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The Cullman Tribune

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WEATHER
86 70
SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
SLIGHT CHANCE SHOWERS AND PATCHY FOG THEN CHANCE T-STORMS

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WSCC

– SPORTS –

6 Wallace State teams earn NJCAA Academic Team of the Year honors
» PAGE 4

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Hanceville City Council approves CCTV bid

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — At its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, July 25, the Hanceville City Council approved a bid to install more and update city hall's current CCTV system. The bid amount was approved for $4,995 for all-inclusive installation services and equipment from Superior Service.

"We'd like to add cameras to the front of city hall," said Mayor Jimmy Sawyer.

First Source for Women returned to the council with a request, and the council agreed to close the portion of Church Street behind the outreach organization on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 23-24, for a street sale benefiting the nonprofit.

Ordinance No. 584 was replaced with Ordinance No. 2024-4, which pertains to overgrown and unkempt grass, weeds, nuisances and unsightly accumulation in public view.

Sawyer said, "The reason we want to do that is right now with Ordinance 584, if someone goes in and clears off a piece of property and cuts the trees, cuts the timber off of it, there is nothing there that says if they don't develop it, then they have to keep it mowed and keep it cut."

The council also agreed to surplus four vehicles from various departments and took no action on the old business of an IT maintenance quote for the police department. At the last council meeting, the subject of the quote was tabled to allow more time to hear from the bidding company. Communication had yet to be received by the July 25 meeting, so the council took no action on the piece of business and will reintroduce it later.

Councilwoman Patty Dean-Tucker took a moment at the end of the meeting to invite everyone to the Hanceville Civitan Club's Pancake Breakfast and Christmas in July.

Dean-Tucker shared, "(Hanceville) Civitan is having their annual Pancake Breakfast and » PAGE 7

Keeping Cullman beautiful: Meet the 'flower girls'



CITY OF CULLMAN

Mandy Wood in the City greenhouse

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs at a recent city council meeting complimented a team of women he termed Cullman's "flower girls," noting their skillful work in beautifying the city's downtown streetscapes with hanging baskets, flower beds and landscaping. Intrigued, The Tribune wanted to know more.

The teammates are Mandy Wood, Honey Reese and Natalie Jones, who work with the Right of Way Maintenance Department.

They take care of flowerbeds around town, hanging baskets downtown, the city's welcome signs and the greenhouse.

Cullman Marketing and Public Relations Director Mary Beth Sellers described a typical day for the team: "They start their day bright and early, watering the hanging baskets as the sun rises.

"Then they hop around throughout town weeding, watering and adding annual colorful flowers where needed."

"I enjoy getting to meet all of the sweet citizens while we are on the job, talking about the beautification of the city and our shared love of flowers," said team member Wood.

Jacobs told The Tribune, "The ladies who take care of all the flowers do a fantastic job in making our city look beautiful.

"We appreciate their hard work, knowledge and attention to detail. They take great pride in their work."

Hanceville council schedules public hearing considering tattoo studios
» PAGE 4

St. Andrew's hosting Back-2-School Bash Aug. 4
» PAGE 4

CHS student Emma Hankey attends Huntingdon College Economic and Community Development Scholars Program



HUNTINGDON COLLEGE

Emma Hankey
» PAGE 4

Velvet Summer brings new look to Cullman
» PAGE 5

By Grace Beauty & Wellness celebrates 1 year with ladies' night
» PAGE 5

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported July 26

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

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

GJ = grand jury; FTA = failure to appear

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

July 22
- criminal mischief; CR 5201
- criminal mischief; CR 1592
- theft of property; CR 1682
- domestic violence; CR 5201
- domestic violence; CR 501

July 23
- domestic violence – reckless endangerment; CR 1301
- harassment; CR 643
- assault; CR 272
- theft of property; CR 616
- unlawful breaking and entering motor vehicle; i65 MM290
- domestic violence - criminal mischief; CR 501
- unlawful breaking and entering motor vehicle; Hwy. 91

July 24
- harassing communications; Reid Rd.
- theft of property; CR 1025
- violation of protection order; CR 1373
- unlawful possession of controlled substance; CR 437

ARRESTS

July 22-24

Cruce, Caleb E.; 21
- PROBATION VIOLATION – obstructing justice using a false identity
- PROBATION VIOLATION – receiving stolen vehicle

Curington, Crystal D.; 39
- FTA – theft-miscellaneous, less than $500

Dean, John M.; 46
- PROBATION VIOLATION – auto theft

Duncan, Devin S.; 24
- public intoxication

Elliot, Jordan E.; 32
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Ellis, Daniel A.; 44
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – unlawful possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance

Ellis, Jessica N.; 46
- theft-from residence, $1500-$2500

Fletcher, Gregory L.; 37
- counterfeiting
- theft of property-2nd degree, $1500-$2500

Harris, Onis S.; 32
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Hays, Cody N.; 35
- PROBATION VIOLATION – possession of dangerous drugs

Jones, Christopher B.; 28
- assault-domestic violence-3rd degree
- criminal mischief-3rd degree

Jorgensen, Tyron J.; 22
- FTA – burglary-residence-force

Larue, Jessica L.; 42
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – giving false identification to law enforcement

Puckett, Hudson R.; 21
- assault-domestic-harassment-family
- assault-reckless endangerment
- FTA – assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Saldana, Bryan; 26
- drug trafficking

Stockman, Jessica R.; 37
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – promote prison contraband (drugs)
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – theft-shoplifting, less than $500
- FTA – illegal possession/use of a credit/debit card

Swafford, Cutessa G.; 41
- FTA – contributing to delinquency of minor

Taylor, Brandi L.; 49
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Watson, Tyler B.; 28
- possession of methamphetamine
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – promote prison contraband (drugs)

Yates, Justin L.; 41
- FTA – assault-domestic violence-3rd degree
- FTA – criminal mischief-3rd degree
- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

July 23
- fraudulent use of credit/debit card; person; miscellaneous charges

July 24
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; Ward Ave. SW
- harassment; person
- domestic violence-3rd degree – harassing communications; person

July 25
- leaving the scene of an accident; person; damage to '03 Toyota Camry; $100; Hwy. 31

ARRESTS

July 24 – July 25

Gomez, Ricardo; 38
- distribution of obscene material

Johnson, Theresa L.; 65
- theft of property-4th degree

Phillips, Quanderious L.; 26
- GJ – burglary-3rd degree

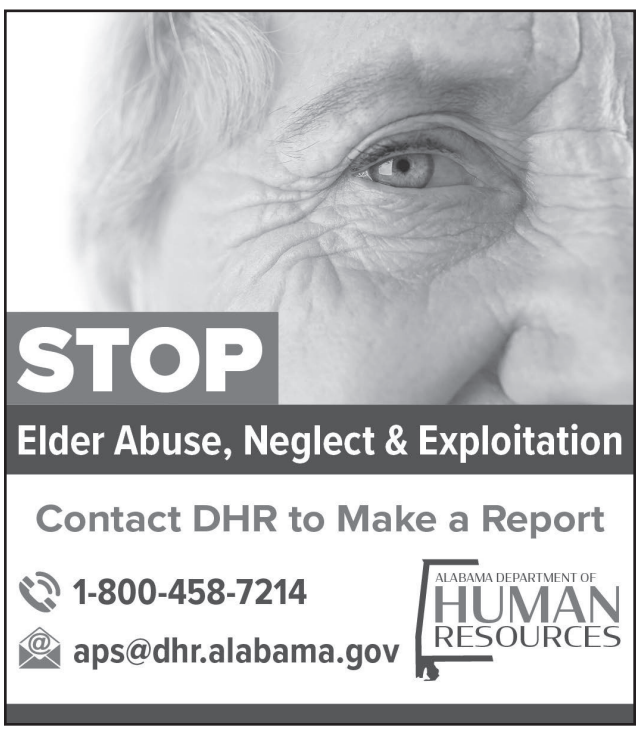
Martinez, Zendy H.; 71
- theft of property-4th degree

Williams, Glen A.; 65
- DUI

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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





LEGALS

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. CV 2022-0009

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF CLURA QUICK, deceased.

NOTICE OF HEARING

A Petition for Final Settlement and Discharge filed by Sherry H. Barrett, Administratrix of the Estate of Clura Quick, has been set for hearing on the 12th day of September, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

Sherry H. Barrett
Administratrix of the Estate of Clura Quick
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
Phone: (256) 734-4721
e-mail: sherry@smithandsmithllp.com

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
HOWARD GRINDLE, * CASE NO.: PC2024-185
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to MARY STALLINGS, as Administrator, of the ESTATE OF HOWARD GRINDLE, deceased, on the 10th day of July, 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.

Mary Stallings
Administrator

Connie L. Glass
Elder Law Firm of Connie Glass, P.C.
2306 Pansy Street SW
Huntsville, AL 35801

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 10th day of July, 2024.
Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

1 Page(s)

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
LEONARD RAY HUDDLESTON, * **CASE NO.: PC2024-268**
A/K/A RAY HUDDLESTON, *
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to KEVIN WAYNE HUDDLESTON, as Personal Representative of the Estate of LEONARD RAY HUDDLESTON A/K/A RAY HUDDLESTON, deceased, on the 25th day of July, 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.

KEVIN WAYNE HUDDLESTON
Personal Representative

G. Alan Smith
Attorney for Personal Representative
Post Office Box 320589
Birmingham, Alabama 35232

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 DISTRICT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

Redstone Federal Credit Union,

PLAINTIFF,

VS. CASE NO: DV 2023-900476

Erica Leigh Reaid
a/k/a Leigh Reaid,

DEFENDANT.

NOTICE OF FILING LAWSUIT

The above listed Defendant, Erica Leigh Reaid, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer Plaintiff's complaint for Contract ($13,338.80) by ~~August 26, 2024~~ or, September 10, 24 thereafter a judgment by default may be rendered against the Defendant in Case No. DV 2023-900476, Circuit Court of Cullman County, Alabama.

Done this the 25th day of June, 2024.
Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Circuit Clerk of Cullman County

Attorney for Plaintiff

Jeffrey L. Cook
P.O. Box 5585
Huntsville, AL 35814

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2024- 242

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF FRANK EDWARD MITCHELL, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED
BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Jennifer Mitchell Quick on the 10th day of July, 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.

Jennifer Mitchell Quick and William Nathan Mitchell
Personal Representatives

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

1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
LAWRENCE E. ECKLEY, * CASE NO.: PC2024-243
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to LATONYA MINES, Esq. as Personal Representative, of the ESTATE OF LAWRENCE E. ECKLEY, deceased, on the 25th day of July, 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.

LaTonya Mines, Esq.
Personal Representative

LaTonya S. Mines Esq.
615 Brooklane Drive #3414
Hueytown, AL 35203
tonya@mineslawfirm.com

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 July, 2024.
Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

BARBARA MARSH, *
PLAINTIFF, *
VS. * CASE NO. CV-2023-900319.00
DENNIS HAYGOOD, BRIAN C. DAVIS *
JACQUELINE TAPER, JOANN HEREFORD, *
LATHAN HARBIN, MARY PARKER, *
MICHAEL WATSON, RONALD HARBIN *
TANGELA LEETH, *
DEFENDANTS. *

NOTICE OF FILING LAWSUIT

The above listed Defendants, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer Plaintiff's complaint for Adverse Possession & Quiet Title by 9/2/2024 or thereafter a judgement by default may be rendered against the Defendants in Case No. CV 2023-900319, Circuit Court of Cullman County, Alabama.

Done this the 2nd day of July, 2024.
Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain
Circuit Clerk of Cullman County

Attorney for Plaintiff
Pam Nail
200 Second Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-3342

1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF)
)
DOYLE COLLIER, JR.,) CASE NO.: PC-2024-114
An alleged incapacitated person.

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP AND CONSERVATORSHIP

TO: TABATHA COLLIER, ANGELA COLLIER and ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Please take notice that a *Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Conservatorship* has been filed by Michael Key, Agent for Cullman County Department of Human Resources, through Attorney Diane Dunning. A hearing on said *Petition for Letter of Guardianship and Conservatorship* has been **set for the 28th day of August, 2024, at 10:00 A.M.**, Cullman County Courthouse, Probate Office Room 101, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this 25th day of July, 2024.
Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

Diane L. Dunning
Assistant Attorney General
State of Alabama
Department of Human Resources
PO Box 13248 Birmingham, Alabama 35202-3248

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
LEROY POPE * CASE NO PC 2023-381
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL and
AMENDED PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: ROBERT HEATH POPE, LLOYD POPE AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTEREST PARTIES

Petition for Probate of Will filed by Linda Gail Pope, Petitioner, and *Amended Petition for Probate of Will*, filed by Tonya C. Palmer, Attorney for the Petitioner, to admit to probate the Last Will and Testament of Leroy Pope, deceased, has been scheduled for the **24th day of September, 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 18th day of July, 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

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

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

Career Services Specialist
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For more information, please contact the Human Resources Department at 256-352-8029.
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COLLEGE TIRE
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256-352-2221

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

The Crossing Food Bank
The Crossing is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-noon and 1-3:30 p.m. We are located at 1503 Second St. SW, Cullman, AL 35055 (in the Housing Authority).

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.
• Sunday, July 28 - 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.
• Sunday, July 28 - 5 p.m. healing service

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.

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 St. Andrews Methodist Church
Tuesday, July 30, from 4-7 p.m. at St. Andrews Methodist Church, 615 Main Ave. SW, Cullman. Eat in or take out, $15 a plate. Sponsored by Quilting Retreat Ladies.

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.

Christ Covenant Church Inside Yard Sale
Friday, Aug. 2, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 3, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. We have a large variety of stuff, something for everyone. Sponsored by Quilting Retreat Ladies. The church is located at 1310 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman.

Cullman High Class of 1956 Reunion
The Cullman High School class of 1956 will have a class reunion on Thursday, Aug. 8 at 11 a.m. at the Brandin Iron in West Point. For more information call Jerry Smith at 256-734-1797 or Hilda Aldridge at 256-347-2180.

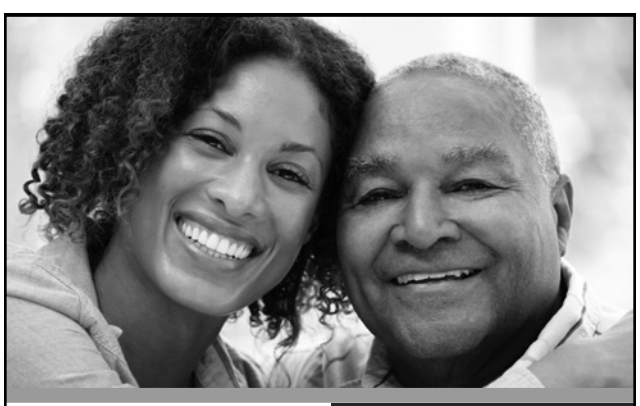
Cullman Chapter of the National Association of Retired and Active Federal Employees Meeting
We will meet at The Golden Corral Buffet on Monday, Aug. 12. Dutch lunch 11 a.m. and meeting at noon. Our guest speaker will be the director of the Cullman County Commission on Aging, Stephanie Lawson. Members and nonmembers welcome!

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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"Love Never Ages"

OP-ED

The time has come for the Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission to fulfill its promise

Alabama Sen. Merika Coleman

Published without edits

The time has come for the Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission (AMCC) to fulfill its promise and deliver medical cannabis to the patients in Alabama who have been waiting far too long. This delay is not just an administrative failure but a critical issue impacting the health and well-being of countless individuals in our state.

In 2021, legislation was enacted to provide medical cannabis to Alabamians suffering from a range of serious conditions, including cancer, glaucoma, and chronic pain. The AMCC was entrusted with the responsibility of developing a comprehensive application process, evaluating applicants across various categories—from cultivation to dispensing—and awarding licenses to the most qualified candidates.

The expectation was clear: by the end of 2023, or at the latest 2024, medical cannabis would be available to those in need.

However, as we approach the middle of 2024, medical cannabis remains inaccessible. The question is, what went wrong?

The AMCC failed suffering Alabamians in numerous ways. Here are a few critical issues:

- Failure to adhere to statutory guidelines: The AMCC did not follow the strict guidelines outlined in Alabama Code 20-2A-50, which we was passed in the State Legislature.
- Technology failures: The commission's system could not accept application materials larger than 10MB, and applicants were not informed of this limitation. Moreover, workaround solutions were inconsistently provided.
- Ignoring initial requirements: The AMCC allowed all applicants to advance to the next stage of the licensing process, regardless of whether they met the initial pass/fail criteria.
- Lack of transparency: The AMCC has frequently violated the Open Meetings Act, holding closed-door sessions and disregarding the Alabama Administrative Procedure Act, as highlighted in recent court filings.

These issues have led to a protracted judicial process, including multiple hearings and temporary restraining orders.

Applicants are now demanding transparency and accountability, seeking discovery to uncover the commission's operational shortcomings. Numerous applicants have joined forces in legal actions, insisting that the AMCC rectify its mistakes and restart the process correctly.

At the heart of this issue is the AMCC's failure to comply with the statute that we set forth in the Legislature and the regulations outlined in the Alabama Administrative Procedure Act. The commission must recognize that it has a legal and moral obligation to follow these guidelines. The members and staff don't get to pick and choose which rules to follow and operate under the mantra of "rules for thee and not for me."

This issue is personal to me. Over my 22 years of service in the Legislature, I've often spoken about my father who is a real-life American hero, a wheelchair-bound disabled veteran who fought in Desert Storm I.

My dad lives every single day in chronic pain! I see the pain in his eyes. I hear the grimaces of discomfort. I, like many other daughters, sons, mothers and fathers in Alabama wish that something was available to give him some type of relief so that he could live the quality of life that he deserves after fighting for the freedoms that many Americans take for granted.

So for my father and the countless other Alabamians with these debilitating ailments, I say directly to the Commission, right this wrong, and right this wrong NOW!

The AMCC has the opportunity to correct its course and deliver on its promise. By adhering to Alabama law, the commission can ensure that medical cannabis reaches the patients in Alabama who desperately need it. The path forward is clear—now is the time for the AMCC to listen and act.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JULY 27, 2024

6 Wallace State teams earn NJCAA Academic Team of the Year honors

Special to The Cullman Tribune



WSCC

Wallace State Women's Tennis Team.

HANCEVILLE, Ala. -- Six athletic teams at Wallace State Community College have been honored with NJCAA Academic Team of the Year designations for the 2023-2024 academic year. This recognition highlights the commitment to academic excellence demonstrated by these teams in their respective sports.

The Volleyball team earned a 3.77 GPA. Members of the Volleyball team include Amillia Tucker, Ryleigh Jones, Chloe Jackson, Faith Parker, Anna Holt, Jenna Berry, Lexi Weber, Anna Clare Hutto, April Burgess, Addison Stewart, Braelee Quinn, Makayla Lindsey, Addison Dunagan, Marley Wakefield and Zoey Benson.

The Women's Tennis team earned a 3.75 GPA. Members of the Women's Tennis team include Lilly Brown, Noelle D'Angelillo, Italia Jones, Lexie Luders, Anne Van Binsbergen and Natalia Vergara.

The Softball team earned a 3.71 GPA. Members of the Softball team include Katie Simon, Emily Simon, Caroline Cartron, Brandy Phillips, Laura Leigh Wheeler, Jadyn Foster, Haley Hollyhand, McKinnon Howard, Lily Boswell, Emily Hall, Amelia Sherrill, Payton Bailey, Tessa Word, Jessie Taylor and Bayleigh Rouse.

The Women's Cross Country team earned a 3.59 GPA. Members of the Women's Cross Country team include Jordan Backstrom, Claire Deaton, Rudi Derrick, Ivy Edge, Giselle Gibbs, Grace Gosline, Kendall Harbison, Amanda Leonardi, Kylie Powell, Alexis Valentine, Abigale Vega, Princess Watts and Madison Wright.

The Men's Tennis team earned a 3.47 GPA. Members of the Men's Tennis team include Kye Bennett, Ferran Bonastre, Elijah Chaney, Brett Foster, Sam Higgins, Jace Moody, Jose Munoz and Pablo Ruben.

The Women's Golf team earned a 3.31 GPA. Members of the Women's Golf team include Sydney Epes, Abby Gattis, Aidan Haithcock, Sarah Mooney and Isabella Warwick.

A total of 54 Wallace State athletes received individual NJCAA All-Academic Team honors, categorized into First Team (4.0 GPA), Second Team (3.9-3.99 GPA) and Third Team (3.6-3.79 GPA).

Baseball: Cole Peaslee (Second Team), John Blackwood (Second Team), Brayden Heaps (Third Team), Elijah Jackson (Third Team), Juan Morales (Third Team) and David Riggs (Third Team).

Women's Basketball: Audrey Kate Stults (Third Team), Alexandria Fredricka Jackson (Second Team) and Jaden Toney (Third Team).

Men's Cross Country: Zachariah Beauregard (First Team), David Robles (Second Team), Talan Jace Franks (Third Team) and Luke Holcombe (Third Team).

Women's Cross Country: Giselle Gibbs (First Team), Jordan Backstrom (First Team), Ivy Edge (Second Team), Amanda Leonardi (Third Team), Rudi Derrick (Third Team) and Abigail Vega (Third Team).

Men's Golf: Cole Lindeman (Second Team), Alex Citron (Third Team), Houston Hart (Third Team) and Joseph Vinyard (Third Team).

Women's Golf: Aidan Haithcock (First Team) and Sydney Epes (Third Team).

Softball: Amelia Sherrill (Second Team), McKinnon Howard (Second Team), Lily Boswell (Second Team), Katie Simon (Second Team), Emily Simon (Second Team), Haley Hollyhand (Third Team), Jadyn Foster (Third Team), Brandy Phillips (Third Team) and Tessa Word (Third Team).

Men's Tennis: Ferran Bonastre (First Team), Brett Foster (First Team), Jose Munoz (Second Team), Pablo Ruben (Second Team) and Elijah Chaney (Third Team).

Women's Tennis: Noelle D'Angelillo (First Team), Lilly Brown (First Team), Anne Van Binsbergen (Third Team) and Lexie Luders (Third Team).

Volleyball: Addison Dunagan (First Team), Ryleigh Jones (First Team), Anna Clare Hutto (First Team), Chloe Jackson (First Team), Makayla Lindsey (First Team), Lexi Webber (Second Team), Faith Parker (Second Team), Zoey Benson (Second Team), April Burgess (Second Team), Marley Wakefield (Second Team) and Jenna Berry (Third Team).

For more information about the NJCAA, visit www.njcaa.org.

Studios (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – At the last meeting of the Hanceville City Council on July 11, the council tabled discussions on updating the City's current zoning ordinance to allow consideration for verbiage for a tattoo studio to be operated legally within city limits.

At its meeting on July 25, the council set a public hearing to amend the ordinance for Sept. 12 at 5:30 p.m. at Hanceville City Hall.

The new discussion on the outdated ordinance revolved around operating hours, license fees, visible signage, location parameters and distance from schools, churches and any place where children frequent.

At the last meeting, the majority of the council voiced in favor of a 400-foot distance requirement.

"A tattoo facility may be located within the 400-foot boundary if within the confines of an office suite-type building, such that any signage or advertising of services is not visible from the street and the tattoo facility itself has a separate door to the suite from the street.

"No tattoo or body piercing facility shall be allowed on Commercial Street between the Hanceville Public Library and Highway 31 intersection," Mayor Jimmy Sawyer read from the proposed draft ordinance, adding, "In other words, that eliminates anything downtown on Highway 31 between Blountsville (Street) and Commercial (Street)."

The council then discussed additional limitations, such as operating hours and local business fees.

The City's business licenses are renewed each year, with fees determined by a schedule sheet. City Clerk Tania Wilcox informed the council that license fees in the city begin at $106 for businesses and increase depending on anticipated gross revenue.

The council agreed to include tattoo facilities in the same schedule as beauty salons, allowing studios a $106 base license to operate in Hanceville city limits.

No operations are to be held on Sundays, which the council unanimously approved.

The Hanceville City Council will hold a public hearing to amend the current zoning ordinance on Sept. 12, at 5:30 p.m. at Hanceville City Hall.

The public is welcome to attend.

Bash (from Front)

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – St. Andrew's Global Methodist Church in Cullman is hosting its Back-2-School Bash on Sunday, Aug. 4, from 2-4 p.m. St. Andrew's is located at 615 Main Ave. SW.

The Back-2-School Bash will feature a variety of activities, including games, inflatables and frozen treats from Fro'z Shaved Ice. The event will provide free school supplies for students from kindergarten through 12th grade. Children must bring their school supply lists and be present to receive their supplies. Church members from St. Andrew's will accompany each child through a "store" set up in the gym to help fulfill as many of their needs as possible.

"We will be set up in our gym as sort of a 'store' for children to 'shop' at for their back-to-school supplies. Each child can bring in their school supply list and one of our church members will accompany them through the 'store' to fulfill as many of their needs as we can.

"We will then have church members available to pray over the children and their supplies. We will pray that the children have a safe, happy and healthy school year and thank God in advance for His Blessings throughout the year," said Kellie Britton, director of children's ministries at St. Andrew's.

Britton emphasized the importance of this event in light of rising costs.

"With the rising price of everything else, school supplies have not been exempt from this inflation. A school supply list that used to be covered for around $30 is now easily double or even triple that amount.

"It can truly be a burden to many families in the community – even those who have not had to seek help in the past may need some help," she explained.

The event will operate on a first-come, first-served basis, and supplies are limited. Parents are reminded that children must be present to shop for supplies.

"We are so thankful to our church members and ministry teams for providing the money and supplies to make this happen. We've also had a local business, An Angel's Touch Massage, reach out to us as they are collecting supplies to donate to us as well," shared Britton.

For more information about the Back-2-School Bash, contact St. Andrew's Global Methodist Church directly at 256-734-0340 or staff@standrewscullman.org.

Hankey (from Front)

Laura Brelsford
Contributor

MONTOMGERY, Ala. – Emma Hankey, a rising senior at Cullman High School, was one of 25 high school seniors to attend the fifth Huntingdon College Economic and Community Development Scholars Program. The two-day, one-night immersive experience took place on the historic Huntingdon College campus in Montgomery. The program, sponsored by the Huntingdon College Presidential Scholars Program and the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama, was designed to introduce young Alabama residents to the importance of economic and community development in cities and the state.

Participants were selected by their local Chambers of Commerce and the Huntingdon College Presidential Scholars Program.

Hankey was nominated to participate in the program by the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce. She represented the very best and brightest from outstanding Chambers across the state of Alabama.

During the program, students had the opportunity to meet and learn from Dr. Anthony Leigh, president of Huntingdon College; Jim Searcy, executive director of the Economic Development Association of Alabama; Paige Hutto, president and CEO of the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama; Nicholas Hadley, business development specialist for the Alabama Department of Commerce; Madison Haddock, economic development specialist at the Selma/Dallas County Economic Development Authority; Jess Skaggs, chief of staff for the Lieutenant Governor's Office for the State of Alabama; and Bria Rochelle-Stephens, director for the Huntingdon College Presidential Scholars Program.

For a hands-on experience in economic development, the students were divided into small groups and given a city in Alabama to represent as they vied for a corporation, led by Leigh, to call their community "home." After completing several tasks in the project that directly referenced the presentations of the guest speakers, the teams gave their final pitch to fellow students and guests. The winning team was highlighted in a groundbreaking and ribbon cutting ceremony at the program graduation.

"The creativity and innovation put on display by these incredibly talented students brings me much excitement about the future of Alabama's leadership" stated Rochelle-Stephens. "I am confident that each one of these students will leave a lasting impact in their communities."

Leigh and Rochelle-Stephens commented that Huntingdon is looking forward to planning the next ECDS program in the summer of 2025.

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By Grace Beauty & Wellness celebrates 1 year with ladies' night

Cheyenne Sharp
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CULLMAN, Ala. — One of Cullman's newer medical spas, By Grace Beauty & Wellness, hosted a celebratory event geared toward the ladies on Thursday night, July 25.

As attendees filtered through the spa doors, the By Grace team invited them to complete a slip with contact information. The team then entered each guest into drawings for free Botox and Semaglutide injections and complimentary services from the spa's menu.

The evening boasted sweet treats and bubbly refreshments, as well as demonstrations and showings of the products and services the spa offers to its clientele, including Botox and Semaglutide injections and the new EmSculpt Neo, designed to target problematic areas that hold on to extra body fat.

Natural methods of wellness, energy and weight loss are big hitters at the spa.

"We have so m any great products here," RN Lauren Godbee shared.

The med-spa is attempting to help every visitor to the business feel beautiful in their skin, providing avenues and solutions toward a happier and healthier self. By Grace Beauty & Wellness offers a variety of health and wellness services.



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

By Grace Beauty & Wellness hosted a first anniversary celebration on July 25, 2024, complete with refreshments, drawings for prizes and product and service demonstrations.

Velvet Summer brings new look to Cullman

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman High graduate and Vinemont resident Samantha Sanford had a vision to create a color block-style store that featured all things fun and joy-filled, sporting plants, flowers, home decor and more.

On June 10, 2024, that vision came to fruition as her plant, gift and home decor business Velvet Summer opened its doors in Cullman. Known for her creative flower arrangements, floristry design and artistic wedding pieces, the Sanford, who also owns Willow & Pine Floral Design, said she wanted to bring a different dimension to bouquets and the happiness they give her clients.

"We call our store's tag-line 'a little bit of happiness for your home and life,'" Sanford said.

"I truly wanted to somehow create a color-blocked plant and gift shop that would bring joy to everyone who walked in. I wanted it to feel happy and peaceful from the moment you enter with gifts for all occasions."

Sanford said she got inspiration from a store in San Diego she visited called Shop Pigment.

"When I walked in, I realized this was it – these were the things we wanted to implement, but add even more to it," Sanford said.

"When we told the owners of Shop Pigment what we were wanting to do in Alabama, they were full of encouragement. They actually asked one of my store partners, Harley Forrester, and I if we wanted them to teach us how to do those succulent gardens. Of course we accepted. They also own Sunshine Studios and Jungle Club, which is a wholesale market. We carry several of their items in the store."

Velvet Summer will also offer a Flower Bar on Fridays during business hours.

"We usually have 10-15 flowers that we work through and you can build your bouquet as supplies last," Sanford said. "So you can spend as little or as much as you want."

Velvet Summer is open Monday-Friday from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m.-4 p.m. It is closed on Sundays. It is located at 313B Fourth St. SW across from Cotton Creek in downtown Cullman. Get more info at www.velvetsummer.com.



LAUREN ESTES/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Samatha Sanford and her mom, Kathie Hall

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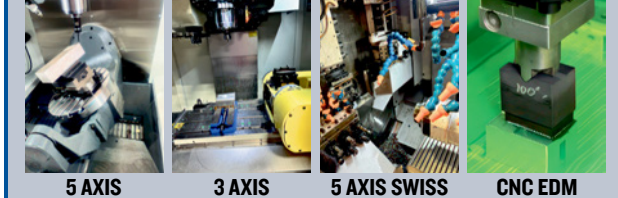
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BOOK REVIEW

‘A Happier Life’ by Kristy Woodson

Cathy Lay Mayor
Tribune Contributor

“A Happier Life” is narrated by two family members. In present day, Keaton Smith starts her story about her boyfriend and career woes in New York City. As the book progresses, Keaton tells about her experiences in North Carolina. The other story is told by her grandmother, Rebecca Saint James, who disappeared in 1976.

Keaton is adrift personally and professionally. She is desperate for a fresh start. So, she turns to her mother for help. Her mother and her uncle ask her to go to their childhood hometown in Beaufort, North Carolina, to live in and prepare the home to sell. Neither the house nor the disappearance has ever been mentioned to Keaton and her brother. Keaton is astonished to learn about this house that has been closed up for decades, after Rebecca (Becks) and Townsend Saint James disappear. Keaton is reluctant to tackle this project because she does not want to leave New York. Also, she finds abandoned houses creepy. Keaton eventually agrees after being promised a hefty commission.

Upon arriving, Keaton is astonished by how grand the home is. The interior is exquisite. Its furnishings include antiques, china, crystal, silver and rare books. The house is very dirty and has several squirrels in residence. She realizes she this project is bigger than she knew.

The more she cleans, Keaton realizes the house is full of secrets. When she finds her grandparents’ journals, she begins to understand who they are. She learns Becks is known for her ‘Summer Suppers’, a legendary event held throughout the summer. In Becks’ journals she finds the recipes, menus, guest lists and party planning ideas for a variety of themes. Her journal also hints that a murderer might be living next door. Becks and Townsend disappear after her last party in August 1976.

The more Keaton reads the journals and becomes friends with the local ladies, (who were Becks’ longtime friends), she sees signs that the Saint James’ disappearance might have been murder. Keaton keeps the knowledge to herself, but her suspicions grow. If it was a murder, who is the killer?

This a story about love, loss, rediscovering yourself and a mystery. It is the perfect beach or lake read. This is the first book I have read by Kristy Woodson Harvey. I am impressed by her writing style. And I always enjoy a novel set in the South.

“Kristy Woodson Harvey is the New York Times, USA Today and Publisher’s Weekly bestselling author of eleven novels including A Happier Life, The Summer of Songbirds, and The Peachtree Bluff Series. Many of her books have been optioned or are in development for television and film and have received numerous accolades, including Good Morning America’s Buzz Pick, Southern Living’s Most Anticipated Reads, Katie Couric’s Featured Books, and Joanna Garcia Swisher’s The Happy Place Read. Kristy is the winner of the Lucy Bramlette Patterson Award for Excellence in Creative Writing and a finalist for the Southern Book Prize.” (www.kristywoodsonharvey.com)

Cathy Lay Mayor grew up in Cullman and graduated from Cullman High School in 1976. She says when she writes book reviews, she tries to remember what Mrs. Gilbert taught her in 11th-grade English. She lived in Dothan for more than 30 years and is married with three adult children and six grandchildren. She retired to Panama City, but still calls Alabama home.

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Obituary Announcements: July 25-26

Mayme Louise Tweed, 87
Mayme "Louise" Tweed, age 87, of Cullman, passed away on Monday, July 22, 2024, at her residence. Louise was born in Shelton Laurel, North Carolina on May 23, 1937, to Prelon Ray and Coza (Cozy) Chandler Ray. She graduated from White Rock High School. She then moved to Anderson, Indiana in 1964. She worked at Delco Remy (General Motors) until she moved to Cullman, Alabama in 1976. She worked at the Elks Lodge as the kitchen manager and then later at the Holiday Inn in Good Hope. She was preceded in death by her parents; her first husband, William Tweed; her second husband, William (Bill) DeBruhl; brother, Tommy Ray; brother and sister-in-law, Amos and Fay Ray; sister and brother-in-law, Frances and Barnabus Shelton and son in law, Brent Denson. She is survived by her son, Steve (Cheryl) Tweed; daughter, Lynne Denson; granddaughters, Kaleigh Tweed (Brett Vincent), Katie (McKinley) Jones; grandson, Kyle (Erin) Tweed; great-grandchildren, Finnegan, Ellie and Forrest Tweed; Maci and Molly Jones; as well as three nieces and several great nieces and great nephews; and special caretaker, Tina Lewis. Louise was known as a great cook who loved cooking big meals and feeding visiting family and guests. She was an avid reader and always had a book in her hand, especially when she would retire for the evening. The joys of her life were her kids, grandkids and especially, her great grandkids. Per her request, she will be cremated and laid to rest in the family cemetery in North Carolina. She also requested that there not be a visitation or service, but a celebration luncheon to be held at a future date.

Barbara Joyce Lee, 77
Funeral services for Barbara Joyce Lee will be held Saturday, July 27, 2024, at Cullman Funeral Home. Visitation will be held from 11 a.m. - noon. followed by a memorial service at noon. A graveside service will be held after the memorial service at the Jones Chapel Cemetery, located at 101 County Road 1082, Cullman, AL 35057. Barbara Joyce Lee, aged 77, passed away peacefully at home on July 24, 2024, in Cullman, Alabama. Born to Joseph and Bonnie (Nebelong) Turner on Feb. 16, 1947, Barbara grew up primarily in Philadelphia, PA and Maple Shade, NJ before migrating south to Alabama in the 1970s. She was an avid reader, lover of history, crossword puzzle solver, and amateur genealogist. Barbara was known for her strong work ethic, which served as a strong model for her two daughters who credit her for instilling it in them. After graduating from Merchantville High School in 1965, she went to work for various insurance companies in downtown Philadelphia. One of her most notable jobs during that time was with the Insurance Company of North America (INA), the nation’s first joint-stock insurance company. After moving to Alabama, she worked in various positions for land title companies in Birmingham and Cullman before ultimately getting the job she was truly meant to do—a librarian. During her time as a librarian, she was able to marry her life-long love of reading with a sense of fulfillment from the work she did. Her favorite part of the job was speaking with patrons about their reading interests and providing new recommendations for books. She especially loved when patrons returned to tell her how great the suggestion was, which was a common occurrence. Barbara was a dedicated employee of the Cullman Country Library from 1998 until her retirement in 2011. Faith was an important aspect of Barbara’s life. She was an engaged member of the Jones Chapel United Methodist Church, where she found great comfort and community. Though it was difficult in later years to attend in-person church services, she loved to watch live streaming services on her tablet. Barbara leaves behind Larry Lee, her devoted husband of 46 years who never left her side; daughters, Barbara Adams (Rodney) and Heather Lee; a sister, Bonnie Rathke; a brother, Wayne Turner (Susan), and a nephew Josh Rathke (Anne); a great-niece Kourtney Rathke, and great-nephew Ethan Rathke. She was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Bonnie Turner and her aunt and uncle Clifford (Lola) Nebelong. The family would like to give special thanks to Stephanie Heard RN, Kim Rogers LSW, and Enhabit Hospice for their compassion, guidance, and support. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family.

Glen C. Roberts, 80
Funeral Services for Mr. Glen C. Roberts Jr, age 80 of Hanceville, will be held on Saturday, July 27, 2024, at Bowman’s Chapel Methodist Church in Crane Hill at 2 p.m. with Pastor W. Thurmond Cleckler officiating. Burial will follow in the adjoining cemetery. He will lie in state at the church from 1 p.m. until service time at 2 p.m. Mr. Roberts passed away on Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at his daughter’s home in Clanton. He was born in Ensley, near Birmingham, and was a graduate of Ensley High School. After high school, he worked for Cowan Construction, and was considered the go-to guy on the job. He then worked for the Jim Walter’s #5 Coal Mine in Brookwood near Tuscaloosa for collectively 25 years. Lastly, he went to nursing school and worked as a RN. Glen worked at UAB Hospital in the Neuro Intensive care unit, as well as a Hospice Nurse for nearly 17 years. He met his wife Rachel in the early 90’s, and after he retired, they moved to Smith Lake. For the next 15 years, they hosted numerous family gatherings and Christmas Get Togethers. One of Glen’s favorite activities was taking his family and friends out on the lake in his speedboat. He loved to take his grandkids tubing, often doing his best to throw them off. He was a pretty savvy billiards player, and enjoyed antiquing with his wife, and having a cold glass of mountain dew. Glen was Auburn football fan, and was a loving husband, father, and Paw Paw. Mr. Roberts is survived by his wife of 22 years, Rachel Parker Roberts of Hanceville; his children: David Glen Roberts (Nadine) of Arlington Heights, Illinois, Dana Cleckler (Arnold) of Clanton, and Jennifer Click (Dale) of Collinsville; Rachel’s Children: Debbie Freeman (Charles) of Crane Hill and Lynn Benefield (David) of Lineville; 11 grandchildren: Kara Carr (Jackson), Allison Schwartz (Mike), Scotty Click (Bridget), Lawson Benefield (Katie), Emily Click (Dustin), Mady Roberts (Christina Bowley), Catherine Cleckler (Fiancé Jared Thornton), Brady Click, Evelyn, Elizabeth, and Noah Cleckler; 6 great-grandchildren: Ian Click, Taylor Schwartz, Gene Carr, Carlee Click, Avery Kate Benefield, and Harvey Carr; one sister, Ann O’Reardon (Daniel), plus other extended family. He was preceded in death by his parents: Glen C. Roberts Sr. and Mary Belle Riser Roberts. Active Pallbearers will be Arnold Cleckler, David Benefield, Charles Freeman, Scotty Click, Lawson Benefield, Brady Click, Noah Cleckler, and Jackson Carr. Send online condolences to benefieldfuneralhome.com Benefield Funeral Home in Lineville is in charge of arrangements.

James ‘Jim’ Michael Israel, 56
James "Jim" Michael Israel, age 56, of Cullman passed away on Sunday, July 21, 2024, at the VA Medical Center in Birmingham. He was born in Mineral Wells, Texas, on May 2, 1968. Jim leaves behind a legacy of kindness, love, generosity, humility, and honor. Jim was known for his stubborn determination, joyful spirit, and the immense love he shared with everyone he met. To Jim, everyone was family. His impact on the lives of his wide circle of family and friends will be cherished and remembered always. Jim dedicated 32 years of his life to the U.S. Army, rising to the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 5 before his retirement in 2017. His commitment and service were exemplary, reflecting his deep sense of duty and honor. He continued serving the country he loved through work in the private sector. As evident through his military and government service, Jim was a true patriot at heart. Above all else, his greatest achievement and purpose was that of a father and leader of his family. He was fiercely loyal to those he held dear and would give the shirt off his back to anyone in need. Words will never be able to express what he held in his heart in compassion for others as a brother in Christ. Jim was preceded in death by his mother, Carmen Israel. Survivors include his loving wife, Martha Israel; two sons, Tyler Israel and Seth Israel; two daughters, Alli Willis and Kelsey Baker; grandchildren, Jayden Willis, Jaxon Baker and Hendrix Baker; parents, Edmund “Ike” and Kathy Israel; brother, Patrick Israel; and sisters, Mandi Hendrix and Kayce Langford. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. at Desperation Church in Cullman on Saturday, July 27, 2024. The family will receive friends and loved ones following the service at the Stash House in Cullman. He will be buried with full military honors at a later date.

William Henry Clark, 93
Funeral services for William Henry Clark, 93, of Cullman, Alabama will be Saturday, July 27, at 2 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Mountain Grove Congregational Cemetery in Hanceville. Bro. Doug Pitts will be officiating services. Visitation will be on Friday July 26th at Hanceville Funeral Home from 6-8 p.m. Mr. Clark was born on July 8, 1931 to the late Alex H. and Susie Mae Dodgen-Clark. He passed away on July 24, 2024 at Cullman Regional Medical Center in Cullman, Alabama. Survivors include his wife, Peggy Clark; children, Larry (Karen) Clark and Bennett Clark; grandchildren, John (Carla) Sharp, Kristal (Brett) Goelz, Christian Sharp, Tabitha (Shawn) Burrell and Jamie (Mark) Womack; 13 great grandchildren; 3 great-great grandchildren; sister, Myrlie Davis; brother, James (Betty) Clark; and a host of many nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, Mr. Clark was preceded in death by his sisters, Mary Clark, Hazel Bush, Betty Lott and Ruth Smith; and brother, David Clark. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Clark Family.

Frances Ruth Jackson, 91
Frances Ruth Jackson, age 91, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Thursday, July 25, 2024. A visitation for Frances will be held Saturday, July 27, 2024, from 10 a.m. till the service time at noon. Moss-Service Funeral Home Chapel. Internment will occur at Fellowship at Spring Hill Cemetery, 5383-5399 U.S. Highway 278, Cullman, AL 35057.

Chester Delaune, 75
It is with heavy hearts and fond memories that we announce the passing of Chester L. “Chet” Delaune on July 25, 2024, at his residence. He was a loving husband to Sharon, a devoted father (Papa Smurf) to Cassie (Chris) Jones and Jackie (Greg) Holcomb, and a cherished grandfather (a.k.a. Papoo/Grandpa) to Ella, Brooklyn, Sadie, Natalie, Jack, Abbie, and Shelbie. He is survived by his siblings Larry Delaune, Jana (Don) Fay, Dan and Betsy Delaune, John and Linda Delaune, and Jim and Terri Delaune. Chet was born on June 9, 1949, and was preceded in death by his father, Herman Delaune, and by his mother, Irma Delaune. As a widowed father of two young daughters, Chet was always there to remind Cassie and Jackie how much he loved them and how proud he was of them. From his adventures as their Girl Scout Leader, to taking them on wild motorcycle rides, and teaching them survival skills by camping and backpacking in the mountains, he showed them what a truly legendary Dad should be. Later in life, he found Sharon - "My Sharona" (as he fondly called her). His love for travel took him and Sharon on adventures to many interesting places over their 24 years together. They were partners until the end. Chet once took a spontaneous trip with all his grandkids to the Florida Keys by himself for a week, proving that he was as adventurous as he was brave. He was always on the go trying to get as much grandbaby time in with his grandchildren as he could. They were his most prized possession. An avid movie lover, Chet could quote classics with the best of them, making every family movie night a cinematic experience. His green thumb turned every garden into a blooming masterpiece. He was also an amazing cook and enjoyed doing so for anyone around. Family game nights were a battlefield of Dominoes, Phase Ten, and Attack Uno, where Chet’s competitive spirit shone brightly and threats of "Waxing Hatchees" were given. At family gatherings, he ruled the combat croquet field, turning every game into an epic showdown. He also brought a unique blend of warmth and hilarity to every moment. He enjoyed morning conversations with his siblings, "slurping" coffee, sharing laughs and catching up. For decades, his annual camping trip to North Georgia, with his buddies he has known over 50 years, was a cherished tradition, where they would tell stories and get target practice in. He loved travelling to Apalachicola for fishing trips with his friends, where tall tales of the one that got away were a staple. Chet never met a stranger and loved making conversations with everyone. His life was a joyful journey filled with laughter, love, and unforgettable moments. His wonderful sense of humor and knack for never meeting a stranger made him a joy to be around. He leaves behind a legacy of joy and warmth that will continue to inspire and entertain his family and friends. His lovingness, kindness, and dedication to his family, along with his ability to bring joy to those around him, will be deeply missed. Farewell, Chet. Your life was an extraordinary adventure, and you made sure we all enjoyed the ride! A celebration potluck memorial dinner will be held at his home in the coming weeks. In lieu of flowers, please direct gifts to Alabama Oncology Foundation 500 Office Park Dr. Suite 400, Birmingham, AL 35223, or their website is https://aocares.org.

Timothy L. Holmes, 38
Timothy L Holmes, age 38 of Vinemont, passed away on Tuesday, July 23, 2024. He was born Tuesday, Nov. 12, 1985, to Keith (Kelly) Glenn Holmes and Debra Rainwater. He was preceded in death by his mother. Survivors include his father, Keith (Kelly) Holmes; brothers, Christopher Holmes and Ryan Rainwater, and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, family and friends.

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BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

A week spent in the slow lane

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



Have you ever been to a place where there was only one road in and one road out? My family and I spent last week in a place with no roads in and no roads out. Have you ever heard the expression, "You can't get there from here?" Well, you can get to Daufuskie Island, but not by road, because there are no bridges. There are roads on the island, but they don't leave the island. The only way in, and the only way out, is by boat.

Several of the roads there are even paved, but if some of the locals had their way they wouldn't be.

I chuckled when I saw a Ford F-150 that had driven onto the beach and was stuck. It was buried to the axles, and the owner had obviously left it there. A bumper sticker on the tailgate read, "Don't Pave It, Keep Daufuskie Dirt!"

We spent the week on The Avenue of Oaks. It's a long winding paved lane, lined with giant live oaks with long-flowing beards of Spanish moss on limbs that bow to the ground.

We drove by salt marshes filled with giant bushes covered with dozens of roosting snowy egrets. We had our own marsh behind the house, and the Atlantic Ocean beach out front.

We had wanted to go somewhere different and we did. We found it. We went. We loved it. We hope to go again. The Eagles sang, "Life in the Fast Lane."

Last week we sang, "Life in the Slow Lane." One reason it is so slow is because most people there either ride bicycles or drive electric-powered golf carts. Even gas-powered carts are not allowed in certain areas of the island. The house we rented for the week came with five bicycles and one golf cart. Our cart was a six-seater, with a top speed of 17 miles-per-hour. That slow speed is not a problem since the island is only five-miles long and two-and-one-half miles wide.

A full charge will get you wherever you want to go, and usually on time. Some of the full-time residents or workers there have cars or trucks, but not enough to cause any traffic jams. After all, there are only 500 residents on the entire island.

There are three grocery stores there, but don't call them supermarkets...they are not. There's a half-dozen or so cafes, if you can find them all. Frye's Corner has chicken fingers and the best onion rings that I shouldn't have ever eaten, but am so glad I did.

For dessert, they have hot boiled peanuts. The Island Shack has a great deviled-crab-cake sandwich, and you can dine at picnic tables under a giant oak. The Sportsman at Melrose has a fabulous hamburger and free pool...if you can find the cue ball.

In case you've never heard of Daufuskie Island, it is located between Hilton Head, South Carolina, and Savannah, Geogia. It is surrounded by Cooper River, The Intercostal Waterway, and The Atlantic Ocean.

It has three miles of beachfront, and two lighthouses, but no police department. There is little crime there and it is one of the most peaceful places I've ever visited. Pat Conroy's book, "The River is Wide," was about the year he spent there as a teacher.

I'm writing this column sitting on the screened-in back porch, on our last night here. I'm listening to sounds of slow falling rain and marsh frogs singing along to its beat. The temperature this evening is like a piece of silky lemon pie, and I'm not sure I want to leave here tomorrow.

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

HISTORY

Files from yesteryear: 1930, 1950

From the files of 1930

The bodies of two Cullman County soldiers arrived home, Emory McConnell and Ulysess Yeager.

Mr. Jessie Smith is erecting a cotton gin at Simcoe.

W.C. Waldrop and wife attended the two-day Union Harp singing at Old Redan Church and reported a fine singing with a large crowd attending.

Professor A.R. Thompson has closed a very successful writing school at Simcoe. All his pupils want him to teach writing again.

Good Hope Church held election Sunday for officers for next year. Sunday School Superintendent is Luther Hudson, Assistant Superintendent is A.N. Schlichting, teachers are Ernest Kelly,E.G. McGlawn, Mrs. Alice Chance, Jewel Miller, Mrs. Mattie Dial and Claudia Kelly, organist is Miss Ruby Mize, choir leader is S.W. Ragsdale and secretary is Jewel Miller. Good Hope had a great church year.

Alton Blalock and his sister, Miss Ruth Blalock of Birmingham, are spending a week with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. F.B. Blalock.

From the files of 1950

Owen S. Williams of Cullman has been selected for "Who's Who in the South and Southeast."

Twenty citizens of Cullman County attended a seven-county barbecue pasture meeting on the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest L. Hood, of Route Three, Albertville, on Tuesday, November 21. Those from Cullman were T.B. Veal, B.R. Fant, C.H. Wilhite, K.J. Griffith, L.E. Parker, Roy Gorham, Oscar Ellard, C.T. Scott, J.F. Brandon, R.C. Johnston, H.G. Pinkston, J.H. Yates, George Lehnert, N.T. Underwood, E.O. Elliott, Robert K. Leopard, Henry F. Arnold, J.H. Montgomery, Marvin Trapp and J.P. Glenn.

Russell L. Baker has been doing a little research on his own family. He says the number "7" has really been important in his life. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. F.M. Baker had 12 children, seven boys and five girls.

His wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hildred Haynes had 12 children, seven girls and five boys. Mr. Baker was the seventh daughter. They were married on Mr. Baker's 27 birthday anniversary, in 1907.

POET'S CORNER

Blue Things | By: Randy C. Hale

I sometimes take them down,
those box of blue things that I own.

I should do something with them,
I guess,

instead of just fumbling through
them one by one.

A couple of them have faded in time
and do not hold their normal hue.

Some seem to have darkened to
a deeper sea, as blue as blue
could be.

I look at them all a little differently
each time and

place the most faded ones on the
bottom where they belong

And soon put back the ill fitted lid,
and return them to their normal place
upon the shelf.

Bid (from Front)

Christmas in July at the civic center this Saturday (July 27). We'd like to invite all of y'all down."

The annual Pancake Breakfast will run from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at the Hanceville Civic Center. The cost per plate is $7. Dine-in or carry-out plates will be available with pancakes, syrup, butter and a choice of bacon or sausage. The Christmas in July Arts and Crafts Market will run from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Hanceville Civic Center located at 902 Commercial St. NE. The next Hanceville City Council meeting will be held on Thursday, Aug. 8, at Hanceville City Hall. The council's work session begins at 5 p.m., with the meeting following at 5:30.

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

JULY 27

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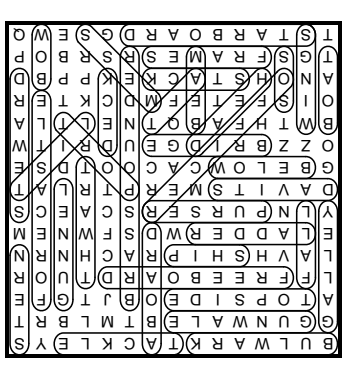
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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

JULY 27

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ANSWERS:



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

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