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70 39

SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

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– LIFESTYLE –

## 365 AMERICAN JOY-GIVERS for 2021: The Creating Joy Birthday Party

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EDUCATION

## Vinemont Elementary welcomes new holiday tradition – a Christmas Tree Trail

**Ashlyn Grey**
ashlyn@cullmantribune.com

**VINEMONT, Ala.** — This Christmas season, Vinemont Elementary School has announced a new tradition. The brand-new holiday project, the VES Christmas Tree Trail, is now located directly in front of the elementary school and features at least eight Christmas trees that have been decorated with ornaments made by students for the holiday season.

Instructional Technical Support Specialist for Vinemont Elementary, Mandy Redding, shared with The Tribune, "The Christmas Tree Trail is intended to promote the Christmas Spirit among our school » PAGE 5



CONTRIBUTED

# Over 800 seniors pack Stonebridge Farms for annual Christmas party



JANET CHANDLER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

*Stonebridge Farms sees packed event hall on Friday*

**Sara Gladney**
sara@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — The Cullman County Senior Center held its Christmas party at Stonebridge Farms Friday for the first time in two years. The performing band was "Behind the Times." The room was packed with over 800 seniors and community officials. The Stonebridge staff provided pie and drinks before the director of the Commission of Aging Stephanie Lawson welcomed everyone.

Lawson thanked the many sponsors of the event and the members of the Commission on Aging, saying, "These ladies have a passion like no other and they work hard daily to provide service to you, our seniors. Commission of Aging appreciates the funding and support from United Way of Cullman County, The Alabama Department of Senior Services, as well as NARCOG."

Some of the many community officials in attendance were Senator Garlan Gudger, Congressman Robert Alderholt, Good Hope Mayor Jerry Bartlett, Representative Randall Shedd, Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry, Cullman city council member Johnny Cook, Commissioner Kerry Watson, Circuit Clerk Lisa McSwain, Judge Chad Floyd, Cullman city council member David Moss and Circuit Judge Martha Williams. These officials delivered the door prizes and served food to the seniors.

Senator Gudger, the MC for the event, said, "How blessed are we to be in Cullman County. You can see what's going on all over the world, but there is not another place that I would rather be than Cullman County right here at Stonebridge with all of you today."

Wesley Britt, Cullman High School alumni who went on the play football for The University of Alabama, spoke at the event, saying, "It's great to be home. It's great to be in Cullman, Alabama where we still celebrate Christmas." Britt » PAGE 7

EDUCATION

## New principal named at Holly Pond High School



CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS

*Dr. Janet Turner*

» PAGE 10

EDUCATION

## West Elementary students help spread love of reading with donation to Imagination Library

» PAGE 5

## Devil Dawgs and Daystar Church bring 500 meals to Mayfield, Kentucky

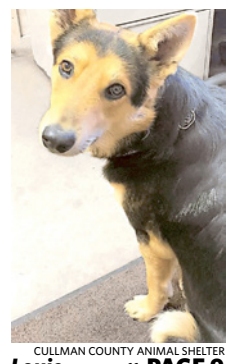
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## Gov. Ivey awards more than $9.5M to assist victims of crime in Alabama; more than $300K to Cullman

» PAGE 7

– PET OF THE WEEK –

## Enjoy the Christmas lights with Louie!



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

*Louie*

» PAGE 9

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Bill Smith

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CRIME

# Arrests and incidents reported Dec. 17

**Cullman Tribune staff**
Contributor

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Dec. 17. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

**CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**INCIDENTS**

**Dec. 13**

- theft of property; CR 222
- unlawful possession of marijuana; unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 69 S
- unlawful possession of controlled substance; unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia; Mayfair Ln.
- unlawful possession controlled substance; unlawful possession of marijuana; unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia; attempt to elude police officer; CR 1605
- domestic violence; Daystar Dr.

**Dec. 14**

- burglary; CR 1345
- theft of property; Oliver Rd.
- harassment; Style St. NE, Hanceville
- unlawful possession of marijuana; unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 616
- burglary; CR 817
- harassment; Lick Creek Rd.
- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle; CR 720

**Dec. 15**

- trespassing; CR 143
- attempt to elude police officer; Main St., Arab
- theft of property; CR 1435
- theft of property; CR 1583
- unauthorized use of motor vehicle; CR 568
- domestic violence; CR 5401

**ARRESTS**

**Dec. 13 – 15**

**Auston, William T.; 36**
- possession of drug paraphernalia

**Boone, Timothy A.; 27**
- FTA- assault-reckless endangerment
- FTA- attempting to elude police officer
- FTA- buying/receiving stolen property $1,500 or more
- FTA- driving while license suspended
- FTA- exceeding reasonable road speed
- FTA- improper passing
- FTA- traffic-speeding-no workers-construction zone

**Brown, Michael W.; 50**
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

**Budweg, Jonathan E.; 49**
- FTA- negotiating worthless instrument

**Denney Jr., John C.; 52**
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

**Dunn, Devin L.; 28**
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

**Lambert, Adam K.; 42**
- motion to revoke bond-third-degree domestic violence-assault

**Loggins, Ashley D.; 35**
- FTA- possession of methamphetamine (2 counts)
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

**Lyell, Keith B.; 31**
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- second-degree possession of marijuana

**Martin, Trisha A.; 23**
- FTA- possession of methamphetamine (2 counts)
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of synthetic narcotic
- FTA- possessing stolen property less than $500

**McWhorter, Amanda N.; 31**
- FTA- assault-domestic-harassment-family
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- attempting to elude police officer
- FTA- public intoxication

**Moore, William A.; 45**
- possession of drug paraphernalia

**Pate, Carrie Bridget P.; 36**
- possession of methamphetamine

**Phillips, Patrick E.; 24**
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- second-degree possession of marijuana
- attempting to elude police officer

**Pope, Robert H.; 54**
- public intoxication

**Ramos, Roberto J.; 22**
- public intoxication
- sex offense-exposure or lewd act in public

**West, Jayme A.; 40**
- FTA- negotiating worthless instrument

**Whitehead II, Larry W.; 46**
- FTA- resisting arrest
- FTA- driving while license suspended

**Williams, Larry J.; 55**
- attempting to elude police officer

**Bailey, Bridget L.; 26**
- manufacture, sale, use, etc. of synthetic urine or urine

**Dixon, Tyler Lee E.; 27**
- attempting to elude police officer

**Duke, Travis D.; 29**
- FTA- assault-domestic-harassment-family

**McIntyre Jr., Bryan D.; 37**
- FTA- weapons-possession of sawed off rifle/shotgun

**Nolen, Kristopher M.; 42**
- FTA- second-degree possession of marijuana

**Plunk, Gerald D.; 51**
- FTA- driving while license suspended

**Stallings, Christi L.; 41**
- FTA- illegal possession of prescription drugs
- FTA- follow too close
- FTA- improper lane usage
- FTA- operating vehicle without insurance

**Wren, James K.; 59**
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- promote prison contraband (drugs)

**Baker, Adam D.; 33**
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

**Bannister, Frankie E.; 34**
- FTA- permitting dogs to run at large
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)
- FTA- attempting to elude police officer
- FTA- disorderly conduct/disturbing peace/affray
- FTA- possession of concealed weapon without a permit

**Gibson, Jerry L.; 41**
- FTA- assault-domestic-harassment-family (2 counts)
- FTA- assault-reckless endangerment

**Glasco, Scotty W.; 47**
- FTA- assault-harassment

**Holder, Dakota M.; 25**
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- second-degree possession of marijuana

**Mikel, Jeremy W.; 31**
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

**Morgan, Christopher G.; 39**
- FTA- larceny/theft- second-degree theft of property $1,500 - $2,500

**Pate, Cody W.; 35**
- FTA- larceny/theft-theft of article from auto
- FTA- public intoxication

**Scott, Sandra J.; 55**
- possession of dangerous drugs

**Sheppard, Dorothy L.; 37**
- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle (no theft or damage)

**Stricklin, Martin W.; 53**
- FTA- larceny/theft-miscellaneous theft $1,500 - $2,500
- FTA- possessing stolen property $1,500 or more

**CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**INCIDENTS**

**Dec. 15**
- fourth-degree theft of property; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $26
- third-degree theft of property; person; debit card
- identity theft; Cullman Electric Co-op;
- harassment; person; 2nd Ave. SW

**ARRESTS**

**Dec. 15**

**Reid, Stormey C.; 46**
- domestic violence

**Butler, Jake A.; 29**
- fourth-degree theft of property

**Brooks, Oliver T.; 37**
- third-degree criminal trespass
- public intoxication

**Sawyer Jr., Thomas K.; 40**
- receiving stolen property

**Church, Julia R.; 29**
- public intoxication

**Gober, Chelsea A.; 25**
- Grand Jury Indictment-chemical endangerment of child

**Dec. 16**

**Little, Jennifer A.; 38**
- unlawful possession/receiving controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- tampering with physical evidence

**King, Kenneth C.; 41**
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- third-degree criminal trespass
- FTA- fourth-degree theft of property

**Woods, Garry J.; 63**
- public intoxication

**Lovell, Anthony R.; 47**
- FTA- public intoxication (4 counts)
- FTA- resisting arrest (2 counts)

**James, Joseph M.; 40**
- FTA- fourth-degree theft of property

**Morgan, Christina M.; 48**
- possession of drug paraphernalia

**Ralston, Tommy L.; 43**
- possession of drug paraphernalia

**HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

No incidents or arrests reported.

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

## COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

Friday, Dec. 17, 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)**

- Positivity in tests in Alabama: 7.3%
- Confirmed cases in Alabama (2020): 387,564
- Confirmed cases in Alabama (2021): 469,036 ( +1,732 since Wednesday)
- Total confirmed deaths in Alabama (2020): 7,185
- Total confirmed deaths in Alabama (2021): 9,158 ( +39 since Wednesday)
- Positivity in tests in Cullman Co.: 7.9%
- Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co. (2020): 7,570
- Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co. (2021): 8,856 ( +46 since Wednesday)
- Deaths in Cullman Co. (2020): 128
- Deaths in Cullman Co. (2021): 179 ( +0 since Wednesday)
- Total tested in Cullman Co. in the last 7 days: 1,299
- Total tested positive in Cullman Co. in the last 7 days: 102
- Total tested in Alabama in the last 7 days: 44,088
- Total positive tests in Alabama in the last 7 days: 3,239
- Currently hospitalized in Alabama: 382

**Vaccine details (updated Tuesday and Thursday)**

- Doses delivered to Alabama: 7,730,185 (No update available)
- Doses delivered to Alabama providers: 4,253,365 (No update available)
- Doses administered: 5,266,579
- Additional doses administered: 489,331
- Number of people receiving one or more doses: 2,681,589
- Number of people who have completed vaccine series: 2,189,335
- Doses delivered to federal programs: 3,476,820 (No update available

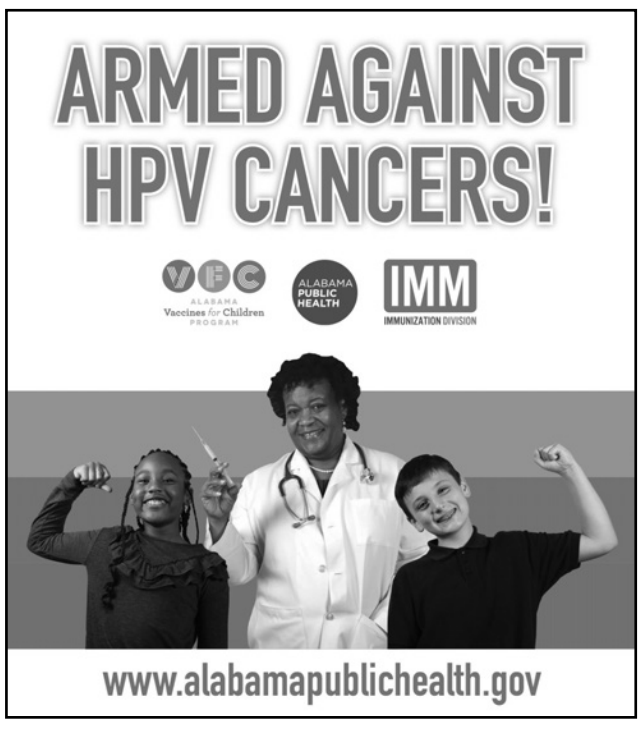
Alabamians in Phases 1a, 1b and 1c (including those 12 and older) are now eligible to receive a vaccine.

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

**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.

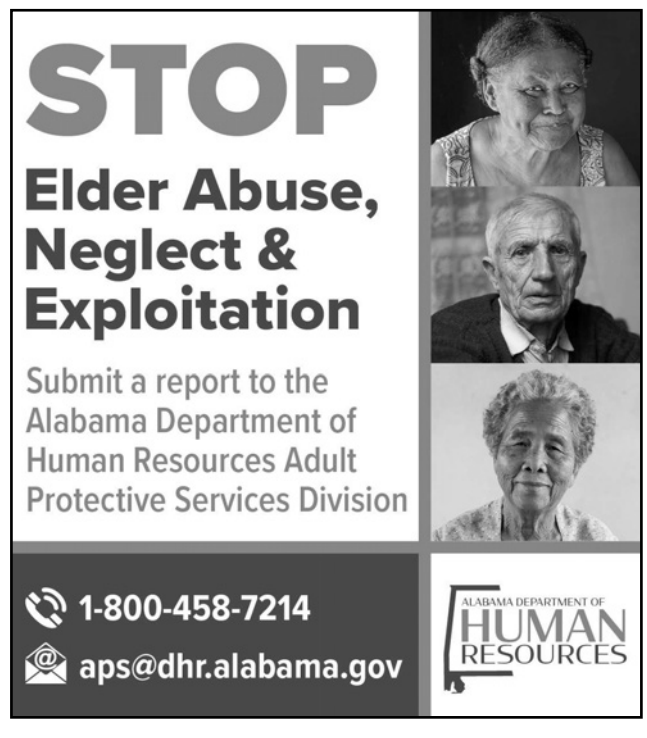


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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

*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 Street 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 Saint Joseph Drive 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.
• Dec. 19: 11 a.m.: Children's Christmas Play - " Where is Christ in Christmas?"
• 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 "EMPOWER ME LORD!" by Pastor Bobby Dodd
• 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 SW. 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.
• 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/203435614640045. For more information, text or call 205-717-7478.

**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**
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.

**Cullman NAR-ANON Group Meetings**
The NAR-ANON family group meetings are a worldwide fellowship for those affected by someone else's addiction. We offer Help by sharing our experiences, strength and hope. We carry the message of hope by letting others know that they are not alone by practicing the 12 Steps of NAR-ANON and changing our own attitudes. We Respect Your Anonymity. Our program is not a religious one, but a spiritual way of life. Meetings will be held at The Ruehl Building (family life center of St John's Church) Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. Contact Jamie Weathersby Smith 256-708-7122 or Don or Nancy McKenzie 256-736-3327 or 256-736-3470 for more information.

**Wallace State Fine and Performing Arts fall – spring performances**

**Night of Jazz**
• Feb. 10, 7 p.m.
• Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre
• Featuring Wallace State Faculty and Friends
• Info: 256-352-8277, jessica.chairez@wallacestate.edu

**The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee**
• March 18-19, 7 p.m., March 20, 2 p.m.
• Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre
• Featuring Wallace State Theatre
• Info: 256-352-8277, jessica.chairez@wallacestate.edu

**Dazzle Me, Disney!**
• April 7-9, 7 p.m.
• Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre
• Featuring the Wallace State Singers
• Info: 256-352-8277, jessica.chairez@wallacestate.edu

**Big Band Dance**
• April 15, 7 p.m.
• Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts
• Featuring the Wallace State Jazz Band
• Info: 256-352-8277, jessica.chairez@wallacestate.edu

**Dance Spring Showcase**
• April 22, 7 p.m.
• Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre
• Featuring the Allegro Dance Theatre
• Info: 256-352-8277, jessica.chairez@wallacestate.edu

**Spring Under the Stars**
• April 26, 7 p.m.
• Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts (bring lawn chairs, blankets etc.)
• Featuring the Wallace State Concert Choir and Concert Band
• Info: 256-352-8277, jessica.chairez@wallacestate.edu

**Sportsman Lake Park Winter Wonderland**
Nov. 19 – Dec. 30: This annual Cullman event is returning this year, featuring thousands of lights, Christmas train, horse and carriage rides, snow machine, photo booth, hot chocolate and more. A new addition is the Winter Wonderland Christmas Shop. Times are 5-9:30 p.m. For a more detailed schedule or for more information, call 256-734-3052.

Christmas in the Park
Nov. 26 - Dec. 31: The City of Arab is hosting Christmas in the Park nightly 5-9:30 p.m. from Nov. 26 - Dec. 31 at Arab City Park (844 Shoal Creek Trail Arab, Al). Over 2 million display lights to walk through! Lighting ceremony will be Nov. 26 at 6 p.m. Admission is free! Santa will be in the park Nov 26 - Dec. 18, Fridays and Saturdays only, from 6-9 p.m. in Arab Historic Village, which will also feature food trucks, live music and more! Admission is $6, with ages 2 and under free. For more information, call 256-586-6793 or visit https://www.arabcity.org/

**Christmas at the Grotto**
• Nov. 26 – Dec. 31: Christmas at the Grotto will return this season at the Ava Maria Grotto. The Grotto will open for special evening hours to allow visitors to tour the Grotto grounds which will be decorated with thousands of lights. This year, there will also be barbecue, music and even horse-drawn carriage rides Dec. 17 and 18. Admission prices for adults - $6, students - $3, with children under 3 are free.
• For more information, visit http://www.avemariagrotto.com.

**Wallace State Community College spring registration**
Dec. 11 -Jan. 15: Registration for the spring 2022 semester is underway at Wallace State Community College. Classes will begin Jan. 10 with options for day and evening classes on campus, online and hybrid. Registration will continue through Jan. 15 for regular and Mini Term I classes. Mini Term II classes will begin March 8. Call 256-353-8000 for more information.

**Christkindlmarkt**
Dec. 17-18th : Join in on a newer Cullman holiday event, the Christkindlmarkt, on Friday, Dec. 17 - Saturday Dec. 18 in Downtown Cullman. This event will sport many different vendors set up German style in small wooden tents. This will be the perfect way to finish out your Christmas shopping!

**Christmas Dinner at Parkside Catfish**
Dec. 24: Parkside Catfish (13610 Alabama Highway 69, Baileyton, AL) is hosting a Christmas Dinner on Dec. 24 at 5 p.m. This is a free meal for anyone in need. For more information, call 256-796-4288.

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PREP BASKETBALL

# Lady Warriors best Lawrence County 66-47 in area opener

**Nick Griffin**
nick@cullmantribune.com

**WEST POINT, Ala.** – The West Point Lady Warriors returned home to Jim Boyd Gymnasium Thursday night to open area play against Lawrence County and collected their first area win of the season. West Point led the Lady Red Devils by just 12 at the halftime break before pulling away to win it 66-47.

Three-pointers by Laklin Shadix and Hallie Wheeler put the Lady Warriors in front early in the opening period and Wheeler drained another three to make it a 12-3 game with just under two minutes to play in the first. Ryleigh Jones knocked down a three of her own with 30 seconds on the clock to make it a 15-3 game and West Point went into the second quarter leading Lawrence County 15-5.

Another quick basket and a three-pointer by Wheeler stretched the lead to 20-5 at the start of the second and back to back buckets from Jones kept the Lady Warriors ahead 24-12 midway through the period.

Liberty Shadix banked in back to back three-pointers to build the lead to 30-17 later in the quarter and Laklin Shadix got another shot to fall in the final seconds of the half to give West Point a 32-20 advantage going into the break.

Free throws from Wheeler and Jones made it 34-20 early in the third and Jones knocked down another three midway through the quarter to keep the Lady Warriors in front 38-23.

The Lady Red Devils were able to trim the lead to 11 later in the third quarter but three-pointers by Kealie Harbison and Ella Minck made it a 44-27 game with just over two minutes remaining in the period. Lawrence County continued to battle back and cut into the lead, but West Point ended the third with scores from Jones and Liberty Shadix to take a 48-37 lead into the fourth quarter.

Liberty Shadix netted a pair of free throws and knocked down another three-pointer to extend the lead to 53-39 early in the fourth but the Lady Red Devils managed to get it back to a 10-point game.

Baskets from Liberty and Laklin Shadix put the Lady Warriors on top 57-44 midway through the final frame and after free throws by Jones, Liberty Shadix and Wheeler, Harbison turned a steal into an easy two points to make it 62-44 and put the game out of reach for Lawrence County.




BILL PIPER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

*West Point's Liberty Shadix (1) led the Lady Warriors with 18 points in their 66-47 win over Lawrence County Thursday night.*

Liberty and Laklin Shadix each scored another basket in the final minute and West Point pulled away to collect a 66-47 area win.

Liberty Shadix led the Lady Warriors with 18 points in the win, followed by Jones with 14. Wheeler added 13 points and Laklin Shadix finished with 12. West Point will be back home Monday night for a county matchup against Vinemont.

WSCC ATHLETICS

# Men's basketball maintains 10-1 record heading into break, Lady Lions have 3 December games remaining

**Russell Moore**
WSCC Athletics

**HANCEVILLE, Ala.** — Wallace State's men's basketball team has wrapped up its December portion of the schedule and is off until Jan. 4, while the Lady Lions have three more games remaining before the new year.

Wallace State's men maintain a 10-1 record this season with a 2-1 mark in Alabama Community College Conference play.

Coach Allen Sharpe's bunch is yielding a conference-best 59.4 points per game collectively.

Freshman guard Jaylen Lemons is averaging a team-high 18 points per game for the Lions, while sophomore Kuran Garner scores 16.5 per contest.

They're each shooting higher than 50 percent from the field and better than 40 percent on 3's.

Huntsville native Nathan Moore leads the team in rebounding, pulling down 8.2 boards per game. Garner averages 6.5 rebounds and a team-high four assists.

Miguel Miranda has added 9.9 points for the Lions. Te'Derrius Williams has pitched in with 8.2 points and 4.7 rebounds per game.

After a perfect 9-0 November, Wallace State's lone loss was to Chattahoochee Valley on Dec. 2, a six-point defeat.

Sharpe captured his 400th career victory in a Nov. 18 victory at Coastal Alabama-North.

After the holiday break, Wallace State hosts Next Level Academy on Jan. 4 before dipping back into conference play on Jan. 6 at home vs. Lawson State.

**Wallace State's women**

Camille Jenkins scored 22 points and Kyra Long finished with 14 points and eight rebounds in the Lady Lions' 86-68 loss at home to 7th-ranked Georgia Highlands on Monday night.

Destiny Garrett added 10 points, five rebounds and five assists for Wallace State and Payton Golden and Jazmyn Jackson each scored nine points.

Wallace State's women (5-7, 2-1) have played Georgia Highlands twice and 19th-ranked Gulf Coast State College over a four-game stretch.

Garrett leads the Lady Lions in both scoring (14.7 ppg) and rebounding (5.2).

Long is averaging 10.9 points and 4.5 rebounds per game, while Golden has added 9.5 points.

Wallace State's next game is Friday in Tuscaloosa against Walters State. The Lady Lions complete the December slate on Dec. 29-30 in Memphis, playing 3rd-ranked Three Rivers College and SW Tennessee CC on respective days.

Wallace State's next home game is Jan. 6 vs. Lawson State.

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




WSCC ATHLETICS

*Wallace State's Camille Jenkins threads through the lane in the Lady Lions' game against Georgia Highlands this week.*

# 'An awesome day': Auburn celebrates 16 signees on #NSD2022

**Jeff Shearer**
AU Athletics

**AUBURN, Ala.** — Combining the fanfare of the NFL Draft with Auburn's famous family feel, Bryan Harsin welcomed 16 members of the Tigers' 2022 recruiting class on Wednesday.

An orange carpet greeted visitors to the Tigers Den in the Harbert Family Recruiting Center at Jordan-Hare Stadium, where Harsin stepped up to a podium to announce each signee, with sons of Auburn's assistant coaches helping with the introductions.

"Today was an awesome day," Harsin said. "This is the best event I've ever been a part of on Signing Day.

"Our staff did a great job of putting it together. Recruiting never ends. It's not over but today was a great day."

Aubie, Auburn's cheerleaders and Tiger Paws, and War Eagle VIII, Aurea the golden eagle, all contributed to the festivities.

"Signing Day is like the Super Bowl of recruiting," Harsin said.

"We wanted to do something special and celebrate everybody in our program. The setup was tremendous. We made it a special day."

Half of the signees intend to enroll in January, getting a head start on their Auburn careers by participating in winter workouts and spring practice.

"We certainly are excited about this class," Harsin said. "We have seven captains in this group. The average GPA of our signees is 3.3."

Auburn signed five in-state players, along with four signees from Georgia, two from Florida and Louisiana, and one each from California, Nebraska and Texas.

"Our entire focus and purpose in recruiting was to bring in the right people," said Harsin, standing in front of a board that displayed pictures, positions and hometowns of each signee.

"Character matters. Hard workers. Guys who are going to compete, and guys who are winners.

"We have a lot of guys behind me who were in very successful programs. Their high school coaches, and the people they've worked with, there's a lot of success. That was an important factor as well."

Auburn's renowned game day setting helped attract quality prospects, Harsin said.

"They got to be around what it's like to be a part of this program," he said.

"Our fan base, our game day atmosphere is tremendous, and everybody sees that. As a player, how could you not want to be a part of that?

"That's part of our Creed. Work, hard work. If that doesn't resonate with you, this isn't the place.

"Every one of these guys, they're all about that. We just had to be who we are. Share our message."

Auburn's Class of 2022 will be the first to train in Auburn's new Football Performance Center, scheduled to open next year.

"These signees have a chance to move into a new facility and make it our own," Harsin said. "You don't get to do that at very many places.

"Auburn's a special place. We want guys here who love Auburn, love football, and want to be a part of what we're building."

After announcing the last signee, Harsin held a virtual press conference with reporters before two more live television interviews, the end of a whirlwind day that began 12 hours earlier.

"Recruiting's not over," Harsin said. "We have unfinished business, but we're going to celebrate.

"We're going to enjoy the hard work. I want our players' families and the new guys coming in to see we appreciate them being here, so we're going to make it a big deal, and we'll do it again.

"You're going to come into something unique and special. I thought today was that. Great day for Auburn. I believe every guy on that board loves Auburn. They're going to be a big part of the future of our program."




TODD VAN EMST/AU ATHLETICS

*Auburn Head Coach Bryan Harsin speaks on signing day Wednesday.*

# Tradition (from Front)

and community.

"There are also trees decorated in memory of Savanna Davis, a second grade teacher who we lost to COVID complications, and Christian Hart, a beloved Vinemont student who passed away in an accident."

Redding continued, "In addition to decorating the grade level trees, each grade level chose one or two Christmas songs and sang them in front of their decorated tree for our school Christmas video. Vinemont Elementary School faculty and staff, as well as our students, are grateful to Marvin's for donating all of our trees this year."

Community members are invited and encouraged to visit after school hours before dark, and on weekends to see the decorated trees.

Vinemont Elementary School is located at 105 High School Road, Vinemont, AL 35179.




CONTRIBUTED

*West Elementary's sixth grade students fill the gym on Thursday to present their donation.*

# Library (from Front)

**Ashlyn Grey**
ashlyn@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — West Elementary's sixth graders on Thursday presented a donation to the Friends of the Public Libraries of Cullman County. Vice President of the Friends, Oakleigh Calahan, accepted the check on behalf of the organization.

In the spirit of giving, the students raised the money to donate to the Cullman County Imagination Library, an organization that mails books to children under age 5 every month, as part of their Christmas celebration. Each child was encouraged to donate just one dollar to the cause, and many children even brought in a few extra.

Working together, the students raised over $190 to donate, and the money will go toward sponsoring books for more than seven preschool-aged children in 2022.

Calahan gave a huge "thank you" to the students and asked them all to make sure any siblings or family members under age 5 were enrolled in the program. She stated, "We are thrilled to see children interested in this program and excited to give back to the community. The Cullman County Imagination Library is locally funded, and all donations help make this program a reality."

Emma Potter, a sixth grade student at West Elementary School, exclaimed, "Donating to the Imagination Library is good because it will help kids grow and learn to love reading!" Their teachers added, "We are excited to spread the joy of reading with our community. Reading is the foundation for learning and having this program in Cullman is equipping our children for long-term success."

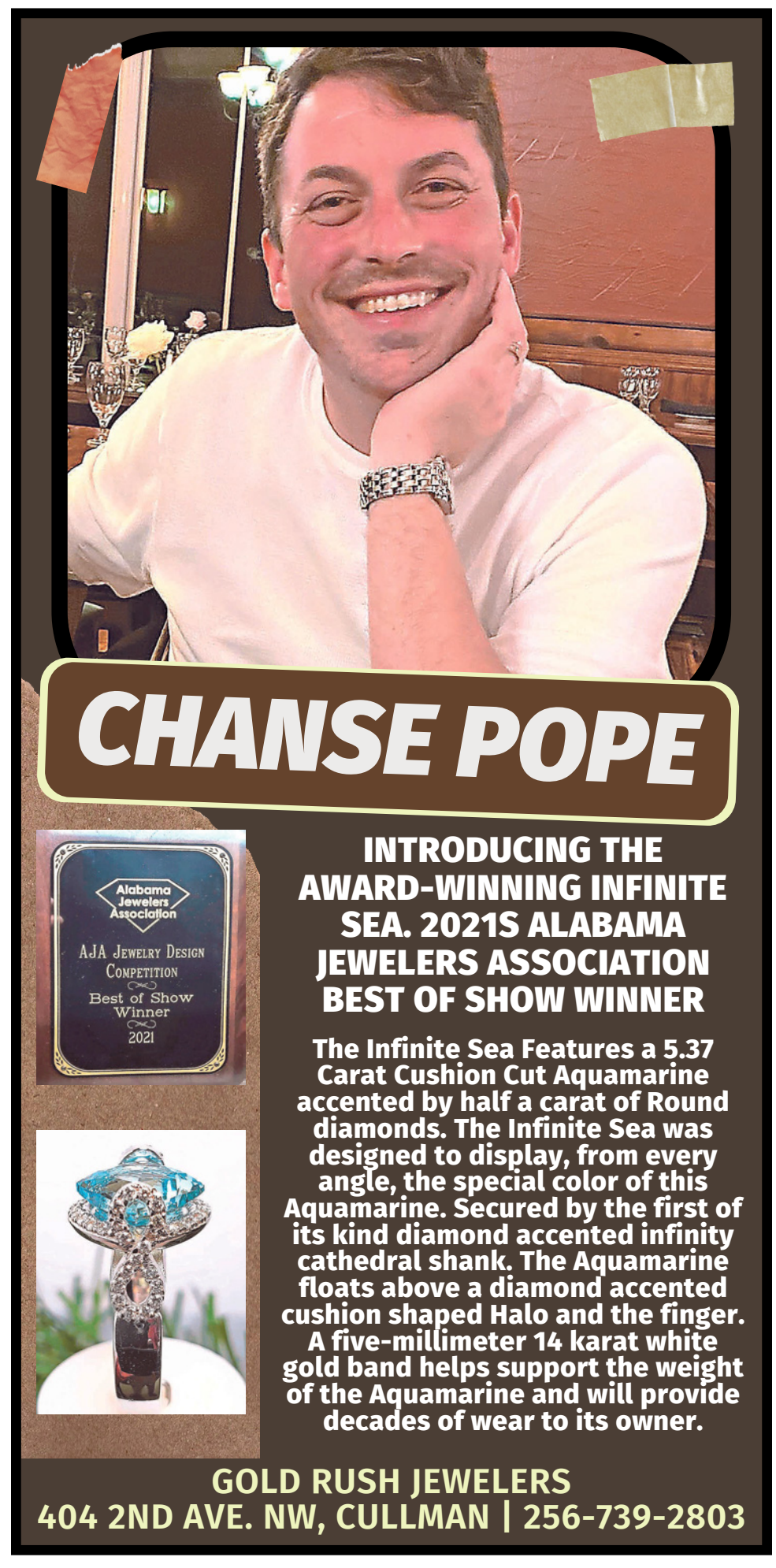
To learn more about the Cullman County Imagination Library or donate, please visit https://ccimaginationlibrary.com/.









# Meals (from Front)

**Sara Gladney**
sara@cullmantribune.com

**GOOD HOPE, Ala.** — Devil Dawgs Concessions Inc. partnered with Daystar Church of Good Hope to bring 500 meals to tornado victims in Mayfield, Kentucky. Devil Dawgs is a veteran owned, self-contained mobile food service which serves high quality concession food like hot dogs, shaved ice, funnel cakes, fried Oreos, fried Twinkies and nachos. Owners Joe and Pat Brown traveled to Mayfield on Tuesday with three other volunteers, along with Daystar's outreach team.

Joe Brown said, "We went up there and found a distribution point where they were giving out clothes, household items and stuff that people had donated." The team set up at Northside Church of Christ in Mayfield and gave out all 500 meals that they had prepared.

Devil Dawgs often partners with Daystar Church's outreach program to deliver food to the community.

Chris Hopper with Daystar Church went with Joe and Pat to Mayfield. He said, "Pat and Joe, not only are they good friends of mine personally; they're wonderful, they are members of Daystar, they're servants, they have a servant's heart. Any chance that they see to bless their community they take it, and that aligns with Daystar's vision as well - community transformation through the love and power of Jesus."

To make a donation to Daystar Church to help with disaster relief, visit https://www.daystarchurch.tv/give.




PB ADT BK 60 PG 197 - 12/16/2021 02:10 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT

COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD2021-073

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF JONATHAN JAMES KILGORE TO ADOPT I.P.J. a minor child.

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS**

Notice to: UNKNOWN FATHER OF I.P.J
WHOSE IDENTITY, ADDRESS AND/OR WHEREABOUTS
ARE UNKNOWN OR UNDISCLOSED

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of I.P.J. a minor child born on 12/15/2016 to Jenifer Marie Johnson, was filed on the 15th day of November, 2021, in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by Jonathan James Kilgore, Petitioner. Please be advised should you intend to contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with the Clerk of the said Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama, 35055.

DONE this 16th day of December, 2021.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

To: *THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE*

**PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR SUCCESSIVE WEEKS.**

Steven C. Smith
SMITH & SMITH, LLP
Attorneys for Petitioner
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
256-734-4721

**Legal Notice**

Notice is hereby given to all owners, secured parties and lienholders of the following described motor vehicles, which I have a right to sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, in accordance with the State of Alabama abandoned motor vehicle law, Statues, Chapter 13, Section 1-8, Title 32 and Alabama Law Act Number 83-494-S-80, as per Legislative Act 2015-470:

2002 Buick Le Sabre, Vin. #1G4HR54K92U220956
2021 Nissan Versa, Vin. #3N1CN8DV7ML858452

These vehicles will be sold on Friday, January 7, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. for towing/storage fees if not claimed. Located at Hammock Auto Sales, 17 County Road 406, Cullman, Alabama 35057, 256-775-3754.

PB MIN BK 202 PG 606 - 12/09/2021 08:35 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

**IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

HALLEY EUGENE PEAK, DECEASED CASE NO.: PC 2021-364

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE**

THE ESTATE OF HALLEY EUGENE PEAK, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Rickey A. Peak on the 8th day of December, 2021, by the Honorable 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.

Rickey A. Peak, Personal Representative (Administrator),
and
Steven C. Smith, Attorney for the Estate

TO: Publisher of *Cullman Tribune*:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C. Smith
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
Phone: (256) 734-4721
Fax: (256) 734-4774
e-mail: steve@smithandsmithllp.com

PB WIL BK 106 PG 460 - 12/09/2021 11:14 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

**IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF )
RUTHIE MAE KANADAY, ) CASE NO PC 2020-046
Deceased. )

**NOTICE OF HEARING**
**PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT AND**
**AMENDED PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT**

**TO: BETHLEHEM EAST BAPTIST CHURCH, LOUISE KANADAY, SARA MAE SMITH, FRANCES FOUST, GARY KANADAY, JOHNNY BAKER, JUDY HOOPER, STEVE KANADAY, KEITH KANADAY, JEFF KANADAY, BETTY STEWART**
**ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES**

Please take notice that a hearing on the Petition for Final Settlement and filed by Reba Michelfelder, Personal Representative of the Estate of Ruthie Mae Kanaday, deceased, by and through Attorney, Beverly Paschal Poston, and Amended Petition for Final Settlement filed by Beverly Paschal Poston, is set for hearing on the **2nd day of February, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

Done this the 9th day of December, 2021.

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

**Beverly Paschal Poston**
Attorney for Personal Representative
200 First Avenue SE
Cullman AL 35055

**To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune**

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

PB MIN BK 202 PG 618 - 12/09/2021 11:28 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

**IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF )
RALPH ALLEN HAWKINS, ) CASE NO PC2021-076
Deceased. )

**NOTICE OF HEARING**
**PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT**

**TO: GARY WAYNE HAWKINS**
**ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTEREST PARTIES**

Please take notice that a hearing on the Petition for Final Settlement filed by G. Rhys Battels, Attorney for Treasa Charlene Hawkins, Administrator of the Estate of Ralph Allen Hawkins, is set for hearing on the **11th day of January, 2021, at 10:30 A.M.**. Before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

Done this the 9th day of December, 2021.

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

**G. Rhys Battles**
Attorney for Administrator
200 Second Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

**HALEY MONTGOMERY,**
Plaintiff

Vs. Case Number: **DR-2021-000377.00**

**CHRISTIAN MONTGOMERY,**
Defendant

**NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION**

Christian Montgomery, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Haley Montgomery's complaint for divorce by January 24th, 2022 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2021-000377.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 10th day of November, 2021.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Clerk of Circuit Court

PETITIONER:
Haley Montgomery
2379 Union Hill Rd
Union Grove, AL 35175

PB WIL BK 106 PG 295 - 12/02/2021 11:05 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2021-358

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JANET KAY DENNEY, DECEASED.**

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE**

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Anthony Isaac Powell on the 2nd day of December, 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.

Anthony Isaac Powell
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

PB ADT BK 60 PG 5 - 11/23/2021 01:55 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ADOPTION PETITION OF
SAMANTHA LYNN STOUT CASE NO AD 2021-071
FOR THE ADOPTION OF

S.L.B., A MINOR.
D.O.B. 6-2-2017

**NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION**

**TO: UNKNOWN FATHER OF A CHILD BORN TO KIRSTEN SHAREE PAIGE BIRMINGHAM STOUT**

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

DONE THIS 23rd DAY OF November, 2021.

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

Annette Irons-Parker
Attorney for Petitioner
215 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

PB ADT BK 60 PG 3 - 11/23/2021 01:49 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ADOPTION OF I.A.M.O
A minor child. CASE NO.: AD2021-070
D.O.B. 01/14/2008

**NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION**

**TO: UNKNOWN FATHER OF A MINOR CHILD, I.A.M.O. BORN TO BRITTNEY ANN OWEN**

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

DONE THIS 23rd DAY OF November, 2021.

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

Beverly Paschal Poston
Attorney for Petitioners
200 First Avenue SE
Cullman, AL 35055

To the Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the above notice once a week for four (4) successive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

PB WIL BK 106 PG 362 - 12/02/2021 04:05 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

**IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CUILLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

**IN RE: THE ESTATE OF** *
**DAVID L. BURGIN,** * **CASE NO.: PC2021-122**
**Deceased.** *

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Testamentary having been granted to BRUCE BURGIN as Personal Representative of the Estate of DAVID L. BURGIN, deceased, on the 2nd day of December, 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.

Bruce Burgin
Personal Representative

Pamela E. Nail
Attorney for Personal Representative
200 Second Avenue, SW
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-3342

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

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

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

PB WIL BK 106 PG 251 - 12/01/2021 04:13 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF * IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
ERNEST FRED LAURENCE, JR., * CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
DECEASED. * CASE NO: PC-2021-439

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY EXECUTOR**

Letters Testamentary of said Deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 1st day of December, 2021, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present same within time required by law or same will be barred.

JOHN LAURENCE
Executor

Alex J. Chaney
Attorney for Petitioner
P.O. Box 1052
Cullman, AL 35056
(256) 734-6330

TO: Publisher
The Cullman Tribune

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

TAMMY BROWN
Judge of Probate

BOOK REVIEW

# She Reads: 'Me Before You' by Jojo Moyes

**Ashlyn Grey**
ashlyn@cullmantribune.com

There are some novels that we return to after a while; books that resume their places in our hearts as we turn their pages once more. Some stories gain new meaning with a reread, and I believe that to be exactly the type of literature that Jojo Moyes produced when writing "Me Before You."

Now, I love the tale we have all heard a thousand times too. The love stories where you can predict exactly what will happen. You know it will be difficult by storytelling standards, but love will triumph in the end. As wonderful as these stories are, they often do not reflect the truth.

Something Moyes did in this novel was give readers a taste of the way love usually turns out, in tiny forever's. This is not a brand-new idea in literature, for example, John Green's renowned novel "The Fault In Our Stars," introduced this concept to me for the very first time, that we could have an infinite amount of forevers. "Some infinities are shorter than others," Green writes.

In "Me Before You," we are introduced to the kind-hearted, determined and caring Louisa Clarke, who has lived her entire life in a small village with her family. Louisa is described as quite plain, with a life to match - steady boyfriend, close family and a close friend in her sister.

However, everything changes when Louisa takes a job for the former 'Master of the Universe' Will Traynor.

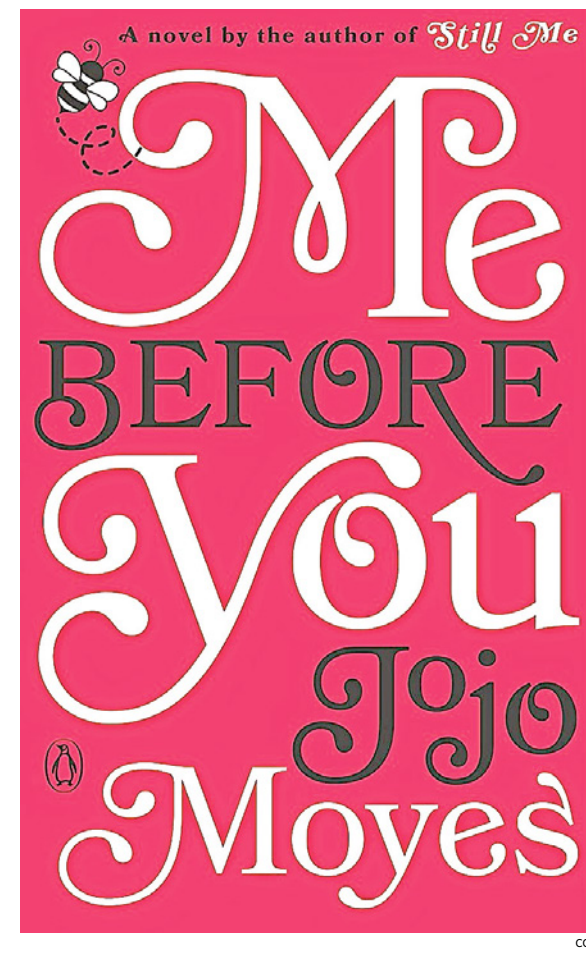
Will comes from seemingly limitless wealth and even further possibilities which provides him nothing short of a life of luxury, until one tragic accident changes everything and leaves Will completely paralyzed and in need of 24-hour care and supervision.

Will is cold, distant, stubborn and downright mean at times, and still is no match for Louisa. She absolutely refuses to treat him as anything but a grown man, validating his feelings while also not tolerating bad behavior.

As the days grow shorter and the months go on, the two grow closer and Will's happiness begins to mean far more to Louisa than she ever anticipated.

Until one day, she discovers the truth of Will's plans and sets out to do all she can to change them.

"Me Before You" is a story that challenges the ideas we have about what we would do for the one that we love. A truly remarkable novel that poses the question, "What do you do when making the person you love happy, means breaking your own heart at the same time?"




CONTRIBUTED

# Party (from Front)

introduced his wife, Katie Britt, who is running for the U.S. Senate seat in Alabama.

She said, "We see the country that our children are growing up in and we know the country that we grew up in and while it's not too far apart, it seems worlds and worlds away, and we believe we have to get off the sidelines and step up and fight to make sure there is a country left for our children to fight for."

Many community officials participated in handing out the door prizes including 25 one-year subscriptions to the Cullman Tribune, two $25 Cracker Barrell gift cards, $100 cash from Gary Marchman, Ghirardelli chocolates, a George Foreman grill from District Attorney Wilson Blaylock, foot massagers, cooking pots and pans from the Cullman County Sheriff's Department and a Walmart gift card from Judge Tammy Brown.

Some of the donors of door prizes were Brandin' Iron owner Josh Speakman, Mary's Market Flowers, Comfort Care, Walmart Distribution, Encompass health, Bill's General Contracting, NARCOG, Alabama Home Care, Cullman Regional Home Health and Hospice, Humana, Lisa McSwain and Kerry Watson.

Gloria Williams with Freedom Insurance provided two $250 checks and a grand prize of $500.

Other sponsors of the event included the Town of Baileyton, Representative Corey Harbison, City of Hanceville, Town of West Point, McSwain Pharmacy, USA Healthcare and Byars/Wright Insurance.

Senator Garlan Gudger thanked all of the community officials who would be serving the seniors, saying, "They have put a lot of tireless work and effort in behind the scenes to make sure this county runs properly."





JANET CHANDLER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

# Ivey (from Front)

**ADECA**
Contributor

**MONTGOMERY, Ala.** — Gov. Kay Ivey has awarded 25 grants totaling more than $9.5 million to help victims of crime across Alabama.

The organizations receiving funding offer a variety of services that support victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, elder abuse and other crimes. Services can include counseling, safe shelter, court advocacy, legal services and more.

"I am very thankful for these organizations across our state that provide help to residents of their communities in times of need," Gov. Ivey said. "These organizations work to ensure that assistance is available for victims of crime 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs is administering the grants from funds made available by the U.S. Department of Justice.

"ADECA stands with Gov. Ivey in support of these organizations and the important work they do across Alabama," ADECA Director Kenneth Boswell said.

"These funds will help each organization continue their services to the people of Alabama."

**The following grants were awarded:**

• $89,000 to the Family Services Center Inc. which serves Colbert, Cullman, Franklin, Jackson, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Morgan and Winston counties.

• $49,500 to Legal Services Alabama Inc. This grant provides assistance for Madison County, but the organization serves statewide.

• $77,583 to Thrive Alabama (AIDS Action Coalition of Huntsville Inc.) which serves Colbert, Cullman, Franklin, Jackson, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Morgan and Winston counties.

• $523,000 to AshaKiran Inc. This grant provides assistance for Jackson, Limestone, Madison and Montgomery counties, but the organization offers some services statewide.

• $313,166 to Victim Services of Cullman Inc. which serves Cullman County.

• $107,651 to 2nd Chance Inc. which serves Calhoun, Cleburne, Etowah and Talladega counties.

• $47,000 to Family Services Center of Calhoun County Inc. which serves Calhoun County.

• $178,640 to Family Resource Center of Northwest Alabama Inc. which serves Walker County.

• $47,250 to Humane Society of Shelby County Inc. which serves Blount, Clay, Coosa, Jefferson, St. Clair, Shelby and Walker counties.

• $719,840 to YWCA Central Alabama which serves Blount, Jefferson and St. Clair counties.

• $150,720 to Bessemer Cut Off Advocacy Center Inc. which serves Jefferson County.

• $335,000 to Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama which serves Blount, Chilton, Jefferson and Shelby counties.

• $231,440 to Turning Point (SAN Inc.) which serves Bibb, Fayette, Hale, Lamar, Pickens and Tuscaloosa counties.

• $207,680 to the Domestic Violence Intervention Center which serves Chambers, Lee, Macon, Randolph, Russell and Tallapoosa counties.

• $148,800 to Tri-County Children's Advocacy Center which serves Chambers, Randolph and Tallapoosa counties.

• $80,080 to Hope Harbour (Columbus Alliance for Battered Women Inc.) which serves Russell County.

• $424,170 to One Place Family Justice Center which serves domestic violence victims in Autauga, Butler, Chilton, Crenshaw, Elmore, Lowndes and Montgomery counties.

• $266,000 to One Place Family Justice Center which serves sexual assault victims in Autauga, Butler, Crenshaw, Dallas, Elmore, Lowndes, Montgomery, Perry and Wilcox counties.

• $989,114 to the Family Sunshine Center (Montgomery Area Family Violence Program Inc.) which serves domestic violence victims in Autauga, Butler, Chilton, Crenshaw, Elmore, Lowndes and Montgomery counties.

• $266,343 to the Family Sunshine Center (Montgomery Area Family Violence Program Inc.) which serves sexual assault victims in Autauga, Butler, Chilton, Crenshaw, Elmore, Lowndes and Montgomery counties.

• $361,613 to the Family Sunshine Center (Montgomery Area Family Violence Program Inc.) for services they provide statewide.

• $280,424 to The Lighthouse (Baldwin Family Violence Shelter) which serves Baldwin, Conecuh, Escambia and Monroe counties.

• $90,000 to Mothers Against Drunk Driving which serves the families of victims injured or killed by drunken drivers statewide.

• $1.6 million to Alabama CASA Network Inc. which provides court-appointed advocates for abuse victims statewide.

• $1.9 million to the Alabama Department of Human Resources which serves victims of elder abuse statewide.

Along with grant funding, many of these organizations rely on local, private donations to ensure their services are available at no cost to victims year-round.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 18, 2021

# 365 AMERICAN JOY-GIVERS for 2021: The Creating Joy Birthday Party

**Ben South**
Tribune Columnist



COCKTAILCONTESSA.COM




BendigoArt.com/CullmanTribune.com

"Where flowers bloom, so does hope." These words, spoken by U.S. First Lady Lady Bird Johnson, inspire all to create joy and cultivate optimism across America. It is the triumphant, joy-creating message of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin, Texas where we are celebrating the former first lady and six others in "The Creating Joy Birthday Party."

When President Gerald Ford presented the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Lady Bird Johnson in 1977, the inscription concluded with these words: "Her leadership transformed the American landscape and preserved it's natural beauty as a national treasure."

**JOIN US...**

You feel the joy as we enter this national shrine to flowering in America. The place setting for each honoree has a Texas-size, cotton napkin embroidered with a wildflower connected to their life. Cincinnati-born Steven Spielberg has a beautifully rendered Ohio Trillium and Louisiana-born Madam C. J. Walker unfolds her napkin to reveal a beautiful and bold sugar cane flower.

HOORAY FOR THE JOY-GIVERS! (Note: The words attributed to these famous joy-givers come from words they have written or said.)

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

**Dec. 18—STEVEN SPIELBERG** is a film director, film producer and screenwriter. He is currently the most commercially successful director. The Cincinnati, Ohio native has received three Oscars, a Kennedy Center honor, a Cecil B. DeMille Award and an American Film Institute Life Achievement Award. His films include: "Jaws," "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," "E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial," "The Color Purple," Jurassic Park," "Saving Private Ryan," "Minority Report," "War Horse," "Lincoln," "The Post," this year's "West Side Story" and the "Indiana Jones" series.

**Dec. 19—CICELY TYSON** was an actress extraordinaire. In a career which spanned seven decades, she became known for her portrayal of strong, determined, African American women. She received praise and awards for her acting work in: "Sounder," "The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman," "How to Get Away with Murder," "Moon on a Rainbow Shawl," "The Help" and "The Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tells All." She won a Tony for her Broadway stage performance in "A Trip to Bountiful." Tyson was inducted into the Television Hall of Fame, received a Kennedy Center honor and given our nation's highest civilian honor—the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

**Dec. 20—ELSIE DE WOLFE** (Ella Anderson de Wolfe) was an actress who became a celebrity interior designer. One of the first female decorators, she was on a mission to replace dark and ornate Victorian décor with lighter, simpler styles and uncluttered rooms. She called herself a "rebel in an ugly world." The highly quotable De Wolfe had embroidered taffeta pillows bearing the motto, "Never complain, never explain." On first seeing the Parthenon in Greece, De Wolfe exclaimed, "It's beige—my color." And, at her home, the Villa Trianon (Versailles, France), she had a dog cemetery in which each tombstone read, "The one I loved best." After her marriage to British diplomat, Sir Charles Mendl, the press envoy in Paris, she was known as Lady Mendl.

**Dec. 21—RAY ROMANO** (Raymond Albert Romano) is a stand-up comedian, actor and screenwriter. He is best known for his titular role on the CBS television sitcom, "Everybody Loves Raymond" and as the voice of Manny in the "Ice Age" animated film series. He grew up in Queens and was in the same high school class as the joy-giving, comedic actress, Fran Drescher. Most recently, he created and starred in the TNT comedy-drama, "Men of a Certain Age." Romano studied accounting in college as a "fall back" career. He is a champion of life-long learning.

**Dec. 22—LADY BIRD JOHNSON** was born Claudia Alta Taylor in Karnack, Texas. There is a story about her nickname. Once, a nursemaid said about her, "She's as purty as a ladybird." She studied journalism and art at the University of Texas at Austin. When she was a child, the future environmentalist developed a love of nature. With her joy-creating efforts, the government of Texas agreed to plant wildflowers on the sides of the roads throughout the state. As First Lady, Lady Bird, who was married to U.S. President Lyndon Johnson, started a beautification program for Washington, D.C. She was instrumental in the U.S. Congress passing the Highway Beautification Act (1965) which is known as the "Lady Bird Johnson Act." This federal law restricted roadside advertisements and provided rules and funds for planting wildflowers and other plants along America's highways and byways.

**Dec. 23—MADAM C.J. WALKER** (born Sarah Breedlove in Louisiana—1867) was an African American beauty products entrepreneur and social activist. She was the first female self-made millionaire in the U.S. Walker made her fortune by creating and marketing a line of cosmetics and hair care products for black women through the business she founded, Madam C. J. Walker Manufacturing Company. Her name was a version of Mrs. Charles Joseph Walker, after her third husband. She became known worldwide for her philanthropy and as a patron of the arts.

**Dec. 24—HOWARD HUGHES** was an engineer, business tycoon, investor, film director, philanthropist and record-setting pilot. During his lifetime, he was one of the most influential and financially successful people in the world. He received the Congressional Gold Medal and was inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame.

**COMMENTS OVERHEARD AT "THE CREATING JOY BIRTHDAY PARTY:"**

"Only a generation of readers will spawn a generation of writers."—Steven Spielberg

"I am not a quitter. I will fight until I drop."—Cicely Tyson

"Be pretty if you can, be witty if you must, but be gracious if it kills you."—Elsie de Wolfe

"The clash of ideas is the sound of freedom."—Lady Bird Johnson

"I got my start by giving myself a start."—Madam C. J. Walker

"Passion will make you crazy, but is there any other way to live?"—Howard Hughes

"I do not dream at night, I dream all day, I dream for a living."—Steven Spielberg

"Nobody would bother to beat you down if you were not a threat."—Cicely Tyson

"A house should be a synthesis of comfort, practicality and tradition."—Elsie de Wolfe

"I married a saint—well, a saint who curses."—Ray Romano

"My heart found its home long ago in the beauty, mystery, order and disorder of the flowering earth."—Lady Bird Johnson

"I had to make my own living and my own opportunity. But I made it! Don't sit down and wait for the opportunities to come. Get up and make them."—Madam C. J. Walker

"Do the impossible, because almost everyone has told me my ideas are merely fantasies."—Howard Hughes

"Even though I get older, what I do never get is old, and that's what keeps me hungry."—Steven Spielberg

"Children should have a balanced start in life, a mother and a father. That is the only reason to get married."—Cicely Tyson

"I am going to make everything around me beautiful—that will be my life."—Elsie de Wolfe

"For the sake of your marriage, get a king-size bed. And if you really want to stay married, get two."—Ray Romano

"Flowers in the city are like lipstick on a woman—it just makes you look better to have a little color."—Lady Bird Johnson

"Perseverance is my motto."—Madam C. J. Walker

"I am by nature a perfectionist, and I seem to have trouble allowing anything to go through in a half-perfect condition."—Howard Hughes

"You shouldn't dream your film; you should make it."—Steven Spielberg

"Challenges make you discover things about yourself you never really knew."—Cicely Tyson

"You will express yourself in your house whether you want to or not."—Elsie de Wolfe

"I still feel like an immature idiot inside, but I look in the mirror and this old guy keeps getting in the way."—Ray Romano

"Native plants give us a sense of where we are in this great land of ours. I want Texas to look like Texas and Vermont to look like Vermont."—Lady Bird Johnson

"If I have accomplished anything in life it is because I have been willing to work hard."—Madam C. J. Walker

"The human brain is still undergoing rapid adaptive evolution."—Howard Hughes

"If each person in this world will simply take a small piece of this huge thing, this amazing quilt, and work it regardless of the color of the yarn, we will have harmony on this planet."—Cicely Tyson

"I believe in optimism and plenty of white paint."—Elsie de Wolfe

"It's pretty hard for the Lord to guide you if you haven't made up your mind which way to go."—Madam C. J. Walker

"I am not a paranoid, deranged millionaire. Dammit, I'm a billionaire."—Howard Hughes

"The public has an appetite for anything about imagination—anything that is far away from reality is creatively possible."—Steven Spielberg

**MENU FOR "THE CREATING JOY BIRTHDAY PARTY:"**

**APPETIZER**—Everybody Loves Ray Romano Braciole Bites (cdkitchen.com)

**SALAD**—Lady Bird Johnson Edible Wildflower Salad (forestandfauna.com)

**SIDE DISH**—Madam C. J. Walker Louisiana Red Beans and Rice (yummly.com)

**BREAD**—Cicely Tyson Vegan Zucchini Bread (allrecipes.com)

**BEVERAGE**—Elsie de Wolfe Christmas at Versailles Cocktail (see below)

**DESSERT**—Howard Hughes Billionaire Bars (sugarandsoul.com)

**ONE TO GROW ON**—The best biography of the rags-to-riches trajectory of the nation's first self-made woman millionaire is "Madam C. J. Walker: The Making of an American Icon" by Erica L. Ball (2019). Born to former slaves, married at 14 and widowed by 20, Walker refashioned herself into one of the most famous African Americans in history. Her story is inspiring for every reader.

As we sprint toward Christmas, the conversation of "The Creating Joy Birthday Party" naturally evolved to holiday plans. Ray Romano said, "I'll be spending the holidays with my family. Nothing special, just some light bickering and biting sarcasm." Cicely Tyson gave him a jolly wink and replied, "Bless you, my angel. And pace yourself."

Elsie de Wolfe told stories of regal Christmas celebrations at Versailles and she dramatically re-created the joy-giving signature cocktail she served her holiday guests at the Villa Trianon.

Before dessert, all the partiers enjoyed a special exhibit of flower photography from the films of Howard Hughes and of Steven Spielberg. Then, like wide-eyed children at Christmastime, they enjoyed a shopping spree in the grand, garden-centric gift emporium of the wildflower center.

At the end of the evening, Lady Bird Johnson thanked the American joy-givers at "The Creating Joy Birthday Party" and charmed the crowd with her Texas drawl as she read:

**"A GARDNER'S CHRISTMAS POEM" (AUTHOR UNKNOWN)**

'Twas the night
before Christmas
And all through the yard
The branches were bare
And the ground frozen hard
The roses were dormant
And mulched all around
To protect them
from damage
If frost heaves the ground
The perennials were nestled
All snug in their beds
While visions of fertilizer
Danced in their heads
The newly planted shrubs
Had been soaked by a hose
To settle their roots
For a long winter's doze
And out on the lawn
The new fallen snow
Protected the roots of
the grasses below
When what to my wondering
Eyes should appear
But a Prius full of gifts
Of gardening gear
St. Nick was the driver
A jolly old elf
And he winked as he said
"I'm a gardener myself."
I've brought new seeds
And light systems, too
Give them a try
And see how they do.
To eliminate weeding
I brought bags of mulch
To attract the pollinators
I have flowers for
best results.
To add to your joy
I've plenty of herbs
And ornamental grasses
For your hell strip curb.
For seed planting days
I've a trowel and dibble
And a roll of wire mesh
If the rabbits should nibble.
I have the latest books
Plus some gadgets you'll love
Plant stakes and frames
And waterproof gloves.
Here are sharp shears
And a new compost pit
And for pH detecting,
A soil testing kit.
With these colorful
flagstones
Lay a new garden path
For the view from
your window
A bird feeder and bath.
And last but not least
Some well-rotted manure.
A green garden year-round
These gifts will ensure
Then, jolly St. Nick
Having emptied his load
Started his Prius
And took on the road.
And I heard him exclaim
Through the motor's
quiet hum,
"MERRY CHRISTMAS
TO ALL,
AND TO ALL A
GREEN THUMB!"

**ELSIE DE WOLFE CHRISTMAS AT VERSAILLES COCKTAIL**
(Source: Giffordsguide.com)

**INGREDIENTS**

- 3 fresh Basil leaves (Versailles has in the orangery)
- 1 ½ ounces Remy Martin 1738 Cognac
- ½ ounce blackberry liqueur (Crème de Mure)
- 2/3-ounce sauvignon blanc wine
- Fresh blackberries and basil leaves for garnish

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Bruise the basil leaves, then STIR all ingredients with ice and strain into a coupe glass. Garnish with a spear of blackberry and basil leaf.

**JOYEUX NOEL, AMERICAN JOY-GIVERS!**

# Louie (from Front)

**Olivia Law**
olivia@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — The Cullman County Animal Shelter's Donna Ruttkay shares this week's Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week: Louie!

According to Ruttkay, Louie is a 1.5-2-year-old Shepherd/Collie mix. This medium energy dude loves spending time with his people, is smart and has a humble nature. He's also quite skillful on his leash.

This intelligent fellow will surely make an excellent therapy, companion or hiking dog!

Louie's adoption fee includes DHLPP vaccine, Bordetella vaccines, rabies vaccine, wormer, general exam at the vet, microchip, free 30-day health insurance policy issued by 24PetWatch (with valid email only) and a free bag of food from Cullman Pet Depot (you must pay sales tax).

Animal shelter staff and volunteers work with their dogs to make sure they are accustomed to being around people, walking on a leash and practicing good behavior.

Several of the shelter's canine friends have even been "hired" to work as therapy and special needs service dogs.

Please consider adopting to give a rescued pet a chance at a happy and healthy life.

Contact the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 256-734-5448 or visit them at 935 Convent Road NE.

Reach them by email at cullmancountyanimalshelter@gmail.com.

































# Principal (from Front)

**Ty Watwood**
Contributor

**HOLLY POND, Ala.** — The Cullman County Board of Education on Thursday approved the hiring of Dr. Janet Turner to be the new principal of Holly Pond High School. Dr. Turner has worked in education for 24 years and specializes in data, school reform and facilitating professional development to administrators at the state department level. She has previously served as the school's assistant principal.

"I am honored to have this opportunity to lead a school with great students and an extremely dedicated staff," said Dr. Turner.

"I am humbled by the amount of support that I have received from the faculty, students, parents and community."

Dr. Turner, a national board-certified educator, holds a doctorate in Educational Leadership from Samford University, as well as two master's degrees.

"Over the past few years, Dr. Turner has done a wonderful job as assistant principal at Holly Pond High," said Dr. Shane Barnette, Cullman County School superintendent. "I appreciate her leadership, and I look forward to the great things she will accomplish as principal."

Dr. Turner begins her tenure as principal of Holly Pond High effective immediately.

# Obituary Announcements: Dec. 16-17

**Lois Mae Smith Overton, 91, of Double Springs**
Lois Mae Smith Overton of Double Springs, formerly of Jasper, went home to be with Jesus on Wednesday, Dec. 15, at the age of 91. She passed away at Hendrix Health Care in Double Springs, Alabama. Lois was born March 3, 1930, in Pisgah, Alabama. She was a member of Mount Olive Baptist Church. She loved to cross stitch, crochet, cook, fish, sew and canning food. Mrs. Overton retired from Ridgewood Health Center in Jasper, Alabama. Visitation will be held Sunday, Dec. 19, from noon - 2 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home – Double Springs, where funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery. Brother Jeff Long will officiate. Lois is survived by her daughter: Doris Overton Bell (Dwight); stepson: Ken Overton; son-in-law: Don Humphries; grandchildren: Shannon Bell (James), Jodi Bell Daniel, Thomas Bell and Amanda Humphries (Jamie); great-grandchildren: Trey Daniel (Molly), Stormie Bell (Mason), Riley Rice, Xander Bell and Chason Humphries (Amara); great-great-grandchild: Cooper Daniel; special niece: Robbie Long and a host of nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband: Carl Overton; daughters: Joyce Overton Humphries and Denese Gay Overton; father: Johnny Smith; mother: Annie V. Smith and sisters: Lucille Ward and Emma "Billie" Lou Ward. The family would like to send a special thanks to the staff at Hendrix Health Care for the love and care they gave to Mawma and a special thanks to Patti Taylor.

**Eugene Howell, 87, of Cullman**
Funeral service for Eugene Howell, age 87, of Cullman, will be at 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 20, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with interment in Cullman Heritage Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1-2 p.m. prior to the service. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Howell passed away Friday, Dec. 17, at Hanceville Nursing Home. He was born May 16, 1934, in Hamilton, Alabama to Burl C. and Delcie Mae Howell. He was preceded in death by his wife: Jerline Elizabeth Howell; parents; sister: Evelyn Mitchell and brother: L.V. George. Survivors include his brothers: Rufus Howell and Daytos Howell and a host of nieces and nephews.

**Donna Irene Unterseher, 63, of Holly Pond**
A memorial service for Donna Irene Unterseher, 63, of Holly Pond will be 1 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 21, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Cullman, Alabama. The family will receive friends from noon - 1 p.m. prior to the service. Pastor Bussman will officiate the service. The burial will follow in Addison. A reception will follow the burial at St. Paul's Luther Church. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the Unterseher family. Ms. Unterseher passed away Dec. 15, at her residence. She was born Nov. 13, 1958, to Norbert Clarence and Sarah Irene Mutzenberger Thielmann. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brother: Norbert Thielman, Jr. Survivors include her son: Jesse Unterseher; daughters: Vanessa (Gary) Smith and Bobbi-Jo Unterseher; brother: Allen Thielmann; grandchildren: Preston and Dakota Johnson, Tashena Doyal, Dean King, Talon and Skyler Payne and Alivia Smith; great-granddaughter: Lila Doyal; family and friends.

**Sarah Madgie "Madge" Kretzschmar of Hanceville**
Funeral services for Sarah Madgie "Madge" Kretzschmar of Hanceville, Alabama were held at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17, in the Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel with burial following at Garden City Cemetery. Visitation was held prior to the service at noon. Mrs. Kretzschmar is survived by her daughter: Paula Kretzschmar; her son: Tony (Sheila) Kretzschmar; granddaughter: Vanessa (Mitch) McClusky; grandsons: Joshua (Misty) Kretzschmar, Jacob (Katie) Kretzschmar and Matthew (Kimberly) Kretzschmar; great-grandchildren: Logan Kretzschmar, Cason Kretzschmar and Hanna Kate Kretzschmar and a special friend: Arlanda Johnson. She is preceded in death by her husband: Henry "Bayo" Kretzschmar Jr.; her parents: John and Fairy Bowers; sister: Pauline (Herbert) McAlpine; brother: Bobby Bowers and two infant brothers.

**Donnie Ray Moore of Hanceville**
Funeral services Donnie Ray Moore of Hanceville, Alabama will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 19, in the Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel with burial following at Laodicea Cemetery. Visitation will be held at Hanceville Funeral Home prior to the service, beginning at 1 p.m. Mr. Moore is survived by his wife: Shirley Cox-Moore; sons: Steven Moore and Wesley Cox; daughter: Courtney Underwood; sisters: Ruthie Moore Seymore and Margaret Moore Matlock and a host of nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents: Charlie and Laura Moore and four brothers: Charlie Moore, Jimmie Moore, Leon Moore and Johnny Moore.

**Linda (Nanny) Elrod, 70, of Cullman**
Linda (Nanny) Elrod, age 70, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 15. Linda was born Nov. 22, 1951, in Cullman Alabama to James and Dorothy Burns Taylor. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband: Obie Elrod; sisters: Janie Powers and Joann Sachs and sister-in-law: Cheryl Taylor. Graveside services will be Sunday Dec. 19, at 2 p.m. at New Hope #2 Cemetery in Holly Pond, Alabama. Survivors are daughters: Alisa Beam (Ryan Huffstutler) and Theresa (Clint) Godsey; sister: Pat (Jimmy) Beddingfield; brother: Billy Taylor; grandchildren: Katrina Garner, Donovan Beam and Tabitha (Nick) Griffin and great-grandchildren: Lillian Folds, Hunner Folds and Brooklyn Griffin. Visitation is Sunday Dec. 19, from 12:30-1:30 p.m.

**Rev. Gregory William Story, 63, of Cullman**
Rev. Gregory William Story, age 63, of Cullman, died Tuesday, Dec. 14. Rev. Story was the district superintendent of the North Alabama District of the Church of the Nazarene. Previously, he had pastored for the Church of the Nazarene in East Gadsden, Alabama, Cullman, Alabama, Gallatin, Tennessee and Jasper, Alabama. Greg earned his bachelor's degree from Trevecca Nazarene University. He continued his education receiving a Master of Theology degree and ultimately, an honorary doctorate. Greg is survived by his wife: Charity Story; daughter: Brook (Matt) White; son: Blake Story; grandsons: Garner White, Hollis White and Paxton Story; father: Gilman Story; brother: Geron (Sandy) Story; niece: Ashton Story and nephew: Brock Story.The family will receive friends at Cullman First Church of the Nazarene Saturday, Dec. 18, from 11 a.m. until the celebration of Rev. Story's life which will begin at 1 p.m. Burial will follow in Cullman City Cemetery. Moss Service Funeral Home Directing.

**Norma Jean Shaw, 65, of Arley**
Norma Jean Shaw, 65, of Arley, passed away Dec. 15, at her residence. She was born April 24, 1956, in Macon, Georgia. Norma loved gardening and gifting plants to friends and family. Norma is survived by her husband: Robert Shaw; sisters: Cindy Burdeshaw Loyd, Paula Burdeshaw Routh, Pam Burdeshaw Sandlin and Karen Burdeshaw Fehringer; a brother: Clyde Burdeshaw and a host of nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents: Clyde L. Burdeshaw and Lauren Burdeshaw and a brother: Chris Burdeshaw. Visitation was Friday, Dec. 17, at Nichols Funeral Home from 12:30-1:30 p.m. A graveside service was held at Shaw Cemetery in Arley at 2 p.m.

**Thomas Eugene Davenport, 64, of Muscle Shoals**
Thomas Eugene Davenport, age 64, of Muscle Shoals, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 14, at North Alabama Medical Center. He was born Nov. 17, 1957, to William and Chelsa E. Davenport. He was preceded in death by his parents. Survivors include his daughter: Audra (Craig) Crispen; son: Stephen Bontrager; grandchildren: Christopher Bontrager, Jared (Ariel) Havanah, Elijah Crispen, Emily Crispen, Olivia Crispen and Jade Bontrager; sister: Betty Ann Guarst; niece: Melissa Stott; nephew: Paul Featherstone and a host of family and friends.

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## BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

# O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree

**Bill King**
Tribune
Contributor



Our stockings aren't hung from the chimney with care...not yet, but the Christmas trees are all up. When I was a kid, we had one little tree at Christmas, and it was not put up until a couple of days before Christmas Day. That was because a coal heater in the room with a live Christmas tree can cause quite a light show, but not the kind any family wants to see. We always went to the woods behind our house and chopped down a little cedar. We tried to find one with at least three-good sides, with no hornet's nest in it. We turned the bad side to the wall, so no one would see it.

My how things have changed since those days. Jean and I still have only one Christmas tree...one in each room of the house, that is. Even that's not true because some rooms have more than one.

We have more trees inside our house at Christmas than the forest behind our house has. Now, honestly, some of them are little ones, but there are at least three full-size ones.

Jean makes our house look so beautiful at Christmas. In our early years of marriage things were much different. Our first Christmas as a married couple, we lived in a small two-bedroom apartment on the Samford University campus in Birmingham. I had never bought a Christmas tree in my life, but there were no woods behind our apartment.

I can't remember how much we paid for that first one, but I know it was only a few dollars. Now they cost a few-hundred dollars and they aren't even real.

We were broke, young married, college-age kids. We could barely afford the tree, so we couldn't afford to buy decorations and ornaments for the tree, so we made our own. We used the old-style clothes pins, the kind with two legs and a round knob at the top. We painted them to look like tin soldiers, football players, and other things. We also painted old-light bulbs red and glued cotton them to make them look like Santa Claus.

My favorites were made from the soft-drink cups we brought home from big nights of dining out. Our favorites fine-dining establishments back then were McDonalds and Krystal.

Using scissors, we cut strips in the cups, starting at the top and going almost to the bottom. Then we flared the strips out all the way around, making them look like stars. We spray painted them different colors and added glitter to some of them. We were into repurposing things even back then. One would think after 47-Christmases, those old-paper-cup ornaments would be in shreds. Some are and some are gone, but unbelievably three-or-four are hanging on our "main tree" right now.

Jean rotates them from year to year to save the wear-and-tear on them, but a few are still together. We also still have the clothes-pin ornaments, and two light-bulb Santas. We have so many ornaments on our trees these days you can barely see the tree, but those old homemade ones will always be my favorites.

Christmas is not about the trees, the decorations, or the presents. Christmas is first and foremost about Jesus. It is, after all, His birthday, not ours. Next, Christmas is about family. I am blessed to have spent so many Christmases with Jean, the love of my life.

Thirty-four years ago, we were blessed with a wonderful daughter, and now we have been joined by a fine son-in-law, and the greatest grandson in the world (in my humble opinion). There is joy in our world! May you too be blessed with the joys of Christmas!

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

## HISTORY

# Files from Yesteryear: 1920, 1936

**From the Files of 1920**

Apple pickers are busy now in the Mellon Orchards near Anniston. Three thousand trees on thirty-five acres are expected to produce 24 bushels on average to each tree.

Mr. Thomas J. Culpepper died at his home, 3 miles west of Cullman, on Monday. His age was 73 years. He was the father of Doctor Alva Culpepper and Doctor James Culpepper. He resided in the community of Crane Hill for several years. Interment was in City Cemetery.

A wagon overturned on the road near Bradford Schoolhouse. Professor Albert Keller, County Superintendent of Education, was in his car going up the hill when he saw a pair of mules hitched to a wagon coming downhill. The mules became scared. One mule pushed the other mule off the embankment. The wagon turned over twice during the 30-foot fall. The occupants were all spilled out. Mrs. King, a daughter of Joe Coggins, who owned the wagon, was the only one painfully hurt. Professor Keller called for assistance at once and a physician came to care for Mrs. King.

Mrs. Al Richter entertained the Missionary Society of the First Methodist Church and the teachers of the city public school on Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Claudie and Louvenia Weeks are visiting relatives and friends at Good Hope.

The many friends of little Franke Guthery are glad to hear he is recovering from a severe attack of cold.

Mr. Dallas Tucker must have been behind time on Sunday when he motored through Mr. Eddy's bean patch in his Ford car.

Mr. Rueben Hyatt and Miss Annie Rogers, Mr. Jimmie Kilgo and Miss Lillie Rogers and Miss Jewell Kilgo attended the singing on Sunday at Brushy Pond.

**From the Files of 1936**

Mr. R.C. Berry, of Vinemont, was a business visitor to Cullman on Saturday. He reported killing three, four hundred pound hogs last week.

They decided to store the meat in their washhouse until morning, then cut the meat up to salt down and store. The meat was frozen solid and could not be used until it was thawed to where it could be handled.

Mrs. J.M. Woodall of Good Hope died at her home on Friday afternoon. She was seventy-eight and had been a member of the Baptist church for sixty-one years.

Reverend W.L. Hudson conducted the services at Good Hope Church and her body laid to rest in the Good Hope Cemetery.

# POET'S CORNER

## A Most Holy Night | By: Randy C. Hale

It is said that it was the holiest of nights,
in a little town call Bethlehem.
That you could hear the angels singing
praise to the news of the babe, and that in a place where the animals ate, a child laid.

And if you listened close, you could hear the rustle of hay when the Shepherds came and if you looked into the sky, you could see a bright star that shined, that would lead the Wise men on their quest, to find the king born that night, and bring their very best.

I can just imagine how things might have been for such a young mother, misplaced. And what a father would have done to keep them warm and safe.

Yes on this night, most Holy Night,
the Son of God was given,
and with His birth, the promise came,
the debt of sin forgiven.

We fall upon our very knees
to hear the angels song
and on this night, most Holy Night
we join them around God's throne.

'O Night Divine! O Holy Night Divine.'



# CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

DEC. 18

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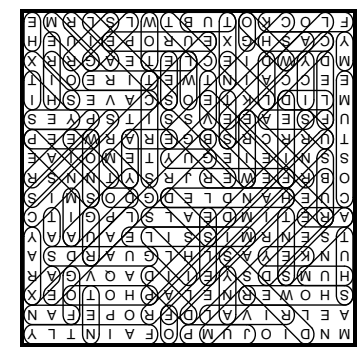
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# CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

DEC. 18

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**ANSWERS:**



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# ‘It’s given me a lot of joy’

## Taylor Allen creates beauty from grief with woodworking business Crew Collective Co.

**Sara Gladney**
sara@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Cullman native Taylor LeShea Allen started her business Crew Collective Co. in October 2021 after the loss of her baby boy Crew, who was born with chromosomal disease Trisomy 18.

Allen began her woodworking business as an outlet for her grief. The first message on her website is, “On May 3, 2021, we had the most beautiful baby boy, Crew, who stayed with us for two hours before he entered the gates of Heaven. Our heartbeat behind Crew Collective Co. is not only to love and serve the people of our community, but to share with others the hope we have in Jesus.”

Crew was with the Allen’s for only two hours after his birth. They had genetic testing done when Taylor was 12 weeks pregnant, and the results came back negative. At 20 weeks, an anatomy scan showed Crew had an enlarged heart. The Allen’s went to UAB hospital for further genetic testing four weeks before Taylor gave birth, which revealed Crew had Trisomy 18.

Allen has been interested in woodworking for about two years but did not get started until October when she felt it would be better for her to take a break from her job as a nurse. After the loss of Crew, she was working in the NICU. She said, “It felt like a good time to step away from the hospital, especially being around all the babies.”

Woodworking has been therapeutic for Allen. She said, “I have a stamp with my logo on it. That is my favorite part of my job is putting his name on everything.”

She continued, “For me it’s been my outlet, especially since I stopped doing bedside nursing full-time. It’s given me a lot of joy, even in the midst of horrible grief, it has given me so much joy and it’s something that I feel like I can do in his memory, and we can get his story out. I would definitely recommend to anyone who is going through something like that to find a hobby that they love to do.”

Allen said she may expand by the end of 2022, and is hoping to buy more equipment and start doing personal laser engravings on her work.


CREWCOLLECTIVECO.COM

Allen’s website features a modern dollhouse, blanket ladders, stepstools, clothing racks, tables and her best-selling charcuterie boards and stove covers. The website includes a custom order form in which customers can describe exactly what they want including the color and size and get a quote.

To view Allen’s work, visit https://www.crewcollectiveco.com/shop.

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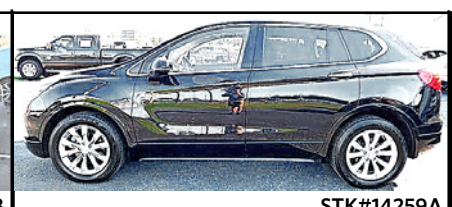
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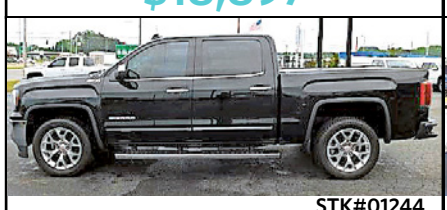
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STK#14259A
2017 BUICK ENVISION
$19,897


STK#18030D
2015 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
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2017 GMC SIERRA 1500
$34,897

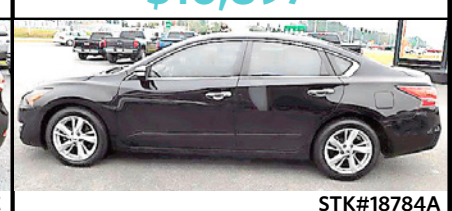

STK#18790B
2010 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500
$17,897

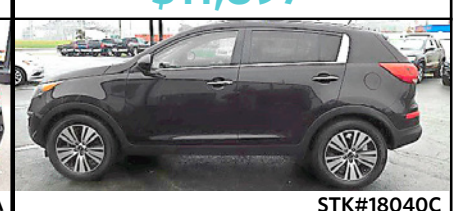

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$11,897


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