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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OBITUARIES

Jack Clay Montgomery, Rebecca 'Becky' McAnalley, Rodney Douglas Buckelew, Linda Jean Gilbert, Michael Don Livingston, Nelda Sue Brown, Monica Gibson Klansky

» PAGE 6

WEATHER

65 | 42

SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

PATCHY FOG THEN SUNNY



ZACH BLAND/AU ATHLETICS

– SPORTS –

Broome, Johnson lead No. 5 Auburn over Kent State

» PAGE 4

Brown sentenced to 80 years for parking deck murder of Ramos

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Christopher Dean Eugene Brown, 22, was sentenced to 80 years on Tuesday, Nov. 12, for the murder of Roberto Juarez Ramos, 23, of Blountsville. The shooting occurred on May 21, 2023, at the Cullman City Parking Deck. Brown pleaded guilty to the crime in August of this year.

The Cullman County District Attorney's Office said it presented its sentencing case this week, alongside Ramos' friends and family. District Attorney Champ Crocker shared on Facebook, that, after hearing from both sides, Cullman County Circuit Judge Martha Williams sentenced Brown to 80 years.

"My phone rang at 3 a.m. that Sunday morning and I was notified of a homicide at the parking deck," Crocker said. "I responded » PAGE 3



CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Christopher Dean Eugene Brown after his arrest in 2023

WSCC hosts 'Tools of the Trade' event for area students



JEN BAKER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Left to right are Addison Middle School eighth-grade students Knox Snoddy, Masen Woodard, Matthew Lee and Noah Clayton with ALEA pilot Micah Smith.

Jen Baker
jen@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Around 2,000 Cullman, Blount and Winston County eighth graders visited the Wallace State Community College campus on Thursday, Nov. 14, for the Wallace State Center for Career & Workforce Development's annual Tools of the Trade Career Fair.

Said Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce President Joey Orr, "This is an annual event that was put on by Wallace State, Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce, (the) Cullman Economic Development (Agency), Cullman County Economic Development and really, the whole community, because the vendors are people within this community. This is a job experience for eighth graders in Cullman County, Blount County and Winston County."

Students rotated around five locations on the Wallace State campus. The Simulation Center inside the School of Nursing and Science Center gave them a realistic hospital experience. The Dr. William F. Peinhardt Conference Center held different career choice booths for students to explore. The Center for Welding Technology and Innovation Center had information available about computer science, agriculture, tool tech and more. Along College Drive and the track, students could climb on heavy equipment, learn about the road department and Sprout Fiber Internet. And at Tom Drake Coliseum, funeral home and cosmetics information was available outside, with additional career tables inside.

Cullman Middle School eighth-grade student Lucy Collins said, "This has helped me because I've always had my mind set on one thing, so it has opened my mind to anything else that I have wanted to do. It has taught me what the day will look like if I go into that career."

Look for more details soon at www.wallacestate.edu/news.

Save the date! 35th annual Cullman County Christmas Parade coming Dec. 7

» PAGE 2

'Tinsel and Timber'

First Source for Women holds Christmas gala



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUN

First Source for Women celebrated an early Christmas on Thursday, Nov. 14, 2024, with "Tinsel and Timber," a fundraising social and auction at Brick Haven. » PAGE 5

Need to mail a letter to the North Pole?

Santa's mailbox posted at Vinemont Town Hall



TOWN OF SOUTH VINEMONT/FACEBOO

Santa's mailbox will be in front of Vinemont Town Hall until Dec. 15. » PAGE 3

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Bill Smith

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Nov. 15

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Nov. 15, 2024. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Nov. 12

- possession of dangerous drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 747
- theft of property; CR 557
- domestic violence; CR 626
- domestic violence; CR 143
- assault; Hwy. 278E
- harassment; CR 709
- harassment; CR 632
- possession of dangerous drugs; Hwy. 69N
- theft of property; CR 1371
- harassing communications; CR 1339

Nov. 13

- domestic violence; CR 616

ARRESTS

Nov. 11-13

Abernathy, April B.; 32
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Adkins, Samuel P.; 19
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Bennefield, Matthew E.; 39
- possession of methamphetamine

Burton, Sabastian L.; 22
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of dangerous drugs

Cornelius, John B.; 44
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – theft of property-2nd degree, $1500-2500

Cruce, Caleb E.; 21
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Doss, James L.; 51
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked, or canceled

Gatlin, Joshua A.; 28
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Gibson, Jason L.; 50
- possession of dangerous drugs

Graves, Nakia M.; 47
- FTA – theft-miscellaneous, $500-less than $1500

Heatherly, Raymond C.; 49
- public intoxication

Holmes, Timothy A.; 43
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – theft by fraudulent leasing

Lindsey, Tonya A.; 48
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

McClendon, Hannah L.; 27
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Parris, Kaitlyn D.; 24
- FTA – possession of methamphetamine
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – promote prison contraband (drugs)
- FTA – receiving stolen vehicle

Ray Jr., Phillip E.; 46
- PROBATION VIOLATION – auto theft

Wallace, Timothy L.; 34
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – promote prison contraband (drugs)

Wimbs, Avery N.; 26
- FTA – driving while license suspended

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Nov. 12

- criminal trespass-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157

Nov. 13

- criminal mischief-3rd degree; City of Cullman; damage to '24 Ford Expedition; $250; 11th St. SE
- domestic violence-3rd degree – harassment; person; Alabama Ave. SE
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $361; Olive St. SW
- theft of property-4th degree; City of Cullman; miscellaneous; $125; Dialsdale Dr. SW

Nov. 14

- harassment; person; Hwy. 157
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; miscellaneous; Hey. 157
- leaving the scene of an accident; person; damage to '05 Nissan Pathfinder; $150; 2nd Ave. SW

ARRESTS

Nov. 13-14

- FTA – driving while suspended
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree

Brown, Carl G.; 21
- unlawful possession/receiving of controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- obstructing justice using false identity

Alldredge Jr., Cecil R.; 63
- theft of property-4th degree

Pilgrim, Danielle M.; 29
- theft of property-4th degree

Kaucher, Kylie L.; 29
- unlawful possession/receiving controlled substance
- DUI (any substance)

Ellis, Daniel A.; 44
- FTA – insurance violation
- FTA – run stop sign
- FTA – run red light
- FTA – driving without license
- FTA – speeding

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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



Parade (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The 35th annual Cullman County Christmas Parade will take place Saturday, Dec. 7, beginning at noon.

Hanceville Civitan Club Event and Media Representative Roxi Lee said the parade route begins at Wallace State Community College, thanks to Dr. Vicki Karolewics allowing the Civitans to use the college as the staging area.

"There are usually 50 or more floats, organizations and bands who participate in the parade," Lee said.

"We gladly welcome community groups, elected officials, youth sports, high school teams and organizations.

"I am personally a lifelong resident of Hanceville and have enjoyed the parade since my youth, whether it was being a part of the parade or watching from the side of Highway 31."

Lee said her favorite memory is from the last four years helping direct and plan the parade as a Civitan.

"The best part is getting to work with my mother Brenda Nail Carter, parade director and current Civitan president, and my aunt, City Councilwoman Patty Dean Tucker of Hanceville," Lee said. "There are several more Civitans that help make this parade such a success. We are so thankful for the participation."

Lee said any civic groups, organizations, churches, businesses or teams that would like to participate may sign up now until the morning of the parade.

"The parade fee is $5," she said. "With the help of our sponsors and the fee we are able to give scholarships to graduating Hanceville High School seniors and give a generous amount to all Cullman County bands participating in the parade."

Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall has been invited to be this year's grand marshal, Lee shared.

"We will have Mr. and Mrs. Claus to finish up the parade with pictures at Tucker Pavilion, which is located by the fire station just west of the Hanceville City Hall," she said.

"You can check out the Hanceville Civitan Facebook page for information about the parade and Tinsel Trail."

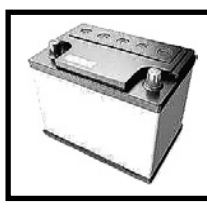
The parade will take place Saturday, Dec. 7, beginning at noon, starting at Wallace State and traveling down U.S. Highway 31 to the fire station west of city hall. Get more information at www.facebook.com/hancevillecivitan.

EARL'S BODY SHOP
2251 Decatur Ave., N.W.
734-2406

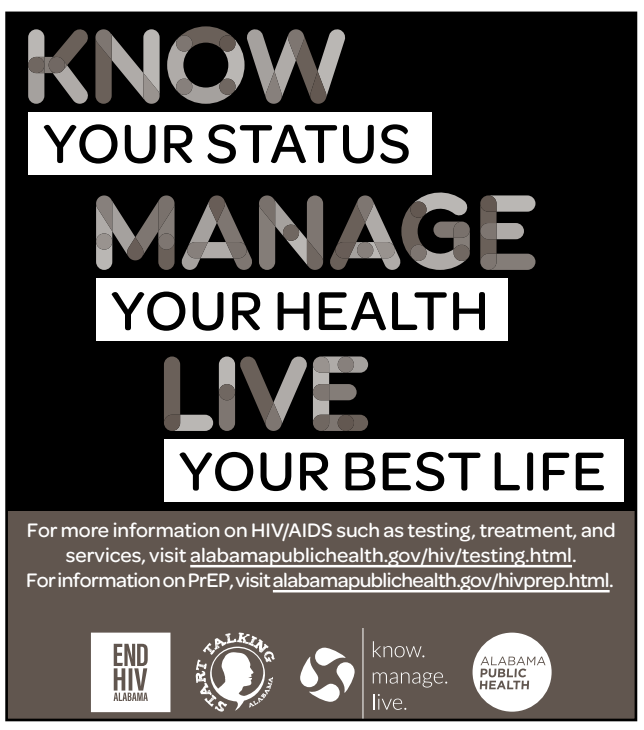
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Brown (from Front)

to the scene which Cullman police officers secured. I stayed on scene with the officers for several hours, and we determined who we were looking for.

"While many officers were on scene, others were conducting interviews and following leads. By mid-morning, we had a warrant in hand for Brown's arrest for the murder of Roberto Ramos. When things like this happen, everyone comes together to get justice - Cullman PD, Circuit Clerk Lisa McSwain and the DA's Office all worked in unison. Once the warrant was in hand, it had to be served. Cullman PD worked with Walker County law enforcement because Brown was believed to be at his residence in Sumiton.

"They found Brown at his residence and detained him until our officers could get there. When they did, Officer Chad Ashworth cuffed him, and Brown was transported to the Cullman County jail. Only 12 hours after committing a murder and taking off into the night, Brown was in custody. That's impressive police work."

Crocker said that although the case may look cut and dry - trial preparation and acquiring the desired result are difficult, but rewarding when it's over.

"When you sit and grieve with a victim's family outside a crime scene, it gives you perspective," he said. "There was no plea offer in this case. Some actions deserve a trial, and I believed this was such a case. My staff and I worked all summer to get this case ready for the Aug. 26 trial. I was taken aback when Brown showed up for trial and pleaded 'blind,' which was him voluntarily changing his plea to guilty without a plea agreement. From that point forward we began preparing for sentencing. We are satisfied with this 80-year sentence as being both a crime deterrent and making our community safer."

Crocker said Cullman Police Department investigators and officers did a fantastic job solving the case and helping the bring the defendant to justice.

According to the Cullman Police Department at the time of the murder, officers responded to a call about a shooting at approximately 2:40 a.m. and located Ramos, dead at the scene.

In the hours following the murder, then-Cullman Police Chief David Nassetta said there were eight to 10 witnesses at the parking deck who were able to positively identify Brown as the shooter.

He said the witnesses cooperated with the police and helped locate Brown. They were able to do so with the help of the public, law enforcement agencies and the district attorney's office in a joint effort.

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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
• 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Sunday, Nov. 17 - 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.
• Saturday, Nov. 16 - 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Thanksgiving meal in to-go box and food bank holiday box

Church Events: At the Foot of the Cross Church
• 2 miles north of Alabama Highway 157 on Eva Road, on the left
• Saturday, Nov. 16, at 6 p.m. Singing with Joyful Noise, 2101 County Road 1435, Vinemont

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.

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church Singing
Sunday, Nov. 17, at 5 p.m. Unity 4. The church is located on U.S. Highway 278 East, approximately 2 miles east of Holly Pond, on the left. For more information, call 256-796-5986 or 256-590-1501. Everyone is invited.

Cullman Christkindlmarkt
• Depot Park, 107 Arnold St. NW, Cullman, AL 35055
• Nov. 21-Dec. 23, Thursdays-Saturdays, from 11 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sundays from noon-8 p.m. | Open seven days a week beginning Dec. 16 (closed on Thanksgiving Day). Get more information at www.cullmanchristkindlmarkt.com.

Christmas Pyramid Lighting
Thursday, Nov. 21, at 6 p.m. Cullman Christkindlmarkt comes to life with the lighting of Christmas Pyramid. The Grand Opening of the Christkindlmarkt is a celebration of the Christmas season, led by the Cullman Community Band and joined by family and friends from Cullman and beyond. Get more information at www.cullmanchristkindlmarkt.com.

Christkindlmarkt Parade
Friday, Nov. 22, at 6:30 p.m. One of Cullman's favorite traditions, the Christkindlmarkt Parade is filled with local organizations, businesses, bands and more! Help us welcome in the Christmas season with this seven-block parade extravaganza. Get more information at www.cullmanchristkindlmarkt.com.

Christmas Tree Lighting
Friday, Nov. 22, at 8 p.m. Immediately following the Christkindlmarkt Parade is the South's Largest Tree Lighting Show. Featuring a mesmerizing light show and fireworks that is always one of the most memorable events of the year. Join us for this free event with James Spann, Santa Claus, The Grinch, Buddy the Elf and special musical guest as we light the Christkindlmarkt Christmas Tree. Get more information at www.cullmanchristkindlmarkt.com.



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Letter (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — Looking for a place to drop a line to Santa? Santa's mailbox is posted at Vinemont Town Hall for the Christmas season.

Town Clerk Kayecea Sasser said this will be the Town's second year hosting Santa's mailbox; it's an effort the council began because it thought it would be a fun activity for local children to get into the Christmas spirit.

"Last year we had a great reaction from the community with 67 kids dropping off Santa letters," Sasser said. "We also had a daycare bring their kids to town hall for a field trip for cookies and a movie and they dropped off their Santa letters."

Santa's mailbox will be at town hall until Dec. 15.

"Once the mailbox is picked up, the children will be receiving a response from Santa by mail," Sasser said. "There is a box on the bench next to the mailbox where you can pick up Santa letter papers. We encourage you to also post and tag the Town with pictures of your kids dropping off their letters to Santa's mailbox."

Vinemont Town Hall is located at 36 Patton Drive in Vinemont. For more information, go to www.facebook.com/townofsouthvinemont.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
NOVEMBER 16, 2024

Broome, Johnson lead No. 5 Auburn over Kent State

Jeff Shearer
AU Athletics

AUBURN, Ala. — Johni Broome and Chaney Johnson each scored 18 points – the most the latter has totaled in two seasons on the Plains – to lead No. 5 Auburn past Kent State 79-56 Wednesday at Neville Arena.

"We beat a good Kent State team," Auburn coach Bruce Pearl said. "We did not have a letdown after the big victory on Saturday."

In Auburn's first three games, Johnson is shooting 68 percent (18 for 25) after going 8-for-11 against the Golden Flashes, including 2-for-3 from 3-point range.

"My teammates are trusting me, Coach Pearl is getting me the ball in the right spots and I'm just making shots," Johnson said. "I did come in with a bigger chip on my shoulder because I knew I was going to have to take the spot that J-Will (Jaylin Williams) filled so well. Trusting in my work and playing with more confidence."

Broome recorded a double-double, adding 12 rebounds along with three blocked shots. Auburn's big men – Broome, Johnson and Dylan Cardwell – shared the game's assist high with Tahaad Pettiford with four each.

"It goes back to us being unselfish and believing in our teammates," said Broome, whose first double-double of the season was his 25th at Auburn. "We took what the defense gave us and were able to make inside-out plays."

Leading by 14 at the half, Auburn saw Kent State cut the Tigers' advantage to four early in the second half before Broome scored six points in an 8-0 run that restored the lead to double digits.

Scoreless in the first half while plagued by foul trouble, Pettiford scored seven points in two and a half minutes to help Auburn lead by 15 midway through the second half.

After Kent State got back within 10, Johnson hit a 3-pointer with 7:33 to play and Auburn never led by fewer than 11 the rest of the way. The Tigers made four of their last five shots to win by 23 points.

JP Pegues lobbed to Johnson for a dunk with 11 seconds left in the half to give Auburn a 36-22 halftime lead.

"Chaney's our hardest worker," Pearl said. "He's in the gym all the time. He likes to work out. (Assistant coach) Ira Bowman is in the gym with him every day. He doesn't know any other way. His confidence is up and his teammates believe in him."

Auburn scored the game's first 12 points and built a 22-point lead on Chad Baker-Mazara's layup with 7:10 to play in the half before a 12-0 Kent State run trimmed the Tigers' lead to 10 points.

Johnson scored 11 points in the first half while Baker-Mazara scored nine of his 12 points before intermission. Broome scored 12 second-half points and Denver Jones scored 10 of his 12 points in the second half.

Auburn outrebounded Kent State 41-33 and had a 23:6 assist-to-turnover ratio while holding the visitors to only five assists.

Auburn (3-0) remains at Neville Arena Monday against North Alabama at 8 p.m. CT.

"The kids get the day off tomorrow and we'll get back into the gym on Friday," Pearl said.

Postgame notes

• For the first time this season, Auburn went with the starting five of Denver Jones, Miles Kelly, Chad Baker-Mazara, Johni Broome and Dylan Cardwell. It was Kelly's first career start in an Auburn uniform.

• All nine players who played in the game for Auburn scored at least two points.

• Chaney Johnson registered his third-straight game in double figures to open the season with an Auburn career-high 18 points on 8-of-11 shooting from the floor and 2-of-3 from long range, which matches his double-figure games from all of last season, to go with five rebounds, four assists and two blocks against the Golden Flashes. Johnson moved past the 1,400-point mark for his career in the win as he ended the game with 1,403 points.

• Johni Broome recorded his 61st career double-double with 18 points and 12 rebounds versus Kent State. He went 8-of-12 on field goals, while also adding four assists and three blocks on the night. Broome has blocked 10 shots in the first three games of the season including eight in the last two games.

• Denver Jones recorded his second game in double figures on the season with 12 points including a pair of 3-pointers and a 4-of-4 effort from the free-throw line against Kent State. He added three rebounds, two assists, one block and one steal in the win. Jones ended the night with 1,303 career points to date.

• Chad Baker-Mazara chipped in 12 points including 6-of-8 from the free-throw line. He also finished with two rebounds, two steals and one assist against the Golden Flashes.

• Auburn registered a season-high 23 assists on 28 made baskets against Kent State. The Tigers' previous season high was 15 assists against Vermont. Eight players recorded an assist for Auburn in the win.

• AU committed a season-low six turnovers, besting the Tigers' nine turnovers against Vermont.

• The Tigers scored a season-high 42 points in the paint after scoring 36 points in the paint in each of the first two games of the season.

• Auburn held Kent State to 32.8 percent shooting including 5-of-21 (23.8 percent) from 3-point range. The Tigers have held their first three opponents to 26.3 percent shooting from long range.

• AU has started the season 3-0 for the sixth time in the last nine seasons. Prior to that, the Tigers had one such start in the previous nine seasons combined.

• The win marked Bruce Pearl's 203rd career victory as Auburn's head coach putting him 10 wins behind Joel Eaves, who won 213 games in 14 seasons at Auburn, for the most head coaching victories in program history.

• The win also marked Auburn's 56th-consecutive non-conference home win.

• The Tigers played in front of their 57th-consecutive sellout crowd at Neville Arena (9,121).



ZACH BLAND/AU ATHLETICS

Johni Broome (left) and Chaney Johnson (right) each scored 18 points in Auburn's 79-56 win over Kent State Wednesday.

Crimson Tide represented on multiple semifinalist lists

Alex Thompson
UA Athletics

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. – Alabama was well-represented on the semifinalist lists for multiple national awards, which were announced this week.

Linebacker Jihaad Campbell was selected as a semifinalist for the Bednarik Award while quarterback Jalen Milroe was named a semifinalist for both the Davey O'Brien and Maxwell awards, each of which were announced on Tuesday. Additionally, the Crimson Tide's offensive line unit was selected as a semifinalist for the Joe Moore Award.

Along with Tuesday's announcements, long snapper Kneeland Hibbett was named a semifinalist for the Mannelly Award on Monday.



UA ATHLETICS

Alabama quarterback Jalen Milroe.

Bednarik Award Semifinalist Jihaad Campbell

• An imposing presence in the middle of the Alabama defense

• Leads UA and ranks fifth in the SEC with 76 total tackles, including a team-high nine for loss (-40 yards) and four sacks (-27 yards)

• Added one interception and a fumble recovery to go with a pair of forced fumbles and two pass breakups

• Alabama has had three Bednarik Award winners in its history, including Jonathan Allen (2016), Minkah Fitzpatrick (2017) and Will Anderson Jr. (2022)

Joe Moore Award Semifinalist Offensive Line

• One of the top units nationally who has helped the Crimson Tide average 430.4 yards and 38.1 points per game, a total that is third in the SEC and 13th nationally

• Helped Alabama rack up 170-plus rushing yards in six games, including 51.2 percent on those yards before contact to rank fifth in the FBS

• Totaled 34 rushing touchdowns to lead the SEC and rank second nationally

• Played a key role in keeping Jalen Milroe upright as the Tide signal-caller has thrown for 2,046 yards and 13 touchdowns through nine games

• Alabama has won the Joe Moore twice in its history, first with inaugural award in 2015 followed by a second recognition in 2020

Davey O'Brien, Maxwell Award Semifinalist Jalen Milroe

• A true dual-threat quarterback who has been effective with his arm and legs all season

• Totaled 565 yards and 16 touchdowns on 114 rushes while adding 2,046 yards and 13 scores on 149-of-221 passing with only six interceptions

• Averaging 290.1 yards of offense per game, good for fourth in the SEC and 15th nationally

• Responsible for 176 total points and 19.6 points per game to lead the conference and rank fourth and fifth, respectively, in Division I for both categories

• Alabama has had two O'Brien winners in its history, first with Mac Jones (2020) followed by Bryce Young (2021)

• The Crimson Tide has had five winners of the Maxwell Award, including AJ McCarron (2013), Derrick Henry (2015), Tua Tagovailoa (2018), DeVonta Smith (2020) and Young (2021)

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Berlin VFD 4th annual Pancake Breakfast with Santa coming Dec. 7

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Berlin Volunteer Fire Department will host its fourth annual Pancake Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 7-10 a.m. at the Berlin Community Center. The event promises a morning filled with Christmas cheer, community fellowship and delicious pancakes—all with a special visit from Santa.

The breakfast is donation based, with all proceeds benefiting local families in need during the Christmas season. Shelby Teichmiller, a representative for the Berlin VFD, shared the inspirational origins of the event: "This event is something that we pour a lot into, but it's turned into something that pours more into us than we ever thought possible," said Teichmiller. "We initially started the breakfast after Mrs. Janice (Laney), our previous chief's wife and current chief's mother, wanted to find a way to support families in our community after the county volunteer fire department association stopped doing their annual golf fundraiser that supported families for the Christmas season. Since then, we have turned it into an annual event."

In its four years, the event has grown significantly, with much of its success attributed to the generosity of local supporters and businesses.

"First and foremost, I have to stop and say thank you to our community and corporate sponsors; it absolutely would not be possible without the outpouring of assistance they give us," Teichmiller shared. "Their help allows us to host this event and assist roughly 30 children each year. In doing that we provide Christmas gifts, clothing and shoes to each child. Beyond that, we have been blessed enough to also give each family a gift card for groceries each year."

Beyond the delicious pancakes and a chance to meet Santa, the event offers additional activities to engage the community. This year's highlights include two raffles, featuring a rifle and a "Ladies Day Out" basket filled with gift certificates to popular local spots, as well as a newly added silent auction with exciting items like a deer feeder and an electric smoker.

For those unable to stay, convenient drive-thru and to-go options will be available, ensuring everyone has access to a warm breakfast. Additionally, families can enjoy photos with Santa, who will be available for photos in front of a festive Christmas backdrop.

"We want everyone in our community to come eat and fellowship with us. While we take donations at the door, that absolutely is not a requirement, nor has it ever been. We want everyone in our community and surrounding communities to be able to come, have a chance to visit with Santa and enjoy a hot breakfast," stated Teichmiller.

For more information about the event, including details on raffles and the silent auction, visit the Berlin Volunteer Fire Department's official Facebook page or email berlinefiredepartment@outlook.com. The Berlin Community Center is located at 3309 U.S. Highway 278.

Gala (from Front)

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County-based First Source for Women, with offices in Hanceville and Cullman, celebrated an early Christmas on Thursday, Nov. 14, with "Tinsel and Timber," a fundraising social and auction at Brick Haven. Guests enjoyed music by Winslow Davis, a silent auction and live auction of decorated Christmas trees with auctioneer Adam Gibbs.

"We are trying something different this year," said First Source Board President Julia Rushing. "'Tinsel and Timber' is designed to be a celebration of Christmas, as we feel like that is the perfect theme for a pro-life organization to do, because when people get excited about Christmas, I think they are leaning into that hope and that anticipation of the coming of Christ. And that's the same sort of thing we celebrate every day at First Source for Women: that hope and anticipation of a baby, and sharing with our clients all the wonderful things that that can do for their life while assisting them with the really hard parts of waiting for a baby."

First Source is a charitable organization that offers free support services to moms-to-be and even willing dads, including:

- Free and confidential pregnancy testing
- Free ultrasounds by trained, licensed nurses
- Pregnancy options education
- Positive choices – sexual risk avoidance education
- Referrals to agencies for community assistance
- Intensive training for moms and dads

First Source clients get to come to the organization's "baby boutique" and shop for everything from maternity clothes to diapers and baby powder to baby clothes and nursery furniture, and everything is free – sort of. The clients must take classes on sexual integrity, pregnancy, labor, adoption, child-rearing and even life skills like household finances, in order to earn "mommy bucks" that they spend in the boutique for the things they want. "Learn to be a better parent, get more stuff" has proven to be a win-win formula.

First Source served over 600 clients last year, and looks forward to expanding its services in new ways during the coming year.

Rushing told The Tribune, "We are looking at retooling the way we use our mobile medical unit. We had a big fundraising push last year to get a new ultrasound machine on that vehicle. We've now done that, but we're shifting our strategy. We used to go and park close to where abortion clinics were; we don't have that in Alabama anymore! And so, we are looking at how can we go to places where women are already seeking assistance. We've talked with a couple of local food banks about partnering with them. We talked with The Link (of Cullman County) about partnering with them in their community dinner and taking the mobile unit there. And we're really hoping to not just do pregnancy testing and ultrasounds on that vehicle, but really use it as an opportunity to spread solid, life-affirming women's health information out into the community where it's needed."

Immediate needs

Looking forward to the Christmas season, First Source is in immediate need of Pack 'n Play sets, car seats and cribs. To provide the best for its clients, the organization only accepts new items for its baby boutique.

Additionally, Rushing told The Tribune that it takes an average of $750 to reach each client. First Source is looking for people and organizations to sponsor one or more clients through monetary donations.

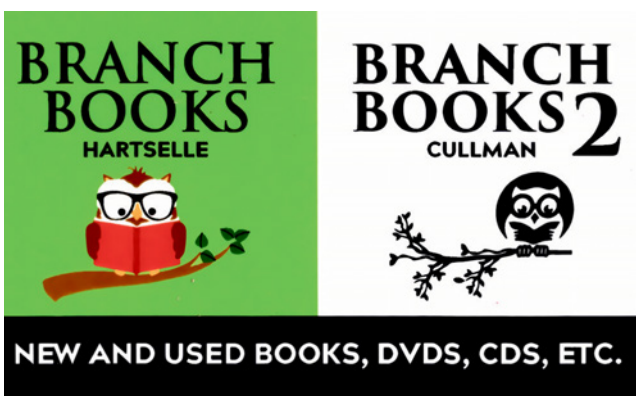
For more information or to help out, visit www.firstsourceforwomen.org.

Rushing noted "The ripple effect that we are able to have with a single client... If you think about a pregnant woman, it's her and her child that come to see us. And we're able to get them resources, make sure that they're taken care of and educate them on how to be successful in parenting. Going a step out from that, if you think about, if the father's in the picture, if there are family members that are helping to co-parent, friends that are part of that surrounding woman's community, if we can share the right education with our client about how to be a good parent and how to thrive in parenthood, not just have their babies but be set up for success, then everyone around them benefits from that, and we can have a ripple effect out into our community, and create solid family units where those babies that are born can turn into children that thrive."

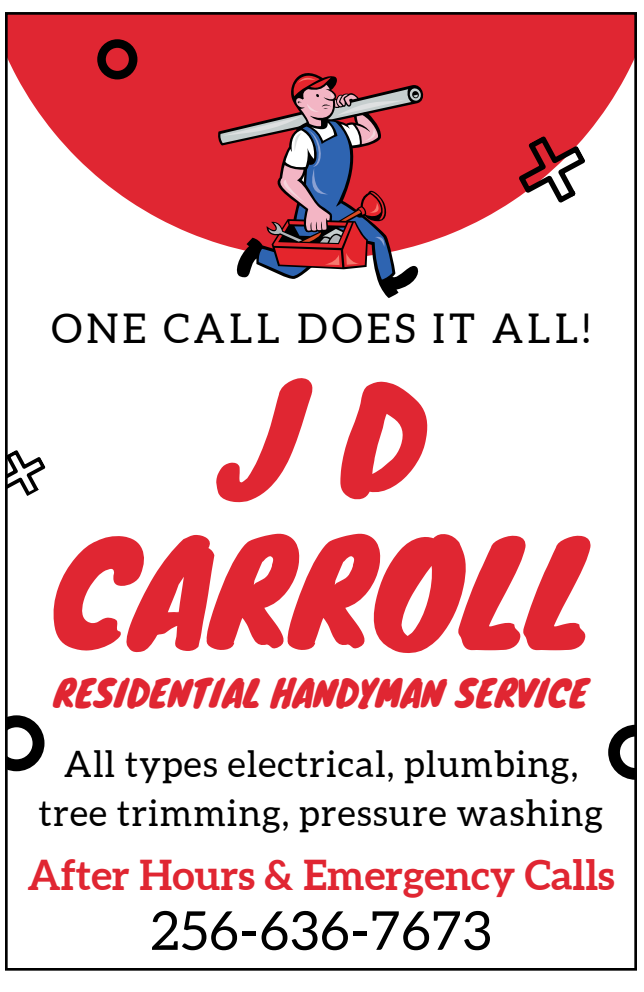
















Obituary Announcements: Nov. 14-15

Jack Clay Montgomery, 87

Funeral service for Jack C. Montgomery, age 87, of Cullman, is Friday, Nov. 15, at 1 p.m. at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel, officiated by Pastor Samuel Tucker. Visitation will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the chapel. Interment will follow at Cullman City Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Jack was born on Aug. 13, 1937, to Homer and Viola Montgomery. He passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2024, at his residence surrounded by his loving family. He is preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Howard Montgomery, and Earl Montgomery; sister, Patty Atherton. He is survived by his wife, Jennie Montgomery; sons, Jonathan Montgomery (Jessica Santiago), Gordon Whatley; daughter, Jacqueline Whatley Wilson; brother, Paul Montgomery (Charlsie); a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews, family and friends. Please visit www.culllmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Rebecca 'Becky' McAnalley, 65

Rebecca "Becky" McAnalley left this world for her heavenly home Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2024, surrounded by her loving family. She was born June 7, 1959, to John Wesley "Bo" Wilbanks and Willie Jo Wilbanks. Becky was the most loving mother, nanny, sister, and aunt. She loved her family fiercely and devoted her life to further the kingdom of God through children's ministry. Her smile was contagious, her creativity was boundless and her heart overflowed with compassion for everyone around her. No amount of suffering could dim the light of God she radiated through her love, joy and faithfulness. Becky was preceded in death by her grandparents, Virgil Columbus Wilbanks, Emma Elizabeth Ann Wilbanks, William Andrew Buchanan and Josephine Moore Buchanan; her parents, John Wesley Wilbanks and Willie Jo Wilbanks; her sisters Cheryl Penny Moody and Janease Wilbanks; her brother, Stephen Carl Moody; and son, Kenneth Wayne Culpepper. Survivors include her daughters, Amanda Lynn McAnalley, Leah Jo (Tim) Dwyer; grandchildren, Troy Branson McCormick, Lexington Lynnlee Collins, Deaglan Liam Dwyer and Colin Padraig Dwyer; brothers, John Wesley Wilbanks Jr., Virgil Andrew (Marcy) Wilbanks; a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends. Becky's family has been inspired by her heart for children and asks that donations be made in her honor to Cullman Caring for Kids in lieu of flowers. www.cullmancaringforkids.com. The family will receive visitors at Mountain View Missionary Baptist Church on Saturday, Nov. 16, 2024, from noon - 2 p.m. with services beginning at 2 p.m. with Kenneth Shelton and Dale Banks officiating. Burial will follow at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church. Pallbearers include Ben Gillespie, Brett Alloway, Colby Duke, Colin Dwyer, Deaglan Dwyer, Ethan Frasier, Ian Moody and Trace Moody. Obituary written by family. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome@gmail.com to sign the online guestbook.

Rodney Douglas Buckelew, 43

Funeral service for Rodney Douglas Buckelew, age 43, of Cullman, is Saturday, Nov. 16, 2024, at 2 p.m. at Bethlehem West Baptist Church, officiated by Bro. Tim Aris and Bro. Paul Campbell. Visitation will be held Friday, Nov. 15, 2024, from 5-8 p.m. at the church and Rodney will lie in state from noon - 2 p.m. on Saturday at the church. Interment will follow after the service at Bethlehem West Baptist Church Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Rodney was born on March 6, 1981, to Nicky and Racheal Buckelew. He passed away too soon on Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2024. Rodney was a loving and devoted Husband, Father, Son, Grandson, Nephew, Cousin and Friend. He loved traveling and spending time with his family. He especially loved spending time outdoors and hunting with his boys. He was a Businessowner and a well-respected member of the Hanceville community. His love and devotion to the kids of the Hanceville High School Band were evident to all who knew him. He is preceded in death by his grandparents, Jim and Dovie Lake; aunts and uncles, Pamela Buckelew, Randy Buckelew, Jimmy and Doris Lake, Dennis Lunsford, and James and Betty Sue Walker. He is survived by his father and mother, Nicky and Racheal Buckelew; wife, Lacie Buckelew; sons, Colton Buckelew (Angel) and Karson Buckelew; sister, Veronica Wallace (Tim); brother, Jeremy Buckelew (Heather); grandparents, Claud and Vivian Buckelew; aunts, Paula Perry and Nora Lunsford; nieces, Emma Buckelew, Bethany Murray (Daniel) and Sydney Wallace; nephews, Andrew Wallace and Lakelan Wallace; great niece, Caroline Murray; great nephew, Wyatt Murray. Serving as pallbearers are Colton Buckelew, Karson Buckelew, Sarah Perry, Jon Sharp, Jesse James, Adam Denson, Zach Thomas, Phillip Frese, and Kevin Walmsley. Honorary Pallbearer Lakelan Wallace. In lieu of flowers, Rodney's family would appreciate donations be made to Hanceville Band Boosters, in honor of Rodney. Checks can be mailed to: Hanceville Band Boosters, 801 Commercial St. SE, Hanceville, AL 35077, or you can contact Mrs. Calvert at 256-352-6111 for more information. Donations can also be made at Merchants Bank. Please visit www.culllmanfuneralhome.com.

Linda Jean Gilbert, 84

Linda Jean Gilbert, age 84, of Albertville, passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2024, at Cullman Health and Rehab, surrounded by her loving family. There are no services planned at this time. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Linda was born on Sept. 22, 1940, to Cletus and Lillian Cherry. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Don Gilbert; brother, Dalton Cherry. She is survived by her daughters, Joy Woodham (Mike), Paula Moore (Chris); grandchildren, Jeremy Woodham (Mike and Joy), Matthew Woodham, Lucas Moore, Kiristin Hood (Paula and Chris); great-grandchildren, Kane Woodham, Harley Woodham (Jeremy), Jackson Sorter, Bella Brothers (Matthew and Danille), Easton and Emma Moore (Lucas and Charae), Mikayla and Nolan Hood (Kiristin and Mikey); great-great grandchild, Danny Ketchum (Harley Woodham, and A.J. Ketchum); nephew, Tommy Cherry (Tammy); niece, Cynthia Cherry Wheat (Ricky). Please visit www.cullmanfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook.

Michael Don Livingston, 76

Funeral Service for Michael Don Livingston, age 76 of Cullman, will be at 1 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 18, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Billy Harper officiating; burial at Cullman Memory Gardens. Visitation will be from 6-8 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 17, 2024, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Livingston passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2024, at the Folsom Center. He was born Jan. 18, 1948, to Monroe Livingston and Edna Livingston. He was preceded in death by his parents; son, Terry Livingston; sister, Norma Collins; brothers, Coy Livingston and Kenneth Livingston. Survivors include his wife, Christine Livingston; sister, Cathy Trobridge; children-son, Wayne (Jemma) Livingston; daughter, Debbie Copeland; grandchildren, Megan Smith, Mackenzie Livingston, Cody (Heather) Copeland, Casey (Andrew) Privett, Amber Livingston, Lexi Livingston (Greg) James; Great Grand Children, Callen, Amelia, Emma, Eli, John, Lizzie, Tessa, Turner and Serenity.

Nelda Sue Brown, 88

Funeral Service for Nelda Sue Brown, age 88 of Bremen, will be at 11 a.m. on Friday, November 15, 2024 at Ryans Creek Baptist Church with Grant Dykes officiating; burial at Ryans Creek Cemetery. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. on Friday, November 15, 2024, at Ryans Creek Baptist Church. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Ms. Brown passed away on Thursday, November 14, 2024, at Woodland Village Health Care. She was born April 9, 1936, to Ernest and Ila Mae Childers Hancock. She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Kenneth "Sonny" (Carolyn) Hancock; and brother-in-law, Willie Chappell. Survivors include her daughters, Kathy (Andy) Fuller, Linda (Jeff) Howse; son, Tommy (Brandi) Brown; grandchildren, April Johnson, Tammy (Joey) Smith, Daniel Johnson, Justin (Kayla) Howse, Peyton Brown (Emma Nichols), Allison Brown; great grandchildren, Cody Smith, Sadie Smith, Jaxon Smith, Ivy Johnson, Char-Lee Johnson, Landon Howse; brother, Eugene "Jenks" (Vicky) Hancock and sister, Geraldean Chappell.

Monica Gibson Klansky, 83

Graveside Service for Monica Gibson Klansky, age 83 of Cullman, will be at noon on Thursday, Nov. 21, 2024 at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Erie, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Klansky passed away on Monday, Nov. 11, 2024 at Cullman Regional. She was born, January 12, 1941 in Bridgeport, Connecticut, to James Henry Gibson and Lillian Gibson. Monica relocated from upstate New York to Cullman, Alabama, with her husband Kevin in 2019. They were drawn to the warmer weather and stayed because of the wonderful people. Monica was a devout Catholic who enjoyed traveling, crossword puzzles, taking care of people and spending time with her family. She will be dearly missed. She was preceded in death by her husband, Kevin Klansky; parents; brothers, Jim Gibson, Ron Gibson; and sister Joyce Mullane. Survivors include her children, Carolyn (Bill) Beiter, Kevin (Laura) Klansky, Christopher (Barbara) Klansky, Coleen (Bill) Busler, Kate Klansky, and Kristen (Matt) Carll; grandchildren, Beth (Kiran) Devaraj, Christie (Jayson) Dela Cruz, Bill (Bethany) Beiter, Jr., Julie (Andrew) Januska, Shea Beiter, Megan (Shawn) Ferger, Maxwell (Gabriela) Klansky, Alissa (Jacob) McCall, Christopher (Michele) Klansky, Jr., Lily Busler, Grace Busler, Carrie (Joe) Laiosa, Hunter, Grant, and Luke Terrones; great-grandchildren, Ashoka, Chaithan, Mira, Helayna, Jayden, Shayne, Lia Grayce, Gabriel, Madelyn, Evan, Isabel, Genevieve, Charlotte, Makenna, Brynn, Easton, Theo, Brayden, Caroline, and Natalie; and a host of nieces, nephews, family, and friends.

Free Obituary Listings

Have your funeral home contact us

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

Complete obituaries may be found free of charge at CullmanTribune.com/obituaries.

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.

Legal Notice

Notice is hereby given to all owners, secured parties and lienholders of the following described motor vehicle, which I have a right to sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, in accordance with the State of Alabama abandoned motor vehicle law, Statues, Chapter 13, Section 1-8, Title 32 and Alabama Law Act Number 83-494-S-80:

2005 Ford Explorer, VIN# 1FMZU63K55UC05272
2002 Ford F150, VIN# 1FTRX17W02NB53793
2004 Chevy Trailblazer, VIN# 1GNDS13S042304784
2000 Ford Explorer, VIN# 1FMYU60E3YUB06349
2005 Hummer H2, VIN# 5GRGN23U85H125409
2012 Nissan Versa, VIN# 3N1CN7AP3CL856177
2023 Dodge Ram, VIN# 3C6LRVDG3PE564001

If not claimed, this vehicle will be sold for towing, repair and work done. Sale date is Thursday, December 14, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. Call Vance Johnson at 256-339-5752.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
GLENDA JOY SMITH, * CASE NO.: PC2024-212
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to RONALD SMITH, as Administrator, of the ESTATE OF GLENDA JOY SMITH, deceased, on the 30th day of October, 2024, by Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court.

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

RONALD SMITH
Personal Representative of the Estate of
Glenda Joy Smith, Deceased

TO: Publisher of THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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

DONE this 30th day of October, 2024.
Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

LAW FIRM OF NAIL & SPARKS, LLC
Pamela E. Nail
Attorney for Petitioner
200 Second Avenue, Southwest
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Telephone: (256) 734-3342

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

HAMMONS VERNA, Plaintiff,)
V.) Case No.: CV-2024-900375.00
FULLER WILLIAM P, FULLER LULA MAE, Defendants.)

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

The Plaintiffs having made a Motion for Service by Publication stating that the whereabouts and locations of Defendants: William P. Fuller and Lula Mae Fuller and any unknown heirs along with the following described real property;

Lot E & F Blk 89 of the Cullman High School Addition in Cullman County, AL.

are unknown to the Plaintiff and it appearing that the Plaintiff has filed a Bill to Quiet Title seeking the entire and undivided fee simple interest in and to the subject lands with no restrictions thereon,

IT IS ORDERED that the above-named Defendants answer the Complaint by the Plaintiff by the 28th day of December, 2024 or thereafter a judgment by default may be rendered against the said Defendants.

IT IS FURTHERED ORDERED that this ORDER and NOTICE be published once a week for four successive weeks in the Cullman Tribune, a newspaper of general circulation in Cullman County.

DONE this 28th day of October, 2024.

/s/ MARTHA E. WILLIAMS
CIRCUIT JUDGE

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CLARA FAYE MONTGOMERY, DECEASED) **IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**) **CASE NO. PC-2024-356**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY ON THE ESTATE OF CLARA FAYE MONTGOMERY HAVING BEEN GRANTED TO ANN SMITH, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, ON THE 31st DAY OF October, 2024 BY THE HONORABLE TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE OF CULLMAN COUNTY. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST SAID ESTATE ARE REQUIRED TO PRESENT THE SAME WITHIN THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW OR THE SAME WILL BE BARRED.

ANN SMITH, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ESTATE OF CLARA FAYE MONTGOMERY, DECEASED.

ATTORNEY FOR THE ESTATE:
KENNETH WELDON
1170 COUNTY ROAD 1352
VINEMONT, ALABAMA 35179

TO THE PUBLISHER OF THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE: PLEASE PUBLISH THE ABOVE NOTICE FOR THREE SUCCESSIVE WEEKS IN SAID NEWSPAPER.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

HAMMONS VERNA, Plaintiff,)
V.) Case No.: CV-2024-900333.00
BAILEY NELL, LOT 2 OF FORRESTT HILLS SUBDIVISION, Defendants.)

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

The Plaintiffs having made a Motion for Service by Publication stating that the whereabouts and locations of Defendant: Nell Bailey and any unknown heirs along with the following described real property:

Lot 2 of Forrest Hills Subdivision in Section 8 Township 10 South and Range 2 West in Cullman County, AL.

are unknown to the Plaintiff and it appearing that the Plaintiff has filed a Bill to Quiet Title seeking the entire and undivided fee simple interest in and to the subject lands with no restrictions thereon,

IT IS ORDERED that the above-named Defendants answer the Complaint by the Plaintiff by the 28th day of December, 2024 or thereafter a judgment by default may be rendered against the said Defendants.

IT IS FURTHERED ORDERED that this ORDER and NOTICE be published once a week for four successive weeks in the Cullman Tribune, a newspaper of general circulation in Cullman County.

DONE this 28th day of October, 2024.

/s/ MARTHA E. WILLIAMS
CIRCUIT JUDGE

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

A sweet treat in the autumn South

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



I'm not exactly sure how he managed to live in this world this long, especially in the South, and never experience one of the sweetest treats of life. Some of you have watched my grandson, Drew, grow up... if not in person, at least through my writings. He is now 15 years old, and I have to look up to him.

Recently, Drew, Gigi and I went to the farmers' market. Just inside the door they had some of the biggest sticks of sugarcane I had ever seen in my life, and believe me, I have seen quite a few. I could quickly tell by the expression on Drew's face that he had no idea what those stalks were. I said, "We're going to buy ourselves one of those." When I told him it was cane, he laughed and said, "Like old people, like you, walk with?"

Drew asked, 'What are you going to do with it?" He probably thought I would say I would build something out of it. Lately, I've been building guitars out of just about everything, so he may have thought a guitar.

He was surprised when I answered, "We're going to eat it." Now, in all honesty, to look at a piece of sugarcane, it certainly doesn't look like something one might eat. I bought a stalk that was almost as big around as a baseball bat and probably 6 or 7 feet long.

If you've never eaten one, you've missed one of the simple sweet pleasures of life. Back when I was growing up, we had many of those pleasures...treats like finding a wild muscadine vine in the woods sagging with ripe fruit or a loaded blackberry brier.

We raised all kinds of tasty things in Mama's 100-acre garden, but not sugarcane. She often accused me of raising cane, but I don't think she meant the sugarcane kind.

There was a canebrake by the creek in the woods behind our house, but that was not the kind of cane we could eat. They were the kind we could fish with, and we did, but there was nothing about them that made me want to eat one.

I understand that cows, pigs and horses will eat cane, but since I am neither of those, I passed on eating all cane, except sugarcane.

My Uncle Lester used to grow sugarcane or syrup cane on his farm. When I was a kid, I loved to visit him at crop time and make myself sick by sucking the sweet insides out of that cane.

Every October, the town of Loachapoka has the Syrup Sopping Festival.

There you can buy cane syrup or sorghum syrup and even pick up a cane and chew on it. They will even sell you a biscuit to put under your flood of syrup. They will demonstrate right before your eyes the fine art of syrup making.

Drew and I didn't make syrup with ours. We just sucked out the juice. Drew asked, "How do you eat this stuff?"

I grabbed my small handsaw and cut off some pieces that were about 6 inches long. Then I cut them in halves, longways, and exposed the good stuff inside. I demonstrated for Drew how you can dig out the inside, chew the fiber until the juice is all gone, and then throw away what you can't chew up.

Like two pigs, we chewed until we were just shy of making ourselves sick. That sweet treat was so good, but the best treat of all was another memory made with my favorite grandchild. Yes, he's the only one.

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

HISTORY

Files from yesteryear: 1903, 1933

From the files of 1903

Fred Betz is building two cottages for rent.

Reverend C.E. Sheibe and John Engel left on Tuesday, to a conference in New Orleans.

Doctor and Mrs. W.H. Martin and pretty little daughter, of Hanceville, were in the city, shopping, yesterday.

Ernest Hancock makes a meal which can't be excelled.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. W.A. Screws, of Etha, last week.

M. Shaw is a merchant, at Dreher.

Charley Duke is spending this week, in Birmingham.

Professor A.J. Bland is ill.

B.F Hancock, P.A. and O.O. Lynch, E.C. Chatham and J.K. Williamson went on a successful hunt on Monday.

C.B. Livingston is now agent for the Chattanooga Steam Laundry.

Cullen Gay, of Leander, was the guest of his sister, Mrs. Shelly Bland, on Saturday.

The people of Loretto are well-pleased with the new Rural Free Delivery.

From the files of 1933

Mr. and Mrs. Tilford Clark entertained at a dinner party, honoring Misses Vivian and Gwen Coleman, of Birmingham, on Tuesday.

William J. Turner, eldest son of J.K. Turner, of Hanceville, received a broken leg last week, when a tree he was felling split and fell on Mr. Turner.

S.D. Davis, of Crane Hill, died suddenly last week, while cutting wood near his home.

The Hanceville Home Economics Club program on February 10th was presented by Dorothy McAnnally, Doris Chamblee, Helen Gray and Freda Fox.

New deacons recently elected by the First Baptist congregation include: M.L. Robertson, Mayor J.A. Dunlap, V.D. Kennamer, Doctor G.W. Bledsoe, Judge Homer F. Mitchell, Walter Herrell, Finis Saint John, Junior, Walter Taylor, Roy Smith, Professor Virgil Collins and L.A. Bailey. Doctor Neal, president of Howard College, delivered the ordination sermon for them, last Sunday morning.

Misses Dorothy Fuller and Mary Sue McAdory were joint hostesses at the Harry Fuller home on February 14th, at Valentine dance. Mr. and Mrs. M.L. Robertson led the grand march. Those attending the party were Misses Myrtle Wise, Evelyn Grey McAdory, Elizabeth Robinson, Kathryn Herrell, Eloise Hyatt, Betty Stiefelmeyer, Beverley Green, Grace Wunderlich, the hostesses and Messers Melvin Eddleman, Roy Ward, Louis and Jack Vogel, George Stiefelmeyer, Charles Thomason, Bob York, Duke White, James Karam, Bob Bryan, William Henry Ziegler, Walter Guthrie, Warner Stanley, Rob Roy Latta, Theodore Meyer, Clyde Ward, E.J. Matthews, Cletus Daniel, Ralph Kelhoffer, Harry and Dwight Fuller and Walter McBride.

POET'S CORNER

'Old Toys' | By: Randy C. Hale

Children know their toys,
a rock, a box, or string.
Things a part of their history,
a hold on mystery.

An old phone can call a movie star,
boxes become, a home or car.
Old dresses from a closet lair,
make them a princess bright
and fair.

A father's hat, may set down low,
serve as a helmet for the bold.
And blocks of wood build castles high,
a destiny for knights to climb.

And children, growing up,
may leave a thing or two.
Pushed back into a corner
a place not traveled through.

Until a day you find it,
all still with layered dust.
To pick it up and cherish
remembering who touched.



RANDY C. HALE

Jackson Self, age 3

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

NOV. 16

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

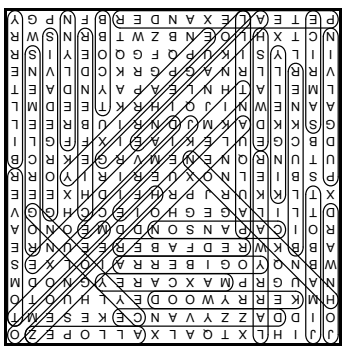
Al Kaline
Al Lopez
Alex Rodriguez
Bill Buckner
Bill Terry
Cap Anson
Chief Bender
Cy Young
David Cone
Dazzy Vance
Ed Walsh
Eppa Rixey
Fred Lynn
George Davis
Hank Aaron
Hideo Nomo
Jim Abbott
Jim Rice
John Ward
Kerry Wood
King Kelly
Larry Walker
Lou Gehrig
Max Carey
Mel Ott
Paul Quantrill
Pete Alexander
Pud Galvin
Red Faber
Roger Clemens
Sam Rice
Tim Keefe
Tom Seaver
Ty Cobb
Yogi Berra

CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

NOV. 16

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

ANSWERS:



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

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WEDS 8-12 | SAT 8:00-2:00
256-352-2221

...IN THAT WHILE WE WERE YET SINNERS CHRIST DIED FOR US. ROMANS 5:8

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