

monograms PLUS
NEW LOCATION!
802 Main Ave. NE
Cullman, AL 35055 | 256-739-0631



RONALDO JEWELRY
KENDRA SCOTT
Tyler CANDLE COMPANY
southern marsh COLLECTION
mudpie
Vera Bradley
simply southern
Brighton

The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

VOL. 151 • 50¢ PER COPY | THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2024 | USPS 139-700 • NO. 41

SUBSCRIBE TODAY



TRIBUNE.STORE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OBITUARIES

Walter Lynn Garrett, Johnny Gary Camp, Gorden Lee Boylen, Teresa Dale Burrow Solley, Cody Lowell Self (SPC), Loretta Young, Jean Holt, Dr. Martin Bruce Harbison

» PAGE 7

WEATHER

59 | 35

SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

INCREASING CLOUDS

Arrests and Incidents
» PAGE 2

Community Calendar
» PAGE 3



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUBNE

– SPORTS –

Broncos, Aggies, Raiders advance on day 1
» PAGE 4

7 93888 98541 4

Holly Pond Town Council presents $10K to local schools

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. — The Holly Pond Town Council on Monday presented $5,000 checks to each of the town's schools: to Holly Pond High School Principal Dr. Nate Ayers, and to Holly Pond K-8 Principal Karen Sparks. The presentation was made at a council meeting held at the high school library at Ayers' invitation.

"We're happy to donate to them every year," said Mayor Carla Hart. "It goes to a good cause. We love our kids."

Sparks told the council, "We always are so thankful for the support from our community for our schools. This money is well needed, and we'll put it to good use."

Ayers said, "We could not do what we do on a daily basis without the partnership with the Town of Holly Pond. Our major » PAGE 2



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Holly Pond High School Principal Dr. Nate Ayers and Holly Pond Elementary/Middle School Principal Karen Sparks received checks from the Holly Pond Town Council Monday evening, April 1, 2024. Left to right are Gladys Wisener, Ricky Carr, Paul Brown, Dr. Nate Ayers, Mayor Carla Hart, Karen Sparks, Deborah Holcomb and Julie Ray.

'This is an exciting day'

Miracle League celebrates opening day on new turf



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism celebrated the opening night of this year's Miracle League season on The Field of Miracles' newly resurfaced turf Monday night, April 1, 2024.

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Monday night was a special one at Field of Miracles as a crowd of players and supporters gathered at the facility to celebrate the opening night of the season on the newly installed turf. The project to resurface the field began in February and was completed just in time for the season to get underway. Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism Executive Director Nathan Anderson welcomed the crowd out onto the new field for the opening ceremonies and shared his excitement for this new addition to the Miracle League program.

"This is an exciting day. We're so happy to have this field opened and have it open in time for the season. This is a great crowd, there a lot of faces out here on this field that have been very instrumental, some from the very beginning and some in our



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

latest efforts fundraising," Anderson said. "I'd like to invite someone who works many, many hours every week doing everything they can to make our therapeutic recreation and miracle league program top notch. I do believe in all the other cities I've looked at that have programs similar to ours, we are the best, and that's because of the hard work of (Therapeutic Recreation Director) Kelly Pulliam."

Pulliam was excited to see a lot of familiar faces Monday night and thanked as many of them as she could for helping bring this project to fruition.

"Thank you guys so much for being here, I » PAGE 5

Bremen man killed in Monday wreck

» PAGE 3

'Welcome home, brother'

VFW honors local Vietnam veterans on National Vietnam War Veterans Day

» PAGE 8

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church celebrating 150 years in Cullman



SACRED HEART CHURCH

Sacred Heart's facilities are pictured in a 1900 photo. Subsequent construction swapped the locations of the church and school.

» PAGE 4

Sportsman Lake Park lands on Alabama Birding Trails

» PAGE 7

PET OF THE WEEK

Meet 'otterly adorable' Otter



DONNA RUTTKAY

Otter is a 3-year-old brindle terrier mix.

» PAGE 7

ALL THE GREAT DEALS ARE FLYING AROUND AT BILL SMITH!

Bill Smith

2023 GMC DEALER OF THE YEAR 6 TIMES IN A ROW!

BUICK GMC WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE

ALABAMA'S LARGEST BUICK GMC DEALERSHIP

*Notates all rebates applied, must have 2005 or newer qualifying trade in. Prices are plus tax, title, & fee. Colors may vary.

WAS $91,270

NOW $86,770*

NEW 2024 GMC SIERRA 2500 HD
CREW CAB STANDARD BOX 4-WHEEL DRIVE DENALI



6.6L DURAMAX V8 TURBO DIESEL ENGINE | 20" ULTRA BRIGHT MACHINED ALUM. WHEELS | HD SURROUND VISION | HITCH GUIDANCE/HITCH VIEW | PWR SUNROOF | X31 OFF-ROAD PKG

BILLSMITHBUICKGMC.COM • 1940 SECOND AVE NW • CULLMAN, AL 35055 • 256-734-4472

© 2024 THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported April 3

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported April 3, 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

April 1

- duty upon striking unattended vehicle; person; damage to '21 Toyota 4Runner; $3,750; Hwy. 157
- theft of property-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $174; Olive St. SW
- theft of property-3rd degree; person; cash
- theft of property-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; miscellaneous; $20; Olive St. SW

April 2

- theft of property-1st degree; person; cash
- theft of property-2nd degree; Lowe's; generator; $929; Cherokee Ave. SW
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; Logan St. SW
- domestic violence-harassment; person; Schneider Rd. SE
- counterfeit $100; State of Alabama; Hwy. 157
- theft of property-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $65; Olive St. SW
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; Austin Ave. SW

ARRESTS

April 1-2

Miller, Holli D.; 30
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- tampering with physical evidence

Copeland, Robyn E.; 33
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- promoting prison contraband-2nd degree

Bryan, Staci L.; 47
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Williams, Shayla C.; 29
- FTA - theft of property-4th degree
- FTA - leaving the scene

Hanna, Amiyah B.; 20
- FTA - stalking-2nd degree
- FTA - resisting arrest
- FTA - public intoxication
- FTA - harassment
- FTA - criminal trespass-3rd degree

Grimes, Jeffery T.; 38
- FTA - criminal trespass-3rd degree

Lampkin, Jamall S.; 42
- attempt to commit a controlled substance crime
- unlawful possession/receiving of a controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Edens, Julie J.; 49
- driving under the influence

Criscoe, James M.; 36
- domestic violence-3rd degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Council (from Front)

focus this year was to bring the community back into our school, to bring family back into our school. I don't think it is a surprise for that to be a focus to anybody that's sitting in this room. I feel like we've really – I hate to say that we've knocked that out of the park – but I feel like we've done a really good job with that."

Ayers expressed a desire for the council to return to one of the schools for a meeting at least once per year, saying, "I think it screams volumes to our community for us to be on the same page."

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Hart told the council:

- The Holly Pond Lions Club will provide labor to build the town's mini food pantry, and the club presented a quote of $301.25 for materials (The actual amount will be lower since the total included sales tax the Town will not have to pay)
- The 100 kw generator at the sewage treatment plant has been repaired at a cost of $4,559.32
- Carpet has been installed in the town's ballpark batting cages, and she hoped that nets could be installed soon.
- A new septic tank was installed at town hall and connected to the town's sewer system.
- A French drain needs to be installed behind town hall to help drainage from a constantly wet area there
- The Town is consulting with Carcel & G Construction for repairs to a sinkhole on New Hope Road in front of the high school; when Hart said that repairs could temporarily close the road, Ayers told the council that the school has contingency plans in place for buses and traffic
- The Town will get a quote from White Pine Landscaping for regular maintenance services at Governors Park

The council approved an expenditure of up to $350 to purchase a small freezer for the ballpark concession stand.

The Holly Pond Town Council meets at 6 p.m. on the first Monday of every month at the Guy Hunt Library. The public is invited to attend.

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

Cullman Stock Yard, Inc.
75 County Road 1339
Cullman, AL 35058
(256) 734-4531
www.cullmanstockyard.com
Hoagy and Callahan Parrish
Cattle Sale – Tuesday - 8:30 a.m.


REGULAR and BIG & TALL SIZES
MR.HICKS
Mens Wear
256-739-1007
www.suitsformen.com
217 Compass Way SW, Cullman AL 35055
MEN'S SUITS – SPORT COATS – PANTS – SHIRTS
FORMAL WEAR FOR PROMS & WEDDINGS

VIRGIL B. FOWLER
Real Estate and Insurance
AGENCY
Quality Since 1935
734-3821
vbfowlerinsurance.com
Successors to
WILLIAM RICHARD & SON INSURANCE
" Established 1885 "
Virgil B. Fowler 1895-1978 - Virgil B. Fowler Jr. 1937-2019 - Dorothy S. Fowler - Jason S. Fowler

EARL'S BODY SHOP
2251 Decatur Ave., N.W.
734-2406

THE BARN
Portable Storage Buildings
Hanceville, AL
352-2737

Vehicle Title Problem? We have a Solution!
Unclaimed/Abandoned Vehicles, Mobile Homes & Surety Bonds
JSE:Alabama's Vehicle Title Recovery Service!
We can help with most Titled Vehicles in Alabama, including Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, RV's & Trailers. Stop in, by phone or online!
Free Phone Consultation
Call 1-256-850-0527
www.JSEAL.com

YOU CAN HELP PROTECT AGAINST CANCER.
alabamapublichealth.gov/imm
IMM IMMUNIZATION DIVISION · ALABAMA PUBLIC HEALTH · VFC ALABAMA Vaccines for Children PROGRAM


Become an ADULT FOSTER CARE Provider
ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
1-800-458-7214
dhr.alabama.gov/AFC
This ad is supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling $3,686,987 with 100 percent funding by ACL/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACL/HHS, or the U.S. Government.
"Love Never Ages"

$6.3 BILLION
Annual economic impact to the state
AUBURN AT WORK
auburn.edu/AuburnAtWork

STOP
Elder Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation
Submit a report to the Alabama Department of Human Resources Adult Protective Services Division
1-800-458-7214
aps@dhr.alabama.gov
ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

BEING JOBLESS IS DIFFICULT ENOUGH.
Getting help to bridge the gap shouldn't be.
Go to Labor.Alabama.gov to locate a center near you and bridge the gap of unemployment.
Alabama Department of Labor
Funding provided by USDOL. An Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

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.

PUBLIC NOTICE: Good Hope Public Cemetery Decoration Weekend Cleanup Announcement for 2024
Good Hope Public Cemetery will hold its annual Decoration Weekend on Saturday, May 4, and Sunday, May 5. Please have all worn flowers and decorations removed from the cemetery by Sunday, April 28. Any flowers and decorations remaining after April 28 will be subject to removal by cemetery maintenance with respect to condition. We ask that all new flowers and decorations be kept as close to the monuments as possible to aid in mowing. Donations to the cemetery can be sent to Good Hope Public Cemetery, P.O. Box 355, Cullman, AL 35056, are tax deductible and help us pay for cemetery upkeep. Thanks.

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, April 5 - 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!
• Saturday, April 6 - 8 a.m. Men's breakfast and Foundry Farm outreach at 10.
• Sunday, April 7 - 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, April 7 - 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.

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.

Rummage Sale
Friday, April 12, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday, April 13, from 8 a.m.-noon at Trinity Lutheran Church, 505 Commercial St., Hanceville.

Cullman Educator Retirees Association Meeting
Thursday, April 18, at 11 a.m. at Stone Bridge Farms. Our program will be the installation of our local officers for the next two years, followed by lunch and fellowship. We invite all educator retirees to join us.

40th Annual Bloomin' Festival
Saturday and Sunday, April 20-21, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. each day on the grounds of St. Bernard Preparatory School. There will be around 185 vendors this year. Admission is a $10 donation. Special reduced admission rates will also be offered to festival attendees all weekend to visit the Ave Maria Grotto.

COMMUNITY CORNER



SUBMIT BY NOON ON WEDNESDAY, SEE YOUR AD ON THURSDAY!
PLACE YOUR AD AT TRIBUNE.STORE OR CALL US AT 256-739-1351

SERVICES

SELLING A RV, Tractor or Golf Cart? ADVERTISE STATEWIDE or by region in over 100 Newspapers, reaching over 1 million readers each week! Run your ad in our Classified Network for just $210 per week! Make one call to this newspaper (participating Ala-SCAN newspaper) or call 1-800-264-7043 to find out how easy it is to advertise statewide!

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 833-449-1307.

BECOME A PUBLISHED AUTHOR! We edit, print and distribute your work internationally. We do the work... You reap the Rewards! Call for a FREE Author's Submission Kit: 888-283-4780.

LONG DISTANCE MOVING: Call today for a FREE QUOTE from America's Most Trusted Interstate Movers. Let us take the stress out of moving! Speak to a Relocation Specialist, call 844-925-3534.

WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION: A small amount of water can lead to major damage and mold growth in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-877-727-2344 Have zip code of service location ready when you call!

EDUCATION

ATTENTION ACTIVE Duty & Military Veterans! Begin a new career and earn your Degree at CTI! Online Computer & Medical training available for Veterans & Families! To learn more, call 866-475-1014 (M-F 8am-6pm ET).

HEALTH/BEAUTY

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. FREE information kit. Call 844-322-9935.

ATTENTION: VIAGRA AND CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - $99 + FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 866-505-0828.

FOR SALE

DIRECTV SATELLITE TV SERVICE Starting at $59.99/month! Free Installation! 160+ channels available. Call Now to Get the Most Sports & Entertainment on TV! 844-594-7108.

NEED NEW Flooring? Call Empire Today to schedule a Free in-home estimate on Carpeting and Flooring. Call Today! 1-888-381-0916.

UPDATE YOUR HOME with Beautiful New Blinds & Shades. FREE in-home estimates make it convenient to shop from home. Professional installation. Top quality - Made in the USA. Call for free consultation: 844-809-9165. Ask about our specials!

ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING FOREVER! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-833-683-2005.

PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase* Call 1-877-323-5516 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

SAFE STEP. North America' s #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and $1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-871-6175.

WESLEY FINANCIAL GROUP, LLCTimeshare Cancellation Experts Over $50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 866-605-5915.

PORTABLE OXYGEN CONCENTRATOR May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 866-816-1208.

JACUZZI BATH REMODEL can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, we're waiving all installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 12/31/23 Call 1-877-205-0836.

REPLACE YOUR ROOF with the best looking and longest lasting material – steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer – up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-833-955-3163.

WANTED 10 HOMES in your county needing Metal Roofs, Siding or Windows. LIMITED TIME . METAL ROOF $4,395* COMPLETELY INSTALLED. Payments $89/mo* SAVE $$$ Call800-664-4856 *for details.

AUTOMOTIVE

SUPPORT THE BLIND! Donate a car to the American Council of the Blind. FAST FREE PICKUP. 24-hour response. Running or not. maximum tax deduction and no emission test required! Call 24/7: 844-601-1342.

AUTO INSURANCE from $29 month Free 2-minute Quote! We Compare all Insurance providers offers for you! Lowest Rates! Call Now 866-450-0943.

Bremen man killed in Monday wreck

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — A two-vehicle crash that occurred at approximately 7:34 p.m. Monday, April 1, claimed the life of a Bremen man. Alabama State Troopers identified the victim as Cody L. Self, 33.

Troopers said Self was fatally injured when the 2006 Mazda 3i he was driving collided head-on with a 2016 GMC Yukon driven by Megan D. Swidecki, 38, of Hanceville.

Troopers said Self was not using a seat belt at the time of crash and was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The passengers in the GMC, Kelley M. Waunch, 61; a 7-year-old; 8-year-old; and 10-year-old – all of Hanceville, were injured and transported to nearby hospitals for treatment.

The crash occurred on County Road 38, near County Road 46, approximately 3 miles south of Dodge City, in Cullman County.

Nothing further is available as Troopers with the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's (ALEA) Highway Patrol Division continue to investigate.



A-1 Battery Sales
AUTO – TRUCK – TRACTOR
Quality Batteries For Every Need
Since 1979
2152 Co. Rd. 1169 • Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (Office): 256-734-9438

Huge Estate Sale Friday April 5, Saturday, April 6. 1425 Mitchell Road, Cullman 7:00 a.m. Furniture, antiques, collectibles, vintage Christmas, Civil War artifacts, Indian artifacts, lawn furniture, some tools, a lot to see and too much to list. Check out pictures on PKFacebook and on Archaeology, History, Civil War, Furniture,... starts on 4/5/2024 (estatesales.net)

The Cullman Tribune
Cullman County's Oldest Business, Serving the area since 1874 Publication Number USPS-139-700
Telephone: 256-739-1351 Fax: 1-256-739-4422
HumbleRoots,LLC
Published daily Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 219 2nd Avenue SE, Cullman, Alabama 35055 Entered as periodical material at the Cullman Post Office Periodical postage paid at Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

ANNUALLY BASED RATES

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

Noah Galilee - Publisher
Dustin Isom - Associate Publisher
W.C. Mann - Reporter
Cheyenne Sharp - Reporter
Gauge Day - Reporter
Nick Griffin - Varsity Sports Editor
SammyConfer-Youth/JVSportsEditor
Howard Cole - Photojournalist
Bill Piper - Photojournalist
Robin Winton - Newsroom Manager
Janet Chandler - Marketing Specialist

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
APRIL 4, 2024

COUNTY SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

Broncos, Aggies, Raiders advance on day 1

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. – This year's Cullman County Softball Tournament is underway and three teams secured spots in the semifinals on day one. Fairview handled Hanceville 15-0 to move on and Good Hope fended off a late rally from Cold Springs to advance as well. Vinemont clashed with Holly Pond in the final game of the day and after falling behind 10 runs in the fifth, the Lady Broncos put eight runs on the board in the bottom of the sixth and two more in the seventh to tie the game at 15 and force extra innings. Vinemont reclaimed a 1-run lead in the top of the eighth, but Holly Pond plated a pair of runs in the final frame to complete a dramatic comeback and punch its ticket to the semifinals.

This year's semifinal games and championship game were originally scheduled to be played Tuesday but due to the threat of inclement weather, all games scheduled for Tuesday have been moved to Wednesday starting at 2 p.m.

Fairview 15 – Hanceville 0

The Lady Aggies took just three innings to secure their win over Hanceville. Fairview plated four runs in the bottom of the first inning to take an early lead and continued to add to it in the second. A single off the bat of Emily Benson drove in a pair of runs to make it 6-0 and back to back triples from Ayda Payne and Addison Phillips put three more runs on the board, stretching the lead to 9-0.

Allison Davis kept the inning going with an RBI single into left field and a few pitches later, Ralie Gaines knocked a double into right field to plate two more runs and make it a 12-0 game. Gaines scored on an Ada Fales groundout to make it 13-0 later in the inning and a single from Payne tacked on two more runs and put Fairview in front 15-0 at the end of the second.

The Lady Aggies collected the final three outs they needed in the top half of the third to secure a spot in Wednesday's semifinals.

Payne led the way at the plate with three hits and four RBIs. Gaines (one hit) finished with a pair of RBIs and Benson (one RBI) and Phillips (one RBI) each added a pair of hits.

Fairview will play Holly Pond in the semifinals Wednesday at 2 p.m.

Good Hope 10 – Cold Springs 6

The Lady Eagles took a 1-0 lead in the top of the first when Kaydance Williams scored on a sacrifice bunt from Kortnie Williams, but Good Hope responded in the bottom half of the inning. Campbell Kock ripped a 2-run single into left field to give the Lady Raiders a 2-1 lead and Carley Adams launched an RBI double into center field to make it a 3-1 game going into the second inning.

After a pair of scoreless innings, Good Hope added to its lead in the fourth. An RBI triple from Haley Lay extended the lead to 4-1 and two pitches later, Natalie Miller drove in another run with a single to right field to make it 5-1.

Lizzy Steed knocked an RBI single into the left field to make it a 6-1 game and a 2-run double off the bat of Molly Johnson put the Lady Raiders ahead 8-1 at the end of the fourth.

Good Hope tacked on two more runs in the fifth to build the lead up to 10-1 but the Lady Eagles rallied in the top of the sixth, pushing five runs across the plate to cut the lead to 10-6. However, Cold Springs couldn't come any closer and the Lady Raiders advanced to the semifinals with a 10-6 win.

Johnson finished with three hits and three RBIs in the win for Good Hope. Miller and Campbell Kock each posted a pair of hits and RBIs and Lay (one RBI) and Steed (one RBI) each added two hits. For Cold Springs, Williams, Ciara Calvert and Sadie Smith each recorded a hit in the loss.

Good Hope will play top-seeded West Point Wednesday at 2 p.m.

Holly Pond 17 – Vinemont 16 (eight innings)

Vinemont got off to a fast start, taking a 4-0 lead in the top of the first. Three of those runs came on a 3-run homer by Katleyn Evans and later in the inning, Emma Dortch connected on an RBI single to make it 4-0. However, Holly Pond answered with four runs in the bottom half of the first.

A single from Maggie Nail, an error and a single off the bat of Alivia Farr tied the game at 4 going into the second inning.

The Lady Eagles strung together hits by Callie Millwood, Haley Millwood and Evans to put three more runs on the board and take a 7-4 lead in the top of the second. After a scoreless third inning, they added to their lead in the fourth and the fifth. Callie Millwood scored on a wild pitch to make it an 8-4 game in the top of the fourth and later in the fifth, Brooklyn Knott scored on a passed ball to make it 9-4. A hit batter with the bases loaded, a passed ball and an error helped Vinemont stretch the lead to 12-4 by the end of the inning.

The Lady Broncos were able to push a run across and trim the lead to 12-5 in the bottom of the fifth, but Vinemont answered with three more runs in the top of the sixth, extending the lead to 15-5.

The bottom of the sixth is when the momentum began to shift toward the Holly Pond dugout. With a pair of runners on the bases, Lauryn Hoffman, Nail and Libby Stallings squared up three straight singles to plate four runs and cut the lead to 15-9. Following a pair of walks, Farr sent a single into right field to make it a 5-run game and one pitch later, Ellie Burks drove in another run with a single up the middle. The hits kept coming for the Lady Broncos and later in the inning, Maycie Black knocked a 2-run single into center field to make it a 15-13 game at the start of the seventh.

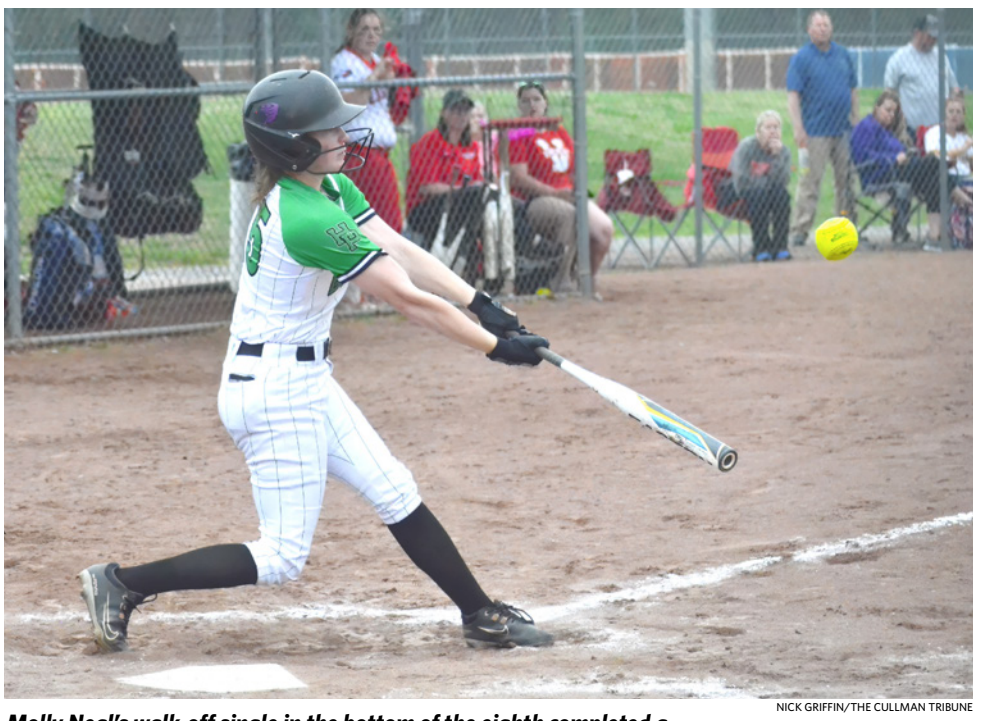
The Lady Eagles were unable to add to their lead in the top of the seventh and down to its final three outs, Holly Pond was able to score on a fielder's choice and an error to tie the game at 15 and send us to extra innings. Arleigh Thomason put Vinemont back in front 16-15 with an RBI single in the top of the eighth but the Lady Broncos completed their comeback in the bottom half of the inning.

Black scored on an error to tie things up at 16 and with two outs on the board and the winning run on base, Molly Neal walked it off with a line drive single back up the middle, giving Holly Pond a hard-fought, 17-16 win and a spot in the semifinals.

Stallings (two hits) posted four RBIs in the win and Farr (two hits) finished with three. Black (two RBIs) collected four hits and Hoffman (one RBI) and Alaina Folds each added three.

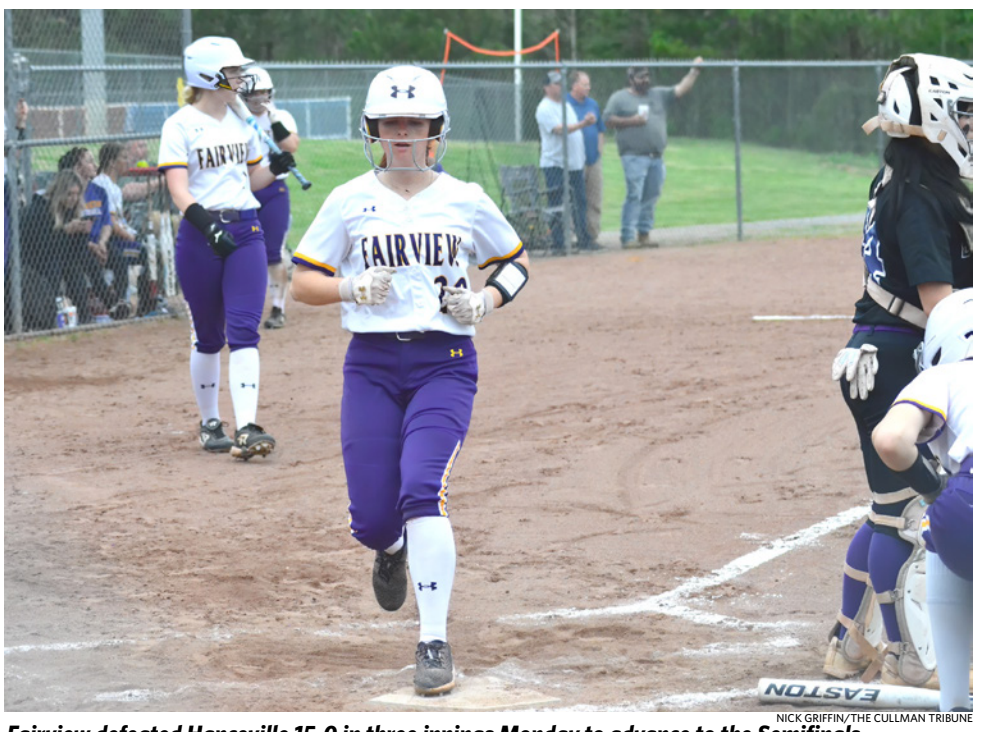
For Vinemont, Evans (two hits) led the way with five RBIs and Dortch (one RBI) posted a pair of hits. Callie and Haley Millwood each finished with a hit and an RBI in the loss.

Holly Pond will play Fairview in the semifinals Wednesday at 2 p.m.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Molly Neal's walk-off single in the bottom of the eighth completed a dramatic, 17-16 comeback win over Vinemont Monday night.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Fairview defeated Hanceville 15-0 in three innings Monday to advance to the Semifinals.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope fended off a late push from Cold Springs to advance to the Semifinals with a 10-6 win.

Sacred Heart (from Front)

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — On April 9, 2024, Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church will celebrate 150 years of ministry to Cullman and its surrounding community. Planned festivities between now and October begin with participation in the Cullman County Museum's April Walking Tours and a parish ministry fair on April 14.

A few highlights of Sacred Heart's history

A number of Catholic families were already living in north Alabama prior to the construction of the church building. Monsignor John Baasen conducted Masses across the region starting in 1872, and referred to all of north Alabama as "his parish" as Col. John Cullman's first settlers arrived.

In 1873 the Kyle, Madden and Osborn families donated a parcel of land to the Diocese of Mobile for a Catholic church to be built in Cullman.

1874 – The first church building was completed and dedicated as "Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus." In the same year, the South and North Alabama Railroad donated adjoining lots to allow the construction of a rectory and school at the site.

The first building was rudimentary, later described in a 1915 Tribune article: "Located in a grove of woods surrounded by partially burned stumps and underbrush, the crude structure was windowless and had only one door.

"The rough-hewn floor boards were not fastened down and would often spring up to slap the worshippers faces when stepped on.

"The walls and altar were unfinished wood. Mother Carolina later covered the altar with white oil cloth and had a chasuble sent from Notre Dame Motherhouse in Milwaukee. Trestles, with rough logs laid across them, served as pews."

1877 – A second church building, a house for the new pastor and a small convent were built. Fr. James Meurer became the first residential priest as Sacred Heart officially became a Parish Church.

1878 – The Notre Dame Sisters from Milwaukee opened the parish's school, and Sacred Heart's mission church St. Boniface opened in Hanceville. The school would get a new building just one year later due to a rapid increase in enrollment.

1887 – Sacred Heart began to be pastored by Benedictine priests.

1891 – The Benedictine Order founded St. Bernard Abbey just outside Cullman, followed the next year by Sacred Heart Convent.

1910 – The parish broke ground on the current church building, and the Diocese of Birmingham's first chapter of the Knights of Columbus was established in Cullman.

1913 – The cornerstone of the current building was laid.

1915 – The current Sacred Heart Church building was dedicated, though some of its impressive stained glass windows would not arrive from their German manufacturer until after the end of World War I.

1950 – A new stone school building, built to match the church and completed in 1948, was officially dedicated.

1961 – The parish constructed the current rectory.

1977 – Sacred Heart School held its first German festival. Two years later, the City of Cullman would form a committee to oversee the festival, and Cullman's Oktoberfest celebration was born.

1991 – The parish built its current Family Life Center.

2009 – Fr. Patrick Egan, O.S.B., Sacred Heart's current pastor, began his duties.

2013 – Sacred Heart celebrated the centennial of its current building.

The parish hopes to conclude its anniversary celebration in October with worship featuring the new organ that has been the centerpiece of an ongoing choir loft renovation.

Parish historian/archivist Mary Hayden Hovater has studied Sacred Heart's story, and is helping the church prepare for its celebration.

Said Hovater, "It is an honor and a privilege to work in our archives. Every day I get to work in there I discover something new and learn more about our Sacred Heart history, as well as gain a deeper appreciation for the over 2,000 years of Catholic history of which we participate."

Borden Family Pharmacy
Established in 1999
Borden
FAMILY
PHARMACY
bordenfamilypharmacy.com
256-734-7535

CCPS receives TVA STEM grant for robotics program

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman City Primary School this week received a grant from the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to support its Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) programs. The grant will support a robotics program for young learners in Cullman City Schools.

The school received $3,500 from the TVA in the form of a grant to fund a program that provides kindergarten, first- and second-grade students with cross-curricular robotics activities that align with grade level Alabama Math and English Language Arts Standards.

As part of the program, students are provided with cross-curricular, grid-based activities to practice coding skills with the programmable learning robot BlueBot while reinforcing math and language arts concepts like addition, counting money and letter-sound identification.

In addition to mastery of Math and ELA Standards, other learning outcomes include understanding and applying STEM vocabulary, basic coding skills and fostering a deeper understanding of problem-solving processes.

"My hope is that students' proficiency in these areas will be evident and measurable in every classroom setting," CCPS STEM and Math Intervention Teacher Anna Anderson said of the program.



CULLMAN CITY SCHOOLS

A group of students, school and community leaders gathered together for the grant reception. Left to right are Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs, Cullman City Schools Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff, TVA STEM Grant Recipient and CCPS STEM Teacher Anna Anderson, TVA Representative Jori Chatman, Cullman Power Board CEO Allison Bright and Cullman City Primary School Principal and Head Start Director Elizabeth Shaddix. Students pictured are from Mrs. Moody's and Mrs. Long's kindergarten classes.

Holly Pond Town Council schedules special meeting to consider changes to scrapyard ordinance

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. — The Holly Pond Town Council on Monday, April 1, tabled a request from Jared Ibrahim, owner of BNF Metals, to modify the Town ordinance that governs activities at his scrapyard on the east side of Holly Pond on U.S. Highway 278, opting instead to schedule a special meeting to consider overhauling the ordinance entirely.

Holly Pond's scrapyard ordinance was written last year specifically in response to Ibrahim's plan to locate his facility inside town limits. The current ordinance prohibits burning of any materials at the facility and, in making the request, Ibrahim noted that residential neighbors around him routinely burn garbage and yard debris, and he asked to be allowed to do the same. According to Mayor Carla Hart, Ibrahim agreed to burn no hazardous materials.

Holly Pond currently has no ordinance governing the burning of garbage, except the clause in the scrapyard ordinance.

"He feels it is unfair that he cannot burn wood, paper in a barrel like everyone else is in town," said Hart.

Councilwoman Deborah Holcomb responded, "I don't think we should discriminate on one person. The rules should apply to everyone equally."

Councilman Ricky Carr suggested that other parts of the ordinance needed to be considered as well, to which Hart proposed a separate workshop meeting to consider the entire ordinance.

Eric and Stephanie Wiseman, who live next door to BNF Metals, attended the council meeting and spoke up with concerns they have been voicing since last summer, including rainwater runoff downhill to their property, complaints from their children and family animals turning up sick without explanation. Eric Wiseman told the council, "You turn around and take the burn ban from him, it's just basically giving him whatever he wanted to do from the get-go," suggesting that most of what would be burned in a metal scrapyard would not be nonhazardous materials like wood or paper. Hart countered that Ibrahim would still be restricted to non-hazardous materials.

The council scheduled a special meeting at 5 p.m. on Monday, April 15, at Holly Pond Town Hall to consider the ordinance.



TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Holly Pond's town government welcomed BNF Metals last June, but the business has faced opposition from neighbors since its opening.

Turf (from Front)

love every single one of you. Pilot Club, thank you so much for all you do. Y'all are here no matter what when I call at the last minute. It doesn't matter what I ask of you, y'all are here, you raise money, you volunteer and just know that it is very appreciated. All my Miracle Leage coaches are amazing and we literally could not do this without all of you. And of course, all the players. I love you guys, every single one of you. Those that were here way before me and those that are newer."

Mayor Woody Jacobs was next up to the microphone and he shared his excitement for the newly completed project and what it will mean for Mircale League participants.

"Looking at this crowd here brings back memories from seven or eight years ago when we were building the facility and we did it for all the kids who play ball here. My daughter has played every year since we built it and we really thank the coaches and all the people that do buddies," Jacobs said.

"We have Coach (Randy) Putman and his team here tonight and lots of other folks that do that, so we appreciate that. It's special to be a buddy and to interact with these kids and have some fun so we did it for the kids, but we really did it for the community."

One of the final speakers of the night was Jennifer Beck. Beck has had two children playing in Miracle League the past six years and the program has meant a lot to her and her family.

"For our family, Miracle League has been a way for us to get involved in the special needs community here and it really was from day one," Beck said. "When we moved to Cullman, we knew absolutely nobody, but this quickly became family. My kids love the ball field every single year. It's a place where there is a perfect amount of competition and a whole lot of friendship."







LEGALS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
BOBBY J. RYAN, * CASE NO. PC2023-349
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: DEAN THORNTON, BOBBIE PANEM AND ANY OTHER KNOWN OR UNKNOWN RELATVIES OF BOBBY J. RYAN.

Petition for Probate of Will for the Estate of Bobby J. Ryan, Deceased, filed and made court record the 25th day of October, 2023, by Anthony Christopher Ryan, Petitioner, through Attorney Jerry L. Kilgo, has been scheduled for the **21st day of May, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.,** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

All persons are hereby given notice to appear and contest said petition if they think proper.

Cullman County Courthouse
500 2nd Avenue SW
Room 101
Cullman, Alabama 35055

Done this the 25th day of March, 2024.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the above notice three (3) successive weeks is said newspaper.

Jerry L. Kilgo
Attorney for the Petitioner
421 3rd Ave SE, STE. 250
Cullman, AL 35055

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

SHANNON VICTORIA EDGEMON,
Plaintiff

Vs. Case Number: **25-DR-2024-900050.00**

TROY ALAN NUNLEY,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Troy Alan Nunley, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Shannon Victoria Edgemon's Complaint for Divorce by May 20th, 2024 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2024-900050.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 18th day of March, 2024.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Circuit Clerk

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
JOSH M. O'NEAL
200 SECOND ST SE
CULLMAN, AL 35055

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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

JOSEPH M. PRUETT,
Plaintiff

Vs. Case Number: **25-DR-2022-900054.01**

BRANDY PRUETT,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Brandy Pruett, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Joseph M. Pruett's Complaint for Divorce by April 1st, 2024 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against her in Case Number 25-DR-2022-900054.01 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 2nd day of February, 2024.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Circuit Clerk

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
MELVIN HASTING
P O BOX 517
CULLMAN, AL 35056-0517

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
GILLIAN CARTER, * CASE NO.: PC2024-019
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to ROBERT CARTER, as Administrator, of the ESTATE OF GILLIAN CARTER, deceased, on the 2nd day of April, 2024, by Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

ROBERT CARTER
Administrator

/s/ Richard L. Collins
Richard L. Collins
Attorney for Administrator of the
ESTATE OF GILLIAN CARTER
P.O. Box 669
Cullman, Alabama 35056

TO: Publisher of THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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

DONE this 2nd day of April, 2024.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2023-375

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF ALFRED WAYNE CHRISTIANSEN, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Deborah J. Veres on the 27th 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.

Deborah J. Veres
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

Steven C. Smith
Attorney for the Estate
Smith & Smith, LLP
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
(256) 734-4721

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
REBECCA HOLMES QUALLS AKA *
REBECCA FRANCES QUALLS, * CASE NO.: PC-2024-089
Deceased *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary under the Last Will and Testament of REBECCA HOLMES QUALLS aka REBECCA FRANCES QUALLS having been granted to the undersigned on April 2, 2024 by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate for Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are required to present the same within time allowed by law, or some will be forever barred.

STEVEN MARK QUALLS
Personal Representative

Andrea Gullion
Attorney at Law
Harrison & Gammons, P.C.
2430 L & N Drive
Huntsville, AL 35801

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

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

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

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 William A Clark , A Married Man And Mikayla Waters , His Wife, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Guild Mortgage Company LLC, A California Limited Liability Company, its successors and assigns dated February 27, 2023; said mortgage being recorded on March 2, 2023, in Book 2042, Page 717 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Guild Mortgage Company, LLC by assignment recorded in Deed Book 394, Page 424 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, ALABAMA.

The undersigned, Guild Mortgage Company, LLC, under 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 2nd day of May, 2024 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

Commence at the SE corner of the NW Quarter of Section 10, Township 9 North, Range 1 West, being a found painted 5/8" rebar at a fence corner and run thence N 53'24'54" W for 1039.60 feet to a Shirley Capped (SC) 1/2" rebar Iron Pin Set (SC IPS), being the Point of Beginning (POB). From said POB, run thence S 89'53'29" W for 820.37 feet to a SC IPS at the Southeasterly margin of Farley Road (also known as County Road 1592, 50 feet Right of Way), thence along said Road N 24'34'44"E for 217.49 feet to a point; thence N 26'30'09" E along said Road for 88.04 feet to a SC IPS; thence leaving said Road run N 87'52'08" E for 691.80 feet to a SC IPS; thence S 0'00'00" W for 301.09 feet to the Point Of Beginning. Description in accordance to survey of Bryan A. Shirley, AL PLS # 28447, dated September 6, 2017.

Said property is commonly known as 830 County Road 1592, Baileyton, AL 35019.

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.

GUILD MORTGAGE COMPANY, 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. 24-05751AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

Cullman Tribune
03/28/2024,04/04/2024,04/11/2024

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
BRIAN KEITH BUTLER * **CASE NO.: PC 2024-049**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Heather C. Butler, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Brian Keith Butler. deceased, on the 2nd day of April, 2024, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Heather C. Butler
Personal Representative

Douglas C. Martinson
Martinson & Beason, P.C.
Attorney for Petitioner
115 North Side Square
Huntsville, Alabama 35801

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

Please publish the above Notice once a week for three consecutive weeks and send an affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
VIRGIL LEE MILLER, * CASE NO. PC2024-022
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: CANDY STONE, CODY MANN, NICKY SANTOS, DAKOTA LEE MILLER AND ANY OTHER KNOWN OR UNKNOWN REALATIVES OF VIRGIL LEE MILLER.

Petition for Probate of Will for the Estate of Virgil Lee Miller, Deceased, filed the 26th day of January, 2024, and made court record the 29th day of January, 2024, by HollyBeth Ann Miller, Petitioner, through Attorney Beverly Paschal Poston, has been scheduled for the **21st day of May, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.,** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

All persons are hereby given notice to appear and contest said petition if they think proper.

Cullman County Courthouse
500 2nd Avenue SW
Room 101
Cullman, Alabama 35055

Done this the 27th day of March, 2024.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the above notice three (3) successive weeks is said newspaper.

Beverly Paschal Poston
Attorney for Petitioner
201 2nd Ave SE
Cullman, AL 35055

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

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 DANEILLE 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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
JAMES CONNELL ADAMSON, CASE NO.: PC 2024-060

Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to DEBORAH MCCANN as Administrator of the Estate of JAMES CONNELL ADAMSON, deceased, on the 2nd day of April, 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.

Deborah McCann
Administrator

Beverly Paschal Poston
Attorney for the Estate of
James Connell Adamson
200 1st Avenue 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

Otter (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Otters are often portrayed as silly, goofy, adorably playful things that dart and dash around. The Cullman Tribune's Pet of the Week shares both name and attributes with the sweet animals. Otter is a beautiful brindle terrier mix currently living at the Cullman County Animal Shelter. He hopes to find a family that finds him "otterly adorable."

This 3-year-old male loves a good afternoon of playful running and fetch.

His mid-level energy allows him to keep up with playmates of any age while also giving him the opportunity to rest, snuggle and bond with his new family.

His warm brown eyes and whole-body tail wag are sure to wiggle their way into hearts and hopefully a forever home.

Leashes are a breeze for Otter, even if a reminder or two is needed for manners. His demeanor and personality are the perfect calling for a therapy/service/companion pup, as he easily matches energy and pace in any environment or space.

Quick learning is one of his great strengths; he picks up cues and commands from shelter staff with only a few required treats and belly rubs in return.

Are you ready to meet Otter? 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 of $130 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 cullmananimalshelter@co.cullman.al.us.

Country Living, Incorporated
One of Alabama's oldest and licensed assisted living and most reasonable priced has a private room available with assistance with daily living. We are located in Vinemont. Visitors are welcome any time. Call 256-735-6139 or 256-338-9214.

NOW HIRING
TIRE TECHS
SAME DAY APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW
+
COMPETITIVE PAY
COLLEGE TIRE
315 MAIN ST. NW HANCEVILLE
256-352-2221

Sportsman Lake Park lands on Alabama Birding Trails

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Sportsman Lake Park, with its expansive lake, acres of trees, wildflower and butterfly trail and arboretum, is a destination for nature lovers and conservation enthusiasts. Fans of the park can now add one more reason to visit: Sportsman Lake Park was recently added to the Alabama Birding Trails.

"The Department of Alabama Tourism stated 2024 as 'Alabama's year of Birding,' so the addition of Sportsman Lake to the Alabama Birding Trail is exciting!" said Ben Johnson, volunteer chair of the Sportsman Lake Park Arboretum, adding, "This would not be possible without the efforts of Doug Davenport, director of Cullman County Parks and Rec, (Cullman County Commission Chairman) Jeff Clemons and other Cullman County commissioners."

The Alabama Birding Trails is a collaborative effort between the Alabama Tourism Department, The University of Alabama Center for Economic Development, the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and Alabama Audubon. It consists of 280 specifically selected bird-watching points inside eight separate trails throughout Alabama, highlighting the state's more than 430 bird species.

Johnson said, "When we applied to be a part of the trail, we had identified 84 different bird species at the 70-year-old legacy park. Birding opportunities are special here because there are opportunities to see woodland, water, wading and raptor species around the park."

The Alabama Birding Trails website says of Sportsman Lake Park:
"Particularly in spring and fall, the hiking trails and wildflower garden should have migratory warblers. There are awe-inspiring, natural landscapes throughout this 70-year old park.

"Five miles of hiking trails offer access to hills of oak and pine forest, a bog sanctuary filled with birdsong, several small meadows, a 30-year wildflower garden which is on the Rosalynn Carter National Butterfly Trail, and a small lake hosting flocks of waterfowl year-round, particularly in winter months.

"Killdeer and Great Blue Herons are here throughout the seasons, as are resident Red-headed, Red-bellied, and Downy Woodpeckers.

"Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers enjoy winters here. White-breasted Nuthatch are here all year, as well.

"The lake provides good waters for Ring-necked Ducks and Pied-billed Grebes.

"Keep an eye out in the winter months for Hood Mergansers, Scaup, and, if you are lucky, a calling Common Loon. Barred Owls can often be heard calling in the distance; Red-tailed Hawks circle overhead and Coopers Hawks hunt in the thick woods. Bald Eagles are known to visit the lake frequently."

Sportsman Lake Park is located at 1544 Sportsman Lake Park Road NW and is open from dawn to dusk 365 days a year. Get more info at www.alabamabirdingtrails.com.

Obituary Announcements: April 2-3

Walter Lynn Garrett, 75
Walter Lynn Garrett, 75, of Pulaski, Tennesee, died March 21, 2024, at Maury Regional Medical Center in Columbia, Tenneseee. A native of Holly Pond, Mr. Garrett was born Dec. 5, 1948. He was a 1967 graduate of Holly Pond High School, and a 43-year employee of Zurn/Clarage Fan Company. Ordained as a deacon at Berlin Baptist Church, Mr. Garrett continued to serve at First Baptist Church, Pulaski. He loved Jesus, his family, the outdoors, traveling and helping others. He loved basketball and coached youth basketball teams, served as Sunday School Director, and if you ever met him you weren't a stranger for long. He was preceded in death by his precious wife of 26 years, Roseanna Adams Garrett, parents, Melvin Lester "Red" Garrett and Phillis Louise Garrett. Survivors include wife, Kelley Garrett of Pulaski, TN; children, Chris Garrett (Amy) of Birmingham, Alabama, Kimberly Williams (Jeffrey) of Hayden, Alabama, Jonathan Garrett (Catessa) of Cullman, Alabama, and Kristina Garrett of Columbia, Tenneseee; grandchildren, Luke Williams, Savannah Garrett, Alyssa Murphree, Cayleigh Anders, Eli Williams, Carson Garrett, Peyton Murphree, Brodie Garrett, Levi Murphree, Emma Garrett, Madison Garrett; great-granddaughter, Willow Mann; sister, Sandra Henderson (Melvin); many brothers and sisters in law, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and numerous friends. A Memorial Service was held March 25, at First Baptist Church, Pulaski. A Celebration of Life will be held at Berlin Baptist Church on April 6.

Johnny Gary Camp, 74
Johnny Gary Camp, age 74, of Cullman, He passed away on April 1, at his home. Arrangements are incomplete at this time. Mr. Camp is preceded in death by his parents, John Camp and Elma Reid Camp. He is survived by his wife, Estelita Camp; daughter, Sherry Gammon (Tony); sister, Nella Sue Ross; grandchildren, Blake Gammon (Chelsey), Makenzie Williams (Tyler); great-grandchildren, Fisher Gammon, Shepard Gammon, Kenzly Williams, Hunt Williams, Haisley Williams. Johnny loved farming and working with computers. He loved his family and his little cockapoo, Boo-Boo. He will be greatly missed.

Gorden Lee Boylen, 78
Gorden Lee Boylen, age 78, of Cullman, passed from this life on April 2, at his home. Funeral arrangements are incomplete at this time. He is preceded in death by his parents, Limuel Boylen and Catherine Brown Boylen; brother, Richard Boylen; sister, Betty Mick. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Linda Boylen; son, Julie Ann Boylen; daughter, Kelley Wood; brother, John Boylen; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; a host of family and friends. Family describes Gorden as a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, friend, and neighbor. He was a member of Arlington Memorial Baptist Church in Akron, Ohio. He was a good and loyal man, and he will be greatly missed.

Teresa Dale Burrow Solley, 63
Teresa Dale Burrow Solley, known to most since childhood as "Cookie," was welcomed into heaven on Monday evening, April 1, 2024, at the age of 63. Teresa was born in Cullman County, Alabama, to Bobby Ray Burrow and Betty Ann Quick Burrow Cherry. Ms. Solley was a member of Welcome Baptist Church. Cookie owned and operated the Parkside Restaurant for several years and she worked many years at Nicholson File in Cullman. Children brought great joy to Teresa, and she was always happy to babysit for anyone who needed her to do so. Cookie enjoyed the beach, loved her little dog, Max, and absolutely adored her children and grandchildren. She was a loving mother and grandmother, and she leaves behind a legacy of love that will be cherished by her family until they are reunited with her in heaven. Ms. Solley is preceded in death by her parents, Bobby Ray Burrow, and Betty Ann Quick Burrow Cherry; grandparents, Phillip and Pearl Burrow, Asa and Connie Quick; brother, Randy Burrow; and her sister, Tina Burrow Chambers. Those surviving Cookie includes her children, Skylar Aker (Leanna), Michael Chambers, Bridgett Davis (Bradley), Kimberly Terry (Josh); grandchildren, Mason, Zoe, and Ava Gregory; sister, Teri "Tiny" Gilley (Billy); and her beloved friend, Dale Bagwell. Funeral services for Ms. Solley will be held at 3 p.m., on Thursday, April 4, in the Holly Pond Funeral Home Chapel, with burial following services in New Hope #2 Cemetery. Friends are invited to join the family for a time of visitation prior to services on Thursday, from 2 p.m. until services begin at 3 p.m.

CodyLowellSelf(SPC),33
Funeral services for Cody Lowell Self (SPC) will be 11 a.m. Friday, April 5th at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Shelton Grove Cemetery with military honors. Visitation will be Thursday, April 4th from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home.

Cody L. Self, a devoted family man and outdoor enthusiast of Bremen, Alabama passed away on April 1, 2024, at the age of 33. His love for his family will forever be remembered. Born on Aug. 25, 1990, in Cullman, Alabama, Cody was the beloved son of Cathy Lucas and Lowell Self. Growing up, Cody developed a deep appreciation for the outdoors, which would become a defining part of his life.

Cody was a loving and supportive father to his children, Abby, Anna, and Aylix. He cherished every moment spent with them; whether it was camping, hiking, or teaching them to succeed. His children were his pride and joy, and his love for them knew no bounds. In addition to his love for his family and hobbies, Cody was always willing to lend a helping hand to those in need. His generosity and kindness touched the lives of many, leaving a lasting impact on all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Cody served his country with distinction as a member of the United States Army during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He bravely faced the challenges of war, demonstrating courage, resilience, and selflessness in the face of adversity. For his courageous service, he was awarded two purple hearts, a testament to his bravery and his sacrifice.

Cody's memory will forever be cherished by his loving children, Abby Self, Anna Self, and Aylix Self; parents, Cathy Lucas (Steve) and Lowell Anthony Self; siblings, Amanda Jansenius (Jason), Jena Blaylock (Eric) and Anna Cowen; and sister-in-law, Jamatha Jones.

Mr. Self was preceded in death by his brother, Tony Self.

Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Self Family.

Loretta Young, 75
Loretta Young, age 75, of Hanceville, passed away on Wednesday, April 3, 2024. Arrangements are incomplete at this time. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family.

Jean Holt, 89
Jean Holt, age 89, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Tuesday, April 2, 2024. Jean was born in Cullman, Alabama. A visitation for Jean will be held Saturday, April 13, 2024, from noon to 2 p.m. at Moss-Service Funeral Home, 1901 Second Avenue, NW, Cullman, Alabama 35055, followed by a a celebration of life funeral service at 2 p.m.

Dr. Martin Bruce Harbison, 84
Dr. Martin Bruce Harbison, age 84, of Cullman, passed away peacefully on Sunday, March 31, 2024, in Birmingham surrounded by his family. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. in the morning on Friday, April 5, 2024, at Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel with Dr. Edwin Hayes and Bro. Richard Gurley officiating. Born in Cullman County, Alabama, Bruce was the son of Martin Turner Harbison and Reecie Erlene Hudson Harbison. He is survived by his wife, Kaye Westmoreland Harbison; son, Martin Bruce Harbison, Jr of Cullman, and daughters: Kimberly Kaye Harbison Drake (Tommy) of Cullman, Allison Lynn Harbison Springer (Stewart) of Birmingham, and Ashley Shea Harbison Shelton (Philip) of Hartselle; brother, Fred Delano Harbison (Linda) and sisters: Nell Harbison Montgomery (Joe) and Cynthia Lynne Harbison, ten grandchildren and six great- grandchildren. Bruce was preceded in death by his loving parents. Bruce's journey was marked by exceptional academic achievements. He graduated as valedictorian of his class from West Point High School, and furthered his education at St. Bernard College and graduated from the University of Alabama in 1961. He pursued his passion for dentistry, graduating from the University of Alabama Dental School with a DMD in 1965. Following his graduation, Bruce proudly served as a Captain in the United States Army. Bruce was a longtime member of First Baptist Church of Cullman, Alabama. His commitment to service extended to his involvement in the Cullman Lion's Club, where he served as a past president. In addition to his professional and community endeavors, Bruce had a passion for Shorthorn cattle and was an avid supporter of the Alabama Crimson Tide. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Cullman Lions Club.

Moss Service Funeral Home
1901 Second Avenue Northwest
734-1821 Service You Can Count On

Cullman Marble & Granite Co.
"Memorials of Quality Since 1910" 734-2353

Free Obituary Listings

HAVE YOUR FUNERAL HOME CONTACT US

Email: robin@cullmantribune.com • Fax: 256-739-4422

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

Recycling Collection
Now Available in Cullman County for Residents and Businesses
Cardboard | Plastic | Paper | Metal | Glass

Reduce your garbage volume with Bi-monthly Recycling Pickup

It's Free to Try!

OSIRIS
RECYCLING SOLUTIONS LLC

(256) 615-2510
osirisrecycling.com

Not affiliated with Cullman County Sanitation Dept.
No drop-off location



Holly Pond declares April Civitan Awareness Month

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. — The Holly Pond Town Council on Monday passed a resolution proclaiming April Civitan Awareness Month in the town.

"As always, we really appreciate the Civitan Club in this community because they do so much for the community," said Mayor Carla Hart, "not just help build things and do scholarships for children, just always working on a project to better Holly Pond and this area."

Hart presented the proclamation to Holly Pond Junior Civitan Club Advisor Francine Morton and several members of the junior club.

Hart advised, "I hope more of the young ones join, because they're our future, even here with this school.

"Like I said, kudos to the staff: the principals, teachers, everyone, because this is our future."



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Holly Pond Mayor Carla Hart presents a resolution to Holly Pond Junior Civitan Club Advisor Francine Morton and members of the club.

Veterans (from Front)

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — On March 29 each year, members of Cullman Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2214, along with their families and friends, gather at Cullman Veterans Memorial Park to pay tribute to those who served during the Vietnam War. This annual observance is rooted in the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017, signed into law by former President Donald Trump, designating March 29 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

"We will honor all those who answered our Nation's call of duty. We vow to never again confuse personal disapproval of war with prejudice against those who honorably wear the uniform of our Armed Forces. With conviction, our Nation pledges our enduring respect, our continuing care, and our everlasting commitment to all Vietnam veterans," states the proclamation about the Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War.

This year, the ceremony provided a special opportunity for local Vietnam veterans to receive the Vietnam veteran lapel pin, a recognition initiated by Congress and introduced by former President Barack Obama in 2012. This pin honors any living veteran who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces during the Vietnam War era, from Nov. 1, 1955, to May 15, 1975, regardless of their location.

This Vietnam veteran lapel pin is given to recognize, thank and honor United States military veterans who served during the Vietnam War.

The symbolism of the pin is significant. The eagle represents courage, honor and dedicated service to the nation. The blue circle signifies vigilance, perseverance and justice as well as matching the official seal of the commemoration. A laurel wreath encircles the pin representing victory, integrity and strength while the stripes behind the eagle represent the American flag.

Each star represents one of the six allies who served and sacrificed alongside each other; Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Thailand and the United States.

Engraved on the back of the pin is the message "A Grateful Nation Thanks and Honors You," intentionally placed closest to the heart of the wearer.



GAUGE DAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Local veterans were called forward to receive the Vietnam veteran lapel pin on March 29, National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

The ceremony, held against the emotional backdrop of the Alabama Veterans Memorial Wall, which bears the names of 1,209 Alabama service members who fell in Vietnam, began with a moving invocation by local veteran and VFW chaplain, Clarence Benefield. Van Hutchins Jr., another local veteran and VFW member, presided over the calling of names and the pinning of veterans who had not yet received their pins.

On March 29, 11 men were called to step forward and be recognized. Those who were called to be pinned are named below:

- Hollis W. Baggett
- Rick Leigeber
- Thomas Perdue
- Larry Lee
- James Arnold
- David Petrep
- Robert R. Turner
- David Betts
- Ron Morrow
- Steve Cawfield
- Kenneth Kreps

Each pinning culminated with a salute among brothers and concluded with Hutchins' heartfelt "welcome home, brother," to each veteran honored that day.

As the ceremony drew to a close with Hutchins' reading of Patrick Camunes' powerful poem "From the Other Side," those in attendance were reminded of the incredible sacrifices made by those who served in the Vietnam War. This annual event, more than just a moment of recognition and respect, ensures that the bravery, service and sacrifice of Vietnam veterans are never forgotten.



GAUGE DAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Vietnam veteran lapel pin given to recognize and honor those who served during the Vietnam War.

March 29, National Vietnam War Veterans Day, stands as a testament to the importance of remembering and honoring those who have served. In commemorating this day, the Cullman community, alongside the nation, acknowledges the profound contributions of Vietnam veterans, committing to an everlasting respect and gratitude for their service. This commitment resonates with the sentiment of every pin awarded and every "welcome home, brother" spoken, bridging older generations to the newer ones, with a shared appreciation for the freedoms preserved through their sacrifices.

WellStone unveils renovation, expansion

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — On Monday, April 1, WellStone, one of Cullman County's mental health resource centers, unveiled its newly completed expansion and renovation project, which added additional office spaces and patient care rooms. A new entrance was fitted to the building, showcasing a grand atrium to the center, leading to the refreshed facility with new paint, flooring, furniture and fixtures.

"We renovated the outside, gave it a much-needed facelift. We've got a beautiful entrance here. We've added about 3,000 square feet; we really needed more office space and patient care areas," said WellStone Chief Operating Officer Chris Van Dyke.

The recently acquired square footage has more in store than simply office space; WellStone hopes to expand its scope of practice past mental health and begin treating the physical needs of its patients. Van Dyke noted there is often a crossover in needs of the patients seen at the center; often, patients present at WellStone with mental health needs, and an equally important physical need is noticed by staff or pointed out by patients.

"A lot of our people are very sick physically, with diabetes and heart disease," Van Dyke said. "We hope to add primary care in the next year or so."

One section of the expansion now houses WellStone's Mobile Crisis Response team, a team of trained individuals on standby, ready to help and assist in a mental health crisis any day or time.



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

WellStone unveiled its new expansion and refresh on Monday, April 1, 2024.

Van Dyke shed light on the intricacies of the team's tasks in the event of a mental health crisis, saying, "They can go out into the community when there is a mental health crisis. We have a team for children and we have a team for adults. They can go to the scene and try to resolve the crisis there or they can take the person to the hospital – whatever is needed to resolve the crisis."

While WellStone's Cullman location does not currently have a round-the-clock crisis center, the team from Cullman is able to transport those in need of immediate mental health intervention to WellStone's crisis center in Huntsville, avoiding an unnecessary visit to the emergency room and potential hospital stay.

"We have an emergency crisis center in Huntsville that we can transport them to; we also have a children's wing and an adult wing there," explained Van Dyke. "We're trying to create a system to deal with all the mental health issues that we all face in the community."

WellStone Board Member Shirley Arnett was present at the center's unveiling, hoping to share and spread the word about the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

"If someone is in the middle of a crisis, they can call 988 and they'll be connected to the Huntsville center. They'll be connected to a local (crisis) team, and they can take them to the facility in Huntsville if needed," she said.

Please call 988 if you or a loved one is experiencing a mental health crisis.

WellStone is located at 1909 Commerce Ave. NW in Cullman.