

The Cullman Tribune

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VOL. 151 • 50¢ PER COPY | *TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2024* | USPS 139-700 • NO. 76

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SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

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LEXI DOSS

– SPORTS –

'I couldn't be more grateful for an amazing God': Good Hope's Lexi Doss reflects on Raider years

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Trials begin in 2017, 2021 homicide cases

W.C. Mann, Lauren Estes
The Cullman Tribune

CULLMAN, Ala. — Jury selection got underway Monday, June 24, 2024, in the trial of William Thomas Maddux, 33, of Cullman County, in the 2017 shooting death of his stepfather, and jurors heard opening arguments in the reckless homicide trial of Tyler Jacob Guthery, 28, of Cullman County, for a 2021 crash that killed one person and injured another.

William Thomas Maddux

Maddux was indicted in the Nov. 12, 2017, death of his stepfather Perry Shoemake. According to the indictment, Maddux "did intentionally cause the death of another person, to-wit: Perry Shoemake, by shooting him in the head and face with a gun."

Maddux's defense team in court documents indicated plans to claim self-defense.

Following the shooting of Shoemake, police found Maddux with a non-fatal, allegedly self-inflicted gunshot wound to his head. The wound left Maddux with post-traumatic epilepsy, for which he takes medications.

Maddux was released on bond after arraignment, but was reincarcerat- » PAGE 6





CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

***Left:** William Thomas Maddux wears a padded helmet in his 2018 booking photo following an alleged self-inflicted injury. **Right:** Tyler Jacob Guthery*

Snead's Farmhouse delights at Cullman County Public Library



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Judy Snead entertains the mass of local children at the Cullman County Public Library's Summer Reading Program storytime on Monday, June 24, 2024.

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The main branch of the Cullman County Public Library System (CCPLS) was a zoo – or rather, a farm – on Monday, June 24. Judy Snead and her trove of furry friends from local animal rescue Snead's Farmhouse Sanctuary entertained local children for storytime as part of the library's summer reading program. Each Monday and Wednesday throughout the summer, a special guest joins the crew at the library to engage participants with a fun story or hands-on activity.

Snead recited and performed her children's book, "Snead's Farmhouse" as the children listened, learning about the inner-workings of a farm while picking up, Snead hoped, an invaluable life lesson: animals deserve respect and to live a comfortable life free from harm and danger.

The book follows the farm's beginnings and the tales of different animals and their lives at Snead's.

Snead brought along some tiny pigs, a rabbit and a tortoise for the youngsters to touch and learn about after storytime concluded. The gathered children squealed and laughed as they felt the spiny hairs of the small pigs, the hard shapes of the tortoise shell and the soft fur of the angora rabbit.

Attendees who registered at the library entrance are entitled to one free admission to Snead's Farmhouse Sanctuary.

Those passes are available at the branch's circulation desk until Saturday, June 29, at 1 p.m.

Sneads Farmhouse Sanctuary is located at 820 County Road 1225. The farm is Snead's private residence and not open to the public. Tours must be booked in advance online at www.sneads-farmhouse.com/book-a-tour. Tour prices are $15 per entrant and are scheduled Friday through Sunday beginning at 10 a.m.

The next children's program at the library will be 2B Wild West Ranch show at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 26.

Cullman County Historical Society hosts Flying Fifty Hotel presentation



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Flying Fifty Hotel Owners Challie and Paul Knetter give a presentation on the hotel's inspiration at the Sunday, June 23, 2024, meeting of the Cullman County Historical Society. » PAGE 7

Summer safety tips from local law enforcement, first responders

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Library Board announces feasibility study for expansion, renovations

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Mopars for a cause: Car show raises $4.5K to feed hungry children



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Pentastar South Car Club, in partnership with Cullman Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep and Ram, donated $4,500 to Alabama Credit Union's program, Secret Meals for Hungry Children. Pictured left to right are Laurie Legg of Alabama Credit Union, Scott Spitzer of Cullman Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM and Brenda Allison of the Pentastar South Car Club. » PAGE 3



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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported June 24

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported June 24, 2024. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

June 20
- assault; CR 1222
- harassment; CR 431
- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1809
- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 747
- domestic violence; CR 466
- theft of property; CR 520

June 21
- domestic violence; CR 1036
- assault; CR 1196
- harassing communications; CR 1605
- theft of property; CR 1807
- trespassing; CR 1656
- criminal mischief; theft of property; CR 1084
- criminal mischief; Hwy. 69N
- criminal mischief; CR 1043
- possession of dangerous drugs; Hwy. 69S
- possession of dangerous drugs; Lions Park Rd.

June 22
- domestic violence; criminal mischief; CR 1625
- theft of property; CR 1386
- possession of dangerous drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; 2nd Ave. NW
- trespassing; Hwy. 278E
- harassing communications; CR 1246
- theft of property; Fairpark CT

June 23
- permitting dogs to run at large; dog bite; CR 1194
- theft of property; CR 133
- criminal mischief; Hwy. 69N
- possession of methamphetamine; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1413

ARRESTS

June 20-23

Aragon-Reyes, Brisa A.; 22
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of cocaine

Baker, Robert N.; 39
- FTA – reckless driving

Boatright, Tyler G.; 23
- possession of dangerous drugs
- DUI (alcohol)

Brown, Keiane C.; 36
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA - possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – possessing stolen property

Collier, Nichole D.; 31
- FTA - auto theft

Colwell, Michael W.; 43
- DUI (alcohol)
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked, or cancelled
- FTA – reckless driving

Fulmer, Larry B.; 48
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Garrett, Wesley N.; 42
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of marijuan-2nd degree
- possession of dangerous drugs

Guthery, Jammy L.; 50
- possession of methamphetamine
- FTA – driving while license suspended

Hernandez Perez, Manuel; 25
- DUI (alcohol)

Kaiser, Sophia M.; 38
- public intoxication

Laney, Brandon C.; 28
- GJ – organized retail theft
- GJ – retail theft-1st degree

Laughlin, Jonathan P.; 41
- illegal possession of prescription drugs
- possession of drug paraphernalia

McKinney, Michael W.; 44
- assault-harassment

Parker, William A.; 52
- DUI (alcohol)

Phillips, Patrick E.; 26
- PROBATION VIOLATION - miscellaneous theft
- PROBATION VIOLATION - sale of stolen property
- PROBATION VIOLATION - ex-felon in possession of a firearm
- PROBATION VIOLATION - unlawful breaking and entering a vehicle
- PROBATION VIOLATION - possession of methamphetamine
- PROBATION VIOLATION - possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Pierce, Katrina M.; 35
- FTA - assault-domestic-harassment-family
- FTA - criminal trespass

Prater, Harold G.; 64
- criminal trespass

Smith, Cleddius M.; 52
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Smithson, Lelton C.; 20
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Walker, Laklee S.; 30
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of marijuan-2nd degree

Whitlock, Corey D.; 48
- domestic violence-3rd degree
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked, or cancelled

Widner, Tina M.; 44
- PROBATION REVOKED - DUI (combined substance)

Williams Jr., Theodore V.; 36
- FTA - possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA - driving while suspended, revoked, or cancelled
- no tag – utility trailer

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

June 17
- retail theft of property-3rd degree, criminal trespass-2nd degree; Wal-Mart; food; $10; Olive St. SW

June 20
- theft of property-2nd degree; Goss Electric / person; tools; $2,500; Co. Rd. 222

June 21
- criminal mischief-2nd degree; person; damage to '22 Chev. Traverse; $2,000; Bower Dr. SE
- identity theft; person
- theft of property-1st degree; person; cash
- organized retail theft; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $905; Olive St. SW
- theft of property-1st degree; Goss Electric / person; miscellaneous; $3,551; Co. Rd. 222

June 22
- harassment; person; 4th St. SW

June 23
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $22; Hwy 157
- harassment; person; Main Ave SW
- domestic violence-3rd degree harassment; person; Olive St. SW

ARRESTS

June 21-23

Williams, Theodore V., Jr.; 36
- FTA - unlawful possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA - possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA - theft of property-4th degree
- FTA - criminal trespass-3rd degree

Sharp, Katherine R.; 32
- FTA - expired tag
- FTA - insurance violation

Burney, Cody D.; 32
- FTA - theft of property-4th degree (3 counts)

Cruce, Westley C.; 21
- organized retail theft

Downs, Wendy M.; 38
- organized retail theft

Demyer, Savannah J.; 18
- organized retail theft

Contreras, Daniel; 56
- DUI

Tucker, Matthew W.; 40
- retail theft of property-3rd degree
- theft of property-4th degree

McIntyre, Bryan D., Jr.; 39
- FTA - theft of property-4th degree
- FTA - criminal trespass-3rd degree (4 counts)
- FTA - receiving stolen property-4th degree
- FTA - expired tag
- FTA - driving while license revoked
- FTA - insurance violation
- FTA - fail to register vehicle

Ramirez, Teofilo D.; 26
- DUI

Miller, Brasha N.; 32
- theft of property-4th degree
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Mittag, Matthew E.; 40
- theft of property-4th degree

Dauksza, Jacob I.; 33
- FTA - public intoxication

Holcomb, Matthew S.; 43
- FTA - criminal trespass-3rd degree
- FTA - fail to register vehicle

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

WFF's Weathers credits staff for Bradley Award

David Rainer
Ala. Dept. of Conservation and Nat. Resources

Although he may rank in the stratosphere among his peers after receiving the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Guy Bradley Award earlier this year, Michael "Matt" Weathers prefers to keep his feet firmly grounded in Alabama's fertile soil.

Weathers, the Law Enforcement Section Chief with the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' (ADCNR) Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (WFF) Division, became the first officer from Alabama to receive the prestigious award that recognizes his contributions to wildlife law enforcement in honor of Florida Game Warden Guy Bradley. In 1905, Bradley was the first wildlife enforcement officer killed while performing his duties of protecting wildlife. The award was established in 1988 to recognize the officers who have made outstanding lifetime contributions to wildlife enforcement, wildlife forensics and investigative techniques.

Instead of highlighting his contributions to enforcement efforts, Weathers wants to shine the spotlight on his Law Enforcement Section staff of about 150 employees, including about 130 Conservation Enforcement Officers (CEOs).

"I was honored and shocked I had been nominated for the award," Weathers said. "It was meant to be a surprise. It certainly was. It's an honor, but it doesn't speak directly to me. It speaks more to the team that I'm a part of and that the accomplishments of our Section are impressive enough to garner an award. It really isn't me. It's a combination of the folks I work with every day and the officers who have made the programs we're involved in the successes they are."

Weathers said he wouldn't have been considered for the award had it not been for the success of the programs and a deliberate effort to change the public perception of the CEOs and enforcement programs.

"I'm thankful for the team I have been a part of," he said. "We have been really successful in initiating and creating new programs and improving programs we've had for years. We're getting so much more contact with the public than what we once had."

Some of the programs that constitute the day-in and day-out duties of the Enforcement Section not only include robust enforcement protecting the state's wildlife resources but also Hunter Education Unit, Captive Wildlife Unit and numerous training programs. These specialty units and programs complete tasks like public shooting range and community archery park operation, inspection and licensing of captive held wildlife in the state and outreach programs benefitting all Alabamians.

Speaking of public shooting ranges, the Law Enforcement Section will again hold Night Vision/Thermal Open Range Nights at two public shooting ranges this year. These events are opportunities for the public to bring night vision and/or thermal sight-equipped firearms for a night of shooting.

"We have had strong demand for it since the first one," Weathers said of open range nights. "We get phone calls every week about it. There are not a lot of places to shoot in the first place and very few places that will allow you to come out there and shoot at night. It is a good way to better use our ranges and give the public something there is a demand for. The goal of the open range nights is to give those people who plan to hunt the state's special nighttime feral swine and coyote season a place to go and become familiar with their equipment in a safe environment."

Swan Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Public Shooting Range will hold these night-shooting events from 8 p.m. until midnight on July 13 and October 5 at 18936 Harris Station Road, Tanner, AL 35671. Cahaba WMA Public Shooting Range will hold these events during the same time period on July 20 and October 12 at 3956 Coalmont Road, Helena, AL 35114. WFF firearms instructors will staff the range to ensure the event is safe for all who attend. There is no charge for the events, but attendees are required to have a Hunting License or Wildlife Heritage License, which allows access to all WFF-operated shooting ranges for the entire license year.

"The open range nights are just one example of an overall effort to engage with the public and make them better acquainted with Conservation Enforcement Officers and the programs that the Department of Conservation and Natural resources has to offer," Weathers said. "Our officers are constantly busy and constantly in contact with the public to become better known in the community. When you consider that only between 3% and 4% of Alabama citizens are engaged in hunting and 10% in fishing, the vast majority of our population won't have a chance to interact with our staff or really understand what they do for every Alabamian regardless of whether or not they hunt or fish. Our outreach programs are the best vehicle to make our agency known to everyone."

Weathers said one of the most successful ways that the Law Enforcement Section has interacted across the state is through the Section's Rural Operations Program. This program teaches man-tracking and wilderness medical care to law enforcement, first responders and emergency personnel across the state.

"The Rural Ops team has taught dozens of courses to local law enforcement agencies and rescue squads across our state," he said.



BILLY POPE

WFF Director Chuck Sykes, left, presents the NFWF Guy Bradley Award to Chief Michael Weathers as Conservation Commissioner Chris Blankenship and Conservation Advisory Board Chairman Joey Dobbs join the celebration.

"The tracking skills imparted during these courses have already been used numerous times to find lost children and those suffering from Alzheimer's disease and dementia. This course is a way to take the specialized skills that a Conservation Enforcement Officer develops during their career and share them with other first responders. It's a great way to show our utility to every Alabamian."

Other outreach efforts are administered through the Hunter Education Program, Weathers said, not only conducting hunter education classes and certification but also the National Archery in Schools Program as well as the new Outdoor Alabama Academy programs that include basic training in hunting and firearms. Visit www.outdooralabama.com/Academy for more information.

"The Law Enforcement Section is responsible for the protection of the natural resources of the state," Weathers said. "That is not just for hunters and anglers. Every Alabamian owns those resources whether they hunt or fish. They have a stake, and we are the agency tasked to protect those resources whether they know about us or not. Our outreach programs are critically important to the longevity of our agency."

Weathers said having the support of Conservation Commissioner Chris Blankenship, WFF Director Chuck Sykes and ADCNR's Conservation Enforcement Officers makes it easy to be successful.

"I'm fortunate to be involved with this agency at this time with all the things that are going on," he said. "It's the men and women of our Division and Section that are out there creating these successes."

Director Sykes added, "Matt is very humble. He's doing what a great leader does by giving all of the credit to his staff. But, make no mistake about it, he is more than deserving of this award, and it was my pleasure to nominate him."

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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.
• Wednesday, June 26 - 7 p.m. Children and youth classes. Adult worship, teaching and testimonies in the sanctuary. Free pizza at 6:30. Van runs in the 5 Points Area at 6. Call Cedric Davidson t 256-339-5755 for pickup.
• Friday, June 28 - Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! Bring a dish, dessert or drink for a potluck meal at 5:45 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30. Childcare provided.
• Sunday, June 30 - 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 Al-Anon Meetings
The Al-Anon Family Groups are a fellowship of friends and family whose lives have been affected by alcoholism. The Cullman Serenity Al-Anon 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 Al-Anon 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.

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.

Rock the South
July 18-20, at York Farms. Get tickets and more info at www.rockthesouth.com.

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.

Swamp John's Dinner at the Center Hill Community Center
Friday, Aug. 2, at the Center Hill Community Center, from 4-7 p.m. $15 per plate includes dessert and drink. For directions or more information please call 256-708-2218.

Mopars (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman's own Mopar fanatics group, the Pentastar South Car Club, in partnership with Cullman Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram, recently donated $4,500 to Alabama Credit Union's program, Secret Meals for Hungry Children.

Brenda Allison with the Pentastar South Car Club said, "This will go a long way to feed children on the weekend."

The program is meant for school-aged children who could be facing food insecurity at home.

Members with Secret Meals are in contact with local school administrations and faculty to identify children and families with potential food needs. Small bags containing food and snack items are discreetly packaged and placed in designated students' backpacks each Friday, allowing the children a steady food source outside of school hours.

Each year for nearly a decade, the three parties come together to raise money and awareness for the financial institution's nonprofit organization, donating thousands of dollars over the years. The annual Mopars at the Lake car show this year raised a record amount, higher than all years in the past.

Scott Spitzer, general manager of Cullman Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram, said, "This was the best year yet."

The car club had a lot of help in making a successful show, and in turn, a successful donation.

"Without the help of our local sponsors, the show could not continue," shared Allison. "Their generosity with door prizes and monetary donations helped the show be a success."

Volunteers from the Birmingham Mopar Club attended the show in an effort to boost the funds raised by the Cullman Club. Car owners from Florida, Tennessee, Georgia, Illinois and Iowa participated in the show and gave to the cause the Pentastar South Car Club has adopted, through services, donations and man-power.

Smiled Allison, "Our friends come up from Louisiana and cook us some really good Cajun food. Without their help and the help of other friends, we couldn't do it."

Library (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — At the Cullman County Public Library Board meeting on Thursday, June 20, Cullman County Public Library System Director Amber Thornton announced that the Cullman County Commission and Cullman City Council have agreed to proceed with a feasibility study for a phased approach to expand the size of the library and renovate the existing space in order to update the library and try to meet some of its top priority needs.

The feasibility study will be conducted by Williams Blackstock Architects, which specializes in expansions and renovations of libraries. Thornton said the company agreed to donate its services for the study.

The board also discussed storm damage repairs and updates to policies and procedures.

Present were board members Jill Meggs, Drew Green, Rusty Turner and Brooke Desnoes, along with Thornton and Assistant Director Shelby Creekmore.

During the Director's Report, Thornton touched on the current progress of the library's construction and repair from a severe storm in August 2023.

"We have been in full construction mode with our wall and the repairs are almost complete. We now have windows again and we have also put about half of our nonfiction books back on shelves," Thornton shared. "We look to have them all out by the end of July as technical services is weeding as we bring them out of storage."

At its March meeting, the board approved the acceptance of a bid for a new Book Mobile.

Thornton shared with the board members that the vehicle that was secured for the purpose of a Book Mobile was the incorrect size, with the dealership unable to match the bid on a correctly sized van, resulting in a re-bid for one that is the correct size.

The next informational item on the agenda was the updated CCPLS Disaster Plan. Thornton said the document and plan will be submitted for review and approval at the next board meeting.

"Shelby and myself have begun working on updating our Disaster Plan, our Emergency Plan and our CCPLS Policies and Procedures as all of these are out of date and contain inaccurate information," said Thornton.

Thornton said current CCPLS Policies and Procedures are being reviewed and updated.

Because the board will not meet again until August, the document was provided for the board to review, discuss and approve at its August meeting.

The next meeting of the Cullman County Public Library Board is set for Thursday, Aug. 15, at noon in the Special Collections Room of the CCPLS main branch.

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HumbleRoots,LLC
Published daily Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 219 2nd Avenue SE, Cullman, Alabama 35055 Entered as periodical material at the Cullman Post Office Periodical postage paid at Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JUNE 25, 2024

PREP SPORTS

'I couldn't be more grateful for an amazing God': Good Hope's Lexi Doss reflects on Raider years

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — Good Hope senior cheerleader Lexi Doss made a lot of incredible memories during her Raider career and feels blessed to have cheered alongside a lot of talented teammates.

"Some of my favorite memories from cheer were making it on ESPN, cheering for the Lady Raiders when they won state, all the many car rides with my littles, cheering on Friday nights, going to Nationals at Disney, and all the many laughs," Doss said.

"During my time as a cheerleader, I've learned three very important things. Respect is given where respect is earned, so as long as you treat others with respect, they should do the same in return. Another one is that it truly takes a village, and I couldn't be more grateful for mine.

"Last, I learned that God does not give you a battle you can't handle. He knows your strengths and sees your capabilities, so you just have to trust in Him. Learning that has been extremely beneficial in helping me to not worry about my own will for my life, but instead letting God's will be done."

She added, "Cheering alongside so many great people has truly formed me into a much better person. They pushed me to be my best and have been there for me throughout every circumstance in the last few years. I am beyond grateful for each of them, because without them, I would not be where I am today.

"The love I have for them is unmatched. This year, especially, I absolutely loved being able to take the younger girls under my wing, and those exact same girls are the same ones who have made me a better person in the end. I couldn't have done it without them. They taught me many lessons and became one of my biggest blessings. They kept me on my toes, and there truly was never a dull moment."

She cheered under some incredible coaches during her career, and one of her coaches completely changed her life. She will deeply miss cheering at Good Hope next year.

"I am so grateful to have had some great coaches. They taught me so many things on and off the mat. I am extremely grateful for Josh Stancil.

"From competition cheer to high school cheer, he has been the coach to not only push me the most but has also been a father figure that taught me so much about the Lord.

"He always checked in on me and has helped shape me into the Christian that I am today. I hope he knows just how grateful I am for his contributions to my successes," she said.

"Some of the things I will miss the most are Friday nights, my teammates, competing, wearing Raiders across my chest, and being a role model for the younger girls.

"I have absolutely loved being so blessed to represent my school and community, and I will miss it dearly."

Doss will take away so much from cheering at Good Hope and loved being a role model for so many young girls.

"My biggest takeaways from cheering at Good Hope will definitely be the friendships, the life lessons, and the memories I have made over the past 13 years.

"They have been nothing short of amazing, because Good Hope is truly a special place.

"The community support along with the family-type atmosphere is something I will forever be grateful for. I will miss Good Hope so much," she said. "Being a good role model for so many young girls were the most important thing to me about being a Good Hope varsity cheerleader and was a responsibility I didn't take lightly.

"I remember being younger and looking up to the varsity cheerleaders and wanting to be just like them one day. After being blessed enough to accomplish that childhood dream, I wanted the exact same for the younger girls.

"The support and love from the younger girls was one of my favorite parts of being a cheerleader. I absolutely loved being a role model for them, and I wouldn't have traded it for the world. I hope I made my childhood self proud."

Doss participated in a handful of clubs and made a lot of great memories during those experiences as well.

"I was involved in the National Honor Society, Leo Club, FCCLA, Diamond Dolls, and the Heritage Yearbook Staff.

"Even though it got a little stressful sometimes, it was so much fun. I absolutely loved being involved, volunteering, and representing my school at various events. The people are truly what made the clubs so special. There were so many fun moments and unforgettable memories that I thank God for daily.

"Some of my favorite memories were the National Honor Society induction, where my parents and grandmother got to pin me, the Cullman County Leadership Conference, and taking part in making the 2024 yearbook my senior year." she said.

Good Hope will always hold a very special place in Doss' heart and part of her will definitely miss being there when school starts back up in August.

"Good Hope has been such a special place to go to. The community is so supportive and involved, and the family-like environment is like no other.

"The teachers treat us as their own and never fail to make you feel both seen and valued.

"Another thing that makes it so special is that most of my family were also Good Hope alumni, including my father. I wouldn't have rather spent my last 13 years anywhere else," she said.

"I will remember all of the fun memories, laughs, and milestones, but most importantly, I will remember the relationships I have made.

"People are truly what makes the place, and I have met some of the best ones. I will miss my friends and teachers the most, because they are the ones who have led me thus far.

"I wouldn't be where I am today without the help of my classmates, along with the amazing faculty and staff. Good Hope is such a special place, and it's so bittersweet to be leaving a place I have called home for the last 13 years."

She gave some advice to those students that will be starting high school in August and talked about two of her role models that she looked up to in school.

"My advice to them would be to just have fun. These are some of the most fun and memorable times of your life.

"I would also tell them to keep God first and strive to always find the good in people. These two things alone will get you very far.

"I would tell them to do their best to bring joy to every person, because you truly never know what someone else may be going through.

"Even a simple smile can make someone's bad day turn good. Lastly, I would tell them to enjoy these days while they have them, because it goes by way faster than they could ever imagine.

"One day, you'll be walking into your first day of high school as a scared and timid freshman, and in the blink of an eye, you will be taking your very last walk through that exact same hallway. Soon, after walking across the stage, will mark your ending of being a Good Hope student.

"High school will be a roller coaster, but it will only be what you make it. Make it fun, make it memorable, and make it exactly what you want it to be."

She added, "Two of my biggest role models in school were my teachers, Tiffany Pope and April German. Mrs. Pope was my 11th grade history and 12th grade psychology teacher. From the time I met her, she took me in as one of her own kids.

"She strives to make the classroom fun and always makes it a point to make you feel both seen and heard. She is always there when I need someone to talk to, and I thank God for allowing her to be one of my biggest role models. She gives the best advice, and I know I can rely on her for anything," Doss said.

"Mrs. German was my kindergarten teacher. She was the teacher who really set a strong foundation for my future. I have had the honor to grow up around her, and I couldn't be more grateful for not only a teacher, but a friend as well, who instilled so much wisdom and knowledge into me.

"She never fails to make me laugh, and she has played such a huge role in my successes. Both Mrs. Pope and Mrs. German are like mothers to me, and I pray that one day, I become half as amazing as these two women are. I couldn't have made it here without them."

Doss received scholarships from several colleges and talked about her plans. She learned a lot about herself during her time as a Raider and gave advice to those cheerleaders that want to be where she's at right now.

"I received numerous scholarships from UAH, the University of Alabama, and Wallace State Community College.

"I plan to complete the few remaining classes to earn my Associate's in General Studies degree online through Wallace State, while also earning my cosmetology license attending The Salon Professional Academy in Huntsville," she said.

"The most important thing I have learned about myself is that with God, I can achieve anything. He is my rock, and I wouldn't be where I am today without His love and gracious sacrifice.

"I've learned that He won't put me in a battle I can't handle, so I genuinely have to trust in Him and His will for my life.

"I have also learned that whatever God gives, He can also take away, so I strive to never take a single second for granted.

"I have experienced a lot of loss and grief throughout high school, and I couldn't be more grateful for such an amazing God."

She added, "I would tell them to just keep working hard. You can achieve anything you put your mind to with God and effort.

"It takes a lot of hard work and determination, but it is achievable.

"You will have to make sacrifices, but it will be worth it in the end."



LEXI DOSS

Good Hope's Lexi Doss



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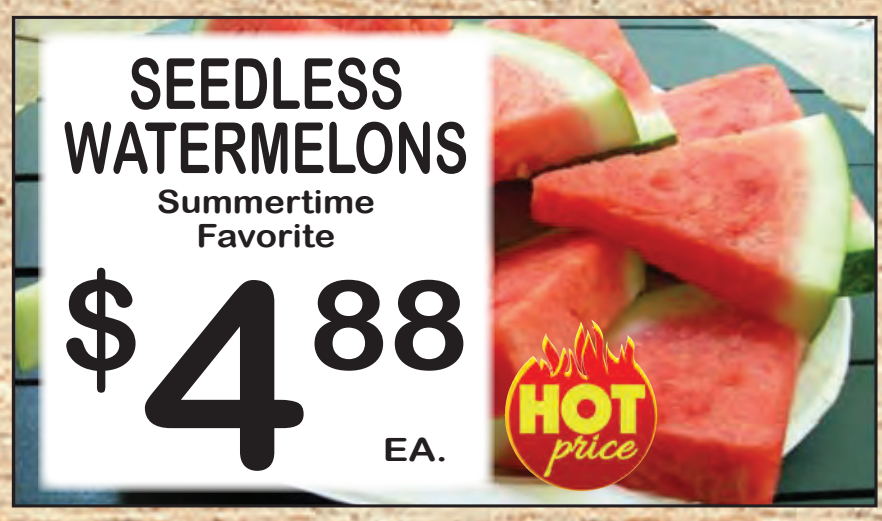
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$6.99 EA.

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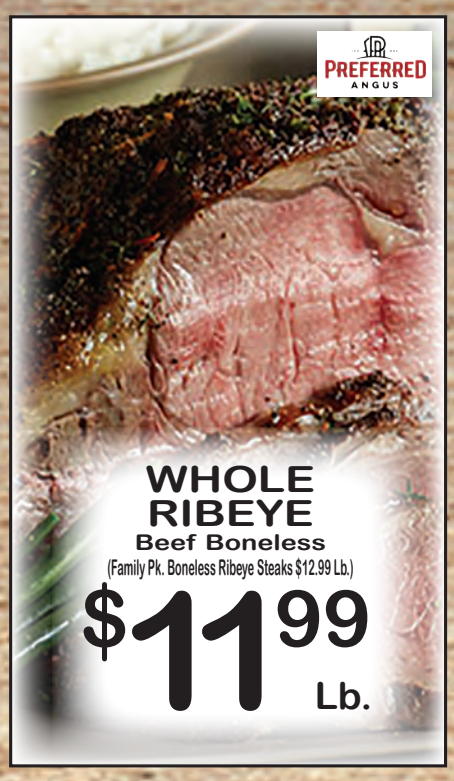
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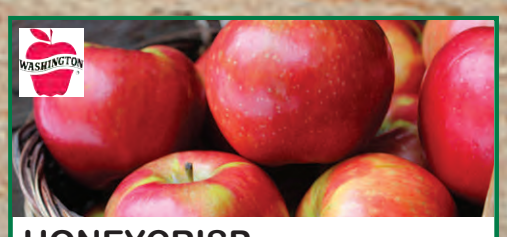
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or Thin Selected Varieties
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$5.99



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Selected Varieties
2 for $4



MAYFIELD SELECT ICE CREAM
1.5 Quart
Assorted Varieties
2 for $8

SEAPAK SHRIMP
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Maryland Style Crabcakes
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Regular or Light
2 for $5





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Squeeze
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Selected Varieties
$5.99



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2 Lb. Loaf
Selected Varieties
$7.49

SIMPLY LEMONADE
52 Oz. Selected Varieties or
Fruit Punch, Peach or Limeade
2 for $5





DEAN'S DIPS
16 Oz.
Selected Varieties
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Family Favorites



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12 Pk.
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$5.99



GATORADE THIRST QUENCHER
8 Pk.
20 Oz. Bottles
$7.99

AQUAFINA WATER
24 Pk.
.5 Liter Bottles
$5.99

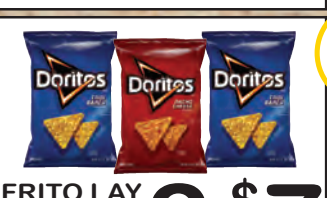


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12 Pk. 12 Oz. Cans or
8 Pk. 12 Oz. Bottles
2 for $10



PEPSI, MTN DEW, STARRY OR DR PEPPER
6 Pk.
.5 Liter Bottles
3 for $9





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6-10.5 Oz.
Selected Varieties
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8 Ct.
2 for $5



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Half Gallon Brown or
Gold Rim Selected Varieties
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GOLDEN FLAKE, UTZ, ZAPP'S OR ON THE BORDER CHIPS
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Selected Varieties
2 for $4



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32 Oz.
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SIMPLY DONE PAPER TOWELS

6 Double Rolls
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On the Plains with Jarquez Hunter: 'A year to remember'

Shelly Poe
AU Athletics

AUBURN, Ala. — "I always wanted to play at Auburn – always – since I was a little kid.

"My family members and friends can tell you; they always knew I wanted to come to Auburn. There was just something about the Tigers that caught my eye. I was always in love with Auburn and wanted to come here," running back Jarquez Hunter explains about why he chose to spend his college career on the Plains.

"My senior year in January, that's when Coach (Bryan) Harsin offered me, and I committed on the spot. A very easy decision - I told him I was coming to Auburn."

Fast forward four years and Hunter, a second team all-SEC honoree with 2,172 rushing yards and 17 touchdown runs to his credit, couldn't be more satisfied with his decision as he enters his senior season.

"To this day, it fits in great with what I thought it could be. I've met a lot of awesome people and made a lot of great relationships – everywhere you go it feels like family. Everybody welcomes you in. I got a chance to finish my degree in three years – I got a great degree from Auburn and that will take me a long way other than just playing football.

"It's been awesome here at Auburn. It feels like family every time I walk through campus."

Receiving his bachelor's degree this May was as big an accomplishment as any game-winning touchdown or SEC accolade, and it came through Hunter's trademark persistence and dedication.

"Getting that degree, my family was really proud and me, I just felt relieved. I finally got it done and all the hard work of three years paid off.

"To finish in three years, I tried to take as many classes as I could. Most semesters during fall and spring, I tried to take 18 hours, and I took 12 hours in the summers.

"My major was natural resource management. I chose that because I'm an outdoors person. I just like to be outside and it's something I'd like to do in the future when I get done playing football. I like to be hands-on and there are a number of jobs it covers.

"You can be a park ranger or something like that, and I would enjoy that. It's important to keep nature and the outdoors going and available to everyone.

"Graduation day, I was proud of myself, and I know my family was proud. Nobody can take that away from me. I've got an Auburn degree."

Next, Hunter, who already ranks 18th among Auburn's career rushing leaders, wants to solidify his legacy of production.

"My dream in football is simple. One day, I want to be listed among the best running backs to play here. I know Bo Jackson, Cadillac (Williams), Ronnie Brown, all of them, but I want to be in the category with them. I want to be one of the great running backs who came through Auburn.

"I want my teammates to say Jarquez gave his all every time he was at practice and in a game or in workouts. I want them to say he was a great person to be around every day, and he gave it his all."

Reaching for that goal has come through hard work and knowledge.

"The main part of this game is you've got to take care of your body," Hunter said. "Younger players think they can just go out there and play forever and their body won't hurt, but your body is going to start hurting eventually. You've really got to take care of your body and find every way to stay healthy.

"For me, I like to practice hard. If you practice hard, you play hard. And if you make practice hard, then the game will seem easy. I try to lead the younger guys by example and show them how hard I practice.

"If you practice hard, it will show up in the game and you'll have a good game. If you don't practice hard, the game might not go as well."

The former Mississippi Mr. Football at Neshoba Central High in Philadelphia, Mississippi, Hunter believes the 2024 season can be memorable for the Tigers.

"I feel like we've gotten close as a team and we can have a really special year this year, make the playoffs and win," the SEC academic honor roll student said. "We've got the talent, we've got the players, and the new guys who came in have a lot to add to our team. I think we can be a really special team.

"For me, I'll try to be a great teammate," he added "I'll try to be a leader to the team and try to push everybody as much as I push myself. I know I'm going to go hard every day for my teammates, and I want them to do the same thing for me or other people beside them on the field. This is my last year and I plan to go out and play for one another, go out there and have a special year with my brothers."

Despite changes on and off the field throughout his career, Hunter remains focused on his first love: Auburn.

"Before I came to college, my uncle always told me to fall in love with the school instead of the coaches because the coaches could change any day.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
Auburn running back Jarquez Hunter

"They could be there today and gone tomorrow, so you've got to fall in love with the school and you've got to do your part. You've got to stay focused and be the same person that you were yesterday, but even better."

And Hunter believes there's no place better than Auburn.

"You've got to be here," he explained. "Auburn is just a loving city, a caring college – everywhere you go the people are like family. There are smiles on their faces and they're greeting you. You walk around our building and everybody is smiling and showing you love. You walk around the campus or the town and it's the same way.

"I'm going to miss gamedays. Gamedays at Auburn are electric. The fans, the crowds, the student section – everybody shows up every game. The Tiger Walk is electric – people showing you so much love.

"Gameday, the fans love Auburn. They show up win, lose or draw. They're going to be here and showing love to the athletes and I love that about Auburn.

"They're always going to be with us; no matter how we're doing, the family is going to be there.

"This is going to be a year to remember for Auburn football and I hope a year to remember Jarquez Hunter."

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simple human sense

2024 TNT Fireworks Bassmaster Elite kicks off June 27

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Smith Lake is gearing up to host the 2024 TNT Fireworks Bassmaster Elite, which brings not only top-tier fishing action by the professionals, but also a free family friendly summer festival. The event will take place at Smith Lake Park, located at 403 County Road 386, Cullman, on Saturday, June 29, and Sunday, June 30. The Bassmaster Elite begins on June 27 and will run until June 30.

Bassmaster Elite anglers are set to launch their boats at 6 a.m. and return for weigh-ins at 2 p.m. Spectators are encouraged to show up and watch the pros in action. Alongside the fishing entertainment, attendees can attend the weekend Summer Festival. Starting at 10 a.m. on both days, this expo is packed with activities, giveaways and displays for all ages.

The TNT Booth will be full of all your firework needs for the upcoming Fourth of July celebration. Alongside will be various B.A.S.S. sponsors and partners, including Toyota, Dakota Lithium, Nitro Boats, Power Pole, Ranger Boats, Skeeter/Yamaha, Daiwa, Garmin, Lew's and others. Attendees can explore the latest products they offer, participate in demos and enjoy various giveaways.

On Saturday, the festival will hold Military and First Responder Appreciation Day. Those who fit either category can show up show their military ID to the Bassmaster DJ and receive a free Bassmaster hat, limited to the first 100 people.

On Sunday, the festival will feature B.A.S.S Member Appreciation Day. B.A.S.S. members can show their membership card and will receive a free Bassmaster hat, limited to the first 100 people. Additionally, Rapala will give away a pack of CrushCity soft baits and a CrushCity Rapala hat to the first 100 members.

The weekend will be filled with live music to keep attendees entertained. On Saturday, enjoy the sounds of Country Case at 11:05 a.m., followed by Justin & Tab at 12:50 p.m. and again after the weigh-in. On Sunday, Miles Morgan will perform at 12:30 p.m.

A variety of local vendors will offer food and unique products throughout the weekend. Enjoy gourmet corn dogs from D's Crazy Dogs, gourmet candy apples from Scooty's Apples and refreshing lemonade from Poppy's Lemon Shakers. Cool off with shaved ice from Cool Shavings or indulge in bubble waffles from Waffle Stop. Other culinary choices include Mexican cuisine from JJ's West Coast Tacos and barbecue from Smokin' Joe's BBQ LLC. Additionally, find colorful hair braids from Nikita Braids and browse products from vendors like Alabama Mud Coffee, Julz Laser Magic, Lake Folks, Infusion Wellness and Spa and more.



Trials (from Front)

ed in 2020 following a single-vehicle crash for which he was charged with driving under the influence of a controlled substance.

Maddux's defense team argued that the wreck was a simple accident on a wet road, and that alleged "lethargic behavior" witnessed by law enforcement officers at the scene was a chronic condition brought on by his traumatic brain injury. Maddux's bond was revoked.

Jury selection took place on Monday morning.

Cullman County District Attorney Champ Crocker shared in court the definition of "burden of proof" and how it describes the standard that a party seeking to prove a fact in court must satisfy to have that fact legally established. He said there are different standards for different circumstances.

According to the American Bar Association, the importance of creating a jury pool is to show people who can't put aside their own opinions, people who can't go by the evidence, who have political views to be in favor of the defendant – can and will be removed from jury pool.

"The jury pool research holds immense significance in the legal process, as it (sic) identifies potential biases and prejudices in jurors, ensures a fair trial for all parties involved and supports legal strategies and case preparation," Crocker said.

Opening arguments are expected Tuesday morning.

Tyler Jacob Guthery

Tyler Jacob Guthery was indicted for the Feb. 20, 2021, death of Rebecca Young Erby, according to court documents, for allegedly "striking the vehicle she was operating with the vehicle defendant Tyler Jacob Guthery was operating while under the influence" of one or more drugs including methamphetamines, amphetamines, and marijuana."

Also injured in the crash was David Helton, for which Guthery was additionally charged.

Guthery faces five charges:

- Reckless manslaughter
- Criminally negligent homicide
- Second-degree assault
- Driving under the influence of a controlled substance
- Failure to yield right of way

Guthery was initially released on bond, but his bond was revoked in June 2022 following allegations that "Defendant has violated the terms and conditions of his bond in the instant case by continuing to use illicit substances in violation of condition of his bond" after a failed drug test.

As late as Monday morning the defense filed motions to exclude evidence based on conversations between Guthery and Dr. Scott Warner, who serves as medical director of Cullman Fire Rescue and Cullman EMS, and as a tactical team medic with the Cullman Police Department.

Warner treated Guthery at the crash scene, and accompanied him to the hospital. Attorneys argued that Warner failed to identify himself as a law enforcement officer before questioning Guthery, and that statements made by the defendant were used to obtain a search warrant in violation of his constitutional rights.

Cullman County Circuit Court Judge Martha Williams issued a finding last week that Warner was acting not as a law enforcement officer, but in his capacity as medical director of Cullman Fire Rescue.

Jury selection concluded and opening arguments were heard Monday afternoon.

Both cases will continue on Tuesday, June 25.

LEGALS

Legal Notice

Surplus property of Wallace State Community College (Hanceville Campus) will be offered for sale on the website www.govdeals.com Various sales will occur on this website, please check the www.govdeals.com website weekly to see any current sales. This is a government auction website and you MUST be registered on the website to bid on any items. You may view the surplus property to be sold without registration. The govdeals.com website will contain detailed information including descriptions and photos. Items may be inspected by APPOINTMENT ONLY: Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Contact Wesley Sams at inventory@wallacestate.edu to schedule any appointments. All items listed are to be sold "AS IS, WHERE IS". Wallace State Community College reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
RACHEL H. TRINCHITELLA, * CASE NO.: PC2024-079
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to ALICE TRINCHITELLA APEL as Administrator of the Estate of RACHEL H. TRINCHITELLA, deceased, on the 11th day of June, 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.

ALICE TRINCHITELLA APEL
Administrator

Alex J. Chaney
Attorney for Administrator
Post Office Box 1052
Cullman, Alabama 35056

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 THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

CAROL LEA NICHOLS, DECEASED CASE NO. PC 2024-104

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF CAROL LEA NICHOLS, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Tonya Ayers on the 12th day of June, 2024, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Tonya Ayers, Personal Representative (Administrator),
and
Steven C. Smith, Attorney for the Estate

TO: Publisher of *Cullman Tribune*:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C. Smith
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
Phone: (256) 734-4721
Fax: (256) 734-4774
e-mail: steve@smithandsmithllp.com

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Dodge City Steel Yard, Inc., an Alabama corporation, in favor of Peoples Bank of Alabama, dated November 18, 2021, and recorded in Mortgage Book 1993, Page 893 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, which was thereafter modified in the Mortgage Modification, which was recorded on September 7, 2022, in Mortgage Book 2027, Page 482, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama; the undersigned Peoples Bank of Alabama, as mortgagee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Courthouse in Cullman County, Alabama, on July 2, 2024, during the legal hours of sale, all its right, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

Beginning at the SW comer of the NW¼ - SW ¼ , Section 29, Township 11 South, Range 3 West, Cullman County, Alabama; thence East along the South forty line to the West line of the Beach Grove Stouts Mountain Public Road; thence North-Northeasterly along the West line of said public road to a point that Is 249 feet North of the South line of said forty; thence East to the point of Intersection with the East line of the West half of the said NW ¼ of said SW ¼ , Section 29, Township 11 South, Range 3 West; thence North 450 feet, more or less, to a point marked with an Iron stob; thence West 105 feet, more or less, to another point marked with an iron stob; thence North to the center or middle line of an old road bed; thence Westerly along the said middle or center line of said old road bed to the West line of said forty; thence South back to the beginning point.

LESS AND EXCEPT: Beginning at the Southeast comer of the West half of the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 29, Township 11 South, Range 3 West; thence run North along the East line of said Quarter-Quarter Section 699 feet to the point of beginning of the property excepted; thence run in a westerly direction for 105 feet; thence run in a southerly direction for 210 feet; thence run in an easterly direction for 105 feet; thence run in a northerly direction along a public road for 210 feet to the point of beginning.

LESS AND EXCEPT: Beginning at the Southwest corner of the NW ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 29, Township 11 South, Range 3 West, Cullman County, Alabama, thence East along the South forty line to the West line of the Beach-Grove Stouts Mountain public road; thence North-Northeasterly along the west line of said public road to a point that is 249 feet North of the South line of said forty; thence West to the point of Intersection with the West line of the West half of the said NW¼ of said SW¼, Section 29, Tl1 S, R3W; thence South 249 feet back to the beginning point.

THIS PROPERY WILL BE SOLD ON AN "AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS, SUBJECT TO ANY EASEMENTS, ENCUMBRANCES, AND EXCEPTIONS REFLECTED IN THE MORTGAGE AND THOSE CONTAINED IN THE RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF THE JUDGE OF PROBATE OF THE COUNTY WERE THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS SITUATION. THE PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD WITHOUT WARRANTY OR RECOURSE, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED AS TO THE TITLE, USE AND/OR ENJOYMENT AND WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION OF ALL PARTIES ENTITLED THERETO. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. The mortgagee/transferee reserves the right to bid for and to purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the sale of the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or cancelation.

Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process.

Michael R. Lunsford
Attorney for Mortgagee
Porterfield, Harper, Mills, Motlow & Ireland, P.A.
22 Inverness Center Parkway, Suite 600
Birmingham, AL 35242
(205) 980-5000

Mortgagee
Peoples Bank of Alabama
1912 Cherokee Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

CASE NO.: CV 2024 - 900199

ROY DYER and TERESA DYER,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Commence at the SW Corner of the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 33, Township 9 South, Range 2 West, the point of beginning of the land herein conveyed; thence in a Northerly direction, along the West boundary line of the forty line 165 feet, to a point; thence about 90 degrees in an Easterly direction 131 feet; thence about 90 degrees in a Southerly direction 25 feet; thence about 90 degrees in an Easterly direction 50 feet; thence about 90 degrees in a Southerly direction 140 feet; thence about 90 degrees in a Westerly direction 181 feet to the point of beginning. Lying and being situated in Cullman County, Alabama, containing 1/2 acre, more or less. Parcel ID: 10-08-33-0-001-020.001; PIN: 34283; Account Number: 90808,

AND

Those Fictitious Parties A-Z, whose identities are currently unknown and who will be added to this Complaint by amendment when ascertained, including any persons claiming any present interest therein and including any persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in the above-described property,

AND

THE ESTATE OF BERNARD A. POWELL, by and through ANGELA POWELL, Administrator,

AND

UAB HOSPITAL,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION

TO: The Estate of Bernard A. Powell, by and through Angela Powell, Administrator, UAB Hospital, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said lands, whose names and whereabouts are unknown.

You are hereby notified that on the 7th day of June, 2024, a Complaint to quiet title and foreclose the right to redeem the above-described real property was filed in the Circuit Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by Roy Dyer and Teresa Dyer against the Estate of Bernard A. Powell, by and through Angela Powell, Administrator, UAB Hospital, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said lands, whose names and whereabouts are unknown, whose names and whereabouts cannot be ascertained after exercise of due diligence and who are believed may claim some right, title, interest, or claim in and to the above-described real property. All persons having an interest in said lands or any portion thereof, claiming any title thereto or encumbrance or lien thereon, are hereby directed to plead, answer, demur, or otherwise respond to the Complaint on or before the 16th day of August, 2024, else at the expiration of thirty (30) days thereafter suffer a judgment by default to be rendered against them, it being intended that this notice shall be used to perfect service against all parties who cannot be personally served with a copy of the Complaint.

Lisa McSwain
Hon. Lisa McSwain
Clerk of the Circuit Court
of Cullman County, Alabama

Plaintiffs' Attorney:
SHAY PERSALL LAW, LLC
611 7th Street SW
Cullman, AL 35055
256-841-7800

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for four consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Circuit Clerk.

Lisa McSwain
Hon. Lisa McSwain
Clerk of the Circuit Court
of Cullman County, Alabama

Presentation (from Front)

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Historical Society hosted its regularly scheduled meeting at the Cullman County Museum Sunday afternoon and enjoyed a special presentation on the new Flying Fifty Hotel from Owners Paul and Challie Knetter.

The Knetters began working on this project in 2022 and it was important to them that the hotel reflect the history of Cullman and tell the story of how the community has grown into what it is today.

After a video presentation on the history of the Flying Fifty, they shared more on the economic impact that the group helped bring to Cullman.

"The 50s were an exciting time for Cullman and they were in the latter half of those years but before the Flying Fifty flew down to Florida and brough the industry here, that was a really tough time in Cullman's economic history," Paul Knetter said.

"There were very few jobs, they had a bad crop one year and a lot of families that were from up north were actually planning to move back north because the economy wasn't doing very well and this kind of saved the economy for Cullman, bringing the King Edwards Cigar plant here. It saved a lot of jobs and brought a lot of new jobs in and it just built from there."

The Flying Fifty Hotel's website (The Flying Fifty Hotel) gives more information about the hotel's inspiration and overall theme:

"Travel back in time and experience a one-of-a-kind stay at our centrally located boutique hotel in downtown Cullman.

"Newly designed with the 1950s in mind, our hotel's namesake comes from the 47 men, known as the 'The Flying Fifty,' who played an important role in creating a brighter future for our community. We hope to carry on their legacy by highlighting the spirit of Cullman for years to come."

The hotel features seven suites, each themed after a different, unique characteristic of Cullman: the Founders Suite, the Frankweiler Suite, the Heritage Suite, the Lakes Suite, the Steeples Suite, the Wallace Suite and the Wilderness Suite.

Each one is decorated and furnished by local artists, craftsmen and businesses to make the hotel feel as local as possible and celebrate the history of Cullman.

"We tried to find books from Cullman authors, books about Cullman and Alabama history and those kinds of things. We wanted to really theme our library after that, so we've got old Cullman High School albums from the 60s and St. Bernard yearbooks from the 60s as well to try and really incorporate that history throughout the hotel," Challie Knetter said.

"They also saved the eagle that hung outside of the building of the old Cullman Savings Bank and we were able to hang it in the hotel. Pretty much every piece of art in the hotel is either created by a local artist or has something that ties back to Cullman's history."

The story of the Flying Fifty

"In the 1950s, during a time when many residents were forced to seek employment outside of Alabama, a transformative moment unfolded in Cullman. Mrs. Betty Bledsoe received a casual phone call from a friend, who had just eaten at the All-Steak restaurant and was bound for Mississippi with a group of men to locate land for a King Edward's Cigar Plant. After the call, Betty alerted her husband, Dr. Leroy Bledsoe, and the Chamber of Commerce hastily convened.

"The following morning, a group of forty-eight men, self-dubbed 'The Flying Fifty,' boarded planes on a mission to meet with the board of directors at King Edward's headquarters. During this meeting, the Flying Fifty effectively persuaded Swisher to designate Cullman as the location for their plant.

"However, the agreement came with a condition — Cullman needed to develop a suitable plot of land for the plant.

"Undeterred, the community rallied together, raising funds and erecting a modest structure affectionately known as 'The Cigar Shack' on the Courthouse lawn.

Even the youngest members of the community contributed pocket change, demonstrating the collective commitment to the cause. Local radio stations joined the effort, suspending regular programming to champion the town's initiative.

"This chapter of Cullman's history stands as a testament to our community spirit and ingenuity. The Flying Fifty, with their determination and resourcefulness, played a pivotal role ensuring a brighter future for our town."

To book your stay at the Flying Fifty Hotel, visit www.theflyingfifty.com/stay.



Obituary Announcements: June 22-24

Adrian Isaac Estudillo Becerril, 29
Funeral services for Adrian Isaac Estudillo Becerril, age 29 of Cullman, will be at 3 p.m. on Thursday, June 27, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Jonathan Reid officiating; burial at Sardis No. 2 Cemetery. Visitation will be from 6-8 p.m. on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Becerril passed away on Friday, June 21, 2024, at his residence. He was born, Sept. 30, 1994. He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Jorge Estudillo; cousin, Jafet Estudillo Mendoza and friend, Freeman Brannan. Survivors include his wife, Rachel Becerril; daughter, Raylee Wilson; sons, JayJay and Kaden Cornelius; grandchild, Kingston Cornelius; mother, Claudia (Janez) Estudillo; grandmother, Herlinda Zamarripa; brothers, Jorge (Mahayla) Estudillo, Jacob Haynes; aunts and uncles, Alejandra, Noe and Elias Estudillo; mother-in-law, Cathie Rickert; father-in-law, Randy Wooten; brothers-in-law; Justin Wooten and family, Rusty Wooten and family and a host of other family and friends.

Randy Edward Johnson, 55
Funeral services for Randy Edward Johnson, 55, of Cullman, Alabama will be held at 6 p.m. Monday, June 24 at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Mt. Olive Cemetery. Randy Booth will be officiating services. The family will welcome friends at Hanceville Funeral Home from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday. Randy, a staple in his community, passed away peacefully on June 21, 2024 at his residence in Cullman. Born on Aug. 25, 1968, in Cullman, Randy lived a life filled with passion, skill, and an enduring love for family and the outdoors. A master carpenter by trade, Mr. Johnson was known for his exceptional craftsmanship and attention to detail. His work can be seen in many structures throughout the area, each piece reflecting his dedication and talent. In addition to carpentry, Randy had a special talent for painting and enjoyed capturing the beauty of wildlife and scenic landscapes with his brush. His artwork adorned the walls of his home and the homes of many fortunate friends and family members. Fishing was one of Randy's greatest joys. He spent countless hours on the water, sharing his love for the sport with friends and family. He also had a knack for working on lawn mowers, often spending countless afternoons tinkering and repairing them for neighbors and friends. His willingness to help anyone in need was a testament to his generous spirit and kind heart. Above all, Randy cherished his role as a grandfather. He adored his grand babies and made it a priority to spend as much time with them as possible, creating memories that will be cherished forever. His gentle nature and playful spirit made him a favorite among the youngest members of his family. Randy had a profound love for the outdoors. Whether he was fishing, drawing, or simply enjoying the beauty of nature, he found peace and happiness outside. His appreciation for the natural world was evident in everything he did. Mr. Johnson is survived by his daughter, Kristi Johnson; grandchildren, Mikyla Benson, Jaxen Hill, Remi Sesma and Sofia Sesma; mother, Dorothy Johnson; sister, Debbie (James) Kincer; significant other, Crystal Chadwick; and a host of many loving nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends, who will carry forward his legacy of kindness, skill, and love for nature. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him, but his spirit will live on in the hearts of those he touched. Mr. Johnson was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Johnson, father, Bobby Johnson and grandparents, Emmerlee and Lurtis Johnson and Maggie and Timus McBrayer. Serving as pallbearers will be Chris Clements, Michael Washam, Zach Latham, James Kincer, Jeff Jones, Dustin Williams and Brent Quick. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Johnson Family.

Linda Frances Burns, 81
Funeral services for Linda Frances Burns, age 81 of Falkville, will be at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Gary Waddell officiating; burial at Ebenezer Cemetery. Visitation will be from 8-10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Burns passed away on Sunday, June 23, 2024, at Cullman Regional. She was born Saturday, March 13, 1943, to Milous Doyle, Sr. and Hazel Doyle. She was preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Donna (Richard) Mann; husband, Maurice Barnett, husband, Darrell Burns; sisters, Ginger (Leon) Armstrong and Diane (David) Lamar; special friend, Dixie Powell and fur baby, Jack. Survivors include her daughter, Connie Jones; Tony (Denice) Barnett; grandchildren, Joshua Duke, Carrie (Justin) Blanton, Courtney (Tyler) Barrett, Danielle Johnson, Brittney (Jonathan) Heron, Stephanie (Adam) McClellan; great grandchildren, Karson Adamson, Kenady and Koy McClellan, Milli Duke, Meredith Blanton, Bradley Russell, Ethan Russell, Lilith Russell, Jadan Channel, Prayslee Barrett, Raynger Heron, Axyl Heron; brother, Curtis (Janet) Doyle II, Seth (Pam) Stebbins, Polly (Gary) Cannady; special friends, Glinda Mitchell, Anita Kimbril, Janet Stickney and cat Lila, fur baby.

Patricia Ann Dye
Patricia Ann Dye, age 76, of Logan, Alabama passed away on Monday, June 24, 2024. No services are planned at this time.

Louise Turner, 68
Louise Turner, age 68, of Hanceville, passed away Friday, June 21, 2024. A small family visitation and graveside service is planned for Friday, June 28, 2024. Interment will be held at Jones Chapel Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Lousie was born on Sept. 26, 1955, to William Mikeal, and Nora Lee Moore Mikeal. She is preceded in death by her parents; son, Christopher Turner; great-grandson, Christian Jayy Turner; brother, Don Mikeal; sisters-in-law, Mary Mikeal and Helen Mikeal. She is survived by James F. Turner Jr. and Roger Dale Turner; sons, Brandon Turner, Chris Turner, Nick Turner, Ricky Turner, and Jessy Turner; daughters, Rebecca Nail (Kevin), Ara Rose (Sidra), and Tammy Turner (Caleb); brothers, James Mikeal, Ricky Mikeal, and David Mikeal (Sherrie); grandchildren, Kelly Turner (Tyler), Morgan Parker (Kyle), and Jessica West (Dylan); great-grandchildren, Ariel Louise Hilburn, Damon West, Kevin Parker, and Ares Turner. Louise's family said that she was a simple country girl who loved animals, especially horses. She was a good person who would help anybody and give anything to anyone who needed it. She was a woman who loved her family dearly. She will be missed by those who knew and loved her. Please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Vickie Lynn Borden, 64
Vickie Lynn Borden, age 64 of Baileyton, passed away on Sunday, June 23, 2024, at Cullman Regional. She was born Wednesday, July 8, 1959, to Wilford Eugene Simmons, Sr. and Nancy Simmons. She was preceded in death by her father and brother, Wilford Eugene Simmons, Jr. Survivors include her husband, Robert Borden; sons, Jeremy (Jessica) Norris, Brandon Norris and Levi (Casey) Borden; mother, Nancy Turner; grandchildren, Aidan, Wyatt, Brantley and Braxton Norris; brother, Jeff Simmons. No services are planned at this time.

Free Obituary Listings

Have your funeral home contact us

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

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

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THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

Tips (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Local law enforcement, public safety representatives and first responders have collaborated to create a list of ways to practice safety in and around the water, around fireworks and while traveling this summer.

Cullman Police Chief David Nassetta said there are different laws when it comes to safety with the city versus the county.

"As far as fireworks are concerned, they are prohibited from being used in the city limits," Nassetta said. "Boat docks are also prohibited on Lake Catoma. The same with boating. The majority of boating inside the city limits is done in small fishing boats and not anywhere close to what goes on in Smith Lake."

City of Cullman Public Safety Director Brian Bradberry said regardless of what adventures you choose to take, making safe, healthy choices is key to a good summer.

"Summer is an exciting time of the year and we know everyone wants to have fun," Bradberry said. "However, it's crucial to prioritize safety during this time. Our dedicated public safety professionals have outlined essential tips to ensure a safe summer experience for all. While accidents happen, rest assured that our team stands ready to assist should any emergencies arise. We urge everyone to make safety a top priority and have a wonderful summer."

Cullman Fire Rescue Chief Darren Peeples shared several summer safety tips, including advice for boating, docking and firework safety.

"Dock safety is indeed crucial, especially when it comes to preventing electric shocks near water," Peeples said. "We have several measures to enhance dock safety and prevent electrical hazards:

• Regular inspections: Conduct routine inspections of the dock's electrical systems by qualified professionals to ensure that wiring, outlets and any electrical equipment are in good condition and up to code.

• Ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs): Install GFCIs on all electrical outlets near the dock and any outdoor outlets. GFCIs detect ground faults and quickly shut off power to prevent electric shocks.

• Proper wiring installation: Ensure that all electrical wiring on the dock is properly installed and insulated to prevent exposure to water. Use marine-grade wiring and connectors designed for outdoor use.

• Keep electrical devices dry: Store electrical devices, such as power tools and chargers, in dry, weatherproof containers when not in use to prevent water damage and electrical hazards.

• Safe use of extension cords: Avoid using extension cords on the dock whenever possible. If extension cords must be used, use only outdoor-rated cords and keep them clear of water to prevent electrical shocks.

• Secure wiring and cables: Keep electrical wiring and cables securely fastened and out of the water to prevent accidental contact with boats, swimmers or marine life.

• Proper lighting: Ensure that the dock is adequately illuminated with safe, waterproof lighting to improve visibility and reduce the risk of accidents, especially at night.

• Prohibit swimming near docks with electrical equipment: Establish clear rules and guidelines prohibiting swimming or diving near docks with electrical equipment to minimize the risk of electric shocks.

• Regular maintenance: Conduct regular maintenance of the dock's electrical systems, including cleaning and inspecting outlets, wiring and equipment, to identify and address any potential hazards promptly.

• Educate dock users: Provide clear signage and education materials about dock safety, including the dangers of electrical shock and how to respond in an emergency.

• Emergency response plan: Develop and communicate an emergency response plan for dealing with electrical accidents or incidents on the dock. This plan should include procedures for shutting off power, administering first aid and contacting emergency services.

• Training for dock personnel: Train dock personnel, including staff and volunteers, on proper electrical safety procedures and emergency response protocols.

• Life jackets: Ensure that there are enough properly fitting life jackets for every person onboard, and make wearing them a rule, especially for children and non-swimmers.

• Communication devices: Have reliable communication devices on board, such as a VHF marine radio or a mobile phone in a waterproof case, to call for help in case of emergency.

• Navigation tools: Carry navigational tools like GPS, compass and charts to help you navigate safely, especially in unfamiliar waters or during adverse weather conditions.

• Emergency signaling devices: Keep distress signals like flares, whistles and signal mirrors on board to attract attention and signal for help if needed.

• First aid kit: Have a well-stocked first aid kit onboard to handle minor injuries and medical emergencies until professional help arrives.

• Fire extinguishers: Install and regularly check fire extinguishers to quickly extinguish small fires before they escalate. Ensure that everyone knows their location and how to use them.

• Weather monitoring: Stay updated on weather forecasts and be prepared to change plans or seek shelter if adverse weather approaches.

• Boat maintenance: Regularly inspect and maintain your boat, including the engine, hull and electrical systems, to prevent mechanical failures or malfunctions while on the water.

• Anchors and lines: Carry appropriate anchors and lines to secure your boat safely in case of engine failure, strong currents or adverse weather conditions.

• Person overboard procedures: Establish and practice man overboard procedures to quickly and effectively respond if someone falls overboard.

• Boating rules and regulations: Familiarize yourself with and adhere to boating rules and regulations specific to your area, including speed limits, navigation rules and designated boating areas.

• Boating safety courses: Consider taking boating safety courses to learn essential navigation skills, safety procedures and emergency protocols.

• Alcohol and drug awareness: Avoid operating the boat under the influence of alcohol or drugs, as they impair judgment, coordination, and reaction time, increasing the risk of accidents.

• Stay alert and vigilant: Assign a designated lookout to watch for other boats, hazards or changes in the environment while underway.

"By practicing these safety measures and being prepared for emergencies, boaters can enjoy their time on the water while minimizing risks and ensuring a safe experience for everyone onboard," Peeples said. "Also, fire safety is crucial when using fireworks. Follow local laws and regulations. Ensure that you are legally allowed to use fireworks in your area and adhere to any restrictions or guidelines provided by local authorities. There is a no firework ordinance in the City of Cullman Code of Ordinances Chapter 22 Article V."

Another point to follow, Peeples said, is to choose a safe location for fireworks.

"Select a clear, open area away from buildings, dry grass or other flammable materials," he said. "An open field or a designated fireworks area is ideal. Make sure to keep water handy. Have a bucket of water, a hose or a fire extinguisher nearby to quickly extinguish any accidental fires. Also make sure to read instructions carefully for fireworks packaging. Pay attention to safety guidelines and recommended distances."

Other fireworks tips he shared included:

• Designate a shooter: Assign one responsible adult to handle lighting the fireworks. This person should be sober and familiar with fireworks safety procedures.

• Wear safety gear: Consider wearing safety glasses and gloves while handling fireworks to protect yourself from sparks and debris.

• Use stable launching surfaces: Place fireworks on a stable, flat surface before lighting them. Avoid tilting or unstable platforms that could cause the fireworks to tip over.

• Keep spectators at a safe distance: Establish a safe perimeter around the fireworks launch area and ensure that spectators remain outside of it. This helps prevent injuries from fireworks fallout.

• Never re-light malfunctioning fireworks: If a firework fails to ignite or detonate properly, do not attempt to relight it. Wait at least 20 minutes, then soak it in water before disposing of it properly.

• Dispose of used fireworks properly: After the fireworks display, douse all used fireworks with water to ensure they are fully extinguished. Dispose of them in a metal container to prevent accidental fires.

• Monitor weather conditions: Avoid using fireworks during windy or dry conditions, as this increases the risk of fires spreading.

• Keep pets indoors: Loud noises and bright lights from fireworks can frighten animals. Keep pets indoors or in a secure, comfortable location away from the fireworks display.

"By following these preventative measures, you can help ensure a safe and enjoyable fireworks experience for everyone involved," Peeples said.

