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The Cullman Tribune

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SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

West Point sweeps Russellville on senior night

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Oktoberfest 2023

Cullman Oktoberfest kicked off Thursday, Sept. 28. Ernest Hauk, president of the Friends of Frankweiler, is seen enjoying the festivities. The festival continues today at the Festhalle and Depot Park. »



MARTHA NEEDHAM/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

2023 Oktoberfest underway

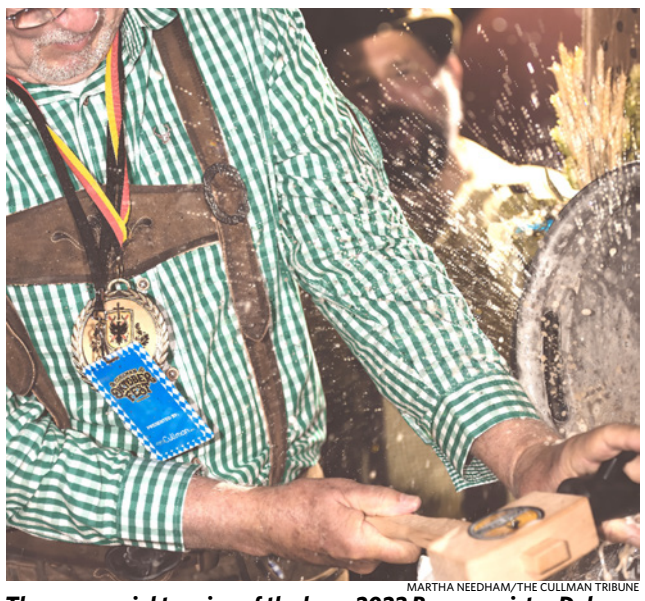


MARTHA NEEDHAM/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

2023 Burgermeister Dale Greer arrives in style as the head of the 2023 Oktoberfest parade on Thursday, Sept. 28. The opening ceremony took place soon after.

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Visitors to Cullman this weekend may see a very different Warehouse District than what they're used to...men in funny-looking overalls (lederhosen), women in flower crowns, tall steins of frothy beer and the pervading scent of pretzels and brats. No, it's not Munich, Bavaria or the set of "The Sound of Music"; it's Oktoberfest in Cullman, and it's officially underway. This year's Oktoberfest is made even more special because it coincides with the 150th anniversary of the founding of the » PAGE 2



MARTHA NEEDHAM/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The ceremonial tapping of the keg - 2023 Burgermeister Dale Greer rose to the challenge and tapped it in two shots.

Vinemont man killed in Cullman County plane crash

» PAGE 8

Seniors swing and shout at Oktoberfest Senior Day



CAYLA GRACE MURPHY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Seniors and Miss Oktoberfest representatives twirl and dance to classic polka tunes at Senior Day hosted in the Hofbräuhaus at Oktoberfest on Friday, Sept. 29. » PAGE 9

Participants enjoy 14th annual Candlelight Walking Tour



TIFFANY MCKOY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Michael Sullins and Julie Burks host the 14th annual Candlelight Walking Tour on Thursday, Sept. 28. » PAGE 8

Hanceville City Council approves 2024 budget



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Hanceville City Council approved the city's FY 2024 budget at Thursday night's council meeting. » PAGE 4

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Sept. 29

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Sept. 29, 2023. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Sept. 25

- reckless endangerment; CR 1118
- permitting dogs to run at large; CR 825
- theft of property; CR 1545
- theft of property; CR 1212
- violation of protection order; CR 1545
- possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 278 W
- trespassing; CR 569
- domestic violence; CR 811
- domestic violence; CR 1411
- harassment; CR 825
- domestic violence; CR 703
- theft of property; CR 1436

Sept. 26

- domestic violence; CR 1082
- burglary; CR 1625
- theft of property; CR 84
- domestic violence; Midfield Dr.
- domestic violence; CR 1623
- violation of protection order; Sarah Beth St.
- harassment; CR 1223
- menacing; criminal mischief; Hwy. 157

Sept. 27

- assault; CR 175
- assault; CR 109
- possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 157
- trespassing; Hwy. 278 E
- assault; CR 1187

ARRESTS

Sept. 25 – 27

Barry, Benjamin; 46
- larceny/shoplifting $1,500 - $2,500 (2 counts)
- forgery-forged instrument (2 counts)

Beebe, Tyrone D.; 26
- FTA- operating vehicle with improper tires
- FTA- operating vehicle without insurance
- FTA- DUI (controlled substances)
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia (4 counts)
- FTA- fail stop sign
- FTA- tinted windows
- FTA- driver's license not in possession
- FTA- expired tag
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs (2 counts)

Cuda, David K.; 33
- larceny/theft of property-2nd degree, $1,500 - $2,500

Dragon, Albert J.; 42
- possession of dangerous drugs

Fancher, Jonathan M.; 30
- assault-harassment

Gamel, Christopher L.; 35
- Grand Jury- sexual abuse-1st degree

Grund, Janet F.; 45
- criminal trespass

Harris, Ronald T.; 75
- assault-harassment (2 counts)

Holcomb, Crystal J.; 41
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Hollis, Amanda A.; 50
- FTA- obstructing justice using false identity
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Jackson, Brandon K.; 40
- USMS weapons offense

Lambert, Adam K.; 43
- assault-aggravated stalking-following in violation of a court order

Laningham, Kevin L.; 46
- FTA- sexual abuse-1st degree
- FTA- sex offense-adult sex offender-violation of homelessness restrictions

Martin, Jordon A.; 27
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Moore, John E.; 44
- obstruction-violation of a domestic violence protection order

Nichols, Madison H.; 33
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Peterson, Ashley S.; 40
- FTA- larceny/theft-miscellaneous theft $500 less than $1,500
- FTA- larceny/theft-theft of property-2nd degree, $1,500 - $2,500

Reeves Jr., James T.; 31
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Rodgers, Timothy C.; 21
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Sedlmayr, Bryan; 47
- DUI (controlled substances)

Smith, Cody D.; 34
- resisting arrest
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Stone, Ted; 43
- FTA- possession of methamphetamine
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Watson, Jeramy D.; 33
- public intoxication

Williams, Brittney M.; 36
- burglary-residence-no force

Zarate-Morga, Ulises; 25
- public intoxication
- unauthorized possession, sale, delivery, use, etc., of wine or alcohol

Zigenfus, James W.; 32
- assault-aggravated assault non family-gun

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Sept. 23
- theft of property-3rd degree; person; Olive St. SW; wallet and contents

Sept. 27
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; general merchandise; $239

Sept. 28
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; Brunner St. NW
- theft of property-3rd degree; If The Shoe Fits, LLC., Clark St. NE; general merchandise; $546
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $160
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157; general merchandise; $66

ARRESTS

Sept. 27 – 28

Cabanas, Ignacio S.; 21
- domestic violence
- possession of marijuana

Lay, Rachel L.; 32
- disorderly conduct
- FTA- domestic violence-3rd degree

Olszowka, Dax M.; 25
- FTA- domestic violence-3rd degree

Bolte, Destiny M.; 23
- DUI

Bartley, Sydney E.; 23
- domestic violence-3rd degree

Susskin, Kenya B.; 34
- FTA- public intoxication (2 counts)

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Wallace State hosting free film series beginning Oct. 19

Gail Crutchfield
Wallace State

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College announces the return of the Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers for the 2023-2024 season. Presented by South Arts and made possible through a partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers connects independent filmmakers with communities throughout the South for screenings and conversations around stories, important topics and the art of filmmaking.

"We are excited to once again offer these films for free viewing for our students and the community," said Kristen Holmes, vice president for students and chief marketing officer at Wallace State. "Films screened in the past through the Southern Circuit have been entertaining and provided opportunities for discussions on a wide range of subjects."

All films are free and open to the public. They are an extension of Wallace State's Burrow Museum offerings in conjunction with Wallace State Student Engagement.

The Only Doctor

The film series will begin on Thursday, Oct. 19, at 5:30 p.m. in the Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts. The first film is "The Only Doctor," a documentary about Dr. Karen Kinsell, who for nearly 20 years has been the only physician in a southwest Georgia county, and provides an unfiltered look at the status of rural health care in America.

The film is about health care for economically disadvantaged people and touches on other issues like mental health, addiction, rural resources, inequality and mobility, said producer Anjanette Levert. Director Matthew Hashiguchi is scheduled to appear.

View the movie trailer at: https://vimeo.com/338135749.

Little Satchmo

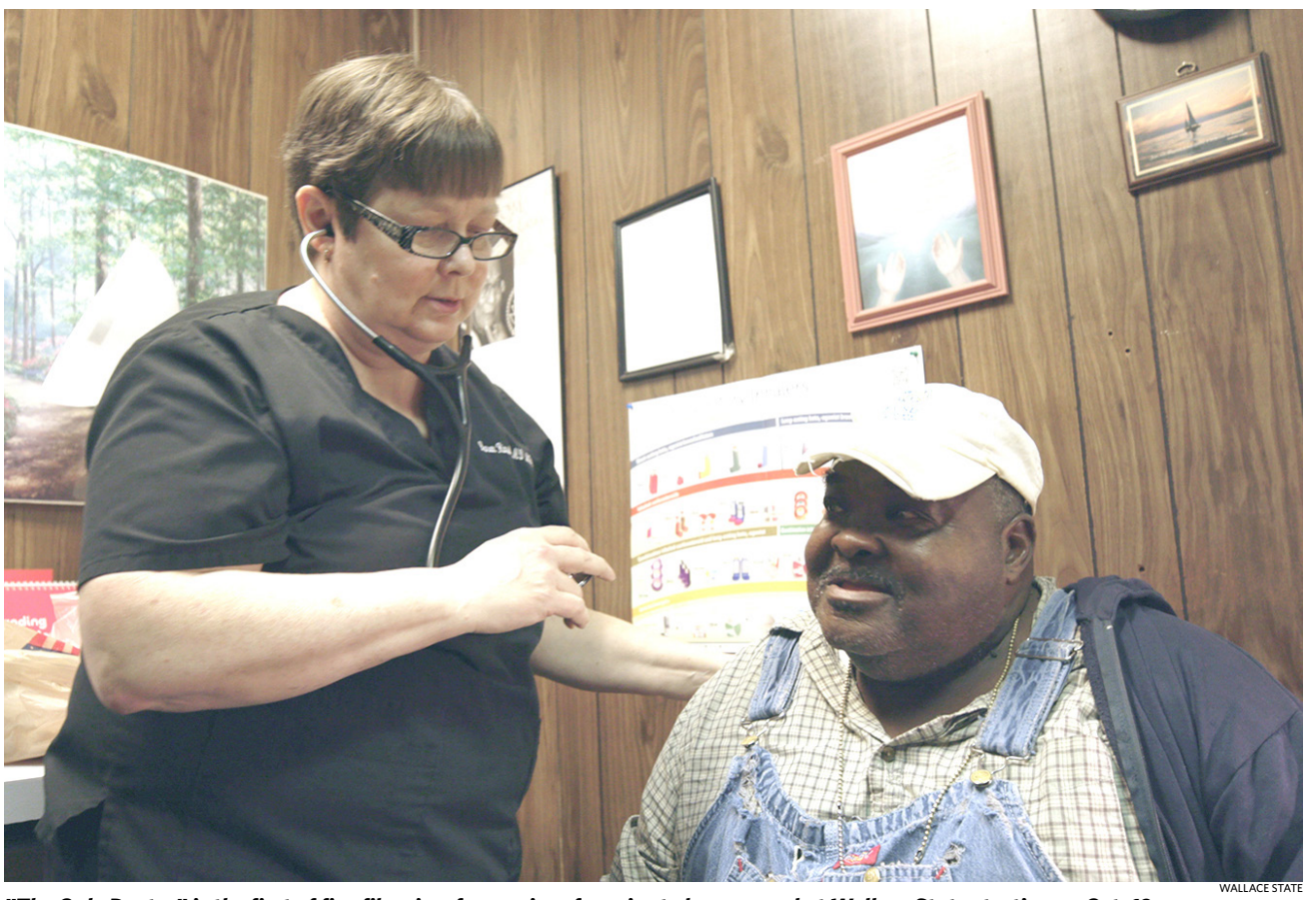
The next film is "Little Satchmo" on Nov. 9. "Little Satchmo" tells the story of the daughter of Louis Armstrong and why little has been known about her until now.

Producer JC Guest and writer and director John Alexander are scheduled to appear at the screening, which will be held in the Bailey Center Auditorium at 5:30 p.m.

View the movie trailer at: https://littlesatchmodoc.com/.

Butterfly in the Sky

The next film in the series is "Butterfly in the Sky" on Feb. 15, 2024. The documentary tells the story of beloved PBS children's series "Reading Rainbow," its iconic host LeVar Burton and the challenges creators faced in cultivating a love of reading through television.



WALLACE STATE

"The Only Doctor" is the first of five films in a free series of movies to be screened at Wallace State starting on Oct. 19.

"Butterfly in the Sky" will be screened in the Bailey Center Auditorium on March 14 at 5:30 p.m. Co-director and editor Bradford Thomason is scheduled to attend.

See a clip from the movie at https://vimeo.com/724991207.

Master of Light

On March 14, a screening of "Master of Light" will be held at 5:30 p.m. at the Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts.

The Winner of the SXSW 2022 Documentary Feature Grand Jury Award, "Master of Light" highlights George Anthony Morton, a classical painter who spent 10 years in federal prison for dealing drugs.

While incarcerated, he nurtured his craft and unique artistic ability. Since his release, he is doing everything he can to defy society's unlevel playing field and tackle the white-dominant art world. Morton is scheduled to appear at the screening.

View the movie trailer at www.youtube.com/watch?v=9dHJGCNQBlk.

Hollow Tree

The final film in the series is "Hollow Tree" on April 18 at 5:30 p.m. at the Betty Leeth Haynes Auditorium.

"Hollow Tree" follows three teenagers coming of age in their sinking homeland of Louisiana. For the first time, they notice the Mississippi River's engineering, stumps of cypress trees and billowing smokestacks. Their different perspectives — as Indigenous, white and Angolan young women — shape their story of the climate crisis.

Director Kira Akerman is scheduled to attend. The film won a Jury Prize at its premiere at The New Orleans Film Festival (NOFF). It was selected for the Sundance Institute's 2019 Talent Forum, The Climate Story Lab and The Gotham Documentary Lab.

View the movie trailer at https://vimeo.com/763398145.

Oktoberfest (from Front)

City of Cullman.

Thursday's festivities ushered in a three-day celebration of the city's German heritage combined with our deep Southern roots; the evening began with a short parade through Cullman's Warehouse District.

Ushered in by the lively polka tunes of Good Bellows and arriving in style via horse-drawn carriage, 2023 Burgermeister Dale Greer waved to the crowd while fair maidens in dirndls and flower crowns with flowing ribbons from Brooke Desnoes Ballet Academy danced behind.

Performers on stilts and jugglers kept the crowd entertained as coordinators set up the main stage.

Hundreds of attendees, heads bowed, crowded the stage as Rev. John Richter opened the ceremony in prayer, both in German and English.

Sponsors were thanked and past burgermeisters were recognized, along with direct descendants of Colonel Cullman himself sitting proudly in the front row.

Then came the passing of the torch, or the passing of the Burgermeister medal, when 2022 Burgermeister Mike Mullaney proudly declared, "I'm here to pass the torch to what I think is the ultimate selection for Burgermeister!"

Greer graciously accepted the medal and noted his excitement in a brief address, saying "I can't tell you what an honor it's been to go around the community this past week.

"I've been to some of the schools with Ben Harrison, and a number of the company sponsors," he laughed, mentioning the mixed reviews he gets from his traditional German garb.

Greer also noted the special relevance of this year's Oktoberfest, and the significance of the 150th anniversary the community will be celebrating through the end of the year.

"The kickoff of Oktoberfest is a great event. It actually is the beginning of the celebration of the 150-year history of Cullman," he exclaimed, to great applause.

"Thank you so much for the honor of being here. I'm representing a great group of guys- and girls -who have been here for so many years!"

Then came the recognition of Miss Oktoberfest: a harrowing game of chance between Cullman County Fair Queen representatives, all hoping to be the lucky fraulein with a pretzel in her cupcake.

After a few cautious nibbles, the girls dove in, with Kaylee Windsor from Cold Springs High School coming out victorious.

The rowdy crowd then settled into the Hofbräuhaus to witness the ceremonial tapping of the keg, brewed by Goat Island.

The Tribune put forth the challenge to Greer to beat the Munich average number of attempts; Greer rose to the challenge amid a roaring crowd and matched it in two swings - after a swift hit to the thumb!

Steins were then thrust into the fray to catch the spray of the keg, with the first 200 attendees set to get a free pour.

After the keg tapping, the party was in full swing as attendees weaved in and out from biergarten to biergarten, munching currywurst and pretzels while being serenaded by Good Bellows.

Brat eating and costume contests brought out fierce competition on the main stage, while only the strong survived in the stein hoisting competition in the Hofbräuhaus.

If you missed out on the fun of Thursday's opening ceremony, or Friday's evening of events, make sure to attend Saturday for the annual wiener dog race, live music and even more contests open to all ages!

For more information, go to www.cullmanoktoberfestival.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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

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

Church Services- Spirit Life Church of GOD
• Spirit Life Church of GOD, 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Mondays-Fridays- Free hot meals for children Mondays 11 a.m.-noon, Tuesdays 1-2 p.m. and Wednesdays-Fridays 11 a.m.-noon. Cullman Housing Authority Community Center 1545 Vine Circle SW. Please call Kristie 256-636-5362 for more information. Eat in or take out. Sponsored by Kids Loving Kids, Raising Arrows Ministry and Spirit Life Church.
• Kids Loving Kids Birthday Blessings serves children ages 1-18 in need of assistance to celebrate their birthdays. Register your child and pick up a birthday box with cake mix, icing, sprinkles, decorations and toys! Pickup is the last weekend of the month. Saturday (5100 Curry Highway Suite 100-B Jasper, AL 35504) from 3-5 p.m. or the last Sunday of the month at Spirit Life Church Cullman from 12:30-1 p.m. Birth certificate is required at the time of box pickup. Register at https://form.jotform.com/203435614640045. For more information, text or call 205-717-7478.
• Saturday, Sept. 30 – Noon. Motorcycle Ride for Kids Loving Kids. Lunch will be served!
• Sunday, Oct. 1 - 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, Oct. 1 - 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.

Oktoberfest
Concludes Saturday, Sept. 30. 10 a.m.-11 p.m. at the Festhalle and Depot Park. www.cullmanoktoberfestival.com/oktoberfest-schedule

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.

Swamp John's Dinner
Tuesday, Oct 3, 4-7 p.m. at St. Andrew's Methodist Church, 615 Main Ave. SW (across from post office). Eat in or take out. Everyone is welcome!

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.

Cullman Chapter of National Association of Retired and Active Federal Employees Meeting
Monday, Oct. 9, at The Golden Corral Buffet. The speaker scheduled is outgoing United Way of Cullman County Executive Director Waid Harbison. The business meeting will begin at noon. Dutch lunch prior to meeting.

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.

Pleasant View Homecoming Service
Sunday, Oct. 15, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Lunch will be served. We will start singing again about 1:30 that afternoon. We will have singing featuring 2nd Mile from DeKalb, Mississippi. Everyone is invited. All former pastors and members and their families have a special invitation to come. We will not have Sunday School or service that night. 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.

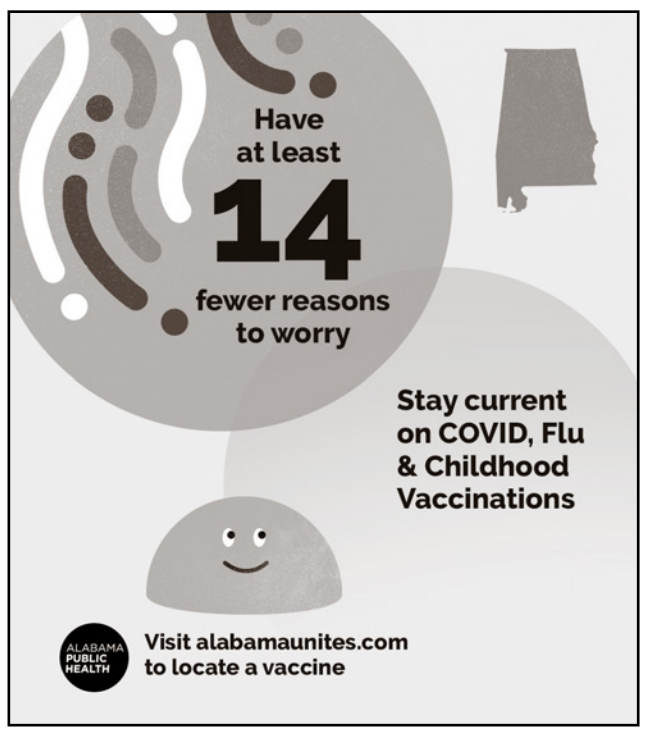
Trinity Lutheran Church German Lunch
Saturday, Oct. 21, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at 505 Commercial St., Hanceville, in conjunction with the Mud Creek Arts and Crafts Festival taking place in downtown Hanceville that day. Adult plates will include bratwurst, German potato salad, choice of sauerkraut or red cabbage, German desserts and tea for $12. A child's plate of bratwurst, snicker doodle cookies and tea will be $5. All profits will go to Hanceville schools. Eat lunch in our historic 1885 church building and tour our present worship sanctuary.

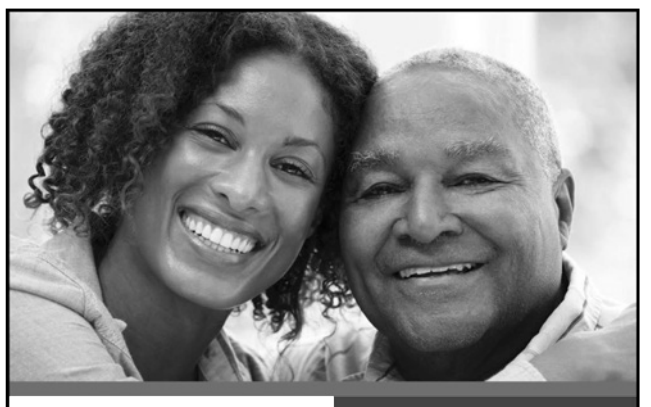
Mt. Nebo Baptist Church 100th Homecoming Celebration
Sunday, Oct. 22, 10 a.m.-noon, at Mt. Nebo Baptist Church, 11 County Road 1273, Cullman, AL 35057. Praise and worship, including a historical presentation by Alabama Baptist. Fellowship meal at noon. Pastor is Gary Waddell.

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.

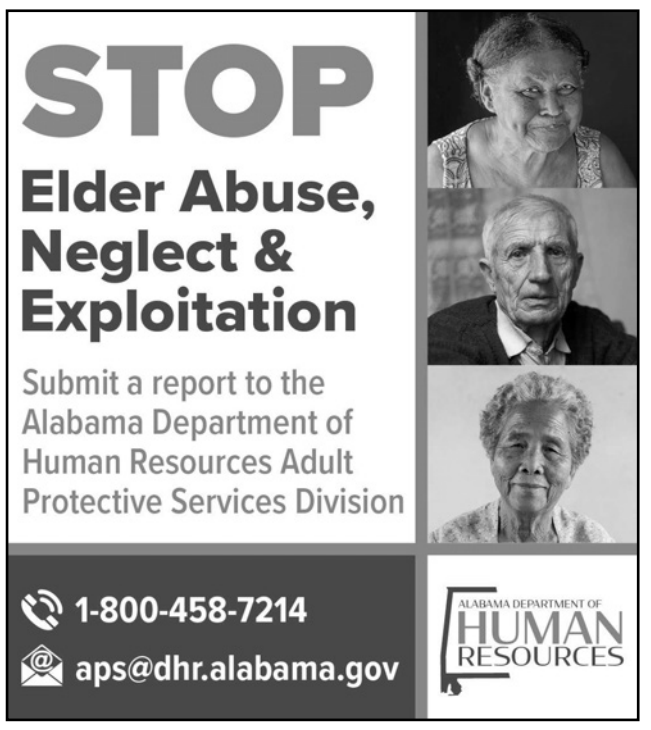
'Planted': The Link of Cullman County's 2nd Annual Gala
Thursday, Nov. 2, at 6 p.m. at The Venue at Cotton Creek. Tickets go on sale Friday, Aug. 11. For more information or to inquire about a sponsorship, contact Tiffany Wright at tiffanywright@linkingcullman.com.

2023 Cullman County Veterans Day Celebration
Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Cullman Regional Airport. Free admission and free parking. Huey rides, Chinook ground tours, sky dive demo, ground tours, Model-A car show, free lunch for veterans and music from the Armed Forces Radio Vietnam.









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MARTHA NEEDHAM/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Hanceville (from Front)

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The Hanceville City Council held its final September meeting at Hanceville City Hall and after a lengthy review of the city's proposed budget at its last meeting, the council approved the budget for the 2024 fiscal year Thursday night. The final approved amount in the budget was $6,279,525.97.

In addition to approving the budget, the council also approved the following new business items,

• Approved the closing of roads around Hanceville High School's Ray Talley Stadium on Sat. Oct. 28 for this year's Mud Creek Marching Festival

• Approved the closing of a portion of Commercial Street and Bulldog Lane for Hanceville High School's Homecoming Parade from 1 – 2 p.m. Fri. Sept. 29.

The Hanceville City Council will hold its next regularly scheduled meeting at Hanceville City Hall Thursday, Oct. 12 at 5:30 p.m.

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LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

By Grace Beauty and Wellness

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — When Kayra Everett and Jen Woodard started the joint venture of opening an aesthetic and wellness salon, they were bound and determined to make something beautiful out of something ugly. With both enduring the loss of a parent back to back, they buckled down and through faith and by grace they made it through. What a fitting name for the salon they had envisioned: By Grace Beauty and Wellness.

"When life changes so suddenly, it causes you to re-evaluate your purpose and future goals," said Everett, who left behind 12 years in a clinical setting to bring By Grace to fruition with Woodard.

"We both just felt as if God was preparing us to close one chapter in our lives and He began opening up all the doors that we needed to start the next."

Everett and Woodard found Ephesians 2:8 particularly guiding during the planning stage, noting "This verse speaks to everyone on so many levels.

"To us, it was our faith in Him that pulled us both through some devastating times and it's by our faith that

"He is leading us as we begin this new chapter of our lives."

By Grace's mission is to empower clients to improve their overall health and wellness by helping them feel just as beautiful on the outside as Everett and Woodard believe God made them on the inside.

With a stacked menu of aesthetic services ranging from basic hair blowouts, luxe facials and even an "Emsella" treatment, the only FDA-approved device that helps treat urinary incontinence, they pride themselves on being able to fulfill most needs any client may have.

"Our prayer is that we can be a light for anyone that comes in to see us.

"We want patients and clients to feel blessed when they leave," said Everett, who said she believes when you feel you are being the best version of yourself, you are provided with confidence, a sense of inner peace and a feeling of self-worth - all of which are definitely a blessing.

With only a few months into business, Everett and Woodard said they could never have expected the outpouring of support from the community.

"So far, it's been an amazing journey and we are so blessed with the support that we have received.

"We are excited to see where this journey is going to take us!" exclaimed Everett.

By Grace Beauty and Wellness is located at 1928 Market Platz Center SW. Business hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., with blow dry bar open most Saturdays from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information, call 256-962-5857.



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Jen Woodard, left, and Kayra Everett, right, pose in front of a boxwood wall as they promote By Grace Beauty and Wellness.

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SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

PREP VOLLEYBALL

West Point sweeps Russellville on senior night

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

WEST POINT, Ala. — Thursday night was Senior Night inside Jim Boyd Gymnasium at West Point High School, and the Lady Warriors celebrated the occasion with a 3-0 sweep over Russellville.

West Point got off to a quick start in the first set as Patton Fell started things off with an ace, then Liberty Shadix followed that up with a point to give them a quick 2-0 lead. Later on, a pair of aces from Caitlee Simmons helped the Lady Warriors push their lead to 8-1. Kills by Liberty and Laklin Shadix made it a 12-4 game.

West Point continued to add onto the lead, as points by Laklin Shadix, Macie Brown, and Hailee Wheeler, gave them a 20-6 lead. The Lady Warriors ended the set strong, as a kill by Liberty Shadix helped them get the 25-12 win in the first set.

The Lady Warriors got off to a good start in the second set, as an ace from Fell gave them an early 4-1 lead. Aces from Simmons and Charli Aris, plus a point and kill by Liberty Shadix, pushed the West Point lead to 11-4. Russellville made it a 14-9 game later on, but aces from Laklin Shadix and Fell gave the Lady Warriors an 18-10 lead. The Lady Golden Tigers made it a 21-12 game, but West Point finished the set strong. A kill from Laklin Shadix and back-to-back aces from Aris gave West Point the 25-12 win in the second set.

The third set went back-and-forth for most of the contest. Back-to-back points by Laklin Shadix gave the Lady Warriors a 5-4 lead early on in the set. West Point held a slim 8-6 lead, but Russellville ended up tying things up at nine.

Three straight points by the Lady Golden Tigers gave them a 12-10 lead, but the Lady Warriors tied things up at 12 on a kill by Sara Owens. Russellville held a slim 15-14 lead, but West Point looked to go on a big run to get the lead right back. They would do just that, as kills by Laklin Shadix, Adrianna Owens, and Simmons, gave them a 20-15 lead. The Lady Warriors got kills from Fell and Liberty Shadix, plus a point by Simmons, to help swell their lead to 23-16. West Point would go on to take the third set, 25-18, to finish off the sweep of Russellville.

West Point will now start preparing for next week's Cullman County tournament.



SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

West Point's Laklin Shadix goes up for a kill during the Lady Warriors' 3-0 win over Russellville Thursday night.

PREP BASKETBALL

'True joy is found in the Lord': Phoebe Jones recaps junior season at Holly Pond, talks move to Cullman Christian

Sammy Confer
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CULLMAN, Ala. — In this interview, I talked to Phoebe Jones about her junior season with the Holly Pond Lady Broncos as well as her recent move to Cullman Christian.

"We had a really good season. The team had a strong connection, and we grew a lot as the season went on. I had to learn that it's okay to step out of your comfort zone, because I played some positions I was not used to playing," Jones said. "They were great teammates. I had so much fun with the practices, games, and tournaments, getting closer and growing as a team. One girl I loved playing with was our only senior, Aliyah Ryan. She was a great leader and an even better friend. She always knew how to lift others up and her strengths to our team. Getting to play volleyball with her these past few years were amazing. We grew close and bonded over things outside of volleyball. I learned the girls' strengths and weaknesses, how to lift others up, and encourage them."

She loved playing for coach Adrien Adams and learned so much from her. She saw so much improvement from her game throughout her time at Holly Pond and will continue to work on her game as she gets ready for this upcoming season at Cullman Christian.

"Coach Adams was a good coach to our team. She taught me patience and also, the importance of putting God first in all situations. That is something I will always take with me," Jones said. "I think I improved a lot as the years went on, as well as our team. I learned how to play different positions on the court and also learned how to have a positive attitude through any situation. I will continue to work on the little things. Work on volleyball, even when we're not practicing. Something important to me that I also want to improve on is how my teammates will see me. I want to grow my relationship with Christ, so that my teammates see Christ through me. That in any situation, whether we win or lose, or we are having a bad day, in the end, that's not what matters. It's trusting in Christ and striving to be more like Him every day."

She talked about her individual goals, and she also wished her former Bronco teammates the very best of luck this upcoming season.

"I want to work harder and get better. I want to work on not only volleyball skills, but also on building muscle and my speed. I hope that Holly Pond has a great season and makes it far. This team has talent and a strong love for the game. I wish the best for these girls and the team."

It was a very successful season for the JV and varsity teams for the Lady Broncos as the JV won the county championship and the varsity made it to the Sweet 16. Jones talked about that experience and what she learned. She played with an amazing group of girls and learned so much from her coaches.

"Basketball was a lot of fun. Last season on JV went really well for us. We won county and I was on the All-Tournament team. After JV season ended, I got moved up to varsity, where we were the area runners-up and made it to the Sweet 16. Through all this, I learned to always encourage and do your best. With a team like ours, we were all close and encouraging each other, especially when we were down. That's when we did our best," she said. "Playing with these girls, I feel like, made me become a better leader. Being one of the oldest girls on the team, I had to learn to take control during games and help encourage my team. These girls also always encouraged me. When I got down, they always supported me and helped me become a better person."

She added, "Coach Daugherty was a great coach. We had a good connection, and she is definitely one I look up to on and off the court. She taught me more than to love basketball, but to love God first. Along with her, I was also coached by coach Hartline and coach McKelvy. These three always pushed me. They knew the things I could do and when I wasn't pushing myself, they pushed me. They all love their job, and they taught me that you are always capable of being able to do more."

Jones got to play with three great seniors last year and saw a tremendous amount of improvement in her game.

"Maddi Ham is a great basketball player and she taught me that I need to put work in, even when no one is looking. There is always room for improvement. She always encouraged us and pushed us as a team. Along with her being great on the court, off the court, she was an amazing friend. She always made you laugh and is someone you can always go to. Along with her is Samantha Giles. Sam always hustled. She always tried her best and she taught me to do the same. In practice, she always pushed us in drills to do better. We became close and I'm glad for our friendship that we made. Bai Widner was also a great player. She always encouraged us and was always one to talk up and lead our team."

She added, "I saw a bunch of improvement in myself. I only started playing in seventh grade and my skill level, along with the way I knew the game, were years behind some of the girls I was competing against. I knew I had a lot of work to do, but I knew I could do it. To improve, I worked with my brother, Caleb. He was always willing to work with me and Abbey and always pushed us hard. Another thing that helped me improve was playing travel basketball. I started playing for the Rim Rockers a few years ago, and my coaches, Luke Yarbrough, Caleb White, and Jarrod Oliver, helped me not only improve my ball-handling skills, but also how to play the game. They weren't afraid to yell at me when I was doing bad, but then coach me on what I can do to get better."

Jones will continue to work on her game as she prepares for this upcoming season, and she talked about her individual goals. She wished her former Holly Pond teammates the very best of luck this upcoming season.

"I will continue to work on getting stronger and my speed, handling the ball under pressure, and being a consistent shooter," she said. "Individually, I want to work every day on ball-handling and shooting drills and try to improve the best I can to help my team for next season. I hope that Holly Pond has the best season. I hope they all work together as a team, communicate, and have leadership."



BILL PIPER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman Christian's Phoebe Jones

She has several role models that she looks up to.

"My role models would be my brothers, Jacob and Caleb Jones. They both played sports in high school and Jacob also played in college. They were both really good in high school and I know I can always go to them for help. They taught me to never give up and push through. Caleb is always willing to train with me and always tells me that in order to get better, I have to work outside of practices. They both always find ways to help me and tell me what I could fix from the game I just played. Without them, I would not be the person that I am today. Another person that is always with me is my twin sister, Abbey. We have a connection that no one else has. We work well together. Coach Daugherty will also be a role model of mine. She was a great player in high school and a great coach to me. She was always willing to listen and help me. Aside from basketball, she is also a Godly woman that taught me more about Christ and is always someone I can go to."

She talked about the best advice that someone ever gave her, what all she will bring with her to Cullman Christian, her thoughts on the school, what all she will take away from being a Bronco, and what she learned about being at Holly Pond that will help her at Cullman Christian.

"The best advice I was ever given was that sports are going to come to an end. All that matters is your relationship with Christ. True joy is found in the Lord," she said. "Cullman Christian is a great school. I can't wait for the school year to start and see what my senior year has to bring. I hope to be a role model and leader to those younger than me. Mr. Yearwood is great and is doing great things with the school. The school focuses not only on academic growth, but also on spiritual growth."

She added, "I hope to always remember the friendships I have and all the memories I have made being at Holly Pond since kindergarten. I learned how to treat others and it takes hard work to succeed. I will take these things with me to Cullman Christian."

PREP FOOTBALL

'Play every play like it's your last': Cold Springs' Matt Williams recaps sophomore season

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

BREMEN, Ala. — In this interview, I talked to Cold Springs junior Matt Williams about the experience he gained last season and what it was like to play with a great group of teammates.

"I feel it went pretty good, but obviously, it could've gone better. I learned that we have to finish if we really want to achieve our true potential. Only a few plays separated us from a 4-6 season compared to a 7-3 season and possible playoff potential," Williams said. "It was a special season and a special group of guys. Our season didn't reflect how good we really were. You could count on everyone to make plays when we needed them, but it doesn't always go our way."

Williams feels blessed to be playing for head coach Brendan Voce and learned a very important thing from him. Even he has improved in all aspects of his game, he has continued to work on his game even more as he prepares for the 2023 season.

"He's a hard-nosed old-school and tough football coach who coaches like no one else. He is the best coach I have ever had.

"He has taught me a lot, including how to be a man. I'm grateful for him and our whole coaching staff, mostly coach Voce and coach Matt," Williams said. "I believe I have improved drastically in all aspects of my game. I will continue to work on improving every factor of myself, because I am not perfect anywhere."

He has some goals set for the upcoming season. He talked about what will make this team special to watch and his role models.

"We want to play in November, where the best of the best play. Individually, my dad was an All-State selection 30 years ago, so my goal will always be to one-up him. I want to be first-team All-State, All-County, and All-Area," he said.

"What will make our team special to watch is the physicality, grit, and overall underdog mentality that we've adopted.

"My biggest role models in football are my dad, Coach Voce, and Coach Matt. Also, senior Josh Winfrey, who pushes me to be better."

He talked about the best advice that someone ever gave him and what he's looking forward to the most this upcoming season.

"The best advice that someone ever gave me is to play every play like it's your last, because you're not guaranteed to play after high school," he said. "I'm looking forward to show everybody how good this team really is."



KATIE DRUMMOND/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cold Springs' Matt Williams (3)

PREP SPORTS

'Be a good person and show people the love of Jesus Christ': West Point's JD Cochran ready for senior seasons

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

WEST POINT, Ala. — In this interview, I talked to West Point senior multi-sport athlete JD Cochran about his junior seasons and what he's looking forward to most about his senior seasons with his teammates.

"We had a lot of young guys on the field. We didn't have a lot of upperclassmen, but this year, we will be much older this year. We learned last year just what it takes to win on Friday nights. It should be fun this year. With it being my last ride, we have to leave it all out on the field every Friday night," Cochran said. "I've been blessed since freshman year to have some great upperclassmen to look up to. There's always been guys ahead of me that showed me how and what to do, day in and day out. From the early mornings to the late nights, that work is shown on the field."

Cochran had a blast playing under head coach Don Farley and has seen so much improvement from his game throughout his time playing football.

"It's been an absolute joy and pleasure to play for him. He lets you have freedom, but not too much. He is one of the best people and leaders to lead our football team. He gets the best out of his players and he shows us how hard work pays off. When you work hard, things start going your way, and if we put in the work, our season will fall into place," Cochran said. "I've gone from being a freshman that plays just on special teams, to having a big role at starting linebacker and me having to grow up quick. With it being my senior year, the expectations are big on having to fill those shoes and be the quarterback on defense. I'm ready to be that leader on defense and show the guys around me how to be that guy in the big moment."

The team has been working really hard during the summer and are looking to have a strong season in 2023. He talked about his goals and the team goals for this upcoming season.

"We have been going through summer workouts and OTAs this summer to help us get better and ready for the season. We have got 10-41 to come help us for this season, from getting stronger in the weight room, to getting in better condition and faster. I think we are ready to go, and we'll be a much different team from last season," he said. "Our goals are to be the best team that we can be, make the playoffs, and make a deep run in the playoffs. Individually, I'm going to do whatever I can do to help the team achieve those goals, from being the leader, to being the best teammate I can be, whatever it is. I'm willing to do anything for us to win ballgames."

Cochran thinks this year will be a very special one for the Warriors.

"What's going to make this team special is how we all get together to have one goal and that is to win. That's the great thing about sports: it's not all about what you do, but it's about how all 11 guys on the field come together to have one goal and that is to win. When everyone buys in, which everyone has, and we come together, that's when something special happens and a deep run in the playoffs is very possible."

The Warriors had a decent basketball season and Cochran learned a very important thing from some great guys. He's had a blast playing under head coach Mason Voce and has soaked up as much as he can from him so far.

"I felt like we underachieved greatly. We had a group of guys that had a lot of talent, but the ball didn't bounce our way sometimes. The guys I played with last year were great and they showed all of us younger guys what it took to be successful on and off the court, and it shows when you do that work," he said. "Playing for coach Voce is fun. I've known him for a while. He coached us when we were in middle school and on JV for my freshman year. Us seniors have a great relationship with him and are usually on the same page when it comes to the game. What I've learned from him so far is how to be consistent. If you come in every day and put in the work, the success will come. He puts in so much effort and time that no one sees that makes myself and my team so much better. From breaking down film, to showing us how to be successful against the other opponent, there is no one that works harder and puts in more time than he does."

Cochran has improved greatly on his game throughout his basketball career and will continue to put in the work as he gets ready for next season.

"I've improved greatly. I'm best around the rim and rebounding, but there are always places to improve. But the best thing that happened that I never thought would happen was when I got moved down to JV. I started on varsity the first half of the season, but Coach Voce saw I needed to improve on some things, so he slid me down to JV and it made my offensive game improve so much. If you believe what your coaches are doing, good things will happen to you," he said. "I will continue to work my touch around the basket, as well as my jump shots."

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

"Our team goals are to bring home a county championship and an area championship, which hasn't been doing in a long time. With the depth and chemistry we have as a team, I think we can go deep in the state playoffs," he said. "What I think will make our team special to watch is how much our older guys and younger guys have come together with one goal in mind, which is to win. We have a lot of depth, which is a good thing, and when we all buy in to what Coach Voce is saying, that's when we will make changes around here and bring some hardware back to the Point."

The Warrior baseball team won their fifth straight county title last season in what was another solid one for West Point. Cochran learned a lot from some amazing guys and from head coach Drew Bryson.

"I played with the older guys for the longest time, and it was a joy to be there for their last ride. They really showed us what it meant to be a Warrior and I wouldn't trade any of them for anyone else. Those guys showed us underclassmen what it took to be great," he said. "He's a great coach, but a better person. He really gets the best out of his guys. He's a coach, but when something goes wrong, you can call him and ask him anything. He would drop everything and be there for you and he's a guy that you want to go to battle with. I've learned how to be a man and what it's going to take to make it in the real life. He always says that baseball is really a teacher and teaches us when things don't go your way, are you going to fold, or are you going to get up and fight for yourself? He shows us how to be a man and what you will have to be in the real world."



BILL PIPER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

West Point's JD Cochran

Cochran has seen a drastic improvement in his game throughout his baseball career and will continue to improve in the off-season to help himself get ready for this upcoming season.

"It's crazy how much I've improved from being an eighth grader playing on varsity, to being a senior now. It's really insane how much I've improved, but I'm also more mature. My hitting has improved so much from freshman year to now and my arm has gotten stronger and stronger. It's crazy, but it really shows the work you put in in the offseason and how much that adds up for you to be ready to go when first pitch is in February. If you put in the long night in the cages and the long tosses, you just have to put in the work if you want to be successful during the season," he said. "I will continue to get my arm stronger and ready to go for the season. I'm also trying to hit more and more ball harder consistently and get a lot of cage time, long toss, and get in the bullpen as much as possible."

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

"Our goal is to make in the playoffs and compete for a state championship. When everyone comes together and does their part, special things will happen. You just need one team to make a run and break through that wall to get the program rolling," he said. "What will make us special to watch is how many young guys will come and contribute to help us win ballgames. With the only seniors being me and Gus, we will have to have a lot of underclassmen step up and make big plays in big spots, but they are more than comfortable making those plays. It will be a special thing to watch."

Cochran has a couple of role models that he looks up to and talked about the best advice that someone ever gave him.

"In football, I loved to watch Luke Kuechly. He played so hard on every play and did things right. He never got too high, but not too low. He was a true leader on and off the field. In baseball, I love watching Austin Riley. He's just a guy that does everything right. He's a great dude and he can really play. He's just a great guy to watch and try to be like," he said. "The best advice that someone ever gave me is to give everything you have, no matter what it is, and have no regrets, so you can lay your head down at night and say, 'I did everything I could do'. When you go through that mentality, then you will accomplish a lot of things."

He talked about what else he learned from all of his coaches.

"I've learned how to be a leader and how to do things right. Don't get me wrong, I want to win so bad, but it's more important to be a good person and show people the love of Jesus Christ. They have taught me how to be accountable and how to do what you say you're going to do. When you have a job and your boss tells you to be somewhere at a certain time, you better be there, or you will be fired. I can't thank them enough for what all they have taught me and how to be the person I can be."

Curt's Christmas: Spreading the love

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — It is officially fall in Alabama, and although it is only October, thoughts of Christmas are on the minds of parents and caregivers all over the state.

For them, the Christmas season holds a different level of responsibility that can come with great stress and financial strain. For some families, the magic of the Christmas season is dimmed slightly by the ever growing cost of living, with rent, groceries and gas at an all-time high. In 2022, the average American family spent $150-$200 per child on Christmas gifts. If you have a larger family by today's standards, you could easily expect to spend a small fortune. What if that isn't an option? What can you do? Thanks to Curt's Closet and Ashley Wilson, you can turn to Curt's Closet and the Curt's Christmas program.

Curt's Closet was created by Wilson in honor of her late son, Curtis James Wilson, who was tragically killed in 2017. "Our mission is helping provide students with confidence through community action and God's love," Wilson said.

For over 30 years, concerned Cullman area residents worked to make Christmas better for needy children and their families through a program called Christmas Love. In 2021, Wilson and Curt's Closet took over the reins, and over the 2022 Christmas season, Curt's Christmas provided 527 local children with a new coat, outfit, pair of shoes and at least six items from their wish lists.

"I know from experience how challenging and stressful it can be for parents to provide just the necessities for their children, much less something special for Christmas," Wilson said. "Through Curt's Christmas and the generosity of our community, we can provide hundreds of kids and their families with not only things they need, but something special that they want. Every kid deserves to wake up on Christmas with something special just for them."

Of the families they serve, Wilson added, "Most households we serve are facing some sort of economic hardship either due to job loss, illness in the family or other sort of family emergency."

Wilson, staff and volunteers at Curt's Closet extend that Christmas magic and a bit of grace to parents and caregivers by sending the gifts unwrapped, allowing for them to be wrapped at home, so parents can add their own special touches and keep a sense of tradition.

Curt's Christmas was also able to raise and distribute an astounding $75,000 in food vouchers to local families to ease their burden even further.

Currently, Curt's Christmas anticipates sponsoring and providing clothing necessities and gifts for even more children in our community for the 2023 Christmas season.

"The number of families we serve has increased each year. We would love to know that every child in our community knows the joy of Christmas," said Wilson. "My hope is that our community will continue to unite around this project so that we can serve as many families as possible each year."

If you are interested in sponsoring a child or family, donating or hosting a toy drive to benefit Curt's Christmas, you can register online at www.curtscloset.org under Curt's Christmas. Donations of new wrapping paper, boxes and bows are also accepted and appreciated.

Curt's Closet is located at 1101 Third Ave. SE. Hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Crash (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN COUNTY, Ala. — A Vinemont man was killed in single-engine plane crash in Cullman County Friday morning, Sept. 29, 2023. Cullman County Coroner Jeremy Kilpatrick said William Scott Smith, 54, was pronounced dead at the crash site.

The crash happened just before noon. Cullman County Sheriff's Office Director of Communications Lt. Chad Whaley said the crash site was between County Roads 1492 and 1488 near the Gold Ridge Community Center.

"There was a single plane crash near County Road 1488. Cullman County Sheriff's Office is securing the scene for the NTSB," Whaley said Friday afternoon. "I was informed a few minutes ago that they will not be on scene until tomorrow."

More information will be provided as it is becomes available.

Tour (from Front)

Tiffany McKoy
tsmckoy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The 14th annual Candlelight Walking Tour was held Thursday, Sept. 28, opening night of Oktoberfest. Michael Sullins and Julie Burks hosted the tour once again and had fun portraying characters from the past while sharing the rich history of Cullman.

vSullins portrayed his great-great grandfather Nicholas Andrew Ruehl (1849-1938). Ruehl came to Cullman in 1873 to raise his family. He was trained as a blacksmith, carpenter and cooper, and built many of the first structures in Cullman and helped clear the land. He was also a gentleman farmer and a founding member of St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church and was known around town as "Uncle Nick."

Burks portrayed Julia E Hartung (1854-1928). Hartung was related to Col. John G. Cullmann and married into the Hartung family who established People's Drug Store in Cullman. She was known around town for her hospitality and love of music.

Sullins and Burks shared the background information about the buildings along First Avenue.

Stiefelmeyer Building

- It was originally a residential dwelling.
- In 1888, C.A. Stiefelmeyer founded his business on the corner.
- A native of Hamburg, German, Mr. Stiefelmeyer came from Canada to Cullman in 1882 at the age of 17.
- After several years as a clerk in the GA Prinz Store, Cullman's first mercantile house, he opened his own store which burned in 1892. Mr. Stiefelmeyer promptly rebuilt the store.
- Stiefelmeyer's sold groceries, men's clothing, women's clothing, housewares, etc.
- The department store expanded over the years.
- Across the street from the Stiefelmeyer Building, on the railroad side of First Avenue Southeast, three beer storage units were erected in the late 1890s.

The Merchants Hotel/ Casper Arnold Home

- Was one of the first businesses to be erected on this block by John Fromhold.
- The Merchants Hotel was established in the middle of this block around 1879.
- Just south of The Merchants Hotel stood the Caspar Arnold Home.
- Both were destroyed by the 1892 fire that swept most of this block.

The Cullman Hotel/The Burr House/The Palace Saloon

- Around 1880, Joseph Hibbeln opened a partial brick and wooden framed building called The Cullman Hotel on the corner.
- In 1886, Col. F.T. Burr acquired The Cullman Hotel and re-branded it the Burr House. This building had a small wooden platform facing First Avenue and burned down in 1892.
- Around 1897, a two-story wood framed building was completed and became home to The Palace Saloon.

After the tour concluded Sullins said this year might be the last walking tour despite the big turnout.

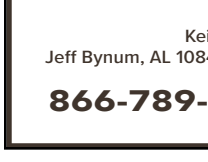
"I am not sure what the future holds for the walking tour - whether that be ending on a great turnout, moving the venue or something new entirely," he said. "I am humbled every year at the folks that walk with us and share their family history with us. I hope that whatever the future may hold, people will continue to invest in the treasures that can be discovered in our community's rich history."

HUGE ESTATE SALE

September 29, 30 7:00 a.m.
Allendale Lane NW Cullman

Lots of nice solid wood furniture and nice things in this home: King Size bedroom suite, desk units with book cases, Antique bedroom suites, Iron bed, nice wood round table and chairs, antique server, buffet, pie safe, side tables, nice grey wicker out door furniture, yard decor, golf bag and golf set, nice collectibles and Christmas. A lot to see and too much to list.

CHECK OUT PICTURES ON PK FACEBOOK AND ON ESTATE OF TOM AND LINDA WOOD IN CULLMAN, AL STARTS ON 9/29/2023 (ESTATESALES.NET)



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LEGALS

PB MIN BK 219 PG 292 - 09/22/2023 07:40 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF * IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
MARY WILLINGHAM, * CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
deceased. * CASE NO. PC 2006-087

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: Phebe McDearmond
Address - Unknown

You will please take notice that the 23rd day of January, 2024, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. has been appointed the day and time for hearing the Petition For Final Settlement filed by Rebecca Bailey at which time you can appear and contest the same, if you see proper.

GIVEN under my hand and the seal of the Court this 22nd day of September, 2023.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, PROBATE JUDGE

TO: Publisher
The Cullman Tribune

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

Attorneys for Petitioner:
J. Bradley Wilson
BAGGETT & WILSON, LLC
206 Ninth Street Southwest, Suite 102
Cullman, AL 35055
256-737-0740

PB WIL BK 118 PG 834 - 09/14/2023 09:16 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF * CASE NO.: PC2023-202
LINDA M. BOYD, * DECEASED. *

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary of said Deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 13th day of September 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court of Cullman County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Enika Shalon DuVall
ENIKA SHALON DUVALL
Personal Representative of the
Estate of LINDA BOYD

Attorney for Estate:
Michael R. Burleson
Law Offices of Josh O'Neal, LLC
200 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, AL 35055
(256) 620-0007

TO: Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

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

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
Probate Judge
Cullman County, Alabama

PB MIN BK 219 PG 214 - 09/15/2023 11:15 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
ELLIS ROBERT BATES * CASE NO PC 2023-288
Deceased *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary have been granted to **JoAnne Bates,** as Personal Representative of the Estate of Ellis Robert Bates, deceased, on the 14th 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.

JoAnne Bates
Personal Representative
Estate of Ellis Robert Bates, deceased

Catherine Phillips Carter
Attorney for Petitioner, JoAnne Bates
101-A Main Street, West
Hartselle, Alabama 35640
Telephone: (256) 773-6305

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

DOCUMENT 21

DISTRICT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
500 SECOND AVENUE SW
ROOM 303
CULLMAN, AL 35055

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

ABBOTT REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES, INC. d/b/a T & T MOTORS,)
Plaintiff,)
vs.) **Case No: DV-2023-900167**
KAYLEAH SLOAN,)
Defendant.)

NOTICE OF FILING OF LAWSUIT

DEFENDANT, SLOAN, KAYLEAH, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the complaint brought against her by the **PLAINTIFF, ABBOTT REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES, INC, d/b/a T & T MOTORS**, for $9,214.68 plus court cost, cause of action being: Breach of Contract

ANSWER TO THE COMPLAINT MUST BE MADE BY THE SAID DEFENDANT on or before the 31st day of October, 2023, or a default may be rendered against her in the above styled cause.

DATED THIS THE 11th day of September, 2023

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain, District Court Clerk
Cullman County, Alabama.





Designer Bag Bingo set for Nov. 9

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The United Way of Cullman County (UWCC) is gearing up to host its annual Designer Bag Bingo event, this year with even more attendees as it moves to The Venue at Cotton Creek. Hundreds compete each year in the UWCC's signature and most significant fundraiser, playing 15 challenging rounds of bingo to win designer handbags and a chance to win the grand prize, which varies year to year.

Stephanie Childers, impact manager and resource developer at the UWCC said that since the highly anticipated date announcement, the response has been overwhelming, in the best way.

"We have been overwhelmed with this year's response to our fourth annual Designer Bag Bingo," she said.

"This is such a fun event and we love seeing the community come together to have a good time while giving back!"

The event acts as the UWCC's largest fundraiser, with dozens of sponsorships and hundreds of attendees bringing in thousands of dollars. The funds are allocated to the UWCC's partner agencies, which hit all bases in the community from children's literacy to nutritional programs for the elderly.

While the event has been held at Loft 212 year after year, Childers shared that with such increasingly large turnout over the years, the UWCC made the decision to change venues in order to accommodate more attendees - and provide more elbow room for those daubers and extra bingo cards.

"We are extremely excited to announce that Designer Bag Bingo will be held at The Venue at Cotton Creek, with dinner catered by Chat & Chew," she said.

Designer Bag Bingo will also have its usual raffles of fabulous prizes donated by myriad sponsors, with raffle tickets available for purchase at the venue, in addition to the stylish bags up for grabs.



CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

"Celebrity" waiters at 2022 Designer Bag Bingo included Ben Tankersley, J.D. Isbell, Matt Donahue, Nick Williams, Bryce Poole and Matt Burns.

Designer Bag Bingo will be held Thursday, Nov. 9, 2023, at The Venue at Cotton Creek, located at 417 Third Ave. SW. Doors open at 5 p.m. Tickets are $50 per individual or $500 per table of eight. Tickets include one bingo card per 15 rounds of bingo and dinner. Tickets can be purchased online at https://tinyurl.com/dbb2023, or purchased at the UWCC office located at 304 First Ave. NE. Additional bingo cards and raffle tickets will be available for purchase at the venue. To learn more about the UWCC, visit www.uwaycc.org.

Senior Day (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
cayla@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Hofbräuhaus was packed as hundreds of seniors piled in for a day of laidback Oktoberfest celebration on Friday, Sept 29, 2023. Cullman County Commission on Aging and Donald E. Green Active Adult Center staff teamed up to ensure the event went off without a hitch, and to celebrate the largest turnout for an Oktoberfest Senior Day since the COVID-19 pandemic.

Seniors enjoyed the dancing talents of Miss Oktoberfest representatives and Miss Senior Alabama representatives as they tapped and twirled to polka classics, with elbows flapping as several local seniors hit the dance floor for a fast rendition of the chicken dance.

Next on the entertainment agenda was lunch, which was a collaborative effort by the full-time senior center managers and sponsored by Drinkard Development, Aveanna Healthcare, Pannell Insurance Agency and Gentiva Hospice.

After everyone was full and docile from the meal, the heat was cranked up with competitive rounds of bingo called by 2023 Burgermeister Dale Greer. With cash prizes and gift cards sponsored by Visiting Angels on the line, seniors anxiously checked their cards and weren't shy to shout "BINGO!"

Commission on Aging Director Stephanie Lawson said she always looks forward to when the "Stephanies," herself and Stephanie Neal of the Active Adult Center, get to come together to make an impact on their senior communities.

"It's always great to partner with Stephanie Neal and the Active Adult Center for Oktoberfest Senior Day! We had the largest turnout this year since returning from Covid. I think a good estimate would be around 350 seniors who showed up for this year's event!" Lawson exclaimed.

Lawson also took a minute to brag on the true teamwork the event takes, noting the collaborative efforts of the City of Cullman, Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism and all the volunteers who work every major event to "make the magic happen" for area seniors.

"2023 Burgermeister Dale Greer did a phenomenal job. We truly appreciate the City of Cullman, Cullman city parks and recreation and everyone who puts in all the hard work setting up to make this day happen," she said. "I appreciate my COA staff and all the volunteers who come out to help us serve!"

If you're 55 and older and you missed this awesome event, don't worry! The next Senior Day on the books is Oct. 11, Senior Day at the Cullman County Fair. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/coacullman.







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Obituary Announcements: Sept. 28-29

Leonce "Al" Adolph Baumgartner, 61
Leonce "Al" Adolph Baumgartner, age 61, passed away on Sept. 27, 2023, at Decatur Morgan Hospital. He was preceded in death by his parents, Taylor Baumgartner and Ida Fuller and a brother-in-law, Tommy Huard. Survivors include his son, Jordan Baumgartner of Cullman; a sister, RayAnn Huard of Slidell, LA; one niece and two great nephews. A memorial service will be announced at a later date. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.mossservicefh.com for the Baumgartner family.

Patricia Ponder, 70
Funeral service for Patricia Ponder, age 70, of Cullman, will be Saturday, Sept. 30, 2023, at 1 p.m. at Mt. Olive Baptist Church, interment at Mt. Olive Cemetery, with Pastor Hollis Gardner officiating. The family will receive friends from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Visitation will be held on Friday, Sept. 29, 2023, at Mt. Olive Baptist Church from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Ponder passed away Wednesday, Sept. 27, 2023, at Cullman Regional Medical Center. She was born Dec. 12, 1952 to David Shavers, Sr. and Idell Bates Shavers. She was a member of Mt. Olive Baptist Church and loved her church family. She was also a member of Eastern Star and attended as long as she was able. She loved to play piano, mowing her yard, and tending her flowers. She loved her family very much, and most of all, she loved the Lord. She was preceded in death by her parents; Infant sister, Judith Ann Shavers. She is survived by her husband of 49 years, Dan Ponder; son, Scot Ponder; daughter Laura (Erik) Fulenwider; brothers, David Leon (Barbara) Shavers, Jr., John Edd (Angela) Shavers, Mark Shavers; sister, Janet Meaut; grandchildren, Alexis, Trey, other grandchildren and great-grandchildren; brother-in law, Steve Ponder; sister-in-law, Peggy Ponder; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Sue Rigsby, 91
Mrs. Sue Rigsby passed peacefully Sept. 27, 2023, at the residence of her daughter in Glencoe, Alabama at the age of 91. She was born June 5, 1932, in Blount County, Alabama to Gussie and Annie Ruby Adams. Sue went to Susan Moore High School. She was the loving wife to Jack Rigsby, who predeceased her in 2011, a devoted mother to her daughter, a loving grandmother to her only grandson, and a doting great-grandmother to her only great-granddaughter. Sue was a seamstress at Blue Bell MFG in Arab for a number of years. She loved being a housewife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She loved to cook for anyone, and she loved to garden. She found her peace in her garden. She was a member of Mt. Hermon Baptist Church. Sue was predeceased by her husband, Jack Rigsby; her parents, Gussie and Annie Adams; brothers, Donald Adams, Fred Adams, and Eugene Adams. Surviving her is her daughter, Brenda Southern and husband Terry Southern; grandson, Kevin Sullivan and Lindsay; great-granddaughter, Caitlynn Sullivan; sisters, Gladys Smith, Betty Larue; brother, Sammy Adams; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Her funeral will be at Holly Pond Funeral Home Sep. 30, 2023, at 2 p.m. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service. Dr. Roger Beshears will be officiating. Burial will be in Arab Memorial Cemetery in Arab, Alabama. Mrs. Rigsby's obituary was lovingly written by her daughter, Brenda. Holly Pond Funeral home is honored to serve the Rigsby family.

Nina Carol Mathis, 61
Funeral service for Nina Carol Mathis, age 61, of Cullman, will be at 11 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 2, 2023, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Malcolm Carter and Randy Sellers officiating; interment in Spring Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. prior to the service. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Mathis passed away on Friday, Sept. 29, 2023, at her residence. She was born May 23, 1962, to Leamon Sellers and Mary Sellers. She was preceded in death by her stepson, Brad Mathis. Survivors include her husband, Rick Mathis; daughter, Gracee (Ryan) Pinyan; stepson, Ricky Mathis; granddaughter, Neely Jean Pinyan; step-granddaughter, Brooke Mathis; parents, Leamon Sellers and Mary Sellers; sister, Tammy (Rick) Dees; brother, Randy (Donna) Sellers; beloved pet, Finn; and a host of nieces, nephews, family, and friends.

Danny Ray Monk, 70
Memorial service for Danny Ray Monk, 70, of Vinemont, will be at 5 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2023, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel, Bro. Randy Monk officiating. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. Monk passed away Thursday, Sept. 28, 2023, at his residence. He was born Aug. 21, 1953, to Woodrow and Mary Sue Tarzon Monk. He loved to fish and hunt. He loved working and spending time with his granddaughters. Danny would do anything for anyone. He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Vickie Faulkner. Survivors include his wife of 50 years, Wanda Monk; daughter, Ginger Brown (Anthony Stafford); brothers, Randy (Annette) Monk, Andy Monk; sisters, Cathy Monk (Hank) Phillips, June Monk (Rick) Reynolds, Joann Monk (Ray) Arnold; grandchildren, Jazmyn Brown, Ava Brown; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Bernice Marie Phillips, 66
Bernice Marie Phillips, of Cullman, Alabama, was received into the loving arms of our Heavenly Father on Sept. 28, 2023, at the age of 66. Bernice was born to J.B. and Genell Maynard Mobley on Nov. 5, 1956, in Mobile, Alabama. Mrs. Phillips enjoyed quilting, sewing, and cooking. She loved tending her flowers and doing yard work as well. She was a hard worker, and Bernice worked in various fields of employment for many years. Bernice was a child of God and a member of the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church family. Mrs. Phillips was a very kindhearted woman, and she extended the love of Christ to those around her. She never had a harsh or unkind word for other people. Her love for her family was evident. Bernice cherished her husband of fifty-one years, Odell, and enjoyed the banter and teasing they shared. She was a loving and dedicated mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, and she treated her daughter-in-laws and son-in-laws like her own children. Mrs. Bernice was treasured by her family, and they will miss her and the love she so feely gave to them greatly. Bernice is preceded in death by her parents; brothers, C.B. Mobley and Hubert Mobley; and her mother-in-law who became a second mother to her, Marie Phillips. Those surviving Mrs. Phillips include her beloved husband, Odell Phillips; sons, Junior Dale Phillips (Renee), JM Phillips; daughters, Tina Widner (Joey), Amy Plunkett (John), Rhonda Phillips; brother, James Mobley (Doris); thirteen grandchildren; and a host of great-grandchildren. Friends are invited to join the family for a time of visitation beginning at noon on Monday, Oct. 2, 2023, at Antioch Missionary Baptist Church. Funeral services for Mrs. Phillips will follow visitation, beginning at 2 p.m., with Pastor Jim Butts officiating. Bernice will be laid to rest in the adjoining cemetery where Patrick Phillips, Kenneth Langley, Dylan Phillips, Tommy Boatwright, John Plunkett, Joey Widner, Ammie Entrekin, and Mason Gilmore will serve as pallbearers. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to care for the Phillips family.

Free Obituary Listings

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Complete obituaries may be found free of charge at CullmanTribune.com/obituaries.

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BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

My brother's investment in my life

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



Last week was the eighteenth anniversary of my oldest brother's death. Elbert King died when he was only 64 years old. He was 15 years older than me. If he had been only a few more years older, he could have been old enough to have been my father. In some ways, he became more of a father figure to me than a brother. Because he was so much older than me, obviously, we didn't grow up together. He and my other brother, Briggs, the only sibling I still have alive, were only three-years apart in age. I was only three-years old when Elbert married and left home. Obviously, I can't remember any of those years we spent together at home. I do, however, have many memories from the years we spent together a little later.

During my younger years, Elbert lived in Florida two-different times. When I was somewhere around 12, he moved back to our hometown. About a year later, my dad closed his place of business, and my brother converted Dad's old-store building into a paint-and-body shop. At the ripe-old age of 13, I landed my first real after-school job. By "real" I mean I got paid to do what I did. I became an apprentice in that trade, with my brother as my teacher. The first thing most body-shop apprentices learn to do is sand and tape. I sanded the paint off cars and the fingerprints off my fingers too! It didn't take me long to figure out that bike riding, fishing, or swimming, were all much more fun that sanding and taping, but those things didn't pay.

I asked my brother to teach me how to spray paint. So, at the "thought-I-was-almost-grown" age of 14, I begin "trying" to paint. I practiced with primer or scrap fenders and hoods until I could paint without the paint running off on the ground. Next, I learned how to replace body parts on wrecked cars and spread Bondo filler where needed. I worked in my brother's shop until shortly after I graduated from high school.

About the same time that I started working in the shop, Dad starting using his big-rig trucks for over-the-road long hauls. He was gone most of the time. A couple of years later, when I was 15-years old, Dad suddenly died. With Dad gone, my much older brother took on some of the role of a father. Before Dad died, I had worked when I wanted, because I wanted. Then, with the "breadwinner" of our family gone, I needed to work because we needed the money. There were times when my brother didn't have much for me to do, but he always managed to find something.

As a teenager, there were times when I needed more than money, I needed advice.

I had a good mother, but sometimes I needed a father to talk to about things. My other brother would gladly do that, and did sometimes, but he lived out of state at that time. I can't remember ever asking Elbert If I could talk to him and hearing him say, "I don't have time." He took time, he made time, probably when he really didn't have time. My brother was by no means a perfect man. He made his share of mistakes, but when he saw me making mistakes, he was not afraid to say something.

I am thankful to both of my brothers for their investment in my life. Is there some young person you can invest in? You can make a huge difference in their life.

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

HISTORY

Files from yesteryear: 1936, 1950

From the files of 1936

This dry season threatens the water supply in Cullman and Cullman County.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Crouen are visiting relatives here, before leaving for California, to make their home.

Glen Jetton of Gold Ridge spent Saturday night with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. W.M. Jelton.

Everyone should please remember the church supper at Mr. Tom Brown's on the fourteenth of this month. It will be a good chicken supper.

There was a good singing at George Williamson's on Sunday afternoon.

The candy making at Mr. Herbert Brock's on Saturday night was enjoyed by all attending.

Mr. C.H. Grob is opening a new Western Auto Associate Store.

Colonel Thomas W. Millican, Ezra Williamson and Roy Ingle spent Monday in Scottsboro.

Alvin Camp spent the weekend at home with his parents.

Mrs. William Lessman is critically ill at her home on the Bremen Road.

New members of the Hanceville Culture Club are Mrs. Joe Ray, Mrs. Fred Shauer, Mrs. James Edmondson and Mrs. Finley.

Mr. and Mrs. C.C. Johnson of Tuscaloosa spent Sunday in Cullman as the guests of their daughter, Mrs. H.B. Rowe and Mr. Rowe.

Doctor Sidney Morrow, of Birmingham, spent Sunday in Cullman as the guest of his mother, Mrs. Bess Morrow.

Fred Peinhardt spent Thursday in Birmingham.

The Panama Community is about finished picking cotton.

Most families need to inspect their buildings and other surroundings to see if everything looks safe from fire and accidents.

There will be a chicken supper at Walter School on Friday night.

Leroy Box died in Plains, Texas at the age of 55 years. He has three sisters, Daisy, Lillie and Sardis.

From the files of 1950

Tom Muse has retired at the age of 65. He spent several days in Bremen, Georgia last week visiting his 105 year old mother.

Doctor Harry Fuller is heading a committee to raise money for new Cullman High School band uniforms.

Thomas Daniel Sloan, age 78, was fatally injured on Sunday afternoon about 1:30 when he was hit by an automobile.

POET'S CORNER

The Last Day of September | By: Randy C. Hale

Summer is gone
and the trees will soon
shake their aprons.

The crisp dry leaves
once green, turning loose,
to cascade away.

October with its orange and
red hues will soon
be earth's new attire.

The markets will fill with
pumpkins, gourds,
hay bales and corn stalks
for decor.

September departing,
closing summer dreams
for this Autumn affair.

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

SEPT. 30

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

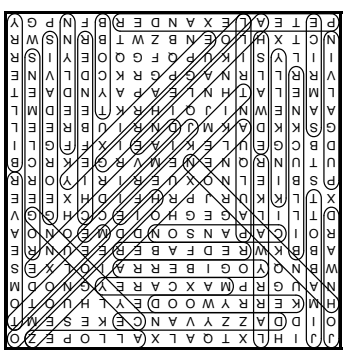
Al Kaline
Al Lopez
Alex Rodriguez
Bill Buckner
Bill Terry
Cap Anson
Chief Bender
Cy Young
David Cone
Dazzy Vance
Ed Walsh
Eppa Rixey
Fred Lynn
George Davis
Hank Aaron
Hideo Nomo
Jim Abbott
Jim Rice
John Ward
Kerry Wood
King Kelly
Larry Walker
Lou Gehrig
Max Carey
Mel Ott
Paul Quantrill
Pete Alexander
Pud Galvin
Red Faber
Roger Clemens
Sam Rice
Tim Keefe
Tom Seaver
Ty Cobb
Yogi Berra

CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

SEPT. 30

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

ANSWERS:



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

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

TN woman convicted of federal crimes committed in Talladega National Forest

Staff Reports
Contributor

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — A Tennessee woman was convicted of crimes committed in the Talladega National Forest, announced U.S. Attorney Prim F. Escalona and Federal Bureau of Investigation Special Agent in Charge Carlton Peeples.

A federal jury returned a guilty verdict against Krystal Diane Pinkins, 37, of Memphis, after four days of testimony before Judge R. David Proctor. Pinkins was convicted of murder, robbery and unlawful use of a firearm during a crime of violence.

"Today, the jury held the defendant accountable for her actions," Escalona said. "I want to thank our local, state and federal partners for their tireless efforts in this investigation and bringing justice to the victims and their families."

"The victims of this terrible crime were simply being Good Samaritans" said Peeples. "Today's verdict sends a strong message that individuals who commit these crimes will be held accountable for their actions. I would like to thank the many local, state and federal resources that came together to seek justice for the victim. I hope today's verdict can bring continued healing to the families and friends who will be forever impacted." According to court documents and trial testimony, on Aug. 14, 2022, a couple who were college students from Florida, were driving to Cheaha State Park, in Clay County, Alabama, to hike to see the waterfalls. The couple were flagged down by Yasmine Marie Adel Hider, 21, to help "jump start" Pinkins' car which was broken down. Hider robbed the young male and female and shot the male as he attempted to defend himself and his girlfriend. Evidence proved Pinkins aided in the crimes by providing the firearm, planning the robbery and watching nearby in the woods as the robbery and murder took place. After the shooting, Pinkins fled into the woods and was found six hours later hidden in a secluded campsite. The maximum penalty for murder and unlawful use of a firearm during a crime of violence is life in prison. The maximum penalty for robbery is 15 years in prison.Hider, who testified in Pinkins' trial, is scheduled to plead guilty before Judge R. David Proctor on Oct. 4, 2023 The FBI and the Forest Service Law Enforcement Investigations - U.S. Department of Agriculture investigated the cases, along with assistance from the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, Alabama State Park Rangers, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, St. Clair Correctional Facility K9 Tracking Team, District Attorney of the 40th Judicial Circuit of the State of Alabama- Joseph "Joe" D. Ficquette (which includes Clay County), Clay County Sheriff's Office, Cleburne County Sheriff's Office, Lineville Police Department, Ashland Police Department, Clay County Rescue Squad, Shinbone Valley Volunteer Fire Department, Tri-County Children's Advocacy Center, and Jacksonville State University Center for Applied Forensics. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Jonathan Cross and John B. Felton are prosecuting the case.



CLAY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Krystal Pinkins

UA Rural Medical Scholars Program adds Cullman's Morgan Bowman

Jennifer Brady
Contributor

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — The University of Alabama College of Community Health Sciences welcomed seven students from around the state to the Rural Medical Scholars Program, which is exclusively for rural Alabama students who want to become physicians and practice in rural communities.

The 2023-24 class includes Morgan Bowman, of Cullman; Maycie Edmondson, of Slocomb; Kayla Harris, of Rockford; Griffin Howard, of Jackson; John Kuykendall, of Samantha; Raneisha Lee, of Brookwood; and Ariana Oliver, of Enterprise.

The Rural Medical Scholars Program is part of the CCHS Rural Health Leaders Pipeline created to address the shortage of primary care physicians in Alabama's rural communities.

This postgraduate, five-year medical education program includes a year of specialized study and a master's degree in rural community health, along with early admission to the University of Alabama at Birmingham Marnix E. Heersink School of Medicine.

Rural Medical Scholars spend their first two years of medical school at the UAB Heersink School of Medicine's main campus in Birmingham and return to CCHS for their third and fourth years of medical school, which are known as the clinical training years.

"The Rural Medical Scholars Program is excited to welcome its 28th class and continue in its mission to recruit and nurture students from rural Alabama who have committed to practicing primary care in a rural area," said Dr. Drake Lavender, associate professor of family medicine and director of CCHS Rural Programs. "We have a long track record of success but realize that there is still much work to be done with regard to the primary care physician shortage in rural Alabama. These students are beginning their long journey through medical school and residency, and we want to make sure they are as prepared as possible for the challenges ahead."

CCHS also welcomes back Reform native Ikeyreiah Harris for her second year as a Rural Community Health Scholar.

Like the Rural Medical Scholars Program, the Rural Community Health Scholars Program is a part of the CCHS Rural Health Leaders Pipeline. The Rural Community Health Scholars Program is for rural Alabama graduate students not enrolled in the Rural Medical Scholars Program but who are interested in health care careers.

Students take graduate-level courses, participate in farm field trips, shadow rural physicians, assist with health fairs and screenings or other community service projects, and attend lectures and workshops focused on rural health topics.

Additionally, scholars participate in peer support group activities and receive mentorship from rural health practitioners.

The University of Alabama, part of The University of Alabama System, is the state's flagship university. UA shapes a better world through its teaching, research and service. With a global reputation for excellence, UA provides an inclusive, forward-thinking environment and nearly 200 degree programs on a beautiful, student-centered campus. A leader in cutting-edge research, UA advances discovery, creative inquiry and knowledge through more than 30 research centers. As the state's largest higher education institution, UA drives economic growth in Alabama and beyond.



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