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MARTHA NEEDHAM/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

Broncos roll past Vinemont 61-49, advance to semifinals

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County commission rejects bid for HVAC upgrades

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — At a brief special-called meeting on Thursday, Jan. 26, the Cullman County Commission voted to reject the sole bid for Cullman County Courthouse HVAC upgrades and attempt to negotiate the price at the recommendation of JMR+H Architecture Vice President of Operations Kevin Baughn. JMR+H is based in Montgomery. Baughn's projects include the Geneva County Jail and properties for the Retirement Systems of Alabama in Montgomery and Mobile.

The commission also voted to approve the use of $3.385 million in American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funds for a proposal for additional HVAC upgrades from Stateline Mechanical in Woodland, Alabama.

ARPA is a Biden Administration economic stimulus bill signed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The next county commission work session will be held Thursday, Feb. 23, at 4 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Room at the Cullman County Courthouse. The regular meeting will follow at 6.



AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman County Commissioners Kerry Watson, Garry Marchman, Chairman Jeff Clemons and Commissioners Kelly Duke and Corey Freeman

'Keeping It Real' program provides 9th graders glimpse into adulthood



AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman Economic Development Agency's Belinda Hyatt helps CHS ninth graders as they learn to pay their way through adulthood.

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman High School ninth graders learned a valuable lesson this week – money doesn't go as far as they thought it would as adults working in the real world with bills and responsibilities. The "Keeping It Real" program was presented to the students by the Cullman Economic Development Agency's Belinda Hyatt and a team of volunteers from local businesses.

"This is such a good program, and all of the county schools participate as well," explained Hyatt. "Some of the schools even do a follow up in the 12th grade as it all becomes real."

Each student was provided a random career along with an appropriate salary for his or her field and level of education. The income was followed with family size and the responsibility of budgeting for household bills.

Tasked with visiting various booths where they paid for monthly expenditures such as childcare, mortgage or rent and insurance, the teens soon saw their salaries dwindled quickly depending on choices they made.

Hyatt continued, "The main thing I like to get across on the first day is emphasize building a resume of character, those soft skills versus hard skills that you can learn and get. The soft skills will take them so far » PAGE 12

Foundry Farm unveils new chapel



JOEY DALY

More than 175 people attended the ribbon cutting for the new chapel at The Foundry Farm near Holly Pond on Sunday, Jan. 22. » PAGE 9

Henderson wins award at Distinguished Young Women of Alabama event



FELICIA CARDEN

The 2023 Distinguished Young Women of Alabama program was held last week in Montgomery. » PAGE 6

Nail proclaims International Clergy Week in Hanceville

» PAGE 8

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Jan. 27

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Jan. 27, 2023. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Jan. 23
- assault; CR 1344
- harassment; CR 1356
- burglary; CR 1518
- criminal mischief; CR 437
- theft of property; Hwy. 157
- assault; 4th St. SW

Jan. 24
- domestic violence; CR 1338
- Violation of Protection Order-criminal mischief
- home repair fraud; CR 1573
- criminal mischief; CR 1337
- theft of services; Hwy. 157
- criminal mischief; Hwy. 278 E
- burglary; Logan Ave. SW
- criminal mischief; CR 1212

Jan. 25
- domestic violence; Day Gap Rd.
- possession of marijuana; resisting arrest; obstruction of governmental operations; CR 940
- discharging firearm into occupied building; Hwy. 157
- burglary; CR 739
- harassment; CR 627
- Violation of Protection Order; CR 1485
- criminal mischief; CR 557
- permitting dogs to run at large; CR 504
- domestic violence; CR 1082
- harassment; CR 1551

ARRESTS

Jan. 23 – 25

Baumgartner, Leonce A.; 60
- FTA- DUI (alcohol)

Cluxton, Michael J.; 39
- FTA- assault-simple assault

Dean, Michelle L.; 45
- assault-harassment

Farley, David J.; 46
- Violation of Release Order- unlawful distribution of controlled substance

Freeland Jr., Tony B.; 32
- larceny/theft- theft of property-3rd degree less than $500 (2 counts)
- obstruction governmental operations
- tampering with government records

Funish, Alexis N.; 25
- drug trafficking

Graves, Christopher S.; 39
- Probation Violation- sell/distribution of dangerous drugs

Gurganious, Sarah B.; 26
- Probation Violation-assault-child abuse-simple-family

Hinkle, Joseph F.; 43
- Probation Violation- burglary-residence-no force

Hudson, Joshua D.; 39
- FTA- driving while license suspended

Ingram, Billy R.; 38
- FTA- possessing stolen property $1,500 or more

Miller, Holli D.; 29
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Moore, Paige M.; 29
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Pickett, Samuel D.; 53
- FTA- counterfeiting
- FTA- forged instrument

Purifoy, Briget M.; 41
- Probation Revoked- possession of dangerous drugs

Robinson, James G.; 51
- FTA- illegal possession of prescription drugs
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Smith, Kena D.; 25
- drug trafficking

Stansell, Tori M.; 22
- assault-child abuse-simple-family

Swain, Kenneth L.; 33
- Probation Revoked- promote prison contraband

White, Derek W.; 41
- FTA- operating vehicle without insurance

Woodard, James A.; 63
- Probation Revoked- possession of dangerous drugs

Carter, Allen L.; 38
- FTA- assault-aggravated assault- A to M attempt to commit crime
- FTA- possession of marijuana
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-2nd offense (4 counts)
- FTA- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA- expired tag
- FTA- larceny/theft-theft of lost property
- FTA- menacing-aggravated assault
- FTA- using false identity to avoid/hinder prosecution
- FTA- resisting arrest
- FTA- buying/receiving stolen property (2 counts)
- FTA- DUI (other substances)
- FTA- driving while suspended, revoked, or cancelled (2 counts)
- FTA- operating vehicle without insurance
- FTA- weapons-drunk/addict in possession of a firearm

Davis, Michael C.; 34
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Fagan, Shane J.; 46
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Holland, Whitney E; 27
- assault-harassment

Smith, Jonathan K.; 48
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- resisting arrest
- obstruction governmental operations

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Jan. 25
- burglary-3rd degree; person; 13th St. SW; miscellaneous
- forgery-3rd; St. Andrews Church; forged
- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle; receiving stolen property-4th degree (3 counts); theft of property-4th degree; person; miscellaneous
- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle; person; miscellaneous
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $79

Jan. 26
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; clothing; $75
- identity theft; person

ARRESTS

Jan. 25

Miller, Tyler K.; 32
- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle
- receiving stolen property-4th degree (3 counts)
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- theft of property-4th degree

Jan. 26

Martin, Kasey K.; 51
- FTA- theft of property-4th degree

Jorgensen, Tyrone J.; 21
- FTA- theft of property-4th degree

Gaddis, Jennifer A.; 38
- FTA- public intoxication

Klosinski, Mary E.; 33
- FTA- domestic violence-3rd degree
- FTA- disorderly conduct

Lackey, Tommy R.; 49
- theft of property-1st degree (2 counts)
- burglary-3rd degree (4 counts)
- criminal mischief-2nd degree (2 counts)
- criminal mischief-1st degree
- criminal mischief-3rd degree
- theft of property-3rd degree
- theft of property-4th degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

CRIME

2 Birmingham residents charged with drug trafficking in Cullman County

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Two people from Birmingham were arrested in Cullman County on Tuesday, Jan. 24, and both are facing three counts of drug trafficking.

According to a media release from the Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO), on Jan. 24, deputies attempted to conduct a traffic stop along Alabama Highway 69 near Dodge City. The driver of the vehicle refused to stop and attempted to flee. A pursuit continued until the offender crashed into a CCSO investigator's vehicle. There were no injuries. Two suspects were detained and later arrested.

Kena Dionte Smith, 24, of Birmingham, and Alexis Nicole Funish, 25, of Birmingham, were identified as the occupants of the vehicle. A subsequent search of the vehicle allegedly yielded narcotics.

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

Smith and Funish were each charged with three counts of trafficking in dangerous drugs.

Due to the nature of the crimes committed, said the release, Cullman County District Attorney Champ Crocker attended the 72-hour hearing for the offenders and pushed to have them remain incarcerated.

It was discovered that, at the time of his arrest, Smith was out on bond from Bessemer on a first-degree robbery charge and from Madison on an unlawful distribution charge.

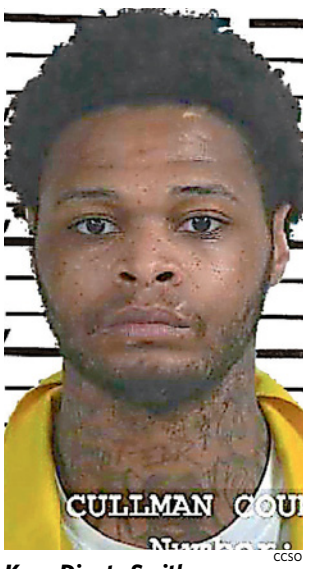
Smith is also currently in a community correction program.

"As a result of DA Crocker's effort, Smith was given a $600,000 cash bond, and Funish a $100,000 cash bond," said the release.

"True justice is a team effort. I am so proud of everyone's effort in getting these drugs off the street.

"From our patrol deputies to our investigators, everyone worked together to make this happen.

"Once the arrests were made, the DA's Office and judges did their part to ensure the criminals stayed behind bars. Like I have said many times, it takes everyone working together to keep Cullman County great," said Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry.



CCSO
Kena Dionte Smith



CCSO
Alexis Nicole Funish



WALLACE STATE FUTURE FOUNDATION/FACEBOOK
Curt's Closet Executive Director Ashley Wilson presents a $100,000 check to the Wallace State Future Foundation

Foundation receives $100K to fund Curtis James Wilson Memorial Legacy Endowed Scholarship

Wallace State Future Foundation

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The Wallace State Future Foundation recently received a $100,000 check from Curt's Closet Executive Director Ashley Lee Wilson to help fund the Curtis James Wilson Memorial Legacy Endowed Scholarship.

Curt's Closet has also announced that it has a very generous donor who has agreed to match all donations from the link below up to $100,000!

Curt's Closet was started to honor Ashley's precious son, Curtis James Wilson, who was tragically killed on May 7, 2017.

It began as a way of giving back to the community he so dearly loved and that loved him.

Curt had such a loving and giving heart, what better way to carry on his legacy than to love and give back.

If you wish to donate to the Curtis James Wilson Memorial Scholarship, please click the following link. Donations of any size are greatly appreciated to help make college dreams come true! www.wsccfuturefoundation.org/curtiswilson


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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Calling All Young Singers!
Cullman Community Young Singers (CCYS) is looking for YOU! All young singers (ages 8-15) are invited to join us on Tuesday afternoons from 3:30-4:45 at the Little House at Art Park, 1031 Second St. SW in Cullman. No auditions, just come for a fun afternoon of learning music from pop to classical styles. We will rehearse and prepare to perform at a variety of events in and around the Cullman community. Bring your friends- we will have music and everything you need to get started! For more information, text or email Miss Cindy at 256-338-4404, cindypass22@gmail.com. CCYS is sponsored by Cullman Parks, Recreation and Sports Tourism.

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 Dr. NW, Cullman
• 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.
• Saturday, Jan. 28 - Toni Pearson will be speaking at Cornerstone Church at 3 p.m. and it would be great if we could all go and support her. Food will be served from 2-3 p.m.
• Sunday, Jan. 29 - 8-9 a.m. Prayer Group - Join Kevin and Pastor Bobby Sunday to pray for our church, nation, and for those who need salvation and deliverance.
• Sunday, Jan. 29 - 9 a.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area. Call 256-841-2060 for pickup. Breakfast @ 9:30 a.m. Bible study classes for children, youth, and adults @ 10 a.m. Adult class. 11 a.m. message by Pastor Bobby Dodd. Prayer meeting with Bonnie Barrett will be after morning service.
• Sunday, Jan. 29 – Soup and chili contest. We need 10 crockpots with soup or chili. Please bring crackers, cornbread, desserts and drinks. All welcome! Will yours win?

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.

Fairview Lions Club Bean Supper
Saturday, Jan. 28, from 4-7 p.m. at Fairview Town Hall, 7525 Alabama Highway 69 N. Beans, cornbread, onions and drink for $5. With a dessert $6. Eat in or carry out. All proceeds will go to the Fairview Lions Club project fund. For more information, call William at 256-385-5596 or Kita at 256-385-8805.

2023 Bownes Memorial For Kids' Sake Variety Show
Sunday, Feb. 5, at 4 p.m. at the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre on the campus of Wallace State Community College in Hanceville. Tickets can be purchased in advance for $10 at the Foundation office or on the day of the program for $15 at the door.

Broken Parents: Healing Through the Loss of a Child
Tuesday, Feb. 7, from 6-8 p.m. at the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce, 301 Second Ave. SW. Light refreshments will be provided. This is a free counseling group for people who have suffered the loss of a child. RSVP to Brandie Johnson at 256-785-6833.

Cullman EMS 6th Annual 911 Chili Supper & Cook-Off
Saturday, Feb. 18, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Cullman VFW, 112 Veterans Dr. SW. All proceeds will benefit PTSD treatments for veterans. Competition open to law enforcement officers, firefighters, EMA and EMS personnel and dispatchers. Chili supper open to the public for a $5 donation per person. Awards determined by popular vote. Door prizes and live music. For more information or to register a team, contact James Curtis at 205-903-4486 or james.curtis@cullmanregional.com.

Empty Bowls of Cullman County
Monday, Feb. 20, from 4-6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Cullman. Enjoy a delicious dinner of Three Guys chili and grilled cheese, music by local performers and a silent auction. Benefits Cullman Caring for Kids. Only one thing will be different this year. For 17 years, potters made bowls for attendees to take home after their meals. The potters are no longer able to produce the number of bowls needed for everyone. Drive-through and carry-out options will be available. Tickets are $10 each and available at Cullman Caring for Kids or First United Methodist Church. Monetary donations or donations to the silent auction can be made at Cullman Caring for Kids, 402 Arnold St. NE #W1, Cullman, AL 35055. Monetary donations can also be made online at www.cullmancaringforkids.com.

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

January 25, 2023 COVID-19 update from the Alabama Department of Public Health's COVID-19 Dashboard Hub (https://bit.ly/3iVJwXK)

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

Case details* (Updated Thursdays)
• Positivity in tests in Alabama: 11.8%
• Confirmed cases in Alabama (2020): 387,822
• Confirmed cases in Alabama (2021): 538,459
• Confirmed cases in Alabama (2022): 642,220
• Confirmed cases in Alabama (2023): 24,674
• Total confirmed deaths in Alabama (2020): 7,189
• Total confirmed deaths in Alabama (2021): 9,558
• Total confirmed deaths in Alabama (2022) 3,981
• Total confirmed deaths in Alabama (2023): 6
• Positivity in tests in Cullman Co.: 4.5%
• Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co. (2020): 7,567
• Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co. (2021): 9,754
• Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co. (2022): 12,797
• Total confirmed cases in Cullman Co. (2023): 508
• Deaths in Cullman Co. (2020): 128
• Deaths in Cullman Co. (2021): 188
• Deaths in Cullman Co. (2022): 74
• Death in Cullman Co. (2023): 0
• Total tested in Cullman Co. in the last 7 days: 1,275
• Total tested positive in Cullman Co. in the last 7 days: 57
• Total tested in Alabama in the last 7 days: 34,374
• Total positive tests in Alabama in the last 7 days: 4,070

Vaccine details
• Doses delivered to Alabama: 10,910,595
• Doses delivered to Alabama providers: 5,467,565
• Doses administered: 6,714,270
• Additional doses administered: 993,059
• Number of people receiving one or more doses: 2,956,673
• Number of people who have completed vaccine series: 2,451,223
• Doses delivered to federal programs: 5,443,030

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

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COUNTY TOURNAMENT

Broncos roll past Vinemont 61-49, advance to semifinals

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – Our second Cullman County Tournament contest Wednesday night was another varsity matchup and this time it was the Holly Pond Broncos squaring off against the Vinemont Eagles. The first quarter featured seven lead changes, but Holly Pond began to take control midway through the second and continued pulling away in the second half to secure a 61-49 win over the Eagles.

Both teams traded the lead back and forth throughout most of the opening period. Holly Pond baskets from Gunner McBee, Levi Farr and Kollin Brown were matched by Isaac Moody and Isaiah Jones on the other end for Vinemont. Moody scored inside to put the Broncos in front 9-6 and a pair of free throws from Conner Gibbs stretched the lead to 11-6 with two minutes remaining in the first. However, Holly Pond responded and seized the momentum in the final two minutes, closing out the quarter with an 8-0 run to take a 14-11 lead into the second.

The scoring run continued into the second quarter. Blake Rickard knocked down a three from the left corner and Christian Couch sank a pair of free throws to make it a 19-11 game.

Jones converted an and-one play at the line to stop the run and cut the lead to five but Rickard answered with another three-pointer on the ensuing possession to build the lead back up to 22-14 midway through the second.

Diego Garcia followed with a three of his own to extend the lead to 25-14 and McBee scored the next five points of the game to make it 30-14 with three minutes remaining in the first half. Jaxon Holcomb laid one in to trim the lead to 30-16 and Chayce Sandlin buried a three with 20 seconds on the clock to bring the lead down to 30-19 at the break.

Baskets by Rickard and Farr added to the Bronco lead early in the third quarter and Rickard's third three-pointer of the night made it a 37-19 game. Sandlin and Rickard exchanged free throws to keep the score at 39-21 midway through the period but scores from McBee and Couch stretched the lead out to 43-21 late in the third.

Jones hit a pair of shots in the final minute of the quarter but Vinemont went into the final frame trailing the Broncos 45-25.

Brown drained a pair of free throws and Couch laid one in to keep Holly Pond in front 49-27 early in the fourth. Moody drilled a three from the right wing to make it 49-30 and free throws by Holcomb and Jones trimmed the lead to 49-34 with five minutes to play.

The Broncos held onto a 53-36 lead midway through the fourth but Ryan Stewart knocked down a three for the Eagles from the top of the key to cut the lead to 14. Kollin Brown laid one in on the other end to make it a 55-39 game with two minutes on the clock and Holly Pond held off a late push from Vinemont to advance with a 61-49 win.

Rickard led the way for the Broncos with 15 points in the win, followed by McBee with 11 and Couch and Brown with eight. Jones posted 17 for the Eagles in the loss and Moody added 16.

Holly Pond will be back on the court Friday at 6:30 p.m. to play Hanceville with a spot in the county championship game on the line.

COUNTY TOURNAMENT

Lady Raiders advance to county finals with 72-38 win over West Point

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com



MARTHA NEEDHAM/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope's Heather Tetro knocked down four three-pointers in the Lady Raiders' 72-38 win over West Point Thursday night.

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Thursday night's first varsity matchup at the Cullman County Tournament featured the top-seeded Good Hope Lady Raiders and the West Point Lady Warriors. West Point battled for four quarters but was overwhelmed by the Lady Raiders and Good Hope punched its ticket to Saturday's county championship game with a 72-38 win.

Bailey Tetro knocked down a three and Charly Johnson scored inside to give the Lady Raiders a quick, 5-0 lead and three-pointers from Ivey Maddox and Heather Tetro made it 11-3 just a couple possessions later. Another three by Heather Tetro put Good Hope in front 15-3 midway through the period and Maddox scored on back to back possessions to extend the lead to 19-3. Liberty and Laklin Shadix each scored to stop the run and trim the lead to 19-7 but the Lady Raiders got three-pointers from Maddox and Rudi Derrick in the final minute of the first to make it a 25-7 game going into the second.

Derrick and Liberty Shadix traded baskets at the start of the second quarter to make it 27-9 but Heather Tetro's third three-pointer of the night put Good Hope ahead 30-9. Jaelyn Faulkner laid one in and Liberty Shadix drilled a pair of deep threes to cut the lead to 32-17 midway through the second and another three-pointer from Ella Minck made it a 34-20 game with just over two minutes remaining in the half. Johnson scored inside and Bailey Tetro sank a pair of free throws to add to the Raider lead, but Liberty Shadix converted an and-one play and Camryn Faulkner buried a three just before the buzzer to trim the lead to 40-26 at the half.

A pair of baskets from Johnson and another three by Heather Tetro made it a 47-29 game early in the third quarter. Laklin Shadix and Johnson each hit a pair of free throws to keep the score at 49-31 midway through the period but Maddox scored the next seven points of the game to stretch the lead to 56-31. Hallie Wheeler drained a three for West Point to make it a 56-34 later in the third but the Lady Raiders got buckets from Derrick and Maddox in the final minute of the quarter to give Good Hope a 60-34 advantage going into the final frame.

Maddox's fourth three-pointer of the game extended the lead to 63-34 at the start of the fourth quarter and Bailey Tetro laid one in to make it 65-34. With the clock running the rest of the way, the Lady Raiders were able to cruise to a 72-38 win and secure their spot in the varsity girls' finals.

Maddox racked up a game-high 26 points in the win. Johnson and Heather Tetro each added 12 and Bailey Tetro finished with nine. Liberty Shadix led the Lady Warriors with 16 points in the loss, followed by Laklin Shadix with seven.

Good Hope will advance to take on either Fairview or Cold Springs in the county championship game Saturday at 5:30 p.m.

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COUNTY TOURNAMENT

Cold Springs punches ticket to county finals with 49-45 win over Fairview, West collects 700th win

Sammy Confer
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HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Our nightcap at the Cullman County Tournament Thursday night was another varsity girls semifinal matchup. Cold Springs squared off against Fairview with a spot in the county title game on the line and after a slow start for both teams in the first half, the Lady Aggies rallied from a 10-point deficit at the start of the fourth quarter to cut the lead to three with just over a minute to play. However, a steal by Ella Bruer with 20 seconds on the clock helped secure a 49-45 win for the Lady Eagles and the 700th career victory for Cold Springs Head Coach Tammy West.

Points were hard to come by for both teams to start out the game. Cold Springs got on the scoreboard first on a pair of Ciara Calvert free throws. She would later put in a layup off a Fairview turnover to give Cold Springs a 4-0 lead with a little over five minutes to go in the opening quarter. Malaya Taylor hit a driving layup to give the Lady Eagles a 6-0 lead with 2:32 left in the first, but Emma Garcia put in a layup with a little over a minute left to cut it to 6-2. Garcia grabbed an offensive rebound and put it back in to end the quarter as Cold Springs took a slim 6-4 lead into the second period.

Ella Dickerson knocked down a short jumper to start out the quarter for Cold Springs as that gave them an 8-4 lead. Jayla Gorham put in a pair from the line to cut it to 9-6, but another short jumper by Dickerson pushed Cold Springs' lead to 13-6. Dickerson hit a pair of free throws to make it 15-6 almost midway through the second period, but the Lady Aggies cut it to 15-9 on a trey by Lexi Golden. Allison Davis knocked down a jumper to trim the deficit to five at 17-12, but a trey by Erin Bailey stretched the Cold Springs' lead to 20-12. Darby Nichols and Maci Brown traded baskets to end the first half as Cold Springs would take a 22-14 lead into the locker room.

Nichols converted an and-one opportunity to cut it to 22-17 early in the third, but Ella Bruer would convert on one of her own on the other end to make it 25-17. Gorham cut it to 25-19 on a pair of free throws and a Golden trey made it a 27-22 game with a little over five minutes to go in the quarter. Brown put in a tough shot down low and Calvert nailed a long-range shot to stretch the Lady Eagle lead to 32-22. Garcia put in a short jumper to cut it to eight late in the third, but back-to-back layups by Calvert and one by Brown pushed Cold Springs' lead to 38-26 with a little over a minute to go in the quarter and the Lady Eagles held a 38-28 lead after three.



BILL PIPER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cold Springs Head Coach Tammy West collected her 700th career win Thursday night with the Lady Eagles' 49-45 victory over Fairview.

Kenady Graves and Golden traded threes to start the fourth quarter to keep it at a 10-point game at 41-31. Baskets by Ava Thomas and Garcia made it a 43-37 contest early in the quarter. Later on, Thomas and Garcia each hit a shot in the paint to cut it to 45-41 with a little over two minutes to go in the game. Nichols knocked down a floater to make it a 48-45 game with 44 seconds left in the contest, but a steal and a free throw by Bruer helped seal the 49-45 win for Cold Springs as they will move on to the championship game on Saturday.

Calvert led the way for Cold Springs with 11 points. Brown added 10 points and Dickerson finished with nine points. For Fairview, Garcia finished with 14 points, while Nichols and Golden each added nine.

The Lady Eagles will now begin preparing for a county championship matchup against Good Hope Saturday at 5:30 p.m.

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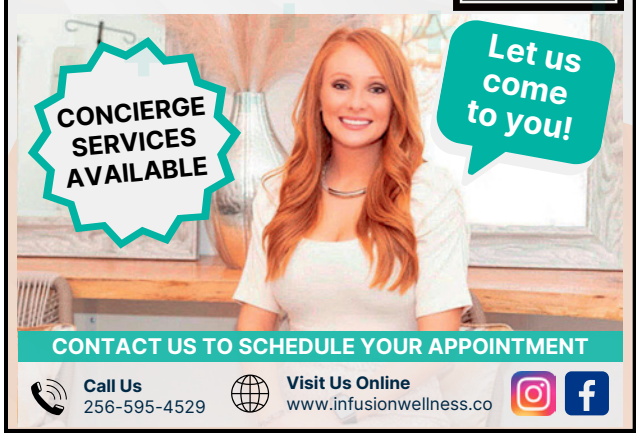


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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JANUARY 28, 2023

4 chaplains and their life jackets of faith

Peter Lillback
Contributor

Most can name the Four Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. But few can name the Four Chaplains—George, Alexander, John and Clark. These four clergymen became the "Immortal Chaplains" because of profound heroism. They willingly offered themselves to save others when the USS Dorchester sank on Feb. 3, 1943, in the 34-degree waters of the North Atlantic. Each was a first lieutenant who had met at the Army Chaplains School at Harvard University in the midst of World War II. Selflessly, they assisted others board lifeboats and gave up their own life jackets when it was clear that there were not enough. Joining arms, they prayed, sang hymns and went down with the ship.

It was a remarkable display of the unity of faith in the midst of diversity of belief. Rev. George L. Fox was a Methodist, Alexander D. Goode was a Reform Rabbi, Father John P. Washington was a Roman Catholic priest and Rev. Clark V. Poling was a minster in the Reformed Church in America. Representing four different faith traditions, they sailed together on the Dorchester to serve in the European theater.

The 368-foot long Dorchester was built in 1926 and converted for military service carrying about 900 military members. At full capacity, Dorchester left New York on Jan. 23, 1943, for Greenland, escorted by Coast Guard Cutters.

At 55 minutes after midnight, GERMAN SUBMARINE U-223 torpedoed the ship off NEWFOUNDLAND. Lights were lost and many were trapped below decks. The chaplains sought to calm the men and assist with the evacuation of the ship and help the wounded escape. As life jackets were distributed, there were not enough for everyone. It is then that the chaplains removed their own to give them to others. Having aided many into lifeboats, they linked arms, prayed, sang and went down with the ship.

Grady Clark, a survivor, wrote, "As I swam away from the ship, I looked back. The flares had lighted everything. The BOW came up high and she slid under. The last thing I saw, the Four Chaplains were up there praying for the safety of the men.

They had done everything they could. I did not see them again. They themselves did not have a chance without their life jackets." Other survivors reported they heard not only English prayers but Hebrew prayers and Catholic Latin prayers.

Only 230 of the 904 men were rescued. Hundreds with life jackets had succumbed to hypothermia in the frigid waters by the time USCGC ESCANABA arrived to rescue survivors.

While far too many are unaware of the Four Chaplains, efforts have been made to tell their story, including film, print, music, art, and even a FEAST DAY in the LITURGICAL CALENDAR OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH USA.

Stained glass windows honoring the Four Chaplains can be found in the Pentagon, Fort Jackson, South Carolina, Fort Bliss, Texas, Fort Snelling, Minnesota, US



CONTRIBUTED

American Legion archives painting by Dudley Summers

Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania and also at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.

A U.S. postage stamp was issued in 1948 to honor the Four Chaplains. In 1988, on the 45th anniversary of their courageous altruism, a unanimous Congress established Feb. 3 as annual "Four Chaplains Day."

The interfaith Chapel of the Four Chaplains, now at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, was dedicated on Feb. 3, 1951, by President HARRY S. TRUMAN. In his dedication speech, the President said, "This interfaith shrine... will stand through long generations to teach Americans that as men can die heroically as brothers so should they live together in mutual faith and goodwill."

Four Chaplains gave their life jackets to rescue others. But, they've given them to us, too.

On this Feb. 3, conflict, extremism and violence will likely dominate the news. Yet, the Immortal Chaplains remind us that heroes still die for others, and give examples to lead us to goodwill.

Who will rescue the perishing in the freezing waters of our selfish neighborhoods? Everyday heroes may not have postage stamps issued for them, but nonetheless, they have life jackets of faith to give to save others.

Broadway Night set for Feb. 9 at Wallace State

Gail Crutchfield
Wallace State

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Students in Wallace State Community College's Fine and Performing Arts programs are preparing for its annual Broadway Night set for Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. in the Recital Hall of the Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts.

The students take the lead in planning and choreographing the performance that includes selections they've made from Broadway shows. This year, the production includes songs from "Grease," "Hamilton," "South Pacific," "Big River," "Waitress," "West Side Story," "Aladdin" and more.

"It's always fun to watch how students interpret the songs they've selected," said Tiffany Richter, director of the Wallace State vocal ensembles. "They help with the staging and choreography, the script and how everything is presented. They do an amazing job."

Admission is a $10 donation, with proceeds supporting students' expenses for an upcoming European tour for the program's spring show "Down by the Riverside: The Roots of Gospel Music."

"For most of these students, this will be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Richter said. "We expect to take more than 30 students on the tour that will see them perform in Germany, Austria and Italy in May."

Local audiences will get to see the show that traces the uniquely American journey of the development of gospel music April 13-15 at 7 p.m. in the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre in the Garlan E. Gudger Student Center.

Other upcoming performances from Wallace State Fine and Performing Arts programs include:

• "The Robber Bridegroom," a musical presented by the Wallace State Theatre program, March 10-11 at 7 p.m. and March 12, at 2 p.m. at the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre

• Dance Showcase presented by the Allegro Dance Theatre, March 23, at 7 p.m. at the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre

• Big Band Dance by the Wallace State Jazz Band, April 21, at 7 p.m. at the Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts

• Spring Under the Stars by the Wallace State Fine and Performing Arts programs, April 26, at 6:30 p.m. at the Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts

The Fine and Performing Arts programs will hold scholarship auditions Feb. 3 and March 3 from 8 a.m.-noon in the Burrow Center for the Fine Performing Arts. Auditions are open to current and incoming students and will be awarded starting with the fall 2023 semester. For more information, visit www.wallacestate.edu/fpa or contact Melissa Lawler at 256-352-8277 or melissa.lawler@wallacestate.edu.



WALLACE STATE

Wallace State students perform a scene from "Grease" during a May 2022 production. Students will take the stage of the Recital Hall in the Burrow Center for Fine and Performing Arts on Thursday, Feb. 9, at 7 p.m., for "Broadway Night." Admission is a $10 donation.

The spring 2023 semester is currently underway. Mini Term II classes will begin March 8. Register today at www.wallacestate.edu or call 256-352-8000 for more information.

Henderson (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Distinguished Young Women (DYW), formerly known as America's Junior Miss, is a national nonprofit organization that provides scholarship opportunities to high school senior girls. The 2023 DYW of Alabama program was held last week in Montgomery, where 2023 Distinguished Young Woman of Cullman County Ashton Henderson placed in the top five in the fitness category.

According to DYW of Cullman County Chairwoman Felicia Carden, the program is designed to provide young women with the opportunity and support needed to succeed before, during and after college.

"Participants can learn skills like interviewing, public speaking, self-confidence building and much more," Carden said. "Since its creation in 1958, over 700,000 young ladies have participated in competitions spanning the United States."

She said participants compete in the categories of Interview (25%), Scholastics (25%), Talent (20%), Fitness (15%) and Self-Expression (15%).

"Each state hosts a state program in which the chosen representative advances to the national program, held in the program's birthplace of Mobile, Alabama," Carden shared. "Each year the Distinguished Young Women program gives out over $1 billion in scholarships."

The DYW program is free to enter, according to Carden.

"We encourage the participants to embody the 'Be Your Best Self' program," Carden said.

"Be healthy (care for your physical and mental health), be involved (serve your community), be ambitious (set and achieve goals), be responsible (live by moral and ethical principles), be studious (stay in school and be a lifelong learner). This provides an opportunity for the participants to beneficially impact the lives of children in their communities."

Carden said DYW of Cullman County is fortunate to have so many community sponsors.

"Last year we were able to award $7,600 in cash tuition scholarships to our participants," she said. "Our 2023 Distinguished Young Woman, Miss Ashton Henderson, received an additional $500 preliminary award for being one of the top five finalists in the fitness category."

Henderson spent several days in Montgomery for this year's state program.

"This program has been the greatest experience for me," Henderson said. "Any girl going into her senior year needs to participate! It has not only given me the confidence I need for the real world, but allowed me to create lifelong relationships. The outreach of this program is like no other. It truly empowered me to be my best self."

Henderson said the program offered many opportunities. She said she attended Gov. Kay Ivey's inauguration parade, ate with the Alabama Cattlemen's Association and met Sen. Katie Britt, R-Alabama.

"In the short week I was there, I made memories that would last me a lifetime," Henderson said. "I couldn't do it without the greatest support system and a county that encourages young women like me to flourish. In the Distinguished Young Women Program, each participant competes in five categories. I was blessed to win the fitness category.

"It includes a three-minute routine of various exercises and being constantly in motion.

"The judges look for agility, execution, stamina, coordination and posture. In 2020, I had the privilege of being Kate Davis Heatherly's 'little sis.' The little sister program of DYW allowed me to get a glimpse into the program and wish for my time. I have been hooked ever since."

Carden said DWY of Cullman County is in the planning stages of its 2024 program, which will be held at Wallace State Community College this summer.



FELICIA CARDEN

The 2023 Distinguished Young Women of Alabama program was held last week in Montgomery.

"We will have an orientation meeting in March for those that want to participate," she said. "Anyone interested can go ahead and apply at Cullman.al.distinguishedyw.org and click 'apply now.'"

The meeting will be March 18 at 11 a.m. at First Baptist Church in Cullman.

UAB Online highlighted among Top 25 programs in 2 categories, according to US News & World Report

Alicia Rohan
Contributor

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The University of Alabama at Birmingham's online education program, UAB Online, has seen tremendous growth over the past 10 years, with an increase of 117% of students enrolled in only online classes. Recently, the 2023 U.S. News & World Report Best Online Programs ranked two of the UAB Collat School of Business online programs in the Top 25 — the online graduate computer information technology degree and online graduate business degree in accounting.

"UAB Online offers the same world-class education that our in-person Blazers receive taught by the same highly distinguished professors," said UAB Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Pam Benoit. "These rankings prove that our online students, whether they are in a blended or purely online program, receive the same educational experience from the comfort of home, while having a flexible schedule through thoughtfully crafted and innovative online class technology."

According to the 2023 USNWR online rankings, UAB's Collat School of Business Master of Science degree in management information systems degree climbed five spots this year to the No. 4 program in the United States.

This is the first time a program from UAB has ranked in the Top 5 by USNWR. Additionally, UAB's School of Engineering Master of Science degree in engineering ranked No. 54, up nine spots from 2021 and its best ranking since 2018. The Collat School of Business Master of Accounting degree received a Top 25 ranking, coming in at No. 21 in the country — landing in the top 10% nationwide.

In addition to the main rankings, USNWR's Best Online Bachelor's Programs ranked UAB No. 26 in the country for Veterans, UAB's online master's in engineering ranked No. 33 for veterans, a new ranking for the university, and it's online MBA ranked No. 35 for veterans.

Visit www.uab.edu/online learn more about UAB Online and how to apply.

"The UAB Veterans Services staff take pride in providing excellent service to all our UAB online student veterans by assuring their enrollment is processed by the Veteran Affairs Regional Office to receive payments in a timely manner and without interruptions," said Walter Stewart, director of Veteran Recruitment and Student Services at UAB. "UAB student veterans beginning and continuing their education online, experience a smooth process in using their VA education benefits, the same quality of education, and access to resources as veterans who attend in person classes. Our UAB veterans attend online classes while on active duty in other states as well as in other countries. Our UAB online student veterans are assured that our staff will do everything possible to address any needs or concerns of their VA education benefits."

Other notable rankings include:

• Overall, UAB Online bachelor's degree programs ranked No. 42, placing the online undergraduate programs in the top 12% in the country.

• The UAB School of Education's online Master of Education degree achieved its highest score ever coming in at No. 37.

• The UAB College of Arts and Sciences online Master of Science degree in criminal justice at No. 43.

• The UAB Collat School of Business online Master of Business Administration degree is in the top 15% nationwide with a USNWR ranking of No. 51.

• Two UAB online programs were listed under specialty rankings, including the online bachelor's degree in psychology, which ranked No. 28, and the online bachelor's degree in business, ranking No. 44.

UAB Online offers 11 online undergraduate programs, 25 online graduate programs, 13 online undergraduate minor programs and 28 online certificate programs.

Are you a veteran looking to continue your education at UAB? Learn more about UAB's highly ranked online program for veterans at www.uab.edu/online/veterans.

USNWR online rankings assessed 1,833 and ranked 1,720 online bachelor's and master's degree programs, the most in the ranking's history. Undergraduate rankings are based on faculty credentials and training, services and technologies available to students, student engagement, and expert opinion on the academic quality of programs. Graduate rankings look at these credentials combined with student excellence.

Veteran program rankings are determined based on answers from the main online surveys. To be eligible for inclusion, schools must be ranked in the top half of schools, be certified for the GI Bill, and either participate in Yellow Ribbon or a be public institution that charges in-state tuition. They must also have enrolled what U.S. News determines "a critical mass of students with military backgrounds," which is defined as 25 students for the Online Bachelor's survey and 10 for the graduate programs.

The specialty rankings are based entirely on responses to the peer assessment survey.

To be eligible for inclusion, a school must have received at least five ratings from peer institutions, have been ranked in the main ranking survey, and had their specialty offering verified through the peer assessment or otherwise by U.S. News.

2 local UA Early College students named to fall 2022 Director's List

Stephanie Pettis
Contributor

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — A total of 501 students enrolled in UA Early College during fall semester 2022 at The University of Alabama were named to the Director's List with an academic record of 3.6 (or higher).

The Director's List recognizes students enrolled in classes through the UA Early College program. UA Early College allows high school students to get a head start on their college courses. High school sophomores, juniors and seniors enrolled in UA Early College can choose from more than 80 different online and on-campus courses and earn up to 30 hours of college credit.

All high school students who apply to and are admitted into UA Early College take their first course, UAEC 200, for free - saving each student more than $700.

UAEC 200 is a five-week readiness course that ensures students are prepared for the rigors of college-level studies. Upon completion, students earn two credit hours from UA.

The 2022 fall Director's List includes the following local students:

• Sadie Land of Cullman attends Vinemont High School.

• Dawson Simmons of Cullman attends Holly Pond High School.

The University of Alabama, part of The University of Alabama System, is the state's flagship university. UA shapes a better world through its teaching, research and service. With a global reputation for excellence, UA provides an inclusive, forward-thinking environment and nearly 200 degree programs on a beautiful, student-centered campus. A leader in cutting-edge research, UA advances discovery, creative inquiry and knowledge through more than 30 research centers. As the state's largest higher education institution, UA drives economic growth in Alabama and beyond.

Tuberville, Jackson lead bipartisan, bicameral effort to protect agriculture industry from foreign interference

Office of Tommy Tuberville
Contributor

Editor's note: The following media release is printed in full, with minimal editing.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Senator Tommy Tuberville (R-AL) and U.S. Representatives Ronny Jackson (R-TX-13), Vicente Gonzalez (D-TX-34), Pete Sessions (R-TX-17) and Abigail Spanberger (D-VA-07) today led a bicameral, bipartisan effort to protect America's agricultural industry from improper foreign investment. Tuberville and Jackson introduced the Foreign Adversary Risk Management (FARM) Act to bolster the U.S. agriculture industry's role on the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), the governmental body that oversees the vetting process of foreign investment and acquisition of American companies.

"Over the past few years, we've seen an alarming increase in foreign purchases of farmland and food companies, particularly by China," said Tuberville. "These foreign investments are now reaching every piece of the very large puzzle that makes up our agriculture industry, from farming and processing, to packaging and shipping. That's why America's agriculture community needs to have a permanent seat at the table when our government vets foreign investment in our country. Adding all parts of the agricultural supply chain to the list of transactions reviewed by CFIUS is the first step toward ensuring America's agricultural suppliers can keep food on tables across the country."

"Today, America faces numerous threats to its national security, and the agricultural industry is no exception," said Jackson. "Our adversaries, especially the Chinese Communist Party, continue to increase their presence in America's food industry and agricultural supply chains. Our national security is dependent on our food security, and we must take significant steps to identify adversaries that are manipulating critical facets of food production in our country. America's agricultural industry must be considered when determining national security threats from foreign investments moving forward. The protection of our food supply and its overarching supply chains are essential for the continued prosperity of our nation. Together, we will ensure that America's agricultural industry remains strong and independent from foreign adverse influence."

"Foreign investment in the American agriculture industry continues to grow at a rapid pace," said Sessions. "A large percentage of this land is owned by Chinese Communist Party (CCP) backed investments, which poses a large national security risk, as it affords China the opportunity to undermine our food and investment industries. The United States farmland is a critical piece of infrastructure and should continue to be recognized as such. Our food insecurity is a matter of national security. The FARM Act will give us the opportunity to better combat maligned foreign investments in agriculture and protect the American people. I am proud to stand next to my fellow members of Congress during this renewed effort to secure American interests."

"Direct foreign investment in American agriculture and infrastructure has skyrocketed — and the Chinese Communist Party has driven much of this growth," said Spanberger. "In the face of significant foreign investment in American farmland, we need to recognize how foreign actors could pose potential threats to our economic strength, the competitiveness of our ag industry, and our national security. By bringing the voice of the Secretary of Agriculture to the table, our FARM Act would bring the concerns of farm families and producers to important conversations about the risks of foreign acquisitions and landholdings. As a Member of the House Agriculture Committee and a Member of Congress focused on threats to our national security, I'm proud to help introduce this bipartisan, commonsense legislation."

"Now more than ever, it is important to protect American supply chains," said Gonzalez. "The FARM Act equips us to monitor foreign investment and protect the integrity of our food systems to ensure a food secure future for all Americans. I am proud to be joining my colleagues in a bipartisan manner to protect American agriculture and strengthen our food supply chain."

After first introducing the legislation in the 117th Congress, Tuberville and Jackson are renewing their call to combat foreign influence in the U.S. agriculture industry in the 118th Congress. Also leading the effort in the House are Gonzalez, Sessions and Spanberger. Original cosponsors in the Senate include Senators Mike Braun (R-IN), Kevin Cramer (R-ND), Roger Marshall (R-KS), Cynthia Lummis (R-WY) and Rick Scott (R-FL).

"Many Hoosiers are concerned about foreign countries buying up farmland, and it is a serious national security and food security concern," said Braun. "I signed on to the FARM Act to protect American Agriculture from foreign interference."

"Food security is national security," said Cramer. "Our government must be diligent in conducting risk assessments of agriculture investments by foreign adversaries – for reasons including geopolitical strategy, U.S. supply chain protection, and support of American farmers and ranchers."

"The pandemic made it clear that our supply chains are vulnerable, and our reliance on foreign investment in the agriculture industry opens us up to further vulnerabilities," said Lummis. "I will always be an advocate for Wyoming's ranchers and farmers and am proud to join Senator Tuberville in introducing the FARM Act to protect our nation's supply chain."

"One of our nation's best defenses is a safe and secure food supply. As such, America's agriculture industry must have a permanent seat at the table when it comes to considering foreign investments in the U.S.," said Marshall. "Foreign nationals owning ag lands, acquiring ag input companies, and becoming shareholders in ag processing companies stands to threaten our food supply. Our farmers, ranchers, and producers must respond to America's needs first, which is why we must ensure all these foreign investments are properly vetted."

"If COVID taught us one thing, it is that we must protect and prioritize American supply chains," said Scott. "Bad actors, like the Chinese Communist Party, pose serious threats to our national security and cannot be allowed to interfere with critical assets like food security. I am proud to stand with my colleagues in supporting this bill which will bring more oversight and scrutiny to foreign investment—a big win for the agricultural supply chain and food security."

Original cosponsors in the House include Representatives Jim Costa (D-CA-21), Jimmy Panetta (D-CA-19), Mary Miller (R-IL-15), Ralph Norman (R-SC-05), Maria Elvira Salazar (R-FL-27), Rick Crawford (R-AR-01), Kat Cammack (R-FL-03), Kevin Hern (R-OK-01), Brian Babin (R-TX-36), August Pfluger (R-TX-11), Darrell Issa (R-CA-48), Zach Nunn (R-IA-03), James Baird (R-IN-04), Troy Nehls (R-TX-22), Dusty Johnson (R-SD), Chris Stewart (R-UT-02), Ryan Zinke (R-MT-01), Ben Cline (R-VA-06), Michael Guest (R-MS-03), Jerry Carl (R-AL-01), Barry Moore (R-AL-02), John Rose (R-TN-06), Jake Ellzey (R-TX-06), Randy Weber (R-TX-14), Ashley Hinson (R-IA-02), Pat Fallon (R-TX-04), James Moylan (R-GU) and Randy Feenstra (R-IA-04).

BACKGROUND
Over the past few years, the United States has experienced a rapid increase in foreign investment in the agricultural sector, particularly from China. Growing foreign investment in agriculture and other essential industries, like health care and energy, threaten our country's national security and ability to survive. Our agricultural sector needs increased oversight and transparency to secure our country's food supply.

The Foreign Adversary Risk Management (FARM) Act is a bipartisan, bicameral bill that would ensure the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) acknowledges the importance of our agricultural industry and agricultural supply chains for our nation's safe and secure food supply.

CFIUS is authorized to oversee and review foreign investment and ownership in domestic businesses as it relates to national security. Currently, the Committee does not directly consider the needs of the agriculture industry when reviewing foreign investment and ownership in domestic businesses.

Specifically, the FARM Act would:
• add the Secretary of Agriculture as a member to CFIUS;
• add language to protect the U.S. agriculture industry from foreign control through transactions, mergers, acquisitions, or agreements; designate agricultural supply chains as critical infrastructure and critical technologies,
• and report to Congress on current and potential foreign investments in the U.S. agricultural industry from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Government Accountability Office (GAO).

The American agricultural industry has changed significantly over time due to rising foreign investment and consolidation in the industry. The federal government must shed light on global corporations becoming more involved with our domestic food supply and agricultural businesses.



THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JANUARY 28, 2023

Alabama State Parks' Mitchum named Enforcement Officer of the Year

David Rainer
Ala. Dept. of Conservation and Nat. Resources

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — District Park Ranger Pete Mitchum, with the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' State Parks Division, was told to wear his Class A uniform to work recently, and he didn't know why. He complied and found out that Alabama Conservation Enforcement Officers Association (ACEOA) President Vance Wood was on his way to meet him.

Wood, a Conservation Enforcement Lieutenant with the Department's Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (WFF) Division, showed up at Gulf State Park to present Mitchum with the ACEOA Enforcement Officer of the Year Award.

"That was kind of a surprise," Mitchum said. "While we are not conservation officers, we are officers who work for the Conservation Department. The ACEOA covers the enforcement personnel in all four divisions – State Parks, Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries, Marine Resources and State Lands.

"It was an honor to receive it. There are about 200 enforcement officers in the Conservation Department, and there is probably somebody out there that deserved it more than me, but I am grateful for the award."

Director Greg Lein said Alabama State Parks is proud to have Mitchum considered for the ACEOA award.

"We think he's a great recipient of the award," Lein said. "I think the thing we're most pleased with is the fact that he was nominated by his own people, which says a lot about the kind of leader he is. They respect him and respect his leadership to a degree that they wanted to nominate him. We're proud to have him as a part of our team."

Mitchum's law enforcement career began in 1994 with a sheriff's department in South Carolina, his wife's home state. He worked patrol, K-9 and narcotics before being hired by the U.S. State Department in 2006 as a police advisor to advise and mentor the Afghanistan National Police.

"The whole concept was to teach an Islamic police force democratic policing," said Mitchum, who said he'd always wanted to be in law enforcement since Mobile Police Officer Dan Buck gave him a short ride in a squad car when he was 7 years old. "It sounds challenging, and it was. I think we did a lot of good over there. I made a lot of longtime friends."

After eight months at home, a friend called and asked him about being a bomb-detection dog handler back in Afghanistan. Mitchum only had experience with dual-purpose police dogs, not bomb dogs. After some convincing, he headed back overseas.

"Got my dog, and we were searching cars and buildings," he said. "I had a really awesome dog (a Belgian Malinois named Brutus). He was a sharp, sharp dog. He received several recognitions while we were over there. It was all the dog. I was just holding the leash.

"The camp (near Kabul) got hit in 2015, and he developed a little PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder). Loud noises made him shut down. They retired him, and the general at that time was kind enough to fly him back to the states to be with me. That was pretty awesome."

About six months later, he got a call about job openings as a WFF Conservation Enforcement Officer.

"I had always wanted to do this, but the stars never lined up," Mitchum said. "Fast forward, I get hired as a game warden."

Mitchum went to Perry County to start his WFF career, then moved to Escambia County before ending up in Mobile County.

The District Park Ranger's position with Alabama State Parks was being developed, and Mitchum was intrigued by that possibility because of his appreciation for the State Parks System. Although the COVID pandemic delayed the process, he was hired to that position to cover the Southwest District, which includes Gulf State Park and Meaher State Park at the head of Mobile Bay.

"Meaher is easy," he said. "We have a great staff up there. The Gulf State Park is a big park with more than 28 miles of trails, six beach accesses, the Gulf State Park Pier and the campground. That can keep any man busy."

Mitchum oversees two park rangers and six security personnel with another park ranger scheduled to join the staff on February 1.

"First and foremost, we're ambassadors for the park," he said. "Our park users see us all over the place. I initially had a misconception of what we actually did. I'm thinking it was mainly guest relations, which is a big portion of it, and riding the trails and beaches.

"But it's so much more. We have to consider the hospitality/tourism side of it because we are in the hospitality/tourism business. That's our bread and butter. But we're also law enforcement and deal with breakins, burglaries, narcotics and other drugs, DUIs and traffic problems. And we have hurricanes, like Hurricane Sally that hit the first year I was here.



DAVID RAINER

Alabama State Parks District Park Ranger Pete Mitchum recently received the ACEOA Officer of the Year award.

"We put on so many hats. At times, we may have to put on a maintenance hat. We may be out cutting trees and clearing trails after a hurricane. We may be helping put up road signs or a fence. It's not the norm.

"We have to be very versatile, very fluid in our day-to-day activities. But that's what makes this job so great. You get to do it all. I ended up where I was meant to be. I love it down here. I'm truly blessed to be here."

Mitchum said visitors come from all over the world to experience what Gulf State Park has to offer.

"You can hit close to 30 miles of trails and see bobcats, turtles and deer," he said. "Then you can drive a half-mile and walk onto sugar-sand beaches and see all the marine life. Then you can go out on the pier and catch a wide variety of fish. There's no other place like it."

Mitchum's District Park Ranger position hasn't been the only change to the Parks' State Personnel register for enforcement, according to Lein.

"The most important is the Park Ranger entry level position," Lein said. "That is now open for continuous recruitment, and it's been rewritten to clarify the approach we take to law enforcement now. We are always looking for good officers and would love to add to our Park Ranger staff around the state.

"As Commissioner (Chris) Blankenship was saying the other day, the park ranger job may have the most complicated law enforcement responsibilities in the Department," Lein said. "They do such a diverse array of work, and they're doing it in a hospitality setting. They're almost like policemen in a city, managing for those normal enforcement duties, like speeding, DUIs, domestic disputes. Then we have the regulations about the conduct of guests in park. Then we have the natural resources, making sure they're not being abused. That's a lot.

"They have to be really tactful. They have to educate our guests on why the speed limit is important, that there are cyclists on the road and wildlife in the park. The same goes for going into the campground to enforce quiet hour. We don't want to alienate our customers who we depend on to make our State Parks great, but we won't tolerate behavior that detracts from the enjoyment of our beautiful parks by our other guests."

Visit www.alapark.com/law-enforcement-career-opportunities for more information.

Ivey issues executive order aimed at promoting transparency in state government

Staff Reports
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Governor Kay Ivey on Thursday signed Executive Order 734, "Promoting Transparency in State Government Through Enhanced Accessibility to Public Records," that, according to her office, delivers on her "inaugural commitment to ensure state government works with even greater efficiency, accountability and transparency."

"From day one, a top priority of mine was to restore our people's faith in their state government," said Ivey. "Today, I am still every bit as committed to leading a state government that Alabamians can be proud of – one that is open, honest and transparent. Access to public records is essential to guaranteeing transparency in government, and I am proud to sign this executive order that improves this process as a whole."

Executive Order 734 seeks to streamline the public records request process by making these key changes:

• Requires all executive-branch agencies to establish a public records page on their website that includes a public records request form and a contact for assistance with public records requests.

• Establishes improved response times based on the type of public records request being made:

• A standard request is a public records request that seeks one or more very clearly identified documents that the agency determines would take less than 8 hours of staff time to process. Subject to modest extensions and the receipt of any required payment, the agency will be prepared to provide a substantive response within 15 business days.

• A time-intensive request is a public records request the agency determines would take more than 8 hours of staff time to process, perhaps because the request itself is vague or overly broad or because substantial efforts will be required to locate documents or redact legally protected information. Agencies will give the requester an option to clarify and narrow the request. Subject to extensions and the receipt of any required payment, the agency will be prepared to provide a substantive response fulfilling or denying the request within 45 business days.

•Establishes a uniform fee schedule. Executive Order 734 cuts fees by providing that no per-page fee be charged for records provided electronically. The fee schedule is as follows:

• Document retrieval and preparation: The agency may charge the requester up to $20.00 per hour, including a standard, minimum fee of $20.00, for time spent locating, retrieving and preparing records for production. The agency may not charge for legal review or redaction necessary to withhold legally protected information.

• Per-page fees: The agency may charge a per-page fee of up to $.50 for copies produced on standard 8.5×11 paper. This fee is not applicable for documents provided electronically.

• Actual cost: The agency may also charge any actual costs incurred in processing a public records request if the requester is informed of the cost in advance of being charged. For example, the requester may be charged for a flash drive or other hardware necessary for electronically producing records, for special paper sizes and for costs associated with searching electronic databases.

Agencies must comply with these new requirements or begin to make formal rule changes necessary to implement these new requirements, on or before April 26, 2023.

Week (from Front)

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Maylor Kenneth Nail and the Hanceville City Council, during its last meeting in January, voted to proclaim the first full week of February International Clergy Week in Hanceville. Leading the city in the celebration of Cullman County clergy is the Hanceville Civitan Club. On Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 11 a.m., clergymen and women will be honored at Hanceville Methodist Church.

A written statement submitted by Hanceville Civitan President Rev. James C. Fields, Jr. read, "Among us are people who dedicate a lifetime to bringing about a better world.

"They are the clergy of all faiths and creeds who seek to bring all people a message of peace and love.

"It is because of this that members of the Hanceville Civitan Club are asking the people of Cullman County to take the time to say 'thank you' to our rabbis, priests and ministers," he concluded.

Clergy Appreciation Week was started by Civitans International as a way to honor the lives and tragic but heroic deaths of four military chaplains after the torpedoing of their ship, the USS Dorchester, during WWII.

The proclamation reads:
WHEREAS, the first full week of February is International Clergy Week, the City of Hanceville deems it is a great honor and privilege to be host through the Hanceville Civitan Club to a large segment of the clergy of this city and county to celebrate this event; and

WHEREAS, the clergy of our nations have meant so much to our religions and our way of life; and

WHEREAS, the Clergymen of our respective faiths have made such sacrifices in serving both God and country in war and peace, I deem it appropriate on the part of the Mayor to hereby call upon the members of the Hanceville Civitan Club and all of the citizens of Cullman County to observe this week for the purpose of recalling to this community the accomplishments and contributions made to our county by the clergy who serve its citizens as well as those in the nation at large; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Hanceville are encouraged to actively support and take pride in the worthwhile efforts of these public servants as well as the work of Civitan members in our community.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mayor Kenneth Nail, and the City of Hanceville do hereby proclaim the first week of February as Presented under the seal of the City of Hanceville on this 26th day of January 2023.

In other business, the council voted to approve the use of a Homeland Security Grant for buying new police vehicle radios and walkie talkies, including installation and software. Two Polaris Rangers, one two-seater and one four-seater, will be purchased with the grant. Additionally, a van to be used as a mobile command center during emergency situations will be bought. The grant could only be used for very specific items for the department as mandated by the State of Alabama and federal government.

Building condemnations and the Tiny House Pocket Neighborhood measure were both tabled until the next council meeting.

The next Hanceville City Council meeting will be held Thursday, Feb. 9, at Hanceville City Hall. The work session will begin at 5 p.m. and regular meeting at 5:30.



AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Hanceville Civitans and City Council members John Stam and Patty Dean, with Mayor Kenneth Nail and Hanceville Civitans Brenda Carter and Nolan Bradford.

Chapel (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN COUNTY, Ala. — More than 175 people attended the ribbon cutting for the new chapel at The Foundry Farm near Holly Pond on Sunday, Jan. 22. The Foundry Ministries Chief Development Officer Joey Daly said the ministry is grateful to everyone who contributed to the project. "The support from the community we received by coming together to address this critical need for our organization will have a lasting impact on hundreds (if not thousands) of individuals for the years to come," Daly said. "We are excited and extremely thankful." Daly said the chapel is ready to go and will be used as a place of worship and as an educational/multi-use space.

He said Bible study leader Stanley Dye was a catalyst for the chapel project.

"Through the design and ultimate construction of the facility, he was at the center of everything," Daly said.

"There are too many others to name. This was a true community effort by our friends and supporters in the Cullman community."

The chapel is located on the property of The Foundry Farm at 575 County Road 1676, Cullman, AL 35058.

LEGALS

Request for Qualifications

The City of Cullman is now requesting qualifications from engineering firms to provide all engineering application development services as well as design, surveying, and inspection services should a federally funded project be funded. This request will be effective through FY 2025. Factors to be considered in the selection of firm or firms will include overall qualifications of the firm (35 points), prior experience of the firm in developing & implementing federally funded projects (35 points), and qualifications of specific personnel to be assigned to the project (30 points). Proposals should be submitted to: City of Cullman, Attn.: Mayor Woody Jacobs, 204 Second Avenue NE, Cullman, AL 35055 to be considered. Proposals must be delivered to the City of Cullman by 2:00 p.m., on Friday, February 17, 2023.

Woody Jacobs, Mayor
City of Cullman
January 28, 2023

Request for Proposals

The City of Cullman is now requesting proposals from qualified firms to provide professional grant application development & grant management services which will be effective through Program Year 2025. Services required shall include all grant application development services as well as the overall administration of any federally funded grant projects upon grant award in accordance with all applicable regulations and procedures. Factors to be considered in the selection of the firm or firms include experience of the firm in developing, writing & administering federally funded grant projects (30 points), appropriateness of the firm's proposed scope of services (30 points), the availability and qualifications of key personnel assigned to the application development and grant administration (30 points), and cost of administrative services to be provided (10 points). Proposals should be submitted to: City of Cullman, Attn.: Mayor Woody Jacobs, 204 Second Avenue NE, Cullman, AL 35055 to be considered. Proposals must be delivered to the City of Cullman by 2:00 p.m., on Friday, February 17, 2023.

Woody Jacobs, Mayor
City of Cullman
January 28, 2023

DISTRICT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY
500 2nd Ave SW
Room 303
Cullman, Al 35055

JOE CARETTI AUTO SERVICE, INC.
(PLAINTIFF)
VS CASE NO: SM-2022-900476
ASHTON DARREN ELMER
(DEFENDANT)

NOTICE OF FILING OF LAW SUIT

DEFENDANT(S), Ashton Darren Elmer , whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the complaint brought against him/her by the PLAINTIFF, Joe Caretti Auto Service, Inc., for $2047.33 plus court cost, cause of action being: Money owed for repairs and labor

ANSWER TO THE COMPLAINT MUST BE MADE BY THE SAID DEFENDANT on or before the 18th day of February, 2023, or a default may be rendered against him/her in the above styled cause.

DATED THIS THE 12th day of January, 2023

LISA MCSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

PB MIN BK 213 PG 348 - 01/20/2023 07:50 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF * CASE NO.: PC-2022-362
JOSEPH RICHARD HATHCOTE *
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to **Jo Ann Caudle,** Personal Representative of the Estate of **Joseph Richard Hathcote**, deceased, on the 20th day of January, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge of said County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law, or the same will be barred.

Jo Ann Caudle
Personal Representative

Jerry L. Kilgo
Attorney for the Personal Representative
105 1st Avenue NE, Ste G
Cullman, Alabama 35055

TO THE PUBLISHER OF: THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Please publish the above notice for three (3) consecutive weeks and provide a proof of publication affidavit to the Probate Judge of Cullman County, Alabama.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE

PB MIN BK 213 PG 366 - 01/20/2023 08:17 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
LINDA GREEN, * CASE NO PC 2022-314
Deceased *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to **JAMES COX,** as Personal Representative of the Estate of **LINDA GREEN**, deceased, on the 20th day of January, 2023, 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.

JAMES COX
Personal Representative

Christopher Smitherman
Attorney for Personal Representative
725 West Street
Montevallo, AL 35115

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 213 PG 91 - 01/12/2023 01:24 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

DEBORAH GAY GILLON, DECEASED CASE NO. PC 2022-443

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED
BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF DEBORAH GAY GILLON, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to David Paul Whittaker on the 12th day of January, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

David Paul Whittaker, Personal Representative (Administrator),
and
Steven C. Smith, Attorney for the Estate

TO: Publisher of *Cullman Tribune*:

Please publish the above notice three successive weeks in said newspaper.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C. Smith
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
Phone: (256) 734-4721
Fax: (256) 734-4774
e-mail: steve@smithandsmithllp.com

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE:
M.D.W.
a minor child, DOB: 01-23-2015 CASE NO: JU 2015-483.04

NOTICE

The Petitioners having made a Motion for Service by Publication on the Mother in the above styled action, it is therefore:

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Biological Mother, Jamie Wood, of M.D.W, born on 01-23-2015, respond to the Petition by the 13th day of February, 2023 or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioners.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioners: Andria Sims, 300 First Avenue SE, Suite 104, Cullman, Alabama 35055, 256-775-7757 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this the 16 day of Dec, 2022.

WELLS R. TURNER, III
JUVENILE JUDGE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

FILED IN OFFICE
DEC 16 2022
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit Court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 4th day of January, 2023.
Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Circuit Court

PB MIN BK 213 PG 103 - 01/12/2023 04:18 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF * CASE NO.: PC2023-005
SAUNDRA KAY HARBISON, *
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to SHERON LOVELL, as Personal Representative of the Estate of SAUNDRA KAY HARBISON, deceased, on the 12th day of January, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

SHERON LOVELL
Personal Representative

Carl E. Chamblee, Sr.
Attorney for Personal Representative
480 Chamblee Lane
Warrior, AL 35180
205-590-0343

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 WIL BK 114 PG 275 - 01/19/2023 10:16 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
DANNY KAY DYER, * CASE NO.: PC2021-375
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Testamentary having been granted to PAMELA SERENA CRAWFORD, as Personal Representative of the Estate of DANNY KAY DYER, deceased, on the 19th day of January, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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.

PAMELA SERENA CRAWFORD
Personal Representative

Jerry L. Kilgo
Attorney for Personal Representative
105 1st Ave. NE, Ste. G
Cullman, AL 35055

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
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

PB MIN BK 213 PG 54 - 01/11/2023 03:09 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of
GARY PHILLIP CASON, CASE NO. PC 2023-010
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration have been granted to Dustin Heath Cason, as Administrator of the Estate of GARY PHILLIP CASON, deceased, on the 11th day of January, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, and that all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Dustin Heath Cason

Shay Persall
SHAY PERSALL LAW, LLC
700 Second Avenue SW
Cullman AL 35055
(256) 841-7800

Attorney for Administrator

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for three consecutive weeks and send an affidavit of publication.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, will hold a public hearing on February 13, 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 Resolution 2023-17 (set forth in full below) will be given an opportunity to speak.
Wesley M. Moore, City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 2023 – 17
TO VACATE AND SURPLUS A PORTION OF A PUBLIC STREET

WHEREAS, the City of Cullman is the owner of portions of Twelfth Way NW and Twelfth Street NW;
WHEREAS, the Cullman City Council finds that this property is not needed for public or municipal purposes and has determined that it is in the interest of the public that such street or portion thereof be vacated;
BE IT RESOLVED by the Cullman City Council that the portions of Twelfth Way NW and Twelfth Street NW are hereby declared vacant and the Mayor is authorized to surplus and sell this property for its fair market value.
Submitted by Wesley M. Moore, City Clerk

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JANUARY 28, 2023

COLUMN: Black and white to me

Joey Hobby
Contributor

They were delivering it today. Just in time for New Year's Day. A color TV! To be specific, a 21" RCA- in a wooden cabinet, no less. This was as high tech as you could get in 1966. All those football games tomorrow, capped off with my beloved Bama versus Nebraska in the Orange Bowl, were going to be in color! What a way to start off the year! This was going to be the greatest bowl season in the history of bowl seasons. Let my Mom watch that stupid Rose Parade to see the "pretty flowers." Dad and I knew that was just a prerequisite to the main event. Because tomorrow night, we were going to watch Alabama give Nebraska a technicolor butt whipping.

Then I started thinking about all the weekly shows. I would finally get to see that NBC Peacock spread his colorful plumage. At last, we were going to know what the Cartwright's Ponderosa Ranch looked like in color. Disney's Wonderful World of Color was actually going to be in color! Even Flipper! If A certain little brown-haired girl had only paid more attention to me in school, life would be perfect for this 12-year-old boy.

In mid-morning, the delivery truck pulled in our driveway. I think I heard angels sing the Hallelujah Chorus. The whole family assembled on our small front porch and watched in excited silence as two guys strapped it to a dolly and began the ascent up our stairs. In my mind, they might as well have been carrying the Ark of the Covenant. I'm pretty sure If those men had let so much as a corner of that maple cabinet touch the ground, they would have been struck dead.

My father was watching this procession closely. This was a big investment for our household, and Dad was justifiably proud of the purchase. So, he stood there like a shift supervisor as this electronic marvel made its way into our living room, through the kitchen, to the far end of our pine-paneled den.

It fit perfectly. That was no surprise - because Dad had measured that space about 34 times. The delivery team plugged in the set and hooked up the antenna that sat on top of the cabinet. I stood staring in disbelief. As of that moment, my family officially owned a color television.

It was beautiful. If not for the screen, it would have looked like a fine piece of furniture. To the right of the picture, there were a few controls, the most prominent being a large dial to change the channels - which was a simple task, because there were only three of them - one for each network. Technically, you could say there were four if you counted public TV, which we most certainly did not. It also had a voice-activated channel changer. Here's how it worked. My Dad said, "Hey Joe, get up and turn it on NBC." And I did.

Below the dial were two smaller knobs. One was the on/off control that also adjusted the volume. The other handled contrast. Then, further down was something we had never seen before. There were two small adjustable wheels, side by side, each with multicolored faces. Upon closer inspection, we discovered that these were the color and tint adjustments. They made the magic happen.

Since all the prep was done, one of the men turned the set on. We watched as Search For Tomorrow appeared in grainy tones of ...black and white! Huh? What's this? I suppressed my desire to slam down the World Book Encyclopedia I had in my hands, and instead asked what I thought was an intelligent question.

"Uh, what's wrong with it?"

The delivery guy looked down at me and said politely, "Nothing."

My Dad continued this line of questioning. "So, it's got to warm up or something?

"Naw." He sounded like he had heard this one a few times before.

"Then why isn't it in color?"

"The technician needs to come in and make the adjustments. Won't take but a few minutes."

My heart began to sink.

"Is he coming later today?" I asked. My question was really a plea.

"Not today. He's booked up. I expect he'll be here right after the first."

I felt faint. In my mind, this was child abuse. How could you put a color TV right in front of us and not let us watch it in color? That's like meeting Dolly Parton when she's wearing a buttoned up topcoat.

My father did not share my outrage. Instead, he was almost indifferent. "Well, I guess that will have to do. What's a couple more days when you've waited this long?" he said flatly. I shook my head in disbelief. Logic and patience were not something I expected from my old man.

Their job completed, the delivery guys made their way out of the house, but not before issuing a stern warning. The older of the two men said, "Under no circumstances are you to touch the color wheels. Let the technician do that. If you fool with those dials you could really mess up the TV. It could even void the warranty. I know you want to, but just don't."

Well, there went plan B. From the moment he said there would be no color programs until after New Year's, I had decided that I was going to make those adjustments. But now, I thought if I so much as touched those knobs, I would be condemned to hell.

So, we watched the Rose Parade and all the bowl games without color. I was still sick with disappointment, but it was tempered by Alabama's black and white butt whipping of Nebraska. Looking back, I guess that's a fair trade.

Not surprisingly, the technician showed up on Jan. 2. He walked in, slightly repositions the antenna, then goes straight to the forbidden color wheels. A couple of turns on the left one, a turn or two on the right one, and just like that, Password with Allen Ludden was perfectly pigmented.

"That's it," he said. And like that he was done.

I don't know if I was more stunned or angry. Some technician. This guy was nothing but a color-wheel-turner, and barely one at that. I should have known that the one time I followed the rules, it cost me. All I had to do was make a couple of clandestine swipes on those controls, and we would have been all set for New Year's Day. But no. I followed the rules because we were told that even attempting to adjust the color on the TV set would pretty much cause it to explode. And I'm still a little peeved about it 54 years later.

I was even more surprised by my Dad's reaction. If you knew my father, you knew he had a shorter temper than the Punisher during rush hour. But I was stunned how incredibly calm he was throughout the whole episode. In fact, all he did was grab a beer, walk in the den, look at the television and say, "Hey Joe, isn't Bonanza on? Turn it on NBC."

And I did.

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://myliefeasahobby.blogspot.com. Follow him on Facebook at Joe Hobby Comedian-Writer.

Obituary Announcements: Jan. 26-27

Theresa Ann Speakman, 65
On Oct. 27, 1957, Jessie Mae and Claude Joe Morris welcomed the most precious little baby girl into the world. But, from the moment she was born, everyone knew she wasn't a typical girl. She was perfect from day one. Theresa Ann Speakman grew up with her brothers, John and Bobby Morris, and spent much of their childhood traveling the world since their father, Joe, served in the Navy. Eventually, the family would settle in Cullman, where Theresa graduated from high school before starting her family. On May 25, 1977, Theresa gave birth to her first child, Jessica Holcombe. A few years later, she would meet the love of her life and husband of nearly 43 years, Roger Speakman. It was a match made in Heaven, and the two would marry Feb. 9, 1980. Twenty-two months later, on Dec. 9, 1981, Theresa gave birth to her son, Jamie Speakman. Their little family was complete. Once Jessica and Jamie were grown, Theresa began wanting grandkids. Tragically, Jessica's first child, Brittany Holcombe, gained her wings and entered Heaven's gates before she was born. But, no worries, God would give Theresa her wish when Jessica and her husband Gary gave birth to Breanna Holcombe. They would eventually give birth to Stacie and Tiffany Holcombe. Jamie gave his mother two other blessings when Drake and Emma Speakman came into the world. Theresa's first-born grandchild, Breanna, has since married her love, Dillon Price. Stacie is 20 weeks pregnant with Theresa's first great-grandchild, Kade. Theresa cared, loved, and showed compassion to everyone she met. She saw the best in everyone. She truly had the most beautiful soul. To know her was to love her, all of her. She could make you laugh, put a smile on your face, and brighten your day in the blink of an eye. Theresa was the most loving wife and mother that spent her life pouring protection and comfort over her husband and children. On Jan. 25, 2023, Theresa earned her wings and joined her parents, two brothers, and her first grandchild in Paradise. Tears were shed, and loved ones' hearts were devastated, but joy filled the air knowing that Theresa Ann Speakman walked through the gates of Heaven and was greeted by our creator, Jesus Christ. A viewing will be held at Moss Service Funeral Home on Jan. 26, 2023, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m.., followed by a celebration of life on Jan. 27, 2023, at Daystar Church. She will lie in state from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. Funeral will begin at 2 p.m. Theresa will be laid to rest beside her parents in the Good Hope Cemetery following the service. Pastor Jerry Lawson will officiate.

John Anthony "Tony" Easterwood, 41
John Anthony "Tony" Easterwood, 41, of Vinemont, passed away Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2023. He was born December 19, 1981. Tony graduated from Cullman High School and Auburn University. He was a member of Daystar Church. Tony is survived by his wife, Meredith Ingram Easterwood; children, Harper Easterwood, John Easterwood and Ingram Easterwood; brothers, Terry Cupp and Austin Cupp; father-in-law, Clayton Ingram and mother-in-law, Kim Ingram. He was preceded in death by his mother, Julie Easterwood Cupp. The funeral service will be held Sunday, Jan. 29, 2023, at 3 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home; burial will follow in Cullman City Cemetery. The family will receive friends Sunday from 1:30 p.m. until 3 p.m. at the funeral home.

Steven John Whitman, 61
Steven John Whitman, age 61, of Haleyville, Alabama, passed away Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023, at Lakeland Community Hospital. Steven was born on Sept. 25, 1961, in Delaware. No services are planned at this time. Steven is survived by his wife, Katherine Whitman; son, John Bishop and wife Helena and Zack Durham and wife Denise; grandchildren, Hannah, Maddie, Katlyn, Octavia, Ranny, Carlos, Erica, Brooklyn, Zoey and Lakota; sisters, Judy, Doris, and Frances; brothers, Jim and David; and a host of nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; John and Ruby Whitman; and sister, Linda.

Jacqulyn Wix Graveman, 89
Jacqulyn Wix Graveman, age 89, of Cullman, Alabama passed away Thursday, Jan. 19, 2023. Jacqulyn is survived by her daughters, Jo-Ann Evans (Paul) and Joyce Shannon (Joe), her sons, Kenneth Graveman (Brenda) and Terry Graveman and her brothers, Gary Wix (Laverne) and Douglas Wix (Janet); nine grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. A visitation for Jacqulyn will be held Monday, Jan. 23, 2023, from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. Following the visitation will be a graveside service at 2 p.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery, Cullman, AL 35055. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.mossservicefh.com for the Bowen family. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

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BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

A Billy Bob outing and shared peanuts

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



A couple of weeks after I graduated from college, Jean and I loaded up everything we owned and headed for New Orleans. Three years earlier, we had gotten married and moved to Birmingham. We moved to Birmingham in a Volkswagen van and a '69 Malibu. We rented a U-Haul to move our belongings to New Orleans. I still don't know why, because we didn't own much more than 3-years earlier. I guess my friend's van was not available!

My hometown of Rainsville and I grew up together. I was born and 1955, and Rainsville was incorporated the next year. Rainsville had 568 residents back then, but by the time I moved away 20-years later we had somewhere around 3000.

Today their population is almost twice that many. Even though my hometown was one of the fastest-growing small towns in Alabama when I moved away, it was still a far cry from the size of Birmingham. Living in Birmingham was quite an adjustment for this ole boy. Probably not as much for Jean, because she had spent much of her childhood in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

After we arrived in New Orleans, I soon realized that I had never lived anywhere like that in my life. Truthfully, I'm not sure there is anywhere else like New Orleans. Had I not had those 3-years in Birmingham, the culture shock of New Orleans might have done me in! I quickly realized that we were not in Kansas anymore...I mean Alabama anymore! I saw things I had never seen or heard of, and I ate stuff that we might have used for bait! I had moved there to further my education at the Baptist seminary. I received a wonderful education there and an unusual one in the city.

I missed my native Alabama so badly at times I could have cried. I may have when no one was watching. Not long after we moved there, I was sitting in church one Sunday morning when I thought I saw Mike Ramage, one of my college classmates. Before the service began, I tapped him on the shoulder and my friend, who was a big man, almost squeezed the stuffings right out of me. We were both so glad to see someone we knew...someone from Alabama.

One of my first courses was Old Testament Survey, taught by Dr. Waylon Bailey. Dr. Bailey was from Alabama too...Brantley, to be exact. One day I was in the campus cafeteria when Dr. Bailey asked me if I'd like to sit with him. He was eating peanuts, so he offered me some. I realized his peanuts were boiled, like they ate in the southern end of Alabama, rather than roasted like we ate in the northern end. I liked them so much I almost devoured the entire bag. Dr. Bailey became one of my favorite professors, and several years later when I went to work on a doctorate, he was the chair of my committee.

For several years, Dr. Bailey taught at the seminary and served as pastor of Covington First Baptist Church. About the time I completed by doctorate in 1995, he left the seminary to serve full time at the rapidly-growing church. Last week, I had the honor of doing one my Bro Billy Bob humor programs for their Senior Adult Ministry. Unfortunately, Dr. Bailley had to be away that day and was not able to attend, but I did leave a gift for my former teacher and mentor. You guessed it...an entire bag of Alabama peanuts in the shell. If I lived closer, I'd go back, sit down with him, and help him eat them...boiled or roasted!

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

HISTORY

Files from yesteryear: 1900, 1930, 1950

From the files of 1900

Doctor W.A. Barclift, of Hartselle, is having a cottage erected on the bluff, overlooking the Vinemont railroad station and will use it as a summer home.

A.M. Weatherford has been at work putting electric lights in the courthouse, this week.

Mrs. M.W. Howard stopped in Cullman, this week, on her return from Kentucky, where Mr. Howard has been making campaign speeches.

John F. Knight went to Birmingham on Wednesday to meet Mrs. Knight, who has just returned from Canada. They will reside here.

Probate Judge, S.L. Fuller has received warrants for 253 disabled Confederate soldiers and widows of deceased soldiers, which he will distribute.

The Cullman Cotton Company has completed arrangements for putting in a guano factory, which will be ready for operation next year.

From the files of 1930

Byron Ashwander, of Hanceville, purchased the first "A" automobile license in this county on October 1st, according to Probate Judge, Homer F. Mitchell. The tag is number A 103-301 and will be used on a Ford coach. George Ashwander, of Hanceville, purchased the first "B" tag for his Dodge sedan and Alton McBrayer purchased the first truck tag for his Ford truck.

At the B.P.W. benefit "Bug" party, on Thursday, Miss Mamie Hoelscher won first prize and Miss Margaret Schlosser and Miss Gertrude Ziegler second and consolation.

Among those attending the state fair in Birmingham this week were: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hill and Miss Gertrude Hill, Casper Mages and Miss Betty Mages, Mr. and Mrs. C.R. Rainey, Hartwell Speegle, Miss Sophie Schneider, Mr. and Mrs. W.S. Leeth and children and Miss Thelma Kinney.

The Cullman Bearcats won their opening game of the season, by defeating Fairview, 12 to 0.

Charley Bilgero, who underwent an operation in Birmingham last Thursday is reported to be resting well, at this time.

W.C. Debtor, of Simcoe, is enlarging his poultry farm.

From the files of 1950

Charley Dewberry, age three, was killed at Liberty Grove, when he fell into a neighbor's boiling pot of water, where they were killing hogs.

Mr. and Mrs. Fonzie Gregory, Mr. and Mrs. Oran Holmes and Lowell Holmes were baptized at the John R. Holmes pond, last week.

Jack Mann, age 22 and Vida Faye Hamrick were recently married.

Mrs. Lonnie Rice, of Hanceville, rode the Greyhound bus to Birmingham last Monday.

POET'S CORNER

The Healing Stream | By: Randy C. Hale

In you, my Lord, I place my trust,
a healing stream to flow.
The method is not relevant,
for all's from you, I know.

Healing waters in Bethesda's pool
shall churn again for me.
The healing flow from thy stripes,
a blessing mend shall be.

Just like the woman in the crowd,
took hold your blessed robe.
I grasp with faith your holiness,
within my heart I hold.

I could be healing instantly
or slow may be the way.
Yet, praise your name I know,
I will be whole one day.

Heal me in your time, Lord,
come morning, noon, or night.
May I feel your master's touch,
like rising of the light.

To you, I lift my prayer.
My faith in you, I rest.
The healing that comes forth
shall always be the best.



*John 5:1-4 * Isaiah 53;5 * Mark 5:24-29 * I Peter 2:24*

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

JAN. 28

W A Y U P T O D D R U G P B E
Q C E C A N A L R E E D S E A
I L L R O S Y S A A E D O A R
N O F I O I E S W C F D N A L
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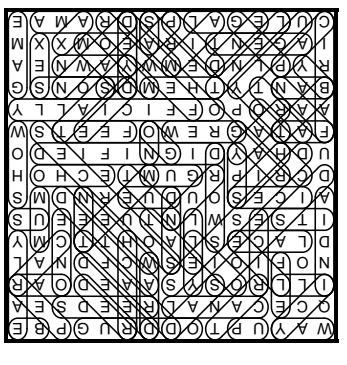
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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

JAN. 28

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ANSWERS:



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1	8	7	2	9	5	6	3	4
7	5	2	6	3	1	8	4	9
9	4	6	7	8	2	3	5	1
8	3	1	9	5	4	7	6	2

Real (from Front)

in life, being kind and generous."

Working on soft skills on day one of the two-day program, the students were taught the importance of punctuality and attention to detail to an employer. The students were given their career and family information on that day and they watched as taxes were cut from their income.

On day two, budgeting began, and teens were tasked with selecting housing, appropriate vehicles based on family size and income, grocery shopping and more. Incidentals were covered with a spin of the wheel, with occurrences such as speeding tickets, income tax refunds and more.

Faced with questions like, "I can work overtime for more money, but is that worth time away from my family?" and "Do I want to return to school and earn more money once graduated?" CHS ninth graders made their way creatively along the path of budgeting and planning for the future.



AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

"Keeping It Real" has been in local schools for at least 15 years and will continue to introduce Cullman students to the real-life decisions they will face sooner rather than later.



