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Wallace State plans $500,000 Winston County Community Learning Center

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COURTS

Thursby's charges upgraded in 2016 murder case

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Kayla Thursby, 34, of Cullman, was re-arrested this week after a Cullman County grand jury upgraded charges against her in the 2016 death of Leslie Clements.

Originally charged in 2018 with murder by strangulation or suffocation and first-degree theft of property, she was awaiting trial when she received additional charges of murder by administration of controlled substances, corpse abuse and reckless manslaughter in the same incident.

The two murder charges are for the same victim and take into account the condition of the body and the result of a drug screen.

The reckless manslaughter charge can be considered as an alternative to the murder charges at trial.

Co-defendant Jerome Flanigan, 39, of Cullman, faces similar charges, though he was recently acquitted of an additional charge of arson in the case.

Thursby was released on a $45,000 bond paid partially in property and partially by a bonding service.


CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Kayla Thursby

– LOCAL CHARITIES –

United Way of Cullman County announces Designer Bag Bingo


BECKY GOFF
Guests try their luck at the 2019 UWCC Designer Bag Bingo event.

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – United Way of Cullman County's Women United Board announced that it will host the 2nd Annual Designer Bag Bingo fundraiser in Cullman on Aug. 3 The event will be held at Loft 212, 212 4th St. SW. Doors open at 5 p.m. and bingo starts at 6 p.m.

UWCC shared in a release:
"Our Women's United Board has some incredible volunteers who are rolling up their sleeves and working hard to generate resources for this community that will leave a legacy of change." said Becky Goff, executive director, United Way of Cullman County.

"Our hope is that through this fun ladies' night, we will engage the women of Cullman County to join us in helping to raise funds to support our network of nonprofits."

Women United was created to inspire and "unite" women in the spirit of philanthropy to build a stronger community.

Through this event, women in Cullman County will help us to continue to raise financial support for local nonprofits.

Ladies are encouraged to bring a gently used purse filled with personal care items for a chance to win a raffle prize.

"Last year, we were able to give back over 300 purses to local nonprofits that support women," Goff said.

"We were blown away by the support and all the items attendees brought at the last event.

"There were notes of encouragement, gift cards and lots of personal hygiene items."

During Designer Bag Bingo, attendees will have the opportunity to win one of 14 designer handbags and one grand prize!

Sponsors of the event include: Publix, NAFCO, McGriff, Cullman Regional, Payroll Services, The UPS Store, Rusken Packaging and Walmart DC #6006.

Companies or individuals interested in sponsoring the event are encouraged to contact United Way.

General seat- » PAGE 5

CRIME

Cullman business owner arrested on multiple charges



CPD
Robert Taylor » PAGE 5

SPORTS

Kayak Championship angler Joe McElroy donates prize to child with rare disorder


B.A.S.S.
Kayak angler Joe McElroy, of Cullman, Alabama, donated his winnings from the 2021 Bassmaster B.A.S.S. Nation Kayak Series Nation Championship powered by TourneyX to help the son of another competitor. » PAGE 2

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Colony Town Council announces grant, seeks help with roads

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Vinemont Town Council discusses upcoming blood drive; street entrance safety concerns

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Colony to host talent show, 'Colony Day'

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

COLONY, Ala. – Colony Councilwoman and Parks and Recreation Committee chairperson Jasmine Cole announced at Tuesday's council meeting that, following a successful Fourth of July celebration, her department will host two additional events this summer.

Talent show

Colony's first annual talent show will take place from 3-6 p.m. Saturday, July 31, at the Colony Educational Complex, 151 Byars Road. Entry and attendance are free, and prizes will be awarded to the top three placements. The event is open to all ages. Sign up is open through July 22.

Colony Day

Colony Day will take place at the Community Center Saturday, Aug. 7, with a rain date Aug. 14. The event will feature a 3-on-3 basketball tournament, volleyball tournament, spades tournament, dominoes tournament, cake walk, rib cook-off and inflatables and school supplies for children.

- Entry in the rib cook-off - $10
- Family tents - $25
- Vendor spots - $25
- Food truck spots - $50

Cole also told the council that she hopes to take children from the town's summer program on a trip to Point Mallard before the end of July.

For more information on upcoming events, contact Jasmine Cole at 205-456-0340.

Vinemont (from Front)

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

SOUTH VINEMONT, Ala. – The Town of South Vinemont will host a blood drive this Saturday July 17 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the town hall. The Life South Blood Mobile will be on-site.

Movie night has been rescheduled for Aug. 21 at 7:45 p.m. The event was originally planned for June but was postponed due to a tropical storm. "Toy Story 4" will be shown as a free community event at the town's community center.

Concerns regarding safety at the entrance of Park Drive in Vinemont were discussed. Mayor Dodson had looked into recent accidents and reported after checking with Alabama State Highway Patrol that the two accidents from Memorial Day Weekend were "not due to the Park Drive entrance or people from crossing over from Park Drive."

Concerns regarding the narrow entrance of Woods Street off Highway 31 were addressed by South Vinemont Public Works Director Mike Graves. He explained, "First of all, we've got to come up with a plan for the state highway department. They'll have to approve it before anything can be done." He stated that there is room to widen the entrance but due to it being a state right of way, the approval would have to come from the state.

Graves could not give a timeframe on how long the approval process might take, saying, "You're on the state's time, so it could take a week or it could take a month. I can't give you a timeline on their process."

The council also approved the opening of a new checking with interest bearing account by the Mayor for American Rescue Plan funds.

The South Vinemont Town Council meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

McElroy (from Front)

Emily Harley
B.A.S.S. Communications

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – After finishing second at the 2021 Bassmaster B.A.S.S. Nation Kayak Series National Championship powered by TourneyX on Texas' Possum Kingdom Lake, angler Joe McElroy from Cullman, Alabama, announced he was donating his $5,000 winnings to help a fellow competitor's young son who is living with a rare disease impacting just five people worldwide.

"Sometimes, it's about timing," McElroy said. "I was in the right place and had the opportunity, so it just came together."

During the Top 10 award ceremony onstage at the Academy Sports + Outdoors Bassmaster Classic presented by Huk, seventh-place finisher Jason Borofka, of Lavon, Texas, shared that his 2-year-old son J.T. suffers from Triosephosphate Isomerase Deficiency. An ultrarare disorder, TPI causes a shortage of red blood cells (anemia), movement problems, increased susceptibility to infection and muscle weakness that can affect breathing and heart function.

According to SaveJT.com, the website that Borofka and his wife Tara run, fewer than 70 TPI Deficiency cases have ever been reported, so information is slim.

The site states that J.T. is the first person in his birth state of California to be diagnosed with this disease. Currently, he is one of five people worldwide known to have TPI.

A seasoned angler originally from Salinas, California, Borofka uses his tournament platform to raise awareness for this disease and to generate support for his son's ongoing medical needs. Noting the ongoing medical needs, he directed anyone interested in helping to the family's informative/fundraising website.

McElroy was so moved by what he heard that he didn't hesitate to follow his heart.

"The prize money was a gift and a blessing to me from God, and I wanted to pass it on," McElroy said. "I had not met Jason until we had the Top 10 meeting; I heard his appeal for help just moments before when he accepted his seventh-place award.

"Jason was overwhelmed and thankful. He was very appreciative."

Borofka recalls the breathtaking moment: "I was on the sidelines standing there with my family when he said that, and I was like, 'What?!' I was totally blown away."

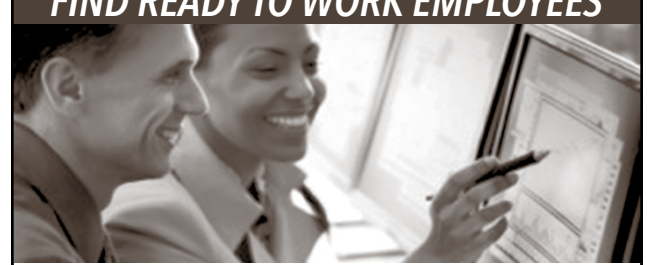
But the story doesn't end there. Barely three months into their move to the Lone Star State, the Borofkas are finding Texas a welcoming and supportive community. Since that emotional moment onstage at the Bassmaster Classic, offers of promotional support and vital financial contributions have flooded the Borofkas due, in large part, to McElroy's initiative.

"It was awesome because he really inspired a lot of people," Borofka said. "A lot of people from the Dallas-Fort Worth area have contacted us wanting to help. My phone has been blowing up.

"Donations just since (the Kayak Championship) — not including Joe's $5,000 — have been somewhere between $8,000 and $9,000. It's growing fast. What he did, with B.A.S.S., the Bassmaster Classic and the whole setup — it was just meant to be. Honestly, it's been a blessing."

McElroy's donation also inspired TourneyX, other anglers and various organizations to create the Save JT Benefit Tournament, an ongoing virtual event that has already raised more than $42,000.

The Bassmaster B.A.S.S. Nation Kayak Series will feature three more tournaments in the 2021 season as anglers from around the country attempt to qualify for the 2022 National Championship which will be held in conjunction with the 2022 Bassmaster Classic March 4-6 in Greenville, South Carolina. Learn more at Bassmaster.com/kayak.

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COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

Wednesday, July 14, 2021 COVID-19 update from the Alabama Department of Public Health's COVID-19 Dashboard Hub (https://bit.ly/3iVJwXK)

ADPH COVID-19 dashboard changes

Along with decreases in COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths, ADPH will be updating its dashboard less frequently. Effective June 7, the Data and Surveillance Dashboard will update Monday, Wednesday and Friday; the Vaccine Distribution Dashboard will update Tuesday and Thursday and no weekend updates will be made. Additional information may be provided in the future as ADPH gathers more data on the pandemic.

Case details (Updated Mon, Wed, Fri)

- Total confirmed cases in Alabama: 427,865 (+ 889 since Monday)
- Probable cases in Alabama: 128,748 (+ 509 since Monday)
- Total confirmed deaths in Alabama: 9,113 (+ 19 since Monday)
- Probable deaths in Alabama: 2,315
- Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co.: 6,857 (+ 8 since Monday)
- Probable cases in Cullman Co.: 3,224 (+ 11 since Monday)
- Total confirmed deaths in Cullman Co.: 141
- Probable deaths in Cullman Co.: 62
- Total tested in Cullman Co.: 43,867
- Total tested in the last 14 days in Cullman Co: 1,550
- Cases in the last 14 days in Cullman Co.: 55
- Total tested in Alabama: 2,707,472
- Cases in the last 14 days in Alabama: 4,324
- Total tested in the last 14 days in Alabama: 74,091
- Currently hospitalized in Alabama: 251

Vaccine details (updated Tues, Thurs)

- Doses Delivered to Alabama: 4,686,975
- Doses delivered to Alabama providers: 3,175,555
- Doses administered: 3,315,600
- Number of people receiving one or more doses: 1,875,638
- Number of people who have completed vaccine series: 1,551,810
- Doses delivered to federal programs: 1,511,420

Alabamians in Phases 1a, 1b and 1c (including those 12 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

COVID-19 infection rates increase in Alabama

The best way to prevent getting the highly infectious and easily transmissible Delta variant or any other strain of COVID-19 is to get vaccinated as quickly as possible. The vaccines we have are highly effective and their benefits far outweigh any risks. Only a very small percentage of deaths due to COVID-19 are among the fully vaccinated population. Based on recent conversations with hospitals, the Alabama Hospital Association reports that more than 90% of hospitalized COVID-19 patients in the state are unvaccinated.

Percent positivity escalates

Alabama's percent positivity for COVID-19 has increased to its highest point since mid-May: 4.8%. This is equal to the percent positivity recorded April 3, when vaccines had not been readily available.

Make vaccination a priority

This July 5, 2,708 doses of COVID-19 vaccine were administered in the state. At the height of vaccine administration on April 8, 45,128 vaccine doses were given. Young people and others who are taking a wait-and-see stance on vaccination should be aware that they need to protect themselves, their families, friends and communities by getting vaccinated as soon as they can. Safe, effective and free vaccines shields vulnerable people and saves lives.

CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported July 14

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported July 14, 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

No incidents reported.

ARRESTS
July 13
Payne, George G.; 70
- DUI

Morgan, Destiney N.; 23
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)
- FTA- third-degree criminal trespass
- FTA- fourth-degree theft of property (2 counts)

Ford, Jeffrey E.; 50
- FTA- third-degree criminal trespass

Brizendine, Christopher N.; 46
- FTA- fourth-degree theft of property
- FTA- third-degree criminal trespass
- FTA- insurance violation
- FTA- driving without license

McCormick, Jeffery S.; 32
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Taylor Jr.; Robert R.; 50
- first-degree attempted theft of property
- second-degree forgery

Judkins, Clay D.; 32
- domestic violence
- resisting arrest
- criminal mischief

Shine, Tara M.; 28
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No incidents or arrests reported.

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

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Submit your calendar items or public notices to 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- Free hot meals for children Mondays 11 a.m. – noon, Tuesdays 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. and Wednesdays-Fridays 11 a.m. – noon Cullman Housing Authority Community Center 1545 Vine Circle S.W. Please call Kristie 256-636-5362 for more information. Eat in or take out. 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.
- VBS Vacation Bible School - July 12 - 16 (Monday-Friday) 6-8:30 p.m. Infants through age 12. Nursery provided. Free food and fun. Everyone invited.
- No Talent Talent Show - July 31 - Saturday 7 p.m. No admission fees! Donations accepted. Free meal at 6 p.m. Everyone welcome! Fun and entertaining! Come see impersonations of some of your favorite singers. We hope "Elvis" will be there!

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

Guy Hunt Library Summer Children's Programs
- July 15 – McWane Science Center
- July 22 – Soil and Water, Animal Tracks
- All programs start at 1 p.m. For more information, send an email to guyhuntlibrary@gmail.com or call 256-796-5226.

Agriplex Children's Summer/Fall Camp Programs
- Aug. 20 - 10 a.m., Little Farmers Farmer's Market: Run your pretend farm stand and then use tokens to shop with a local farmer.
- Aug. 26 - 9 a.m., Heritage Homeschool Solar Power: Celebrate the new solar panels producing electricity at the Agriplex with hands-on activities powered by the sun.
- Sept. 4 - 9 a.m., Farm Kids Club County Fair Crafts: Create handicrafts that can be entered in the Cullman County Fair and win prizes!
- Sept. 10 - 10 a.m., Little Farmers "The Very Hungry Caterpillar": Explore the miracle of the butterfly life cycle through the beloved Eric Carle classic.
- Sept. 30 - 9 a.m., Heritage Homeschool Harvest & Seed Saving: Harvest the falls bounty at the Agriplex and save seeds for your very own collection. We will pick, taste and learn how to preserve the harvest.
- Oct. 2 - 9 a.m., Farm Kids Club Pumpkin Patch: Pick a pumpkin out of our patch and join us for some fall-themed fun! We will play games, have snacks and carve a pumpkin.
- Saturdays, beginning at 9 a.m. at Festhalle Farmers Market, Power of Produce: Kids up to age 12 can sample fresh produce while earning market money (pop bucks) to buy produce from local farmers.

Agriplex Adult Programs
- July 20 - 6 p.m., Living Landscapes Permaculture - Creating Edible Ecosystems: Using permaculture principles helps minimize work in the garden while maximizing harvests. Instructor Dianne Lollar will be teaching about how applying permaculture principles can work for you.
- July 21 - noon, Lunch & Learn presents Tomato Time: Cooking & Preserving Fresh Tomatoes. This is a free program, light lunch provided. Please call us at 256-297-1044 to reserve your spot.
- Aug. 10 - 6 p.m., Heritage Skills Beginning Brewers Class: The Cullman Brewers Guild will explain the process of brewing and demonstrate how to make homemade beer. See equipment and learn the science of brewing your own beer.
- Aug. 16 - 6 p.m., Learn to Sew Christmas in August: Get an early start on Christmas decorating and join us for felt ornament making for the tree using sequins and decorative thread.
- Aug. 18 - noon, Lunch & Learn presents Planting & Growing Fall Veggies. This is a free program, light lunch provided. Please call us at 256-297-1044 to reserve your spot.
- Aug. 31 - 6 p.m., Living Landscapes Growing Berries & Grapes: Retired Auburn Experiment Station Director Arnold Caylor will be back at the Agriplex sharing his vast knowledge on growing berries and muscadines best suited for our region.
- Sept. 9 - 6 p.m., Cowboy Cooking - Cooking with a Dutch Oven: Local ranchers Greg and Emily Anderson from Sullivan Creek Ranch will be demonstrating how to cook over an open fire.
- Sept. 13 - 6 p.m., Learn to Sew Projects for the Kitchen: This will be a fun class making things to use in your kitchen.
- Sept. 14 - 6 p.m., Heritage Skills Raising Pigs: Learn the basics of raising pigs for your family.
- Thursdays: noon – 1 p.m., Yoga under the Pavilion, Join us for a beginner yoga class in the serenity of nature. $5 per person, summer family special of $10 per family. Ages 10 & up, must be able to follow along with class. No registration required. Please bring your yoga mat & water.

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

Center Hill Baptist Church VBS
July 12 - 16 – From 6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Center Hill Baptist Church in Hanceville (13108 Co Rd 747, Hanceville, AL 35077). We will also host a VBS Registration Day on Sunday, July 11, featuring face painting, games, bounce house and goody bags. Looking forward to see you there!

Dixie Echoes at Cross Baptist Church
July 16 – Join us for a night of Southern Gospel music Friday, July 16. Dixie Echoes of Pensacola, Florida will be at Cross Baptist Church (23654 US Hwy 31, Falkville AL 35622) beginning at 7 p.m. For more information, call 256-990-6345.

1963 Fairview High School Class Meeting
July 16 - The Fairview High School Class of 1963 will meet Friday, July 16, at 1:02 p.m. at the Golden Corral (1720 Cherokee Avenue, Southwest, in Cullman). Must be 1:02 p.m. or after for senior discount. The meeting will be in one of the reserved rooms in the back of the restaurant. Call Joyce Williams Rodgers at 256-339-3451 for more information.

Unsheltered International BBQ and Cake Fundraiser Action
July 17 – 5 p.m. at Temple Baptist Church (30 County Road 1184, Cullman, AL 35057). To sign up, donate and/or RSVP, contact Tara at 256-737-0112 ext. 180 or tara@unsheltered.org.

Pleasant View Revival and Singing
July 18 - Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church will have their summer revival the third week in July beginning with a singing on Sunday night, July 18 at 5p.m. "The Williamsons" from Wetumpka, Oklahoma will be the guest singers. Services will be day and night, Monday, July 19 – Friday, July 23. Morning services will begin at 10:30 a.m. and evening services at 7 p.m., with Brother Jack Thomason as the evangelist. Lunch will be served each day after the morning service and we will have prayer band at 6:45 p.m. before each evening service. On Sunday night, Aug. 1, we will have a singing with "New Ground" from Scottsboro at 5 p.m. Everyone is invited. The church is located on U.S. Highway 278, approximately 2 miles east of Holly Pond on the left. For more information call 256-796-5986.

WSCC Applied Technologies Open House
July 20 – Wallace State Community College Dept. of Applied Technologies will host an Open House Tuesday, July 20 from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Department tours and refreshments will be provided. Stop by the Bailey Center Lobby for campus maps, schedules and information. Call 256-352-8000 for more information.

West Point High School Class of '62 School Reunion
July 24 – The Class of '62 School Reunion will be Saturday, July 24 at 1 p.m. at the Brandin' Iron Steakhouse in West Point (87 County Road 1242, Cullman, AL 35057). For more information, contact Linda Jordan 256-747-6883.

West Point Class of '67 Reunion
July 24 - The West Point Class of 1967 reunion will be held on Saturday, July 24, at Brandin' Iron Steakhouse at West Point, from 4-6 p.m.

Wallace State Diesel by Distance Open House
July-Aug. - Wallace State's Diesel by Distance program will host a series of open house events to learn more about the program, experience virtual reality lessons and more. Open house will be held from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. in the Diesel Technology building on the Hanceville campus on the following dates: July 1, July 8, July 29, Aug. 5, Aug. 12 and Aug. 19. For more information, contact Anna Parrish Beard at 256-352-8356 or anna.parrish@wallacestate.edu or visit www.wallacestate.edu/dieselbydistance.

United Way of Cullman Designer Bag Bingo Fundraiser
Aug. 3 – United Way of Cullman County's Women United will host their 2nd annual Designer Bag Bingo fundraising event Tuesday, Aug. 3, at The Loft 212 (212 4th St. SW Cullman, AL 35055). Doors open at 5 p.m. and bingo starts at 6 p.m. Tickets are $35 each or $350 for a table of eight. Each ticket includes light refreshments and 15 games. Donate a gently used purse filled with personal care items for a chance to win a door prize. For more information and/or to RSVP, call 256-739-2948 or send an email at dmcdonald@uwaycc.org. To purchase tickets, visit https://www.uwaycc.org/.

Cullman County Sports Hall of Fame
Aug. 14 - The Cullman County Sports Hall of Fame will hold its annual banquet and induction ceremony Aug. 14, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Stonebridge Farms. Tickets can be obtained at First Southern Financial and are $20.00 each. For more information call 256-737-5120 or 256-736-4445.

Free Community Movie Night at Vinemont Community Center
Aug. 21 – Bring a blanket or chair and come enjoy "Toy Story 4!" Start time is 7:45 p.m. Vinemont Community Center – 88 Ridgeway Street, Cullman, AL 35058

‘Let’s go’: Auburn shortstop Ryan Bliss celebrates MLB Draft with family, teammates

Jeff Shearer
AU Athletics

AUBURN, Ala. – Surrounded by family, friends and teammates, Ryan Bliss celebrated his Major League Baseball Draft selection Monday not far from the ballpark where he honed his skills.

On the sixth floor of the Whatley Residences on South College Street, Bliss hugged his grandmother and mother when MLB Network announced that the Arizona Diamondbacks had chosen the Auburn All-American in the second round, pick No. 42 overall.

Known for his studious approach to baseball, Bliss had a hunch his name would be called early and that his destination was the desert.

“It went by really fast,” Bills said. “I had an idea that I may be going to the Diamondbacks about 20 minutes before the draft started.

“When the pick came, [my adviser] said, ‘Hey, you’re up. Are you ready?’ I said, ‘Let’s go,’ and I got called. It was amazing. I’m going to go out there and be me and continue to do what I do.”

In 2020, Bliss delivered the best hitting season by an Auburn shortstop in 40 years, belting 15 home runs while batting .365.

“I knew coming to school was going to help me, especially in the SEC, just mature and get better,” said Bliss, who was drafted in 2018 out of high school by Boston in the 30th round.

“That’s an upside of me going into pro ball. I’ve played a lot of big-time games in big places, so I can take that maturity to the next level and progress better up there.”

Auburn coach Butch Thompson noted how Bliss, like 2018 No. 1 overall pick Casey Mize, prioritized sharing draft day with teammates on the Plains.

“Just like Casey, Ryan said, ‘I want to do this in Auburn with the people who helped get me there,’” Thompson said.

“What a day for Ryan Bliss and his family. What a day for Auburn University. He’s one of the best we’ve ever had.

“He’s worked so hard; he believes in Auburn so much. What I think is neat is that we’re all together today.”

“Having the support there and having everybody with me, it shows me all the love I have behind me,” Bliss said. “I can just go out there and play without having too much to worry about. The support is amazing, and I love every one of them.”



AU ATHLETICS

Auburn shortstop Ryan Bliss was selected 42nd overall by the Arizona Diamondbacks in this year’s MLB Draft.

“It just shows such leadership when you want to share it with the people, fans, teammates and coaches who have worked beside you to get you to this point,” Thompson said.

“This makes today even richer for Ryan and his parents, sharing it with his Auburn family.”

The fifth highest position player drafted in program history; Ryan Bliss will seek to become the 56th former Auburn player to make it to the majors.

“I tell everybody, this is the best decision I’ve made, to come to Auburn,” Bliss said.

“To leave a legacy here, to be another guy to make it to the bigs from Auburn, it would be amazing. That’s my goal and I can’t wait to strive and do that.”

Auburn’s Fitts, Miller selected on day 2 of MLB Draft

George Nunnelley
AU Athletics

AUBURN, Ala. – Auburn right-handed pitcher Richard Fitts and infielder Tyler Miller were selected on the second day of the 2021 MLB Draft Monday afternoon.

Fitts was drafted by the New York Yankees in the sixth round with the 183rd overall pick and Miller was selected by the Boston Red Sox in the ninth round with the 256th overall pick.

With Ryan Bliss also going to the Arizona Diamondbacks in the second round Monday, it marks the first time since 2005 Auburn has had three players taken in the top nine rounds.

Fitts becomes Auburn’s sixth pitcher to be taken in the top seven rounds since 2017, joining Keegan Thompson (3rd, 2017), Casey Mize (1st, 2018), Davis Daniel (7th, 2019), Tanner Burns (1st, 2020) and Bailey Horn (5th, 2020).

He’s the 33rd pitcher who went undrafted out of high school to be turned into a draft pick by head coach Butch Thompson.

A native of Helena, Alabama, Fitts has made 40 appearances, including 14 starts, in his time on the Plains. He has totaled seven wins and earned one save while striking out 104 batters in 117.0 innings pitched.

Fitts played an instrumental role in Auburn’s run to the 2019 College World Series, earning a win in both the regional and super regional rounds before making a pair of relief appearances in Omaha.

After battling a foot injury for much of the 2021 season, he ultimately logged 41.1 innings in 13 appearances and eight starts.

Fitts capped off his junior season by throwing 8.0 scoreless innings at Missouri, retiring 24 of 25 batters faced en route to being named the Southeastern Conference Pitcher of the Week.

A former 23rd round pick of the Pittsburgh Pirates out of high school in 2018, Miller came to Auburn from East Mississippi Community College prior to the shortened 2020 season and had a breakout year in 2021.

The Spanish Fort, Alabama, native led the SEC with 61 RBI during the regular season and paced Auburn with 16 home runs.

Miller ranked third on the team with a .313 batting average and was second in runs (38), total bases (125) and slugging percentage (.601). He started at first base in 48 of his 51 games and turned in a .997 fielding percentage while also playing a part in 42 double plays.



AU ATHLETICS

Auburn pitcher Richard Fitts was selected by the New York Yankees in the sixth round of this year’s MLB Draft.

Alabama’s Mac Jones selected as 2020-21 Academic All-America Football Team Member of the Year

UA Athletics
rolltide.com

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. – Alabama’s Mac Jones and Landon Dickerson were both named to the 2020-21 CoSIDA Academic All-America® Division I Football First Team, while Jones was named the Football Academic All-American of the Year, the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) announced Monday.

The duo earned the elite scholastic honors after helping lead the Crimson Tide to its 18th national football title and 28th Southeastern Conference championship during the 2020 season.

Alabama is one of just three schools, along with Boise State and Coastal Carolina, to have more than one player earn first-team honors. The Crimson Tide is also the only team to make the College Football Playoff and have a player earn Academic All-America recognition from this past season.

MAC JONES
Quarterback

• Graduated with a bachelor’s degree in communication studies in December of 2019, maintaining a perfect 4.0 grade-point average during his undergraduate career

• Completed his master’s degree in sport hospitality in December of 2020, again finishing with a perfect 4.0 GPA

• Named the SEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year at the completion of the 2020 campaign in addition to being selected as a consensus first team All-American for his play on the field

• Recipient of the Davey O’Brien, Johnny Unitas Golden Arm and Manning awards while also being one of four finalists for the Heisman Trophy last season

• Led the nation with a 201.1 passer rating and a 96.1 QBR while guiding the Crimson Tide to a perfect 13-0 record and the program’s 18th national championship

LANDON DICKERSON
Offensive Lineman

• Held a 3.68 GPA and earned his undergraduate degree in sports management in August of 2019 while at Florida State where he graduated Cum Laude in only three years

• Continued his studies at Alabama by pursuing his master’s in business administration, graduating with a 3.72 GPA in Spring of 2021

• Earned CoSIDA Academic All-District IV honors following the 2019 and 2020 seasons

• Selected as a unanimous first team All-American and was the 2020 winner of the Rimington Trophy, awarded annually to the nation’s top center

• Averaged an overall blocking grade of 91.3 and finished at 99.6 on all assignments in 2020 prior to a season-ending injury in the SEC Championship Game

ALABAMA FOOTBALL ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICANS

• Mac Jones is the third Alabama player to earn CoSIDA Football Academic All-American of the Year honors, joining Barrett Jones (2012) and Greg McElroy (2010)

• Alabama football is one of just four schools with more than one Football Academic All-American of the Year honor

• With these latest accolades, a total of 25 Alabama football players have now earned Academic All-America recognition 30 times with Barrett Jones, Johnny Musson and Randy Hall all earning multiple honors

• Alabama football’s complete list of CoSIDA Academic All-Americans include: Tommy Brooker (1961), Pat Trammell (1961), Gaylon McCollough (1964), Dennis Homan (1965), Steve Sloan (1965), Bob Childs (1967), Steve Davis (1967), Musso (1970, 1971), Carey Varnado (1970), Kim Krapf (1972), Hall (1973, 1974), Dave McMakin (1973), Danny Ridgeway (1975), Lou Green (1977), Wayne Hamilton (1977), Major Ogilvie (1979), Malcolm Simmons (1983), Kenny King (2002), Barrett Jones (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012), Colin Peek (2009), Greg McElroy (2010), Arie Kouandjio (2014), Keaton Anderson (2018), Mac Jones (2020) and Landon Dickerson (2020)



UA ATHLETICS

Alabama’s Mac Jones and Landon Dickerson were both named First Team CoSIDA Academic All-Americans.

• Overall Crimson Tide has tallied 194 CoSIDA Academic All-America certificates across its 21 sports, ranking fifth all-time among Division I schools

Get the latest information on the team by following @AlabamaFTBL on Twitter and Facebook and AlabamaFBL on Instagram. General athletic news can also be found at UA_Athletics on Twitter and Instagram and AlabamaAthletics on Facebook.



Bingo (from Front)

ing tickets are available for $35 and include light refreshments and one bingo card per round. Reserved tables are available for $350 for a table of eight. Additional cards and adult beverages will be available for purchase. To purchase tickets, contact United Way at 256-739-2948, visit our website at https://www.uwaycc.org/, visit our Facebook page or email us: dmcdonald@uwaycc.org.

Remember to Stuff the Bus!

UWCC is also gathering school materials for local students through its "Stuff the Bus" drive, coinciding with the tax-free back-to-school shopping weekend, July 16-18. The drive will run July 16-23. Drop off items at the school bus located in the south parking lot adjacent to the Cullman County Courthouse or at local businesses where you see the yellow bus box, including The Cullman Tribune, 219 Second Ave. SE in Cullman.

Becky Goff contributed to this article.

Charges (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Integrity Auto Group owner Robert Taylor, 50, of Cullman was arrested Tuesday, July 13, for attempted theft of property first-degree, and second-degree forgery, both felony charges.

Cullman Police Department Sergeant Chuck Shikle executed the two warrants on Taylor at his place of business on Tuesday after an investigation into the allegations.

According to Shikle, a victim from Hartselle had filled a report about the theft of his vehicle by Mr. Taylor.

"The story that Taylor provided didn't match the facts we found during the investigation," Shikle said.

"During the course of the investigation, that the vehicle appeared to be obtained through fraudulent means; that's where the forgery portion came in." He went on to say that the Hartselle resident was able to retrieve the vehicle before the sale was completed. "Today, there were 20 complaints so far taken by the police department and investigators are trying to determine if the complaints are criminal in nature or civil in regard to Mr. Taylor and just business."

CPD Public Relations officer Adam Clark and the Cullman Police Department encourage anyone who thinks they may have been victimized by Robert Taylor with Integrity Auto Group to contact the Cullman Police Department at 256-734-1434.

Grant (from Front)

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

COLONY, Ala. – The Colony Town Council celebrated good news on Tuesday evening, as Finance Committee Chairman Michael Johnson announced that the town will receive funding from the American Rescue Plan. Johnson said that Colony received a total of $61,990 from the federal COVID-19 recovery fund, with $34,316.17 arriving as soon as next week and the balance coming some time next year. The council did not discuss possible uses of the money.

"I'd like to thank everyone who worked on this," said Johnson. "This was prior to me being on the council, so kudos to everyone who worked on this."

During the public comment portion of the meeting, former mayor Donnis Leeth challenged the town's use of a paid grant writer not voted on by the council. Johnson countered that, whatever percentage of the grant the writer received, the remainder was money the town would not have otherwise.

The council held a first reading of a resolution to seek a grant for assistance in repairing local roads.

According to the resolution, funding will be used on four roads in the following order of priority:

1. Byars Road
2. Johnson Circle
3. Wooley Road
4. Fields Boulevard

Johnson told the council and audience that he and Streets and Drainage Committee Chairperson Mary Parker will visit every street in Colony this Thursday to survey conditions. Parker encouraged residents to notify the council about road issues via the suggestion box at Town Hall.

The council also gave a first reading to a resolution to name Earline Johnson as Colony's town historian. The resolution noted her previous research and writings on Colony history, as well as her lifelong residency in the town.

Councilwoman Jasmine Cole, chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Committee, told the council that the recent Fourth of July celebration was a success and raised $140. She also announced a talent show coming up July 31, and a Colony Day celebration Aug. 7. Look for more information in a separate story.

The Colony Town Council meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at Colony Town Hall. Work session begins at 5:40 p.m. and meeting begins at 6 p.m. The public is invited to attend.



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IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
BILLY RAY STEWART, * CASE NO. PC 2021 - 164
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE: Letters Testamentary having been granted to Linda Farmer and Keith Stewart, as Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of BILLY RAY STEWART, deceased, on the 30th day of June, 2021, all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Linda R. Farmer
LINDA FARMER
Keith Stewart
KEITH STEWART

Co-Personal Representatives

Shay Persall

Attorney for Co-Personal Representatives

OF COUNSEL
ST. JOHN & ST. JOHN, LLC
108 3rd Street SE
Cullman, AL 35055
Telephone: (256) 734-3542
shay@stjohnfirm.com

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

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

Tammy Brown, Probate Judge

PB WIL BK 103 PG 181 - 06/29/2021 11:25 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2021-142

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF JAMES DOUGLAS CHANCE, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to James Baxter Carter on the 29th day of June, 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.

James Baxter Carter
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 PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Cullman will hold a public hearing on August 9, 2021 at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in the Lucille N. Galin Auditorium at Cullman City Hall located at 204 Second Avenue NE, Cullman, Alabama 35055. At this time, anyone wishing to be heard in favor of or in opposition to the adoption of Ordinance No. 2021-41 (set forth in full below) will be given an opportunity to speak.

Wesley M. Moore, City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 2021 - 41
TO AMEND THE CITY OF CULLMAN ZONING ORDINANCE

SECTION I. PURPOSE. The purpose of this Ordinance is to modify, amend, or delete portions of the current Zoning Ordinance.

SECTION II. Table 8-3: Parking Lot Dimensional Requirements of Section 62-112 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Cullman, Alabama, is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

Table 8-3: Parking Lot Dimensional Requirements

Parking Angle	Stall Width (A)	Stall Length (B)	Stall Depth (C)	Curb Length (D)	Aisle Width (E)		Interlock (F)
					One-Way	Two-Way	
0°	9 ft	20 ft	9 ft	20 ft	12 ft	20 ft	n/a
30°	9 ft	18 ft	17 ft	18 ft	15 ft	20 ft	3.9 ft
45°	9 ft	18 ft	19 ft	12.8 ft	15 ft	20 ft	3.2 ft
60°	9 ft	18 ft	20 ft	10.4 ft	20 ft	24 ft	2.3 ft
90°	9 ft	18 ft	18 ft	9 ft	20 ft	24 ft	n/a

SECTION III. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. Each and every provision of this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an independent provision and that holding of any provision hereof to be void and invalid for any reason shall not affect any other provision hereof and it is hereby declared that the other provisions of this Ordinance would have been enacted regardless of any provision which might have been held invalid. This Ordinance repeals any prior Ordinance in conflict therewith.

SECTION IV. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall be effective following its passage, approval and publication as required by law.

Submitted by Wesley M. Moore, City Clerk

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, will hold a public hearing on August 23, 2021 at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in the Lucille N. Galin Auditorium at City Hall, 204 Second Avenue NE, Cullman, Alabama 35055. At this time, anyone wishing to be heard in favor of or in opposition to the adoption of Ordinance No. 2021-42 (set forth in full below) will be given an opportunity to speak.

Wesley M. Moore, City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-42
TO VACATE AND SURPLUS PROPERTY NOT NEEDED FOR ANY PUBLIC OR MUNICIPAL PURPOSE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

1. The City of Cullman is the owner of the right-of-way located behind St. Joseph Drive NW, Cullman, Alabama 35055.
2. The Cullman City Council finds and determines that this property is not needed by the City of Cullman for public or municipal purposes and hereby vacates the property and declares it surplus.
3. The City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to sell this property for its fair market value.
4. This ordinance shall become effective upon its passage and publication as required by law.

Submitted by Wesley M. Moore, City Clerk

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Obituary Announcements: July 14

Billy Ray Mitchell, 88, of Cullman
Funeral service for Billy Ray Mitchell, 88, of Cullman will be at 11 a.m., Friday, July 16, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Steve Rodgers officiating. Interment will be in Holly Pond Cemetery. The visitation will be Thursday evening at the funeral home from 5:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Mitchell family. Mr. Mitchell passed away Tuesday, July 13, at his residence. He was born July 27, 1932, to Arthur Claude and Ola Mae Feemster Mitchell, Sr. He loved his family and loved fishing and Braves baseball. He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife: Betty Jean 'Shotgun' Mitchell, his brothers and a sister. Survivors include his brother: Arthur Claude 'Junior' Mitchell; son: Michael (Colette) Mitchell; daughters: Denice (Tony) Barnett and Pat (Charles) Harrison; grandchildren: Adam (Lindsay) Harrison, Jon (Hannah) Harrison, Amanda (Preston) Moore, Calista Mitchell, Bama Mitchell, Brittney (Jonathan) Heron and Courtney Barnett (Tyler Barrett); great-grandchildren: Charli Rae Taylor, Caleb, Brooks, Blakely and Eli Harrison and Raynger Heron; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Joshua Zelion Haney, 36, of Vinemont
Visitation for Joshua Zelion Haney, age 36, of Vinemont, will be from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Friday, July 16, 2021, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with interment in Enon Baptist Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Haney passed away Tuesday, July 13. He was born Sept. 10, 1984, in Ashville, Alabama to Chuck and Freida Sims. He was preceded in death by his parents. Survivors include his wife: Angela Haney; children: Austin Tankersley, Hayden Chandler, Victoria Chandler, Alex Tankersley and Weston Tankersley; sisters: Elaina Hill and Connie White and brother: Waylon Haney.

Bobbie June Henson Peppers, 57
Bobbie June Henson Peppers, 57, passed away July 10. She was born to Robert Alan and Carolyn June Owens Henson June 30, 1964. Ms. Peppers is preceded in death by her parents and a sister: Belinda Henson Campbell. She is survived by her daughters: Krystle Peppers and Keisha Peppers; sister: Rhonda Henson Spurling; a host of grandchildren and a great-grandchild. Graveside services for Ms. Peppers will be held at Liberty Hill Cemetery at 2 p.m., Thursday, July 15. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Peppers family.

Mr. Jon Carlos Betts Sr., 77
Mr. Jon Carlos Betts Sr. of Hanceville, Alabama passed away July 13, at the age of 77. He was born July 22, 1943, in Michigan to Alfred Victor and Margo VanBeverslay Betts. He is preceded in death by his parents; infant brother: Jonathan Betts and grandchildren: Brody and Lane Betts. Mr. Betts was a forester and he worked for North Alabama Forest Products until his retirement. Funeral services are Sunday, July 18, at 2 p.m. at Moss Funeral Home Chapel with Dr. F. Todd Henderson officiating. Interment will follow services in Cullman City Cemetery. Survivors are wife: Sandra Phillips Betts; sons: Jon C. "Jay" Betts Jr. and wife Melissa, Christopher T. Betts and wife Tomeka, Craig A. Betts and wife Kelly; sister: Jocelyn Betts Prevost and husband Robert; brothers: Joel Betts and wife Arlene, Jeri Betts and wife Patty; grandchildren: Hunter Betts, Jon Betts III, Braxton Betts, Carrie Betts, Landon Betts and Madison Betts. Visitation is Saturday, July 17, at Moss Funeral Home from 6-9 p.m. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.mossservicefh.co. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

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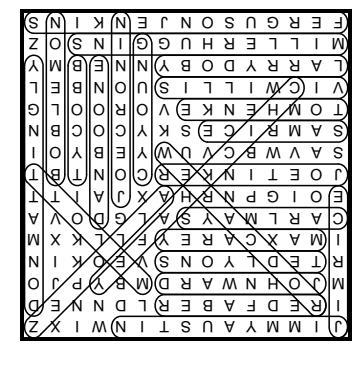
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Vic Willis

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JULY 15, 2021

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Wallace State plans $500,000 Winston County Community Learning Center

Gail Crutchfield
WSCC

ARLEY, Ala. – Wallace State Community College and the Arley Town Council solidified plans Monday night to establish a $500,000 Community Learning Center on town property next to Meek Baptist Church. A resolution passed by the town council agreed to lease the 4.2-acre property to Wallace State for $1 a year.

A $230,000 supplemental appropriation secured by state legislators Rep. Tim Wadsworth and Senators Greg Reed and Garlan Gudger Jr., made it possible to put the plans fully in motion. With a countywide average college attendance rate of 41% for high school graduates and around 23% of the county's population without a high school diploma, area leaders see the development as extremely beneficial to the community.

"I think once you get a college in your area, it helps. The community will grow," said Rep. Wadsworth. "This is something we've been working on for a couple of years. We're very fortunate we were able to get some funds in the budget this time."

Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics shared some of the plans for the Winston County Community Learning Center with the town council and members of the community in attendance.

The college proposed a 4,550-square-foot facility that could include eight classrooms and computer labs that can be used for college classes, Adult Education, Community Education, Dual Enrollment and more.

"To our principals, what we want to do is first of all serve the community, and in that community, we want to serve your high school graduates and your nontraditional students, your adults," Dr. Karolewics said. "I want to work with you to improve the college going rate of students here in Winston County. It's hard for them to leave home and drive a long way to access college. What we want to do is make dual enrollment more accessible. We want to make our main campus classes more accessible."

The facility will have Adult Education staff and a career coach on-site, Karolewics said, "So, we'll have connections to what we offer on the main campus as well as Adult Education classes here."

With funds secured by the Alabama Community College System for dual enrollment, Karolewics said the college will use some of that for students at Meek, Addison and Winston County high schools.

More funds secured by ACCS will be used to offer rapid skills training through the ACCS Innovation Center. "We'll have an opportunity to connect through online portals to non-credit, rapid skills training and actually bring skills training here," Karolewics said.

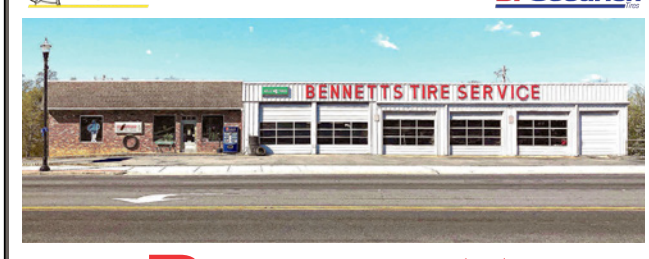
According to Dr. Karolewics, timing of the completion of construction of the prefabricated building that will house the Winston County Community Learning Center will coincide with the installation of Sprout Fiber internet service.

"I think this is great for our community and I hope it's good for y'all," said Arley Mayor Chris Tyree, before the council passed the resolution leasing the property to the college.

"It's a true blessing," Arley resident and retired educator Diane Allison said of the project.

Previously, Wallace State established Winston County Works in 2016, helping hundreds of residents with short-term basic skills training to support industry-recognized certification and credentials, and facilitating employment opportunities for participants in high-growth and high-demand occupations. It also encapsulated the Ready to Work program and continued offering Adult Education classes for those seeking their GED certificates.

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