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

The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

VOL. 149 • 50¢ PER COPY | THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2022 | USPS 139-700 • NO. 141



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OBITUARIES
Linda Ruth Anglin McMahan, Ricky Marshall Aderholt, Jerry Wayne Thrasher, Laura James Bownes, Sandra Kay Barnett, James Larry Dingler, Jr.
» PAGE 6

WEATHER
66 50
SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
MOSTLY CLOUDY

Arrests and Incidents
» PAGE 2

Community Calendar
» PAGE 3


NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

West Point falls to Cordova at Holly Pond Thanksgiving Tournament, Broncos, Knights collect wins
» PAGE 4

7 93888 98541 4

LED lights installed at West Point ballpark

Sara Gladney
sara@cullmantribune.com

WEST POINT, Ala. — The West Point Town Council at its meeting Monday night heard from Tim Garner and Muntingh Hamman with LED Capital International, the company that supplied LED lights for the town's ballpark.

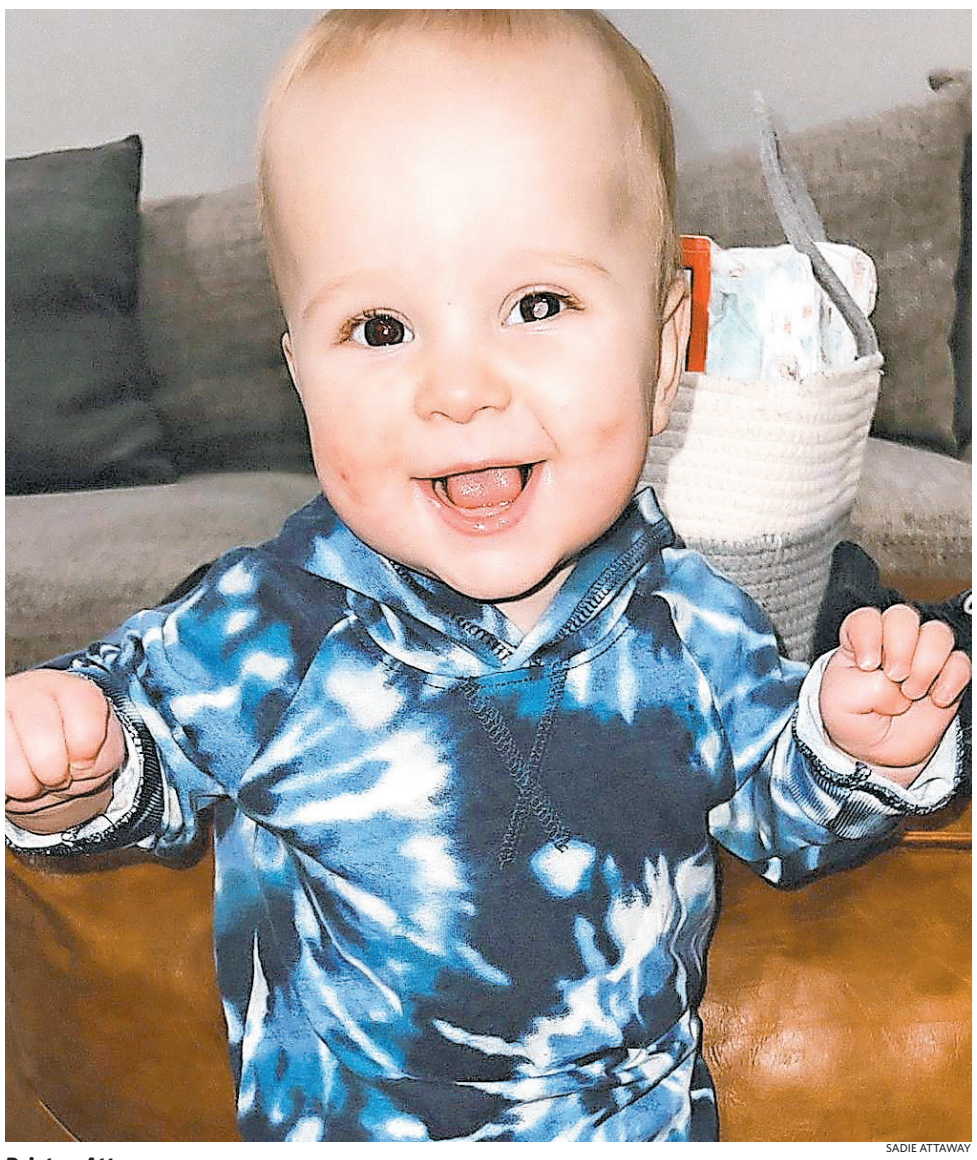
Garner said, "I appreciate the opportunity to put these lights up for you because my kid is going to be coming through this ballpark, and I won't speak for anybody else, but y'all have got kids and grandkids in this area and they'll get to be a part of this."

The lights, originally proposed in April, have been fully installed at each ball field.

They are significantly brighter than the previous lights and have a 10-year warranty with no maintenance cost. LED Capital » PAGE 5


TIM GARNER
The West Point ballpark after the installation of LED lights.

Cullman family copes with baby's cancer diagnosis


SADIE ATTAWAY
Brixton Attaway

Sara Gladney
sara@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Parents Sadie and Derrick Attaway of Cullman recently experienced a serious health scare when one of their twins, 11-month-old Brixton Attaway, was diagnosed with group C retinoblastoma in October.

A few months ago, before an appointment with their pediatrician, Sadie Attaway took a picture of him with the flash on her phone turned on. She noticed a white glare in his left eye which at first, she said, she thought was simply from the flash. She mentioned the glare to her pediatrician who recommended visiting an eye doctor.

"We went on a Friday and after being seen, our doctor immediately referred us to a specialist. She told us the high chance of it being retinoblastoma, so we knew before the official diagnosis, that was a big possibility. Our appointment with the specialist wasn't until Thursday, so for almost a week we were scared but trying our best to stay positive and pray, pray, pray," she said. "I added myself to some Facebook groups and started doing a lot of research. It was actually pretty terrifying the sto- » PAGE 8

Holly Pond Nutrition robbery suspect still on the run


CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Holly Pond Nutrition robbery suspect » PAGE 2

Christmas pyramid lighting this Friday


CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO
Cullman's Christmas pyramid » PAGE 5

Ashley Wilson named 2023 City Family of the Year » PAGE 8

Cullman Library: Free services and book sale » PAGE 2

Christmas at the Grotto returns Nov. 25 » PAGE 8

– PET OF THE WEEK –

Trixie Darling


CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER
Trixie Darling » PAGE 5

RAKE IN THE SAVINGS WITH BILL'S DEALS!
Bill Smith
BUICK GMC
ALABAMA'S LARGEST BUICK GMC DEALERSHIP
*Notates all rebates applied, must have 2005 or newer qualifying trade in. Prices are plus tax, title, & fee. Colors may vary.
WAS $66,615
NOW
$51,995*
NEW 2023 BUICK ENCLAVE
STK#113441
PREMIUM FWD
BILLSMITHBUICKGMC.COM • 1940 SECOND AVE NW • CULLMAN, AL 35055 • 256-734-4472

© 2022 THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Nov. 22-23

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported November 22-23, 2022. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No arrests or incidents reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Nov. 17

• unlawful breaking and entering motor vehicle; 4th St. S.W; catalytic converter; $500

Nov. 21

• burglary-3rd degree; Warnke Rd. N.W; miscellaneous items

• theft of property-2nd degree; Brunner St. N.W; firearm

• domestic violence-3rd degree; Veigl Village Ct. SW

• unlawful breaking and entering motor vehicle; Commerce Ave. NW

Nov. 22

• domestic violence-3rd degree; Veigl Village Ct. SW

• unlawful breaking and enter motor vehicle; 3rd Ave. SE; checks and medication

• theft of property-4th degree; Walmart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $260

• theft of property-4th degree; Belk; Cullman Shopping Center; general merchandise; $214

ARRESTS

Nov. 21

Bailey, Johnny L; 54

• FTA-driving while license revoked

• FTA-insurance violation

• FTA-switched tag (2 counts)

• FTA-driving without license

Davis, Brianna B; 25

• theft of property-4th degree

Elliott, Sonya M; 38

• FTA-leaving the scene of an accident

• FTA-driving while license revoked (2 counts)

• FTA-insurance violation

• FTA-running red light

Lay, Zackary J; 34

• unlawful possession of marijuana-2nd degree

• possession of drug paraphernalia

McIntyre, Bryan D; 38

• FTA-theft of property-4th degree

• FTA-receiving stolen property-4th degree

• FTA-criminal trespassing-3rd degree

• FTA-expired tag

• FTA-driving while license revoked

• FTA-insurance violation

• FTA-failure to register vehicle

Pride, Jon E; 25

• attempting to elude law enforcement

• obstructing governmental operations

• unlawful possession/receiving controlled substances

Wolford, Ayla E; 29

• FTA-theft of property-4th degree

Nov. 22

Pride, Jon E; 25

• domestic violence-3rd degree (2 counts)

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

CRIME

CCSO arrest roundup

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) made multiple arrests over the last several days, including:

SATURDAY, NOV. 19

Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the Dodge City area.

Rhyan Rnell Hall, 28, of Hanceville, was located inside the vehicle.

Hall was arrested on multiple warrants, including receiving stolen property (failure to appear), traffic violation (failure to appear), unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia (failure to appear) and child abuse (warrant).

Deputies witnessed a female in the Good Hope area who appeared to be under the influence.

The female got into a vehicle and left before deputies could make contact. A traffic stop was conducted on the vehicle.

The female was identified as Taylor Nicole Johns, 24, of Cullman.

It was determined that Johns was under the influence.

She was arrested and transported to the Cullman County Detention Center. Once there, a search of her person allegedly yielded narcotics.

Johns was charged with public intoxication, unlawful possession of dangerous drugs and promoting prison contraband.

Deputies arrested Cody Wade Pate, 36, of Cullman, on multiple outstanding warrants, including receiving stolen property (probation revocation), illegal possession of a credit card (probation revocation), unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle (probation revocation), public intoxication (failure to appear), and six counts of negotiating a worthless negotiable instrument (failure to appear).

Deputies arrested Jeremy Dewayne Wilbanks, 37, of Hanceville, on failure to appear warrants for kidnapping and domestic menacing.

These warrants stemmed from incidents that occurred in 2021.

SUNDAY, NOV. 20

Deputies arrested Michael Wade Box, 24, of Falkville, on a failure to appear warrant for unlawful possession of methamphetamine.

Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the Dodge City area.



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Top row, left to right, are Rhyan Rnell Hall, Taylor Nicole Johns and Cody Wade Pate; bottom row, left to right, are Jeremy Dewayne Wilbanks, Michael Wade Box and Michael Joseph Gardner.

Deputies identified Michael Joseph Gardner, 44, of Cullman, as the passenger inside the vehicle.

A subsequent search of the vehicle allegedly yielded narcotics and paraphernalia.

The items in question allegedly belonged to Gardner.

He was charged with unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia and unlawful possession of methamphetamine.

Suspect (from Front)

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. — On Monday, Nov. 22, at approximately 1:45 p.m. a man entered Holly Pond Nutrition on Brooklyn Road with a firearm, demanded money, took the money and left.

The suspect was wearing a camouflage mask and hat and was noted to have a tattoo on the right side of his neck.

Video footage of the suspect was obtained from the cameras at S&S Foods.

Later that evening at approximately 8:30 p.m. Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) Director of Communications Lt. Chad Whaley announced that a person of interest in the robbery was in custody.

After an investigation, however, the CCSO determined the subject was not the perpetrator of the robbery. He was arrested on unrelated warrants.

The CCSO is continuing to follow up on leads.

If anyone has any information regarding the robbery, please contact Lt. Jared Aaron at 256-735-2752.

The CCSO can be reached after hours or on the weekends at 256-734-0342.

Sale (from Front)

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Public Library System offers several free services to the community and will also host an upcoming book sale for readers young and older.

• Homework Alabama is a free online service that provides tutoring, homework help and test prep with real-time tutors. The service also offers drop-off reviews for math work, essays and theses. Over 60 subjects are available for students from kindergarten to college.

• ABCMouse.com is a subscription-based early learning academic program that provides digital education for children ages 2-8. Library card holders can access free learning activities by visiting www.ABCMouse.com or on its mobile app.

• The Huge, Gigantic, Very Big Book Sale will be held Saturday, Dec. 10, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the main library branch downtown. All books will be 50 cents each.

Library cards are free to those who live, work or attend school in the city of Cullman or Cullman County. In addition to the above programs, library cards give access to print books, movies, e-books, Wi-Fi hotspots, audiobooks, pickleball sets, disc golf sets and more. Photo identification and proof of residency are required for a library card.

More information is available at www.ccpls.com or at your local branch.

Branches in the system include:

Colony-Tom Bevill Library
151 Byars Road
Hanceville, AL 35077
256-287-1573

Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday 9 a.m.-noon

Cullman Library
200 Clark St. NE
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-2720

Hours: Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Garden City Library
501 First Ave. S
Garden City, AL 35070
256-352-4552

Hours: Monday-Thursday noon-5 p.m.

Hanceville Library
200 Commercial St. SE
Hanceville, AL 35077
256-352-0685

Hours: Tuesday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (closed from noon-1 p.m.), Saturday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Holly Pond-Guy Hunt Library
60 Lions Park Road
Holly Pond, AL 35083
256-796-5226

Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday and Friday 1-5 p.m.

CLASSIFIEDS

SERVICES

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

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

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

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

EDUCATION

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

HEALTH/BEAUTY

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

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

FOR SALE

DIRECTV SATELLITE TV SERVICE Starting at $59.99/month! Free Installation! 160+ channels available. Call Now to Get the Most Sports & Entertainment on TV! 844-594-7108.

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

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

ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING FOREVER! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-833-683-2005.

GENERAC Standby Generators provide backup power during utility power outages, so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-year extended warranty ($695 value!). Request a free quote today! Call for additional terms and conditions. 1-877-323-5516.

AUTOMOTIVE

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

AUTO INSURANCE from $29 month Free 2-minute Quote! We Compare all Insurance providers offers for you! Lowest Rates! Call Now 866-450-0943.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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) Mondays and Thursdays 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.
• 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 registration through Nov. 15 online only! Go to https://forms.gle/QmTtTVBUiTxTPZdZ9 or the Kids Loving Kids Facebook page and click on the registration form. NO late registrations can be accepted.
• Kids Loving Kids Birthday Blessings serves children ages 1-18 in need of assistance to celebrate their birthdays. 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.
• Sunday, Nov. 27 - 8-9 a.m. Prayer Group - Join Kevin and Pastor Bobby Sunday to pray for our church, nation and for those who need salvation and deliverance.
• Sunday, Nov. 27 - 9 a.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area. Call 256-841-2060 for pickup. Breakfast 9:30 a.m. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults 10 a.m. Adult class. 11 a.m. message by Pastor Bobby Dodd.

Alcoholics Anonymous
Sundays, 3 p.m. at Cullman First Church of the Nazarene, 5415 Alabama Highway 157. CLOSED literature study. Handicap accessible.

TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) Meetings
Fridays, 9:30-11 a.m., at Cullman Housing Authority Community Center (1545 Vine Circle SW, Cullman, AL 35055). The 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.

Master's Hand Food Pantry at The Link
• 708 Ninth St. SE, Cullman, AL 35055
• Tuesday and Thursday 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
• Closed for lunch noon-1 p.m.

Monthly Weight Loss Support Group
• WHAT: Cullman Regional's Bariatric Center of Excellence is now offering a monthly support group for individuals who have had or who are considering weight loss surgery.
• WHEN: Dec. 22, 6-7 p.m.
• WHERE: Cullman Regional COE Conference Room – Professional Office Building 1, 1948 Alabama Highway 157
• WHY: The Bariatric Center of Excellence's support group provides a comfortable place to connect with people on the same weight loss journey. Bariatric team members will help facilitate a space where participants can share problems and solutions as well as encouragement to stay on the right path. For more information, call 256-735-5992.

20th Annual Sportsman Lake Park Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display
Now through Dec. 30. Guests can drive through the magical display from 5-9 p.m. on open dates: Nov. 25-27, 30 and Dec. 1-4, 7-11, 14-23, 26-30. Admission is $10 cash per vehicle. Returning this year will also be the Christmas train, horse and carriage rides, snow machine, photo booth, hot chocolate and more. Senior Night is Dec. 1 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Seniors 60 and older will be admitted free. A bag of candy will be given to the first 300 seniors. The last day for train rides is Dec. 23. The park will be closed Christmas Eve and Day. Dec. 26-30 will be drive-through only. Sportsman Lake Park is located at 1544 Sportsman Lake Road NW in Cullman. Find out more at www.facebook.com/SportsmanLakePark.

Fairview Lions Club Thanksgiving Day Turkey Shoot
Thursday, Nov. 24, at 7 a.m. at Clinton Barbee Park (old pool field) on Wesley Avenue in Fairview. Shots are $5 a shot, turkeys, hams and bacon. We will also be drawing for a Savage AIX II 270 rifle with a 22" barrel and case to be given away that day. Tickets will be available at the shoot. Tickets six for $5 or $1 each. Bring your favorite gun; shells will be provided. You do not have to be present to win. All proceeds will go to the Lions Club project fund. For more info call Kita at 256-385-8805 or William at 256-385-5596.

Colony Tree Lighting Ceremony
Sunday, Nov. 27 at 5 p.m. at Colony Town Hall. Cookies and hot cocoa will be served.

4th Annual Christmas at the Grotto
Come and experience the beauty of Br. Joseph's work at night surrounded by lights and music! We have expanded this unique holiday experience throughout the grounds and have added several dates, including more horse carriage rides! On Dec. 9,10,16,17,23 we will expand the event to include live musical performances, food trucks, kids' rides around St. Bernard's campus and horse-drawn wagon rides along a beautiful, decorated path in the woods! Refreshments will be available every night. Make your plans to visit now!

Dates:
• Nov. 25,26 – 5-9 p.m.
• Dec. 1,2,3 – 5-9 p.m.
• Dec. 9,10 – 5-9 p.m. (wagon rides)
• Dec. 11, 15 – 5-9 p.m.
• Dec. 16,17 – 5-9 p.m. (wagon rides)
• Dec. 19,20,21,22 – 5-9 p.m.
• Dec 23. – 5-9 p.m. (wagon rides)
• Dec 26. – 5-9 p.m.

Admission:
• Adults – $10
• Seniors – $8
• Military/Veterans/First responders – $7
• Teens (13-17) – $8
• Children (5-12) – $7
• Children younger than 4 – free
• Wagon rides on Dec. 9,10,16,17,23 – $10
• Kids' rides on Dec. 9,10,16,17,23 – $5

The Ave Maria Grotto is located at 1600 St. Bernard Dr. in Cullman.

Christmas in Cullman Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting
Friday, Dec. 2, from 6-10 p.m. The parade will begin in front of the Busy Bee Café and work its way north down First Avenue to Depot Park, where there will be entertainment and the tree will be lit.

33rd Annual Cullman County Christmas Parade
Saturday, Dec. 3, at noon. Begins at Wallace State Community College and ends at Hanceville Fire and Rescue, Station 1. This year's theme is "God's Gift of Salvation. ...Jesus!"

Cullman Community Band Christmas Concert
Monday, Dec. 5, at 7 p.m. in the Cullman High School auditorium. Free.

Cullman Women Sing Concert
Tuesday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m. at Seventh Street Baptist Church in Cullman. The concert is free. We will be presenting Christmas music.

Cullman Regional Foundation's Dr. Herman C. Ensor Lights of Love Ceremony
Thursday, Dec. 8, at 6 p.m. at St. John's Christ Hall. This year's event is dedicated in honor of Dr. Peter Crisologo and in memory of Cullman Regional Hospice patients. Giving a gift of love for $20, $40, $60 or more places a light on the Christmas tree atop Cullman Regional as a tribute to someone special. The program will also include special Christmas music by area artists. Donations may be contributed throughout the entire holiday season, and gifts received by Monday, Dec. 5 will be included in the special ceremony. Donate online at www.cullmanregional.com/foundation/events or call the Foundation at 256-737-2565 for more information.

Senior Movie Day- "Miracle on 34th Street"
Friday, Dec. 9, from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Northbrook Baptist Church. Free popcorn, drinks, coffee and cookies. For seniors ages 55 and older.

Cullman Christkindlmarkt
• This German Christmas tradition will be one for the whole family to enjoy year after year. You will find hand-made gifts, activities for the kids, food and drink, and of course SANTA! Don't miss all the feels of Christmas at this year's Cullman Christkindlmarkt at the Festhalle downtown.
• Friday and Saturday, Dec. 9-10, 11 a.m.- 8 p.m.
• Sunday, Dec. 11, 1-5 p.m.

Huge, Gigantic, Very Big Book Sale
Saturday, Dec. 10, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Cullman County Public Library, 200 Clark St. NE. All items 50 cents each.

Good Hope Christmas Parade and Christmas in the Park
Saturday, Dec. 10. The parade begins at 2 p.m. at Good Hope High School and ends at Good Hope Municipal Park for Christmas in the Park from 3-5 p.m. with food, activities and Santa.

Inaugural Supper with Santa
Saturday, Dec. 10, from 5-6:15 p.m. at Frio's Gourmet Pops. Enjoy pancakes, patty sausage and a picture with Santa. A Christmas donation will be made to Curt's Closet. Limited tickets. Email cullman@friospops.com to RVSP.

A-1 Battery Sales
AUTO – TRUCK – TRACTOR
Quality Batteries For Every Need
Since 1979
2152 Co. Rd. 1169 • Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (Office): 256-734-9438



The Cullman Tribune
Subscribe Today



Visit Tribune.Store or Call 256-739-1351

The Cullman Tribune
Cullman County's Oldest Business, Serving the area since 1874 Publication Number USPS-139-700
Telephone: 256-739-1351 Fax: 1-256-739-4422
HumbleRoots,LLC
Published daily Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 219 2nd Avenue SE, Cullman, Alabama 35055 Entered as periodical material at the Cullman Post Office Periodical postage paid at Cullman, Alabama 35055

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGE TO:
The Cullman Tribune
219 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Email Address: robin@cullmantribune.com

ANNUALLY BASED RATES

CULLMAN.....$125.00
OUTSIDE CULLMAN.....$250.00

Noah Galilee - Publisher
Dustin Isom - Associate Publisher
Wendy Sack – Editor
Amy Leonard -Senior Reporter
Sara Gladney - Reporter
Nick Griffin - Varsity Sports Editor
Sammy Confer-Youth/JV Sports Editor
Bill Piper - Photojournalist
Howard Cole - Photojournalist
Martha Needham - Photojournalist
Robin Winton - Newsroom Manager
Janet Chandler - Marketing Specialist

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

THE BARN
Portable Storage Buildings
Hanceville, AL
352-2737

VIRGIL B. FOWLER
Real Estate and Insurance
AGENCY
Quality Since 1935
734-3821
vbfowlerinsurance.com
Successors to
WILLIAM RICHARD & SON INSURANCE
" Established 1885 "
Virgil B. Fowler 1895-1978 - Virgil B. Fowler Jr. 1937-2019 - Dorothy S. Fowler - Jason S. Fowler

PREP BASKETBALL

West Point falls to Cordova at Holly Pond Thanksgiving Tournament, Broncos, Knights collect wins

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. — The 66th annual Holly Pond Thanksgiving Tournament tipped off at Felton Easterwood Gymnasium Monday afternoon and several local teams are competing in this year's field. West Point tipped things off with a tight game against Cordova, Arab followed with a 72-41 win over Susan Moore and in the nightcap, Holly Pond downed Curry 50-38. Tournament action will resume Tuesday afternoon at 2 when West Point takes on Susan Moore. Arab will face Cordova at 5 and the Broncos will wrap things up against Decatur at 6:30.

Cordova 58 – West Point 52

The Warriors fell behind 6-0 in the first quarter before Kanaan Sutter laid one in to get West Point on the board midway through the period and a basket from Jacob Hardison made it an 11-4 game going into the second quarter.

Buckets from Ashton Rodgers and J.D. Cochran trimmed the lead to 17-10 early in the second and Jay Lamar knocked down a three-pointer to make it 17-13. Harbison followed with a three of his own to cut the lead to 21-16 with three minutes to play in the half and a layup and a pair of free throws from Rodgers, the Warriors trailed just 21-20. Lamar netted a pair of free throws to keep West Point within one and a free throw from Rodgers tied the game at 23 with less than a minute remaining in the period. Lamar was fouled on a three-point attempt, and he knocked down all three from the line to put the Warriors in front 26-25 going into the locker room at halftime.

A Harbison jumper extended West Point's lead to 28-25 early in the third and Cochran later scored inside to keep the Warriors on top 30-28. However, the Blue Devils put together a 7-1 scoring run to move back in front 35-31 midway through the third quarter. West Point battled back to chip away at the lead and after baskets by Sutter and Lamar, the Warriors went into the fourth trailing 42-38.

Pressley Burtis and Lamar each scored quick buckets to tie things up at 42 but the Blue Devils answered with a couple quick buckets of their own and retook a 47-42 advantage. Turnovers made it tough for West Point to get back into a rhythm offensively and led to some easy point for Cordova on the other end. A pair of Harbison free throws trimmed the lead down to 54-50 with two minutes on the clock but the Warriors weren't able to get any closer and the Blue Devils held on to win it 58-52.

Lamar led West Point with 15 points in the loss, followed by Rodgers with 14 and Harbison with 12.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

West Point's Ashton Rodgers (14) finished with 14 points in the Warriors' loss to Cordova Monday afternoon.

PREP BASKETBALL

Hanceville races past Falkville 90-41, Vinemont, Cold Springs fall in opening round

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The 40th annual Hanceville Thanksgiving Tournament tipped off at Lane Horton Gymnasium Monday and the hosting Hanceville Bulldogs got things started with an impressive, 90-41 win over Falkville. Vinemont and Cold Springs also played their opening round games Monday night but fell to Dora 51-43 and Mortimer Jordan 60-41, respectively.

Hanceville 90 - Falkville 41 (Game Four)

It didn't take long for Hanceville to build a sizable lead over Falkville. Carson Garrett scored on an and-one to put the Bulldogs on the scoreboard. A driving layup by Zach Campbell and free throws by Garrett and Brayden Harris quickly made it 9-2. A pair of Blue Devil free throws cut it to 9-4, but Campbell drilled a right-wing trey and Austin Wood and Harris each hit shots down low to make it 16-4. Wood couldn't seem to miss as he scored the next seven points to push the Bulldog lead to 23-6. Logan Quick got in on the act as well, knocking down a pair of treys, and Hanceville took a commanding 29-8 lead into the second period.

Garrett and Harris each hit a shot down low to increase their lead to 33-10 early in the second period. Will Calvert and Braxton Broad each added a steal and a layup to make it 39-10, then five straight points by Harris pushed their lead to 44-10. The bench players got in on the act as well as Noah Jones hit a couple of baskets, Quick added a shot down low, J.T. Davis hit a free throw, and Jake Cornelius drilled a three as the Bulldogs went into the half with a 57-17 lead.

The second half saw the starters play a little bit in the third period before the bench players took over after that. Every player on the roster found the scoring column for Hanceville as they lit up the scoreboard for 90 points and the Bulldogs ended up dominating the Blue Devils from start to finish, 90-41.

Harris led the way for Hanceville with 18 points. Garrett added 11 points. Quick ended up with 10 points. Wood added nine points. Jones finished with eight points and Campbell added seven points.

Hanceville will face off against Mortimer Jordan Tuesday night at 7:45 p.m.

Dora 51 - Vinemont 43 (Game One)

It was all Dora to start out the game as they scored the first 10 points of the game as Vinemont quickly fell behind, 10-0. A Chayce Sandlin shot down low put Vinemont on the scoreboard with a little over five minutes to go in the opening period, but the Bulldogs added a couple of more baskets down low as the Eagles found themselves down, 14-2, after the first period.

Vinemont's Jaxon Holcombe knocked down a left-wing three and Dawson Wilhite hit a pair of free throws to cut it to 16-7. Later on, another Holcombe trey made it an 18-10 game with less than five minutes to go in the first half, but six straight points by Dora pushed their lead back up to double digits at 24-10. The Eagles would go into the locker room down, 26-14, as they looked for a strong start to the second half.

Things didn't start out good for Vinemont as a pair of baskets down low by the Bulldogs made it 30-14 early in the third period. The Eagles, though, quickly got going on both sides of the court as Sandlin knocked down a shot down low to make it 30-16, then Jordan Eller hit back-to-back layups and Holcombe knocked down consecutive shots.

Just like that, it was down to a six-point game at 30-24 with a little over two minutes to go in the third period. Holcombe continued his hot shooting as he drilled a pair of treys to make it a 35-30 game and the Eagles went into the final period down by just six points at 36-30.

Wilhite hit a shot down low to make it a 36-32 game early in the final period. Dora, though, scored the next five points, including an and-one, to push their lead to 41-32. The Eagles weren't done yet, though, as Wilhite and Sandlin each hit a layup and Holcombe knocked down another three to make it a 41-39 game with 4:32 to go in the game. The Bulldogs pushed their lead to 46-39, but layups by Ellar and Wilhite cut it to 46-43 with a little over a minute to go in the game. Unfortunately, Vinemont didn't get any closer after that as Dora drilled five free throws to win, 51-43, over Vinemont.

Holcombe finished with 19 points for Vinemont. Wilhite added eight points, while Eller and Sandlin each ended up with six.

Vinemont will face Ardmore Tuesday at 4 p.m. in the loser's bracket game.

Mortimer Jordan 60 - Cold Springs 41 (Game Three)

Mortimer Jordan scored the first seven points of the game as Cold Springs found themselves down, 7-0, with 5:40 left to go in the opening period. Cole Bales hit a free throw to put the Eagles on the scoreboard, and later on, Nic Fallin put in Cold Springs' first basket of the game to make it a 10-3 game. Bales scored down low to cut it to 14-5, but a Blue Devil trey made it a 17-5 game going into the second period.

John Mark Smith hit a layup to make it a 17-7 game early in the second period. After Mortimer Jordan made it 21-7, Smith went off after that as he scored the next five points and Cameron Nunn added a layup to cut it to 21-14 with 3:24 left to go in the first half. Smith hit four free throws, including a pair of technical ones, and on the next play, converted an and-one to make it a 24-21 game with less than two minutes to go in the first half. The Blue Devils quickly pushed their lead to 29-21, but a Smith three made it a 29-24 game and the Eagles would go into the half trailing, 31-24.

Mortimer Jordan quickly pulled away from Cold Springs in the third quarter as they scored the first 10 points of the period to make it 41-24. A Bales trey cut it to 41-27, but the Blue Devils quickly pushed their lead to 48-29 going into the final period. A Fallin three-point play, a Seth Ingram shot down low, and another Smith trey, cut the sizable deficit to just 12 at 49-37 with a little over four minutes to go in the game as Cold Springs looked to make the biggest comeback they've ever made. Mortimer Jordan, though, quickly put those dreams to rest as they went on an 11-4 run to close out the game and the Eagles ended up falling to the Blue Devils, 60-41.

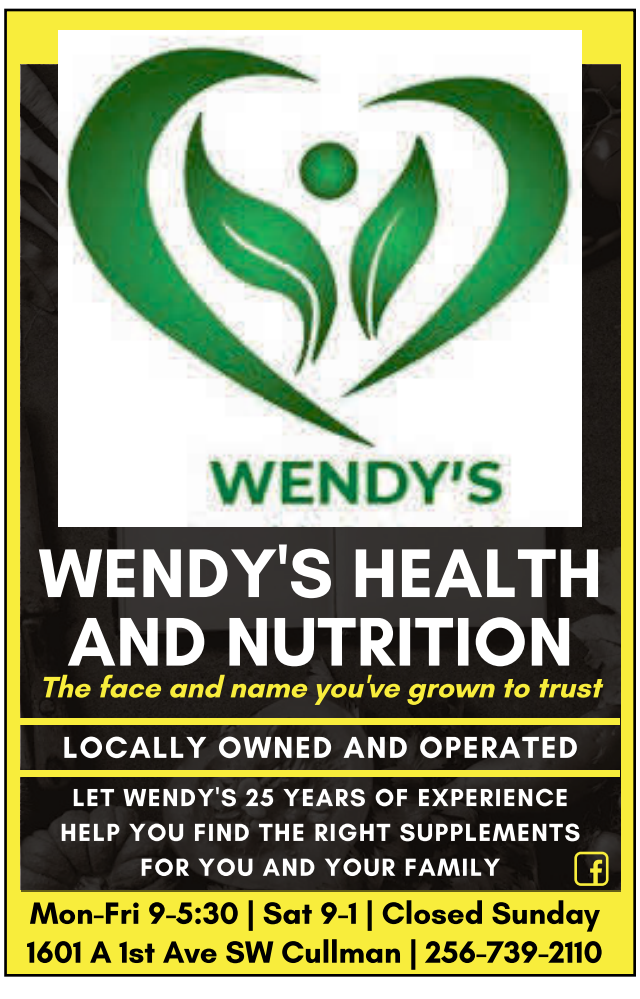
Smith finished with 22 points for Cold Springs. Bales added six points. Fallin ended up with five points, while Ingram and Nunn each added four.

Cold Springs will take on Falkville Tuesday at 5:15 p.m.



SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Hanceville's Brayden Harris finished with 18 points in the Bulldogs' 90-41 win over Falkville Monday night.





CCSO gearing up for annual rodeo

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com



CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Cullman County Sheriff's Office Deputy Shane Chambers gives a wagonful of attendees a ride at the 2018's special needs rodeo at the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center.

CULLMAN, Ala. — The annual Cullman County Sheriff's Office Jimmy Arrington Memorial Rodeo, including the special needs rodeo, is right around the corner— and it's an event the community looks forward to every year.

This year's special needs rodeo will take place Thursday, Dec. 8, at the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center.

The special needs rodeo is for the more than 1,000 special needs children who attend Cullman County area schools, the Margret Jean Jones Center and the Cullman County Child Development Center.

"Every school in Cullman County sends their students with special needs to experience and take part in a real rodeo," Sheriff Matt Gentry said. "There will be barrel racing, roping and bull riding. The students are then invited down to the arena floor to take part in various activities, including stick-horse racing and hayrides."

This will be Gentry's eighth year hosting the special needs rodeo, a tradition he has carried on from previous administrations.

"It is an event that participants, volunteers and deputies look forward to all year long," Gentry said.

"It is another way the sheriff's office can give back to the community. Not only does the rodeo allow the opportunity to support the special needs programs financially, it also brings everyone together to enjoy a very special event."

To volunteer or sponsor the special needs rodeo, contact Deputy Kevin Folds at kfolds@cullmansheriff.org.

"The special needs rodeo is one of my absolute favorite events each and every year," Gentry said.

"It means so much to the kids, parents, volunteers and especially the staff. It truly is the heartbeat of the sheriff's office.

"It is so wonderful to be with the children and see the smiles on their faces and the joy in their hearts."

The Jimmy Arrington Memorial Rodeo will kick off following the special needs rodeo. Look for more details soon. For more information, contact the Cullman County Sheriff's Office.

Tigers for Tomorrow fall, winter hours

Staff Reports
Contributor

ATTALLA, Ala. — Tigers For Tomorrow Wild Animal Preserve has a family weekend planned! The preserve will be open Friday-Sunday, Nov. 25-27, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Join us for the last weekend of fall hours!

- Capybara encounters: No reservations needed. Book at admission window. $50 for 1-4 people.
- Feed a tiger: At 11:30 and 3:30 visitors can safely feed a tiger! $10 a person!
- Big cat, wolf and bear enrichment will be going on all weekend: Yonah is looking for his first Christmas tree! We could use a few pumpkins. Come to the preserve and enjoy a day with your entire family with this one-of-a-kind outdoor adventure. Meet over 160 animals that call Untamed Mountain their home. Learn about the captive wild and what it takes to provide them with lifelong permanent homes equipped with what they need to sustain ideal mental and physical health. As we like to say here at the preserve, "Come out and take a walk on the wild side!"

Winter hours (December-February)

- Open to the public Saturdays and Sundays from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Admission: $8 for children (3 and younger are free); $18 for adults
- No reservations needed
- Preserve is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays
- Private tours are available by appointment Wednesday-Sunday for $200 minimum (four people) and $30 for each additional person

Tigers for Tomorrow is located at 708 County Road 345, Attalla, AL 35954. For additional information visit www.tigersfortomorrow.org.

Pyramid (from Front)

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman's traditional Christmas pyramid, or Weihnachtspyramide, located next to the Cullman County Museum at 211 Second Ave. NE, will be lit Friday, Nov. 25 at 6 p.m. Debuting in 2019, Cullman's Christmas pyramid, standing a grand 30-feet-tall, was created by Erzgebirgiisehe Holzkunst Gahlenz in Germany and honors Cullman's proud German heritage.

The six levels of Cullman's pyramid depict various scenes including the base level of the nativity featuring Mother Mary, Joseph, the manger and the wise men, the second with an homage to a modern holiday theme with Santa Claus and others with scenes and people specific to Cullman.

While traditional tabletop Christmas pyramids are powered by candles, the enormity of Cullman's pyramid necessitates a power motor to rotate the six levels.

A surprise special guest has been confirmed to be an integral part of Friday evening's celebration.

West Point (from Front)

said the lights will only lose 3% brightness over that time.

In new business, the council:

- Reapplied for a grant to finish paving County Road 1141 from County Road 1117 to County Road 1114
- Voted to surplus the old ballpark lights. Councilwoman Ashlee Phillips proposed the Town donate the lights to West Point Schools to be used at the practice field behind the middle school.
- Accepted a bid of $5,200 from J.W. Painting to paint the town's storm shelters
- Annexed property belonging to Rebecca Davis into town limits

Mayor Gerald Schafer reported that striping is being completed on County Roads 1128 and 1246.

The town will have its first Christmas Tree Lighting Thursday, Dec. 1, in the town hall parking lot in front of the Town of West Point sign.

The community is welcome to join for the lighting of the 15-foot Christmas tree at 6 p.m.

Trixie Darling (from Front)

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Volunteer Donna Ruttkay with the Cullman County Animal Shelter shares this week's Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week: Trixie Darling.

Trixie Darling is an inquisitive feist mix. The sweet girl is approximately 2.5 years old and loves playing with her toys almost as much as she cherishes time with people.

Trixie understands and adheres to leash etiquette and is a joyful girl who loves life and everyone she encounters.

She is expected to make an excellent companion and therapy dog.

Trixie's adoption fee includes DHLPP vaccine, Bordetella vaccines, rabies vaccine, wormer, general exam at the vet and microchip.

All animals are spayed or neutered prior to adoption.

Contact the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 256-734-5448 or cullmancountyanimalshelter@gmail.com or visit the shelter at 935 Convent Road NE.

Former featured Pets of the Week, Clancy, Teddy Bear and Hannah have been adopted into families whose lives were positively impacted by the addition of their sweet new pups.









Obituary Announcements: Nov. 22-23

Linda Ruth Anglin McMahan, 67
Linda Ruth Anglin McMahan, 67, of Cullman, was born April 14, 1956, in Clarksville, Arkansas and was the youngest daughter of Ruben and Johnnie Anglin. She was a homemaker. Linda was unable to have children of her own. She would have been a wonderful mother. She opened her heart and home to many. She loved with all her heart. Linda had a very close bond with all her family but had a very special place in her heart for her nieces and nephews and treated them as if they were her own. She was a wonderful friend, sister, aunt, daughter, and wife. She will be sorely missed and forever in our hearts. Linda went to heaven Friday, Nov. 18, 2022, at Cullman Health & Rehab Center. She was preceded in death by her husband, Keith Leon McMahan; brothers Norman Anglin, Jerry Anglin, Lee Anglin, Harvie Anglin; sister, Shirley Janet Anglin Emerson; father, Ruben Anglin and mother, Johnnie Francis Anglin Ogden; nephews, Jeffrey Todd Anglin and Tony Anglin; niece, Vanessa Anglin. May they be joined together forever. She is survived by her sister, Laura Fern Anglin Vaile; brother, Francis Anglin; nieces, Angela Hoffman, Chrissy Taylor, Bryna Lawler, Marsha Mize, Norma Anglin, Patty Cass, Rachel Taylor; nephews, Johnny Anglin, Wayne Anglin, Dennis Anglin, Scott Emerson, Bobby Hollan and Michael Anglin. A memorial service will be held in Clarksville, Arkansas at a later date.

Ricky Marshall Aderholt, 68
Ricky Marshall Aderholt, 68, of Double Springs, passed away Nov. 19, 2022, at his residence. He was born July 16, 1954, in Haleyville, Alabama. The family held a graveside service at Botush Cemetery in Haleyville, Alabama on Nov. 23, 2022, at 2 p.m. Ricky is survived by his children, Kristie (Patrick) Farley and Jonathan (Trista) Aderholt; grandchildren, Clay Farley, Shae Farley, Landon Hood, Cameron Aderholt, Preston Farley, Cashen Aderholt and Victoria Farley; sisters, Patricia (Ken) Eddings and Joyce (Mike) Cooper, and a host of nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Gertis Aderholt and Nellie Aderholt; brothers, Larry Aderholt, Lecil Aderholt, Timothy Aderholt and Perry Aderholt; and granddaughter, Mercedes Aderholt.

Jerry Wayne Thrasher, 71
A funeral service for Jerry Wayne Thrasher of Blountsville was 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 23 at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial followed at Mt. Tabor Cemetery in Blountsville. Reverend Deb Williams and Reverend Keith Hancock officiated the service. Visitation was from noon-2 p.m. on Wednesday prior to the service at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mr. Thrasher was born in Marshall County on Sept. 18, 1951. He died at the age of 71 at his residence in Blountsville on Nov. 21, 2022. Survivors include his wife, Shelia Thrasher; children, Laurie (Anthony) Smith of Cullman, Lee Ann (Brad) Lawrence of Morgan City and Heather (Michael) Palmer of Pell City; grandchildren, Braxton (Savanna) Weaver of Eva, Jay Price of Hayden, Izzie Price of Pell City, Austin Lawrence of Morgan City, Gracie Lawrence of Morgan City, Robert Palmer of Birmingham and Penelope Palmer of Birmingham; sister, Patricia Harris of Walter; and a host of nieces and nephews. Mr. Thrasher was preceded in death by his mother, Viola Mae Thrasher; father, Talmadge William Thrasher Sr., and brothers, Larry Dale Thrasher and William Thrasher Jr.

Laura James Bownes, 93
It is with extreme sadness that we announce the passing of Laura James Bownes. Laura was a beloved wife, mother and grandmother. She was born in Chicago, Illinois, on Nov. 30, 1928, and attended Catholic University of America, graduating with a BS in 1954. Thereafter, she attended Mercy University to earn her Masters in Nursing. She married Eugene A. Bownes, M.D., on May 12, 1956, in Newport, Michigan. Later, in 1967, they relocated to Cullman, Alabama, to open a practice together in order to serve the children of the community, since there was no pediatric care. They were blessed with five children: Michael A. Bownes (Karen), Tuscaloosa, Alabama; Beth Bownes-Johnson (Dean) Cullman, Alabama; Patrick Bownes, San Francisco, California; and Bridget Stevens and Kelly A. Bownes in Birmingham, Alabama. Both were active members of Sacred Heart parish. During Laura's life, many were touched by her family tenets and religious values, leaving a lasting imprint on countless hearts. "Momma B." will be missed by countless friends, patients and family members because of her generosity, kindness and sense of humor. She was preceded in death by her parents Catherine and Ledyard Tomlinson and her husband, Eugene. She is survived by one sister: Catherine (Fred) Paulicki, four children and six grandchildren: Dr. Laura Bownes, Dr. Elizabeth Price (CP), Dr. Connor Johnson, Brennan Johnson, Dr. Laura Beth Lavette, and John Lavette—all who will miss her presence in their lives but rejoice knowing she is at peace and resting as the dedicated and faithful servant she was. A celebration of her life will commence with a private memorial mass at St. Benedictine Chapel and a private burial at the Catholic Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests bequeaths to Benedictine Sisters Convent, Sacred Heart Church or Cullman Animal Shelter.

Sandra Kay Barnett, 70
Graveside Service for Sandra Kay Barnett, age 70, of Cullman, will be at 2 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 25, 2022, at Berlin Cemetery at Mt. Carmel with Bro. Lynn Perkins officiating. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Barnett passed away Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022, at Cullman Regional. She was born Jan. 13, 1952, to Joe H. Payne and Sarah Nell Payne. She was preceded in death by her parents. Survivors include her husband, Jimmy "Jim" Barnett; daughter, Michelle (Phillip) Clay; grandchildren, Amber Clay, Cody (Hayley) Clay, Bella Lee, Layne Leonard, Jaycee Edmondson, Jaxon Edmondson, Sonny Clay and Delilah Clay; sister, Sharleen (Lynn) Perkins; brother, Mike Payne; nieces, Sherri (Daniel) Hipp and Sonya (Mark) McKinney; nephew, Chris (Tanya) King; great-nieces and great-nephews, Alex Hipp, Braxton King, Savannah McKinney, Colten McKinney and Olivia McKinney; and a host of family and friends.

James Larry Dingler, Jr., 29
A graveside service for James Larry Dingler Jr. of Hanceville will be 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 27 at Bangor Cemetery. Reverend Clint Reeves will be officiating. Visitation will be on Saturday, Nov. 26 from 6-8 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mr. Dingler was born on Oct. 4, 1993, in Cullman, Alabama. He died at the age of 29 on Nov. 21, 2022, at his residence in Hanceville, Alabama. Survivors include his fathers, Randall Hosmer and James Larry Dingler Sr.; mother, Starla Renee Weaver; grandmothers, Shirley Richards and Diane Weaver; grandfather, Charles Hosmer; stepfather, John Weaver; brothers, Josh Thibodeaux, Presston Eddy, Albert Rangel, Ka' Dale Scott, AJ Scott and Ryan Weaver; sister, Brandi Dingler; sisters-in-law, Katelin Thibodeaux and Hailey Rangel; nieces, Serenity Thibodeaux, Raelynn Thibodeaux, Marissa Rangel and Kyleigh Thibodeaux; nephews Kaiden Thibodeaux, Ezekiel Dingler and Kohen Dingler; and his beloved dog, Midnight.

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

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

THE TOMBSTONE COMPANY
Custom Granite Headstones and Monuments
Date of Death Engraving in Cemeteries
Locally Made and Locally Owned
Low Cost, High Quality
30-Day Delivery, Guaranteed
We Use Only American Granite
2117 US Hwy 278 West
Cullman, AL 35057
(2 miles West of I-65)
256-734-2005
Saturdays by Appointment
www.thetombstonecompany.com

Free Obituary Listings
HAVE YOUR FUNERAL HOME CONTACT US
Email: robin@cullmantribune.com • Fax: 256-739-4422
Complete obituaries may be found free of charge at CullmanTribune.com/obituaries.

CULLMAN'S NEWEST ON-SITE STATE OF THE ART CREMATORY NOW OPEN | DIRECT CREMATION $1,295 | NO HIDDEN COSTS
Cullman Funeral Home and Crematory
"Sincere Compassionate Care"
100% Locally Owned & Operated by the Steve Rodgers Family
(256) 734-3144
461 U.S. Highway 278 East
Cullman, Alabama 35055
www.cullmanfuneralhome.com

Wonderland Under Warrior
RICKWOOD CAVERNS STATE PARK
Tickets: $12 per person
www.alapark.com/parks/rickwood-caverns-state-park/wonderland-under-warrior
(205) 647-9692 Nov. 19 - Jan. 8
See website for calendar showing days and hours of operation
Alabama State Parks
Join us for a truly magical experience as we transform the cave into an underground winter wonderland.

STOP
Elder Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation
Submit a report to the Alabama Department of Human Resources Adult Protective Services Division
1-800-458-7214
aps@dhr.alabama.gov
Alabama Department of Human Resources

BOOK YOUR NEXT HUNT!
ALL INCLUSIVE
3 Day 2 Night - $1700
Five Points, AL 334-606-5222
Shadow Ridge Lodge
Guided Hunts • Home Cooked Meals • 5Star Lodge

Vehicle Title Problem? We have a Solution!
Unclaimed/Abandoned Vehicles, Mobile Homes & Surety Bonds
JSE:Alabama's Vehicle Title Recovery Service!
We can help with most Titled Vehicles in Alabama, including Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, RV's & Trailers. Stop in, by phone or online!
Free Phone Consultation
Call 1-256-850-0527
www.JSEAL.com

BACK TO SCHOOL
Are Your Children Vaccinated?
• Vaccines are safe and effective.
• Vaccines help strengthen your child's immune system and keep them safe from vaccine preventable diseases.
• Getting every recommended dose of each vaccine provides your child with the best protection possible.
• Lack of vaccination can leave your child susceptible to over 15 life threatening diseases.
Alabama Public Health
IMM Immunization Division
For more information, please visit alabamapublichealth.gov/imm

Gridiron Gladiators
AHSAA SUPER 7 CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES
NOVEMBER 30TH- DECEMBER 2ND
AHSAA SUPER 7
AHSAA Alabama High School Athletic Association
SPONSORED BY
ALDOT ★ Alabama Votes ★ Google ★ Children's Hospital
Alabama Department of Human Resources
apt Alabama Public Television
www.aptv.org

Become an ADULT FOSTER CARE Provider
Alabama Department of Human Resources
1-800-458-7214
dhr.alabama.gov/AFC
"Love Never Ages"

Column: The egg-splosion

Joe Hobby
Contributor

My wife Carol can't cook. Let me clarify - technically she can, but she doesn't like to. The dishes in her culinary répertoire are basic things like green beans, and a casserole or two. An empty foil pan at a church covered dish attests to the fact that she makes a good pecan pie. However, day to day cooking usually falls on me. And while I'm always willing to try and prepare something new, recipe is a four- letter word to her.

Even so, I had no idea she could make the kitchen such a dangerous place. I learned otherwise not too long ago. After supper we had settled in for the evening in the usual manner; she was watching some syrupy movie on her iPad while I scanned TV channels looking for the show where they finally caught Bigfoot.

Suddenly, there was a loud pop from the kitchen. Our two dogs, laying peacefully on the floor, jumped up and hi-tailed it to the bedroom like it was the Fourth of July. Carol looked at me and said, "What in the world was that? Did something fall?"

Before I could answer there was another pop, louder than before. I bolted to the kitchen. It was time for the head of the house to confront this home invasion - or whatever it was.

I turned the corner and didn't see anything. So, I moved cautiously around the kitchen island and was suddenly hit by a disgusting smell. For a minute, I thought I had found Bigfoot. It was like being in a nasty service station restroom. Holding my nose, I looked down on the stove and found the answer to the mystery. Sitting on top of a lit burner was a small bowl containing 6 eggs - and no water. Two of the eggs had already exploded from the heat.

I quickly reached out to cut off the gas when, "Ka-Pow!" another egg detonated, scaring me half to death. I jumped back from the island, covered with bits of shell, yolk, and humiliation. In a matter of seconds, anger displaced my shock. I walked back into the den wiping the egg out of my eyes and yelling, "I found out what it was!"

"What?"

"We're you boiling any eggs, by chance?" I asked pointedly.

Carol looked at my face, which resembled a 2-year-old who tried to eat an omelet. Then she made a poor effort to stifle her laughter, and said," Oh, I forgot all about those."

"So, this is funny is it? I responded angrily. What if a piece of egg shell hit me in the eye?"

"But it didn't." Then she giggled and said, "Maybe I should've yelled, 'Fire in the hole!'" She was on a roll now. "You could write a blog about it. I've got the perfect title. The Yolk's On Me", or "Egg On My Face". No, no, no - how about "Shell Shocked?"

I stood there fuming in silence, wondering if this mockery would be a legal defense for her murder. Then I spoke. "I'm sure you'll figure it out while you're cleaning up the mess you just made."

The laughter abruptly stopped. "But how will I get it off the ceiling?" she asked.

"Not my problem. If you can make up funny names for blogs, then I'm sure you'll figure that out." And I turned and headed to the bathroom to wash my face. As ridiculous as this is, it pales in comparison to another idiotic episode in a kitchen. Thank heavens it didn't involve me. Several years ago, one of my work associates, Ronnie, told me this story on himself.

One Sunday morning before she left for church, Ronnie's wife told him to turn on the oven and put the ham inside. That way it would be properly heated and ready for the family lunch when she returned.

After worship, she turned in their subdivision, and to her shock, found a fire truck in the driveway. Jumping from her car, she ran straight to the kitchen, where she saw the oven door laying on the floor smoldering, completely blown off the hinges. The wall across from it was impregnated with shards of metal and pork shrapnel.

"What did you do?" she screamed at her husband.

Ronnie replied calmly, "I did exactly what you told me to do. I put the ham in the oven. And you didn't say anything about taking it out of the can first."

Holiday cooking season is almost upon us. Be careful in the kitchen, y'all. Eggs and ham really can be bad for your health.

Joe Hobby is a comedian from Alabama who wrote for Jay Leno for many years. Find more of Joe's stories on his blog at https://mylifeasahobby.blogspot.com. Also, follow him on Facebook at Joe Hobby Comedian- Writer.

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



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

LEGALS

PB MIN BK 211 PG 995 - 11/22/2022 08:53 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
RONALD W. WATSON, SR. * CASE NO PC 2021-319
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR FINAL CONSENT SETTLEMENT

TO: RONALD W. WATSON, JR., ARTHUR CLINTON WATSON AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

The Petition for Final Consent Settlement, for the estate if Ronald W. Watson, Jr., Deceased, has been set for hearing on the **3rd day of January, 2023, at 11:30 a.m.**

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

Done this the 22nd day of November, 2022.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune:

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

Steven C. Smith
Attorney for Petitioner
PO Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the terms of that mortgage executed on April 7, 2006 by Max Wayne Starnes, Sr. and Barbara Ann Starnes, husband and wife, to EvaBank, which said mortgage is recorded in Book MTG 1468, Page 114 in the Probate Office of Cullman County, Alabama, and default continuing, and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the following described property will be sold at public outcry, for cash, to the highest bidder, in front of the Courthouse door of said County, in Cullman, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale on December 9, 2022:

Part of the SE 1/3 of the SW ¼ of Section 34, Township 11 South, Range 2 West, Cullman County Alabama described as follows: Begin at the DE corner of said ¼ - ¼ section; thence run northerly along the ¼ - ¼ section line, 160.04 feet to the south line of a 30 foot right of way; thence 89 degrees 54' left along said line, 600.00 feet; thence 90 degrees 06' left, 160.21 feet; thence 89 degrees 55' left, along the south line of said Section 34 a distance of 600.0 feet to the point of beginning.

The following manufactured home to be auctioned separately and together:
One (1) 2002 Fleetwood Manufactured Home,
VIN #TNFL126A59076SS12

Address of the property (for identification purposes only)
1900 County Road 532, Hanceville, AL 35077

Said sale is made for the purpose of paying the mortgage debt and cost of foreclosure.

EvaBank, Mortgagee
Thomas W. Russell
Attorney for Mortgagee
2915 Clairmont Ave. S
Birmingham, Alabama 35205
The Cullman Tribune-November 17, 24, December 1, 2022

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF * IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
JERRY PAUL LYONS, * CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
deceased. * CASE NO. PC2022-208

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Wendy L. Bowers, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Jerry Paul Lyons, deceased, on the 15th day of November, 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 will be barred.

DONE this the 15th day of November, 2022.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, PROBATE JUDGE

TO: Publisher
The Cullman Tribune

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

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

PB MIN BK 211 PG 488 - 11/02/2022 10:41 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ADOPTION OF L.M.M
A minor child. CASE NO.: PC2016-263
D.O.B. 11/02/2011

NOTICE OF PETITION AND DECLARATION FOR MINOR NAME CHANGE AND AMENDED PETITION AND DECLARATION MINOR NAME CHANGE

TO: ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF A CHILD BORN TO HANNAH MARIE WARREN KNOWN AS L.M.M.

A Petition to Change Name of Minor was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by Hannah Marie Warren, Petitioner. If you should contest this name change, 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 November, 2022.

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

Thomas E. Drake, II
Attorney for Petitioner
419 2nd Avenue SW, Suite B
Cullman, AL 35055

PB WIL BK 113 PG 125 - 11/21/2022 01:51 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

In Re the Estate of)
Jo Ann E. Mayhew,) Case No. PC 2022-390
Deceased)

Notice to Creditors

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Susan Melton as Personal Representative of the Estate of Jo Ann E. Mayhew, deceased, on the 23rd day of September 2019, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate,

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

Susan Melton
Personal Representative
Susan Melton

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

Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate, Tammy Brown
Cullman County, Alabama

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

PB WIL BK 113 PG 120 - 11/21/2022 01:47 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
LINDA M. WOOD * CASE NO PC 2022-397
Deceased *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary have been granted to **Julie Austin** as Personal Representative of the Estate of **Linda M. Wood,** deceased, on the 21st day of November, 2022, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court of Cullman County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Julie Austin
Personal Representative

A Eric Johnston
Attorney for Personal Representative
1200 Corporate Drive, Suite 107
Birmingham, Alabama 35242

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

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 Chevrolet Blazer, black, Vin.#1GNCS18WXXK177568, tag #8475AZ7.

2011 Ford SRW Super, black, Vin.#1FT7W2BT2BEB48754, tag #50GD969.

These vehicles will be sold to pay storage and or repair fees at Williams Auto Repair, 450 County Road 1603, Cullman, Alabama 35058, on Monday, December 19, 2022, at 8:00 a.m.

NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF Alabama
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

Default having been made of the terms of the loan documents secured by that certain mortgage executed by Pfm Holdings Llc , A Tennessee Limited Liability Company, to Park Place Finance, LLC dated January 11, 2022; said mortgage being recorded on January 19, 2022, in Book 1998, Page 382 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Toorak Capital Partners LLC to be recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama.

The undersigned, Toorak Capital Partners LLC, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Cullman County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on the 9th day of December, 2022 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

A PART OF BLOCK NO. 7 OF SOUTH PARK ADDITION TO CULLMAN, ALABAMA, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT OF SAID SOUTH PARK ADDITION RECORDED IN MAP BOOK 1, PAGE 65 (SLIDE A33) IN THE OFFICE OF THE PROBATE JUDGE OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA, AND WHICH IS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID BLOCK NO. 7 OF SAID SOUTH PARK ADDITION; THENCE EAST ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID BLOCK NO. 7 A DISTANCE OF 84 FEET 2-1/4 INCHES; THENCE NORTH AND PARALLEL TO THE WEST LINE OF SAID BLOCK NO. 7 A DISTANCE OF 140 FEET; THENCE WEST AND PARALLEL TO THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID BLOCK NO. 7 A DISTANCE OF 84 FEET 2-1/2 INCHES TO THE WEST LINE OF SAID BLOCK NO. 7; THENCE SOUTH ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID BLOCK 7 A DISTANCE OF 140 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

Said property is commonly known as 309 Birmingham St SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description the legal description will control.

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, all outstanding liens for public utilities which constitute liens upon the property, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, easements, rights-of-way, zoning ordinances, restrictions, special assessments, covenants, the statutory right of redemption pursuant to Alabama law, and any matters of record including, but not limited to, those superior to said Mortgage first set out above. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The successful bidder must present certified funds in the amount of the winning bid at the time and place of sale.

Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Mortgage.

TOORAK CAPITAL PARTNERS LLC
as holder of said mortgage
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC
Two North Twentieth
2 20th Street North, Suite 1000
Birmingham, AL 35203
(800) 275-7171
FT21@mccalla.com
File No. 22-03844AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

Cullman Tribune
11/10/2022,11/17/2022,11/24/2022

Diagnosis (from Front)

ries I was finding, so my husband and I agreed we didn't need to look anything up anymore and just wait for our appointment.

"Going into that appointment, we were so nervous, and we had prepared ourselves, but hearing those words 'I'm so sorry, it is retinoblastoma' - nothing can really prepare you for the feelings that come with finding out your baby has cancer. Honestly, there aren't words to describe that."

After their appointment, the Attaways went straight to an oncologist to get a plan together. Brixton Attaway has since gone through two rounds of chemotherapy.

Retinoblastoma can be genetic or sporadic and is usually detected before the age of 5. "So, with Brixton being a twin we also had to worry about his brother," said his mom.

"Thankfully our daughter is already 5 and had no signs, so they were mainly concerned about having our other son checked as well."

This week, the Attaways received results from genetic testing that showed Brixton Attaway's retinoblastoma is not genetic. His twin brother Baylor Attaway was also tested and has no signs of the same condition.

Brixton Attaway still has six months left of chemotherapy treatments, which are twice a month. He'll also have an eye exam once a month. He will start having laser treatments once a month to help continue to shrink the tumor.

Sadie Attaway said his doctors are confident they will be able to save his eye and most of his vision.

"This is honestly something no parent ever thinks they will have to go through; we sure didn't. It has been pretty hard having to watch our baby go through all of this, while also missing out on some things with our other kids," she said. "We know this is only for a time though, and we will all come out stronger. Honestly Brixton has been an absolute rock star about this whole process so far. He is already so much stronger than I ever could have imagined. There have obviously been some very hard days, but for the most part he has still been his happy little self and we are so thankful for that!"

The family has received overwhelming support from friends and neighbors. "There have been so many cards, kind words, prayers, gift baskets, donations and some of our amazing friends have already set up two fundraisers for us," Sadie Attaway said

On Mandy Leonardi and Sadie Attaway's Facebook pages, supporters can find Brixton Strong shirts for sale. To order, message Leonardi or Attaway on Facebook.

A Sips n Strokes Design Your Own Door Hanger fundraiser event organized by Leonardi to help pay for the family's medical expenses will be held Sunday, Jan. 8, at 3 p.m. in the Vinemont High School gym. Guests can register at https://tinyurl.com/battaway.

Wilson (from Front)

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Farm-City Committee held its annual Farm-City Banquet Thursday evening, Nov. 17, at Loft 212 downtown, where it named Ashley Wilson the 2023 City Family of the Year.

Wilson runs Curt's Closet, the local nonprofit she founded to cope with the grief over the tragic loss of her youngest son Curt.

"I had no idea the true reason I had been invited to the Cullman County Farm-City event," Wilson shared with The Cullman Tribune. "I was looking forward to an evening with friends and a wonderful dinner. To my surprise, they all did an amazing job keeping the true reason a secret."

Wilson continued, "I was in total shock and lost for words. To be chosen as the 2023 City Family of the Year is a tremendous honor. I appreciate just being considered for the award, and even more to be chosen.

"Without my Lord and Savior and this community, I would not be standing here today. This community rallied behind me when my life had been shattered. Cullman is still rallying behind me, helping to bless countless deserving children in our community to give them worth, dignity and a bright vision for their future."

Curt's Closet clothes hundreds of Cullman-area children each year and spearheads the yearly Curt's Christmas campaign that provides holiday gifts to children in low-income households.

"Being presented this award truly gives me the peace of knowing I am doing exactly what I was called to do, with the encouragement to press forward.

"I cannot think of a more rewarding job. I am truly blessed. I want to thank everyone who had their hands in this surprise. Thank you for your support in naming my family and myself City Family of the Year," concluded Wilson.

The Cullman County Farm-City Committee chooses a Family of the Year each year, normally rotating between choosing a Farm Family and City Family. It recognizes members of the community who fulfill the mission of "bringing about a better understanding between rural and urban people by increasing their knowledge and appreciation of each other as partners in progress."



CULLMAN FARM CITY/FACEBOOK

2022 Farm-City Outstanding FFA Member Mattie Leigh Wood



CULLMAN FARM CITY/FACEBOOK

Helen Lewis, left, with her sister-in-law and 2023 City Family of the Year matriarch Ashley Wilson

Holly Pond High School's Mattie Leigh Wood was named the 2022 Farm-City Outstanding FFA Member. The Holly Pond senior won Grand Champion Market Goat, placed third in Senior Showmanship and third in Supreme Competitor at the Alabama National Fair in Montgomery recently.

Grotto (from Front)

Sara Gladney
sara@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Ave Maria Grotto is bringing back its Christmas tradition for another year. This year, Christmas at the Grotto will expand to 17 dates: Nov. 25-26 and Dec. 1-3, 9-11, 15-17, 19-23 and 26, and will be open from 5-9 p.m. each day.

Christmas at the Grotto began when Roger Steele took over as director in 2019.

"I got here in November, and we did it for only two or three nights the first year in December in 2019, and we expanded it every year," he said.

When the event began, Steele said, "We saw the growth in Christmas events all around Cullman.

"Of course, the vast majority are secular-type displays, so we wanted to add a spiritual element to the Christmas season as far as lighted events that people can experience.

"We're trying to draw people's attention to the real reason for the season.

"Even for those who don't believe, just draw them to a more spiritual sense about what's most important in life."

The 125 miniature sculptures made by Brother Joseph Zoettl, a monk at St. Bernard Abbey for almost 70 years, will be beautifully lit for guests to enjoy their charm further highlighted by Christmas lights.

"The park is close to 85 years old. Since the park was open, it was never lit at night, so we wanted to show off Brother Joseph's work in a brand-new perspective," Steele said.

It takes about eight weeks to put the lights up leading up to the event.

"It's a year of planning, but implementing that plan takes about two months," said Steele.

"A few volunteers will help on some days, but most of the work is done by Steele and his wife, Karen.



CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

For the first time in more than 80 years, Cullman's Ave Maria Grotto was lit at night and dressed in Christmas lights in 2019.

Christmas at the Grotto admission is $10 for adults, $8 for seniors, $7 for military/veterans/first responders, $8 for teens (14-17), $7 for children (5-12) and free for children younger than 4.

Special dates (Dec. 9, 10, 16, 17 and 23) will feature horse-drawn wagon rides for $10, kids' Christmas train rides for $5 and live music. This year the wagon rides will run along a lit path in the woods. On Dec. 23, Santa Claus will be at the Grotto to take pictures with kids.

For more information about the Ave Maria Grotto, visit www.avemariagrotto.com.

