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MARTHA NEEDHAM/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

Raiders claim County Championship with 69-55 win over West Point
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FAITH

The Gathering at Karma's Coffee House

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

The back room of Karma's Coffee House in Cullman's Warehouse District is bustling with customers stuck in deep conversation, visiting with friends and waiting on the man of the hour: Ron Teal. Teal, along with fellow pastors Kim and David Trelles, lead The Gathering Bible study every Thursday night around 6. The trio invites anyone who has a desire to be closer to God. Teal said he wanted to have fellowship and worship in a place that is neutral and welcoming to individuals of all walks of life.

The program has been steadily regaining momentum since coming back after pandemic restrictions eased. It is on the verge of quickly outgrowing Karma's. Teal said The Gathering has been around for a while, "catching souls on fire with a deeper delve into the Truth."

"We started doing this about five years ago at the Cullman County » PAGE 6


CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
David Trelles (left) Kim Trelles (center) and Ron Teal (right) are the leaders of The Gathering, a non-traditional Bible study held at Karma's Coffee House on Thursday evenings.

#BartonStrong event raises over $20K to benefit Jack Aces rider


CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
Derrick and Marci Barton showed up to an outpouring of support from their biker family, as well as the whole community. Riding clubs Jack Aces and the Saints came together to hold a bike show to raise money to assist Derrick Barton with out-of-pocket costs after a recent cancer diagnosis. Pictured left to right are Derrick Barton's mother Gail Harris, his sister Michelle Patrum, Derrick Barton and Marci Barton.

Cheyenne Sharp
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CULLMAN, Ala. — Saturday, Jan. 27, saw more than 1,000 attendees come out to Brick Haven to show support for Jack Aces Motorcycle Club member, pillar of the riding community and deeply loved friend, Derrick Barton. More than $20,000 was raised through cornhole, pool and audio competitions, as well as the motorcycle and car show – all to support Barton following his recent cancer diagnosis. The funds will go toward medical bills, co-pays and travel expenses.

Jack Aces rider and one of the event's organizers, Ben Wilson, said, "First and foremost, a huge heartfelt THANK YOU goes out to everyone that was in attendance yesterday. I myself, along with everyone that had a hand in making it happen, was blown away by the love, support and generosity shown!"

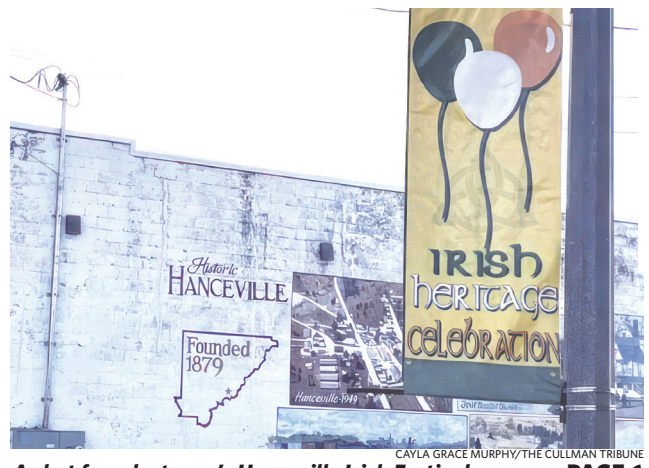
It was an overcast morning, but no amount of rain could stop the band of bikers from showing up to support their brother. Bikes of every imaginable make and model with every modi- » PAGE 6

COUNTY BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Good Hope captures JV Girls, Varsity Girls & Varsity Boys County Championships; Fairview wins JV Boys title


NICK GRIFFIN & MARTHA NEEDHAM/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
Good Hope won this year's JV Girls, Varsity Girls and Varsity Boys County Championship Games Saturday and Fairview took home the JV Boys Championship. Full game coverage inside.

7th annual Hanceville Irish Festival set for March 16



CAYLA GRACE MURPHY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
A shot from last year's Hanceville Irish Festival » PAGE 6

Good Hope High Scholars Bowl headed to nationals

» PAGE 2

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Arrests and incidents reported Jan. 29

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Jan. 29, 2024. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Jan. 25

- unauthorized use of motor vehicle; CR 1498
- theft of property; CR 384
- theft of property; CR 223
- harassment; CR 362
- breaking entering motor vehicle; CR 222
- domestic violence; CR 265
- theft of property; Hwy. 69 S

Jan. 26

- domestic violence; CR 1545
- theft of property; CR 1254
- theft of property; CR 531
- assault; CR 1612
- criminal mischief; CR 1082
- domestic violence; Neptune Dr.
- burglary; CR 283
- domestic violence; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 157
- criminal mischief; CR 35
- theft of property; CR 1139
- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 747
- theft of property; CR 1609

Jan. 27

- domestic violence; CR 223
- possession of marijuana; CR 110
- assault; CR 1223
- harassment; Hwy. 157
- burglary; CR 1435
- domestic violence; CR 623

Jan. 28

- domestic violence; CR 1029
- burglary; Hwy. 157
- domestic violence; Chad Dr.
- theft of property; CR 222
- domestic violence; CR 803
- possession of dangerous drugs; Hwy. 69 N

ARRESTS

Jan. 25 – 28

Anderson, Mallory J.; 22
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs (2 counts)
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Bowden, Crystal R.; 40
- FTA- DUI (alcohol)

Brown, Keiane C.; 35
- FTA- possession of stolen vehicle
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- ex-felon in possession of firearm

Collins, Floyd S.; 49
- possession of methamphetamine

Duckett, Aubrey A.; 37
- Probation Revoked- larceny/theft-miscellaneous

Dye, Garrett D.; 29
- larceny/theft of property-2nd degree, $1,500 - $2,500
- burglary-residence-force

Earwood, Jonathan D.; 53
- forgery-possessing forged instrument

Elam, Kyle P.; 26
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Farr, Larry D.; 63
- FTA- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Gatlin, Aaron S.; 30
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Hall, Michael W.; 45
- fraud-swindle/home repair

Heatherly, Raymond C.; 48
- public intoxication (2 counts)

Horton, Matthew L.; 41
- FTA- driving while license suspended

Konen, Aaron J.; 55
- public intoxication (2 counts)

Martin, Steven C.; 44
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Mathis, John D.; 53
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

McMinn, Jillian M.; 43
- damaged property-criminal mischief

Meeks, Bradford N.; 33
- possession of synthetic narcotic

Pace, Hunter L.; 25
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs (2 counts)
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)
- FTA- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Rickard, Michael O.; 26
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Sears, Shalon C.; 46
- FTA- larceny/theft-shoplifting less than $500

Selman, Jason B.; 47
- FTA- expired license

Stephens, Matthew D.; 40
- FTA- assault-domestic-harassment-family
- FTA- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA- public intoxication

Thompson, Tyler D.; 30
- DUI (alcohol)
- open container-alcohol in vehicle

Thrasher, Benjamin J.; 27
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Webb, Anthony M.; 41
- assault-domestic-harassment-family
- possession of drug paraphernalia

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Jan. 25

- leaving scene of accident; Bill Smith Buick GMC; 2nd Ave. NW; damage to 2019 GMC; $100

Jan. 26

- domestic violence-3rd degree; assault-3rd degree; person; 2nd Ave. NE
- harassing communications; person
- fraudulent use of credit/debit card; Southeastern Kitchen Exhaust Cleaning; miscellaneous charges
- forgery-3rd degree; fraudulent use of credit/debit card; person; miscellaneous charges
- duty upon striking fixtures on highway; person; 3rd Ave. SE; damaged mailbox; $50
- domestic violence-3rd degree-harassment; person; 2nd Ave. NW

Jan. 27

- theft of property-2nd degree; Dollar General; Hwy. 278 W; miscellaneous; $1,533

Jan. 28

- theft of property-1st degree; person; White Cir. SW; 2011 Kia Soul; $5,000
- leaving scene of accident; person; Hwy. 157 and Eva Rd.; damaged to 2008 Saturn; $3,000
- harassment; person; Field of Miracles Dr. SW

ARRESTS

Jan. 26 – 28

Griffin, Jonathan B.; 40
- FTA- domestic violence-3rd degree
- FTA- violation of protection order

Fuller, Cregary A.; 47
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Pace, Hunter L.; 25
- FTA- theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)
- FTA- criminal trespass-3rd degree

Kerr, Timothy M.; 28
- public intoxication

Rickard, Michael O.; 26
- FTA- speeding
- FTA- driving without license

Warren, Jeremy L.; 21
- DUI

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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



CCSO arrest roundup

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Recent arrests made by the Cullman County Sheriff's Office include:

Jan. 25

Deputies executed a warrant on Bradford Neal Meeks, who is currently being held at the Cullman County Detention Center on other charges.

Meeks is charged with unlawful possession of dangerous drugs.

Jan. 26

Deputies arrested Keiane Chavez Brown, 35, of Madison, Alabama, on multiple failure to appear warrants stemming from an incident that occurred in 2020.

He is charged with receiving stolen property, unlawful possession of dangerous drugs, unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia and being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Jan. 28

Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the Baileyton area. Floyd Shannon Collins, 49, of Baileyton, was identified as the driver. A subsequent search of his vehicle and person allegedly yielded narcotics.

Collins was arrested and charged with unlawful possession of methamphetamine.



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Left to right are Bradford Neal Meeks, Keiane Chavez Brown and Floyd Shannon Collins.

Good Hope (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — The Good Hope High School Scholars Bowl is headed to Chicago to compete for the national title at the National Academic Quiz Tournaments (NAQT) Small School National Championship Tournament in April. To qualify and clinch a spot at the national level, each school has to register, attend and compete at additional NAQT tournaments, and according to Tiffiany Ellis, the faculty sponsor of the GHHS Scholars Bowl team, the stakes are high.

"You have to score in the top 15% of all of the competing small schools to qualify for Nationals," said Ellis. "They have worked hard to get there and we are really excited to go."

The students gather for practice once a week to cover materials – pop quiz-style questions in varying levels of difficulty on various subjects. Each question is attached to a score, but the faster the question is answered correctly, the higher the point value the team receives.

Guessing isn't necessarily a bad choice if no answers are being given, but guessing incorrectly before the question is finished being asked can penalize a team's score by a significant five points.

Ellis said NAQT has a very specific format for questioning participants, sharing, "They start with a lead-in, something very vague. As the question goes on, the details get more specific and easier to guess."

Scholar Mary Ellen Self elaborated on the pressure of a difficult question in a tournament setting, stating, "You want to buzz soon because you know it, and you want to get the extra points, and we have had some close matches."

A nationals bid for a small school is a monumental achievement, and an out-of-state trip is something that few students experience. But the trip is costly, including travel, food and lodging.

"We'll have to fundraise to get the money to travel and go," said Ellis, who, these days, is constantly brainstorming for ideas.

"We will have a few coming up and hopefully have a lot of community support."

Fundraising is never an easy task, but the group is confident they can work together and raise the needed funds, just like they come together on the team.



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The academic achievers of Good Hope High School's Scholars Bowl Team are a close-knit group on the way to NAQT Nationals, forming tight bonds and inside jokes including pet names for one another. Back row, left to right, are Eric (Timothy) Brand, faculty sponsor Tiffiany (Nikki) Ellis, Bryant (Brian) Shelton, Ava (Laverne) Bell, Eli (Kicker) Kicker, William (Billiam) Skinner, Jessica (Hostage) Ransom and Samuel (Meghanothy) Patterson. Front row, left to right, are Mary Ellen (Ginger) Self and Lexi (Batman) Briscoe.

The students praised their teammates' strengths and specialty subjects and were also full of praise for Ellis.

"Mrs. Ellis notices when we have something wrong, almost immediately. She pays attention and makes sure that if we are about to cry, or if we're having a really bad day, she will just let us have a minute, and forget everything exists," said member Lexi Briscoe.

Said member Samuel Patterson, "Over the years, we've all had teachers that have told us that they could be trusted, but Mrs. Ellis is the only one that I could believe. If someone was hurting us, she would help. She makes this a safe space for every one of us."

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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

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

Church Services- Spirit Life Church of GOD
• Spirit Life Church of GOD, 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Mondays-Fridays- Free hot meals for children Mondays 11 a.m.-noon, Tuesdays 1-2 p.m. and Wednesdays-Fridays 11 a.m.-noon. Cullman Housing Authority Community Center 1545 Vine Circle SW. Please call Kristie 256-636-5362 for more information. Eat in or take out. Sponsored by Kids Loving Kids, Raising Arrows Ministry and Spirit Life Church.
• Kids Loving Kids Birthday Blessings serves children ages 1-18 in need of assistance to celebrate their birthdays. Register your child and pick up a birthday box with cake mix, icing, sprinkles, decorations and toys! Pickup is the last weekend of the month. Saturday (5100 Curry Highway Suite 100-B Jasper, AL 35504) from 3-5 p.m. or the last Sunday of the month at Spirit Life Church Cullman from 12:30-1 p.m. Birth certificate is required at the time of box pickup. Register at https://form.jotform.com/203435614640045. For more information, text or call 205-717-7478.
• Wednesday, Jan. 31 - 7 p.m. Children and youth classes. Adult Bible study of Romans. Free pizza for children at 6:30 p.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area at 6. Call 727-215-9092 for pickup. Healing Strong at 6! Women's class: "Rest For your Soul" and men's class: "Honor Begins at Home"
• Friday, Feb. 2 - 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 p.m. Childcare provided!
• Saturday, Feb. 3 - 8 a.m. Men's Breakfast & Foundry Farm Outreach following!
• Sunday, Feb. 4 - 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, Feb. 4 - 9 a.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area. Call Guy Sunter at 727-215-9092 for pickup. Breakfast at 9:30. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults at 10. Praise and worship and message by Pastor Bobby Dodd at 11. Leadership meeting following service!

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.

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.

ACES: Is nicotine pouch use the next vaping?

Justin Miller
ACES

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. — From Major League Baseball (MLB) and the National Football League to news networks and social media, nicotine pouches have made their presence well-known. Like many vaping products, people see these pouches as an alternative to tobacco. Could these pouches be the new vaping? Their recent growth in popularity has some people wondering if they will become popular among young people, similar to vaping products.

What are nicotine pouches?
Adrienne Duke-Marks, an Alabama Cooperative Extension System human sciences specialist, said nicotine pouches are still fairly new to consumers.

"Nicotine pouches entered the United States marketplace in 2016, but sales have grown rapidly over the last few years," Duke-Marks said.

Nicotine pouches are small, oral pouches that contain nicotine salts and other additives. Some of the common brands of these products include Zyn, Velo and Rogue. These pouches do not contain tobacco. However, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration still regulates them because federal law considers any product that contains tobacco-derived nicotine a tobacco product.

People use these pouches between their lips and gums, where the mouth then absorbs the nicotine. Unlike snuff or chewing tobacco, people do not have to spit this product out. This appeals to those that are looking for a cleaner and easier way to get nicotine. FOX Sports reported in early 2023 that some MLB players have turned to these products as a result of oral-tobacco bans.

"These pouches are sold in various flavors and can be used discreetly," said Duke-Marks, who is also an associate professor in the Auburn University College of Human Sciences. "The pouches are similar to Swedish snus, which is actually considered one of the few products associated with tobacco harm reduction by the FDA."

People associate the term tobacco harm reduction with using less harmful nicotine products rather than traditional nicotine products, such as cigarettes.

Effects on health
As vaping products gained popularity in the early 2010s, people called into question their effects on health. Today, there is much more known about their impacts on the brain, heart, lungs and cancer risks. Similarly, people may be curious about the health effects of nicotine pouches and how those compare to vaping and traditional tobacco.

Pouches can range in nicotine levels. Duke-Marks said it is important to remember that any form of nicotine is addictive and can hurt adolescent-brain development.

"Nicotine pouches actually contain lower levels of harmful chemicals, when compared to other nicotine products," she said.

"However, the high levels of nicotine in some of these pouches raise concerns for youth who have never smoked. Right now, there are no long-term studies on the effects of nicotine pouches on the mouth or other systems in the body."

Use among young people
Research done in the last several years shows a steady increase in the number of U.S. middle- and high-school students using electronic nicotine devices.

For nicotine pouches, retailers have seen an uptick in sales. However, Duke-Marks said there has not been much research done to examine self-reported use of nicotine pouches in youth or adults.

"As with other new nicotine products, youth and young adults are often the first to try new substances and popularize usage," Duke-Marks said.

"However, a recent study done on marketing in the U.S. has not found that they (companies) are specifically targeting youth audiences at this time."

Will these nicotine pouches become the next vaping? At this point, there is much more research to do before professionals can answer that question. However, parents and guardians can use these pouches' popularity as a chance to talk to young people about nicotine.

"If you just tell young people that you do not want them to smoke or vape, you are not getting at the main substance that causes addiction for teens," Duke-Marks said.

"Talk to them about the dangers of nicotine and the impact of addiction on the body and mind. Think more about the substance and less about the method of getting it in the system."

More information
Alabama Extension's human sciences team has resources that can help you have this conversation with your child or young adult. These resources cover topics such as smoking, vaping, cigarillos, pouches, hookah/shisha and others. To find these resources, search for these topics at www.aces.edu. You can also visit the website's Health section under the Home and Family topic area.

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HumbleRoots,LLC
Published daily Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 219 2nd Avenue SE, Cullman, Alabama 35055 Entered as periodical material at the Cullman Post Office Periodical postage paid at Cullman, Alabama 35055

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGE TO:
The Cullman Tribune
219 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Email Address: robin@cullmantribune.com

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CULLMAN.....$125.00
OUTSIDE CULLMAN.....$250.00

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JANUARY 30, 2024

COUNTY BASKETBALL TOURNAMET

Raiders claim County Championship with 69-55 win over West Point

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Good Hope Raiders defeated West Point 69-55 Saturday night to win this year's County Championship.

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – Good Hope and West Point battled it out in Saturday night's final County Championship Game and the Raiders put together a dominant second quarter to create some separation and held off the Warriors in the second half to win it 69-55 and capture this year's county title.

The Raiders went into the locker room with a 19-point lead at halftime, but Head Coach Drew Adams knew his team couldn't afford to get too comfortable.

"I've always been about never being comfortable until a game ends and this team knows we can't be comfortable because we blew a 16-point lead to Fairview in December, so we know that no lead is safe against a good team. Fairview was a good team and West Point is a good team. So, I think we were up 19 or 20 at halftime but we knew it wasn't safe," Adams said.

"The main thing is on the defensive side we just have to continue to get stops so no we were not comfortable with that one until there was about a minute left."

The county championship isn't the only goals the Raiders have set for themselves this season but Adams is proud of the way his guys competed throughout the week to bring home some very meaningful hardware.

"These guys know that the one thing that has gotten us in the last five or six years is, we've won some county championships but man we want to get back to Regionals and make some noise there so that's the ultimate goal," Adams said.

"But, like I've told some other people, people around here make a really big deal about this tournament so if we're going to get to play in it, we want to do well, and the guys played really hard.

"They left nothing out there and they were relentless on Friday and Saturday night so even though this is not our ultimate goal, it is a rung in the ladder that we wanted and I'm really proud of them for accomplishing that goal."

K'mal Bell drilled a three-pointer and Tucker Malin scored inside to give the Raiders a 5-0 start in the opening period and after Bell split a pair of free throws, Malin knocked down a jumper to make it 8-0. Kolten Perry split a pair of free throws on the other end to get the Warriors on the board, but Weston Hancock scored in the paint to put Good Hope in front 10-1. Baskets by Perry and Jacob Harbison trimmed the lead to 10-5 midway through the first, but the Raiders responded with buckets from Bell and Tyler Cone to make it a 14-5 game.

JD Cochran hit a pair of free throws to bring the lead down to 14-7 and West Point managed to cut it all the way to 17-11 by the end of the first quarter.

Cade Welborn nailed a three to cut the deficit to 19-14 early in the second quarter but it was all Good Hope after that. The Raiders finished the period on a 22-6 run, fueled mostly by Bell and Cone, to take a commanding, 41-20 lead into the locker room at halftime.

Baskets by Cochran and Perry made it a 41-24 game to start the third quarter, but Malin answered with another three-pointer and Cone dunked one in transition to keep Good Hope ahead 46-24.

Maddox Chapman and Cochran both scored in the paint to hold the lead to 18 and Jay Lamar laid one in to trim the lead to 46-30.

A pair of Harbison baskets cut the lead to 55-39 early in the final frame but Bell sank a pair of free throws and Dakota Overton converted an and-one play to keep the Raiders in front 60-41 with five minutes to play.

Bell lobbed one up for Cone in transition and he caught it at the rim and laid it in to make it a 62-41 game.

Back to back buckets by Cochran on the other end brought the lead down to 62-45 midway through the fourth and the Warriors wouldn't go away, cutting the lead to 13 with just over a minute on the clock.

However, the effort wasn't enough to overcome Good Hope's lead and the Raiders captured this year's county crown with a 69-55 win over West Point.

Bell led the way for Good Hope with 23 points in the win and Cone finished with 19. Cochran led the Warriors with 20 points in the loss.

Varsity Boys All-County Basketball Team
- Tucker Malin, Good Hope
- Tyler Cone, Good Hope
- K'mal Bell, Good Hope
- Weston Hancock, Good Hope
- Kolten Perry, West Point
- Jay Lamar, West Point
- Carson Garrett, Hanceville
- Noah Jones, Hanceville
- Kollin Brown, Holly Pond
- Coles Bales, Cold Springs
- Blake Rickard, Fairview
- Kobe Payne, Fairview
- Isaiah Jones, Vinemont
- Jordan Eller, Vinemont

Varsity Boys All-County Tournament Team
- K'mal Bell, Good Hope
- Tucker Malin, Good Hope
- Kollin Brown, Holly Pond
- Jay Lamar, West Point
- Kolten Perry, West Point
- Landun Smith, Fairview
- Kobe Payne, Fairview

Eli Thomas Memorial Scholarship Winner
- Cole Bales, Cold Springs

Joe Shults Award Winner
- Kollin Brown, Holly Pond

COUNTY BASKETBALL TOURNAMET

Fairview edges West Point 33-28 to claim back to back JV county titles

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Fairview Aggies defeated West Point 33-28 Saturday to win their second consecutive JV Boys County Championship.

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — West Point and Fairview clashed in Saturday's second county title game and for the second consecutive season, the Aggies are JV Boys County Champions. Points were hard to come by for both squads but a three-pointer from Zayden Cruce with 35 seconds on the clock put Fairview up by three and helped seal a 33-28 win and a county championship for the Aggies. Fairview Head Coach Logan Baird said his team relied on its defense throughout the game and was proud of the way they maintained their focus when shots weren't falling.

"We leaned on our defense and our defense was there for four quarters. I'm just really proud of these guys for the way they finished those four quarters."

Both teams dominated on defense to start out the game. Zayden Cruce knocked down a floater in the first few seconds to give Fairview the early lead, but Colton Thrower drained a trey from the right wing and Ayden Ennis added a basket in the paint to give West Point a 5-2 lead. Calin Collins buried a pair of free throws to cut it to 5-4, but a free throw by Asa Sutter and a layup by Teagan Heaton gave the Warriors an 8-4 lead going into the second period.

Conner Scott knocked down a floater, and Cruce put in a jumper to tie the game up at eight.

Nolan Franklin and Kolt Redding each traded baskets to keep the game tied up at 10. J.J. Minck banked in a floater, and Heaton added a basket in the paint to give West Point a 14-10 lead.

Redding split his free throws to trim the Aggie deficit to just three at 14-11. The Warriors would take a three-point lead into the locker room.

Camden Cullen scored off a West Point turnover to cut it to 14-13, but a basket on the other end by Franklin gave the Warriors a 16-13 lead. Collins' and-one tied the game up at 16 early in the third.

Later on, a trey by Ennis gave the Warriors a 19-18 lead. Redding, Cruce and Ty Babb each hit a free throw to give the Aggies the lead right back at 21-19 and they took a 2-point lead into the final period.

Collins and Thrower each traded baskets to keep it at a two-point game early in the fourth. A made shot by Cruce gave Fairview a 25-21 lead, but a steal and a layup by Franklin cut it to 25-23.

A huge and-one by Asa Sutter gave West Point the lead right back at 26-25. Franklin added another steal and a layup to make it a 28-25 game with less than four minutes to go in the contest.

Collins drilled three free throws to tie the game up at 28 with 2:23 remaining in the game. A big trey by Cruce from the left wing gave the Aggies a 31-28 with 35 seconds remaining in the contest. Collins added a pair from the line to help Fairview seal the 33-28 win over West Point to win the JV boys' county championship.

Collins finished with 12 points for Fairview in the win, and Cruce added 10 points. Franklin led the way for West Point with eight points in the loss.

JV Boys All-County Tournament Team
- Camden Cullen, Fairview
- Zayden Cruce, Fairview
- Nolan Franklin, West Point
- Sawyer Harris, West Point
- Ayden Black, Good Hope
- Kyle McSwain, Good Hope
- Hayden Robinson, Vinemont

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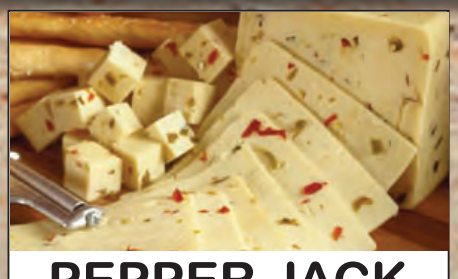


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COUNTY BASKETBALL TOURNAMET

JV Lady Raiders capture county title with 43-32 win over Cold Springs

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Good Hope Lady Raiders defeated Cold Springs 43-32 to win this year's JV Girls County Championship Game.

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — We tipped off Championship Saturday the Cullman County Tournament with the JV Girls finals between Good Hope and Cold Springs and the Lady Raiders led on the scoreboard from start to finish, defeating the Lady Eagles 43-32 and capturing the county title. Good Hope led 21-6 at one point and had to withstand a rally from Cold Springs to earn this year's county championship. Good Hope Head Coach Nina Moss was proud of the way her team fended off the push from the Lady Eagles and credits the extra work she has seen them put in all season.

"I'm just really proud of the girls. They've worked really hard, and this has been our goal all season," Moss said. "They put a lot of extra work in outside of practice time and I think that's what made the difference."

Maddie Davis put in a basket in the paint to put Cold Springs on the scoreboard first, but a driving layup by Ella Gossett tied the game up at two. Lexi Marshall drilled a trey from the left wing, and Lucie Adams knocked down a layup to give Good Hope a 7-2 lead with 3:35 remaining in the opening period. Layups by Marshall and Cadence Watson stretched the Lady Raider lead to 11-2. Jordan Sanders banked in a floater to make it a 13-3 lead for Good Hope late in the first quarter, but a trey by Avery Gerstman from the right wing cut it to 13-6. Lucie Adams scored the final four points of the quarter for the Lady Raiders, including a three before the buzzer, to give them a 17-6 lead going into the second period.

Layups by Gossett and Adams pushed Good Hope's lead to 21-6 early in the second, but four straight points by Baylee Perdue and a jumper off the glass by Kaydance Williams made it a 21-12 game with 3:26 remaining in the first half.

A rebound and putback by Marshall gave the Lady Raiders a 23-12 lead, but Perdue drained a long jumper to cut it to 23-14. A rebound and putback by Williams made it a 24-16 game late in the first half. Good Hope would take an eight-point lead into the half.

Both teams traded a few baskets to start the third period, then a layup by Sanders and a floater by Gossett increased the Lady Raider lead to 32-20. A pair of free throws by Macie Huffstutler made it a 33-22 game with a little over two minutes to go in the third quarter. Sanders put in a layup, then later on, Gossett scored through a foul and made the free throw to give the Lady Raiders a 38-24 lead going into the final period.

Huffstutler drained a three to trim the Good Hope lead to 38-27, but a layup on the other end by Gossett made it a 40-27 game. Perdue split her free throws, and Williams made a basket in the paint to cut it to 40-30, but a trey from the left corner by Adams gave the Lady Raiders a 43-30 lead. Good Hope would go on to collect a 43-32 win over Cold Springs to take home the JV Girls county championship.

Gossett led the way for Good Hope with 13 points in the win and Adams finished with 12. Perdue posted 11 points for Cold Springs and Williams added nine points.

JV Girls All-County Tournament Team

- Ella Gossett, Good Hope
- Jordan Sanders, Good Hope
- Lucie Adams, Good Hope
- Maci Huffstutler, Cold Springs
- Kaydance Williams, Cold Springs
- Mary Beth Penn, West Point
- Millie McBee, Holly Pond
- Blakely Baggett, Holly Pond

COUNTY BASKETBALL TOURNAMET

Good Hope downs West Point 60-39 to win 3rd straight county championship

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Good Hope Lady Raiders defeated West Point 60-39 Saturday night to claim their third straight county championship.

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — For the third consecutive season, the Good Hope Lady Raiders are Cullman County Champions. Good Hope built a 34-22 lead in the first half and pulled away in the final two periods to earn a 60-39 win over West Point and a third straight county title. After the game, Raider standouts Bailey Tetro and Ava McSwain, along with head coach Justin Aby, shared their thoughts on the latest county title.

"It feels great. I love this team very much and I'm just proud of us," Tetro said. "I think it just shows that all the hard work we're putting in is paying off and I'm excited for the rest of this season to see what we can do."

"It means a lot," McSwain said. "It was a great win and we've been preparing really hard for this but this is not our end goal."

"Like the girls said, this means a lot to us and I'm extremely proud of them," Aby said. "This is the third one in a row that we've won and it's really a reflection of how much work and time these girls put in. It's a great group of girls who love the game of basketball."

The Lady Raiders got off to a great start. Baskets by Ivey Maddox and Ava McSwain put Good Hope in front 4-0 and Maddox added back to back three-pointers to make it a 10-0 game. Bailey Tetro laid one in and split a pair of free throws to give the Lady Raiders a 13-0 lead, but Laklin Shadix scored the next five points on the other end to get West Point on the board and cut the lead to 13-5. However, Good Hope capped the opening period with a 9-0 scoring run and went into the second leading 22-5. Camryn Faulker drilled a three-pointer and Kylee Quinn scored in the paint to bring the lead down to 22-10 early in the second but baskets by Heather Tetro and Jolee McHan helped keep the Lady Raiders in front 26-11. Quinn sank a pair of free throws and Liberty Shadix laid one in to make it a 26-15 game with three minutes remaining in the half. Baskets by Maddox and McSwain gave Good Hope a 30-17 lead with less than two minutes two on the clock and Charly Johnson scored a pair of buckets in the final minute of the period to put the Lady Raiders ahead 34-22 at the halftime break.

A basket from Liberty Shadix and a free throw from Laklin Shadix made it a 34-25 game early in the third but baskets by Johnson and Maddox on the other end kept Good Hope in front 38-25. A Kealie Harbison bucket helped trim the lead to 40-27 midway through the third quarter but three-pointers by Maddox and McSwain helped build the Raider lead back up to 48-29 later in the period. Harbison exchanged scores with McHan in the final two minutes of the third to make it a 50-31 game with just eight minutes to play.

Maddox laid one in to give Good Hope a 52-31 advantage early in the fourth quarter and later in the period, Heather Tetro buried a three-pointer to make it a 56-35 game. Maddox knocked down another three to give the Lady Raiders a commanding, 60-37 lead with a minute to play and Good Hope went on to claim its third straight county crown with a 60-39 win over the Lady Warriors.

Maddox led the way for the Lady Raiders with 22 points in the win, followed by McSwain with 13. Quinn and Laklin Shadix each posted 10 points for West Point in the loss.

Varsity Girls All-County Tournament Team

- Ivey Maddox, Good Hope
- Ava McSwain, Good Hope
- Heather Tetro, Good Hope
- Liberty Shadix, West Point
- Laklin Shadix, West Point
- Hallie Wheeler, West Point
- Malaya Taylor, Cold Springs
- Maci Brown, Cold Springs
- Whitney Quick, Vinemont
- Maggie Burks, Vinemont

Varsity Girls All-County Basketball Team

- Bailey Tetro, Good Hope
- Heather Tetro, Good Hope
- Ivey Maddox, Good Hope
- Ava McSwain, Good Hope
- Liberty Shadix, West Point
- Hallie Wheeler, West Point
- Jaelyn Faulkner, West Point
- Ella Bruer, Cold Springs
- Maci Brown, Cold Springs
- Ella Dickerson, Cold Springs
- Ava Thomas, Holly Pond
- Madison Butts, Holly Pond
- Reagan Robinson, Vinemont
- Whitney Quick, Vinemont
- Kate Sterling, Hanceville

2024 Charlotte Cummings Memorial Scholarship Winner

- Kamryn Tankersley, Holly Pond

2024 Bill Shelton Award Winner

- Ivey Maddox & Bailey Tetro, Good Hope







Vinemont Bunny Trail coming this Easter

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — The Town of South Vinemont unveiled a new addition to its Christmas celebrations in 2023: a tinsel trail around the perimeter of the community park, known as the Art Park. Because of the success and community engagement with the Tinsel Trail, the Town decided to shift that festive feeling into the Easter season, announcing that a Bunny Trail will be installed for visitors to enjoy.

The Bunny Trail will have the same structure as the Tinsel Trail; residents, businesses and schools from Cullman County are eligible and encouraged to purchase one (or more) pre-cut plywood Easter eggs to paint, decorate and display in the community park.

Much like the Tinsel Trail, these decorations can be used to remember and honor loved ones, promote businesses and teams or spotlight students, clubs or individuals.

Unlike the Tinsel Trail, the Bunny Trail exhibits will be judged for first, second and third place. Those winning participants will hop away with a $50, $25 and $10 Walmart gift card, respectively, with the prizes generously donated by a local Vinemont business.

"We can't wait to see your creativity shine as you decorate these large wooden eggs. Let's come together as a community and make a new tradition happen," Vinemont Town Clerk Kayecea Sasser said.

"These eggs will be on display the whole month of March, and yes, we will have a judging for them.

"Winners will be announced at our second annual Easter Egg Extravaganza March 23, 2024, from 3-5 p.m. at the Vinemont Community Center."

The Town is asking that interested crafters, Easter lovers and decorators pre-order their eggs by Feb. 20, to ensure that enough are cut by the Town maintenance department. There is no limit on the number of eggs that can be ordered. Pre-order at https://form.jotform.com/240190548154151.

For more information contact Vinemont Town Hall at 256-737-5411 or info@townofsouthvinemont.com.

Karma's (from Front)

Museum, then Covid came and shut everything down. Karma's was the only place that would allow us to meet. We spoke with them at Karma's and our attendance just started to explode," Teal shared. "It's been one of those things that the Lord just breathed on. We only had the Cullman Gathering until last year and now we have three more, one in Midland, Texas, one in Amarillo, Texas, and one in Destin, Florida. What happened in Midland, Amarillo and Destin is people came to Cullman and said, 'I want to do that in my community' and took it home."

Teal travels back and forth between his home in Texas and his Gathering spots. He said the goal has always been to bring followers closer to the Lord and share the miracles that are given from above with a little bit of truth and faith.

David Trelles shared, "This is very non-traditional. Thursday nights, and we don't own a building, we don't have to upkeep a parking lot, we don't have those diversions and roadblocks to the truth – and that's what we do here. We share the Truth."

The Gathering meets each Thursday night at Karma's Coffee House located at 103 First Ave. NE.

Fellowship begins at 6 with the message following at 7. Teal and the Trelleses recommend an early arrival to secure a good spot, as the seats fill quickly.

Festival (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — As the weather warms up and spring makes its way to Alabama, several communities in Cullman are gearing up for fun festivals and family events. Hanceville is set to host its seventh annual Irish Festival on Saturday, March 16, and is currently accepting vendors and sponsors for what it hopes will be the biggest and best yet.

The Hanceville Irish Festival is a chance to join in on some family friendly Saint Paddy's Day fun and offers everything you would expect of an outdoor festival: inflatables and games for the kiddos, a wide selection of local artisans and vendors to shop with and an alley packed with food trucks dishing up Irish faves. Local entertainers and musicians will be working the stage with tunes to make you want to dance a jig.

Festival organizer and member of Friends of the Festival, Nolan Bradford, spoke with The Cullman Tribune, sharing excitement at the growth the festival has enjoyed year after year, and emphasized the impact that festivals and events like this have on the community of Hanceville at large.

"This is our seventh year, and the festival continues to grow each year," he said, highlighting the economic opportunity it brings to a city like Hanceville.

"Events like this will help to continue the revitalization of our downtown, help the city to grow and attract new businesses and families to our area."

Friends of the Festival is currently accepting vendors and sponsors for the seventh annual Hanceville Irish Festival. The festival is set for Saturday, March 16, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Applications can be found on the Hanceville Irish Festival Facebook page at www.facebook.com/hancevilleirishfest.

Barton (from Front)

fication lined the interior of the beautiful Brick Haven Venue, the stone and wood balancing the acoustics of the room perfectly for the afternoon's bike audio competition. The winners of the day's competitions took home bragging rights and trophies. In the audio competitions Tim Hopkins took the win in the two speaker category, Lee Landis clinched the first spot in the three speaker category, Max Spaulding and Austin Chambers split the win with six speakers, Cody Butler dominated the 10 speaker division and Dustin Watson swept the board in both the 12 and 14 speaker categories.

The motorcycle show was one for the books, as nearly every corner was taken up with a bike. The winner in the Softail and Softail 23 inch category was Tim Hopkins, Dustin Watson's bike took home the best Daily Rider, Brian Williams was champion in the Fat Tire Bagger category, best vintage bike went to Mick Patrum, best bagger up to 23 inches went to Jack Clayton and Blair David took the win for 26 inch bagger.

A car show was also on the premises, showcasing the unique automobiles of the bikers. Mike Brown won best truck, Jeremy Stone took home both best hot rod and people's choice and Cadillac Ron walked away with best car and best of show.

Pool tournament winners were Meaghan Lee and Alex Thomas and the winners of the cornhole competition were Nick Kaser and Robert Angle. The Jack Aces Riding Club along with the Cullman Elks Lodge will be hosting an additional benefit for the Bartons, to be held on Feb. 24, at 6 p.m. at the Elks Lodge. Silent and live auctions, raffles and four hilarious comedians will make this fun-filled benefit a great time for a great cause. Tickets can be purchased for $15 at the door or $12 in advance. Tickets can be pre-purchased at the Elks Lodge any time after Feb. 8.

LEGALS

PB MIN BK 221 PG 379 - 01/12/2024 11:23 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF BARBARA ELIZABETH PALOKONIS, Deceased. * CASE NO.: PC2024-012

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to KATIE LYNN LACHELLE ALLEN, as Personal Representative of the Estate of BARBARA ELIZABETH PALOKONIS, deceased, on the 12th 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.

Katie Lynn Lachelle Allen
Personal Representative

James B. Griffin
Attorney for Petitioner
P.O. Box 911
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

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City of Cullman
Planning Commission

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

1. Short form subdivision – 1212 2nd Avenue NW – combine lots into one lot
2. Short form subdivision – 104 9th Street NE – move lot line

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

Obituary Announcements: Jan. 27-29

Howard Luther Holmes, 64
Howard Luther Holmes, age 64, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024. A celebration of life visitation for Howard was held Sunday, Jan. 28, 2024, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Moss-Service Funeral Home, 1901 Second Ave., NW, Cullman, Alabama 35055. A celebration of life funeral service was held Monday, Jan. 29, 2024, at 1901 Second Ave. NW, Cullman, AL 35055. An interment took place at Bethsadia Baptist Church Cemetery, 3358-3612 CR-436, Cullman, AL 35057.

Christine Yates, 73
Christine Yates, age 73, of Cullman, passed from this life on Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2024. Mrs. Yates was born Oct. 12, 1950, to Bascom Davis and Kathleen Price Davis. There are no arrangements at this time. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. She is preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Henry Yates. She is survived by her two daughters, Tasha Crouse (Aldon), and Brandy Haggard (Hank Hutchinson); one sister, Regina Wright (Billy); three grandchildren, Karen Johns, Kenai Riendeau, Ruben Riendeau; nephew, Billy Wright; niece, Melissa Page (Robert), Brooke Wright; great-nieces and great-nephews, Cassidy Camp, Steven Page, Catherine Page, and Jace Smith; and a host of family and friends. Christine is remembered by family as being very loving. She loved being with her family more than anything. She will be missed. Please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Richard L. Olson, LTC (Ret), 78
Memorial for Richard L. Olson, LTC (Ret), age 78, of Cullman, is Monday, Feb. 5, 2024, at 2 p.m. at Sardis Baptist Church in Trimble. Interment will follow at Sardis Baptist Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. Olson was born April 18, 1945, to Gess Olson and Gladys Simonson Olson. He passed from this life on Jan. 25, 2024. He is preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Wanda Shaddix Olson; one son, Richard Lane Olson, Jr. (Crissi); two daughters, Jennifer White (Matt), and Tracy Collins (Jonathan); one sister, Sandra Faye Johnson; grandchildren, Joni Olson, Garrett Olson, Reid Olson, Oleta Olson, Lauren Barnett (Jagger), Ryan White; one great-grandchild, Wyatt Barnett; and a host of family and friends. Richard was a longtime and faithful member of Sardis Baptist Church and he loved the Lord more than anything. He was a devout, loving husband, father, and grandfather to his family. He was very social and had a great sense of humor. He loved his country and was very patriotic. He honorably served in the U.S. Army and U.S. National Guard for over 32 years. He was a wonderful man and he will be missed by all who knew and loved him. Please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Jerry Michael Simmons, 72
Jerry Michael Simmons, age 72, of Logan passed from this life on Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024. There are no arrangements at this time. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Jerry Loyal Blair, 86
Funeral service for Jerry Loyal Blair, age 86, of Vinemont, will be at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Rev. Dennis Trimble officiating; burial at Ebenezer Cemetery. Visitation will be from 12 p.m. until 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Blair passed away on Friday, Jan. 26, 2024, at his residence. He was born June 21, 1937, to Truman Blair and Audrey Blair. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Christean Blair, and his parents. Survivors include his wife, Sue Blair; son, Steven (Melanie) Blair; stepson, Rodney (Denise) Graham; stepson, Randall (Jennifer) Graham; stepson, Roger Graham; stepdaughter, Rhonda (Jeff) Boatwright; grandson, Justin (Katie) Blair; granddaughter, Jillian Van (Scott) Schneider, great granddaughters - Ava Blair, and Shelby Blair; 13 step-grandchildren; 16 Step-great grandchildren; and brothers, Lewis (Karen) Blair, and Randy (Juanita) Blair.

Marvin Carl Ermshar, 85
Memorial service for Marvin Carl Ermshar, age 85, of Cullman, will be at 6 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 2, 2024, at Cullman Seventh-Day Adventist Church. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is assisting with arrangements. Mr. Ermshar passed away on Monday, Dec. 18, 2023, at Woodland Village Health Care. He was born Jan. 14, 1938, in California to Lawrence and Thelma Ermshar. He was preceded in death by his wife, Linda Ermshar; parents; brother, Ronald Ermshar; sister-in-law, Caryl Ermshar. Survivors include his son, Kurt J.D. (Elizabeth) Ermshar; daughters, Kimberly Love and Victoria R. (Marc) Karsten; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; brothers, Douglas (Suzie) Ermshar and Edwin Ermshar; sister-in-law, Arlene Ermshar; and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Linda Jean Walmsley, 78
Funeral service for Linda Jean Walmsley, age 78, of Cullman, will be Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024, at noon at Cullman Funeral Home chapel, with Bro. Chris Hargrove and Bro. Tim Dubberly officiating. Visitation held Monday, Jan. 29, 2024, at Cullman Funeral Home. Interment will be at Etha Baptist Cemetery following the funeral service on Tuesday. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Walmsley was born May 21, 1945, to William Comer Smith and Vivian Denney Smith. She passed from this life on Jan. 27, 2024. She is preceded in death by her parents; her brother, Sanford Smith. She is survived by her loving husband of 56 years, Dwight Walmsley; two sons, Kevin Walmsley (Dianna), Carl Walmsley (Janet); one daughter, Vanissa Hargrove (Chris); one sister, Barbara Jenkins; grandchildren, Cody Walmsley (Katherine), Cylie Pugh (Josh), Madison Walmsley, Lily Grace Walmsley, Micheal Moran, Kelsey Moran; great-grandchildren, Neveah Pugh, and Logan Pugh; and a host of family and friends. Linda is described by her family as loving, caring, and fun. She loved to sew, cook, can, and garden. She loved spending time with her grandkids and loved to spoil them. She loved to boss Dwight around and tell him how to drive. She was a faithful member of Refuge Church of God and she loved her Lord most of all. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her. Please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Ronald Dale Steele, 59
Funeral Service for Ronald Dale Steele, age 59, of Cullman, was held Monday, Jan. 29, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with burial at Beech Grove Cemetery. Visitation took place before the service Monday, Jan. 29, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home directing.

Jordan Christopher Wilkins, 26
Jordan Christopher Wilkins, 26, of Addison, passed away Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024, at his residence. He was born Sept. 15, 1997, to James and Wanda Wilkins. Visitation will be held Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024, from noon until 2 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Addison, where services will be held at 2 p.m. Burial will be at Hillcrest Cemetery. Brother Samuel Tucker will officiate. Jordan is survived by his wife, Courtney Wilkins; parents, James and Wanda Wilkins; brothers, Wesley Heath (Jovelyn) Wilkins, Wade Edmon (Angela) Vincent, Brent Kendall Vincent; special niece, Trentley Vincent, niece, Abigail Williams; nephew, Brody Williams; step-grandmother, Jean Waid; best friend, Colton Young; and a host of aunts, uncles and cousins. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Ellis and Muriel Wilkins, and Marvin and Foye Waid. Memories and condolences may be shared at www.nicholsfuneralhomes.com.

Jason Daniel "Pork Chop" Cofield, 46, of Arab
Jason Daniel "Pork Chop" Cofield, 46 of Arab, Died Saturday Jan. 27, 2024, at his residence. Jason was born Aug. 10, 1977, in Marshall County, Alabama, the son of Thomas J. Cofield, Sr. and Loretta Lowe Cofield. He was a truck driver for Mid Central Carrier's. Pork Chop, as he was fondly known to his family and friends, was a diehard Auburn Fan and enjoyed the adventures of over the road trucking. He is survived by his mother: Loretta Lowe; brother and sister-in-law: Thomas and Crasanda Pruett-Cofield; a niece: Desi Pruett-Cofield; several aunts, uncles, cousins, other relatives and many dear friends. Funeral Service will be noon Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024, at Gober Funeral Chapel. The burial will be in the Mount Pleasant Cemetery near Altoona, Alabama in Etowah County, with Gober Funeral Chapel directing. Pallbearers: Greg Cofield, Thomas Cofield, Charles Lowe III, Jeffery Lowe, Dustin Mason and Rickey Mason. The Cofield Family will receive friends Wednesday at the funeral home during visitation from 11 a.m. until service time at noon.

Misty Annette Dempsey, 39
Misty Annette Dempsey, 39, of Double Springs, passed away Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024, at her residence. She was born July 9, 1984. Misty's world revolved around her children and husband. She loved her family more than anything. She was such a wonderful person and friend. Misty could light up a room just by walking in it. You could never have a bad day while she was around. Misty will be missed by so many. Our hearts are broken but misty is dancing with the angels. Visitation will be Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024, from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m at Nichols Funeral Home in Double Springs. Misty is survived by her husband, Jeromy Dempsey; sons, Eli Dempsey and Michael Sellers; daughter, Harmoney Dempsey; mother, Patricia (Gerald) Potete; father, Mike Miller; sisters, Kristy (Charles) Stiffler, Devana Miller (Benji Odom), and Savana Miller (Michael Boone); brother, Heath Overton; sisters-in-law, Stella (Ron) Alaxander, Blenda (Bj) New, Kristy (James) Mathews; mother-in-law, Noma Dempsey; brother-in-law, Shannon Dempsey. She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Edward (Devona) Treece, Eugene (Easter) Miller, Geneva Frost; aunt, Sheila Hood; uncle, Jamie Treece; and cousin and best friend, Lisa Flanagin.

Douglas Gamble, 85
Graveside services for Douglas Gamble, 85, of Hayden, will be 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024, at Garden City Cemetery. Visitation will be prior to the service from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mr. Gamble was born Oct. 7, 1938, in Garden City, Alabama. He passed away Jan. 27, 2024, in Birmingham, Alabama. Mr. Gamble is survived by his daughter, Paula McKay (Doug); brother, Larry Gamble (Brenda); and a host of nieces and nephews. Mr. Gamble was preceded in death by his wife Rebecca Gamble; his parents, Vester and Pernie Gamble; brother, Bob Gamble; and sister-in-law, Mary Ella Gamble.

Gerald Brown, 91, of Hanceville
Gerald Brown, age 91, of Hanceville, Alabama passed away on Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024. Gerald was born on Aug. 21, 1932, to Samuel Harma Brown and Gertrude Williamson Brown in Oakman, Alabama where he grew up. He attended Oakman High School and joined the Army at the age of seventeen. Upon completion of basic training, he was assigned to the 453rd Engineer Battalion (Construction) and promptly deployed to Korea at the age of eighteen and earned the honor to wear the Presidential Unit Citation awarded to units for extraordinary heroism against an armed enemy. After a short break in service, he once again answered the call to duty and served two tours in Vietnam from 1966-1968 with the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion – 10 (Seabees) earning the Naval and Marine Corps Commendation Medal for actions during the Tet Offensive. Gerald has served in many capacities with the Army, Navy, and Air Force both Active, Reserve and National Guard for a combined total of 32 years for retirement as a Master Sergeant and was awarded the Veteran of the Year for the state of Alabama. In addition to his military service, he was a Master Mechanic and operator for heavy equipment and served in various senior positions throughout the Southeast and a stint in Iran before the fall. Gerald was a faithful member of the Masons earning 32nd Degree Mason status and was a dedicated supporter of the Shriners Hospital. Through all his travels and adventures, his greatest joy was getting to spend time with family. The big family gatherings were his favorite. He so enjoyed watching all the kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews, playing and having a fun time. He was a loving husband, dad, papa, brother, brother-in-law, uncle and a caring neighbor and friend. We celebrate his life and his accomplishments and will treasure the memories he created for his family and friends and find comfort in knowing he had a personal relationship with the Lord. Survivors include his daughter Dianne (Jim) Cornelius; son Raymond (Judy) Brown; son Randy (Lynn) Brown; brother Kenneth (Linda) Brown; sister Colleen Combs; sister Ann Franks; sister Faye Asmus; sister Linda (Phillip) Smith. Grandchildren Christi (Curt) Ballard; Jamie (Josh) Warmack; Dustin Kretzschmar; Kelley (Michael) Kretzschmar; Stephanie (Matt) Hardiman; Michael (Beth) Brown. Great Grandchildren: Jack and Annalee Ballard; Rowan, Silas and Finlee Warmack; Cassidy Kretzschmar; Elaina Tomas; Axl and Gage Brown. He was preceded in death by his mother and father; wife of 48 years Nell (Schmidt) Brown; daughter Gail (Brown) Kretzschmar; brothers Earl, Roger, and Larry Brown. A visitation for Gerald will be on Friday, Feb. 2, 2024, at Hanceville Funeral Home from 10 a.m. until noon with the service officiated by Pastor and Nephew Jeremy Brown beginning at noon in the Chapel. A brief graveside service with military honors will be at Walker Memorial Gardens in Jasper, Alabama following the service.

Jordan Christopher Wilkins, 26
Jordan Christopher Wilkins, age 26, of Addison, passed away Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024 at his residence. He was born Sept. 15, 1997, to James and Wanda Wilkins. Visitation will be held Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024, from noon until 2 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home in Addison, where services will be held at 2 p.m. Burial will be at Hillcrest Cemetery. Brother Samuel Tucker will officiate. Jordan is survived by his wife, Courtney Wilkins; parents, James and Wanda Wilkins; brothers, Wesley Heath (Jovelyn) Wilkins, Wade Edmon (Angela) Vincent, Brent Kendall Vincent; special niece, Trentley Vincent, niece, Abigail Williams; nephew, Brody Williams; step-grandmother, Jean Waid; best friend, Colton Young; and a host of aunts, uncles and cousins. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Ellis and Muriel Wilkins, and Marvin and Foye Waid. Memories and condolences may be shared at www.nicholsfuneralhomes.com.

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