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NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

Russellville takes area series over West Point

» PAGE 7

Joshua Howell sworn in as new Hanceville police chief

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The city of Hanceville has a new police chief. Joshua Howell was sworn in by Hanceville Municipal Judge Steven Gravlee Thursday, April 13, 2023, at the Hanceville City Council meeting. Howell replaces longtime Hanceville Police Chief Bob Long, who announced his retirement in March.

In a letter, Howell shared his gratitude and appreciation for the residents of Hanceville for entrusting him with the responsibility. "I am humbled by the confidence you have placed in me to lead the Hanceville Police Department, and I promise to work tirelessly to live up to your expectations and to serve the people of this community with honor, integrity and respect."

He also » PAGE 12



CAYLA GRACE MURPHY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Hanceville Municipal Judge Steven Gravlee swears in new Hanceville Police Chief Joshua Howell as Howell's wife Khila looks on.

'He's the man, you know?'

James Spann visits Cullman County Child Development Center



CAYLA GRACE MURPHY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

James Spann accepts drawings from students after a presentation at the Cullman County Child Development Center.

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — Posters with drawings and catchy slogans created by students lined the walls of the Cullman County Child Development Center (CCCDC) gymnasium Thursday morning as the kids anxiously awaited the arrival of their favorite meteorologist, James Spann.

Students and teachers of all ages were thrilled to learn key facts about weather patterns and the water cycle, but more importantly, to meet the man behind de-mystifying weather in Alabama.

CCCDC teacher Summer Walker, the driving force behind Spann's appearance, said it was a year in the making.

"I reached out to him last year, but he was booked. He's the man, you know? But he was happy to come out in April." Walker said the intention behind the appearance was to put students' minds at ease during this season of severe weather. "With the weather season a lot of our kids are afraid » PAGE 10

Cullman County's Haynes Farm named Alabama's 2023 Farm of Distinction

Cullman County recognized with state Farm-City Awards



ALFA FARMERS

Darrel and Lydia Haynes, seated, of Cullman County were named the 2023 Farm of Distinction winner by the Alabama Farm-City Committee April 13 in Birmingham. » PAGE 9

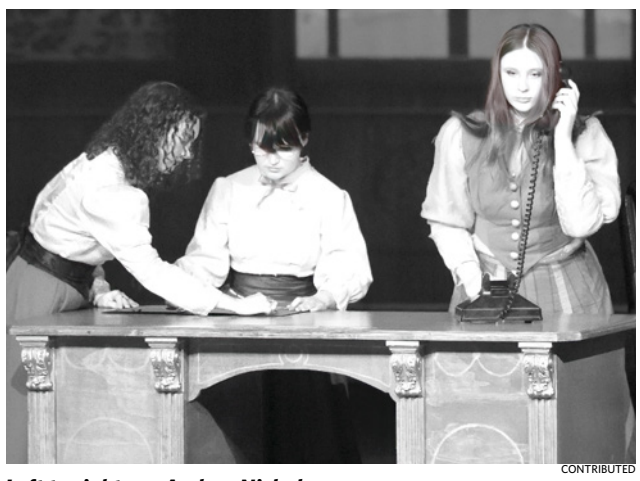
Wallace State Women's Golf win NJCAA District Title; Men's Golf runner-up in Region 22

» PAGE 7

R.O.S.S. making waves in Cullman with boots-on-the-ground approach to recovery

» PAGE 9

CHS to debut 'Newsies' April 20



CONTRIBUTED

Left to right are Audrey Nicholas, Lauren Chapin and Carrie Betts. » PAGE 2

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported April 14

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported April 14, 2023. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

April 10

- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 490
- domestic violence; CR 1598
- assault; CR 62
- domestic violence; CR 1513
- assault; CR 1435
- violation of protection order; CR 641
- burglary; CR 1615
- domestic violence; criminal mischief; CR 1108
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; Old Hwy. 31

April 11

- possession of marijuana; possession with intent to distribute controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 91
- possession of controlled substance; illegal possession of prescription drugs; CR 457
- trespassing; CR 1435
- theft of property; CR 1237
- theft of property; CR 1121
- stalking; CR 765
- domestic violence; Hwy. 278 E
- harassment; CR 1162
- aggravated assault; CR 38
- possession of drug paraphernalia; I-65 NB at MM 308

April 12

- resisting arrest; attempt to elude police officer; reckless endangerment; CR 1253
- burglary; CR 1101
- assault; CR 1545
- menacing; CR 643
- theft of property; CR 490
- harassment; CR 1502
- harassment; CR 1322
- theft of property; CR 1375
- trespassing; CR 1711
- harassment; 2nd Ave. SW

ARRESTS

April 10 – 12

Brockman, Christi M.; 44
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- possession of dangerous drugs

Fowler, Shelia K.; 56
- assault-harassment (harassment/intimidation)

Gregory, Kayla M.; 28
- FTA- criminal mischief
- FTA- possession of methamphetamine (3 counts)
- FTA- possession of drug pararphernalia-1st offense (2 counts)
- FTA- possession of marijuana-2nd degree (2 counts)

Hunter, Jonathan P.; 44
- FTA- possession of methamphetamine (2 counts)
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- promote prison contraband (drugs)
- FTA- ignition interlock misdemeanor
- FTA- liquor-possession of still, etc., or illegally manufactured, transported
- FTA- public intoxication
- FTA- DUI (alcohol) (2 counts)
- FTA- possession of concealed weapon without permit

Johnson, Christopher M.; 35
- FTA- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Mojica Jr., Vicente
- FTA- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Neri Rodriquez, Francisco J.; 39
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Patterson, Zachary T.; 31
- FTA- open container-alcohol in vehicle

Powell III, James H.; 34
- FTA- receiving stolen vehicle
- FTA- possession of concealed weapon without permit

Swafford, Cutessa G.; 40
- FTA- causing delinquency, dependency or need of supervision

Walker Jr., Jackie L.; 26
- Probation Violation- possession of dangerous drugs

Waters, Terry; 59
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Creel, Patrick S.; 47
- FTA- illegal possession of prescription drugs

Delorme, Brandon B.; 21
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Denney Jr., John C.; 54
- Probation Violation- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA- public intoxication

Graham, Amberlee M.; 21
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Holmes, Randy A.; 43
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- unlawful possession with intent to distribute controlled substance

Quick, Chad J.; 44
- illegal possession of prescription drugs
- possession of methamphetamine
- public intoxication

Touchstone, Kayla R.; 24
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Tucker Jr., Timothy W.; 44
- FTA- obstruction governmental operations
- FTA- unlawful possession with the intent to distribute controlled substance

Alford III, George H.; 34
- kidnapping-interference with custody

Armstrong, Jason E.; 47
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs (2 counts)

Byer, Jason A.; 48
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Sturgeon, Rachel N.; 34
- forgery-counterfeiting

Wallace, Amber M.; 45
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Williams, Bradley W.; 42
- FTA- domestic violence-3rd degree

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

April 12
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; general merchandise; $56

April 13
- theft of property-3rd degree; Lowe's; Cherokee Ave. SW; drills; $78
- theft of property-4th degree; ABC Beverage; Cullman Shopping Center NW; general merchandise; $298
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $117
- criminal trespass-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW

ARRESTS

March 12 – 13

Wilson, Zachary L.; 24
- cruelty to animals

James, Joseph M.; 41
- FTA- theft of property-4th degree

Hall, Matthew R.; 24
- FTA- domestic violence-3rd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Johnson II, Kirk A.; 26
- domestic violence-3rd degree

Overton, Johnny L.; 57
- FTA- driving without license
- FTA- expired tag
- FTA- insurance violation

Cantrell, Donna S.; 59
- FTA- DUI

Watts, Eric M.; 59
- receiving stolen property-1st degree

Steele, James B.; 47
- FTA- driving without license
- FTA- insurance violation

Kyle, Angel A.; 37
- forgery-3rd degree
- possession forged instrument-3rd degree
- theft of property-4th degree

Powell III, James H.; 34
- theft of property-3rd degree

Jones, Kevin D.; 37
- FTA- theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)

Stevens, L.C.; 40
- FTA- expired tag (2 counts)
- FTA- driving without license (2 counts)
- FTA- insurance violation

Cheatham, Matthew S.; 33
- theft of property-4th degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

'The Wonderful World of Water'

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Water Systems of Cullman County on Friday, April 21, will host the 18th annual Water Festival: "The Wonderful World of Water" at Wallace State Community College. The yearly event is for fourth-grade students and teachers across Cullman County.

The employees of the Cullman Water Treatment Plant have already helped prepare water cycle bracelets that will be used to teach students about the importance of water and its source preservation.

The event will allow students to participate in hands-on activities like building aquifers, watersheds, filtration systems and water cycle systems. At the end of the event, all students who attend will be treated to a magic show by an environmental magician. Each year, students submit drawings to the festival committee chairperson. The winning drawing is used as the festival's logo and appears on festival T-shirts. The winning student and his or her teacher each receive a $100 gift card. The runner-up student and teacher receive $50 gift cards. This year's winning student was Beckitt Nunnelley from West Point Intermediate School. The runner-up was Lola Beavers, also from West Point Intermediate School.

Festival volunteers are still needed. Contact Kathy Holmes at 256-734-6471 for more information.

Newsies (from Front)

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman Performing Arts, including the Cullman High School Theatre Department and Choir, will debut its production of "Newsies" on Thursday, April 20, at 7 p.m. in the school's auditorium.

Said CHS Theatre Director Wayne Cook, "We are always looking for productions that have broad appeal and match up with our talent. We just happen to be loaded with very good male talent right now and so doing 'Newsies' makes sense."

According to Cook, the production's storyline has a "David and Goliath" size matchup, and the little guy is victorious. "It is highly energetic and matches our program well," he said.

"Newsies" marks the 25th time Cook and CHS Choral Director Sarah Jane Skinner have teamed up to stage a production. Skinner focuses on music and choreography while Cook focuses on the production, promotion, sets, tech and acting.

The show was cast in December and rehearsals began in January. According to Cook, it's always a long process and the group aims to produce high-quality theater, which demands a lot of time and energy on the part of the cast and crew. He said he wants people to come out and see the shows not only because they are supporting the departments and students, but also because they enjoy them.

Cook said he is very excited about the set design for "Newsies." "I usually come up with the design of the show and enlist people to assist us as we make a set come to life. This set is massive and so exciting. One must come to see the show to discover what I mean."

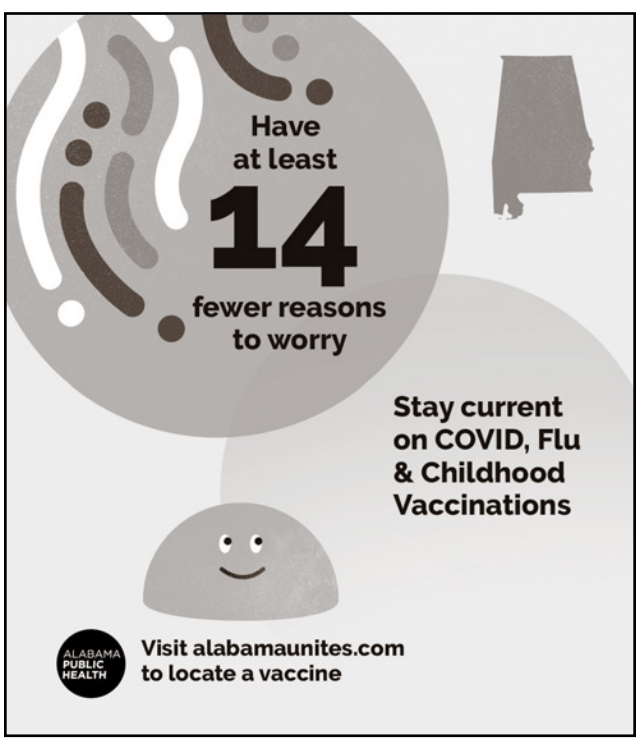
When asked what he is looking forward to the most this time around, he said, "I always look forward to showcasing these amazing students we have in this town. There is no shortage of talent, and it shines through this production. We put singers, actors, dancers, tumblers, builders and artists out in front of this community to demonstrate what students can do when challenged."

See "Newsies" Thursday, April 20, at 7 p.m.; Friday, April 21, at 7 p.m.; and Saturday, April 22, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are $12 for adults and $5 for students and can be purchased online at https://cullmanhs.booktix.com.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Calling All Young Singers!
Cullman Community Young Singers (CCYS) is looking for YOU! All young singers (ages 8-15) are invited to join us on Tuesday afternoons from 3:30-4:45 at the Little House at Art Park, 1031 Second St. SW in Cullman. No auditions, just come for a fun afternoon of learning music from pop to classical styles. We will rehearse and prepare to perform at a variety of events in and around the Cullman community. Bring your friends- we will have music and everything you need to get started! For more information, text or email Miss Cindy at 256-338-4404, cindypass22@gmail.com. CCYS is sponsored by Cullman Parks, Recreation & 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 15 - 9-11 a.m. Drive-through food bank. Healing Seminar by Teresa Pritchard 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
• Sunday, April 16 - 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 16 - 9 a.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area. Call 256-841-2060 for pickup. Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults at 10 a.m. Adult class. 11 a.m. Praise & Worship and 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.

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.

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church Singing and Revival
Sunday, April 16, at 5 p.m. New Ground from Scottsboro 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.

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

Fairview High School Class of 1963 Meeting/Luncheon
Friday, April 21, at 1 p.m. at the Golden Corral in Cullman. The group will meet in one of the reserved rooms in the back of the restaurant.

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.

Holly Pond Fire and Rescue Department Pancake Breakfast
Saturday, April 29, from 6-9 a.m. at the fire department off U.S. Highway 278. Donations will be accepted at the door. Proceeds will go to the Fireman's Fund. Everyone is welcome.

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.

Fairview High School Class of 1963 Meeting/Luncheon
Friday, May 19, at 1 p.m. at the Golden Corral in Cullman. The group will meet in one of the reserved rooms in the back of the restaurant.

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.

Hamm Family Reunion
Saturday, May 20, at noon. Hanceville Lions Club. 111 Michelle St. NW, Hanceville. Please bring a covered dish.

Fairview High School Class of 1963 60th Reunion
Friday, June 16, at 1 p.m. at the Golden Corral in Cullman. For more information call Joyce Marie Williams Rodgers at 256-339-3451.


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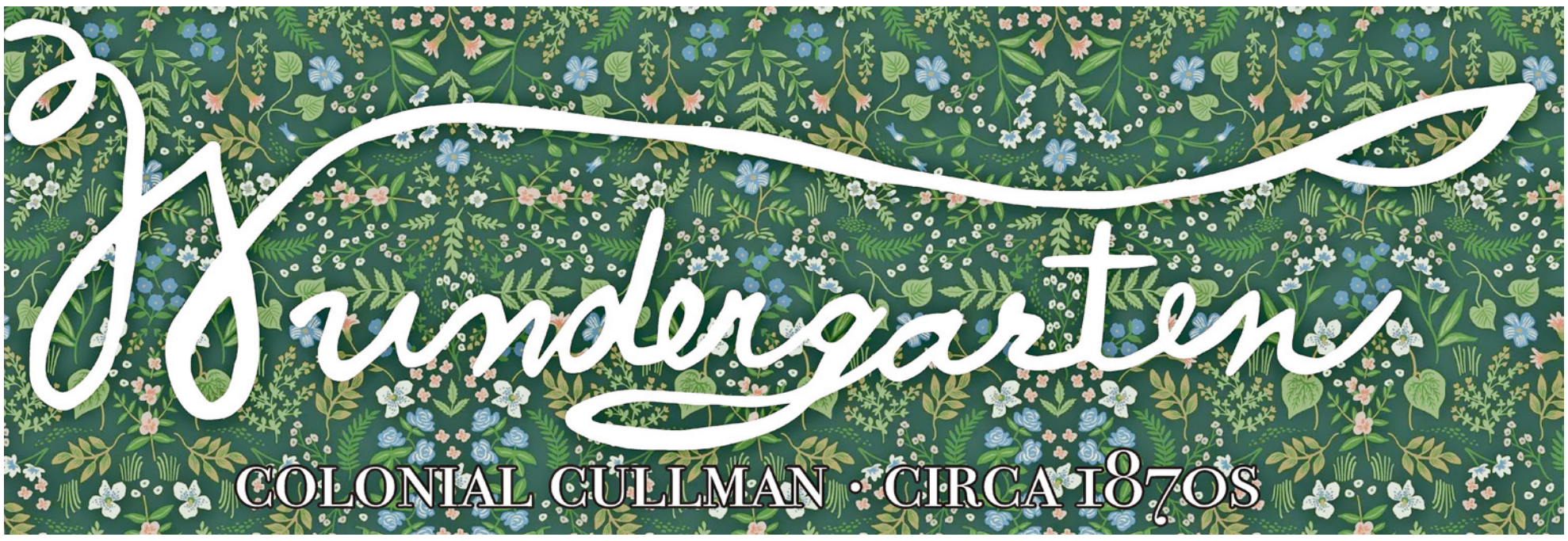
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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
APRIL 15, 2023



– COLUMN –

Celebrating in the Wundergarten – Alabama folktales

Ben Johnson South
Tribune Columnist

The collector's edition of "WUNDERGARTEN," the folktale I set in 1870s Colonial Cullman, was birthed this week. (Signed copies available at Leldon's in the Cullman Warehouse District by April 25, in time for Mother's Day gifts.) Saluting the forested hills of north Alabama, it has an engraved wood binder, and, accompanied by a framed print of the cover art, it is a silent auction donation to benefit Alzheimer's of Central Alabama at a grand gala on May 6 in Birmingham.

Over a delightful, alfresco lunch at Little Donkey with a fundraising volunteer for that event (they chose the place, and I tried not to take it personally), we discussed favorite tales by other Alabama writers.

Here are some fantastic and fantastical stories I treasure:

1. BIG FISH by Daniel Wallace is always my first choice for "Most Magical Tale Ever Inspired by Our State," in part because Daniel is a friend, but also, I simply put no other Alabama storytellers above him. Herr Wallace is also funny as flippin' fiddlesticks! I love "Big Fish," the movie, the Broadway musical and any other interpretations. Opera-to-be? "It's not over until the 'Big Fish' sings."

2. ANGELS AMONG US written by Don Goodman and Becky Hobbs, but brought magically to life by the legendary country music band, Alabama. The lead singer of that group, Randy Owen, performed the song at the funeral of his personal friend, NASCAR stockcar racer, Dale Earnhardt Sr. When you rush to YouTube to play this chart-topper again, particularly swoon to the sweet sound the members of the Young Musicians Choir of the First Baptist Church of Fort Payne, Alabama add to the story.

This folktale, reminiscent of other "lost in the woods" stories like "Hansel and Gretel," could have been written about a "wandering in the wundergarten" by the Brothers Grimm:

"I was walkin' home
from school

On a cold winter's day,

Took a short cut
through the woods

And I lost my way.

It was getting' late, and
I was scared and alone.

Then a kind old man
took my hand, and
led me home.

Mama couldn't see him,

But he was standing there,

And I knew in my heart

He was the answer
to my prayer.

Oh, I believe there are
Angels Among Us,

Sent down to us from
somewhere up above.

They come to you and
me in our darkest hours

To show us how to live

To teach us how to give

To guide us with
a light of love.

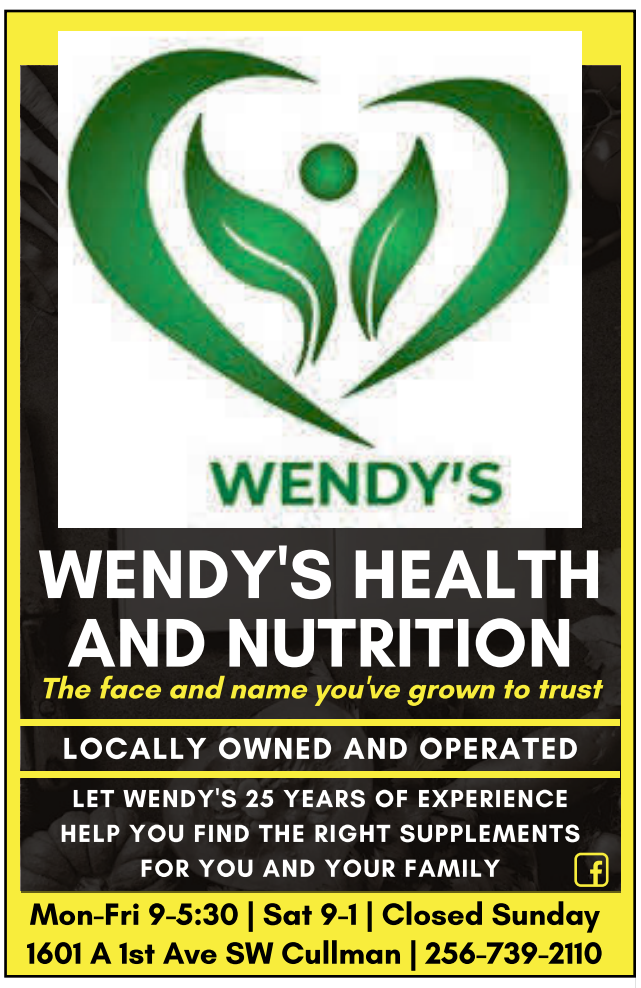
3. FRIED GREEN TOMATOES AT THE WHISTLE STOP CAFÉ by Fannie Flagg is a 1987 novel inspired by the railroad community of Irondale, just outside Birmingham. Like any great Southern storyteller, Miz Flagg time weaves the past and the present about a blossoming female friendship. It was developed into an audience-pleasing, Hollywood feature film in 1991. Pre-COVID, there were rumors in the entertainment industry that country superstar Reba McEntire would be the lead in a television series adaptation.

The tale explores serious themes of family conflict, aging, lesbianism and the dehumanizing effects of racism on both black and white people. Did I mention it's a dramedy? If my memory serves me, which it doesn't always, a climax for the story involves the accidental death of a "bad man" and destroying the evidence by turning his body into pulled pork for barbecue sandwiches. Yeah, per Oliver, "May I have more, sir?"

4. TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD by Harper Lee is loosely based on the storyteller's observations of her family and neighbors in Monroeville. Though many consider the simple telling of the tale to be in the juvenile fiction category, the book, published in 1960, remains a best-seller six decades later.

Awarded a Pulitzer Prize, it was perfectly timed for the American Civil Rights Era, and the story themes of tolerance and racial justice unfortunately still resonate today. The tale, as old as time, has been retold across the world. In 2006, British librarians ranked TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD ahead of The Holy Bible as one "every adult should read before they die." Really? More important than the Bible? Ms. Lee did not write the screenplay for the Oscar-winning film based on her book, that was done by fellow Southerner, Horton Foote. Since 1990, a "live action" play based on the Harper Lee novel is performed in Monroeville, AL each summer. I should hope for as much for "WUNDERGARTEN." Surely, some aspiring actress wants to don a dirndl in soppy wet, Alabama summertime and flit through Frau Ruehl's farm. The Alabama hills are alive!

5. THE GRASS HARP by Truman Capote tells the story of an orphaned boy and two elderly ladies who observe life from a tree. Eventually, the three comrades climb down from their high post and make amends with each other, family and neighbors. Capote was a masterful storyteller who was instrumental in the success of Harper Lee's one, acclaimed tale (see #4). A CHRISTMAS MEMORY is my favorite, Capote tale. That holiday classic is sweet, funny and tender. However, THE GRASS







HARP is more fanciful and exaggerated like an EYES-WIDE-OPEN folktale.

6. FORREST GUMP by Winston Groom involves a simpleton who despite his intellectual challenges is filled with wisdom like a box of chocolate drop candies is filled with surprises. Gump says he "can think things pretty good," but when he tries "sayin' or writin' them, it kinda comes out like Jello." If I had a nickel, right?

Like a hero in a Brothers Grimm folktale, Forrest Gump retells a series of adventures ranging from shrimp boating and ping pong championships to dreaming about his childhood sweetheart—Jenny. Along the way, Gump bumbles through American history including serving in the Vietnam War and winning a national football championship. Roll over Bear Bryant, there's a new bloke in town. All together now—"Run, Forrest, run!"

7. WHAT WILL MOTHER NATURE WEAR? by Charles Ghigna who has written 5,000+ poems and 100 books, many of those for children. Mr. Ghigna, known popularly as "Father Goose," lives in Homewood, AL and for many years taught creative writing and literature at the Alabama School of Fine Arts (Birmingham). Other tales to explore by this charming and gifted Alabama-based storyteller are "The Day I Spent in the Shelby County Jail," "The Magic Box," "Snow Wonder" and "Once Upon Another Time." Here's a short sample:

WHAT WILL MOTHER NATURE WEAR?

What will Mother
Nature wear?

She always keeps
us guessing,

With each new
season of the year,

She likes to change
her dressing.

What will Mother
Nature wear?

Green? Or gold?
Or white?

She often likes to
change her clothes—

Sometimes overnight!

8. 13 ALABAMA GHOSTS AND JEFFREY by Katherine Tucker Windham is a book published in 1969 by Alabama folklorist, Kathryn Tucker Windham and co-created with Margaret Gillis Figh. The concept is a compilation of a dozen ghosts haunting Alabama properties and Jeffrey who haunts the Windham house. It's like sitting with a dear aunt after a Sunday lunch and having the devil scared out of you.

9. PAPER TOWNS by John Green is a young adult novel. I became aware of Mr. Green because he was linked to Indian Springs Prep School, just outside Birmingham, AL. He has been a phenom in films about coming-of-age, 21st century teens. This folktale, PAPER TOWNS, is about a passionate search by the protagonist for his possibly "lost love" and a neighbor lady. Dear Reader, could you call 911 and Jane Austen?

10. STARS FELL ON ALABAMA written by Mitchell Parish for a Frank Perkins' tune was made famous by Ella Fitzgerald. The 1934 jazz standard title refers to a spectacular, astronomical happening of the Leonid meteor shower which Alabamians observed in November 1833, "the night the stars fell."

As reported by the Alabama newspaper The Florence Gazette: "(There were) thousands of luminous bodies shooting across the firmament in every direction. There was little wind and not a trace of clouds, and the meteors succeeded each other in quick succession."

Here is the inspired tale told by Mitchell Parish:

"We lived our
little drama.

We kissed in a
field of white.

And stars fell on
Alabama last night.

I can't forget the glamour.

Your eyes held a
tender light,

And stars fell on
Alabama last night.

I never planned in
my imagination,

A situation so heavenly,

A fairy land where no
one else could enter,

And, in the center just
you and me, dear

My heart beat like
a hammer,

My arms wound
around you tight,

And stars fell on
Alabama last night.

CELEBRATING IN THE WUNDERGARTEN - This storytelling culinary series imagines tasty , traditional foods from the recipe box our heroine, Frau Ruehl, brought with her from Germany when she relocated to what is present-day Cullman County, Alabama. Here is a simple but wonderful entrée, Frau Ruehl would have been proud to serve her guests in the "WUNDERGARTEN:"

ALABAMA-BAKED BIG FISH
(Source: nytimes.com)

INGREDIENTS
- 1 (4-6 lb.) whole fish, such as bass (call your fishmonger or Bassmaster), cleaned
- 3 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil, more as needed
- 1/2 tsp. coarse, Kosher salt, more as needed
- 1/4 tsp. black pepper, more as needed
- Thinly sliced lemon, as needed, plus lemon wedges for serving
- 1 small bunch fresh herbs, such as sage, thyme or rosemary
- 1 lb. wild mushrooms, including maitake and oyster, cut into 1-inch pieces
- Best quality extra-virgin olive oil, for serving
- Flaky sea salt, for serving

INSTRUCTIONS
1. Heat oven to 400 degrees. Coat fish with oil and season it generously inside and out with salt and pepper. Stuff cavity with lemon wedges and herbs. Transfer to a baking sheet or large roasting pan and bake until the flesh is opaque and separates easily from the backbone, 35-45 minutes for a 4-lb. fish, 45-60 minutes for a 6-lb. fish.

2. While fish cooks, toss mushrooms with 3 tbsp. oil, 1/2 tsp. salt and 1/4 tsp. pepper. Spread mushrooms out in one layer on 1 or 2 baking sheets, taking care not to crowd them. When fish is done, remove from oven and turn on broiler. Broil mushrooms until they are crisp and golden, 5-10 minutes.

3. Let fish rest in roasting pan for 5 minutes. Using back of a fork, scrape away fish skin and divide top filet among plates. Lift away backbone and discard; scoop bottom filet away from its skin (which should stick to the pan) and divide among plates. Drizzle filets with good olive oil, season with flaky sea salt and serve with lemon wedges and crisp mushrooms on the side.

TIP: To double this recipe, use two BIG fish, each cooked in its own pan.

HAPPY NEW WEEK AND AUF WIEDERSEHEN Y'ALL!

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





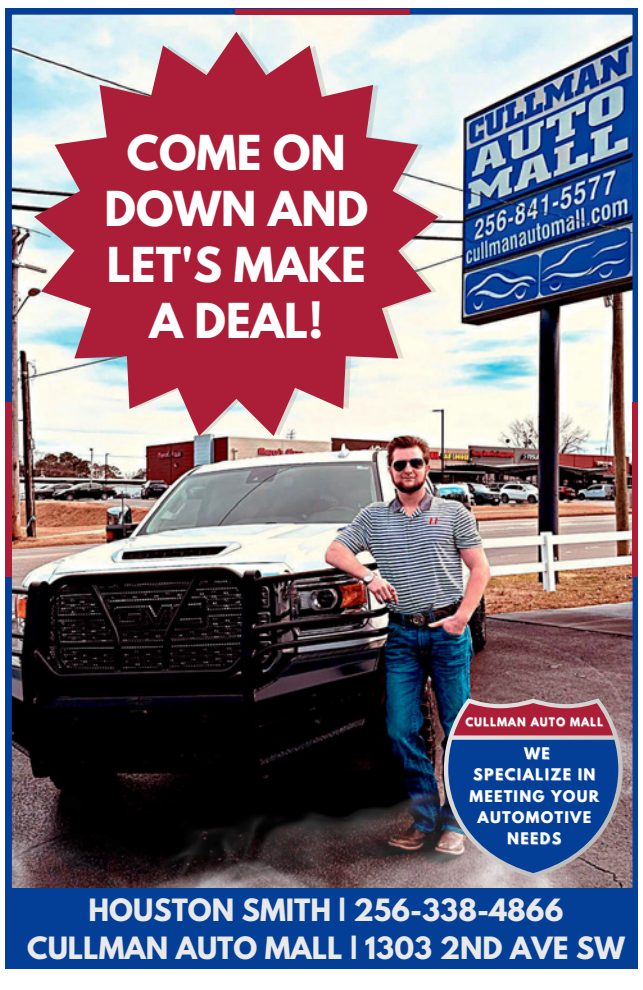












PREP SOFTBALL

Holly Pond, Addison collect Thursday night wins

Sammy Confer
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Addison 12 - Cold Springs 2 (Softball)

Cold Springs jumped out to an early lead in their opening at-bats. Kortnie Williams hit a leadoff single to right field on the first pitch, then Ciara Calvert drew a walk. Later on, the Lady Eagles pulled off a double steal as Williams ended up stealing home to put them in the run column first. A few pitches later, Sadie Smith hit an RBI ground out to make it 2-0.

Addison responded quickly in their half as they loaded the bases with no outs. Lainey Evans scored on a passed ball to cut it to 2-1, then an RBI double by Savannah Miller tied the game up at two.

Summer Evans added a sacrifice fly, then Miller stole home and Cara Bolinger scored on a Cold Springs error to give the Lady Bulldogs a 5-2 lead. Addison put up two more runs in the bottom of the second as Madisyn Carter scored on a Lady Eagle error, then Miller hit a sacrifice fly to make it a 7-2 game.

The Lady Bulldogs continued to add onto their lead in the bottom of the third as Dacey Baker launched a grand slam over the left field fence to push their lead to 11-2, then Josie Riddle's sacrifice fly in the fourth ended up being the 12th and final run of the game for Addison. The Lady Bulldogs ended up taking the game over the Lady Eagles 12-2.

Baker finished with the grand slam for Addison. Miller added a hit and a pair of RBIs. Evans and Riddle each collected an RBI in the game, while Bolinger chipped in with a hit of her own. For Cold Springs, Smith finished with an RBI in the game. Williams added a pair of hits, while Brooklyn Ingram and Ella Bruer each collected a hit in the contest.

Addison will travel to Sheffield to take on Tharptown and Sheffield on Saturday, while Cold Springs will host Meek next Tuesday.

Holly Pond 7 - Cleveland 6 (Softball)

Holly Pond batted around in their opening at-bats. Samantha Giles and Bai Widner each drew walks to lead off the inning, then Giles moved up to third on a fly ball by Madyson Rickman.

She ended up scoring on a Cleveland error to put them in the run column first and Widner moved up to second on that same error. Molly Neal hit a two-run double to make it 3-0, then later on that inning, Lexie Smith hit an RBI single up the middle to push the Lady Bronco lead to 4-0.

The Lady Panthers got on the scoreboard in the top of the second as an RBI single and a wild pitch cut it to 4-2, but Holly Pond got those runs right back in their half. They loaded the bases with one out.

One out later, Maggie Nail hit a two-run single to center field to give the Lady Broncos a 6-2 lead. That lead quickly evaporated in the top of the fifth as Cleveland got a huge rally started, loading the bases with no outs.

A two-run double and a pair of Holly Pond errors tied the game up at six, but the Lady Broncos quickly got it right back in their half. Giles hit a one-out single, then later on, Rickman drove her home on an RBI double to center field to give Holly Pond a 7-6 lead.

Lexie Smith retired Cleveland in order to win the game as Holly Pond collected a 7-6 win on Senior Night over the Lady Panthers.

Neal and Nail each finished with a hit and two RBIs for Holly Pond. Rickman, Maycie Black, and Smith each added a hit and an RBI in the contest. Giles ended up with three hits and Widner chipped in with a hit of her own.

The Lady Broncos will host Locust Fork on Monday

PREP BASKETBALL

'Hard work pays off in the long run': Holly Pond's Madison Butts recaps 8th grade season

Sammy Confer
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HOLLY POND, Ala. — The 2022-2023 season was another successful one for the Holly Pond Lady Broncos. They ended up winning in the Sub-Regional round and made a trip to the Sweet 16 at the Northwest Regional. Eighth grader Madison Butts talked about that season and what all she learned.

"I think it went really good for my first time playing with the girls and with us getting a new coach. It was different, but we just had to play ball like we knew how to do," Butts said.

"Some things I learned was to be confident and always help each other stay up. We had to constantly keep the energy up and we always needed to be positive. I also learned to constantly keep working on my skills outside of practices/games and I would see improvement."

Madison learned so much from an amazing group of girls and from her coaches as well.

"It was a really great experience. It's a great group of girls. Everyone is very talented, and they each taught me a lot and helped me understand more than what I already know. I learned to constantly go hard, and good things will come, to push myself to be the best that I can be, and to always keep my head up and make up for it on the next play," Butts said. "It was amazing. They are some of the best coaches I have had. They all wanted me to be the best that I can be and wanted what's best for me. I learned that hard work pays off in the long run."

She added,

"Coach Mary Lauren Hartline is an amazing coach and I can't wait to be coached by her and the other coaches for the rest of my high school career. She helped me improve my game in ways I didn't know I needed to improve them. Coach Rachel Finley and coach Molly McKelvy also helped me in more ways than just one. When I didn't understand something, they would explain it and helped me know what I needed to do."

Madison played with three great seniors and soaked up as much as she could from them. She also talked about what she learned from playing with this team, plus what she will work on in the off-season to get ready for next season and her goals for the upcoming season.

"They were great. Maddi Ham was a huge role model during the season, and she helped me improve a lot. She always told me to keep my head up and she lifted me up when I was down. She also helped me improve my game sometimes before practice or on the weekend. We would go to the gym and just do some drills and work on shooting. Bai Widner and Samantha Giles also just taught me to not give up and keep working," Butts said. "I learned to keep working and pushing. It's going to pay off. Also, I learned to be a team player, to step up and be a leader, and if we're down, play hard."

She added,

"I'm going to keep working on my shots, boxing out and rebounding, and finishing tough layups around the rim. My individual goal is to knock down more shots, especially when they are needed, and push the ball. Some team goals would be boxing out and getting offensive/defensive rebounds and to just push."

Madison talked about what will make this team special to watch next season, her role models growing up, and shared some of the best advice that she's been given.

"Something about our team that will be special to watch is how hard we work," she said.

"Maddi Ham was a great role model and she told me to not take time for granted. Payton Golden was also a huge role model. She told me it's not all about missing shots and making turnovers that define you as a player, effort does. Effort is important in every game you play, big or small. Be consistent in every aspect of your game and you'll be great."



MARTHA NEEDHAM/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Holly Pond's Madison Butts

PREP TRACK & FIELD

'Follow in the Lord's path': Good Hope's Caitlin Nisley talks 8th grade season

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GOOD HOPE, Ala. — Last year's track and cross country season was another good one for Good Hope and eighth grader Caitlin Nisley talked about what all she learned during that season and what it was like being a part of a great team.

"Last season taught me a lot about myself and other runners. I learned that you aren't always going to win every race and that you always have off days. Last season went really well, our girls were county champions. Overall as a team, I think we gave it our all. I am really grateful for the team I have and the opportunity. None of it could've been possible without my wonderful team and the Lord," Nisley said. "It feels really good. There's so much support and love that everyone shares for the sport. I truly enjoy running. I learned to push through every race and that running is a mental game. Rudi Derrick told me, 'A race takes up only a couple minutes of your day, so give it your all.'"

Nisley learned a lot from her cross-country coach, Deanna Ciranda, her track coach, Matthew McCulloch, and her distance coach, Allen Scott.

"My coaches were really supportive. I learned great leadership skills from them and many lessons," Nisley said. "I learned from coach McCulloch that I need to push no matter what and always finish out strong. I learned from coach Ciranda that no matter how a race goes, be proud of the work you put in."

Nisley took away so much from this year's seniors and upperclassmen, plus she talked about what she will work on to get ready for next season, and her goals as well.

"They were really amazing role models. They taught me to keep running and continue to do what I love," she said. "I will definitely work on improving my times and running longer distances. Team goals will definitely be county champs again for both girls and boys this year. As far as my personal goals go, I would love to run under a six-minute mile and qualify for state."

Nisley talked about what will make this team special to watch next season, plus some of her biggest role models growing up, and some of the best advice that she was ever given.

"What will make us special to watch is definitely the amazing talent and drive all of our athletes have," she said.

"My Nana was definitely one of the people that had the biggest impact on my life. Cross country/track-wide, BB Philips and Rudi Derrick were the best. I admired their hard work and dedication to the sport and not only that, they were really supportive as well. Some of the best advice I was ever given by my Nana was to always treat people with kindness and respect and follow in the Lord's path."



CAITLIN NISLEY

Good Hope's Caitlin Nisley

PREP BASEBALL

Russellville takes area series over West Point

Nick Griffin
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WEST POINT, Ala. — After falling in a 12-11 nailbiter in the series opener at Russellville Tuesday, West Point returned home on a windy Thursday night to finish the area series. Unfortunately for the home crowd, the Warriors couldn't get their bats going and couldn't keep the Tigers' bats in check and West Point dropped game two of the area series with Russellville 13-0.

A pair of doubles helped the Golden Tigers take a 2-0 lead in the top of the first and the Warriors were able to load the bases in the bottom half of the inning, but a ground out stranded the runners and kept Russellville ahead 2-0. A pair of RBI singles extended the Tigers' lead to 4-0 in the top of the second and they began to really pull away in the third.

A leadoff double and an RBI single made it a 5-0 game and after loading up the bases later in the inning, a grand slam over the left field fence stretched Russellville's lead to 9-0 going into the fourth.

The Tigers pushed one more run across the plate in the top half of the fourth to make it 10-0 and tacked on three more in the top of the fifth to wrap up a 13-0 win over the Warriors.

Brody Freeman led West Point with a pair of hits in the loss. Boston Freeman, Charlie Ashley and Andrew Putman each posted hits as well.

The Warriors will now turn their focus to defending their Cullman County Tournament Championship.

West Point will face either Hanceville or Good Hope in the county tournament semifinals Monday at 2 p.m. at Cold Springs High School.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The West Point Warriors fell to Russellville 13-0 at home Thursday night.

Wallace State Women's Golf win NJCAA District Title; Men's Golf runner-up in Region 22

Gail Crutchfield
Wallace State



WALLACE STATE

The Wallace State Women's Golf team claimed the National Junior College Athletic Association District title Tuesday at Cross Creek Golf Course in Cullman. Pictured from left are Coach J.J. Adams, Hope Harrell, Sydney Epes, Abbey Gattis and Brileigh Roberts.

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College's women's golf team won the National Junior College Athletic Association District title on Tuesday, with Aidan Haithcock topping the leaderboard.

Haithcock, a freshman from Homewood, shot 7 over par for the tournament, with scores of 75 and 76 over two days at the 72-par Cross Creek Golf Course, the home greens for WSCC. Sophomore Hope Harrell of Guntersville tied third at 13 over par, shooting 84 on the first four and winning the day at 1 over par for 71 in round two. Sydney Epes, a freshman from Water Valley, Miss., shot 81 both days and finished in sixth place. Completing the WSCC team, Abbey Gattis finished 17th.

Haithcock earned low medalist honor for the title and she, Harrell and Epes were all named to the All-Tournament team. Coach J.J. Adams earned South District Coach of the Year in Women's Golf District I.

Rounding out the top five players for the tournament were Southern Union's Sydney Omsby in second place, Natalie Peebles of Blinn College tied at third and Azul Amezcua of Tyler Junior College inf fifth place.

"We struggled a little yesterday, but came out today and played really good golf," said Adams. "Hope and Aidan both played great rounds, followed up by Sydney, and Abbey and Rileigh. We came out when the pressure was on and got the job done."

Despite topping the leaderboard, Haithcock was circumspect about her play in the tournament.

"I didn't really play that well today or yesterday," she said. "I'm not sure how I shot two low scores like that. I just kind of ground it out and fought my way through."

In the team results, Wallace State women bested Shelton State by 8 strokes, with Tyler Junior College coming in third, Blinn College in fourth, Calhoun Community College in fifth place and Northeast Alabama Community College in sixth place.

Ranked 12th nationally, the win punches the team's ticket to the 2023 NJCAA Division 1 Women's Golf Championship May 9-12 in Garden City, Kansas.

"We played great in the fall," Adams said. "This spring we kind of struggled coming back out of the winter and then the last two or three tournaments we started playing like us again. It's been great to see the girls fight through. Aidan has won five tournaments, as a freshman that's incredible."

Men's Golf finish second in Region 22 Championship, headed to district and national tournaments

The Wallace State men's golf team finished second in the NJCAA Region 22 Championship on Tuesday at Twin Bridges Golf Club in Gadsden, finishing just four strokes behind Southern Union Community College. Calhoun Community College finished in third place, with Central Alabama Community College in fourth. Snead State, Coast Alabama and Jefferson State tied for fifth.

Individually, Wallace State sophomore Davis Aaron of Tuscaloosa tied for fifth on the leaderboard, finishing at 3 over par over three rounds of play.

Sophomore Zachery Coker of Gulf Shores and freshman Keith Hunter of Ontario, Canada, tied at 13.

Ranked 10th nationally, the men's team advances to the NJCAA Southern District tournament April 24-25 at Limestone Springs Country Club and are guaranteed a spot at the NJCAA National Tournament May 16-19 at Sand Creek Station in Newton, Kansas.

Registration for summer and fall semesters is underway at Wallace State, with registration for all students on April 6. Summer 2023 classes begin May 24.

Fall 2023 classes begin Aug. 18. For more information, visit www.wallacestate.edu, call 256.352.8000 or come by Lion Central in the lobby of the James C. Bailey Center Monday-Wednesday 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or Friday 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

'Make every second count': Cold Springs' McKinna Duke recaps high school career

Sammy Confer
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BREMEN, Ala. — In this interview, I talked to Cold Springs' senior cheerleader, McKinna Duke, and she shared some of her favorite high school memories. She also talked about what it was like cheering for the Eagles and some of what she learned during her time at Cold Springs.

"My favorite memories are probably my very first game, my last first game, Senior Night, and we made it to state, and we were able to cheer in the BJCC," Duke said. "Cheering at Cold Springs was very different for me. I moved here my sophomore year and had absolutely no idea what I was doing, but I had an amazing team and coaches that helped me through my first year. This pushed me to try out next year and to continue on until my final year, my senior year, where I was able to make captain. It was such an amazing experience to be able to lead such a talented group of girls and leave something behind for them."

She added, "I feel like I've learned a lot about cheer: how to work as a team, responsibility, respect, and goal setting. Working with Mrs. Adrian Dickerson, she teaches a lot about mental toughness. That was such a big thing for me. At Cold Springs, I've learned so much. It's like one big family. The teachers, students, and everyone else are willing to help and go the extra mile for one another."

Duke was so blessed to get to cheer with a great group of girls over her three years at Cold Springs and learned so much from them. She also soaked up as much as she could from Mrs. Dickerson.

"It was an awesome experience. I was able to learn from every one of them. I need to give a lot of credit to the seniors my sophomore year. They helped me the most from anyone. Whether it was with a cheer, uniforms, or whatever I needed, I could always count on them. Throughout my junior and senior year, we always had feedback on cheers, dances, and other things. We all worked together to try to change up stuff year to year to make ourselves better, so I learned a lot there," Duke said. "Mrs. Dickerson taught me that you can always improve. No matter how good you get, there is always room for improvement. She also taught me how to be mentally tough and how to be a leader for the cheer team."

Duke will remember some important things during her time as a cheerleader and will miss it dearly. She gave some advice to the cheerleaders that want to be where she's at right now, and to the students that will be starting high school in August. She also talked about making it to state her senior year.

"I will remember the girls on the team, as well as making it to state our senior year. I will deeply miss cheering at the football games," she said.

"To those cheerleaders that want to get to where I'm at now, I would just tell them to be the best and do the best they can. Don't let drama get in the way of what you want to do. Always be able to be coachable and dedicated. Practice like you are going to play and make every second count. To those students that are starting high school in August, I would tell them to just be yourself and don't let anyone change you."

She added, "It meant a lot. I was able to make so many new memories with the girls for my last year. I was so happy and excited to be able to support my team for the last time as they went all the way."



BILL PIPER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cold Springs' McKinna Duke



ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM

ACES: Take care to prevent an invasive species garden takeover

Katie Nichols
Alabama Cooperative Extension System

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. — Beauty can be deceiving, especially in the garden. Invasive species of plants are often pretty or ornamental. Whether homeowners purchase a plant or it shows up like a weed, an invasive species can quickly become a problem. Protect the garden and prevent invasives from taking root.

What are invasive species?
Nancy Loewenstein, an Alabama Cooperative Extension System specialist, said invasive species are non-native plants that have escaped cultivation and become weedy problems. While it can be hard to predict which species will become invasive, some frequently seen invasive plant characteristics include the following:

- Competitive (rapid) growth
- Strong reproductive pressure (produce a lot of seeds quickly and sprout quickly after cutting)
- Easily spread seeds (wind, water, birds and other animals)
- Easy establishment

To access a list of invasive plants in Alabama, read the Alabama Invasive Plant Council's publication. More information is also available in the Alabama Extension publication, Invasive Plants: Exotic Beauties Can Have Devastating Results. More than 50 percent of the species on the Alabama Invasive Plant Council's invasive plant list are escaped ornamentals. Seeds from invasive plants—including escaped ornamentals—may end up in the garden or landscape where they act as weeds and can become an extensive problem.

Danger of invasive species
In addition to being weedy pests, invasives displace native species. This means the species replaces native plants, therefore displacing native animals, insects and soil microbes that depend on the native species.

"As an example, non-native plants support far fewer caterpillars and other insects that songbirds depend on to rear their young," Loewenstein said.

They can also impact water, nutrients, fire cycles, wildlife habitats, outdoor recreation, aesthetics, natural resource management and productivity.

Removal and control
Once an invasive plant establishes, control is time consuming and may be expensive. The best way to stop the spread of aggressive invaders is to remove the plant entirely. For smaller species, deadheading to remove the flowers before the seeds form is an option. Gardeners and homeowners can also pull seedlings or small plants for effective control. Cut down larger woody species. However, the stump will likely resprout. Homeowners can prevent growth by treating the stump with a herbicide.

"Herbicides can control many species, but care must be taken to avoid damaging desirable species," Loewenstein said.

"Make sure to read the herbicide labels to ensure proper use. In all cases, it's easier to control invasive plants when there are only a few of them rather than after the infestation becomes large and daunting."

Increase the health of ornamental plants by avoiding and removing invasive species in the garden.

More information
Read more about stump treatments in the Alabama Extension publication "Cut Stump Herbicide Treatments for Invasive Plant Control." For more information on how to remove invasive species in the garden, visit the Alabama Extension website, www.aces.edu.

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256-352-2221

LEGALS

The City of Hanceville is seeking Sealed Bids for Bricking the New Jail Addition located at 203 Bangor Ave S.E., Hanceville, AL 35077.

MATERIAL
- 20,000 Brick
- 140 Bags Mortar Mix
- Paint to Paint Brick
- 5 Yards Sand

LABOR
- Lay 20,000 Brick

Responsive bidder must have general liability insurance and provide workers compensation.

Prequalification is not required.
Sealed Bids will be accepted through 4:30 p.m. on April 27, 2023. Bids will be opened and awarded on April 27, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
The City of Hanceville reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Deliver or mail sealed bid to:
City of Hanceville
Jail Addition
112 Main ST SE
Hanceville, AL 35077

LEGALS

PB WIL BK 115 PG 966 - 04/12/2023 03:00 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
RONALD LOYLE HOGUE, * CASE NO. PC 2023 - 114
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE: Letters Testamentary having been granted to Scott Absher, as Executor of the Estate of Ronald Loyle Hogue, deceased, on the 12th day of April, 2023, all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Scott Absher
Executor

Shay Persall

SHAY PERSALL LAW, LLC
700 2nd Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055
(256) 841-7800

Attorney for Executor

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Probate Judge

ORDINANCE NO. 2023 – 18
TO ANNEX CERTAIN PROPERTIES INTO THE CITY LIMITS OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA
BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:
SECTION 1. The City Council of the City of Cullman finds that the following property owner, Benjamin Smith and Darlene Smith, have petitioned the City under the provisions of Section 11-42-21 of the Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended, that the following described property, owned by the petitioner, be annexed into the City of Cullman:
PPIN: 13706. Parcel No.17-04-17-0-000-009.000. Property Address: 0 Highway 278, Cullman, Alabama.
Legal Description: All that part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 17, Township 10, Range 3 West, that lies East of Highway I-65 and containing 15.9 acres, more or less.
SECTION 2. That the Council has before it a map showing the relationship of the property proposed to be annexed to the corporate limits of the City of Cullman, and that said map is on file in the office of the City Clerk along with an acknowledgment by the property owners that they want it to be annexed into the City of Cullman.
SECTION 3. That the City of Cullman does hereby annex as a part of its corporate limits the above described tracts or parcels of land as B-2 Business District.
SECTION 4. That a copy of this ordinance after its adoption, which ordinance includes a description of the properties annexed to the City of Cullman, be filed in the office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, the county in which the municipality is located.
SECTION 5. That this ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication as required by law.
ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 10th day of April, 2023.
/s/Jenny Folsom - President of City Council
ATTESTED BY: /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk
APPROVED this the 10th day of April, 2023. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor

ORDINANCE NO. 2023 – 20
TO VACATE A UTILITY EASEMENT NOT NEEDED FOR ANY PUBLIC OR MUNICIPAL PURPOSE
BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:
1. The City of Cullman has a utility easement on Lot 1 in the Abbey View Subdivision Phase One of the City of Cullman also known as 1101 Old Bolte Road SE.
2. The Cullman City Council finds and determines that this utility easement needs to be vacated.
3. The City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to do as necessary to vacate said utility easement.
4. This ordinance shall become effective upon its passage and publication as required by law.
ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 10th day of April, 2023.
/s/Jenny Folsom - President of City Council
ATTESTED BY: /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk
APPROVED this the 10th day of April, 2023. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor

LEGALS

PB WIL BK 115 PG 857 - 04/06/2023 01:49 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2023-112

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM LARRELL SEGERS, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to William Clark on the 6th day of April, 2023, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

William Clark
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C. Smith
Attorney for the Estate
Smith & Smith, LLP
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
(256) 734-4721

PB MIN BK 215 PG 474 - 04/06/2023 10:45 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF)
)
JIMMIE TRUSSELL,) CASE NO.: PC-2023-106
An alleged incapacitated person.)

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF A LIMITED GUARDIAN AND/OR CONSERVATOR

TO: DONNIE DODGEN
ROGER TRUSSELL
ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Please take notice that a *Petition for Appointment of a Limited Guardian and/or Conservator* have been filed by Cullman County Department of Human Resources, Petitioner, by and through Attorney, Diane L. Dunning. A hearing on said *Petition for Appointment of a Limited Guardian and/or Conservator* has been **SET FOR THE 3rd day of MAY, 2023, AT 10:00 A.M.**, Cullman County Courthouse, Probate Office Room 101, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this 6th day of April, 2023.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

Diane L. Dunning
Assistant Attorney General
State of Alabama
Department of Human Resources
P.O. Box 13248
Birmingham, AL 35202-3248

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. CASE NO AD 2023-024
FOR THE ADOPTION OF

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
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

BOOK REVIEW

‘The Codebreaker’s Secret’ by Sara Ackerman

Cathy Lay Mayor
Contributor

“The Codebreaker’s Secret” has dual timelines. One takes place in the 1940s and the other in the 1960s. Isobel Cooper is a cryptanalyst during World War II. She works in Washington, D.C., trying to decipher encrypted Japanese messages. The job is tedious and stressful, but she enjoys the work. In 1965, Lu Freitas is a novice reporter for Sunset Magazine. Her editor sends her to Hawaii (her childhood home) to cover the grand opening of the Rockefellers’ newest posh resort.

After Isobel’s brother Walt’s plane is shot down during the attack on Pearl Harbor, she is at a loss because he was her best friend and only remaining family member. She wants to be transferred to Pearl Harbor so she can learn about Walt’s time in Hawaii and meet his best friend, Matteo Ruzzi.

After she is able to crack a particularly difficult code she is transferred to Pearl Harbor and assigned to a cottage with a roommate named Gloria. Gloria helps Isobel become sociable and eventually meet Matteo.

Although she is not looking for romance, Isobel finds him irresistible. Gloria becomes involved with a serviceman whom Isobel thinks is not trustworthy. When Gloria does not return home from a weekend getaway with her boyfriend, she is thought to be a drowning victim. Isobel tries to convince the police to continue to investigate, but they insist the disappearance is not a crime.

The next storyline is 20 years later during the Vietnam war. The resort’s grand opening is an invitation-only event that includes celebrities and a few members of the press.

Lu meets Joni Diaz, an up-and-coming musician, and the two become friends. She also meets her longtime idol, Ruzzi, who is now an acclaimed photojournalist living in Hawaii. Lu and Joni attend many parties together at the resort. They make plans to meet for a swim first thing in the morning.

When Joni fails to show up on the beach, it is thought she overslept. But as the day progresses the police are called. When Join cannot be located, the police say it must have been a drowning. Lu insists Joni has been harmed, but the police refuse to investigate further.

After 20 years, could these two women’s disappearances be connected? Could both women have drowned? Why did the police refuse to thoroughly investigate?

The author creates an intense and suspenseful storyline. Her descriptions of Hawaii are so vivid, I could almost smell the plumeria.

The novel closely follows the history of the women in the cryptanalyst team. Around 10,000 worked with the U.S. Army and Navy as codebreakers. They worked on the Japanese navel code JN-25 and the cipher machine called Purple, considered to be more complicated the German Enigma.

In addition, they decoded many intercepted messages. The female codebreakers are considered to be one of the best kept secrets of World War II. These women continually broke the constantly changing codes.

Their work provided intelligence to the U.S. military that helped keep troops out of danger and allowed the United States to be victorious.

Sara Ackerman is a USA Today best-selling author. She has written four prior novels. Born and raised in Hawaii, she studied journalism and later received graduate degrees in psychology and Chinese medicine. Learn more at www.ackermanbooks.com.

Cathy Lay Mayor grew up in Cullman and graduated from Cullman High School in 1976. She says when she writes book reviews, she tries to remember what Mrs. Gilbert taught her in 11th-grade English. She lived in Dothan for more than 30 years and is married with three adult children and six grandchildren. She retired to Panama City, but still calls Alabama home.

R.O.S.S. (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Recovery Organization of Support Specialists (R.O.S.S.) is changing the standard approach to the multifaceted issue of drug and alcohol dependency in 39 counties across Alabama. R.O.S.S., the first completely peer-run program in the state funded by the Alabama Department of Mental Health, seeks to advocate, empower and collaborate with individuals seeking recovery.

It operates a 24-hour support hotline, recovery-based community centers and several mentorship programs with a twist- all advocates and peer specialists have “walked the walk” of recovery and sobriety.

R.O.S.S. Outreach Supervisor Shane Tidwell said, “We are the people we serve.” The organization requires all of its advocates and peer support specialists to have maintained at least two years of sobriety.



CONTRIBUTED

Members of the R.O.S.S. team include, left to right, Reggie Flowers, Tammy Williams, Shane Tidwell, Amanda Townsend, Tamra Pierce and Carole Waddell.

In 2021 in the Birmingham area alone, the organization took 11,400 calls and served more than 26,000 people.

R.O.S.S. peer support specialists bridge the gap between treatment options and those who need and want help by meeting their clients where they’re at. Tidwell said the fentanyl epidemic is a driving factor in R.O.S.S.’ boots-on-the-ground approach.

“Understanding that right now, it doesn’t matter if they’re someone with a substance use disorder or someone who just experiments, a lot of them are dying. Even first-time users. What seems to be a normal experimental drug use turns out to be fentanyl.”

Tidwell said there are multiple factors contributing to the increasing rate of addiction and overdoses in Alabama, sharing, “Substance use disorder is not cut and dry. It’s like cancer, you know, there’s stages. Some may be on the high end of the spectrum of use, some may be on the low end.”

R.O.S.S. is aiming to shift the stigma of those seeking recovery. “If we can get the public to understand it as a true medical issue, then we can do something better than what we’re doing,” said Tidwell. “That’s one of our main jobs is to educate the community. I’m not here to change your mind, I’m here to give facts.”

If you or someone you love needs help, contact R.O.S.S. at 844-307-1760 or 205-848-2112.

Learn more at https://ross4u.org.

Haynes (from Front)

Maggie Edwards
ALFA

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Present and future generations of agriculturalists were honored for outstanding outreach efforts and creativity during the annual Farm-City Awards Luncheon and Program April 13 in Birmingham.

Over 400 attendees gathered as students, families and county committees were recognized for hard work and dedication to agriculture.

Alabama Farm-City Committee Chair Jeff Helms said Farm-City is among the most impactful programs the Alabama Farmers Federation supports and has the potential to touch all segments of society.

“Students learn the importance of agriculture and forestry through contests, and they carry those lessons with them into adulthood,” Helms said. “Government and business leaders are reintroduced to farming in their counties through tours, banquets and other events. Meanwhile, our farm families are encouraged through shared service, fellowship and recognition. This awards program is an annual celebration of all these activities.”

The 2022 theme was Sustaining For The Future, a play on the “Down To Earth: Agriculture Sustains Alabama” campaign that encouraged conservation awareness throughout 2022.

Creative students honored

During the awards program, Kindergarten through 12th-grade students were honored for participating in poster, essay and video contests.

Winners and runners-up received medals and cash awards from Alabama Farmers Cooperative, which also provided matching cash awards for schools of first- and second-place entries.

The winners’ works were showcased during the awards luncheon, and the Top 12 posters will be featured in the 2024 Alabama Farm-City Calendar.

Poster contest, Kindergarten-Third grade

- First place and $200: Kaitlyn Williams, Reeltown Elementary School, Tallapoosa County
- Second place and $100: Eliza Joy Hunter, Bethel Christian Academy, Houston County
- Third place and $75: Lilli Norris, Bagley Elementary School, Jefferson County
- Fourth place and $60: Ryen Espana, First Assembly Christian School, Clay County
- Fifth place and $40: Anslee Russell, Lynn Elementary School, Winston County
- Sixth place and $25: Charlee Bea Stone, American Christian Academy, Tuscaloosa County

Poster contest, fourth-sixth grade

- First place and $200: Mattox Blankenship, Ariton School, Dale County
- Second place and $100: Easton Marable, Radney Elementary School, Tallapoosa County
- Third place and $75: Pruitt Woods, Moulton Elementary School, Lawrence County
- Fourth place and $60: Alex Coy Owens, Prattville Intermediate School, Autauga County
- Fifth place and $40: Addison Heath, Sulligent Elementary School, Lamar County
- Sixth place and $25: Hannah Grace Aldridge, Homeschool, Homeschool, Fayette County

Essay contest, seventh-ninth grade

- First place and $300: Zach Doty, Corner High School, Jefferson County
- Second place and $200: Madelyn Kaley, Ragland High School, St. Clair County

Essay contest, 10th-12th grade

- First place and $300: Lydia Maple, Lakeview Christian, Lee County
- Second place and $200: McKensie Sanford, Corner High School, Jefferson County

Video contest winners

- First place and $300: Christian Burks, The Well Christian Academy, Marshall County
- Second place and $200: Emily Smith, Houston County Career Academy, Houston County

Outstanding counties, leaders honored

In addition to student winners, local leaders and Farm-City committees were recognized for their efforts to bridge the gap between farmers and their urban neighbors through creative projects, events and outreach.

Alabama Farm Credit provided cash prizes for winning committees. Division winners received $300 while runners-up earned $200. Additionally, category winners received $100 per category.

Division I represents counties with a population of more than 35,600, while Division II represents smaller-population counties.

Division I winners

- Cullman County: Best Farm-City Committee; Best Civic Club Activities; Target Award
- Autauga County: Runner-Up Best Farm-City Committee; Best Farm-City Tour; Best Media Coverage & Proclamation
- Coffee County: Scrapbook Award
- Houston County: Best Farm-City Dinner
- St. Clair County: Best Special Activities; Innovative Idea Award

Division II winners

- Geneva County: Best Farm-City Committee; Best Farm-City Tour; Best Scrapbook
- Cherokee County: Runner-up Best Farm-City Committee; Best Civic Club Activities; Best Farm-City Dinner
- Barbour County: Innovative Idea Award; Target Award
- Fayette County: Best Special Activities
- Lawrence County: Best Media Coverage & Proclamation

Additionally, Deborah Huggins Davis of Pike County was named the 2022 Farm-City Volunteer of the Year, while the 2022 Farm-City Service Award was presented to Alabama Forestry Commission’s Brady Dunn of Houston County.

Haynes Family Earns Farm Of Distinction Title

To conclude the program, Haynes Farm of Cullman County was named Alabama’s 2023 Farm of Distinction. The Haynes family, led by Darrel and Lydia, prioritizes land stewardship on their 4,000 acres of pasture for beef cattle and 1,500 acres of row crops. They will represent Alabama during the Sunbelt Expo Southeastern Farmer of the Year contest this fall.

Darrel and Lydia farm alongside their sons, Ben and Bart, in Fairview.

“There’s nothing I deserve any honor about,” Darrel said. “You know, I’ve just gotten to be a caretaker for a little bit of God’s stuff. He gave me Lydia, and he gave me Ben and Bart, and gosh, they are such fine men, such hard workers.”

The Hayneses are raising the 7th generation on the farm, too, through Ben and wife Whitney’s six children — Jack, Lola, Charlie, Caroline, Pruett and Rueben.

“We wean and background the calves we raise,” Ben said. “Our product is an 800- to 900-pound feeder calf, and we sell those in load lots that are bound for feed yards north and west of here. As far as the row crop operation, about a third of our ground will be in corn, a third full-season soybeans and a third will be planted in wheat we will follow with soybeans. We will take a lot of wheat to combine as well, but a lot of ground we will come back and plant a summer crop on is also land we’re grazing feed cattle on in the winter.”

Lydia, who serves on the Federation’s State Women’s Committee, said she appreciates the honor to represent Alabama farm families regionally. A retired physical therapist, she said she’s grateful to spend each day on the farm.

“How many women in this world have the opportunity to work with their husbands, work with their sons — side by side — and can look back at the end of the day and say, ‘Goodness, what a job well done?’” she said. “There’s so much satisfaction in that.”

As the Farm of Distinction, the Haynes family nets an engraved farm sign from the Federation and Alfa Insurance; a John Deere Gator from SunSouth, TriGreen and John Deere; $1,000 gift certificate from Alabama Farmers Cooperative; and $1,000 from First South Farm Credit.

Spann (from Front)

of severe weather. We want them to be weather aware, and to teach them that yes, weather can be scary, but we can fix that concern by being prepared."

Spann led a fun and down-to-earth presentation, sharing information peppered with crowd interaction and good humor with the engaged students.

He said ministering to children and putting their minds at ease about severe weather is a cause close to his heart from his own experience leading children's ministry and worship, and that it was an honor just to be invited.

"This is a critical ministry. These teachers are heroes, they really are," he said. "They don't get enough appreciation, so anything that can be done to encourage them is great. If me showing up to do a program can help someone at this facility have a better day, I'm for it."



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Obituary Announcements: April 13-14

Willa Frances Faulkner, 84
Willa Frances Faulkner, 84, of Cullman, passed away on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, at Cullman Regional Medical Center. She was born Nov. 4, 1938 in Cullman, Alabama. She is survived by her daughter, Janice (Larry) Watson; sisters, Ruth Keevan and Joyce Thompson; grandchildren, Lisa (Mikey) Ward and Jacklyn (James) Hutchinson; great grandchildren, Lachlan Ward, Ewan Ward, Tytus Hutchinson, Amelia Ward, Rylee Hutchinson, Jozalyn Hutchinson and Aaliyah Hutchinson. She was preceded in death by her parents, Marnise Benjamin Williams and Nora Gertrude Smith Williams; daughter, Karen Lee Faulkner; brothers, Menorise "Bill" Williams, Bob Williams, Jake Williams, Eddie Williams and James Howard Williams and sister, Nellie Hood. Funeral services will be Saturday, April 15, 2023, at 1 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home; with interment in Missionary Grove Baptist Cemetery. The family will receive friends on Friday from 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home. Pallbearers are Mikey Ward, James Hutchinson, Tytus Hutchinson, Rylee Hutchinson, Lachlan Ward and Ewan Ward. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.mossservicefh.com for the Faulkner family.

Bobby Wayne Fuson, 71, of Addison
Bobby Wayne Fuson, 71, of Addison, passed away on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, at Woodland Village Nursing Home in Cullman surrounded by his family. Bobby Wayne Fuson was born in 1951 in Middlesboro, Kentucky. He pastored for 36 years and raised his family to know Jesus as Lord and Savior. He loved spending time with his kids and grandkids. He loved to fish with all his kids. Bobby Wayne Fuson taught his kids how to play music and sing and introduced his kids to Bluegrass music. He loved John Wayne and Andy Griffith. Gunsmoke was a regular at the house. His view of a real man was a cowboy who stood for the right and carried a six shooter and a Henry riffle. He showed us how to treat a woman. He loved his Geraldine and spoiled her and loved being a family man. He supported his kids in whatever they did. He was a proud daddy and papaw. He talked about Heaven our whole lives and now is living what he preached in Gloryland. The family will hold a Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, April 16, 2023, at 2 p.m. at Cullman Commission on Aging, located at 1539 Sportsman Lake Road NW, Cullman, AL 35055. Wayne is survived by his: son, Robert Charles Fuson and his wife Melissa Fuson, daughter Mackenzie Rae Fuson and son Caleb Maxwell Fuson; son, Jesse Wayne Ovid Fuson and his wife Amy Fuson, sons Alexander Jovid Fuson, Aryn Jackson Fuson, Alijah Jesse Fuson, and daughter Amelia Joyce Fuson; son, Terry Ray Lee Fuson and his wife Stephanie Pace Fuson; sister, Modena Fuson Granger; brother, Maxwell Ray Fuson; and his wife Barbara Fuson; and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his wife of 46 years, Geraldine Fuson; son, Nathan Andrew Fuson; two more children that they lost; father, Robert Grover Fuson; mother, Christine Maxwell Fuson, and brother-in-law, Bill Granger.

Catherine Elizabeth Bates Moore, 86
Funeral service for Catherine Elizabeth Bates Moore, age 86, of Cullman, will be at 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 15, 2023, at Center Grove Baptist Church with Tim Collier and Jason Vinson officiating; interment in Etha Cemtery. Visitation will be from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. prior to the service. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Moore passed away on Thursday, April 13, 2023, at Huntsville Hospital. She was born July 6, 1936, to Jessie Elvin Holcomb and Kimmie Josephine Holcomb. She was preceded in death by her parents; husbands, Willard Bates and Paul Moore; grandson, Brett Widner; sisters, Faye Holcomb and Mazine Morgan; and brother, Therman Holcomb. Survivors include her children, Janet (Kenneth) Widner, Donna (Bobby) Golden, Randy (Denise) Bates, Myra (James) Campbell, Lisa (Chris) Bryant, Kathy (Randy) Praytor, Michael (Cindy) Bates, Patricia (Dennis) Echols, and Matthew Moore; 19 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; 4 great-great-grandchildren; and sister, Mary Ellen Floyd.

Luford Harold Farmer, 81
Luford Harold Farmer was born in Cullman, Alabama to Glen and Dura Farmer on July 15, 1941. Harold had three sisters, Glynell Farmer Leathers, Margarett Farmer Bailey, and a stillborn infant sister named Wylodean Farmer. A 1959 graduate of Fairview High School, Harold went on to earn three degrees from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, a Bachelor's Degree in Math Education, a Master's Degree in Math Education, and a Double-A Certificate in Math Education. After having taught middle-school and high school math, Harold became the founding member and first Math Department Head at Wallace State Community College in Hanceville, Alabama. He retired from Wallace State in the year 2000. Harold was married to Catherine Dobson Farmer in 1977. Their two children are Joseph Glen Farmer and Rachel Farmer Latham. Joseph Glen Farmer and his wife, Denise have two children, Asaiah and Sabrina, and they live near Phoenix, AZ. Rachel Farmer Latham is married to Justin Latham, and they have two sons, Eli and Rhett. The Latham Family live in Smokerise, which is in Blount County, Alabama. Mr. Farmer passed away April 13, 2023, at CRMC. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m., Monday, April 17, 2023, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Simcoe Baptist Cemetery. The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Monday from noon until 2 p.m.

Danny Steven Nekvasil, 76, of Moulton
Danny Steven Nekvasil, age 76, of Moulton, Alabama, passed away on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, at Huntsville Hospital. He was born June 26, 1946, in St. Joseph, Michigan, to Frank and Kathryn Nekvasil. He was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Janet Hill and Judy Nekvasil; son-in-law, Cary Harrington; grandson, Dayne; and stepdad, Steve Lavenka. Survivors include his daughters, Nancy (Cary) Harrington, Peggy Nekvasil, Diana (Tom) Fournier, and Kelly (Billy) Price; ten grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild due in October; sisters, Joy (Scott) Nekvasil and Joann (Fred) Reitz; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends. Danny was a jack-of-all-trades, but driving a truck and working in farming industry was where he spent most of his time. He was quite the fisherman, and he was blessed with a green thumb. His personality was unique and fun, and he will be greatly missed. Danny cooked what he grew, and no one made cabbage rolls like Danny. He deeply loved his family and had a personal relationship with the Lord. Danny loved animals and is now with his beloved Mugsy. A Celebration of Life has not yet been finalized.

Mary Green, 91
Mary Green, 91, of Arley, passed away Wednesday, April 12, 2023, at Cullman Regional. Family will be receiving friends on Monday, April 17, 2023, from 10 a.m. until 10:40 a.m., Kilgore-Green Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held Monday, April 17, 2023, at 11 a.m., at St. Cecelia's Catholic Church, with Kilgore-Green Funeral Home directing. Burial at Garden City Cemetery. Father Wayne will officiate. She was preceded in death by her husband, Alvin Earl Green; parents, Joe and Lilly McCaffery and sister, Anna McCaffery. She is survived by her nieces and nephews, Allen Harmon (Jan), Paula Seas (Bryan), Harold Green (Catherine), Bill Young (Kelly) and Greg Young (Kim); sisters, JoAnne McCaffery, Maragret McCaffery and Shelia McCaffery and a host of great-nieces, great-nephews and friends.

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BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

Spring has sprung and the cleaning has begun

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



I'm writing what you are now reading on Easter Sunday afternoon. After getting off to a rather nippy start, the day has turned into a beautiful one. We had a sunrise service, before the sun had actually risen, at Lanier Baptist Church. We had intended to meet outside to watch the sun rise in the sky, as we commemorated and celebrated our risen Lord. The cold weather, coupled with a slight mist of rain, drove us inside for our service. Easter seems to always be colder than the days leading up to it and certainly the ones to follow. Winter will likely, and hopefully, sputter on away and we will soak up the sun in the warmer days to come.

The bright sunlight is streaming through the windows in my living room. A rectangle of light illuminates a small section of our hardwood floor. It is just the right size for Cocoa (15) to sunbath in. She looks over at me with what looks like a slight grin on her face. I think she thinks I'm responsible for her own personal little sauna, but we all know I had nothing to do with it. It is simply one of the perks of springtime.

My favorite seasons of the year are spring and fall. I love the green of spring. Everything seems to have come back to life after a long winter's nap. The fresh hues of green are highlighted with bursts of vibrant colors from the blossoms and blooms. Of course, the down side of all this beauty is that covering of yellow pollen that coats everything and clogs our nostrils. It is nothing to sneeze at!

Spring is also the annual time of deep cleaning. While the phrase "Cleanliness is next to godliness" is not a direct quote from the Bible, the concept is biblical. My mama believed in both... cleanliness and godliness, that is. I'm fairly convinced that she scrubbed a couple of layers of skin off the backs of my ears. We never had much of a house, but what we did have was clean. Every spring, we pulled things from the house and hauled them outside. I gave thanks during those days that we didn't have a lot of things!

Quilts and bedspreads were hung out on the clotheslines. Even mattresses were given a good dose of sunning. I enjoyed Cocoa's sunbathing more than I did the ones our mattresses took all those years ago. Oh, I didn't really care that they were sunbathing. What I didn't enjoy was that I had to help lug them outside and then back in at the end of the day. I mumbled and murmured, griped and grumbled, as children will do. To add insult to my injury, while all those things were outside being "cleaned" by the sun, guess what we did on the inside. Mama said with the house so empty, it was a great time to "deep clean" inside. I thought we might have to repaint the baseboards by the time we finished scrubbing them with bleach and comet and who knows what else. I stayed as far away from her as possible for fear that she might decide to check behind my ears one more time!

I would ask Mama, "Why do we have to do all this?" She answered, "Because everything needs a good-deep cleaning every now and then." I've come to realize that she was right. I've also come to realize that "everyone" needs a good-deep cleaning every now and then too...and not just the kind that comes from soap and water.

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

HISTORY

Files from yesteryear: 1936

From the files of 1936

The Vinemont 4-H Club elected officers at the school on Wednesday. President-Marie Drake, Vice-President- Dorothy Lawrence, Secretary-Daisy Edge, Cheer Leader-Myron Nesmith and Song Leader-Naomi DeMonia. They made baking powder biscuits and ended the meeting doing a cheer.

Leroy Box died in Texas. He leaves a wife and four children. His three sisters here are Daisy, Lillie and Sardis Box. Daisy attended the funeral in Plains, Texas.

The Women's Missionary Society of Good Hope Baptist Church met at the church for a spend the day, Friday November 13.

Mrs. Bessie (John) Christian is President and Mrs. B.H. Reid is Vice-President. Mrs. Stella Weeks is Secretary.

They had a very good meeting and will observe the day of prayer next week.

Doctor and Mrs. C.M. Gross are the proud parents of a baby girl, in October 1936.

Mr. Tone Tubbs, of Mount Joy, has been very ill, with asthma, this past week.

The preacher, J.E. Creel has moved to the George Johnson place, near Bremen, to live this year.

Preacher J.L. Carlisle preached at Mount Joy on Saturday and Sunday and at the home of Mr. McKinney on Sunday afternoon, for those in the are unable to attend church.

Reverend H.R. Edwards was at his church (Shelton Grove) on Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. Otto Scott has moved to Hanceville, Route One.

At Welti School, officers have been elected and committees have been appointed for this school year. Student body president is Drennon Talley, vice- president is Ida Helton, secretary- treasurer is Mildred Guess. Class officers are Rachel Nuss, Elbert Glasscock, Harold Boyd, Roberta Harris, Dudley Reid and Deuell Talley. Mildred Guess has the highest grade in school.

Herman Ryan has moved from Ryan's Cross Roads to Beech Grove. He will live in the house, formerly owned by A.C. Gaither.

Jesse Johnson is recovering from a badly mashed foot. Two logs fell from a truck on it.

POET'S CORNER

A Wish for Peace | By: Randy C. Hale

It is the law of the jungle
eat or be eatenif there's a bigger gun
we must build it or be beaten.

Lust and greed are alive
power loves the weak
with the cost of someone's blood
we dwell on land in peace.

Little children playing
squeaks heard upon the swings
somewhere in the darkness
there are violent screams.

Mother's in her rocking chair
Poppa's in the yard
brother's on the battlefield
firing in the dark.

With our muscle and our brains
we fight to keep our land
but if we win, they'll rise again
upon some foreign sand.

To beat our swords to plowshares
our spears to pruning hooks
is something that we all should wish
according to God's book.

So say a prayer for peaceful days
at night upon your knees
for war still looms before us
as far as we can see.

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

APRIL 15

W	Y	F	G	Y	M	S	K	U	L	L	D	I	G	A	P	A
M	O	I	A	Z	I	I	W	A	R	M	E	S	T	R	R	D
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B	I	T	W	E	D	S	E	K	A	I	H	O	P	V	R	E
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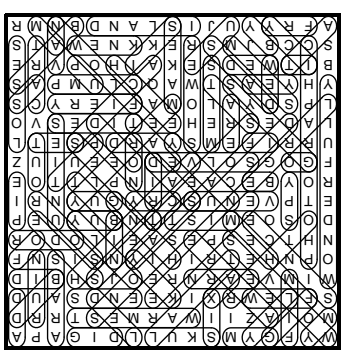
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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

APRIL 15

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		3				6		7
	6				5		4	9
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						3	6	
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ANSWERS:



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

Howell (from Front)

shared his respect for Long, stating, "He has been an invaluable asset to this department, and I am grateful for the opportunity to build upon the foundation he has laid."

Howell laid out his expectations for the department's future, saying that building strong relationships with the community and prioritizing professional development and training for officers will be key to serving the community effectively. He said working closely with other law enforcement agencies and community organizations to develop partnerships and collaborate for a shared goal of safety and security in the community will also be a priority.

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