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OBITUARIES
Due to winter weather, obituaries are not available for print. Visit CullmanTribune.com/obituaries for updates.

WEATHER
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SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
MOSTLY SUNNY THEN CHANCE SHOWERS

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ROXY ORSHOSKI

– SPORTS –

'Work hard and never give up on yourself, your team, or your goals': West Point's Roxy Orshoski enjoying freshman season
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Half Shell Oyster House to open in Cotton Creek Warehouse

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — One of the top seafood restaurants in the Southeast is coming to Cullman. Half Shell Oyster House, "where Southern cuisine meets New Orleans fare," announced it will join the Cotton Creek Warehouse venue in downtown Cullman in 2024.

According to a release from the restaurant, "Named in the top 10% of restaurants worldwide by Tripadvisor, Half Shell Oyster House is known for its award-winning selection of Gulf oysters.

Freshly shucked and char-grilled oysters aren't the only options available on the menu, though.

Other items include hand cut steaks, Royal Reds, chicken alfredo, seafood stuffed portabella, seafood pot pie, almond encrusted chicken and several Gulf fish entrees. Half Shell also has an exceptional wine list including wine by the glass options, local draft beer selections, hand crafted cocktails and drinks.

"Founded in late 2008, Half Shell Oyster House began in Gulfport, Mississippi and has grown into 15 locations across Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

"The idea of Half Shell was first conceptualized by company president, Bob Taylor, and was later polished off with partners Rob Heffner, Kevin Fish and Brian Raspberry. The company is still privately owned by Taylor and his three partners."

"We are excited to be coming to downtown Cullman," said Raspberry, vice president of commercial development for Gulf Coast Restaurant Group.

""We believe that Cotton Creek, along with its large event center and multiple retail and office outlets, will be a key development in the future growth of Cullman."

Half Shell Oyster House plans to open in 2024 and will be open for lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. It will also offer happy hours and seasonal features.

To learn more, visit www.halfshelloysterhouse.com.

Cotton Creek Warehouse is located at 417 Third Ave. SW in Cullman.

Desperation Church adds 2 new pastors to Cullman staff



FACEBOOK

Matt and Alisha Phillips with their children

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Desperation Church last Sunday morning announced the recent hiring of two new pastors to assist in day-to-day operations at its Cullman campus.

Matt Phillips and his wife, Alisha Phillips, were named new pastor and associate pastor for the Cullman location.

Pastor Andy Heis will remain the lead/senior pastor; the new pastors will help with daily work obligations, freeing Heis' and other staff members' workloads.

"As campus pastors our primary goal is focusing on the care and pastoring of all of our staff, team, volunteers and members," Alisha Phillips said. "We will provide operational, administrative and comprehensive support to Pastor Andy and the Cullman campus. We will be continually building systems that will create growth and development at a campus level. We will continue making connections with local partners to meet the needs of people not only in our church, but also our community."

She said she and her husband have been married since 2019 and they have three daughters.

"Matt is originally from Kansas City," Phil- » PAGE 2

INDOOR TRACK

Cold Springs' Edgeworth sets AHSAA indoor 3,200-meter record



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cold Springs standout Ethan Edgeworth posted an AHSAA state record time of 8:53.17 to win the 3,200-meter race at Monday's Martin Luther King Indoor Classic in Birmingham.

3rd annual Christian Hart Memorial Cornhole Tournament set for Feb. 3 » PAGE 2

The Link closes warming shelter



TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

The Link of Cullman County was set to house a warming station, open to the public on Monday, Jan. 15 and Tuesday, Jan. 16, to help keep residents warm overnight amid the polar blast that traveled through Cullman County. » PAGE 6

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Pastors (from Front)

lips said. "There, he served with his local church in their young adult ministry. We met at a conference in Kansas City and Matt eventually moved to Alabama to pursue marriage with me. I attended a church in Falkville called Fairview the Grace Place for nearly 30 years."

She said she was pastored by Dr. Milan Dekich, who shaped a huge part of who she is today.

"He was, and still is, one of the greatest pastors and leaders I know," Phillips said. "His heart for missions, servanthood and discipleship shaped a huge part of who I am today.

"There I served in several ministries including youth, college, local, global missions and women's ministry. I also still currently sit on the board of directors for Buenavistia Ministerios, which is partnered with Fairview. Milan recently retired from pastoring that church and took on a role as a state pastor for the COG. When he retired, my family and I evaluated our next steps."

(Reporter's note: She shared with me that the first time she visited Desperation Church was when I invited her to worship night nearly a decade ago.)

"It's interesting to see all this come full circle, almost 10 years later," Phillips said. "I met Pastor Andy in passing while attending worship night with you but was introduced to him on a personal level when Pastor Andy had come to Fairview to do our revival."

She said the move to Cullman was very unexpected.

"We joined DC in early 2022 and it just felt like home to us," said Phillips.

"It didn't take long for us to be welcomed into the community by staff and other members at the Cullman campus. We felt loved, seen and encouraged by the church. Naturally, we gravitated toward it. The heartbeat to love God and love people was so strong, we wanted to be a part of it. We served consistently for two years as high-level volunteers and were eventually designated for the role of community group coordinators.

"We brought all of our children to be a part of First Saturday Serve projects; our oldest is heavily involved in the student ministry, and out of that is now serving in a role on the photography production team.

"With being so involved in the community and the church, we just found ourselves wanting to be closer. We moved to Cullman in May of 2023 and have been able to build so many relationships with our community."

For more information about the Cullman campus of Desperation Church, or to get involved, visit www.desperationchurch.tv.

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3rd annual Christian Hart Memorial Cornhole Tournament set for Feb. 3

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — Christian Hart will always be remembered as a sports-loving, funny, vivacious 12-year-old Vinemont student. The third annual Christian Hart Memorial Cornhole Tournament will be held Saturday, Feb. 3, in the Vinemont Elementary School gym, with all proceeds benefiting the Christian Hart Memorial Scholarship, which was founded in memory of Christian, who died on Saturday, May 25, 2019, in a boating incident on Smith Lake.

The scholarship is awarded yearly to one deserving Vinemont student, ensuring Christian's name and legacy are remembered.

The recipient is chosen from a pool of deserving students who are handpicked by Christian's parents, along with input from Vinemont's faculty and staff to help assess the student's need for the scholarship.

To raise money for the scholarship, Lynn Shaddix, Christian's father, said he knew cornhole was the obvious choice to celebrate and honor the life of his son. Shaddix fondly remembered tossing the sacks with his son, the thumping of the heavy bags on dusty boards on the front lawn is something he holds dear to his heart.

"We decided to go with cornhole for a fundraiser because me and Christian would get out there and play all the time.

"I had boards at home and he would just play for hours," he said.

"I was playing with Robert Haddix (of the Cullman County Cornhole Club) and asked if we could do a fundraiser to make money for Christan's scholarship."

This year's tournament will be held in the Vinemont Elementary gym on Saturday, Feb. 3. Registration begins on-site at noon with the bags flying at 1 p.m.

Three divisions will be open for players to register and compete. The Social division carries a $40 per team registration fee and social competitors must use the house throwing bags; the Competitive division ups the ante with a $50 per team registration fee but allows teams the ability to play with their own bags; both winners of these competing divisions will walk home with a 50/50 payout.

A Blind Draw division is the afternoon's coin toss and crowd favorite. A $10 per person registration fee buys entry to the Blind Draw, where competitors are randomly matched with a registered partner, something that Shaddix said could make or break a winning record.

"You could be paired with a social player, someone that just plays at backyard parties and tailgates, or you could be partnered with a competitive player who takes winning seriously and has won tournaments before. You never know who you'll get partnered with," he said. "The Blind Draw is anyone's game."

Donated prizes from local businesses will be raffled off at the event, with tickets sold for each raffle at the door. Prizes ranging from gift cards to appliances will be up for grabs, with all raffle ticket sales benefiting the Christian Hart Memorial Scholarship.

If any local businesses or individuals would like to donate a prize to be raffled to benefit the Christian Hart Memorial Scholarship, contact Lynn Shaddix at 256-339-2936.

Vinemont Elementary is located at 105 High School Road.

Type 2 diabetes risk factors: What you need to know

Elaine Softley
Alabama Cooperative Extension System

Diabetes is one of the most prevalent and costly diseases in the United States. It affects over 37 million Americans, and most people are unaware that they have it. Type 2 diabetes is the most prevalent form of the disease. Like many conditions, there are risk factors related to type 2 diabetes.

Risk factors

What is the definition of a risk factor? It is anything that increases your chances of developing a disease. If someone suspects that they have type 2 diabetes, there are several risk factors to look for.

Inherent risk factors

There are some risk factors that cannot be changed such as the following:

Family history. If you have a close family member with diabetes, your risk for developing the disease increases significantly. Know your family history and share it with your health care provider.

• Race or ethnicity. There is no clear reason why but certain races and ethnicities are more likely to develop type 2 diabetes than White people are. People that are Black, Hispanic, Native American, Asian, and Pacific Islander are at a greater risk. A 2019 study from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) broke down the rate of type 2 diabetes among racial/ethnic groups. Below are the results.

- White people — 12%
- Asian people — 19.1%
- Black people — 20.4%
- Latino people — 22.1%

• Lifestyle and culture may play a role, although some studies show the risk goes beyond just weight and physical activity.

• Age. The older you are, the higher your risk. Middle-aged adults (especially those over the age of 40) are more susceptible to type 2 diabetes. More children and adolescents are being diagnosed also.

• Gestational diabetes. You have an increased risk of developing diabetes later in life if you have it during pregnancy, known as gestational diabetes. Keep a check on your blood glucose more often after you have given birth.

Other risk factors

There are some risks that you can and should do something about. Healthy changes can delay development and reduce the risk of type 2 diabetes. Being aware of these risk factors and how you can get them under control will minimize your risk of developing type 2 diabetes.

• Weight. Obesity increases your risk for type 2 diabetes. A weight loss of 5 to 10 percent, along with incorporating physical activity, can greatly reduce the possibility of advancement of the disease.

• Stress. Managing stress is imperative to lowering your risk for type 2 diabetes. Emotions can trigger your fight-or-flight responses, which can determine making healthy choices or not. Some choose to make unhealthy choices — such as smoking, binge eating, and alcohol consumption — which can affect your overall health if the pattern continues. Find healthy ways to deal with stress, such as physical activity, meditation, reading, talking with others, and getting enough sleep. Those small changes can make a difference to living a healthy lifestyle, both mentally and physically.

• Food choices. Eating the correct amounts of healthy foods is the most important thing you can do to lower your risk for diabetes. Incorporating the correct portion sizes of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins into your daily meal routine can lower your chances of type 2 diabetes. Making these changes can help keep your weight manageable and diabetes at bay.

• Physical activity. Consistent physical activity has been shown to lower the risk of type 2 diabetes. It can help with insulin resistance, because it can trigger the body to use its own insulin more effectively. You should aim for 30 minutes a day or 150 minutes a week of moderate-intensity activity.

• Smoking. Because of the thousands of harmful chemicals found in cigarette smoke, it can decrease the way insulin works in the body by damaging the cells. If you smoke, you need to plan to quit, and there are several options out there, such as medications and online resources, that can help you. Talk to your doctor or health care provider about the best choice for you.

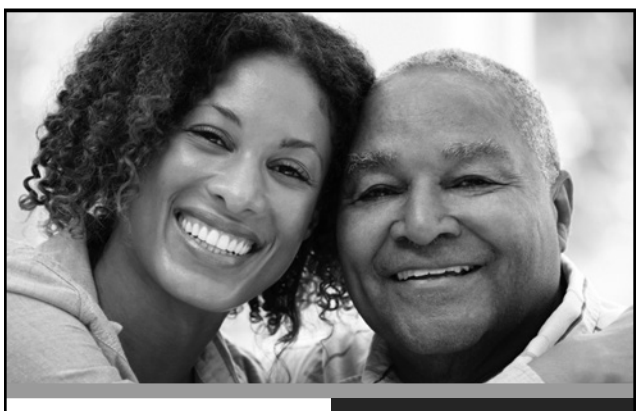
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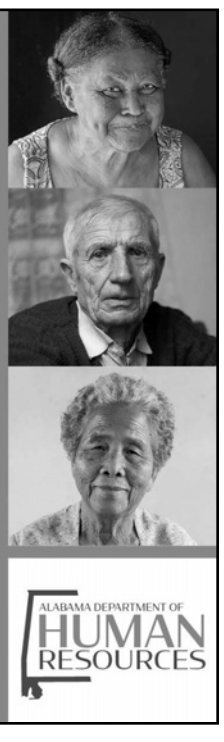
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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

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

Church Services- Spirit Life Church of GOD
• Spirit Life Church of GOD, 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Mondays-Fridays- Free hot meals for children Mondays 11 a.m.-noon, Tuesdays 1-2 p.m. and Wednesdays-Fridays 11 a.m.-noon. Cullman Housing Authority Community Center 1545 Vine Circle SW. Please call Kristie 256-636-5362 for more information. Eat in or take out. Sponsored by Kids Loving Kids, Raising Arrows Ministry and Spirit Life Church.
• Kids Loving Kids Birthday Blessings serves children ages 1-18 in need of assistance to celebrate their birthdays. Register your child and pick up a birthday box with cake mix, icing, sprinkles, decorations and toys! Pickup is the last weekend of the month. Saturday (5100 Curry Highway Suite 100-B Jasper, AL 35504) from 3-5 p.m. or the last Sunday of the month at Spirit Life Church Cullman from 12:30-1 p.m. Birth certificate is required at the time of box pickup. Register at https://form.jotform.com/203435614640045. For more information, text or call 205-717-7478.
• Friday, Jan. 19 - 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. 20 – 9- 11 a.m. Drive-through food bank
• Saturday, Jan. 20 - 9 a.m. CPR class for CARES team members
• Sunday, Jan. 21 - 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. 21 - 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 Pastor Bobby Dodd at 11. Church meeting at 5 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous
Sundays, 3 p.m. at Cullman First Church of the Nazarene, 5415 Alabama Highway 157. CLOSED literature study. Handicap accessible.

TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) Meetings
Fridays, 9:30-11 a.m., at Cullman Housing Authority Community Center (1545 Vine Circle SW, Cullman, AL 35055). The first meeting is free. TOPS, a national program, is a hands-on/pounds-off approach to weight loss and management through weekly meetings providing information, accountability, support and encouragement where you make the changes that make sense to you.

Cullman NAR-ANON Group Meetings
The NAR-ANON family group meetings are a worldwide fellowship for those affected by someone else's addiction. We offer Help by sharing our experiences, strength and hope. We carry the message of hope by letting others know that they are not alone by practicing the 12 Steps of NAR-ANON and changing our own attitudes. We Respect Your Anonymity. Our program is not a religious one, but a spiritual way of life. Meetings will be held at The Ruehl Building (Family Life Center of St. John's Church) Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. Contact Jamie Weathersby Smith 256-708-7122 or Don or Nancy McKenzie 256-736-3327 or 256-736-3470 for more information.

Cullman Serenity AlAnon Meetings
The Cullman Serenity AlAnon group meets each Monday at noon at 1519 St. Joseph Dr. NE. There is also a zoom meeting each Tuesday at noon. The AlAnon family groups are a fellowship of friends and family whose lives have been affected by alcoholism. For more information, call 256-708-6645, 850-323-0490 or 256-734-2231.

Master's Hand Food Pantry at The Link
• 708 Ninth St. SE, Cullman, AL 35055
• Tuesday and Thursday 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
• Closed for lunch noon-1 p.m.

Cullman 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
Monday, 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 18, 2024

Nate Oats picks up 200th career win behind Rylan Griffen's career-high 21 points

Steven Gonzalez
UA Athletics

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. – The Alabama men's basketball team improved to 4-0 in Southeastern Conference play behind Rylan Griffen's career-high 21 points, defeating Missouri 93-75 Tuesday night at Coleman Coliseum. With the win, the Crimson Tide maintains at least a share for first place in conference play heading into Saturday's matchup at No. 6/6 Tennessee.

With eight minutes left of regulation, Alabama led by four points, 59-55, and Griffen caught fire, cashing in on four straight three-pointers to give UA a 10-point lead. SThe Tide would extend its lead to as many as 20 points, before settling for an 18-point win.

Alabama (12-5, 4-0 SEC) had five players finish with double-figures as Aaron Estrada matched Griffen with 21 points, while Grant Nelson (13), Latrell Wrightsell Jr. (11) and Nick Pringle (10) each contributed offensively. Estrada and Nelson also collected a game-high eight rebounds each, with leading scorer Mark Sears adding nine points and six assists.

The Tigers (8-9, 0-4 SEC) had four players finish in double-figures, led by Tamar Bates with 19 points.

Head Coach Nate Oats Postgame Comments

"Missouri gave us everything we could handle. I thought the way they closed the first half was great on their part and it wasn't very good on our part. We had too many turnovers and we couldn't guard. We've had issues with our starts to games and I didn't think our start was great tonight. But I did think the one issue that we've had major problems with this year is how we play at the under 12 and under eight (media timeouts) of the second half.

"We were significantly better tonight. We've had issues, we've had leads in four of our five losses, leads of six points or more in the second half. So, I thought we did a good job of closing this thing.

"I also would like to say that, considering the bad weather out there tonight, our home crowd was unbelievable. So, I want to thank the students publicly. I think we had almost 3,000 students in here.

"We needed them and they got loud when we needed it. For a time when everybody could have had an excuse to stay in with the weather, they chose to come out and support us and that means a lot to us. It means a lot to our players and it means a lot to our program so I want to make sure I thank them."

TEAM STATS

- For the first time since 1978, Alabama has started 4-0 in SEC play in back-to-back seasons, marking the third time (in five years) under head coach Nate Oats
- Alabama shot 53 percent (30-57) from the floor, 48 percent (13-27) from range and 95 percent (20-21) from the line
- In comparison, Missouri shot 49 percent (26-53) from the field, 38 percent (8-21) from behind-the-arc and 75 percent (15-20) from the stripe
- UA led in virtually all statistical categories including a 35-23 advantage on the glass and a 17-7 advantage in second chance points
- With Tuesday's victory, UA extends its win streak to five consecutive games heading into Saturday's showdown
- Alabama led for 35:40 of the contest compared to Mizzou leading for just 2:40

FIRST HALF

- After Mizzou started the game hitting each of its first five field goals, Alabama's defense held the Tigers scoreless for nearly five minutes
- After going on a pair of 6-0 runs, extending its lead to the largest of the half (11 points), the Tide was held without a field goal over the final 4:15 of the half, settling for a two-point lead (36-34) at the break
- Nick Pringle led the UA with 10 points at the half
- Aaron Estrada also had an active opening 20 minutes, finishing the half with seven points, six rebounds and four assists
- UA assisted on 9-of-13 first-half field goals, led 7-2 in second chance points and had a three-point lead on the boards (17-14)

SECOND HALF

- Alabama outrebounded Missouri 18-9 in the second half
- Griffen cashed in on 4-5 threes over the game's final 20 minutes
- He went on to score 16 of his 21 points in the second half along with Aaron Estrada also scoring 14 of his 21 points in the second half

UP NEXT

- Alabama returns to action Saturday, Jan. 20, taking on Tennessee inside the Food City Center in Knoxville, Tenn.
- The game is slated for tipoff at 1 p.m. CT and will air live on ESPN2



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Rylen Griffin posted a career-high 21 points in Alabama's 93-75 win over Missouri Tuesday night.



UA ATHLETICS

Alabama's 93-75 win over Missouri Tuesday night was the 200th win of head coach Nate Oats' career.

PREP CHEER

'Work hard and never give up on yourself, your team, or your goals': West Point's Roxy Orshoski enjoying freshman season

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

WEST POINT, Ala. -- West Point freshman cheerleader Roxy Orshoski is enjoying her first season as a varsity cheerleader and has already learned a lot from her teammates and coaches.

"It's definitely a big change from middle school. It's way tougher to be a varsity cheerleader, but it is so worth it. It's been such an amazing experience, getting stronger and creating bonds with lovely people. It's a whole lot more competitive. I've learned that hard work pays off. We've all worked together as a team this year, and we've come so far. We have all developed skills to make us stronger athletes. We have accomplished things that we haven't done before, all because of the hard work and effort everyone has contributed."

Roxy feels blessed to be around an amazing group of teammates and has learned so much from all of them. She also talked about how much having guys on the team has helped her become an even stronger cheerleader.

"It's been so fun and enjoyable being around these amazing people. I've watched, first-hand, as all of them have improved in so many different ways. They are all so kindhearted and thoughtful people. There's never a dull moment with any of them. I've learned so many different things from each person. For example, I feel I've picked up leadership skills and social skills from them. I've also learned reliability and accountability. They have all taught me so much."

She added,

"I love having the guys on the team. They are all such bright people. It's been different, but in such a good way. They have been important assets to the team. All of them are so strong in so many different ways. They contribute to the success of our team. They are all so strong and have improved in everything. I've got to say that their jumps are so high, and that the co-ed stunts they throw up are so strong. I've learned to be stronger with them on the team."

Roxy has already learned a lot of important things from head coach Kristy McCrickard. She has been cheering for six years now and has soaked up so much from that experience so far.

"She's outstanding, not only as a coach, but as a person. I think I speak for everyone on the team when I say that she has taught us all determination and kindness. She's helped me to grow as an athlete and as a person in general. She's truly a role model and an amazing coach," she said. "I've learned what I'm passionate about and to become a better athlete. It's truly been a blessing to be able to cheer for West Point all this time. I wouldn't trade it for anything else. I'm so very thankful for this experience."

Roxy has seen so much improvement in her performance from the start of the season to now.

"I've improved so much in stunting, tumbling, and my jumps. At the beginning of the season, I wasn't even thinking about having a back-tuck, but I've been working on them and almost have one.

"My jumps have not only improved in height, but they have also improved in sharpness. I've also worked with several stunt groups to achieve new skills. What I've improved on the most is my tumbling.

"My eighth-grade year, I couldn't even do a standing back handspring, but now, I have round off to multiple backhand springs, and I'm working on my tuck. I've gotten a lot of help from my teammates and my coaches along the way."

She talked about the team's goals they set before the season and what they've already accomplished so far.

"Our goal was to make it to state, and we exceeded that goal. We got a bid to Nationals. We will prepare better for Nationals next year. In conclusion, we not only achieved going to state, we placed first in the 5A division at Super Regionals and got a bid to Nationals. It felt so amazing to achieve all of it. I was so proud of everyone, and as soon as we achieved all of our goals, that's when I knew that all of our hard work had paid off."

Roxy talked about a few of her role models in cheerleading, what has made this cheer team special to be around and the best advice that someone has ever given her.

"Emma Kimbril is basically my cheer big sister. She's inspired me in so many ways. She always makes sure I'm taken care of and always helps me with anything that she can help me with. She is a great cheerleader, and I've created a special bond with her this season. I also not only want to thank coach McCrickard, but also Ashley Wilbanks and Kristy Patterson. They have helped us improve tremendously, and I am so thankful for that," she said. "What has made this cheer team special to be around is that they all have good qualities and amazing personalities. They're also easy to work with, and I feel like that's the most important attribute a team should have. The best advice that someone has ever given me is to do my best, even if I feel unnoticed."

Even though she is only a freshman this year, Roxy still feels like it's really important to be a role model for the younger cheerleaders, and she talked about what she has learned the most about herself and this team so far.

"It's so important to me that I am a role model to the younger cheerleaders, because I was them at one point, and I always looked up to the older cheerleaders and wanted to be like them. I believe it's important that, not just me, but everyone on our team sets a good example for the younger cheerleaders," she said. "I've learned that becoming a stronger cheerleader requires hard work and dedication. I've learned that being able to work with your team is really important, especially this team, and I've learned that this team has been very successful."

Roxy gave the younger girls that want to be in her shoes one day some advice.

"Work hard and never give up on yourself, your team, or your goals."



ROXY ORSHOSKI

West Point's Roxy Orshoski.

Local children enjoy snow day



HOLLI WHITE

Lennon Claire White, age 2



ELIZABETH DYE

Kayson Dye, age 7; Hylin Dye, age 2; Lancen Dye, age 3



MACKENZIE BRYSON BURNETT

Charleigh Burnett, age 7 months



KENZIE FOX

Emmett Norman, age 15 months



MEGAN BIRCHEAT

Miller Bircheat, age 12 weeks



CHANDA K O'NEIL

Roper Layne Rice, age 5 months



ANGELITA ROMERO

Jesus Romero, age 9; Aylin Romero, age 7; Emeli Romero, age 2



GERRITA CLEGHORN

Ezra Jenkins





COLUMN: Tickets

Joe Hobby
Contributor

I know some of you are going to think I'm out of my mind, and maybe I am. I bought tickets to see the Rolling Stones. Yes, the guys who are in their late 70s and early 80s; the guys whose faces have more wrinkles than a cotton shirt left in the dryer; the guys whose tour is sponsored by AARP – I'm going to see those guys. When their new song came out, which is great by the way, I forwarded the video to a lifelong friend of mine who's a big Stones fan. My message at the bottom of the email said four words: anytime, anywhere, any price. I kept true to my word. They're coming and we're going.

If you haven't bought tickets for a concert lately, you are going to be in for a shock. Ticket prices for premium artists haven't just gone through the roof; they've gone beyond the stratosphere. In the case of the Stones, they know their fans who paid five bucks for tickets 50 years ago can now afford to pay a hundred times that much. Nostalgia ain't cheap, folks.

However, the way I look at it is, if they ever tour again, I probably won't be able to climb the stadium stairs, and they probably won't know where they are. This will be the fifth time for me to see them in concert, so I'm calling it a "last in a lifetime opportunity."

The first time I saw the Rolling Stones I was 12 years old. They were co-headlining with The Beach Boys at Legion Field in Birmingham. My mother dropped me and a friend off in the front of the stadium, then said she would be back to pick us up in few hours. Nowadays, if a parent did that, DHR would get involved. Although the primary reason I went was to see The Beach Boys, I became an instant Stones fan when I heard their high energy rock 'n' roll sound. I was also mesmerized watching the lead singer strut on stage like a rooster on amphetamines. Jagger, I believe his name was.

We bought our tickets at the stadium for five bucks. The presale price was $4.50, and despite that huge 50-cent price savings, my mom opted for convenience, so we paid the upcharge. That was then. Now, you have to have the Ticketmaster app on your phone. And be prepared. If you're lucky enough to get a presale code, which may take dozens of tries, you pick your seats out, then hope you've put the in the correct credit card number. If all goes well, soon the tickets magically pop up on your iPhone.

Personally, I hate that we are deprived of having an actual ticket. For so many of us who grew up in that era, keeping that stub was a reminder, a status symbol that we would admire on our mirror for months following the concert. I know a lot of people probably threw them away – I've heard stories of thousands of Woodstock tickets lying in the mud in upstate New York.

That certainly won't happen anymore – it's all paperless. You pull up your ticket on your phone, they scan the barcode with a laser gun that looks like it belongs to Captain Kirk, and then, in you go – after you pass through security.

I don't know about you, but every time they scan my ticket, I get a bit nervous. I admit I have still have a problem fully trusting the new ticket technology because once a week I check Ticketmaster to make sure my tickets are still there.

I don't even recall if they were selling merchandise back then – oh, that's the wrong term. Nowadays it's just called "merch" – a highly profitable component of any concert. Case in point: a perfectly good $15 T-shirt will cost you at least $50. (And in 20 years when my kids are cleaning out my closet, one of them will grab it and sell it for $500 online).There were no $14 beers for sale either – in fact, no alcohol was available at all. Most of the, um, "mood enhancers" were more organic, and brought in discreetly.

Of course, in the early years, concerts didn't have lasers, and smoke, and fireworks, and giant stages, and huge inflatables and such. On that particular night, there were no frills – just incredible music that featured The Beach Boys, a group at the height of their formidable powers, and a band beginning a march to the throne of rock – The Rolling Stones.

So, I told my wife: Merry Christmas, Happy Birthday, Happy Anniversary, Happy Hanukkah, Valentine's, Easter and Groundhog Day. We're going to see Mick and the boys in June. If the tickets are still on my phone.

Joe Hobby is a barbecue-loving comedian from Alabama who wrote for Jay Leno for many years. Find more of Joe's stories on his blog: https://mylifeasahobby.blogspot.com. Follow him on Facebook at Joe Hobby Comedian-Writer.

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Link (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Temperatures began to plummet on Monday, Jan. 15, and Cullman County quickly succumbed to the freezing point as roads, vehicles and lawns slowly became encased in ice. Many residents in Cullman County rely on electric heat, either through heating units that are controlled and heat their entire home, or space heaters designed to heat up quickly and maintain heat in a small area; both of those heat sources become obsolete in the event of a power outage. For some homeowners with poorly insulated homes, a power outage and losing a heat source could be deadly.

The Link of Cullman County, partnered with Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), worked to find volunteers to staff its facility in order to operate as a warming station. Calls for volunteers were made as the forecasts and predictions from local meteorologists showed an increasingly high risk of frigid temperatures and winter precipitation.

Opening to the public on Monday, Jan. 15, proved to be a difficult task, as roads had worsened and iced over to the point that many of The Link's volunteers had no way to safely make it to the warming station. Cullman County EMA Director Tim Sartin eventually declared all roads in Cullman County impassable and said only necessary travel should be attempted, urging all residents to stay off the roads. When volunteer staff could not make it to the shelter in a safe way, the residents who had been utilizing the shelter were loaded and transported by VOAD volunteers to a nearby warming station, the Hanceville Civic Center.

The Link Executive Director Melissa Betts spoke of the reasons for the closure, stating, "We prepped volunteers to come and go every four to six hours; we were only expecting cold temps when we set our structure. Some of the other stations only had a couple of volunteers to stay all night, but we had a large response of helping hands. When the ice and snow started, we were informed by EMA that roads would get bad quickly. Our site didn't have meals planned or volunteers who could stay all night, into the next day, until things cleared up. So, we worked with VOAD organizers and set plan B in motion. Two of our staff live near the facility.

"They both went in and coordinated food distribution, supplies and connected one person who came to our warming station to another station. We transported them and ensured they were safe and warm."

Betts said she hopes that this experience will prepare the team for future times of need, expressing, "We are a part of VOAD. This event was a wonderful opportunity for us to all work together, find our strengths and lean into them. Also, to find our weaknesses and make a plan for our next event."

LEGALS

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.

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as holder of said mortgage
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Birmingham, AL 35203

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

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 *
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

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE:)
I.W.)
A Minor Child, 05/07/2021)
CASE NO. JU 2022-400.02

NOTICE

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

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Mother of I.W., born on or about 05/07/2021, respond to the Petition by the 22 day of February, 2024, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioner.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioner: Michael J. Baggett, 206 Ninth Street SW, Cullman, AL 35055, (256) 737-0740 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this the 29 day of Dec, 2023.

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

FILED IN OFFIC
DEC 2 2023
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE:)
H.W.)
A Minor Child, 06/05/2019)
CASE NO. JU 2022-401.02

NOTICE

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

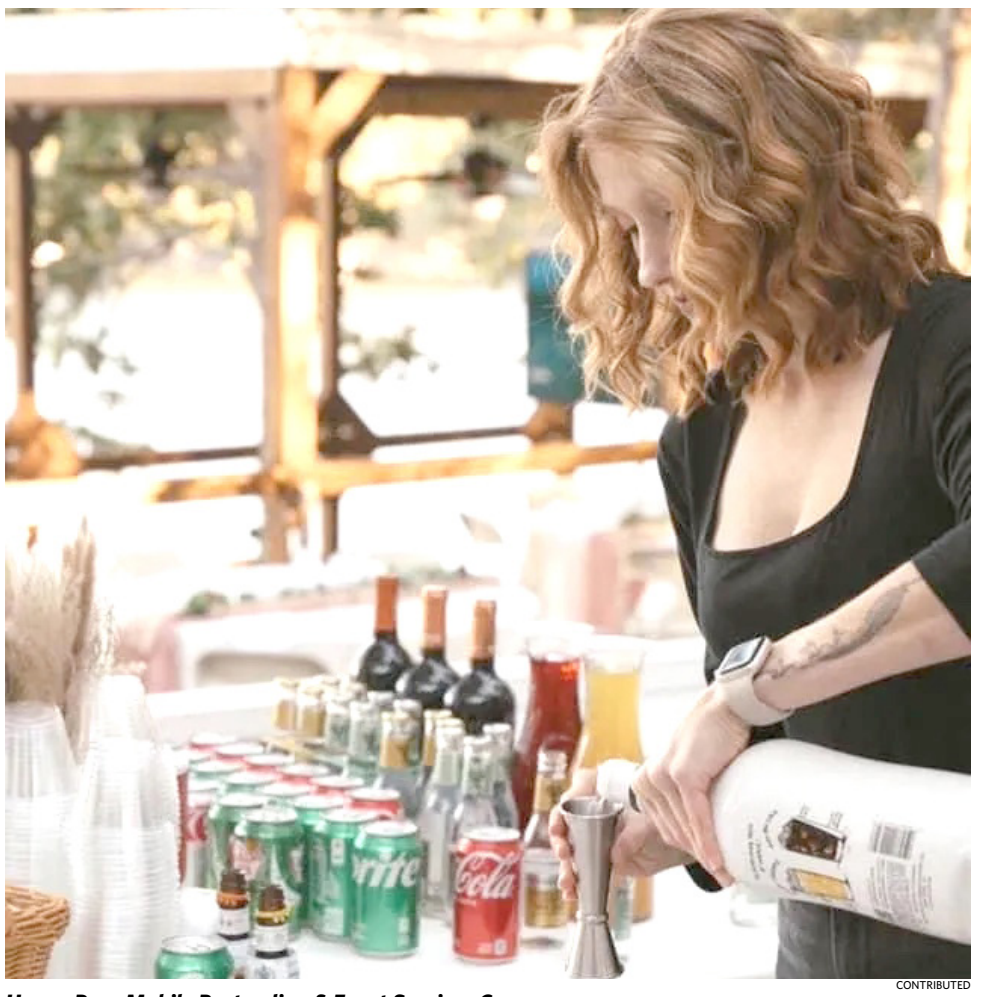
ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Mother of H.W., born on or about 06/05/2019, respond to the Petition by the 22 day of February, 2024, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioner.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioner: Michael J. Baggett, 206 Ninth Street SW, Cullman, AL 35055, (256) 737-0740 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this the 28th day of December, 2023.

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

FILED IN OFFICE
DEC 2 2023
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY



CONTRIBUTED

Happy Pour Mobile Bartending & Event Services Co-owner Christine Chamblee prepares drinks at an event.

'Don't worry, Pour Happy': Mobile bartending service on the move in Cullman

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Mixologists Christine Chamblee and Broc Malcom are no strangers to curating craft cocktails. As favorites behind local bars 412 Public House and Dreher's, it seems continuing tending bar and creating connections among guests is a no-brainer career choice for the two. Taking the operation on the road, however, takes a little more guts. Enter Happy Pour Mobile Bartending & Event Services, a mobile mixology business born from Chamblee and Malcom, officially on the move and likely headed to a wedding or corporate event near you.

"We were both looking for something that could be more flexible and reach a wider audience in different locations throughout Alabama while still getting to curate delicious cocktails," said Chamblee when describing their business model, noting a combined 15 years of experience between them. And with Chamblee being locally known for her fruity and floral syrups and mixers made fresh and in-house, it seemed an easy enough decision to take the fruits of her labor on the road.

Chamblee mentioned the endeavor has not been without challenges – running a legitimate business, especially one involving alcohol, does not come without red tape. While her reputation may precede her behind the bar as one of Cullman's premier cocktail connoisseurs, Chamblee had a bit to learn about the mobile business before launch.

"The predominant challenge we faced was simply learning about everything, and understanding how it all works – and what we needed to run a mobile bartending company as a legitimate business," she explained.

Chamblee said one of the challenges she and Malcom like to take head-on is customizing the client experience as much – or as little – as the guest prefers, affirming that with the years of experience between them, they are confident they can make any cocktail dream come true.

"We provide a variety of packages and add-ons for our clients, allowing them to customize their experience as much as they would like," she said. "As both of us are experienced mixologists, we have the ability to offer innovative cocktail creations for their event that will be sure to leave their guests impressed!" She said if there's no bar at the venue the client has selected, it's no problem – Happy Pour is happy to pour one from its own compact, portable bar setup available for rent.

Chamblee was excited to share that she and Malcom are officially accepting bookings for 2024, and hope to be a go-to in Cullman for all events that may need a little buzz-worthy cocktail action. And, for those in the sober-curious movement or on their nth year of sobriety, Happy Pour is happy to offer customized mocktails to satisfy beyond a Shirley Temple.

"We are growing our social media presence and just launched our website this past week, so check all of that out to learn more about what we do or to inquire about booking with us!" Chamblee encouraged. "We have plans to expand our rental selection soon to streamline the event planning process for our clients."

To learn more about Happy Pour Mobile Bartending & Event Services or to book, visit www.happypourevents.com.









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