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2 killed in Holly Pond house fire
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City school board recognizes student, teacher achievements
Community gathers for Empty Bowls
Cullman takes season opener over Brewer 5-1
BILL'S DEALS PUT THE LOVE INTO DRIVING!
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Rayburn Ray Cone, William Douglas Ward, Cynthia Renee (McGinnis) Darnell, Edna Dean Kelso, Emily Josephine Glasscock Pruett, Robert L. Findlay, Jr., Deborah Veal Olinger, Michael Rickey Olinger, Sharon Hudson Martin

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WEATHER

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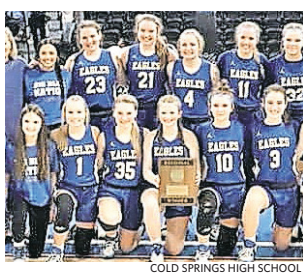
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CHANCE SHOWERS

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COLD SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL

– SPORTS –

No. 1 Cold Springs downs No. 9 Francis Marion 70-60 to advance to Final 4

» PAGE 6

7 93888 98541 4

Cullman County Animal Control investigating cases of dog poisoning

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County Animal Control Director Rodney Banister has confirmed that his department is currently investigating several cases of dog poisoning in the communities along County Road 222. Banister reported there are two confirmed cases of dog poisoning and one unconfirmed case.

"We received a complaint mid-January," Banister said. "We are currently working one cruelty investigation with two victims."

When asked » PAGE 12



PATRICIA ANNE/CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA LOST AND FOUND PETS NEW GROUP/FACEBOOK

"Location: Cullman County, Alabama; I saw this sign going home from the Vet Clinic today (2/22/23). It's posted on County Road 222 just past Trimble going west. PLEASE keep your dogs safe and don't let them wander loose!"

Colony Senior Center celebrates Black History Month and 45th anniversary



AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

On Friday, Feb. 24, 2023, members of the Colony Senior Center gathered to celebrate Black History Month and the center's 45th anniversary.

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

COLONY, Ala. — Black History Month is an annual celebration that takes place in the United States and Canada in February, to recognize and celebrate the achievements of African Americans. It is a month dedicated to honoring the legacy of black history, and also to reflect on how far we have come as a nation since then.

In Colony, the holiday means far more than it does to most other residents of Cullman County. The month is spent celebrating the lives, positive impact and contributions of all Black Americans and, just as important, each other.

Black History Month, which was first officially celebrated in 1926 by historian Carter G. Woodson, was honored at the Colony Senior Center Friday, along with the center's 45th anniversary of service to the town's elders.

The purpose of Woodson's initiative was to highlight the contributions and struggles of African Americans throughout history and encourage pride in their heritage.

The seniors of Colony know those struggles firsthand, have their own stories to tell and fully exemplify Former First Lady Michelle Obama's words of, "When they go low, we go high."

In preparation for Friday's party, Colony Senior Center Manager Rhonda Brewer gave the seniors homework. They were tasked with finding a school picture of themselves and filling out a questionnaire.

The seniors returned their assignments to Brewer, and she went to work having the photographs, many of which were damaged over the years, restored and carefully typing up the questionnaires.

When the seniors arrived Friday morning, they were greeted by a corkboard displaying all of their restored photographs with the questionnaires behind the respective pictures.

The seniors delighting in seeing their eyes of youth staring back at them as they reflected on the decades passed.

Giggling once again like young school kids, » PAGE 5

County commission recognizes 2023 City Family of the Year » PAGE 8

Hanceville council, planning commission to meet on tiny houses development


AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

R.O.S.S Director of Marketing Mark Litvine addresses the Hanceville City Council on Thursday, Feb. 24. » PAGE 8

Pet of the Week: Giggles


CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Giggles » PAGE 12

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Feb. 24

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Feb. 24, 2023. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Feb. 20

- trespassing; CR 616
- attempt to elude police officer; CR 557
- possession of dangerous drugs; possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR CR 1763
- domestic violence; CR 557
- theft of property; CR 222

Feb. 21

- theft of property; CR 702
- theft of property; CR 1302
- theft of property; CR 310
- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1030
- burglary; Hwy. 69 N
- domestic violence; CR 1756
- cruelty to animals; theft of property; CR 1101

Feb. 22

- domestic violence; CR 1225
- theft of property; CR 426
- burglary; Hwy. 69 N
- assault; CR 1809
- receiving stolen property; Industrial Dr. SW
- theft of property; CR 1093

ARRESTS

Feb. 21 – 23

Batemon II, Jimmie R.; 55
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Hayden, Lacey S.; 34
- assault-child abuse-simple-family

Martin, Jacob L.; 27
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of controlled substance

Williams, Daniel S.; 36
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Brady, Brianna D.; 28
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense (2 counts)
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs (3 counts)

Gill, Christopher A.; 33
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA- DUI (alcohol)

Gooch, Jacob O.; 20
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Hand, Dustin C.; 31
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Lindsey, Jubal Malachi Lee M.; 19
- receiving stolen vehicle
- FTA- driving while license suspended

Reed, Sandra K.; 66
- FTA- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Smitherman, Brelyn A.; 25
- FTA- DUI (alcohol)

Sturgeon, Christopher M.; 34
- family offense-nonsupport-parent

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Feb. 22
- theft of property-1st degree; person; cash
- harassing communications; person
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW; miscellaneous; $132

Feb. 23
- harassment; person; Mitchell Rd. NE
- duty upon striking unattended vehicle; person; 2nd Ave. SW; damage to 2008 Suzuki

ARRESTS

Feb. 22

Thomas, Tammy W.; 52
- FTA- insurance violation
- FTA- driving without license

Moore, Cristy M.; 43
- FTA- insurance violation
- FTA- speeding

Richardson, Ethan E.; 25
- possession of child pornography
- production of child pornography
- aggravated criminal surveillance

Gill, Christopher A.; 33
- FTA- driving without license
- FTA- driving while revoked (2 counts)
- FTA- DUI
- FTA- switched tag
- FTA- insurance violation
- FTA- fail to yield

Horton, Jessica M.; 37
- public intoxication

Lovell, Anthony R.; 48
- public intoxication
- criminal trespass-3rd degree
- resisting arrest
- assault-2nd degree

Feb. 23

Oden, Steven R.; 40
- harassment

Rice, Gary L.; 53
- FTA- driving while suspended

Bryan, Dennis D.; 55
- theft of property-4th degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Convicted Hanceville sex offender sentenced to almost 4 years for illegal firearm possession

Staff Reports
Contributor

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — A federal judge on Thursday sentenced Edward Olin Jones, 66, of Hanceville, a convicted felon, for illegal firearm possession. The sentence was announced by U.S. Attorney Prim F. Escalona and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives Special Agent in Charge Marcus Watson.

U.S. District Court Judge Liles C. Burke sentenced Jones to 46 months in prison followed by three years of supervised release. Jones pleaded guilty to the charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm in November 2022.

According to the plea agreement, on March 16, 2022, Alabama Probation & Parole officers conducted a home visit at the residence of Jones in Hanceville, Alabama. Jones was on state felony probation, and as conditions of his probation he had to submit to searches by probation officers and was prohibited from possessing firearms. The probation officers recovered a Smith & Wesson .38 Special revolver, a Röhm .22 caliber revolver, a Winchester 12-gauge shotgun, a Weatherby .300 Weatherby Magnum rifle, a Remington .300 Winchester Magnum rifle, a Remington .22 caliber rifle and 907 rounds of ammunition from Jones' home.

Prior to his arrest in this case, Jones had been convicted of first-degree sodomy and first-degree sex abuse in the Circuit Court of Jefferson County, Alabama.

ATF investigated the case along with the Alabama Probation and Parole Office. Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel S. McBrayer prosecuted the case.



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

This undated mugshot shows Edward Olin James.

Good Hope awarded $250K grant for Love's Travel Stop project

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Representatives from the City of Good Hope, Cullman County and the City of Cullman broke ground on a new Love's Travel Stop location on County Road 222 Wednesday morning, Feb. 8.

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — The City of Good Hope on Wednesday, Feb. 8, broke ground on a Love's Travel Stop off Interstate 65 and County Road 222 (Exit 305). On Friday, Feb. 23, Gov. Kay Ivey announced the City was awarded a $250,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to provide necessary infrastructure for the development.

"Cullman County continues to be a magnet for businesses and industries of every description and for good reason. It has a good business climate and wonderful people," Ivey said. "I am pleased to support this project. I congratulate the City of Good Hope on this business, and I expect other development in this area will follow."

The CDBG funds will help the City replace existing sewer lines with larger lines and install a sewer pump station. The improvements should also handle future businesses that move to that area.

The Love's Travel Stop will include a convenience store and an attached fast food restaurant. It will be open 24 hours, seven days a week, and will employ "at least 35 people," according to Ivey's office. At the Feb. 8 groundbreaking, Love's Real Estate Senior Project Manager Bill Gleason said, "... these 50-55 jobs that Love's is going to create, plus the 50 or so jobs that McDonald's is going to create are going to be here."

City officials said the improvements will likely lead to other development at the intersection.

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) is administering the grant from funds made available by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"ADECA is pleased to join Gov. Ivey in this project that will bring new commerce to the city of Good Hope," ADECA Director Kenneth Boswell said.

Ivey's office said the governor notified Good Hope Mayor Jerry Bartlett that the grant was approved.

The City has pledged $187,108 in local funding for the project.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Public Notice
The Cullman County Soil & Water Conservation District (CCSWCD) is now accepting applications for a $750 scholarship sponsored by the Alabama Conservation District Employees Association. An applicant must be a U.S. citizen, a high school senior and live in Alabama. Applications may be picked up at the District office located 501-B Fourth St. SW, Cullman, AL 35055. You can also contact Kathy Holmes at kholmes@cullmanswcd.com or 256-734-1431. The deadline to receive completed applications in the District office is 4 p.m., March 4, 2023.

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 & 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.
• Sunday, Feb. 26 - 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, Feb. 26- 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. The prayer meeting with Bonnie Barrett will be after the morning service. Community Lunch following church service! All are welcome and invited!

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

TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) Meetings
Fridays, 9:30-11 a.m., at Cullman Housing Authority Community Center (1545 Vine Circle SW, Cullman, AL 35055). The first meeting is free. TOPS, a national program, is a hands-on/pounds-off approach to weight loss and management through weekly meetings providing information, accountability, support and encouragement where you make the changes that make sense to you.

Cullman NAR-ANON Group Meetings
The NAR-ANON family group meetings are a worldwide fellowship for those affected by someone else's addiction. We offer Help by sharing our experiences, strength and hope. We carry the message of hope by letting others know that they are not alone by practicing the 12 Steps of NAR-ANON and changing our own attitudes. We Respect Your Anonymity. Our program is not a religious one, but a spiritual way of life. Meetings will be held at The Ruehl Building (Family Life Center of St. John's Church) Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. Contact Jamie Weathersby Smith 256-708-7122 or Don or Nancy McKenzie 256-736-3327 or 256-736-3470 for more information.

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

Lenten Fish Fries
Fridays (March 3, March 10), from 5-7 p.m. at the Sacred Heart of Jesus Church Family Life Center. Fried or baked fish, fries, coleslaw, hushpuppies, desserts and drinks. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, with proceeds going toward their church work. $12 each for up to four dinners, with additional plates costing only $10 each. Guests can eat inside the gym or obtain meals through a drive-thru line (drinks only available for eat-in meals). Everyone is invited and are encouraged to attend Stations of the Cross in the church at 7 p.m.

Holly Pond Lions Club Beans and Greens Meal
Saturday, Feb. 25, from 4-7 p.m. at the Holly Pond Lion's Club Building. All you can eat, with cornbread. Don't cook that night; join us for your meal. Eat in or take out. Donations accepted. Proceeds will benefit Lions Club programs. Also, we will accept any and all unused eyeglasses for donation.

Public Reading of "WUNDERGARTEN"
Sunday, Feb. 26, at 2 p.m. at the Cullman County Museum. Free and fun. All are invited. Sponsored by the Cullman Historical Society. Author Ben Johnson South, will read the seven-minute folktale; one page will be read in German by Markus Doering, and all will enjoy German thumbprint cookies with strawberry jam. WILLKOMMEN!

Restoring Women Outreach, Inc. Board Meeting
Tuesday, Feb. 28, at noon at the Chamber of Commerce building. The meeting is open to the public. For more information, call 256-727-6531.

Cullman Lions Club Fish & Ham Dinner
Saturday, March 4, from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. in the Cullman Middle School cafeteria. Tickets are $15, and include a choice of catfish or ham, plus hushpuppies, slaw, baked potato, dessert and a drink. Eat in or get it to go. Drive-through available.

Veteran and Beginning Farmer Series: How to Sell Your Farm, Garden or Kitchen Products to the Public
Tuesday, March 14, 6 p.m. at the North Alabama Agriplex. Free. Helpful input and advice from experienced farmers and market sellers will be provided for the attendees to make the most out of their produce. Contact Tony Glover to register by email at gloveta@aces.edu or by calling 205-568-0005.

Inaugural Gospel Music Jubilee
Friday, March 17, 5 p.m. Northbrook Baptist Church. The first cancer awareness event of its kind will benefit the Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides financial support to Cullman County residents battling all types of cancer. Doors open at 5 p.m. and the entertainment begins at 6 p.m. St. Bernard Jazz Band and Unity 4 Quartet are scheduled to perform and the evening will feature the Living Faith Quartet. Advance tickets are $15 or $20 at the door. A limited number of VIP tickets with parking are available for $25. Tickets can be purchased at www.CullmanBosomBuddies.com or by visiting Options at 2201 Second Ave. NW or Yates Christian Bookstore at 1650 Second Ave. SW.

Cullman Women's League Auction
Friday, March 17, 6-9 p.m. Steele Building. The fundraising auction will benefit Brooks' Place, the Cullman Regional Foundation, Curt's Closet, the Wallace State Future Foundation, Good Samaritan Health Clinic, Hope Horses, Knapsacks for Kids, The Link of Cullman County, Pilot Light House, Restoring Women Outreach and the Cullman Women's League Scholarship Fund. Live music will be provided by local favorite The Overtones and silent and live auctions will take place. Tickets are available for $30 and will include dinner and two drinks. They can be purchased at Three Pears, Southern Accents, White Willow and TheraPlay. They may also be purchased from any active members of the Cullman Women's League.

Hanceville Irish Festival
Saturday, March 18, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Commercial Street in downtown Hanceville. This fun, free annual festival celebrates Hanceville's Irish heritage and music, dancing, craft vendors and food will be on-hand. www.facebook.com/hancevilleirishfest

Kaleb's 5K Run
Saturday, April 8, 8-11 a.m. Depot Park. At 1 year old, Kaleb Phillips is a special little fighter who, due to a medical condition, had both feet amputated. The victorious tot now has prostheses and through hard work in physical therapy is taking steps to a full and energetic childhood with his cheerleaders by his side. Funds raised will go toward not only Kaleb's medical expenses, but also to another family facing similar obstacles. Registration is due by March 31 and found at www.runsignup.com/race/AL/Cullman/Kalebs5KRunwalk. The 5K run begins at 8 a.m. and the 1-mile fun run will start at 9.

39th Annual Bloomin' Festival Arts and Craft Fair
Saturday, April 22 and Sunday, April 23, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The two-day art festival welcomes 150 artists who exhibit their work to over 20,000 visitors on the picturesque campus of St. Bernard Prep School. Recognized throughout the Southeast as a must-visit festival, Bloomin' Fest is a favorite among locals as well. All proceeds benefit the operational support of St. Bernard Preparatory School. Admission is a donation of $10; children 12 and younger get in free. For more information visit www.bloominfestival.com or call 256-739-6682.

Relay For Life of Cullman County's Party in the Park
Saturday, April 29, 5-10 p.m. Depot Park. Honoring cancer survivors, the Party in the Park will also remember those who lost their battle with the disease. Relay For Life benefits the American Cancer Society's research and services. Enjoy children's activities, food trucks and live music. Visit www.relayforlife.org/cullmanal to register or join a team.

Strawberry Festival
Saturday, May 6, 9 a.m. Depot Park. Hosting over 24,000 visitors in one day, the Strawberry Festival was first celebrated in 1939. The festival features live music, a large craft show, fun and games for the whole family and Cullman's famous locally grown strawberries. This year's festival will be headlined by Blues Traveler.

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

February 22, 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 Wednesdays)
• Positivity in tests in Alabama: 9.9%
• 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): 49,168
• 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): 48
• Positivity in tests in Cullman Co.: 3.9%
• 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): 942
• 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: 1,015
• Total tested positive in Cullman Co. in the last 7 days: 40
• Total tested in Alabama in the last 7 days: 26,761
• Total positive tests in Alabama in the last 7 days: 2,655

Vaccine details
• Doses delivered to Alabama: 10,910,595
• Doses delivered to Alabama providers: 5,467,565
• Doses administered: 6,731,159
• Additional doses administered: 996,128
• Number of people receiving one or more doses: 2,959,461
• Number of people who have completed vaccine series: 2,453,520
• 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/.

ESTATE SALE
Estate sale at the CRANES CORNER located at Ryan Creek Produce and BBQ, 3485 County Road 222, Cullman.
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday
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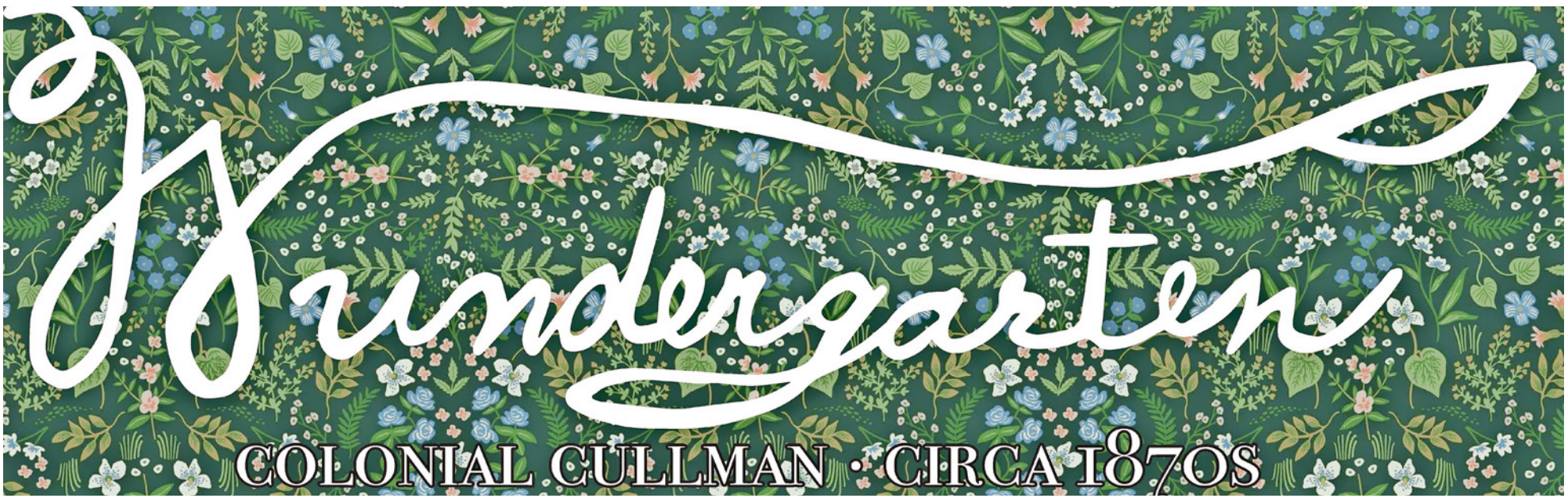
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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
FEBRUARY 25, 2023



COLUMN

Celebrating in the Wundergarten - The Cullman Dog

Ben South
Tribune Columnist





BEN SOUTH

I drew a rough sketch of the smiling dachshund as I imagined it since my childhood, then shared it with Cullman wood crafter, Leldon Maxcy. In turn, Leldon crafted the charming, vintage-looking sign shown here. (The photo was staged by Paige Peoples, the delightful and community-minded manager of Finders Keepers antiques mall.)

WILLKOMMEN! Dear reader, did you grow up with Cullman's "Legend of the Smiling Dachshund" sign? My tireless, hard-working parents told me the story one summer when I was an ambitious kid delivering Grit newspapers door to door. For every 10-cent newspaper, Grit publishers would get 7 cents, and we newsies were delighted to keep 3.

"If you have a good attitude and you are willing to work hard, Cullman is a welcoming place."

That was the message I learned from the smiling dachshund.

I recently recalled this legend when local merchant Rob Werner shared his family's colorful story as last month's program for the Cullman Historical Society.

The Werner place, his great-great-grandparents' home, was a big, rambling house built in Cullman during the 1880s.

The location was where the pine thicket next to the railroad tracks is presently when you look toward the east from the community donations loading dock of The Foundry Thrift Store.

At the Cullman Historical Society meeting, Rob shared three things that stuck with me:

1. The roof of the Werners' house was tin instead of the customary wood shingles. This was because locomotives of that Colonial Cullman era were spitting out burning embers and a tin roof provided greater fire safety. Rob remembers the sound of raindrops falling on that tin roof.

2. The Werners grew tobacco. Honestly, in all my time studying Cullman County's early history, this was a first to hear about local tobacco growing. As a gardener, I assumed Alabama humidity would cause too much leaf mold for tobacco to grow. Rob remembered a smoke chimney his ancestors used to cure their tobacco.

3.Now, back to the Legend of the Smiling Dachshund sign. Rob talked about how people looking for work would often get off the train in Cullman. The Werners and other locals would regularly give them meals and shelter in exchange for labor.

Colonial Cullman, that era from 1870 to the Colonel's death in 1895, thrived like a wundergarten, not by magic like a fairytale but by the hard work of the mostly German farmers.

During that time period when Cullman was a German colony, all business transactions were conducted in German.

Many of those 19th century train travelers were illiterate and almost none spoke German.

So, a sign like that of a smiling dachshund puppy would let people with a good attitude and a willingness to work know where to find jobs.

After Rob's talk, I drew a rough sketch of the smiling dachshund as I imagined it since my childhood, then shared it with Cullman wood crafter, Leldon Maxcy.

In turn, Leldon crafted the charming, vintage-looking sign. That's the origin story of The Smiling Dachshund that would welcome, or willkommen, all to the wundergarten.

In this storytelling culinary series, "Celebrating in the Wundergarten," we are imagining German dishes from the recipe box of Fraulein Ruehl, the heroine of the folktale "Wundergarten."

In 2023, both the City of Cullman and The Cullman Tribune, Alabama's oldest continuously published weekly newspaper and Cullman County's oldest business, are celebrating their 150th birthdays.

But, for 21st century cooks, our celebratory recipes embrace modern ease and have a greater array of ingredients than Frau Ruehl would have had in her pantry.

German Americans introduced the frankfurter to our country, and we think Cullman County, Alabama should have THE BEST HOTDOG IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE CULLMAN DOG

BEST HOT DOG WEINER—Our crowd-sourced votes were split between Ballpark Franks and Nathan's Famous

BEST HOT DOG BUN—Hinkel buns got the vote and there are recipes online; don't skimp on bun quality-#goodbunsmatter

BEST SAUERKRAUT—Homemade red cabbage kraut gets our vote, and a recipe will be shared later in this series; for now, grab a jar of Hengstenberg Bavarian-Style Sauerkraut or Bubbies Sauerkraut

BEST KETCHUP—Heinz, which was founded by H.J. Heinz, a son of German immigrants, in 1869; at one time, Colonel Cullman and H.J. Heinz both lived in Pennsylvania and being contemporary, German American visionaries, likely knew each other; I am exploring that angle with the Cullman History Museum for a future story—the deep-pocketed Heinz Foundation could be a good source for funding needed at the Cullman County Master Gardeners revitalization efforts at the Woodlands and Wildflower Garden at Cullman County's grandest park, Sportsman Lake.

BEST PICKLES—Wickles Pickles is a great, Alabama-made choice; and Smickles "fine craft" Pickles are also tasty. I once took a "canning class" offered by the Cullman County office of the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service, and I am here to testify some of "the best pickles on the planet" are on the pantry shelves of Cullman's pickle-packin' mamas and papas.

BEST MUSTARD—This is an easy, made-from-scratch mustard recipe, Frau Ruehl, the heroine of "Wundergarten" would magically conjure to serve on Cullman Dog frankfurters and bratwurst. The black mustard seeds bring the heat, and the brown sugar, garlic, tarragon and spices add flavor.

WUNDERGARTEN GERMAN-STYLE, FRESH MUSTARD
(Source: thespruceeats.com)

INGREDIENTS

- 1/4 cup yellow mustard seeds
- 2 1/2 tbsp. black or brown mustard seeds
- 1/4 cup dry mustard powder
- 1/2 cup water
- 1 1/2 cups cider vinegar
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 2 tbsp. firmly packed brown sugar
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 cloves garlic, minced, or pressed
- 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp. ground allspice
- 1/4 tsp. dried tarragon
- 1/8 tsp. ground turmeric

INSTRUCTIONS

1. In a medium bowl, combine the mustard seed and dry mustard.

2. In a 1-to-2-quart, stainless steel or non-reactive saucepan, combine the rest of the ingredients. Simmer, uncovered, over medium heat until the mixture is reduced by half, which will take 10 to 15 minutes.

3. Pour the mixture into the bowl with the mustard seed. Let it stand, covered, at room temperature for 24 hours. You may have to add more vinegar to keep enough liquid in the mixture to adequately cover the seeds.

4. Process the mixture in a blender or food processor until it is blended to the texture you like; this can take 3 or 4 minutes. You can leave it with some whole seeds remaining or make a smoother paste.

5. Scrape mustard into clear, dry jars. Cover them tightly and place in the refrigerator for at least one day, but preferably three, to allow flavors to meld. (The mixture will continue to thicken. If it gets too thick after a few days, stir in additional vinegar.)

6. Slather on your smile-making Cullman Dog!

AUF WIEDERSEHEN AND WOOF! WOOF!

Find all columns in this series at www.cullmantribune.com/tag/celebrating-in-the-wundergarten.





Retired Cullman schoolteacher publishes debut book, 'The Traveling Stones'

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman local and retired Cullman County Schools teacher Celeste Weaver recently released her first memoir. "The Traveling Stones" was published Feb. 1, 2023, on the Amazon storefront in paperback, hardcover and Kindle editions.

"The Traveling Stones" reflects on Weaver's 210-mile walk across the North of England on the Coast-to-Coast Trail, from the Irish Sea to the North Sea. Weaver and her accompanying friend are retired schoolteachers – older than the average hikers and each with injuries prior to the start of the journey – who decide to pick up their usual lives and travel from the west coast of England to the east coast on foot.

As challenging as the trip is, the walk completely transforms them, builds their confidence, expands their horizons, makes them more accepting of other people and defies the norms of society as the senior women embark on the adventure of a lifetime.

"At first, I was unsure that I'd be able to complete it," said Weaver.

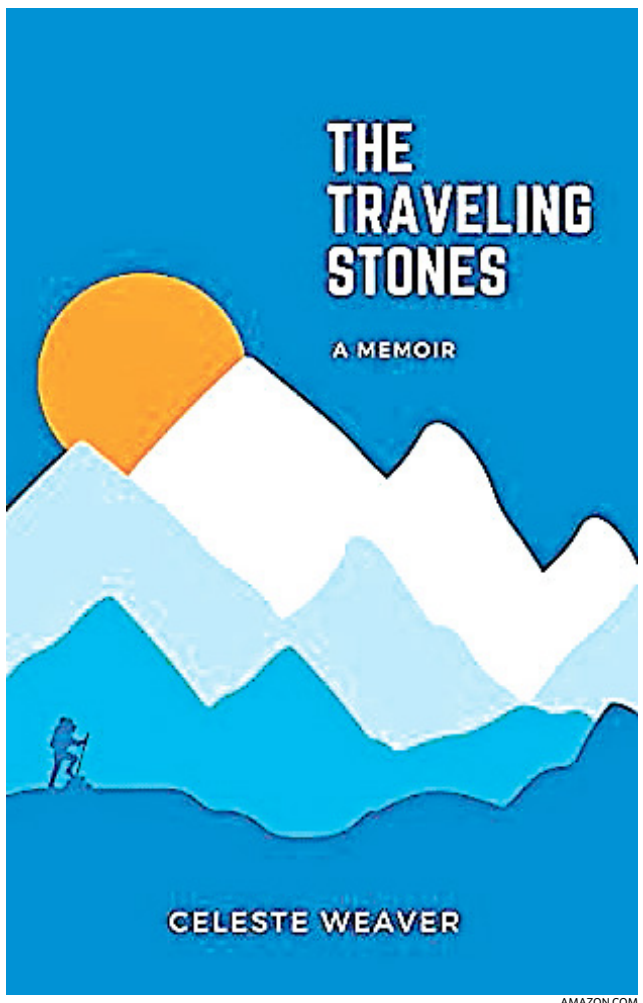
"The idea of the hike was completely out of my comfort zone – we were two senior ladies who planned to travel alone, we would be hiking in remote places thousands of miles from home and we both were already working to overcome some physical setbacks before we even started the walk.

"But looking back now, I realize that anything is possible if you take it one step at a time." Throughout her writings, Weaver often reflects on her rural upbringing in Cullman, Alabama, as she is reminded of her heritage and childhood along the way through new experiences and places more than 2,000 miles away from home.

"The Traveling Stones" is an inspiring story for anyone of any age or gender – from hikers to armchair travelers alike – that showcases putting one foot in front of the other, and taking what comes, helps to conquer fear.

"The Traveling Stones" is now available on the Amazon storefront at www.amazon.com/Traveling-Stones-Memoir-Celeste-Weaver-ebook/dp/B0BTJBFCFT

Celeste Weaver was born and raised in rural Cullman, Alabama. After a 30-year teaching career in the Cullman County school system, she is retired and loves to hike, read, write, play flute and piano and paint watercolors. Currently, she splits her time in south Texas with her husband and Cullman with her three grandchildren.



AMAZON.COM

Colony (from Front)

they lovingly looked at one another's pictures and the photos of their siblings. Mary Luedell's picture was a favorite with her timeless beauty and flawless complexion.

Black History Month serves to commemorate the struggles that this community has faced.

That includes raising awareness about police brutality, racism and discrimination within educational, employment and housing systems.

One of the best ways to show your support for Black History Month is by engaging in conversations that focus on the issues faced by Black friends and neighbors.

This could mean discussing (or better yet, listening as they share) their experiences or thoughts on topics such as racial inequality and personal history.

Black History Month is an important celebration that serves to honor the accomplishments of Black Americans throughout history, while also raising awareness about modern forms of injustice they still face today.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
FEBRUARY 25, 2023

PREP BASKETBALL

No. 1 Cold Springs downs No. 9 Francis Marion 70-60 to advance to Final 4

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com



COLD SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL

The Cold Springs Lady Eagles defeated Francis Marion 70-60 Wednesday night to punch their ticket back to the Final 4.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – The Cold Springs Lady Eagles were back in action at Bill Harris Arena Wednesday night, taking on Francis Marion in the Central Regional 2A Girls Finals. Cold Springs got it done from the free throw line and the three-point line to fend off the Lady Rams 70-60 and will make its return to the 2A Girls State Semifinals next week.

The Lady Eagles knocked down 11 of their 13 free throw attempts in the fourth quarter, led by Maci Brown who finished 9/10 from the line in the final period. Ella Bruer also led the way from long range, draining five three-pointers in the win.

The Lady Eagles came out shooting in the first quarter. Ella Bruer's first three-pointer of the day gave Cold Springs a quick, 3-0 lead and Malaya Taylor scored inside to make it 5-0. Bruer's next three put the Lady Eagles in front 8-4 later in the period and after Maci Brown split a pair of free throws, Bruer's third three-pointer made it a 12-4 game midway through the first. Taylor laid another one in to add to the lead and after Ella Dickerson sank a pair of free throws, Brown drained a three in the final minute of the first to give Cold Springs a 19-12 lead going into the second.

Francis Marion was able to trim the lead to 19-16 early in the second quarter but Dickerson stopped the run with a pair of free throws and kept the Lady Eagles ahead 21-16.

Another free throw from Bruer made it 22-18 midway through the period and Dickerson laid one in with two minutes remaining in the half to keep Cold Springs ahead 24-21.

Brown drilled a three to give the Lady Eagles a 27-21 lead with just over a minute on the clock and after a 5-0 run from the Lady Rams, Brown knocked down a half-court shot at the buzzer to put Cold Springs in front 30-26 at the halftime break.

Francis Marion opened the second half with a 9-0 scoring run to take a 35-30 lead over the Lady Eagles but baskets by Brown and Bruer cut the lead to 35-34 with just over four minutes to play in the third. Ciara Calvert buried back to back three-pointers to keep the momentum going and put Cold Springs back in front 40-37.

Bruer's fourth trey of the game made it 43-37 and Dickerson scored in transition to extend the lead to 45-37. Calvert scored to make it a 10-point game with less than two minutes remaining in the quarter and Bruer knocked down another three to stretch the lead to 50-39. Taylor scored inside to keep the Lady Eagles ahead 52-42 and Cold Springs went into the final frame leading Francis Marion 52-45.

Baskets by Dickerson and Kenady Graves kept the Lady Eagles ahead 56-50 early in the fourth and Calvert drained another three-pointer to make it a 59-50 game. Brown sank her next four free throw attempts to maintain a 63-56 lead with less than three minutes to play. Taylor split a pair of shots from the foul line to make it 64-56 and with just over a minute left on the clock, Brown netted two more free throws to give Cold Springs a 68-57 advantage. The Lady Rams hit one more three-pointer on the other end, but they didn't have enough time to threaten the Lady Eagles' lead and Cold Springs punched its ticket to the Final Four with a 70-60 win.

Brown led the Lady Eagles with 21 points and 11 assists in the win. Bruer added 18 points, Calvert finished with 12, Dickerson posted 10 points and 10 rebounds and Taylor collected seven points and 15 rebounds.

Dickerson, Bruer and Brown all earned Central Regional All-Tournament honors and Brown was named Tournament MVP.

Cold Springs (30-2) will now prepare for a Final Four matchup against Lanett at the BJCC's Legacy Arena in Birmingham Monday at 6 p.m.

PREP BASKETBALL

'Have a good bond with the team': Hanceville's Aaliyah Twitty talks freshman season

Sammy Confer
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HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The 2022-2023 season has come to an end for the Hanceville Lady Bulldogs and they competed and got better as the season went on. The future is definitely looking brighter for Hanceville and a freshman on this year's team, Aaliyah Twitty, talked about her experience on varsity and what all she learned from playing with her teammates.

"We knew going into the season it was going to be tough, but we pushed through and ended on a good note. We improved so much throughout the year. Being a freshman on varsity was a great opportunity and I learned a lot. I learned that it's nothing like playing in middle school, and you're going to have to put in a lot of work to get better. I knew with playing on varsity, you're playing against different grade levels, so there's going to be competition." Twitty said. "I also learned to have a good bond with the team you're playing with."

She added,

"It was a good experience playing with my teammates. With them being all older than me, they definitely taught me things I didn't think I could do, and they helped bring my confidence up. I loved being close with the girls I played on the court with. They taught me that if I didn't score or made a mistake, keep pushing through. When we played Cold Springs at Hanceville, whenever I made a mistake, they would tell me 'You got this' or 'Hey Aaliyah, you're good'. They would bring me up."

Twitty played with three seniors this season in Savana McAnnally, Jessica Marshall and Dierra Merriweather. They taught her a very important lesson and Twitty will miss playing with them next season.

"It was great. In the locker room before games, they'd have good energy, and they would make the team smile and laugh. I learned to always have a good attitude when things are or aren't going the way you would like for them to go," she said. "I'll miss the way they would make the team laugh and smile."

Twitty played for head coach Christina Watson her first season on varsity and learned a lot from her.

"She's one of the best coaches I have had. She was tough on us, but only because she always wanted us to be better than we were the day before. I learned that even when you're up or down in the game, you still need to keep your effort up. She cares about us on and off the court. For example, she'd make sure our grades were a priority and told us we always needed to keep our grades up."

Twitty got to play alongside her twin sister, Alex, for half of the varsity season, and she was so happy to get to play with her. Twitty saw her game improve a lot throughout the season and that will definitely help build her confidence up even more going into the upcoming season. She plans to work on some other things in the offseason as well.

"When my sister started playing with us, it was amazing because every time she would score, I'd be proud of her because she's my little sister and I'd be happy for her."

"It improved a lot, and it will help it a lot. In the offseason, we're going to put in work, and I feel like it will help us next season. I'll definitely work on my outside shots and my ball-handling, since 95% of my baskets this year was from the paint. I feel like a lot of teams know I'll go for a shot in the paint, so I'm going to work on my outside shots so I can put up some next season."

Twitty has some goals set for herself and for the team. She also talked about what will make this team special to watch next season and a very special memory from this season.

"An individual goal would be to get better at ball-handling and be faster on defense. Our team goal is to win area," she said. "We're going to be special to watch because we're going to get better, we're going to believe in ourselves, and we're going to compete with other teams next season.

"One memory I'll never forget is when we competed against Cold Springs. The first time we played them, we lost by 30, but when we played them at Hanceville, it was different.

"We made shots, we played hard, and every time one of our teammates would score, we'd get beyond happy because it felt good to compete with Cold Springs. No one expected us to be able to compete with them, but we were able to."



MARTHA NEEDHAM/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Hanceville's Aaliyah Twitty

PREP BASEBALL

Fairview takes home opener over Good Hope 11-0

Nick Griffin
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FAIRVIEW, Ala. — The Fairview Aggies hosted the Good Hope Raiders for their home opener Thursday night and on top of giving their field a new name, the Aggies collected an 11-0 win over the Raiders. Crimson Wright got the start for Fairview and tossed five scoreless innings to earn the win, allowing just four hits and striking out nine batters.

Before the game got underway, former Aggies head coach Mark Moore tossed out the ceremonial first pitch. To Moore's surprise, the ceremony was not over after the pitch was thrown, and he turned to see a new sign hanging from the scoreboard reading "Mark Moore Field". Moore coached at Fairview from 1986-2003, posting a career record of 325-156, winning eight county championships, five area championships and earning nine state playoff berths. Moore was inducted into the Cullman County Sports Hall of Fame in 2017.

Following a scoreless first and second inning, the Aggies struck first in the bottom of the third. Caden Jennings was hit by a pitch, Kolt Redding doubled up the middle and Crimson Wright drew a walk to load the bases and three pitches later, Lucas West barreled up a bases-clearing double to put Fairview in front 3-0. Carson Jones drove West in to score a few pitches later with an RBI single into right field and made it a 4-0 game going into the fourth.

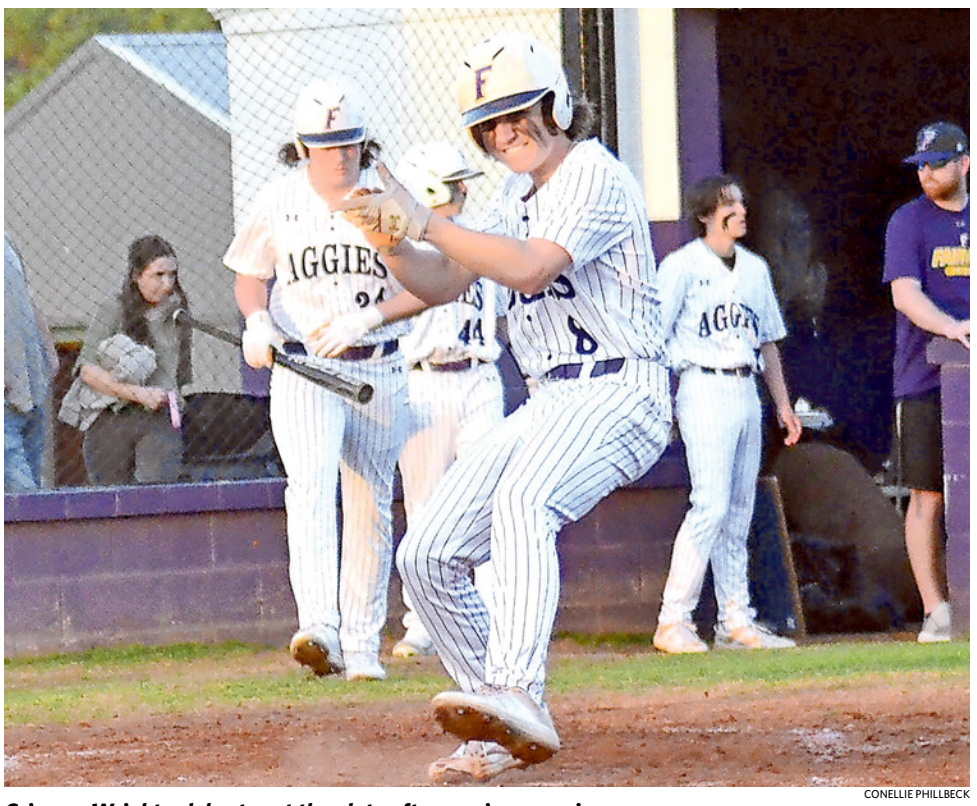
After a scoreless fourth inning, the Aggies added to their lead in the bottom half of the fifth. An RBI single off the bat of Barrett York, an RBI double from Jones and another RBI single from Gannon Black gave Fairview a 7-0 lead after five.

The Aggies wrapped things up in the sixth. West drove in another run with an RBI single, York doubled to left field to plate one more and Jones ripped a 2-run single into right field to secure an 11-0 win for the Aggies, their first on the newly-named Mark Moore Field.

West and Jones led the way for Fairview at the plate, recording three hits and four RBIs each. York added a pair of hits and a pair of RBIs in the and Black posted a hit and an RBI as well.

Dakota Overton finished with a pair of hits for Good Hope in the loss.

The Aggies will return home Friday to host Guntersville and the Raiders will travel to Winston County Saturday for a double header.



CONELLIE PHILLBECK

Crimson Wright celebrates at the plate after scoring a run in Fairview's 11-0 win over Good Hope Thursday night.

PREP BASEBALL

Vinemont suffers 1st loss of season to Brewer

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

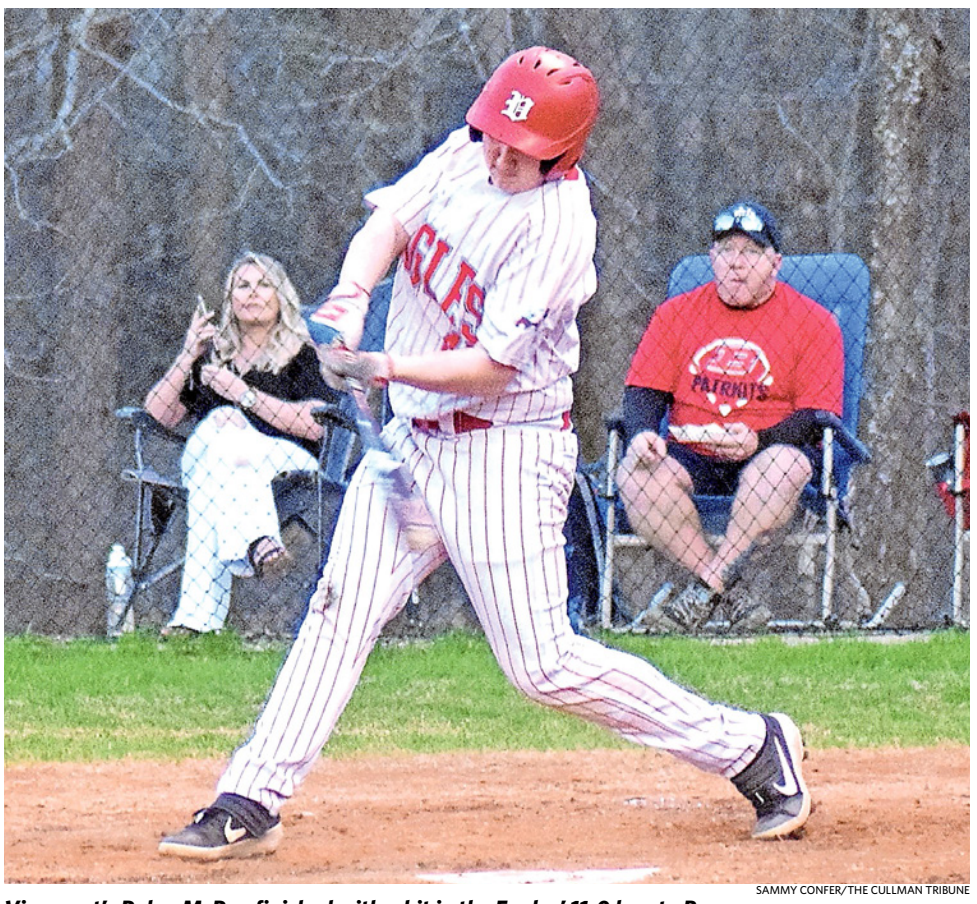
VINEMONT, Ala. — Vinemont returned home Thursday night to host Brewer and unfortunately for Eagle fans, the Patriots were in control from the start, jumping out to an early lead and pulling away to win it 11-0.

It didn't take long for Brewer to get on the scoreboard first as a leadoff walk and a stolen base turned into an RBI single as that gave them the quick 1-0 lead. They would later hit a two-run double and would add two more runs on back-to-back Vinemont errors to push their lead to 5-0. Hayden Robinson hit a leadoff single for the Eagles, then one out later, Jake Hale reached on a Patriot error as that put runners on first and second. Back-to-back strikeouts, though, quickly ended their half of the first.

The score stayed the same until the top of the fourth inning as Brewer loaded the bases with one out and an RBI single, followed by a sacrifice fly, gave them a 7-0 lead. Josh Rhodes got hit by the pitch to lead off their half of the fourth, then he stole second and moved to third on a single by Rylan McRae as the Eagles looked to get on the scoreboard. That didn't happen, though, as Chayce Sandlin struck out, Rhodes got caught trying to steal home, and Jaxon Holcomb went out swinging as well to end the fourth inning.

The top of the sixth inning saw the Patriots add onto their lead as they hit a leadoff home run, an RBI single, an RBI triple, and a sacrifice fly to make it 11-0. Vinemont went down in order to end the game and the Eagles ended up getting shut out by the Patriots 11-0.

Robinson, McRae, and Ayden Thomason collected the only hits of the game for Vinemont (3-1). The Eagles will look to quickly bounce back Saturday when they travel to take on East Lawrence and Clements at East Lawrence.



SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Vinemont's Rylan McRae finished with a hit in the Eagles' 11-0 loss to Brewer.

PREP SOFTBALL

Good Hope Softball cuts ribbon on new indoor training facility

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com



LAUREN ESTES/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope's softball team cut the ribbon for its new indoor training facility Wednesday night.

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — Good Hope's softball team gathered for a special occasion Wednesday night, cutting the ribbon on a brand-new indoor training facility, and plenty of people were in attendance to witness the event unfold.

Head coach Tim Tucker is really happy to see an indoor training facility for his team and talked about how this idea first came up. He also talked about how much the process took and what having this new facility will mean for not only this year's team, but for the future Lady Raiders.

"It's been great. It's been a great training tool for the girls. We got a lot of different things we can do in here, from our hitting to some fundamental fielding. It's been good weather and we've put in a lot of work during this time of the year. It's a great opportunity for these girls to further advance their skills and I'm very happy that we can make it happy for them," he said.

"This idea first came up about two years ago. We talked about it because had such a young group: 7th and 8th graders. We had a facility back at my place about five miles down the road and we were trying to get the girls from school to there, parents having to pick them up, get back, drop them off, come back and get them. We started discussing and we knew it would be years before we were going to have drivers on the team. We all came together in a meeting and talked about it. Everybody was on board, and everybody did a great job with fundraising and raising the money; they dedicated their time in helping us get this and achieve our goal here."

He added, "This started back in the spring of 2021, so we've been going on two years from the first idea of making it happen to when we finally got it going. It's just going to be a great training facility and great tool for this group of girls and plus, all of the girls in the future coming up. The building's built with solid concrete floors, all-metal rafters, metal tin roof and tin siding. It'll be here for a lot of generations for Good Hope."

The facility also has a pitching simulator and assistant coach Skylar Tucker went into detail about it and how the idea of getting it first came up. She also talked about how much it will help not only this year's team, but the players after them.

"The pitching simulator's a great addition to the building. It actually lets our girls practice hitting live pitching every time they hit, not only to see the motion of the pitcher, but we can also do curveballs, screwballs, dropballs, changeups. We can put different pitchers on the machine, left-handed and right-handed, so that they can get more focused on the windup and hitting live pitching every single day so they can get better," she said.

"We had the pitching machine since I was young. It started when I was about eight or nine years old. We had the pitching machine, but we heard about the simulator that can go with the machine.

"We purchased it this year and hooked it up with our old machine that we already originally had. It took about three weeks to get it ordered and get it in. Once it got here, it was just rewiring and getting all of the wiring down, making sure that it was set up and plugged up so it can be easily accessed."

She added, "This will definitely help this team out a lot with timing, just getting to get their rhythm, getting their timing, seeing the release and seeing the different hands. If the pitcher's throwing a screwball, what does that hand look like? If they're throwing a changeup, what does that hand look like?

"We're just picking up on different little things that we're working on every day to be great. It will definitely help out. This will be continued and stay in the building, to be worked with and to be continued on to help each age group. The girls will tell you this, but the more they hit off of it, the more they see this and work with it, it gets easier, and they get better each time they hit it, so it's a process."

Tim Tucker added some great stats about the pitching simulator and also talked about how key that will be for this year's Lady Raider team.

"It's been proven that the teams that have purchased and used this has increased their team batting average, anywhere from 175 to 225 points, which is huge," he said. For this team, it will be huge and like I and coach Skylar said, for all of the other generations coming up."

Hanceville (from Front)

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Continuing the monthslong discussion on Ordinance 653, the Tiny Houses Pocket Neighborhood ordinance, the Hanceville City Council plans to hold a work session with the Hanceville Planning Commission on Monday, Feb. 27, at the Hanceville Civic Center.

The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. The meeting of the minds is expected to clarify details and provisions of the ordinance, which was again tabled at Thursday's city council meeting.

During public comments, Recovery Organization of Support Specialists (R.O.S.S.) Director of Marketing Mark Litvine shared about the organization's new outreach in Cullman.

R.O.S.S. provides free recovery resources, including assessments and transportation for those seeking help with addictions.

The council said the owners of two properties slated to be condemned were notified and have over 40 days from the date of receipt to respond requesting a hearing with the council.

In other business:

- The Mental Health Board appointment was tabled

- The Hanceville City Council meeting set for March 9 was rescheduled for March 1 at 5:30 p.m.

Steele Orchard
Apples on sale now! Various varieties
Open Thursday, Friday and Saturday 9-4
256-734-5249 1695 County Road 1141, Cullman

Bid Number 09-23

We are taking bids on lawn care services for Good Hope Elementary, Middle and High School campuses. All bids must be sealed and submitted by March 8th to Dr. John Hood, Good Hope High School, 210 Good Hope School Road, Cullman, AL 35057. The sealed bids will be opened on March 9th at 8:30 am. If you are interested in bidding and have questions, please contact Dr. Hood at 256-734-3807 or jhood@ccboe.org for more information. Your bid will be for mowing two times per month and billed at once per month from April 1 until October 31, 2023.

NOW HIRING CLASS A CDL DRIVERS

SAME DAY APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW + COMPETITIVE PAY AND BENEFITS

SFTWI

PLEASE APPLY AT COLLEGE TIRE

315 MAIN ST. NW HANCEVILLE

256-352-2221



AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman County Farm-City's 2023 City Family of the Year Ashley Wilson is pictured with Cullman County Commissioner Kerry Watson, Chairman Jeff Clemmons and Commissioners Kelly Duke and Garry Marchman.



AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Welti School's Colton Olinger is pictured with Cullman County Commissioner Garry Marchman, Chairman Jeff Clemmons and Commissioners Kelly Duke and Kerry Watson.

Family (from Front)

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — After being led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Welti School's Colton Olinger, the Cullman County Commission on Thursday recognized the Cullman County Farm-City's 2023 City Family of the Year Ashley Wilson. Commission Chairman Jeff Clemons said, as he embraced Wilson, "We are just so thankful for all you do with Curt's Closet for the families in Cullman County."

The commission approved CARTS' participation in the Access 2 Care program, allowing Medicaid and insurance companies to cover the costs of transportation of patients to and from medical appointments.

The agenda item said the appointments were "within Cullman County" but, after discussion, it was concluded that while the patients must reside in Cullman County, their transportation to appointments and treatment outside of Cullman County would most likely be covered as well.

More information on the program is expected at a later date.

The commission approved a speed limit reduction on Bolte Road (County Road 700) to 35 mph from Third Avenue Southeast to Welti Road (County Road 702) due to the density of established homes and those under construction.

Additionally, signs will be posted along Bolte Road stating "No Thru Trucks, Local Deliveries Only" in hopes of curtailing the use of the road as a thoroughfare for large trucks.

The following agenda items were approved:

- Ratify abatement for BBLU lnc. dba ProBin Global for the Town of South Vinemont in the amount of $168,004

- Ratify abatement for Project Redesign for the City of Cullman in the amount of $4,007,670

- Resolution 2023-13: Change speed limit to 20 mph on County Road 514

- Resolution 2023-16: Payment to Non-Profit from American Rescue Plan Act Revenue Replacement Funds to the North Alabama Agriplex in the amount of $200,000

- Resolution 2023-17: Payment to Non-Profit from American Rescue Plan Act Revenue Reduction Funds to the Cullman County Fire Association in the amount of $100,000

- Resolution 2023-18: Allocating American Rescue Plan Act Funds, Revenue Reduction Funds to the Purchase of Road Materials for County Road Projects in the amount of $1.2 million

- Resolution 2023-19: Allocating American Rescue Plan Act Funds, Revenue Reduction Funds to the Purchase of 55-ton Detachable Low Boy Trailer in the amount of $83,075.38

- Resolution 2023-20: Renew Participation in the Liability fund for calendar years 2024-2026 and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork

- Resolution 2023-21:Allocating American Rescue Plan Act Funds, Revenue Reduction Funds to the purchase of two 2024 T480 Tandem Dump Trucks and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork

- Authorize Chairman and County Attorney to sign the Federal FY 2023 Certifications and Assurances for FTA Assistance Programs For CARTS

- Consider approval of an allocation agreement with Teva, Allergan, CVS, and Walgreens negotiated by Attorney General Steve Marshall as part of a statewide opioid settlement

- Consider approval of the Walmart settlement sign-on agreement negotiated by Attorney General Steve Marshall as part of a state-wide opioid settlement

- Consider approval of opening a new bank account for the Opioid Settlement Funds at Traditions Bank with Chairman and all Commissioners as signers

- Consider Chairman Clemon's nominee, Bradley Williams, for appointment to the Industrial Development Board for a term to expire Jan. 19, 2019 to replace Layne Lowery

- Consider approval of Catastrophic Inmate Medical Insurance with Hunt Insurance Group/Sirius America Insurance Option 2 in the amount of $73,184.40

- Consider approval of the annual Tek84 maintenance agreement for jail scanner equipment in the amount of $8,995

- Consider adding four doors at the Courthouse for security system in the amount of $13,903.41

- Consider the surplus of 151 miscellaneous obsolete automotive filters from the county garage to be auctioned on GovDeals

- Consider the surplus of the following items from the Road Department to be auctioned on GovDeals

- 20132 Freightliner 1085D (Vin# 1FVHG58SOEHFJ0570)

- 2015 International Dump Truck Model 7 (Vin# 3HAWNSUT3GL220169)

- 2009 Isuzu Nprhd (Vin # JALE5W16597300150)

- 1995 Ford F350 (Vin# 1FDJF37H9SEA)

- 2014 Freightliner 1085D (Vin# 1FVHG5BS2EHFJ0571)

- Etnyre Asphalt Distributor (Serial# 52330)

- Etnyre Asphalt Distributor (Serial# 53421)

- 2015 International 7500 6x4 Tandem Dump Truck (Vin# 3HAWNSUT3GL22169)

- AM GENERAL 8X6 MILITARY TRUCK (Vin# OT58166710150)

- 1979 AM GENERAL 8X6 MILITARY TRUCK M917 (Vin# OT58166710350)

- 1979 AM GENERAL 8X6 MILITARY TRUCK M917 (Vin# OT58166710250)

- 1997 Stewart Stevenson m1083 (Vin# BT4999BCBF)

- CASE FORKLIFT {Serial# 548801)

- 2005 Dually truck bed with bumper

- 144 Boxes of Miscellaneous Filters

- Consider the surplus of the following items from the Parks and Rec to be auctioned on GovDeals:

- 7-ft Landpride bushhog (Serial #826-376()

- 8-ft 6-way blade attachment for skid steer (Serial# G059265)

- 2000 White Single Cab GMC Sierra (Vin# 1GTEC14V6Y2300724)

- Green Tandem Axle Dump Truck (Vin# 1HTCF2570DHA182C3)

- Consider the surplus of the following items from CARTS to be auctioned on GovDeals

- 1995 Ford E350 Van (Vin# 1FDKE30F55HA54734)

- 2007 Ford E350 Van (Vin# 1FDXE45P57DA32096)

- Consider new labor rate schedule for the County Garage as follows: Remainder of FY 23 change from $40 to $60 per hour then, beginning Oct. 1, 2023, change to $80 per hour

- Approve the County Rebuild Alabama Annual Report (CRAAR) for FY 2022 as required by the Rebuild Alabama Act

- Proposed preliminary plat Fair Harbor Subdivision, a major subdivision containing seven lots located off County Road 102

- Proposed preliminary plat COBO Subdivision, a minor subdivision containing six lots located off County Road 337

- Proposed preliminary plat Amelia Acres Subdivision, a minor subdivision containing 11 lots located off County Road 1338 and County Road 1435

- Proposed preliminary plat Archer's Point Subdivision, a major subdivision containing 19 Lots located off County Road 2015

- Award Bid 1426: Shoulder Material {Installed) to Wheeler Contracting, LLC and Wiregrass Construction Company, Inc based on availability and vicinity

- Award Bid 1427:Painting (Labor Only) for the County Owned Property at 310 Third Avenue N.E. to Bryant Enterprises

The next Cullman County Commission meeting will be on Tuesday, March 21, at the Cullman County Courthouse. The work session will be at 4 p.m. and regular meeting at 6.

REMINDER: Severe Weather Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday happening now

Ann Marie Stephens
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Governor Kay Ivey on Friday encouraged Alabamians to begin preparing for the upcoming tornado and hurricane seasons by participating in Alabama's 12th annual Severe Weather Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday, happening now through midnight, Sunday, Feb. 26.

"Less than two weeks into 2023, Alabamians have already suffered significant effects from severe weather and by proclaiming this past week as Severe Weather Awareness Week, I encourage our citizens to utilize this weekend to take steps to be ready before the next storm affects your home and property," said Ivey. "As we head into peak tornado season here in Alabama, it is imperative everyone remains weather aware. The Severe Weather Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday has been a great help in years past and serves as the perfect opportunity to stock up on the supplies needed to help prevent harm in dangerous weather situations."

With certain items being exempt from the state sales tax, residents have the opportunity to save money while collecting critical supplies for protecting their homes or businesses ahead of inclement weather. Weather safety items available for purchase during the weekend include batteries, flashlights, smoke detectors, portable generators, battery-powered portable radios and weather radios, among others.

For the full list of items that may be purchased tax-free during the holiday, visit www.revenue.alabama.gov/ultra-viewer/viewer/basic_viewer/index.html?form=2022/10/Severe_Weather_Sales_Tax_Holiday_Fact_Sheet_2023.pdf. A county or municipality, by resolution or ordinance adopted at least 30 days prior to the last full weekend of February, may provide for the exemption of covered items from county or municipal sales or use taxes during the same time period, under the same terms, conditions and definitions as provided for the state sales tax holiday. Participating local municipalities include Cullman, Cullman County, Addison, Arab, Arley, Dodge City, Fairview, Falkville, Garden City, Good Hope and Hanceville.

NOW HIRING
TIRE TECHS
SAME DAY APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW
+
COMPETITIVE PAY
COLLEGE TIRE
315 MAIN ST. NW HANCEVILLE
256-352-2221

Free and fun!

This Sunday, Feb. 26, at 2 p.m., all are invited to the public reading of "WUNDERGARTEN." Inspirations for the original work, such as Cullman quilts, will be revealed.

Author Ben Johnson South will read the seven-minute folktale; one page will be read in German by Markus Doering, and all will enjoy German thumbprint cookies with strawberry jam. WILLKOMMEN!

This event is sponsored by the Cullman Historical Society.

LEGALS

PB WIL BK 114 PG 864 - 02/16/2023 02:20 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF	*	IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
LAURA JAMES BOWNES,	*	CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
DECEASED.	*	CASE NO: PC 2023-048

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY EXECUTOR

Letters Testamentary of said Deceased having been granted to MICHAEL ANTHONY BOWNES and ALBERT DEAN JOHNSON on the 16th day of February, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present same within time required by law or same will be barred.

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

Alex J. Chaney
Attorney for Petitioner
P.O. Box 1052
Cullman, AL 35056
(256) 734-6330

PB WIL BK 114 PG 822 - 02/16/2023 10:10 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF BILLY MONCRIEF, Deceased.	*	CASE NO.: PC2023-038

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to CECILIA F. MITCHELL, as Personal Representative of the Estate of BILLY MONCRIEF, deceased, on the 16th day of February, 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.

Ceclia F. Mitchell
Personal Representative

C. Blake West
Attorney for Petitioner
1701 Main Ave SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055
256-734-0026

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 214 PG 119 - 02/16/2023 09:36 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF GLADYS MARIE KNOPP, Deceased. CASE NO.: PC2023-054

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to ADRIAN SCOTT PRIDMORE, as Administrator of the Estate of GLADYS MARIE KNOPP, deceased, on the 16th day of February, 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.

GLADYS MARIE KNOP
Administrator

Shay Persall
Attorney for Administrator
700 Second Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055
256-841-7800

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 ADT BK 65 PG 302 - 02/16/2023 09:08 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA	*	IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN	*	CASE NO. AD2023-018

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF KENNETH MICHAEL WAY and SAMANTHA GAIL WAY TO ADOPT C.B., a minor child.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: UNKNOWN FATHER OF C.B.
WHOSE IDENTITY, ADDRESS AND/OR WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN OR UNDISCLOSED

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of C.B., a minor child born on September 8, 2008, to Alison Marie O'Shields Holden, was filed on the 13th day of February, 2023, in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by Kenneth Michael Way and Samantha Gail Way. Please be advised should you intend to contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with the Clerk of the said Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama, 35055.

DONE this 16th day of February, 2023.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

To: *THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE*

PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR SUCCESSIVE WEEKS.

Sharon H. Barrett
SMITH & SMITH, LLP
Attorneys for Petitioner
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
256-734-4721 (telephone)

PB ADT BK 65 PG 29 - 02/02/2023 11:13 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE

JOHN ROBERT PATTERSON AND MELISSA EVELYN PATTERSON FOR THE ADOPTION OF

K.A.S. A MINOR.
D.O.B. 6/15/2021

CASE NO: AD2022-104

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: HAILEE ANDREE FRANCIS LACKEY, BIOLOGICAL MOTHER, BRAIDEN REEFER ROBERT STANLEY, ALLEGED FATHER AND ANY UNKNOWN FATHER OF THE MINOR CHILD, K.A.S. WHOSE IDENTITY, ADDRESS AND/OR WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN OR UNDISCLOSED

The Petition for Adoption was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by John Robert Patterson and Melissa Evelyn Patterson, Petitioners. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within Thirty (30) days from the date of the last notice of publication. Your response must be filed with Counsel for said petitioners, whose name and address are shown below, and with the Clerk of Probate Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE THIS 2nd DAY OF February, 2023.

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

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

PB ADT BK 65 PG 41 - 02/02/2023 12:37 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF CHRISTOPHER ERIC ENGLAND FOR THE ADOPTION OF

B.M.G. A MINOR.
D.O.B. 6/15/2021

CASE NO: AD 2023-002

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: CHRISTOPHER PATRICK GROVES, BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF THE MINOR CHILD, B.M.G. WHOSE WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN OR UNDISCLOSED

The Petition for Adoption was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by Christopher Eric England, Petitioner. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within Thirty (30) days from the date of the last notice of publication. Your response must be filed with Counsel for said petitioners, whose name and address are shown below, and with the Clerk of Probate Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE THIS 2nd DAY OF February, 2023.

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

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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

JODIE NICHOLE WEAVER,
Plaintiff

Vs. Case Number: **DR-2021-900337.00**

BONFILIO ALARCON GARCIA,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Jodie Nichole Weaver, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Jodie Nichole Weaver's Complaint for Divorce by April 11, 2023 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2021-900337.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 9th day of February, 2023.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Clerk of Circuit Court

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
JERRY L. KILGO
105 1st AV NE
SUITE G
CULLMAN, AL 35055

Obituary Announcements: Feb. 23-24

Rayburn Ray Cone, 68
Rayburn Ray Cone, age 68, of Hanceville, Alabama passed away Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2023. Rayburn is survived by his daughters Jerica Rayn Cone, Phoynyx Sarah Cone, his sons Justyn Wayne Cone, Chayton Lee Cone, his sisters Joyce Jones, Alice Anderton, his brothers Merlin Cone Albert Cone, Donald Cone and his granddaughter Kinsley Rayn Cone. Rayburn was preceded in death by his son Rusty Ray Cone; his brother Lavon Cone. A celebration of life visitation for Rayburn will be held Friday, Feb. 24, 2023, from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. at Shelton Grove Baptist Church, 1615 County Road 46, Hanceville, AL 35077, followed by a celebration of life funeral service at 2 p.m. Rayburn will be laid to rest in Shelton Grove Cemetery, 1615 County Road 46, Hanceville, AL 35077. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.mossservicefh.com for the Cone family.

William Douglas Ward, 67
William Douglas Ward, age 67, of Haleyville, Alabama, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2023, at DCH Regional Medical Center in Tuscaloosa. Doug was born May 9, 1955, in Guin, Alabama. A visitation will be held Sunday, Feb. 26, 2023, from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Haleyville, where the service will be held at 2 p.m. Burial will follow in Macedonia Church Cemetery. Doug is survived by his nephews, Joshua A. Martin and Michael O'Frecia; and a host of friends who were like family. He was preceded in death by his parents, William Ollie Ward and Dorothy Euline Taylor Ward; sister, Camilla B. Morrow; and grandparents, Ollie and Belle Ward, and Maud and Cammie Taylor.

Cynthia Renee (McGinnis) Darnell, 65
Mrs. Cynthia Renee (McGinnis) Darnell was born March 9, 1957; she was 65 at the time of her passing Sunday, Feb. 19, 2023. Cynthia is survived by her son, Christopher McGinnis; her grandchildren: Christian Higgins, Kaylee McGinnis and Cooper McGinnis; her great grandchildren: Abbie and Vannaleigh Higgins and William and Emma McGinnis and her brothers Johnnie McGinnis, Robert Oliver and Steven Schoonover. Cynthia was loved dearly and will be greatly missed by many. Please visit www.mossservicefh.com to leave condolences for the family. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Edna Dean Kelso, 82, of Cullman
After a long life full of family and love, Edna Dean Kelso Downing passed away at the age of 82 in her adopted hometown of Fort Worth, Texas on Sunday, Feb. 19, 2023. Born on Sept. 28, 1940, in Cullman, Alabama to John and Ruby Kelso, she grew up in a big farming family. She moved to Winfield, Kansas at 16, where she finished high school and eventually met the love of her life, Raymond Michael Downing, whom she married in 1960. The young couple traveled around the country with the U.S. Navy, welcoming two daughters into the world along the way, Pamela and Kelly. The family eventually settled in Texas, where Edna went on to become the grandmother of three adoring grandchildren, Elizabeth Black, Michael Black and Caleb Downing, the grandmother-in-law of Kayleigh Black and Jordyn Downing and the great-grandmother of Logan Black, Colton Black and Luke Black and Lillie Downing. Edna's life was defined by family, and she was at the very heart of family life for all of those who loved her. She devoted her entire life to taking care of those around her, and there was nothing that she considered too much to give when it came to meeting the needs of others. She will leave an unfillable void in the lives of the family she leaves behind, but she can now rest in peace knowing that she has also left them with so many memories full of love and more life lessons than could ever be counted. She was preceded in death by her husband, Michael Downing; daughter, Pamela Kay Downing-Black; parents, John and Ruby (Carr) Kelso; and several siblings. Funeral services for Mrs. Downing will be 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25 at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Holly Pond Cemetery. Visitation for the public will be from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday at Hanceville Funeral Home.

Emily Josephine Glasscock Pruett, 85
Emily Josephine Glasscock Pruett, better known as "Josie," was born Jan. 12, 1938, and, at the age of 85, passed from this world into the presence of her Heavenly Father on Feb. 22, 2023. She was preceded in death by her parents, Clyde and Melvell Glasscock; her sister, Betty Glasscock Taylor; and daughter, Kelley Pruett Robinson. Josie is survived by her sister, Becky Glasscock Bonham of Prattville, Alabama; former husband, Bob Pruett (Marcia), of Beaufort, North Carolina; daughter, Suzy Pruett Metts (Richard) of Hayden, Alabama; son, Scott Michael Pruett (Heather) of Hangzhou, China; son-in-law, Jode Robinson of Augusta, Georgia; grandson, Scott Sutherland (Natalie) of Jacksonville, Florida; grandson, Jeremy Matlock (Anna) of Siargao, Philippines ; granddaughter, Cheree Hopp (Kevin) of Saint Petersburg, Florida; granddaughter, Kellye Copri (Carlos) of Oldsmar, Florida; granddaughter, Bekah Metts Braden (Drew) of Hayden, Alabama; grandson, Josh Metts (Lizi) of Nashville, Tennessee; grandson, Marlowe Pruett, Hangzhou, China; great-grandchildren – Flora, Gavin, Linden, Ian, Misha, Emily, Leza, Nico, Hunter, Katie Robinson of Augusta, Georgia and a long list of great-grandchildren. A Celebration of Life service for Josie Pruett will be held Saturday, Feb. 25, 2023, at First Baptist Church of Hayden, 5080 Highway 160, Hayden, AL, 35079, at 11 a.m. Visitation will begin at 10:30 a.m. In her last few years, Josie was a much-loved resident of Hanceville Nursing & Rehab Center. In 2022, she became the reigning HNRC Queen and enjoyed serving her "community" in this capacity. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to HNRC in memory of Josie Pruett. Their address is: 420 Main Street NE, Hanceville, AL, 35077. Thanks to all those who have prayed for and loved on Josie through the years! Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.mossservicefh.com for the Pruett family.

Robert L. Findlay, Jr., 65
Robert L. Findlay, Jr., 65, of Cullman, passed away Friday, Feb. 24, 2023 Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the Findlay family. No services are planned at this time.

Deborah Veal Olinger, 64
Deborah Veal Olinger, of Holly Pond, Alabama, passed away Feb. 22, 2023, at the age of 64. She was born in Cullman County, Alabama, on Oct. 31, 1958, to Billy Ray and Yvonne Buckelew Veal. Mrs. Olinger was a member of Redan Baptist Church. She enjoyed gardening and flowers, and she also liked to cook. Deborah loved her family, and they were her joy. She and her husband were married 43 years and had four children together. Mr. Olinger was an exceptional mother. There was not a question pertaining to an infant or child that she could not answer for her children as they became parents themselves. She was a supportive friend and advocate for her children and always had an understand heart and listening ear toward them as they voiced their joys, triumphs, complaints, and frustrations. Deborah cheered her children on and supported them in any dream they had. She loved her family with all that she was, and she will be missed by her family for all eternity. Mrs. Olinger is preceded in death by her parents, Billy Ray and Yvonne Buckelew Veal; son, Michael Rickey Olinger; and father-in-law, William Olinger. She is survived by her beloved husband, Rickey Olinger; son, Chris Olinger (Amanda); daughters, Katrina Olinger, Sammi Arbet (Andrew); grandchildren, Noah Davis Olinger, Jacob Olinger, Canaan Olinger, Jebediah Olinger, Elias Olinger, Ezekiel Olinger, Arabella Harden, Malakai Harden, Colton Olinger, Avery Olinger, Audrey Olinger, Lennox Arbet, Declan Arbet, Karson Arbet; brother, Billy Wayne Veal; nieces and nephews, Shawn Veal, Nathan Veal and Eve Sandomir; and mother-in-law, Shirley Olinger. A memorial service for Mrs. Olinger will be held at 2 p.m., Sunday, March 5, 2023, in the Holly Pond Funeral Home Chapel. Friends are invited to visit with the family and hour prior to services, from 1 p.m., until services begin at 2 p.m. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Olinger family.

Mamie Sue Elliott, 81
Mamie Sue Elliott, 81, of Double Springs, passed away Feb. 23, 2023, at Walker Baptist Medical Center. She was born in Moulton, Alabama on Jan. 22, 1942. Sue was a loving wife, mother and grandmother. She was also a faithful member of First Baptist Church of Double Springs. A visitation will be held Sunday, Feb. 26, 2023, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Double Springs, where the service will be held Monday, Feb. 27, 2023, at 2 p.m. Brother Phillip Twilley will officiate. Burial will follow at Double Springs Memorial Garden. Sue is survived by her son, Richard D. Elliott II and wife Vickie; daughter, Pamela Elliott Zeedar and husband JJ; grandson, Justin Patton and wife Emily; granddaughters, Meghan Fazekas and husband Michael, Delaney Gist and husband Noah and Lilly Zeedar; great grandchildren, Hudson Carroll Patton, Lily Adams, Luke Milligan and Raiden Patton; brothers, Robert Junior Parrish and wife Kathy, Jimmy Parrish and wife Peggy, Roger Parrish and wife Jeanette, and Gabriel Parrish and wife Dorothy; and a host of nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Richard D. Elliott; parents, Odie R. Parrish and Lillian N. Warren Parrish; sister, Betty Parrish Waldrop; and brothers, Bobby Lee Parrish and Wayne Parrish.

Michael Rickey Olinger, 37
Michael Rickey Olinger, 37, of Holly Pond, Alabama, passed away Feb. 22, 2023. Michael was born in Alabama on Aug. 30, 1985, to Rickey and Deborah Veal Olinger. Mr. Olinger served our country honorably in the United States Army and was a member of Redan Baptist Church. He enjoyed life and his sense of humor was unmatched. Michael loved to tease and pick on his brother and sisters, and he wasn't above picking favorites among his nieces and nephews. He enjoyed tinkering and taking things apart. He might rebuild them and then again, he might not. Michael was a gun enthusiast and he loved old country music. He was a good man with a good heart and he loved his family dearly. The many good memories of Michael his family has will be treasured forever. Mr. Olinger is preceded in death by his mother, Deborah Veal Olinger; and his grandparents, William Olinger, Billy Ray Veal and Yvonne Veal. Michael is survived by his father, Rickey Olinger; sons, Noah Davis Olinger, Jacob Olinger, Canaan Olinger, Jebediah Olinger, Elias Olinger; brother, Chris Olinger (Amanda); sisters, Katrina Olinger, Sammi Arbet (Andrew); grandmother, Shirley Olinger; nieces and nephews, Ezekiel Olinger, Arabella Harden, Malakai Harden, Colton Olinger, Avery Olinger, Audrey Olinger, Lennox Arbet, Declan Arbet, Karson Arbet; and a host of aunts, uncles, and cousins. A memorial service for Mr. Olinger will be held at 2 p.m., Sunday, March 5, 2023, in the Holly Pond Funeral Home Chapel. Friends are invited to visit with the family and hour prior to services, from 1 p.m., until services begin at 2 p.m. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Olinger family.

Sharon Hudson Martin, 76
Ms. Sharon Hudson Martin, 76, passed away Friday, Feb. 17, 2023. A graveside service will be held Monday at 4 p.m. in Pinewood Memorial Park with Pastor Aaron Kennedy and Pastor Deana Kennedy officiating. The family will receive friends on Sunday from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. at Wilkerson Funeral Home. A native of Cullman, Alabama, Sharon was one of four children of the late William and Charmion Young Hudson. She was a graduate of Elon College. She worked as an Airline Stewardess for Piedmont Airlines for a number of years before becoming a Physical Education teacher, retiring with 30 years of service. Sharon will be fondly remembered for her strong faith and acts of service to others. She was known for her art, ceramics, and floral arrangements which she enjoyed delivering to local nursing homes. She embraced taking her grandchildren to do volunteer work. Traveling and going to the movies were also favorite pastimes. A loving mother, "Nana," sister and friend, Sharon will be missed by the many who knew and loved her. In addition to her parents, Sharon was preceded in death by a brother, Ted Reese Stricklin. She is survived by: daughter, Jessica Martin Ceravone and husband, Joseph; son, James E. "Jimmy" Martin, Jr. and wife, Deyva; grandchildren, Olivia Wilkins, Evan Wilkins, Jimmy Martin, III, Jax Martin, Jace Martin and Jesse Martin, all of Greenville; sister, Janice Stockdale and husband, Mike, of Tallahassee, Florida; brother, Michael Hudson and wife, Becky, of Cullman, Alabama; nieces, Erin Stockdale and Leanna Smith; nephews, Richard, Nathan and Stephen Hudson. Online condolences at www.wilkersonfuneralhome.com.

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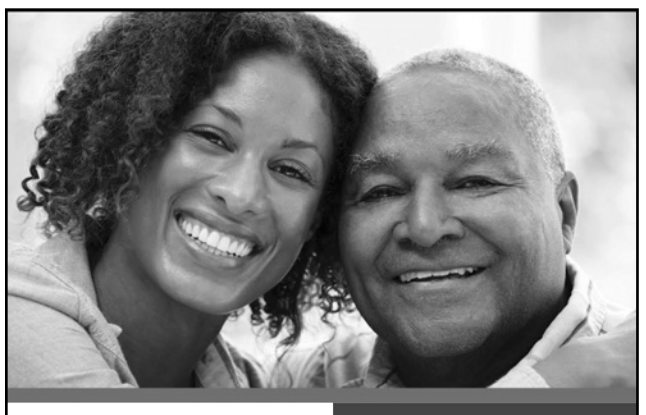


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BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

Is it live or is it Memorex?

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



Memorex aired a popular commercial back in the 1970s that featured Ella Fitzgerald singing a note that was so high it shattered a glass while her voice was being recorded on a Memorex tape. Then the question came, "Is it live or is it Memorex?"

Recordings are so good these days, it can be difficult sometimes to tell the difference. I have an extensive collection of recordings in various formats which I enjoy, however, given the opportunity to see and hear a live performance vs. a taped one, I will choose live any day.

Last week, Super Bowl LVI was played. Even though it wasn't originally called The Super Bowl, I remember well watching that first one back in 1967. That first year it was called the "AFL-NFL World Championship Game." Since the game has always been played on Sundays, I have not always been able to watch them in their entirety, but I have seen at least a portion of each one.

For many years I got home from Sunday-evening church in time to catch the second half. Some years we even stayed at church after the evening worship and watched the game together. This year I missed the entire game on Sunday night, but I was able to watch it on Monday morning.

I had accepted an invitation to go to Georgiana, Alabama, that Sunday evening, to do a Valentine's Banquet program for Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church. Neither, the pastor, nor I, realized it was Super Bowl Sunday when we made our plans. We actually had a good turnout, in spite of the timing, and we had a great time. I told the church that I was recording the game and planned to watch it later. I asked them to not tell me any scores if they heard them. Not that I thought someone might be getting scores during my program, but you never know. This is, after all, the South, and we do love our football. I know, it's not college football, but the college season has ended, and we are having withdrawals. We will make do with the NFL once the "real" football season has ended. I'm joking, NFL fans, I'm joking! We don't love football more than we love the Lord, but we do love it more than baked beans and deviled eggs...and maybe even Billy Bob!

On my way home, I was careful not to turn on "regular" radio. I listened to Sirius Radio, because I didn't think they would say anything about the game, and they didn't. It was late when I got home, so I went straight to bed without turning on the television that night or the next morning. Monday morning, I went upstairs to watch this year's Super Bowl. I had been successful in my avoidance of the game and had no idea who had won. I zipped through the commercials and the half-time show. There is a positive side to watching a recorded game. I watched an almost 4-hour game in 30 minutes! No, not really, but it was much shorter...especially since my recorder stopped recording 5 minutes before the game ended. What! I was powerfully upset! I went to all that trouble to not know the score and it looked like I still wouldn't know who won! So, which is better, live or Memorex? By the way, would someone please tell me who won?

Sunday, I'm heading to Lanier Baptist Church for a live worship service. I could stay home and watch one on television, but live really is so much better. Besides that, my church probably wouldn't appreciate that, especially since I'm the pastor!

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

HISTORY

Files from yesteryear: 1936, 1950

From the files of 1936

This dry season threatens the water supply in Cullman and Cullman County.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Crouen are visiting relatives here, before leaving for California, to make their home.

Glen Jetton of Gold Ridge spent Saturday night with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. W.M. Jelton.

Everyone should please remember the church supper at Mr. Tom Brown's on the fourteenth of this month. It will be a good chicken supper.

There was a good singing at George Williamson's on Sunday afternoon.

The candy making at Mr. Herbert Brock's on Saturday night was enjoyed by all attending.

Mr. C.H. Grob is opening a new Western Auto Associate Store.

Colonel Thomas W. Millican, Ezra Williamson and Roy Ingle spent Monday in Scottsboro.

Alvin Camp spent the weekend at home with his parents.

Mrs. William Lessman is critically ill at her home on the Bremen Road.

New members of the Hanceville Culture Club are Mrs. Joe Ray, Mrs. Fred Shauer, Mrs. James Edmondson and Mrs. Finley.

Mr. and Mrs. C.C. Johnson of Tuscaloosa spent Sunday in Cullman as the guests of their daughter, Mrs. H.B. Rowe and Mr. Rowe.

Doctor Sidney Morrow, of Birmingham, spent Sunday in Cullman as the guest of his mother, Mrs. Bess Morrow.

Fred Peinhardt spent Thursday in Birmingham.

The Panama Community is about finished picking cotton.

Most families need to inspect their buildings and other surroundings to see if everything looks safe from fire and accidents.

There will be a chicken supper at Walter School on Friday night.

Leroy Box died in Plains, Texas at the age of 55 years. He has three sisters, Daisy, Lillie and Sardis.

From the files of 1950

Tom Muse has retired at the age of 65. He spent several days in Bremen, Georgia last week visiting his 105 year old mother.

Doctor Harry Fuller is heading a committee to raise money for new Cullman High School band uniforms.

Thomas Daniel Sloan, age 78, was fatally injured on Sunday afternoon about 1:30 when he was hit by an automobile.

POET'S CORNER

Sunday Evening | By: Randy C. Hale

The clear sky is a pale blue this
Sunday evening.
I sit in an outside swing, surrounded
by cats I have silenced with fresh tuna.

Dry limbs crackle in the bare trees
this windy February day.
Brown leaves wrestle on the ground,
animated, as if the dead were raised
again.

When the wind blows, I think of being
on the beach, the oceans sound and
billowing waves.

A mourning dove sounds a musical
tone that we call a cry, but I think
it's a song that happens because
it can.

There are neighbors at play, and
no doubt some are napping on a day
not known for labor.
The day soothes in this fresh air, the
light, scene, and the serenity.

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

FEB. 25

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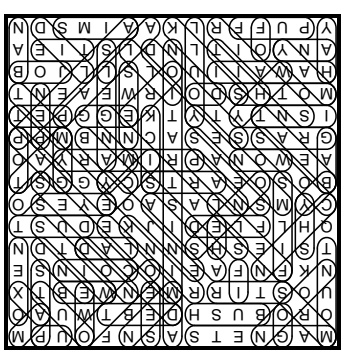
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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

FEB. 25

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ANSWERS:



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

Poisoning (from Front)

about the possibility of these being intentional acts, Banister said, "This is currently under investigation; however, poisoning is illegal for any domesticated or wildlife animals."

According to Banister, intentional poisoning of an animal is an intentional act of cruelty, and it is a felony charge as stated in the Code of Alabama 13A-11-14.1.

Signs warning pet owners about the issue have been put up in the affected communities. Banister clarified that the signs were put up by private residents and not by his department.

Banister had some advice for pet owners in the area, stating, "Always keep your dogs confined to your property as required by the Code of Alabama 3-1-5."

The investigation into these cases of dog poisoning is ongoing, and Banister urged anyone with information to contact Cullman County Animal Control at 256-734-5448.

Giggles (from Front)

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — This week's Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week is Giggles with his wiggles!

This miniature Plott Hound is a gentle and loving 1-1.5 year old that loves nothing more than belly rubs. Giggles is a low energy pup who is an excellent companion. He's looking for a home where his unassuming demeanor will be appreciated and cherished.

Giggles is eager to please his people and is responding well to consistent leash training.

He is the perfect companion for anyone looking for an intelligent, loyal and loving dog to join their family.

Giggles is ready to curl up with you and a good book or go for a hike as long as he's with his new best friend.

Giggles' adoption fee includes DHLPP vaccine, Bordetella vaccines, rabies vaccine, wormer, general exam at the vet and microchip. All animals are spayed or neutered prior to adoption.

Contact the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 256-734-5448 or www.cullmananimalshelter@co.cullman.al.us or visit the shelter at 935 Convent Road NE.



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