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WEATHER

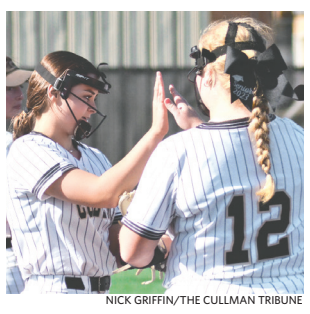
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NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

Lady Bearcats advance to Area Championship game with 13-1 win over Pinson Valley; Tuesday scoring recap

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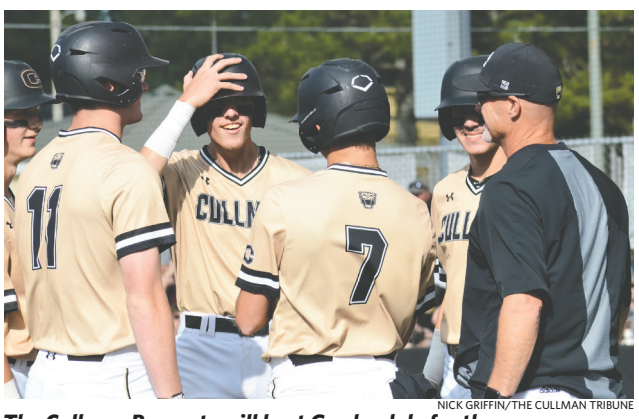
PREP BASEBALL PLAYOFFS

Bearcats preparing for round 3 clash with Gardendale

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — After toppling Mortimer Jordan on the road in round one and sweeping past Athens in round two, the Cullman Bearcats are set to return to Bill Shelton Field Thursday night to host Gardendale in round three. Gardendale won a very tight series with Pell City in round one and handled Hazel Green in round two to advance and Head Coach Brent Patterson knows the Rockets will present plenty of challenges for the 'Cats in this series.

"They're well-rounded, very solid all over, incredibly competitive with a group of guys that just know how to win and really want to win, and they are fantastic offensively," Patterson » PAGE 12



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cullman Bearcats will host Gardendale for the round three of the 6A state playoffs at Bill Shelton Field Thursday night starting at 4:30 p.m.

'With great power comes great responsibility'

Community celebrates David Wiggins' 17-year tenure at East Elementary



CAYLA GRACE MURPHY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Principal David Wiggins received a tearful, heartfelt standing ovation from family, mentors, faculty, staff and countless current and former students Monday, May 1, 2023. Wiggins is set to retire after 17 years with East Elementary School.

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The community came out to celebrate a beloved educator Monday, May 1, when family, mentors, faculty, staff and countless current and former students gathered to celebrate David Wiggins. This school year will be Wiggins' last at the helm of East Elementary School, where he's been impacting students and doling out his famous high-fives for the last 17 years.

The event, held in the Cullman High School auditorium, was organized by East Elementary PTO President Katie Smith, who said her motivation was to show appreciation for the way Wiggins has shown up over and over again for all of his students.

"He is always there to support their activities," she said, "so we wanted to put on an actual ceremony so we can support him in the same capacity."

Smith said the event was designed to match Wiggins' energy. "He's a » PAGE 12

CMS' McGee 'Final 4' finalist for Alabama Teacher of the Year » PAGE 5

PREP BASKETBALL

Holly Pond hiring Tim Willoughby as varsity boys coach



MARTHA NEEDHAM/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Holly Pond High School has hired former Cold Springs Head Coach Tim Willoughby to serve as the Broncos' new varsity boys head basketball coach. Willoughby replaces head coach Cory Glasscock who spent two seasons at Holly Pond before accepting the head coaching position at Oneonta.

PREP BASKETBALL

Holly Pond's Ham signs with Faulkner



HOLLY POND HIGH SCHOOL

Holly Pond standout Maddi Ham signed to continue her playing career at Faulkner University Tuesday.

PET OF THE WEEK

My fellow Americans, check out Mr. Kennedy



DONNA RUTTKAY

Mr. Kennedy smiles for his constituents. » PAGE 9

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported May 3

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported May 3, 2023. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No incidents or arrests reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

April 27

• theft of property-4th degree; Hobby Lobby; Town Square SW; general merchandise

May 1

• criminal trespass-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157
• theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $197
• theft of property-4th degree; criminal trespass-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; general merchandise; $10
• theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; printer; $229
• theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; general merchandise; $140

May 2

• identity theft; person
• identity theft; person
• theft of property-1st degree; person; cash

ARRESTS

May 1 – 2

Anders, Jeremy K.; 30
• FTA- insurance violation

Cable, Stacy R.; 39
• FTA- theft of property-4th degree

McAnear, Taylor A.; 27
• FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Jones, Clinton M.; 34
• criminal trespass-3rd degree

Smith, Daniel S.; 28
• FTA- insurance violation
• FTA- theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)

Bright, Nicholas J.; 42
• FTA- driving while suspended
• FTA- insurance violation
• FTA- improper lane usage
• FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Mullennix, Joshua C.; 34
• theft of property-4th degree

Hodge, Michael K.; 33
• theft of property-4th degree
• criminal trespass-3rd degree

Morrow, Stephen A.; 29
• public intoxication

Thomson, Johnnie; 59
• public intoxication

Sanford, Christopher L.; 38
• FTA- driving without license
• FTA- criminal trespass-3rd degree
• FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
• FTA- violation protection order

Vazquez, Rogelio S.; 41
• DUI

Nolasco-Medel, Michele D.; 51
• FTA- driving on wrong side of road
• FTA- driving while license suspended

Feezell, Sherri L.; 49
• FTA- driving while license suspended
• FTA- fail to register vehicle

Simmons, Felicia P.; 36
• FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

1 killed, 2 injured in multi-vehicle crash on I-65

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN COUNTY, Ala. – One person was killed and two injured in a multi-vehicle crash at approximately 8:15 a.m. Monday, May 1, near the 318 mile marker on Interstate 65 in Cullman County.

Alabama State Troopers said David A. Moore, 37, of Berry, was fatally injured when the 2018 RAM 3500 he was driving struck a 2012 Freightliner tractor-trailer driven by Ryan D. Finney, 41, of Macon, Georgia.

After the initial impact, the Freightliner struck a 2021 GMC 2500 driven by Brayden C. Motter, 19, of Huntsville, and then struck a 2017 Peterbilt tractor-trailer driven by Brian E. Huffstutler, 48, of Trafford. Moore was pronounced deceased at the scene. The two passengers in the RAM, Bradley J. Melton, 25, of Berry, and Edward T. Davis, 29, of Cullman, were both injured and transported to Cullman Regional for treatment.

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



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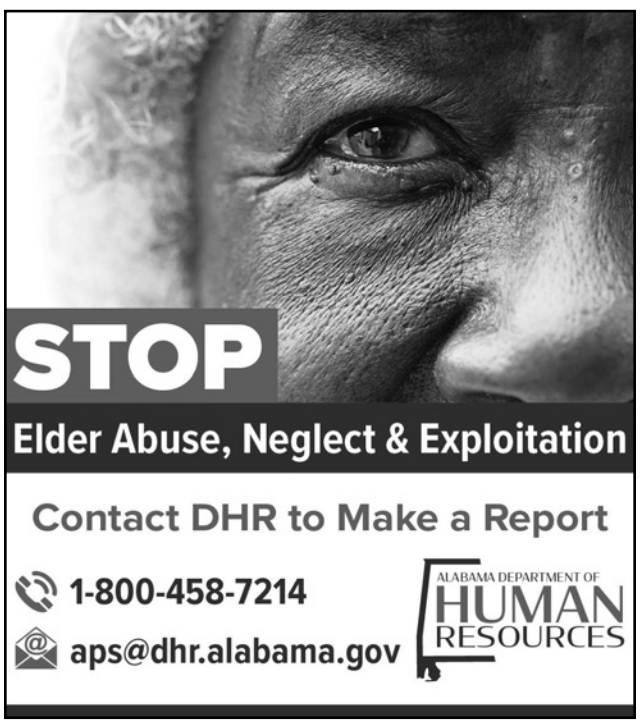
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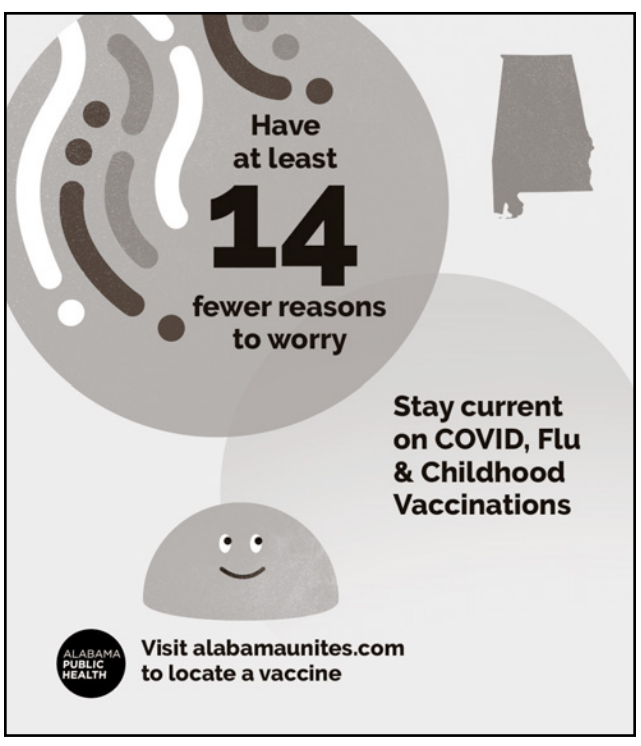
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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.
• Friday, May 5 - 7 p.m. Recovery Ministry Guest Speaker is Jeff Gilliland - Fellowship & Testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! For those who want to get together before class bring a dish, dessert or drink @ 6:30 p.m. for a potluck meal. Nursery provided.
• Saturday, May 6- 8 a.m. Men's Breakfast
• Sunday, May 7 - 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, May 7 - 9 a.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area. Call 256-841-2060 for pickup. Breakfast @ 9:30. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults @ 10. Adult class at 11. Praise and 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.

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.

Heartland Quilt Guild Meeting
Thursday, May 11, at 6:30 p.m. We will meet at St. Andrews Methodist Church on 615 Main Ave. SW., Cullman, Al 35055. All are welcome.

BBB of North Alabama Cullman Shred Day
Saturday, May 13, from 9 a.m.-noon at King Edward Plaza Shopping Center. This event will give area residents and small businesses the opportunity to help protect identities and the environment in a quick and easy drive-thru set up.

The following FREE services will be available onsite:
• Document shredding: Only paper documents will be accepted. All other materials such as cardboard, plastic, metal and binders must be removed. There is a limit of three large trash bags or file storage boxes per vehicle.
• Drug take-back: Cullman Police Department will be collecting prescription and over-the-counter medications. Needles will not be accepted.
• Non-perishable food donations: Benefits Cullman Caring for Kids
• For more information, call 256-533-4804.

Holly Pond Homemakers Club Meeting
Tuesday, May 16, for lunch at Charlie Bea's Restaurant in Oneonta. The group will meet at First Baptist Church of Holly Pond at 10 a.m. to travel to the restaurant for a delightful lunch and good fellowship. Invite prospective members to attend and encourage regular members to attend.

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.
• 7th Annual Bernard Blues and BBQ Arts & Crafts Festival
• September 9-10, 2023
• Contact: Joyce Nix – 256-255-5860; jnix@stbernardprep.com

7th Annual Bernard Blues and BBQ
Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 9-10, at St. Bernard. Featuring pottery, quilts, brooms, leather art, cypress furniture, paintings, jewelry, plants and more. Visit Ave Maria Grotto for a reduced price admission of only $5. Admission donation to the festival is $10 per person; children 5 and younger free. Proceeds benefit St. Bernard Prep School. Rain or shine 9 a.m.-4 p.m. each day. Visit www.stbernardprep.com for more information.

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PREP SOFTBALL

Lady Bearcats advance to Area Championship game with 13-1 win over Pinson Valley; Tuesday scoring recap

Nick Griffin, Sammy Confer
nick@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman Lady Bearcats returned home to host this year's 6A, Area 13 Tournament Tuesday night and after dropping their first game with Mortimer Jordan, the 'Cats bounced back to win their next matchup against Pinson Valley to advance to Thursday's Area Championship Game.

Olivia Britton reached base in the top of the first with a single into left field and an error allowed her to come all the way around to score and give Cullman a 1-0 lead.

The Lady Bearcats added to their lead in the top of the second. An RBI double from Hattie Graham made it a 2-0 game and Abby Maples drew a walk with the bases loaded later in the inning to stretch the lead to 3-0. A sacrifice fly by Haley Shannon allowed Graham to score and make it 4-0 and Britton drew another bases-loaded walk to put Cullman on top 5-0. An RBI single off the bat of Taylor Au kept the inning going and extended the lead to 6-0 and Sadie Graham knocked an RBI single up the middle to make it 7-0. Hattie Graham drew another walk later in the inning to bring in Britton and give the 'Cats an 8-0 advantage and just a few pitches later, Brooklyn Morton ripped an RBI single into left field to plate two more runs and make it a 10-0 game and an error from Pinson Valley allowed two more runs to cross the plate and gave Cullman a 12-0 lead. The inning finally ended after Britton drew a walk to bring Maples home from third, giving the Lady Bearcats a commanding, 13-0 lead going into the bottom half of the second.

Pinson Valley was able to get a run on the board in the bottom of the third and trim the lead to 13-1 but couldn't get any closer with that and Cullman went on to win it 13-1.

Britton (two RBIs), Hattie Graham (two RBIs) and Sadie Graham (one RBI) each finished with a pair of hits in the win. Morton (one hit) added a pair of RBIs as well and Maples (one RBI) and Au (one RBI) each posted hits for the Lady Bearcats. Summer Story tossed one scoreless inning for the 'Cats and Mattie Smith pitched the other four, allowing just one run on four hits and collecting five strikeouts.

Cullman will be back on the field Thursday at 4 p.m. for a rematch with Mortimer Jordan in the Area 13 Championship Game.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cullman Lady Bearcats split their Tuesday matchups with Mortimer Jordan and Pinson Valley to secure a spot in Thursday's Area 13 Championship Game.

Fairview 12 – West Point 11 (5A, Area 12)

West Point got on the scoreboard first in their opening at-bats on a one-out solo home run by Brinlee Phillips; they later made it 2-0 as Bethany Minck scored on a Fairview error. The Lady Warriors added onto their lead in the top of the second as Cabri Blackwood hit an RBI groundout to make it 3-0, then back-to-back RBI singles by Macayla Wilkins and Phillips pushed their lead to 5-0. The Lady Aggies got in the run column in the bottom of the second on an RBI groundout by Ada Fales, but West Point continued to pad their lead in the top of the third.

They had runners on the corners with one out and Blackwood ended up hitting an RBI single to right field, then Wilkins lined a two-run double to center field as the Lady Warrior lead quickly swelled to 8-1. All of a sudden, Fairview went on a huge rally to get back in the game in their half. Jaycee Aleman followed up Emily Benson's leadoff triple with one of her own to make it 8-2, then Kylie Kovar added an RBI single, and Allison Davis hit an RBI double to cut it to 8-4. Fales got hit by the pitch with the bases loaded to force home a run, then Jordan Simmons drew a bases-loaded walk to make it an 8-6 game.

West Point put up a pair of runs in the top of the fourth as Bethany Minck and Lexi Kimbril each scored on a pair of Lady Aggie errors to push their lead to 10-6. Fairview countered in their half as Kovar hit an RBI single and Fales drove in a run on a fielder's choice to cut it to 10-8. An RBI single by Kimbril in the top of the fifth made it an 11-8 game, but the Lady Aggies answered right back in a big way in their half.

Simmons scored a run on a Lady Warrior error, then Kovar added yet another RBI single to cut it to 11-10. Davis hit a two-run single up the middle to give Fairview their first lead of the game, 12-11. West Point looked to get the lead in their final at-bats, but Addison Phillips retired the Lady Warriors in order on just six pitches to seal the 12-11 comeback win for Fairview.

Kovar (three hits) and Davis (two hits) each posted three RBIs in the win for Fairview. Fales also finished with three RBIs as well. Aleman added a pair of hits and two RBIs. Simmons ended up with a hit and an RBI. Benson collected a pair of hits in the game and Ayda Payne chipped in with a hit of her own.

For West Point, Wilkins finished with three hits and three RBIs. Phillips added a pair of hits and two RBIs. Blackwood ended up with a hit and two RBIs. Kimbril and Bailey Brock each collected a hit and an RBI in the contest. Liberty Shadix added a pair of hits, while Minck and Macie Brown each chipped in with a hit of their own. Fairview will take on the loser of Springville and Hayden Thursday at 2 p.m. for a chance to move on to the Class 5A, Area 12 championship game.

Other Tuesday scores:

- Mortimer Jordan 15 – Cullman 0 (6A, Area 13)
- Meek 13 – Decatur Heritage 12 (1A, Area 14)
- Holly Pond 17 – Cleveland 4 (2A, Area 10)
- West End 4 – Holly Pond 3 (2A, Area 10)
- Susan Moore 16 – Vinemont 8 (3A, Area 13)
- Good Hope 11 – East Lawrence 1 (4A, Area 13)
- Priceville 12 – Good Hope 2 (4A, Area 13)
- West End 4 – Hanceville 1 (4A, Area 13)
- East Lawrence 9 – Hanceville 2 (4A, Area 13)
- Springville 10 – Fairview 0 (5A, Area 12)
- Hayden 14 – West Point 4 (5A, Area 12)

PREP BASKETBALL

'Give all glory to God': Holly Pond's Sawyer Olinger recaps sophomore season

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. — The Holly Pond Broncos are coming off another great basketball season that saw them collect over 20 wins and add an area title to their trophy case. Sophomore Sawyer Olinger recapped that season and talked about what all he learned, plus what it was like to play with this group of guys.

"I thought it went great. It was a big improvement from last season, and we all grew as a team and as a family. We went from a losing record and not even winning the area championship to having a 20+ winning season and winning an area championship. It's unfortunate that we couldn't go farther than what we did. We had talent and an amazing coaching staff that knew a lot about basketball and the things we needed to succeed," Olinger said. "I learned a lot this season. I learned that it's not about how you feel, but it's what your job is. I also learned that having good chemistry with your teammates goes a long way. We didn't have the best season last year, but when we came together, started to hang out with one another and build relationships with each other, that's when our team really came together and that's when we really started to play good."

He added,

"It was always a fun time. We had a lot of energy every day in practice and when one of us was having a bad practice, we picked each other up. I was friends with everybody on the team and I'm going to miss the seniors that are graduating. I've gotten to know them really well over the past years."

Sawyer learned a lot from this year's seniors: Gunnar McBee, Diego Garcia, Christian Couch, and Levi Farr.

"The seniors were fun to be around. They were all fun to talk to and hang out with. All of them were great teammates. They knew their role and knew what we needed them to do for us to be great. I learned to not take high school sports for granted because it comes and goes as soon as you know it. I also learned to always have fun, winning or losing. It's always best to have energy and to show good sportsmanship."

Sawyer played for coach Cory Glasscock last season in his second year as head coach and soaked up as much as he could from him.

"It's been fun. He is a talented coach and probably one of the best coaches I have had. He is always on us when we aren't giving 100%, no matter if we are in the weight room or on the court. I have a lot of respect for him because he is always joking around with us, and he has a really good personality. I would say I have learned how to show class and that whatever I'm doing, I always need to try my hardest and work towards that goal. He has told us that when you get older, it's not about how you feel, but it is what your job is and that is something I will remember for the rest of my life."

Sawyer has seen this team grow a lot from two years ago to now and he'll continue to work in the off-season to get better for next season.

"I feel like we have grown a lot. We have totally flipped our record from awful to really good and I hope we can keep that going this year. I really think the reason for that was because we worked our tails off this summer and that is what has allowed us to improve and go farther than we did two years ago.

"We have all gotten a lot stronger and more talented. I give our strength coach and great coaching staff all the credit for that," he said.

"I want to work on all aspects, but most importantly, hitting shots and playing defense. I wasn't the greatest scorer last season and I want to get really good on defense. I also want to work on finding open teammates and reducing my turnovers from last year."

Sawyer talked about his goals and the team goals, plus what will make this team special to watch next season.

"An individual goal is to improve from last year and to become a better teammate. A team goal is to go to Wallace or even try to go to Birmingham," he said. "I think our chemistry and our energy will make us special to watch next year because we always bring energy on the court and even on the bench."



BILL PIPER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Holly Pond's Sawyer Olinger

Sawyer watched a very special Holly Pond team from a few years ago when he was younger, plus he talked about the best advice that he was ever given.

"Growing up, I always remembered watching Drew Jones, Bailey Smith, Dawson Foust, and many others that played on the team that went to the Final Four. I always thought greatly of them and how good they were," he said. "I would say the best advice someone has gave me was that no matter what you do, small or big, give all glory to God. I believe it is important to remember Him and what He did and to always show gratitude towards Him."



CULLMAN CITY SCHOOLS

Katie McGee, a seventh-grade English teacher at Cullman Middle School, is a Final 4 finalist for State of Alabama Teacher of the Year.

CMS' McGee 'Final 4' finalist for Alabama Teacher of the Year

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — A teacher at Cullman Middle School has made the cut in Alabama's "Final 4" to select the state's Teacher of the Year. Katie McGee, a seventh-grade English teacher, has been named a finalist for the prestigious state award.

"I am grateful and extremely flattered to be receiving such a prestigious honor. Any recognition or accolades I receive must be shared with my colleagues," McGee said earlier this year after making the cut as one of Alabama's best educators.

"The faculty, staff and administrators at my school create an atmosphere that cultivates innovation and professional growth.

"I am fortunate to work for Cullman City Schools – a system filled with magnificent educators and supported by its community.

"I can only hope to make my community proud as I represent District VI in the Teacher of the Year program this year!"

Cullman Middle School Principal Jake Johnson said he is thrilled to have one of his educators nominated as a finalist for Alabama Secondary Teacher of the Year, noting it's a well-deserved recognition of her hard work and dedication to her students and profession.

"It's wonderful to see her being recognized for her exceptional teaching skills, creativity and commitment to education," Johnson said.

"As a principal, I am proud to have such an outstanding teacher in our school community.

"She has made a significant impact on her students' lives and has contributed positively to our school culture. We congratulate her on this achievement and wish her all the best in the final round of the competition."

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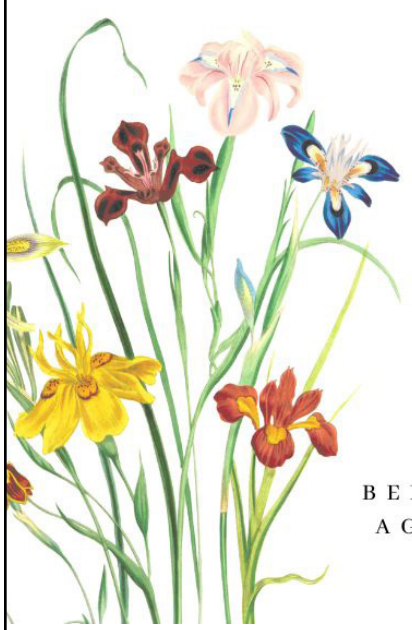
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Various breakfast foods
Presented by:
Meek Baptist Church
All donations to breakfasts will go to benefit the Arley Volunteer Fire Department
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Parade Line-Up
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8:00 a.m.
Parade Begins
at Dollar General and ends at Meek Baptist Church
8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
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ACES: How to deal with carpenter bees

Cole Sikes
ACES

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. — Nature's noisy woodworkers are buzzing by the bunches in Alabama. Carpenter bees can easily overwhelm homeowners as they arrive at doors by the day to make their unwelcome habitats in homes, sheds, mailboxes and other wooden structures. To safely and appropriately conquer these pests, Alabama Cooperative Extension System entomologists encourage homeowners to learn more about their springtime foes.

What are carpenter bees?

Most carpenter bees seen in Alabama are of the species, Xylocopa virginica. During the winter, carpenter bees spend their time in underground nests in dead trees and wood piles. When temperatures consistently rise (often in spring) the bees will emerge and begin to look for a new nesting site. These bees remain active through the summer and are often found around homes.

Their natural instinct to bore one-half-inch holes give these bees their name. However, no maintenance call is necessary to summon these carpenters.

Carpenter bees are natural pollinators and provide numerous benefits to the environment. However, they habitually live in close proximity to humans and can deal progressive damage to wood structures. These insects have the potential to affect homes, especially when they repeatedly colonize in exposed wood without control.

Without invitation

"Female carpenter bees are the ones causing the damage," said Alabama Extension Entomologist Xing Ping Hu. "To lay eggs, females drill into dry wood on home features such as siding, fascia boards, porch window trim, porch ceilings, fence, decks, outdoor furniture and other wooden surfaces."

The female carpenter bee will chew a perfectly-round entrance, roughly the size of a dime, into the sides of wood. These entrances are typically an inch in depth, then make a turn at a 90-degree angle to excavate a gallery.

Their galleries typically follow wood grain which serves as a path of least resistance. Inside each gallery, females construct six to 14 cells. In each cell are provisions of mixed pollen and nectar, which will be food for her offspring. Eggs are placed on the food and cells are sealed shortly after with chewed wood pulp. After hatching, larvae will grow into adults and will chew through the cell partition–emerging in late summer.

Signs of carpenter bee infestation

There are multiple signs that indicate whether your home has uninvited, buzzing guests. Look for these giveaways when searching around property.

• Carpenter bees hover nearby and around your building and structures—they are looking for nesting sites

• Coarse sawdust that collects beneath excavated cavities during the spring

• Round and smooth holes in size of a dime on exterior wood surfaces

• Unsightly stains caused by falling bee waste around the circular entrance hole

• Noticing a buzzing or burrowing sound coming from within the wood

The most common question

One of the most common questions regarding carpenter bees (and most flying insects) is whether it will bite or sting. Hu said the good news is that bites are highly unlikely. However, it is possible if the situation is right.

Females have a stinger, but are only defensive when directly provoked. Carpenter bees that are acting in a show of flying aggression are most likely males that are behaving in defense of territory. Male carpenters bees do not have a stinger and are considered harmless. Hu said the simplest way to tell the difference is that males have a white or yellow blaze on their face while females have a dark face.

Cousins, not siblings

A close family member of the carpenter bee is the bumble bee. Widely known for their stinging nature and similar color pattern, bumble bees are often mistaken for their larger cousins.

"An easy way to tell these two apart is by looking at their abdomens," Hu said. "The abdomen of carpenter bee is shiny, black and hairless. The bumble bee is covered with soft, fuzzy hairs patterned with distinct black and yellow stripes."

The contrasts continue when learning more about these two bees. Each has their own habits and can be distinguished from afar after picking up these cues.

• Carpenter bees are solitary bees, less defensive of their nest sites. Bumble bees are social and extremely defensive when their nest site is disturbed.

• Carpenter bees tend to stick closely to their preferred wooden environment. Bumble bees are likely found around blossoming plants and flowers.

• Carpenter bees fly in a more erratic way. It may appear like carpenter bees are chasing one another rather than flying together in harmony, while bumble bees fly leisurely together.

• Carpenter bees carve their own tunnels and nest in above-ground wood materials. Bumble bees live in social colonies, usually nesting in the ground.

Control methods

Timing

Timing is the most important component of carpenter bee control because the goal is to avoid nesting damage. The best time to treat and prevent carpenter bees is early spring. Homeowners should seal all openings in wood in order for bees to be deterred from property.

People shouldn't eliminate all of the bees in the yard since they are important pollinators. The best time to intervene is before the females lay eggs in their tunnels.

Repellants and deterrents

Painting surfaces is a proven deterrent to carpenter bee activity. Unfortunately, painting or placing polyurethane on wood decks or log homes is often not a desirable option. Wood stains also provide little repellant. Products with essential oil components can deter carpenter bees from carving tunnels or abandoning the excavated nest.

If possible, all severely damaged wood should be removed and replaced with chemical pressure-treated wood to prevent nest construction. Property owners should consider the use of synthetic sidings rather than wood sidings.

It is often necessary to control carpenter bees that are causing damage. Sealing entrance holes with caulking or expanding foam is only half the work. These measures will not work if the holes are not treated with a pesticide.

Trapped adult carpenter bees can chew through drywall mud and caulk while escaping and excavate new openings. Commercial and homemade traps can catch carpenter bees if properly installed, but often do not provide effective control around a structure.

Insecticides

Like with most insects, there is a product commercially made for treating carpenter bee infestation. These products are formulated for dusting, aerosol, foaming and liquid sprays. Insecticides should be considered a last resort of carpenter bee control.

Sprays are often the easiest form of product to apply, but overspray may soak raw wood surfaces. Aerosol sprays, especially foaming formulations with a straw attachment, can be effective if applied to each hole. Dusts are also sold at box stores and can prove to be effective. However, they are messy and difficult to apply without a specially-made applicator.

"Whatever the product used, all label directions must be followed," Hu said.

Applications yield the best results when performed late in the evening. During this time female bees are typically inside their wood tunnels and less active. While applying, it is also a good idea to wear long-sleeved clothing, chemically-resistant gloves and protective eyewear.

After applying insecticide, people should plug carpenter bee tunnel entrances using trebor plugs, super plugs or wood patch material to stop other insects from invading the holes at a later time.

More information

To learn more about carpenter bees and their habits, visit the Alabama Extension website at www.aces.edu.



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Obituary Announcements: May 2-3

Annette Loy Maddox, 50
A Celebration of Life Service for Annette Loy Maddox, 50, of Blountsville, will be at 2 p.m., Saturday, May 6, 2023, at the Cullman Funeral Home Chapel. Mark Maddox and Larry Nail will officiate the service. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the Maddox family. Annette passed away on April 29, 2023, at the Cullman Regional Medical Center. She was born Feb. 11, 1973, to Randall and Lorraine Loy. She was a loving wife, mom and grand momma who enjoyed spending time with her grandbabies, travelling, and outdoor activities. She was preceded in death by her parents, Randall and Lorraine Loy. Annette is survived by her husband of 26 years, David Maddox; daughter, Bonnie (Andrew) Martin; brother, Jesse (Trisha) Loy; grandchildren, Gracelyn, Tyler and Lana; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy can be posted to www.cullmanfuneralhome.com for the Maddox family.

Claude Ferrell "Sandy" Sanders, 84
A graveside funeral service for Claude Ferrell "Sandy" Sanders, of Bremen, Alabama will be 2 p.m. Thursday, May 4, 2023 at Ryan's Creek Baptist Cemetery. Rev Horace Swann and Rev. Tommy Graves will be officiating. Mr. Sanders was born on April 28, 1939, to Claude O. and Bessie (Clifton) Sanders in Trussville, Alabama. He passed away at the age of 84 at his residence in Bremen, Alabama on April 30, 2023. Survivors include his daughter, Jennifer (Matt) Schlosser; grandchildren, Brandon (Cindy) Parker, Jeremy (Kim) Calvert, Josh (Tiffany) Calvert, Brooklyn Schlosser and Mattilyn Schlosser; sister, Charlotte (Joe) Chandler; brother-in-law, Charles (Pat) Hancock; and a host of many great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, Mr. Sanders was preceded in death by his wife, Nelda Jean Hancock-Sanders; daughter, Kathy Sanders-Calvert; and siblings, Helen Kilgo, Gloria Jean Sanders, Billie Faye Harbison and Linda Swann.

Jessie "Gail" Sawyer, 78
Jessie "Gail" Sawyer, age 78, of Haleyville, Alabama, passed away Monday, May 1, 2023, at University of Alabama Birmingham Hospital. Gail was born on April 22, 1945, in Lynn, Alabama. She loved her family, her church, and her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Gail was a very caring person and a member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church. A visitation will be held on Friday, May 5, 2023, from noon until 2 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Haleyville, where the service will be held at 2 p.m. Burial will follow in Mt. Zion Cemetery. Brother John Humphries will officiate. Gail is survived by her husband, Gary Sawyer; sons, David Sawyer, Jeremy Sawyer, and Terrell Sawyer; sister-in-law, Karen Higginbotham; sister, Betty Dill; grandchildren, Ajah Sawyer, Emma Sawyer, and Blake Sawyer; nephew, Darren Dill; and a host of other nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Dewey and Minnie Dodd; and brother, Charles Dodd.

Lantry Ed Brandon, 65, of Vinemont
Lantry Ed Brandon, age 65, of Vinemont, Alabama passed away on Monday, May 1, 2023. Lantry retired from the Cullman City School System in 2008 after a successful career as a teacher. He is survived by his daughters: Emily Berryhill (Cameron) and Katie Brandon; parents: Asa Lee and Barbara Joan Huffstutler Brandon; sisters: Beth Parker (Stanley), Cyndy Drake (Kuenn) and Beverly Wix; grandchildren: Griffin, Grant, Every, Jack and Emy Berryhill; and a host of other family members, friends and former students. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.mossservicefh.com for the Brandon family.

Andrew Arvin Baker, 82
Andrew Arvin Baker, age 82, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Monday, May 1, 2023. Andrew was born in Wilkesboro, North Carolina. on Nov. 21, 1940 to William Taft and Virgie Church Baker. A Celebration of Life Memorial Service will be held on Saturday May 6, 2023, at 1 p.m. at 7th Street Baptist Church with Rev. Eric Martin officiating. Interment will follow services in Cullman City Cemetery. Survivors are: wife: Janice McNeill Baker of Cullman, daughters: Audrey Ann (Gregory) Hardin of Cullman, Andrea Lynn Lawing of Millers Creek, North Carolina, son: Charles Andrew (Cecelia) Baker of Lincolnton, North Carolina, sisters: Ima Lee (Ray) Golds of Fleetwood, North Carolina, Arlene (Gale) Goodman of Waynesville, North Carolina, five grandchildren and six great grandchildren. The family will receive friends at the church Saturday from noon until service time at 1 p.m. The family request in lieu of flowers; memorial contributions can be made to the 7th Street Baptist Church Remodeling Project. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.mossservicefh.com for the Baker family. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Thomas Edwin Holcombe, 82
Funeral service for Thomas Edwin Holcombe, 82, of Cullman, will be at 2 p.m., Friday, May 5, 2023, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Blair Methodist Cemetery, Rev. Stanley Dye officiating. Visitation will be Thursday evening at the funeral home from 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the Holcombe family. Mr. Holcombe passed away May 1, 2023, at CRMC. He was born March 27, 1941, to Dee Franklin and Ester Montgomery Holcombe. Ed served Cullman as a pharmacist for over 60 years. He was an avid fisherman and golfer. He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Linda Holcombe. Survivors include his wife, Connie Laney Holcombe; daughters, Bonnie (Rick) Hamilton, Cindy (Mike) Conlon; brothers, Monroe (Carol) Holcombe, Dwight (Debra) Holcombe; sisters, Rita Chambers, Deeann (Howard) Uhlman; grandchildren, Mallory (Cody) Braden, Zachary (Kristy) Conlon, Katie (Joey) Moorer, Misty (Mark) Khandjian; great-grandchildren, Charley and Ryan Braden, Allie and Ken Conlon, Susan Grace and Adalynn Moorer; mother-in-law, Margaret Laney; caretaker, Ruby; nieces, nephews, family and friends. Pallbearers will be Josh Wilbanks, Adam Wilbanks, Jason Dubberly, Mike Conlon, Zachary Conlon, Cody Braden. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

April Dawn Cochran, 43
Funeral service for April Dawn Cochran, 43, of Cullman, will be at 11 a.m., Thursday, May 4, 2023, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. April passed away Monday, May 1, 2023 at CRMC. She was born March 11, 1980, to David Wayne Cochran and Dena Kay Brasher Cochran. April loved her children and her animals. She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Mandy and Don Cochran; father and mother-in-law, Ronald Johnson, Sr. and Loretta Johnson; son, Caleb Johnson. Survivors include her husband, Ronald Johnson; mother, Dena Brasher Cochran; father, David Cochran (Karen); grandparents, Joyce Gordon, Charles Brasher; daughters, Amelia Johnson, Leah Johnson; brother, David (Mary) Cochran; nieces, Laci, Emily, Saige, Saide; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Gary Glynn Garmon, 59
Funeral service for Gary Glynn Garmon, age 59, of Vinemont, will be at 1 p.m. on Thursday, May 4, 2023, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Rev. David Estes officiating; burial at Crossroads Cemetery. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Thursday, May 4, 2023, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Garmon passed away on Monday, May 1, 2023 at his residence. He was born, January 28, 1964, to James Dee Garmon and Nelda Jo Garmon. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Doug Garmon. Survivors include his wife, Karen Garmon; sons, Glenn (Ashley) Garmon, Jay Garmon and Josh Garmon; grandchildren, Jaimelynn Garmon, Alita Faye Garmon and one grandson; brothers, Leon (Marlene) Garmon, Bobby (Vickie) Garmon, Rickey (Deborah) Garmon and Jamie (Cassidy) Garmon; sister, Ann (Doug) Williams and a host of nieces, nephews, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, family and friends.

Patricia Ann Strickland
We sadly announce the passing of Mrs. Patricia Ann Strickland on Saturday, April 22, 2023. She touched many lives as an educator and teacher through her many years of service, including White City, Cold Springs, West Elementary, and East Elementary, Cullman. During her years as an educator, she received many honors. One of her favorites was to be declared as the "Retired Teacher of the Year" award by the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce nominee in 1998. It was her gift and joy to always be in the middle of serving others, especially with food. She was preceded in death by her parents Tennyson W. and Flora Audrey Brooks, sisters Charlotte Quattlebaum and Kathleen Strickland, and grandson John Connor Strickland. She is survived by husband of 67 years, Johnnie Ray Strickland, son John W. Strickland (wife Jill), daughter Mary Veal (husband David); grandchildren Audrey Gato (husband Blaine), Annelyn and Evan Veal; niece Charmion Potts, nephew Rudae Strickland; and a host of extended family and friends. Patricia and her husband were faithful supporters of the Kairos Prison Ministry for over 22 years. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made at mykairos.org in her memory.

Stacy Arlin Waldrop, 50
Stacy Arlin Waldrop, 50, of Double Springs, passed away May 2, 2023, at Princeton Baptist Medical Center. He was born on July 6, 1972, in Moulton, Alabama. Visitation will be held on Friday, May 5, 2023, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at New Beginnings In Christ Church (Scenic Drive) in Double Springs, where the service will be held on Saturday, May 6, 2023, at 2 p.m. Stacy will lie in state from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday. Interment will follow in Ashbank Cemetery in Nauvoo, Alabama. Pastor Anthony Laster and Brother Ed Jordan will officiate. Stacy is survived by his mother, Brenda Waldrop; daughters, Stasha (Brett) Frische, Emeriann Waldrop (Nick Doyle), and Briley (Gunner) Betscher; brother, Tim Waldrop; grandchildren, Carson Frische, Easton Doyle, Kamra Betscher, and Phoenix Betscher; nieces, Kelsey Broadfoot, and Nicole Sledge; and nephew, AJ Correa. He was preceded in death by his father, Jerry Wayne Waldrop; and grandparents, Daniel and Syble Calhoun, and Arlin and Marie Waldrop.

Kenneth Robert Smith, 81
Kenneth Robert Smith, 81, of Houston, entered into rest on Monday, May 1, 2023, at his home surrounded by his loving family. Kenneth was born on December 15, 1941, in Alton, Illinois, the son of Robert Dewey Smith and Norma Helen Stewart Smith. After receiving his Master's Degree in electrical engineering, he married Janice Marie Gentry in West Plains, Missouri on Dec. 21, 1969. He was employed by the Department of Defense for 26 years as an electrical engineer in weapons development, specializing in infrared laser technology. He enjoyed working and building their home and developing their property. He loved being on the lake, water skiing and boating. Kenneth was a good friend of the neighbors in Dogwood Lane Subdivision on Smith Lake. The family will receive friends on Saturday, June 10, 2023, from 11 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Addison. A brief memorial service will be held at 11:30 a.m. Following the memorial service, a celebration of life and meal will be held at Dogwood Lane Subdivision Beach Pavilion on Smith Lake. All are welcome to attend. Kenneth is survived by his wife, Janice Marie Gentry Smith; sisters, Donna Irene Bartley, and Susan Elizabeth Walker and her husband Edward; aunt, Mary "Me Adda" Stewart Caminiti and her husband Frank; brothers-in-law, Curtis Gentry and wife Vera, and Ken Gentry and wife Janet; ten nieces and nephews; many grand nieces and nephews; and a host of Smith and Stewart first cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents. Interment will be held at a later date in Oak Lawn Cemetery in West Plains, Missouri.

William "Mark" Bullock, 60
Graveside service for William "Mark" Bullock will be at Highland Memorial Gardens, in Bessemer, Alabama on Friday May 5, 2023, at 1 p.m. Mr. Bullock passed away on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at Cullman Regional. He was born, Aug. 1, 1962, to William Jesse Bullock and Joan Patterson. He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers, Michael Bullock and Phillip Patterson; and sister, Lisa Thompson. Survivors include his sons, Michael (Stephanie) Bullock and Eric Maynor, daughter, Amanda (Chris) Olinger, grandchildren, Riggs Fulmer, Lane Bullock, Gabbie Bullock, Colton Olinger, Avery Olinger, and Audrey Olinger, and a nephew, David (Angela) Patterson. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

Vo Thi "Bay" Bacate, 88
Vo Thi "Bay" Bacate, age 88, passed away peacefully April 18, 2023. She was preceded in death by her parents, Vo Van Lu and Le Thi Chung and her loving husband of 45 years, Emilo "Mel"Bacate. She is survived by her children, Vo Thi Kieu Oanh (Hoang Van Phuong), Imelda Jordan (Michael), Jonnie Bacate (Rodilyn), and Norman Bacate (Deborah), and her grandchildren, Malory Long(Shon), Megan Bacate, Keilani Jordan, Jakob Jordan, Dexten Bacate, Jayden Bacate, Christi Clay (Cody), Hoang Tu Duy Khoi Nyguyen, Hoang Duc Phu Nguyen, Hoagn Que Chi, her brother Vo Kien, two sisters Vo Thi Nu, Vo Thi Tam and several nieces and nephews. Bay worked at many places over her lifetime but spent the last part of her life working at St. Bernard Preparatory School, where she retired at the age of 86. Bay believed hard work kept her young and productive. She often said, "I'll just be bored if I stay home all day, staying busy keeps me going." When Bay wasn't working she would spend time with her children and grandchildren. Some of her happiest times were spent in her kitchen or around the dining table with family. She was a fabulous cook. She always kept a pot of chow on the stove and some eggrolls made for the grandkids. Bay also spent time outside in her vegetable garden and tending to her flowers. She had a green thumb and could grow anything. Bay was a member of St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church. She had a strong faith in God that she shared with her family. Even though we are deeply saddened and will greatly miss her, we find comfort in knowing she is at peace with the Lord and has been reunited with her husband. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

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Op-Ed: Supporting veterans this Memorial Day

Veronica Raussin
Contributor

Memorial Day allows every American to honor those who died while serving in the military. It should also remind us how many veterans have lost their lives to substance use, untreated mental health issues and suicide.

Countless veterans struggle with substance use disorders and mental health issues. In Alabama, there are over 350,000 veterans. Substance use disorders in the veteran population have been linked to homelessness and suicide.

In Alabama, nearly 18% of those who died from suicide were veterans, according to the states Department of Veterans Affairs.

"For veterans, military life comes with its own set of risk factors and potential causes for substance use and mental health issues," said Michael Leach of Addicted.org. "It's critical they receive the support and help they need." Awareness of what leads to these problems can ensure family and friends are equipped to help a loved one who is a veteran access the help and support they need.

Risk factors can include the following:

- Trauma or stress because of past service, deployment or combat
- Struggling to reintegrate into civilian life
- Mental health issues because of military service, such as PTSD, brain injuries, depression or anxiety
- Injuries and chronic pain because of military service

Veterans struggling with substance use or mental health problem also need help overcoming the barriers to accessing the treatment they need. These barriers may include cost, stigma, inadequate funding and limited resources in rural locations.

There are ways to help and make a difference in a veteran's life. The Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs offers a variety of benefits of services. Alabama Veteran is a community-based peer-to-peer organization helping veterans, service members and their families. Nationally, the VA Facility locator and all the services provided through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, such as those helping homeless veterans. Important phone numbers include the Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255 and the Lifeline for Vets: 1-888-777-4443. While we honor those who have lost their lives in service of their country this Memorial Day, we must always continue to recognize the problems so many veterans face when they return home and take steps to ensure the help is available.

Veronica Raussin is a community outreach coordinator for Addicted.org, passionate about spreading awareness of the risks and dangers of alcohol and drug use.

LEGALS

SPECIAL NOTICE RE LOCAL LAWS

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY

[THIS COPY FOR THE NEWSPAPER: THIS NOTICE MUST BE PRINTED PRECEDING THE BILL]
STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

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

M8JU1H-1 04/18/2023 FC (L)ma 2023-1545

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to Cullman County; to amend Section 45-22-81.01 of the Code of Alabama 1975, providing for additional court costs in the state courts and the City of Cullman Municipal Court, to reallocate the use of the funds for the school resource officer program; and to provide retroactive effect.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 45-22-81.01 of the Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§45-22-81.01

(a) This section shall be operative only in Cullman County.

(b)(1) Notwithstanding any special, local, or general law to the contrary, there is levied additional court costs and charges as follows:

a. All traffic tickets (not involving alcohol or drugs, or both)..... $5.00
b. All misdemeanor alcohol arrests..... 10.00
c. All misdemeanor drug arrests..... 20.00
d. All misdemeanor D.U.I. arrests..... 25.00
e. All other misdemeanor arrests..... 5.00

Page 1

f. All felony alcohol arrests..... 50.00
g. All felony drug arrests (excluding trafficking cases) 50.00
h. All felony D.U.I. arrests..... 50.00
i. All drug trafficking arrests..... 100.00
j. All other felony arrests..... 10.00

(2) The above fee shall be levied in all criminal cases including, but not limited to, felony cases, misdemeanor cases, and traffic violation cases, whose jurisdiction is in the Circuit Court of the 32nd Judicial Circuit, the District Court of Cullman County, and the City of Cullman Municipal Court. The costs and charges levied by this section shall be in addition to all other costs and charges presently levied and shall be collected as other costs and charges. ~~The levy of the costs and charges shall commence on May 19, 1993, and all cases pending at that time shall be subject to the levy of costs and charges.~~

(3) All money derived from the costs and charges shall be remitted to the county treasurer who shall place the fees collected in a special fund known as the ~~"D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Fund,"~~ SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO) FUND for the purpose of funding the ~~D.A.R.E. program~~ School Resource Officer (SRO) program in all Cullman City and Cullman County schools.

(4) Disbursement and administration of the fund shall alternate every five years between the Cullman City government and the Cullman County government, with the Cullman County government initially administering the fund.

(5) Disbursements shall be made ~~at the rate of fifteen dollars ($15) per child~~ based on the per child enrollment of each school system participating in the ~~D.A.R.E.~~ School Resource Officer (SRO) program. Disbursements shall be used for the purposes of the SRO program.

~~(6) The annual allocation may be used for the following items: Workbooks, pencils, bumper stickers, name cards, stickers, T-shirts, book markers, special student awards, culmination certificates, and culmination refreshments.~~

(c) Each law enforcement agency providing ~~D.A.R.E.~~ school resource officers ~~shall~~ may be reimbursed from ~~this source of funds for all initial D.A.R.E.~~ the fund for school resource officer training ~~expenses resulting from the two week basic seminar sponsored by the Department of Treasury as well as for all officer inservice training~~ expenses ~~from the yearly conference sponsored by the National D.A.R.E. Officers Association, and conference sponsored by the Alabama D.A.R.E. Officers Association~~.

(d) ~~Further disbursement~~ Disbursement of funds shall be decided by a governing board made up of all of the following ~~people~~:

(1) The Chair of the Cullman County Commission.
(2) The Mayor of the City of Cullman.
(3) The Sheriff of Cullman County.
(4) The Chief of Police of the City of Cullman.
(5) The Cullman County Schools Superintendent.
(6) The Cullman City Schools Superintendent.
(7) A seventh member to be appointed from the business sector and by approval of the other board members.

(e) The governing board may approve requests for ~~equipment~~

Page 3

specific expenditures to be used in the ~~D.A.R.E. classrooms, for vehicles to be used for the D.A.R.E. program, and either~~ School Resource Officer (SRO) program, including full or partial salaries of additional officers needed to expand the ~~D.A.R.E.~~ School Resource Officer (SRO) program.

~~(f) The governing board may also approve requests for D.A.R.E. activities taking place outside the classroom.~~

~~(g)~~ (f) All funds not used shall be held in trust and carried over to the next year."

Section 2. Any use of funds expended prior to the effective date of this act in compliance with the provisions of this act are ratified and confirmed.

Section 3. This act shall become effective immediately following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

Page 4

Agriplex online spring auction May 4-7

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The North Alabama Agriplex will hold its spring online auction Thursday-Sunday, May 4-7, raising funds for its new community hub. The auction features several valuable prize packages including passes to area attractions and restaurants, along with handcrafted items.

Photos and full descriptions of the items available are available at www.agriplex.org.

Package items include:
- A John Deere Peg Perego Gator XUV toy ride-on vehicle from TriGreen Equipment
- Four rounds of golf at Terri Pines with lessons from Stephen DeBoer, Cross Creek Golf Course
- Four one-day passes to Point Mallard
- Lunch at Trident Marina
- One 90-minute session at Quality Therapeutic Massage
- Lunch at The Brick Deli
- Four passes to the Cook Museum of Natural Science
- Local foods including honey and cakes
- Handmade woodworking items from local craftsmen
- Much more

The online auction opens at noon on Thursday, May 4 and closes at 8 p.m. on Sunday, May 7. To participate, simply go to www.agriplex.org and follow directions. Items won in the auction may be collected at the Agriplex, 1714 Tally Ho Street in Cullman, on Tuesday, May 9, from 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Community hub
To better serve north Alabama and continue the work of Food for Life, the Agriplex is raising $2.3 million to construct a community hub. Located on its current property in Cullman, the 8,525-square-foot facility will feature a fully equipped demonstration and teaching kitchen and workspace shared with the Cullman County Extension Office.

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System has a county office in all 67 counties across the state. The Extension System relies on cooperation from local county commissions to provide office space from which the Extension can serve the county. The support of the Cullman County Commission for the expansion at the Agriplex is also a commitment to provide a home for the Cullman County Extension Office.Near the current John T. Williamson Heritage Center, the new facility will enable the Agriplex to broaden its efforts in reducing food insecurity and promoting nutrition education as young and old alike learn to prepare, preserve and enjoy delicious, locally grown produce. The expansion will also enhance the Agriplex's current instruction in heritage agricultural skills and sustainable living and provide the opportunity for job training courses in the foodservice and agriculture industries. The North Alabama Agriplex plans to break ground on the community hub in 2024.

Mr. Kennedy (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Mr. Kennedy, an approximately 3-year-old male "shollie" (shepherd and collie mix) with a dark thick coat, is available for adoption at the Cullman County Animal Shelter.

Mr. Kennedy is truly man's best friend, cherishing the time spent with his handlers at the shelter. He is quite savvy with his leash as any First Dog might be, and adores being close to his Secret Service detail.

As an added bonus, Mr. Kennedy is already neutered, so potential adopters can enjoy a reduced adoption rate; though, rest assured, it is no indication of his worth as a potential companion for you and your family.

Ready to meet Mr. Kennedy? Don your presidential best and head over to the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 935 Convent Road NE, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. for a meet and greet.

His adoption fee includes DHLPP vaccine, Bordetella vaccines, rabies vaccine, wormer, general exam at the vet and microchip.

Contact the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 256-734-5448 or www.cullmananimalshelter@co.cullman.al.us.

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LEGALS

Legal Notice

Pursuant to Alabama Code 32-13-1, J and G Wrecker, LLC will offer for sale at public auction the below abandoned vehicles at 556 County Road 1621, Cullman, Alabama, 35058, on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

2004 Chevrolet Venture, red, Vin.#1GNDX13EX4D154005
1986 Harley Davidson FLHT, black, Vin.#1HD1DDL11GY502062
2011 Nissan Frontier, white, Vin.#1N6AD0ER2BC435648
2007 Toyota Camry, gold, Vin.#4T1BE46K27U125557
2003 Chevrolet Tahoe, white, Vin.#1GNEC13V63R130477
2007 Ford Focus, red, Vin.#1FAHP34N27W117694
2006 Toyota Corolla, black, Vin.#2T1BR32E16C628611
2005 Chevrolet Impala, black, Vin.#2G1WF52E459255657
2008 Honda Civic, maroon, Vin.#1HGFA16838L024752
2003 Ford F150, gray, Vin.#1FTRW07L53KD15083
2009 Mitsubishi Galant Sport, blue, Vin.#4A3AB36F29E008982
2003 Dodge Neon, silver, Vin.#1B3AS26C43D130213
2005 Infinity G35, silver, Vin.#JNKCV51E85M215632
2014 Utlo Utility 16'Open, red, Vin.#Z53F9VH807
2011 Ford Fusion, Green, Vin.#3FAHP0HA3BR273373
1999 Chrysler Sebring, silver, Vin.#3C3EL55H0XT582420
2007 Chevrolet Impala, silver, Vin.#2G1WB58K179410483
2003 GMC Yukon, white, Vin.#1GKEK13Z23R138868
2000 Chevrolet Blazer, gray, Vin.#1GNCS13W3Y2275494

DOCUMENT 4

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE:)
K.L.O.,)
A Minor Child, 01/14/2022)

CASE NO. JU 2022-024.02

NOTICE

The Petitioner having made a Motion for Service by Publication in the above styled action, it is

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Father of K.L.O. born on or about 01/14/2022. to Celina Overton, respond to the Petition by the 18th day of May, 2023, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioner.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioner: Michael J. Baggett, 206 Ninth Street SW, Cullman, AL 35055, (256) 737-0740 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this the 3rd day of April, 2023.

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

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit Court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 3rd day of April, 2023.
Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Circuit Court

FILED IN OFFICE
APR 03 2023
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

PB MIN BK 216 PG 27 - 05/01/2023 02:00 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
SKYLER ALLEN LEWIS * CASE NO PC 2023-035
An alleged incapacitated person. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP AND LETTERS OF CONSERVATORSHIP AND AMENDED PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP AND LETTERS OF CONSERVATORSHIP

TO: **ALEX LEWIS**
MICHELLE SQUIRES
ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Please take notice that a Hearing on the Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Letters of Conservatorship and Amended Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Letters if Conservatorship has been re-set for the **15th day of June, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.,** before the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman, Alabama.

Cullman County Courthouse
500 2nd Avenue SW
Room 101
Cullman, Alabama 35055

DONE this the 1st day of May, 2023.

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the above notice three (3) successive weeks in said newspaper

Shelbie G. Hankey
Attorney for the Petitioner
101 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

PB MIN BK 215 PG 828 - 04/24/2023 01:32 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
RUBY MAE GRINDLE, CASE NO.: PC2023-070

Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to SANDRA L. CHAPMON as Personal Representative of the Estate of RUBY MAE GRINDLE, deceased, on the 24th day of April, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

SANDRA L. CHAPMON
Personal Representative

Connie L. Glass
Attorney for Personal Representative
Elder Law Firm of Connie Glass, P.C.
2306 Pansy Street SW
Huntsville, AL 35801

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

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

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

PB WIL BK 116 PG 341 - 05/02/2023 03:24 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
CHERRY GAIL JOHNSON, * CASE NO.: PC2023-142
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to LUTHER CLAUDE JOHNSON, as Personal Representative of the Estate of CHERRY GAIL JOHNSON, deceased, on the 2nd day of May, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

Luther Claude Johnson
Personal Representative

Carl E. Chamblee, Jr.
Attorney for Petitioner
Chamblee & Malone, LLC
111 Watterson Parkway
Trussville, Alabama 35173
205-856-9111

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

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

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE:)
K.L.O.,)
A Minor Child, 01/14/2022)

CASE NO. JU 2022-024.02

NOTICE

The Petitioner having made a Motion for Service by Publication in the above styled action, it is

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that Celina Overton, the Mother of K.L.O., born on or about 01/14/2022, respond to the Petition by the 5th day of June, 2023, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioner.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioner: Michael J. Baggett, 206 Ninth Street SW, Cullman, AL 35055, (256) 737-0740 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this the 14th day of April, 2023.

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

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

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit Court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 25th day of April, 2023.
Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Circuit Court

PB WIL BK 116 PG 139 - 04/25/2023 02:15 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF: *
* CASE NUMBER: PC2023-130
REBECCA JANE ARNOLD, *
*
DECEASED. *

Letters Testamentary of said decedent having been granted to the undersigned on the 25th day of April, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

STEPHEN MARK ARNOLD

ANNETTE IRONS-PARKER
Attorney for Personal Representative
PARKER AND PARKER, P.C.
Attorneys at Law
215 Main Avenue, Southwest
Cullman, Alabama 35055
256-775-4444

Please publish the above notice three (3) successive weeks in said newspaper.
The Cullman Tribune

Honorable Tammy Brown
Probate Judge

SPECIAL NOTICE RE LOCAL LAWS

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY

(THIS COPY FOR THE NEWSPAPER: THIS NOTICE MUST BE PRINTED PRECEDING THE BILL]
STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

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

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to Cullman County, to amend Section 45-22-225 of the Code of Alabama 1975, to change the composition of the Cullman County Tourism Bureau; and to amend Sections 45-22-242 and 45-22-242.11 of the Code of Alabama 1975, to provide for the rate of taxation and for the use of the proceeds of the tax.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Sections 45-22-225, 45-22-242, and 45-22-242.11, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

"§45-22-225

(a) The Cullman County Tourism Bureau shall be comprised as follows: (1) Two members appointed by the Cullman City Council, of which one shall be an elected city councilman and one shall be a representative of tourism relating to the restaurant industry; (2) two members appointed by the full board of the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce, of which one shall be either the chair of the chamber or the president of the chamber and one shall be a representative of tourism relating to the Smith Lake Community; (3) two members appointed by the Cullman County Commission, of which one shall be an elected county commissioner and one shall be a representative of tourism relating to the agri-tourism industry or the faith-based tourism industry; (4) one member appointed by the hotel association; (5) one member appointed by the Wallace State Community College President; (6) one member who shall be the Cullman County Parks and Recreation Director; (7) one member appointed by the Cullman City Parks and Recreation Board Director or President; and (8) one member who shall be a representative of the tourism industry selected by a majority vote of the state delegation; provided however, that in the event the delegation vote is tied, the Senator representing Cullman shall make the deciding vote.

(b) Members of the bureau shall serve staggered, four-year terms as follows: (1) appointees of the hotel association, Wallace State Community College, the Cullman County Parks and Recreation Board, and the Cullman City Parks and Recreation Board shall serve six--year terms; (2) one appointee each for the Cullman City Council, the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Cullman County Commission shall serve four--year terms; and (3) all other appointees shall serve two-year terms.

~~(c) The Cullman County Treasurer shall open a separate bank account for the Cullman County Tourism Bureau by June 1, 2021."~~

"§45-22-242

(a) There is levied in Cullman County, in addition to all other taxes now imposed by law, a privilege or license tax paralleling the state tax on businesses renting rooms, lodging, or accommodations to transients provided for in Sections 40-26-1 to 40-26-21, inclusive, hereinafter referred to as state lodging tax, in the manner and at the rate hereinafter prescribed.

(b) Upon every person, firm, or corporation engaging in Cullman County in the business of renting or furnishing any room or rooms, lodging, or accommodations to transients in any hotel, motel, inn, tourist camp, tourist cabin, or any other place in which rooms, lodgings, or accommodations are regularly furnished to transients for a consideration, in an amount to be determined by the application of the rate of five percent of the charge for the room, rooms, lodgings, or accommodations, including the charge for use or rental of personal property and services furnished in the room. ~~Notwithstanding the foregoing, upon the retirement of existing debt for the Exit 305 Interchange, County Road 222 and outstanding debt on the building occupied by the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce, located at 301 2nd Ave SW, Cullman, AL 35055, the application of the rate to be charged for the room, rooms, lodgings, or accommodations, including the charge for use or rental of personal property and services furnished in the room shall be four percent.~~ There is exempted from the tax levied under this part any rentals or services taxed under the state sales tax provided for in Chapter 23 of Title 40. The tax shall not apply to rooms, lodgings, or accommodations supplied for a period of ~~30~~90 continuous days or more in any place."

"§45-22-242.11

(a) The State Department of Revenue shall charge Cullman County for collecting the county lodging taxes levied in this part the lessor of the actual amount of total collections, but the collection charge shall not in any event exceed 2.5 percent of the total amount of the special county taxes collected under this part. The charge for collecting the taxes for the county may be deducted each month from the taxes collected before certifying the amount of the proceeds from the taxes due to Cullman County each month. The State Commissioner of Revenue shall pay into the State Treasury all county taxes collected under this part as the taxes are received by the State Department of Revenue. On or before the first day of each successive month, commencing with the month following the month in which the department makes the first collections under this part, the commissioner shall certify to the Comptroller the amount of taxes collected under this part and paid into the State Treasury for the benefit of Cullman County during the month immediately preceding the making of the certification. Before certifying the amount of the taxes paid into the State Treasury for the benefit of Cullman County during each month, the commissioner may deduct from the taxes collected for the month the charges due the department for the collection of the taxes for the county. It shall be the duty of the Comptroller to issue a state warrant each month payable to the Cullman County ~~Commission,~~Tourism Bureau, in an amount equal to the amount so certified by the State Commissioner of Revenue as having been collected for the use of the county.

» CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

(b) Upon receiving the tax proceeds, the ~~county~~ treasurer of the Cullman County Tourism Bureau shall transmit the proceeds as follows:

(1) Two-fifths of the proceeds to the Cullman County Chamber of Commerce to be used at the discretion of the chamber of commerce to pay any operational expenses while promoting small businesses, while~~promotion~~ promoting the ~~of~~ marketing ~~for~~ of Cullman ~~being~~ as a destination shopping location, working with and enhancing the City of Cullman's and Cullman County's Industrial Boards, ~~to~~ and working with the Cullman County Tourism Board.

(2) ~~One-fifth of the~~ The remaining three-fifths of the proceeds ~~to~~shall remain with the Cullman County Tourism Bureau to be used at the discretion of the bureau exclusively for the purpose of promoting tourism through festivals, community events, arts projects and tournaments that benefit ~~throughout the City of Cullman and Cullman County for the benefit of~~ all of the residents of Cullman County. Also, these funds may be used to pay the operational expenses, salaries and benefits of the Bureau's director and staff.

(~~3) The remaining two-fifths of the proceeds that are sent to the Cullman County Commission from the Alabama Department of Revenue shall continue to be sent to the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce for the sole purpose of paying off the existing debt, which shall not be extended, of the Exit 305 Interchange, County Road 222. Once the existing debt of the Exit 305, Interchange, County Road 222 debt is paid off, then 100 percent of the two-fifths will transfer for the sole~~

~~purpose of paying off the remaining outstanding debt on the building occupied by the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce, located at 301 2nd Ave SW, Cullman, AL 35055, which shall also not be extended. Upon the retirement of the above-mentioned debt, two-fifths of the proceeds shall be transmitted to the Cullman County Tourism Bureau to be used at the discretion of the bureau exclusively for the purposes stated in subdivision (2). The remaining one-fifth of the proceeds shall expire on December 31, 2024.~~

(c) Effective June 1, 2021, the balance of the proceeds remaining to be distributed to Cullman County after the cost of collection and distribution to the Alabama Mountain Lakes Association have been deducted pursuant to Section 40-26-20, shall be controlled by the Cullman County Tourism Bureau.

(d) Effective June 1, 2021, the City of Cullman shall transmit to the Cullman County Tourism Bureau, an amount equal to one-quarter percent of the privilege tax levied and collected, pursuant to Ordinance 2007-7, on persons, firms, or corporations renting accommodations to transients in the City of Cullman."

Section 2. This act shall become effective immediately following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

LEGALS

SPECIAL NOTICE RE LOCAL LAWS

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY

[THIS COPY FOR THE NEWSPAPER: THIS NOTICE MUST BE PRINTED PRECEDING THE BILL]
STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

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

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to the Town of Garden City in Cullman County; to amend Section 45-22-100.07 of the Code of Alabama 1975, to authorize the town council to sell a portion of the former Garden City school property without a referendum.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 45-22-100.07 of the Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§45-22-100.07

(a) In Cullman County, the governing body of the Town of Garden City may own, operate, manage, and preserve the former Garden City school property in the Town of Garden City, including any ball fields and other historical structures, owned by the Cullman County Board of Education. To the extent allowed under Section 36-1-12, members of the governing body are immune from civil liability for actions taken in the conduct of their duties relating to the Garden City school property.

(b)(1) The governing body of the Town of Garden City may accept title to the former Garden City school property owned by the Cullman County Board of Education and may hold

the property for the benefit and use of the public, particularly the Town of Garden City. The governing body of the Town of Garden City may receive state, local, and other governmental funding and may accept charitable donations for the operation, management, and preservation of the former Garden City school property.

(2) a. ~~The~~ Except as otherwise provided in paragraph b., the governing body of the Town of Garden City may not sell or transfer ownership of the property unless approved by majority vote of the governing body and then by a majority vote of the qualified electors in the Town of Garden City at a referendum called by the Judge of Probate of Cullman County and held during the following general election.

b. Notwithstanding paragraph a., the governing body of the Town of Garden City by a majority vote may sell without a referendum a part of the former Garden City school property, not including the school, more particularly described as 7.2 acres - Lots 2 and 4, BLKS 23, 24, and 25 and Lots 1 and 2, BLK 26 of Garden City subdivision, less and except certain property, (PIN 30626, Parcel No. 25-02-09-0-051-005.000)."

Section 2. This act shall become effective immediately following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
MAY 4, 2023



WALLACE STATE

Students from Wallace State Community College are bringing home 35 medals from the state SkillsUSA competition held this week in Mobile. There were 21 first-place winners, 10 second-place winners and four third-place winners.

WSCC students bring home 35 medals from State SkillsUSA competitions

Gail Crutchfield
Wallace State

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Students from Wallace State Community College are bringing home 35 medals from the state SkillsUSA competition held this week in Mobile. There were 21 first-place winners, 10 second-place winners and four third-place winners.

Diesel Technology students swept the Diesel Equipment Technology category, winning first-, second- and third-place medals. Other categories had multiple winning teams or individuals from Wallace State on the podium, including Carpentry, Commercial Drone and Motorcycle Service Technology.

"SkillsUSA unleashes the potential of our aspiring students," said Jerry Murcks, associate dean of Applied Technologies. "These competitions help them learn how to adapt to change and develop leadership skills that are needed in today's highly skilled workforce. The number of medals won shows the dedication our faculty and students have put forth in this year's Skills competition. I'm very proud of everyone that competed."

All Wallace State gold medal winners are eligible to compete at the 2023 National Leadership and SkillsUSA event in June in Atlanta.

Gold medal winners included:

• Automated Manufacturing – Caleb Sharpe of Falkville, Johnson Sellnow of Guntersville, Brennan Perry of Cordova

• Barbering – Adriana Prado of Cullman

• CNC Technician – Philip Hansel of Arab

• CNC Turning Specialist – Jack West of Cullman

• Commercial Drone – Avery Hollis of Vinemont, Landon Holmes of Cullman

• Computer Programming – Julian Camarillo of Oneonta

• Criminal Scene Investigation – Jessica Rosales Aguilar of Boaz, Brittany Davis of Warrior, Dallas Heinrich of Blount

• Criminal Justice – Ashley Hardin of Alabaster

• Diesel Equipment Technology –Aca Lee of Adger

• Internetworking – Clayton Kluber of Cullman

• Mobile Robotic Technology – Isaac Daniel of Holly Pond, Devin Hollis of Cullman

• Motorcycle Service Technology – Zach hill, Ayden McKenzie of Vinemont

• Robotics: Urban Search and Rescue – Chris Hosey of Holly Pond, Joseph McCay of Hayden

• Technical Computer Applications (HS) – Skylar Higgenbotham of Remlap

Silver medal winners included:

• Carpentry – Bradley Burden of Baileyton

• CNC Milling Specialist – Trent Gorham of Baileyton

• Collision Repair Technology – Alexis Hathcock of Cleveland

• Commercial Drone – Luke Denton of Holly Pond, Paige Hollis of Cullman

• Customer Service – Marcos Zapian of Hanceville

• Diesel Equipment Technology – Jonah Hilb of Cullman

• Extemporaneous Speaking – Mackenzie Walker of Blountsville

• Job Skill Demonstration Open – Bailey Gooch of Cullman

• Motorcycle Service Technology – Ayden Mckenzie of Hayden

Bronze medal winners included:

• Automotive Refinishing – Chadley Gunter of Hanceville

• Carpentry – Dakota McDaniel of Baileyton

• Culinary Arts – Averon Chappell of Warrior

• Diesel Equipment Technology – Briana Morgan of Hanceville

Registration for summer and fall semesters in underway. 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.-6 p.m., Thursdays 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. or Friday 7:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Hats, Horses and Hope: Hope Horses fundraiser May 6

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — This Saturday, May 6, local nonprofit Hope Horses, Inc. will host its Hats, Horses and Hope fundraising event.

"This Hats, Horses and Hope event is the biggest fundraising event of the year for Hope Horses," said Hope Horses Executive Director Kelsey Rice. "All proceeds raised will go toward the Hope Horses therapeutic riding program."

Kentucky Derby attire is encouraged. This includes bright, colorful dresses with floral patterns or bold prints and fancy hats, and suits with ties (including bowties).

The event will be held at Camp Meadowbrook and will start at 4:30 p.m. Dinner will be served during the pre-races.

Viewing of the Kentucky Derby Race for the Roses will be at 5:45. Avenue G will take the stage at 6, and auctions will begin at 8.

Tickets are $75 and can be purchased at the door.

For more information or to purchase tickets in advance, contact Kelsey Rice at 256-507-4088.

Camp Meadowbrook is located at 2344 County Road 747 in Cullman.

Learn more about Hope Horses at www.hopehorsesinc.com.



HOPE HORSES, INC./FACEBOOK

Bush Hog is one of the horses in the Hope Horses therapeutic riding program. Proceeds from the Hats, Horses and Hope fundraiser will go toward the program.

Bearcats (from Front)

said. "They've got two division one hitters in the heart of the lineup, and they're surrounded with guys that know how to have at-bats. They know how to hit with two strikes and they're a fantastic offensive team. So, we're going to have to be really, really good defensively and on the mound to give ourselves a chance."

Coming off a series against Athens in which they only allowed three runs in two games, Patterson likes the way his team is playing defensively and on the mound. He's also seen the Bearcats continue to develop offensively each week and is excited to see how much further they can take it.

"We're defending it really well, and we're pitching it pretty good, and I think that every week that goes by we learn a little more about who we really are as the identity of our team.," Patterson said. "It really did take a while and we're not spectacular offensively by any means but we're learning how to manufacture runs and put innings together the way we can with our lineup, so I like where we are. Really, we're just thankful we get to keep practicing in May with this kind of weather and to just keep going."

The Bearcats have been doing a great job of keeping opponents off the board, but Gardendale's bats have been hot all season so something will have to give when they clash Thursday night. Game one is set for 4:30 p.m. with game two to follow. Game three will be Friday night at 6 p.m. if necessary.

Wiggins (from Front)

big gesture person," she exclaimed, "so we wanted to do a big gesture for him, too!"

Speakers including former mentors and coworkers shared memories, well-wishes and personal anecdotes of their experiences with Wiggins.

There was a stout emphasis on his outlook on education as a whole, celebrating his true hands-on approach in guiding children through all the ups and downs that life can bring, even at an elementary school level.

All the speeches were heartfelt, but the most poignant and tear-jerking of the evening came from Wiggins' first hire as a principal, sixth-grade teacher Beth Collins. Wiggins is well known as a comic book junkie with a childlike heart, and Collins' closing remarks seemed most appropriate.

"As you leave us to start a new chapter, I feel certain that we will continue to build on the foundation you have laid here, with this parting quote as our guide: 'With great power comes great responsibility,'" she smiled.

Between hugs, photo-ops and his signature high fives, Wiggins shared that the decision to retire and move on from his 17-year tenure at East Elementary was, albeit necessary, definitely bittersweet.

"That's the best word for it," he said. "It's a bittersweet situation, but when you know it's right, it's right, and when it's time, it's time."

In a closing speech, Wiggins himself shared how he is more than appreciative of his time at East Elementary, and is so proud of the team he has built over the years to continue the good work.

"I feel confident that with the team at East Elementary, it will be okay.

"They cry for kids, they wrestle with kids, they work for kids, they advocate for kids.They absolutely put children first."

