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The Cullman Tribune
SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874
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2nd person in Saturday plane crash succumbs to injuries

Wendy Sack
wendy@cullmantribune.com

Editor's note: *Holloway was originally identified as the pilot of the aircraft; however, authorities now say they are not certain yet which man was at the controls at the time of the crash.*

SOUTH VINEMONT, Ala. – A second person has died following Saturday's plane crash a half mile west of Cullman Regional Airport.

Cullman County Coroner Jeremy L. Kilpatrick on Sunday identified the first victim as John T. Sigman, Sr., 70, of Dyersburg, Tennessee. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

"The family said he was coming down here looking to purchase that aircraft," said Kilpatrick, who said the body was sent to the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences for an autopsy.

Cullman Regional Airport General Manager Ben Harrison identified the second man as Frederick Dawson "Noah" Holloway of Cullman.

Holloway, 74, was critically injured and transported to an area hospital; however, Kilpatrick on Tuesday morning confirmed that Holloway succumbed to his injuries.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) identified the aircraft as a Piper PA-32. The plane went down in a wooded area and caught fire at approximately 6 p.m., according to a statement from the FAA.

Said Harrison, "I can't thank the responding agencies enough. Vinemont Fire, West Point Fire, Cullman Fire, all of them did a great job helping. Cullman County Sheriff's Office and Cullman Police Department, Cullman EMS and Cullman EMA, along with Air Evac, State Troopers, Cullman County Coroner...the FAA was here last night, and then our airport staff.

"Everyone did exactly what they were supposed to do to start the chain of events as we work through this investigation."

The crash is under investigation by the FAA and National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB).

– BUSINESS –

Small Business Spotlight: Cullman 31 Nutrition



BERENICE BAHENA

Cullman 31 Nutrition carries Herbalife products and is the sister location of Hanceville Nutrition.

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Cullman 31 Nutrition is now open and serving up drinks and shakes. Located at 1207 Second Ave. NW inside Creel Plaza, the smoothie and juice bar offers more than 50 flavors of shakes, 42 tea bombs, iced coffees and protein snacks.

Owners Berenice Bahena and Urias Bahena opened on Dec. 26, 2020. The siblings commute from Russellville each day to bring their Herbalife products to Cullman.

Berenice Bahena explained, "There were already a ton of nutrition clubs in Russellville, where we are from.

"There is already like five and one in Moulton and they are already spaced out everywhere except nobody from our line was here yet."

Cullman 31 Nutrition carries Herbalife products and is the sister location of Hanceville Nutrition.

Each month it offers new seasonal products including February tea bombs such as the Heartbreaker, with collagen and strawberry, and the Pucker Up, with strawberry watermelon lemonade.

Special drinks for March haven't been announced yet, but there will be an Irish twist.

"Tea bombs are supposed to energize you and boost your metabolism. You can burn 80-100 calories and they have vitamins B12 and C.

"They don't give you the crash or jitters like a Red Bull or a Monster would because you know they have caffeine so if you don't eat anything, they usually make you kind of shaky," said Bahena.

"These contain a little bit of caffeine, but it has aloe. We don't have sugar in any of our drinks and our » PAGE 7

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Colony mayor files ethics complaint against council member

» PAGE 8

FEATURE

SGB shots available closer to home

Almost 90 local veterans have benefited from the procedure



KEN BROWN

Cullman Savings Bank CEO John Riley (center) presented a $5,000 donation recently, on behalf of the bank's foundation, to local veterans Clyde Johnson (left) and Cliff Fowler (right) to support the 800 Club, a project that obtains SGB shots for veterans suffering from PTSD. » PAGE 6

(BONUS)
PET OF THE WEEK
TAKE A WALK WITH COOPER!



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Cooper » PAGE 7

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COURTS

2 former AL public school superintendents among 6 charged with fraud related to virtual education

Doug Howard
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – On Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2021, six individuals appeared in court after being indicted on charges related to the fraudulent enrollment of students in Alabama virtual schools, announced United States Attorney Louis V. Franklin, Sr., FBI Special Agent in Charge Johnnie Sharp, Jr., and Acting Special Agent in Charge Kori Smith of the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Inspector General.

The defendants named in the indictment are Dr. William L. ("Trey") Holladay, III, 56, a resident of Athens, Alabama and the former superintendent of the Athens City Schools district; Deborah Irby Holladay, 57, of Athens and formerly employed by the Athens City Schools district; William Richard ("Rick") Carter, Jr., 45, also of Athens, currently the executive director of planning for Athens City Schools and formerly the district's director of innovative programs; David Webb Tutt, 61, of Uniontown, Alabama; Gregory ("Greg") Earl Corkren, 56, of Tuscaloosa, Alabama; and Thomas Michael Sisk, 55, a resident of Toney, Alabama and formerly the superintendent of the Limestone County School district.

The indictment alleges that the defendants conspired to fraudulently enroll students in public virtual schools and then falsely report those students to the Alabama State Department of Education. As a result of this, districts received payments from Alabama's Education Trust Fund as if the students actually attended public schools. The various defendants then received, for their own personal use, portions of the state money. The defendants skimmed the state money through direct cash payments and payments to third-party contractors owned by the various co- conspirators.

According to the indictment, the defendants obtained student identities to use in their scheme from various private schools located across the state—particularly private schools in the Black Belt region of Alabama. The defendants offered the private schools various inducements—including computers, direct payments, and access to online curriculum—to persuade them to share their students' academic records and personal identifying information with the public school districts. During the school years that the scheme allegedly occurred—the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years—the private school students and parents had little to no connection with the public school districts in which they were supposedly enrolled. The private school parents continued to pay tuition to the private schools. The students continued to attend the brick-and-mortar private schools each day, they received instruction from employees of the private schools, and, after class, some played sports for their private schools. All the while, the state reimbursed the Athens City Schools district and the Limestone County Schools district for the cost of supposedly educating these private school students.

The indictment further alleges that the defendants went to various lengths to conceal the fraud from the state. Such lengths included: creating fake report cards, manufacturing false addresses for the students of the private schools who lived outside of Alabama, and submitting falsified course completion reports to the state department of education.

All six of the defendants are charged with conspiring to commit mail and wire fraud. The indictment also contains substantive wire fraud charges against Trey Holladay, Deborah Holladay, and Carter. Additionally, Trey Holladay, Carter, and Corkren are charged with aggravated identity theft.

If convicted of the conspiracy charge, each defendant faces a maximum sentence of five years' imprisonment, as well as substantial monetary penalties and restitution. Any defendant convicted of wire or mail fraud faces a maximum sentence of 20 years' imprisonment, as well as substantial monetary penalties and restitution. Additionally, any defendant convicted of aggravated identity theft could receive a mandatory consecutive two-year sentence on each count.

An indictment merely alleges that crimes have been committed. All defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

"The money Alabama sets aside for public education should be used for exactly that— educating the students of our public schools," stated Franklin.

"The defendants in this case prioritized their own profits over the education needs of our students. In doing so, they stole children and parents' identities and bribed administrators of private schools. I hope that this indictment serves as a warning for others who might try to line their pockets with public funds."

"Public corruption remains the FBI's top criminal priority because public officials must be trusted to do their jobs with honesty and integrity," stated FBI Special Agent in Charge Johnnie Sharp, Jr. "The citizens of Alabama should rest assured that the FBI will continue to work with our law enforcement partners to investigate corruption at every level and hold accountable those officials who violate the public's trust and use their position for profit or gain."

"These so-called educators have been charged for preying on the schools that placed them in positions of trust to educate students and the students they promised to serve. That is completely unacceptable," said Kori Smith, acting special agent in charge of the U.S. Department of Education Office of Inspector General's Southeastern Regional Office. "As the office responsible for identifying fraud, abuse, and other criminal activity involving U.S. Department of Education funds and programs, ensuring that those who abuse these funds or game the system for their own selfish purposes are stopped and held accountable for their criminal actions is a big part of our mission."

"Integrity and trust are characteristics of Alabama teachers and administrators. When I was hired as your state superintendent, I committed to improving education in our state which includes working closely with our local, state, and federal partners to ensure fiscal responsibility and accountability, so every crucial dollar is spent on educating our students," said Alabama State Superintendent Dr. Eric Mackey. "Funds allocated for education should be spent to educate our public school students. However, over the course of several years, the individuals named in the indictment betrayed the trust of not only our citizens but our students, parents, and other teachers and administrators who continue to work diligently every day. We will continue to hold high standards at every level – from local schools to the state – with the expectation that every public school dollar will be spent to support our children."

"Public officials and employees are obligated to perform their duties and administerfunds with integrity and according to requirements of the law," said Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall. "As attorney general, I am committed to stand together with our partners in law enforcement to ensure that allegations of wrongdoing are investigated, and that appropriate action is taken."

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Department of Education's Office of Inspector General. The Alabama Attorney General's Office also assisted in the investigation. Assistant United States Attorneys Jonathan S. Ross, Alice S. LaCour, and Brett J. Talley are prosecuting the case.

POLITICS

Senate leadership highlights legislative priorities as Senate resumes session

William Heartsill
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – Senate Pro Tem Greg Reed, R-Jasper and Senate Majority Leader Clay Scofield, R-Guntersville on Tuesday released the following statement outlining legislative priorities the Senate plans to pursue as it resumes the legislative session. These priorities – agreed upon by Senate and House leadership – include efforts to support economic recovery, state agencies and Alabama's military presence and veterans, as well as a concentrated effort to fulfill its constitutional responsibility to pass budgets.

"Heading in to the first two weeks of session, we in the Senate came to an agreement with House leadership on three priority pieces of legislation – a bill to protect groups from frivolous COVID-19 lawsuits, a bill to ensure federal COVID-relief dollars aren't taxed by the state government, and legislation to reauthorize important economic development incentives that expired last year," Reed said.

"I was happy to see all three of these critical topics pass both chambers of the Legislature by significant margins.

"After pausing Senate business last week to review and modify our COVID-19 protocols and look at ways to provide further access to the public, we are returning to work today with several newly agreed upon priorities," Reed said.

"I look forward to hitting the ground running with my colleagues in the Senate and the House as we work together, in a bipartisan manner, to get results on these important issues for the state of Alabama."

"Members in both the Senate and House showed up throughout the first two weeks of the legislative session determined to deliver impactful results to the people of Alabama," Scofield said.

"After last week's break from session, our members are ready to return with the same attitude, committed to working with purpose and passing meaningful legislation to serve all Alabamians."

Reed said the following on these stated priorities:

Economic recovery:
"The Alabama Innovation Commission, which I have the privilege of serving on with my colleague in the House, Chairman Bill Poole, has several important measures it is working on to continue its mission to strengthen and grow Alabama's economy. Additionally, the Senate will continue to do what it already has been doing since this session commenced at the beginning of the month: taking up and considering important bills related to economic development and economic recovery for our state.

"Now more than ever, efforts related to economic development will be absolutely critical for Alabamians as we recover from this pandemic and create an economy that works for Alabamians."

State agency legislation:
"Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, state agencies have had important, much-needed legislation delayed for nearly two years.

"The Legislature will have a strong focus on moving these important bills so that our state agencies have the resources and tools they need to support the needs of Alabamians."

Military and veterans affairs legislation:
"The military presence in Alabama is not only important to our national security, but it is important to our state's economy as well. There are five military bases in our state and over 60,000 veterans. The military produces an economic impact of $21 billion and has a total job impact of 210,564.

"The Senate has taken up and passed several bills to support the military servicemen and veterans who call our state home.

"The House is now working on these military and veterans bills that the Senate passed to ensure that Alabama's critical military foundation is strengthened and can remain competitive nationally in bringing valuable military services and resources to Alabama."

Budgets:
"The Legislature's number one constitutional responsibility is to consider and pass budgets for our state. Given the unusual nature of this year regarding COVID-19, there is an added sense of urgency to address these budgets quickly and efficiently. We are ready to get to work on our budgets, so our state has the resources it needs to operate."

OPINION

Op-Ed: Alabama is poised for economic development success

Megan Crouch
Contributor

Thank you, Governor Kay Ivey, President Pro-tem, Senator Greg Reed, and Representative Bill Poole. There is no more competitive endeavor than economic development. The competition for projects that will create well-paying jobs in all Alabama communities has never been more fierce. Fortunately, we have all the ingredients to be successful. Alabama is enhancing its transportation infrastructure, constantly striving to develop a workforce with skills necessary to succeed in a new economy and maintaining a business climate appealing to a broad spectrum of industrial and business sectors.

A critical component of the economic development process is the prudent use of economic development incentives to compete for those projects necessary for Alabama to continue to grow. The Alabama Jobs Act and the Growing Alabama Tax Credit are the foundation of the state's economic development efforts and without these tools Alabama would be at a distinct disadvantage. The new Jobs act offers a 3% jobs credit on payroll of qualifying new jobs for Alabama residents.

However, this jobs credit is increased to 4% for African American and women-owned enterprises as well as small businesses in low-income communities.

The additional 1% increase is also available to companies locating in all of Alabama's rural counties as well as "jumpstart counties." Jumpstart counties are those that have a demonstrated a population decline over the past five years.

These programs would not be available without the efforts of Governor Ivey and Alabama Commerce Secretary Greg Canfield who recognize the importance of fiscally responsible sustainable incentives to maintain Alabama's economic momentum.

Outstanding legislative leadership was demonstrated by President Pro-tem, Senator Greg Reed, who sponsored the legislation in the Senate, and Representative Bill Poole, who sponsored the legislation in the House.

These incentives will provide a catalyst for efforts to attract high-quality sustainable jobs to all regions of the state.

Both rural and urban communities will benefit and the infrastructure that will result from the Growing Alabama Tax Credit will ensure economic success in every region of the state, and that investment will pay benefits for decades to come.

The Economic Development Association of Alabama represents Alabama's economic development professionals. Our members work tirelessly to secure new industries and their associated jobs to the state and support our existing industries in their efforts to increase their investment and expand their workforce. Having the support of the state's political leadership is a valuable asset and they deeply appreciate the continued support of their efforts.

The pursuit of economic development that positively impacts all of Alabama is a goal that can unite all Alabamians and the efforts of Governor Ivey, Secretary Canfield, Senator Reed and Representative Poole should be commended as we move the sate forward. The future for Alabama's economy is indeed bright thanks to their efforts.

Megan Crouch is the 2021 president of the Economic Development Association of Alabama

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Feb. 23

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported Feb. 23, 2021. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No incidents or arrests reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Feb. 19

• unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle; Cullman Church of Christ; Hwy. 157; catalytic converter; $350

Feb. 22

• fraudulent use of a credit or debit card, fourth-degree theft of property; person; miscellaneous charges
• fourth-degree theft of property; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; miscellaneous; $69
• third-degree theft of property, identity theft; person; cash
• fourth-degree theft of property; person; Cullman Shopping Center; bicycle; $200
• counterfeit $50; State of Alabama; 4th St. SW
• fourth-degree theft of property, third-degree criminal trespassing; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; miscellaneous; $105
• fourth-degree theft of property; person; tag; $25
• first-degree theft of property; person; Logan St. SW; '04 Honda Civic; $3,000

ARRESTS

Feb. 22

Reed, Jacob D., 27
• public intoxication

Shepherd, Andrea L., 25
• FTA- fourth-degree theft of property (2 counts)
• FTA- giving false information to law enforcement
• FTA- third-degree criminal trespassing

Fanning, Nathan D., 36
• FTA- public intoxication
• FTA- disorderly conduct
• FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Jenkins, Jerry R., 51
• FTA- driving without a license

Creel, Patrick S., 45
• fourth-degree theft of property
• third-degree criminal trespassing

Lovell, Anthony R., 46
• public intoxication
• resisting arrest

Fanning, Johnathan A., 40
• FTA- public intoxication

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No incidents or arrests reported.

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



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Berlin Residents
The Town of Berlin will be handing out Midland WR-120 Weather Radios Saturday, Feb. 27 and Saturday, March 6 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Berlin Community Center. Citizens are asked to bring their current electric bills that show they are paying fire dues to the Berlin Volunteer Fire Department, along with a photo ID.

Cullman Electric Cooperative Scholarship Opportunity
Do you know a high school senior attending a college, university or technical school in the fall? The scholarship deadline is one week away! Applications are due Friday, Feb. 26, at 4 p.m. Scholarship applications can be found on our website at https://bit.ly/3arxOSk.

Baileyton Bargain Days
• First and third Saturday of each month from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the old Baileyton fire station next to the town's park
• Beauty and health products, toys, home goods, pet items, food and many everyday items
• A donation of $20 will allow a shopper to fill up a bag, and for $40 a shopper can fill a large box. Some of the items of greater value will require a larger donation. There will be some restrictions and product limits on the items. Cash and checks accepted.
• Proceeds will be used for park improvements and capital improvements for the town.

Cullman County Soil & Water Conservation District 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 256-734-1431 or 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, "The Phases of Armageddon" 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.
• Mondays-Fridays- Our 5 Points Ministry provide free hot meals for children and elderly 3:30-5 p.m. at the Cullman Housing Authority Community Center 1545 Vine Circle SW Please call Aimee at 256-841-2060 to register or for more information. Eat in or take out. Kids' activities are available. Kids do not have to come to the center to get a free meal. Adults can list the names of the children and do takeout meals. Sponsored by Kids Loving Kids, Raising Arrows Ministry and Spirit Life Church.
• Saturday, Feb. 27 5:30 p.m. Chili Fundraiser for Children's ministry- $7 per person: chili, drink and dessert

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, Feb. 25 at 5:30 p.m. at Hanceville City Hall

Cullman Tree Commission Meeting
Friday, Feb. 26 at 9:30 a.m. at Cullman City Hall

Tree-City USA Dedication Ceremony
Friday, Feb. 26 at 10 a.m. at Cullman City Hall

Severe Weather Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday
• From 12:01 a.m. Friday, Feb. 26 to midnight Sunday, Feb. 28, Alabama will observe the annual Severe Weather Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday. Certain emergency preparedness items will be exempt from the state's 4% state sales tax, and the cities of Cullman, Good Hope and Hanceville and Cullman County are all participating, along with the towns of Addison, Dodge City, Eva, Fairview, Garden City and Arley, waiving local tax on certain items.

Tax-exempt items include the following priced at $60 or less:
• Flashlights, lanterns
• Battery-powered or hand-crank radio
• Batteries
• First-aid kits
• Cell phone charger
• Two-way radios
• Manual can openers
• Tarps and plastic sheeting
• Duct tape
• Fire extinguishers
• Tie-down kits, bungee cords or rope

Other tax-free items include coolers, ice packs, plywood, window film and smoke/fire/carbon monoxide detectors. Portable generators and power cords costing $1,000 or less are also tax-free. To see a full list of tax-free items, go to https://bit.ly/3qFabeI.

Colony Black History Museum
• Saturday, Feb. 27, 2021 from 3-5 p.m.
• Colony Educational Complex, 151 Byars Road in Colony

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

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

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

Baileyton Town Council Meeting
Monday, March 1 at 6 p.m. at Baileyton Town Hall

Living Landscapes "Backyard Chickens"
Tuesday, March 2 from 6-8 p.m. Join Rachel Dawsey, backyard chicken veteran and Alabama Co-op Extension Agent Landon Marks as they cover everything you need to know about having your own flock. This class will cover nutrition, housing, breed selection and more. Class cost $5. Program will be held under the pavilion (outdoors) so please dress appropriately. The Agriplex will be following all state mandated guidelines. Register at Agriplex.org.

Farm Kids "Goats"
Saturday, March 6 from 9-10:30 a.m. Come & meet our playful goat friends! We will learn all about goats and their many uses on the farm. $5 per child, $10 family max. This event will be held outside under the pavilion so please dress appropriately, the Agriplex will be following all state mandated guidelines. Register at Agriplex.org.

Heritage Skills "Natural Beauty Care"
Thursday, March 11 from 6-8 p.m. Join us & local herbalist DeAnn Duke, along with daughter Mary Beth as they cover natural beauty care. In this Heritage Skills class, we will cover toxic ingredients to avoid and learn how to replace them by making our own simple alternatives. Not only we will learn about lowering our toxic intake, but how to beautifully benefit our skin & hair naturally. This class will be held under the pavilion (outdoors), so please dress appropriately. The Agriplex will be following all state mandated guidelines. Register at Agriplex.org.

Little Farmers "Birds of a Feather"
Friday, March 12, from 10-11 a.m. Explore the world of birds with hands-on crafts, snacks and feathers, of course! Ages 3-5, $5 per child/ $10 family max. Program will be held outdoors under the pavilion so please make sure your little farmer is dressed appropriately! The Agriplex will be following all state mandated COVID-19 guidelines. Register now at Agriplex.org.

St. Paul's Spring Flea Market
St. Paul's Lutheran School will host a Spring Flea Market fundraiser Saturday, March 20 from 8 a.m.-noon. Vendors will be located inside the gym and in the front parking lot of the school. Spaces are limited. Interested vendors should contact Emily Trahan at emilytrahan@stpaulscullman.com. Find out more at www.stpaulscullman.com.
St. Paul's is located at 510 3rd Ave. SE, Cullman, AL 35055.

Annual Spring Clean-up for City of Cullman Sanitation Customers
• March 29 – April 2, 2021
• Place your old unwanted appliances, furniture, mattresses, and other large items curbside on MONDAY, MARCH 29, 2021. Crews will be picking up these items throughout that week (separately from your regular garbage and recycling). This is a service provided to our customers at NO EXTRA CHARGE!
• There are some things we can't pick up, though. We CANNOT pick up rocks, dirt, bricks, concrete, construction materials, hazardous materials or tires.
• And due to the large volume of items to be picked up, we will not be picking up brush, tree limbs and other yard waste during the week of March 29-April 2, 2021.
• If you have any questions, please contact the City of Cullman Sanitation Department at 256-737-7560 or cityhall@cullmanal.gov.

The American Hero Music Festival
• Saturday, April 24 at Camp Liberty, 15719 Alabama Highway 157 in the Battleground community west of West Point-Gates open at 9 a.m., with the show going from 11 a.m.-11 p.m.
• The event will feature headliner Black Oak Arkansas along with Blackbird Anthem, Billy Don Burrs, Rowdy Johnson, Michelle Leigh, Mercy Shine, Dawn Rix, Dee Rock and Kris Rowdy, as well as speakers Billy Howell, Jr. (veteran of the Special Forces unit that was the subject of the 2018 film "12 Strong"), Navy Rear Admiral Kent David and Dan Robinson.
• Activities consist of an Airsoft shoot house, zip lines, food, vendors and giveaways, with the grand price being a Smith & Wesson M&P AR15 style rifle.
• Lodging available through Camp Liberty (cabins, camping/RV, and bunk rooms)
• Get tickets at http://bit.ly/2NLka3a.

PREP BASKETBALL

Lady Raiders fall to Rogers in NW Regional Finals 58-41

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – After staging a miraculous comeback over Deshler in the sweet 16 Monday evening, the Good Hope Lady Raiders were back in action Tuesday morning to face Rogers in the 4A Northwest Regional Finals. Good Hope's matchup was the first of the day at Tom Drake Coliseum and despite building an early lead in the opening frame, the Lady Pirates were able to mount their own comeback as the game went on and a phenomenal season for the young Lady Raiders came to an end with a 58-41 loss in the elite eight.

Good Hope fell behind early against Deshler Monday, but it jumped out to a fast start against Rogers in the elite eight. After the Lady Pirates drained a three to score the game's first points, Heather Tetro answered with a three-pointer of her own to tie the game at 3.

Bailey Tetro got a spinning layup to fall through the net and gave the Lady Raiders a 5-3 lead, but they weren't done. Ivey Maddox drilled a three to add to the lead and she scored an easy transition basket on the next possession to make it an 11-3 game midway through the first.

A Bailey Tetro jumper stretched the lead to 13-3 but that's when Rogers began to climb back. Three-point shooting allowed the Lady Pirates to chip away at the lead and make it a 15-10 game by the end of the opening quarter.

Rudi Derrick scored to keep the Lady Raiders in front 17-12 early in the second but it wasn't long before Rogers was able to tie things up at 17. Another three gave the Lady Pirates a 20-17 lead but Maddox split a pair of free throws and scored another basket inside to tie the score at 20. Rogers held a slim, 23-22 lead after a pair of Bailey Tetro free throws and stayed in front 26-25 after a three-pointer by Derrick. However, Derrick's three were the last points Good Hope put on the board in the first half and the Lady Pirates went on a 10-0 run to end the period and build a 36-25 lead at the halftime break.

Rogers stayed hot early in the second half, pulling ahead 41-25 but Bailey Tetro began to heat up herself on the other end. Tetro scored the next nine points for the Lady Raiders, cutting the lead to 45-34 midway through the third in the process. Derrick buried another three-pointer and made it a 10-point game with two minutes remaining in the period and after Maddox drove to the basket and scored in the final minute of the quarter, Good Hope trailed just 47-39 going into the fourth quarter.

Rogers scored two baskets early in the fourth to pull ahead 52-39 and worked to take time off of the clock for most of the final period. A Bailey Tetro steal led to an easy layup for Heather Tetro and trimmed the lead to 52-41 but unfortunately, that was the last basket of the day for the Lady Raiders and the Lady Pirates went on to win it 58-41.

Bailey Tetro led Good Hope 16 points in the loss. Maddox posted 12, Derrick finished with eight and Heather Tetro added five. The loss brings to an end to a memorable season for the Lady Raiders at 25-10. Good Hope collected an area championship and made its first trip to the Northwest Regional Finals since 2012. With a lot of youth returning on the roster and no seniors set to graduate this spring, this group of Lady Raiders is in prime position to make several trips back in the years to come.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope's Bailey Tetro (53) led the Lady Raiders with 16 points in their 58-41 loss to Rogers in the elite eight Tuesday.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope's Rudi Derrick (20) finished with eight points in the Lady Raiders' 58-41 loss to Rogers in the elite eight Tuesday.

Bobby Peirce's walk-off lifts Auburn to sweep of Presbyterian

George Nunnelley
AU Athletics

AUBURN, Ala. – Auburn outfielder Bobby Peirce delivered the walk-off single in the bottom of the 10th inning to lift the No. 17 Tigers to a 2-1 win and series sweep of Presbyterian Sunday at Plainsman Park.

Peirce stepped to the plate in a pinch-hitting role with one out and a runner on second and laced the first pitch he saw from Presbyterian reliever Austin Paradis right back up the middle.

Rankin Woley, who hit a double down the left field line the batter before, raced around third and dove headfirst into home, forcing an obstruction call to be made at the plate.

"Bobby Peirce was ready to hit, so I tip my hat," head coach Butch Thompson said. "That's our game ball. We finally inserted a guy into the game that was ready to hit."

"I've been waiting for it the past couple days," Peirce said of his opportunity.

"I've kind of been battling some stuff recently. I'm just glad coach put me in and gave me the chance to get that at-bat and drive home that winning run."

Freshman lefty Cam Hill (1-0, 0.00) made his Auburn debut in the 10th inning and set down the Blue Hose in order, including a pair of strikeouts, to pick up the win.

"Adrenaline was flowing," Hill said. "Nothing like this had ever happened to me before. On the mound, I was just like 'Pound the zone. Your team is behind you'. I trusted my teammates to go into the next inning and walk it off."

"Seb (Thomas) did a great job of passing the baton to Cam. At least he gave him a clean inning and an opportunity," Thompson added.

"It was a pretty good debut and makes us feel good about his opportunity to help us now."

Auburn got on the scoreboard on a sacrifice fly from Josh Hall in the bottom of the sixth, but Presbyterian tied the game in the top of the seventh as a ball got through the Auburn outfield and scored a baserunner from first.

The two teams went scoreless in the eighth and ninth before Peirce's heroics in the 10th.

Mason Barnett made his first career start and pitched 4.0 scoreless innings with two walks and four strikeouts.

Brooks Fuller pitched 2.1 innings and struck out three as the first reliever, and Seb Thomas held Presbyterian scoreless for 2.2 frames in the seventh, eighth and ninth.

Hall came through with the aforementioned sacrifice fly and collected a pair of hits for this second time this weekend.

Brody Moore, who started the game at second base and moved to short in the top of the sixth, ended a Presbyterian threat in the ninth by starting a double play, sliding to his right and spinning to make the throw to Garrett Farquhar at second.

Steven Williams started at catcher for the second time this weekend – marking his first starts behind the plate since 2018 – and reached base three times in today's contest.

The Tigers continue a stretch of eight games in the first 10 games of the season with a pair of midweek games against Alabama A&M Tuesday and Wednesday at 4 p.m. CT at Plainsman Park.



JACOB TAYLOR/AU ATHLETICS

Teammates mob Bobby Peirce after his walk-off single vs. Presbyterian Sunday

Toney's career-high 23 points leads UAB to 117-45 victory over Rust

UAB Athletics
uabsports.com

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – Tony Toney came off the bench to score a career-high 23 points on 10-of-14 shooting to lead UAB (18-5) to a 117-45 landslide victory over Rust (7-10) on Monday evening at Bartow Arena. The 117 points scored, and the 72-point margin of victory were both the second most in program history.

In addition to Toney, five Blazers scored in double figures.

Quan Jackson had 13, Tyreek Scott-Grayson and Rongie Gordon each added 12, and Tavin Lovan and Michael Ertel scored 10 apiece. Kassim Nicholson pulled down a game-high 12 rebounds.

Rust was led by Jordan Watkins with 11 points.

After falling behind early 10-4, UAB went on a 25-9 run to take a 29-15 lead at the midway point of the first half.

A pair of Scott-Grayson free throws with 9:41 remaining in the half started a 19-2 run, capped by a Toney 3-pointer that made the score 48-20 at the 6:24 mark.

UAB's last run of the half began with a Jalen Benjamin jumper and ended with a Jackson layup.

The 13-0 run gave the Blazers their largest lead of the half at 37 points.

Nathan Stewart's layup sent the game into halftime with UAB ahead 63-28.

Scott-Grayson's layup at 7:42 of the 2nd half gave the Blazers a 50-point lead at 88-38.

A dunk by Toney at 4:05 put UAB over the 100-point and a 3-pointer by Tobias Rotegaard closed out the scoring with 36 remaining.

UAB's inside game was dominant as it scored 80 points in the paint.

They forced 27 Rust turnovers, resulting in 39 points. The Blazers had season-highs with 57 rebounds, 48 field goals and 14 steals.

"Tonight's game gave us an opportunity to smile a little bit and get focused on the home stretch," said head coach Andy Kennedy.

"Tony missed his first shot, then he followed by making six in a row, including a couple big threes. He was explosive at the rim.

We are going to rely on him as we close down the regular season."

Tony's previous career-high was three points at Louisiana Tech.

Conference play resumes in San Antonio as UAB visits UTSA (12-9, 8-6 C-USA) on Friday at 6 p.m. and Saturday at 3 p.m. Both contests will be streamed on ESPN+.

GAME NOTES

- Kennedy was on the UAB team that set a school record with 118 points against Alabama State on Dec. 30, 1989
- The Blazers' largest margin of victory was 73 points in a 116-43 win against Hiwassee on Dec. 22, 2015
- The Blazers tied the school record with 63 1st half points (Bethune-Cookman Dec. 20, 1992)
- Gordon's 12 points was a career-high
- Simeon Kirkland tied a career-high with six rebounds
- Jon Coleman recorded his first career field goal

Obituary Announcements: Feb. 24

Christie Hancock McSwain, 96, of Trimble
Mrs. Christie Hancock McSwain, 96, of the Trimble community passed gently into eternity from her home Feb. 21, 2021. Christie was married to Orvel McSwain who predeceased her in 2004. She is survived by her children Lawrence (Luenett) McSwain, Linda Williams, Connie Allen, and Bobby (Cindy) McSwain, who surrounded her with loving care during her last hours. She was blessed to be the grandmother of Sean McSwain (Laura), Lisa McSwain Lee (Jamie), Jason Williams (Karen), Keith Williams (Kim), Jennifer Allen, Jimmy Allen (deceased), Brook McSwain Berg (Bill), and Brittany McSwain Tucker (Whitney). Christie also enjoyed the love of her 20 great- grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren. She was also predeceased by her sister Lexie Hancock McSwain and survived by brother-in- law Theron McSwain and several nieces and nephews. Christie grew up in Brushy Pond community to parents Maburn and Audra Stricklin Hancock (deceased) and spent her childhood years there. She later married Orvel McSwain in 1942 just prior to his being deployed for three and one-half years to Europe during World War II. After the war, Christie and Orvel made their home in the Crane Hill community for several years prior to moving to Trimble where they lived on the family farm the remainder of their lives. She was a member of Sardis Baptist Church. Except for a short career as a hairdresser, Christie was a housewife who stayed busy raising her children, enjoying her grandchildren, and assisting with the chores of farm life. In their retirement years, Christie and Orvel traveled out west with family members to attend military reunions and to visit several national parks. She was a wonderful mother and grandmother who made each child and grandchild believe he or she was her favorite. Mrs. McSwain's funeral arrangements are being managed by Moss Service, Cullman, with a graveside service Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2021 at 2 p.m. at Cullman City Cemetery. The service will be officiated by Christie's cousin, the Rev. Dillon Calvert. The family will receive friends at the cemetery for the service. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.mossservicefh.com. Due to COVID-19 it is asked that everyone please practice social distancing and the use of a mask at the graveside.

Robert Irvin Denson, 43, of Vinemont
Funeral services for Robert Irvin Denson, of Vinemont will be at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2021 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Tim McCormick officiating; interment in Brooklyn Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1-3 p.m. prior to the service. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Denson was called home Sunday, Feb. 21, 2021 at the age of 43. He was born July 31, 1977 to Preson Denson and Beverly Haynes Denson. Robert was a dedicated and loyal friend, and he was an Alabama fan through and through. He was preceded in death by his father Preson Denson; brother Joseph Denson; and grandparents Silas and Frances Haynes and J. P. and Elizabeth Denson. Survivors include his mother Beverly Haynes Denson; uncles Stanley (Peggy) Haynes and Veyon (Nancy) Haynes; and aunt, Genia (Shawn) Hadaway.

Noil Allen Holmes, 67
Noil Allen Holmes, 67, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2021 at Cullman Regional. He was born Feb. 8, 1954 to Virgil and Iris Holmes. He was preceded in death by his parents. Survivors include his wife Kathy Holmes; son Rodney (Heather) Holmes; sisters Gloria (Larry) Smith, Pat (Danny) Byram, and Barbara Folley; brother Larry Holmes; and a host of nieces, nephews, family, and friends.

Brenda Jo Maynard Golden, 71, of Baileyton
Funeral services for Brenda Jo Maynard Golden, 71, of Baileyton will be 11 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021 at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel. The family will receive friends Wednesday night, Feb. 24, 2021 from 6-8 p.m. at Cullman Funeral Home. Interment will be at Brooklyn Cemetery. Reverend Steve Rodgers, Reverend Millard Guffey, and Reverend Wade Maynard will officiate the service. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Golden family. Mrs. Golden passed from this life Feb. 22, 2021 at the Huntsville Hospital for Women. She was born Jan. 18, 1950 to Milburn D.C. and Addie "Boots" Watson Maynard. She loved to be outdoors, flowers, taking care of family and did a great job doing it. She loved to travel, going to the mountains, beautiful sunsets, and Sunday afternoon rides. Mrs. Golden was preceded in death by her parents; her son Lance Golden; and her father and mother-in-law Jessie M. and Leedie Golden. She is survived by her husband of 52 years, James Golden; daughter Alisha Golden; brother Steven Anthony (Barbara) Maynard; sister Sandra Lynn (Jimmy) Wright; and a host of nieces, nephews, family, and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com. Family and Friends attending the services are asked to wear face masks for the visitation and funeral.

Lowell Roger Wolf, Jr., 68, of Cullman
Lowell Roger Wolf, Jr., 68, of Cullman passed away Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2021 at Cullman Regional. He was born March 1, 1952 in Toledo, Ohio to Lowell Wolf, Sr. and Frances Wolf. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother John Wolf; and sister Ruth Anne (Joe) Coulter. Survivors include his daughter Betty (Steve) Barnes; son Lowell (Veda) Wolf, III; grandchildren Valerie Barnes, Matthew Barnes, Gavin Pace, Janie Claire Pace, and Ezra Pace; and sisters Martha (Joe) Polansky, Peggy Hubbard, Gloria Wolf, and Tammy Tracey. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

John "Bo" Cannie Tubbs, 83, of Bremen
John "Bo" Cannie Tubbs of Bremen passed away Feb. 22, 2021 at the age of 83. He was born Aug. 6, 1937 in Cullman to William C. and Zadie Lee Belcher Tubbs. He is preceded in death by his parents; son Danny Wayne Tubbs; and sister Jane Hines. John loved farming and he farmed most of his adult life. Graveside services are Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021 at 2 p.m. at Mt. Joy Cemetery in Bremen. The family will receive friends at the graveside Thursday. Survivors are wife Geraldean Cogging Tubbs; daughter Sherry Ann Tubbs; sisters Maxine Hollis and Pat Rhodes; brothers Gerry Tubbs and Donald (Brenda) Tubbs; and grandchildren Todd Lamar Wallen and Mary Amanda Tubbs. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.mossservicefh.com.

Frederick Dawson Holloway, 74, of Cullman
Frederick Dawson Holloway, 74, of Cullman passed away Monday, Feb. 22, 2021 at UAB Hospital. He was born June 14, 1946 to Ray and Edith Holloway. He was preceded in death by his parents; granddaughter Kristi Rae Higgs; two brothers; and one sister. Survivors include his wife Diane Freeman Holloway; daughters Traci Jo (Steve) Richter, Tara Kay (Chris) McSwain, Tori Anne (Rod) Huffman, and Tiffany Lynn (Scott) Adcock; stepson Joshua Harrison (Aubrey) Freeman; grandchildren Kayla (Mat) Burke, Kannon Richter, Remi Richter, Brandon Buchanon, Lauren Buchanon, CJ McSwain, Kinley Holloway, Tyler Poland, Samantha Lazenby, Carter Huffman, Max Huffman, Luke Thomas, Thomas Freeman, Sarah Freeman, Elizabeth Freeman, Anna Freeman, and Daniel Freeman; two great-grandchildren; six sisters; and one brother.

Faye Lynch, 79, of Hanceville
Graveside services for Faye Lynch, 79, of Hanceville will be at 3 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021 at Mt. Olive Cemetery with Justin Lynch officiating. Visitation will be held at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home from noon-2:30 p.m. prior to the graveside service. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Lynch passed away Monday, Feb. 22, 2021 at Grandview Medical Center. She was born June 20, 1941 to Lawton and Lois Collier. She was preceded in death by her parents. Survivors include her husband Jarrett Lynch, Sr.; children Jarrett (Christy) Lynch, Jr. and Samuel (Candace) Lynch; grandchildren Justin (LeKeisha) Lynch, Richard (Kaitie) Lynch, Morgan Lynch, Brandon Lynch, and Christian Lynch; great-grandchildren Lexie Lynch, Caden Lynch, Judah Lynch, Emmie-Kade Lynch, and William Lynch; brother Robert Collier; and sisters Mary Sue Freeman and and Linda Yearwood.

Christopher Jason Ragsdale, 42, of Logan
Christopher Jason Ragsdale, 42, of Logan entered into rest Feb. 18, 2021 at Cullman Regional Medical Center. Jason was born Sept. 19, 1978 in Elba, Alabama. He was a loving, family man who always put others ahead of himself. He had a talent for making everyone around him smile or laugh. Jason was a hard-working man and was most content when he was working. He was an avid Auburn fam, whether they won or lost. Jason was so full of love and life that his spirit will forever be felt by those he left behind. No services are planned at this time. Jason is survived by his wife Amy Ragsdale; children Jacob Ragsdale, Hope Ragsdale, Lucas Arwood, Kinsley Arwood and Meliah Pinson; father Roger Ragsdale; brother Brian Ragsdale and his wife Pam; sisters Angie Ragsdale and her husband Cody Boyce and Haley Ragsdale and her boyfriend, Jordan; grandfather E.L. Ragsdale; mother-in-law Rhonda Davidson; and a host of nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his mother Guindale Wallace; brother Roger Dewayne Ragsdale; grandmother Flora Ragsdale; and father-in-law Ricky Davidson.

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FEBRUARY 24, 2021

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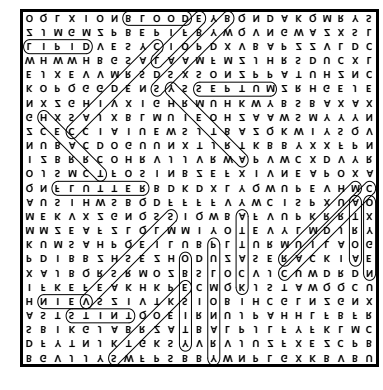
CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

FEBRUARY 24, 2021

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COLEMAN CALLAN/CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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Shots (from Front)

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Almost 90 Cullman area veterans who suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) are enjoying the benefits of the Stellate Ganglion Block (SGB) shot that offers them a chance to "reset their brains," in a manner of speaking. Through a partnership between local nonprofit Saving Forgotten Warriors (SFW) and Cullman Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2214 (VFW) known as the 800 Club (named for the cost of the shot), more thaSn 60 veterans traveled to Maryland in 2020 to receive the shot free of charge, funded by contributions from local businesses, groups and individuals. Less than two full months into the new year, 20 more veterans have already traveled to a new local provider to receive the procedure.

Col. Ken Brown told The Tribune, "Our (2020) goal was 24, to try to finance 24 going up there at $1,200 a pop ($800 for the shot and $400 in travel expenses), and we were able to send 68 veterans up to Annapolis in 2020.

"And we just started in January, raising money in the community again to try to keep this thing going for a while, because Congress is not coming through with any legislation to do that, with the election and the deadlock, and the COVID and everything else."

VFW and SFW reached out to and have received support recently from a number of local entities, including:

- The Cullman County Community Development Commission, which approved an $8,000 grant

- The Cullman City Council, which approved a $6,000 grant

- The Cullman County Commission, which approved $12,000 in grants ($6,000 each to VFW and SFW)

- The Cullman Savings Bank Foundation, which contributed $5,000

- Ronnie Apel of Apel Steel, who donated an undisclosed amount

- Multiple anonymous individuals have given large contributions

"That sounds like a lot of money," said Brown, "but we have, in the meantime, in order to try and cut our expenses from $1,200 a person down to $800 a person- which is what the shot costs- we've tried to eliminate the travel by finding doctors in the local area that could administer this treatment.

"And we were able to find a doctor, Bob Nesbitt, who practiced medicine here at Cullman Regional for about 25 years, and he has since moved down and opened a pain clinic at St. Vincent's Hospital in Birmingham."

Nesbitt Pain Associates also includes Dr. Jeremy Barlow, who lives in the Vinemont area, making the local providers doubly invested in the Cullman community. Being able to run down to Birmingham instead of trekking to Maryland has significantly lowered the overall cost of receiving the procedure, meaning that donated funds can help more veterans.

Brown continued, "We have sent about 20 guys down to them so far in January and February, so we won't be going back to Annapolis anymore.

"We've got doctors right here, close to home, so that has eliminated the $400 (travel) cost per individual, and now we're just down to trying to raise $800 per shot, sending these guys and gals down to Birmingham."

No overhead; it's all for the vets

Brown told The Tribune, "The thing that's really important for people here locally to understand as we seek help from the community is that there is not one penny of overhead; in other words, nobody at the VFW is getting any money, nobody at Saving Forgotten Warriors is getting any money.

"Everybody's a volunteer; we're not spending the money on any overhead, light bills or anything else. It's all going directly to paying for the shot."

Plenty of donations but plenty of need, so more help needed

"When you look at $800 a pop, how long does the money last? You get $6,000 from the City; how many times does 800 go into $6,000?

"You can send seven guys with the money that we've got from the city council this year, and we can send 14 guys with all the money that we've gotten from the county commission this year.

"You begin to see that- we've already sent 20 people down for shots in Birmingham this year.

"I want people to understand when they see it publicized that somebody gave us eight or somebody gave us six, or somebody gave us $5,000, $5,000 only sends five or six guys, and we've got a line of people that are really looking to go get the shot," explained Brown.

"And about 10% of our guys have to get it a second time because, I guess, it does wear off. Some people it works for- they only have to get one shot, period- but some then have to go back again and again, hopefully not that often.

"But certainly, within a year's time, about 10% of them have had to go back," he said.

"We're really, really conscious of the 22 a day veterans that are killing themselves across the country, and we're really determined that that is something that is not going to happen here."

Cullman County leading the nation

According to Brown, Dr. Sean Mulvaney, who performed the SGB procedure for Cullman's veterans at his practice in Annapolis, Maryland, said that Cullman County is the only county in the U.S. that has veterans' organizations actively involved in efforts to send vets for the shot.

Reflecting on the number of veterans across Alabama and the nation in need of PTSD treatment, Brown said, "All those people need it, and all those people right now, all those veterans right now are on anti-psychotic and anti-depression drugs, and the drug industry is making a fortune off it.

"The pharmaceutical industry's making a fortune off these guys, and it's not doing them any good.

"So as our people go and get the shot, they are finding that they're successful and slowly coming off a lot of the meds that they've been prescribed at the VA Hospital.

"And that's very helpful, because now they're able to sleep at night, they're able to reestablish good relations with the kids, their family, their associates at work.

"They're able to hold down jobs. They're not anxious anymore, they're not depressed anymore, they're not abusing alcohol anymore.

"All those things that have to do with PTSD are falling away."

What is the shot?

"The stellate ganglion is like a routing center for the nervous system and controls the impulse for 'fight or flight'," said a statement from Kristine Rae Olmsted, a research epidemiologist with RTI International, an independent nonprofit research institute. "Anesthetizing the ganglion blocks nerve impulses temporarily.

"We still don't know how SGB works to improve PTSD symptoms, but now we know that it does."

According to RTI International: "In the early 2010s, some military medical centers began offering patients with PTSD a procedure that had been used for decades to relieve pain.

"The procedure, called stellate ganglion block, or SGB, involves injecting a local anesthetic into the stellate ganglion.

"This group of nerve cells and nerves in the neck helps regulate the body's 'fight or flight' mechanism.

"As more and more patients tried the stellate ganglion block, the reports seemed promising.

"But the medical community still needed evidence of its effectiveness. RTI in 2014 launched a randomized, controlled trial of SGB, and in fall 2019, we found that it is indeed effective."

For more information

If you, your church, business or organization would like to find out more about the SGB shot, Brown is happy to come and make a presentation in person. You can contact him through VFW Post 2214 or call 256-507-1121.

If you need help

Brown told The Tribune, "We need to encourage veterans in our community who have heard about this but have not taken advantage of it, yet, to notify either Saving Forgotten Warriors or the VFW, and come on in and seek the help, because we can help them.

"That's what we want to do; we want to get the word out: not only to people to help donate to this, but to people that are needing it."

Brown concluded with one more piece of advice for veterans: "Getting the shot's not the final answer.

"A lot of these guys, we determined, really need a support group, some place where they can go and talk, and express their feelings, find out about the SGB shot, and find out what others' reactions have been and how it's helping others, so on and so forth.

"We now have an SGB support group for veterans at the VFW post every Wednesday night at 7.

"Folks can come and just sit and talk and be with their band of brothers. That's what it's all about.

"It's open to any veteran that has a PTSD problem or has had the SGB shot or thinks they might want to go get the SGB shot."

For more, visit www.facebook.com/cullmanVFWPost or www.facebook.com/Savingforgottenwarriors.

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LEGALS

PB MIN BK 194 PG 222 - 02/09/2021 12:25 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF JAMIE LYNN DEGRAAF, Deceased. * CASE NO PC-2021-052

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Administration having been granted to Phyllis B. Hain, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Jamie Lynn deGraaf, Deceased, on the 9th 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.

Phyllis B. Hain
Personal Representative

Beverly Paschal Poston
Attorney for the Estate
200 1st Avenue SE
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 MIN BK 194 PG 232 - 02/09/2021 12:37 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF GREGORY SCOTT PRIVETT, Deceased. * CASE NO PC-2021-011

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Administration having been granted to Beverly Paschal Poston, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Gregory Scott Privett, Deceased, on the 9th 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.

Beverly Paschal Poston
Personal Representative

Beverly Paschal Poston
Attorney for the Estate
200 1st Avenue SE
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 MIN BK 194 PG 485 - 02/23/2021 11:43 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM NEAL HARDYMAN, Deceased * CASE NO.: PC2021-065

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Leatrice Lenora Hardyman as Personal Representative of the Estate of William Neal Hardyman, deceased, on the 23rd day of February, 2021, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

Leatrice Lenora Hardyman
Personal Representative

Neil Halvorson
Attorney for Petitioner
3221 Starlake Drive
Hoover, Al. 35226

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 100 PG 162 - 02/09/2021 10:45 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of ARCHIE L. PERSALL, Deceased. * CASE NO. PC 2020 - 350

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE: Letters Testamentary having been granted to Darla LaShay Persall as Executrix of the Estate of ARCHIE L. PERSALL, deceased, on the 9th day of February, 2021, 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.

Darla LaShay Persall
Executrix

Gaynor St. John

Darla LaShay Persall

Attorneys for Executrix

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

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Probate Judge

DOCUMENT 6

ELECTRONICALLY FILED
1/19/2021 2:52 PM
25-CV-2021-900022.00
CIRCUIT COURT OF
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
LISA MCSWAIN, CLERK

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

CASE NO.: CV 2021 - 900022

ROGELIO SOTELO,

Plaintiff,

v.

**Lot(s) 2, Block A, according to the survey of Smith's Lake Catalina Cove subdivision as recorded in Map Book 6, pages 107-112 in the Office of the Probate Judge of Cullman County, Ala.
Parcel ID: 21-08-34-2-000-012.008; PIN: 4932; Account Number: 209264,**

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

BILL CUNNINGHAM,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION

TO: Bill Cunningham, 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 Bill Cunningham, 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 1st day of April, 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.

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.

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

DOCUMENT 6

ELECTRONICALLY FILED
1/19/2021 3:20 PM
25-CV-2021-900023.00
CIRCUIT COURT OF
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
LISA MCSWAIN, CLERK

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

CASE NO.: CV 2021 - 900023

ROGELIO SOTELO,

Plaintiff,

v.

**Lot 1, Block E, according to the survey of Smith's Lake Catalina Cove subdivision as recorded in Map Book 6, pages 107-112 in the Office of the Probate Judge of Cullman County, Ala.
Parcel ID: 21-08-34-2-000-024.000; PIN: 13021; 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

LOIS JINWRIGHT,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION

TO: Lois Jinwright aka Lois Jinright. 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 Lois Jinwright, 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 1st day of April, 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.

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.

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

Spotlight (from Front)

shakes contain less than 9 grams of sugar."

Saturday, Feb. 27 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Cullman 31 Nutrition will host a Customer Appreciation Day with giveaways and free products.

Said Bahena, "We'll have free protein waffles and Jell-O shots. If you bring two people with you, we'll give you your drink half off."

The Jell-O shots are non-alcoholic. They contain different energizing packets in different flavors.

Raffle prizes will include T-shirts and gift cards.

Cullman 31 Nutrition is open Monday-Friday from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturdays from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Find out more at www.facebook.com/Cullman31Nutrition.

Cooper (from Front)

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Cullman County Animal Shelter volunteer Donna Ruttkay shares The Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week:

Cooper is a 1.5-2-year-old Australian Shepherd mix. He's a laid-back, low- to medium-energy pet who has good spatial awareness and is an expert in leash etiquette. He seems to thrive on human companionship.

Cooper has the makings of a good therapy, companion, reading or hiking dog. Cooper's adoption fee is $100 which includes DHLPP vaccine, Bordetella vaccines, rabies vaccine, wormer, general exam at the vet, neutering, microchip, free 30-day health insurance policy issued by 24PetWatch (with valid email only) and a free bag of food from Cullman Pet Depot (you must pay sales tax). Animal shelter staff and volunteers work with their dogs to make sure they are accustomed to being around people, walking on a leash and practicing good behavior. Several of the shelter's canine friends have even been "hired" to work as therapy and special needs service dogs. Please consider adopting, to give a rescued pet a chance at a happy and healthy life. Contact the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 256-734-5448 or cullmancountyanimalshelter@gmail.com. Visit the shelter at 935 Convent Road NE.

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2021 COVID-19 update from the Alabama Department of Public Health's COVID-19 Dashboard Hub (https://bit.ly/3iVJwXK)

Case details

- Total confirmed cases in AL: 382,906 (+575 since yesterday)
- Probable cases in AL: 106,067 (+878 since yesterday)
- Total confirmed deaths in AL: 7,575 (+49 since yesterday)
- Probable deaths in AL: 2,085
- Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co.: 6,017 (+6 since yesterday)
- Probable cases in Cullman Co.: 2,839 (+9 since yesterday)
- Total confirmed deaths in Cullman Co.: 113 (+0 since yesterday)
- Probable deaths in Cullman Co.: 63
- Total tested in Cullman Co.: 36,691
- Total tested in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 2,797
- Cases in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 120
- Total tested in Alabama: 2,265,086
- Cases in the last 14 days in Alabama: 14,990
- Total tested in the last 14 days in Alabama: 166,374
- Currently hospitalized in Alabama: 762
- Cumulative no. of hospitalizations in Alabama (reported M-F): 45,250
- Presumed recoveries in Alabama (reported weekly): 275,245

Vaccine details (updated Monday-Friday)

- Doses delivered to Alabama: 1,036,645
- Doses delivered to Alabama providers: 927,275
- Doses administered: 790,427
- Number of people receiving one or more doses: 563,612
- Number of people who have completed vaccine series: 225,765
- Doses delivered to federal Long-Term Care Program: 109,370
- Doses administered by the federal Long-Term Care Program: 71,681

Alabamians in Phases 1a and 1b, as well as people older than 65, are eligible to receive a vaccine.

View the Alabama COVID-19 Vaccination Allocation Plan at: www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19vaccine/assets/adph-covid19-vaccination-allocation-plan.pdf

Daily update from ADPH

Federal Retail Pharmacy Program expansion

The Federal Retail Pharmacy Program will be expanding soon, adding new COVID-19 vaccine sites at additional Walmart locations throughout the state. There are also discussions to bring another partner on board, which would provide even more vaccine locations throughout the state. Additional information will be announced on the new locations once allocation confirmation is complete.

Continue to follow measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19

The public is reminded to continue following measures to prevent the spread of the virus. Be aware of the symptoms of COVID-19 which consist of either cough or shortness of breath (difficulty breathing) or at least two of the following: fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, vomiting, diarrhea, sore throat, fatigue, congestion or runny nose, and new loss of taste or smell. These measures prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds
- Social distance by staying 6 feet away from others
- Avoid people who are sick
- Stay home if you can; work remotely if possible
- Cover your mouth and nose with a face covering when around others
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces
- Monitor your health and get tested if symptoms develop

Inclement weather vaccine shipments

ADPH continues to work with McKesson Corporation to have vaccine shipments that were cancelled last week due to inclement weather reshipped. All county health departments throughout the state are operational and working hard to reschedule second doses. The CDC states that if a delay occurs in the normal schedule for receiving a second dose of COVID-19 vaccine, the second dose of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines may be administered up to 6 weeks (42 days) after the first dose.





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Colony (from Front)

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

COLONY, Ala. – Colony Mayor Curtis Johnson, at the conclusion of the Town's regular council meeting Tuesday, informed Councilwoman and Mayor Pro Tem Ethel Alexander that he has filed an ethics complaint against her over funds she received for a tutoring program she and a group of local mothers started for children in the Colony area who were struggling to keep up with virtual learning under COVID-19 school restrictions.

During the otherwise uneventful meeting, Alexander announced that she had talked to the Alabama League of Municipalities about the $50 per month donation the Colony Town Council voted to give to the program last fall and reported that the League had informed her that it was improper for her as a member of the council to accept money from the Town for services beyond her position on the council.

She had, by that time, already received $150 from the Town before Johnson stopped the payments.

Then Alexander told the council, "Then what I did was, I went out and got a money order of $150 to be paid back to the Town, and I will give this to (Town Clerk) Pat (Ponder)."

Johnson responded that he had something to tell her later on, and the two met face to face across the council table after the meeting ended, when Johnson informed her of the filing of an ethics complaint over the funds.

After the conclusion of their meeting, Johnson showed The Tribune a section of the Alabama League of Municipalities' manual for mayors and councils under "Conflicts of Interest" which reads:

No Business, Work or Contract with Municipality. *No councilmember, officer (mayor included) or employee of a municipality may be directly or indirectly interested in any work, business or contract, the expense price or consideration of which is paid from the municipal treasury. Section 11-43-12, Code of Alabama 1975. Any mayor or council member who shall have any private or personal financial dealings with or for or on account of the municipality except as imposed by this official position or who shall render a service to do any work or supply any commodity, for financial compensation payable from municipal funds, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall constitute grounds for impeachment. Section 11-43-161. Code of Alabama 1975.*

(1) Elected Officials and Employees Can't Have Any Other Salaried Job With Municipality. *These provisions positively prevent in officer from holding any other salaried position in the municipality (33 O Rep. Att. Gen 67) even though he or she receives no pay for such office. AGO to Hon. Cecil White, February 7, 1966. A council member may not serve as is police officer for the municipality even if there is no compensation for acting as a police officer AGO 1997-115. A municipal employee may not hold two separate municipal jobs, but he or she may serve in a position that requires the performance of more than one job or function. AGO 1998.029*

This is a developing story.

Town Clerk chastised for leaving office to distribute food boxes

During the work session before the regular meeting, Johnson told the council and audience that Ponder had recently left town hall prior to its noon closing to go to the Educational Complex, which houses the town's Carpenter's Cabinet food pantry, to give out boxes of food.

The mayor then noted that Ponder was using vacation time to go to the pantry but said that she had not given sufficient notice that she would be out.

Johnson did not object to the distribution of food, but said of Ponder's early departure to do so, "Got to put a stop to that," adding that she will need to do such things after town hall closes at noon.

In a message to The Tribune Tuesday evening, Ponder said, "It is absolutely true that I am using my vacation hours to distribute USDA boxes in Colony, and I feel privileged and blessed for this opportunity."

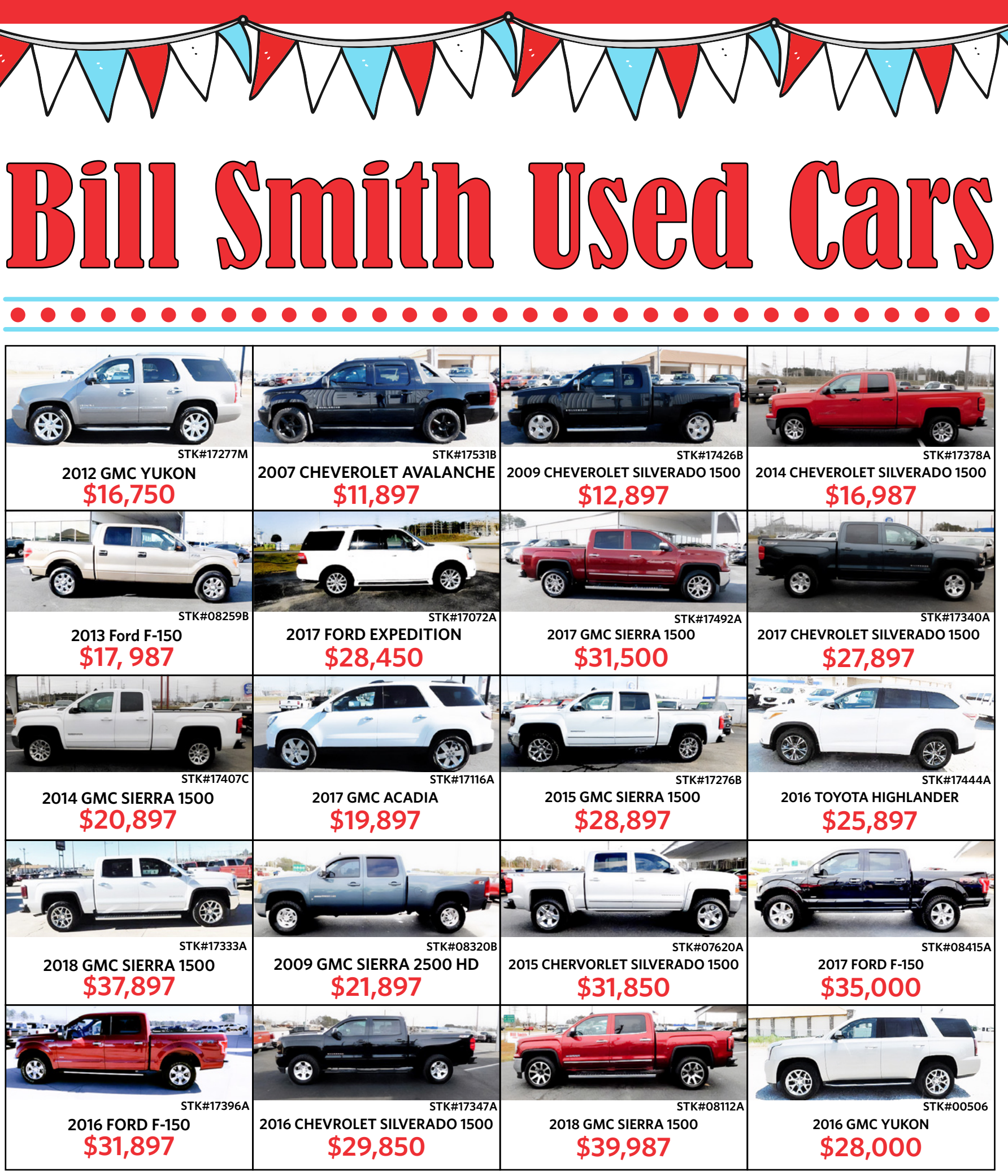


W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Colony Mayor Curtis Johnson (seated), following the conclusion of the Colony Town Council meeting Tuesday, informs Councilwoman and Mayor Pro Tem Ethel Alexander (standing) that he has filed an ethics complaint against her.



Bill Smith Used Cars



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