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The Cullman Tribune
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BUSINESS

Gibbs Garden Center in full bloom

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. – The blooms and color were bursting at the official ribbon-cutting held Friday morning at Gibbs Garden Center in Good Hope. City officials joined the Gibb's family and the staff of the popular garden center as they celebrated the event.

Mayor Jerry Bartlett joked after the ribbon was cut, "This has been a process that has been going on for at least a year-and-a-half. This stuff is way too slow for me. I want stuff to happen right now, but it just doesn't happen that way." He added, "There's a lot going on here and we are so proud that this business is located in Good Hope."

Gibbs Garden Center is located at 5847 County Road 616, along I-65. The visibility from the interstate attracts many visitors to the garden center and Good Hope. "We appreciate the traffic. We appreciate the jobs » PAGE 6


CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
Gibbs Garden Center's ribbon cutting Friday morning in Good Hope.

– ARTS –

ONE MAN'S PASSION

Bremen and Cullman artists reopening Ave Maria Grotto builder's workshop

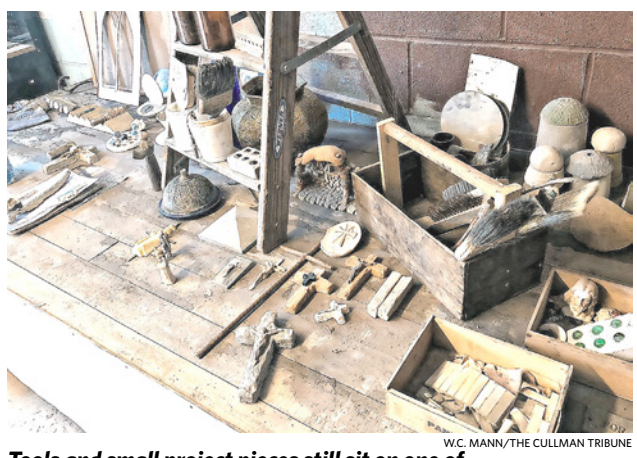

W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
Ben South and Donna Drake talk to visitors Jesse and Holly Woodby about Bro. Joseph's workshop and art.

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Ave Maria Grotto has, since 1934, been home to the artistry of Benedictine monk Bro. Joseph Zoettl, OSB, who built miniature sculptures at St. Bernard Abbey from 1912-1958. After his death in 1961, his workshop on the edge of the park grounds was used as a maintenance shed housing lawnmowers and other quite non-artistic implements. That recently changed.

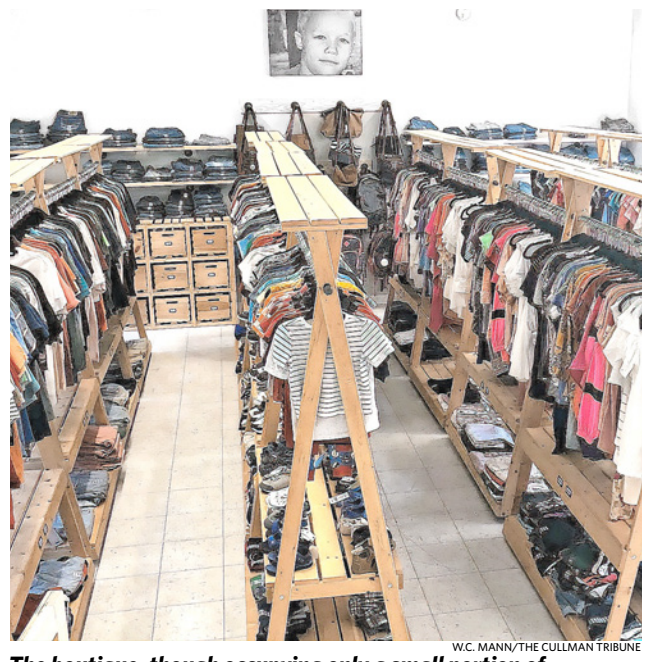
About three months ago, Bremen-based artist Donna Drake and Cullman artist Ben South teamed up to reopen Bro. Joseph's workshop, clearing away modern debris and rearranging the shop to represent the days of Bro. Joseph's work in the 1940s and early 1950s.

The Tribune visited Drake and South at the shop earlier this week. The space inside was filled with found and donated objects: sea shells, beads, marbles, crosses and crucifixes, » PAGE 6


W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
Tools and small project pieces still sit on one of Bro. Joseph's workbenches in the shop.

LOCAL CHARITIES

Curt's Closet prepares to reopen in new location


W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
The boutique, though occupying only a small portion of the larger building, still has a familiar feel. » PAGE 2

ENVIRONMENT

Dr. Bill Deutsch speaks at Agriplex's Lunch and Learn


CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
Dr. Bill Deutsch speaks at the North Alabama Agriplex
» PAGE 7

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EDUCATION

Wallace State student Bryant Simmons named Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship semifinalist

Russel Moore
WSCC

"It blew me away when I learned I was a semi-finalist. It's a big deal and definitely the biggest honor I've achieved academically," Simmons said. "My mother and father didn't graduate college and my father didn't complete high school, so that makes it even more overwhelming and incredible to apply for this prestigious scholarship and be recognized."

Simmons initially graduated from Wallace State's HVAC and Refrigeration program in December 2017 and returned to the college in January 2020, enrolling in forensic psychology. Simmons served in the Marines from 2009-2013, making one tour to Afghanistan and another to Southeast Asia.

"I earned a great job as a technician with Ingersoll Rand after graduating from HVAC and enjoyed what I did.

"While working there, I had two brain surgeries and was forced to give up that career," Simmons said.

"That lead me back to Wallace State, and the forensic psychology degree exactly fits the bill for what I want to do in life.

"I want to also earn a bachelor's in psychology, a minor in neuroscience and a master's in counseling and work for or around veterans. Those are my guys."

Simmons, a father of eight children, is mulling multiple four-year colleges and universities, but is leaning toward transferring to UAB in the fall.

Last year, Aljon Celis became the second Wallace State student to win the prestigious scholarship, joining Chelsea Allen in 2008. Celis was one of 50 recipients of the scholarship and is now enrolled at Stanford University.

"Aljon has been an encouragement to me and was excited for me, along with Susan Peek, my Success Coach," said Simmons, of Remlap. "I'll forever be grateful to Wallace State. It's helped lay the foundation for my successes."

Simmons was selected as a semifinalist among 1,500 applicants attending 398 community colleges in 44 states and the District of Columbia. Finalists will be announced later this spring.



WSCC

Simmons, 32, will graduate with a degree in forensic psychology next month.

Cooke Transfer Scholars are selected based on their exceptional academic ability and achievement, financial need, persistence, service and leadership. Students must be currently enrolled in community college and residing in the United States. For more information about the scholarship program, visit https://www.jkcf.org/our-scholarships/undergraduate-transfer-scholarship.

Location (from Front)

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – When Ashley Wilson opened Curt's Closet, a boutique-style clothing and accessory ministry for children and families in need, she did not imagine that, in three years' time, the operation would outgrow its home on St. Joseph Street and need to relocate in order to keep up with both demand and an outpouring of support- and donations- from across the Cullman community, much less that she would be able to make that move when the time came. Well, that has recently changed.

On Thursday, April 29, 2021, Wilson will welcome clients to "shop" (still for free, of course) at the new and greatly expanded Curt's Closet facility at 1103 3rd Ave. SE in Cullman.

The new headquarters has a familiar-looking boutique room, but that is where the similarities end. The building is home to substantially more storage space, a huge sorting room, laundry room capable of holding two sets of washers and dryers, a small kitchen, upstairs boardroom and an office which Wilson said is roughly five times the size of the old one at the St. Joseph location.

Adjacent to the shop is a warehouse building that will hold offseason items and allow the charity to store all inventory on the premises.

When asked what prompted the move, Wilson told The Tribune, "God! Well, we definitely needed more room, and this accommodates all of our needs right now and we have room to grow. But it was definitely a God thing.

"We were not looking for a building at the time; we had just talked about it and prayed about it. And St. John's reached out to us about, first of all, renting it. And then, after going over those terms, we also talked about purchasing, and it was a better deal for us in the long run. So that's how we came upon this wonderful building, and we're so excited!"

What's next?

Wilson said that, with a new facility that can hold more goods to help more people, her next goal is to make the ministry a full-time job for herself.

Said Wilson, "I'm constantly having to leave work or come after work to gather items for a family in emergency need.

"We also serve so many families, it's hard to get in. Right now, there's like a month wait to get in. So if we could just have someone here full-time, if it's not seeing a family, it's going through donations, which is a huge blessing. We're always blessed with donations; that's a good problem to have!"

What does Curt's Closet need right now?

"We need volunteers," said Wilson. "Since we have not been open (during the move), we're not critically short on anything, but clothing donations are always welcome.

"So, if you can donate clothes-wise, your time, financially--we have a few monthly donors, and that's a huge blessing to us because we do have bills . . . Anything you can give, even if it's just prayers, we will take it, right now!"

For more information about services or making donations, visit https://www.facebook.com/cw20curtscloset/.

Look for photos and a video walk-through of the new Curt's Closet facility on The Tribune's Facebook page.

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COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

Friday, April 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: 406, 855
- Probable cases in AL: 118,195 (+427 since yesterday)
- Total confirmed deaths in AL: 8,516 (+28 since yesterday)
- Probable deaths in AL: 2,296
- Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co.: 6,464 (+3 since yesterday)
- Probable cases in Cullman Co.: 3,073 (+10 since yesterday)
- Total confirmed deaths in Cullman Co.: 128 (+0 since yesterday)
- Probable deaths in Cullman Co.: 63
- Total tested in Cullman Co.: 40,287
- Total tested in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 1,907
- Cases in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 62
- Total tested in Alabama: 2,480,382
- Cases in the last 14 days in Alabama: 3,937
- Total tested in the last 14 days in Alabama: 123,304
- Currently hospitalized in Alabama: 322
- Cumulative no. of hospitalizations in Alabama (reported M-F): 48,615
- Presumed recoveries in Alabama (reported weekly): 331,915

Vaccine details (updated Monday-Friday)

- Doses delivered to Alabama: 3,726,735
- Doses delivered to Alabama providers: 2,836,065
- Doses administered: 2,377,497
- Number of people receiving one or more doses: 1,446,638
- Number of people who have completed vaccine series: 1,004,789
- Doses delivered to federal programs: 890,670

Alabamians in Phases 1a, 1b and 1c (including those 16 and older) are now 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

Missed COVID-19 vaccine second-dose appointments

ADPH encourages everyone who had their first dose of the Pfizer-BioNTechor Moderna COVID-19 vaccine to schedule their appointment for the secondary vaccine dose. If an appointment is missed, it is important to reschedule it as soon as possible. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 six weeks (42 days) after the first dose. The first dose of the vaccine starts the process of building up protection, but the second dose is needed to provide a stronger immune response.

FEMA Community Vaccination Center now offering COVID-19 vaccinations

The drive-thru FEMA Community Vaccination Center located at Watermark Place (4500 Katies Way) in Bessemer is now providing vaccinations to citizens. The site is open seven days a week and appointments are available, but not required. Appointments can be made on the web scheduler located at https://myturn.timetap.com. The website also includes links to documents that will need to be reviewed prior to being vaccinated. These materials will also be available onsite.

New CDC COVID-19 vaccination resources for community-based organizations

The CDC National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases has released new resources to support community-based organizations with COVID-19 vaccination efforts. The Guide for Community Partners (www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/guide-community-partners.pdf) was created to assist organizations with community-level reach to get connected to COVID-19 vaccination confidence and access efforts and resources. CDC also released a two-page document, COVID-19 Vaccine Equity: Best Practices for Community and Faith-Based Organizations (www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/best-practices-CBO-FBO.pdf), which provides best practices and examples of information and logistics.

At least 35% of 23 Alabama counties' residents vaccinated

Thirty-five percent or more of the residents age 16 and older of 23 Alabama counties have received one or more doses of COVID-19 vaccine to date. Successful public health efforts to achieve vaccine equity have resulted in higher vaccine uptake among African American residents of Black Belt counties. Counties where 35% or more of their residents have been vaccinated are as follows: Lowndes, Perry, Hale, Bullock, Wilcox, Jefferson, Marengo, Shelby, Greene, Madison, Colbert, Conecuh, Dallas, Lee, Tallapoosa, Sumter, Clarke, Lauderdale, Macon, Henry, Chambers, Montgomery and Clay. Vaccines are one key to protecting the most vulnerable and helping stop the pandemic in Alabama.

National Guard COVID-19 vaccination clinic update

The Alabama National Guard continues to hold second-dose Pfizer vaccine clinics in under-served and rural counties throughout the state. The second-dose clinics are being held in the same counties that were originally visited to offer first doses. Second-dose vaccination information can be found at www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19vaccine/ng-clinics.html. Johnson & Johnson vaccine was not given at these clinics. Anyone who has not received a first dose is encouraged to contact his or her local county health department or visit www.alcovidvaccine.gov to schedule a vaccine appointment.

ADPH still encourages use of facial coverings

Masks or other facial coverings are no longer a mandate under the Safer Apart order. ADPH still encourages the use of facial coverings and reminds everyone that masks remain one of the most successful tools to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. Many businesses and health care facilities continue to require facial coverings in their facilities.

CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported April 23

Cullman Tribune Staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported April 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

April 22

- duty upon striking unattended vehicle; person; 6th St. SW; damage to '99 GMC C1500; $1,500
- fourth-degree theft of property; person; 4th St. SW; grill; $27
- first-degree theft of property; Mitch Smith Chevrolet; Cherokee Ave. SW; '21 Chevy Trailblazer; $21,000
- third-degree criminal mischief; Verizon Wireless; Cherokee Ave. SW; damaged property; $295

ARRESTS

April 22

Tucker, Daniel B.; 30

- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- third-degree domestic violence

Moody, Ballard O.; 28

- public intoxication
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Sellers, Margaret D.; 47

- FTA- public intoxication

Quick, Jeffery D.; 43

- FTA- public intoxication
- FTA- insurance violation
- FTA- driving while license suspended

Fuller, Destiny M.; 23

- FTA- fourth-degree theft of property
- FTA- driving without license

Calloway, Jeffery C.; 37

- Grand Jury Indictment-third-degree theft of property

Mashburn, Jana N.; 35

- fourth-degree theft of property

Cofield, Tristan D.; 23

- fourth-degree theft of property

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No incidents or arrests reported.

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

WRECKER/TOW TRUCK Driver

Clean driving record, clean criminal record, able to pass DOT physical, able to pass pre-employment drug and alcohol screening, must be 21 years of age or older, good positive work ethics.

NO PHONE CALLS

Stop in office to fill out application
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

'Come to the Well' Community Women's Bible Study

- Tuesday mornings at 10 at the Hebrews Cafe at East Side Baptist Church, 1111 Third St. SE in Cullman
- Please wear a mask/face covering.

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.

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.
- Sundays-9 a.m. Van runs in 5 Points Area. Call 256-841-2060 for pickup. Small group classes for children, youth and adults at 10 a.m. Praise and Worship and message at 11 a.m.
- Sunday, April 25th 11 a.m. Praise and Worship. message "You Can Change" by Pastor Bobby Dodd
- Free Community Dinner at Center Hill Baptist Church
- 5-6 p.m.- The first Wednesday of every month we will be offering a Free Community Dinner. Church members, community members, neighbors and friends are welcome. This will be takeout only. Please message or comment with how many plates you will need to help us prepare enough food for everyone. RSVP at http://bit.ly/centerhill.
- 13108 County Road 747, Hanceville, AL 35077

Miércoles de Despensas

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

Festhalle Farmers Market

- 7 a.m. – 2 p.m. – Open every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from April – October
- Stop by to shop the freshest produce from Cullman-based farms
- For more information, call 256-590-5009 or send an email to mgraveman@cullmanrecreation.org

Agriplex April programs

Children's Programs

- April 29, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m., Heritage Homeschool Recycled Crafts: Reduce, reuse, recycle! In celebration of Earth month, we will use 'trash' and turn it into treasures. Join us for some up-cycling fun! Ages 3-5 with parent, $8.00 per child/ $16.00 program max per family. Registration required at Agriplex.org.

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.

Valley Springs Baptist Church Spring Revival

April 25 - Valley Springs Baptist Church will hold a spring revival Sunday, April 25, Monday, April 26, Tuesday, April 27 and Wednesday, April 28. The Sunday night service will begin at 5 p.m. and the Monday through Wednesday services will begin at 7 p.m. The evangelist will be Brother William McClellan. Pastor is Brother Tim Box

First Annual Derby Day – Goat Island Brewery

May 1 – 2 p.m.-11 p.m. - Realtors from several agencies in Cullman have teamed together to fundraise for local veterans to receive the 5GB PTSD shot. Join us at Goat Island Brewery for food, fun, music, "best dressed hat" cat walk, stick horse races.. and of course, the Kentucky Derby running at 6:30 p.m. Band starts at 7 and goes until 11. We will also be having a silent auction! Admission is $10

Good Hope Public Cemetery Decoration Weekend Clean up Announcement

- May 1-2 - Good Hope Public Cemetery will hold its annual Decoration Weekend Saturday,
- May 1 and Sunday, May 2. Please have all flowers and decorations removed from the cemetery by Sunday, April 25th. Any flowers and decorations remaining after April 25th will be subject to removal bycemetery maintenance with respect to condition. We ask that all new flowers and decorations be kept as close to the monuments as possible. Donations to the cemetery can be sent to Good Hope Public Cemetery P.O. Box 355 Cullman, AL. 35056 and are tax deductible and help us to pay for cemetery upkeep. Thanks.

May 2 - Decoration at Shady Grove Methodist Church at Logan

10 a.m. the first Sunday in May! Join us!

Baileyton Town Council meeting

- May 3 – 7 p.m. - The Town of Baileyton would like to invite the public and all former members of the council of Baileyton and their families to attend our next regularly scheduled Town Meeting which will be held in our new town hall for the first time!
- The Town of Baileyton would like to thank all the former council members, their families and the former mayors Roph Burks, Paul Bailey and Johnny Dyer for their leadership of our community.

2nd Annual Ridin' for Residents

- May 8 - The 2nd Annual Ridin' for Residents is coming up Saturday, May 8, 2021. This is a joint benefit between Cullman County Wranglers and USA Healthcare to bring joy and smiles to the faces of the residents of some of Cullman and surrounding areas' assisted living centers and nursing homes.
- Our inaugural event had 127 Jeeps! Let's make our 2nd event even more fun for our residents!
- If you would like to bring a donation, we are seeking stamps, stationery, blank greeting cards, pens, lotions, shower gel or card games. Donations are completely optional.
- Registration is free. We ask that you register, so we have an accurate count to give city officials, so they can offer assistance with traffic the day of the event. To register or purchase a T-shirt, visit https://cullmancountywranglers.com/ridinforresidents/.
- To purchase a T-shirt, click "register," and you will see the option to purchase. To receive your shirt by the day of the event, you must order by 10 a.m. April 22. Shirts are $20 and available in youth and adult sizes. (XXL and XXXL shirts are $22 and $23 respectively.)

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The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) recommend the following vaccines for adolescents:

- Tetanus, Diptheria, Pertussis
- Human papillomavirus
- Meningococcal disease
- Influenza

ALABAMA PUBLIC HEALTH
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For more information, please visit alabamapublichealth.gov/imm

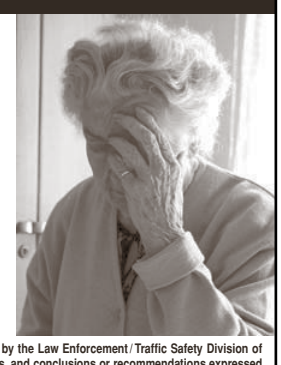
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Tenor saxophone donated to CMS band program

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Cullman Middle School Band Program received a new tenor saxophone thanks to the generosity of Ray and Benton Buchmann. Wednesday, the Buchmann's presented the new instrument to Cullman Middle School Band Director Linda Bean.

The shiny gold saxophone isn't the first instrument the Buchmann's have donated to the school's band program. They have been proudly donating instruments since 2014, including clarinets, trumpets, saxophones and flutes. All in all, Cullman Middle School has received 10 instruments from the Buchmann family.

According to the Buchmann family, "Ray's family has a long musical history. His parents, Millard and Nell, met when Nell was hired as a piano player for Millard's orchestra.

"As a teenager, Ray also joined the orchestra, which played events all around Cullman and North Alabama." Ray, his two sisters and his two children are also Cullman band alumni.

When the family of musicians were no longer using their instruments, Ray and Benton sold them and used the proceeds to purchase the instruments they donated to the band program. The tenor saxophone donated this week is especially meaningful in that it is the instrument Ray, his father and his son all played during their musical careers.

Upon receiving the new instrument, Bean said, "It's been such a great blessing and it has helped so many students. I have told Ray many times that I wish he could see the look on the face of a child that gets to play because of his generosity. Otherwise, they wouldn't be able to afford it."

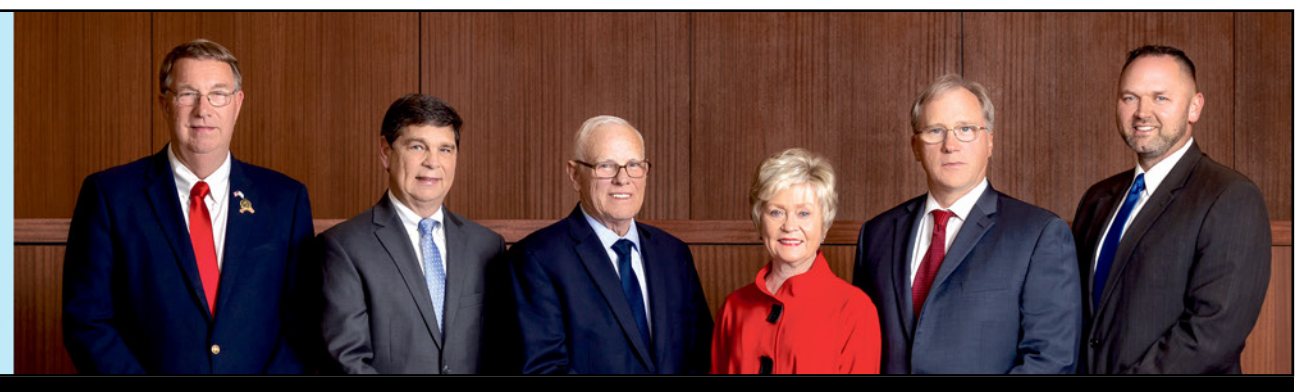
Bean added, "The tenor sax is very often a school-owned instrument. A student that owns their own alto saxophone will play something like this in jazz or concert band. A lot of factors go into selecting the deserving student. It's very important to make sure it's someone that can take really care of the instrument as well."



CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Left to right: Benton Buchmann, Anna Buchmann Gilbert, Ray Buchmann, Linda Bean, CMS principal Jake Johnson, CMS assistant principal Chad Shannon

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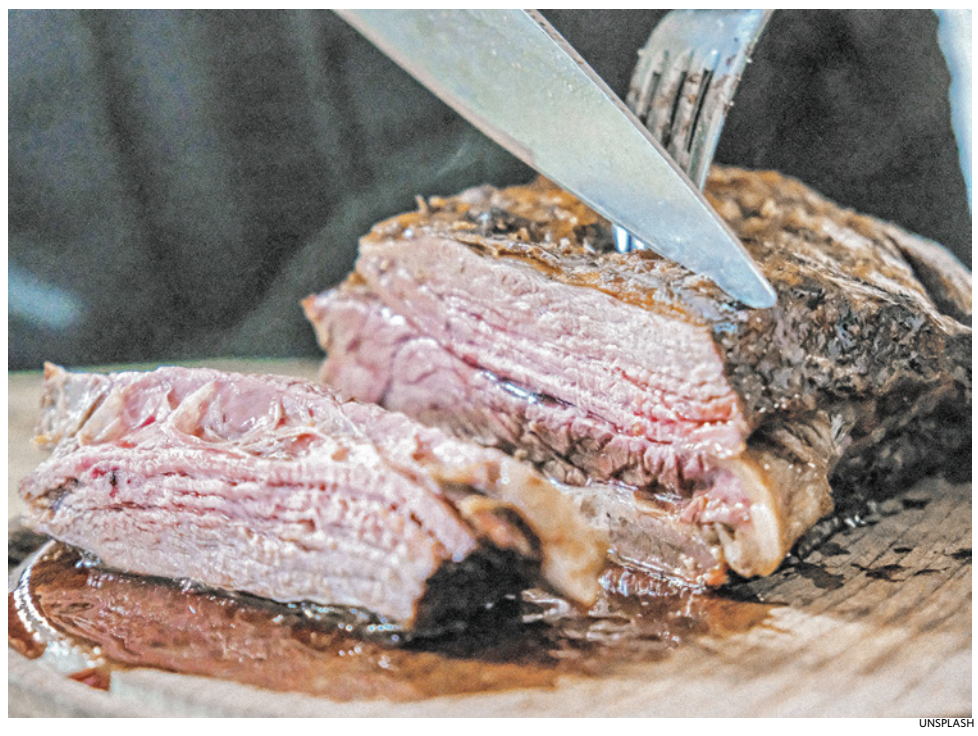
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365 AMERICAN JOY-GIVERS for 2021: The Leaves of Funny Grass Birthday Party

Ben South
Tribune Columnist



UNSPLASH



BendigoArt.com/CullmanTribune.com

The Great Lawn of Central Park in the middle of bustling Manhattan is the setting for "The Leaves of Funny Grass Birthday Party." At some point in their life, all the American joy-givers attending this party have enjoyed some splendor on the grass in New York City.

"KEEP OFF THE GRASS," a Broadway musical revue is the party entertainment. This 1940 show was originally choreographed by George Balanchine, "The Father of American Ballet." Tonight, the songs performed by Barbra Streisand, Lizzo, Carol Burnett and Willie Nelson include: "This Is Spring," "On the Old Park Bench," and "I'll Applaud You with My Feet."

Jay Leno provides stand-up comedy about grass, and the free-spirited "Father of Free Verse," Walt Whitman wows with readings from his poetry masterwork, "Leaves of Grass."

JOIN US...

You sense the joy the minute your bare feet glide onto the green carpeted meadow. HOORAY FOR THE JOY-GIVERS! (Note: The comments attributed to these famous joy-givers come from words they have written or said.)

PLEASE GIVE A ROUND OF APPLAUSE FOR THESE AMERICAN JOY-GIVERS CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK:

April 24—BARBRA STREISAND (born BARBARA Joan Streisand) is a rare EGOT (Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, Tony) award winner. The singer, actress and film producer has been working for seven decades. She began as a nightclub performer. "Billboard Magazine," honored her as "The Greatest Female Performing Artist of All Time." She has sold 68.5 million record albums, tying Mariah Carey. Ms. Streisand has nine Golden Globe awards, a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award and the Presidential Medal of Freedom. She's one of the few American joy-givers like Cher and Lassie who is so well-known is known by one name—BARBRA.

April 25—WALT WHITMAN was a poet, essayist, sensualist and humanist. His major poetry collection, LEAVES OF GRASS, has inspired multitudes of "free verse" poets. The aspiration of his art was to exalt the common person through epic writing. During the American Civil War, he served as a nurse. A major theme of his poetry is about healing. Modernist poet, Ezra Pound, said of Whitman, "He is America." April 26—CAROL BURNETT, born in San Antonio, Texas, is best known for her groundbreaking comedy variety show, "The Carol Burnett Show." The comedian, stage/screen actress, singer and writer has a television career that spans seven decades. She is recognized as "one of America's most-cherished entertainers" and was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by her fellow Texan, President George W. Bush. She has been given our country's highest award for humor, the Mark Twain Prize.

April 27—LIZZO, Melissa Viviane Jefferson, was named "Time Magazine's Entertainer of the Year" for 2019. This singer, rapper, songwriter and...get this...flutist, attained mainstream success with her third album, "Cuz I Love You." Lizzo already has three Grammy Awards and a BET Award. For some new joy this week, search YouTube for her urban pop singles: "Juice," "Tempo," "Truth Hurts" and "Good As Hell." Lizzobangers, her fans, get the whole place rockin' to "Big Grrrl Small World."

APRIL 28—JAY LENO is a television host, comic and writer. He did "stand-up comedy" for many years and became host of NBC television's "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno from 1992 to 2009. He is inducted into the "Television Hall of Fame." Leno writes a regular magazine column titled "Motormouth" which highlights his car collection and offers automotive advice.

April 29—WILLIE NELSON is a musician, songwriter, actor, activist and one of the most-treasured artists in country music. Willie calls country music, "Three chords and the truth." He wrote his first song at age 7 and joined a band at age 10. During high school, Willie toured with a group called, "Bohemian Polka." Among the song hits he penned are: "Funny How Time Slips Away," "Hello Walls," "Pretty Paper" and a giant hit for Patsy Cline— "Crazy." Per Grammy.com, Willie Nelson has had 52 nominations and 10 wins.

April 30—GEORGE BALANCHINE (born Georgiy Melitonovich Balanchivadze), invented American ballet. The Russian-American dancer/choreographer was the co-founder of the New York City Ballet. He was known for his musicality, expressing music with dance and working extensively with leading, contemporary composers. He received these awards: the French Legion d'honneur, Kennedy Center Honors, Austrian Decoration for Science and Art, the Presidential Medal of Freedom (USA) and inducted into the American Theater Hall of Fame. Oh, also a crater on the planet, Mercury, was named in his honor.

COMMENTS OVERHEARD AT "THE LEAVES OF FUNNY GRASS BIRTHDAY PARTY" FOR AMERICAN JOY-GIVERS:

"Do anything, but let it produce joy."—Walt Whitman

"I don't care what you say about me, just be sure to spell my name wrong."—Barbra Streisand

"Happiness, not in another place but this place...not for another hour, but this hour."—Walt Whitman

"When you have a dream, you've got to grab it and never let go."—Carol Burnett

"If he don't love you anymore, just walk your fine ass out the door."—Lizzo

"You can't stay mad at somebody who makes you laugh."—Jay Leno

"God has blessed you richly, so get down on your knees and thank him. Don't forget the less fortunate or God will personally kick your ass. I'd love to do it for Him, but I can't be everywhere."—Willie Nelson

"If you don't feel challenged, it's because you are not doing enough. Comfortable is lazy."—George Balanchine

"I'm not weird, just different from people who aren't different."—Barbra Streisand

"Keep your face always toward the sunshine—and shadows will fall behind you."—Walt Whitman

"Comedy=Tragedy + Time."—Carol Burnett

"Growing up is being less childish and more childlike."—Lizzo

"Here's something to think about: How come you never see a headline like: "Psychic Wins Lottery."—Jay Leno

"Indecision may or may not be our biggest problem."—Willie Nelson

"Music must be seen and dance must be heard."—George Balanchine

"I'm not a legend. I'm a work in progress."—Barbra Streisand

"We were together. I forget the rest."—Walt Whitman

"No one ever said life was fair. Just eventful."—Carol Burnett

"You know you're a star, you can touch the sky."—Lizzo

"Scientists think they can now clone an all-white zebra. Now, I'm no expert, but isn't that a horse?"—Jay Leno

"If you can be content right now, then you'll always be content, because it's always right now."—Willie Nelson

"Why are you stingy with yourselves? Why are you holding back? What are you saving for—for another time? There are no other times. There is only now. Right now."—George Balanchine

"Art does not exist only to entertain, but also to challenge one to think, to provoke, even to disturb, in a constant search for truth."—Barbra Streisand

"Every moment of every day is an unspeakably perfect miracle."—Walt Whitman

"Giving birth is like taking your lower lip and forcing it over your head."—Carol Burnett

"Thick thighs save lives."—Lizzo

"According to a new survey, 90% of men say their lover is also their best friend. This is kind of disturbing when you consider man's best friend is his dog."—Jay Leno

"Do you know why divorces are so expensive? Because, they're worth it."—Willie Nelson

"I've got more energy in old age than when I was younger because I know exactly what I want to do."—George Balanchine

"Just SCREAM! You vent, and the body just feels good after a good old yell."—Carol Burnett

"I like simple things like elastic waists, so I can eat."—Barbra Streisand

"No, I'm not a snack at all. Look baby, I'm the whole damn meal."—Lizzo

"Thanksgiving, when the Indians said, "Well, this has been fun, but we know you have a long voyage back to England."—Jay Leno

"When evolution has been outlawed, only the outlaws will evolve."—Willie Nelson

"God create, I do not create. I assemble and I steal for everywhere to do it."—George Balanchine

"I'm the best audience one could find. I love to laugh."—Carol Burnett

PARTY MENU FOR "THE LEAVES OF FUNNY GRASS BIRTHDAY PARTY:"

APPETIZER—Barbra Streisand Lemongrass Prawns (epicurious.com)

SALAD—Jay Leno Bluegrass Salad (myrecipes.com)

ENTRÉE—Willie Nelson Grass-Fed Goat with Goat Island Beer (recipe below)

SIDE DISH—Lizzo Pho You with Lemongrass (allrecipes.com)

BREAD—Carol Burnett's Mama's Family Grass Bread (thefreshloaf.com)

BEVERAGE—Walt Whitman Leaves of Grass Herbal Cocktail (mr.bostondrinks.com)

DESSERT—George Balanchine White Russian Mini-Trifle (yummly.com)

ONE TO GROW ON—We will have to wait until June 29, 2021 for this book to be published but it sure promises to be worth it. Titled "Willie Nelson's Letters to America" and co-created with Turk Pipkin, this hardcover-only book begins with Willie's "Dear America" letter, and closes with "Dear Willie," a letter to himself. Willie Nelson wrote this new book to give hope to the country he loves as we prevail through hard times. He honors his personal heroes and heroines from our founders to the present and beyond. "Willie Nelson's Letters to America" will be a very popular gift for the 2021 holidays.

As "The Leaves of Funny Grass Birthday Party" celebrants were readying to hit the road, Willie Nelson winked and said, "God knows I love this grass." He gestured to the lush greensward which the Central Park landscape designers, Olmstead and Vaux, originally created as a meadow to be mown by sheep and goats. Then, Willie, "The Red-Headed Stranger," picked up his guitar and got everybody up and moving with this tune... "On the road again, goin' places that we've never been. Seein' things that we may never see again, and we can't wait to get on the road again."

WILLIE NELSON GRASS FED GOAT IN GOAT ISLAND BEER

(Source: americangrassfed.org)

INGREDIENTS

- Goat roast large enough to serve 4-6 people
- 1 bottle of Goat Island Brewery Richter's Pilsner
- 1 tsp black pepper
- 3-4 cloves garlic
- 1 onion
- 2 tsp sugar
- Juice of one lemon
- Salt to taste

DIRECTIONS

1. Grind up the garlic, onion, sugar, pepper and salt with the lemon juice in a blender. Then, mix with the beer.

2 Marinate the meat in this mixture overnight.

3. Bake at 375F for 2-3 hours (depending on the size of the goat roast) until tender, basting with the juices periodically during the cooking time.





OUTDOORS

The big stink about Alabama skunks

Victoria Dee
Contributor

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. – Most everyone in Alabama can say that they have smelled a skunk before—and did not enjoy it. These crawling creatures usually look cute and cuddly from a distance, but you will regret it if you get too close. Alabama Extension Forestry and Wildlife Specialist Wesley Anderson shares information on skunks native to Alabama.

Native Alabama Skunks
Two species of skunk call Alabama home: the striped skunk and the eastern spotted skunk.

Both of these skunks are black and white in coloration. The striped skunk grows to about the size of a house cat upon reaching adulthood.

"The eastern spotted skunk is uncommon across most of their range, which extends up to Minnesota," Anderson said.

"This skunk used to be more common, though it is unclear why the creatures are not seen as often anymore."

This appropriately named skunk's body features spots and is significantly smaller than the striped skunk.

Approximately the size of squirrels, it is rare to see an eastern spotted skunk in our state.

Skunk Spray
According to Anderson, skunks spray when nervous.

"Spraying is primarily a defense to keep them from getting eaten or otherwise harmed by other animals," Anderson said.

This method of defense is quite effective, as humans and animals alike know to avoid a skunk that is spraying or is about to spray.

"Skunks have a keen sense of smell and do not want to be around their own spray," Anderson said. "Generally, they only do it if they think that they are in danger of some sort."

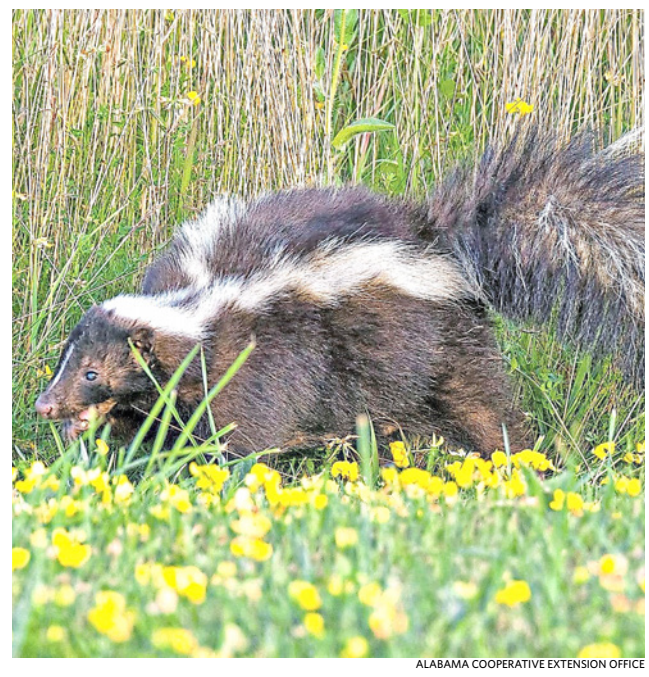
Before spraying, eastern spotted skunks will do a handstand that alerts bystanders to what is about to happen.

Skunks as a Fur Source
Skunk fur was once a popular purchase, as people were selling it under names such as American sable, Alaskan sable or black marten.

Passing laws requiring sellers to call it skunk fur put a hit on the skunk fur industry, as many buyers began associating the fur with their stench.

Today, the striped skunk is a furbearer in the state of Alabama.

Trapping these skunks occurs legally generally from November through February. However, it is illegal to harvest the eastern spotted skunk.


ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICE

Bloom (from Front)

and most of all, we appreciate the taxes!" Barlett quipped.

Owner Dusty Gibbs, who was joined by his wife Heather and daughter Zoe, said to those joining in the celebration, "We are excited to be here. I want to thank the council for all the help and support through this. Leaving Holly Pond was a tough decision. That's where I grew up, where I lived and where I went to school. Those people have supported us for 15 years."

Gibbs spoke of his employees as he fought back tears, "I wish I had every one of my employees here with me right now. I want y'all to know how much I appreciate you. There's no way I could have done it without you. We are ecstatic to be here, and we are ready to hit the ground running. We want to welcome all of y'all and thank everybody."

He said of his staff, "We have the best in the business."

Following remarks by Bartlett, Gibbs and Corey Harbison, guests were treated to refreshments and a tour of the sprawling garden center. Gibbs thanked the former landowner, "The McElroy family was tremendous to deal with. This was their homeplace and an emotional thing for them to do. I truly believe that the prayers of Mr. McElroy are still being answered today."

Gibbs said of his goals with the new center in Good Hope, "We set out to build a destination garden center with state-of-the-art facilities that would allow us to grow a premium product and affordable prices. I think we have done that."

Passion (from Front)

bits of stained glass, broken household goods, religious icons and several pieces of Bro. Joseph's work in various stages of completion or repair.

Gesturing to boxes and racks of odds and ends throughout the work space, South said, "All this was in here when we started; everything. We haven't really brought anything in."

South and Drake are working to give the shop a lived-in feel, with overalls hanging on the wall, and tools and project pieces displayed as they might be left at a break time.

"We're trying to make it feel like he just got up and went to get a cup of coffee," said South. "Or the Benedictines 'work or prayer,' so he just got up for prayer."

Working from direct knowledge of Bro. Joseph
South's father was a teacher at St. Bernard back in its college days, and the family came on several occasions to meet Bro. Joseph and watch him work while they ate lunch. South said that he learned his colors as his mother pointed out and explained the various hues of items around the park.

Said South, "It's a wonderful place for children to learn their colors, because there's every color you could imagine here!"

South pondered his knowledge of Alabama art and asked, "Do I know a more important Alabama artist? You know—a painter or someone who does sculpture, or something like that. And I don't. And I've been a painter in galleries for 35 years. I don't know that person.

"This is one man's passion--4.5 acres of passion that he's doing over a 60-year period, so I don't know of anything to compare with it."

The miracle of connection
Drake, who lives in the Bremen area, and South met purely by chance at an art gallery in Decatur. Drake was carrying a piece of found-object art that caught South's attention and sparked an idea.

According to Drake, "He said, 'Have you ever been to the Grotto?' and I said, 'Yeah, three or four times.' And he said, 'Really. When?' and I said, 'Well, when I was in first, second, third grade.' He said, 'You must have a really good memory!'"

Turning to South, she continued, "And when you said that, I had a mental picture of me going, running, 'When's lunch? Is there a treat? Is there a place where you can go buy stuff?' After the first or second, 'Yeah, it's old buildings.' And I came back after I talked to you, going, 'This is amazing stuff!' You know, as a child, you don't appreciate what's there."

South pushed the idea of a revived Bro. Joseph workshop harder than he might push other notions, because it spoke to him in a special way. Said South, "I'm really not prone to do that, but I have been so interested for so long, and thought, 'Maybe we could do something with this space.' And really, when Donna got involved, we looked at (the uncleared workshop turned maintenance shed) and it was like, 'Okay, Donna, what do you think? Could we do something?' And Donna has a real can-do attitude, and so it was like, 'Yeah, let's get a broom! Let's clean this thing up!'"

A candy store for the creative mind
Standing in the workshop, one sees the tiny bits that became Bro. Joseph's sculptures down in the Grotto. In addition to all of the glass, broken jewelry, stone and seashells, there are the mortar mixing trays, hand tools and workbenches looking as if Bro. Joseph had just walked out the door. It would not take much for creative minds to see what kinds of things they might do if turned loose inside, and that is what Drake and South hope to see in the people who come to the shop.

The host artists hope to see classes happen, and others come to make things for themselves in the inspired space. New items made in the workshop will also be offered for sale in the Grotto gift shop. Most of what is in the shop will, of course, remain as an exhibit and tribute to Bro. Joseph, so donors are being sought to bring in a fresh supply of found objects to be used in projects and classes. Drake and South are also looking for artists specializing in mosaics, stained glass and found-object art who are interested in sharing their craft.

Said South, "If somebody wants to get involved here, we can figure out a volunteer thing that they could do, or a teaching thing they could do."

A timetable for classes and other activities at the workshop has not been set. Those interested in getting involved or donating can contact the Ave Maria Grotto at 256-734-4110 or visit https://www.facebook.com/avemariagrotto/.

LEGALS

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

Walker Brothers, LTD

(Plaintiff)

v. Case No. SM-2016-900120

Jeremy Burnett

(Defendant)

NOTICE OF ERRONEOUS LAWSUIT

Defendant, Jeremy Burnett, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the complaint brought against him/her by the Plaintiff, Walker Brothers, LTD, for $766.41 plus court cost, cause of action being: Open Account

ANSWER TO THE COMPLAINT MUST BE MADE BY THE SAID DEFENDANT on or before the 22nd day of May, 2021, or a default may be rendered against it in the above styled cause.

Dated this the 15th day of April, 2021.

Lisa McSwain
LISA MCSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

PB WIL BK 101 PG 790 - 04/15/2021 04:42 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO.: PC2021-017

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARY S. HUGHES, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED
BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Michael E. Cone on the 15th day of April, 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.

Michael E. Cone
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

Sherry H. Barrett
Smith & Smith, LLP
Attorneys for Personal Representative
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
(256) 734-4721
sherry@smithandsmithllp.com

PB WIL BK 101 PG 555 - 04/08/2021 03:32 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO.: PC 2021-062

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF FLOYD H. COX, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED
BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Mary Dean Lamar on the 8th day of April, 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.

Mary Dean Lamar
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
steve@smithandsmithllp.com

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice IN-N-OUT Self Storage located at 106 13th St., Cullman, AL 35055 intends to hold a sale to sell the property stored at the facility by the below occupant who is in default at an auction. The sale will occur or otherwise disposed as an online auction via www.storageauctions.com on 5/4/2021 at 10:00am. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings.

Gerald Cochrane, unit #631, 301 Fieldcrest Street, Hartselle, Alabama 35640.

This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

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

Walker Brothers, LTD

(Plaintiff)

v. Case No. SM-2020-900164

Colton Graham

(Defendant)

NOTICE OF ERRONEOUS LAWSUIT

Defendant, Colton Graham, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the complaint brought against him/her by the Plaintiff, Walker Brothers, LTD, for $1,078.32 plus court cost, cause of action being: Open Account.

ANSWER TO THE COMPLAINT MUST BE MADE BY THE SAID DEFENDANT on or before the 22nd day of May, 2021, or a default may be rendered against it in the above styled cause

Dated this the 15th day of April, 2021.

Lisa McSwain
LISA MCSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

PB ADT BK 58 PG 238 - 04/01/2021 01:36 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ADOPTION OF M.G.L.H.
A minor child.
D.O.B. 09/21/2015

CASE NO.: AD2021-012

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN FATHER OF A MINOR CHILD BORN TO GEORGINA ESPERANZA LEJARAZO-HERNANDEZ

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by Jonah Gregory Hogland, Petitioner. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within Thirty (30) days from the date of the last notice of publication. Your response must be filed with Counsel for said petitioner, whose name and address are shown below, and with the Clerk of Probate Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE THIS 1st DAY OF April, 2021.

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

Sherry H. Barrett
Attorney for Petitioner
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

LAUREN EVELYN GUINN,
Plaintiff

Vs. Case Number: DR-2021-000092.00

ANDREW HEATH GUINN,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Andrew Heath Guinn, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Lauren Evelyn Guinn's Complaint for Divorce by June 8, 2021 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2021-000092.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 12th day of April, 2021.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Clerk of Circuit Court

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
G. Edward Coey
P O Box 834
Hanceville, AL 35077

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

On the road again feels so-o-o-o good

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



As I sometimes do, I got up before I woke up. Half asleep, I stumbled into the kitchen and poured myself that first cup of Joe. Then, in my state of grogginess, I mistakenly took the wrong medicine...medicine that wasn't even mine. At first this scared me half to death. I thought it could make me sick and perhaps even be fatal since it had not been prescribed for me. As it turned out, the good news is that I am now protected against heartworms, ticks, and fleas for the next six months!

The truth is that I really am protected against the dreaded-and-deadly Coronavirus. I have had both shots of the Pfizer vaccine and am past the two-week-post-shot period. None of us are sure for how long we are protected, but for the time being we feel pretty safe.

Someone asked me recently if I had been outside the state in the last year. I laughed and said, "Outside the state! I've barely been outside the house."

I have spent more time at home over this past year than I have in probably the last five-years combined. I must admit, I have enjoyed that time more than I would have imagined. I have especially loved getting to spend so much time with Jean.

At the same time, I have missed doing what I enjoy doing so much. Normally, I would be speaking, and/or singing, in a church on Sunday mornings, or doing a program of humor as Bro Billy Bob on Sundays nights or at a banquet or luncheon on another day of the week.

All of that came to a screeching halt over a year ago. Since getting my vaccines, I have begun to knock off the rust. As Willy sang, I am on the road again. It really feels good to be back out and about.

Billy Bob got his first call to action in 2021 a few weeks ago, but I didn't have to travel far. I did a banquet program at my home church in Opelika. Then, a couple of weeks later, I filled up the tank, plugged in the GPS, put on my mask, and hit the trail.

I drove up through Tennessee and crossed into Kentucky.

Ole Billy Bob went to tickle the funny bone of a group of pastors and church leaders at Liberty Baptist Association, in Glasgow, Kentucky. I was there three-years ago to do a program for the association, as well as one for the inmates at Green River Correctional Facility. My ole friend Lynn Traylor invited me back last year, but the pandemic said, "I don't think so."

Finally, this year, we were able to go. Following the program, I drove back down through the beautiful rolling-hill country of Eastern Kentucky and Tennessee and into Georgia.

I made a short visit to Dahlonega, one of my favorite towns. I spent the night in a century-old-store building that has been converted into a small hotel.

From there we could walk the picturesque square, where a number of great shops, delicious cafes, and at least three fudge shops are located!

Last week I attended a three-day training conference in Prattville, Alabama. I told the event director that it was the best conference I had been to in over a year. It was also my first conference in over a year.

My phone is beginning to ring again, and emails are coming in, and thankfully this time they aren't cancellations. I'm not simply glad to be on the road again, I am glad to be back among people again. No, we aren't there yet, but we are on our way!

Bill King can be reached at bkpreach@yahoo.com or 334-745-0588 (office).

HISTORY

Files from Yesteryear: 1954

From The Files of 1954
Mrs. Icie Rowe Alley will receive a masters from the University of Alabama on Friday. Richard Johnston and Gloria Florence will be awarded bachelor degrees.

Last week's Mystery Farm was an easy one to identify. A dozen people called in rapid succession to identify it as the Elbert Cobb farm, Route One, Hanceville.

The first person to identify the farm was Mrs. Claude Edwards. The next few after her were Herman Reid, Mrs. Coy Madison, Albert Smith, Mrs. J.B. Keller, Ruth Gosa, Mrs. Dennis Blalock, Kermit Wix, R.B. Plott, Mrs. Martine Wamp, W.O. Hicks and Mrs. Wallace Green.

The Cobbs bought their 57 acre farm, in 1936, from Mrs. Andy Kelhoffer and since that time have done quite a bit of remodeling and have added 110 feet onto their chicken house.

Top crops on the farm are hens (they have 1,000 hens in layer cages) and 60 beef cattle. They also grow corn and other grain for their cattle.

Before their marriage, in 1934, Mrs. Cobb was Miss Agnes Keller. They have four children, Elbert, Junior, 18, who enters the University of Alabama this fall, Alice Faye, 16, a senior at Hanceville High School, Charles, 11 and Johnny, 6.

Mr. and Mrs. Cobb are both graduates of Cullman High. He is a Mason and member of the Farm Bureau. She is active in Home Demonstration work and Eastern Star. The Cobbs are members of Hopewell Baptist Church.

Jesse Garvis Miller, a 19 year old Baileyton youth, was taken to Jefferson Hillman Hospital last weekend, after being injured by a falling horse.

Young Miller was standing beside the horse, when a bull charged the horse, knocking it down on him.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hayes, of Holly Pond, have seven month old triplets, Rickey, Bobby and Tommy. Following their January 18 birth, Gerber Baby Food Company has supplied free food. The triplets have a sister, Gayle, age 3 and brothers, Paul, 15 and James, 14.

Four people were injured at about 6:45 a.m. on Monday, when a collision knocked one vehicle into the J.R. Tucker Store. A 25 foot section of the store was knocked down. Wilburn Webster and Leo Schwaiger were driving the vehicles.

Added to the list of those "over 80" who are helping the Cullman Tribune celebrate its 80th anniversary are J.M. Persall, 85, of Cullman, Mrs. W.H. Watts, 81, of Route One, Holly Pond and J.K. Williamson, of Route Ten, Cullman.

Deutsch (from Front)

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Dr. Bill Deutsch was the special guest at Wednesday's Lunch and Learn at the North Alabama Agriplex in celebration of Earth Day. Deutsch is the co-founder of Alabama Water Watch and author of "Alabama Rivers: A Celebration & Challenge." He spoke to guests about his book and signed copies afterward.

Deutsch discussed the important role the Alabama river system plays in our history and culture.

"Our sense of place, our heritage, our culture has been largely defined by rivers.

"I jokingly say, although it's not so joking, that you can't listen to country music for 15 minutes without a song about falling in love, getting drunk or falling off a log in a river.

"So, rivers are a part of our art, our culture in general--our music and our history."

Deutsch said, "In Alabama, we have more navigable stream miles than any state. We have over 132,000 miles of flowing water and virtually no natural lakes."

Alabama is home to 10 major river basins:

- Tennessee
- Tombigbee
- Black Warrior
- Cahaba
- Coosa
- Tallapoosa
- Chattahoochee
- Alabama
- Mobile
- Coastal Plain Streams

Cullman is part of the Black Warrior River Basin and according to Deutsch, "The Black Warrior has been deemed one of the oldest rivers in the world." He added, "With the Black Warrior, you're not only drinking the same water the dinosaurs drank, you are drinking it from the same river because there are remains of them in Alabama."

Deutsch's book covers many other topics, including the human and natural history of each river. "Alabama Rivers: A Celebration & Challenge" by Dr. Bill Deutsch is available now in stores and online. To order, visit https://alabamariversbook.org.

POET'S CORNER

PEACE

By: Henry Vaughan (1622-1695)

My Soul, there is a country
Afar beyond the stars,
Where stands a winged sentry
All skillful in the wars;
There, above noise and danger
Sweet Peace sits, crown'd with smiles,
And One born in a manger
Commands the beauteous files.
He is thy gracious friend
And (O my Soul awake!)
Did in pure love descend,
To die here for thy sake.
If thou canst get but thither,
There grows the flow'r of peace,
The rose that cannot wither,
Thy fortress, and thy ease.
Leave then thy foolish ranges,
For none can thee secure,
But One, who never changes,
Thy God, thy life, thy cure.

Obituary Announcements: April 16

June Crider Methvin, 95, of Cullman
A visitation and memorial service for June Crider Methvin, 95, of Cullman will be at 2 p.m., April 30th, 2021 at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Methvin family. Mrs. Methvin died Thursday, April 22, 2021 at her residence. She was born Dec. 16, 1925 to Scott and Flora Wood Crider. She was a teacher during WWII and then later became a nurse. She was beloved to one and all. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband: Orland Methvin and a brother: Jack Crider. Survivors include a son: Barry (Connie) Methvin; daughter: Susan Ellis; brothers: Grant Crider and Dwane (Delores) Crider; grandchildren: Alex Methvin, Max Ellis and a host of family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
APRIL 24, 2021

PREP SOCCER PLAYOFFS

Cullman downs Springville 4-0 in opening round

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman's Ashlei Bryant scores during the first half of the Lady Bearcats' 4-0 win over Springville Thursday night.

CULLMAN, Ala. – After putting together a phenomenal regular season and claiming an area title, the Lady Bearcats returned home to Oliver Woodard Stadium Thursday night to host the opening round of this year's AHSAA state playoffs. Cullman took a 1-0 lead into the halftime break and tacked on three more goals in the second half to pull away and defeat the Lady Tigers 4-0.

Lady Bearcats Coach Megan Hackbarth was proud of the way her squad overcame a slow start and finished strong to put away Springville.

These girls have spent many years learning to play together and Hackbarth is excited to see how far they can go in the postseason.

"I think we came out a little slow today. Obviously the first half was a little touch and go and we challenged them at halftime to go out and play as unit and as a team and have fun," Hackbarth said.

"I think they responded very well, and they played together, and things started working out once they started playing as a unit.

"These girls have been together for so long that they just instinctively know how to play with each other and its really fun to watch.

"When they're on they're on so I'm excited to see how they progress and hopefully keep going."

After a scoreless opening stretch, Ashlei Bryant snuck a goal past the Springville keeper to give the Lady Bearcats and early 1-0 lead and that lead held going into the halftime break.

Cullman added to its lead early in the second half with a goal from Addie Echols that made it 2-0 and Jeta Falcon placed one just under the crossbar to stretch the lead to 3-0. Bryant scored her second goal of the game in the final minutes to secure a 4-0 win for the Lady Bearcats.

Cullman will advance to either Athens or Fort Payne in round two next week.

PREP SOFTBALL

Wilkins' no-hitter lifts West Point over Jasper 1-0

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com



SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

West Point's Carlie Wilkins pitched a no-hitter and collected 17 strikeouts in the Lady Warriors' 1-0 win over Jasper Thursday.

WEST POINT, Ala. – West Point was coming off a thrilling win Tuesday against Russellville and The Lady Warriors found themselves in another tight game Thursday. They hosted Jasper on senior night and after Lexi Shadix and Sydney Sellers were recognized before the game, Carlie Wilkins put on one of her best performances of the season to lead West Point to a 1-0 win over the Lady Vikings. Wilkins tossed a no-hitter in the win, striking out 17 batters in the process.

Wilkins retired the side to start out the game and Shadix crushed the first pitch that she saw over the center field wall to give the Lady Warriors a 1-0 lead. Wilkins struck out the last two batters in the top of the second and struck out the side in the third through the fifth inning. West Point looked to add on to their lead in the bottom of the fifth as Lexi Kimbril and Bethany Minck hit back-to-back two-out singles, then Shadix reached on an error to load the bases, but they were unable to push across any runs.

Wilkins struck out the side once again in the top of the sixth. Sellers and Braelee Quinn led off the bottom of the sixth with back-to-back singles, but once again, West Point was not able to add on to their lead and they went into the top of the seventh still up, 1-0.

After striking out the first batter in the top of the seventh, Wilkins then hit the next batter, but got the next two batters to fly out and pop out, respectively, to complete her dominating no-hitter as the Lady Warriors wound up shutting out the Lady Vikings 1-0.

Shadix finished with a solo home run in the game for West Point (20-17-2). Sellers added two hits. Minck, Wilkins, Braelee Quinn, and Kimbril each added a hit as well. The Lady Warriors will travel to take on Arab Friday.

Other Thursday scores:
Falkville 12 - Cold Springs 1
(Softball)
Falkville jumped out to a quick 9-0 lead before Cold Springs got on the scoreboard in the top of the sixth inning on an RBI single by Adriana Young. The Lady Blue Devils added three more runs in the bottom of the sixth to end the game as the Lady Eagles ended up falling on the road to Falkville, 12-1.

Young finished with two hits and an RBI for Cold Springs. Shay Sellers added two hits, and Anna Katherine Voce and Emma Black each collected a hit as well.

Arab 5 - Holly Pond 1 (Softball)
Arab jumped out to a quick 2-0 lead as they scored on an RBI double and an error; they added two more in the third on an RBI double and an error. Holly Pond got on the scoreboard in their half on an RBI fielder's choice by Bai Widner, but a bases-loaded walk by the Lady Knights in the top of the fourth pushed the Lady Bronco deficit to four at 5-1

Holly Pond got a little rally going in their half as Madyson Rickman singled and Taylor Simmons reached on a fielder's choice. Rickman moved to third on an error and Simmons moved to second on defensive indifference, but Addison Armstrong went down swinging to end the game as the Lady Broncos ended up falling to the Lady Knights, 5-1.

Widner finished with an RBI for Holly Pond (15-8). Samantha Giles, Rickman, and Addison Armstrong each collected a hit in the game.





