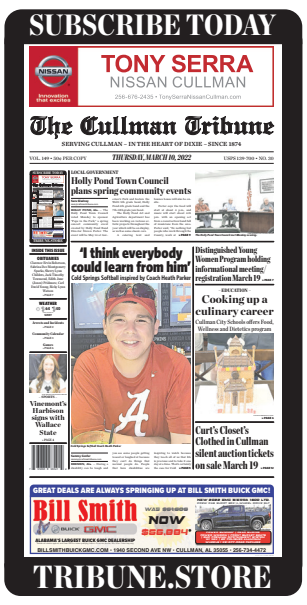
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The Cullman Tribune

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52 Odes to Joy
LAFF EVRY DAY!
BEN SOUTH
BENDIGOART.COM/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– LIFESTYLE –

52 Odes to Joy: Laughter

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EDUCATION

Construction of new gym at Cold Springs High School approved

Ty Watwood
Cullman County Schools

BREMEN, Ala. — The Cullman County Commission on Education at its March 10, meeting approved the construction of a new gymnasium at Cold Springs High School. Cold Springs currently has the oldest gym in the county, which was built in 1966.

"We are so excited for the Cold Springs students, faculty and staff, as well as the community," said Dr. Shane Barnette, Cullman County School Superintendent. "This new gymnasium is long overdue, and we cannot wait to see the finished product. Our students deserve the very best we can give them, and this gym is just one of many new facilities that we plan to build across our district."

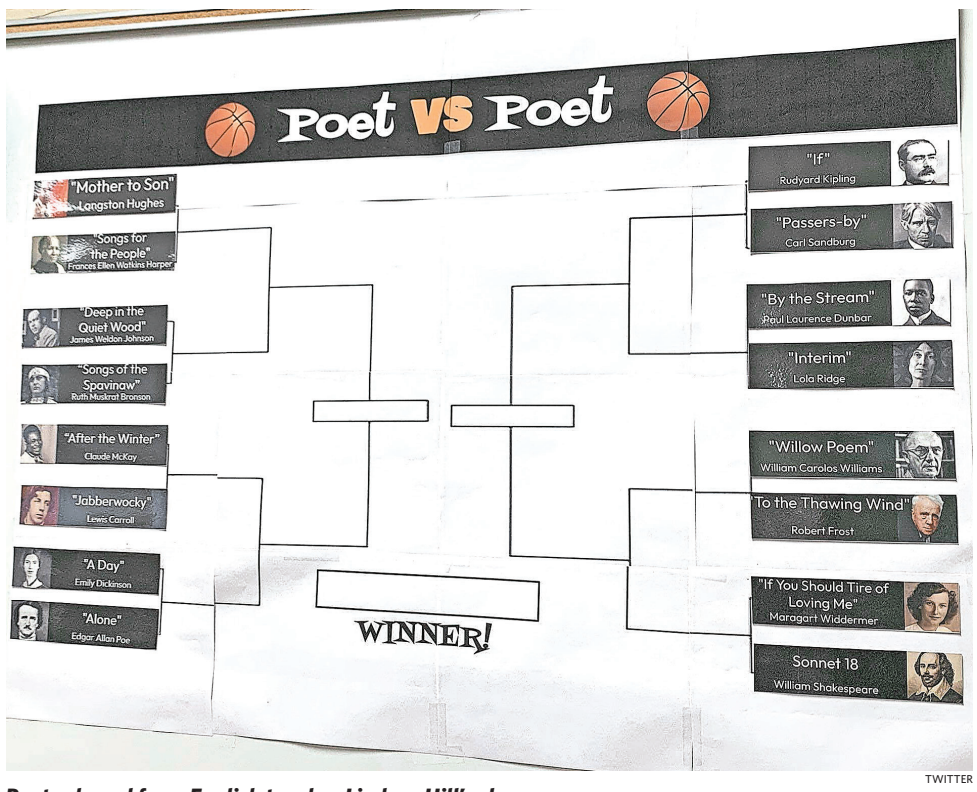
Cold Springs Board Member Wayne Myrex played in the current gym back in the 1970s and is extremely excited to see this new facility. "I » PAGE 5



CCBOE
A rendering of the new Cold Springs gymnasium

– EDUCATION –

Cullman Middle School kicks off 'March Poetry Madness'



TWITTER
Poetry board from English teacher Lindsey Hill's classroom

Sara Gladney
sara@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman Middle School kicked off "March Poetry Madness" with a reading of Kobe Bryant's "Dear Basketball" as a way to get students interested in poetry. English teacher Lindsey Hill said, "A lot of times, when they think of poems, they think of something written hundreds of years ago and it's not relevant, and that was a way to show them that anybody can write poetry." This is the second year Hill has taught poetry with her "March Poetry Madness" theme. "It's about the only way I can get kids excited about poetry," she added.

The students usually read two poems a day. They go through the analytical process together, and they discuss the poems amongst themselves.

They discuss the possible different themes as a class and vote individually on the poem they identify with the most. Hill said, "We get it down to two and they can kind of rally for the one they think is the best."

Hill discussed a couple different reasons why it is important for students to learn poetry. "Sometimes it is a nice break for kids especially who don't like reading. Poetry is easier in the sense that it's smaller and more manageable, but we have to dig so much deeper when we're reading poems than when we read like short stories or a novel, and I feel like it's a good way to release some responsibility to them – let them think about themes and what the poet or speaker is trying to teach us.

"I think it's more of a life lesson, something that can apply to their own lives and that doesn't always apply to novels or short stories.

"They really have to think so much more about a poem than they do other pieces of literature so it's a good way to check all of the boxes."

The class will read 16 poems over the course of about two weeks until they decide on a winning poet.

Cullman County PALS Spring Clean-up set for March 19

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs proclaims April 'Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month'

» PAGE 6

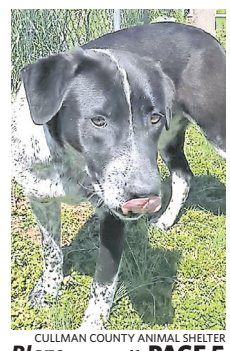
PERFORMING ARTS

Wallace State Theatre presenting 'The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee' March 18-20

» PAGE 12

– BONUS PET OF THE WEEK –

Bring home some fun with Blaze!



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER
Blaze » PAGE 5

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported March 11

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported March 11, 2022. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

March 7

- criminal mischief; Hwy. 69 N
- theft of property; CR 814
- domestic violence; CR 121
- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 69
- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 54
- theft of property; CR 599
- unauthorized use of motor vehicle; CR 316
- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1224
- assault; criminal mischief; Boike Dr.

March 8

- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; North Main St.
- domestic violence; CR 1212
- reckless endangerment; permitting dogs to run at large; harassment; CR 1438
- attempt to elude police officer; criminal mischief
- theft of property; Hwy. 231

March 9

- domestic violence; CR 811
- unauthorized use of motor vehicle; Hwy. 69 S
- resisting arrest; Main Ave. NW
- possession of controlled substance; possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 69 N
- possession of marijuana; sell/distribute drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 278 W
- theft of property; CR 1718
- theft of property; CR 1098
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia

ARRESTS

March 7 – 9

Alexander, Elizabeth L.; 45
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- second-degree possession of marijuana
- possession of dangerous drugs
- family offense- non-support-parent

Andrews, Elizabeth D.; 37
- assault-child abuse-simple-family

Barbee, Jeffery H.; 26
- FTA- driving while license suspended

Cantrell, Jacob R.; 29
- FTA- assault-child abuse-simple-family
- FTA- burglary-residence-no force
- FTA- larceny/theft-theft of article from auto

Carter, William L.; 29
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- second-degree possession of marijuana
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Crumbley, Amanda B.; 40
- FTA- family offense- contributing to delinquency of minor
- FTA- negotiating worthless instrument

Denney, Christopher R.; 55
- FTA- illegal possession of prescription drugs
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- family offense-failure to make child attend school
- FTA- reckless driving

Dunn, Zachary B.; 24
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- second-degree possession of marijuana
- possession of dangerous drugs

Findley, Stephen D.; 35
- FTA- second-degree possession of marijuana
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA- resisting arrest

Fulton, Brandon K.; 38
- FTA- assault-child abuse-simple-family

Harrison Jr., David C.; 27
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Knight, Cornelis; 38
- FTA- burglary-residence-force

McCown, Katelynn M.; 28
- resisting arrest
- public intoxication

Skipworth, Kayla N.; 34
- assault-child abuse-simple-family

Turner, Samuel B.; 35
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- second-degree possession of marijuana

Turrentine, Cricket L.; 48
- sell/distribute methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- second-degree possession of marijuana
- using false identity to avoid arrest/hinder prosecution
- FTA- contempt of court-failing to appear traffic

Vincent, Michael R.; 58
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- possession of dangerous drugs

Wilcox, Kayla R.; 38
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- Public Order crimes- alias writ of arrest

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

March 4
- third-degree burglary; Aquatic Development Group; Field of Miracles Dr. SW; miscellaneous

March 5
- burglary; City of Cullman; CR 1650; wire; $500

March 7
- third-degree theft of property; person; 8th Ave. SE; tools; $637
- fourth-degree theft of property; Hobby Lobby; Town Square SW; general merchandise; $270

March 8
- duty upon striking unattended vehicle; person; St. Joseph St. NW; damage to '14 Toyota Camry; $3,000
- fourth-degree theft of property; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; general merchandise
- third-degree criminal trespass; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW
- fourth-degree theft of property; Wal-Mart; Olive St.; general merchandise; $37

March 9
- theft of property; person; 15th St. SE; wallet and contents
- fourth-degree theft of property; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $63
- fourth-degree theft of property; person; 5th St. SW; tag; $75
- fraudulent use of credit/debit card; fourth-degree theft of property; person; miscellaneous charges
- harassment; person; Dale Ave. NW

March 10
- first-degree theft of property; Vintage West; 2nd Ave. SW; blinds; $4,000
- fourth-degree theft of property; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $121

ARRESTS

March 8 – 10

Denney, Christopher R.;
- FTA- driving without license

Hollis Jr., Ronald K.;
- Grand Jury- second-degree assault
- Grand Jury- second-degree domestic violence

Jones, Clinton M.; 33
- third-degree criminal trespass

Rouss III, Jack P.; 45
- fourth-degree theft of property

Teague, Megan S.; 25
- FTA- fourth-degree theft of property

Cantrell, Jacob R.; 29
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- third-degree criminal trespass

Kilpatrick, Justin K.; 34
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Blackwood, Stacey M.; 25
- fourth-degree theft of property

Cook, Makenzie C.; 36
- FTA- insurance violation

Harbison, Saundra K.; 57
- fourth-degree theft of property

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No incidents or arrests reported.

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

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

Friday, March 11, 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: 3.5%
- Confirmed cases in Alabama (2020): 387,605
- Confirmed cases in Alabama (2021): 536,883
- Confirmed cases in Alabama (2022): 364,511 (+967 since Wednesday)
- Total confirmed deaths in Alabama (2020): 7,188
- Total confirmed deaths in Alabama (2021): 9,521
- Total confirmed deaths in Alabama (2022) 2,123 (+134 since Wednesday)
- Positivity in tests in Cullman Co.: 1.3%
- Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co. (2020): 7,565
- Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co. (2021): 9,744
- Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co. (2022): 7,159 (+13 since Wednesday)
- Deaths in Cullman Co. (2020): 128
- Deaths in Cullman Co. (2021): 188
- Deaths in Cullman Co. (2022): 40 (+0 since Wednesday)
- Total tested in Cullman Co. in the last 7 days: 775
- Total tested positive in Cullman Co. in the last 7 days: 10
- Total tested in Alabama in the last 7 days: 32,820
- Total positive tests in Alabama in the last 7 days: 1,156
- Currently hospitalized in Alabama: 290

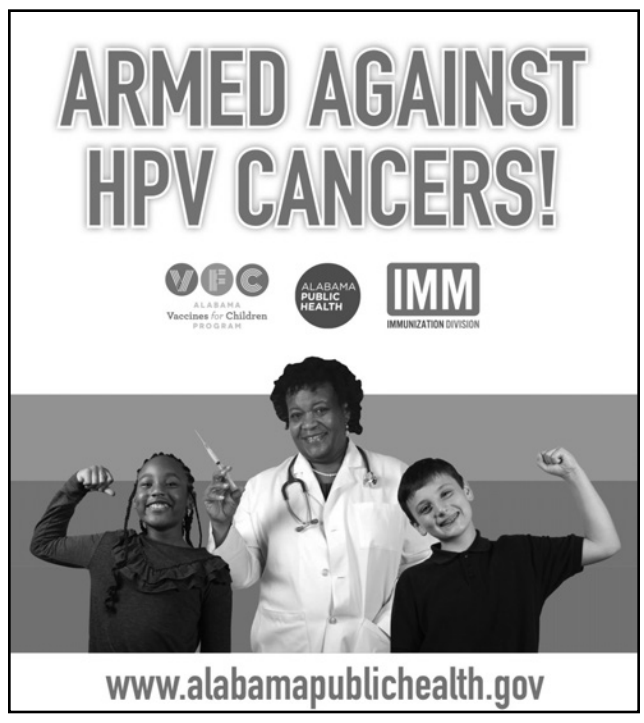
Vaccine details (updated Tuesday and Thursday)

- Doses delivered to Alabama: 9,003,045
- Doses delivered to Alabama providers: 4,687,365
- Doses administered: 5,865,421
- Additional doses administered: 769,290
- Number of people receiving one or more doses: 2,851,646
- Number of people who have completed vaccine series: 2,326,671
- Doses delivered to federal programs: 4,315,680

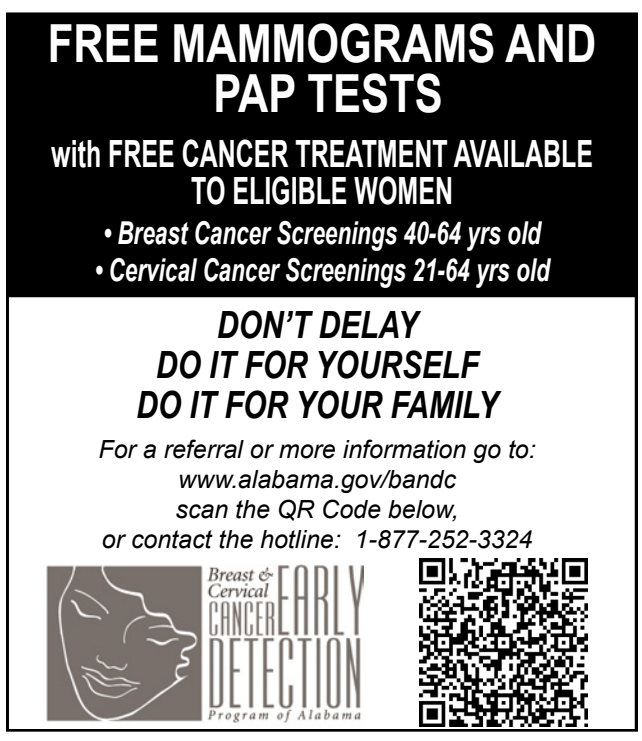
Alabamians in Phases 1a, 1b and 1c (including those 12 and older) are now eligible to receive a vaccine.

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













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 St. 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.

• 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.

Agriplex spring program schedule

Child and home-school programs

• March 24: Heritage Homeschool Seed Starting: What does a seed need to grow? Find out as we learn all about how to grow our own vegetable transplants for the garden.

Adult programs

• March 14, 6 p.m.: Living Landscapes Growing Shitake Mushrooms: Inoculate your own shitake mushroom log to take home and grow. $40 per person.

• March 16, noon: Lunch & Learn Growing Succulents: Bethany O'Rear will be here to talk about succulents. Free program, light lunch provided. Must call 256-297-1044 to register.

• March 22, 6 p.m.: Heritage Skills Growing and Using Gourds and Pumpkins: Katie Westmoreland will be here teaching us how to grow these useful cucurbits, avoid pests and diseases and also will be demonstrating how to use them in crafting recipes and more!

Register for programs at https://agriplex.org/WPtest/services/.

Alcoholics Anonymous, 12-Step Groups

The Goose Hung High Group of Alcoholics Anonymous - 1st Church of Nazarene, 5415 U.S. Highway 157, Cullman, AL 35058 - CLOSED Literature Study, SUNDAYS at 3 p.m. - Handicap accessible

CASA volunteer training

Cullman County CASA (court appointed special advocates) is looking for dedicated volunteers to speak up for abused and neglected children in foster care. They need YOUR VOICE! A training class will be beginning soon! For more information, please contact Candace Lingo at cullmancountycasa@msn.com.

T.O.P.S (Take off Pounds Sensibly) Meetings

Fridays, 9:30-11 a.m.: at Cullman Housing Authority Community Center (1545 Vine Circle SW, Cullman, AL 35055). First meeting is free. TOPS, a national program, is a hands-on/pounds-off approach to weight loss and management through weekly meetings providing information, accountability, support and encouragement where you make the changes that make sense to you.

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 pm. 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

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

Swamp John's Meal at Corinth Methodist Church

March 12: Come by Saturday, March 12 from 4-7 p.m. for a Swamp John's plate, which are $13 each. Located at 5130 County Road 1101, Vinemont, AL.

Valley Springs Baptist Church Youth Revival

• March 12-13: Beginning at 5 p.m. at Valley Springs Baptist Church (6979 County Road 437, Cullman). The evangelists will be Colin Long, Ethan Yarbrough, Clay Rollo and Kenny Shelton.

• Let no man despise thy youth, but be thou an example of the believers in word in conversation, in charity, in faith, in purity. 1st Timothy 4:12 (KJV).

Cullman NARFE Meeting

March 14: The Cullman National Association of Retired and Active Federal Employees will have the March meeting at 11 a.m. March 14, at the Golden Coral Restaurant in Cullman. We will have Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry, speaking on "How to avoid Scams." Please plan to attend and bring new prospective members. For more information, call 256-796-6072.

Holly Pond Homemakers Club Meeting

March 15: The Holly Pond Homemakers Club will have a regular meeting at The Holly Pond Event Center March 15 at 1 p.m. Probate Judge Tammy Brown will have the program. Hosts will be Brenda Scott and Deanie Walker. Please come and bring someone.

Fairview High School Class of 1963 Meeting

March 18: The class will meet Friday, March 18 at the Golden Corral in Cullman. Must be at 1:02 p.m. or after for senior discount. Meet in one of the reserved rooms in the back. Call Joyce Williams Rodgers at 256-339-3451 for more information.

Soup and Chili

March 19: The Fairview Lions Club is having a soup and chili supper March 19 at the Fairview Town Hall (7525 Alabama Highway 69 N) from 4-7 p.m. your choice of several kinds of soup or chili, cornbread or crackers and a drink for $5 or with dessert for $6. Eat in or carry out options available. All proceeds go to the Fairview Lions Club project fund. For more information, call Kita at 256-385-8805 or William at 256-385-5596.

5th Annual Hanceville Irish Festival

March 19: The 5th Annual Hanceville Irish Festival will take place Saturday, March 19 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., hosted by Snead's Farmhouse. Booth fees are $30 per booth. For more information about becoming a vendor Snead's Farmhouse at judysnead9522@gmail.com.

Cottontails Arts & Crafts Festival

• April 9: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

• 905 SE Commercial St., Hanceville

• Willow Brook Boutique & Design will host a spring arts and crafts festival in downtown Hanceville.

Bloomin' Festival Arts and Crafts Fair

• April 23-24, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

• 1600 St. Bernard Ave. SE, Cullman

• Food, music and artisan crafts all weekend at St. Bernard Preparatory School

• Admission $7, children 5 and under get in free

2022 Hanceville Grilled Cheese Festival

May 28: The Hanceville Grilled Cheese Festival is back for the second year! The festival will take place Saturday, May 28 starting at 9 a.m. Features will include vendors, food trucks, live music and plenty of activities for adults and kids alike. Most food trucks will feature their own signature grilled cheese. There will also be a grilled cheese cook-off. Follow them on Facebook for more information: https://www.facebook.com/events/265071822436868/.

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PREP SPORTS

Good Hope's Malin signs to play football and basketball at Millsaps

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — Students, teachers, coaches, teammates and family filled D.E. Ryan Gymnasium at Good Hope High School Thursday afternoon to hear the college announcement of one Raider standout and he did not disappoint. Good Hope football and basketball star Tanner Malin made his decision and signed his national letter of intent to play both sports at Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi.

Last season on the football field, Malin helped lead the Raiders to the 4A State Quarterfinals and finished the year with All-County Offensive MVP, All-Region Offensive Player of the Year and first team All-State honors. On the hardwood, Malin helped lead the Raiders to a County Championship, earned All-County honors and was the recipient of this year's Joe Schults award.

Just before announcing his decision, Tanner took a few moments to thank everyone and everything that has helped him earn this opportunity and achieve one of his biggest goals, starting with his faith and his family.

"I wouldn't be in this position without God blessing me and allowing me to do everything I've done. Without that I would be nothing," Malin said. "I want to thank my parents, they've made a lot of sacrifices over the years, allowing me to go camps, visit schools, get in the gym, get in the weight room and do everything. I wouldn't be in this position without them, they've done everything they could for me to have the opportunity that I have and to make a better future for myself."

Next, Malin thanked his coaches for guiding him as a player and a person on both the football field and on the basketball court.

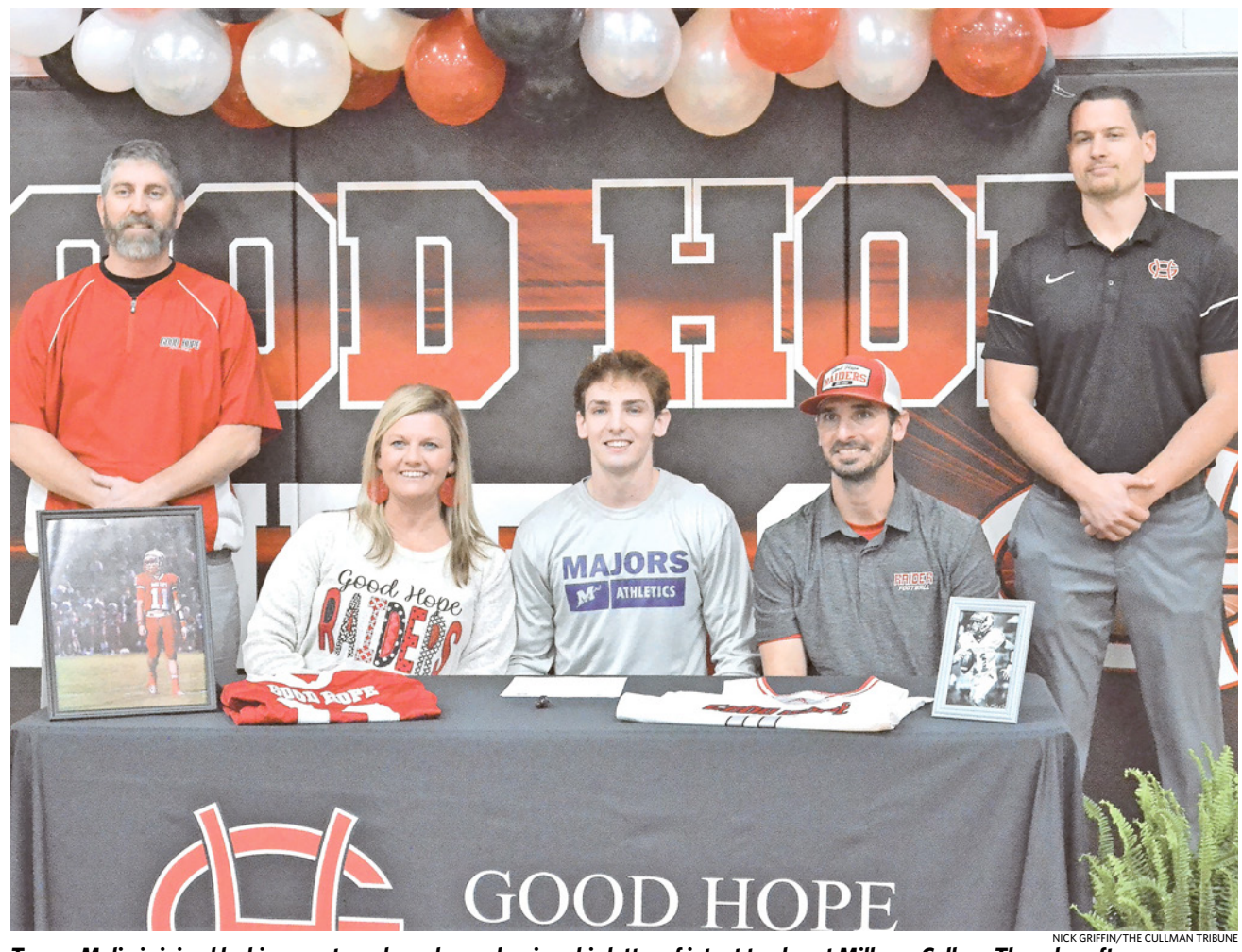
"My coaches have taught me everything I know. They've given me support and believed in me," Malin said. "They made me feel like the best player, they made me feel like a man and they turned me into the man I can be.

And finally, Malin thanked his fellow Raiders students and teammates in the crowd for all the support they've shown him over the last several years.

"I want to thank all of you for the support. I played for all of you," Malin said. "Anytime I saw the crowd, and everyone was jumping around it just made me want to play so much better and put so much more on and just perform for y'all."

Raiders Head Football Coach Alan Scott was excited to see so many come out and show their support for one of his biggest impact players, especially after watching Malin put in the work to earn this special moment.

"What an awesome experience this is. For me as a coach, nothing makes you feel any better than seeing players who work very hard and want to be the very best get an opportunity to have a day like today," Scott said. "I'm very thankful for what Tanner has done for himself through the years here at Good Hope but also for this community. We've had four of the best years in school history and he's been a key part of that every step of the way."



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Tanner Malin is joined by his parents and coaches as he signs his letter of intent to play at Millsaps College Thursday afternoon.

Good Hope Head Basketball Coach Drew Adams echoed many of Scott's sentiments, adding that Malin's leadership and toughness were crucial for the Raiders' success on the hardwood as well.

"He's just a special kid. Tanner is the first kid so far that I've coached for four years. He was up on varsity as a ninth grader playing on some of those really good teams when he was younger with Cole (Maddox) and Drew (Maddox) and those other strong seniors. Then he was kind of handed the reins when they graduated and he really never looked back from there, he's been our go-to guy for the last several years," Adams said. "He's just a warrior. Not a lot of people knew that he had torn his labrum, we didn't even know until after the basketball season. He tore it during football season and probably could've had surgery, but he wanted to stick it out and play with his guys. He just kept pushing through and to me that just shows what his career was like. He's just a fighter. He's a special kid and he means a lot to us."

Tanner has collected multiple college offers during the recruiting process but when he visited Millsaps, he knew he felt at home. He's looking forward to getting started with the Majors but knows he'll miss playing for his community.

"When I first got there, I felt like I was at home. They told me from the jump that I'm not going to be just another number there.

"They made me feel like a person, like I was wanted. The campus is beautiful, the facilities are beautiful and everything about it just made me feel at home," Malin said.

"The support is really what I'm going to miss the most. Most football games and most basketball games were always packed crowds, and you'd look up and see everyone you know. That's going to be an adjustment but that's what I'll miss the most."

PREP SOFTBALL

Burks blasts walk-off homerun to lead West Point past Lawrence County 6-5

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

WEST POINT, Ala. — The West Point Lady Warriors were back on the field Thursday night after a rainy start to the week and thanks to some late heroics from Sidney Burks, they collected a 6-5 win over Lawrence County. With the score knotted at 5, Burks led off the bottom of the eighth and blasted the second pitch she saw over the center field wall to lift the Lady Warriors over Lawrence County 6-5.

The Lady Red Devils struck first in their opening inning as a leadoff single, later followed by a one-out RBI single, gave them a quick 1-0 lead. West Point answered right back in their half as Macayla Wilkins reached on a one-out error and Carlie Wilkins hit a two-run home run over the center field wall to give the Lady Warriors a 2-1 lead. Carlie Wilkins struck out the side in the top of the second and West Point couldn't add to their lead as they went into the top of the third inning up, 2-1.

Lawrence County started out the third inning as a leadoff single, then a double, quickly put runners on second and third with no outs. A sacrifice fly tied the game up at two, then an RBI groundout made it 3-2. Bethany Minck reached on a dropped third strike to lead off the bottom of the third, then a Macayla Wilkins sacrifice bunt moved her over to second with one out. Carlie Wilkins played long ball for the second time in the game as her two-run blast over the center field wall gave West Point a 4-3 lead.

The Lady Warriors continued to play long ball in the bottom of the fourth as Burks put one over the left field fence to push the Lady Warrior lead to 5-3. Carlie Wilkins struck out the first two Lawrence County batters in the top of the fifth inning as she looked to retire the side once again, but the Lady Red Devils had other ideas. Two straight singles and a walk loaded the bases, and a two-run single tied the game up at five. Lawrence County threatened to break the tie in the top of the sixth as two straight walks and a hit by pitch loaded the bases once again.

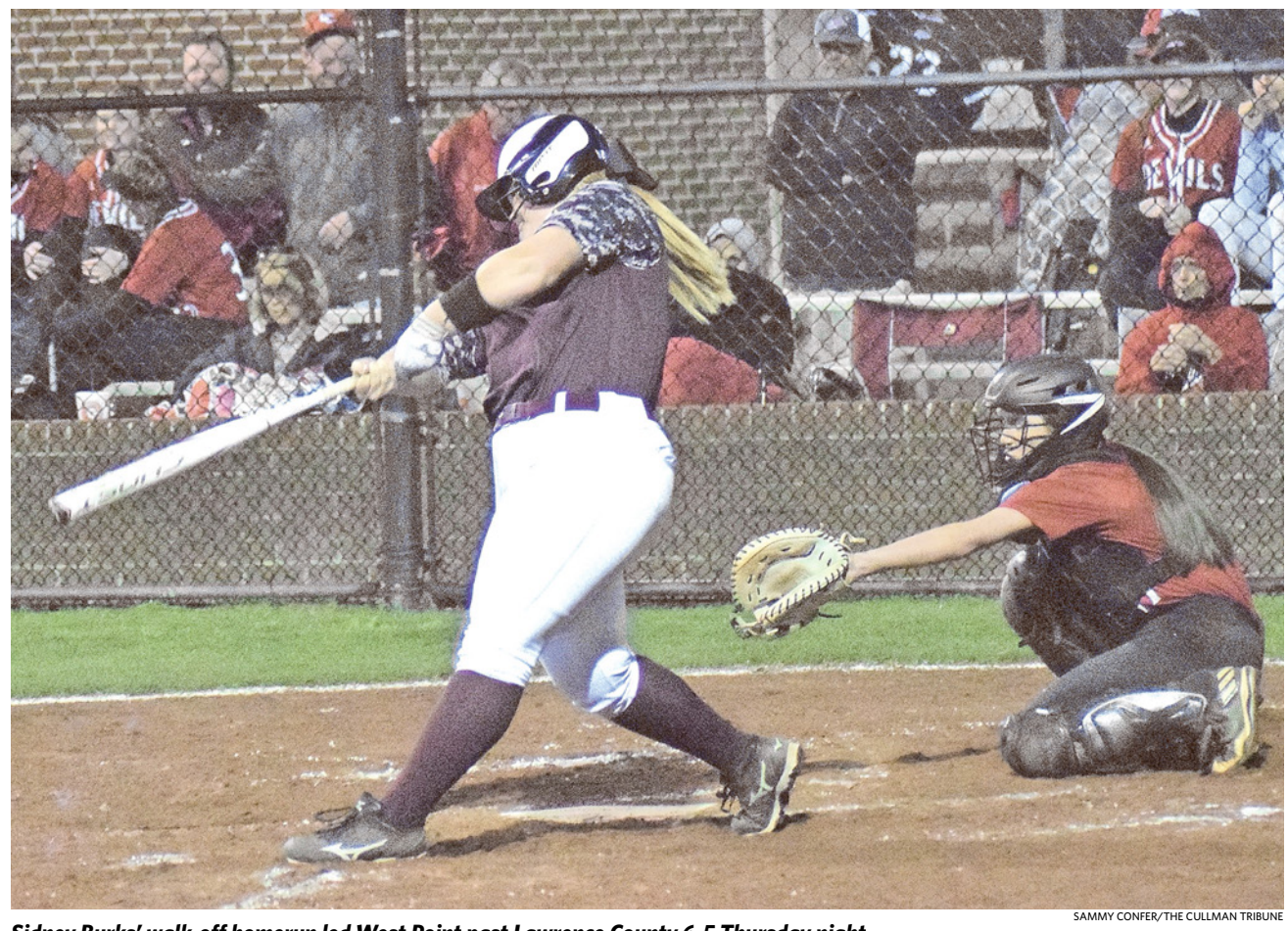
Braelee Quinn came in as the new pitcher and two strike outs and a ground out later, she got the Lady Warriors out of the bases-loaded, no-out jam.

The Lady Red Devils loaded the bases once again in the top of the seventh, and once again, Quinn got West Point out of the jam by inducing a ground ball. The Lady Warriors couldn't break the tie in their half, so it was to be decided in extra innings.

After keeping Lawrence County out of the run column, West Point looked to end the game quickly. Burks would happily oblige as she crushed the game-winning home run off the center field wall, her second of the night, and the Lady Warriors picked up a huge win at home over the Lady Red Devils, 6-5.

Carlie Wilkins finished with a pair of home runs and four RBIs in the game for West Point (11-3). Burks added a pair of solo shots, including the game-winning one. Kylee Quinn ended up with a pair of hits, while Macayla Wilkins and Braelee Quinn each chipped in with a hit of their own.

The Lady Warriors will look to improve to 12-3 on the season Tuesday when they host Jasper.



SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Sidney Burks' walk-off homerun led West Point past Lawrence County 6-5 Thursday night.

BASEBALL

Madison Academy 12 - West Point 1 (Game One)

Madison Academy struck first to start out the game as a leadoff single and a one-out walk had them in business early. West Point starter, Caiden Rodgers, looked to limit the damage early and he did just that as an RBI groundout would be the only run that he would allow that inning as the Mustangs took an early 1-0 lead.

The score stayed the same until the top of the third inning as Madison Academy lit up the scoreboard for six runs, with four of those runs coming on RBI singles and a two-run single, and the Warriors found themselves down, 7-0.

West Point got on the scoreboard in their half of the third as Andrew Putman hit a leadoff single and came around to score on a J.D. Cochran RBI double to left field as that made it 7-1. The Mustangs added a sacrifice fly in the top of the fourth to increase their lead to 8-1 and pushed across four more runs in the fifth to make it 12-1. The Warriors went down in order in their final at-bats as they ended up dropping game one to Madison Academy, 12-1.

Cochran finished with a hit and an RBI for West Point. Eli Folds, Brody Freeman, and Putman each added a hit in the contest as well.

Madison Academy 5 - West Point 4 (Game Two)

Cochran got the start for West Point in game two, but Madison Academy jumped on him to start out the game as an RBI double gave them a quick 1-0 lead. The Mustangs added to their lead in the top of the third inning as an RBI groundout and a suicide squeeze play pushed their lead to 3-0. After being held in check for the first three innings, the Warriors looked to get something going in the bottom of the fourth inning.

Caiden Rodgers led off the inning with a single and moved to second on a passed ball. He later scored on a Mustang error as that cut the Warrior deficit to two at 3-1. Madison Academy took advantage of a West Point error to lead off the sixth as an RBI groundout made it 4-1, but the Warriors came back in a big way in their half. Rodgers reached on a Mustang error with one out, then one out later, Colton McCoy and Isaac Hoffpauir each drew a walk to load the bases. Cade Simmons hit a two-run single to center field to cut it to 4-3, then an RBI infield single by Brody Freeman tied the game up at four.

Madison Academy, though, broke the tie in the top of the seventh as they scored on a passed ball to take a 5-4 lead. The Warriors looked to make yet another late comeback, but it didn't happen as they went down in order and ended up falling in game two to the Mustangs, 5-4.

Simmons finished with a pair of hits and two RBIs for West Point (5-4). Freeman added a hit and an RBI in the contest, while Rodgers and Bryson Phillips each ended up with a hit as well. The Warriors will travel to take on Auburn Friday afternoon.

PREP BASEBALL

Bearcats split doubleheader with James Clemens

Nick Griffin
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NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cullman Bearcats split a varsity doubleheader with James Clemens at home Thursday night.

CULLMAN, Ala. — After getting rained out earlier in the week, the Bearcats returned home to Bill Shelton Field Thursday night to host a varsity doubleheader against James Clemens and they split their matchups with the Jets. A home run in the sixth inning gave the Jets a late lead and ultimately a 6-5 win in game one but Cullman bounced back to take game two 6-4.

James Clemens 6 – Cullman 5 (Game One)

The Jets got a couple runs on the board in the top of the first, starting with a solo home run to left center that made it 1-0. Later in the inning, an RBI single stretched the lead to 2-0 going into the bottom half of the first. The 'Cats got one of the runs back in their half of the inning when Hunter Brooks drew a walk to reach first base and Hayden Stancil drove him in to score with an RBI single into right field.

After a scoreless second and third inning, an error allowed James Clemens to extend its lead to 3-1 in the top of the fourth, but Cullman responded in the fifth. Brooks ripped an RBI double to center field to bring Jake Dueland across the plate and make it a 3-2 game.

A few pitches later, Stancil brought Zane Watwood into score with a sacrifice fly to tie the game and Kaleb Heatherly followed with a sac fly of his own to score Brooks and put the Bearcats in front 4-3 going into the sixth.

The Jets answered in the top of the sixth, knocking a two-run homer over the left field wall to retake a 6-4 lead. The 'Cats bounced back in their half of the inning with an RBI single from Watwood to tie cut the lead to one, but they couldn't get any closer than that and James Clemens held on to take game one 6-5.

Stancil (one hit) posted a pair of RBIs in the loss and Watwood (one RBI), Brooks (one RBI) and Zac Edwards each added a pair of hits. Stancil got the start on the mound, allowing three runs on three hits and striking out five batters in four innings of work.

Hunter Howell relieved Stancil in the fifth and finished with a pair of strikeouts after 1.2 innings on the mound. Cody Jones got the final four outs for Cullman, allowing no hits and picking up a strikeout.

Cullman 6 – James Clemens 4 (Game Two)

A 2-run homer put the Jets in front 2-0 in the top of the first, but the Bearcats responded right away in the bottom half of the inning. Watwood and Brooks led things off with a single and a double and Heatherly blasted a double into left field to score both of them and tie things up at 2.

An RBI single from Watwood brought Dueland home to score and put the 'Cats on top 3-2 in the bottom of the second but an error allowed James Clemens to tie the game at 3 in the top of the third.

A sacrifice fly from Will Bradberry drove in Stancil to make it a 4-3 game in the bottom of the third and Cullman wasn't done adding runs. Dueland laced an RBI double into left field to score Edwards and Paxton Ponder crossed the plate on a wild pitch to put the Bearcats in front 6-3 going into the fourth. After a scoreless fourth and fifth inning, the Jets were able to trim the lead to 6-4 in the top of the sixth, but they couldn't chip away any more than that and the 'Cats held on to win game two 6-4. Heatherly (one hit) posted a pair of RBIs in the win and Watwood and Brooks each added a pair of hits as well. Heatherly started on the mound, allowing three runs on three hits and striking out two batters in three innings. Easton Peed tossed the final four innings and allowed just one run on two hits while striking out four.

Gym (from Front)

would like to say on behalf of the Cold Springs Eagle nation, thank you to Dr. Barnette, CSFO Ed Roberson, and all the board members who made this happen," said Myrex. "A new gym is something that we have needed for a long time. Our community and students deserve it. Go Eagles!"

Once construction begins, it will take approximately one year to complete the project. The gym will cost just under $5.9 million. McKee & Associates of Montgomery is the architect, and Cullman-based Nearen Construction is the contractor.

The current gym will not be torn down. It will continue to be available for use by the school and community.

Blaze (from Front)

Olivia Law
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CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Animal Shelter's Donna Ruttkay shares a bonus Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week: Blaze!

According to Ruttkay, Blaze is a 2-year-old, medium-energy Blue Heeler mix. He finds solace and fulfillment in the presence of his people and feels the needs to be close to you. No solitary backyard for this guy! Ideally, a work-at-home person is what would suit this boy. He's accommodating, athletic and cheerfully carries out what is asked of him. He already walks well on his leash, and is already neutered!

Blaze stays focused on you; therefore, this makes him the perfect therapy or companion dog!

Blaze'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.

Good news!

Recent POTW's Jack and Murphy have been adopted! Thank you to the Cullman community for providing forever homes for our furry friends!







THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
MARCH 12, 2022

Month (from Front)

Leanne West
City of Cullman

CULLMAN, Ala. — Each year, the month of April is recognized as National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs official proclaimed the month of April "Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month" in the City of Cullman Thursday, March 10. On hand to accept the proclamation from Mayor Jacobs were Cullman Caring for Kids' Executive Director Steven Sutter and Senior Director Javon Daniel.

Cullman Caring for Kids is a local organization with a mission to see that no child will ever be abused, no child will go to bed hungry, no infants will ever be shaken in anger, and the cycle of abuse will be stopped. Steven Sutter took over as executive director of CCK in February 2022 following the retirement of Nancy Bryant. Nancy had taken over as executive director in July 2021 after working as assistant director since 2005 under longtime Executive Director Javon Daniel, who now serves as senior director.

"We in the City of Cullman are thankful for all that Cullman Caring for Kids does to help bring awareness to the problem of child abuse and neglect," said Mayor Jacobs. "They not only bring awareness to the problem, but they actively work with other wonderful local agencies to help families and to prevent abuse and neglect."

Former City Councilmember Andy Page believed strongly in the work that CCK does in the community, which is why city employees and officials took up a personal donation for CCK in memory of "Coach" Page, who passed away Jan. 5.

"We feel good knowing that this small donation will help children and families in our area," said Leanne West, executive assistant to Mayor Jacobs. "We feel like Coach would be pleased with this donation."

This month and throughout the year, the City of Cullman encourages all individuals and organizations to play a role in making Cullman an even better place for children and families. By ensuring that parents have the knowledge, skills and resources they need to care for their children, we can help promote the social and emotional well-being of children and youth and prevent child maltreatment within families and communities.

According to reports issued by the Children's Bureau, an Office of the Administration for Children & Families, administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, an estimated 618,000 children were found to be victims of child abuse or neglect nationwide last year and a reported 1,750 children died from abuse and neglect in the United States in the 2020 fiscal year.

Alabama Public Health lists child abuse and neglect as the #8 health concern in our state.

The statewide rate of reported cases of child abuse and neglect has been steady for several years at a rate of less than 19 cases per 1,000 children. But this data is for reported cases only, not confirmed cases, and child abuse and neglect cases are often underreported. According to CCK Senior Director Javon Daniel, 26 children died in Alabama as a result of child abuse or neglect.

The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act defines child abuse and neglect as "any recent act or failure to act on the part of the parent or caretaker which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation ... or an act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm."

More specifically, definitions include (from childwelfare.gov):

• Physical abuse: A nonaccidental physical injury to a child caused by a parent or other caregiver which can include punching, beating, kicking, biting, shaking, throwing, stabbing, choking, hitting, burning or otherwise causing physical harm.

• Neglect: The failure of a parent or other caregiver to provide for a child's basic needs such as food or shelter, medical treatment, education needs or emotional needs.

• Sexual abuse: Includes activities by a parent or other caregiver such as fondling a child's genitals, penetration, incest, rape, sodomy, indecent exposure and exploitation through prostitution or the production of pornographic materials.

• Emotional (psychological) abuse: A pattern of behavior that impairs a child's emotional development or sense of self-worth that may include constant criticism, threats or rejection as well as withholding love, support or guidance.

• Abandonment: A child is considered abandoned when the parent's identity or whereabouts is unknown, the child has been left alone in circumstances where the child suffers serious harm, the child has been deserved with no regard for his or her health or safety, or the parent has failed to maintain contact with the child or provide reasonable support for a specified period of time.

• Parental substance use: Related circumstances include exposing a child to harm prenatally due to the mother's use of legal or illegal drugs or other substances, manufacturing methamphetamine in the presence of a child; selling, distributing or giving illegal drugs or alcohol to a child, using a controlled substance that impairs the caregiver's ability to adequately care for the child.

• Human trafficking: Sex trafficking is recruiting, harboring, transporting, providing or obtaining someone for a commercial sex act such as prostitution, pornography or stripping. Labor trafficking is forced labor including drug dealing, begging or working long hours for little pay.

Signs that a child may be being abused or neglected include, but are not limited to:

General maltreatment:
• Shows sudden changes in behavior or school performance.

• Does not receive help for physical or medical problems brought to the parents' attention or lacks needed medical care (immunizations, dental care, glasses, etc.).

• Has difficulty concentrating that cannot be attributed to specific physical or psychological causes.

• Lacks adult supervision.

• Is always watchful, as though preparing for something bad to happen.

• Is overly compliant, passive or withdrawn.

• Seems reluctant to be around a particular person.

• Comes to school or other activities early, stays late and does not want to go home.

• Discloses maltreatment.

Physical abuse:
• Has unexplained injuries such as burns, bites, bruises, broken bones or black eyes.

• Has fading bruises or other noticeable marks after an absence from school.

• Seems scared, anxious, depressed, withdrawn or aggressive.



CITY OF CULLMAN

• Seems frightened of parents and protests or cries when it's time to go home.

• Shows changes in eating and sleeping habits.

• Abuses animals or pets.

• Shrinks at the approach of adults.

• Reports injury by a parent or other adult caregiver.

Neglect:
• Is frequently absent from school.

• Begs or steals food or money.

• Is consistently dirty and has severe body odor.

• Lacks needed medical care (immunizations, dental care, glasses, etc.)

• Lacks sufficient clothing for the weather.

• Abuses alcohol or other drugs.

• States there is no one at home to provide care.

Sexual abuse:
• Has difficulty walking or sitting.

• Experiences bleeding, bruising or swelling in their private parts.

• Suddenly refuses to go to school.

• Reports nighttime bedwetting.

• Experiences a sudden change in appetite.

• Demonstrates bizarre, sophisticated or unusual sexual knowledge or behavior.

• Becomes pregnant or contracts a sexually transmitted disease, particularly if under age 14.

• Runs away.

• Attaches very quickly to strangers or new adults in their environment.

• Reports sexual abuse by a parent or another adult caregiver.

Emotional abuse:
• Shows extremes in behavior, such as being overly compliant or demanding, extremely passive or aggressive.

• Is either inappropriately adult (parenting other children, etc.) or inappropriately infantile (rocking, head-banging, etc.).

• Is delayed in physical or emotional development.

• Shows signs of depression or suicidal thoughts.

• Reports an inability to develop emotional bonds with others.

Abusive or neglectful parents may exhibit signs such as:

• Showing little concern for, or appearing indifferent to, the child and refusing to consider offers of help for the child's problems.

• Denying the existence of, or blaming the child for, the child's problems in school or at home.

• Asking teachers or other caregivers to use harsh physical discipline if the child misbehaves.

• Seeing the child as entirely bad, worthless or burdensome.

• Demanding a level of physical or academic performance the child cannot achieve.

• Looking primarily to the child for care, attention and satisfaction of emotional needs.

• Constantly blaming, belittling or berating the child.

• Overtly rejecting the child.

• Seeming apathetic or depressed.

• Behaving irrationally or in a bizarre manner.

• Abusing alcohol or other drugs.

• Being unduly protective of the child or severely limiting the child's contact with other children, especially of the opposite sex.

• Being secretive and isolated.

• Being jealous or controlling with family members.

Communities have a great influence on families' lives. Supportive communities can help build strong families which, in turn, can help lower the risk of child abuse and neglect.

"As a community, we can all work together to help stop child abuse and neglect," said Mayor Jacobs. "We can not only help build strong families, but we can also become familiar with the signs and symptoms of child abuse and neglect and report suspected cases to the proper authorities."

If you suspect a child is being harmed, reporting your suspicions may protect the child and get help for the family. For information about where and how to file a report in Cullman, contact local law enforcement (Cullman Police Department – 256-734-1434 | Cullman County Sheriff's Office – 256-775-4700 | Hanceville Police Department – 256-352-9811) or the Cullman County Department of Human Resources (256-737-5300). You may also contact the National Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-4ACHILD (800-422-4453).

Also, by ensuring that parents have the knowledge, skills and resources they need to care for their children, we can prevent child abuse and neglect by creating strong and thriving children, youth and families in our community. Research shows that protective factors are present in healthy families. Protective factors are conditions or attributes of individuals, families, communities or the larger society that mitigate risk and promote healthy development and well-being.

Promoting the following protective factors is one of the most effective ways to reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect:

• Nurturing & attachment

• Knowledge of parenting and of child and youth development

• Parental resilience

• Social connections

• Concrete supports for parents

• Social and emotional competence of children

"Cullman is fortunate to have people and organizations who help children and families dealing with abuse and neglect," said Mayor Jacobs. "Cullman Caring for Kids, Brooks' Place, Cullman County CASA, DHR and others provide these services in Cullman and throughout Cullman County, and we appreciate them all!"

For more information on these agencies, you can visit them online at:

• Cullman Caring for Kids: https://www.cullmancaringforkids.com/

• Child Advocacy Center (Brooks' Place): http://www.caccullman.org/

• Cullman County CASA: https://www.facebook.com/cullmancountycasa or https://nationalcasagal.org/

• Cullman County DHR: https://dhr.alabama.gov/

For more information about National Child Abuse Awareness Month visit https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/.

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STATE

Governor Ivey announces BELLA+CANVAS plans high-tech fabric-cutting facility in Alabama, creating 557 jobs in Wetumpka

Gina Maiola
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Governor Kay Ivey on Thursday announced that BELLA+CANVAS, a fast-growing apparel manufacturer with a "Made in the U.S.A" focus, plans a major investment in Alabama to open an advanced fabric-cutting facility expected to create over 550 jobs in Wetumpka.

Los Angeles-based BELLA+CANVAS will invest $11.9 million to establish the operation in a portion of an 890,000-square-foot building vacant since 2013, when Russell Brands departed from the Elmore County city.

"The decision by BELLA+CANVAS to locate its high-tech cutting facility in Wetumpka is welcome news for Elmore County and for Alabama," said Governor Ivey. "Not only will the company's growth project spark the creation of a significant number of jobs, but it also underscores how Alabama is ready and eager to play a role in America's manufacturing renaissance."

BELLA+CANVAS produces clothing for the retail and wholesale markets, while also offering clothing design and manufacturing services. The company is known for its domestic manufacturing mission, the development of innovative new fabrics and its sustainability practices.

BELLA+CANVAS employs over 1,000 people at a Los Angeles cutting facility it calls North America's most advanced, thanks to proprietary software and cutting tables that enable the cutting of about 3 million garments per week. The Wetumpka facility is expected to be modeled after this operation.

"We are thrilled to be part of the community and look forward to creating jobs and opportunities for many in Alabama," said Chris Blakeslee, president of BELLA+CANVAS. "After a comprehensive search, we ultimately concluded that our new location in Wetumpka, Alabama was not only optimal to enhance our manufacturing footprint and technologically advanced operations levels, but also ideal in terms of support from the local government and access to great new team members."

The 557 jobs being created at the new Alabama facility include spreaders, general cutting laborers, forklift operators, shipping and receiving clerks and administrative staff. Average annual wages for the new positions are $46,000.

"Alabama's manufacturing sector provides an ideal home for technologically advanced operations like the one planned by BELLA+CANVAS in Wetumpka," said Greg Canfield, secretary of the Alabama Department of Commerce. "This is a state-of-the-art facility, designed to be highly efficient with precise processes, and I know our capable workforce will help make it successful."

AIDT, the state's primary workforce development agency, will assist BELLA+CANVAS with pre-employment and job training services.

"We are excited to welcome BELLA+CANVAS to Elmore County," said County Commission Chairman Troy Stubbs. "In addition to the boost our local economy will receive from the infusion of jobs, we are proud to be part of the efforts of Phoenix Investors and BELLA+CANVAS to restore manufacturing jobs to the United States."

BELLA+CANVAS is leasing a portion of the building at 3145 Elmore Road from the firm.

STATE

Governor Ivey defends Alabamians' Second Amendment rights, signs constitutional carry bill into law

Gina Maiola
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Governor Kay Ivey on Thursday signed House Bill 272, known as the constitutional carry bill, into law, defending law abiding Alabamians' Second Amendment rights.

"Unlike states who are doing everything in their power to make it harder for law abiding citizens, Alabama is reaffirming our commitment to defending our Second Amendment rights," said Governor Ivey.

"I have always stood up for the rights of law abiding gunowners, and I am proud to do that again today."

HB272, sponsored by Rep. Shane Stringer (R – HD102), revises certain restrictions regarding the carrying or possession of a pistol and eliminates the requirement to obtain a pistol permit in order to carry a concealed pistol.

PALS (from Front)

Sara Gladney
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CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County People Against a Littered State will be participating in a city and countywide Spring Cleanup March 19. A meeting will be held Thursday, March 17 at the Cullman County Economic Development office at 8 a.m. where the mayors in the county will pick up their litter bags and take them to their municipalities. There, they will be available for any group or individual to pick up.

Cherrie Haney of Cullman PALS said, "We encourage everybody to pick up a mile at least, but if they can't or if they live in the city, they can just pick up their block. Anything would help." PALS encourages all citizens to pick up the roads around their homes as far as they can.

The city and county Sanitation Departments approved the following dumpster locations for the cleanup:

- West Elementary School
- East Elementary School
- Cullman High School
- Cold Springs School
- Baileyton Town Hall
- Colony Community Center
- Crane Hill Sulphur Springs
- Dodge City Fire Station
- Fairview Community Park
- Garden City maintenance area
- Good Hope City Hall
- Behind Hanceville City Hall
- Holly Pond Lions Club Park
- Jones Chapel School
- Vinemont First Baptist Church
- West Point Town Hall

Items that are not accepted are tires, paint and chemicals.

Cullman PALS is dedicated to raising awareness through Clean Campus programs and anti-litter campaigns. Organizations, municipalities, church groups, civic groups and individuals are encouraged to volunteer to clean up litter on streets, streams and campuses. PALS provides Adopt-a-Mile, Adopt-an-Area or Adopt-a-Stream signs for volunteers wanting to adopt a place they are responsible for keeping clean. PALS offers groups the use of pickup tools, safety vests, and litter bags as well as organization recognition. To become a member of PALS, contact Cherrie Haney at 256-531-4222.

The Cullman Tribune

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
MARCH 12, 2022

52 ODES TO JOY: LAUGHTER

Ben South
Tribune Columnist



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LAFF EVRY DAY!
Laff, laff for your brain
and your heart.
Laffing makes
you strong.
Laffing makes
you smart.
Laffter is good for
us in evry way.
Laff evry nite and
laff evry day!

"Always laugh when you can. It is cheap medicine."—Lord Byron

"He that is of a merry heart has a continual feast."—Proverbs 15:15

Laughter is quite literally good for the brain and the heart. Dr. Michael Miller, a cardiologist at the University of Maryland School of Medicine (Baltimore) reports that "heightened stress magnifies the risk of cardiovascular events, including heart attacks and strokes" and "having a good sense of humor is an excellent way to reliver stress and anxiety, potentially preventing those adverse outcomes."

Dr. Miller's research shows laughter seems to cause vascular endothelial cells to release nitric oxide which can promote smooth muscle relaxation (i.e., vessel dilation) and reduce blood pressure as well as decrease inflammation. Dr. Miller prescribes his patients this Rx – "One good belly laugh a day."

"A good laugh is sunshine in the house."—William Makepeace Thackeray

"Humor is a prelude to faith and laughter is the beginning of prayer."—Reinhold Niebuhr

"Laughter is the shortest distance between two people."—Victor Borge

UNITING, making a deep and lasting connection with someone is definitely aided by laughter and a good sense of humor. Laughter produces the brain chemical, oxytocin, which research scientists call "nature's bonding agent."

THE WEBSITE, GREAT-MARRIAGES.ORG, ROSTERS THESE WAYS LAUGHTER BENEFITS HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS:

- Reducing stress and tension
- Stimulating the immune system
- Increasing natural "pain killers" in the blood
- Decreasing inflammation
- Lowering blood pressure
- Lifting spirits
- Bringing couples closer together and keeping bonds fresh

"Laughter is God's hand on the shoulder of a troubled world."—Bettenell Huntznicker

"Laughter has no foreign accent."—Paul Lowney

"I never could have made it if I could not have laughed. It lifted me momentarily out of this horrible situation, just enough to make it livable."—Viktor Frankl, concentration camp survivor

Last month in "The New York Times," cultural critic Jason Zinoman wrote about how a shared sense of humor is integral to Jewish identity, especially during times of more intense anti-Semitism.

One of Zinoman's readers, Elayne Robinson Grossman, replied to comments with this positive affirmation:

"One of the things I love most about being Jewish is our ability to find humor in anything. It's in our DNA.

"It is part of our humanity. Let us remember that humor is even found in the Book of Exodus: The Israelites complain to Moses that they are thirsty and miss eating their melons, etc.

"They ask Moses, in Exodus 14:11 (and I am paraphrasing) 'Were there not enough graves in Egypt that you brought us out of slavery to die here in the wilderness?' So, we question everything and everyone and we laugh at many things. This is who we are and how we have survived from generation to generation. May we continue going forward in our compassion, kindness and humor."

"If you become silent after your laughter, one day you will hear God laughing, you will hear the whole of existence laughing—trees and stones and stars with you."—Osho

"No matter what your heartache may be, laughing helps you forget it for a few seconds."—Red Skelton

SPELLBOUND with uncontrollable laughter is generally a fantastic feeling of being "lost in the moment." Dr. Robert Provine states in his research paper, Laughter: A Scientific Investigation: "All laughter is unconscious. You do not choose to laugh the way you choose to speak."

Many of us have had a "laughing jag" happen in an inappropriate setting. Remember the famous "Mary Tyler Moore Show" television episode where Mary bursts with intermittent laughs and sobs at the funeral for "Chuckles, The Clown?"

My grandfather died when I was in college. During a solemn service, perhaps overly solemn considering my rambunctious Pappaw, my dignified-looking brother leaned over to me and whispered a hilarious observation. (He started it, mother). I got so tickled, I had to leave the chapel. Preesh, bro. (And, NO, not for any amount of money can I be bribed to share his quip. Yes, I'm joking. What's your offer?)

Dr. Provine relates an amazing-but-true incident of SPELLBOUND laughter that happened with some giggling, African schoolgirls in 1962.

A small group started laughing, their laughter became contagious through their entire school and classes had to be dismissed.

This epidemic of uncontrollable laughter went on for six months.

Most laughter is not the result of a joke, Dr. Provine reports. Laughter is a form of social communication which is embedded in our brains.

When chimps wrestle, they laugh. Those "Tom and Jerry" cartoons were based in scientific fact - when mice are tickled, they laugh.

"The S.U.N.S. Joyful Aging System" concludes this about the joy of laughter: SMILE-MAKING laughter is good medicine for our physical and mental health. Laughter supports UNITING with another in a meaningful way as a "bonding agent."

NEIGHBORING, others-centeredness, is strengthened when we laugh together through good times and especially appreciated during hard times. Lastly, being SPELLBOUND in a "laughing zone" is one of the most joyful experiences at every stage of life from beginning to the end.

JOY-GIVERS CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK

March 12—James Taylor

March 13—Al Jaffee, "Mad Magazine" cartoonist

March 14—Billy Crystal

March 15—Sly Stone

March 16—Jerry Lewis

March 17—Mia Hamm, soccer star

March 18—Queen Latifah

JOKES ABOUT THE JOY OF LAUGHTER FOR ST. PADDY'S DAY
(I have a wee drop of Irish in me all year, but on March 17, I have a whole pitcher.)

"I went drinking last St. Patrick's Day, so I took a bus home...That may not be a big deal to you, but I'd never driven a bus."

"Why did God invent Irish whiskey? So, the Irish would never rule the world."

"What's the difference in my family's Irish weddings and Irish funerals? One less drunk."

"I actually saw a leprechaun once. After enough green beer, you see all kinds of stuff."

"It's okay to pretend you're Irish on St. Patrick's Day. We pretend we're good on Christmas, don't we?"

"How can you tell if an Irishman gets a joke? He's Dublin over with laughter."

"Knock, knock. Who's there? Irish! Irish who? I-rish you a Happy St. Paddy's Day!"

LAFFY DAFFY CONNECTICUT DUCK AND OYSTER SKEWERS
(Source: sportingchef.com)

Each week, Joy & Gerontology shares a recipe saluting a healthy food produced in America. The delicious and nutritious collection is called "The S.U.N.S. USA Longevity Cookbook" and highlights vitamin B-3 (niacin) which many research gerontologists believe holds the promise for a long, healthy, joyful life.

INGREDIENTS
- 4 duck breast fillets (skin removed)
- 1 can smoked oysters
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
- ½ teaspoon garlic salt
- 12-15 thin slices prosciutto
- Skewers

INSTRUCTIONS
1. Cut each duck breast into 3-4 pieces. Lightly pound each piece until about ¼-inch thick.

2. Add duck pieces to a small bowl with oysters and liquid, lemon juice, Italian seasoning and garlic salt. Toss and refrigerate for 30-60 minutes.

3. Lay prosciutto slices out flat on a work surface. Place one oyster and one piece of duck on one end of each prosciutto slice.

4. Roll up snugly and secure with skewer.

5. Grill, pan-sear or broil until prosciutto is browned. Serve with favorite dipping sauce.

1,070 JOY-GIVING THINGS FROM MY FIRST 70 YEARS (CONTINUED):

228. Jack Benny (born Benjamin Kubelsky), Jewish-American laff-maker.

229. Frank Fleming's playful, anthropomorphic sculptures.

230. "Love Shack" by the B-52s.

231. Haint blue porch ceilings.

232. Andrae' Crouch, gospel joy-maker.

233. Cowbells. Also, "More cowbell!"

234. May Day bouquets at your front door.

235. Saturday lunch at the bowling center.

236. Matching bowling ball, bag and shoes.

237. The Chagall ceiling at the Paris Opera.

238. Fresh sawdust.

239. Not being a wine snob but being a gravy snob.

240. My childhood mittens.

241. ViewMaster.

242. That British twit who said my co-cola was "Chilled, sir, to the correct temperature."

243. "Good to the last drop."

244. Pillow talk.

245. Whack-a-Mole.

246. "O Happy Day" by the Edwin Hawkins Singers.

247. John Deere green.

248. British Invasion music.

249. Duck and grits.

250. Margaret Cho, Asian-American laff-maker.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S WEEK AND LAFF EVRY DAY!

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 vehicle law, Statues, Chapter 13, Section 1-8, Title 32 and Alabama Law Act Number 83-494-S-80.

1995 Mercury Cougar, Vin. #1MELM62WXSH647627.

This vehicle will be sold to pay storage and or repair fee at 107 9th Street Southwest, Cullman, Alabama 35055, on Monday, April 4, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

PB MIN BK 204 PG 480 - 03/02/2022 03:44 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE

B.L.L.
D.O.B. 03/18/2015

CASE NO: PC 2021-349

AMENDED
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE OF MINOR

TO: ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN BIOLOGOCAL FATHER OF THE CHILD BORN TO RONNI ELIZABETH LIGHT KNOWN AS B.L.L.

The Petition to Change Name of Minor was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by Ronni Elizabeth Light, Biological Mother. If you should contest, 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 2nd DAY OF March, 2022.

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

Michael R. Burleson
Attorney for Petitioner
200 2nd Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

MARY HOLLOWAY,
Plaintiff

Vs.

Case Number: **DR-2022-900035.00**

BRIAN JEANES,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Brian Jeanes, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Mary Holloway's Complaint for Divorce by April 11th, 2022 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2022-900035.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 10th day of February, 2022.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Clerk of Circuit Court

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
Sara Baker
100 5th St SE
Cullman, AL 35055

PB MIN BK 204 PG 477 - 03/02/2022 03:35 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
PEGGY LAMB,
Deceased.

CASE NO.: PC2021-224

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to TARA SANDLIN MARTIN, as Personal Representative of the Estate of PEGGY LAMB, deceased, on the 2nd day of March, 2022, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

Tara Sandlin Martin
Personal Representative

Josh O'Neal
Attorney for Personal Representative
200 2nd Avenue SE
Cullman, AL 35055
256-620-0007

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 ADT BK 60 PG 961 - 02/25/2022 10:37 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ADOPTION PETITION OF
WILLIAM SHANE STISHER and
TERESA ANN STISHER
FOR THE ADOPTION OF

M.J.S.. A MINOR.
D.O.B. 4-19-2011

CASE NO AD 2021-093

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: JEROMY LLOYD HENDERSON, SR., ALLEGED FATHER OR ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN FATHER OF M.J.S. A MINOR CHILD BORN TO PATRICIA JOANN STISHER

The Petition for Adoption was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by William Shane Stisher and Teresa Ann Stisher, 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 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 25th DAY OF February, 2022.

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

G. Edward Coey
Attorney for Petitioners
100 Main Street, SE
Hanceville, Alabama 35077

PB MIN BK 204 PG 486 - 03/02/2022 04:00 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
BETTY LAMB,
Deceased.

CASE NO.: PC2020-372

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to TARA SANDLIN MARTIN, as Personal Representative of the Estate of BETTY LAMB, deceased, on the 2nd day of March, 2022, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

Tara Sandlin Martin
Personal Representative

Josh O'Neal
Attorney for Personal Representative
200 2nd Avenue SE
Cullman, AL 35055
256-620-0007

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

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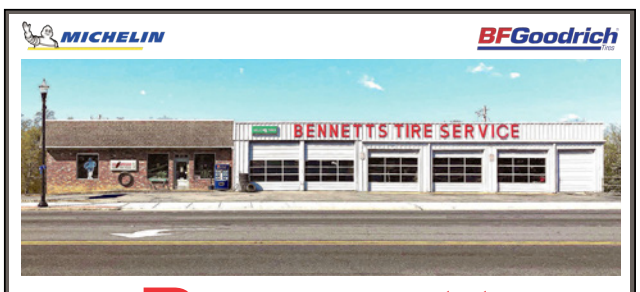


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Obituary Announcements: March 10-11

Betty Vernell Cagle Abbott, 79, of Houston
Betty Vernell Cagle Abbott, age 79, of Houston, passed away Thursday, March 10, at Cullman Regional Medical Center. She was born March 15, 1942, in Nauvoo to Virgil and Dorothy Cheshire. Betty was a member of Pleasant Hill Church in Houston. Visitation will be Tuesday, March 15, from 11 a.m. - noon at Nichols Funeral Home in Addison, where the service will be held at noon. Burial will be at Ashbank Cemetery, Nauvoo. Reverend Virgil Cheshire will officiate. Betty is survived by her husband: James Lee Abbott; son: Rodney (Deanna) Cagle; daughter: Darlene Vice (Jerry Blair); stepdaughter: Michelle Blakenship; sisters: Juan Vernon and Vickie Cheshire; brother: Rev. Virgil (Carolyn) Cheshire; grandchildren: Angie McClellan, Alisha Vice, Charles Vice and Benjamin Cagle; great-grandchildren: Caden Vice, Charles "Jr." Vice, Nicolas Smith and Drake Pelfrey and a host of nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents: Virgil and Dorothy Cheshire; brother: Dale Cheshire and grandchildren: Cherry Taylor and Coty Pelfrey.

Martha Faye Gentry Smith "Faye," 82
Martha Faye Gentry Smith "Faye," age 82, died peacefully in her home March 10, surrounded by her loving family. Faye was preceded in death by her parents: C B and Ruby Gentry and brothers: Glenn Gentry and Ray O'Neal Gentry. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the Smith family. She is survived by her husband: Jerry C. Smith, Sr.; sons: Jerry C. (Vicki) Smith, Jr. and Christopher G. (Becky) Smith; sister: Beverley Gentry Abercrombie; grandchildren: Whitney Smith (Justin) Shubert, Memory Smith and Corbin Smith; brother-in-law: Dock Abercrombie; sister-in-law: Brenda Gentry and Yvonne Gentry, as well as a host of nieces, nephews and friends. Faye and Jerry were entrepreneurs founding His and Her Shoes, Dollar Discount and Noble Ridge Plaza. She served her Lord and Savior at Destiny Church and dearly loved her church family. Her funeral service will be 2 p.m., Wednesday, March 16, at Destiny Church (566 County Road 1339, Cullman, AL). Visitation will be 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. prior to the service. Pastor Fred Rivers will officiate the service. The interment will follow at Cullman Memory Gardens. Pallbearers are David Holmes, Corbin Smith, John Crider, M.D., Garey Shoemaker, Justin Shubert and Greg Gentry. In lieu of flowers, the family requests a donation be made to The Cullman Memory Gardens Foundation (P.O. Box 964, Cullman, AL 35056), Destiny Church (P.O. Box 2517, Cullman, AL 35056) or The Link of Cullman County (708 Ninth St. SE, Cullman, AL 35055).

Ronald Dale Wilson, 70, of Cullman
Funeral service for Ronald Dale Wilson, 70, of Cullman will be at 11 a.m., Monday, March 14, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Jones Chapel Cemetery, Rev. DeJuan Reese officiating. Visitation will be Sunday evening at the funeral home from 6-8 p.m. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the Wilson family. Mr. Wilson passed away Friday, March 11, at his residence. He was born May 14, 1951, to Daniel Calvin and Esther Willodean Stokes Wilson. He was a business owner of Wilson Auto Service for over 30 years. He was a member of Jones Chapel United Methodist Church. He loved and owned classic cars and old westerns. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers: Billy Gene Wilson and Calvin Wayne Wilson. Survivors include his wife of 50 years: Evelyn Alvis Wilson; son: Billy (Samantha) Wilson; daughter: Wendy (Ray) Echols; sister: Marilyn Wilson Roy; grandchildren: Chelsey Laney, Chase Laney, Christian Echols, Chandler Echols, Gavin Wilson and Colton Wilson; great-grandchildren: Addilyn Howard, Jett Howard, Korlyn Laney, Celestial Laney, Felix Laney, Jaxon Laney and Miela Echols; family and friends.

Earl Sandlin Parker, 78, of Crane Hill
Funeral services for Earl Sandlin Parker, 78, of Crane Hill, Alabama will be 2 p.m., Sunday, March 13, at the Cullman Funeral Home Chapel. The family will receive friends from 1-2 p.m. prior to the service. The interment will be at Ryan's Creek Baptist Church Cemetery. Rev. James Parker will officiate the service. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the Parker family. Mr. Parker was born Oct. 9, 1943, to Alton and Hazel Sandlin Parker. He was a member at Bethany Baptist Church where he served as a deacon. He loved his family, his grandchildren, his Lord, singing and was happy in serving his church. He proudly served is country as an Airman in the United States Air Force. He was preceded in death by his parents: Alton and Hazel Sandlin Parker; mother and father-in-law: O.L. and Louise Kilgo and his brother: Berl Parker. Mr. Parker is survived by his wife of 54 years: Janice Parker; his daughters: Amy (Phillip) Stancil and Tina Parker; his brothers: Emery (Marion) Parker, Dan (Becky) Stevens and Perry Stevens; his brother-in-law: Buddy (April) Kilgo; his sister: Rachael (Glen) Roberts; sister-in-law: Teresia (Billy) Morrow; his grandchildren: Kaitlin (Shawn) Tankersley, Logan Stancil and Eden Stancil and a host of family and friends. Pallbearers will be Logan Stancil, Shawn Tankersley, Jack Kilgo, Stone Phillips, Phillip Stancil and Jeff Freeman.

Irene Lee Cheatham, 78
Irene Lee Cheatham passed away March 9, while bravely battling cancer. She was born May 20, 1943. Mrs. Cheatham is preceded in death by her parents; husband: Bobby Skelton and husband: Glenn Cheatham. Survivors include sons: David Skelton, Mike and Aleycia Skelton; daughter: Michelle Skelton; grandchildren: Eric Skelton, Sarah Stetina and Nick Stetina, Megan Skelton, Kenny and Bethany Boulahanis, Nick and Michelle Boulahanis, Emily Skelton, Jackie and Houston Black and Robert Skelton; 13 great-grandchildren and her dog, Bebe. Funeral services for Mrs. Cheatham are 2:30 p.m., Sunday, March 13, in the Holly Pond Funeral Home Chapel, with Pastor Austin Rowell officiating. Burial will follow in Brooklyn Cemetery. Friends are invited to visit with the family Saturday evening, March 12, at the funeral home, from 6-8 p.m. Irene loved painting, drawing and creating all forms of art. It was her passion. It brought scenes to life and something ordinary into something beautiful. All who knew her, also knew how she loved animals. At one time, she raised the most beautiful puppies and would find them the very best of homes. It was hard work at times, but the rewards of the unconditional love they all gave was worth it. She also loved to play a game of chess or cards. It was something that she taught us all to do together. It was a great time to work our minds to think strategically, laugh, learn to lose and to win. At the same time, she made family and friend memories with us all. I must add, you wanted her on your team because she always had a winning strategy. As she raised her kids, she always gave them the confidence that they could do and be anything they wanted if they put their mind to it. She was always encouraging and reminding them to stay on the straight path. She invested in her grandchildren and taught most of them to learn how to swim. She was a beautiful mom, wife, sister-in-law, aunt, grandmother and great-grandmother and she will be missed. At this place and time, you wish you could go back and fix and change life's busyness, to just stop and have more time. We love you, Irene. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in memory of Irene to http://IMB.com or to Shephard's Cove Hospice. Obituary compliments of the Irene Cheatham family. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Cheatham family.

Michael Millard Cruce, 66
A funeral service for Michael Millard Cruce will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 13 at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow at Rice's Chapel Cemetery in Walker County. Visitation will be from noon - 2 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mr. Cruce was born Oct. 15, 1955, to the late Millard and Shirley Cruce in Cullman County, Alabama. He died at the age of 66 on March 10, at Cullman Regional Medical Center in Cullman, Alabama. Michael was an avid bass fisherman, loved racing and enjoyed being with his family. He retired from Drummond Coal after 23 years of service and was the owner the B & H Tree service. He was preceded in death by his parents: Millard and Shirley Cruce; in-law: James and Ruby Allred and son-in-law: Anthony Pichelmayer. He is survived by his wife of 48 years: Joan Allred Cruce; children: Brandye Cruce-Williams and Hollye Cruce-Pichelmayer; grandchildren: Brandtley Cruce, Brooke (Drew) Windeknecht, Brayden Williams and Emma Pichelmayer; great-grandchildren: Harper Windeknecht, Korilyn Windeknecht, Oaklyn Windeknecht and Tate Windeknecht; brother: Greg (Sandy) Cruce; special sister-in-law: Becky Watkins; special nieces: Lois (Anthony) Parvin and Lynette (Robert) Cannon; special great-nephews: Kendall (Candace) Watkins and Dalton (Morgan) Wood; best friend: James (Christie) Rollo and honorary son: Charlie Clements. Serving as pallbearers will be Brandtley Cruce, Brayden Williams, Kendall Watkins, Dalton Wood, Tyler Anders and Maverick Lay. Honorary pallbearers are, James Rollo, Greg Cruce, Donald Cruce, James Clements, Ted Wagnon and Charlie Clements. The family would like to give a special 'Thank You" to Comfort Care Home Health and Comfort Care Hospice. The family would like to share that Michael was an organ donor to help save someone else in life.

Martha Lou Powell, 74, of Cullman
Martha Lou Powell, 74, of Cullman passed away Wednesday, March 9, at CRMC. Visitation for her will be Saturday, March 12, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the Powell family. Marty was born June 29, 1947, to Grady and Willie Ruth Underwood Pridmore. She loved her family and will be truly missed. She was preceded in death by her parents; sisters: Carolyn Roberts, Wanda Skinner and Edith Brown brother: Adrian Pridmore. Survivors include her son: Johnny Powell; daughter: Angel (Randall) Sivley; brothers: Delane (Yvonne) Pridmore and Robbie Pridmore; sisters: Christine Golden and Annie Ruth Mattox; grandchildren: Brandy Millien, Amanda Sivley, Robert Powell, Caitlin Berry and Jonathan Chitwood; great-grandchildren: Jacob Millien, Braylon Millien, Dakota Millien, Brantley Sivley, Wyatt Sivley, Bryce Chitwood and Adeline Chitwood; special friend: Nelda Powell; family and friends.

Joe David Lewis, 91, of Haleyville
Joe David Lewis, 91 of Haleyville, passed away Wednesday, March 9, at his home surrounded by loving family. JD was born Dec. 7, 1930, in Double Springs, Alabama. Visitation will be held Friday, March 11, from 6-8 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Double Springs. Mr. Lewis will lie-in-state from 10 a.m. - noon on Saturday, March 12, at Nichols Funeral Home in Double Springs where services will be held at noon Burial will follow in Liberty Grove Baptist Church Cemetery. Brother Danny Page will officiate. JD is survived by his wife of 68 years: Virgie Lewis; sons: Ronnie Lewis, Harold Lewis, Danny Lewis and Roger (Debra) Lewis; daughter: Sue (Bruce) Pruett; sister: Willodean Lewis; 14 grandchildren; 20 great grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by his sons: Ricky Lewis and Charles Edward Lewis; daughter: Dianne Stidham; parents: Sammy and Jo Lewis; sister: Christine Riddle; grandchildren: Nick and Marissa Lewis and brother: Julius Lewis.

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BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

The amazing Armadillo Rodeo

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



I love watching a good rodeo. I especially love to watch cowboys riding those huge bulls. Although I've never been to a real rodeo in person, I have been to the amazing Armadillo Rodeo...several times. Did you just ask, "What is The Armadillo Rodeo?"

Imagine an overweight, miniature, dappled dachshund, racing alongside a fully-grown armadillo, and then jumping on the banded-bandit's back and riding him like he was a bucking broncho? Well, I haven't exactly seen her ride the armadillo, but I have imagined it. What I have seen, numerous times, came close to my imagined sight. I like to call the events that take place in my backyard rodeos. Although races would probably more appropriately describe them, to me, that is not nearly as much exciting as a rodeo.

I haven't written about Cocoa, also known as Fifteen, in quite some time. You are probably aware that her much larger sidekick, Ginger, also known as Sixty-Five, left us a little over one year ago. I haven't told you about another four-legged creature that lives at our house. His name is Armond. Armond isn't a dog. Armond is an armadillo, who lives in a hole in the ground, in our backyard. Actually, he has two holes in the ground.

One is outside our wooden-privacy fence, and the other is just inside it. Although I haven't crawled through the holes, mainly because I weigh more than any of those beloved creatures, I'm pretty sure they connect to one another underground.

I don't remember seeing these strange looking animals when I was growing up. I have read that they first migrated to Alabama in the 1940s.

They traveled all the way from South and Central America, up through Texas, and then headed East, and somewhat North. I grew up in the extreme Northeastern part of the state, where they are less common due to the colder weather. Some humorists have referred to them as a possum-in-armor, or dead ones as possum-on-the-half-shell. I don't care for oysters-on-the-half-shell, and I don't intend to try armadillos.

Because so many of them are found dead on our highways, some have also referred to them as "hillbilly speed bumps."

Although they appear to lumber across the road at slow speeds, please, don't be fooled. An adult armadillo can reach speeds of up to 30-miles-per-hour. If you don't believe me, just ask Cocoa!

When Ginger (65) was still alive, many nights when I took her and Cocoa out for their final call-of-nature before bedtime, they dropped by to say goodnight to

Armond. Armond usually came out to greet them, and then led the chase across our backyard. If they had actually ever caught him, I'm not sure what they would have done. They might have been like Wiley E. Coyote in the one episode I saw when he actually caught the Road Runner. He held up a sign that read, "Now what?"

I even wrote a little song about The Armadillo Rodeo. I wrote it from Cocoa's and Ginger's perspective. It's to the tune of "Amarillo by Morning." My lyrics in the first verse are: "Armadillo by morning-chased out of his hole-that hard shell on his back-is all that he has on-when that sun is high-in that Bama sky-I hope I've caught his derriere-Armadillo by morning-armadillo-I'll be there."

Sometimes in life, we may be like Cocoa and Ginger. We may chase after things that we will never catch. We may even be like Wiley E. Coyote, and not know what to do next, if we do catch them. I guess we all should be sure that whatever we are chasing after is indeed worth all that effort.

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

HISTORY

Files from Yesteryear: 1902, 1933, 1955

From the Files of 1902
The old building on the corner of Second Avenue and Fourth Street East is now being removed preparatory to the erection of a large brick bank by a company of gentlemen who will "incorporate" with a capital stock of $25,000.

From the Files of 1933
Mr. Charles McMinn died on July 29, 1933. He was born on May 10, 1959. He was married on June 24, 1878 to Miss Martha Quattlebaum. They were married 55 years. Mr. McMinn became a member of Good Hope Church in 1906. He was well-known for a friendly personality and happy laugh. He is survived by his wife and eight children. Reverend Dickerson was assisted by Reverend Sim Calvert in conducting the service at Good Hope Church. Pallbearers were Lonnie Roden, Jack Tucker, Driscoll Weeks, Denson Hinkle, Conrad Howard and Jake Hinkle.

Miss Esther Perdue of Washington City is spending a month's vacation with her parents and other relatives at Trale, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Maggie Still and son, Mrs. Lucy Guthery, Johnnie and Louise Guthery, of Logan, visited relatives and attended the meeting at Jones Chapel last week.

Mr. and Mrs. J.K. Williamson and Mr. and Mrs. E. Hale are visiting relatives at Prospect this week.

Warren Keaton and sister called on Miss Cleo Murphy on Wednesday night at Fairview.

Kermit Weaver is visiting in Georgia this week.

Mr. Fred Nelson died in Birmingham last Sunday.

From the Files of 1950
Jeanette Bright wed Bobby Joe Blalock on August 11 at East Point Presbyterian Church.

S.H. Green was in Cullman this week. He was principal of the Cullman School in 1897. He told the Tribune that the school was a four-room structure at that time, which had been converted from an ax-handle factory. Mr. Green had two teaching assistants.

Herman Bahr, son of Mr. and Mrs. H.C. Bahr was fatally injured on August 8, when the car in which he and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Edward Chambliss were riding sped out-of-control near Oneonta. He died on August 10. In addition to his parents, other survivors are brothers, Raymond of Vinemont and Herbert of Birmingham, three sisters, Mrs. R.M. Thomas of Richmond, Virginia, Mrs. E.A. Bryant of Richmond, Virginia and Marlene Bahr of Vinemont.

POET'S CORNER

Celebration of My Mother's 80th Birthday | By: Randy C. Hale

Mother, you would have been 80 this past February.
My mind thought hard on that day, but no poem came.
So now a day in March, I think of how we might have celebrated like we did when Dad turned this milestone.
What kind of party we might have had, the crepe paper, balloons, and cake.
How you would have adored the attention, and the grandkids that you have missed.
I can imagine your smile and laughter,
and I can see the image in your eye,
one that takes it all in, and the glowing pride.
You would have looked at us like I had often seen you do, and we would have sung 'Happy Birthday' to you.

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

MARCH 12

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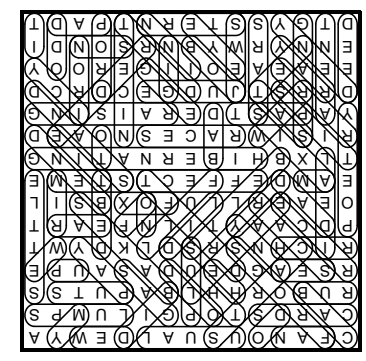
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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

MARCH 12

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8	4	9	6	3	2	5	1	7

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
MARCH 12, 2022

PERFORMING ARTS

Wallace State Theatre presenting 'The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee' March 18-20

Gail Crutchfield
Wallace State

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The Wallace State Community College Theatre department will present the musical comedy The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee Friday-Sunday, March 18-20 at the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre.

The play debuted on Broadway in 2005 and has been entertaining audiences all over the world ever since, with its story surrounding a spelling bee and the quirky characters who participate in and run the event. An added twist is that four volunteers from the audience are brought on stage to compete in the bee alongside the contestants, with the official pronouncer often providing ridiculous examples when asked to use a word in a sentence.

The cast for Wallace State's production is made up mostly of current students, but also includes a few faculty and staff.

The cast list includes:

- Isabel Newby of Cullman as Rona Lisa Perretti, the moderator
- Paul Minda of Hanceville as Vice Principal Douglas Panch, the official pronouncer
- Jairus Williams of Decatur as Mitch Mahoney, the Official Comfort Counselor

Spellers:

- Alex Bragwell of Albertville as Chip Tolentino
- Isaac Hollis of Oneonta as Leaf Coneybear
- Eli Baker of Gardendale as William Barfée
- Tori Dahlgren of Gardendale as Olive Ostrovsky
- Melinda Marcum of Oneonta as Logainne Schwartzandgrubennier
- Courtney Bryant of Decatur as Marcy Park

Other cast members include Grace Ashley of Florence, Jacob Keisler of Cleveland, Bethany Sartain of Hayden, Em Sharp of Bremen and Kit Smith and Marcos Zapien, both of Cullman.

"I have performed in, choreographed and seen this show before, and I knew that everyone involved in the production loved it," said Angela Green, head of the Wallace State Theatre program and the production's director.

"The audiences of Spelling Bee can expect an entertaining and interactive night at the theater," Green added. "Audience members can become cast members if they sign up for and are chosen to be a part of the 'Bee'! This makes the show a little different every night and keeps the cast on their toes!"

The 90-minute play can be seen on Friday and Saturday, March 18 and 19, at 7 p.m. and on Sunday, March 20, at 2 p.m.

Admission to the play is a $10 donation for general admission or a $5 donation for students and children under 12. For more information, contact Jessica Chairez at 256-352-8277 or jessica.chairez@wallacestate.edu.

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee was written by Rachel Sheinkin with music and lyrics by William Finn.

The story was conceived by Rebecca Feldman with additional material by Jay Reiss. The play won two Tony Awards, including Best Book, and the album was nominated for a Grammy. A Disney film adaptation was announced in 2021 and is currently in development.



WALLACE STATE

Wallace State students Bethany Sartain (Leaf's mom), Isaac Hollis (Leaf Coneybear), and Marcos Zapien (Leaf's dad) react to Leaf being selected to participate in the spelling bee during rehearsals of the upcoming production of "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee."

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