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WEATHER

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SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

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NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

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Bradford Neal Meeks released over weekend

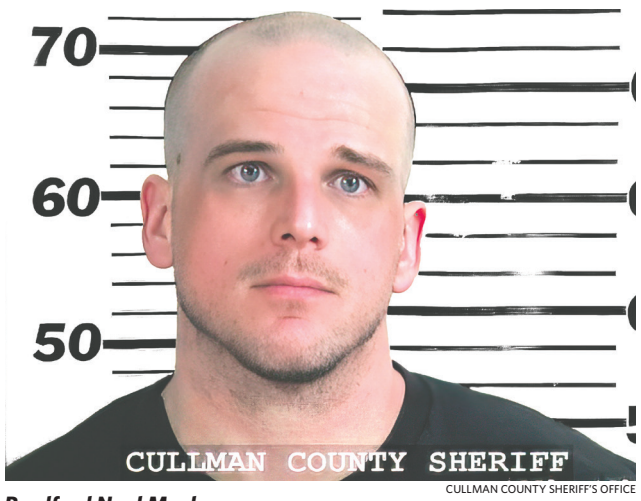
Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Bradford Neal Meeks, convicted in January 2020 of criminally negligent homicide in the DUI crash that killed 15-year-old Curtis James Wilson, was released from custody over the weekend according to Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry. He had been sentenced to a total of 12 years.

The fatal car crash occurred on Sunday, May 7, 2017, on County Road 222 in front of Van's Sporting Goods. Wilson was a vibrant athlete and student at Cullman High School. His mother, Ashley Wilson, was injured in the crash. Toxicology reports from UAB Hospital showed Meeks had a blood alcohol content of .256, over three times the legal limit, at the time of the wreck.

Once indicted in October 2017 on charges including reckless murder, DUI .08 or greater, DUI, unsafe lane change, driving on wrong side of the road, possession of open container of alcoholic beverages in a motor vehicle and third-degree assault, Meeks made a $150,000 property bond set by Cullman County Circuit Judge Martha Williams.

While out on bond and awaiting trial, Meeks was arrested again on Feb. 28, 2019, on charges of bail jumping, third-degree domestic violence- harassing communications and harassment, as well as unlawful possession of a controlled substance. The Cullman County Sheriff's Office at the time said Meeks was found with methamphetamine when war- » PAGE 2



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Bradford Neal Meeks

HPD Chief Long announces retirement



AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Longtime Hanceville Police Chief Bob Long on Wednesday, March 1, announced his retirement, effective Sept. 1, 2023. Long, who has served as chief since 2011, made the announcement at the Hanceville City Council meeting.

Hanceville Civitans honor county's clergy



AMY LEONARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Hanceville Civitan President Rev. James Fields at the Clergy Appreciation Luncheon Tuesday, Feb. 28. » PAGE 8

Gudger champions economic growth

Alabama Economic Forum held in Birmingham



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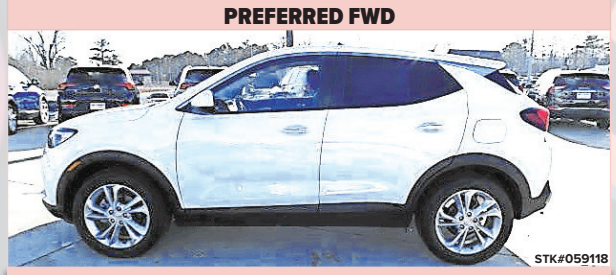
» PAGE 7

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported March 1

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Feb. 28, 2023. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No arrests or incidents reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Feb. 27

- theft of property-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; general merchandise; $598
- theft of property-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $615

Feb. 28

- criminal trespass-2nd degree; CRMC; Hwy. 157
- harassing communications; person
- criminal trespass-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157

ARRESTS

Feb. 27

Henningfield, David P.; 43

- public intoxication

Cammon, Nathon D.; 44

- theft of property-4th degree

Peebles, Ronald P.; 43

- possession drug paraphernalia

Feb. 28

Jones, Jeffery D.; 42

- criminal trespass-2nd degree
- disorderly conduct

Hansard, Shannon R.; 46

- theft of property-4th degree

Chapman, Korrie D.; 45

- theft of property-4th degree
- criminal trespass-3rd degree

Rush, Danah L.; 24

- FTA- theft of property-4th degree
- FTA- theft by deception

Lancaster, Marlon J.; 32

- criminal trespass-3rd degree
- FTA- theft of property-4th degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Meeks (from Front)

rants were served. Meeks was given a $25,000 cash bond.

Meeks' trial in Curtis Wilson's death began in January 2020 where witness to the accident Leeroy Fortner recalled the horrific day of May 7, 2017.

Witnessing Meeks' erratic driving and ensuing car crash, Fortner and his wife were the first to the vehicle driven by Ashley Wilson. As Fortner attempted to help Ashley Wilson, he testified, "All she could do was cry and ask about her baby." She was referring to her son Curtis, the passenger in her vehicle.

On Jan. 30, 2020, a Cullman County jury convicted Meeks, then 29, of Bremen, of criminally negligent homicide, third-degree assault for the injuries sustained by Ashley Wilson, improper lane usage and DUI with a blood alcohol concentration of .08 or greater.

He was found not guilty of reckless murder, manslaughter and driving on the wrong side of the road.

At sentencing, Cullman County Circuit Judge Greg Nicholas imposed the maximum sentence for each charge: 10 years for criminally negligent homicide involving DUI, 12 months for third-degree assault and 12 months for DUI.

The sentence called for 10 years in a state prison for the homicide charge and 12-month sentences for each of the assault and DUI charges, both of which were to be served in the Cullman County Detention Center following completion of the state sentence.

On June 8, 2020, Meeks requested an appeal for his conviction to the Cullman County Circuit Court.

At that time, he had served one year, three months and 23 days in the Cullman and Blount County Detention Centers, for which he received credit for time served.

The Cullman County District Attorney's Office filed a motion for retrial days before Meeks' request, alleging juror misconduct. According to the motion, "The State discovered that one of the empaneled jurors had a felony conviction in Cullman County. A felony conviction is good grounds to challenge a juror by either party. The State would have exercised a challenge for cause against venire member."

The document, dated March 9, was filed with the Circuit Court on June 5.

On June 11, 2020, Assistant District Attorney John Bryant withdrew his motion for a retrial, stating, "The State has elected to withdraw its petition for a new trial out of respect for the victim and victim's family and their requests due to the extreme difficulty of going through the trauma of another trial."

On July 22, 2021, an Alabama appellate court upheld the homicide conviction but rejected the 10 year sentence imposed by Nicholas on the basis that a 10-year Class C felony sentence for a defendant who is not a "habitual felony offender" must result in actual prison time of no more than two years, followed by probation of no more than three years.

While having an extensive criminal record with a history of felony arrests, Meeks had never been convicted of a felony.

Two, including a 2015 charge of attempted murder of a Cullman County law enforcement officer, were pleaded down to misdemeanors. One Madison County felony case was dismissed when the Madison County District Attorney's Office there was informed, "Defendant has been convicted of an offense in Cullman County and received a 10-year sentence."

An itemized chronological listing of all offenses recorded in Alacourt for Meeks between 2012 and the present includes the following offenses related to driving and/or drug and alcohol use, among others:

- Running a red light
- Failure to stop at a stop sign
- Second-degree possession of marijuana
- Speeding
- Unspecified driver's license issue
- Speeding
- Use or possession of drug paraphernalia
- Public intoxication
- Illegal possession of alcohol
- Leaving the scene of an accident
- Reckless driving
- Leaving the scene of an accident
- Speeding
- Speeding
- Public intoxication
- Use or possession of drug paraphernalia
- DUI-combined influence of alcohol and controlled substance
- DUI (in Spanish Fort)
- Criminally negligent homicide
- Third-degree assault
- Improper lane usage
- DUI-alcohol

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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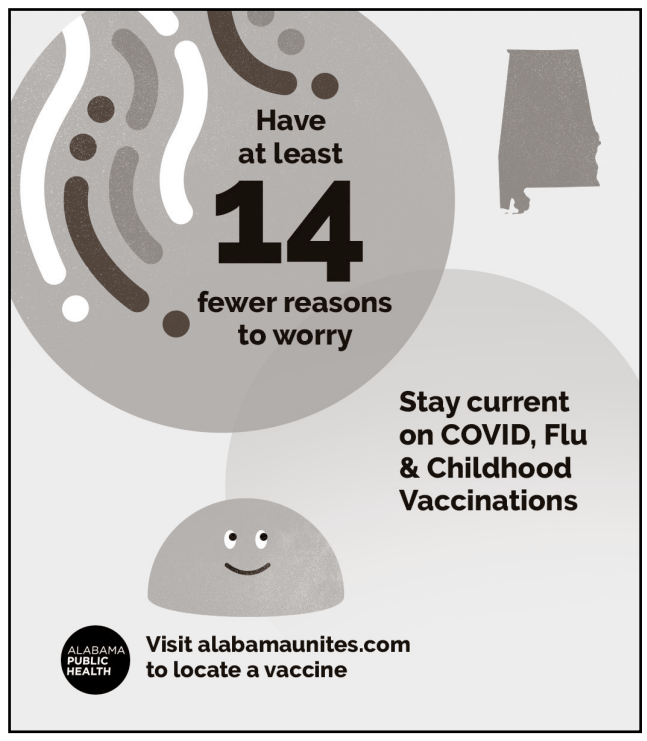
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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.
• 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.

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

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Singing
Sunday, March 20 at 5 p.m. The Williamsons from Wetumpka, Oklahoma, will be featured guests. The church is located on U.S. Highway 278, approximately 2 miles east of Holly Pond on the left. For more information call 256-796-5986.

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Revival
Monday, April 3-Friday, April 8. Services will begin at 7 p.m. Prayer Band will be at 6:45. The evangelist will be Brother Jack Thomason. The church is located on U.S. Highway 278, approximately 2 miles east of Holly Pond on the left. For more information call 256-796-5986.

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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PREP BASKETBALL

No. 1 Cold Springs advances to 2A State Finals with 44-37 win over No. 3 Lanett

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cold Springs Lady Eagles defeated Lanett 44-37 in the 2A Girls State Semifinals Monday night to punch their ticket to Friday's 2A State Championship Game.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – The top-ranked Cold Springs Lady Eagles were back in familiar territory Monday night, squaring off against Lanett in this year's 2A State Semifinals at Legacy Arena. Points were hard to come by in this one but the Lady Eagles were able to lock things down on the defensive end and pulled away in the final frame to defeat Lanett 44-37 and advance back to the 2A State Finals.

Cold Springs Head Coach Tammy West struggled to contain her excitement on the sideline as the final seconds ticked away and is proud to see her team continue rising to the challenge each time they take the court.

"It's extremely special, they are just such a unique group of girls," West said.

"They just listen to everything, and they absorb everything. They work so hard to please and they're just awesome girls."

Both teams got off to a slow start in the opening period. Malaya Taylor scored inside to give the Lady Eagles an early, 2-0 lead but the Lady Panthers tied things up at 2 later in the first.

Maci Brown knocked down a three-pointer to put Cold Springs back in front 5-2 with two minutes remaining in the first but Lanett was able to tie the score at 5 by the start of the second.

Ciara Calvert buried a three early in the second quarter to give the Lady Eagles an 8-5 advantage and they stayed hot from long range.

Ella Dickerson and Brown followed with three-pointers of their own to extend the lead to 14-7 with just over three minutes to play in the first half but turnovers from Cold Springs allowed Lanett to cut into the deficit and eventually take a 15-14 lead.

Kenady Graves sank a pair of free throws to retake a 16-15 lead for the Lady Eagles woth 30 seconds on the clock but Lanett drained a three just before the halftime buzzer to claim an 18-16 lead at the break.

Brown buried a pair of three-pointers to tie the game at 22 with three minutes remaining in the third and Cold Springs was able to build another lead before the end of the period.

Dickerson drilled a pair of threes to give the Lady Eagles a 28-24 lead with 40 seconds on the clock and they went into the fourth quarter leading the Lady Panthers 28-25.

Kenady Graves drilled a three to add to the Cold Springs lead early in the fourth and a pair of baskets by Brown and Ciara Calvert made it a 35-29 game.

Dickerson laid one in to make it a 37-39 game and she knocked down another three-pointer on the next Lady Eagles possession to put Cold Springs in front 40-30 with five minutes to play.

Lanett made a push in the last two minutes to cut into the lead but Brown netted all four of her free throw attempts in the final minute of the game to secure a 44-37 victory and a 2A State Championship Game appearance for the Lady Eagles.

Brown led the way for Cold Springs with 18 points in the win. Dickerson added 14 points, 11 of which came in the second half, and Graves and Calvert each finished with five points.

The Lady Eagles will be back at Legacy Arena Friday morning at 9 a.m. to face No. 2 Mars Hill in this year's 2A State Finals.

PREP BASEBALL

Bearcats fall to Vestavia Hills 6-3

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cullman Bearcats fell to Vestavia Hills at home 6-3 Tuesday night.

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Bearcats were back home at Bill Shelton Field Tuesday night to host a matchup with Vestavia Hills but unfortunately for the home crowd, Cullman couldn't get its bats going consistently and the Rebels were able to leave with a 6-3 win, handing the 'Cats their first loss of the season.

Vestavia Hills led off the top of the first with a solo homerun to take a 1-0 lead right out of the gate. Tucker Cagle worked around two walks in the top of the second to strand a pair of Rebels but in the third, an RBI single plated another run and made it a 2-0 game.

The Bearcats got on the board in the bottom half of the third. Paxton Ponder drew a two-out walk and Riley Jackson reached first base on an error to put runners at the corners with Easton Peed coming to the plate. Peed took advantage of the situation and punched a 2-run single into center field to tie the game at 2 going into the fourth.

However, the Rebels responded in their half of the fourth, pulling ahead 5-2 thanks to a single, an error and a sacrifice fly. The 'Cats went down in order on just six pitches in the bottom of the fourth and Vestavia Hills scored on a passed ball in the top of the fifth to tack on another run and make it a 6-2 game.

After a scoreless sixth inning, Patton Elkins took the mound for Cullman in the top of the seventh and retired all three batters he faced to hold the lead to 6-2 going into the bottom of the seventh. Elijah Hayes and Garrett Hall singled to give the Bearcats a pair of runners and Cole Floyd ripped an RBI single up the middle to cut the lead to 6-3. Unfortunately, the 'Cats weren't able to chip away any more of the lead than that and the Rebels held on to win it 6-3.

Peed posted a pair of RBIs and a hit for Cullman in the loss. Floyd added two hits and an RBI and Hayes and Hall each finished with a hit as well.

The Bearcats will now shift their focus to this year's Perfect Game High School Showdown in Hoover starting Thursday.

PREP BASEBALL

Addison handles Winston County at home 16-0

Todd Walker
Tribune Correspondent

ADDISON, Ala. — Addison hosted its archrivals from across the Lake in the Winston County Yellow Jackets Monday night and came away with a 16-0 win after the game was called early due to a power outage.

Addison started Senior Briley Holt on the mound, and he was dominate. Holt started out the visitors first inning by striking out the side. Addison answered by scoring 6 runs on only 2 hits in their half of the first. Jed Wilkins led off with a walk and then promptly stole second and third. After an infield popup, Jaxson Williams and Kiah Lake walked to load the bases with one out. Lane Tubb was then hit by a pitch which brought in Wilkins to score the game's first run. Kaden Dyson lined a single to left centerfield and that is where the fun began. Dyson's hit brought Williams home to score but two Jacket throwing errors allowed Lake to score and the runners moved to second and third with one out. Holt then hit into a fielder's choice which left him safe at first and the bases were again loaded.

Tucker Thompson hit a sacrifice fly which allowed Tubb to score from third to give the Bulldogs a 4-0 lead. Briley Hayes then roped a single into right center which brought home two more runs and the Dawgs led 6-0.

This would be how the first inning ended with the score Addison 6-0. The Yellow Jackets didn't help themselves with 4 errors, 3 walks and a hit batter in the inning as Addison sent 11 men to the plate.

In the second inning, Holt only faced four Jacket batters and he walked one but struck out the other three, giving him 6 strikeouts in two innings.

The Addison bats continued to swat the Jacket pitchers in their half of the second. Williams and Lake were hit by pitches and then Tubb singled bringing home Williams for a 7-0 Dawg lead. Lake and Tubb advanced to second and third base on the late throw home and they didn't wait there long.

Up next was Mr. Dyson, yes he may be small but he carries a big stick, and he brought both runners home as he drilled another sharp single into the outfield getting two more rbis.

After another hit batter and a ground out, Addison's Hayes singled bringing home Dyson. Wilkins singled bringing home Holt and that was followed by Stone Talley singling to right bringing home Hayes.

Williams got an RBI sacrifice and then Lake got an RBI single to put the Dawgs up 14-0 at the end of two innings.

With the power out at the field, no stadium lights and in fading light both teams tried to get another inning in the books. Holt hit a batter and walked another one but got another Jacket to strikeout to end the Jackets only threat.

Addison picked right up where they left off. Dyson stroked a ringing double to centerfield and Holt followed that up with a triple to bring home Dyson. Thompson singled on a bloop hit to right which had runners on first and third. A Jacket error allowed Holt to score and after a Wilkins and Talley walk the game was called due to darkness. Addison came away with a convincing 16-0 win over a county rival.

Coach John Everett,

"Very proud of my guys. We wanted to come out aggressive both on the bases and at the plate and we did. I think we stole something like 9 bases in the first two innings. I told the team that if we do three simple things every game, we will win a lot more than we lose. Hustle, make the routine defensive plays and throw strikes, good things will happen. We did all three tonight. Proud of Briley (Holt). It was going to be tough out there tonight on defense with the wind that we had tonight, and he kept the Jackets off the bases for the most part. Our hitters were aggressive when the count called for it and they were patient when they needed to be. Our goal is to win each at bat in every inning of every game and our guys have that mindset. We are an extremely young team. We have three senior starters and no juniors. Mainly a bunch of sophomores and freshman and younger guys out there."

Unofficial stats

Addisons Holt got the win going 3 innings giving up no hits, striking out seven and walking two. He allowed no runs.

Wilkins went 1-2 with an RBI, 2 runs scored, 2 walks and three stolen bases. Talley went 1-3 with a run scored. Williams had no official at bats but had 1 walk, 1 hit batter, 1 RBI. Lake went 1-1 with an RBI, a walk and a hit batter.

Tubb went 2-2 with a hit batter, an RBI, 2 stolen bases and 2 runs scored. Dyson went 3-3 with a double, three runs scored and three RBIs. Holt went 1-2 with a triple, 3 runs scored, an RBI and a stolen base.

Thompson went 1-2 with 2 RBIs. Hayes went 2-2 with a run scored, 2 RBIs and a stolen base. Tad Hyche went 0-1 with 3 stolen bases and 2 runs scored. Carter Pratt had a walk.

PREP SOFTBALL

Lady Aggies hammer Guntersville on the road 17-2; Fairview, Vinemont collect county wins

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

GUNTERSVILLE, Ala. — The Lady Aggies of Fairview traveled to Guntersville for a varsity matchup with the Lady Wildcats and they returned home with a convincing, 17-2 win.

Fairview 17 - Guntersville 2 (Softball)
Fairview's offense exploded in a big way during their game against Guntersville as a huge third inning was key in their win over the Lady Wildcats.

Jaycee Aleman got Fairview on the scoreboard first as she drew a walk and later stole second, third, and home to give them the early 1-0 lead. Ralie Gaines hit a single and would steal home as well to give the Lady Aggies a 2-0 lead. An RBI single by Guntersville trimmed it to 2-1 in their half, but the Lady Aggies added to their lead in the second as back-to-back walks by Addison Phillips and Ada Fales later led to a sacrifice fly by Aleman to make it 3-1. Fales later scored on a Lady Wildcat error to push their lead to 4-1, but a passed ball allowed Guntersville to cut it to 4-2 going into the third.

That's when Fairview broke the game wide open as they ended up batting around. Kylie Kovar (RBI double) and Gaines (two-run double) had the two biggest hits of the inning as the Lady Aggies took advantage of some sloppy Lady Wildcat pitching and fielding to put up an 11 spot in the inning to make it 15-2. Allison Davis hit an RBI triple and Jada Moreno added an RBI groundout in the fourth inning as the Lady Aggies ended up routing the Lady Wildcats on the road 17-2.

Gaines led the way for Fairview (4-6) with two hits and a pair of RBIs. Emily Benson added a pair of RBIs. Davis ended up with a pair of hits and an RBI. Kovar added a hit and an RBI. Aleman and Moreno each collected an RBI in the game, while Payne and Fales each chipped in with a pair of hits of their own.

Fairview will travel to take on Vinemont Thursday.

OTHER TUESDAY SCORES

Fairview 10 - West Point 0 (Baseball)
Colton Jennings got the start for Fairview and worked around a one-out single by Brody Freeman to get out of the half-inning unscathed. Kanaan Sutter toed the rubber for West Point and allowed a one-out walk to Lucas West before striking out Carson Jones. A Barrett York single put runners on first and second with two outs, but Sutter punched out Caden Jennings to end the inning. Neither team was able to crack the scoreboard through the first two innings, but in the bottom of the third inning, it would be the Aggies who would strike first.

Crimson Wright drew a leadoff walk, then West reached on a fielder's choice. An out later, York lined an RBI single to center field to bring home West to put Fairview on the scoreboard first. Caden Jennings lined an RBI double to left field, then Colton Jennings and Conner Scott would that follow up with back-to-back RBI singles to give the Aggies a 4-0 lead. The Warriors looked to get on the scoreboard with two outs in the top of the fourth as Gus McKenney got hit by the pitch and Andrew Putman hit a single, but Colton Jennings struck out Sylar Philyaw to end the West Point threat.

Both pitchers kept the game at 4-0 going into the fifth inning, but Fairview would bat around in their half as they broke the game wide open. York led off the inning with a double to right field, then a one-out single by Colton Jennings put runners on the corners. Scott reached on a Warrior error and that allowed York to cross the plate to make it 5-0, then Nicolas Gregory hit a two-out, two-run single to push the Aggie lead to 7-0.

Wright and West each walked to load the bases with two outs, then Jones got hit by the pitch to force home a run as that made it 8-0. The Aggies tacked on two more runs in the sixth on RBI singles by Gannon Black and Gregory and they would go on to shut out the Warriors 10-0.

All but two Fairview players collected at least one hit and one RBI in the game. Gregory finished with a pair of hits and three RBIs for the Aggies (2-4). Scott added three hits and two RBIs. York ended up with three hits and an RBI. Caden and Colton Jennings and Black each chipped in with a pair of hits and an RBI. Colton Jennings went the distance for the Aggies as he allowed just six hits and struck out four. For West Point (3-4), Putman finished with a pair of hits. Freeman, J.D. Cochran, Colton McCoy, and Bryson Phillips all added a hit in the game.

Fairview will travel to take on Oneonta and Hokes Bluff at Oneonta Saturday and West Point will head home to take on Curry Thursday.

Vinemont 13 - Holly Pond 2 (Baseball)
History was made at Holly Pond as Ayden Thomason threw a no-hitter and the offense helped him out in a huge way on the road as Vinemont collected a runaway win over the Broncos.

Chase Brazelton retired Vinemont in order to start out the game. Holly Pond got on the scoreboard first without recording a hit. John Martin drew a leadoff walk, then he stole second and moved to third on a Peyton Queen sacrifice bunt. Brody Howard hit an RBI groundout to give Holly Pond the early 1-0 lead. The Eagles started a two-out rally in the top of the third inning. Hayden Robinson reached on a Bronco error, then Matt Foust reached on an infield single. Another Holly Pond error allowed Robinson to cross the plate and later on, Foust stole home to give the Eagles a 2-1 lead.

It wouldn't be until the fifth inning that Vinemont would add to their lead. Austin Marsh drew a one-out walk, then with two outs, Foust drew one of his own. Jake Hale brought them both in on a two-run double to push the Eagle lead to 4-1. Levi Farr and Brazelton got hit by the pitch with two outs for the Broncos, and later on, Farr would score on a wild pitch to make it a 4-2 game.

Rylan McRae led off the top of the sixth for Vinemont with a single, then after a sacrifice bunt, Brady Johnson hit an RBI single to left field. Later on, with two outs, Robinson hit an RBI single of his own to left field to stretch the Eagle lead to 6-2. Vinemont quickly broke the game open in their next at-bats as they batted around. Jordan Eller and Ayden Thomason scored on a pair of Holly Pond errors to make it 8-2, then McRae scored on a wild pitch, Johnson collected an RBI single, Foust drove in a run on an RBI groundout, Marsh crossed the plate on a wild pitch, and Hale hit an RBI single as the Eagle lead quickly swelled to 13-2.

Thomason allowed a two-out walk and an error that put runners on the corners for the Broncos, but he forced Howard to ground out to end the game. He ended up throwing a no-hitter and the Eagles ended up defeating the Broncos 13-2.

Hale led the way for Vinemont (4-3) with a pair of hits and three RBIs. Johnson added a hit and two RBIs. Robinson and Foust each collected a hit and an RBI in the game. Rush Sandlin added a pair of hits, while Thomason, McRae, Josh Rhodes, and Marsh each chipped in with a hit of their own. Thomason collected a no-hitter for the Eagles as he walked seven but struck out seven. Howard collected the only RBI of the game for Holly Pond (1-3).

Vinemont will host J.B. Pennington and Holly Pond will travel to take on Addison Thursday.

PREP SOFTBALL

Lady Warriors drop extra inning nailbiter to Lawrence County 10-9

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

WEST POINT, Ala. — Area play began for the West Point Lady Warriors Monday night with the Lawrence County Lady Red Devils and seven innings weren't enough to decide this one. The game went into extra innings tied at 6 and unfortunately for the home crowd, Lawrence County ended up getting past West Point 10-9.

Starter Kara Jones retired Lawrence County in order to start out the game, and the Lady Warriors didn't waste any time getting on the scoreboard in their half. Bethany Minck started things off with a leadoff home run over the center field wall to give West Point the early 1-0 lead. Maycie Brown and Brinlee Phillips each hit back-to-back singles before Sidney Burks connected on a three-run home run over the center field wall to put the Lady Warriors on top, 4-0.

The Lady Red Devils got on the scoreboard in the top of the second inning on an RBI single as that trimmed it to 4-1, then in the third, they made it a 4-2 game on an RBI groundout. After held scoreless for three straight innings, West Point got back on the scoreboard in their half of the fourth. Katie Beth Yovino led off the inning with a single to center field, then a sacrifice bunt by Jones moved her over to third. Yovino ended up stealing home to give West Point a 5-2 lead.

Lawrence County cooked up a two-out rally that saw them cut it to 5-3 on a bunt single, but the Lady Warriors added to their lead in the bottom of the sixth. Jones drew a two-out walk, then Macayla Wilkins reached on an infield single. Minck then lined an RBI single to left field to make it a 6-3 game going into the top of the seventh. A trio of singles by the Lady Red Devils loaded up the bases with one out. A fly out had the Lady Warriors one out away from getting a huge win at home, but Lawrence County had other plans as a bases-clearing double tied the game up at six.

West Point looked to win it in their half. Phillips hit a one-out double, then after Burks was intentionally walked, a sacrifice bunt by Bailey Brock moved both runners over to third and second, respectively. But a fly out ended the inning, and the game would be decided in extras. Lawrence County struck first in the extra inning as back-to-back bunt singles gave them a 7-6 lead. An RBI single and a suicide squeeze play pushed their lead to 9-6, but the Lady Warriors answered right back in their half.

A Yovino sacrifice bunt moved Lexi Kimbril over to third, then a Jones RBI single made it a 9-7 game. Wilkins hit a double to right field, then Minck tied the game on a two-run single. They weren't able to break the tie as a double-play ended the inning. The Lady Red Devils hit an RBI single in extra innings to make it a 10-9 game. The Lady Warriors were unable to answer and they dropped a tough one at home to Lawrence County 10-9.

Minck finished the game with three hits and four RBIs for West Point. Burks added a hit and three RBIs. Jones ended up with a hit and an RBI. Phillips finished with three hits. Brown, Kimbril, and Wilkins each chipped with a pair of hits, while Yovino collected a hit of her own.

West Point will remain home Tuesday to take on Danville.

J.B. Pennington 12 - Holly Pond 1 (Baseball)
J.B. Pennington jumped out to a big lead early in the game and Holly Pond couldn't get going offensively as they dropped their game to the Tigers 12-1.

Peyton Queen collected the only hit of the game for Holly Pond and Jackson Miller scored on a wild pitch for their only run of the contest. Holly Pond will host Vinemont Tuesday.

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LEGALS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF)
)
N.G.E.,) CASE NO.: PC-2023-039
A minor child.)

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION TO APPOINT CONSERVATOR

TO: KATIE JOHNS, BIOLOGICAL MOTHER OF N.G.E. A MINOR CHILD

Please take notice that a *Petition to Appoint Conservator* has been filed by Johnathan Douglas Eady, Petitioner, by and through Attorney, Shay Persall. A hearing on said *Petition to Appoint Conservator* has been **SET FOR THE 11TH day of APRIL, 2023, AT 10:00 A.M.**, Cullman County Courthouse, Probate Office Room 101, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this 14th day of February, 2023.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

Shay Persall
700 2nd Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055
256-841-7800

Pursuant to Alabama code 32-13-1, Earl's Body Shop, Inc, will offer for sale at Public Auction the following vehicles on March 25, 2023, at 7:00 a.m.
2015 Volvo, Vin.#4V4NC9EH6FN908517
2001 Buick LeSabre, Vin.#1G4HP54K11U274305

PB ADT BK 65 PG 268 - 02/15/2023 10:43 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ADOPTION OF D.S.H.
A minor child. CASE NO.: AD2022-089
D.O.B. 01/04/2019

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: UNKNOWN FATHER OF A CHILD D.S.H, BORN JANUARY 4, 2019, TO SHAYLYND LATASHA HURST

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by George Earl Nunn and Anita Sue Nunn, 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 petitioner, 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 15th DAY OF February, 2022.

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

Melvin Hasting
Attorney for Petitioners
P.O. Box 517
Cullman, AL 35056

NOTICE OF COMPLETION

The Cullman County Commission has completed CDBG County Road 18 Road Improvement Project (CY-CM-PF-21-006) which constructed improvements to the section County Road 18 just off State Highway 91 and extends southwest to Leacil Dooley Road. Chiton Contractors, J.C. Cheek Contractors, and Charles E. Watts gives Notice of Completion of the above referenced project. Any person or party having an unpaid claim against the Contractors listed above for supplying labor, materials, supplies or workmanship on this project should notify the Cullman County Engineering Department, 2883 Highway 69 North, Cullman, Alabama 35058 or by phone at 256-793-2266 within the next thirty days.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
DENNIS WORREN HAYNES, * **CASE NO.: PC2023-046**
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Notice is hereby given that Petition for Summary Distribution has been filed on the 2nd day of February, 2023, by Jennifer Denise Haynes Quick and James Cody Warron Haynes, Petitioners, by and through Attorney, Shelbie G. Hankey, and that thirty (30) days after the notice of publication hereof and pursuant to the law of the State of Alabama, the Court shall be requested to enter an order directing summary distribution of the estate of said decedent.

Jennifer Denise Haynes
James Cody Warron Haynes
Petitioners

Shelbie G. Hankey
Attorney for Petitioners
101 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055
(256)736-8744

To: PUBLISHER OF *The Cullman Tribune*

Please publish the above notice **ONE TIME** in said newspaper, and thereafter file with the Court a copy of the notice so published and an affidavit of publication.

DONE this the 28th day of February, 2023.

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
LINDA GAYLE POWE, * **CASE NO.: PC 2023-034**
Deceased. *

NOTICE
PETITION FOR SUMMARY DISTRIBUTION OF SMALL ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that a *Petition for Summary Distribution* filed the 27th day of January, 2023, made court record the 30th day of January, 2023, by Gary Quattlebaum, Petitioner, by and through attorney Shelbie G. Hankey, and that thirty (30) days after the notice of publication hereof and pursuant to the law of the State of Alabama, the Court shall be requested to enter an order directing summary distribution of the estate of said decedent.

Gary Quattlebaum
Petitioner

Shelbie G. Hankey
HANKEY LAW FIRM, LLC
101 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055
256-736-8744

To: PUBLISHER OF *The Cullman Tribune*

Please publish the above notice **ONE TIME** in said newspaper, and thereafter file with the Court a copy of the notice so published and an affidavit of publication.

DONE this the 28th day of February, 2023.

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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

JESSE DWIGHT GREGORY,
Plaintiff

Vs. Case Number: **DR-2023-000057.00**

NIRVANA MERCEDEZ LYNN PARKER,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Nirvana Mercedez Lynn Parker, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Jesse Dwight Gregory's Complaint for Divorce by April 10, 2023 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against her in Case Number 25-DR-2023-000057.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 7th day of February, 2023.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Clerk of Circuit Court

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
ANNETTE IRONS-PARKER
215 MAIN AV SW
CULLMAN, AL 35055

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ALABAMA

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

201 2nd Avenue NE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

256.775.7203
www.CullmanAl.gov

City of Cullman
Planning Commission

On Monday March 6, 2023, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M, at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Planning Commission, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Short form subdivision on 3rd Avenue SE and 4th Street SE- Parking lot division
2. Short form subdivision – Lake Catoma Subdivision creating 5 lots.
3. Recommendation to amend zoning ordinance.
4. Vacate request for 1101 Old Bolte Road SE

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

PB ADT BK 65 PG 346 - 02/21/2023 10:56 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD2023-005

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF SEAN WESLEY CARNAGEY AND HOLLY RENA CARNAGEY TO ADOPT E.R.C.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

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

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of E.R.C., a minor child (born on December 5, 2018, to Courtney Allison Collins), was filed on the 19th day of January, 2023, in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by Sean Wesley Carnagey and Holly Rena Carnagey. 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 21st 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 Petitioners
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
256-734-4721 (telephone)

The Link awarded portion of $1.5M grant

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Alabama Department of Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention joined local and state leaders Tuesday, Feb. 28, to present a check in the amount of $1,521,900 to local grantee organizations in Alabama's Fourth Congressional District. The Alabama Department of Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention, also known as the Children's Trust Fund, provides annual funding to community-based programs across the state that are dedicated to the prevention of child abuse and neglect.



THE LINK

Representatives of The Link of Cullman County pose for a photo on Tuesday, Feb. 28.

In all, 21 organizations were given grants, including The Link of Cullman County, Family Success Center of Etowah County Inc., United Cerebral Palsy of Northwest Alabama, Jasper Area Family Services Center Inc., Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast AL, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Shoals, Inc., Sheffield City School, Gadsden City Schools, United Way's Success By 6, Hospice of Marshall County- Shepherd's Cove, Family Services of North Alabama and Gadsden State Community College.

The Link of Cullman County currently has Parenting Education opportunities available:

- Active Parenting- Private Class for Restoring Women Outreach- Monday at 9 a.m.
- Active Parenting- Public Class Thursday at 5 p.m.
- 24/7 Dad- Public Class- Monday at 5 p.m.
- 24/7 Dad- County Detention Center- Tuesday at 1 p.m.

For more information on Parenting Education through The Link of Cullman County or to enroll in the next term, contact Sharon Adams at 256-775-0028 or sharonadams@linkingcullman.org.

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Gudger (from Front)

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The inaugural Alabama Economic Forum was held in Birmingham on Feb. 16 to discuss the state's need to continue growing its sustainable job market as it looks to the future. A key voice at the forum was Sen. Garlan Gudger, R-Cullman.

Gudger was named chairman of the Alabama Senate's Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Development Committee earlier this year after serving as vice chair since 2019.

A supporter of the Alabama Jobs Act, passed in 2015 to stimulate and encourage economic growth through the creation of new jobs and capital investments, Gudger said, he motivated legislators, economic developers and state leaders to work as a team for the betterment of Alabama's people. "Being the chairman of Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Development for the Alabama State Senate, I feel it is important to help start the conversation on the state's incentive package and the renewal of the Job Act so that the legislators and our state partners produce the best results for the taxpayers of Alabama," said Gudger.

"This forum allowed legislators, House and Senate, to have open dialog and ask questions to before we arrive in Montgomery on March 7."

Continuing its efforts to target economic growth in smaller and rural areas, the Jobs Act seeks to grow Alabama's job market and increase its available workforce through bipartisan efforts. The summit provided an opportunity for the state leaders to ask questions and have meaningful conversations ahead of the 2023 Legislative Session. Gudger was joined by Alabama Lt. Governor Will Ainsworth; Helena Duncan, president of the Business Council of Alabama; Cynthia Crutchfield, CEO of Innovate Alabama; and Lee Lawson, president of the Baldwin County Economic Development Alliance.

"This inaugural Economic Forum completed its goal of sparking conversations and making this information to be transparent, allow interaction, and hopefully come to a common consensus of what Is best for the state of Alabama and its people," summarized Gudger.

Obituary Announcements: Feb. 28 - March 1

Gus Henry Thiele, Jr., 76
Memorial service is incomplete at this time for Gus Henry Thiele, Jr., 76, of Vinemont, and will be announced at a later date. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the Thiele family. Mr. Thiele passed away Monday, Feb. 27, 2023, at his residence. He was born Oct. 8, 1946, to Gus Henry Thiele, Sr. and Peggy Bledsoe Thiele. Gus served his country 27 years in the United States Army and retired as E8 Master First Sergeant. He was a member of the Lutheran church. He was a truck driver for My Way Transportation and McGriff Transportation. He was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Lois Namie and a son, Timothy Alan Thiele. Survivors include his wife, Margie Thiele; son, Gus (Kim) Thiele, III; daughter, Trisha (David) Medlock; sister, Tia Cook; grandchildren, Holley Thiele, Timothy Ray Thiele; great-grandchild, Laelynn Thiele; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Robert Lee Ragsdale, 69
Funeral service for Robert Lee Ragsdale, 69, of Logan, will be at noon, Saturday, March 4, 2023, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in New Mt. Zion Cemetery. Bro. Jason Williams will officiate. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 10 a.m. until noon. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. Ragsdale passed away Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2023, at his residence. He was born Dec. 7, 1953, to Edsel Lenoit 'E.L.' Ragsdale and Flora Willie Thornton Ragsdale. He loved hunting, horses and was a devoted family man. He was preceded in death by his mother; brother, Glen Ragsdale; nephew, Jason Ragsdale. Survivors include his father; his wife of 50 years, Rida Ragsdale; sons, Robert Lee Ragsdale, Jr., Allen Jerome Ragsdale; daughters, Mary Elizabeth (Jerome) Dyson, Danielle Dawn Ragsdale; honorary daughter, Shana Lashae Knott; brothers, Phillip Dale Ragsdale, Roger Bruce Ragsdale; honorary grandchildren, Jessie Nichole Knott, Kaylix Bree Wilbanks; step-grandson, Jeremy Jerome Dyson; step-grandchildren, Kaden, Kabri and Kooper Mack Dyson; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Douglas Graves, 73
A Celebration of Life Service for Douglas Graves, 73, of Cullman, will be Saturday, March 1, 2023, at West Point Community Center from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. Mr. Graves passed away Feb. 28, 2023. He was born April 9, 1949, to Henderson Clarence and Rachael Pauline Grubbs Graves. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the Graves family. He is preceded in death by his parents; Henderson Clarence and Rachael Pauline Grubbs Graves; his sister, Hazel Mahaffey; his brothers, Charley Graves, Rodney Graves (Carrie); Curtis Graves. Mr. Graves is survived by his brothers, Tony Graves, Bruce (Andria) Graves; sisters-in-law, Joy Graves. Karen Graves; and a host of nieces and Nephews and great nieces and nephews. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy can be posted to www.cullmanfuneral.com for the Graves family.

Timothy James Mabrey, 65, of Addison
Timothy James Mabrey, age 65, of Addison, passed away Monday, Feb. 27, 2023, at his residence. He was born Aug. 24, 1957, in Lincoln Park, Michigan. No services are planned at this time. Timothy is survived by his daughter, Pamela Walker and husband Chuck; son, Timothy John Mabrey; grandchildren, Olivia Walker, Clara Walker, Jack Walker, and Matthew Mabrey; sisters, Gaye Shumate and Kerrin Mabrey and husband Peter Winkler; brother, Scott Mabrey; and a host of nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, James De Forest Mabrey and Glenna Lois Lemon Mabrey; and brothers, Howard Longley and Darryl Mabrey.

JoAnn Townsend Fortenberry, 71
JoAnn Townsend Fortenberry, 71, of Double Springs, passed away Feb. 28, 2023, at Walker Baptist Medical Center. JoAnn was born March 28, 1951, in Haleyville, Alabama to Bobby Joe Townsend and Jewel Orr Townsend. Family was the most important thing in her life. She loved fiercely, and never let family and friends doubt how much she loved them. She was always finding a reason to give to someone, and if you stopped to talk to her for just a moment, she would tell you about all the great things her grandchildren were doing. A visitation will be held Friday, March 3, 2023, from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Double Springs, where the service will be held at 3 p.m. Brother Jake Russell will officiate. Burial will follow at Mt. Ebron Cemetery in Double Springs. JoAnn is survived by her husband of 49 years, Johnny Fortenberry; daughters, Heather (Josh) Tucker and Jonna (Graham) Winkworth; grandchildren, John Hunter Tucker, Maggie Tucker, Caden Winkworth and Lucas Winkworth; brother, Dennis (Pat) Townsend; and sister, Leigh Ellen Townsend She was preceded in death by her parents, Bobby Joe and Jewel Townsend; granddaughter, Darbi Winkworth; sister, Brenda Beard; and brother, Jimmy Townsend.

Dennis Dean Nethery, 67
Funeral service for Dennis Dean Nethery, age 67, of Vinemont, will be at 11 a.m. Friday, March 3, 2023, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home; interment in Valley Springs Cemetery. Visitation will be from 10:30 a.m. until 11 a.m. prior to the service. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Nethery passed away Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2023, at Huntsville Hospital. He was born July 7, 1955, to Delver and Addie Nethery. He was preceded in death by his parents; stepson, Benjamin Bailey; brothers, W.D. Nethery, Jimmy Nethery and Harold Nethery; and sisters, Sharon Nethery and Ann Hughes. Survivors include his son, Jonathan (Tasha) Nethery; stepson, Joshua Knight; stepgrandchildren, Tucker Bailey and Carter Knight; brothers, Keith (Becky) Plylar, Auburn Nethery and Terry Wayne Nethery; sister, Nell Aldrich; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Dewey Glenn Bates, 82
Graveside service for Dewey Glenn Bates, age 82, of Falkville, will be at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, March 4, 2023, at Cullman City Cemetery with Charles Sinyard officiating. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until noon on Saturday, March 4, 2023, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Bates passed away Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2023, at his residence. He was born Dec. 24, 1940, to Marion Arthur Bates and Frances Chloe Bates. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Mickey Kirch. Survivors include his wife, Lynne Gibson Bates; sons, Clay (Robin) Bates and Steve (Mary) Bates; daughters, Glenda Bates and Jennifer Bates; grandchildren, Mindy Sheppard, Jamie Cisco, Britney Bates, Nicholas Bates and Maggie Bates; great-grandchildren, Alyssa Castleman, Maliyah Hill and Kamryn Cisco; and brothers, Thomas Bates and Wayne (Dot) Bates.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
MARCH 2, 2023

Sweet Grown Alabama: Wicked Garlic

Sabrina Mauro
Contributor

"If you love it so much, why don't you grow it?" That was a question posed to me by my husband, after proclaiming my love for garlic. I have always had a green thumb and have planted my own garden for over 10 years. I anxiously await springtime when I can plant my garden of vegetables, herbs and flowers. Gardening nourishes my soul and connects me to mother nature.

I had recently watched a show on Netflix that showed the darker side of the garlic industry, and I personally didn't want to feed into the industry at its current state. I thought to myself, would I want to buy garlic from a local farmer that transports it in the back of their truck to local markets or from a unknown source; where it was possibly bleached and transported thousands of miles across the ocean, from a company with questionable labor practices? This question set me down the path to extensively research garlic, the different types, growing techniques, etc. My goal was to grow organic, quality garlic for our family, friends and to sell at local farmers markets.

I was amazed at the vast varieties of garlic, the differences between hard-neck and soft-neck garlic, the use of scapes (long, leafless flower stalks coming directly from the root), and organic gardening methods. In the spirit of keeping costs low, we built 10 raised beds from cedar trees that had fallen on a friends property. We purchased seed from certified organic growers, then in October 2020 planted the first seed and officially started our little garlic farm. The farm name, Wicked Garlic, popped in my head one day as a play on garlic warding off evil and the image of a scape looking like a devil's tail (like in the photo below). A good friend of ours, Chris Ramirez, designed our logo and we were up and running.

We typically plant our crop in October. It's a great time for northern Alabama due to milder temperatures, thus less sweat!

At first, I was hesitant to grow a hard-neck type garlic due to my research stating its grown in more northern areas, but I proved them wrong. The hard-neck garlic we grew came out perfect! Each garlic tastes a little different and has different levels of spice. For 2023, we planted the following types of garlic past October:

Soft-neck: Silver White, Inchelium Red and Lorz Italian

Hard-neck: Chesnok Red, Music and German

Around June, once the stalks start to fall over, we get to pull up the crop. We bundle the garlic in bunches of five with the hay bale twine, then hang them in our detached garage for 2-3 weeks.

After the garlic dries, we trim down the roots and stalks, lightly brush off the excess soil, and peel off 1-2 layers of the skin. Then it's ready to eat! You can enjoy it sauteed with your favorite meal, in sauces, or eat small, raw bits to really enjoy its true taste and goodness.

Who knew this humble food would become my passion, life and evolve into a small business.

Later in the summer, you can find us at farmers markets in the Huntsville area or contact us at adamundsabrina75@gmail.com, on Facebook or Instagram (Search Wicked Garlic LLC) or at SweetGrownAlabama.org. We strive to provide great local, organic garlic to the area and share with everyone this delicious gift from the ground.



CONTRIBUTED

Clergy (from Front)

Amy Leonard
amy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Hanceville Civitan Club hosted its 2023 Clergy Appreciation Luncheon at Hanceville Methodist Church on Tuesday, Feb. 28. The luncheon was attended by members of the club and representatives from the local churches and organizations. Honorable Patti Dean opened with a warm welcome to everyone in attendance. Dr. Nancy Horton led all in the Pledge of Allegiance and Brenda Carter read the Civitan Creed. To begin the meal, Robert Lindsey from Mt. Zion Methodist Church gave an inspiring invocation before the feast began.

Hanceville Civitan President Rev. James Fields thanked the attendees and organizers of the event and spoke of the importance of understanding and appreciating one another before he introduced the keynote speaker, Paster Lyle Holland from Cullman First United Methodist Church.

Holland's talk was the highlight of the event.

He spoke about his experience as a minister, shared his story of faith in God and explained the emotional toll that often comes with a call to ministry and how it is offset by the grace of God.

Everyone present experienced a sense of peace, joy and community as well as an appreciation for the devoted clergy members in the community.

The Hanceville Civitan Club is proud to have been able to create such an event that was able to bring people together and celebrate faith, love and understanding.

The Clergy Appreciation Luncheon was just one example of how the Hanceville Civitan Club works hard to make Hanceville and its surrounding area a better place for all.

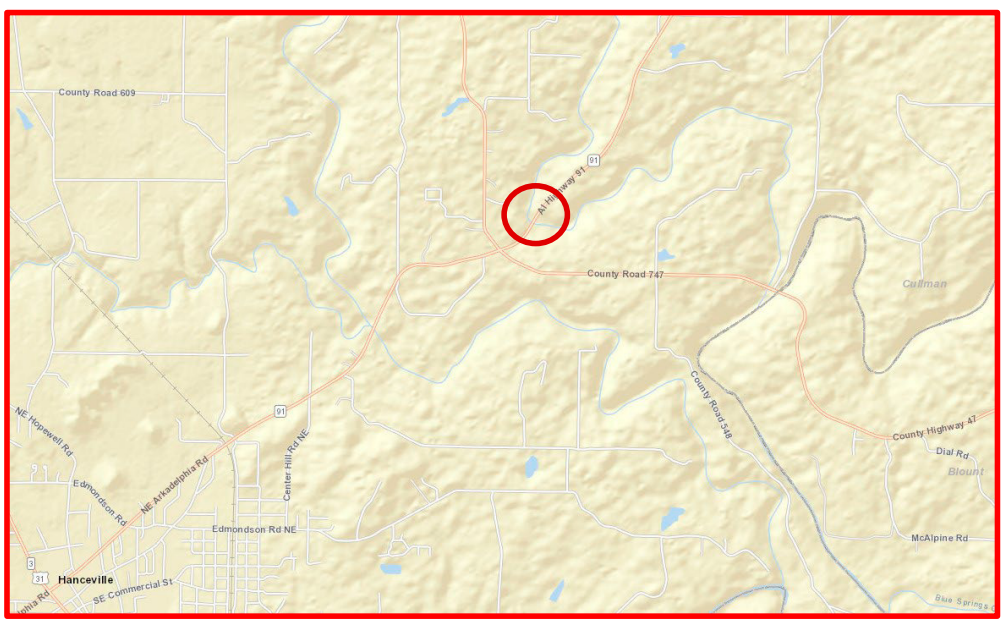
The club is always looking for new members, and the members are not required to be residents of Hanceville.

All are welcome. If you would like to learn more, visit www.facebook.com/hancevillecivitan.

ANNOUNCING

The Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) announces the opportunity to obtain information and provide comments on:

Project Number: BR-0091(506) Bridge Replacement on SR-91 in Cullman County over Duck River (BIN 004129)



To request information or provide comment please contact –

Mr. Curtis Vincent, Region Engineer
ALDOT – North Region
P.O. Box 550
Guntersville, AL 35976-0550

Attn: Mr. Logan Jolley
(256) 571-7260

Request for information and submission of comment must be received by Friday, March 10, 2023

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