

The Cullman Tribune

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WEATHER

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SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

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SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

Raiders, Lady Raiders earn area wins over West Morgan

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Zoning approvals pave way for new housing developments in Cullman

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Two recent rezoning approvals by the Cullman City Council cleared the way for new housing developments on the north and west sides of the city. Both properties were rezoned as R-4 dis-tricts in which a wide range of construction can take place, from single-family dwellings to "high-density" apartment complexes.

Copper Horse Properties, LLC received approval from the council and planning commission to build four apartment buildings at the intersection of Logan Street Southwest and Veigl Avenue Southwest, a block south of West Elementary. The buildings will hold 108 individual family units.

N31, LLC submitted a preliminary plan that received contingent approval for the Nobleridge subdivision northeast of the U.S. Highway 31/Second Avenue Northwest intersection with Alabama Highway 157, showing only single-family dwellings.

"Based on the current economic times, and the housing developments under construction and those site plans already approved by the planning commission, I feel that Cullman is in a good place based on its » PAGE 5

Welcome to the new school

CMS cuts ribbon on first wing of new construction, expansion



EMILY BOAZ PHOTOGRAPHY

Cullman Middle School celebrated a major milestone in its ambitious renovation and expansion project, with the opening of the first phase of the new Cullman Middle School facility this month.

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman Middle School celebrated a major milestone in its ambitious renovation and expansion project, with the opening of the first phase of the new Cullman Middle School facility this month — just in time for the start of the new semester.

This phase of the construction project includes 14 classrooms, a piano lab, a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) lab, a library, a temporary space for the band room, guidance offices, a nurse's office, and administrative offices.

"Cutting the ribbon on phase one of the Cullman Middle School project is a huge step towards transforming this campus," Cullman City Schools Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff said. "Our students, employees and families deserve a facility like this- not only the current CMS students, but the thousands who will walk through these doors in the years to follow."

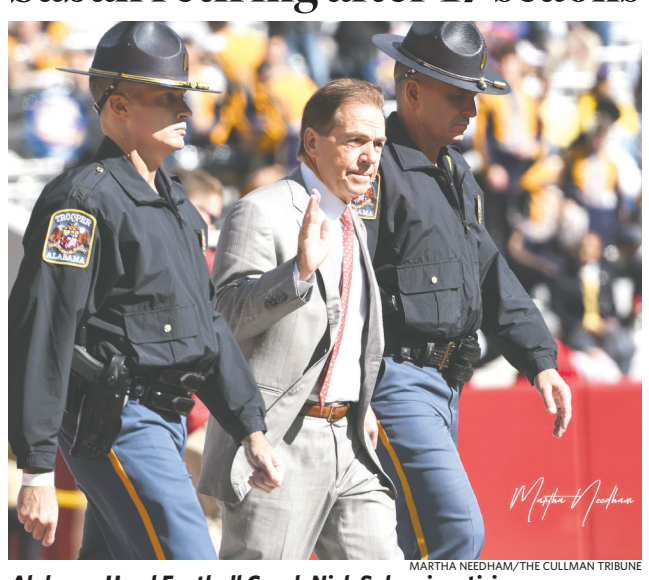
The second phase will kick off with the excavation for the basement that will house the permanent locations for our band room, choir room, agriscience classroom/shop, and Family and Consumer Science classroom/lab. The two levels above the basement will be connected to the first phase creating one continuous building. Once the second phase has been completed it will add 15 additional classrooms, including specialized spaces for art, health science, science labs and a classroom specifically designed for students with special needs.

"On behalf of the Board of Education we are excited to see this vision for a more modern and safe Cullman Middle School begin to come to fruition," Cullman City Schools Board President Cheryl Harrison said. "As a board, we are committed to the families and students of Cullman and providing them with the best school system in Alabama, rather it be academics or facilities."

The older building remaining on campus, originally built in 1950, will undergo renovations during the summer months at the end of the school year when students and faculty are not on campus. The total project is slated for competition in the spring of 2025, with sixth grade students returning to Cullman Middle School in the fall of 2025.

"It is truly an exciting time for all of us here at Cullman Middle School. The transition into the new building is more than just a change of scenery; it's a significant leap forward for our school community," Cullman Middle School Principal Jake Johnson added. "The journey from planning to execution has been a collaborative effort involving our district-level leadership, faculty, and dedicated » PAGE 8

Alabama Head Coach Nick Saban retiring after 17 seaons



MARTHA NEEDHAM/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Alabama Head Football Coach Nick Saban is retiring after 17 seasons with the Crimson Tide. Saban won six national championships during his tenure in Tuscaloosa.

City, County, EMA plan warming stations ahead of winter storm

» PAGE 8

Vinemont council proclaims January Human Trafficking Awareness Month

» PAGE 8

PET OF THE WEEK

Rufus the Red



DONNA RUTTKAY

Rufus the Red romps around in the shelter recreation area.

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Jan. 10

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Jan. 10, 2024. 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

Jan. 5

- burglary-3rd degree; person; 13th Ave. SW; damaged door; miscellaneous
- duty upon striking unattended vehicle; person; Hwy. 157; damaged to 2015 Chevy Suburban; $3,000

Jan. 8

- theft of property-1st degree; person; Larkwood Dr. NE; 2016 Dodge Challenger; $40,000
- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle; person; Deer Run Dr. SW; miscellaneous
- domestic violence-3rd degree-assault-3rd degree; menacing; person; Poplar Dr. SW
- leaving scene of accident; person; 2nd Ave. NW; damage to 2022 Toyota Camry

Jan. 9

- identity theft; person

ARRESTS

Jan. 8 – 9

King, Tamara; 42
- DUI

Laney, Joseph A.; 45
- theft of property-4th degree

Whitaker, Caleb A.; 22
- Grand Jury- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle (5 counts)
- Grand Jury- theft of property-3rd degree
- Grand Jury- theft of property-4th degree (3 counts)

Le, Hien T.; 43
- domestic violence

Martin, Richard B.; 50
- domestic violence

Steele, Tosha L.; 41
- public intoxication

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

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LEGALS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF BRADLEY JAY NEASE, Deceased. * CASE NO.: PC2024-002

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to KELLY DIANNE NEASE, as Personal Representative of the Estate of BRADLEY JAY NEASE, deceased, on the 10th day of January, 2024, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

Kelly Dianne Nease
Personal Representative

Shelbie G. Hankey
Attorney for Petitioner
Hankey Law Firm, LLC
101 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055
256-736-8744

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

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

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

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BUILDING DEPARTMENT

201 2nd Avenue NE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

256.775.7203
www.CullmanAl.gov

City of Cullman
Zoning Board of Adjustments

On Tuesday, January 16th, 2024, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M., at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Zoning Board of Adjustments, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Variance request on setback 1109 Old Bolte Road SE

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



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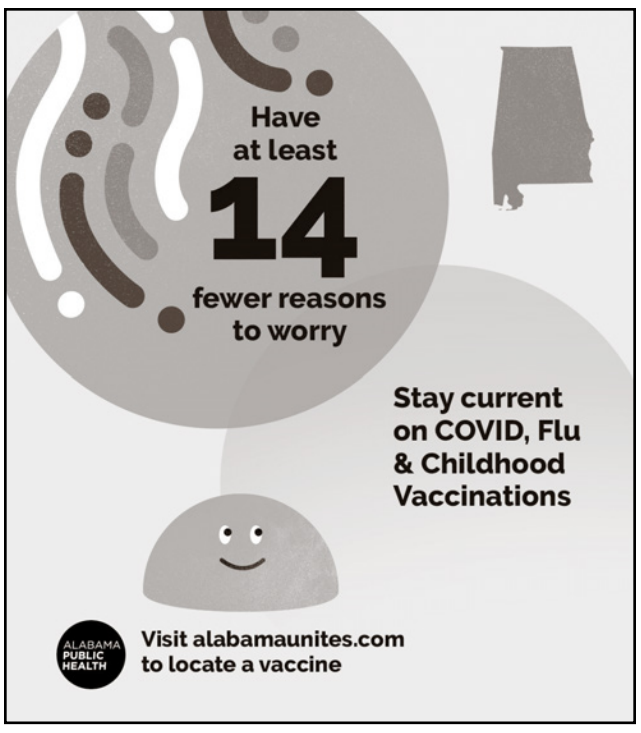
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www.cullmanstockyard.com
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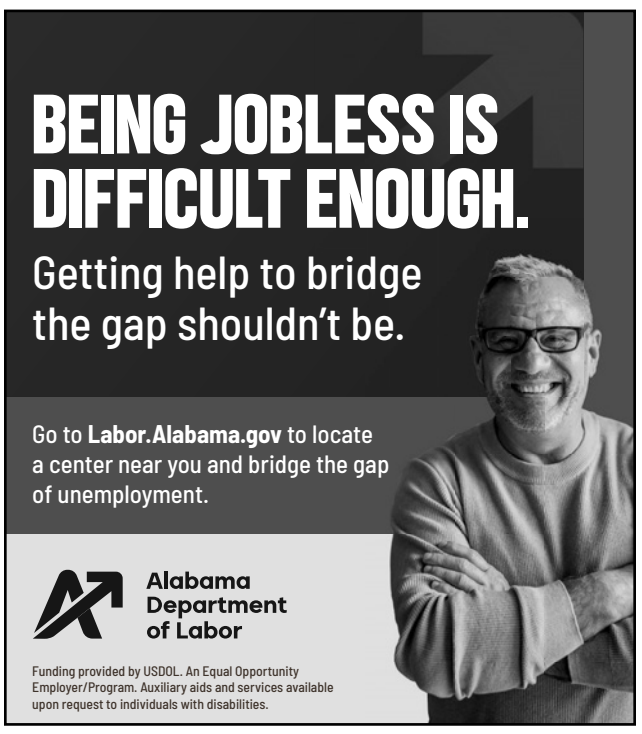






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"Love Never Ages"





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, Jan. 12 – 7 p.m. Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship & Testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! Bring a dish, dessert or drink for a potluck meal at 6:15. Childcare provided!
• Saturday, Jan. 13 - 8 a.m. Men's Breakfast. Come join us for fellowship!
• Sunday, Jan. 14 - 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, Jan. 14 - 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 & Worship and message by Steven East at 11.
• Sunday, Jan. 14 - 5p.m. Healing Service: Miracles, Signs & Wonders follow those who believe! Join us and invite others to join as well.

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.

Heartland Quilt Guild Meeting
Thursday, Jan. 11, at 6:30 p.m. at Christ Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1310 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman. Contact Porsia Anderson at 256-737-7557.

Cullman County Cattlemen's & Cattlewomen's Associations Annual Meeting
Saturday, Jan. 13, at 5 p.m. at Stone Bridge Farms, 281 County Road 717. Registration is at 5. A charcoal grilled ribeye steak dinner will be served at 6. Come and join us. It's time to get out of the house and enjoy an evening with friends. We have several members who have not yet renewed their memberships. If you're one of them and are unable to attend and renew, please do so by mail to P.O. Box 643. Cullman, AL 35056. You can also renew at our Memorial Day Ribeye Steak Sandwich Cookout May 24-25, 2024. We need you. The cattle industry needs you. Meeting will start at 7.

Cullman Education Retirees Association Meeting
Thursday, Jan. 18, at 11 a.m. at Stone Bridge Farms. Our speaker is Jill Jackson, president of Alabama Retirees Association. Afterward, there will be lunch and fellowship for those who choose to stay. New members and all education retirees are invited.

Fairview High School 1963 Luncheon/Meeting
Friday, Jan. 19, 2024, at 1 p.m. at the Golden Corral, 1720 Cherokee Ave. SW in Cullman. For more information, call Joyce Williams Rodgers at 256-339-3451.

2024 Polar Bear Plunge
Saturday, Jan. 20, at 10 a.m. at WildWater and the Cullman Wellness and Aquatic Center. Prizes include four WildWater season passes and one annual family CWAC membership. Event benefits Special Olympics. You MUST be present to win! The event is FREE to enter, and we will be accepting optional donations at the event for our partner, Special Olympics! Register NOW to take the plunge: http://tinyurl.com/PolarBearPlunge2024

Pleasant View Singing
Sunday, Jan. 21, at 5 p.m. with Dry Creek. 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.

19th Annual Empty Bowls of Cullman County Chili Dinner
Feb. 19, from 4-6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church. Featuring fun, fellowship, chili by Three Guys, grilled cheese sandwiches, handmade pottery bowls, silent auction and live Southern Gospel music. Special guest emcee Nate Williams from WXJC 101.1. Eat in, carry out or drive through. Tickets are $15 and are available at Cullman Caring for Kids and First United Methodist Church. Proceeds will benefit the Cullman Caring for Kids food bank.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JANUARY 11, 2024

PREP BASKETBALL

Cullman rallies to top Oxford 58-50, Lady Jackets pull away from Lady Bearcats 72-65

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — After traveling to Hartselle for a pair of area games Friday, the Bearcats and Lady Bearcats were back home Tuesday night to battle Oxford. In the girls' game, the Yellow Jackets pulled away in the final minutes of the fourth quarter to defeat Cullman 72-65 but in the boys' game, the Bearcats rallied from a 10-point deficit at halftime to collect a 58-50 win over Oxford.

Oxford 72 - Cullman 65 (varsity girls)

Juliana Brannon scored the game's first basket to give the Lady Bearcats an early, 2-0 lead but Oxford responded with a 7-0 run to pull ahead 7-2. Kadence Hanback knocked down a three to make it a 7-5 game midway through the first quarter but the Lady Jackets surged ahead to a 12-5 lead. Ally Sharpe split a pair of free throws and drilled a three-pointer to trim the lead to 12-9 with two minutes remaining in the period and after Oxford stretched its lead to five, Annalee Allen drained a three in the final minute of the first to cut the lead to 14-12 going into the second.

Hanback buried another three to give the Lady Bearcats a 15-14 lead at the start of the third quarter. Molly Dorough added a free throw and Sharpe laid one in to keep the game tied at 18 later in the period but a 7-0 run from the Jackets made it a 25-18 game. Allen drilled another three to trim the lead to four and following another Oxford basket, Cullman finished the half with a 6-0 run, capped by a jumper from Dorough, to tie the game at 27 going into the locker room at the break.

Rachel Hoffman finished a three-point play at the line to give the 'Cats a 30-28 lead early in the third. Hanback's third three-pointer of the game kept Cullman in front 33-30 and Sharpe turned a steal into an easy bucket to make it 35-30. Hanback buried another three and Brannon score inside to make it a 40-37 game midway through the period and Oxford pulled ahead with a pair of baskets on the other end, Sharpe laid one in to give Cullman a 42-41 lead with just over a minute to play in the quarter. Another three from Hanback tied the game at 45 later in the third but the Jackets scored just before the buzzer to take a 47-45 advantage into the final frame.

Sharpe hit a pair of free throws to trim the Oxford lead to 49-47 early in the fourth but the Jackets were able to extend their lead to 55-47. A three from Sharpe and a jumper by Hanback cut the lead to 55-52 with five minutes remaining and Taylor Au laid one in to make it a 1-point game. Hoffman scored inside to give Cullman a 56-55 lead and Sharpe drained her next four free throw attempts to keep the score knotted at 60 with just over two minutes left to play. A Kentley White basket out the 'Cats back in front 62-60 but unfortunately for the home crowd, a 10-0 run by the Jackets made it a 70-62 game with less to a minute remaining. Sharpe knocked down one more three from the top of the key but those were the last points Cullman was able to put on the board and Oxford held on to win it 72-65.

Sharpe led the Lady Bearcats with 25 points in the loss. Hanback posted 18 and Allen finished with six.

Cullman 58 - Oxford 50 (varsity boys)

A basket from Sam Duskin and a Colton Echols three-pointer kept the game tied at 5 early in the first quarter and after Oxford pulled ahead 10-5, Gray Hopper drained a three to trim the lead to 10-8. Another Echols basket cut the lead to 16-10 with just over a minute remaining in the period and the Bearcats went into the second quarter trailing by six.

Duskin laid another one in to make it an 18-12 game early in the second and San Dorough drilled a three to hold the Jackets lead to 21-15 later in the period. Jake Dorough followed with a three of his own to trim the lead to 24-18 with three minutes to play in the opening half and after Jake split a pair of free throws, Duskin knocked down two more from the foul line to make it a 31-21 game going into the locker room at the break.

Echols drained a three and Duskin turned a steal into an easy bucket to cut the lead to 31-26 at the start of the third. That's when Jake Dorough buried back to back three-pointers to bring the lead down to 36-32 and Preston Gay followed those up with a three of his own to make it a 38-35 game. Baskets by Jake Dorough and Preston Gay cut Oxford's lead down to one and after Duskin sank a pair of free throws, Brodie Banister scored off a turnover to give Cullman its first lead since the first quarter at 43-42. Oxford was able to add one more basket before the end of the third and went into the final period leading the Bearcats 44-43.

After splitting a pair of free throws, Banister drilled a three to give Cullman a 47-46 lead midway through the fourth quarter. Jake Dorough scored the next five points for the 'Cats to give them a 52-47 lead with two minutes remaining but Oxford managed to cut the lead to 52-50 with less than a minute to play. However, Jake Dorough sank a pair of free throws with 21 seconds on the clock to make it a 4-point game and Bannister and Duskin each knocked down a pair from the line in the final seven seconds to secure a 58-50 win for Cullman.

Jake Dorough led the Bearcats with 19 points in the win, followed by Duskin with 12 and Banister and Echols with eight.

Cullman will be back home at Bearcat Arena Friday night to host an area matchup against Decatur.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman's Sam Duskin drives to the basket for a score during the Bearcats' 58-50 win over Oxford Tuesday night.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman's Ally Sharpe led the Lady Bearcats with 25 points in their 72-65 loss to Oxford Tuesday night.

PREP BASKETBALL

Raiders, Lady Raiders earn area wins over West Morgan

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. – After picking up a pair of area wins at East Lawrence last Friday, the Good Hope Raiders returned home Tuesday night to take on the West Morgan Rebels in two more big area games. The Lady Raiders and Raiders each picked up a big win at home. In the girls' game, Good Hope jumped out to a big lead and ended up rolling past West Morgan 75-25 and in the boys' game, a huge fourth quarter was key for the Raiders as they got past the Rebels 80-68.

Good Hope 75 - West Morgan 25 (Varsity Girls)

A rebound and putback by Ava McSwain put Good Hope on the scoreboard first, and that would be the start of a huge first quarter for the Lady Raiders. Seven early points by McSwain, a basket by Charly Johnson, and a trey by Ivey Maddox gave them an early 12-0 lead. Bailey Tetro put in a pair of long-range shots, and Heather Tetro added one of her own to make it a 23-0 game. A pair of baskets by Jolee McHan, and one each by Emma Thompson and McSwain, gave Good Hope a 33-0 lead going into the second.

McSwain continued her red-hot shooting from the field, scoring seven of the first eight points for the Lady Raiders, to give them a commanding 41-0 lead. West Morgan got on the scoreboard with less than four minutes to go in the first half on a trey, but Maddox scored eight straight points to make it a 51-7 game at the half.

Good Hope continued to put in shots from long-range, as Thompson, Heather Tetro, and Maddox each added a three in the third quarter, to give them a 65-19 lead going into the final period. There was a running clock in the fourth quarter, and the Lady Raiders cruised to a 75-25 area win over the Lady Rebels.

Maddox led the way for Good Hope (19-2, 4-0) with 22 points. McSwain wasn't too far behind with 20 points, while McHan and Heather and Bailey Tetro each put in eight.

Good Hope 80 - West Morgan 68 (Varsity Boys)

West Morgan jumped out to an early 6-2 lead, but Weston Hancock put in back-to-back shots in the paint to tie the game up at six. Tucker Malin then drilled a trey to give Good Hope a 9-6 lead. Each team traded a trey to keep it at a three-point game at 12-9, then later on, an and-one by the Rebels tied the game up at 14. K'mal Bell broke the tie with a trey to give the Raiders a 17-14 lead. Malin and Hancock each had a rebound and putback late in the quarter to make it a 21-18 game going into the second period.

A steal by Bell led to a fast-break layup by Jacob Haynes, and that gave Good Hope a 23-21 lead early in the second. Later on, back-to-back layups by Hancock made it a 27-23 game, but a quick 8-0 run by West Morgan gave them a 31-27 lead. Another Rebel trey pushed their lead to 34-28 late in the first half, but a basket each by Bell and Haynes cut it to 36-32 at the half.

The three-ball helped West Morgan widen its lead even more in the third, as two more from long range gave them a 42-34 lead. Dakota Overton put in one from long-range to cut it to 42-37, then back-to-back rebounds and putbacks by Hancock, including an and-one, made it a 44-42 game with less than five minutes to go in the third. Layups by Malin and Hancock tied the game up at 46 with less than three minutes remaining in the quarter.

Good Hope went on a late run to get the lead right back. Malin drained a trey, and later put in a basket in the paint to give them a 51-50 lead. Hancock then drilled a three from the right corner, and Tyler Cone put in a layup to push their lead to 56-50. A three by West Morgan just before the buzzer, though, made it a 56-53 game going into the final period.



SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope's Weston Hancock led the Raiders with 33 points in their 80-68 win over West Morgan Tuesday night.

The Raiders couldn't have gotten off to a better start to the fourth quarter. Jacob Haynes put in a layup to give Good Hope a 58-53 lead, then a technical foul was called on West Morgan. Bell put in a pair of foul shots and then added a basket of his own to increase the Raider lead to 62-53. Another rebound and putback by Hancock made it a 64-53 game with only a minute gone in the fourth. Five straight points by West Morgan cut it to 64-58, and later on, a trey made it a 66-61 game. The Rebels kept the pressure on Good Hope, as a mini 5-0 run cut it to 68-64 with a little over three minutes to go in the game.

Hancock, though, put in two big baskets in the paint to push the Raider lead to 72-64 with a little over two minutes to go in the contest. Free-throw shooting helped Good Hope at the end of the game, as Bell went 6/6 from the stripe, while Overton and Haynes each added one as well. The Raiders ended up getting a huge 80-68 win at home against West Morgan.

Hancock had a monster game offensively, finishing with 33 points for Good Hope (13-8, 3-1). Bell added 20 points. Malin put in 12 points and Haynes posted seven points.

Good Hope will continue area play Friday night against Priceville.

Agriplex gears up for another year of programs

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — With modern homesteading on the rise and residents wanting to learn how to be more self-sufficient, and influx of less-than-true advice flowing on social media, knowing where to go for accurate advice for a successful growing season may seem daunting. On the heels of a successful 2023 season, the North Alabama Agriplex has returned with myriad programs for 2024 to benefit farmers, growers and homesteaders of all ages and skill sets.

Executive Director Rachel Dawsey said educational outreach programs offered by the Agriplex are important to further its mission of cultivating a community passion for preserving agricultural heritage and growing a more sustainable future.

"We feel that we are able to do that through our educational outreach into the community. The programs we're offering are a wide range," Dawsey said, mentioning that while many of its programs are well-attended, she's most excited about the expansion of the Agriplex's Beginning Farmer and Military Veterans programs.

"We're excited to expand our Beginning Farmer and Military Veterans programming, also. We got an RCS grant, and Tony Glover and Arnold Caylor are both going to be contracting with us as farm technical assistance providers.

"They will be able to mentor and guide farmers, be able to make farm visits and even help them know of grants and resources available to them," she explained, noting that research shows that the first seven years of farming are the most impactful to the longevity of a farm. With resources at the farmers' fingertips, she doesn't want any slipping through the cracks.

Dawsey also made note of the fact that many in the Beginner Farmer program are young or recent transplants to Alabama, some from as far away as Hawaii or the Pacific Northwest at large, making for quite the learning curve when learning to farm and grow in the Heart of Dixie.

"Alabama is a different climate, so there's a lot of learning to start farming in Alabama," Dawsey laughed.

By offering a holistic approach from seed starting to farm management, the Agriplex takes pride in being able to assist growers and farmers from start to finish. If you don't have a green thumb, don't worry – the Agriplex also has a full schedule of Heritage Skills programs like sewing and quilting, cooking, food preservation and more.

"We love to be this community hub for Cullman. We like to see families of all ages coming and participating in programs," Dawsey smiled, saying that the family approach of including kiddos in farming and growing education through the Agriplex's Little Farmers, Farm Kids Club and Heritage Homeschool programs keeps Youth Programs Coordinator Samantha Catland, busy throughout the year.

Said Catland, "We're doing a lot of new programs this year! Some are repeats from a few years ago, but lots of new ideas. For the kids programs, I'm excited about incorporating music and art. We're usually focused on science."

She said that by offering art and music, the Agriplex can offer a wide-lens approach to educating youth. While some new inclusions are on the menu for the kids' programming, dedicated Agriplex attendees can expect the same flow and routine of programming they've come to enjoy.

"Specifically for the kids' programs, I try to follow the same template. Parents and kids like to know what is going to be going on," she said, explaining that for preschool especially, students and parents alike thrive on routine and knowing what to expect. "The structure will be the same, but the material will be different!"

Catland echoed Dawsey's sentiment of wanting the whole family involved, sharing, "Be prepared to learn along with your child.

"Some people expect to be able to sit back and just let their kid do their thing, but we're really hands-on! We like the parent to get involved, too."

The Agriplex offers a wide variety of educational programming, many free or inexpensive to attend. Find a full schedule of programs at https://agriplex.org/WPtest/services. Registration for programs ends 24 hours before the program starts, and the Agriplex does not offer refunds. For more information, call the Agriplex at 256-297-1044 or visit 1714 Tally Ho St. NW.

Vinemont senior lunch to be held Jan. 15

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — Listen up, seniors! It's arguably the best day of the month and it is headed your way. Break out your comfortable pants and dust off the conversation ice-breakers, the Town of South Vinemont is hosting its monthly senior lunch on Jan. 15, at 10 a.m. at the Vinemont Community Center.

Seniors are invited to attend the get-together, to visit with friends, share stories of old and feast on all the fresh salad, cheesy pizza pie and decadent desserts their waistbands can contain.

For the pre-meal entertainment, enjoy fellowship and catching up with other senior community members; a lively game of bingo will precede the meal, complete with door prizes and knick-knacks for the players with the quickest "BINGO!"

Although north Alabama is supposed to experience some frigid temperatures next week, Councilwoman Bonnie Goodwin, the main organizer for the senior lunch, said she hopes the weather will not be a massive deterrent.

"We always have a good time. I hope the weather doesn't keep people from coming.

"It's warm food and fellowship; we always have a great time," she said.

The menu for the afternoon will consist of an appetizer of fresh garden salad with choice of dressing and freshly sliced pizza from a local eatery. Desserts and beverages will also be provided.

Vinemont's senior lunches are on the third Monday of each month at 10 a.m. The Vinemont Community Center is located at 88 Ridgeway Street.



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Vinemont's December senior meal was an outstanding success, proving that friendship and community last through the ages.

Approvals (from Front)

housing needs," said Mayor Woody Jacobs. "I am so thankful for our City departments and planning commission that meticulously study all site plans and documents submitted for approval. Those groups make sure that all developers doing work in the city of Cullman are held to our high standards, expecta-tions and regulations while also addressing our infrastructure needs for the future."

The new projects join others under development around the city, including the North Ridge subdivision off Eva Road on County Road 1319, and the Highpoint subdivision off Golf Course Road north of the Cross Creek Golf Course. Both subdivisions' builders recently turned their privately constructed streets over to the City. Construction continues at Bolte Crossing and Magnolia by Lennar off Bolte Road on the city's southeast side, and at Old Edward Place apartments on Third Avenue Southeast (Old Hanceville Highway) at the intersection with King Edward Street Southwest.



GOOGLE MAPS

Copper Horse Properties, LLC has stated plans to develop an apartment community at the intersection of Logan Street Southwest and Veigl Avenue Southwest.



GOOGLE MAPS

N31, LLC has stated plans to develop a single-family housing community on over 160 acres northeast of the U.S. Highway 31/Second Avenue Northwest intersection with Alabama Highway 157.







IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF CHARLES WAYNE KUYKENDALL, Deceased. * **CASE NO.: PC 2024-001**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to SHANI LYNNE TAYLOR, as Personal Representative of the Estate of CHARLES WAYNE KUYKENDALL, deceased, on the 8th day of January, 2024, 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.

Shani Lynne Taylor
Personal Representative

J. Bradley Wilson
Attorney for Estate
206 Ninth Street SW, Ste 102
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 PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF RICHARD WAYNE COOTS, Deceased. * **CASE NO.: PC2023-363**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to PATRICIA HOLMES COOTS, as Personal Representative of the Estate of RICHARD WAYNE COOTS, deceased, on the 8th day of January, 2024, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

Patricia Holmes Coots
Personal Representative

Douglas R. Bachuss, Jr.
Attorney for Petitioner
Nowlin, Bachuss & Gray Law Firm
118 East Moulton Street
Decatur, AL 35602
256-353-8601

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

NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

Default having been made of the terms of the loan documents secured by that certain mortgage executed by James Taylor Grahamgabrielle Renee Graham Husband And Wife to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for CITIZENS BANK & TRUST, its successors and assigns dated February 21, 2017; said mortgage being recorded on February 21, 2017, in Book 1811, Page 177 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to NewRez LLC by assignment recorded in Deed Book 364, Page 28 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, ALABAMA.
The undersigned, NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicingunder and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Cullman County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on the 8th day of February, 2024 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:
The North half of Unit 3 and Unit 1 of the Resubdivision of Lot Number 1 in Block 32 of Musgrove's Addition to Cullman, Alabama, as recorded in Map Book 3, Page 69, Probate Records of said county and more particularly described as: Begin at the Northwest corner of Lot 1 in Block 32 of Musgrove's Addition; thence North 87°04'33" East 208.5 feet; thence South 2°30' East 104.25 feet; thence South 87°04'33" West 208.5 feet; thence North 2°30' West 104.25 feet to the true point of beginning.

Said property is commonly known as 705 Cleveland Ave Sw, Cullman, AL 35055.
Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description the legal description will control.
Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, all outstanding liens for public utilities which constitute liens upon the property, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, easements, rights-of-way, zoning ordinances, restrictions, special assessments, covenants, the statutory right of redemption pursuant to Alabama law, and any matters of record including, but not limited to, those superior to said Mortgage first set out above. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The successful bidder must present certified funds in the amount of the winning bid at the time and place of sale.
Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process.
The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Mortgage.

NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING
as holder of said mortgage
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC
Two North Twentieth
2 20th Street North, Suite 1000
Birmingham, AL 35203

(205) 216-4238
FT21@mccalla.com
File No. 23-05523AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

Cullman Tribune
01/11/2024,01/18/2024,01/25/2024

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.
ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL, this the 4th day of January, 2024.
/s/Jenny Folsom - President of City Council
ATTESTED BY: /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk
APPROVED this the 4th day of January, 2024. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor

ORDINANCE NO. 2024 – 09
TO VACATE A STORM SEWER EASEMENT NOT NEEDED FOR ANY PUBLIC OR MUNICIPAL PURPOSE
BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:
1. The City of Cullman has a drainage easement running under the residence on BEG 25' S-W 220' S OF NE COR NW TH S152.5'W161.1'N-152.5'E16 1.1 TO POB of the City of Cullman also known as 1502 WARNKE ROAD NORTHWEST (Shown Exhibit "A").
2. The City of Cullman was granted a new Permanent Storm Sewer Easement on November 20th, 2023, (shown in Exhibit "B") on this property by the property owner.
3. The new utility and drainage easement is recorded in Deed Book 451, Page 172 in the Office of the Judge of Probate in Cullman County, Alabama.
4. The Cullman City Council finds and determines that the former drainage easement located on this property running under the dwelling is no longer needed by the City of Cullman for public or municipal purposes and hereby vacates the said drainage easement since obtaining the new utility and drainage easement.
5. The City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to do as necessary to vacate the said former storm sewer easement.
6. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its passage and publication as required by law.
ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL, this the 4th day of January, 2024.
/s/Jenny Folsom - President of City Council
ATTESTED BY: /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk
APPROVED this the 4th day of January, 2024. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor

ORDINANCE NO. 2024 – 10
BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:
SECTION 1. This ordinance is to adopt and amend the permit fee schedule for the building department of the City of Cullman.
SECTION 2. The permit fee schedule for the building department of the City of Cullman is as follows:

SECTION 10-167. – Permit Fees.
Residential Permit Fee Schedule (applicable to all types and trades of construction)

Total Valuation	Fees
$1,000 and less	$20
$1,001 to $50,000	$20 for the first $1,000 plus $6.00 for each additional thousand or fraction thereof, to and including $50,000.
$50,001 to $200,000	$314 for the first $50,000 plus $5.00 for each additional thousand or fraction thereof, to and including $200,000.
$200,001 and up	$1,064 for the first $200,000 plus $4.00 for each additional thousand or fraction thereof.

For all non-residential permits, add a $1 per $1,000 state fee.
All residential and non-residential permits have a $10 issuance fee in addition to the permit fee schedule.
Fence Permit Fee
All fences require a minimum permit fee of $20 plus a $10 issuance fee.
Moving Permit Fee
For the moving of any building or structure, the moving permit fee shall be $250 plus a $10 issuance fee.
Demolition Permit Fee
For the demolition of any building or structure with 500 square feet or more, the demolition permit fee shall be $100 plus a $10 issuance fee.
For the demolition of any building or structure with less than 500 square feet, the demolition permit fee shall be $25 plus a $10 issuance fee.
Sitework Permit Fee
For sitework for major residential subdivisions, defined as 6 lots or more, the sitework permit fee shall be $150 per lot plus a $10 issuance fee.
Penalties
If work is started prior to obtaining any permit, all permit fees specified above shall be doubled, but the payment of the double fee will not relieve any person or persons from fully complying with the requirements of the city nor any other penalties, fine, violations, or other issue that may arise from not obtaining a permit prior to start work.
Reinspection Fee

The Reinspection fee for commercial and residential buildings is $50 per reinspection.
Plan Review Fee
The plan review fee for commercial are as follows:
a. Plans for new construction, major building alterations, and additions to buildings, the fee shall be $150 plus $1 per 1,000 square feet over 5,000 square feet or fraction thereof;
b. Plans for any minor building alterations of 2 sheets or more, the fee shall be $50.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication as required by law.
ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL, this the 4th day of January, 2024.
/s/Jenny Folsom - President of City Council
ATTESTED BY: /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk
APPROVED this the 4th day of January, 2024. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor

ORDINANCE NO. 2024 – 13

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A FRANCHISE TO CROWN CASTLE FIBER, LLC TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN A FIBER INTERNET SYSTEM IN THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA SETTING FORTH CONDITIONS ACCOMPANYING THE GRANT OF THE FRANCHISE; PROVIDING FOR REGULATION AND USE OF THE SYSTEM AND THE PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS HEREIN

The City Council of the City of Cullman Alabama ordains:

STATEMENT OF INTENT AND PURPOSE

City intends, by the adoption of this Franchise, to bring about the further development of a Fiber Internet System, and the continued operation of it. Such development can contribute significantly to the communication needs and desires of the residents and citizens of City and the public generally. Further, City may achieve better utilization and improvement of public services and enhanced economic development with the development and operation of a Fiber Internet System. Adoption of this Franchise is, in the judgment of the City Council, in the best interests of City and its residents.

FINDINGS
In the review of the request by the Grantee and negotiations related thereto the City Council makes the following findings:
1. Grantee has substantially complied with the material terms of the current Franchise under applicable laws;
2. Grantee's technical ability, financial condition, legal qualifications, and character were considered and approved in a full public proceeding after due notice and a reasonable opportunity to be heard;
3. Grantee's plans for operating the Fiber Internet System were considered and found adequate and feasible in a full public proceeding after due notice and a reasonable opportunity to be heard;
4. The Franchise granted to Grantee by City complies with the existing applicable state statutes, federal laws and regulations; and
5. The Franchise granted to Grantee is nonexclusive.
6. The terms and conditions of the Franchise Agreement are attached as Exhibit A.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 4th day of January, 2024.
/s/Jenny Folsom - President of City Council
ATTESTED BY: /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk
APPROVED this the 4th day of January, 2024. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor

Rufus the Red (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Rufus the Red, an approximately 3-year-old male Aussie mix with a rustic red coat, is available for adoption at Cullman County Animal Shelter.

Rufus maintains a solid medium energy level and enjoys the time he spends with the shelter's handlers. He particularly enjoys being out in the chilly winter weather, as his plush coat keeps him warm as he romps around the recreation area! Rufus is the life of the party, enjoying life and all the attention he's getting lately. At some point in his life, he lost his right eye – rest assured, this only enhances his stunningly mysterious good looks and adds to his personality! With your encouragement, Rufus would make the ideal therapy, hiking or companion animal. Are you ready to give Rufus a chance? 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. His adoption fee includes neuter, 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.

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256-352-2221

Obituary Announcements: Jan. 9-10

Clarence Gibson, Jr., 58
Arrangements for Clarence Gibson, Jr., age 58, of Vinemont, are incomplete at this time. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. Gibson was born April 20, 1965, to Clarence Gibson, Sr. and Linda Tackett Gibson. He passed from this life on Monday, Jan.8, 2024. To sign the online guestbook, please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Marguerite Ann Davis, 87
Funeral service for Marguerite Ann Davis, age 87, of Cullman, will be at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 13, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Tim McCormick officiating; interment in Cullman Heritage Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. prior to the service. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Davis passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2024, at her residence. She was born Nov. 11, 1936, to Floyd and Lola Taylor. She was preceded in death by her husband, John Davis; son, Michael Davis; and brothers, Welton Taylor and Kenneth Taylor. Survivors include her children, Joe (Nina) Davis, Kathy (Michael) Cobb, Vanessa (Neal) Lindsey, Donnie (Lori) Davis, and Connie (Ken) Smith; grandchildren, Taylor Davis, Joshua Cobb, Tyler Cobb, Chris Lindsey, Amanda Moon, Jarod Davis, Gregg DeBoer, Kristin Williams, Joe DeBoer, Chance Burns, Cheyenne Roberts, and Mikki Davis; and 27 great-grandchildren.

Charlotte Wynell Goggans Green, 69
Funeral service for Charlotte Wynell Goggans Green, age 69, of Cullman, will be at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 14, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home; burial at Good Hope Cemetery. Visitation will be from noon until 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 14, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Green passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2024, at Cullman Regional. She was born May 30, 1954, to Clarence Goggans and Eunice Goggans. She was preceded in death by her parents; son, Randy Green, brother, Gary Wayne Goggans; and sister, Betty Jean Goggans. Survivors include her daughter, Elizabeth; sisters, Carolyn Hays and Misty Harding; and a host of nieces, nephews, family, and friends.

Eugene Crider, 97
Eugene Crider, 97, of Cullman, Alabama, passed away on Jan. 9, 2024, in Montgomery, Alabama. He was born on Sept. 14, 1926, in Cullman, Alabama. Eugene was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather. Eugene is survived by his devoted wife of 71 years, Sue Crider, his sons Mike Crider (Cathy) and Wayne Crider (Pam), his daughter Suzy Spivey, his grandchildren Jeremy and Ann Tyler Crider, and his great-grandchild Cate Crider. He was preceded in death by his parents, Henry and Effie Crider, and his brothers Grover, Leon, and William Crider. Eugene's formative years were spent in Cullman, Alabama. He completed his education at West Point High School before pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Vocational Agriculture Education from Auburn University. Eugene's commitment to service was evident through his service in the US Army, where he proudly served for 18 months from 1945 to 1946. A family and friends visitation for Eugene will be held on Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024, at 1 p.m. at Leak Memory Chapel, located at 945 Lincoln Road, Montgomery, AL 36109. Following the visitation, a graveside service will take place at 2 p.m. at Greenwood Serenity Memorial Gardens, located at 909 Lincoln Road, Montgomery, AL 36109. Eugene will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him. May he rest in peace.

Jo Ann Warren, 79
Funeral service for Jo Ann Warren is Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024, at 7 p.m. at Cullman Funeral Home chapel. Family will welcome friends from 6:30 p.m. until 7 pm. Ms. Joanna Beard, Mrs. Warren's granddaughter, will be speaking at the service. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Warren was born Feb. 17, 1945, to Lonnie Overton and Verda Brown Overton. She passed from this life on Sunday, Jan. 7, 2024. She was preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Annie Bell Warren; son, Gerald Warren; brother, Joe Overton; grandchildren, Spencer and Emily; great-grandchild, Lonnie House. She is survived by her son, Charles Edward Warren, Jr.; daughter, Norma McNutt; grandchildren, Joanna Beard, Adam Pace, Anne Marie Warren; great-grandchildren, Katiebell Beard, Austin Beard, Kassie Beard, Addison Beard, Kathie House. To sign the online guestbook, please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Helen Ann Butler, 85
Funeral service for Helen Ann Butler is Saturday, Jan. 13, 2024, at 1 p.m. at Cullman Funeral Home chapel, with Rev. Steve Rodgers officiating. Family will welcome friends from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Interment will be held at Baldwin Heights Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Butler was born July 3, 1938, to Elbert Rowell and Eunice White Rowell. She passed from this life on Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2024. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Luther Jerild Butler; daughter, Sharon Annette Crutchfield; and all of her brothers and sisters. She is survived by her son-in-law, Steve Crutchfield; sister-in-law, Gilann Rowell; granddaughter, Samantha (Justin) Atchley. Helen loved her family and loved children. She spent her life opening her home to others and always helped anyone in need however she could. She was a wonderful woman who will be very missed by all who knew and loved her. To sign the online guestbook, please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Deborah Renae Moore, 65
Funeral service for Deborah Renae Moore is Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024, at 2 p.m. at Cullman Funeral Home chapel, with Michael Long and Bro. Mark Long officiating. Family will welcome friends from noon until 2 pm. Interment will be held at Fairview West Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Moore was born Dec. 31, 1958, to Marvin Eugene Shelton and Myrtlean Bradley Shelton. She passed from this life on Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2024. She was preceded in death by her mother, Myrtlean Shelton; and her grandparents. She is survived by her father, Marvin Eugene Shelton; husband, Dennis Moore; daughters, Miranda (Stacy) Nelson, and Megan (Jonathan) Seabolt; brother, Kenneth (Sherry) Shelton; sisters, Doris (Roger) Long, and Diane Sweatmon; grandchildren, Hunter Nelson (Katie Jacobs), Emily (Brandon) Reed, Damion Seabolt, Joshua Seabolt, Haley Seabolt; great-grandchildren, Lenly Nelson, Carter Reed, Kash Reed. Pallbearers: Jonathan Graves, Clint White, Michael Long, Joshua Seabolt, Damion Seabolt, Brandon Reed. Honorary pallbearer: Lenly Nelson. Deborah was a member of Edgewood Baptist Church and served as the pianist also. She loved her Lord so much and she loved to spend time with her family. She enjoyed working for Dr. Fuller for 24 years. She was loved by many and will be missed so much. To sign the online guestbook, please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Louise Allbritten Knop, 92
Louise Allbritten Knop, of Baileyton, Alabama, passed away on Jan. 9, 2024, at the age of 92. Ms. Knop was born in Cullman County, Alabama, on Feb. 28, 1931, to Marcus and Pearl Poplin Allbritten. Ms. Knop was a member of Welcome Baptist Church where she enjoyed gathering with her family and friends to worship her Savior. Louise was a worker and was always landscaping her yard or working in her garden. She was known to paint the house, inside or out, frequently. Those who knew Louise knew she was a pistol ball, and that made Louise the person you wanted on your team. She was a spunky lady who would fight for those she loved. She adored her family and had a close relationship with her granddaughter, TL, and spent many hours caring for TL as a child. Ms. Knop loved her great-grandchildren as well. Louise's spunk and determination, as well as her love and loyalty, will be remembered by many. While we are saddened by the passing of Louise, we rejoice in knowing that she is in the presence of her Heavenly Father. Ms. Knop is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Jr. R. Knop; two brothers and a sister. Those surviving Louise include her daughter, Sandra Edge (Tommy); grandchildren, T.L. Earl (Chris), Steven Edge; great-grandchildren, Josie Earl, Brooklyn Earl, Luke Edge, Anna Edge, A.J. Edge; longtime friends and neighbors, Dean Stringer and Tim Randolph; and her grandpets, Piper, the cat, and Ellie Mae, the dog. Funeral services for Ms. Knop will be held at Welcome Baptist Church on Saturday, Jan. 13, 2024, at 2 p.m., with Bro. Terry Blankenship officiating. A time of visitation will be held at the church two hours prior to services, beginning at noon. Burial will follow in Welcome Cemetery. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Knop family.

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School (from Front)

support staff.

"It has been a meticulous process, but witnessing the positive impact on our students and teachers makes it all worthwhile."

Ribbon-cutting guests included Sen. Garlan Gudger, R-Cullman; Cullman City Council Member Brad Smith; ALSDE District 6 Board Member Marie Manning; Cullman Economic Development Agency Director Dale Greer on behalf of Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs; seventh-grade student John Luke Witcher; eighth-grade student McKinley Varden; and Board Members Cheryl Harrison, Chris Branham, Amy Carter and Jill Bradberry.

Lathan and Associates are the Architects, while First Team Construction are the contractors on the project.

Fenwick Food Group acquires Alabama-based Wickles Pickles

Staff Reports
Contributor

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Fenwick Food Group, a division of Fenwick Brands Inc. has acquired Wickles Pickles, an iconic and beloved Alabama brand.

Fenwick Food Group is an operating platform for food businesses and includes Alabama-based Moore's Marinades & Sauces and newly acquired Wickles Pickles.

Wickles was founded by brothers Will and Trey Sims, and Andy Anderson back in 1998. With a unique flavor profile and robust product offering, Wickles has captured significant market share and consumer loyalty within the billion-dollar pickle category.

The opportunity was timely, with the Wickles brand hitting an inflection point where investment and additional resourcing was needed for scale. As growth minded investors already operating in mainstream retail outlets with Moore's Marinades and Sauces, Fenwick's decision to purchase the Wickles Pickles brand makes the partnership synergistic.

Fenwick's track record as owner-operators of the Moore's Marinades & Sauces brand was appeal-ing to the Wickles team. "Fenwick is the perfect partner to accelerate the brand's growth trajectory while preserving its identity and operating roots. We're excited to see Wickles get the resources and investment it deserves to scale," said Co-Founder Will Sims.

"We were aligned on the long-term vision and strategy for the brand, which cemented the partner-ship. Will, Trey and Andy have built an incredible brand with impressive momentum," said Melissa Baker, president and CEO of Fenwick Food Group.

"Two Alabama-based consumer brands coming together is special in the broader consumer packaged goods industry and made the investment more relational than transactional."

Baker partnered with Benny M. LaRussa Jr. in 2013, and the pair has been investing and operating in the consumer packaged goods sector ever since.

Fenwick Food Group's investment strategy is built to operate a platform of food brands that have profiles similar to Wickles and Moore's. "Our long-term strategy is to curate a food platform with a handful of brands that could benefit from a shared team, investment and operational synergies," said Baker.

"Scale is becoming increasingly more difficult and expensive, and we want to help similar brands with strong consumer demand stay around."

The Wickles deal closed on Nov. 29, and the business will be headquartered out of Birmingham alongside Moore's. Financial details of the transaction are not being released.

Vinemont Council (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — At its monthly meeting Jan. 9, the Vinemont Town Council proclaimed January Human Trafficking Awareness Month. The council also discussed several upcoming community events as well as acknowledged the first reading of Town Ordinance #0190, which would form and implement a planning commission.

The Human Trafficking Awareness Month proclamation reads:

"WHEREAS, human trafficking is a very real problem facing the world today, and - although it can take on many forms, including debt bondage, forced marriage, slavery and commercial sexual exploitation- in every case it goes against the core principles of individual freedom and civil rights that our state and nation stand for; and

WHEREAS, the Town of South Vinemont, Alabama is committed to ensuring that our community remains on the front lines in combating this deplorable crime; and

WHEREAS, due to its secretive and illegal nature, it is difficult to accurately quantity's it the extent of human trafficking. However, the U.S. State Department estimates that anywhere from 600,000 to 800,000 people are trafficking across international borders each year. Most victims of human trafficking are women or children who have been marginalized and isolate from society.

The difficulty grasping the full scope of this problem can be further compounded because people often turn a blind eye to it; and

WHEREAS, the first step in eliminating human trafficking is to educate others. We must work to ensure that all our resident is aware of this problem and how to spot it. WE must work together as a community to those human traffickers are punished and to protect and assist their victims.

Through the vigilance and perseverance of our citizen, effective enforcement of justice will someday be a reality; and

WHEREAS, we ask all residents of this community to join us in raising the visibility of this crime whose victims are all too often invisible. Together, we can become more informed about this pressing issue and work to combat its injustices.

NOW THEREFORE, THE Town of South Vinemont, does hereby proclaim the month of January 2024, as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in South Vinemont, Alabama."

The monthly senior lunch was discussed as well; the lunch will take place from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Vinemont Community Center.

A lunch of salad, pizza and dessert will be provided by the Town at no cost to attendees.

In other business, the council approved the purchase and installment of two animal waste disposal stations to be placed in separate points around the community park and walking trail.

The council also held its first reading of town ordinance no. 0109 that, if adopted, would form a planning commission.

The Town will hold its Easter event on March 23, from 2-5 p.m.

The next South Vinemont Town Council Meeting will be held Feb. 13 at Vinemont Town Hall. The work session begins at 5 p.m. with the meeting following at 6.

Stations (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Commission, City of Cullman and Cullman Emergency Management Agency (EMA) are in full swing teaming up to secure warming stations to assist locals in weathering the frigid temperatures that are projected to hit to north Alabama in the coming days. By Tuesday morning, local meteorologists have predicted wind chills as low as 4 degrees to sweep across the Tennessee Valley.

The area is preparing for possible power outages. Cullman County Commission Receptionist Miranda Hood noted that local churches and businesses could possibly open and operate as warming stations for the public. The commission is partnering with Cullman EMA to locate and secure other possible sites throughout the county.

Cullman County Attorney Emily Neizer Johnston said, "Typically he (EMA Director Tim Sartin) coordinates through the County and lets us know where the warming stations are going to be."

The Cullman County Courthouse might seem like a logical choice to be an area for respite from the cold; the generator runs on natural gas, eliminating the worry of a power and heat outage.

But Johnston explained there is more to turning the taxpayer-funded courthouse into a warming center than meets the eye.

"We have some issues with accessibility; we don't have all of the necessary things on the first floor and that would make it more difficult for everyone," she said.

Luke Satterfield, in-house attorney for the City of Cullman, echoed logistics concerns from Johnston, and pointed out that the City is not against the idea of setting up areas as a warming station, just that it hasn't been necessary until now due to several centrally located churches or nonprofits opening their doors.

Satterfield said the City is prepared to open the Donald E. Green Active Adult Center should there be a need from 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 15, to 30 minutes before the Center opens on Tuesday, Jan. 16, with repeating time schedules Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

"The Donald E. Green Senior Center will be available as a temporary, public warming station.

"Should the Center be closed upon one's arrival due to lack of need at that time, there will be a number to call and they will inform local law enforcement so that an officer may unlock the Center and remain on-site," Satterfield said in a statement to the Tribune.

Satterfield stated that guests of the warming station will need to be good company, with no pets/animals, firearms/weapons, cigarettes, tobacco, vapes, e-cigarettes or alcohol allowed. Guests will also need to bring their own bedding such as a sleeping bag or pillow.

Satterfield said he hopes the effort by the City will not be needed, but if it is, residents make good use of it and remember, "This is for public warming only. We hope that everyone remains safe and takes the appropriate precautions."

At the time of publishing, a couple of warming stations tucked into opposite ends of the county have already advertised as being open to the public: Trinity Pentecostal Church in Hanceville and Camp Liberty in Battleground, with several more in central locations expected to be announced in the coming days. The Cullman Tribune will post these as information becomes available.

- The Donald E. Green Active Adult Center is located at 1625 Cleveland Ave. SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

- Trinity Pentecostal Church is located at 307 Whaley Ave. NE, Hanceville, AL 35077.

- Camp Liberty is located at 15719 Alabama Highway 157, Vinemont, AL 35179.

Cayla Grace Murphy contributed to this article.