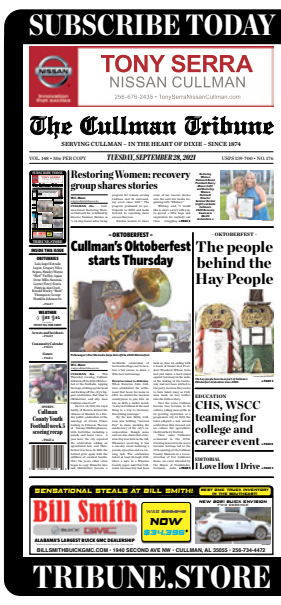
NISSAN
Innovation that excites
TONY SERRA
NISSAN CULLMAN
256-676-2435 • TonySerraNissanCullman.com

The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

VOL. 148 • 50¢ PER COPY | THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 | USPS 139-700 • NO. 177

SUBSCRIBE TODAY



TRIBUNE.STORE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OBITUARIES

Billy Wayne "Cotton" Starnes, Oliver Edwin Duke, Carrie Lee Swann, Toni Taylor Ramage, Felton Sams, Crysta Rosalie Shaw, Tammy Sue Matchen

» PAGE 7

WEATHER

83 64

SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

PATCHY FOG THEN MOSTLY CLOUDY

Arrests and Incidents
» PAGE 2

Community Calendar
» PAGE 3



HOWARD COLE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

Local squads preparing for critical region games

» PAGE 4

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Cullman City Council passes $182 million 2022 budget

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman City Council on Monday evening approved its fiscal year 2022 budget totaling $182,221,169 in projected expenses with equivalent revenues. The grand total almost doubled last year's grand total of $93,833,075. The largest single operating fund, the General Fund, totaled $48,338,554, a 26% increase over last year.

The new budget includes increases in pay and benefits for all city employees.

The budget was broken down into multiple funds including:

- General Fund Budget - $48,338,554
- Property and Sales Tax Fund - $8,630,000

Miscellaneous and Special Fund Budgets

- Rebuild Alabama Gas Tax Fund - $245,000
- Four Cent Gas Tax Fund - $214,700
- Seven Cent Gas Tax Fund - $384,000
- Industrial Purpose Fund - $164,000
- Lodging Tax Fund - $1,270,000
- Industrial Purpose Fund - $92,000
- Alabama Trust

» PAGE 5

– EDUCATION –

Cullman County and City School students honor former Vinemont teacher Savanna Davis



CONTRIBUTED

Vinemont Elementary students gather to celebrate their beloved teacher.

Ashlyn Grey
ashlyn@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN COUNTY, Ala. — A sea of red entrenched students across both city and county schools of Cullman today as they stood together to mourn the loss of one of their own, Savanna Terry Davis of Vinemont Elementary School. Posts across social media and campuses alike have given tribute to the widely loved teacher and alumni of Vinemont schools.

Savanna passed away last Thursday, Sept. 23, from COVID-19 complications, leaving behind a hole in the hearts of the family, friends, co-workers and students that love her dearly. On Monday, Sept. 27, a vigil was held at Vinemont High School, and was attended by Vinemont students and teachers to honor her.

With few dry eyes present, Vinemont Elementary's Coach Josh Drake addressed the students to say, "I went in Savanna's room

» PAGE 6



CONTRIBUTED

The end of the best chapter

Cullman County Public Library Children's Librarian Jamelle Dimbo holds last storytime before retirement



RENEE WELSH

Jamelle Dimbo assists children at the craft table during her final storytime with CCPLS.

» PAGE 8

Cullman Airport $4 million runway under construction; scheduled to be completed by December

» PAGE 5

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Deceased man found in Cullman storage unit identified

» PAGE 7

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Good Hope City Council passes 2022 budget at Monday meeting

» PAGE 5

SENSATIONAL STEALS AT BILL SMITH!
BEST GMC TRUCK INVENTORY IN THE SOUTHEAST!
Bill Smith
BUICK GMC
ALABAMA'S LARGEST BUICK GMC DEALERSHIP
WAS $38,645
NOW
$34,395*
NEW 2021 BUICK ENVISION
FWD ESSENCE



STK#14256
*Notates all rebates applied, must have 2005 or newer qualifying trade in. Prices are plus tax, title, & fee. Colors may vary.
BILLSMITHBUICKGMC.COM • 1940 SECOND AVE NW • CULLMAN, AL 35055 • 256-734-4472

© 2021 THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Sept. 28-29

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported September 29, 2021. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No incidents or arrests reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Sept. 23

• third-degree burglary; person; Dripping Springs Rd. NW; miscellaneous; $5,100
• third-degree theft of property; Lowe's; Cherokee Ave. SW; general merchandise; $805

Sept. 27

• fourth-degree theft of property; person; 3rd Ave. NE; miscellaneous; $105
• unauthorized use of vehicle; person
• third-degree theft of property; fraudulent use of credit/debit card; person; miscellaneous charges

Sept. 28

• fourth-degree theft of property; The Foundry; 2nd Ave. SW; miscellaneous; $50
• third-degree criminal mischief; person; 3rd St. SE; damaged mailbox; $200
• duty upon striking unattended vehicle; person; Lee Ave. SW; damage to '20 Toyota Tacoma; $3,000

ARRESTS

Sept. 27

Oliver, Michael A.; 44
• FTA- public intoxication
• FTA- false information to police officer
• FTA- third-degree criminal trespass
• FTA- driving without driver's license
• FTA- insurance violation

Smith, Barbara A.; 65
• third-degree theft of property

Cranford, Mason A.; 37
• FTA- fourth-degree theft of property

Beasley, Anthony R.; 50
• FTA- fourth-degree receiving stolen property
• FTA- fourth-degree theft of property

Sept. 28

Sellers, Van T.; 35
• FTA- improper lights

Turney, Kimberly M.; 46
• FTA- fourth-degree theft of property
• FTA- driving while license suspended
• FTA- no tag light

Merrill, Jay L.; 60
• fourth-degree theft of property

Watson, Ryan A.; 32
• FTA- fourth-degree theft of property
• FTA- insurance violation

Powell, Nathan A.; 30
• FTA- speeding

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No incidents or arrests reported.

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

EDUCATION

Cullman County Schools releases revised COVID-19 protocol

Ty Watwood
Contributor

Positive diagnosis of student or staff: Per ADPH guidelines, positives must stay home for 10 days following the onset of symptoms or the positive test result. Individuals should be 24 hours without fever or fever-reducing medications and experience symptom improvement before returning from isolation.

Close contact: Someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period, starting from two days before the infected person had symptoms OR if no symptoms, two days before the positive specimen collection date.

• Parents of students who possibly come in close contact with a positive individual will be notified. An exposure notification from ADPH will be sent home with the student.
• If close contact is properly masked, it is not necessary to send the close contact home if they are asymptomatic.
• Close contacts that are fully vaccinated will not be sent home if they are asymptomatic.
• Close contacts that had a positive test in the past three months will not be sent home if they are asymptomatic.
• The identified close contact will be sent home for 10 days after the last exposure.
• New Guidance: If a student remains symptom-free, they may return on day eight if they receive a negative test. That test MUST be performed on days five, six or seven following the date of exposure. The close contact MUST present the negative test result to the school before returning. Home COVID tests are NOT acceptable.

Mask and facial coverings: Masks and facial coverings are strongly recommended while indoors; however, they will not be required at this time. Masks will be required for everyone while on school buses to comply with the federal CDC order.

Vaccinations: Vaccinations are not required but are highly recommended for students ages 12 and older.

Self-Assess: Parents need to screen their children at home for signs or symptoms of any illness. A child with a temperature that is greater than 100 degrees or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 must stay at home.

LEGALS

SPECIAL NOTICE RE LOCAL LAWS

NO SPECIAL, PRIVATE, OR LOCAL LAW CAN BE PASSED, except in reference to fixing the time of holding courts, unless notice of the intention to apply therefore shall have been published, without cost to the State, in the county or counties where the matter or thing to be affected may be situated. The notice must state the substance of the proposed law and be published at least once a week for four consecutive weeks in some newspaper published in such county or counties. The publication must have been completed prior to the day on which the bill is introduced.

Proof by affidavit (proof of publication) which verifies that notice has been properly published must be exhibited to the House of Representatives and the Senate, and one copy of the proof must be attached to the original copy of the bill which is offered for introduction.

The county or municipality affected by a local law introduced by a legislator must pay for advertising the notice, if the notice is signed by the Legislator, even though the bill is not passed. (Section 11-13-6, Code of Alabama 1975)

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY

NOTICE is hereby given that a bill substantially as follows will be introduced in the 2022 Regular Session of the Legislature of Alabama and application for its passage and enactment will be made:

A BILL

TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

Relating to Cullman County; amending Section 1 of Act 2020-160 of the 2020 Regular Session, now appearing as Section 45-22-224, Code of Alabama 1975, to provide that the Battleground School Historical Board may transfer ownership of the Battleground School property by a vote of the board; and deleting the additional requirement of a referendum.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 1 of Act 2020-160, of the 2020 Regular Session, now appearing as Section 45-22-224, Code of Alabama 1975, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"§45-22-224.

"(a) In Cullman County, the Battleground School Historical Board is established to own, operate, manage, and preserve the former Battleground School property in the unincorporated community of Battleground, including any ball fields and other historical structures, owned by the Cullman County Board of Education. The Battleground School Historical Board shall be composed of five members appointed by the Cullman County Legislative Delegation for terms of four years. Members of the board shall continue to serve until a successor is appointed. Members of the board are immune from civil liability for actions taken in the conduct of their duties to the extent allowed under Section 36-1-12.

"(b)(1) The Battleground School Historical Board may accept title to the former Battleground School property owned by the Cullman County Board of Education and may hold the property for the benefit and use of the public, particularly the unincorporated community of Battleground. The Battleground School Historical Board may receive state, local, and other governmental funding and may accept charitable donations.

"(2) The board may ~~not~~ sell or transfer ownership of the property ~~unless approved by~~ upon approval of a majority ~~vote~~ of the board ~~and then by a majority vote of the qualified electors in the unincorporated community of Battleground at a referendum called by the judge of probate and held during the following general election~~.

"(c) The Battleground School Historical Board may be reorganized as an unincorporated nonprofit association or other entity authorized by law by unanimous consent of the board."

Section 2. This act shall become effective immediately following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

CLASSIFIEDS

SERVICES

ADVERTISE STATEWIDE or by Region in over 100 Newspapers, reaching over 1 million readers each week! Run your ad in our Classified Network for just $210 per week! Make one call to this newspaper (participating Ala-SCAN newspaper) or call 1-800-264-7043 to find out how easy it is to advertise statewide!

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 833-449-1307.

BECOME A PUBLISHED AUTHOR! We edit, print and distribute your work internationally. We do the work... You reap the Rewards! Call for a FREE Author's Submission Kit: 888-283-4780

LONG DISTANCE MOVING: Call today for a FREE QUOTE from America's Most Trusted Interstate Movers. Let us take the stress out of moving! Speak to a Relocation Specialist, call 844-925-3534.

EDUCATION

ATTENTION ACTIVE Duty & Military Veterans! Begin a new career and earn your Degree at CTI! Online Computer & Medical training available for Veterans & Families! To learn more, call 866-475-1014 (M-F 8am-6pm ET).

HEALTH/BEAUTY

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. FREE information kit. Call 844-322-9935.

ATTENTION: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - $99 + FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 866-505-0828.

FOR SALE

DIRECTV SATELLITE SERVICE starting at $59.99/month! 1 Year Price Lock! 155+ Channels available. Call Now to get the Most Sports on TV! 888-404-2087.

NEED NEW Flooring? Call Empire Today to schedule a Free in-home estimate on Carpeting and Flooring. Call Today! 1-888-381-0916.

UPDATE YOUR HOME with Beautiful New Blinds & Shades. FREE in-home estimates make it convenient to shop from home. Professional installation. Top quality - Made in the USA. Call for free consultation: 844-809-9165. Ask about our specials!

AUTOMOTIVE

SUPPORT THE BLIND! Donate a car to the American Council of the Blind. FAST FREE PICKUP. 24 hour response. Running or not. maximum tax deduction and no emission test required! Call 24/7: 844-601-1342.

VEHICLE TITLE Problems? We have a solution! Call Jason Steward Enterprises, We're Alabama's #1 Vehicle Title Problem Experts! Free telephone consultation. North AL 1-256-850-0527, Central AL 1-205-267-5735, South AL 1-251-342-8538.

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

Wednesday, Sept. 29, 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.

*The dashboard has been redesigned to help people better understand the current transmission levels in their communities and the impact of COVID-19 in Alabama. The moving 7-day sum is updated daily instead of weekly--instead of a 3, 7 and 14-day average, the dashboard will provide a 7-day moving sum for cases. The 2020 and 2021 breakdowns of cases and deaths will be provided - not just a total sum over both years.

Case details* (Updated Monday, Wednesday and Friday)

• Change in Cases: -22.7% (No update available)
• Positivity in Tests: 13.3%
• Confirmed cases in Alabama (2020): 388,323
• Confirmed cases in Alabama (2021): 406,450 (+ 4,066 since Wednesday)
• Total confirmed deaths in Alabama (2020): 7,186
• Total confirmed deaths in Alabama (2021): 7,014 (+ 172 since Wednesday)
• Change in cases in Cullman Co.: - 18.8% (No update available)
• Positivity in tests in Cullman Co.:7.2%
• Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co. (2020): 7,589
• Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co. (2021): 7,224 (+ 154 since Wednesday)
• Deaths in Cullman Co. (2020): 129
• Deaths in Cullman Co. (2021): 134 (+ 5 since Friday)
• Total tested in Cullman Co. in the last 7 days: 1,495
• Total tested positive in Cullman Co. in the last 7 days: 108
• Total tested in Alabama in the last 7 days: 55,376
• Total positive tests in Alabama in the last 7 days: 7,383
• Currently hospitalized in Alabama: 1,382

Vaccine details (updated Tuesday and Thursday)

• Doses delivered to Alabama: 6,401,385
• Doses delivered to Alabama providers: 3,712,465
• Doses administered: 4,292,717
• Number of people receiving one or more doses: 2,442,638
• Number of people who have completed vaccine series: 1,980,910
• Doses delivered to federal programs: 2,688,920

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

Variants of SARS-CoV-2

Variants of SARS-CoV-2 continue to circulate in Alabama and pose a significant threat of increased disease. Variants of concern reported, as of July 9, are Alpha (820 cases), Beta (2 cases), Gamma (31 cases) and Delta (56 cases). These variants are more transmissible, specifically the Alpha and the Delta, and some variants have less response to treatments such as monoclonal antibodies.

Percent positivity escalates

Alabama's current statewide percent positivity for COVID-19 has increased to its highest level since February 2021, at 7.7%. This is equal to the percent positivity recorded April 3, when vaccines had not been readily available.

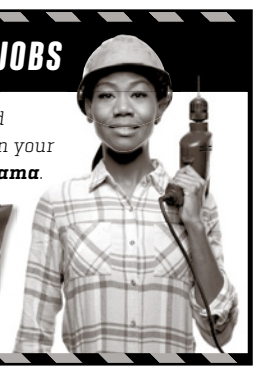
Make vaccination a priority

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 vaccine shields vulnerable people and saves lives.



A-1 Battery Supply
AUTO – TRUCK – TRACTOR
Quality Batteries For Every Need
Since 1979
2152 Co. Rd. 1169 • Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (Office): 256-727-4266

ALABAMA CONSTRUCTION JOBS



LEARN MORE about high-demand skilled trades and construction positions. Begin your construction career with **Go Build Alabama**.

- CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
- CONSTRUCTION TRAINING
- SKILLED APPRENTICESHIPS

GO BUILD
APPLY TODAY GoBuildAl.com

WRECKER/TOW TRUCK Driver

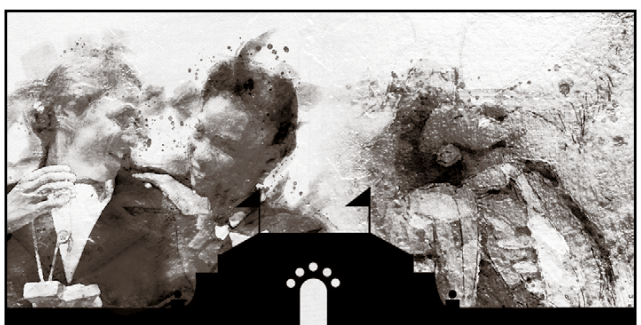
CDL drivers license, clean driving record, clean criminal record, able to pass DOT physical, able to pass pre-employment drug and alcohol screening, must be 21 years of age or older, good positive work ethics.

NO PHONE CALLS

Stop in office to fill out application
Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

BENEFITS: BCBS Insurance, Life Insurance, Dental Insurance and 401K

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



ALABAMA SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL
STORIES FOR ALL
A PLACE FOR EVERYONE
334.271.5353 | ASF.NET

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

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 daily Tuesday, Thursday and 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.....$125.00
OUTSIDE CULLMAN.....$250.00

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.
• Mondays-Fridays: 5 Points Food Outreach -CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO COVID
• 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 1-2 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.
• Sept. 29, 7 p.m.: Children and youth classes. Adult men's class: "Be the Man," Adult women's class "Design Your Life"
• Oct. 3, 9 a.m.: Van runs in 5 Points Area. Call 256-841-2060 for pickup. Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. Small group classes for children, youth and adults at 10 a.m. 11 a.m. Message "LEAD ME LORD!" by Pastor Bobby Dodd
• Oct. 10, 10 a.m.: Come join us and hear our special guest-Jeanette Taylor-talk about her deliverance from domestic violence. October is Domestic Violence Month.
• Oct. 30, 4-8 p.m.: FALL FESTIVAL -games, prizes, bouncy houses, free candy and free food. Bring your children and enjoy the fun!
• Kids Loving Kids Birthday Blessings serves children ages 1-18 in need of assistance to celebrate their birthday. Register your child and pick up a birthday box with cake mix, icing, sprinkles, decorations and toys! Pick up is the last weekend of the month. Saturday (5100 Curry Highway Suite 100-B Jasper AL 35504) from 3-5 p.m. or the last Sunday of the month at Spirit Life Church Cullman from 12:30-1 p.m. Birth certificate is required at the time of box pickup. Register at https://form.jotform.com/203-435614640045. For more information, text or call 205-717-7478.
• Kids Loving Kids -outreach program to provide CHRISTMAS gifts for children ages infant-18 yrs. to help parents in need of assistance. Register now through midnight on Nov. 15 for December pickup. https://form.jotform.com/202483601332041 or facebook.com/kidslovingkids and look for registration info there. For more information, text or call 205-717-7478.
• Saturday, Sept. 18, from 9-11 a.m. Drive-thru food bank. Bring an ID.

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 take-out 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.

Grief Share Meetings Fall Semester (Cullman First Baptist Church)
August – November: The fall semester of Grief Share is taking place at Cullman First Baptist Church. Weekly meetings are at 6 p.m. on Tuesdays in Room 215.
• These meetings will run through Nov. 9. Anyone who has experienced the loss of a friend or loved one is welcomed to join us for this faith-based program to help deal with the effects of grief and loss.
• Workbooks for the semester are $15, but scholarship funds are available for anyone who would like to attend. You can register online at https://www.griefshare.org/ or just show up a little early for the next meeting. Please contact Tammie Dunkling at 256-339-2999 with any questions.

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

Agriplex Children's Summer/Fall Camp Programs
• 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.

Friends of The Friends of the Public Libraries of Cullman County 5K Run
Sept. 24-30 - The 2nd Annual Book It Virtual 5k Run/Walk and One Mile Fun Run will take place from Sept. 24-30. Registration is $25. To register, please visit www.ccpls.com or call 860-818-7601.

Holly Pond Volunteer Fire Department Pancake Breakfast
• Oct 2 - This Saturday, Oct. 2, Holly Pond Fire Department will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast from 6:30-9:30 a.m. Donations will be accepted. Each plate will include a chance to win a free fire extinguisher. You can also sign up to receive free smoke detectors for your home.
• Please come out to meet and support the Holly Pond Volunteer Fire Department.

Pleasant View Fall Revival And Singing
• Sept. 27-29 - Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church will have a fall revival, Monday-Wednesday, September 27-29, starting at 7 p.m. Prayer band will be at 6:45. The evangelist is Adam Edmondson. Everyone is welcome.
• Pleasant View Homecoming Service
• Oct. 17 - Our annual homecoming service will be Sunday, Oct. 17, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Lunch will be served. Singing will start back around 1:30 that afternoon, featuring "Bama Blu-Grace." Everyone is invited. All former pastors and members and their families have a special invitation to attend. We will not have service that night. 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.

Cullman County Bosom Buddies' 2nd Annual Little Pink Dress Benefit
• Oct. 5: The Little Pink Dress Benefit in Coming! Get out your pink and join us for the 2nd Annual Little Pink Dress Benefit!
• This year, we will be at Loft 212 Tuesday, Oct. 5. Doors open at 5:30 for social hour, with dinner to follow. Nick Canaday will be our entertainment and Christina Chambers will serve as emcee. There will be a live auction to close the evening, with Samual Tucker as our auctioneer.
• Come join us in support of a great cause. All proceeds benefit the Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation, Inc. Tickets may be purchased at Options, 2201 Second Ave. NW,Cullman, or online at: https://www.cullmanbosombuddies.com/. Call 256-347-5993 for more info.

St. Paul's Oktoberfest Youth Fundraiser
Oct. 9: Join us for pretzels, brats and more! Hosted by St. Pauls' Youth as a fundraiser for their 2024 trip to Germany. Saturday, Oct. 9 starting at 4 p.m. in St. Paul's Lutheran Church gym. Tickets are $10 and are available at the church office

Cullman County Republican Women's Meeting
• Oct. 12 - The Cullman County Republican Women's Meeting will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 12, at 6 p.m. at the VFW building located at 112 Veterans Dr SW Cullman AL 35055.
• The guest speaker for our Oct. 12 meeting will be Lynda Blanchard, candidate for US Senate. Also, Dave Ozment, of the Foundry Ministries, will be making omelettes for everyone.
• The public is encouraged to attend.

EARL'S BODY SHOP
2251 Decatur Ave., N.W.
734-2406

THE BARN
Portable Storage Buildings
Hanceville, AL
352-2737

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

Protect with 3!
✔ Tdap ✔ HPV ✔ MCV4
Protect your patients against vaccine preventable diseases.

As healthcare professionals, it is up to you to ensure your patients remain up to date with their vaccines.

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

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

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

1 OUT OF 10
ELDERLY PERSONS AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES ARE BEING:
Abused, Neglected or Exploited
If you suspect this is happening to someone you know, please report it to Adult Protective Services by contacting your local DHR office or calling the
ADULT ABUSE HOTLINE at 1-800-458-7214
HELP STOP THE ABUSE
IF YOU SEE IT, REPORT IT
APS
ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES
1-800-458-7214
There's no excuse for
ELDER ABUSE



"This project was supported by Subgrant #18-VA-VS-050 awarded by the Law Enforcement/Traffic Safety Division of ADECA and the U.S. Department of Justice." The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice or grant-making component."

PREP FOOTBALL

Local squads preparing for critical region games

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – With the first half of the regular season behind us, every game becomes more important each week and this week is loaded with important regional matchups for all of our local teams. Fairview, Good Hope, Addison and Vinemont will be on the road Friday night for their region contests while Cullman, Arab, West Point, Hanceville, Cold Springs and Meek are hosting region foes.

Cullman (4-2) v. Decatur (1-4)
The Bearcats are riding high after smothering 2A no. 1 Mars Hill 49-7 at home last week and they'll be back in Oliver Woodard Stadium Friday night to take on Decatur in a regional showdown. The Red Raiders had last week off to rest up and prepare for the trip to Cullman and they collected their first win of the season over Buckhorn the week before.

However, Decatur may be stronger than its record indicates. The Red Raiders have lost several tight games against good teams this season and after downing Buckhorn two weeks ago, they'll be looking to build some momentum in their game at Cullman this week. The Bearcats have won three in a row coming into Friday night's game and if they can continue to be explosive on offense and stingy on defense, they'll have a great chance to make it four in a row.

Arab (5-1) v. Pell City (1-4)
The Knights are red-hot right now, having won four games in a row coming into this week's regional matchup against Pell City. Arab has outscored its opponents 128-27 in its last four games and plans to add to that total Friday night. The Panthers have dropped back to back games against Oxford and Calera coming into this week's game and they've had issues handling opposing offenses all season. Teams are scoring 30 points per game against Pell City so far this season and things won't get any easier when the Panthers arrive at Arab Friday night. If the Knights can stay hot and play the way they've been playing the last four weeks, they should be able to handle Pell City and keep their win streak alive.

Fairview (4-1) at Boaz (5-1)
The Aggies had the week off last week, giving them a little more time to prepare and rest up for a massive trip to Boaz Friday night. The matchup with the Pirates will be critical in the Region 7 standings.

Boaz is 3-0 in region play and Fairview sits just behind them at 2-1. The Pirates fell at Madison County early in the year but have won four in a row since that game and have dominated their opponents in that stretch. Boaz is allowing just under 14 points per game so the Aggies' high-powered offense will be tested again Friday night. Fairview is posting nearly 43 points per game so something will have to give when these two hit the field with a massive region win up for grabs.

West Point (3-2) v. Crossville (0-5)
The West Point Warriors are returning home after defeating Hayden on the road 14-6 last week and this week they'll be hosting the Lions of Crossville. The Lions are still looking for their first win of the season after starting 0-5 and have only been able to put 20 total points on the board in their first five games. West Point won last year's meeting in Crossville 35-27 so the Lions will be looking for some payback Friday night but if the Warriors can play sound on both sides of the ball, they'll have a great opportunity to pick up their first region win.

Good Hope (4-2) at Etowah (3-2)
The Raiders will be back on the road Friday night after edging Addison 13-8 at home last week and this week's game will have some big implications in the Region 6 standings. Good Hope has won four straight coming into the game against Etowah while the Blue Devils are looking to bounce back from a 33-27 loss to Fort Payne last week. Etowah and Good Hope are both still unbeaten in region play so a win Friday night would do a lot for both teams' chances at winning the region and building momentum for the second half of the regular season.

Hanceville (2-3) v. Oneonta (5-1)
The Bulldogs are coming off a 26-13 road win over Locust Fork last week but now they have an even bigger test coming to Ray Talley Stadium Friday night. Oneonta has won three in a row by a combined score of 107-22 so the Redskins are riding some momentum into this week's showdown at Hanceville.

The Bulldogs have had some trouble containing strong offensive teams so far this season and they'll have their hands full with Oneonta Friday night. The Redskins are putting up just over 32 points per game this year so the ground game of Hanceville will have to be effective for the Bulldogs to keep pace with Oneonta and have a chance at a massive region win.

Vinemont (2-3) at Winfield (6-0)
After taking last week off, the Vinemont Eagles are now preparing for a big road test at Winfield this week. The Pirates are undefeated and currently sitting on top of the Region 6 standings. Winfield has shut of three of its opponents this season is allowing fewer than 6 points per game so far while scoring over 40 points per game on the offensive side of the ball. The Eagles have won back to back games over Carbon Hill and Tarrant to create some momentum coming into this week's matchup but taking on the top team in the region won't be easy. Vinemont will have to put together its best performance of the season but if it can, the Eagles will have an opportunity to take down

Holly Pond (2-3) v. Tarrant (0-4)
The Broncos had last week off to rest up and prepare for the second half of the regular season and they'll get the final stretch started with a regional matchup against Tarrant. The Wildcats are still looking for their first win of the season and are still looking for their first points of the season as well.

Tarrant has been shut out in all four of its games this fall. The Wildcats had to forfeit last year's matchup with Broncos so it's been a few years since these teams have played on the field but as long as Holly Pond can play solid on both sides of the ball Friday night, the Broncos should be lined up to get a win and get their record back up to .500.

Cold Springs (0-5) v. Addison (3-3)
Addison and Cold Springs are set to square off at Cold Springs Friday night and both teams will be trying to bounce back from road losses last week. The Eagles fell to Falkville while the Bulldogs dropped a close one at Good Hope.

Addison is sitting at 1-2 in the Region 5 standings and Cold Springs is still searching for its first win this season.

A win for the Bulldogs would put them in much better shape in the region standings while a win for the Eagles would create a lot of momentum going into the latter half of the regular season.

Meek (3-2) v. Marion County (5-1)
The Tigers enjoyed the week off last week after a tough road loss to Hubbertville, but they'll be back home Friday night to take on another region foe. Marion County is coming into this week's matchup having won back to back games over Berry and Phillips Bear Creek and is looking for another region win.

The Red Raiders have been stingy on the defensive end this season, allowing just over 13 points per game but now they'll face Meek's offense, which is scoring over 30 points per game.

The Tigers took a loss to Marion County on the road last year, so they'll be looking for a big region win and some payback when the Red Raiders arrive Friday night.

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Cullman sweeps tri-match with Haleyville, Hatton

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman took on Haleyville and Hatton in a pair of non-area matches at home Monday and was able to build some momentum going into some key area contests after sweeping both the Lady Lions and the Lady Hornets 2-0.

Cullman 2 - Haleyville 0 (First Match)
The first set between Haleyville and Cullman went back-and-forth early on. There were four ties as each team didn't have a lead bigger than two. The score was tied at seven when the Lady Bearcats broke that tie with back-to-back kills by Haley Shannon and Gracie Barksdale. Another kill by Shannon stretched the Cullman lead to 11-7. The Lady Lions kept the deficit at four at 15-11, but the Lady Bearcats reeled off five straight points behind a pair of aces by Kaina Thomas. Cullman kept Haleyville at arm's length the rest of the way as the Lady Bearcats picked up a 25-14 win in the first set.

Thomas finished with three points and a kill for Cullman. Barksdale added a pair of points and a pair of kills. Shannon ended up with three kills while Ava Ray picked up a pair of kills.

Game two saw Cullman jump out to a 3-1 lead behind a kill by Barksdale and a point by Thomas. Just like in the first set, both teams went back-and-forth early on. The Lady Bearcats broke a 5-5 tie with 11 straight points as four different players got points during the run. The 11-0 run was the difference in the second set as Cullman rolled to a 25-12 win over the Lady Lions and picked up a 2-0 sweep of Haleyville.

Barksdale and Thomas each finished with three kills and a point for the Lady Bearcats. Payton Smith added a pair of aces. Ray ended up with a pair of points. Jesse Godbee finished with a point while Anna Beth Mauldin ended up with a dig.

Cullman 2 - Hatton 0 (Second Match)
It was a battle in the first set between Cullman and Hatton. The Lady Bearcats held a 6-3 lead after getting three straight points and later made it 8-4 on back-to-back kills by Thomas. But the Lady Hornets quickly made it a one-point game. Every time it looked like Cullman would go on that huge run, Hatton came back with a run of their own. The Lady Bearcats held a 22-15 lead late in the contest, but four straight points by the Lady Hornets made it 22-19. But that's as close as they would get the rest of the way as Cullman picked up a huge 25-20 win in in the opening set.

Barksdale finished with three kills, two points, and an ace for the Lady Bearcats. Thomas added a trio of kills as well, along with a block point. Shannon ended up with a kill and a block point, while Mauldin added a dig.

Game two saw Cullman quickly fall behind 3-1, but behind a kill each by Barksdale and Thomas, the Lady Bearcats reeled off six in a row to grab a 7-3 lead. Cullman later stretched it to 14-7 on another Barksdale kill, but Hatton scored four of the next six points to make it 16-11. The Lady Bearcats got huge points from Thomas and Ray to increase their lead to 19-11 and that ended up being the difference as Cullman went on a 9-2 run the rest of the way to pick up a 25-13 win over the Lady Hornets and finished off their second sweep of the evening.

Barksdale had another big match for the Lady Bearcats, finishing with three kills and two points. Thomas added a pair of kills and a pair of points. Ray ended up with a pair of points and a kill. Natalie Freeman chipped in with a pair of points as well, while Smith added an ace.

Cullman improves to 28-16 on the season with the wins and the Lady Bearcats have a huge area match coming up Tuesday when they host Muscle Shoals.





Good Hope (from Front)

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — The City of Good Hope had a full agenda at its Monday night city council meeting. The council passed its FY2022 budget of $3.1 million including a 3% pay increase for the city's employees. The budget projects an income of $3.3 million.

Set aside in the budget is $220,000 for capital improvements including a new maintenance shop roof, a new F-150 truck, larger skid steer and $73,000 for miscellaneous needs. The budget also included $111,000 from the American Rescue Plan funds for the planned sewer expansion. The council passed an amendment to ordinance 014-2012 after a second reading. The amendment designates the mayor as the superintendent of Good Hope's Wastewater Treatment Plant in addition to the mayor's regular duties. The mayor's salary will increase to $39,000 a year for compensation for the additional duties. A first reading of a proposed lodging tax took place and afterward the council suspended the rules, thus allowing a vote to pass the new tax. The 1.5% lodging tax increase and $3 a night convenience fee will go to fund the Good Hope Parks and Recreation. The existing 3% lodging tax goes to the city's general fund.

In other business, the council approved the following:

- Placement of a three-way stop at Megan Lane and Calvert Road.
- Resolution for Canyon Engineering Services for the sanitary sewer expansion.
- Resolution allowing the City to apply for Alabama Recreational Trails Grant FY 2022.
- Resolution for right of way acquisition and construction agreement for TAP grant for the Calvert Road sidewalk project.

The Good Hope City Council meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. inside the Good Hope City Hall. The public is invited to attend.

Airport (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman Regional Airport started a $4 million runway project on Sept. 1 which is slated to be finished this December.

Airport Manager Ben Harrison said this project has been in the making for the last seven years, along with other projects that have been getting checked off the list to give the airport needed updates.

"We are doing a full rebuild on the runway and it's called a full depth recompilation, or FDR - and we're rebuilding it from the base up," Harrison said. "Along with the runway, we are also getting a new LED lighting system and a new automated weather observation station, or AWOS. This runway project has been on the long-term plan, since 2014. The first projects of the five-year plan were completed two years ago and now we're working through the next stage of our priority list."

Harrison said with these types of improvement projects, one will be completed off the top of the list and then another one added to the bottom of the list, that way, there is always growth and betterment. "This is what we call a (CIP) capital improvement plan," Harrison said. "We laid out priority items years ago- with the board members and the FAA, and ALDOT working with us each year to complete the projects. The AWOS is extremely important and needs to be replaced.

Harrison said this AWOS system is what the National Weather System uses and will be extremely beneficial for the Cullman area. He also shared that for the remainder of the time that the runway is under construction, it will be completely closed.

"The runway is slated to be finished in the middle of December and everything is completely closed to fix wing traffic, but will be open to helicopter traffic," Harrison said. "Many of our other tenants have temporarily moved- Wallace State, Skydive Alabama and others are not currently located here, but will be back in December."

Harrison said the total costs for the rebuilding projects, include the runway, is just under $4 million and AWOS is around $250,000.

"It's going to be really cool here- it's going to be a runway that will last for decades. We will get 40-50 years on this runway," Harrison said. "We will have to do some surface maintenance in the future, but it will lay the foundation out for years. This took a lot of groundwork to get here. It took both the city council and county commission, the airport board. It took the FAA, ALDOT, our engineers, the staff, the tenants that use it, city and county economics, justifying the need for it. The biggest thing is the tenants that use it and businesses that come in and out of it. Without everyone and our airport staff, we wouldn't be able to grow like we have. I want to thank them, all of them, because it's going to pay off once it's finished."

Regarding revenue at the CRA via an annual impact study from ALDOT showed that the airport had 8,578 visitors in 2020. It had an economic impact of $13.78 million and over 700,000 in sales taxes. They spent $9 million and have 141 people that rely on it for employment. They also produce a $4.8 million in payroll for the companies that are locally based, which includes Air Evac, the airport staff, Skydive Alabama, Wallace State and more.

Cullman (from Front)

Fund - $450,000
- Corrections and Court Fund - $71,000
- Court Judicial Fund - $44,000
- Industrial Park Fund - $63,500
- Industrial Access Road Fund - $35,000
- Cullman Building Account - $5,000
- Parks and Recreation Construction Fund - $37,470,000
- Transportation Enhancement - $75,000
- Downtown Revitalization Fund - $1,200,000
- CDBG Neighborhood Projects - $1,350,000
- Debt Service Funds - $35,196,789
- Sewer Fund - $8,203,000
- Water Fund - $20,142,400
- Utilities Board Water Division - $12,286,800
- Airport Fund - $1,234,426
- Parks and Recreation Fund - $5,220,000

Budget highlights include:
General Fund increased to $48,338,554 which is based on the actual revenue collected in 2021. The General Fund budget increased 26% compared to last year ($38,378,448) due to capital and inflation.

Employee Pay
- Developed new and separate Pay Plans for General, Police, Fire and Dispatch.
- All City workers will receive at least a 4% Cost of Living Adjustment.
- Starting pay for all positions increased by approximately $2 per hour.
- Annual Pay Supplement of $800 for full-time employees in November.
- Hour per hour holiday pay for 10 paid holidays (8hrs, 12hrs, and 24hrs).

Employee Benefits
- City absorbed annual increases to health, dental and life insurance for city employees.
- City renewed Air Evac plan for employees and their family.
- CWAC for city employees and provide a discount for their families.
- City negotiated a new benefit package with Aflac.
- Continue to provide cancer insurance for fire.

Cullman City Schools
- Capital Improvement Plan - $600,000.
- Local Property and Sales Tax - $8,630,000.

Administration
- Add Drive Through, Update Bathrooms and Exterior at City Hall - $600,000.

Risk Management
- New Safety Vests for City Employees - $5,000.

Maintenance
- Improvements to large metal building at Greif - $100,000.

Information Technology
- IT equipment - $299,000.

Economic Development
- Land for Industrial purposes - $700,000.
- New industrial park signs - $62,500.

Human Resources
- New HR software - $23,000.

Building
- New inspection software - $35,000.
- Improvements to exterior - $50,000.

Public Works Committee
- Garage - New fleet management software - $16,500.
- Paving budget - $2,253,700.
- Second Avenue streetscape - $1,200,000 TAP grant.
- Warnke Road CDBG Neighborhood Project - $1,350,000 CDBG grant.
- Backhoe - $145,000.
- Crew truck - $115,000.

Traffic
- Large storage building with offices for traffic - $200,000.
- New bucket truck - $150,000.
- TMC Program - $125,000.
- Traffic signal - $118,700.
- Pre-emption AI units - $75,000.

Sanitation
- Cardboard recycling center - $200,000.

Public Safety Committee
- Municipal Court - Restructured pay for municipal court.

Police
- New pay structure for police.
- Seven new fleet vehicles - $245,000.
- Other equipment - $198,900.

City Central Dispatch
- New pay structure for Telecommunicator First Responders.
- Uniforms for Telecommunicator First Responders.

Fire
- New pay structure for Fire.
- Moving to a 26-day cycle from the current 28-day cycle.

Tourism Committee
- Museum - new displays - $27,500.

Parks and Recreation
- Civic Center Complex with Emergency Pandemic Response Center - American Rescue Act.
- Wild Water Waterpark with parking area.
- Burrow Trails & Palomino RV Park Expansion partially funded by Trails Grant.
- Nesmith Park LED lighting - $500,000.
- Skate park - $300,000.
- Gymnastics center - $250,000.
- CWAC new interior paint and flooring for foyer and halls - $150,000.
- Heritage Park bathrooms and paving walking trails/ parking lot - $75,000.

Airport
- Airport Runway rehabilitation - $4,000,000 funded by FAA.
- Airport General Aviation apron - $3,750,000 if funded by FAA.
- Airport taxiway - $500,000 if funded by FAA.

Utilities Committee
- ROW - Two 4WD tractors with flail mowers - $400,000.

Sewer
- Excavator - $134,000.
- Lateral Launch System - $161,000.

Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Restructure Pay Plan for WWTP operators.
- UV equipment - $54,000.
- Clarifier drive and gearbox - $51,000.
- New sludge pump - $21,000.
- Scada upgrade - $17,000.
- Blower for headworks - $16,000.
- Filter media - $13,000.
- Water - Triaxle dump truck - $249,002.
- UB Water - Pay increase for employees.

The budget allows for the transfer of money between funds as needs arise.

911 operators reclassified
The council passed a resolution to reclassify emergency telecommunications staff as first responders, the resolution saying that the City "recognizes Public Safety Telecommunicators are far more than clerical and supports the national movement to reclassify telecommunications as first responders and accurately recognize the scope of the work they do. Additionally, the City of Cullman supports the 911 Saves Act to properly classify the profession of 911/Public Safety Telecommunicators. The Public Safety Telecommunicators shall hereby be designated as First Responders in all policy and procedural considerations in the City of Cullman."

Community Service Contractors named
The council approved a list of contractors with whom the City might negotiate contracts for community services, including:

- American Legion Post No. 4 of Cullman
- Child Advocacy Center of Cullman
- Childhaven
- Cullman 310 Authority
- Cullman Agriplex
- Cullman Area Mental Health (Wellstone)
- Cullman Caring for Kids
- Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce
- Cullman City Board of Education
- Cullman Community Band
- Cullman Community Theater
- Cullman County Commission on Aging
- Cullman County Emergency Management Agency
- Cullman County Extension Service
- Cullman County Health Department
- Cullman County Historical Society
- Cullman County Public Library
- Cullman County Soil and Water Conservation
- Cullman Farmers Market Steering Committee
- Cullman Regional Medical Center
- First Source for Women of Cullman County
- Good Samaritan Clinic
- Hope Horses
- Pilot Light of Cullman County
- The Link of Cullman County
- United Way of Cullman County
- Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 2214 of Cullman
- Victim Services of Cullman

In order to receive contracts, the agencies must provide certain financial and insurance information to the City.

The Cullman City Council meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month in the City Hall auditorium. The public is invited to attend.





Davis (from Front)

on Friday morning, and I looked at her board, and her board— I know everyone has been talking about it— 'Be a rainbow in someone's cloud. Keep shining, the world needs your light.' I got to really ponder on being that rainbow in someone's cloud and Savanna had that effect on everybody here. She was a rainbow in somebody's cloud many days because she never complained about anything, and she did what she was supposed to."

He continued by asking the students, "What makes a rainbow? It has to have light to make a rainbow, does it not? You have to have light to make a rainbow. The Lord put that light in Savanna to make that rainbow. So, I want to challenge everybody to be that rainbow in somebody's cloud."

Vinemont Elementary Principal Kim Brown shared, "As an administrator, sometimes you are lucky enough to meet that teacher that you will know change the lives of her students, and that was Savanna Davis. She was passionate about teaching, she loved her kids, and she worked diligently to help her students succeed. Our whole school family is mourning the loss of a wonderful young woman and teacher. She made a difference in the lives of everyone that she met. Savanna told her students to be the rainbow in someone's cloud. That was how she lived her life. Savanna was the rainbow in all our clouds at Vinemont Elementary. I know that every time that we see a rainbow, we will know she is right there with us. Please continue to lift up the entire Vinemont community in prayer."

Vinemont High School tenth-twelfth grade English teacher Jennifer James shared with The Tribune, "Savanna was one of my students. She was a really good kid. My daughter had Ms. Terry in kindergarten and Savanna worked all over the elementary. She was an aide last year, so most of the kids knew her pretty well. It has been a rough few days."

Vinemont High School Government, Economics, & Bible History teacher Cory Drummond gave a short sermon to the students on the story of Job, the things he endured and how he never received an exact answer for 'why' all the bad things happened.

This tied into how while the students might not always understand why tragedies strike, there is always hope on the other side.

Vinemont High School eleventh-twelfth grade English teacher Jason Teichmiller led the students in prayer as he asked God for their comfort and peace of mind through these difficult times of loss and heartache.

Savanna Davis left a tremendous impact on the people she interacted with each day.

She assisted students, cared for them and she loved them. By all accounts, that love was well returned by her students, co-workers, friends and family. On Monday, across city and county campuses alike, it was revealed just how tremendous that impact was.

The students were asked in a social media post made by Vinemont Elementary School to wear red on Monday for the vigil as a means of bringing unity and recognition to all of the hearts Savanna touched in her time here. That social media post was shared 120 times in three days across the community, leading more and more campuses to join the movement to wear red in honor of Savanna.

Schools such as Holly Pond, Hanceville, Fairview, Welti, Parkside, Harmony, West Point, Good Hope, Sacred Heart, Cold Springs, East Elementary, West Elementary, Cullman City Primary, Cullman Middle, and Cullman High all dawned a splash of red.

Cullman City Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff shared, "Along with our friends at Vinemont Elementary School, we all mourn the loss of Mrs. Davis, who was a great person and devoted teacher who was loved by this community." He continued, "Hundreds of students across Cullman City Schools are wearing red today, the school colors of Vinemont, as a way to honor her memory."

Businesses such as Victory Cheer Academy asked their students to wear red as well, with Downtown Nutrition- Cullman designating their drink, the 'Vinemont Eagle' in honor of Savanna.

Coach Drake addressed all in attendance one final time, "We appreciate you coming. This is all to honor Savanna but at the end of the day, it is to point you toward Jesus because that is what matters.

"I was young and my grandpa had a brother who passed away. I put my arm around him and said, 'He is in a better place.' And he said, 'I know. I am going to miss him.' And I thought that was probably the wisest thing that I had ever heard. When they know that when we lose loved ones, they are in a better place but at the end of the day, we are all going to miss not being able to see that person anymore. We are going to continue to pray for the elementary school. They have been very affected by this, and I hope you all find your strength in Jesus."

LEGALS

In accordance with Chapter 1, Title 39, Code of Alabama, 1975, notice is hereby given that Bond Construction, LLC, Contractor, has completed the Contract for AEMA Roofing Repairs, Office & Warehouse Facility for the State of Alabama and the Alabama Emergency Management Agency, Owner(s), and have made request for final settlement of said Contract. All persons having any claim for labor, materials, or otherwise in connection with this project should immediately notify Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, Inc. 7 Town Center Dr., Suite 201, Huntsville, AL 35806

Bond Construction, LLC
1001 30th Ave, Northport, AL 35476

DOCUMENT 14

ELECTRONICALLY FILED
7/9/2021 12:12 PM
25-DR-2021-900061.00
CIRCUIT COURT OF
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
LISA MCSWAIN, CLERK

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

GLOVER KIMBERLY DEANNE, Plaintiff,
V. Case No.: DR-2021-900061.00
SMITH SCOTTIE LYNN, Defendant.

ORDER

MOTION FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION filed by GLOVER KIMBERLY DEANNE is hereby GRANTED.

DONE this 9th day of July, 2021.

/s/ MARTHA E. WILLIAMS
CIRCUIT JUDGE

PB WIL BK 104 PG 419 - 09/14/2021 10:20 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of
FRANCE CONWAY GAMMON, **CASE NO.: PC2021-331**
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Ancillary Letters of Testamentary having been granted to GEORGE AMON GAMMON, JR. as Ancillary Personal Representative of the Estate of FRANCES CONWAY GAMMON deceased, on the 14th day of September, 2021, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

George Amos Gammon, Jr.
Ancillary Personal Representative

Kimberly H. Drake
Attorney for Ancillary Personal Representative
419 2nd Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055
256-739-9445 (Phone)
256-734-7121 (Fax)
tomdrake@bellsouth.net

TO: **The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune**

Please publish the above Notice once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks and send an affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

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

PB MIN BK 200 PG 211 - 09/21/2021 02:28 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF FLOYCE BEATRICE HOOD., Deceased. CASE NO.: PC2021-297

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to REGINA ANN ROY as Personal Representative of the Estate of FLOYCE BEATRICE HOOD, deceased, on the 21st day of September, 2021, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

Regina Ann Roy
Personal Representative

C. Blake West
Attorney for Personal Representative
6767 Old Madison Pike, Suite 95
Huntsville, AL 35806
256-886-2372

TO: **The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune**

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

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

PB WIL BK 104 PG 448 - 09/14/2021 11:25 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
DOROTHY P. TRAMMELL, Deceased. CASE NO PC 2018-123

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: **DOUGLAS TRAMMELL**
SANDRA DUKE
SHELBY SMITH
CYNTHIA WATWOOD
ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTEREST PARTIES

The Petition of Dannie Trammell to admit to probate the Last Will and Testament of Dorothy P. Trammell, deceased, has been set for hearing on the 9th day of November, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.

All persons in interest residing or being without the state are hereby given notice to appear and contest said petition if they think proper.

Done this the 14th day of September, 2021.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the above notice three (3) successive weeks is said newspaper

Annette Irons-Parker
Attorney for Petitioner
Parker and Parker, P.C.
215 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055
256-775-4444

PB MIN BK 200 PG 169 - 09/21/2021 08:54 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of
ZEAK CLIFFORD MITCHELL JR., Deceased. CASE NO.: PC2021-262

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters of Administration of the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Sharon H. Barrett on the 20th day of September, 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.

Sharon H. Barrett - 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
Smith & Smith, LLP
Attorneys for the Personal Representative
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
(256) 734-4721

PB WIL BK 104 PG 438 - 09/14/2021 11:13 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
MILDRED ANN HORTON, Deceased. CASE NO. : PC2021-240

Letters Testamentary of said decedent having been granted to the undersigned on the 14th day of September 2021, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

KELLY ANN MAGADAN
ANNETTE IRONS-PARKER (IRO003)
Attorney for Personal Representative
PARKER AND PARKER, P.C. ATTORNEYS
215 Main Avenue, Southwest
Cullman, Alabama 35055
256-775-4444
parkerandparker@bellsouth.net

To: Publisher of **THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE**

Please publish the above notice three (3) successive weeks in said newspaper.

Honorable Tammy Brown
Probate Judge

STATE OF ALABAMA)
)
COUNTY OF CULLMAN)

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL PROPERTY AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

Date & Time of Sale: Monday, Oct 4th 2021 at 11:00 a.m./p.m.
Sale Location: 500 2nd Ave SW, Cullman, AL 35055

Writ of Execution Parties: Melanie Green Main
vs.
Melvin Green
6305 County Road 1141
Vinemont, AL 3519

By virtue of an Execution issued to me by Cullman County Circuit Clerk Lisa McSwain, pursuant to the Code of Alabama, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Execution issued on a judgment, with interest and cost. Upon the expiration of proper notice and advertisement, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder at the date, time, and location listed above, all right, title, and interest of Melvin Green, in the real property, described as follows:

Beginning at the Southeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 33, Township 8 South, Range 3 West, thence S 89 degrees 12 minutes 22 seconds W 1265.89 feet to an existing capped iron, thence N 4 degrees 35 minutes 29 seconds W 1325.43 feet to an existing capped iron, thence S 89 degrees 42 minutes 14 seconds E 30.00 feet to an iron 1/2" capped rebar set, thence S 5 degrees 51 minutes 13 seconds E 199.32 feet to an existing capped iron, thence S 5 degrees 40 minutes 33 seconds E 346.71 feet to an existing capped iron, thence S 89 degrees 51 minutes 44 seconds E 453.35 feet to an existing capped iron, thence N 8 degrees 52 minutes 43 second W 282.87 feet to an iron 1/2" capped rebar set, thence S 89 degrees 05 minutes 02 seconds E 878.45 feet to an iron 1/2" capped rebar set, thence S 0 degrees 02 minutes 36 seconds W 1024.54 feet to an existing 1/2" rebar back to the point of beginning, containing 28.7 acres, more or less. Said land lying in the NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 33, Township 8S, Range 3W Cullman County, Alabama.

THEREFORE, according to said command, I shall expose for sale at public auction, all the right, title, and interest of the above-named Melvin Green, in and to the above-described property on the date listed above, subject to all prior encumbrances of record.

Dated this the 9 day of Sept, 2021.

BY: Matt Gentry, sheriff
Sheriff Matt Gentry

PB MIN BK 199 PG 981 - 09/14/2021 11:37 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
WILLIAM GARY KIMBREL, Deceased CASE NO PC 2021-278

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to **Sharon Deck,** as Personal Representative of the Estate of **William Gary Kimbrel**, deceased, on the 13th day of September 2021, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court of Cullman County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Sharon Deck
Personal Representative

Christopher H. Jones
Attorney for Personal Representative
Traditions Law Group
1302 Main Avenue
Northport, AL 35476

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

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

PB MIN BK 200 PG 459 - 09/28/2021 08:40 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
JEREMY TODD SAMS, Deceased CASE NO. PC2021-075

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Administration of said decedent having been granted to the undersigned on the 27th day of September, 2021, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

All claims must be filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County.

Lenisa Sams Hutson
Personal Representative

Beverly Paschal Poston
Attorney for the Estate of
Jeremy Todd Sams
200 1st Avenue, SE
Cullman, AL 35055

TO: Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the above notice three (3) successive weeks in said newspaper.

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

Man (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — A deceased man was found in the Denson Avenue storage units in Cullman late Tuesday afternoon.

Cullman County Coroner Jeremy Kilpatrick identified the man as Lawrence Rodney Balduf Jr., 40, from Cordova.

It was reported that the man had been staying in one of the storage units.

Kilpatrick reported that the cause of death was a drug overdose.

Cullman Stock Yard, Inc.
75 County Road 1339
Cullman, AL 35058
(256) 734-4531
www.cullmanstockyard.com
Hoagy and Callahan Parrish
Cattle Sale – Tuesday - 8:30 a.m.



REGULAR and BIG & TALL SIZES
MR.HICKS
Mens Wear
256-739-1007
www.suitsformen.com
217 Compass Way SW, Cullman AL 35055
MEN'S SUITS – SPORT COATS – PANTS – SHIRTS
FORMAL WEAR FOR PROMS & WEDDINGS

Obituary Announcements: Sept. 28-29

Billy Wayne "Cotton" Starnes, 70
Funeral services for Billy Wayne "Cotton" Starnes were 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 29, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Mount Zion Nazarene Cemetery in Blount County. Reverend Tony Hitt officiated. Visitation was from 5:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 28 at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mr. Starnes was born June 13, 1951, in Blount County to Houston and Ada Mae (Davis) Starnes. He died at the age of 70 on Sunday, Sept. 26, at Cullman Regional Medical Center in Cullman. Survivors include his wife: Carolyn Starnes; son: Anthony Wayne (Rita) Starnes; daughters: Becky Short, Amy (Leo) Moctezuma, Jessica Dye and Jennifer Weaver; grandchildren: Destiny Short, Taylor Short, Preston Moctezuma, Erika Moctezuma, Miguel Moctezuma, Bailey Turrentine, James Doss Jr., Harley Lewis, Sadie Weaver, Dalton Weaver and Will Calvert; mother-in-law: Betty Melson and a host of nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, Mr. Starnes was preceded in death by his sister: Juanita Nichols; brothers: Dwight and Roger Dale Starnes; daughter: Angela Starnes and sister-in-law: Frances Starnes.

Oliver Edwin Duke, 87, of Hanceville
A graveside service for Oliver Edwin Duke of Hanceville were 1 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 29, at Hopewell Cemetery in Hanceville. Reverend Tim Junkins officiated. Hanceville Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. Mr. Duke was born April 22, 1934, to the late Joseph and Gladys (Odom) Duke in Cullman County. He died at the age of 87 at his residence in Hanceville on Sept. 25. Mr. Duke was a member of the United States Navy. He enlisted Sept. 2, 1952, and served for four years as a Gunners Mate. Mr. Duke is survived by his wife of 65 years: Mary Louise Parker-Duke; children: Joseph (Peggy) Duke, Edwin (Gina) Duke, Johnney (Patsy) Duke and Keith (Nina) Duke; nine grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; one great-great grandchild and was one of 12 children. Pallbearers were Roger Duke, Matt Duke, Anthoney Duke, Adam Duke, Colton Buckelew, Karson Buckelew, Devin Bates, and Jeremy Weldon.

Carrie Lee Swann, 98, of Hanceville
Funeral services for Carrie Lee Swann of Hanceville were 1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 28, at Valley View Baptist Church in Arkadelphia. Burial followed at the adjoining cemetery. Reverend Philip Starnes officiated. Visitation were from 11 a.m. until service time. Mrs. Swann was born to Jim and Senia (Jones) Wolf on July 19, 1923, in Walker County. She died at the age 98 on Sept. 25. Survivors include her children: Gaylon Tyrone Baty, William Thomas Swann, Perry Lynn Swann and James Spencer Swann and a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, other family and friends.

Toni Taylor Ramage
Graveside service for Toni Taylor Ramage will be 10:30 a.m., Friday, Oct. 1, at Cullman City Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the Ramage family.

Felton Sams, 81, of Cullman
Funeral services for Felton Sams, 81, of Cullman will be held at 11 a.m., Thursday, Sept. 30, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Burial will follow at Mount Olive Bible Based Church Cemetery. Felton was a member of St. Johns Baptist Church for 30 years where he served in many capacities, including song chairman, deacon and Sunday school superintendent. He later joined Old Time Way Baptist Church. He was a lifelong resident of Cullman. In his early years, he worked for Earl's Body Shop for 20 + years and then he operated his own body shop at his home. He was a prominent businessman in Cullman having owned Sams Good Used Cars with his son Danny for several years and later, formed Felton Sams Used Cars. Felton was a gifted musician, playing the guitar, piano, bass and steel guitar. He and his first wife, Frances, sang together in the Sams Family and New Dawn Group. He recorded several songs with Jimmy Barbee and The Hard Times. He loved restoring cars, music, camping in the mountains, but most of all, he loved his family. He was preceded in death by his parents: Noah and Opal Sams; two brothers: Melvin Sams and James Sams; one sister: Ruth Sams Henry and the love of his life and mother of his children: Frances. He is survived by his wife of eight years: Mary Ann Sams; one son: Danny Sams (Evelyn) of Hanceville; three daughters: Teresa Daniel (Gary) of Cullman, Cindy Taylor (Johnny) of Cullman and Angie Bentley (Bobby) of Reynolds, GA; stepsons: DeWayne (Theresa) Burney of Cullman and Jason (Tracy) Burney of Cullman; stepdaughter: Julie (Steve) Sharpton of Cullman; 12 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews, 21 step-grandchildren; 12 step-great-grandchildren and three great-great step-grandchildren. Visitation will be held Wednesday evening from 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home. Cullman-Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Crysta Rosalie Shaw, 2, of Haleyville
Crysta Rosalie Shaw, age 2, of Haleyville, passed away Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2021, at Children's Hospital in Birmingham. Miss Crysta was born May 18, 2019, in Birmingham, Alabama. Visitation will be Saturday, Oct. 2, from noon - 2 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Haleyville, where the service will be held at 2 p.m. Brother Gary Wakefield will officiate. Burial will be at Winston Memorial Cemetery in Haleyville, Alabama. Crysta is survived by her mother: Allison Shaw; father: Douglas Montgomery; siblings: Gabriel Pruitt, Addalee Pruitt and Jaxson Riley; grandparents: Randle Shaw Jr. and Christina Shaw; and great-grandparents: Sally Shaw and Jimmy Cummings. She was preceded in death by her grandparents: Renae Montgomery and Wade Montgomery and great-grandparents: Randle Shaw Sr. and Molly Cummings.

Tammy Sue Matchen, 56, of Baileyton
Tammy Sue Matchen, 56, of Baileyton, died Friday, Sept. 24. She was preceded in death by her mother: Shirley Jean Matlock Tammy is survived by her daughter: Shelby Matchen (Andrew); granddaughter: Parker Rae Eudy; sisters: Christi Simmons (Mike), Teri Hale (Mike) and Letha Sandlin (Joey); father: Roy D. Matlock and a host of nieces, nephews, other family members and friends. The celebration of Tammy's life will be Thursday, Sept. 30, at 3 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow in Flint Creek Cemetery. The family will receive friends beginning at 2 p.m. Thursday at Moss Service Funeral Home. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Moss Service Funeral Home
1901 Second Avenue Northwest
734-1821 *Service You Can Count On*

Cullman Marble & Granite Co.
"Memorials of Quality Since 1910" 734-2353

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'S NEWEST ON-SITE STATE OF THE ART CREMATORY NOW OPEN | DIRECT CREMATION $1,295 | NO HIDDEN COSTS



Cullman Funeral Home and Crematory
"Sincere Compassionate Care"
100% Locally Owned & Operated by the Steve Rodgers Family
(256) 734-3144
461 U.S. Highway 278 East
Cullman, Alabama 35055
www.cullmanfuneralhome.com

Dimbo (from Front)

Ashlyn Grey
ashlyn@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Tuesday morning, Jamelle Dimbo sat for her last storytime with children at the Cullman County Public Library. Wednesday was her final day there before she retires after years of service as the Children's Librarian.

Jamelle shared with The Tribune, "I have been here for two or three years, but I was an elementary librarian at Hanceville for about eight years, and I worked for Birmingham City for about 20 years. When I retired from the City of Birmingham, I wanted to do something to give back because our community was one such that was always supported. Whether it be prayers, finances, food, our community just came together and supported our children."

"I have always worked with children. I did middle school for one year, but I only lasted the one year," she laughed.

Cullman County Public Library Director Sharon Townsend spoke on her time with Jamelle, saying, "Jamelle joined us in 2018, just to help us for a few months. We kept talking her into staying a little longer until finally she agreed to a permanent part time position. She created new programs and activities to educate and entertain children. She incorporated more community involvement. North Alabama Agriplex has shared many programs, as well as Merchants Bank, Cullman Electric Co-op, Peinhardt Farms, several local artists, therapy dogs and even a therapy horse (yes, we had a miniature horse IN the library) named Star.

Director Townsend continued, "As Jamelle added more community involvement to her storytime programs, it added more partnership opportunities for the library system as a whole. I will miss Jamelle, and am thankful God put her in my path. He surely shines through her and will continue to do so."

Fellow librarian, Josephine Harrington, offered kind words as well, saying, "She's been great for the library in her time here! She started up our 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program, and she's been very involved in our Summer Learning Programs and storytime and all sorts of children's activities. The kids and their parents love her. She just has this sort of approachable, fun atmosphere about her. I'm sure everyone will be sad to see her go! They (and we) are really going to miss her!"

The Friends of the Public Libraries of Cullman County have also worked closely with Jamelle, with member Renee Welsh sharing her story of her first meeting with the Children Librarian, "One of the first things my husband and I would do when our careers brought us to a new area - a new home - we would find the nearest library and get our library card. On that day, a few years ago, we met Jamelle - her genuine love for youth and mastery of the reference interview was evident. She focused on our family's interests - what makes us smile - our past journeys."

"As my journey with the Friends of the Cullman County Public Libraries continued, it was apparent that Jamelle wasn't just the children's librarian, she is an advocate for all patrons of Cullman County; whether it be ensuring all pre-K children have access to a program (home school, private and public) or creating a flexible and accommodating environment for parents and guardians to celebrate Harry Potter's birthday parade. Even stuffing hundreds of Lunar New Year bags during the pandemic so families could learn about the Year of the Ox - Jamelle's superpower of caring for the CCPLS patrons shines across the circulation desk and into the hearts of all who visit the Cullman Library."

Bookmobile driver and librarian Willette Harbison also shared, "The moment I met Miss Jamelle several years ago at the library, I immediately liked her. She has this big smile and infectious laugh that will make any day brighter. Jamelle has a fellow librarian and loves children. She has recently volunteered to go out into the community with me on the bookmobile to help and enjoy them. She has convictions and is a dedicated person to her church, her profession and to the education of all children. She will be sorely missed."

Local parent Suzanne Lee often brings her children to the library for activities or storytime and reflected back on Ms. Jamelle's continuous presence and contributions. "Jamelle loves the library, and she loves her library families. She greets everyone with such warmth and kindness. My children and I always enjoy seeing her when we visit," said Lee.

Tuesday morning, Jamelle Dimbo sat with her students for storytime as the children's librarian at Cullman County Public Library, just as she has countless times before. Children giggled and clambered about as she greeted each one by name. Some rushed to offer hugs and hellos, as the rest settled in to hear the book.

The morning was like any other and the story was "One Frog Sang" written by Shirley Parenteau and illustrated by Cynthia Jabar, as children counted throughout the story with Ms. Jamelle, assisting with frog noises and questions of their own along the way.

As it concluded, Jamelle shared a final thought on her lifelong passion and career, "You know, it is funny. When I look back on when they have those things where they ask you as a child, 'What do you want to be when you grow up?'"

She smiled, "Well, I have always wanted to be a librarian. Always."



