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VOL. 150 • 50¢ PER COPY | SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2023 | USPS 139-700 • NO. 38

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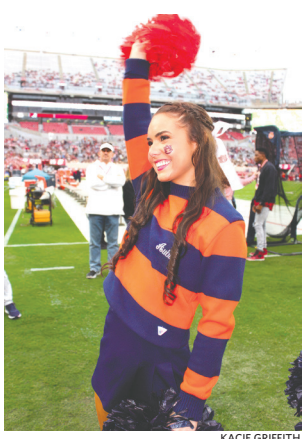
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KACIE GRIFFITH

– SPORTS –

'It was a dream come true:' Cullman's Kacie Griffith talks cheer career
» PAGE 6

'Your deputies and officers will do everything to protect our children'

Nassetta, Gentry speak in wake of Nashville school tragedy

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Tensions are high following the March 27 school shooting at the Covenant School in Nashville. Three 9-year-old students and three faculty and staff members were killed in the attack, which left people across the nation wondering what can be done to prevent these tragedies.

The Tribune talked to Cullman Police Chief David Nassetta and Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry to discuss the safety of schools in the Cullman area.

Nassetta said he believes the law enforcement response to the Nashville shooting was » PAGE 12





TRIBUNE FILE PHOTOS

Cullman Police Chief David Nassetta, left, and Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry, right

Taziki's Mediterranean Café to open May 22

Restaurant will be located in historic Klein's Dairy Products Building in Cullman



TAZIKI'S

Taziki's will be located at 421 Third Ave. SE, Ste. 110 in the historic Klein's Dairy Products Building in Cullman.

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman residents will soon be able to enjoy healthy, fresh Mediterranean cuisine with a Southern flare as Taziki's Mediterranean Café prepares to open its doors May 22. Taziki's Founder Keith Richards shared his excitement for the new location in the newly remodeled historic Klein's Dairy Products Building.

"We have had a home on Smith Lake for the past 10 years, and two of our children are graduating from Saint Bernard this May," Richards said.

"Over the years, we have formed relationships with a lot of folks in Cullman. During the Covid quarantine, we delivered family meal dinners to different areas around Birmingham, and Cullman had the largest showing.

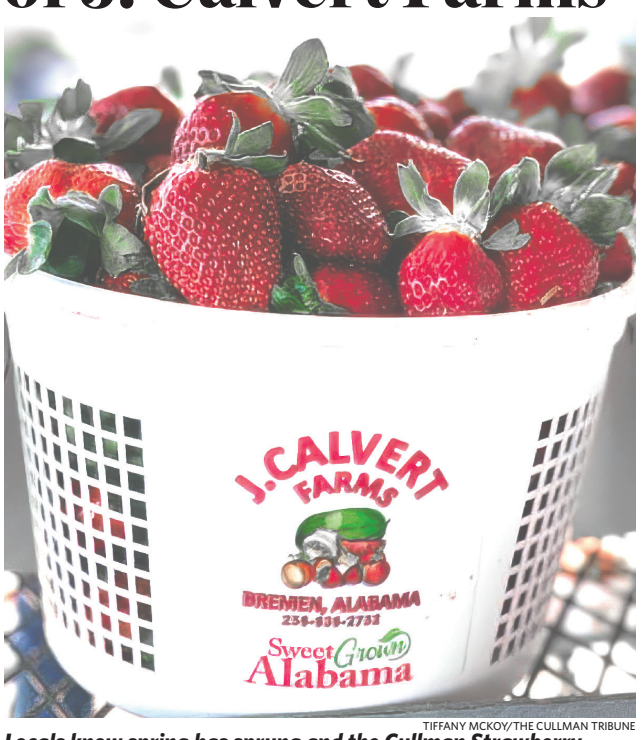
"This meant the world to us, and we knew at that point it was time to bring Taziki's to this area."

Richards expressed gratitude for the opportunity to be a cornerstone business inside the historic Klein's Dairy Products Building.

"Knowing the » PAGE 5

CPRST announces new bid process for Dinner on First
» PAGE 6

The sweet goodness of J. Calvert Farms



TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Locals know spring has sprung and the Cullman Strawberry Festival is coming when delicious strawberries from J. Calvert Farms begin to appear.
» PAGE 12

Ivey says 2022 economic development projects generated $10.1B in new capital investment
» PAGE 9

Pet of the Week: Around the world with Atlas



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Atlas
» PAGE 6

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported March 31

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported March 30, 2023. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

March 27

- domestic violence; CR 747
- harassment; Industrial Park Rd.
- domestic violence; CR 1212
- possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 278 W
- theft of property; Hwy. 91
- possession of marijuana; CR 490
- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 747

March 28

- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1616
- theft of property; CR 594
- theft of property; CR 1149
- theft of property; CR 227
- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 67
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; Dialsdale Dr. SW
- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle; I-65 SB Rest Area

March 29

- unauthorized use of motor vehicle; Chad Dr.
- possession with intent to distribute controlled substance; Hwy. 91
- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle; CR 702

ARRESTS

March 27 – 29

Anderson, Steven M.; 44
- FTA- operating vehicle without insurance

Bailey, Donna R.; 54
- drug trafficking
- sell/distribute methamphetamine

Burgess, Candace G.; 45
- FTA- negotiating worthless instrument

Canada, Sidney L.; 32
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Clarke, Aaron P.; 47
- FTA- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Cornelius, Tristin G.; 22
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Floyd, Cassie M.; 28
- FTA- assault-domestic-harassment-family
- FTA- promote prison contraband (drugs)
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Hitt, Michael K.; 50
- Fraud- obscuring/defacing/removing vehicles identity
- possessing stolen property

Huddleston, Jason A.; 33
- public intoxication

James, Scotty L.; 43
- arson-residence
- unauthorized use of auto-no force (joyriding)

Little, Trey D.; 23
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Luker, Joshua J.; 29
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Maze, Christopher B.; 33
- Probation Violation- burglary-residence-force
- Probation Violation- larceny/theft-miscellaneous theft

McNabb, Cody D.; 31
- FTA- failure to register vehicle

Neal, Dustin R.; 33
- negotiating worthless instrument

Owens, Chad M.; 38
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- unlawful possession with intent to distribute controlled substance

Parker, Ryan D.; 30
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Parker, Terry L.; 19
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Ray Jr., Phillip E.; 44
- assault-domestic violence-3rd degree-criminal trespass-3rd degree

Roberson, Kevin L.; 45
- FTA- driving while license suspended

Skinner, Matthew S.; 27
- FTA- assault-aggravated stalking
- FTA- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle (no theft)
- FTA- Violation of Domestic Violence Protection Order

Steele, Samantha B.; 35
- FTA- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Vinson, Jeremy L.; 45
- FTA- driving while license suspended

Wells, Kamani Ketel L.; 24
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Whitehead, Heath D.; 49
- fraud-obscuring/defacing/removing vehicles identity
- obstruction governmental operations

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

March 29
- assault; person
- harassment; person; Warnke Rd. NW
- theft of property-1st degree; person; cash

March 30
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; miscellaneous; $63
- theft of property-2nd degree; person; pistol; $500

ARRESTS

March 29 – 30

Hulsey, Buddy A.; 40
- public intoxication

Morton, Alexander S.; 24
- FTA- theft of property-4th degree

Graves, Jennifer Y.; 43
- obstructing governmental operations

Freeman Jr., Lee E.; 32
- FTA- driving while suspended

Owens, Chad M.; 38
- FTA- driving without license (2 counts)
- FTA- switched tag
- FTA- insurance violation
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)

Reid, James W.; 29
- FTA- receiving stolen property-4th degree
- FTA- theft of property-4th degree
- FTA- insurance violation (2 counts)
- FTA- leaving scene of accident
- FTA- fail to register vehicle
- FTA- driving without license

Barnett, Jared L.; 49
- FTA- driving while suspended

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Cullman woman killed in 2-vehicle crash

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — A Cullman woman was killed Tuesday, March 28, in a two-vehicle crash that occurred at approximately 6 p.m.

Alabama State Troopers said Chessi R. Waddell, 47, was fatally injured when the 2003 Toyota Corolla she was driving was struck by a 2006 Mazda MPV driven by Tye W. Leach, 39, of Hartselle. Waddell was pronounced deceased at the scene. Leach was injured and transported to the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Hospital for treatment. A 5-year-old passenger in the Toyota was also injured and transported by helicopter to a hospital for treatment.

The crash occurred on Alabama Highway 157 near County Road1246, approximately 2 miles east of Moulton, in Cullman County.

Nothing further is available as Troopers with the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's (ALEA) Highway Patrol Division continue to investigate.

'Smiles for Life' campaign to benefit Cullman Caring for Kids

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Summer is coming. Tans are getting darker, clothes are getting brighter and teeth are getting whiter. That last bit is thanks to Dr. Jonathan Echols and his practice, Cullman Cosmetic & Family Dentistry, running the "Smiles for Life" teeth whitening campaign to benefit local nonprofit Cullman Caring for Kids.

The campaign, running now through June 30, is simple, according to the Smiles for Life Foundation: "From March through June, participating Smiles for Life dentists donate their time to professionally whiten smiles.

Ultradent, makers of Boost and Opalescence, donates the teeth whitening materials and 100% of all proceeds go to the Smiles for Life Foundation (benefiting) children all over the world."

Said Abbie Harris, social media coordinator of Cullman Cosmetic & Family Dentistry, "We don't get ANY money from this. It is ALL for charity!"

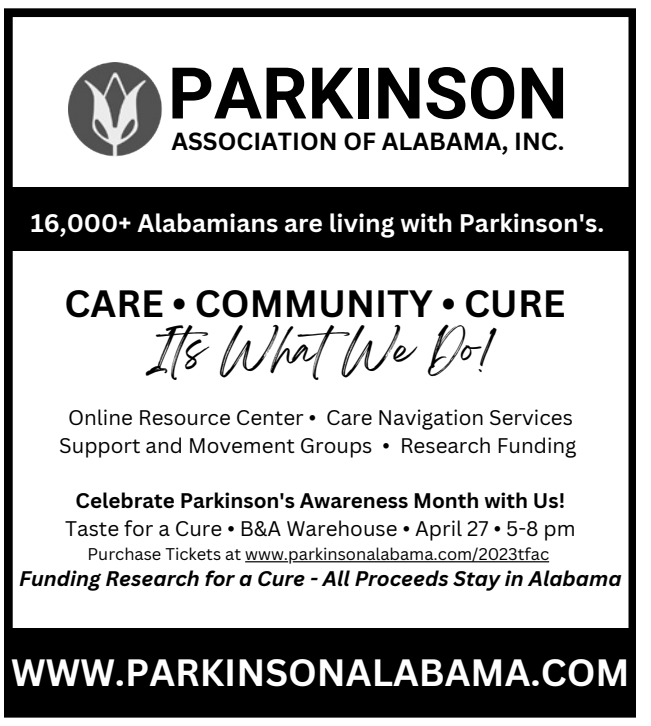
The Smiles for Life Foundation's key mission is promoting access to oral health care and dental care, in the United States and globally. Per the foundation's website, "Some of these funds go toward funding much needed dental health trips to developing nations. So the entire world can benefit from your new smile; it can travel around the world and pass from patient to patient, making life a little better for a lot of people."

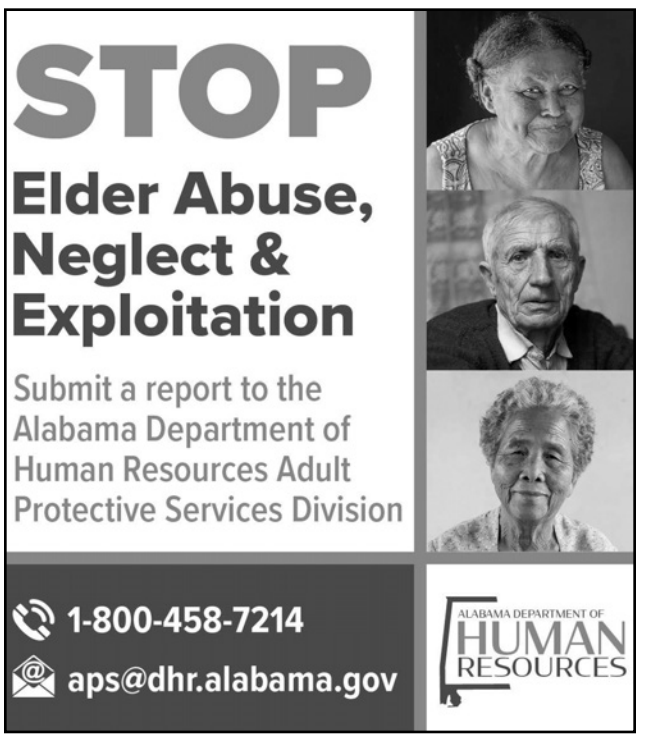
The foundation has raised nearly $48 million distributed through myriad charities since its inception in 1998.

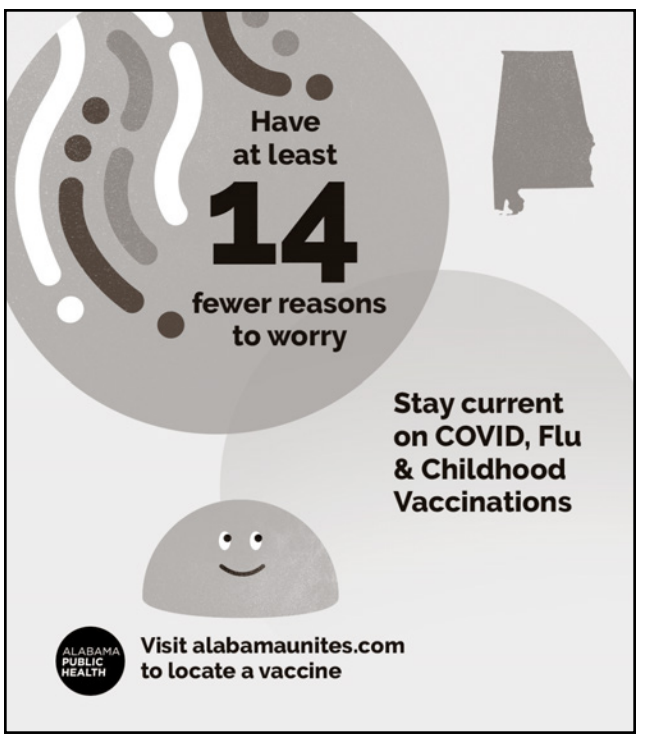
Cullman Caring for Kids is a local nonprofit that is multi-faceted in its approach to holistically improving the lives of all children in the local community.

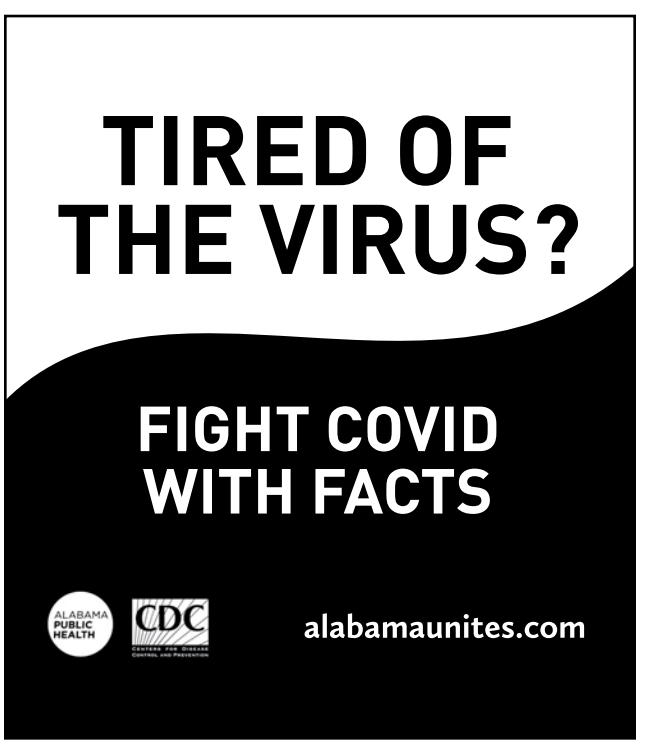
It offers a wide range of programs, including a food bank and mobile unit food bank and Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program, as well as its blue ribbon child abuse awareness campaign. Find out more at www.cullmancaringforkids.com.

To book an appointment to participate in the Smiles for Life campaign, or to simply make a donation, call Cullman Cosmetic & Family Dentistry at 256-294-4419.













COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

PUBLIC NOTICE: Cullman City Cemetery
Ground flowers at the City Cemetery need to be removed by April 15 to prepare for Decoration Day on May 14.

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.
- Saturday, April 1 - 8 a.m. Men's breakfast and workday!
- Sunday, April 2 - 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, and also join Teresa Pritchard at 9 in the prayer room to pray for our church, nation and for those who need salvation and deliverance.
- Sunday, April 2 - 9 a.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area. Call 256-841-2060 for pickup. Breakfast @ 9:30. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults @ 10. Adult class at 11. Service, 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.

Fairview Lions Club Spring Fling and Car, Truck, Tractor and Motorcycle Show
Saturday, April 1, at Randall Shedd Community Park on Wesley Avenue in Fairview. Show, vendors, games, music and bouncy houses. Registration is $20 and will begin at 8 a.m. with awards to be given out at 1 p.m. For more information, please contact Kita Chambers at 256-385-8805 or William Criscoe at 256-385-5596.

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Revival
Monday, April 3-Saturday, 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.

Senior Egg Hunt
Wednesday, April 5, beginning at 10 a.m. at Sportsman Lake Park. For ages 55-plus. Food, fun and fellowship. Ory Hampton of Daystar Church in Good Hope will be speaking.

Holly Pond Homemakers Club Spring Bake Sale
Saturday, April 8, beginning at 8 a.m. at Holly Pond Town Hall. There will be assorted cakes for $25, assorted pies for $15, delicious cookies and other items. All proceeds benefit the Holly Pond Cemetery. Donations may also be mailed to Holly Pond Cemetery Fund, ATTN: Judy Jones, P.O. Box 335, Holly Pond, AL 35083.

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.

Links for Literacy Golf Tournament
Monday, April 10, beginning at 8 a.m. at Terri Pines Country Club. Tournament sponsorships and team fees benefit The Link of Cullman County's education initiatives. For more information, call The Link of Cullman County at 256-775-0028.

Holly Pond Homemakers Club Meeting
Tuesday, April 11, at 1 p.m. at the Holly Pond Event Center. Speaker will be Christy Allred, who will talk about finding your balance. Hostesses will be Sue Morris and Gladys Wisener.

Heartland Quilt Guild Meeting
Thursday, April 13, at 6:30 p.m. at Christ Covenant Church, 1310 St. Joseph Dr., Cullman. All are welcome.

2023 Family Expo
Saturday, April 15, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center. Benefits the Cullman County Child Development Center.

Cullman Educator Retirees Association Meeting
Thursday, April 20, at 11 a.m. at Stone Bridge Farms. Our program will be presented by the Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center/WildWater, followed by lunch and fellowship for those who wish to stay. Info: mjcjcera@gmail.com

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.

50th Annual Arley Day Festival
- Saturday, May 20, from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Hamner Memorial Park, Helicon Road, Arley, AL 35541. The 50th annual Arley Day Festival, Car Show and Parade is a family friendly, free event for young and old alike. Arts and crafts vendors, children's games, water slides, horseback rides, food vendors, musical entertainment, rock wall climbing, FREE hotdogs for kids and more. The parade lines up at 7:30 in the Arley Dollar General parking lot, proceeds down Highway 41, ending at Hamner Park where the car show starts. Pickleball demonstration at 10 on the park's new courts, followed by four 15-minute mini-lessons.
- Pancake breakfast at the Arley Fire Station, hosted by Arley First Baptist Church. Community breakfast at Meek Baptist Church in the fellowship hall. Both meals are open 7-8:30. Donations are appreciated and all proceeds goes to the Arley Volunteer Fire Department. The festival is presented by the nonprofit Arley Women's Club, Inc.; all proceeds remain in the communities served. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/ArleyWomensClub. To register as a vendor, or to be in the parade or car show and for schedule details, visit www.arleywomensclub.org/arley-day. Please send any questions to arleydayfestival@arleywomensclub.org.

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HumbleRoots,LLC
Published daily Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 219 2nd Avenue SE, Cullman, Alabama 35055 Entered as periodical material at the Cullman Post Office Periodical postage paid at Cullman, Alabama 35055
POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGE TO:
The Cullman Tribune
219 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
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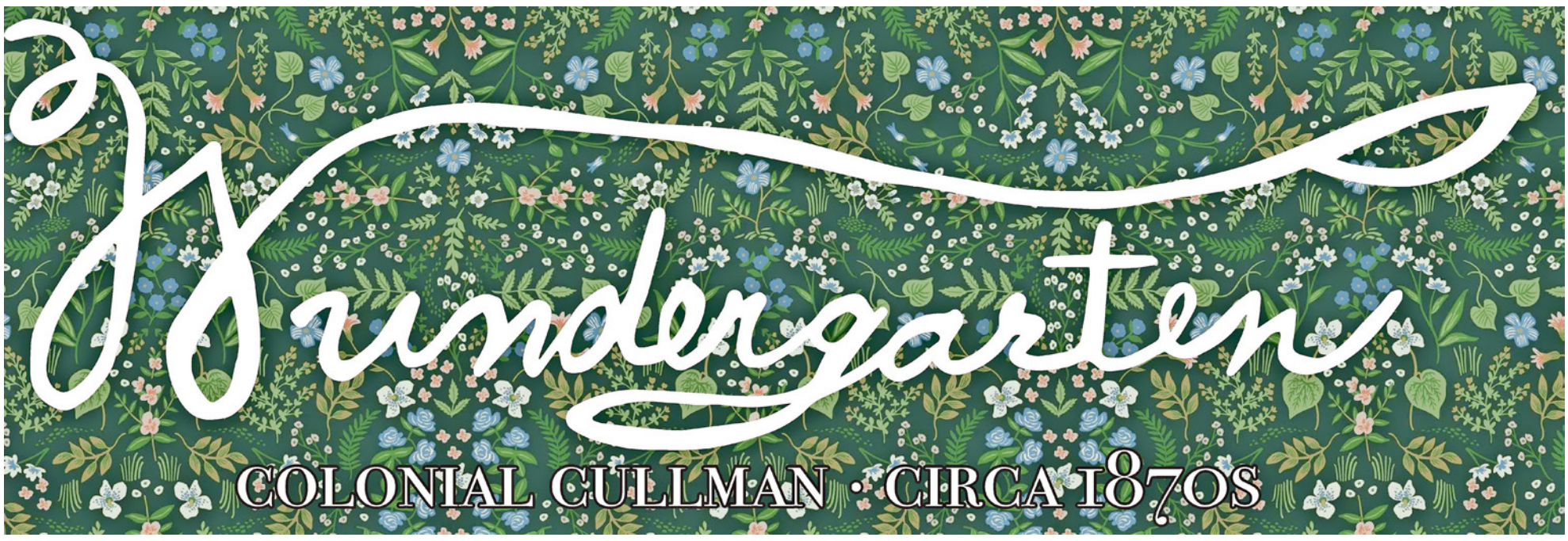
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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
APRIL 1, 2023



– COLUMN –

Celebrating in the Wundergarten – Cullman Erdbeerfest May 6

Ben Johnson South
Tribune Columnist

"Guten Morgen, Fritz, when are you and Frau Ruehl hosting the Erdbeerfest, this year?" I could imagine overhearing such an exchange this morning when I was back among the flowering fruit trees and fiddlehead ferns of the Wildflower Garden at Sportsman Lake in Cullman County, Alabama. This was the wunderbar landscape that inspired me to write the folktale, "WUNDERGARTEN."

ERDBEERFEST is the German translation of "strawberry festival." Each year, there are many springtime festivals across the U.S., from Maine to California, that celebrate strawberry harvests. The largest is in Plant City, Florida; it lasts 11 days and attracts half a million patrons.

Strawberry festival towns in Alabama include Berry, Calera, Castleberry, Cullman, Loxley and Moulton. The earliest celebrations may have happened in Cullman County as far back as the late 19th century when German founding farmers began having success with their cultivated erdbeeres and shipping them as far as Cincinnati via the railroads.

A bit of Cullman strawberry history credits P.H. Keslar with introducing the crop to the area. Local readers will note the spelling of this early family, per Wade Warren of Village Furniture, an ancestor, had these iterations: Keslar, Kesler and ultimately, Kessler. Many present-day Cullman belles fondly remember prom corsages, wedding flowers and Christmas arrangements from Kessler's Florist.

Erdbeere breeding has created many varieties to support shipping, but 150 years since the Colonial Cullman era in which "WUNDERGARTEN" is set, it is still homegrown berries that yield greater flavor and nutritional value. Springtime is delightfully heralded by strawberries, but with a bit of gardening advice, you can grow this perennial from spring through fall.

Our fictional heroine, Frau Ruehl, supported herself, her daughter, ZeeBeth, her farm boy, Fritz and some seasonal workers with her thriving erdbeere crop. She planted rows upon rows of plants.

But to enjoy your own luscious, homegrown jewels, you could simply tuck some strawberry plants among your other perennials, or plant some in raised beds.

"WUNDERGARTEN" the folktale has some charming rabbits, but rabbits in a strawberry patch are not so delightful. To protect your strawberries from hungry slugs and rabbits, one of my fellow Master Gardeners suggests planting them in hanging baskets or in high off-the-ground, clay strawberry pots.

Erdbeeres (strawberries) come in many varieties but basically fall under these three types according to Country Living Magazine (spring 2020):

1. JUNE-BEARING, which, untrue to their name, come in early spring in Alabama. These berries produce the largest fruit and can be harvested within a two-to-three-week period. Good planting choices are Allstar, Earliglow and Jewel.

2. EVERBEARING produce good-sized berries in early summer and then some on into fall. Tiny but flavorful Alpine Erdbeeres were what I imagine Frau Ruehl planting. Such plants had been cultivated in her native Germany for hundreds of years. Good selections are Fraises des Bois and Ozark Beauty.

3. DAY-NEUTRAL are not affected by changing hours of sunlight. They will produce a good harvest in the first year and grow all summer long. They are ideal for container gardening. Look for Tribute and Tristar.

CELEBRATING IN THE WUNDERGARTEN - This storytelling culinary series imagines tasty, traditional foods from the recipe box Frau Ruehl brought with her from Germany when she relocated to Colonial Cullman in the 1870s.

Erdbeerfest revelers would have enjoyed dangling the tempting fruits from a long "stem handle" and dipping it into an array of hand-thrown pottery bowls made from Cullman County red clay soil. The naturally sweet erdbeeres could be enjoyed with churned cream, melted chocolate, crushed pecans, yogurt, granola, honey with black pepper or perhaps lavender honey with fresh-snipped mint leaves.

Here is a strawberry-centric recipe the Erdbeerfest goers would enjoy:

WUNDERGARTEN ERDBEERE SALAD
(Source: southernliving.com)

INGREDIENTS
- 1 1/2 cups trimmed fresh sugar snap peas (about 5 oz.)
- 1 (4-oz.) package baby arugula
- 2 cups sliced fresh strawberries
- 1 cup seeded and chopped cucumbers
- 3/4 cup frozen green peas, thawed
- 4 oz. bleu cheese, crumbled
- 6 cooked bacon slices, coarsely chopped
- Sweet Basil Vinaigrette (recipe below)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Arrange sugar snap peas in a steamer basket over boiling water. Cover and steam 1-2 minutes or until crisp-tender. Plunge peas into ice water to stop the cooking process; drain. Cut peas diagonally in half.

2. Toss together arugula, next 5 ingredients and sugar snap peas on a large serving platter.

3. Serve with Sweet Basil Vinaigrette.

SWEET BASIL VINAIGRETTE
(Source: southernliving.com)

INGREDIENTS
- 1/3 cup red wine vinegar
- 2 shallots, chopped
- 3 tbsp. sugar
- 3 tbsp. chopped fresh basil
- 1 tbsp. fresh lemon juice
- 2 tsp. Dijon mustard
- 3/4 tsp. freshly ground pepper
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 3/4 cup canola oil

INSTRUCTIONS

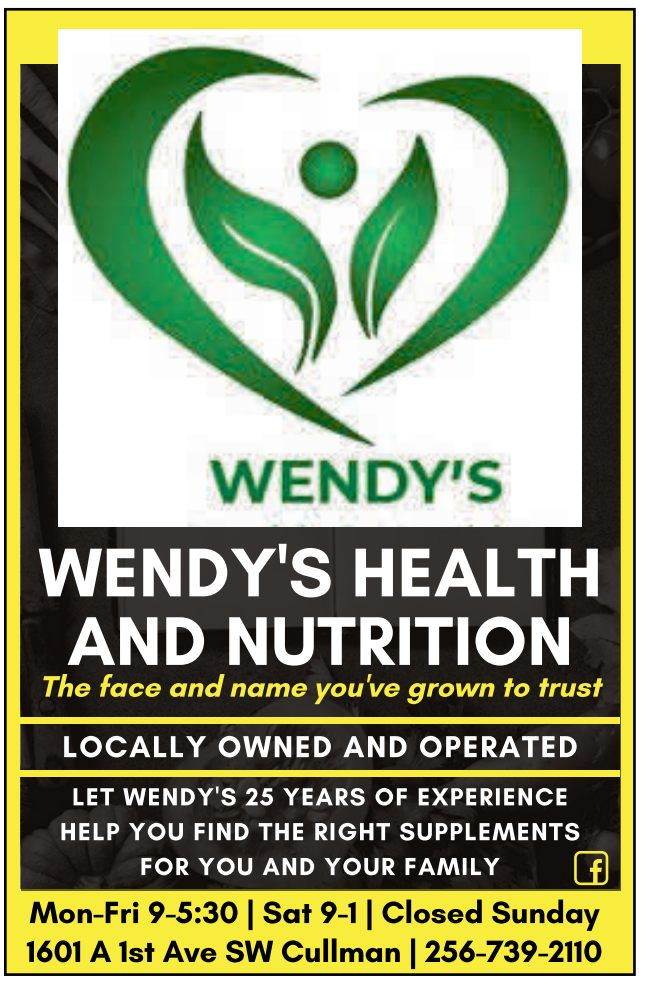
1. Process first 8 ingredients in a blender until smooth.

2. With blender running, add canola oil in a slow, steady stream, processing until smooth.

HAPPY, FESTIVE STRAWBERRY DAYS AND AUF WIEDERSEHEN Y'ALL!

The Cullman Strawberry Festival will take place Saturday, May 6, at Depot Park. Go to www.cullmanstrawberryfest.com to learn more!

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





Taziki's (from Front)

history behind this building, it was a privilege to be asked. We feel incredibly blessed to be able to be a part of this community."

Taziki's Mediterranean Café in Cullman will operate from Monday through Saturday, from 11 a.m.-9 p.m., and Sundays from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. The ribbon-cutting date is still to be determined.

In addition to bringing its delicious cuisine to Cullman, Taziki's is also looking to partner with a local charity. "Anytime Taziki's opens a new location, we like to choose a charity to partner with," Richards explained. "We are currently searching for our new community partner where we can help make a difference."

This year, Taziki's Mediterranean Café celebrates its 25th anniversary.

Taziki's in Cullman will be located at 421 Third Ave. SE, Ste. 110.



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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
APRIL 1, 2023

‘It was a dream come true:’ Cullman’s Kacie Griffith talks cheer career

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Former Cullman Bearcat Cheerleader Kacie Griffith graduated from Cullman High School in 2018 and her cheer career continued on the plains at Auburn University. Kacie talked about her experience at Cullman, starting with the beginning of her journey with the JV squad in ninth grade all the way to her to college cheering career at Auburn.

“It was amazing. I was a gymnast my whole life, then I started with All-Star cheer at Extreme, a local gym in Cullman. I always looked up to a lot of the Cullman cheerleaders when I was younger. It was really special to be in that position and to support Cullman. I really enjoyed it,” Griffith said. “I learned how to be a good teammate and work with others. I was really able to learn how to problem solve. I learned how to manage time, especially with being on a competition team. It was definitely hard at times to balance that, being a teenager, and being in school, but Cullman High school cheer really taught me to be a better, well-rounded individual.”

Griffith talked about what all she learned from her coach, Erica Ball and what she enoyed most about her time with her.

“I can’t say enough great things about her. She is incredible and very kind. She’s a selfless woman who loves cheer. She was a cheerleader when she was younger, so it was awesome to be coached by her,” Griffith said.

“We learned a lot of cheer stuff from coach Ball, but I just really learned character from her. She was always putting the Lord first in everything she did. She was just a big role on our team. Us doing things for the Lord, coming together as a group, she was great at team bonding. She always wanted us to be really close. She was pivotal in that. I also learned on how to just be myself. She was always so great on wanting everyone to be themselves, do the best we can. She was our cheerleader in a sense. She was always cheering and rooting for us.”

Griffith has cheered for Auburn for three years and talked about what that experience has been like for her.

“When I was a little girl, I always dreamed about cheering for Auburn, but I knew I did like all girls, like I was lifting up the flyers and being thrown up. I put it in the back of my head like, ‘That might not work.’ I didn’t get into Auburn my first year as a student, so I was at a community college: Southern Union. I was living in Auburn when I was going to a different college. I knew I wanted to have some aspect of cheer still in my life, so that dream was on hold. I started working out at gymnastics and cheer gym at Auburn. I met a guy who cheered on the Auburn cheer team. He was a coach there. He wanted me to go to an open gym there, so I went.”

She added,

“From there, it was just a story of my dream coming true because I made the cheer team in 2020. We had tryouts in October, and from there, it’s just been an amazing experience. I’ve gotten to live out my dream cheering at Auburn, but also, it’s given me so much to the community. We do a whole bunch of community service where we don’t compete. It’s 50% cheer, 50% ambassadorship. We do service projects, appearances at preschools, nursing homes, things like that. It’s a good mix. It’s definitely been the highlight of my time there.”

Griffith has soaked up so much during her time at Auburn and her time in high school definitely helped her get prepared for college.

“It definitely means a lot to me. I’ve grown so much as a person from this program. My heart for service has grown, so it has definitely helped me see what I want to do in life, which is helping others.

“This program has helped me so much and it taught me that if you work hard, that hard work will pay off. Keep being a hard worker and keep pursuing things. Our team is so close. All three years, we’ve had a different team. We’ve had people come and go. I’ve learned the importance of community and it’s just been a good time.,”

She added, “It was a great starting point for me because my love for cheer grew when I was a high school cheerleader. It definitely helped because I knew I wanted to cheer for Auburn. I love to cheer, but also, I’ve loved Auburn since I was a little girl. Growing up as a high school cheerleader, I was thinking, ‘Maybe I can be an Auburn cheerleader one day.’ Cheering for Cullman was absolutely incredible but having that goal and keeping that in the back of your mind, ‘Maybe I can do this at the next level.’ It was a dream come true. I never thought I would make it, so it’s definitely kept the fire burning. I started out loving it and I kept that passion.”

Griffith talked about cheering opposite of her fellow Bearcat Ashton Story at last year’s Iron Bowl.

“At the end of the day, we’re doing something that we love and enjoy, cheering for our schools. It doesn’t matter to me that she’s cheering for Alabama. The experience of cheering against Ashton, what an honor. I used to lift her up and she was my flyer, so it’s come full circle. All I can say is the Lord’s good. It brought us from cheering at Extreme to high school, winning state, placing well at Nationals, and doing all of these awesome things, to now. He’s put us at our dream schools, and it was pretty much a full moment of gratitude.”

Griffith is so proud of Ashton for reaching her goal of cheering in college.

“I’m very proud of her. Ashton’s super talented. It comes down to passion. Anyone can cheer in high school and that’s great, but you have people that are so passionate about it, and I always saw that in Ashton. She was built different. She’s so good at cheer. I’m so proud of her and I never doubted her at all.”

Griffith gave some advice to those girls that want to be where she’s at right now.

“You have to remind yourself how much you love cheerleading because you can get worn out easily, but when you have that goal and you know what you want to accomplish, stay on goal and keep that same passion because once it pays off, it’s indescribable. You look back and you’re like, ‘Wow, I can’t believe that actually happened.’ Keep your passion and stay goal oriented. Trust the process because even if you don’t make it, the times that you tried, grind, and work hard for, that’s also a win too. You tried your best, but maybe the Lord has something better for you. Trust in whatever it is, and it’ll work out.”

Griffith talked about two of her favorite memories from her time at Auburn.



KACIE GRIFFITH

Former Cullman Cheerleader Kacie Griffith

“My first favorite memory was just putting that uniform on for the first time. Most people would be like, ‘You didn’t cheer on the field,’ but I got to wear that Auburn uniform. It rained that game, but it was the best day for me. I was like, ‘I can’t believe I accomplished this.’ I was so grateful. Another memory was when I would walk home after a game, and I would pass a little girl in my uniform. They would run up to me and get a picture taken with me. That brought me to tears, just seeing the impact you can make on others. It’s just cool to see how others feel, like, ‘I can be doing this one day.’ You’re living their dream.”

Atlas (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Atlas has been around the world looking for love, and is available for adoption at Cullman County Animal Shelter.

A humble male pit bull with a creamy fawn coat, Atlas has had a rough go of things for his first four years. He is hoping the rest of his life will be peaceful, filled with lots of tummy rubs and affectionate pets.

Atlas takes correction well, and while overcoming his fear of men proved to be a challenge, he has taken it on in typical pit bull fashion - headstrong, and with flying colors.

With all his glorious attributes, he still has some things to work on. He cannot be placed in a home with male dogs, cats, chickens or female dogs that are smaller than his stately stature.

The Cullman County Animal Shelter works hard to screen all adopters to ensure a good fit for both the animal and prospective adoptive family; Atlas’ future family will be double screened to ensure his progress stays on track.

Ready to meet Atlas? Head over to Cullman County Animal Shelter at 935 Convent Road NE, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. for a meet and greet.

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

Contact the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 256-734-5448 or www.cullmananimalshelter@co.cullman.al.us. Good luck, Atlas! We’re sure you’ll find the paws-itively perfect forever home.

CPRST (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Due to the wild success of last year’s Dinner on First event - 400 tickets selling out in just 14 hours - Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism (CPRST) recently announced a major change to the way tickets can be purchased for this year’s event, which will be held May 18.

In a social media post, CPRST said the quick sellout of tickets, although quite an impressive feat for its Foundation, left many feeling disappointed at missing out. The solution proposed is a unique one: “This year, we’re giving everyone equal access to early bird tickets through a two-week online auction process.

Generous donors who meet the minimum bid of $2,000 per table during the pre-sale auction, will be recognized on the new donor’s wall at Field of Miracles after installation is complete.”

The level of recognition will vary based on the donor’s bid, with patron ($2,000-$3,499), advocate ($3,500-$4,999) and visionary ($5,000-plus) levels.

The auction will begin April 3 at midnight and close April 16 at midnight. Those who would like to bid can do so at https://cprs.betterworld.org/auctions/dinner-first. Tables seat eight.

Dinner on First, which began in 2016, is a unique outside dining experience set up along First Avenue in the Warehouse District. Attendees enjoy a gourmet dinner, live music and fellowship. The event acts as a primary fundraiser for many CPRST Foundation projects.

In the past, they have included the Connected Playground at Margaret Ingle Park, the amphitheater at Art Park and, more recently, SkateDepot.

This year’s project is the resurfacing of Miracle Field at the Field of Miracles. The rubberized field has been in place since 2007, and thanks to the consistent upkeep from the CPRST team, has lasted five years beyond its expected lifespan.

Find out more about Dinner on First at www.cullmanrecreation.org/dinner-on-first.



MARTHA NEEDHAM/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Places set ready to welcome guests to 2022’s Dinner on First.

PREP BASEBALL

Vinemont, Hanceville split doubleheader; Cold Springs edges Holly Pond 3-2

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — Hanceville took a short trip over to Vinemont to face the Eagles in a Friday afternoon doubleheader and the two squads split both games. Elsewhere in the county, Cold Springs edged the Holly Pond Broncos 3-2.

Hanceville 16 - Vinemont 4 (Baseball) (Game One)
Hanceville struck first in their opening at-bats. Nelson Arteaga hit a one-out double, then Les Fischer followed that up with a single to left field to put runners on the corners. Gabriel Ognilla lined an RBI single to left field to give the Bulldogs the early 1-0 lead, but Vinemont answered right back in their half. Hayden Robinson hit a leadoff single, then a ground ball and a fly ball moved him up to third. He would score on a passed ball to tie the game up at one.

After a scoreless second, Hanceville broke the tie in the top of the third. A single, a Vinemont error, and another single loaded the bases with no outs for Dalton Johnson. He hit a sacrifice fly to center field to give the Bulldogs a 2-1 lead. After Cody Belcher hit a single to load the bases once again, Ashton Hurst got hit by the pitch to force in a run, then Jackson Cleveland hit a sacrifice fly of his own to center field to push their lead to 4-1.

Hanceville would add to their lead in the fourth as they ended up loading the bases once again with one out. An Eagle error allowed Arteaga to score, then later on, Hurst drew a bases-loaded walk to increase their lead to 6-1. Vinemont had a chance to cut into the deficit in their half as they loaded the bases with two outs, but Cleveland forced Zeke Olinger to ground out to end the threat.

The Bulldogs completely broke the game wide open in their half as they sent 15 batters to the plate and scored 10 runs.

Arteaga (RBI single and three-run double), Tripp Lewis (RBI single) and Ognilla (RBI single) were the biggest hits of the inning as Hanceville quickly swelled their lead to 16-1.

Vinemont looked to extend the game in their half as they loaded the bases with one out, then Jacob Hale hit a sacrifice fly, Robinson scored on a passed ball, and Joshua Rhodes hit an RBI single to cut it to 16-4. They wouldn't get any closer after that as Cleveland got Rylan McRae to ground out to end the game as Hanceville collected a 16-4 win over Vinemont in game one.

Arteaga (four RBIs) and Ognilla (three RBIs) each finished with five hits for Hanceville. Johnson and Hurst each added a pair of RBIs. Lewis ended up with a pair of hits and an RBI. Cleveland added a hit and an RBI, while Fischer and Belcher each collected a hit in the game. For Vinemont, Rhodes finished with two hits and an RBI. Hale added a hit and an RBI, while Robinson and Michael Foust each ended up with a hit as well.

Vinemont 14 - Hanceville 12 (Baseball) (Game Two)
Hanceville got in the run column first in the second game. Jake Cornelius hit a leadoff single, stole second, and later scored on an RBI single by Fischer to give them the early lead. Vinemont countered in their half as Foust hit a single, moved to second on a double play ball, stole third, and scored on a wild pitch to tie the game up at one. A Bulldog error allowed Ayden Thomason to cross the plate, then Brady Johnson hit an RBI single to center field to give the Eagles a 3-1 lead.

A walk and a hit by pitch had Hanceville in business with two outs in the second, then Arteaga hit an RBI double to left field to cut it to 3-2.

The Eagles, though, added to their lead in the bottom of the third. Thomason hit a one-out single, then moved up to second on a wild pitch. He later scored on an RBI triple by Rhodes, then Johnson followed that up with an RBI single to make it 5-2. Johnson later scored on another Hanceville error to push the Vinemont lead to 6-2.

For the second time in as many games, Hanceville batted around and put up 10 runs as they sent 15 batters to the plate. Fischer hit an RBI double, Arteaga scored on a Vinemont error, and Fischer scored on a balk to cut it to 6-5. Belcher hit an RBI double to left field to tie the game up at six, then the rest of their damage came with two outs. RBI singles by Cleveland and Cornelius gave Hanceville an 8-6 lead, then a two-run double by Fischer and a two-run single by Ognilla pushed their lead to 12-6.

The Eagles looked to answer right back in their half. Foust hit a leadoff double, then stole third and later scored on an RBI groundout by Hale to cut it to 12-7. After a walk and a single, McRae hit an RBI infield single to make it a 12-8 game. They looked to continue to cut into the Bulldog lead even more in the bottom of the fifth. Robinson drew a leadoff walk, then stole second and Foust drove him in on an RBI double to left field to trim it to three at 12-9. Foust scored on a wild pitch, then later on, Jordan Eller scored on a Bulldog error and McRae hit an RBI groundout to tie the game up at 12.

Vinemont would be the team to break the tie in their next at-bats. Chayce Sandlin reached on a leadoff walk, then later on, Foust reached on a one-out bunt single. With two outs, Sandlin and Foust stole a base, then Sandlin scored on a balk and Foust crossed the plate on a passed ball to give the Eagles a 14-12 lead. Hanceville looked to get something going in the top of the seventh as they drew a one-out walk, but Rhodes got back-to-back strikeouts to end the game as Vinemont ended up winning a wild back-and-forth game against Hanceville, 14-12.

Johnson led the way for Vinemont with three hits and a pair of RBIs. McRae added a hit and a pair of RBIs. Foust ended up with four hits and an RBI. Rhodes added a hit and an RBI. Hale chipped in with an RBI of his own, while Robinson and Thomason each collected a hit as well. For Hanceville, Fischer (three hits) and Ognilla (two hits) each finished with three RBIs. Cornelius ended up with three hits and an RBI. Cleveland added two hits and an RBI. Arteaga and Belcher each collected a hit and an RBI in the contest, while Hunter Black chipped in with a hit of his own.

Cold Springs 3 - Holly Pond 2 (Baseball)
Brodee Bartlett retired Holly Pond in order to start out the game. Cold Springs got in the run column first. Cole Bales hit a leadoff single, then he moved to second on a passed ball. Bartlett put the Eagles on the scoreboard first on an RBI single. Both starters, Bartlett and Holly Pond's Levi Farr, kept the game at 1-0 going into the top of the fourth. Bartlett gave up his first hit of the game on a single by John Martin, then Sawyer Olinger drew a walk and Bradly Butts got hit by the pitch to load the bases with no outs. Somehow, Bartlett was able to get out of the inning by striking out the next three batters.

Cold Springs added on to their lead in their half. Brady Phillips drew a leadoff walk, then Matt Williams reached on a bunt single to put runners on the corners.

A suicide squeeze play by Ethan Nabors allowed Phillips to score as that gave the Eagles a 2-0 lead. Bartlett continued to rack up the strikeouts as he struck out the side in the top of the fifth, then Cold Springs loaded the bases with two outs as they looked to increase their lead. Farr, though, had other ideas as he struck out Williams to get out of the inning unscathed.

Holly Pond looked to finally get in the run column in the top of the sixth. Martin hit a leadoff single, then an Eagle error allowed him to move up to second. With two outs, Boston Gibbs hit an RBI single to left field to cut it to 2-1, then after a single, Chase Brazelton's RBI double tied the game up at two. The Broncos looked to break the tie in the top of the seventh, but Bales had other ideas, though. After walking Ethan Tapscott to lead off the inning, he got the next three batters to end the inning. The Eagles looked to win the game in their half. Cody Smith and Phillips each hit back-to-back singles with one out, then the pinch-runner for Smith, Samuel Turner, scored on a game-winning suicide squeeze play by Williams, as the Eagles picked up a huge 3-2 win at home over the Broncos.

Bartlett finished with a hit and an RBI for Cold Springs. Williams and Nabors each added an RBI. Smith ended up with a pair of hits. Bales, Tucker Philbeck, and Phillips each added a hit in the game. Bartlett went six innings, giving up five hits and two runs, walking three, and striking out 10.

Bales gave up a hit and struck out two in his inning of work. For Holly Pond, Gibbs and Brazelton each finished with a hit and an RBI. Martin added three hits and Peyton Queen collected a hit of his own. Farr gave up just four hits and one earned run in his five innings of work, walked five, and struck out six.

Cold Springs will host Altamont Monday and Holly Pond will head home to take on Cleveland.

UAB falls to North Texas in NIT Championship Game 68-61

Paul McCaw
UAB Athletics

LAS VEGAS — UAB men's basketball (29-10, 14-6 C-USA) fell, 68-61, in the National Invitation Tournament championship game to North Texas (31-7, 16-4 C-USA). The Blazers finish the season with a program-record 29 wins and UAB's first-ever appearance in the NIT championship game.

North Texas jumped ahead early, scoring the first seven points of the game.

The Mean Green led 12-4 after the first five minutes following a Tyree Eady layup.

The Blazers worked their way back into the game to cut it to three after a pair of Ledarrius Brewer free throws.

However, North Texas closed the half on a 9-2 run to lead 37-27 at the half.

In the second half, the Blazers got right back of the game.

KJ Buffen knocked down a pair of threes and Jordan Walker added five points over the first three minutes of the half to cut the UNT lead to 41-38.

UAB took its first lead of the night after Javian Davis scored and drew a foul for a three-point play to make it 47-45.

Walker added a layup to make it 49-45, the Blazers' largest lead of the night.

North Texas led by one with six minutes to go but extended its lead to six over the next 2:30 to take control. Following that stretch, the Blazers were not able to cut it to a one-possession game. Tylor Perry hit a stepback jumper with 23 seconds on the clock to put the game away.



UAB ATHLETICS

The UAB Blazers fell to North Texas in the NIT Title Game 68-61 Thursday night.

Notes

- The Blazers finish with a program record 29 wins.
- Trey Jemison set a new program record with 329 rebounds this season.
- Jordan Walker finishes the season with a program-record 22.3 points per game and 736 points.
- His 135 three-point field goals rank second in UAB history for a single season.
- Tavin Lovan wraps up his UAB career with 164 games played, the most in program history.
- UAB tied its own record of 276 three-point field goals in a season, while attempting the most in program history.

LEGALS

SPECIAL NOTICE RE LOCAL LAWS

NO SPECIAL, PRIVATE, OR LOCAL LAW CAN BE PASSED, except in reference to fixing the time of holding courts, unless notice of the intention to apply therefor shall have been published, without cost to the State, in the county or counties where the matter or thing to be affected may be situated. The notice must state the substance of the proposed law and be published at least once a week for four consecutive weeks in some newspaper published in such county or counties. Such publication must have been completed prior to the day on which the bill is introduced.

Proof by affidavit (proof of publication) which verifies that notice has been properly published must be exhibited to the House of Representatives and the Senate, and one copy of such proof must be attached to the original copy of the bill which is offered for introduction.

The county or municipality affected by a local law introduced by a legislator must pay for advertising the notice, if the notice is signed by the Legislator, even though the bill is not passed. (Section 11-13-6, Code of Alabama 1975)

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY

NOTICE is hereby given that a bill substantially as follows will be introduced in the 2023 Regular Session of the Legislature of Alabama and application for its passage and enactment will be made:

A BILL

TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

Relating to Cullman County; to provide for the creation, funding, and operation of the Cullman County Legislative Delegation Fund; to provide for the distribution of the net proceeds of the state beer tax payable to Cullman County and the additional three percent of TVA in-lieu-of taxes payments received by Cullman County; to abolish the Cullman County Community Development Commission; and to repeal Section 45-22-90, Code of Alabama 1975.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) The Cullman County Commission shall create the Cullman County Legislative Delegation Fund.

(b) The fund shall be comprised of the following monies received by the county:

(1) The additional three percent of TVA in-lieu-of-taxes payments received pursuant to Section 40-28-2, Code of Alabama 1975.

(2) Any other monies provided for by law.

(b) The commission shall immediately pay amounts from the fund as the Cullman County Legislative Delegation may request.

(c) The legislative delegation shall expend the monies on

Page 1

allowable public purposes at the discretion and direction of the legislative delegation.

(d) All decisions concerning the Cullman County Legislative Delegation Fund shall be made by resolutions adopted by the members of the Cullman County Legislative Delegation.

(e) Any funds allocated but not spent at the end of the fiscal year shall not be applied for any other purpose, but shall be carried forward and shall remain available year to year for expenditure as provided in this section.

(f) The revenue and expenditures of the legislative office shall be audited on an annual basis.

Section 2. The net proceeds of the state beer tax payable to Cullman County pursuant to Section 28-3-184, Code of Alabama 1975, shall be distributed as follows:

(1) Fifty percent to the Cullman County Legislative Delegation Fund.

(2) Fifty percent to the municipalities in Cullman County to be divided pro-rata based on the population of each municipality to be used at the discretion of the governing body receiving the funds.

Section 3. (a) The Cullman County Community Development Commission is abolished.

(b)(1) The Community Development Fund within the Cullman County Treasury is abolished.

(2) Any remaining monies in the Community Development Fund shall be transferred to the Cullman County Legislative Delegation Fund.

Section 4. Section 45-22-90, Code of Alabama 1975,

Page 2

establishing the Cullman County Community Development Commission, is repealed.

Section 5. This act shall become effective immediately following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

Page 3

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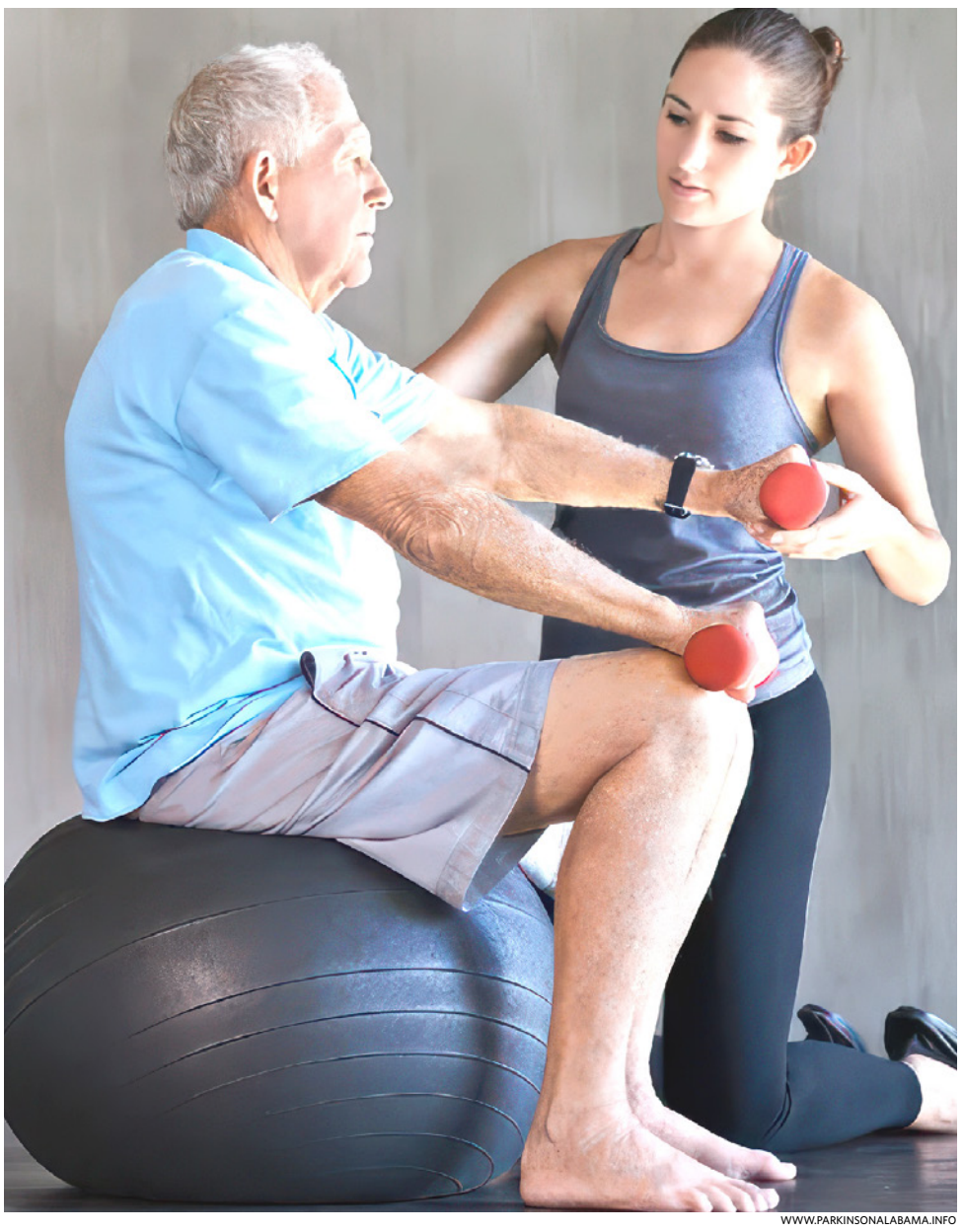
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WWW.PARKINSONALABAMA.INFO

April is Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month

Staff Reports
Contributor

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey has officially proclaimed April Parkinson's Awareness Month across Alabama. It is estimated that more than 16,000 people are living with Parkinson's Disease (PD) in Alabama, with more than 800 diagnosed every year, according to the Michael J. Fox Foundation. Every nine minutes, someone in the U.S. is diagnosed with PD. Due to Alabama's aging Baby Boomer population, combined with occupational exposures from farming, industry and military service, the number of Alabamians impacted by Parkinson's grows drastically year over year.

The Parkinson Association of Alabama (PAA) is on a mission to improve the quality of life for patients, caregivers and families affected by Parkinson's in Alabama. "Most people don't realize that the PAA was founded in 1978," said PAA President Brian Corbett. "Our key initiatives are Care, Community and a Cure for Parkinson's - it's what we do."

Corbett was diagnosed with Parkinson's in 2014. "At the PAA, we believe in access to quality care for all Alabamians, providing awareness to make the best-informed decisions with the latest advancements. We also believe that comprehensive wellness is the key to living well with Parkinson's," he said.

The PAA has recently launched an online resource center at www.parkinsonalabama.info to provide those living with Parkinson's the resources they need to navigate PD, extending access to resources throughout rural Alabama.

The PAA also offers care navigation sessions to those recently diagnosed and living with Parkinson's and their caregivers.

"We also believe community connectedness through support and camaraderie equips those impacted by Parkinson's and their caregivers is critical. "We offer a network of resources that inspires optimism and encouragement to ensure no one travels this journey alone," Corbett explained.

The PAA partners with a network of more than 20 in-person support and movement groups across the state, also hosting virtual support groups over zoom so that everyone can have access to a PD community.

The PAA provides more than $30,000 in scholarships to those impacted by Parkinson's to attend movement-based programs throughout the state.

"Most importantly, we believe in supporting Alabama's quality research initiatives to find a cure for Parkinson's Disease," stated Corbett. The PAA has contributed more than $2.9 million in support of PD research at UAB resulting in over $20 million leveraged in research funding.

The UAB Udall Center for Excellence is one of five PD research facilities specializing in Parkinson's in the United States. Also, more than $35,000 has been provided annually since 2014 to support UAB Predoctoral Scholars in their research.

Nearly everyone now knows someone impacted by Parkinson's. Choosing to support and partner with the PAA guarantees that all donations and resources stay local to provide a positive impact to Alabamians living with Parkinson's, their caregivers and families. Anyone who wants to support the PAA and its mission can donate at www.parkinsonalabama.com.

PAA's annual Parkinson's research fundraising event is happening soon! Taste For A Cure will be hosted on Thursday, April 27, at the B&A Warehouse from 5-8 p.m. This evening will feature amazing food and spirits, a live and silent auction, wine pull drawing and live music. Learn more and purchase tickets at www.parkinsonalabama.com/2023tfac. All proceeds remain local to support Parkinson's Disease research and Care Navigation Services in Alabama.

OP-ED

The perfect opportunity to repeal the grocery tax is before us, but we must take action now

Lt. Gov. Will Ainsworth
Contributor

For all of my adult life, politicians in Montgomery have talked about the need to remove the state sales tax from groceries, but they always find excuse after excuse that prevents them from actually doing it.

The potential loss of budget revenue, the false claims that replacement taxes must be passed, and the looming threat of economic downturns are just a few of the excuses politicians have used to do nothing and continue walking in place.

The time for excuses is over.

Alabama is currently enjoying the greatest and most robust economy in its history, more people are employed with well-paying, secure jobs than ever before and our state budgets currently have a combined surplus of roughly $3 billion.

The conservative budgeting practices that Republicans put in place after taking control of the Legislature in 2010 allowed Alabama's economy to weather the COVID-19 pandemic better than almost all other states, and our already impressive success in attracting economic development and industrial recruitment prospects is growing by the day.

Alabama's business sector - ranging from the largest employers to the smallest, mom-and-pop operations - remains healthy and is sending unprecedented revenues to the state.

All of these economic factors and dozens more like them have created a perfect opportunity for Montgomery to finally put action before words and begin the process of making grocery purchases tax-free.

And the best news is that we can end the sales tax on groceries without having to shift the burden or raise taxes elsewhere. If anyone claims otherwise, they are simply not shooting straight with you.

But we must take action now.

Alabama is one of only three states that taxes groceries at the full rate - South Dakota and Mississippi are the others - and we are one of only 13 states in the nation that levy any tax on groceries. Our sister southeastern states of Georgia and Florida do not tax groceries, and Tennessee taxes them at a reduced rate.

As the cost of food increases because of the Biden administration's skyrocketing inflation, Alabama's working families are devoting even more of their household income to the grocery tax. Eggs alone cost a third more than they did last year, and each time the price increases, the amount of sales taxes you pay on them rises in proportion.

Take a moment to add up the total sales tax you pay on groceries each year, and you will find it equates to roughly one month's worth of groceries.

Now contrast those statistics with the fact that revenues in the Education Trust Fund, which is where sales taxes are earmarked, have grown steadily for almost a decade.

Estimated total receipts for the ETF in the upcoming fiscal year amount to almost $11 billion alone. In addition, we began the year with a $3 billion carry forward, and we have billions of dollars in savings accounts.

Given those figures, claiming we cannot sustain the loss in revenues that would result from a grocery tax repeal defies simple arithmetic, violates basic common sense and opposes the conservative beliefs and values that guide the vast majority of Alabamians.

Over the past few weeks, I have met with various groups, including tax experts, legislative leaders and even the grocers who collect the tax at the point of sale, and I am working with allies to begin the repeal of the grocery tax once and for all.

In my opinion, the grocery tax repeal must be fiscally responsible, include safeguards to ensure classroom education dollars are protected and incorporate roadblocks to prevent cities and counties from nullifying the effort by raising local taxes on groceries.



CONTRIBUTED

Alabama Lt. Gov. Will Ainsworth

By seizing the moment and stopping the politicians from making more excuses, Alabama can provide historic tax relief to today's working families and the generations of working families that will follow.

If we do not take action now when the stars are aligned in our favor, when will we ever take action?

Alabama Lt. Gov.
Will Ainsworth

Alabama Extension's commitment to sustaining for the future

Cole Sikes
ACES

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. — Predicting the future is never an easy task, and making decisions for the days and years ahead can be simply paralyzing for many people because of uncertainty.

This holds true for the sustainability and protection of the Earth's resources. To equip farmers and landowners with information needed to plan for the future, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System delivers research-based information to help preserve and protect natural resources for future generations.

Down to Earth: Agriculture sustains Alabama
The Down to Earth statewide educational campaign launched in March 2022 with the intent to highlight the ways by which agriculture sustains Alabama. Alabama Extension joined many other partners in a proactive, educational campaign to highlight existing and promising sustainability practices that Alabama producers use on a regular basis. Tackling issues in sustainable practices requires unbiased, science-based information that Alabama Extension provides every day.

"This is what we have done in Extension since the Smith-Lever Act of 1914," said Becky Barlow, Alabama Extension assistant director for agriculture, forestry and natural resource (AFNR) programming. "It's our job to promote the best science for the citizens of Alabama and improve livelihoods and the environment of the state."

Carbon emissions
Carbon is likely near the top of the list when it comes to sustainability concerns. Alabama Extension professionals began with the basics, educating stakeholders about carbon in its purest form–the organic matter in our soils.

Extension experts shared research on other topics, including carbon sequestration in forests, carbon credits for landowners and poultry and beef cattle production's carbon footprint.

Plant and animal efficiency
Producing a viable crop with minimal inputs and minimal soil disturbances is an important and necessary aspect of crop production.

Alabama Extension researchers are continuing their research on the top plant and animal commodities of Alabama. Extension specialists dedicate their lives to ensuring that production is sustainable—for both the producer and the environment.

Research in cotton, a prominent crop in Alabama, continues to revolutionize the cotton industry. The golden era of cotton seed began nearly 25 years ago. This era set the course for producers to introduce seed with pest and weed control. Combined with ongoing cotton research at the Old Rotation at Auburn University –the oldest continuous cotton experiment in the world– the resources and information are plentiful for this crop.

Debunking myths about genetically modified organisms (GMOs), highlighting Alabama's commitment to sustainable aquaculture and exploring the history of Extension programming are also ways Alabama Extension is working toward plant and animal efficiency.

Data and technology
When discussing today's popular culture of technology, drones and remote systems are some of the top hits. Extension is investing heavily in research using these new technologies to promote sustainability and efficiency.

"When thinking about data and technology and how they are used in forestry and agricultural systems, drones and precision agriculture come to mind," Barlow said. "For example, drones can be used to monitor pests and diseases and precision ag also helps prevent the overuse of herbicides, fertilizers and water."

Investment (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Governor Kay Ivey this week announced that economic development activity in Alabama generated $10.1 billion in new capital investment during 2022, a new annual record and another indicator of strength in the state's economy.

Governor Ivey said the 2022 Alabama Economic Development Impact Report, compiled by the Alabama Department of Commerce, shows that investment tied to economic development projects last year topped the previous record of $8.7 billion, set in 2018.

"Strategic economic development has been a top priority of my administration since I first became governor because I fully understand the impact it can have on our citizens, their families and their communities," said Ivey. "This success is blatant evidence that our efforts are producing a brighter future for the great state of Alabama."

Growth projects announced in 2022 generated 13,078 job commitments across the state, according to Commerce's comprehensive annual report, which is being released today. That figure tops the previous year's total of 10,190.

Many of the new jobs are being created in key industrial sectors, according to Commerce's 2022 report. This includes over 2,800 new positions in the automotive industry, nearly 1,900 in the metals and advanced materials sector and more than 1,500 in aerospace/aviation/defense.

"These results mean Alabama's economic development team is making a real difference in shaping a more prosperous future for the hard-working citizens of our state," said Greg Canfield, secretary of the Alabama Department of Commerce. "And, while we're proud of setting records, we're just going to keep on working to deliver a better tomorrow for Alabama."

Well-known global corporations including Airbus, Hyundai and Toyota all announced high-impact investment projects in Alabama last year. Other successes included:

- Novelis announced plans for a $2.5 billion aluminum mill with 1,000 workers in Bay Minette, the first facility of its kind to be built in the U.S. in over 40 years.

- First Solar Inc., the largest U.S.-based manufacturer of solar panels, announced plans for a $1.1 billion factory with over 700 workers in Lawrence County, the largest project to land in a rural county in recent years.

- Advanced ACT announced plans for a remote air traffic control tower center in Selma that is poised to revolutionize air space management in the U.S. through its technology to serve multiple airports from one location.

The First Solar and Advanced ATC projects are among those announced in 2022 that will bring nearly $1.8 billion in new investment, along with 1,900 jobs, to Alabama's "targeted," or rural, counties. Since 2020, rural Alabama has been selected for growth projects involving $4 billion in investment and 5,500 job commitments.

"These projects demonstrate our firm commitment to sparking sustainable economic growth in Alabama's rural areas — a priority that is very important to me," said Ivey.

According to Commerce's economic development report, Baldwin led the counties in new investment during 2022, with $2.5 billion, followed by Montgomery ($1.7 billion), Mobile ($1.4 billion) and Lawrence ($1.1 billion).

Montgomery was the top county for job creation, with 1,491 new positions, ahead of Mobile (1,451), Jefferson (1,259) and Baldwin (1,170), the report says.

The record-breaking economic development news comes amid signs that Alabama's economy is thriving despite worries of a possible national recession.

Recent employment levels have reached all-time highs, and the state's jobless rate has set new lows.

In addition, Governor Ivey announced in February that Alabama's 2022 exports established a new annual record.

LEGALS

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE:
A.T.
a minor child, DOB: 04-30-2022

CASE NO: JU-2022-469.~~00, .01, .02,~~ .03

NOTICE

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

ORDERED and **ADJUDGED** that the Biological Father, Devin Henry, of A.T., born on 04-30-2022, respond to the Petition by the 17th day of April, 2023, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioners.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioners: Andria Sims, 300 1st Ave SE, Ste 104, Cullman, Alabama 35055, 256-775-7757 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this the 1st day of March, 2023.

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

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 8th day of March, 2023.

Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Circuit Court

FILED IN OFFICE
MAR 01 2023
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

Pursuant to Alabama code 32-13-1, Earl's Body Shop, Inc, will offer for sale at Public Auction the following vehicles on April 25, 2023, at 7:00 a.m.
2009 Honda CRV, Vin.#5J6RE38329L008129
1993 GEO Prizm, Vin.#1Y1SK5364PZ060123
2004 Lexus GS, Vin.#JT8BL69S740015316
2014 Jeep Compass, Vin.#1C4NJDEB1ED892117
1998 Chrysler Cirrus, Vin.#1C3EJ56H4WN162534
2005 Chev Trailblazer, Vin.#1GNDS13S152151558
2010 Acura TSX, Vin.#JH4CU2F65AC000485
2001 Volvo S40, Vin.#YV1VS29501F659702

PB ADT BK 65 PG 808 - 03/30/2023 04:05 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
DOUGLAS MICHAEL LEIPERT, JR.
FOR THE ADOPTION OF

CASE NO AD 2023-024

R.G.K. A MINOR.
D.O.B. 4-22-2015

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: CHRISTOPHER WESLEY KING FATHER OF THE MINOR CHILD R.G.K. BORN TO KAYLA SUZANNE ESTES LEIPERT

The Petition for Adoption was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by Douglas Michael Leipert, Jr., 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 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 30th DAY OF March, 2023.

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

Stone Bridge Farms to host Easter weekend gospel music extravaganza

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Stone Bridge Farms, a picturesque 186-acre property known for its breathtaking landscapes and acclaimed restaurants, is set to host a gospel music-filled Easter "Resurrection Celebration." The event, titled "He's Alive," is scheduled for the weekend of April 8-9, 2023, and promises an unforgettable experience for attendees.

Longtime friend of Stone Bridge Farms Owner/Operator Ron Foust, Lori Wise, who also schedules for some of gospel music's most sought after and recognized artists through the Dominion Agency, shared her excitement for the upcoming event.

"Our goal is to help promote this event by ensuring everyone has awareness of this amazing community event," she said.

The event begins Saturday evening, April 8, at 5:30, with a gospel dinner/concert featuring renowned artists Jonathan Wilburn, New Ground, Carolina - The Band and Gold City.

Wise described the event as "a power-packed evening filled with great music, fellowship, food and celebration. This gospel music lineup will be the ultimate evening in sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ."

The celebration will continue at sunrise on Easter Sunday, April 9, with music from Gold City and Jonathan Wilburn, as well as an Easter message from Brother Samuel Tucker.

While tickets are required for the Saturday evening event, Sunday's activities are free and open to the public. Tickets can be purchased by calling 256-734-9765.

"Easter is such a beautiful season, filled with a spirit of love and grateful hearts," said Wise, who shared that she believes music has the power to move the soul in ways that words sometimes cannot.

This "feel-good" dinner/concert promises to be a night to remember, as attendees will recognize and sing along with some of their all-time favorite hymns and hits.

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Obituary Announcements: March 30-31

Ralph Junior Hooper, 74
Ralph Junior Hooper, 74, of Blountsville, Alabama, passed away March 29, 2023. Mr. Hooper was born to Arbell and Maggie Thomas Hooper on April 18, 1948, in Cullman County, Alabama. Mr. Hooper enjoyed working on cars and he adored his dogs. Junior is preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Rodger E. Hooper, Carl L. Hooper, John P. Hooper; and sister, Jeanette Trusty. Those surviving Mr. Hooper include his brothers, Robert Hooper, Gerald Hooper, James Hooper; sisters, Gracie Hardy Jones (James R.), Francis Creel (David); and a host of nieces and nephews. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Hooper family.

Jimmie "Pee-Wee" Ryan, 74
Funeral services for Jimmie "Pee-Wee" Ryan of Cullman will be 1 p.m. Saturday, April 1, 2023, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow at Hopewell Cemetery in Hanceville. Reverend Larry Duke will be officiating the service. Visitation for the public held Friday, March 31, 2023, at the funeral home. Mr. Ryan was born on Dec. 11, 1948, in Cullman, Alabama to the late David and Ilene (Hays) Ryan. He passed away at the age of 74 on March 29, 2023 at The Folsom Center in Cullman, Alabama. Survivors include his brother, Bobby Ryan; sisters, Jane Rice and Jackie Jackson; and a host of many loving nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, Mr. Ryan was preceded in death by his sister, Johnnie Tanguy. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Ryan Family.

James Wenfred "Went" Gunter, 88
James Wenfred "Went" Gunter, 88, of Double Springs, passed away March 30, 2023, at his residence. Went was born Jan. 18, 1935, in Winston County, Alabama. He was a member of Pleasant Hill No. 2 Baptist Church in Double Springs for 50 years, Visitation will be held on Saturday, April 1, 2023 from 10 a.m. until noon at Nichols Funeral Home in Double Springs, where the service will be at noon. Burial will follow at Pleasant Hill No. 2 Church Cemetery in Ashridge. Went is survived by his sister, Jeanette Knox; brothers, Frank Gunter, and Wayne (Judy) Gunter; nephews, Michel Gunter, Robert Gunter, Keith Knox, Bryan Knox and Byron Barton; and nieces, Frankie Hall and Tammy McCleese. He was preceded in death by his wife, Marie Barton Gunter; parents, Johnie and Rosie Cagle Gunter; brother-in-law, Thurman Knox; and sisters-in-law, Irene Gunter and Linda Gunter.

Wondlas Mark Givens, 59, of Bremen
Funeral service for Wondlas Mark Givens, age 59, of Bremen, will be at 1 p.m. on Monday, April 3, 2023, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Tony Hyde officiating. Visitation will be from noon until 1 p.m. prior to the service. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Givens passed away on Saturday, March 25, 2023. He was born July 12, 1963, in Alabama to Albert James Givens and Glenda Mae Givens. He was preceded in death by his parents. Survivors include his wife, Gayla Seymore; daughter, (Justin) Stephanie Givens Bates; son, Chris Givens; stepdaughters, (Sam) Amanda Trammell, (Carlos) Kayla Farr, and (Tony) April Hyde; five grandchildren; five step-grandchildren; sister, (David) Brenda Cox; brother, James (Jan) Givens; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Chessi Johanna Waddell, 47
Funeral service for Chessi Johanna Waddell, 47, of Cullman, will be at 2 p.m., Sunday, April 2, 2023, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Fellowship Cemetery. Rev. Malcolm Carter II will officiate. The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Sunday from noon until 2 p.m. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Waddell passed away Tuesday, March 28, 2023. She was born March 22, 1976, to Dale E. and Jo Ann Link Reynolds. Chessi was a member of Temple Baptist Church. She deeply loved her girls and her family. She was a kind soul and very selfless. She loved spending time outside with Joanna. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, David Waddell. Survivors include her daughters, Joanna Waddell, Samantha (Cole) Hassell; step-daughters, Kayla Caraway, Brittany Waddell; step-granddaughters, Iris Caraway, Ava Coker; mother-in-law, Reba Waddell; sisters, LouAnn (Ronnie) Mayhair, Sarah Hays Orlando; niece, Abby Mayhair; nephew, Sam Mayhair; brothers-in-law, Steve (Kim) Waddell, Tim Waddell; special friends, John and Mary Tolbert; and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Pallbearers will be William Link, Byron Wood, Ronnie Mayhair, Steve Waddell, Tim Waddell, Sam Mayhair. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullman-funeralhome.com.

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BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

A good samaritan from Sand Mountain

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



Hody Childress was a man I had never heard of until after he died. Earlier this year, on New Year's Day, he died at the age of 80. He lived in the small town of Geraldine, Alabama, on top of Sand Mountain. Hody's heart was as big as the mountain on which he lived. He was not a celebrity, or a famous man, at least not until after he died. From what I've learned about him, he probably would have been embarrassed by all the talk and commotion about him. Perhaps, you have already heard or read his story, but just In case you've missed it, I have to share it with you.

Hody Childress was a farmer, who also had retired from Lockheed Martin. He was not a wealthy man, as I understand, but he was a most generous and thoughtful one. He used the money he had to help others in need. He performed an act of kindness for numerous people, each month, over a period of a decade. Like the Good Samaritan in the Bible, Mr. Childress didn't necessarily know the people to whom he ministered. Most often, he never even saw them but passed along his good deeds through another person.

One day, around 10-years ago, he was in the Geraldine Drug Store when he realized a customer didn't have enough money to pay for their medicine. Mr. Walker quietly paid the bill, but it didn't stop there.

He returned later to give the pharmacist, Brooke Walker, a $100 bill. He said, "Use this to help anyone else who comes in but can't pay." He asked Ms. Walker to not say a word to anyone about who gave to money. He instructed her to simply tell the recipients that the money was a gift from God. Ms. Walker kept her promise to keep his secret. She told no one until after his passing.

Each month, Mr. Childress dropped by the drugstore to leave another $100 bill. Sometimes he gave several of them. He did this every month for 10 years. He helped hundreds of people get the medicines they needed. Some estimates claim that he may have given as much as $10,000 over the years.

Not long before Mr. Childress died, he revealed his secret to his daughter. Even his own daughter was shocked to hear what he had done.

He didn't tell her in order to gain praise for himself, but because he knew his days were numbered and he wanted his daughter to carry on his tradition once he was gone. What a spirit of generosity!

Hodie Childress reminds me of the man in the Bible that we call "The Good Samaritan." He ministered to a stranger who had been beaten, robbed, and left to die. He then took him to an inn and paid for his lodging. He told the innkeeper he would return and pay more if needed. Hody Childress was The Good Samaritan from Sand Mountain. Both he and the Samaritan in the Bible are good examples of how we may give of ourselves to help others in need.

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

HISTORY

Files from yesteryear: 1900, 1950

From the files of 1900

Married at Vinemont on November 21 were W.H. Fowler and Mrs. Nancy C. Petts of Chicago. The ceremony was performed by John Moffat, Esquire.

Commissioner Abe Ryan was in the city yesterday.

Claud Copeland is behind the counters at F. Beyer and Sons.

Thad Quattlebaum and Oster McMinn went to Hartselle on Monday.

Professor Lovie Burks, of Decatur, was in Cullman a few days ago.

Cullman's Mayor, John Beyer, was in Birmingham on Tuesday.

Miss Gussie Steindorff spent Sunday in Decatur.

At last, Cullman can boast of a cotton oil mill in successful operation.

William Tucker, a prosperous merchant of Crane Hill, was in the city yesterday.

John McNabb injured his foot, in an accident, a few days ago.

Hats off to the City Council, for the improved condition of the streets.

Uncle Tom Ingram, of Simcoe, left yesterday for an extended trip through Georgia.

Mrs. D. Reinschmidt has returned from an extended visit to Northern relatives.

Mrs. W.S. Leeth, mother of G.S. Leeth, died at her home, near Garrison Point, on Monday.

Congressman John L. Burnett has tendered to Dwight Fuller the position of private secretary and he has accepted.

The Teacher's Institute will be held at Trimble. C.A. Roberts is chairman of the program committee.

From the files of 1950

Two Cullman people were seriously injured and several others received lesser injury in a highway crash on Saturday morning.

Mrs. James F. Ratliff remains in a Birmingham hospital, with a broken hip and a broken ankle.

Mr. Ratliff is in the Cullman Hospital suffering with four broken ribs and serious bruises.

Others with the Ratliff's at the time of the accident were their daughters, Margo and Sandra, who were not injured and two daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Johnson. Amanda Johnson, 16, received throat lacerations and was treated at the Cullman Hospital.

She was able to be removed home, at the first of the week. Barbara Johnson was slightly injured.

Never before had Emil Buettner been so excited or had such a lovely birthday gift as on his birthday on Monday, November 20.

On that day he became a grandfather. Born in Miami, Florida was a little daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Neil Buettner. Also excited is Mrs. Buettner who as always wanted a daughter, but has decided a granddaughter is even better.

POET'S CORNER

While Looking at a Crescent Moon | By: Randy C. Hale

I planted a white flowering
dogwood tree today, digging
a nice round hole, mixing in
manure and topsoil below
with hope for its pleasant growth.
Red mulch lies on top encircling
this tiny tree and I say a prayer,
walking away to plant some roses.

Now sitting outback, looking
at the moon waxing, it's
crescent at the bottom, makes
it look like the Cheshire cat, with
a broad mischievous smile, and I
absorb the tranquil quiet, tolerating
the occasional passing car.

There is dirt under my fingernails and
on my clothes, but no where I'd rather
be than here, listening to the
bullfrogs bellow by the small pond near, and anticipating the blooming
of a yellow rose.

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

APRIL 1

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Y	O	G	A	I	E	L	E	Y	Q	N	O	I	C	Y	N	E
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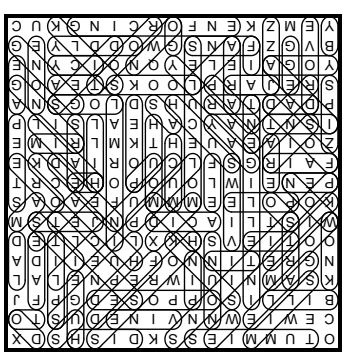
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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

APRIL 1

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

ANSWERS:



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

Children (from Front)

handled as well as it could have been. "We follow a similar program as far as response goes and the way we train to deal with situations like that," he said.

Nassetta explained that Cullman City Schools have full-time school resource officers at all campuses.

When asked how the community can be better prepared, Gentry said, "Pay attention to your surroundings; educate your children to the dangers that we face in life today."

The sheriff said local schools use ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) training, which is a proactive, action-based system and set of guidelines that tells staff how to get students away from danger, specifically related to active-shooter emergencies.

School resource officers are also assigned to all Cullman County Schools campuses.

Nassetta said the goal is to make schools less appealing to someone wishing to do harm. He said he believes a great example of this are the new Rapid-Deploy Safe Room Systems that have already been installed in two West Elementary classrooms. (See www.cullmantribune.com/2023/03/13/west-elementary-hosts-rapid-deploy-safe-room-system-demo)

"Be prepared. Preparation is one of the greatest tools that we have," Gentry said. "Know that in Cullman County, you have law enforcement at your schools. Your deputies and officers will do everything to protect our children."



TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

J. Calvert Farms (from Front)

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — At 30 County Road 260 in Cullman County, some of the Southeast's most delicious strawberries and other fruits and vegetables are grown at J. Calvert Farms. The family farm was established in 1998 by Jeremy Calvert, who began farming while still in high school. He grew up on his parents' poultry farm, but said he always preferred growing vegetables.

Calvert and his wife Julie started out selling wholesale but realized that they would need to do something different if they were going to make a living. They started going to the Walker County Farmers Market in 2003. They also started selling on the side of County Road 222 near their farm. In 2014, they built a produce stand just outside of Dodge City.

J. Calvert Farms grows a variety of fruits and vegetables throughout the year, starting with the aforementioned strawberries in the spring. As the season progresses, the farm adds squash, cucumbers, zucchini, peaches, plums, blackberries, onions, peppers, green beans, tomatoes, sweet corn, peas, okra, watermelons, cantaloupes and pumpkins.

Lots of locals know J. Calvert Farms as one of the main suppliers of strawberries for the Cullman Strawberry Festival. While it is not the only farm that supplies strawberries for the event, the Calverts try to bring as many as they can.

Julie Calvert said the farm has been participating in the Strawberry festival for seven or eight years. "We look forward to the festival each year as a sort of big kickoff of our season," she said.

This year J. Calvert Farms will be selling at the Walker County Farmers Market, Cullman's Festhalle Farmers Market and the Gardendale Farmers Market.

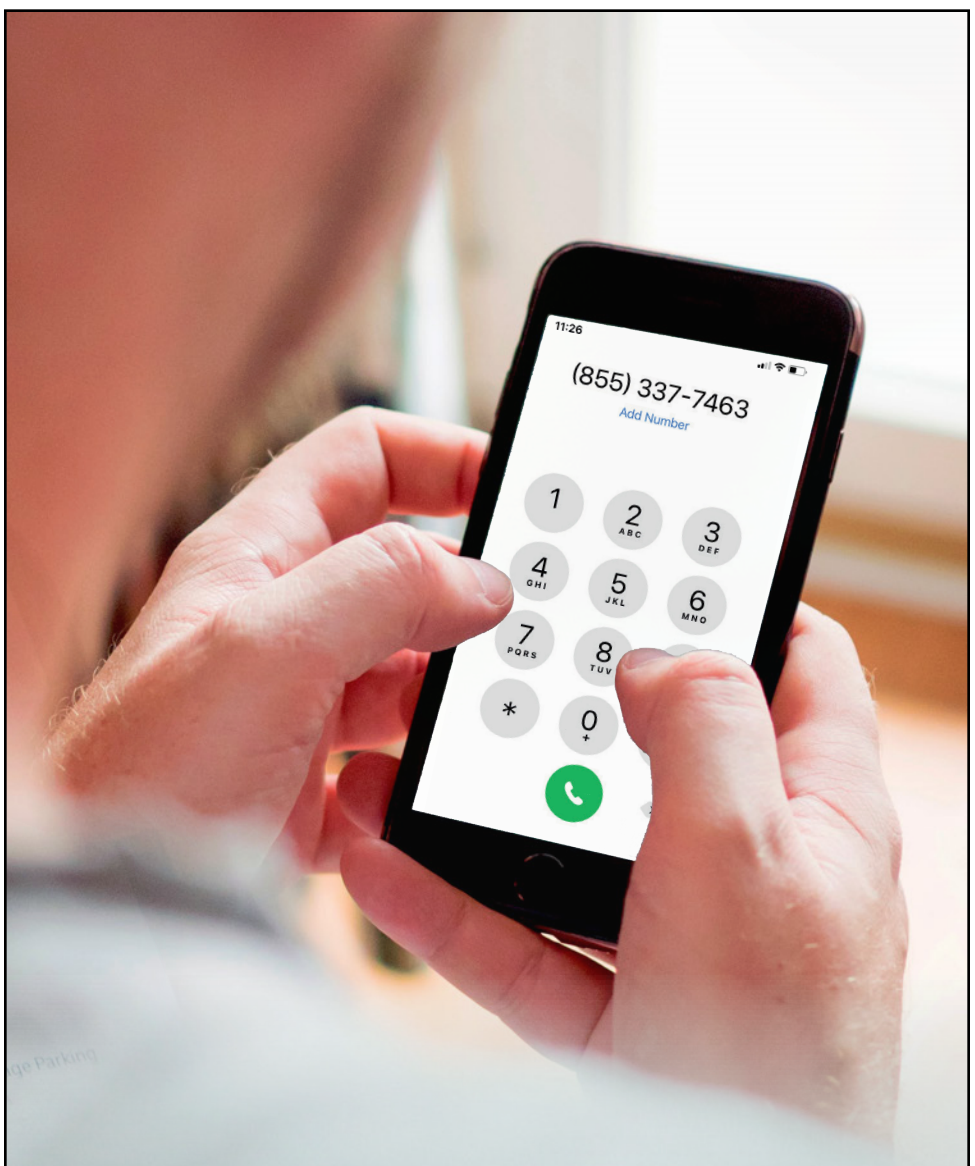
The farm has also branched out to other events. "We had our first fall festival last year," said Julie Calvert. "We loved having the community come out and have fun at the farm stand."

Keep up with what produce is available from J. Calvert Farms and where at www.facebook.com/j.calvertfarms and www.jcalvertfarms.com.

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