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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OBITUARIES
Charles Eugene Warren, Connie Joetta Speegle, Mabel Irene Pilkington, Ricky William Riggins, Charlene "Janie" Johns Clark, Carolyn Elizabeth Striker
» PAGE 10

WEATHER
94 72
SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
MOSTLY SUNNY THEN SLIGHT CHANCE THUNDERSTORMS

Arrest and Incidents
» PAGE 2

Community Calendar
» PAGE 3



MARTHA NEEDHAM/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –
'Great band members come in all forms': Cold Springs' Addison Raymond excited for upcoming band season
» PAGE 6

7 93888 98541 4

2 new police officers sworn in at Hanceville council meeting

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The Hanceville Police force has grown by two, with new officers Jason Wilbanks and Justin Freeman sworn in at the Hanceville City Council meeting on Thursday, Aug. 10, 2023.

Police Chief Joshua Howell spoke highly of both officers' qualifications, saying that with a shared goal of community-based policing and proof of excellent performance, the hiring decisions were easy.

Freeman said he's pumped to be back in the saddle after a hiatus from law enforcement. "I'm very happy being back in law enforcement, especially after a long break due to family issues," he said. "I'm enjoying where I'm at; there's good people in this town."

Wilbanks » PAGE 3



CAYLA GRACE MURPHY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Officer Jason Wilbanks (left) and Officer Justin Freeman (right) were both sworn in by Notary Public Jessica Price and Hanceville Police Chief Joshua Howell at the Aug. 10, 2023, meeting of the Hanceville City Council.

Wagon Trail Med-Serv denied license by AMCC



TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Wagon Trail Med-Serv President and CEO Joey Robertson explains how the machines in his facility work.

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission (AMCC) on Thursday, Aug. 10, met to reissue Integrated Facility Licenses. Back on Friday, June 16, it held an emergency meeting and put a hold on the licenses that it issued the previous Monday, June 12. At that time, the AMCC said it had found "inconsistencies" in how applicants for licenses were scored. This week, Cullman County's Wagon Trail Med-Serv was denied an Integrated Facility License for the second time.

The AMCC can only issue five Integrated Facility Licenses statewide. That could change in the future if the State decides to expand that number.

Wagon Trail Med-Serv President and CEO Joey Robertson said he is frustrated and disappointed with the results but is planning on pushing forward and filing an appeal.

Robertson outlined the process going forward. "We have 14 days to file an appeal. And then after that, there will be 14 more days where they will listen to the appeals, review the appeals and then decide whether or not the appeals have merit," he explained.

Cullman Economic Development Agency Director Dale Greer expressed his disappointment in the AMCC's decision as well, saying, "I just thought from day one that they were really a prime candidate, and I am disappointed that they're not one of the five. The first time I went into Joey's, I thought, man, this is already a pharmaceutical production operation, he has to be so far ahead of the game, among the people who would try to get into this process."

Rep. Corey Harbison, R-Good Hope, also shared his disappointment in the news. There are a total of five entities that were awarded licenses, and four of the five have not broken ground on their facilities yet, which makes the decision more frustrating according to Harbison. Wagon Trail Med-Serv is ready to start » PAGE 12

Baileyton talks park cameras, new town monument

» PAGE 4

Wallace State student 1st to earn 4.0 GPA in UAB/WSCC Joint Enrollment program



WALLCE STATE

Wallace State Nursing graduate Judith Jackson poses with her family after the pinning ceremony at Wallace State Community College on Aug. 3. Pictured from left is her father Starlen Jackson, her younger brother Simeon, her mother Hobokela Jackson, Jackson, and her older brother Starlen. » PAGE 9

HPD set to host Kids' Night Out in September

» PAGE 2

Ivey kicks off statewide expansion of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

» PAGE 7

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Aug. 11

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported Aug. 11, 2023. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Aug. 7

- theft of property; CR 1344
- harassment; CR 1135
- reckless driving; Hwy. 278 W
- domestic violence; CR 58
- burglary; CR 8

Aug. 8

- domestic violence; Brooklyn Rd.
- possession of stolen property; I-65 SB at MM 291
- theft of property; CR 461
- theft of property; CR 216
- possession of dangerous drugs; Hwy. 69 S

Aug. 9

- theft of property; Hwy. 69 N
- burglary; CR 2014
- trespassing; CR 1545
- theft of property; Hwy. 157
- domestic violence; CR 696
- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; Reid Rd.

ARRESTS

Aug. 7 – 9

Bell, Leslie H.; 47
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Cantrell, Julie F.; 51
- forgery-counterfeiting
- larceny/theft-miscellaneous theft $500 less than $1,500

Castana, Daniel A.; 32
- family offense- non-support-child

Duck, Benjamin E.; 41
- larceny/theft-miscellaneous

Duckworth, David A.; 44
- FTA- driving while suspended, revoked, or cancelled
- FTA- DUI (controlled substances)

Garrett, Toni A.; 33
- assault-child abuse-simple-family

Gullion, Kristen L.; 35
- FTA- fraud-theft of services $500 less than $1,500
- Probation Violation-buying/receiving stolen property

Hydrick, Emily T.; 26
- FTA- possession of prescription drugs
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs (3 counts)
- FTA- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Jackson, Michael T.; 29
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA- possession of marijuana
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- weapons-possession of a concealed weapon without permit
- FTA- driving while suspended, revoked, or cancelled
- possessing stolen property $1,500 or more

Jones, Jacqueline E.; 45
- FTA- fraud-identity theft (3 counts)
- FTA- larceny/theft-firearms
- FTA- negotiating worthless instrument

Mann, Justin C.; 34
- FTA- assault-harassment

Marlow, Anthony J.; 20
- causing delinquency, dependency or need of supervision

McClendon III, Roy L.; 39
- FTA- DUI (alcohol)

Moore, John E.; 44
- criminal trespass

Pounders, Eric D.; 42
- family offense- non-support-child

Richards, James H.; 36
- possession of dangerous drugs

Sanchez, Eric; 18
- liquor-minor consume alcohol
- liquor-minor in possession of alcohol

Tucker, Matthew K.; 39
- FTA- public intoxication
- FTA- assault-domestic-harassment-family
- FTA- damaged property-criminal mischief

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Aug. 7
- theft of property-2nd degree; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $1,640

Aug. 9
- identity theft; theft of property-1st degree; person

Aug. 10
- theft of property-4th degree; Dollar General; Hwy. 278 W; $23
- unauthorized use of vehicle; person
- theft of property-4th degree; Dollar General; Hwy. 278 W; general merchandise; $50
- theft of property-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $611

ARRESTS

Aug. 9 – 10

Hicks, Rodney G.; 39
- VOP

Kilpatrick, Justin K.; 35
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Jones, Marquez A.; 35
- domestic violence-3rd degree-harassment

Swindle, Daniel S.; 40
- theft of property-4th degree

Weaver, Donnie R.; 33
- theft by deception-4th degree
- FTA- theft of property-4th degree
- FTA- criminal trespass-3rd degree

Hamilton, Brad L.; 46
- criminal mischief-3rd degree

McConnico, Deonte' J.; 22
- theft of property-3rd degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Night (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – The Hanceville Police Department (HPD) is set to host Kids' Night Out, an outreach event designed to familiarize the youngest members of our community with law enforcement and other local heroes on Thursday, Sept. 21, 2023, from 6-9 p.m. at C.W. Day Park in Hanceville. The event is free to the public and held rain or shine.

The event boasts a mechanical bull, pool access, free food and ice cream, train rides, carnival games, first responder demos and, of course, fireworks!

The HPD hopes the event will bridge the gap between youth and law enforcement, and emphasize the vital role that these children will eventually play in creating a safer community down the line. By reaching younger residents early, it hopes to form that bond of trust and understanding of law enforcement before it is needed through community engagement, early education and collaboration.

Police Chief Joshua Howell said the event is not only designed to be fun for kids and families, but also to show a clear message of support and intent of a safe community as a whole.

"Kids' Night Out serves as a powerful reminder to children that law enforcement is not just about enforcing rules, it's about ensuring their safety and well-being," he explained. "This event helps children recognize that officers are here for them, to listen to their concerns and to address any fears they might have. In a world where news headlines can sometimes paint a negative picture of law enforcement, Kids' Night Out offers a refreshing and positive perspective that reinforces the police department's dedication to serving the community."

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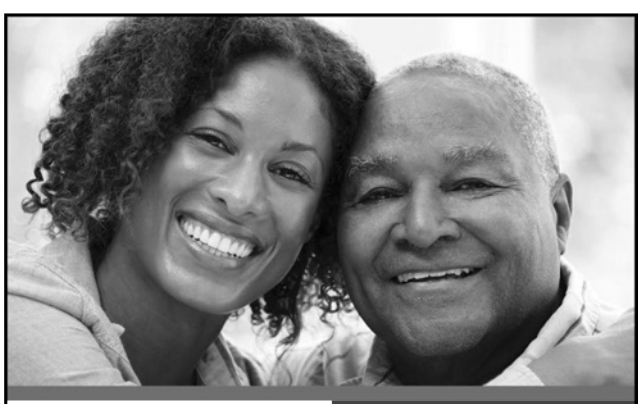
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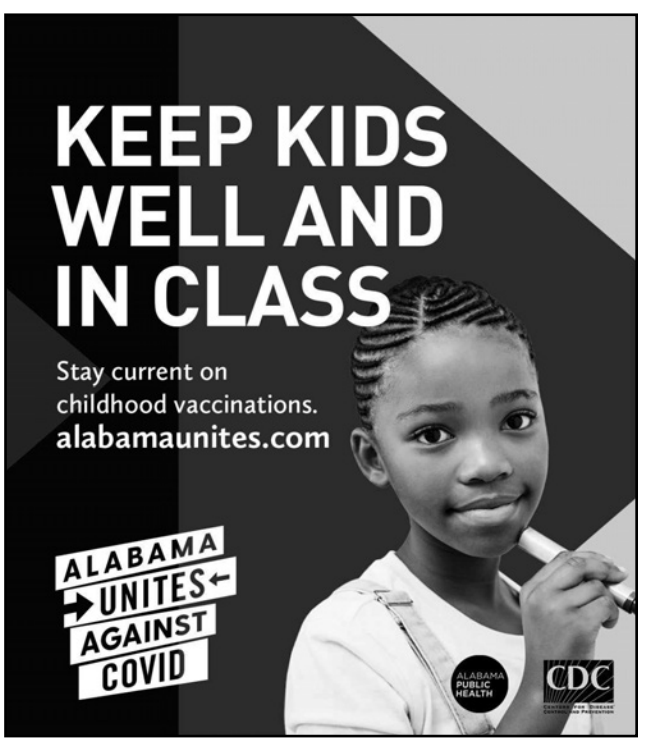
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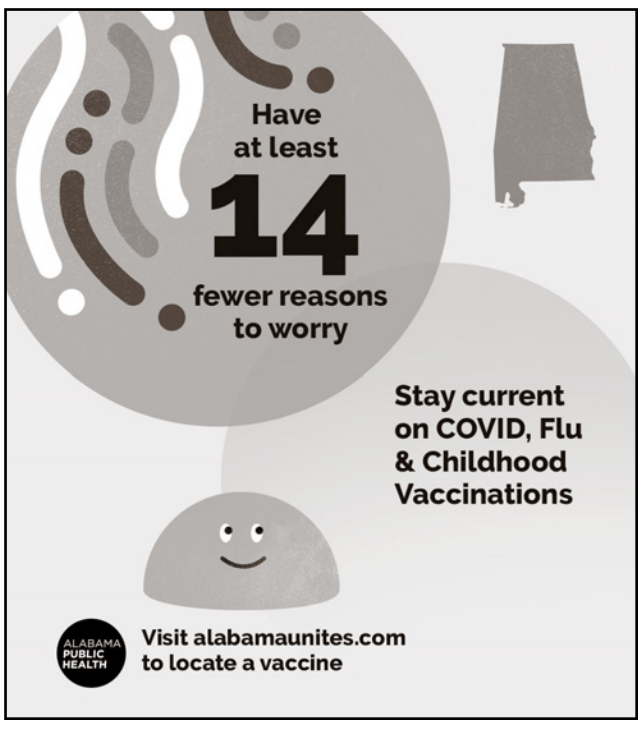


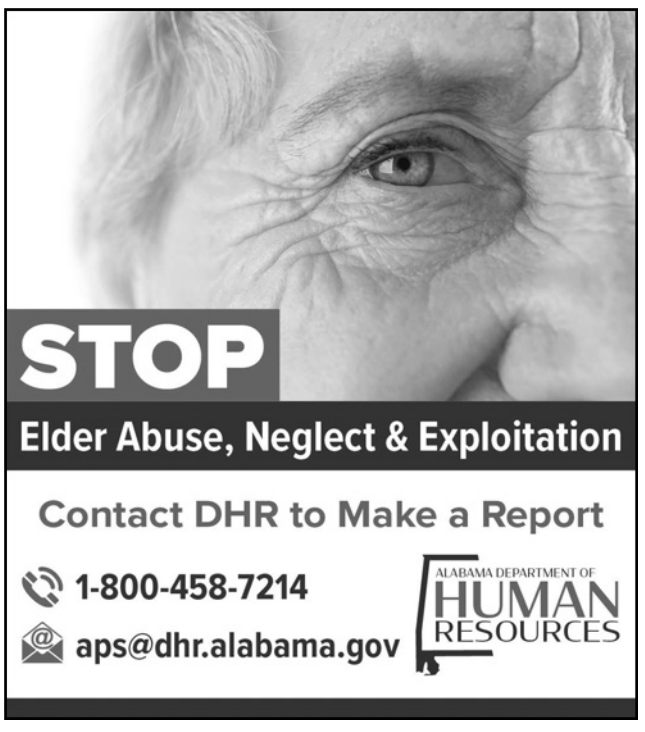
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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

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

Church Services- Spirit Life Church of GOD
• Spirit Life Church of GOD, 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Mondays-Fridays- Free hot meals for children Mondays 11 a.m.-noon, Tuesdays 1-2 p.m. and Wednesdays-Fridays 11 a.m.-noon. Cullman Housing Authority Community Center 1545 Vine Circle SW. Please call Kristie 256-636-5362 for more information. Eat in or take out. Sponsored by Kids Loving Kids, Raising Arrows Ministry and Spirit Life Church.
• Kids Loving Kids Birthday Blessings serves children ages 1-18 in need of assistance to celebrate their birthdays. Register your child and pick up a birthday box with cake mix, icing, sprinkles, decorations and toys! Pickup is the last weekend of the month. Saturday (5100 Curry Highway Suite 100-B Jasper, AL 35504) from 3-5 p.m. or the last Sunday of the month at Spirit Life Church Cullman from 12:30-1 p.m. Birth certificate is required at the time of box pickup. Register at https://form.jotform.com/203435614640045. For more information, text or call 205-717-7478.
• Sunday, Aug. 13 - Prayer Groups - Join Kevin and Pastor Bobby at 8 a.m. or join Teresa at 9:15 in the prayer room to pray for our church, nation and those who need healing, salvation or deliverance.
• Sunday, Aug. 13 - 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 & 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.

Holly Pond Lions Club Pancake Breakfast
Saturday, Aug. 12, from 6:30-9 a.m. Come bring your friends for a fun time and enjoy all you can eat pancakes, bacon or sausage along with juice or coffee. Donations accepted. 221 Lions Park Dr. in Holly Pond. Contact 256-339-8502 for questions.

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.

Cornerstone Church of the Nazarene Hosting Pam Huff
Sunday, Aug. 13, at 10 a.m. Pam is an anchor on ABC 33/40 and will be sharing her story called, "My Story: A Type A Finds Strength Through Weakness." The church is located at 321 Third St. SE, Cullman.

Pilgrim's Rest Baptist Church Revival
Monday, Friday, Aug. 14-18, at 7 p.m. Terry Pace will be the guest evangelist. The church is located at 11 County Road 1117, Cullman (U.S. Highway 278 West at Bethel).

Holly Pond Homemakers Club Meeting
Tuesday, Aug. 15, at 1 p.m. at the Holly Pond Event Center. Someone from Curt's Closet will be speaking. Refreshments will be served.

1963 Fairview High School Class Meeting/ Luncheon
Friday, Aug. 18, at 1 p.m. in a reserved room, at Golden Corral, 1720 Cherokee Ave. SW in Cullman. Call Joyce Williams Rodgers at 256-339-3451 for more information.

Trivia Through the Decades
Friday, Aug. 18, at 5:30 p.m. at 107 Third Ave. NW. The Cullman County Commission on Aging's inaugural fundraiser is sure to scratch your trivia itch. With catered dinner and $300 winnings on the line, you'll need to brush up on your vintage pop culture, music, sports and entertainment knowledge to win the bragging rights!

Fairview Lions Club Movie at the Park
Saturday, Aug. 19, at Randall Shedd Community Park on Wesley Avenue in Fairview. We will be showing "The Super Mario Brothers Movie" and will start around 8 p.m. The movie is free. We will have concessions and drinks. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets. Bring the kids out, enjoy the movie. Proceeds will go to the Lions Club project fund. For more information call Kita at 256-385-8805 or William at 256-385-5596.

Pleasant View Singing Missionary Baptist Singing
Sunday, Aug. 20, at 5 p.m. The Singing Ambassadors will be the featured guests. The church is located on U.S. Highway 278, approximately 2 miles east of Holly Pond on the left. For more information call 256-796-5986 or 256-338-9202.

Southern Gospel Singing
Saturday, Aug. 26, at 6 p.m. at Baldwin Heights Baptist Church on U.S. Highway 278 West. The Churchmen will be singing.

Sweet Tater Festival
Sunday and Monday, Sept. 3-4, from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. at Smith Lake Park. This is the perfect experience to expand your tater-tastin' palate. Arts and crafts vendors, live music, car show and a variety of sweet tater treats round out the two-day experience.

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.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church Oktoberfest German Dinner
Wednesday, Sept.27, from 4-7 p.m. $15 per plate. Menu includes grilled bratwurst from Brickyard Meats, sauerkraut, German potato salad, green beans, apple sauce and dessert. Drinks dine-in only. EAT-IN from 5-7 p.m. in the Family Life Center; DRIVE-THRU 4-6 p.m. (follow signs off Second Street Southeast). Tickets at event - cash or check only. Sponsored by Altar Society. Funds go to support the organization's church work.

Oktoberfest
Thursday- Saturday Sept. 28-30, in downtown Cullman. Oktoberfest is a three-day celebration of all things German with a quaint Southern spin. Complete with authentic German food and Biergarten, stein hoisting, 5K, pageant and even wiener dog races, there's something for every age.

Monster Truck Wars
Saturday, Sept. 30, 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center. You'd be hard-pressed to find something more entertaining and classically rowdy than monster trucks. Featuring well-known trucks Outlaw, Equalizer, Shark Attack and Sheriff, it'll be pedal-to-the-metal action.

Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation Little Pink Dress Benefit
Tuesday, Oct. 3, from 6-9 p.m. at Loft 212. Doors will open at 5:30. Guests are encouraged to dress in pink for the event! The Alabama Cattleman's Association will be grilling steaks on-site, donated by The Butcher, and there will be live and silent auctions and live entertainment. Tickets are on sale now for $60 per individual or $400 for a table seating eight. To purchase tickets, visit www.cullmanbosombuddies.com/little-pink-dress. Tickets are also available from Stefani Nelson at 256-708-3191 or snelson@alfains.com and Judy Grissom at Options at 256-347-5993 or options5993@gmail.com.

Cullman County Fair
Oct. 5-14, at the Cullman County Fairgrounds. The county fair is a classic rural sight to see, with exhibitions, livestock showings, pageants, classic carnie food and rides for even the most seasoned thrill seeker. People from all around have been coming to this fair since 1954, come see why for yourself!

Smith Lake Bass Fest
Saturday, Oct. 7, at Smith Lake Park. Fishing aficionados from all across the Southeast will gather at Smith Lake Park for a chance to win bragging rights. Oh, and that $15,000 guaranteed first-prize winnings won't be too shabby, either. Do you have what it takes to be the big fish in the pond?

Peinhardt Living History Farm Day
Saturday, Oct. 14, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and Sunday Oct. 15, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Peinhardt Living History Farm. Come experience the history and learn how some of the first settlers of Cullman made this land home. With a petting zoo, antique tractor show, mule and wagon rides and demonstrations of all kinds, it's a must-visit for any history buff.

7th Annual Caring for Cullman Concert
Wednesday, Oct. 18, at 6 p.m. at Northbrook Baptist Church. The award-winning Triumphant Quartet will be belting to the pines of Northbrook Baptist Church at Good Samaritan Health Clinic's annual concert fundraiser. For those fans of clean Christian vocals that stand alone, you're sure to be pleased.

'Planted': The Link of Cullman County's 2nd Annual Gala
Thursday, Nov. 2, at 6 p.m. at The Venue at Cotton Creek. Tickets go on sale Friday, Aug. 11. For more information or to inquire about a sponsorship, contact Tiffany Wright at tiffanywright@linkingcullman.com.

Officers (from Front)

cited Hanceville's culture and leadership as his main reasons for joining, noting that a common focus on family and personal growth was the driving factor for him. "Chief Howell is a great man. He's got a great mission in mind for the community and community policing," Wilbanks said. "He's very patient and understanding with the community and us officers...I'm just excited to help!"

In other council business:
• Connie Martin, a Hanceville resident of 30 years, shared her concerns over recent incidents of a local man, colloquially known as "Cat Man," allegedly urinating publicly in her neighborhood. Mayor Kenneth Nail shared the concern and voiced intentions to meet with Chief Howell and Hanceville City Attorney Dan Willingham to address the issue.
• The council voted Bulldog Lane as the road of interest, subject to change, for its Rebuild Alabama Transportation Plan for the new fiscal year.
• Cameron Rowe was appointed to the Hanceville Planning Commission.
• The council voted to approve the purchase of a new video and audio monitoring security system for Hanceville City Hall and Hanceville City Jail.
• The council voted not to purchase additional cybersecurity insurance at this time per Willingham's guidance.
• The Hanceville Police Department was awarded four golf carts and two metal detectors through the Law Enforcement Support Office 1033 Program.


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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
AUGUST 12, 2023

Baileyton (from Front)

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

BAILEYTON, Ala. — The Baileyton Town Council met Thursday evening, and main items discussed included cameras and a new monument.

According to Mayor Windell Calloway, the monument that was located in front of the post office is being rebuilt. The monument is dedicated to veterans from previous wars. Calloway said his in in the process of getting a quote from a new monument.

New cameras are being purchased for the park. The Blink Outdoor six-piece system costs $205.19, and the funds will come from Baileyton Bargain Day Funds, which are used for park and capital improvements. "We are trying to protect our kids," Calloway stated. According to the mayor, the cameras will protect children playing in the park, as well as serve as a theft deterrent.

Town Clerk Nikki Fry said the cameras will hopefully deter people from driving their cars around the park as well.

A plan for disposing of old buses in Baileyton was addressed. Fry stated that she spoke to ALDOT's Robert Ackles, who handles the disposal of vehicles. She said once the council writes a letter with the intent to sell the vehicles, they will be purchased by the State.

The following resolution was passed:

• Resolution 2023-02 – Annual Resolution adoption Transportation Plan Pursuant to the Rebuild Alabama Act

The following new business was addressed:

• Senior Center request – Dec. 9/Christmas Party

• New Blink outdoor 6pc camera system purchased for park

• Bus disposal

• Weed eating and roadside mowing

• Arab Rec ball kids 10U fall ball – using Park as back-up field

Before the meeting adjourned Calloway expressed his concern that not enough members of the council were doing enough work when it comes to keeping the town of Baileyton looking nice. One Baileyton resident, Donna Kent, spoke up and offered a suggestion.

"You are our elected officials and we do appreciate each and every one of you. There is no way anyone in this town expects six people to do everything that needs to be done.

"My advice would be please think about forming committees," she said.

"There are people in this community that if they knew you needed help, they would be glad to pitch in. Make use of the people in this community."

Kent went on to share her experience during the storms that passed through the town on Monday.

"I was very happy to see how many neighbors had gathered together and was helping clean each other's yards up. This community is still here."



TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Left to right are Greg Giffin, Benny Guthrie, Wendell Peterson, Nikki Fry, Mayor Windell Calloway, Roy Shedd and Dewayne Sumner

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Saturday, September 2 | 10 AM - 7 PM; Contests and Prizes, Live Band, and Splash In Movie @ 7 PM
Sunday, September 3 | 12 PM - 6 PM
Contests and Prizes and Live Band
Monday, September 4 | 10 AM - 6 PM
Contests and Prizes and Live Band
END OF SEASON HOURS
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
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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

Mountain lions: Alabama's big-cat mystery

Justin Miller
ACES



ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM

Mountain lion

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. — The existence of Bigfoot is wildly debated across the country. However, in Alabama, another creature's existence takes center stage in many discussions: mountain lions. The presence of these big cats is well documented in other parts of the country, but their existence in Alabama seems to be a mystery. Are they here or are they not? An Alabama Cooperative Extension System wildlife professional helps shed some light on this mystery.

Mountain lion characteristics

The term mountain lion is just one of the many names that people use to refer to the animal scientifically known as Puma concolor. Other names include cougar, panther, puma, mountain devil, mountain screamer and others.

Mark Smith, an Alabama Extension wildlife specialist, said mountain lions are the second largest feline in North America. Jaguars (Panthera onca), which are found in the extreme southwestern United States and throughout Mexico, are the largest.

"Mountain lions weigh anywhere from 65 to 265 pounds and can be up to 8.5 feet long, from head to tail," Smith said.

"Adults are sandy brown to tawny gray in color with a whitish belly."

A characteristic that sets mountain lions apart from many other big cats is they do not have spots or stripes.

The big Alabama debate

For decades, many people in Alabama claim to have encountered a mountain lion. However, you have to go all the way back to 1956 for the last confirmed sighting in the state.

"The closest known mountain lion populations to Alabama are in western Texas and southwestern Florida," said Smith, who is also an Auburn University professor in the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Environment. "Since the 1956 confirmation in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama wildlife officials have yet to confirm any of the sightings that they receive regularly."

State wildlife officials frequently field calls and emails about mountain lion sightings. However, there has yet to be a reliable verification in almost 70 years. According to Smith, many of these sightings come from people that are unfamiliar with mountain lions. This is unsurprising, being that people in Alabama are unlikely to have seen a mountain lion in the wild before.

"To put things in perspective, think of the hundreds of thousands of game cameras that are put in the woods each year to monitor wildlife," Smith said.

"Yet we haven't been able to produce a clear picture of a mountain lion in Alabama. More interestingly, given all the roads and highways in Alabama relative to the movement patterns of mountain lions, we would likely have had one hit by a car. In some areas of their western range, that is the leading cause of mortality."

What are people seeing?

Even with the data and years against them, people still claim to have seen the supposed Alabama mountain lion. If it is not a mountain lion, then what are they seeing? Smith said there are several other animals that people misidentify as a mountain lion. The bobcat is one of the most common.

"Bobcats occur in large numbers throughout Alabama and the southeastern U.S.," Smith said. "They are much smaller than mountain lions are, weighing about 15 to 35 pounds. They also have a short 4- to 8-inch tail and a spotted coat."

Being so different in size and appearance, you may wonder how these two cats could ever be confused for one another. Smith said is it in bobcats' nature to generally avoid humans. So, people may not get a good look, making it hard to tell the difference.

As strange as it may seem, some mountain-lion sightings have turned out to be other animals, such as feral cats, domestic dogs, coyotes, black bears and even deer. From an outside perspective, these animals obviously look nothing like a mountain lion. However, Smith said certain conditions can affect what people see, making identification difficult.

"Many pictures and videos of supposed mountain-lion sightings turn out to be feral cats, once the animal's size is compared to other objects in the background," Smith said.

"Also, if seen at the right angle or under poor lighting conditions, a relatively common animal can start to take the shape of something completely different."

Mountain lions in Alabama? The data says no

Aside from the rare possibility of a released or escaped mountain lion, the data says there are no populations of this big cat in Alabama.

To uncover more of the mystery surrounding mountain lions in Alabama, read the Alabama Extension publication Alabama Cougars: Sorting Fact From Fiction at www.aces.edu. If you think you have a mountain lion in your area, check out the Gathering Evidence to Confirm Cougars in Alabama video series on the ACES – Fresh from the Field YouTube channel.

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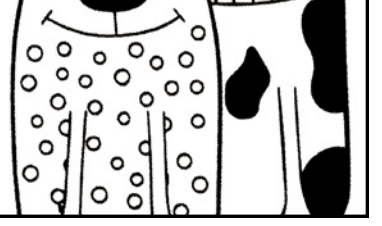


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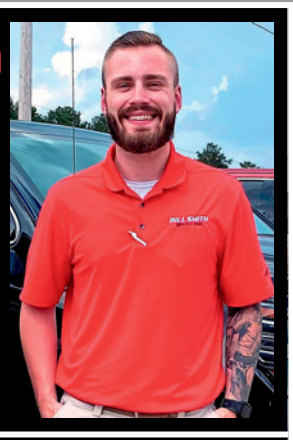
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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
AUGUST 12, 2023

'Making lasting connections with your peers and teachers will help you immensely': Vinemont's Sadie Land reflects on Eagle years

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — In this interview, I talked to Vinemont's Sadie Land, and she talked about her experience being a part of some great clubs as well as some of her favorite memories.

"I really liked having leadership opportunities in the clubs I participated in. I also enjoyed being friends with the people that were in the clubs with me. Participating in these various clubs helped me to get out of my comfort zone, and it helped me to develop leadership qualities.

"The service aspect of National Honor Society and Student Government Association taught me the importance of helping my community. It was really special to see the impact we were making on other people," Land said.

"One of my favorite memories was winning the overall award for the UAH InSPIRESS competition. My team was the first all-girl team to ever win an award, and we were competing against STEM schools. It was truly an honor to serve as Project Manager. I learned so much from the mentors at UAH, my team, and our sponsor, Mrs. Shannon Bridges. My hardworking team and I worked all semester to perfect our mission, and it paid off."

Land transferred to Vinemont her junior year and had a blast during her time as an Eagle; she shared some of her favorite high school memories. during her time at Vinemont.

"Transferring to Vinemont my junior year was one of the best decisions I have ever made. I was given endless opportunities and chances to learn and grow. I can't thank the teachers and faculty at Vinemont enough for providing an amazing learning environment. Being an Eagle is being a part of a family that helps you succeed," Land said. "My favorite high school memory was my senior prom. I just loved seeing everyone all dressed up, looking their best. It was so much fun to see everyone having such a good time on the dance floor. We all went crazy when the DJ played, 'Only Girl in the World', by Rhianna, which is one of my favorite songs."

She added, "I will also cherish the memories I made the days leading up to graduation. It was one of the busiest times of my life, but it was so much fun. We all got to soak up our last few high school memories together. There were lots of laughs, tears, and goodbyes. The morning before awards day was definitely one of my favorites.

"My two best friends, Kelsey and Savannah, and I work up early to watch the sunrise before our last day of high school. We reminisced on our high school memories and realized how far we had come. It was so special."

Land was so blessed to have graduated with so many amazing seniors and despite being an Eagle for only two years, Vinemont will hold a very special place in her heart.

"Vinemont High School's Class of 2023 was such an academically competitive class. I was challenged every day by my peers, and I am so appreciative of that. We all pushed each other to succeed, and it really made a difference. It was sad to say goodbye to everyone at graduation, even though I had only known everyone for two years. This class welcomed me in on my first day with open arms, and I am forever grateful. I am so excited to see God's plan unfold in our lives. I pray for all of God's blessings to bestow upon each and every one of them."

She added, "I was so blessed to attend school with such amazing teachers, faculty, and students. Our teachers really knew how to make school enjoyable, and they each truly cared for all of us. I am so grateful for all of the 'good mornings' from Mrs. Preiss, Coach Teichmiller's hilarious stories, Coach Drummond's life lessons, and Mrs. Whisenant helping me with my math problems. I definitely felt a sense of belonging at school every day. The spirit and family-like atmosphere at Vinemont is like no other. We were encouraged daily to be better versions of ourselves, academically and morally."

Land will remember so many things during her time at Vinemont and will deeply miss being an Eagle next year. She gave the upcoming freshman some advice.

"I will remember the growth and accomplishments that I made while in high school, and of course, the people who helped me get there. I will definitely miss the fun student sections, seeing my friends every day, and eating lunch every day with my boyfriend," she said.

"My advice to the upcoming freshman class is to be involved. Joining different clubs, sports teams, and organizations make high school fun. Don't be scared to let your true personality shine. Don't be afraid to get out of your comfort zone, and don't be afraid to go against the crowd.

"Do what is best for yourself, and work hard in high school. Making lasting connections with your peers and teachers will help you immensely. Choose wisely the people that you trust and pay attention to the way they treat others. Don't spend your time with people who are pulling you in the wrong direction. Trust God always, even when life gets difficult."



SADIE LAND

Vinemont's Sadie Land

Land received a couple of scholarships and felt so honored to get them. She will take away so much from her time at Vinemont.

"I received two scholarships: The Chancellor's Scholarship and the Hugh G. Rose Scholarship. I was so thankful to receive these two scholarships; they will help me further my academic career and earn a degree in Marketing at Troy University," she said. "My biggest takeaway from going to Vinemont is that sometimes, going to a smaller school will benefit you more than going to a bigger school. Another thing is that everything happens for a reason. When I first moved, I was nervous, because most of the students have attended school together their whole lives. I was worried that I would not fit in or make many friends, but the opposite happened. God knew that Vinemont was the right fit for me."

'Great band members come in all forms': Cold Springs' Addison Raymond excited for upcoming band season

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

ADDISON, Ala. — Rising Sophomore Addison Raymond will be going into her fourth year in Cold Springs' band and has had an amazing experience during that time. She has learned so much from some great band members.

"I've had an overall great experience. It's a very welcoming place to be. There hasn't been a day where I'm not excited about the program, especially during the marching season. That season, everyone is working together, having fun, and working hard for the show. I have learned how to work better in a group and how perfection comes with imperfections," Raymond said. "It's been very inspirational. I remember when I was a rookie, looking up to my senior section leader and my section leader, and if it wasn't for them, I wouldn't be in the position I am today. Great band members come in all forms, and you can really learn a lot from the way they present themselves."

She added, "What I've learned from them is it's a good thing to make mistakes, because it shows that you try; don't frustrate yourself on anything. Be competitive, not mean. Always go through things with a good or funny attitude. Lastly, make sure you treat everyone with respect."

Raymond soaked up as much as she can from her band director, Mr. Johnson, before he retired. She has played different instruments during her time in the band so far and this year, she will be playing the mellophone. Playing a lot of different instruments has helped her become the person that she is today.

"Mr. Johnson was like family to me. He was understanding, funny, and was passionate with the band program. He never turned down an idea I had or made me feel ashamed if I messed something up. He helped me continue with my passion with music and helped teach me to understand the point of music and the meanings behind it. He had also preached the practice of reading the room and knowing when it was time to joke around and when we needed to really work hard. Because of him, I have learned multiple instruments and the picture of a passionate band member."

She added, "You really start to understand the struggles of other members in the band. For example, when trombones drop their horns, trumpets get dead chops, or when woodwinds bite through their lips. Not only do you understand the struggles, you learn how every instrument is connected in a way, which makes everyone similar."

Raymond talked a little bit about the new band director, Mr. O'Bryant, and what he will bring to the program. She learned some things from last year's seniors and has learned some things from this year's seniors as well.

"He seems like a great guy and considering his past time with being in the United States Marine Drum and Bugles Corps and in the Curry high school marching band, I am very excited to see what he'll bring to our program. Hopefully, he will bring more influence on the band program for more members and good halftime shows," she said. "Last year's seniors were a really great group. They displayed a good work-together attitude and all of them were easy to talk to. They treated everyone with kindness, especially the rookies, which I look up to and respect. They really taught me how to lead a section and to have fun with what I'm doing."

She added, "This year's seniors have been really great and friendly. They are a very upbeat group and I'm very glad to have them as our seniors this year.

"One of the seniors was my section leader when I was a rookie, so I have displayed a lot of my leadership abilities off of her. They have taught me the competitive spirit of band and friendship in the band."

Raymond has seen a drastic improvement in her performance during her time in the band so far, but still sees room for improvement.

"I have seen myself improve a bunch since I first started in 7th grade. I went from pretending I knew the halftime show and barely practicing, to knowing the show front and back and practicing every day. I found myself earning solos much more easily throughout the years as well," she said.

"I will work on trying to constantly improve my image as a role model and increasing my playing ability by practicing harder stuff."

Raymond talked about the goals for this upcoming season and thinks this year's band will be one to watch.

"My individual goals are to make friends with the new rookies and to increase my leadership skills. The band goals are to make sure we pay attention to the director and that we hit our spots correctly most of the time," she said. "I think, for this year, witnessing the band under a new director will be pretty special to watch, but also taking the time to respect all the leadership this year and all of the work they did to help the band to transition to a new teacher is also pretty special, as well as the hard work each student has put in."



ADDISON RAYMOND

Cold Springs' Addison Raymond

Raymond talked about her role models growing up and the best advice that she was ever given.

"I'd say Kaylee Windsor and Mr. Johnson. Kaylee's just a very good overall musician and band kid. She is kind to everyone, even if they give her a hard time. She's patient, passionate, skilled at her craft, and holds no harsh judgment in the band," she said. "You can't let other people affect you."





Ivey kicks off statewide expansion of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Staff Reports
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Gov. Kay Ivey on Wednesday, Aug. 9, kicked off the statewide expansion of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, during an official launch event. Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is dedicated to inspiring a love of reading by gifting free books each month to children birth to age 5.

Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education Acting Secretary Dr. Jan Hume, elected officials, community leaders and partners, parents, teachers and Alabama's youngest learners joined Ivey to officially launch the statewide program. Additionally, Parton made a virtual appearance during the event.

Held on National Book Lovers Day, Ivey began the event recognizing the significance of reading proficiency.

"No matter what a child grows up to be, reading proficiently is simply critical. No doubt, learning to read begins at home. Parents are our first teachers, after all," said Ivey.

"It is really important that our parents start reading to our children when they're just babies. And we must encourage our children to open books during their earliest developmental stages."

First declaring Alabama's intent to participate in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library during her 2023 Inaugural Address and subsequently acting on her promise with Executive Order 729, Ivey continued her remarks to officially announce the statewide expansion of the book gifting program.

"This program – through the state and community support – will help to eventually ensure every child in Alabama can receive books directly to their homes each month after they are born until five years of age.

"Since I first announced this effort during my inaugural address in January, we have worked hard to engage community partners all across our state, a couple of whom you will hear from in just a moment," continued Ivey.

"Our goal is to bring this program to all 67 counties, and we are well on our way to making that a reality."

As a statewide program, the goal is to establish local programs in all 67 counties, cultivating new partnerships to help fund and support local program partners.

Local program partners and affiliates must be a 501(c)(3), which includes businesses, school districts, libraries, local foundations and others.

Currently, Alabama's program has 55 operation local program partners covering portions of Alabama's 67 counties. Over 40,000 eligible children in the state are currently receiving free, high- quality books through these programs.

"I'm so excited to help announce that my Imagination Library is coming to Alabama," said Parton.

"A lot of good people have worked to make our Imagination Library dream for Alabama a reality, but I want to send my very special thanks to Governor Kay Ivey for her leadership in making this happen."



OFFICE OF GOV. KAY IVEY

The Imagination Library of Alabama expansion will focus on finding community partners to start new Imagination Library programs to reach more children and families, increasing registration in existing Imagination Library programs in the state.

"Thank you to Governor Kay Ivey for her continued support of early learning and providing pathways like the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to ensure children in Alabama have a strong start in life.

"We know that reading aloud to children can positively impact their brain development, so having the opportunity to provide free books to parents and children across the state is priceless," said Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education Acting Secretary Dr. Jan Hume.

"We will continue to work hard until we have Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in all 67 counties in Alabama."

Governor Ivey concluded her remarks sharing her optimism in Alabama students' drive to learn and read. She recognized the impact the Imagination Library will have for Alabama families, while addressing the support it requires to be successful.

"So, whether you are a nonprofit or school system, I am calling on you to join with the state in making the Dolly Parton Imagination Library available to children birth to age 5 in every corner of Alabama," said Ivey.

To learn more about becoming a community partner, contact Kahla Williams at kwilliams@imaginationlibrary.com.

To enroll in this program and learn more as it is expanded across the state, visit www.imaginationlibrary.com.

BOOK REVIEW

'Diamond Eye' by Kate Quinn

Cathy Lay Mayor
Tribune Contributor

Kate Quinn has done it again! After authoring numerous gripping novels about women in World War II, she does not disappoint with "Diamond Eye." It is based on the true story of Lyudmila Pavlichenko, a sniper for the Russian Army during the German invasion. There were 2,000 female snipers in the Russian Army, but only 500 survived. Lyudmila "Mila" Pavlichenko is the most famous and notable of the snipers.

Lyudmila Belova was 15 when she was seduced by surgeon Alexei Pavlichenko. She became pregnant and her father forced Alexei to marry her. Alexei was a terrible husband and an absent father. Soon Mila moved back home so she could continue her studies at the university. Their son wanted to learn to shoot, so Mila made time to study shooting and became a marksman. As it turns out, she was very good.

When Germany invaded Russia, Mila dropped out of school and volunteered in the Russian Army. She was encouraged to be a nurse, but she insisted she could be a sniper. She proved herself by shooting two Romanian officers, and later had 309 documented kills.

In 1942, while recuperating from yet another wound (she was wounded four times), she was chosen to join a delegation of Russians who went to the United States to persuade Franklin Delano Roosevelt and the Americans to join the war in Europe. While at the White House, Mila was angered by the frivolous questions from the press. She was asked what shade lipstick she wore and the color and fabric of her underwear. She wanted the United States to understand she was a real soldier fighting in a real war. While Mila was at the White House, Eleanor Roosevelt was impressed with Mila and took her under her wing and helped her navigate the press to get her message to the United States.

Reading about her experiences on the battlefield were captivating. She spent hours setting up her sniper's nest. She and her partner would spend hours in one position so the German snipers would not see them.

The book alternates between Mila's wartime experiences and her experiences will on the goodwill tour in the United States. Despite the differences in their age and culture, Mila and Mrs. Roosevelt developed a friendship that continued for many years after the war. Mrs. Roosevelt even visited Mila in Russia.

The author based most of the novel on Lyudmila Pavlichenko's memoir. While mostly factual, there are some fictional elements in the book. I had grown weary of reading World War II novels, but this story is captivating and I could not put it down.

Kate Quinn has written four historical fiction novels about women in World War II. I have read three of them and I plan to read the fourth. Her novels are "The Alice Network," "The Huntress," "The Rose Code" and "Diamond Eye." She is a New York Times and USA Today best-selling author. All of her books have been translated into multiple languages.

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



THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
AUGUST 12, 2023



– COLUMN –

Celebrating in the Wundergarten: An Owl Called David Hockney

Ben Johnson South
Tribune Columnist



ABRAHAM BANKS WARREN

"AN OWL CALLED DAVID HOCKNEY" is an artwork the author commissioned talented Alabama artist Abraham Banks Warren to create before he headed back to West Elementary School in Cullman.

"AN OWL CALLED DAVID HOCKNEY" is an artwork the author commissioned talented Alabama artist Abraham Banks Warren to create before he headed back to West Elementary School in Cullman.

Whooo, some readers are asking is David Hockney? In the TREE MUSEUM, the nationally accredited arboretum, at Sportsman Lake Park (Cullman County), David Hockney is a Barred Owl whooo lives in the Bird and Wildlife Sanctuary. D.H. looks something like a certain, talented, world-famous artist.

David Hockney, the British-American painter, printmaker, stage designer and photographer, has been described as looking "owl-like." That account owes a lot to his signature, round, owl-rimmed eyeglasses. Considering the amazing ability the artist has, to see the world from perspectives most of us simply do not, or cannot, Mr. Hockney seems to have gifts of vision like an owl.

Hockney has the enviable distinction of having created the most expensive artwork by a living artist sold at auction. His 1972 masterpiece, "Portrait of an Artist," sold for $90 million in 2018.

Owls, most of whom have a superb sense of sight, can spot a mouse meal as much as a half-mile away. Also, owls are like many mothers who seem to have eyes in the back of their heads—owls have the ability to pivot their neck 270 degrees.

AN OWL CALLED DAVID HOCKNEY is a type, Barred Owl, not known for its musical ability. "Although the Barred Owl is not technically a songbird," according to allaboutbirds.org, "its distinctive 'Who cooks for you? Who cooks for you all?' call functions as a song...This call carries well through the woods and is fairly easy to imitate."

Here are some other FUN FACTS ABOUT OWLS from The Audubon Society (Audubon.org):

• "Many owl species have asymmetrical ears. When located at different heights on the owl's head, their ears are able to pinpoint the location of sounds in multiple directions. Ready, aim, strike."

• "A group of owls is called a parliament. This originates from C.S. Lewis' description of a meeting of owls in THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA."

• "Owls hunt other owls. Great Horned Owls are the top predator of the smaller Barred Owl." Please be careful AN OWL CALLED DAVID HOCKNEY.

• "The tiniest owl in the world is the Elf Owl, which is 5 inches tall and weighs about 1 1/2 ounces. The largest North American owl, in appearance, is the Great Gray Owl, which is up to 32 inches tall."

• "The Northern Hawk Owl can detect—primarily by sight—a vole to eat up to a half mile away."

• "Barn Owls swallow their prey whole—skin, bones, and all—and they eat up to 1,000 mice each year."

• "Not all owls hoot! Barn Owls make hissing sounds, the Eastern Screech-Owl whinnies like a horse, and Saw-whet Owls sound like, well, an old whetstone sharpening saw. Hence the name."

"AN OWL CALLED DAVID HOCKNEY" is an artwork (see this page) I commissioned talented Alabama artist Abraham Banks Warren to create before he headed back to West Elementary School in Cullman this week to begin the fall semester. Abe salutes the famous painter, David Hockney, and the world-renowned artist's namesake owl of the Tree Museum.

Fish live in schools and owls live in parliaments; however, it's owls that are known for being wise. Fish are mostly known for being tasty and as supporting cast members for this summer's Disney movie, "The Little Mermaid." The Ancients, both Roman and Greek, used the owl as their symbol for wisdom, possibly because these birds are nocturnal and can see things most humans cannot see at night.

This charming, nursery rhyme shares another reason owls seem to have the wisdom thing:

A WISE OLD OWL
A wise old owl sat in an oak.
The more he heard,
The less he spoke.
The less he spoke,
The more he heard.
Why aren't we all like
That wise old bird?

AN OWL CALLED DAVID HOCKNEY is a Barred Owl. They live in mature forests and are threatened by deforestation. Here are other types of owls in North America:

• **BARN OWLS** which have excellent vision and the best ability to locate prey by sound of any animal ever tested.

• **BURROWING OWLS** live underground and hunt on the ground during the day.

• **EASTERN SCREECH-OWLS,** which are declining in number due to deforestation, are monogamous, breeding as a devoted couple together for life.

• **GREAT GRAY OWLS** have a wingspan stretching up to five feet and are one of the largest owls in the U.S.

• **BOREAL OWLS** live in "boreal (Artic) forests" and the female is often twice the size of the male.

• **ELF OWLS** are tiny birds who live in the desert scrub.

• **SHORT-EARED** OWLS live in marshy wetlands with their populations declining by 65% since 1970. These daylight hunters suffer from loss of homes and pesticide poisoning.

AN OWL CALLED DAVID HOCKNEY needs a sheltering home in the Tree Museum. We are looking at building instructions for owl houses. According to author Teo Spengler at gardeningknowhow.com, "Your 'OWL BOX' plans do not need to be fancy to be effective, but you'll need to figure out how to build an owl house that is the right size to be a nest-substitute for the type of owl you hope to attract to the garden. Obtain information on the size of your owl species before you begin your owl box plans.

"For barn owls, a simple wooden box about 38 by 18 by 12 inches provides adequate room for a pair of owls and their young. For other species, the size will vary. Always use untreated wood such as fir, cedar, or pine." (We have tall poplars and pines in the Sportsman Lake Tree Museum to support owl houses, but for optimal placement and more building instructions check out Teo Spengler's entire article, "Creating Owl Boxes: How to Build an Owl House.")

TO HELP AN OWL CALLED DAVID HOCKNEY in the TREE MUSEUM as we build owl boxes and lessen the need for pesticides, checks may be mailed to: Sportsman Lake Tree Museum c/o Cullman County Master Gardeners, Alabama Cooperative Extension System, 402 Arnold St. NE, Suite G-1, Cullman, AL 35055.

CELEBRATING IN THE WUNDERGARTEN is a culinary storytelling series with recipes imagined to have been enjoyed in Colonial Cullman in the 1880s. Frau Ruehl, the resourceful heroine of the "WUNDERGARTEN" folktale would have cooked a version of this hearty pie back before the American owl population was threatened.

HOOT OWL PIE RECIPE
(Source: montanaoutdoor.com)

INGREDIENTS
- 1 good-sized cooked hoot owl, boned and chopped
- 1 stalk celery, diced
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 tbsp. cooking oil
- 1 10-oz. pack frozen broccoli, cooked and drained
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 10 1/2-oz. can cream of hoot owl soup
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Warm tortillas
- 1 1/2 cups hoot owl broth
- 1 cup grated rat cheese

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Mix the chopped owl, celery, onion, cooking oil, cooked broccoli, sour cream, hoot owl soup, salt and pepper together. Then you let them sit while you and the boys play "Never beat your Mother with a Great Big Stick." Be sure you don't play more than six choruses.

2. Roll all of this stuff into the warm tortillas and place them in a baking dish. Then pour the hoot owl broth over them.

3. Cook all of this stuff in a 325F oven for 20 minutes, or three choruses of "Dirty Me, Dirty Me, Oh How I Hate Myself." Make sure the onions are done.

4. Then the last 5 minutes of cooking, place the grated rat cheese on top. Dish out the warm tortillas and hot sauce.

Now then, if the moon is in the "get gone" and the wind blows in snuffs, there ain't goin' to be no hoot." (Montana Outdoor attributes its version of this recipe to hungrymonster.com)

GIVE A HOOT AND AUF WIEDERSEHEN Y'ALL!

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

The Caring Foundation supports that Wallace State smile

Staff Reports
Contributor

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College announces receipt of a grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama and The Caring Foundation for the Dental Clinic run by the college's Dental health programs.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama and The Caring Foundation's mission is to give back to the community by supporting initiatives to improve Alabamians' health, wellness and education. This year that support included a grant award to Wallace State's Dental Clinic in recognition of the service it provides the community.

Wallace State offers low-cost dental hygiene services in a modern dental clinic on campus.

All treatment is provided by dental hygiene students who are supervised by the college's licensed dental hygiene faculty and dentists. The Wallace State Dental Clinic is a teaching clinic.

The care provided by student hygienists is done in such a way that gives priority to education and counts as one of their clinical sessions. It is a win-win for Wallace State and the surrounding communities.

"Inherent in our mission to provide learning that transforms lives and communities, Wallace State's learning labs provide students invaluable opportunities to develop care competencies while also providing opportunities for community outreach, especially for underserved populations," said Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics.

The Dental Clinic is open to the community and often provides services for children in daycare, seniors from area assisted living facilities, Wallace State students, and others.

"We are very appreciative of this investment in our Dental Clinic, which has had the largest impact and longest track-record of student success of any two-year program in the state.

"Partnerships like this one with BCBS and The Caring Foundation, along with those we have with the Alabama Department of Public Health, the Cullman County Center for the Developmentally Disabled, UAB, local dentists and others are invaluable to the students and region we serve," said Wallace State Vice President for Learning and Dean of Health Science Lisa German.

Funds from this grant award will be used to offset the cost of equipment for the clinic.

The Dental Clinic at Wallace State provides preventative care, including cleanings, x-rays, sealants and bleaching.

Cleanings are free for children younger than 18 and pregnant women. Clinic days vary by semester.

Appointments are from 8-10:30 a.m. and noon-2:20 p.m. Call 256-352-8300 to schedule an appointment or visit www.wallacestate.edu/dentalclinic.

Wallace State offers pathways for Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene.

The Dental Assisting program offers a three-semester certificate option and a four-semester associate degree option. The Dental Hygiene program offers a five-semester degree program.

Wallace State student 1st to earn 4.0 GPA in UAB/WSCC Joint Enrollment program

Gail Crutchfield
Wallace State

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — For the first time since the UAB/WSCC Joint Enrollment program began, a student has graduated with a 4.0 grade point average (GPA) from both Wallace State Community College and the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Recent graduate Judith "Judy" Jackson accomplished this notable feat. A resident of Bon Air, Ala., a small town located near Childersburg with a population of around 170, she earned both her associate degree and bachelor's degree in nursing from WSCC and UAB through the joint enrollment program that allows students to concurrently earn both.

Jackson's accomplishment was noted during the Wallace State Nursing pinning ceremony on Aug. 3, where she was also recognized as one of three Nightingale Award winners, as well as the Nursing Program Award winner, which is given out to only one student each year.

"We're very excited that Judy has earned such a high achievement," said Deborah "Pepper" Hoover, chair of the Wallace State Department of Nursing Education. "She has been a great asset to our program, even serving as her class secretary and treasurer. She has earned every accolade she's received, and we are proud to call her a Wallace State alum."

Wallace State Nursing was the first to partner with UAB to offer the joint enrollment option to students, providing an accelerated pathway to earning a bachelor's degree in nursing and delivering to the workforce much needed nursing staff at a swifter pace. Another area community college followed Wallace State into the joint enrollment program, but this is the first time any student from any of the colleges has achieved a 4.0 GPA in the program.

"Judy Jackson is the first of 56 graduating Joint Enrollment students to complete the program with a 4.0 GPA," said Dr. Nancy Claus, an assistant professor and RN-BSN Pathway Director/UABNCCP Coordinator at UAB.

"She is an exceptional student who excelled in her course work and was willing to come and speak with incoming Joint Enrollment students," Claus continued. "She served as a mentor for her classmates as well as incoming cohorts. She was truly a joy to have as a student and I look forward to seeing what her future holds."

Jackson said she didn't set out to achieve a 4.0 GPA. She was salutatorian of her high school, graduating with a 3.9 GPA, but she'd always heard that nursing school is hard and that she shouldn't expect to maintain that high average.

"I think finally after the third semester I figured maybe I should stop listening to people because the way somebody else learns is not the way that I learn," Jackson said. That doesn't mean it was easy and that she didn't struggle, she added.

"I would definitely put in hours, probably eight to nine or even sometimes 10 hours a day, studying to make sure I understood the material," Jackson said. "There were times I would email my instructors if I ever had questions. I remember Mrs. Heather Ashley; I went to her office after our first exam in fourth semester and asked her if there was a way to study for fourth semester. She sat down with me and reassured me and said, 'You're going to be fine, take a deep breath, it's going to be ok, and just keep doing what you're doing.' So, she helped a lot."

During the Aug. 3 pinning ceremony, Jackson celebrated with her family, which includes her mother and father and two brothers. Her mother, she said, was her "biggest cheerleader."

"Before each and every exam she always would text me or, when I lived at home, she would handwrite me notes. She would write, 'I believe in you and I'm your number one supporter,'" Jackson said. The notes often included a Bible verse and other reminders that she loves her. Jackson said she thinks she still has every note her mother gave her.

Jackson's mother immigrated to America from Tanzania when she was 30, and she would share stories with her children about the obstacles she had to overcome. Putting education first was always encouraged in her parents' household, Jackson said, as was their faith.

"Growing up I remember the thing my mother stressed the most was, 'Make sure you put God first, and work hard in school because education is something that shouldn't be taken for granted,'" Jackson said.

Jackson is working in the Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU) at Princeton Baptist Medical Center, where she's been working since taking required academic courses before entering the joint enrollment program. In the next three to four years, she plans to continue her education to earn a masters and a doctorate in nursing practice and hopes to work in either cardiology or acute care as a nurse practitioner.

For future students, Jackson has this advice: "Be prepared because it is a hard program, but for one, don't listen to other people about different semesters like I did, and like I told our incoming students for the spring, believe in yourself, because if you don't, that really takes a toll on your performance. And don't be afraid to go to the professors, because they're all super sweet and open to any questions, and I wouldn't have made it without any of them."



WALLACE STATE

Judith Jackson is pinned by Wallace State Nursing instructor Heather Ashely during the pinning ceremony at Wallace State Community College on Aug. 3.

The UAB/WSCC Joint Enrollment program is a nine-semester program, with the first four semesters consisting of academic coursework before applying to both Wallace State and UAB Nursing programs to complete the final five semesters. Nursing classes are taken concurrently at Wallace State's Hanceville campus and online through UAB.

"We just admitted our eighth cohort at WSCC," said Dr. Claus. "We are very excited how our partnership has grown over the last three years and anticipate that it will continue to grow. Our united goal of increasing the RN workforce in the state of Alabama has a strong beginning."

Applications for Spring 2024 are being accepted through Oct. 1. A mobility option is also available, with applications accepted March 15-May 15 for fall admission.

LEGALS

Pursuant to Alabama code 32-13-1, Earl's Body Shop, Inc, will offer for sale at Public Auction the following vehicles on October 19, 2023, at 7:00 a.m.
2003 Chevrolet Malibu, Vin.#1G1ND52J03M597699
2014 Ford Explorer, Vin.#1FM5K7D91EGA29146
2005 Suzuki Forenza, Vin.#KL5JJ56Z85K196095
2021 Ford Escape, Vin.#1FMCU0G66MUB33609
2007 Toyota Yaris, Vin.#JTDBT923871157372
2010 Toyota Corolla, Vin.#2T1BU4EE3AC433067
2006 Nissan Altima, Vin.#1N4AL11D36N436328
1995 Dodge Dakota, Vin.#1B7GL23XXSS345067
1994 Ford Ranger, Vin.#1FTCR10X6RUC89526

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
LINDA FRANKLIN SMITH, CASE NO.: PC2023-258

Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to RUBEN DOUGLAS SMITH as Personal Representative of the Estate of LINDA FRANKLIN SMITH, deceased, on the 9th day of August, 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.

RUBEN DOUGLAS SMITH
Personal Representative

Adam S. Gober
Attorney for Personal Representative
7581 Spanish Fort Boulevard
Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527
251-753-7544

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

In Re the Estate of
Robert Lee Hollis, Case No. PC 2023-186
Deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Patsy Young as Personal Representative of the Estate of Robert Lee Hollis, deceased, on the 2nd day of August, 2023, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate,

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

Patsy Young
Personal Representative
Patsy Young

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
Judge of Probate, Tammy Brown
Cullman County, Alabama

G. Edward Coey
Attorney for Personal Representative
P.O. Box 834
Hanceville, Al 35077
256-352-2090

PB WIL BK 118 PG 18 - 08/03/2023 10:32 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
MARY SUE CAMPBELL, CASE NO.: PC2023-226
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Testamentary having been granted to ROSE NABORS, as Personal Representative of the Estate of MARY SUE CAMPBELL deceased, on the 3rd day of August, 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.

ROSE NABORS
Personal Representative

Annette Irons-Parker
Attorney for Personal Representative
215 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055
256-775-4444

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

In Re the Estate of
Ruth O. Graves, Case No. PC 2023-260
Deceased

Notice to Creditors

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Elton Graves as Personal Representative of the Estate of Ruth O. Graves, deceased, on the 9th day of August, 2023, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate,

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

Elton Graves
Personal Representative
Elton Graves

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
Judge of Probate, Tammy Brown
Cullman County, Alabama

G. Edward Coey
Attorney for Personal Representative
P.O. Box 834
Hanceville, Al 35077
256-352-2090

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
LORETTA JOYCE MCCROCKLIN, CASE NO.: PC2023-246
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to SANDRA WILLIAMS JONES, as Personal Representative of the Estate of LORETTA JOYCE MCCROCKLIN, deceased, on the 2nd day of August, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

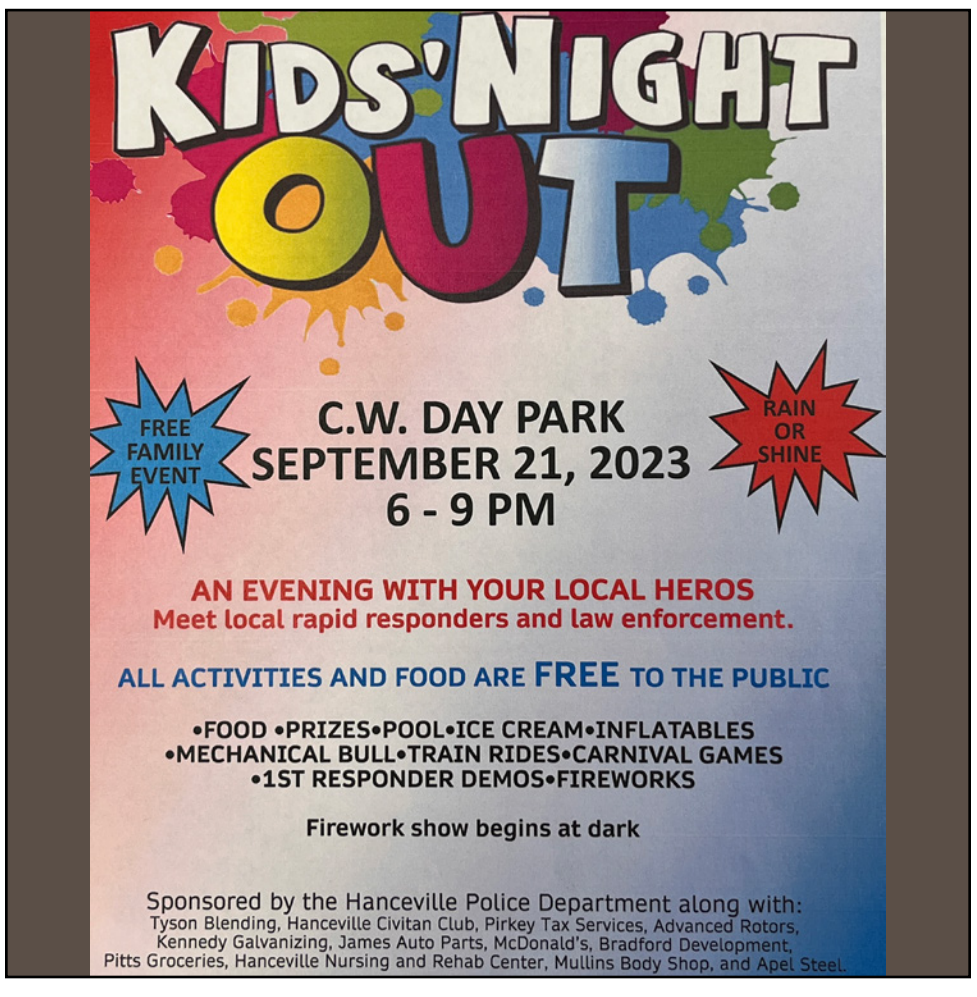
Sandra Williams Jones
Personal Representative

Joseph D. Stevens
Attorney for Petitioner
2101 1st Avenue North
Pell City, Alabama 35125
205-814-0011

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





Obituary Announcements: Aug. 10-11

Charles Eugene Warren, 80
Charles Eugene Warren, age 80, of Crane Hill, passed away on Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2023, at Cullman Regional. He was born May 17, 1943, to Eddie Warren and Bertie Warren. He was preceded in death by his parents and nine brothers and sisters. Survivors include his wife, Bonnie Warren; children, Renee Howard, Paula Winston, Chris Warren, Eddie Warren, and Pamela Wilson; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Temeka Lashawn Flanigan, 45
A Celebration of Life Service for Temeka Lashawn Flanigan, 45, of Colony, Alabama will be 2 p.m. Monday, Aug. 14, 2023, at Pleasant Grove Methodist Church in Colony, Alabama. The burial will follow at Colony Cemetery. Visitation for the public will be on Monday at the church from 12:30 p.m. until 2 p.m.Temeka was an amazing wife, mother and grandmother (NeNe). She enjoyed spending time with her family, traveling and dancing like no one was watching. She was a woman of faith, she always put God first in all aspects of her life. She leaves behind her husband, Charles Flanigan; sons Broderick (Karina) Flanigan, Brendan Flanigan; daughters Brayesha Flanigan, Brakala Flanigan; grandchildren Kynlee Brooke Flanigan, Naomi Nekole Burney, Jiana Malia Flanigan, Nylah Na'sha Burney; brother Rodney Malcom; sisters Stonya (John) Nation, Charlotte (Roger) Harris. And a host of nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her father Stanley Hall; and brother Randy Darnell Malcom.

Connie Joetta Speegle, 71
Connie Joetta Speegle, age 71, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Thursday, Aug. 10, 2023. Connie was born in Cullman, Alabama, on Feb. 6, 1952, to Curtis and Betty Hudson. She is preceded in death by her parents, two granddaughters, a great-grandson and a great-granddaughter. Graveside services will be held Sunday Aug. 13, 2023, at 2 p.m. at Livingston Chapel Cemetery with Bro. Paul Cleghorn officiating. Survivors are: sons: Bobby (Rhonda) Sharpton, Steve (Julie) Sharpton, Larry (Christie) Sharpton, husband: Jerry Speegle, seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. The family will receive friends at the cemetery for the service on Sunday. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.mossservicefh.com for the Speegle family.

Mabel Irene Pilkington, 88, of Holly Pond
A Celebration of Life fellowship for Mabel Irene Pilkington, age 88, of Holly Pond, will be from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 12, 2023, at The Shelter, 309 Trafford Road, Warrior, AL. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements. Mrs. Pilkington passed away on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at her residence. She was born Sept. 3, 1934, to Wylie Burke Marsh and Mildred Irene Marsh. She was preceded in death by her husband, Willis M. Graves; parents; stepmother, Lily Graves; and sons, Bobby J Graves Sr. and James Kirby Graves. Survivors include her children, Barbara Graves, Marilyn D. McCurry, Gary (Janice) Graves, and Jeffrey J. Graves; daughter-in-love, Sandy (Steve) Mitchell; sister, Penny (Steve) Faught; brothers, Colin (Nancy) Marsh and Jay (Darlene) Marsh; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Ricky William Riggins, 62
Graveside service for Ricky William Riggins, 62, of Arley, will be at 5:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 12, 2023, at Livingston Chapel Methodist Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Mr. Riggins passed away Friday, Aug. 11, 2023, at his residence. He was born Sept. 22, 1960, to Richard Warren and Caroline Holloway Riggins. He loved his family and was faithful to his Father. He is survived by his parents, Richard and Caroline Riggins; wife, Shari Riggins; sons, Anthony Riggins, Chris (Renee) Riggins, Aaron Riggins, Toach (Krista) Riggins, Schuyler Riggins, Keaton Riggins; daughters, Kimberly Riggins, Kayla Riggins; sisters, Rita (Myron) McAvoy, Rhonda (Ken) Kendrick, Myra (Ron) Collett, Mary (Kenneth) Hall; grandchildren, Ethny, Sabrina, Kaitlyn, Viviane, Aubrey, Kairi, Alex, Elle, Musa, Kathryn; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Charlene "Janie" Johns Clark of Hanceville
Funeral services for Janie Clark will be 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12, 2023, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Reverend Heath Riggs will be officiating. Visitation will be from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturday at the funeral home. Charlene "Janie" Johns Clark of Hanceville took her first breath in the presence of her Lord, Jesus, on Aug. 10, 2023. Janie was known as a loving and devoted mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend. She never met a stranger and loved working with the public. She has many friends from her days at Cullman Industries and Piney Grove Fruit Stand, the Cloth Barn, and Glover's Plants and Produce. Janie was a social butterfly and the life of the party as the youngest child often is. She was known to say that she wished she had spent more time learning rather than socializing during her school days, but those who knew her, know she was a woman of wisdom and grace, and she was also a barrel of fun! Many in her family, and those kids from "another mother", came to her for her loving kindness and wisdom. She was a woman of courage and bravery who left a legacy of love and forgiveness. Janie put her faith in Jesus, her Comforter and Savior many years ago. She said in her darkest moments of fear He drew near to her to give her comfort, and that her suffering was nothing compared to the suffering of the nails He had driven into his flesh when He died for our salvation. Janie was preceded in death by her parents, Charlie and Una Johns, her sisters Dee (Fayette) Bradford and Myra (Kenneth) Boyd, her brother Charles (Sara) Johns, and her beloved children, Melissa who passed shortly after her birth, and her son, Jeff Clark whom she adored. She looked forward to the day that she would meet them again in glory. Her survivors include her daughter and son-in-love, Leesha and Shanon Fischer, her precious grandchildren, Lacey and Les, and several nieces and nephews. Her niece Debbie (Johnny) Moore was always a close friend to her throughout her life. Kaye (Mark) Bentley was her tender and compassionate caregiver, not just to Janie, but helped Leesha like a sister would, as well. Her friends David and Jeanette Nichols were among her most devoted and loyal friends to the very end. Center Hill Baptist Church, her church family, gave her much comfort and encouragement. Gentiva Hospice provided her a great nurse in Jackie Lombardi, who grew to be part of the family, and was her advocate to the very end. Many of her friends preceded her to glory, but those left behind will long for the day when we will see her again. We will not grieve as those who have no hope, but as those who believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in Him. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to First Source for Women, 203 Commercial St, Hanceville, AL, 35077 or at firstsourceforwomen.org.

Carolyn Elizabeth Striker, 81
Memorial Service for Carolyn Elizabeth Striker, age 81, of Cullman, will be at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 15, 2023, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with James Fields officiating. Visitation will be from 2:30 p.m. until 3 p.m. prior to the service on Tuesday, Aug. 15, 2023, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Ms. Striker passed away on Thursday, Aug. 10, 2023, at Woodland Village Health Care. She was born June 4, 1942, to Lawrence Melton Johns and Irene K. Johns. She was preceded in death by her parents; sisters, Shirley Beshears and Annette Brooks; and brother, Dwight Johns. Survivors include her children, Michael (Mary) Falkner, Tina Falkner, and Tyra (Jeff) Payne; grandchildren, Misty (Heath) Wadsworth, Jennifer (Jeremy) Loyd, Garrett (Stephanie) Taylor, Donnie (Courtney) Weeks, Mahalie (Jeff) Chappell, and Daniel Wilson; great-grandchildren, Deseree, Ashley, Anya, Nathan, Carter, Brooklyn, Bray, Callie, Caiden, Everleigh, Emmalyn, and Roman; sister, Doris Faulkner; brother-in-law, Mitch Beshears; and a host of nieces, nephews, family, and friends. Ms. Carolyn has requested to have a Mardi Gras style Celebration of Life. Please come comfortably dressed and ready to celebrate. In lieu of flowers, please donate to a charity of your choice.

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BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

A boat of biblical proportions in Kentucky

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



It took us all day and part of another one to get there. We left Opelika early last Tuesday morning and headed north. We drove up through Georgia, Tennessee, and almost through Kentucky. So, imagine driving across the beautiful hillside of Northern Kentucky when all of a sudden, a gigantic boat comes into view. There's no ocean in Kentucky. There's not even one of the Great Lakes there. But there a boat of biblical proportions setting right in front of us. I'm not talking about some little fishing boat. I'm talking about a massive boat that is 510 feet long, 86 feet wide, and 94 feet high. That's more than one-and-one-half times the length of a football field!

That's about the equivalent of a five-story-high building. That's a monster of a boat, but it's not even floating in water. It is but setting on dry ground.

Who would build such a ship on dry ground? Noah did. He built a boat like the one we saw and it wasn't setting in water either, at least not when he built it.

Now that I think about what I just said, Noah didn't actually build a boat like the one we saw. They built a boat like Noah's. It's actually not a real boat, but a life-size replica of Noah's Ark.

It's at a theme park of sorts, called The Ark Encounter, in Williamstown, Kentucky. It is a different kind of theme part.

There are no roller coasters or log shoots, but there is carousel and a zip line.

The zipline, however, is not the line to get into the buffet there at lunch time. There is live music. There are no live animals inside the ark, but there are replicas of them and recorded animal sounds.

There is a petting zoo on the grounds with some modern-day animals. There are life-size models of Noah and his family inside the ark. Noah's model even moves and speaks to you.

I've often wondered what it must have looked like inside Noah's ark. Now, I have a better idea. Imagine being cooped up inside a ship with all kinds of live animals.

One might need a lot of air freshener, especially since they couldn't let down the windows in the rain! Fortunately, there was more than one deck.

In the movie "Jaws," when Chief Brody saw the shark for the first time, he said, "I think we're gonna need a bigger boat." When God told Noah to build an ark, He even gave him the dimensions he should use so the boat would be exactly the right size. Noah then built the biggest boat anyone at that time had ever seen. Some say it is still the largest wooden-frame boat ever built.

Noah followed God's instructions exactly as given. Once the boat was completed, Noah loaded his family and the animals of his world, two-by-two, onto the ship.

They closed the door, a week later it began to rain, and it did so for 40 days and nights.

Every thing on dry land that had breath died. Only the living beings inside the ark were saved from the flood.

The Ark was built by amateurs, but it floated and brought its passengers to safety.

Ironically, the "Unsinkable" Titanic was built by professional ship builders, but it sank.

The Ark was large enough to save Noah and his family, plus two of every other living animal, bird, and creature in their world.

Man's ways don't always work, but God always provides a way of salvation for those willing to follow.

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

HISTORY

Files from yesteryear: 1930

From the files of 1930

Presidents of the various organizations on the Cullman County High School campus are Boys Council – Juel Lee, Girls Council – Myrtle Wise, Senior Class – Carl Peinhardt, Junior Class – Nelle Hurston, Sophomore Class – Bruce Wallace, Freshman Class – Goline Allen, Jefferson Literacy Society – Grace Martin, Websterian Literary Society – Carl Stiefelmeyer, Literary Society A – William Henry Ziegler, Literary Society B – Ila Lee, Debating Club – Evelyn Blackburn, Hi-Y Club – Fred Buchmann, Girl Reserves – Grace Martin, Honor Society – Juel Lee, Boy's C Club – Carl Peinhardt, Girls C Club – Cyril Edwards, Tennis Club – Carl Stiefelmeyer and French Club – June Oldacre.

Mrs. Max Oeser was honored at a party on her 74th birthday on Sunday.

Enrolled at Jacksonville Teacher's College from Cullman are Howard Corbin, Gladys Alldredge, Venerable Graves, Homer Haynes, Marshall Denson Jones, Herman Livingston, Merle Trammell, Larkin Yates, Mary Keaton and Marjorie Thompson.

Cullman defeated Hartselle, 13 to 6, on Saturday here.

Gold Ridge School had an enrollment of 171 students in 1930. Among new citizens at Gold Ridge were the A.L. Sanders family, a helpful neighbor and good farmer who bought the Miss Lula Golden farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Johnson announce the arrival of a baby boy at their home.

The quilting given by Mrs. Etta Dunlap on Monday afternoon was greatly enjoyed by the ladies at Hamby's Chapel.

Mrs. John H. Holmes entertained the Ladies Aid last Wednesday afternoon with a large social.

Fred E. James was Chairman of the Cullman County Board of Registrars in 1930. This was the last time voters would be given a change to register for two years.

W.E. James and Jerman Stewart formed a law partnership for the practice of a law in civil matters.

Miss Freda Steindorff, Mrs. Margaret Ziegler and Doctor S.B. Beiker were death victims on January 16, 1930.

Harvey Hendrix and Miss Holt, a teacher at Simcoe, were riding Sunday afternoon.

The weather at Simcoe was nine degrees on January 20, 1930. Hearty souls weren't they?

POET'S CORNER

A Dream Within a Dream | By: Edgar Allan Poe, 1809-1849

Take this kiss upon the brow!
And, in parting from you now,
Thus much let me avow —
You are not wrong, who deem
That my days have been a dream;
Yet if hope has flown away
In a night, or in a day,
In a vision, or in none,
Is it therefore the less gone?
All that we see or seem
Is but a dream within a dream.

I stand amid the roar
Of a surf-tormented shore,
And I hold within my hand
Grains of the golden sand —
How few! yet how they creep
Through my fingers to the deep,
While I weep — while I weep!
O God! Can I not grasp
Them with a tighter clasp?
O God! can I not save
One from the pitiless wave?
Is all that we see or seem
But a dream within a dream?

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

AUG. 12

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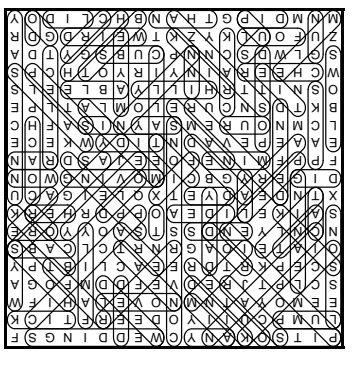
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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

AUG. 12

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ANSWERS:



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

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...In that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

REFRESHMENTS SERVED EVERY SATURDAY

License (from Front)

producing immediately.

"If you just look at it, they've got an established facility already. These other places don't even have one. That's a big part of it to me," Harbison stated.

Robertson said he is still looking forward and not giving up hope that his company can receive an Integrated Facility License in the future.

"We increased our position yesterday, so we're currently in the eighth spot with five applications being accepted," he stated optimistically. "So we're sitting just outside and that gives us a much stronger hope in knowing that we can appeal and have much higher chance of being successful. Our goal from this point is to put together a very solid appeal."

Wagon Trail Med-Serv is located at 70 County Road 290, Hanceville, Alabama, 35077.

Bill Smith
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