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Friends of Frankweiler welcome sister-city visitors

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Friends of Frankweiler (FoF) was established in 1987, when Cullman and Frankweiler, Germany – the birthplace of Cullman's founder John G. Cullmann – were joined as sister cities. FoF, as well as the corresponding German group, Friends of Cullman, keep the partnership between the two cities alive, fostering goodwill and friendship between the two countries.

This year, on Thursday, May 2, FoF welcomed two members of the Friends of Cullman club from Frankweiler. The overseas guests arrived just in time for the always-changing Alabama weather to settle and produce beautiful, sunny days.

The special meeting room at the Cullman County Public Library's main branch was vibrating with excitement and chatter as the guests mingled with Dr. » PAGE 3



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Dr. Reingard Eifler, Friends of Frankweiler President Ernest Hauk, Susan Hauk and Dr. Dietmar Eifler stand together to commemorate the Eiflers' visit to Cullman on May 2, 2024.

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SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
CHANCE T-STORMS THEN T-STORMS LIKELY

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NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

Edgeworth sets state 1600-Meter record; Locals earn medals in Cullman, Gulf Shores

» PAGE 6

Alabama Strawberry Festival underway



KATIE SPICER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Alabama Strawberry Festival is going strong, and will continue today, Saturday, May 4, 2024.

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Alabama Strawberry Festival is in full swing in Cullman's Depot Park area and will continue until late Saturday night. City streets, blocked off with hand-painted blockades covered in vibrant and colorful strawberry-themed murals completed by local artist Donald Walker, are packed, allowing space for the over 100 craft and food vendors to showcase their goods.

The event, known as the Cullman Strawberry Festival for more than 80 years, went statewide this year, with a new name and an additional day added to the fun. The Alabama Strawberry Festival has something for everyone, with food, arts » PAGE 4



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Swingin' seniors turn out for Alabama Strawberry Festival Senior Day



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cadillacs, a retro cover band from Florence, Alabama, got seniors swinging and grooving at the Alabama Strawberry Festival Senior Day on Thursday, May 2, 2024. » PAGE 5

Come shop with me: The Pink Boot Boutique



CONTRIBUTED

Shayla Waldner in her mobile business The Pink Boot Boutique

» PAGE 12

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported May 3

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported May 3, 2024. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

April 29

- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 437
- theft of property; CR 1341
- domestic violence; CR 134
- theft of property; CR 702
- theft of property; Hwy. 91
- theft of property; Hwy. 69N
- domestic violence; CR 1542
- theft of property; CR 1856
- theft of property; Good Hope School Rd.
- theft of property; CR 219

April 30

- theft of property; CR 112
- domestic violence; CR 1114
- domestic violence; CR 1422
- harassment; CR 720
- reckless endangerment; menacing; CR 813
- theft of property; Short Rd.
- harassment; CR 765
- trespassing; CR 643
- harassment; High School Rd.
- theft of property; CR 747
- criminal mischief; Campbell Rd.

May 1

- domestic violence; CR 71
- theft of property; CR 1490
- harassment; CR 1718
- possession of dangerous drugs; possession of marijuana; possession of dangerous drugs; CR 1605
- theft of property; CR 1435

ARRESTS

April 29 – May 2

Alexander, Natosha J.; 41
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Boone, John T.; 39
- FTA – illegal possession of prescription drugs
- FTA – unauthorized us of truck – no force

Brown, Cody W.; 32
- possession of dangerous drugs

Burditus, Joshua E.; 39
- BAIL JUMPING – assault-reckless endangerment
- BAIL JUMPING – discharging firearm into occupied building, railroad, aircraft, automobile, truck, or watercraft

Dragon, Albert J.; 43
- possession of drug paraphernala-1st offense

Dueitt, Jackie L.; 41
- public intoxication

Hydrick, Emily T.; 27
- DRUG COURT SANCTION – possession of dangerous drugs

Key, Billy D.; 57
- FTA – speeding-no workers-construction zone

Key, Michael T.; 35
- assault-harassment
- criminal trespass

Pastor, Juan D.; 34
- DUI

Peppers, Jesse L.; 42
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Phillips, Jimmy C.; 62
- FTA – DUI (alcohol)

Ritchie, Robin L.; 43
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of dangerous drugs
- theft-miscellaneous, less $500
- negotiating worthless instrument
- attempting to elude a police officer

Sharp, Michael A.; 42
- Possession of a stolen vehicle

Steele Jr., Timothy G.; 27
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – sell/distribution of dangerous drugs

White, Roger A.; 46
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Whitefield, Christopher J.; 42
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

May 1
- counterfeit $20's; State of Alabama; Denson Ave. SW
- theft of lost property-4th degree; person; Apple Watch; $300; Old Hwy. 157

May 2
- negotiating worthless instrument; Nail Bar Lounge; cash
- identity theft; person

ARRESTS

May 1-2

Gomer, Michael S.; 37
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- ex-felon in possession of firearm

Beasley, Anthony R.; 52
- FTA - receiving stolen property-4th degree
- FTA - theft of property-4th degree (4 counts)
- FTA - criminal trespass-3rd degree

Moreno, Daniel; 34
- DUI

Marshall, Shea M.; 44
- FTA - theft of property-4th degree (3 counts)
- FTA - criminal trespass-3rd degree
- FTA - driving without a license (2 counts)
- FTA - run stop sign
- FTA - insurance violation (2 counts)
- FTA - expired tag
- FTA - driving while license suspended

Eddleman, Dustin S.; 39
- unlawful distribution of a controlled substance
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance
- attempt to elude
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- tampering with physical evidence

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

2 CPD officers involved in wreck, 1 suspect arrested after pursuit

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Two Cullman Police Department officers were involved in a wreck Thursday night, May 2, around 9:30 while responding to assist with a pursuit. The suspect in the pursuit has been arrested. The wreck occurred at Second Avenue and Fifth Street Southeast in Cullman.

The pursuit resulted in the arrest of Dustin Seth Eddleman, 39, of Cullman, who faces multiple charges.

Eddleman had felony warrants with Georgia and Tennessee and allegedly tossed drugs from the vehicle, which were recovered by police.

He was also allegedly in possession of a firearm.

The officers involved were Aaron Brolsma and Hunter Riddlesperger, according to the department.

They were both transported to area hospitals. Chief David Nassetta said both have now been released.

The crash and the pursuit that led to it are under investigation by the Cullman Police Department.



CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
Dustin Seth Eddleman

Non-resident student enrollment open for Cullman City Schools

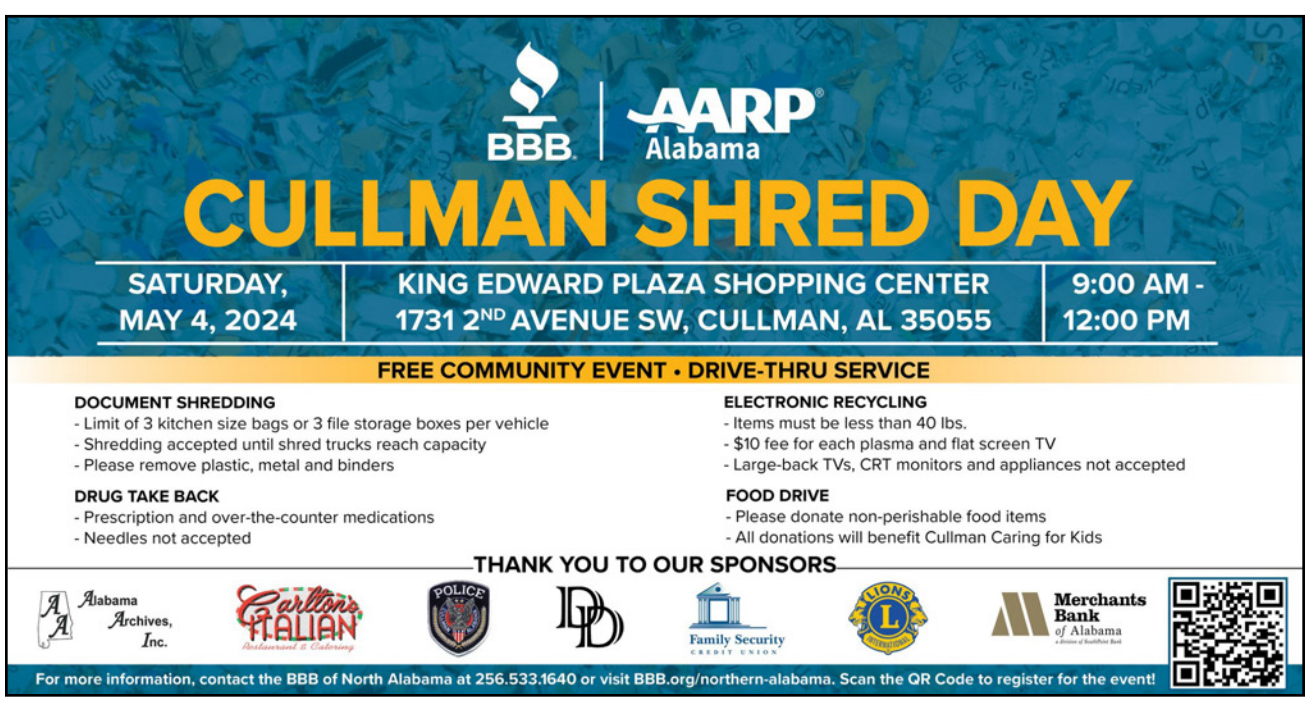
Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Registration is now open for students who live outside Cullman City Schools' city limits, but would still like to potentially attend school within the district.

Families interested in enrollment for non-resident students should contact the applicable school for more information, as availability is based on space in the applicable grade levels at each school. Kindergarten through second-grade students attend Cullman City Primary School; third-grade through sixth-grade students attend East or West Elementary Schools (availability depending on grade level); seventh- and eighth-grade students attend Cullman Middle School; and ninth- through 12th-grade students attend Cullman High School.

Tuition for non-resident students is $1,000 per student capped at $5,000 per family per academic year. Once approved, payments will be accepted beginning May 1, 2024, with a 10% discount if paid in full be 3 p.m. on July 1, 2024. The payment deadline for non-resident students is 4 p.m. on July 31, 2024.

Cullman City Schools is one of the top-rated school districts in the state of Alabama, consistently ranked in the Top 10 for test scores and student achievement across all grade levels and receiving an "A" rating consistently on the state education report card.



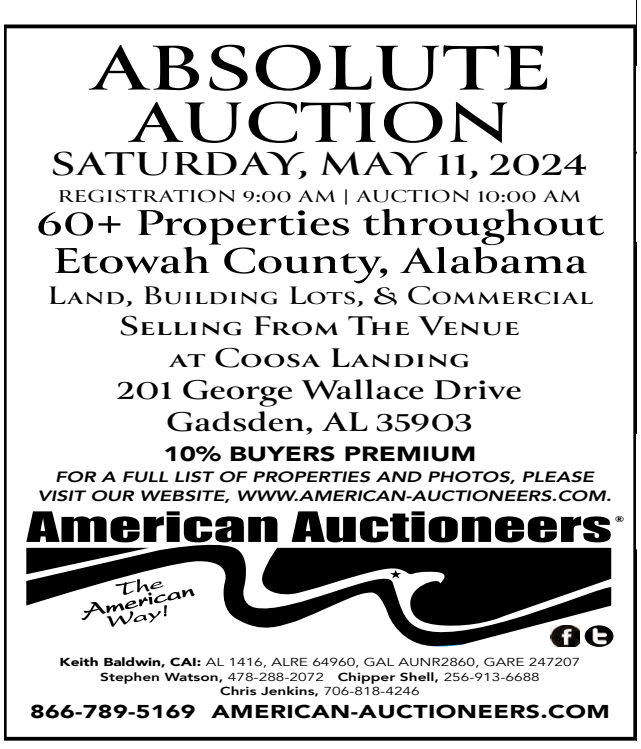

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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
Saturday, May 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.

Cullman Educator Retirees Association Meeting
Thursday, May 16, at 11 a.m. at Stone Bridge Farms. We will have a member share session and suggest programs for future meetings, followed by lunch and fellowship for those who wish to stay. We welcome new members and visiting retirees.

Frankweiler (from Front)

Reingard Eifler and Dr. Dietmar Eifler. Most of the time was spent snacking on light refreshments, telling stories, sharing cultural experiences and making future travel plans and itineraries.

"Dietmar is on the board of the Friends of Cullman Club," said FoF President Ernest Hauk.

"They got in touch with Rudene and Robert Tidwell and asked to plan a visit to Cullman."

The groups and delegates alternate trips every two years, ensuring that each group never goes longer than four years without a visit from their counterparts.

Dr. Dietmar Eifler, a mechanical engineer, is professor emeritus of materials science and engineering at the Kaiserslautern Technical University; his wife, Dr. Reingard Eifler, is a medical general practitioner in their hometown. The two often visit Cullman to engage in the small-town cultural scene and catch up and reminisce with their local friends and cohorts.

Dietmar Eifler said, "Cullman is a beautiful city; we enjoy our visits very much."

The couple will head back to Germany on May 9, but not before they get the chance to check out the Alabama Strawberry Festival.

Hauk said he hopes the younger generation will show more interest in the club, as it will help FoF continue the cultural relationship and friendship with Frankweiler for years to come.

To learn more about FoF, reach out to the Cullman County Museum at 256-739-1258.



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Festival (from Front)

and crafts, live music and, of course, locally grown strawberries. Children's carnival rides flank the massive stage erected at Depot Park to hold the main musical attractions of the festival, including Matt Stell and Niko Moon Friday evening and Eric Hutchinson, Easton Corbin and Eli Young Band taking the stage on Saturday night.

Big-name stars are not the only entertainment attendees of the Alabama Strawberry Festival can expect to enjoy; the newly-added Wallace State Fresh Picks Stage held many local acts on Friday. Fine ballet dancers, The Overtones, Lamont Landers and the Cotton Pickin' Kids all wowed the crowds. The new stage will also feature some of the festival's contests and competitions Saturday, including the Doggy Pawgeant, a pie eating contest, a strawberry eating contest and a race for the best berry drink chugger around.

Although the festival has grown larger, many vendors are familiar, coming to Cullman year after year for the community and culture around the festivals and events held here.

One standout booth was manned by Chefs Michael and Scott Martin, owners and pasta connoisseurs at Bleu Basil.

They are a traveling duo devoted to creating clean, preservative-free pasta with fresh and local ingredients; some of the flavors of their artisan pasta include off-the-wall curated choices like Jalapeño Lime, Bang-Bang, Squid Ink and even a specialty Strawberry option.

Scott Martin said, "We love coming to the Strawberry Festival. There is just so much support around these small towns and their festivals; we always feel so welcomed."

The event continues at 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 4. Vendors and merchants will remain open and selling goods for the duration of the festival. The entertainment and live music lineup will also continue into the late evening.

On the Fresh Picks Stage on Saturday, May 4

- Cullman Middle School Band at 9 a.m.
- Cullman Community Band at 10:05 a.m.
- Community Choir at 11:10 a.m.
- Berry Drink Chuggin' at 11:50 a.m.
- Strawberry Eating Contest at 12:10 p.m.
- Pie Eating Contest at 12:50 p.m.
- Doggy Pawgeant at 1:10 p.m.
- The Pink Stones at 2:25 p.m.
- Nat Meyers at 3:25 p.m.
- Banditos at 5 p.m.

On the Main Stage on Saturday, May 4

- Jesse Roper at 1:25 p.m.
- Cousin Curtiss at 2:25 p.m.
- Kasey Tyndall at 4 p.m.
- Eric Hutchinson at 5:45 p.m.
- Easton Corbin at 7:30 p.m.
- Eli Young Band at 9:30 p.m.

Admission to the Alabama Strawberry Festival is free; however, attendees can buy upgraded admission to the concerts at www.alabamastrawberryfest.com/tickets.

Depot Park is located at 309 First Ave. NE, Cullman, AL 35055.

Get more info at www.alabamastrawberryfest.com.



KATIE SPICER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



KATIE SPICER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



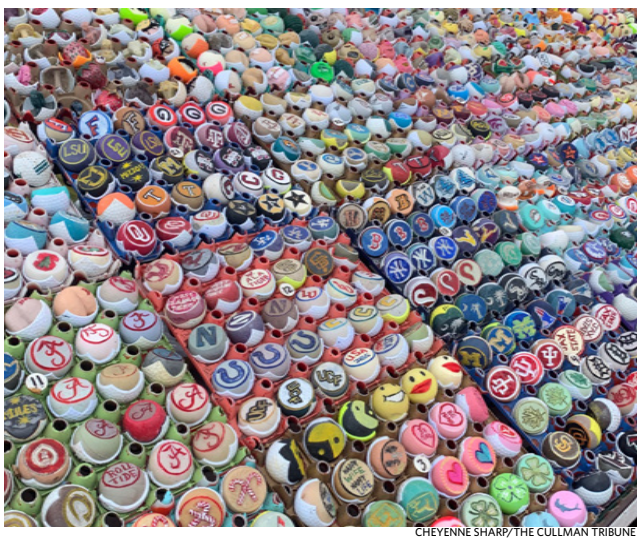
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CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE





Seniors (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenen@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Alabama Strawberry Festival Senior Day, hosted by the Cullman County Commission on Aging and Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism, took place Thursday, May 2, at the Festhalle. The day was just for seniors, allowing them to cut loose and enjoy fellowship with their peers before the crowds of thousands swooped in and took over in and around the Festhalle and Depot Park Friday and Saturday.

Seniors were treated to their own version of the Strawberry Festival, with adult and elder care organizations setting up informational booths and giving away treats and prizes to the guests who stopped by for information or resources.

Lunch was served, but not before The Cadillacs out of Florence, Alabama, upped the tempo with covers of the oldies-but-goodies, giving the young at heart a chance to show off their dancing skills. Attendees did "The Twist" until they shouted and a few even lost their shoes and threw their heads back with deep belly laughs while joining the bouncing crowd for a vigorous buck dance.

Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs and Cullman County Commission Chairman Jeff Clemons stopped in to see the celebration and share a few words of thanks and appreciation.

"You all could not have picked (a better) day to be here," said Jacobs, noting that the weekend forecast called for rain.

"We couldn't have had a more beautiful day. We want to thank both of the senior centers for putting this on and we're glad you're here."

Clemons joined in, sharing, "We love our seniors across Cullman County; we can't thank y'all enough for being here.

"We thank God every day for Cullman County."



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
MAY 4, 2024

STATE TRACK MEET

Edgeworth sets state 1600-Meter record; Locals earn medals in Cullman, Gulf Shores

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — This year's state track meets are underway in Cullman and Gulf Shores and our local athletes have already collected an impressive number of medals as well as a new state record. Cold Springs standout Ethan Edgeworth has been posting stellar times all season and he put together another dominant performance in the 2A Boys 1600-Meter Friday. Edgeworth earned the gold medal after running a 4:03.96, the state's fastest time 1600-Meter time ever recorded.

Other local winners included Cullman's Patrick Adcock (161-11) and Adam Byers (190-10) who claimed the 6A Discus and Javelin Throw Championships, respectively in Gulf Shores. Arab's Bryant Beuoy and Libby Chance each earned gold medals as well. Beuoy won the 5A Boys 400-Meter with a time of 49.69 and Chance placed first in the 5A Girls Pole Vault with a mark of 10-6.00.

Addison's Ava Bartlett won gold in the 1A Girls High Jump at 5-00.00 and Cold Springs' Nic Fallin finished first in the 2A Boys Long Jump with a jump of 21-04.75.

All local results recorded before press time Friday night.

1A-3A STATE MEET (CULLMAN)

Meek High School

- Audrey Barnett: 4th place 1A Girls Pole Vault – 7-00.00

Addison High School

- Ava Bartlett: 1st place 1A Girls High Jump – 5-00.00
- Bryant Wood: 19th place 1A Boys 400-Meter – 1:00.11
- Brooklyn McCurley: 16th place 1A Girls 400-Meter – 1:08.00
- Hadley Butler: 14th place 1A Girls Long Jump – 13-03.75
- Ava Bartlett: 16th place 1A Girls Long Jump – 13-01.75
- Katie Barrett: 17th place 1A Girls Long Jump – 12-11.25
- Skylar Cleghorn: 12th place 1A Boys Triple Jump – 36-05.75

St. Bernard Prep

- Parker Guthery: 8th place 2A Boys 1600-Meter – 10:36.10

Cold Springs High School

- Ethan Edgeworth: 1st place 2A Boys 1600-Meter – 4:03.96
- Nic Fallin: 1st place 2A Boys Long Jump – 21-04.75
- Macie Huffstutler: 4th place 2A Girls 1600-Meter – 5:46.57 - 8th place 2A Girls 400-Meter – 1:04.65
- Jayden Allred: 5th place 2A Boys 1600-Meter – 4:35.79
- Sage Nelson: 6th place 2A Boys 1600-Meter – 4:38.91
- Ellanora Slusser: 6th place 2A Girls Shot Put – 31-07.50
- 6th place 2A Girls 4x800 Meter Relay Team – 11:11.15
- Hollyn Bruer: 12th place 2A Girls Javelin Throw – 81-04
- Ally Mavers: 15th place 2A Girls 1600-Meter – 6:16.59
- Cole Bales: 16th place 2A Boys Long Jump – 17-10.00
- Aidan Freeman: 21st place 2A Girls Shot Put – 25-09.00

Holly Pond High School

- Travis Barnett: 2nd place 2A Boys 400-Meter – 50.76 – 8th place 2A Boys 1600-Meter – 4:41.40
- Mila Edmondson: 5th place 2A Girls 1600-Meter – 5:46.63
- 5th place 2A Girls 4x800 Meter Relay Team – 11:00.07
- Emery Barnett: 5th place 2A Boys 400-Meter – 51.30
- Ava Thomas: 7th place 2A Girls Triple Jump – 32-03.00
- Emma Earl: 9th place 2A Girls Javelin Throw – 87-04
- Kynleigh Wood: 10th place 2A Girls 1600-Meter – 6:11.02
- Joshua Putman: 12th place 2A Boys 1600-Meter – 4:54.74
- Boston Gibbs: 13th place 2A Boys Long Jump – 18-04.25
- Presli Carr: 14th place 2A Girls 400-Meter – 1:06.43
- Caroline Lamoureux: 16th place 2A Girls 1600-Meter – 6:17.98
- Ellie Burks: 23rd place 2A Girls Triple Jump – 26-03.00

Vinemont High School

- Dawson Wilhite: 2nd place 3A Boys Pole Vault – 11-00.00 – 11th place 3A Boys Javelin Throw – 137-00
- Caroline Miller: 3rd place 3A Girls High Jump – 4-08.00 – 5th place 3A Girls Long Jump – 15-08.75
- Brady Johnson: 5th place 3A Boys 1600-Meter – 4:38.16
- Tatum Brown: 8th place 3A Boys Discus Throw – 120-10
- Natalie Foell: 16th place 3A Girls 400-Meter – 1:05.43
- Reagan Robinson: 22nd place 3A Girls High Jump – 4-02.00

4A-7A STATE MEET (GULF SHORES)

Cullman High School

- Patrick Adcock: 1st place 6A Boys Discus Throw – 161-11
- Adam Byers: 1st place 6A Boys Javelin Throw – 190-10
- Andrue Barnett: 4th place 6A Boys 3200-Meter – 9:37.86 – 18th place 6A Boys 1600-Meter – 4:32.08
- Mabry Free: 5th place 6A Girls 3200-Meter – 11:24.76 – 8th place 6A Girls 1600-Meter – 5:18.76
- Alexander Renteria: 5th place 6A Boys Pole Vault – 12-06.00
- 7th place 6A Girls 4x800 Meter Relay Team – 10:13.60
- Joshua Ellerbee: 12th place 6A Boys Javelin Throw – 145-06
- 13th place 6A Boys 4x800 Meter Relay Team – 8:40.58
- Khloe Nalley: 15th place 6A Girls 3200-Meter – 12:31.12 – 20th place 6A Girls 1600-Meter – 5:41.44
- Addison Vogelaar: 17th place 6A Girls 3200-Meter – 12:34.44
- Henry Crocker: 19th place 6A Boys 3200-Meter – 10:48.62

Arab High School

- Bryant Beuoy: 1st place 5A Boys 400-Meter – 49.69
- Libby Chance: 1st place 5A Girls Pole Vault – 10-06.00 – 3rd place 5A Girls High Jump – 5-02.00 – 3rd place 5A Girls Triple Jump – 34-04.75
- Aubrey Elrod: 2nd place 5A Girls Pole Vault – 10-00.00
- Wyatt Glispie: 4th place 5A Boys Shot Put – 49-10.00 – 6th place 5A Boys Discus Throw – 132-07 – 13th place 5A Boys Javelin Throw – 149-09
- Niya Turner: 4th place 5A Girls Shot Put – 32-09.75
- 6th place 5A Boys 4x800 Meter Relay Team – 8:29.66
- 6th place 5A Girls 4x800 Meter Relay Team – 10:40.07
- Madelynn King: 6th place 5A Girls Pole Vault 8-06.00 – 12th place 5A Girls Javelin Throw – 89-11
- Maximus Mariner: 7th place 5A Boys Discus Throw – 130-06 – 14th place 5A Boys Shot Put – 43-06.00
- Julie Stapler: 8th place 5A Girls 400-Meter – 1:01.85
- James Hyche: 10th place 5A Boys 400-Meter – 52.57
- Taylor Anderson: 13th place 5A Boys Long Jump – 19-04.50
- Cora Frankhauser: 13th place 5A Girls Javelin Throw – 88-09
- Brylee Hudgins: 13th place 5A Girls Triple Jump – 30-08.25
- Aubrey Hyche: 16th place 5A Girls Shot Put – 29-11.00
- Emma Martin: 17th place 5A Girls Triple Jump – 30-01.75
- Gabby Poston: 17th place 5A Girls 400-Meter – 1:03.02
- Ella Moore: 18th place 5A Girls 400-Meter – 1:03.22

West Point High School

- Rene Moreno-Tovar: 9th place 5A Boys 3200-Meter – 10:04.72 – 13th place 5A Boys 1600-Meter – 4:40.88
- 11th place 5A Boys 4x800 Meter Relay Team – 8:43.82
- Jacee Bartlett: 15th place 5A Girls High Jump – 4-06.00
- Hanna McKenney: 18th place 5A Girls Javelin Throw – 81-09
- Pressley Burtis: 19th place 5A Boys High Jump – 5-08.00

Fairview High School

- Laci Segrest: 3rd place 5A Girls Shot Put – 33-06.75
- Allyson Hill: 5th place 5A Girls Triple Jump – 33-02.50
- Kailyn Redding: 5th place 5A Girls High Jump – 5-02.00
- Alex England: 7th place 5A Boys 1600-Meter – 4:31.15 – 12th place 5A Boys 3200-Meter – 10:12.35
- Kabri Redding: 8th place 5A Girls Shot Put – 31-01.50
- Andrew Latham: 10th place 5A Boys Javelin Throw – 152-06
- Jake Harper: 19th place 5A Boys Javelin Throw – 144-11
- Jayden Pineda: 21st place 5A Boys Discus Throw – 109-06

Good Hope High School

- Hank Hudson: 8th place 4A Boys Pole Vault – 11-00.00
- Zoe Marks: 9th place 4A Girls Shot Put – 31-06.50
- 9th place 4A Boys 4x800 Meter Relay Team – 8:54.25
- Cadence Watson: 13th place 4A Girls Pole Vault – 7-06.00 – 19th place 4A Girls High Jump – 4-04.00
- Drake Nichols: 14th place 4A Boys 1600-Meter – 4:44.92
- Dawson Kicker: 18th place 4A Boys Javelin Throw – 138-06
- Makenzie Cruce: 18th place 4A Girls Shot Put – 29-09.50

Hanceville High School

- Connor Pitts: 6th place 4A Boys Discus Throw – 136-04
- LJ Smith: 9th place 4A Boys Discus Throw – 125-02
- Eli Akin: 12th place 4A Boys Discus Throw – 119-03
- Ashton Hurst: 19th place 4A Boys High Jump – 5-06.00
- Kerrigon Moore: 24th place 4A Girls Discus Throw – 61-03



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cold Springs runner Ethan Edgeworth ran a new state record time of 4:03.96 in Friday's 2A Boys 1600-Meter Run.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Holly Pond's Ava Thomas placed seventh in the 2A Girls Triple Jump Friday.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Holly Pond's Travis Barnett placed second in the 2A Boys 400-Meter Friday.





Holly Pond seniors learn life skills at Adulting 101 Day

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. — On Thursday, May 2, seniors at Holly Pond High School were peppered with lessons on how to be an adult in today's world. The series of courses was dubbed Adulting 101; the students were shown aspects of finance, professionalism, lawn and auto care, childcare and many more skills that are necessary to be fully self-sufficient and functioning adults.

Holly Pond Principal Nate Ayers said he saw the Adulting 101 courses come to fruition in his days at Etowah High School, where he had firsthand experience seeing how the classes can prepare students for life. When the opportunity arose to implement the course at Holly Pond, Ayers said, he jumped at the opportunity.

"The kids were skeptical, because we took their seven-class day and turned it into a 14-class day," Ayers shared. "I think it was a very, very successful day for our first go-around and moving forward, we will continue to make it better."

Beginning at 8:30 a.m. and continuing until the end of the school day, students were broken into groups to begin sessions with local professionals and business owners, focusing on individual tasks and skills at each stop. The separate stations were voted on by the community, through a survey that Ayers sent out in January. From that, 14 topics were chosen by community members, students and families. Ayers then reached out to various local individuals to make connections with leaders and business owners that could speak to the seniors about those topics. Most of the day's presenters were former Holly Pond High School students, including Heath Albright, Lesli Faulkner and Kelly Duke.

Noting that this could potentially become an annual event, Ayers said future Adulting 101 Days will only grow in size and importance.

Ayers expressed gratitude for the community, stating, "We could not have done any of this without the willingness of our community to give us ideas and the willingness of our stakeholders to volunteer and give up their time to come and give back to our school."

Community volunteers included:

- Kerry Neighbors- Debt and loans
- Kalysha Whittle- Newborn care
- Kelly Duke- Voting and taxes
- Lesli Faulkner- Budgeting
- Rodney Hays- CPR
- Eli Howard- Credit building
- Heath Albright- Business and Investments
- Richard Widner- Stock market
- David Wiggins- Interview skills
- White Pine Designscapes- Lawn care
- Stephanie Buchanan- Rent, lease and buy
- Jason Simpson- Professionalism and how to tie a tie
- Holly Pond Tire and Lube- Auto care
- Tessa Brewer- Insurance


HOLLY POND HIGH SCHOOL

Holly Pond Seniors learn the basics of life-saving CPR with Cullman local Rodney Hays at the school's inaugural Adulting 101 Day, held on Thursday, May 2.

ACES: Extension entomologist encourages families to get outside during cicada emergence

Katie Nichols
Alabama Cooperative Extension System

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. — Generations of children living in the Southeast have long listened to the sound of a cicada's song and collected their exoskeletons in yards and wooded areas. With the expected emergence of Broods 13 and 19, Meredith Shrader — an Alabama Cooperative Extension System entomologist — said this year is a great opportunity for parents to use the cicada to teach their children about ecosystems, life cycles and science.

"The earlier parents can introduce their children to insects and help them understand that they are not all bad, stinging creatures — the better," Shrader said. "It is important to help them understand the importance of insects in our ecosystem."

Get out and explore

Cicadas in Brood 13 emerge every 17 years, and Brood 19 emerges every 13 years. Shrader encourages parents to follow the emergence of these periodical cicadas in their area, using it as a tangible, life-science teaching tool. She recommends using cicadamania.com to follow trends and updates. This website includes facts, species identification, emergence tracking and the sounds made by each species.

"One of the interesting things about the broods emerging this year is that their sounds truly are different," Shrader said. "If people listen to the sounds in their backyard and compare what they hear to the website, they will be able to identify which cicada brood is singing nearby."

Shrader said cicadas from Broods 13 and 19 have different sounds, but they also sound different than the annual cicadas that sing each summer in Alabama.

Head to a cicada zone

Because of urbanization of former forested areas, cicada zones may be less prevalent than many years ago. However, Shrader said this learning opportunity is worth the drive to a cicada zone. She recommends looking at historical data to see where cicada hot spots may be.

"See if there is somewhere nearby that is worth driving to," Shrader said. "The University of Connecticut has an interactive map that is following the cicada emergence and has both current and historical data."

When is the best time to look for cicadas?

This year's emergence is an important event for cicada predators. Cicadas first feed on tree roots. Then — as they emerge from the ground — moles, birds, opossums and other small creatures feed on the cicadas.

Shrader said the emergence is a survival strategy for the insects. They emerge all at once, hoping that some cicadas will survive to reproduce, lay eggs and start the process again.

"Cicada emergence will happen in the dead of night, when the cicada's major predators are not moving," Shrader said. "This will give them time to come out of their exoskeletons and dry off. Then, they fly to the tops of the trees to warm up."

Shrader said that cicadas must be warm to sing, so singing will likely begin around 10 a.m. the morning after emergence.

"Unfortunately, most opportunities to see cicadas will be as they are dying on the ground," Shrader said. "Those who do not make the climb up the tree will be the ones that are most easily available for observation with families and children."


ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM

Things to do

Shrader said there are plenty of ways to use this natural phenomenon as a teaching tool.

"It is important for children to have exposure to insects in order to teach them not to be afraid," Shrader said. "These guys are big but they won't hurt you, and they will be in a lot of places. Take the time to see, touch and experience what is going on around you."

- Head to a cicada zone. Use the available tools to find cicada zones near you.
- Collect specimens. Find cicadas or exoskeletons and pin them on a foam board for observation and safekeeping.
- Make your own map. Find and identify species, collect data and create your own map of your findings.

More information

Use this year's double-brood emergence as an opportunity to teach children about the ecosystem, all while enjoying one of nature's most fascinating phenomena. Learn more about Alabama's ecosystem and other insects by visiting www.aces.edu.

Cullman City Schools Foundation hosting 13th annual Distinguished Alumni & Service Awards Luncheon May 7

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman City Schools Foundation is set to host its 13th annual Distinguished Alumni & Service Awards Luncheon on May 7. The event will begin at 11:30 a.m. at St. John's Church in Cullman.

Each year, the luncheon draws attendees from across the region for a day filled with networking, entertainment and philanthropy.

"Attendees can expect fun networking, shopping and entertainment," said Paige Clabo, Cullman City Schools Foundation specialist. The event is a collaborative effort by the Foundation Board, the Cullman City School Board, Cullman High School FCCLA and the Cullman High School Music and Theater Departments.

This year, the Foundation is set to honor four alumni who have made significant contributions to their community and professions.

• Distinguished Alumni Award: Katie Fine (Class of 08) and Josh Wiggins (Class of 02), for their tireless community service and impressive careers

• Distinguished Service Alumni Award: Jason Mickle (Class of 94), for his dedicated work with the Cullman Police Department, particularly in roles supporting local schools

• Promising Alumni Award: Bailee Ponder (Class of 18), for achievements made within 10 years of graduating high school.

The primary goal of the luncheon is to raise money for classroom grants. A silent auction featuring items from local businesses is a key component of the fundraising efforts.

"We have some amazing items available at our silent auction thanks to the generosity of our local businesses. Ladies are NOT going to want to miss the items donated by Monograms Plus, Doug Doggett Jewelers and Nomadic Threads! Gentleman, we have some great items from Federer Fertilizer, The Cigar Box, Van's Sporting Goods and more! Here is a full list of other businesses who have donated: Kernel Kullman, National Art Honors Society, Seven Daughters Scoops, Southern Eats, Lavish, Leldon's, JSM Designs, Wissota Chophouse, Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism, Jamie Reed Fine Art (and) The Ballet Bus," Clabo shared.

The event will also showcase talents from within Cullman City Schools, with performances by music and theater students. Highlights include moments from the recent CHS Theatre production of "Grease" and CCS piano students performing the prelude. The luncheon service will be facilitated by CHS FCCLA students.

"We appreciate Mrs. Linda Bean, Mr. Tyler Skinner, Mr. Wayne Cook and Mrs. Carin Rains for their help in allowing students to participate in our luncheon," Clabo stated.

She discussed the impact of the luncheon on the Cullman community, highlighting its unique role in celebrating local success stories, saying, " Within every distinguished alumnus lies a story of inspiration, resilience and achievement.

"By honoring their journey, we not only celebrate individual achievements, but also recognize a sense of love for the community that invested in all CCS alumni. Each year, as we tell these stories, we not only pay tribute to their remarkable contributions, but also encourage those in our community to continue to love it and contribute to it in the way these outstanding individuals have.

"In recognizing our distinguished alumni, we not only honor the past, but also look towards a brighter, more inspired future for all current and former CCS students."

Clabo continued, "In 2017, I attended my first Distinguished Alumni Luncheon. Danny McAfee was being awarded that year for his many years of service in various aspects of the community.

"He embodied servant leadership, and the speech he gave at the event still impacts me to this day. It inspired me and encouraged me to serve the community I love in whatever way I can. It was incredibly moving."



IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION THE PETITION OF ASHLEY NICOLE HALL FOR THE ADOPTION OF

CASE NO.: AD 2024-018

M.J.H. A MINOR.
D.O.B. 09/20/2016

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: KATTIE BREANNA ARNOLD, NATURAL MOTHER OF M.J.H.

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by Ashley Nicole Hall, Petitioner. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within Thirty (30) days from the date of the last notice of publication. Your response must be filed with Counsel for said petitioner, whose name and address are shown below, and with the Clerk of Probate Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE THIS 17th DAY OF April, 2024.

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

Jerry Kilgo
Attorney for Petitioner
421 3rd Ave SE Suite 250
Cullman, Alabama 35055

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION THE PETITION OF ASHLEY NICOLE HALL FOR THE ADOPTION OF

CASE NO.: AD 2024-019

K.D.H. A MINOR.
D.O.B. 06/20/2015

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: KATTIE BREANNA ARNOLD, NATURAL MOTHER OF K.D.H.

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by Ashley Nicole Hall, Petitioner. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within Thirty (30) days from the date of the last notice of publication. Your response must be filed with Counsel for said petitioner, whose name and address are shown below, and with the Clerk of Probate Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE THIS 17th DAY OF April, 2024.

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

Jerry Kilgo
Attorney for Petitioner
421 3rd Ave SE Suite 250
Cullman, Alabama 35055

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION THE PETITION OF LISSYEN MARIANA DELGADO FOR THE ADOPTION OF

CASE NO.: AD 2023-031

S.D.I.D. A MINOR.
D.O.B. 12/27/2011

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: ANGELA DELGADO, NATURAL MOTHER OF J.I.D.J.

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by Lissyen Mariana Delgado, Petitioner. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within Thirty (30) days from the date of the last notice of publication. Your response must be filed with Counsel for said petitioner, whose name and address are shown below, and with the Clerk of Probate Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE THIS 25th DAY OF April, 2024.

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

KimberlyH. Drake
Attorney for Petitioner
419 2nd Avenue SW, Suite B
Cullman, Alabama 35055

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION THE PETITION OF LISSYEN MARIANA DELGADO FOR THE ADOPTION OF

CASE NO.: AD 2023-030

J.I.D.J. A MINOR.
D.O.B. 06/20/2008

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: ANGELA DELGADO, NATURAL MOTHER OF J.I.D.J.

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by Lissyen Mariana Delgado, Petitioner. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within Thirty (30) days from the date of the last notice of publication. Your response must be filed with Counsel for said petitioner, whose name and address are shown below, and with the Clerk of Probate Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE THIS 25th DAY OF April, 2024.

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

KimberlyH. Drake
Attorney for Petitioner
419 2nd Avenue SW, Suite B
Cullman, Alabama 35055

PB WIL BK 123 PG 381 - 05/02/2024 01:27 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
BENJAMIN THOMAS DRIGGS, * CASE NO. PC2024-134
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: SHELBY R. DRIGGS, MATTIE ISABELLA DRIGGS, DAVID L DRIGGS, KATHERINE ANN (DRIGS) DRIGGS.

Petition for Probate of Will for the Estate of Benjamin Thomas Driggs, Deceased, filed by Lu Wrenda Driggs, Petitioner, through Attorney Alex J. Chaney, has been scheduled for the **25th day of June, 2024, at 11:00 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 1st day of May, 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.

Alex J. Chaney
Attorney for Petitioner
Berry, Berry, Little & Chaney
405 2nd Ave SW
P.O. Box 1052
Cullman, Alabama 35056

PB WIL BK 123 PG 385 - 05/02/2024 01:39 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
FLORENCE DAY, * CASE NO. PC2023-335
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: JULIE ELAINE DUNCAN, JENNIFER LEE DUNCAN, ADRIANNE DAY COLE AND ANY OTHER NEXT OF KIN AND HEIRS OF FLORENCE DAY.

Petition for Probate of Will for the Estate of Florence Day, Deceased, filed by Zane Kelly Day, Petitioner, through Attorney Beverly Paschal Poston. A hearing on this matter has been scheduled for the **25th day of June , 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 1st day of May, 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 the Petitioner
201 2nd Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama, 35055

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The estate of)
)
SHEILA DIANNE DANIEL) Case No.: PC-2024 - 111
)
Deceased)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Amie Melissa White, as the Personal Representative of the Estate of SHEILA DIANNE DANIEL, deceased, on the 25th 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.

Amie Melissa White
Amie Melissa White
Administrator of the Estate of
Sheila Dianne Daniel, deceased

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.

Beverly Paschal Poston (PAS001)
Attorney for the Estate of
Sheila Dianne Daniel deceased.
201 2nd Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama, 35055
bposton@beverlypaschalposton.com
(256)739-3970 Fax (256)739-3968

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate
Cullman County, Alabama

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE THE MATTER OF:)
)
K.W.K.,) CASE NO. JU-2023-732.02
a minor, DOB: 12/05/2023)
)

NOTICE OF PETITION

The unknown father of minor child K.W.K., date of birth December 5, 2024, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights by June 4, 2024 or thereafter a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case No. JU-2023-000732.02 in the Juvenile Court of Cullman County, Alabama.

Done this the 18th day of April, 2024.

Clerk of Court

Petitioner's Attorney:
Shelbie G. Hankey
101 Main Ave SW
Cullman, AL 35055

TO PUBLISHER: BEGINNING ON April 27, **2024**, PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR (4) SUCCESSIVE WEEKS IN THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE.

*Please bill Petitioner's attorney for the cost of publication.

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit Court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 23rd day of April, 2024.
Clerk of Circuit Court

FILED IN OFFICE
APR 18 2024
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY

PB WIL BK 123 PG 91 - 04/18/2024 09:42 AM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
WILMA EDMONDS * **CASE NO.: PC 2023-203**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to RICHARD LINDSEY, as Personal Representative of the Estate of WILMA EDMONDS deceased, on the 18th 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.

Richard Lindsey
Personal Representative

Pamela E. Nail
Attorney for the Personal Representative
200 Second Avenue, SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

PB WIL BK 123 PG 381 - 05/02/2024 01:27 PM
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
BENJAMIN THOMAS DRIGGS, * CASE NO. PC2024-134
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: SHELBY R. DRIGGS, MATTIE ISABELLA DRIGGS, DAVID L DRIGGS, KATHERINE ANN (DRIGS) DRIGGS.

Petition for Probate of Will for the Estate of Benjamin Thomas Driggs, Deceased, filed by Lu Wrenda Driggs, Petitioner, through Attorney Alex J. Chaney, has been scheduled for the **25th day of June, 2024, at 11:00 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 1st day of May, 2024.

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.

Alex J. Chaney
Attorney for Petitioner
Berry, Berry, Little & Chaney
405 2nd Ave SW
P.O. Box 1052
Cullman, Alabama 35056

Wallace State inducts over 80 into NSLS

Special to The Cullman Tribune



WALLACE STATE

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College recently inducted more than 80 students into the National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS).

Vice President for Students, Kristen Holmes, opened the ceremony. "Our chapter of the NSLS was founded to help our members create the success they want by enabling them to engage in reflection and self-exploration," she said. "The NSLS provides members with tools for action, inspiration to hold them accountable, and motivation to achieve their goals. To our inductees, after today's ceremony, you are officially an inducted member of the NSLS."

The ceremony continued with keynote speaker and Wallace State Recruiter, Logan Edmonds. He imparted advice on those before him. "I encourage you to seize your light and use it for the better," he said. "This means not just seeing the need for change but stepping up and changing the world. Each person follows the same winding road that we call life. On that road, there are bumps and throughout life, you will have a choice to either pass them by or stop, reach out, and lend a hand. A selfless leader will see the opportunity to help those in need; this is true success and is what being in NSLS is all about."

Jennifer Wickert, fourth semester Nursing student and IT Coordinator for the Wallace State Chapter of the NSLS, shared how NSLS has impacted her life, noting setbacks due to online nursing school formats that resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic as well as her transfer from a previous institution to Wallace State. Wickert attributes much of her success to the Wallace State NSLS chapter, stating, "NSLS came into my life and helped me learn how to set achievable goals," she said. "The program has given me the opportunity to serve my campus in a way that accommodates my constantly changing schedule. I have been involved in many community service projects and have expanded my skills in IT, thanks to my NSLS membership."

Despite facing adversity, Wickert passed her LPN boards to become a Licensed Practical Nurse. "That leads me to where I am today, a fourth semester nursing student on the road to my RN license," Wickert said. "So, for me, success is not just about accomplishing the end goal, it is about facing the challenges in my path head on and not giving up. I encourage you to do the same. As one of the quotes on the NSLS site states, "Success is not built on success. It's built on failure. It's built on frustration. Sometimes it's built on catastrophe."

The following students were inducted into the Wallace State Chapter of the NSLS:

- Altoona: Alexis Brody
- Arab: Adam Holmes, Katrina Potter, Mackenzie Tankersley, Brooke Tyler
- Birmingham: Jaleigh Frazier, Liam Meaden, Cyrenthia Sanders-Linton, Tunya Scott, Tayla Sims, Candace Williams, Salea Williams
- Boaz: Ester Jose
- Center Point: Monisha Williams
- Cleveland: Jenna Adams, Mya Baird, Sarah McGrady, Atyah Jones
- Crossville: Michelle Castellon
- Cullman: Madea Easterwood, Crystal Eubanks, Guillermo Gonzalez, Ashley Gonzalez Zea, Haylee Hernandez, LilyBeth Jean, Isabella King, Sabrina "Jake" Myers, RaShawna O'Neil, Kali Orear, Ellanora Slusser, Raegan Stephens, Jon Trammell, Cadan Welch
- Danville: Victoria Patterson
- Decatur: Yoselin Soto
- Dora: Luke Kelly
- Empire: Analissa Warren
- Eva: Chaden Hill
- Falkville: Audrey Anderson, Patience Hand, Kaileigh Hart, Ethan Monfort
- Forestdale: Brittany Hall
- Gardendale: Addison Dunagan, Ellena Hicks
- Hanceville: Marianne Hall, John McDonald, Rodney Spruill, Adalyn Stewart
- Hartselle: Monica Akers, Corey Naylor, Hallie Watson
- Hayden: Alexis Bland, Gavin Graham, Lauren Holliman, Anna Jones, Riley Simpson
- Henagar: Kylie Roden
- Holly Pond: Raven Dukes, Mackenzie Gaskins, Olivia Price
- Hoover: Amelia Dutton
- Huntsville: Haddy Sanneh, Jessica Seckin, Caroline Worley
- Jasper: Stacey Stevenson
- Locust Fork: Kaylynn Tawbush
- Madison: Bianca McGee
- Mobile: Kaleigh McGee
- Morris: Emily Grace Roper
- Mount Olive: Reagan Lyles, Kaylee Ragsdale
- Oneonta: Gabriela Hernandez Garcia, Linda Luna, Diana Nunez Avila
- Pinson: Jazzlynn Carrington, Nora Claire Rosner
- Pleasant Grove: Janiyah Bodley
- Remlap: Emily Delgado Duarte
- Somerville: Christina Alexander, Abby Daniels, Lana James
- Trafford: Chelsea Page, Sydnie Richey
- Trinity: Felicia Terry
- Vinemont: Candance Freeman, Lindsey Slaton
- Warrior: Victoria Smith

The NSLS is an organization that provides a leadership program that helps students achieve personal growth, career success, and empowers them to have a positive impact in their communities. NSLS initiation is by invitation. Karen Downs, 256-352-7886, karen.downs@wallacestate.edu is the NSLS sponsor.

Scholarship Celebration marks beginning of 20th anniversary of Wallace State Future Foundation

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The Wallace State Community College Future Foundation kicked off its 20th anniversary celebrating scholarship recipients and their donors at its recent Scholarship Celebration.

The annual event is an opportunity for the students to meet and thank their donors and for the donors to meet the students benefitting from their gift to the Future Foundation.

"The story of each student awarded today will begin or continue today because of all of you donors," said Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics. "We are so excited to celebrate 188 scholarship recipients and their donors whose generosity make these awards possible. Today's event celebrates the success of these students while honoring those who choose to give and to make their success a reality. We are forever grateful to our donors who give so generously throughout the year and who support Wallace State and the Future Foundation."

Current Future Foundation president Donna Guthrie encouraged the students to make the most of the opportunity they've been given with the scholarship they've received from their donors.

"Students, take this opportunity and do well. Make the most of every chance that comes your way," Guthrie said. "These people that are sitting beside you, the donors, they want so much for you to be successful. Fill them with pride. Make the most of this moment and continue to learn. And someday you can have the opportunity to give back just as these donors have done."

Current and former scholarship recipients shared how the Foundation and Wallace State changed their lives.

Vickie Westbrook will graduate debt free May 10 with a degree from the Wallace State Horticulture program.

"It took me 27 years to get here," Westbrook said of her educational journey that included dropping out of school at 16, getting her GED and previously starting and stopping college classes. "Statistically I shouldn't be here but because of the donors and the Future Foundation I'm here living my dream."

"I am forever grateful to the Foundation and donors that give so much more than just their money and each one of the faculty and staff at Wallace State," said Paul Knetter a 2018 graduate of Wallace State.

"Someone sees potential in each one of you scholarship recipients and I would venture to say there is a lot of people at Wallace that see potential in you.

"If I could give just one piece of advice, develop a relationship with the faculty and staff that are here and even the donors that are sitting with you," Knetter added. "The bonds you make now will help you in career and life more than you know."

During the Scholarship Celebration, Hanceville Mayor Jimmy Sawyer presented a proclamation claiming April as Community College Month in the city.

"I'm proud to have not just one of the best community colleges in the state of Alabama, but to have the best community college right here in our own community," Sawyer said.

Future Foundation history

The Future Foundation was founded in 2004 as part of the college's vision at the time to become a world class, nationally recognized, and technologically advanced learning college serving the educational, cultural and social needs of the community.

Karolewics, who was in her first year as the college president, served as the Foundation president with Dr. Jenny Folsom, who was then the college's dean of academic affairs, serving as vice president. Former Wallace State Business Office Manger Janice Morgan served as the Foundation's secretary-treasurer. Foundation directors included Evelyn Burrow, Vince Cheatham, Betty Leeth Haynes and Don Hubbard.

"The group set out to establish an organization that could support students through scholarships, our Wallace State programs and faculty and staff," said Suzanne Harbin, vice president of advancement and innovation. "The goal was to create an organization that would be here in perpetuity and to award scholarships to students who were deserving based on their educational goals, unmet financial needs and desire to be successful in the future."

A $1 million irrevocable charitable remainder trust from Burrow was among the Foundation's first gifts and is used to fund several scholarships each year. Other gifts included a memorial scholarship honoring Richard Caretti for the Aviation program, and a donation from Haynes to update the college theatre's sound system.



WALLACE STATE

Wallace State Community College Future Foundation scholarship recipients chat with each other at the 11th annual Wallace State Community College Scholarship Celebration event held recently in Traditions Bank Arena of Tom Drake Coliseum. Pictured from left are Rebekah Birmingham, Addie Stripling, Halie Jones and Elise Martin. Each is a recipient of the Vervil Mitchell Endowed Scholarship.

Within three years of its formation, Future Foundation donors were providing more than $1 million annually to support scholarships, provide financial assistance to programs, make capital improvements and more, all in the effort to help students achieve their goals.

"Beginning with the first scholarships awarded in 2008, we awarded $500 each to less than 50 students, and as of today, our current awards average a minimum of about $2,000 per student to almost 200 students each year," Harbin said. "Wallace State's Future Foundation has been an integral part of Wallace State's becoming."

Today, the Future Foundation's total assets are more than $8 million, supporting around 200 named scholarships, many of those endowed scholarships that will last in perpetuity. In 2023, the Foundation awarded more than $312,000 while distributing almost 450 scholarships.

"The Wallace State Future Foundation is a model for colleges across the country and I think a lot of it for us is because of the link between the donors and the students, that we do a lot of things to get together," said board member Dale Greer.

"As a donor, you get to hear stories about students, you learn about them. I want to tell you students that someone thinks enough of you that it's worth putting money in to help you achieve your goals, that they're very tuned in on where they want you to go and what they want you to do. And I think those stories that we learn are what fuel the Foundation efforts to find financial assistance."

Harbin encouraged all present to save the date of Nov. 7, 2024, in their calendars to attend the annual Student Investment Luncheon, which is the premier fundraiser for the Future Foundation and will also be a celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Foundation.

For more information about the Wallace State Future Foundation or to donate, visit www.wsccfuturefoundation.org.

See photos from the Scholarship Celebration at https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjBnGy2.

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

Biology Instructor

Nursing Instructor

For more information, please contact the Human Resources Department at 256-352-8029.

Wallace State Community College is an equal opportunity employer.

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UNA's beloved lion Leo III dies

Staff Reports
Contributor

FLORENCE, Ala. — Leo III, the third lion to call the University of North Alabama home, passed away peacefully on the evening of Thursday, May 2, at the George H. Carroll Lion Habitat on the UNA campus after a brief illness. He was 21.

"The university campus mourns the loss of Leo III," said UNA President Dr. Ken Kitts. "Dena and I have treasured our time as his neighbors and hearing him roar. He will forever be a part of the UNA family, an ambassador and a focal point of our historic and storied campus. Leo III will be deeply missed by the Kitts family, the campus, and UNA supporters across the globe."

Leo III was born in 2002 in New Hampshire. He and his twin sister, Una, who passed in June 2020, moved into the George H. Carroll Lion Habitat in 2003.

Since his arrival on campus, Leo III was a beloved and cherished member of the UNA family, and his habitat has often been called a one-animal exhibit.

As a younger male lion, Leo III and Una would often make appearances off campus, at football games and other UNA-related events.

He is the third African lion to live on campus, succeeding Leo I and Leo II, both of whom have memorials outside the Guillot University Center.

"Leo's passing was peaceful, and his caregiver, Brandon Kutz, was by his side," said Dr. Brandon Fisher, one of the two local veterinarians who have provided care for Leo III throughout his life.

"It has been an honor to care for Leo III and his sister, Una. Being able to watch them grow from cubs into the majestic big cats they were has been the highlight of my career as a veterinarian."

A special memorial for Leo III will be planned to coincide with his birthday in November.

In the meantime, the Habitat will be available to those who would like to leave tributes or memorials to Leo III or Una.

Dr. Dan and Annemarie Howard were the lions' longtime caregivers; they passed away in 2022 and 2024, respectively.

The University has maintained a tradition of housing lions on campus since Leo I moved into his enclosure beginning in 1974. The tradition dates back to 1949 and the creation of a cartoon, "Leo, the Florence State Teachers College Lion," by a student.

After the passing of Leo I in 1988, Leo II came to campus and was voted "Second Best Mascot" by Sports Illustrated in 1997. Leo II died in 2000.

"Leo has never been the second-best mascot; he has always been the king of the jungle," said the Howards in a statement at the time.

"He and his sister, Una, were a part of our lives and the life of the University of North Alabama for almost 20 years, and it has been our privilege to have been with them on their journeys on this Earth."

The university has created a special memorial video of Leo III's life. It encourages those who wish to do so to share their stories, memories and photos.

They will be uploaded as part of a message board curated by the social media team on leoanduna.com for visitors from around the world to see and read as part of our ongoing tribute to the majestic lives of Leo III and his sister, Una.

Obituary Announcements: May 2-3

Donna Marie Smith, 41
Donna Marie Smith, age 41, of Cullman passed away on Sunday, April 28, 2024. There will be a Celebration of Life in her honor on Sunday, May 5, 2024, at 3 p.m., at Dodge City Park. Friends and family are all welcome. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

William Bruce Poole, Jr., 75
William Bruce Poole, Jr. age 75, of Cullman, passed away Tuesday, April 30, 2024, at Cullman Regional Medical Center. Graveside service will be Monday, May 6, 2024, at 12 p.m. at Walnut Grove Cemetery in Unadilla, Georgia. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. William was born Oct. 22, 1948, to William Bruce Poole, Sr. and Betty May Cooper Poole in Unadilla, Georgia. He is preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Amanda Lynn Poole; two grandsons. His is survived by his son, William Bruce Poole, III.; granddaughter, Jessica T. Stacy-Spain; brother, Carl Jeffrey Poole (Brenda); sister, Brenda Poole Bryant. Please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Anna Marie McConchie, 76
Anna Marie McConchie, age 76, of Cullman, passed from this life on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at CRMC. Anna was born Sept. 10, 1947, to Hugh McConchie and Ann Marie Egan McConchie in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. There are no services planned at this time. Family remembers her as a beautiful mother and grandmother. She was loved by all. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Gladys E. Lindteigen, 81
Funeral service for Gladys Lindteigen, age 81, of Cullman, is Saturday, May 4, 2024, at 11 am, at Center Grove Baptist Church, with Bro. Jason Vinson and Bro. Stanley Kilgore officiating. She will lie in state on Saturday from 10-11 a.m. at the church. Visitation will be held at Cullman Funeral Home chapel on Friday, May 3, 2024, from 6-8 p.m. Interment will be held at Center Grove Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Lindteigen was born Aug. 25, 1942, to Newberry James and Verlie Mills (Wren). She passed from this life May 1, 2024. She is preceded in death by her parents, Newberry James and Verlie Mills (Wren) and Maxie Mills; daughter, Sherry Annette Whitmire; sister, Elizabeth Yates; brothers, Bud James, and Eugene James. She is survived by her loving husband of 45 years, Carl Lindteigen; son, Carl Young (Janee Stroh); daughters, Patricia Patzner (Brent, deceased), and Michelle Webb; brothers, Arlin Taylor (Bonnie, deceased), Jimmy Taylor (Cathy, deceased); sisters, Juanita Hudnall (John, deceased), Kitty Dieter (Johnny); grandchildren, Pam, Kris, Tyler, Amanda, Stacie, Kris (deceased), Jackie, Jason (deceased), and Jake; an abundance of great-grandchildren; a host of family and friends. Gladys was a beautiful soul who loved her family and her church family so much. She loved her puppies too, especially, Rocky, her lab. She loved to garden and can with her husband, Carl, and got so much joy from sharing the fruits of their labor with her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She was very friendly and kind to all. She will be greatly missed in everyone's life she touched. Family has requested if friends and family so choose, to donate to 4G Ministry in lieu of flowers. Information to do so can be found at www.4Gministries.com. Please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Faydene Bell, 80
Funeral service for Frances Faydene Bell, age 80, of Cullman, is Monday, May 6, 2024, at 1 p.m., at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel, with Pastor Tommy Blackwood, son, Mark Bell, and Bro. Jon Allen Stanley officiating. Visitation will be held prior to service at Cullman Funeral Home from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Interment will be held at Corinth West Cemetery in Battleground. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Bell was born Nov. 23, 1943, to Harold Shaw and Treva Via Shaw. She met Jesus while surrounded by her family, on May 2, 2024. She is preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Gordon Shaw, David Shaw, and Ernest Shaw. She is survived by her loving husband of 61 years, Billy Howard Bell; children, Frank (Judith) Bell, Shiela (Tommy) Blackwood, Mark (Patty) Bell; seven grandchildren and their spouses; thirteen great-grandchildren. Faydene was a most loving and beautiful Christian wife and mother. She loved the Lord with her whole heart and enjoyed singing with and teaching children about Him every chance she got. She will be greatly missed in everyone's life she touched. Family has respectfully requested if friends and family so choose, to please donate to your favorite mission board or missionary family, in lieu of flowers. Please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook

Herman Mike Tyus, 75
Herman Mike Tyus, age 75 of Cullman, passed away on Thursday, May 2, 2024, at his residence. He was born Saturday, July 31, 1948, to Burton Tyus and Annie Bell Tyus. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Patrick Tyus and nephew, Shay Tyus. Survivors include his son, Justin (Justina) Tyus; grandchildren, Ayden, Mason and Corbin Tyus, Courtney(Matt) Goble, and Justin (Taylor) Woljevach; great grandchildren, Emerson, Jaxon, Bella, Everett, John Wells and Eloise; niece, Tina Baltazar. Memorial will be at a later date.

Betty Joyce Rogers, 92
Betty Joyce Rogers, a longtime resident of Holly Pond, Alabama, passed away on May 1, 2024, at the age of 92. Ms. Rogers was born in Hartselle, Alabama on May 30, 1931, to the late Calvin and Onie Roan Dobbs. Ms. Rogers was a homemaker, and she enjoyed cooking for her family. Betty liked to can and freeze vegetables from the garden. She was an avid reader in her free time. Ms. Rogers was a member of New Hope #2 Baptist Church, where she enjoyed worshipping her Savior alongside her family and friends. Ms. Rogers was a loving and devoted wife and mother, and she will be missed greatly by all who knew her. Ms. Rogers is preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Hubert Owen Rogers. She is survived by her children, Steve Rogers and his wife Ann, and Brenda Williams. Funeral services for Ms. Rogers will be held at 2 p.m., on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, in the Holly Pond Funeral Home Chapel, Pastor Robert Lancaster officiating. Friends are invited to visit with the family prior to services, from 1 p.m., until services begin. Burial will follow services in Haig-Rogers Cemetery, in Morris, Alabama. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Rogers family and our thoughts and prayers are with them.

Free Obituary Listings

Have your funeral home contact us

Email: robin@cullmantribune.com • Phone: 256-739-1351

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

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

Shocco Springs sure makes me smile

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



They say you can't go home again. Well, maybe not, but you can go back to Shocco Springs Baptist Conference Center. Jean and I have been going back there for one-half century now. I have been back so many times, and for so many different events, that I can't even begin to remember them all. While Shocco Springs may not be home, it certainly feels like home and it brings me smiles every time!

In case you don't know, Shocco Springs is a retreat center/conference center just outside of Talladega, Alabama.

There you will find a beautiful lake where you can fish or canoe, woods, trails, ropes courses, putt-putt, basketball, volleyball, paintball, a firepit, cabins, motel type rooms, a chapel, dining hall, meeting rooms, and much more located on over 800 acres of beautiful land not too far from the tallest mountain in the state.

I had an opportunity to attend Royal Ambassadors camp there as a boy once, but Mama thought it was too far and snaky. Since then, I've gone to Shocco Springs from near and far, but I've never seen one single snake there! Finally, in the fall of 1974, Jean and I went there for the first time. We were students at Northeast Alabama Junior College when we attended a Baptist Student Union retreat there.

We were in love with one another and fell in love with Shocco...and yes, we had separate quarters! Honestly, I don't remember much about that retreat, but I do remember the green-eyed girl with the long blonde hair that I married the following summer.

I've been back to attend conferences as a student and lead conferences as a teacher. I've taken church and associational groups there for all kinds of retreats and conferences. I was trained and was certified for Disaster Relief work there in chainsaw and as a chaplain.

My alter ego, Bro. Billy Bob Bohannon, has even appeared at Shocco. In 2007, shortly after we moved back to Alabama after a decade in Mississippi, I was invited to bring my Billy Bob character to Shocco to bring smiles at the statewide Senior Adult Retreat. Billy Bob has been back dozens of times since to tell tales and sing.

Last weekend, 50 years after that first time there with Jean, we went back again. This time it was for the Tuskegee Lee Baptist Association's Minister's and Wive's Retreat. I had the privilege of leading that association for 15 years, before I retired at the end of 2021. Thank you, Wayne and Jean Ivey, for inviting us back. It is always a joy and honor to do something for a group you've led in the

past. Jean led the women's sessions and Billy Bob showed out in concert on the opening night.

This year's retreat was somewhat bittersweet, because it was the last one for this group. They haven't all been held at Shocco, but many have been. I was at the first one, held on Lake Martin 17 years ago, and each one since.

This time we shared the Shocco campus with a group who came for the DWG. When I saw those letters, I thought they were a group of Georgia Bulldog fans, but then I realized the letters weren't DAWG but DWG. It stood for Deaf Women's Gathering.

Over 150 deaf ladies came together from all over the nation. To see them all signing and smiling to one another put a big smile on our faces! For more than 70 years now, the happenings at Shocco Springs have put smiles on the faces of multitudes of guests, including 50 years now for this guest!

Bill King can be reached at bkpreach@yahoo.com or 334-728-5514 (office).

HISTORY

Files from yesteryear: 1930, 1936

From the files of 1930

Miss Eunice Butler has recently graduated from Alverson Business College in Birmingham.

Mrs. John Luyben and Mrs. F. Mallery were joint hostesses on Thursday at a Valentine party for the Michigan Card Club.

Mrs. Alvie Biggers, Mrs. Ewing Wallace, Mrs. Harry Schlosser and Miss Mattie Leah Rollo spent Wednesday in Birmingham.

Doctor Voight Culpepper of Tuscaloosa will spend a few days this week in Cullman County on a hunting trip.

Mrs. J.L. Vick and Mrs. W. Ward were in Birmingham on Wednesday.

Winner of the school attendance contest for the month of January are Group I – Kilpatrick 94.5 percent, Group II – Simcoe 91.3 percent and Group III – Cullman County High School 94.8 percent.

Mrs. E.E. Wilhite celebrated her 70th birthday on Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. V. Brandon.

Baldwin boys and girls basketball teams won over Brickyard on Friday afternoon.

Countywide meeting of the P.T.A. will be held on February 18th at City Auditorium. Miss Norman Smith will be here from Montgomery to organize a county council.

The home of George Abercrombie was totally destroyed by fire on Saturday night about 10 o'clock.

From the files of 1936

On January 3, 1936, a box of ripe strawberries was presented to the editor by Fritz Hartwig of Hanceville, Route One.

The weather had not been cold enough to stop growing vegetation.

The First Christian Church gave a pounding on Wednesday for Reverend and Mrs. Piper, their pastor.

Robert Rosson has returned to State University after spending the holidays in Cullman with his parents.

Willie Griffin has returned to Howard College to resume his studies, after spending the holidays in Cullman with his folks.

Mr. and Mrs. W.J. Pope of Henry County, Georgia, were visitors in Cullman and Berlin during the past week.

POET'S CORNER

Lord, Pour Me | By: April Mccay

Lord, pour me...

A willing vessel, am I.

Overflow in me, so I and others

will not run dry.

Refresh and replenish, Lord

are my endless supply.

Leave me soaked and saturated

as I drink from Your well,

may this vessel fill others

You lead me to tell.

As I go, tell them to come and see,

all leading closer to eternity.

Lord, continue to pour me.

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

MAY 4

H	A	Y	A	D	S	A	N	K	V	D	R	R	I	D
O	E	D	N	D	I	R	T	D	I	D	O	O	L	I
U	O	A	D	V	A	N	T	A	G	E	S	S	O	F
R	N	A	L	W	R	P	O	I	E	L	O	E	A	T
S	O	O	N	T	M	U	T	R	A	G	G	E	D	M
R	D	A	B	S	H	F	A	S	S	E	U	E	S	A
J	U	G	R	L	P	F	I	E	T	N	L	O	T	S
O	O	S	P	I	E	S	S	I	E	O	L	F	N	K
B	T	I	H	P	R	U	B	Z	R	U	S	F	A	E
P	H	S	U	E	B	O	W	E	N	G	R	I	P	D
W	E	I	T	T	D	U	A	S	H	H	S	S	X	D
H	R	G	S	S	W	E	D	I	M	A	U	E	A	R
O	S	H	A	L	L	O	W	S	M	Y	S	M	A	D
Y	O	U	R	I	I	W	I	U	P	U	B	T	W	E
J	A	W	T	T	O	L	N	P	A	W	S	D	E	W

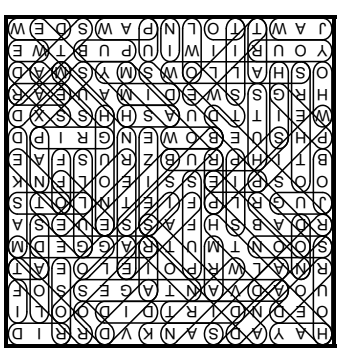
Adapts
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Rushed
Sad
Sank
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Slip
Slit
Soon
Star
Tile
To
Two
Up
Warn
We
Whip
Who
Your

CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

MAY 4

2		3	4					
			3					
	6		2				1	5
	4				8		7	
7						1		
		9	6					
3		8	5					
	7				3	6		
	5	6		4			9	

ANSWERS:



3	9	8	2	4	7	6	5	1
2	5	6	9	1	3	4	7	9
1	4	7	6	9	5	8	2	3
4	3	2	5	7	6	9	1	8
6	8	1	4	2	9	5	3	7
9	7	5	8	3	1	2	4	6
5	1	3	7	6	4	2	8	9
8	2	4	1	5	2	7	6	4
7	6	9	3	8	4	1	9	5

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!

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RECYCLING SOLUTIONS LLC

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osirisrecycling.com

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

WE WILL MEET OR BEAT ALL COMPETITORS PRICES OF LIKE PRODUCTS
COLLEGE TIRE
THE RIGHT TIRES FOR EVERY ADVENTURE!
10% OFF ALL TIRES
(NEW AND LIGHT TRUCK EXCLUDED)
25% OFF 225-65-17
SETS OF 4 MEDIUM AND LIKE NEW
315 MAIN ST. NW, HANCEVILLE
MON-TUES-THURS-FRIDAY 8:00-5:30
WEDS 8-12 | SAT 8:00-2:00
256-352-2221
...IN THAT WHILE WE WERE YET SINNERS CHRIST DIED FOR US. ROMANS 5:8

THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

Meta plans to build $800M, next-gen data center in Montgomery

Staff Reports
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Governor Kay Ivey on Thursday, May 2, announced that technology company Meta Platforms plans to open an $800 million data center in Alabama's capital city that will support 100 operational jobs and build on the company's previous investment in the state.

Meta's new 715,000-square-foot, AI-optimized data center will be built off Interstate 65 in Montgomery, across from the Hyundai automotive assembly plant. It will join the company's other Alabama data center campus, located in Huntsville and representing an investment commitment of $1.5 billion.

"Each day, millions of people around the world use Meta's products, and the next-generation Alabama data center in Montgomery will soon help keep the company's popular platforms running smoothly," said Ivey. "Meta is putting down roots in another great location in Sweet Home Alabama, and we're committed to helping the company grow and prosper here."

Governor Ivey joined Meta officials and state and local leaders at the Montgomery Whitewater facility for a ceremony today to unveil Meta's new Alabama investment plans.

Menlo Park, California-based Meta operates Facebook, Instagram, Threads and WhatsApp, among other products and services. Meta data centers are a key part of the global infrastructure that bring these technologies and services to life.

The Montgomery data center, reflecting Meta's latest design, will become its 24th data hub and the 20th in the United States. Once operational, the facility will be LEED Gold certified by the U.S. Green Building Council. It will be supported by 100% renewable energy and reach net zero emissions.

"We are thrilled to announce our newest data center will be located in Montgomery. The city — and our specific location — offers great access to infrastructure and renewable energy, a strong pull of talent and most importantly, an amazing set of community partners," said Brad Davis, director of community and economic development at Meta. "We look forward to having a strong partnership for years to come."

The Montgomery site that will house the Meta data center is already being cleared for construction to begin. More than 1,000 construction workers are expected to be onsite at the peak of construction, according to Meta.

The facility is expected to go online at the end of 2026.

"Meta is a globally recognized brand and having this world-class technology company launch another investment project in Alabama clearly demonstrates the state's attractiveness to the high-tech sector around the world," said Ellen McNair, secretary of the Alabama Department of Commerce.

"We look forward to building on the close relationship we've developed with Meta to set the stage for even more growth in our state."

Montgomery area officials applauded Meta's investment project and predicted it will have a massive long-term economic impact on the region.

"Meta's decision to expand into Montgomery with a state-of-the-art data center showcases how our region is diversifying into a knowledge-based economy and highlights the competitiveness of Montgomery and our economic development team," said Mayor Steven L. Reed. "This initiative marks a pivotal moment for Central Alabama and serves as a catalyst for our entire region's pursuit of knowledge-based employment opportunities."

"This project will have an enormous impact on Montgomery, and I am honored to welcome Meta to our community," said Montgomery County Commissioner Doug Singleton. "This project is truly a victory for Montgomery as we experience continued economic growth year after year. This investment of $840 million speaks volumes to the commitment that Meta is making to the people of Montgomery. "



OFFICE OF GOV. KAY IVEY

Kay Ivey speaks on May 2, 2024.

"The significance of this announcement being made at our Whitewater Park facility cannot be overstated," added Singleton. "The Meta team was introduced to Montgomery Whitewater early in the recruitment process, and I am glad to see that they have chosen to come back again as this venue has become instrumental in attracting world-class businesses to our community."

Caryn Hughes, chair of the Montgomery Chamber of Commerce, underscored the importance of collaboration among economic development agencies in bringing the Meta project to fruition and commended the local economic development team on the years of hard work it took to win this project.

"We value the significant impact such investments have on our capital city," said Hughes. "This facility will signify an economic investment exceeding $800 million upon completion and create over 100 new knowledge-based jobs for our region."

Meta, then known as Facebook, announced plans for its first data center in Huntsville back in 2018, and the facility began serving traffic three years later. Since then, the company has added new buildings to the campus' footprint, expanding its workforce to over 300 operational jobs.

Meta's sustainability practices have generated investments in renewable energy projects, and it has also supported Huntsville area schools and educational organizations with over 85 grants and sponsorships exceeding $4.2 million since 2019.

Shop (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Local mother and now boutique owner Shayla Waldner said she wanted to change her resume from "stay at home mom" in 2023 to entrepreneur. She started The Pink Boot Boutique at the end of October that year.

"My husband was a travel welder for eight years and I was with him for the last three years," Waldner said. "We had our daughter in Houston, Texas, (got) engaged in Florida and then married in Alabama. We pulled off the road about a year and a half ago to start my husband's own private contracting business in welding and begin the process of building our house. He has inspired me to chase my dreams. I knew if he was from South Dakota and could start a business in Alabama – a strange state to him – (and) it be as successful as it is, I could do the same."

Waldner said although being a mother and wife is very fulfilling, she felt like she was missing her calling.

"I wanted more to my name than just 'stay at home mom,'" Waldner said.

"While I love doing that, I wanted my daughter to see there are no limits to achieving what you want.

"I was voted best dressed my senior year and that's something I've always loved to do – curate an outfit together. I received numerous compliments all the time, so one day my husband came home and said, 'Let's go get a trailer.' Well, we bought my 16-foot enclosed trailer and I remodeled the entire outside with my husband.

"We found pieces from antique stores and Marketplace and revamped it to fit my personality."

Some of Waldner's favorite things to do since opening her boutique are different events and shows.

"I have been doing shows, events and pop-ups for almost six months, and now with the first one being in Cullman city and almost sold out of our clothes," Waldner said.

"One thing that is funny to me – many ask me if it's me pulling the trailer; I get asked that a lot.

"My husband stays busy, so he taught me how to hook it up, haul it, back it up and unhook it, in the event he can't make it there. I am able to be independent with it."

In this process, Waldner said, she wants to sell style she truly loves and believes in.

"What I sell in my mobile boutique is something I would wear myself every day," she said.

"I go to Atlanta Market and purchase my inventory as I search through all 12 levels and hand pick what suits my personality in a store – things I love or that I would personally wear.

"I will be headed to Las Vegas Market in August to expand my inventory into plus sizes and more brands. I do not follow the crowd of other stores or try to fit in. My whole goal in doing this all was to stand out, be different and sell things others didn't to simply just be me."

From each event she has done, she said, one of her favorite things is seeing the joy her clients get with their purchases.

"I love seeing people's faces light up when they walk in my trailer and hearing other moms share what they were able to accomplish while being a full-time mom, wife and now, business owner," Waldner said.

"I get I'm a mom, full time and did this with a toddler on my hip. My second favorite is the ladies I have met in this business – true genuine women supporting one another."

A moment that sticks out to Waldner is from a Fort Payne event.

"I remember hearing this little girl scream, 'Mommy, there is Barbie,' and several girls came in and wanted their picture made in front of the disco fireplace that is my checkout area," Waldner said.

"Talk about tears of joy flowing. It was such a sweet moment. Another happy feeling is when I upload a collection to the website and it sells out. I love it all.

"This is a hobby for me; it is something that gives me an identity outside of being a stay at home mom. It's not something I have to do, but it is something that has brought pure happiness and helped gain my identity back outside of being a mom and wife."

A fun thing Waldner has been working on behind the scenes is helping guide her to hosting a Christmas Market.

"Around Christmastime, I love to support small businesses – go to festivals and markets to get into the Christmas spirit," Waldner said. "This is something that I wanted to do when I first started but didn't know the legality of hosting a big event like that.

"I met a lady at an event who travels and hosts events, we got to talking business and the rest is history. I have a meeting next week with further details to come. We are calling it 'Small Business Christmas.' It is an event that will be happening yearly and hopefully grow every year. I will be releasing details in the next several weeks, open up vendor spots, food trucks slots and release all the other details. Stay tuned."

For more information, visit The Pink Boot on Facebook.

The Pink Boot Boutique will also be at the Alabama Strawberry Festival in Cullman May 4.