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WEATHER

72 | 55

SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

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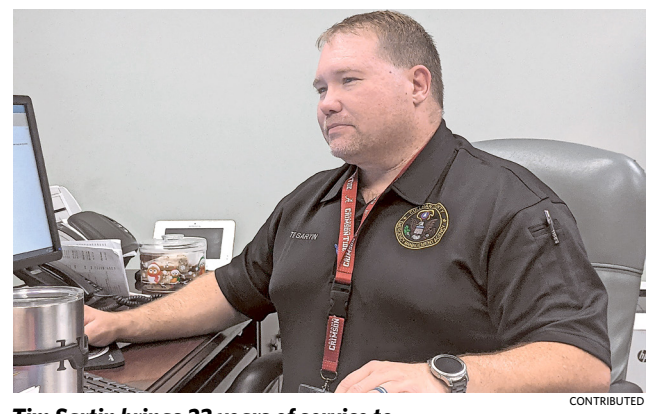
Cullman EMA welcomes Tim Sartin as new director

Heather Mann
heather@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — With the start of a new year comes a new chapter for the Cullman County Emergency Management Agency. With director Phyllis Little stepping down, the EMA will ring in the New Year under the direction of Tim Sartin, who has been working with Little at the agency since the start of December to make the transition as smooth as possible.

Sartin's career in public safety has been extensive, serving in the Cullman EMS for 23 years and serving in an on-and-off capacity for volunteer fire services and reserve police in that same time.

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CONTRIBUTED

Tim Sartin brings 23 years of service to his new role as EMA director.

– YEAR-END REPORTS –

Cullman County Commission on Aging discuss impact of 2021 on senior centers



CULLMAN COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

Seniors pictured at the Crane Hill Senior Center

Sara Gladney
sara@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Commission on Aging director Stephanie Lawson spoke about the many events of the past year since the senior centers were reopened in June. All centers in Cullman County celebrated opening their doors once more with a cook-out. Lawson said, "Sheriff Gentry kicked it off for us by making sure he got around to every one of the full-time centers as well as the part-time centers and doing a cook-out, welcoming the seniors back." These cookouts took place from June until September 2021.

The first event the Senior center was able to hold upon reopening was the Senior Health Fair in September. The center also held an Oktoberfest Senior Day, Cullman County Fair Senior Day and the Senior Christmas party at Stonebridge.

The senior centers were not allowed to open until June this year due to COVID-19. Lawson said it is always possible that the centers will close again. She said, "We are governed, as far as that goes, by the Alabama Department of Senior Services, so it is just depending on mandates that come down from the governor." Lawson has not heard any news of senior centers needing to shut down again so far.

On gatherings of large groups of seniors for special events during COVID, Lawson said, "My personal opinion on it, and that's all it is, is most of our seniors were ready to get back, they were ready to get out. Probably the majority of them have been vaccinated, and they are of the age to where if they feel safe, and they want to come out, and they want to gather with their friends and enjoy themselves, then we want to offer as safely as we can for them to be able to do that."

Lawson said that the centers do not have a mask mandate at this point, but the seniors are welcome to wear a mask and social distance if it makes them feel more comfortable.

Lawson continued, "I think it's very important for people to be able to make some of these decisions for themselves."

Lawson does not currently have any big events planned for the centers for next year, but the centers will continue to meet as usual.

EMERGENCY RESPONDERS

Cullman EMA announces new weather alert system ahead of inclement weather

» PAGE 6

ENTERTAINMENT

Ring in 2022 with these Cullman-based events!

Ashlyn Grey
ashlyn@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — This weekend, 2021 will come to a close and Cullman is ready to see it out with a bang. With several events livening the city throughout New Year's Eve, 2022 is sure to be ushered in in style.

Goat Island Brewing will be hosting their New Year's Eve event, at which they will celebrate the countdown of the year together.

This event will run from 7 p.m. – midnight and will be catered by Freddie Day with prime rib plates for $30 per person. Live music will also be performed by Round 2 for the evening.

412 Public House will also be celebrating the New Year with live music from the band, Brēz.

An announcement of the event reads, "Join us this New Year's Eve! Dinner commences at 5 p.m. with a special New Year's Eve menu by Chef Rico and his team. Dinner will be served until 10 p.m.

The 9 p.m. hour welcomes our special friends from the band, Brēz!

They will be helping us rock into the New Year well past midnight. Our celebration will be topped with a Champagne toast as we complete our countdown to 2022!"

While the parties are fun, those who are looking to celebrate New Year's Day in a more relaxing way might be interesting in the Bob Ross Oil Painting Class that will be taking place at Karma's Coffee House.

On Saturday, all are encouraged to attend and learn the wet-on-wet technique, made popular by Bob Ross, from a certified Bob Ross instructor.

The class fee is $45, which includes all materials and supplies, except for the canvas. Students will need to bring a 11x14 inch canvas to class.

The morning class will begin at 9:30 a.m. and finishes at 11:30 a.m., at which time participants will take home a completed painting. The afternoon class will begin at 12:30 p.m. and end at 2:30 p.m. Due to COVID-19, Students are required to bring and use a face mask without a valve.

"This is an » PAGE 3

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Dec. 29

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

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

Dec. 23

• second-degree theft of property; person; Mitchell Rd. NE; medication

Dec. 27

• first-degree criminal mischief; person; Waterford Dr.; damaged property; $2,500

• third-degree criminal mischief; Cullman Park & Rec.; Cleveland Ave. SWW; damaged property; $180

Dec. 28

• harassment; person; Hwy. 157

• third-degree theft of property; Marvin's; Hwy. 157; general merchandise; $644

• third-degree theft of property; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; general merchandise; $793

• fourth-degree theft of property; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; saw; $64

• unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle; person; cash

• harassing communications; person

• leaving scene of accident; person; Hwy. 157; damage to '17 Hyundai Santa Fe; $1,500

• fourth-degree theft of property; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $68

• fourth-degree theft of property; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $24

ARRESTS

Dec. 27

Marsh, Stacie L.; 35

• FTA- switched tag

Dec. 28

Zuniga, Cindy H.; 44

• unlawful possession/receiving controlled substance

• possession of drug paraphernalia

Trussell, Anthony L.; 35

• FTA- fail to signal

• FTA- driving while license suspended

England, Breanna N.; 36

• FTA- third-degree domestic violence

Stump, Wesley A.; 32

• FTA- fail to register vehicle

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No incidents or arrets reported.

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



COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

Wednesday, Dec. 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)

• Positivity in tests in Alabama: 27%

• Confirmed cases in Alabama (2020): 387,479

• Confirmed cases in Alabama (2021): 492,828 (+9,693 since Monday)

• Total confirmed deaths in Alabama (2020): 7,186

• Total confirmed deaths in Alabama (2021): 9,268 (+36 since Monday)

• Positivity in tests in Cullman Co.: 10.1%

• Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co. (2020): 7,561

• Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co. (2021): 9,255 (+151 since Monday)

• Deaths in Cullman Co. (2020): 128

• Deaths in Cullman Co. (2021): 182 (+2 since Monday)

• Total tested in Cullman Co. in the last 7 days: 1,664

• Total tested positive in Cullman Co. in the last 7 days: 168

• Total tested in Alabama in the last 7 days: 58,941

• Total positive tests in Alabama in the last 7 days: 15,924

• Currently hospitalized in Alabama: 612

Vaccine details (updated Tuesday and Thursday)

• Doses delivered to Alabama: 7,827,125 (No update available)

• Doses delivered to Alabama providers: 4,289,825 (No update available)

• Doses administered: 5,396,355

• Additional doses administered: 559,223

• Number of people receiving one or more doses: 2,714,278

• Number of people who have completed vaccine series: 2,213,016

• Doses delivered to federal programs: 3,537,300 (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

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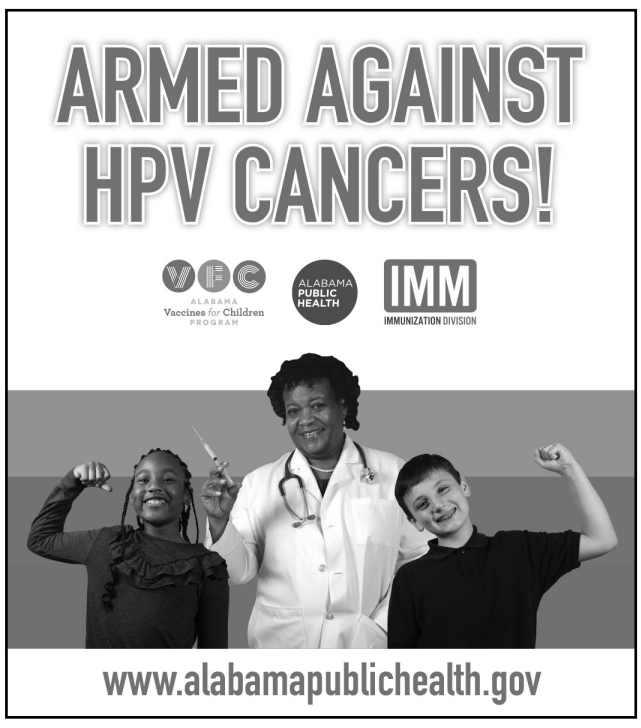
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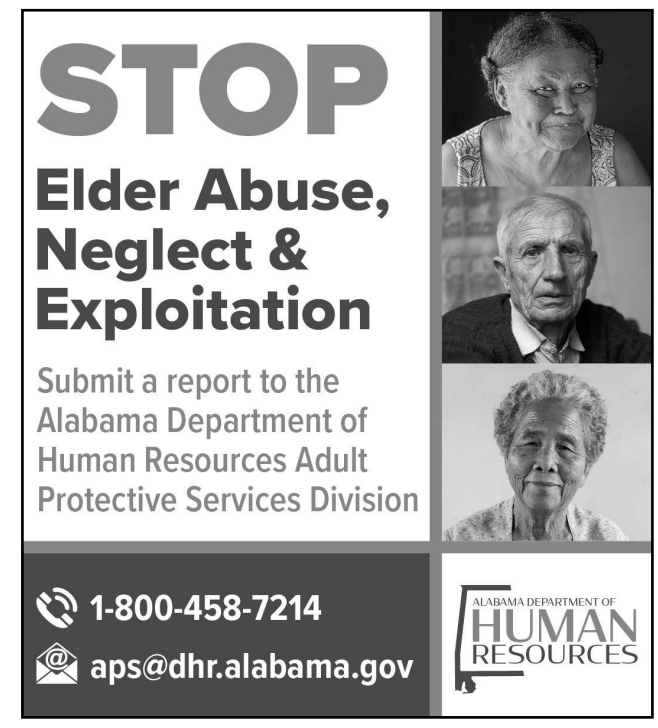
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HISTORY

Local heritage group decorates Confederate graves

SCV
Contributor

CULLMAN COUNTY, Ala. — Members of Cullman County's Sons of Confederate Veterans Organization, Thomas Jefferson Denney Camp #1442, got together Saturday, Dec. 11 to decorate the graves of over 35 Confederate Soldiers. The group visited seven cemeteries in the area, placing wreaths and grave flags at each soldier's final resting place.

The camp met earlier that week to hand make red ribbon bows and wreaths made from cedar limbs that Camp Commander Wayne Willingham cut off of his own cedar trees.

The Thomas Jefferson Denney camp meets the last Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Cullman Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2214 building.

The next meeting will be Jan. 25, 2022, with a speaker about the role the "Tejanos" (Mexicans in Texas) played with the Confederacy.

The Feb. 22 meeting will feature The Rebel Mountain Storyteller, Mark Vogle, to speak on events at Gettysburg.



CULLMAN SCV

Members of Cullman County's Sons of Confederate Veterans Organization, left to right: Camp 1st Lt. Nathan Lamar, Cole DeSilvey, Camp Commander Wayne Willingham, Raquelle Schumacher, Camp 2nd Lt. Rick Leipert, Camp Adjutent Bert Jones; Not pictured: John Burt, Don Bryan Sr. and Steve Bryan

Events (from Front)

adult class; students must be at least 16 years old. However, younger students have done well in class when they had a parent in class painting and assisting/encouraging them. Thus, students as young as 11 years old are allowed, but a parent MUST also paint, thus paying for two seats," shared Life Palette Studios Director and Instructor Jenny Young.

Advance registration is strongly suggested and can be done by going to https://lifepalettestudios.myportfolio.com/ or by calling 256-509-1161.

Additionally, for those who are interested in the Bob Ross Oil Painting Class but cannot make it to the 9:30 a.m. class on Jan. 1, another class will be held Feb. 5.

Sartin (from Front)

Sartin served as a liaison to the EMA for the EMS during the 2011 tornadoes and continued to act as EMA liaison during many of the ice storms Cullman has experienced in previous years.

Of his career, Sartin said, "I'm just a hometown boy, born and raised here in Cullman County.

"I spent my whole career in public safety, and I'm going to continue to do what I've always done."

Often when organizations come under new leadership, people expect to see changes in the way things are run.

However, Sartin has said that he has no plans to change anything, saying, "Everything's running really smoothly, so I don't see any need to make a change.

"The best thing I can do is to make sure that things are able to run the same way they've been running, because they work well as-is."

As a last comment about taking over the role, Sartin simply said, "I know I've got some big shoes to fill, and I'm going to do my best."

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.
• 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.

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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! 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. 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.

Pleasant View Watch Night Service
• Dec. 31: Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church will have a Watch Night service on Friday, New Year's Eve starting at 8 p.m. The guest singers will be "The Singing Ambassadors" from Fayetteville, Tennessee. We will break for refreshments around 10 p.m. We will pray the old year out and the new one in. 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.

Sing Me to Heaven choir concert
Jan. 18: Cullman choir Cullman Women Sing will be holding their concert "Sing Me to Heaven" on Tuesday, Jan. 18 at 7 p.m. at Seventh Street Baptist Church. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated.

Cullman Community Theatre's "Arsenic and Old Lace"
Feb. 18-20: Cullman Community Theatre will present "Arsenic and Old Lace," a play by Joseph Kesselring, Friday, Feb. 18 – Sunday, Feb. 20 at Stonebridge Farms. More information to come.

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PREP BASKETBALL

Warriors down Falkville 59-55, advance to Christmas Tournament finals

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

WEST POINT, Ala. — After defeating Hatton in the opening round of the West Point Christmas Tournament Monday night, the Warriors faced Falkville Tuesday night with a spot in the championship game on the line. In what was a very physical contest between both teams, the Warriors were able to pick up a huge, 59-55 win over the Blue Devils and advance to the tournament championship game.

Falkville jumped out to a quick 5-0 lead to start the contest, but Kanen Trussell scored back-to-back baskets down low to make it a 5-4 game early in the first quarter. A Blue Devil trey stretched their lead to 8-4; however, Trussell scored once again down low, and Andrew Lynn drilled a trey to give the Warriors a 9-8 lead with less than four minutes to go in the first period. Falkville ended up scoring the final five points of the quarter as the Warriors went into the second period down by a score of 13-9.

Driving layups by Sam Wheeler and Ashton Rodgers tied the game up at 13. Each team traded baskets to keep the game tied up at 15, but the Blue Devils hit back-to-back shots from deep to give them a 21-15 lead with a little over five minutes to go in the first half. A pair of Rodgers free throws and a Lynn trey trimmed the deficit to just one at 21-20, but Falkville went on an 8-0 run to push their lead to 29-20. A Wheeler free throw made it a 29-21 game at the half.

A Lynn three cut the deficit to just seven at 31-24 early in the third period. A three by Jay Lamar kept the deficit at seven at 34-27 with 5:25 remaining in the third quarter. Later on, a Wheeler driving layup and another Lynn trey made it a 36-32 game with a little over three minutes to go in the third period. A Falkville free throw gave them a 41-36 lead, but a huge three by Lynn just before the buzzer trimmed the West Point deficit to just two at 41-39 going into the final period.

A Blue Devil layup made it a 43-39 game to start out the fourth quarter, but another basket down low by Wheeler and a huge three by Rodgers gave West Point a 44-43 lead early in the final period. Another Rodgers trey and a Wheeler layup pushed the Warrior lead to 49-45 with 5:14 left, then back-to-back threes by Falkville gave them a 51-49 lead with 3:30 left in the game. The Blue Devils held a 55-51 lead with a little over two minutes to go in the contest, but Wheeler drilled a pair of huge threes to give West Point a 57-55 lead with a little over a minute left. Lynn sealed the deal with 13 seconds left as he hit a pair from the line to help give the Warriors a 59-55 win. West Point will play Priceville on Wednesday afternoon at 1:45 p.m. for the championship.

Wheeler led the way for West Point (6-10) with 19 points. Lynn added 17 points. Rodgers ended up with 10 points. Trussell added eight points, Lamar finished with three points, and Kolten Perry chipped in with two points.



SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

West Point's Sam Wheeler finished with 19 points in the Warriors' 59-55 win over Falkville.

PREP BASKETBALL

Good Hope falls to Demopolis in Wallace State Christmas Classic

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The Hanceville Bulldogs were home at Lane Horton Gymnasium to host Gardendale Tuesday night but unfortunately for the home crowd, the Rockets were the ones who left with the win. The Bulldogs went back and forth with Gardendale for four quarters, but the Rockets managed to pull away in the final minutes and come away with an 80-69 win over Hanceville.

The score was tight for most of the opening period, but Bulldog guards Zach Campbell and Brayden Harris combined to score 14 of Hanceville's 16 points in the first quarter and gave the Dogs a 16-15 lead going into the second.

Tristan Herrera drilled a three-pointer early in the second quarter to put Hanceville in front 20-17 and after a run from the Rockets, Carson Garrett scored back to back baskets to cut the lead to 26-24 midway through the period. Will Calvert laid one in to tie the game at 26 and Harris drained a three to keep the score knotted at 29 with two minutes remaining in the first half. Calvert and Harris each scored again to put the Bulldogs in front 33-32 with just under a minute to play in the second and after another Calvert basket, Konner Helms laid one in at the buzzer to stretch Hanceville's lead to 37-34 at the break.

Another run by the Rockets gave them a lead early in the third quarter but a basket by Calvert made it a 42-41 game. Gardendale continued to pull ahead but scores by Garrett and Braxton Broad cut the lead to five midway through the third. A Drew Campbell layup made it a 57-50 game with less than two minutes to play in the period and Noah Jones scored on back to back possessions to trim the lead to three. The Bulldogs went into the fourth quarter trailing 60-54.

Calvert scored seven straight points for Hanceville to start the final frame and cut the lead to 66-61. Campbell scored inside and knocked down a pair of free throws to bring the Bulldogs within three points of the lead, but the Rockets responded with an 8-0 run to build a 76-65 lead with just under two minutes on the clock. Calvert and Garrett were both able to score again but the Dogs ran out of time before they could mount a comeback and fell to Gardendale at home 80-69.

Campbell and Calvert each posted 16 points for Hanceville in the loss. Harris finished with 12 and Garrett added nine. The Bulldogs' next game will be at Good Hope Jan. 7.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Hanceville's Brayden Harris finished with 12 points in the Bulldogs' 80-69 loss to Gardendale Tuesday night.

PREP BASKETBALL

Warriors rally in 2nd half to top Hatton 62-49, Holly Pond falls to Priceville 66-38

Nick Griffin, Sammy Confer
Contributors

WEST POINT, Ala. — This year's West Point Christmas Tournament tipped off at West Point High School Monday afternoon and a pair of local teams are in the field for this year's event. The Holly Pond Broncos faced off against Priceville in Monday's opening matchup and fell to the Bulldogs 66-38. Later in the evening, the West Point Warriors took on Hatton and after trailing 27-18 at the half, they outscored the Hornets 44-22 in the second half to pull away with a 62-49 win.

West Point 62 – Hatton 49 (Varsity Boys)

Kanen Trussell got West Point on the scoreboard with a layup less than a minute into the game, but Hatton scored nine straight points to grab a 9-2 lead with less than four minutes to go in the first quarter. Ashton Rodgers drilled a three from the top of the key to end a almost five-minute scoring drought for the Warriors, then he later added a floater to cut the deficit to two at 9-7. Back-to-back baskets down low by the Hornets pushed their lead to 13-7 and the Warriors found themselves down by six going into the second quarter.

Hatton increased their lead to eight to start out the second period, but Sam Wheeler scored five straight points for West Point to cut their deficit to three at 15-12. The Hornets went on another huge run as seven straight points made it a 22-12 game with 3:28 remaining in the first half. Andrew Lynn drilled a three to make it a seven-point game, but that was as close as the Warriors would get the rest of the first half as they went into the locker room down, 27-18.

A Hornet basket down low made it 29-18 to start out the third quarter. A three by Jay Lamar and a Trussell layup cut the Hatton lead to 29-23, then later on, a technical foul was called on one of Hatton's players and Lynn drilled both free throws to cut it to four at 31-27.

A Trussell layup and a Lynn trey made it a 33-32 game with less than four minutes to go in the third quarter. Five straight points by the Hornets gave them a 38-32 lead with a little over two minutes to go, but the Warriors finished the third period strong as a Kanaan Sutter layup gave them a 39-38 lead.

West Point's momentum carried over into the final period as a pair of Lynn treys and a pair of Wheeler free throws pushed the Warrior lead to 48-38, but five straight points by Hatton cut it to 48-43. The Hornets made it 50-45 with a little over three minutes to go in the game, but Lynn continued his red-hot shooting from long range as he hit his seventh three of the night and Rodgers added one of his own from deep to help increase West Point's lead to 58-45; the Warriors kept the lead at double-digits the rest of the way as they would go on to defeat Hatton, 62-49, to move on to the next round of the tournament.

Lynn led West Point (5-10) with a game-high 25 points. Rodgers and Wheeler each added 10 points and Trussell ended up with eight points. The Warriors will play again at 6:45 Tuesday night against the winner of the J.B. Pennington-Falkville game.

Priceville 66 – Holly Pond 38 (Varsity Boys)

Sawyer Olinger drilled a three-pointer to give the Broncos an early, 3-1 lead and a couple of baskets in the paint by Christian Couch kept Holly Pond in front 7-6 later in the opening quarter. Priceville was able to pull ahead but another score from Couch in the final seconds of the first cut the lead to 12-9 going into the second.

Nathan Carter knocked down a three at the start of the second quarter to tie things up at 12 but a 14-1 run by the Bulldogs allowed them to build a 26-13 advantage with three minutes left to play in the opening half. Olinger buried another three to make it a 10-point game and Kollin Brown added a three-pointer of his own to make it 31-19 later in the period but another strong finish by Priceville made it a 38-19 game at the halftime break.

Couch split a pair of free throws and Carter drained another three to trim the lead to 48-23 midway through the third. Diego Garcia netted a pair of free throws to put two more points on the board for the Broncos, but they went into the final frame trailing Priceville 49-25.

Garcia knocked down two more from the free throw line at the start of the fourth and Brown hit another three to cut the lead to 53-30 with five minutes to play. Garcia laced two more free throws and Levi Farr scored a basket inside to chip away some of the lead, but Holly Pond ran out of time before it could chip away any more and Priceville held on to win it 66-38.

Brown led the Broncos with nine points in the loss. Couch and Carter each finished with seven and Olinger and Garcia each added six. Holly Pond will be back in action at the West Point Christmas Tournament Tuesday at 3 p.m. to play either Curry or Brewer.



SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

West Point's Andrew Lynn finished with 25 points in the Warriors' 62-49 win over Hatton.



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FAITH

Sacred Heart kids celebrate Christmas

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Hispanic children of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Cullman presented their annual "Nativity" program during Christmas Eve Services. They portrayed the Birth of the Savior complete with the blessed mother Mary, His earthly father Joseph, the shepherds and their sheep, the wise men, as well as numerous animals in the stable and a "Host of Heavenly Angels" as the baby Jesus came down to earth from Heaven.

Barbara Ragsdale contributed to this article.



BARBARA RAGSDALE

The children of Sacred Heart's Hispanic congregation following their Christmas Eve program.



FACEBOOK

ENTERTAINMENT

Skating in the Park offering an exciting way to ring in the New Year

Ashlyn Grey
ashlyn@cullmantribune.com

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — For those looking for a fun New Year's activity, and enjoy gliding on ice, Skating in the Park in Huntsville has you covered. Since opening on Nov. 19, the skaters have not stopped.

The rink will be open to skate until Jan. 17, 2022, at which time it will be closed until next season.

"We have seen a surge of families coming to skate this holiday season. It has become a tradition for many people in the region and provides a unique outdoor activity. We are looking forward to our New Year's Eve festivities, and we have extended our dates this year to give people an extra week to come have fun on the ice," Skating in the Park shared with The Tribune.

Additionally, Skating in the Park will have fun for the entire family with events for children and adults on New Year's Eve. The Lil' Ball Drop at 8:30 p.m. will allow younger skaters to celebrate, while older skaters can ring in 2022 with the Glow Up event beginning at 9 p.m. and another Ball Drop at midnight.

There will be free sparkling cider beginning at 8 p.m., while LED-Orange and their DJ will be providing entertainment and lighting to top it all off. There will also be a photobooth, sponsored by Van Valkenburgh & Wilkinson Properties Inc. The rink is located at 300 Church Street SW, Huntsville, AL 35801.

- Free sparkling cider- 8 p.m.
- Lil' Ball Drop - 8:30 p.m.
- Glow Up - 9 p.m.
- Ball Drop - midnight

Admission and rental pricing:
- $15 - Ages 10 and up
- $10 - Ages 9 and under
- $13 - Groups of 10 or more
- $5 - Scooter rental

Skaters will receive a $5 discount for bringing their own skates.









Alert (from Front)

Heather Mann
heather@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — With the threat of inclement weather arriving in the latter half of the week, the Cullman County EMA is encouraging residents to sign up for the new Cullman County Notification System. Director Tim Sartin says the system will function similar to a weather radio, with residents able to choose what kinds of notifications they receive and when they receive them.

People who sign up to receive notifications will receive their alerts in the form of phone voice messages, text alerts and emails.

The Cullman County Commission website (http://www.co.cullman.al.us/) has links to the informational flyer as well as two different ways for residents to sign up listed under their announcements.

Those who wish to receive alerts can do so by visiting https://entry.inspironlogistics.com/cullman_al/wens.cfm or by texting "CULLMANALERT" to 69310 for more information.

The sign-up webpage requires respondents to provide their Cullman County address and the phone numbers and email addresses to which they would like to receive alerts.

The types of alerts they can then choose to receive include:

- Municipal alerts (community events, information and emergency services for the incorporated municipalities of Cullman County)
- Road and traffic alerts
- NOAA weather warnings (civil danger, extreme heat or cold, flood, freeze, ice storm, winter storm and radiological hazard)
- NOAA weather watches (flood, severe thunderstorm, tornado and winter storm)

Recipients can choose whether to receive alerts 24/7 or only between 6 a.m. – 11 p.m. All users are automatically registered for 24/7 severe thunderstorm, tornado, hazmat and shelter in place warnings, but can opt out of receiving these messages.

Users can also choose to receive alerts from specific Cullman County Offices such as the EMA, CARTS, the Commission on Aging, Sheriff's Office or Parks and Recreation.

The notification service is free for all users, and the subscription can be canceled at any time.

LEGALS

Legal Notice

Notice is hereby given to all owners, secured parties and lienholders of the following described motor vehicle, 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:

1997 Dodge Ram 1500, Vin. #3B7HC16YXWM205585

This vehicle will be sold on Tuesday, January 25, 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 203 PG 48 - 12/28/2021 10:17 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF ARNICE NELL MELTON, Deceased. * CASE NO PC-2021-149

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted to PAMELA E. NAIL, as Personal Representative of the Estate of ARNICE NELL MELTON, Deceased, on the 28th day of December, 2021, by the Honorable Tammy Brown. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claim against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Pamela E. Nail
Personal Representative

Annette Irons Parker
Attorney for the Estate
215 Main Avenue, SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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 106 PG 558 - 12/14/2021 11:06 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

In Re the Estate of Charles Edward Hollis, Deceased. Case No. PC2021-452

Notice to Creditors

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Patsy Young as Personal Representative of the Estate of Charles Edward Hollis, deceased, on the 14th day of December, 2021, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate,

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

Patsy Young
Personal Representative
Patsy Young

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, Tammy Brown
Cullman County, Alabama

G. Edward Coey
Attorney for Personal Representative
P.O. Box 834
Hanceville, Al 35077
256-352-2090

PB WIL BK 106 PG 681 - 12/21/2021 02:08 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF TERRY LYNN TAYLOR, Deceased * CASE NO PC 2021-462

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to **Martin Taylor,** as Personal Representative of the Estate of **Terry Lynn Taylor**, deceased, on the 21st day of December, 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.

Martin Taylor
Personal Representative

Marcus A. Jones, III
Attorney for Personal Representative
300 N. Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd., Suite 200
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

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 106 PG 694 - 12/21/2021 02:28 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF KAREN REXANA TAYLOR, Deceased * CASE NO PC 2021-464

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to **Martin Taylor,** as Personal Representative of the Estate of **Karen Rexana Taylor**, deceased, on the 21st day of December, 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.

Martin Taylor
Personal Representative

Marcus A. Jones, III
Attorney for Personal Representative
300 N. Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd., Suite 200
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

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 106 PG 649 - 12/21/2021 09:12 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF MAURICE STRINGER BAILEY, Deceased * CASE NO PC 2021-341

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to **SHEILA STAGGS and GERALDINE BAILEY STAGGS TIMBS,** as Personal Representatives of the Estate of **MAURICE STRINGER BAILEY**, deceased, on the 20th day of December, 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.

Sheila Staggs and
Geraldine Bailey Staggs Timbs
Personal Representative

Michael R. Burleson
Attorney for Petitioners
200 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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 202 PG 830 - 12/20/2021 02:31 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of RALPH LEA NAIL, JR., Deceased. CASE NO. PC 2021 – 446

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration have been granted to Doug Harris, whose full name is Douglas E. Harris, but who is known as Doug Harris, as Administrator of the Estate of Ralph Lea Nail, Jr., deceased, on the 20th day of December, 2021, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, and 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.

Douglas E. Harris a/k/a Doug Harris
Personal Representative

Shay Persall
ST. JOHN & ST. JOHN, LLC
108 3rd Street SE
Cullman AL 35055
(256) 734-3452

Attorney for Petitioner

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for three consecutive weeks and send an affidavit of publication.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

PB MIN BK 202 PG 691 - 12/13/2021 01:30 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF JUANITA ROBERSON, Deceased. CASE NO.: PC-2021-372

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted BRIAN CRAIG ROBERSON, SR. as Administrator of the Estate of JUANITA ROBERSON, deceased, on the 13th 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 forever barred.

BRIAN CRAIG ROBERSON, SR.

Annette Irons-Parker
Attorney for Administrator
PARKER AND PARKER, P.C.
215 Main Avenue Southwest
Cullman, Alabama 35055
256-775-4444

TO: The Publisher of **CULLMAN TRIBUNE**

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Probate Judge of Cullman County

City of Cullman
Building Inspection Department

201 SECOND AVENUE, NORTHEAST
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CULLMAN, ALABAMA 35056-0278
(256) 775-7203

City of Cullman
Planning Commission

On Monday, January 3, 2022, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M, at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Planning Commission, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Request to surplus property / vacate right of way on 4th Street SW (Highway 278) & Rosemont Ave. SW
2. Conditional use request on 3rd Street SE – Oasis Apartments
3. Rezoning request on Main Ave. SW – R-4 to B-2
4. Rezoning request on Main Ave. SW – B-1 to B-2

For further information contact Brian Landreth or Amber Duke at the City of Cullman Building Department at 256-775-7203.

Obituary Announcements: Dec. 28-29

Ishmael "Bo" Herbert Chambers, 91, of Cullman
Ishmael "Bo" Herbert Chambers, age 91, of Cullman, Alabama passed away Sunday, Dec. 26. Bo was born Dec. 1, 1930, in Cullman, Alabama to Idus and Mattie Alldredge Chambers. Bo was a truck driver and he had over 3 million miles driving without any accidents and was awarded a safe driver award. Funeral services will be Monday, Jan. 3, 2022 at 2 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel with Brother David Wisener officiating. Interment will follow services at Duck Creek Missionary Baptist Cemetery in the Fairview community. Survivors are daughters: Barbara Chambers (Bill) Dalton of Cullman, Alabama and Ellen Chambers (Terry) Mikell of Hayden, Alabama; son: Phillip Herbert (Maureen) Chambers of Morris, Alabama; grandchildren: David Keith (Leslie) Butler, Trent Houston (Amanda) Mikell, Harrison Dean (Mandy) Chambers, Clint Houston (Jamie) Mikell and Katie Chambers (Jesse Sr.) Godoy and 10 great-grandchildren. Visitation will be on Monday, Jan. 3, 2022 at Moss Service Funeral Home from 1-2 p.m.

Donnie Lois Gardner, 80, of Cullman
Funeral service for Donnie Lois Gardner, 80, of Cullman will be 2 p.m., Friday, Dec. 31, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel. The interment will be at the Cullman City Cemetery. The family will receive friends from noon - 2 p.m. prior to the service. Reverend Charles York will officiate the service. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the Gardner family. Mrs. Gardner passed from this life on Dec. 28, at her residence. She was born Jan. 4, 1941, to Julius and Lucille Dean Bohannon. She loved coffee in the morning and watching birds, especially hummingbirds. Mrs. Gardner loved to bowl and participated in team league bowling for many years. She worked at Cullman Products for almost 30 years. Mrs. Gardner was preceded in death by her parents: Julius and Lucille Dean Bohannon and her brother: Burl Bohannon. She is survived by her husband of 62 years: Albert Gardner; son: Lance (Susan) Gardner; sister: Merl "Peggy" (Roy) Self and a host of beloved nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Jeffery "Jeff" Smith Davis, 74, of Holly Pond
Jeffery "Jeff" Smith Davis, age 74, of Holly Pond, Alabama, passed away Saturday, Dec. 25. Jeffery was born Sept. 5, 1947, in Birmingham, Alabama to David Jerry and Cornelia Wyvonnie Smith Davis. He is preceded in death by his parents; sisters: Margie Ann Harris and Dorothy Janice Holloway and her husband: Maynard Holloway. Jeff was a carpenter and he served his country in The United States Marine Corps. Survivors are wife: Betty Tucker Davis; sister: Jerry (Rick) Parker; brother: Tony (Terri) Davis; brother-in-law: George Harris and a host of nieces, nephews and great-nieces and nephews. A memorial service for Jeff will be announced at a later date by the family. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Evelyn Louise Keese, 70, of Vinemont
Memorial service for Evelyn Louise Keese, age 70, of Vinemont, will be announced at a later time.

Mrs. Keese passed away Friday, Dec. 24, at Cullman Regional. She was born Oct. 11, 1951, Plant City, Florida, to Sam and Marie Provau.

She was preceded in death by her parents and daughter: Ginger Beall.

Survivors include her husband: Glenn Keese; daughters: Jennifer Nicole (Nick) Smith and Christine Leanne (David) Gawtrey; grandchildren: Elijah Timothy Ramsey, Deanna Michelle Ramsey, Jackie Len Pickren and Ashley Leanne Pickren; great-grandchildren: Olivia Ramsey, Preston Levi Ramsey and Rayleigh Rose Lynn Pickren; sisters: Doris Bryant, Janet Pettinato and Joyce White; brother-in-law: Jimmy Keese; aunts: Shirley Milligan and Dean Wigginton; uncle: Jim Wigginton and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins.

Eugene "Shorty" Nail, 86, of Hanceville
Eugene "Shorty" Nail, 86, died Dec. 23, at his home in Hanceville, Alabama. He was born at Hanceville, Alabama July 12, 1935, to William F. and Darthula Nail – the youngest of 10 brothers and sisters. Nail graduated from Hanceville High School and served his country in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He remained active in the Alabama National Guard until his retirement as SFC. After returning from his active military service, he married the love of his life, EthelLee Hightower, in 1956. They had two children, LaDonna and Lance. He used his GI Bill to learn the trades of electrical, plumbing and refrigeration. He started his own company, Nail Electric and Plumbing, in 1960 – serving as his own boss for over 60 years. Nail was an avid Alabama football fan who could almost always be seen wearing something with the Crimson Tide on it. He was also very invested in his community, serving as the chief of the Hanceville Volunteer Fire Department for many years. He is survived by his wife: EthelLee Nail; daughter: LaDonna Nail Allen; son-in-law: Craig Allen; son: Lance Nail; daughter-in-law: Ruth Lowman Nail; grandsons: Spencer Allen, Landon Nail and Joel Nail and granddaughters: Callie Allen and Claire Allen. He is preceded in death by his mother and father, siblings and many friends and relatives. Visitation will be Wednesday, Dec. 29, noon – 2 p.m., at Hanceville Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Randy Sellers officiating. Interment will follow at Welti Cemetery.

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CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

DEC. 30

B	F	U	P	E	A	E	H	L	T	U	G	S	T	T	L	R
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T	X	U	A	G	D	A	O	A	A	U	S	U	A	L	P	F
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S	Y	A	G	D	M	R	W	O	L	F	E	D	Y	V	A	I
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D	T	V	R	N	E	T	Y	M	G	R	A	G	S	Z	O	O
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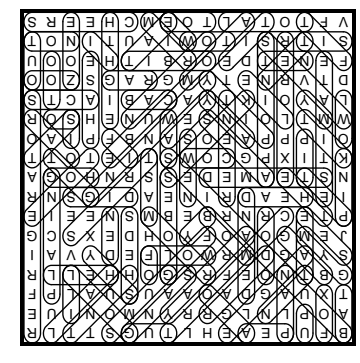
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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

DEC. 30

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ANSWERS:



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5	4	8	3	7	6	2	9	1
3	9	1	8	6	2	5	7	4
2	8	5	4	1	7	9	6	3
4	6	7	5	9	3	1	8	2
8	1	6	2	4	9	7	3	5
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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 30, 2021

365 AMERICAN JOY-GIVERS for 2021: The Holiday Island Birthday Party

Ben South
Tribune Columnist



SIMPLEMOST.COM



BendigoArt.com/CullmanTribune.com

"Let's get away from sleigh bells. Let's get away from snow.
Let's make a break this holiday, dear, I know the place to go.
How'd ya like to spend the holidays on Holiday Island?
How'd ya like to spend the holidays away across the sea?
How'd ya like to hang a stocking from a great, big coconut tree?"

Aloha! For this special week which begins on Christmas Day and ends New Year's Eve, we're in America's favorite tropical paradise, Hawaii, for "The Holiday Island Birthday Party." Our destination is The Royal Hawaiian Hotel for beach-front luxury on Waikiki in Honolulu, on the island of Oahu. With a wink to the bright pink stucco, joy-giving architecture, this world-class hotel is called "The Pink Palace of the Pacific."

JOIN US...

You feel the joy the minute Jimmy Buffett strums "Christmas Island" on his ukulele, Mary Tyler Moore and Tiger Woods dance a playful hula and Donna Summer promises a disco-on-the-sands version of "Auld Lang Syne."

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

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

Dec. 25—JIMMY BUFFETT (born James William Buffett on the Mississippi gulf coast) is a hard-working singer-songwriter who translated his laid-back persona into an extremely successful "island escapism" lifestyle brand. He is one of the world's richest musicians with a net worth of $900 million. Buffett also owns the chain of "Margaritaville Café" restaurants. His devoted followers, known as "Parrotheads," help assure a Buffett concert includes these songs: "Margaritaville," "Come Monday," "Cheeseburger in Paradise," "Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes" and his hit duet which he recorder with country star Alan Jackson—"It's Five O'clock Somewhere."

Dec. 26—DAVID SEDARIS is a humorist, comedian, author and radio content contributor. He hit the "big time" when National Public Radio broadcast his essay "Santaland Diaries." Much of his humor is ostensibly autobiographical and self-deprecating. Sedaris has contributed over 40 joyful essays to "The New Yorker" magazine and blog.

Dec. 27—MARLENE DIETRICH (born Marie Magdalene Dietrich in Berlin, Kingdom of Prussia, German Empire) was a German American actress and singer. Her performing career ranged from the 1910s to the 1980s. Fraulein Dietrich performance as Lola-Lola in Josef von Sternberg's "The Blue Angel" brought her international stardom and a Hollywood film contract. Her films include: "Morocco," "Dishonored," "Shanghai Express," "The Devil Is a Woman" and "Destry Rides Again." Dietrich was known for her joy-giving, humanitarian efforts during WWII, housing German and French exiles and even advocating for American citizenship. The American Film Institute ranks Dietrich as the ninth "greatest female screen legend of classic Hollywood cinema."

Dec. 28—MARY TYLER MOORE could turn the world on with her big, beautiful, joy-giving smile. "The Guardian" magazine said, "her outwardly bubbly personality and trademark broad, toothy smile disguised an inner fragility that appealed to an audience facing the new trials of modern-day existence." The actress and producer was widely known for her prominent sitcom roles in "The Dick Van Dyke Show" and "The Mary Tyler Moore Show." She received seven Primetime Emmy Awards and three Golden Globe Awards. Her film work included "Thoroughly Modern Mille" (1967) and "Ordinary People" (1980). Moorer was a tireless advocate for animal rights, vegetarianism and diabetes prevention.

Dec. 29—PAULA POUNDSTONE is a stand-up comedian, author, actress, interviewer and news commentator born in Huntsville, Alabama. Her observational humor and dry delivery have made her a popular podcast and radio star. She is currently a frequent panelist on the hit National Public Radio news quiz show, "Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me." Her comedy works include: "Paula Poundstone Goes to Harvard, "Wisecracks," "Bravo's Funny Girls" and "Laughter Therapy: A Comedy Collection for the Chronically Serious."

Dec. 30—TIGER WOODS (Eldrick Tont "Tiger" Woods) is widely regarded as one of the greatest golfers of all time and one of the most famous athletes in history. He has won 18 World Gold Championships. Woods was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Dec. 31—DONNA SUMMER (LaDonna Adrian Gaines) was the "Queen of Disco." The singer, songwriter, actress had 42 hit singles with 14 of those reaching "Billboard" magazine's top 10. Her hits included: "Love to Love You, Baby," "Hot Stuff," "I Feel Love," "Bad Girls," "No More Tears (Enough Is Enough)" and her version of "MacArthur Park." She won five Grammy Awards and was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

Here are a dozen fun lines from the "Disco Era:"

"Everybody get down tonight."

"Can you dig it?"

"Put your boogie shoes on."

"You're so groovy."

"Do The Hustle."

"It's fun to stay at the YMCA."

"Break out the bell bottoms."

"Stayin' alive."

"Meet me in Funkytown."

"Forget the bouncing ball, follow the disco ball."

"Funny bumpin' into you. Do The Bump."

"You're just a bunch of funky chickens."

COMMENTS HEARD AT "THE HOLIDAY ISLAND BIRTHDAY PARTY:"

"Breathe in, breathe out, move on..."—Jimmy Buffett

"Weird doors open. People fall into things."—David Sedaris

"It's the friends you can call up at 4 a.m. that matter."—Marlene Dietrich

"I'm an experienced woman; I've been around... well, all right, I might not have been around, but I've been...nearby."—Mary Tyler Moore

"Adults are always asking little kids what they want to be when they grow up because they're looking for ideas."—Paula Poundstone

"No matter how good you get you can always get better, and that's the exciting part."—Tiger Woods

"I'd rather die while I'm living than live while I'm dead."—Jimmy Buffett

"I haven't the slightest idea how to change people, but still, I keep a long list of prospective candidates just in case I should ever figure it out."—David Sedaris

"I do not think we have a 'right' to happiness. If happiness happens, say thanks."—Marlene Dietrich

"Take chances, make mistakes. That's how you grow."—Mary Tyler Moore

"I get in fewer arguments when I'm alone."—Paula Poundstone

"You hit a bad shot, you have to get over it right there and then so you can get focused on the next one."—Tiger Woods

"It takes no more time to see the good side of life than to see the bad."—Jimmy Buffett

"I'm the most important person in the lives of almost everyone I know and a good number of the people I've never met."—David Sedaris

"Think twice before burdening a friend with a secret."—Marlene Dietrich

"You can't be brave if you've only had wonderful things happen to you."—Mary Tyler Moore

"I'm thankful for the three-ounce Ziploc bag, so that I have somewhere to put my savings."—Paula Poundstone

"If you're not nervous, it means you don't care."—Tiger Woods

"Some of it's magic and some of it's tragic but I had a good life all of the way."—Jimmy Buffett

"He looked as though his life had not only passed him by but paused along the way to spit in his face."—David Sedaris

"Once a woman has forgiven her man, she must not reheat his sins for breakfast."—Marlene Dietrich

"Three things have helped me successfully go through the ordeals of life—an understanding husband, a good analyst and millions of dollars."—Mary Tyler Moore

"The definition of adulthood is that you want to sleep."—Paula Poundstone

"People don't understand that when I grew up, I was never the most talented. I was never the biggest. I was never the fastest. I certainly was never the strongest. The only thing I had was my work ethic, and that's been what has gotten me this far."—Tiger Woods

"If we couldn't laugh, we would all go insane."—Jimmy Buffett

"Their house had real, hardcover books in it, and you often saw them lying open on the sofa, the words still warm from being read."—David Sedaris

"You're never lonely with a book."—Marlene Dietrich

"Diets are for those who are thick and tired of it."—Mary Tyler Moore

"I've decided that perhaps I'm bulimic and just keep forgetting to purge."—Paula Poundstone

"Never beat yourself up, because there are plenty of people who will do that for you."—Tiger Woods

MENU FOR "THE HOLIDAY ISLAND BIRTHDAY PARTY:"

APPETIZER—Marlene Dietrich Blue Angel Blue-Cheese Bites (chowhound.com)

SOUP—Tiger Woods Tiger Shrimp and Tomato Soup (yummly.com)

ENTRÉE—Paula Poundstone Pineapple Chicken Skewers (delish.com)

SIDE DISH—Mary Tyler Moore Hawaiian Eggplant Musubi (cookeatshare.com)

BREAD—Donna Summer Cheesy Disco Potato Balls (food.com)

BEVERAGE—Jimmy Buffett Christmas Island Margaritas (see below)

DESSERT—David Sedaris Santaland Sugar Cookies (tasteofhome.com)

ONE TO GROW ON—"The Totally Unscientific Study of the Search for Human Happiness" by Paula Poundstone (Workman Publishing, 2018) has the comedy legend asking the age-old question—"Is there a secret to happiness? And if so, let's share it." Offering herself as a human guinea pig, Poundstone jumps into a variety of experiences with both feet. Does any of it give her real joy? You'll be laughing too much to give a laboratory rat's hiney.

"The Holiday Island Birthday Party" entertainment had Mary Tyler Moore sharing behind-the-scenes holiday antics while filming her favorite Yuletide episode of "The Mary Tyler Moore Show"—"Christmas and the Hard-Luck Kid II." In that evergreen classic tale, nose-to-the-grindstone Mary has to work not just on Christmas Eve, but through Christmas Day as well.

On a "tiki-torchlit" putt-putt golf course designed to look like David Sedaris' "Santaland," Tiger Woods coached Paula Poundstone to a win as Jimmy Buffett made his famous Christmas Island Margaritas and serenaded all with holiday songs.

A serious and soul-lifting moment came when Buffett gently strummed "Silent Night" on his guitar and Marlene Dietrich sang the beloved Christmas carol in the original German.

Donna Summer, who was born on New Year's Eve, ended the evening with a disco version of "Auld Lang Syne." The words come from a 1788 Scottish poem by Robert Burns and the non-Disco, traditional tune was written in 1799. On YouTube, you'll find disco concoctions of many classical works from Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" to The Bells hit with "Auld Lang Syne." Please raise your cup of kindness and join the holiday island revelers in this last salute of the year to "365 AMERICAN JOY-GIVERS for 2021:"

"Should old acquaintance be forgot
And never brought to mind?
Should old acquaintance be forgot
And old lang syne?

For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne,
We'll take a cup of kindness yet
For auld lang syne."

ALOHA! MERRY CHRISTMAS! And, HAPPY NEW YEAR to all from Holiday Island!!

JIMMY BUFFETT CHRISTMAS ISLAND MARGARITAS

INGREDIENTS

- Crushed ice
- 3 lime wedges
- 2 ounces gold Tequila
- ½ ounce white Tequila
- 1 ¼ ounces Rose's lime juice
- ½ ounce Triple Sec liqueur
- 1 splash orange Curanao liqueur

INSTRUCTIONS

Put all ingredients except the three lime wedges in a shaker. Squeeze two of the lime wedges into the shaker. SHAKE WELL! Rim outside of a glass only with lime. Salt only the outside of the glass. Add fresh crushed ice to glass. Strain mixture over ice. Squeeze remaining wedge in glass. MERRY CHRISTMAS from CHRISTMAS ISLAND!