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Thank you, Cullman, for the best 80 years of our lives.
80 YEARS ANNIVERSARY 1943-2023

Cullman City Schools appoints Jill Bradberry to open board seat

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman City School Board on Thursday, July 27, appointed Cullman native Jill Bradberry to the board, filling the seat formerly held by Joey Orr. Orr recently stepped down to take a new position working at the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce.

Bradberry is a lifelong resident of Cullman County, and currently has two children attending Cullman High School. Bradberry holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree and currently serves as a senior vice president-compliance officer at CommerceOne Bank. She is also a member of Cullman First Baptist Church and volunteers in preschool ministry, is a member » PAGE 9



CULLMAN CITY SCHOOLS

Jill Bradberry stands next to her husband, Cullman Fire Rescue Chief Brian Bradberry, as she is sworn in as the newest member of the Cullman City School Board by Cullman County District Court Judge Rusty Turner on Thursday, July 27.

Library hosts annual Harry Potter birthday celebration



TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman County Public Library System Assistant Director Josie Harrington teaches kids how to create their mandrake crafts during Harry Potter's birthday celebration on Friday, July 28.

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Public Library on Friday morning welcomed members of the community to a celebration of Harry Potter's birthday.

Cullman County Public Library System Assistant Director Josie Harrington said, "We've been doing our Harry Potter birthday parties for several years."

Attendees got to create replicas of a mandrake, the iconic plant known to Harry Potter fans from "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets," the second book in the beloved » PAGE 12



TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Hanceville City Council discusses possible RV park » PAGE 2

Nifty knitters and cool crocheters assemble weekly at Cullman County Public Library



CAYLA GRACE MURPHY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Caleb Randolph poses with his tools of choice and a cuff bracelet he created on Tuesday, July 25, 2023, at the Cullman County Public Library. » PAGE 8

6th annual Stuff the Bus campaign comes to a close » PAGE 5

Vinemont High's Moody represents Alabama at American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation » PAGE 9

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WEATHER
95 73
SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
MOSTLY SUNNY THEN SLIGHT CHANCE THUNDERSTORMS

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WSCC ATHLETICS

– SPORTS –

'The little things are actually just as important as the big things': West Point's Caitlee Simmons talks freshman year
» PAGE 6

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported July 28

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported July 28, 2023. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

July 24

- theft of property; CR 813
- domestic violence; CR 1650
- criminal mischief; domestic violence; CR 1545
- domestic violence; CR 1205
- theft of property; CR 1281
- criminal mischief; domestic violence; CR 1742
- assault; CR 574
- possession of drug paraphernalia; Wesley Ave. N
- trespassing; CR 1269
- assault; Wesley Ave. N
- criminal mischief; domestic violence; Wesley Ave. N

July 25

- criminal mischief; theft of property; Sportsman Lake Rd.
- domestic violence; CR 571
- theft of property; CR 827
- unauthorized use of motor vehicle; CR 1606
- theft of property; CR 1391
- theft of property; CR 82
- possession of controlled substance; CR 1427
- harassment; Hwy. 91
- burglary; CR 67

July 26

- unauthorized use of motor vehicle; CR 1386
- violation of protection order; Wesley Ave. N
- criminal mischief; Hwy. 67
- unauthorized use of motor vehicle; CR 573
- harassment; CR 617
- domestic violence; CR 1612
- theft of property; criminal mischief; CR 1625

ARRESTS

July 24 – 26

Ballentine, Tyler C.; 30

- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)
- FTA- public intoxication (2 counts)
- FTA- attempting to elude police officer

Beam, Bobby J.; 27

- possession of drug paraphernalia

Blair, Coleman R.; 29

- assault-domestic violence-3rd degree-harassing communications

Buxton Jr., Paul E.; 46

- FTA- DUI (alcohol)

Cofield, Christian; 25

- public intoxication

Creamer, John B.; 25

- FTA- driving without license in possession

Davis, Jeannie T.; 61

- assault-domestic violence-3rd degree-criminal mischief-3rd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Davis, Michael C.; 34

- FTA- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Gaither, Frankie W.; 61

- FTA- obstructing justice using a false identity-fictitious person

Harris, Nathan D.; 34

- FTA- driving while license suspended

Hopper, Amy L.; 49

- possession of methamphetamine

Hopper, Cody R.; 33

- public intoxication

Hunter, Kevin D.; 35

- FTA- obstructing justice using false identity-using person's identification

Jackson, Clark Aaron H.; 35

- assault-aggravated assault-non family-strong arm

Knight, Missy L.; 32

- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- smuggling-promote prison contraband (drugs)
- FTA- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Lee, Nicholas W.; 23

- assault-harassment

Mathis, John D.; 52

- assault-domestic-harassment-family

May, Shawna S.; 30

- FTA- larceny/theft-shoplifting
- FTA- damaged property-criminal mischief

Otey, Trula A.; 54

- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- driving while license suspended

Perez, Pedro Luis R.; 47

- contributing to delinquency of minor

Peterson, Ashley S.; 40

- FTA- possession of methamphetamine

Pickering, Joshua.; 28

- possession of prescription drugs

Silguero, Felix E.; 27

- assault-domestic-harassment-family (2 counts)

Smith, Dustin L.; 30

- FTA- possessing forged instrument (2 counts)

Whitfield, Nathan W.; 40

- FTA- larceny/theft-shoplifting less than $500
- FTA- non-support-child

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

July 21

- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; general merchandise; $260

July 25

- harassing communications; person

July 26

- forgery-3rd degree; theft of property-1st degree; Cullman Park & Rec.; forged check
- fraudulent use of credit/debit card; person
- domestic violence-assault-3rd degree; person; CR 469

July 27

- burglary-3rd degree; Cullman Christian School; Beech Ave. SE
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $177
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; Austin Ave. SW
- assault-3rd degree; person; Olive St. SW

July 28

- domestic violence-3rd degree-harassment; person; 3rd Ave. SE

ARRESTS

July 26 – 27

Thompson; Barry S.; 59

- theft by deception-4th degree (5 counts)
- theft of services-4th degree

Smith, Jeffery W.; 34

- FTA- theft of property-4th degree
- FTA- driving while revoked

Ballentine, Tyler C.; 30

- burglary-3rd degree

Webb, William M.; 36

- receiving stolen property-4th degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Hanceville (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – Hanceville Council members excitedly discussed the possibility of an RV park located behind the CVS Pharmacy at 303 Main St NE in Hanceville at its July 27 meeting.

"We'd still have to figure out the particulars," said Mayor Kenneth Nail, theorizing that the RV park would likely host about 10 sites for roughly $35 a night. Nail also put forward the idea of incorporating walking and biking trails.



CAYLA GRACE MURPHY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Hanceville Mayor Kenneth Nail holds up a map of the acreage behind CVS owned by the City of Hanceville; the council discusses developing the 10 or so acres into an RV park.

In other business

The Hanceville Planning Commission recommended not rezoning a property known as "Wesson Property" located on College Road to B2 zoning; council concurred.

A few fans from the 1033 program will be surplussed.

The council received the City's 2021 financial audit and said it is open to the public to view at city hall. Nail said residents can expect the 2022 financial audit in the first week of December.





LEGALS

PB WIL Bk 117 Pg 637 - 07/13/2023 11:09 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF ELLIS BAKER, Deceased. * **CASE NO.: PC2023-037**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Testamentary having been granted to ROBERT BAKER and KATHY BAKER, as Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of ELLIS BAKER, deceased, on the 13th day of July, 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.

ROBERT BAKER
KATHY BAKER
Co-Personal Representatives

Melvin Hasting
Attorney for Co-Personal Representatives
P.O. Box 517
Cullman, Alabama 35056
256-736-2230

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 MIN Bk 217 Pg 687 - 07/13/2023 11:41 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF PHYLLIS DEJONG, Deceased. CASE NO.: PC2023-200

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to KESA M. JOHNSTON as Personal Representative of the Estate of PHYLLIS DEJONG, deceased, on the 13th day of July, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

KESA M. JOHNSTON
Personal Representative

Kesa M. Johnston
Pro Se
225 West Point Street
Roanoke, Alabama 36274

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 MIN Bk 217 Pg 927 - 07/20/2023 03:58 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

SHELIA JO FRENCH, DECEASED CASE NO. PC 2023-228

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF SHELIA JO FRENCH, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Randall Edward French and Gregory Wayne French on the 20th day of July, 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.

Randall Edward French and Gregory Wayne French
Co-Personal Representatives (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

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, July 29 - Women's Fellowship 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Toni Pearson's! Bring a chair, drink and your swimsuits!

• Sunday, July 30 - Youth will be doing the morning announcements, offering and hospitality desk. There is also a spaghetti luncheon fundraiser ($10 A PLATE) from 12-1:30 p.m.! All are invited and welcome.

• Sunday, July 30 - 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 30 - 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. 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.

Cullman Serenity AlAnon Meetings

The Cullman Serenity AlAnon group meets each Monday at noon at 1519 St. Joseph Dr. NE. There is also a zoom meeting each Tuesday at noon. The AlAnon family groups are a fellowship of friends and family whose lives have been affected by alcoholism. For more information, call 256-708-6645, 850-323-0490 or 256-734-2231.

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.

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!

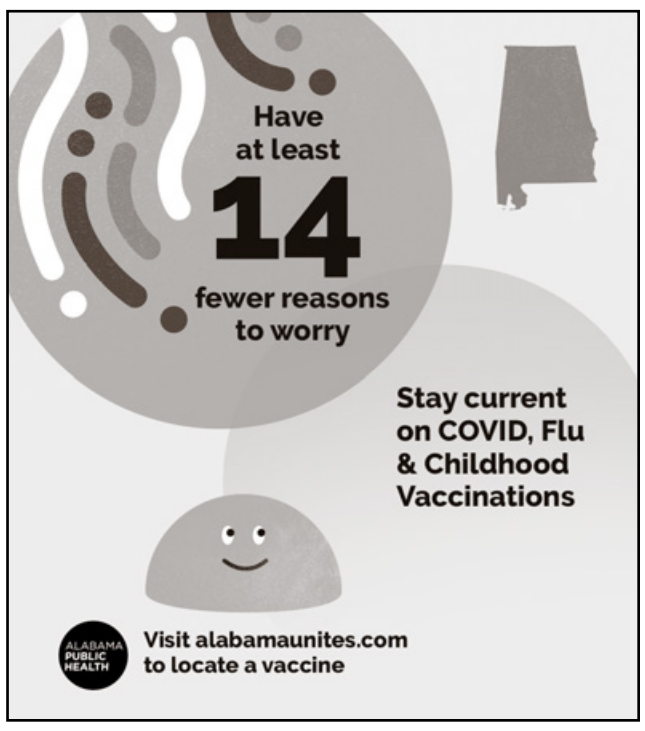
• Directions: Interstate 65, Exit 299 toward Dodge City/Jasper, take AL-69 South (~14 miles). Turn RIGHT on CR-54. At first STOP sign, turn RIGHT on CR-109. At the STOP Sign at Cold Springs High School, turn RIGHT. Less than 1/4 mile, Cold Springs Community Center is on the RIGHT! Sandlin Chapel & Cemetery 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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END OF SEASON HOURS

REGULAR HOURS THROUGH AUGUST 8, 2023
PARK IS CLOSED AUGUST 9-11
OPEN WEEKENDS IN AUGUST

Saturday, August 12 | 10 AM-6 PM
Sunday, August 13 | 1 PM - 6 PM
Saturday, August 19 | 10 AM-6 PM
Sunday, August 20 | 1 PM - 6 PM
Saturday, August 26 | 10 AM-6 PM
Sunday, August 27 | 1 PM - 6 PM

SEPTEMBER 1-4 SPLASH BASH

Friday, September 1 | 3 PM - 7 PM; Splash In Movie @ 7 PM and Fireworks at Dark!
Saturday, September 2 | 10 AM - 7 PM; Splash In Movie @ 7 PM
Sunday, September 3 | 12 PM - 6 PM
Monday, September 4 | 10 AM - 6 PM

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CULLMAN
PARKS, RECREATION, & SPORTS TOURISM

UPCOMING EVENTS

Storytime at Art Park-FREE
August 25, 4:00 PM

Splash In Movie-WildWater
September 1, 7:00 PM

Storytime at Art Park-FREE
September 22, 4:00 PM

Oktoberfest-Depot Park
September 28-30, 2023

Storytime at Art Park-FREE
October 20, 4:00 PM

Pups & Pints "Howloween"
Goat Island
October 28, 2023

Pyramid Lighting-Depot Park
November 24, 2023

Christkindlmarkt-Depot Park
November 24-26, 2023
November 30-December 3, 2023
December 7-10, 2023
December 14-17, 2023
December 21-24, 2023

Christmas Parade & Tree Lighting
December 1, 2023

City School Board appoints new board member

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman City School Board at its Thursday, July 27, meeting, appointed Jill Bradberry to fill the seat formerly held by Joey Orr.

Cullman City Schools Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff said, "We're excited to have Mrs. Bradberry with us. There are so many great things going on in our school system. In the time I have gotten to know her, I know she's going be a good asset and a good replacement for Joey Orr."

Bradberry will serve out the remainder of Orr's current term by appointment through 2025, at which time the seat will be back on the ballot for voters to formally fill the role permanently for the next term.

Read more about Bradberry in our feature article at www.cullmantribune.com/2023/07/27/cullman-city-schools-appoints-jill-bradberry-to-open-board-seat.

The board also approved the following agenda items:

- 2023-2024 School Year Salary Schedules
- CNP Manager Training Stipend for Christa White
- Stipends for Cullman City Primary School Leadership Team Summer Professional Development
- Stipends for Cullman City Primary School New Employee Campus Meetings
- Contract with Brent Patterson for Cullman High School Baseball and Baseball Operations
- Contract with Daniel Moore for Summer School Instructional Services
- Contract with Alondra Lopez for Translation/Interpreting Services
- Contract with Yenny Laney for Translation/Interpreting Services
- Contract with Karla Rodriguez for Translation/Interpreting Services
- Employee Summer Stipends for Professional Development and Curriculum Planning.
- Superintendent to execute contract with Site Masters Construction for CCPS Playground Site Work
- Milk and Milk Products Bid with DFA Dairy Brand/Purity Dairies
- Surplus/Salvage CMS Band Items (listed under separate cover
- Contract with Lois Bice for Extended Day Service at Cullman City Primary School
- Contract with Divonne Ann Davis for Custodial Services at Cullman City Primary School
- Contract with Misty Lang for West Lunchroom Interim Manager Duties

Stuff the Bus (from Front)

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The United Way of Cullman County's (UWCC) sixth annual Stuff the Bus campaign, which collected donations of school supplies for area students, came to a close Friday afternoon, and UWCC Executive Director Waid Harbison said he was happy with the results.

"We started out a little bit slow, but because of the community's overwhelming support we've been able to push forward, and in the last two or three days we've received a lot of really good donations," Harbison said.

He acknowledged the local organizations and businesses that stepped up to the plate with the donations, saying, "This morning, Premier Bank (of the South) brought a big truckload of school supplies.

"Even the guys over at the courthouse and the county commissioner's office chipped in with a bunch of supplies."

Harbison talked about the need in the community.

"The amount of kids that were on reduced lunches in our schools was about 20%, between the city and county schools, on average," he said, "and now it's like 51% between the city and county schools.

"Some of the schools, there's highs like 70% of the kids. If those kids can't afford lunches, they're not going to be able to afford school supplies. We just really want to make sure those kids are taken care of."

Harbison said last year's campaign brought in about 14,000 items, and he said he expects the number to be around the same this year, if not higher.

"Now the process for the next couple of days is to sort everything out, count it all and get it to the city and county schools," he explained.

The supplies will go directly to school guidance counselors, ensuring students in need receive the them.

"We really appreciate the community coming out and doing this for six years!" Harbison said.



TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman County United Way Executive Director Waid Harbison poses in front of the bus after collecting donations.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JULY 29, 2023

WSCC ATHLETICS

2 WSCC alums sign with MLB teams during 2023 Draft

Gail Crutchfield
WSCC

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Baseball added two more names to Major League Baseball rosters when former Lion stars Colson Lawrence and Will Varmette were drafted in the 2023 MLB Draft.

"It's always exciting when our players at Wallace State get the opportunity to play professional baseball," said Coach Randy Putman. "Both Will and Colson put in the hard work to have this opportunity during their two years in Hanceville and now they will be able to fulfill a life-long dream of possibly playing one day in the major leagues. It will definitely be exciting to watch these two guys progress through their organizations in the next few years. They both have bright futures and a lot to look forward to."

Colson Lawrence - Miami Marlins

A former two-way standout for the WSCC Baseball team, Colson Lawrence was drafted in the 13th Round of the 2023 MLB Draft by the Miami Marlins. Lawrence, a current South Alabama baseball team member, played on the 2021 and 2022 WSCC baseball team. In 2021, Lawrence hit .373 with 13 doubles, 13 home runs, 50 RBI, 46 runs scored, and had an on base percentage of .426. Lawrence also contributed on the mound by tossing the first perfect game in Wallace State history.

Lawrence followed up his standout freshman year with an impressive sophomore year as well, where he hit .368, with nine doubles, one triple, 12 home runs, and 47 RBI.

Over his two years at WSCC, Lawrence was earned 2021 and 2022 Alabama Community College Conference (ACCC) All-South District as well as All-North honors.

Will Varmette - San Diego Padres

Fresh off of a 2023 graduation at Wallace State, Will Varmette was picked up in MLB Free Agency by the San Diego Padres organization. Varmette, a Huntsville native, is coming off of a very successful two years at Wallace State where he was a consistent starter for the Lions. He racked up 21 strikeouts in 22.1 innings of work. He got a career-high six strikeouts in 4.0 innings of work against Lincoln Trail College.

Varmette was originally recruited and signed to Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee, before being picked up by the Padres organization.



WSCC ATHLETICS

Will Varmette, left, and Colson Lawrence were each drafted during the 2023 MLB Draft.

38 Major League players from WSCC

The pair make the 37th and 38th players coached by WSCC Coach Randy Putman to make it to the major leagues.

Other Wallace State players in the MLB include current Philadelphia Phillies relief pitcher Craig Kimbrell, a 9-time All-Star, World Series champ and the 2011 National League Rookie of the Year; Oakland Athletics reliever Chad Smith; former MLB infielder Jake Elmore who is now with Philadelphia Phillies organization as an instructor; former MLB pitchers Derek Holland and Graham Godfrey; and Zelous Wheeler, who, in 2014, became the fifth former Wallace State player in six seasons to make his MLB debut; former major league outfielder Terry Jones, who played for the Montreal Expos and Colorado Rockies; and Blake Rivera, who was drafted by the San Francisco Giants in the 4th round of the 2018 MLB First Year Player Draft, becoming the second-highest draft pick in Wallace State baseball history next to Kimbrel (3rd round, 2008). He's currently pitching for the Double-A Richmond Flying Squirrels.

PREP SPORTS

'The little things are actually just as important as the big things': West Point's Caitlee Simmons talks freshman year

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

WEST POINT, Ala. — West Point's Caitlee Simmons is gearing up for her sophomore seasons with both the Lady Warriors volleyball and basketball teams and in this interview, she shared some of her favorite lessons and memories she gained during her freshman year.

"This season wasn't our best and we knew it, but we couldn't let it affect our mindset. I would say the biggest thing I learned was to be mentally tough. My dad has always told me that 'you are what you think you are.' Once you get your head right, you can do anything you put your mind to. Another thing I learned was volleyball is more than just 'a game you play'. When playing volleyball, you have to work together and be good teammates to one another. You have to have a love and a passion for the game to get the good results you want."

Simmons got to play alongside some great teammates last season and soaked up as much as she could from first-year head coach Kate Kent.

"We were sisters. We loved and cared for one another, when no one else would. We laughed together and we cried together. We were one big friend group on and off the court and knew if any of us needed anything, we could reach out to any of the girls. I think that's what made it so special to play with a great group of girls," Simmons said. "She was a great coach, and she knows volleyball. She pushed us and that's what we needed. She knew what we could do and if we weren't meeting the standard, she'd push us even more; I love that. What I learned from her is that the little things are actually just as important as the big things. When you do the little things, it makes the bigger things not seem so big or hard to do."

Simmons learned so much from last year's senior, Brooklynn Wells and she has seen a lot of improvement in her game so far.

"I love Brooklynn. She was the only senior and she was like our team mom. When times weren't going so well, she always cheered us up. I learned that you have to make the best out of every situation. Even if we were losing or winning, we had to pick each other up and have fun together. When you just have fun, you tend to play better. You can't be so serious, you miss out on good memories," Simmons said. "I have been working hard on the little things, whether it be working out or working hard on the volleyball court. I feel like just focusing and locking in for this upcoming season has helped me improve already."

Simmons talked about the goals for this upcoming season, and what will make this team special to watch.

"For this upcoming season, as an individual, I would like to keep my focus on the phrase, 'Eyes up', meaning keeping my eyes up on Christ at all times, not just when it gets hard, but even when it is good. I hope to be a leader to my teammates and that they keep their eyes up as well. A goal I would like to achieve is 200 kills by the end of the season. As a team, we're starting small, such as winning county and area. It would be a dream come true if we won the 5A State Tournament Championship," she said. "I think we will be special to watch because of our natural talent and our drive. We all love the game and hate losing, so we give it our all every play and point. As a team, we are working together to achieve a common goal, so we play fast and give blood, sweat, and tears for this team."

West Point had a solid basketball season as they collected yet another area championship and made it to Sub-Regionals. Simmons was happy with how the season went for this team and she's so blessed to play alongside a group of young, but talented girls.

"I enjoyed this past basketball season. I feel like we accomplished a lot and got better. We proved to ourselves, time and time again, that no matter how young we were, we could still do



CAITLEE SIMMONS

West Point's Caitlee Simmons

big things. We came in every day, got positive attitudes from everyone, worked hard, and got the job done," she said. "It's always so much fun getting to play with my friends and getting to build friendships. The girls made it work, we made the environment positive and while we worked hard, we made it fun. We were all there to win. None of us was there to lose, so we gave it our all. I love those girls."

Simmons has learned so much from head coach John Welborn and her time on JV helped her a lot when she got moved up to varsity last season.

"He's a great coach and he knows what he's talking about when it comes to basketball. Coming into the season, he knew we were young, but he knew what we were capable of. Even though we were young, we still had the same high standards to meet. I believe his high expectations for us got us as far as we want. I learned that hard work will get you just about anything you put your mind to. Working on meeting his high standards will not only help me as a player now, but life after basketball," she said. "It made me have a better understanding of the game and I learned the importance of teamwork and hard work."

Simmons has seen a lot of improvement in her game but will continue to work on her game in the offseason as she prepares for next season. She talks about her goals for the upcoming season.

"My opportunity to play on the varsity team as a freshman has made me more confident in my game," she said. "In our summer workout program, we have been working on conditioning and agilities to help us be in better shape and hopefully prevent injuries, along with working on skills related to basketball and volleyball. I would say this season, I would like to be more confident in myself and my skills. As a team, we would love to make it to Birmingham, and I think that's totally possible for us if we just keep putting in the work."

Simmons think this Lady Warrior team will definitely do special things this upcoming season and she also talks about her role models growing up, and the best advice that she was ever given.

"What will make us special to watch is our positive attitudes and atmosphere. That's one thing I like about playing with these girls is because it's always positive. I think the way we work together and always hustle is something special. We know each other. I've been playing with some of these girls since the third grade and our chemistry just works," she said.

"I remember looking up to Braelee Quinn (basketball and volleyball) and Ryleigh Jones (basketball). They always hustled, worked hard, and they were just fun to watch. I loved watching Braelee play volleyball because she was good at everything she did. She always worked hard and hustled; that always stood out to me. The best advice that someone ever gave me was from my dad and he told me, 'You are what you think you are, once you get that instilled in your head, you got it'. If you think positive, you'll get positive. That's why it's so important to stay positive, so when things aren't going like you want them to, you believe you can, and you will."





PREP CHEER

‘Always give 100% effort’: Vinemont’s Makenna Howard recaps freshman season

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — Vinemont’s Makenna Howard cheered on varsity as a freshman last season, and she learned so much from that experience. She got to cheer alongside some great cheerleaders last year and soaked up as much as she could from them to prepare for her upcoming sophomore year.

“It was honestly an amazing season. It was very new, especially since we had just got a new cheer coach, but I was taught so much in the past season. I’ve been taught teamwork, trust, accountability, and that things are earned by hard work and not handed out,” Howard said. “We had an amazing group of girls last year on our squad. I learned a lot about respect, and how to work with one another, while pushing through all of our differences. I had good role models for my first year cheering on the varsity team, and I’m thankful for the support and encouragement that the upperclassmen gave me.”

Howard got to cheer under new head coach Madison Ballard, and she had a blast doing it. She learned so much from some great senior cheerleaders.

“Miss Ballard is the best coach I’ve ever had. She’s one of my role models. She’s a younger woman, but she knows exactly what she’s doing. She pushes us to the best of our ability, and I wouldn’t be the cheerleader I am today if it wasn’t for her. We practice frequently, and she can be hard on us, but me and the team know it’s because she wants us to be our best version of ourselves. She not only cares about us learning, but also about our wellbeing as teenage girls, and our relationship with Christ,” Howard said. “They were amazing cheerleaders and girls who taught me a lot being an overall good cheerleader and person. I learned how to take accountability and how to communicate with each other. I was taught to always give 100%, not only for me, but for my team.”

Howard got the chance to cheer at state for the first time last year and took away so much from that experience.

“It was extremely stressful preparing for state, but it was one of the highlights of my freshman year. Once I stepped foot on the mat, I knew all the hard work was worth it. It was an experience that I’ll never forget,” she said.

“Now knowing what all to expect for state this year, I feel I’m more confident going in, and I’m hoping to be able to lead the new cheerleaders that have never competed before this year. I learned perseverance, how to lean on my teammates, the importance of teamwork, and to overall enjoy the moment.”

Howard has helped the younger cheerleaders with a lot of things in the offseason as they get ready for this upcoming season. She talked about this season’s goals and what will make this cheer team special to watch.

“We have many newcomers this year, and that means we’re going to have to learn how to work with each other and communicate with each other. We’ll continue to practice and put forth our best effort, to help one another stay motivated, and continue to strive to be better all-around,” she said. “My individual goals are to become a good leader and to be someone my teammates can come to and rely on. I’d love to improve all around. My team goals are to win Regionals again, to get top three at state, to have a great football and basketball season, and to make life-long friends with my teammates.”

She added, “I believe we’re going to bring the energy and skills that we’ve learned from UCA camp and give it our all and be the best we can be. We’re a very competitive and determined group of girls that are always looking to improve. We’re all striving to be our best, and I feel that’s something that will stand out this season.”

Howard has soaked up as much as she can from this year’s seniors so far. She talked about her favorite cheerleaders growing up and the best advice that she was ever given.

“They’re all amazing leaders in their unique ways. I’ve learned to be responsible, hardworking, kind, and to enjoy every moment,” she said. “The varsity cheerleaders I looked up to when I was younger were Bailey Preiss, Emily Cheatwood, and Kinlee Puckett. They were very high-spirited hard workers who put effort into everything they did. Seeing their hard work and enjoyment made me want to be a part of it all. The best advice that someone ever gave me is to always give our best effort, have fun, and to keep Christ at the center of everything we do.”


MAKENNA HOWARD
Vinemont’s Makenna Howard

PREP BASKETBALL

‘Working with the athletes at Good Hope has made my game stronger’: Good Hope’s Ella Gossett prepares for 1st season with Lady Raiders

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — Freshman Ella Gossett made the move from Cullman to Good Hope this offseason and she enjoyed her time as a Lady Bearcat but she’s also excited to learn as much as she can about her new team and earn some time out on the court with the Lady Raiders. She’s felt very welcomed by her new teammates so far and is looking forward to getting the season underway.

“It was fun, and I loved my teammates. I learned that being on JV meant I had to work harder than any of the varsity players if I want to get playing time on varsity. I really liked the coaches. It was difficult to leave my friends and teammates. I wish them all the best of luck,” Gossett said.

“I felt very welcomed at Good Hope, and I’ve already made multiple friends. So far, it has been really good, and I feel like working with the athletes at Good Hope has made my game stronger.”

Gossett talked about her new coaches and what they are like, her new teammates and how much they’ve helped out with her game so far, and what she has improved on the most.

“They are great coaches, and they really care about us and our improvement. Even though I haven’t been with them long, their love and passion for the game motivates me to go harder. They always push me to get better at practice. They’ve helped me with some small things, but they mainly just focus on the basics,” Gossett said.

“The players have been really nice and welcoming. I have been going against some of the players and they have challenged me and pushed me to get better, and I can already see improvement in my performance. What I first noticed about the teams at Good Hope is that they are all like one big family. I could tell the older girls really push the younger girls and they care about our improvement. I’ve definitely improved on my defense the most.”

Gossett hopes to bring a lot to Good Hope, and she’s had a blast so far working with Bailey and Heather Tetro. She has learned some things from her new teammates so far and she’s had a blast learning so much from some great players in her short time as a Lady Raider so far.

“I feel like I bring effort and determination to get better and help make the team better,” she said.

“They have helped me a lot with my defense, because they are so quick and shifty, so it has been a challenge to guard them. I’ve learned what’s it like to be a team. They’ve showed me how to be a better teammate and they have really encouraged me. It’s been great.

“I’m glad I decided to move to Good Hope and it’s amazing how much I feel like I’ve improved in the short time amount of time I’ve been here.”

Gossett has some goals set for this upcoming season and she can’t wait to get the season started with her new team. She will continue to work on a couple of things in the offseason and she talked about what will make this team special to watch, some basketball players that she looks up to, and some of the best advice she was ever given.

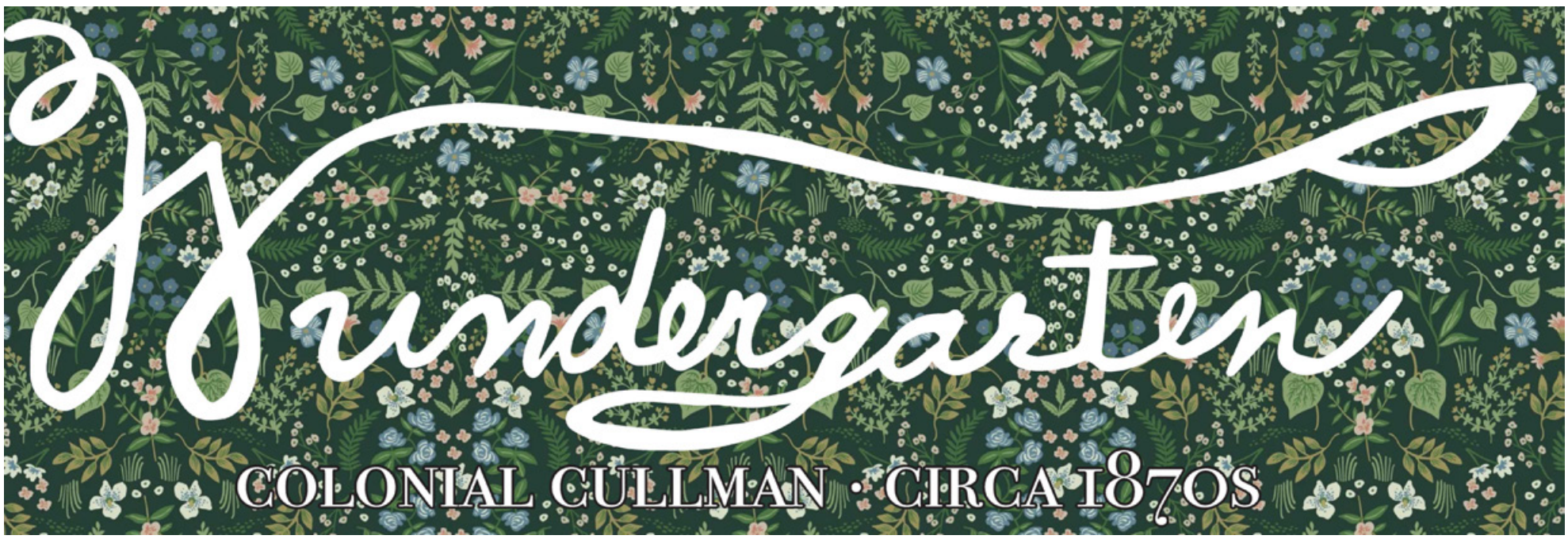
“My individual goal is to just become an all-around better player. Our team goals are to become a better team so we can be prepared for varsity, because we will be losing a lot of seniors this year, and to win the county championship this year. I love my team so far and I can’t wait for the season to start,” she said.

“I will definitely work on my shooting and my defense. I think we have a lot of talent, and we work together as a team. I look up to the Tetro twins and I love working with them. Some of the best advice I’ve heard so far is that when you make a bad play, forget about that and move on to the next one.”



ELLA GOSSETT
Good Hope’s Ella Gossett

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JULY 29, 2023



– COLUMN –

Celebrating in the Wundergarten – The ABCs of trees

Ben Johnson South
Tribune Columnist

Having fun while learning at the Sportsman Lake Tree Museum is as easy as A-B-C.

THE ABCs of TREES

A is for APPLE TREES—Exploring the great outdoors on your Alphabet Adventure at the Tree Museum begins with apples. Money may not grow on trees, but food does.

APPLE TREE AND PECAN TREE CAMPFIRE TREAT
(Source: recipeland.com)

INGREDIENTS
- 4 apples
- 1/4 cup pecans, chopped
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 4 tsp. raisins
- 1/8 tsp. allspice
- 4 tsp. butter

INSTRUCTIONS
1. In a small bowl, combine brown sugar, pecans, raisins and allspice.

2. Core apples from the top, making a large enough hole in the center of apple for filling but not cutting the skin at the bottom.

3. Place 1 tsp. butter in each apple, followed by a tablespoon of the filling.

4. Wrap tightly in aluminum foil and place, top down, directly in hot coals.

5. After 5 minutes, using long tongs, turn apples right side up and continue to bake for 3 to 5 minutes longer. Unwrap from foil, let cool a bit and savor.

A is also for Accredited Arboretum which the Sportsman Lake Tree Museum is, Acorns, ASH trees and Alabama Azaleas.

B is for BUTTERFLIES—Yesterday, when I was at the "Tree Museum," butterflies were sipping the sweet nectar of the 8' tall Joe Pye weed and flitting over the bridge in the Bird and Wildlife Sanctuary.

The Sportsman Lake Tree Museum was recently added to the sites across America of The First Lady Rosalynn Carter National Butterfly Trail.

B is also for Birds, Blueberries, BUCKEYE trees, BIRCH trees, BEECH trees, BOXELDER trees, Beneficial Bugs and Berries.

C is for CHERRY TREES—Few things are more American than the story of young George Washington, our first President, who chopped down a cherry tree in his parents' garden and then fully tells the truth when asked about it. "I cannot tell a lie, father, it 'twas I." This is a great way to remind kids and all that when we make a mistake, be honest and tell the truth.

CHERRY trees are native to the American South, but some of the most famous came as a gift to America from the Japanese. The blooming of the Japanese CHERRY trees around the giant, "mirror lake basin" in our nation's capital, thrills thousands of visitors each spring.

Topre America and Yutaka Technologies are two, fine, local employers with roots in Japan who find innovative ways to support the values of CULTIVATE CULLMAN. We're eager to invite these community leaders to the new "tree museum" to explore how we could add more CHERRY blossoms to the beauty of the park.

C is also for CEDAR trees, CYPRESS trees, CRAB APPLE trees, Caterpillars, Columbine wildflowers, and CATALPA trees. And, how about building a "forest Chapel?" The tall oaks, pines and poplars in the "tree museum" CONNECT us with the heavens.

D is for DUCKS—one of the happiest pleasures for children of all ages at the Sportsman Lake Tree Museum to enjoy. Just hearing the cartoon-character quacking and seeing the waddling ducklings on their parade to the "mirror lake" brings happy smiles to all.

Ducks, geese, cranes and herons, all kinds of aquatic birds enjoy the lakeside "marsh sanctuary." Bring your Smartphone to take photos of these beautiful birds and enjoy the fine-feathered array of colors from Mallard green to Blue Heron to new baby yellow.

D is also for DOGWOOD trees and digging in the dirt as a volunteer arboretum ambassador. Every Tuesday from 10am-12noon, Cullman County Master Gardeners work alongside community volunteers in the Tree Museum. Just show up with your garden gloves and a bottle of cool water and join us.

E is for ELM TREES—with giant, spreading limbs that look like green fountains. In autumn, ELM leafs turn golden. ELMS were the most popular trees for lining the city streets in Colonial America. The famous "Liberty Tree" in Colonial Boston was a stately ELM.

We want to designate a "Liberty Tree" honoring the veterans of the War Memorial at Sportsman Lake Park. An ELM would be a magnificent, beautifully natural salute.

E is also for ELDERBERRY, and even though they are not native plants, we have some elegant and exotic "Elephant Ear" plants to enjoy at Sportsman Lake Park.

F is for FIG TREES—which according to Tony Glover, one of our state's greatest plants-people, "Every landowner in Alabama should grow a FIG TREE." Tony has been the decades-long advocate for Cullman County, his home county, to have an accredited arboretum. Just last week, Tony's dream for this "living tree museum" was made reality with the recognition from ArbNet of the Sportsman Lake Tree Museum. This Fall, once the soil cools down, we will invite Tony to plant a FIG TREE or five.

FIG TREE FRUIT GRILLED with GOAT CHEESE
(Source: seriouseats.com)

INGREDIENTS
- 20 ripe figs
- 4 oz. soft goat cheese
- 2 tbsp. olive oil
- 2 tbsp. balsamic vinegar
- 1 tbsp. roughly chopped fresh rosemary

INSTRUCTIONS
1. Cut off the stem of each fig, then cut two slits from the top of the fig to 3/4-way down in an X-pattern like the red cross on the Alabama state flag, which creates a pocket in the middle of the fig. Stuff each fig with about 1 teaspoon of goat cheese.

2. Place a cooking grate over hot coals, cover grill and allow to preheat for 5 minutes. Clean and oil the grilling grate. Lightly brush figs with olive oil and place on grill. Cover and cook over medium heat until figs are softened and brown slightly, about 5 to 8 minutes.

3. Remove figs to serving tray; drizzle with balsamic vinegar and sprinkle with rosemary. Serve immediately.

F is also for: Forest, Frogs, FILBERT trees, FRINGE trees, Forsythia and FIR trees.

G is for GOLDENROD—This native plant to Alabama was the official state flower from 1927 to 1959, when it was questionably replaced by the Asian camellia. Goldenrod is underappreciated and misunderstood. (Can you relate?) Often people wrongly confuse goldenrod with ragweed and start sneezing just thinking about it. Goldenrod is a crucial plant for a healthy ecosystem in Alabama. Beautiful, contributing GOLDENROD is a KEYSTONE PLANT (see the letter "K")

G is also for: Grasses, Garden and GINGKO tree.

H is for HOLLY—American holly is a native plant and perfect for attracting winter birds for the bright red berries and inviting bunnies to shelter beneath. This is the traditional, Christmas holly. As we remove invasive hollies like (trying not to cuss here) "dreaded mahonias" from the Bird and Wildlife Sanctuary at the Sportsman Lake Tree Museum, we are replacing them with native, American hollies.

H is also for: Hiking (there are 5 miles of hiking trails throughout the Sportsman Lake Park) and HORSE CHESTNUT trees, HAWTHORN trees, HICKORY trees, and HORNBEAM trees.

I is for IRONWOOD—a really tough understory tree. IRONWOOD is disease-resistant and "tough as iron." Tough, tolerant IRONWOOD is a great tree for planting along highways and for home landscapes.

I is also for Indian corn, Indigo bush and ILEX tree.

J is for JASMINE—a gloriously fragrant, woody stemmed, determined vine. The scent is considered an "Oriental," though the highly perfumed plants perfectly evoke the American South.

J is also for JUNIPER evergreens.

K is for KEYSTONE PLANTS—which have a disproportionately large effect on the natural world where they grow relative to their abundance. These native plants are essential to support 90% of caterpillars that in turn allow birds to make babies and help the native bee species to continue. We are re-imagining the steep "power line" right of way at the Sportsman Lake Tree Museum to be a "vertical meadow pollinator rise" filled with goldenrod, native sunflowers and blueberry shrubs—three major, KEYSTONE PLANTS.

K is also for KENTUCKY COFFEETREE.

L is for LOBLOLLY PINE—like the 100' tall one we call "The Grandfather Pine" in the Tree Museum. You'll find this handsome giant at the entrance to the "birding trail."

L is also for LAUREL tree, LINDEN tree, and logs.

M is for MAGNOLIA—like the Southern Magnolia we call "The Grandmother Magnolia" at the base of the Tree Museum slope across from the potting shed. She spreads her loving arms to embrace all.

M is also for MUSHROOMS which abound throughout the Sportsman Lake Tree Museum. We have begun a "Mushroom Stumpery" to showcase the beauty and tasty nutrition of the fungus among us. Foraging expeditions are led by the Alabama Mushroom Society regularly in the Tree Museum.

M is for MAPLE tree and Mulberry, too.

N is for NUT TREES—a healthy protein source. Common in our growing zone are these nut trees: PECAN trees, WALNUT trees and CHESTNUT trees.

O is for OAK TREES—which, according to the esteemed naturalist, Doug Tallamy, "support more forms of life and more fascinating interactions than any other tree genus in North America...A yard without oaks is a yard meeting only a fraction of its life-support potential." Every tree-lover in America should have a dog-eared copy of "The Nature of Oaks" by Douglas W. Tallamy on their nightstand.

O is also for OAKLEAF HYDRANGEA, Alabama's official state wildflower shrub. This week is a lovely time to enjoy big, white blossoms of this beloved plant in the Sportsman Lake Tree Museum.

P is for PINE TREES—found round the globe. Here are some favorites: Jerusalem Pine, Austrian Pine, Bristlecone Pine, Eastern White Pine, Foxtail Pine, Gray Pine, Jack Pine, Japanese White Pine (popular for bonsai), Loblolly Pine (like "The Grandfather Pine"), Longleaf Pine, Mexican Weeping Pine, Mugo Pine (perfect for The Rock the South Rock Garden at Sportsman Lake Tree Museum), Pitch Pine, Ponderosa Pine, Red Pine, Scots Pine, Pinyon Pine, Sugar Pine, Turkish Pine, Virginia Pine and Western White Pine.

P is also for PERSIMMON trees, PECAN trees, PALMETTO trees, PAWPAW trees, picnics and a PARTRIDGE in a PEAR TREE.

R is for RED MAPLE—a common and widespread deciduous tree in the U.S., east of the Mississippi River. This ruby-leafed beauty is one of the most spirit-warming and treasured trees in an autumn landscape.

R is also for REDBUD trees, REDWOOD trees and Rocks.

S is for SUNFLOWERS—a "keystone plant" that birds, bees, butterflies, and humans savor. The best SUNFLOWERS for seed-snacking are: Mammoth Grey Stripe, Mongolian Giant, and one aptly sold as "Super Snack."

S is also for Sanctuary, Stumpery, SUGAR MAPLE tree, Silverbells, SOURWOOD tree, SWEETGUM tree and SYCAMORE tree.

T is for TANNEBAUM—German for "Christmas tree." In the 1800s, Queen Victoria and her German husband, Prince Albert, popularized the tradition of decorating a tree indoors at Christmastime. Though, based on her diary entry as a 13-year-old princess, Victoria loved Christmas trees long before she loved Albert: "After dinner we went into the dining room. There were two large round tables on which were placed two trees hung with lights and sugar ornaments. All the presents being placed round the trees..."

T is also for Twig, Treehouse, Toads, Trails, and the kiddie train at the Sportsman Lake Tree Museum.

U is for UMBRELLA TREE—another name for the houseplant, Schefflera. Generally kept compact and short, this native of China can grow to 8 feet tall.

V is for VIBURNUM—popular as a woody, landscape shrub because of their showy, "pom pom" flowers, berries, and honeyed scent. The wood from viburnums was once used by Native American tribes to carve hunting arrows.

V is also for VINES, many like clematis and honeysuckle have woody stems and are considered "tree-like" in that way.

W is for WEEPING WILLOW—the ideal tree to be reflected in a "mirror lake" like the acres-large, popular pond at the Sportsman Lake Tree Museum. WEEPING WILLOWS are mostly ornamental and are appreciated for their sweeping, pendulant branches. Native Americans used this tree to create musical flutes, and to form paintbrushes.

W is also for WITCH HAZEL trees, WALNUT trees, Wildflowers, Woodlands and Water.

X is for XERIC—which means "very dry" and is a popular exploration for gardeners as our planet warms. Xeric gardens are regularly populated with drought-resistant plants native to the zone.

Y is for YELLOWWOOD TREES—which are native to north and central Alabama. YELLOWWOOD produces a cool canopy of shade for the hot summer and sculptural limbs in winter. The fragrant, white blooms in early summer are delightful.

Y is also for YARROW herb, and YAUPON HOLLY.

Z is for ZONE—an important thing to know for anyone wanting a tree to grow in Brooklyn, NY, or Brooklyn, FL or Brooklyn, CA. The Sportsman Lake Tree Museum is in USDA Hardiness Zone 7b in Cullman County--Alabama's no. 1 county in agriculture. Two of the hardiest woody plants to grow in this zone are blueberry bushes and tulip poplars trees.

Z is also for ZELKOVA, a Japanese ornamental tree with specimens living a thousand years.

So, there you have THE ABCs of TREES from the newly accredited arboretum—SPORTSMAN LAKE TREE MUSEUM (FREE and open to All, 365 days each year). Please pack a picnic soon and come enjoy the summer shade under the OAKS, ELMS, PINES, MAGNOLIAS, MAPLES, POPLARS, WALNUT TREES...

HAPPY SUMMERTIME and AUF WIEDERSEHEN Y'ALL!

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

Op-Ed: To eliminate 'help wanted' signs, we must shift our focus to labor force participation. The Ivey Administration is doing that.

Governor Kay Ivey
Contributor

To gather the fullest employment picture in Alabama – and across the nation for that matter – we must shift our focus to labor force participation.

Alabama's current unemployment rate is at an impressive and historic low of 2.2%. In fact, almost all of the 10 states with the lowest unemployment rates, Alabama being one of those, are Republican led, which is no coincidence. This news is certainly worth celebrating.

In Alabama, we can also be glad about the 78,000-plus new jobs we have recruited to our state so far during my time as governor. And during the last legislative session, we passed "The Game Plan" package to renew our economic development incentives, so as Alabamians have heard me say: We're just getting started!

Just yesterday (July 26), the Alabama Department of Labor reported that online job ads were up almost 11% from June of last year. To no surprise, registered nurse positions top the chart. The ads also include anything from retail sales positions to software developers to fast food workers to maintenance workers. To put it simply: If an Alabamian can and wants to work, there is a job opening for them.

All of the well-paying jobs pouring into our state at record numbers plus these continuous position openings, coupled with our historically low unemployment rate creates – I'll call it – a good problem to have.

In fact, I have had reporters ask me with all of the new business and industry locating to Alabama and such a low unemployment rate, how can we even plan to fill all these jobs? Well, I say this with full affection, of course, but if the media are turning two positives into a negative, you know you are doing something right.

I will admit, though, it's a good question to ask. Workforce development remains a key focus for my Administration and will continue to be until the end of my term as governor in 2026.

However, if the only measuring stick we use is the unemployment rate, we are doing ourselves, our people and our businesses a huge disservice.

A 2.2% unemployment rate, according to the Alabama Department of Labor, means we have a bit more than 50,000 folks looking for work. Let me say that again: The unemployment rate is only looking at one segment of our population – those who are actively looking for work.

In other words, we're seeing half the picture. The labor force participation rate, however, is looking at everyone ages 16 and above.

That is where we need to shift our focus.

So, we beat level one, and now we're moving on to level two.

Despite having one of the lowest unemployment rates in the country and a record number of Alabamians working, the percentage of Alabamians participating in the labor force is lower than almost any other state.

While we are increasing that by the tens of thousands, we have to change this statistic.

Getting folks off the sidelines and into the labor force is my next priority.

To be clear, I am not saying Alabamians on the sidelines are avoiding work.

I believe and will always believe that Alabamians are eager and have pride in a hard day's work and want to be able to provide for themselves and their families.

Let me add achieving a 100% labor force participation rate is not the goal – 16-year-olds go to school, and a 66-year-old may want to retire.

A key part of our workforce development efforts is identifying barriers that exist for those on the sidelines who want to work but cannot. Maybe that is childcare. Maybe that is transportation. Maybe that is simply difficulty in shifting from a reliance on government programs to employment.

We are working hard to help eliminate these barriers – whatever they may be – so that more Alabamians can participate in our labor force.

We also know in Alabama, the best way to increase the labor force participation rate is by also increasing our postsecondary education attainment rate.

In other words, we are working to support more Alabamians getting skilled up whether by certificates or schooling to fill the jobs that are out there.

Six years ago, I launched my first initiative as governor – Strong Start, Strong Finish. This education agenda focuses on every step of learning from our youngest Alabamians all the way through the workforce.

And we will need to tackle both our education and workforce and economic goals to continually increase our labor force participation rate. That is the Ivey Administration's new focus.

I believe more Alabamians can achieve their strong finish.

We will increase both our postsecondary education attainment, as well as our labor force participation. Accomplishing these benchmarks will meet the needs of our employers in this growing and evolving market.

Alabama has led the nation in low unemployment. Now, we will shift our focus to labor force participation. In turn, "help wanted" signs will come down and more of our Alabama families will prosper.

Vinemont High's Moody represents Alabama at American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation

Staff Reports
Contributor

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Vinemont High's School's Vivian (Gracie) Moody was one of 94 high school seniors selected to attend American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Girls Nation July 22-29 in Washington, D.C. The weeklong program, founded in 1947, has provided exceptional civic education to thousands of students, teaching them about how the federal government works.

Moody is one of two participants who represented Alabama as a "senator" at ALA Girls Nation. Two delegates from each ALA Girls State program are chosen to represent their state after participating in an ALA state-level program held across the country. At ALA Girls Nation, senators participated in mock Senate sessions complete with caucuses and debated bills that ranged from personal to political interests.

Other activities on the agenda included a visit to Arlington National Cemetery where they placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, a visit to Capitol Hill to meet with U.S. senators from their states and a tour of D.C. monuments.

Moody, a rising senior at Vinemont High School, was active in many ways during her week at ALA Alabama Girls State.

She also participates in many activities in her school and community, including marching and concert band, percussion captain, band captain, member of National Honor Society, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Sigma Kappa Delta Honor Society and the Fast Track Program through Wallace State Community College.

"ALA Girls Nation is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our nation's future leaders to learn about the inner workings of the federal government before they are of voting age," said Donna Dillard, ALA Girls Nation Committee chair.

"After attending their local ALA Girls State program and then ALA Girls Nation, the participants return home ready to be engaged citizens at all levels of government."

Students leave the program with increased confidence and leadership skills for college and in their future career paths.

Some participants of the program go on to have careers in public service at the local, state and national levels. No matter what their future holds, all leave with a better understanding of civic responsibilities.



CONTRIBUTED

Vivian (Gracie) Moody

Bradberry (from Front)

of The Share Club and previously served as a member of the Cullman Farm-City Committee. Through her role as a parent, she's also been involved in fine arts, athletics, career technical classes and school leadership clubs over the past several years across all levels of Cullman City Schools.

"It is an honor to have been chosen to fill the vacant position on the school board. This is an important position and I understand the decisions that our school board makes impact the future of our children as well as our teachers and staff," Bradberry said. "My parents were both educators and they instilled in me the importance of being involved and giving back to the community. I witnessed firsthand their challenges as educators, but also what an impact that they made in the lives of their students. Our educators leave a lasting impression on the lives of the students that they instruct."

Bradberry noted her tenure serving in the banking and finance industry gives her a unique perspective on the importance of fiscal responsibility, implementing changes to technology, interpreting regulations, following policies and procedures and project management.

"I look forward to establishing a collaborative relationship with school personnel as well as the community," she said. "I aspire to be transparent with all stakeholders to ensure that policies promote accountability and responsible use of resources."

Bradberry said infrastructure, student and staff safety, support and resources for teachers and staff, technology and mental health initiatives are among her top priorities while joining the board.

"Certainly, student safety/well-being and infrastructure are on the minds of our community. I will do my part to listen to our community, our teachers and our administrators," she said.

"It takes a team approach to solve problems and I know we have a board that displays exemplary teamwork to make complex decisions that affect our schools and community. I am excited to work with the board and Superintendent (Kyle) Kallhoff.

"I will strive to be an active and engaged board member and will hold myself accountable to our faculty, students and our community."

Bradberry has been married to her husband Brian Bradberry for 22 years.

She will serve out the remainder of Orr's current term by appointment through 2025, at which time the seat will be back on the ballot for voters to formally fill the role permanently for the next term.


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Nifty knitters and cool crocheters assemble weekly at library

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Knitters and crocheters alike of every skill level assemble under the roof of the Cullman County Public Library every Tuesday afternoon. The class teaches heritage skills in a down-to-earth setting, where anyone can learn.

Host Regina Johnson said her goal is simple: teach them, and teach them correctly.

"We want to teach every youngster or adult who wants to learn, and teach them the right way of doing it," she laughed. "We want them to expand their mind!"

Johnson also shared that the secret sauce to a successful knitter or crocheter is not years and years of practice – though, that certainly comes in handy; Johnson herself has over three decades of experience.

She said It's the simple soft skill of patience.

"It doesn't matter how skilled you are. It's the willingness and patience. Patience is the skill you learn." smiled Johnson.

For beginners who wish to attend, most materials can be provided; however, if you wish to purchase your own, the seasoned knitters of the group suggest a light-colored yarn, and size 5 or 6 needles in bamboo material.

The class meets Tuesdays from 1-2 p.m.



Obituary Announcements: July 27-28

Larry Scott Mangum, 83
Larry Scott Mangum, 83, of Cullman, passed away on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at his residence. He was born Oct. 25, 1939, in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. He is survived by his wife, Donna Mangum; daughter, Suzanne Vermeire; son, Scott Mangum; sister, Lynn Merritt and grandchildren, Blake Mangum, Lauren Vermeire and Grayson Vermeire. He was preceded in death by his parents, Eulice and Magdalene Mangum; and sisters, Jane Branscomb and Mary Ann Gallagher. Funeral services will be Saturday, July 29, 2023, at 2 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home; burial will follow in Good Hope Cemetery. The family will receive friends on Saturday from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. at the funeral home. Pallbearers are Scott Mangum, Blake Mangum, Grayson Vermeire, Trevor Sharp, Ronnie Heaton and Larry Goodwin. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.mossservicefh.com for the Mangum family.

Charles Richard Raybon, 75
Charles Richard Raybon, 75, of Cullman, passed away Thursday, July 27, 2023, at his residence. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the Raybon family. Charles was born July 14, 1948, to Charles Edward & Grace Lawley Raybon. He was General Sales Manager at Eckenrod Ford for many years. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Sandra Lee Crane, 79
Sandra Lee Crane, age 79, passed away in Cullman, Alabama, on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, with her loving family by her side. Sandra was born Oct. 23, 1943, in Tiptonville, Tennessee, to Kenneth and Belle McKeel. She was affectionately known as "Granny Many Hearts," and she was loved by many throughout her community. Sandra was an avid crafter and enjoyed spending her time completing the intricate projects she took pride in creating. She was preceded in death by her husband of 48 years, Dennis Crane, and her parents. She is survived by her children, Cara (Michelle) Crane, Candy Crane (Jamie Rosenugle), and Clint (Vicky) Crane; grandchildren, Jordan Baldwin, Julian Gagnon, Josie Gagnon, Jada Mahr, Samia Crane, Emmy Crane, Everlee Crane, Courtney Casey, and Dakota Goble; great-grandchildren, Ella Gagnon, Conner Gagnon, Aubry Thomas, and Bentley Woodall; sisters, Wanda Clark and Linda Scott. The family will receive friends on Saturday, July 29, 2023, from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home located at 255 County Road 1435, Cullman, AL. Memorial Service will follow at 2 p.m.

Birdie Mae Kilpatrick, 97
Funeral service for Birdie Mae Kilpatrick, 97, of Cullman, will be at 5 p.m., Sunday, July 30, 2023, at Emeus Baptist Church with interment in the adjoining cemetery, Grandson Steven Sutter, Bro. Paul Cleghorn and Bro. Wayne Sheppard officiating. Visitation will be from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. on Sunday at the church. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Kilpatrick passed away Thursday, July 27, 2023, at her residence. She was born April 15, 1926, to General Jackson and Edna Eddy Campbell. She was a simple person who loved the outside, gardening, her flowers and quilting. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Kenneth Kilpatrick; grandson, Matt Rusk; sons-in-law, Gene Rusk, Joe Rusk; three brothers and six sisters. She is survived by her son, Justin Todd Kilpatrick; daughters, Decca Rusk, Rita Rusk, Cindy (James) Butler; grandchildren, Gerrita (Paul) Cleghorn, Ginger (Wayne) Sheppard, Sephanie (Steve) Phillips, Layla (Steven) Quinn, Jarria Rusk, Steven (Amanda) Sutter, Justin Kilpatrick; fourteen great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; family and friends. Grandchildren will be pallbearers. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Christopher Peyton Welch, 36
Christopher Peyton Welch, age 36, of Cullman, passed away on Saturday, July 22, 2023. He was born Jan. 31, 1987, to Dana O. Welch and Brenda Welch. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Christopher graduated from West Point High School in 2005. He loved his family, especially his son, Xander. He was an avid Auburn fan and loved the family football rivalry. He was preceded in death by his brother, Michael Welch, and grandparents, Dewey and Mable Brown and Gilbert and Earlene Welch. Survivors include his parents; son, Xander Welch; sisters, Danielle (Heath) Taylor and Cody Welch; and brothers, Chad (Sarah) Welch and Tommy (Roseann) Welch. Pallbearers for Mr. Welch were Dana Welch, Tommy Welch, Chad Welch, Caden Welch, Heath Taylor, and Brodt Taylor. There was a privately held family service.

Justino Torres, 74
Celebrando la vida de Justino Torres, 74, de Hanceville, AlabamaEl Sr. Torres nació el 21 de abril de 1949, hijo de Alberto Torres y Nazaria Martínez en Hidalgo, México. Fue un excelente esposo y padre. Pasó muchos años de su vida colocando ladrillos y bloques en albañilería comercial.Luego de una extensa enfermedad, el Sr. Torres falleció el 28 de julio de 2023, en paz en su hogar rodeado de su amada esposa y sus dos hijos.Aquellos que deseen presentar sus respetos a la familia Torres pueden hacerlo en Hanceville Funeral Home. Se realizará un velorio el sábado 29 de julio a partir de las 5:00 p.m. a las 20:00 y el domingo 30 de julio de 17:00 a 20:00 horas. a las 20:00La familia desea agradecer a Cullman Regional Hospice por el amor, la atención y el apoyo durante este tiempo de duelo. Celebrating the life of Justino Torres, 74, of Hanceville, Alabama Mr. Torres was born on April 21, 1949, to Alberto Torres and Nazaria Martinez in Hidalgo, Mexico. He was an excellent husband and father. Many years of his life was spent laying brick and block in Commercial Masonry. After an extensive illness, Mr. Torres passed away on July 28, 2023, peacefully in his home surrounded by his loving wife and two sons. Those wishing to pay their respects to the Torres family may do so at Hanceville Funeral Home. A visitation will be held on Saturday, July 29th from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. and on Sunday, July 30, 2023 from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. The family would like to thank Cullman Regional Hospice for the love, care, and support throughout this time of grief.

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BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

The wonderful delight of a grandchild

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



When I heard that my grandson was going to be born in late July, I hoped he would be born on my birthday. I voiced my wish to his mother, but she was definitely not in favor. She said, "Everyone needs their own birthday and not one to be shared with someone else." She believes strongly in the importance of birthdays. She has always begun planning her next one, as soon as her last one is over! In fairness to her, she thinks everyone else's birthday is important too. When you've had as many birthdays as I have, the next one is kind of like that next bowl of ice cream after you've already eaten six. I accused her of holding out for two days on birthing my grandson.

William Andrew Wood, better known as Drew, was born on July 30th, 2009, two days after my birthday. He will turn 14 this week, and I will turn a slightly rust color. Drew is our pride and joy. He is the only grandchild of the only child Gigi and I have, so I can say that. Maybe he is a little spoiled, but he takes it quite well.

Drew and I may not share the same birthday, but we do share many other things. Ironically, we do normally share the same birthday party, dinner, or whatever form the current year's celebration comes in.

Oh, yeah, of course we have our differences. Even though our birthday is only two days apart, our birth year is slightly more, so that means he's into a few things I don't understand.

For instance, I don't year a sweatshirt hoodie, with the hood on my head, in the middle of summer, even if that is the trend. I'm at the age where comfort is more important than fashion. We don't always listen to same kind of music. He will listen to some of my old classic stuff, and I will listen to some of his new stuff. I said "some."

I grew up in the infancy days of television, but Drew doesn't watch much television. He prefers videos and video games. He will watch an old vintage show like Andy Griffith or Gunsmoke with me, but he might slip in a game or two on his phone.

Through the years we have done so many things together. He is usually at our house two-or-three times a week, and often overnight. We have a woodshop in the backyard. We call it B & D Woodshop. That stands for Bill and Drew. We've built several things together there. Woodshops can get messy, so Drew is fond of saying, "We've got to clean this mess up." He doesn't know it yet, I hope, but I built him a walnut and white oak chess board for his birthday. He loves to play chess, and most any kind of card or board game.

He, Gigi, and I play those games quite often when he's at our house. He loves to swim in our pool, but honestly, he does more of that with Gigi than with me. We love to fish together. Last year, the entire family even went deep-sea fishing, and Drew caught the biggest fish. It was a 32-inch redfish. He has played racquetball with me since he was big enough to hold a racquet, but lately our game is pickleball. We both love it. During the summer, while he's out of school, we play together at least twice a week. He has become a pretty good player.

My family is the light of my life and Drew shines brightly. Happy birthday Drew Wood. I love you buddy!

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

HISTORY

Files from yesteryear: 1930, 1950

From the files of 1930

The bodies of two Cullman County soldiers arrived home, Emory McConnell and Ulyses Yeager.

Mr. Jessie Smith is erecting a cotton gin at Simcoe.

W.C. Waldrop and wife attended the two-day Union Harp singing at Old Redan Church and reported a fine singing with a large crowd attending.

Professor A.R. Thompson has closed a very successful writing school at Simcoe. All his pupils want him to teach writing again.

Good Hope Church held election Sunday for officers for next year. Sunday School Superintendent is Luther Hudson, Assistant Superintendent is A.N. Schlichting, teachers are Ernest Kelly, E.G. McGlawn, Mrs. Alice Chance, Jewel Miller, Mrs. Mattie Dial and Claudia Kelly, organist is Miss Ruby Mize, choir leader is S.W. Ragsdale and secretary is Jewel Miller. Good Hope had a great church year.

Alton Blalock and his sister, Miss Ruth Blalock of Birmingham, are spending a week with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. F.B. Blalock.

From the files of 1950

Owen S. Williams of Cullman has been selected for "Who's Who in the South and Southeast."

Twenty citizens of Cullman County attended a seven-county barbecue pasture meeting on the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest L. Hood, of Route Three, Albertville, on Tuesday, November 21. Those from Cullman were T.B. Veal, B.R. Fant, C.H. Wilhite, K.J. Griffith, L.E. Parker, Roy Gorham, Oscar Ellard, C.T. Scott, J.F. Brandon, R.C. Johnston, H.G. Pinkston, J.H. Yates, George Lehnert, N.T. Underwood, E.O. Elliott, Robert K. Leopard, Henry F. Arnold, J.H. Montgomery, Marvin Trapp and J.P. Glenn.

Russell L. Baker has been doing a little research on his own family. He says the number "7" has really been important in his life. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. F.M. Baker had 12 children, seven boys and five girls. His wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hildred Haynes had 12 children, seven girls and five boys. Mr. Baker was the seventh daughter.

They were married on Mr. Baker's 27 birthday anniversary, in 1907.

POET'S CORNER

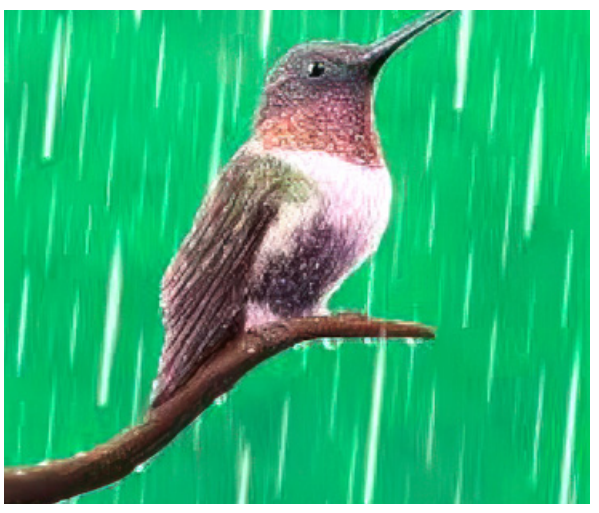
July Morning | By: Randy Hale

Entertaining me this morning
are active hummingbirds in a
slow drizzling rain.
Their feeding not hampered
by wet pellets that fall, or
human presence near.

My sweetened mixture brings
these tiny fingers with wings,
long beaks and rapid tongues,
hypnotizing me by the buzzing
of their flight, the darting to and fro
without air traffic control.

A mother blue bird tends to her
hatchlings, bringing fresh worms
in her tiny beak to nourish their
hungry tums.
The mourning dove calls as wings
of other birds flutter through,
chirps and whistles, songs that soothe.

I hear roosters cock a doodle,
black birds caw, barking dogs.
"Wake up! Wake up!" they say.
"We're in this thing together."
"Let's be about it all."



CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

JULY 29

W	A	I	M	I	R	I	A	P	A	C	H	E	M	F	O	X
Y	A	R	A	U	C	A	N	H	K	Z	N	M	U	R	T	P
A	Y	O	R	T	N	S	A	S	I	A	V	O	B	V	T	U
N	F	Q	I	U	O	M	P	E	C	A	G	H	L	A	A	E
D	M	U	K	P	O	N	O	N	D	A	G	A	A	S	W	L
O	A	O	A	I	T	G	I	E	E	E	G	W	C	I	A	C
T	Y	I	R	A	K	M	E	C	V	U	L	K	K	W	G	H
A	A	S	E	N	A	R	X	A	Y	N	E	A	F	A	M	E
T	T	B	E	I	A	R	J	A	Q	H	N	P	O	S	O	A
U	T	H	M	N	A	O	C	T	U	H	A	I	O	H	H	N
S	J	L	A	D	M	Z	R	O	E	A	P	N	T	C	A	A
C	E	P	I	B	A	L	O	A	C	I	E	A	B	M	V	D
A	E	E	N	N	A	D	W	R	H	D	U	I	E	W	E	E
R	N	R	R	Q	G	S	S	A	U	A	H	E	I	A	E	N
O	S	N	I	E	M	I	C	M	A	C	R	P	O	N	C	A
R	O	L	M	E	C	V	T	A	Z	C	H	O	C	T	A	W
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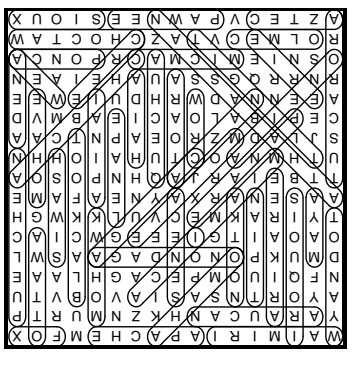
Adena
Apache
Apinai
Araucan
Arikaree
Athabascan
Atoara
Aztec
Blackfoot
Cayuga
Chibcha
Choctaw
Cree
Crow
Erie
Fox
Haida
Inca
Iroquois
Lenape
Maya
Miami
Micmac
Mohave
Mohawk
Mojave
Nazca
Nootka
Olmec
Omaha
Oneida
Onondaga
Ottawa
Panare
Pawnee
Ponca
Puelchean
Quechua
Seneca
Sioux
Siwash
Tlingit
Tupian
Tuscarora
Waimiri
Wea
Wyandot

CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

JULY 29

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

ANSWERS:



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

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JULY 29, 2023

Wallace State STEAM camp geared for younger students



TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Wallace State Welding Instructor Melanie Patterson helps a student get a good score on the welding simulator during the college's STEAM Camp for middle school students the week of July 24-28.

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College recently hosted a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) Camp for middle school students.

According to WSCC Computer Science and Mathematics Department Secretary Bralee Glenn, the camp is designed to teach students early on that there are many career opportunities that don't involve getting a four-year degree at a university.

"Many students aren't aware of these jobs. It's our goal to provide them with the information that these careers are out there," Gleen said. "The goal is to get them started young and not wait until high school to expose them to STEM- or STEAM-related fields. We want to pique their interest when they're younger; you get a lot more retention from them when they're young as opposed to when they're in high school."

A few of the activities that the kids participated in included:

Criminal Justice with Dr. Thea Hall and Brandi Parker: The students learned about analyzing different fiber types, natural vs. man-made fibers, fingerprints and shoe prints. They used their knowledge of these items to "solve" a mock crime.

Graphic and Visual Arts with Adrian Scott and Ramone Daniel: The students learned the difference between a biped and a quadruped. They then had to draft up a design and piece together a figure using construction paper and pins based on their draft.

Welding with Melanie Patterson: The students learned about the different jobs for the welding profession. They were able to participate in a welding simulation and compete for the best score on the simulator program.

A graduation ceremony was held on the final day of camp, Friday, July 28, for the students to celebrate their accomplishments throughout the week.



Celebration (from Front)

series. The kids were given small pots, fake leaves and air-dry clay to mold their mandrakes. They got to use different tools to carve out shapes and faces.

Many kids arrived in their witch and wizard robes along with their wands to celebrate the day. Some even drew Harry Potter's signature scar on their foreheads.

The kids enjoyed designing their mandrakes and making new friends who share the love for the Harry Potter series. Some parents even participated in the activities.

Harrington also had the kids sign a birthday card for Harry Potter and gave them treats to take home.

The library has been hosting fun events all summer and welcomes everyone to participate in the activities. Learn more at www.facebook.com/cullmancountypubliclibrarysystem or www.ccpls.com.

