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WALLACE STATE

– SPORTS –

Cross Country teams shine at JSU Foothills Invitational; Volleyball wins away matches
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Cullman City Schools: School safety, partnership with CPD remain priority

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — As part of a recent shift in responsibilities, Cullman City Schools is ensuring its focus on school and student safety remains a top priority.

Mark Stephens, who previously served as an assistant principal at Cullman High School, has transitioned into a new role as districtwide coordinator of student affairs. Now based in the central office, Stephens is responsible for districtwide athletics (a hat he also wore as assistant principal), as well as school safety and transportation.

With a key focus on safety before the school year began, the district collaborated with the City of Cullman's Director of Public Safety, Brian Bradberry, to strengthen working relationships with local first responders.

"I can't express enough the gratitude to the City of Cullman. Director Bradberry's office has been wide open and they have worked hard to meet our needs," » PAGE 3

Mark Stephens »



CULLMAN CITY SCHOOLS

New programs at downtown library



TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Heather Allen, library aide and storytime instructor, encourages children to play with a felt mouse at the library's weekly storytime on Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2023.

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The main branch of the Cullman County Public Library System (CCPLS) is known for books, fun and its weekly community programs for patrons of all ages, abilities and imaginations.

Programs such as Knitting, Crafternoon and Children's Storytime are consistent and longtime favorites at the library, while newer programs like Book Art and Yoga have begun to take over the scene.

"We will have several new and returning programs starting back in September," shared CCPLS Assistant Director Shelby Creekmore.

In an effort to keep visitors in the library, staff members have been busy brainstorming and setting in motion plans for new programs along with the return of the community favorite Lego Club.

Lego Club will return on Sept. 9 at 3:30 p.m., just in time for tweens and teen to join the STEM fun at the library. The club will meet each Monday at the same time and complete various challenges using Legos and critical thinking skills.

Children's Storytime will continue each Tuesday at 10 a.m. with a weekly story and craft, beginning Sept. 10.

Teen Tuesdays is a new monthly teen program, beginning Sept. 24, catered to teens with specialized crafts, games and snacks. Teens will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 3:30 p.m.

Saturday Family Programs are a new addition to the library's schedule. Once a month, the library hopes to bring families together for an afternoon of family fun and togetherness through crafts, games and laughter. On Sept. 21 and Oct. 19, the CCPLS will host a Saturday Family Program.

Said Creekmore, "One Saturday per month, we will have a program designed for all ages and groups! In September, we will have a puzzle tournament and in October we will have Hocus Pocus Trivia."

For more information about the CCPLS or its programs, visit the Cullman County Public Library System Facebook page or email cullmanpubliclibrary@gmail.com.

The CCPLS main branch is located at 200 Clark St. NE in Cullman.

United Way Day of Caring coming Sept. 10



TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

United Way volunteers from REHAU work together on projects at Hope Horses during 2021's Day of Caring. » PAGE 3

Discover High Tunnel Farming: Free workshop for veterans and beginners Sept. 19

» PAGE 6

Guy Hunt Library to host Used Book Market



GUY HUNT LIBRARY

The Guy Hunt Library will hold a Used Book Market Sept. 27-28 at Holly Pond Town Hall. » PAGE 6

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Sept. 6

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Sept. 6, 2024. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Sept. 2

- domestic violence; CR 715
- criminal mischief; CR 486
- domestic violence; CR 715
- dog bite; Weeks Cir.
- criminal mischief; CR 787
- domestic violence; CR 1354
- theft of property; CR 1084
- domestic violence; CR 1386
- sell/distribute drugs; possession of dangerous drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; 2nd Ave. SW

Sept. 3

- harassing communications; CR 984
- criminal mischief; Municipal Dr.
- theft of property; CR 1659
- possession of dangerous drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; Eva Rd. NE
- violation of protection order; CR 1141
- theft of property; CR 1476
- menacing; CR 1545
- violation of elder abuse; CR 1170
- criminal mischief; Commercial St. SE
- assault; CR 447
- domestic violence; CR 1094
- criminal mischief; attempt to elude law enforcement officer; CR 672

Sept. 4

- criminal mischief; Hwy. 278E
- interference with a domestic violence emergency call; CR 437
- violation of protection order; CR 1025
- harassment; CR 714
- harassing communications; Hwy. 69N
- harassment; US. 31
- unauthorized use of motor vehicle; CR 872

ARRESTS

Sept. 2-4

Adamson, Michael D.; 39
- FTA – illegal possession of prescription drugs
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – promote prison contraband (drugs)
- FTA – carrying brass knuckles/sling shot

Alexander, Natosha J.; 41
- BAIL JUMPING 2 – possession of methamphetamine
- BAIL JUMPING 2 – possession of drug paraphernalia
- BAIL JUMPING 2 – possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Bumpus, Blake R.; 32
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Crawford, Hilary P.; 47
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – theft-shoplifting, less than $500

Edwards, Donald L.; 66
- FTA – driving while license suspended

Emmert, Drew C.; 34
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Emmert, Sarah P.; 34
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Fairbanks, Jeffrey D.; 58
- PROBATION VIOLATION – auto theft
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked, or cancelled
- FTA – operating vehicle without insurance

Harris, Sarah E.; 47
- GJ – assault-child abuse-simple-family

Holcomb, Matthew S.; 43
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Lee, Ellesha C.; 41
- FTA – illegal possession of prescription drugs
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – promote prison contraband (drugs)
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Little, Danny A.; 45
- criminal mischief – damaged property
- attempting to elude a police officer
- public intoxication

Montgomery, Christopher E.; 37
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked, or cancelled

Patterson, Christopher F.; 56
- violation of an elder abuse protection order

Philyaw, Dereck D.; 36
- violation of a domestic violence protection order

Smith, Blake S.; 35
- JUDGES ORDER – possession of drug paraphernalia
- JUDGES ORDER – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- JUDGES ORDER – possession of dangerous drugs

Thomas, Richard F.; 49
- assault-simple assault

Whitaker, Brian K.; 43
- FTA – assault-domestic violence-3rd degree
- FTA – criminal trespass-3rd degree

Wimbs, William J.; 49
- sell/distribute methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- sell/distribution of dangerous drugs

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Sept. 4
- unlawful breaking and entering of motor vehicle; person; tire; $360
- duty upon striking unattended vehicle; person; damage to '17 Ford Mustang; $1,000; Pear Dr. NW
- menacing; person; Main Ave. SW
- theft by deception-4th degree; person; cash; $235

ARRESTS

Sept. 4

Alexander, Natosha J.; 41
- FTA – criminal trespass-3rd degree
- FTA – run red light
- FTA – driving without license

Wimbs, William J.; 49
FTA – driving while license revoked (2 counts)

Waldrop, Wesley A.; 50
- FTA – speeding

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

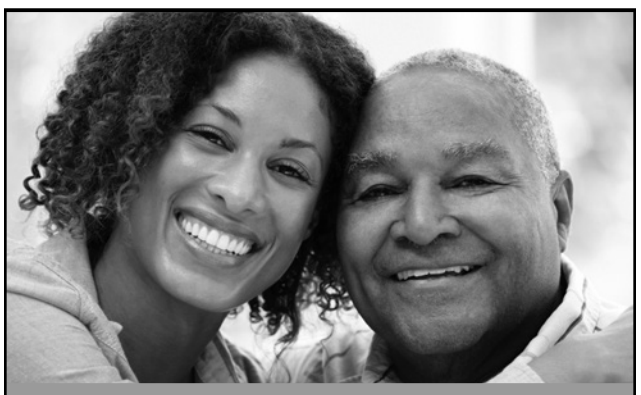
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Tutoring Coordinator (English)
Tutoring Coordinator (Math)

For more information, please contact the Human Resources Department at 256-352-8029.

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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).

Cullman Low Vision Support Group Meetings
Third Tuesday of every month, from 10-11:30 a.m., at the Alabama Career Center, 1201 Katherine St. NW in Cullman. Contact Olivia Wade, case manager, at 256-389-2502.

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, Sept. 7 - 8 a.m. Men's Breakfast and 10 a.m. Foundry Outreach Ministry
• Sunday, Sept. 8 - 9 a.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area. Call Betty Hays at 256-930-9680 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, Sept. 8 - 5 p.m. Healing Service

Alcoholics Anonymous
Sundays, 3 p.m. at Cullman First Church of the Nazarene, 5415 Alabama Highway 157. CLOSED literature study. Handicap accessible.

TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) Meetings
Fridays, 9:30-11 a.m., at the Donald E. Green Adult Active Center, 1625 Cleveland Ave. SW. 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.

Baileyton Masonic Lodge Pancake Breakfast
Saturday, Sept. 7. Breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, coffee and milk or juice for the children. Serving will begin at 6:30 a.m. and continue until 9. Donations only. Proceeds will be used on community projects. Thank you for your support.

Cullman Chapter of the National Association of Retired and Active Federal Employees Meeting
Monday, Sept. 9, at The Golden Corral Buffet. Dutch lunch at 11 a.m. and meeting at noon. Guest speaker will be the director of Victim Services, Jessica Atchley. Members and nonmembers welcome.

Cullman County Soil & Water Conservation District Quarterly Board Meeting
Tuesday, Sept. 10, at 9:30 a.m. at the USDA Service Center, 501 Fourth St. SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

"Christmas In September" Sale
Sacred Heart Altar Society and Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a "Christmas In September" Sale on Saturday, Sept. 21, beginning at 7 a.m. in the Sacred Heart Family Life Center. Proceeds will benefit the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry in Cullman. Currently, the groups are taking donations of gently used decorations for the sale. They will accept any items used to decorate homes for any season or holiday. Deadline to donate is Thursday, Sept. 19. Donations may dropped off at the Sacred Heart Church Office in the Altar Society Office. If you have a larger contribution, please call or text Vevyette Crane at 256-682-6960 to make arrangements. For more information, contact Vevyette Crane, Altar Society coordinator at the number listed above, or Dan Crane, K of C coordinator at 256-520-6095.

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.

Sacred Heart Oktoberfest Dinner
This year's dinner will be held in the church's Family Life Center on Wednesday, Oct. 2, beginning at 4 p.m. The dinners are available for dining in or drive through/take out and the cost of the dinner is $15. The dinner features a traditional German menu of bratwurst, German potato salad, sauerkraut, green beans, applesauce, bread and a homemade dessert. The meat used in the dinner comes from Brickyard Meats in Cullman, which is owned by a family of parishioners.

Partnership (from Front)

Stephens said. "We wanted to go above and beyond checking compliance boxes, and we truly want to put every resource available to ensure that our students feel safe at school."

Stephens said he has worked with local police and fire and rescue on wayfinding drills, which help provide a baseline of familiarity for school facilities among first responders. That led to doing two days of familiarization with local first responders, with almost every potential first responder having now fully toured Cullman City Schools' campuses to gain familiarity with the campus footprints.

"With our construction and much needed renovations, this will continue to be an ongoing process. However, we feel that in the need for response, coupled with great communication, this will enhance their ability to respond in a quick, efficient manner," Stephens said. "Additionally, it is important to get the perspective and feedback of those who actually serve as those boots on the ground, and we make sure to listen to those professionals to see what we can learn from their experience."

He continued, "It is essential to recognize the Cullman City School Board and Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff for proactively working to ensure that we were in compliance with the School Security Act before it was signed into law. Part of the bill requires school systems to have the school safety coordinator stationed at the central office being able to directly communicate with the superintendent. The good news is that our administrators at the local schools do an outstanding job not only with planning, but implementing school safety plans."

Cullman City Schools works with the City of Cullman for an integrated response plan across police, fire and dispatch, with protocols created to ensure everyone knows their roles and duties in the event of a crisis.

"Planning and response is such an important part of school security," Stephens said. "Staying diligent and working as hard as we can on prevention will always be the best course of action."

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Caring (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The United Way of Cullman County's (UWCC) annual Day of Caring will take place Tuesday, Sept. 10. The day brings volunteers together to tackle projects for the nonprofit's partner agencies.

The partner agencies the UWCC supports are vital resources in the community, serving residents in a variety of ways.

"Day of Caring is an unforgettable, hands-on experience. You have the opportunity to actively improve our community while spending quality time with co-workers and community volunteers," said UWCC Executive Director Stephanie Childers. "It's a great way to witness your donations to the United Way Campaign at work in our community."

Day of Caring 2024 has various projects lined up, including landscaping, painting and interior organizational tasks.

As of press time, the nonprofit still had many open spots for volunteers to make a difference in the community and the lives of its residents.

Seven volunteers are needed at Cullman Regional Hospice for lawn care and ramp repair.

Four volunteers are needed to organize and assist the North Alabama Agriplex.

Ten volunteers are needed at Restoring Women Outreach for landscaping.

Five volunteers are needed at the Cold Springs Elementary School Outdoor Classroom.

"The Day of Caring is a powerful reminder that when we come together as a community, our combined efforts can create a lasting impact. It's not just about volunteering for a day – it's about fostering connections, strengthening our bonds and working toward a common goal of making our community a better place for all," said UWCC Day of Caring Organizer Morgan Dingler.

To sign up to volunteer for UWCC Day of Caring, or get information about start times and meeting location, visit https://tinyurl.com/UWDOC2024 or contact Morgan Dingler at mdingler@uwaycc.org.



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WSCC ATHLETICS ROUNDUP

Cross Country teams shine at JSU Foothills Invitational; Volleyball wins away matches

Special to The Tribune
WSCC

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The Wallace State Men's and Women's Cross Country teams delivered strong performances at the 18th Annual JSU Foothills Invitational on Aug. 30 at Choccolocco Park in Oxford. Competing against a deep field, the men's team secured a fourth place finish out of 19 teams, while the women's team claimed eighth place out of 20 teams in their respective 5K races.

Men's Team Top Five Finishers

Freshman Tyler Anthony of Fort Payne led the charge for the men's team, finishing 12th overall with a time of 15:42.16. Freshman Elliot Denard of Springville followed with a 21st-place finish, clocking in at 15:47.04. Sophomore Luke Kennedy of Huntsville crossed the finish line in 15:53.27 to take 25th place. Freshman Daniel Leija of Albertville finished 33rd with a time of 16:04.60. Sophomore David Robles of Springville finished 35th with a time of 16:07.24.

Women's Team Top Five Finishers

On the women's side, freshman Grace Gosline of Arab led the Lions, finishing 37th overall with a time of 20:02.63. Freshman Reagan Parris of Bremen followed closely, placing 40th with a time of 20:06.40. Sophomore Eden Brumer of Fort Thomas, Ky., finished 44th with a time of 20:20.90. Sophomore Kendall Harbison of Cullman placed 47th with a time of 20:29.44. Sophomore Claire Deaton of Madison finished 60th with a time of 20:53.64.

With strong placements at the JSU Foothills Invitational, both the men's and women's cross country teams have set a solid foundation for the rest of the season. The teams look to build on this momentum as they prepare for the University of Montevallo Falcon Classic on Sept. 6, held at the University of Montevallo Cross Country Course. The women's 5K begins at 7:30 p.m. and the men's 8K at 8:15 p.m.



WALLACE STATE

Wallace State's Men's Cross Country team finished fourth at this weekend JSU Foothills Invitational.

Wallace State vs. Cleveland State Community College on Aug. 29 (3 – 1)

The Wallace State Volleyball team claimed a victory against Cleveland State Community College on Aug. 29.

Freshman Kailey Dickerson of Alexandria led the offensive charge with 14 kills on 42 attempts, adding five service aces and three digs. Her powerful serves and consistent attacking were key factors in the Lions' dominant performance. Dickerson is currently ranked first in the NJCAA Division 2 rankings for most kills, with 151 kills across 10 matches, averaging 3.77 kills per set.

Sophomore Chloe Jackson of Athens contributed 10 kills with a .500 hitting percentage, providing stability and efficiency on the court. Jackson's experience was evident as she helped guide the team through challenging moments.

Freshman Molly Shiflett from Corner also had a strong showing, recording 10 kills and nine digs, along with two service aces. Shiflett's all-around play made an impact in both offense and defense.

Freshman Ali Price of Rainsville orchestrated the Lions' offense with 25 assists, while also contributing five digs. Price's distribution allowed multiple players to contribute effectively, keeping the Cleveland State defense off balance.

Freshman Rachel Mecklenburg of Madison showcased her versatility with seven kills, 13 assists and six digs, playing a crucial role in both setting up attacks and defending.

Defensively, freshman Amelia Fowler of Sardis City added eight digs and one service ace, while freshman Ava Calvarese of Fairview chipped in with six digs and one kill. Freshman Abby McDonald of Cullman also made her presence felt with seven digs, bolstering the Lions' backcourt defense.

Wallace State vs. Itawamba Community College at Chattanooga State Invitational on Aug. 30 (3-1)

The Wallace State Volleyball team won against Itawamba Community College on Aug. 30, during the Chattanooga State Invitational, building on their early season record with a strong performance.

Freshman Kailey Dickerson of Alexandria led the Lions with 15 kills on 43 attempts, adding eight digs to her stat line. Her aggressive play at the net was instrumental in Wallace State's win.

Sophomore Chloe Jackson of Athens also contributed significantly, recording 11 kills and four block assists. Jackson's ability to perform under pressure helped the Lions maintain their momentum.

Freshman Rachel Mecklenburg from Madison showed her versatility on the court, tallying nine kills, eight digs and two assists.

Freshman Molly Shiflett of Corner chipped in with six kills and one block assist, playing a vital role in the team's overall success.

Freshman Ali Price of Rainsville orchestrated offensively with 40 assists and nine digs. Price's distribution was key in setting up the Lions' attack throughout the match.

Defensively, sophomore Valerie Rodriguez of Kissimmee, Fla., led with 11 digs while adding five kills on five attempts, showing her efficiency with a hitting percentage of 1.000. Freshman Amanda Monge of Davenport, Fla. contributed 10 digs and three kills.

Wallace State demonstrated resilience with a strong roster, bouncing back from a third-set loss to clinch the match in the fourth set. The team will look to carry this momentum into the away match against Gadsden State Community College on Sept. 4.

The Lady Lions open their home season at Traditions Bank Arena in Tom Drake Coliseum on Sept. 6 against Northeast Mississippi Community College at 1 p.m. and Itawamba Community College at 5 p.m. during the Alabama/Mississippi Crossover Tournament hosted by Wallace State.

The Wallace State Volleyball team is currently 6-4.

FAITH

'Helping someone find God is the most loving thing you could do for them': Cold Springs' Kenady Graves discusses her relationship with God

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

BREMEN, Ala. — Kenady Graves is a senior at Cold Springs High School this season and in this interview, she talked about the impact Goad has made in her life. She also shared some of her favorite Bible verses and shared how much it means to her to be able to help other people find God.

"God has impacted my life in every way. He has shown me unconditional love and grace through absolutely everything, and He continues to do so every single day," Graves said. "My favorite verse would definitely have to be Psalms 55:22. I came across this verse during a time I really needed it. This verse means so much to me, because it talks about casting your cares to the Lord, and it's a daily reminder in my life that no matter how big or small my cares/worries are, God is not asking me to handle them alone. We are so blessed to serve a God who is bigger than anything we face."

"I think helping someone find God is the most loving thing you could do for them. God is not only my creator, but my comforter, and I pray that everyone should get to know Him and have a relationship with Him, because He is my everything. So many people look to the world for answers, happiness, peace, etc., and they may even believe that they have found these things in the world, but everything on this Earth is temporary, and only the Lord can satisfy us. If someone finds God, they have found everything they need."

Graves has helped out at a couple of different events and felt blessed to be a part of those. Being that Godly role model for a lot of people means the world to her.

"One of my favorite things that I've done has been helping out at the Field of Miracles. All of the people there are so amazing and just such a blessing to be around. They are some of the sweetest people you'll ever meet, and they all have such wonderful personalities. I also recently helped with my church's vacation Bible school, and I really enjoyed that. I love being with kids and getting to help them during VBS was such a blessing," she said. "It means so much to me. I know that people, especially kids, watch and pay attention to the way we live, and it's so important to set a good example. God's children are called to be different. Whether we realize it or not, people are watching the way we live our lives, and as Christians, we are representing the Lord. It's important that we lead others to the Lord through our actions rather than away from them."

She has several role models that she looks up to and feels blessed to have in her life.

"I'm blessed to have multiple Godly role models in my life. I have the best parents and family in the world that have been telling me about Jesus for all of my life. My mom and dad have not only told me about God, but they have also shown me what it means/what it looks like to follow Him and keep Him in the center of everything. My grandmother has always been a huge role model in my life, and now more than ever, she has shown me what true strength and confidence in the Lord is. She has battled so much and has never let any of it shake her faith in the Lord. I also have the best friends in the world, and they have taught me so much. My friends have taught me to let go of things and truly surrender to God. They have shown me that I should live my life without letting fear getting in the way, and they have been right by my side through everything."

Graves gave some advice to those people that want a relationship with God but are having trouble doing that.

"My advice to anyone wanting a relationship with God would be to just remember that everyone starts somewhere and that everyone has their own journey/testimony. Surround yourself with good people that love the Lord and push yourself closer to Him. Prayer is so powerful, and there's no specific way that you have to do it. Just tell God what's on your heart and invite Him into your life. Reading God's word will tell you how exactly how God calls us to live and tells the good news of our savior Jesus Christ. I would also recommend finding a church that's a good fit for you. God calls us to fellowship, and fellowshipping with other believers can help you with your own walk with Christ in many ways."

She shared some of the traditions that she participates in her with church and teammates and being around players that love God as well has helped her out a lot.

"This past season, we were blessed to have our local churches come and speak to the athletes before each home game, and we would also say a prayer before each game. Being around other people that love God helps me out a lot when it comes to growing my relationship with God. Being around them and seeing how they treat others and live their lives, that taught me so much, and it really helped me grow in my faith," she said. "Something that God has been really laying on my heart and teaching me lately is to truly surrender to Him and stop trying to handle things on my own. Most of the time, I don't even realize that I'm trying to take matters into my own hands.

"Sometimes, I catch myself worrying about things that I've already prayed and talked to God about. Once you have given something to God, don't try to take it back. God doesn't tell us we have to handle anything on our own. Instead, He wants us to bring all of our cares to Him and let our battles belong to Him. I've learned that, thanks to God and His love for me, I don't have to live in fear. God has taught me that He is greater than anything we face, and that through our trials, we should fully surrender to Him."



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cold Springs' Kenady Graves (35)

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Duck hunters should take advantage of this year's special teal season

David Rainer
Ala. Dept. of Conservation and Nat. Resources

Although overall duck numbers are up in the latest Waterfowl Breeding Population and Habitat Survey, those waterfowlers who hunt the special teal season better plan to take full advantage of this year's early season of 16 days, set for Sept. 14-29.

Seth Maddox of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' (ADCNR) Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (WFF) Division said this year's survey indicated a downturn in blue-winged teal numbers, and the 2025 special teal season will be trimmed to nine days.

"The one that kind of hurts is that blue-winged teal are down by 12%," said Maddox, WFF's assistant chief of the Wildlife Section, who serves on the Mississippi Flyway Council. "What that does is it kicks us into a different framework and a lower number of days for teal season in 2025. We set the frameworks for seasons and bag limits a year in advance. So that means in September of 2025 we'll have a nine-day teal season because those teal numbers are down."

Maddox said setting the early teal season is a tricky situation because the migration greatly depends on weather. The daily bag limit during the early teal season is six birds per person. Hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

"When you only have a handful of days to do it, you don't really know when the migration is going to come through," he said. "We try to set the early season to have the best chance of success. In a 16-day season, you might have a good three or four days of hunting during a period of high migration, but, when you crunch that period down to nine days, you struggle to know where to put those in the season to take advantage of the conditions. Is there a weather front that is going to push the birds down? When we start getting that first cool air, they're a small duck so they're getting out of the prairie. With any type of weather change, they are getting on the move and end up in South America. If we don't get something to move the ducks, we may miss the migration. In addition, we are setting these state seasons six months in advance of the opener."

Another factor that influences waterfowl migration is the available water on the landscape, and Alabama needs significant rain to expand the waterfowl habitat.

"It's been so dry that there's no sheet water on the landscape," Maddox said. "The ducks will be concentrated on the rivers and reservoirs and backwaters if we don't get any rainfall real soon. And it's going to have to be a significant rain because all the ag fields are so dry they're just going to soak any rain right up."

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Canadian Wildlife Service conduct aerial breeding surveys in May and June of each year to estimate the number of breeding ducks and the condition of the principal breeding habitat in North America. The survey includes 19 North American ducks, Canada geese, coots and swans.

"The survey is up 5% in total ducks from last year," Maddox said. "The number of ponds on the landscape was up 4%, which is a good turnaround. If you look at the different species, it's kind of up and down."

Mallards are considered the benchmark species when it comes to population numbers, and mallards were up 8% from last year but are still down 16% from the long-term average.

"Those mallard numbers bounce back and forth, but it's pretty stable across the board," Maddox said.

"The big thing is the American wigeon was up 55%. Nobody knows what to attribute it to. They're up over the long-term average by 12%.

"Another species that impacts hunters in Alabama is green-winged teal, which are up 20% from last year and up 38% over the long-term average, so that's looking good for that species. But we don't see many of them, if any at all, during the early teal season. They migrate later in the year.

"Gadwall numbers are down a little bit, but up 11% over the long-term average, so there's no worry there. Scaup numbers are up but not enough to push us out of the one-bird daily bag limit. All the other species look fine." Maddox said the bag limits for the 2024-2025 seasons are unchanged with a six-duck daily bag limit, which may include no more than four mallards (no more than two of which can be female), three wood ducks, one mottled duck, two black ducks, two redheads, one pintail, two canvasbacks and one scaup. The coot limit is 15 per day. The merganser limit is five per day, only two of which can be hooded mergansers.



USFWS

Blue-winged teal numbers are down, which will result in a shorter special season in 2025.

Duck season is split into two segments, the first being Nov. 29, 2024, through Dec.1, 2024, and the second Dec. 6, 2024, through Jan. 31, 2025.

Hunters can also take advantage of an early goose season that starts on Sept. 7, 2024, and runs through Oct. 6, 2024. The other goose season segments are Oct.19, 2024, through Nov. 2, 2024, Nov. 29, 2024, through Dec. 1, 2024, and Dec. 6, 2024, through Jan. 31, 2025. The aggregate bag limit for dark geese (Canada, white-fronted and Brant) is five per day. The aggregate bag limit for light geese (snow, blue, Ross's) is also five per day.

Because the waterfowl survey occurs early in the year, Maddox said that not all the migrating ducks are counted.

"When they're doing the counts in May in Canada and the U.S., they're looking at breeding pairs, and they don't account for the number of juveniles that will be on the landscape," he said. "The fall flight is predicated on the number of surviving adults that make it to the next season plus the number of offspring that were hatched this summer. A lot of birds we harvest up and down the flyway are juvenile birds, which is in excess of the population.

"I imagine that our fall flight will look pretty good, although we definitely need some water in the South."

Maddox said the number of waterfowl hunters continues to climb in Alabama.

"Based on stamp sales, we set another record with 38,852 state stamps sold in 2023," he said.

"We've set records each year for the past five years. We've got duck hunters all across the state, whether they're hunting wood ducks in central Alabama or hunting big ducks in the north or in the south."

Although not regulated under the waterfowl framework, a sandhill crane hunting opportunity is available in Alabama through a limited quota system. Season dates are Nov. 29, 2024, through Jan. 5, 2025, and Jan. 13-26, 2025. Applications for sandhill crane permits will be accepted only at www.outdooralabama.com, the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' website. Registration opened Sept. 4, 2024, and closes Sept. 25, 2024, at noon. Drawn hunters have until Oct. 2, 2024, to pass the ID and Regulations Test, purchase the selected Sandhill Crane Harvest Permit and accept their hunting status. If not completed by the deadline, an alternate will be promoted into that hunter slot. Visit www.outdooralabama.com/what-hunt/sandhill-crane-hunting-alabama for details.

During the 2023-2024 sandhill crane season, 451 hunters harvested 322 sandhill cranes.

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Discover High Tunnel Farming: Free workshop for veterans and beginners Sept. 19

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

ARAB, Ala. — The Alabama Cooperative Extension System and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) are partnering to host a High Tunnel Production Field Day on Sept.19 from 3-6 p.m. at Bare Bottom Farm in Arab.

This free event is specifically designed for military veterans and beginner farmers interested in learning about high tunnel production, a method used to extend the growing season for fruits and vegetables.

Participants will receive hands-on instruction on high tunnel crop production, pest management, plastic mulch, drip irrigation and NRCS funding opportunities, such as the EQIP cost-share program, which supports projects like high tunnel construction. A panel of local farmers, including those from Bare Bottom Farm, will also share their experiences with operating high tunnel systems.

Kira Sims, Cullman County Extension Office coordinator, emphasized the value of this workshop, especially for beginners.

"High tunnel production provides season extension for produce and opportunities to try new crops or get popular crops onto the market sooner," she said.

"With the funding support and educational resources available, it is worth considering for new and beginning farmers who do not have a lot of land and need to start small."

Space for the workshop is limited. Interested participants can register online at www.aces.edu/go/ht. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information on the workshop, contact Kira Sims at 256-737-9386 or via email at kira.sims@auburn.edu. Bare Bottom Farm will provide location information after registration.

Market (from Front)

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. — Hoping to draw more traffic to the library, the Guy Hunt Library in Holly Pond will hold its first and, hopefully annual, Used Book Market Sept. 27-28 at Holly Pond Town Hall.

"We are hoping this will become an annual event due to the Guy Hunt Library being on a road that is not frequented much. The Holly Pond School is located before reaching the library entrance, so most of the traffic is before even reaching us," shared Shiela Wilhite of the Guy Hunt Library. "With that being said, we hope that being on the heavier traffic road (U.S. Highway 278) will entice more people to stop and find some good reads."

Patrons are encouraged to make either monetary donations to the library, or donations of gently used books to the sale. By dropping the previously read books off at the library or town hall, book lovers can simultaneously declutter and restock their stories and shelves. Book donations can be dropped off at Holly Pond Town Hall during normal business hours prior to Sept. 27.

Proceeds from the sale will help the library complete various projects and assist in the weekly programs it holds. Crocheting classes and book signings with local authors are commonly held at the library, while Tuesday's Children's Storytime is held weekly at 10:30 a.m., consistently drawing large numbers of visitors to the library. Storytime is often accompanied by a coordinating craft and sometimes snack, both of which are provided by the library at no cost to visitors.

The Guy Hunt Library's Used Book Market will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 27, and continue until 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28's sale will also open at 10:30 a.m. and run until business stops flowing.

"We would love to stay again until 4 p.m.; keep us busy," Wilhite smiled. "It will be a perfect opportunity to find some used books without paying full price for them!"

Holly Pond Town Hall is located at 10885 U.S. Highway 278 E in Holly Pond.

LEGALS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF)
)
JANET JOHNSON HOGG,) CASE NO.: PC-2024-287
An alleged incapacitated person.

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN & CONSERVATOR

TO: JUSTIN BRENT GOOLSBY and ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Please take notice that a *Petition for Appointment of Guardian & Conservator* has been filed by Larry Jason Goolsby, Petitioner, through Attorney Steven C. Smith. A hearing on said *Petition for Appointment of Guardian & Conservator* has been **set for the 2nd day of October, 2024, at 10:30 A.M.**, Cullman County Courthouse, Probate Office Room 101, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this 28th day of August, 2024.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

Steven C. Smith
Attorney for Petitioner
PO Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056

PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF)
)
RICHARD C. NOBBLETT, JR.,) CASE NO.: PC-2024-180
Deceased.

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: RICHARD C. NOBLETT, III, AMY ELIZABETH BOLTE and ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Please take notice that a *Petition for Probate of Will* has been filed by Pamela Denise Noblett, Petitioner, through Attorney Matthew K. Carter. A hearing on said *Petition for Probate of Will* has been **set for the 3rd day of October, 2024, at 10:30 A.M.**, Cullman County Courthouse, Probate Office Room 101, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this 28th day of August, 2024.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

Matthew K. Carter
Attorney for Petitioner
413 First Avenue, SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF)
)
BRENDA SUE JOHANNES) CASE NO.: PC-2024-278
An alleged incapacitated person.

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN & CONSERVATOR

TO: SUSAN R. SMITH and ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Please take notice that a *Petition for Appointment of Guardian & Conservator* has been filed by Donna M. DeLoach, Petitioner, through Attorney Sherry H. Barrett. A hearing on said *Petition for Appointment of Guardian & Conservator* has been **set for the 2nd day of October, 2024, at 10:00 A.M.**, Cullman County Courthouse, Probate Office Room 101, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this 28th day of August, 2024.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

Sherry H. Barrett
Attorney for Petitioner
PO Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

In Re the Estate of)
)
Larry Joe Crawford,) Case No. PC 2024-296
)
Deceased)

Notice to Creditors

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Randy Lee Crawford as Personal Representative of the Estate of Larry Joe Crawford, deceased, on the 22nd day of August, 2024, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate,

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

Personal Representative
Randy Lee Crawford

To the Publisher of the Cullman Tribune:
Please publish the above Notice once a week for three consecutive weeks and send an affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate Tammy Brown
Cullman County, Alabama

G. Edward Coey
Attorney for Personal Representative
P.O. Box 834
Hanceville, Al 35077
256-352-2090

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
JESSE JAMES JONES, * CASE NO PC 2024-282
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL
(Self-Proved Will)

TO: DANIEL JAMES JONES, TINA MARIE JONES TERRY, RON JONES, STEPHANIE JONES, JENNIFER GLOVER AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Petition for Probate of Will (Self-Proved Will) filed by David Lee Jones, Petitioner, through Attorney Steven C. Smith, has been scheduled for the **3rd day of October, 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 28th day of August, 2024.

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
BILLY RANDALL BISHOP, * **CASE NO.: PC2024-323**
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters of Administration of the said Deceased having been granted to Brenda G. Bishop on the 5th day of September, 2024 by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

BRENDA G. BISHOP
Administrator

Raley L. Wiggins
Attorney for Administrator
Capell & Howard, P.C.
150 S. Perry Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

CC: CULLMAN TRIBUNE
TO: **The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune**

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
LINDA MOORE, **Case Number: PC2024-238**
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama

In the matter of the Estate of Linda Moore, Deceased

Letters Testamentary upon last will and testament of said decedent, having been granted to the undersigned on the 22nd day of August, 2024, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from the above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

Douglas Owen Moore
Personal Representative

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

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
JOHN GORDEN COOK, **Case Number: PC2024-250**
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama

In the matter of the Estate of John Gorden Cook, Deceased

Letters Testamentary upon last will and testament of said decedent, having been granted to the undersigned on the 21st day of August, 2024, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from the above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

Janet Leah Thomas and Sheila Denice Slatton
Co-Personal Representatives

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

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF)
)
GARY GLENN WILKS,) CASE NO.: PC-2021-435
Deceased.

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT AND DISCHARGE OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

TO: NICHOLAS JOSEPH WILKS, LUKE AARON WILKS and ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Please take notice that a *Petition for Final Settlement and Discharge of Personal Representative* has been filed by Shelly Kelley, Personal Representative, through Attorney, Alex J. Chaney. A hearing on said *Petition for Final Settlement and Discharge of Personal Representative* has been **set for the 3rd day of October, 2024, at 11:00 A.M.**, Cullman County Courthouse, Probate Office Room 101, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this 5th day of September, 2024.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

Alex J. Chaney
Attorney for Personal Representative
PO Box 1052
Cullman, Alabama 35056

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2024-294

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF CONNIE McSWAIN ALLEN, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Lawrence E. McSwain on the 22nd day of August, 2024, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Lawrence E. McSwain
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

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

Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF) CASE NO.: PC 2024-286
GRACE MARIE ROBERTSON)
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to JEFFERY COLLINS ROBERTSON as Personal Representative of the Estate of GRACE MARIE ROBERTSON, deceased, on the 29th day of August, 2024, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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.

Jeffery Collins Robertson
Personal Representative
Pro Se

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

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
CARLES LEMEUL FARR * CASE NO PC 2024-123
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION TO ADMIT WILL TO PROBATE and FOR LETTERS TESTAMENTARY and AMENDED PETITION TO ADMIT WILL TO PROBATE and FOR LETTERS TESTAMENTARY

TO: CARLES MATTHEW FARR, DONNA RENEE STANDRIDGE AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Petition to Admit Will to Probate and for Letters Testamentary filed by Shirley Renae Williams Farr, Petitioner, *and Amended Petition to Admit Will to Probate and for Letters Testamentary* filed by Melvin Hasting, Attorney for the Petitioner, has been scheduled for the **25th 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 22nd day of August, 2024.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

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

Melvin Hasting
Attorney for Petitioner
407 2nd Avenue, SW
PO Box 517
Cullman, Alabama 35056

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

Two loves that finally met one another

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



For most of my life, they had been around one another, but they had never actually met. When two of the great loves of my life finally got together, it was like they had been meant for one another all along, but I had never realized it. They made such an amazing pair! It was almost like when chocolate got together with peanut butter. We all lived happily ever after and Reese's made a mint. It was even better than when peanut butter met grape jelly! Some things are simply meant to be, but some things are meant to be with something else.

As the slogan said, "Things go better with Coke." Many times, one without the other is simply not quite as good. For instance, what is macaroni without cheese, bacon without eggs (of course, unless you have a slice of tomato and two pieces of white bread to go with your bacon), one sock or one shoe without the other, a pen without paper, biscuits without gravy...I could go on, but surely, you get the point.

My parents gave me my first six-string when I was about ten. It was not much of a guitar, but then I was not much of a guitar player either.

Regardless of those technicalities, it was love at first sight. Over the past three scores, without the ten, I have spent more time with guitars than I have with many people.

Honestly, I may have enjoyed the time with guitars more than with some people, but I'm not naming names! I played my guitar so much as a teenager that Mama used to ask me if that thing was attached to my fingers!

It was about at the same time when I began playing guitar that I began getting into Dad's doghouse for getting into his building materials. The problem was that I didn't have any money to pay for those materials. I have loved building things and doing woodwork since those days long ago.

Some of the first things I ever built were birdhouses. Habitat for Humanity builds houses for homeless or needy families. I built shelters for sparrows or bungalows for bluebirds! The happy birds used to sing to me, and I used to sit outside and play and sing for them. I've been building things out of wood ever since.

It was not until earlier this year, that my building hobby and my guitar-playing hobby came together. Back in June, I went to a workshop in the mountains of North Georgia and built my first cigar-box guitar.

That's when my woodwork and my guitar talents met and it was love at first sight. I'm not sure they loved one another as much as I love building them. Since that time, I have been somewhat obsessed and have built several cigar-box guitars.

I've also built guitars, dulcimers, and canjos out of cookie tins and all kinds of cans. I don't smoke the cigars, but I do drink the coffee, or eat the food, that comes in the cans, and then make instruments out of the empty containers! I do have one small problem. Lately, I've been selling my homemade instruments faster than I can make new ones. If you come see one of my Bro. Billy Bob programs, I'll play some of them for you! They're not just for the birds!

Sometimes, two things, or two people, are best when they come together. Wise King Solomon said in the book of Ecclesiastes, "Two are better than one." That is especially true when they have come together and complement one another!

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

HISTORY

Files from yesteryear: 1916, 1920

From the files of 1916

W. Tom Vandiver spent Monday in Birmingham.

The Honorable George Parker spent Wednesday at Brilliant.

A dance was enjoyed at the Growlers Club rooms on Friday night.

Mrs. A. Dreher will entertain at the Symphony Club on November 23rd.

Claud Griffin spent the first of this week in Memphis.

Miss Emma Ehrensberger spent the weekend in Birmingham.

Doctor P.M. Allison has returned home from Battle Creek, Michigan.

In the election of November 7, 1916 in Cullman County these were elected: Probate Judge-Fred J. Buchmann (R), Circuit Clerk-O.S. Roden (D), Tax Collector-Lee Cochran (R), County Commissioners-L.A. Kelton, E.T. Knight, J.B. White and J.A. Vickery (all Democrats).

The biggest graveyard is that of buried talents...I may not go so far, so fast, but I see more along the road.

From the files of 1920

The Charles D. Parker Department Store in West Cullman closed September 3, 1920. It was located four blocks west of the Cullman County Courthouse. This sale was announced with a two-page advertisement in The Cullman Tribune.

There had been so much rain the Tennessee River was swollen to flood stage.

Mr. Dave Trimble is teaching a singing school at Brushy Pond and he has a large school.

Mr. Homer Mitchell had dinner with the Bill Hancock family on Friday.

Mr. George Harbison and daughter spent Friday night with Mr. Will Calvert and family.

Onnie Calvert and Miss Sarah Bates attended the singing on Sunday at Brushy Pond.

Messrs. Leldon Griffin, Marvin Kelly and Paul Burnum will re-enter the University of Alabama this fall.

Postmaster S.J. Griffin and Ike Moore returned last week from a motor trip to several points in Mississippi.

These Cullman girls will attend Athena College this winter: Misses Allene Fuller, Irma Kinney, Edna Herrin and Anna Lola Price.

Mr. and Mrs. L.R. Thompson of Mt. Vernon, Illinois were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Peinhardt and Mrs. Agnes Vann at the end of last week.

Miss Bessie Pate was the weekend guest of Miss Pearl Tillery. They attended church at Buelah.

Mr. and Mrs. Will J. Swafford are having a nice dwelling house built.

Mr. H.J. Alvis and two daughters, Viola and Hattie, attended the baptizing at Central on Saturday afternoon.

These young people spent Sunday at Cold Springs: Misses Wallace and Julia Crossfield of Gadsden, Thelma Kinney and Annie Kelly; Messers, John and Charlie Martin, Talmadge Bland and Marvin Kelly.

POET'S CORNER

This Morning | By: Randy C. Hale, randyhale62@yahoo.com

This morning came so brief a stay,
a hungry little swallow.
And gobbled up some tiny seeds,
then back into the hollow.

The crows, they called
across the way,
seemed laughter in my thoughts.
And buzzards landed in the fields,
a carcass for them sought.

Oh, life is filled with many things,
yet nothing stays for long.
The flutter of the sparrows wings,
the cardinal's morning song.

The fleeting bliss of summer sights,
cool breeze that comes with mirth.
Green leaves that turn to colors bright,
then fall to autumn's earth.

And we shall live through seasons till,
we pass from here at last.
Like faint perfumes of roses bloom,
and shadows briefly cast.

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

SEPT. 7

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
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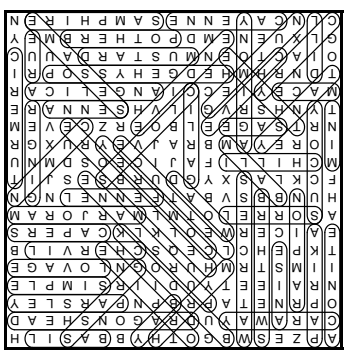
Aconite
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Cloves
Comfrey
Cumin
Dill
Dragon's head
Endive
Fennel
Garlic
Ginger
Grass
Hedge
hyssop
Hellebore
Lettuce
Lovage
Mace
Marjoram
Mint
Mustard
Myrrh
Nutmeg
Orpine
Paprika
Parsley
Pot herb
Purslane
Rampion
Rue
Sage
Samphire
Senna
Sesame
Simple
Sorrel
Succory
Sweet herb
Tansy
Thyme
Turmeric
Watercress
Woad

CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

SEPT. 7

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ANSWERS:



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

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No drop-off location



'Chirding' at Sportsman Lake: Third Sunday birding and worship event Sept. 15

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — On Sunday, Sept. 15, at 3 p.m., Sportsman Lake Park will host the Third Sunday Bird Sunday event, located at the SongBird stage (the old bandstand) and pavilion No. 6. This unique event, combining church and birdwatching, known as "chirding," was originally developed in Cullman.

The concept of chirding was born out of a desire to connect people with both faith and nature.

Ben Johnson, bird gardening enthusiast and member of Alabama Master Gardeners and Alabama Audubon shared the origin of the concept, "The term chirding, and the concept of putting birds and church together was something that we developed here in Cullman. We knew that we wanted to get people interested in getting them outside and interested in nature. We have so many active and dynamic churches in the area, that it's just a way to pull all of those things together."

A key element of chirding is "creation care," which encourages participants to explore the relationship between birds and nature and how they fit into one's belief in creation.

"In church circles, you see something called creation care. What creation care is, is a way for more conservative people to look at environmental issues. God created everything, and we need to learn about those things and respect them," Johnson shared.

With its diverse bird population, Sportsman Lake Park is an ideal setting for chirding. "At Sportsman Lake Park, we have a great diversity of birds. North Alabama's biodiversity brings many birds to the area, making it a terrific place for birding," Johnson added.

Now part of the official Alabama Birding Trail, Sportsman Lake is recognized for its rich variety of aquatic and woodland bird species, drawing visitors from across the region to partake in the birding scene.

According to the eBird app, 106 species of resident birds have been identified at the park, with migratory birds believed to increase the total past 200.

The event will feature a message from William Lewis, an ecology fellow and Episcopal priest candidate, followed by a guided birding session led by Jimmy Wells. Music will be provided by Max Townson, Timothy Bolen and Devon Campbell, with Boy Scout Troop 219 leading the pledge. Light snacks will be available for attendees.

Bird enthusiasts, nature lovers and those looking for a unique nature-based spiritual experience are invited to attend this community event. For more information, contact Ben Johnson at benjohnsonsouth@gmail.com. Sportsman Lake Park is located at 1544 Sportsman Lake Rd. NW, Cullman, AL 35055.

THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

Obituary Announcements: Sept. 5-6

Carol Burgess Nail, 68
Carol Burgess Nail, age 68 of Good Hope, Alabama, passed away on Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2024, at home surrounded by her loved ones. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Carol was born on Oct. 22, 1955, to James Lewis and Anita Uginia Franklin Burgess, at the Panama Canal Zone Naval Base. Carol was a nurse for twenty-five years. She cared for her patients like they were part of her family. After nursing, she was co-owner of a medical supply company for 15 years. She loved helping and taking care of people. She was preceded in death by her parents, James and Anita Burgess; grandparents, Richard and Rhoda Burgess and Charles and Opal Franklin; brothers, Joseph Burgess and Tim Burgess; sister-in-law, Joy Tidwell Burgess. Carol, known as Nan to many, is survived by her children, Christie (Charlie) Cheatham, Steven (Joni) Smith, and Megan (William) Sears; grandchildren, Olivia Margaret Smith, Jacie Rain James and Satchel Page Smith; brothers, Robert (Donna) Burgess and Wade Burgess; sisters, Lisa (Michael) Thompson and Cynthia Holmes; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Carol will be laid to rest Sunday, Sept. 8, 2024, at a graveside service with family and friends. She was very special to many people, and she will be greatly missed.

Ann Stephens Ponder, 65
Ann Stephens Ponder, age 65 of Cullman, passed away on Thursday, Sept. 5, 2024, at Cullman Regional. She was born May 28, 1959, to Luverne Stephens and Betty Jean Hill Stephens. She was preceded in death by her parents. Survivors include her, daughter, Erin Heaton; son, Eric Ponder; sister, Gail Stephens; granddaughters, Ariel Ponder and Addison Heaton; grandsons, Brayden Ponder, Eli Ponder, Liam Ponder and Jacob Ponder and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Clara Faye 'MeMe' Montgomery, 78
Funeral Service for Clara Faye "MeMe" Montgomery, age 78 of Cullman, will be at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 8, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Robert Strane officiating; burial at Lystra Cemetery. Visitation will be from noon-2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 8, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Montgomery passed away on Thursday, Sept. 5, 2024, at her residence. She was born Sept. 16, 1945, to John James Barnette and Clara Gerstman Barnette. She was preceded in death by her parents; grandchild - Nicholas Etheridge; sister, Myra Jean Drake; brothers, Howard Barnette, Tommy Bill Barnette, Cecil Dyer and Roy Dyer. Survivors include her Children: Roy (Leanne) Etheridge, Vickie (Keith) Sizemore and Rickey (Debbie) Montgomery; grandchildren, Colin Etheridge, Chelsae Etheridge, Corey (Lacey) Sizemore, Damon (Amanda) Barnett , Eli Montgomery; sisters, Ann (Terry) Smith and Joyce Brown; brother, James (Jackie) Barnette; great grandchildren, Jayden Etheridge, Kaelyn Etheridge, Micajah Burns, Sadey Sizemore, Kinzey Sizemore, Caden Barnett , Emily Barnett and Lena Etheridge and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Andrew Michael Harris, 58
Andrew Michael Harris, 58, passed away peacefully on Sept. 1, 2024, at Huntsville Hospital. He was born on Nov. 23, 1965, in Huntsville, Alabama, to Ralph M. Harris and Barbara (Barnett) Harris. A graduate of Cullman High School's Class of 1984, Andrew had a deep love for science fiction and Auburn football, passions he carried throughout his life. From 1996 to 2001, Andrew honorably served his country in the United States Army as a Systems Operator, primarily stationed in Korea. During his time in service, he was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, and the Marksman Badge, reflecting his dedication and discipline. Andrew is preceded in death by his father, Ralph "Andy" Harris, and his sister, Kim Harris Sapaugh. He is survived by his beloved mother, Barbara Barnett Harris, as well as his nieces, April Zark and Sarah (Jorge) Zaldivar. He was a proud great-uncle to Aidan Zark, Gavin Zark, Kenichi Zaldivar, and Athena Zaldivar, who will cherish his memory. A graveside service will be held at Duck River Cemetery on Saturday, Sept. 14, at 1 p.m. Family and friends are invited to celebrate his life and honor his legacy. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Saving Forgotten Warriors, a Cullman, Alabama, nonprofit dedicated to providing aid to local veterans in need. Obituary lovingly provided by the Harris family. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Harris family.

Jack Paul Warren, 57
Jack Paul Warren, of Crane Hill, Alabama, passed away on Sept. 3, 2024, at the age of 57. Mr. Warren was born on Oct. 14, 1966, in Jacksonville, North Carolina. Jack was a quick-witted man, and he was fun to be around. He enjoyed hosting cookouts with good food, music, and friends. Mr. Warren enjoyed Alabama football, but he absolutely loved riding motorcycles. He was a Harley man, and he affectionately called his bike "Jill," his jeep "Diane." Mr. Warren continued the traditions of his father and was a proud member of the Moose Lodge in North Carolina. Jack found his passion and was enjoying his calling as a truck driver. He had been working in the industry for the past ten years. Most important to Jack was his family. He adored his grandbabies, and they brought him great joy. Mr. Warren also had a soft side for his cat, Lucky Duck. Mr. Warren was a child of God, and his family finds comfort in his faith in Christ. Jack was a devoted and loving husband, son, father, and grandfather and he will be greatly missed. Mr. Warren is preceded in death by his mother. Those left to carry on Mr. Warren's memory includes his wife, Michelle Warren; father, Sherwood Eugene Davis; son, Randy Hayes (Rachel); step-daughter, Tabitha Lee (Evan Long); grandchildren, James, Sophia, Joshua, Judah; sisters, Tammy Wehrling, Lisa Wehrling Bartlett; daughter at heart, Amanda Ledbetter; brother at heart, Jamie Boyd; and a host of friends that he loved dearly. The Warren family will celebrate the life of Jack at a later time. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to help with Mr. Warren's final expenses. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Warren family.

Carlis Neal Miller, 87
Funeral services for Carlis Neal Miller, of Hanceville will be noon Monday, Sept. 9, 2024, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Hopewell Cemetery. Rev. Dan Guthery will be officiating services. The family will welcome friends for visitation from 10 a.m. to noon at Hanceville Funeral Home on Monday prior to the service. Carlis, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend, left this world peacefully on Sept. 5, 2024, at his residence at the age of 87. Born at home in Hanceville, Alabama on May 30, 1937, Mr. Miller lived a life defined by his love for family, his selflessness, and his gentle spirit. Family was the cornerstone of Carlis' life. He believed that there was nothing more important, and he never missed an opportunity to express how blessed he felt to have such a wonderful family. He was endlessly proud of each of his loved ones and made sure everyone knew how much they meant to him. His kindness, generosity, and selflessness were felt by all who knew him—he consistently put others before himself, always with a smile and a kind word. An avid sports fan, Mr. Miller had a deep love for the Atlanta Braves and Alabama Crimson Tide football. Though he may have often complained about Alabama's play, his loyalty never wavered, and cheering on his favorite teams brought him much joy. Mr. Miller proudly served his country as a member of the United States Army. His service instilled in him a profound sense of patriotism, and he remained a proud veteran throughout his life, honoring those who served alongside him and holding dear the values of duty and sacrifice. Above all, he cherished his life and his family. He was a man who made sure everyone knew how blessed he felt, and his legacy of love, kindness, and devotion will live on in the hearts of all who knew him. Survivors include his children, Sharon Reid (Mark), David Miller; grandchildren, Amber Kugler (Kyle), Jake Miller (Faith), Alexandra Britton (Patrick), Olivia Wilborn (Westin), and Landry Miller; great grandchildren, Kade Kugler, Kaci Kugler, Parker Britton, Pearson Britton, Gunner Wilborn, Owen Wilborn, and Sadie Miller. He was preceded in death by his parents, Dewey and Mary Miller; siblings, Buel Miller, Melvin Miller; and his wife, Mary Miller. He will be deeply missed but forever remembered for the love he shared and the life he lived. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Miller Family.

Free Obituary Listings

Have your funeral home contact us

Email: robin@cullmantribune.com • Phone: 256-739-1351

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