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SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

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NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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Baileyton man charged with impersonating a peace officer

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — A Baileyton man has been charged with impersonating a peace officer.

According to the Cullman County Sheriff's Office, deputies responded to a call of an unmarked vehicle flashing blue lights and attempting to stop someone on March 15. Sheriff Matt Gentry said the suspect's vehicle struck the victim's vehicle during the attempt to stop them.

"The caller also advised that someone in the vehicle in question had fired shots at the victim," Gentry said. "While responding, CCSO deputies located a vehicle matching the suspect vehicle stuck in the mud in a parking area near Arab."

Larry Trebor Butler, 35, of Baileyton, was identified as the driver.

Working blue lights were allegedly discovered inside the vehicle and two weapons were allegedly » PAGE 6



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Larry Trebor Butler

Local family, devastated by fire, praises God, community



JESSICA TURNER

The home that Jessica Turner and David Methvin shared was ravaged by fire in the early morning hours of Friday, March 15, 2024.

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — Thursday night, March 14, was like any other night for Vinemont residents Jessica Turner and David Methvin – tucking three of their four children and two great-nieces into bed, saying their prayers and giving them a kiss on the forehead before wishing them sweet dreams. The decorated Cullman County Child Development Center teacher and her longtime partner never anticipated what was to come after the family was fast asleep. At 1:09 a.m. on Friday, March 15, a 911 call was placed alerting dispatch that the home Turner and Methvin shared was engulfed in flames, and the fire was spreading quickly.

"The fire started at the back of the house, and we are not sure yet what caused it as the investigator is still working on figuring that out, but most likely something electrical," Turner said. "David happened to fall asleep on the couch in the living room so he heard the fire crackling. That's probably the only thing that saved our lives. I don't think we would have gotten out if he had been in the bed."

Every room of the home had some sort of devastating damage from the fiery heat; each was totally unsalvageable except for a portion of the master bedroom. Miraculously, the closet was relatively unharmed, saving the family's important documents, forms and valuables. A few other notable items were able to be saved from the smoky debris – a plastic tote and a family Bible.

"I had a plastic tote box in one room full of » PAGE 7

Cullman City Council honors Don Hewitt for Zoning Board service



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Mayor Woody Jacobs, right, presents a certificate of commendation to Don Hewitt, left, on Monday, March 18.

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Commission proclaims April Child Abuse and Neglect Awareness Month; discusses CR 222 plans

» PAGE 8

PET OF THE WEEK

Meet Sadie Rose



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Shakespeare was right when he coined the phrase, "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet." Sadie Rose is The Cullman Tribune's Pet of the Week.

» PAGE 2

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported March 20

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported March 20, 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

March 16

- domestic violence-3rd degree - harassment; person; Pine Cir Se.

March 18

- domestic violence – harassment; person; Briarwood Dr. SE
- theft of property-4th degree; person; miscellaneous; Hwy. 157

March 19

- theft of property-2nd degree; Lowe's; retail; miscellaneous; Cherokee Ave. SW
- theft of property-4th degree; Cullman Smoke & Vape; miscellaneous; $175; 4th St. SW

ARRESTS

March 18 – 19

Cable, Stacy R.; 40
- FTA - theft of property-4th degree

James, Angel M.; 27
- harassment
- FTA - possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)

Brooks, Jacob W.; 37
- FTA - public intoxication

Traylor, Erwin E, Jr.; 72
- harassment

Morris, William M.; 38
- unlawful possession/receiving of a controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Simmons, Felicia P.; 37
- FTA - possession of drug paraphernalia

Sullivan, Joshua M.; 35
- FTA - theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)
- speeding

Addison, Byron T.; 49
- FTA - possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA - attempt to elude
- FTA - criminal trespass-3rd degree
- FTA - certain persons forbidden to possess pistol
- FTA - driving while license revoked
- FTA - expired tag
- FTA - driving without a license
- FTA - insurance violation

Gonzalez, Moises V.; 21
- FTA - driving while license revoked
- FTA - speeding
- FTA - driving under the influence
- FTA - insurance violation

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Sadie Rose (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. —Sadie Rose is searching high and low for her forever family to bring her into their homes and hearts. Her mild disposition and gentle demeanor give her the perfect temperament for a companion or therapeutic friend for an individual with specialized needs.

The low-energy, 1-year-old Beagle and Red Heeler mix is perfectly content with wasting the day away on the couch next to her rescuers, in their arms, where she finds the most contentment, followed closely by the safety and security of her crate. This brilliant lady is the perfect companion for long walks and leisurely strolls; her leash etiquette is on par with pets much older than she is, and her little legs trail behind as fast as necessary to never miss a moment. Sadie Rose is the quintessential lady, living her best life with manners and affection.

Sadie Rose is currently living at the Cullman County Animal Shelter located at 935 Convent Road NE. The shelter staff recommend a meet and greet between Sadie Rose and any prospective families to ensure a good match.

Her adoption fee is $130 and includes her spay, DHLPP vaccine, Bordetella vaccine, rabies vaccine, wormer, general exam at the vet and microchip.

TheraPlay hosting sensory-friendly Easter event

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — TheraPlay Pediatric Sensory Gym is hosting a unique Easter celebration tailored to meet the needs of individuals with varying abilities and sensory sensitivities. Scheduled for Wednesday, April 3, from 4:30-6:30 p.m., this sensory-friendly Easter event will take place at the Field of Miracles, located at 1630 Field of Miracles Dr. SW.

Unlike traditional Easter events, this gathering is designed to ensure that guests of all ages, regardless of their abilities, can join in the fun. The event will feature traditional Easter egg hunts alongside a variety of activities specifically chosen to be inclusive and accessible. Attendees can look forward to games, bounce houses, temporary tattoos and giveaways, all generously donated by local businesses.

Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant and TheraPlay Clinical Manager Tess Morris emphasized the importance of the event, saying, "This event is important in that we are able to serve and minister to our community by providing a fun event while accommodating those with special needs and varying abilities. We want to provide a positive experience for these families and create an enjoyable night for all ages and all abilities."

Open to the entire community and completely free of charge, this event aims to offer a positive and inclusive experience for families with special needs and varying abilities, ensuring that everyone can enjoy the Easter festivities in a comfortable and supportive environment.

Please note that the event will not feature food vendors.

For more information about the sensory-friendly Easter event or to learn more about TheraPlay Pediatric Sensory Gym's services, call 256-841-5185 or visit www.theraplayal.com.

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734-2406

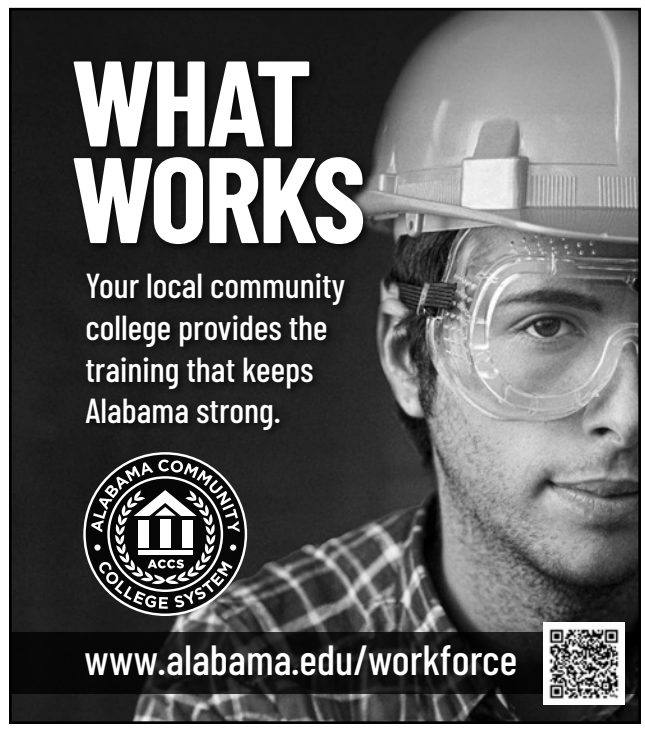
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Bonus Estate Sale! Friday March 22, Saturday March 23. 181 Waldrip Drive, Good Hope. 7:00 a.m. Sale includes grandmother's house and mom's house with a lot of nice furniture, antiques, cast iron skillets, tools, collectibles, French Provencial bedroom suite, dolls, accessories, old toys, old clothes and a lot more! Check out pictures on PKFacebook and on Farm Home full of treasures! Grandma's house... starts on 3/22/2024 (estatesales.net)

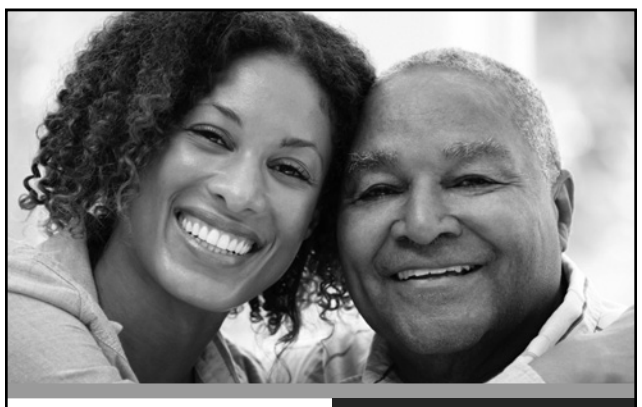

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Public Notice
Mt. Zion Cemetery: Please remove all ground flowers/decorations from graves at Mt. Zion Cemetery at Vinemont (Highway 31) for spring cleaning and mowing.

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, March 22 - Hope Inspired Ministries Foundry graduation at 1 p.m. the Chapel at the Foundry Farm.
• Friday, March 22 - 5:45 p.m. Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and 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 5:45. Small group starts at 6:30. Childcare provided!
• Sunday, March 24 - 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, March 24 - 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 after 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.

Lenten Fish Fry Dinner at Sacred Heart of Jesus Family Life Center
Friday, March 22, from 5-7 p.m. Dine in or carry-out via drive-thru line. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Meal includes fried or baked fish, cole slaw, French fries and hush puppies for $12 per first four plates, then $10 per plate for additional plates. Everyone welcome to this popular annual event.

East Point Cumberland Presbyterian Church Easter Family Fun Day
Saturday, March 23, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Activities include games, bouncy house, egg hunt and lunch. Bring an Easter basket and enjoy free fun for the whole family! 1441 U.S. Highway 278 E, Cullman.

Grace Café Reopening!
Enjoy a free lunch with no strings attached, 11:30-12:30 every fourth Wednesday. On March 27, join Cullman's professionals, retirees, office workers, craftsmen and unemployed for a BBQ chicken plate, homemade desserts and singing with the Arnold Street Band. Grace Episcopal Church, 305 Arnold St. NE, Cullman.

Fairview Lions Club Spring Fling and Car, Truck, Tractor and Motorcycle Show
Saturday, April 6, at Randall Shedd Community Park on Wesley Avenue in Fairview. We will have a car show, vendors, games, music and bouncy houses. Registration is $20 and will begin at 8 a.m. with awards to be given out at 1 p.m. Vendor spots are $10 a spot, payable the day of the event. Must be set up by 9 a.m. Food vendors are encouraged to join us. Please register by March 28. Food vendor spots are $50. For more information, please contact Kita Chambers at 256-385-8805 or William Criscoe at 256-385-5596.

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church Revival
We will be having our spring revival the week of April 7. Services will be Sunday, April 7, at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m., and Monday-Wednesday, April 8-10 at 7 p.m. The evangelist will be Brother Jared Dixon. Everyone is invited. 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.

Cullman Chapter of The National Association of Retired and Active Federal Employees Meeting
Monday, April 8, at the Golden Corral Buffet. The guest speaker will be Stephanie Childers. She is the executive director of the United Way of Cullman County. Dutch lunch at 11 a.m. and meeting beginning at noon. Members and nonmembers are welcome.

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PREP SOFTBALL

Good Hope's Benefield tosses no-hitter in 11-0 win at Hanceville

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Good Hope made the quick trip over to Hanceville for a matchup against its county rivals Monday night and Molly Benefield led the way for the Lady Raiders, allowing zero hits and striking out six batters to help secure an 11-0 win in five innings.

Lizzy Steed led off the top of the first with a single and after Campbell Koch followed with another single later in the inning, an error allowed Steed to score and make it a 1-0 game.

Benefield struck out the side in the bottom half of the first. After a scoreless second inning, Kylee Smith laid down a bunt single to advance a pair of runners and another Hanceville error allowed Molly Johnson and Steed to score, stretching the lead to 3-0. Later in the third, Benefield drove a single into left field to plate Koch and Haley Lay to make it a 5-0 game. Good Hope's big inning continued when Natalie Miller sent a triple into center field, pushing Benefield and Kynzlee Garmon across the plate for two more runs and giving the Lady Raiders a 7-0 lead.

Koch added to the lead in the fourth with an RBI single into right field and Good Hope tacked on three more runs in the fifth. Miller's second triple of the day brought Benefield and Garmon in for two more runs and just a few pitches later, Miller scored on an RBI groundout from Johnson to put the Lady Raiders in front 11-0. Good Hope collected the final three outs in the bottom of the fifth to wrap up an 11-0 win over the Lady Bulldogs.

Steed was 4-for-4 at the plate in the win and Miller (two hits) finished with four RBIs. On top of her pitching performance, Benefield added three hits and a pair of RBIs at the plate. Coch (two hits) and Johnson each recorded RBIs as well.

The Lady Raiders will be back home Tuesday to play Priceville and the Lady Bulldogs will host Priceville Thursday.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope pitcher Molly Benefield allowed tossed a no-hitter and struck out six batters in the Lady Raiders' 11-0 win at Hanceville Monday night.

PREP SOFTBALL

Big 5th inning propels West Point to 15-4 win over Fairview, Monday scoring recap

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com



WEST POINT LADY WARRIOR SOFTBALL

West Point 15 - Fairview 4 (Softball)

West Point got on the scoreboard in its opening at-bats. Three walks loaded the bases for Katie Beth Yovino. She ended up drawing one of her own to give the Lady Warriors a 1-0 lead. West Point added to their lead in the top of the second. Kylee Quinn hit a leadoff single, moved to second, and scored on an RBI single by Macayla Wilkins to make it 2-0. Brinlee Phillps hit a double on the first pitch to put runners on second and third with two outs, then Macie Brown hit a two-run triple on the first pitch to stretch their lead to 4-0.

Fairview countered in the bottom of the fourth inning. Three straight singles loaded the bases for the Lady Aggies. Addison Phillips hit an RBI single to make it 4-1, then Kylie Kovar scored on an error, and Ava Pruett added a two-run double to tie the game up at four. West Point, though, quickly broke the game wide open in the top of the fifth.

They loaded the bases with nobody out, then on the first pitch, Kara Jones hit a grand slam over the right field fence to give them an 8-4 lead. A suicide squeeze play by Wilkins, a bases-loaded walk by Sidney Burks, and a two-run double by Yovino quickly widened their lead to 12-4. The Lady Warriors put up three more runs in the top of the sixth. Ella Minck hit an RBI triple and later scored on an error, then later that inning, Wilkins scored on another Fairview error to give them a 15-4 lead. After a leadoff walk, Jones retired the next three batters in order to help seal the 15-4 win for West Point.

Jones led the way for West Point (9-4) with the grand slam in the fifth inning. Yovino added a hit and three RBIs. Wilkins and Brown each finished with a hit and two RBIs, while Minck and Burks both collected a hit and an RBI in the win. For Fairview (8-4), Pruett finished with a hit and two RBIs. Phillips added a hit and an RBI. Emily Benson and Kovar each collected a pair of hits, while Ayda Payne and Ada Fales both finished with a hit in the loss.

Cold Springs 10 - Meek 7 (Softball)

Meek didn't waste any time getting on the scoreboard in their opening at-bats as they sent nine batters to the plate and scored six runs to take a 6-0 lead. Cold Springs looked to answer in their half. Ingram hit a one-out single, then one out later, Adriana Young hit a two-run home run over the right field fence to cut it to 6-2. Sadie Smith hit a double and later scored on an RBI single by Kaydance Williams to make it a 6-3 game.

The Lady Eagles kept that momentum going into the bottom of the second. They loaded the bases with nobody out for Ciara Calvert, who lined a two-run single to right field to make it 6-5. Later that inning, Ingram scored on a passed ball, and a wild pitch allowed Calvert to cross the plate to give Cold Springs a 7-6 lead. An RBI single by Meek in the top of the fourth tied the game up at seven. The Lady Eagles broke the tie in the bottom of the sixth. They loaded the bases again with one out, then Young hit an RBI single to give them an 8-7 lead. Two pitches later, Smith added a two-run single to make it 10-7. The Lady Tigers loaded the bases with two outs in the top of the seventh, but Peyton Kennedy got the next batter to fly out to end the game as Cold Springs ended up collecting a 10-7 win over Meek.

Young finished with a pair of hits and three RBIs for Cold Springs (3-4). Smith added a pair of hits and two RBIs. Calvert ended up with a hit and two RBIs, while Williams added a hit and an RBI in the win. After allowing six runs in the first inning, Kennedy gave up just one run the rest of the way for the Lady Eagles.

Cullman 3 - Muscle Shoals 2 (Softball)

Cullman got on the scoreboard in their home half of the first inning. A pair of walks and a single loaded the bases for Hattie Graham, who lined an RBI single to center field to give the Lady Bearcats a 1-0 lead. Muscle Shoals hit an RBI single in the top of the third to tie the game up at one, then it quickly turned into a pitcher's duel after that. The score remained tied at one in the top of the sixth, but the Lady Trojans hit an RBI single in the top of the sixth to break the tie and give them a 2-1 lead. Cullman, though, quickly answered in their half.

A leadoff walk had them in business early, then two pitches later, Dracen Bates delivered the biggest hit of the game as her two-run home run over the center field fence gave the Lady Bearcats a 3-2 lead. Starter Brie Voss retired Muscle Shoals on just 11 pitches in the top of the seventh to end the game and give Cullman the 3-2 win over the Lady Trojans.

Dates finished with the big two-run home run for Cullman (10-9). Graham added a hit and an RBI. Kynlei Storey and Brooklyn Morton each ended up with a pair of hits, while Taylor Au and Samantha Jones each collected a hit in the win. Voss went the distance for the Lady Bearcats, giving up nine hits and two earned runs, walking one, and striking out five.

Holly Pond 12 - West End 6 (Baseball)

Holly Pond struck first in their opening at-bats. Sawyer Olinger hit a leadoff single and later scored on an RBI single by Brody Howard to give the Broncos the early lead.

A sacrifice fly by West End in the top of the second tied the game up at one. Holly Pond broke the tie in the top of the third. Olinger crossed the plate and a suicide squeeze play by Kollin Brown gave the Broncos a 3-1 lead.

The Patriots hit an RBI single in their half to cut it to 3-2. Olinger scored on a West End error in the top of the fifth to give Holly Pond a 4-2 lead, but an RBI groundout in West End's half of the fifth made it a 4-3 game.

The Broncos added a run in the top of the sixth on a suicide squeeze play by Carson Ryan, but the Patriots scored three times in their half to take a 6-5 game. Holly Pond, though, took control of the game right back in the top of the seventh as they sent 13 batters to the plate in the inning and scored seven runs.

An RBI single by Howard tied the game up at six, then a two-run triple by Brown gave the Broncos an 8-6 lead.

Tristan Hibbert added an RBI single to make it 9-6. Later that inning, a suicide squeeze play, a bases-loaded walk, and a hit by pitch with the bases-loaded walk pushed their lead to 12-6. West End put runners on first and second with two outs, but Rex Harrison got the next batter to strike out to end the game, and Holly Pond ended up defeating the Patriots, 12-6.

Brown finished with a pair of hits and three RBIs for Holly Pond (2-9). Howard added a pair of hits and two RBIs. Ryan collected a pair of RBIs as well, while Olinger (three hits), Hibbert (one hit), and Gibbs each posted an RBI in the win.

Cleveland 6 - Holly Pond 3 (Softball)

Holly Pond got on the scoreboard first in their opening at-bats. Maycie Black hit a leadoff single, moved to second on a wild pitch, and a sacrifice bunt moved her up to third. Maggie Nail lined an RBI single to right field to give the Lady Broncos the early lead. Cleveland hit an RBI triple in the bottom of the second to tie the game up at one, but Holly Pond quickly broke the tie in the top of the third.

A single and an error put runners on first and second with one out, then another error allowed Black and Nail to score to give the Lady Broncos a 3-1 lead. Cleveland countered in their half, scoring five runs to take a 6-3 lead. Holly Pond wasn't able to cut into the deficit after that and ended up dropping the game to the Lady Panthers 6-3.

Nail finished with a hit and an RBI for Holly Pond (2-5). Black added a pair of hits, while Lauryn Hoffman, Darla Fredrick, Libby Stallings, Alivia Farr, and Alaina Folds each collected one of their own in the loss.

Vinemont 10 - Falkville 4 (Softball)

Vinemont got off to a strong start offensively against Falkville. Callie Millwood hit a leadoff single and later scored on a Falkville error to give them the early lead. Three pitches later, Arleigh Thomason scored on a wild pitch to give the Lady Eagles a 2-0 lead. Vinemont put up two more runs in the top of the second as an RBI double by Alaina Sandlin and a suicide squeeze play by Abby Kuykendall pushed their lead to 4-0. An RBI single by the Lady Blue Devils in the bottom of the third cut it to 4-1.

Vinemont made it 6-1 in the top of the fifth on back-to-back RBI singles by Haley Millwood and Mabry Thompson, but a solo home run by Falkville in their half made it 6-2. The Lady Eagles pushed across another run in the sixth to give them a 7-2 lead. An RBI fielder's choice in the Lady Blue Devils' half cut it to 7-3, but Vinemont added three more runs in the top of the seventh. An RBI single by Brooklyn Knott, an RBI groundout by Sandlin, and an RBI single by Kuykendall stretched their lead to 10-3. Falkville added another run in their half to trim it to six at 10-4, but they didn't get any closer after that as the Lady Eagles ended up knocking off the Lady Blue Devils 10-4.

Sandlin and Kuykendall each finished with a hit and a pair of RBIs for Vinemont (1-7). Knott (two hits), Haley Millwood (two hits), Mabry Thompson (one hit) and Maci Smith (one hit) each collected an RBI in the win.



ACES: Extension's Grow More, Give More project improving lives

Katie Nichols
Alabama Cooperative Extension System

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. — The Grow More, Give More (GMGM) project is changing the lives of Alabama senior citizens one container garden at a time. Since 2020, the GMGM project — led by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System home grounds, gardens and home pests team — has provided both nourishment and opportunity for Alabamians.

Pop-up gardens

Bethany O'Rear, GMGM project coordinator, said the original intent of the project was to share produce with neighbors in need. In 2023, there was a concerted effort to focus on serving senior citizens in Alabama's food deserts.

"Container gardens are great for senior citizens, because they are smaller in size and easier to care for, especially for those who may have some physical challenges," O'Rear said. "That was the motivation for installing these pop-up gardens at senior centers."

A recent retiree and transplant to Alabama, Larry Kronk discovered the Alabaster Senior Center when he moved to town in 2022. Through this community center, he found Alabama Extension and the Extension Master Gardener (EMG) program.

"My wife and I moved to Alabama about 14 months ago," Kronk said. "We discovered the senior center first. They found out I had a garden and had a hydroponic system they wanted to set up and chose me to do it."

Kronk said his involvement with the senior center led him to the EMG program. This, in turn, put him on the path to volunteerism through the GMGM project.

Making a difference

The senior center pop-up garden requires one to two hours of time each day — including weekends.

"I've enjoyed gardening with the folks here, especially, because they are inquisitive," he said.

"They give me ideas on what to do next, as far as what to grow. They really enjoy the vegetables."

Kronk is proud of what the Alabaster Senior Center's garden has been able to do this year. The GMGM pop-up garden produced approximately 75 pounds of produce in its first year.

The pop-up gardens include planting buckets, grow bags, irrigation drip kits and the necessary seed or soil. Regional Extension agents deliver these kits to their destinations.

O'Rear said the gardens were portable by design and made on a scale to encourage similar efforts by senior citizens at home.

"The thought is that participating seniors may not plant eight buckets like the pop-up garden, but they may be willing to try two buckets at home," O'Rear said.

"These gardens are an opportunity for them to learn and hopefully encourage them to try gardening at home as well."

Changing lives

Kronk said the EMG program has affected him in a number of ways.

"It has given me a meaningful way to provide volunteer time," Kronk said.

"It has also allowed me to correct a lot of mistakes I've made in my own garden. I'm gaining a wealth of knowledge, and I am able to put it into action here more than ever."

Kronk also said many of the senior center's frequent visitors have expressed interest in taking home cuttings of roses, bushes and other plants on the property.

He is working with the senior center and other volunteers to make those cuttings available, alongside the seasonal produce grown onsite.

O'Rear said the volunteers like Kronk in communities across the state have made pop-up gardens successful.



ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM

"The real heroes of this project are the community partners and Extension Master Gardener volunteers who have worked tirelessly on these gardens from the very beginning, ensuring success, harvest after harvest," she said. "We are so grateful for all they have done."

Discover Alabama Extension

Providing nutritious food for Alabama's senior citizens through the Grow More, Give More project is just one of the many ways Alabama Extension delivers solutions for life's everyday challenges.

Extension educators are strong community partners, bringing practical ways to support homes, farms, people and communities.

CCPS students 'take flight' in STEM project

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — First graders at Cullman City Primary School had a chance to create and fly their own mini airplanes as part of a recent Science, Technology and Math (STEM) project.

To celebrate the recent Read Across America Week, all first graders at Cullman City Primary School were given a mini wooden glider airplane to assemble and create, based on the Dr. Seuss book "A Great Day for Up."

Materials were provided by Civil Air Patrol/ U.S. Air Force Auxiliary Aerospace Education as part of a STEM initiative.

"Students gained an understanding of flying their glider, discovering how the force with which they toss the glider and the angle at which they release the plane affects flight performance," CCPS first-grade teacher Amanda Stidham explained.

"Students made predictions about how far the glider would fly, and practiced different throwing motions in order to keep the airplane in the air longer."

Once the lessons were completed and all the students had a chance to fly their airplanes, the first graders were given honorary certificates as pilots of the aircraft they created.

In addition to learning the basics of flight, Stidham said, the project was also a hands-on teaching moment for students to learn about making adjustments and learning "on the fly" — pun intended.



CULLMAN CITY SCHOOLS

First graders at Cullman City Primary School create and fly their own mini wooden airplanes as part of a recent STEM project.

"The project taught students to persevere and make adjustments as needed," she said.

"The excitement and encouragement for each other was contagious. Students were engaged with meaningful lifelong lessons through this activity."

WSCC Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society inducts new members, is recognized as REACH chapter

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — More than 80 Wallace State Community College students were recently inducted in the college's Alpha Chi Tau Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) International Honor Society.

Membership in PTK is extended by invitation only. For a student to be eligible, they must be enrolled in an associate-degree program, have completed at least 12 hours of college-level course work leading toward an associate degree, have a grade point average of 3.5 or greater, showcase good character and possess leadership qualities.

PTK members engage in mentoring at local high schools, tutoring Wallace State students and community service throughout Cullman County and nearby areas. They also participate in academic-enrichment programs sponsored by Wallace State and other institutions.

Membership also opens the opportunity for PTK scholarships for students transferring to four-year universities. Inductions happen twice a year, in spring and fall. PTK members qualify for special recognition during the college's yearly graduation ceremonies.

The Wallace State chapter was recognized for achieving the designation as a REACH chapter for 2023. The recognition is part of PTK's REACH Rewards program, which celebrates and rewards PTK chapters that excel in membership development by achieving exceptionally high rates of membership acceptance in the 2023 calendar year. The REACH rewards program encourages membership by rewarding chapters who achieve or exceed 15 percent for their membership acceptance rate. In 2023, Wallace State's PTK chapter achieved a 21 percent membership acceptance rate and was one of 159 chapters nationwide honored for their efforts in bringing the benefits and opportunities of PTK membership to more students.

"Our chapter has been a REACH chapter for several years now and it's still exciting every time we get recognized. One of the strong points of our PTK chapter is that we induct a lot of members, and the list of students that qualify to be invited to PTK every semester is quite impressive. We have some really smart students at WSCC, and we enjoy getting to celebrate them," said PTK sponsor Brandon Smith. "Being a member of PTK gives students the opportunity to exercise their leadership skills, showcase their academic gifts, fellowship with other members and participate in service projects. We are hopeful that membership in PTK will be the catalyst that will launch the students into greater successes as they hopefully transfer to a four-year university."

Students inducted into PTK for the Spring 2024 semester include:

- • Alabaster: April Burgess
- Arab: Katherine Fleming, Jillian Grisham, John Ray Wilks
- Bankston: Kendallyn Dunavant
- Blountsville: Marisa Bryan, Russell Stephens
- Boaz: Fiena Tsamratul Fuadah, Emma Miller
- Bremen: Kaden Burgess, Grey William Johnson
- Cleveland: Rebeca Mendoza, Jacquelyn Harper Elizabeth Simmons
- Columbiana: Alejandra Saucedo Corpus
- Crossville: Summer Miller, Charlie Mae Smith
- Cullman: Emree Dean, Brianna Garcia, Devin Blaine Hollis, Gage Hooper, Elijah Clay McCollum, Abby Lee McDonald, Brooklyn Morton, Charlie O'Neil, Easton Peed, Elijah Putman, Spencer Smith, Anna Turner, Leila VanderWal, Shayley Vogelaar, Lindsey Weidman, Kimberly Wilt
- Danville: Maisie Aarielle Waynick
- Double Springs: Brody Densmore, Riley Davis Gilbreath, Lily Suggs
- Eva: Chaden Hill, Jerry Ryan Tucker
- Falkville: Audrey Anderson
- Fultondale: Arleth Flores, Joseph Blake Nunnally
- Gardendale: Addison Dunagan, Jackie Louis Rowan III
- Guntersville: Molly C. Anderson
- Haleyville: Marlee Paige Robins, Kirsten Stevens, Samantha Wise
- Hanceville: Lily Berg, Mary Browne
- Hartselle: Zachariah Beauregard, Corey Naylor, Katherine Smith
- Hayden: Lauren Pratt, Jeffrey Tapping
- Holly Pond: Rilee Shareck
- Hoover: Casey Kostick, Charon Works
- Horton: Ashley Ramirez Guzman
- Jasper: Giovanna Lopez, Sydnee E. Shephard
- Joppa: Chase Pitts
- Killen: Anna Holt
- Kimberly: Madeline Martin
- Leeds: Morgan King
- Locust Fork: Sara Terry
- Logan: Caden David Rusk
- Mt. Olive: Maleah Dawn Faith Chadwick
- Oneonta: Owen Max Blakely, Charles Eason Williams, Allison Willis, Madisyn Wood
- Pelham: Myriah Tate
- Rainsville: Lily Madison Boswell
- Remlap: Natalie Ganus, Emily Jett
- Scottsboro: Brooke Wilson
- Trafford: Blair Echols
- Trussville: Sophia Ruxian Pierce
- Vernon: Jenna Berry
- Vinemont: Jon Edward Bridges, Stormy Campbell, Lily Kathryn Hasting, Kaydence Johnson, Allison Brooke Stidham
- Warrior: Taylor Arledge, Diego Castro Aramburo, Allison Phelps, Sophia Wright

For more information about PTK, contact sponsor Brandon Smith at 256-352-8207, brandon.smith@wallacestate.edu or visit www.wallacestate.edu/student-life.



Man (from Front)

located in and around the vehicle.

The CCSO said deputies were able to corroborate the victim's story and Butler was arrested.

Butler is charged with stalking, impersonating a peace officer, reckless endangerment, obstructing a criminal investigation (bond revocation) and receiving stolen property (bond revocation).

"I am so proud of the deputies' quick response and hard work on this case," Gentry said.

"When someone is impersonating a law enforcement officer it is so important to put a stop to it immediately. We at the Cullman County Sheriff's Office devote our lives to keeping our citizens safe, and we don't want anyone or anything compromising the trust between us and the community.

"We are always stronger together."

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LEGALS

PB WIL BK 122 PG 494 - 03/19/2024 03:51 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
BRENDA GAIL PARRISH, * CASE NO.: PC2024-096
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Letters Testamentary for Brenda Gail Parrish, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned on the 19th day of March, 2024 by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Couty of Cullman County.

Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

CINDY BLEVINS
Personal Representative

C. Blake West
Attorney for Petitioner
417 4th Avenue SW
Suite 270
Cullman, Alabama 35055
256-734-0026

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

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

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

PB MIN BK 222 PG 664 - 03/19/2024 01:25 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
CHARLOTTE ELEANOR GOODWIN, CASE NO.: PC 2024-053
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to DANIELLE LYNN BLEDSOE as Administrator of the Estate of CHARLOTTE ELEANOR GOODWIN, deceased, on the 18th day of March, 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.

Danielle Lynn Bledsoe
Personal Representative

J. Bradley Wilson
Attorney for the Estate
206 Ninth Street Southwest, Suite 102
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

PB MIN BK 222 PG 652 - 03/19/2024 08:24 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF * IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
RILEY ORVILLE TRIMBLE, III, * CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
Deceased * CASE NO. PC-2024-099

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Notice is hereby given that Petition for Summary Distribution of Small Estate has been filed by TAYLOR TRIMBLE FOSHEE, Petitioner, on the 13th day of March, 2024, and that thirty (30) days after the notice of publication hereof and pursuant to the law of the State of Alabama, the Court shall be requested to enter an order directing summary distribution of the estate of said decedent.

Taylor Trimble Foshee
Petitioner

Matthew K. Carter
Attorney for Petitioner
413 1st Ave., S.W.
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-2023

To: PUBLISHER OF **The Cullman Tribune**

Please publish the above notice **ONE TIME** in said newspaper, and thereafter file with the Court a copy of the notice so published and an affidavit of publication.

DONE this the 18th day of March, 2024.

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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

BRIDGET K. TURNER,
Plaintiff

Vs. Case Number: **25-DR-2024-900056.00**

SCOTTIE LESTER TURNER,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Scottie Lester Turner, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Bridget K. Turner's Complaint for Divorce by May 6th, 2024 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2024-900056.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 6th day of March, 2024.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Circuit Clerk

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
JASON P. KNIGHT
KNIGHT & KNIGHT, LLC
210 SECOND ST SE
CULLMAN, AL 35055

PB WIL BK 122 PG 375 - 03/12/2024 02:16 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County,

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2024-092

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BILLY THOMAS STERLING, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Robin Alford Sterling on the 12th day of March, 2024, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. 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.

Robin Alford Sterling
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

Please publish the above notice three successive weeks in said newspaper.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

Sherry H. Barrett
Smith & Smith, LLP
Attorneys for the Petitioner
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
(256) 734-4721

PB MIN BK 222 PG 482 - 03/12/2024 10:51 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
DIANE NANCY SWAN, CASE NO.: PC 2024-074
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to MATTHEW ZANE SWAN as Personal Representative of the Estate of DIANE NANCY SWAN, deceased, on the 12th day of March, 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.

Matthew Zane Swan
Personal Representative

Jamie A. Johnson
Attorney for the Estate
PO Box 4663
Montgomery, Alabama 36103

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

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2024-080

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CARLYN S. WELCH, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Randolph Joe Welch on the 6th day of March, 2024, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. 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.

Randolph Joe Welch
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

Please publish the above notice three successive weeks in said newspaper.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Sharon H. Barrett
Smith & Smith, LLP
Attorneys for the Personal Representative
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
(256) 734-4721
sherry@smithandsmithllp.com

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
KATHLEEN JOAN WARNER, CASE NO.: PC 2024-051
Deceased.

AMENDED
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to JEFFREY C. WARNER as Personal Representative of the Estate of KATHLEEN JOAN WARNER, deceased, on the 8th day of March, 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.

Amended to correct Attorney of record.

Jeffrey C. Warner
Personal Representative

Gaynor St. John
Attorney for the Estate
108 3rd Street SE
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

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the terms of that mortgage executed on June 18, 2014 by Travis Dewayne Powe, spouse of Melissa Powe and Melissa Powe, spouse of Travis Dewayne Powe, to EvaBank, which said mortgage is recorded in Book MTG 1738, Page 567 in the Probate Office of Cullman County, Alabama, and default continuing, and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the following described property will be sold at public outcry, for cash, to the highest bidder, in front of the Courthouse door of said County, in Cullman, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale on April 8, 2024:

A tract or parcel of land being situated in the NE ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 18, Township 10 South, Range 1 West, being more particularly described as follows: Commence at a found iron marking the northwest corner of said forty; thence S 01°64'42" W along the west line a distance of 1002.83 feet to a found rebar marking the north right-of-way line of Cullman County Road 773; thence run N 67°56'57" E along said right-of-way line a distance of 155.09 feet to a set rebar; thence N 67°56'57" E continuing along said right-of-way line a distance of 127.68 feet to a found rebar; thence N 84°02'47" E along said right-of-way line a distance of 45.46 feet to a set rebar; thence N 84°02'47" E along said right-of-way line a distance of 140.00 feet to a set rebar; thence N 84°02'47" E a distance of 97.80 feet to a found rebar; thence S 84°10'36" E along said right-of-way line a distance of 42.01 feet to a set rebar marking the point of beginning; thence S 84°10'36" E along said right-of-way line a distance of 138.49 feet to a found rebar; thence N 01°31'42" E a distance of 250.00 feet to a set rebar; thence N 84°11'22" W a distance of 138.49 feet to a set rebar; thence S 01°31'41" W a distance of 249.97 feet to the point of beginning.

Including a 1999 Palm Harbor Manufactured Home, Serial No. PH164500A and PH164500B located thereon.

Said sale is made for the purpose of paying the mortgage debt and cost of foreclosure.

EvaBank, Mortgagee
Thomas W. Russell
Attorney for Mortgagee
2915 Clairmont Ave. S
Birmingham, Alabama 35205
The Cullman Tribune-March 14, 21, 28, 2024

Fire (from Front)

my late daughter Cheyenne's things from the hospital and her pictures, the only memories I have of her," Turner said emotionally.

Her daughter passed away in 2004 at one day old due to Renal Agenesis. "The entire room the box was in burned, but the box happened to still be there, not even melted. We also we able to keep an old Bible that David's mother, who is now deceased, had given him years ago."

The home was burned so severely, the couple's insurance agency considered the property a total loss. The family is now housed in a local hotel until the financial settlement can be reached and rebuilding can begin. The couple envisions a newly built home on the same land as the lost home, the home they built their family in.

During the whole ordeal, Turner said, her faith in her community and God have never wavered. She also thanked the community she said has shown her such an amazing outpouring of support – beginning with family and stretching wide to strangers who have become family in her heart.

"After witnessing flames ravage our home, leaving behind almost nothing but ashes, we have found solace in the unexpected outpouring of support from our community.

"It has been a silver lining in the midst of our darkest hour. Every act of kindness, whether big or small, has served as a beacon of hope in our time of need.

"From the donations of essential items and financial aid to the heartfelt messages of strangers offering assistance, we are overwhelmed by the generosity that surrounds us," Turner said.

"People have even cooked meals and delivered them to our hotel so that we aren't living on fast food. Everyone's compassion has been a reminder that amidst tragedy, there is still goodness to be found. Our journey through this ordeal has opened our eyes to the incredible strength of our community."

She continued, "While we may not be found in the pews every Sunday, we know that in the face of adversity, we have felt the presence of a higher power guiding us through the darkness.

"It has been a testament to the belief that even in our darkest moments, we are never truly alone. Until you've faced the devastation of a house fire firsthand, you simply cannot comprehend the profound impact it leaves behind."

Donations for the Turner/Methvin family can be made at any Traditions Bank location. Those interested can simply request to make a donation to Jessica Turner.

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Hewitt (from Front)

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman City Council on Monday evening, March 18, took time to honor retiring Zoning Board of Adjustments and Appeals member Don Hewitt for his 15 years of service to the City.

Mayor Woody Jacobs presented Hewitt a certificate of commendation, sharing from the certificate, "his expertise and active participation were invaluable to the Zoning Board's goal of determining compliance with zoning laws, granting or denying variances and exceptions, and otherwise ensuring that orderly and sustainable growth for our community.

"And during those years on the board, he built a reputation and legacy as a knowledgeable, reliable and fair person with a genuine concern for the good of his community."

In its business the council approved:

• A special event request from City Clerk Wes Moore to hold the 2024 AHSAA State Track Meet at Cullman High School May 3-4, 2024

• A special event request from Zach Lee of Lowe's Home Improvement to host a Lowe's Pro Day on Broadway Avenue Southwest on March 29, 2024

• A special event request from St. Bernard Prep for the annual Bloomin' Festival to be held April 20-21, 2024

• A request from Jubilee Coffee and Wine Bar, LLC, 515 Fourth St. SW, Ste. A, for a restaurant alcohol license, which received a favorable recommendation from the Alcohol Review Committee

• A resolution to award a bid for electrical panels at Depot Park to West Cullman Electric Supply, the lowest responsible bidder

• A resolution to award a bid for scoreboard equipment for the OmniPlex Civic Center project to Boostr Digital Displays, the lowest responsible bidder

Jacobs also announced that work in Second Avenue between Cullman City Hall and Depot Park is finished, saying, "We're through, unless something breaks," and pointing ahead to ongoing and upcoming paving projects including Sharpton Road Northeast, Parkman Street Northeast and Longbrook Drive Northeast off Convent Road.

The council established membership for the new Downtown Design Review Board, appointing Nathan Allred, Donna Richter, Carrie Taylor and Beth Veigl.

In public comments, James Jordan came as a representative of residents in the area of Morningside Drive, asking the City to install speed bumps to slow down the increasing traffic flow through the neighborhood, which has grown rapidly due to recent development.

The Cullman City Council typically meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at Cullman City Hall. The public is invited to attend.

Obituary Announcements: March 19-20

Mary Jane Ashwander
Funeral services for Mary Jane Ashwander, 80, of Hanceville, will be 1 p.m. Friday, March 22, 2024, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Hopewell Cemetery. Visitation will be Thursday, March 21, 2024 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Ms. Ashwander, lovingly referred to as "Grammy" was born April 28, 1943, to the late Jessie "Buster" Cochran and Daisy May Davis-Cochran. She passed away March 17, 2024, at Hanceville Nursing Home. Mary Jane was a housewife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister, aunt, and daughter. Exceptional at all the above. Loved and respected by all who knew her. In her later years she worked at Walmart Distribution where she made many lifelong friends. She was a strong, independent woman who had a strong faith, love of family, and an appreciation for life. Later in life became a devout pet owner, they were her babies. She is now with some wonderful people who have already passed and our Heavenly Father. She always had good sense of humor and is probably looking down at us wondering why so serious. She is and will be missed by all who knew and loved her. Ms. Ashwander is survived by her two children, Deborah Jacobs and John Wyatt Ashwander (Lynn); grandchildren, Edy McClelland (Chuck), Brett Jacobs, Makenzie Smith (Noah), Abby Ashwander; great-grandchildren, Tommy Witt, Grace Krueger, Gretchen Krueger, Andrew McClelland, Avery McClelland, James Caseton Smith, Allen Wyatt Smith; brother, Billy Cochran (Kay); sisters, Shirley Hodge (Larry), Joyce Ballard (Randy); brothers-in-law, John McDowell, Edward Long; and many nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, Ms. Ashwander was preceded in death by her sisters, Betty Long, Elaine McDowell; and grandchild Amy Barr. She also left behind Sadie (Dog), and Sparky (Cat) who are proudly kept by her son. Ringo (Dog) and Miss Kitty Cat passed away before she did. The family would like to thank the staff at Monarch Place and Hanceville Nursing Home. She loved you girls and we could not have made it without y'all.

Mrs. Rita S. Williams, 78, of Wrightsville
A memorial service for Rita Smith Williams will be 2 p.m. Saturday, March 23, 2024, at Hopewell Cemetery. Mrs. Rita S. Williams, 78, of Wrightsville, passed away Monday, Jan 29, 2024, at Fairview Park Hospital in Dublin. Ms. Williams was born February 10, 1945, in Corydon, IN to the late Claude E. Smith and Marguerite Freeman Smith. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Elon Williams; brothers, Steven Smith and Billy Smith. Ms. Williams graduated from Northeast High School in St. Petersburg, Florida, in 1963. She went on to attend the Gulfport Academy of Beauty Culture in Gulfport, Florida. In 1964 to become a hairdresser. After moving to Georgia many years later, she attended Swainsboro Technical College of Georgia to seek her nursing degree. She graduated from Swainsboro Tech in 1990 and passed her state exam in 1991 as an LPN. In 2009, Ms. Williams retired from nursing after working many years at the Swainsboro Nursing Home in Swainsboro. Her hobbies as a young child growing up were showing her horses and competing in many 4-H events. She also assisted her parents in raising, training and racing greyhounds. She loved her family, friends and church family and strongly believed in God. Ms. Williams always stated that her son and nursing career were her most significant accomplishments. She had many great friends throughout her lifetime and left behind her best friend, buddy, card player, cohort and sidekick, Thelma Anderson of Wrightsville. She is survived by her son, Lee Rich, Sr. (Patricia) of Millen; brother, Wade Smith (Phyllis) of Hanceville, AL; grandchildren, Lee Rich, Jr., Preston Chase Rich, Kacie Lynn Rich, all of Pensacola, FL, Johnathan Lee Rich of Millen; great-grandchildren, Elliana Rose Rich, Zayden Savage; and many friends.

Douglas E. Bates, 81, of Cullman
Funeral service for Douglas E. Bates, age 81, of Cullman, Alabama, is Thursday, March 21, 2024, at 1 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church, with Bro. Blake Coots officiating the funeral service and Bro. Charles Sparks officiating the graveside service. Family will welcome friends from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the church. Interment will follow at Bethsadia Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Doug was born to Feltus C. Bates and Lois Thompson Bates on Nov 17, 1942. He passed from this life on March 19, 2024, at CRMC. He is preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Elwin Bates, and Sherall Bates. He is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Audrey Bates; sons, Sherwin Bates (Joan), and Jason Bates (Marie); one daughter, Neeya White (Heath); two brothers, Carlton Bates, and Kevin Bates; four grandchildren, Amber Wix, Blake Coots, Aerial Stanford, Heather White, Billy Marks; great-grandchildren, Brycen Stanford, Jaxon Fulmer, Maddie Shipley, Honey Marks, Bill Marks, Little Bill Marks; special friends, Badger and Sofie; a host of nieces and nephews; friends and family. Doug was a hard worker who loved to be outside. He was an excellent husband and father and loved his family very much. Above all, he was a wise man of God who cared deeply about people's salvation. He ministered at the Cullman County Jail for 52 years and was passionate about his work. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, if desired, please donate to Trinity Church. Please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Earnest John Walling, 95, of Hanceville
Earnest John Walling, age 95, passed from this life on March 19, 2024. He was born and raised in Pikeville, Tennessee and resided in Hanceville, Alabama. Mr. Walling was born to Alfred John Walling and Audie Byrd Walling on July 18, 1928. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. He is preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Archie Walling, Ray Walling, Taylor Walling; sisters Judy Rohn, Ada Wheler, and Vera Hogan. He is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Arlene Edwards Walling; sons, Ken Walling (Mamie), Barry Walling (Tinna); daughter, Jana Walling Calvert (Marlin); brother, Carrol Walling; sister, Alberta Kelley; grandchildren, Chris Walling, Trey Walling, Jessie Calvert Jovanovic (Marko), Coy Calvert (Jessica), Nick Walling (Anna); great-grandchildren, Mila Jovanovic, Luka Jovanovic, Wade Earnest Calvert; a host of nieces and nephews; friends and family. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the American Cancer Society or National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Lollie Jean McKinney, 91, of Hanceville
Lollie Jean McKinney, a resident of Hanceville, Alabama, passed away on March 19, 2024, at the age of 91. She was a faithful member of Mount Olive Church of Christ and an active participant of the Red Hat Society. Lollie and her family enjoyed spending quality time together on Smith Lake, creating cherished memories. As the tenth child, she loved having her family around and cherished every moment spent with them. She was also known as "Lollipop" by the staff and residents of Hanceville Nursing and Rehab, where she spent her final days. Lollie enjoyed doing arts and crafts, especially painting, and playing bingo. She was preceded in death by her two husbands, Clarence McKinney and Norman E. Love Sr., her son, Gary McKinney, her parents, Hardy Clemmons, and Jewel Ella Nix McKinney, and her nine siblings. She is survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins, and other extended relatives. Lollie's family is grateful to the staff of Hanceville Nursing and Rehab for their exceptional care, Southern Care Hospice for their compassion, and Nurse Andrea Regas for her unparalleled dedication and support to Lollie and her family during her final days. Friends and family are invited to attend a visitation on Saturday, March 23, 2024, from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m., followed by a Celebration of Lollie's Life at 11 a.m. at Ridout's Gardendale Chapel.

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THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

Cullman County Public Library adding 3 new programs

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The main branch of the Cullman County Public Library System has a robust calendar of events that are held weekly for the community. Its itinerary is about to get a little more packed as it adds three new programs.

One new program is Strum along with Stu, an introduction to the ukulele. This class is an excellent opportunity for musicians who are just beginning their journeys or curious cats who want to see if the stringed instrument is a good match; any and all talent levels are welcome.

The library will hold an informational session on Saturday, April 13, at 9:30 a.m. in the Special Collections Room. The library does have two ukuleles available in circulation for patrons to borrow, but there is no guarantee either instrument will be available at any given time.

Circulation Manager Laura Benton said, "We would like to invite anyone who is interested in learning ukulele or practicing ukulele or jamming with other people to come to the library and find out what it is all about."

For young future writers, the library is also holding a Young Writers Workshop for children and teens on Saturday, April 13 at 3:30 p.m.

"We wanted to put this on the calendar in celebration of 'Encourage a Young Writer Day.'" Benton shared.

Encouraging young writers is certainly the goal of the afternoon clinic. It will be hosted by local author Dorenda Doyle. Doyle's portfolio boasts a line of fictional children's books, often following a child every teacher knows as "that kid."

Flourishing novelists and journalists will learn basic storytelling and writing techniques, all from the perspective of and with help from a published author with experience in writing professionally.

The last exciting addition to the library's calendar is Walking Wednesdays. Patrons can meet at the library each Wednesday at 10 a.m. The gathered group will then take a short walk across the Warehouse District to the newly reconstructed Depot Park to stroll around and discuss life and literature, enjoying the sunshine or just the company. This program is weather dependent; it's suggested that interested walkers call the library before a walk if the weather is questionable.

"Moms or dads with strollers – we would like people of all ages to come," Benton smiled. "We will have one or two staff members join in on the walk."

The Cullman County Public Library's main branch is located at 200 Clark St. NE and can be reached at 256-734-1068.

Commission (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — At its monthly meeting held Tuesday, March 19, the Cullman County Commission declared the month of April Child Abuse and Neglect Awareness Month throughout Cullman County. Cullman County Administrator John Bullard read the declaration that praised local nonprofit Cullman Caring for Kids, before each commissioner signed the document.

An excerpt of the declaration said, "... the Cullman County Commission stands firmly on the side of prevention of any type of abuse and believes no child should endure verbal, emotional or physical abuse for any reason."

The commission also agreed to allocate $100,000 of opioid settlement funds for The Link of Cullman County and its Personal Pathways Recovery Program. The Link Executive Director Melissa Betts was present at the meeting and spoke to the commissioners about the program she heads, which touts an 81% success rate in rehabilitating addicts and reducing recidivism.

Betts said of the recovery program, "We currently offer a cognitive and behavioral therapy program at The Link. We offer that in-house at The Link as well as in work release in the (Cullman) County Detention (Center). We have an 81% success rate with using this therapy and it helps address how your belief systems are set up. We know oftentimes, people have not had the tools and foundational resources that they need in their life, so this helps them build (the) foundational success tools that can help them make better decisions. Our 81% success rate was based on the fact that if they completed our program, which is a 12-step program, that they did not reoffend; we had 81% of our participants that did not reoffend."

Cullman County Engineer Phillip Widner and Cullman County Economic Development Director Matt Kinsland petitioned the commission for and received approval for funding for the project to repair damage caused by a large collapsed pipe and sinkhole along County Road 222, one of the county's major industrial roadways. Due to the incredible traffic of approximately 7,500 vehicles a day, the job needs to be done quickly and efficiently. The damage is located near Interstate 65 and multiple industrial facilities on County Road 222.

Widner revealed the current plans for the repair in the request for the commission to consider Resolution 2024-15: Award bid for CDBG Urgent Need to Apel Machine and Supply in the amount of $762,132.23 to replace two failing culverts under County Road 222. According to Widner, the failing culverts only affect one side of the roadway, eliminating the need to close the road to off-loading interstate traffic.

"This is the pipe failure that we have under County Road 222," Widner said. "There doesn't appear to be any area where the material is completely gone."

The County Road Department and Apel plan to reduce traffic to one lane while the repairs are being made. It's unclear how long the project will take; work will begin as soon as possible.

In other business, the commission:

• Recognized Lisha Sullins' retirement after 19 years of service with the Road Department

• Approved Resolution 2024-14: Authorize chairman to sign CDBG grant and contract amendment to construct road improvements to County Road 1490

• Approved Commissioner Garry Marchman's and Commissioner (Corey) Freeman's nominee, Mike Cone, for reappointment to the Cullman County 310 Authority Board for a term of six years to expire April 1, 2030

• Approved the use of the south courthouse parking lot for a car wash on Saturday, March 23, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

• Approved the use of opioid settlement funds to install AED devices in select senior centers and patrol/first responder vehicles

• Approved the update to the guidelines for acceptance of roads into the County maintenance system

• Approved the update of guidelines for paving county-maintained gravel roads

• Approved the update to County subdivision regulations

• Approved Resolution 2024-12: Change speed to 35 mph on County Road 1233

• Approved Resolution 2024-13: Change speed limit to 25 mph on County Road 1250

• Approved the amendment Item J from Feb. 22, 2024, meeting to reflect the purchase of a 2023 Ford F-150 in the amount of $45,242

• Ratified Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) in the amount of $2,342

• Authorized chairman and county attorney to sign FY 2024 Certifications and Assurances for FTA Assistance Programs for CARTS

• Approved contract cancellation with WENS Mass Alert System

• Approved quote from Everbridge for Mass Alert Notification System in the amount of $23,840.89 and authorized chairman to sign all related paperwork

• Approved contract between the Cullman County Commission and Post Panda and authorized chairman to sign all related paperwork

• Approved payment of Workers Compensation additional amount of $35,213.73 to County Risk Services due to results of annual audit

• Approved WEX Fuel Agreement on Sourcewell Contract 042016-WEX

• Approved the application for FY 2024 State Homeland Security Grant for EOC upgrade for computers, smartboards and cameras in the amount of $60,000

• Approved the following items from the Road Department to be auctioned on GovDeals or by any means necessary
  - Built Rite Clam and Trailer
  - 1987 GMC
  - 2007 GMC 550
  - Broce Broom
  - 2005 Ford F-350
  - 2005 Ford F-350
  - 1982 GMC
  - 2005 Ford F-350

• Approved to extend Bid 1430: for Guardrail to Alabama Guardrail

• Approved to extend Bid 1431: for Poly Pipe to Bear Concrete

• Approved to extend Bid 1433: for Bituminous Plant Mix (Product Only) to Whitaker Contracting and Wiregrass Construction

• Approved to extend Bid 1384: for Fireworks to Pyro Shows of Alabama, Inc.

• Awarded Bid 1455: for Bituminous Plant Mix (Installed) to Whitaker Contracting and Wiregrass Construction

• Awarded Bid 1456: for Herbicides and Adjuvants to Red River Specialties, LC V. Awarded Bid 1458: for Pickle Ball Court at Smith Lake Park to Ortiz Concrete

• Awarded Bid 1459: for Pipe and Boring on County Road 222 TBD

• Awarded Bid 1460: for One or More New Pick-up Truck(s) to Eckenrod Ford Lincoln

The next Cullman County Commission meeting will be held Thursday, April 18, 2024, in the commission meeting room. The work session will begin at 4 p.m. with the meeting beginning at 6.



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman County Engineer Phillip Widner addresses the Cullman County Commission about funding for the repair of County Road 222, which had a large sinkhole discovered in recent months.