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# The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**OBITUARIES**
Linda McKelvy Hawkins, Joseph Anthony Mancini, Carolyn Jane Plunkett Dunn, Betty Dean Walls Downey, Sonya Creel White, Casey Paul Watson, Jeffrey S. McDowell, James Wendell West II
» PAGE 7

**WEATHER**
76 54
SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
SUNNY

**Arrests and Incidents**
» PAGE 2

**Community Calendar**
» PAGE 3


ALEX TWITTY

– SPORTS –

**'Always have a good attitude': Hanceville's Alex Twitty reflects on season**
» PAGE 4

7 93888 98541 4

## Cullman Savings Bank donates $5K to Pilot Light Home

**Amy Leonard**
amy@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Cullman Savings Bank generously donated $5,000 to The Pilot Light Home on Friday, Feb. 24. The Pilot Light Home, located on Cullman's east side, is a nonprofit foster home that has cared for Cullman's children for over 40 years.

The home is "funded by the State Department of Human Resources child welfare payments, United Way of Cullman County, the Pilot Club of Cullman, with a third of the budget (about $30,000) provided through donations from civic organizations, churches, businesses and individuals, as well as fundraising projects.

These funds are used to maintain the home inside and out, pro- » PAGE 6


AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
*Left to right are Peggy Harris, John Riley, Grace Potter, Nancy Moore, Angie Glasscock, Matt Townson and Angie Lanier.*

## CCBOE recognizes bowlers, bookkeepers



AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
*Cullman County Schools bookkeepers were recognized by Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette.*

**Amy Leonard**
amy@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — At its meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 21, the Cullman County Board of Education (CCBOE) recognized the West Point High School bowling team for its recent runner-up finishes in both the state and regional championships.

The team coaches are Brian Vance and Alana Drinkard.

Team members include Kevin Vance, Jake Wray, Shawn Sanford, Jaxon Crow, Kamryn Horsley and John Allred.

Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette also recognized the school system's bookkeepers, who continue to earn flawless audits.

They include Kayla Manning, Keneiath Campbell, Joy Kilgo, Lindsey Gardner, Sherri Swindall, Amanda Garmon, Brandy Lowe, Kim Simmons, Patricia Wise, Kylie Tankersley, Christie Thomas, Jan Carter, Karleigh Garrett, Lisa Zehr, Karen Butts, Cynthia Christiansen, Cristi Easterwood, Cathy Robinson, Teresa Blackwood, Sonia Eady and Christi Hamby.

**The following resignations were accepted:**
- Debra Hill - Child Development Center (CDC) - School Bus Driver
- Rhonda S Hogan - Fairview Elementary School (FES) - Secretary
- Christy Thomas - Holly Pond - Child Nutrition
- Abby Williams - Vinemont Elementary School (VES) - Teacher
- Mary Harbison - West Point Middle School - Child Nutrition

**The following leaves of absence were accepted:**
- Gracie McKelvy - Central Office - Human Resources Assistant
- Debra Hill - CDC - School Bus Driver
- Emily Vaughn - FES - Teacher
- Ashton Schaffer - Good Hope Elementary School - Teacher
- Heather Jones - Harmony School - Teacher
- Maeleigha Weaver - Parkside School (PS) - Teacher
- Abby Williams - VES - Teacher
- Kaitlyn Aguirre - West Point Elementary School (WPES) - Teacher
- Tina W. Yovino - WPES - Teacher
- Whitney Young - West Point High School (WPHS) - Teacher

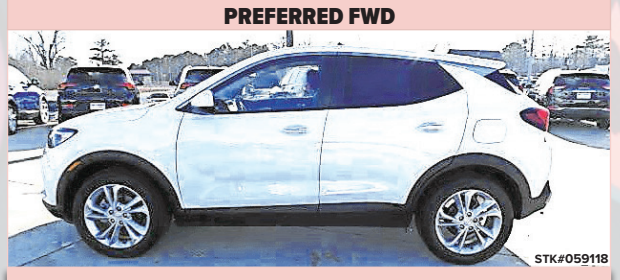
**The following voluntary transfers were** » PAGE 5

## Cullman earns Tree City USA Growth Award
» PAGE 7

## New artwork donated to St. Bernard


ST. BERNARD
*Abbot Marcus Voss, OSB presides over the unveiling of the new artwork donated to St. Bernard.* » PAGE 4

## 'Move Alabama' fitness campaign begins March 1
» PAGE 4

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CRIME

# Arrests and incidents reported Feb. 27

**Cullman Tribune staff**
Contributor

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

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

**CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**INCIDENTS**

**Feb. 23**

- possession of drug paraphernalia; use of synthetic urine; CR 222
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 813

**Feb. 24**

- domestic violence; CR 1652
- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 437
- theft of property; CR 778
- theft of property; Hwy. 278 E
- unauthorized use of motor vehicle; CR 312
- domestic violence; CR 1435
- possession of dangerous drugs; possession of marijuana; Hwy. 69 S
- theft of property; CR 1422
- violation of protection order; harassment; CR 1485
- theft of property; Hwy. 91

**Feb. 25**

- possession of marijuana; Hwy. 91
- harassment; CR 616
- harassment; CR 1282
- theft of property; CR 447
- harassment; 12th Way SW
- trespassing; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 278 W
- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1454
- trespassing; CR 702
- domestic violence; CR 1454

**ARRESTS**

**Feb. 23 – 26**

**Aldijaili, Keith T.; 27**
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- manufacture, use, sale, etc. of synthetic urine or urine additive

**Anthony, Cory D.; 30**
- Probation Violation- illegal possession of credit card

**Colburn, Dakota C.; 27**
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-2nd offense

**Glover, James B.; 42**
- Probation Violation- possession of dangerous drugs

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

**May, Austin L.; 26**
- Probation Violation-assault-child abuse-simple-family

**Phillips, Dalena L.; 40**
- Probation Violation- possession of dangerous drugs

**Russell, Robert M.; 46**
- Probation Violation- possession of dangerous drugs

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

**Underwood, Jeffrey A.; 56**
- elder abuse and neglect-3rd degree

**Varden, Lydia A.; 29**
- Probation Violation-assault-child abuse-simple-family (2 counts)

**Beatty, Ryan T.; 40**
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- criminal trespass

**Bledsoe, Justin C.; 32**
- public intoxication

**Blue, Linda K.; 62**
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

**Brown, Ian C.; 26**
- public intoxication

**Cornelius, Brandon S.; 36**
- FTA- assault-aggravated assault-family-gun
- FTA- assault-aggravated stalking-following in violation of court order
- FTA- domestic violence-harassment-family
- FTA- burglary-residence-force (2 counts)
- FTA- interference with a domestic violence emergency
- FTA- public intoxication
- FTA- Violation of Domestic Violence Protection Order (2 counts)

**Draper, Vivian L.; 63**
- criminal trespass

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

**Grohman Jr., William J.; 28**
- causing delinquency, dependency or need of supervision

**Hardin, Gary L.; 48**
- FTA- assault-domestic-harassment-family
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

**Harrison, Jamarion; 19**
- Probation Violation- burglary-residence-non force
- Probation Violation-criminal mischief
- Probation Violation- larceny/theft-miscellaneous theft (2 counts)

**Haynes, Benjamin M.; 37**
- FTA- assault-aggravated assault family-other weapon
- FTA- illegal possession of prescription drugs
- FTA- domestic violence-1st degree
- FTA- DUI (alcohol)

**Hill, Cade D.; 23**
- Probation Violation- larceny/theft-vehicle parts
- Probation Violation- receiving stolen vehicles

**Hogeland, Derrick C.; 37**
- possession of dangerous drugs

**Holland Jr., Glennon W.; 40**
- burglary-residence-no force

**Huddleston, Jason A.; 33**
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

**Lang, Adam W.; 41**
- Probation Violation- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA- attempting to elude police officer
- family offense-non support-child

**Lindsey, Kristian L.; 39**
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

**Ray Jr., Phillip E.; 44**
- Probation Violation-stolen vehicles-auto theft

**Seals, Mellissa D.; 22**
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

**Sharpley, Trevor L.; 29**
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

**Sturgeon, Rachel N.; 34**
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA- counterfeiting (3 counts)
- FTA- forged instrument (3 counts)

**Swann, Brandon L.; 31**
- FTA- assault-domestic violence-3rd degree- criminal mischief-3rd degree
- FTA- criminal trespass
- FTA- DUI (alcohol)
- FTA- driving while suspended, revoked or cancelled

**Tapscott, Thomas M.; 43**
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

**Thomas, Allen J.; 31**
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

**Webb, Ryan D.; 33**
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of dangerous drugs

**CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**INCIDENTS**

**Feb. 24**

- theft of property-3rd degree; Ulta Beauty; Cullman Shopping Center; general merchandise; $1,331

**Feb. 25**

- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle; theft of property-1st degree; 2nd Ave. SW; catalytic convertors; $4,000
- criminal trespass; person; Logan St. SW

**Feb. 26**

- theft of property-4th degree; criminal trespass-3rd degree; The Foundry; 2nd Ave. SW; miscellaneous; $25

**ARRESTS**

**Feb. 24 – 26**

**Lay, Zackary J.; 35**
- disorderly conduct

**Haynes, Benjamin M.; 37**
- FTA- open container in vehicle
- FTA- driving without license
- FTA- improper lane usage
- FTA- fail to signal

**Gomez, Latasha L.; 34**
- theft of property-4th degree

**Prater, Aaron G.; 26**
- DUI (controlled substance)

**Rodriguez, Giovanni E.; 25**
- DUI

**Grohman Jr., William J.; 28**
- FTA- fail to register vehicle

**Cihouski, Jessica A.; 33**
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia

**Curvin, Vernon G.; 62**
- public intoxication
- resisting arrest

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

**White, Phillip J.; 62**
- FTA- theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)
- FTA- criminal trespass-3rd degree
- FTA- insurance violation (2 counts)
- FTA- improper lane usage
- FTA- driving without license

**Tanner, Rebecca L.; 54**
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- driving without license
- FTA- fail to register vehicle
- FTA- insurance violation (3 counts)
- FTA- driving while suspended
- FTA- fail to signal

**Moore, Corey A.; 27**
- FTA- driving without license
- FTA- driving while suspended
- FTA- insurance violation (3 counts)
- FTA- expired tag
- FTA- fail to register vehicle

**Ballard, Joseph A.; 38**
- FTA- theft of property-4th degree
- FTA- driving without license

**HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

# Cold Springs Elementary set to host 'Life is Art' 5K Fun Run & Walk Saturday

**Noah Galilee**
noah@cullmantribune.com

**BREMEN, Ala.** — This Saturday, March 4, Cold Springs Elementary School will host its first-ever "Life is Art" 5K/1-mile run. The event is aimed at raising funds to support the school's art program, which allows all students in grades K-8 to come to art class once a month and try a mix of media, including colored pencils, markers, crayons, oil pastels, watercolors and acrylic paints.

Kathryn Baggett, Cold Springs Elementary art teacher and coordinator of the event, said this is her first time planning this kind of event and if it turns out to be a success, the school will try to host it annually.

"With running being one of my passions, I decided to plan a 5K. Cold Springs High School already has the Kudzu 5K course laid out, so with our Cross Country Coach, Casey Howell, and his team of runners to support, we will host this first-time event!" she said.

The Life is Art 5K/1-mile run is open to everyone, including students, faculty, staff and members of the community. The sign-up fee is $25 for the 5K and $20 for the 1-mile run. Registration is available online at runsignup.com through Wednesday, March 1, and in-person registration the day of the event will be available until 7 a.m.

"The original idea was to make this a color run. But to prevent the mess of the powder color, I decided to say for participants to dress as colorfully as they choose," Baggett said. "I have Dick's gift cards to present to the most colorfully dressed runners of the day."

The 5K will begin at 8 a.m. on the cross-country course, and the 1-mile run will begin at 9 on the track. Awards will follow the event. However, Baggett encourages everyone to participate, even those who don't love to run, as they can walk or cheer others on. Additionally, family and friends can take part in free art activities and see student artwork on display. Some local arts and crafts vendors will also be present.

Baggett said the event is not only about raising funds, but also spreading an important message: "Life is messy and we all make mistakes."

The art program aims to teach students to appreciate their art and encourage one another. The program is building life skills and instilling a basis that "life is art."

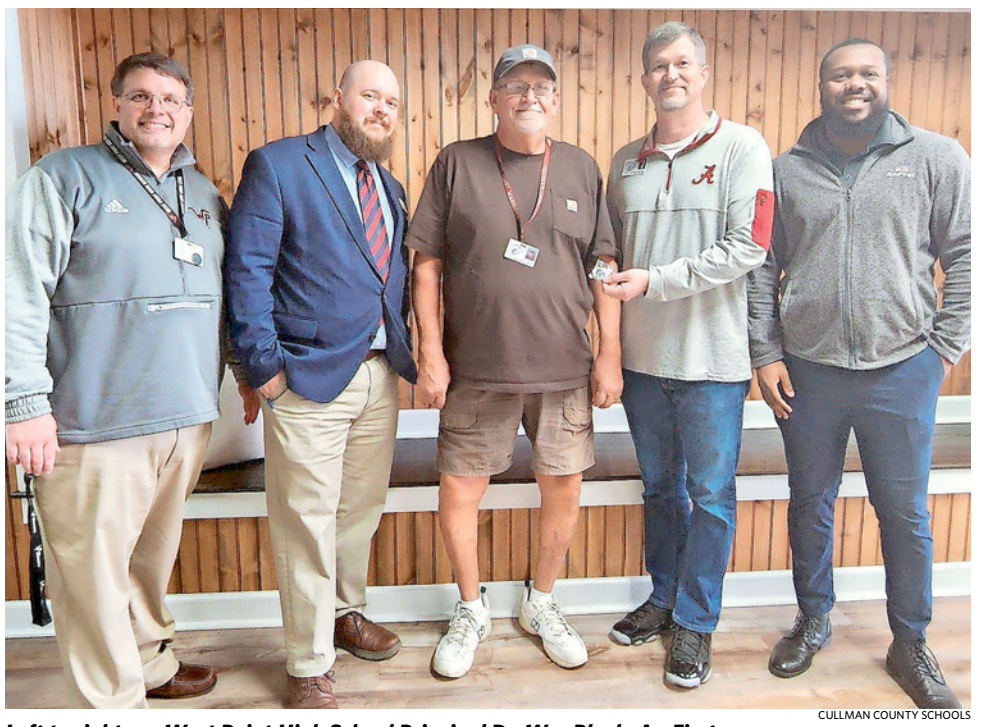
Baggett continued, "All students are artists, and they are learning more than just how to color and paint. They are learning that life is messy and that we all make mistakes. I try to teach them to appreciate their art as it is unique to them and their unique personality."

The event will take place around the football field of Cold Springs High School, located at 9010 County Road 109, Bremen, 35033. The school has also arranged for food trucks like Stone's All Fired Up, Sachmo's BBQ and Frios Gourmet Pops from 10 a.m.-noon for post-race treats. Baggett said the Life is Art 5K/1-mile run is a wonderful initiative by Cold Springs Elementary School to support its art program and encourage everyone to embrace their creativity.

"I don't know what the future holds for this art program," she said, "but there will always be a need for students to express themselves through art!"

Register for the event at https://runsignup.com/Race/AL/Bremen/LifeisArt-5kand1MileFunRun.

# CCBOE names AmFirst Teacher, Staff Member of the Month



CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS

*Left to right are West Point High School Principal Dr. Wes Black, AmFirst Cullman Branch Manager Daniel Boggan, AmFirst Staff Member of the Month Dale Coleman, Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette and AmFirst Regional Development Coordinator Phillip Samuels.*



CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS

*Left to right are AmFirst Cullman Branch Manager Daniel Boggan, AmFirst Regional Development Coordinator Phillip Samuels, AmFirst Teacher of the Month Tyler Mitchell, Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette and Cullman County Child Development Center Principal Chris Chambers.*

**Staff Reports**
Contributor

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — The Cullman County Board of Education (CCBOE) and America's First Federal Credit Union (AmFirst) recognize a teacher and staff member each month.

This month's Teacher of the Month is Tyler Mitchell from the Cullman County Child Development Center.

"Ms. Mitchell is always calm, cool and collected (sic). Her gentle voice and consistency separates the child from the most challenging behavior," said CCCDC Principal Chris Chambers. "Her attention to detail helps her to be effective with meeting kids where the are. She makes a difference each day."

This month's Staff Member of the Month is Dale Coleman, maintenance at West Point High School.

"Since Dale started, he has completed several major projects all while maintaining our facilities," said Dr. Wes Black, West Point High School principal. "Dale is hard working and cares about the appearance of our buildings and grounds!" Cullman County Schools thanks America's First Federal Credit Union for donating a $100 gift card to each employee of the month.

# 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.
• Wednesday, March 1 - 7 p.m. Children, youth, and adult "RULES of ENGAGEMENT," Bible Study Classes. Free pizza for children at 6:30 p.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area at 6 p.m. Call 256-841-2060 for pickup.
• Friday, March 3 - 7 p.m. Recovery Ministry - Fellowship & Testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! For those who want to get together before class bring a dish, dessert or drink @ 6:30 p.m. for a potluck meal. Nursery provided.
• Saturday, March 4 - Women's Conference - doors open at 8 a.m., conference from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., free admission, donations are greatly appreciated and accepted, breakfast and lunch will be served, guest speakers, door prizes, and childcare will be provided!
• Sunday, March 5 - 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 at 8 a.m. and also join Teresa Pritchard at 9 a.m. in the prayer room to pray for our church, nation and for those who need Salvation and deliverance
• Sunday, March 5 - 9 a.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area. Call 256-841-2060 for pickup. Breakfast @ 9:30 a.m. Bible study classes for children, youth, and adults @ 10 a.m. Adult class. 11 a.m. message by Pastor Bobby Dodd.

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

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

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

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

**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.

**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.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
FEBRUARY 28, 2023

PREP BASEBALL

# Addison, Holly Pond collect road wins Friday night

**Sammy Confer**
sammy@cullmantribune.com

**BREMEN, Ala.** — Addison hit the road Friday night for a matchup with the Cold Springs Eagles and the Bulldogs plated six runs in the top half of the sixth to pull away from Cold Springs return home with a 10-6 win.

**Addison 10 - Cold Springs 6 (Baseball)**

Stone Talley got hit by the pitch with one out for Addison and later stole second, then one out later, Kiah Lake lined a single to center field. Talley looked to score on the play, but a perfect throw by Kaiden Graves to Trenton Moore nailed Talley at the plate to keep the game scoreless. Cole Bales led off the Cold Springs first with a double to left field, then Brady Phillips got hit by the pitch. After a strikeout, Josh Winfrey lined an RBI single to left field to bring in Bales to give the Eagles an early 1-0 lead.

Addison looked to answer in the top of the second. Lane Tubb hit a leadoff single to left field, then Tucker Philbeck got the next two batters to pop out and line out, respectively, as he looked to keep the Bulldogs off the scoreboard once again. Addison had other ideas, though, as Briley Holt hit a single to right field to put runners on the corners. Kaden Dyson then lined an RBI single to right field to tie the game up at one.

The score remained tied at one until the bottom of the third, when Cold Springs broke the tie in a hurry. Phillips hit a leadoff single to center field, then a ground ball moved him over to second. On the first pitch, Winfrey lined a two-run home run over the left field fence to give the Eagles a 3-1 lead. The Bulldogs answered right back in the fourth inning as Tubb and Haynes each hit back-to-back singles to lead off the inning. They each stole third and second, respectively, and an RBI groundout by Tucker Thompson brought home Tubb to cut it to 3-2. Holt reached on a bunt single and that allowed Haynes to cross the plate to tie the game up at three.

Neither team was able to break the tie for the next two innings, then Addison broke the tie and then some in the top of the sixth. Haynes hit a double to left field to lead off the inning, then Thompson drew a walk. For the second straight at-bat, Holt brought home a run on a bunt single as Hayes ended up scoring on the play to give the Bulldogs a 4-3 lead. Dyson drew a walk to load the bases for Jed Wilkins; he ended up hitting an RBI groundout to make it a 5-3 game. Addison continued to add onto their lead as another Eagle error allowed Dyson and Holt to cross the plate as the Bulldog lead was now 7-3. Jaxon Williams and Lake each scored on back-to-back Cold Springs errors to give Addison a 9-3 lead.

The Eagles looked to cut into the deficit in their half of the sixth. Tucker Philbeck drew a leadoff walk, then one out later, Graves and Samuel Turner also drew walks to load the bases. After a fly out, Bales kept the inning for Cold Springs as he brought home Philbeck and Graves on an infield single to cut it to 9-5. Addison looked to pad their lead in the seventh.

Holt drew a one-out walk, then Dyson hit a double to right field. After Wilkins popped out for out number two, Cold Springs' fourth error of the game proved costly once again as Holt ended up crossing the plate to make it a 10-5 game.

Cold Springs looked to get back in the game in their final at-bats. Brodee Bartlett hit a leadoff single, then Winfrey reached on a fielder's choice. Philbeck lined a single to center field to put runners on the corners with one out, then after a strikeout, the Eagles pulled off a double steal and Winfrey ended up stealing home to cut it to 10-6. Haynes, though, struck out Graves to end the game and Addison would go on to defeat Cold Springs 10-6.

Holt (two RBIs) and Dyson (RBI) each finished with three hits in the game for Addison. Wilkins and Thompson each collected an RBI. Tubb and Hayes each added two hits, while Talley and Lake each ended up with a hit as well. For Cold Springs, Winfrey finished with a pair of hits and three RBIs. Bales added a pair of hits and two RBIs. Phillips, Bartlett, and Philbeck each collected a hit in the contest.

Addison will head home to take on Curry Monday and Cold Springs will host Hanceville on Tuesday.

**Holly Pond 11 - Susan Moore 1 (Baseball)**

Holly Pond didn't waste any time getting off to a strong start in their road game against Susan Moore. John Martin reached on a Susan Moore error to lead off the game, then one out and a few pitches later, he ended up scoring on a wild pitch to put the Broncos on the scoreboard. Brody Howard would reach on another Bulldog error and ended up going to third on the play. Bradly Butts hit a sacrifice fly to make it 2-0. Starter Chase Brazelton worked around a leadoff error and a single to get out of the inning unscathed.

Boston Gibbs got hit by the pitch with one out and would later come around to score on a Brazelton RBI single to make it 3-0. Holly Pond quickly broke the game wide open in the top of the third. Howard reached on a dropped third strike, then later moved up to third on a wild pitch. Butts reached on a bunt single, then Tristan Hibbert dropped down a bunt of his own as that allowed Howard to cross the plate as the Bronco lead was now 4-0. Butts scored on a Susan Moore error, Sawyer Olinger and Hibbert scored on a dropped third strike, Ethan Tapscott hit an RBI single, and Brazelton knocked in a run on a sacrifice fly as Holly Pond pushed their lead to 9-0.

An RBI groundout by Susan Moore put them on the scoreboard in their half of the third, but Holly Pond added another run in the fourth inning as Butts scored on a passed ball. The Broncos put up their 11th and final run of the game as Peyton Queen scored on a balk. The Broncos ended up rolling past the Bulldogs 11-1.

Brazelton finished with a hit and two RBIs for Holly Pond. Butts added a pair of hits and an RBI. Hibbert and Tapscott each collected a hit and an RBI, while Martin and Olinger each added a hit as well.

Holly Pond will head back home to take on J.B. Pennington Monday.

**Cullman 6 – Sipsey Valley 1 (Softball)**

The Lady Bearcats took an early, 4-0 lead in the first inning and tacked on runs in the second and the fourth to secure a 6-1 victory over Sipsey Valley. Haley Shannon led Cullman at the plate with three hits and an RBI in the win. Reese Hopper (one hit), Abby Maples, Emma Claire Wilson and Hattie Graham each posted an RBI as well. Wilson was dominant in the circle, striking out six batters in 4.1 hitless innings of work.

**Nick Griffin contributed to this article.**

PREP BASKETBALL

# 'Always have a good attitude': Hanceville's Alex Twitty reflects on season

**Sammy Confer**
sammy@cullmantribune.com

**HANCEVILLE, Ala.** — Eighth grader Alex Twitty spent the first part of last season on the middle school team before getting moved up to the varsity squad halfway through the season and she learned so much from the experience being on both teams.

"I feel like last season was one of the best basketball seasons I have ever had because not just because we won games, coach Paul Glenon pushed me as hard as he could so I can be as good as he thinks I could be. He was one of my favorite coaches that I've ever had and during my time on middle school, I learned that you have to work hard for what you want," Twitty said. "Success doesn't come easy. My time on varsity was great because I made many new friends, and I met two great coaches that also pushed me very hard and encouraged me to do things I thought I couldn't do. We might not have won many games, but this is just the beginning of something great."

Twitty played with some great teammates when she moved up to the varsity squad and learned so much from them, including the three seniors: Savana McAnnally, Jessica Marshall and Dierra Merriweather.

"Playing with this group of girls helped me change my attitude whenever I played, and I loved that they encouraged me every single practice and game. I learned to always have a good attitude." Twitty said. "Playing with Savana was great because she had an amazing attitude during anything, even when we were down in a game. Playing with Jessica was also great despite being injured for most of the season. She had great bench energy. Playing with Dierra was amazing. She made me laugh whenever we were down in a game and had amazing bench energy. I learned that having a positive attitude lets me focus and absorb information as I'm learning new things during practices and games."

Twitty played for coach Christina Watson for the last part of the varsity season and learned a lot from her during that time. She will be working on bettering her game in the off-season to help get ready for next season and has an individual and team goal set for next season.

"I love coach Watson's energy. She has taught me many things, like helping me develop my athletic abilities and refine my knowledge of basketball," she said. "I will be working on my shot form and my defense. My individual goal is to mainly work on my ball handling and my team goal for next year is to win area."

Twitty talked about what will make this team special to watch next season and talked about some great memories from this season, plus her thoughts of playing alongside her older sister, Aaliyah, on the varsity squad.

"We have more talent, and we will use it. This summer, we are going to get together and play games to work on things we need to work on the most," she said. "My favorite memories were when we were in the locker rooms before games. We would have fun and say things that we could and will do that game. We would encourage each other during our time on the court together."

She added, "Playing with my sister on varsity is amazing and I'm so glad I get the chance to play high school ball with her. It makes me happy to see her succeed in her goals. I'm also glad to be following in her footsteps. She taught me how to push myself as hard as she pushes herself during games and practices."



ALEX TWITTY

*Hanceville's Alex Twitty*

# Campaign (from Front)

**Lauren Estes**
lauren@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — The Cullman County Extension Office will kick off its "Move Alabama" program Wednesday, March 1, and is encouraging community members to get involved.

According to the Cullman County Extension SNAP-Ed Educator Della Bramley, almost 30% of all Alabamians are physically inactive, meaning they don't do any physical activity or exercise outside of their normal jobs.

"This is linked to higher rates of obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure and increased risk of death," Bramley shared.

"Low-income families are more likely to be inactive and suffer adverse health outcomes. To combat these issues, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System is proud to announce the launch of Move Alabama, a collaboration between SNAP-Ed and EFNEP at Auburn University. This community physical activity challenge provides the chance to get up and move with your friends, family and neighbors while exploring your community. This will be our first year doing this here in Cullman County."

Bramley said the program was piloted in a few counties last year and is now being done statewide.

"I am excited for this program to come to us. I have also set up a Facebook group just for Cullman County residents to share their challenge pictures and progress during the challenge," Bramley said.

"From March 1 through April 30, you will have the chance to complete up to 25 challenges and be entered for the chance to win fun prizes."

Beginning March 1, participant logs can be picked up from the Cullman County Extension Office, located at 402 Arnold St. NE, Suite G1, or downloaded from the Move Alabama Facebook page.

For more information, contact the Cullman County Extension Office at 256-737-9386 or search "Move Alabama" or "Move Alabama-Cullman County Challenge" on Facebook.

# Artwork (from Front)

**Joyce Nix**
Contributor

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — St. Bernard Prep has been gifted a beautiful piece of handcrafted artwork with a very meaningful symbol – the Benedictine cross.

A few months ago Southern Heritage Restoration Owner Paul Moss was working in his shop when a couple walked in to inquire about a custom-made table. As the couple discussed their table, they indicated a desire to create a special piece of art to be hung in the dining hall of St. Bernard Abbey and School. With a design in hand, they told Moss they would like to have it made of purpleheart – a durable, rare type of wood from Southeast Asia – but thought it likely impossible. Purpleheart wood is known to be one of the hardiest and sturdiest types of wood in the world.

The couple presented Moss a pamphlet with the St. Bernard logo and asked if one could be made to measure 5 feet tall and 4 feet wide.

"Little did they know I had just completed a table made out of purpleheart, and I told them I sure could," Moss said.

Southern Heritage Restoration specializes in reclaiming high-quality wood from old barns, antique furniture and other structures. Moss had on hand several reclaimed boards that were taken from an old lowboy military trailer. We may never know exactly where this wood originated or what all it has hauled.

"We put a lot of work in this piece, and I can't thank my guys enough for all of their help," stated Moss. "We first created a 5-foot by 4-foot square and used a friend's wood router machine to cut out. Then we brought it back to the shop to take care of the rest. Several of the boards contained holes. We filled the boards with epoxy so that we could sand it, router it out and sand it again. Once it was sanded to our perfection, we coated it with five coats of polyurethane."

The artwork was delivered to the school, put in place and covered to await its formal presentation. Prior to the unveiling, the St. Bernard Prep band played Mardi Gras music to celebrate Fat Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday. All gathered in the dining hall to see the work unveiled. The ceremony itself began with a scripture reading from St. Paul's Epistle to the Colossians, followed by a solemn prayer and a blessing. Abbot Marcus Voss, O.S.B. and St. Bernard Prep CEO Jim Miller presided over the unveiling of the artwork for St. Bernard in the dining hall. The anonymous donors designed the gift specifically for the front entrance wall, as it is the place where students and guests gather to eat meals. The location also often serves as a stage for events held by the Abbey and school, including daily breaks during the school day.

"This artwork combines the seal of the school and the abbey," Abbot Marcus said. "It's presented with the symbol of salvation (the Cross) that always reminds us of the love of the Lord." As Abbot Marcus blessed the artwork he prayed these words, "May the sprinkling of this holy water remind all of us of our life in Christ that began at our baptism."

Miller thanked all the benefactors involved in the donation of the artwork, especially Moss, Mike Roberts, Joel Williams, Cyle Lutz and Ethan Ellison -- the artists behind the work. "We are so grateful for this beautiful addition to our school," Miller said. "It will be a legacy piece for future generations of St. Bernard students to enjoy."

Students, teachers and benefactors stayed after the event to socialize and enjoy delicious king cakes made by the St. Bernard dining hall staff headed by Fr. Bede Marcy. It was a fine Mardi Gras celebration.

# Alabama peaches in some uncertainty for 2023

**Cole Sikes**
Contributor

**AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala.** — Alabama peach growers are currently evaluating the state of their fruit crop for 2023. Seasonal temperatures play a large role in providing quantity and quality of peaches through chilling hours. An Alabama Cooperative Extension System commercial horticulture professor said chilling hours are not sufficient for optimum peach production at this point—leaving the fruit crop in some uncertainty this year.

Peach trees require an appropriate amount of chill hours during dormancy.

**Reason for deficiency**

Peach trees contain important tools for production called growth regulators. During the tree's dormancy, these regulators increase with each hour it receives at optimum temperatures–providing a more favorable opportunity for peaches to grow from buds.

"Central Alabama is deficient in chilling this year," said Edgar Vinson, an Alabama Extension commercial horticulture assistant professor.

Vinson said in order for peach trees to break dormancy and produce large quantities of quality fruit, a number of chilling hours at or below 45 degrees F must be naturally applied during the cool months. "As of Feb. 15, chill accumulation in central Alabama was approximately 772 chill hours–well below the preferred minimum of 850," Vinson said. "We are even further below the 982 chill hours on this day last year."

**What does this mean for Alabama peaches in 2023?**

Since this year's winter did not provide sufficient chilling hours for peaches, there is a chance that 2023's harvest could see residual effects.

"Peach farmers in central Alabama will likely see a longer bloom period and a smaller-than-usual crop at each harvest for peach varieties with moderate or high chill requirements," Vinson said.

However, there is no need to panic for peach lovers in Alabama. Local vendors should still have enough tasty fruit to go around as long as Mother Nature complies.

"Alabama peach farmers are in a position to have a good harvest as long the weather does not get too cold after tree buds begin to break," Vinson said.

**Peachy keen**

Peaches are an important crop to central Alabama. Even though this season's yield may not surpass last year's, producers are preparing for harvest this spring so that everyone can enjoy this juicy treat.

To learn more about peaches and chill portions or chill hours read the Extension Brief, Chill Hour and Chill Portion Comparison in Peaches or read any of the additional peach information on Alabama Extension's website, www.aces.edu.




AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

*The West Point High School bowling team was recognized for its recent runner-up finishes at state and regional tournaments.*

# CCBOE (from Front)

**approved:**

- Lauren Creel - Holly Pond Middle School to CDC - Special Education Teacher
- Abbey Holcomb - PS to FES - Teacher to Secretary

**The following appointments were approved contingent on certification:**

- April Smith - CDC - Homebound Teacher
- Kathryn Risner - Hanceville High School - Special Education Teacher
- Austan Jones - Holly Pond Elementary School - Special Education Teacher
- Anna Streety - Welti School - Pre-K Auxiliary Teacher
- William Jochum - WPHS - Special Education Teacher

**The following substitutes were approved:**

- Mary Harbison - Child Nutrition
- Teressa S. Griffin - Child Nutrition/Office/Custodian
- Ramona Burt - Teacher
- Cecily Cannon - Teacher
- Tamera Crawford - Teacher
- Lainey Keller - Teacher
- Robert Smothers - Teacher
- Tanya Veres - Teacher
- Lori Warden - Teacher
- Tammy Whittle - Teacher

**The following long-term certified substitutes were approved:**

- Ramona Burt - Teacher
- Robert Smothers - Teacher
- Lori Warden - Teacher
- Tammy Whittle - Teacher

**The following contract and/or salary changes were approved:**

- Jon Farley - Upgrade to Master's
- Carrie Ferrell - Upgrade to Master's
- An'Drea Huff - Upgrade to Master's
- Jennifer M. Murphree - Upgrade to Master's
- Adrianna C. Skutchan - Upgrade to Education Specialist
- Martin Horton - Senior High Football Assistant 3
- Joshua Bell add - Senior High Baseball Assistant

**The following Non-Faculty Coaches (NFC) were approved:**

- Jeffrey Earley - Cold Springs Elementary/Middle School Softball Volunteer
- Preston Williams - Vinemont High School Baseball Volunteer
- Haley Freeman - WPHS Assistant Archery Volunteer
- Joshua Bell - WPHS Baseball Supplement
- Joshua Brown - WPHS Softball Volunteer
- Patrick Phillips - WPHS Volunteer
- Isaiah Wylie - West Point Middle School Volunteer

**In other business, the following were approved:**

- Pay Patricia Laseter for up to five unused Annual Leave days
- Pay Cortney Myrex, Anna Pace and Leah D. Sapp each $25 per hour for time worked assisting in the production of the Cullman County Basketball Tournament live stream, paid by Cullman County Basketball Tournament sponsorship revenue
- Pay Patricia Laseter temporarily part time, as needed at her regular hourly rate of pay for training her replacement, effective March 1-31, 2023
- Suzy Berryman, CSFO as the Sick Leave Bank Committee Board Representative to replace Ed Roberson from March 1, 2023, to Oct. 31, 2023
- Request from Parkside School to pay Jacy Douglas $750 for 2021-2022 Yearbook Sponsor
- Request from Vinemont High School to pay Preston Boyd, Lance Lay and Kerry Thompson $400 each for resurfacing the high school gym floor
- Request from West Point Intermediate School to pay Sonia Eady and Felicia Shearrer $500 each for organizing and working the West Point Intermediate and West Point Middle School pageants
- Request from West Point Middle School to pay Christi Hamby $500 for working the West Point Middle School pageant
- Request from West Point High School to pay the following $1,500 each for summer workouts and field maintenance paid by WP Quarterback Club funds
  - Phillip Miller
  - Richard Penn
  - Donald Lynn
  - Justin Cornelius
- Approval of Before- and After-School Tutors to be paid $40 per hour effective January 2023, paid by ESSER Funds, to Heather Jones for Harmony School
- Approval of nurses for the Before- and After-School Tutoring to be paid $40 per hour effective January 2023, paid by ESSER Funds
  - Cold Springs – Kaci Williams
- Substitutues-Eshaunae Downs and Kellie Graves

**The following out of state field trips were approved:**

- Cold Springs High School to Nashville on April 21, 2023. William Johnson will take the 6-12th grade band students to perform on the plaza and tour the Country Music Hall of Fame. The students will travel by bus.
- West Point High School FFA students traveled to Louisville on Feb. 16 with Ethan Lake by bus. The scholars bowl team will travel to Atlanta with Lee Henry and Tina Yovino by private vehicle on May 26 to attend the National Championship Tournament.
- Hanceville High School Volleyball Team will head to Murfreesboro via private vehicle with Candice Grochowalski on July 21 for volleyball camp. The school's math team will go to Six Flags over Georgia by bus with Dana Lisle and Phamie Brown on April 28 for an education day.

**The following staff members are appointed to the 2023 K-5 ELA Textbook Committee:**

- Cold Springs Elementary - Reilly Hood, Kellie Shelton and Julie Windsor
- Fairview Elementary - Pam Draper, Angela Kee and Renee Chambers
- Good Hope Elementary - Melody Martin and Faith Helms
- Good Hope Primary - Jennifer Wright, Tiffany Gambrill and Cindy Pearson
- Hanceville Elementary - Roxie Lee, Cindy Gonstad and Matt Ellard
- Harmony - Heather Lynn, Pam Mack and Elaine Wren
- Holly Pond Elementary - Brandi Kelso, Ashley Pichelmayer and Lori Baggett
- Parkside - Tamala Weaver, Emily Wilson and Nanette Clark
- Vinemont Elementary - Amber Robinson, Linsey Hudson and Hayley Drake
- Welti Elementary - Krystal Ayers, Jennifer Hays and Amy Ellard
- West Point Elementary - Tina Yovino, Layla Quinn, Jennifer Little and Jessica Taylor
- West Point Intermediate - Hayden Voce
- EL Coach - Brittany Thompson
- Parent Representative - Jena Mayo

The third nine weeks ends on March 10 and spring break is March 27-31. The next regular board meeting is Thursday, March 16. The work session begins at 3:30 p.m. and regular meeting follows.






# Pilot Light Home (from Front)

vide monthly cost of operation–house parent salary, utilities, food, household supplies, clothing, medicine, insurance, gas–as well as the upkeep for the home and van."

**The history of the Pilot Light Homes reads:**
The Pilot Light Home is a 24/7 foster home and emergency care facility licensed by the Department of Human Resources and governed by an all-volunteer Board of Directors. The home provides care for six foster children and one salaried house parent.

These children are abused and/or neglected, abandoned or whose parents are incapacitated with no relatives to provide care. Care is provided for an average of 20-25 children yearly.

Prior to 1982, when law enforcement and DHR case workers would pick up abused, neglected children, sometimes in the middle of the night, many times there was no readily available family, and no emergency place for children to stay.

There was no foster home in the City of Cullman. The only homes that had vacancies and willing to take emergency placement children were many times located in Bremen, Brushy Pond, so the DHR workers would have to drive there with the children in the middle of the night.

The DHR staff needed and wanted a home/shelter in the city where children would be taken in these emergency situations or when other homes were full. Decatur had a home,

Operations Home, supported by the community and approved like a foster family home with house parents. Visits were made to the home to gather information used to establish such a home in Cullman.

Chartered in 1981, the newly formed Pilot Club became interested in helping establish a children's home/shelter and spearheaded the drive, becoming the primary sponsor of the Pilot Light Home.

Under the leadership of Lorene Scott, the Pilot Club was joined by several Civic Clubs, churches, industries, businesses and concerned citizens and a Cullman home/shelter became a reality. This home would be supported by DHR welfare payments, Pilot Club and Cullman community donations from Civic Clubs, churches, businesses, banks, individuals and later, The United Way.

The donation by Cullman Savings Bank will make a tangible difference for the foster children of Cullman County and the Pilot Club and Pilot Light Home board of directors send their gratitude to John Riley and his staff at Cullman Savings Bank.

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# LEGALS

PB MIN BK 214 PG 290 - 02/24/2023 01:32 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

**IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

IN RE: The Estate of )
)
JAMES MILTON LITTLE ) Case No.: PC-2023-004
)
**Deceased** )

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Mary Frances Smith Little, as the Administrator of the Estate of James Milton Little, deceased, on the 24th day of February, 2023 by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

Mary Frances Smith Little
Administrator of the Estate of
James Milton Little, deceased

TO: **The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune**

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

Beverly Paschal Poston (PAS001)
Attorney for the Estate of
James Milton Little, deceased.
200 1st Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama, 35055
bposton@beverlypaschalposton.com
(256)739-3970 Fax (256)739-3968

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

PB ADT BK 65 PG 340 - 02/17/2023 04:08 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

CASE NO: AD 2023-002

B.M.G. A MINOR.
D.O.B. 7/19/2004

**AMENDED**
**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.

Amended to correct the D.O.B. of the minor child.

DONE THIS 17th DAY OF February, 2023.

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 JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

**IN THE MATTER OF** *
**DRVG,** * **CASE NO.: JU 21-196.02**
**a minor, DOB: 03-14-2021.** *

**NOTICE OF TERMINATION HEARING**

LEVI JOSEPH GERST, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights filed by the Cullman County Department of Human Resources in regards to a minor child born on March 14, 2021, to Patricia Dee Villa by the 28th day of March, 2023, or thereafter a judgment terminating his parental rights may be entered against him in the Juvenile Court of Cullman County, Alabama.

Done this the 14th day of February, 2023.

Lisa McSwain
Circuit Clerk

Petitioner:
Cullman County Department of Human Resources
P. O. Box 990
1220 St. Joseph Street NW
Cullman, AL 35056

FILED IN OFFICE
FEB 14 2023
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

Perry D. Knight
Attorney for Petitioner
412 First Avenue SE
Suite 101
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-4090

**IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

**IN THE MATTER OF** *
**LJVG, JR.,** * **CASE NO.: JU 22-177.02**
**a minor, DOB: 03-19-2022.** *

**NOTICE OF TERMINATION HEARING**

LEVI JOSEPH GERST, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights filed by the Cullman County Department of Human Resources in regards to a minor child born on March 19, 2022, to Patricia Dee Villa by the 28th day of March, 2023, or thereafter a judgment terminating his parental rights may be entered against him in the Juvenile Court of Cullman County, Alabama.

Done this the 14th day of February 2023.

Lisa McSwain
Circuit Clerk

Petitioner:
Cullman County Department of Human Resources
P. O. Box 990
1220 St. Joseph Street NW
Cullman, AL 35056

FILED IN OFFICE
FEB 14 2023
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

Perry D. Knight
Attorney for Petitioner
412 First Avenue SE
Suite 101
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-4090

**IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

**IN THE MATTER OF** *
**LJVG, JR.,** * **CASE NO.: JU 22-177.02**
**a minor, DOB: 03-19-2022.** * *

**NOTICE OF TERMINATION HEARING**

PATRICIA DEE VILLA, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights filed by the Cullman County Department of Human Resources in regards to the above referenced child born on March 19, 2022 by the 28th day of March, 2023, or thereafter a judgment terminating her parental rights may be entered against her in the Juvenile Court of Cullman County, Alabama.

Done this the 14th day of February, 2023.

Lisa McSwain
Circuit Clerk

Petitioner:
Cullman County Department of Human Resources
P. O. Box 990
1220 St. Joseph Street NW
Cullman, AL 35056

FILED IN OFFICE
FEB 14 2023
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

Perry D. Knight
Attorney for Petitioner
412 First Avenue SE
Suite 101
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-4090

**NOTE: Publish this item once a week for 4 consecutive weeks beginning** 2/21/23.

**IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

**IN THE MATTER OF** *
**DRVG,** * **CASE NO.: JU 21-196.02**
**a minor, DOB: 03-14-2021.** *

**NOTICE OF TERMINATION HEARING**

PATRICIA DEE VILLA, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights filed by the Cullman County Department of Human Resources in regards to the above referenced child born on March 14, 2021 by the 28th day of March, 2023, or thereafter a judgment terminating her parental rights may be entered against her in the Juvenile Court of Cullman County, Alabama.

Done this the 14th day of February, 2023.

Lisa McSwain
Circuit Clerk

Petitioner:
Cullman County Department of Human Resources
P. O. Box 990
1220 St. Joseph Street NW
Cullman, AL 35056

FILED IN OFFICE
FEB 14 2023
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

Perry D. Knight
Attorney for Petitioner
412 First Avenue SE
Suite 101
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-4090

**NOTE: Publish this item once a week for 4 consecutive weeks beginning** 2/21/23.

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

In Re )
)
J.M.R., ) Case No. JU 2023-23.01
)
a minor. )

NOTICE

NOTICE TO WESTON JOHN ROBERTSON, father of J.M.R.:

A Verified Petition for Termination of Parental Rights of Weston John Robertson regarding his child, J.M.R., has been filed in the Juvenile Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by the mother of J.M.R., Clara Marie Hinkle. The whereabouts of Weston John Robertson are unknown.

TAKE NOTICE that unless Weston John Robertson files a written answer in the Juvenile Court of Cullman County denying the allegations in the said Petition within 14 days of final publication of this Notice, default judgment may be entered against him.

DONE, this 31st day of January, 2023.

Juvenile Court Judge

To: The Cullman Tribune

Notice to be published for 4 successive weeks, beginning on the 7th day of February, 2023.

Juvenile Court Judge

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit Court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 2nd day of February, 2023.
Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Circuit Court

FILED IN OFFICE
JAN 31 2023
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

PB MIN BK 214 PG 15 - 02/10/2023 02:38 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
LAURA RENAE HARRIS, * CASE NO PC 2023-049
Deceased *

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to **DEBORAH MCCANN,** as Administrator of the Estate of **LAURA RENAE HARRIS**, deceased, on the 10th day of February, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court of Cullman County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Deborah McCann
Administrator

Beverly Paschal Poston
Attorney for Administrator
200 1st Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama, 35055
256-739-3970

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

# Award (from Front)

**Amy Leonard**
amy@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Tree City USA is a program of the Arbor Day Foundation that honors cities and towns across the United States for their commitment to tree planting and care. Recently, the City of Cullman was honored with the Tree City USA Growth Award.

The award recognizes municipalities within the Tree City USA program that have demonstrated an exemplary increase in their urban forest management efforts during the past year.

Cullman achieved this recognition by taking an active role in increasing its educational programs, incorporating new and existing workshops, engaging residents in planting and education initiatives and more.

"The Growth Award is a huge accomplishment," said Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs.

"The Tree Commission has worked hard to earn this award that goes along with our 35th year as being a Tree City USA."

In total, more than 3,200 communities across America participate in the Tree City USA program.

To qualify for recognition as a Tree City USA, each city or town must have a tree board or commission, develop a community forestry program with an annual budget of at least $2 per capita and hold an Arbor Day celebration.

While over 3,000 communities are deemed as a Tree City USA, less than 500 qualify for the Growth Award.

In Alabama, Cullman is only the fifth municipality to receive the award and the only community in north Alabama.

Cullman has had an established Tree Commission for over 30 years and has been named a Tree City USA for 35 consecutive years. However, in the past year, the City has taken further steps to increase its commitment to tree planting and conservation.

The City is committed to continuing its efforts to promote healthy urban forests now and into the future.

With new members on the Tree Commission, working in partnership with the Alabama Cooperative Extension Office and Alabama Forestry Commission and new programs focused on public education and outreach, Cullman plans to continue expanding its successful urban forestry initiatives.




# Obituary Announcements: Feb. 25-27

**Linda McKelvy Hawkins, 83**
Linda McKelvy Hawkins, 83, of Joppa, Alabama, passed away on Feb. 23, 2023. Linda was born to Kirby Wynn and Avis Bonner McKelvy on Dec. 4, 1939. Linda was raised on a farm, and she was always young at heart. She enjoyed life and had an amazing sense of humor. Linda was a Rod Stewart fan she enjoyed seeing him in concert as well as listening to his music. Ms. Hawkins was a member of Fairview First United Methodist Church, and she was a volunteer at The Crossing Ministry until her health made her unable to continue doing so. Linda was an active member of her church family and could be found supporting various church fundraisers with her donation of beautiful handmade quilts. She also baked the communion bread for her church for many years. A true example of Christ and His love, Linda's servant heart brought many blessings to those in her life. She was a faithful and loving wife, mother, grandmother, friend and neighbor and she will be missed greatly. Ms. Hawkins is preceded in death by her parents, Kirby and Avis McKelvy; beloved husband, Edward Hawkins; and brothers, Larry McKelvy and Michael McKelvy. Those surviving Linda are her daughters, Laura Hallmark (David), Sandy Haase (Bruce); grandchildren, Brian Hagan (Samantha), Scott Hagan (Casey), Erin Hallmark, Heidi Holland (Travis), Bruce Haase III; five great-grandchildren with another to arrive soon; and brothers, Ricky McKelvy (Pam), Tony McKelvy. A time of visitation was held at Holly Pond Funeral Home on Sunday evening, Feb. 26, 2023. Funeral services held Monday, Feb. 27, 2023, at Fairview First United Methodist Church with Richard Saylor officiating. Burial will follow services in Simcoe United Methodist Cemetery. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Hawkins family.

**Joseph Anthony Mancini, 93**
Joseph Anthony Mancini, 93, of Arley, passed away Feb. 22, 2023, at his residence. He was born Dec. 17, 1929, in Cannonsburg, Pennsylvania to Joe and Rose Mancini.No services will be held at this time.

**Carolyn Jane Plunkett Dunn, 73**
Carolyn Jane Plunkett Dunn, of Blountsville, Alabama, passed away on Feb. 24, 2023, at the age of 73. Mrs. Dunn was born to William Wallace and Dorothy Ophelia Stewart Riddle on Feb. 1, 1950, in Blount County, Alabama. Carolyn was the fourth of seven children. She was a hard worker, and Carolyn worked as a café cook as well as in the Wrangler Factory for many years. Mrs. Dunn enjoyed life and was a spirited woman. She enjoyed riding motorcycles and going out to eat. Mrs. Dunn was a professional worrier and was always concerned about her family. She adored her children and grandchildren and would do anything for them. She will be greatly missed by those who knew and loved her. Mrs. Dunn is preceded in death by her parents, William Wallace and Dorothy Ophelia Riddle; husband, Bill Plunkett; son, David Plunkett; daughters, Lisa Plunkett, Jan Dunn; and brothers, Buck Riddle, Roger Dale Riddle and Bobby Andrew Riddle. She is survived by her loving husband of many years, Ricky Dunn; grandchildren, Danny Uribe (Sommer), Jenny Plunkett, Amberlyn Plunkett, David Plunkett; great-grandchildren, Ace Uribe, Hudson Uribe, Maliki White, Maize White, Destiny-Faith White; brother, Franklin Riddle; sisters, Diane Williams (James), Martha Brown (Donny); daughter-in-law, Sabrina Plunkett; several nieces and nephews; and a host of friends. Friends are invited to visit with the family Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2023, in the Holly Pond Funeral Home Chapel from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. Funeral services will immediately follow visitation, beginning at 2 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2023, with Matthew Coby officiating. Burial will follow in South Cemetery where Shannon Needham, Danny Needham, Mike Dunn, Gerald Hooper, Wesley Horton, and Wyatt Pesnell will serve as pallbearers with Donnie Brown and John Pesnell serving as honorary pallbearers. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Dunn family.

**Betty Dean Walls Downey, 91**
Betty Downey, age 91, of Hueytown, formerly of Holly Pond and Pleasant Grove passed away Feb. 25, 2023. Betty was born in Cullman County, Alabama on Jan. 13,1932, to Samuel Minous and Noxie Lee McCutchen. Betty is predeceased by her parents; two brothers, John W. Feemster and Arthur M. Feemster and two sisters, Wavolene Feemster and Mary Feemster. First husband Ralph W Walls, son Ralph Walls Jr and son Charles Eugene Walls. Betty worked for the Social Security Administration in Birmingham and belonged to the Bethel Baptist Church Pleasant Grove Alabama. A graveside service will be held Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2023, at 11 a.m. at Elmwood Cemetery located at 600 Martin Luther King Dr. SW Birmingham, AL 35211. There will not be a public visitation at the funeral home. Family and friends are asked to meet at John Ridout's Elmwood Chapel located at 800 Dennison Avenue SW Birmingham, AL 35211 no later than 10:45 a.m. and we will process together to the gravesite. Rev. Tom Randall and Chaplain Larry Layne will be officiating. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.johnsridoutselm-woodchapel.com for the Downey family.

**Sonya Creel White, 45, of Cullman**
Sonya Creel White, of Cullman, Alabama, passed away in her home Feb. 25, 2023, at the age of 45 after a courageous battle with cancer. She was surrounded by loved ones who will continue to honor her legacy by living their lives to the fullest. She loved her family and friends deeply, sunflowers, butterflies and her dogs. Sonya's love of life didn't come to an end with her death, and she did not let her cancer diagnosis slow her down. She was determined to have her vow renewal to the love of her life, Cody, just five days before her passing after celebrating 11 years of marriage on Feb. 17, 2023. She will be greatly missed for her sense of humor and selfless concern for others. The simplest pleasures in life brought great joy to Sonya. She loved making memories and spending time on her back porch with family and friends. She had an uncanny ability to find happiness in her daily routine and her personality was contagious to everyone she met. Sonya is survived by her husband, Cody; her son, Hunter and his fiancé Bryanna; her three dogs; and countless friends who became her family. She is preceded in death by her father, William Charles Creel and her sweet fur baby Nella. Instead of a traditional funeral, Sonya has requested a Celebration of Life. Organizers of the event are also requesting that attendees wear Auburn sportswear or her favorite colors (hunter green and purple) in honor of our friend. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the White family.

**Casey Paul Watson, 78**
Casey Paul Watson, 78, of Cullman, passed away Friday, Feb. 24, 2023, at Cullman Regional Medical Center at the age of 78. He was born to John Casey and Eileen Aumond Watson on Aug. 1, 1944, in Detroit, Michigan. He acquired a Bachelor's Degree from UAB and worked as a plumber for Schaefer Co. He loved motorcycles, artistic painting and especially enjoyed the company of his cats. He is preceded in death by his parents; nephew, Joshua Watson and brother, Jack Watson. Survivors include: son, Casey Allen Watson; brothers, Larry Watson (Janice), Mike Watson (Barbara); sister, Joy Stevenson (John). There are no services to announce at this time.

**Jeffrey S. McDowell, 58**
A graveside service for Jeffrey S. McDowell will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 1, 2023, at Mtn. Grove Congregational Christian Church. Reverend Andrew McAfee will be officiating. Mr. McDowell was born Aug. 16, 1964, to the late James and Dorothy (Swann) McDowell in Hanceville, Alabama. He passed away at the age of 58 on Feb. 25, 2023, at North Alabama Medical Center in Florence, Alabama. Survivors include his sister, Michelle McDowell; brother, Rick (Sherry) McDowell; nieces and nephews, Leeann Plischke (Jakob), Rickie McDowell Jr. (Mackenzie), Nicole Fobar and Jake McDowell; great niece, Sloane Plischke; and brother-in-law, Dave Fobar. In addition to his parents, Mr. McDowell was preceded in death by his siblings, Terry McDowell and Debbie Fobar; and a nephew, Brian Fobar.

**James Wendell West II, 57**
James Wendell West II, 57, of Cullman, went to be with his Lord and Savior on Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2023, at his residence. Jim "Scooter" was born Jan. 5, 1966, to James Wendell West and Pat Spradlin Kirkpatrick. Jim was a kind, loving husband, dad and son who loved to hunt and enjoyed being with family and friends. He was preceded in death by his father, James Wendell West; grandparents, J.C. and Alma West and James H. "Poke" and Doris Spradlin and two uncles, Jerry and Dennis Spradlin. Jim is survived by his wife, Donna "Puddin" West; daughter, Katelyn Elizabeth "Katiebug" West; mother, Pat Kirkpatrick; stepfather, John Kirkpatrick; stepmother, Rosie West; two sisters, Kimberly West Johnston and Kelly West (Bradley) Askew; nieces and nephews, Chase Askew, Erin Askew (Kyle) Hester and Bethany Baker and a host of hunting buddies, childhood friends and work friends; too many to mention by name. A celebration of life service will be held Saturday, March 11, 2023, at 2 p.m. at The Paddock Vue at Stonebridge Farms.

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# Alabama Robotics Technology Park comes to Cullman City Schools

**Staff Reports**
Contributor

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Students at Cullman City Schools had a chance to see science and technology in action last week when the Alabama Robotics Technology Park brought its mobile training unit to West Elementary and East Elementary.

The mobile training unit is essentially a massive Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) lab on wheels, featuring demos for robotics, 3D printing, 3D scanning, welding simulations, drone simulations and forklift simulations for students. The lab is a unique way for students to get a look at STEM equipment in action, watching live demonstrations and learning how these new technologies are being used in industries and businesses across the state.

Students at West and East had the opportunity to demo the hardware and labs, and see all the technology in use.

"We appreciate the partnership with the Alabama Robotics Technology Park, which supports our STEM Framework of science, technology and engineering exposure in grades K-5," Cullman City Schools Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff said.

The Alabama Robotics Technology Park was created to help develop a technically trained, highly skilled and educated workforce for automation and robotics, and to promote the development and training in new technologies and technology solutions. The mobile training unit is a key component in the park's outreach, bringing these high-end STEM concepts to schools across Alabama.



CULLMAN CITY SCHOOLS

*The Alabama Robotics Technology Park brought its mobile training unit to West Elementary and East Elementary last week.*

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