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Cullman Police Chief David Nassetta to retire

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman Police Department on Monday, Aug. 5, 2024, announced the retirement of Chief David Nassetta at the end of this fiscal year. It said Nassetta has dedicated 26 years of service to the city of Cullman, saying in a media release, "Chief Nassetta has been a steadfast leader, exemplifying integrity and a deep commitment to the community he served."

Nassetta began his career as a reserve officer in 1996 and was hired full time in 1997. He was promoted to sergeant in 2014, lieutenant in 2018 and assistant police chief in 2022 before becoming the police chief in December 2022. He also worked in Narcotics and served as firearms instructor, Tactical Unit member and Task Force Officer for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

Throughout his career, Nassetta has prioritized the safety and well-being of Cullman residents, » PAGE 2


CPD

Cullman Police Chief David Nassetta »

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Addison ready to kick off 2024 season
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'…We look forward to it every year':

Cullman hosts Delta McKenzie ASA Classic


NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Archers packed the trails and woods of St. Bernard this weekend to compete in this year's Delta McKenzie ASA Classic.

Nick Griffin
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CULLMAN, Ala. — The grounds of St. Bernard have been packed throughout the weekend with fans and archers from all over the globe competing in this year's Delta McKenzie ASA Classic. The City of Cullman has hosted the event for over a decade now and ASA President Josh Grine is excited to return at the end of each season for one of the ASA's biggest events.

"The facility here at St. Bernard lays out really well for our final event of the year where we have our Shooter of the Year, and we crown our national champion. The facilities here are just outstanding and the City of Cullman and our partnership there has been great," Grine said. "They've put in so much help throughout the year and we always really look forward to coming here. We all get to stay on site and see our friends in the city and it's just a great way to end the year. We look forward to it every year."

Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs knows the value of hosting the event each year and appreciates the help of all those who make it possible to have it at St. Bernard.

"This event provides a significant economic boost to our community and would not be possible without the invaluable support of the Cullman Tourism Bureau and our strong part- » PAGE 6

2 arrested following alleged Sportsman Lake kidnapping scare


CCSO

Robert Lee Hollis (left) and Andrei Anatolyahch Gouchtchine (right) » PAGE 3

Precinct 27 moved back to White City Community Center


CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

The old White City Community Center is seen after the roof was ripped off in March 2019 storms. The new building there is designated Precinct 27. » PAGE 6

Cullman County's McClellan, Haynes win ribbons at state Women's Leadership Division contest


ALABAMA FARMERS FEDERATION

Left: Lydia Haynes; Right: Roberta McClellan » PAGE 8

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Aug. 5

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported August 5, 2024. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

No arrests or incidents reported.

ARRESTS

Aug. 2-4

Boone, John T.; 40
- FTA – public intoxication

Burroughs, Christopher J.; 51
- drug trafficking
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Gouchtchine, Andrei A.; 37
- kidnapping-kidnapping-to aid/accomplish crime-minor

Hallmark, Tony L.; 49
- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family

Handley, Nicholas B.; 38
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Hollis Jr., Robert L.; 46
- kidnapping-kidnapping-to aid/accomplish crime-minor

Huddleston, Jason A.; 34
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – organized retail theft
- FTA – public intoxication
- FTA – retail theft-2nd degree

Johnson, Dillon G.; 31
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Kilgo, Zeke T.; 28
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Looney, Blake S.; 23
- FTA – unlawful breaking and entering a vehicle

Manord, Roger C.; 77
- DUI (other substance)

Morales, Oseas M.; 23
- arson-residence
- criminal mischief-damage to private property

Owens, Chad M.; 39
- violation of a domestic violence protection order

Pace, Hunter L.; 25
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Perkins, Rusty L.; 46
- FTA – negotiating worthless instrument

Rouse, Bradley M.; 47
- receiving stolen vehicle

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

July 29
- harassment; person; Cullman Shopping Center

Aug. 2
- harassment; person
- burglary-3rd degree; person; Schneider Rd. SE

Aug. 4
- criminal mischief-3rd degree; person; damaged tires; $400; Logan St.

ARRESTS

Aug. 2-4

Looney, Tina A.; 57
- FTA - theft of property-4th degree
- FTA - driving while license suspended

Looney, Blake S.; 23
- FTA - theft of property-4th degree

Hollis, Robert L., Jr.; 46
- FTA - insurance violation
- FTA - driving without a license

Speakman, Tyler L.; 29
- drug trafficking
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Farr, Dalton J.; 23
- unlawful possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Holmes, Brandon W.; 21
- unlawful possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Kerns, Brianna M.; 32
- theft of property-4th degree

Boone, John T.; 40
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Gatlin, Lois V.; 47
- theft of property-4th degree

Reed, Jacob D.; 30
- DUI
- unlawful possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Mace, Leroy J.; 71
- DUI

Fortenberry, Lukas W.; 25
- FTA - disorderly conduct

Warren, Christopher A.; 30
- FTA - run red light
- FTA - driving without a license (2 counts)
- FTA - expired tag

Talley, Vickey J.; 57
- FTA - no seat belt

Pace, Hunter L.; 25
- FTA - theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)
- FTA - criminal trespass-3rd degree (2 counts)

Thomas, Tammy W.; 53
- FTA - driving without a license
- FTA - insurance violation

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Hanceville man arrested for methamphetamine trafficking

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman Police Department arrested a Hanceville man and charged him with trafficking in methamphetamine following a traffic stop on Aug. 2.

According to CPD Public Relations Officer Adam Clark, officers stopped a vehicle occupied by Tyler Lamont Speakman, 29, on Hickory Avenue Southwest near Third Street.

"During a probable cause search of the vehicle, officers located a large quantity of methamphetamines and some drug paraphernalia," Clark said. "Officers subsequently arrested Speakman and charged him with trafficking in methamphetamines and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia."

Clark said he wanted to thank Officer Rob Long, Officer Ryan Warren and Officer Justin Turner for their work on the case.



CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Tyler Lamont Speakman

Nassetta (from Front)

while fostering strong relationships within the community. His leadership has not only enhanced public safety but has also built trust between the police department and residents, according to the CPD.

"As he steps down, the City of Cullman expresses gratitude for his unwavering dedication and the positive impact he has made during his tenure.

"Chief Nassetta leaves behind a legacy of service marked by compassion and professionalism, and he will be greatly missed by both his colleagues and the community. Chief Nassetta has always been a leader who showed empathy, compassion and a selfless desire to truly help others. This city is truly a better place because of his servant leadership and dedication to law enforcement for the past 26 years," said the release.

Cullman Regional: Quality initiatives are saving lives

Staff Reports
Contributor

The following is a media release received from Cullman Regional printed as-is:

With multiple active quality initiatives in place including one that is credited with saving hundreds of lives, Cullman Regional is achieving high marks from national healthcare quality programs.

Cullman Regional saved an estimated 301 lives from January 2017 to May of this year by following best practice guidelines for sepsis care set by The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS).

The hospital's high performance in this quality metric earned it a spot in the CMS Top 10% Performance rankings.

Sepsis is the leading cause of death in hospitals and has been a priority quality measure with CMS since 2015. Each year at least 1.7 million adults develop sepsis and at least 350,000 adults die as a result.

Cullman Regional also ranks as a CMS Top 10% Performance hospital for elective deliveries less than 39 weeks, which is a way to measure the quality of prenatal care.

The hospital consistently beats both national and state benchmarks in the remaining CMS quality initiatives which include stroke care, ER wait times and colon cancer screening follow up.

"We're making quality care more than an organizational goal," said Cullman Regional CEO James Clements. "We're creating a culture where providing high quality care is at the forefront of everything we do."

With equal commitment to stroke and heart failure care, Cullman Regional recently earned two American Heart Association (AHA) Get With the Guidelines achievement awards.

According to the AHA, the Get With the Guidelines program promotes consistent adherence to the latest research-driven guidelines to improve patient outcomes across cardiovascular and stroke focus areas and ultimately leads to lives saved, shorter recovery times and fewer readmissions to the hospital.

"Appropriate sepsis management, early stroke detection and treatment, and evidenced based heart failure management saves lives," said Smith.

"These awards underscore Cullman Regional's commitment to improving survival, minimizing disability, and accelerating recovery times for our patients."

A list and descriptions of Cullman Regional's recent rankings and awards is below.

Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Gold Plus
- Target: Stroke Elite Honor Roll
- Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll

Get With The Guidelines®-Heart Failure Gold Plus
- Target: Heart Failure Honor Roll
- Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (as of 7/15/24)

Sepsis Early Management Bundle
- Cullman Regional 97%
- National 61%
- State 60%

Elective Deliveries Less Than 39 weeks gestation
- Cullman Regional 0%
- National 2%
- State 3%

Stroke Head CT Scan Results
- Cullman Regional 84%
- National 69%
- State 64%

Median Time from ED Arrival to Departure
- Cullman Regional 146 minutes
- National 163
- State 146

Outpatient Colonoscopy Screening 10 Year Follow Up
- Cullman Regional 9%
- National – 92%
- State – 85%

Library ends Summer Reading Program with record numbers

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Over the summer, the Cullman County Public Library System held a Summer Reading Program across its branches, hosting guest readers, hobbyists and child-friendly activities to bring children and young adults into the library in a bid to increase literacy and interest in reading.

"We have really enjoyed the success of our Summer Reading Program and Reading Challenges. We had great numbers attending our programs each week, which brought children into the libraries in order to continue reading more books," CCPLS Director Amber Thornton said.

"As a former educator of young children, I know how important it is to keep children reading throughout the summer in order to prevent their reading levels from sliding backward during time away from school. Since school libraries are closed for the summer and students don't have access to those books, I am thrilled that our public libraries can provide them with all the reading materials they need!"

The Summer Reading Program kicked off June 5 with a bang with lawn games like cornhole and ring toss, as well as treats from Fro'z Shaved Ice. It ended July 31.

At the event, reading logs were handed out to participants in both the children's challenge and the adult's challenge; completed logs were turned into the library's circulation desk to be entered into the drawings for one of the many prizes secured by the library staff to encourage participation.

Children could visit surrounding libraries and programs to receive stamps from each location, earning a prize. Brag tags were also handed out, marking significant reading hours documented on the children's logs.

Prizes for participating children included family sized camping tents and gift cards. Adults were rewarded with devotionals, jewelry and gift cards to local businesses such as Seven Daughters Scoops and Southern Vinyl Source to celebrate the most avid adult-sized readers around.

The goal was to increase the number of library visitors and foster favor for books. According to the library's collected numbers and rosters from each of the events, the goal was accomplished and surpassed.

CCPLS Assistant Director Shelby Creekmore said, "We are so grateful for the support we received and we are very excited to promote the continuation of reading during the summer for students of all ages."

Throughout the Summer Reading Program, the CCPLS saw:

- 871 visitors to at least one event
- 399 library card holders added to the CCPLS database
- 3,385 books read by children as documented on reading logs
- 1,600 brag tags handed out to children
- 218 books read by participating adults



CHEYENNE SHARP/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Summer Reading Program saw an incredible number of participants at the Cullman County Public Library.

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.
• Wednesday, Aug. 7 - 7 p.m. Children and youth classes. Adult worship, teaching and testimonies in the sanctuary. Free pizza at 6:30 p.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area at 6. Call Cedric Davidson at 256-339-5755 for pickup.
• Friday, Aug. 9 - Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! Bring a dish, dessert or drink for a potluck meal at 5:45 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30. Childcare provided.
• Sunday, Aug. 11 - 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. 11 - 5 p.m. Healing service
• Saturday, Aug. 17 - Food bank

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.

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 nonmembers welcome!

Holly Pond Homemakers Club Meeting
Tuesday, Aug. 13, at 1 p.m. at the Holly Pond Event Center. Peggy Ray and Judy Jones are hostesses. Program is "Keeping safe from scams."

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.

84 kids receive free haircuts, school supplies at Go Platinum Salon event

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — With a line packed out the door with families taking advantage of the generous opportunity provided by Go Platinum Salon, Kristen Cryer and her team achieved their goal of giving back to the community.

On Saturday, Aug. 3, the Go Platinum Salon team set up shop at Daystar Church in preparation for a day full of kids receiving much-needed haircuts and school supplies. By the end of the day, 84 kids had received haircuts, and countless school supplies were given to kids in need.

Cryer, owner of Go Platinum Salon, is no stranger to understanding the impact haircuts can have on larger families and the confidence a fresh look can provide.

"Haircuts can add up quickly for a family with multiple kids, so I know we helped them save money. Haircuts also help the kids feel more confident, which I think is very important for the first day of school," she shared.

Cryer, Emma Brock and Megan Blackmon Lewis were the hands behind the haircuts, while a large support team worked in the background to ensure students were provided with the school supplies on hand. Kool Breeze remained on-site for the entire event, providing free ice cream to all kids who got their haircuts.

When asked about how she thought the event went, Cryer shared, "For it being only our second year doing this, I'd say it went really well. Thank you so much to everyone who helped make this day possible, we couldn't do it without you. Thank you to all the sweet families who showed up and waited patiently in line. I know God blessed everyone who showed up today and that is what it's ultimately all about. God is good!"



HALEY VICK/ASHLYN

Kristen Cryer, owner of Go Platinum Salon, gets to work on one of the 84 free haircuts given Saturday, Aug. 3, 2024, at the Free Haircuts and School Supplies event provided by Go Platinum Salon at Daystar Church.

With two years of success running, Cryer and her team look forward to the next.

"We plan to do this every year so if there are any businesses or individuals in our community that would like to help out next year, please let us know," she stated.

For more information on Go Platinum Salon or their services, call 256-747-5224 or email kristencryer15@gmail.com. Daystar Church, located at 200 Daystar Dr., Cullman, can be reached at 256-737-0800.

Kidnapping (from Front)

Lauren Estes
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CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Sheriff's Office responded to a report of two suspicious individuals at Sportsman Lake Park on Sunday, Aug. 4, just before 4 p.m.

According to the report, the two individuals were watching and following children around inside the park.

The CCSO said the individuals allegedly attempted to use ice cream cones in an attempt to lure children away.

CCSO deputies located the suspects and identified them as Robert Lee Hollis, 46, of Cullman, and Andrei Anatolyahch Gouchtchine, 37, of Cullman.

Deputies and investigators spoke with the Cullman County District Attorney's Office and both suspects were arrested.

Both Hollis and Gouchtchine were charged with second-degree attempted kidnapping.

They are currently being held at the Cullman County Detention Center with no bond.

According to court records, Gouchtchine has a criminal history of arrests including burglary, theft of property and possession of controlled substances

Hollis has a history of arrests including possession of controlled substances, distribution of controlled substances near West Elementary School and forgery.

This is an active and ongoing investigation.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
AUGUST 6, 2024



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cullman Bearcats will kick off their regular season at Bob Jones on Aug. 22.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

PREP SPORTS

Bearcats preparing to kick off 2024 season

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – It's August, and that means it's just about time to kick things off and get football season underway. All of our local teams have begun their fall camps and at Cullman High School, the Bearcats have been hard at work preparing for their season opener on Aug. 22.

Danny Stiff is entering his second season as the head coach at Cullman and after finishing the regular season 5-5 and earning a postseason berth last year, he's looking forward to seeing what his team can do in year two. Stiff says the familiarity with the returning players has made things easier in the preseason this time around.

"Last year I had been with the kids a lot before we played but you never really know people until you get into a game environment. I've seen a lot of these guys play a lot of football, but it was hard for me not having spring training in pads and kind of waiting to do that now," Stiff said. "I think the comfort of the players with what we do schematically and the understanding of not only the plays but the reason we run the plays and the concepts behind them I think is a little more advanced than it was last year when everything was new to them. So, we've got some guys coming back that understand it a lot better and when your players know it well, they can pull other players aside and they'll ask questions that they won't ask me. When their peers know the right answers that helps everybody along."

Identifying leadership within the team is very important to Stiff and he's been pleased to see several new and returning players step into those roles as the season approaches.

"We have leaders back that were leaders last year as juniors too, like Ben Conway. He was the only guy that was a junior that was a team captain last year and the rest of them were seniors so he already kind of had that role and then it's about the other guys that will step up. Sometimes it happens naturally and sometimes you're forced into leadership roles because of your role as a player on the team. I think of someone like Cooper Ogstad who's a quiet person that doesn't have a lot of confrontation to him but he's going to have to learn lead in his own way because whether he likes it or not, he is a leader of the team," Stiff said. "So, you just have to remind guys like that that people are watching your actions and watching what you do. It just is that way. Some people step up and are more vocal and then some guys say things in the locker room or other settings, and everyone is different. I think when you have the right environment and atmosphere for guys to be comfortable doing that, you'll have someone rise up every year. That part happens kind of naturally and then you have to fill the holes as the head coach and step in when you need to, but you want them to lead the team."

The Bearcats will have to replace a lot of offensive production from last year's team but Stiff feels a lot better about that when he sees how much the offensive line has improved and who is returning at skill positions.

"The first group that pops into my head is the offensive line because I can remember the day we started our two hour practices in our first spring last year and seeing them and thinking, 'holy moly, we've got a long way to go.'. That's a critical position and those guys got so much better between that first day out there and the fall. So now we fast forward a year and we still have four of those guys. We kind of look at them as the rock of the team and I thought about it during spring this year how much better we feel about the offensive line and how big of a positive it is now. At receiver we lose Wyatt Buchanan, and he was a huge part of the offense and an awesome football player. Cooper Ogstad is going to have to step up and he has a lot of experience, and he can do it. He was just kind of behind Wyatt last year in terms of who Tanner (Gaines) was going to look at. Cooper made some huge plays in his own right in some clutch situations, so we know he's got that in him and he's just going to have handle being the guy and I think he's ready for that."

Stiff is excited about some of the new additions to the Bearcat backfield as well.

"We're determined to have people that can run the football this year, several of them. One guy that has really stood out is Cooper Loftin. He's a big guy, plays baseball and came back out to play football this year for the first time since ninth grade and he's a big guy that can move," Stiff said. "He's one of the fastest guys on the team and we haven't seen him in pads yet but with his size and the way he moves I doubt that's going to be anything I'll be disappointed with. He's a really good kid that's eager to learn and eager to be coached."

The 'Cats will be hungry to topple their rivals like Harstelle and Jasper and get back to the playoffs once again but something else Stiff will be looking for this season is the way his team plays. He wants to see consistency and efficiency as the season goes on.

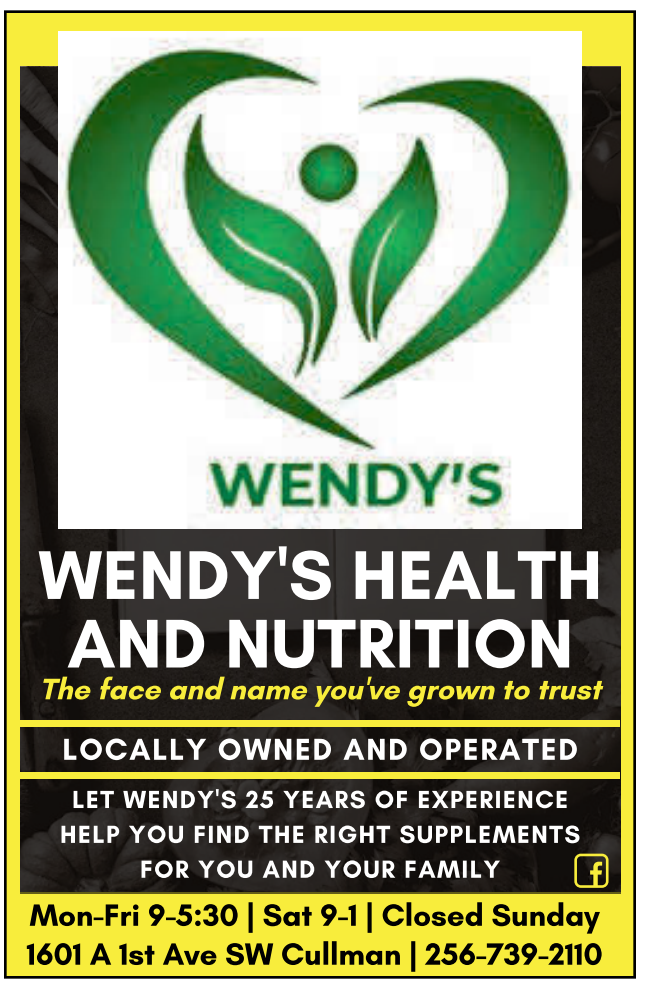
"I want to see the maturity and growth of execution in games. I think if we take all of our kids' best plays in practice or their best plays in games and we find a way to make those more consistently, I think we'll be a much better football team," Stiff said. "I think that just comes from practice habits and you've got to be at the speed and the attention and focus of a game in practice so that when we get out there for a game, it's not the first time you've had to do that. That's where you press every day as a coach to try to get them playing at that speed. I pick on those things everyday so that it makes them practice in more of a game-like environment and they get more comfortable. That sounds easy, but it's very hard. It's very hard to mentally do that, it's hard to physically push yourself to do that. We're just trying to reach that point and want to make people beat us. I want to make somebody beat us without us beating ourselves. Don't give it to them. That's been our biggest emphasis that I've been thinking about probably every day since last November."

2024 Cullman Bearcats Football Schedule

Aug. 22 - @ Bob Jones
Aug. 30 – vs. Mortimer Jordan
Sept. 6 – vs. Athens*
Sept. 13 - @ Jasper*
Sept. 20 - @ Muscle Shoals*
Sept. 27 - @ Brewer
Oct. 4 – vs. Hartselle*
Oct. 11 – vs. Columbia*
Oct. 18 - @ Decatur*
Oct. 25 – vs. Buckhorn

*region game







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23-24 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$1.88 EA.

MUELLER'S, RONCO OR SKINNER PASTA
12-16 Oz.
Selected Varieties
4 for $5



FOOD CLUB VEGETABLE OIL
40 Oz.
2 for $5



KRAFT CHEESE
5-8 Oz.
Selected Varieties
5 for $10



TOMBSTONE PIZZA
12 Inch, 19-21 Oz.
Selected Varieties
3 for $9



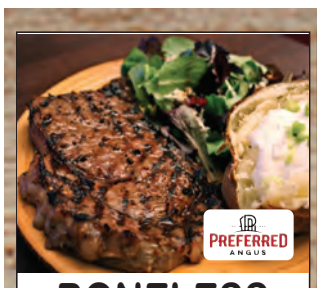
5754 AL- Hwy 157 N Cullman, AL

1615 Town Square S W Cullman, AL

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$11.99 LB.



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15 Oz.
or Hot Dinner
2 for $5



ECKRICH BOLOGNA
14 Oz.
Regular or Thick Cut
$2.29 EA.



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ARMOUR LUNCHMAKERS
2.4-2.7 Oz.
Selected Varieties
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SEEDLESS WATERMELONS
Sweet
$4.99 EA.



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U.S. #1
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$2.99 EA.



SWEET VIDALIA ONIONS
Georgia Grown
3 Lb. Bag
$2.99 EA.



KRAFT SINGLES
12 Oz.
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2 Lb. Loaf
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$7.99 EA.



PILLSBURY GRANDS! BISCUITS
8 Ct., 12-17 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $6



IDAHO FRIES
28 Oz. Selected Varieties
or Super Crispy Tots
$3.99 EA.



FARM RICH APPETIZERS
14-22 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$5.99 EA.



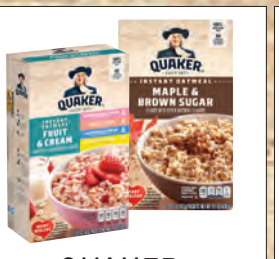
NATURE VALLEY GRANOLA BARS
6 Ct.
Selected Varieties
2 for $5



BETTY CROCKER FRUIT SNACKS
4-8 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $6



QUAKER INSTANT GRITS
7-9 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $5



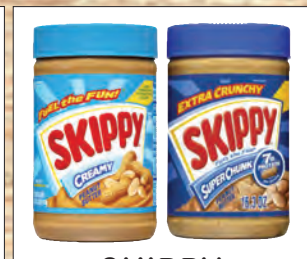
QUAKER INSTANT OATMEAL
8-12 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $7



GENERAL MILLS CEREAL
8-11 Oz. Cheerios, Honey Nut Cheerios, Trix or Reese's Puffs
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Selected Varieties
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10-18 Oz. Family Size Nabisco
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24 Ct. Family Size Quart
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PEPSI, MTN DEW, STARRY OR DR PEPPER
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12 Oz. Cans
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LIPTON ICED TEA
12 Pk.
.5 Liter Bottles
$6.99 EA.



GATORADE THIRST QUENCHERS
6 Pk.
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$4.29 EA.

PEPSI, MTN DEW, STARRY OR DR PEPPER
6 Pk.
.5 Liter Bottles
3 for $11



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18 Ct.
Selected Varieties
$8.99 EA.

FRITO LAY DORITOS
6-10.5 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $7



GOLDEN FLAKE, UTZ, ZAPP'S OR ON THE BORDER CHIPS
7-12 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $5



LITTLE DEBBIE MINI MUFFINS
8.27-9.75 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $5

LEWIS BAKE SHOP SANDWICH BREAD
20 Oz. Loaf
White
2 for $5



BLUE BELL ICE CREAM
Half Gallon Gold or Brown
Rim Selected Varieties
$6.99 EA.



MICHELOB ULTRA
12 Pk. 16 Oz.
Aluminum Bottles
$17.99 EA.

CORONA LIGHT, CORONA OR MODELO
12 Pk.
Cans or Bottles
$17.49 EA.



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750 mL
Bottle
$12.99 EA.

COOK'S WINE
1.5 Liter
Bottle
$13.99 EA.

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$9.99 LB.

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or Muenster
Deli Sliced
$6.79 LB.

LEONARD CELEBRATION CAKE
or Cookies N' Cream
28 Oz.
$13.99 EA.

PREP SPORTS

Addison ready to kick off 2024 season

Todd Walker
Tribune Correspondent



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Addison Bulldogs will kick off the 2024 season at Winston County on Aug. 23.

ADDISON, Ala. — Football season is back in Addison and Head Coach David Smothers is entering his 13th season with the Bulldogs. Smothers currently holds a 98-41 record and has led Addison to the playoffs in 11 of the 12 previous seasons but he says he could care less about any personal milestones he could reach this year. His focus is on making sure this year's team is as good as it can be.

"It doesn't mean anything to me. Individual records are just that individual. I am more concerned about our team goals and what our team can achieve together," Smothers said. "We need to win the region. I want to win the region. We have to go through Hackleburg, and they have basically everybody back. Our schedule is a little tougher, we picked up Decatur Heritage this year, but we get Hackleburg and Decatur Heritage at home."

Addison will be without their two time all-state selection senior quarterback Jed Wilkins this season and Smothers knows it'll be a challenge to replace him on both sides of the ball.

"Losing Jed hurts and I hate it for him because he is a senior and this is his last year to play football. Jed was our leader on the field and as important as he was on offense, to me I will miss him more on defense because he made our calls and got our guys in the right positions. You couldn't ask for a better kid, even though he probably won't play this year he still shows up for practice, work outs and helps out in every way possible."

Smothers says there are three players vying for the quarterback position in fall camp and they all have experience. Senior Kaden Dyson, sophomore Elijah Roberts and freshman Scout Flynn are in the mix. Smothers believes that whoever doesn't win the quarterback competition will contribute at another position.

"All three players have different strengths and weaknesses. The most important thing about them is that they are all competitors and are good character kids," Smothers said.

"The strength of our team is probably our offensive line. We have four out of five starters returning and we have two excellent senior leaders in Bobby Williams and Bradley Willette. Those two young men haven't missed a summer workout or meeting and are leading by example. I firmly believe that they will hold their teammates accountable in the effort department as well as keeping them motivated."

Addison will have some first-year players that were not necessarily starters but played a lot of snaps on offense last season. At running back, senior Jordan Hubbert, junior Trennon Burns and junior Seth Hammack are the returning backs who got significant playing time last year. The wide receiver group will include sophomore Judah Wilkins and Junior Shelton Alexander.

"We have a ton of athletic younger guys, and I can't wait to see how they develop. Those kids will be vastly improved from week one to week five. It's going to be fun to watch them grow up on the field," Smothers listed some of the names in the mix for those spots.

"In no particular order, Skyler Cleghorn, Zayne Smith, Brye Dollar, Brodie Willingham, Wyatt Anderson, Major Snoddy and Judah Wilkins. The younger guys are just a bunch of scrappers and I love that."

Coach Smothers is excited about what the Bulldogs have coming back on defense this season and believes they'll be able to cause some problems for their opponents.

"We are going to be physical and hardnosed as most Addison teams are," Smothers said. "I know we will have some growing pains early on due to our youth, but I know we will continue to grow and get better as the season goes on."

Some players to watch on defense will be linebackers Brodie Willingham and Jordan Hubbert, defensive back Elijah Roberts, Cole Roberts and Kaden Dyson and defensive linemen Bradley Willette, Kasen Hill, Lane Stewart and Tanner Lawrence.

Smothers is happy with the makeup of his team on paper but knows they will have to improve week to week to accomplish their goals.

"Depth is obviously a concern for most teams but especially at this level (1A). You lose a guy and that usually opens up two or three positions since one player goes both ways (offense & defense)."

Senior Bobby Williams (Three-year starter)

"I feel that if we as players do what we are supposed to do and listen to the coaches, then we are in store for an amazing season. We have a bunch of guys that want to be out here and have been willing to sacrifice their personal time to become better both on and off the field. I firmly believe that our offensive line will be the cornerstone of our team and our team will be only as good as our line is."

Senior Bradley Willette (Four-year starter)

"We have some young kids out here that want to learn and be better players and that is where me and Bobby (Williams) come in as the old guys on the line. We have to teach them what it takes to be a Bulldog. We plan on having an exceptional year this year and I know that the Coaches will be able to lean on the offensive line to carry us where we need to go."

Senior Jordan Hubbert (Two-year starter)

"We are going to have to depend on a lot of young players to step up and help us this year. I feel we have a good team, and we have the ability to be a very good team. I know we have all talked and we want to be a very physical team. We want to be the team that no one wants to play because you are just beat up after playing us."



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Addison Bulldogs will kick off the 2024 season at Winston County on Aug. 23.

Senior Kaden Dyson (Two-year starter)

"We are going to do everything we can to bring a title back to Addison. It's been about 20 years since we last won it and it is time to bring the trophy back to where it belongs. In order to do that, our veteran players are going to have to set the example for the young guys and show them through hard work and dedication what needs to be done to accomplish that feat."

The players and coaches all believe that this team, though young, has the potential to accomplish some pretty big things this year. The schedule is a little tougher than last year, but Addison will have a good chance to finish at least second, behind Hackleburg, in the region. If they can do that, a playoff berth is guaranteed but a long playoff run will depend on how the players improve from week one to the end of the season. It should be a fun year and the players are bristling with confidence. So, when Addison travels to Winston County to kick off the season, looking to snap a three-game losing streak against its archrivals, it should be fun. Roll Addi Roll!

2024 ADDISON BULLDOGS FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

- Aug. 23 - @ Winston County
- Aug. 30 – vs. Decatur Heritage
- Sept. 6 – vs. Shoals Christian*
- Sept. 13 - @ Cherokee*
- Sept. 20 – vs. Hackleburg*
- Sept. 27 - @ Good Hope
- Oct. 4 - @ Waterloo*
- Oct. 11 - @ Meek*
- Oct. 18 – vs. Vina*
- Oct. 25 – vs. Phillips Bear Creek*

*Region game

Auburn's Jarquez Hunter lands on Maxwell Award watch list

Greg Ostendorf
AU Athletics

AUBURN, Ala. — Auburn running back Jarquez Hunter was one of 80 players who earned a spot on the preseason watch list for the 88th Maxwell Award, presented annually to the most outstanding player in college football, the Maxwell Football Club announced Monday.

Hunter, a senior from Philadelphia, Mississippi, is coming off a career year at Auburn where he finished with 909 yards rushing, 118 yards receiving and seven total touchdowns.

His 5.72 yards per carry ranked seventh in the SEC, and during the Tigers' three-game SEC winning streak last year, he averaged 145.3 rushing yards per game.

Heading into 2024, Hunter ranks 18th all-time at Auburn with 2,172 career rushing yards.

He also has 17 career rushing touchdowns in three seasons on the Plains.

The Tigers have now had a player make the Maxwell Award watch list six times over the last five years. Quarterback Bo Nix (2020, 2021) and running back Tank Bigsby (2021, 2022) both made the watch list two different years, and wide receiver Seth Williams was on the list in 2020.

The Maxwell Football Club has once again partnered with Pro Football Focus (PFF) and Phil Steele Publications as selection committee partners. PFF provides detailed metrics and performance-based assessments to selection committee staff, with several senior PFF analysts are members of our selection committee.

Phil Steele's College Football Preview is generally recognized as the most complete preseason magazine.

Semifinalists for the Maxwell Award will be announced Nov. 12, while the three finalists for the award will be unveiled Nov. 26.

The winners of the 88th Maxwell Award will be announced as part of the ESPN Home Depot College Football Awards Show held on Dec. 12.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Auburn running back Jarquez Hunter



SKYDIVE ALABAMA

Skydive Alabama is hosting Bamafest over Labor Day weekend, running from Aug. 29 to Sept. 2 at Cullman Regional Airport.

Skydive Alabama's Bamafest coming to skies near you

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — The biggest event of the year for Skydive Alabama is quickly approaching: Bamafest will take place Aug. 29- Sept. 2 at Cullman Regional Airport.

Bamafest will bring together experienced and recreational skydivers in Vinemont as they spend the weekend with like-minded thrill seekers, littering the sky with a three-day long skydiving extravaganza.

Nick Raines, Skydive Alabama manager, said people attend Bamafest from all across the Southeast, as Cullman Regional Airport is north Alabama's only drop zone for divers and jumpers.

Raines said that while the event is geared toward experienced jumpers, the public and people new to jumping are able to join in the fun by watching the colorful chutes float to the ground, stopping at any of the equipment vendor booths that will be on-site, viewing aircraft or even taking a tandem jump.

"Most of the people we see are experienced and trained skydivers; they do the really fun stuff like formations while they're diving," Raines explained.

"We do have people come and just watch for the day, too. It's a really cool experience and there are plenty of options for visitors to come and hang for the day. Some even come watch and sign up for a tandem (skydive) after watching the pros."

Bamafest will be flying into the Cullman Regional Airport over Labor Day weekend, running from Aug. 29-Sept. 2 at the drop zone. The weekend will be packed full of activities to help keep jumpers grounded while they are on the ground.

Thursday, Aug. 29, will be a day of meet and greets with fellow thrill seekers and culminate in a community cookout. Friday, Aug. 30, will include bingo, barbecue and bands. Saturday, Aug. 31, will pull out all the stops with Skydive Alabama's spin on Casino Night and Sunday, Sept. 1 is set to be a movie night.

"It's just a really cool event and we would love to see everyone here!" smiled Raines.

Skydive Alabama is located at 228 County Road 1360. Bamafest begins at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 29, and runs until Monday, Sept. 2, at 6 p.m.

Visit www.skydivealabama.com or contact Skydive Alabama for more information, including how to book a tandem skydive during Bamafest.

Precinct (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Commission at a special-called meeting on Monday, Aug. 5, voted to move voting Precinct 27 from the Johnson's Crossing Volunteer Fire Department back to the White City Community Center at 1542 County Road 617.

The precinct was moved in 2019 after storms significantly damaged the White City Community Center.

Now that the center has been rebuilt, the precinct is back to its original location.

"They've got a new building there. They wanted it back in the original location because they've got handicap accessories and more available space for parking," said Cullman County Commission Chairman Jeff Clemons.

"We think this will be a great place for voters to have a calm, quiet and larger space to cast their votes."

The Commission approved Resolution 2024-35, making the move official.

The next Cullman County Commission meeting will be Tuesday, Aug. 13.

The work session will begin at 4 p.m. with the meeting beginning at 6.

Classic (from Front)

nership with St. Bernard."

Cullman, Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism (CPRST) Director Nathan Anderson is always excited to see the event return to Cullman each year, bringing with it archers and fans from all over the world.

Competitors from Sweden, Australia, South Africa, Denmark, England, Austria and more made their way to St. Bernard this weekend for the event.

"For over a decade, Cullman has proudly hosted the Delta McKenzie ASA Archery Tournament, annually welcoming 1,700 archers from across the country, along with over a dozen international pro shooters. We are deeply grateful to Mike Tyrell, Josh Grine, and their team for continually bringing this prestigious tournament to Cullman year after year."

One of those international archers, Canada's Christopher Perkins, has made the trip to Cullman to compete in the event nine times. Perkins enjoys competing on the ranges at St. Bernard and over the years he's found a few favorite spots in town as well.

"You've got Shooter of the Year on the line for people that are in contention for that. You do get to drop your lowest score, so I think for a lot of people coming in here, chasing that is quite a big thing on the line for those individuals.

"With it being the last event of the year obviously you want to finish strong so coming here is always great," Perkins said.

"The ranges are really good, and the lighting is really good. You can expect heat and usually some rain as well, but I've shot this event for nine years now and I always look forward to it."

Perkins added, "It's just a good town with really great people.

"They've got great restaurants and some nice spots downtown to eat. I always look forward to going to the steak place with the orange rolls," Perkins smiled. "Those are always good. So, its just a nice, pleasant town to come to and participate in this event."

2024 DELTA MCKENZIE CLASSIC WINNERS

- Open Pro – Jacob Slusarz: 496
- Women's Pro – Erin McGladdery: 461
- Senior Pro – Jamie Drouillard: 467
- Known Pro – Matthew Burns: 514
- Senior Known Pro – Tim Gillingham: 496
- Women's Known Pro – Morgan Rivers: 490
- Open Pro Shooter of the Year – Dan McCarthy: 2,120
- Women's Pro Shooter of the Year – Cara Kelly: 2,001
- Senior Pro Shooter of the Year – Tony Tazza: 2,028
- Known Pro Shooter of the Year – Kyle Douglas: 2,256
- Senior Known Pro Shooter of the Year – Tim Gillingham: 2,143
- Women's Known Pro Shooter of the Year – Paige Pearce: 2,147
- Open Pro Rookie of the Year – Cody Barnett: 2,056
- Women's Pro Rookie of the Year – Stacy Laviana: 1,847
- Known Pro Rookie of the Year – Aaron Shaw: 2,162
- Women's Known Pro Rookie of the Year – Rendyn Brooks: 2,100

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LEGALS

Legal Notice

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

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City of Cullman
Zoning Board of Adjustments

On Monday, August 19th, 2024, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M., at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Zoning Board of Adjustments, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Variance request for setbacks on 2nd Way NE for a duplex

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

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

ACCS FORM 5-A

Sealed proposals will be received by the Alabama Community College System at the office of:

Wallace State- Hanceville Oneonta

Burrow Building – 2nd Floor Conference Room

801 Main Street NW, Hanceville, AL 35077

UNTIL 2:00 PM Central Time
Thursday, August 8, 2024, 2024

Theater Stage Lighting Upgrades for Wallace – Hanceville Community College Hanceville, Alabama

ACCS # 2024-016
McKee Project # 24-159

at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read.

A Non-Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference to be held on Wednesday, July 31, 2024, at 10:00 AM Central Time on site.

A cashier's check or bid bond payable to Alabama Community College System in an amount not less than five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, but in no event more than $10,000, must accompany the bidder's proposal. Performance and Payment Bonds and evidence of insurance required in the bid documents will be required at the signing of the Contract.

Drawings and specifications may be examined at :
www.mckeeassoc.com; Project Bid List

Bid Documents may be obtained from the Architect (Engineer) upon deposit of $ 200.00 per set, which will be refunded in full on the first 2 sets issued to each general contract bidder submitting a bonafide bid, upon return of documents in good condition within ten days of bid date. Other sets for general contractors, and sets for subcontractors and dealers, may be obtained with the same deposit, which will be refunded as above, less cost of printing, reproduction, handling, and distribution.

Bids must be submitted on proposal forms furnished by the Architect (Engineer) or copies thereof. All bidders bidding in amounts exceeding that established by the State Licensing Board for General Contractors must be licensed under the provisions of Title 34, Chapter 8, Code of Alabama, 1975, and must show evidence of license before bidding or bid will not be received or considered by the Architect (Engineer); the bidder shall show such evidence by clearly displaying his or her current license number on the outside of the sealed envelope in which the proposal is delivered. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive technical errors if, in the Owner's judgement, the best interests of the Owner will thereby be promoted.

ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

Walter T. Mckee, Jr.
ARCHITECT/ENGINEER





WSCC Nursing recognizes more than 100 graduates at pinning ceremony

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College's Department of Nursing Education celebrated the accomplishments of more than 100 students Thursday at its second pinning ceremony for 2024 graduation season. More than 75 were pinned at a ceremony held in May.

"We are so proud of you," said Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics. "I have heard such good things about this class during the time that you have been here, how driven you are, how wonderful you are to each other, how terrific you are clinically, how smart you are, how capable you are. We wish you the very best in your career journey."

Karolewics added, "Wallace State nursing graduates are in high demand, and it's because of the reputation that you help create as students and professionals as you enter the workforce."

In addressing the graduating students, Program Chair Deborah "Pepper" Hoover highlighted the importance of nurses practicing integrity.

"Graduates, I challenge you to strive each day to demonstrate integrity in your life even when things seem unfair, and the work is challenging," Hoover said. "You have come so far by passing the written exams and clinical check-offs. However, your true grit will be demonstrated in the hard times. I know that you will remember our discussions, and always perform with compassion and to the best of your ability for your patients."

"It is a true honor to be here today representing my cohort," said class president Jaila Crowe Hyatt of Eva. "A class that includes respiratory therapists, dieticians, paramedics, occupational therapy assistants, medical lab technicians, diagnostic sonographers, and now 104 nurses. We all enter this program with fear and excitement and dream to become a nurse, and today that day has come."

This graduating class included six completing the UAB/WSCC Joint Enrollment program, earning both an associate degree from Wallace State and a bachelor's degree from UAB, 29 mobility students earning an associate degree in nursing, one student earning a degree through the UAB Medicine Nursing Workforce Initiative, and six students earning an associate degree through the apprenticeship program.

During the ceremony, several students were recognized as nominees and recipients of the Nightingale Award. Faculty nominate students in recognition of their excellence in scholarship and dedication to compassion and exemplary patient care.

Students receiving a Nightingale Award were Patty Southerland of Hartselle, John "Cody" Dunagun of Jasper, and Tonya Dean of Rainbow City.

Southerland is a mobility student and has worked in the healthcare field as a respiratory therapist. She became known as the "mother" of the Nursing 209 class, bringing snacks and providing emotional support for her classmates and faculty.

One of the nominating faculty members wrote, "I have witnessed this student sacrifice time and resources to help others no matter what was in front of them academically or personally. They always had an encouraging word for classmates as well as the faculty. This graduate is a selfless, caring, genuine person. I can only imagine what they are like at the bedside."

Dunagan is a member of the UAB/WSCC Joint Enrollment cohort, earning both an associate degree from WSCC and a bachelor's degree from UAB.

One of his nominating faculty members wrote, This student consistently demonstrates kindness and a calm demeanor, regardless of the circumstances.

These qualities match those celebrated by the Nightingale Award, given to nurses who show compassion, leadership, and dedication to patient care. I believe their compassionate nature and steady presence will make them a valuable addition to any nursing team."

Dean is a traditional nursing student, who also worked as a respiratory therapist before pursuing a nursing degree at Wallace State.

"It has been my pleasure to teach this student during their nursing school journey," her nominating instructor wrote. "Having had them in both the classroom and the critical care clinical setting, I can say that they excel in both didactic and clinical practice, showing a strong grasp of nursing theory and its application."

Other nominees for the Nightingale Award were Jasmine Craig, Cidney Woodson Hicks, Cyrenthia Linton, all of Birmingham, Teresa "LaShay" Hulgan of Cullman, Matthew "Luke" Sapp of Danville, Jalia Crowe Hyatt of Eva, Aayush Patel of Elkmont, Erin Hudson of Hanceville, Hail Hollingsworth of Hartselle, Gracie Box of Mount Olive, Kirstie Young of Somerville, and Felicia Terry of Trinity.

Wallace State Nursing has twice been recognized as a Center of Excellence by the National League for Nursing. Along with its traditional associate degree pathway that includes the practical nursing certificate and the associate degree, the program also offers joint enrollment opportunities with UAB and Athens State University to concurrently earn both an associate degree and bachelor's degree in nursing and mobility options for medical professionals with certain certifications. The first three semesters of the traditional option are offered as day and evening classes at the main campus in Hanceville and as a hybrid option at the Oneonta Academic Center.

Applications are currently being accepted through Oct. 1 for Spring 2025 entry into the Nursing program, with options for traditional associate degree, practical nursing degree and joint enrollment opportunities with UAB and Athens State University.

Information sessions for students interested in learning more about the program will be held Aug. 26 at 2 p.m., and Sept. 23 at 2 p.m. Both sessions will be held in room 220 in the School of Nursing and Center for Science. Attendees are awarded one point to go toward their application total.

For more information about the Wallace State Nursing program, visit www.wallacestate.edu/nursing, call 256-352-8199 or email nursingapplicant@wallacestate.edu.

Obituary Announcements: Aug. 3–5

Cynthia Lynn Gardner, 68
Cynthia Lynn Gardner, age 68 of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Thursday, Aug. 1, 2024. Cynthia is survived by her husband, Tim M. Gardner; her sister Lisa (Mike) Abad and her sister-in-law Sonja Parker; her daughters Jaime (Junior) Vazquez, Emily (Christian) James and her sons Adam (Hope) Gardner, Kevin (Amanda) Gardner, and Joseph (Lindsey) Gardner. She is also survived by 12 grandchildren, three great grandchildren and a host of other friends and relatives. Cynthia was preceded in death by her parents Lloyd and Nelda Parker; her daughter Gretchen A. Gardner; her sisters Rhonda Maciejewski, Kim Plylar, and Pam Parker; and her brothers Keith Parker, Phillip Parker, Gary Parker and David Parker. A visitation for Cynthia was held Sunday, Aug. 4, 2024, from 5-8 p.m. at Moss-Service Funeral Home, 1901 Second Avenue, NW, Cullman, Alabama 35055. A celebration of life funeral service occurred Monday, Aug. 5, 2024, at 2 p.m. at Moss-Service Funeral Home. Cynthia will be laid to rest in Mission Grove Baptist Cemetery, Cullman, Alabama. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Noel Jackson Mize, 92
Funeral service for Noel Jackson Mize is Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2024, at 11 a.m. at Good Hope Baptist Church, with Terry Aldridge and Dr. Ralph Andrews officiating. A visitation was held the night prior, Monday, Aug. 5, 2024, from 5:30-8 p.m. at Cullman Funeral Home. Interment will be at Good Hope Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Noel was born Aug. 12, 1931, to Herbert J. Mize and Pearl Young Mize. He passed from this life on Friday, Aug. 2, 2024, at Cullman Regional Medical Center, surrounded by his loving family. He is preceded in death by his parents; brother, Edward Mize; sister, Onie Mae Sharp; and brother Rondal Curtis Mize. He is survived by his beautiful wife of 67 years, Robbie Mize; daughter, Caron Mize Whitlock (Danny); sisters, Lynda Mize Wood, and Christine Mize Henke; grandchild, Alex John-Noel Whitlock (Alexa); great-grandchildren, Mace Ridley Whitlock, and Mara Jayde Whitlock; and a host of family and friends. Noel was a man of many talents and interests. He proudly served his country in the United States Air Force. He was a Mason and a well-respected Alabama State Trooper for many years. He was a private pilot and loved to fly, a knife collector, and was also a talented artist who loved to draw and he would also design and build his own wooden furniture. He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, servant, and friend to all. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him. The family requests if any of Noel's family or friends wish to donate in lieu of flowers, to please mail it to Good Hope Baptist Church Building Fund at 90 Good Hope School Road, Cullman, AL 35057. Flowers will be appreciated as well.

Doris Fay Callan, 93
Funeral service for Doris Fay Callan, age 93 of Cullman, will be at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Steve Cummings officiating; burial at Livingston Chapel Cemetery. Visitation will be from 10-11 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Callan passed away on Monday, Aug. 5, 2024, at Woodland Village Health Care. She was born, June 24, 1931, Alabama to Homer Graves and Ruby Graves. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Willie Eugene "Bill" Callan; son, Michael Callan; and daughter, Jan Massey. Survivors include her son, Carol (Paula) Callan; grandchildren, Tonya (Joey) Clark, Mindi (James) Bellamy, Summer (Matt) Cantley and Jonathan (Tina) Callan; daughter in law, Peggy Callan; son in law, Dewayne Massey and a host of great grands, nieces, nephews family and friends. A special thank you to Mary Allums and the staff at Woodland Village for the love and support for caring for Mrs. Callan.

Bobbie Joe Hinkle, 81
Bobbie Joe Hinkle, age 81 of Logan, Alabama, passed away on Saturday, Aug. 3, 2024. A visitation for Bobbie will be held Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2024, from 5-8 p.m. at Logan Baptist Church, 4684 County Road 831, Logan, AL 35098. A Celebration of Life funeral service will occur Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2024, at 3 p.m. at Logan Baptist Church, with interment to follow at Emeus Cemetery, 2157-2221 County Road 831 Cullman, AL 35098.

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Ribbons (from Front)

Mary Wilson
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — A steady stream of Alabama Farmers Federation members cycled through displays of quilts, table runners and wreaths, hoping to see winning ribbons hanging next to entries created by peers from their home counties.

Across five sewing and wreath-making contests, 13 talented seamstresses and crafters received top prizes, including Randolph County's Pat Norred who won first place in the hand-stitched quilt division.

"I'm still on cloud nine," Norred said. "I've always said to keep trying.

"I've entered 13 years. I've won third-place three times, and this is my first time winning first place."

The annual contests are sponsored by the Alabama Farmers Federation's Women's Leadership Division and take place during the Federation's Farm & Land Conference. The city of Montgomery hosted this year's conference Aug. 1-3.

"These contests are always the heartbeat of our Women's events.

"It's great to see the creativity of our members, but the best thing is that the display of entries gives our people the chance to gather in the exhibit hall, swap stories of their sewing successes and failures, and celebrate the efforts of talented, like-minded folks," said Women's Leadership Division Director Kim Earwood.

To promote Alabama agriculture, fabric entries must be made of cotton. Table runners and wreaths must feature a specific commodity.

First-place winners receive $150, second-place $100 and third place $75.

The winners for each division are:

Hand-Stitched Quilts
- First Place — Pat Norred, Randolph County
- Second Place — Martha Jordan, Monroe County

Machine-Stitched Quilts
- First Place — Tamara Rashleigh, St. Clair County
- Second Place — Janet Massey, Geneva County
- Third Place — Roberta McClelllan, Cullman County

Commodity Table Runner
- First Place — Terri Brown, Wilcox County
- Second Place — Dawn East, Cherokee County
- Third Place — Twyla Smith, Crenshaw County

Commodity Table Runner, Youth Division
- First Place — Hannah Grace Aldridge, Fayette County
- Second Place — Trevor Wicks, St. Clair County

Commodity Wreath
- First Place — Pat Sexton, Crenshaw County
- Second Place — Phyllis Johnson, Calhoun County
- Third Place — Lydia Haynes, Cullman County



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McClellan's quilt



ALABAMA FARMERS FEDERATION

Haynes' wreath

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