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WEATHER
86 64
SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
SUNNY

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NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

Vinemont, Cullman advance to Regionals; Good Hope eliminated

» PAGE 4

Fairview High Principal Whaley accepts position with ALSDE

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

FAIRVIEW, Ala. — Fairview High School Principal Dr. Johnny Whaley on Wednesday, May 1, announced that he has accepted a position with the Alabama State Department of Education. Whaley informed Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette of his resignation, effective May 31, 2024.

"I have accepted a position at the Alabama State Department of Education and will start June 1," Whaley said. "I will miss the students, staff and school community. The community has been great and I appreciate everyone for their support."

Whaley has worked in the Cullman County Schools system for nearly 22 years in various capacities, serving as an instructional leader, classroom teacher, guidance counselor and administrator. Beginning as a social sciences teacher, "Coach" » PAGE 8



CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Fairview High School Principal Dr. Johnny Whaley has accepted a position with the Alabama State Department of Education and will not return to Cullman County Schools for the 2024/2025 school year.

Relay For Life 2024 highlights cancer survivors and their journeys

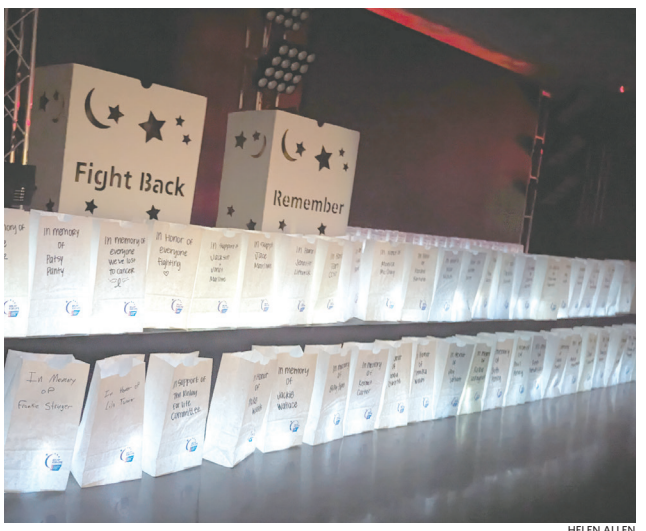


GAUGE DAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cancer survivors begin their Survivor's Lap, a symbolic act celebrating their resilience and victories over cancer, at Relay For Life on Saturday, April 27, 2024.

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Relay For Life proves year after year that success comes to those who work together as a community and adapt to their circumstances. Due to the extensive land development around Depot Park, event coordinator Helen Allen and her team were challenged to secure a suitable venue in a short time. With the new Desperation Church facility across from the park having been completed, Allen and her team collaborated with church leadership, » PAGE 4



HELEN ALLEN

Luminaria bags glow in honor and memory of those touched by cancer.

SBP Drama puts on 'Wonderland!'



SAINT BERNARD

Alice shows the royals of Wonderland how to read their book. » PAGE 4

OP-ED
'You'll miss this'... will we, though?

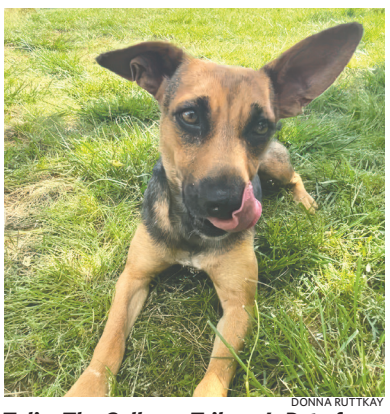


CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Two of the author's children – Tava Sharp (pictured age 1) and Jackson Sharp (pictured age 5) » PAGE 8

PET OF THE WEEK

Sweet Tulip



DONNA RUTTKAY

Tulip, The Cullman Tribune's Pet of the Week, is a beautiful Shepard and Beagle mix. » PAGE 2

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported May 1

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported May 1, 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 26

• unauthorized use of vehicle; McCurry Van & Car Rental

April 27

• duty upon striking unattended vehicle; person; damage to '22 Chevrolet Trax; $750; Town Square SW.

April 28

• burglary-3rd degree; criminal mischief-3rd degree (2 counts); unlawful breaking and entering of motor vehicle; person; damaged property; Cleveland Ave. SW
• criminal trespass-3rd degree; Days Inn; 4th St. SW
• theft of property-1st degree; person; '11 Ford Escape; $5,000; Harmony LN. SW

April 29

• domestic violence-3rd degree; person; Brunner St. NW
• theft of property-4th degree; criminal mischief-3rd degree; Coin Laundry; cash, damaged property; 4th St. SW
• theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $383; Olive St. SW
• criminal mischief-2nd degree; Cullman Park & Rec; damaged property; $1,000; Cleveland Ave. SW

April 30

• fraudulent use of credit/debit card; person; miscellaneous charges
• theft of property-1st degree; person; '12 Acura; $5,000; Main Ave. SW
• assault; person; Hwy. 157
• harassment; person; Cleveland Ave. SW
• harassment; person; Arnold St. NE
• harassment; person; Olive St. SW
• criminal mischief-3rd degree; person; damaged door; $400; 2nd St. SW

ARRESTS

April 29-30

Alldredge Jr., Cecil R.; 62
• domestic violence-3rd degree

Klosinski, Mary E.; 35
• FTA – disorderly conduct
• FTA – domestic violence-3rd degree

Green, Charles K.; 33
• FTA – attempt to elude
• FTA – unauthorized use of vehicle

Bartley, Sydney E.; 24
• resisting arrest

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

'The Strong and Courageous Trail Race' happening May 4

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Feeling competitive? Want to support an impactful cause? Prepare to hit the trails with purpose at The Strong and Courageous Trail Race on Saturday, May 4, at Daystar Church in Good Hope. This event is designed not only for competition, but also to make a significant impact through its partnership with Crossing Over Jordan Ministry, which provides fully funded, transformative retreats.

Organized by Colton Terry of M3 Health and Performance, the race offers an individual 5K trail run and a dynamic two-person team challenge. All ages are permitted for the 5K.

"The name The Strong and Courageous Trail Race was very fitting for the race name. Joshua 1:9 calls for the Israelites to be strong and courageous as they face crossing the Jordan River. I felt this verse tied in perfectly with being strong and courageous as the participants run a trail 5K," explained Terry.

Participants in the team challenge will navigate a 5K course peppered with six exercise stations, featuring varied weights to cater to different fitness levels, similar to a Spartan Race.

The six exercise stations will cover anything from rowing, burpees, clean and jerks and more with more event details to come on race day.

Athlete check-in begins at 7 a.m., with registration priced at $65 for individual runners and $125 per team. Each registration includes a race shirt, commemorating the event and its cause. Prizes will be awarded to the top teams on race day.

All proceeds from the event will be donated back to Crossing Over Jordan Ministry.

"It was on my heart to do something to raise funds to give to the ministry to help other people be able to come and experience a restful and restorative weekend, where they will be loved on and experience Jesus in a special way," Terry explained. "I have held fitness competitions in the past at my gym and we have always had a great response from the community to support us. I knew they would do the same thing with this event."

For those interested in more details, visit The Strong and Courageous Trail Race event page on Facebook. For more information on Crossing Over Jordan Ministry, visit www.crossingoverjordan.org.

Terry shared his transformative experience with the ministry, saying, "COJ was life changing for me and my wife. We attended it last August and have been a part of the serve team ever since. It is refreshing each time we are at the Springville camp and conference center. We love the team, seeing the life change in the participants and being able to be the hands and feet of Jesus!"

Vinemont Farmers and Makers Market coming May 11

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. – The Town of South Vinemont has been busy in the past weeks preparing for its inaugural Farmers and Makers Market, to be held Saturday, May 11, at the Vinemont Community Center. From 10 a.m.-2 p.m., attendees will be able to see and learn about the multitude of talented artisans, farmers and makers in the Vinemont community.

Vinemont Town Clerk Kayecea Sasser has been handling most of the paperwork for the event, signing up over 35 vendors to the market. These vendors offer a diverse range of goods, from baked delicacies from Sweet Treats by Kendall, to Sonya Copeland's body and home care products.

Fifteen of those vendors are generously being sponsored by The E-Center in Decatur, which has supported multiple small businesses in the Vinemont community recently. The center partners with up-and-coming small businesses in areas that show great community promise and growth. With funding from grants, the E-Center helps those small-time entrepreneurs get a footing in the world of business, guiding and assisting them with advice and resources.

"We have a lot of unique vendors," said Sasser. "We are just getting so excited for this event and the partnership again with the Decatur E-Center."

Temple Baptist Church will provide a large inflatable bounce house along with hotdogs and a drink, free of charge. Children from the area will also be adding a little sparkle to the event with their hand-done temporary glitter tattoos.

There will be a few food trucks on-site as well, including Smokin' Joes BBQ and Fro'z Shaved Ice.

"We hope to have an amazing turnout," said Sasser. "I believe the perfect blend of hard work, dedication and creativity leads to a successful event."

The Vinemont Farmers and Makers Market will be held from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday, May 11, at the Vinemont Community Center located at 88 Ridgeway St.

Sweet Tulip (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – You could certainly try to tiptoe past this Tulip without falling in love, but her magnetic personality and antenna ears are sure to complicate that attempt.

Tulip is an approximately 3-year-old gentle mix of Shepard and Beagle with a short tan and black coat and deep mahogany eyes. She is a loving and affectionate dog, always eager to please her human companions. Her ears are the windows to her sweet soul, pointing and moving to and fro with every emotion. She is also quite intelligent and can be trained easily, making her a great addition to any family.

While this girl is the sweetest flower around, her medium to high energy level allows her to keep up with the most active of families on runs, hikes and vigorous trips to the dog park.

Leash etiquette is an old trick for Tulip, who navigates outings with a leash like a professional. Her joy and love for life extend to quality time spent with her people. She cherishes her alone time, which allows her to recharge and bask in the love of her companions on her own terms where she is comfortable.

Are you ready to meet Tulip? Head over to Cullman County Animal Shelter at 935 Convent Road NE, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. for a meet and greet. Her adoption fee of $130 includes spay, DHLPP vaccine, Bordetella vaccines, rabies vaccine, wormer, general exam at the vet and microchip.

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

STORAGE BUILDING SALE AT WELTI
Storage building sale at Welti, Saturday, May 4, at 9:00 a.m. Many household items available. For more information call 256-507-0488.

EARL'S BODY SHOP
2251 Decatur Ave., N.W.
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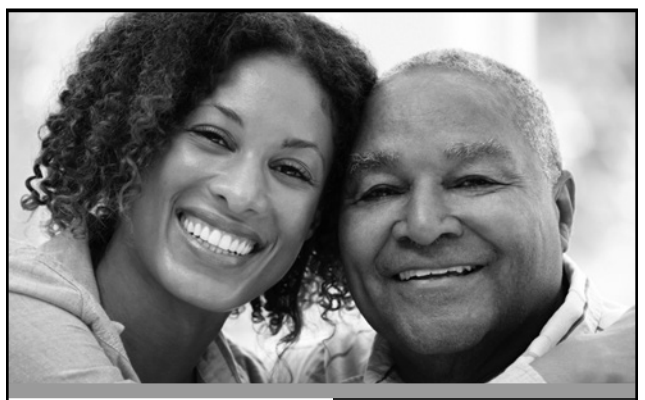
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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.

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.

Public Notice: Cullman Memory Gardens
Attention: Those of you with relatives or friends buried in Cullman Memory Gardens or those with lots for burial there. The committee (Amy Walker, Ron Foust, Neil Culpepper and Jerry Smith) have done an outstanding job of maintaining the cemetery this year. The cemetery is in the best condition it has been in years and we need your help to maintain it. As a reminder, May 12 is Mother's Day and we have designated this weekend as Memorial Day for the cemetery to collect donations to maintain and further enhance the cemetery. We will have people collecting at the cemetery Saturday, May 11, and Sunday, May 12, and if you are unable to come by with your donation you can mail it to Cullman Memory Gardens, PO Box 964, Cullman, AL 35056. All donations will be used for the care and upkeep of the cemetery. Thanks for all that you do to help us with the upkeep of the cemetery. God bless you!

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.

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 AlAnon Meetings
The AlAnon family groups are a fellowship of friends and family whose lives have been affected by alcoholism. 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 Courage to Change AlAnon family group meets on Thursdays at 6 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church at 305 Arnold St. NE in the Carriage House, located between the church and the Arnold House on the corner. For more information call 256-734-2231 or 256-531-4429.

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.

Mt. Zion Church Yard Sale
Friday, May 3, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. and Saturday, May 4, 8 a.m.-noon at Mt. Zion Church. U.S. Highway 31 North (next to Cullman Area Technology Academy in Vinemont).

Alabama Strawberry Festival
Friday and Saturday, May 3-4, at Depot Park and the Festhalle. For details and schedule, see www.alabamastrawberryfest.com.

Holly Pond Lions Club Pancake Breakfast
Saturday, May 11, from 6:30-9:30 a.m. for our annual all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast with sausage and bacon. Donations only. Proceeds will go toward Holly Pond Cemetery Fund. The LifeSouth Bloodmobile will be on campus. Please consider helping out your community with a blood donation.

Cullman Chapter of The National Association of Retired and Active Federal Workers Meeting
Monday, May 13, at Golden Corral Buffet in Cullman. Guest speaker, State Federation official Julia Ellsbury, will cover the topic "what to do when a federal worker/retiree dies." Dutch lunch begins at 11 a.m. and meeting at noon. Members and nonmembers welcome. For more info, call 256-708-5326.

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RV SALE! Millican RV America Spring RV Super Sale: April 19th & 20th. 256-775-8030, I-65 Exit 299. Save thousands. Special financing. Factory reps on location.

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AREA SOFTBALL TOURNAMENTS

Vinemont, Cullman advance to Regionals; Good Hope eliminated

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

BLOUNTSVILLE, Ala. – After splitting their opening matchups with Susan Moore and J.B. Pennington Friday, the Vinemont Lady Eagles returned to Blountsville for this year's 3A, Area 13 Tournament Monday night. In their first game of the day, the Eagles faced Susan Moore for a rematch in an elimination game and they handled the Bulldogs 11-3 to punch their ticket to next week's Regionals.

Cullman, Good Hope and Holly Pond were all back in action Monday as well. After defeating East Lawrence in their first game of the day, the Lady Raiders' postseason run came to an end with a loss to Priceville. The Lady Bearcats returned home after dropping both their matchups with Mortimer Jordan, but Cullman will still advance to play at next week's North Regional due to Pinson Valley's forfeiture.

Vinemont 11 – Susan Moore 3 (3A, Area 13)
An RBI single off the bat of Maci Smith drove in Jadyn Knott and gave Vinemont a 1-0 lead in the top of the second.

Later in the inning, Alaina Sandlin sent an RBI single back up the middle to plate Brooklyn Knott and make it a 2-0 game going into the third. Susan Moore trimmed the lead to 2-1 in the bottom of the third, but the Lady Eagles responded in the top of the fourth.

Brooklyn Knott led off the inning with a double into center field and Emma Dortch drove her in to score with an RBU single one pitch later, stretching the lead to 3-1.

Vinemont put things away in the top of the fifth, stringing together five hits and putting five runs on the board to make it an 8-1 game. An RBI double from Brooklyn Knott extended the lead to 9-1 in the top of the sixth. Susan Moore was able to cut the lead to 9-3 in the bottom half of the inning, but the Eagles got those runs back in the top of the seventh with a 2-run double from Haley Millwood, capping an 11-3 win for Vinemont.

Brooklyn Knott and Sandlin led the way at the plate with three hits and a pair of RBIs each. Katelyn Evans added three hits in the win and Dortch (one RBI), Arleigh Thomason (one RBI) and Callie Millwood each posted a pair of hits for Vinemont.

Mortimer Jordan 4 – Cullman 0 (6A, Area 13)
The first game of the day between Mortimer Jordan and Cullman was scoreless for three innings until the Blue Devils took a 1-0 lead in the fourth.

Mortimer Jordan tacked on two more runs in the fifth and another in the sixth, but the Bearcats were unable to answer the Blue Devils and Cullman dropped game one 4-0.

Abby Maples led the way with a pair of hits in the loss and Dracen Bates, Hattie Graham, Reese Hopper and Taylor Au each posted hits as well.

Mortimer Jordan 3 – Cullman 2 (6A, Area 13)
The Lady Bearcats started game two by loading the bases in the top of the first and Hattie Graham drew a walk to bring Taylor Au in from third and give Cullman a 1-0 lead. Dracen Bates punched an RBI single into left field to score Samantha Johnson and make it a 2-0 game going into the second inning.

Neither offense was able to get much going until Mortimer Jordan cut the lead to 2-1 in the fourth and the Blue Devils plated a pair of runs in the fifth to move in front 3-2.

Cullman was unable to respond to Mortimer Jordan's late push and the Bearcats' season came to an end with a 3-2 loss.

Bates (two hits) and Graham each posted an RBI in the loss. Abby Maples, Reese Hopper and Kynlei Storey each added a hit for Cullman.

Good Hope 6 – East Lawrence 3 (4A, Area 13)
After a scoreless first inning, East Lawrence took a 1-0 lead in the top of the second.

The Lady Raiders moved ahead 2-1 in the bottom of the third when Haley Lay drove Lizzy Steed and Kylee Smith in to score with a double into center field.

Good Hope added two more runs to its lead in the fourth with another 2-run double off the bat of Campbell Koch.

East Lawrence trimmed the lead to 4-2 in the top of the fifth, but the Eagles couldn't come any closer than that.

The Lady Raiders pulled away for good in the sixth when Natalie Miller scored on a passed ball and Lay barreled up another RBI single to wrap up a 6-3 win.

Lay posted three hits and three RBIs in the win. Koch (one hit) finished with a pair of RBIs and Steed added a pair of hits for Good Hope.

Priceville 4 – Good Hope 1 (4A, Area 13)
After scoreless first inning, Priceville jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the second.

The Bulldogs stretched their lead to 4-0 in the third and Good Hope was able to cut the deficit to 4-1 with an RBI single from Addyson Burgess in the fifth but that was all the offense the Lady Raiders could muster and their season came to an end with a 4-1 loss.

Molly Benefield finished 3-for-3 at the plate in the loss, Natalie Miller posted a pair of hits and Burgess recorded a hit and an RBI.

SEC CHAMPS!

No. 1 Auburn beats No. 2 Vanderbilt to win conference title

Jeff Shearer
AU Athletics

ST. SIMONS ISLAND, Ga. – In a match between college golf's top teams, No. 1 Auburn grabbed an early lead and never let up, defeating No. 2 Vanderbilt 3-2 to win the 2024 SEC Championship Sunday at Sea Island Golf Club.

"Wow, what a week," said Auburn coach Nick Clinard. "Match play is so difficult, especially when you're playing teams that have some of the best players in the world.

"We got on them early and we stayed there, we hung tough. Our guys were very motivated, they got some good rest last night."

With two matches secured, freshman Josiah Gilbert clinched the conference championship for Auburn by defeating defending NCAA medalist Gordon Sargent 4-up.

The match ended on hole No. 16 when Sargent, trailing by three and needing to win out, conceded the point after missing a long par putt.

"There's no bigger stage in the SEC. It's a great place to show what you've worked for," said Gilbert, who lost the first hole before winning the next four to seize control of the match.

"I'm happy for the team. Soak it in, enjoy it, then eyes up to nationals.

"We've got a bigger picture ahead of us now."

Fellow freshman Jackson Koivun, two days after winning individual medalist honors, continued his torrid play, defeating Vanderbilt's Matthew Riedel 7&6 to claim Auburn's first finals match.

"I played really well today and felt like I had the momentum the whole time," said Koivun, who won three of the first holes and needed only 12 holes to win the match.

"My putting was really good today. This is what we grind for and it's starting to pay off. It's a great tournament to win.

"I know we've been looking forward to it for a while. We've still got two more tournaments to go so we're setting our focus for that."

"How about our freshmen," Clinard said.

"How about Josiah Gilbert and how about Jackson Koivun in stroke play and match play, going 3-0. We're not standing right here without them; I can promise you that."



AU ATHLETICS

No. 1 Auburn defeated No. 2 Vanderbilt to win this year's SEC Championship Sunday.

Junior Carson Bacha claimed Auburn's second match, setting the stage for Gilbert's clincher.

In a back-and-forth leadoff match, Bacha took the lead for good on hole No. 13 and clinched the match with a short par putt on 18 to win 1-up.

"It was about staying patient, staying in the moment and waiting for your opportunities to come up" Bacha said.

"A nice two-putt for the win. Really happy to get the job done and help the guys out.

"I'm so proud of the guys. This is what we've been working for all year. We're so happy to come out on top of this match. Everybody brought it all week and we're so fortunate to be in this position."

The SEC title is Auburn's fifth in program history and first since Wells Padgett's 20-foot walk-off birdie putt on the same course in 2018.

Brendan Valdes and J.M. Butler also competed for the Tigers against the Commodores after each earned a victory on Saturday to help advance Auburn in the tournament.

The top-ranked Tigers will seek to secure more postseason trophies in NCAA regionals May 13-15 and ultimately the NCAA Championship May 24-29 in Carlsbad, California.

"They've had a great year," Clinard said.

We've got a lot to play for. The job's not finished."

Wonderland (from Front)

W.C. Mann
Saint Bernard Prep

CULLMAN, Ala. — On April 27 and 28, Saint Bernard Prep's Drama Department put on "Wonderland!," an adaptation of Lewis Carroll's "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland." Despite the necessity of last-minute changes and the challenges of a small cast doubling as backstage crew, the team led the audience on a fun adventure through the looking glass.

English teacher Kirsten Dickerson directed, and John Caples oversaw the technical side of the production.

"The spring musical 'Wonderland!' was a great success this year," said Dickerson.

"The cast worked tirelessly to ensure the audience had a great time.

"Emilie Gutowski played Alice, and this was her largest role at SBP.

"Her energy provided the perfect catalyst as she ventured through Wonderland. Sarah Cumbie and Anna Catherine Douglas played the White and Red Queens, respectively, and portrayed a vibrant balance of sassy and sweet.

"Kieran Gargan played the White King and Tweedle Dum, and Johnathan McBride played the Red King and Tweedle Dee.

"Kieran and Johnathan had two scenes together that involved some play sword fighting and silly dancing, both of which were hilariously executed.

"Joy Lamote was the White Rabbit and impressed us with her improvisational skills. Caroline Sidley and Yulissa Wang were new to theater, yet performed with ease and as if they had been a part of other productions.

"This cast worked hard, and that hard work paid off. To say that I am proud of them is an understatement, and I believe they are the leaders and future of SBP's performing arts."

Relay for Life (from Front)

who generously offered its new facility for the event, which took place Saturday, April 27.

With the venue secured, Relay For Life 2024 was ready to commence. This year's event featured an impressive car show with a large turnout, local vendors and food trucks, Vinemont cheerleaders who brought their face-painting mastery to adults and children alike and a beautiful congregation of survivors who shared their stories of years of battle and triumph over cancer.

Filled with a strong sense of community spirit, and incredible local support, Relay For Life 2024 proved an instant success.

The heart of the event was the survivors' assembly, where survivors courageously shared their cancer journeys.

They detailed the types of cancer they had battled and the lengths of their struggles, with experiences ranging from one to over 40 years. These powerful stories underscored the event's purpose and highlighted the profound personal impacts of cancer.

Following their testimonies, survivors participated in the Survivor's Lap, a symbolic act that celebrated their resilience and victories against cancer. As friends, family and the community cheered them on, survivors took their laps with their heads held high, glowing with the resilience earned from conquering the beast that is cancer.

Teams from various backgrounds joined in, displaying banners with catchy slogans like Team CCSO's "Never Ever Ever Getting Back With Cancer" and a Scooby-Doo-themed team's "Cancer is the real monster." Teams had different booths set up with interactive games and ways for attendees to participate and win prizes, all while giving back to Relay For Life.

The evening concluded with the luminaria ceremony, where bags bearing names were lit in honor of those still battling cancer and in memory of those lost.

With Relay For Life 2024 having been a resounding success, Allen reflected on the event with satisfaction, noting the rapid planning and community effort that made it all possible.

"The event went great, especially considering we only had three days to determine what we could do to make the event happen. Thanks to a great committee and the help we had from so many others to bring it together. We thank all who played a part in helping at the last moment," said Allen.

Allen continued, "First, I want to say thank you to the survivors who showed up for the event and allowed us to honor you and play a small part in your journey.

"You are the reason Relay For Life is so important, and we are forever grateful for you."

Allen also thanked everyone involved, saying, "So many thanks to the committee, the teams, the sponsors, the community, the speakers, those who brought their cars, those attending our event and media from all sources. Without the support of all, Relay cannot happen. Without Relays, there would be less cancer research and more losing their battle. So, thank you to anyone who helped, attended and donated. THANK YOU."

For more information on Relay For Life and the impact it makes, visit relayforlife.org/cullmanal. For further questions about future Relay For Life events, email Allen at helenma1941@gmail.com.





Cullman County 4-H Club celebrates local youth achievements

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County 4-H Club recently hosted its annual County Round Up, bringing together over 100 enthusiastic young members from both Cullman County and Cullman City Schools. The event highlighted the diverse skills and achievements of these young individuals in a variety of competitive categories ranging from culinary arts to creative building.

"County Round Up is the culmination of a year's worth of effort in creating and demonstrating club projects," explained Kerri Roberts, 4-H youth development coordinator. "4-H strives to help youth make decisions, become better at speaking with others about their work and ignite a 'spark' that may lead to future career paths or hobbies. The family involvement of 4-H projects strengthens bonds and passes along skills to the next generation."

Kaileigh Mayfield from Holly Pond Elementary School and Addilynn Martin from Parkside School were honored as the "4-H Rookies of the Year," each earning a free trip to a summer camp, celebrating their exceptional engagement and achievements in their first year with 4-H.

In addition to celebrating young talent, the event also recognized the dedication of local educators who lead these young minds. Jocelyn Logan, a fifth-grade teacher at Hanceville Elementary School, was awarded the "4-H Leader of the Year." Logan, alongside Kori Wiginton from Fairview Elementary School, who was also honored as a "4-H Leader of the Year" but could not attend, received their awards from Roberta McClellan, a 4-H agent assistant.

The County Round Up competition itself featured a wide array of categories including Freestyle Demonstration, Cookies, Chef Demonstration, Extreme Birdhouse, Blocks Rock! Legos, Photography, the $15 Challenge and Creative Endeavors Art.

These categories provided a platform for the students to showcase their talents and apply the skills learned through their monthly 4-H Club meetings. At these meetings, which are conducted in classrooms and community clubs, members practice parliamentary procedures, elect officers and prepare for monthly projects that can lead to further recognition.

Members who earn first- or second-place ribbons in their classroom competitions are invited to the County Round Up. There, they compete to be recognized as the best in the county and have the opportunity to win prize money.



KERRI ROBERTS

Kaileigh Mayfield of Holly Pond Elementary School and Addilynn Martin of Parkside School were honored for achieving "4-H Rookies of the Year."


KERRI ROBERTS

Jocelyn Logan of Hanceville Elementary School, received her "4-H Leader of the Year" honors from 4-H Agent Assistant Roberta McClellan. Not pictured is Kori Wiginton of Fairview Elementary School, who was also honored as a "4-H Leader of the Year."

Roberts also commented on the inclusivity and growth of the program, saying, "4-H offers a niche environment to youth who may not be involved in sports or academics as much. Every year I look forward to new members becoming confident in their work. I also enjoy returning members improving on their skills."

Roberts, along with her assistant McClellan, oversee more than 1,500 youth across the county. They are committed to fostering an environment where young people can grow their skills in leadership, creativity and community involvement.

"Our goal in Cullman 4-H is to be in every elementary school in the county and city. We currently are not in every school due to lack of personnel to cover every school, but our County Coordinator, Kira Sims, is working hard to fund another 4-H youth educator. The 4-H motto is 'To Make the Best Better' and we strive to do that in Cullman," Roberts said.

Hanceville Public Library kitchen gets overhaul

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Hanceville Public Library employees and volunteers will be able to provide snacks and refreshments for the many groups that use the library, thanks to a grant that allowed the library to perform a major overhaul of its kitchen and breakroom area.

The grant was from the same organization that aided the library in the construction of its Reading Garden in 2022 – the Alabama Mountains, Rivers & Valleys Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Council. The grant, intended for community enrichment projects, is available once a year. As soon as the clock ran out on the mandated 12 months after the Reading Garden grant, the library applied for funds a second time – this time to refurbish its outdated kitchen and breakroom area.

"This is a continuation of that grant when they first did the outdoor project (The Reading Garden) and now they wanted to do this," said Cherrie Haney, Cullman County's representative for the RC&D Council. "They wanted to do these projects to bring more children into the library and that's what it's all about."

On Tuesday, April 30, library staff and local officials gathered at the library to have a look.

Librarian Shirley Burden welcomed the group, thanking the City of Hanceville and the RC&D Council, and Rep. Randall Shedd, R-Fairview, congratulated both the Cullman County Public Library Board and the Hanceville Public Library on the renovated space.

Shedd spoke to the crowd of library lovers and said, "I commend you, and it's beautiful."

New Cullman County Public Library System Director Amber Thornton shared in the group's enthusiasm for the project.

"You can tell this place is special when you walk in here. You can tell that they love it and care about it because they're willing to put work into it to make everything better," she said. "I just appreciate the leadership down here, and you all, for making her ideas come to life. I appreciate that and I look forward to what we can do together in the future."

The kitchenette area used to be a dark, tiny space with exposed shelving and outdated wallpaper and very little cabinetry.

The staff found issues with storage space for snacks provided to community homeschool and other children's groups that regularly visit the library, as well as potential safety hazards with an exposed water heater and pipes.

The generous grant from the RC&D Council allowed the kitchen a complete makeover, now with more cabinets to store snacks and supplies, new countertops and paint and brand new appliances.

Hanceville resident and library volunteer Joyce Barnett laughed and shared, "We moved from the year 1960 to 2024, finally!"


CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Rep. Randall Shedd, R-Fairview (left) and Cullman County Public Library System Director Amber Thornton (right) speak to those gathered at the Hanceville Public Library to see the library's newly remodeled kitchen area on Tuesday, April 30, 2024.

LEGALS

NOTICE OF COMPLETION (3,000,000 Gallon Water Storage Tank on Woodland Tank Painting and Repair)

In accordance with Section 39-1-1, Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended, notice is hereby given that G & L Tank Sandblasting and Coatings LLC has completed the Contract for 3,000,000 Gallon Water Storage Tank on Woodland Tank Painting and Repair for City of Cullman, Cullman, Alabama, and has made request for final settlement as provided by the Contract. All persons having any claims for labor, materials, or otherwise in connection with this project should immediately notify City of Cullman, 204 2nd Ave NE, Cullman, AL 35055. G & L Tank Sandblasting and Coatings LLC, 2101 Hwy 64 West, Shelbyville, TN 37160.

PB WIL BK 123 PG 299 - 05/01/2024 10:41 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
LINDA M. BOYD, * **CASE NO PC 2023-262**
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT

TO: TYLER EPHESIANS BOYD, CAMERON BRYANT DUVALL and ANNA CHRISTINE DUVALL, AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Petition for Final Settlement filed the 22nd day of March, 2024, made court record the 28th day of March, 2024, by Enika Shalon Duvall, by and through her attorney of record, Michael R. Burleson, has been scheduled for the **25th day of June, 2024, at 11:30 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 30th day of April, 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.

Michael R. Burleson
Attorney for Petitioner
200 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
(256) 620-0007

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
ELDRIGE RAY FULENWIDER, * CASE NO. PC 2024 - 135
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE: Letters Testamentary having been granted to Gayla Denene Pierce as Personal Representative of the Estate of Eldrige Ray Fulenwider, deceased, on the 23rd day April, 2024, all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Gayla Denene Pierce
Gayla Denene Pierce
Personal Representative

Shay Persall
Attorney for Personal Representative

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

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

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

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
WILLIAM EDWARD CHECKON, * CASE NO. PC2023-282
An alleged incapacitated person. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF CONSERVATORSHIP AND GUARDIANSHIP

TO: MICHAEL CHECKON, MARYANN CHECKON, HELEN VOLOCH AND ANY AND ALL KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES.

Petition for Letters of Conservatorship and Guardianship was filed the 28th day of August, 2023, made court record the 29th day of August, 2023, by Carol E. Hulgan, Petitioner. Attorney for Petitioner, Richard L. Collins. A hearing on this matter has been rescheduled for the **20th day of May, 2024, at 11:30 a.m.,** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, 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 23rd day of April, 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.

Richard L. Collins
Attorney for Petitioner
PO Box 669
Cullman, AL 35056

PB WIL BK 123 PG 276 - 04/30/2024 09:44 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
MARRION KEY, * **CASE NO.: PC2023-333**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to RHONDA KEY, as Personal Representative of the Estate of MARRION KEY, deceased, on the 30th 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 be barred.

RHONDA KEY
Personal Representative

Pamela E. Nail
Attorney for Personal Representative
200 Second Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Telephone: (256) 734-3342

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 223 PG 664 - 05/01/2024 09:56 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
DEBORAH BETTY SEAGROVES,) CASE NO PC 2023-172
Deceased.)

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR DECLARATION OF INSOLVENCY AND FINAL DISCHARGE

TO: HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY OF CULLMAN COUNTY
CULLMAN EMERGENCY MEDICAL
FRANKLIN SERVICE, INC FOR DECATUR MORGAN HOSPITAL
FRANKLIN SERVICE, INC FOR THE HEART CENTER
PHILLIPS & COHEN ASSOCIATES, LTD ON BEHALF OF JEFFERSON CAPITAL SYSTEMS, LLC
PHILLIPS & COHEN ASSOCIATES, LTD ON BEHALF OF CF MEDICAL, LLC
ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN OR INTEREST PARTIES

Please take notice that a *Petition of Personal Representative for Declaration of Insolvency and Final Discharge*, was filed on the 19th day of April, 2024, made court record the 26th day of April, 2024, by Shay Persall, Personal Representative, by and through Attorney, Steven C. Smith. A hearing on said Petition has been **Set for the 17th day of June, 2024, at 11:30 A.M.**, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this 30th day of April, 2024.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

Steven C. Smith
Attorney for Personal Representative
PO Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
THOMAS FRANKLIN GOLDEN, * **CASE NO.: PC2024-142**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to STACY GOLDEN ETHEREDGE, as Personal Representative of the Estate of THOMAS FRANKLIN GOLDEN, deceased, on the 23rd 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.

STACY GOLDEN ETHEREDGE
Personal Representative

Maurine C. Evans
The Evans Law Firm, P.C.
1736 Oxmoor Road
Birmingham, Alabama 35209
205-870-1970

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 *
SYBLE F. OSMER, * CASE NO. PC2023-265
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: JAMES ROBERT WEBB, JR., MICHAEL KEVIN SCHAFER, JR., MAGEN LASHAY SCHAFER, ANITA FAY DAVENPORT, LORETTA LYNN SCHAFER AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES.

Petition for Probate of Will for the Estate of Syble F. Osmer, Deceased, was filed the 10th day of August, 2023, made court record the 11th day of August, 2023, by William Osmer, Petitioner, through Attorney Pamela E. Nail. A hearing on this matter has been rescheduled for the **20th day of May, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.,** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, 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 23rd day of April, 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.

Pamela E. Nail
Attorney for Petitioner
200 Second Avenue, SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF:
THE ESTATE OF TERRY LYNN HATLEY, DECEASED

CASE NO.: PC2024-108

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration have been granted BARBARA AKINS as Personal Representative of the Estate of TERRY LYNN HATLEY, deceased, on the 23rd 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 will be barred.

s/ BARBARA AKINS
Personal Representative

Zachary Starnes
Attorney for Personal Representative
P.O. Box 2688
Decatur, Alabama 35602-2688

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, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
LEWIS NATE TERRY, * CASE NO. PC2022-053
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: CHARLCIE HENSLEY, LAURIE POUNDERS, JOSEPH TERRY, J.H. TERRY, DEBBIE SHEPARD, BEVERLY BELL, AND ELVIE PROCTOR, AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES.

Petition for Probate of Will, Amended Petition for Probate of Will and Amended Petition for Probate of Will for the Estate of Lewis Nate Terry, Deceased, filed by Alvin Terry, Petitioner, through Attorney Melvin Hasting. A hearing on this matter has been rescheduled for the **20th day of May, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.,** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, 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 23rd day of April, 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.

Melvin Hasting
Attorney for Petitioner
P.O. Box 517
Cullman, AL 35056

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 Eddie M Forster And Spouse Glenda A Forster to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for AHL Mortgage, Inc., its successors and assigns dated August 14, 2007; said mortgage being recorded on September 7, 2007, in Book 1536, Page 419 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to US Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee For VRMTG Asset Trust by assignment recorded in Deed Book 377, Page 290 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, ALABAMA.

The undersigned, US Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee For VRMTG Asset Trust, 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 30th day of May, 2024 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

A part of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 23,Township 10 South, Range 1 West, more particularly described as follows: Commencing at a found 1-1/2 inch pipe marking the Northeast Corner of said Section 23; thence South 0 degrees 32 minutes 11 seconds West a distance of 2014.18 feet to a found iron at the Southeast Corner of Lot 9 of Richmond Estates Subdivision (Plat Book B, Page 323 A); thence South 1 degree 37 minutes 21 seconds West along the accepted east line of said forty a distance of 347.32 feet to a set 5/8 inch rebar iron and the true point of beginning of the property herein described; thence from said true point of beginning, continue South 1 degree 37 minutes 21 seconds West along said accepted east line a distance of 313.01 feet to a found 5/8 inch rebar iron marking the accepted Southeast Corner of the above described forty; thence North 89 degrees 29 minutes 36 seconds West the accepted south line of said forty a distance of 153.55 feet to a set 5/8 inch rebar iron; thence North 1 degree 37 minutes 10 seconds East a distance of 313.95 feet to a set 5/8 inch rebar iron; thence South 89 degrees 08 minutes 34 seconds East a distance of 153.55 feet to the true point of beginning.

Said property is commonly known as 741 County Road 695, Holly Pond, AL 35083.

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.

US BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR VRMTG ASSET TRUST
as holder of said mortgage
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC
Two North Twentieth
2 20th Street North, Suite 1000
Birmingham, AL 35203
(205) 216-4238
FT21@mccalla.com
File No. 23-04683AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

Cullman Tribune
05/02/2024,05/09/2024,05/16/2024

LEGALS

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256.775.7203
www.CullmanAl.gov

City of Cullman
Planning Commission

On Monday May 6, 2024, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M, at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Planning Commission, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Rezoning request at 309 Olive Street SW – R-1 to B-2
2. Conditional use request for Goat Island Brewing at Cotton Creek
3. Conditional use request for mini storage on 13th Street NE
4. Conditional use request for mini storage on 11th Street NE
5. Short form subdivision – Lee Avenue SW & Graham Street SW – create two lots
6. Conditional use request for multifamily dwelling development at 1109 Swafford Road SW

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

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75 County Road 1339
Cullman, AL 35058
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www.cullmanstockyard.com
Hoagy and Callahan Parrish
Cattle Sale – Tuesday - 8:30 a.m.

Obituary Announcements: April 30 – May 1

Joy Louise Goeller, 55
Visitation for Joy Louise Goeller, age 55 of Cullman, will be from 6-8 p.m. on Saturday, May 4, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Mrs. Goeller passed away on Tuesday, April 30, 2024, at her residence. She was born Friday, Sept. 20, 1968, to Robert Wesley Rivers and Merl Rivers. She was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Billy Rivers. Survivors include her husband, James Goeller; daughters, Elizabeth Abney, Missy Knight and Serenity Goeller; sons, Gracen Goeller and Daniel Goeller; grandchildren, McKenna, Kingston and Scarlett.

Derrick James Barton, 53
Funeral Service for Derrick James Barton, age 53 of Cullman, will be at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 11, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Darren Peeples, Chuck Shikle, Mick Patrum, Charlie Thornton and Perry St. John officiating; Visitation will be from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 11, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. At the end of the celebration of life there will be a last ride in honor of Derricks life. Anyone that wants to ride is more than welcome to get in line behind the Jack Aces. Mr. Barton passed away on Sunday, April 28, 2024, at his residence in the loving arms of his spouse, Marcie surround with family and friends. He was born Wednesday, Oct. 14, 1970, to James Barton and Gail Harris. He was preceded in death by his father. Survivors include his wife Marcie Witcher Barton; daughter, Lindsie (Wesley) Waters; son, Alex Barton; bonus children, Zack Baswell, Mackenzie (Tristan) Hulsey and Kaden Gardner; grandchildren, Brantley and Creed Baswell, Adleigh Hulsey; mother, Gail Harris; stepmother, Donna Barton; sister, Michelle Patrum; A host of nieces, nephews, family & friends and the lifelong family he had with the Jack Aces. In lieu of flowers please make a donation to the memorial that has been setup in Derrick's honor. https://gofund.me/ad9501fd. You may also donate to Shop with a Cop by contacting Adam Clark at: 256-775-7162. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Annie Ruth Johnson, 87
Annie Ruth Johnson, known as Ruth, age 87, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Saturday, April 27, 2024. Ruth was born in Cullman, Alabama on Oct. 8, 1936, to Leon and Vera Mae Miller Haney. She is preceded in death by her parents, two brothers Douglas and Doyle Haney, two granddaughters Alice Revells and Julie Snell, and her grandson Billy Worrell. Ruth retired from the former Hyatt restaurant and loved taking long walks and sitting on her front porch in her rocking chair, drinking coffee while reading her Bible, word search puzzles, canning, going to church, and spending time with her family and friends. She worshipped and praised the Lord daily and now she is praising the Father in Heaven who welcomed her with open arms. She was loved deeply by her family and will be greatly missed. Funeral services will be held at Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel on Monday May 6, 2024, at 2 p.m. with Wayne Barnett officiating. Interment will follow services in Bethel Baptist Cemetery in Blair Community. Survivors are: daughters: Annie (Gary) McGhee and Peggy (Wayne) Murphree, sons: George Jr. (Danni) Johnson and Paul (Tiffany) Johnson, Stepdaughters: Stella Phelps and Mary Ann Prestridge, brothers: Herman (Sue) Haney and Joe Haney, as well as 20 grandchildren, several great grandchildren, and a host of nieces and nephews. Visitation will be at Moss Funeral Home on Sunday, May 5, 2024 from 5-9 p.m. Please share condolences and memories with the family at www.mossservicefh.com Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Nancy Debra Self, 68
Nancy Debra Self, age 68 of Vinemont, Alabama, passed away April 26, 2024. Nancy is preceded in death by her mother Linda T. Seal Wyatt and father Warren Taylor Wyatt. Nancy is survived by her husband of 22 years Stephen Self, daughters Kelley Hamilton and Crystal (Anthony) Foster, sons Dusty (Amy) Self, Jason (Tonya) Self, and Casey (Nicole) Yocom, sister Diane Vardaman, brother David Wyatt, grandchildren Morgan Wood, Hannah Lynch, Owen Hamilton, Addy Hamilton, Cameron Self, Emmaline Self and nine others. Great grandchildren Kagan Lynch and sixteen others. Debra had a 45-year career as a certified pharmacy technician. She worked in a number of different retail pharmacies in Cullman and Collierville, Tennessee. She retired from Cullman Regional Medical Center in April 2023 after working in the pharmacy department for 14 years. She loved working with people and helping people. She loved her family with all her heart and treasured her time with them and especially her grandchildren and KK her great granddaughter. She also loved her two pups Max and Riley greatly as well as Bullitt and Beau who passed before her. Her joy was watching and attending Atlanta Braves and Alabama football games with Steve, her husband. Her greatest love was the beach. She just wasn't the same if she didn't get her yearly trip for the sand, sun and great food. She really enjoyed going out on Smith Lake with Steve on their boat too. And last but not least, she loved her girlfriends and enjoyed spending time with them and texting them. Visitation will be held on Friday, May 3, 2024, at Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel from noon up until the Funeral service at 1 p.m. with Rev. Tim Lipsey officiating. Interment will follow services at Cullman City Cemetery.

Patricia Lavvon Nicklaus, 81
Patricia Lavvon Nicklaus, age 81, of Decatur, Alabama passed away on Monday, April 29, 2024. Patricia was born in Cullman County Alabama on Feb. 28, 1943, to George William Kelley and Ethel Estelle Farmer Kelley. Patricia is survived by her husband of 62 years, Wayne Nicklaus; her son and daughter-in-law Randy Nicklaus (Lisa); her daughter and son-in-law Laura Romine (Brent); her sister Judy Walls, her sister-in-laws Nelda Powell, Betty Thompson and Ruth Nicklaus; her Grandchildren, Sawyer Nicklaus, Benjamin Romine, Timothy Romine (Regan), Martin Vickers (Abbie), Madisonn Vickers, her great grandchildren Archer Vickers and River Vickers. A visitation for Patricia will be held Saturday, May 4, 2024, from 12:30-2 p.m. Following the visitation will be a celebration of life at 2 p.m. at Roselawn Funeral Home, Decatur, Alabama, with Brother Randy Jones and Brother Emmett Heard officiating. Mrs. Nicklaus was a member of Jubliee Family worship center. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to;

Uganda Life in Jesus Ministries
Bishop Vicent Victours
P.O. Box 2434
Jasper, Al. 35502

Hands Across Decatur (Homeless)
Sue Terell
1027 5th Ave. SE
Decatur, Al 35601

Mexican Missions Inc.
P.O. Box 293250
Kerville, TX 78209

Heart of God Missions
P.O. Box 1356
Fort Gibson, OK. 74434

Hospice of the Valley
240 Johnson Street SE
Decatur, Al. 35601

Moss Service Funeral Home
1901 Second Avenue Northwest
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Whaley (from Front)

Whaley, as he is known to many past students, began his tenure at Vinemont Middle School before transitioning to Hanceville High School. He was a guidance counselor at Vinemont Middle and High School, then principal at Vinemont Middle School and, finally, Fairview High School.

Barnette said he recognizes the loss of a great administrator from his system, but wishes Whaley well.

"Dr. Whaley has served the students of Cullman County well in several different capacities.

"While we will miss him, we are excited for him as he begins a new chapter in his career. We appreciate his leadership at Fairview High School over the past year and wish him the absolute best moving forward."

Lauren Bailey contributed to this article.

ACES: Solar incentives can help battle electricity cost increases on commercial poultry farms

Dennis Brothers
Alabama Cooperative Extension System

As commercial poultry growers have improved housing insulation and tightened up old, leaky houses, heating efficiency has improved and fuel costs have declined. However, as overall bird size has increased across the United States, keeping larger birds properly ventilated and cool with exhaust fans has driven electricity costs up. The short-term forecast for electricity may be positive, but the overall trend is increasing prices. The use of small-scale solar technology has also increased across the country. It is one of the avenues that poultry growers have explored to help lower their electricity bills by offsetting their utility grid power usage. Currently there are significant federal incentive programs that make solar on poultry farms more attractive. Some solar components have decreased in price, as well. However, as with many things, buyers should do their research.

CONSIDERATIONS

Solar incentives

Current solar incentives have the potential to pay for a large percentage of a solar project. The most impactful incentive is the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s current Rural Energy for America Program, commonly known as a REAP grant. Currently, the REAP program offers up to 50 percent of the installation cost of a qualifying project to be covered by the grant.

It is important to understand that these grants are competitive and the funding is limited. They are also not funded up front but are reimbursement grants. The REAP grant is by far the most available opportunity for poultry growers to obtain assistance for solar projects. It is advised that a grower obtain the services of an experienced grant writer or technical service provider (TSP) to help complete the grant application. Oftentimes a solar installation company will have secured the services of a grant writer or have someone with that skill set on staff. These services usually carry a fee that is often not charged unless a grant is secured. For more information on the REAP program, visit the USDA's website at www.rd.usda.gov.

Federal income tax credit

Another consideration is the Federal Income Tax Credit (FITC) available for qualifying solar energy projects. Currently, the FITC is set for 30 percent of the installation cost taken off owed taxes. The tax liability can be taken forward 22 years and look back 3 years.

There are additional discounts added if certain system criteria are met. There is an additional 10 percent tax credit applied, based on the use of qualifying US made materials. If the system is being installed in a historically low-income area, an additional 10 percent credit is applied.

The problem for many poultry growers is that they typically do not have high tax liability until later in the farm's life, after depreciation is used up.

Then, this usually coincides with the need for equipment replacement and heavy maintenance requirements, which often require refinancing or additional loans.

This is one reason the FITC incentive portion of the solar option may be more fitting for farms that have paid off poultry houses and are expecting to incur heavy tax liabilities. However, there is now an opportunity for growers to sell the unused tax credits at a reduced cash value as part of the Clean Energy Tax Credit program passed under the The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA) (Pub. L. 117-169, 136 Stat. 1818 (2022)).

Utility company agreements

The final thing to discuss—but the most important to consider with the solar option—is what kind of solar deal a grower has with their current utility company. If a grower has anything less than one-to-one net metering, then it is most likely that a system that offsets less than 100 percent of total power usage will be best suited to a poultry farm.

Due to the irregular usage patterns of poultry houses, large systems have the potential to put a lot of excess power back into the grid at low buy-back prices to the grower.

In most situations examined where there is something less than full net metering, poultry farms optimally achieve 60 percent or less power offset, depending on the cost of the electricity and the price given to the grower for excess power. Therefore, growers should not think of the incentives as a way to offset more power by installing larger systems but use the incentives to pay off an optimized system sooner rather than later.

More information

This article was reproduced from the original publication on Southern Ag Today.

For more information and to sign up for the free, digital periodical, visit southernagtoday.org. Learn more about the Alabama Extension Farm and Agribusiness Management team and read more from them by visiting the Farm Management section of www.aces.edu.

OP-ED

'You'll miss this'... will we, though?

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

Around each turn in a local grocery store or shopping center, you can almost certainly hear some variation of the phrase, "Enjoy this while it lasts," or "You'll miss this one day." These phrases, just like so many others, are often uttered sweetly and fondly by well-meaning passersby, usually aimed at a mother with a gaggle of children in various stages of mayhem, meltdowns and chaos. As well-meaning and supportive as the well-wisher intends it to comes across, to the struggling mother holding a crying baby and refereeing her toddler and 5-year-old child in a busy grocery store checkout, it's often a wasted sentiment.

Being a "seasoned" mother of four, I can firmly say that some of these moments will not be missed. Instead, they'll be looked at with weathered eyes and graying hair, while whispering a silent thanks that we all made it through mostly unscathed. We will not look back and long for the days of tantrums in Target because we dared say no to the third Barbie this week, the meltdowns over the wrong color cup at lunchtime or the arguments about who had the Spider-Man action figure first.

We will never miss the tandem viruses that ravage the entire household and being handed the task of managing not only our own sickness, but also the whole family's health. We will not hold secret snapshots in our minds of the screams and shrieks of overstimulated toddlers experiencing their third devastation in a crowded zoo, dodging prying and judgmental glares from other parents as an exit is hastily found and taken.

Not every single moment of motherhood is beautiful; not every single second should be committed to memory, locked away for safekeeping, to be recalled on a sentimental whim. Some parts of motherhood are hard and gritty – parts designed by the universe to test your mettle and strength as a parent. There are times when a sudden name change and a move to a new country begin to sound completely rational and you begin Googling one-way tickets to anywhere but here.

Those moments are hard and sometimes painful and will hopefully be forgotten as quickly as the tantrum over the grilled cheese that was cut into squares instead of triangles and the "severely" injured knee from a tumble on the rug.

The tiny stolen moments that are sneakily placed between meltdowns and feedings and naps and diaper changes and the 413th load of laundry that week are what keep mothers tethered and sane.

These are the snapshots of time that will stay dear, imprinted on our brains and souls forever.

The crying and inconsolable newborn who settles the second her skin touches ours, the "ouchies," "boo-boos" and battle injuries that magically disappear under the elixir of our kiss. The feeling of a chubby baby hand stroking our cheek during a sleepy 2 a.m. feeding and the gummy smile full of wonder that greets us the next morning.

Proud first steps as they barrel towards us for the first time, until the serenades of rhythmic drumming of feet and melodic cries of "Mommy!" take over. The hand-plucked dandelions from the driveway. These are the moments we will miss with such fierceness our souls could shatter with a light breeze.

It is entirely possible to painfully long for the brief widows of childhood that seemingly disappeared faster than a blink, while also crossing fingers and wishing on stars that some moments pass quickly and never look back. The former are the moments that will make us soft, safe and sentimental; the latter force us to be strong and resilient.

Combined, these are the moments that make us mothers.

