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SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

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NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

West Point's Minck signs with Northwest-Shoals

» PAGE 4

Bail is back in Cullman County

Sheriff Matt Gentry holds press conference

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry at a Wednesday press conference announced that the United States Court of Appeals for the 11th Judicial Circuit "made a ruling in our favor that basically we were doing everything right under a 2018 order that was in place by a presiding judge that was in regards to bail." Gentry continued, "As of this morning, we have bail again in Cullman County."

The 2017 civil lawsuit was filed by two local attorneys, Tommy Drake and Melvin Hastings, on behalf of their respective clients. They alleged Cullman County was impeding on their clients' rights under the 14th Amendment, which states, in part, that "No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due pro- » PAGE 4



LAUREN ESTES/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry held a press conference on Wednesday, Nov. 30, to discuss the county's bond issue.

Holly Pond Lions donate remaining $2K for local family's Diabetic Alert Dog



SARA GLADNEY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Holly Pond Lions Club presents the Howard family with a check for $2,000 Monday, Nov. 28, 2022. Left to right are Jay Huddleston, Wayne Hays, Bartee Bryan, Mike Williams, Jerry Goldin, Ann Harrison, Cash Howard, Raelyn Howard, Tylyn Howard, Sarai Howard, Robbie Howard, Keith Carr, Dewitt Sanford, Gary Ayers and Clarence Benefield.

Sara Gladney
sara@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. — The Holly Pond Lions Club, at its Monday night meeting, presented a check for $2,000 to the family of 7-year-old Cash Howard, who was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes this fall. The donation helped the family officially meet its goal of $18,000, the amount needed to pay for a Diabetic Alert Dog for Howard. The family has been raising funds since September and will now get to bring black labradoodle Luna home once her training is complete.

The club recently organized another fundraiser for Howard and Luna. On Nov. 12, the group held a pancake breakfast that raised $2,275.

Holly Pond Lions Club President Ann Harrison said, "Diabetes is one of the Lions Club emphases.

"It's one of the five strong points we emphasize." Other facets recognized globally by Lions Club International as important charitable causes are childhood cancer, the environment, vision and hunger.

The Howards visited Luna and her trainer Kim Johnson in Chattanooga, Tennessee, last week so that Howard could train with her in public places. His mom, Sarai Howard, said, "She wants us to come once a month for Cash to get the feel of leading Luna. She wants him to get the feel of how Luna is when she alerts."

Luna will be able to alert Cash Howard when his blood glucose levels drop too low. She will be able to smell chemical changes and alert him 30 minutes before his glucose drops to dangerous levels.

When the family first visited Johnson in August, Cash Howard met with four different dogs before she matched him with Luna.

Sarai Howard » PAGE 8

Kids Loving Kids in need of Christmas toy donations



KIDS LOVING KIDS/FACEBOOK

Priscila and Jason Brown have a drop-off box for donations at PJ's Preschool » PAGE 5

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

Holiday events for the weekend of Dec. 2 » PAGE 5

Holly Pond hosting Christmas celebration this Saturday » PAGE 3

Cold Springs High hosting toy drive » PAGE 8

CATA 1 of 8 schools nationwide to receive 2022 NCCER Core Toolbox Grant



SARA GLADNEY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Principal Susan Patrick, Dr. Mittie Cannon and Mike Burkett » PAGE 8

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Nov. 29-30

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Nov. 29-30, 2022. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.
GJ = grand jury; FTA = failure to appear

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS
No arrests or incidents reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS
Nov. 28
• burglary-3rd degree, theft of property-1st degree, theft of property-2nd degree, criminal mischief-1st degree; Billy Ray Taylor Auto Sales; Hwy 157; 2017 For Mustang, 2017 Chevy Camaro, pistol, damaged property
• theft of property-3rd degree; WalMart; Hwy 157; general merchandise; $781
• theft of property-3rd degree; WalMart; Hwy 157; general merchandise; $784
Nov. 29
• forgery-3rd degree; Van's Sporting Goods; forged check
• criminal trespassing-3rd degree; WalMart; Olive St. SW

ARRESTS
Nov. 28
Kunze, Cody W; 29
• possession of drug paraphernalia

Shearin, Amanda N; 31
• FTA-theft of property-3rd degree
• FTA-insurance violation (2 counts)
• FTA-driving while license suspended
• FTA-expired tag (3 counts)
• FTA-driving without license

Nov. 29
Flanigan, George L; 45
• FTA-criminal trespassing-3rd degree
• FTA-insurance violation
• FTA-driving without license

Fortenberry, Lukas W; 23
• FTA-disorderly conduct

Hill, Dustin W; 39
• FTA-criminal trespassing-3rd degree
• FTA-providing false information to law enforcement officer
• FTA-attempting to elude
• FTA-theft of property-4th degree

Mullet, Latishia L; 31
• FTA-driving while suspended (2 counts)
• FTA-driving without license
• FTA-insurance violation

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT
No arrests or incidents reported.

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

CCSO arrest roundup

Staff Reports
Contributor

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

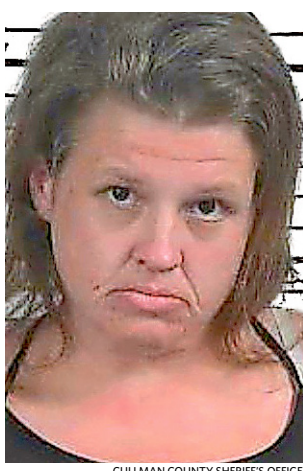
THURSDAY, NOV. 24

Deputies responded to a reported burglary in the Vinemont area. Upon arrival, deputies located two subjects in a vehicle on the property.

Mary Elizabeth Allen, 35, of Cullman, and Michael Phillip Ferguson, 47, of Cullman were identified as the occupants.

A subsequent search of the vehicle allegedly yielded narcotics and paraphernalia. No evidence of a burglary was found.

Both subjects were arrested and transported to the Cullman County Detention Center.


CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Mary Elizabeth Allen

Allen was charged with unlawful possession of methamphetamine and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia.
Ferguson was charged with unlawful possession of methamphetamine.

Deputies responded to a report of a pedestrian in the Vinemont area.

They located Gaberalle Lee Ann England, 29, of Vinemont, walking in the area and determined she had an outstanding warrant.


CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Michael Phillip Ferguson

A subsequent search of her person allegedly yielded narcotics and paraphernalia.

England was charged with a traffic violation (warrant), unlawful possession of methamphetamine and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia.


CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Gaberalle Lee Ann England

SATURDAY, NOV. 26

Deputies arrested Jacob Ray Cantrell, 30, of Cullman, on multiple outstanding warrants, including unlawful possession of methamphetamine (failure to appear warrant), two counts of unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia (failure to appear warrants), aggravated assault (warrant), child abuse (failure to appear warrant) and two counts of trespassing (failure to appear warrants).


CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Jacob Ray Cantrell

Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the Welti community.

Robert Harry Smith, 62, of Hanceville, was identified as the driver.


CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Robert Harry Smith

It was determined that Smith had an outstanding warrant.

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

Smith was charged with a traffic violation (failure to appear warrant), unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia and unlawful possession of methamphetamine.

Madison Co. man indicted for violating US sanctions against Iran

Staff Reports
Contributor

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — An indictment was unsealed Monday charging Ray Hunt, 69, of Madison County, with federal offenses related to an illegal scheme to export U.S.-origin goods to Iran.

The 15-count indictment charges the defendant with conspiracy to defraud the United States, sanctions violations, smuggling goods from the United States and submitting false or misleading export information.

According to the indictment, since at least November 2017, the defendant conspired to export U.S.-origin parts used in the oil and gas industry, including control valves and oil tubing, through his Alabama-based company, Vega Tools LLC, to customers in Iran.

The defendant transshipped the goods to Iran through Turkey and the UAE to evade U.S. sanctions.

Hunt was arrested and made his initial court appearance earlier today.

If convicted, Hunt faces a maximum penalty of up to 20 years in prison and up to a $1 million fine for violating U.S. trade sanctions against Iran.

In addition, he faces up to five years for the conspiracy charge, 10 years for the smuggling offense and up to five years for the false information offense.

A federal district court judge will determine any sentence after considering the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

Assistant Attorney General Matthew G. Olsen of the Justice Department's National Security Division, U.S. Attorney Prim F. Escalona for the Northern District of Alabama and Special Agent in Charge Jonathan Carson of the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security, Office of Export Enforcement (OEE) Miami Office made the announcement.

The U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security investigated the case in coordination with the FBI.

Assistant U.S. Attorneys Henry Cornelius and Jonathan "Jack" Harrington of the Northern District of Alabama and Trial Attorneys Emma Dinan Ellenrieder and Adam P. Barry of the National Security Division's Counterintelligence and Export Control Section are prosecuting the case.

An indictment is merely an allegation, and all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

Cullman man arrested on burglary charges in Florence

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

FLORENCE, Ala. — Braden Boner, 19, of Cullman, was arrested Tuesday by the Florence Police Department during an attempted burglary at a Walgreens Pharmacy located on North Wood Avenue in Florence.

Boner was allegedly found intoxicated by officers on the scene. Upon searching his belongings, officers allegedly found burglary tools in his possession and damage to the property consistent with Boner's tools.

Boner was charged with minor in possession of alcohol, public intoxication, third-degree burglary and possession of burglary tools. He has been released on a $17,700 bond.


FLORENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT
Braden Boner

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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 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.
• Thursday, Dec. 1 - 10 a.m. Prayer Meeting - Please join Bonnie Barrett on Thursday to pray for our church, nation, our leaders, special prayer requests, etc.
• Thursday, Dec. 1 - 7 p.m. Celebrate Recovery - Fellowship & Testimonies. Hurts, habits, and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! For those who want to get together before class bring a dish, dessert or drink 6:30 p.m. for a potluck meal. Nursery provided.
• Sunday, Dec. 4 - 8 a.m. Prayer - Join Kevin and Pastor Bobby Sunday to pray for our church, nation, for those who need healing, salvation and deliverance.
• Sunday, Dec. 4 - 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. 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.

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: 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.

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:
• 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.

Santa a Jack's in Dodge City
Monday, Dec. 12, from 5-7 p.m. The restaurant is located at 325 Alabama Highway 69 S, Hanceville, Alabama 35077. Jack's will host Santa for a special evening of holiday cheer and hand-made Southern food. Families are invited to a free visit with Santa for pictures while enjoying Jack's Southern homestyle menu among festive decor and a warm fire.

Free Christmas Meal for Seniors
Thursday, Dec. 22, beginning at 10:30 a.m. at the Hanceville Civic Center. There is no charge for the meal, but the City of Hanceville is limiting it to 250 people. So please RSVP at 256-352-9830 ext. 123.Senior Outreach will be providing entertainment, and we will have guest speakers and door prizes! The event starts at 10:30 and food will be served at 11:30. To donate money or door prizes, please contact the number above! Thank you to everyone involved in the planning, donations, preparation of food and spreading the word about this lunch for seniors. We want to make sure nobody goes without a Christmas meal.

Weight Loss Support Group
Thursday, Dec. 22, 6-7 p.m. in the Cullman Regional COE Conference Room – Professional Office Building 1, 1948 Alabama Highway 157. 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.

Celebration (from Front)

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. — The Town of Holly Pond, Holly Pond Civitan Club and Holly Pond Middle School Junior Civitan Club will host the Holly Pond Christmas Celebration on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 5-8 p.m. Governors Park behind Holly Pond Town Hall will see various Christmas displays from the community's schools, churches, business owners and more.

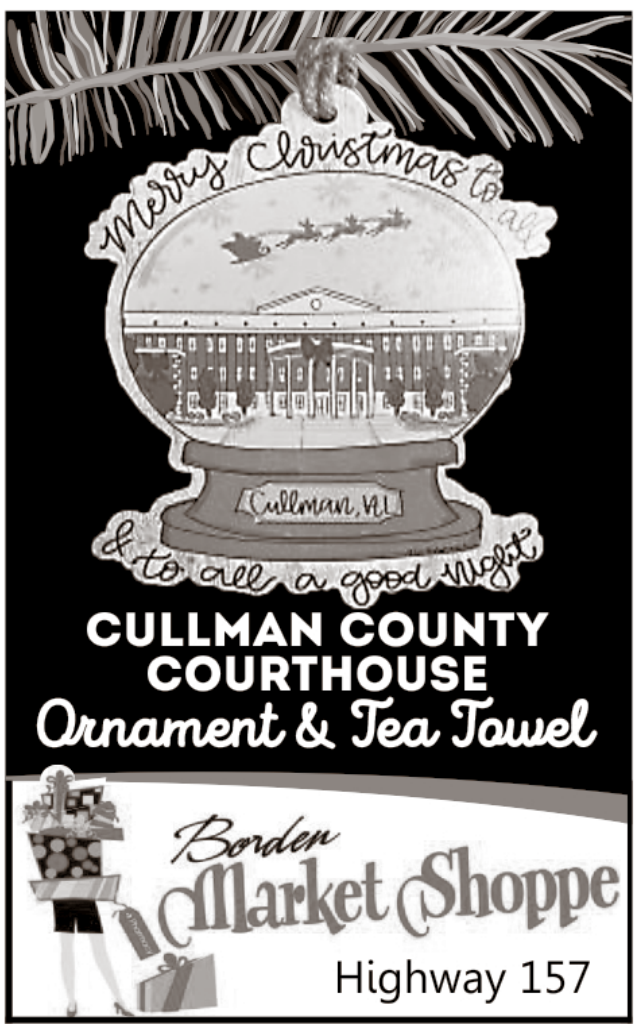
Holly Pond Mayor Carla Hart will light the town's Christmas tree before the Junior Civitans, along with Advisor Francine Morton, light luminaries in the park in memory of or honoring special loved ones.

The Holly Pond High School band, led by Director Steven Porter, will play Christmas selections and Holly Pond Choral Director Melissa Roberts will direct the elementary chorus in traditional Christmas songs.

Santa Claus will be in attendance for the little ones and food trucks will have food, snacks and beverages available.

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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

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 1, 2022

PREP SOFTBALL

West Point's Minck signs with Northwest-Shoals

Nick Griffin
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WEST POINT, Ala. — West Point High School's library was packed with friends, family, teammates, and coaches Tuesday to celebrate the latest achievement of one Warrior's athletic career. West Point Softball standout Bethany Minck was sought by several schools that wanted to add her talents to their rosters, but she made it official Tuesday and signed to continue her playing career at Northwest-Shoals Community College.

It didn't take long after meeting Head Coach Angel Brown for Bethany to decide she wanted to play for the Patriots and she's already looking forward to building relationships with her new teammates.

"I'm hoping to make some new friends there, maybe some best friends," Minck said. "The first year I plan on living at home, but I'll be moving up there for my second year. I'm really excited for the practices and just hanging around each other and bonding."

Some of Minck's high school coaches shared a few words about their time with her at the signing ceremony, starting with coach Steven Harbison.

"You guys know we've had a few come through here that have gone on to play at the next level and Bethany is special," Harbison said. "Not just because she's super skilled, which she is, not just because she's a hard worker, which she is, but she's got a great attitude, she's a great teammate, she's great in the locker room and she does so many things for this program. I'm amazed at who she is not just as a softball player but as a person. She's just a great person."

Another one of Bethany's former coaches, Eric Pendley, was unable to be at the ceremony in person but sent a letter for her that was read by Coach Justin Cornelius.

"Congratulations, I wish I could be there in person. I'd rather be there with you than speaking at a mayor's conference. I am so excited for you and remember clearly writing your name down as a starter in the seventh grade. Mike (Brown) and I both discussed this because my biggest fear is ruining a player's confidence. He and I both agreed you would be fine. As always, we were correct. I remember clearly you making the biggest, last out in the county championship, shutting down a very good Good Hope team. I remember in the area championship after we lost the lead in the last inning of the if-necessary game when you started the inning off with a bunt. It was from the left side of the box and that might've been one of my worst coaching moves. But you started a rally as we took the lead and then again, you made the last out in our school's first area championship.

I remember the day you struggled in Guntersville, and I pulled you from the field the last few innings but what I saw that Sunday was a kid at the field taking extra reps. You jumped right back in the lineup and never looked back. I have spoken with several coaches this past year about you, and they all kept talking about your great energy and attitude. You have chosen a great place with a great coach in Coach (Angel) Brown, and she will make you better. I want you to know that I'm very happy for you but here is my challenge. First, lead your Warriors back to Oxford. Next, I'm going to be honest, struggle is coming at the next level. But let me remind you of this, you are built for it. Go do big things. Don't let this be the last goal you achieve. Go lead the Patriots to the nationals, go be All-Conference, go be All-American, don't be satisfied. Be that hungry, little seventh-grader that made big plays. I love you and will end with this, you have my number, and you will hear from me. I know the grind and I will be your motivator. I think every kid I coached will tell you I keep up with them and encourage them. You will need it and I am here. I love you, congrats."



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Bethany Minck is joined by her mother, Starr Minck (left) and father, D.J. Minck (right) at her scholarship signing ceremony Tuesday.

Bethany is excited to get to work with the Patriots but when asked what she'll miss the most about her time at West Point, her answer was simple.

"Definitely the people, I love them, and I'll really miss playing for my high school team."

PREP BASKETBALL

Broncos, Lady Broncos collect sweep at Hanceville

Sammy Confer
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HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The Holly Pond Broncos traveled to Lane Horton Gymnasium to take on the Hanceville Bulldogs Monday night and left with a pair of wins. The Lady Broncos won a defensive affair over the Lady Bulldogs 39-9 and the Broncos jumped out to an early lead in the second half to pull away from Hanceville and complete the sweep with a 72-64 win.

Holly Pond 39 - Hanceville 9 (Varsity Girls)

A steal and a layup by Madison Butts quickly put Holly Pond on the scoreboard first. Kamryn Tankersley drilled a three from the left wing to give the Lady Broncos a 5-0 lead.

Another Butts layup and a three by Bai Widner made it 10-0. Maggie Nail added back-to-back baskets and Alana Philips hit one herself as Holly Pond didn't allow a single Hanceville point in the first quarter as they took a 16-0 lead into the second period.

Butts made another shot down low to make it 18-0. Aaliyah Twitty hit a basket down low to put the Lady Bulldogs on the scoreboard, but Butts hit back-to-back shots to push the Lady Bronco lead to 22-2.

Kate Sterling hit a free throw to make it 22-3, but Maddi Ham drilled a three to increase Holly Pond's lead to 25-3. The Lady Broncos would take a commanding 26-3 lead into the locker room.

Both defenses dominated the second half as neither team could get into a rhythm offensively.

Jessica Marshall hit a short jumper to make it a 26-6 game, but shots by Nail, Butts, and Ham pushed Holly Pond's lead to 34-6 going into the final period.

Tankersley hit a shot down low to make it 36-6 and the rest of the quarter was played with a running clock. The Lady Broncos would end up taking the game, 39-9.

Butts finished the game with 16 points for Holly Pond (5-4). Nail added six points, while Tankersley and Ham each ended up with five.

For Hanceville (1-6), Twitty finished with five points, while Marshall and Sterling each added two points.



SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Holly Pond's Kollin Brown finished with 29 points in the Broncos' 72-64 win over Hanceville.

Holly Pond 72 - Hanceville 64 (Varsity Boys)

Holly Pond's Kollin Brown knocked down a three to put them on the scoreboard first, but Brayden Harris would tie it up at three with one of his own. Levi Farr hit a basket down low, and Carson Ryan hit a long-range shot of his own to give the Broncos an 8-3 lead. Another Farr basket down low made it 10-5 and Jackson Wilkins drilled a trey from the right wing to push the Bronco lead to 13-5. Blake Rickard hit one of his own from long-range to make it 16-5, but Will Calvert helped cut into the Hanceville deficit as he hit a pair of threes to make it an 18-11 game going into the second period.

Brown scored seven of the first nine points for Holly Pond as that made it 27-13 early on in the second period. Harris got fouled after he made the three-pointer and ended up completing the four-point play to cut it to 27-17. That started a Hanceville run as Noah Jones, Harris, and Zach Campbell each hit a basket down low to make it a 27-21 game. Diego Garcia converted on his and-one opportunity to make it 30-21. Harris hit a pair of technical free throws and Calvert added a pair of baskets to cut it to 32-27. Later in the first half, Logan Quick knocked down a floater and Campbell hit another basket down low to tie the game up at 35. Each team would hit a pair of free throws to end the first half as the contest was tied at 37 at the half.

The Broncos got a huge boost from Sawyer Olinger to start out the second half as he scored seven of the first nine points of the third quarter, including a three from the right corner, to give Holly Pond a 46-39 lead. Harris knocked down a three to cut it to 48-44 with less than two minutes to go in the third period, but a pair of Brown free throws would give the Broncos a 52-46 lead going into the final period. Garcia drilled a three from the right corner to push the Holly Pond lead to 55-46 to start out the fourth quarter. Brown got fouled after making the basket and converted his and-one opportunity, then Rickard hit a shot down low as the Broncos pushed their lead to double-digits for the first time since the first quarter: 60-46. Harris hit a pair of free throws with 5:50 left to go in the game for the Bulldogs' first points of the period. A Calvert basket down low made it 61-50 with a little over four minutes to go in the game, then later on, a huge Harris trey made it a 62-53 game. The Bulldogs looked to make yet another comeback. Campbell hit a shot down low, then after forcing a Bronco turnover, drilled a three from the top of the key to cut the deficit to just three at 62-59. Holly Pond had a quick answer after that as Brown hit a layup, then hit another one after getting a steal to make it a 66-59 game with 1:45 left to go in the contest. A huge basket by Christian Couch and four Brown free throws helped seal the 72-64 win for Holly Pond on the road. That puts the Broncos 4-0 now on the road.

Brown led the way for Holly Pond (6-1) with 29 points. Olinger added 11 points. Rickard ended up with seven points and Couch added six points. For Hanceville (6-1), Harris finished with 29 points. Calvert added 13 points and Campbell ended up with 11 points.

Holly Pond will travel to take on Good Hope Thursday night and Hanceville will go to Fairview Tuesday night.

Bail (from Front)

cess of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

The lawsuit claimed that the Cullman County bail system discriminated against the indigent, making it difficult to impossible for those defendants to get out of jail while awaiting trial and movement within the court system.

The 11th Circuit's split opinion lifting the previous court's preliminary injunction went into effect Wednesday morning.

"In 2017, myself and two judicial defendants got sued by two local attorneys (sic) with regards to bail saying that bail was unconstitutional," explained Gentry.

"So we fought it in the state court. We won. Then we went to federal court and in 2018 the Southern Poverty Law Center jumped on board with this lawsuit, and in 2018 I had an injunction placed on me by the (United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama), and the injunction stated that anyone arrested in Cullman County was arrested with bail which means you come in and you sign your own bond and leave.

"So for the last five years we have fought tooth and nail over this lawsuit."

Gentry cited 76 failure to appear warrants that were issued yesterday and a criminal who committed five separate felony burglaries in one week as prime examples of how the injunction impacted the community.

"Without accountability provided with a bail system, he said, criminals "feel we have a system that allows them to run amok. That's not the truth anymore."

He continued, "When you bring accountability to those that will do harm, it makes the community safer. What I mean by that is if you have somebody committing five felonies in a week, kicking doors in and breaking into your house, stealing the things that you work hard for, they don't need to be out here on the streets doing those things.

"This brings accountability to keep them in a place where they need to be to keep them from committing more crimes."

Gentry thanked the county's attorney in Montgomery for her work on the lawsuit over the past five years and Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall.



WSCC hosting 'Christmas Spectacular' Dec. 8

Gail Crutchfield
Wallace State

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The Wallace State Community College Fine and Performing Arts program will present its annual Christmas Spectacular on Thursday, Dec. 8 at 7 p.m., in the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre inside the Gudger Student Center.

The production will feature performances from the Wallace State Jazz Band, Concert Band, Singers, Concert Choir and Allegro Dance Theatre.

"Our students have been preparing for weeks for the Christmas Spectacular," said Tiffany Richter, director of the Wallace State Singers and Choir. "You can look forward to lots of merriment, comedy, good music and your favorite vintage Christmas carols."

The Allegro Dance Theatre will dance to "The Volga Vouty," with the Wallace State Jazz Band providing the music.

The Concert Choir will perform by candlelight to "Sing We Now of Christmas" as well as versions of "O Radiant Dawn" and "Silent Night."

Performances by the Wallace State Singers include renditions of "There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays," "White Christmas," "Once Upon a Wintertime" and more, all backed by the Wallace State Jazz Band or the Jazz Band and Concert Band combined.

Admission to the Christmas Spectacular is free and open to the public. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m.

Other upcoming performances from Wallace State Performing Arts programs include:

- Broadway Night, Feb. 9 at 7 p.m., at the Burrow Center Recital Hall, by the Wallace State Fine and Performing Arts program
- The Robber Bridegroom, March 10-12 at the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre, by the Wallace State Theatre program
- Dance Showcase, March 23 at 7 p.m., at the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre, by the Allegro Dance Theatre
- Down by the Riverside: The Roots of Gospel Music, April 13-15 at 7 p.m., at the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre, by the Wallace State Singers and Concert Choir
- Big Band Dance, April 21 at 7 p.m., at the Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts, by the Wallace State Jazz Band
- Spring Under the Stars, April 27 at 6:30 p.m., at the Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts, by the Wallace State Fine and Performing Arts program

Wallace State's Fine and Performing Arts programs will hold scholarship auditions in February and March for students planning to attend Wallace State in the fall of 2023. For more information about performances or scholarship auditions, contact Melissa Lawler at 256-352-8277 or melissa.lawler@wallacestate.edu.

Kids (from Front)

Sara Gladney
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CULLMAN, Ala. — Local nonprofit Kids Loving Kids, founded by Pam Dodd, is requesting donations for its 11th annual Christmas Giveaway on Dec. 10. The giveaway will be held in two locations, Spirit Life Church in Cullman located at 1650 St. Joseph Dr. from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., and at Meek Baptist Church located at 360 Helicon Road in Arley from 9 a.m.-noon.

There are several drop-off locations:

- Captivate Salon – 842 Main St. NE, Hanceville, AL 35077
- PJ's Preschool- 1640 Alabama Highway 69 N, Cullman, AL 35058
- BankFirst – 30966 Highway 74, Addison, AL 35540
- Cullman Electric Cooperative – 31132 U.S. Highway 278, Addison, AL 35540
- Family Dollar – 25 County Road 940, Cullman, AL 35057
- Gladney's – 5975 Helicon Road, Arley, AL 35541
- Kids World – 9360 U.S. Highway 31, Hanceville, AL 35077
- WSCC Nursing Center – 801 Main St. NW, Hanceville, AL 35077
- Gateway Foodland – 5100 Curry Highway, Jasper, AL 35503.
- Gina's Variety Store – 30649 Alabama Highway 74, Addison, AL 35540
- Williams Hardware & Supply – 5059 County Road 41, Arley, AL 35541
- Economy Cleaning Center – 100 19th St. E, Jasper, AL 35501
- Traditions Bank – 109 Second Ave. NW, Cullman, AL 35055
- TJ Maxx – 1908 Marktplatz Center SW, Cullman, AL 35505
- Warehouse Discount Groceries – 5474 Alabama Highway 157, Cullman, AL 35055
- Tangles Beauty Salon – 2134 Second Ave. NW, Cullman, AL 35058
- Bright Beginnings Preschool and Daycare – 8505 Alabama Highway 157, Cullman, AL 35057

Boxes will be left at drop-off locations until Dec. 14 since Kids Loving Kids will have another giveaway in Walker County on the 17th at Raising Arrows located at 2900 Highway 78 West in Jasper from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Requested donations from children include LEGO sets, Barbie dolls, L.O.L. dolls, dinosaur toys, remote-controlled cars, footballs, Paw Patrol toys, make-up, LED light strips, bikes and shoes for ages 2-18.

For teenagers, Dodd suggested hygiene products, blankets, Xbox games, board games and art sets. Necessities such as underwear, socks and deodorant are needed as well.

Kids Loving Kids will provide Christmas for nearly 1,700 kids in three counties.

All gifts that are not designated to go to children who sent requests will be first-come, first-served at the giveaways for children 18 and younger.

Dodd said the organization is in "dire need" of toys. She says there have been more requests and fewer volunteers than in previous years. "We have over 2,000 children this year that are asking for clothes and for toys. We need toys in a huge way."

To volunteer to help box toys for the giveaways, text or call Dodd at 256-318-4555.

You can donate to Kids Loving Kids through Venmo @KidsLovingKids- Nonprofit or at Traditions Bank.

Events (from Front)

Amy Leonard
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CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman has a calendar packed full of holly and jolly Christmas events throughout the county this weekend and into next week.

THURSDAY, DEC. 1

Senior Night at Sportsman Lake

- 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- Seniors 60 and older get in free at the 20th Annual Sportsman Lake Park Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display.

FRIDAY, DEC. 2

Christmas in Cullman Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting

- 6-10 p.m.
- The parade will begin at the Busy Bee Café at 6 p.m. and travel along First Avenue to Depot Park, led by the inaugural Grand Marshal Perry Warren. Following, pictures with Santa Claus will be available along with children's activities and the lighting of the 42-foot-tall Christmas tree.

SATURDAY, DEC. 3

Berlin Volunteer Fire Department 2nd Annual Pancake Breakfast with Santa

- 7-10 a.m.
- With the success of last year's breakfast that provided Christmas for 40 children in the community, the Pancake Breakfast with Santa will return to the Berlin Community Center. The breakfast is donation based and no one will be turned away. Funds raised will go toward providing Christmas gifts to families in need.

VFW Post 2214 Breakfast with Santa

- 8-10 a.m.
- Eat breakfast and visit with Santa at Cullman Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2214. RSVP by calling 256-347-4277 or by emailing regina.kimbrell78@gmail.com.

33rd Annual Cullman County Christmas Parade

- Noon
- Organized by the Hanceville Civitan Club, the parade will follow its traditional route along U.S. Highway 31 beginning at Wallace State Community College and heading south. The rain-or-shine event's theme is "God's Gift of Salvation- Jesus."

Ice Cream with Santa at Seven Daughters Scoops

- 2-4 p.m.
- Enjoy a free scoop of ice cream with any new toy donation and spend time with Santa Claus.

Monograms Plus Bingo in the Streets

- 4 p.m.
- An afternoon of bingo, ugly Christmas sweaters and charitable giving will be held in the Warehouse District. Tickets are $50 each and include five bingo cards, hot cocoa and soup. Extra cards and door prize chances are available with new, unopened gifts for children up to age 18 or for purchase. Proceeds benefit The Link of Cullman County and Curt's Closet. Tickets are available at www.monogramsplusonline.com.

Holly Pond Christmas Celebration

- 5-8 p.m.
- Holly Pond Mayor Carla Hart will light the Christmas Tree in Governors Park behind town hall at 5 p.m., followed by the lighting of memorial and honorary luminaries by the Holly Pond Middle School Junior Civitans at 6. The Holly Pond High School band and Elementary School chorus will provide holiday music. Santa will be in attendance to greet children.

SUNDAY, DEC. 4

Share Club of Cullman 2022 Christmas Tour of Homes

- 1-5 p.m.
- Benefiting Curt's Closet, Hospice of Cullman County and Good Samaritan Health Clinic, the tour will visit the homes of Jimmy and Jackie Walker, BJ and Savannah Wood, Jimmy Drake and Kurt and Megan Apel. Tickets are $20 each and available at J. Drake Salon, Three Pears, Cullman Cabinet or from any Share Club member. Online tickets are at www.eventbrite.com/e/2022-christmas-tour-of-homes-tickets-430987704827

Trident Marina Inaugural Christmas Celebration

- 2-6 p.m.
- Santa will arrive by boat at 2 p.m. and will be available for photos. Hot chocolate and hors d'oeuvres will be available at The Grille at Trident Marina. Hayrides, a tree lighting, rock-n-roll bingo and an ugly Christmas sweater contest will be held. Donations of gift cards, toys, cash and new or gently used coats in all sizes are welcome for those less fortunate in the area.

MONDAY, DEC. 5

Cullman Community Band Christmas Concert

- 7 p.m.
- The Cullman Community Band returns for its annual Christmas concert at the Cullman High School auditorium. Admission is free.

TUESDAY, DEC. 6

Cullman Women Sing Presents: Sing Noel

- 7 p.m.
- The women's ensemble will present its holiday concert at Seventh Street Baptist Church in Cullman. Admission is free and donations are welcomed.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, DEC. 9-11

Cullman Christkindlmarkt

- Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.- 8 p.m.
- Sunday, 1-5 p.m.
- This German Christmas tradition will be one for the whole family to enjoy year after year. You will find handmade 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.

SATURDAY, DEC. 10

Good Hope Christmas Parade and Christmas in the Park

- 2-5 p.m.
- 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.

ONGOING

4th Annual Christmas at the Grotto

- 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.

20th Annual Sportsman Lake Park Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display

- 5-9 p.m.
- Dec. 1-4, 7-11, 14-23, 26-30
- Over a million lights twinkle along the winter wonderland with the Christmas train, snow machine, carriage rides, photo booth and hot chocolate for $10 per vehicle.







THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 1, 2022

Obituary Announcements: Nov. 29-30

James Pilgrim, 79
James Pilgrim, age 79 of Cullman, passed away Monday, Nov. 28, 2022, at UAB hospital in Birmingham. He was born Nov. 14, 1943. Visitation will be Thursday, Dec. 1, 2022, from noon until 2 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Addison, where the service will be held at 2 p.m. Burial will be at Kemp Cemetery in Addison. Brother Dan Cobb will officiate. James is survived by his wife, Rubie Day; daughter, Shelia Barber; grandson, Christian Barber; brother, Leon Pilgrim; nephews, Jeff Pilgrim and Mark Pilgrim. He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Gladys Pilgrim.

Lillian Mozelle Mobley, 100
Lillian Mozelle Mobley, age 100, of Cullman, Alabama passed away Monday, Nov. 28, 2022. Visitation for Lillian will be held Saturday, Dec. 3, 2022, from noon until 2 p.m. at Moss-Service Funeral Home, 1901 Second Ave. NW, Cullman, AL 35055. Funeral services will be Saturday, Dec. 3, 2022, at 2 p.m. at the funeral home. Interment will follow at Cullman Memory Gardens, 1516 Bolte Road SE, Cullman, AL 35055. A lady of great accomplishment and longevity celebrated her 100th birthday on Sept. 22, 2022. She was born to Samuel Andrew Foust and Jessie Dodson Foust. She was the oldest of 40 grandchildren. Mrs. Mobley's Foust family came to America (i.e., Peter) just a few years after the Revolutionary War. Peter was born in Germany in June of 1776. It is very fitting that the Foust family name in Germany means "lucky" or "fortunate". That sure applies to Lillian Foust Mobley. Mrs. Lillian's parents were married in 1921. They moved several times in the 1920s and 1930s. So, their daughter attended several different schools, including Bolte, East Cullman, Grandview, and Good Hope. Mrs. Lillian married J.C. Mobley in 1940. Kenneth was born in 1941, Delean in 1943, and Sammy several years later in 1950. Son Kenneth died Oct. 11, 2003, in a traffic accident in Tennessee. Sammy died Oct. 7, 2021, from cancer. Daughter Delean, married Gary Williams, and they currently reside southwest of Jones Chapel. Mrs. Mobley has three grandsons and one granddaughter; three great grandchildren and five great great grandchildren. She is also survived by her daughter-in-law, Brenda Joyce Lake Mobley. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, J.C. Mobley; sons, Kenneth Douglas Mobley and Samuel Adair Mobley; daughter-in-law, Mary Ann Mobley; two sisters, Katherine Elizabeth Foust Livingston and Georgia Opal Foust Keller and a brother, Samuel Glen Foust. While growing up, she was an excellent student and full of adventure, especially at home and at family get togethers. She was very strong and athletic and plowed a mule before age 13. After she and J.C. were married, they purchased a farm overlooking Ryans Creek on Trimble Road. They made a great team growing row crops and eventually had a very successful egg business next to Trimble Road. When the children were grown, or close to it, Mrs. Mobley and J.C. purchased a five and dime store by Highway 31 in downtown Cullman. She made a huge success by customizing such items as flower arrangements and offered very friendly service. People cried when the Mobleys sold the store. Mrs. Mobley responded to any need around her, whether it was food for families with sickness, death, or just somebody down on their luck. She was a charter member of Brickyard Baptist Church in Cullman. Several of her ancestors were Methodist ministers. She was an active member of the historic Center Hill Methodist Church in Grandview. She taught adults in Sunday school for over 50 years. Mrs. Mobley was vital to the community and farm groups. She designed Grandview displays, which won first place several times at the county fair. While her children were in school, she actively supported the PTA and teachers. Her contributions were recognized in the 1990s, when she was named "Woman of the Year." After her husband passed away in the early 90s, Delton Blaylock spoke to her about doing a column for The Cullman Tribune. She did a wonderful job with Grandview and Bethsadia news for over two decades. She was also a great cook and enjoyed cooking lunch for people almost every day and cooking for family get togethers. This outstanding lady canned and froze large quantities of fruit and vegetables. In recent years, before suffering from a stroke, she and her son Sammy's family shared a large garden. This remarkable woman has truly been a blessing to scores of people. It is a privilege to know and love her. She sure matches the virtuous woman in The Bible.

Margaret Juanita Hunt, 93
Margaret Juanita Hunt, of Cullman, Alabama, passed away Nov. 28, 2022, at the age of 93. Ms. Hunt was born in Akron, Ohio, on Jan. 5, 1929, to Eddie Sylvester and Mary Bell Cass Patterson. Ms. Hunt was a member of Mt. Vernon Primitive Baptist Church. Ms. Hunt was accomplished in many areas. Juanita worked in various department stores, dress shops, and as a florist. She was also a Mary Kay Representative and took care of preschool children for several years. Juanita loved roses and was a member of the American Rose Society. She was also a member of the Holly Pond Homemakers Club. She enjoyed crafting and was very creative. Juanita's many skills brought her happiness, but her joy came in her family. She was a devoted wife and mother, and her grandchildren and great-grandchildren were what made her happiest in her life. She loved her family passionately, as they did her, and she will be greatly missed by those she held so dear. Ms. Hunt is preceded in death by her beloved husband of many years, Owen Hunt; her parents; and her sister, Imogene McIntosh. She is survived by a son, Stuart Hunt; daughters, Beth Stricklin and Kenda Nance; brother, Martin Patterson; grandchildren, Ian Nance, Collin Stricklin, Erin Stricklin, BeTonya O'Malley, Alex Hunt; and great-grandchildren, Heidi Nance, Owen Nance, and Mabel O'Malley. Funeral services for Ms. Hunt are at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 1, 2022, in the Holly Pond Funeral Home chapel with Elder Heath Williams and Elder Victor Quick officiating. Burial will follow in Mt. Vernon Cemetery where Brent Patterson, Alex Hunt, Ian Nance, and Mark McWhorter will serve as pallbearers. Friends are invited to visit with the family on Thursday at the funeral home from 12:30 p.m. until services begin at 2 p.m. Ms. Hunt was fond of flowers, but in the event you prefer to make a donation in her memory, please consider a donation to the American Cancer Society.

Carolyn Gelene Rodgers, 75
Funeral service for Carolyn Gelene Rodgers, 75, of Odenville, formerly of Cullman will be at 11 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 2, 2022, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Duck Creek Cemetery. Rev. Steve Rodgers will officiate. Visitation will be Thursday evening at the funeral home from 5:30-8 p.m. Carolyn passed away Monday, Nov. 28, 2022, at her residence. She was born Oct. 26, 1947, to Lelan Howard Prince and Edith Morene Chambers Prince. Carolyn was a loving wife, mother, sister, grandmother and friend. She was a member of Baldwin Heights Baptist Church. She worked for KFC for over 20 years, and she was a die-hard Auburn fan. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Jimmie Rodgers; son, Timmie Rodgers; brothers, Howard Prince, Joey Prince, Rayburn Prince. Survivors include her son, David (Christy) Rodgers; daughter, Gelene (Scott) Tipton; grandchildren, Jordan Rodgers, Amber Freeman, Renae Standridge, Brooklee Coffee, Destanee Coffee, Zeta Coffee, Chris Tipton, Zac Tipton; great-grandchildren, Chase Rodgers, Dominick Cox, Jazmine Freeman, Jacob Freeman, Austin Abbott, Whitney McAnalley, Layden O'Quinn, Christopher Tipton, and a host of family and friends. Pallbearers will be Dominick Cox, Chase Rodgers, Tim Hesterley, Vance Tipton, Jordan Rodgers, Steven Prince.

Nell Kuykendall Reeves, 87
Funeral Service for Nell Kuykendall Reeves, age 87, of Cullman, will be at 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, 2022, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Roger James and Shannon Wilkerson officiating; interment in Cullman City Cemetery. Visitation will be from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2022, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Mrs. Reeves passed away Monday, Nov. 28, 2022, at her residence. She was born April 1, 1935, to William Nails and Boncile Haynie. She was preceded in death by her husbands, Jesse Kuykendall and W. C. Reeves; parents, William Nails and Boncile Haynie; daughter-in-law, Becky Kuykendall; four brothers; and one sister. Survivors include her daughter, Anita (Tony) Tankersley; sons, Allen (Faye) Kuykendall, Charles Kuykendall, Ronnie Kuykendall, David Kuykendall and Todd (Jami) Kuykendall; 14 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; 10 great-great-grandchildren; sister, Shirley McConnell; brother, Darrell (Selma) Nails; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Annette T. Brooks, 85
Funeral services for Annette T. Brooks, age 85 of Hanceville, will be conducted Thursday, Dec. 1, 2022, at 1 p.m. from the Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel with Reverend James Fields officiating. Mrs. Brooks will lie in state at Hanceville Funeral Home on Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2022, from 5:30-8 p.m. and on Thursday from 10 a.m. until service time. Annette was born in Blountsville, Alabama on July 14, 1937, to Lawrence Johns and Irene Kasulka Johns. She was preceded in death by her husband, Oren Brooks, Sr.; children, Oren Brooks, Jr. and Gary Lynn Brooks; parents, Lawrence and Irene Johns; sister, Shirley Beshears; brother, Dwight Johns. She is survived by her daughter, Marteen Barbee (Shane) Bailey; daughters-in-law, Sonja Brooks and Trisha Brooks; grandchildren, Elisha Thomas, Erica (Josh) Stoves, Courtney (Tommy) Beckwith and Jayce Brooks-Barbee; nine great grandchildren; sisters, Carol Striker and Doris Faulkner; several nieces and nephews. Pallbearers will be Joshua Stoves, Tommy Beckwith, Michael Falkner, Mitch Beshears, Luke Bailey and Shane Harper.

James Hendrix Morton, 77
James Hendrix Morton, 77, of Cullman passed away Monday, Nov. 28, 2022, at Cullman Regional Hospital. Mr. Morton was born May 6, 1945, to Hershel Hendrix Morton and Verna Mae Tyree Morton. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, J.R. Morton; sister, Gwen Fortenberry; favorite niece, Bobbie Jo Wilhite. Survivors include his wife of 54 years, Patricia Morton; sons, Johnny (Sandy) Morton, Ronald Morton, Jason Morton; adopted daughter, Deann Link; sister, Yvonne White; grandsons, Michael Dye and Trent Morton; granddaughter, Kimberly Ann Morton; great-grandchildren, Mali Dye, Kamden Keel, Zaylee & Addi McDonald, and a host of family and friends.

Daniel Joseph Krenzel, 86
The Funeral Service for Daniel Joseph Krenzel, 86, of Cullman will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, 2022, at the Cullman Funeral Home Chapel. The family will receive friends from 11a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday before the service. Reverend Delbert Freeman and Reverend Jimmy Drinkard will officiate the service. The interment will follow in Cullman City Cemetery. Daniel Joseph Krenzel, Col., USAF, Retired, was born in Harvey, North Dakota on July 30, 1936, to Arthur and Elizabeth Erck Krenzel. He passed away from this life Nov. 28, 2022, at his home in Cullman. He graduated from Harvey High School in Harvey, North Dakota and attended the University of North Dakota. He graduated from Dental School at Northwestern University in Chicago in June 1960. He enjoyed pursuing additional educational courses in many areas. Dan entered the Air Force and began 30 years of service at Gunter AFB in Alabama. His subsequent assignments were at Bunker Hill, Indiana; Lybia; Brooks AFB, Aerospace Medical Division, San Antonio, TX, where he met his wife Patricia H. Wolf. From there he served at Whiteman AFB, Missouri; then to Udorn Thailand; Rhein Main AFB, Germany; Sheppard AFB, Texas; back to Whiteman AFB, Missouri; on to Yakota AFB, Japan. He retired at Dover AFB, Delaware, Aug. 31 1990. He was preceded in death by his mother and father; his brothers, Walter (Eileen) and Randy (Cathy); his sister, Jan; and brother-in-law, Ron Gother; a daughter, Dona Joan Krenzel; and son-in-law, Terry Neal. Dan is survived by his wife, Patricia Wolf Krenzel; daughters, Jodi Anne Neal, Newark Ohio; Elizabeth (Daniel) Couch, Placitas, New Mexico and Lisa (Buddy) Hulsey, Cullman, Alabama; brothers, Arthur Krenzel, Washington State and Jimmy Krenzel, Greeley, Colorado; five loving grandchildren, Jenna and Rachel Couch of New Mexico and Justice, Judah and Shiloh Hulsey of Alabama. The family wishes to thank the many employees and volunteers of Hospice of Cullman who served him at home and behind the scenes. Dan thoroughly enjoyed your home visits and appreciated the support from the entire team. Dan personally served as a volunteer with Hospice of Cullman for 14 years and loved doing it. We would also like to that our Church family at New Life Assembly of God, the Refuge Church and Daystar Church. Your prayers and support were deeply felt. Lastly, we would like to thank our families who provided emotional and physical support we could not have done without. We love you all. Daniel Krenzel loved people, but especially his family. He is now safely at home with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Psalm 17:15 (King James Version) As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

James Elzie Johnson, 82
James Elzie Johnson, 82 of Houston, entered into rest Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022, at his home surrounded by his loving family. Mr. Johnson was born June 27, 1940, in Haleyville, Alabama. No services are planned at this time. Mr. Johnson is survived by his son, Dee Johnson and his wife Sheila; daughters, Dorothy Bell and her husband Hollis, Margaret Abbott and her husband Lonnie; brother, Richard Johnson and his wife Betty; grandchildren, Keith, Linda, Dana, Jimmy, Wayne, Elvis, Felicia, LeeAnn, Cassandra, Murray, George, Lee and James; and a host of great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death his wife, Eva Jeraldine Johnson; parents, Elbert and Selbie Miller Johnson; infant son, James Elzie Johnson Jr.; and daughter, Shelby Johnson.

Lorene Allie Richter Hyatt, 96
Lorene Allie Richter Hyatt, 96, of Hanceville passed away Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022, at Cullman Regional Medical Center. She was born March 4, 1926. She is survived by her brother, Louie William Richter; nieces and nephews, Jerry (Dixie) Richter, Greg (Laura Axelrod) Richter, Jeff Richter and Regena Richter and a host of great nieces, great nephews, other family and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, William E. and Anna Belle Gilbert Richter; her husband, Athol James Hyatt; sisters, Alma Rhinehardt and Isabelle Marie Graf and a brother, Charles William Earnest Richter. The family will receive friends Friday, Dec. 2, 2022, from 10-11 a.m. at St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church. The funeral service will begin at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Dr. John Richter officiating. Burial will follow in Cullman City Cemetery. The granddaughter of German immigrants, Lorene stubbornly refused to die from scarlet fever as a small child and lived a long, full life her own way, accepting changes she saw in almost a century of living, and having hatred for no one. She lived up to all our expectations of living life to the fullest to the very end. She drove herself to the dentist just hours before her stroke. Lorene worked in the banking industry her entire career, beginning at Parker Bank in Cullman. She moved to Huntsville when her husband, Athol, took a job with the Forestry Service and secured a job as teller at First National Bank of Huntsville. Before she retired at that bank decades later it would become part of the First Alabama Bank system which is now Regions Bank. When Athol became sick and had to leave his job because his mind would no longer allow him to be his full self, she made sure to keep him at home as long as possible. When he reached the point that assistance was needed, she left straight from her job on Friday afternoon to pick him up from the VA hospital in Tuscaloosa to bring him home for the weekend and got him back late Sunday evening. She was always classy and could be sassy. She had love and acceptance for all. This included not only her family, but the whole human family, and the only people who might be in danger of her wrath were those who didn't treat others according to the Golden Rule as she herself did. Whether it was helping out a relative in need or standing up for black co-workers in her office, there are dozens of stories of her love and concern. She was quick to help and quick to forgive and would advise you not to give up on yourself or on others when you were at your last rope. Lorene and Athol wanted to adopt a child, but the State of Alabama made it difficult for older couples at the time. So, she adopted nieces, nephews, neighbors and friends made everywhere she went. She never got old; old age just finally got her. As she passes into Christ's Eternal Kingdom, please remember her for all her kindness, German stubbornness and genuine love for family, humanity, her seemingly endless collection of frogs and her beloved Auburn Tigers.

Ellen Walser Uzzell, 98
Ellen Walser Uzzell, 98, of Cullman passed away Nov. 29, 2022, at Woodland Village Healthcare Center. She was born Oct. 28, 1924. Ellen was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother and Memom to all children. She was a domestic engineer who loved to garden and cook. She was the director of Sunday School and director of Vacation Bible School at Seventh Street Baptist Church. She was a volunteer in the Cullman City School system and enjoyed visiting the elderly of the church. She is survived by daughters, Marie (John) Apel and Vicki (Mark) Bussman; son, Bob (Becky) Uzzell; grandchildren, Brooke (Paul) Bell, Chad (Alice) Apel, Nicholas (Jess) Apel, Bradley (Haleigh) Uzzell, Jennifer Powell, Tara (Barrett) Richard, John (Emily) Bussman and Juli Bussman; great grandchildren, Havana Richard, Marella Richard, Gabriel Bussman, Luke Bussman; Cheyenne Powell, Caroline Powell, Addison Bell, Avery Bell and Peyton Uzzell. She was preceded in death by her parents, Robert Walser and Mabel Simmerson Walser and her husband, Edwin Clark Uzzell. The family will receive friends on Friday, Dec. 2, 2022, from 1-2 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home. The funeral service will begin at 2 p.m. in Moss Service Funeral Home chapel; Rev. John Bussman officiating. Burial will follow in Cullman City Cemetery.

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Complete obituaries may be found free of charge at CullmanTribune.com/obituaries.

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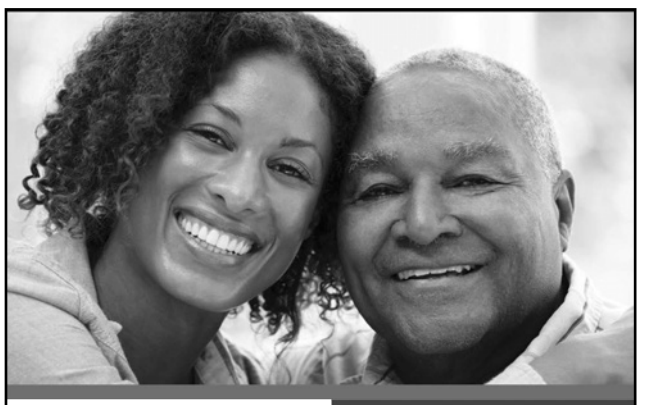
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LEGALS

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

PB WIL BK 112 PG 997 - 11/15/2022 10:16 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
IVODEAN RICHARDSON,) Case Number: PC2022-389
Deceased.)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama

In the matter of the Estate of Ivodean Richardson, Deceased

Letters Testamentary upon last will and testament of said decedent, having been granted to the undersigned on the 28th day of November, 2022, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from the above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

Patsy Stoll
Personal Representative

Tonya C. Palmer
Attorney for Personal Representative
1939 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

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

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

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

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

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City of Cullman
Planning Commission

On Monday, December 5, 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. Short form subdivision – Bolte Road SE & 3rd Avenue SE – create two lots
2. Rezoning request at Bolte Road SE & 3rd Avenue SE – M-2 to B-2

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

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 1, 2022

St. Bernard celebrates Thanksgiving

Joyce Nix
St. Bernard

CULLMAN, Ala. — Though most of us relate Thanksgiving to turkey and dressing and all the fixings, students at St. Bernard Prep gathered in the Abbey Church to give thanks to God for the various gifts they have been given in life. All students, faculty and clergy invited by the students, as well as sisters from Cullman's Sacred Heart Monastery witnessed the bountiful representation of God's gifts placed at the foot of the altar of the Abbey Church.

Priests, Sisters and Ministers read scripture, and international students read the same Scripture in their native languages of German, Portuguese, Spanish and Chinese.

Fr. Jose Chacko, pastor of St. James Church, Gadsden who presented the sermon, shared he had been a priest for thirty-four years serving in his native India, then in Brazil and now in the United States.

He encouraged those gathered to celebrate Thanksgiving remembering with gratitude and love the people to whom we owe so much.

"Be people of gratitude. Thank the Lord and remember people who got you where you are today. Work hard for the coming generations, produce and make a difference," Fr. Jose said.

In addition to Fr. Chacko, other visiting ministers included Korey Cowart from Crosshaven Church in Hanceville; Fr. Patrick Cullen, Nazareth House, Birmingham; Sr. Marian Davis, OSB, Sacred Heart Monastery, Cullman; Sr. Prioress Lynn Elizabeth Meadows, OSB, Sacred Heart Monastery, Cullman; and Fr. Raul Posada Valencia, Sacred Heart Church, Cullman.

Choral music was provided by the St. Bernard choir under the direction of Sr. Mary Therese Lopez, LIHM and Dr. Craig Mann.

Instrumental music under the direction of Jonathon Farley was provided by the St. Bernard Prep School band.

Following the service everyone enjoyed a traditional Thanksgiving lunch provided by the St. Bernard dining hall. Student servers included Scarlette DeCicco, Martha Jimenez Jose, Tanya Jimenez Jose, Kimberly McCormick, Anahi Pantoja and Kimberly Pantoja.



ST. BERNARD

Front row, left to right, are Sr. Mary Therese Lopez, IHM; Korey Coward, Crosshaven Church, Hanceville, AL; Sr. Lynn Elizabeth Meadows, OSB, Prioress, Sacred Heart Monastery; Sr. Marian Davis, OSB, Sacred Heart Monastery; and Fr. Domonic Lee. OSB; back row, left to right, are Fr. Jose Chacko, St. James Church-Gadsden, AL; Fr. Linus Klucsarits, OSB, Chaplain; Fr. Raul Posada Valencia, Sacred Heart Church, Cullman; Fr. Patrick Cullen, Nazareth House, Birmingham; Abbot Marcus Voss, OSB; and Fr. Joel Martin, OSB Headmaster.

Lions (from Front)

said, "As soon as Luna came running around the corner and Cash got her, I knew that was going to be the one because they instantly went to each other."

Cash Howard is excited to be able to bring Luna home. Luna has four more months of training until she will graduate, and the Howards can bring her to Holly Pond for good.

The Howards will bring Luna to their home for a week in January to get her acclimated to the house and environment before she moves in.

Toy drive (from Front)

Sara Gladney
sara@cullmantribune.com

BREMEN, Ala. — Cold Springs High School is encouraging its students and staff to participate in a toy drive. Toys and monetary donations will be accepted at the school office until Dec. 16.

The drive is being organized by the school's 1936 Club and was the idea of club member McKinna Duke.

Club sponsor and school secretary Tammy Gay said, "The 1936 Club is a new club that we have started this year at our school; 1936 is the year that the school started, and we're just trying to teach our kids how to give back to our community. We want to take care of our community."

She said the club works to provide for any students or community members in need. "We are taking donations and raising money to help. If we see a child that needs shoes or a jacket or anything, we discreetly give the item to that child."

After the toy drive, club sponsors will distribute the donations to those in the community who are experiencing either financial struggles or have gone through a recent emergency situation or disaster. Club sponsors will get in touch with elementary and high school teachers to find out which kids may be in need and then contact those parents.

Said Gay, "It's for kids that are in need, but also those going through hardships. There are times when parents may lose their job or there is a sickness in their family, and they're just going through a hard time, and buying toys or buying food is something that maybe is not easy for them to do at the moment."

The drive is predominately for toys for children and teenagers. Gay said she hopes donors do not forget about the teenagers as they are often overlooked during toy drives. The school will also accept gift cards instead of toys for older children.

CATA (from Front)

Sara Gladney
sara@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman Area Technology Academy (CATA) is one of eight schools nationwide to be awarded the 2022 NCCER Core Toolbox Grant, an approximately $8,000 grant from the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) funded in conjunction with Bechtel Group Foundation and Stanley Black & Decker. The eight winners of the grant were chosen from more than 150 grant applicants.

CATA Carpentry/Building Construction Instructor Mike Burkett was notified of the grant in the spring and received the "toolbox" in October. More than 40 tools and over 15 types of protective gear were included in the kit.

Dr. Mittie Cannon of NCCER said, "It makes it really easy having everything all packaged together, so when you receive it, you're ready to go."

The grant was designed to implement the NCCER Core curriculum used by the CATA Carpentry/Building Construction program. All of the tools required to complete each module of NCCER Core and gain the foundational skills needed to begin a career in construction were included.

Burkett said this grant is the first the program has ever received. "Eight thousand dollars is not much, but if you don't have a whole lot of new stuff, it is. We hang on to hand-me-downs. Most of the stuff down here, people have donated to us when their husband passes away that had a little shop."

Students receive certification through NCCER once they complete the Carpentry/Building Construction program, which shows that they have received the number of hours required at the foundation level.

Burkett discussed some of the projects the students have been working on this semester that the new tools will help them complete.

The 40 students construct baby goat houses, dog houses and sheds. They have made and sold around 50 goat pens and make a profit on sales since the pallets used to construct them are donated by the community.

The group also plans to construct bridges for the Sportsman Lake Wildflower Garden through a partnership with the Cullman County Master Gardeners.

Burkett said the students learn business and customer service skills as well as technical skills. "I'm not building birdhouses. I want the kids to learn real-world framing and real-world projects," he said. "My philosophy is these kids need to sell stuff and make money, interact with the customers, do a cost estimate, do a budget, implement this stuff and then we sell it. I think that's a good thing for them to learn. I don't think you get that in an academic classroom."



MIKE BURKETT

Jesus Rodriguez, Madison Evans, Gavin Aker, Chris Miller and Dawson Boyd pose with tools provided through the NCCER Core Toolbox Grant.

