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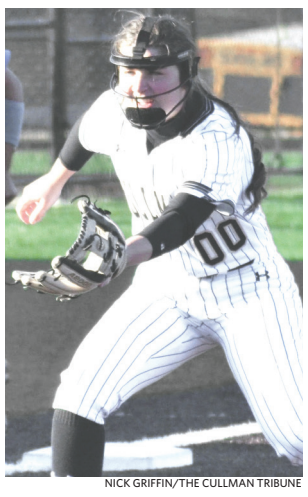
INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OBITUARIES
Donald James Johnson, Cecil Ottis Patterson, Sr., Danny Ray Gunter, Willie B. Wolfe, Mary Elizabeth Pigg Fowler
» PAGE 7

WEATHER
87 69
SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
SHOWERS LIKELY AND PATCHY FOG THEN THUNDERSTORMS LIKELY

Arrest and Incidents
» PAGE 2

Community Calendar
» PAGE 3



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

'Inspire the younger girls on the team': Cullman's Sadie Graham recaps sophomore season

» PAGE 4

Happy 200th birthday, Col. Cullmann!

Friends of Frankweiler hosts party to celebrate town's founder

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — A small crowd of Cullmanites of all ages and backgrounds joined together at the Festhalle on Sunday afternoon to celebrate the 200th birthday of Cullman founder Colonel John G. Cullmann. Cullmann was born in Frankweiler, Germany, on July 2, 1823.

The Festhalle was decked out with German flags, and the party was complete with gift giveaways and delectable cupcakes created by the historic Duchess Bakery. Those gathered shared in a jovial singing of "Happy Birthday" led by local artisan and author Ben Johnson South.

Host of the » PAGE 7



CAYLA GRACE MURPHY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Young Cullmanite River Jane Murphy-Burns, accompanied by her father Matthew Burns, enjoys a cupcake with a festive German flag in celebration of Colonel Cullmann's 200th birthday Sunday, July 2, at the Festhalle. »

Patriotism on display in Good Hope



JANET CHANDLER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The fifth annual Faith, Freedom, Family and Fireworks Extravaganza took place in Good Hope on Sunday, July 2.

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — Hundreds of residents and visitors converged on Good Hope Municipal Park Sunday, July 2, to enjoy the fifth annual Faith, Freedom, Family and Fireworks Extravaganza presented by Branded by Christ Cowboy Church, in conjunction with the City of Good Hope.

Eager children picked out the best spots while many adults enjoyed the comfort of lying on blankets or relaxing in camping chairs.

But before the fireworks could start, the group held an equestrian Parade of Flags honoring all those who've served, both at home and abroad.



JANET CHANDLER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Branded By Christ Cowboy Church put on the display completely free of charge.

Camp Liberty hosting 10th Extreme Military Challenge



TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

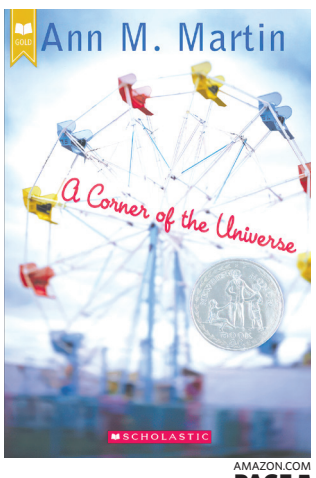
Camp Liberty in Battleground, Alabama, in Cullman County is hosting its 10th Extreme Military Challenge (XMC).

» PAGE 5

Notable nonprofit: Cullman County Commission on Aging

» PAGE 2

Books reviews from CCPLS readers



AMAZON.COM

» PAGE 5

HOT SUMMER SAVINGS WITH BILL'S DEALS

Bill Smith
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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported July 3

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

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

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

June 29

- possession of dangerous drugs; possession of marijuana; CR 1179
- criminal mischief; Hwy. 69 S
- theft of property; CR 109
- domestic violence; CR 572
- possession of controlled substance; Megan Ln.
- trespassing; CR 1225
- theft of property; CR 263
- receiving stolen property; resisting arrest; possession of marijuana; possession of prescription drugs; Hwy. 157
- possession of marijuana; Hwy. 278 W

June 30

- harassment; CR 643
- domestic violence; Moehring Rd.
- domestic violence; CR 1222
- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 431
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 278 W
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 565

July 1

- burglary; CR 1859
- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; I-65 NB Reset Area
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1435
- burglary; CR 117
- domestic violence; 1st Ave. N, Hanceville
- sell/distribute drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; Mercury Dr.
- attempt to elude police officer; CR 437

July 2

- theft of property; Hwy. 69 S
- attempt to elude police officer; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 69 N
- theft of property; CR 991
- criminal mischief; harassment; CR 643
- domestic violence; CR 991
- domestic violence; CR 665
- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle; CR 842

ARRESTS

June 29 – July 2

Bice, Brooklyn S.; 24
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Blackwood, Stacy M.; 27
- FTA- assault-child abuse-simple-family

Bledsoe, Justin C.; 33
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Bryan, Cindy L.; 41
- possession of methamphetamine

Burns, Jonathan S.; 42
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA- no liability insurance

Clements, Rachel G.; 29
- larceny/theft-miscellaneous theft $1,500 - $2,500

Collins, Floyd S.; 49
- sell/distribute methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Dixon, Davante C.; 22
- DUI (alcohol)

Flanigan Jr., Edsal E.; 44
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Gonsales, Sofia; 43
- failure to make child attend school

Harrison, Kristen; 44
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Harrison, Robin A.; 48
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- promote prison contraband (drugs)

Hedden, Lisa B.; 52
- permitting dogs to run at large

Holcomb, Harley S.; 24
- larceny/theft-miscellaneous theft
- attempting to elude police officer

Hood, Mitchell D.; 44
- Probation Violation- burglary-residence-force

Huffstutler, Logan C.; 19
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- public intoxication

Jackson, Daniel L.; 37
- domestic violence-3rd degree

Jones, Jeffery D.; 53
- FTA- fraud-swindle/home repair
- FTA- driving while suspended, revoked or cancelled

Lanz, Matthew A.; 43
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Lenz, John L.; 51
- burglary-residence-force
- larceny/theft-miscellaneous

Lenz, William D.; 51
- assault-domestic-harassment-family
- burglary-residence-no force
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- larceny/theft-miscellaneous

Lindsey, Kristian L.; 39
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

McKenzie, Theresa A.; 27
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Moore, Phillip B.; 35
- public intoxication

Murray Sr., Tevin O.; 27
- assault-aggravated assault-A to M aggravated assault (attempted murder)
- assault-aggravated assault-menacing-gun
- assault-reckless endangerment

Myrex, Heather N.; 40
- FTA- possession of methamphetamine
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Rines, Andrew B.; 27
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- promote prison contraband (drugs)

Self, Michael W.; 33
- possession of prescription drugs
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of dangerous drugs
- attempting to elude police officer
- resisting arrest
- receiving stolen property $500 less than $1,500

Sheets, Vicky L.; 59
- open container-alcohol in vehicle
- disorderly conduct/disturbing peace/affray
- DUI (alcohol) 3 or more prior convictions

Sickler, Michael S.; 35
- FTA- possession of methamphetamine

Simmons, Jonathon L.; 41
- Probation Violation- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle
- Probation Violation-theft-theft of article from auto

Swann Jr., Johnny G.; 41
- possession of marijuana
- promote prison contraband (drugs)
- possession of dangerous drugs
- public intoxication

Ursery, Jordan L.; 18
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- minor in possession of alcohol
- attempting to elude police officer
- reckless driving

Williams, Larry A.; 35
- sexual abuse of child less than 12-years-old
- sodomy-with a girl-strong arm

Wright, Stephanie E.; 46
- permitting dogs to run at large

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

June 30

- harassing communications; person
- criminal trespass-3rd degree; person; Denson Ave. SW
- duty upon striking unattended vehicle; person; 5th Ave. SE; damage to 2014 Jeep Cherokee; $5,000
- harassing communications; person

July 1

- harassment; person; Tallyho St. SW

July 2

- criminal mischief-2nd degree; person; 1st Ave. SE; damage to 2005 Nissan Titan; $2,000

ARRESTS

June 30 – July 2

McAlpin, John B.; 55
- DUI

Gill, Gary R.; 54
- FTA- driving without license
- FTA- fail to register vehicle
- FTA- insurance violation

Perez, Ariel C.; 31
- theft of property-4th degree

Fanning, Nathan D.; 39
- public intoxication

Cofield, Joseph C.; 34
- FTA- driving while suspended

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Watermelons: The refreshing taste of summer

Justin Miller
ACES

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. — When the summer sun is scorching and you need quick relief from the heat, there is little more refreshing than a juicy slice of fresh watermelon. However, it is important to know what to look for in order to pick watermelons at their peak ripeness.

Checking for ripeness

Bethany O'Rear, an Alabama Cooperative Extension System home grounds, gardens and home pests regional agent, said the peak harvest time for watermelons is dependent on the variety.

"Most watermelon varieties are ready to pick 80 to 90 days after planting," O'Rear said. "However, maturity and ripeness can differ based on weather, location and the nutritional status of the plants. So, you cannot check for ripeness based solely on the planting dates."

Ground scars, tendrils and thumping

When watermelons are ripe and ready for harvesting, the melon will have a dull, yellowish color where it has been touching the ground. People refer to this spot as the ground scar or belly spot. In striped-watermelon varieties, this scar will be prominent. However, not all varieties develop prominent ground scars, so you may need to check for other signs of ripeness.

"Another way to check ripeness is to look for the dead tendril or curl near the point where the melon is attached to the vine," O'Rear said. "This method works pretty well for seeded watermelon varieties, but not for seedless ones."

When buying a watermelon that has already been picked–such as ones from a roadside stand or a farmers market–the thumping method is commonly used to check for ripeness. The belief is that when an unripe watermelon is thumped, it will produce a higher-pitched pinging sound, and overripe watermelon will make a lower thud sound.

"When using this method, listen for a deep — rather than metallic — sounding thump," O'Rear said.

A nutritious treat

Watermelon is an excellent source of vitamin C. In fact, according to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), just one wedge of watermelon contains over 23 milligrams. This accounts for 38% of daily vitamin C requirements.

Vitamin C plays many important roles in the body. For example, it protects cells from harmful elements found in cigarette smoke, air pollution and ultraviolet light. It is also used in the production of collagen, which is required to help wounds heal.

Sondra Parmer, the Alabama Extension assistant director for federal nutrition programs, said watermelon is a great summertime fruit option for the whole family.

"Whether it be at a grocery store or at a farmers market, watermelons are a readily available fruit to enjoy during the summer," Parmer said. "It is also a mobile-friendly fruit, so it is perfect for families to take along on their outdoor adventures."

While watermelon is great by itself, it is also wonderful to incorporate with other ingredients. Live Well Alabama — an Alabama Extension initiative developed by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) — has two refreshing recipes that incorporate watermelon. Head on over to www.LiveWellAlabama.com to find the Watermelon Rosemary Flavored Water and Melon and Mint recipes.

More information

Want to try your hand at growing and harvesting your own watermelons? Alabama Extension's Grow More, Give More project has a watermelon growing card that contains all of the information you will need to get started next year. Find this card at www.aces.edu/go/growmore.

Commission on Aging (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County Commission on Aging (COA) Executive Director Stephanie Lawson said that for the last two years, she has felt right at home leading the charge in advocating for seniors in the community. Along with the help of support staff in the main office and seven full-time senior center directors, the COA makes a huge impact on our residents in their golden years.

The COA is primarily funded by the Cullman County Commission, Alabama Department of Senior Services, North Alabama Regional Council of Governments and the United Way of Cullman County; local churches, businesses and individuals help bridge the gap for smaller needs.

"We LOVE our senior community. We want to do anything and everything we can to show our love and support. Whether that's through nutrition, socialization, even referring them to resources that can help them as well," Lawson smiled.

The COA is well-known for its outreach events, and it operates seven full-time centers in several communities throughout the county, covering bases from Colony to West Point (see complete list of full-time centers below). At these full-time centers, attending seniors can expect free hot meals as well as typical activities like bingo in addition to fellowship.

For those homebound seniors who cannot travel, the COA also operates a Meals on Wheels program, which is currently serving around 140 clients a day, but, Lawson said, that need is much greater.

"That's just due to our steady volunteer base," she explained, noting the stringent regulations for route delivery and difficulty finding more volunteers.

Lawson took a moment to really brag on the senior center managers, noting how their work is an invaluable asset to the COA at large; in addition to managing meals and activities and assisting with major events, center managers help connect the seniors they serve to the organizations that can help with their day-to-day needs.

"I have to give credit where credit is due. Our center managers work hard every day to maintain those relationships," explained Lawson.

"I've got the best staff in all the world. Without their support, without them taking my craziness and just running with it, it wouldn't be what it is!"

Volunteers also make the magic happen at the COA, with Lawson noting the many partnerships she has been able to grow with other local nonprofits such as the Cullman County Center for Developmentally Disabled, the United Way of Cullman County and numerous local churches that donate their time and resources to make the COA's outreach events special for seniors.

The COA is always seeking additional volunteers to help serve the senior population, and opportunities vary from donating bingo prizes to helping serve lunch at a center. If you or your business would like to volunteer, call 256-734-1241 or visit www.co.cullman.al.us/coa.



CAYLA GRACE MURPHY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman County Commission on Aging staff member Scott Sarich and Executive Director Stephanie Lawson and her husband Jeff Lawson pose for a photo at the United Way of Cullman County's inaugural health fair on June 3.

Full-time senior centers are located in Colony, Crane Hill, Cullman, Fairview, Hanceville, Holly Pond and West Point. There are part-time centers in Baileyton, Center Hill, Cold Springs, Dodge City, Good Hope, Hill Top, Jones Chapel, New Canaan and Simcoe.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Cullman County Sports Hall of Fame Banquet Tickets
On sale now at First Southern Financial, 1622 Second Ave. SW in Cullman. Sale ends July 15. Tickets are $20 each. For more information call 256-736-4445. Event date is July 22, 2023.

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

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

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

Church Services- Spirit Life Church of GOD
• Spirit Life Church of GOD, 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Mondays-Fridays- Free hot meals for children Mondays 11 a.m.- noon, Tuesdays 1-2 p.m. and Wednesdays-Fridays 11 a.m.-noon. Cullman Housing Authority Community Center 1545 Vine Circle SW. Please call Kristie 256-636-5362 for more information. Eat in or take out. Sponsored by Kids Loving Kids, Raising Arrows Ministry and Spirit Life Church.
• Kids Loving Kids Birthday Blessings serves children ages 1-18 in need of assistance to celebrate their birthdays. Register your child and pick up a birthday box with cake mix, icing, sprinkles, decorations and toys! Pickup is the last weekend of the month. Saturday (5100 Curry Highway Suite 100-B Jasper, AL 35504) from 3-5 p.m. or the last Sunday of the month at Spirit Life Church Cullman from 12:30-1 p.m. Birth certificate is required at the time of box pickup. Register at https://form.jotform.com/203435614640045. For more information, text or call 205-717-7478.
• Tuesday, July 4 - Please join Pastor Bobby and Pam for fireworks at The Patio on Smith Lake for a firework show starting at 8:30 p.m. (arrive earlier) and bring a chair, water, tea, etc. for you to drink. No alcohol please.
• Wednesday, July 5 - 7 p.m. Children, adult and youth classes. Free pizza for children at 6:30 p.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area at 6. Call 256-841-2060 for pickup.
• Friday, July 7 - 7 p.m. Recovery Ministry. Fellowship & Testimonies. Hurts, habits, and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! 6:30 p.m. bring a dish, dessert or drink for a potluck meal. Nursery provided!
• Saturday, July 8 - 8 a.m. Men's Breakfast followed by trip to Foundry Farm to grill hamburgers and hotdogs four our community outreach.
• Sunday, July 9 - 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, July 9 - 9 a.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area. Call 256-841-2060 for pickup. Breakfast at 9:30. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults at 10. Praise and worship and message by Pastor Bobby Dodd at 11.

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.

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.

Heartland Quilt Guild
Thursday, July 13, at 6:30 p.m. at Christ Covenant Church, 1310 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman. All are welcome. We love to meet new friends.

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.

1963 Fairview High School Class Meeting/ Luncheon
Friday, July 21, at 1 p.m. at Golden Corral in Cullman. Call Joyce Williams Rodgers at 256-339-3451 for more information.

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 (~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.


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PB MIN BK 217 PG 346 - 06/23/2023 01:56 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of
MARY FAY INGRAM, CASE NO. PC 2023 - 204
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration have been granted to William F. Ingram as Administrator of the Estate of Mary Fay Ingram, deceased, on the 23rd day of June, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, and that all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

WILLIAM F. INGRAM
Administrator

Gaynor L. St. John
Attorney for Administratrix
ST. JOHN & ST. JOHN, LLC
108 3rd Street SE
Cullman AL 35055
(256) 734-3452

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

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

Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
DEBORAH BETTY SEAGROVES, DECEASED. CASE NO. PC 2023-172

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF DEBORAH BETTY SEAGROVES, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Shay Persall on the 9th 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.

Shay Persall, Personal Representative (Administrator),
and
Steven C. Smith, Attorney for the Personal Representative

TO: Publisher of *The Cullman Tribune*:

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

Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

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

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JULY 4, 2023

PREP SOFTBALL

‘Inspire the younger girls on the team’: Cullman’s Sadie Graham recaps sophomore season

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Cullman Lady Bearcats are coming off another great softball season in which they finished runners-up in the Class 6A, Area 13 tournament and clinched a spot at the North Regional. Sophomore Sadie Graham saw a lot of growth from her team throughout the season and learned so much from her time with a great group of teammates.

“I felt we grew as a team. Through the wins and losses, the ups and downs, we became closer. The girls on the team taught me how to believe in myself. I looked up to senior Olivia Britton; she showed me how I could do anything I wanted to if I dedicated myself to it. I learned a lot throughout the season, but one thing that stands out to me is to not show your emotions.

“My dad and grandfather always taught me good things will come to those who wait. When something happens in life, it is best for your emotions not to get the best of you in any situation. I learned how to be a good leader and teammate. My teammates taught me what it was really like to be a good teammate, to support anyone through anything that could be going on. Anna Grace Parks, my best friend, always reminded me I needed to be the best. She didn’t always have to tell me, but she inspired me. She inspired me to be a good person, through her actions. Overall, Cullman softball has made me grow into the person I am today.”

She added, “It has amazed me to see how much we have grown from last year as a team. God gave me the opportunity to be around a great group of girls and I can’t thank Him enough. Learning from them has really made me the person I am today. Getting to play with my younger sister, Hattie, also makes me happy. She looks up to the girls and has learned so much from them and from me.”

Getting to play alongside her younger sister was a dream come true for Graham and their relationship grew even closer because of it. She took away so much from her coaches.

“Me and her grew closer because of the time we spent playing softball together. I do not regret getting the chance to play softball with her again like we did when we were younger. We enjoyed getting the chance to play on the field together. Encouraging my sister out on the field is something I now look forward to doing. To see her accomplish something as an eighth grader, I couldn’t be more proud as an older sister. I love her and getting the chance to be with her out on the field,” Graham said.

“I’ve learned a lot over the years from my coaches. Learning to play the game of softball is not everything I learned from them. Coach Morton told me that it’s a mental game and he’s right. The majority of the game is mental. They also taught me how to overcome the mental part of not getting in your head.

“The support and love from them has also taught me to be a better person overall. The challenges I was faced with, they knew I could overcome them because they believed in me, and I would like to thank them for that.”

Graham has learned so much during her time on varsity so far and from three great senior leaders as well.

“I learned how to be a leader and try to inspire the younger girls on the team. I also learned to make new friends with the older girls and learn from them,” she said.

“The seniors made a big impact on me. Although I didn’t really make it known, they truly did. Each of them had something special about them I looked up to them for. They taught me what it was like to be a leader, not only in the game of softball, but in life. One of them, Olivia Britton, was very impactful on my life. She taught me a lot and I looked up to her. We became best friends outside of softball.”

Graham has seen a big improvement in her game from her time on JV to now and her confidence kept building up more and more with each great game that she had.

“I played JV since the seventh grade and coming up to varsity was a change. The growth in my game has expanded and I’ve become even more dedicated to the game. It’s a challenging change, but it’s nothing you can’t overcome. My hitting has doubled what it was last year from the hard work and dedication I’ve put in. Getting base hits is my mindset when I’m in the box. I’m faster, most definitely. The work in the field is something I will continue to work at. Overall, I’ve increased the growth in my game from the time and dedication I’ve put into the game of softball,” she said.

“One thing I did learn is to have confidence in yourself. My confidence did gain over the season after I realized I could overcome the things I struggled at.”

Graham will continue to work on her game in the offseason to get ready for her junior year. She has some goals set for herself and for her team.

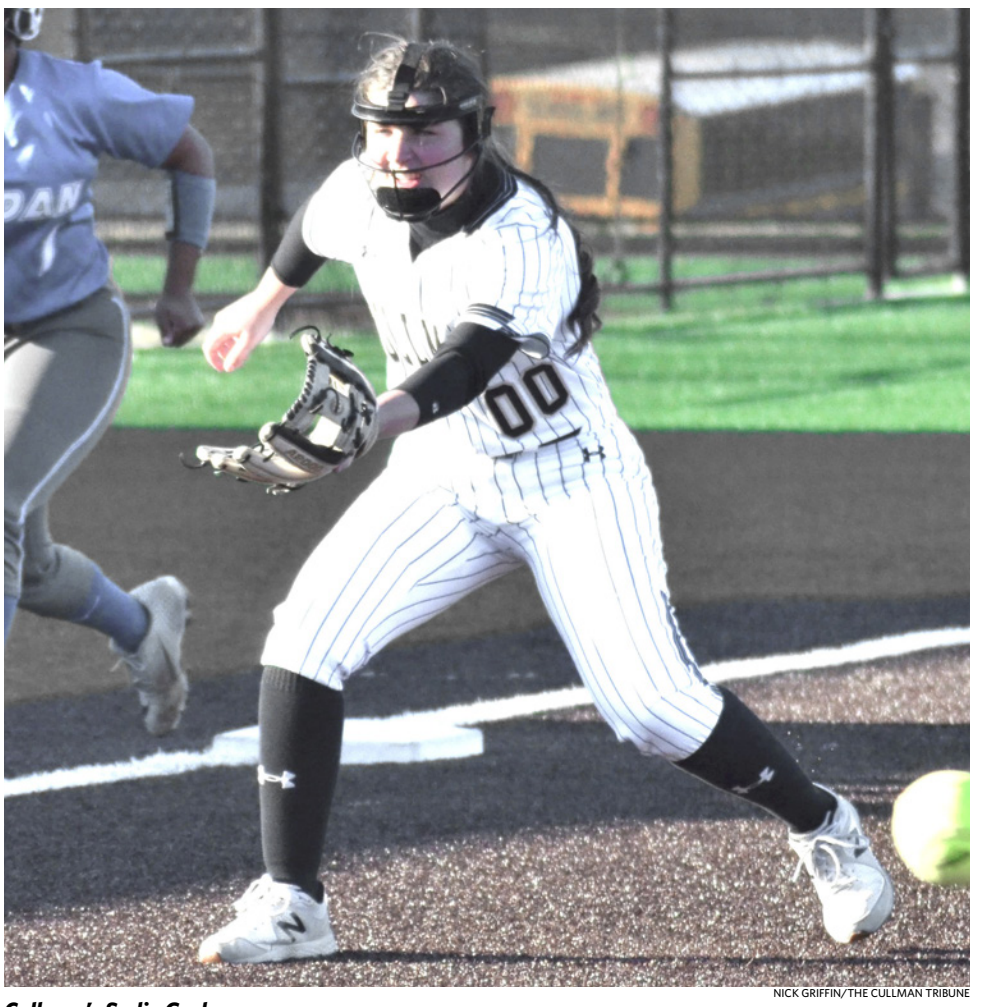
“I want to get better at the game overall in school ball to travel ball. I can play anywhere. Being utility, you need to understand the game and work on your fundamentals and especially my hitting for next season, I’m still looking for improvement,” she said. “My individual goal is to get better as a player, but not only as an athlete, but be the better person, the leader. The team’s goals are to improve as a team, make it to state or closer as we can each and every year, to grow as a team, and be the best Cullman softball team we can possibly be.”

Graham thinks this team will do special things in 2024 and she talked about her role models growing up, plus the best advice that someone ever gave her.

“This team is special in many ways, but definitely the girls on the team make it special for me. The connection we have as teammates make softball fun. They are a great group to surround yourself with. As the seniors leave this year, I am looking forward to see how the team will grow and what direction we will go in. Hopefully, we will continue to grow and get better,” she said.

“I would have to say my dad and grandfather. My grandfather was a coach at Arab and he always had the mentality of being the best you can be. He pushed my sister and me to be the best we could be. When we were younger, he would take us to the front yard to hit softballs, even if we didn’t want to. He was at every softball game I can remember. He’s always been my #1 supporter. PawPaw has always wanted me to be the best athlete I can be.”

She added, “My role models in softball are Olivia Britton and A.G. Parks. Olivia was a senior and made a big impact on my life. There were moments where I saw what it was really like to live and overcome in the game of softball and in life. I can still count on her for anything; she’s one of my best friends. Anna Grace is my best friend outside of softball, but she really was my biggest impact on being a good person. She is the funniest and sweetest person you will ever meet. She was always there to help and support me through practices and games; she was by my side every day. The best advice someone ever gave me is to not let your emotions get the best of you. I’ve always struggled with that and that’s something that’s helped me.”



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
Cullman’s Sadie Graham

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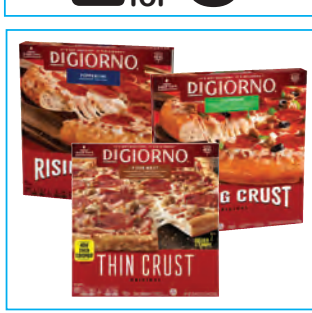
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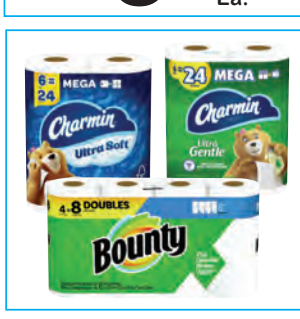
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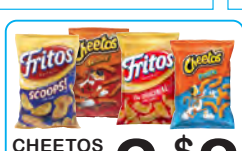
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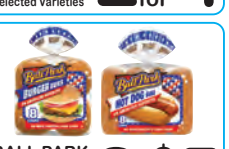
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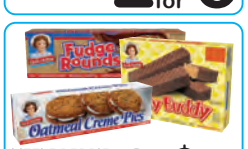
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Challenge (from Front)

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

BATTLEGROUND, Ala. — This summer Camp Liberty in Cullman County is hosting its 10th Extreme Military Challenge (XMC), a seven-week program with participants aged 13-18 from across the nation.

From marksmanship drills to combat simulations, every activity at XMC is designed to enhance participants' tactical skills and decision-making abilities. According to Camp Liberty, the challenge fosters discipline, leadership and camaraderie, as participants face challenges together.

According to Camp Liberty Director of Special Events Dr. Bob Montague, first-time participants arrive and participate in the Cadet Fitness Challenge, a one-week program designed to help prepare cadets and recruits. From there they move on to cadet basic training for two weeks.

The most difficult program offered is the XMC Cadet Ranger School, a program for those who wish to pursue a career in special operations.

XMC participant Araila Host came to Camp Liberty from Dallas, Texas, and said she has enjoyed her time there.

"It's a really cool experience!" she said. "There's been a lot of good parts! I really enjoyed the marksmanship range and I enjoyed the water combat survival training."

Camp Liberty is a 76-acre facility with field training locations, including the Cadet Ranger Village, low-ropes course and rappel tower. It has an on-site obstacle course and marksmanship range.

All participants in these programs must hand over their cellphones for the entirety of the courses. They are allowed to send letters. Parents can visit their children on the Friday evening before graduation when the camp hosts Friends and Family Night.



TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Camp Liberty is located at 15719 Alabama Highway 157, Battleground, Alabama 35179. For more information about Camp Liberty and how to enroll, visit www.xmc-camp.com.



Books reviews from CCPLS readers

Staff Reports
Contributor

Readers who frequent the Cullman County Public Library System share reviews of some of their recently read books.

Submission date: June 22, 2023

- Reviewer: Paulette Gentry
- Title: "A Corner of the Universe"
- Author: Ann M. Martin
- Rating: 5 out of 5 stars

Thoughts about the book: This book caused me to think about how a person with autistic behaviors and/or mental illness feels about it. Also how their family loves them but doesn't always know how to cope. This was a great book. I enjoyed reading it!

Submission date: June 22, 2023

- Reviewer: Paulette Gentry
- Title: "Remarkably Bright Creatures"
- Author: Shelby Van Pelt
- Rating: 5 out of 5 stars

Thoughts about the book: This book is interesting and unusual. One of the main characters is an octopus! It held my attention and I enjoyed this book.

Submission date: June 22, 2023

- Reviewer: Amy Nash
- Title: "Keeping Chickens"
- Author: Jeremy Hobson and Celia Lewis
- Rating: 5 out of 5 stars

Thoughts about the book: Everything you need to know to have pet chickens.

Submission date: June 22, 2023

- Reviewer: Amy Nash
- Title: "Field Guide to North American Butterflies"
- Author: Robert Michael Pyle
- Rating: 5 out of 5 stars

Thoughts about the book: Good information to identify butterflies in our yard.



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Campfire dos and don'ts

They provide warmth and light but also present certain dangers

Gathering around a fire is one of the staples of any camping trip. Besides providing a cozy nighttime experience, they also double as an outdoor range for dinner.

Still, safety is a key concern as you build and maintain any fire. You may also need to check beforehand in case the area is under a burn ban. Some parks also have specific rules in place.

Here's a list of the dos and don'ts associated with campfires.

Preparing the area

Keep emergency equipment on hand, including a bucket of water, easy accessible dirt or sand, a shovel and a first-aid kit in case of burns. Look for a level spot away from dry grasses, shrubbery or low-hanging branches.

Once you've found a cleared area, dig a fire pit that's at least a half a foot deep, and two feet across. Pile the dirt around the hole in order to contain your fire.

Avoid building it at the base of a hill. The U.S. Department of Agriculture reminds us that fire can travel quickly uphill, escaping the intended burn area and then potentially spreading very rapidly.

If you're at a campground, try to reuse holes that are already there in order to disturb the land as little as possible.

Getting started

Once the area has been safely prepped, it's time to collect sources for your fire. The first layer of the fire should contain tinder, or dry leaves or pine needles. The second is kindling, a layer of dead or dry twigs.

Finally, you'll need larger sticks or logs, preferably thicker than three inches. Place the tinder along the bottom of the pit, then stack kindling in a leaning, upright position to create a cone. Light your tinder and let the fire get well underway before adding larger pieces of wood. Continue to feed the fire until it's the size needed to warm up and get cooking.

Putting it out

One of the most critical elements of fire safety revolves around what happens afterward. Drown fires with water and sand or dirt. Continue mixing the ashes with your shovel until the fire is completely out.

This process should begin at least a half hour before you intend to fall asleep or leave, so you can be on the look out for flare ups. Never leave a fire before it is fully extinguished.


ADOBE STOCK

Doing it all safely

Enjoying outdoor living starts with understanding its risks

Most of us live tightly scheduled lives in comfortable surroundings. That can make camping or fishing trips a little disorienting, in particular if there are abrupt weather changes or if you go far enough out that cell phone reception becomes spotty. Preparation is the key to managing these every-day challenges.

Have a plan

If you're hiking, the Wilderness Society recommends selecting a trail that matches your personal fitness level. Don't strike out before determining exactly where your hike or the trail itself will end. If you're new to this trail, be on the look out for potential hazards, including steep climbs, dangerous rock formations or an obstruction on the trail.

If you're fishing or camping, map out where you're headed and how to get back. No matter the outdoor activity, develop a time estimate so that you can let others know how long you'll be gone.

Key supplies

Outdoor living requires a number of key supplies in order to have a safe and enjoyable experience. Bring a map and a compass in case you're unable to connect to a cell tower.

Pack fire-starting supplies and a pocket knife into a waterproof container, along with a whistle and a first-aid kit. Carry extra food and water, noting that you might have to bring more if you have a larger party.

Make sure you have the right kind of footwear, since slipping and blisters are major concerns for campers, people who fish and hikers. If you're unsure of what else you'll need, talk to a representative from your local outdoor supply store. Specialty footwear is needed, for instance, if it's going to be icy or muddy. Boating also requires specific safety tools.

Watch the weather

Be aware of the weather forecast before you leave, and make sure you have on the appropriate clothing.

Understand, too, that conditions could very well change.

So you might need to dress in layers, or bring along a hat and sunglasses. Rain gear of some kind is a must. Hypothermia is a particular worry, and it can set in very quickly if you've worked up a sweat and then temperatures suddenly drop.

Leave no trace

Pack out whatever you pack in. Zippered plastic bags are ideal on short trips. Dispose of your trash in appropriate containers, or bring it all back home.


ADOBE STOCK

Keeping mosquitos away

There are natural options instead of potentially dangerous chemicals

Some insects, like pollinators, are welcomed in any backyard or garden. But others are most certainly not — including pesky mosquitoes that seem to appear out of nowhere as temperatures rise each year. Here's how to fight back, the natural way.

Inside the numbers

Disease-carrying mosquitoes are actually a huge problem globally, killing hundreds of thousands of people each year. That's more than any other animal or insect. They feed on blood from unwitting host animals, then transfer sometimes deadly pathogens as they move from bite victim to bite victim.

Among the most serious diseases associated with mosquitoes are malaria, West Nile virus and dengue fever, but there are many others.

Studies show that mosquitoes are more attracted to people with Type O blood, as well as pregnant women and people who are breathing heavily.

Sometimes, it's simply a matter of timing. You're most vulnerable to a bite around dusk and dawn, as mosquitoes virtually disappear during other parts of the day.

Keeping them away

Sprays, candles and bracelets are popular repellents, but often rely on chemicals to do the job. Zappers can be loud and unsightly.

That's why planting certain plants to keep mosquitoes away has become a growing trend. Marigolds and lavender, for instance, emit a smell that drives away these flying pests.

Place these hardy plants in pots around your outdoor living space, and they will also produce gorgeous blooms.

Rosemary, sage and basil are typically only thought of as herbs used for in our kitchens, but they also keep mosquitos away. Allium likewise have a strong smell that they don't like — but, unfortunately, you and your guests might not either, since this plant is part of the garlic and onion family.

Citronella and bee balm are other commonly used natural alternatives. Lemon-scented plants have also proven to be useful for many.

Other options

Sometimes using plants to make your outdoor space inhospitable to mosquitoes simply isn't enough, in particular for those who live in humid climates.

If you're still being hounded, be on the look out for standing water in nearby places. They're breeding grounds for more mosquitoes.

Wear light, breathable long-sleeved clothing and cover your legs. Use overhead fans, if possible, to move the air around. Treat pools and water features to reduce the number of mosquito eggs, as well.


ADOBE STOCK

Birthday (from Front)

party, Friends of Frankweiler President Ernest Hauk, said Sunday's event was one of major importance, noting the decreased membership in Friends of Frankweiler, and the appearance of German influence decreasing in Cullman.

"The German heritage of Cullman is slowly going away. Even Oktoberfest seems to not be very German anymore," he said.

"We're trying to maintain our German heritage in Cullman."

Hauk urged those in attendance to consider joining Friends of Frankweiler.

To learn more about Cullman's sister city of Frankweiler, Germany, and to join Friends of Frankweiler, visit www.facebook.com/friendsoffrankweilerandcullman.

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Obituary Announcements: July 1-3

Donald James Johnson, 74
Donald James Johnson, age 74, of Crane Hill, Alabama passed away on Thursday, June 29, 2023. Donald is survived by his special friend Cathy Hopkins and his sisters Ludie Ann Crook (Eddie) and Janice Sweatman (C.L.). Donald was preceded in death by his parents Troy E. and Azalee V. Johnson; his brothers Charles Johnson (Connie), Frankie Johnson and Carol "Arzo" Johnson. A celebration of life visitation for Donald was held Sunday, July 2, 2023, at Moss Service Funeral Home, 1901 Second Avenue NW, Cullman, AL 35055. A celebration of life funeral service was held Monday, July 3, 2023, at Mt. Hope Baptist Church, Crane Hill, AL. Donald was laid to rest in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Crane Hill, Alabama. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.mossservicefh.com for the Johnson family.

Cecil Ottis Patterson, Sr., 82
Cecil Ottis Patterson, Sr., of Holly Pond, Alabama, entered the presence of the Lord on the morning of June 30, 2023, at the age of 82. Mr. Patterson was born in Cullman County, Alabama, on March 5, 1941, to Ottis Henry and Nancy Jones Patterson. He was one of seven children born into the Patterson family. As a young man, Cecil chose to serve his country and enlisted into the United Sates Army where he served honorably. Mr. Patterson and his wife, Yvonne, were faithful members of their church, Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church, and they both loved their Lord and Savior. They also had a heart for children, and were elated when they were blessed with a son, Cecil Jr., who they lovingly called Pat. While spoiling Pat horribly, they also fostered children who needed a stable and loving home and extended the same amount of love and care to those babies as they did to their own son. Mr. Patterson was a hard worker, and he used his skills as a carpenter to care for his family. Cecil also enjoyed old cars and collected and restored them with pride. Mr. Patterson cattle farmed as well, and he enjoyed caring for his cows. While many things in Mr. Patterson's life brought him joy, there was nothing more important to him than his wife, son and daughter-in-law, and his two grandchildren. His love for his family was evident, as was their love for him. While there is sorrow in his passing and he will be missed greatly, there is also great joy in knowing Cecil is now in the presence of the Lord. Mr. Patterson was reunited in heaven with his parents, Ottis Henry and Nancy Jones Patterson; wife, Yvonne Kaye Lemaster Patterson; brother and sisters, Paul, Peggy, and Jean; and several heaven babies he and his wife never got to meet. He is survived by his son, Cecil "Pat" Patterson, Jr., and wife Jennifer; grandchildren, Makayla Dawn Patterson and fiancé Austin Chester, Caleb Michael Patterson; brothers, James Patterson and wife Becky, David Patterson and wife Susan; sister, Mary Goodwin; brother-in-law, Conrad Pellagra; and sister-in-law, Janice Patterson. Funeral services for Mr. Patterson were Monday, July 3, 2023, in the Holly Pond Funeral Home Chapel, Greg Crocker officiated. A time of visitation was held on Sunday evening, July 2, 2023, at the funeral home. Mr. Patterson was laid to rest following services in New Hope #2 Cemetery alongside his wife. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Patterson family.

Danny Ray Gunter, 70
Funeral services for Danny Ray Gunter, of Bremen, Alabama, was held 1Monday, July 3, 2023, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Johnson Grove Cemetery. Visitation for the public at Hanceville Funeral Home on Monday prior to the service. Mr. Gunter was born on March 5, 1953, to the late Milligan and Effie (Johnson) Gunter. He passed away on June 30, 2023, at the age of 70 at his residence. Survivors include his wife, Patt Gunter; children, Jarrod (Lynn) Gunter and Nick (Sara Beth) Gunter; grandchildren, Landen Gunter, Ashton Gunter, Kila Rae Gunter, Lily Gunter, Jasper Gunter, Addi Gunter and Lukas Gunter; mother, Effie Gunter; siblings, Sheila (Doug) Payne, George (Teresa) Gunter, Jeff (Brandi) Gunter and Marsha (Terry) McDonald; and a host of nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, Mr. Gunter was preceded in death by two brothers, Runyon Gunter and Roger Gunter.

Willie B. Wolfe, 98
Funeral service for Willie B. Wolfe, 98, of Hanceville, was held Monday, July 3, 2023, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Hopewell Cemetery, Rev. Steve Rodgers officiated. The family will receive friends at the funeral home before the service. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the Wolfe family. Mrs. Wolfe passed away July 1, 2023, at Hanceville Nursing Home and Rehab. She was born Nov. 14, 1924, to Will Thomas and Hattie K. Hayes Swann. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Howard Wolfe; son, Billy Don Wolfe; sister, Barbara Hutchins; brothers, Jesse, Julian "Cobb", Mitchell and Bertie Swann. Survivors include her sons, Howard Wolfe, Jr. (Brenda), James Wayne Wolfe (Becky), Steve R. Wolfe; brother, Harce Swann; grandchildren, Shane Wolfe (Kim), Jeremy Wolfe (Amanda), Cortney Brown (Tony), Ivan Wolfe; great-grandchildren, Bret Wolfe, Dalton Wolfe, Hannah Wolfe, Jada McCullough (Matt), Tyler Brown, Drew Wolfe, Emily Wolfe, Haley Lyons, Samuel Wolfe, Elianna Wolfe, Lilia Wolfe, Liam Wolfe; great-great grandchildren, Harrison Wolfe, Heidi Wolfe; sister-in-law, Leo Swann; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends. Friends may sign guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Mary Elizabeth Pigg Fowler, 63
Mary Elizabeth Pigg Fowler, 63, of Vinemont, formerly of the Sardis Community, passed away July 1, 2023, at home surrounded by her loving family. She was born Feb. 20, 1960. Visitation will be Thursday, July 6, 2023, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Addison, where the service will be held Friday at 1 p.m. Mary is survived by her daughter, Tabitha (Eli) Lott; sister, Bobbie Holmes; brother, Bo Pigg; grandson, Easton Thompson; and Bud Fowler. She was preceded in death by her parents, Ralph Pigg and Ellie Maddox Pigg; brothers, Jimmy and Shirl Pigg; and sister, Evelyn Pigg.

Free Obituary Listings

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
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INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Blountsville celebrates 4th of July



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CAYLA GRACE MURPHY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Vinemont hosts 2nd annual 4th of July Celebration

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

SOUTH VINEMONT, Ala. — The Town of South Vinemont and Vinemont Baptist Church on Sunday evening hosted the second annual 4th of July Celebration at the Vinemont Sports Complex.

Members of the town council worked hard to put on the event for the community and said they were pleased with the turnout. They were happy to keep the event free to all guests, including free hotdogs, chips and drinks. Fro'z Shaved Ice provided shaved ice, and families enjoyed games and bounce houses and an impromptu football game. Guests gathered early and brought lawn chairs to catch to the fireworks show at the end of the evening. Council members expressed thanks to those who attended and said they hope they are able to provide the event again next year.


TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

South Vinemont Town Councilwomen Nina Justice and Bonnie Goodwin serve food to the community at the town's second annual 4th of July Celebration on Sunday, July 2.


TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE


TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE


TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE


TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE


TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Prayers and Patriotism Program at Looney's Amphitheater


NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE


NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Looney's Amphitheater was packed Sunday night for this year's Prayers and Patriotism Program. The crowd was there to see performances from local singers and participate in prayers led by local pastors.


NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE


NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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