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The Cullman Tribune

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SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

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MENTAL HEALTH

Cullman County launches mental health court

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County Circuit Judge Gregory Nicholas and mental health care provider WellStone on Monday announced the formation of Mental Health Court, a specialized court for people living with serious mental illness. According to a release from WellStone, the court is intended to "hold people accountable for illegal behavior while also helping them receive the mental health services they need to achieve stability."

"The Mental Health Court will help make our community safer by reducing the number of crimes committed by individuals suffering from mental illness," observed Judge Nicholas.

"With early identification of those individuals charged with non-violent offenses who are mentally ill, appropriate mental health treatment can be provided through a mental health court that monitors compliance with an individualized treatment plan.

"Without treatment, a person's mental health condition will normally worsen, substantially increasing the likelihood of further involvement in the criminal justice system."

WellStone CEO » PAGE 7

Berlin kicks off farmers market season with community event



AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Some of the colorful local selections for sale at the Berlin Farmers Market

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

BERLIN, Ala. — The Berlin Farmers Market held their opening day on Saturday with the support of beautiful weather and several community organizations.

In addition to the delectable produce for sale from local farmers, Citizens Bank graciously provided a bounce house for children. Temple Baptist Church – Fairview Campus funded an inflatable slide and free hamburgers, hot dogs, chips and » PAGE 7



AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

GRADUATION ISSUE

Cullman Christian School

Jones Chapel woman dies from dog attack » PAGE 6

– EDUCATION –

Good Hope Elementary's Stacy Brannon retiring after 30 years



STACY BRANNON

Good Hope Elementary School Teacher Stacy Brannon » PAGE 6

LOCAL BUSINESS

Seven Daughters Scoops hits the spot on its first weekend



AMY LEONARD /THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

One of Seven Daughters Scoop's youngest patrons enjoys an opening day treat. » PAGE 2

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported May 23

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported May 23, 2022. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

May 19

• unlawful possession of controlled substance, unlawful possession of marijuana, unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia; I-65 SB MM 300
• unlawful possession of controlled substance, unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia; County Road 490
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia; Megan Lane
• violation of Protection Order; County Road 1122
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia; County Road 1564
• theft of property; County Road 490
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia; I-65 SB Exit 299

May 20

• unlawful possession of controlled substance, unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia; County Road 747
• domestic violence; County Road 1467
• domestic violence; County Road 339
• burglary; County Road 747
• unlawful breaking and entering motor vehicle; County Road 700
• theft of property; Hwy 31
• harassment; County Road 1663
• sell/distribute drugs, unlawful possession of controlled substance, unlawful possession of marijuana, unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia, 4th Street SW
• theft of property; School House Rd.
• domestic violence; County Road 793

May 21

• domestic violence; County Road 754
• domestic violence; 4th Street NE
• theft of property; Ashwanders Street NE
• burglary; Beech Grove Rd.

May 22

• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia; Fairview Rd.
• reckless endangerment; Colony Rd.
• assault; County Road 222
• domestic violence; County Road 728
• unlawful possession of controlled substance, unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia; County Road 473

ARRESTS

May 19

Arnold, Christopher C; 27
• Sex Offense – incest with a minor
• Sex Offense – sodomy with a girl – domestic violence
• Sex Offense – victim under 12 – offender over 16

Barron, Travis, C; 37
• FTA - unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia – 2nd offense
• FTA – promote prison contraband (drugs)
• FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
• FTA – flight/escape

Corbin, Sarah K; 26
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia – 1st offense

Davis, James K; 27
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia – 1st offense

Denton, Sara J; 28
• attempt to commit a controlled substance crime
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia – 2nd offense

Gandy, Melissa G; 38
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia – 1st offense

Gilland, Katee C; 20
• FTA – larceny/theft from residence, $500-less than $1500

Guthrie, Kenneth D; 51
• drug trafficking
• possession of methamphetamine

Lawrence, Cody R; 19
• Possession of methamphetamine

Lawrence, Katelynn M; 24
• harassing communications

Martin, Billy J; 47
• FTA – possession of marijuana
• FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
• FTA – driving while license suspended

Newman, Heather M; 41
• assault – elder abuse and neglect – 2nd degree

Randolph, Ashley N; 33
• FTA - unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia – 1st offense
• FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Shedd, Baylee M; 24
• appears in public place under influence

Swindall, Emma R; 23
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia – 1st offense
• possession of dangerous drugs

Wright, Kelsey L; 27
• drug trafficking
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia – 1st offense
• possession of marijuana
• possession of dangerous drugs

May 20

Amaro, Matthew J; 37
• assault – domestic – simple assault - family

Arnold, Christopher C; 27
• Sex Offense – homosexual act with a boy under 12

Bice, Macy N; 24
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia – 1st offense

Brockman, Shannon W; 44
• assault – domestic – harassment – family
• Probation Violation/possession of dangerous drugs

Casimiro, Heldred E; 42
• FTA - unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia – 1st offense
• FTA – promote prison contraband (drugs)
• FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Cornelius, Brandon S; 35
• FTA – assault – aggravated assault family – other weapon
• FTA – assault – aggravated stalking
• FTA – assault – domestic – simple assault – family
• FTA – burglary – residence – force
• FTA – burglary – residence – force
• FTA – interference with a domestic violence emergency
• FTA – appears in public place under influence (2 counts)
• FTA – Violation of Domestic Protection Order
• FTA – Violation of Domestic Protection Order

Davis, Kayla M; 32
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia – 1st offense
• possession of marijuana
• Family Offense – causing of delinquency, dependency or need of supervision

Dean, John M; 44
• domestic violence – 3rd degree

Edwards, Corey T; 31
• FTA – flight/escape
• FTA – appears in public place under influence

Fairbanks, Jeffrey D; 56
• FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or cancelled

Ferguson, Carolyn D; 54
• methamphetamine – possess

Garner, Tracy A; 40
• FTA - unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia – 1st offense
• FTA – possession of marijuana

Guthery, Trey B; 28
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia – 1st offense
• possession of dangerous drugs

Hood, Rodney D; 61
• Violation of Release Order – burglary – residence - force

Kyle, William J; 35
• Grand Jury – Sex Offense – sexual abuse – 2nd offense – upgraded to felony (2 counts)

McAlpin, John B; 54
• FTA – driving under the influence

McCown, Katelynn M; 28
• Assault – domestic – harassment - family

McDonald, Joshua R; 32
• sell/distribute methamphetamine
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia – 1st offense
• possession of marijuana

McKinney, Raymond M; 34
• FTA – stolen property – receiving stolen vehicle

Pace, Hunter L; 23
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia – 1st offense
• possession of dangerous drugs

Rice, Kenith D; 44
• FTA – assault – domestic – menacing - gun

Richards, James H; 35
• FTA – burglary – non-residence – force (3 counts)
• FTA – stolen property – receiving stolen vehicle

Ryan, Heather E; 48
• larceny/theft - miscellaneous

Sawyer, Thomas Kingsley M; 40
• FTA - unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia – 1st offense
• FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
• FTA – attempting to elude a police officer

Shelton, Savannah R; 29
• FTA – driving while license suspended

Smith, Jeffery W; 33
• FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or cancelled

Stickney, Joshua; 45
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia – 1st offense
• possession of dangerous drugs
• Grand Jury Arrest Warrant - larceny/theft

Stinson, Amy L; 43
• DUIA

Travis, Jason H; 39
• driving under the influence (controlled substances)

Villa, Joseph S; 50
• FTA – driving while license suspended

Wilbanks, Wanda G; 50
• FTA – assault – child abuse – simple – family (2 counts)

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

May 18

• Leaving the scene of an incident; person; Cullman Shopping Center

May 19

• Forgery – 3rd degree; Zero Bullet Company; forged checks

May 20

• Harassment; person; Logan St. SW/Denson Ave. SW
• Criminal trespass – 1st degree; person; Heritage Cir. SE
• Theft of property – 4th degree; Walmart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $69

May 21

• leaving the scene of an incident; person; Dialsdale Dr. SW; damaged mailbox; $200
• duty upon striking unattended vehicle; person; Town Square SW; damage to '18 Buick
• theft of property – 4th degree; Walmart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $34

May 22

• identity theft, fraudulent use of credit/debit card; person; miscellaneous charges
• theft of property – 4th degree; Walmart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $61
• domestic violence – 3rd degree, criminal mischief; person; Northcrest Dr. NW; damage to '18 Nissan; $400
• criminal trespass – 3rd degree; Walmart; Olive St. SW

ARRESTS

May 20

Combs, Bradley R; 38
• unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle
• FTA – fail to register vehicle

Golden, Kate M; 28
• unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle
• unlawful possession/receiving controlled substance
• unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia

Maldonado, Eric J; 37
• disorderly conduct

Phillips, Benjamin T; 37
• unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle

Riggs, Ramona Y; 23
• theft of property – 4th degree (2 counts)
• criminal trespass

Wilkins, Adam C; 35
• harassment

Wilkins, Lisa M; 33
• accountability/accessory

May 21

Bice, Macy N; 24
• criminal trespass – 3rd degree
• theft of property – 4th degree (2 counts)
• FTA – switched tag

Fairbanks, Jeffrey D; 56
• FTA – switched tag
• FTA – insurance violation (4 counts)
• FTA – driving while revoked (4 counts)

May 22

Cofield, Colyn L; 20
• criminal trespass – 3rd degree

McKinney, Raymond M; 34
• FTA - unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia
• FTA – expired tag
• FTA – driving without license
• FTA – improper lane usage

Pena, Maria A; 35
• FTA – theft of property – 4th degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No incidents or arrests reported.

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

COURTS

County DA announces sentencing of convicted rapist Joshua Kane Smith

Jeremy Kline
Office of Cullman Co. DA Wilson Blaylock

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County District Attorney Wilson Blaylock announces that Joshua Kane Smith was sentenced to 40 years in prison by Circuit Judge Gregory Nicholas on May 20, as a result of his rape 1st degree, sex abuse 1st degree and incest plea agreement.

"I would like to thank the minor victim. She showed courage coming forward and disclosing her abuse," said District Attorney Blaylock. "After a late winter meeting, the family wanted to protect the victim from further trauma that trial could bring. The family discussed what they thought an appropriate punishment would be and my office stood by the family's wishes."

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Matthew Kimbrough and Jeremy Cline, and Tracey Smith, pre-trial coordinator, of the District Attorney's Office. The case was investigated by Investigator Intae Suh of the Cullman City Police Department with the assistance of Brook's Place – Child Advocacy Center of Cullman.


CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Joshua Kane Smith

COURTS

Cullman man charged with multiple sexual-related charges involving minors

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Sheriff's Office arrested a man on multiple sex crimes that have been under investigation since the reported incident that happened in March 2022.

Christopher Chad Arnold, 27, of Cullman was arrested on multiple sex offense charges on Thursday, May 19 from the previous incident that occurred in the Fairview area.

He was charged with: Sex Offense-victim under 12-years-old, Sex Offense/sodomy with a girl-domestic violence, Sex Offense/incest with a minor and Sex Offense/homosexual act with a boy under 12-years-old.

Arnold was taken to the Cullman County Detention Center and booked, but was released from the CCDC on May 21.

Visit CullmanTribune.com for updates.


CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Christopher Chad Arnold

Spot (from Front)

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — After holding a soft opening followed by a friends and family day last week, Seven Daughters Scoops, Cullman's newest ice cream shop, held its official first day open on Saturday.

"Today is our first day to open. We did a soft opening on Thursday with first responders and Friday we had a family and friends' day. It turns out we have a lot more friends than we thought. We closed at eight but were here until after 10," shared owner Tammy Hill with a laugh.

She continued, "Seriously, today has been a great day and we're happy to see so many people."

Situated on U.S. Highway 31 in the former Gibbs Garden Center location at 1600 Second Ave. NW, Seven Daughters Scoops has something for everyone.

Kids of all ages were found sitting on the patio immersed in their creamy scoops of ice creams served in cones and cups. Despite the lines, service was smooth, courteous and quick. Soon, customers were relishing in their own heavenly treats.

Flavor staples of ice cream include old fashioned vanilla, chocolate, butter pecan and mint avalanche. Other flavors will be rotated weekly and those include lemon poppyseed, cookie dough, peach, coconut almond bliss and many others. Also available is a sugar-free cashews and caramel, as well as nondairy selections on a rotating basis for customers with specific dietary needs.

Seven Daughters Scoops source their stock from The Chocolate Shoppe in Madison, Wisconsin. The Chocolate Shoppe has been in the business for 60 years and manufactures over 100 award-winning flavors which it supplies to over 400 small ice cream parlors and restaurants.

Seven Daughters Scoops hours are:

- Monday: Closed
- Tuesday – Friday: 2-8 p.m.
- Saturday: Noon – 8 p.m.
- Sunday: 2–6 p.m.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Submit your calendar items or public notices to olivia@cullmantribune.com

"Come to the Well" Community Women's Bible Study
• Tuesday mornings at 10 at the Hebrews Cafe at East Side Baptist Church, 1111 Third St. SE in Cullman
• Please wear a mask/ face covering.

Baileyton Bargain Days
• First and third Saturday of each month from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the old Baileyton fire station next to the town's park
• Beauty and health products, toys, home goods, pet items, food and many everyday items
• A donation of $20 will allow a shopper to fill up a bag, and for $40 a shopper can fill a large box. Some of the items of greater value will require a larger donation. There will be some restrictions and product limits on the items. Cash and checks accepted.
• Proceeds will be used for park improvements and capital improvements for the town.

Alcoholics Anonymous
The Grace of God group of Alcoholics Anonymous has open AA meetings (all are welcome) Monday and Thursday nights from 7-8 p.m. at the Carriage House, located next to Grace Episcopal Church, 305 Arnold St. NE Cullman. Contact phone numbers: 256-347-1097, 256-841-2209 or 256-708-1340

Church Services-Spirit Life Church of GOD
• Spirit Life Church of GOD, 1650 St. Joseph 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.
• Wednesday, May 25, 7 p.m.: Adult, children, and youth Bible Study Classes. Free pizza for children at 6:30 p.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area at 6 p.m. Call 256-841-2060 for pickup.
• Sunday, May 29, 9 a.m.: Van runs in 5 Points Area. Call 256-841-2060 for pickup. Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults at 10 a.m. Adult class by Pam Dodd. 11 a.m. message "Soldier KEEP Marching on!" by Pastor Bobby Dodd.
• Friday and Saturday, June 10-11, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Indoor / Outdoor Yard Sale
• 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.

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 p.m. Contact Jamie Weathersby Smith 256-708-7122 or Don or Nancy McKenzie 256-736-3327 or 256-736-3470 for more information.

St. Bernard Prep Applications Open
St. Bernard Prep is accepting applications for residential and day students in grades 7-11. Think you can't afford it-think again. If your child qualifies academically, scholarships and financial aid are available! Call to schedule an appointment today at 256-739-6682 or visit https://stbernardprep.com/.

Swamp John's Dinner
May 27 – The American Legion of Addison Post 106 will be holding a Swamp John's dinner on Friday, May 27 from 4-7 p.m. at the Addison Community Center. Plates are $12 each. Carry-out only.

Boston Butt Sale
May 27 – The Hanceville Lions Club will hold a Boston Butt sale on Thursday, May 26 and Friday, May 27. Boston Butts will be $35 each and can be picked up at Hanceville Warehouse Grocery. To pre-order, call Bobby Davis at 256-339-2539.

Cullman County Cattlemen and Cattlewomen Sandwich Sale
• May 27-28 – The Cullman County Cattlemen and Cattlewomen will be having their annual sandwich sale Friday, May27 from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Saturday, May 28 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the parking lot of the AMC theater (1950 Market Platz Center SW).
• Drive-thru and walk-up options available. Sandwiches and $10 each. Chips and drinks are available for $1 each. Cash, check, debit and credit accepted.
• To pre-order, contact Edwin Calvert at 256-339-9869 or Jessie Crumbley at 256-709-5077.

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/.

Swamp John's Dinner at St. Andrew's Methodist Church (Rescheduled)
May 31 – St. Andrew's Methodist Church is hosting a Swamp John's dinner Tuesday, May 31 from 4-7 p.m. There will be dine-in and carry-out options (sponsored by Quilter's Retreat Bunch). For more information, contact Sondra at 256-595-4433.

2022 PALS Beautification Award Nomination Application
May 31 - The Cullman County People Against A Littered State is making plans to recognize the efforts of the many businesses that work hard to make the Cullman area a beautiful place for everyone to enjoy. The PALS Committee is currently accepting nominations for the 2022 Beautification Awards. All entries and the $25 fee must be received by 3:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 31, (P.O. Box 1935, Cullman, AL 35056). Please take a moment to nominate your business or a business you believe is worthy of consideration. If you are especially proud of your own landscaping design, don't hesitate to nominate your own business for consideration.

Competition Rules:
1. Anyone may nominate a property worthy of a Beautification Award.
2. All entries must be received by the PALS Committee by 3:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 31.
3. Recipients will be named at the Awards Ceremony on June 23, at Camp Meadowbrook.
4. All scoring will be at the discretion of the PALS Committee. Judging is conducted by a qualified panel of judges from surrounding counties and will be based on Design; Maintenance; General Appearance; Litter Control; and Planting.
5. There shall be no contact between any nominee and judges prior to or during judging.
6. Please note that this award is for landscape judging only, does not apply to building or structural renovations.
7. A $25 nomination fee is required upon entry. Each nominee will receive one complimentary ticket to the Beautification Awards Luncheon on June 23. Send your nomination form and fee to: Cullman County PALS P.O. Box 1935, Cullman, AL 35056 For more information, contact Cherrie Haney at cherriehaney@bellsouth.net or 256-531-4222.

Mt. Zion Yard Sale
June 3-4 – Mt. Zion Methodist Church will have a yard sale on Friday, June 3 from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. and Saturday, June 4 from 8 a.m. – noon. They are located on U.S. Highway 31 N across from the Cullman County Agricultural Center.

"Heartland Has Turned 20" 2022 Quilt Show sponsored by Heartland Quilters of Cullman
July 8-9 – This event will feature beautiful quilts made by Heartland members, vendors, Guild Challenge 2021 display, donation quilt give away (made with turning 20 blocks), drawing at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, door prizes and free mini demonstrations. Friday, July 8 from 1-5 p.m. and Saturday, July 9 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at East Elementary School (608 Fourth Ave. SE, Cullman, AL 35055). Admission is $7 per person.

SCHEDULE
Friday
• 2-3 p.m.: Finishing Your Quilt with Carol McKay
• 3-4 p.m.: Paper Piecing with Porsia Anderson

Saturday
• 10-11 a.m.: Selvages-Not One Left Behind with Sheryl Simpson
• 11 a.m. -noon: Hand Embroidery/Redwork with Geraldine Hendrix
• Noon - 1 p.m.: Making Bags with Cheryl Johnson/ Teresa Rogers
• 1-2 p.m.: Rope Bags with Laurie Osborn
• 2-3 p.m.: Bed Turning with Jennifer Bridges

Contact: Porsia Anderson 256-737-7557, Carol McKoy 256-841-2977, Geraldine Hendrix 256-734-8316 or Hazel Ruehl 256-339-2224. Please join us as we celebrate 20 years of quilting!

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

Monday, May 23, COVID-19 update from the Alabama Department of Public Health's COVID-19 Dashboard Hub (https://bit.ly/3iVJwXK)

ADPH COVID-19 dashboard changes
As of May 19, 2022, the Overall Levels of Community Transmission was removed from the Data and Surveillance Dashboard. We have added two tabs: Community Levels for the public and Community Transmission Levels for healthcare facility use only to the Dashboard Hub: arcg.is/0brSGj.

Case details* (Updated Monday, Wednesday and Friday)
• Positivity in tests in Alabama: 10.3%
• Confirmed cases in Alabama (2020): 387,846
• Confirmed cases in Alabama (2021): 538,485
• Confirmed cases in Alabama (2022): 382,854 (+1,303 since Friday)
• Total confirmed deaths in Alabama (2020): 7,189
• Total confirmed deaths in Alabama (2021): 9,555
• Total confirmed deaths in Alabama (2022) 2,905 (+4 since Friday)
• Positivity in tests in Cullman Co.: 2.1%
• Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co. (2020): 7,567
• Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co. (2021): 9,754
• Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co. (2022): 7,391 (+15 since Friday)
• Deaths in Cullman Co. (2020): 128
• Deaths in Cullman Co. (2021): 188
• Deaths in Cullman Co. (2022): 51 (+0 since Friday)
• Total tested in Cullman Co. in the last 7 days: 995
• Total tested positive in Cullman Co. in the last 7 days: 21
• Total tested in Alabama in the last 7 days: 26,916
• Total positive tests in Alabama in the last 7 days: 2,759
• Currently hospitalized in Alabama: 121

Vaccine details (updated Tuesday and Thursday) No Updates Available
• Doses delivered to Alabama: 9,403,595
• Doses delivered to Alabama providers: 4,825,665
• Doses administered: 5,984,520
• Additional doses administered: 826,685
• Number of people receiving one or more doses: 2,869,660
• Number of people who have completed vaccine series: 2,368,004
• Doses delivered to federal programs: 4,577,930

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

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



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PREP FOOTBALL

Good Hope hosts spring matchup against Priceville

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — Good Hope hosted the Priceville Bulldogs for this year's spring game Friday night and the Raiders mounted a late comeback effort to claim a win but ran out of time before they could climb all the way back and fell to Priceville 21-14.

The varsity squads took the field first to start the game. After forcing a punt to start the game, the Raiders' running game got off to a good start as Kaleb Jones picked up nine yards and a first down. Charlie O'Neil followed that up with 10 yards of his own and another first down.

Later on, Colten Whatley found O'Neil for a 27-yard gain, which put up at the 21. Unfortunately, a few plays later, Whatley threw an interception in the end zone to end the drive.

Priceville went on a long drive that started at the 18-yard line and they found themselves at the 34 after a 12-yard pass, but the Raider defense stiffened and forced a turnover on downs.

A three-and-out to start the second quarter gave the ball right back to Priceville and the Bulldogs found the end zone on just the third play of its series as a 50-yard run gave them a 7-0 lead with 8:55 remaining in the first half. Good Hope was forced to punt once again, but they got the ball right back on the first play as Jed Clements recovered a Bulldog fumble at the 28-yard line.

A huge 12-yard run by O'Neil gave the Raiders a first down at the 18. Jones got the ball on the final three plays of the drive as his nine-yard touchdown run trimmed the deficit to one at 7-6. Neither team found the end zone for the rest of the first half as the Raiders trailed, 7-6, at the half.

The third quarter started out perfectly for Good Hope as Jones picked up 16 on the first play, then O'Neil found a huge hole and added 29 more of his own to quickly put the Raiders at the 25-yard line. But they didn't do much after that as Jones got stuffed on fourth down to force Good Hope to turn the ball over on downs.

The Bulldogs would add to their lead on its first drive of the second half as they found the end zone on a 20-yard run to push their lead to 14-6 with 5:38 left in the third quarter.

Good Hope turned the ball over on downs on its next drive, but Taz Bartlett picked off a Priceville pass on the second play of its series to give the ball back to the Raiders. Huge passes by Whatley to O'Neil (seven and 21 yards) and to Tyler Cone (eight yards) quickly put Good Hope at the 27-yard line. But later on in the drive, a Raider fumble quickly put an end to their drive. The JV squads took the field for the final quarter and the Bulldogs scored on a 15-yard run to make it a 21-6 game with 10:27 remaining in the game.



SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope's Kaleb Jones rushed for 72 yards on 19 carries and a touchdown in the Raiders' 21-14 loss to Priceville.

Later on, Good Hope forced another fumble and recovered it at the 39-yard line. Big runs by Tyler Byrd and Jacob Pitts helped the Raiders move the ball down the field. Back-to-back runs by Byrd and Ayden Black put Good Hope at the 28-yard line. Two plays later, Black found Tucker Keef over the middle. Keef made a great catch in traffic before taking it to the house and Black found Keef for the 2-point conversion to make it a 21-14 contest with 1:16 remaining in the game. However, Priceville was able to run out the remainder of the clock and hold onto a 21-14 win.

Jones carried the ball 19 times for 72 yards and a touchdown. O'Neil added 61 more on seven carries. Whatley finished 9/13 for 93 yards and an interception. Black completed a pair of passes for 37 yards and the touchdown pass to Keef. Clements recovered a fumble while Bartlett finished with an interception for Good Hope.

Good Hope will kick off the 2022 season on the road against West Point on Aug. 19.

PREP FOOTBALL

Addison takes spring game over East Lawrence 25-7

Todd Walker
Tribune Correspondent

ADDISON, Ala. — Addison hosted the 4A East Lawrence Eagles at hot and muggy A.G. Hicks Stadium and as in all Spring Games the rules are a little different. The B-Teams played the first 12-minute quarter and the varsity teams finished out the final three. There were no kicks except extra points. Addison's B-Team came away with a 14-0 win and the Varsity took the final three quarters 25-7 in a tale of two halves.

The B-Team dominated their quarter in every conceivable way. Addison ran 15 plays for 97 yards and put two scores on the board. Addison had a 1-yard TD run and a 27-yard touchdown pass. Both of Addison's extra points were good.

Addison's defense was as good as it gets as they allowed the Junior Eagles -19 yards on 13 plays. That's right, the Young Eagles only had positive yardage on seven of their 13 plays. The future appears bright for the young Bulldogs.

East Lawrence was dominant against the Dawgs as they did literally anything and everything that they wanted too in the second quarter. The Eagles first possession ended with an Eagle TD on a 1-yard run. Addison was forced to punt after three plays and the Eagles took over and started driving again.

After gaining 39 yards on four plays, the Eagle back fumbled the ball, and it went right into the hands of a waiting Bulldog. 70-yards later, Addison was on the board with the scoop and score. The extra point was no good and that put the Dawgs down 7-6. Penalties killed the next promising Eagle drive and the half ended.

The hometown Bulldogs were lucky to be down only one point, as they went without a first down in the quarter.

Coach David Smothers and the rest of the coaching staff deserve credit for a total transformation of their squad at halftime. This was a totally different team that came out in the second half. The offensive line that couldn't block air in the first half, dominated the much larger Eagles. The Running Backs who couldn't gain an inch in the first half, juked, jived and just plain ran over Eagle defenders.

Not to be outdone, the defense turned into the '85 Bears and didn't allow the Eagles any breathing room as they held them to a single first down the final two quarters.

The Bulldogs opened the second half with an old school 13 play, 70-yard TD drive. This put the Dawgs up 12-7 after the 1-yard TD run and missed two-point conversion attempt.

Addison recovered an Eagle fumble at the Eagle 20-yard line and then they punched it in six plays later on another 1-yard run. The extra point was good, and Addison led 19-7.

After forcing another Eagle "punt," Addison scored their final TD on a 2-yard run. The point after was no good and that brought the final score to 25-7.

Addison ran 44 plays for 177 total yards. Doesn't sound like much until you factor in that they had nine plays for (-10 yards) in the first half.



LEXIE LUKER

Addison won its spring matchup against East Lawrence 25-7 Friday night.

East Lawrence had 27 plays for 188 total yards, but that included a 53-yard run and a 52-yard run.

Coach Smothers said after the game, "We were very sloppy, very sloppy in the first half. We tightened things up at the half and made a few adjustments to our blocking scheme. Very proud of our kids on how resilient they were about not getting down on themselves about how we played in the first half. We have a lot of things to clean up, but I am sure the kids will work hard over the summer and come out ready to play ball this fall."

On the QB situation, "I feel really good. We have a great situation with three kids that can play there. Two of them didn't even play with us last year. Feel really comfortable with all three and I am sure that one of them will step up and take control by the end of fall camp."

Auburn's DiChiara tabbed Dick Howser Trophy finalist

George Nunnelley
AU Athletics

DALLAS, Texas – Senior first baseman Sonny DiChiara has been named a semifinalist for the 2022 Dick Howser Trophy, the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association announced this week.

DiChiara is one of 39 semifinalists for the award, including 10 from the Southeastern Conference. He becomes Auburn's fourth semifinalist for the award, joining Hunter Morris (2010), Casey Mize (2018) and Ryan Bliss (2021).

This is the 35th year of the Dick Howser Trophy. The finalists for the award will be announced on Thursday, June 9. The award will be presented at Charles Schwab Field in downtown Omaha on MLB Network on Friday, June 17, in the 9 a.m. CT hour, before a press conference with the winner will be held at 10 a.m., the opening day just prior to the first game of the College World Series.

The Dick Howser Trophy is regarded by many as college baseball's most prestigious award. Criteria for consideration of the trophy include performance on the field, leadership, moral character and courage, qualities that were exemplified by Dick Howser's life.

DiChiara leads the SEC in on-base percentage (.561) and slugging percentage (.782) and ranks second in the league in batting average (.382). He also leads the conference in on-base percentage (.544) in league play.

A native of Hoover, Alabama, DiChiara's 17 homers this season match Edouard Julien's total from 2018 for the most by an Auburn player since 2010. He has drawn 62 walks this season, the second most in the country and in the team's single-season history.

DiChiara and the Tigers (37-18, 16-13 SEC) begin their postseason push at the SEC Tournament, set to take on Kentucky (30-24 12-18 SEC) Tuesday night in Hoover.



MATTHEW SHANNON/AU ATHLETICS

Auburn first baseman Sonny DiChiara.



CULLMAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2022

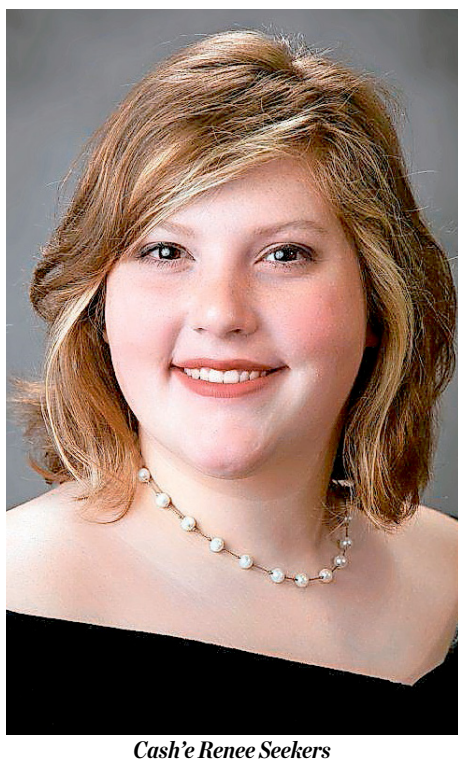
Graduation will be at Christ Covenant Presbyterian Church at 7 p.m., on Thursday, May 26.

Cullman Christian School Graduates of 2022,

"What a Senior Class! It has been a blessing to watch our Lord work in each of your lives the past several years. You have made Cullman Christian School stronger by your work ethic and strive for excellence. The teachers have instilled in you a rigorous academic curriculum and life skills that will help you as you start to write the next chapter of your journey on this earth. I pray that you will always look to our Savior Jesus Christ and follow God's will for your life. May your choices and decisions be made with discernment with much prayer and guidance from the Holy Spirit. Immerse yourself in God's word daily and seek counsel from Godly men and women. I am so proud of each of you and look forward to you living out Colossians 3:23 'Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.'"

Blessings, Dr. Lance Boyd, Interim Headmaster, Cullman Christian School

PHOTOS: SPOILED ROTTEN PHOTOGRAPHY



Cash'e Renee Seekers



James Todd Clemons II



Jaya Devi Bahadursingh



Jayla Marie Cumberland



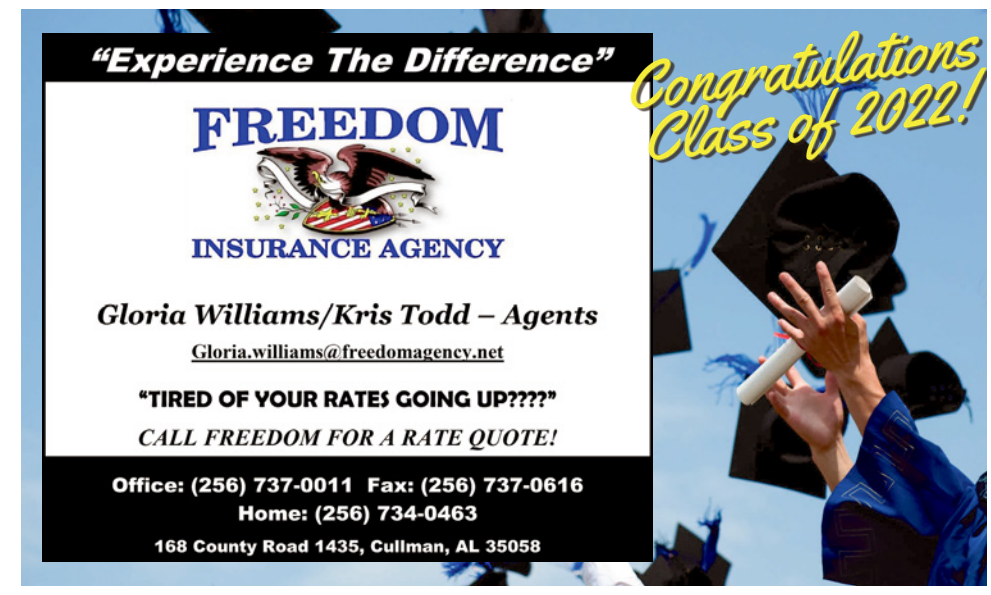


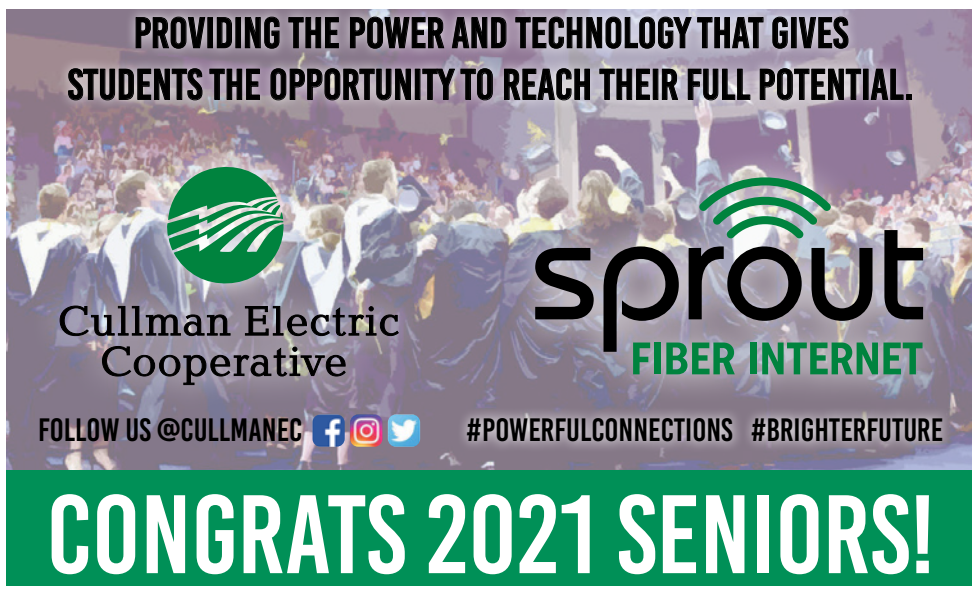
Kyleigh Ann Potter



McKenzie Marie Jones













Attack (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — A Jones Chapel woman died Sunday morning around 2:30 a.m. after being attacked by two dogs according to Cullman County Coroner Jeremy Kilpatrick.

Ronda Persall, 57, of Jones Chapel was declared deceased from a dog attack by Kilpatrick when he arrived at the scene. Kilpatrick said the dog attack occurred outside of her home by two local dogs known to her, but she was pronounced deceased at a different location from the initial attack.

"With heavy hearts, the Cullman County Commission and Animal Control staff must report that a Cullman County citizen, Ronda Persall, lost her life in an unfortunate attack by multiple dogs on the dog owner's property," a release from the Cullman County Commission said. "The dogs involved in the incident are confined and being tested during this ongoing investigation. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family during this difficult time."

A current update on the state of the two dogs involved was not available. Visit CullmanTribune.com for updates.

Brannon (from Front)

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — After 30 years of teaching, Good Hope Elementary's Stacy Brannon has made the decision to retire. It was one of the hardest decisions that she's ever had to make, but she decided that it was time to call it a career.

Having educators in her family, plus working at a church, really helped Stacy get her foot in the door to become a teacher.

"My older sister was a teacher and eventually, a principal, and her husband was the same thing, so I had educators in my family," Brannon said. "I started when I got out of college doing church work actually. I worked in a large church in Auburn with a Christian education at the church. Several things happened and I felt like it was time for me to start my teaching career. I had it in my family, and I knew about it, so that's how it got started and how I decided that's what the Lord wanted me to do. I started teaching at Good Hope in 1992 in the fall and I taught kindergarten for two years, then they needed a unit to move and a teacher to move. I hadn't been here very long, so they always move the ones that hadn't been here very long. They moved me to third grade, and I was there for 19 years. Then I had the opportunity to start being the ESL teacher and I did that for the last nine years. Even though I've had to travel some, Good Hope is still my home school."

There was a lot that Brannon learned when she first became a teacher, and she had a lot of help during her journey.

"Luckily, I did have people in my life that I can ask for advice and all of that," Brannon said. "When I first started in kindergarten, I met a wonderful girl and she and I had a lot in common. We weren't married yet and she always helped. When you first start, you learn that you don't know near as much as you thought you did. And there's a lot of things that they don't teach you in your college classes, you know, just the little things every day, having a group of kids all day long. You learn very quickly; you've got to either sink or swim as far as discipline is concerned. I've just had so many teachers, mentors in my life, especially at that time, that I can go to, and I can ask, 'How do you do this?' and 'How do you do that?' Thankfully, I had an open spirit about that. I wanted them to tell me. I wanted them to share with me because not everybody is like that. A lot of people would much rather find out for themselves. You learn the hard way on some things. You have to find your niche and your way of doing things. I've had so many teachers that were already here, plus my sister, that I can just go to and vent or share the celebrations and the great things."

Brannon had a lot of students in her three decades of teaching, and she's made a lot of lasting relationships along the way.

"Over these 30 years, I've watched other people retire or they'd have to move," Brannon said. "I always think, wow. I love what I'm doing, but that must be so exciting, moving into your retirement and all of that. It is, trust me. I'm very excited about it, but it's weird and strange because you look back on all of the students and some of them stand out in your mind and you remember so fondly. Some of the students, I've gotten to know their parents and stayed friends with their parents, which has been wonderful.

"Some of the kids that I've taught; one is teaching kindergarten over at the primary school and another one is teaching at the high school here. I've connected with some on Facebook, and I love that. I love seeing that they're married now, and they have children. I think that's awesome and wonderful. I'm so grateful. It makes me cry, but I'm just so grateful. I'm grateful that God put all of those kids in my life and their families. Trust me, the great experiences and the relationships that you form outweigh all of those aggravating ones. You take away all of this overwhelming gratitude. Every year, you just pray that you can be what those students need that year. Academics was always secondary to me, kind of, because I wanted them to feel secure, loved and protected. I wanted them to further learn on how to get along with others, how to have good character and morals, and all of those things. You just keep praying that God uses you, just continues to use you."

Brannon is happy with her decision and after discussing it with her family, she knew it was the right time for her to step away.

"It really wasn't. You always have to consider the financial end of it," Brannon said. "In education, a lot of people try to get to that 25-year mark because that's what most everyone says you can start retiring after 25 years. I was five years younger. I was in my early 50s and just thought that retirement's better after 30 years because I get a little bit more. My husband and I really talked about it, and I prayed about it a lot. I really thought that 30 years was my thing. For several years, in my mind, I thought that's my goal. Sometimes, you just kind of know, yep, that's it. God has sent several confirmations to me, 'Yep, Stacy, this is it. This is wonderful, but I've got more things in store for you.' Thirty years is a good amount. No, it wasn't hard for me to make the decision at all because I kind of decided along the way, but education has changed a lot. So, it's time."

Brannon will miss a lot about her time as a teacher, especially the relationships she formed and the kids she helped educate.

"The interesting thing about being an ESL teacher is I don't have to give up the students every year like I did in the classroom," Brannon said. "You give up your kids. You have them for nine months, then you give them to the next teacher. In ESL, because I work with all of the students, I actually still have them next year and again next year unless they test out. That's a blessing. I'll miss the children, of course. I'll miss those sweet children and I'll miss the adult friendships that I have here. What I'll miss the most is the relationships. I'll miss the children. I've done this for nine years, so some of these children, I've literally had them for nine years. I've known them since they started in kindergarten and now, they're way up in middle school and high school. I've known them that long. I'll definitely miss the relationships."

Brannon shared some advice to those that are wanting to get into teaching themselves.

"First of all, my advice would be to only do it if you feel like you're called to do it," Brannon said. "It's not a job that you want to be in just because you think you're going to get to go home at three every day, because you don't. You don't want to get the job just because you want a couple of months off in the summer because you don't always get that either. Don't do it unless you feel like you're called, that this is what you're supposed to do, that this is what you're supposed to help contribute to in this society. My second bit of advice probably would be, go into it with a humble spirit. I was blessed to have a lot of people that mentored me and helped me, and my advice would be, let them. Don't go into it thinking you know it all because you had just gotten out of college and these people went to college 20 years ago.

"Have a humble spirit and an open spirit for people that even though it's been a while since they've been in college, they've got the experience and have done it more than you have. Be open to their suggestions, their advice and learn. Don't ever stop learning because we all want to be life-long learners and sometimes, I'm not really talking about academics as much as I'm talking about how to be in life and how to live your best life. Be open to learn from the people that've been here before you."

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LEGALS

Legal Notice

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

1999 Mazda SE, Vin. #4F4YR16C3XTM12607.
1999 Ford Taurus, Vin. #1FAFP58U6XA304986.
2007 Buick Rendezvous, Vin. #3G5DA03L77S574481.
2005 Dodge Neon, Vin.#1B3ES56C35D201309.

If not claimed, these vehicles will be sold for towing, repair and work done. Sale date is Thursday, June 30, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. Call Vance Johnson at 256-339-5752.

PB MIN BK 206 PG 592 - 05/06/2022 04:10 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF PEGGY ANN WALKER, Deceased. * CASE NO.: PC2022-115

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration with Will Annexed having been granted to DALONDA SMITH REPASS, as Personal Representative of the Estate of PEGGY ANN WALKER, deceased, on the 6th day of May, 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.

Dalonda Smith Repass
Personal Representative

J. Bradley Wilson
BAGGETT & WILSON, LLC
Attorney for Petitioner
206 Ninth Street Southwest, Suite 102
Cullman, Al 35055
256-737-0740

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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ALABAMA

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

201 2nd Avenue NE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

256.775.7203
www.CullmanAl.gov

City of Cullman
Planning Commission

On Monday, June 6, 2022, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M, at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Planning Commission, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Rezoning request on 3rd Avenue SE between 4th Street SE & 5th Street SE - Klein Building
2. Short form subdivision – Cullman Primary School
3. Short form subdivision – 413 2nd Avenue SE – two lots
4. Short form subdivision – Cullman Industrial Park – Industrial Drive SW & Cherokee Ave. SW
5. Short form subdivision – Highway 278 East – combine and adjust property lines

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

HEALTH

ADPH observes Healthy and Safe Swimming Week 2022

ADPH
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — The Alabama Department of Public Health is participating in the annual Healthy and Safe Swimming Week, May 23-29, an initiative of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The goal of this week is to maximize the health benefits of swimming by promoting healthy and safe water activities. Each of us plays a role in preventing illnesses and injuries linked to the water we share and swim in this summer and year-round. This year's theme is "Make a Healthy Splash—Stay Healthy and Safe in Splash Pads."

Germs in the water can make people sick if they swallow just a mouthful of contaminated water.

Splash pads are usually designed so that standing water does not collect in the water play area to reduce the risk of drowning. When kids and adults play in splash pads, germs, poop, pee and dirt can rinse off their bodies and shoes.

Splash pads can spread germs and make users sick if the water is not adequately disinfected.

Although most germs are killed within minutes by chlorine or bromine at the recommended levels, the germ Cryptosporidium (or Crypto) can survive in properly treated water for more than seven days.

Take the following steps every time you enjoy the water to keep yourself and others safe from germs.

DOs

• DO stay out of the water if you are sick with diarrhea.

• DO shower before getting in the water. When chlorine mixes with dirt, sweat, pee and poop, there is less chlorine available to kill germs.

• DO take kids on bathroom breaks or check diapers every hour. Change diapers away from the water to keep germs from getting in.

• DO dry ears thoroughly with a towel when you get out of the water.

DON'Ts

• DON'T swallow the water.

• DON'T poop or pee in the water.

• DON'T sit or stand on the jets at splash pads. Sitting or standing on jets can rinse poop off butts.

For more information on Healthy and Safe Swimming Week, visit the https://www.cdc.gov/ or for general healthy swimming guidelines, visit: https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/swimming/.

Berlin (from Front)

drinks to all in addition to preparing the meals. With its location just down the road, 278 Rock Grocery gave away free pizza.

The Link of Cullman County and Victim Services, two Cullman nonprofits, were set up to educate shoppers on their available services.

Venders from Morgan County also made an appearance at the market as did the Berlin Volunteer Fire Department showcasing a new firetruck.

Berlin Mayor Patrick Bates shared how opening day evolved into a larger event.

"We were originally planning to have a regular opening day.

"Then, NARCOG contacted us and, through their partnership with the Decatur-Morgan County Entrepreneurial Center, they joined us today.

"Over a period of about three weeks, it just quickly grew into this. We're excited and are now thinking about what we're going to do in future years for our opening day."

The Power of Produce program will be on hand each Saturday, providing children under 13 each with $3 in POP bucks to spend on fresh produce at the market.

The POP program encourages children to enjoy fresh, nutritious produce.

The Berlin Farmers Market is open every Saturday from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. through Oct. 29. It is located at 50 Mt. Carmel Drive, right off U.S. Highway 278.

Court (from Front)

Chris Van Dyke shared this statement:

Over the past decade, courts across the country have expanded the use of therapeutic or treatment court programs.

Cullman County currently operates Drug Court and Veterans Court programs.

These innovative efforts seek to address issues involving underlying substance abuse, mental health or other conditions which otherwise have jail or prison as the punishment.

Mental health courts are emerging as an alternative to the costly warehousing and ineffectiveness of incarcerating individuals suffering from mental illness.

These reforms recognize that individuals suffering from mental illness are overrepresented in prison populations.

According to the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) two in five incarcerated persons have a history of mental illness.

Mental health court participants are individuals who suffer from serious mental illnesses, such as schizophrenia, bi-polar and major depression, and consequently, become entangled in our criminal justice system.

This is a new option in Cullman County for people with current criminal charges, separate from our equally important civil commitment process administered by the local probate court for individuals not charged with a crime.

Individuals with non-violent criminal charges can apply to mental health court through their attorney or the District Attorney's office.

Those accepted into the program will plead guilty to their charges but receive a suspended sentence as long as they are following the treatment recommendations of mental health professionals and the requirements of the court.

At the end of an agreed upon period of time, if the participant remains in good standing, the charges will be dismissed.

Services will be provided through WellStone to Mental Health Court participants regardless of ability to pay, supported by funding from the Alabama Department of Mental Health and a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Applications are now available through the Cullman County District Attorney.

WellStone Inc. is a non-profit community organization that provides mental health and substance abuse services supporting the integrated health of the whole person. WellStone operates 12 facilities throughout North Alabama. WellStone is certified through the Alabama Department of Mental Health to offer programs for children, adolescents, adults, substance abuse, school-based outreach, community services and more. For more information, visit http://www.wellstone.com.

Chris Van Dyke contributed to this article.

Obituary Announcements: May 21-23

Conrad Louis King, 86, of Hartselle
Conrad Louis King, age 86, of Hartselle, passed away Sunday, May 22, at his residence. He was born Dec. 18, 1935, in Flipping, Arkansas, to Gaston and Goldie King. He was preceded in death by his wife: Geraldine King; parents; sisters: Dorothy Miller and Nell Bailey and brothers: Tom "Slim" King, Max King, Dewitt King, Leonard King, Wayne "Dutch" King and Martin King. Survivors include his sons: Charlie (Lisa) King and Edward (Rebecca) King; grandchildren: Emily Brooke King, Blake (Rebecca) King, Kaylon (Mark) Jamieson and Hunter King; five great-grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends. A joint memorial service for Conrad and Geraldine King will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 28, at Pine Grove Church (5721 County Road 221, Moulton, AL 35650). Visitation will be from 10-11 a.m. prior to the service.

Kathy Cagle Mitchell Duskin, 67, of Vinemont
Kathy Cagle Mitchell Duskin, 67, of Vinemont, Alabama, passed away at her home, on Sunday morning, May 22, after a long battle with pancreatic cancer. Kathy was born in Cullman County on Sept. 11, 1954, to Doyle and Ola Mae Crocker Cagle. Mrs. Duskin was a hard worker. She most recently worked, over 13 years, in the assembly department of a local automotive distributor. She enjoyed cooking and traveling. Kathy had a very loving heart. Her love for people was evident in the kindness she showed to everyone she met. She also loved her family and enjoyed her children and grandchildren immensely. Kathy and her loving husband, J.D., were members of Bethel Baptist Church, where they enjoyed worshiping with friends and neighbors. Mrs. Duskin's life impacted many people, and her kindness and love will be missed by many. Mrs. Duskin is preceded in death by her parents; brother: Kenneth Cagle and sister: Lola Mae Peak. She is survived by her husband of over 20 years: J.D. Duskin; sons: Christopher Mitchell (Brandy) and Timothy Mitchell (Brittany); daughters: Paula Hallbauer (Steve) and Regina Krapf (Steve); grandchildren: Brody Mitchell, Lexi Jacobs, Ashton Mitchell, Olivia Thomas, Cameron Baber, Camden Humanes, Cara Humanes, Noah Hallbauer, Brantley Jacobs, Decland Hallbauer, Landon Mitchell, Brielle Mitchell, Clayton Prince, Steve Krapf, Jr., Ricky Humanes (Adele) and Parker Peterson; sisters: Lora Brown and Ella Gail Quattlebaum (Tim) and sister-in-law: Paulette Denney. Funeral services for Mrs. Duskin are 1 p.m., Wednesday, May 25, in the Holly Pond Funeral Home Chapel, Bro. Tommy Blackwood officiating. Burial will follow services in Zion Grove Cemetery. Friends are invited to visit with the family, at the funeral home, on Wednesday, May 25, from 11 a.m., until services begin at 1 p.m. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in Kathy's memory to the American Cancer Society/ Pancreatic Cancer Research Department to help continue the fight for a cure. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Duskin family.

Thomas William Fayette, 82, of Hanceville
A memorial service for Thomas William Fayette of Hanceville, Alabama will be 6 p.m. Monday, May 23, at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Hanceville. Fr. Jose will be officiating. Mr. Fayette was born March 2, 1940, in Nashville, Tennessee. He died at the age of 82 on May 19, at his residence in Hanceville.

Robert Ray Trussell, 79, of Winston County
Robert Ray Trussell, 79 of Winston County, passed away May 20, at his residence. He was born Feb. 12, 1943. A visitation will be held Wednesday, May 25, from noon – 1 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Homes in Addison. Graveside Service will be held on Wednesday, May 25, at 1:30 p.m. at Arley Congregational Christian Church Cemetery. Robert is survived by his brothers and sisters: Raymond Trussell, Gleen Trussell, Lee Trussell, Johnny Trussell and Voiolen Kelley and special niece: Tammy Watkins. He was preceded in death by his parents: George and Leler Trussell and brothers and sisters: Christine Anders, Willodean Smith, Cecil Trussell, Paul Trussell, Cleborn Trussell and Thurman David Trussell.

Chester Fallin Jr., 61, of Hanceville
Chester Fallin Jr., age 61, of Hanceville, passed away May 16, at his home. He was born in Chicago, Illinois on Feb. 12, 1961, to Chester and Dorothy Cooper Fallin. He loved to run the flea markets, work on small engines; he never met a stranger and always knew how to make people laugh. He always was there to help the one in need and would even give the shirt off his back if they needed it. Chester is preceded in death by his parents: Chester and Dorothy Fallin and brother: Larry Fallin. He is survived by his wife of 17 years: Carolyn Fallin; children: Vanessa Meyer, Natasha Carter, Melissa Haus, Nathaniel Fallin, Matthew Haus, Jeff Haus, Terry Haus, Randy Haus, Andrew Haus and Tanner Haus; 16 grandchildren and siblings: Pamela Blackmon, Danny Fallin and Ernie Fallin. Funeral services will be held Tuesday, May 24, at 2 p.m. from the Chapel of Hanceville Funeral Home with Reverend Lavern Crawford officiating. Burial will be in the Duck River Cemetery. The family will receive friends on Monday evening from 4:30-8 p.m. at the funeral home. Serving and pallbearers will be Nat Fallin, Mat Haus, Randy Haus, Andrew Haus, Kelly Paul and Gary Carter. Honorary pallbearers will be Ernie Fallin, Don Ritter, Terry Haus and Tanner Haus. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Fallin Family.

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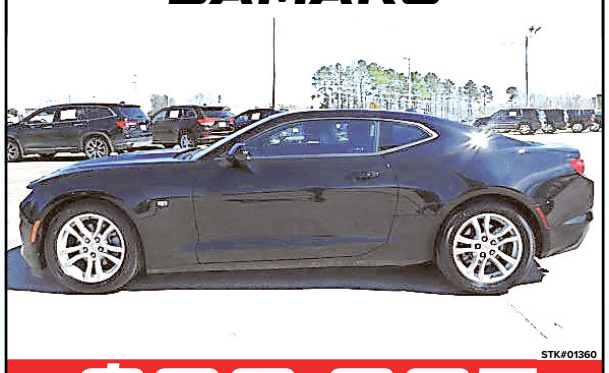
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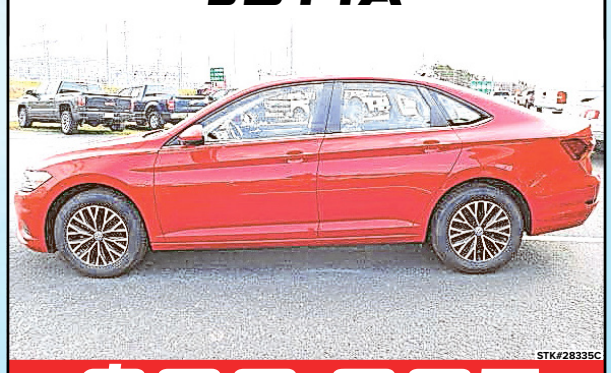
STK#14266B
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2014 FORD F-150

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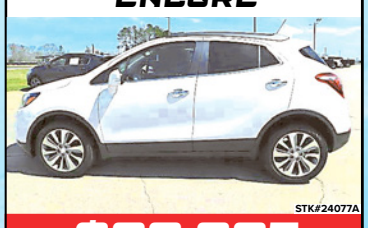
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