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WSCC

– SPORTS –

Burch returning to Wallace State as head softball coach
» PAGE 6

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Jones Chapel VFD to receive drinking water from Anheuser-Busch program

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

JONES CHAPEL, Ala. — The Jones Chapel Volunteer Fire Department recently received confirmation that Anheuser-Busch will be sending a large quantity of drinking water to the unit as early as next week through a grant program.

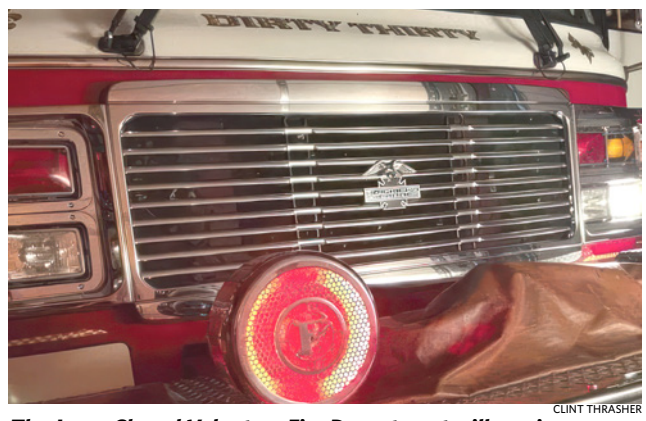
Jones Chapel Volunteer Fire Department Chief Clint Thrasher said the unit is excited to receive the donation.

"Anheuser-Busch is shipping the water from the brewery to a local distributor and then they will deliver it to (the) station in a beer truck hopefully next week," Thrasher said.

"They are doing this through the Emergency Drinking Water for Wildland Firefighters program from Anheuser-Busch in partnership with the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC)."

Thrasher said the grant opportunity was advertised by the NVFC.

"We were awarded one pallet of canned water (2,352 cans) through » PAGE 2



CLINT THRASHER

The Jones Chapel Volunteer Fire Department will receive a pallet of canned water, thanks to the Emergency Drinking Water for Wildland Firefighters program, a partnership of Anheuser-Busch and the National Volunteer Fire Council.

What are tax abatements, and are Cullman residents losing money on them?



CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Tax abatements encourage the location of new industries to a community, or the expansion of existing industries, such as the Reliance Worldwide Corporation distribution center built on Cullman's southwest side in 2021.

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — With the recent news of a new business coming to Cullman, and that business receiving a tax abatement as an incentive to locate here, questions have again arisen about what these abatements do, why they are offered and what they cost Cullman's residents. The Tribune sat down with staff of the Cullman Economic Development Agency this week to find out more.

CEDA Director Dale Greer told The Tribune a few basics about abatements:

- They offset or help offset the cost of constructing or expanding facilities that create jobs and bring more income to the community.
- They forgive or refund a portion of certain taxes (usually property taxes) that the business or industry pays for a certain amount of time. Cullman's standard is 10 years. After 10 years, the company must pay the tax. Even if the company asks for and gets another abatement for a new project or expansion, it must still pay the full tax on its previously abated facilities and equipment.
- They do not take away any responsibility the company has for paying taxes that support education.
- They are commonly used by communities across the country to compete for businesses and industries. If one community does not want to offer financial incentives, plenty more will.
- They do not involve the City giving away to the company any money paid as taxes by residents. The abatement refunds to the company a certain amount of the taxes it has to pay. If the company does not earn enough to pay much in taxes, it does not get much abated. If it does not meet certain standards set forth in the agree- » PAGE 6

2nd Fridays returns to downtown Cullman



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman City Schools Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff gets dunked by an eager young bearcat at Cullman's first 2024 Second Friday.

Annual City vs. County Blood Drive set for June 21 » PAGE 4

CCBOE recognizes Cold Springs High School track team » PAGE 8

Fairview council talks new park, invites community input » PAGE 8

Cullman County CASA volunteers needed » PAGE 9

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported June 14

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported June 14, 2024. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

June 10

- menacing; CR 1605
- theft of property; CR 1420
- theft of property; CR 209
- domestic violence; CR 223
- domestic violence; CR 1669
- theft of property; CR 437

June 11

- possession of dangerous drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 278E
- domestic violence; CR 592
- theft of property; CR 1043
- domestic violence; criminal mischief; CR 1127
- theft of property; CR 1194
- burglary; criminal mischief; CR 43
- unlawful breaking into motor vehicle; theft of property; CR 43
- harassing communications; CR 222
- harassment; CR 424
- burglary; CR 437
- theft of property; CR 222
- domestic violence; attempt to elude law enforcement officer; Trimble Rd.
- theft of property; CR 44

June 12

- possession of drug paraphernalia; attempt to elude law enforcement officer; CR 222
- domestic violence; CR 1295
- domestic violence; CR 255
- domestic violence; Childhaven Rd. NE
- harassment; Hwy. 278E
- theft of property; CR 641
- theft of property; CR 557
- theft of property; Hwy. 31

ARRESTS

June 10-12

Beasley, Anthony R.; 52

- FTA - driving while suspended, revoked, or cancelled
- FTA - improper lights
- FTA - operating vehicle without insurance
- FTA - switched tag

Chumley, Eric R.; 24

- PROBATION REVOKED – forgery-counterfeiting
- FTA - driving while license suspended

Corbin, Sarah K.; 28

- FTA - possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA - giving false identification to law enforcement

Doss, Andy M.; 65

- FTA – failure to register vehicle
- FTA – operating vehicle without insurance

Eason, Gary J.S.; 29

- burglary-no force
- burglary-force
- unlawful breaking and entering a vehicle (no theft or damage)
- criminal mischief-damage to private property
- theft-firearms
- theft-miscellaneous, $500-less than $1500
- auto theft (2 counts)
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Elsberry, David M.; 40

- GJ – burglary-no force

Givens, Trenton T.; 18

- assault-domestic-simple assault-family
- attempting to elude a police officer
- public intoxication

Graveman, Michael S.; 43

- drug trafficking
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of opium or derivative
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of dangerous drugs

Graves, Candace A.; 37

- DRUG COURT SANCTION - possession of dangerous drugs

Harbison, Aliyah N.; 21

- fraud-identity theft

Jackson, Clark A.; 35

- assault - terrorism – assault-2nd degree

Loggins, James B.; 44

- PROBATION VIOLATION - burglary - residence - force
- PROBATION VIOLATION - unauthorized use of other vehicle - no force

Maddox Jr., James D.; 43

- FTA - possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA - possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA - possession of dangerous drugs

Martin, Geneva A.; 57

- Theft of property-2nd degree (controlled substance)

Morris, Heather M.; 35

- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of dangerous drugs

Mynes, Matthew L.; 56

- attempting to elude a police officer - serious injury or death - speed exceeds 20 mph over limit
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Peed, Christopher M.; 50

- driving under the influence (alcohol)

Powell, Katherine A.; 39

- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Powell, Matthew S.; 38

- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Roden II, Mark C.; 31

- theft-miscellaneous

Sanchez Lucio, Eneas G.; 29

- causing of delinquency, dependency or need of supervision of children

Smith, Blake S.; 35

- DRUG COURT SANCTION – possession of dangerous drugs

Smith, Jeffrey R.; 34

- assault-harassment

Smith, Richard C.; 62

- FTA - driving while suspended, revoked, or cancelled

Steele, Phillip A.; 25

- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Steele, Timothy G.; 47

- PROBATION REVOKED - possession of dangerous drugs

Tanner Sr., James I.; 60

- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of dangerous drugs

Washington, Jonathan D.; 26

- FTA – unlawful breaking and entering a vehicle (no theft or damage)

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

June 9

- criminal trespass-2nd degree; Cullman Park & Rec; Lee Ave. SW

June 12

- domestic violence-harassement-3rd degree; person; 2nd Ave. NW
- criminal trespass-2nd degree; Captain D's; 2nd Ave. NW
- retail theft of property-2nd degree; CVS Pharmacy; miscellaneous; $1,854; Cherokee Ave. SW

June 13

- forgery-3rd degree; theft of property-1st degree; person; forged check
- domestic violence-3rd degree – harassment; person; Logan St. SW
- criminal trespass-3rd degree; person; Dripping Springs Rd. NW

June 14

- domestic violence-3rd degree – harassment; person; Logan St. SW

ARRESTS

June 12-13

Sturgeon, Christopher M.; 35

- domestic violence-3rd degree harassment

Prater, Harold G.; 64

- criminal trespass-3rd degree

Underwood, Justin T.; 44

- FTA - criminal trespass-3rd degree

Corbin, Sarah K.; 28

- FTA - theft of property-4th degree

James, Joseph M.; 42

- FTA - theft of property-4th degree

Evans II, Michael J.; 38

- Harassment

Spain, Bruce R.; 42

- theft of property-4th degree

Leonardi, Joseph S.; 41

- driving under the influence

Bishop, Rhonda K.; 52

- FTA - theft of property-4th degree

Wood, Mason L.; 33

- harassing communications

McCormick, Jeffery S.; 35

- criminal trespass-3rd degree
- FTA - possession of drug paraphernalia

Bita, Rosanna I.; 19

- organized retail theft (2 counts)

Bita, Ana M.; 30

- organized retail theft (2 counts)

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

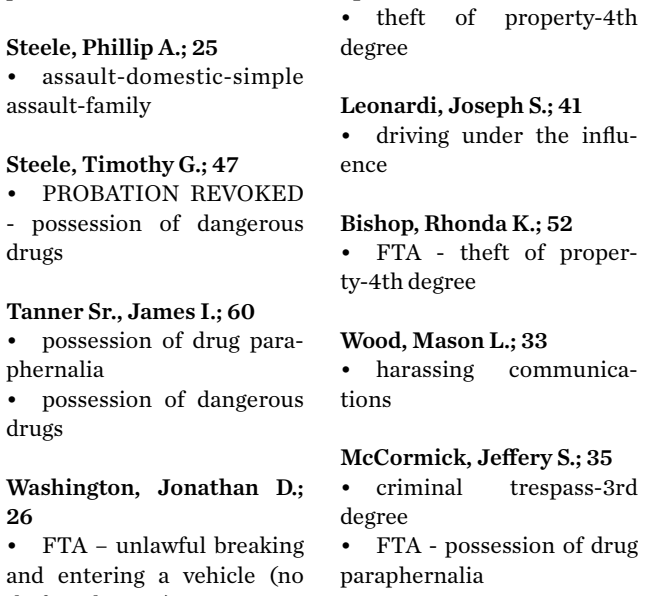
Find arrest and incident reports online Monday-Friday at www.CullmanTribune.com.

Program (from Front)

this grant," Thrasher said. "Drinking water is an expense for volunteer fire departments that a lot of people don't think about. It's easy to go through several cases on any incident that occurs this time of the year. Also, sharing it with our neighboring agencies during their fires is allowed so we have the opportunity to help out other departments."

Thrasher said they encourage the public to donate water and sports drinks (Gatorade, Powerade, Liquid I.V., etc.) to their local volunteer fire departments, especially this time of year in the extreme heat.

Learn more about the grant program at www.nvfc.org/anheuser-busch-emergency-drinking-water-for-wildland-firefighters.



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2251 Decatur Ave., N.W.
734-2406

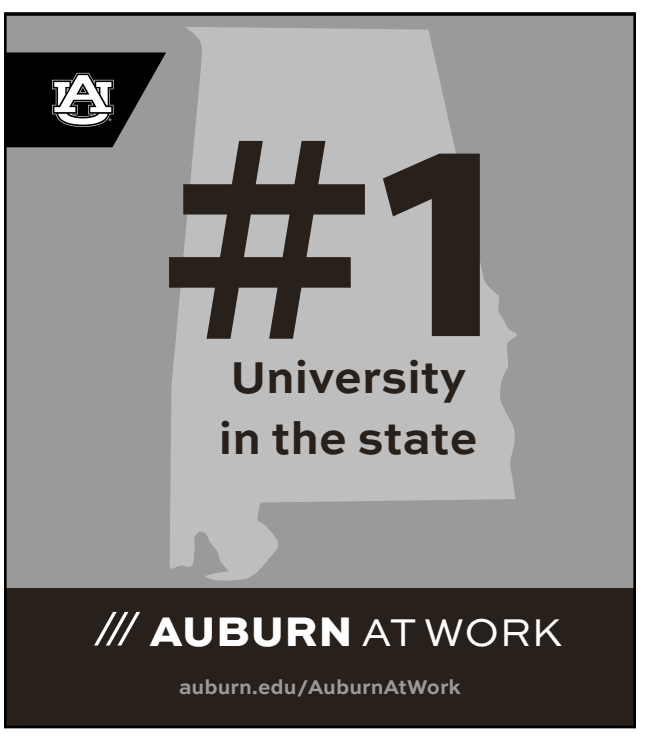
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Baileyton Bargain Days
First 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.
• Saturday, June 15 9-11 a.m. Drive-through food bank
• Sunday, June 16 - 9 a.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area. Call Cedric Davidson at 256-339-5755 for pickup. Breakfast at 9:30. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults at 10. Praise and worship and message by Pastor Bobby Dodd at 11.

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.

Bates Reunion
Saturday, June 15, at 10 a.m. at the Trimble Community Center.

Fairview Lions Club Free Movie at the Park
Saturday, June 15, at Randall Shedd Community Park on Wesley Avenue, in Fairview. We will be showing "Kung Fu Panda 4" and will start at 6-6:30 p.m. We will have concessions and drinks. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets. Bring the kids out and enjoy the movie. All proceeds will go to the Lions Club project fund. For more information call Kita Chambers at 256-385-8805 or William Criscoe at 256-385-5596.

Speegle Family Reunion
Sunday, July 14, at the Speegle Family Point (334 County Rd 321, Crane Hill, AL 35053) beginning around 10:30 a.m. Please join us and bring a covered dish for lunch at noon. Contact Judy Shannon (256-338-0676) or Terry Phillips (256-656-3327) if you need additional information. Come eat and enjoy the day with us at the beautiful Speegle Family Point.

Cullman County Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Banquet
Saturday, July 20, at Stone Bridge Farms. Tickets can be purchased at First Southern Financial, 1622 Second Ave. SW, Cullman, phone 256-737-5120 or call Jackie Satterfield at 256-636-4445. Tickets are $20 each and no tickets will be sold after July 17.

West Point Class of 1962 Reunion
The West Point High School class of 1962 will have their 52nd reunion on Saturday, July 27, at 11:30 a.m. at the Brandin Iron Restaurant in West Point. For more information call Linda at 256-747-6883.

CORRECTION

In our story titled, "Sonya Copeland resigns from Vinemont Town Council, Place 5" published on June 13, 2024, we reported: "Copeland was sworn into office in November 2020, after usurping Jerry Smith from Seat 5 when she was elected to the council in August 2020." The use of the word "usurping" was incorrect, and we regret the error. This has been corrected to: "Copeland was sworn into office in November 2020, taking Place 5 when she was elected to the council in August 2020." In the same story, we reported the date of the council's special-called meeting as Tuesday, June 16, at 6 p.m. The correct date is Tuesday, June 18.

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LEGALS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
JACOB WILLIAM KNIGHT, JR., * **CASE NO.: PC2024-195**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to CYNTHIA R. KNIGHT, as Personal Representative of the Estate of JACOB WILLIAM KNIGHT, JR., deceased, on the 30th day of May, 2024, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

CYNTHIA R. KNIGHT
Personal Representative

Tonya C. Palmer
Attorney for Personal Representative
Palmer Law Firm, LLC
1939 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055
(256) 246-9600

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

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
WILLIAM CARL PEINHARDT, * **CASE NO.: PC2024-194**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to ALVIN PEINHARDT and MARY JO LAKIN, as Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of WILLIAM CARL PEINHARDT, deceased, on the 6th day of June, 2024, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

ALVIN PEINHARDT and MARY JO LAKIN
Co-Personal Representatives

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

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

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

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

Case# PC2024-194
PB WIL Book 124 Page 145
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Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
JANE GREGG BEAVERS, * **CASE NO.: PC2024-164**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to MITCH KORNEGAY, as Administrator of the Estate of JANE GREGG BEAVERS, deceased, on the 30th day of May, 2024, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

MITCH KORNEGAY
Administrator

Sara Doty
Attorney for Administrator
4725 Whitesburg Drive, Suite 202
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

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

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

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

Local UA Early College students named to spring 2024 Director's List

Stephanie Pettis
University of Alabama

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — A total of 531 students enrolled in UA Early College during spring semester 2024 at The University of Alabama were named to the Director's List with an academic record of 3.6 or higher.

The Director's List recognizes students enrolled in classes through the UA Early College program.

UA Early College allows high school students to get a head start on their college courses.

High school sophomores, juniors and seniors enrolled in UA Early College can choose from more than 80 different online and on-campus courses and earn up to 30 hours of college credit.

The spring 2024 list includes the following local students:

- Reid Bissot of Crane Hill attends Home School
- Kloe Burton of Cullman attends Cullman High School
- Janelle Ford of Altoona attends Sardis High School
- Jerry Garcia of Holly Pond attends Cullman STEAM Academy
- Jonathan Harding of Arab attends Arab High School
- Nathan Harding of Arab attends Arab High School
- Dawson Simmons of Cullman attends Holly Pond High School

Drive (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The annual City vs. County Blood Drive will be held on Friday, June 21, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Blood Drive organizer Darla West shared that there is a great need for blood donations right now – especially for Type O blood.

"There's been a long-standing, friendly rivalry between Cullman County and Cullman City employees, and it's fun to take advantage of the desire for bragging rights on our annual LifeSouth blood drive," West said. "The true winners, of course, are those people who receive lifesaving, donated blood."

To donate for the City of Cullman team, visit the bloodmobiles at Dick's Sporting Goods or the north Walmart North. To support the Cullman County team, visit the bloodmobiles at the Cullman County Courthouse or south Walmart on Friday, June 21, between 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

"With four designated locations to donate, each blood donor can choose to support the City of Cullman or Cullman County by selecting a specific donor site designated for either," West said. "Donations made during this blood drive are used locally, so great participation is vital for our community. We hope to see everyone there."

West shared that there are several notable sponsors this year and participants will leave with some goodies.

"The Cullman Cattlemen and Cattle Women's Association partners with LifeSouth each year to donate steak sandwiches to all blood donors ," West said. "We are so fortunate to have that type of community support, and both LifeSouth and government volunteers are grateful for the Association's support."

According to the event page on Facebook:
All blood donors receive a $20 e-gift card, a custom Cullman City vs. County t-shirt and a free steak sandwich from Cullman Cattlemen's Association. Platelet and double red cell donors receive a $40 e-gift card. (while supplies last)

Donors must be 17 years of age (16 with written parental permission) and weigh at least 110 pounds.

For more information, visit https://tinyurl.com/CvCBD2024.

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APPLY AT COLLEGE TIRE 315 MAIN ST. NW, HANCEVILLE, AL
256-352-2221

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18 HOLES W/CART - $40
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Keeping outdoor pets safe during extreme heat

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Summer is in full swing and the temps are climbing daily. While many people may be retreating indoors to beat the heat with central air conditioning or hitting one of the many recreational water play spots around town to cool off, those with four paws and fur sometimes don't have that luxury.

Cullman County Animal Control (CCAC) Director Rodney Banister shared some tips and facts about keeping animals safe and healthy during a heatwave or the extreme temperatures that Alabama is known to have during summer.

Most domesticated animals and pets are born with biological avenues such as panting and releasing body heat through paw pads and noses to cool off when experiencing extreme heat, but that exposure should never be prolonged. Animals, especially double coated or those with a long coat, can overheat easily, quickly turning a situation dire.

"We would like for people to closely watch their pets during the hot summer days," said Banister. "They need to provide plenty of water and shade for their outside pets."

A shaded spot can be anywhere to offer the animal respite from the blazing sun – a covered patio, a fenced enclosure with a sun cover, a tarp or a large tree in the yard all suffice for shady shelter. Doghouses aren't a great option, according to the ASPCA, as the plastic or wood enclosed space can trap heat and create a greenhouse effect, similar to being shut inside a parked car.

Banister said summer is when CCAC receives the most calls about animals left unattended in parked cars.

"We highly recommend that you don't bring your pets with you and leave them in your unattended car," he cautioned. "On an 85-degree day, for example, the temperature inside a car with the windows opened slightly can reach 102 degrees within 10 minutes. After 30 minutes, the temperature will reach 120 degrees."

A pet can quickly suffer brain damage or die from heatstroke or suffocation in a matter of minutes when exposed to extreme heat and given no way to cool down.

According to the Code of Alabama, "A person commits the crime of cruelty to a dog or cat in the second degree if he or she, in a cruel manner, overloads, overdrives, deprives of necessary sustenance or shelter, unnecessarily or cruelly beats, injuries, mutilates, or causes the same to be done. Cruelty to a dog or cat in the second degree is a Class A misdemeanor."

"Code of Alabama 13A-11-241 states you must provide proper shelter and sustenance. We recognize sustenance as fresh water," said Banister.

Owners should always know the symptoms and signs of heat stroke in animals. Those signs can be anything from excessive drooling, increased breathing rate, confusion and, in extreme and severe cases, seizures and vomiting. If an animal is exhibiting signs of a heat stroke, seek veterinary attention immediately. If an animal has been observed without proper shelter and water, notify CCAC at 256-734-5448.

Banister shared, "If anyone wants a welfare check done on animals they can call Animal Control and make a complaint."





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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JUNE 15, 2024

Burch returning to Wallace State as head softball coach

WSCC Athletics
Wallace State

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community has hired former Wallace State softball player and assistant coach Sallie Beth Burch to lead the Lions softball team, President Dr. Vicki Karolewics announced today.

"We are excited to welcome Sallie Beth Burch back to Wallace State, where she was part of the 2008 national championship team," said Karolewics. "Her experience as both a player and coach for the Lions are invaluable as we continue the Lions' winning tradition."

Burch played second base for Wallace State from 2008 to 2009 and was part of the team's first of two national championship titles when the 2008 squad won the National Junior College Athletic Association Division (NJCAA) championship.

After graduating from Wallace State, Burch transferred to Jacksonville State University, where she continued playing softball for the Gamecocks from 2010 and 2011.

Burch returns to Wallace State after most recently serving as associate head softball coach at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

She previously served as the associate head softball coach and assistant softball coach at Jacksonville State, and she served as an assistant coach at Wallace State from 2016-2019.

"I am very excited for this opportunity to come back to Wallace State," Burch said. "I take great pride in being able to come back to help represent and carry on the legacy of this program. It's a full-circle moment for me."

The 2024 Lions softball team earned Wallace State's fourth straight Alabama Community College Conference (ACCC) title and their 16th overall and made their 16th appearance at the NJCAA Division I World Series. Along with their 2008 national championship, the Lions also won the national title in 2013.



WSCC

Former WSCC Softball player and assistant coach Sallie Beth Burch is returning to take over as head coach of the Lions.

Wallace State's Wheeler earns NJCAA DI Softball Third Team All-American honors

WSCC Athletics
Wallace State

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College athlete Laura Leigh Wheeler has added one more honor to her list of achievements this year. Wheeler, of Sulligent, was named to the 2024 National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division I Softball All-America Teams – Third Team.

This award follows recognition by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) as a Division I All-American and to the NFCA NJCAA Division I South Region Team.

The latter honor she shared with pitcher Katie Simon of Athens.

Wheeler scored 58 runs and had 61 hits in 50 games for the Lions this season. She doubled 22 times, hit 17 home runs and 59 RBI.

Her batting average for the year was .389, with a slugging percentage of .892.

She was also named a Player of the Week by the Alabama Community College Conference for the week of April 22 and earned a place on the ACCC Commissioner's Honor Roll for the Spring 2024 semester.



WSCC

Former WSCC Softball player and assistant coach Sallie Beth Burch is returning to take over as head coach of the Lions.

Abatements (from Front)

ment, it sees no abatement.

• CEDA only recommends an abatement after a study has shown that the construction or expansion will create a definite benefit to the City.

"We routinely do what we call a cost-benefit analysis," said Greer, "saying here's what the company is asking you for, and here's what you get in return. Sometimes I tell the City, 'Too much.' I'll say, 'Y'all ought not do it,' or say, 'You do X but not as much as they're asking for.'"

Sometimes the abatement of taxes just does not work out in the best interest of the City, so other incentives might enter the mix. Greer noted that incentives in the last several years have included road repairs and repaving around factories, along with installation of turn lanes and traffic signals, to make access to facilities easier and safer. Such incentives can benefit both the company and local residents who routinely use those roads.

As to the use of abatements and other financial incentives in the competition between communities for businesses and industries, Greer observed, "Every county and city in Alabama does it. They have the ability to do it; it's legal. The State approved it through the legislature. It is competitive. You're competing with other states.

"Every time a company expands here, they have options to go to other states. And they often call us and say, 'Alright, we've got facilities here' – and they've got facilities in five or six other states besides this – when they say, 'We're looking at an expansion in Cullman.' Well, he can go to Georgia, he can go to Tennessee, he can go to Mississippi, he can go to all the other places he has, potentially. So even if it's an existing company that you're trying to do something with, other people are doing the same thing. And they're calling them, they're recruiting them, they're trying to get them to expand or to relocate, or whatever."

How exactly does tax abatement work?

Tax abatements involve temporary forgiveness or refund of a portion of a company's annual tax debt, to offset the cost of that company's investment in its local production or business activities that create jobs and boost the local economy.

Property taxes are measured in millage: one "mill" equals 1/10 of one cent. The State of Alabama assesses property taxes at 6.5 mills, or $6.50 per $1,000 of value. Cullman County assesses at 26 mills or $26 per $1,000, half of which is earmarked for education. The City of Cullman assesses at 38.5 mills or $38.50 per $1,000, with 20.5 earmarked for education.

Tax abatements cannot reduce the education portion of the tax. That must be paid, regardless of other incentives. This means that on a $100,000 property, the County can abate $1,300 dollars in property taxes per year for 10 years while continuing to collect and keep $1,300 per year in taxes to be sent to schools. On comparable property the City can abate $1,800 per year, and will collect and distribute to schools $2,500 per year on that $100,000 property.

In addition to property taxes, also known as Ad Valorem taxes, a city can abate portions of sales taxes on purchases for the construction or expansion, and equipment use taxes.

Not giving away money, but actually still making money

Tax abatements are based on the idea that an incentivized development will immediately contribute more revenue to a community than an undeveloped piece of land. Instead of giving a company money, the abatement offers the company a temporary discount on its cost of doing business, lowering the amount it has to pay.

The various incentives are also given with a view toward not only tax revenue, but also to larger community impact.

CEDA pointed to Cullman Casting as an example. As an undeveloped piece of farmland, it generated around $300 per year in property taxes. In the first four years of its operation, the company enjoyed success and paid about $130,000 in education taxes.

CEDA Retail and Workforce Development Manager Susan Eller said, "You get all this education tax from that property that you didn't have before, like hundreds of thousands of dollars, that now they can put back into the schools. So yes, the City and the County did give up something, but we also got something in return."

On a recent project in Cullman, the cost-benefit analysis showed that one company working on a $66 million expansion would, from that project alone (in addition to taxes it now pays on previous projects), generate over $3.5 million in education tax revenue.

In the 10-year period from the beginning of 2014 to the end of 2023, the great majority of industrial capital investment in Cullman County was in expansion of existing companies, not in new companies.

In the 10 years, new companies accounted for $65,306,176 in capital investments, while existing industry expansion added up to $1,615,753,458, a difference of almost 1.6 billion dollars. This means that most of the companies getting incentives like abatements are still paying taxes on their original facilities and equipment.

Even with incentive discounts for various projects, 15 of the top 20 property tax payers in Cullman County are Cullman area industries or businesses.

In some cases, companies that do not even operate in Cullman County are paying taxes through the companies that do.

The U.S. branch of Mercedes Benz does not have a facility in Cullman County, but owns enough production line equipment housed and used at its local tier one supplier REHAU to be the county's sixth largest property tax payer.

Eller told The Tribune, "We're not giving away money. In this part of it, what we're doing is they have to make money. Like we don't take any money out of our General Fund.

"When you do an abatement, they have to generate money that they want to be incentivized.

"So if they don't make it, they don't get it. So you hope that they're profitable, because if they're profitable, they get their part, but the City gets money, too."

Greer added, "You let them keep a portion. They come in and say, 'We're going to do this: we're going to invest $10 million and we're going to create 25 jobs, and we want some assistance. What we do is we agree to the 10-year property tax abatement. But you're abating half of a tax that doesn't exist (in the absence of the company or its expanded facility from the community) and then you get the education tax. So on whatever that 10 million is, we can run you a number and say, 'Here's what they would give back and here's what they would get.'"

In addition to tax revenue, some of which might be temporarily abated, businesses and industries also provide a boost to local economies from day one of their operation, providing more money for new employees, spending their own money at local businesses and donating beyond taxes to local schools and charitable causes.

According to Greer, a focus on taxes "doesn't take into consideration the number of jobs and the payroll associated with that. And then the company is sitting there and they hire a pest control company, and they hire a vending service to bring things, and they buy cars locally, and go to restaurants, and spend on these things."

In short, the incentives offered to locate or expand a company locally tend to pay off in benefits to the company and local government, but also to local schools, churches, charities, other businesses and to members of the workforce far beyond the walls of the company's facilities.

For more on the Cullman Economic Development Agency, visit www.cullmaneda.org.

Cullman Swim Team defeats Guntersville in 2nd meet of season

Sara Hughes
Cullman Swim Team

The Cullman Swim Team defeated the Guntersville Aquacats 354-296 in their second swim meet of the season. Cullman will be back home to host The Cullman Challenge at the Cullman Wellness and Aquatic Center Tuesday, June 18 against Florence, Guntersville and Jasper.



CULLMAN SWIM TEAM

The Cullman Swim Team defeated Guntersville 354-296 in their second meet of the season.

RESULTS

Girls 6 & Under
- 25 Free - 2. Audrey Smith (24.60)
- 25 Back - 3. Audrey Smith (34.12)

Boys 6 & Under
- 25 Free - 3. John Branscomb (39.55)
- 25 Back - 3. John Branscomb (46.77)

6 & Under Mixed Relay
- 100 Free Relay - 2. Malia Swidecki, John Branscomb, Jack Berryhill, Audrey Smith (2:52.19)

Girls 8 & Under
- 100 IM - 2. Hannah Thigpen (1:52.61)
- 25 Breast - 2. Hannah Thigpen (27.18)
- 25 Back - 2. Hannah Thigpen (24.23)

Boys 8 & Under
- 100 IM - 2. Ezra Basch (1:40.38); 3. CJ Curry (2:03.52)
- 25 Free - 2. CJ Curry (19.28)
- 25 Breast - 1. Keith Swidecki (26.60); 2. CJ Curry (28.87); 3. Gabe Lance (33.49)
- 25 Back - 1. Ezra Basch (20.65)
- 25 Fly - 2. Keith Swidecki (24.20); 3. Gabe Lance (34.39)
- 50 Free - 1. Ezra Basch (40.84)

8 & Under Mixed Relays
- 100 Medley Relay - 2. Hannah Thigpen, Keith Swidecki, Ezra Basch, Amelia Powell (1:36.34) 3. Brittan Bentley, Samuel Branscomb, CJ Curry, Audrey Smith (1:58.51)
- 100 Free Relay - 3. Lincoln LaRue, Hannah Thigpen, Amelia Powell, Ezra Basch (1:35.67)

Girls 9-10
- 100 IM - 1. Lauren Hughes (1:19.57); 2. Harper Rodriguez (1:30.49); 3. Gemma Swidecki (1:42.27)
- 50 Free - 1. Faith Peek (33.23); 3. Jesslyn Davis (39.72)
- 50 Breast - 1. Lauren Hughes (40.93); 2. Jesslyn Davis (51.47); 3. Gemma Swidecki (51.67)
- 50 Back - 1. Lauren Hughes (38.65); 3. Gemma Swidecki (44.29)
- 50 Fly - 2. Harper Rodriguez (40.62); 3. Paisley Caldwell (44.73)
- 100 Free - 1. Faith Peek (1:21.37); 2. Harper Rodriguez (1:21.56); 3. Paisley Caldwell (1:30.28)

Boys 9-10
- 100 IM - 2. Nolan Ferrara (1:42.48)
- 50 Free - 2. Rhodes Bentley (44.93); 3. Liam Bardill (46.86)
- 50 Breast - 1. Jaxon Curry (43.85); 3. Asa Powell (57.00)
- 50 Backstroke - 1. Jaxon Curry (39.43); 3. Nolan Ferrara (53.03)
- 50 Fly - 2. Nolan Ferrara (46.45); 3. Rhodes Bentley (55.76)
- 100 Freestyle - 1. Jaxon Curry (1:15.43)

9-10 Mixed Relays
- 200 Medley Relay - 1. Jaxon Curry, Lauren Hughes, Harper Rodriguez, Nolan Ferrara (2:41.00) 3. Clara Peek, Asa Powell, Faith Peek, Rhodes Bentley (3:12.15)
- 200 Free Relay - 1. Faith Peek, Jaxon Curry, Nolan Ferrara, Harper Rodriguez (2:26.31) 3. Paisley Caldwell, Rhodes Bentley, Liam Bardill, Lauren Hughes (2:48.07)

Girls 11-12
- 100 IM - 1. Georgia Dowdy (1:12.28); 2. Sophia Saho (1:20.86)
- 50 Free - 3. Sophia Aaron (32.91)
- 50 Breast - 1. Sophia Saho (40.64); 3. Catherine Hughes (40.89)
- 50 Back - 1. Georgia Dowdy (33.12); 2. Sophia Aaron (39.73); 3. Catherine Hughes (39.99)
- 50 Fly - 1. Sophia Saho (33.73); 3. Sophia Aaron (37.82)
- 100 Free - 1. Georgia Dowdy (1:02.32); 3. Preslie Basch (1:18.24)

Boys 11-12
- 100 IM - 3. Tate Tysinger (1:20.41)
- 50 Free - 2. Griffin Berryhill (30.42)
- 50 Breast - 1. Tate Tysinger (37.80)
- 50 Backstroke - 1. Griffin Berryhill (33.28)
- 50 Fly - 1. Griffin Berryhill (32.18); 3. Karson Corliss (34.57)
- 100 Freestyle - 1. Tate Tysinger (1:13.66)

11-12 Mixed Relays
- 200 Medley Relay - 1. Georgia Dowdy, Tate Tysinger, Griffin Berryhill, Sophia Aaron (2:14.48) 3. Karson Corliss, Catherine Hughes, Sophia Saho, Brooks Bentley (2:41.61)
- 200 Free Relay - 1. Griffin Berryhill, Sophia Aaron, Georgia Dowdy, Tate Tysinger (2:00.84)

Girls 13-14
- 100 IM - 1. Madeline Dowdy (1:08.86); 2. Edie Hudson (1:10.95)
- 50 Free - 1. Edie Hudson (28.89); 2. Elizabeth Hughes (29.51)
- 50 Breast - 1. Edie Hudson (34.46)
- 50 Back - 1. Elizabeth Hughes (36.01)
- 50 Fly - 1. Madeline Dowdy (29.33)
- 100 Free - 1. Madeline Dowdy (58.87); 2. Elizabeth Hughes (1:07.87)

Boys 13-14
- 100 IM - 2. Gunner Stracener (1:11.26); 3. Anakin Powell (1:16.05)
- 50 Free - 2. Griffin Cole (30.50)
- 50 Breast - 2. Anakin Powell (38.79)
- 50 Backstroke - 1. Gunner Stracener (31.17); 3. Griffin Cole (36.97)
- 50 Fly - 2. Gunner Stracener (30.51); 3. Griffin Cole (35.22)
- 100 Freestyle - 2. Anakin Powell (1:03.27)

13-14 Mixed Relays
- 200 Medley Relay - 1. Griffin Cole, Edie Hudson, Madeline Dowdy, Anakin Powell (2:07.98)
- 200 Free Relay - 2. Gunner Stracener, Elizabeth Hughes, Griffin Cole, Madeline Dowdy (1:54.57)

Girls 15-18
- 50 Free - 1. Morgan Fuller (26.88)
- 50 Breast - 3. Sofi Velez (38.23)
- 50 Back - 1. Morgan Fuller (31.31)
- 50 Fly - 1. Sofi Velez (31.34)
- 100 Free - 1. Morgan Fuller (1:01.46); 2. Sofi Velez (1:03.43)

Boys 15-18
- 100 IM - 1. Camp Smith (1:07.20); 2. Hilson Cole (1:09.17)
- 50 Free - 1. Hilson Cole (25.44); 3. Rhett Tysinger (26.81)
- 50 Breast - 1. Grayson Randall (31.93); 3. Rhett Tysinger (37.63)
- 50 Backstroke - 1. Chase Duncan (27.08); 2. Hilson Cole (32.58)
- 50 Fly - 1. Chase Duncan (27.30); 2. Camp Smith (28.00)
- 100 Freestyle - 1. Chase Duncan (52.40); 2. Camp Smith (1:00.65)

15-18 Mixed Relays
- 200 Medley Relay - 1. Chase Duncan, Elizabeth Hughes, Camp Smith, Megan Fuller (1:59.53) 3. Sofi Velez, Grayson Randall, Rhett Tysinger, Ellie Gleaton (2:12.10)
- 200 Free Relay - 1. Hilson Cole, Morgan Fuller, Edie Hudson, Chase Duncan 3. Camp Smith, Sofi Velez, Ellie Gleaton, Grayson Randall

Ike Irish earns First Team All-Southeast Region honors

George Nunnelley
AU Athletics

AUBURN, Ala. — Ike Irish has been named First Team All-Southeast Region coming off a season in which he led the team or tied for the team lead in each Triple Crown category, the American Baseball Coaches Association and Rawlings announced Tuesday.

It marks the fourth straight season Auburn has had a First Team All-Region honoree, which will earn Irish consideration for the ABCA All-America Team.

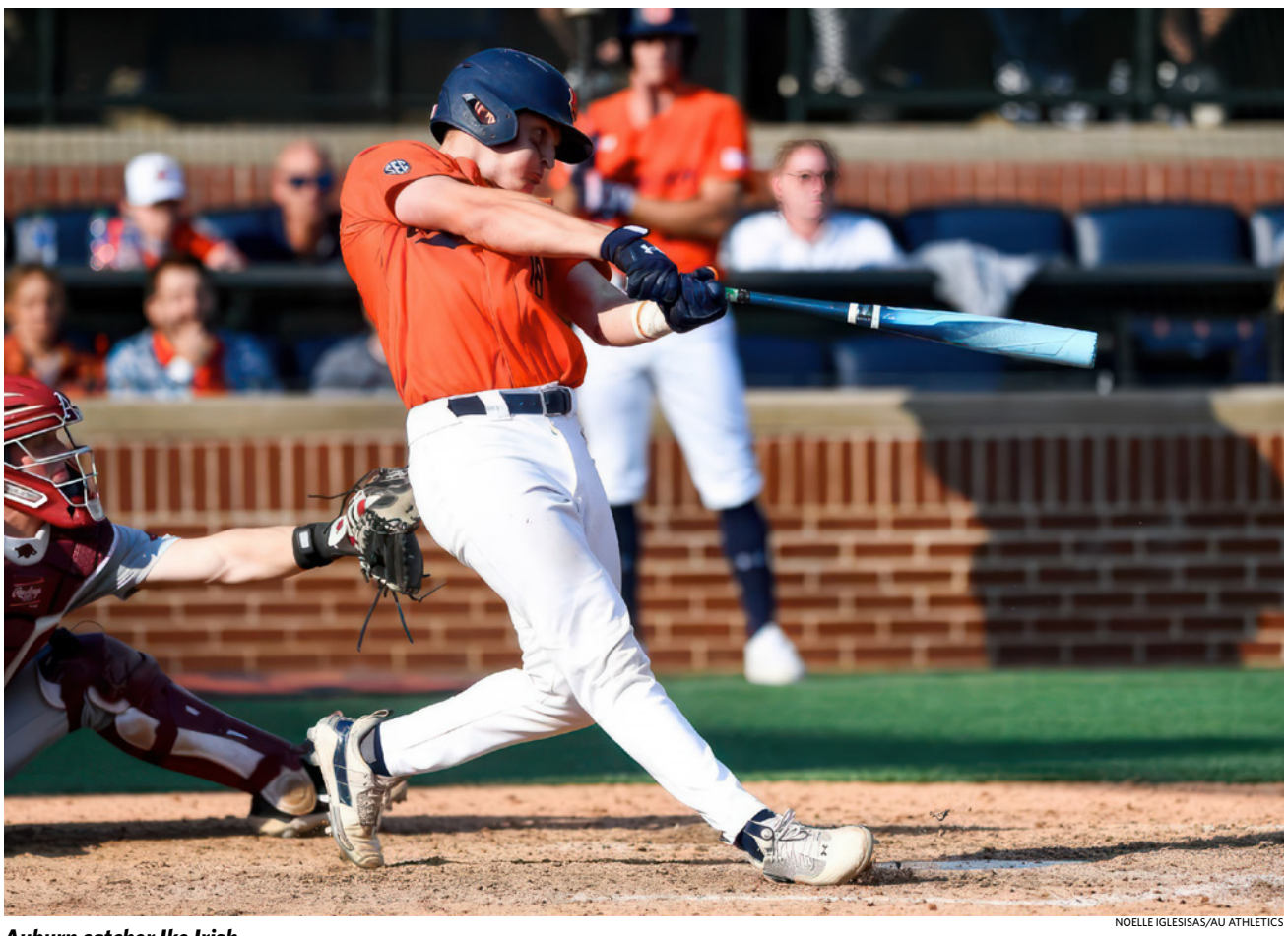
Irish has also been named First Team All-SEC, a semifinalist for the Buster Posey National Collegiate Catcher of the Year Award and a member of the Golden Spikes Award Midseason Watch List.

A sophomore from Hudsonville, Michigan, Irish led the Tigers in average (.319) and RBI (59) and tied for the team lead in home runs (14). His 59 RBI were tied for the eighth most in the conference at the end of the regular season and tied for the fourth most by an Auburn player since 2010.

Against the stiffest competition in the country, Irish hit .311 in 26 league games and led the team in runs (22), hits (33) and RBI (28) while tying for the team lead in home runs (seven).

Along with his production at the plate, Irish tied for third in the league in the regular season with nine runners caught stealing and added an outfield assist. He started 24 games at catcher, 11 games as the designated hitter and 10 games in right field.

He became the fourth fastest player in program history to record his 100th career hit, doing so in his 68th game played with a first-inning homer against UConn on Mar. 2, trailing only Scott Pratt (61 games), Todd Faulkner (63 games) and Tim Hudson (66 games) on the short list.



NOELLE IGLESISAS/AU ATHLETICS

Auburn catcher Ike Irish

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Fairview (from Front)

Katie Spicer
katie@cullmantribune.com

FAIRVIEW, Ala. — The Fairview Town Council on Tuesday, June 11, discussed the creation of a new park.

The council heard from representatives of CDG Engineering who proposed their services to help create a master plan to include assisting the Town with grants and creating a budget for appropriate bids, etc.

The council briefly touched on its vision for the new park.

It hopes to include both competitive and recreational elements that would serve all age groups. These elements could potentially include a splash pad, new ball fields, a pickleball court, walking trails and more.

Mayor Keith Henry stated, "This council has been conservative. We haven't wasted money.

"Our funds have grown, and I'd like to put it into something big that makes an impact on the whole community."

Councilwoman Julie Grimes supported the mayor's idea, stating, "I want to see the land and property used in the best way – for kids, for adults, for senior citizens – and the best way to do that is to have a plan."

The location of the new park has not been decided.

After a motion was made to accept CDG Engineering's proposal for park planning services, the council approved it unanimously.

The council is calling for community input as it begins planning this new endeavor.

Fairview residents are invited to attend monthly council meetings or contact the Town via Facebook with ideas and examples of things they would like to see in the new park.

The next Fairview Town Council meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. on July 1, 2024, at Fairview Town Hall located at 7525 Alabama Highway 69.

Track (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — At its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, June 13, the Cullman County Board of Education (CCBOE) recognized the Cold Springs Eagles for winning their second straight 2A State Championship. (www.cullmantribune.com/2024/05/04/state-track-meet-blessed-is-an-understatement-cold-springs-wins-back-to-back-2a-state-championships-local-results-from-cullman-gulf-shores)

"This is probably the most decorated group of young people we've had in our school system, just to be honest with you," said Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette."

At the AHSAA State Track Meet, the Eagles beat Reeltown by 34 points. Tribune Sports Editor Nick Griffin reported that Eagles runner Ethan Edgeworth racked up four gold medals (1600-Meter, 3200-Meter, 800-Meter, 4×800 Meter Relay) and Eagles jumper Nic Fallin earned two more (Pole Vault, Long Jump) to help lead Cold Springs to the title.

In other business the board:

Approved the following resignations:
- Cade Willingham
- Samuel Nichols
- Tabitha Roberts
- Miriam Adams
- Shelby Abbott
- Megan McDaniel
- David Hulsey
- Danny Huddleston
- Ashley Peebles
- Averie Harris
- Hannah Tolbert
- Hannah Shaddix
- Christy Chappell
- Mary Thomas
- Mack Tucker

Approved the following transfers:
- Delan Trimble
- Summer Walker
- Kasey Thomas
- Kolton Easterwood
- Kellie Graves
- Charles Nelson
- Susan Goble
- Phillip Schnittker
- Kyle Kugler
- Jena Mayo
- Deanna Chiaranda
- Brandy Love
- April German
- Veronica Wallace
- Patricia Wise
- Phamie Brown
- Kathryn Risner
- Anna Franklin
- Logan Sellers
- Marigrace Dunn
- Sherry Redding
- Jennie Bradford
- Blaise Carie
- Randall Pearson
- Mackenzie Hulsey
- Amanda Vincent
- Phillip Miller
- Phala Jacobs
- Terri Baker
- Nathan Appling
- Adam McKinnon
- Jyme Jennings
- Robert Strane
- Kenneth Griffin
- Adriana Skutchan
- Carrie Morrow
- Troy Taylor
- Emily Brown
- Brent Barnett
- Andrew Sims
- Gwendel Wayers
- Joshua Davis

Approved the following appointments:
- Patricia Laseter
- Kenneth Colvin
- Amy Kenney
- Kate Peek
- Lorie Strane
- Eric Vest
- Betty Pitts
- Allison Plunkett
- Sarah Piper
- Tegan Acosta
- Rosemary Adams
- Kelsey Bauer
- Johnna Brown
- Summer Higgins
- Ann Aldridge
- Hannah Crane
- Abigail Curtis
- Madelyn Feezell
- Michael Gillespie
- Karla Pitts
- Jacob Antonio
- Velma Calvert
- Todd Carter
- Donna Heptinstall
- William McDaniel
- Sandra Smith
- Amie White
- Zackery Qualls
- Lauren Willis
- Sarah Laney
- Isabella McGukin
- Cinnamon Airhart
- Dori Long
- Kathryn Spencer
- Bobby Daniels
- Ginger Moore
- Megan Newman
- Kimberleigh Sherrell
- Ashley Berryman
- Stacey Hollaway
- Jan King
- Logan McInnish
- Aaliyah Wallace
- Anna Quick
- Sylvia Aker
- Tammie Heaton
- Makayla Sartin
- Tyler White

Approved the following substitutes:
- David Grismore
- Kimberly Allred
- Jennifer Bischoff
- Mariah Hicks
- Mary McElhone
- Chloe Powell

Approved the following contract and salary changes:
- Tyler Ayers
- Bethany Dingler
- Tyler Morgan
- Clay Morrison
- Sherry Redding
- Hannah Sumner
- Jason Teichmiller
- Ginger Lamon

Approved the following non-faculty coaches:
- BryAnna Brown
- Tina Jones

Approved the following 2024 summer workers:
- Grey Johnson
- Slade Johnson
- Aidan Tidwell
- Ramey Hall
- Clara Spitzer
- Hudson Stephens
- Braxton Yarbrough
- Desiree Barnett
- Gannon Bowerman
- Emilia Chiaranda
- Avery Flynt
- Campbell Koch
- Ivey Maddox
- Braiden McCluskey
- Broderick Schaefer
- Natalie Scott
- Tomorrow Simmons
- Alexandria Steed
- Kailey White
- Noah Barnette

Approved the following contract extensions for summer 2024:
- Candace Martin
- Robert Strane
- Larry Brock
- Rachel Bush
- Amanda Swann

Approved Summer Learning and Reading Camps for K-5th grade schools from June 10-28, 2024, from 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Teacher - current regular hourly rate of pay:
- Lisa Andrews
- Matthew Ellard
- Holly Pirkle
- Deanna Stephens
- Lauren Bentley
- Vanessa Helms
- Jessica Reeves
- Melinda Wood
- Angela Calvert

Aides - $80 per day:
- Sharon Reid
- Sadey Sizemore

Bus drivers - $100 per day:
- Sandra Hinds
- Monia Kent
- Deloris D. Weldon
- Nita Holcombe
- Stephanie Sandlin

Bus aides-$80 per day, as needed:
- Alicia Maddux
- Rebecca Pearl
- Melinda Shedd

- Approved to pay Tabatha Roberts for up to five unused Annual Leave days, as per board policy
- Approved MOA between the Alabama State Department of Education and the Cullman County Board of Education for Haynes Riddle to serve as the Director at the Decatur Academy of Craft Training for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. ALSDE will provide reimbursement for salary and benefits
- Approved request to pay Michael Black $350 for video production services during 2024 graduation, paid by graduation broadcast sponsorship revenues
- Approved request from the Child Nutrition Program to pay Amy Collins at her regular hourly rate for Titan software training (not to exceed five days) during the 2024 Summer
- Approved request from Vinemont High School to pay Roy Todd Johnson $2,000 for additional summer athletic director duties
- Approved request from Vinemont Middle School to pay Michael Williams and Thomas Arbet $800 each for refinishing the gym floor
- Approved request for the purchase of the K-2 early numeracy assessment from Forefront
- Approved new CTE textbooks as selected by the textbook committee in collaboration with Cullman Area Technology Academy teachers
- Approved request to purchase Mastery Prep to be used to ACT preparation from MasteryPrep Ready
- Approved new Financial Literacy textbooks as selected by the textbook committee
- Approved to pay select teachers a stipend of $180 per day for district-approved summer work and/or training
- Approved request to operate the CEP Program for 2024-2025 School year
- Approved request for the extension of the Milk Bid for the 2024-2025 school year
- Approved request to extend the Community Action Contract for the 2024-2025 school year
- Approved Meal pricing increase-
  - Employee Breakfast-$3.25
  - Employee Lunch-$4.75
  - Visitor Breakfast-$3.50
  - Visitor Lunch-$5/no change
- Approved the following Out-of-State Field Trip Requests:
- Good Hope High School, June 5, 2024, to Daytona, FL for World Archery Tournament
- Cold Springs High, June 27-29, 2024, to Covington, GA for Cross Country Team Trip
- Approved April 2024 Financial Statements
- Approved April 2024 Bills and Salaries
- Approved Hanceville Middle School to open a new bank account at Merchants Bank. The signers on the account will be Dr. Shane Barnette and Elizabeth Watwood.
- Approved the 2024-2025 Salary Schedule
- Approved Hanceville High to dispose of or sell two Ford Trucks
- Approved Good Hope High School to sell a 1988 GMC truck
- Approved all Cullman County Schools and Central Office to dispose of or sell by sealed bid any non-operational or obsolete technology equipment, classroom or library equipment, office equipment, furniture, televisions and electronics for the 2023- 2024 school year
- Approved request from the Cullman County Education Support Professional for three days professional leave for David Lewis to attend the June 13-15, 2024, ESP leadership Training in Huntsville, Al; one day professional leave for Rodeny Turner and David Lewis to attend the June 20, 2024, ESP Leadership Training at Stonebridge
- Approved request to purchase property adjoining Good Hope Primary, at the appraised value of $50,000

The CCBOE will meet next on Thursday, July 11, 2024, at the Cullman County Board of Education. The work session will begin at 3:30 p.m. with the meeting immediately following.

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CASA (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) is in need of volunteers to assist with local youth involved with DHR or Family and Safety Plans or who are otherwise involved in the court system.

Candace Lingo, one of Cullman County CASA's case managers, described volunteer advocates as "appointed by a judge to recommend the best possible outcome for an abused or neglected child's future. Whether this means helping to make a connection with adoptive parents or safely reuniting the child with parents or relatives, the ultimate goal of the CASA volunteer is to help ensure that every one of these kids can live in a safe, permanent home."

Volunteer advocates attend any judicial proceedings to speak for the child or children involved, allowing the feelings and emotions of a high-stress time to be pushed to the wayside and truly voice the needs of the child, in and out of a courtroom. In addition to being court-appointed advocates, CASA volunteers often forge friendships and bonds with the clients they serve, acting as mentors.

Currently, Cullman County CASA serves over 160 children in the area and has only 23 volunteer advocates.

"These kids deserve someone consistent and who will show up," said Lingo. "Recently, we had a graduate that did not have anyone to go dress shopping with, so a volunteer went with (her)."

An average of 12 hours a month is all that is needed to claim the title of CASA volunteer advocate. Interested volunteers must be 21, have reliable transportation, have the ability to pass a DHR and criminal background check and complete a 30-hour training over approximately five weeks.

Volunteers are expected to meet with the children at least once a month, to do an independent evaluation of the parent home or home of anyone interested in placement of the children.

The volunteer will also attend court as the appointed case comes on the docket, locate resources for the children and family and give recommendations in a written report based on the facts of the case.

Lingo shared, "The more consistent and dedicated people that we can have to be with the children through this process, the better."

To become a volunteer advocate, contact Cullman County CASA at 256-739-1111 or cullmancountycasa@msn.com.

Cullman County CASA is located at 402 Arnold St. NE. Hours are Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Find out more at www.cullmancaringforkids.com/casa.html.



COLUMN

The old man's watch

Joe Hobby
Contributor

Since It was my fourth trip to the watch repair shop, I didn't have high hopes. I'm sure the little Russian man who owned it would tell me, like he had on my three previous visits, that he couldn't find the parts to get the wristwatch running – thanks to Covid. Besides, it was nothing but an old, inexpensive, self-winding Seiko. The cost to repair it would probably be more than the watch was worth. But that didn't matter to me, because as far as I'm concerned, this timepiece is priceless. It belonged to my father.

Dad only had a couple of wristwatches during his life. For the longest time he had a silver Omega timepiece that he wore every waking hour. As a child I can recall seeing it on his wrist when I visited him at work. I remember him diligently winding it almost every day.

He revered Omega watches – so much so that he gave me one when I graduated from college.

I don't know what ever happened to that wonderful old timepiece of his – I suppose it quit keeping "good time" as they used to say – but for whatever reason, the Seiko replaced it.

Even though it's not expensive, this is a nice watch. The old Seiko has more style than most watches I see nowadays.

A clean, gray face contrasts smartly with the silver bars marking the hours. A silver and gold stretch band completed the look. Classy.

Like the Omega, the Seiko became a part of my father. I can still see him taking off that watch before we would play golf – he would either place it in the top pocket of his golf bag or drop it in his street shoes when we changed into our golf spikes. He checked the time on his wrist so much that it became a nervous habit.

Of course, all his wristwatch did was give the time and the date.

You couldn't check emails (because there was no such thing), look at photographs or talk on it. At that time something like that would've been considered science fiction – now it's a common occurrence.

Sorry about that tangent. Not too long ago, my sister found dad's Seiko in an old jewelry box and gave it to me. And now I was walking in the watch repair shop again, hoping that the Russian had finally gotten the Seiko running.

Unfortunately, the moment our eyes locked, he began shaking his head. The fourth time was not the charm.

The little man began speaking before I got to the counter, saying, "No, no. Sorry, I can't find part to fix. I search. I try. I sorry. I know it your Papa's watch."

I hated to hear that, but it wasn't surprising. It was like your doctor telling you that you have high cholesterol when your diet is mostly cheeseburgers. I nodded and said, "That's OK. Just give it back to me. I have plans for it."

I decided to hang the watch from our Christmas tree every holiday season – a unique ornament that would honor my father.

So he put the Seiko in a small manila envelope, apologized again and handed it to me. I thanked him, walked to the truck, then took the timepiece out to give it a final look before I took it home and stored it with our Christmas decorations. I even gave in to a strange urge to put it on my wrist – why, I still don't know. I held the timepiece away from me and looked at its face.

Almost immediately, the second hand, which had been frozen for years, began moving smoothly.

It had come back to life. I stared at the watch crystal in disbelief as a wave of goosebumps washed over me. I had the distinct feeling that I wasn't alone in the truck.

The watch has been on my left wrist for several months now, keeping "good time" just like it did decades before.

Honestly, it runs a little bit slow, so I have to adjust the minute hand every day, but considering its age, that's all right. At my age, I run a little slow myself.

I'm sure there are people who read this and believe that when the little Russian repairman opened the back of the watch, he somehow unfroze the mechanism – a convenient coincidence. Believe that if you want – but I don't.

I know what I felt that day in my truck when the watch began ticking again. Like someone was with me, telling me to keep it on my wrist, telling me there was life in it yet. I know who it was.

The original owner.
Happy Father's Day, everyone.

Joe Hobby is a barbecue-loving comedian from Alabama who wrote for Jay Leno for many years. Find more of Joe's stories on his blog: https://mylifeasahobby.blogspot.com. Follow him on Facebook at Joe Hobby Comedian-Writer.

Health Science application advising session offered June 27

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College Health Science programs will host an application advising session on Thursday, June 27, at 2 p.m. for anyone interested in applying for programs with openings remaining for the fall 2024 semester. Previous and new applicants are welcome to attend. The meeting will be held in Room 116 on the first floor of the Tom Bevill Health Education Building.

"We encourage anyone who has an interest in entering the healthcare field to attend this session and learn more about the programs offered at Wallace State and get insight into the application process," said Lisa German, vice president for learning and dean of the Health Science programs. "This could be especially beneficial to students who may have applied to another program but was unfortunately not able to enroll. This session will show them there are more opportunities available to them in healthcare that they may not have been aware of previously."

Health science programs with openings for the fall 2024 semester include:

- Dental Assisting
- Emergency Medical Services
- Health Information Technology
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Laboratory Assistant and Medical Laboratory Technician
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Polysomnography (Sleep Lab)
- Respiratory Therapy

For more information about these programs, visit www.wallacestate.edu/health or call 256-352-8000.

Obituary Announcements: June 13-14

William "Bill" A. Mann, 78

Hanceville Funeral Home would like to announce the passing of William "Bill" Mann, 78, of Hanceville, Alabama. Mr. Mann was born on September 8, 1945, to the late Roy A. Mann and Emma Goellar-Mann. He passed away on June 11, 2024, at Hanceville Nursing and Rehab Center in Hanceville. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and the community. A graveside service will take place at 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 15th at Hopewell Cemetery. In addition, the United States Air Force will be conducting military details in Bill's honor Reverend Wayne Wisener will be officiating the service. Visitation will be at Hanceville Funeral Home on Saturday, June 15th from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Sherrell "Moochie" Leon Barnett, 66

Funeral services for Sherrell "Moochie" Leon Barnett, 66, of Crane Hill, Alabama will be 10 a.m. Saturday, June 15th at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Reverend Brad Philbeck will be officiating the service. The burial will follow the service at Duck River Cemetery with Reverend Mark Higdon officiating. Visitation will be at Hanceville Funeral Home from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, June 14th. Mr. Barnett was born on December 10, 1957, to the late Leonard and Era Mae Whaley-Barnett in Cullman, Alabama. He passed away on June 12, 2024, at Cullman Regional Medical Center in Cullman.

Known to most of his family, friends and community, Moochie worked for over 10 years at Hanceville Water Works Department where he was a dedicated and valued employee. He was a beloved member of Bethany Baptist Church where he was deeply involved and cherished his community. Moochie also had a special way of making everyone feel loved and welcome with the best hugs around town. In his free time, he enjoyed riding motorcycles and spent many happy hours and quality time with his riding buddies. In addition, he treasured his time spent with his large family and friends. Those surviving Moochie are his beloved wife, Toni Johnston-Barnett; children, Josh Allbritten, Kody Sellers and Shay Sellers; grandson, Leo Sellers; siblings, Carol Barnett-Patton, Rita Mayfeild (Gene), and Derrell "BoBo" Barnett (Janice); and a host of many loving nieces, nephews, and cousins. In addition to his parents, Mr. Barnett was preceded in death by his siblings, Brenda Burns, Jo Burrow, Gerald Barnett and Myra Carroll. Serving as pallbearers will be Shane Barnett, Sohn Barnett, Brent Barnett, Jeremy Barnett, Jonathan Mayfield, and Jarod Mayfield. Honorary pallbearers will include his motorcycle riding buddies. The family would like to request that in lieu of flowers, consider a donation to St. Jude Children's Hospital. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Barnett Family.

Thomas E. "Tommy" Warhurst, 74

Thomas Edward "Tommy" Warhurst, 74 of Cullman, passed away Monday evening June 10, 2024. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Tommy was born on January 18, 1950, in Colbert County and also lived and worked in Blount and Cullman counties. He is a 1968 graduate of Cherokee Vocational High School and a 1972 graduate of Florence State University (UNA) where he walked on to play football and soon earned a scholarship along with a degree in accounting and management. He received his banking degree from Vanderbilt School of Banking and spent 35 years working in the banking industry. Tommy served 14 years in the Alabama Army National Guard in Tuscumbia. He was an ordained deacon and a 2011 inductee into the Colbert County Sports Hall of Fame. Through the years, he was president of the Shoals Area Chamber of Commerce, The Red Cross and other organizations as well as an active Rotarian. Tommy & his wife Cala, went on several youth choir/mission trips, including a 17 day trip to the former East Germany and housed several youth from Germany who were on tour in Oneonta and Cullman. Tommy is survived by the love of his life, his wife, Cala Denton Warhurst. June 20, 2024 would have marked their 55th wedding anniversary. He is also survived by Two sons, Thomas Dewey Warhurst (Angela) and Daniel Edward Warhurst, daughter April Warhurst White (Jeff), his brother Mike Warhurst (Cheryl) and sisters Gail Bowers and Brandy Tidwell (Jamie), four grandchildren, Jade McWhorter, Zoe Vincent, Evan White and Julia White. Tommy was preceded in death by his father, Thomas Pascal Warhurst, mother, Fronia McCullough Warhurst & brother Kenneth Ray Warhurst. A celebration of life service will be held Wednesday, June 19th at Seventh Street Baptist Church in Cullman, located at 708 Seventh St. SW, with visitation beginning at 1 p.m. followed by the celebration service at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family ask you make donations to The Good Samaritan Health Clinic or Curt's Closet, both located in Cullman.

Margie Ann Gerstman, 77

Margie Ann Gerstman of Vinemont, Alabama passed away on June 13, 2024, at the age of 77. Margie is preceded in death by her husband Melvin Julian Gerstman, father Bonnie Lee Hendrix, mother Betty Mae Hendrix, brothers Ray Hendrix and Dewayne Hendrix, sister Annette Reese, brother-in-law Wayne Baker, sister-in-law Sonya Hendrix, and son-in-law Billy Moore. Margie is survived by her children Janine (G.T) Robertson, Teresa (Mark) McBrayer, Amy Moore, Michelle Winstead, and Jeff (Gina Blair) Gerstman, grandchildren Keesha (Johnathan) Stephenson, Colton Boatwright, Logan McBrayer, Trent (Jenna) Winstead, Tory (Amanda) Boatwright, Savannah (Chris) Speegle, Autumn Boatwright, Isaac (Jessica) Robertson, Tiffany Moore, Jacob Moore, and Jessie (Patricia) Moore, great-grandchildren Mikayla Meyer, Sadie Burns, Conner Robertson, Finley Boatwright, Emma Robertson, Owen Winstead, Charlie Winstead, Krislyn Boatwright, Carter Sherrell, Alex Aaron Curtis, Layla Speegle, Maverick Speegle, Madison Moore, Elijah Moore, Kaden Moore, and Austin Vice Dallas, brothers Tommy and Jerry (Carolyn) Hendrix, brother-in-law Randall Reese, sisters Freda Baker, Tina (Bruce) McDowell, and Lisa (Gene) Ballard, and sister-in-law Helen Hendrix. Services for Mrs. Gerstman will be held Sunday June 16th in the Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel located at 1901 Second Ave. NW, Cullman, AL 35055. Family will receive friends for a visitation from 1 p.m. until the service time at 3 p.m., with interment to follow at Dripping Springs Cemetery located at 368 County Road 1107, Vinemont, AL 35179. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Free Obituary Listings

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BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

Forty-nine years and still in love

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



Honestly, I don't remember the first time I ever saw her, or when we first met. She had left the big city of Chattanooga when her dad moved their family back to his native Alabama. They first moved to Valley Head, and then a couple of years later to my hometown of Rainsville. He couldn't wait to get back to Sand Mountain, so with six weeks left in her seventh grade, they moved and she enrolled at Plainview School. I was much older than her back then, I was in the eighth grade there. I've often said I am thankful that her dad brought her to my part of the world, so Jean Willis could meet Bill King, or better yet, so I could meet her.

Some have blessed us with the title of high-school sweethearts. Actually, we never were. As a matter of fact, a girl I dated when I was a junior, once told Jean she was dating me, to which Jean replied, "Why?" I went gaga for the green-eyed girl with the long blonde hair long before she decided I might not be so bad after all. I'm glad she changed her mind and my life.

We did not have our first date until after I had graduated. It was the summer of 1973 when romance first began to take seed. In June of that year, our youth group from Broadway Baptist Church went to a youth rally at Jackson Way Baptist Church, in Huntsville.

I don't remember too much about that event or evening except that Gene Cotton sang and Jean Willis sat on the pew directly behind me. I offered her a piece of gum, Dentyne Red, I believe, and I ended up moving back one pew to sit beside her. After that, we tied up the party telephone lines regularly. Farmers Telephone Co-op limited local calls to three minutes back then.

They gave a warning beep and then a cutoff at three minutes, but they couldn't keep me from calling back. I think all that dialing is why I have arthritis in my finger joints! And yes, I did the calling because girls didn't call boys back in those days.

Our first actual date was July 4, 1973. I took her to Lookout Mountain's Little River Canyon, just above Fort Payne. Little River Canyon is the deepest gorge east of the Mississippi River. Back in those days there was an amusement park there called Canyonland Park.

The park had a few rides and a small zoo. A local band named Wild Country often played there. I had hoped they would be there that day but they were not.

A few years later, they changed their drummer and their name. They became known as the band Alabama. A couple of years later Jean Willis changed her name to Jean King.

The main ride at Canyonland was a chairlift that took riders down to the canyon floor. During our ride down, it started raining.

Jean looked so cute that day in her white romper and her red, white, and blue swede shoes.

We were both soaked to the bone by the time we got out of there. When Jean removed her shoes, her feet were patriotic...dyed red, white, and blue. Almost two-years later, we walked the aisle at Broadway Church and said, "I do." It rained that evening too.

Fortunately, Jean didn't wear her swede shoes. This week, we celebrate 49-years of marriage. We can't go to Canyonland, because it's long gone. We might just go home and listen to some old Wild Country...I mean old Alabama!

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

HISTORY

Files from yesteryear: 1936, 1952

From the files of 1936

Mrs. H. Parker was a nice hostess on Thursday for a dance.

George Stiefelmeyer, Grand Master- Elect of the Grand Lodge of Alabama Odd Fellows, attended the district convention of the Rebekahs in Hanceville on Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. W.P. Herrell have named their little daughter, Katherine Rose.

Reverend J.E. Creel of Bangor, Clerk of the Cullman Baptist Association was a visitor to Cullman recently.

Miss Gladys Glover of Baldwin spent Saturday night with Miss Melba Bradford.

Misses Aline and Dorothy Kraft were the Sunday afternoon visitors of Miss Christine Styles.

A two-course luncheon was served by Mrs. Edwin Bottcher for the patrons of Pleasant Hill School on Monday evening. They have plans for a pie supper on Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Odes Lovell are the parents of a baby girl. They have named her Abbie Sue.

Roy Ashwander of Hanceville has been visiting his sister and family Mr. and Mrs. Paul Motzkus of Cullman, Route Five.

Dan McGugin, coach of Vanderbilt College died suddenly at age 56. It was believed to be a heart attack.

Mrs. Graf Hart spent Friday with Mrs. Zelma Self of Welcome.

Mr. and Mrs. W.T. Waldrop and Mrs. Verla Bice were in Cullman on Saturday.

From the files of 1952

Retired Reverend Bede E. Luibel, O.S.B., age 35, the nation's youngest abbott is now head of St. Bernard College and Abbey.

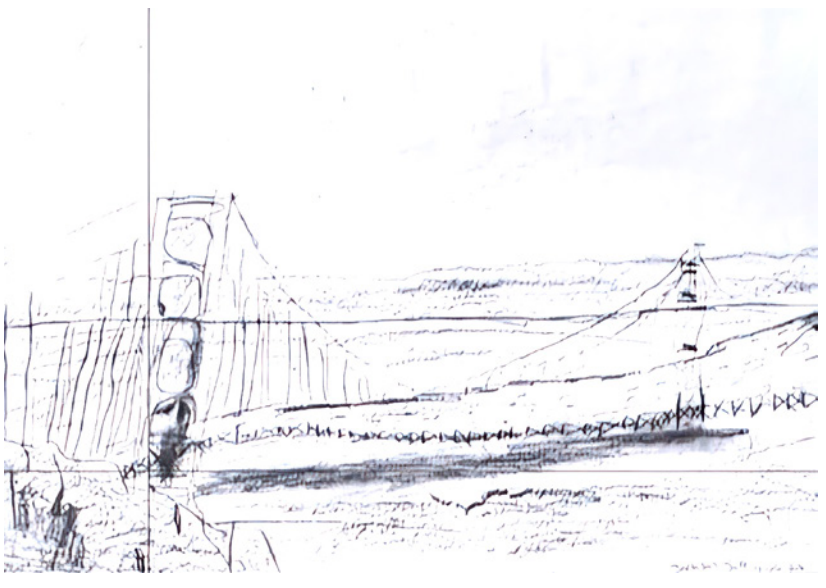
The Cullman Bearcats football team, coached by Grady Elmore and John Meadows has the following players: Royce Brown, Brownie West, Ed Miller, Jack Railey, Jerry Patrick, Bobby Cox, Pete Taylor, Guy Waldrop, "Corney" Smith, Mark Heatherly, "Red" Miller, Larry Sanderson, Bill Wilhite, Bob Russell, Sherrill Smith, Bill Baggett, Asa Brandon, Jerry McClendon, Pat Padgett, Douglas Lovelace, Ralph Blalock, "Speedy" Wood, David Quattlebaum, Eugene Sandlin, James Higgerson Harry Nix, Joe Brown, Joe Miller, Jack House, Keith Moore, Wayne Dahlke, Jimmy Knight, Donald Burnham, Bill Martin, Max Kelley and several others.

POET'S CORNER

Ghost Bridge | By: Randy C. Hale

"Let's make this our kissing bridge,"
he said.
With excitement, she agreed and
began a ritual lasting for many years,
as long as the old iron bridge endured.
Stop, for a brief moment, turn, lean in
and kiss, then resume across the old
metal frame's suspended ribs.
Later, a child would watch from the
back seat, hear the origin of their
offbeat behavior, find it pleasing,
and impressionable within.

Now some sixty years, the bridge
being down, and replaced.
The couple got older, then
separated by her death.
He with dementia five years looks
at the aged son and asks where
she is, gone near twenty years.
Perhaps, if the two left,
close their eyes, they just might
see a river with a ghost bridge standing,
a tender tradition continuing
as a couple kiss.



CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

JUNE 15

B	A	R	S	F	P	R	E	C	I	S	E	L	Y	C
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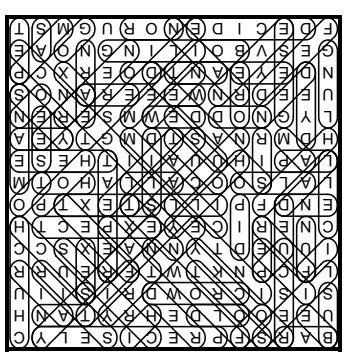
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Holy
Hop
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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

JUNE 15

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ANSWERS:



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



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