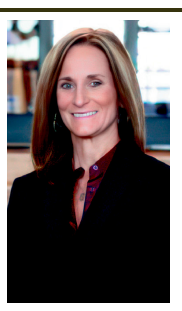

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SUNNY

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NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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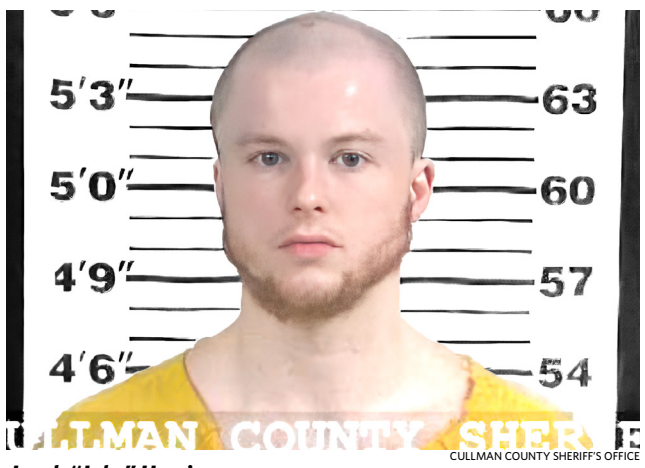
Holly Pond man charged with possession, dissemination of child pornography

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — A Holly Pond man was arrested by the Alabama State Bureau of Investigation Thursday, Jan. 25.

Jacob "Jake" Harris, 24, is charged with five counts of possession of child pornography and one count of dissemination of child pornography.

Cullman County District Attorney Champ Crocker said he couldn't provide many details, but said, "Because of the Rules of Professional Conduct, I am limited in what I can say about this investigation, and I cannot comment on the facts of this particular case. However, as I have said before, I am committed to protecting the people of Cullman County, and that includes our children."


CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Jacob "Jake" Harris

Cullman County Spelling Bee buzzing into town Feb. 5


ROBERT STRANE
Fairview Elementary School Spelling Bee winner Chloe Walker is pictured with Fairview Elementary School Principal Marty Hardman.

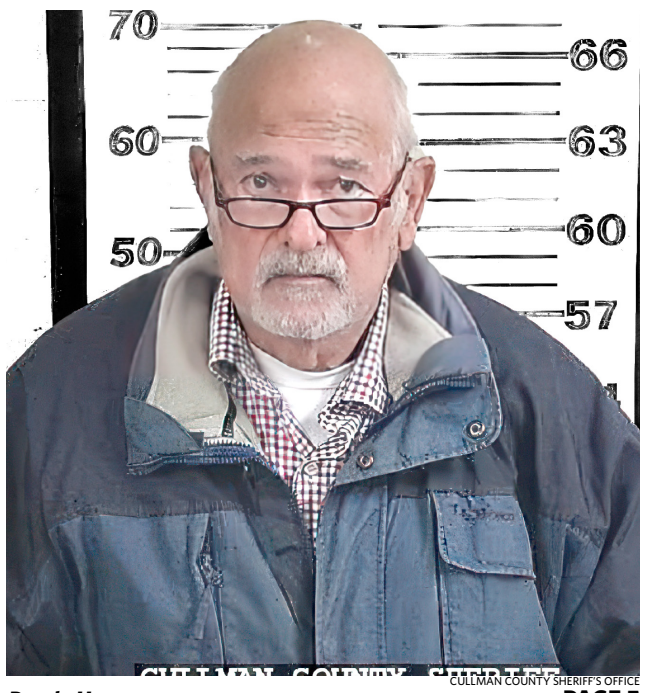
Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Winners. W-I-N-N-E-R-S. Winners. That's what all the student competitors headed to the Cullman County Spelling Bee are. Each bested his or her classmates and earned a place in the county bee, which will take place Monday, Feb. 7, at 7 p.m. at Temple Baptist Church in Cullman.

Participating students include:
- Cold Springs Elementary-Caroline Hunt, grade 4
- Fairview Elementary-Chloe Walker, grade 5
- Good Hope Elementary-Lincoln Mills, grade 5
- Hanceville Elementary-Mason Bartlett, grade 5
- Harmony- Malachi Meade, grade 8

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Cullman Attorney Randy Hames on trial in federal court following dismissal of local human trafficking charges


CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Randy Hames
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Unsheltered International 1 step closer to completing 'The Village'
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County Commission ends emergency declaration
» PAGE 2

PET OF THE WEEK
Howl about with Howard


DONNA RUTTKAY
Howard
» PAGE 3

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Jan. 31

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported Jan. 31, 2024. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No arrests or incidents reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Jan. 25

- harassment; person; 2nd Ave. NE

Jan. 29

- theft of property-1st degree; breaking entering motor vehicle; damaged property; $7,168
- identity theft; person
- breaking entering motor vehicle; person; 2nd Ave. SW; purse and contents

Jan. 30

- fraudulent use of credit/debit card; person; miscellaneous charges
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; 2nd St. SW

ARRESTS

Jan. 29 – 30

Washburn, Jodie R.; 42

- FTA- theft of property-4th degree

Hughes, Tiffany D.; 40

- FTA- theft of property-4th degree
- FTA- criminal trespass-3rd degree

George, William B.; 41

- FTA- theft of property-4th degree

Duke, Jason P.; 38

- criminal trespass-3rd degree

Akers, Tonia D.; 43

- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia

Santacruz, Josue; 20

- Grand Jury- breaking entering motor vehicle
- Grand Jury- burglary-2nd degree
- Grand Jury- criminal trespass

Foshee, Jennifer L.;

- possession/receiving controlled substance
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- resisting arrest
- FTA- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA- criminal trespass-3rd degree

Johnson, Jennifer A.; 47

- domestic violence-3rd degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Commission (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Cullman County Commission on Tuesday, Jan. 30, held an emergency called meeting to end the emergency declaration it set in place Jan. 15, during the region's ice storm.

During the meeting, Cullman County Attorney Emily Niezer Johnston requested an executive session, closed to the public.

The purpose of the executive session was to discuss pending or threatened litigation involving the County in a confidential environment, while staying on the record. No details were made public.

The next scheduled commission meeting will be Feb. 22 in the commission meeting room; the work session will begin at 4 p.m. with the meeting starting promptly at 6.

Village (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

JONES CHAPEL, Ala. – With the property graded and staked, Unsheltered International is one step closer to opening its tiny home housing project, "The Village." The 17-acre plot of land in Jones Chapel has been developed since 2020 into the trappings of a tiny home village to be used as Unsheltered's newest ministry, a re-entry program centered around the unhoused population of Cullman.

Travis Sharpe, founder of Unsheltered International, shared that while most people initially viewed the concept of The Village as a typical emergency shelter with cots, it is actually a long-term re-entry program designed to give formerly unhoused residents the resources and skills they need to stabilize their lives and become productive members of the community.

Residents won't just be staying for a few nights until they find a couch to crash on; they'll be expected to spend months of even over a year learning the life skills they need to thrive.

"At the village, we are looking for people who are at a place in their life where they are truly ready to take advantage of the opportunities God is giving them," said Sharpe, stating that The Village will not be an avenue for emergency shelter.

"It will be long-term housing as part of a program that helps prepare our residents for the next stage of their life."

Sharpe said the program is tailored to emphasize a sense of security and responsibility among the residents and clients of the village. With the help of their caseworkers, clients will be expected to remain sober from drugs and alcohol, attend classes, maintain employment and attend church during their time at The Village.

Sharpe said this holistic and well-rounded approach gives clients their best shot at returning to a sense of normalcy and stability after spending time unhoused.

Sharpe said the issue of homelessness isn't just one he's passionate about from the sidelines; he believes his nearly three decades of street ministry experience will come in handy in assisting the unhoused in Cullman.

"Having started, and operated, a homeless shelter for many years, I have an understanding of what it takes to provide for housing needs and program needs," explained Sharpe, saying that many of those years were spent in 13 different states and three different countries; he's seen a thing or two, and hopes those observations will better serve the clients of The Village.

"I feel I've been given a well-rounded view of the various needs and challenges presented to people who are trying to overcome homelessness," he said.

Sharpe said for the property itself, everything is in place to begin the actual building of the first phase of the complex, which includes a security office, main office and five tiny homes.

Grading has been completed, and gravel will come later after sewer lines and water lines have been installed. Electrical infrastructure is also needed before an official opening, but Sharpe said there's nothing stopping them from working on finishing out the frames of the tiny homes as soon as funding is secured – about $284,144 is needed for the first five homes. As far as how the community can get involved to support the village, Sharpe said the biggest thing the community can do is pray.

"The community can pray for the remaining funds to come in. About $214,000 more is needed for infrastructure development, and about $284,144 is needed for the first five homes," he said, noting that the cost of the homes can be greatly reduced with donations of materials and labor, many of which Unsheltered is grateful to have already been offered or received.

"We hope the community will support this effort financially, through donations of new construction materials, and of course, volunteer labor when the time comes!" he exclaimed.

To volunteer with Unsheltered International or learn about its other ministries in Cullman, visit www.unsheltered.org.



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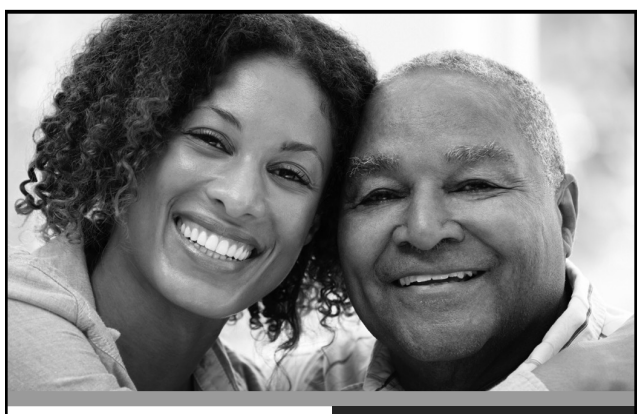


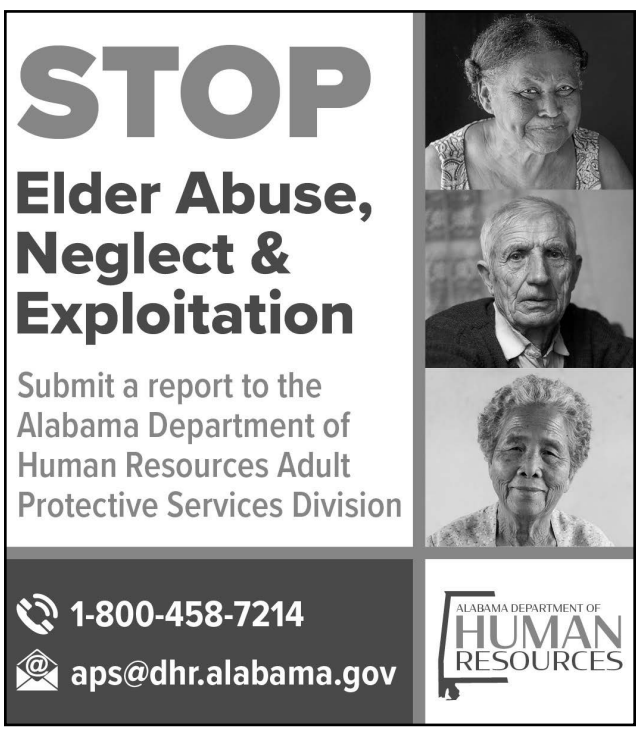
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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

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

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

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church Singing
Sunday, Feb. 18, at 5 p.m. with The Pylant Family from Eva. 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.

Cook Ministries Presents A Night of Gospel Music
Saturday, Feb. 24, at 5 p.m. at Hillside Baptist Church in Falkville. Featuring Tim Fulgham, The Shaneyfelts and Loretta Jent. Love offering. Doors open at 4. For more info, call 205-500-1908.

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Howard (from Front)

Cayla Grace Murphy
caylagrace@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Howard, an approximately 6-year-old male hound mix with a cream and tan coat, is available for adoption at Cullman County Animal Shelter.

Howard embodies the simple and quieter ways of life. He maintains a low energy level, and would make the perfect porch-layin' dog for your home in the country or the best walk buddy in the city as he navigates his leash with ease.

He is sure to express his excitement when you come home; his breed is known for its distinct hound dog bay, and Howard has been known to let one loose! Howard is a true gentleman with an understanding of personal space and boundaries. He cherishes the time he spends with handlers at the shelter and is sure to be your next best friend.

Are you ready to howl with Howard? Head over to Cullman County Animal Shelter at 935 Convent Road NE, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. for a meet and greet.

His adoption fee includes neuter, DHLPP vaccine, Bordetella vaccines, rabies vaccine, wormer, general exam at the vet and microchip.

Contact the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 256-734-5448 or cullman-animalshelter@co.cullman.al.us.

CORRECTION



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

In our story titled "#BartonStrong event raises over $20K to benefit Jack Aces rider," published Jan. 30, 2024, we misidentified Michelle Patrum and Marcie Barton in the photo caption.

The correct caption is: Derrick and Marcie 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 wife Marcie Barton, Derrick Barton and his sister Michelle Patrum.

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PREP BASKETBALL

No. 10 Cullman handles Decatur 71-43, Lady Bearcats rally to win 57-48

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Cullman was back home at Bearcat Arena Monday night to host a pair of big area games against Decatur and both the Bearcats and Lady Bearcats collected big wins on their home floor. In the girls' game, Cullman trailed by as many as 11 in the second quarter and went into the locker room down 19 at halftime but the Lady Bearcats bounced back in the second half, outscoring the Red Raiders 31-13 in the final two periods to earn a 57-48 win. 'Cats Head Coach Jessica McBrayer has been proud of the way her team has competed in tight games all season, but she was even prouder to see them complete the comeback Monday night.

"I'm so proud. We have been a team that's been in a lot of close games all year. We haven't really figured out how to pull it out. We know how to fight back, but we haven't really figured out how to finish it and tonight was just that night where I feel like it finally clicked," McBrayer said. "We had a lot of kids who usually come off the bench playing a lot of minutes show up and it's always good when kids who have been grinding and biding their time get to come in and do something. I just couldn't be more proud of them."

In the boys' game, the Bearcats faced Decatur with a chance to clinch hosting rights for the upcoming 6A, Area 14 Tournament and as their head coach Stu Stuedeman put it, they rose to the occasion.

"I thought our guys had a fantastic mentality. It was a pressure-packed moment and they rose to the occasion and took care of business. They're a good basketball team, they're a scrappy basketball team and they went on the road and beat Hartselle, so we knew we had to take them seriously. Our guys took them seriously, they were locked in ready to roll and they sealed the deal, but the jobs not done. Hosting is fantastic but the real deal will be next Wednesday."

Cullman 57 – Decatur 48 (Varsity Girls)

Juliana Brannon hit three of her first four free throw attempts to hold Decatur's lead at 4-3 early in the first. Mattie Smith knocked dokwn a jumper to make it a 6-4 game and later in the period, a jumper from Kadence Hanback and a pair of Ally Sharpe free throws tied the game at 8. Kentley White drained a jumper to give the 'Cats a 10-8 lead and Sharpe buried a three-pointer just before the buzzer to put Cullman in front 13-8 going into the second quarter.

A Molly Wilson basket kept the Lady Bearcats in front 15-13 but a 9-0 scoring by Decatur gave the Red Raiders a 22-15 lead midway through the second quarter. Sharpe knocked down a three and sank a pair of free throws to trim the lead to 27-21 later in the second. Annalee Allen laid one in to make it a 32-23 game with less than two minutes to play in the half and after Taylor Au split a pair of free throws, Wilson netted two from the line to cut the deficit to 35-26 going into the locker room at the break.

A Rachel Hoffman basket made it 35-28 at the start of the third quarter and Sharpe scored the next five points for Cullman to bring the lead down to 38-33. Brannon scored inside to make it a 3-point game midway through the third and after another scoring run from the Raiders, Wilson scored back to back buckets in the final minute of the period to make it a 46-39 game with just eight minutes to play.

Baskets by Allen and Wilson cut the lead to 46-43 and White laid one in to make it a 1-point game early in the fourth. Wilson's big night continued with six straight points on the next three possessions, putting Cullman back in front 51-46 midway through the fourth. Sharpe and Wilson finished things off at the free throw line in the final two minutes to complete the comeback and secure a 57-48 area win for the Lady Bearcats.

Sharpe led Cullman with 19 points in the win, followed by Wilson with 18.

Cullman 71 – Decatur 43 (Varsity Boys)

Brodie Banister split a pair of free throws and Colton Echols tipped one in at the rim to give Cullman a 3-0 start in the opening period. Decatur responded with a 6-0 run on the other end to take an early lead but baskets by Echols, Preston Gay and Kase Nixon allowed the 'Cats to move back in front 9-8 later in the period.

Evan Wilson knocked down a three and Banister converted an and-one play to stretch the lead to 15-10. Sam Dorough scored the next five points for Cullman to make it a 20-12 game with 20 seconds to play and Jake Dorough split a pair of free throws with two seconds on the clock to give the Bearcats a 21-14 lead going into the second quarter.

Baskets by Sam Duskin, Jake Dorough and Gay added to the lead early in the second. Peyton Bradley laid one in to put Cullman ahead 29-16 and later in the period, Jake Dorough and Duskin nailed back to back three-pointers to give the 'Cats a 37-21 lead. Two more buckets from Dorough and another three by Duskin sent Cullman into the locker room with a 44-27 lead at halftime.

The Bearcats dominated the third quarter, extending their lead to 48-29 early in the period with a pair of Echols baskets. Jake Dorough added a free throw and knocked down another three to make it a 53-29 game and two more buckets from Echols and Duskin made it 57-29. Wilson scored inside on back to back possessions to stretch the lead to 61-29 with two minutes remaining in the third and Cullman finished the quarter with baskets by Bradley and Banister to take a 65-34 advantage into the final frame.

Wilson scored the first four points on the period to make it a 69-34 game early in the fourth and with the clock running the rest of the way, the Bearcats cruised to a 71-43 area win over the Red Raiders.

Four different Bearcats finished the game in double figures, led by Jake Dorough with 17 and Wilson with 11.

The Bearcats will be back at Bearcat Arena Tuesday night to play Pleasant Grove.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
Molly Wilson (31) posted 18 points in the Lady Bearcats' 57-48 win over Decatur Monday night.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
Jake Dorough (5) led Cullman with 17 points in its 71-43 win over Decatur Monday night.

PREP VOLLEYBALL

'You have to work hard for what you want to accomplish': Good Hope's Macey Denton recaps junior season

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — The Good Hope Lady Raiders had an amazing 2023 volleyball season. They took home the county title, an area championship and qualified for the Super Regionals in Huntsville where they swept White Plains before falling to Deshler in the second round. Junior Macey Denton talked about her first year playing on varsity and she learned a lot from this experience.

"I'm super proud of my team's hard effort throughout the season.

"During the season, we put time, dedication, and effort. The team put hard work throughout every practice and game.

"We had to work as a team and come together. I want to give a special thanks to our coaching staff for putting time and effort into our season and making us better. I learned that nothing is easy, and you have to work to get better.

Macey feels blessed to have played with a great group of girls and learned a very important thing from them and from her coaches.

"We worked hard together, and we motivated each other to be better. Most of the girls on the team are very talented, and I learned how to be a better volleyball player by watching them play," she said.

"The coaches motivated us and pushed us to be better. I learned that you have to work hard to get rewarded for it."

Macey played with three amazing seniors this past season and talked about that experience.

"They were all awesome in different ways. They made the team chemistry so amazing, and they would always lift you up when you're feeling down.

"It's one of the best experiences I've ever had. Ivey Maddox is a role model that everyone looks up to, and she works hard to be the best.

"Emma Bailey uses her voice on the court to bring everyone together, and she hustles.

"Charly Johnson is the hype man that brings the team together and works hard for what she wants. What I learned from them is that you have to work hard for what you want to accomplish."

She improved a lot throughout the season and made a lot of improvement in some areas of her game.

She will continue to work on her game in the offseason and talked about the main goal for the upcoming season.

"I wasn't confident at the beginning of the season, but towards the end, I gained confidence and played better.

"What I improved on the most is not being a nervous wreck and having confidence in myself and being able to make better passes and smart decisions during volleyball.

"I'm going to work on passing and serving," she said. "Our main goal is to win state this year."

Macey feels blessed to be a part of a special team last season and talked about her role models and shared some of the best advice that she's received.

"They were basically like a family with the bond we all had together," she said.

"My role models are Ivey, Emma, and Charly. They never gave up on plays, and they played their hearts out.

"The best advice that someone has ever given me is to always believe in yourself, even when you make mistakes, and show encouragement towards each other."

She learned a lot about her team last season and talked about how important it is to be a role model for the younger girls that are watching her play.

"In order to perform our best as a team, we must work together and show encouragement towards each other," she said.

"Being a good example for not only the younger kids, but the younger athletes, is very important to me, because they need to see the older girls demonstrate drive and hard work to be successful."



MACEY DENTON
Good Hope's Macey Denton

OP-ED

Cullman Tribune Debate Series picks back up with county superintendent race and who'll snag the open judge's seat

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

Since wonderful Covid locked us down for a while before excessive safety measures were put in place, The Tribune debates have been an event we look forward to as it allows hopeful candidates to actually debate and exchange ideas without being coached or given a list of questions well ahead of time...we just issue the rules; the questions are not known until the moment each one is asked.

So with all that being said in a run-on sentence, I am happy to announce the series is back this year as Cullman County Schools superintendent hopeful Morris Williams will take the floor with incumbent superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette.

Both candidates will be asked a series of alternating questions in order to give each a chance to answer first on an equal number of questions. We have a list of 10 total rules – a few of which will be mentioned below.

While we have the debate platform set for the county superintendent race debate, the Cullman County circuit judge race debate is a bit lopsided at the moment as we have only have one candidate committed to attend.

Local attorney Melvin Hasting replied and agreed to the terms of the debate. Emily Niezer Johnston has yet to reply to a series of texts and emails invited her to participate.

While not every rule will be listed out in detail to the general public close to a month in advance, I will say that we will not allow anyone to accompany the candidates; they will not be allowed to have electronic devices of any kind and we do not allow any prepared statements, though we are considering allowing opening statements – but nothing can be written down or typed out.

The purpose of these debates is to give you, the voter, the opportunity to submit questions you'd like to have the candidates answer. Submit questions to news@cullmantribune.com and be sure to include your name and a contact number to verify the question is genuine.

Once we have all the questions in before 5 p.m. on Feb. 18, 2024, the process will begin to find the most common-themed questions, as those will take precedence.

There will also be questions formulated by a small group at The Tribune included.

These debates are not a "gotcha moment" or a platform to embarrass or ridicule. It's a place for those seeking your vote to come together and answer questions while agreeing or disagreeing on the proper formula.

Personally, I believe if you're afraid to answer questions from the public and the news source in the county then should you really be running for public office?

There's no malice in this debate. It's a simple question and answer forum with a peaceful moderator in W.C. Mann (aka Craig) who is simply trying to find out where each candidate stands on certain issues they'll face.

The debates will be filmed at our office on the last weekend in February; however, each will air the week leading into the election on Tuesday, March 5, 2024.

These will be filmed with the intro and outro included with no post-production work done other than rendering the video. No edits of any kind will be made to the videos.

Anyway, that's long enough. Again, all are invited and we really do hope we hear from our last candidate!

Happy debating and happy voting March 5, 2024!

All-County Cheerleaders recognized

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Many Cullman County student athletes were honored at the Cullman County Basketball Tournament Friday night, Jan. 26.

Several local cheerleaders were named to the 2024 Cullman County All-County Cheer Sideline Team, 2024 All-County Cheer Competition Team and the 2024 All-County Cheer Team. Gameday and Traditional team winners were also named, along with the 2024 Cullman County Mascot Winner.

2024 CULLMAN COUNTY CHEER COMPETITION WINNERS

Gameday
- First place: Good Hope
- Second place: Fairview

Traditional
- First place: Good Hope
- Second place: Vinemont

2024 All-County Cheer Sideline Team
- Fairview: Brynlee Merriman, Presli Martin, Cassie Davis
- Good Hope Varsity: Kailey White, Cori Stevens, Aby Black, McKenzie McDonald
- Good Hope JV: Ariyah Adcock, Harley Naramore
- Hanceville: Allison Sharp, Kyndall Hamilton
- Holly Pond : Blakely Baggett
- Vinemont: Makenna Howard
- West Point: Kaci Cordes

2024 All-County Cheer Competition Team
- Good Hope: Sammie Johns, Kylee Broadley, Makenzie Fowler, Cori Stevens
- Vinemont: Krimson Gingrich, Maggie Payne, Brooklyn Knott

2024 All-County Cheer Team
- Fairview: Brynlee Merriman, Presli Martin, Cassie Davis Macee Bentley, Addison DeLuca
- Good Hope Varsity: Mahayla Dillard, Natalie Scott, Lexi Doss, Kailey White, Maycie Nolen, Decia McClure
- Good Hope JV: Madie Green, Kayte White, Ella Hamm
- Hanceville: Josie Radcliff, Haylee Nethery, Audrey Boyd, Millie Brown, Holly Pond, Sarah Grace Brown, Kiley Crenshaw
- Vinemont: Addison Whaley, Callie Millwood
- West Point: Emma Kimbril, Haylee Hernandez

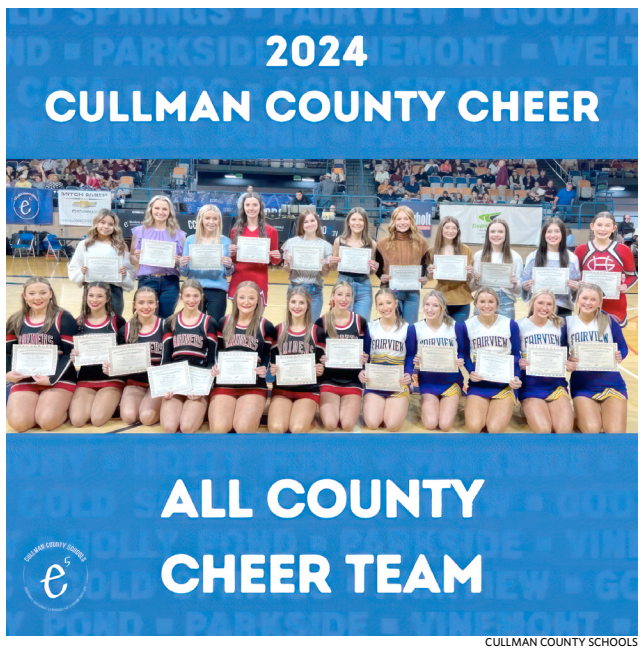
2024 All-County Mascot
- Good Hope: Jenna Crumpton



CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS



CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS



CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS



CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS

Bee (from Front)

- Holly Pond K-8- BreLynn Necklaus, grade 5
- Parkside- River Stinson, grade 7
- Vinemont Elementary- Andrew Ashley, grade 5
- Welti Elementary- Kayden Cross, grade 5
- West Point Elementary- Addington Cardin, grade 4
- East Elementary- Talyn McClendon, grade 5
- West Elementary- Zayden Smith, grade 6

The winner of the Cullman County Spelling Bee will be heading to the 2024 Alabama State Spelling Bee at the University of Alabama at Birmingham on March 16.

Hames (from Front)

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — Local attorney Randy Allan Hames, 81, on Monday went on trial in federal court in Huntsville on charges of violating the Fair Housing Act by making unwanted sexual advances and demanding sexual favors in lieu of rent payments from 15 female tenants – including at least one minor – in his Smith Lake area Hames Marina and Mobile Home Park.

Hames was arrested in February 2018 and again in March 2018 by the Cullman County Sheriff's Office on multiple charges of human trafficking, sexual extortion, soliciting prostitution and stalking. Hames was later additionally charged with two more counts of human trafficking for allegedly demanding "sexual conduct in exchange for the said Randy Allan Hames providing favorable testimony or report while the said Randy Allan Hames was appointed as Guardian Ad Litem over the said [victim's name omitted]'s children in a termination of parental rights action." The federal charges currently in court were filed in July 2018.

Hames' local cases were moved out of Cullman County after all local judges recused themselves due to their professional relationships with the attorney.

The government alleged in the federal case that "Randy Hames violated the Fair Housing Act by subjecting female tenants of the mobile homes 'to discrimination on the basis of sex, including severe, pervasive, and unwelcome sexual harassment'" including:

"a. Demanding that female tenants engage in, or pressuring them to engage in oral sex or other sexual acts with him to obtain or keep rental housing;

"b. Subjecting female tenants to unwelcome sexual contact, including but not limited to hugging female tenants, touching (or attempting to touch) female tenants' bodies, and rubbing his body against female tenants' bodies;

"c. Offering to grant tangible housing benefits—such as reducing or excusing rent payments, late payments, or deposit amounts—in exchange for engaging in sexual acts with him;

"d. Making intrusive, unannounced visits to female tenants' homes for no apparent legitimate purposes and to further his sexual advances;

"e. Menacing female tenants by repeatedly parking for extended periods of time in front of their homes when he had no apparent legitimate reason to do so;

"f. Making unwelcome sexual comments, propositions, and sexual advances to female tenants; and

"g. Taking adverse housing actions, such as evicting or refusing to make repairs, or threatening to take such actions, against female tenants who have objected to his unwelcome sexual advances and/or refused to engage in sexual acts with him."

According to the original federal complaint, the Government is asking the court for a decision that:

"a. Declares that the Defendants' discriminatory practices violate the Fair Housing Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 3601 et seq.;

b. Enjoins the Defendants, their agents, employees, and successors, and all other persons in active concert or participation with them, from:

i. Discriminating on the basis of sex, including engaging in sexual harassment, in any aspect of the rental of a dwelling;

ii. Interfering with or threatening to take any action against any person engaged in the exercise or enjoyment of rights granted or protected by the Fair Housing Act;

iii. Failing or refusing to take such affirmative steps as may be necessary to restore, as nearly as practicable, the victims of the Defendant' past unlawful practices to the position they would have been in but for the discriminatory conduct; and

iv. Failing or refusing to take such affirmative steps as may be necessary to prevent the recurrence of any discriminatory conduct in the future and to eliminate, as nearly as practicable, the effects of the Defendants' unlawful practices;

c. Awards monetary damages to each person aggrieved by the Defendants' discriminatory conduct under 42 U.S.C. § 3614(d)(1)(B);

d. Assesses civil penalties against the Defendants to vindicate the public interest under 42 U.S.C. § 3614(d)(1)(C); and

e. Awards such additional relief as the interests of justice may require."

In November 2023, in an agreement signed by the defendant, Alabama Deputy Attorney General Jon L. Kachelman, Alabama Assistant Attorney General Michele Davidson, presiding Shelby County Judge Lara M. Alvis and Hames' defense attorneys Johnny Berry and Brandon Little, Hames pleaded guilty to misdemeanor harassment in all four human trafficking cases.

All felony and sex-related charges were dismissed, while Hames received a 30-day sentence in the Cullman County Jail on each harassment charge.

The sentence was then suspended, and Hames was released on two years' unsupervised probation and no fine. In the plea agreement, Hames agreed to the permanent surrender of his license to practice law.

Hames' trial continued Wednesday.

LEGALS

EST. 1873
CULLMAN
ALABAMA

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

201 2nd Avenue NE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

256.775.7203
www.CullmanAl.gov

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.

NOW HIRING CLASS A CDL DRIVERS

SAME DAY APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW + COMPETITIVE PAY AND BENEFITS

SFTWI

PLEASE APPLY AT COLLEGE TIRE

315 MAIN ST. NW HANCEVILLE

256-352-2221

LEGALS

Legal Notice

Notice is hereby given to all owners, secured parties and lienholders of the following described motor vehicles, which I have a right to sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, in accordance with the State of Alabama abandoned vehicle law, Statues, Chapter 13, Section 1-8, Title 32 and Alabama Law Act Number 83-494-S-80.

2000 Chevrolet Malibu, Vin.#1G1ND52J3Y6126612
2007 Honda Accord, Vin.#1HGCM56307A014194
2014 Nissan Versa, Vin.#3N1CN7AP7EK452730
2007 Saturn Vue, Vin.#5GZCZ53487S868727
2007 GMC Yukon, Vin.#1GKFK63807J184826
2017 Honda Accord, Vin.#1HGCR3F92HA021577
2015 Toyota Camry, Vin.#4T1BF1FK0FU912677
2002 Chevrolet Tahoe, Vin.#1GNEC13V52R201473
2005 Honda Accord, Vin.#1HGCM56495A172765
1995 Jeep Grand Cherokee, Vin.#1J4GZ58Y9SC503257
1989 Chevrolet S10, Vin.#1GCCS14Z0K2164152

These vehicles will be sold to pay storage and or repair fee at Mullins Body Shop, LLC, 11042 US Highway 31 South, Cullman, Alabama 35055, on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF DAVID FRANKLIN CLARK, Deceased. * CASE NO.: PC2024-013

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to DAVID ALLEN CLARK as Personal Representative of the Estate of DAVID FRANKLIN CLARK, deceased, on the 23rd 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.

DAVID ALLEN CLARK
Personal Representative

G. Edward Coey
Attorney for Personal Representative
Post Office Box 834
Hanceville, Alabama 35077
256-352-2090

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

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

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

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

NOTICE

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

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

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

DONE this the 28 day of Dec, 2023.

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

FILED IN OFFICE
DEC 2 8 2023
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY

PB WIL BK 121 PG 279 - 01/30/2024 08:15 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF CECIL COLEMAN PIGG, Deceased. * CASE NO.: PC 2023-293

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to ANGELA NETHERTON, as Personal Representative of the Estate of CECIL COLEMAN PIGG, deceased, on the 29th day of January, 2024, by the Honorable Will Motlow, Special 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.

Angela Netherton
Personal Representative

Alex J. Chaney
Attorney for Estate
PO Box 1052
Cullman, Alabama 35056

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.

Will Motlow
HON. WILL MOTLOW,
SPECIAL JUDGE OF PROBATE

PB WIL BK 121 PG 308 - 01/31/2024 10:18 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

STATE OF ALABAMA
CULLMAN COUNTY
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
CASE NO. PC2023-300

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF AMIEL BAKER, DECEASED

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary of said Deceased having been granted to the undersigned, CAROL McKOY, on the 31st day of January, 2024, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that 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.

Dated this the 31st day of January 2024.

Carol McKoy
CAROL McKOY
Personal Representative of the Estate of Amiel Baker, Deceased

PERRY D. KNIGHT
Attorney for the
Estate of Amiel Baker, Deceased
412 First Avenue SE
Suite 101
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-4090

To the Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

Please publish the above 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

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

NOTICE

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

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

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

DONE this the 28th day of December, 2023.

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

FILED IN OFFICE
DEC 2 8 2023
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY

PB WIL BK 121 PG 262 - 01/29/2024 02:54 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF LAURA JEAN CAMPBELL, Deceased. * CASE NO.: PC2023-399

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to JERRY SHADDRIX as Personal Representative of the Estate of LAURA JEAN CAMPBELL, deceased, on the 29th 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.

JERRY SHADDRIX
Personal Representative

Jerry L. Kilgo
The Kilgo Law Firm
Attorney for Personal Representative
421 3rd Avenue SE, Suite 250
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

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

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

NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

Default having been made of the terms of the loan documents secured by that certain mortgage executed by Ryan V Key , Unmarried Man to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Consumer First Mortgage, Inc., its successors and assigns dated September 8, 2010; said mortgage being recorded on September 13, 2010, in Book 1633, Page 592 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment recorded in Deed Book 344, Page 981 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, ALABAMA.

The undersigned, Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLCunder 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 7th day of March, 2024 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

Lot No. 14 according to the Map which was platted by Warren Brothers and known as Warren Brothers Addition to Hanceville, Alabama, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, which map is recorded in Map Book 2, Page 5, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama.

Said property is commonly known as 310 Self Ave NE, 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.

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC
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. 23-05560AL

www.foreclosurehotline.net

Cullman Tribune
02/01/2024,02/08/2024,02/15/2024

Wallace State Community College-Hanceville has the following open positions:

Librarian

Lab Assistant (Diesel Mechanics)

For more information, please contact the Human Resources Department at 256-352-8029.
Wallace State Community College is an equal opportunity employer. EOE

NOW HIRING TIRE TECHS

SAME DAY APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW + COMPETITIVE PAY

COLLEGE TIRE

315 MAIN ST. NW HANCEVILLE

256-352-2221

Obituary Announcements: Jan. 30-31

Michael Patrick Dye, 49
Funeral service for Michael Patrick Dye, age 49, of Logan, is Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024, at noon at Cullman Funeral Home chapel, with Daniel Cochran officiating. Visitation will be held Thursday from 10 a.m. until noon Interment will be at Mt. Zion Cemetery in Vinemont. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Michael was born Sept. 22, 1974, to Dannie Oneal Dye and Patricia Ann Rodgers Dye. He passed from this life on Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024. He is preceded in death by his father, Dannie Dye; brothers, David Dye, and Neal Dye; grandparents. He is survived by his mother, Patricia Ann Dye; one son, Michael Shayne Dye (Shelby); one brother, Jeff Dye; one sister Theresa Hoffman (Kevin); grandchild, Mali Grace Dye; nephew, Justin Hoffman. Family remembers Michael as a loving father, pawpaw, brother, and son. Please sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

James Lynn Daniel, 67
Arrangements for James Lynn Daniel, age 67, Cullman, are incomplete at this time. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. Daniel was born Feb. 12, 1956, to Curtis L. Daniel and Creta Mae Elkins Daniel. He passed from this life on Jan. 27, 2024. He is preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Sheila Daniel; one sister, Crystal Daniel. He is survived by his brothers, Kirk Daniel (Sherry), and Orvy Daniel; sisters, Dorothy Crawford (Bill), and Juanita Daniel; a host of family and friends. Jimmy is remembered by family as good-hearted and giving. He loved fishing and hunting. He will be very missed. Please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Marion Lynn-Parker, 81
Funeral services for Marion Lynn-Parker, 81, of Bremen, will be 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4, 2024, at Bremen Baptist Church. Burial will follow the service at Ryan's Creek Cemetery. Mrs. Parker will lie in repose at the church on Sunday from noon until 2 p.m. Visitation will be Saturday Feb. 3, 2024, from 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Bremen Baptist Church. Class singing will start at 1 p.m. on Sunday at the church. Mrs. Parker was born July 6, 1942, to the late James and Elvia Lindsey-Lynn. She passed away Jan. 29, 2024, at her residence. A long-time member of Bremen Baptist Church; Mrs. Parker was the church pianist beginning in 1966 until her recent and unexpected illness. She was also a member of the Bremen Quartet which also started sometime around 1966. Music was her passion, her family was the love of her life, and God was her unfailing foundation which built it all. Near or far, Marion was a friend and mother-like figure to many people. She was rich in her faith and has reached the other side. Mrs. Parker is survived by her children, Denise Hardin (Tim), Wayne Parker, Cindy Hancock (Keith); 7 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and her sister-in-law, Dianne Christian. In addition to her parents, Mrs. Parker was preceded in death by her husband, Emery Parker; and her brothers, Donnie Lynn and Wayne Mayo. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Parker Family.

Ronald Elbert Mann, 76
Ronald Elbert Mann, born on May 25, 1947, in Cullman passed away on Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024, at the age of 76 surrounded by his family. He was proud to spend the last years and moments of his life in his home on Fourth Avenue Southeast in Cullman, a few blocks from where he was born and spent the early years of his life on Fourth Avenue Northeast. Ron's legacy of love, hard work, and strong faith will forever remain in our hearts. Ron bravely enlisted and served as a Marine during the Vietnam War. He was a successful mechanical engineer before taking a career leap to become a financial advisor for Edward Jones where he not only built a successful business but also trained and led brokers across the region. Ron found meaning in helping individuals and families plan for their financial future and he was delighted that his son Chris and granddaughter-in-law Maddie chose to follow him into the business. Ron was active in his church and his community. Ron's pride and joy was his family. He is survived by his wife and love of his life - Carolyn Loyd Mann as well as his children Jennifer Shugarts (Scott), Christopher Mann (Luz Marina), and Blake Mann (Scott Dickinson). He is affectionately known as Daddy Mann to his grandchildren, their spouses, and others close to the family: Tyler Shugarts (Alexandra), Nicholas Shugarts (Madeline and soon great-granddaughter, Ruth Elaine), Logan Shugarts, Dawson Shugarts, Lindsey Mann, and Audrey Mann. Ronald was preceded in death by his parents Elbert Durell and Doris Marie Mann and brothers Gregory Durell Mann and Peter Bray. Visitation for Ronald will be held Saturday, Feb. 3, 2024, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home, 1901 Second Ave. NWt, Cullman, AL 35055, followed by a celebration of life funeral service at 1 p.m. Ronald will be laid to rest in Mt. Carmel Cemetery. You are invited to share any memories and expressions of sympathy for the family at www.mossservicefh.com. In lieu of gifts or flowers, we request consideration of a donation in his memory to Cullman First United Methodist Church or CRMC Hospice. We will cherish the lifetime of memories and love with Ron forever. Roll Tide and Semper Fi Daddy Mann.

Richard Lee Sizemore, 70
Richard Lee Sizemore, age 70, of Holly Pond, Alabama passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024. Richard was born in Knoxville, Tennessee on July 7, 1953, to Marcinie Richard and Monta Lee Hyatt Sizemore. A Celebration of Life Funeral Service will be on Friday, Feb. 2, 2024, at Seventh Street Baptist Church at 2 p.m. with Rev. Eric Martin and Dr. David Keuss officiating. Interment will follow services in New Hope #2 Cemetery in Holly Pond Alabama. Visitation for Richard will be at the church on Friday from 11 a.m. until service time at 2 p.m. Survivors are: Wife: Sheila Sizemore, Daughters: Nicole (David) Keuss, Jennifer (Dallas) Jones, Brothers: Gary Keith (Vickie) Sizemore, Michael Steven Sizemore, Grandchildren: Elijah Calvin Keuss, Nathaniel Knox Keuss, Abigail Rose Keuss, Nephew: Corey Sizemore, Niece: Miranda Sizemore Trotter. Please share condolences and memories with the family at www.mossservicefh.com. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Laura Denise Stuckey, 57
Laura Denise Stuckey, of Vinemont, Alabama, passed away on Jan. 26, 2024, at the age of 57. Ms. Stuckey was born in Michigan, on Oct. 22, 1966. Ms. Stuckey was a truck driver for many years, and over the course of her career Laura logged over a million miles in her truck. Laura loved animals, especially her horses and dogs, and she was passionate about the rescue of abused and neglected animals. Those who knew Laura will miss her greatly. Ms. Stuckey is preceded in death by her parents and grandparents. Laura is survived by a multitude of loving family members and friends. Ms. Stuckey's family and friends will hold a private memorial for her at a later time. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to care for Ms. Stuckey.

Billy Thomas Sterling, 93
Billy Thomas Sterling, age 93, of the Sardis Community, passed away Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024, at Princeton Medical Center in Birmingham. He was born July 16, 1930, to James and Ollie Echols Sterling. He grew up and worked on the family farm as the youngest of seven brothers and sisters. He attended grade school at Map and transferred to Addison where he graduated in 1949. In December of 1950, Billy enlisted in the Air Force and served in England as an Airman Second Class in the 123rd Fighter Bomber Wing during the Korean conflict. Following his military service, Billy returned to Sardis and became a dairy farmer on the old Sterling homestead which was established in the 1890s. In addition to dairying, growing cotton, corn, hay, and sorghum, he also partnered with his brother Dick Sterling and operated the Sterling Cotton Gin; a business established by their father Jimmy. At the same time, Billy used the GI Bill to earn a bachelor's degree in history from St. Bernard College in 1959. Billy retired from the cotton gin and dairying business in the early 1970s. He later rebuilt and ran the store at Sardis and helped establish the Sardis Fire Department. Still later, he raised cattle on the side, and found other work at the trailer plants at Addison as well as at the Sardis Truss factory on County Road 39. Billy stayed busy for his entire life. Billy married the former Johnnie Evelyn Alford on June 24, 1954. Born to them were Robin Alford (Wanda) Sterling and Jane Ellen Sterling Lowery. Grandchildren include Amberley, Thomas, and Robert, daughter and sons of Jane and David Lowery. Great-grandchildren are Noah Bradford, Liam Lowery and Owen Lowery. Sterling worked hard all his life and oversaw the transition of plowing by mules to air-conditioned cab tractors. In the early years when he wasn't working, he enjoyed fishing on the Tennessee River and playing checkers in front of the old store at Sardis. He was practically unbeatable at checkers. In later years he enjoyed woodworking and watching the Atlanta Braves and the Alabama Crimson Tide on television. He was a regular breakfast patron at Jacks of Addison and enjoyed Swamp John's as an occasional treat. He was especially fond of his grandchildren and great grandchildren Billy possessed a kind, generous, and gentle spirit, who never raised his voice and enjoyed a funny joke or story with a twinkle in his eye. He spent several years providing care for his invalid wife, Evelyn. Following her death in 2013, he lived alone in the old house. When it was warm outside, he could often be found sitting in his swing set waving at motorists and chatting with an occasional visitor. Billy insisted on giving away small items he created in his wood shop including picture frames, shadow boxes, games, chairs, swing sets, and commemorative wooden Addison, Alabama, and Auburn logos. Billy was very sharp until the very end and kept up with politics and current events and remembered people and incidents from long ago for most of the last 100 years of Sardis history. Sterling was a pillar of the Sardis Community and was a longstanding deacon of the Sardis Baptist Church. Visitation will be Friday, Feb. 2, 2024, from noon until 2 p.m. at Sardis Missionary Baptist Church #2 (Sardis Community), where the service will be held at 2 p.m. Burial will be in the adjoining cemetery. Pastor William McClellan will officiate. Pallbearers will be Thomas Lowery, Robert Lowery, Mitchell Owens, Tommy Luker, Steve Powell, and Matt White.

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Spring is approaching and the Active Adult Center is heating up

Cheyenne Sharp
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CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman City Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism's (CPRST) Donald E. Green Active Adult Center is located directly across the street from Ingle Park. It provides a wide variety of extracurricular activities, community events, game nights and classes such as singing, dancing and for the interested seniors – yoga and Pilates. Gym and exercise equipment is also available for use by seniors at any point during the center's operating hours.

The amenities and daily, weekly and monthly activities, classes and events held at the Active Adult Center are free to Cullman residents over the age of 50.

CPRST Senior Program Coordinator Stephanie Neal has a calendar full of events for Cullman's senior citizens to enjoy throughout the month of February, including a Valentine's Day celebration.

"We would love for the seniors to come out and join any of these activities! I always recommend looking over the calendar to see if any one thing in particular looks interesting and then come check it out," said Neal. "We have a special Valentine's Jam Session coming up on Feb. 12 that's sure to be a fun day!"

The Donald E. Green Active Adult Center is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. The center is closed every Thursday to ensure that every surface is thoroughly cleaned; Friday kicks off the month of February's fun. Most of the events and classes are recurring weekly, although a few notable exceptions are sweetening the season with a Valentine's Day theme.

Special events include:

- Valentine's Jam Session and Valentine's Day party- Feb. 12 from 1-4 p.m.
- Valentine's Bingo- Feb. 13 from 1-2 p.m.
- Art class with Nance DiPiero- Feb. 27 from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

The Donald E. Green Active Adult Center's weekly recurring events and classes are:

Monday

- 8-9 a.m.- Walking
- 9-9:20 a.m.-Stretch
- 9:30 a.m. -Absolute Basics Dance
- 10 a.m.- Senior Spirit Singers
- 10 a.m.- Improvers Dance
- 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.- Advanced Dance
- 1-4 p.m.- Cards
- 1-4 p.m.- Jam Session

Tuesday

- 8:30 a.m.- Exercise Class
- 9:30 a.m.- Yoga
- 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.- Mexican Train Dominos
- 1-2 p.m.- Bingo
- 2-4 p.m.- Pickleball

Wednesday

- 8-9 a.m. - Walking
- 9-9:20 a.m. - Stretch
- 9:30 a.m. - Beginner Dance
- 10 a.m. - Improvers Dance
- 11 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.- Advanced Dance
- 1-4 p.m.- Bunco/Cards
- 1-4 p.m.- Pickleball

Friday

- 8-9 a.m. - Walking
- 9-9:20 a.m. - Stretch
- 9:30 a.m. - Beginner Dance
- 10 a.m. - Improvers Dance
- 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.- Advanced Dance
- 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.- Mexican Train Dominos
- 1-4 p.m.- Cards
- 1-4 p.m.- Pickleball

Check out www.facebook.com/DEGCullman for more.

91 Short Track hosting inaugural Icebreaker Race to welcome 2024 season

Gabby Abbot
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HANCEVILLE, Ala. — On Saturday, Feb. 10, 2024, 91 Short Track in Hanceville will be kicking off its inaugural season with its first-ever Icebreaker Race.

91 Short Track is a dirt short track expressly for go-kart racing. Owner Justin Morgan broke ground on the backyard track in summer 2023 and held 91 Short Track's first official race this past fall.

"It started off as a backyard track for my husband and son to practice on," said Morgan's wife, Monica Morgan.

"It's now turned into a pretty big deal." She noted that go-kart enthusiasts travel from all across the Southeast, including Tennessee, Mississippi and Georgia, to come spin some tires and go for gold.

The Morgans said they are pumped to offer their first official season with 91 Short Track and hope to attract drivers of all ages and levels with different competitive classes; with cold hard cash on the line, drivers will want to bring their A-Game to make it to victory lane and have a chance to drive in the track championship race scheduled for the end of season.

Drivers can sign up on race day as they enter, with each class having differing registration fees.

Gates will open at 9:30 a.m. with practice laps for the racers beginning at 9:30 followed by a driver's meeting at 12:15 p.m. Drivers must be present and signed in by noon to race.

General admission for the audience is $5 and the Morgans recommend bringing your own chair for seating.

91 Short Track is located at 2341 Alabama Highway 91 in Hanceville, with a parking entrance located the next driveway down. There will be signs and workers present to assist with parking.

For more information on 91 Short Track, call 256-887-3336.

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