

The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

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– SPORTS –

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Wreaths Across America: 'Say their name with pride and honor'

Cheyenne Sharp
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CULLMAN, Ala. — At the Cullman City Cemetery on Saturday, Dec. 16, members of the Dripping Springs Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Cullman Lions Club, Cullman Area Technology Academy JROTC, Boy Scouts and other volunteers banded together to place wreaths on the graves of veterans. The annual Laying of the Wreaths ceremony took place as part of National Wreaths Across America Day – a day observed across the country on which volunteers and supporters "gather to Remember, Honor and Teach at more than 4,000 participating locations in all 50 states, at sea and abroad." (www.wreathsacrossamerica.org)

"We are all proud to be Americans who live in a free society made up » PAGE 3



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Veterans lined up to honor those who fought before them at the Laying of the Wreaths ceremony on Dec. 16, at the Cullman City Cemetery.

– MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL –

Good Hope downs Hanceville 35-21 to win county championship



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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– MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL –

Fairview edges Cold Springs 33-30 to claim back to back county titles



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Fairview Lady Aggies defeated Cold Springs 33-30 Saturday to win this year's county tournament championship.

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

BREMEN, Ala. — For the second consecutive season, the Fairview Lady Aggies are Cullman County Tournament Champions. The Lady Aggies fell behind Cold Springs early but put together a dominant second quarter to take a lead into the locker room at halftime and held off a late push from the Lady Eagles to secure this year's county title 33-30.

Jiselle Creel hit a free throw and Allie Light scored inside to give the Lady Eagles an early, 3-0 lead but baskets by Emma Bryan and Arleigh Harris on the other end put Fairview in front 4-3 midway through the first.

Kyleigh Graves netted a pair of free throws to retake a 5-4 lead for Cold Springs and Hagen Ellis added another free throw to make it 6-4. With just 12 seconds on the clock, Graves buried a three from the corner and stretched the Lady Eagles' lead to 9-4 going into the second quarter.

After a slow start in the opening period, the Lady Aggies bounced back in the second. Harris scored the first nine points of the quarter to give Fairview a 13-9 lead midway through the second quarter and Kinlee Cryer drained a jumper to extend the run and make it a 15-9 game.

Emma Cobbs turned a steal into an easy basket to give the Lady Aggies a 17-9 advantage and after Zoe Miller split a pair of free throws in the final seconds of the half, Fairview went into the locker room leading Cold Springs 17-10 at the break.

Miller hit a pair of free throws to trim the lead to 17-12 at the start of the third quarter but Harris knocked down a jumper » PAGE 8

'The officers are just as excited as the kids'

Shop with a Cop 2023



CONTRIBUTED

Cullman Police Department Sgt. Joey Duncan, along with a volunteer, checks out at a register dedicated to the 10th annual Shop with a Cop event on Saturday, Dec. 16. » PAGE 7

Music City Strings comes to Christkindlmarkt



CAYLA GRACE MURPHY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Performers of the semi-professional string ensemble Music City Strings played a medley of Christmas classics on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 17, at the Cullman Christkindlmarkt. » PAGE 6



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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Dec. 18

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

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

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Dec. 14
- theft of property; CR 282
- violation of protection order; CR 1535
- theft of property; Hwy. 69 S
- theft of property; CR 307

Dec. 15
- harassment; CR 1598
- domestic violence; CR 1101
- domestic violence; CR 1435
- domestic violence; CR 1742
- domestic violence; CR 234
- theft of property; CR 1082
- sell/distribution of dangerous drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 278 E

Dec. 16
- domestic violence; CR 404
- assault; Hwy. 69 S
- theft of property; CR 520

Dec. 17
- domestic violence; CR 1605
- domestic violence; Hwy. 91
- possession of controlled substance; CR 601

ARRESTS

Dec. 14 – 16

Allred, Dustyn H.; 28
- possession of methamphetamine (2 counts)
- FTA- burglary-residence-force

Blanton, Justin C.; 35
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Burnham Jr., Frankie D.; 47
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Cashman, Felicia M.; 35
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Chambers, Angela G.; 49
- FTA- assault-child abuse-simple-non family
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- assault-child abuse-simple-family

Chappell, Kenny L.; 53
- attempting to elude police officer

Cook, Samuel A.; 44
- FTA- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Cornelius, Christopher S.; 48
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA- disorderly conduct/disturbing peace/affray
- FTA- resisting arrest

Cummings, Tammy J.; 57
- Probation Violation- possession of dangerous drugs (2 counts)

Dinkel, Wesley K.; 43
- Probation Violation- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle

Drane, Eric S.; 38
- failure to deliver title

Duke Jr., Michael J.; 34
- FTA- larceny/theft-miscellaneous theft $1,500 - $2,500
- FTA- possession of burglars tools
- FTA- criminal mischief-damaged to business property

Freeman, Cameron T.; 23
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- driving while license suspended

Harrison, Michele L.; 49
- assault-harassment

Kanaday, Brandon H.; 31
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

King, Sebastian W.; 30
- FTA- reckless driving

Macdonald, Roberto; 30
- DUI (alcohol)

Moody, Ballard O.; 31
- Probation Violation-ex-felon in possession of firearm
- Probation Violation- receiving stolen property

Shultz, Michael D.; 37
- FTA- operating vehicle without insurance
- sell/distribution of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Thompson, Nicholas B.; 26
- DUI (alcohol)

Willingham, Brian S.; 47
- assault-domestic-reckless endangerment

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Dec. 12
- domestic violence; person; White Cir. SW
- theft of property-4th degree; Dollar General; 3rd St. SE; general merchandise; $100
- theft of property-4th degree; Dollar General; 3rd St. SE; general merchandise; $40

Dec. 15
- identity theft; person
- criminal trespass-3rd degree; Branded Western Market; 2nd Ave. SW

Dec. 16
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW; general merchandise; $138

Dec. 17
- criminal mischief-3rd degree; person; Oak Manor Dr. SW; damaged property; $25
- burglary-3rd degree; person; Dripping Springs Rd. NW; damaged property; $2,500
- burglary-2nd degree; assault-2nd degree; domestic violence-criminal trespass-3rd degree; person; Walker St. SW

Dec. 18
- theft of property-1st degree; person; Interbitzen St. SW; 2017 Chevy 2500; $30,000

ARRESTS

Dec. 15 – 17

Clem, Danny J.; 54
- criminal trespass-3rd degree;

Tyson, Donald L.; 60
- DUI

Smith, Timothy M.; 37
- public intoxication
- promoting prison contraband-3rd degree

Gutierrez-Hernandez, Rigoberto A.; 42
- public intoxication

Bevington, Brian A.; 56
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- carrying brass knuckles

Bailey, Rodney A.; 50
- unlawful possession/receiving controlled substance

Sanches, Luis A.; 56
- burglary-3rd degree
- resisting arrest
- FTA- disorderly conduct
- FTA- resisting arrest
- FTA- menacing

McMillian, Eric E.; 31
- burglary-2nd degree
- assault-2nd degree
- domestic violence-3rd degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Cornerstone Church of the Nazarene, Partners of the Americas donate 100 gift bags, blankets to patients at Cullman Regional

Cayla Grace Murphy
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CULLMAN, Ala. — For most, the Christmas season brings merry gatherings and gift exchanges, but for those hospitalized during the most wonderful time of the year, visitors and gifts may be few. Cornerstone Church of the Nazarene has teamed up with Partners of the Americas Alabama Chapter to donate 100 blankets and gift bags of essentials to patients at Cullman Regional and their families.

Elizabeth Willingham of Partners of the Americas and Cornerstone said the project was inspired by a church member being unexpectedly hospitalized, and the church's goal for this project was simple: make patients and their support people feel as comfortable and cared for as possible, even during a stressful event like an unexpected or extended – or both – hospital stay.

Willingham explained, "One of our church family members had to go to the emergency room. He was sent straight from a doctor's appointment to the hospital. His wife was so worried and all alone in the waiting room, but he had an illness that they did not want spreading – so, no visitors.

"Another church member heard of this and quickly put together a care bag of a blanket, small pillow, water, snacks and hygiene items and delivered it to the wife at the emergency room."

Willingham said the wife felt so blessed to have those things brought to her, it inspired a movement within the congregation to help others feel blessed, too.

"Well, this idea caught on, and several church members decided to create 100 bags with snacks, pens, notepads, water, etc. in them to hand out on an emergency basis. Then, they partnered with another nonprofit in Alabama (Partners of the Americas), and 100 blankets were purchased to hand out to families!" she exclaimed.

Willingham said the church made sure there wouldn't be any red tape to cut through, contacting Cullman Regional before the project began to ensure it would be well received.

"They were thrilled to learn of this project!" she exclaimed.

The gift bags and blankets arrived at Cullman Regional on Thursday, Dec. 14, for patients and their families to feel the warm embrace of not only a cozy blanket, but also the love of a community rallying behind them, sending tidings of comfort and joy.



CONTRIBUTED

Cornerstone Church of the Nazarene presented 100 blankets and gift bags filled with hospital stay essentials to Cullman Regional on Thursday, Dec. 14, 2023. Left to right are Pastor Joe McNulty, Jennifer Stephens, Mary Nell Saunders, Elizabeth Willingham and Kathy Jones.

Vinemont seniors enjoy Christmas meal, cookie contest

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — On Monday, Dec. 18, the senior residents of Vinemont gathered at the Vinemont Community Center for their monthly meal, hosted by the South Vinemont Town Council.

As guests joined the party, they were invited to snag one of the various handmade Christmas cards decorated and constructed with love and care by children of the community and Vinemont's local Girl Scout Troop 10288. Adding extra holiday cheer to the shindig, children and toddlers made the trek across the street from Jolley's Daycare to serenade the seniors with upbeat and adorably mispronounced Christmas carols, smiling and giggling at the room full of beaming adults.

The star event of the luncheon was the inaugural cookie contest; each entrant brought a plate of homemade cookies for a panel of five judges to try and rank in hopes of being the best cookie in the spread. Of the submitted cookies, a wide array of choices and varieties were represented. Peppermint shortbread, cream cheese sugar cookies, white chocolate macadamia nut, snickerdoodles, red velvet iced, pecan sandies, Hershey's thumbprints, fruitcake cookies, traditional shaped sugar cookies, white chocolate dipped peanut butter and hazelnut cookies and three different takes on peanut butter cookies were all up for judgment. After each of the five judges had tasted and ranked each sweet, Nancy Roberson's red velvet iced cookies were declared the most decadent cookie. Roberson walked away with bragging rights and a $25 Walmart gift card for her prize.

During a lull in the festivities, 92-year-old Pete Haynes led the audience in a lively round of Christmas songs such as "Joy to the World" while waiting for the feast to be served; as soon as the songs were sung and the prayer was uttered, the seniors made their way to the spread of three types of soups, breads, toppings, sandwiches, vegetables and dips to pile their plates and mingle with friends, warming bodies and hearts with a single meal.

"We've had about 40 people today," said Vinemont Town Clerk Kayecea Sasser, who said she looks forward to the senior holiday meal each year. "I'm so glad we had so many come this year; this may be all that some of our seniors get this year."



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Seniors line up for a Christmas lunch Monday, Dec. 18, at the Vinemont Community Center.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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

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

Church Services- Spirit Life Church of GOD
• Spirit Life Church of GOD, 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Mondays-Fridays- Free hot meals for children Mondays 11 a.m.-noon, Tuesdays 1-2 p.m. and Wednesdays-Fridays 11 a.m.-noon. Cullman Housing Authority Community Center 1545 Vine Circle SW. Please call Kristie 256-636-5362 for more information. Eat in or take out. Sponsored by Kids Loving Kids, Raising Arrows Ministry and Spirit Life Church.
• Kids Loving Kids Birthday Blessings serves children ages 1-18 in need of assistance to celebrate their birthdays. Register your child and pick up a birthday box with cake mix, icing, sprinkles, decorations and toys! Pickup is the last weekend of the month. Saturday (5100 Curry Highway Suite 100-B Jasper, AL 35504) from 3-5 p.m. or the last Sunday of the month at Spirit Life Church Cullman from 12:30-1 p.m. Birth certificate is required at the time of box pickup. Register at https://form.jotform.com/203435614640045. For more information, text or call 205-717-7478.
• Wednesday, Dec. 20 - 7 p.m. Children and youth classes. Adult Bible study of Romans. Free pizza for children at 6:30. Van runs in the 5 Points Area at 6. Call 727-215-9092 for pickup. Youth party this Wednesday!
• Friday, Dec. 22 - 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 pot-luck meal at 6:15. Nursery provided!
• Sunday, Dec. 24 - 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, Dec. 24- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 11 a.m.-noon "God sent his Son; they called him Jesus." There will be no breakfast, no bus runs, no children's classes; everyone meets in the sanctuary 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.

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. through Dec. 29 (closed Mondays and Tuesdays until Dec. 13). It will transition to a drive-through only experience Dec. 26-29.
• 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.

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.

Dates
• 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

Christkindlmarkt
• Immerse yourself in a German winter wonderland at Cullman's Christkindlmarkt at Depot Park. Every Thursday to Sunday, through 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

Wreaths (from Front)

of many people from many walks of life; the freedoms we enjoy today did not come without a price.

"Lying here before us and in cemeteries throughout the nation are men and women who gave their lives so that we can live in freedom and without fear. We can worship as we see fit, we can raise our children to believe as we do, we are free to vote for the leaders of our choosing and we have the right to succeed and the right to fail at whatever endeavor we wish to pursue.

"The United States of America was founded on the ideals of freedom, justice and equality. Our nation stands as a shining beacon of liberty and freedom to the world. We thank those who gave their lives to keep us free and we shall not forget you. We shall remember," said Althelia Gibbs, member of the Dripping Springs Chapter of the DAR and organizer of Cullman's Laying of the Wreaths ceremony.

"Quoting our 40th United States President Ronald Reagan, 'Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in our bloodstream; it must be fought for, protected and handed down for them to do the same. Or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States, where men were free,'" she continued. "'Today we show a united front of gratitude and respect as we remember the fallen, honor those who served and their families and teach the next generation the value of freedom."

Each branch of the U.S. military was represented by a local veteran during the presentations of the ceremonial wreaths. Brian Monk represented the Army, Robert Turner represented the Marine Corps., Harold Barnard represented the Navy, Randy Mills represented the Space Force, Ken Brown represented the Air Force, Scott Bealer represented the Merchant Marines, George Krigbaum represented the Coast Guard and Van Hutchins represented Prisoners of War.

U.S. Army veteran Cliff Hatfield played "Taps," invoking a moment of somber silence. Monk, a decorated U.S. Army veteran and commander of Cullman's VFW Post 2214, spoke to the crowd that gathered in the cemetery to assist in laying wreaths, speaking of the gravity of the sacrifice the men and women made for the nation.

"When you place the wreaths, say their name. Say their name with pride and honor," he said. "That's why we're here today. They're why we're here."

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PREP BASKETBALL

Bearcats down D.A.R. 66-59, Sharpe's 32 leads Lady Bearcats to 60-21 win

Nick Griffin
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CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman was back at home at Bearcat Arena Friday night to host a pair of varsity matchups against D.A.R. and both the Bearcats and Lady Bearcats earned wins over the Patriots. The Lady Bearcats took the down D.A.R. 60-21 and the Bearcats fended off a late push from the Patriots to pick up a 66-59 win. Cullman's win over D.A.R. was also the 100th career victory for 'Cats Head Coach Stu Stuedeman and his 65th at Cullman.

Cullman 60 – D.A.R. 21 (varsity girls)

Ally Sharpe scored the first eight points of the game for the Lady Bearcats and gave them an 8-1 lead over D.A.R. midway through the opening period. Sharpe's third three-pointer of the quarter made it an 11-1 game and Juliana Brannon scored a pair of baskets in the final two minutes of the period to put Cullman in front 15-7 going into the second quarter.

Sharpe's hot first half shooting continued, and she scored the next five points for the Lady Bearcats to stretch the lead to 20-7.

Mattie Smith laid one in to add to the lead later in the period and after splitting a pair of free throws, Molly Dorough scored inside to make it a 25-14 game with just over a minute remaining in the first half.

As the final seconds of the quarter ticked away, Sharpe weaves through defenders and laid one in just before the buzzer to give Cullman a 27-15 advantage at the halftime break.

Kadence Hanback drilled a three to add to the Lady Bearcats' lead and Rachel Hoffman scored in transition to put Cullman ahead 32-15. Sharpe scored through a foul and added the free throw to stretch the lead to 20 and Kentley White knocked down a corner three to make it a 38-15 game.

Sharpe's big night continued as she closed out the final minutes of the third with three more three-pointers to give the Lady Bearcats a commanding, 47-21 lead going into the final frame.

Hanback drained two more threes and Sharpe scored an easy basket in transition to put Cullman on top 55-21 early in the fourth. Hanback's fourth trey of the night made it a 58-21 game and Sadie Graham knocked down a jumper to extend the lead to 60-21 with just over two minutes on the clock. Those were the final points of the night for the Lady Bearcats, and they went on to collect a convincing, 60-21 win over D.A.R.

Sharpe posted a game-high 32 points for Cullman in the win and Hanback finished with 12. Eight different Lady Bearcats scored at least two points in the win.

Cullman 66 – D.A.R. 59 (varsity boys)

Jake Dorough buried a three-pointer and Evans Wilson split a pair of free throws to give the 'Cats an early, 4-2 lead over the Patriots and Preston Gay and Brodie Bannister each added threes of their own to keep Cullman in front 10-7 midway through the first. Wilson drained another free throw and Bannister scored inside to make it a 13-7 game with two minutes to play in the opening period.

Kase Nixon laid one in to make it 15-7 and Sam Duskin converted two three-point plays at the free throw line in the final minute of the first quarter to put the Bearcats ahead 21-7 going into the second.

A couple of quick baskets by Wilson and Colton Echols stretched the lead to 25-9 at the start of the second quarter.

Wilson netted two more free throws and Gay knocked down another three to make it a 30-13 game and Wilson converted an and-one play at the line to make it 33-18 later in the period. Echols added a pair of free throws and Duskin drilled a three in the final minute of the half to put the Bearcats in front 38-25 going into the locker room at the break.

Dorough drained a three and Wilson split a pair of free throws to keep Cullman ahead 42-25 early in the third quarter.

Dorough hit his next four free throws to make it a 46-37 game later in the third, but Echols converted another and-one play and Nixon got a jumper to fall at the buzzer to give the 'Cats a 51-42 lead going into the fourth.

Shots began falling for the Bearcats again once the fourth quarter got underway. Three-pointers by Dorough, Duskin, Bannister and Echols stretched the lead out to 20 early in the fourth. Duskin laid one in later in the period to keep Cullman in front 65-45 and Brooks Loftin split a pair of free throws to make it 66-48 with two minutes on the clock.

Those were the final points of the night for the Bearcats, and they held on to defeat the Patriots 66-59.

Duskin led Cullman with 14 points in the win, followed by Dorough with 13, Echols with 11 and Wilson with 10.

Cullman will be on the road Saturday to take on Pell City.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Ally Sharpe led all scorers with 32 points in Cullman's 60-21 win over D.A.R.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman's Sam Duskin led the Bearcats with 14 points in their 66-59 win over D.A.R. Friday night.

PREP BASKETBALL

Warriors, Lady Warriors earn area wins over Lawrence County

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

WEST POINT, Ala. – The West Point Warriors hosted the Lawrence County Red Devils for a pair of area games Friday night and both varsity squads collected wins. The girls' game saw the Lady Warriors cruise past the Lady Red Devils 73-30 while in the boys' game, a huge fourth quarter from the Warriors helped them pull away from Lawrence County 65-54.

West Point 73 - Lawrence County 30 (Varsity Girls)

A quick layup by Laklin Shadix put West Point on the scoreboard first with only five seconds coming off the clock. Liberty Shadix drilled a three from the right wing to give the Lady Warriors a quick 5-0 lead. A pair of layups by Lawrence County cut it to 5-4, but a pair of free throws by Laklin Shadix gave the Lady Warriors a 7-4 lead.

A basket by the Lady Red Devils made it a 10-7 game with a little over five minutes to go in the opening period. West Point took over the game after that, though, as threes by Liberty Shadix, Hallie Wheeler, and Laklin Shadix, plus six points by Kylee Quinn, quickly pushed the lead to 29-7 going into the second period.

Five straight points by Camryn Faulkner and another basket in the paint by Quinn made it a 36-7 game early in the second. Kealie Harbison drilled a pair of treys, and Camryn Faulkner added one from long-range as well to give West Point a 45-13 lead. Jaelyn Faulkner, Caitlee Simmons, and Liberty Shadix each hit a basket before the half, as the Lady Warriors took a commanding 51-14 lead into the locker room.

Threes by Camryn Faulkner and Wheeler, plus a pair of baskets by Laklin Shadix, helped swell the Lady Warrior lead to 61-16. Quinn added a basket in the third period, as West Point took a 64-22 lead into the final period, which was run under a hot clock.

The Lady Warriors would go on to cruise past the Lady Red Devils, 73-30, to improve to 8-3 overall and 2-0 in the region.

Four players finished in double-figure scoring for West Point, and every player scored at least two points in the contest. Laklin Shadix finished with 12 points. Liberty Shadix, Quinn and Camryn Faulkner each put up 11 points, while Wheeler and Harbison each added nine points.

West Point 65 - Lawrence County 54 (Varsity Boys)

Five straight points by Lawrence County gave them the early 5-0 lead, but four quick points by Jay Lamar made it a 5-4 game. Kolten Perry drilled a corner three to give West Point a 7-5 lead with 3:38 remaining in the opening period, but a 7-0 run by the Red Devils saw them get the lead right back at 12-7. Lamar knocked down a trey from the right wing to cut it to 12-10 going into the second period.

Baskets by Jaxon Shelton and Perry gave West Point a 14-12 lead early in the second. Layups by Jacob Harbison and Perry pushed the Warrior lead to 18-14 with 3:34 left in the first half. Another made basket by Perry gave West Point a 21-14 lead, but four straight points by the Red Devils made it a 21-18 game with less than two minutes to go in the first half.

A four-point play by Lawrence County tied the game up at 22 and another basket gave them a 24-22 lead, but a basket on the other end by J.D. Cochran tied the game up at 24 going into the locker room.

West Point got off to a quick start in the third quarter, as Perry and Harbison scored the first six points of the period, to give them a 30-24 lead. A 9-1 run by Lawrence County, though, gave them the lead right back at 33-31. A basket by Cochran tied the game up at 33, but the Red Devils scored the next seven points to take a 40-33 lead late in the quarter. Pressley Burtis drilled a huge trey to cut it to 40-36, and later on, Shelton knocked down a floater to make it a 42-38 game going into the fourth period.

Two quick layups by Harbison to start the fourth quarter tied the game up at 42, and later on, Lamar made a tough basket in the paint to give West Point a 45-44 lead, but the Red Devils drilled a trey to get the lead right back at 47-45.

Another layup by Harbison, plus a trey by Burtis, gave the Warriors a 50-47 lead. Burtis added a pair from the line to push the lead to 52-47 with a little over three minutes to go in the game. Made baskets by Harbison and Shelton increased the West Point lead to 56-49.

A pair of free throws by Lawrence County cut it to 56-51, but West Point wouldn't let them get any closer after that, as Lamar hit all six of his free throws, Shelton added a pair from the line, and Perry knocked down a free throw as well, as West Point picked up a huge 65-54 win over Lawrence County.

Perry and Lamar each finished with 16 points for West Point (10-4, 1-1). Harbison added 12 points. Burtis ended up with nine points and Shelton collected eight points.

West Point will remain home Monday night to take on Vinemont.



SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

West Point's Liberty Shadix posted 11 points in the Lady Warriors' 73-30 win over Lawrence County Friday night.



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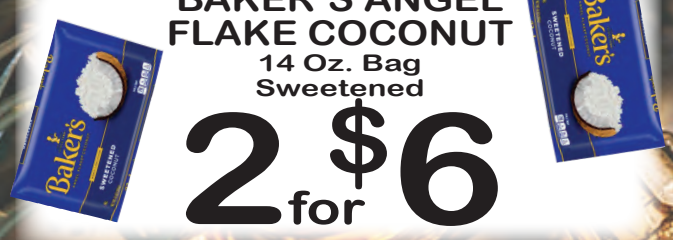
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From our family to yours... May you be blessed as you gather together this holiday.

Merry Christmas



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1.1 Oz., 1.75 Oz. Ground Mustard, 5 Oz. Neon Assorted Food Color, 2 Oz. Pure Almond or Lemon Extract, 1 Oz. Orange, Peppermint, Raspberry or Vanilla Extract, 1 Oz. Pie Spice Blend, 1 Oz. Artificially Flavored Rum or Strawberry Extract
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KRAFT MAYO
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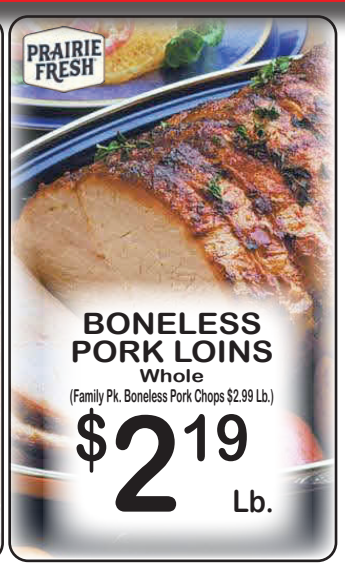
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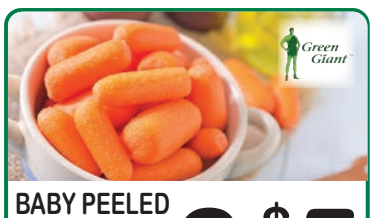
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SWEET PINEAPPLES
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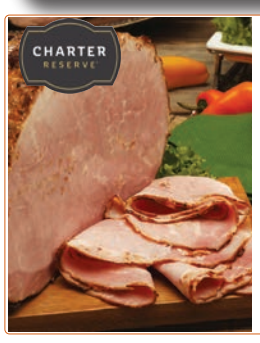
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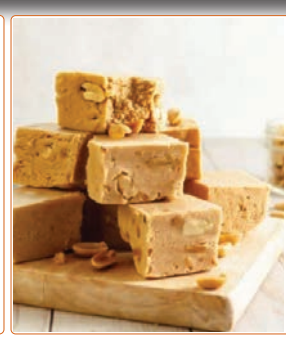
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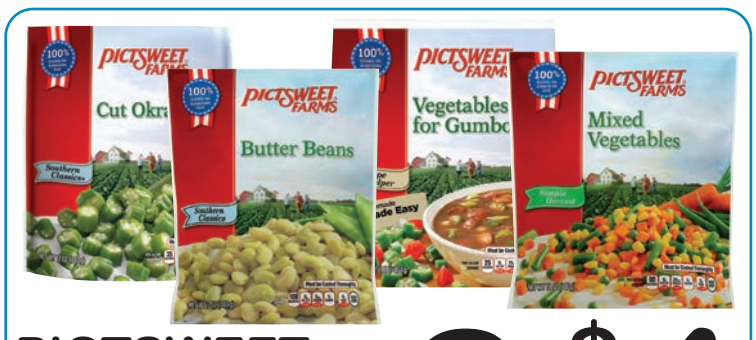
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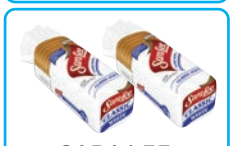
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Selected Varieties
2 for $5



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2 for $5



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24 Pack .5 Liter Bottles
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59 Oz. Bottles
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28 Oz. Bottles
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GENERAL MILLS CHEX CEREAL
12 Oz. Corn or Rice or 14 Oz. Wheat
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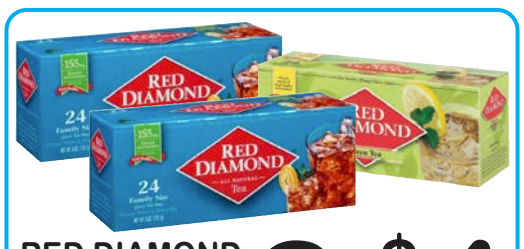
JIM DANDY QUICK GRITS
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KELLOGG'S POP•TARTS
12 Ct., 20-22 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $8



JIF PEANUT BUTTER
28 Oz.
Creamy or Crunchy
$4.49



RED DIAMOND TEA BAGS
24 Ct. Family Size Quart
Regular or Green
2 for $4

FOOD CLUB TOASTER PASTRIES
11 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $3



FOOD CLUB INSTANT OATMEAL
11-15 Oz., 8-12 Ct.
Selected Varieties
2 for $5



SWANSON BROTH
32 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $4





MT. OLIVE DILL CHIPS
16 Oz.
Hamburger
2 for $5



HONEY MAID GRAHAM CRACKERS
12-14 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$3.99

NABISCO RITZ OR GRAHAM CRACKERS
8.8-13.7 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $7



CHEEZ-IT SNACK CRACKERS
5-12.4 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$3.99

DOLE PINEAPPLE
20 Oz. Selected Varieties or 15 Oz. Mandarin Oranges
2 for $3





FRENCH'S MUSTARD
14 Oz. Classic Yellow or 12 Oz. Spicy Brown
$1.89

DUNCAN HINES BROWNIE MIX
18 Oz.
Chewy Fudge
2 for $3



DUNCAN HINES CAKE MIX
15 Oz.
Selected Varieties
4 for $5

WHITE LILY CAKE MIX
16-20 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$2.99



PILLSBURY BROWNIE OR CAKE MIX
18 Oz. Chocolate Fudge or Milk Chocolate or 15 Oz. Pineapple or Red Velvet
3 for $5



TOWN HOUSE OR CLUB CRACKERS
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Selected Varieties
$3.99



MOORE'S MARINADE OR WING SAUCE
16 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $6



OCEAN SPRAY JUICE DRINKS
60-64 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $6



FOOD CLUB FRUIT
15 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $4

BETTY CROCKER COOKIE OR BROWNIE MIX
13-18 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $6

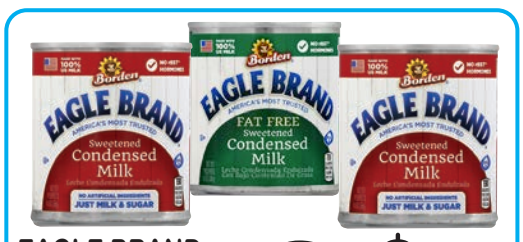
DUNCAN HINES FROSTING
14-16.5 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $3



CAMPBELL'S CREAM SOUPS
10 Oz. Chicken or Mushroom
4 for $5



HUNT'S TOMATOES
14 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $3



EAGLE BRAND CONDENSED MILK
14 Oz. Sweetened
Original or Fat Free
2 for $5

JIFFY CORN MUFFIN MIX
8.5 Oz. Original or Vegetarian
4 for $3



FOOD CLUB CRANBERRY SAUCE
14 Oz. Jellied or Whole Berry
2 for $3



MEADOWGOLD CONDENSED MILK
14 Oz.
Sweetened
2 for $5



GLORY FRIED APPLES
14.5 Oz.
2 for $4

MARS MINIS SHARING SIZE
8.9-9.7 Oz. Bag Twix, Snickers or Mars Mixed
$4.99

MARTHA WHITE MUFFIN MIX
7 Oz. Selected Varieties or Brownie Bites Mix
4 for $5



JIFFY CORN MUFFIN MIX
8.5 Oz. Original or Vegetarian
4 for $3



MARGARET HOLMES, VEG•ALL, OR POPEYE VEGETABLES
14-16 Oz. Selected Varieties or Allens Italian Green Beans
2 for $3

BUSH'S BEST CHILI BEANS
15-16 Oz. or Chili Magic
Selected Varieties
2 for $3



BUSH'S BEST PEAS OR BEANS
15-16 Oz.
Selected Varieties
4 for $5



FOOD CLUB RELISH
10 Oz. Sweet or Dill
99¢

IDAHOAN CASSEROLE OR MASHED POTATOES
4 Oz. Selected Varieties or 1.5 Oz. Microwaveable Cups
4 for $5



KELLOGG'S KRISPY OR ZESTA SALTINES
16 Oz.
Original
2 for $7



FRENCH'S CRISPY FRIED ONIONS
6 Oz.
Original
$3.99



CHARKING LIGHTER FLUID
32 Oz.
$3.49



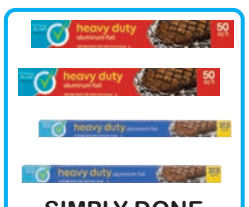
SIMPLY DONE PARTY CUPS
30 Ct., 18 Oz.
Plastic
2 for $5

DIXIE BOWLS OR PLATES
18-48 Ct.
Selected Varieties
2 for $7





BOUNTY NAPKINS
400 Ct.
White
$5.99



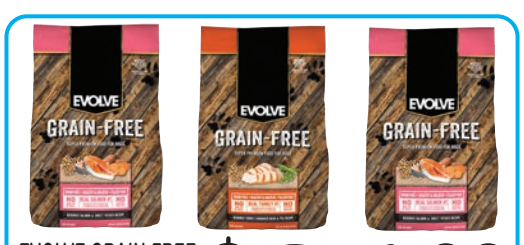
SIMPLY DONE ALUMINUM FOIL
18 Inch 37.5 Sq. Ft.
Heavy Duty
$2.99



CHARKING CHARCOAL
15.4 Lb. Bag Original or Hickory or 11.6 Lb. Instant Light
$7.99



CAT CAFÉ CAT FOOD
11 Lb. Bag
Seafood Essentials
$7.99



EVOLVE GRAIN-FREE DOG FOOD
12-15 Lb. Bag
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CHARMIN OR BOUNTY ESSENTIALS
12 Mega Rolls Bath Tissue or 6 Double Rolls Paper Towels
$8.99

GAIN LAUNDRY DETERGENT
46 Oz. Liquid, 16 Ct. Flings!, 120 Ct. Dryer Sheets or 51 Oz. Fabric Softener Selected Varieties
$5.99

DAWN ULTRA DISH WASHING LIQUID
18-22 Oz. EZ-Squeeze or 16 Oz. Spray Refill Selected Varieties
$3.99

CHAMP DOG FOOD
12 Lb. Bag Regular or Mini Chunk
$6.99

‘If you can just give them just a little hope, that’s what you need to do’

Parkside Outreach, Parkside School partner for Christmas meal and program

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com



CAYLA GRACE MURPHY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Parkside students mimic reindeer antlers while belting out a jazzy version of “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer” at Parkside Outreach Program’s community meal and program on Saturday, Dec. 16.

BAILEYTON, Ala. — The scent of chicken and dressing and fresh rolls wafted through Parkside School’s lunchroom on Saturday evening, Dec. 16, 2023, as Baileyton residents filed in for a free hot meal and seasonal entertainment provided by Parkside students. Jennifer Harlow of Parkside Outreach Program estimates around 1,200 residents came through the doors that evening, marking one of the largest get-togethers yet.

The annual meal and program are typically months in the making, with the school, local churches, businesses and nonprofits like Parkside Outreach Program pitching in here and there to ensure success.

“We started planning in September with (Parkside School Counselor) Mrs. (Kim) Crumbley, and we’ve got the Parkside Advisory Committee and Parkside Outreach Program. Basically, a whole congregation of people, it’s definitely been a community event!” said Harlow.

While the event had usually been hosted at local favorite Kim’s Parkside Restaurant, over the years more and more folks have shown up to grab a bite to eat and commune with other Baileyton locals, leading to a need for more space. On the search for a larger venue, Harlow said she felt Parkside School was the obvious choice – and Parkside Principal Caleb Elrod quickly agreed.

“She called and said, ‘We want to feed a lot of people,’ so I paused and said, ‘Well, okay! Let’s do it,’” he beamed, mentioning that with everything Parkside Outreach manages to make happen for the students of Parkside, it was an honor to be able to return a favor.

“Anything we or the kids need, we just turn it over to them and they make it happen,” he said, with Crumbley confirming that what Elrod stated was no exaggeration: pants, socks and underwear, school supplies and backpacks packed with pantry staples for the weekend are just a few of the items Harlow is able to help provide to students through Parkside Outreach.

“She (Harlow) gives back from what God has blessed her with, and gives back to all of us,” Crumbley said with a smile.

Ever humble, Harlow shrugged and said, “We just do whatever the school needs us to do. We’re here to help them!”

The meal kicked off at 4 p.m. with a Christmas program featuring students of Parkside beginning promptly at 5; students evoked glad tidings and joy as they incorporated musical elements like bucket drums for a loud rendition of “Little Drummer Boy” and shook bell bracelets for a festive and upbeat version of “Jingle Bells.” After the program, a few stragglers found their way to the lunchroom to finish off any leftovers.

Harlow said while the meal and program typically mark the end of the Christmas season for most, Parkside Outreach isn’t slowing down on meeting the needs of kids in Baileyton any time soon. “We have provided right at 250 kids with Christmas so far, but we’ll probably have about 400 by the end of the week,” she said.

When asked why she felt the need to continue hosting this event year after year, she gave a soft yet succinct answer. “I think there are so many people in our community who are just lonesome; they have nowhere to go. If you can just give them just a little hope, that’s what you need to do.”

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Strings (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The young violinists of semi-professional Music City Strings donned their best period yuletide apparel and braved the chilly winds to deliver a live performance fit for a true Victorian Christmas celebration on Sunday afternoon at the Cullman Christkindlmarkt. Through a setlist curated with Christmas classics peppered with a bit of fiddle frenzy, the violinists evoked a spirit of Christmas past for all to enjoy in one of the last weeks of Christkindlmarkt.

Composer and founder Dana Meyer, a violinist whose storied resume speaks for itself, decided that after over 35 years of teaching and playing to bring something different to the table. Music City Strings was born out of a passion to "provide children the means to become confident, sensitive and beautiful artists," according to Meyer. The group is truly a family affair, as Meyer's husband Jeff acts as production leader and travels with the touring group.

Jeff Meyer said the group has played many stages over its 19-year career, touring and performing with the likes of Amy Grant and Vince Gill, and gracing stages across China, Canada and much of Europe. "They've played all over the place. It's amazing; their stage shows are just incredible!" he exclaimed.

For many who watch their performances, the wow factor comes not only from the beautiful harmonies drifting across the strings, but also from the young age of the musicians themselves, with Meyer noting that after the players graduate high school, their time with Music City Strings is up.

"I'd say half of the (current) group is in the eighth grade. The age range of this group is 12 to 17," explained Dana Meyer, who said that over the nearly two decades the ensemble has been running, "We've seen a lot of kids come and go."

She attributed the ensemble's performance at Cullman Christkindlmarkt to another familiar musician: Kurt Heinecke, assistant artistic director of Music City Strings and often referred to as "the tuba guy" in Cullman. His deep, bellowing notes can be heard throughout many events hosted by Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism (CPRST). Heinecke put CPRST Executive Director Nathan Anderson in touch with Dana Meyer, who was excited to have her kiddos perform a medley of classical Christmas tunes to entertain the thousands of attendees through the weekend at Christkindlmarkt.

To learn more about Music City Strings, visit https://musiccitystrings.org.

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BOOK REVIEW

'The Exchange' by John Grisham

Cathy Lay Mayor
Tribune Contributor

"The Exchange" is John Grisham's latest novel. It is advertised as a sequel to "The Firm" that was published in 1991, but it reads more like a standalone novel.

"The Exchange" takes place 15 years later with Mitch and Abby McDeere living in New York City with their twin boys, Carter and Clark. Abby is now a cookbook editor and Mitch is partner in the world's largest law firm, Scully and Pershing. Mitch has been handling pro bono death row cases lately. He is assigned a case in Memphis. Even though he and Abby have vowed to never return to Memphis, he reluctantly returns. After arriving, Mitch receives word that his client has hung himself in his prison cell.

This frees Mitch up to travel to a nearby town to visit his best friend, Lamar Quinn, from Bendini, Lambert & Locke (his Memphis Law Firm). Grisham takes this opportunity to update the reader about Mitch and Abby's past 15 years.

Mitch has a reputation for rescuing clients in distress. He has traveled the globe assisting clients in need of his expertise. After Mitch returns to New York City, his mentor, Luca Sandroni, asks him for a favor. Luca wants Mitch to meet him in Rome to discuss a case. Luca wants Mitch to file a lawsuit against Muammar Gaddafi for nonpayment of a construction project. And Luca wants Mitch to include his daughter, Giovanna, on the case. Mitch and Giovanna head to Libya where they are supposed to travel with armed bodyguards, but the trip does not turn out as they planned. Soon, Mitch finds himself in a sinister plot that endangers himself, his friends, colleagues and family.

You will not find any courtroom drama in "The Exchange." Grisham's previous books have been legal thrillers; this is more of an action crime thriller. Also, Grisham's books are typically set in the South. "The Exchange" is set in New York and Europe and the Middle East. In my opinion, this is not Grisham's best work. But many of his readers have enjoyed the novel.

John Grisham is the author of 47 consecutive no. 1 bestsellers, which have been translated into nearly 50 languages. His recent books include "The Judge's List," "Sooley" and his third Jake Brigance novel, "A Time for Mercy," which is being developed by HBO as a limited series. Grisham is a two-time winner of the Harper Lee Prize for Legal Fiction and was honored with the Library of Congress Creative Achievement Award for Fiction. When he's not writing, Grisham serves on the board of directors of the Innocence Project and of Centurion Ministries, two national organizations dedicated to exonerating those who have been wrongfully convicted. Much of his fiction explores deep-seated problems in our criminal justice system. John lives on a farm in central Virginia. (www.jgrisham.com)

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


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LEGALS

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CIRCUIT COURT OF
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
LISA MCSWAIN, CLERK

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

CRUMBLEY JAMES R., DECEASED,THE ESTATE OF,
Plaintiff,
V. Case No.: CV-2013-000020.00
Defendant.

NOTICE OF HEARING FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT

That on the 6th day of December, 2023, a Petition to Reset the Hearing for Final Settlement was filed in the aforesaid Circuit Court by Randy Barnett, as Petitioner, and Personal Representative of the Estate of James R. Crumbley, and that the **15th day of February, 2024 at 9:00 o'clock a.m. has been appointed as the day for the Hearing for Final Settlement**, at which time you may appear and contest the same, if you deem it proper to do so.

DONE this 15th day of December, 2023.

/s/ GREGORY A NICHOLAS
CIRCUIT JUDGE

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF
THE ADOPTION OF:
M.C.S.,
A Minor Child.
CASE NUMBER: JU 2023-000224.01

NOTICE

The Petitioners having made a Motion for Service by Publication in the above styled action, it is

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Father of M.C.S., born 03/06/2019 to Sarah Kristina Corbin, respond to the Petition by the 2 day of January, 2024, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioners.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioners: Tonya C. Palmer, 1939 Main Ave. S.W., Cullman, AL 35055, (256) 246-9600 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave. S.W., Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this 15 day of November, 2023.

WELLS R. TURNER, III
JUVENILE JUDGE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit Court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 27th day of November, 2023.
Clerk of Circuit Court

FILED IN OFFICE
NOV 15 2023
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

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BUILDING DEPARTMENT

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www.CullmanAl.gov

City of Cullman
Planning Commission

On Tuesday January 2, 2024, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M, at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Planning Commission, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Amend Ordinance 2011-23
2. Amend Ordinance 2011-25
3. Short form subdivision – Mitchell Road NW
4. Preliminary Subdivision – Noble Ridge Subdivision – Highway 157 & Highway 31

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

DOCUMENT 36

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25-JU-2023-000224.01
JUVENILE COURT OF
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
LISA MCSWAIN, CLERK

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF
THE ADOPTION OF:
M.C.S.,
A Minor Child.
CASE NUMBER: JU 2023-000224.01

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

The Petitioners having made a Motion for Service by Publication in the above styled action, it is

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Father of the child born on or about 03/06/2019 to Sarah Kristina Corbin, respond to the Petition for Adoption filed by Benny Joe Trussell and Sandra Trussell by the 2 day of January, 2024, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioners.

It is Further **ORDERED** that notice be published once a week for four consecutive weeks in the *The Cullman Tribune*, a newspaper of general circulation in Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE this 15 day of November, 2023.

WELLS R. TURNER, III
JUVENILE JUDGE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

FILED IN OFFICE
NOV 15 2023
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY

Shop with a Cop (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — There seemed to be a uniformed officer down nearly every aisle on Saturday morning at Cullman's south Walmart. No, it wasn't a high-stakes shoplifting ring bust – it was the Cullman Police Department's annual Christmas outreach event, Shop with a Cop, and this year was made even more special by the department celebrating a full decade of serving kids in the community who may need an extra boost during the holidays.

Dozens of officers and volunteers acted as personal shoppers for the morning for the 18 children selected for the program, piling carts high with clothes and wintertime necessities before hitting the main event: the toy aisles.

Each child got a budget totaling just under $500 to shop 'til they dropped, then a quick ride in a patrol vehicle to hit Chik-fil-A for a frosty vanilla cone and warm, crispy chicken.

CPD Public Relations Officer Adam Clark said the benefits of the event are two-fold: the families of selected children get to have a little bank account relief during one of the most expensive holidays of the year, and the kids get to have a wholesome and positive interaction with an officer in a low-stakes environment.

Clark also said it's not just the kids who get pumped up for the CPD's longest-running community outreach; the officers get pretty amped, too.

"We look forward to the event every year! The officers are just as excited as the kids," he laughed.

Clark shared that while the event is a sweet finish to the year for many officers, it also serves as a reminder of what an officer's purpose should be: to help the community they've sworn to serve.

"If anyone should ask, 'Why did you want to be a police officer?' well, this is it! The chance to really give back to the people in our community, to be a part of a special event like Shop with a Cop. That's why," he beamed.

Clark also mentioned that he feels thankful that the community as a whole supports the event just as much as the officers; after all, CPD doesn't foot the bill, totaling thousands, by itself.

Clark said a dedicated team of recurring donors and sponsors including businesses and individuals are to thank for the continued success of Shop with a Cop.

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Obituary Announcements: Dec. 16-18

Hazel Evelyn Kuykendall, 91
Hazel Evelyn Kuykendall was born Feb. 17, 1932, in Marks, Mississippi to H.R. Estridge and Bertha Inez Gilmore Estridge. She passed from this life Friday, Dec. 15, 2023, at her home, surrounded by her loving family. Graveside service for Mrs. Kuykendall held Sunday, Dec. 17, 2023, at Good Hope Cemetery, with Bro. Paul Rivers officiating. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. She was preceded in death by both her parents; husband, Jerry Kuykendall; son, Ronnie Kuykendall and infant son, Gerald Wayne Kuykendall; brothers, Howard Estridge, Russell Estridge, Clayton Estridge, and Leon Estridge; sisters, Doris Taylor, and Ruth Dodson. She is survived by three sons, Johnny, Ricky Lynn, and Billy Kuykendall; sister, Jean Hicks; One hundred twenty-five grandkids, great-grandkids, great-great-grandkids; many nieces and nephews; special friend and caretaker, Diana Cagle. The family wishes to extend a special thank you to Enhabit Hospice and nurses, Eric, Chasity, and Stephanie for their compassionate care. Hazel was a true Christian who loved everyone and everyone loved her. Her greatest joy was her family. She worked hard her whole life and was a professional truck driver. Her and her husband, Jerry were over-the-road drivers for over twenty-five years with Garrison Trucking. They were her extended family always. When she was not on the road, her other passion was cooking for her family. Her family says she was an absolutely fantastic cook. She was a unique and strong-willed woman who will be missed by all who knew and loved her. Visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Charlie J. Patterson, 80
Memorial Service for Charlie J. Patterson, 80, of Cullman, held Monday, Dec. 18, 2023, at Cullman Funeral Home chapel, with Pastor Paul Monk officiating. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Charlie was born June 10, 1943, to Charlie Robert Patterson and Emma Patterson. He passed from this life on Friday, Dec. 15, 2023. He was preceded in death by his parents. Survivors include his loving wife of 62 years, Mary Patterson; sons, Ben (Dana) Patterson, Tim Patterson; brother, Joe Patterson; grandchildren, Aaron (Marissa) Patterson, Josh (Christine) Patterson, Eric Patterson, Trent (Emily) Patterson; five great-grandchildren; a host of family and friends. The family wishes to extend a special thank you to Gentiva Hospice for the wonderful care they gave to Mr. Patterson during this time. Charlie was the youngest of thirteen children. He was a very hard worker and family describes him as a jack of all trades. He stayed very busy and loved being outdoors. He was proud to be Job Steward of TVA Sheetmetal Workers Union Local 48. Most of all, he enjoyed life with his family. He will be very missed. Visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Hughlen Iola Murphree, 83
Hughlen Iola Murphree, of Holly Pond, Alabama, entered into the presence of our Lord and Savior on the morning of Dec. 16, 2023, at the age of 83. Hughlen was born to Ovis C. and Zilla Granade Murphree on April 28, 1940. Brother Murphree was a graduate of Holly Pond High School. He continued his studies at St. Bernard College, where he received his bachelor's degree, as well as Samford University, where he obtained his master's degree. Brother Murphree worked for NASA for over thirty years as a mathematician and he also served as a pastor in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Hughlen's heart for the Lord led him to minister in multiple churches including East Point Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Union Grove Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Summit Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Green's Chapel Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and as co-pastor, alongside Brother Ray Edwards, at Hopewell Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Brother Murphree enjoyed the beauty of God's creation and his love for gardening and yard work was visible in the care he took in maintaining his gardens and lawn. Hughlen planted and cared for a variety of trees and plants, and he thoroughly enjoyed the time he spent doing so. While Hughlen loved his wife, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren dearly, his heart for God and His word was undeniable. Brother Murphree spent the majority of his life serving his Savior, and we can be assured that he was welcomed into heaven with the words of Matthew 25:23, "Well done, good and faithful servant." Brother Murphree is preceded in death by his parents, Ovis and Zilla Murphree and his sister, Wanda Lee York. He is survived by his wife of sixty-one years, Sylvia Cox Murphree; children, Rodney Murphree (Mary Ann), Teresa Smith, Remonia McCullars; sister, Judy Vandergrift; grandchildren, Caige Stapler, Tristan Stapler, Lakely Stapler, Dustin McCullars, Jamie Sivley; great-grandchildren, Kayla Simmons, Nick Hodges, Adalynn Mosley, Grey McCullars; and great-great-grandchildren, Easton Holt, and Langston McGehee. Friends are invited to join the Murphree family on Tuesday evening, Dec. 19, 2023, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m., at Holly Pond Funeral Home, for a time of visitation. Funeral services for Brother Murphree will be held at East Point Cumberland Presbyterian Church at 2 p.m., on Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2023, with Brother Phillip Nichols officiating. Burial will follow services in Union Grove Cemetery where Caige Stapler, Tristan Stapler, Dustin McCullars, Nicholas Hodges, Donnie Stephens, and Michael Cooper will serve as pallbearers. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Murphree family.

Icy Mae Alston Raburn, 96
Icy Mae Alston Raburn, age 96, of Arley, passed away Saturday, Dec. 16, 2023, at home surrounded by her loving family. She was born May 9, 1927, in Arley to Zenus and Maggie Smith Wade. Icy Mae was a lifelong member of Meek Baptist Church. She was an avid gardener and enjoyed playing rook. Icy Mae was a home maker and loving mother who raised six children. Visitation will be Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2023, from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Addison, where the service will be held at 2 p.m. Burial will be at Meek Cemetery. Ron Wooten will officiate. Icy Mae is survived by her children, Rita Blakely and her husband Frank, Valerie Thomley and her husband Ken, Wade Alston, and Edna Boddie and her husband Warren; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Scharla Alston Kaiser; son, Clark Alston; and her parents, Zenus and Maggie Wade.

Howard Gerald Hafer, 78
Howard Gerald Hafer, age 78, of Vinemont, Alabama passed away on Friday, Dec. 15, 2023. Howard is survived by his wife, Nancy "Carolyn" Hafer; his brother Teddy Hafer; his daughters Tammy (Terry) Waters, Rhonda (Mark) Jackson, and Crystal (Travis) Lansford, his grandchildren Haley (Justin) Vanderburg, Wesley (Lindsie) Waters, Tyler (Jessica) Jackson, Tristan (Savannah) Harris, Dalton Harris and his great grandchildren Brayden Vanderburg and Kate Jackson. Howard was preceded in death by his parents Howard and Hazel Phillips Hafer; and his brother Jimmy Hafer. A visitation for Howard will be held Monday, Dec. 18, 2023, from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Moss-Service Funeral Home, 1901 Second Avenue, NW, Cullman, AL 35055. A funeral service will occur Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2023, at 11 a.m., 1901 Second Avenue, NW, Cullman, AL 35055. An interment will occur Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2023, at Flint Creek Cemetery, Vinemont, AL. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Russell Lewis Breedlove, 71
Russell Lewis Breedlove, age 71, of Hanceville, passed away on Sunday, Dec. 17, 2023, at Huntsville Hospital. He was born Nov. 1, 1952. He was preceded in death by his father, Troy Lewis Breedlove, and mother, Julie Breedlove. Survivors include his children, Adam Breedlove, Tammy Breedlove, Timmy Breedlove, and Jennifer Vignolo; grandchildren, Nicole Barnes, Justin Barnes, and Christian Thomas; four great-grandchildren; sisters, Nancy Beasley and Diane Burkholder; and brother, Levon Breedlove.

Billy J. Lovins, 58
Arrangements for Billy J. Lovins, 58, of Arab, are incomplete at this time. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Billy was born July 17, 1965, to Opal Annette Bruce Lovins. He passed from this life on Monday, Dec. 18, 2023. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Jeffrey Lovins. Survivors include his brothers, Donald (Stacy) Bruce and Paul Bruce; sister, Donna (Jamie) Zavala. Visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Free Obituary Listings

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Fairview (from Front)

and Lola Haynes added a free throw to keep Fairview in front 20-12. Graves and Ace Cruce exchanged three-pointers to make it a 23-15 game midway through the third and baskets by Cobbs and Bryan stretched the lead to 27-18 later in the period.

Creel and Makaylee Lotero each hit a pair of free throws to keep the score at 29-20 but Creel laid one in just before the end buzzer to cut the lead to 29-22 going into into the fourth quarter.

A Joli Williams bucket cut the lead to 5 early in the fourth and Lotero exchanged baskets with Ellis to make it a 31-26 game.

Creel scored to trim the lead to 31-28 later in the period but Cruce responded with a basket on the other end that kept the Lady Aggies up 33-28 with just under two minutes remaining. Ellis drilled a jumper with around a minute on the clock to bring the lead back down to three but those were the final points of the contest and Fairview held on to win this year's county championship over Cold Springs 33-30.

Harris led all scorers with 13 points in the win. Bryan and Cruce each posted five points and Lotero finished with four.

Graves led the Lady Eagles with eight points in the loss, followed by Ellis and Creel with seven.

2023 ALL-COUNTY TEAM

- Hagen Ellis, Cold Springs
- Kyleigh Graves, Cold Springs
- Jiselle Creel, Cold Springs
- Arleigh Harris, Fairview
- Emma Cobbs, Fairview
- Ace Cruce, Fairview
- Kara Parker, West Point
- Reese Guthrie, West Point
- Ava Olinger, Holly Pond
- Milly Huddleston, Holly Pond
- Arleigh Thomason, Vinemont
- Kynzlee Farr, Hanceville
- Ella Eisner, Good Hope
- Abbie Richter, Parkside
- Murphee Purdue, Harmony



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope (from Front)

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

BREMEN, Ala. — Good Hope and Hanceville returned to Cold Springs High School Saturday to battle it out for this year's county tournament championship and after a tight first half, the Raiders outscored the Bulldogs 22-11 in the second half to pull away and claim the county crown with a 35-21 win.

Baskets by Hanceville's Brycen Harris and Good Hope's Eli Drake got things started at 2-2 but a pair of three-pointers from Cooper Johnson and Drake gave the Raiders an early, 8-2 advantage.

However, Lincoln Jones and Ethan Morrow each scored on the other end in the final minute of the first to trim the Good Hope lead to 8-6 going into the second.

Neither team was able to find much offensive success in the second quarter. Harris laid one in to tie the game at 8 and after Johnson split a pair of free throws on the other end, Deacon Brewer scored inside to give the Bulldogs a 10-9 lead with two minutes remaining in the first half.

Tucker Screws and Ryker Hancock each hit a free throw to put the Raiders back in front 11-10 and Drake took a steal the other way for an easy bucket just before the end of the period to give Good Hope a 13-10 lead at the halftime break.

The Raiders found their rhythm early in the second half, stretching their lead to 20-10 on a pair of Johnson baskets and another three from Drake.

Back to back buckets from Screws made it a 24-11 game later in the third and Chase Boles added another score to make it 26-11.

Fortunately for the Bulldogs, Harris was able to score six straight points to end the third quarter and cut Good Hope's lead down to 26-17 going into the fourth.

Screws answered Harris' scoring run with six straight points of his own, extending the Raider lead to 32-17 with just over three minutes to play.

Jones scored on the other end to stop the run, but Drake answered with his third three-pointer of the night to wrap up a 35-21, county championship win for Good Hope.

Drake led the Raiders with 13 points in the win, followed by Screws with 11 and Johnson with eight. Harris led the way for Hanceville with 13 points in the loss and Jones added four.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Good Hope Raiders defeated Hanceville 35-21 Saturday to win this year's county tournament championship.

2023 ALL-COUNTY TEAM

- Cooper Johnson, Good Hope
- Eli Drake, Good Hope
- Tucker Screws, Good Hope
- Ryker Hancock, Good Hope
- Webb Buchanan, Good Hope
- Brycen Harris, Hanceville
- Deacon Brewer, Hanceville
- Lincoln Jones, Hanceville
- Rush Lamar, West Point
- Caden Pike, West Point
- Francisco Diaz, Parkside
- Lyric Smith, Parkside
- Lindon Hill, Cold Springs
- Eli Voce, Cold Springs
- Cash Huddleston, Holly Pond
- Landon Posey, Holly Pond
- Max Jones, Vinemont
- Colt Dean, Fairview