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WEATHER

93 75

SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

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MARLEE MOSLEY

– SPORTS –

'Always stay true to yourself': Meek's Marlee Mosley recaps Tiger career

» PAGE 4

Vinemont man dead after shooting; CCSO searching for suspect

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — A shooting on July 1 in the Vinemont area resulted in the death of Dylaan Bomberry-Wright, 29, of Vinemont. The Cullman County Sheriff's Office is searching for suspect Jamarion Allen Harrison, 20, of Birmingham.

The CCSO said deputies and investigators responded to the report of a shooting in the Vinemont area on Monday.

Cullman County Coroner Jeremy Kilpatrick identified the victim, who was shot and transported to an area hospital where he later died from his injuries.

The CCSO said the suspect fled the scene before deputies arrived. A warrant for murder has been issued.

According to the CCSO, Harrison and the victim, along with another individual, were together at a residence. A confrontation occurred between » PAGE 2



2023 PHOTO/CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Jamarion Allen Harrison

Holly Pond pursues infrastructure improvements, declines alcohol review



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Finley Circle will be surveyed for future repairs and improvements, including curbs to separate it from the truck parking area at Jack's.

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. — The Holly Pond Town Council on Monday, July 1, voted to pursue infrastructure improvements at the town ball fields, library and Finley Circle, while declining to review a proposal for alcohol sales in the town.

The council voted to order new LED lighting for the softball field at a cost of $65,000. The approval came after the contractor working on the park offered to reduce the amount from the originally quoted $70,000 if the Town ordered the lights now. The improvement is part of a larger project that will eventually include new lights for the baseball and T-ball fields, as well.

Mayor Carla Hart told the council that construction of the fence at the playground should start next week and could be finished within a month. The council chose to place rubber mulch in the playground as a cleaner and longer lasting alternative to natural mulch. Hart also said that she had lined up help to put up nets in the batting cages when the weather cools.

The council approved $6,500 ($6,000 for patching, $500 for painting) for patching potholes and restriping the library parking area. Hart said she received a quote of $7,450 ($6,950 for patching, $500 for painting) for the job, but local pastor Dwight Kidd, attending the meeting, called out from the audience a recommendation of someone who had done similar work at his church. Hart said she would reach out to that person for a quote.

The council also approved the construction of new concrete pads for Dumpsters at the ballpark and town event center.

The council also approved a request from Hart to conduct a survey of Finley Circle on the east side of Jack's off U.S. Highway 278 to determine the exact location of a 50-foot right of way the Town has there. She said that she recently spoke to a representative of the North Alabama Regional Council » PAGE 2

Baileyton woman dies following multivehicle crash

» PAGE 2

Legendary local coach Dafford Smith dies at 88



CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Legendary coach Dafford Smith waves to the crowd of Aggie faithful just prior to kickoff on Friday, Oct. 21, 2016, Fairview's first game back at Dafford Smith Stadium since 2013. » PAGE 7

Smith Lake Park 4th of July Fireworks Festival: Know price before you go

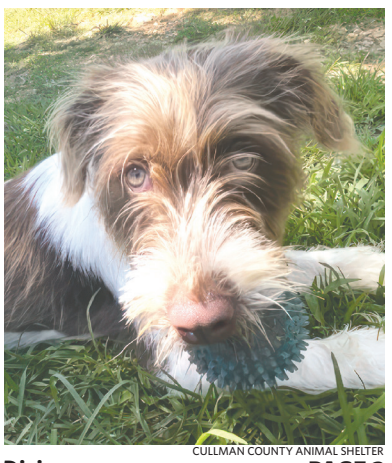
» PAGE 7

The Link hosting Kindergarten Readiness Camps this month

» PAGE 5

PET OF THE WEEK

Welcome sweet Dixie home



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Dixie » PAGE 2

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported July 3

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported July 2, 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 27

• retail theft of property-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; fishing pole; $44; Olive St. SW

July 1

• domestic violence-3rd degree; person; Austin Ave. SW

• retail theft of property-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $45; Hwy. 157

• theft of property-1st degree; person; '07 Toyota Tacoma, phone; $11,000; Elizabeth St. NE

• theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $59; Olive St. SW

June 2

• theft of property-2nd degree; person; pistols; $600

ARRESTS

July 1-2

Vanstedum, Austin J.; 25

• FTA – failure to register vehicle

Villa, Joseph S.; 52

• FTA – driving without license (5 counts)

• FTA – failure to register vehicle

• FTA – insurance violation (2 counts)

• FTA – switch tag

• FTA – improper muffler

Cowart, Joshua I.; 20

• FTA – speeding

Reynolds, David J.; 43

• FTA – theft of property-4th degree

Guthery, Brandon D.; 30

• FTA – failure to register vehicle (2 counts)

• FTA – insurance violation

• FTA – driving without license

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Dixie (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Dixie is an 11-month-old wire-haired terrier mix who exhibits medium energy. She is a true lover of life and her joyful antics will keep you entertained whenever you are near.

Dixie finds solace sitting by your side and playing with her favorite toy. She cherishes the time you spend with her and looks to you for encouragement.

Dixie is the perfect example of a companion/therapy dog!

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

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

Holly Pond (from Front)

of Governments, and hopes to hear in August about a grant to make repairs to Finley Circle and two other roads. Hart added that planned improvements to Finley Circle include the installation of a curb to stop large trucks from using the street to enter the truck parking lot behind Jack's, since the restaurant's parking lot includes its own truck entrance.

Alcohol proposal not reviewed

The council declined even to review information packets concerning alcohol sales, delivered to Holly Pond Town Hall prior to the meeting by Ron Stone and distributed to council members at the meeting.

The packets reportedly showed the benefits of alcohol tax revenues for other towns, in an effort to promote an ordinance for alcohol sales in Holly Pond. Council members and Town Attorney Dan Willingham pointed out that the State of Alabama's law regulating alcohol sales requires that a municipality have at least 1,000 residents even to hold a referendum on alcohol sales, and that 30% of those residents would have to sign a petition to hold the referendum.

The 2020 federal census showed only 851 people living in Holly Pond. Based on the population issue, talk of alcohol sales was declared a "non-starter," and council members passed their packets back to Hart.

The Holly Pond Town Council meets on the first Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in the conference room at the Guy Hunt Library. The public is invited to attend.





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Man (from Front)

Harrison and the victim and ultimately resulted in Harrison allegedly shooting the victim.

This is an active and ongoing investigation.

Anyone with any information as to the whereabouts of Jamarion Harrison is asked to contact the Cullman County Sheriff's Office at 256-734-0342.

Crash (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

MORGAN COUNTY, Ala. — A Baileyton woman died after a multivehicle crash that occurred at approximately 5:39 p.m. Monday, July 1.

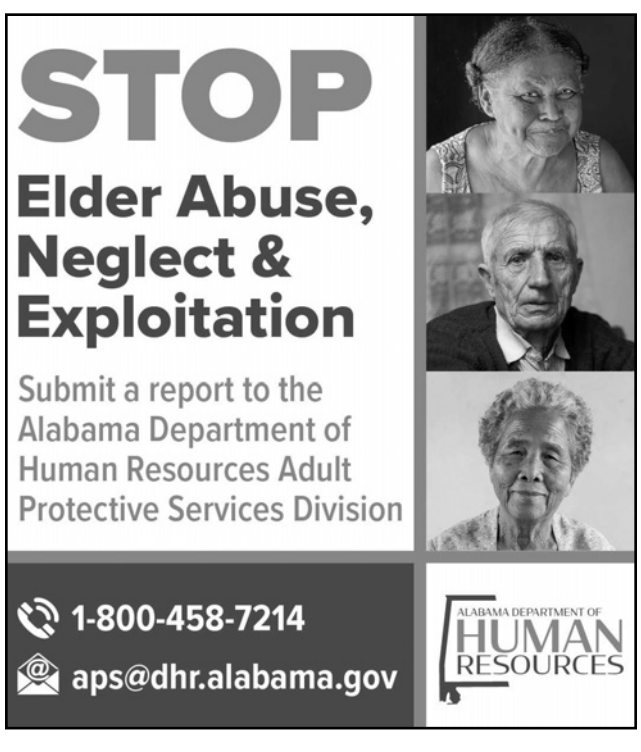
Alabama State Troopers identified the victim as Brenda R. Reed, 78. Troopers said she was critically injured when the 1999 GMC Sonoma she was driving was struck by a 2017 Nissan Titan driven by Aaron S. Barnes, 34, of Gadsden.

"After the initial impact, the GMC overturned and left the roadway. The Nissan Titan then struck a 2009 Nissan Rogue driven by Shawn S. Wheeler, 59, of Huntsville. Reed was transported to Marshall Medical North Hospital by helicopter, where she later succumbed to her injuries and was pronounced deceased," said a release from Troopers.

The crash occurred on Alabama Highway 67 near Hulaco Road, approximately 5 miles west of Arab, in Morgan County.

Nothing further is available as Troopers with the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's (ALEA) Highway Patrol Division continue to investigate.

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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.
• Friday, July 5 - 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.
• Saturday, July 6 - 8 a.m. men's breakfast; 10 a.m. community outreach - Foundry Farm
• Sunday, July 7 - 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.
• Tuesday, July 8 – 6 p.m. Adult dinner and game night
• Sunday, July 14 – 5 p.m. Healing service
• Saturday, July 20 – Drive-through food bank from 9-11 a.m.

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.
•

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

Cullman Chapter of the National Association of Retired and Active Federal Employees Meeting
Monday, July 8, at 11 a.m. Dutch lunch at Golden Corral Buffet. Our guest speaker for meeting, beginning at noon, will be the director of Hospice of Cullman County, Tonya Foster.

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.

Vinemont History Meeting
Sunday, July 14, at 2 p.m. We will meet at the main entry to Vinemont High School building. Please bring family histories, past community stories and events, pictures, etc. For information contact Jane Teeter at 256-347-9346 or Rodger Walling at 256-734-8235.

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 62nd 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.

West Point Class of 1967 Reunion
The West Point High School class of 1967 will have a class reunion on Saturday, July 27, from 4-6 p.m. at the Brandin Iron Restaurant in West Point.

3rd Annual Day in the Park
Join the Holly Pond Volunteer Fire Department for a Day in the Park on Saturday, July 27, from 5-8 p.m. in Governors Park. There will be lots of fun and activities for all ages. Meet the fire department and guests. Look over a fire truck and equipment. Handle a fire hose, shoot water into the pond, try on fire gear and enjoy the free food available while supplies last. Thank you to all the supporters of the Holly Pond Volunteer Fire Department. We look forward to seeing you in the park.

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.

Save the Date: Little Pink Dress Benefit
Tuesday, Oct. 1, from 6-9 p.m. at The Venue at Cotton Creek. Handicapped parking at north entrance. Doors open at 5:30. A night of fun with dinner included, Active Adult Senior Kickers, Wallace State Jazz Band, live and silent auctions, door prizes and much more! Ticket are $60. Tickets available through Stefani Nelson at 256-708-3191 or snelson@alfains.com or Judy Grissom at Options at 256-347-5993 or options5993@gmail.com and www.CullmanBosomBuddies.com.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JULY 4, 2024

Cheerleading Team-Up

CHS, West Point and CGCA cheerleaders partner for clinic

Trent Moore
Cullman City Schools



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cheerleaders from Cullman High School and West Point High School came together to learn from one another recently at a joint clinic.

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cheerleaders from Cullman High School, West Point High School and Cullman Gymnastics and Cheer Academy teamed up on June 27 for a cheer clinic bringing together dozens of cheerleaders from across the city and county.

"Cheerleaders from Cullman and West Point were paired up in stunt groups based on their positions, with the aim of helping each other improve in their stunting techniques.

"Cullman cheer has grown tremendously in their stunting abilities over the last few years and are currently stunting at the highest level on the score sheet for competition," Cullman High varsity cheer coach Mary Pylant explained.

"West Point is gearing up for an exciting season, growing in their stunting abilities and leveling up their skills.

"We were thrilled to have the opportunity to assist them in incorporating more elite stunts into their routine this year, contributing to their growth and development in preparation for the upcoming competition season."

Pylant noted the stunt session was successful and beneficial for all participants, providing a great learning opportunity for cheerleaders to enhance their skills in elite stunting, while fostering collaboration and teamwork between the two programs.

"West Point grew tremendously and our teams worked together to teach and learn proper grips and techniques for elite stunting. Cullman is blessed to know and love the West Point team through our mutual love of cheerleading and elite stunting," Pylant said.

"It was truly amazing to look out across the floor and to be unable to distinguish which athletes were from Cullman or West Point. From a coaching point of view: It was amazing watching the two teams — who don't practice together — be able to bond together as a community and work together to reach common goals."

The joint clinic was a chance to bring student athletes together from across the community, to learn from one another and create new connections and friendships within the sport.

"Our Cullman program cheer theme is 'Clap for the Cats,' and by incorporating and extending that uplifting theme, it's a way to spread that positivity by clapping for each other and celebrating the collective achievements that make our Cullman cheer and West Point cheer and our entire community shine bright," Pylant said. "By working together, we can create a culture of support and friendship that will lead to success and a truly amazing journey!"

Cullman's cheer coach staff includes Pylant, Ashley Wilbanks, Kristy Patterson and Savanna Ball.

PREP SPORTS

'Always stay true to yourself': Meek's Marlee Mosley recaps Tiger career

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

ARLEY, Ala. — Meek senior Marlee Mosley was a multi-sport athlete during her years playing for the Tigers and in this interview, she shared some of her favorite memories from playing alongside her teammates.

"Some of my favorite memories were when we won county in softball last year and area this year, and when we made it to the state tournament in volleyball last year," Mosley said. "It made all of the work we put in seem worth it. Just being with all of my amazing teammates accomplishing those big things felt amazing. I learned to have confidence in myself, and there are always going to be obstacles you have to face as an athlete."

Mosley played under a pair of coaches during her high school career and soaked up as much as she could from each of them.

"Coach Woods helped me learn what it felt like to have a coach who sees our full potential and believes in our team. She pushed me to be the absolute best I could be, even when I had doubts in myself. Coach Callie, my volleyball coach, has played a huge role in the athlete I am today.

"She welcomed me in when I moved in eighth grade, and she saw something in me that I didn't see in myself. Over the years, she has helped me and pushed me, but all out of love.

"She helped me gain confidence and love the sport of volleyball. I couldn't be more thankful for my amazing coaches."

Mosley will deeply miss playing sports at Meek next year.

She talked about her favorite game that she was a part of, her favorite high school memory and what made Meek a special place to go to school.

"I will remember all of the memories I made over the years. I will miss my teammates, and they became like sisters to me. That's what I'm going to miss the most," she said.

"My favorite game that I was a part of was the area championship game against Athens Bible in softball this year. My favorite high school memory is meeting my friends at Meek and making memories with them.

"What made Meek a very special place to go to was having coaches who believed in me and seen something in me."

She also talked about a pair of role models that she looked up to in high school and gave some advice to the students that will be starting high school in August.

"I will remember the memories I made on the court and the field with my teammates. I'm going to miss playing high school sports for Meek," she said. "I looked up to coach Callie. I also look up to my teammate, Laney Phillips, because she always has such a calm attitude and is just the sweetest person, no matter what the situation is. My advice to them is to always stay true to yourself. Don't try to fit in. I would also tell them to work hard in everything they do, and good things will come to them."

Mosley had a lot of younger eyes on her during her time at Meek and was a great role model to them. She talked about what she wants people to remember about her.

"Being the oldest sibling and cousin, I have always had a lot of young eyes on me. I have always tried to set the best example for them. I worked hard at everything I did, and I was always true to myself. I never changed to fit in with the crowd or be someone I wasn't," she said. "I want people to remember how I carried myself and how hard I worked on the field, the court, and in the classroom."



MARLEE MOSLEY

Meek's Marlee Mosley

Mosley earned a scholarship to continue her volleyball career at Gadsden State and she gave some advice to younger players that want to be where she is now.

"I really loved the campus, and one thing that impressed me was all the big things that coach Clark has planned for Gadsden State's softball team," she said. "Always believe in yourself, work hard for everything you want, and never give up on yourself."

CULLMAN CHAMBER
2ND FRIDAYS
EAT LOCAL CULLMAN SHOP LATE

JULY 12TH
RED, ROCK, & ROLL
5:30PM-9:30PM
Downtown Cullman
Sponsored By
PEPSI ROCK THE SOUTH

Recycling Collection
Now Available in Cullman County
for Residents and Businesses
Cardboard | Plastic | Paper | Metal | Glass
Reduce your garbage volume
with Bi-monthly Recycling Pickup
It's Free to Try!
OSIRIS
RECYCLING SOLUTIONS LLC
(256) 615-2510
osirisrecycling.com
Not affiliated with Cullman County Sanitation Dept.
No drop-off location

The Link hosting Kindergarten Readiness Camps this month

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com



THE LINK OF CULLMAN COUNTY

The Link of Cullman County is gearing up to host its Kindergarten Readiness Camps this month.

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Link of Cullman County is gearing up to host two Kindergarten Readiness Camps this month. Each is a five-day, two hours per day program designed to ease incoming kindergarteners who may not have been in any pre-school setting into a daily routine. The goal is to better equip them for things that will be encountered during the school day such as separation from a guardian, opening single-serve snacks and letter and number recognition.

"We know that the transition to kindergarten is often hard on both the child and the guardians, especially if the child has no pre-school experience or has never been away from their guardians," said The Link of Cullman County Literacy Coordinator and Educational Enrichment Team Leader Dakota Trammell. "Kindergarten Readiness Camp was designed to make that transition easier on everyone involved."

The Link has gone one step further in potentially ending the new scholars' first-day jitters by partnering with four local schools as camp locations.

This gives the nervous newbies a chance to walk the halls and become acquainted with the faces at their future schools, building relationships and rapport before classes begin.

Trammell shared, "Students are able to truly get a feel for what the school year will be like and interact with their potential teachers."

During Kindergarten Readiness Camp, students will work on skills that will be used and learned in school. Much like a kindergarten setting, the classes will go in rotations, or "centers," and work on basic skills like phonics, handwriting and pencil grip, counting skills and letter and number recognition.

A "read-aloud" rotation is also added to the mix, ensuring students are practicing sitting quietly and listening, while growing reading comprehension skills.

Camps will provide pre-packaged snacks to students daily, allowing them to become familiar with opening and handling pre-packaged snacks and food items before school begins.

"Lindsey Ray at Weichert, Realtors- The Space Place is sponsoring this year's snacks for all seven of our sites," Trammell said.

"We do a pre-packaged snack so students can work on opening those packages like they will have to do during their lunch and break time at school."

The camps will be held at First United Methodist Church of Cullman, Hanceville Elementary School, First Baptist Church of Fairview, Welti Elementary School, Good Hope Baptist Church and West Point Elementary School July 15-19, from 10 a.m.-noon, and at Cold Springs Elementary School July 22-26, from 10 a.m.-noon.

Thanks to the Daniel Foundation of Alabama, The Link's Kindergarten Readiness Camps are completely free. To register, parents and guardians can find and fill out the Google form pinned on The Link of Cullman County's Facebook page or email dakotatrammell@linkingcullman.org. The deadline to register is July 7.

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
CANDIDATES WILL BE BACKGROUND CHECKED
COLLEGE TIRE
APPLY AT COLLEGE TIRE 315 MAIN ST. NW, HANCEVILLE, AL
256-352-2221



H.P.R Pro Rodeo packs the Cullman County Ag. Center with heart-pounding rodeo entertainment and a showcase of world class skills

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Agricultural Center was alive with energy and excitement on June 29 as the H.P.R Pro Rodeo took center stage, with the 3rd annual event drawing a packed house. American flags hung proudly in the rafters and were given to many of the young attendees, setting a patriotic stage for a night of thrilling rodeo action.

The rodeo was stacked full of star power, featuring some of the biggest names in the sport. Three-time Saddle Bronc Riding World Champion Cody Reinhardt, two-time Bareback Riding World Champion Tanner Phipps, PCA World Champion Brandon Goforth, and IPRA Tie-Down Roping World Champion Trent Creager were all in attendance, adding to the event's prestige.

The Street Kitchen and Carnival Cravings provided the night's delicious food truck dishes. Other vendors added to the rodeo night by selling customized hats, clothing, and other wares that complimented the rodeo spirit of the night.

The evening kicked off with the crowning of the H.P.R Pro Rodeo Queens, celebrating the future stars of the rodeo world. The winners were:

- Petite Miss: Adalaide McClendon, Bremen, AL
- Little Miss: Avonlea Bratcher, Florence, AL
- Junior Miss: Abree McClendon, Bremen, AL
- Senior Miss: Lacey Grace, Jasper, AL
- Queen: Katelin Mayer, Lacey Springs, AL

The Horsemanship winners were:

- Petite: Adalaide McClendon
- Little: Dillion Chafin
- Junior: Abree McClendon
- Senior: Lacey Grace
- Miss: Katelin Mayer

"Our Rising Stars and future Rodeo Royalty did a great job, and we look forward to seeing them in the future!" said H.P.R Rodeo Queen Pageant organizer, Kristie Young.

The HPR Rodeo Queen Pageant alternates were also honored:

- Petite Miss: 1st Alt. Andee Chafin
- Little Miss: 2nd Alt. Chelsey Curtis, 1st Alt. Dillion Chafin
- Junior Miss: 1st Alt. Layla Curtis

The rodeo showcased a variety of well-known events within the competitive rodeo world. From the jarring excitement of bareback riding to the precise skill required in calf roping, and culminating in the pinnacle event of the night, bull riding, the audience was treated to an exhilarating display of rodeo entertainment.

With an exceptional host in David Sharp, the audience was guided through each event with clarity and excitement, ensuring that both seasoned rodeo fans and newcomers understood the action about to unfold. The events provided heart-pounding anticipation and the thrill of the unpredictable as riders met expectations or failed in a quick flash of splendor. Adding to the entertainment, renowned rodeo clown Robb Gann brought comedic relief and hilarity, improvising alongside the events of the night and adding a comedic flair to the commentary for each event.

Winners for each event and their allotted points or times are as follows:

- Bareback: Tanner Phipps, 81 pts
- Saddle Bronc: Hayden Phipps, 84 pts
- Bull Riding: Brandon Goforth, 86.5 pts
- Calf Roping: Jude Gully, 7.9 seconds
- Steer Wrestling: Will Collier, 4.3 seconds
- Breakaway: Tabitha Owens, 2.1 seconds
- Barrel Racing: Julie Thomas, 12.624 seconds
- Team Roping: Wyatt Allen & Ethen Wheeler, 4.3 seconds

Event organizer and Hanceville Parks and Recreation Director David Wasilewski, expressed his gratitude and pride in the event's success.

"We are thrilled with how well-organized and smoothly everything ran. Thanks to our dedicated Hanceville Parks and Recreation staff and the support from the Hanceville Police Department. Southern Rodeo Company put on an incredible show and we can't thank them enough. Kristie Young did a fantastic job with the H.P.R Rodeo Queen Pageant. A big shout-out to Traditions Bank for being our presenting sponsor, and a heartfelt thanks to all our sponsors, vendors, Mayor Sawyer, and the city council for their unwavering support," shared Wasilewski.

The event was made possible by the generous support of numerous sponsors, including:

- Presenting Sponsor: Traditions Bank
- Premier Sponsor: Cullman Jefferson Gas
- Barrel Racing Event Sponsor: Elite Drain and Septic
- Bucking Chute Sponsors: Heavenlee Companion Aquamation, Wayne's Door Company, Walmart Distribution Center, Boatwright Motorsports, Talisha Shikle - Alfa Insurance, Live Haul Products
- Arena Sign Sponsors: Robbie Downs - Hagemore Realty, Federer Fertilizer, Jim Burke Gunsmithing, Chick-fil-A Cullman, Southview Medical Clinic, Hagemore Realty Group, West Cullman Electrical Supply Inc, Culpepper Auto Sales, Cullman Electric Cooperative, Thompson Gas, Hanceville Nursing and Rehab Center, Treasures by Hea, Downtown Pediatrics, Prestigious Pets, Affordable Automotive, B&B Petroleum



GAUGE DAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Old Glory set the stage for an incredible night of American patriotism and an electric rodeo skill showcase.

With an incredible night of unpredictable thrills and an expert display of world class skills, the H.P.R Pro Rodeo has firmly established itself as a highlight in the community calendar for the third year in a row.

With the minds behind Hanceville Parks and Recreation providing a well-executed plan for the rodeo year after year, spectators and athletes alike can expect an even bigger H.P.R Pro Rodeo in the years to come.

First Source For Women in urgent need of donations

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — First Source For Women, a local nonprofit dedicated to supporting mothers and families in Cullman County and surrounding areas, is urgently seeking donations to continue providing essential resources. The organization recently announced on Facebook a critical shortage of size 4 diapers, baby bottles and wipes and is reaching out to the community for help.

First Source For Women offers a range of free services to families from the moment they find out they are pregnant until their child turns 2 years old. The nonprofit is entirely reliant on donations from churches and individuals, as it does not receive state or federal funding. This support allows it to provide necessary items free of charge to those in need.

"We are donated an abundance of size 1 diapers for new babies, but we have a need for all size diapers," explained a representative from First Source For Women. "We have families that have babies in preemie diapers all the way to size 7 diapers. All items we give out are completely free of charge. Material items we always need are diapers, not so much size 1 diapers, but preemie and the larger size diapers we run out of a lot faster than the size 1s."

In addition to diapers, First Source For Women provides baby food, formula, wipes and bottles. It also offers larger items like car seats, cribs and pack 'n plays to new mothers, which it purchases using monetary donations. Families can earn "baby bucks" by watching short educational videos, which they can use to "buy" baby essentials.

"We give our families free formula and baby food, and this doesn't even cost the 'baby bucks' points that they earn watching classes," the representative added.

Items and monetary donations are welcome. Donations can be designated toward specific needs, such as purchasing larger baby items. First Source For Women also maintains Amazon and Walmart wish lists, where supporters can buy needed items directly.

For those interested in utilizing their wish lists, links are provided below:

• Amazon Wish List (https://tinyurl.com/FSFWAmazon)

• Walmart Wish List (https://tinyurl.com/FSFW-Walmart)

For more information, please contact First Source For Women directly at 256-352-5683 or visit www.firstsourceforwomen.org. Material donations can be dropped off at 203 Commercial St. NE in Hanceville or 704 Second Ave. SW in Cullman.

Senators Greg Reed, Garlan Gudger announce renovation completion and installation of navigational lights at Duncan Bridge

Staff Reports
Contributor

ARLEY, Ala. — Sen. Greg Reed, R-Jasper, president pro tempore of the Alabama Senate, and Sen. Garlan Gudger, R-Cullman, on July 3, 2024, announced the completion of renovations that include navigational lights at Duncan Bridge on Smith Lake.

Duncan Bridge was built in 1967 and is known by its famous blue steel trusses. The Alabama Department of Transportation recently completed renovations to the bridge that included steel and concrete repairs, steel bridge coating, deck sealing work and the installation navigational lights for boaters on the lake.

Local state officials regarded the completion of this project as a huge success for the area.

"Duncan Bridge is one of the hallmarks of Smith Lake and is almost synonymous with the lake itself," said Reed.

"It is imperative that our infrastructure meets the needs of families in our communities.

"I am pleased these improvements have been completed in time for the Fourth of July and will help boaters have a safe, fun-filled weekend on beautiful Smith Lake.

"I want to thank the Alabama Department of Transportation and everyone involved for their tireless work in not only getting this important project done, but also maintaining the bridge's iconic features for future generations."

"Smith Lake is one of Alabama's most beautiful resources," said Gudger.

"Boater safety on the lake is so important, and I am so thankful these renovations have been completed to restore historic Duncan Bridge.

"The revitalization of the bridge will help increase safety on the lake, and I am thankful for the Department of Transportation and their diligent work to get this project completed as people come to Smith Lake to celebrate American independence this weekend."

LEGALS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
MARTHA FREEMAN MOREFIELD, * CASE NO. PC 2024 - 240
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE: Letters Testamentary having been granted to Lacey A. Kilpatrick as Personal Representative of the Estate of Martha Freeman Morefield, deceased, on the 1st day of July, 2024, all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Lacey A. Kilpatrick
Personal Representative

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

Attorney for Personal Representative

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

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

TAMMY BROWN, PROBATE JUDGE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
SYBIL WILLIAMS, * CASE NO. PC2024-207
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION TO ADMIT WILL FOR PROBATE AND FOR LETTERS TESTAMENTARY

TO: MARSHALL WILLIAMS AND ANY OTHER NEXT OF KIN AND HEIRS OF SYBIL WILLIAMS, DECEASED.

Petition to Admit Will for Probate and for Letters Testamentary filed by Morris Williams, Petitioner, through Attorney Melvin Hasting. A hearing on this matter has been scheduled for the **20th day of August, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.**, before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

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

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

Done this the 1st day of July, 2024.

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

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

Petitioner's Attorney:
Melvin Hasting
Attorney for Petitioner
407 2nd Ave SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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, 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
Recorded in Above Book and Page
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 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 (PA8001)
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, Judge of Probate
Cullman County, Alabama

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, 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
JUDGE OF PROBATE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of
GERALDINE ROBERTSON CORNELIUS SWEATMON, CASE NO. PC2023-374
Deceased.

Case# PC2023-374
PB WIL Book 124 Page 638
Recorded in Above Book and Page
07/02/2024 4:04PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

NOTICE OF HEARING
NOTICE TO THE COURT AND PETITION TO CONVERT CASE FROM SUMMARY DISTRIBUTION TO A TESTATE ADMINISTRATION

TO: KRYSTAL CORNELIUS, CODY CORNELIUS, NICHOLE HOLMES, AMY KILGORE, STEPHANIE KILGORE AND ANY OTHER NEXT OF KIN AND HEIRS OF GERALDINE ROBERTSON CORNELIUS SWEATMON, DECEASED.

Notice to the Court and Petition to Convert Case from Summary Distribution to A Testate Administration filed the 24th day of April, 2024, made Court record the 29th day of April, 2024, by David Christopher Cornelius, Petitioner, through Attorney David Lee Jones. A hearing on this matter has been scheduled for the **20th 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 2nd day of July, 2024.

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

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

Petitioner's Attorney:
David Lee Jones (JON038)
Law Office of David Lee Jones, LLC
PO Box 940
Guntersville, AL 35976

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
JUDGE OF PROBATE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

PERRYMAN REGINA,)
Plaintiff,)
V.) Case No.: CV-2024-900184.00
PERRYMAN CATHERINE,)
276 CO RD 517 PARCEL 26-09-32-0-000-004.006,)
Defendants.)

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

The Plaintiff having made a Motion for Service by Publication supported by the Affidavit of Regina Perryman, stating that Plaintiff has made diligent search for any and all defendants required to be named in Plaintiff's in rem quiet title action under Ala. Code §6-6- 560, and there being the possibility that some defendants are unknown or cannot be found even after diligent inquiry, It is:

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the following notice be published once a week for four consecutive weeks in the Cullman Tribune.

Case No. CV CV202490018400
PUBLICATION NOTICE
ORDER OF PUBLICATION DATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

TO: Catherine Perryman, XYZ, 276 County Road 517, Hanceville, AL Parcel # 26-09-32-0-000-004.006, heirs and devisees or anyone who may claim an interest in the property described below, must answer the Complaint to Quiet Title any other relief claimed by Plaintiff in Case No: CV202490018400 within Thirty (30) Days of last publication of this Notice as so ordered by the Circuit Court on May 29, 2024, being the date on or before June 29, 2024 to:

Laura Alfano, Attorney for Plaintiff
440 Twin Ridge Road, Warrior AL 35180
205-612-1868
lcalfano@bellsouth.net,

or a Default Judgment may be taken against any or all in the above referenced Civil Action no pending in Court, to wit:

DONE this 27th day of June, 2024.

/s/ MARTHA E. WILLIAMS
CIRCUIT JUDGE

Fireworks (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — For years, Smith Lake Park has played host to a popular Fourth of July celebration. This year, the cost to enter will be $5 per person, or $20 per car.

Smith Lake Park has traditionally charged admission of around $5 per attendee, until 2022, when the Cullman County Commission voted to make the show free in celebration of the park's 50th anniversary. In 2023, the park attempted to charge admission once more; however, because the event was free the year prior, guests were frustrated and the park refunded all tickets and opened the event free of charge. New Cullman County Parks and Recreation Director Kenneth Cornelius said a free event isn't possible this year, due to the scale of the show.

"The main reason for charging is the cost. Just the fireworks show is $37,000 this year. In just 2019 it was $25,000," shared Cornelius.

The Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) will be responsible for traffic control following the fireworks show. The large celebratory event is a crowd pleaser year after year, often with thousands in attendance. With a projected crowd of that size, the CCSO is prepared with traffic plans to ease the gridlock around the park.

Once the fireworks begin, County Road 385 and all park entrances will be closed completely to incoming traffic until the show has concluded. After the fireworks display has ended, CCSO officers will be on-site to direct traffic at the park's entrances and exits, as well as County Road 385 and County Road 386.

For those inside the park, the CCSO will use the old park entrance road to allow guests to exit the park. Spectators parked near the boat ramp and beach area will exit toward County Road 813.

When turning off County Road 385 onto County Road 813, the CCSO asks drivers to remember that left-lane traffic must turn left toward Trimble; right-lane traffic must turn right toward Good Hope.

Smith Lake Park is located at 403 County Road 386. The 4th of July Fireworks Festival begins at 9 a.m. and will culminate in an over-the-top fireworks show at dark.



Smith (from Front)

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — One of the community's most respected sports figures, Cullman County Hall of Fame Coach Dafford Smith, died Sunday, June 30, at the age of 88. Smith spent decades across his coaching career impacting countless lives throughout the community and his legacy still holds firm to this day, most notably in the form of Dafford Smith Stadium, the home field of the Fairview Aggies. After serving as West Point's varsity football coach from 1973-76, Smith joined Cullman High School's coaching staff as an assistant on the undefeated 1985 Bearcats team. Just one year later, Smith accepted the position as Fairview's head football coach. Over the next 12 seasons, Smith led the Aggies to a pair of regional championships and six playoff appearances, including the program's first 10-win season in 1994. Smith retired from coaching in 2006 after spending three seasons as St. Bernard's head football coach.

Dafford Smith Stadium was closed in 2014 due to the need for structural repairs but when the stadium renovations were finally completed in 2016 and Fairview prepared to play its first true home game in three seasons, Coach Smith was honored before the game to put the finishing touches on a special night of Aggies football.

"In my 25 years in education, I've never experienced excitement like I did last week," Fairview Principal Chris Gambrill told The Tribune in 2016.

"From the faculty and staff to the students, it was the topic of every conversation.

"So many of our students have not had the opportunity to cheer for their team at Dafford Smith Stadium, so it was special in so many ways. Unless you have gone through it, you can't imagine how important one game was.

"For three years I have imagined what that night would be, but I never imagined it would be like it ended up being. The community, leaders and students got to come home."

"It really got to me when Coach (Dafford) Smith was honored in front of the whole stadium," Aggies Head Coach George Redding told The Tribune in 2016.

"It was a privilege to a part of that and to witness that. Also, when we were standing on the sideline with our band and cheerleaders in victory formation...WOW! That was truly an amazing moment."

Several members of the community reached out to share their thoughts and some of their favorite memories of Coach Smith. If you would like to share any of your favorite stories or experiences with Coach, please email them to nick@cullmantribune.com.

Fairview Head Football Coach George Redding
"We truly lost the greatest. I'm so grateful for all that Coach did in my life. I wasn't even headed into coaching until he called one day about coming to help him. I'm so thankful for all the opportunities he gave me. I'm so grateful for all the lessons and words of encouragement. No matter what I came to him about, he would speak with such a calm and reassuring voice making sure that he knew you could do it and everything would work out. I loved Coach Smith with all my heart and what an honor it was to play for him and coach alongside him."

Dr. Lance Boyd
"Coach Smith was a role model for me. During our teaching days at Fairview High School, we taught next door to each other, and I marveled at how he made every child feel loved. He taught me to get the school annual and memorize each child's name.

"He said it would make the children feel special. That is what Coach did each day of his life here on earth: make you feel special. I was also blessed to have been his assistant football coach at Fairview and he taught the players to not only excel in athletics but to also be the best they could be in all their endeavors in life.

"He was an encourager and had a heart as big as his smile. I loved and respected Coach Smith so much and will miss him on this earth but know that we will be together for eternity with our Father in heaven."

Cullman County Sports Hall of Fame Chairman Jackie Satterfield
"The thing about Dafford was he was an exceptional football coach, and he coached a lot of good football teams with a lot of good football players but more than that, Dafford had a big impact on peoples' lives.

"Not just the people who played football for him, but the entire student body. Everybody thought the world of Dafford. You don't meet people like that every day, but every once in a while, you meet a person that nobody dislikes.

"Dafford was that kind of person. He always had a smile on his face, and he always had a positive attitude about getting things done. In school you're not supposed to cheat off of other peoples' paper but in life if you could find somebody like Dafford Smith to imitate, it's ok to cheat off of them."

Obituary Announcements: July 1-2

Iola Adams Campbell, 85
Iola Adams Campbell, age 85, of Falkville, passed away on Sunday, June 30, 2024, at Summerford Nursing Home. There are no services planned at this time. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Iola was born on April 1, 1939, to Riley Adams and Elizabeth Stallard Adams. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Jonah Lowe; sisters, Lois Sexton, and Dorothy Holcomb; brother, Hercell Adams. She is survived by two sons, Earnest Lowe (Vickie), and Larry Lowe (Sherrie); daughters, Debbie Stallard (Doug), and Kathy Lucas (Jerry); a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Ellen Marie Herrington, 56
Ellen Marie Herrington, age 56 of Bremen, she passed away on Monday, July 1, 2024, at Cullman Regional. She was born, Nov. 16, 1967. She was preceded in death by her Mammaw and Paw Paw Bailey. Survivors include her husband, Wayne Herrington; daughter, Alaina Herrington; son Sam Herrington; two sisters, Mackenzie Dan and Michelle Neal and a host of family and friends. No services have been planned at this time.

Frankie Karen Graves, 76
Mrs. Graves was born Feb. 29, 1948, in Cullman County, Alabama, to the late Talmadge and Evelyn Hendrix. She passed away July 1, 2024, in Cullman County, Alabama. Mrs. Graves is survived by her husband, Gary Graves; son, Joseph Scott Patillo; stepsons, Eric Graves, Jason Graves; granddaughters, Ashley Hasenbein (Will), Taylor Felkins; great granddaughters, Ruth Hasenbein, Violet Felkins; and her sister, Dondra Toomey (Michael). Mrs. Graves was preceded in death by her parents. The family would like to send a very special "Thank You" to Southern Care Hospice, and Nurse, Jessica Richards. A private graveside service will take place at a later date.

Lorell Powell, 85
Mrs. Lorell Powell, age 85, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Monday, July 1, 2024. Lorell was born in Cullman, Alabama on Sept. 25, 1938, to Thomas Perry and Allie Beatrice Young Jacobs. Funeral services will be on Friday July 5, 2024, at Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel at 2 p.m. Interment will be in Fellowship Cemetery at Springhill. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.mossservicefh.com Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Jamie DeAnn Burnett, 46
Funeral services for Jamie DeAnn Burnett 46, of McCalla, Alabama will be 10 a.m. Friday, July 5, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Johnson Grove Cemetery in Bremen, Alabama. Bro. Tim Aris will be officiating the service. Visitation for the public will be from 9-10 a.m. on Friday at the funeral home. Mrs. Burnett was born on July 13, 1977, in Birmingham, Alabama. She passed away at her residence on July 2, 2024. Survivors include her daughter, Lauren Burnett; mother, Ann (Albert) Mayo; siblings, Sandy and Melissa; a host of nieces; uncles, Kelvin (Robin) Heatherly, Rowland (Judy) Knight, and Perry Knight; aunt, Donna (Joe) McCluskey; and a host of cousins and great aunts. She was preceded in death by her father, Norman Knight; grandparents, Shirley and Ruth Heatherly; and uncle, Byron Heatherly. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Burnett Family.

Hue Elijah Smith, 93
Funeral services for Hue Elijah Smith, 93, of Hanceville will be 11 a.m. Saturday, July 6 at Center Hill Baptist Church. Burial will follow the service in the adjoining cemetery. Visitation will be Friday, July 5, from 5-8 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. A visitation will also take place Saturday, July 6 from 9-11 a.m. at Center Hill Baptist Church. Mr. Smith was born June 20, 1931, in Cullman County, Alabama to the late Leonard and Beatrice Smith. He passed away July 2, 2024, in Cullman County, Alabama. Mr. Smith is survived by his daughter, Becky Roden (Charles); grandchildren, David Kelso (Kim), Tamy Dunlap (Wayne), Daniel Kelso, Brett Putman, Leah Nuss; great grandchildren, Courtney Frazier (Bo), Cody Kelso, Marionna McDonald (Justin), Taylor Mayhall (Michael), Cole Kelso, Peyton Kelso, Elijah Putman; and 8 great-great grandchildren. In addition to his parents, Mr. Smith was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Louise Smith; his daughter, Debra Smith Collum; and his sister, Florence Pratt.

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CITY OF CULLMAN

The Donald E. Green Active Adult Center will soon be home to four new covered pickleball courts. Pictured are Belinda Hyatt and Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs

City adding 4 covered pickleball courts near Active Adult Center

Cheyenne Sharp
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CULLMAN, Ala. — Recreation lovers in Cullman will soon to be able to enjoy four new covered pickleball courts. The City of Cullman is set to open the courts in early August.

Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism Executive Director Nathan Anderson shared, "We appreciate Mayor (Woody) Jacobs for leading the way in building additional courts, and we thank the council for their support. We have been diligently working to meet the growing demand for pickleball courts."

The courts, which will be located next to the Donald E. Green Active Adult Center (1625 Cleveland Ave. SW) near Ingle Park, will be regulation size and surrounded by 6-foot tall fences. There will be an adjacent covered pavilion with picnic table seating to complete the area.

Cullman's Ingle Park is already home to pickleball courts, but the four new ones will be the first covered courts in the area, allowing pickleballers to play the sport rain or shine.

"We're excited to be able to provide the first covered pickleball courts in the city," said Jacobs. "This new facility will allow for people to play year-round, regardless of weather conditions."

The courts are the latest near-completion project in what will be Cullman's "Omnisports District."

The district will stretch through the west side of town from Heritage Park to the Active Adult Center, enveloping the Cullman Wellness and Aquatic Center and WildWater.

Groundbreaking on the proposed district's nucleus, the Omniplex Sports and Civic Center, happened in November 2023.

The 115,000-square-foot structure will eventually house eight basketball courts, 16 volleyball courts and multiple pickleball courts along with convention and meeting spaces.

Watermelons: A treat to beat the summer heat

Justin Miller
Alabama Cooperative Extension System



ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. — When the summer sun is scorching, there is little more refreshing than a juicy slice of watermelon. Whether from a farmers market or straight from the garden, it's important to pick watermelons at peak ripeness.

Bethany O'Rear, an Alabama Cooperative Extension System home grounds regional agent, said the harvest time for watermelons depends on the variety and other factors.

"Most watermelon varieties are ready to pick 80 to 90 days after planting," O'Rear said. "However, maturity and ripeness can also be affected by things like weather, location and nutritional status of the plants. You cannot check for ripeness based solely on the planting dates."

Checking for ripeness

When watermelons are ready for harvest, the melon will have a dull, yellowish color where it has touched the ground. This spot is known as the ground scar or belly spot. In striped watermelon varieties, this scar is prominent. Other varieties may not develop noticeable ground scars, but there are other signs of ripeness.

"Another way to check ripeness is to look for the dead tendril or curl near the point where the melon is attached to the vine," O'Rear said. "This method works pretty well for seeded watermelon varieties but not for seedless varieties."

O'Rear said the thumping method is commonly used to check for ripeness in watermelons someone else picked. When thumping an unripe watermelon, it will produce a higher-pitched, pinging sound. An overripe watermelon will make a lower thud.

"When using this method, you want to choose a watermelon that has a deep, rather than metallic, thump," O'Rear said.

A nutritious treat

While watermelon is a refreshing summer snack, it also contains properties that play important roles in health. Katie Funderburk, the Alabama Extension assistant director for federal nutrition programs, said watermelon packs a strong nutritional punch.

"Watermelon is highly nutritious, which is impressive considering that it is more than 90% water," Funderburk said.

She said watermelon is an excellent source of vitamin C, which protects cells from harmful elements found in cigarette smoke, air pollution and ultraviolet light. Vitamin C also helps produce collagen, which is required to heal wounds. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, just one wedge of watermelon contains more than 23 milligrams of vitamin C. This accounts for 38% of a person's daily requirements.

"Watermelons are also rich in fiber and potassium," Funderburk said. "These two nutrients are important for disease prevention but are typically under consumed by Americans."

More information

Want to try your hand at growing watermelons? Grow More, Give More's watermelon growing card has information to get started next year. Find this card by visiting www.aces.edu/go/growmore.

