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The Cullman Tribune

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80 YEARS
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80 YEARS ANNIVERSARY 1943-2023

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AVERY FLYNT

– SPORTS –

'Have patience in His timing': Good Hope's Avery Flynt recaps band season

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Chick-fil-A closes temporarily for reconstruction

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman's Chick-fil-A closed its doors Thursday, June 15. The building will be demolished and a new, more efficient building constructed in its place. The whole process is slated to take up to five months.

According to franchise owner Randy Earnest, the new building will have significant changes that will benefit both staff and customers. Despite the playground being closed since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was decided that the new building will include a playground for the kids.

"It would have been easy to go away from it, but we just really felt like our community wanted it," Earnest explained.

The kitchen area will be expanded as well. According to Earnest, the current kitchen area is small, and the employees have » PAGE 10



TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUN

Cullman Chick-fil-A Franchise Owner Randy Earnest with employees Campbel Whaley and Kinsey Wright

'It's been really special'

More than 70 players participate in inaugural Tanner Malin Youth Football Camp



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Former Good Hope standout Tanner Malin leads a crowd of young players at his football camp Friday.

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — This week was a special one for all aspiring young football stars in Good Hope. Thursday and Friday, more than 70 young players gathered at James W. Shabel Stadium to participate in the first ever Tanner Malin Youth Football Camp, led by former Raiders standout Tanner Malin. Malin helped lead Good Hope to multiple deep playoff runs in his Raider years » PAGE 5



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Taziki's partners with, donates $1K to Cullman Caring for Kids

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Op-Ed: Father's Day

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Happy 109th Birthday!

Ms. Fleda Monk was born June 16, 1914



ASHLEY HICKS, ADMINISTRATOR, FALKVILLE HEALTH AND REHAB

Ms. Fleda Monk

» PAGE 12

Fairview HS Principal Chris Gambrill announces retirement



TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Dr. Chris Gambrill

» PAGE 4

PET OF THE WEEK

My Bonnie lies over the sea



DONNA RUTTKAY

Bonnie strikes a signature gaze

» PAGE 10

HOT SUMMER SAVINGS WITH BILL'S DEALS
Bill Smith
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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported June 16

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported June 16, 2023. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

June 12

- reckless endangerment; CR 1082
- trespassing; domestic violence; CR 793
- possession of drug paraphernalia; I-65 NB at MM 299
- burglary; CR 431
- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 437
- trafficking drugs; possession of dangerous drugs; CR 1114
- criminal mischief; Beech Ave. SE
- assault; Hwy. 69 S
- possession of controlled substance; possession of dangerous drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1342
- reckless endangerment; Hwy. 69 N
- domestic violence; CR 1485
- theft of property; School House Rd.

June 13

- criminal mischief; CR 1435
- dog bite; CR 479
- tampering with physical evidence; possession of marijuana; CR 1598
- domestic violence; CR 747
- domestic violence; CR 1524
- theft of property; CR 51

June 14

- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle; CR 818
- criminal mischief; Beech Ave. SE
- unauthorized use of motor vehicle; CR 1194
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; I-65 SB at MM 308
- permitting dogs to run at large; S. Main St.
- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle; CR 463
- theft of property; Hwy. 69 S
- harassment; CR 222
- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 447

ARRESTS

June 12 – 14

Bates, Jeremy C.; 50
- Probation Violation- burglary-residence-force

Brown, Alexandria R.; 32
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Clay, Cody M.; 27
- drug trafficking
- possession of dangerous drugs

Clay, Hayley N.; 26
- drug trafficking
- possession of dangerous drugs

Cowan, Justin D.; 29
- FTA- buying/receiving stolen property

Doherty, Kyler E.; 29
- assault-harassment

Durham, Avery N.; 19
- assault-child abuse-simple-family

Eidson III, Roger D.; 40
- criminal trespassing

England, Gaberalle Lee A.; 29
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Farr, Justin W.; 32
- possession of opium or derivative
- possession with intent to distribute controlled substance
- ex-felon in possession of firearm

Farr, Larry D.; 62
- FTA- possession of marijuana
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Ferguson, Michael P.; 48
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Flanagan, Amanda E.; 47
- FTA- using false identity to avoid arrest/hinder prosecution
- FTA- public intoxication

Hale Jr., Kenneth R.; 34
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Hancock, Matthew J.; 34
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Ibrahim, Hisham; 55
- assault-domestic-menacing-gun
- discharging firearm into occupied building, railroad, aircraft, automobile, truck

Johnson, Dan L.; 46
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Kongslien, Brian T.; 38
- GJ- criminal computer tampering
- GJ- tampering with physical evidence
- GJ- possession of child pornography

Labrecque, Michelle L.; 52
- FTA- promote prison contraband (drugs)

Laski, Kody L.; 26
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

McGinnis, Christopher R.; 51
- distribution of controlled substance

Monroe, Colby T.; 27
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Morris, Candace N.; 32
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Parsons, Christy L.; 46
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Price, Katlyn N.; 35
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Quick, Kevin J.; 59
- FTA-driving while license suspended (2 counts)

Rauch, Eric J.; 53
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Sivils, Amanda C.; 41
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Skinner, Matthew S.; 27
- FTA- assault-aggravated stalking
- FTA- violation of domestic violence protection order

Smith, Buffy D.; 47
- FTA- possession of prescription drugs

Stokes, Brandon A.; 26
- auto theft

Taylor, Colby A.; 27
- FTA- driving while suspended, revoked or cancelled

Vinci, Sean J.; 32
- FTA- operating vehicle without insurance

Wagner, Bobby W.; 35
- FTA- driving while suspended, revoked or cancelled

Wallis, Anatasia S.; 25
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Wilson, Katie M.; 27
- auto theft

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

June 14

- theft of property-3rd; person; Beth St. NW; miscellaneous; $800

June 15

- attempted theft of property-1st degree; Rusken Packaging; cash
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; general merchandise; $233

ARRESTS

June 14 – 15

Duncan, Shelley L.; 48
- fraudulent use of credit/debit card

Davis, Joshua L.; 34
- FTA- theft of property-4th degree
- FTA- fail to register vehicle (2 counts)
- FTA- insurance violation
- FTA- expired tag
- FTA- driving while revoked

Wilson, Donald L.; 73
- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle

Wise, Dustin R.; 30
- FTA- public intoxication
- FTA- possession drug paraphernalia
- FTA- theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)
- FTA- criminal trespass-3rd degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Vinemont couple charged with drug trafficking

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — A couple from Vinemont is facing drug charges after a search warrant allegedly led to the discovery of marijuana, drug paraphernalia and prescription medication at their residence.

Cody Michael Clay, 27, and Hayley N. Clay, 26, were arrested on June 12 after Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) deputies responded to their home at the request of the Cullman County Department of Human Resources (DHR).Deputies and investigators determined there was sufficient evidence to request a search warrant, which was subsequently granted. A search of the residence allegedly revealed approximately $2,000 worth of marijuana, along with drug paraphernalia and prescription medication, officials said. The couple has been charged with drug trafficking and possession of dangerous drugs. They were taken into custody and transported to the Cullman County Detention Center. Cody Clay was able to post a $580,000 bond and has been released. However, Hayley Clay remains in custody on a $520,000 bond. The circumstances leading to the initial call to their residence have not been disclosed.



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Hayley N. Clay



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Cody Michael Clay

Cullman man arrested on drug, firearms charges in traffic stop

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

BERLIN, Ala. — A traffic stop conducted by the Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) on June 12 in the Berlin community led to the arrest of a Cullman man on drug and firearms charges.

Deputies stopped a motorcycle driven by Justin Wayne Farr, 32.

A subsequent search of Farr and his motorcycle allegedly revealed a firearm and narcotics.

Farr was charged with possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine, possession of dangerous drugs identified as oxycodone and being an ex-felon in possession of a firearm.

Farr was taken into custody without incident and transported to the Cullman County Detention Center.

He posted a $50,000 bond on June 14 and was released pending further legal proceedings.

Further details about the traffic stop, or Farr's previous convictions, have not been released. The investigation is ongoing.



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Justin Wayne Farr

Cullman man arrested for alleged assault, discharging firearm

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — A Cullman man was arrested by the Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) on June 14 in connection with an incident earlier this month in which he allegedly threatened a victim during an argument and fired a weapon into a building.

Hisham Ibrahim, 55, faces charges of assault and menacing, as well as discharging a firearm into an occupied building, according to arrest warrants.

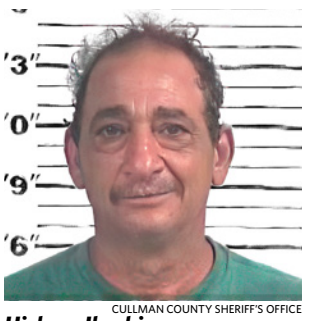
The incident reportedly started as a verbal disagreement between Ibrahim and the victim, but it escalated when Ibrahim allegedly threatened the victim with a weapon.

He allegedly fired the weapon into a building from outside.

No injuries were reported.

Ibrahim was taken into custody without incident. It's unclear if he has obtained legal representation.

Further details surrounding the incident and the relationship between Ibrahim and the victim have not been disclosed.



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Hisham Ibrahim

Tazikis (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Keith Richards, owner of the new Taziki's Mediterranean Cafe in Cullman, announced a partnership with Cullman Caring for Kids at the restaurant's grand opening and ribbon cutting on Thursday, June 15, 2023.

Richards said that while Taziki's has always practiced the love language of serving others through food, partnering with local nonprofits is a newer endeavor thanks to the growth and success the chain has enjoyed.

"We didn't always have the wherewithal to give, but we always gave food," Richards said, recalling food giveaways during COVID-19 shutdowns.

"Since we've gotten bigger, we try to find a community partner to grow with, and they grow with us."

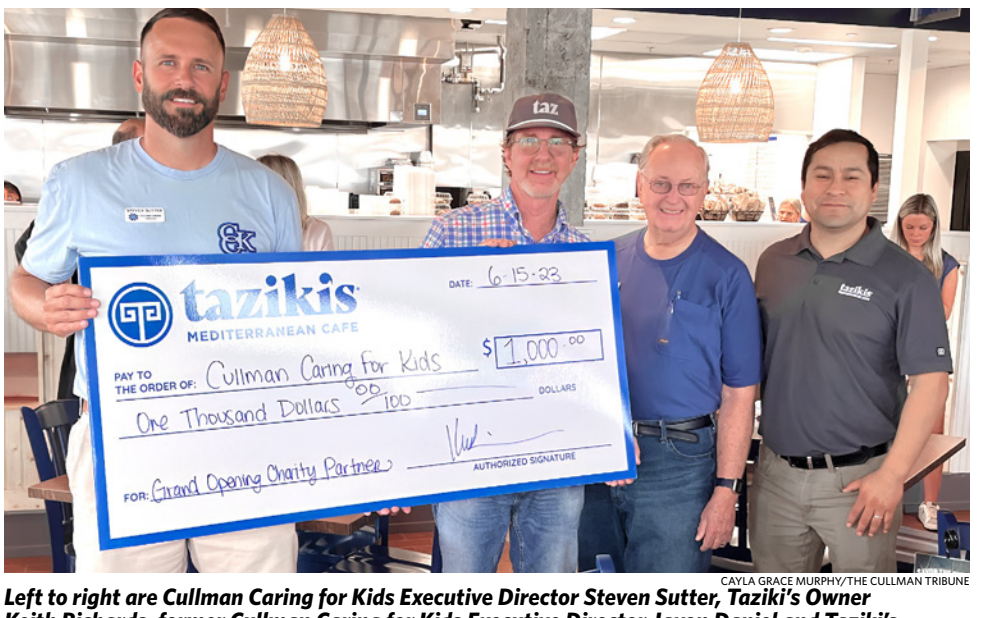
With Cullman Caring for Kids being widely known for its food bank, which is currently serving over 800 families each month in the Cullman area, the decision to partner up was an easy one.

Cullman Caring for Kids Executive Director Steven Sutter expressed his gratitude, saying, "We serve all of Cullman County, and the need for food has went way up.

"It's people like Taziki's coming in to partner with us that makes our mission possible!"

Sutter also shared his hope that the partnership will be a permanent one. "We're excited that Taziki's has picked us to partner with, and we're really hoping it'll be a longstanding partnership!"

Check out Taziki's at 421 Third Ave. SE, Suite 110, in Cullman or www.facebook.com/TazikisCullman.



CAYLA GRACE MURPHY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
Left to right are Cullman Caring for Kids Executive Director Steven Sutter, Taziki's Owner Keith Richards, former Cullman Caring for Kids Executive Director Javon Daniel and Taziki's General Manager Raul Hernandez at Taziki's official grand opening on June 15, 2023.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Calling All Young Singers!
Cullman Community Young Singers (CCYS) is looking for YOU! All young singers (ages 8-15) are invited to join us on Tuesday afternoons from 3:30-4:45 at the Little House at Art Park, 1031 Second St. SW in Cullman. No auditions, just come for a fun afternoon of learning music from pop to classical styles. We will rehearse and prepare to perform at a variety of events in and around the Cullman community. Bring your friends- we will have music and everything you need to get started! For more information, text or email Miss Cindy at 256-338-4404, cindypass22@gmail.com. CCYS is sponsored by Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism.

Baileyton Bargain Days
First and third Saturday of each month from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the old Baileyton fire station next to the town's park. Beauty and health products, toys, home goods, pet items, food and many everyday items. A donation of $20 will allow a shopper to fill up a bag, and for $40 a shopper can fill a large box. Some of the items of greater value will require a larger donation. There will be some restrictions and product limits on the items. Cash and checks accepted. Proceeds will be used for park improvements and capital improvements for the town.

Alcoholics Anonymous
The Grace of God group of Alcoholics Anonymous has open AA meetings (all are welcome) Mondays and Thursdays from 7-8 p.m. at the Carriage House, located next to Grace Episcopal Church, 305 Arnold St. NE Cullman. Contact phone numbers: 256-347-1097, 256-841-2209 or 256-708-1340

Church Services- Spirit Life Church of GOD
• Spirit Life Church of GOD, 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Mondays-Fridays- Free hot meals for children Mondays 11 a.m.- noon, Tuesdays 1-2 p.m. and Wednesdays-Fridays 11 a.m.-noon. Cullman Housing Authority Community Center 1545 Vine Circle SW. Please call Kristie 256-636-5362 for more information. Eat in or take out. Sponsored by Kids Loving Kids, Raising Arrows Ministry and Spirit Life Church.
• Kids Loving Kids Birthday Blessings serves children ages 1-18 in need of assistance to celebrate their birthdays. Register your child and pick up a birthday box with cake mix, icing, sprinkles, decorations and toys! Pickup is the last weekend of the month. Saturday (5100 Curry Highway Suite 100-B Jasper, AL 35504) from 3-5 p.m. or the last Sunday of the month at Spirit Life Church Cullman from 12:30-1 p.m. Birth certificate is required at the time of box pickup. Register at https://form.jotform.com/203435614640045. For more information, text or call 205-717-7478.
• Saturday, June 17 – Drive-through Food Bank 9-11 a.m.
• Sunday, June 18 - Prayer Groups - Join Kevin and Pastor Bobby at 8 a.m. or join Teresa at 9 in the prayer room to pray for our church, nation and those who need healing, salvation or deliverance.
• Sunday, June 18 - 9 a.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area. Call 256-841-2060 for pickup. Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults at 10 a.m. 11 am Praise & Worship and message by Pastor Bobby Dodd. Leadership meeting following morning service.`
• Sunday, June 18 - Father's Day Breakfast 9-10:30 a.m. for all our church attendees to honor our fathers.
• Nonperishable Food Bank drive-please donate canned goods, boxed goods, etc. to help our foodbank. Our foodbank supplier has not had these items for purchase for the last two months. Please leave your donations under the carport on the left side of the church by 6 p.m. this Thursday night. Thank you!

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.

Bates Reunion
Saturday, June 17, beginning at 10 a.m. at the Trimble Community Center.

West Point Class of 1966 Reunion
Saturday, June 24, from 3-5 p.m. at the Brandin' Iron at West Point. This will be the 57-year reunion. Everyone pays for their own meal. Dress is casual. For more information, please call Judy Hyde Waldrep at 256-347-0361.

Speegle Family Reunion
The annual reunion of the David Speegle family will be held on Sunday, July 9, 2023, at Speegle Family Point (334 County Road 321, Crane Hill, Alabama 35053), beginning around 10:30 a.m. Please join us and bring a covered dish for lunch at noon. Contact Judy Shannon at 256-734-3460 or Norman Calvert at 256-734-0389. Come eat and enjoy the day with us.

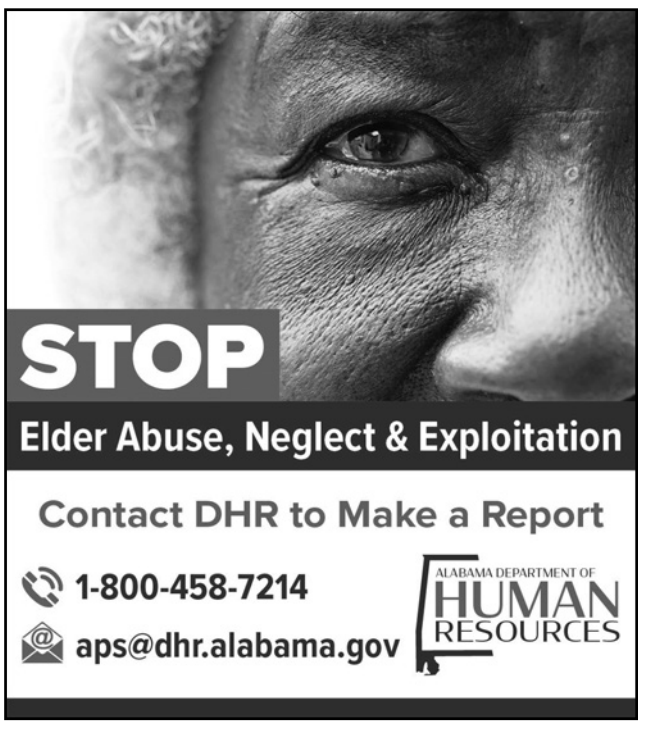
Vacation Bible School
A Royally Fun Time awaits at Vacation Bible School at Calvary Baptist Church, 227 Dripping Springs Road, Cullman, July 10-14, from 6-8:30 p.m. Ages 3-12. Call 256-620-3680 or register online at calvarybaptist2023@myanswers.com.

Circle of Hope Cullman Shoot for a Cure 3D Archery Tournament
Saturday and Sunday, July 15-16. Featuring 20 3D targets on a marked wooded trail throughout the beautiful Camp David in Jones Chapel. All proceeds benefit Bruno Cancer Center at St. Vincent's Hospital in Birmingham. Awards will be given and we have lots of great door prizes! Get more information at www.facebook.com/circleofhopecullman/events.

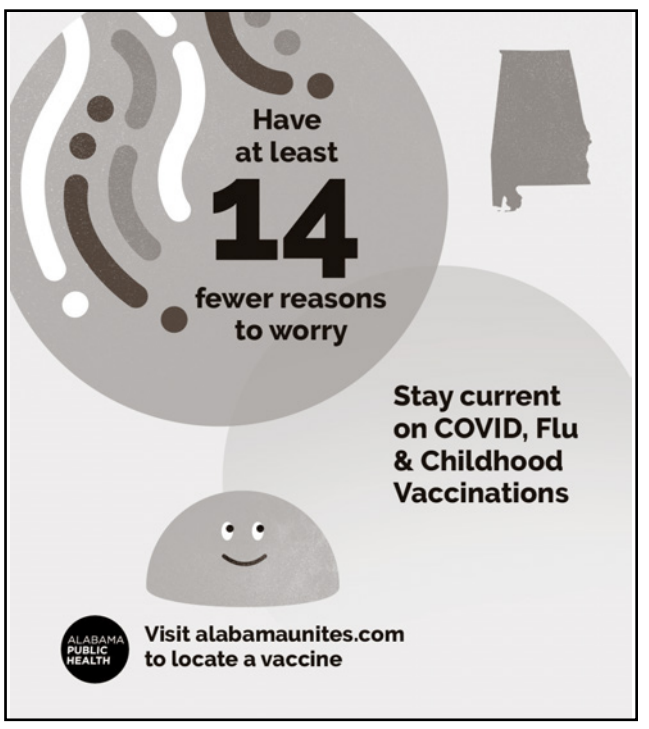
Rock the South
Thursday-Saturday, July 21-23, at York Farms, 1872 County Road 469, Cullman. This year's headliner is Chris Stapleton. To buy tickets and to get more information, go to www.rockthesouth.com.

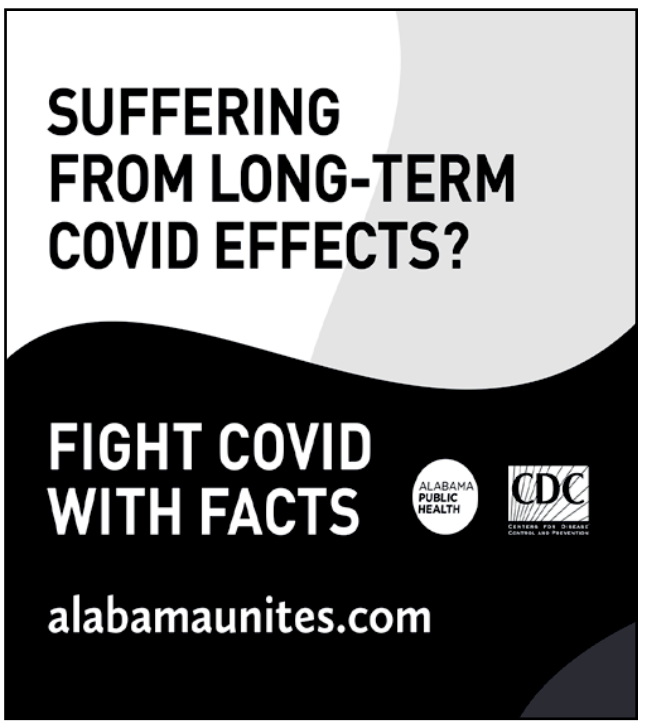
87th Annual Sandlin Reunion
• Saturday, Aug. 12, from 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Cold Springs Community Center, 8821 County Road 109, Bremen, AL 35033. Bring a covered dish and drinks. Plates, cups, napkins, forks and ice provided. Invite your Sandlin relatives.
• Chairman: Dr. Randall Sandlin; Secretary: Patsy Sandlin Medlock; 1283 Highland Lakes Trail, Birmingham, AL 35242. patsymedlock@bellsouth.net. 205-915-1870 (cell). Anita Sandlin Glover (205-903-1756). Let's conserve postage! Please email me your EMAIL address. If you don't have email address, invitations will be sent via U.S. mail. Thanks!
• Directions: Interstate 65, Exit 299 toward Dodge City/Jasper, take AL-69 South (approx 14 miles). Turn RIGHT on CR-54. At first STOP sign, turn RIGHT on CR-109. At the STOP Sign at Cold Springs High School, turn RIGHT. Less than 1/4 mile, Cold Springs Community Center is on the RIGHT! Sandlin Chapel & Cemetery are off AL-69S.

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.









The Cullman Tribune
Cullman County's Oldest Business, Serving the area since 1874 Publication Number USPS-139-700
Telephone: 256-739-1351 Fax: 1-256-739-4422
HumbleRoots,LLC
Published daily Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 219 2nd Avenue SE, Cullman, Alabama 35055 Entered as periodical material at the Cullman Post Office Periodical postage paid at Cullman, Alabama 35055

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGE TO:
The Cullman Tribune
219 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Email Address: robin@cullmantribune.com

ANNUALLY BASED RATES

CULLMAN.....$125.00
OUTSIDE CULLMAN.....$250.00

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JUNE 17, 2023

Trump to give keynote at ALGOP Summer Dinner

Staff Reports
Contributor

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The Alabama Republican Party (ALGOP) on Wednesday announced that Former President Donald Trump will be the keynote speaker at its 2023 ALGOP Summer Dinner in Montgomery on Aug. 4 as part of the ALGOP's Summer Meeting.

"The Alabama Republican Party is delighted to have President Trump be a part of our Summer Meeting, and join us as the keynote speaker for our annual Summer Dinner. President Trump is a political figure that (sic) has defined American politics over the last 8 (sic) years, and we are looking forward to hosting him in person August 4th.

"This is an excellent opportunity for the state of Alabama to see and interact with the GOP front-runner for president," said ALGOP Chairman John Wahl.

The dinner will take place at the Renaissance Montgomery Hotel at the Convention Center. The evening will kick off with a reception at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7.

"The response to President Trump's visit has been off the charts from people across the state.

"This is going to be a massive event, and we're already expecting to sell out of tickets and tables. I encourage anyone interested in attending to buy your tickets early," Wahl said.

Tickets and sponsorships are on sale now and can be purchased at www.algop.org.

Trump is currently facing unprecedented legal troubles, including 37 federal charges related to his alleged mishandling of classified documents.

"Trump on Tuesday pleaded not guilty to federal charges of mishandling classified documents. In appearances before and after his arrest, he has attempted to cast his indictment as an attempt to damage his chances of returning to the White House," the AP reported on Wednesday.

Gambrill (from Front)

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

FAIRVIEW, Ala. — Fairview High School Principal Dr. Chris Gambrill on Thursday, June 15, announced his retirement as a full-time educator.

"Dr. Gambrill has made a positive impact on thousands of young lives during his career in the Cullman County School System," stated Cullman County Schools Media and Communications Specialist Ty Watwood.

According to Watwood, Gambrill's decision to retire was a personal one.

"This was not a forced retirement," Watwood clarified. "His retirement has nothing to do with what has been insinuated on social media."

Social media posts and posts on Cullman Daily, a local Facebook page, have insinuated or, in some cases, stated outright, that Gambrill's retirement is due to his alleged threats to bar Cullman Daily from events at the school.

"He is going to retire, and pending board approval he will continue to work on a part-time basis with the system," Watwood stated.

The next Cullman County School Board meeting will be held on July 13, at 3:30 p.m. in the Cullman County Schools board room.

Cullman City Schools ranks No. 3 in state for 3rd-grade reading

Staff Reports
Contributor



CULLMAN CITY SCHOOLS

Left to right are teachers Patti Britton, Lindsay Harris and Kim Dial.

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman City Schools has brought home some of the highest reading scores in the state among third-grade students, ranking No. 3 in the state of Alabama for ACAP Reading across third grade.

Cullman City Schools third graders ranked behind only the Mountain Brook school system and Satsuma school system. Cullman City Schools second grade placed eighth in the state.

"I am very proud of our students and teachers for their hard work and dedication this year. The third-grade ACAP reading performance data showed that Cullman City was third in the state with 94% of students reading on grade level," Elementary Curriculum Coordinator Emily Hines said. "This is a testament to our teachers' continued high expectations for themselves and their students, and their commitment to our students, families and community."

The creation of a system-wide Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) professional learning community has helped provide teachers with the opportunity to learn about the science of reading together, collaborate on implementation strategies and set expectations moving forward in the district. This collaborative approach ensures that teachers are equipped with the expertise to identify students' reading deficiencies and implement effective strategies to help them succeed.

"Congratulations to the students, teachers and the entire community of Cullman City for their outstanding achievement in the third-grade ACAP reading performance. It is evident that the hard work and dedication of everyone involved has paid off," Cullman City Schools Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff said. "Furthermore, the support from parents and the broader community has been instrumental in the continued success of Cullman City. Their commitment to providing support for students and teachers plays a vital role in creating a conducive learning environment."

Cullman City Schools aims to prioritize the best education possible by emphasizing collaboration and community support. Cullman City Schools has demonstrated a strong commitment to the academic growth and achievement of its students.

"Our incredible reading success, as highlighted on this year's ACAP, was due to numerous factors. The teachers constantly collaborate to discuss opportunities for growth and improvement," West Elementary School ARI Reading Specialist Lindsay J. Harris said. "We are committed to professional development in the science of reading, as well as best practices for phonics and comprehension instruction. The committed teachers utilize the Alabama Course of Study, in conjunction with our knowledge of the science of reading and best practices, to ensure all of our students master literacy skills."









Camp (from Front)

and now he's excited for the opportunity to give back to a community that has meant so much to him.

"During my Christmas break this past year my dad and I were talking about ideas for something cool to do over the summer and give back to the community. I brought it up to Coach (Alan) Scott and Dustin Johnson and they loved the idea. They brought it up with the Quarterback Club and it really just took off from there to becoming a reality," Malin said. "So that's really how it all started. I've always enjoyed going to camps and I just thought it would be cool to have one and kind of give back some of what Good Hope gave to me. Good Hope has been such a special part of my life."

Malin didn't have trouble finding help when he came up with the idea for the camp, recruiting some other former local players, college teammates and several Good Hope High School coaches to help run the event. "I got some of my college teammates. I got Tre Bright who went to Calera High School and Josh Richardson who went to Jefferson Davis in Montgomery and then we got Zeke White from Cold Springs," Malin said. "I just brought the idea up to them and they loved the idea from the beginning. They all wanted to help the kids learn and get better."

For Malin, this year's camp has been a great chance for him to share some of the knowledge and skills he's collected over the years with some of the kids that were cheering him on all that time.

"It's really cool to see them again and have some of the same interactions that I had in high school," Malin said. "They've all been asking how I've been, how college has been. It's been really special to be able to do this."

Father's Day (from Front)

Tiffany McKoy
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Father's Day is the day that we come together to honor and appreciate the extraordinary fathers in our lives. From the moment we take our first breath, fathers assume a pivotal role in shaping our lives. They become our protectors, mentors and providers. Whether biological, adoptive or a father figure, these remarkable individuals leave a mark on our hearts.

A father's role is becoming increasingly more important in today's world. Both the role of the mother and the father are equally important; however, the father's role is quite different from the mother's.

The role of the father is underappreciated. He is responsible for providing protection, security and stability for his family. Fathers play a crucial role in teaching responsibility. A father's role extends to providing guidance and discipline. He sets clear boundaries and expectations while offering guidance on making responsible choices.

Through their involvement, fathers help shape their child's moral compass and teach them the importance of accountability and consequences. Fathers set boundaries, enforce rules and provide guidance, helping their children develop self-discipline and a sense of right and wrong. He is not there to be your best friend, but to guide you and shape you into the best version of yourself.

A father's role is different for his son versus his daughter.

A father leads by example and displays integrity. He teaches his son the importance of respect, not only for others but also for himself. A father instills a strong work ethic and perseverance, inspiring his son to set goals and pursue them with determination. Balancing discipline with love, he provides guidance, teaching valuable life skills while fostering independence and self-confidence. Ultimately, a father should be a steady presence, offering unconditional love and support, empowering his son to become a responsible, compassionate and honorable man.

A father's role in raising a daughter is very different. To raise a daughter into a strong and confident woman, her father must cultivate a nurturing and supportive environment.

A good father prioritizes building his daughter's self-esteem, reinforcing her worth and teaching her to value herself beyond societal expectations. A father teaches his daughter what healthy relationships and boundaries look like. He guides his daughter and demonstrates how a gentleman treats a lady and what to look for in a future husband.

For both his sons and daughters, a father's role includes preparing his children for the world. He teaches practical life skills, such as problem-solving, financial literacy and resilience. By imparting these skills, a father equips his child with the tools necessary for independence and success.

A father is also a role model, guiding by example. He demonstrates integrity, honesty and respect in his interactions with others. By exhibiting these values, he teaches his children important lessons about morality and ethics.

Father's Day serves as a heartfelt reminder of the invaluable role that fathers play in our lives. With unwavering love and dedication, fathers empower their children to embrace challenges, conquer fears and pursue their dreams. On this special day, we honor and celebrate fathers, expressing our gratitude for their tireless efforts and unwavering presence. They are the steady anchors, the guiding lights and the source of unconditional love that accompany us throughout our lives. Happy Father's Day to all of the wonderful fathers out there!



TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

My grandfather Tony Schaffer and my little cousin Leonora Schaffer

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JUNE 17, 2023

‘Have patience in His timing’: Good Hope’s Avery Flynt recaps band season

Sammy Confer
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GOOD HOPE, Ala. — Good Hope majorette captain Avery Flynt will be going into her sixth and final year in the Good Hope Raider band starting this fall and, in this interview, she shared some of what she’s learned during those many years in band.

“Being in band has taught me a sense of belonging. I’ve never felt home like I have in the Good Hope Raider band and there truly is nothing I’d rather be a part of. It has taught me respect, leadership, and has given me a new perspective on meeting new people. I’ve met so many people through band that I’d never know of if it hadn’t for me joining it and I’ve made lifelong friendships through it. The thing I’ve learned most is patience. I’ve always been huge in the Lord’s timing but being a part of the band has given me so many opportunities for the Lord to show me to have patience in His timing. Without the triumphs and defeats that come with each band season, I wouldn’t be the leader or Christian I am today.”

Flynt has been around a lot of great people during her time in the band and has learned some things from them, along with last year’s seniors as well.

“Being around leaders like the ones on the leadership team in the Raider band has been an asset to my own accomplishments and leadership skills. They’ve taught me how to correctly navigate through certain things I’d never think of and sense of responsibility I’ve always strived to achieve,” Flynt said. “Amber Roat and Allyssa McDonald brought tons of energy to our band. They both taught me how to truly enjoy being in the band around my peers and they always brought so much energy to practice and performances.”

Flynt talked about what all the band accomplished last season, plus what it’s been like having Joshua Anderson as their new band director.

“Last season was incredible. Having Mr. Anderson come in was another change for the band, but he had been more than we could have ever imagined. He’s truly changed the band program and proved himself well last season. We brought home multiple awards during marching competition season and concert season with his instruction and encouragement,” Flynt said.

“It has been incredible. He’s believed in me from the beginning and he brings an entire new energy to our band. With him being so young, I think it helps us relate to him more, and he shows each and every one of us that he has endless support for us. He’s even proven his support by coming to mine and my teammates’ individual baton competitions outside of the band just to show his support, which really showed us how much he cares.”

She added, “What I’ve learned from him is how to be confident when I’m leading. He hasn’t gone back on his word once since he’s been over the band and that’s stood out to me, for sure. It’s improved our leadership program, I think, because we feel more confident in our own abilities due to his influence.”

Flynt has become an even better leader thanks to the guidance of Mr. Anderson. She will head into her third year as the majorette captain and has learned so much since becoming captain.

“Having his guidance in being confident has helped me be able to lead the majorettes without second-guessing myself and make decisions that are best for the group. He’s helped me handle various issues with constructive criticism that’s improved my leading abilities overall,” she said. “My experience has definitely been full of some challenges, but with my girls Jenna Crumpton and Jillian Zapka, my time as captain has been nothing short of incredible. I’ve learned how to have responsibility and respect for my fellow teammates, and watching them grow as not only twirlers, but young women, has been so much fun.”

Flynt talked about what the name of the halftime show is and it will be an extra special season for her with it being her last year performing in the band. She also shared her favorite memory from being in the band so far, plus what she’s been teaching the younger members of the band.

“We found out a few weeks ago that our show will be ‘Postcards from Spain’,” she said. “I am so excited. I love seeing the individual pieces that go into each show and this one will be extra special, with it being my final show with the Raider band. Being around the band environment has been my favorite memory from my band career. I love the energy the band brings to not only performances, but band practices as well. The band members truly are the best people I’ve ever met in my life and they will impact me forever, no doubt.”



AVERY FLYNT
Good Hope’s Avery Flynt

She added, “My favorite thing to teach the upcoming band members is to be themselves. Being unique is who we are called to be. I love to help people showcase their personalities, while proving to them who the Lord sees them as.”

Flynt has plenty of goals set for herself and the band, plus she also talked about what will make this band special to watch.

“My goals are for everyone to feel genuinely proud of themselves after every performance, no matter the outcome. We’ve set the bar pretty high with awards in the past, so I hope to continue that legacy. The band is truly a family. Every band member cares about each other and that’s what makes us go above and beyond,” she said. “This upcoming band season is going to be so wonderful. Our band is growing and our auxiliary has almost doubled from last year. This year, our majorettes are titled the Raiderettes, which is another exciting thing that’s coming for us. The girls and I have worked so hard outside of the season to prepare for the fall and I can’t wait to put that work into the stadium.”

Flynt’s role model is a band alumni and she gave her some of the best advice that she was ever given.

“Our coach, Haleigh Harbison, is actually a Good Hope Raider band alumni and I’ve always looked up to her in so many ways. She is always reminding me to be myself, no matter what,” she said. “The best advice that I was ever given actually came from her. They’re the three most insignificant words to some people, but to me, they meant the world: ‘Yes you can’. She probably had no idea what that meant to me, but in a world full of negatives, a light like her is very hard to find. I hope to inspire people daily by simply saying no to the negatives and yes to encouragement like she does.”

‘It is okay to take your own path in life’: Vinemont’s Lawson Whaley recaps Eagle years

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VINEMONT, Ala. — In this interview, I talked to Vinemont senior band member Lawson Whaley. She was a part of some great clubs during her time as an Eagle and talked about that experience, plus what she learned.

“I was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the National Association of High School Scholars, the National Honor Society, and I was the Girls’ State representative. Being a part of those different clubs was a great opportunity, because it allowed me to participate in several service projects, which was a great learning opportunity.

“We were able to donate to the animal shelter, the sheriff’s department, and the local nursing homes. We were also able to spend a lot of time with the kids that attend school at the Child Development Center.

“The kids at the CDC had the kindest hearts and were so excited just to spend time with us. No matter the challenges they faced every day, they had a smile on their face and were happy to be at school with the other kids. I think we could all learn to appreciate our lives and those around us more.”

Whaley got a chance to be around some great people in those clubs and made a lot of friendships in the process. She fast-tracked at Wallace her final two years of high school, and it really helped her out in the end. She still really appreciated everything that Vinemont did for her.

“I was able to meet my best friend in Phi Theta Kappa. Most of the people in these clubs are like-minded and like-focused, so it was easy for us to get along and make lasting friendships. Our sponsors for both the high school and college clubs were great. They were very supportive and encouraging,” Whaley said.

“I graduated from Wallace earlier this month with my associates degree. Next semester, I’ll be transferring to UAB to study psychology. Fast-tracking helped me even more than anyone will ever know.

“I love Vinemont and will forever be grateful for the education I received there, but going to Fast-Track at Wallace was the best decision I could’ve made for myself. The students in Cullman County are very lucky to have so many opportunities to choose from that fit their goals, focus, and learning styles from traditional high school: Dual Enrollment and Career Center Fast-Track.”

She added, “Being able to choose the path that best fits me has helped me be able to achieve so many goals. It helped me to be more independent and taught me to have a work ethic that has benefited my future career goals.

“It also helped me to achieve another goal I had, which was becoming the Valedictorian at Vinemont. Achieving that goal was very exciting and fulfilling.

“We worked so hard to be able to graduate, so it fills me with gratitude to all the teachers and mentors who helped me throughout the years.”

Whaley was also on the Vinemont color guard for four years and was captain for two years. She talked about what she learned from being a part of the band and she learned a very important lesson from her band director, Skylar King.

“Being in the band taught me how to be a part of a team and how to lead others. Being in the band requires commitment and dedication. It is late nights and early mornings, but when you win Best in Class or have a great performance, all of that time is worth it. One thing that I found to be different than from other sports is how much support is shown between schools. At competitions and exhibitions, the bands were always supporting and encouraging each other, and it taught me to always support each other, even if we’re competing for the same goal,” Whaley said.

“Mr. King is passionate about music and instills that in his band members. The biggest life lesson he tries to teach is punctuality. ‘Early is on time, on time is late.’”

Whaley talked about her favorite band and high school memories, plus what made Vinemont a special place to go to, what she’ll miss the most and what she’ll remember the most.

“One of my favorite band memories was winning the color guard state championship in 2021. Competitions have always been my favorite part of band,” she said.

“All of the band competitions and exhibitions were great memories with some great friends. One of my favorite activities was attending Girls’ State last summer. I met so many people from around the state that I have become close friends with, and I learned so much about leadership and government. Probably one of the best memories from Girls’ State was sitting around with our feet in Governor Ivey’s pool.”



LAWSON WHALEY
Vinemont’s Lawson Whaley

She added, “What made Vinemont a special place to go to is the people. We have great teachers and staff who are very supportive.

“Several of the teachers are alumni, so they feel a sense of responsibility in making the school great. I’ll miss the Friday night football games, getting ready together as a team, performing at halftime and the band dances in the stands. I’ll always remember the friendships that we formed in high school.”

Whaley took away some things during her time at Vinemont and gave some advice to the upcoming freshman. She also talked about some of her role models growing up and the best advice that she was ever given.

“It’s okay to take your own path in life. Stay focused on your goals and work your hardest to achieve them,” she said.

“Don’t be scared. We have all been there and we have all survived. You will learn your way around, just like you did going into middle school, and by the end of the year, you’ll be thriving.

“My parents have always been my role models. They have always supported me and my sister, but with expectations for us to do the best that we can when it comes to any task. The best advice that I was ever given was to support yourself with genuine people who have your best interest at heart. Find your tribe that will be there to support you, no matter what.”

Whaley received some scholarships at Vinemont and talked about what that experience was like.

“I received the Provost scholarship, the Tennant and Susan McWilliams scholarship to UAB, and the Cullman Electric Cooperative scholarship. I was honored and humbled to have so many great opportunities to choose from.”



– COLUMN –

Celebrating in the Wundergarten – WED 'EM@TheArboretum

Ben Johnson South
Tribune Columnist

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE A "STORYBOOK WEDDING" in 2024 in Cullman County and not spend a giant sack of golden coins? Let your "Storybook Wedding Plans" start here with a suggestion for a new, very affordable, magical setting and a treasure chest filled with sources for special celebrations.

WED 'EM@TheArboretum SETTING—Cullman County Parks and Recreation welcomes weddings at its properties and only charges a modest rental fee. There are newly freshened, tree-canopied spaces for you to consider in the Arboretum/Wildflower Garden at Sportsman Lake Park.

An arboretum, a "living tree museum," is a ready-made, naturally magical setting for a "Storybook Woodlands Wedding." This spring, Cullman County Master Gardeners, with help from other nature-loving volunteers and Alabama forester, Mary Claire Smith, identified a collection of tree species at Sportsman Lake Park that established the woodlands space as an arboretum.

The Cullman County arboretum has the transporting feeling of storybook magic awaiting every turn of a corner, the gentle peace of being in an enchanted forest and the radiant wonder of wildflowers in full sun. The trees remind us that happy marriages take root when we marry the ones we love and flourish when we love the ones we marry.

Directions to the Arboretum at Sportsman Lake Park: For those not from Cullman County, take the Exit 310 Exit from I-65 and head east on Alabama Highway 157 (go about a mile). Turn right onto U.S. Highway 31 South and turn right at the first traffic light onto Sportsman Lake Road. As you enter the park, you'll see the FREE splash pad and the children's playground. Stay on that path as if driving to the 17 picnic pavilions. Soon after you pass the 18-hole putt-putt golf course on your left, you'll see the bright red Welcome Arbor of the Wildflower Garden. This is also the entrance to the forested beauty of the arboretum and your gateway to a storybook wedding setting. (Imagine the space with smooth pathways in 2024, wide enough for a bride and escort).

WED 'EM@TheArboretum at Sportsman Lake Park means you and your guests will stroll down wildflower walks registered on the Rosalynn Carter National Butterfly Trail and through forested woodlands walks of songbirds. By 2024, the arboretum will also be on the Alabama Birding Trail.

Plan for a smaller gathering for the vows, possibly in front of a decorated, handmade arch. When you plan a venue visit at this Cullman County arboretum, consider these spots for a ceremony: 1) top of the Wildflower Garden near the potting shed, 2) the center "island" between the two streams and 3) the southernmost shaded area of the woodlands. Chairs could be rented for these vow moments.

If you want to include larger numbers for your event, invite people to a reception where they can explore the paths and trails with a Woodlands Wedding Cookie (recipe below) and a cup of cider made from Steele Orchard apples (recipe below). Gorgeous chalices for the bride and groom could be made by Cullman County's pottery magician, SANDRA ABBOTT. You can find Sandra's romantic, whimsical, storybook fantastical works at LELDON'S in the Warehouse District.

Arboretum/Wildflower Garden event information is available at Sportsman Lake Park (256-734-3052). Cullman County Parks and Recreation also welcomes weddings at Smith Lake Park and Clarkson Covered Bridge. For those wonderful venues with lots of natural beauty, call 256-739-2916.

WED 'EM@TheArboretum INSPIRATION BOARD—As you begin imagining the magic of your storybook wedding, create a collage of images for all the elements you want. Let's say you desire some blend of "Beauty and the Beast," "Beetlejuice" and a Windsor castle wedding. An "inspiration board" could bring that alive. Consider all five senses: What will your storybook wedding look like? Smell like? Taste like? Sound like? What are the special touches you want to remember?

WED 'EM@TheArboretum FLOWERS—You're already surrounded by beautiful, natural, "LIVING" plant-life in the arboretum. In the "full sun" area you'll find wildflowers in bloom beginning in late March. In the tree-shaded glades, depending on the month, your guests will be delighted seeing trillium in bloom, native azaleas, golden fall foliage or winter wonderland, evergreen trees.

Your bridal bouquet and flowers for the bridesmaids could be simple greenery your floral designer can suggest and possibly adding some white blossoms. (Note: Flowers and plants in the arboretum are for all to enjoy, so please remember Miz Nona's "No No Rules" to not pluck, trample nor snip those beauties growing there.)

PAULA POYNER is not in the business of poking posies, but she would be like a fairy godmother creating sweeping arrangements of woodland branches and beautiful flowers for a storybook wedding.

Cullman County also has a grand gathering of great floral designers who are in the biz. I'm always delighted with the artistry of TRINA PIERCE'S team at Fairview Florist, the award-winning work of STEPHANIE and CARLA at Cullman Florist and unique compositions from Burke's. MARY CHAMBERS at Chambers Seed and Feed would also be a perfect match for "real natural beauty" in a real, natural setting.

MIKE RICHARDS, an award-winning, floral designer of great renown, is with Added Touch at Cullman Cabinet. Mike's artful arrangements are legendary. The grandly glorious flowers with prized plants from my family's farm, which Mike created for dad's funeral, were like Michelangelo-on-steroids.

Back to Paula Poyner (Mrs. David Poyner)—She creates in a sumptuous, English style, that allows airiness for butterflies to flit in and out of the branches. I became an admirer of Paula's creativity seeing her altar flowers and bodacious chapel wreaths at Grace Episcopal Church. To contact Madame Poynor, and remember she is not in the "flower biz," call the church office and leave your contact info. (BTW, Paula Poyner taught an "altar flower" program at the North Alabama AGRIPLEX this spring, and director Rachel Peinhardt Dawsey told me the entire gathering absolutely swooned over Paula's inspired floral creations).

What about bouquets that include berries, rosemary and wild bird feathers like the wedding flowers of India Hicks mentioned in Flower Magazine (January 2022). If it's good enough for the regal and creative, Ms. Hicks, it just may tickle your fancy.

Garlands of evergreens swagged across the reserved seats of honor? Baskets of fall foliage? Pinecone towers and twig-turreted castles? Think woodlands magic.

WED 'EM@TheArboretum INVITATIONS—Cinderella would have a trumpeting messenger riding on a white stead throughout the countryside, which could be the talk-of-the-county for your wedding. However, if that is not in your budget, a storybook wedding is all about imaginative, handcrafted things. Your invitations might have a real person address the envelopes, you know, old school, pre-Evite. Consider recycled paper goods with a bit of fiber to give an old-fashioned feel.

Calligraphy seems ideal for a storybook wedding, but you may find computer fonts which mimic hand-drawn lettering and please you. PAM WILLINGHAM and LAURA WILLINGHAM WALKER are two of the most creative artists, and lovely people I've ever known. Both of those talents would have ideas about how to add hand-drawn artistry to make invitations keepsakes for your guests. You can connect with them through Art Shop Around the Corner on Highway 31 next to Urban Cookhouse.

WED 'EM@TheArboretum MUSIC—Let guests enjoy the FREE birdsong. Consider "Games of Thrones" flutes, lutes and tambourines—possibly an unamplified, acoustic guitarist. Consider calling SKYLAR KING, bandmaster at Vinemont High School. Through an arts grant, his school was provided 18 guitars and many have learned to strum the cathedral classics. Vivaldi, anyone? Mr. King himself (note the royal name), is a gifted trumpet player. How about a storybook wedding march with the pageantry of a trumpet fanfare?

Seeds-Harvest Music Academy, Tony's School of Music and the Music Department at Wallace State Community College are all good sources for musicians who don't need to blast over loudspeakers to add joyful sound for your storybook wedding.

WED 'EM@TheArboretum OFFICIANT—A woodlands wedding seems to call for a less formal exchange of vows and ceremony, but it wouldn't have to. Make certain the priest or minister you choose, if you choose to include one, is comfortable with the lack-of-traditional script you may desire. When it's not in their church building, some Episcopal priests are happy to officiate at weddings of those who are not Episcopalian. They could wear their more theatrical robes. You can find other officiants who will accommodate the ceremony you create.

WED 'EM@TheArboretum MENU and CATERER—Ladies and gentlemen, children of all ages, in the center ring, I give you "The Merlin of Menu Magic," "The Dumbledore of Delish Desserts," "The Gandalf of Gourmet Goodies"—AARON NICHOLS. It's been my pleasure to work with Chef Aaron as he conjured amazing menus and phenom presentations for the annual fundraising dinners for the North Alabama AGRIPLEX.

What I quickly learned working with Chef Aaron is that he is delighted to work with a suggested menu, but he is really at his most impressive given a bit of direction and then encouraged to work his wizardry to up to the heavens. He understands the choreography of trained wait staff and the theatre which enhances fine dining. His dishes look splendid and taste like a storybook feast fit for royalty. You can find AARON NICHOLS on Facebook or through the Wallace State Community College School of Culinary Arts.

Whomever is cooking, a "Storybook Woodlands Wedding" celebrates the bounty which comes from trees. Conjure a pine table laden with—sugarplums, apple scones, cherry tarts, mini-pecan pies, walnut waffles with maple syrup, and lots of "berry good" treats.

WED 'EM@TheArboretum WEDDING DRESS—Imagine a bride dressed by twittering bluebirds as Disney's animated fairytale "Cinderella" was, or perhaps a Broadway bride who dances out of an enchanted forest setting of "Into the Woods." A Cullman-based seamstress who alters lots of bridal gowns, bridesmaid dresses and tux for the gents is PATSY HAYWOOD (256) 612-7653. Her skillful needlework could transform sackcloth to something sumptuous. Please tell her, this writer is still wearing the dinner jacket and tartan bowtie she worked her magic on.

HOW ABOUT A STORYBOOK WEDDING CORSET? Eva Blahut, only 30 miles away in Decatur, AL, told me there is a corset to fit every woman. Walking into Eva's shop, Kissing Fish Corsetry (3rd Floor of Banks Street Antiques), is like walking into a magnificent Brothers Grimm folktale. She has lace-up, puffy-sleeved shirts and capes for dandy gents, and a Rapunzel's tower of corsets and frippery for vamps, vixens and blushing brides. Go ahead and schedule your corset fitting at kissingfishcorsetry@gmail.com 630-363-7806.

WED 'EM@TheArboretum SHOES—Depends on the terrain. You don't want dainty sandals for some outdoor weddings. If pathways are unpaved, you might plan for covering some areas in painter's cloth muslin from HARBOR FREIGHT and layering with an assemblage of magical carpets.

WED 'EM@TheArboretum WEDDING PARTY GIFTS—Would be forest-inspired. Consider elegant, turned-wood wine stoppers by JARROD SMITHERMAN of Woodchuck Turning Studio for the ladies, and engraved charcuterie boards by LELDON MAXCY for the men.

WED 'EM@TheArboretum TOASTS AND SPEECHES—Reflect the wedding couples' love for each other and for the gorgeous, green earth they inhabit together. Here is a selection from poet, William Butler Yeats'

"THE TWO TREES"

Beloved, gaze in
thine own heart,

The holy tree is
growing there;

From joy the holy
branches start,

And all the trembling
flowers they bear.

The changing colours
of its fruit

Have dowered the stars
with merry light;

The surety of its hidden root

Has planted quiet
in the night;

The shaking of its leafy head

Has given the waves
their melody,

And made my lips
and music wed,

Murmuring a wizard
song for thee.

CELEBRATING IN THE WUNDERGARTEN This culinary storytelling series imagines foods made by Frau Ruehl, gardener heroine of the folktale "WUNDERGARTEN," set in 1870s Cullman County.

WOODLANDS WEDDING COOKIES
(Source: bonappetit.com)

INGREDIENTS
Makes a dozen 3-inch cookies

- 1 1/2 cups mix of raw pecans, walnuts and sunflower seeds
- 1/2 cup old-fashioned oats
- 1 large egg
- 4 tbsp. unsalted butter, melted
- 1/4 cup (packed) dark brown sugar
- 2 tbsp. granulated sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1 tsp. kosher salt
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 3/4 cup dried raisins and apricots (cut into 1/2-inch pieces)
- 3/4 cup chopped bittersweet chocolate bars or chips or disks
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place racks in upper and lower thirds of oven; preheat to 350F. Toast nuts and seeds and oats on a rimmed baking sheet, tossing once, until golden brown, 10-12 minutes. Transfer to a medium bowl; let cool.

2. Meanwhile, mix egg, butter, brown sugar, granulated sugar, vanilla, salt, and baking soda in a large bowl; let sit until nuts are cool (this will make for a chewier cookie).

3. Add dried fruit and chocolate to nut mixture; toss to combine. Give egg mixture a good stir, then stir in flour. Mix in nut mixture, smashing it against the sides of the bowl with a rubber spatula, until combined and mix-ins are evenly coated in dough. (It will look like too many mix-ins, but dough will come together as it chills.) Cover and chill at least 2 hours and up to 3 days.

4. Reheat oven to 350F. Using a 1/3-cup measure or #16 cookie scoop, portion out dough, packing firmly to make 12 cookies. Divide between 2 parchment-lined baking sheets as you go. Using measuring cup or your hand, press cookies into 2 1/2-inch diameter disks about 3/4-inch thick; sprinkle with sea salt.

5. Bake cookies, rotating baking sheets top to bottom and front to back once, until golden brown and no longer wet-looking, 11-13 minutes. Let cool on baking sheets.

6. DO AHEAD: Cookies can be made 1 week ahead. Store airtight at room temperature.

CULLMAN COUNTY CIDER
(Source: allrecipes.com)

INGREDIENTS

- Steele Orchard apples
- Water (enough to cover the quartered apples)
- Sugar (if extra sweetness desired, perhaps 3/4 cup white sugar)
- Spices (cinnamon and allspice)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Combine all the ingredients in a stockpot.

2. Boil for one hour, then simmer for two hours.

3. Strain the mixture at least twice.

BEST WISHES AND CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR STORYBOOK WEDDING! AUF WIEDERSEHEN Y'ALL!

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





‘The world can be a dark place; we just want to shine a light’

Standing in the Gap helps trauma survivors

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Standing in the Gap is a faith-based nonprofit ministry that has operated in Cullman County for two years. Focused on restoration, rescue and healing, Standing in the Gap represents boots-on-the-ground activism in the face of domestic violence and trafficking and offers holistic support for those victims and their families.

Jennifer Clark, director of the program, said the work she and her team do is more than a calling. She said it’s a commission given to them by God.

“Our ministry, our commission, is to help hurting people,” she said. “It’s not something you can just dip your toe in; you have to dive in.”

Clark mentioned that while there are several nonprofits in the area focused on the same things, Standing in the Gap is unique in that it meets those victims where other nonprofits don’t necessarily have the manpower or allocated funds to do so, particularly on weekends and for those small but no less important things that are needed when escaping a domestic violence or trafficking experience.

“We treat the whole person,” Clark declared, sharing that her ministry not only offers basic services like support and assistance in finding housing and addressing food insecurity for victims, but also offering emotional support and faith-based counseling for those victims as well as their families.

“The support doesn’t end once the individual is physically safe,” Clark noted.

“We continue to hold their hand. We have to be a safe place for these people. The world can be a dark place; we just want to shine a light.”

Clark said the program has operated quietly, outside of the public eye for years due to the sensitive nature of the clients and cases it deals with, but that it’s time to go public due to the demand and dwindling resources.

“We’re not government funded, or related to one specific church,” she said.

“Our funds come from people who believe in our commission and our board members and volunteers are from all different churches in the area.”

Clark also shared that while all her volunteers and partners wish to remain anonymous due to the nature of their work, “It takes a lot of brave people to do this.

“We draw a lot from Nehemiah 4:14; it’s kind of our motto.”

Clark said her volunteers and board members are brave, but the clients they serve are infinitely more so.

“If I could say one thing,” said Clark, “these people can’t advocate for themselves.

“These people have lost everything. It’s a heavy weight to bear.

“I just want them to know, we can help you carry that weight.”

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic violence or trafficking, there is hope. Call Standing in the Gap’s hotline at 256-509-9092.

5th annual Beer, Bands & Bingo coming July 8

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Frosty brews, live music and friendly competition are on the menu at Goat Island Brewing on Saturday, July 8, 2023, for the fifth annual Beer, Bands & Bingo event, hosted by the St. Paul’s Lutheran School Evangelism Committee.

Chat & Chew will be onsite to provide its twists on Southern classics it calls a “beautiful dance between creativity and food.”

Music for the evening will include high-energy cover band BREZ and a mix of covers and originals from local favorite Brick Avenue.

The event begins at 4 p.m. Jonathan Easterwood with the St Paul’s Evangelism Committee said bingo will be $5 per card and raffle tickets $1. All funds raised will go to St. Paul’s Lutheran School.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/events/2098530810342593.



5TH ANNUAL BEER, BANDS & BINGO /FACEBOOK

Shot from a previous Beer, Bands & Bingo celebration

BOOK REVIEW

‘Remarkably Bright Creatures’ by Shelby Van Pelt

Cathy Lay Mayor
Tribune Contributor

This debut novel is somewhat whimsical and totally delightful. Set in fictional Sowell Bay near Seattle, it is a story of love, grief, the fear of aging and friendship. And yet, it is still amusing.

Part of the novel is told by Marcellus, a giant Pacific octopus who is somewhat sarcastic and very intelligent. He has been in captivity at the Sowell Bay Aquarium for over three years.

Tova Sullivan is a 70-year-old woman who works nights at the aquarium. Cleaning and talking to the animals helps her stay busy and productive. Tova is grieving the recent death of her husband and the loss of her son 30 years ago. She thinks the police have it wrong when they say her son Erik’s death was a suicide.

When she is not at the aquarium, she enjoys visiting with her longtime friends known as the Knit-Wits.

The local grocery store owner, Ethan, is her friend as well, but she is oblivious to his flirting.

To the distress of her friends, Tova decides to sell her house and belongings and put herself in a nursing home. She tells the Knit-Wits Mary Ann and Barbara, “I don’t have children who will come stay with me when I’ve had a fall. I don’t have grandchildren who will stop over to unclog my drain or make sure I’m taking my pills. And I won’t put that burden on my friends and neighbors.”

Another one of Tova’s friends is Marcellus, the octopus in residence at the aquarium.

The giant Pacific octopuses are ingenious creatures. Known to escape from their enclosures and search for “live food,” they can pick locks and open jars.

They can even differentiate one human from another. Tova has seen Marcellus escape from his tank and has helped him return.

The book’s other narrative is about 30-year-old Cameron, who was abandoned by his mother when he was 9. He has never met his father.

He lives in a trailer park in California with his aunt. Cameron has trouble holding down a job and would rather play with his rock band. Cameron finds a class ring in his mother’s belongings.

When he sees it is from the high school in Sowell Bay, he is convinced his father must live there. He heads to Sowell Bay thinking his father owes him back child support.

The three characters meet through connections with the aquarium.

When Tova injures her ankle, Cameron temporarily takes Tova’s job cleaning the aquarium.

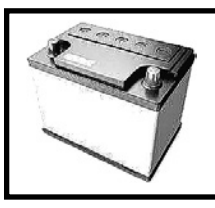
Tova goes to the aquarium every night to teach Cameron how to clean to her standards. Cameron finds Marcellus fascinating as well. And Marcellus studies them both.

While “Remarkably Bright Creatures” is unlikely, it is poignant and heartwarming. It reminds us that even if we do not have family, friends can be just what we need.

Shelby Van Pelt is originally from the Pacific Northwest. “Remarkably Bright Creatures” is her first book.

It is a New York Times bestseller, a nominee for Best Fiction of 2022 and a nominee for Best Debut Novel of 2022. Van Pelt said she was inspired to write the book from a viral video of a giant Pacific octopus trying to escape from the Seattle Aquarium.

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


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LEGALS

STATE OF ALABAMA	*	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
	*	
CULLMAN COUNTY	*	CASE NUMBER CV 2018-21

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF HATTIE BELLE COLE, DECEASED.

ORDER

This day came Scotty Cole, the Personal Representative of the Estate of said decedent, and filed his account, verified by affidavit, vouchers and evidence, and statement upon oath, for a final settlement of his administration.

It is therefore, ordered that the **31st day of August, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.**, be appointed a day for said settlement, and that notice of the same, stating the name of the Personal Representative, the name of the deceased, and the time and nature of the settlement be given by publication for three consecutive weeks in the Cullman Tribune, a Newspaper published in said County.

It is further ordered that Sonny James Jones and Kandy Jones Sanders be given notice of said appointment.

DONE this 8th day of June, 2023.

/s/ MARTHA E. WILLIAMS
Circuit Judge

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of)
)
HILDA JEANETTE TODD,) Case No. PC-2020-367
)
Deceased.)

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: SHANE FLANAGAN
MALEIA YVETTE CLARK
ANY KNOWN OR UNKOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES.

Please note that a Final Hearing for the Estate of Hilda Todd has been set for the 3rd of August 2023 at 9:30 a.m., before this Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman, Alabama.

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

Done this 15th of June, 2023.

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

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

Shelbie G. Hankey (GUT009)
Attorney for the Estate
HANKEY LAW FIRM, LLC
101 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055
256-736-8744
shelbie@hankeylawfirm.com

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
ELLIS BAKER * CASE NO PC 2023-037
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION TO ADMIT WILL FOR PROBATE AND PETITION FOR LETTERS TESTAMENTARY

TO: PAUL BAKER, JOSH BAKER, SAMUEL BAKER, RACHEL MCALISTER, RILLA BAKER AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

The *Petition to Admit Will for Probate and Petition for Letters Testamentary*, filed by Robert Baker and Kathy Baker, Petitioners, by and through their Attorney, Melvin Hasting, has been scheduled for the **13th day of July, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.,** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman, Alabama.

All persons having interest, residing or being without state are hereby given notice to appear and contest said petition if they think proper.

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

DONE this the 15th day of June, 2023.

Tammy Brown
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

Melvin Hasting
Attorney for Petitioners
PO Box 517
Cullman, Alabama 35056

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: * **CASE NO. JU-2023-97.01**
STRAITLYN GRAY, *
A Minor Child. *
*

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

BRADLEY GRAY, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the Verified Petition to Terminate Parental Rights filed by Chelsey Gray and/or other relief by July 3, 2023, or, thereafter, a judgment by default may be rendered against him in regard to case number JU-2023-97.01, Juvenile Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 24 day of May, 2023.

CLERK OF JUVENILE COURT

JERRY L. KILGO
ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER
421 3rd AVE SE, SUITE 250
CULLMAN, AL. 35055

TO PUBLISHER: PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR (4) SUCCESSIVE WEEKS IN THE **CULLMAN TRIBUNE**, BEGINNING: May 27, 2023.

FILED IN OFFICE
MAY 24 2023
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
BARRY WANE DEMONIA, DECEASED CASE NO. PC 2023-137

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF BARRY WANE DEMONIA, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Regina Gay DeMonia on the 15th day of June, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Regina Gay DeMonia, Personal Representative (Administrator),
and
Steven C. Smith, Attorney for the Estate

TO: Publisher of *Cullman Tribune*:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C. Smith
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
Phone: (256) 734-4721
Fax: (256) 734-4774
e-mail: steve@smithandsmithllp.com

PB MIN BK 216 PG 815 - 05/31/2023 02:17 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
JAMES NEWTON THURSBY, III, * CASE NO PC 2023-154
Deceased *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to **SCOTT FEWELL**, as Personal Representative of the Estate of **JAMES NEWTON THURSBY, III**, deceased, on the 31st day of May, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court of Cullman County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Scott Fewell
Personal Representative

Steven D. Gravlee
Attorney for Petitioner
P.O. Box 184
Sumiton, Alabama, 35148

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

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

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

PB WIL BK 116 PG 909 - 06/02/2023 09:58 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
CHARLES A. SHAFER, * CASE NO.: PC2023-149
Deceased. *

AMENDED
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Testamentary having been granted to CHARLES CASPER SHAFER, as Personal Representative of the Estate of CHARLES A. SHAFER, deceased, on the 24th day of May, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

Amended due to typographical error of spelling of decedent's name.

CHARLES CASPER SHAFER
Personal Representative

Alex J. Chaney
Attorney for Personal Representative
PO Box 1056
Cullman, Alabama 35056

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

Please publish the above Notice once a week for three consecutive weeks and send an affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

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

PB WIL BK 116 PG 849 - 06/01/2023 10:46 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF: *
JOYCE MARIE COGGIN, * CASE NUMBER: PC2023-052
DECEASED. *

Letters Testamentary of said decedent having been granted to the undersigned on the 1st day of June, 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.

DONALD DAVID COLLETTE

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

PB WIL BK 116 PG 891 - 06/01/2023 04:04 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA	*	IN THE PROBATE COURT
	*	
CULLMAN COUNTY	*	CASE NO. PC 2023-175

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA ANN ROSS, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Kathy M. Leiter on the 1st day of June, 2023, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Kathy M. Leiter
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

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

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: * **CASE NO. JU-2023-98.01**
DIERKS GRAY, *
A Minor Child. *
*

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

BRADLEY GRAY, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the Verified Petition to Terminate Parental Rights filed by Chelsey Gray and/or other relief by July 3, 2023, or, thereafter, a judgment by default may be rendered against him in regard to case number JU-2023-98.01, Juvenile Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 24 day of May, 2023.

CLERK OF JUVENILE COURT

JERRY L. KILGO
ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER
421 3rd AVE SE, SUITE 250
CULLMAN, AL. 35055

TO PUBLISHER: PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR (4) SUCCESSIVE WEEKS IN THE **CULLMAN TRIBUNE**, BEGINNING: May 27, 2023.

FILED IN OFFICE
MAY 24 2023
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: * **CASE NO. JU-2023-99.01**
DAXTON GRAY, *
A Minor Child. *
*

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

BRADLEY GRAY, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the Verified Petition to Terminate Parental Rights filed by Chelsey Gray and/or other relief by July 3, 2023, or, thereafter, a judgment by default may be rendered against him in regard to case number JU-2023-99.01, Juvenile Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 24 day of May, 2023.

CLERK OF JUVENILE COURT

JERRY L. KILGO
ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER
421 3rd AVE SE, SUITE 250
CULLMAN, AL. 35055

TO PUBLISHER: PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR (4) SUCCESSIVE WEEKS IN THE **CULLMAN TRIBUNE**, BEGINNING: May 27, 2023.

FILED IN OFFICE
MAY 24 2023
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF: * **CASE NO. JU-2022-530.01**
SOPHIA DANIELLE WEPES, *
A Minor Child. *
*

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

JULIAN WEPES, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the Verified Petition for Adoption filed by Justin Aaron and/or other relief by July 3, 2023, or, thereafter, a judgment by default may be rendered against him in regard to case number JU-2022-530.01, Juvenile Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 24 day of May, 2023.

CLERK OF JUVENILE COURT

JERRY L. KILGO
ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER
421 3rd AVE SE, SUITE 250
CULLMAN, AL. 35055

TO PUBLISHER: PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR (4) SUCCESSIVE WEEKS IN THE **CULLMAN TRIBUNE**, BEGINNING: May 27, 2023.

FILED IN OFFICE
MAY 24 2023
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

Bonnie (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Bonnie, a 1-year-old female pit terrier mix with striking chocolate eyes, is available for adoption at Cullman County Animal Shelter. Bonnie is a laid-back pup, which is a rare find for her mixed breed. Her unassuming low-medium energy level lends to her being an excellent companion for quiet activities like reading or sipping sweet tea on the porch. Bonnie is a true lady, enjoying her toys and accessories, like her backpack. She enjoys being close, but understands the concept of personal space; again, a rare find for her mixed breed!

Ready to make Bonnie your lass? Head over to Cullman County Animal Shelter at 935 Convent Road NE, Monday through Friday, between 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. for a meet and greet. Her adoption fee includes spay, 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 cullmananimalshelter@co.cullman.al.us.

Chick-fil-A (from Front)

little room to move around. The new building will offer significantly more space for the kitchen staff.

The new drive-through will have two lanes and will have canopies covering the lanes. It will have fans for employees and help keep them out of the sun. When discussing the new features, Earnest explained how important it is to ensure that his employees are taken care of.

According to Earnest, there are many customers in the community who have formed personal relationships with the employees at Chick-fil-A and come to the restaurant to see them.

"It's a loyalty thing and that's why we also like to give back," he said. "It's really not just about selling chicken for us. We really do want to make a difference in the community, and that's easy to do because this community gives back."

Earnest offered some advice for customers who might be craving Chick-fil-A during the reconstruction period. "We have a lot of really good places in Cullman," he said. "Cullman has recently gotten a lot of great food trucks; there are some great options there."

The project is expected to take approximately 20 weeks to complete, with a tentative re-opening date expected in early November.



Obituary Announcements: June 15-16

Florene Barnett Day, 91
Florene Barnett Day was born in Hanceville Alabama, on Dec. 30, 1931, to Loys Alfred Barnett and Olger Lucille Hays Barnett. She passed away June 9, 2023. She was preceded in death by Loys and Lucille, her daughter Elaine Day Duncan, loving husband Julious Elmer Day, brothers Joseph, Dale, Bobby, and Terry Barnett and sisters Judy Barnett and Louese McFarland. She is survived by her son, Zane Kelly Day, three granddaughters, Julie Duncan, Jennifer Duncan, Addy Ball, three great-grandchildren, Ally Cole, Connor Cole, and Anna Holcomb as well as brothers Jack, Joe, and Eddie Barnett and her sister Betty Mirich.

Tammy Ann Earwood, 54
Tammy Ann Earwood, age 54, passed away Sunday, June 11, 2023, at her residence. She was born Nov. 22, 1968, in Cullman, Alabama. Tammy was a loving mother, daughter, and sister. She was a very outgoing, life loving, young woman who had a heart of gold. She will be greatly missed and loved by so many. Help us in celebration of her life. Family left to cherish memories of Tammy include: daughter, Trinity Earwood; sons, Tyler Earwood (Katherine) and Trenton Earwood; father, Jerry Rickles; brother, Byron Winton; sister, Robin Winton; grandchild, Harper Grace Earwood; niece, Samantha Vest; nephew, Adam Netherton; former husband, Tim Earwood; and her three fur babies, Jetson, Yogi and Nemo. Preceding Tammy in death is her mother, Dorothy Smith Rickles. Family has chosen cremation and will have a private ceremony at her residence in order to celebrate her life.

Bernard "Bernie" Andrew Lehmann, 97
A funeral mass for Bernard "Bernie" Andrew Lehmann, 97, of Hanceville, Alabama will be 10 a.m. Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Cullman. Visitation for the public will begin at 6:30 p.m. with the rosary following at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. The burial will take place at 2 p.m. on Thursday, June 22nd at Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo, Alabama. Mr. Lehmann was born on Jan. 1, 1926 in Chicago, IL to the late Leo and Elsie Lehmann. He passed away peacefully on June 12, 2023, at Falkville Nursing Home in Falkville, Alabama. He was a member of the AAF and served from Nov. 1943 to Nov. 1945. Within his time in the military, Mr. Lehmann was decorated with an air medal, three bronze stars and three oak leaf clusters. He also served in Central Europe in 1945, shortly before separating. Aside from his military career, Bernie was rich in his Catholic faith and carried a great love for Blessed Mother and the Holy Eucharist. Survivors include his children, Keith (Stacy) Lehmann, Michael (Sandra) Lehmann, Br. Leo Mary, MFVA, Gregory (Mary) Lehmann and Rebecca (Erik) Reuter; grandchildren, Theresa, Veronica, Rachel, Paul, Alan, Kimberly, Vanessa, and Jackson. In addition to his parents, Mr. Lehmann was preceded in death by his wife, Josephine Murr Lehmann; grandson, Isaac Lehmann; and brother, Ralph Lehmann. The family would like to thank the staff at Hospice of the Valley and Falkville Nursing Home for their love and care of Bernie during his illness. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament at 3222 County Road 548, Hanceville, AL 35077. Alabama National Cemetery is located at 3133 Highway 119, Montevallo, AL 35115.

Ellan Dawson, 75
Funeral Service for Ellan Dawson, age 75, will be at 11 a.m. on Monday, June 19, 2023, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Rev. Andy Coffey officiating; burial at Livingston Chapel Cemetery. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. prior to the service. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Dawson passed away on Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at her residence. She was born Oct. 7, 1947, to Virgil Woodrow Williams and Lora Bell Williams. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Bobby Dawson; and brother, Ferrell Williams. Survivors include her sons, Randy Phillips, Terry (Leah) Phillips, and Rody Phillips; daughter, Sandy (Michael) McDonald; grandchildren, Dayln Phillips, Morgan Phillips, Cheyanne Phillips, Zachary McDonald, Shea McDonald, and Tyler McDonald; 13 great-grandchildren; brother, Harold (Janice) Williams; sister-in-law, Barbara Williams; and a host of nieces, nephews, family, and friends.

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BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

The beautiful land of homeless chickens

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



I had wanted to go visit there since the days of my youth. I never imagined or believed it would ever happen. Now, when the days-of-my-youth are a dim dot in my rear-view mirror, I have made it there. Not only has my dream come true, but I have now been twice.

When I was a kid, I dreamed of visiting far-away lands and exciting places... places like Fort Payne, Scottsboro, or Albertville! Fort Payne was only 9 miles from my native town of Rainsville, so I made that trip many times...at least a dozen! That trip always excited me as a boy. As I write this column this morning, I'm sitting on a screened-in back porch, on the island of Kauai, in Hawaii. I'm listening to the sounds of exotic birds and breaking-ocean waves as they make their way to the black-and-white mingled sand stretched out in front of me. As the sun rises, the former kid that occasionally shows up inside this old man, is excited to be here. I look forward to the day ahead. I wonder what breathtaking beauty I will see today. As I look up from my laptop, I cast another amazed gaze across the Pacific Ocean, and I hear one of the numerous feral roosters crowing, "Good morning" in Alabamian, or "Aloha" in Hawaiian.

Jean and I made our first trip to these Islands 25-years ago. That trip was a combination vacation-and- mission trip. We spent half of our time during that first trip working with First Baptist Church of Waimea, on the Big Island. The pastor, Ted Goslin and his wife Leah, were gracious hosts. Sadly, we lost Ted to cancer this past year. We spent the other half of our time like vacationers, touring the Big Island and Oahu. Of course, we visited Pearl Harbor, where we stood on top of the U.S.S. Arizona and wept. We vowed that one day we would return to visit other islands. That day came last week, 25-years after we made that promise.

This time we visited our third of the 8-major islands of the archipelago. I guess that means we have to go back at least 5-more times! This time, we spent our entire time, 9 days to be exact, on the Island of Kauai. This time we were simply vacationers, and we played the tourist thing to the hilt.

We have discovered that Kauai and Alabama have at least one thing in common... chickens. When I was a boy in Alabama, we had a few laying hens. My Grandpa Wood was a full-time chicken farmer, as were numerous residents of Alabama, especially on Sand Mountain. Grandpa had 5-large chicken houses. On the island of Kauai, I didn't see any chicken houses, but we did see plenty of chickens. They were everywhere, except in a house or pen. These chickens don't actually belong to anyone. They are not kept up, and for the most part, they are feral. The Hawaiians ancestors brought them to the island. One legend says a hurricane blew across the island and destroyed all the chicken houses and the owners could not gather their chickens back up, so they became feral. Now, they really are "Free-Range" chickens. They are all along the sides of the roads, in bushes, in business parking lots, and in the yards of people. Through tracking and estimating, there are as many as 450,000 running amok on that one island. They are a site to see.

There are also at least 5-Alabamians running loose on this island this week too! God sure has done an amazing job on the beauty of this place. I'll share more later.

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

HISTORY

Files from yesteryear: 1932, 1952

From the files of 1932

Inez and Bertie Young spent Saturday night with their sister, Mrs. H.J. Mize.

Attending the quilting at Mrs. Henry Mobley's on Tuesday afternoon were Mrs. Ava Smith, Mrs. Hazel Gentry, Mrs. Verla Mobley, Mrs. Annice Carden, Mrs. Johnny Stewart, Mrs. H.W. Smith, Marie Carden, Pauline Rhodes and Inez and Bertie Young. The quilt will be given away at the pie supper on Saturday night.

You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do – Henry Ford.

From the files of 1952

G.W. Ponder, III was a winner of the fast heat in the Cub Scout Derby last Sunday.

Sylvester N. Allred died last Friday at his Hanceville residence. This 82 year old man has 128 descendants. Funeral services were at Hopewell.

Herman Davis remains in Saint Vincent's Hospital with a broken back.

Attending Girls State from Cullman County are Charlene Lee – West Point, Maggie Duke – Holly Pond, Mary Ellen Cook – Fairview, Kathryn Dooley – Cold Springs, Margaret Ellen Hinds – Hanceville and Betty Vandiver – Cullman.

Betty Dahlke, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Dahlke, was honored for six years of perfect attendance at East Elementary.

Cpl. Don Carroll Thompson, 19, has received a second purple heart while serving in Korea. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. E.M. Carroll, of Cullman.

H.E. Mitchell, Cullman attorney, has been elected Chairman of Cullman County Republicans.

Dock Johns, Archie Raburn, Comer Smith and Nello Veal, of Gold Ridge, went fishing on Saturday night at Muscle Dump.

Mr. and Mrs. J.S. Schults of Cullman visited Oak Level last week.

Dating on Saturday night were Margaret Kinney and Roy Richter, Betty Jo Johnson and Asa Blalock, Esther Davis and Bill Myers and Carolyn Miller and Bill Knight.

Jack Peeler is spending 30 days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cortez Peeler, Bill and Peggy after serving a year in Korea.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Linton of Welti were visiting at Antioch last weekend.

Some of the farmers around Berlin are having to replant their cotton crops.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodfin Graham and boys of Bethsadia attended the Air Carnival in Birmingham on Sunday.

Mrs. Max Buettner entertained at a dinner party on Sunday honoring her brother and her niece who is graduating from high school.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Rice of Birmingham spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Rice, of Hanceville.

Big Brothers Groceries has bananas for 10 cents per pound.

Enjoying the Baggett reunion at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E.B. Baggett of Cullman were 76 people. Dinner was served in a grove of pines.

Mule for sale, 900 pounds, 8 years old, $45.00 cash. Curtis Black, near Oak Level Church.

POET'S CORNER

Sailing Foul | By: Randy C. Hale

When playing
backyard baseball
it was inevitable
that we would
lose the ball, sometimes two
if we had extras.

And the game would
come to a
halt for hunting.

In high Johnson grass, or into
ditches we would go, my cousins
and me, until we found what we
were looking for.

Those old baseballs were the hardest
to fined, having months or years of
wear, baring the proven dust of our
childhood, becoming camouflage
among the flourishing earth.

When the game resumed, ball in hand,
all was well until sailing foul again.

Life takes on a similar stage, the
games we all play until something
lost to us suspends the game.
And we find ourselves searching
for whatever it is we need to continue, hopefully never alone.



CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

JUNE 17

S A V E S R H S S L A T E O T
M P M D I S A P P O I N T E D
D E C A D E S O O F O O L N R
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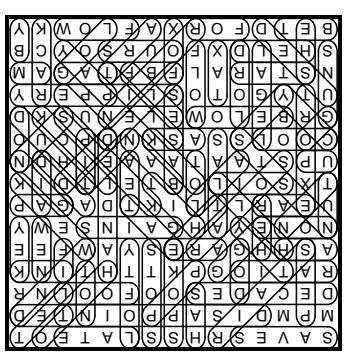
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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

JUNE 17

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

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JUNE 17, 2023

Monk (from Front)



ASHLEY HICKS, ADMINISTRATOR, FALKVILLE HEALTH AND REHAB

Happiest of birthdays to Ms. Fleda Monk! Ms. Monk is celebrating 109 years of love and life surrounded by family and friends at Falkville Health and Rehab. She has lived to tell of The Great Depression, Prohibition, the first man in space and a host of other historical events. She was married to Hollis Monk for 59 years and they had four sons. Please join us in celebrating Ms. Monk and her fabulous life!

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