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NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

Lady Bearcats rally to earn 56-53 win over Decatur Heritage, Cullman cruises to 77-49 win

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Jamie Kirk, John Caples CPRST MVPs

2 Merit Awards earned locally

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism's Jamie Kirk was recently named the 2022 Alabama Recreation and Parks Association (ARPA) District II Merit in Recreation Award winner, and CPRST's John Caples received the Merit in Parks Award.

The Merit in Recreation is given to individuals who make a significant impact on their local parks and recreation organizations through leadership, program development and community engagement.

The Merit is Parks is awarded to employees whose contributions focus on their local parks' improvements, maintenance and development.

Kirk came on board with the CPRST team as a full-time employee in 2020.

She worked alongside the programs and events coordinator and provided invaluable assistance in marketing, events and programs. » PAGE 5



CULLMAN PARKS, RECREATION & SPORTS TOURISM

Jamie Kirk and John Caples

Cullman Women Sing brings Christmas spirit



AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman Women Sing presented Sing Noel, Tuesday, at Seventh Street Baptist Church.

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Filling Seventh Street Baptist Church with angelic voices, Cullman Women Sing presented Sing Noel Tuesday to an audience full of joyful hearts. The choral ensemble of area women gathers sheerly for the love of singing and twice a year shares that love with the community.

Artistic Director Laura Doss, a vocal and choral music educator at Samford University and the Alabama School of Fine Arts, led the group as it took the audience on a musical journey through classics including "Gloria," "The First Noel" and "The Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy."

Accompanying the women was pianist Kristi Warden, who performed "Sleigh Ride," with Doss joining on piano.

Standout flautist Kristina Ostberg performed a moving rendition of "O Holy Night" and the audience sang along to "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" and "O Come, All Ye Faithful." The solo descant during "Noel" was sang by Holly McLeod.

Additional members of Cullman Women Sing include Karen Andrews, Charlotte Blakely, Marquita Boike, Lori Bowden, Nikki Burgos, Meghen Casey, Lydia Corry, Sherry Creed, Renee Crowe, Susan Eddleman, Meg Glover, Janna Henderson, Vickie Hicks, Shelley Hodo, Julia James, Susan Johnson, Dianne Knight, Debra Leslie, Teresa Leonard, Susan McBrayer, Melanie Plunkett, Linda Schgier, Sheila Shumaker, Shiela Sizemore, Diane Smothers and Becky Tankersley.



AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Flautist Kristina Ostberg

See videos of the performance at www.facebook.com/CullmanTribune/videos.

Upcoming Cullman Christmas events

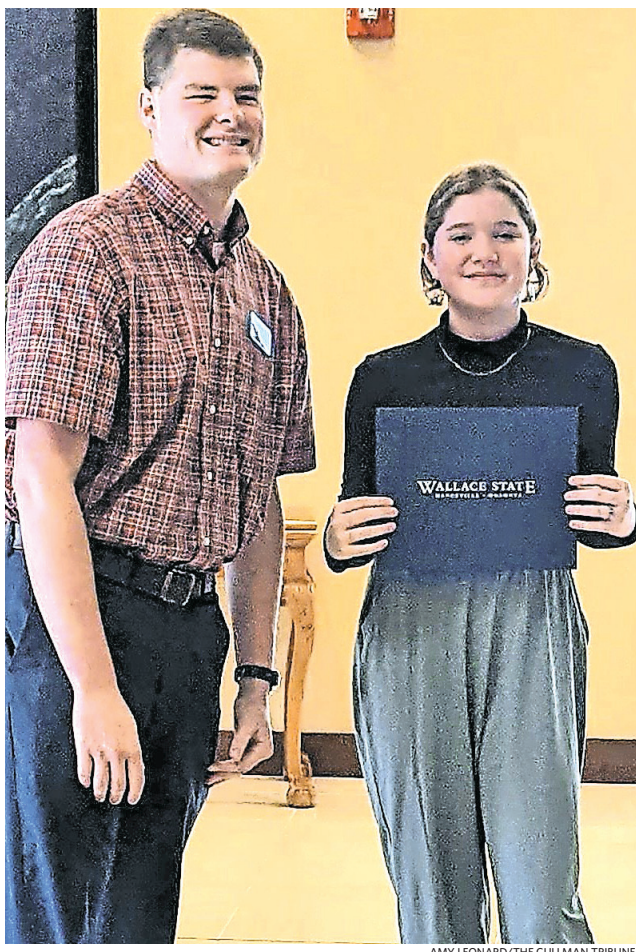
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Cullman City Council recognizes sanitation department

» PAGE 6

4 local students awarded Tools of the Trade scholarships

Scholarships cover tuition for 3 credit hours



AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope Middle School's Rayanna Rusk won first place in the Tools of the Trade Scholarship Awards. » PAGE 2

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Dec. 6-7

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Dec. 6-7, 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

Dec. 4

• theft of property-3rd degree; WalMart; Hwy 157; miscellaneous; $1,268

Dec. 5

• identity theft, theft of property-3rd degree; cash
• home repair fraud; cash
• theft of property-4th degree; WalMart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $78

Dec. 6

• unauthorized use of vehicle; Enterprise Rental Company
• theft by deception-1st degree; Bromeliad Society International; cash

ARRESTS

Dec. 5

Childers, Joseph M; 39
• FTA-domestic violence-3rd degree

Costantini, Anthony B; 42
• driving under the influence

Kuykendall, Zackary R; 32
• FTA-possession of drug paraphernalia
• FTA-domestic violence-3rd degree

Dec. 6

Calvert, William B; 34
• FTA-possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)

Coker, Michael J; 47
• theft of property-4th degree

Davidson, Erin M; 34
• theft of property-4th degree

Speakman, James R; 27
• FTA-possession of drug paraphernalia (3 counts)
• FTA-theft of property-4th degree (3 counts)
• criminal trespassing-3rd degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

OP-ED: Celebrating Alabama's 203rd birthday

Sen. Tommy Tuberville
Contributor

In 1902, an Alabama woman's experience on a snowy day produced one of the most commonly used inventions of the modern era. While riding a streetcar in New York City, Mary Anderson noticed that her driver had to frequently get out of the vehicle and wipe snow off the windshield. This sparked an idea that led her to design the first operational windshield wipers, improving driving conditions for all drivers who would come after her.

Anderson is just one of many Alabamians whose experiences and ingenuity continue to benefit people across the world. Since our state's admission into the Union on December 14, 1819, the people of Alabama have forged their way into history by overcoming, adapting, and pushing onward as leaders.

This is evidenced through our rich culture and many contributions to our national security, agriculture industry, and innovative workforce solutions.

Whether you are searching for award-winning musical artists, rockets, beaches, football, the peanut capital of the world, or sweet tea, the Yellowhammer State continually adds value illuminating Alabama's past while paving the way for the future.

From the Javelin anti-tank missiles manufactured in Troy, to the one-of-a-kind National Computer Forensics Institute in Hoover, Alabamians' contributions are making our nation—and world—a safer place to live. The state of Alabama ensures America remains a global leader in space, as Huntsville is home to thousands of Alabamians working at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, one of the largest NASA centers in the United States.

Their work was recently broadcast to the world as millions watched the successful launch of Artemis I, marking a huge step forward in our mission to return to the moon.

In recent years, Alabama's automotive manufacturing industry has rapidly expanded, providing our nation with the most up-to-date auto technology. Mobile Bay, an important historical port, is now a leading site for the production of new steel ships that will bolster America's military strength around the globe.

Not only is our state on the frontlines of our national defense and cybersecurity, but food security as well. Alabama's farmers and agricultural workers, who make up the heart of our local communities, feed, fuel, and clothe millions of Americans. We lead the nation in several key agriculture production areas, including peanuts, catfish, and broiler chicken production.

Alabama is also leading the way with solutions to address high-demand industry shortages, such as the Alabama Community College System's (ACCS) Skills for Success rapid training program. Thanks to the work of ACCS, students can train for good-paying jobs in industries like construction, nursing, trucking, butchery, and avionics.

All of Alabama's community colleges now offer at least one paid, state-registered apprenticeship so that students don't have to choose between earning a paycheck or advanced training. The ACCS is a model for how to solve workforce problems while meeting students where they are. This month marks our state's 203rd birthday—a time to recognize our history, celebrate our achievements, and the Alabamians who daily contribute to Alabama's overall success. Our state is blessed with many hardworking, talented, people whose efforts may often go unrecognized, but are definitely not unnoticed.

It is an honor to represent the Yellowhammer State in the United States Senate. I will continue to work every day to provide the resources our state needs to continue reaching its full potential while defending the Alabama way of life characterized by conviction, perseverance, and pride.

I hope you'll join me in celebrating our state's history and how far we've come as we look ahead to where we'll go next.

Republican Senator Tommy Tuberville represents Alabama in the United States Senate and is a member of the Senate Armed Services, Agriculture, Veterans' Affairs and HELP Committees.

Scholarships (from Front)

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Tools of the Trade scholarship luncheon was held at Wallace State Community College (WSCC) on Tuesday, and four Cullman County Schools eighth graders were awarded scholarships for three credit hours to the college.

Good Hope Middle School's Rayanna Rusk won first place and Maddie Keith of Hanceville Middle School was awarded second place.

In third place were West Point Middle School's Elle Harbison and Allie Freeman.

"I just want to challenge our eighth-grade students," said Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette at the luncheon.

"We introduce you to a lot of different occupations and maybe future careers. I want you to think about 'What would I like to do with my life.' There are so many jobs out there that you haven't even thought of yet.

"There's a roomful of people here, including your parents, who want to walk alongside you and make those dreams come true."

Tools of the Trade was held Nov. 3 at the college and is an annual collaboration between the college, the Cullman Economic Development Agency (CEDA), Cullman County Economic Development and the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce.

It provides regional eighth-grade students the opportunity to explore possible career options with over 80 local industries and workforces.

This year's event hosted approximately 1,200 students.

During the career fair, WSCC's Center for Career and Workforce Development Director Jamie Blackmon devised a scavenger hunt, details of which were provided to the students prior to the event.

Once on-site, the students were required to engage with various vendors and develop presentations with the information they obtained.

The top three presentations were selected by each school. On Tuesday, the winners were invited back to WSCC for lunch and the scholarship awards.

"The Tools of the Trade event was an incredible opportunity for eighth-grade students from our area schools to experience hands-on activities and skills across all career clusters," shared WSCC Vice President for Advancement and Innovation Suzanne Harbin.

"These are careers that students can have in the Cullman area, and we are so appreciative of our business and industry partners who participated and supported.

"Wallace State has so much to offer our community, and showcasing all of our programs, including the allied health programs in the Simulation Center and the manufacturing programs in the new Welding Technical Training Center, allowed for students to have a more real-life experience.

"We hope that this inspired students to consider a variety of careers for their future."

Events (from Front)

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — After successful Christmas parades, tree lightings, concerts and celebrations over the past several days, Cullman's holiday schedule is still full of family events this week.

THURSDAY, DEC. 8

Cullman City Schools (CHS) Christmas Concert
• 7 p.m.
• The free concert will be held at Cullman High School auditorium and include the Cullman Beginning Band, Cullman Middle School Advanced Band, the Combined CHS Concert and Symphonic Bands and the CHS Jazz Ensemble.

Dr. Herman C. Ensor Lights of Love Christmas Ceremony
• 6 p.m.
• Held at Christ Hall at St. John's Church, the event supports the Cullman Regional Foundation and its efforts to advance quality healthcare at Cullman Regional Hospital. St. John's Church is located at 512 Second Ave. SE in Cullman.

FRIDAY, DEC. 9

Senior Movie Day
• 10 a.m.
• Cullman County senior citizens aged 55-plus are invited to a free viewing of 1947's "Miracle on 34th Street" at Northbrook Baptist Church. The Cullman County Commission on Aging and church will have free popcorn, cookies, drinks and coffee for attendees. Northbrook Baptist Church is located at 3691 Alabama Highway 157.

FRIDAY, DEC. 9-11

Christkindlmarkt
• Friday, Dec. 9 and Saturday, Dec. 10, from 11 a.m.-8 p.m.
• Sunday, Dec. 11, from 1-5 p.m.
• The open-air market will feature live music, entertainment, activities for children, traditional German foods and beverages and homemade and handmade gifts. Santa will be in attendance.

SATURDAY, DEC. 10

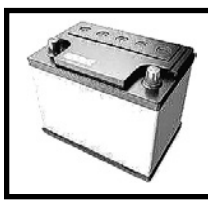
Good Hope Christmas Parade and Christmas in the Park
• 2-5 p.m.
• The parade begins at 2 p.m. at Good Hope High School and ends at Good Hope Municipal Park for Christmas in the Park from 3-5 p.m. with food, drinks, Christmas crafts and Santa.

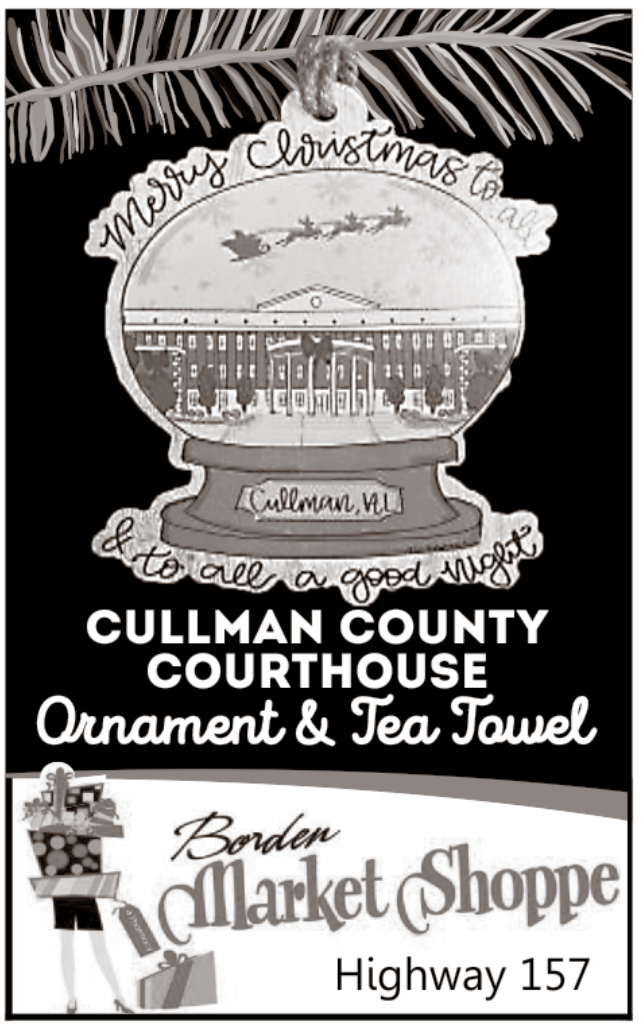
Fairview Lions Club Christmas Parade
• 4:30 p.m.
• The parade will begin at the school and end at Randall Shedd Park where the Christmas tree will be lit followed by Christmas carols and Santa. Free hot chocolate and cookies will be served.

ONGOING

Christmas at the Grotto
• 5-9 p.m.
• Dec. 9-10 (wagon rides), 11-15, 16-17 (wagon rides), 19-22, 23 (wagon rides), 26-Christmas lights highlighting the Ave Maria Grotto with music and refreshments. Wagon rides through the woods on select dates. Admission costs range from $7-$10 with children ages four and younger free. Wagon rides are $10 for adults and $5 for children.

20th Annual Sportsman Lake Park Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display
• 5-9 p.m.
• Dec. 8-11, 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- $10 per vehicle.


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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! Pickup 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. 8 - 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. 9 - 7:00 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 at 6:30 p.m. for a potluck meal. Nursery provided.
• Sunday, Dec. 11 - Southern Gospel Singing 5 p.m. Everyone invited!

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. 8-11, 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. 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/Sportsman-LakePark.

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. 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 Dec. 9,10,16,17,23 – $10
• Kids' rides Dec. 9,10,16,17,23 – $5

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

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.

Fairview Lions Club Christmas Parade
Saturday, Dec. 10, at 4:30 p.m. at Randall Shedd Park in Fairview. The parade will start lining up at 3:45-4 p.m. at the turnaround by the school and start at 4:30 and will end at the park. Anyone is welcome to participate. We will have a lighting of the tree with carols being sung, the reading of the Christmas story, free hot chocolate and cookies. Bring the kids because Santa will be there! For more info, call Kita at 256-358-8805 or William at 256-385-5596

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 at 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 handmade 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.

Holly Pond Homemakers Club Christmas Celebration
Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 11:30 a.m. at the Holly Pond Event Center. Bring a covered dish and gift of food (snacks, ~ $10).

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.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 8, 2022

PREP BASKETBALL

Lady Bearcats rally to earn 56-53 win over Decatur Heritage, Cullman cruises to 77-49 win

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Both the Bearcats and Lady Bearcats of Cullman returned home to Bearcat Arena to host Decatur Heritage Tuesday night and both black & gold squads collected wins over the Eagles. The Bearcats led by 22 after the opening period and cruised to a 77-49 win but in the girls' game, Cullman and Decatur Heritage were tied at 53 with a minute to play and the Lady Bearcats pulled away in the final moments to defeat the Lady Eagles 56-53.

Cullman 56 – Decatur Heritage 53 (Varsity Girls)

The Lady Bearcats led 8-4 midway through the first quarter and an Ava McSwain basket and a three-pointer from Morgan Grimmett stretched the lead to 16-11 later in the period. The 'Cats maintained a 5-point lead at the started of the second quarter and Ally Sharpe buried a three to keep them in front 21-17. The Lady Eagles were able to take a 1-point lead, but McSwain knocked down a jumper to put Cullman back ahead 23-22 with three minutes remaining in the first half.

A steal by McSwain turned into an easy basket for Sharpe that made it a 25-22 game and after a quick run by Decatur Heritage, Grimmett drilled a three-pointer with 10 seconds on the clock to give the Lady Bearcats a 30-29 advantage at the halftime break.

The Lady Eagles took the lead early in the third, but Carly Mills scored inside to stop the run and trim the lead to 34-32. Points were tough to come by in the third quarter and Decatur Heritage began to create some separation until Grimmett knocked down her third three-pointer of the night to make it a 39-35 game. McSwain netted a pair of free throws to cut the lead to two with less than a minute remaining in the period and Sharpe got a layup to fall in just before the buzzer to tie the game at 39 going into the fourth.

Grimmett drained another three to put Cullman in front 42-40 early in the fourth quarter but Decatur Heritage responded and took a 49-44 lead.

Sharpe hit a pair of free throws to make it a 3-point game and McSwain knocked down a three to tie things up at 49. Back to back scores from McSwain kept the 'Cats ahead 53-49 with two minutes to play. The Lady Eagles didn't back down and managed to tie the game at 53 with one minute remaining. However, the Lady Bearcats locked down on the defensive end and Sharpe and Ella Collum each nailed free throws in the final moments of the game to lead Cullman to a 56-53 win.

McSwain led the way for the Lady Bearcats with 19 points in the win. Sharpe finished just behind her with 16 and Grimmett posted 12.

Cullman 77 – Decatur Heritage 49 (Varsity Boys)

The 'Cats got off to a fast start in this one and led 7-3 early thanks to a pair of three-pointers by Jake Dorough. Then Colton Echols turned a steal into a fast-break dunk to make it 9-3 and Arden Crane buried a three-pointer to make it 12-3.

A three-pointer by Tucker Cagle stretched the lead to 15-6 later in the first and Kase Nixon laid one in to put Cullman in front 17-6. A steal by Nixon led to another basket for Echols and after Dorough scored to make it a 21-6 game, Crane knocked down a wild three-point attempt at the buzzer to give the Bearcats a 24-6 advantage going into the second quarter.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cullman Lady Bearcats came from behind to defeat Decatur Heritage 56-53 Tuesday night.

Cagle scored and hit a pair of free throws to keep the 'Cats ahead 28-14 early in the second and Nate Zills laid one in to make it 30-21 midway through the period. Dorough buried back to back three-pointers in the final minute of the period and Cullman went into the locker room leading the Eagles 38-24 at the break.

Sam Duskin and Cagle each scored early in the third to make it a 42-29 game and Dorough's fifth three-pointer of the night stretched the lead to 47-29 midway through the period. Echols and Cagle each drained threes to add to Cullman's lead and after a Tyler Tankersley basket, Landon Tweedie converted an and-one play at the line to give the Bearcats a 61-37 lead at the end of the third quarter.

The 'Cats continued to pull away in the final frame, taking a 67-40 lead on a three-pointer from Brodie Bannister. Evan Wilson scored a pair of buckets later in the fourth to make it 75-47 and Crane got one more shot to fall in the final moments to wrap up a 77-49 win for Cullman.

Dorough and Echols each finished with 14 points in the win. Crane and Cagle each added 11, Tankersley posted six and Zills and Tweedie each scored five.

Cullman will be back on the road Friday night for a pair of varsity matchups at Plainview.

PREP BASKETBALL

Good Hope splits area openers against West Morgan

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — The Good Hope Raiders tipped off area play Tuesday night against the West Morgan Rebels. The girls' game saw the Lady Raiders shoot lights out from behind the three-point line en route to a 62-14 win over the Lady Rebels but in the boys' game, the Raiders fell just short in a tight game 63-53.

Good Hope 62 - West Morgan 14 (Varsity Girls)

Good Hope started the game red-hot from behind the arc. Bailey and Heather Tetro each drilled one from long-range and Charly Johnson added a pair of free throws to give the Lady Raiders an early 8-0 lead. West Morgan got on the scoreboard on a short jumper, but Bailey Tetro, Ivey Maddox, and Heather Tetro each hit a three to make it 17-2. Maddox knocked down a pair of threes and added a pair from the line to push the Lady Raider lead to 25-4. Johnson hit a basket down low, and Heather Tetro drilled Good Hope's eighth three of the quarter as the Lady Raiders took a commanding 31-4 lead into the second quarter.

Bailey Keef hit a basket down low, and Maddox continued her red-hot shooting as she knocked down her fourth trey of the first half and Good Hope went into the half up, 37-6. The second half saw the Lady Raiders hit five more from long-range and the bench players played plenty in the second half as Good Hope went on cruise control from there, easily taking their game, 62-14.

Maddox led the way for Good Hope (9-0, 1-0) with 20 points. Heather Tetro added 15 points. Bailey Tetro ended up with nine points and Jolee McHan added eight points.

West Morgan 63 - Good Hope 53 (Varsity Boys)

Good Hope quickly found themselves in a deep hole to start out the game as West Morgan jumped out to a quick 14-0 lead. Colton Lindsey got Good Hope's first basket of the game with 1:54 left to play in the first quarter. Jacob Haynes put in a floater and Eli Clements hit a basket as the Raiders trailed, 15-6, going into the second period.

Haynes knocked down another floater to make it 15-8 early in the second period, but the Rebels quickly pushed their lead to 23-10. Lindsey knocked down a three from the top of the key, then Haynes added a layup to cut it to 23-15. Later on, another trey by Lindsey made it 25-18 with 1:50 to go in the first half, but a late run by West Morgan saw them take a 31-20 lead into the locker room.

Weston Hancock hit a short jumper to start out the third quarter for Good Hope, then Dakota Overton drilled a trey from the right corner to cut it to 31-25. Back-to-back baskets by the Rebels made it 35-25, but the Raiders made a little run to get back in the game.

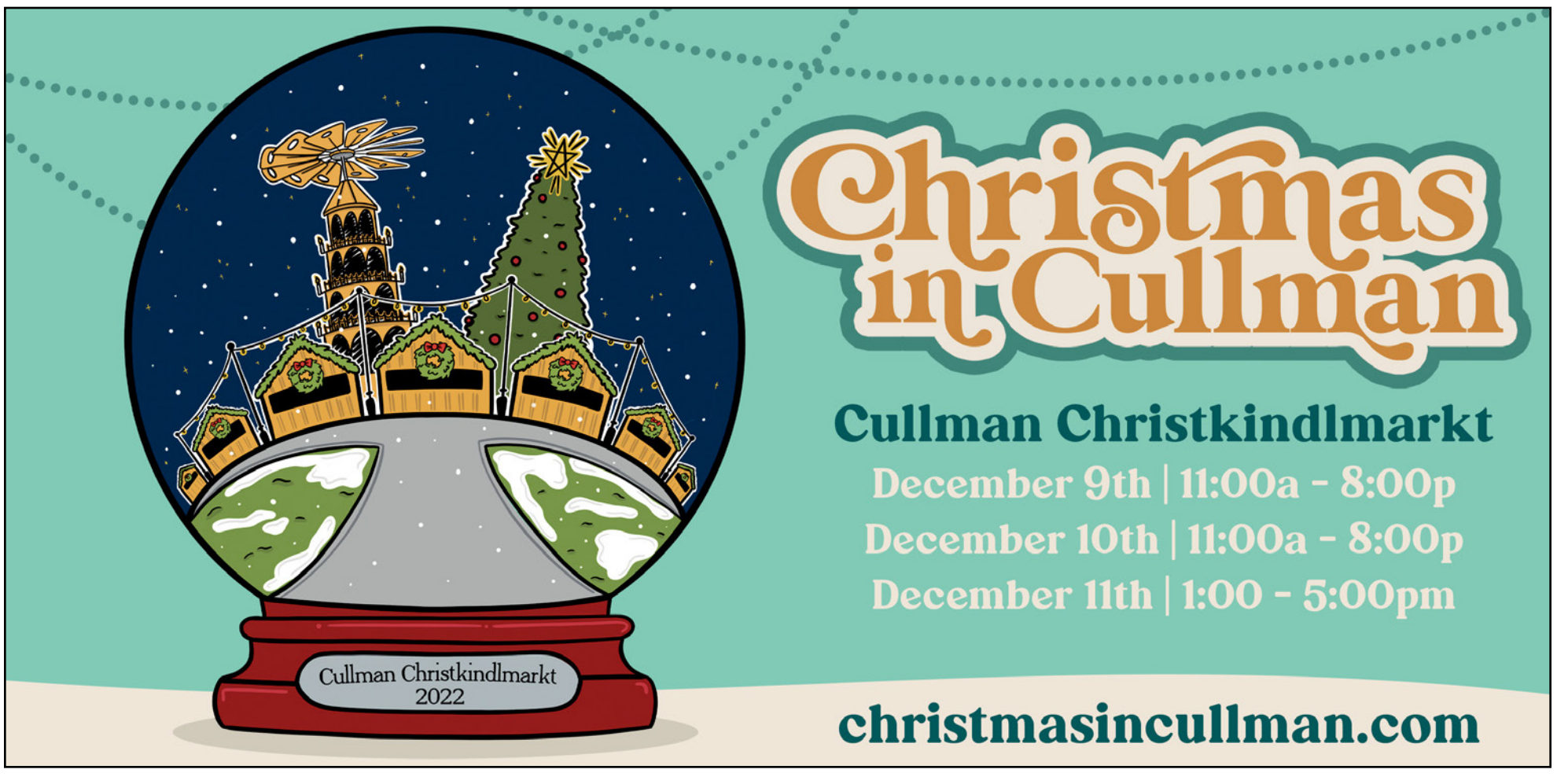
Haynes hit a pair from the line, then added a layup to make it 37-31. Bell hit one of his own low to cut it to 37-33 with 2:24 to go in the third period. Lindsey split from the line, but a hustle rebound and put-back by Hancock made it 39-36. West Morgan hit a late basket to make it 41-36 going into the final period.

The Rebels pushed their lead to 45-36 to start out the final quarter, but a Bell trey with 5:56 to go in the game cut it to 45-39. Once again, the Rebels answered right back with a run of their own as they increased their lead to 51-39. Good Hope made one last-ditch effort to stay in the game. Hancock hit a three from the right corner to trim the deficit to just nine at 51-42, then out of a timeout, a steal and a layup by Bell cut it to 51-44. Tyler Cone hit a layup of his own to make it 51-46 with 3:19 left to play in the game. Lindsey hit a basket down low to keep the deficit at five at 53-48, but the Rebels quickly pushed their lead to double digits after that and Good Hope never got closer after that the rest of the way as the Raiders dropped their area opener to West Morgan, 63-53.

Lindsey finished with 15 points for Good Hope (6-3, 0-1). Haynes and Hancock each added 10 points, while Bell ended up with nine.

Good Hope will travel to take on East Lawrence in another area matchup Friday.





Local heritage group donates to Cullman Caring for Kids

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Sons of Confederate Veterans Thomas Jefferson Denney Camp #1442 of Cullman presented a check to Cullman Caring for Kids recently to sponsor four families for Christmas.

These donated funds are from the camp's fundraisers throughout the year and the SCV's way of giving back to Cullman County. One of the main fundraisers the camp has done for nearly seven years is an annual cooked meat sale at Willingham Salvage.

The camp pre-sells ribs, butts or chickens for a donation, and then smokes the meat so it is ready to be picked up and served. Much of the proceeds from that has allowed the camp to continually donate locally. The camp appreciates the continued support it has received from the community as well as Willingham Salvage throughout the years.



CONTRIBUTED

Left to right are Sons of Confederate Veterans Thomas Jefferson Denney Camp #1442 1st Lt. Camp Commander Nathan Lamar, Camp Adjutant Bert Jones, Camp Commander Wayne Willingham and Cullman Caring for Kids Executive Director Steven Sutter

MVPs (from Front)

Additionally, she worked diligently in expanded the STEAM curriculum by researching and implementing programs highlighting the newest educational advancements.

In a statement, CPRST also noted Kirk's achievements over the past two years.

"In 2021, Jamie spearheaded the development and implementation of two pilot summer camp offerings: Technology Camp and Photography Camp.

"The Technology Camp curriculum, offered for ages 5-7 and 8-12, was well received and proved valuable and necessary to our program catalog.

"The camp provides an age-appropriate introduction to coding, robotics, engineering, video, and graphics through instructional projects such as building and operating robots, computer game coding and many more engaging activities.

"In 2022, Technology Camp returned, and Jamie added a Creative Writing pilot.

"The Creative Writing Camp, offered for ages 8-12, provides instructional focus on different writing styles and engaging budding authors.

"This camp will also return to the catalog, along with Jamie's STEAM-centric Art and Music camps."

Her enthusiasm for education led Kirk to volunteer at Cullman Primary School's STEM Day in September 2022 where she developed two STEM activities specifically for kindergarteners and first graders.

In addition to being recognized as a favorite among the young students, the feedback from the school's teachers and administrators called her activities "the best," "the most valuable" and "the most popular" of all the stations. Kirk was recognized by many of her Technology Camp students who greeted her warmly.

CPRST said, "Jamie has a natural talent and intuitive knowledge of how to create, innovate and evolve program offerings and content to increase interest, engagement and service to our community.

"Her focus and impact in the specific areas of Technology and Art have allowed our organization to expand our reach and diversify the groups served, key areas in which we always strive to grow."

Caples joined CPRST over three years ago and is described as having "skills and knowledge that span many crafts.

His talents in building and fabrication have provided immeasurable value for our organization and community.

John is conscientious of things for which we can place value, such as costs and quality, and those for which we cannot, such as heritage preservation and conservation.

His efforts to achieve the goals set before him are always tailored with these things in mind."

The restoration of Weiss Cottage, Cullman's oldest home and landmark, is underway under Caples' leadership.

Built in 1875, only two years after the city's founding, Weiss Cottage is being restored with love and painstaking detail with the guidance of Caples, whose "expertise in structural integrity and woodworking, as well as his knowledge and appreciation of historic preservation, are essential qualities to ensure that Weiss Cottage remains historically accurate, structurally sound and a beautiful symbol of Cullman's identity."

Caples' expertise will be visible this weekend during Cullman's Christkindlmarkt, the open-air Christmas market paying thoughtful homage to the city's German heritage.

The wooden huts are each handcrafted showcasing Caples' attention to detail and craftsmanship.









Council (from Front)

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — At the Cullman City Council's Monday meeting, Councilman Johnny Cook recognized the City of Cullman Sanitation Department for its growth in "leaps and bounds in our recycling program," which earned the Alabama People Against a Littered State (PALS) Governor's Award.

Said Cook, "We're really proud of their accomplishments and where they're going." Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism Executive Director Nathan Anderson was introduced by Councilman Clint Hollingsworth, and a video highlighting last weekend's Christmas in Cullman Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting was shown. Anderson encouraged the public to visit the Christkindlmarkt Dec. 9-11 at Festhalle where there will be food and vendors and merchandise with "a German theme shining through."

In other business, the council approved the following:

• To set a public hearing on Jan. 9, 2023, at 7 p.m. to rezone Lot 2 of Bark-ley Plumbing Contractors property located on the corner of Bolte Road and Old Hanceville Highway from M-2 Manufacturing to B-2 Business District

• A special event request from Philip Frappaolo of Sacred Heart Church for the annual Our Lady of Guadalupe parade from St. Bernard Abbey to Sacred Heart School on Dec. 10, 2022, at 5 p.m.

• A special event request from Rickey Foster Jr. for a block party on Poplar Drive on Dec. 18, 2022, from 5-8 p.m.

• A special event request from Kari Driver of Cullman Christian School for the annual Good Friday 5K on Friday, April 7, 2023, from 7 a.m.-noon

• Appoint David Nassetta as Cullman police chief

• Award a bid for black and gray pipe to Bear Concrete Products, the lowest responsible bidder

• Award a bid for RCP pipe for the CDBG project at Warnke Road to Foley Products Company, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder

• First reading of Ordinance No. 2023-10 to enter into franchise agreement with the Cullman Electric Cooperative for Sprout Fiber Internet in the city limits of Cullman

LEGALS

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
IVODEAN RICHARDSON,) Case Number: PC2022-388
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 *
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

PB MIN BK 212 PG 202 - 12/07/2022 09:03 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
MARGARET ANN WILSON * CASE NO PC 2022-416
Deceased *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration have been granted to **Cynthia Wilson Self,** as Personal Representative of the Estate of **Margaret Ann Wilson ,** deceased, on the 6th day of December, 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.

Cynthia Wilson Self
Personal Representative

Rhonda Chambers
MARSH, RICKARD, & BRYAN, PC
Attorney for Petitioner
800 Shades Creek Parkway, Suite 600-D
Birmingham, Alabama 35209

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, will hold a public hearing on January 9th, 2023 at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in the Lucille N. Galin Auditorium at City Hall, 204 Second Avenue NE, Cullman, Alabama 35055. At this time anyone wishing to be heard in favor of or in opposition to the adoption of Ordinance No. 2023-09 (set forth in full below) will be given an opportunity to be heard:

ORDINANCE NO. 2023 - 09

AMENDING THE CURRENT ZONING ORDINANCE AND ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, TO RE-ZONE CERTAIN PARCELS OF PROPERTY AS SET FORTH HEREIN

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Under the authority of Chapter 52, Articles 1 through 4, Section 11-52-1 through Section 11-52-84, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, and specifically Sections 11-52-77 and at the request of property owner, the petitioner, the following describe the tract or parcel of land, to-wit:

A TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND CONTAINING 1.00 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS AND BEING A PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 10 SOUTH, RANGE 3 WEST, CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
COMMENCE AT A FOUND BAR MARKING THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID QUARTER-QUARTER HAVING AN ALABAMA STATE PLANE, WEST ZONE, NAD 83 COORDINATE VALUE OF N. 1509571.86', E 2170996.26' AND RUN THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 40 SECONDS EAST (BEARING BASED ON AL. STATE PLANE, WEST ZONE, NAD 83, GRID, A DISTANCE OF 790.85 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 03 MINUTES 55 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 7.46 FFET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF BOLTE ROAD; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 39 SECONDS EAST AND RUN ALONG SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 207.98 FEET TO A SET REBAR (CONN-17831) MARKING THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 39 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 144.42 FEET TO A FOUND PIPE MARKING THE INTERSECTION OF SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE WITH THE WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF OLD HANCEVILLE HIGHWAY; THENCE SOUTH 31 DEGREES 45 MINUTES 30 SECOND EAST AND RUN ALONG SAID WEST LINE, A DISTANCE OF 246.14 FEET TO A FOUND REBAR; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 14 SECOND WEST, A DISTANCE OF 274.09 FEET TO A SET REBAR; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 02 MINUTES 01 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 208.86 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.
within the city limits of Cullman, Alabama, and lying and being in Cullman County, State of Alabama, designated as M-1 Manufacturing District on the Zoning Map of the City of Cullman, Alabama, under Ordinances No. 2004-03 and as may be reflected in any comprehensive master plan for the City of Cullman, Alabama, be, and is hereby changed from M-2 Manufacturing District to B-2 Business District.

SECTION 2. That this ordinance be published at least once a week for two consecutive weeks in advance of its final passage in a newspaper with general circulation within the City of Cullman, Alabama, the first publication of said notice and ordinance being verbatim and the second publication either verbatim or synopsized, with the last publication being at least 15 days prior to the date set for public hearing and passage of said ordinance.

SECTION 3. That a public hearing be held relative to the passage of this ordinance on the 9th day of January, 2023 at 7:00 o'clock p.m., at which time interested parties and citizens shall have the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance and any changes relating thereto.

SECTION 4. That all notices as required by law be given by the City Clerk concerning said public hearing, and in addition thereto, a certified letter be sent by the Clerk to all contiguous property owners at their last known addresses as shown by the tax records for the City of Cullman, Alabama.

SECTION 5. That upon final passage of this ordinance, all zoning maps, master comprehensive plans or any other documents of the City of Cullman, Alabama, in conflict with this ordinance are hereby changed and amended to reflect the changes and amendments herein.

SECTION 6. Should any part or portion of this ordinance be held invalid, unenforceable or unconstitutional, for whatever reason, by a court of competent jurisdiction, such ruling shall not affect any other part or portion of this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage or adoption as required by law, including notice, publication and public hearing, all in accordance with Section 11-52-1, et seq., Code of Alabama 1975, as amended.

/s/Wesley M. Moore – Cullman City Clerk

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COLUMN

Let your light shine

Joe Hobby
Contributor

Christmas is known as the season of light. It's the time of year when Christians all over the world celebrate the birth of the light in the person of Jesus. That's why our home and trees are illuminated – it's a reference to the light God gave us in a world of increasing darkness. However, there are a few times in your life when you are fortunate enough to see The True Light. This is one of those times. This is my story.

I was backstage at the Comedy Club, waiting to do a holiday show, when the owner burst into the green room. He told me my mom had been in a wreck and I needed to get to the hospital immediately. I ran to my car. All manner of thoughts began racing through my mind as I raced downtown.

I bolted in the emergency room and saw my sister, Paula, who was sitting between my aunt and a young black woman. Paula stood up, escorted me to a corner and told me everything she knew. It wasn't good. Someone "t-boned" Mom's car on the driver's side as she pulled out on a main road after taking my aunt home. The black woman sitting beside my sister, Carla, was a nurse who not only witnessed the wreck, but was the first person to attend to Mom.

She and her family were living in an apartment above the convenience store that faced the road. Seconds after the collision, she ran to the mangled vehicle, opened the passenger door, and through the fog of the deployed air bag found my mother. In seconds, Carla began to use her nursing skills like she had never done before. Mom was breathing, but badly injured and going into shock. Carla immediately dialed 911, then pulled mother's phone from her purse and called the last person visible on the screen - my Aunt Eileen. When Eileen told Carla she didn't drive, Carla picked her up and followed the ambulance to the hospital.

There she sat like a member of our family: a complete stranger, a black woman, the living embodiment of the Good Samaritan. Carla patiently waited with us until well after midnight when the doctor called the family in for consultation. Without hesitation, we brought Carla into the meeting. Although mother was lucid and actually talking with the nurses, she had life-threatening injuries that would require extensive surgery immediately. At that point, all of us prepared ourselves for an all-night vigil in the lobby. We insisted that Carla leave, which she did reluctantly, but not before taking my aunt home.

The next day we learned that Carla and her family were also facing great adversity. Earlier in the year, lightning had struck their home and it burned to the ground. They lost almost everything. The small apartment they were living in was a stopgap measure until they found a better alternative.

In the meantime, my mom was fighting for her life – but not without help. While visiting mother, Paula my found Carla in her ICU room praying aloud for her healing. My family marveled how Carla was so concerned about a complete stranger during a time when her own life was so difficult.

It was time for our family to give back to hers.

My brother and two sisters took up a collection and did some Christmas shopping for Carla, her husband and their two children. We brought presents for everyone, wrapped them carefully, then invited her to my mother's garden home a few days before Christmas.

After opening all the gifts, we presented Carla and her husband with some cash to help them get in a better apartment.

Tears flowed as she hugged each one of us, saying, "I don't deserve this, I don't deserve this!"

I responded through tears of my own, "This is the way it's supposed to work. God put you in our path to help us, and in turn, we were put in your path to help you. It's a blessing for both of us."

My mother died on Christmas Eve. I'm sure Christmas Day was better for her than it was for us. At the funeral three days later, Carla was naturally in attendance, sitting with us in the pews reserved for family – because she was. Every one of us learned firsthand that God intends Christmas to be a time when we give of ourselves. Every year when we put up our Christmas tree, and the lights come on for the first time, I recall the night when the light of a stranger came into our lives in a time of need. I think of Carla. I count myself fortunate that I saw The True Light reflected through her.

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

Obituary Announcements: Dec. 6-7

John S. Moore, 80
Funeral Service for John S. Moore, age 80, of Cullman, will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, 2022, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Herman Lambert and Jimmie Moore officiating, interment in Baldwin Cumberland Presbyterian Cemetery. Visitation will be from 5-7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9, 2022, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Mr. Moore passed away Monday, Dec. 5, 2022, at Hanceville Nursing Home. He was born April 8, 1942, to Phillip Hershel Moore and Sudie Bell Moore. He was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Athlene Spradling and Audrey Goode; and brothers, Allen Moore and Steve Moore. Survivors include his wife, Pat Moore; daughters, Michelle (Michael) Bryant and Wendy (Clint) Osteen; grandchildren, Nicholas Bryant, John Isaac Osteen and Jacob Osteen; brothers, Jimmie (Pat) Moore and John Alton (Shirley) Moore; sister, Linda Graham; sisters-in-law, Elsie Moore and Nell Moore; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Jeri Ann Vandiver, 65
Jeri Ann Vandiver, age 65, of Logan, Alabama, went to be with the Lord on Nov. 25, 2022, after a long battle with cancer. She was predeceased by her parents, Jerry and Alice Ann Lacey Vandiver. She is survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Carla and Steve Evans; six nieces and nephews; eight grandnieces and grandnephews; and numerous beloved aunts, uncles and cousins. A memorial service will be held in Jeri's honor at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 11, at Siluria Baptist Church, 10696 Highway 119, Alabaster AL. In lieu of flowers, a donation in tribute to Jeri can be made to Send Relief, the human needs organization of Southern Baptists, at sendrelief.org.

Lavonia Lee Jewel Walker, 82
Lavonia Lee Jewel Walker, 82 of Cleveland, Georgia, formerly of Houston, Alabama, entered into rest Saturday, Dec. 3, 2022, at Northeast Georgia Medical Center in Gainesville, Georgia. Lavonia was born March 19, 1940, in Moulton, Alabama. A graveside service will be held Saturday, Dec. 10, 2022, at 10 a.m. at Midway Memorial Gardens (East Lawrence Memorial Gardens) in Moulton. Vance Hutton will officiate. Lavonia is survived by her son, Barry Walker and his wife Terri and granddaughter, Sarah Richardson and her husband Matthew. She was preceded in death by her husband, JB Walker and her parents, Henry and Maggie Morris Treadway.

Thomas Odell Tidwell, 90
Thomas Odell Tidwell, age 90, of Cullman, Alabama passed away Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022. He was born May 24, 1932, to Reece Tidwell and Agnis Bailey Tidwell. He is survived by his son, Joe Marlon Tidwell and a host of grandchildren, nieces, nephews and other family and friends. No services are planned at this time.

Andrew Lee Wooley, 87
Funeral services for Andrew Lee Wooley, age 87 of Colony, Alabama, will be held Saturday, Dec. 10, 2022, at noon at the Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel with Elder Arthur Johnson, Jr. officiating. Burial will follow in the Colony Cemetery. Mr. Wooley will lie in repose at Hanceville Funeral Home on Friday evening from 5-7 p.m. and on Saturday morning from 10 a.m. until the time of service. His grandsons will serve as pallbearers. Andrew Lee Wooley was born March 4, 1935, in Cullman, Alabama to Chester Wooley and Ruby Staton Wooley. He was a member of Liberty Church of God in Warrior, Alabama and he loved to work on anything with a motor. The greatest passion he had was his family and spending his time with the light of his life, the grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his parents, Chester and Ruby Wooley. He leaves his memory and love with his wife of 66 years, Louise Wooley; his daughters, Patricia Wooley Taylor, Gloria Wooley Henderson, Michaele Wooley Hunter and Angelia Wooley Conner; four beautiful granddaughters and six wonderful grandsons; seven great grandchildren; sister, Annie Faye Leeth; a host of nieces and nephews.

Charles Elvert Campbell, 83
Funeral service for Charles Elvert Campbell, 83, of Hanceville, formerly of Jones Chapel will be at 7 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 8, 2022, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 5-7 p.m. Charles passed away Dec. 6, 2022, at Cullman Regional Hospital. Charles was born May 31, 1939, in Morgan County, Alabama to Milliner and Rosa Belle Campbell. He was a store merchant (Campbell Shell). Charles was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Ed Campbell and George Campbell; sister, Rosa Lee Sirvio; and, grandson, Chad Campbell. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Elouise Wallace Campbell; son, Randall Campbell; daughter, Cynthia Campbell Parker; son, Dexter (Myra) Campbell; son, Trent (Shana) Campbell; grandchildren, Myles Campbell, Tyler Campbell, Chase Campbell, Blake Parker, Devon Campbell, Karli Campbell Perry, Trevor Campbell, Rylee Campbell, Reagan Campbell, Reece Campbell, Rowan Campbell; great-grandchilaren, Colton Campbell, Lincoln Campbell, Cotton Calvert, Chloe Campbell, Dex Campbell, Aurora Perry, Liara Campbell, Abel Campbell, Aella Campbell, Hudson Cason; sister, Betty Jean Greenwood; brother, Kenneth (Patti) Campbell; host of nieces, nephews, family and friends. In lieu of flowers, the family requests you make donations to your favorite charity.

J.C. Britnell, 69
J.C. Britnell, 69, of Haleyville, Alabama entered into rest Dec. 6, 2022, at Lakeland Community Hospital in Haleyville. J.C. was born January 12, 1953, in Bear Creek, Alabama. A private service will be held at a later time. J.C. is survived by his wife, Debbie Britnell; children, Adam Britnell, Megan (John Bowen) Britnell, Coy Britnell, Brodie Britnell, and Alex Britnell; grandson, Caleb Britnell; sister Norma Jean (Jacks) Roberts; and brother, Hollis Britnell. He was preceded in death by his parents, Coy and Bernice Britnell; and his niece, Michelle Roberts.

Rowena C. Cole, 92
Rowena C. Cole, 92, of Kingsport, Tennessee passed away Dec. 5, 2022, at her home in Cullman, Alabama. She was a native of Tennessee where she grew up in Fall Branch and resided in Kingsport for 64 years. She was a member of Bethel Presbyterian Church where she had enjoyed being in the choir and women's bible studies and other ministries including Meals on Wheels for many years. She was known for her love and compassion of others and helping anyone who needed assistance. She was preceded in death by her parents, Wilmer and Josephine Cutshall and by her husband, A.V. Cole, Jr., brother-in-law John B. Cole, sister–in-law Janice Cutshall and two sisters, Louise Hayes and Charlotte Forester. She is survived by two daughters Carolyn Cole Kokas of Cullman, AL, Beth Cole Scalf and husband, Ron, of Crane Hill, Alabama ; two grandchildren, Tanner Scalf and wife, Keitha and Garrett Scalf and wife, Kirsten; one great granddaughter, Aspen Scalf along with nieces and nephews. Graveside service will be at 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 12, 2022, at East Lawn Memorial Park Cemetery, in the Garden of the Good Shephard. The family would like to thank the nursing staff of Kindred Hospice for their love and care for her comfort during the last months her life. East Lawn Funeral Home will be serving the family in coordination with Moss Funeral Home of Cullman, Alabama.

Orvlene Steele Borden, 91
Funeral Service for Orvlene Steele Borden, age 91, of Somerville, will be at 2 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 9, 2022, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Donald Smith officiating, burial at Berlin Cemetery at Mt. Carmel. Visitation will be from noon until 2 p.m. prior to the service. Mrs. Borden passed away Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022, at River City Center. She was born May 13, 1931, to James Mark and Louella Steele. She was preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Rita Segler; son-in-law, Bobby Duffell; three sisters; and two brothers. Survivors include her daughter, Sheila Duffell; son, Gene (Vickie) Borden; daughter, Vicki (Donald) Smith; son-in-law, David Segler; 15 grandchildren; sister, Jimmy Lou Golden; brother; James Douglas Steele and a host of great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Theresa Frances Kane, 96
Theresa Frances Kane of Cullman passed away in her home Monday evening, Dec. 5, after a long fruitful life of serving others through her Catholic Faith. Following intensive surgery in early November (at the age of 96!), she spent recovery time in CRMC, Hanceville Nursing Home and a return trip to CRMC. The staff of both facilities treated her and her family with kindness and dignity. In the final days of her life, she was able to return to her home under Hospice care. During this time, she was cared for lovingly by her nephew and niece, Michael and Nancy Kane. Her front door frequently opened with a constant flow of friends bringing Holy Communion, along with heartfelt prayers and thanks for this 'little lady' who influenced so many lives throughout the course of her own existence! Born the fourteenth/fifteenth (she was twin sister to brother Frank!) child to parents Sarah and Michael Kane on Feb. 4, 1926, in Centralia, Pennsylvania, she was predeceased by her siblings: William, Rev. Thomas, Harold, James, Margaret, Mary, Sr. Marita Michael, IHM (Helen); John, Joseph, Dorothy, Fr. Bernard Ignatius, OSB; Raymond, Vincent and Frank. Theresa is survived by a very large group of friends and acquaintances who mourn the loss of Theresa to death, but who can only imagine the Homecoming which awaited her this past Monday! What a Heavenly celebration it was as Jesus proclaimed, "Welcome Home, My good and faithful servant!" Theresa Kane, an unassuming and humble woman, has been a resident of Cullman for the past half-century. This 96-year "young," "sharp as a tack" transplant from Philadelphia, Penn., along with her twin brother Frank, is the youngest of 15 children, 10 boys and five girls, born to Sarah and Raymond Kane. With a family this size which also included a second set of twins, it was imperative that the older children each take charge of one of their younger siblings. Hailing from Centralia, Penn., a city built over coal mines (which eventually was destroyed by fires in the mine shafts and never rebuilt), they lost their home and moved to Philadelphia. During her childhood years she attended Catholic school, sang in the church choir and formed the basis for the next 75 years of her life. This early Catholic education and strong religious connection to the Church resulted in two of her brothers being ordained into the priesthood while one of her sisters entered a religious order. She herself began a lifetime working career with the Bell Telephone Company. While in Philadelphia she quickly advanced up the corporate ladder, holding several senior positions during her tenure there. A natural leader with a personality that attracted others, Theresa mentored young women at work as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. Never marrying, she cared for her parents until their death. Her young life in Philadelphia was marked by an active participation in her home Church, choir and various other community events. Theresa served as a major fundraiser for St. Bernard Abbey in Cullman, Alabama, as her brother Fr. Ignatius, OSB, had joined the Monastic community there some years before. In the early seventies, following the death of her parents, Theresa moved to Cullman, transitioning her Bell Telephone work to the Birmingham area. Not long after she had settled in, her twin brother Frank and his family followed. Thus three of the Kane children were together again. With her work for the Bell Phone Company in Birmingham, Theresa continued in a supervisory capacity, traveling all around the South assisting other offices as needed. Unfortunately, she suffered a heart attack and retired from her lifetime career. Always a "go-getter," Theresa has contributed very quietly in so many ways to her Church family of Sacred Heart of Jesus and to local organizations. As a member of the Women's Altar Society, she served on the local level, as well as on the Deanery, Diocesan and National Boards of the religious group. She and fellow members orchestrated numerous conventions and retreats for Catholic women. In years past, Theresa has been active locally in forming interdenominational prayer groups, working to assist those in need, and has been active in numerous vacation Bible schools both at Sacred Heart of Jesus and St. Boniface Church in Hanceville. One of her most significant ministries has been the opening of Her Choice of North Alabama Pregnancy Center, now First Source for Women, in Hanceville. Seeing a need to help those facing pregnancy issues with nowhere to turn, she and several other community members formed a committee, set to work locating an office and opening the doors of the Center in 2007. This life-saving mission continues today, offering free counseling and education to both women and men, medical tests and mentoring to their clients. This multi-talented woman is a piano-playing singer who composes lyrics and music as well as beautiful poetry. While she doesn't get around like she used to, her mind is always active, coming up with new ideas on how to help others or just to bring comfort to those in need. Theresa is, and has been these past 95 years, one of life's truly inspiring unsung heroes. Services for Ms. Kane will include a Dec. 9 visitation in Sacred Heart of Jesus Church from 6-7:30 p.m. with recitation of the Rosary at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9. Her body will lie in state with Funeral Mass at 10 a.m. Friday morning, Dec. 10, conducted by Fr. Patrick Egan, OSB, Pastor. Burial will be in Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery following the liturgical services. Theresa will be buried alongside her twin brother Frank and his wife Betty Kane. In lieu of flowers or other memorials, donations may be made in her name to her beloved program 'First Source for Women' 203 Commercial St, Hanceville, AL 35077. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Kane Family.

Vonda Lee Isom, 93
Vonda Lee Isom, age 93 of Hanceville, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2022, at her home. She was born on March 23, 1929, in Cullman, Alabama to Robert Grubbs and Hattie Ruth Weldon Grubbs. She is preceded in death by her husbands, Joseph Isbell and Charles Isom; son, Larry Isbell; one grandson; one great grandson; her parents, Robert and Hattie Grubbs; five brothers and five sisters. She leaves to cherish her memory by her children, Brenda DeMonia, Charles Isbell, Lawrence Isbell, Emily White, Robert Isbell, Norman Isbell and Steve Isbell; six grandchildren and a host of great grandchildren. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, Dec. 10, 2022, at 3 p.m. from the Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel with burial in Garden City Cemetery. The family will receive friends Saturday from 2 p.m.until the time of the service.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 8, 2022

SIGHTS FROM CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS ACROSS CULLMAN

Cullman City Christmas Parade

PHOTOS COURTESY AMY LEONARD AND LAUREN ESTES/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE































Cullman County Christmas Parade

PHOTOS COURTESY AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE







