NISSAN
Innovation that excites
TONY SERRA
NISSAN CULLMAN
256-676-2435 • TonySerraNissanCullman.com

The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

VOL. 148 • 50¢ PER COPY | WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 | USPS 139-700 • NO. 99

Senior centers to reopen June 1

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Good news for area seniors! Cullman County Commission on Aging Director Stephanie Lawson confirmed Tuesday afternoon that all senior centers will resume normal operations June 1. As of right now, Lawson said that they are under no restrictions or mask requirements when they do reopen.

To celebrate the re-openings, the COA has been coordinating with Cullman Sheriff Matt Gentry and the Cullman County Sheriff's Office to have cookouts at each center during the coming month to celebrate. Lawson said, "We are so excited and Laurie Knight, our nutrition coordinator, has been working very hard to set it up."

The first cookout date will be Friday, June 4, 2021, at the Cullman Senior Center with the CCSO serving lunch at 11 a.m. Knight added, "I will be setting up cookout dates at each senior center for the next month or so."



CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cullman County Commission on Aging

SPECIAL EDITION

Cullman Christian School and Child Devel. Center graduation issue

FRANKWEILER FOUNTAIN FLOWS AGAIN!

Owners of A Touch of German restoring local landmark



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

John Caples by the fountain he and wife Judith Caples repaired over the weekend.

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – To celebrate the twinning of Cullman and its German sister city Frankweiler, the Cullman German Club built the Frankweiler Fountain on 1st Avenue across from A Touch of German in 1988. One of the German gift shop's owners at the time, Al Grobe, maintained the fountain until his death in 2003, shortly after which the fountain was shut off. As of Sunday evening, after approximately 18 years, the water was flowing once again.

John Caples and his wife Judith Caples, current owners of A Touch of German, decided to take on the project after the City of Cullman expressed a desire to take down and relocate the nonfunctional fixture. Over the weekend, they installed new lines, fittings and a new pump, then cranked up the fountain early Sunday evening.

John Caples said that the store often gets inquiries about the fountain, adding, "Your heart moves to those folks that have an interest and, with that in mind, that was really what compelled me to get this thing up and running."

Caples pointed out that his connection to the fountain and shop is one that goes all the way home with him at night. After purchasing the shop from Peggy Grobe and moving to a house he had bought in the Historic District, he discovered that the home had previously been owned by the family of Mary Carson Glasscock, who founded the shop back in the 1970s. Glasscock sold the shop to a group of investors including Grobe in the late 1980s.

Caples told The Tribune that he and his wife will continue making improvements to the downtown landmark, including new plants around the fountain, new multicolored LED lights in and around the structure and a more powerful pump to increase the visibility of the water flow at the top.

"We're hoping that people that do come by will get to enjoy a piece, a little bit, of the heritage that comes along with being a citizen of Cullman. And with that, it brings a lot of honor for us to do this for the family that actually started A Touch of German."

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Sewer rate increase, late fees coming to West Point

» PAGE 2

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Berlin approves resurfacing of multiple roads, still offering weather radios

» PAGE 2

Magnolia Soap & Bath Co is bubbling up in Cullman



MAGNOLIA SOAP & BATH CO

» PAGE 2

EDUCATION

Governor Ivey announces new First Class Pre-K Classrooms in first round of funding

» PAGE 2

TEAMWORK MAKING THE DREAM WORK

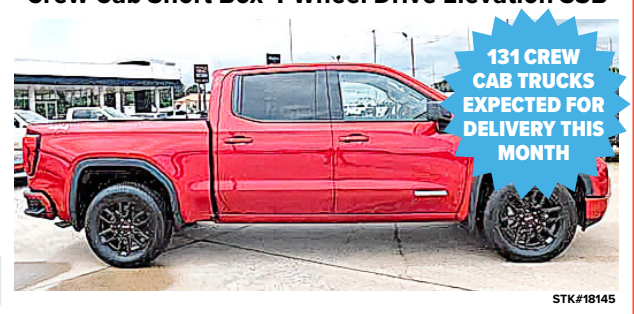
Bill Smith
BUICK GMC

ALABAMA'S LARGEST BUICK GMC DEALERSHIP

*Notates all rebates applied, must have 2005 or newer qualifying trade in. Prices are plus tax, title, & fee. Colors may vary.

WAS ~~$54,075~~
NOW
$48,825*

2021 GMC SIERRA 1500
Crew Cab Short Box 4-Wheel Drive Elevation 3SB



STK#18145

BILLSMITHBUICKGMC.COM • 1940 SECOND AVE NW • CULLMAN, AL 35055 • 256-734-4472

© 2021 THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman (from Front)

Ashlyn Grey
ashlyn@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Calling all who love anything soapy, sudsy and splendidly scented! Magnolia Soap & Bath Co has arrived in Cullman and they are stocked full of bath products so great, you will always be buying in multiples. When Magen Bynum founded this company, she had a vision to provide plant-based, handmade products especially for people with sensitive skin who may deal with eczema or psoriasis. Magen began handmaking all her products in her kitchen at home. She still commits to testing all recipes to make sure they are safe for all skin types before teaching them to her employees.

When asked what it is like to work in this bath product paradise, manager Jaime Pilgrim said, "I absolutely love my job. It is so rewarding to see your artwork go out the door. I love hearing customers come back in and tell us how it has helped them and their skin."

They have had numerous testimonials from now regular patrons about their lotions, bubble bath bombs and laundry soaps. What's better? They are in the process of crafting and releasing brand-new shampoo and conditioner bars and they always have something in the works. The amazing atmosphere provided by the staff of Magnolia Soap & Bath Co here in Cullman shows that they are careful with their work, committed to being a team, and most importantly of all, passionate about what they do.

West Point (from Front)

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

WEST POINT, Ala. – West Point residents will soon be paying more for water. The town council vot-ed Monday night to amending the current ordinance increasing sewer rates by 10% across the board. This would be the first rate increase in over 10 years. In addition to the increase, late fees will also be implemented.

The current residential base rate is $19.00 for less than 2,000 gallons.

Mayor Schafer said of the increase, "Cullman and Good Hope I think are a good bit higher."

Councilman Darion Daniel made the motion to increase the rates by 10%, stating, "I say go up 10% and we can go up another 10% in five years or whatever."

Daniel also made a motion to add late fees, though the amount of the fee was not decided.

Council member Timmy Smith voted against the increase.

A date for the increase was not deter-mined as the town will have to get with town attorney Dan Willingham to rewrite the ordinance.

Schafer said of the late fees, "There's no incentive to pay and there are several that take advantage of that. Really, the late fee is the big thing."

The council also voted to apply for a grant through the Cullman County Community Development Commission in hopes of repairing the retaining wall at the ballpark.

The town then considered lights for the walking trail and maintenance for ball field number one before agreeing that the retaining wall was the priority at this time due to safety concerns.

The West Point Town Council meets every third Monday of each month at 6 p.m. inside the Town Hall. The public is invited to attend.

Classrooms (from Front)

The Office of Gov. Kay Ivey
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – Governor Kay Ivey and the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education are proud to announce that the nationally recognized, high-quality Alabama First Class Pre-K program will add 135 new classrooms in 41 counties, including Cullman, this fall. This is the first round of new classroom funding that will be released by the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education. Additional classrooms will be funded based on further evaluation of high-needs areas prior to the commencement of the 2021-2022 school year.

New classrooms will expand access to the state-funded, voluntary pre-K program to 24,714 children in the 2021-2022 school year, with more than 1,373 classrooms statewide, moving closer to Alabama's goal of serving 70% of eligible 4-year-old children.

"Alabama's First-Class Pre-K has been recognized as a national model for delivering high-quality early childhood education and gives our youngest citizens a strong start to their educational journey," Governor Ivey said.

"I am glad to see that even more students will have access to pre-K next year and look forward to the day that all Alabama families who want pre-K for their children have access," she said.

The Alabama Legislature approved Governor Ivey's recommended budget increase for the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education, which includes $151 million for the Office of School Readiness that administers First Class Pre-K.

In addition to funding new classrooms throughout the state, the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education will continue to ensure pay parity for all First-Class Pre-K teachers with the same 2% pay raise as K-12 public school teachers in the upcoming school year.

"We are excited to add 135 new classrooms to our First-Class Pre-K program in the coming year," said Dr. Barbara Cooper, secretary of the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education.

"In conversations with leaders across the state, it is apparent that the benefits of high-quality pre-K are well understood.

"Thank you to the organizatons within the early learning mixed delivery system who have stepped up to partner with us to provide this valuable opportunity in all 67 counties," said Secretary Cooper.

Students who participate in the Alabama First Class Pre-K program are more likely to be proficient in math and reading, with no evidence of fade out of the benefits of high-quality pre-K over time.

These long-term results hold true even after controlled for student demographics and other variables such as poverty.

Alabama has continued to prioritize and strengthen early learning during the pandemic.

A list of all classrooms can be found at: http://children.alabama.gov/parents-families/findprek.

Berlin (from Front)

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

BERLIN, Ala. – The Berlin Town Council on Monday evening approved the expenditure of up to $100,000 on roads or portions of roads within the municipality. This will be added to a $100,000 state grant secured in March with the help of local legislators State Rep. Randall Shedd, R-Fairview and State Sen. Garlan Gudger, R-Cullman. Mayor Patrick Bates told the council that town revenues have already exceeded budget predictions with four months still to go in the fiscal year, so the money is available.

Under an agreement with county officials, the combined funding will allow county road crews to work on County Roads:

- 1600 - resurfacing
- 1615 - resurfacing
- 1625 (Berlin's portions) - resurfacing
- 1626 - resurfacing
- 1612 and 1614 - the poor condition roads will be ground into dirt roads for the time being, with a view toward later improvement.

According to information provided at the grant announcement in March, the resurfacing projects will include laying of new road base and chip seal.

Bates also told the council that the Alabama Emergency Management Agency has reviewed a $124,000 hazard mitigation grant proposal for a town storm shelter, and that $93,000 in local match funding toward the project should be available next year for construction of a 90-person storm shelter with two bathrooms and a generator.

The council approved an amended Hazard Mitigation Plan in preparation for the project.

The council also approved:

- A resolution to ask the Cullman County Commission to include Berlin on the county's state bid list
- Installation of an exterior faucet at Town Hall by Best Plumbing, in the amount of $225
- Installation of sod, grass, shrubs and a flagpole around the ramps and steps at Town Hall by Steve Clark, in the amount of $3,500, plus the cost of the flagpole
- Purchase of a trailer storage unit for the Town Hall property, in the amount of $3,250
- Transfer of council meetings to Town Hall starting on the second Monday in July

Weather radios still available

Berlin Fire Chief Ralph Laney, in attendance at the meeting, announced that weather radios are still available to any household within the Berlin Fire District. If you pay dues to the Berlin Fire Department, you are eligible for a free radio whether you live within Berlin Town Limits or not. Visit Berlin Town Hall or the Berlin Farmers Market during business hours.

The Berlin Town Council meets at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at the Berlin Community Center. The public is invited to attend.



VIRGIL B. FOWLER
Real Estate and Insurance
AGENCY
Quality Since 1935
734-3821
vbfowlerinsurance.com
Successors to
WILLIAM RICHARD & SON INSURANCE
" Established 1885 "
Virgil B. Fowler 1895-1978 - Virgil B. Fowler Jr. 1937-2019 - Dorothy S. Fowler - Jason S. Fowler

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
Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Mullins Body Shop, LLC
11042 US Hwy 31 South, Cullman, AL 35055

Borden Family Pharmacy
20
1999 - 2019
PROVERBS 17:22
Borden
FAMILY PHARMACY
bordenfamilypharmacy.com
256-734-7535

LEGALS

PB ADT BK 58 PG 549 - 05/18/2021 10:49 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF K.N.W.
A minor child.
D.O.B. 01/22/2010

CASE NO.: AD2021-025

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: TIMOTHY JAMES WHITE, BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF A MINOR CHILD BORN TO KELLI SUMMERS

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by Steven Corey Summers, 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 18th DAY OF May, 2021.

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

Jerry L. Kilgo
Attorney for Petitioner
105 1st Avenue NE
Suite G
Cullman, AL 35055

PB MIN BK 196 PG 646 - 05/18/2021 09:22 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
ELSIE PHILLIPS,) CASE NO PC2021-145
Deceased.)

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP

TO: ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTEREST PARTIES

Please take notice that a hearing on the Petition for Letters of Guardianship, filed by Diane L. Dunning, Attorney for Kemberly Patty, Petitioner, is set for hearing on the **16th day of June, 2021, at 10:00 A.M.**. Before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

Done this the 18th day of May, 2020.

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

Diane L. Dunning
Assistant Attorney General
State of Alabama
Dept. of Human Resources
P.O. Box 13248
Birmingham, AL 35202-3248
(205)423-4851

PB MIN BK 196 PG 666 - 05/18/2021 10:03 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
JANICE KAY PRUETT * CASE NO.: PC 2021-200
Deceased. *

NOTICE
PETITION FOR SUMMARY DISTRIBUTION

Notice is hereby given that a Petition for Summary Distribution (Small Estates Act) has been filed on the 14th day May, 2021, by Jane Pruett Baston, Petitioner, and that thirty (30) days after the notice of publication hereof and pursuant to the law of the State of Alabama, the Court shall be requested to enter an order directing summary distribution of the estate of said decedent.

Jane Pruett Batson
Petitioner

Richard L. McCurley, Jr.
PO Box 861287
Tuscaloosa, AL 35486

To: PUBLISHER OF ***The Cullman Tribune***

Please publish the above notice **ONE TIME** in said newspaper, and thereafter file with the Court a copy of the notice so published and an affidavit of publication.

DONE this the 18th day of May, 2021.

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

CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported May 18

Cullman Tribune Staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported May 18, 2021. All persons are inno-cent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No incidents or arrests reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

May 17

- first-degree theft of property; person; St. Joseph St. NW
- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle; person; Birmingham St. SW
- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle; person; 2nd Ave. NW

ARRESTS

May 18

Johnson, Heath K.; 34
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)
- FTA- expired tag
- FTA- insurance violation

Boyd, Lacie M.; 24
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Walmsley, Cody J.; 22
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- second-degree possession of marijuana
- FTA- attempt to elude
- FTA- obstructing governmental operations
- FTA- fourth-degree theft of property
- FTA- third-degree criminal trespass (2 counts)

Harris, Christopher P.; 30
- FTA- third-degree criminal trespass

Gold, Thomas A.; 53
- FTA- fourth-degree theft of property

Starnes, Michael R.; 32
- FTA- insurance violation

Hansard, Shannon R.; 44
- FTA- fourth-degree theft of property

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No incidents or arrests reported.

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

The Cullman Tribune
Cullman County's Oldest Business, Serving the area since 1874 Publication
Number USPS-139-700
Telephone: 256-739-1351 Fax: 1-256-739-4422
HumbleRoots,LLC
Published Tuesday - Saturday at 219 2nd Avenue SE, Cullman, Alabama 35055
Entered as periodical material at the Cullman Post
Office Periodical postage paid at Cullman, Alabama 35055
POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGE TO:
The Cullman Tribune
219 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Email Address: robin@cullmantribune.com

ANNUALLY BASED RATES

CULLMAN.....$100.00
OUTSIDE CULLMAN.....$150.00

Noah Galilee - Publisher
Dustin Isom - Associate Publisher
Olivia Law – Editor
Christy Perry - Lifestyle/Reporter
W.C. Mann - Senior Reporter
Sammy Confer-Youth/JVSports Editor
Nick Griffin -VarsitySports Editor
JoeMcElroy -Photographer
Bill Piper - Photojournalist
Howard Cole - Photojournalist
Martha Needham - Photojournalist
Robin Winton - Newsroom Manager
Janet Chandler - Marketing Specialist

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.
- Saturday May 22 - 7 p.m. No Talent Talent Show. No fees to attend. Come and join in the fun and fellowship and see church members dress up as their favorite singers and lip sync to their favorite songs! 6 p.m. Food available for purchase.

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

West Point Class of '59 Reunion
May 22 - The West Point Class of '59 Reunion will be held at the West Point Brandin Iron at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 22. For more information, call Doyle or Carolyn Kilgo Jones at 256-734-3078 or 901-482-5500 or email doylebama@charter.net

Cullman Shred Day
Saturday, May 22 – Presented by the Better Business Bureau of North Alabama, Cullman Shred Day will offer free contactless drive-up services, such as document shredding and drug take back (no needles) from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the King Edward Plaza Shopping Center – 1731 2nd Ave. SW, Cullman, AL 35055. For more information, call 256-734-8209.

Memorial Day Ceremony
May 29 - The American Legion will be in charge of the Memorial Day Ceremony Saturday, May 29, at 10 a.m. at Veterans Park at Sportsman Lake Park.

First Annual Car & Bike Show
- June 5 - Hosted by The American Legion, this event will feature all makes and years, Saturday, June 5 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. The entrance fee is $10 per vehicle and registration will end at 11 a.m. Categories are: People's Choice (Auto), People's Choice (Bike) and Commander's Choice.
- There will also be bouncy houses and snow cones for the kids, as well as a raffle drawing ($1 for one ticket or $5 for six)
- Contact Ruth Bealer at 256-620-1334 or Brian Butler at 256-531-3032 for more information.

Swamp John's dinner to benefit Pilot Light Home
- June 8 – Hosted by A United Way of Cullman County Agency. Plates are $12, with the choice of fish, shrimp, chicken or combination, as well as homemade desserts by Renee Wright. Both dine in and carry out are available. This event will be Tuesday, June 8, 2021, from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. at the Sheriff's training building: 1910 Beech Avenue SE, CULLMAN.
- For tickets or more information: 256-531-2525

Cullman County Bosom Buddies Craft Fair and Vendor Expo
- Saturday, June 12th from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Cullman Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2214
- 112 Veterans Dr. SW, Cullman, AL 35055
- For more information, call Judy Grissom at 256-347-5993

Christ Lutheran Church Anniversary
- June 20 - 100th Anniversary Kickoff Event
- Free Community Ice Cream Social
- 2 - 4 p.m.

Country Legends Rediscovered Exhibition
- Evelyn Burrow Museum at Wallace State Community College.
- Through August 31. Tuesday-Friday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

Tuesday, May 18, 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 Alabama: 415,726
- Probable cases in Alabama: 124,877 (+654 since yesterday)
- Total confirmed deaths in Alabama: 8,700 (+18 since yesterday)
- Probable deaths in Alabama: 2,343
- Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co.: 6,617 (+47 since yesterday)
- Probable cases in Cullman Co.: 3,169 (+9 since yesterday)
- Total confirmed deaths in Cullman Co.: 131 (+1 since yesterday)
- Probable deaths in Cullman Co.: 63
- Total tested in Cullman Co.: 41,853
- Total tested in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 2,635
- Cases in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 99
- Total tested in Alabama: 2,578,231
- Cases in the last 14 days in Alabama: 3,459
- Total tested in the last 14 days in Alabama: 156,287
- Currently hospitalized in Alabama: 315
- Cumulative no. of hospitalizations in Alabama (reported M-F): 49,597
- Presumed recoveries in Alabama (reported weekly): 509,800

Vaccine details (updated Monday-Friday)
- Doses delivered to Alabama: 4,162,635
- Doses delivered to Alabama providers: 3,028,495
- Doses administered: 2,799,897
- Number of people receiving one or more doses: 1,597,941
- Number of people who have completed vaccine series: 1,291,103
- Doses delivered to federal programs: 1,134,140

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

Lowndes County tops state in COVID-19 vaccinations - More than half eligible people have received at least one dose
Throughout the pandemic, ADPH has focused on an equitable response to COVID-19 for the entire state. In coordination with community partners, outreach efforts have been made to ensure the state's rural areas are not left behind in access and use of vaccine. Lowndes County is the first county in the state with more than 50% of the eligible population receiving at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Efforts to provide more opportunities to be vaccinated have included having all county health departments receive vaccine, working with local providers and deployment of Alabama National Guard members.

At least 40% of 14 Alabama counties' residents vaccinated
Forty percent or more of the residents ages 16 and older of 14 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 40% or more of their residents have been vaccinated are as follows: Lowndes, Bullock, Perry, Hale, Shelby, Marengo, Jefferson, Wilcox, Madison, Greene, Colbert, Lee, Conecuh and Dallas. Vaccines are one key to protecting the most vulnerable and helping stop the pandemic in Alabama.

Alabama hospitalizations for COVID-19 during April higher among young adults than the elderly
Vaccination for COVID-19 is important for young people, including those of college age. Statistics reported by the University of Alabama at Birmingham show that in the month of April 2021 in Alabama, more 16-34 year olds were hospitalized than were people ages 75 and older. Another reason to promote vaccination in young people is that people in this age group can develop debilitating long-term symptoms from COVID-19, even among young adults who were previously healthy. By getting vaccinated, everyone cannot only protect themselves and their families, but can prevent spreading the virus to other people in the community, giving less chances for variants to develop.

Take every opportunity to vaccinate every eligible person and minimize vaccine wastage
Over 1.2 million people are fully vaccinated in Alabama, and many more have received at least one COVID-19 vaccination. As access to COVID-19 vaccine increases, it is important for providers to not miss any opportunity to vaccinate every eligible person who presents at vaccine clinics. ADPH recognizes that as we continue to create more opportunities to vaccinate more people, it may increase the likelihood of leaving unused doses in a vial. While we want to continue to follow best practices to use every dose possible, we do not want that to be at the expense of missing an opportunity to vaccine every eligible person when they are ready to get vaccinated.

FEMA community vaccination center offering COVID-19 vaccinations
No appointment, ID or insurance required. The drive-thru FEMA Community Vaccination Center located at Watermark Place (4500 Katies Way) in Bessemer is 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 are also available on-site.

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.

TERESA FINCHER PHOTOGRAPHY



Dakota Allen Gurganus



Trey Lee Herchenhahn



Logan Matthew Keller



Sebastian Daffyd Simpson;
Not pictured is Connor Brooks Odeneal

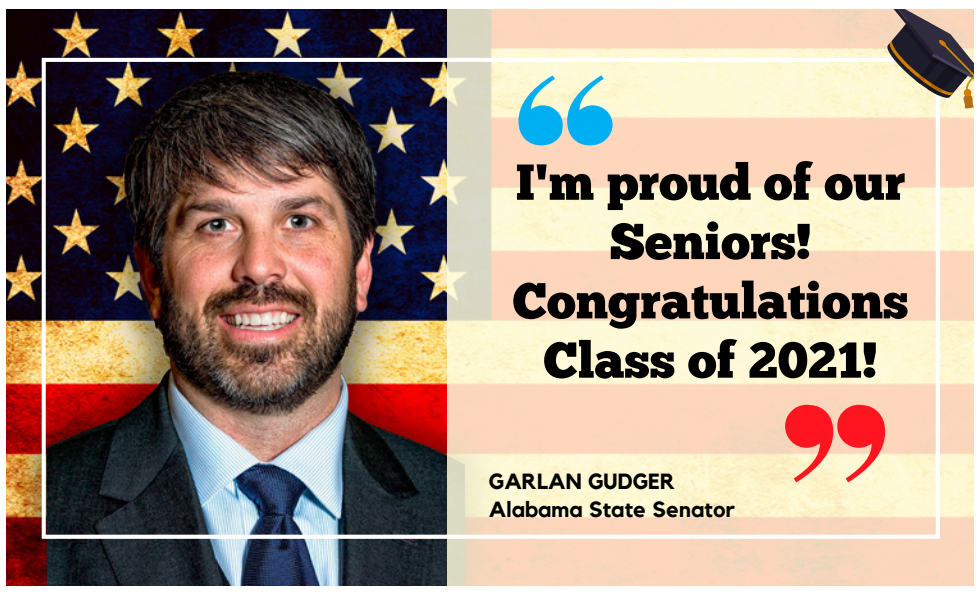
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

CLASS OF 2021

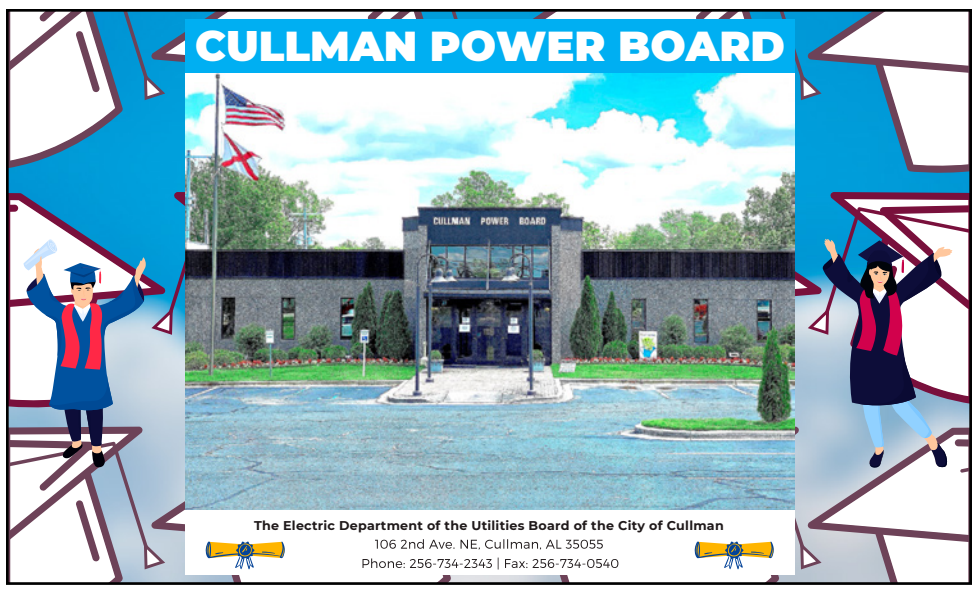
Graduation is Friday, May 21, at 1 p.m. in the Child Development Center gym

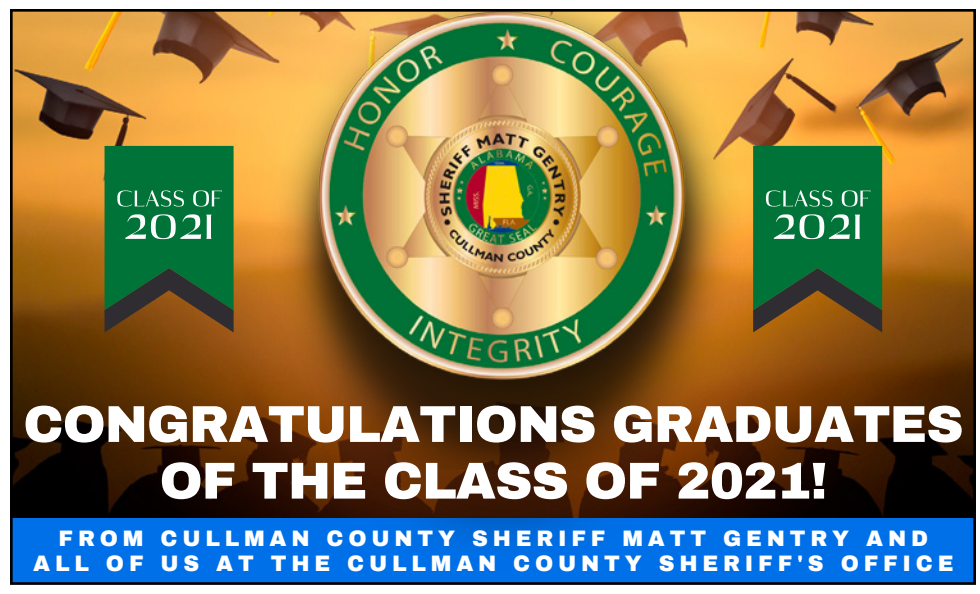
"The CDC Family would like to salute all of our graduating seniors, their family and support personnel. It truly takes a village to not only raise a child but to overcome the challenges that this unique year has thrown at us all. One word stands above all others and that is overcomers. So many changes to a traditional school day had to be planned and implemented by all. These challenges were met and one by one our CDC Family overcame and has grown from this experience. These seniors have and will be an inspiration to others for years to come as we all will never forget the 20-21 school year. We wish them all well and congratulations to each student and family for overcoming so much to get to their special graduation day."

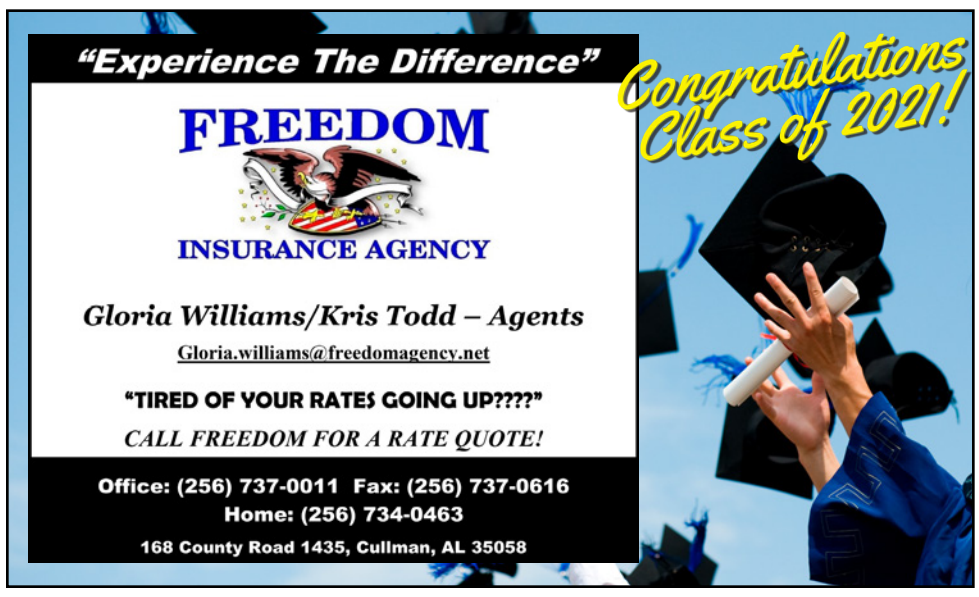
***Chris Chambers**, Child Development Center Principal*



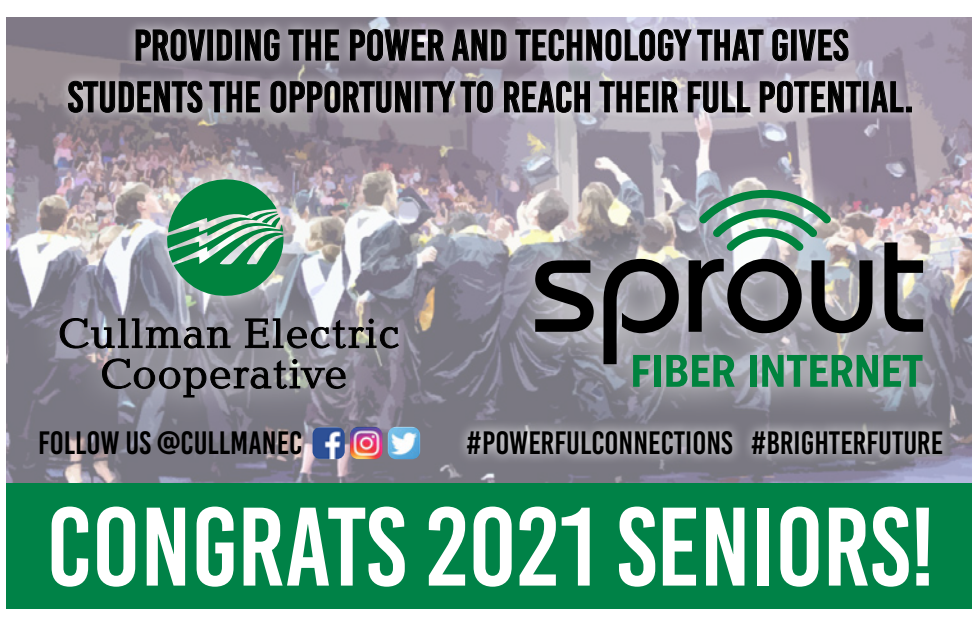














CULLMAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

CLASS OF 2021

Graduation is Thursday, May 20, at 7 p.m. at Christ Covenant Church

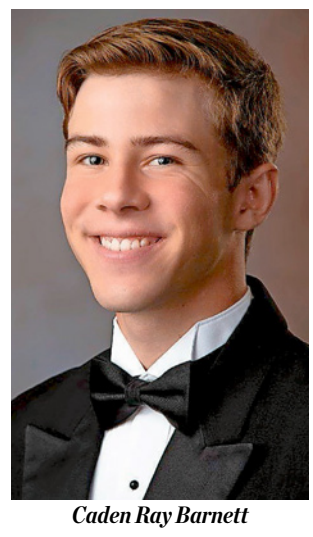
Dear Class of 2021,

"Your time has come. Congratulations and commendations to each and every one of you on this remarkable achievement of graduation from Cullman Christian School. You have worked hard during your tenure here, and you are now ready and prepared to receive a diploma from your alma mater and to move on to the world of college and career. It has been my honor and pleasure to serve as your school Headmaster. I, along with all of us here at Cullman Christian, are very proud of your accomplishments and of the outstanding leadership you have provided for our school and community. God bless you and Godspeed."

Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make straight your path."

Soli Del Gloria,
Josh Swindall, Cullman Christian School Principal

PHOTOS COURTESY SPOILED ROTTEN PHOTOGRAPHY


Caden Ray Barnett


Cassidy Kierra Kretzschmar


Haley Elizabeth Anders


John William Bryan


Laiklind Scott Casey


Melvin Hurkes


Miles Gordon Warner


Raul David Dominguez-Solis













WSCC golf teams conclude respective seasons at nationals

Russell Moore
WSCC Athletics

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – Wallace State's golf teams wrapped up action recently at their respective NJCAA Division I National Championships.

The Lady Lions, coached by J.J. Adams, finished tied for 11th in Ormond Beach, Fla., and the men's team finished 13th in Lubbock, Texas. The men are coached by Sylas Elliott.

Wallace State's women's team entered the national championship as Alabama Community College Conference (ACCC) champions, winning a fourth consecutive league title, including all four previous spring tournaments.

Wallace State's women competed through a rainy event, encountering multiple weather delays. The tournament was cut short after 54 holes.

Sophomore Lauren Cole capped her Lady Lions' career with a 32-over par 320 (81-81-84-74), finishing 31st overall.

Prior to nationals, Cole was the ACCC Tournament low medalist, earning her seventh career individual title with the program.

The Glencoe native captured low medalist honors in all four spring events the Lady Lions won this spring.

Fellow sophomore Maddie Nelson finished among the top 40 with a 352.

Rounding out the field for Wallace State were Carly Havens, Hannah Sanders and Abigail Baker.

Nelson and Baker were All-Tournament at the conference tournament. Sanders also made an All-Tournament team this season.

Cole, Nelson and Havens were the team's sophomores.

For the Wallace State men, sophomore Carter Goodwin tied for 20th overall with a 5-over 293 (69-73-78-73) at nationals, pacing the Lions in his final Wallace State tournament.

He was among the top five golfers in the field after the opening two rounds.

Goodwin, a Spain Park grad, had 10 Top-10 finishes during his Wallace State career.

He was a NJCAA Division I Honorable Mention All-American as a freshman and earned ACCC All-Tournament recognition this season.

Allen Michael Burnett was next for Wallace State with a 16-over 304.

Blayne Armstrong, Davis Aaron and Joshua Darracott rounded out the field for the Lions in Texas.

Goodwin, Burnett, Darracott, Parker Davis, Alex Flint and Patrick Minor were sophomores on the 2020-2021 roster.

Elliott completed his second season with the Lions, leading them to a 25th national tournament appearance.

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



WSCC ATHLETICS

Wallace State's Women's Golf team tied for 11th at this year's NJCAA Division 1 National Championships.



WSCC ATHLETICS

Wallace State's Men's Golf team placed 13th at this year's NJCAA Division 1 National Championships.

Alabama suffers 13-5 loss in game 3 at LSU Sunday

Alex Thompson
UA Athletics

BATON ROUGE, La. – Alabama suffered a 13-5 loss to LSU on Sunday afternoon at Alex Box Stadium. The series finished in favor of the Tigers and moved the Crimson Tide to 29-19 on the season, 12-14 in Southeastern Conference play.

The Tigers got out front early with five runs across the first two frames. The Tide got on the board with two in the third, but LSU came right back with three in the home half. Alabama added one in the fourth and was matched with an LSU tally in the fifth, with the Tide battling for one more in the sixth before the Tigers put the game out of reach with a three-spot in the seventh. Each team added a single tally in the eighth to end the game at 13-5.

LSU starter Ma'Khail Hilliard (5-0) picked up the win while Alabama starter Connor Prielipp (1-1) suffered the loss. Prielipp worked 1.0 frame and allowed two runs on three hits with three strikeouts in his first outing since April 17.

From Head Coach Brad Bohannon

"LSU took it to us today. The ballpark was playing offensive, and we just didn't do a good enough job of getting ahead in the count and throwing our off-speed pitches for a strike. We are going to have to play a complete game for three games in a row in order to win a series against Mississippi State."

How It Happened

- **B1** | Cade Doughty sent a 1-1 pitch over the wall in left for a two-run home run. (2-0, LSU)

- **B2** | Drew Bianco recorded his fifth home run of the season, this one a solo shot. Then, with two down, a single followed by back-to-back doubles added two more for the Tigers. (5-0, LSU)

- **T3** | Caden Rose started things with a one-out double to left. He came home in the next at-bat as Bryce Eblin found green in right to get UA on the board. After a groundout and a walk, Sam Praytor dropped a liner in front of the Tigers' center fielder to score Eblin and cut into the lead. (5-2, LSU)

- **B3** | A pair of leadoff walks put two on to start the third. One out later, Giovanni DiGiacomo sent a ball over the wall in right for a three-run homer. (8-2, LSU)

- **T4** | Jackson Tate recorded a solo home run to cut into the deficit. (8-3, LSU)

- **B5** | A leadoff single followed by a sac bunt put a runner in scoring position. A single moved the leadoff man to third before a 6-3 groundout brought home another run for the Tigers. (9-3, LSU)

- **T6** | Praytor led off the frame with a double before Zane Denton put runners on the corners with a single in the next at-bat. Praytor would then come home on a sacrifice fly from Will Patota. (9-4, LSU)

- **B7** | The Tigers used a walk and a hit-by-pitch to start the inning. LSU followed with three hits spread across the remainder of the inning to bring in three more runs. (12-4, LSU)

- **T8** | Patota sent a ball over the wall in left for a solo home run. (12-5, LSU)

- **B8** | DiGiacomo homered for the second time on the day with a solo shot. (13-5, LSU)

Postgame Notes

- Connor Prielipp made his third start of the season and first since April 17.

- The Crimson Tide offense belted two home runs and has totaled two-or-more home runs in 18 games with at least one home run in 30 games this season.

- The UA offense has homered in 16 of 26 SEC matchups.
- Jim Jarvis' hitting streak ended at eight games. During his streak, the sophomore batted .407 (11-27) with two doubles, two triples, five RBI, six runs scored and a pair of walks.

Next up for Alabama is a trip home for the final SEC regular-season series. The Crimson Tide will welcome third-ranked Mississippi State to Sewell-Thomas Stadium from Thursday through Saturday, May 27-29.

The series begins with a pair of 6 p.m. CT first pitches followed by a 1 p.m. start in the regular-season finale. All three games will air live on SEC Network+.

Get all the latest information on the team by following @AlabmaBSB on Twitter and Instagram and on Facebook at Alabama Baseball. General athletic news can be found at UA_Athletics on Twitter and Instagram and AlabamaAthletics on Facebook.



UA ATHLETICS

The Crimson Tide fell to LSU 13-5 in the series finale in Baton Rouge Sunday.

Troy Softball earns at-large bid to NCAA Tournament

Hanna Cooper
Troy Athletics

TROY, Ala. – Troy Softball is heading to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 1996 and the first time as an at-large selection after earning the No. 3 seed in the Tuscaloosa Regional, the Trojans learned Sunday night while watching the NCAA Selection Show in their team room at the Troy Softball Complex.

Troy will take on No. 2 seed Clemson in the opening game of the Tuscaloosa Regional on Friday at 2 p.m. from Rhoads Stadium, while Alabama, the No. 3 overall seed, will play Alabama State in the nightcap of the opening round.

"I'm just so proud for the program, our university, our girls and the Sun Belt Conference," head coach Beth Mullins. "I know everything that our girls have worked for. It's been a year-and-a-half filled with adversity, but they just bought into the one game at a time moto. For it to work out this way, I'm speechless. I'm a really proud coach, and I cannot wait to get back to work on Monday and take this amazing group of kids to Tuscaloosa."

The Trojans posted a 17-6 mark in league play and swept five conference series for the first time since 2005. Troy finished the season 36-15 overall and second in the Sun Belt Conference, which received four overall selections into the NCAA Tournament.

"I am so proud of our softball team and our entire coaching staff who in an extremely challenging year due to COVID-19 excelled on the diamond as proven by earning one of just 33 at-large selections into the NCAA Tournament," Director of Athletics Brent Jones said. "They finished second in the regular season in the premier mid-major conference in the country and won multiple games against Power Five opponents. This is well earned, well deserved and the entire Trojan Nation is celebrating tonight."

The Trojans advanced to the semifinals of the Sun Belt Tournament this past week and recorded three wins over Power Five opponents – Ole Miss, North Carolina, Georgia Tech – their most since 2012.

Ticket information will be made public on TroyTrojans.com and Troy Softball's social media accounts (TroyTrojansSB) when available.

Tuscaloosa Regional Opponent Series History

- Troy vs. Alabama – Alabama leads 21-0
- Troy vs. Clemson – Clemson leads 1-0
- Troy vs. Alabama State – Troy leads 24-0



TROY ATHLETICS

The Troy Trojans are headed to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 1996.

– VETERAN MEMORIAL –

Henry Paul Grusnick

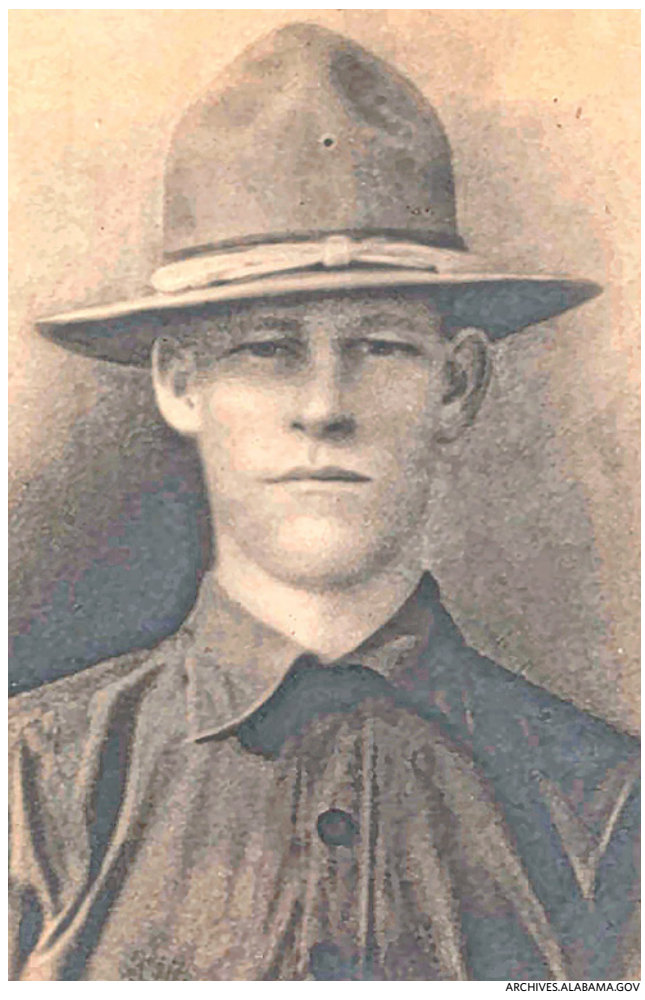
Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

Henry Paul Grusnick was born June 10, 1888, in Cullman to German immigrants. Grusnick joined the United States Army, and the young Private was a member of the 6th Group, 75th Company, Mounted Division.

He was at Camp Hancock in Augusta, Georgia from July 24, 1918, until his death on October 25, 1918. Hancock would die from bronchial pneumonia and influenza (Spanish flu).

His mother, Bertha A. Grusnick would write in her son's biography that he received his grammar school education at Dobbs School in Cullman. She listed Charlie Tillery, Will Tillery and Houston McCorn as being some of his teachers.

She explained that Henry Paul Grusnick became a farmer when he was "quite young, as his father died when quite young and all of the work was left to him and his older brother." His father died at the age of 26. She went on to say that her son was a "believer in the Republican Party" and a "splendid member" of St. Paul's Lutheran Church.



ARCHIVES.ALABAMA.GOV

Henry Paul Grusnick

Henry Paul Grusnick is buried alongside his parents Johann Heinrich "John Henry" Grusnick and Bertha Marie Arnholt Grusnick at Elmwood Cemetery in Birmingham, Alabama. He is memorialized at the Cullman Veterans Memorial Park.

– VETERAN MEMORIAL –

Allie Snider

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

Allen "Allie" Snider was born Aug. 13, 1894 in Blount County, Alabama. The Snider family lived in Hanceville. His father, George Franklin Snider, served in the Confederate Army for four years during the Civil War.

Allie entered the Army April 2, 1918, and was a member of Company K 113th Infantry.

His mother, Elizabeth McMurray Snider, would write in her son's biography, "(He) Was wounded somewhere in France and returned to the States March 28, 1919." Snider died on the operating table at Fort McPherson April 29, 1919.

Elizabeth said of her son, "He was a good boy and loved by all who knew him."

In a letter sent to Montgomery with the biography, she wrote, "Dear Friend, will you please return this picture, as this is the only one I have."

Allie Snider and his parents are buried at Bethlehem East Cemetery in Hanceville, Alabama. He is memorialized at Cullman's Veterans Memorial Park.



ARCHIVES.ALABAMA.GOV

Right: Allie Snider

Obituary Announcements: May 18

Michael Cleve Johnson, 53, of Cullman (Updated) Memorial service for Mr. Michael Cleve Johnson, 53, of Cullman, will be 11 a.m., Saturday, May 22, 2021, at Berlin Baptist Church. Mr. Johnson passed from this life on May 12, 2021, at the Princeton Baptist Medical Center in Birmingham, Alabama. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the Johnson family. Mr. Johnson was born October 24, 1967, to Clarence Johnson, Jr. and Elizabeth Anne White Johnson. He was preceded in death by his grandparents: Clarence Woodrow Johnson, Dr. and Montez Johnson Burnham, Bob and Edna White and two grandchildren. Mr. Johnson is survived by his parents: Clarence Johnson, Jr. and Elizabeth Anne White Johnson; sons: Austin (Kaitlyn) Johnson, Ryan (Candace) Johnson; brothers: Robert Brian (Deanne) Johnson, Ricky (Regina) Johnson; sister: Lisa (Tracey) Gilbreath; grandchildren: Kenley Johnson, Easton Johnson, Elijah Johnson, and Ellis Johnson and a host of family and friends. Friends may sign the guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED SINCE 1998
HOLLY POND FUNERAL HOME
TRADITIONAL "CARE" BURIAL PACKAGE SPECIAL
OPTIONS INCLUDE:
$3,995
•Casket
•Removal of loved one (35 mile range)
•All preparations charges for viewings
•Basic Register Book and 50 Memorial Cards
•Unlined Concrete Box Outer Burial Container
•Same Day Chapel Viewing and Chapel Service
ADDITIONAL PACKAGES AVAILABLE | AFFORDABLE CREMATION PACKAGES AVAILABLE
THIS ESTABLISHMENT DOES NOT OWN A CREMATORY
161 BROOKLYN ROAD, HOLLY POND, AL | 256-796-0333

THE TOMBSTONE COMPANY
Custom Granite Headstones and Monuments
Date of Death Engraving in Cemeteries
Locally Made and Locally Owned
Low Cost, High Quality
30-Day Delivery, Guaranteed
We Use Only American Granite
2117 US Hwy 278 West
Cullman, AL 35057
(2 miles West of I-65)
256-734-2005
Saturdays by Appointment
www.thetombstonecompany.com

Free Obituary Listings

HAVE YOUR FUNERAL HOME CONTACT US

Email: robin@cullmantribune.com • Fax: 256-739-4422

Complete obituaries may be found free of charge at CullmanTribune.com/obituaries.

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

MAY 19, 2021 - LAW

C O N T R A C T O R R J V C L R E L W
G R I A P R I V I L E G E O A C K M D
A U E F S R P D Y F K L Z B U V A Z H
S R E V I S O M R E V I E W M C E S A
Z E A S E N I D A E A L I B I E H A E
L C P D S R J G U J L Y L G B V U E T
P O R C J E S U N C O I A G R A N T E
C G F E I E N I N M T R E E D S D R S
R N U D C R C T O C E I C F C I E I T
D I N I W O C T I N T N O U A V R A A
E Z G S M O G U I A A I T N L E A L T
V A I S H D V N I V L F O E T A G Y E
I N B E N E T Q I T E K T N E N E E N
S C L N A S S N R S F S E R R S F T O
E E E T E F N E U A A I O L A W B D N
P F S U A O V A E W C N E C B E E E A
S M Q K C O C L W S I N C E L R N M G
L E G A C Y P W H M A W A E E Q C U E
B E V I D E N C E P C A U S A X H R D

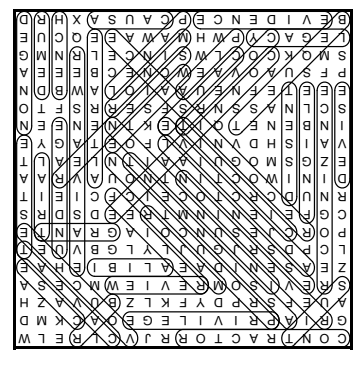
Adjective
Alibi
Alterable
Assignment
Bar
Bench
Bequest
Case
Causa
Cause
Caveat
Circuit
Connivance
Contractor
Covert
Demur
Devise
Dissent
Essential
Evasive answer
Evidence
Fungible
Grant
Injunction
Legacy
Major
Minor
Nonaged
Panel
Plea
Privilege
Production
Recognisance
Recognizance
Relief
Reversion
Review
Scienter
Suit
Testate
Trial
Underage
Vouchee
Waste

CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

MAY 19, 2021

	3						2	8
						3		
8			7		1		4	
					7	2		5
			9		2			
		3					6	
	9		4					
	1		6	9				7
	7	6					3	

ANSWERS:



4	3	9	8	2	1	6	7	5
7	5	8	9	3	6	4	1	2
2	1	4	6	9	3	8	5	7
1	6	7	4	5	8	2	9	3
3	8	4	2	1	9	7	5	6
5	9	2	7	6	4	3	8	1
6	4	1	3	8	5	9	2	4
9	7	5	1	4	2	8	6	3
8	2	3	5	7	9	1	4	6

Alabama Farm Credit welcomes new chief financial officer

Wendy Tysinger
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Alabama Farm Credit has named Kedric Karkosh CFO of the $1.1 billion rural lending cooperative. In this role, he manages the accounting, financial reporting, treasury, cash management and loan operations teams.

Karkosh earned a master's degree in agricultural economics from Texas A&M University and a bachelor's in agricultural business from Iowa State University. He also attended the Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University.

Karkosh has over 30 years of experience in agricultural and commercial banking. He has worked in the Farm Credit System since 2000, most recently as vice president and assistant treasurer at Farm Credit Bank of Texas in Austin. He oversaw the bank's funding, loan pricing, interest rate risk management and investment teams.

He also has experience at a commercial bank and a software development and consulting firm that specialized in risk management and policy analysis for agriculture.

He started his career as an analyst for the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corp. (Farmer Mac).

"Kedric is one of the best finance minds in all of the Farm Credit System," said Mel Koller, Alabama Farm Credit chief executive officer.

"His expertise and poise make him the ideal person to cultivate the next generation of leadership in our finance and accounting division.

"He has already settled in as a natural leader and gifted technician, whether dealing with financial matters or people.

"Coming from a farming family means he understands what our clients face every day."

Karkosh has deep roots in agriculture, and still has a connection to the northeast Iowa family farm where he grew up.

He and his wife Robin have known each other since elementary school and have two grown sons, Kolin and Alex.

"Alabama Farm Credit has a very good team, and I'm excited to be a part of it," Karkosh said.

"After many years on the funding side, I've been looking forward to work that brings me closer to agriculture and Farm Credit's customers."

Alabama Farm Credit is part of the Farm Credit System, a nationwide network of customer-owned lending cooperatives. It finances farms, forestry operations, agribusinesses, country homes, recreational land and other rural property in 27 North Alabama counties. It is headquartered in Cullman and has branch offices in Albertville, Athens, Cullman, Talladega and Tuscumbia.



ALABAMA FARM CREDIT

Kedric Karkosh is executive vice president and CFO of Alabama Farm Credit in Cullman, Alabama.

HOME AND GARDEN

Avoiding invasive species in the garden

Mary Leigh Oliver
Contributor

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. – Beauty can be deceiving, especially in the garden. Invasive species of plants are often pretty or ornamental. Whether homeowners purchase a plant or it shows up like a weed, an invasive species can quickly become a problem. Protect the garden and avoid allowing invasives to take root.

What are invasive species?
According to Alabama Extension Specialist Nancy Loewenstein, invasive species are non-native plants that have escaped cultivation and become weedy problems.

While it can be hard to predict which species will become invasive, some frequently seen invasive plant characteristics include:

- competitive (rapid) growth
- strong reproductive pressure (produce a lot of seeds quickly)
- easily spread seeds (wind, water, birds and other animals)
- easily established

A list of invasive plants in Alabama can be found at https://www.se-eppc.org/alabama/2012-updatedALIPC-invasiveplantlist.pdf.

More than 50% of the species on the Alabama Invasive Plant Council's invasive plant list are escaped ornamentals.

"If focusing on woody species, nearly all invasive woody species are escaped ornamentals," Loewenstein said.

If these species end up in the garden or landscape, the plants act as weeds and can become an extensive problem.

Danger of invasive species
Invasives displace native species. This means the species replaces native plants, therefore displacing native animals, insects and soil microbes that depend on the native species.

"As an example, non-native plants support far fewer caterpillars and other insects that songbirds depend on to rear their young," Loewenstein said.

They can also impact water, nutrients, fire cycles, wildlife habitats, outdoor recreation, aesthetics, natural resource management and productivity.

Removal and control
Once an invasive plant establishes, control is time consuming and may be expensive.

The best way to stop the spread of aggressive invaders is to remove the plant entirely.

For smaller species, deadheading to remove the flowers before the seeds drop is an option. Gardeners and homeowners can also pull seedlings or small plants for effective control.

Cut down larger woody species. However, the stump will likely re-sprout. Homeowners can prevent growth by treating the stump with herbicide.

"Herbicides can control many species, but care must be taken to avoid damaging desirable species," Loewenstein said. "Make sure to read the herbicide labels to ensure proper use. In all cases, it's easier to control invasive plants when there are only a few of them rather than after the infestation becomes large and daunting."

Increase the health of ornamental plants by avoiding and removing invasive species in the garden.



ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICE

Poison oak









