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WEATHER

70 52

SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

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NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

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'Y'all come eat!': Free Vinemont Community Thanksgiving Meal this Saturday

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — Community leaders in Vinemont are preparing to dish out a traditional Thanksgiving meal to local families. The town will host its annual Community Thanksgiving Meal on Saturday, Nov. 18, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Vinemont High School lunchroom. The traditional feast will feature turkey and ham, sweet potato casserole, green beans, rolls and desserts. Pepsi has donated beverages for the event.

"We are going to have so much food and we really want everyone to come out and eat," said Vinemont Town Clerk Kayecea Sasser. "The food is going to be really good."

Families or individuals looking for a warm meal, a good piece of pie or even just a community connection are encouraged to attend and catch some holiday cheer. Sasser said she » PAGE 5



KAYECEA SASSER

Vinemont Schools Child Nutrition Program staff Melanie Lee, Michelle Campbell and Candace Knowles pose for a photo at the Town of Vinemont's 2022 Community Thanksgiving Meal, pictured Saturday, Nov. 19, 2022.

Cullman's Lacey Johnson crowned 2024 Miss UAB

Shannon Thomason
Contributor

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The new Miss University of Alabama at Birmingham is senior Lacey Johnson, of Cullman.

Nine students competed for the title in the Miss UAB Scholarship Competition on Nov. 12, in UAB's Alys Stephens Performing Arts Center. The competition, presented by Student Involvement and Leadership, is an official preliminary to the Miss Alabama and Miss America competitions.

Johnson, 23, whose community service initiative was Royal Family Kids Camp and talent was dance, also won the Blazer Spirit Council's Spirit Award and won $2,400 in scholarships. The new Miss UAB is an English major with a concentration in literature. She is in Kappa Delta sorority and is captain of the UAB Blazerettes. Johnson has an associate degree in dance performance from Wallace State Community College with certificates in general studies and choreography. She is the daughter of Pam and Gary Johnson of Cullman, Alabama.

Miss UAB 2024 will receive a gift certificate from Southern Exposure Photography, free workout classes from True40 Fitness Studio, free cuts and coloring from Morgan Ashley Salon and a gift certificate from Glitz & Gowns. Little Brown Photography sponsored the candidate headshots and photography for the competition.

Sophomore Ashlyn Hill, 19, of Birmingham, Alabama, was named first runner-up and won the Talent Award sponsored by Miss UAB 2000 Kelly Belcher, winning $1,400 in scholarships. Hill is majoring in biomedical sciences and is in the Honors College. She is the social events chair of Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society and a UAB Ambassador. Her community service initiative is "Beyond the Plate: Effects of Community Action Against Hunger," and she gave a monologue as her talent. Her parents are Monica Simpson and Bobby Hill.



UAB

The new Miss University of Alabama at Birmingham is senior Lacey Johnson.

Junior Priscilla Moyana, 20, of Leeds, Alabama, was named second runner-up, winning an $800 scholarship. Majoring in mathematics with minors in chemistry and computer science, Moyana is in the Honors College's Personalized Path. She is a UAB Ambassador, in the Fast Track Master's in Mathematics Program, in the Early Medical School Acceptance Program, on the Dean's and President's lists, and vice president of Society of Industrial and Applied » PAGE 3

County commission appoints new deputy coroner, accepts grant to resurface CR 1490

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Harpersville man arrested in fatal hit-and-run involving bicyclist



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Ryan J. Jolly

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Cullman woman 3rd person charged with capital murder in death of Noah Waters



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Charity Dawn Hutton

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Addison High named Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence Lighthouse School for 2023

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Vinemont Band Booster Winter Craft Show set for Nov. 17-18

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8th annual Veterans Thanksgiving Dinner Nov. 20

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PET OF THE WEEK Adventure with Emma



DONNA RUTTKAY

Emma, ever the adventurer, dons her tactical backpack and is ready for the day ahead.

» PAGE 7

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Bill Smith

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Nov. 15

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Nov. 15, 2023. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No arrests or incidents reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Nov. 9

- harassment; person
- theft of property-1st degree; person; cash; $100,000

Nov. 11

- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; miscellaneous; $394

Nov. 13

- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; Elm Dr. SE
- theft of services-4th degree; criminal mischief-2nd degree; Cullman Water Dept.; Rae Ave. SW; damaged water meter; $891

Nov. 14

- leaving scene of accident; person; Olive St. SW; damaged 2016 Toyota Tacoma; $1,000
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart South; Olive St. SW; beer; $18

ARRESTS

Nov. 13 – 14

Lucero, Francisco C.; 33

- domestic violence-3rd degree

Dye, Garrett D.; 28

- theft of property-3rd degree
- criminal mischief-3rd degree

Cheatwood, Ronda L.; 61

- theft of property-4th degree
- FTA- theft of property-4th degree

Nail, Edna D.; 59

- theft of property-4th degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Man (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

HARPERSVILLE, Ala. — A Harpersville man was arrested Monday, Nov. 13, in connection with a fatal hit-and-run that claimed the life of a 19-year-old bicyclist in Cullman County, according to the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency.

Ryan J. Jolly, 36, faces charges of manslaughter and leaving the scene of an accident with death, Senior Trooper Brandon Bailey announced. The arrest, made around 5:15 p.m. Monday, stems from an incident on Thursday evening, Nov. 9.

Dakota R. Lamons, 19, of Hanceville, was riding his bicycle when he was struck and fatally injured by a 2007 Chevrolet Silverado allegedly driven by Jolly. The crash occurred at approximately 6:46 p.m. on Nov. 9. Jolly is accused of fleeing the scene following the collision. The case remains under investigation by ALEA's Traffic Homicide Investigation Unit (THI). Officials have not released further details at this time.

Woman (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — A Cullman woman was arrested Tuesday, Nov. 14, after being indicted for capital murder during first-degree robbery and capital murder during first- or second-degree arson.

The Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) said deputies arrested Charity Dawn Hutton, 33.

The indictments stemmed from a case earlier this year involving a body being located inside a burnt building on County Road 1635.

Hutton is currently being held at the Cullman County Detention Center without bond. On May 13, 2023, at approximately 6 a.m., CCSO investigators and the state fire marshal were called to the scene of a residential fire along County Road 1635. Tragically, once the fire was extinguished, a victim was discovered inside.

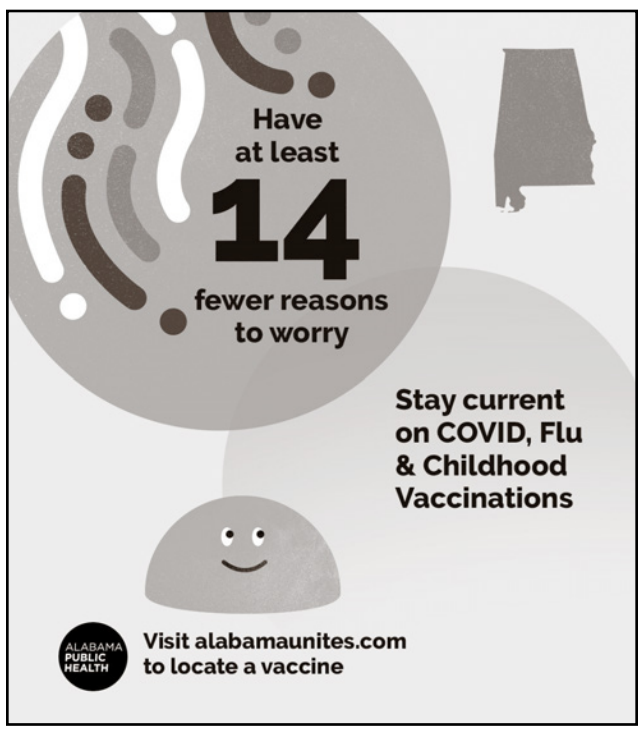
The victim was identified as Noah Waters, 49, of Cullman. Hutton is the third person charged in connection with Waters' murder. Joseph Wayne Christiansen, 37, of Baileyton, was arrested June 2, 2023, for the same charges. Michael Lambert, 41, was also arrested in June 2023 for the same charges.

"The grand jury has indicted three people for the murder of Noah Waters – Joseph Christiansen, Michael Lambert and recently, Charity Hutton," said Cullman County District Attorney Champ Crocker. "My office will not stop until we secure justice, and these indictments are the first step."

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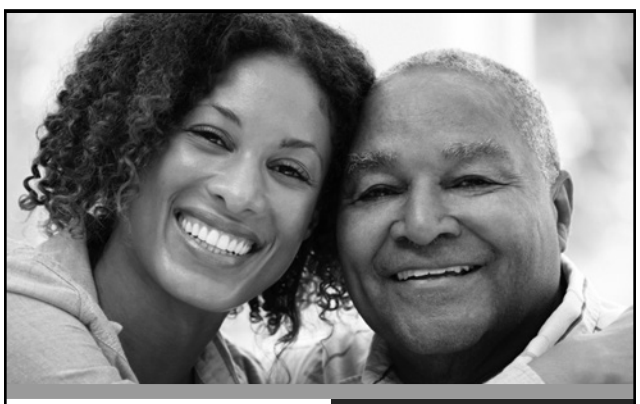
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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

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

Church Services- Spirit Life Church of GOD
• Spirit Life Church of GOD, 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Mondays-Fridays- Free hot meals for children Mondays 11 a.m.-noon, Tuesdays 1-2 p.m. and Wednesdays-Fridays 11 a.m.-noon. Cullman Housing Authority Community Center 1545 Vine Circle SW. Please call Kristie 256-636-5362 for more information. Eat in or take out. Sponsored by Kids Loving Kids, Raising Arrows Ministry and Spirit Life Church.
• Kids Loving Kids Birthday Blessings serves children ages 1-18 in need of assistance to celebrate their birthdays. Register your child and pick up a birthday box with cake mix, icing, sprinkles, decorations and toys! Pickup is the last weekend of the month. Saturday (5100 Curry Highway Suite 100-B Jasper, AL 35504) from 3-5 p.m. or the last Sunday of the month at Spirit Life Church Cullman from 12:30-1 p.m. Birth certificate is required at the time of box pickup. Register at https://form.jotform.com/203435614640045. For more information, text or call 205-717-7478.
• Friday, Nov. 17 - 7 p.m. Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and 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 6:15. Nursery provided!
• Saturday, Nov. 18 – 9-11 a.m. Drive-through food bank and CAMS training
• Sunday, Nov. 19 - Prayer - 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, Nov. 19 - 9 a.m. Van runs in the 5 Points area. Call Guy Sunter at 727-215-9092 for pickup. Breakfast at 9:30. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults at 10. Praise and worship and message by Jeff Gilliland 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.

Grace Episcopal Church Cheeseball Pickup
If you ordered cheeseballs from Grace Episcopal Church Women, your pickup will be Thursday, Nov. 16, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. We look forward to seeing you then. For more information, call 256-734-2231.

Town of South Vinemont 2nd Annual Thanksgiving Dinner
Saturday, Nov. 18, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Vinemont School lunchroom. Dine in and carry out. One plate per person.

Winter Wonderland at Sportsman Lake Park
• Check out a variety of still and moving light displays, then hit the concessions stand for a warm cup of hot cocoa or a photo op with Santa Claus!
• The attraction is open 5-9 p.m. Nov. 17-19 and Nov. 24-Dec. 29 (closed Mondays and Tuesdays until Dec. 13). It will transition to a drive-through only experience Dec. 26-29. Opening ceremonies will be Friday, Nov. 17 at 5 p.m.
• Admission is $10 cash per vehicle. Attractions include the Christmas train ($5 per person), horse and carriage rides (select nights at $5 per person), snow machine, photo booth, hot chocolate and additional Christmas entertainment.

Cullman High School Class of 1963 60-Year Reunion
Saturday, Nov. 18, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Stone Bridge Farms, the first building on the left. The cost is $ 30 per person, payable at the door. (Pay in cash, please.) Prior to this, at 4, there will be a guided tour of the recently remodeled Cullman High School, for those who are able to attend. Please call Nancy Drake Weissend at 256-734-0696, to let her know if you will be attending, as well as any questions you may have.

Christmas at the Grotto
The spirit of Christmas has returned to the Ave Maria Grotto. Visit and enjoy Brother Joseph's creations, completely decked in lights. The attraction will be open every Friday and Saturday, some Sundays, and Dec. 26-27 beginning Friday, Nov. 24. Friday, Dec. 15, and Saturday, Dec. 16, will be even more magical as food trucks, kids' rides, wagon rides and even Santa Claus! It's an experience you won't want to miss!

Dates
• Nov. 24-25, 30 – 5-9 p.m. (kids' rides)
• Dec. 1-2 – 5-9 p.m. (kids' rides)
• Dec. 8-10 – 5-9 p.m. (kids' rides)
• Dec. 14 – 5-9 p.m. (kids' rides)
• Dec. 15-16 – 5-9 p.m. (food trucks, kids' rides, wagon rides, Santa Claus)
• Dec. 21-23 – 5-9 p.m. (kids' rides)
• Dec. 26-27 – 5-9 p.m. (kids' rides)

Admission
• Adults - $10
• Seniors - $8
• Military/veterans/first responders - $7
• Teens (13-17) - $8
• Children (5-12) - $7
• Children younger than 4 - free
• Wagon rides on Dec 15,16 - $5
• Kids' rides every night of event - $3

Pleasant View Singing
We will have our last singing of the year, Sunday night, Nov. 19, at 5 with Refined. 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.

Cullman Chapter of The National Association of Retired and Active Federal Employees Meeting
Monday, Nov. 20, at the Golden Corral Buffet. This is due to the rescheduling of our BCBS speaker. Meeting will begin at noon, with a Dutch lunch prior to meeting. All members and nonmembers are welcome and urged to attend.

8th Annual Veterans Thanksgiving Dinner – Free!
Monday, Nov. 20, from noon-6 p.m. at the Brandin' Iron in West Point. For local veterans and their families. We encourage you to invite every veteran you know!

Weihnachtspyramide/Christmas Pyramid Lighting
Friday, Nov. 24, at 6 p.m. near Depot Park. The Weihnachtspyramide will be on the grounds of the Cullman County Museum.

Christkindlmarkt
• Immerse yourself in a German winter wonderland at Cullman's Christkindlmarkt at Depot Park. Every Thursday to Sunday, from Nov. 24 to Dec. 23, indulge in rich flavors of traditional German Christkindlmarkt Cuisine. Experience ice skating, carousel rides and cherished moments with Santa. Our market's heart lies in its authenticity, from carefully handpicked vendors to the preserved centuries-old tradition that best exemplifies true German craftsmanship. Treasure offerings from revered German manufacturers like Christian Ulbricht, Dregeno Seiffen, Engstler, Graupner, Knox, Richard Glässer, Ino Schaller, and Richard Sellmer—where each item is a testament to legacy and meticulous artistry.
• Hours are Thursdays 4-9 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays 11 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sundays 1-8 p.m.www.cullmanchristkindlmarkt.com

Christmas in Cullman Parade & Tree Lighting
• Gather round the Warehouse District Friday, Dec. 1, as Cullman residents don their holliest jolliest best, boasting decked-out cars and trucks, each hoping to be better than the last and hoping to bring home bragging rights of first-place float.
• The parade begins at 5 p.m. and will travel north on First Avenue through the Warehouse District to Depot Park, where "The South's Largest Christmas Tree Lighting" will begin just after the parade, with Taylor Hicks and James Spann. Enjoy the Christkindlmarkt, ice skating rink, Christmas carousel and Kinderplatz Santa's Village!

34th Annual Cullman County Christmas Parade
Saturday, Dec. 2, at noon. The parade will travel from Wallace State down U.S. Highway 31 to Hanceville Fire Station No. 1. www.facebook.com/hancevillecivitan

Town of South Vinemont 2nd Annual Christmas in the Park
Saturday, Dec. 9, from 4-6 p.m. at the Vinemont walking trail/Art Park, 88 Ridgeway St. Santa Claus, cookies and hot chocolate.

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Johnson (from Front)

Math. Her community service initiative is "Diversify: Empowering Young Girls in STEM," and her talent was a chemistry demonstration. Her parents are Aaron and Anna Moyana.

Sophomore Reese Lowery, 20, of McCalla, Alabama, was named third runner-up and Miss Congeniality, winning $600 in scholarships. Lowery is studying pre-nursing. A UAB softball player in her freshman and sophomore years, she received a national collegiate honors scholarship for academics at UAB. She has been accepted into UAB's School of Nursing for spring 2024. An advocate for athletic mental health awareness, her community service initiative was "Mental Health in Athletes Matters Too." Her talent was singing while playing guitar. Her parents are Jason and Memory Lowery.

Kallie Hester of Auburn, Alabama, was named fourth runner-up, winning a $500 scholarship. She is earning a clinical doctorate in occupational therapy. Hester is in the UAB Chapter of the Student Occupational Therapy Association and received the Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation Scholarship. Her community service initiative was "Advocating for Trauma-Informed Care in Higher Education," and she sang for her talent. She is the daughter of Kala Warren.

Sophomore Teagan Thornton of Greenhill, Alabama, won the Social Change Award and a $500 scholarship. She is majoring in neuroscience and minoring in chemistry and psychology. Thornton is in Sigma Kappa and the Student Organ Donation Association.

Her community service initiative was "Conquering Chiari with Every Step," and her talent was singing. She is the daughter of Felicia Hutcheson.



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PREP BASKETBALL

Hanceville tops Cold Springs 62-43, Lady Eagles pull away to win 64-26

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – The Eagles of Cold Springs traveled to Hanceville's Lane Horton Gymnasium for a pair of varsity matchups with the Bulldogs Tuesday night. After a tight first half, the Lady Eagles pulled away from the Lady Bulldogs in the second half to collect a 64-26 win and in the boys' game, Hanceville fought its way past Cold Springs to pick up a 62-43 win.

Cold Springs 64 - Hanceville 26 (Varsity Girls)
Ella Dickerson drilled a three to get the scoring started for Cold Springs, then Maci Brown put in a floater to give them an early 5-0 lead. Aaliyah Twitty split her free throws to put Hanceville on the scoreboard with 5:48 remaining in the first period. then Alex Twitty put in the Lady Bulldogs' first basket of the game to cut it to 5-3 with less than five minutes to go in the opening quarter. Baskets by Aaliyah and Alex Twitty tied the game up at seven, but Ciara Calvert broke the tie with a basket in the paint, and Cold Springs took a 9-7 lead into the second period.

The second quarter was more of the same for both teams as both defenses kept the game low-scoring. A pair of Alex Twitty free throws tied the game up at nine, then a rebound and putback by Kate Sterling gave the Lady Bulldogs an 11-9 lead with 5:25 remaining in the first half. Aaliyah Twitty added another basket in the paint to make it a four-point lead for Hanceville, but the Lady Eagles finished the first half strong. Calvert got things started with a trey, then a steal and a layup by Kenady Graves gave Cold Springs a 14-13 lead. Dickerson put in a layup to push their lead to 17-13 at the half.

Cierra Merriweather knocked down a short jumper to start the third period for Hanceville, as that made it a 17-15 game. A Dickerson long-range shot pushed Cold Springs' lead to 20-15, but a basket by Alex Twitty cut it to 20-17.

All of a sudden, the Lady Eagles got red-hot from behind the three-point line, led by Dickerson and Ella Bruer, who proceeded to score the next 22 points, which included five straight threes at one point during their run.

That quickly pushed their lead to 42-17. Sterling stopped the bleeding with a basket in the paint, but a three-point play by Bruer, free throws by Dickerson and Brown, and five points by Paizley Whitlow, made it a 54-21 game going into the final period. The fourth quarter was run under a hot clock, and Cold Springs went on to cruise past Hanceville, 64-26.

Dickerson finished with 21 points for Cold Springs (4-0). Bruer scored all 16 of her points in the third period, while Brown ended up with seven. For Hanceville, Alex Twitty finished with 10 points. Aaliyah Twitty added five points, while Sterling chipped in with four points.

Hanceville 62 - Cold Springs 43 (Varsity Boys)
Carson Garrett got the scoring started for Hanceville with a rebound and putback, but a trey by Cole Bales gave Cold Springs an early 3-2 lead. A basket in the paint by Matt Williams gave the Eagles a slim 5-4 lead early in the first period, but the Bulldogs took over after that. Peyton Twilley put in a shot down low, then a rebound and putback by Eli Clements gave them an 8-5 lead. Later on, a steal and a layup by Twilley made it 11-5, then Noah Jones and Dalton Pirkle followed that up with baskets of their own to push their lead to 15-5. A three by Jake Cornelius made it 18-5, and Hanceville took a 20-5 lead into the second period.

Five quick points by Bales cut it to 20-10 early in the second quarter, then he later added another long-range shot to make it a 21-13 game with 4:56 remaining in the first half. Twilley got fouled after he made his three-point shot and completed the four-point play to increase the Hanceville lead to 25-13. Konnor Helms drilled a trey to give the Bulldogs a 29-13 lead with 3:28 remaining in the first half. Four free throws by Bales and a made basket in the paint by Landon Bishop cut it to 31-19 with two minutes left to go until halftime, but Noah Douglas banked in a trey from the top of the key, and Drake Bentley put in a shot in the paint to give Hanceville a 36-19 lead at the half.

Bales drilled a trey from the left corner, and Tycen Kilgo knocked down a shot in the paint to cut it to 37-24, but it didn't take long for the Bulldogs to go on another run. Douglas hit a long-range shot, then baskets by Twilley and Braxton Broad pushed their lead to 44-26. An and-one by Twilley, plus three straight points by Broad, made it a 50-26 game going into the final period. The Bulldogs kept a sizable lead for the final eight minutes of the game, and they would go on to defeat the Eagles 62-43.

All but two players found the scoring column for Hanceville (1-1). Clements and Twilley each finished with 13 points for the Bulldogs. Douglas added nine points, while Helms put in six points. For Cold Springs (0-2), Bales led all scorers with 24 points, and Kilgo added 10 points.

Hanceville will host West Point, and Cold Springs will travel to take on Holly Pond Friday night.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
The Cold Springs Lady Eagles outscored Hanceville 37-8 in the third quarter to pull away and collect a 64-26 win Tuesday night.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
The Hanceville Bulldogs defeated Cold Springs 62-43 Tuesday night.

PREP BASKETBALL

Vinemont Eagles, Lady Eagles collect wins over St. Bernard

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — The Vinemont Eagles and Lady Eagles hosted a pair of varsity matchups against St. Bernard Monday night and both Vinemont squads collected a pair of wins. Vinemont took the varsity girls' game 67-29 and in the varsity boys' contest, the Eagles defeated the Saints 71-23.

Vinemont 67 - St. Bernard 29 (Varsity Girls)
Vinemont got off to a quick start, as a basket by Caroline Miller and five straight points by Maggie Burks, gave them an early 7-0 lead. Ella Davis split her free throws to put St. Bernard on the scoreboard, but Whitney Quick put in a floater, and Burks put in a basket in the paint to make it an 11-1 game. Davis put in the Lady Saints' first basket of the game to cut it to 11-3, but a rebound and put-back by Vayda Yarbrough made it a 13-3 game. Quick drilled a three late in the first period, and Morgan Flanagan added a late basket to give the Lady Eagles an 18-7 lead after one.

A steal and a basket on the other end by Reagan Robinson pushed Vinemont's lead to 22-9, but a Davis three made it a 22-12 game with 4:43 remaining in the first half. Later in the second period, another made basket by Davis cut it to 25-14. The Lady Eagles finished the first half strong, going on a 12-0 run, which included a pair of threes by Quick and one from Flanagan, to increase their lead to 37-14 at the half.

Robinson collected a basket to start out the second half for Vinemont to make it a 39-14 game. Carley Stephens later converted an and-one opportunity to give Vinemont a 43-16 lead. The Lady Eagles pushed their lead to 53-21 on five straight points by Yarbrough and another trey by Quick gave the Lady Eagles a 56-22 lead going into the final period. The fourth quarter ran under a hot clock, and a lot of bench players saw plenty of game time in the second half, as Vinemont cruised to a 67-29 win over St. Bernard.

Burks led the way for Vinemont (3-0) with 17 points. Quick added 14 points. Flanagan put in nine points, and Yarbrough ended up with seven. For St. Bernard, Davis finished with 14 points. Rowan Hines added six points, and Amelia Tafazoli ended up with five.

Vinemont 71 - St. Bernard 23 (Varsity Boys)
No one could find a way to slow down Isaiah Jones early on, as he scored the first seven points for Vinemont, as they jumped out to the early 7-0 lead. Cameron Smiley's trey put St. Bernard on the scoreboard, then Heitor Jolly put in a shot to cut it to 7-5 with 4:27 left to go in the first period. A three by Joel Rose made it a 9-8 game, but Vinemont countered with a three each by Jeremy Harbison and Jones, and Jaxon Holcomb put in a basket to push the Eagle lead to 19-8 going into the second period.

Vinemont continued to add onto their lead in the second quarter as a trio of baskets by Bryson Bush and Jones, and one by Holcomb, gave them a 33-8 lead. Emmanuel Santiago stopped the run with a made shot to cut it to 33-10, but the Eagles got baskets from Colton Gillis and Bush to end the first half, as they took a commanding 42-12 lead into the locker room.

Jordan Eller and Holcomb scored the first six points for Vinemont in the second half to push their lead to 48-12. The bench players ended up getting a lot of playing time in the second half. A pair of made baskets by Harbison and a free throw increased their lead to 63-20 going into the final period. Just like the varsity girls' game, the final quarter was run under a hot clock, and Vinemont would go on to collect a 71-23 win over St. Bernard.

Jones finished with 16 points for Vinemont. Gillis added 13 points. Bush put in 12 points. Holcomb ended up with 11, and Harbison added nine. For St. Bernard, Santiago led the way with five points, and Jolly added four points.

Vinemont will travel to take on Falkville and St. Bernard will head home to take on Cullman Christian Tuesday.



SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
Vinemont's Bryson Bush finished with 12 points in the Eagles' 71-23 win over St. Bernard Monday night.

Show (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The annual Vinemont Band Booster Winter Craft Show is set for this Friday and Saturday, Nov. 17-18 at Cullman Church of Christ.

Organizer Jamie Alexander said, "We have over 70 vendors this time. We have so many, they'll be lining the hallways; they're in all the rooms and main areas."

The Boosters have hosted the craft show for more than 25 years, raising money for the band's general expense fund through vendor fees, concession sales and donations.

Although a high school band is a school-sponsored extracurricular activity and allocated a portion of the school's funds, each band is responsible for raising extra funding to assist in the overage of expenses such as transportation, driver fees and new uniforms. If an instrument gets broken and needs to be replaced, that cost is incurred by the band.

While the annual craft show is a beloved local event, it has needed a refresh in recent years, according to Alexander, who said, "I've been able to reach out and bring in a lot of new vendors. A good bit of our vendors from last year are returning, too, so it will be a good mix of old and new."

Vendors plan to bring loads of handmade items, including wreaths, clothing, dolls, soaps, perfumes and baked goods. There will also be personalized T-shirts and tumblers and more.

M&D Crafts will offer antler handle knives, tools and leather sheaths, along with other handmade outdoorsman tools.

Kustom Wood Creations will have a plethora of exotic wooden gifts, and miniature cornhole sets and checkerboard stools are just two of the giftable items Turn-N-Time is planning to have on-hand.

Food trucks will be on-site, with the Street Kitchen serving patrons on Friday, Nov. 17, and Carnival Cravings serving on Saturday, Nov. 18.

The Vinemont Band Booster Winter Craft show will be held at Cullman Church of Christ, located at 4345 Alabama Highway 157. The craft show will be open to the public Friday, Nov. 17, from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 18, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

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256-352-2221

...IN THAT WHILE WE WERE YET SINNERS CHRIST DIED FOR US. ROMANS 5:8



HAY Mamas hosting Christmas Bazaar this Saturday at Agriplex

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — In the hustle and bustle of holiday season and in a culture seemingly focused on instant gratification, a group called HAY Mamas or "Helping All Y'all" Mamas has stepped back to focus on slow living and intentional giving of handmade and locally sourced items at its Christmas Bazaar, set for Saturday, Nov. 18, 2023, at the North Alabama Agriplex.

According to organizer Angela Crauswell, the group is a growing community with the purpose of bringing women together by encouraging and growing with each other, specifically in the realms of homesteading, homeschooling and faith.

"We encourage others to share their knowledge so that we can all benefit and help one another," smiled Crauswell, who assured that any woman who wants to join is welcome, not just mamas.

The idea for a handmade Christmas market came to Crauswell as a way for the public to support the talented women in the group by encouraging the public to shop small, shop artisanal and shop handmade.

"We wanted a way to help small local vendors get their product out to share with the community and to help support one another," she explained.

"We believe that shopping local is very important as it supports the person making the items.

"When buying handmade or local items, you are helping a friend, family member or neighbor."

Crauswell said there will be many vendors, selling items like handmade pottery, trending sublimated shirts and tumblers, baked goods and even herbal remedies. The HAY Mamas Christmas Bazaar will be Saturday, Nov. 18, 2023, at the North Alabama Agriplex from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.. There is no admission cost.

Meal (from Front)

knows that unfortunately, this may be the only warm meal some residents get for Thanksgiving; for seniors, it may be the only fellowship.

"Some of our seniors in town, this may be the only interaction they get for the holidays," she said. "Everyone needs to come and share a meal and feel that sense of community over Thanksgiving dinner."

Take-out is also an option this year. Guests are more than welcome to stay and visit with others while enjoying their meals; for those who aren't able to stay or have homebound family members, all meals will be boxed and there will be bags to carry the boxes home.

Sasser pointed out, "We will have bags for them to carry their food out; all the drinks will have lids.

"Everything will be ready to go and ready to eat."

Sasser and other Town employees will also deliver boxed Thanksgiving meals to first responders and local law enforcement officers.

Feeding a warm meal to as many people as possible is the goal, Sasser smiled.

"I don't care if you don't have kids that go to Vinemont. I don't care if you aren't from here, y'all come eat!"

Vinemont's annual Community Thanksgiving Meal will be held on Saturday, Nov. 18, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Vinemont High School lunchroom.

It is free and includes a drink, a full Thanksgiving meal and a dessert.

Vinemont High School is located at 165 High School Road.

Dinner (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

WEST POINT, Ala. — The Brandin' Iron Steakhouse in West Point has hosted a free meal for area veterans and their spouses for the past several years. This year's event will be Monday, Nov. 20, from noon-6 p.m.

Brandin' Iron Manager Josh Speakman said the meal is a communitywide effort with full support and participation from what he calls the "home team."

"I call it the 'home team' because it consists of like-minded individuals who have a passion for community service and enjoy lifting others up," Speakman said. "I'm not going to try to name individuals, but the groups that are always essential are the sheriff's office, VFW, Brandin' Iron staff, West Point High School, West Point Elementary and many others."

He said additional volunteers are always welcome. "We can always use volunteers on Saturday (Nov. 18), which is (the) majority of our food prepping day," Speakman said. "If you will just call the restaurant and leave your name, number and what you are interested in doing to help, I will call you back and we will figure something out in regard to the event."

The free meal will include oven-baked and fried turkey, pineapple and brown sugar glazed ham, chicken dressing, sweet potato casserole, green beans and a variety of desserts. Speakman said everything is cooked from scratch.

"We will also have dinner delivered to homebound or disabled vets by deputies with the sheriff's office," Speakman said. "If you have someone you would like to include, you can also contact the restaurant with the name, address and phone number of the veteran. Please also include how many plates they are needing. Friday (Nov. 17) is the deadline to submit names for home delivery."

For more information, or to get involved contact Josh Speakman at 256-739-1112.

The Brandin' Iron is located at 87 County Road 1242, Cullman, AL 35057.

Commission (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Commission at its Nov. 14 meeting appointed Brian Monk to serve as a deputy coroner, at the request of Cullman County Coroner Jeremy Kilpatrick.

Kilpatrick addressed the commission, saying, "I had one of my deputy coroners resign earlier this year, due to moving out of the county. Brian (Monk) offered to help me, as he's done in the past when I've been on calls. We just want to make it official."

Commission Chairman Jeff Clemons said, "There isn't a better person than Brian Monk to do that."

Cullman County Economic Development Director Matthew Kinsland spoke regarding Resolution 2023-47. "This is the resolution to accept the grant award of $500,000 for the resurfacing of County Road 1490," he explained to the commissioners.

The $500,000 Community Development Block Grant is to resurface and provide drainage improvements on 2.6 miles of Cullman County Road 1490 in the Gold Ridge community.

After the approval of the resolution, Commissioner Kerry Watson shared, "I'd like to thank Matt and his office for all the hard work they've done with this."

In other business, the commission:

- Recognized Alecia Young's retirement after 19 years with the Water Department
- Authorized Chairman to sign American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) Drinking Water/ Wastewater Project Agreement from ADEM
- Authorized Chairman to sign the annual premium for the Volunteer fire Workers' Compensation insurance in the amount of $13,304
- Approved Commissioner Watson's nominee, Ory Hampton, to the Department of Human Resources Board to replace T.J. Franey for a term to expire 5/15/26
- Approved the surplus of the following items from the Sheriff's Office to be auctioned on GovDeals
  - •2011 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado
  - •2008 Ford F350 4X4
  - •2007 Chevrolet Tahoe
  - •2012 GMC Sierra 1500 Silverado
- Approved the surplus of a 2002 Jeep Grand Cherokee (Vin # 1J4GX38S52C151848) from the Sheriff's Office to be destroyed per Court Order
- Approved the following items from the Road Department to be auctioned on GovDeals or by any means necessary
- Green tandem axle dump truck
- Approved the following items from Park and Recreation to be auctioned on GovDeals or by any means necessary
  - •1995 Dodge Truck
  - •2000 Chevrolet Silverado
  - •2003 Chevy Z71 4-wheel drive
  - •2005 Dutchman Camper
  - •2009 12'x32' mobile home
  - •2000 GMC Sierra
  - •2008 Ford Dump Truck
- Extended Bid # 1415: for emulsified asphalt to Ergon, Inc
- Extended Bid # 1416: for traffic signs to Traffic Signs and Vulcan Signs
- Extended Bid # 1417: for traffic stripping to J.C. Cheek Contractors, Inc
- Extended Bid # 1418: for corrugated plastic pipe to Bear Concrete Products, Inc.
- Extended Bid # 1434: for corrugated metal pipe to Twin Oaks Environmental
- Awarded Bid # 1451: for motor oil and hydraulic oil, transmission fluid, and grease to The McPherson Companies, Inc., and W.H. Thomas Oil Co. Inc., based on individual item cost
- Approved request to rescind bid extension for concrete and rebid
- Awarded Bid # 1452: for concrete to DCA

The next Cullman County Commission work session will be Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2023, at 4 p.m. in the commission meeting room. A meeting will follow at 6.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, will hold a public hearing on December 11, 2023, at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in the Lucille N. Galin Auditorium at City Hall, 204 Second Avenue NE, Cullman, Alabama 35055. At this time, anyone wishing to be heard in favor of or in opposition to the adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-04 (set forth in full below) will be given an opportunity to speak. - Wesley M. Moore, City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 2024 – 04

AMENDING THE CURRENT ZONING ORDINANCE AND ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, TO RE-ZONE CERTAIN PARCELS OF PROPERTY AS SET FORTH HEREIN

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Under the authority of Chapter 52, Articles 1 through 4, Section 11-52-1 through Section 11-52-84, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, and specifically Sections 11-52-77 and at the request of property owner, Copper Horse Properties, LLC, the following describe the tracts or parcels of land, to-wit: Legal Description: Lots 1 and 2 of Block 34, Musgrove's Addition to the Town of Cullman, Alabama, as recorded in Deed Book 10, Pages 582 and 583 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, and is hereby changed from R-3 Residential District to R-4 Residential District.

SECTION 2. That this ordinance be published at least once a week for two consecutive weeks in advance of its final passage in a newspaper with general circulation within the City of Cullman, Alabama, the first publication of said notice and ordinance being verbatim and the second publication either verbatim or synopsized, with the last publication being at least 15 days prior to the date set for public hearing and passage of said ordinance.

SECTION 3. That a public hearing be held relative to the passage of this ordinance on the 11th day of December, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., at which time interested parties and citizens shall have the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance and any changes relating thereto.

SECTION 4. That all notices as required by law be given by the City Clerk concerning said public hearing, and in addition thereto, a certified letter be sent by the Clerk to all contiguous property owners at their last known addresses as shown by the tax records for the City of Cullman, Alabama.

SECTION 5. That upon final passage of this ordinance, all zoning maps, master comprehensive plans or any other documents of the City of Cullman, Alabama, in conflict with this ordinance are hereby changed and amended to reflect the changes and amendments herein.

SECTION 6. Should any part or portion of this ordinance be held invalid, unenforceable or unconstitutional, for whatever reason, by a court of competent jurisdiction, such ruling shall not affect any other part or portion of this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage or adoption as required by law, including notice, publication and public hearing, all in accordance with Section 11-52-1, et seq., Code of Alabama 1975, as amended.

Submitted by Wesley M. Moore, City Clerk

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO.: PC 2023-361

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF TYLER MARK GRAVES, DECEASED

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Notice is hereby given that a verified Petition for Summary Distribution has been filed by Robert Mark Graves on November 2, 2023.

Thirty (30) days after the notice of publication hereof and pursuant to the law of the Alabama, the Court shall be requested to enter an order directing summary distribution of the estate of said decedent.

Dated this the 13th day of November, 2023.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Probate Judge

TO: PUBLISHER OF *The Cullman Tribune:*

Please publish the above notice **one time** in said newspaper, and thereafter file with the Court a copy of the notice so published and an affidavit of publication.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
MARY LOU CRIGGER * CASE NO.: PC 2023-319
Deceased *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary have been granted to **Daniel Joseph Crigger,** as Personal Representative of the Estate Mary Lou Crigger**,** deceased, on the 30th day of October, 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.

DANIEL JOSEPH CRIGGER
Personal Representative of the Estate of
Mary Lou Crigger, deceased

Douglas C. Martinson, II, Esq.
Martinson & Beason, P.C.
Attorney for Petitioner
115 North Side Square
Huntsville, Alabama 35801

TO: **The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune**

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
JOE ALAN MEAD, * **CASE NO.: PC2023-271**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Testamentary having been granted to DAPHNE MEAD, as Personal Representative of the Estate of JOE ALAN MEAD deceased, on the 24th day of October, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

Daphne Mead
Personal Representative

Melvin Hasting
Attorney for Personal Representative
407 2nd Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

TO: **The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune**

Please publish the above Notice once a week for three consecutive weeks and send an affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

CASE NO. SM 2023 – 900926

HARMONY MOBILE HOME PARK, LLC

Plaintiff,

v.

ALICIA ACKLIN,

Defendant.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Please take notice that a Summons and Complaint in the above-styled matter was filed by Plaintiff, Harmony Mobile Home Park, LLC, in the District Court of Cullman County, Alabama, on September 27, 2023. Attempt has been made to serve the Defendant, Alicia Acklin, with the Summons and Complaint by Certified U.S. Mail at the last known addresses of the Defendant, 2820 County Road 702, Lot 5, Hanceville, AL 35077. Please be advised that Alicia Acklin, as the named Defendant, has thirty (30) days from the last date of publication to contest said Complaint and must do so by filing a written response with the Cullman County Clerk of Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055 and with Plaintiff's Attorney, Shay Persall, Shay Persall Law, LLC, 611 7th Street SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

Done this 7th day of November, 2023.

LISA McSWAIN, CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

/s/ Shay Persall
Attorney for Plaintiff
SHAY PERSALL LAW, LLC

Due to non-payment of rental and other fees, the contents of the following units are considered abandoned and will be disposed of by auction, private sale, or otherwise disposed of on 11/30/2023. 256-297-1741.

NORTH ALABAMA STORAGE
PO BOX 33
VINEMONT, AL 35179

AUCTION WILL BE HELD AT
https://storageauctions.com/

Good Hope Location:
Unit #63, Mark Young, 85 County Rd 299, Cullman, AL 35057
Unit #19, Theresa McKenzie, 85 Alex Drive, Cullman, AL 35056
Unit #62, Thomas Dunlap, 431B County Road 565, Hanceville, AL 35077
Unit # 37, Deann Johns, 872 Co Rd 438, Cullman, AL 35057
Unit #39, Catherine Farr, 1200 6th St NW, Cullman, AL 35055
Unit #2 & Unit #41, David Tucker, 147 Sid Williams Road, Bremen, AL 35033
Unit #6, Bobby Johnson, 124 County Road 1383, Falkville, Al 35622
Unit #57, Michael Case, 285 County Rd 431, Lot 12, Cullman, AL 35057
Unit #13, James A Barnett, 370 County Road 134, Bremen, Alabama 35033
Unit #26, Nicholas Cole, 1081 Co Rd 127, Breman, AL 35033
Unit #36, Gary Hardin, 3825 CO RD 715, Cullman, AL 35055
Unit #50, Saige Creppel, 128 Goldmore Court SW, Cullman, AL 35055
Unit #44, Rhonda Smith, 35 County Road 497, Cullman AL 35055
Unit #43, Daniel Gillis, 2381 County Road 437, Cullman, Al 35057
Unit #4, Kassie Swann, 1234 County Road 468, Lot 16, Hanceville, Al 35057
Crane Hill Location:
Unit #15, Madison Matson, 2741 County Road 421, Cullman, AL 35057
Cullman Location:
Unit #43, Carrie Butts, 6177 County Road 1435 Vinemont, AL 35179
Unit #12, Emily Hydrick, 7940 CO RD 1082 Vinemont, AL 35179
Unit #8, John Starnes, 1914 CO RD 1650 Cullman, AL 35058
Unit #9, Micheal Yates, 916 3rd St SW, Attala, AL 35954
Unit #27, Sydney Bartley, 1517 Brunner Street NW Cullman, AL 35055
Simcoe Location:
Unit #8 Kathy Bohannon, 438 Harmony Lane SE Cullman, AL 35055
Unit #9, Matthew Johnson, 569 Co Rd 1625, Cullman, AL 35058
Unit #2, Tiffany Haynes, 2638 County Road 1352, Vinemont, AL 35179
Unit #15, Matthew Holcomb, 215 County Road 1623, Cullman, Alabama 35058

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

MARQUITA SHARAE GREEN,
Plaintiff

Vs. Case Number: **25-DR-2023-900161.00**

RODNEY D. WILSON,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Rodney D. Wilson, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Marquita Sharae Green's Complaint for Divorce by December 18, 2023 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2023-900161.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 17th day of October, 2023.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Circuit Clerk

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
KALIF R. GREEN
287 WOOLEY ROAD
HANCEVILLE, AL 35077

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF * Case Number: PC2023-332
MICHAEL FRITZ MOORE, *
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama

In the matter of the Estate of Michael Fritz Moore, Deceased

Letters Testamentary upon last will and testament of said decedent, having been granted to the undersigned on the 14th day of November 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from the above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

Michael Brandon Moore
Personal Representative

Tonya C. Palmer
Attorney for Personal Representative
1939 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

PB WIL BK 119 PG 899 - 11/07/2023 02:20 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
RUTH MARIE WILLIS, * CASE NO.: PC2023-327
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: CAROL SUE MEAD, NANCY BEAM, BRENDA YARBROUGH, MARTINA RODGERS, BILLY RAY EVANS, MARGARET STINSON, BRITTANY EVANS, MARK ALLEN EVANS, JOHNNA WOOTEN, EVELYN HUBBARD, WALTER EVANS, FRANCIS M. EVANS, PATSY SWIDER, DEREK EVANS, KENT EVANS

ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Please take notice that a hearing on the *Petition for Probate of Will* filed by Steven C. Smith, Attorney for The Estate of Ruth Marie Willis, is set for hearing on the **25th day of January, 2024, at 10:30 am**. Before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

Done this the 7th day of November, 2023.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the above notice three (3) successive weeks is said newspaper.

Steven C. Smith
Smith & Smith, LLP
Post Office Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398

JOY MCNIEL AND MARGIE JOHNS.

PLAINTIFF

Case No. CV-2023-900328.00

VS.

ONE ACRE OF LAND IN THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 9, RANGE 2 WEST; SAID ACRE BEING DESCRIBED MORE PARTICULARLY AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A POINT 391 FEET NORTHEAST OF WHERE THE SECTION BETWEEN SECTION 27 AND 26 INTERSECTS SAID HIGHWAY; THENCE NORTHEASTERLY 210 FEET; THENCE IN A SLIGHT NORTHWEST DIRECTION 170 FEET; THENCE IN A SLIGHT SOUTHWEST DIRECTION 210 FEET; THENCE IN A SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION 170 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING;

AND

Alan Johns, Trustee of THE CHURCH OF CHRIST AT SIMCOE, Bennie Johns, Trustee, and former member of the Church of Christ at Simcoe; Alan Johns, Trustee, and former member of the Church of Christ at Simcoe; Joyce Buckalew, Wanda Clark, Lora Clark, Louise Smith, Nina Smith and the heirs and devisees of Ralph Buckalew, the heirs and devisees of H. G. Cornett and wife, Nancy Lou Cornett, Fictitious Defendants C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, and L, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said lands,

DEFENDANTS.

NOTICE OF FILING LAWSUIT

NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS:

ONE ACRE OF LAND IN THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 9, RANGE 2 WEST; SAID ACRE BEING DESCRIBED MORE PARTICULARLY AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A POINT 391 FEET NORTHEAST OF WHERE THE SECTION BETWEEN SECTION 27 AND 26 INTERSECTS SAID HIGHWAY; THENCE NORTHEASTERLY 210 FEET; THENCE IN A SLIGHT NORTHWEST DIRECTION 170 FEET; THENCE IN A SLIGHT SOUTHWEST DIRECTION 210 FEET; THENCE IN A SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION 170 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING;

AND

Alan Johns, Trustee of THE CHURCH OF CHRIST AT SIMCOE, Bennie Johns, Trustee, and former member of the Church of Christ at Simcoe; Alan Johns, Trustee, and former member of the Church of Christ at Simcoe; Joyce Buckalew, Wanda Clark, Lora Clark, Louise Smith, Nina Smith and the heirs and devisees of Ralph Buckalew, the heirs and devisees of H. G. Cornett and wife, Nancy Lou Cornett, Fictitious Defendants C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, and L, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said lands, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the Complaint for Declaratory Judgment to Remove Restrictive Use Clause by joy McNeil and Margie Johns by the 9th day of January, 2024 or thereafter a Judgment by Default may be rendered against such Defendant in the above captioned case number CV-2023-900328.00, now pending in the Circuit Court of Cullman County, Alabama.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Circuit Court

Petitioner's Attorney
Beverly Paschal Poston
200 First Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

Beverly Paschal Poston
Attorney at Law

PB WIL BK 119 PG 761 - 11/01/2023 09:17 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2023-355

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF LINDA HANEY, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Virginia Sarah Roberts on the 31st day of October, 2023, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Virginia Sarah Roberts
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C. Smith
Attorney for the Estate
Smith & Smith, LLP
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
(256) 734-4721

PB WIL BK 119 PG 855 - 11/03/2023 04:18 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
NICHOLAS J. PISACRITA, JR., * CASE NO PC 2023-321
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF THE WILL AND AMENDED PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: NICHOLAS J. PISACRITA, III, ELIZABETH ANN KALEEL, PETER PISACRITA, BRANDON PISACRITA, JORDAN PISACRITA, COREY PISACRITA AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTEREST PARTIES

Petition for Probate of Will filed and made court record the 5th day of October, 2023, by Elizabeth Allie Pisacrita, to admit to probate the Last Will and Testament of Nicholas J. Pisacrita, Jr., deceased, by and through Attorney, Beverly Paschal Poston has been scheduled for the **25th day of January, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.,** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

All persons are hereby given notice to appear and contest said petition if they think proper.

Cullman County Courthouse
500 2nd Avenue SW
Room 101
Cullman, Alabama 35055

Done this the 3rd day of November, 2023.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the above notice three (3) successive weeks is said newspaper

Beverly Paschal Poston
Attorney for Petitioner
200 First Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

Addison (from Front)

Todd Walker
Tribune Correspondent

ADDISON, Ala. — Addison High School is a small school in a small town in Winston County, Alabama but this little school has big dreams and lofty expectations for itself and its students. Addison High School Principal Micah Smothers was recently informed that Addison High had been named, for the second time (the first time being in 2018), a Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence Lighthouse School for 2023.

The Lighthouse category is the top tier award given by the national nonprofit Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence. Schools are judged every five years and scored in nine categories; each school must score at least 80% in seven out of nine categories. Addison scored at or above 90% in seven and scored at least 80% in the other two. Addison High School is one of only 50 high schools nationwide, and the only high school in Winston County, to achieve the Lighthouse standard for 2023.

The categories are student focus and support, school organization and culture, challenging standards and curriculum, active teaching and learning, technology integration, professional community, leadership and educational vitality, community partnerships and indicators of success.

"Blue Ribbon's evaluators came and gave a pretty lengthy questionnaire for our staff, parents and students to fill out. We had a tremendous response from all three subgroups. Naturally, our staff return rate was 100%, while students were 93% and, most surprising, our parents had a 55% return rate. The parental rate I am extremely proud of, but I shouldn't have been surprised due to the fact that unlike most schools we have wonderful parental involvement," Smothers said. "At Addison we strive to provide a family atmosphere. My door is always open to our staff and students. I pride myself in knowing all my students and either their parent or parents or a grandparent of each child. I have about 35% of my parents' phone numbers in my cell phone."

Smothers continued, "At Addison we try and have our students involved with one another to promote this atmosphere. Our kids really help one another in class. If one child is struggling another child who might catch on a bit faster will usually help the other child. I feel like this really helps our kids learn because most kids may understand a bit better hearing it explained by a peer as well as the teacher. I know that the evaluators came away impressed with our school family. We aren't perfect and there are some things that we can certainly improve on, but overall, I believe that we provide our students with a safe and healthy environment that is conducive to learning."

Smothers has been working in education for 33 years and has been principal at Addison High for the past 14 years. His philosophy during that time has remained the same."My philosophy is plain and simple: help people," Smothers said. "I got that from my father. When a new student arrives, I will sit them down and speak with them and their parents. I will then pair them with a current student in the same grade and with similar interests. I then have that student escort the new student around showing them the ropes, so to speak, at Addison."

Smothers credited the school's success in education to all the work put in by the faculty and support staff and said he's proud of the way they have helped change their students' lives. "I am so proud of our staff. Currently 90-95% of our teachers have graduated from Addison High. Most schools have to go looking for new teachers; I don't have that problem as the teachers come to us and the vast majority are from our community, and I consider that a blessing," he said. "I am just so very proud to be a two-time recipient of the Lighthouse Blue Ribbon Award. This award is 100% because of our amazing students, faculty and parents. I can't stress enough that this all starts with our students' parents and the wonderful parental involvement we have here at Addison."

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315 MAIN ST. NW HANCEVILLE
256-352-2221

Emma (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Emma, an approximately 3-year-old female Husky mix is available for adoption at Cullman County Animal Shelter.

Despite her breed's reputation of high-powered work dogs, Emma maintains a stable medium-level of energy; don't make any mistake in thinking she's lazy, she is always ready to be riled up for zoomies or take on an adventure with you.

She cherishes time spent with her handlers at the shelter and is remarkably self-confident, with a keen sense of self.

Emma's favorite comfort item at the shelter is her khaki tactical backpack – the perfect accessory for hikes.

While Huskies have a reputation of singing while they're cooped up, Emma is candidly calm and patient in her kennel, waiting for the next chance of human interaction.

Emma is an ideal candidate for becoming not only a hiking partner, but also a true companion.

Ready to add Emma to your family? Head over to Cullman County Animal Shelter at 935 Convent Road NE, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. for a meet and greet.

Her adoption fee includes spay, DHLPP vaccine, Bordetella vaccines, rabies vaccine, wormer, general exam at the vet and microchip.

Contact the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 256-734-5448 or cullmananimalshelter@co.cullman.al.us.

Obituary Announcements: Nov. 14-15

Gail Denise Sturgeon, 56
Gail Denise Sturgeon, age 56, of Cullman, Alabama, passed away Monday, Nov. 13, 2023. She was a caring mother and diligent house wife who worked selflessly to care for her family's needs. She is survived by her Husband of 35 years, Edward Dewayne Sturgeon. Daughter, Krystal Dawn Burgess of Danville, AL. Son, Christopher Micheal Sturgeon of Cullman, Alabama. Sisters, Vanessa Nichols and Bonnetta Baughman. Brothers, Harvey Creel and Jonathon Creel and Five Grandchildren. Gail is preceded in death by her parents, Harvey Harold Sturgeon and Bonnie Mae Dover. Funeral services will be Friday, Nov. 17, 2023, at 11 a.m. in the Chapel at Moss Service Funeral Home, officiated by Michael Pepple. Interment will follow services at Bethsadia Baptist Church. Visitation will be on Friday, Nov. 17, 2023, from 10:30 a.m. until service time at 11 a.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.mossservicefh.com for the Sturgeon family.

Patricia Ann Barck, 81
Graveside service for Patricia Ann Barck, age 81, of Cullman, will be at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2023, at Cullman City Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Barck passed away on Monday, Nov. 13, 2023, at Cullman Regional. She was born Sept. 10, 1942, in Georgia to Guy G. Bassett and Annie Elizabeth Bassett. She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Donald Bassett; and sister, Nancy Holloway. Survivors include her husband, Howard "Gene" Eugene Barck; daughter, Virginia Barck; sons, Steven (Angie) Barck and Nathan (Julie) Barck; grandchildren, Thomas (Carey) Wolford, Eva (Ben) Swalley, and Sara Barck; great-grandchild, Angel Wolford; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Mary "Dean" Chambers Porter, 88
Funeral services for Mary "Dean" Chambers Porter will be Saturday, Nov. 18, 2023, at 11 a.m. at Ryan Baptist Church, with Rev. Perry Knight and Rev. Terry Hudson officiating. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Porter passed away Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023, at her residence. She was born Feb. 6, 1935, to Roy Seaborn and Myrtle Mabry Bennefield. She is survived by her son, Kenneth Ray Chambers; daughter, Bonnie Porter of Cullman; grandchildren, Gidget (Billy) Gregory, Jessie Chad (Larissa) Chambers, Jillian (Ryan) Madole, Adam (Megan) Aker, and Jessica (Clint) Payne; fifteen great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandson. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 57 years, Jessie Edwards (JE) Chambers, and husband Earnest C. (EC) Porter; grandson, Jayce Chambers; brothers, Garvie Vernell (Lavada and Lois) Bennefield, Ottis Talmadge (Peggy) Bennefield, Doyle Othanial (Jean) Bennefield; sisters Lucille Icel (Conrad) Cargo, and Glenda Mae (Tim) Johnson. Special thanks to Gentiva Hospice of Cullman county and a very special thank you to Tayrn Collins and Maci Howell with Gentiva Hospice. Special thanks also to Cullman Funeral Home. Visitation will be Friday at Cullman Funeral Home from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Mrs. Porter will lie in state at Ryan Baptist Church on Saturday, Nov. 18, 2023, from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m., with the funeral following. Pallbearers will be Chad Chambers, Billy Gregory, Ryan Madole, James Vickery, Adam Aker, and Jason Appleton. Honorary pallbearers will be Tony Leo, Roger Cobb, and Phillip Kilgo. In lieu of flowers, the family request donations be made to Gentiva Hospice of Cullman county.

Dakota Ray Lamons, 19
Dakota Ray Lamons, 19, of Vinemont, Alabama, passed away on Nov. 9, 2023. Dakota was born in Cullman County, Alabama, on Oct. 1, 2004, to Steven Lamons and Jessica Coker Lamons. Dakota was a mechanic and he enjoyed tearing apart, rebuilding, and repairing cars. He loved riding motorcycles and enjoyed yardwork. Dakota loved to eat, and he was known to raid the refrigerator of his family when he visited with them. He loved his family and spending time with them. Dakota was a loving father, and each of his babies held a special place in his heart. Dakota's time on earth was much too short but his memory will live on in the hearts of those who loved him for eternity. Dakota is preceded in death by his grandmother, Marsha Bailey; grandfathers, Ronald Bailey, and Denise Lamons; aunt, Kimberly Lamons; and uncle, Jason Wilkie. He is survived by his mother, Jessica Lamons (Jeffrey Holmes); father, Steven Lamons (April Doss); children, Lakelee Lamons, Johnathan Lamons, Melanie Lamons, and Nevaeh Lamons; wife, Amanda Mealer; sisters, Emily Coggins (Payton), Hailey Smalls (BJ), and Desirae Pridmore; brother, Dwight Pridmore; nephew, Kyrie Smalls; nieces, Isabella and Avianna Smalls; grandmothers, Linda Lamons, and Sheina Mooney; aunts and uncles, Johnny Lamons (Tammy), William Lamons (Amy), Wayne Lusk; and a host of family and friends. Funeral services for Dakota will be held at 1 p.m., on Friday, Nov. 17, 2023, in the Holly Pond Funeral Home Chapel, with Jeff "Bama" Ritch officiating. Friends are invited to join the family for a time of visitation two hours prior to services, beginning at 11 a.m. Burial will follow services in Etha Cemetery where Jeff, Steven, Payton, BJ, Adrian, Isaiah, Jacob, Levi and Caleb will serve as pallbearers for Mr. Lamons. In lieu of flowers, the Lamons family has requested that donations be made to help with funeral expenses for Dakota. A link has been provided on the Holly Pond Funeral Home website. All donations will be applied directly to Dakota's expenses. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Lamons family.

Corinne Byrd Glasscock, 102
Funeral service for Corinne Byrd Glasscock, age 102, of Cullman, will be at noon on Thursday, Nov. 16, 2023, at Welti Cumberland Presbyterian Church with Rev. Jimmy Peyton and Rev. Kevin Jenkins officiating. The visitation will be from 10 a.m. until noon prior to the service. Interment will be at Welti Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is assisting the family with the arrangements. Mrs. Glasscock retired from the ASCS where she served as a Program Assistant. After retirement she served the community at Cullman Regional as part of the auxiliary for over 20 years. Mrs. Glasscock was a charter member of the Cullman Lioness Club. Mrs. Glasscock passed away on Monday, Nov. 13, 2023, at her residence. She was born Dec. 5, 1920, to H.E. and Rosa Byrd. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Elbert R. Glasscock; brothers, Hershel Byrd and Jack Byrd; sister, Delores Hanson; special nieces that she helped raise, Vicki Hanson Holleman and Peggy Hanson Reed. Survivors include her daughter, Judy (Morris) Mangum; son, Steve (Angie) Glasscock; grandchildren, Cheri (Jeff) Maddox, Tim (Debbie) Mangum, Mike Mangum, and Sonya Glasscock; 11 great-grandchildren; and 10 great-great-grandchildren. The family would like to thank Hospice of Cullman County and caregivers, Sandra Tucker, Janey Grimes, LaVerne Hopkins, Robyn Tucker, Kathy Praytor, Rena Link, Wanda Lambert, Vicky Reynolds, and Sammie Danford for all the care and support during this time. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Welti Cumberland Presbyterian Church or Hospice of Cullman County.

Edna M. Hardin, 88
Funeral service for Edna M. Hardin, age 88, of Vinemont, will be Sunday, Nov. 19, 2023, at 2 p.m. at Cullman Funeral Home chapel, with Pastor Joe McNulty officiating. Family will welcome friends from noon until 2 p.m. Interment will be held at Crossroads Cemetery Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Hardin passed from this life on Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2023. She was born April 1, 1935, to Dewey Burney and Gertrude Duke Burney. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Richard McBrayer; son, Jerry McBrayer; daughters, Patricia Brown, and Sylvia Tyson; two brothers; two sisters. She is survived by her husband, Gerald Hardin; sons Dale (Carolyn) McBrayer, and Mark (Teresa) McBrayer; step-daughter, Lavonda Hughes, Paula (Rick) Barnette; daughter-in-law, Carolyn (Rev. John) McKoy; sisters Betty Clay, Shirley Brock, Angie Smith, Debbie Burney, Kathy Burson; grandchildren, Lanza (Gary) Lee, Jana Thomas, Jason Sims, Michael (Jessica) McBrayer, Heath McBrayer, Justin (Shannon) McBrayer, Randy (Brittany) McBrayer, Keesha Robertson, Logan McBrayer, Wesley (Candace) Still, LaShane Haynes; eighteen great-grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren. Edna is described by loved ones as a "prayer warrior" who would pray with and for anyone, whether she knew them or not. She loved deer hunting and the outdoors. She enjoyed making flower arrangements and canning. She was a wonderful lady and will be missed dearly by all who knew and loved her. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

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'The day was full of joy'

Hope Horses hosts Fall Fun Show

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Local nonprofit Hope Horses hosted its Fall Fun Show Saturday, Nov. 11.

"Students worked hard all year mastering their riding skills and were able to show their skills off to their family and friends," Executive Director Kelsey Scott shared. "The day was full of joy as students proudly rode through the obstacle course with pride."

Sponsors included Sullivan Creek Ranch, Home League, Lloyd Consulting Firm, First South Farm Credit, First National Bank, Premier Bank, Alfa Insurance- Talisa Shikle, Cleaning & More, Apel Steel and Jack's Foodland.

Hope Horses, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to providing therapeutic riding lessons to children and adults with special needs. For more information, or to get involved, visit www.hopehorsesinc.com.



KELSEY SCOTT

Hope Horses participant Hannah



KELSEY SCOTT

Hope Horses participant Nate

Vinemont Town Council talks holiday events

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — The Vinemont Town Council at its November meeting, discussed community holiday events, including the annual Community Thanksgiving Meal, Christmas Tree Lighting, Tinsel Trail and Christmas in the Park.

The free Community Thanksgiving Meal will be held Saturday, Nov. 18, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Vinemont High School lunchroom. The traditional feast will feature turkey and ham, sweet potato casserole, green beans, rolls, desserts and drinks. Guests will have the option to eat in the lunchroom or take their plates to go.

Christmas in the Park will be Saturday, Dec. 9, from 4-6 p.m. at the Vinemont Community Center. This free community event kicks off the town's Tinsel Trail and culminates in the grand Tree Lighting Ceremony.

In other business, the council unanimously approved the surplus of a 2006 Columbia golf cart.

The next Vinemont Town Council meeting will be Tuesday, Dec. 12, with the work session beginning at 5 p.m. and the meeting immediately following.

Cullman Association of Realtors kicks off annual toy drive

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Local realtors are gearing up for the holiday season and preparing to make Christmas wishes come true. Now through Dec. 13, the Cullman Association of Realtors will be collecting new items benefiting children involved with the Cullman County Department of Human Resources (DHR).

Alabama DHR reports that over 40,000 children are currently involved in an open case for various reasons, many of them in foster homes and temporary placements across the state.

Cullman Association of Realtors Co-Chair Monica Williams said the annual toy drive began as a small company-only luncheon; Association members brought in toys to sponsor a child's Christmas. The event grew as Cullman's need for support around Christmastime expanded and the Association followed suit, asking for help from the community.

"We have done the toy drive for 10-plus years, and in the beginning, we just did it at our December Realtor and Affiliate Luncheon where members of the Association brought toys," Williams said. "In the past few years the need has become greater, so we have started reaching out to the community to help get more donations."

Donations of Barbie dolls, Nerf dart guns and craft kits are among the requests from the younger tykes; makeup, body spray and clothing store gift cards comprise the older teens' lists.

In addition to the above-mentioned items, Williams and the Association are asking for donations of new items and toys like board games, Hot Wheels, earbud headphones, small learning toys for infants and toddlers and clothing and shoes in all sizes.

New household essentials are also accepted. Said Williams, "They have needs more than just Christmas presents and toys; we also help with household items and everyday necessities a family may need, and we usually end up helping five to six families in addition to the toys we donate."

Drop-off locations can be found around Cullman at both the Alabama Highway 157 and Cherokee Avenue branches of EvaBank, ERA Waldrop Real Estate, Weichert Realtors and Home League Real Estate.

For more information, contact Rita Fromhold at 256-338-6956.

EvaBank is located at 1710 Cherokee Ave. NW and 3210 Alabama Highway 157. It is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

ERA Waldrop Real Estate is located at 312 First Ave. SE. It is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Weichert Realtors is located at 403 Fourth Ave. SW. It is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Home League Realtors is located at 218 First Ave. SE. It is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.



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