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JENNIFER LOVOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

4 local teams earn big region wins

» PAGE 4

CCBOE rolls out new buses

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County Schools received the first of its new air-conditioned buses last week. But A/C is not the only feature the district is excited about.

Bus drivers can now communicate in real time with students waiting at bus stops. If a student is about to cross the road to board the bus and the bus driver spots an approaching vehicle, he or she can activate an intercom system to instruct the student to wait, preventing potential accidents.

Cullman County Schools Transportation Director Jeff Harper, talked about the importance of having exterior cameras. These cameras, installed on the buses, serve as deterrents against reckless drivers who disregard buses' stop signs and flashing lights. In cases where violations occur, footage can be reviewed and used for appropriate action.

Additionally, Harper discussed the installation of destination lights on the buses. These lights, placed at both the front and rear of the buses, provide » PAGE 6



TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

(Front) Cullman County Schools Transportation Director Jeff Harper and Ty Watwood; (Middle) Board Members Gene Sullins and Mike Graves; (Back) Bridget Rodgers and Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette

Cullman Electric Cooperative hosts 87th Annual Meeting



BRIAN LACEY

Cullman Electric Cooperative lineman Aaron Quick helps his daughter, Charli Marie, work on a demonstration powerline during the Co-op's 87th Annual Meeting on Saturday, Sept. 16, at Northbrook Baptist Church.

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Despite a little morning drizzle, hundreds of members of the Cullman Electric Cooperative (CEC) assembled at Northbrook Baptist Church on Saturday, Sept.16, 2023, for its 87th Annual Meeting. While the meeting is an opportunity for fun and fellowship, perhaps more importantly, it is also a general checkup of how things are going, what the cooperative is focusing on in the coming year and where the cooperative is headed in the future.

In a brief speech, CEO Tim Culpepper recalled how much the CEC has grown in just a few short years - and with growth, he said, comes growing pains.

"Our operations department has seen a substantial increase in the number of work orders it receives. That includes everything from staking and construction for new services, regular requests to connect and disconnect existing electrical services, security lights, pretty much everything that we do," he said, explaining how COVID-19 supply chain complications as well as Mother Nature herself did little to help the longer wait times.

"We know it has been frustrating for many of our members," said Culpepper. "That frustration has been felt by our employees, who take great pride in » PAGE 6

1 killed, 1 charged with reckless murder



CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

John Wesley Drozda was apprehended on Monday, Sept. 18, 2023. » PAGE 2

2 killed in Saturday morning wreck

» PAGE 3

CCBOE approves FY2024 budget

» PAGE 6

Cullman County Youth Football Week 3 scoring recap



SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Vinemont Eagles won Saturday's Pee-Wee matchup over Hanceville 29-12. » PAGE 5

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Sept. 18

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported Sep. 18, 2023. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Sept. 14

- domestic violence; CR 656
- possession of drug paraphernalia; I-65 NB at MM 305
- theft of property; Hwy. 91
- theft of property; Hwy. 278 E
- criminal mischief; CR 933

Sept. 15

- assault; Patton Dr.
- violation of protection order; CR 1435
- assault; CR 1760
- burglary; CR 310
- domestic violence; CR 1282
- possession of marijuana; attempt to elude police officer; CR 89
- criminal surveillance; Leonard Rd.
- sell/distribute dangerous drugs; CR 222
- domestic violence; CR 1568
- harassment; CR 1141
- theft of property; CR 478
- theft of property; ex-felon in possession of firearm; possession of marijuana; CR 1142
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 91

Sept. 16

- assault; CR 117
- possession of controlled substance; promoting prison contraband; Beech Ave. SE
- theft of property; CR 1237
- assault; CR 48
- dog bite; CR 1352
- possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 69 S
- theft of property; CR 1107
- criminal mischief; Hwy. 69 S
- theft of property; Hwy. 69 S

Sept. 17

- unauthorized use of motor vehicle; CR 1716
- domestic violence; CR 1178

ARRESTS

Sept. 14 – 17

Anders, Jeremy K.; 31
- larceny/theft-firearms

Bartley, Briana P.; 24
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Campbell, Cheston J.; 35
- fraud-identity theft
- obstructing justice using false identity
- FTA- failure/refusal to display insurance

Cavender II, George W.; 44
- Probation Violation- possession of controlled substance

Doss, Andy M.; 64
- larceny/theft-miscellaneous theft $500 less than $1,500

Duncan, Stephanie L.; 47
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Elam, Kyle P.; 29
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Garcia, Juan C.; 46
- permitting dogs to run at large

Gean Jr., Clifford W.; 27
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-2nd offense
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Gilley, Samantha B.; 25
- sell/distribute methamphetamine

Harrison, George A.; 56
- violation of domestic violence protection order

Hooper, Steven D.; 41
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA- driving while license suspended
- FTA- no seat belt

Hutchinson, Anita H.; 50
- negotiating worthless instrument

Kelley, Shane W.; 37
- domestic violence-3rd degree-harassing communications

Kimbrough Jr., Robert L.; 34
- Probation Violation- burglary-residence-force

Lambert, Adam K.; 43
- stolen vehicles-unauthorized use of auto-no force (joyriding)

Lansford, Colton T.; 23
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Lay, Rachel L.; 32
- FTA- possession of prescription drugs
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense 4
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA- public intoxication
- FTA- criminal trespass
- FTA- disorderly conduct/disturbing peace/affray

McNabb, Mesha E.; 35
- sale of stolen property less than $500

Mullet, Jacob B.; 52
- permitting dogs to run at large

Peak, Brian D.; 53
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs

Raley, Darrell S.; 54
- Probation Violation- burglary-residence-no force
- Probation Violation- larceny/theft-miscellaneous (2 counts)

Richter, Michael S.; 20
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Riggs, Joanie R.; 44
- larceny/theft-miscellaneous theft $500 less than $1,500

Savage, Travis C.; 29
- possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense

Smith, Jonathan L.; 21
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- attempting to elude police officer

Swann, Michael D.; 58
- possession of methamphetamine
- promote prison contraband

Walker, Kimberly L.; 42
- DUI
- driving on wrong side of road

Woodard, James A.; 64
- Probation Violation- possession of dangerous drugs

York, John A.; 32
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- larceny/theft-firearms
- larceny/theft-theft from residence
- ex-felon in possession of firearm

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Sept. 15
- criminal mischief-3rd degree; person; 2nd Way NE; damaged windshield; $100
- harassing communications; person
- harassment; person; Swafford Rd. SW
- duty upon striking unattended vehicle; damage to 2013 Honda Accord; $100

Sept. 16
- harassing communications; person

Sept. 17
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; general merchandise; $67

ARRESTS

Sept. 15

England, Gaberalle L.; 30
- FTA- insurance violation

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Murder (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – One man was killed Sunday evening, Sept. 17, in Cullman and another is charged with reckless murder.

According to Cullman Police Department Director of Communications Adam Clark, at approximately 10:55 p.m. Sunday, a shooting took place near the 200 block of Hickory Avenue Southwest.

"A male subject was critically injured, and the suspect fled the scene," Clark said shortly after the shooting. "The suspect, 36-year-old John Wesley Drozda, is at large and considered armed and dangerous."

The victim, identified by Cullman County Coroner Jeremy Kilpatrick as Thomas James Brannon, 37, of Cullman, succumbed to his injuries and died. Kilpatrick stated Brannon's body was sent to the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences for autopsy.

Less than 24 hours later, on Monday afternoon, Drozda was taken into custody at the Red Roof Inn in Hartselle.

The CPD posted on Facebook: "Thank you to Hartselle Police Department and Cullman PD Investigation Division for all (sic) the hard work on the case."

Drozda is charged with reckless murder.

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LEGALS

Legal Notice

Notice is hereby given to all owners, secured parties and lienholders of the following described motor vehicle, which I have a right to sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, in accordance with the State of Alabama abandoned vehicle law, Statues, Chapter 13, Section 1-8, Title

2019 Nissan Rogue, White, Vin.#5N1AT2MT8KC715326, tag #47A5R17.

This vehicle will be sold on October 13, 2023, at 8:00 a.m., unless all towing, storage and repair fees are paid before sale date. The sale will take place at Ponder's Wrecker Service, 2600 Alabama Highway 157, Cullman, Alabama 35058.

PB ADT BK 67 PG 201 - 09/01/2023 02:22 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
CULLMAN COUNTY * CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
* CASE NO: AD 2022-093

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF:
MICHAEL DAVID BARBER and DUSTY BROOKE NORRIS

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: ANY KNOWN, UNKNOWN, UNDISCLOSED PERSONS, OR THE BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF THE MINOR CHILD G.L.B. DATE OF BIRTH 12/8/2022 BORN TO HALEY TENILLE BARBER.

A PETITION FOR ADOPTION WAS FILED IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA, BY MICHAEL DAVID BARBER AND DUSTY BROOKE NORRIS. IF YOU SHOULD CONTEST THIS ADOPTION YOU MUST FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF YOUR RECEIPT OF THIS NOTICE. THE RESPONSE MUST BE FILED WITH COUNSEL FOR SAID PETITIONER, WHOSE NAME AND ADDRESS IS SHOWN BELOW, AND WITH THE CLERK OF THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA, 500 2ND AVENUE SW, #101, CULLMAN, ALABAMA 35055.

DONE this the 1st day of September, 2023.

Alex J. Chaney
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 1052
Cullman, AL 35055

To the Publisher of the Cullman Tribune

Please publish the above notice once a week for four (4) successive weeks and send an Affidav of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

PB WIL BK 118 PG 915 - 09/15/2023 03:15 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
LARRY WAYNE PRYOR * CASE NO PC2023-298
Deceased *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary have been granted to **Petra Carola Pryor,** as Personal Representative of the Estate of Larry Wayne Pryor, deceased, on the 15th day of September 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court of Cullman County.

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

Petra Carola Pryor
Personal Representative
Estate of Larry Wayne Pryor, deceased

JOHN A. WENZEL
Attorney for Petitioner, Petra Carola Pryor
218 N. Alston Street
Foley, Alabama 36535
Telephone: (251) 444-7000

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

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City of Cullman
Planning Commission

On Monday October 2, 2023, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M, at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Planning Commission, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Request to vacate/surplus alley – 2nd Avenue SE – Public House
2. Short form subdivision – Highway 157 NW & 2nd Avenue NW (Highway 31)
3. Rezoning request – Alabama Highway 157 NW & 2nd Avenue NW (Highway 31) – B-3/M-1 to R-4
4. Conditional use request for storage units on 1st Avenue SW
5. Conditional use request for storage units on Cleveland Avenue NW

For further information contact Brian Landreth or Amber Duke at the City of Cullman Building Department at 256-775-7203.

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.
• Wednesday, Sept. 20 - 7 p.m. Children & youth classes. Adult Bible study of Romans. Free pizza for children at 6:30 p.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area at 6. Call 256-841-2060 for pickup.
• Friday, Sept. 22 - 7 p.m. Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship & Testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! Bring a dish, dessert or drink for a potluck meal at 6:30. Nursery provided!
• Saturday, Sept. 23 - Pam Dodd is speaking at Houston Church of God in Houston, AL at 6:45 pm. Food will be at 5 along with prayer at 5:15, 6:05 and 6:40!
• Sunday, Sept. 24 - Prayer Groups - Join Teresa at 9:15 a.m. in the prayer room to pray for our church, nation and those who need healing, salvation or deliverance.
• Sunday, Sept. 24 - 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.
• Sunday, Sept. 24 - Healing Service at 5 p.m.

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.

Cullman Educator Retirees Association Meeting
Thursday, Sept. 21, at 11 a.m. at Stone Bridge Farms. The program will be The History of Cullman County Schools. All educator retirees and friends are invited.

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.

Superhero Fire Annual Suicide Awareness Event
Saturday, Sept. 30, from 4-6 p.m. at the Hanceville Civic Center. FREE admission - FREE food. Sign language interpreter. MC/DJ Daryl Nethery, Kozmic Sound. Guest speaker: Cullman County Sheriff's Office Investigator Jeff Lawson. Vendors and LifeSouth Blood Mobile on-site.

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, supplied 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?

Arley's Largest Yard Sale
Saturday, Oct.7, from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. in the parking lot of the Smith Lake Flea Market and Vintage Mall located on Highway 41 in Arley.

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 Benefiting the Good Samaritan Health Clinic
Tuesday, Oct. 24, at 7 p.m. at Northbrook Baptist Church. Doors open at 6. A night of fun and great music with the Daystar Church Praise Team, and featuring the award-winning Triumphant Quartet. Tickets are $28 if bought in person at Yates-Chance Christian Bookstore, Borden Family Pharmacy, Good Samaritan Health Clinic or at the door. $28 if purchased online at www.goodsamaritancullman.com.

'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.

Walk for MS awareness back this October

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
More than 250 people came out to Heritage Park Saturday morning to participate in Walk MS: Cullman in 2018, most wearing signs on their backs in honor of those for whom they were walking.

CULLMAN, Ala. – Cullman's Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Walk is back for the first time since COVID-19, thanks largely in part to a collaboration with Joanne P. LaGanke Multiple Sclerosis Center, Align Alabama Health and Wellness, High Caliber Mechanical and the gumption of Taylor Wilson Valentine, a clinical researcher with North Central Neurology, Dr. LaGanke's Office and Joanne P. LaGanke Multiple Sclerosis Center. The walk will be held Saturday, Oct. 28, 2023, from 8 a.m.-noon at Heritage Park/

Multiple sclerosis is a chronic inflammatory and neurodegenerative disease affecting approximately 400,00 people in the United States and 2.1 million people worldwide, and for the team at Dr. LaGanke's office, it's personal.

"This is a cause very near and dear to his heart as his mother succumbed to the disease and he started the Joanne P. LaGanke Multiple Sclerosis Center," said Office Manager Debbie Simonsen. "Having the walk helps patients to feel like there is hope out there for them, and that others care."

While the walk (typically sponsored by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society) happened for years, COVID-19 and more recent policy changes have made it more difficult to host.

"For several years, the National MS Society sponsored Cullman as an official chapter of the annual MS Walk, but once COVID took place, it got in the way of the walks," explained Valentine.

"This year is the first year they started sponsoring chapters again.

"However, they are limiting them to bigger areas, such as Birmingham and Huntsville, leaving our chapter to fall in our hands to do alone, or to not hold it at all," she said. "Not holding it at all? Definitely not our style!"

"The people of Cullman with MS, or who have loved ones with MS, have called and asked us for months about what we are going to do now that the walk is back," said Valentine, "and we want to give them the best walk they've ever had!"

Simonsen said booth or table space is available. To register or purchase a T-shirt, contact the office of Dr. LaGanke at 256-739-1210 between 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Wreck (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – Two people were killed in a two-vehicle crash that occurred at approximately 5:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, south of Hanceville.

Alabama State Troopers said Sydni M. Helms, 22, of Jasper, was fatally injured when the 2014 Jeep Wrangler she was driving collided head-on with a 2017 Chrysler 300 driven by Katherine M. Lambert, 20, of Remlap.

After the initial collision, both vehicles caught fire.

Helms and Lambert were both pronounced deceased at the scene.

The crash occurred on Alabama Highway 91, approximately 8 miles south of Hanceville, in Cullman County.

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


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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

PREP FOOTBALL RECAP

4 local teams earn big region wins

Nick Griffin
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CULLMAN, Ala. — Week four of this year's prep football season is in the books and it was packed with critical region matchups. Vinemont, Arab, Hanceville and Cullman each picked up big region wins, Fairview defeated Good Hope to remain unbeaten, West Point, Meek and Addison took tough losses on the road and Cold Springs dropped a regional game at home.

Cullman 21 – Decatur 14

On a beautiful night for high school football, the Cullman Bearcats made another trip north to take on the Decatur Red Raiders in a critical region matchup. The Bearcats were able to step up defensively and hold the Red Raiders out of the end zone in the final minutes of the game to secure a 21-14 victory.

Midway through the opening quarter, Jackson Sessions scored on a three-yard touchdown run and put Cullman in front 6-0. The Red Raiders responded with a touchdown in the second quarter and moved out ahead of the Bearcats 7-6 going into the halftime break.

Decatur scored on a 28-yard touchdown pass midway through the third to stretch its lead to 14-6 but another rushing touchdown by Sessions on the ensuing drive cut the lead to 14-12. Tanner Gaines connected with Wyatt Buchanon for a successful two-point conversion and tied the game at 14. Cullman capped off a long scoring drive with another touchdown run from Sessions in the fourth quarter to pull ahead 21-14 and the Bearcats' defense kept the Red Raiders out of the end zone in the final minute of the game to secure a big, 21-14 region win.

Cullman will host Lee High School from Huntsville for homecoming Friday.

Fairview 28 – Good Hope 7

The Fairview Aggies hosted the Good Hope Raiders in a huge county game for both teams. After holding a slim lead at the half, a strong running game helped the Aggies pull away in the second half and knock off the Raiders 28-7.

Midway through the second quarter, the Aggies pounded the ball on the ground behind Jake Harper as he quickly wore down the Raider defense. Later on in the drive, on fourth down, Redding executed a perfect screen pass to Jameson Goble, who then proceeded to take off down the left sideline for a 30-yard score to give the Aggies a 7-0 lead with five minutes left to go in the first half and Fairview went into the locker room with a 7-0 advantage at the halftime break.

Some big runs by Harper and York quickly put the Aggies at the 44. After a holding penalty pushed them back to the 40, the Aggies scored on the next play as Harper found a huge hole on the left side and scored on a 60-yard touchdown to give them a 14-0 lead with 8:36 left to go in the third quarter. A quick three-and-out gave the ball back to the Aggies and on the first play, Jones found a huge hole on the left side and found the end zone on a 72-yard score to make it a 21-0 game almost two minutes later.

The Aggies continued to wear down the Raider defense on the ground, and York finished off an 11-play, 88-yard drive with an eight-yard quarterback keeper to push their lead to 28-0. Drake picked up a first down on Good Hope's next drive, and two plays later, Whatley found Cone for 44 yards, and they later connected on a five-yard score to cut it to 28-7 but that was as close as the Raiders could get, and Fairview went on collect a 28-7 win.

Fairview will travel to take on West Point in the Brandin Iron Bowl Friday night while Good Hope will return home to host Etowah in a huge region game.

Arab 29 – Sardis 26

The Arabian Knights returned home for another regional matchup against Sardis Friday night, and it was a tight one between the Knights and the Lions. Logan Silva collected three more touchdowns and Arab's defense came up with some timely stops to lead the Knights to a 29-26 win over Sardis.

The Knights found the end zone on their opening possession, capping off a scoring drive with a 2-yard touchdown run by Logan Alldredge. Aiden Wooten's extra point attempt split the uprights and Arab led the way 7-0 early in the first quarter. Sardis responded with a scoring drive of its own, but the extra point was blocked, and the Knights maintained a 7-6 lead midway through the second quarter.

Arab's next drive was stopped short when the Knights were forced to turn the ball over on downs but an interception by Wyatt Lamar gave the ball back to Arab with great field position. However, the Knights were unable to take advantage of the short field and the Lions managed to throw one into the end zone with just 23 seconds remaining in the second quarter and went into the locker room leading Arab 14-7 at the halftime break.

The Knights tied things up midway through the third quarter when Logan Silva punched one into the end zone from a yard out and knotted the score at 14. Sardis responded with another touchdown pass to move back in front 20-14 late in the third quarter but early in the fourth, Silva's second touchdown run of the game gave Arab a 21-20 lead.

The Lions answered once again with another scoring drive, taking a 26-21 lead with 10 minutes remaining but a big return by Lamar on the ensuing kickoff gave the Knights great field position once again. The Lions got a heavy dose of Silva running the football, and at the end of a methodical drive, Silva dove into the end zone for his third score of the night. Silva punched in the two-point conversion afterward and Arab led Sardis 29-26 with just under five minutes to play.

After trading blows with the Knights throughout the game, the Lions were unable to answer Arab's latest score and the Knights improved to 4-0 with a 29-26 region win over Sardis.

Arab will be back on the road this week for another critical region game against Scottsboro.

Hanceville 32 – Ashville 6

Hanceville was back home at Ray Talley Stadium for another big regional matchup Friday night and the Bulldogs of Hanceville proved to be too much for the Bulldogs of Ashville, collecting a 32-6 region win at home.

Ashville led Hanceville 6-0 at the end of the first quarter, but Marquies Leeth punched one into the end zone from 5 yards out to tie the game at 6 early in the second. Hunter Black connected on a 19-yard touchdown pass to JT Davis later in the period to give Hanceville a 13-6 lead and Leeth scored his second touchdown of the night with 35 seconds on the clock to put the Bulldogs in front of Ashville 19-6 going into the halftime break.

Eli Clements ran one into the end zone from just a yard out early in the third quarter to stretch Hanceville's lead to 25-6 and later in the third, Keiton Whatley scored from 9 yards out to give Hanceville a 32-6 lead going into the final frame. The Bulldogs were able to keep Ashville off the board the rest of the way and Hanceville went on to win it 32-6 to improve to 2-2 on the season.

Hanceville will be back on the road for another big region matchup at Cherokee County Friday night.

Vinemont 44 – Brindlee Mountain 0

Coming off a tough non region slate to kick off the season, Vinemont hosted Brindlee Mountain for homecoming and its region opener Friday night. Vinemont got off to a fast start and cruised to a 44-0 victory over the Lions.

Vinemont received the opening kick-off and quickly found the endzone when Diego Rodriguez found the endzone from 12 yards out to give the Eagles an 8-0 lead. On the ensuing possession Xavier Sellers recovered a fumble sending the Eagles offense back on the field, four plays later Josh Rhodes raced in for a 29-yard touchdown to extend the Eagles lead to 16-0.

After forcing a three-and-out, Rodriguez capped off an Eagles scoring drive with a 1-yard touchdown to put Vinemont up 24-0 late in the first quarter. Three plays after Rhodes intercepted the Lions pass Chris Knight put the Eagles up 30-0 with a 2-yard touchdown run early in the second quarter. The Eagles defense forced another turnover when Kyler Pugh recovered a fumble, four plays later Chase Blair scored from 31 yards out to put the Eagles up 38-0 midway through the second quarter.

Chris Knight put the Eagles up 44-0 late in the first half when he found the endzone for a 32-yard touchdown run. A lot of young players got to see playing time in the second half, the offense was unable to find the end zone, but the defense came away with a handful of fourth down stops and was able to keep the Lions off the scoreboard to secure preserve the 44-0 shutout victory on homecoming night.

Vinemont will be back home this week for another regional matchup against Susan Moore.

Russellville 48 – West Point 14

The West Point Warriors made the trip to Russellville to open up region play Friday night and they had their hands full with the Tigers. Russellville built a 41-0 lead in the first half and the Warriors were unable to overcome the early lead, falling to the Tigers on the road 48-14.

The Tigers scored early and often in the opening half, taking a 7-0 lead on a touchdown run early in the first quarter. After driving down into Russellville territory on their first possession, the Warriors were forced to turn the ball over on downs and two plays later, an 85-yard touchdown run put the Tigers on top 14-0. West Point fumbled the ensuing kickoff return and Russellville took advantage of the short field, punching another one into the end zone to make it a 20-0 game going into the second quarter.

The Tigers added two more touchdown runs early in the second quarter to stretch their lead to 34-0 and they tacked on one more in the final minute of the period to take commanding, 41-0 lead into the locker room at halftime.

Russellville scored again early in the third quarter to make it a 48-0 game, but the Warriors were finally able to get on the board later in the period when Hunter Hensley ran one into the end zone from 2 yards out to trim the lead to 48-7. West Point was able to score again later in the fourth when Hensley found Brayden Monfort streaking over the middle and he took it 65 yards all the way to the house to make it a 48-14 game with six minutes to play. However, those were the last points the Warriors could put on the board and Russellville went on to win it 48-14.

West Point will return home this week to host Fairview in this year's edition of the Brandin' Iron Bowl.

Pleasant Valley 15 – Holly Pond 14

The Pleasant Valley Raiders visited the Holly Pond Broncos Friday night and were able to leave with a tight, 15-14 victory over the Broncos.

The Raiders won the toss and elected to defer to the second half. Pleasant Valley surprised the Broncos with an onside kick and recovered the ball on the Bronco 46-yard line. Three plays later, Holt Bentley took the ball 45 yards for a Raider touchdown and Pleasant Valley led 6-0 early.

The Broncos came back with a scoring drive of their own that started on their own 30. Boston Gibbs had seven carries on the drive for 34 yards before scoring on a 23-yard pass from Sawyer Olinger to tie things up at 6.

Both teams had to punt on their next possession and the Raiders started their third possession on the Bronco 43. Quarterback Braxton Salster found wide receiver Hunter Sparks for a 32-yard gain down to the Bronco 11 and from there Holt Bentley scores his second touchdown to put Pleasant Valley in front 12-6 at the halftime break.

The Raiders received the kickoff to start the third quarter and Bentley returned the kick 44 yards all the way down to the Bronco 30-yard line. Pleasant Valley drove the ball down to the 20 but the Broncos defense stopped the Raiders there and Pleasant Valley had to settle for a 37-yard field goal that made it a 15-6 game.

The Broncos got the ball back on their own 42 and they were able to drive the ball down to the Raider's 1-yard line. That's where Olinger called his own number and punched it into the end zone to bring the Broncos within 3 and cut the lead to 15-12.

In the closing minutes of the fourth, Holly Pond had two opportunities to win the game. They turned the ball over on downs at the Raider 1-yard line but on the next play, Holly Pond's defense tackled Bentley in the end zone for a safety and made it a 15-14 game.

After the free kick from the 20, Holly Pond started on the Pleasant Valley's 37-yard line. The Broncos moved the ball down to the Raider 12 before, but an interception cut the Broncos drive short and Pleasant Valley was able to escape Holly Pond with a dramatic, 15-14 win.

The Broncos will be back on the road this week for another big regional matchup against Southeastern.

Hackleburg 32 – Addison 28

Addison traveled to Hackleburg, Alabama to take on the Panthers for a game with major region championship implications. In an exciting back and forth affair, the hometown Panthers came away with a thrilling, 32-28 victory.

The game could not have started out any better for the visiting Bulldogs, as on a second and 10 play, Bulldog QB Jed Wilkins scampered 69-yards for the touchdown. A missed two-point conversion later, and at the 11:04 mark of the first quarter, Addison led 6-0. Hackleburg came right back and after a short Addison kick off, it would be a problem all night, Hackleburg drove 54 yards for the tying score as Jaquan Reeder, a tremendous athlete, scored from 14-yards out to tie the score at 6.

Just a few plays later, Braden Luker dashed 38-yards, untouched, for the go-ahead Bulldog score and made it a 12-6 game. Later in the first, Panther QB Blaise Vickery threw a backwards pass in the flat to Reeder who found a streaking Daughtry Gober down the field for a 55-yard half back pass touchdown. There wasn't a Bulldog within 15-yards of Gober. Another missed two-point try and the game was tied again at 12 in an exciting first quarter.

The Panthers scored a go-ahead touchdown midway through the second quarter to make it a 20-12 game and later in the third, Hackleburg scored again to extend its lead to 26-12. Elijah Roberts took a handoff 47 yards for a touchdown to trim the lead to 26-20 with 2:21 to play in the third and midway through the fourth, Wilkins galloped 50-yards for the go-ahead score. Wilkins then ran in the two-point conversion and Addison had pulled ahead 28-26.

Vickery found Gober again for a 5-yard touchdown pass with only 49 seconds remaining on the clock. The two-point attempt was no good and the Panthers led 32-28. Addison got one last chance to move the ball and did get down to the Panther 38-yard line when the clock hit zero. Addison had lost a hard-fought game, 32-28.

Addison drops to 2-2 (2-1 region) and will travel to play Waterloo for a region game

Lamar County 46 – Cold Springs 20

Cold Springs was back at home Friday night to host a regional game against Lamar County and despite a three-touchdown performance from Matt Williams, the Bulldogs proved to be too much for the Eagles and took the road matchup 46-20.

Matt Williams' first touchdown of the night got the Eagles on the board in the first quarter, but the Bulldogs still led the way 14-6 going into the second. Williams found the end zone again in the second quarter to put six more points on the board for Cold Springs, but Lamar County's offense continued to move the ball effectively and the Bulldogs went into the locker room leading the Eagles 33-12 at halftime.

Lamar County added a pair of touchdowns to its lead in the third quarter, extending the lead to 46-12 going into the final frame. Willaims punched in his third touchdown of the night and Tyson Kilgo ran in the two-point conversion to cut into the lead in the fourth quarter, but the Eagles couldn't chip away any more than that and Cold Springs fell to Lamar County 46-20.

The Eagles will be on the road this week to face Locus Fork.

Colbert Heights 30 – Meek 28

The Meek Tigers made the trek to Tuscumbia for a regional battle with Colbert Heights Friday night and the Tigers made a late push to come from behind and pull out a win, but their effort came up just short and the Wildcats held on to defeat Meek 30-28.

A 30-yard touchdown gave the Wildcats a 6-0 lead over Meek in the opening period and Colbert Heights added another long scoring run later in the second to build a 12-0 lead over the Tigers going into the halftime break.

Meek was able to get on the board in the third quarter when Justin Freeman punched one into the end zone from 8 yards out and Evan McCay connected with Freeman for the two-point conversion to cut the lead to 12-8 with four minutes remaining in the third. However, the Wildcats answered right away, returning the ensuing kickoff back for a touchdown to extend their lead to 18-8.

Cam Deaver was the next one to respond for Meek, breaking off a 42-yard touchdown run to trim Colbert Heights' lead to 18-14 with 11 minutes on the clock.

The Wildcats punched back, putting together another scoring drive to stretch the lead to 24-14 and after a 12-yard touchdown run by McCay made it 24-20, the Wildcats moved back in front 30-20 on a long touchdown run.

Deaver punched one into the end zone for a touchdown and ran in the two-point conversion to make it a 30-28 game with just over a minute on the clock, but the Tigers couldn't come any closer than that and Colbert Heights held on to win a nailbiter 30-28.

Meek will return home next week for another regional matchup against Phillips Bear Creek.



JENNIFER LOVOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman's Jackson Sessions (2) scored all three of the Bearcats' touchdowns in their 21-14 win at Decatur Friday night.

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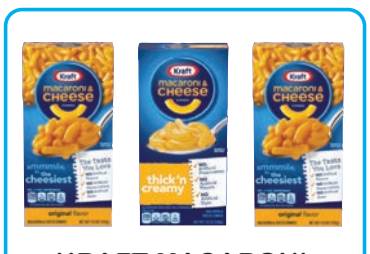
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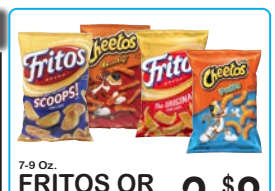
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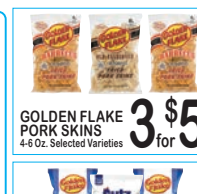
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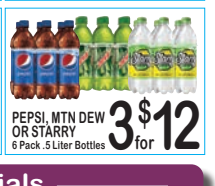
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Recap (from Front)

Sammy Confer
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CULLMAN, Ala. — It's near the halfway point of the 2023 Cullman County Youth Football season and there were more than a handful of intriguing games going on locally this weekend. The Hanceville Bulldogs hosted the Vinemont Eagles, the West Point Warriors traveled to take on the Holly Pond Broncos, the Cullman Bearcats hosted the Good Hope Raiders and the Cold Springs Eagles traveled to take on the Fairview Aggies.

VINEMONT AT HANCEVILLE

- Fireplug: Eagles 32 - Bulldogs 6
- Wee-Wee: Eagles 28 - Bulldogs 0
- Pee-Wee: Eagles 29 - Bulldogs 12

WEST POINT AT HOLLY POND

- Fireplug: Warriors 19 - Broncos 0
- Wee-Wee: Warriors 6 - Broncos 0
- Pee-Wee: Warriors 26 - Broncos 20

GOOD HOPE AT CULLMAN

- Fireplug: Raiders 24 - Bearcats 0
- Wee-Wee: Raiders 50 - Bearcats 0
- Pee-Wee: Bearcats 36 - Raiders 6

COLD SPRINGS AT FAIRVIEW

- Fireplug: Aggies 42 - Eagles 0
- Wee-Wee: Aggies 25 - Eagles 0
- Pee-Wee: Aggies 26 - Eagles 0

RECORDS AFTER WEEK THREE

Fireplug

- Vinemont (3-0)
- Fairview (3-0)
- Good Hope (2-1)
- West Point (2-1)
- Cullman (2-1)
- Hanceville (0-3)
- Cold Springs (0-3)
- Holly Pond (0-3)

Wee-Wee

- Good Hope (3-0)
- West Point (3-0)
- Vinemont (2-1)
- Fairview (2-1)
- Holly Pond (2-1)
- Cullman (1-2)
- Cold Springs (0-3)
- Hanceville (0-3)

Pee-Wee

- Vinemont (3-0)
- Cullman (3-0)
- Fairview (2-1)
- West Point (2-1)
- Good Hope (1-2)
- Holly Pond (1-2)
- Cold Springs (0-3)
- Hanceville (0-3)

WEEK FOUR SCHEDULE (SEPT. 23)

- Vinemont at Cold Springs (9 a.m.)
- Hanceville at West Point (4 p.m.)
- Cullman at Fairview (4 p.m.)

Holly Pond at Good Hope (4 p.m.)





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In 1943, when the Paul R. Knight Insurance Company opened its doors in downtown Cullman, there was no way of knowing what the future would bring. Paul Knight was a 30-something father of of three, registered for the World War II draft, with no idea that his new venture would not only succeed but would ultimately pass down through three generations of his family. Then his son-in-law Elliot Free joined the business in 1970, the agency was re-named Knight-Free, and the rest is history.

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TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Members of the West Point Town Council are seen Monday, Sept. 18.

West Point Town Council approves 2023-2024 budget

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

WEST POINT, Ala. — The West Point Town Council on Monday evening approved the Town's fiscal year 2023-2024 budget, with total expenses of $491,040.36 and total income of $583,000.

Mayor Gerald Schafer said he has found an independent contractor to work on the new "Town of West Point" sign. The only detail left to finalize is what size the council members would like the sign to be.

The council also approved a three-minute limit for residents who would like to speak during the public comment portions of council meetings.

The council approved the following agenda items:

- Set time frame for prior notice (for public speakers) and also time limit on speaking time
- Procedure for item to be put on agenda
- Budget for 2023-2024

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Buses (from Front)

enhanced visibility, especially during early morning hours or in dimly lit areas. Harper noted that the school board had received reports of people mistaking the buses for garbage trucks, and they are hoping the new lights will be a vital safety feature, ensuring other drivers cannot claim ignorance when a school bus is stopped to pick up or drop off students.

Harper touched upon the advanced features of the buses, including air ride suspension. He said this not only ensures a smoother ride for students, but also prolongs the life of the buses by reducing wear and tear. Additionally, collision avoidance systems have been integrated into the buses, automatically applying brakes when a potential collision is detected.

Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette discussed the introduction of propane-powered buses.

According to Barnette, while they are acquiring 24 propane buses out of a total of 51 new buses, the decision represents a cautious step into alternative fuel technology.

The board believes that propane-powered buses are the future and is taking measures to integrate them into the fleet. The school district has installed refueling stations to accommodate these new buses, which will contribute to cost savings and environmental sustainability.

Meeting (from Front)

their work serving the membership."

On a more exciting note, members who previously weren't able to secure Sprout broadband internet may be one of the now 7,000 members who will be eligible in its 2024 expansion plan; the expansion plan is largely thanks to a $1.7 million congressional appropriation secured by Congressman Robert Aderholt, R-Alabama, and a $4.5 million ADECA grant secured by Sen. Garlan Gudger, R-Cullman, and Rep. Randell Shedd, R-Fairview; Rep. Corey Harbison, R-Good Hope; and Rep. Tim Wadsworth, R-Arley.

Culpepper expressed his gratitude for the team that keeps the CEC running.

"Although the last year has been challenging, we have grown and learned along the way. I am so proud of our employees for working together to overcome the obstacles in our path.

"Working with great people makes my job easier," he laughed, also taking a moment to thank the members who keep CEC in business. Thank you, our members, for making our jobs possible. We remain dedicated to building and operating the best rural electric system in the country!"

Budget (from Front)

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Board of Education (CCBOE) at its Thursday, Sept. 14, meeting approved its budget for the 2024 fiscal year.

BREAKDOWN OF APPROVED BUDGET

General Fund Revenue
- State: $74,714,022
- Local: $29,002,196
- Other sources: $161,950
- Total revenue: $103,878,168

The majority of local revenue for fiscal year 2024, $9,635,584, will come from property taxes; $18,600,000 will come from sales taxes; and $293,000 will come from other tax. This totals $28,528,634 for major local revenue.

For General Fund expenditures, $61,821,292 will go to salaries; $21,130,409 will go to benefits; $10,653,215 will go to purchased services; and $5,525,884 will go to materials/supplies. This totals $99,130,800.

For Total Budget Expenditures, $89,963,008 will go to salaries and benefits; $13,318,894 will go to purchased services; $13,442,062 will go to materials/supplies; $12,382,383 will go to equipment; $3,934,424 will go to debt services; and $5,495,271 will go to miscellaneous.

The board approved the following agenda items:

- Final Public Budget Hearing and Approval of 2023-2024 Cullman County Budget

- Approval of Minutes-August 17, 2023

- Approval of request from Fairview High School to pay Kristy Harris $750 for additional summer hours and responsibilities, paid by Fairview Band Booster funds

- Approval of request from Good Hope High School to pay Patrick McDonald $1,400 for summer weight training, paid by local school funds

- Approval of request from Hanceville High School to pay David Miller as the Football Program Announcer, $50 for middle school games and $80 for varsity games, paid by local school funds

- Approval of request from Vinemont Elementary School to pay Preston Boyd $400 and Lance Lay $400 to refinish the elementary gym floors, paid by local school funds

- Approval of request from Vinemont Middle School to pay Ginger Lamon $2,500 for operating school concessions and cleaning for all events during the 2023-2024 school year, paid by local school funds

- Approval of request from West Point High School to pay Don Farley $1,500 for 2023-2024 summer mowing and field maintenance, paid by local school funds

- Approval of request from West Point High School to pay Don Farley $1,500 for 2023-2024 Athletic Director/Dragonfly, paid by local school funds

- Approval of request from West Point High School to pay Nick White $4,000 for additional extracurricular activities, paid by local school funds

- Approval of request from West Point Middle School to pay Joshua Davis $1,500 for 2023-2024 Athletic Director extra duties, paid by local school funds

- Approval of request to pay Veronica Woods $500 stipend at the end of each semester (total $1,000) for serving as a mentor as required by the ALSDE for TSEC (Temporary Special Education Certificate) mentee support, paid by local funds

- Approval of request to pay a $5,000 supplement to Pamela Roberson, to be paid over FY24 school year effective October 1, 2023, for Virtual School additional duties, paid by local funds

- Approval of request to pay RN School Nurses at their hourly rate of pay and LPN

- School Nurses at their hourly rate of pay or their overtime rate (hours worked over 40) for additional hours as required for any academic/athletic activities for the 2023-2024 school year, paid by local funds

- Approval of 2023-2024 Afterhours Programs and Personnel (personnel paid by local school funds)
  - Harmony: Lead Teacher $25 per hour – Jennifer Quick. Teachers $22 per hour -Taylor Appling, Rhonda Bagwell, Taylor Brown, Kellie Curtis, Carla Davis, Amy Freeman, Katharine Fuqua, Destiny Hibbs, Leah Hoffpauir, Rachael Howze, Bethany Jones, Heather Jones, Angela Key, Heather Lynn, Pamela Mack, Cari Oliver, Emily Seymore, Madison Sharpe, Meredith Smith, Monica Smith
  - Parkside: Teachers $20 per hour -Emily Wilson

- Approval to pay a supplement to the following local school Athletic Directors
  - Adam McKinnon, Cold Springs Elementary (K-8)- $750
  - Adam McKinnon, Cold Springs High - $1,500
  - Kenneth Griffin, Fairview Middle - $750
  - Brian Simmons, Fairview High - $1,500
  - Brian Scott Brown, Good Hope Middle - $750
  - Scott Adams, Good Hope High - $1,500
  - Brent Barnett, Hanceville Middle - $750
  - Ryan Brewer, Hanceville High - $1,500
  - Taylor Appling, Harmony - $500
  - Daniel Weaver, Holly Pond K-8 - $750
  - James Brett Neal, Holly Pond High - $1,500
  - David Martin, Parkside - $500
  - Michael Willliams, Vinemont Middle - $750
  - Roy Todd Johnson, Vinemont High - $1,500
  - Joshua Davis, West Point Middle - $750
  - Don Farley, West Point High - $1,500

- Approval of request from Federal Programs to pay a supplement of $5,000 to Consuelo Underwood, to be paid over the FY24 school year effective October 1, 2023, for additional duties, paid by Federal Programs
  - Provides families and students with appropriate plans to support the educational needs of the students (insurance, blue slips, doctors' appointments, special education services, 504 referrals, guidelines and procedures, etc.)

- Approval of request from the Transportation Department to surplus and Sale at auction the following 72 passenger school buses

06-01 | 4DRBUAAN66B201603

06-02 | 4DRBUAAN86B201604

06-13 | 4DRBUAAN06B201595

06-15 | 4DRBUAAN36B201591

06-17 | 4DRBUAAN96B201594

09-52 | 4DRBUAAN49A670215

14-24 | 4DRBUAAN7EB784584

14-34 | 4DRBUAANXEB784594

- Approval of the 2023-2024 Academic Coaching Supplements and Assignments

- Approval of the 2023-2024 Athletic Coaching Supplements and Assignments

- Authorization for the Superintendent to submit applications for various programs for the 2023-2024 school year.
  - Title I- Part A School Wide Program Funds Title II-Improving Teacher Quality
  - Title III- Language Instruction for Limited English Proficiency Title IV-Prevention and Support ARP ESSER funds
  - Any other Federal, State and Grant Funds that the Superintendent deems necessary and possible to obtain

- Approval of July 2023 Financial Statements – (Copy on file with the CSFO) All bank statements have been reconciled through July 2023

- Approval of request for the 2024-2028 Capital Plan Minutes and Plan as Proposed

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Paul J. Kim to speak at St. Bernard Sept. 21-22

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Saint Bernard Preparatory School on Monday announced a special event featuring one of America's most sought-after Catholic youth and young adult speakers, Paul J. Kim. The event is set to take place Sept. 21-22, 2023, in Room 100 of the Swisher Science Building.

Kim's presentations are a rare gift, captivating audiences of all ages in 48 states and 16 countries over the past decade. With a unique ability to seamlessly transition from laughter to deep reflection and prayer, Kim uses his wide range of talents, including music (beatboxing), comedy and inspirational talks, to communicate the gospel message of Christ in a way that is engaging, entertaining and life changing.

Kim is a multifaceted talent, the author of the best-selling "A Catholic Guide to Adulting Online Course," founder of the Triumph Men's Conference and a recording artist with two music albums to his name. His online videos have garnered tens of millions of views, and he regularly addresses an average of 40,000 people annually at events around the world.

With a solid educational background that includes a BA in philosophy from Franciscan University of Steubenville and an MA in marriage and family therapy from Hope International University, Kim also brings the wisdom of religious formation with the Community of the Franciscans Friars of the Renewal (NYC) to his presentations. His diverse life experiences as a therapist, missionary and youth minister have uniquely prepared him to connect with a wide range of audiences.



ST. BERNARD

Paul J. Kim

Kim currently resides in Austin, Texas, with his wife and five children, adding a relatable dimension to his message of faith and family values.

Don't miss this incredible opportunity to witness Kim's transformative message at St. Bernard Preparatory School. Join us Thursday, Sept. 21, for a family talk from 6:30-8 p.m. in Room 100 of the Swisher Science Building and Friday, Sept. 22, for a student talk from 10:30 a.m.-noon. The admission fee is $10 per person or $20 per family.

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Obituary Announcements: Sept. 16-18

James "Jim" Ray Mechaw, 90
James "Jim" Ray Mechaw, age 90, of Cullman, went home peacefully to be with the Lord on Friday, Sept. 15, 2023, at MMCS in Boaz, Alabama. He was born in Lacon, Alabama. James is a member of St. John's Evangelical Christian Church in Cullman. Jim is survived by his wife of 62 years, Mary Hall Mechaw'; and a host of nieces, nephews, business associates and friends. He was preceded in death by parents: Myrtice Hart Mechaw and Commodore Johnnie Mechaw; and siblings: Ruby Harris, C.J. Mechaw, Herman Mechaw, Pete Mechaw, Billy Mechaw, Guy Mechaw, and Frankie Mechaw. The funeral service will be on Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023, at 10 a.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home. Burial will follow at Bell's Springs Cemetery. A visitation will be held on Friday evening, Sept. 22, 2023, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home. The family wants to express appreciation to our family, church family, and many friends for the compassion, prayers and support during this stressful time. Fond memories for the Mechaw family and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.mossservicefh.com. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Zonie Gail Sullenger, 77
Funeral service for Zonie Gail Sullenger, age 77, of Cullman, will be at 11 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 18, 2023, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home; burial at Cullman Heritage Cemetery. Visitation will be from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Ms. Sullenger passed away on Friday, Sept. 15, 2023, at her residence. She was born, Sept. 25, 1945, to RJ and Elouise Linton. She was preceded in death by her parents; and brother, Eddie Linton. Survivors include her daughter, Paula Sullenger; sons, Steve Sullenger and Robert (Rachel) Sullenger; grandchildren, Willa Katherine Sullenger and Stella Adell Sullenger; brother, Randy Linton; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Margaret Lanier, 102
Margaret Lanier, age 102, of Cullman (formerly of Birmingham), Alabama passed away on Saturday, Sept. 16, 2023. Margaret is preceded in death by her husband, Arlie Lanier. Margaret is survived by her children, Stephen Lanier (Carolyn), Dan Lanier, Nancy Anderson (Scott) and Barbara Frith. Margaret is also survived by numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. A visitation for Margaret will be Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2023, at Ridout's Trussville Chapel from 11 a.m. until noon. Graveside service will follow afterwards at Forest Hill Cemetery beginning at 12:30 pm. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.ridoutstrussvillechapel.com for the Lanier family.

Ida Lou Peregoy, 89
Ida Lou Peregoy, age 89, passed away on Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023 at Cullman Regional. She was born, Sept. 21, 1933, to William Jessie and Viva Lee Wilson. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, William Peregoy; son-in-law, Dale Smith and ten brothers and sisters. Survivors include her daughter, Denise Smith; sons, David (Laura) Ransom and Darin (Leah) Ransom; grandchildren, Joshua (Ashley) Smith, Bryant (Hannah) Ransom, Jesse (Kayla) Ransom, Brittany (Chase) Howse and Jacob Ransom; great grandchildren, Liam, Owen and Tucker Ransom, Emma and Gage Smith, Benton Lee Howse; sister, Marlene Anderson and a host of nieces, nephews, family and loved ones. A Memorial service will be held at a later date. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

James W. Braswell, 83
Funeral Service for James W. Braswell, age 83, of Cullman, will be at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 21, 2023, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Rev. Eric Martin officiating; burial at Mt. Zion Cemetery. Visitation will be from noon until 2 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 21, 2023, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Braswell passed away on Monday, Sept. 18, 2023, at his residence. He was born, Aug. 21, 1940, to Orville and Esther Braswell. He was preceded in death by his parents; son, Rodney Braswell; brother, Harold (Faye) Braswell; sister, Mary Marquardt; sister-in-law, Rhonda (Harlin) Aderhold; brother-in-law, Kenneth Helton. Survivors include his wife, Lynelle Braswell; sons, Gary (Mary) Braswell, Jamie Braswell and Jeffrey (Alexandria) Braswell; grandchildren, Erica Braswell and Monica (Michael) Johnson; great grandchildren, Jaxon Braswell and Ronan Johnson; sisters, Joann Helton, and Janice (Kenneth) Murphree; brothers, Thomas Braswell and David (Michelle) Braswell; sister-in-law, Beverly Kreps; and a host of nieces, nephews, family, friends and grandpets, Gwenevere, Maggie, Lucy, Rex, Boba, Obi and Zeb. The family would like to thank Affinity Hospice, 7th Street Baptist Church and Miss. Kitty for all of their love, help and support during this time.

Wayne Frederick Burgett, 89
Funeral services for Wayne Frederick Burgett, of Hanceville will be 1 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 21, 2023, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow at Good Hope Cemetery. Reverend Jimmy Sawyer will be officiating. Visitation for the public will be from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the funeral home prior to the service on Thursday. Mr. Burgett was born on Feb. 15, 1934, in Cullman, Alabama to the late Willie Eugene Burgett and Dovie Alice Thompson. He passed away at his residence on Sept. 17, 2023, in Hanceville, Alabama at the age of 89. Mr. Burgett was also a member of the United States Marine Corps and served in the Korean War. In addition, he also received the National Defense Service Medal. Survivors include his wife, Bobbie Burgett; son, Steve (Dianne) Burgett; daughter, Dina Lynn Mashburn; four grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; sisters, Runelle Thomas and Freda Vaughn; and a host of many nieces and nephews. Serving as pallbearers will be the nephews of Mr. Burgett. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Burgett Family.

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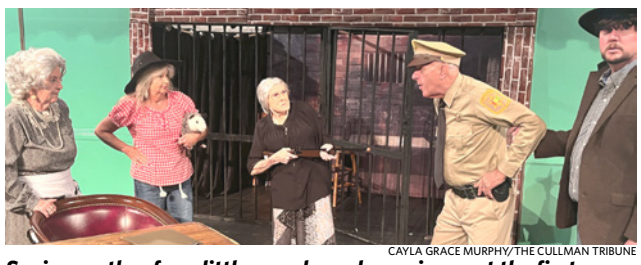
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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

'Mayberry Goes to Hee Haw' again Oct. 26

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com



CAYLA GRACE MURPHY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Seniors gather for a little pre-show shenanigans at the first showing of "Mayberry Goes to Hee Haw," hosted at the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre at Wallace State Community College on Thursday, Sept.14, 2023. Left to right are Barbara Phillips, Tonya Ellison, Faye Ratliff, Ken Schumacher and Matthew Looney.

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Hundreds of fans of classic family friendly comedy piled into the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre at Wallace State Community College on Thursday, Sept. 14, 2023, as the Senior Outreach Players brought golden age characters from shows like "Andy Griffith," "Mama's Family" and "Hee Haw" to the black box stage in a medley rendition known as "Mayberry Goes to Hee Haw." If you missed it, don't worry; they're doing it all over again on Thursday, Oct. 26.

This performance was extra special, however, due to the large stage, lighting and music scores previously unavailable at the smaller venues that Senior Outreach Players are used to performing at, shared Director and Playwright Jamie Looney.

"I wish you could see how proud the seniors were after their performance," smiled Looney, "You could see how happy they were about their family coming to watch. They really grew closer and developed friendships with one another."

On a less-than-stellar note, Senior Outreach Players mainstays Jim and Ann Anderton unfortunately were unable to perform as planned as Porter Wagoner and Dolly Parton due to an auto accident the day before the show.

Looney shared that the cast came together, hands clasped in prayer, Looney noting, "The whole cast loves them so much!"

The next performance of "Mayberry Goes to Hee Haw" will be Thursday, Oct. 26, at 2 p.m. at the Donald E. Green Active Adult Center located at 1625 Cleveland Ave. SW. Tickets are $10.

For more information on the show, or to join Senior Outreach Players, contact Jamie Looney at 256-339-9863.

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