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SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

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ASHTON KELLEY

– SPORTS –

'No matter what season of life you are in, God is there': Vinemont's Ashton Kelley talks about her relationship with God

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Cullman County Imagination Library celebrates 3 years

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Friends of the Public Libraries of Cullman County (FPLCC) and the Cullman County Public Library System (CCPLS) on Thursday celebrated the third year of the partnership between the FPLCC and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, which puts books into the hands of local children aged 5 and younger at no cost to families.

"The Imagination Library is excited to celebrate three years of serving over 3,000 children from birth to 5 years of age in Cullman County," said FPLCC's Tanya Allcorn. "I was fortunate enough to help bring this wonderful program to our children in Cullman and could not be more proud of our success."

Local families with qualifying children can register online at ccimaginationlibrary.com or by contacting the FPLCC. Many businesses and organizations in the area, including the Cullman Electric Cooperative, » PAGE 4



FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES OF CULLMAN COUNTY

Local author Caris Snider reads her book, "There's an Elephant on My Chest" to a group of young children at the Cullman County Imagination Library's third birthday celebration at the Cullman County Public Library on Thursday, Aug. 1, 2024.

Gentry will not seek reelection



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry speaks at a press conference on Friday, Aug. 2, 2024, to announce his retirement at the end of his current term.

Noah Galilee, Cheyenne Sharp

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry on Friday, Aug. 2, said he will not seek a fourth term. Gentry addressed media and spectators alike regarding his decision at St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church Youth Center just after 9:30 a.m.

"I think about the last 10 years and what we've accomplished in the office of sheriff. We took office in 2015 with the main priority of returning the office of the sheriff back to the people," said Gentry. "That's what we've done the last 10 years."

Gentry spoke with his deputies and other CCSO employees Thursday to give them a heads-up for Friday's announcement. » PAGE 3

'Stuff the Bus' brings in more than 21K school supplies



UNITED WAY OF CULLMAN COUNTY

The United Way of Cullman County held its seventh annual Stuff the Bus school supply drive July 19-26, collecting 21,410 school supplies to benefit local students. » PAGE 3

WSCC celebrates Dental Assisting Class of 2024

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The Link's annual gala set for Nov. 1



THE LINK OF CULLMAN COUNTY

The theme for The Link of Cullman County's 2024 Gala is "Fruitful."

» PAGE 6

Legislation introduced to protect Alabama's underwater forest

» PAGE 8

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Aug. 2

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported August 2, 2024. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

GJ = grand jury; FTA = failure to appear

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

July 29

- domestic violence; CR 385
- assault; CR 1341
- theft of property; CR 222
- domestic violence; CR 747
- theft of property; CR 222
- theft of property; CR 831
- harassment; CR 782
- criminal mischief; Gold Mine Dr.
- theft of property; CR 437
- domestic violence; CR 747

July 30

- burglary; CR 1714
- burglary; CR 1809
- harassing communications; CR 145
- harassing communications; CR 895
- theft of property; Randall Shed Ln.
- theft of property; CR 222

July 31

- possession of marijuana; Hwy. 67
- criminal mischief; CR 359
- assault; CR 1154

ARRESTS

July 29-31

Bates, Justin R.; 38
- violation of a domestic violence protection order

Blair, Coleman R.; 30
- FTA – assault-domestic violence-3rd degree – harassing communications

Carr, Steven W.; 38
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – promote prison contraband (drugs)
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Hays, Cody N.; 35
- assault-aggravated assault non-family-other weapon

Hill, Boonie F.; 57
- FTA – auto theft

Jacobs, Alexis P.; 23
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Mikus, Monique N.; 43
- causing of delinquency, dependency or need of supervision of children
- FTA – negotiating worthless instrument

Myers, Trent A.; 26
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Partlow, Anthony L.; 49
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Price, Thomas H.; 33
- FTA – unlawful breaking and entering a vehicle (no theft)
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Ramey, Shelton D.; 29
- FTA – identity theft
- FTA – insurance fraud

Sawyer, Tammy W.; 55
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Weeks, Stacy L.; 36
- causing of delinquency, dependency or need of supervision of children

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

July 27

- retail theft of property-3rd degree; criminal trespass-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $4; Olive St. SW

July 31

- theft of property-4th degree; City of Cullman; miscellaneous; $65; Dialsdale Dr. SW
- harassment; person

Aug. 1

- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; Katie Ln. SW
- domestic violence-3rd degree – harassment; person; Hwy. 157
- retail theft of property-2nd degree; Monograms Plus; general merchandise; Main Ave. NE

ARRESTS

July 31 – Aug. 1

Stutts, Timothy G.; 36
- public intoxication

Martinez, Bryann L.; 26
- criminal trespass
- criminal trepass-2nd degree
- violation of release order
- escape-3rd degree
- theft of property-4th degree

Sweatmon, Mae R.; 31
- FTA – driving while suspended

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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



LEGALS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

NOTICE OF FILING LAWSUIT

The above listed Defendants, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer Plaintiff's complaint for Adverse Possession & Quiet Title by 9/3/2024 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
Circuit Clerk of Cullman County

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

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, 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, Deceased. * CASE NO PC 2023-381

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, 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

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 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~~ September 10, 24 or, 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,
Circuit Clerk of Cullman County

Attorney for Plaintiff

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to WILLIAM OSMER, as Personal Representative, of the ESTATE OF SYBLE F. OSMER, deceased, on the 1st day of August, 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.

Syble F. Osmer
Personal Representative

Pamela E. Nail
Attorney for Petitioner
200 Second Avenue, Southwest
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Telephone: (256) 734-3342

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 1st day of August, 2024.

TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

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
JUDGE OF PROBATE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF J.D.C. A minor child. D.O.B. 12/11/2006 CASE NO.: PC 2024-248

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF MINOR CHILD

TO: CHRISTOPHER DANIEL CLEVELAND AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF A CHILD BORN TO HALEY JENICE HOWELL HARRIS AS KNOWN AS J.D.C.

Petition to Change Name of Minor Child was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by Haley Jenice Harris, Petitioner. If you should contest this name change, you must file a written response within Thirty (30) days from the date of the last notice of publication. Your response must be filed with Counsel for said petitioners, whose name and address are shown below, and with the Clerk of Probate Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE THIS 31st DAY OF July, 2024.

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

J. Bradley Wilson
Attorney for Petitioner
206 Ninth Street SW, Ste 102
Cullman, AL 35055

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of GORDON JUNIOR GRACE, Deceased. * CASE NO. PC 2024 - 168

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE: Letters of Administration *cum testamento annexo* having been granted to Steven Matthew Putnam as Administrator *cum testamento annexo* of the Estate of Gordon Junior Grace, deceased, on the 1st day of August, 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.

Steven Matthew Putnam

Administrator *cum testamento annexo*

Shay Persall
Attorney for Administrator *cum testamento annexo*
SHAY PERSALL LAW, LLC
611 Seventh Street, SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Telephone: (256) 841-7800

****

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, JUDGE OF PROBATE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

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, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

Gentry (from Front)

His next step was to inform the public.

Said Gentry, "And then the next decision was that I wanted to tell the people that I represent.

"For me, I've never been a liar. I could not go the next year telling people I don't know what I'm going to do, when I know in my heart that I do."

With his wife Susie by his side, Gentry was sworn in as the 30th sheriff of the county by Cullman County Circuit Judge Martha Williams in January 2015.

That election was the closest race he encountered throughout his three terms as he squared off against then incumbent Sheriff Mike Rainey. Following a long campaign, a close primary and a July run-off election decided by a margin of 608 votes, Gentry came out on top. Since then he has run unopposed.

For what would be his final swearing in as sheriff, his father Roger Gentry administered the oath of office, marking the beginning of his third and last term on Jan. 21, 2023.

"Today, I've got 25 years in law enforcement. At the end of my term, I will have 27 and a half to 28 years in law enforcement.

"I'll have 12 years as an elected official," shared Gentry, "I think about all the things we have implemented in our community."

According to the sheriff, the CCSO currently holds more community meetings than any other law enforcement office in the state. Gentry shared that just in 2024, the CCSO has hosted over 60 community events. Events have included ladies' self-defense classes, community cookouts, the annual sheriff's rodeo and the Citizens' Academy.

Gentry also boasted about the creation of the CCSO's own pay scale for its deputies.

"When we took office, one of the priorities was to get pay where it needed to be," he said. "We worked with the (Cullman County) Commission. We have our own pay scale now that will give our deputies financial stability from this point on. That's what we need in leadership."

Gentry went on, "I believe it takes leaders to do more in self accountability, self term limits, because it's easy to get up and say, 'I believe in term limits,' but you've been somewhere 30 years. What is hard is to say, 'You know what? I'm going to do my job, and then, you know what? I'm going to go do something else.' At the end of this term – I've got two and a half years left – at the end of this term I'll have almost 28 years in law enforcement, 12 years as your sheriff. Three terms, I've been blessed to run the last two unopposed, but I'm going to retire."Gentry's third term will end in January 2027 when his successor is sworn in.

As for his future plans, Gentry said he has none. He said he will follow the Lord wherever He leads.

"I don't know what the future holds, but I will follow wherever the Lord takes me," he said. "If he takes me down that road, I'll go, because I believe in Him. I also believe in our community."

Cullman County District Attorney Champ Crocker, shared his sentiments regarding Gentry's retirement in a social media comment, saying:

"One post can't describe the impact Matt Gentry has had as Sheriff of Cullman County. Like many citizens of Cullman County I believe Matt Gentry has been the best sheriff we have ever had. His community policing policies have made Cullman County one of the safest counties in Alabama.

"He is well known for being accessible to the public with his community cookouts, citizens academy, youth academy, and world-famous Rodeo. Since being elected District Attorney, I can say we speak often about pending cases and investigations. I look forward to continuing to work with him for the next two years to secure justice for the citizens of Cullman County."

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.
• Saturday, Aug. 3 - 8 a.m. Men's breakfast, Foundry Farm outreach at 10
• Sunday, Aug. 4 - 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, Aug. 4 - 2 p.m. Prayer 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.

Fairview West Baptist Church Rummage Sale and Bake Sale
Saturday, Aug. 3, from 7 a.m.-until at Fairview West Baptist Church, 1172 County Road 566, Hanceville. Inside the fellowship hall.

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.

Vinemont High School Class of 1974 50th Class Reunion
Saturday, Aug. 10, from 5-8 p.m. at Ledgers, 281 County Road 717, Cullman. Casual dress; come and enjoy catching up. Questions 256-531-4222.

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 non-members welcome!

Holly Pond Lions Club Pancake Breakfast
Join us as we serve you all the pancakes you can eat with a side of bacon and sausage and your choice of coffee, water or juice for a donation only. Invite your friends and have a fun morning on Aug. 17, from 6-9 a.m. at the Lions Club Building in Holly Pond near the ballfields. Donations benefit Lions Club special projects such as sight and juvenile diabetes. Thank you for your support.

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.

Bus (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The United Way of Cullman County recently completed its seventh annual Stuff the Bus school supply drive. Residents were invited to donate new school supplies at drop-off locations around the community. They donated more than 21,000 individual school supplies that will go directly to local students.

UWCC Executive Director Stephanie Childers said, "We are overwhelmed with the outpouring of support for our seventh annual Stuff the Bus event this year! Even with rainy days, we had more volunteers and donations than we could have hoped for."

Volunteers from every corner of the county were positioned and ready at various drop-off sites, assisting with donations and encouraging passersby to join in the drive. More than 30 community members volunteered, with more than $1,000 donated as well.

All in all, the more than 15 supply drive collection sites gathered an astounding 21,410 individual school supplies, which will directly benefit local students.

Childers smiled and said, "We truly appreciate everyone pitching in to make back-to-school a little easier for those in need."











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Janet Chandler - Marketing Specialist

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
AUGUST 3, 2024

FAITH

‘No matter what season of life you are in, God is there’: Vinemont’s Ashton Kelley talks about her relationship with God

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com



ASHTON KELLEY

Vinemont’s Ashton Kelley

VINEMONT, Ala. — In this interview, Vinemont senior Ashton Kelley talks about her relationship with God and how she has seen it continue to grow more and more over the years.

"God has meant so much to me. He has gotten me through the hardest times of my life and has given me the opportunity to share my testimony with others. He is always working in our life, and I'm so thankful for that. He has given me so many friendships that have helped me to become closer to Him and so many opportunities to tell others about the wonders that He does. I am so grateful that I have a relationship with Him, because I wouldn't be the person that I am today without Him."

Kelley shared some of her favorite Bible verses and talked about how much they mean to her.

"Proverbs 3:5-6 says, 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not only on your own understanding; in all your ways, submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.' This verse is what made me choose the college and major that I am pursuing. I had to fully submit to Him and trust Him with my entire heart in order to see the amazing things He has planned for me through this path He is taking me. Philippians 4:6-7 says, 'Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds about Christ Jesus.' This verse reminds me to never be anxious about anything, for the Lord will prepare me for the future He has for me. It also reminds me to always pray and go to Him for any problem or any anxiety," Kelley said. "Psalms 118:5-6 says, 'When hard pressed, I cried to the Lord; He brought me into a spacious place. The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?" This verse is the one that got me through the hardest time of my life. When I cried out to the Lord in my room at night, He was there for me, waiting for me to surrender, waiting for me to come to Him for help, because He has already won my battles. God has given me the materials of His word to fight any battle or enemy that comes my way, because He has won my battles, so why should I be afraid?"

Kelley is a leader in the student ministry at Daystar Church in Cullman, and she has touched so many lives during her time working in student ministry.

"I am lucky enough to be a leader in the student ministry at Daystar Church in Cullman. I am so grateful to be able to minister both middle and high schoolers and help them through the hard times of school. I am able to talk about my testimony with them, and after hearing the other people's testimonies, it opens everyone's eyes to just how amazing our Lord and Savior is.

"My favorite part of student ministry is being able to come together and watch all the students not only worship the Lord together, but pray together as well," she said.

"It means the world to me. I am able to show the students that no matter what you're going through, you're not alone, and more than likely, someone at the church has gone through something similar as well. I'm so grateful that I have the chance to be a role model in their lives, and I pray every day that God uses me to show them that no matter what you go through in life, you will get through it. You just have to lean into God and give Him your all," she said. "I want to help them out so bad. God has put the gift in me to have such a strong passion for children and younger students. I strive to be a person that will speak to students who are new or even in the church about what God has done in my life throughout the day or week. Talking to someone about God can plant a seed in them, and that will help them get closer to Him."

She shared some advice for those people that want a relationship with God, and also talked about some Godly role models in her life that she looks up to.

"I would say first of all, start in His word and read your Bible. I would then say to pray about anything and everything. There is no right or wrong to pray. Just talk to God. He is your father, and He loves hearing from His children. I would also say, surround yourself around people who have a relationship with God, as well as people who want a relationship with Him.

"You need people who can minister and help you through this journey of becoming closer, as well as people walking right by also getting closer to Him. Lastly, I would say, surrender to Him. God is almighty. He is the highest and the most powerful. He can get you through anything in your life. I would say, don't worry about what you have done in the past. Once you ask for forgiveness, God forgets about it. You are never too far gone or have made too many mistakes to come to God. He will meet you right where you are and love you unconditionally," Kelley said. "Recently, our student pastor, Braxton Davis, has been an incredible role model.

"He is so on fire for God and has taught me so much, not only through his sermons, but also, from just having conversations with him. Ashlee House has also had a huge impact on my life. She has always been one to check in on me and has prayed for me. She is also on fire for God and has helped me through some of the toughest times just by watching her worship and by talking to her. Lastly, our pastor, Jerry Lawson, has always been an amazing role model and always gives the best sermons. His sermons have truly helped me become so close to God."

Kelley added, "I have learned that no matter what season of life you are in, God is there. He is absolutely incredible and continues to amaze me with all the miracles He has done and will continue to do. I have also learned that His plan is better than mine. He has a plan for me that will pursue His will for me. Lastly, I have learned that I am so much better with God in my life than without."





Library (from Front)

Cullman County Schools and the Cullman County Commission, sponsor the Imagination Library monetarily in tandem with the FPLCC.

These sponsors and donors ensure that each participating child in the area can receive one book per month straight to their mailbox, completely free of charge.

Allcorn shared, "This affiliation would not be possible without our local partnerships in helping to deliver over 75,000 books since the beginning of our program."

Attendees at the birthday celebration were greeted with traditional party refreshments including cake, sandwiches and punch. While enjoying the snacks and offerings, guests could listen to local author Caris Snider as she read her book,

"There's an Elephant on My Chest," to the gathered group of children and adults. Her book follows the anxiety that can sometimes come with growing up, attending school and the pressures of adolescence.

"Allie, the book's main character, wakes up with anxiety that feels like "an elephant on her chest," and her family and friends help ease the fears away.

Snider is the author of several devotionals and stories for young and adolescent children. Her works can be found on Amazon or at the Cullman County Public Library.

Jacksonville State unveils Loring and Debbie White Football Complex

JSU Athletics
jaxstatesports.com

JACKSONVILLE, Ala. — Jacksonville State University (Jax State) is thrilled to announce the grand opening of the Loring and Debbie White Football Complex, a state-of-the-art facility that will serve as the new home for Gamecock football. The ribbon-cutting ceremony, held on Saturday, July 27, 2024, marks a significant milestone in the university's commitment to athletic excellence and the development of its student-athletes.

Loring and Debbie White have been longtime supporters of Jacksonville State University and Gamecock Football. Loring, a native of Prattville, Alabama came to Jax State as a freshman member of the football team in the fall of 1974 and spent four years with the Gamecocks before graduating in 1978 with a bachelor's degree in education.

Loring White expressed his motivations behind the donation, stating, "We've been very blessed, and we like to give back when the opportunity is there.

"It's an honor to have your name put up there, but that's not why we do it. I'm more interested in each one of those current players seeing and hearing about someone who's been in their shoes. And if I can go to Jacksonville State, spend four years, get an education, and come out of there and do what I've done, they surely should be able to do the same thing."

The Loring and Debbie White Football Complex boasts cutting-edge amenities, including administrative offices, a spacious weight room, modern locker rooms, team meeting spaces, and a fully equipped sports medicine center.

Designed to enhance the overall experience for student-athletes, the facility aims to support their physical, mental, and academic well-being.

Dr. Don Killingsworth, President of Jacksonville State University, highlighted the enduring impact of the Whites' contributions, saying, "Loring's tenacity, dedication, and work ethic, which he demonstrated as a student-athlete here at Jax State, have continued to guide him throughout his career.

"We are immensely grateful that his steadfast dedication to his alma mater has never wavered."

The event officially opened the Loring and Debbie White Football Complex just two days before the start of the preseason. The 2024 Jax State football toured the facility for the first time on Sunday before commencing practice on Monday morning.

JSU ATHLETICS

Jacksonville State University officially opened the Loring and Debbie White Football Complex on Saturday, July 27 with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Pictured, from left, are Head Football Coach Rich Rodriguez, Athletic Director Greg Seitz, Jax State Trustee Drew Linn, Jax State Trustee Rusty Fuller, Loring White, Debbie White, Jax State Board Chairman Randy Jones and Jax State President Dr. Don C. Killingsworth, Jr.

Athletics Director Greg Seitz remarked on the significance of the new facility: "This complex represents a new era for Jax State football. The Loring and Debbie White Football Complex is a game-changer for our program. It provides our players with the resources they need to train at the highest level and prepare for competition.

"We are grateful for the Whites' unwavering support and commitment to our team."

For more information about the Loring and Debbie White Football Complex and Jax State athletics, please visit jaxstatesports.com.

WSCC celebrates Dental Assisting Class of 2024

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The Wallace State Community College Dental Assisting program recently celebrated the accomplishments of graduating students with a ceremony attended by family, friends and colleagues. The program, which has been shaping dental assistants since 1977, saw another group of students walk across the stage to don a white coat signifying their success.

"I would especially like to thank our friends and our family. You have been a crucial part of this program and helping us getting to where we are today, whether you know it or not, from pushing us, comforting us and telling us things that we really don't want to hear from the time," said class president Peyton Rouse, of Dora, who was the recipient of the Presidential Award for Health Science Excellence at the college commencement exercises in May.

"I'd like to take a moment to also thank the faculty and staff who helped get us here today and thank Dr. Karolewics and her team for leading Wallace State the way that they do."

"You are all going to do great things in the field of dental assisting and in the field of dentistry in general. I have no doubt we will hear from you again doing wonderful things," said Susan Brewer, interim Program Director for the Wallace State Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene programs.

"I want to thank everybody who came to honor them, to celebrate them and to cherish this moment with them."

Clinical Coordinator Halli Melton described the Class of 2024 as not only having mastered the technical skills required to become effective dental assistants, but having also embraced the values of empathy, compassion and integrity.

"Today, we gather to celebrate the culmination of dedication, hard work and unwavering determination. Each of these remarkable individuals before us has not only demonstrated academic excellence but has also exhibited a profound passion in the field of dental assisting," Melton said.

"They represent the next generation of leaders, innovators and advocates who will shape the landscape of oral health care for years to come. To the graduates, I offer my heartfelt congratulations."



WALLACE STATE

The Dental Assisting Class of 2024 with Interim Program Director Susan Brewer (left) and Clinical Coordinator Halli Melton.

Several students were recognized for individual honors, including:

- Edmund Kells Award – Karla Zurita-Jarquin of Albertville
- Academic Excellence Award – Gabrielle Lanier of Tuscaloosa
- Clinical Excellence Award – Brooke Wilson of Scottsboro
- Douglas Allen Memorial Award – Esther Gamble of Hanceville

Other members of the Dental Assisting Class of 2024 include:

Ella Edmondson, Falkville; Esther Gamble, Hanceville; Hannah Hatcher, Warrior; Makayla Jolly, Warrior; Gabrielle Lanier, Tuscaloosa; Bragan Payne, Hayden; Curtis Pepper, Cullman; Julia Pesina, Blountsville; Shelby Rainwater, Cullman; Cheyene Rockwell, Hanceville; Peyton Rouse, Dora; Kalee Sanders, Hayden; Kameryn Scales, Falkville; Lexi Sproul, Jasper; Cheyanne Watts, Hayden; Brooke Wilson, Scottsboro; Karla Zurita-Jarquin, Albertville.

The Dental Assisting program at Wallace State offers both certificate and degree options in three and four semesters, respectively.

Applications are accepted from March 1 to June 1 each year for fall admission.

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Event (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com



THE LINK OF CULLMAN COUNTY

The theme for The Link of Cullman County's 2024 Gala is "Fruitful."

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Link of Cullman County will host its annual gala on Friday, Nov. 1, at 6 p.m. at the Cotton Creek Warehouse. This year, the theme of the gala is 'Fruitful,' paying homage to the work and services The Link offers to the community and the impact the organization has in the lives of its neighbors. This event will kick off the nonprofit's end of the year giving campaign and mission focus for 2025.

Executive Director Melissa Betts shared, "Why 'Fruitful'? In John 15:5, the Bible tells us that we are like branches of a vine. Those branches produce 'fruit' as long as they are attached to the life-giving vine. If we are "cut off" from the vine, we cannot live and produce good fruit. This is relatable to the work of The Link."

The Link works with its neighbors in need through two ways: vital resources and long-term growth opportunities. Vital resources are immediate needs such as food assistance and basic needs; eliminating those needs for neighbors often increases trust in The Link, forging a community bond and allowing the second avenue of help to open.

"If people know that we care about their basic needs, they are more likely to share their other needs with us. This is where we offer our long-term growth opportunities and people learn to abide and bear much fruit," Betts said.

This year's gala will include a rustic Italian dinner, a silent auction packed with generously donated items and goods some of Cullman's favorite merchants have to offer and plenty of opportunities for fellowship and giving. Festive cocktail attire is requested for the event.

The gala will also feature a service gallery, a visual conglomeration of The Link's assistance and helping hands for its neighbors in need. The display is set to make an impact and highlight the significance and importance of the work being done by The Link and its volunteers.

Cayla Grace Murphy-Carnes, The Link's marketing coordinator, shared, "This year, we will have a service gallery, which will be a hands-on way to show the statistics of our impact from 2024. We will also be awarding five awards to standout volunteers in our service areas."

The Link is currently seeking sponsorships for the gala. Interested individuals, businesses or organizations should contact tiffany-wright@linkingcullman.org for more information on sponsoring the event or donating items to the auction to benefit The Link.

Tickets for the gala will be on sale soon. For more information on ticket sales, contact The Link at 256-775-0028. Cotton Creek Warehouse is located at 417 Third Ave. SW.

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Obituary Announcements: Aug. 1-2

Susan Marie Evans, 61
Susan Marie Evans, age 61, from Cullman, passed from this life on Tuesday, July 30, 2024. A funeral service for her will be at Missionary Grove Baptist Church on Monday, Aug. 5, 2024, at 2 p.m. Visitation will be held from noon - 2 p.m. with interment following at Missionary Grove Baptist Church Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Susan was born Aug. 9, 1962, to Billy Joe Gable Sr. and Gladys Marie Baker Gable. She is preceded in death by her husband, Phillip Evans; daughter, Brandy Wilson. She is survived by her parents; brothers, Billy Gable Jr. (Jackie), Ricky Gable; sister, Darlene Pachik (Steve); grandchild, Aubrey Speegle; and a host of nieces and nephews, family and friends, Susan was a very caring person, always giving and thinking of other people. She will be dearly missed by those who knew and loved her.

Audra Dannielle 'Danni' Johnson, 50
Audra Dannielle Johnson (Danni), age 50, from Cullman, passed too soon from this life on Wednesday, July 31, 2024, at her residence. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Danni was born May 4, 1974, to Alva L. Dubberly and Paula Humphries Dubberly in Jasper, Alabama. She is preceded in death by her father, her grandparents, and aunts and uncles. She is survived by her husband, George Johnson, Jr.; and her mother, Paula Dubberly. Danni was a faithful member of the Bread of Life Church, and she loved her church family as much as they loved her. She was very talented and liked to spend her free time cross stitching and baking cakes, especially wedding cakes. She was a CNA and put her heart and soul into her job. She adored her elderly patients and even bought things they needed with her own money. She cared for all people and loved animals. She was a shining light to everyone who knew her.

Dorothy Dean Mays, 84
Funeral services for Dorothy Dean Mays, 84, of Hanceville will be 1 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 4, at Damascus Missionary Baptist Church. Bro. Christopher Dotson and Bro. Heath Tyree will be officiating. Family will receive friends beginning at 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the church. Dot was born March 12, 1940, to S.A. and Tressie (Allred) Dean. She graduated from Hanceville High School in 1957 and moved to Birmingham to work, where she met and married her husband, Billy. They were married 52 years at his death in 2012. She was a life-long member of Damascus Church, and a committed member of the 91 Homemakers Club, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year, as the oldest existing homemakers club in Alabama. Dot retired from the City of Cullman, where she worked as a secretary in the public works and building inspector offices. She was an avid gardener, maintaining a beautiful yard of blooming flowers of uncountable varieties, collected and shared with friends and neighbors through the years. Ma Maw Dot, as she was affectionately known after the birth of her first grandchild, passed peacefully from this life, in her home Wednesday evening, July 31, after a short battle with cancer. Mrs. Mays was preceded in death by her parents, S.A. and Tressie (Allred) Dean; husband, Billy Mays; brother, Paul Dean; and her stepmother, Edith Dean. Mrs. Mays is survived by her children, Valerie Dotson, and Jason (Cindi) Mays; her grandsons, Christopher (Merrill), Joshua and Avery Dotson; her granddaughter, Lindsey Mays; her step-grandsons, Lake Smith, Joshua Crumbley, Jason Crumbley, and Landen Crumbley; sisters, Joan Hill, Patricia Ponder, Beverly Dean; sister-in-law, Mary Roberts; she was also blessed with 5 great grandchildren.

Shaunda Lanette Billiot, 38
Shaunda Lanette Billiot, age 38 of Joppa, passed away on Wednesday, July 31, 2024, at Cullman Regional. She was born Saturday, Dec. 28, 1985, to Greg Billiot and Jenny Runge. She was preceded in death by her son, Mason Frank; grandfather, Curtis Billiot and grandparents, Joe (Margaret) Cloud. Survivors include her father, Greg Billiot; Mother, Jenny Runge; grandmother, Elsie Billiot; Fiancé, Tyler Frank; mother in law, Tara Jones; aunts, Jolena Cloud, Jenell Warren and Gretchen Billiot; Uncle John Runge and a host of extended family and friends. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Lucille Gilley, 95
Lucille Gilley, of Cullman, Alabama, entered into the presence of our Lord on Tuesday evening, July 30, 2024, at the age of 95. Ms. Gilley was born in Ohio, on Oct. 6, 1928, to William Thomas "Tom" and Effie Mae Lamberth Dunlap. Lucille was a lifetime member of Brooklyn Church. Ms. Gilley enjoyed working in her flowers and keeping her yard. She also enjoyed cooking for those she loved. Lucille was a loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother who was affectionately called Maw Maw by all who knew her. Lucille was a very special person, and she will be missed greatly. Ms. Gilley is preceded in death by her parents; husband, James Feltus Gilley; son, Jimmy Gilley; and brother and sister-in-law, Clifton and Boots Dunlap. Lucille is survived by her son, Billy Gilley (Tiny); daughter-in-law, Sheila Gilley; brother, Tommy Dunlap (Dianah); grandchildren, Angela Gilley Eubanks (Jarrod), Justin Gilley, Jennifer Eddleman (Josh); and great-grandchildren, Cole Eubanks, Caylee Eubanks, Jett Gilley, Anna Lee Eddleman, Lainey Eddleman, and Evie Mae Eddleman. Friends are invited to visit with the family on Saturday evening, Aug. 3, 2024, from 6-8 p.m. Visitation will be held in the Holly Pond Funeral Home Chapel. Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m., on Sunday afternoon, Aug. 4, 2024, at Brooklyn Church with Chris Washburn and Sam Gregory officiating. Ms. Gilley will lie in state from 2 p.m. until services begin. Burial will follow in the adjoining cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to Southern Care Hospice in memory of Lucille. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Gilley family and our prayers are with them.

Mary Ruth Ballard, 76
Funeral services for Mary Ruth Ballard, 76, of Crane Hill will be 2 p.m., Wednesday August 7th at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Bethany Cemetery. Visitation will be prior to the service from 12:30-2 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Born Sept. 7, 1947, in Bremerhaven, Germany, she was known for her kind heart, gentle spirit, and unwavering love for those around her. A devoted fan of Elvis Presley, Mary found joy in listening to his music, often reminiscing about the golden days of rock 'n' roll. Her love for classic westerns and old-time TV shows was well-known among her family and friends; she could often be found in her favorite chair, engrossed in the timeless tales of the Old West or laughing along with the beloved characters of yesteryear. Mary had a special way with children, and every child she met felt deeply loved and cherished. Her sweet nature and nurturing spirit created a sense of comfort and belonging that was unmatched. Whether it was a warm hug, a kind word, or a gentle smile, she had a unique ability to make everyone feel special and cared for. Mary passed away at her residence in Crane Hill on Aug. 1, 2024. Ms. Ballard is survived by her brother, Norman Ballard (Connie); sister, Nancy Green (Louie); nieces and nephews, Wayne and Louren Ballard, Bobby Green, Sabrina & Ronny Gooden, Cyndi and Christopher Jones; great nieces and nephews, Christan and Zach Ballard, Tiffiany Green, Heather Green, Adam Green, Harmony Jones, Aurora Hubbard, Destiny Jones; and a host of extended family. Ms. Ballard was preceded in death by her parents, Louie and Elfreida Ballard; her infant twin sister; and her nephew, Louie Green Jr.

Anthony 'Tony' Louis Goodwin, 63
Anthony "Tony" Louis Goodwin, age 63, of Hanceville, Alabama passed away on Thursday, Aug. 1, 2024. Tony is survived by his brother Kenny (Brenda) Goodwin; his niece Kandiss Goodwin, his great niece Saban Goodwin, his best friend Dudley Brock and his faithful dogs Buddy and Bully. Tony was preceded in death by his son Coty Goodwin; his father S.T. "Bull" Goodwin and his mother Doris Louise Goodwin. A visitation for Tony will be held Sunday, Aug. 4, 2024, from 6-8 p.m. at Moss-Service Funeral Home, 1901 Second Avenue NW, Cullman, Alabama 35055. A funeral service will occur Monday, Aug. 5, 2024, at 11 a.m. at Moss-Service Funeral Home. Tony will be laid to rest in Valley Springs Cemetery, Cullman, Alabama.

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BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

What you can do with a can

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



Someone once asked, "Can you make something out of this can?" I answered, "Can I? Absolutely, I can!" That has set me to thinking about all the different things that can be made from tin cans. Back before children had so many "store bought" toys, they made their own. My dad's generation did much of that, and some of them from cans. I have made a few myself.

Of course, one of my first uses of the lowly tin can was for a pastime known as "Kick the can." It's an activity born out of boredom. It requires a tin can, a bored kid, and shoes suitable for kicking the can down the road as far as possible. Then, you repeat the kick until you get where you're going, or get tired of kicking. A word of warning though; If you didn't look up occasionally, you could end up who knows where!

When soft drinks began to use aluminum cans for their drink containers, we began to use those cans for a variety of things. One involved stomping our shoes down in the middle of the side of the can, causing it to wrap around our shoe and cling on. Then we walked with that can on the bottoms of our shoes. It sounded like giant shoe taps or horseshoes! I loved that sound. Mama did not, especially inside the house!

When my dad was a boy, he built tin-can howlers or dumb bulls. Those are simply a tin can with a string running through it. You pull on the string with a wet cloth and get all kinds of interesting sounds. I would call it music, but others have called it noise. The bigger the can, the deeper the noise. Lately, I've made a few of those too.

Long before we had cell phones, we made tin-can telephones. Those were similar to tin-can howlers, except there was a can connected to both ends of the string. The receiving party held his can to his ear and the calling party talked into his can. The string served as a conduit and actually carried sound to the other can. You didn't even need a dime to call!

We also made tin-can stilts. This required two tin cans, one for each foot. You drilled holes through both cans and tied a knot on one end of two long cords. We threaded the unknotted ends through one of the holes of both cans, from the inside, and threaded the other end through the other holes from the outside. We pulled the slack through enough to tie a knot on those ends. Then we pulled both knots tight and this created a loop we could hold in our hands. We stood on the bottom of the cans, held the long cord in our hands and walked on our homemade tin-can stilts. With enough practice, you can even run on them, but please be warned, ankles may be turned!

Recently, two of my lifetime passions came together in a way I never imaged. I have played stringed instruments since I was a child. I have also always loved to build things, especially out of wood. This summer, those two passions met one another when I went to a cigar-box guitar workshop. I learned how to use my woodworking skills to build a stringed instrument. A tin can, can also be used, instead of a cigar box, to build an instrument called a canjo.

The Apostle Paul said, "I can do all things, through Christ who strengthens me." Can we? Yes, even without a tin can, yes, we can!

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

HISTORY

Files from yesteryear: 1900, 1936

From the files of 1900

John Sutterer has recently added another story to his residence.

Miss Sarah Parker is attending commencement exercises in Anniston.

John Shannon and Harry Fuller were in Birmingham the first of the week.

Sheriff A.J. Allgood and Dwight Fuller went to Tuscaloosa on Thursday.

A number of Cullmanites attended a strawberry festival at Vinemont on Monday evening.

Joseph Musgrove has charge of Bangor Cave this season.

From the files of 1936

The senior class of the Cullman County High School will enjoy a picnic at the George Stiefelmeyer Camp on Friday.

Miss Margaret Hartwig will be home on Friday from Millport, Alabama, where she taught music in 1936.

W. Oliver Cooper has accepted a position with Hartford Music Company in Hartford, Arkansas.

These Cullman County High School teachers will return to their homes on Wednesday: Mrs. Hazel Frazier, Linden, Alabama, Miss Minnie Harris, Okoona, Mississippi, Miss Elizabeth Robertson, Tuscaloosa, Miss Eunnis, Trinity, Alabama, Miss Ruth Powell, Andalusia, Alabama, Miss Alivia Barnes, Plantersville, Alabama, Miss Clarita Clawssen, Birmingham, Coach Ward, Huntsville and Mrs. Ferren, Birmingham.

Mr. Ed Ashwander, a fine citizen of Hanceville, was in Cullman on Monday. He honored the Tribune with a visit and renewed his subscription for another year.

Mrs. L.L. Otwell entertained this week, honoring her guest, Mrs. Painter, of Birmingham.

Mrs. Bert Coe entertained this week, honoring Miss Alma Leeth, bride-elect for April.

There are seventy graduates from Cullman High School.

Perfect attendance students at Cullman High School are: One year – Margeurite Culpepper, Mildred Miller, Ewing Morrison, Eda Schlichting, James Wilhite, Clarence Calloway, Melba Ruth Jones, Dorothy Kraft, Ovella Tumlin, Lowell Bailey, Charles Cook, Ervin Joiner, Henry Long, Edward Lassetter, Archie Markland, Geraldine Metz and Joseph Yeager. Two year: Grover Allison, Evelyn Hollis, Lila Belle Ponder, Marlin Camp and Edward Schuman.

Attending the 4-H rally in Cullman on Saturday were: Arnold Waldrop, Elsa and Montee Bailey, Ada Harris, Ilar Barnett, Velma Fowler and Mrs. O. Harris.

Mr. and Mrs. Ossie McGriff are the parents of twins. They are named Donald Ray and Doris Faye. They live at Fairview.

The way to the heart of the average human being is to give them something for nothing.

POET'S CORNER

A Drop Fell on the Apple Tree | By: Emily Dickinson, 1830-1886

A Drop fell on the Apple Tree -
Another - on the Roof -
A Half a Dozen kissed the Eaves -
And made the Gables laugh -

A few went out to help the Brook
That went to help the Sea -
Myself Conjectured were they Pearls -
What Necklaces could be -

The Dust replaced, in Hoisted Roads -
The Birds jocoser sung -
The Sunshine threw his Hat away -
The Bushes - spangles flung -

The Breezes brought dejected Lutes -
And bathed them in the Glee -
The Orient showed a single Flag,
And signed the fête away -



CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

AUG. 3

A	P	Z	E	S	W	B	G	O	T	H	Y	B	B	A	S	I	L	H
C	A	R	A	W	A	Y	U	D	R	A	G	O	N	S	H	E	A	D
O	P	R	N	E	T	A	P	R	B	P	N	P	A	R	S	L	E	Y
N	R	A	I	E	E	T	Y	U	D	I	I	R	S	I	M	P	L	E
I	I	M	S	T	R	M	H	U	R	O	G	N	L	O	V	A	G	E
T	K	P	E	H	C	L	C	E	Q	S	C	H	E	R	V	I	L	B
E	A	I	C	E	R	W	E	O	L	K	L	K	C	A	P	E	R	S
A	S	O	R	R	E	L	O	T	M	L	M	A	R	J	O	R	A	M
H	U	N	B	B	S	V	B	A	T	F	E	N	N	E	L	N	G	N
F	C	K	L	A	S	X	Y	G	D	U	R	B	S	E	S	J	I	T
M	C	H	I	L	L	I	F	A	J	I	C	E	O	S	D	M	N	U
I	O	R	E	Y	A	M	B	R	A	J	V	E	Y	R	U	X	G	R
N	R	T	S	A	G	E	E	L	B	O	E	R	Z	C	E	V	E	M
T	Y	N	H	S	R	V	G	I	L	V	H	S	E	N	N	A	R	E
M	A	C	E	Y	I	E	C	C	I	A	N	G	E	L	I	C	A	R
T	D	N	R	H	M	H	E	D	G	E	H	Y	S	S	O	P	R	I
O	I	A	C	T	O	E	N	M	U	S	T	A	R	D	A	U	U	C
G	L	X	U	E	N	E	M	D	P	O	T	H	E	R	B	M	E	Y
C	L	N	C	A	Y	E	N	N	E	S	A	M	P	H	I	R	E	N

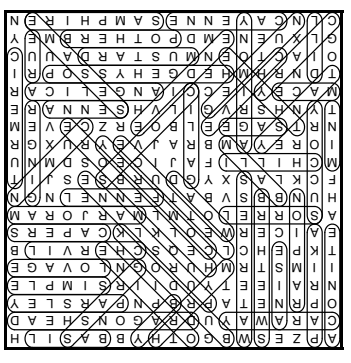
Aconite
Agrimony
Angelica
Anise
Balm
Basil
Bay
Burdock
Capers
Caraway
Cayenne
Chervil
Chilli
Chive
Clary
Cloves
Comfrey
Cumin
Dill
Dragon's head
Endive
Fennel
Garlic
Ginger
Grass
Hedge hyssop
Hellebore
Lettuce
Lovage
Mace
Marjoram
Mint
Mustard
Myrrh
Nutmeg
Orpine
Paprika
Parsley
Pot herb
Purslane
Rampion
Rue
Sage
Samphire
Senna
Sesame
Simple
Sorrel
Succory
Sweet herb
Tansy
Thyme
Turmeric
Watercress
Woad

CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

AUG. 3

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

ANSWERS:



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

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!

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osirisrecycling.com

Not affiliated with Cullman County Sanitation Dept.
No drop-off location

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315 Main St. NW, Hanceville
256-352-2221
Mon-Tues-Thurs-Fri 8-5:30
Weds 8-12 | Sat 8-2
WE HAVE SENSORS FOR ALL VEHICLES $65 INSTALLED
MAJOR BRANDS AVAILABLE
NEW | LIKE NEW | MEDIUM GRADE
WE HAVE ST TIRES IN STOCK
BACK TO SCHOOL SALE
RIDE SMART AND PAY LESS
WE WILL MEET OR BEAT
ALL COMPETITORS PRICES OF LIKE PRODUCTS
10% OFF ALL TIRES
(NEW AND LIGHT TRUCKS EXCLUDED)
...In that while we were yet sinners
Christ died for us. Romans 5:8
REFRESHMENTS SERVED EVERY SATURDAY

THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

Legislation introduced to protect Alabama's underwater forest

Ala. Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — U.S. Senator Tommy Tuberville, R-Alabama, recently introduced the Alabama Underwater Forest National Marine Sanctuary Act. This bill would preserve a submerged ancient forest, largely comprised of cypress trees, that was discovered near Gulf Shores, Alabama, after Hurricane Ivan in 2004. Tuberville's effort would designate the underwater forest as a National Marine Sanctuary—effectively safeguarding the environmental ecosystem created in the underwater forest.

U.S. Rep. Jerry Carl, R-Alabama, introduced similar legislation in the House.

"I am proud to introduce this legislation that ensures Alabama's distinctive underwater forest remains intact," said Tuberville. "Alabama boasts of rich biodiversity, and we want to be good stewards of God's creation.

"By establishing it as a National Marine Sanctuary, we will preserve this historic forest while ensuring recreational anglers and divers can continue to enjoy the abundant reefs and fish that Alabama offers."

"I am thankful to see Senator Tuberville introduce this bill in the Senate that will protect the natural treasures of the underwater forest off the coast of Alabama," said Alabama Conservation and Natural Resources Commissioner Chris Blankenship.

"This legislation will preserve the ancient trees and stumps from harvest or removal while still allowing recreational anglers and divers access to the abundant reefs and fish in the world-class Alabama Artificial Reef Zones.

"The bill will also ensure that the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources will have a seat at the table to protect local interests when the management plan for the area is developed."

"The Alabama Coastal Foundation is delighted to see the underwater forest legislation move forward in the Senate after the immense bipartisan support in the House.

"Designating this area as part of our National Marine Sanctuary System is not only good for Alabama's growing eco-tourism, but also has positive scientific benefits for the entire country," said Executive Director of the Alabama Coastal Foundation Mark Berte.

ACES: Manage now for next year's blueberries

Katie Nichols
Alabama Cooperative Extension System


ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. — As summer continues to sizzle, blueberry season is fizzling out in Alabama. Most blueberries in central Alabama hit peak production near July 4, then berry production begins to decline. Mallory Kelley, an Alabama Cooperative Extension System home grounds, gardens and home pests regional agent, said maintenance now will ensure a healthy blueberry crop next year.

"The most important thing you can do any time of year for a blueberry bush is water and control weeds," Kelley said. "Now that the plants are finished making berries, the plants will begin to put their energy toward making new shoots and branches."

Kelley said this is exactly what a grower wants, as new growth will hold the biggest and best berries next year. To promote branch growth, plants will need water, mulch and fertilizer.

Avoid fertilizing after mid-September to minimize new tissue's susceptibility to frost damage.

Fertilizing and pruning

"Generally, blueberries need fertilizing twice per year: once in early spring and again as berries fade away," Kelley said.

Use a urea-based fertilizer labeled for azaleas and camellias. This fertilizer will help acidify the soil, as blueberries like a low pH of 4.5 to 5.2. Growers should also submit soil samples for testing if they have not tested the soil in the previous three years. This will confirm soil nutrient levels and determine soil pH.

Kelley said pruning blueberry bushes now will multiply berry production next year.

"As your plants start to grow long, straight shoots and canes, clip these a little lower than where you would like to have the fruit next year," she said.

"This means if you want the fruit to be chest high, clip those canes about a foot lower."

More clipping on long canes will mean more branching on the bush. More branches will mean more fruit on those branches next year. Take care to remove any dead or diseased branches while pruning.

Planting

The fall is a great time to plant more blueberries. Different varieties produce at different times throughout the summer. So, Kelley recommends planting different varieties of rabbiteye blueberries to prolong the growing season.

Growers should plant blueberries in an area that receives full sun and has moist, well-aerated and well-drained soil that is high in organic matter. You can incorporate organic matter in the form of peat moss, compost or fine pine bark. Additional organic matter will help the soil retain water, as well as suppress weeds.

More information

For more information about growth and maintenance of blueberries, call the Master Gardener Helpline. The toll-free helpline connects callers with a knowledgeable team of Master Gardener volunteers who can help answer all of your gardening questions. Armed with research and Alabama Extension publications, these volunteers can also contact Extension specialists to find the answers you need. Call 1-877-ALA-GROW (252-4769) to reach the Master Gardener Helpline.

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OUR NEWEST
PEDIATRICIANS


DR. CHRIS DODD


DR. JOHN LICATA

Cullman Regional is expanding its pediatric program with new physicians, a larger clinic, and 24/7 pediatric hospitalist coverage to provide more local access to high-quality care for children.

For an appointment with a pediatrician, please call 256-735-5430.

CULLMAN REGIONAL | Medical Group

cullmanregionalmedicalgroup.com

Pediatric Clinic Open House
September 14 · 9-11 am