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The Cullman Tribune

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SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

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CIARA CALVERT

– SPORTS –

'Keep God first, and never stop trusting Him': Cold Springs' Ciara Calvert talks Eagle years

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Cullman City Council moves forward on sporting goods store

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman City Council on Monday approved an agreement that brings a new sporting goods store expected to be an Academy Sports + Outdoors a step closer to opening on the city's south side. The council approved a "772 agreement" with developer MTN, Ltd.

A 772 agreement, based on Alabama State Constitution amendment 772, allows a municipality like Cullman to:

(1) Use public funds to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, buildings, plants, factories, facilities, machinery, and equipment of any kind, or to utilize the properties heretofore purchased or otherwise acquired, and improve and develop the properties for use as sites for industry of any kind or as industrial park projects, including, but not limited to, grad- » PAGE 2



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The council and guests took time to wish a happy birthday to Hannah Jacobs, daughter of Mayor Woody Jacobs on Monday, June 24, 2024.

Junior Miss Cullman County Fair Princess Brooklyn Shaw champions diabetes platform



SHANDA SHAW

Brooklyn Shaw donates a box of supplies to the Vanderbilt Eskind Pediatric Diabetes Clinic.

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Junior Miss Cullman County Fair Princess Brooklyn Shaw takes her platform, Tiaras for Type 1, seriously.

"This platform is very dear to her heart and ours. Her diagnosis changed her life forever, but she wants to give back," her mother, Shanda Shaw, said. "We couldn't be more proud of her."

After being diagnosed with diabetes at a young age and overcoming the pre-teen obstacles that are compounded by a complex medical diagnosis, Brookly Shaw saw a chance to combine her passions for inclusivity and health with pageantry. She and her mother jumped at the chance.

On June 24, exactly two years since she was diagnosed, the middle-school princess brought her philanthropy platform to life by taking a box of collected and donated medical equipment and supplies used for treating Type 1 diabetes, (as well as comfort items to soothe and relax anxious patients) to the clinic that helps her manage the lifelong disease – the Vanderbilt Eskind Pediatric Diabetes Clinic at » PAGE 8

Man found deceased in woods near Cullman Lowe's

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LIST: Fireworks fun and where to find it



THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Fourth of July is rapidly approaching; check out one of Cullman's celebratory fireworks shows.

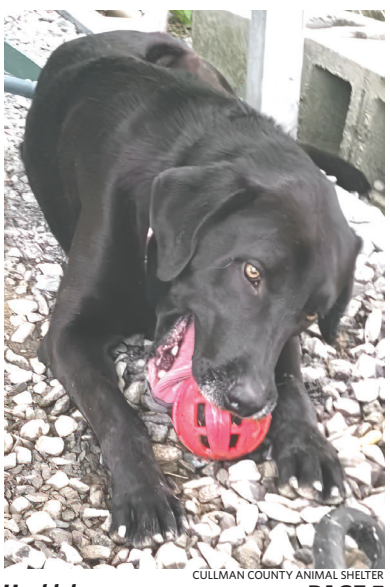
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Good Hope City Council approves rezoning ordinance, awards architectural services bid

» PAGE 7

PET OF THE WEEK

I'm your Huckleberry!



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Huckleberry

» PAGE 5

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported June 26

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported June 26, 2024. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

No arrests or incidents reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

June 24

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

• criminal mischief-3rd degree; harassment; person; damaged property; $50; 3rd Ave. SE

• retail theft of property-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $247; Olive St. SW

• criminal mischief; domestic violence-3rd degree; person; damaged property; $250; Young St. NE

• domestic violence-3rd degree; person; Ellsworth Loop Rd. SW

ARRESTS

June 24

Hollis Jr., Robert L.; 46

• FTA – insurance violation

• FTA – driving without a license

Garrett, Wesley N.; 42

• FTA – attempt to elude law enforcement officer

• FTA – receiving stolen property-4th degree

• FTA – theft of property-4th degree

Stephenson, Paul J.; 23

• harassment

McKinnon, Roger L.; 60

• FTA – theft of property-4th degree

Farrer, Paul J.; 54

• GJ – organized retail theft

Weaver, Jason J.; 32

• theft or property-4th degree

Hardin, Gary L.; 50

• FTA – insurance violation

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

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Cullman Council (from Front)

ing and the construction of roads, drainage, sewers, sewage and waste disposal systems, parking areas, and utilities to serve the sites or projects.

(2) Lease, sell, grant, exchange, or otherwise convey, on terms approved by the governing body of the county or the municipality, as applicable, all or any part of any real property, buildings, plants, factories, facilities, machinery, and equipment of any kind or industrial park project to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, including any industrial development board or other public corporation or authority heretofore or hereafter created by the county or the municipality, for the purpose of constructing, developing, equipping, and operating industrial, commercial, research, or service facilities of any kind.

(3) Lend its credit to or grant public funds and things of value in aid of or to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, for the purpose of promoting the economic and industrial development of the county or the municipality.

(4) Become indebted and issue bonds, warrants which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years, notes, or other obligations, or evidences of indebtedness to a principal amount not exceeding 50 percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease, or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. The obligations or evidences of indebtedness may be issued upon the full faith and credit of the county or any municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.

According to a legal notice run prior to the council meeting, "The City would be obligated to remit and pay to the Developer, from 50% of the proceeds of the City's sales and use tax (presently levied by the City at a rate of 1.75%) from retail sales made within the Project, up to the maximum amount of not to exceed $1,167,000, for a period of up to ten (10) years from the opening of the Project." The tax abatement will exempt the business from a portion of city sales and use taxes, but will still require that the City retain all education taxes collected."

Regarding the same project, the Cullman County Commission on June 18 approved a sales tax rebate to the store for half of the County's portion of sales tax received, capped at $833,000 and 10 years.

The council also:

• Held a public hearing for an ordinance to rezone property at 309 Olive St. SW (behind Lin Garden and across from Rock N' Roll Sushi) from residential to business, with no one speaking for or against the ordinance. The council can vote on the ordinance at its next meeting.

• Approved a resolution to apply for state and federal funds for improvement projects at Cullman Regional Airport for fiscal year 2025

• Approved special event permits for WellStone, Inc. to host the 2024 Oktoberfest 5K/10K run on Oct. 5, 2024, and for Blake Photo and Video to record a video in the downtown parking deck on June 30, 2024

The Cullman City Council meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7 p.m. in Cullman City Hall auditorium. The public is invited to attend.

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75 County Road 1339
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Man (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Just after 8 p.m. Tuesday, a deceased man was discovered by a couple walking near Lowe's in south Cullman.

Cullman County Coroner Jeremy Kilpatrick identified the man as Ricky Gene Rouse, 46, of Hanceville.

"He was found deceased in the woods behind Lowe's on Graham Street," said Kilpatrick.

Kilpatrick confirmed the man's family has been notified and no foul play is suspected.

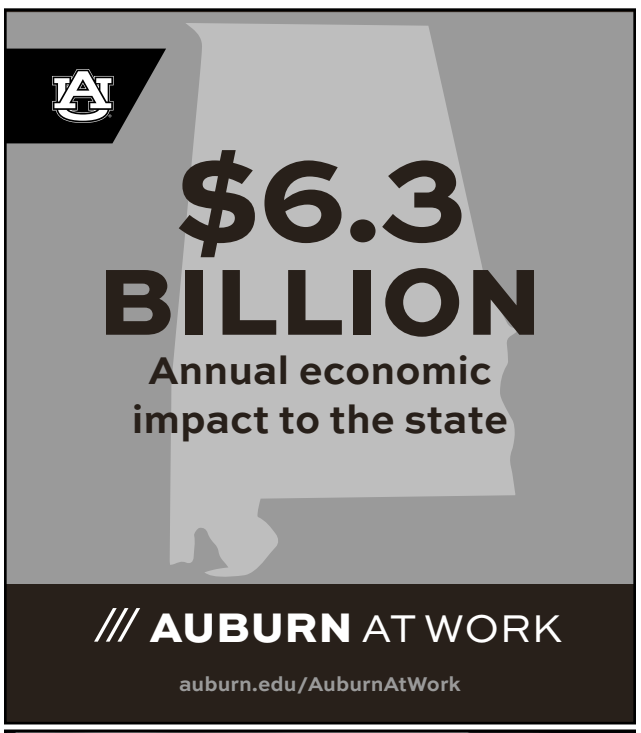
He also confirmed that Rouse was homeless at the time of his discovery.

"Cause of death is pending toxicology," he said.

More information will be provided if released.













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.
• Friday, June 28 - Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and testimonies. Hurts, habits and hangups 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.

Faith, Family & Freedom Fireworks Extravaganza
Wednesday, July 3, at 7:30 p.m. at the Good Hope Family Park and Recreational Complex. Hosted by Branded by Christ Cowboy Church and the City of Good Hope, this event will begin with a horse flag presentation followed by a dazzling fireworks show after dark. Bring your kids, a blanket and snacks and enjoy the entertainment that commemorates our nation's independence!

Smith Lake Park 4th of July Fireworks Festival
Thursday, July 4, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.! Bring your kids and enjoy a fun-filled day of arts and crafts, delicious food, live music and an amazing fireworks show! You can also indulge in miniature golf, relax at the beach or take a dip in the swimming pool. Don't forget to catch the golf cart parade! www.facebook.com/SmithLakePark

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.

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PREP SPORTS

'Keep God first, and never stop trusting Him': Cold Springs' Ciara Calvert talks Eagle years

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

BREMEN, Ala. — Cold Springs senior standout Ciara Calvert was a multi-sport athlete during her years competing for the Eagles and in this interview she shared some of the many memories she made alongside her teammates and coaches.

"My favorite sports memory is definitely going to state in basketball two years in a row. That is an experience that I will never forget, and it was so much fun. I've had so many memories with my friends and teammates over the years cheering in the dugout and on the court," Calvert said.

"It has been an honor playing with great friends and so much of their talent surrounding me. I have learned so much from my teammates, and we all pushed each other to be better players.

"My coaches have helped shape me into who I am today and I'm super grateful for them. I have learned so much from them. I've learned leadership skills, and that it takes hard work to be successful. I've also learned that you have to give it everything that you have at every moment, and don't ever give up.

"The most important thing I've learned, though, is to always keep God first, and never stop trusting Him."

Calvert talked about what she will remember and miss the most about playing at Cold Springs, her favorite high school memories, and what made Cold Springs a special place to be.

"The thing I will remember and miss the most is the love and support from the community. Our community is so supportive and will love on us, no matter the sport. Everyone is so encouraging, and I can't wait to give back and love and support my underclassmen like my community did for me," she said.

"My favorite high school memories were the pep rallies and all the fun things we did during homecoming week. Cold Springs is so special, because it feels like home. We are a family."

She will deeply miss being an Eagle when school starts back in August, and she gave advice to those students that will be starting high school in a few months.

"I will miss sports the most. I will miss and remember my classmates and how close we are. I will miss and remember our teachers and how much they care about us. My classmates, teachers, teammates, and coaches have made my high school experience the best," she said. "My best advice is to never take anything for granted. Get involved in as many sports and clubs as you can and enjoy every moment."

She had a lot of role models that she looked up to when she was younger and was given some great advice by her dad. She was in several clubs at Cold Springs and enjoyed those experiences as well.

"I grew up watching my cousins play basketball and looked up to them. I remember holding up signs and cheering them on in their games. They were great role models, not only in sports, but also great role models in school," she said.

"Before every game, my dad would tell me to have fun. I was in the Honor Society, 1936 Club, Clean Campus Committee, Yearbook, Math Team, FCCLA, SGA, and I was the Senior Class Vice President. Being a part of those clubs was a great experience, because I was able to be involved and represent my school in different ways."

Calvert earned multiple scholarships and seeing her hard work pay off meant a lot to her. She also shared some advice to younger student athletes that want to be where she is now.

"I received the Bryant-Jordan scholarship for my region and the Allied Health scholarship from Wallace State. I am very thankful for these blessings. I feel very honored and blessed to receive them. I will be attending Wallace State starting this fall to pursue my degree as a PTA," she said.



CIARA CALVERT
Cold Springs' Ciara Calvert

"I remember looking up to my role models when I was a little girl, and now I know how important that is. I always want to try and do my best to be a good one. Hopefully, people will remember that I always gave it my all. My advice to them would be to work hard, hustle, and go all out.

"I learned that I can't do things on my own. I have to put all my trust in God and know that His plans are bigger than mine."

On the Plains with Eugene Asante: 'The glory resides in God'

Riley Hubbard
AU Athletics

AUBURN, Ala. – Auburn senior linebacker Eugene Asante was exposed to what it takes to play football at the highest level at a young age. Asante's brother, Larry, played defensive back at Nebraska and later for five seasons in the NFL.

Eugene claims that his drive to be a great player came from watching his brother.

"I grew up with those memories of watching him play at Nebraska," Eugene said. "I didn't miss a game. I didn't miss any moment because it was just such a surreal thing to see your brother get to college and play at that level. So as a young kid, I remember saying, 'Man, I'm going to be there one day too.'"

Larry, who is 12 years Eugene's senior, earned First Team All-Big 12 honors in 2009 as well as All-Big 12 honorable mentions in 2007 and 2008. He finished his collegiate career with 224 career tackles, third-most all-time for a Cornhusker defensive back.

"I saw his hard work all throughout the house growing up, even in high school," Eugene said. "He spent a lot of time outside the house, working out and putting in that dedication of perfecting his craft. It's so impressive to me that my brother was able to make it to the National Football League because he wasn't born in this country. He was born in Ghana, where my parents are from in West Africa.

"The fundamentals that are required to play the game, the ins and outs of it, some kids develop it at such a young age, but he didn't have that. So just being able to develop that within such a short period of time and then get drafted is something I really truly admire, and I tell him all the time."

Asante also gives credit to Westfield (Va.) High School for preparing him for the college game.

"Going to Westfield, I knew it was an extremely prestigious high school program," the Auburn linebacker said. "There were a lot of expectations and I feel like that program was run the right way.

"They did a great job of getting players ready to play high school football and preparing those that wanted to pursue college dreams. Coach [Kyle] Simmons and that staff did a good job of doing things like a college program in terms of preparation, in terms of meetings and in terms of practice. To go into high school like that, it honestly prepared me and allowed me to become more disciplined, and I have those people to thank for it."

Asante began his college career at the University of North Carolina, where he saw some playing time as an underclassman. He appeared in all 13 games his freshman season and in 12 games his sophomore year, when Asante recorded 27 tackles, including a then-career-high 10 of them in the Tar Heels' Orange Bowl game against Texas A&M.

As a junior, Asante finally made the starting lineup a couple of times and tallied 23 tackles, but the linebacker decided it was time for a change. When he started making visits to decide on a new home, Auburn stuck out immediately.

"I was able to meet everybody and just be in the city and be in the town," Asante said about his official visit to the Plains. "I saw how people were truly embraced. I understood the rich tradition of playing football here at Auburn, understood that it means something to play here to a lot of people, and I wanted to be a part of that. On my official visits, I was able to be hosted by some great guys. Kam Brown was my host, and I got to kind of experience the city firsthand."

When making the decision to transfer, Asante made it clear that he wanted to not only improve as a football player, but he also wanted to grow in his faith. During his visit, Auburn team chaplain Chette Williams was the one that made the strongest impression.

"When I left North Carolina, the biggest thing I was looking for was just trying to be developed and trying to grow as a young man – grow as a Christian and grow as a player as well. A big thing that attracted me to Auburn was when I was able to sit down with Brother Chette and I was able to have those conversations with him. He's certainly somebody that I admire. His story has trials and tribulations, but he's still standing. He's such a great person and great man of faith.

"Faith plays such a great part and who I am and who I want to be. I was raised in a Christian household where it was church on Sundays – that was non-negotiable. I understood how big faith is in my family, and I understand how far God has brought me through all the trials and tribulations I've had in my life. So, I feel indebted to always give God the glory, understand that my life is not my own, and that everybody's here for a unique purpose.

"Through this game, my biggest thing is trying to allow people to see that the glory resides in God. And I think that's ultimately what people need in this world. Way more than results of a game or anything, I think that's what really means the most. If we can bring light and attention to that, we'll start to see growth as a people."

Asante arrived on the Plains and played the first four games of the 2022 season on special teams before making the decision to redshirt. Going into the 2023 season, he was eager to prove to new head coach Hugh Freeze that he could be an integral part of the Tiger defense.

"To be honest, I was extremely hungry to show Coach Freeze and his staff what I could do," Asante said. "I was on the scout team my first season and it was a hard thing for me because I was an upperclassman on the scout team. Last year was kind of personal for me.

"First and foremost, I wanted Coach Freeze to know I cared about football. And how I let him know I cared about it was by my preparation, by knowing what I needed to do defensively and by busting my tail while I was out there. It really attested to everything I went through in 2022, just trying to prove to the coaches that I could."

And he was able to step up and prove himself in a big way in 2023. Asante had a breakout season for the Tigers, leading the team with 86 tackles, along with 8.5 tackles for loss and 5 sacks.

In his first Auburn start, at California, Asante recorded a new career-best 12 tackles, a couple of quarterback hurries and a third-down sack of Sam Jackson in the fourth quarter. The linebacker was a crucial part of Auburn's 14-10 win over the Bears in a defensive battle.

"Honestly, I think that game was such a big confidence booster for me because I was given the opportunity by my coaches," Asante said.

"Some of those things I did on the field were not of my own personal doing and I say that to people all the time. That was my first ever start at Auburn and I got SEC Defensive Player of the Week. I want people to understand that there's a testimony to God's glory and that if you really do truly believe in Him and give Him all the honor and praise, He can elevate you."

The senior believes that he has much more to prove in 2024. His personal goal is to win the Butkus Award, awarded to the best linebacker in the nation, while his priority is to be someone remembered for laying it all on the line for Auburn. But Asante's main focus is to put the team in a position to play for a conference championship.

"The goals and aspirations that I have within this game are the reason why I came back to Auburn because I truly do believe we can have a special team," Asante said about the 2024 squad.

"I want to play for an SEC championship, and I feel like our fans deserve that. From top to bottom, people do truly care about our team and our success.

"I feel like it's only right for me to go 110 percent because they deserve something.



ZACH BLAND/AU ATHLETICS
Auburn linebacker Eugene Asante (9)

"Personally, I believe that if you play in an SEC Championship, you're playing for something special. But ultimately, I just want to be somebody that fans say, 'Eugene left it all on the field.' That's what I really want to be remembered for here."

When Asante isn't on the football field or working out, he likes to stay around the house. The self-proclaimed homebody enjoys painting, reading and hanging out with his dog, Miss Penny.

"I started out drawing as a kid, but I've elevated it to painting and now it's a very therapeutic thing," said the Alexandria, Virginia, product, who received his bachelor's degree in liberal arts in May.

"I enjoy it in my free time, but being an athlete, it's kind of time consuming. Lately, I've started to get into a little bit more abstract."

Books that Asante enjoys are the ones that challenge him to develop a top-tier mental game on the football field. Some of his recent favorites include "Can't Hurt Me" by David Goggins, "The Truth About All Men" by DeVon Franklin and "The Art of War" by Sun Tzu.

The other thing that keeps the linebacker busy during his free time is his baby Pitbull, Miss Penny. When Asante's brother was traveling out of the country, he asked Eugene to keep the dog for a few days. Those few days were all it took for Asante to fall in love and turn the dog into a shared pet between the brothers.

"She's well renowned on the campus of Auburn," Asante said about Miss Penny. "She was a little puppy at that time, but once I got her, I realized the nurturing, the care and the love that you have to put in to taking care of dog is a lot, so I can only imagine what a kid is like. It's been great having Miss Penny. She's such a great dog."

As he looks ahead to the 2024 season, Asante also looks back and reflects on what he has enjoyed about the opportunity to play at Auburn and what he'll miss after his senior year comes to a close.

"I'm going to miss sitting at the Wellness Kitchen and having conversations with everybody – not just our team, but other teams, too," Asante said. "I'm going to miss going to the basketball games; how they played this year – it was such a special thing to be a part of. You want to be there every home game to support that.

"I'm going to miss the brotherhood within the locker room. I'll miss Tiger Walks and seeing all the fans cheering for us. I'll miss the little kids that tell me that I'm their favorite player. People don't understand how much that means to me because I remember a time that people didn't even know I was on the team.

"Ultimately, when a kid or somebody tells me something of that nature, I take it all in. I want them to be able to be proud that I am their favorite player."



CCBOE

Pictured left to right are Assistant Superintendent Richard Orr, CDC Principal Trett Hardman, Wesley Sams, Brinley Sams, Brittany Sams, Judy Sams and Roger Sams with Anglers for Autism.

Anglers for Autism: CDC receives donation for upgrades

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Child Development Center (CDC) recently received a $10,000 donation from the Angling for Autism Bass Fishing Tournament. The tournament proceeds benefit local programs that bring awareness to autism and provide education and other opportunities to children with special needs and their families.

"We are so grateful for the generous donation from all who participated with Anglers for Autism," said CDC Principal Trett Hardman.

"With these funds, we will be able to better meet the academic, behavioral and social-emotional needs of all students on our campus by providing them with state-of-the-art classroom technology that provides educational experiences adapted to our students here at the CDC.

"Our teachers, staff and students are extremely thankful for the monetary support from Anglers for Autism."

In the past, Anglers for Autism has donated to Cullman Therapeutic Recreation, sponsored multiple therapy dogs for individuals as well as provided training for those dogs, and donated to the Cullman Autism and Special Needs Support Group.

"These donations would not be possible without the help and support of numerous local businesses and individuals that make the tournament a success," said Brittany Sams with Anglers for Autism.

"The Sams family just raises the money and then facilitates those funds to groups and organizations that bring awareness and opportunities to the special needs community.

"It is important to know that there are a ton of people that understand the importance of bringing awareness to our special needs community and those people are willing to go above and beyond to help. That willingness is what makes the Cullman City and Cullman County communities special places to live!"

ADMIN POSITION AVAILABLE
SALES/OPERATIONS COORDINATOR
PRIMARY TASKS ARE PUBLIC RELATIONS, GREETING CUSTOMERS UPON ENTRY, COMPUTER POS SYSTEM, MULTIPLE LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEM AND COORDINATING SALES WITH OPERATIONS
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TUESDAY-FRIDAY 9:30 A.M. - 4 P.M.
SATURDAY 9 A.M. - 2 P.M.

WSCC MLT program graduates achieve 100% pass rate on national board exams

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Recent graduates of Wallace State Community College's Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) program achieved a 100% pass rate on all attempted American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) Board of Certification (BOC) exams on their first try. In 2023, average national pass rates of BOC exams on first attempt were less than 80%.

"We are honored to play a role in shaping the futures and professional paths of our students. Witnessing their achievements and watching them enter the workforce, equipped to make positive contributions to healthcare in our region, is immensely gratifying," said Chris Cleghorn, program director of the MLT program at Wallace State Community College. "We are incredibly proud of our students and eagerly anticipate their continued success."

Wallace State Community College's MLT program is a five-semester program that provides the training and education needed to enter the workforce. The program is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS), and upon completion of all Wallace State Community College degree requirements, the student will receive an associate degree and can take the ASCP BOC exam.

Katie Brewer is a Wallace State alumna and a member of the 2023 MLT cohort. Brewer currently works in a lab, and she said the Wallace State MLT program taught her an array of information that helped her land a job right out of college. Since 2021, the Wallace State Community College MLT program has boasted a 100% average program placement rate, with every student finding employment in the field or continuing their education within one year of graduation.



WALLACE STATE

The 2023 Wallace State Community College MLT cohort visits the Southeastern Division of LabCorp of America in Birmingham. Students in the 2023 MLT cohort achieved a 100% pass rate on all attempted certification exams on their first try.

"The thing that sticks out most when asked about Wallace State's MLT Program and their involvement in helping me pass my ASCP BOC exam on my first try was their ability to provide so much knowledge at a pace that is quick and efficient, but not overwhelming," said Brewer.

"Thinking back at what I was learning this time last year, I hadn't even taken a microbiology test yet, but today I've been employed in a microbiology lab for over six months."

MLTs utilize sophisticated lab equipment to examine and analyze bodily fluids and cells. They also prepare specimens for examination, count cells and look for abnormalities. By performing analyses and relating findings to physicians, technicians play a crucial role in the detection, diagnosis and treatment of disease.

MLT students typically possess a strong interest and aptitude in scientific disciplines such as biology, anatomy, physiology, microbiology and chemistry, as these subjects form the foundation of the MLT field. A deep understanding of these sciences enables MLT students to analyze and interpret laboratory results accurately, troubleshoot problems and contribute to patient care and diagnosis.

In addition to the MLT associate degree, Wallace State also offers a Medical Laboratory Assistant (MLA) short-term certificate. In two semesters, this option prepares students with the knowledge and skills needed to become an MLA. This course of study covers the basic principles and techniques used in a medical laboratory with emphasis on basic laboratory equipment, terminology, specimen collection and analysis of samples. MLA students will complete a practicum course during their second semester, and following the course, will demonstrate competency as an entry-level MLA and be eligible to sit for the ASCP BOC exam.

The Wallace State MLT program accepts students once a year in the fall semester. The program begins accepting applications on March 1, 2024, and will continue until the fall cohort reaches full capacity or until Aug. 9, 2024.

The application requirements for the Wallace State MLT program include unconditional admission to the college, completion of course prerequisites, a minimum super score of 18 on the ACT and a GPA of at least 2.5.

The application requirements for the MLA short-term certification program include the completion of prerequisites, a high school diploma or equivalent, an ACCUPLACER or ACT score and a GPA of at least 2.0.

For more information about the Wallace State Medical Laboratory Technology program, contact Chris Cleghorn at 256-352-8347 or chris.cleghorn@wallacestate.edu or visit www.wallacestate.edu/MLT.

Huckleberry (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Meet Huckleberry, a Labrador Retriever who is approximately 5.5 years old with plenty of love to give!

This mild-mannered friend has low-medium energy and is respectful and unassuming as he cherishes your company. He loves all of his toys, especially a ball.

Huckleberry is like the court jester, hoping to put a smile on your face, as he entertains you with his antics making him quintessential companion and therapy fellow!

Are you ready to meet Huckleberry? Head over to Cullman County Animal Shelter at 935 Convent Road NE, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. for a meet and greet.

His adoption fee includes neuter, DHLPP vaccine, Bordetella vaccines, rabies vaccine, wormer, general exam at the vet and microchip.

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

Fireworks (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Independence Day is on its way, and with it a handful of local Fourth of July festivities.

Third Annual Fourth of July Celebration
- Sunday, June 30, beginning at 6 p.m.
- Vinemont Sports Complex
- 266 Park Drive

The Town of South Vinemont and Vinemont Baptist Church host this free event, which will tout food trucks like The Butcher's Chuckwagon, D's Crazy Dogs and Fro'z Shaved Ice, along with a kids' play zone and a fireworks show. Gates open at 6 p.m. and fireworks will begin at 9.

Sixth Annual Faith, Family, Freedom, Fireworks Extravaganza
- Wednesday, July 3, beginning at 7:30 p.m.
- Good Hope Family Park and Recreational Complex
- 135 Municipal Drive

Hosted by Branded by Christ Cowboy Church and the City of Good Hope, this free event will begin with a horse flag presentation at 7:30 p.m. followed by a fireworks show after dark.

Smith Lake Park 4th of July Fireworks Festival
- Thursday, July 4, from 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
- Smith Lake Park
- 403 County Road 386

For years, Smith Lake Park has hosted an extravagant Fourth of July celebration and festival. This year is expected to be no different, with a full day of live music, games, food trucks and vendors, capped off by a fireworks show over the water. Winston Ramble will kick off the live music, with artists like Zach Austin, Olivia Anderson, Jamie Anderson and Jackson Cannon taking the stage throughout the day.

Fourth of July Celebration
- Thursday, July 4, beginning at 4 p.m.
- Cornerstone Revival Center
- 3151 Highway 69 North

This free event is sponsored by Cullman Appliance and HVAC Repair. Set to be a fun-filled afternoon and night for the whole family, the celebration will offer fellowship with friends and neighbors, games like volleyball and cornhole and a bounce house. Gates open and games begin at 4 p.m. with the booming fireworks display igniting at dark.

Letter to the editor: Thank you, Cullman!

Don Scott
Contributor

I became involved with World Changers about 20 years ago and through the years traveled to places like Indiana, Kentucky, Arkansas, Texas and Alaska with them, repairing, painting, cleaning and upgrading homes for the elderly and needy in our country. This organization, through the years, has helped many, many families in our country who were in need of help. There was a cessation of activities during the recent years of COVID, but thank God!, World Changers is alive and well today.

I never dreamed during those times I was traveling all over the country that one day I would be able to see World Changers come to my home town of Cullman, Alabama. But praise the Lord, this year they came to Cullman!!

A couple of weeks ago we saw about a dozen homeowners blessed by the presence of these clean-cut, Christian young men and women and boys and girls who paid money out of their own pockets for the privilege of working their buns off in our Alabama hot sun, trimming hedges, cutting down trees, scraping, sanding and painting houses, building decks and handicap ramps, general clean- up, and anything the homeowners needed that was in their realm of capabilities, they did it!

There were about 150 students and adult sponsors involved in the week long endeavor.

Thanks to Northbrook Baptist Church for hosting the event and turning their building over to them for the week, allowing them to sleep in their educational spaces and providing breakfast and dinner each day to everyone. (Now, you may call me prejudiced, since Northbrook is my home church, but I am not the only one who made the statement that the meals were the best we have experienced on a WC project; I heard this same comment from others!!) Thanks to Wade Maynard and his large group of volunteers, including volunteers from several churches in the area who helped serve.

AND!!, also heartfelt thanks goes out to the various churches in the county (though all our projects were located in the city of Cullman) who graciously provided lunches and brought them on-site for the WC kids and the adult leaders and WC Staff. (No World Changer adult who has been around doing this for years can recall ever having homemade chicken and dumplings, along with homemade banana pudding brought to them on site for lunch!!)

Steve Eddleman and Mike Skelton deserve a world of credit for putting this project together. They say that World Changers will be coming back to Cullman next year, and after the first year kinks (which were very few) are ironed out, next year should be much bigger and better! Praise the Lord, can't wait!

Don Scott, WC volunteer

LEGALS

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR BIDS – OMNIPLEX CIVIC CENTER LANDSCAPING AND IRRIGATION

Sealed bids will be received until Thursday, July 11, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at Cullman City Hall located at 204 Second Avenue NE, Cullman, Alabama 35055 and at said time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for landscaping and irrigation for the Omniplex Civic Center. A bid package may be obtained at Cullman City Hall or requested via email at cityclerk@cullmanal.gov.

All Bidders bidding must be licensed and must show evidence of license before submitting bids. The City of Cullman reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality or irregularity in the bids received. Wesley M. Moore - Cullman City Clerk

EST. 1873
CULLMAN
ALABAMA

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

201 2nd Avenue NE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

256.775.7203
www.CullmanAl.gov

City of Cullman
Planning Commission

On Monday July 1, 2024, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M, at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Planning Commission, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Short form subdivision – 4th Street SW (Highway 278 West) – 2 lots

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
WILLIAM EDWARD CHECKON, * CASE NO. PC2023-282
An Alleged Incapacitated Person. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF CONSERVATORSHIP AND GUARDIANSHIP

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

Please take notice that a *Petition for Letters of Conservatorship and Guardianship* has been filed by Carol E. Hulgan, Petitioner, by and through Attorney, Richard L. Collins. A hearing on said *Petition for Letters of Conservatorship and Guardianship* has been rescheduled for the **17th day of July, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, Alabama.

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

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

Done this the 6th day of June, 2024.

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

Richard L. Collins
Attonery for Petitioner
PO BOX 69
Cullman, Alabama 35056

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
JANICE BAILEY BOOKER, * **CASE NO.: PC2024-167**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama

In the matter of the Estate of Janice Bailey Booker, Deceased

Letters of Administration, having been granted to the undersigned on the 19th day of June, 2024, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from the above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

JANICE LARUNDA BOOKER JORDAN
Personal Representative

Tonya C. Palmer
Attorney for Personal Representative
1939 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The estate of)
JAMES LYNN DANIEL) Case No.: PC-2024 -110
Deceased)

Case# PC2024-110
PB WIL Book:124 Page:295
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6/14/2024 4:21:22 PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS CUM TESTAMENMTO ANNEXO

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Testamentary cum testamenmto annexo having been granted to Amie Melissa White, also known as Amy White as the Personal Representative cum testamenmto annexo of the Estate of JAMES LYNN DANIEL, deceased, on the 12th 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 will be barred.

Amie Melissa White
Amie Melissa White also known as Amy White
Personal Representative cum testamenmto annexo
of the Estate of James Lynn Daniel, deceased

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

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

Beverly Paschal Poston (PA3001)
Attorney for the Estate of
James Lynn Daniel deceased.
201 2nd Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama, 35055
bposton@beverlypaschalposton.com
(256)739-3970 Fax (256)739-3968

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
DOYLE COLLIER, JR., * CASE NO. PC2024-114
An Alleged Incapacitated Person. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF CONSERVATORSHIP AND GUARDIANSHIP

TO: TABATHA COLLIER, ANGELA COLLIER MOORE AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES.

Please take notice that a *Petition for Letters of Conservatorship and Guardianship* has been filed by Cullman County Department of Human Resources through its agent Michael Key, Petitioner, by and through Attorney, Diane L. Dunning. A hearing on said *Petition for Letters of Conservatorship and Guardianship* has been scheduled for the **17th day of July, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, Alabama.

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

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

Done this the 7th day of June, 2024.

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

Diane L. Dunning (DUN020):
Assistant Attorney General
State of Alabama
Department of Human Resources
P.O. Box 13248
Birmingham, Alabama 35202-3248

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2024- 205

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF HERMAN MIKE TYUS, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Michael Justin Tyus on the 7th day of June, 2024, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Michael Justin Tyus
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
SYBLE F. OSMER, * CASE NO. PC2023-265
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: JAMES ROBERT WEBB JR., MICHAEL KEVIN SCHAFER, MAGEN LASHAY SCHAFER, LORETTA LYNN SCHAFER, WILLIAM BENNIE OSMER AND ANY OTHER NEXT OF KIN AND HEIRS OF SYBLE F. OSMER, DECEASED.

Petition for Probate of Will filed by William Osmer, Petitioner, through Attorney Pamela E. Nail, has been rescheduled for the **1st day of August, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.,** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

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

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

Done this the 6th day of June, 2024.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

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

PAMELA E. NAIL:
Attorney for Petitioner
200 Second Ave., SW.
Cullman, Alabama 35055

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
OLEN CARTER, * CASE NO.: PC2023-372
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to VIRGINIA M. CARTER, as Personal Representative, of the ESTATE OF OLEN CARTER, deceased, on the 25th day of June, 2024, by Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court.

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

Virginia M. Carter
Personal Representative

Annette Irons-Parker
Attorney for Personal Representative
PARKER AND PARKER, P.C. ATTORNEYS
215 Main Avenue S.W.
Cullman, AL 35055
256-775-4444

TO: Publisher of THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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

DONE this 25th day of June, 2024.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
FLORENE DAY, * **CASE NO.: PC2023-335**
Deceased. *

Case# PC2023-335
PB WIL Book:124 Page:416
Recorded in Above Book and Page
06/25/2024 10:07AM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to ZANE KELLY DAY, as Personal Representative of the Estate of FLORENE DAY, deceased, on the 25th 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.

ZANE KELLY DAY
Personal Representative

Beverly Paschal Poston
Attorney for Personal Representative
201 2nd Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

Case# PC2024-134
PB WIL Book:124 Page:443
Recorded in Above Book and Page
06/25/2024 11:07AM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to LU WRENDA DRIGGS, as Executrix, of the ESTATE OF BENJAMIN THOMAS DRIGGS, deceased, on the 25th day of June, 2024, by Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court.

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

LU WRENDA DRIGGS
Executrix

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

TO: Publisher of THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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

DONE this 25th day of June, 2024.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

Good Hope Council (from Front)

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — Good Hope's City Council held its second June meeting at Good Hope City Hall Monday night and got things started with a rezoning ordinance. The City's Planning Commission held a public hearing June 17 and all nine members voted to recommend the rezoning of 33.68 acres located at 2551 County Road 437 (Corey Harbison Park) from R1 (Residential) to GB (General Business). The Council passed Ordinance No: 010-2024 to approve the rezoning.

The Council also approved Resolution No: 016-2024 to award a bid for architectural services on its new multi-use storm shelter project. After grading two different bids that they received, the council awarded the bid to Waggoner Engineering, Inc. to 'provide professional architectural services for Congressionally Directed Spending under USDA's Community Facilities Program'. Mayor Jerry Bartlett was also happy to report that Love's and McDonalds are making good progress on their new location set for County Road 222 near I-65's 305 exit. McDonalds and Love's are aiming for a November opening date.

The Good Hope City Council will hold its next regularly scheduled meeting Monday, July 8 at 6:30 p.m. at Good Hope City Hall.



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Obituary Announcements: June 25-26

Nancy Elizabeth Boatwright
Funeral service for Nancy Elizabeth Boatwright, age 49, of Arley, is Saturday June 29, at 2 p.m. at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel. Visitation will be held from noon-2 p.m. and interment will be at Holly Bush Baptist Church Cemetery in Pelahatchie, Mississippi. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Nancy was born on Sept. 29, 1974, to Herbert Moore and Lucille Graves Moore. She passed from this life on Monday, June 24, 2024, at Cullman Regional Medical Center. She was preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Mersadies Boatrite; brother, Jerry Moore; sister, Debbie Abney; niece, LeighAnn Johnson. She is survived by her husband, Cicel Boatwright; son, Derik Boatwright; daughters, Paechence Boatwright (Aaron Witt), and Destini Boatwright; brothers, Harold Moore, Roland Moore, and Thomas Earl Moore; sisters, Mary Pippinger, and Ann Murray; grandchildren, Paeleigh Brown, Harper Witt, Hudson Witt, Breckyn Witt, Wrenleigh Witt, Westin Campbell, Adleigh Campbell, Brynlee Herfurth, McKenna Campbell, Brody Johnson, Cannon Boatwright, Brooks Boatwright, Blakely Boatwright, and baby due in September. Nancy was known as a wonderful Momma to her kids and as Nanny to her grandbabies, whom she loved dearly. She was hardheaded and was very protective of her family. Her family said she was a hard worker and a go getter, who never stopped. She will be very missed by all who loved and knew her.

Paula Jones Hazelrigg, 73
A visitation for Paula Jones Hazelrigg, 73, of Hanceville, will be from 3-5 p.m., Friday, June 28, at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mrs. Hazelrigg was born June 30, 1950, in Prairie Grove, Arkansas. She passed away June 19, 2024, in Cullman, Alabama. Mrs. Hazelrigg is survived by her children, Allison & Jason Crawford, Warren & Melissa Hazelrigg; grandchildren, Brittany Hagood (Hank), Abby Crawford, Gaven Hazelrigg, Warren Bullard, Brian Knox (Alyson), Elise Brannon, Josh Brannon, Kaitlyn Brannon; great grandson, Watson Hagood; sister, Daphney Walker (Oscar); brother, Vol Jones (Patti); nephews, McShan Walker, Cliff Jones (Alisha); nieces, Corbin Baker, Valerie Johnson (Will); great nephews, Greyson Jones, Jack Truett Jones, Mason Johnson; great niece, Madeline Johnson. Mrs. Hazelrigg was preceded in death by her parents, James M. Jones and Lois C Jones.

Kathern (Kathy) Hood, 84
Kathern (Kathy) Hood, age 84, went to be with the Lord on June 20, 2024. She was born on Dec. 19, 1939, in the Jones Chapel area. Kathy was preceded in death by her parents, Jessie Barnett and Inez Barnett Gootee. She is survived by her husband of 69 years, Fred Hood; daughter, Judy Collier; son, Dwayne Hood (Crystal); grandchildren, Jessica Friedman (Jeff), Matt Ford (Carolyn), Richard Collier, Rob, John, and Kate Hood; great-grandchildren, Gavin Ford, Wiley Collier, William and Ford Friedman. She attended school in the City of Cullman until her family moved to Hollywood, Florida. A few years later, Kathy moved back to Cullman with her husband and two children. She was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. Kathy enjoyed reading the Bible, attending church, taking care of family, and being outdoors. Funeral services were held graveside at Sardis Baptist Church at Addison with Reverend Jimmy Sawyer officiating.

Ted William Wagnon, 88
Funeral Service for Ted William Wagnon, age 88 of Bremen, will be at 7 p.m. on Friday, June 28, 2024 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Morris Helton officiating; Visitation will be from 6-7 p.m. on Friday, June 28, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Wagnon passed peacefully on Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at Folsom Center. He was born Wednesday, July 24, 1935, to Walt Wagnon and Mildred Wagnon. He was preceded in death by his, parents, wife, Ruth of 48 years; youngest son Jeff and brother Elton Wagnon. Survivors include his children, Mike (Farah), Dawn and Mark; grandchildren, Raven (Brian) O'Leary, Amber (Neeley) Adams, Kandice (Josh) Essmon and Tressa (Joash) Bentley; great granddaughter, Alison (Hunter) Bennett and 9 great grandchildren and a great great grandbaby on the way; sisters, Barb and Emma; brother Jerry and he loved his babies, Sweetie and Molly. He loved going fishing and going out to eat. He was a lineman for many years. He had his own trucking company for a while and ran Big Bridge Fishing Camp until he was 81. He also loved spending time with his family.

Charles Edwin Smith, 81
Charles Edwin Smith, age 81, of Hanceville, Alabama, passed from this life on Monday, June 24, 2024. There will be no public service, only a small private family gathering. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Charles was born on May 31, 1943, to Joel Smith and Evie Butler Smith. He was preceded in death by his parents; son, Barry Smith; a host of brothers and sisters and their spouses. He is survived by his son, Johnny Smith (Barbara); grandchildren, Lillian Smith Jones (Carson), Isabella Smith Dahlke (Hunter), Ella Smith Jones (Braxton), and Jackman Smith; great-grandchild, Clair Smith. Please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Fredrick Dallis-Wayne Grimmett, 37
Fredrick Dallis-Wayne Grimmett, age 37 of Vinemont, passed away on Sunday, June 23, 2024. He was born Wednesday, July 30, 1986, to Wendy Thurman and the late Terry Grimmett. Dallis is preceded in death by his father, and grandparents, Fred and Lavon Thurman, Clellan Grimmett and Shirley Copeland. Survivors include his mother, Wendy (Don) Thurman; son, Benjamin Kade Grimmett; sister Amanda (Chris) Dunn; niece Sidni Dunn; nephew Kane Dunn and many aunts, uncles, cousins, family and friends. Celebration of life at the Family Farm.

Ernest Leon Waters, 89
Ernest Leon Waters (Leon), age 89, of Birmingham, Alabama, died peacefully on June 25, 2024, at home with his family. He is survived by the love of his life, Kathryn Voigt Waters, his children Thomas (Jennifer) and Valerie (Darlene), his grandchildren Mary Kathryn (Gann) and Martha Louise, his great-granddaughter, Maeve, and his sister, Jennie Passarella, sister-in law Candace Waters, and a host of nieces and nephews. He celebrated 65 years of marriage with his wife Kathryn on June 14, 2024. Leon was born in Cullman, Alabama, on Dec. 8, 1934, to John G. and Laura Waters. He was one of 11 children and the first to attend college. He worked year-round to put himself through Birmingham-Southern College and completed his degree in music. In June 1959, he married his wife Kathryn. After serving Hanceville High School for three years as band director, Leon was offered a claims position with State Farm Insurance. He moved the family to Birmingham in 1968 when he was promoted to Claims Superintendent and later became a State Farm Agent. Over the years, Leon earned a reputation for being fair and honest. He truly lived up to the State Farm motto "Like a Good Neighbor" and always displayed genuine concern and care for his customers. He retired from the company after 39 years of service. He was a member of the Birmingham-Southern College Alumni Choir for over 40 years and attended Shades Valley Lutheran for almost 60 years where he served as choir director for 25 years. Leon was an avid supporter of the Alabama Symphony Orchestra, he enjoyed playing trumpet in the Birmingham Community Band, and was an active member of the Homewood Kiwanis Club for 40 years. "Buddy," as his children and grandchildren knew him, was generous in his affection and unconditional love for family and equally giving within his church and community. His love for others was a quiet way of displaying his Christian witness. He used dry humor, kindness, and compassion to bring calm and peace to situations that needed resolution. It was the secret to his success in life and business. A public memorial service will be held on Tuesday, July 2, at 11 a.m. at Shades Valley Lutheran Church, 720 Shades Creek Parkway, Birmingham, AL 35209. In lieu of flowers, donations to Shades Valley Lutheran Church are appreciated.

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ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM

Beekeepers monitor hives for Africanized honeybees after confirmed detection in Alabama

Katie Nichols
Alabama Cooperative Extension System

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. — The Apiary Protection Unit of the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries (ADAI) confirmed the presence of Africanized honeybees (AHBs) in beehives in Jackson and St. Clair counties through genetic testing.

Officials at ADAI are developing a strategic monitoring plan for AHBs. Swarm traps will be placed within a five- to 10-mile radius of the confirmed cases.

Bees from nearby beekeepers will also be sampled as a precaution. ADAI said this proactive measure aims to assess the extent of AHB infiltration and prevent future spread.

Monitoring hives in Alabama

Jack Rowe, an Alabama Cooperative Extension System bee specialist, said Alabama hasn't had an AHB presence before, which keeps the state's beekeepers from having colony management problems.

"The Apiary Protection Unit maintains a careful watch on the Port of Mobile to prevent an AHB invasion," Rowe said.

"It is up to the rest of us to ensure that we don't bring AHBs in by accident. Vigilance is important, as is compliance with Alabama's apiary laws."

AHBs look like European Honeybees, but their behaviors are different. AHBs are more defensive, more easily disturbed and respond in greater numbers.

Other identifying qualities are outlined in the press release from the ADAI (https://agi.alabama.gov/plantprotection/2024/06/africanized-honeybees-detected-in-alabama).

Apiculturists who regularly collect swarms or conduct bee removals should be alert for bees that seem highly aggressive to humans or animals.

If encountered, Phillip Carter, an apiary inspector with the plant protection division of ADAI, encourages apiculturists to contact the plant protection division so a sample can be collected and tested for AHB genes.

"Investigators are speculating the two confirmed AHB colonies are a result of purchasing queens, packages and illegal nucs from other states with the presence of AHBs," Carter said.

Follow laws to protect Alabama's bee population

Rowe said Carter is asking all beekeepers to obey the No Comb Law by not purchasing nucs from out of state.

"We have this law in place to prevent exactly what is now happening, not just honeybee pests and diseases," Carter said.

When purchasing mated queens or packages from another state with a confirmed presence of AHBs, it is imperative that the buyer request the seller's certificate, confirming their testing for AHBs through their state's apiary program.

"We must all comply with Alabama's apiary laws to protect the bee population in Alabama and prevent the spread of AHBs in our state," Rowe said.

Extension recommendations

Rowe said if beekeepers are receiving packages or queens from the following states, it is best to request certificates stating that the bee stock that they were raised from are free from AHB genes:

- Florida
- Louisiana
- Arkansas
- Texas
- New Mexico
- Arizona
- Nevada
- California

More information

If you think you've encountered an unusually aggressive hive, contact Rowe or Allyson Shabel, both members of Alabama Extension's beekeeping team. Also reach out to the Apiary Protection Unit through the following contact information:

Central and north Alabama beekeepers, contact Jason James at 334-850-7757. South central and south Alabama beekeepers, contact Phillip Carter at 334-414-1666 or Randy Hamann at 334-850-7758. You may also contact Daniele Sisk in the ADAI Montgomery office at 334-240-7228.



Shaw (from Front)

Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville.

"She was able to drop off another box of donations on her 'diaversary' while representing her Junior Miss Cullman County Fair Princess title," said Shanda Shaw, who explained what "diaversary" means: "It's a day to celebrate making it through another year of all the highs and lows, the finger sticks, the long nights, the stares from people who don't understand your diagnosis and all the pump site changes."

Brooklyn Shaw is one of countless individuals living with Type 1 diabetes controlled through a continuous glucose monitor (CGM). She and her mother match her CGM with themes and colors, transforming it into an accessory to whatever pageant look is worn for the evening. The visible monitor allows her to share her experience and story with the disease, and she often creates bonds and friendships when other CGM users are spotted at pageants.

Her mom smiled and said, "She loves it when she meets other diabetic contestants. It's her favorite. Especially if it's a younger girl who might need some encouragement about not being afraid to walk out with her head held high with her CGM and insulin pump on display."

Collecting the items is no small feat for the teen, who looks to family, friends and communitymembers to provide the much-needed goods for the clinic.

"Their biggest needs at the moment are medical bags, adhesives for CGMs and pods, stress balls and stuffed animals," said Shanda Shaw.

Soon, multiple drop-off locations for donations will be available, with the soonest coming to Good Hope Pharmacy.

Brooklyn Shaw speaks about the disease and life outcomes at every opportunity she is afforded to spread awareness about diabetes, whether in a school, public or pageant setting. Her main message is, "You can do anything you set your mind to."

"Having diabetes is not going to hold her, or anyone else, back," her mom said.



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