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ZACH BLAND/AU ATHLETICS

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Morris Williams running for Cullman County Schools superintendent

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Morris Williams, a lifelong resident and educator, has announced his candidacy for Cullman County Schools superintendent. Williams said he brings a rich blend of local heritage, educational expertise and diverse professional experiences.

Williams said he has deep roots in the community. "I am Morris Williams, a proud lifelong resident of Cullman County. I grew up in the East Point community and graduated from Holly Pond High School," he said.

Williams has 27 years' experience as a history teacher at Holly Pond High School and 13 years' experience teaching at Wallace State Community College. He holds a bachelor's degree in history, a master's in educational administration and an education specialist degree (EdS) in social science. In 2009, he became » PAGE 6

Morris Williams »



CONTRIBUTED

4 local teams ranked in latest ASWA poll



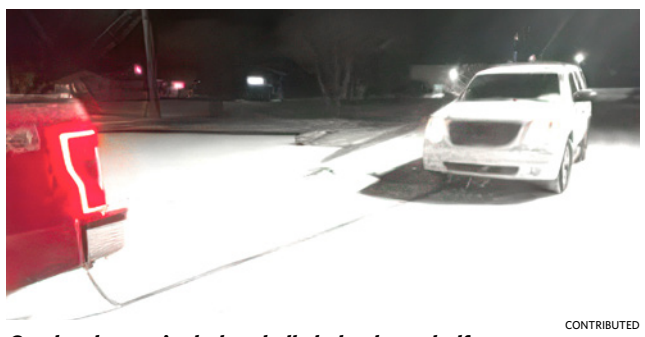
NICK GRIFFIN AND SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

The Alabama Sports Writers Association released its latest high school basketball rankings Thursday morning, and four local teams made the cut. The Good Hope Lady Raiders are sitting at number 2 in Class 4A, the Cold Springs Lady Eagles are ranked 2nd in Class 2A, the West Point Lady Warriors landed at number 6 in Class 5A, and the Cullman Bearcats are ranked 10th in Class 6A.

Addison, West Point and Good Hope's boys teams were also nominated in the latest poll.

Braving the cold for the sake of others



CONTRIBUTED

One local man single-handedly helped over half a dozen stranded travelers on Monday night amid the freeze that shut down Interstate 65 through Cullman. » PAGE 6

County Basketball Tournament postponed to Monday



MARTHA NEEDHAM/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

With road conditions continuing to cause problems all over the area, Cullman County Schoolts announced Thursday that the start of this year's County Basketball Tournament has been postponed to Monday, Jan. 22.

Victoria's Hope opens online storefront

A screenshot of the Victoria's Hope online storefront, http://tinyurl.com/vhshopify »



CAYLA GRACE MURPHY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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PET OF THE WEEK

Roxie



DONNA RUTTKAY

Roxie lounges around » PAGE 6

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JANUARY 20, 2024

Obituary Announcements: Jan. 18-19

Elwin Oneal Swann, 83
Elwin Oneal Swann, age 83, of Hanceville, Alabama passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2024. Elwin was born on Aug. 7, 1940, to Avery and Effie Swann in Garden City, Alabama. He grew up in Garden City and graduated from Hanceville High School in 1959. Elwin served four years in the United States Air Force from 1962-1966 in Strategic Air Command as a helicopter Crew Chief. He returned to Alabama and was employed by the Monsanto Company for over 30 years before retiring. Elwin was very involved in his children's lives and an active member of the community as they grew up. He was always ready to volunteer when it came to youth sports. He held many sports leadership positions, was a school trustee and committed coach. Survivors include his daughter Tracy Looney; his son Oneal (Nikki) Swann; brothers Gilbert (Jerry) Swann, Ronald (Dioma) Swann, Anthony (Rita) Swann and sister Judy (Ken) McMahon; grandchildren, Kassie (Jason) Roberson, Kallie Looney, Dustin (Tiffany) Swann, Jaycey (Michael) Morris, Kyle, Kolby (Alex) Smith, and Kody (Dakota) Smith and a host of great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his mother and father, his daughter Loree Swann Nicholson, son in law Jimmy Looney and daughter in law Rhonda Hardy Swann. A visitation for Elwin will be Sunday, Jan. 21, 2024, at Hanceville Funeral Home from noon until 1:30 p.m. Following the visitation will be a graveside service at 2 p.m. at Garden City Cemetery with Pastor Byron Bales officiating.

Dorothy "Dot" Ann (Sims) Caldwell, 85
Dorothy "Dot" Ann (Sims) Caldwell passed away on Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2024, at Cullman Regional Medical Center. She was preceded in death by her husband Joe "Jack" Jackson Caldwell, her parents Ides and Mabel Sims, her sisters, Clara Campbell and Bertha Jones, and her brother Roy Sims. She is survived by her sister Lois Cleveland, daughters Linda Jarvies (Frank), Jo Ann Bryant (Leon) and Cindy Hall. Grandchildren: Shelby Niblett (Randy), Jeremy James, Sheila McClain, Jacqueline Knighten, Joe McAlpine (Stacey), Jonathan Latta (Stacy), and Kayla Latta. She never considered any of her "step grands" anything other than her babies. Anytime she spoke of family she would proudly say I have 14 great-grandchildren and 14 great-great-grandchildren. She traveled all over the world as a Navy wife. She volunteered at Hanceville HeadStart program for nine years. She was the campus Grandmother to all the teachers and students. She received an award of appreciation from the Cullman Board of Education thanking her for her service. She loved to bowl, sew, cross stitch, and do ceramics. There's not a time you would show up to her house that she didn't try to feed you or send you home with food. Cooking for you was her love language. We will all miss the fudge, coconut cake, Christmas candies and most of all the dressing! She was a faithful member of New Bethal Church of Christ and lived out her trust in God. If she knew you, you would be faithfully prayed for and loved unconditionally. She never met a stranger and always had a smile on her face. If there was a need, she would do anything in her power to meet the need even if it meant giving you the literal shirt off her back or her last penny. That even goes for stray dogs and feral cats. She lived out the greatest commandments given by Jesus in her everyday life. Matthew 22:37 KJV Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. Matthew 22:39 KJV And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. As we celebrate her life and how she loved each and every one of us, what a great example and legacy she left with us all. We can honor her most by loving God and loving people. One last thing, she asked that in lieu of flowers that we pick a family that needs help or make a donation to the Shiner's or St. Jude's Hospital in her name. Even after death her love and generosity are still alive. Arrangements Tuesday Jan. 23, 2024, at Hanceville Funeral Home as follows with a viewing for immediate family at 10:30 a.m. with extended family and friends received from 11 a.m. until noon. Graveside service only at Bangor Cemetery at 1 p.m.

Betty Jean O'Mary Smith of Crane Hill
Betty Jean O'Mary Smith, longtime resident of Crane Hill, Alabama, passed away peacefully in her home on Jan. 13, 2024. She was preceded in death by her parents, Harvey Lee O'Mary and Eloise Baughn O'Mary, and her sister, Jimmie O'Mary Mitchell. She is survived by her loving husband of 60 years, Ronald Edward Smith, and her daughters, Bejeana (James), Michelle, Dawn (Ben) and Nikki (Johnny). She is also survived by eight grandchildren, Jessica (Cody), Blake (Savanah), Erica (Blake), Anna (Adam), Emma, Lawson, Lani and Addison, five great-grandchildren, Maggie, Colter, Ryker, Axton and Adalynn Mae and a host of nieces, nephews and extended family. Betty was born in Carbon Hill, Alabama, and attended Carbon Hill High School. Her journey took a delightful turn when a mutual friend introduced her to a tall, gangly basketball player from Walker College. Betty not only swept him off his feet but also embarked on a beautiful journey of love, leading to their marriage in 1963. Together, Betty and Ron loved exploring new places and creating memories through travel. Whether it was adventurous road trips or peaceful vacations, they loved soaking in the beauty of the world together - as long as it didn't involve boarding an airplane. Known to her family as "Nana," she dedicated her life to creating a warm and loving home. She was a devoted homemaker, finding joy and fulfillment in caring for those she loved. Her family was her greatest joy, and she took pride in creating a haven filled with love, laughter, and cherished memories. Betty loved her Lord Jesus Christ and her church family. You would often see her in the church kitchen, preparing meals or Vacation Bible School snacks. With her spunky personality and radiant smile, she brought warmth and joy to those around her. Family will be receiving friends on Sunday, Jan. 21, 2024, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Smith Lake Baptist Church, directed by Hanceville Funeral Home. A Celebration of Life service will be Monday, Jan. 22, 2024, at Smith Lake Baptist Church. Visitation will be from noon until 1 p.m. with service immediately following at 1 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial gifts be made to Smith Lake Baptist Church Building Fund.

Rodney Lewis Hooper, 64
Rodney Lewis Hooper, of Cullman, Alabama, passed away on Jan. 15, 2024, at the age of 64. Rodney was born in Blount County, Alabama, on April 20, 1959, to Lewis Cleamon and Betty Sue Craft Hooper. Rodney was a member of Fairview First Baptist Church and he provided for his family as an outside salesman for Vision Wheel. He was an avid hunter and was the current president of the Bronco Hunting Club, as well as a member of the National Wildlife Turkey Federation. While he enjoyed hunting in general, turkey hunting was by far Rodney's favorite. Rodney and his wife Rhonda also enjoyed searching out and collecting allocated bourbon together. Any time spent with his family brought joy to Rodney. He adored his wife and was immensely proud of the young adults his children have become. Rodney was loved by many people and he leaves behind a legacy of kindness and generosity. He will be missed greatly. Rodney is preceded in death by his parents; brother-in-law, Gene Miller; and several uncles and aunts. Those surviving Rodney include his wife, Rhonda Estes Hooper; son, Clay Hooper; daughter, Tera Hooper; brother, William Richard Hooper (Joyce); sister, Linda Miller; uncle, Gerald Hooper (Kathy); nieces and nephews, Jessica Campbell, Jake Hooper (Brandi), Shane Miller, Mike Miller (Meghann); several great-nieces and great-nephews; a host of cousins; and many friends. Funeral services for Rodney will be 2 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024, in the Holly Pond Funeral Home Chapel, Dr. David Chambers and Bro. Layne Howard officiating. Friends are invited to join the family for a time of visitation two hours prior to services, from noon until 2 p.m. Burial will follow in Brooklyn Cemetery where the Bronco Hunting Club will serve as honorary pallbearers alongside the pallbearers. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Hooper family.

Elizabeth "June" Lee Moore, 90
Elizabeth "June" Lee Moore passed away peacefully in Auburn, Alabama on Saturday, Jan. 13, 2024. June was born on June 19, 1933, to Roy Lee and Christine Roberts Lee. She was born in Addison, Alabama and graduated from Addison High School in 1952. June married Jack Horton Moore in 1953 and obtained her Degree in Education from Jacksonville State University in 1957 as well as a Master's Degree from The University of North Alabama in 1974. She was an elementary school teacher and taught at multiple schools in the Birmingham area and in Auburn before she began teaching fourth grade at Forest Hills Elementary School in Florence, Alabama in 1975. She retired in 1995. After retirement, June and Jack moved from Florence to Auburn. June and Jack were long time and faithful members of Forest Hills Baptist Church in Florence and Farmville Baptist Church in Auburn. June had several hobbies but mostly specialized in feeding anyone that came to her house for any reason as well as trying to be of service to anyone that she thought she could help make happier. She particularly loved cooking a big breakfast for her grandchildren and their friends all through grade school and college. She was also well known for her chocolate pies and chicken and dressing. She wanted everyone to know how much she loved her husband and entire family and especially her grandchildren and their spouses. June will be missed greatly. Visitation will be Monday, Jan. 22, 2024, from noon until 1 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Addison, where the service will be held at 1 p.m. Burial will be at Sardis No. 2 Baptist Church Cemetery, Sardis Community, Addison. June is survived by her husband of over 70 years, Jack Horton Moore; her two sons, Steven Daniel Moore and his wife Jennifer Gillis Moore, and Alan Lee Moore and his wife Pamela Leigh Passman Moore; grandchildren, Courtney Lawless and her husband Houston, Ryan Moore and his wife Erin, Daniel Moore and his wife Madeline, Julie Brittle and her husband Paxton Brittle and Michael Moore and his fiancé Kaitlyn Morris; great grandson, Eli Brittle; brother, Larry Mack Lee and his wife June of Childersburg; and a host of nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Roy Lee and Christine Roberts Lee; brothers, Robert Morgan Lee and his wife Elda, Curtis Blake Lee and his twin brother Ernest and Curtis's wife Billie, and Milton Adolf Lee.

Keith Maze, 63, of Arab
Keith Maze, age 63, of Arab, born April 15, 1960, to Marlon Maze and Betty Johnson Maze, passed from this life on Jan. 17, 2024. There are no services planned at this time. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. He was preceded in death by his father, Marlon Maze; his wife, Jacquline Maze. He is survived by his mother, Betty Maze; son, Shane Maze (Chasidy Kirkland); brother, Steve (Brenda) Maze; grandchildren, Gylianah Maze and Gentry Maze; a host of family and friends. To sign the online guestbook, please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Larry "Poodle" Junior Slaughter, 76, of Hanceville
Funeral service for Larry "Poodle" Junior Slaughter, age 76, of Hanceville, will be at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 21, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Randall Waldrop officiating; interment in New Hope #2 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. Mr. Slaughter passed away on Jan. 18, 2024, at Hanceville Nursing Home. He was born Dec. 28, 1947. He was preceded in death by his mother, Christine Lawson; sister, Margaret Wilson; and brother, Michael Harris. Survivors include his daughters, Myra Deese, Vickie Khan, and Tina Speakman, and caregiver, Patrick (Cindy) Turner.

Bob" Dewaine Wingo
Memorial Service for Robert "Bob" Dewaine Wingo, age 66, of Baileyton, will be at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Wingo passed away on Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2024, at his residence. He was born March 5, 1957, in Michigan to Ralph Donald Wingo and Irene Joyce Wingo. He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, William "Bill" Wingo, David "Dave" Wingo, Lyle "Yogi" Wingo, James "Jimmy" Allen Wingo; and sisters, Eva Jane Wingo and Edna Clara Wingo. Survivors include his wife of 43 years, Pamela "Pam" Wingo; sons, Robert "Bobby Joe" Joseph Wingo and Gregory Dakota Wingo; grandson, Levi Sylas Dalton; brother, Donald Warren Wingo; sister, Susan Kay Wingo; brothers-in-law, Teddy (Teresa) Hooper, William Shane Hooper, and Tony Lynn Hooper; daughter-in-law, Jessica Kroebel; nephews, Wesley Adam Hooper and Travis Wingo; nieces, Misty Hooper Johnson, Brandy Hooper, Jan Lemsky, and Michelle Wingo; and great-nephew, Conner Lawrence William Dietz.

Free Obituary Listings

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







COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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

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

Church Services-Spirit Life Church of GOD
• Spirit Life Church of GOD, 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Mondays-Fridays-Free hot meals for children Mondays 11 a.m.-noon, Tuesdays 1-2 p.m. and Wednesdays-Fridays 11 a.m.-noon. Cullman Housing Authority Community Center 1545 Vine Circle SW. Please call Kristie 256-636-5362 for more information. Eat in or take out. Sponsored by Kids Loving Kids, Raising Arrows Ministry and Spirit Life Church.
• Kids Loving Kids Birthday Blessings serves children ages 1-18 in need of assistance to celebrate their birthdays. Register your child and pick up a birthday box with cake mix, icing, sprinkles, decorations and toys! Pickup is the last weekend of the month. Saturday (5100 Curry Highway Suite 100-B Jasper, AL 35504) from 3-5 p.m. or the last Sunday of the month at Spirit Life Church Cullman from 12:30-1 p.m. Birth certificate is required at the time of box pickup. Register at https://form.jotform.com/203435614640045. For more information, text or call 205-717-7478.
• Saturday, 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.
• Saturday, Jan. 27 – 9-11 a.m. Drive-through food bank

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.

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/PolarBear-Plunge2024

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.

First Source for Women hosting Me and My Gal tea party and luncheon

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Promising an afternoon of delectable delights, laughter and cherished connections, First Source for Women, a pregnancy resource center in Hanceville and Cullman, is hosting its annual Me and My Gal tea party and luncheon. The afternoon tea will take place on Saturday, Feb. 17, at noon at Brick Haven Venue located at 1889 U.S. Highway 278 W. There is no set ticket fee. First Source is simply asking for a love offering of any amount to contribute to its cause of equipping women facing unexpected pregnancies with the resources they need to thrive. Specifically, the funds raised from this event will go toward replacing a sonogram machine for First Source's mobile unit.

Executive Director Janet Davis exclaimed, "This is to celebrate the relationships women have with each other. Mothers and daughters, granddaughters and grandmothers, sisters and friends. Everyone is invited!"

First Source asks that attendees don their finest tea party attire, with hats, gloves and frills of all kinds encouraged for a touch of elegance and charm. Attendees with children can expect child-centered games to keep littles entertained.

RSVP at http://tinyurl.com/fsfwmeandmygal24 by Monday, Feb. 5. Make sure to include the number of adults and children who will be attending. For more information, email events@firstsourceforwomen.org or call 256-352-5683.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JANUARY 20, 2024

Williams' perfect night leads No. 13 Auburn to 80-65 win at Vanderbilt

Greg Ostendorf
AU Athletics

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – It was a perfect night for Jaylin Williams who scored a game-high 21 points to lead No. 13 Auburn to an 80-65 win at Vanderbilt on Wednesday night.

The fifth-year senior made the first shot of the night, a hook shot on the game's opening possession, and he never missed after that. He finished 7-of-7 from the field, including a pair of 3-pointers, and made all five of his free throw attempts.

"I thought Jaylin Williams was phenomenal," Auburn head coach Bruce Pearl said.

In the second half, when K.D. Johnson realized Williams had not missed a shot yet, he had some advice for his teammate.

"You better just take only lay-ups," he told him. "Stay perfect."

Williams, who set a career high for points in the first half with 17, only took two shots in the second half. Both went down.

"The open shots that I had (in the second half) were when they were pressuring us," he said.

"I wasn't really feeling those shots to begin with. And then I was looking for my teammates. Things ended up pretty good for me."

"That says it all," Pearl added. "He's 5-for-5 in the first half and doesn't say a word about 'Get me the ball.' He doesn't say a word about his touches. He just plays. He plays the game the right way and gives God a chance to bless him."

Williams also pulled down eight rebounds and dished out three assists, including a ridiculous behind-the-back pass to set up Denver Jones for a corner 3-pointer.

The 15-point win was Auburn's second-largest margin of victory at Vanderbilt all-time and the largest since 1921, the first game in the series.

The Tigers have now won 10 straight on the season with all 10 victories coming by 11 or more points.

The Commodores battled back after Williams' early barrage and took a 16-14 lead at one point, but Auburn responded with a 20-2 run of its own that included a three-point play from Williams and back-to-back 3-pointers from Aden Holloway who finished with 10 points and scored in double figures for the second straight game.

Auburn stepped up defensively as well, holding Vanderbilt to just eight points over the final 12:32 in the first half. The Tigers led 41-24 at the break.

In the second half, it was Johni Broome and Dylan Cardwell who carried the load for Auburn as they combined for 19 points and 10 rebounds over the final 20 minutes.

Broome recorded his 53rd career double-double and eighth this season with 15 points and a team-high 12 rebounds. He's now scored in double figures in each of the team's last eight games and is averaging 15.8 points per game over that span.

Cardwell scored eight of his career-high 12 points in the second half and added six rebounds, two blocks and a steal in 15 minutes. It was his fourth career game in double figures.

"Dylan was just a monster at the rim and did a great job of getting out of ball screens and getting into the lane and going downhill," Pearl said. "And obviously defensively, he just doesn't take a possession off. Ever. If I could get everybody to do that, we have a chance to be pretty good. But he was great in there."

Auburn (15-2, 4-0) returns home this weekend for a top-25 matchup against Ole Miss in Neville Arena. The game is set to tip off at 7:30 p.m. CT on Saturday.

Vanderbilt Post-game notes

• Auburn has now won six of its last seven games against Vanderbilt. The victory marked the Tigers' 20th win in 72 games at Vanderbilt and their 16th win in 55 games at Memorial Gymnasium. The Commodores still hold a 90-57 lead in the all-time series. The 15-point win was Auburn's second-largest margin of victory at Vanderbilt all-time and the Tigers' largest win there since a 27-7 victory on Jan. 28, 1921, in the first game in series history.

• Bruce Pearl is now 14-9 in his head coaching career against Vanderbilt including 6-5 at Auburn. Pearl is 6-7 lifetime in Memorial Gymnasium including 3-4 at Auburn.

• Auburn extends its winning streak to 10 games with its win at Vanderbilt. It marks the Tigers' longest winning streak since winning 19 straight games from Nov. 25-Feb. 5 during the 2021-22 season.

• With its 15-point win at Vanderbilt, all 15 of Auburn's victories this season have been by at least 11 points.

• Auburn held a 41-24 lead at halftime, which is the eighth time this season the Tigers have led by at least 17 points at intermission including each of the last two games after leading LSU, 51-34, at halftime on Saturday. It was the fifth time Auburn has held an opponent to 25 or fewer first-half points.

• Auburn scored a season-high 29 second-chance points on 14 offensive rebounds.

• Auburn shot 18-of-22 (81.8%) from the free throw line at Vanderbilt. The Tigers are shooting 80.9 percent (169-of-209) from the foul line during their 10-game winning streak.

• Jaylin Williams led four Tigers in double figures with 21 points on a perfect 7-of-7 shooting from the floor, 2-of-2 from 3-point range and 5-of-5 from the free-throw line to go with eight rebounds, three assists, one block and one steal. He scored 17 points in the first half on 5-of-5 shooting from the floor, including a pair of 3-pointers, and 5-of-5 from the free-throw line, which was a career high for points in the first half, topping his previous high of 16 points at Ole Miss in 2021. It marked his fifth 20-point game during Auburn's 10-game winning streak during which he is averaging 15.8 points on 69.9 percent shooting from the floor.

• Johni Broome recorded his 53rd career double-double with 15 points on 6-of-12 field goals and 12 rebounds. He added three steals, two assists and one block in the win. It marked his 17th double-double in two years at Auburn including eight this season. It was Broome's eighth-straight game in double figures during which he is averaging 15.8 points. Broome's first bucket of the night gave him 1,700 career points and he ended the night with 1,713 career points to date.

• Dylan Cardwell scored a career-high 12 points on 4-of-7 field goals and 4-of-4 free throws to go with six rebounds, two blocks and one steal at Vanderbilt. It was Cardwell's fourth career game in double figures including his previous career-high of 11 points versus USC earlier this season.

• Aden Holloway added 10 points, including a pair of 3-pointers, and added one rebound and one assist on the night. After scoring 13 points against LSU on Saturday, Holloway has scored in double figures in consecutive games for the first time since doing so in the first three games of the season.



ZACH BLAND/AU ATHLETICS

Auburn's Jaylin Williams finished with a game-high 21 points in the Tigers' win at Vanderbilt Wednesday night.

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Wallace State hosts VEX IQ robotics competitions

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — On Saturday, Jan. 13, Wallace State Community College welcomed 46 teams to campus for VEX IQ robotics competitions for elementary and middle school students.

Competitions were held in the Wellness Center practice gym, with hundreds of participants and spectators in attendance.

"We have been hosting VEX Robotics events since 2019, and this will be our fifth year hosting elementary, middle and high school teams. The excitement of the competition is not just about the robots themselves, but also about the creativity and ingenuity each school brings to the table. Beyond just assembling a robot, these students are gaining valuable skills in teamwork and communication," said Terry Ayers, chair of the Wallace State Computer Science program and sponsor of the WSCC STEM Club, which sponsored the event.

Students from Curry Middle School and Robert F. Bumpus Middle School compete at the VEX IQ robotics competition held at the Wallace State Community College Wellness Center Saturday, Jan. 13. (Wallace State)

VEX IQ is a snap-together robotics system designed to provide opportunities to students in elementary and early middle school. The VEX IQ competitions, such as the recent event at Wallace State, serve as an avenue for young learners to explore the world of robotics through building and programming their own snap-together robots. These competitions cultivate teamwork, problem-solving and leadership skills among students as they collaborate to build, program, and operate their creations in teams. In addition to the game competition, teams are also evaluated on criteria such as team interview, programming, robot design and engineering notebook.

Teams advancing to the state competitions to be held Feb. 16-17 at Auburn University include:

- Excellence Award – Robert F. Bumpus Middle School (Bumpus MS Robobucs H)
- Excellence Award – Barkley Bridge Elementary School (Donut Divas)

Other awards were presented to:

- Teamwork Champion Award – F. E. Burleson Elementary School (Techno Tigers: Turbo)
- Teamwork Champion Award – Barkley Bridge Elementary School (Code Crushers)
- Teamwork 2nd Place Award – Barkley Bridge Elementary School (America's Finest)
- Teamwork 2nd Place Award – Montgomery Catholic Preparatory School (MCPS Team 1)
- Design Award – Robert F. Bumpus Middle School (Bumpus MS Robobucs F)
- Robot Skills Champion – Barkley Bridge Elementary School (Donut Divas)
- Judges Award – F. E. Burleson Elementary School (Techno Tigers: Turbo)



WALLACE STATE

Wallace State Computer Science Chair and event sponsor Terry Ayers, center, provides commentary as students from Barkley Bridge Elementary School and Alexandria Elementary School face off during the VEX IQ robotics competition held at the college Saturday, Jan. 13.

Looking forward, Vex VRC competitions for late middle school and high school teams are scheduled for Feb. 3 at Wallace State Community College, with 41 teams registered. Winners of the Excellence Award at the event will also advance to the state competitions to be held Feb. 16-17 at Auburn University.

For more information about Wallace State, visit www.wallacestate.edu or call 256-352-8000.

You're invited! Ladies Night Out Bunco



BARBARA RAGSDALE

Start the new year off right with Ladies Night Out Bunco on Friday night, Jan. 26, from 6-8 in the Family Life Center of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in downtown Cullman. For $20 per person, enjoy a super night of fun, food, festivities and prize money for numerous winners! Sponsored by the church's Altar Society to raise money for their upkeep work in regard to the Altar, Communion supplies and votive candles, not to mention myriad other required tasks. Everyone is invited to this first Bunco night of the new year! Pictured are the 49 women at the last gathering, where over $200 in prize money was awarded, so come get your share! Everyone is invited – and bring a friend. The more the merrier!

How to beat the chill, without killing the power bill

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — While the worst part of the winter storm week has passed, there are a few more days of freezing temperatures ahead. Here are a few tips to help families beat the chill, without killing the power bill.

1. Set thermostats and heaters to a regular 68-70 degrees

It may seem like a no-brainer, but consider setting central heat or space heaters to around 68-70 degrees. This will lessen how hard appliances have to work to maintain heat and lessen strain on the power grid as a whole.

2. Bundle up

With your thermostats set between 68-70, it may still feel a bit chillier inside. Advise everyone in the home to bundle up: on top of regular long-sleeved shirts and pants, don a pair of thick socks or a warm, fleecy pullover to keep warm.

3. Hang out in one location

For any size home, it is best to concentrate the heat source in one location when thinking thrifty with heating. Consider running a heater in one large room for the family to sit in through the day, like the living room or kitchen area, and closing off bedrooms to maintain the heat in one space.

4. Unplug any appliances not in use

This seems like common sense, but unplug appliances that are not currently in use, like hair tools, coffee machines and so on. This will slightly ease the amount of power a house is drawing off the grid.

5. Be safe and accept the possibility of a higher bill

Last, always consider safety when heating a home, and accept that statements might end up a bit higher than average. If using alternative heat sources like multiple space heaters or fireplaces, be sure to inspect any heat source and make sure it is clean, and toss any heaters with patched or frayed cords or burn a cleaning log before starting the first fire of the year. It is much better to pay a little extra on a monthly statement to heat your home safely.

Storefront (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Local nonprofit Victoria's Hope has joined the ranks of other thrift and vintage boutiques creating an online presence and has officially launched its Shopify page. Founder April German said she hopes the online storefront, in addition to the brick and mortar store located on U.S. Highway 278 West, will open another avenue to serve others.

"We stumbled upon our online thrift store actually by accident during a day when bad weather forced us to close," German explained. "But as soon as we put our items online, we were amazed by the response. People loved the convenience of thrifting from home, or as we like to say, 'thrifting from their couch.'"

German said that one of the more fun aspects of the online storefront is offering exciting flash sales and coupons.

"We work hard to make it fun for everyone. One of my last sales was a 30-minute window where you could get 30% off your entire order, and you only had an hour's notice. I like to keep it fun and exciting but also keep the prices as low as possible," noted German, saying the flash deals are a great way to get people interested and make the online shopping experience even more interactive.

German also said that listing some items online allows supporters of Victoria's Hope's mission to show some love from afar, and keeps funds local.

"It also gives folks from out of the area a chance to support us and snag a great deal, all while still keeping those funds right here in our community. By supporting us, even from afar, customers can shop and give back to our community and support our mission of assisting those in need!" she exclaimed.

German maintained that while the online storefront is beneficial for the community, it is beneficial for Victoria's Hope, too, offering another revenue stream to float the organization through the winter months when in-person shoppers may be less frequent, or a bit more thrifty after the holidays.

"First, it gives us HOPE. It's been a difficult journey, and we've given up in our heads more times than I can count. Launching an online store can potentially create a new revenue stream to support us through the winter retail months," said German.

"Our store and this community are what fund our nonprofit. The more we bring in, the more we can give back."

She said even with the success of the Shopify page, the physical storefront isn't going anywhere anytime soon, noting that much of the online storefront's stock comes from out-of-season donations for which Victoria's Hope doesn't necessarily have the storage capacity.

"The generous donations from our community ensure we have plenty of amazing items available at great thrift store prices in both our physical and online stores. Interestingly, most of the items in our Shopify store come from my garage, where we stored the out-of-season items before we had the space we have now.

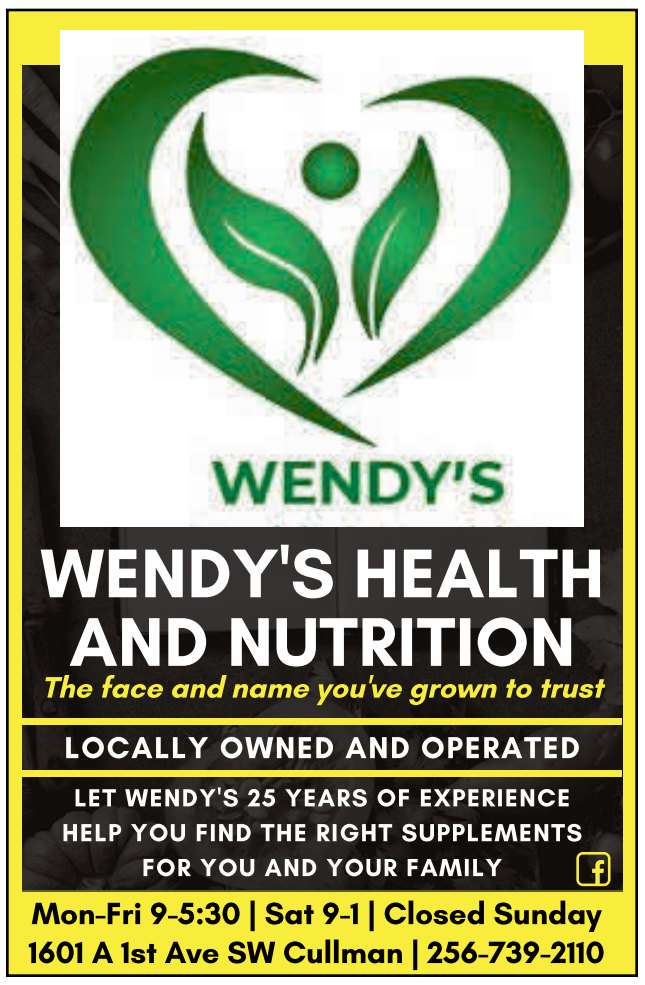
"These items have been sitting there for two years, and we've never needed them. It's a testament to how much our community supports us, and we are truly grateful for their generosity!" smiled German.

She also shared that Victoria's Hope owes much of its success to the community it serves, saying, "I know I may sound repetitive, but I can't stress enough how much this community has changed my life. They took a small idea I had and turned it into something beyond my wildest imagination. Victoria's Hope is not just a nonprofit thrift store – it's a tight-knit community of individuals striving to brighten at least one person's day. And when I say community, I don't just mean my family and our volunteers.

{I mean everyone who shops, our clients, the supporters and the people of this community. We've built a strong family that takes care of one another, and that's what I've witnessed in Cullman County. In 2024, I'm hopeful that we can expand and offer more services than we have in the past. The sky's the limit, and I can't wait to see where this community will take Victoria's Hope this year!"

To check out Victoria's Hope's online offerings and start a thrifting adventure from the comfort of your couch, visit http://tinyurl.com/vhshopify. Shopping and in-store pickup options are available, with all funds raised staying in the community.

Find out more at https://victorias-hope-thrift-and-treasures.business.site. Victoria's Hope is located at 230 U.S. Highway 278 W, Cullman, AL 35057.



Roxie (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Roxie, an approximately 6-year-old female Shepherd mix with a beautiful toasty tan and coal coat, is available for adoption at Cullman County Animal Shelter.

Having reached middle-aged status, Roxie maintains a low-to-medium energy level. She loves to lounge about and would make the perfect couch buddy to binge watch all your favorite shows. Might she suggest a rom-com?

Roxie is ready for a lush life as an inside girl, and is house trained to boot. She is already spayed, so her adoption fee is reduced – but don't be fooled, the reduced fee isn't indicative of her worth. She epitomizes the ideal companion or therapy dog, and is happy to lend a listening ear.

Are you ready to let Roxie live her golden years out with you? Head over to Cullman County Animal Shelter at 935 Convent Road NE, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. for a meet and greet.

Her adoption fee is reduced and includes 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.

Others (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County has effectively been at a standstill for the better portion of a week, thanks to the winter storm that swept in on Monday. Temperatures plummeted and many local volunteer organizations jumped into action, opening warming stations to anyone needing a safe, warm, dry place to shelter and weather the freeze. Unfortunately, the precariously slick roads prevented some residents from leaving their driveways, let alone their neighborhoods.

Enter one heroic local man who saw a need and took action with nothing requested in return; he simply wanted to help his community.

On Monday night, Interstate 65 through Cullman County was the first road closure in the county, the roadway too slick to safely navigate.

Many drivers slid into ditches or were unable to move forward, wheels endlessly spinning on the ice. Kevin O'Neil, a local automotive specialist who has owned Redline Diesel & Automotive LLC in Cullman since 2018, was precariously making his own way home from his shop when he felt the call to help. Knowing he had the skills, tools and gumption to do so, O'Neil consulted his wife, Ashia, and asked her to make a post on her social media pages – a call looking for people who were stranded on the ice, people who needed help.

"He called me when he left the shop and was like, 'I feel like this is what I need to do, make a post on Facebook,'" she said.

The post was made and eventually made its way to the intended targets, the motorists who were stranded on I-65 in a dangerous predicament.

O'Neil set to work hooking up cars and other vehicles to his truck and pulling them to safer spots until it was clear for them to resume travels. In a span of less than a handful of hours, O'Neil had successfully helped and assisted more than seven displaced vehicles from the roadway.

His calling was persistent, though. O'Neil had one more request for his wife, to call nearby hotels and inquire about vacancies so he could ensure each individual was in a safe place for the night.

"I was just doing what was right and it wasn't fair for me to be selfish and go home and leave those people stranded," said O'Neil. "I had the means to get them to safety and just treated people as I would want to be treated."

Redline Diesel & Automotive LLC is located at 40 County Road 1199 and can be reached by phone at 256-595-7976. Find Redline on Facebook at www.facebook.com/redlinecullman.

Williams (from Front)

a National Board Certified Teacher, a title he has renewed twice.

Williams has also served as the director of V.A.W. Water Systems and worked as an EMT and firefighter with the Jones Chapel Volunteer Fire Department. He owns and operates a poultry farm. Williams said he believes these experiences provide him with a unique perspective on the operation of both businesses and nonprofit organizations.

He said his decision to run for superintendent was fueled by a commitment to accountability and transparency. Williams expressed concern about the current administration's responsiveness to issues in local schools, saying, "As your superintendent, I will prioritize community engagement, ensuring accessible communication channels and inclusive board meetings."

Williams is also critical of what he alleges is the current administration's lack of transparency, particularly regarding the construction of a sports complex and the attempt to implement a sales tax increase without community input.

"My financial conservatism and commitment to transparency will guide fiscal decisions responsibly," he stated.

He also raised concerns about the development of a unique pay schedule for the superintendent.

"This two-pronged pay scale, with a $100,000 difference between myself and the incumbent, adds to the existing salary disparity," Williams alleged.

His vision for the superintendent's role, Williams said, is collaborative, working with the school board to formulate policy and guide the system within the budget. He said he envisions an environment in which dissenting voices contribute to well-informed decisions and where teachers feel free to express concerns without fear of retaliation.

Williams highlighted the need for improvement in student proficiency rates and said he is focused on elevating the education system. "In 2023, only 54% of our students scored proficient in reading and math.

We need accountability and transparency to make informed decisions," he asserted.

He said he plans to explore expanding vocational programs and enhancing the district's honors, AP and dual enrollment offerings.

Closing his interview, Williams reflected on his previous run for District 4 Cullman County Commissioner, showcasing what he said is his dedication to public service. "Thank you for considering my vision for Cullman County Schools. I look forward to the opportunity to serve you as your superintendent," he concluded.

Williams will face incumbent Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette in the 2024 Primary Election, which will take place Tuesday, March 5, 2024.

LEGALS

Legal Notice

Notice is hereby given that Pipeworks Plus Inc., whose office address and phone number are as follows: Pipeworks Plus Inc., 147 Holloway Dr., Tullahoma, TN 37388, Phone: (931) 455-7592, has completed all work on the Derby Creek Sewer Rehabilitation Contract No. 2, Collection System Improvements. All persons having a claim for any labor, materials, or otherwise in connection with this project should immediately notify the above-named contractor and the Owner's Engineer, St. John & Associates, (256) 734-2114.

PB WIL BK 121 PG 38 - 01/10/2024 02:16 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF SUZANNE LOUISE TAYLOR, Deceased. * CASE NO.: PC 2023-385

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to ROBERT LEE TAYLOR, as Personal Representative of the Estate of SUZANNE LOUISE TAYLOR, deceased, on the 10th 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.

Robert Lee Taylor
Personal Representative

Beverly Paschal Poston
Attorney for Estate
200 1st Avenue, SE
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

PB WIL BK 121 PG 104 - 01/12/2024 10:59 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF MARY H. STANSELL LOVVORN, Deceased. * CASE NO.: PC2023-278

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to RONNIE HAROLD STANSELL as Personal Representative of the Estate of MARY H. STANSELL LOVVORN, deceased, on the 12th 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 be barred.

RONNIE HAROLD STANSELL
Personal Representative

June Brooks
Attorney for Personal Representative
Post Office Box 73
Cullman, Alabama 35056

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

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

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

PB WIL BK 121 PG 22 - 01/10/2024 02:02 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF CLARICE SHAFER, Deceased. * CASE NO.: PC2024-007

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to CHARLES CASPER SHAFER, as Personal Representative of the Estate of CLARICE SHAFER, 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.

Charles Casper Shafer
Personal Representative

Alex J. Chaney
Attorney for Petitioner
Berry, Berry, Little & Chaney
405 2nd Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35056
256-734-6330

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

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

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

PB WIL BK 121 PG 12 - 01/10/2024 01:45 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of MAX D. HALLMARK, Deceased. * CASE NO. PC 2023-420

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE: Letters Testamentary having been granted to Margaret Burgett as Personal Representative of the Estate of Max D. Hallmark, deceased, on the 10th day January, 2024 all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Margaret Burgett
Personal Representative

Shay Persall
Attorney for Personal Representative

SHAY PERSALL LAW, LLC
611 Seventh Street Southwest
Cullman, AL 35055
Telephone: (256) 841-7800

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

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

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE

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1/9/2024 1:33 PM
25-DR-2023-900254.00
CIRCUIT COURT OF
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
LISA MCSWAIN, CLERK

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

WILLIAMS MIRANDA KAY, Plaintiff,
V. Case No.: DR-2023-900254.00
WILLIAMS LESLIE THOMAS JR, Defendant.

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

The Defendant Leslie Thomas Williams, Jr., who has been determined by this court as avoiding service, must answer the Complaint of Miranda Kay Williams for divorce and other relief by the 7th day of March, 2024, or thereafter, a judgment by default may be rendered against him the above captioned case number 25-DR-2023-9000254.00 now pending in the Circuit Court of Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE this 9th day of January, 2024.

/s/ GREGORY A NICHOLAS
CIRCUIT JUDGE

Beverly Paschal Poston
Attorney for Plaintiff
201 2nd Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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 Jerry Finley Husband And Victoria Finley Wife to Jim Walter Home, Inc. dated September 28, 2001; said mortgage being recorded on November 6, 2001, in Book 1214, Page 136 in and re-recorded in Book 1210, Page 42 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to U.S. Bank, N.A., as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, National Association, as Trustee, for Mid-State Trust XI by assignment recorded in Deed Book 333, Page 171 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, ALABAMA.
The undersigned, U.S. Bank, N.A., as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, National Association, as Trustee, for Mid-State Trust XIunder 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 15th day of February, 2024 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:
COMMENCE AT THE NW CORNER OF THE S 1/2 OF THE SW 1/4 OF THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 33, T-11-S, R-3-W, CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA; THENCE RUN S 86 DEGREES 44'23"E, 786.92' TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE RUN S 86 DEGREES 44'23"E, 150.00'; THENCE RUN S 00 DEGREES 00'00"E, 320.00'; THENCE RUN N 86 DEGREES 44'23"W, 150.00'; THENCE RUN N 00 DEGREES 00'00"E, 320.00' TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; SAID HEREIN DESCRIBED TRACT CONTAINS 1.1 ACRES MORE OR LESS, AND LIES IN THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 33, T-11-S, R-3-W, CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

ALSO, A 30' ACCESS EASEMENT, 15' EITHER SIDE OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LINE: COMMENCE AT THE NW CORNER OF THE S 1/2 OF THE SW 1/4 OF THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 33, T-11-S, R-3-W, CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA, A(N) 1/2" IRON PIN FOUND; THENCE RUN S 86 DEGREES 44'23"E, 786.92'; THENCE RUN S 00 DEGREES 00'00"W, 320.00'; THENCE RUN S 86 DEGREES 44'23"E, 37.92' TO THE POINT IN THE SOUTH LINE OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY, THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE RUN S 57 DEGREES 49'41"W, 166.27; THENCE RUN S 59 DEGREES 11'33"E, 391.93.; THENCE RUN S 66 DEGREES 34'41"E 82.63'; THENCE RUN S 86 DEGREES 38'34"E, 239.96' TO THE POINT OF ENDING IN THE ROAD EASEMENT ACQUIRED BY JOSEPH A. CHAPMAN BY DEED RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 301, PAGE 827, IN SAID COUNTY.

ALSO, A 30' ACCESS EASEMENT, 30' NORTH OF AND PARALLEL TO THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LINE: COMMENCE AT THE NW CORNER OF THE S 1/2 OF THE SW 1/4 OF THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 33, T-11-S, R-3-W, CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA; THENCE RUN S 86 DEGREES 44'23"E, 786.92'; THENCE RUN S 0 DEGREES 00'00"E, 320.0' THENCE RUN S 86 DEGREES 44'23"E, 150.0' TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE RUN S 86 DEGREES 44'23"E, 400' TO THE POINT OF ENDING IN THE ROAD EASEMENT ACQUIRED BY JOSEPH A. CHAPMAN BY DEED RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 301, PAGE 827, IN SAID COUNTY.

Said property is commonly known as 501 County Rd 588, Hanceville, AL 35077.
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.

U.S. BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO WACHOVIA BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, FOR MID-STATE TRUST XI
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. 23-05296AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

Cullman Tribune
01/13/2024,01/20/2024,01/27/2024

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

Some big shoes to fill

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



Back in January of 2007, Nick Saban called me up and said, "Hey Bill, let's move to Alabama." Well, no, not really, but then you already knew that. We did, however, both move to Alabama, practically at the same time, but I guess he didn't have my phone number, so he didn't call. The coach moved to Alabama for the first time in his life. I simply returned to my home state after having lived in the Memphis suburb of Southaven, Mississippi, for the previous decade.

Last week we witnessed the end of an era in Alabama. We knew this day would come eventually, and it has arrived. College football's GOAT has retired, but then, unless you live inside a crater on the dark side of the moon, you already knew that. You are probably tired of hearing about it, and no I am not writing in the sport's section of newspapers these days, but I couldn't not say anything about perhaps the biggest-news event in college football in recent years.

Alabama is a state divided. We are predominately Baptist or Methodist...Alabama or Auburn. Soon after a baby is born in our state, he or she must decide. Not long after we spoke our first words, which might be Mama or Daddy, we learned to say Roll Tide or War Eagle. Usually, that commitment lasts a life time. There are a few who jump ship, perhaps to convince a rival fan to marry them, or maybe to save their marriage. Last week, it was obvious who pulled for whom. Bama fans had tear-filled eyes and Auburn fans had smiles that stretched from ear to ear. Auburn fans rolled the trees at Toomer's Corner and Alabama fans turned Saban's statue into a shrine. Someone even outlined a heart made from Littie Debbie oatmeal pies at the statue's feet!

Much to the chagrin of my close Auburn friends, and I have many, I must confess that I am a lifelong Crimson Tide fan. Often, as is the case with me, it honestly has nothing to do with where we went to school. Yes, I have three-earned degrees of higher education, but none of them came from Alabama or Auburn. There is a logical explanation as to why I became an Alabama fan. When I was nine, my friend John Ed and I watched the Iron Bowl. John Ed was already eleven, so he was much older and wiser than me. He told me we were pulling for the team in crimson! He never said for how long.

Back then, Bear Bryant was the coach at Alabama, and Shug Jordan was the coach at Auburn. I thought they had always been the coaches at our two-best-known schools, and I thought they always would be. Then, it happened. After 24-years as the head coach at Auburn, in 1975 Coach Jordan retired. Bama fans thought that would never happen at Alabama. Then, in 1982, after 24-years as the head coach at Alabama, Coach Bryant retired. In both cases, fans cried, "The end has come!" Indeed "An" end had come, but not "the" end.

Both schools have had some great coaches and teams since then. Pat Dye and Gene Stallings come to mind. Both schools have won Iron Bowls, SEC Championships, and even national championships. Well, here we are again. The coaches' names have changed to Hugh Freeze and only two-days after Saban retired Kalen DeBoer was announced as Alabama's new coach. Great leaders always move on. No one can ever actually fill their shoes, but others can walk in their tracks and build on their foundations.

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

HISTORY

Files from yesteryear: 1937, 1994

From the files of 1937

Doctor R.B. Dodson is Commander of the American Legion.

Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Kirtt, who formerly lived at West Point, have moved to the Willingham Community.

This is the first year for typing to be offered at Hanceville School. Miss Dixie Christian is the teacher.

Mr. Bud Gibbs and Dick Casey are the new owners of the One Stop Service Station.

Reverend Harvey R. Edwards is pastor of New Prospect Church.

Mr. Cord Scott is the hair cutter and neck-shaver at Oden's Store, at Vinemont, on Saturdays.

Hats - $1.98 and up at C.A. Stiefelmeyer's – Ad.

Cordia Bates, of Oak Level, recently underwent a tonsil operation, but is improved enough to start school.

Several Flat Rock people attended the Bethel baptizing on Rock Creek, near the steel bridge on Sunday evening. There were 32 baptized.

All-star softball players are as follows: American League – Roy Cameron, W.D. Copeland, Frank Byer, H. Alldredge, C. Daniel, Ben Holmes, Bob Young, Ellis Burns, Red Holmes, Lorine Trimble, Red Styles, Ellis Calvert, Claburn Glasscock, Paul Wright, Garth Brindley, Charlie Glasscock, Buell Cobb and Rahfel Cooper. National League – Jess Wood, Roy Ragland, Aubrey Gleen, A. Speegle, Pinehardt, Fred Alldredge, H. Wells, Pierce Williams, Onnis Green McMinn, Howard Hart, Reno Lowery, Morris Estes, Sonny Burk, Less Green, B. Jetton, Herman Speegle and Onnie Calvert.

We will fill your prescription for less. Why pay more? City Pharmacy.

From the files of 1994

Those issued marriage licenses during the month of August were as follows: Rodney Lee Banister and Lorie Allison Barnett; Christopher Allen Boatright and Kristi Jean Stapp; Jason Wesley Morgan and Katherine Sue Reiley; Joe Don Castleberry and Mary Grace Presto; Jeffery Louis Parker and Jane Carpenter Yeager Dobbs; Gregory Darren Bishop and Joyce Ann Reid; Ronald Eric Bevington and Catherine Leake; David Robert Fuller and Tina Sheriee Holmes; Dewey Jerome Huffstutler and Gennia Faye Givens; Jeffery Pascal Tolbert and Marye Elizabeth Stiefelmeyer; James Harlis Hestla and Angie Day Ryan; Tommy Duane Twilley and Ginger Callie Baty; Anthony Wade Pack and Laura Susan Howard; Joey Wayne Pickering and Amanda Janel Whitehead; Robert Earl Bailey and Teresa Ann Ponder; Frederick Timothy Watson and Arisara Niamnarong Hogan; David Wayne McDonald and Daphne Annette Hill; James Jeremy Bryant and Windi Marie Self; Phillip Anthony Purdy and Shelley Harris Duke; Charles Steven Ainsworth and Carolyn Sue Peek; Douglas Michael Danford and Sammie K. Self; Stephen Hutchens and Laquita Todd Bailey; Tony Joel Alexander and Bonnie Quinn Thursby; Robbie Ray Chambers and Melissa Ann Alexander; Buddy Wayne Hagemore and Shirley Joyce Key; Jerry M. Simmons, Senior and Tammy D. Kelley; Keith Thremayne Whitehead and Anita Faye Bradley; Jimmie Lee Howard and Sherry Lynn Garner; Michael Edward Gober and Gloria Dean Russell Hunter; Chad Evan Duke and Stephanie Carol Lipsey; Syres Calvin Lamber, Junior and Carol Thomas Gordon; George Carlton Grund, Junior and Leslie Diane McClendon; James Rodney Beard and Tanya Amanda Ashley; James Lee Boyd and Tracey Denise Thomas; Jason Darrell McClure and Stephanie Kay Sutter; Michael William McLeod and Joyce Frances Green; Richard Sewell Griffin and Alicia B. Roberson; Danny Edward Shuford and Amanda Gail Taylor; Albert Sidney Puckett and Charlotte Dean Jacobs; Scotty Wayne Couch and Stephanie Leigh Ann Dye; Ricky Lee Williams and Kristie Marie Stephenson; Winfield Moon, Junior and Caryl Haynes; Christopher Lee Logan and Terri Elaine Hale; James Ronald Parker, Junior and Tammy Moody Dobson; Anthony Javon Daniel and Rachel Nell Nelums; James Kevin Bryant and Kelcy Deanne Robertson; Timothy Wayne Collins and Kanitha Mize; Edward Keith Cagle and Mischelle Dawn Nelson; Kenneth Jerry Mobley and Edith Coan Mobley; Stephen Wayne Brown and Julie Carol Hayes; Russell Lamar Barbee and Robin Lee Richard; James Forrest Rooker, III and Nena Renee Brown; Christopher J. Andrews and Lisa Renee White; Shannon J. Bell and Leigh Ann Quattlebaum; William Jason Davis and Janet Renee Cook; Jackie Martin Edge and Shelba Annette Laursen; Keith Al Dijaili and Tina Yvonne Cofield; Deron Ferris Patrick and Sharon Denise Freeman; John Jay Dee Phillips and Erin Melissa Lyle; William Rhett Stafford and Nellie Jean Holt; Richard Alan Barrett and Sharon Elizabeth Hicks; Jason Richard Scott and Amanda Leanne Chambers; Terry Lynn Cook and Pamela Jean Williams; Patrick Eudon Bates and Vivian Marie Bradford; John Brian Barker and Lisa Michelle Gable; Ludie Leeth Plunkett and Peggy Sue Mount; John Franklin Stephenson, Junior and Tanya Renae Burks; Anthony Virgil Lambert and Jennifer Marie Laney; Danny Lee Evans and Julie H. Alexander; Bruce Wayne Campbell and Mary Kathryn Demarco; William David Butler and Sonja Annette Hubbard; Phillip Gregg Burney and Debbie Johnson Wilson; David Brian Springer and Rhonda Amelia Culver; Timothy Brett Gammon and Brandy Michelle Waters; Michael Alan Nail and Jennifer Jane Hayes; Michael Jos Graveman and Tina Haynes Capps; Royce Lee Zweck, Junior and Catherine Jean Phillips; Keith Wayne Knight and Amy Smith Freeman; Larry Bryan Pugh and Bethany Jane Horton; Lance Eric Burton and Brandy Michelle Navarro; Tracy Wayne Hulsey and Julie Luchelle Bobo; Kevin Oneal Pentecost and Lee Ann Wilson and Marty Dwayne Crawford and Sherri Gail Lancaster.

POET'S CORNER

A Winter Blue | By: Jay Sara Teasdale, 1884-1933

Crisply the bright snow whispered,
Crunching beneath our feet;
Behind us as we walked along the parkway,
Our shadows danced,
Fantastic shapes in vivid blue.
Across the lake the skaters
Flew to and fro,
With sharp turns weaving
A frail invisible net.
In ecstasy the earth
Drank the silver sunlight;
In ecstasy the skaters
Drank the wine of speed;
In ecstasy we laughed
Drinking the wine of love.
Had not the music of our joy
Sounded its highest note?
But no,
For suddenly, with lifted eyes you said,
"Oh look!"
There, on the black bough of
a snow flecked maple,
Fearless and gay as our love,
A bluejay cocked his crest!
Oh who can tell the range of joy
Or set the bounds of beauty?

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

JAN. 20

D	C	A	L	Y	C	I	N	E	F	B	A	S	I	F	I	X	E	D
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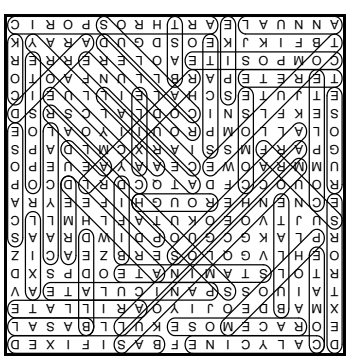
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Calycine
Cauline
Comate
Comose
Complete
Composite
Cork
Cymose
Dextrorse
Monoclinous
Opposite
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Paniculate
Phloem
Racemose
Radical
Rolled
Rough
Rugose
Scapose
Scurf
Smooth
Spicate
Spike
Staminate
Terete
Torulose

CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

JAN. 20

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ANSWERS:



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

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

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Hanceville Exxon ensures locals receive warm meals

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — In most small Southern towns, there's a hub – a location that attracts retired farmers and their buddies for biscuits and coffee while they shoot the breeze and discuss the weather. In Hanceville, that hub is the fan-favorite Hanceville Exxon. The service station/lunch spot has been family owned for around 38 years, beginning three generations ago with matriarch Shelly Wilson. Eventually, it was passed to her son, former Hanceville High School Principal Jimmy Collins, who now shares ownership with his own son, Cole Collins.

Cole Collins is in the store almost daily to oversee operations and perform the working duties of an active owner.

He has grown to know and befriend many of the regular faces who stop in for the station's food. When this week's freeze hit the area, those faces were missed and worried about.

So, Collins created a plan and figured out a way to execute it. The station offered delivery of hot lunches to in-need Hanceville residents – facilitated by staff volunteers.

"We have probably around 30 or so men and people that we see in here daily, faces we know and recognize.

"They stopped coming in because they couldn't get here and that had us start thinking about others that couldn't get out," said Collins.

"We've delivered to someone that just had a baby; we have delivered to people that recently had surgery. We just want people to be able to eat."

Eat they will/did. The offerings at the Hanceville Exxon are reminiscent of grandma's house – home cooking and Southern favorites and staples, "a true 'meat and three,'" according to Collins.

Each day, the menu changes, based on availability and what the cook of the day decides to make. And desserts are never forgotten.

While the food is still priced, delivery is free. Most of the time, Collins said, the recipients of the deliveries are generous, and other times, it is Collins' turn to dole out the generosity.

"About half of them were given to them," he said. "They either wanted to pay with a card, or they just needed it."

Collins has asked if recipients are able to pay, they do so, even if payment comes at a later date. But helping the community is the first priority for him and the staff at the Hanceville Exxon.

The Hanceville Exxon is located at 206 Main St. NE and can be reached by phone at 256-352-6513.



COLE COLLINS

Cole Collins stands ready to make a delivery, as he's offering a helping hand to shut-in locals, and delivering food items from his family owned convenience store.

Community of all ages comes together in time of need

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — When Cullman County was hit with frigid temps over the last several days, and ice made travel treacherous, if not impossible, residents took action and took their love of community to the streets.

Brad Ingram, a retired U.S. Army veteran with 14 years of service under his belt, set out to explore and survey Cullman's icy roads. While traveling in his Jeep Wrangler he happened upon a stranded car that had slid into the ditch off of a county roadway. Without hesitating, Ingram used his Jeep to pull the vehicle to a safer area. For three days, Ingram used his Wrangler to navigate the slushy and slick streets to search for other troubled travelers, pulling each one he came across to safety or dry land. He said he just did what he felt was right.

"I was raised to love and help the community I lived in," said Ingram, "and the Cullman family and town is what I love and I will continue to help whenever it's needed."

Across the county off U.S. Highway 278 East sits the small town of Holly Pond; with its curvy roads and steep hills and valleys, the town was understandably hit hard by the recent freeze. Many residents prepared to be shut in for one to two days, most certainly not the four or five days the storm demanded. When supplies for their neighbors began to run low, four Holly Pond High School athletes took matters into their own hands – well, ATVs.

The four 16-year-olds used their unexpected break from school to help their neighbors who were stuck inside their homes and unable to get their needed groceries and supplies due to the ice.

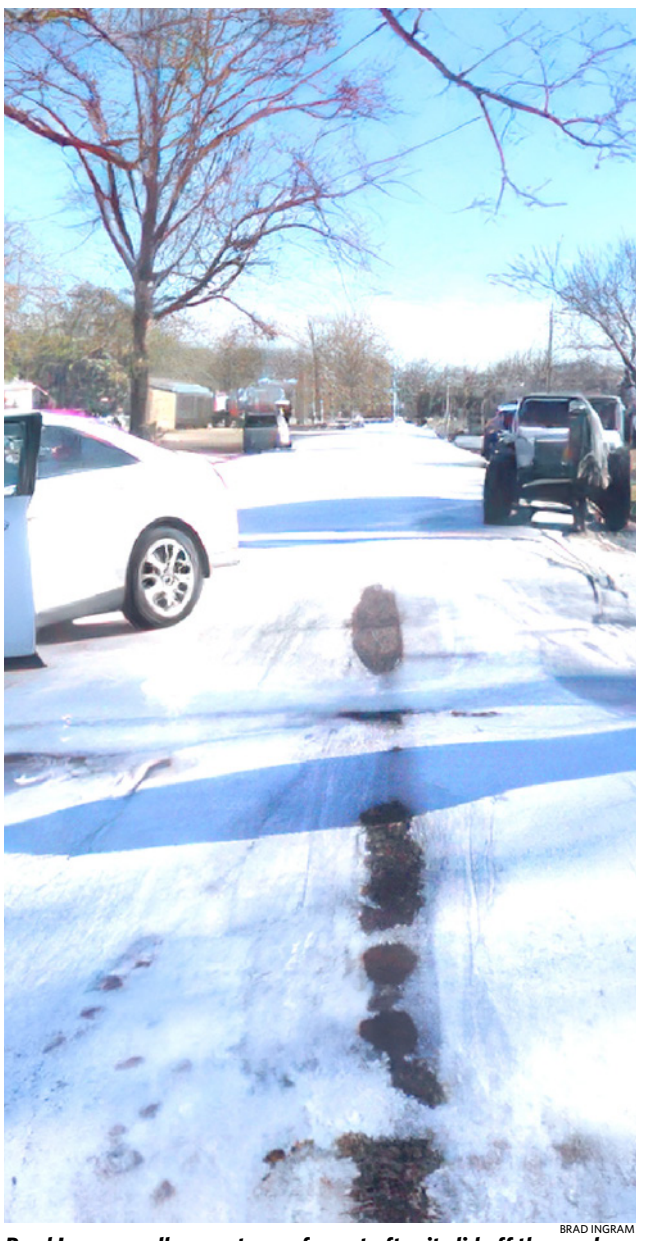
The band of high school friends consists of Boston Gibbs, Carson Ryan, Brody Howard and Jaxson Robertson. Text messages with meager grocery lists and addresses for delivery was the call to action the group needed. The boys donned their warmest winter and hunting gear, hopped on their ATVs and handled the rest. Gibbs and his friends didn't ask for delivery fees; they were simply having a good time while making a difference.

"We started to realize that some people in our area couldn't get to the places they needed to get to like we could, so we thought, 'Why not help some people out while having fun?'" Gibbs smiled.



BOSTON GIBBS

Holly Pond High School student Brody Howard shops for a neighbor's groceries on Thursday, Jan. 18.



BRAD INGRAM

Brad Ingram pulls a car to a safe spot after it slid off the road.