Guy Hunt Library. The public is invited to attend.

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CULLMAN COUNTY TOURNAMENT

Cold Springs downs Good Hope 53-48 to win 1st county title since 2014

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – Cold Springs and Good Hope met in Saturday night's final championship matchup and their showdown was just as tight as the other title games that came before it. Neither squad could create much separation from the other and after 32 hard fought minutes, the Cold Springs Eagles finished just ahead of the Raiders 53-48 to capture their first county championship since 2014.

A Seth Williams three-pointer gave the Eagles and early, 3-1 advantage over the Raiders and Micah Calvert knocked down a trey to make it 6-1 around the five-minute mark of the first quarter. Another three from Calvert stretched the lead to 9-1 but Tanner Malin laid one in to cut the lead to six with three minutes to play. Lawton Farr came up with a steal and scored on the other end to make it a 9-5 game, but another Williams bucket put the Eagles ahead 11-5 with two minutes remaining in the first. Malin drilled back to back three-pointers to trim the Cold Springs lead to 13-11 with less than a minute to play in the first and the Raiders went into the second quarter trailing by just two.

Colton Lindsey knocked down a mid-range jumper to tie the game at 13 early in the second and he buried a three-pointer later in the period to give Good Hope a 16-13 lead. Malin and Williams traded baskets to make it a 19-15 game with just over three minutes to play in the opening half but a free throw by Kilgo made it a 3-point game. Charlie O'Neil knocked down a three from the right wing to extend the Raider lead to 22-16 with two minutes remaining in the second quarter but Kilgo netted a pair of shots from the free throw line to make it a 22-18 game. Kilgo scored inside to make it a 2-point game with just over a minute to play in the period and Brody Peppers drained a corner three just before the buzzer to give the Eagles a 23-22 advantage at the halftime break.

An Adam Hill basket put Cold Springs in front 25-22 at the start of the third quarter but Farr quickly answered with back to back three-pointers to give Good Hope a 28-25 lead. Peppers went up strong and scored to trim the lead to one, but Farr drilled his third straight three from the left corner to make it a 31-27 game.

Malin scored off a turnover to stretch the lead to 33-27 midway through the period and added a free throw to make it 34-27. Hill finished an and-one play at the line to trim the lead to four with just over two minutes to play in the third but a free throw from Malin and two more foul shots from Noah Barnette made it a 37-30 game with a minute remaining in the period. Peppers scored inside to cut the lead to five but neither team was able to get on the board the rest of the way, making it a 37-32 game going into the fourth quarter.

Hill laid one in to trim the lead to 37-34 at the start of the fourth but a pair of Malin free throws build the lead back up to five for the Raiders. Hill knocked down a foul shot to make it 39-35 with just under six minutes remaining and Kilgo added another free throw to trim the lead to 39-36. Malin split a pair of free throws to give Good Hope a 4-point lead with just over four minutes to play but Williams drained a big three-pointer on the other end make it a 1-point game. Hill kept the run going with an inside basket that put Cold Springs in front 41-40 with three minutes to on the clock but Barnette tied things up with a free throw on the other end.



BILL PIPER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cold Springs Eagles narrowly defeated Good Hope 53-48 Saturday night to win this year's varsity boys county championship.

Hill knocked down another foul shot to give the Eagles a 42-41 lead and Kilgo laid one in to make it a 44-41 game with a little over two minutes remaining. Malin netted a foul shot to cut the lead to two but Kilgo hit one of his own to keep Cold Springs in front 45-42 with just over a minute to play. Calvert hit a pair of foul shots to stretch the lead to 47-42 and he drained two more with 45 seconds on the clock to make it a 49-42. Malin drained a deep three with less than 30 seconds to play to make it a 5-point game and after getting fouled on a three-point attempt, Malin netted all three from the line to make it a 50-48 game with 12 seconds on the clock. Peppers was fouled on the ensuing inbounds pass and he split the foul shots to make it a 3-point game. Williams then pulled down the offensive board on the missed free throw and drew a foul himself. Williams all but secured the win with the first free throw but he buried the second as well to give the Eagles a 53-48 win and their first county championship since 2014.

Williams led Cold Springs with 12 points in the win, followed by Kilgo, Hill and Calvert who each finished with 11 and Peppers who added eight. Good Hope was led by Malin with 24 points in the loss. Farr posted 11 and Lindsey and Barnette each finished with five.

2021 Joe Schultz Award Winner – Will Cochran, West Point

2021 Eli Thomas Award Winner – Lawton Farr, Good Hope

Varsity Boys Cullman County All-Tournament Team
- Zach Campbell – Hanceville
- Izayah Glenon – Hanceville
- Will Cochran – West Point
- Tanner Malin – Good Hope
- Colton Lindsey – Good Hope
- Micah Calvert – Cold Springs
- Adam Hill – Cold Springs
- Tanner Kilgo – Cold Springs
- Brody Peppers – Cold Springs
- Roberto Ayala – Cold Springs

Varsity Boys Cullman All-County Team
- Micah Calvert, Cold Springs
- Brody Peppers, Cold Springs
- Adam Hill, Cold Springs
- Tanner Malin, Good Hope
- Lawton Farr, Good Hope
- Noah Barnette, Good Hope
- Aubry Cleghorn, West Point
- Kobe Bowers, West Point
- Will Cochran, West Point
- Owen Yarbrough, Fairview
- Izayah Glenon, Hanceville
- Will Rhodes, Vinemont

CULLMAN COUNTY TOURNAMENT

Lady Aggies edge West Point 52-49 to win County Championship

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – In our first varsity championship bout of the day, the Fairview Lady Aggies and Lady Warriors of West Point clashed for the varsity girls' crown. Other than fast start to the game for the Lady Warriors, neither team was able to create much separation, but the Lady Aggies were able to make the defensive stops and the free throws in crunch time to secure a 52-49 win and this year's varsity girls county championship.

Lexi Shadix drained a three to give the Lady Warriors an early, 3-0 lead over the Lady Aggies and Kylie Quinn laid one in to make it a 5-0 start. Shadix scored inside to stretch the lead to 7-0 but Morgan Lindsay laid one in to get Fairview on the board and cut the lead to 7-2 midway through the opening quarter. Maddie Yeager scored for the Lady Aggies to make it a 4-point game but a pair of free throws from Shadix kept West Point in front 9-4.

Molly McKlevy drained a three from the right wing to trim the lead to 9-7 with less than three minutes to play in the first and her next three-pointer gave Fairview a 10-9 lead near the two-minute mark. Shadix drilled another three to put the Lady Warriors ahead 12-10 with a minute to play in the first but Lindsay turned a steal into a quick basket and tied the game at 12 going into the second quarter.

Manasco scooped up an offensive board and laid it in to give the Lady Aggies a 14-12 lead at the start of the second and Yeager scored another basket in the paint to stretch the lead to 16-12. Emma Garcia laid in a transition basket to add to the Fairview lead with five minutes to play in the half, but Ryleigh Jones took one coast to coast and scored to make it an 18-14 game midway through the period.

Shadix put one off the glass to cut the lead to two with less than three minutes to play in the second and Jones added a pair of free throws to tie things up at 18. Daisy Manasco went to the line and hit a pair of free throws that put the Lady Aggies ahead 20-18 with a minute to play in the opening half and McKelvy added another foul shot to stretch lead to three. Summer Mendoza laid one in for the Lady Warriors to cut the lead to one with 30 seconds remaining and Jones scored just before the buzzer to give West Point a 22-21 advantage at the halftime break.

Manasco got open under the basket and laid it in to give Fairview a 23-22 lead at the start of the third quarter but Nikki Tyree responded with a baseline jumper that put the Lady Warriors back on top 24-23. McKelvy netted a pair of free throws to retake a 1-point lead for the Lady Aggies but Mendoza hit more free throws on the other end to give West Point a 26-25 lead with five minutes to play in the period. A McKelvy free throw tied things up at 26 but a Shadix basket put the Lady Warriors in front 28-26.

Sadie Smith drove to the basket and scored to tie the game at 28 and McKelvy drilled a three-pointer from the left wing to give Fairview a 31-28 lead with less than three minutes remaining in the third. A Braelee Quinn free throw trimmed the lead to two and Tyree laid one in to cut the lead to 32-31 later in the quarter. Shadix got a jumper to fall to give West Point a 33-32 lead but Smith answered with a deep three on the other end to put the Lady Aggies ahead 35-33 with 30 seconds remaining in the third. Manasco went to the free throw line with 16 seconds on the clock and drained them both to give Fairview a 37-33 lead going into the fourth quarter.



BILL PIPER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Fairview Lady Aggies defeated West Point 52-49 Saturday night to win this year's varsity girls county championship.

The high number of fouls called put both teams at the free throw line for most of the fourth quarter. A pair of Braelee Quinn free throws cut the lead to 37-35 early in the final frame but an and-one play from McKelvy on the other end put the Lady Aggies back up by five. Yeager tacked on two more free throws to make it a 42-35 game but a pair of foul shots from Shadix made it a 5-point game with around five minutes to play. Yeager then drained a three-pointer from the top of the key to make it 46-38 midway through the fourth but Shadix and Mendoza kept the Lady Warriors in striking distance at 46-42 after each hit two more free throws.

Braelee Quinn knocked down a jumper with three minutes on the clock to cut the Fairview lead to 47-44 but a bucket from Jayla Gohram on the other end kept the Lady Aggies in front by five. Braelee Quinn continued to chip away at the lead with a three that made it 49-47 with two minutes remaining but Yeager stretched the lead back to three with another foul shot. Shadix laid one in to make it a 1-point game with just over a minute to play but a Manasco free throw gave Fairview a 51-49 lead with 34 seconds on the clock. Manasco came up with a steal on West Point's next possession and McKelvy drained one of two foul shots on the other end to make it a 52-49 game with nine seconds to play. The Lady Warriors took the ball out on Fairview's end of the floor with five seconds remaining and one last chance to tie the game. Quinn's three-point attempt was just off the back iron and the Lady Aggies held on to collect a 52-49 win and this year's varsity girls county title.

McKelvy led Fairview with 18 points in the win, followed by Yeager with 11 and Manasco with nine. Shadix posted a game-high 22 points in the loss for West Point. Braelee Quinn added eight and Mendoza finished with seven.

2021 Bill Shelton Award Winner – Toni West, Cold Springs: Cassidy Campbell, Hanceville

2021 Charlotte Cummings Memorial Scholarship Winner – Hailee Moore, Vinemont

Varsity Girls Cullman County All-Tournament Team
- Toni West – Cold Springs
- Lexi Shadix – West Point
- Rudi Derrick – Good Hope
- Molly McKelvy – Fairview
- Bailey Tetro – Good Hope
- Emma Garcia – Fairview
- Braelee Quinn – West Point
- Kylee Quinn – West Point

Varsity Girls Cullman All-County Team
- Daisy Manasco – Fairview
- Molly McKelvy – Fairview
- Emma Garcia – Fairview
- Lexi Shadix – West Point
- Braelee Quinn – West Point
- Ryleigh Jones – West Point
- Toni West – Cold Springs
- Brooke Crider – Cold Springs
- Cassidy Campbell – Hanceville
- Maggie Burks, Vinemont
- Sarah Finley, Holly Pond
- Rudi Derrick, Good Hope

Ivey Maddox, Good Hope

CULLMAN COUNTY TOURNAMENT

Fairview tops Good Hope 61-57 to capture JV Boys County title

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – Our second championship showdown of the afternoon was for the JV Boys title and featured a matchup between the Fairview Aggies and the Raiders of Good Hope. Both teams battled back and forth in a contest that the Raiders led by just one at the half but after creating some separation in the third quarter, the Aggies pulled away to win it in the fourth 61-57 to capture this year's JV Boys County Championship.

Weston Hancock scored in transition to give the Raiders a 2-0 lead to start the game, but Ethan Frazier converted a three-point play on the other end to put the Aggies ahead 3-2. Good Hope got its own and-one play from Konner Stevens to take a 5-3 lead, but Cade Arnold scored inside to tie things up at 5 with four minutes to play in the opening period. Yarbrough split a pair of foul shots to give Fairview a 1-point lead midway through the first but Tucker Malin was fouled on a three-point attempt on the next Raiders possession and he netted all three free throws to give them an 8-6 lead. Cade Yeager knocked down a three for the Aggies to retake a 9-8 lead but another and-one play by Stevens put Good Hope in front 11-9 with two minutes to play in the first quarter. A Colton Whatley basket gave the Raiders a 13-9 advantage with a minute remaining in the first, but Cooper Salazar drained a three-pointer on the other end to make it a 13-12 game and Fairview trailed by just one going into the second quarter.

A Tyler Cone basket made gave Good Hope a 15-13 lead at the start of the second, but a pair of Kobe Payne free throws trimmed the lead to 16-15 later in the period. Another Salazar trey gave the Aggies an 18-16 lead with just under four minutes to play in the half and Payne drove the baseline and laid one in to extend the lead to 20-16. Malin responded with a three-pointer on the other end to cut the lead to one and Hancock drilled a three of his own to retake a 22-20 lead for Good Hope. Bryson Chamness nailed a three to put Fairview back in front 23-22 and Stevens and Payne traded baskets to make it a 25-24 game with just over a minute remaining in the second. Hancock hit mid-range jumper to give the Raiders a 26-25 lead with 40 seconds to play in the period and after a Stevens free throw, Hancock drilled another jumper to extend the Good Hope lead to four. However, Payne buried a corner three for the Aggies just before the buzzer to cut the lead to 29-28 going into the locker room at halftime.

Malin drilled a three to start the quarter for the Raiders and Hancock laid one in to give them a 34-30 lead. A Chamness three-pointer made it a 1-point game and Yarbrough completed an and-one play at the line to give Fairview a 36-34 lead. Arnold and Hancock traded buckets to make it a 38-36 game midway through the third and Arnold converted another and-one play for the Aggies to give them a 41-36 advantage. Another Hanckock basket cut the lead to 41-38 but Arnold laid another one in to keep Fairview in front 43-38 with three minutes to play in the third quarter. Chamness drained another three-pointer to stretch the lead to 46-38 but Hancock came up with another basket for the Raiders to trim the lead to six. Arnold scored inside to build the lead back up to eight with just over a minute to play in the period, but Hancock continued to fill it up on the other end and keep the Aggies from pulling away. Both teams got another look at the basket before time expired, but neither could score again, and we went to the fourth quarter with Fairview leading Good Hope 49-42.



BILL PIPER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Fairview Aggies defeated the Good Hope Raiders 61-57 Saturday to win this year's JV Boys County Championship.

Another Arnold basket gave the Aggies a 51-42 lead at the start of the final period, but Hancock laid one in to cut the lead to 52-44 later in the fourth. Arnold split a pair of foul shots to make it a 9-point game with just over five minutes remaining, but a Cone basket trimmed the lead to seven around the four-minute mark. Stevens scored to make it a 53-48 game, but Salazar drilled a baseline jumper to extend the lead to 55-48. Hancock scored in transition to get the lead back down to five with less than three minutes to play but Arnold scored a quick basket on the other end to keep Fairview in front 57-50.

Yarbrough hit a pair of shots from the foul line to make it a 59-50 game with just over a minute on the clock but a bucket from Malin and a three by whatley cut the lead to 59-55 with 32 seconds remaining. Chamness was sent to the line with 24 seconds and he hit one of two to give the Aggies a 5-point lead. Malin was fouled on a three-point attempt and knocked down two of the three to make it a one-possession game with three seconds on the clock but Salazar iced it with a free throw on the other end and Fairview held on to win this year's JV Boys title 61-57.

Arnold led the Aggies with 18 points in the win, 16 of which came in the second half. Chamness posted 11, Payne and Salazar finished with nine and Yarbrough added seven. Hancock led all scorers with 23 points in the loss, followed by Malin with 13 and Stevens with 11.

JV Boys Cullman County All-Tournament Team

- Hunter Farr – Holly Pond
- Kolton Perry – West Point
- Ashton Rodgers – West Point
- Tyler Cone – Good Hope
- Tucker Malin – Good Hope
- Weston Hancock – Good Hope
- Kobe Payne – Fairview
- Cade Arnold – Fairview
- Cylas Yarbrough – Fairview

CULLMAN COUNTY TOURNAMENT

Good Hope comes back to defeat Cold Springs 44-41, captures JV Girls Championship

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – Saturday's first championship game was a battle between the Good Hope Lady Raiders and Cold Springs Lady Eagles for the JV Girls title and it was a roller coaster experience for the fans in attendance. Cold Springs dominated for most of the first three quarters and led by 14 going into the fourth but the Lady Raiders rallied and outscored the Lady Eagles 19-2 in the final frame to come from behind and win it 44-41, capturing the JV Girls Championship in the process.

Ella Bruer drained a three-pointer from the top of the key to give the Lady Eagles a 3-0 start and Ciara Calvert banked one in from mid-range to make it 5-0. Ella Dickerson added a pair of free throws to give Cold Springs a 7-0 lead with just under five minutes to play in the opening period, but Emma Bailey got Good Hope on the board with two free throws to make it a 7-2 game.

Kenady Graves scored a quick basket off a turnover to build the Lady Eagles' lead back up to seven midway through the first and Calvert laid one in to make it 11-2.

A Dickerson free throw gave Cold Springs a 10-point lead and Erin Bailey scored inside to stretch the lead to 14-2.

Bailey responded with a basket on the other end to cut the lead to 10 with a minute remaining in the quarter but the Lady Eagles went into the second with a 14-4 lead over the Lady Raiders.

Bailey Keef scored to make it a 14-6 game at the start of the second quarter, but Dickerson responded with a corner three to keep Cold Springs in front 17-6.

Lexi Collins drained a three-pointer for Good Hope to cut into the lead midway through the period and Maddie McKenney hit a jumper to make it a 17-11 game.

Addie Stripling drove to the basket and scored to continue the run for the Lady Raiders and trim the lead to four, but a pair of Dickerson free throws put the Lady Eagles ahead 19-13 with just under three minutes to play in the half. Calvert banked in a three to make it a 22-13 game and Graves drilled a three of her own to give Cold Springs a 25-13 advantage with 30 seconds on the clock.

Good Hope got one more look at a shot before the buzzer but couldn't get it to fall and the Lady Raiders went into the locker room trailing 25-13 at the break.

Dickerson knocked down a three to stretch the lead to 28-13 at the start of the third but after a free throw from Keef, Collins drilled another three-pointer to cut the lead to 28-17.

Collins buried another three to make it an 8-point game midway through the period but after a free throw by Bailey, Bruer answered with a three on the other end to put the Lady Eagles in front 31-21.

Bailey laid one in to make it a 31-23 game and McKenney turned a steal into another Good Hope basket to cut the lead to six.

Dickerson scored to extend the lead to 33-25 with two minutes to play in the third and Bruer buried another three-pointer to make it 36-25.

Mia Light drilled another three for Cold Springs just before the buzzer and the Lady Eagles went into the final frame leading the Lady Raiders 39-25.

A Stripling basket trimmed the lead to 39-27 early in the fourth quarter and McKenney drained a three to make it a 39-30 game.

Collins kept the hot shooting going for Good Hope and knocked down another three-pointer to cut the lead to six with just over four minutes to play.

Stripling collected a steal and took it the other way to for two points to make it 39-35 and she laid another one in with three minutes on the clock to cut the lead to two.

Keef split a pair of foul shots to trim the lead to one and Bailey converted an and-one play at the line to give the Lady Raiders 41-39 lead with just over two minutes remaining.



BILL PIPER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope came from behind to defeat Cold Springs 44-41 in Saturday's JV Girls Championship Game.

McKenney found Keef open under the basket and she laid it in to extend the lead to 43-39 but Light scored Cold Springs' first bucket of the quarter to make it a 43-41 game with 50 seconds on the clock. Stripling was sent to the line and she hit one of two free throws to give Good Hope a 44-41 lead. The Lady Eagles got a couple more looks at the basket in the final moments but couldn't get any shots to fall and the Lady Raiders completed the comeback to capture the JV Girls title 44-41.

Collins led Good Hope with 12 points in the win, followed by Bailey with 10, Stripling with nine, McKenney with seven and Keef with six. Dickerson led the way for Cold Springs with 13 points in the loss. Bruer added nine and Light and Graves each had five.

JV Girls Cullman County All-Tournament Team

- Lauryn Hoffman – Holly Pond
- Addie Stripling – Good Hope
- Lexi Collins – Good Hope
- Emma Bailey – Good Hope
- Ella Dickerson – Cold Springs
- Kabri Redding – Fairview

Reagan Dunkin – Fairview

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OPINION

How to Listen to a Sermon, part 4

Tom Fillinger
Tribune Columnist

Today in our series on **How to Listen to a Sermon**, we address **The Text**.

The speaker **MUST** speak from the text: announce it, follow it, open the meaning to the listener and follow the text with unfailing integrity.

This is perhaps the most frequently violated aspect of preaching. The speaker declares a text that they intend to speak from. Then, off they go on a thousand rabbit trails. The listener is left in utter confusion. They have no idea what they are supposed to glean from what they heard. They realize that what they heard has utterly no connection whatsoever with the text that was declared at the start of the message.

God's word is not just a collection of disjointed and unrelated declarations.

First, it is an accurate record of history. The message is the account of real people in real time. This fact must be honored in the development of messages delivered to God's people as TRUTH.

Second, is the issue of context. If the message is to accurately represent what the word of God says, this principle must be honored. This requires a careful and accurate understanding of culture, geography, the type of literature being examined, etc.

Third, is the issue of the accurate interpretation of language. The scripture is written in three languages: Masoretic Hebrew and Aramaic (portions of the book of Daniel) in the Old Testament and Koine Greek in the New Testament.

It is challenging and important when interpreting God's word to correctly identify the meaning of words in the original language.

Fourth, is the issue of original intent. The correct meaning of any portion of God's word is that which the original author intended to convey. There is one and only one correct interpretation of every passage of scripture.

2 Peter 1:20-21 "Knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation.

"For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit."

Careful study, earnest prayer and the utmost diligence must be invested in preparing messages for God's people.

James provides sobering caution to those who would teach and preach God's word:

James 3:1 "Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness."

So, is what are you hearing from week to week an accurate declaration of what the text actually says? It is God's word that transforms. Therefore, the speaker must bring laser-like focus to the text.

Not illustrations, stories or personal experiences. The listener must grasp what the text says.

Make certain this is what you take away from a sermon. Make certain that you have comprehended the text and the meaning the original author intended. Anything else is to miss the point of good preaching.

I invite response to these articles. You may contact me by phone at 803-413-3509; leave a voice mail.

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.

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Fairview (from Front)

(AMIC) has created a new program endorsed by the Alabama League of Municipalities to help offset some of the debris removal costs associated with natural disasters.

"This program, the Municipal Debris Removal Fund or MDR Fund, is based on a simple concept: your municipality along with other Alabama cities and towns combine forces by contributing an annual set amount to the Fund.

"This program is accomplished through an agreement or contract called a Memorandum of Understanding between your municipality and the other cities and towns that join the Fund This is NOT an insurance policy or product.

"Nor is it a policy or product of AMIC. It is a simple agreement that says when FEMA declares a Federal disaster in the State of Alabama, your municipality agrees to use a portion of the money in the MDR Fund towards the unreimbursed cost for debris cleanup among all the cities and towns that signed the agreement.

"Money from the MDR Fund can only be used to cover costs associated with debris removal."

The council discussed the potential pros and cons of joining the program and ultimately decided to table to the decision until it has gathered more information and reached out to other municipalities.

After approving the month's bill payments, the meeting was adjourned.

The Fairview Town Council will hold its next regularly scheduled meeting Monday, March 1 at 6 p.m. at Fairview Town Hall.

Portal (from Front)

Karen Landers, M.D.
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) has launched an online portal for individuals to check their eligibility for vaccination and make appointments for COVID-19 vaccinations at county health departments. The easy-to-navigate portal also provides up-to-date information about additional drive-through and walk-in clinics being offered. The portal can be accessed at www.alcovidvaccine.gov/.

By entering information in the portal, individuals can confirm their eligibility, select a county where they intend to schedule their vaccination, and indicate if they want to be notified if interested in receiving an e-mail when the vaccine becomes available for additional priority groups.

Information about the vaccine product itself and what to expect is also provided.

There are links to click to view a complete list of vaccine providers in the state and other information on the Alabama COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Dashboard.

The portal also provides practical information for the people scheduled, such as what they should bring, mask requirements and a vaccine fact sheet.

The demand for vaccine continues to greatly exceed supply as Alabama has more than 326,000 healthcare workers and nearly 350,000 people who now qualify for a vaccine because they are 75 years of age or older.

On Feb. 8, the addition of people 65 or older and frontline critical workers will add more than 1 million more people who are eligible to receive a vaccine.

Sites listed in the portal have limited supply of vaccine available.

Current assessment of vaccine supply and expectations for shipments over the next month indicate that many public health clinics will have to focus heavily on providing second doses for the month of February.

As appointments may not be available immediately, the limitation of appointments is directly related to the amount of vaccine provided by the federal government.

If supply of vaccine products from the federal government increases, ADPH expects that access to appointments for priority groups will increase as well.

Individuals are encouraged to visit drive-through and walk-in clinics, or other vaccine providers, if appointments are not currently available at a county health department location.

Alabama's COVID-19 Vaccination Allocation Plan, which can be viewed by clicking a box on the portal, was developed by working with stakeholders and following guidance provided by the federal government.

For general information about COVID-19, the COVID-19 Information Hotline number is 1-800-270-7268.

LEGALS

PB MIN BK 193 PG 867 - 02/01/2021 09:48 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF JEROME WILLIAM HAYES, III, Deceased. * CASE NO PC-2020-370

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Administration having been granted to Carol Hayes, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Jerome William Hayes, III, Deceased, on the 1st day of February, 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.

Carol Hayes
Personal Representative

Kimberly H. Drake
Attorney for Personal Representative
419 2nd Avenue SW Ste A
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

DOCUMENT 10

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CIRCUIT COURT OF
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
LISA MCSWAIN, CLERK

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY

CASE NO.: CV 2021 - 900021

ROGELIO SOTELO,

Plaintiff,

v.

Begin at a point where the East line of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 36, Township 9 South, Range 2 West intersects the North margin of a county road in Cullman County, Alabama, then run North along the East line of said Quarter-Quarter Section for 420.0 feet; thence run West and parallel to said road for 105.0 feet; thence run South and parallel to said Quarter-Quarter Section line for 420.0 feet to the North margin of said road; thence run East along the North margin of said road for 105.0 feet to the point of beginning, containing one acre, more or less.
Parcel ID: 10-07-36-0-001-014.000; PIN: 21465; Account Number: 217556,

AND

Those Fictitious Parties A-Z, whose identities are currently unknown and who will be added to this Complaint by amendment when ascertained, including any persons claiming any present interest therein and including any persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in the above-described property,

AND

THE ESTATE OF JOYCE MARIE GREGORY,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION

TO: The Estate of Joyce Marie Gregory, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said lands, whose names and whereabouts are unknown.

You are hereby notified that on the 19th day of January, 2021, a Complaint to quiet title in rem to the above-described real property was filed in the Circuit Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by Rogelio Sotelo against the Estate of Joyce Marie Gregory, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said lands, whose names and whereabouts are unknown, whose names and whereabouts cannot be ascertained after exercise of due diligence and who are believed may claim some right, title, interest, or claim in and to the above-described real property. All persons having an interest in said lands or any portion thereof, claiming any title thereto or encumbrance or lien thereon, are hereby directed to plead, answer, demur, or otherwise respond to the complaint on or before the 22nd day of March, 2021, else at the expiration of thirty (30) days thereafter suffer a judgment by default to be rendered against them, it being intended that this notice shall be used to perfect service against all parties who cannot be personally served with a copy of the Complaint.

Lisa McSwain
Hon. Lisa McSwain
Clerk of the Circuit Court
of Cullman County, Alabama

Plaintiff's Attorney:
Shay Persall
ST. JOHN & ST. JOHN, LLC
108 3rd Street SE
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-3542

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks and send an affidavit of publication to the Circuit Clerk.

Lisa McSwain
Hon. Lisa McSwain
Clerk of the Circuit Court
of Cullman County, Alabama

PB MIN BK 193 PG 837 - 01/29/2021 01:45 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF MICHAEL PLETENIK, Deceased. * CASE NO PC-2020-335

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Administration having been granted to Kimberly H. Drake, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Michael Pletenik, Deceased, on the 29th 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.

Kimberly H. Drake
Personal Representative

Thomas E. Drake, II
Attorney for Petitioner
419 2nd Avenue Southwest, Suite A
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 778 - 01/22/2021 01:59 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO PC2021-025

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF CATHERINE NEVILLE GOODLETT, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED
BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Deborah Kay Goodlett Harbison on the 22nd 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.

Deborah Kay Goodlett Harbison
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

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

PB MIN BK 193 PG 845 - 01/29/2021 02:02 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of
PHYLLIS ELAINE WATWOOD, Deceased. CASE NO. PC 2021-037

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration have been granted to TINA R. MILLER, as Administratrix of the Estate of PHYLLIS ELAINE WATWOOD, deceased, on the 29th day of January, 2021, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, and 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.

Tina R. Miller
Tina R. Miller, Administratrix

Shay Persall
Attorney for Administratrix
ST. JOHN & ST. JOHN, LLC
108 3rd Street SE
Cullman AL 35055
(256) 734-3452

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.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

EDUCATION

Game changer: WSCC Medication Assistant program filling need in nursing facilities, advancement for staff

Gail Crutchfield
WSCC

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – "It's a game-changer," said Kristen Munger, assistant director of nursing at Hanceville Nursing and Rehab of how utilizing Medication Assistants will benefit the workflow at their facility.

Medication Assistant Certified (MAC) is the new job title for six of their employees who went through the first session taught through Wallace State Community College's Center for Career and Workforce Development. All were Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs) before taking the course to advance in both job title and pay scale.

Their six were among about 20 who took the first session, with at least that many signed up for the next session starting Feb. 8.

Registration will continue through Feb. 7 or until it meets the maximum of 24 students.

Classes will continue through March 5, followed by clinical rotations from March 8-21.

As CNAs, their primary duties included assisting patients with daily living activities, such as bathing, grooming, feeding, etc.

With MAC certifications, those duties are expanded to administering approved drugs through prescribed measured amounts in liquid or tablet form, as well as other medications given as inhalants or other routes.

"We expect it to be very beneficial by providing our nurses more time to spend on skilled nursing activities," Munger said.

"When the MACs give routine medications allowed by the Alabama Board of Nursing (ABN), this will significantly reduce the nurse's workload allowing her to assess, monitor, communicate and spend extra time with the residents as well as giving the non-routine medications," said Dr. Brenda Pruitt, coordinator/instructor for the Wallace State program.

"With everything going on with pandemic, the need for nurses to have that extra help is so important," said Jamie Blackmon, director of Wallace State's Center for Career and Workforce Development. "When CNAs get this extra certification where they can distribute medications, it alleviates some things that nurses have to do, and helps CNAs get a raise."

The curriculum was developed with input from Deborah "Pepper" Hoover, the chair of the Wallace State Department of Nursing Education, and Pruitt is a former Wallace State Nursing instructor.

This 100-hour course is approved by the Alabama Board of Nursing and follows the Alabama Community College guidelines.

Graduates will apply to the ABN for the opportunity to sit for the national certification exam which will give those individuals a nationally recognized credential.

"Emphasis is placed on the development of knowledge, attitudes and skills required of the medication assistant enabling them to successfully perform allowable duties as determined by the Alabama Board of Nursing," Dr. Pruitt said.

Sixteen of the students from the last first session successfully passed their certification exams.

"Wallace State is happy to partner with healthcare facilities to facilitate excellent nursing care in a time of nursing shortages," Hoover said. "Nurses will have a new resource with MAC employees to enable more individual time with residents/patients."

"We have received positive feedback from students, clinical instructors, facility directors, and administrators," Dr. Pruitt added.

"We worked closely with each individual student to promote success. The clinical instructors worked hard to continue developing the students' medication administration skills, monitoring of residents before and after medications, and the legalities of medication administration as outlined by ABN."

Sixteen students from the first session have earned their MAC certification, with five left to take their exam, Pruitt said.

Ashley Emmert, a new MAC at Hanceville Nursing and Rehab, has passed the certification exam required by the ABN, received a raise and will begin training under supervision of the nursing staff at the facility this week. She said she's ready to fulfill her new role thanks to her time at Wallace State.

"I'm kind of nervous to start doing new things, but I feel good that I know what I'm doing," she said.

She expressed her appreciation to her employers for the opportunity and encouraged others to consider getting their certification.

"It may seem intimidating, but it's something that's actually achievable," she said, adding it's sparked an interest in going to nursing school. "I had thoughts about going before, but until I did this, I didn't know if I would."

Other than having a current AHA or ARC Healthcare Provider CPR Certification, there are no other prerequisite certifications required to enroll in the MAC program.

The program does require proof of health insurance, immunizations, a physical exam and background check.

The fee for the course is $900 and includes all course materials, drug screening and malpractice insurances. Additional fees and expenses may apply.

Phlebotomy and Certified Nursing Assistant courses are also available through the Center for Career and Workforce Development.

Call 256-352-8386 or email amanda.aris@wallacestate.edu for more information or visit www.wallacestate.edu/WTS.

Obituary Announcements: Feb. 2



Peggy Sue Howard, 84, of Cullman
Peggy Sue Howard, a longtime resident of Cullman, AL, passed away unexpectedly Jan. 16, 2021 at the age of 84. She was born April 1, 1936 to William Jackson "Jack" and Sarah (Meeks) Young in Birmingham, AL. Mrs. Howard is preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 58 years, Elmer Guy Howard; brother Herman Young; son Timothy Lee Howard; and daughter-in-law Deborah K. Howard. She lived her life being a family matriarch and was a ray of sunshine to anyone around her. Loving her family and grandchildren to no end, there was never a more dedicated and loving wife, mother and grandmother. Along with her strong Christian faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, she loved cooking, socializing, reading, sewing and of course solving a good crossword puzzle. She had the opportunity to travel many places around the world as her husband was a retired sergeant in the Army. She was a lifelong member of Northside Baptist Church. She will be sorely missed by all who knew her. Survivors include three sons Christopher Howard, Gary Howard, and James William (Lisa) Howard; daughter Julie (Terry) Sellers; and six grandchildren Tim (Delina) Howard, Meaghen (Chad) Woodis, Michael "Dallon" Sellers, Shawn Sellers, Shawnee (Nicholas) Simmons and Wiley Howard. A private service was held for the family on Thursday, Jan. 21, officiated by Moss Funeral Home, following burial at Center Hill Baptist Church in Hanceville.

Harold Edward "Sonny" Tucker, Jr., 76, of Cullman
Graveside services for Harold Edward "Sonny" Tucker, Jr., 76, of Cullman were at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 31, 2021 at Cullman City Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home was honored to be serving the family. Mr. Tucker passed away Friday, Jan. 29, 2021 at his residence. He was born Sept. 21, 1944 to Harold Edward and Laura Louise Farley Tucker, Sr. Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Peggy Wallace Tucker; two sons Jason Tucker and Michael (Lynette) Tucker; sister Eleanor Callan; three grandchildren Katie (Josh) Overton, and Megan and Abby Tucker; three great-grandchildren Anna Ruth, Elijah Cole, and Silas Joshua Overton; and family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Sylvia Lee Odom, 60
A Celebration of Life Service for Sylvia Lee Odom, who passed away Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2021 at the age of 60, will be in the chapel of Moss Service Funeral Home Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2021 at 6 p.m. Visitation will be from 4:30-6 p.m. Moss Service Funeral Home directing. The service will be available via live stream on Moss Service Funeral Home's Facebook page. Sylvia was a wonderful caregiver to all who needed her. She loved children and all animals. She served as the Sacristan at Saint Patrick's Catholic Church and was a member of the St. Kateri Circle. She loved her Pow-Wows and was known as being a "firecracker." She was preceded in death by her mother Cleo Mildred Weisner; brothers Rick and Dennis Odom; sister and brother-in-law Sandy and Perry Odom; son Benjamin Odom; and husband Terry Jackson. Her survivors include her children Monica Burden, Melissa Mack, Mason Mack, and Daniel Landers; grandchildren Cleo Adalynn, William Braxton, Lincoln Jaxon, Tucker Lamar, and Vayda-Gray Ivy; the father of her children Ted Mack, and special nieces and nephews Oliver Shaw, Wendy and Nyah Shaw, Richie Aker, Ricky Odom, Christopher Sylvie Odom, and Willie Odom. Condolences and special memories may be shared with the family at www.mossservicefh.com.

Wanda Lee Sanders, 81, of Hanceville
Funeral services for Wanda Lee Sanders, 81, of Hanceville will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2021 at Valley View Baptist Church with Reverends Philip Starnes and Marvin Clemmons officiating. Her family will receive friends at the church beginning at noon. Interment will follow in the church yard cemetery. It is asked that masks be worn, and distancing recommendations be followed. Wanda died suddenly Saturday evening, Jan.30 of a stroke. She and her late husband Clark were founders of Sanders Farm Supply, which her children still operate. A member of Valley View Baptist Church, Wanda a charter member of the 91 Homemakers Club, exercised weekly at the Wellness Center at Wallace State and visited the residents at Hanceville Nursing Home every Friday until COVID procedures prevented it. She also loved her cats and birds (especially cardinals), of which her family has many stories about. She leaves as her legacy her children Alan and Cathy Sanders, Lynn and Keith Campbell, and Michael and Shelley Sanders; grandchildren Sarah Green, Tori Sanders, and Matthew Campbell; great-grandson Brantlee Clark Green; and sister Joyce Mitchell.

Floyd Hubert Cox, 97, of Cullman
Floyd Hubert Cox of Cullman passed away Jan. 30, 2021 at the age of 97. He was born May 6, 1923 in Purvis Ms. to John H. and Corda Faust Cox. He is preceded in death by his parents; wife Ethel I. Cox; sisters Lola Mae Widner and Gussie Lee Michaels; and brothers Verbon Cox, Earl Cox, and Ray Cox. Mr. Cox is a veteran of The United States Navy and The United States Air Force. Funeral services are Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2021 at 1 p.m. at Moss Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Dennis Trimble officiating. Interment will follow services in East Point Cumberland Presbyterian Cemetery. Survivors are step-daughters Mary Dean Lamar, Shelia Thomas, and Jo Etta (Bill) Wilt; step-son Douglas (Sandra) Miller; special nephew Wayne Widner; step-grandchildren Kristy (Philip) White, Leann (Drew) Evans, Brad Lamar, Anthony (Bethany) Lamar, Ashley (Tim) Dawes, Kim (Wade) Sharpton, Paul (Letha) Miller, Josh (Jessica) Thomas, and Terrie (Don) Warnke; 14 step-great grandchildren; 4 step-great-great grandchildren; and a host of nieces and nephews. Visitation is Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2021 at Moss Funeral Home from noon until service time. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.mossservicefh.com. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Noemi Leticia Gomez, 63, of Cullman
Memorial service details for Noemi Leticia Gomez, 63, of Cullman are incomplete at this time and will be announced at a later date. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Mrs. Gomez passed away Jan. 29, 2021 at Cullman Regional Hospital. She was born Aug. 3, 1957 to Zacaria and Estulia Garay Reza. She was a very blessed woman. She was a loved person throughout her community. She was preceded in death by her parents and brothers and sisters. Survivors include her husband Jesus Gomez; sons Ricardo (Tammy) Gomez and Jesus (Latasha) Gomez; grandchildren Maxuel, Mia (Gomez), Jamie, Samuel, and Brooklynn (Marsh); and family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Shelby Jean White, 74, of Hanceville
Funeral services for Shelby Jean White of Hanceville, who passed away Sunday, Jan. 31, 2021 at the age of 74, will be at Shelton Grove Baptist Church Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2021 at noon. Burial will follow in the adjoining cemetery. Visitation will be at 11 a.m. until service time. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, masks will be required, and social distancing appreciated. Moss Service Funeral Home directing. Shelby was born in Cullman to Alvin Bertis and Rutha Cone Shelton May 12, 1946. She enjoyed crafting, feeding and watching birds, and cooking. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband Roderick Nolan White; and son Bertis White. Survivors include her daughter Rhonda White (Phil) Phillips; sister Tammie Bailey; brothers Laron (Nadine) Shelton and J.V. (Myrt) Shelton; 10 great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces and nephews. Condolences and special memories may be shared with the family at www.mossservicefh.com.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
FEBRUARY 2, 2021

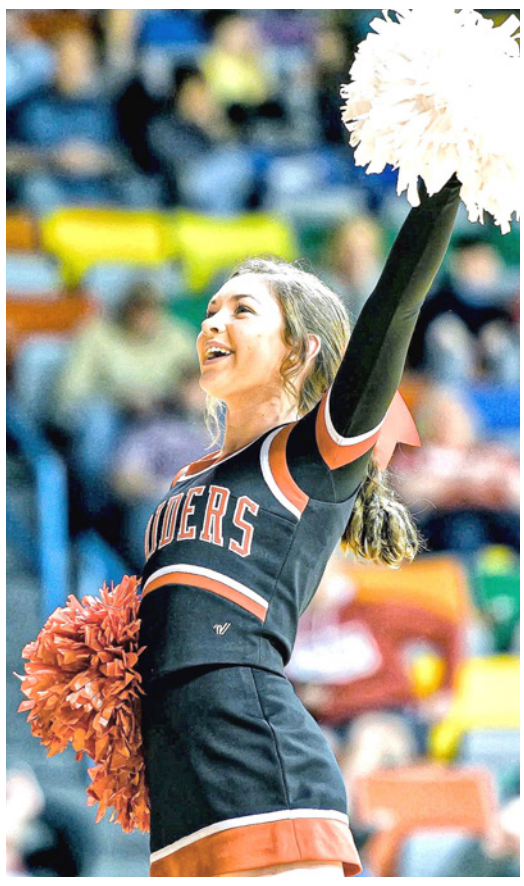
CULLMAN COUNTY BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Shots from Championship Saturday at this year's Cullman County Basketball Tournament

The Good Hope Lady Raiders and Fairview Aggies captured JV titles to start the day and the Fairview Lady Aggies and Cold Springs Eagles earned varsity crowns to wrap up this year's tournament

Photos by Martha Needham for The Cullman Tribune





















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